

When Ales Gregor stepped off the bus in Onley, he knew exactly where he was headed....straight for the harbor.

As he walked the streets of downtown Onancock, he could see his Flamenco Restaurant adding to the culinary charm of the town.

Over the next five years, Ales and his wife Olga worked a variety of jobs in the area to transport their seven-year-old restaurant from Ostrava in the Czech Republic to Onancock, opening Flamenco in January 2006.

Why the Eastern Shore of Virginia? After living most of their lives in the city of Ostrava (an austere, industrial center), the peaceful creeks and quiet beauty of the shore was just what they had dreamed of. Boating and fishing are now their favorite pastimes.

But...the energy of NYC draws them to visit a couple of times during the year. A Christmas trip to shop and enjoy the holiday decorations is tradition; plus they make time for a couple more trips during the winter to

enjoy the Metropolitan Opera.

As you slip into the rich, colorful interior of Flamenco, the warmth of Olga's greeting is just the beginning of an enjoyable evening of attentive

Flamenco Restaurant

4 North Street
787-7780



Ales and Olga Gregor
photo by Mary Burnham

service and delicious food.

Flamenco's menu is extensive and

varied. Local seafood with subtle seasonings and sauces are the usual choice of Onancock's visitors. Regular customers' favorites include rich, creamy Lamb Florentine and spicy/sweet Pina Colada Chicken.

Also, Chef Ales will customize any of the dishes for regular patrons - he knows who likes their "usual" done just so.

Menu choices for lunch are a simpler variation of dinner favorites. And while breakfast service is hibernating for the winter, you can order your favorite omelet for lunch.

Flamenco is open Tuesday-Sunday for lunch 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., and nightly for dinner 5 to 10 p.m. Shared table seating is encouraged in this intimate 25-seat restaurant, but reservations are recommended on the weekends.

In addition, Olga and Ales are now taking requests for private parties. What an ideal location for unique cuisine and outstanding personal service!

By Jean Hungiville



Onancock Business & Civic Association

Would you like to get involved? Join the Onancock Business & Civic Association. We meet the 1st Tuesday of every month, 7 pm at the Onancock Fire Station. Everyone is welcome!

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Mark your Calendar

October

- 12 Onancock International Films, "The Sea Inside", Roseland Theater, 8 p.m.
- 14 ES Historical Society Autumn Evening at Barrier Islands Center
- 21 Fall Clean Up, 8 a.m. The Wharf, **Volunteers Welcome**
- 21-23 ES Artisans Guild Juried Show & Sale; Reception at Ker Place 10/21 7-9 p.m.
- 27-28 CBES Bike Tour begins and ends in Onancock www.cbes.org
- 31 North Street Playhouse Studio Series: "The War of the Worlds" live on WESR, 8 p.m.

November

- 3-4 North Street Playhouse Studio Series: "The Battle of Shallowford," 8 p.m.
- 4-5 ES Art League Member Show, Holy Trinity Church, 11/4 10-6 p.m., 11/5 12-4 p.m.
- 9 Onancock International Films "Man on a Train," Roseland Theater, 8 p.m.
- 11 ACES presents John Eaton, Jazz, Nandua High School, 7:30 p.m.
- 19 Cokesbury Concert Series "Small Potatoes," 3 p.m.
- 24-26 ES Artisans Guild Open Studio Tour www.easternshoreartist.org

December

- 2 North Street Playhouse Sparkles Series: "Twas the Night Before Christmas," 1:30 p.m.
- 8-10 North Street Playhouse "A Christmas Carol" 12/8&9 at 8 p.m.; 12/10 at 2:30 p.m.
- 9 Christmas Homes Tour and Open House at downtown shops, 2-6 p.m.
- 9 Christmas Music Festival "The Season for Sharing," Historic Cokesbury Methodist Church, 4-8 p.m.
- 14 Onancock International Films "Waking Ned Devine" Roseland Theater, 8 p.m.
- 16 Onancock Christmas Parade, Market Street, 5 p.m.
- 28-31 North Street Playhouse "Crowns", 12/28, 29, 30 at 8 p.m., 12/31 at 2:30 p.m.

Onancock News

Onancock Business & Civic Association

Fall 2006

Onancock Christmas Homes Tour

By Lisa LaMontagne
Saturday, Dec. 9, 2006
2 to 6 p.m.

Experience a truly wonderful small town holiday event, the Onancock Business and Civic Association's 7th annual Christmas Homes Tour. Visit seven homes charmingly decorated for the holidays. Enjoy seasonal music performed by members of the Orchestra of the Eastern Shore, the beneficiary of tour proceeds.

The hours of 2 to 6 p.m. provide more daylight for touring and an opportunity to attend the Christmas Music Festival at Historic Cokesbury Methodist Church. All homes are downtown and within walking distance, but Star Transit will provide a free shuttle service. Begin and end the tour at any of the homes.

