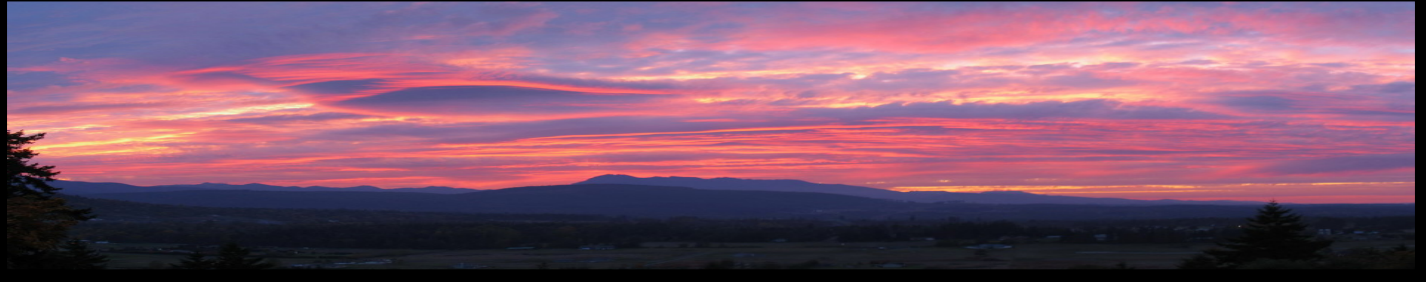


The Highlander



Serving the Highland Hills Community in Sequim, Washington

President's Message –

This summer has been particularly busy, productive and – from your Board's perspective – very successful. Special thanks, kudos, and applause to all our amazing volunteers who continue unselfishly 365 days-a-year to donate huge gobs of expertise, time, and effort to the effective functioning of our all-volunteer organization!

Our Mowing Committee Chair, Jim Barnfather, worked with a new mowing contractor who made a good start on clearing the unimproved lots. Unfortunately, midway through the project, the contractor became unavailable, and Jim had to scramble around to locate a qualified replacement. The good news is that he succeeded in getting all the lots mowed to the satisfaction of our members. This was no mean feat, considering the myriad of challenges Jim encountered.

Similarly, the demolition, construction and paving of Fawn Lane was timely completed under the watchful eye of our resident engineers, Ron Tognazzini, ably assisted by Gene Zeller, and members on the Roads and Drainage Committee. Further good news is that the total cost is expected to be less than the contractor's estimate. The striping should occur in October, when some of our other roads are re-striped. The Fawn Lane residents are vastly impressed and pleased, not only with the new road, but also with Lakeside's crews who were very professional, considerate, and courteous.

The culvert at the intersection of Fox Hills and Doe Run has been a work in process. We expect the contract for that project will be presented at the October Board Meeting and will be let shortly thereafter and, weather permitting, that the work will be completed by the end of 2009.

We have assembled a new *Aesthetics Committee* to draft a proposed policy for the Board's consideration relating to rules governing maintenance and appearance of yards and structures. The vast majority of our 200+ residents take meticulous care of their homes and yards, and many have show-quality grounds. However, a handful of residents, for whatever reason, do not maintain their property in accordance with any reasonable community standards. Some of these exceptions are merely an irritating eyesore. Some are so unsightly that they drag down the market value of all HHMC properties. A few actually foster conditions that constitute safety and health hazards in our community. Drafting a rule that sets

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*Mark your calendar for these important dates:
HHMC Board Meetings:*

- October 7
- November 4
- December 2
- ~ ~ ~
- HHMC Annual Potluck
September 13
- ~ ~ ~
- 2009 HHMC
Annual General Meeting
November 15
(tentative)

Your contribution will help enrich The Highlander as a viable community newsletter!

Submissions for publication can be sent to the editor,

Holly Brown, at hmc Highlander@gmail.com

Share your interests, activities, or travels with your fellow Highlanders. Please keep text to 300 words or less and include a photo, if possible. Photos taken of plants, wildlife, etc from the neighborhood would also be appreciated.

All submissions for the upcoming issue must be submitted no later than 4 days after the next Board Meeting.

Publication will be at the Editor's discretion and on a space-available basis.



minimal aesthetic standards is no easy task. It brings to mind an observation by former Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart, who wrote in a Supreme Court opinion, that while he couldn't craft a definition of pornography, "I know it when I see it." So, if you have constructive suggestions or want to contribute your observations on this subject, please share them with the committee members: trustees Jim Barnfather, Lew Norris, and Don Smaltz, and members Bonnie Marano and Ed English.

I hope to see you all at our Annual Pot Luck get-together this Sunday. Keep in mind that in just two months we have our Annual Meeting.

Wow – how time flies when you're having fun, especially when you are over 60 and appreciate every new day as a gift from above!

Don Smaltz
President

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS September 2, 2009 *by Martin Squires*

ATTENDANCE: Seven trustees [absent – President Smaltz (attending funeral in Los Angeles) and Bob Conklin (away on vacation)]; two Committee Chairs, and five additional members.

TREASURER: As of August 31, 2009, cash and receivables, net of construction deposits, were \$590,780.73.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL: The ACC approved construction of a new home on Fox Hollow, Parcel 4, Lot 2 and the removal of a fir tree at 263 Doe Run Road.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT: Addressed the presence of two "For Sale" signs on a lot and three complaints: a trailer not housed in a structure, a visible garbage can, and the disposal of log sections brought in to be cut for firewood.

