

## Seabrook Island Special Interest Groups

One of the things that makes Seabrook Island so special is the breadth of interests and talents shared by its residents. Fortunately, we have a wide variety of avenues to nurture those interests and talents. Depending on what is important to you and how you like to spend your time.

Subject	Group	page	
Clubs & Groups	Digging Into Roots Together (Genealogy Club)	2	
	Grief Support Group	2	
	Seabrook Island Artist Guild	3	
	Seabrook Island Coin Club	3	
	Seabrook Island Community Garden	4	
	Seabrook Island Dog Owners Group – SEADOGS (SIDOGS)	4	
	Seabrook Island Garden Club	5	
	Seabrook Island Ladies Bible Study Group	5	
	Seabrook Island Photography Club	6	
	Seabrook Island Natural History Group (SINHG)	6	
	Nature Groups	Seabrook Island Turtle Patrol	7
		Seabrook Island Green Space Conservancy	7-8
		Seabrook Island Birders (SIB)	8-9
Dolphin Conservation Education Program		9	
Volunteering	Backpack Buddies Seabrook Island (BPBSI)	10	
	Seabrook Island Village – Neighbors Helping Neighbors (SIV)	10	
Community Organizations	Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)	11	
	Council of Villa Associations and Regimes (COVAR)	11	
	The Exchange Club of Kiawah-Seabrook	12	
	Seabrook Island Blood Drive	12	
Book Groups	Exploring Books	13	
	Jane Austen Society of South Carolina	13	
	Men’s Book Club	13	
Games	Mah Jongg Mavens	14	
	Seabrook-Kiawah Duplicate Bridge Club	14	
	Social Bridge Club	15	
	Social Chicago Bridge	15	
	Bunco	15	
Other	The Seabrooker	15	

## Seabrook Island Special Interest Groups



### Digging Into Roots Together (Genealogy Club)



Our mission is to help people do family history research. We get together twice a month, as genealogists to share ideas, and learn new approaches to online and in-person research. It is about finding your family roots whether it is in the United States or overseas. Learn how to organize, how to digitize your photos and documents, and how to build your family tree. Whether you are a beginner, intermediate or advanced genealogist, you will learn something new at each meeting.

Contact: Lynn Baker | [diggingintorootstogether@gmail.com](mailto:diggingintorootstogether@gmail.com) | 845-242-2344

Website: <http://diggingtogether.blogspot.com/>

---

### Grief Support Group



The journey of grief is long and often lonely. If you have experienced the death of a significant person in your life, we invite you to participate in the grief peer support group. Participants in the group include but are not limited to those who have lost a spouse or a child. The group meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 4:30 pm in the Eagle's Nest Studio at The Lake House. New members are always welcome to attend.

Contact: Mary Fleck | [marybfleck@gmail.com](mailto:marybfleck@gmail.com) | 908-208-6640.

---

## Seabrook Island Special Interest Groups

### Seabrook Island Artist Guild



The Seabrook Island Artist Guild comprises over 100 members from Seabrook Island, Kiawah Island and Johns Island. Our members enjoy the beauty that surrounds us every day as well as learning from professional artists and each other, or simply enjoying our members' artistic creations. Artists in the Guild use a variety of media to create their works including oils, acrylics, watercolor, sculpture, weaving and more, as well as artistic crafts.

The purpose of the Guild is to stimulate the creativity of its members by providing opportunities to learn, exhibit their art, and collaborate regularly with other artists at monthly meetings, demonstrations, classes, art shows and workshops. We also encourage interest in art within the community through outreach and local exhibitions, acquainting the public with the work of our members, and supporting local art school programs.

Contact: Ann Demitruk, Membership Vice President | [ann@demitruk.com](mailto:ann@demitruk.com) or Patrick Connelly, President | [connellypatj@gmail.com](mailto:connellypatj@gmail.com).

Website: <https://www.seabrookislandartistguild.com/>

---

### Seabrook Island Coin Club



The Seabrook Island Coin Club meets on the third Tuesday of the month at The Lake House at 7:00 pm. Anyone with an interest in coins is welcome.

