

# The Highlander



*Serving the Highland Hills Community in Sequim, Washington*



Our Annual General Meeting is behind us, the Yuletide season is upon us, and the New Year is just a few moments away. Wow! Where has the year gone?

In case you missed the AGM, a quick recap: from your Board's perspective, it went relatively smoothly. Thanks to the superb efforts of Sally Schaefer and her AGM Committee, with special kudos to Janet Clark, our Inspector of Elections, the AGM was accomplished without a hitch. During the meeting, we passed the Board's 2010 budget, approved the By-law change extending the time to appoint the nominating committee, and elected three new trustees: Robert Adams, Jim Barnfather, and Ron Tognazzini.

We also introduced and recognized the 18 all-volunteer committees — each of which is an essential component in the successful functioning of our Association. More volunteers are needed to staff our committees. Won't you please select a committee (see the list and chairs on our web site at [www.hhmcsequim.org](http://www.hhmcsequim.org)). Then either contact the committee chair or let a member of the Board know you are willing to serve.

Old Man Winter, who isn't supposed to show up until the Winter Solstice (December 21st this year), arrived early in Highland Hills, and we are feeling the full impact of temperatures in the low 20's. Not record-setting lows, but close enough to freeze the neighborhood in the first week of December. The snowplows have made their first foray on our hill—only a matter of days after some people predicted an unusually mild winter. Well, we can still hope that comes true, but right now I'm too cold to bet on it. So much for global warming!

As 2009 comes to a close, I want to wish all of our members a Happy Holiday and New Year. Whether you celebrate a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, or another holiday, I send you my sincere wishes that all who hear this greeting have a joyous and memorable celebration with family and friends.

*Don Smaltz*  
President

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

January 6, 2010  
February 3, 2010  
March 3, 2010  
April 7, 2010  
May 5, 2010  
June 2, 2010  
July 7, 2010  
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21<sup>st</sup> Annual HHMC  
Pot Luck  
Sept. 12, 2010

**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](mailto: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 HHMC  
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.*

*Opinions submitted by  
individuals are published  
as a courtesy, and do not  
necessarily represent  
those of the HHMC  
Board of Directors and/or  
its Members.*



## 2009 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### HIGHLIGHTS November 15, 2009

*by Martin Squires*



The 2009 AGM meeting on November 15 was called to order at 2:32 p.m. The meeting was attended, in person or by proxy, by 105 members (including eight trustees). The results of the voting were as follows:

Issue 1: Approved the proposed budget for 2010

Issue 2: Approved the amendment to By-Law VII Section 4

Issue 3: Elected Robert Adams, Jim Barnfather and Ron Tognazzini to the Board of Trustees for three-year terms, beginning January 1, 2010 and expiring December 31, 2012.

The meeting included a financial presentation by our Treasurer, with an announcement of an audit of the HHMC financial records in January/February and an announcement of an increase of the 2010 annual assessment from \$728 to \$791 per acre (including the reasons for the increase). A detailed presentation was made by Roads & Drainage regarding our drainage system, basin and culvert work, snow removal/sanding/sinkhole repair, road work done on Fawn Lane, budget vs. actual cost, and repair of roads in the future.

Committee chairs provided a short synopsis of committee actions during the past year and recognized the many volunteer members of those committees.

Discussion of old and new business included:

- Publication of the Highlander in hard copy, on the HHMC website, and via e-mail
- Sewer overcharges to HHMC members by the City of Sequim
- Upkeep of properties in Highland Hills
- Fines levied for excessive tree removal



*Congratulations to Highland Hills resident artist, Sage Brown, on winning the Sequim Education Foundation poster contest for the upcoming Engineering Challenge.*



## LOOKING FOR STOLEN PROPERTY

In early fall of this year, one of our Highland Hills homeowners returned home to find that a number of items were missing from her outdoor landscaping. A description of these items follows:

- Two potted blue spruce trees – each about 3½ feet tall
- A basket planter with potted ivy
- A green bird feeder
- A stone (concrete) cat – about 15 to 16 inches in height

If, in your travels around the Olympic Peninsula, you see this stolen property, do contact me so that such a lead can be forwarded to the Clallam County Sheriff.

I can be reached at 681-5039 or by email at [davidstahl@bellhill.net](mailto:davidstahl@bellhill.net).

David Stahl, Chair  
Safety & Awareness Committee

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## WINTER DRIVING IN HIGHLAND HILLS – A REMINDER

*by David Stahl*

Although the first snow of the season was very light, with the recent advent of colder temperatures the likely of more snow is not far away. In past years, the *Highlander* featured articles on winter driving and winter safety. Those articles are now available to you on our community's website — you can find them at the following link:

<http://www.hhmcsequim.org/Winter.html>

One added note of caution this winter is that the planned re-striping of a number of our roadways cannot take place until next Spring. Therefore, take extra caution when driving our roads this winter – especially at night – and especially on those roadways where our current striping has faded significantly, e.g., Fox Hollow and portions of Doe Run. Staying within the posted speed limit (25 mph) should help give you time to react to unforeseen road conditions.



