



Fall 2022 Issue

Huntington Beach Community Association

HBCA.org



*Editors: Alexandra Martinez & Luella Semmes
Junior Editors: Hartley & Kelvin Semmes*

Message From the President

Alex Borg

As I wind down my presidential 2-year term, I've been reflecting on what makes Huntington Beach such a desirable community. Immediately what comes to mind is a recent dialogue I had with a family relocating from Austin, TX along with a few of their neighbors. They wanted to settle in an area that felt just right for all of them. Ultimately, they chose Huntington Beach. Another story that comes to mind is one that involves a family that boomeranged; they left HBCA for a short while, lived in a lovely home, but ultimately decided to move right back to the community they love. It's stories like these that are strong indicators telling us we live in a very special place.

The beach activity also tells a

good story. 2022 membership is at a 24 year high. This is a direct correlation to the engaged community we have within Huntington Beach. The addition of several new events – the Membership Appreciation BBQ, Oktoberfest, Fall Fair, Children's Halloween Party, etc. – has brought a tremendous amount of value to our membership.

I want to commend my communications team – Matt Gai, Luella Semmes, and Alexandra Martinez – for fostering transparent communication between the board of directors and membership. Without their hard work, knowing about all the great things within our community would not be possible.

I have lived in Huntington Beach for 12 years. From day one, I have felt the community spirit HBCA offers. As leadership and the board of directors changed over that decade, I was able to formulate my leadership style and goals as president of the beach. From the start, I expressed community engagement and transparency would be my two pillars. Now nearing the end of my terms, with the support of the great board of directors, I can say I achieved both.

Running the beach is a labor of love. There's never a dull moment and it takes a tremendous amount of effort and poise to manage the current affairs and plan for future improvements.

While I am terming out over the next few months, I'll continue to work closely with new leadership and the board of directors on executing the planned vision for improvements to the beach. I'd like to point out the commitment of Chris Forstbauer, Rich Wrede, Jeff Robinson, and Rick Puccinelli in being amazing resources and advocates for me over the past 2 years. I am happy Colin Walsh will be taking the reins in January. As my VP for the last 2 years, Colin has been involved in the beach's events and operations. I am sure he will keep the beach on the positive trajectory.

I have a mantra I often refer to, "if you're not growing, you're dying." It's the same for the beach. Beach membership will continue to grow, improvements are on the agenda, and our commitment remains unwavering. With so many dedicated lifelong residents and new families moving into HBCA, the beach's roots are strong, primed for bigger and better things ahead.



*Photo credit:
Owen Lakhani*

HBCA Board of Directors Nominees for 2023

The HBCA Nominating Committee was formed in accordance with the HBCA by-laws and has nominated the following members to serve on the 2023 board of directors. Additional nominations may be submitted in writing as follows: Any active member in good standing may nominate himself/herself or any other active member in good standing for any office or directorship. Nominations must include the written consent of the proposed nominee and must be received at H.B.C.A. P.O. Box 474, Centerport, New York, no later than Friday, October 7, 2022, at which time nominations will be closed. Voting will take place at the annual meeting on November 3, 2022.

The nominating committee is also seeking assistant directorships. If you wish to join the board in this capacity, please reach out to any current member of the board of directors.

President	Colin Walsh	Security	Evan & Donna Gates (Bob Weiser -Alt)
1st Vice President	Chris Forstbauer	Buildings & Grounds	Jeff Robinson
2nd Vice President	Luella Semmes	Summer Recreation	Hildi Stanford
Treasurer	Rick Puccinelli	Boating	Rich Wrede
Recording Secretary	Alexandra Martinez	Water Safety	Tom Hessel (Kim Stevenson - Alt)
Director at Large	Alexander Borg	Financial Secretary	Vincent Ruelle

2023 District Directors

District #1 Janet Gritzka

District #2 Ryan Schlotter

District #3 Alexa Sakal

District #4 John O'Brien

District #5 Brian Puccinelli (Bob Weiser - Alt)

District #6 Chris Lau

District #7 Bob Caffine

District #8 Cindy Forstbauer

District #9 Janette Newell

District #10 Matt Gai

District #11 Vida Hettenbach

PRESIDENT Every organization needs a "commander in chief" to ensure that everything is running smoothly according to the bylaws and steps in to support the directors to carry out their respective functions. The President drives all the initiatives by ensuring annual events are scheduled and planned. That includes overseeing maintenance, construction, and safety on HBCA grounds and district boundaries. These topics are discussed during the monthly chapter meetings which are led and hosted by the President.