Informal appraisals are available to anyone with “hand me down” coins. There is no fee for this service. Please do not clean or polish coins.

## Seabrook Island Special Interest Groups

Contact: Paul Giardino, 843-768-0575

### Seabrook Island Community Gardens



If you are a property owner on Seabrook Island and are interested in gardening at the SIPOA Community Gardens, please contact co-managers Valerie Doane or Cat Russo, for further details.

Valerie Doane | [valeriedoane@doanes.net](mailto:valeriedoane@doanes.net) | 843-901-3336

Cat Russo | [cat.russo1990@gmail.com](mailto:cat.russo1990@gmail.com) | 571-332-9279

---

### Seabrook Island Dog Owners Group - SEADOGS (SIDOGS)



SEADOGS' intent is to provide a unified voice for communication to the Town of Seabrook Island, SIPOA, rental clients, other dog owners, and residents of Seabrook Island specific to dog ownership and respectful cohabitation of dogs and all residents of Seabrook Island. We meet several times throughout the year and often invite guest speakers to give presentations on issues relating to dogs and dog ownership. Some of our events include our Annual Meeting, our Annual Beach Walk, and we also help to organize the Halloween Pet Parade.

Contact: Martha Goldstein | [siseadogs@gmail.com](mailto:siseadogs@gmail.com) | 561-251-7551

Website: <https://www.sidogs.org/>

---

## Seabrook Island Special Interest Groups



### **Seabrook Island Garden Club**

The objectives of the Seabrook Island Garden Club are to promote among its members and the community, an active, personal interest in horticulture and artistic design, as well as community beautification and ecology. The club supports educational outreach programs in the field of horticulture by way of scholarships and donations to various philanthropic endeavors. The Garden Club's programs, events and special projects keep our members engaged through speakers, workshops, field trips and community events.

No green thumb needed to join! Let's talk some dirt!

Contact: Karen Nuttall, President | [seabrookislandgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:seabrookislandgardenclub@gmail.com)

Website: <https://sigardenclub.blogspot.com/>

---



### **Seabrook Island Ladies Bible Study Group**

We are women of faith who wish to connect with fellow believers in offering encouragement while deepening our knowledge of the Bible and gaining a stronger relationship with Jesus. We meet on Mondays, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm. All are welcome.

Contact: Kristine Wilson | [KrisW10@gmail.com](mailto:KrisW10@gmail.com) or Lauren Sutton | [lalasutton@aol.com](mailto:lalasutton@aol.com)

---

## Seabrook Island Special Interest Groups

### Seabrook Island Photography Club

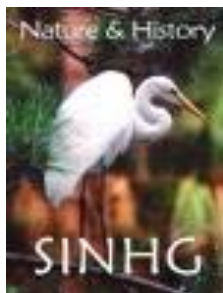


Our mission is to encourage and enhance photography on Seabrook Island.

Our meetings are on the third Thursday evening of each month except July and August, at The Lake House from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. Our programs include meeting presentations from professional photographers, member image sharing, field trips, The Lake House wall hanging, photo seminars, and links to participate in photography shows. Members include beginners through professional level photographers.

Contact: Maureen Healy | 404-873-3022

---



### Seabrook Island Natural History Group (SINHG)

The Seabrook Island Natural History Group is one of the island's oldest and largest special interest groups dedicated to exploring the ecology, history and culture of the Carolina Lowcountry. We offer an annual schedule of educational SINHG trips for members as well as six evening programs for the general public.

