



SHORELINES

Editor: Mackenzie Sikora

Message from the President

Chris Forstbauer

2026 Elections

**Submit nominations to
Chris Forstbauer at
president@hbca.org**

Any active member in good standing may nominate himself / herself or any other active member in good standing for any office or directorship.

**Voting will take place at
the annual meeting on
Thursday, November 6**

Interested in nominating yourself or someone in the community?

Full details inside.

Remember to vote!



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As the final days of summer fade and the colors of autumn begin to transform our community, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for making this past summer such a memorable season. The energy and enthusiasm that each of you brought to our events truly made this summer wonderful.

With the arrival of fall, we naturally turn our focus to the future. I am excited to share that our association has several important projects planned. These upcoming projects will require both careful planning and collaboration. As we further develop these projects, we will continue to look for the support that we always appreciate from all of our neighbors.

We have welcomed the season with our Beach Campout, Oktoberfest, and Bonfire. These gatherings mark the end of summer and the start of fall, celebrating the warmth of community even as the weather cools. In addition, we are eagerly looking forward to our upcoming Halloween party, which is fun-filled for families to enjoy. These, as well as other events, would not be possible without the dedicated work of many volunteers who graciously donate their time and attention to make all the events come together for us.

It doesn't go without saying that the Beach would not have the same spirit if it were not for all the work that the volunteers continue to do. We are always looking for more community involvement with these and other events. No amount of help is too small or unwelcome. If you would be interested in participating in any of these events, please feel free to email us at info@HBCA.org.

Looking ahead, the coming year will bring new opportunities for growth, improvement, and connection. Together, we can continue to make our community an extraordinary place to live.

Thank you all for your involvement, dedication, and support. Here's to a bright and productive year ahead.

Christopher Forstbauer

President, Huntington Beach Community Association

Letter from the Editor

Mackenzie Sikora

To the Shorelines readers,

It is my privilege to share with you the Fall 2025 issue. Thank you to all those who reached out to contribute and help shape the pages of this newsletter.

Do you have an interest in writing, design, publishing? A memory to share? An idea? Comment? Email me at shorelines@hbca.org. I'd love to hear from you.

Cheers to the memories to unfold, and the stories to be told!

Upcoming 2025 Events

****Full details of all upcoming events, including any associated fees, can be found on the [HBCA website](https://www.hbca.org).****

Family Halloween Costume Party

Saturday, October 25, 5:00pm to 9:00pm

Enjoy a "spooktacular" party, to include costume & pumpkin carving contests!

General Meeting (& Election Voting!)

Thursday, November 6, 7:30pm

A quarterly open invitation for all HBCA members to attend a monthly Board meeting. Join your neighbors and the Board to listen in on what's happening and have your voice heard.

Pancakes with Santa

Saturday, December 6, 9:00am to 11:00am

Enjoy a pancake breakfast for the whole family; guests welcome!

HBCA Cocoa Crawl

Friday, December 12 to Sunday, December 14 (all weekend)

Guided by a map of participating houses, walk the neighborhood at your leisure throughout the course of the contest weekend while sipping your hot cocoa! Then, vote online for your favorite decorated house. The top three houses with the most votes will win Visa gift cards!

To enter your house in the contest, visit <https://www.hbca.org/cocoacrawl>.

Ladies Ornament Exchange

Friday, December 12, 7:30pm to 10:00pm

HBCA Board of Directors 2026 Nominees

The HBCA Nominating Committee was formed in accordance with the HBCA by-laws and nominates the following members to serve on the 2026 board of directors.

Additional nominations may be submitted to President Colin Walsh at colin.walsh@hbca.org.

Voting will take place at the annual meeting on November 6, 2025.