1ST/2ND VICE PRESIDENT

With the mountain of tasks needed to keep the beach clean, safe, and fun, the Vice President will step in and support the President and directors when needed to keep things in check. The VP also assists in promoting fundraising campaigns.

TREASURER Wondering if a swimming pool or tennis court can be a great addition to the beach? The Treasurer would be one of the first ones to know. Financial forecasting and budgeting are the main responsibility of the Treasurer. The Treasurer works with each execu-

tive board member to forecast the expenses for the coming year. As the year progresses, a report is provided during the monthly board meeting highlighting the year-to-date status of all expenses. The treasurer also generates payments to vendors or contractors on behalf of the board.

RECORDING SECRETARY No details are lost without the Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary takes the meeting minutes and is the keeper of all the documentation, votes, approvals, and actions taken at each monthly meeting.

The secretary also circulates and requests approval of all prior meeting minutes from the board.

SECURITY The Security Director is the muscle that promotes general public safety on HBCA grounds and safeguards all HBCA assets. The Security Director is one who is knowledgeable about public safety protocols and can implement preventative measures to maintain year-round security. During the busy season, the director will work with key board members to secure front gate entry, such as hiring

gate guards. This person is most likely the first responder to any issues on HBCA grounds or coordinates a plan of action if not immediately available.

BUILDING & GROUNDS is the gate-keeper to the beach (literally!). The director also promotes general improvements and safety of the HBCA beach grounds and casino. This person typically has a keen eye for areas that is in need of “TLC”. The Director is skilled in handling repairs, coordinating construction, hiring local contractors, and facilitating capital improvement projects with the executive board. The director is available to manage the front entry gate at the beginning/and close of day. Best of all, this person has the important role coordinating a team to launch and winterize the swim float!

SUMMER REC Do you have a knack for planning summer activities for kids? During the summer months, HBCA offers a day “camp” for school-aged children. The Summer Rec Director plans

and organizes all day-time activities and coordinates:

- hiring onsite vendors, CITs, counselors and adult volunteers to assist with programs

- securing equipment, apparel, and materials necessary to carry out activities
- working with the Treasurer to manage registration, payroll, and budgets.

WATER SAFETY The reason why we enjoy such a safe and clean beach is because of the Water Safety Director. The Water Safety Director is at the helm of promoting water safety and medical preparedness at the beach and during Summer Rec. The director is the coordinator of hiring life-guards for the summer ensuring that they are properly trained in water safety, CPR, and medical equipment. The director keeps a schedule of daily tasks for the team such as raking up the sea grass and keeping the restrooms/common areas tidy on a daily basis.

BOATING Monitoring the docks and waterways is the expertise of the Boating Director. The director not only has the knowledge of boating and related assets, but ensures that the dock, pier, boat ramp, and dinghies are in tip-top shape all year round. This includes overseeing any needed repairs and improvements. The director is the central contact for boating operations, memberships and commercial boating members.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY When you think of renting the casino or participating in any of the fun annual events, you need to get past the Financial Secretary first. The secretary monitors HBCA memberships and the income generated throughout the year. The secretary works with other key board members to ensure that event participants are members in good standing. Membership and income are reported at monthly board meetings.

DISTRICT DIRECTOR If you think you’re being watched it’s probably your District Director. With a total of 11 districts within the HBCA boundary, each district director is your friendly, vigilant, neighborhood representative reporting on any news and points of interest during the monthly board meeting. They can offer assistance and contribute ideas to HBCA events throughout the year and have voting rights on any subject matters brought to the board’s attention. Starting in 2021, Assistant District Directors can be appointed for additional support. Assistant directors will attend monthly meetings when the Director is not able to attend. It’s simply a great way to be involved, learn about the community, and work with a fun group of talented leaders!