OBCA is proud to continue its tradition of supporting local organizations, and thanks the owners of the participating homes for their hospitality. Their generosity ensures that the Orchestra will be closer to achieving its goals in the coming year (www.orchestraes.org)

Here's a sampling of homes to pique your holiday fancy:

-An Arts and Crafts home with a new great room and one of the oldest sycamore trees on the Eastern Shore.

-The oldest home in Onancock newly

occupied by two artists whose fine art collection, shorebird carvings and painted floor mats are interspersed throughout the home.

-An early 1900s home that retains its stately appearance outside, but has been dramatically transformed inside.

-A new home with the timeless feeling of the Eastern Shore.

-A late 1800s Victorian being transformed into an upscale inn. A brand new addition blends seamlessly with the original structure.

-A mid-20th century Mount Prospect home displaying the

owners' landscape art and holiday postcard collection.

Tickets for the Homes Tour are \$15 per person, sold the day of the tour at each home and at Cokesbury Church. Purchase in advance at Tom Thumb Workshops and CD Marsh Jewelers on Market Street in Onancock, and the Book Bin at 4 Corners Plaza in Onley. Tickets are also available by phone, 787-7600, or mail: OBCA, P.O. Box 111, Onancock, VA 23417.

A Christmas Carol
Dec. 8-9, 8 p.m.
Dec. 10, 2:30 p.m.
The North Street Playhouse

The Season for Sharing 7th Annual Christmas Music Festival

Historic Cokesbury Methodist Church*
By Anne Nock
Saturday, Dec. 9
4 to 8 p.m.



Gwen Skeens
Photo by Anne Nock

In conjunction with the Homes Tour, continuous live holiday music will be presented by a variety of performers including a children's choir, gospel singers, and the Orchestra of the Eastern Shore.

The orchestra, a volunteer group of 18 musicians from 11 years old to 90, has been directed by Dr. Peter Dundon since its founding in 1999 (www.orchestraes.org)

The title of "The Season of Sharing" music festival is taken from a song written by Gwen Skeens, who will also be performing.

Admission is free and the audience is welcome to move about freely, attending either a single performance or staying for the entire concert.

*If repairs from tropical storm Ernesto are not complete, the concert may be held at Market St. United Methodist Church.

Schedule

- 4:00 p.m. Dr. Marilyn Kellam, JoAnn Molera and Dr. B.J. Rogers
- 4:30 p.m. Gwen Skeens and the "Pipers Fancy Recorder Ensemble"
- 5:00 p.m. Wes Parks, Banjo
- 5:30 p.m. Children's Choir of Market St. United Methodist Church
- 6:00 p.m. Orchestra of the Eastern Shore
- 6:30 p.m. Mockhorn Trio
- 7:00 p.m. Hallelujah Gospel Singers
- 7:40 p.m. Sing-along Christmas Carols

Meet OBCA'S New President: Kris LaMontagne

Background

After a year in Vietnam, Kris went to college on the GI Bill and earned a degree in business administration with concentrations in accounting and economics. He recently retired from the US Fish & Wildlife Service with more than 30 years in the federal government.

Not ready to "sit on the couch" yet, Kris began a transitional retirement in Onancock renovating a Victorian home into an upscale B&B with his wife, Lisa. They sold their home in Northern Virginia and moved here in 2005. Their Inn at Onancock on North Street will be on the Christmas Homes Tour and will open to the public next year.

Why did you choose Onancock?

Lisa and I dreamed of owning a B&B near the water in a relaxed, small town. We yearned to transition out of the "rat race" and into a quality of life we didn't have time for before. Over the past couple of years we looked at areas in five states, but Onancock turned out to be the perfect fit.

Why did you become president of OBCA?

I wanted to be a contributor instead of consumer of the community in which we lived, so it made sense to join an organization dedicated to enhancing the businesses and the town.

What's the mission of the OBCA?

The OBCA's mission is to increase the success of the Onancock community both collectively and as individuals to enhance the quality of life in our town.

What are your goals as President?

My thinking is that everyone should be included in the community's events,

Photo by Mary Burnham



issues and decision-making processes. In order to help each other, we need to be more aware of everyone's issues and concerns and communication is a big part of that. OBCA is a vehicle that offers everyone the opportunity to work together on both business and civic fronts. My goal is to encourage the residents and business owners of Onancock to join OBCA and actively engage in the activities of the town. OBCA offers that opportunity to all businesses and citizens.

Jamestown 2007 is a perfect opportunity for OBCA and Onancock to come together in a collaborative way so that our town, its people and its businesses are viewed as a community that works together for the benefit of everyone in Onancock and the Eastern Shore

Why should one join OBCA?

What are the benefits to businesses?

OBCA offers a forum for business owners to share information and ideas, including cross-marketing and promotion.

What are benefits to individuals and civic groups who join OBCA?

OBCA offers Onancock citizens the

opportunity to participate in protecting and enhancing Onancock's high quality of life.

What are the benefits OBCA affords the community?

