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# THE RUPA RELAY

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: RUPA-SSI.ORG

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RUPA

P.O. Box 24318, St. Simons Island, GA 31522

May 2011

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Residents United for Planning and Action is dedicated to keeping you informed about our St. Simons Island, our County Commissioners, Island Planning Commission and proposals to over develop the area. We hope to preserve the ambiance and the character of the Island. To that end we monitor Island Planning Commission meetings, County Commission meetings, the Tree Board and current events.



Residents United for Planning and Action sends out regular e-mails on issues of interest and concern to our membership. If we do not have an e-mail through which we can contact you, please send us one at [Rayco-oceanic@comcast.net](mailto:Rayco-oceanic@comcast.net).

## **RECENT ISSUES**

Of interest to all of us was the request for additional rezoning of some of the property adjoining the Red Barn restaurant so that a small shopping center with a grocery store could be developed. *Save Frederica North* petitioned and campaigned to stop the rezoning and were successful!! The applicant withdrew his application. See the website [preservessi.com](http://preservessi.com) for more details. However much of the property remains zoned commercial due to a change in zoning made in 2005 and will very likely be developed in the near future. It is very likely to be brought before the Island Planning Commission again soon, so watch for details.

## **Library Conflict**

The conflict between the Three Rivers Library Board and the St. Simons Library League resulted in the separation of the Library League - a major fund raiser for the St. Simons Library - from the Library system. The League has raised more than \$120,000 for the library since 2007. (continued next page)

## Library Conflict *continued*

The Library Board has issued a 209 page document itemizing the alleged irregularities of the Library League. The League is asking for an accounting of the latest funds (\$25,000) donated. At this time the conflict has not been resolved. The Library Board has promised to keep the St. Simons Library open (for how long and for how many hours no one knows) and the League has hired legal counsel to refute unfounded allegations.

## **2010 RUPA EVENTS**

In March of 2010, RUPA held a Town Hall meeting to discuss and get information on SPLOST IV and the funds that had reportedly been "found" that were unknown to the County Commissioners. Becky Rowell and Tom Sublett spoke at the meeting and took questions. Marie Dodd also spoke to introduce the candidacy of Clyde Taylor for Commissioner.

On July 13th RUPA hosted a candidate forum in the Casino Atrium the format was informal. Candidates each had a table with information and were present to answer questions from citizens one-on-one. It was a great way for many people to meet many candidates.

The September 20th, The annual meeting and election of new Board was held at Lord of Life Lutheran church. Candidates for 2 offices spoke at the meeting: Amanda Williams and Mary Ellen Moses for Superior Court Judge and Alex Atwood and Audrey Stewart for State Representative. Afterwards the new board was elected for 2010-11.

## **COMING SOON**

In the early fall/late summer RUPA is planning an informative meeting about the proposed SPLOST taxes. We will keep the membership informed about the meeting and about the taxes as they come up.

### **RUPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2010-11\***

Dick Justice	rmj3638@comcast.net
Pam Brittin	phbrittin@yahoo.com
Bob Brittin	britgolf31@yahoo.com
Jack Caldwell	jackcaldwell@juno.com
Jim Campbell	jmcsoup@comcast.net
Dona Colglazier	oceanicssi@comcast.net
Joy Elliott	bravesone@comcast.net
Richard F. Johnston	Richard_f_johnston@hotmail.com
Don Young	dcyjry@yahoo.com

\*Please contact us with any comments or concerns

## **ON GOING RUPA CONCERNS**

1. RUPA will continue to monitor County Commission meetings and decisions. Anytime the membership feels there are issues that should be watched more closely, please let us know.
2. RUPA will monitor requests for zoning changes.
3. RUPA will monitor and attend Tree Board meetings
4. RUPA has been participating in Adopt-a-Highway quarterly and is working with community organizations to protect the Island environment



L-R: Ray Colglazier, Rusty Jensen and Joy Elliott "Adopting a Highway"

## **RECENT CHANGES**

RUPA has been and is concerned about Island changes and development. Some recent changes and potential changes have been quite positive. The roundabouts, especially the one at Frederica and Demere have added a distinct character to The Island in addition to facilitating traffic.

The completion of the bike trail to the Hampton Marina is a wonderful addition. The Park and dog walking trail have created a peaceful and public attraction to the more northern part of St. Simons and have opened up a new biking experience.

## **ISLAND PLANNING COMMISSION**

The *Island Planning Commission* is composed of seven citizens who are residents of St. Simons Island/Sea Island and who are appointed by the Board of Commissioners for four-year terms. They make decisions and recommendations on matters concerning the growth and development of the County - specifically as it applies to St. Simons Island, Sea Island and Little St. Simons Island. The current members are as follows:

Preston Kirkendall, District 1  
Desiree E. Watson, District 2  
John A. Dow, Jr., District 3  
Stan Humphries, District 4

William Lawrence, District 5  
Paul H. Sanders, At Large 1  
Patricia Laurens, At Large 2

Island Planning Commission normally meets at 6 pm on the third Tuesday of each month in room 108 of the Casino Building on St. Simons.

## **RUPA MEMBERSHIP**

Join us in preserving our beautiful Island. If you are already a member, please be sure to renew your membership. If you are not a member, there isn't a better time to join than now. We need your support to continue our efforts. Your contributions are tax deductible.

### **MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check desired membership level. Renewal  New Member

\_\_\_\_\_ \$35 Basic

\_\_\_\_\_ \$70 Sustaining

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Patron

\_\_\_\_\_ \$500 Benefactor

\_\_\_\_\_ \$1000 Life Member

Send your tax deductible contributions to RUPA, P.O. Box 24318, St. Simons Island, GA 31522

Check the Glynn County website for Commission and Planning Commission Meetings and agendas.  
[www.glynncounty.org](http://www.glynncounty.org). Watch the County Commission meetings live on channel 99.



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St. Simons Island, Georgia 31522

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