Contact: [info@sinhg.org](mailto:info@sinhg.org)

Website: <https://www.sinhg.org/>

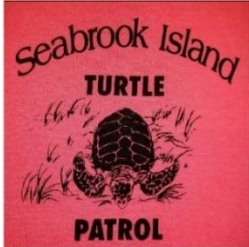
---

---

## Nature Groups

---

### Seabrook Island Turtle Patrol



The Seabrook Island Turtle Patrol works to protect and preserve the sea turtles that visit our beaches during the Summer months. Our season typically runs from May through October with volunteers on the beach every day looking for new nests, checking existing nests, helping stranded hatchlings and inventorying already hatched nests. Volunteers can sign up to handle a number of tasks including walking in the morning, checking nests in the early evening, educating the public and performing inventories. We sign up and train new members in early Spring; it is currently expected that our kick-off meeting will occur on March 31, 2022; more details will be made public when available.

Contact: Jane Magioncalda | [hello@siturtlepatrol.com](mailto:hello@siturtlepatrol.com) | 843-310-4280

Website: <https://siturtlepatrol.com>

---

### Seabrook Island Green Space Conservancy



The Seabrook Island Green Space Conservancy (SIGSC) was formed in 2000 to help protect and conserve undeveloped properties on Seabrook Island. Green Space acquires land through purchase, donations, or a combination of methods. Once the land is acquired it is quickly deeded over to SIPOA, as Green Space. "Green Space" is defined as that gift of land or perpetual conservation easement which cannot be subdivided, sold or otherwise disposed of under conditions that would permit its use for the erection of any structure whatsoever.

## Seabrook Island Special Interest Groups

SIGSC is served by a Board of Directors each of whom serves a typical three-year term, which begins in October of each year. More information can be found on our website <https://www.sigsc.net/>. Donations and comments can be sent from this web page.

At this time, SIGSC has conserved 40 properties making up over 28 acres of land. The next time you pass through the "Canopy" on Seabrook Island Road and immediately feel "at home," give a special thanks to The Seabrook Island Green Space Conservancy.

Contact: Lucy Hoover | [lucyhoover@gmail.com](mailto:lucyhoover@gmail.com) | 404-556-3231

Website: <https://sigsc.net>

---

### Seabrook Island Birders

Seabrook Island Birders (SIB) are residents, renters and guests of Seabrook Island who have an interest in learning, protecting and providing for the well-being of the incredible variety of birds that inhabit Seabrook Island throughout the year.



SIB's mission is:

- to enlighten residents and others about the richness and diversity of Seabrook Island's bird life.
- to foster an appreciation for the unique habitats our island provides for these varied species.
- to emphasize the importance of protecting our wildlife and these natural habitats that are essential for the survival of our native birds as well as the migratory birds we host.

In order to reach these goals SIB sponsors:

- educational activities; a website ([seabrookislandbirders.org](http://seabrookislandbirders.org)), a blog, a Facebook page, quarterly membership meetings, lectures, workshops, newspaper and magazine articles, etc.
- various interactive activities; including bird walks, local and national bird counts, the monitoring of Eastern Bluebird boxes, participation in special Island events such as Earth Day, SI July Fourth Parade, etc.



## Seabrook Island Special Interest Groups

- SIB members' involvement with other Seabrook Island environmental organizations' committees and activities.

Contact: [SeabrookIslandBirders@gmail.com](mailto:SeabrookIslandBirders@gmail.com)

Website: <https://seabrookislandbirders.org/>

---

### Dolphin Conservation Education Program



The [Lowcountry Marine Mammal Network](#) (LMMN) is a nonprofit dedicated to protecting local marine mammals for future generations through science, awareness and conservation. It conducts an outreach program started by NOAA in 2015 to provide education and outreach to beach visitors on Kiawah and Seabrook Islands about strand feeding dolphins. Educators are present on the beach daily during peak feeding times to collect baseline data on strand feeding occurrences as well as engage with visitors on the topic of our local dolphins and what can be done to protect them.

To learn more about this program, click [here](#). If you are interested in volunteering, email [lauren@lmmn.org](mailto:lauren@lmmn.org).