Most recently OBCA, in conjunction with the Town and local business donations, provided cigarette disposal containers for downtown and the wharf. OBCA has also sponsored bike racks, a visitor information kiosk, and the adoption of Market Street for clean-up. Through fund raisers and activities like the Christmas Homes Tour, OBCA has provided funds for scholarship programs, community improvement, holiday celebration events, funding for the arts, town historical projects, and other worthy activities.

What are five things you love about living and doing business in Onancock?

1. The people
2. The water: port, creek, bay, and ocean
3. The relaxed atmosphere
4. The opportunity to be an involved part of the community
5. No traffic!

What do you do for relaxation?

I retired to try to find out, but I haven't had much success. (chuckle) But when I do find some time, I love to fish and get out on the water in my boat and I am trying to learn how to play golf. Lisa and I enjoy traveling and spending time with family and friends. We recently joined the YMCA to get fit and healthier to keep up with our more "relaxed" lifestyle.



Deborah and Bob Paskill, photo by Mary Burnham

Bob and Deborah Paskill discovered Onancock the same way early explorers did: by water. The New Jersey couple had been sailing up Onancock Creek to vacation for years when they decided to move to their favorite Chesapeake Bay town full-time.

Around Town: News & Notes

There's lots happening around our town since the last issue. Here's the scoop...

Artists Bob and Terry Swain have moved into the oldest house in town. Bob, renowned carver of shorebirds, is opening his One Good Tern studio next to Tom Thumb Workshop. Terry designs floor cloths known as Flat on the Floor.

Since the last *News*, several eateries have opened in town. See our features this issue on Flamenco's and Port Scarborough Pizza.

The Onancock General Store opened in September at 49 King St., serving up yummy soft ice cream, coffee, home goods, and nostalgic children's toys. Stop in and meet the owner, Janet Hotcaveg.

Recently featured in Hampton Roads 2007 Restaurant Guide, Stella's is hosting month-long OktoberFest fun with special features Oct. 21 and a Costume Ball Oct. 27. Plans are already in the works for New Year's Eve.

The Blarney Stone will also offer Oktoberfest fun on Oct 21.

Port Scarborough Pizza Co.

789-3061
25A Market Street

In 2004 they purchased Montrose House B&B, and a year later opened Port Scarborough Pizza Co., celebrating its first anniversary this Thanksgiving.

The name is an historic nod to Onancock's original name when it was founded in 1680. It's also the moniker for Bob's favorite pizza featuring 'port'abello mushrooms, pepperoni, onion and blue cheese.

Whether you try one of the six gourmet pizzas or create your own, they're all hand-tossed, thin-crust and fired in a brick oven.

But pizza isn't the only option here. Homemade dressings top fresh garden salads, there's a fresh quiche every day, and more than a dozen gourmet

sandwiches should satisfy any yen.

The chicken and shrimp salads aren't just made fresh daily, they're made to order, while you wait.

Bob can often be found at the restaurant, and you may see Deborah when she's not teaching second grade at Pungoteague Elementary School.

There's indoor and outdoor dining in season, as well as a take-out window, and they also offer catering. Football fans should check out the satellite TV!

By Mary Burnham

Now open 7 days a week!
Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.;
Friday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.,
and Sunday noon to 5 p.m.



Holiday Shopping

Support OBCA and promote your town with this unique customized gift. Downtown businesses are now carrying Onancock Christmas ornaments. The new 2006 ornament features **Historic Cokesbury Methodist Church**. Sets of previous years ornaments are also available, each in a different color and featuring a different town landmark. On sale during the December 9th Onancock Homes Tour.

Travel writers Mary and Bill Burnham are new residents and new members of OBCA (www.BurnhamInk.com)

Watch for Santa at gardenART on King Street on weekends. Bring your wish list and a camera.

Many businesses will offer extended holiday shopping hours. **Please support your local businesses this season** and remember our fabulous restaurants, inns and hotel when planning holiday gatherings and business celebrations.

The best in entertainment can be found in Onancock. Check out the Calendar for upcoming theater, artisan shows, concerts, and international films.

Be sure to peek around the corner when visiting Creative Concepts, you'll find a magical Trompe d'Oeil window created by Carol Crockett.

Send items for the next *Around Town* to: Joani Donohoe, jdonohoe1@verizon.net

Runniger's Pharmacy at 25 Market St. has several scheduled free blood pressure screenings, and 24-hour *emergency* prescription service for existing customers.

Drop in to The Charlotte Hotel to meet new executive chef Ted Cathey.

Mariah Christian Gallery is back up and running after 'Ernesto' blew through. The storm wrecked havoc on many homes, shops and churches. Kudos to all who helped out, including the town for the massive cleanup.

Herbal Instincts celebrates six years in business the first week of November.

Woody's Auto Service is expanding, soon to have more space and will offer wheel alignments.

North Street Market has added a coffee bar, among other amazing gourmet goodies. Corner Bakery is remodeled and looks great!

Get your Hayman Sweet Potatoes at House of Deals. Gotta have them on the harvest table!