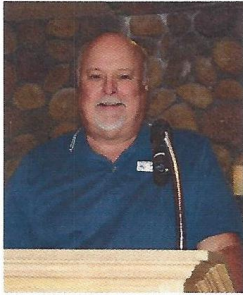


ORCA Celebrates 5 Years!

On October 27, Ocean Ridge Charities Association, Inc (ORCA) held a celebratory Wine and Cheese Anniversary Party to thank all the Ocean Ridge residents who have given so generously over the last 5 years since the organization was established. These are the words Mike Gildea, founding president of ORCA, shared with the attendees:



Today's anniversary event is really all about you. A celebration of and a thank you to Ocean Ridge for your generosity, because without that there would be no ORCA.

When we began this journey back in 2010 we really didn't know if this notion of establishing a neighborhood foundation would take root.

This was a new concept and in a community already known for its charitable giving we weren't sure if there was room to fit in. But ORCA did and the results speak for themselves:

- Since we began our charitable fundraising in 2011, we've raised over **\$132,000** for some 27 different local charities and non-profits.
- Just last year - our best ever - we generated \$33,000 in both monetary and in-kind contributions from over 1,300 separate charitable transactions from ORCA donors.
- In 2014, we received donations from 340 Ocean Ridgers - a near 60% participation rate among full time residents. Even more impressive, the average contribution was about \$70 per household.
- We've grown our corporate sponsorships from 40 in 2011 to over 150 today, netting over \$30,000 for ORCA and the local charities we support
- Last year we involved 178 neighbors in ORCA fundraising events, special projects and other activities.
- And finally, we've limited ORCA's expenses to less than 7% of all funds raised.



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ORCA Celebrates *continued...*

Collectively with your support, our efforts have helped to feed hungry children and provide meals on wheels to seniors, assist veterans in distress, send deserving youngsters to college who couldn't otherwise afford it, provide health care to the indigent and to women with breast and cervical cancer, give comfort to those at the end of life, offer shelter to the homeless, make available housing for the poor, and provide assistance to displaced youth and the victims of domestic abuse.

Shortly you will be receiving from us our fall appeal for this year's annual fundraising campaign. That request for contributions is all about helping kids in crisis through three local non-profits, so we hope that you will continue to give generously.



To wrap this up, I'd like to close by paraphrasing something that was said by the late U.S. Senator and Vice President Hubert Humphrey :

To me the true test of our charitable endeavor is how well that we care for those in the dawn of life - the children, those who are in the twilight of life - the elderly - and those who are in the shadows of life - the sick, the needy and the poor.

ORCA has done all that and more and with your ongoing help we will continue to be a beacon of hope for those in need.

Representatives from many of the charities were in attendance:

Brunswick County Homeless Coalition, Communities in Schools, Habitat for Humanity, Hope Harbor Home, Lower Cape Fear Hospice, Matthews Ministry, New Hope Clinic, Ocean Ridge-David Kelly Nursing Endowment at BCC, StreetReach, and Veterans' Welcome Home & Resource Center.



L-R: George Briggs, Mike Lynch, Kathy Arancio, Beth Michelakis, Mike Cunningham, Beth Naylor, Larry Gray, Liz Cermak, Barbara Ellenberger, Peggy Burris, Amy Kelly, Claudia Piccarelli, Mike Gildea, Maggy Schlink, Pris Lovell, Judy Cunningham, Sally Duffy, and missing from the picture, Ron Sorce.