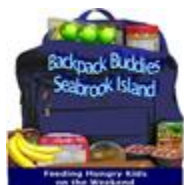
---

---

## Volunteerism

---

### Backpack Buddies Seabrook Island (BPBSI)



BPBSI is an all-volunteer, nonprofit 501 (c)(3) charity founded in May 2014. Our mission is to feed hungry children living below the poverty line attending Charleston County, SC public schools. We provide nutritious food and snacks to those needy children for the weekend (and school holidays) so that they do not go hungry and can return to school ready to learn. We currently purchase and deliver food for 300 students each week at Elementary and High School's in the area. If you are interested in volunteering to help or would like more information, please contact us.

Contact: Mark Snyder | [snydermws@yahoo.com](mailto:snydermws@yahoo.com) | 919-724-9847.

Website: <https://backpackbuddiesseabrookisland.com/>

---

### Seabrook Island Village, Neighbors Helping Neighbors

#### *Seabrook Island Village*



*Neighbors Helping Neighbors*

Seabrook Island Village (SIV), Neighbors Helping Neighbors, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization totally staffed by volunteers with the goal of helping Seabrookers *of any age* remain independent and active in the community. The program officially launched in January, 2020 to fulfill SIV's mission of providing a variety of services to Seabrookers through a group of trained and vetted volunteers. Services include, but are not limited to transportation, companionship visits, reassuring calls, minor home maintenance, and basic help with technology. We especially are in need of volunteers for transportation and those that are interested in planning and attending social events with members.

Contact: Pam Madaio | <mailto:pamadaio@gmail.com> or Ann Demitruk, | [ann@demitruk.com](mailto:ann@demitruk.com)

Click [here](#) for the volunteer application form.

---

---

## Community Organization

---

### Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)



CERT is a volunteer, FEMA trained and certified, organization of residents who are there to provide first response to the community in the event of an emergency or disaster. For more information about Lowcountry CERT, click [here](#).

Contact: Stephen Pollock, CERT Team Leader for Seabrook Island | [spollock455@gmail.com](mailto:spollock455@gmail.com) | 516-510-9029

---



*“To provide a regular forum for Villa property owners to share and discuss common concerns, to collaborate with Seabrook Island Property Owners Association (SIPOA) in matters of mutual responsibility and interest, and to provide a single official voice for all Villa property owners.”*

As a collective voice, the current Board of Directors for COVAR are Rev. John Reynolds, President; Dr. Sue Cameron, Vice-President; Marie Valle Wardell, Treasurer; Joanne Fagan, Secretary.

COVAR maintains a message chat board on Next Door, submits monthly articles of interest to The Seabrooker and periodic submissions and notifications to Tidelines Blog. E-mails can be sent to [joanne.fagan@comcast.net](mailto:joanne.fagan@comcast.net).

Contact: Joanne Fagan | [joanne.fagan@comcast.net](mailto:joanne.fagan@comcast.net)

## Seabrook Island Special Interest Groups

### The Exchange Club of Kiawah-Seabrook



## Kiawah-Seabrook Exchange Club

The Exchange Club of Kiawah-Seabrook was founded in 1982 and is a member of the National Exchange Club, whose motto is “Unity for Service”. This embraces both the social aspect of the Club as well as our commitment to serve our community. The Club’s social purpose is reflected in two dinner meetings each month in which we invite guest speakers to address topics of interest to our members. We also have a charitable purpose where we support four key areas that include prevention of child abuse, community service, youth and education and Americanism on Johns and Wadmalaw islands. Through fundraising efforts and the support of our Exchange Club of Kiawah-Seabrook Foundation, the Club has been able to fund grants of more than \$1,000,000 over the last ten years. We welcome anyone who is interested in meeting new people and helping their community.

Contact: Membership, Robert Cherry | [rlcherry187@yahoo.com](mailto:rlcherry187@yahoo.com)

Club President, Jack Wilson | [jwilson@dunesproperties.com](mailto:jwilson@dunesproperties.com)

Website: [ks-exchangeclub.com/](http://ks-exchangeclub.com/)

---



### Seabrook Island Blood Drive

The Seabrook Island Blood Drive, in conjunction with the American Red Cross, has been in existence for many years here on Seabrook. There is always a need for blood and donation are easy and convenient to do here. Thanks to the Seabrook Island Property Owners Association, we have been able to offer “the Gift of Life” right here at The Lake House four times a year. *Tidelines* will provide information about the next scheduled drive.