Officers

President: Chris Forstbauer
 1st Vice President: Emmett McDonough
 2nd Vice President: Luella Semmes
 Treasurer: Brian Puccinelli
 Financial Secretary: Jennie Logan-Paulich
 Recording Secretary: Chris Sikora
 Director at Large: Colin Walsh
 Security: Tom Wiese
 Buildings & Grounds: John Lopez
 Summer Recreation: Hildi Stanford
 Boating: Rich Wrede
 Water Safety: Alec Schwartz

District Directors

District #1: Andrew Stevenson
 District #2: Ryan Schlotter
 District #3: Susan Broshek
 District #4: Lindsay Calabrese
 District #5: Rick Puccinelli
 District #6: Chris Lau
 District #7: Bob Caffine
 District #8: Cindy Forstbauer
 District #9: Janet Gritzka
 District #10: Matt Gai
 District #11: Vida Hettenbach

Roles & Responsibilities to Consider

Interested in getting involved, but unsure of where you best fit? Read more details:

President: Ensures that everything runs smoothly and according to the by-laws. Supports the directors to carry out their respective functions. Drives all initiatives, ensures annual events are scheduling & planned, & oversees maintenance, construction, & safety on HBCA grounds and district boundaries. Hosts monthly board meetings & leads discussion on topics.

1st / 2nd Vice President: Supports the President & directors to keep the beach clean, safe & fun! Helps promote fundraising campaigns.

Treasurer: Financial forecasting and budgeting. Works with each executive board member to forecast annual expenses. Provides monthly board meeting reports to highlight year-to-date status of all expenses. Generates payments to vendors or contractors on behalf of the board.

Recording Secretary: Keeper of all documentation, votes, approvals, & actions taken at monthly board meetings. Takes meeting minutes; circulates & requests approvals of prior minutes from the board.

Roles & Responsibilities to Consider... Cont.

Security: Promotes general public safety on HBCA grounds and safeguards all HBCA assets. Knowledgeable about public safety protocols & implements preventative measures to maintain year-round security. Works with key board members during the busy season to secure front gate entry. Most likely first responder to any issues on HBCA grounds; coordinates a plan of action, if not immediately available.

Building & Grounds: Gatekeeper to the beach (literally!). Promotes general improvements & safety of the HBCA beach grounds & casino. Has a keen eye for areas in need of TLC. Skilled in handling repairs, coordinating construction, hiring local contractors & facilitating capital improvement projects with the board. Available to manage the front entry gate at the beginning & close of the day. Coordinates a team to launch & winterize the swim float.

Summer Rec: Plans & organizes all daytime activities for the HBCA summer camp. Hires onsite vendors, CITs, counselors, & adult volunteers to assist with the program. Secures equipment, apparel, & materials necessary to carry out activities. Works with the Treasurer to manage registration, payroll, & budgets.

Water Safety: Leads & promotes water safety & medical preparedness at the beach & during Summer Rec. Coordinates hiring summer lifeguards & ensures proper training in water safety, CPR & medical equipment. Keeps a schedule of daily tasks for the lifeguards, including raking the sea grass & keeping restrooms & common areas tidy.

Boating: Monitors the docs & waterways. The central contact for boating operations, memberships, & commercial boating members. Ensures the dock, pier, boat ramp & dinghies are in tip-top shape, year round. Oversees any needed repairs & improvements.

Financial Secretary: Monitors HBCA memberships & generated annual income. Works with other key board members to ensure that event participants are members in good standing. Reports membership & income at monthly board meetings.

District Director: 1 per each of HBCA's 11 districts. Neighborhood representatives who report on any news & points of interest affecting their districts during monthly board meetings. Can offer assistance & contribute ideas to HBCA events throughout the year. Have voting rights on any subject matters brought to the board's attention. Assistant District Directors can be appointed for additional support, and will attend monthly board meetings when the District Director is unavailable. A great way to get involved, learn about the community, and work with a fun group of talented leaders!