FAMILY DAY 2022

On Behalf of the HBCA Board, THANK YOU to Pete Hahn for your dedication and service coordinating Family Day for 36 Years!

Thank You to the following people for making this day a great success.

- Master of Ceremonies - Gene Kinney and his assistant Catherine Horner.
 - Race Starter - Katy Hahn Schomburg
 - Judges - Jim Cox and Paul Heglund
 - Island Swim Boat - Bobby Hahn
 - Jeff Robinson and his Pavilion Crew
- Lifeguards - Nate Smith, Faye Junge, and Caroline Greco

Swimming Races

GIRLS 4&5	BOYS 4&5	GIRLS 6&7	BOYS 6&7
Addie McDonough	Cal Schlotter	Julia Hessel	Emmet Crotty
Aurelia Vogt	Elias Simon	Lucy Manzella	Bode Schlotter
	Oliver May	Emily Beltram	Jackson Borg
GIRLS 8&9	BOYS 8&9	GIRLS 10&11	BOYS 10&11
Samantha Kelly	Max Hasher	Avery Kinney	Leyton Schomburg
Emlyn Paige	Finn McDonough		Dylan Lakhani
Sydney Kelly			Lukas Hessel
GIRLS 12-14	BOYS 12-14	Blue Rock Hunt	
Callie Schomburg	—	Arianna Vogt (59)	
Daniella Rosenbloom	—	Carter Hahn (38)	
Greta Guido	—	Mason Johnides (37)	

Adult Island Swim



Island Swim

WOMEN	MEN	GIRLS	BOYS
Ani O'Brien	Thom Hessel	Callie Schomburg	Patrick O'Brien
Jackie Martin		Samantha Kelly	Leyton Schomburg
Tina Hessel		Sydney Kelly	



Running Races

GIRLS 4 & UNDER	BOYS 4 & UNDER	GIRLS 5&6	BOYS 5&6
Ariana Level	Mier Rosenbloom	Addie McDonough	Taylor Johnides
Harper Aerne	Remy Ruelle	Henley Paige	Calvin Schlotter
Ariana Vogt	Mason Johnides	Stella Sakal	Rory Hoernig
GIRLS 7&8	BOYS 7&8	GIRLS 9&10	BOYS 9&10
Amelia Vandergoot	Bode Schlotter	Juliette Aerne	Max Hasher
Emlyn Paige	Marco Level	Sydney Kelly	Dylan Lakhani
Henriette Chu	Fin McDonough	Samantha Kelly	Evan Mongillo

Running Races cont.



GIRLS 11&12

Marlow Hewitt
Charlotte Mongillo
Avery Kinney

BOYS 11&12

Leyton Schomburg
Emery Ebanks

MEN 17 & OLDER

Russ Hoerning
P.J. Hahn
Mike Hewitt



GIRLS 13-16

Olivia Guido
Charlotte Hasher

BOYS 13&16

Aidan Aerne
Patrick O'Brien
Sean Considine

WOMEN 17 & OLDER

Katie Hoernig
Liz Hasher
Katelyn Paige

3 Legged Race

MOTHER/DAUGHTER

Katy/Callie Schomburg
Liz/Charlotte Hasher
Alexis/Amelia Vandergoot

FATHER/SON

Owen/Dylan Lakhani
Travis/Mason Johnides
Russ/Rory Hoenig



Wheel Barrow Race

GIRLS

Callie Schomburg
Charlotte Mongillo
Juliette Aerne
Olivia Castellano
Olivia Guido
Greta Guido

BOYS

Leyton Schomburg
Sean Considine
Evan Mongillo
Leon Rosenbloom
Marco Level
Emmit Crotty