Contact: Kathy Rigtrup | [ktrup2@aol.com](mailto:ktrup2@aol.com) | 973-715-3005

## Book Groups

---

### Exploring Books



Exploring Books started in 1995. We meet once a month, usually on the second Monday of the month. This group is very eclectic and includes members of all ages. We meet ten months of the year and choose our books at our last meeting of the year. We meet at members' homes but in the last year, we have met at the Pelican's Nest during Covid. One person reviews the book while another hosts.

Contact: Susan Coomer | [Seabrksue@att.net](mailto:Seabrksue@att.net) | 843-901-0447

---

### Jane Austen Society of South Carolina



The Jane Austen Society of South Carolina is the regional chapter of the Jane Austen Society of North America (JASNA). JASNA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the appreciation of Jane Austen and her writing.

Contact: Lee Hurd | [leewhurd@gmail.com](mailto:leewhurd@gmail.com) | 843-768-6453

---

### Men's Book Club



The Men's Book Club meets every third Tuesday of the month except for July, August, and December at 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm in the Osprey room in The Lake House. Members suggest books to be discussed one month ahead of time. Contact: Walt Czander | [ccczander@bellouth.net](mailto:ccczander@bellouth.net) | 843-768-9086.

---

## Games Groups

---



### **Mah Jongg Mavens**

Our group plays American Mah Jongg using the league cards. We meet every Tuesday from 1-4 at the Lake House. Ability levels vary and everyone is kind and helpful. There is no need to sign up, just show up, and groups are formed accordingly. There is a similar group that plays on Thursday, same time, same set-up. Masks are required.

Contact: Elaine Davis | [ebdavis@comcast.net](mailto:ebdavis@comcast.net) | 843-768-2643

---



### **Seabrook-Kiawah Duplicate Bridge Club**

The Seabrook-Kiawah Duplicate Bridge Club is a sanctioned American Contract Bridge League club where players can have fun improving their game in a friendly environment with an opportunity to earn "masters points" in the process. The club welcomes players of all skill levels and does not require an ACBL membership to play. There is an afternoon game on Monday and a morning game on Friday of each week and various special events are offered throughout the year.

Contact: Paul Corkish | [seabrook.kiawah.bridge@gmail.com](mailto:seabrook.kiawah.bridge@gmail.com) | (404) 432-6742.

If you are a member of the ACBL you can view the club profile page at <https://my.acbl.org/clubs/profile/201400>

---

## Seabrook Island Special Interest Groups

### **Social Bridge Club**

The Social Bridge group meets every Monday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00pm. No partner needed.

Contact: Ilse Calcagno | 843-768-0317.

### **Social Chicago Bridge**

Social Chicago Bridge meets Wednesdays at 1:30 at the Lake House. No partner required however player must be scheduled.

Contact: 843-743-6182

---



### **BUCNO**

We meet on the first and third Thursday of each month from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in Osprey 1 at The Lake House.

Contact: Mariann | 808.333.6768.

---

## **Other**

---

### **The Seabrooker**

The Seabrooker is the town's independent newspaper. It is published monthly and 2022 marks its 24th year of continued service to Seabrook Island. The current publisher, Teri Lash is the daughter of Fred Bernstein who along with Red Ballantine, started the paper. The editor and the monthly contributors are volunteers. The Seabrooker welcomes articles from all of our readers.

Contact: Michael Morris | [theseabrooker@yahoo.com](mailto:theseabrooker@yahoo.com) | 843-408-3707.

Website: <https://www.townofseabrookisland.org/the-seabrooker.html>

---

*Special thanks to:*

(Image credits: Clipart Library; clker.com, istockphoto.com, 123rf.com, Etsy; Time.com; JASNA.org; [Independent.co.uk](http://Independent.co.uk), each group that gave their icons and the Tideline Editors)