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTORS

Membership: An Investment That Pays Off

Alex Borg

One of the greatest strengths of the Huntington Beach Community association is that membership isn't just about access to the beach — it's an investment that directly enhances the value of your home. Each improvement to our facilities, each successful event, and each act of volunteerism raises the profile of our neighborhood, making it more desirable to buyers and increasing property values for all of us. Membership dues and participation go a long way and make a lasting impact. Simply put, supporting the HBCA is one of the smartest financial moves you can make. "The beach adds so much value for homes within the association" says Sal Ammirati, a realtor at Douglas Elliman. "Membership is so important. I bring buyers down to the beach all the time...I tell them, 'you're not just buying a home, you're buying a lifestyle.'"

Enhancements That Add Value

This season alone, members saw a host of upgrades that not only improved daily enjoyment but also bolstered our reputation as one of the premier communities on Long Island. The brand-new playground has become a hub of activity for families, showcasing our commitment to children and future generations. The bluestone parking lot upgrade created a welcoming first impression while improving function and durability. Regular beach raking kept our shoreline pristine, offering residents and guests smooth clean sand. Perhaps most notable, the new boat ramp has been a game-changer for water access, while the newly installed walkway from the pavilion to the dock makes it easier than ever to enjoy our facilities with comfort and convenience. These enhancements don't just improve quality of life today—they make HBCA a neighborhood where people want to live, which translates directly into higher home values. Ammirati continues, "The condition of the beach is just as important as the condition of your home for value. These latest improvements have made a huge impact."

How You Can Contribute

The Board of Directors works tirelessly to keep these improvements and events moving forward, but every member plays a role. Supporting community events, volunteering your time, or simply picking up litter while walking the beach and neighborhood all add up to big results. By participating in HBCA activities, you're not only strengthening our community—you're directly protecting and growing your largest nest egg.

Looking Ahead

Huntington Beach is more than just a place to live; it's a place people aspire to call home. That distinction comes from the steady improvements to our facilities and the vibrancy of our community life. The more we all invest—through membership, participation, and support—the greater the return in property values and quality of life. Let's keep building on this momentum and ensure that Huntington Beach remains the shining example of what a neighborhood can achieve together.

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTORS

Swimming Simpatico

Jackie Martin

adjective: simpatico

1. (of a person) [likable](#) and easy to get along with.
"the inspector was a charming man, so simpatico"
 - o having or characterized by shared attributes or interests; compatible.
"a simpatico relationship"

Once the school busses start rolling and the swim float rolls out, there is always a stretch of weather that feels like Summer is going in reverse.

It was one of those days when I arrived at the beach for a perfect high tide, goggles and cap in hand and jumped in for my lap swim. There were a few people dotted along the beach enjoying the sun's last warm rays but I was the only swimmer.

The water was clear and a bit chilly but as I began swimming my body quickly adapted. I fell into a relaxed rhythm.

The shoreline glided by, I saw the Adirondack chairs that were made by Bart Moyka and the vacant lifeguard stand. I started thinking back to when I first walked to the beach and was inspired by a woman whom I saw doing countless laps at every high tide. How could I learn to swim? How could I swim like that?

Mary Ellen Hotchkiss became my friend and mentor on so many things in life. Her swimming, wisdom and kindness were inspirational. She loved HBCA and served as our Water Safety Director for many years. She would often say when confronted with a situation, "Are we simpatico?"

I guess we were as we continued swimming well into October and sometimes early November. Others swam and inspired more of us, like Lilly Horner who grew up in Iceland and was often seen in the chilly waters off our beach swimming laps well into her 80's. Sadly she passed last Spring at 96.

All these friends meeting at the water's edge day in, day out. Surely these laps count for something more than exercise.

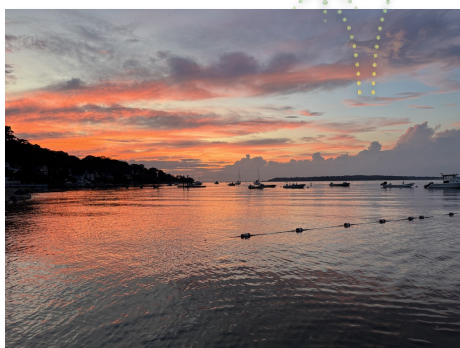
They are simpatico!