Sack Race

GIRLS 5&6

Stella Sakal
Aurelia Vogt
Madelyn Vandergoot

BOYS 5&6

Taylor Johnides
Rory Hoernig
Calvin Schlotter

GIRLS 7&8

Amelia Vandergoot
Julia Hessel
Wren Ebanks

BOYS 7&8

Bode Schlotter
Finn McDonough
Marco Level

GIRLS 9&10

Juliette Aerne
Maya McCord
Olivia Castellano

BOYS 9&10

Dylan Lakhani
Max Hasher
Leon Rosenbloom

GIRLS 11-14

Charlotte Hasher
Olivia Guido
Avery Kinney

BOYS 11-14

Ardan Aerne
Luke Hasher
Emery Ebanks



Best Beach Mom

Liz Hasher 15:89 Seconds



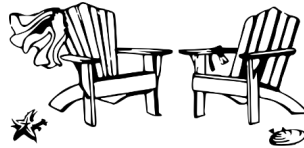
Egg Throw

Michael Cattaneo and
Holly Leone



Just after one of the torrential rains during the summer, one of the pilings from the dock was badly damaged. Thanks to the efforts of the following volunteers, we were able to put it back together and repair it.

Rich Wrede, Bart Moyka, Paul Heglund, Chris Forstbauer, and lifeguards, Joe Pangia and his friends.



HBCA Lifeguards Call To Action

On August 14th at 5pm, a call of “Help, Lifeguard!” was heard from an adult treading water approximately 15 yards from the swim float. In an attempt to transport his son to shore, the father had become separated from the youngster who was clinging to his back. He had become overwhelmed and unable to continue the transport. Beachgoer and HBCA member, Andrew Heglund and lifeguards Caroline Greco and Natlie Greco, responded to the call as additional patrons called for response. Mr. Heglund dove into the water and reached the floundering youngster while lifeguard, Caroline Greco, sounded her whistle, grabbed her flotation device, and directed by Mr. Heglund, swam to the assistance of the exhausted father. With a combination of Miss Greco’s professional lifeguarding skills and Mr. Heglund’s lifelong experience, both subjects were assisted to shore without injury.

Earlier in the year, on a windy day with a strong incoming tide, lifeguard Nathan Smith observed a swimmer not making sufficient progress against the elements. Nate left the stand, entered the water, reached the tired swimmer, and assisted him safely to shore.



Casino Rentals

Please contact Ryan Schlotter for all Casino rentals. For information on open dates please send him an e-mail at: casino@hbca.org. Or check website for available dates at hbca.org.

Only full paid members for the current year can rent the Casino.



Shop Amazon on the HBCA website. A portion of the proceeds go back to the HBCA!

Go to **HBCA.org** under the **Store** menu.

Purchases not limited to items listed in the virtual shop. *Must* access through the website to count toward the HBCA.



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

~ HAPPENINGS ~

Livin' It Up at Lobsterfest

Articles and Photographs by Mackenzie Gavel

This year's Lobsterfest saw all of us California dreaming on the... other Huntington Beach. The beach this great community calls home and, of course, arguably the best Huntington Beach out there! Families and friends gathered at the HBCA celebration of the summer to laugh, dance, and relish in great food, and even better company. This year's festivities saw an impressive turnout of 400+ people, with tons of tents lining the sandy shores, and each decorated according to theme. From twinkling lights adorning the tops of cabanas to a beautiful, hand-crafted sunrise to sunset chandelier that set the mood on the pavilion dance floor to colorful balloon arches to swaying inflatable palm trees and decorative paddle boards to a miniature Hollywood walk of fame ushering guests into the casino, there was no shortage of tropical décor. And no shortage of fun, live entertainment!

Between ax throwing, live music from Sanford, and raffles galore, there was ample excitement throughout the evening. And it wouldn't have been Lobsterfest without a delicious dinner! Guests packed the casino to enjoy fresh steamed lobster (or chicken!), a yummy homemade jambalaya, corn on the cob, and caesar salad. A hearty dinner that gave everyone just the extra boost and energy they needed to beat the heat and make their way down to the pavilion to dance the night away! It was a perfect evening, completed by a calm high tide and warm water that was perfect for taking a quick nighttime dip before it was back onto the dance floor to enjoy Sanford up close.

Special thanks to the board and all HBCA community volunteers who helped bring this year's Lobsterfest vision to life — whether that be through helping with setup orchestration, ticket & raffle sales, entertainment, catering, clean up. What makes this community so special is how we all show up and support one another... and then celebrate alongside each other! Let's keep creating memories together. Another Lobsterfest is in the books!