MOWING: Reported that mowing of the contracted lots had been completed, letters had been sent to delinquent (non-contracted lot owners), and notices had been sent to five additional lot owners regarding need to cut noxious weeds.

ROADS AND DRAINAGE: Fawn Lane project is being completed, the paving of driveway entrances to Fawn Lane is ongoing, and the striping will be completed later in the year. A request for quotations on the striping of Fawn lane and other roads is outstanding.

SAFETY AND AWARENESS: Reported on the progress of the Covey Run bench vandalism and the proposed addition to the Highlander of Safety & Awareness articles/information.

NOMINATING: Reported the nominations for new Board members: Robert Adams, Jim Barnfather, and Ron Tognazzini.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: President Smaltz received member Gastrock's appeal of HHMC \$12,000 fine for excessive tree removal on parcel 32, lots 3 & 4. A hearing on the appeal to be set.

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BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS *continued*

The letter that was sent to the City of Sequim regarding overcharges of sewer rates to the residents of HHMC had been forwarded by the City to its City Attorney for review. City Attorney advised he would study the letter and respond in September.

The unclaimed deposit of construction funds for the Moore's has been returned to them.

The matter of light pollution was deferred and will be addressed by a newly appointed aesthetics committee.

The copier service contract is unresolved and has been transferred to Treasurer Bob Greer for resolution.

NEW BUSINESS: A report of an incident involving a member walking the roads of Highland Hills and a Homeowner's unleashed dogs resulted in the reminder that Clallam County has laws that require homeowners to control their animals. "17.02.030 Control of dogs - Civil violations. - - - the owner of a dog is strictly liable to control his/her dog - - - this means that the penalty for violation of these regulations is imposed without regard to any wrongful intention of the violator. The violation of subsection (1) of this section is a Class 1 civil infraction." The maximum monetary penalty for a class 1 civil infraction is \$250.

AGM preparation: Annual reports by committee chairs are to be sent to the Secretary by **October 1st**. Treasurer Bob Greer is obtaining quotations for the audit of the HHMC accounts. (Member David Harrison is requesting a copy of the HHMC financial audit. Response to member Harrison will be considered after review of applicable policies and pertinent laws.)

HOT LINKS IN THE HIGHLANDER



Anywhere you see blue text that is underlined, when you put your mouse over it, the pointer arrow turns



into a . Click on the text to execute that link to: go to a website, open an e-mail, or open a linked document.

Try it!

BOARD ACTIONS:

Motions made and approved: HHMC to absorb the cost of mowing the fringe of a member's lot; Lakeside change order #2 relating to blue clay issues; payment to Lakeside for extra rock on the shoulder of Fawn Lane; waiver of 10% holdback on Lakeside; addition of Safety & Awareness information on the HHMC website.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM

Helping One Another

After attending the "Neighborhood Empowerment Program" at the Sequim Library on August 10, I thought about how lucky I am to live in such a caring community. I have been part of the HHMC Caring Committee for a number of years and I periodically hear about neighbors doing something special/out-of-the-ordinary for their neighbors. In the past few weeks, four wonderful neighbors have been involved in taking that extra step to be helpful and supportive. They have worked quietly behind the scenes and I was fortunate to hear about their efforts. I will not mention whom they were assisting since I am ever mindful of the need for privacy but I felt the foursome should be recognized.

Tom Davis and Doug Heydon made numerous "house calls" that were above and beyond the call to duty. Day or night they responded with determination to do whatever was needed.

Toni Hankins and Mike Kidd helped a friend/neighbor who, after falling in the yard, when he couldn't get up under his own steam. His injuries prevented him from being able to walk to the mailbox and/or drive his car. Together they have provided tremendous assistance.

These neighbors are the epitome of being stewards of a "Neighborhood Watch Program". I am absolutely sure there are many others here in HHMC that have taken the extra steps to be helpful. It's a blessing to be part of this community.

Blessings in Friendship,
Colleen Blazier

The Highlander



Serving the Highland Hills Community in Sequim, Washington

2009 MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

☀ **Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 7th at 7 p.m.** ☀

Olympic Commons, 502 Still Road, Suite 209 (across Washington Street from Blake Sand & Gravel)
Subject to change by the Board, each regular monthly meeting in 2009 will be held at the same time and place, on the first Wednesday of the month. Members will be given notice of any change at least 10 days in advance.

☀ **Members are encouraged to attend Board Meetings** ☀

Meetings are tape recorded by the Secretary to assist in the preparation of minutes.
Recording by any other member is a violation of Washington Law and Board Policy 1-3.

HHMC Board of Trustees

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Lew Norris landjnorris@olympen.com 582-9574

Jim Barn father barnbarn20@msn.com

Committees Contacted Most Often

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL

Ed English

Reviews and responds to proposals for, and administers PC&Rs and Board Policies related to, excavation, new construction and additions. Reviews and responds to requests for tree cutting and additions.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT

Lew Norris landjnorris@olympen.com 582-9574
Administers PC&Rs and Board Policies relating to non-construction issues.

NOTE: A complete list of our Committee Chairs can be found on our website. To contact individuals who have not provided a personal e-mail address, please use the link below and your correspondence will be routed to the proper person.

HOW TO CONTACT HHMC by U.S. Mail: HHMC P.O. Box 2198, Sequim, WA 98382