Jackie Martin is a past president of HBCA and past winner of "The Island Swim" for adults.

SHORELINES SHOUTOUTS

Congratulations to Mackenzie and Christopher Sikora, who welcomed their first baby, Nathan James, on July 3rd!

This little firecracker spent the summer taking long stroller walks to the beach, meeting his neighbors, and even attended his first HBCA Oktoberfest. He's so excited to be a part of the community!



A special shout out to all those in our community who worked together to make the biggest beach party of the year a huge success!

Special thanks to Ryan Schlotter, the board, our sponsors, and all HBCA community volunteers who helped bring this year's vision to life.

Any HBCA member may join the Artisans Craft Group by texting Mary Stokkers at 631-278-3952. We meet every Tuesday night from 6:30 to 9:00 thru the fall in the casino.

This summer, we created decoupage clay pots and frosted wine bottles with tea lights inside. Future possible projects are watercolor lessons, nature prints, gel printing and suggestions made by members who attend. Many projects may be repeated such as jewelry making, paint pouring, decoupage, gardening and seasonal crafts.

Artisans determine projects with those who can attend during the winter. Last year, they learned how to crochet. You DO NOT need to be artistic, just enjoy your neighbors by crafting.

ADVERTISE in Shorelines, our website, and our email blasts! Packages are available starting at \$250. For more information, send us an email at shorelines@hbca.org.

Have something to share? Submit your next big life update with the community by reaching out to shorelines@hbca.org! We'd love to feature you.

SHORELINES SHOUTOUTS



Terry Ryan, longtime member of the HBCA, sadly passed away on September 12th at the age of 81, surrounded by his loving family. Terry found the perfect partner in Janie. For 55 years, they built a life together, rich in family and friends.

Terry enjoyed many pastimes, including boating, fishing, woodworking, photography, and cooking. He could fix almost anything. He raised and trained sporting pigeons, gardened with Sparkie Boy by his side, and traveled the country with Janie and his girls. Terry valued hard work and loyalty to family. He and his family have truly enjoyed being part of such a wonderful beach community association for 50+ years!

Helpers for Hire

Cameron Gai (15)

516-658-3288

Babysitting, dog walking, checking in on pets, private lifeguarding

Parker Gai (13)

516-658-3288

Odd jobs, dog walking, snow shoveling

Cathy Johnides

631-664-0342

Teacher with 18 years of experience available to tutor Kindergarten, 1st or 2nd graders in reading or math

Maureen Keenan

516-578-8044

Private flute & piano lessons from a college music professor & professional musician with 25+ years of experience

Declan MacDevitt

(23)

631-987-0479

Dog sitting, house sitting, babysitting

Finn MacDevitt (25)

631-388-1644

Guitar/Singing gigs for parties

Padraig MacDevitt*

(18)

631-388-2219

Dog sitting, house sitting, babysitting
*available during college breaks and summer

Sadie MacDevitt*

(20)

631-388-1063

Lifeguard certified, dog sitting and babysitting *available during college breaks and summer

Eliza Michalopoulos

(18)

516-318-4226

Babysitting, pet sitting, house sitting

Maddie

Michalopoulos (14)

516-838-0012

Babysitting, pet sitting

Eloise Moran (15)

516-865-5701

Babysitting, pet sitting

Olivia O'Malley (14)

516-477-4804

Babysitting, pet sitting

Callie Schomburg

(16)

631-626-7231

Babysitting

Leyton Schomburg

(14)

631-466-5767

Dog walking

Hartley Semmes (16)

631-223-9779

Trumpet lessons (Marching & Jazz Band experience)

Julia Somers (16)

631-425-9821 or

631-530-6841

Babysitting, Mother's Helper, pet sitting

Shannon Walsh (16)

516-510-6926

Babysitting, pet sitting, certified lifeguard for pool parties

Kirsten Zheng (14)

kirstenzheng1@gmail.com

Beginner to intermediate piano lessons ([8 years](#)

[experience](#), student at Manhattan School of Music)