## 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!***

## Emergency Alert (E-Alert) Service:

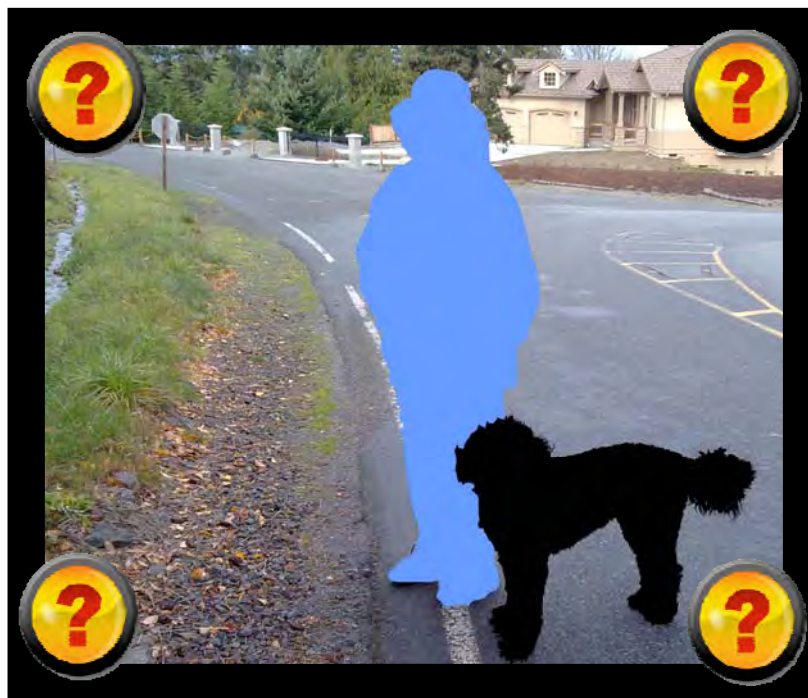
For several years, Wayne Marano has been operating a private E-alert service for those Highland Hills residents who choose to be included on his distribution list. The service provides local rapid response alert notifications of security issues (suspicious activities, vandalism, etc.), natural disaster assistance, lost pets, and other matters of an urgent nature that are called to his attention. Any homeowner can forward an item of urgent interest to [maranobw@earthlink.net](mailto:maranobw@earthlink.net) for further distribution.

**Subject matter that is not a part of this service:** homeowners' association issues, political commentary, commercial notices, SPAM, etc.

The service is not affiliated with the Highland Hills Maintenance Commission, although it *may* include urgent information provided to me by HHMC's Safety and Awareness Committee Chair.

Since these issues are not confined to our development, all Bell Hill residents are included. The e-mail address list is private and will not be distributed. The email subject line will be "Bell Hill E-alert".

# CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE HIGHLAND HILLS RESIDENTS?



We have many canine neighbors in Highland Hills who regularly walk their people, thus contributing to the general good health of the citizens of our community. In fact, some neighborhood walkers are most easily identified by their profile.

This silhouetted photograph is the second of the series, in which you are challenged to identify the names of the pooch in the picture and its walking companion. You can take it to the next level by identifying the correct name of the canine breed(s). Just so you don't lose too much sleep over the matter, the answers will be provided in the next issue of *The Highlander*.

Please let me know if this creature-feature is providing any enjoyment to you, as a reader. If so, I'd really like to see some participation...don't be shy! Submit a photo puzzle for future publication. Just send a good profile shot and tell me the names of the dog(s), breed info, and name of person(s) in the photo. I will create the silhouette and put it in line for the next available slot. Also, please include your name so that I can give you a photo credit.

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## 2010 MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

✿ **Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 6th 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

#### PRESIDENT

Don Smaltz      [don.smaltz.2@gmail.com](mailto:don.smaltz.2@gmail.com)      681-4467

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Mary Jane Moore      [mjm@yojimbo.com](mailto:mjm@yojimbo.com)      582-0607

#### SECRETARY

Martin Squires      [schoirs@msn.com](mailto:schoirs@msn.com)      683-5338

#### TREASURER

Bob Greer      [greerrob@hotmail.com](mailto:greerrob@hotmail.com)      681-4977

Bob Conklin      [rwconklin2004@yahoo.com](mailto:rwconklin2004@yahoo.com)      683-5098

Pat Johansen      [pjohansen@olympen.com](mailto:pjohansen@olympen.com)      582-3737

Bob Lakshas      [rlakshas@gmail.com](mailto:rlakshas@gmail.com)      681-4168

Lew Norris      [landjnorris@olympen.com](mailto:landjnorris@olympen.com)      582-9574

Jim Barnfather      [barnbarn20@msn.com](mailto:barnbarn20@msn.com)

### Committees Contacted Most Often

#### ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL

Ed English      [bellhillacc@att.net](mailto:bellhillacc@att.net)      582-9916

*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](mailto: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