

ORCA Surpasses \$300,000 in Charitable Giving

Leaders of nearly 30 Brunswick County non-profits joined with the Board of Directors of the Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) at the organization's annual retreat to celebrate ORCA's seventh year of charitable fundraising. At the event, over \$31,000 was presented to local charities.

Since 2010 the neighborhood charity has raised nearly \$325,000 in monetary and in-kind donations for nearly 35 local charities. 2017 was ORCA's best year yet with the organization generating almost \$100,000 in a single year. "Staggering is the only thing I can say," remarked ORCA's founding president Mike Gildea. "We owe it all to the generosity of our 400 Ocean Ridge donors, nearly 120 local business sponsors and a hardworking board of Directors," Gildea added. His co-founder, ORCA Treasurer Claudia Piccarelli, noted, "We never expected to be raising that amount of funds in a single year."

Highlights of 2017 included: Four successful fundraising events—A dinner dance, Trivia Nite championship, A Casino Night and a weekend of holiday celebrations; an Annual Campaign that raised over \$13,000 for two non-profits helping children victimized by child abuse, neglect and endangerment and a community-wide day of service that generated some \$21,000 in re-sellable golf items—including 26,000 golf balls—along with textiles and equipment for the thrift stores of 6 county charities.

Written by Mike Gildea



**ORCA Board of Directors and Brunswick County Charities
A large 2017 check in the amount of \$98,000.00**

The Ocean Ridge Charities Association, Inc. (ORCA) is a tax exempt, non-profit corporation situated within the Ocean Ridge Plantation planned community in southeast Brunswick County. ORCA was organized in 2010 for the purpose of identifying and supporting those Brunswick County charities and non-profits that assist disadvantaged citizens. To find out more about ORCA and its activities go to www.orcharities.org or contact the organization at orcharities@gmail.com.