HBCA Fall Fest

The second annual HBCA Fall Fest was a major success! Thank you to Alexis Vandergoot who spearheaded the entire event again this year. Alexis approached the Board of Directors last year to see if she could organize a Fall Festival at the beach with local vendors. After last year's major success, she was back in planning mode - full force - with nearly 60 vendors this year, including TacHoe food truck, Ruvo on the move, the Illegal Baker, Oyster Bay Brewing Company, local personal chef Emmett McDonough making brick oven pizzas, What Are We Having Caterers, and others who allowed you to enjoy great eats while perusing the pop up shops. Thank you to all who made this event a success, including Alexis and her top notch planning and organization skills, President Borg for the endless support and helpful delivery of signs all over town, as well as Chris Forstbauer, Alexa Sakal, Matt Gai, Ryan Schlotter, Donna Roberts, Mary Stokkers, Suzanne MacDevitt, and Tommy and Tracy Spero, and Alexandra Martinez. Special thanks to Cindy Forstbauer and Suzanne MacDevitt who coordinated vendor setup the morning of and to Chris Forstbauer and Alexis for mapping out the entire parking lot weeks in advance to pack as many vendors as possible on our private beach, as well as a huge shout out to HACO for running the kids' zone. The event was such a great marketing campaign for how awesome our beach is. There was such wonderful feedback from attendants and vendors alike; it was a perfect day and from food tents to the kids crafts everything was stellar! HBCA and greater Huntington cannot wait until next year's Fall Fest! If you loved our vendors, email info@hbca.org to get a list of all of our vendors and their social media tags to support them.



& Bonfire

The annual bonfire event was also a huge success. This year, it followed the Fall Festival.

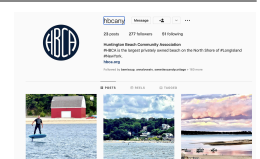
Once the masses were cleared and it was members only, and the night settled upon us, the fires started. As usual, Chris Forstbauer was the lead on this event and he made the giant bonfire, plus some smaller fires for those who wanted that personalized camp setting. He even put a bit of copper in the big fire so we could all see those pretty colors again!

Thanks Chris and the best of the Board of Directors for making great experiences happen for our membership.



NEW! @HBCANY INSTAGRAM

Follow and like! Send content for consideration to socialmedia@hbca.org



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

← ANNOUNCEMENTS →

Congratulations!

Our daughter, Christina, married Peter Phyto on June 17th. They are living in New Jersey with their dog Tucker. Submitted by proud parents, Cathy and Jimmy Johnides of Monroe Drive.



HBCA from Above

Owen Lakhani took this picture of HBCA (and the one on the cover page of the sandbars at Centerport beach) this summer with his drone.



Thanksgiving Food Drive for the HACO Food Pantry



The Harborfields Alliance for Community Outreach collection will begin November 5th at the HBCA "These Hills are a Beach" run. Food drop off locations and dates TBA. For information about HACO, go to harborfieldshaco.org. Look for updates in HBCA email blasts. You can join the HBCA mailing list at <https://www.hbca.org> and go to the "News and Events tab". To volunteer as a drop off location, contact: Janette Newell jlknew@gmail.com.

TEENS FOR HIRE

Cameron Gai (12): Available for dog walking and checking in on pets. (516)658-3288

Emily Happel (18): Fully vaccinated, available for babysitting and pet sitting. HBCA camp counselor available for after camp care. Drives and has lots of experience with children and pets. (631)972-7734

Megan Happel (15): Fully vaccinated, available for babysitting and pet sitting. HBCA Camp counselor available for after camp care. Lots of experience with children and pets. (631)972-4081

Finn MacDevitt (23): available for Guitar/Singing gigs for parties. (631)388-1644

Declan MacDevitt (21): available for dog sitting, house sitting, and babysitting (631)987-0479

Sadie MacDevitt (17): available for dog sitting and babysitting. (631)769-7710

Padraig MacDevitt (16): available for dog sitting and babysitting. (631)388-2219

Hartley Semmes (16):, currently in Marching Band and Jazz Band, available for trumpet lessons: (631) 223-9779

Julia Somers (15): available for babysitting and as a Mother's Helper. (631)425-9821 or (631)530-6841

Lucy Zethner (17): I am a babysitter/pet sitter. (631)925-8368