



The Beachcomber



HMC Newsletter

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2003



<http://www.herronisland.org>

President's Message

After 10 years in one of the most critical positions on the island, Barbara Huff is retiring as office manager at the end of September. She and Nick will finally be able to winter at their home in Texas, but Barbara has promised to be available as an email and telephone consultant while we make the necessary adjustments to her leaving. In the three years that I've served on the Board, I have never ceased to be impressed at Barbara's knowledge of the nitty-gritty details of our financial records and operational policies. Even more impressive is her consistently cheerful, patient and professional manner in dealing with HMC members (especially the occasionally disagreeable ones). In addition to her employee duties, Barbara has been busy with volunteer activities, including her service as a volunteer firefighter/EMT with the Key Peninsula fire district. This involved over 100 hours of EMT school plus rigorous firefighting training under live conditions at the state Fire Training Academy in North Bend. The island owes Barbara a huge "thank you" for a job superbly done. As sad as we are at Barbara's leaving, we are fortunate to have found an excellent replacement. Patty Jones moved to the island last fall and has already become our Beachcomber publisher. She has been training with Barbara for several weeks and will be taking over the office manager's job upon Barbara's departure. Also, congratulations to Patty's son Michael, who has been certified as the island's third EMT.

At our October 11th meeting, the Board will be deciding what to do about the unlicensed driver issue. As we've discussed before, Section IV.C.2 of our Rules and Regulations states in part "Anyone not licensed to operate a motor vehicle must be under direct supervision of a parent or other re-

sponsible adult..." At the June meeting, our attorney warned that this rule significantly increases HMC's risk of liability if a child is hurt while driving a motor vehicle on our roads. Jim also said that a parent simply giving permission for a kid to drive might be construed in court as adult supervision. From what I've seen, over 90% of the youngsters driving golf carts and motorbikes are not accompanied by an adult, which most of us would interpret as violating the rule. I think the Board needs to consider why we should have a rule on the books that is almost universally ignored and also increases our liability risk. Should we just delete it from the Rules? We don't need a rule specifically prohibiting unlicensed drivers, but can continue to say that state motor vehicle laws apply on our roads. One way or another, we need to settle the issue in October.

After years of discussion and complaints, I think we're finally ready to attack the island junk problem. Pierce County has a new law and organizational structure that is more readily able to address the problem of junk vehicles and illegal dumping than has been possible in the past. The Pierce County Responds office is an umbrella organization that brings together staff and resources from the county Community Services, Planning & Land Services, Prosecuting Attorney, Public Works and Utilities, Sheriff, and Health departments. A law was passed in June that defines a nuisance vehicle as one that meets three of the following four conditions: it is more than three years old, is missing certain critical parts, is inoperable, and is worth no more than its value as

THE 2003-2004 ANNUAL ASSESSMENT IS DUE OCT. 1 AND WILL BE DELINQUENT IF NOT PAID PRIOR TO NOV.1. THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE ASSESSMENT IS \$979.00. YOU CAN PAY HALF, \$489.50, AS LONG AS IT IS PAID PRIOR TO NOV. 1. DELINQUENT PAYMENTS MUST BE PAYMENTS IN THE FULL AMOUNT OF \$979.00.



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scrap. Although Pierce County Responds has a telephone hot line and an online complaint form, my feeling is that we should start by sending a letter with pictures attached showing the two or three most outrageous junk properties and describing our unique situation of being an island. The first step for the county is to contact the owners of the properties and attempt to convince them to voluntarily comply with the law. For these particular properties, I think there's a good chance that the second step of forcing involuntary compliance will be required. As might be expected, the county has a large backlog of complaints to settle so this will all take time. I'll keep you advised of our progress.

We had a recent water test failure because of excessive levels of coliform bacteria. The details are given in a notice contained in this Beachcomber. Although the type and amount of bacteria found were not considered to be an immediate health hazard, it was an indicator that corrective action needed to be taken. The storage tank was chlorinated and subsequent tests were acceptable. A suspected cause was the deteriorating lid on top of the tank that could allow outside contaminants to enter the water supply. Nick Huff fabricated a water-tight frame and installed a new lid, so that problem should be solved. There is also a steady leak from a crumbling area of the tank wall. Doug is investigating what type of epoxy could best be used to seal the leak. These problems are all individually fixable, but are further indicators that our water system is aging. We'll get as many years as we can from it, but we need to start planning its eventual replacement and begin the funding with our next budget.

Two ferry issues coming up are the increase in fees and enforcement of our guest pass policy. As approved by the membership, the round trip fee for a member car and driver will increase from \$5.00 to \$6.00 on October 1st. Other ferry fees will increase as described in the sched-

ule printed in this issue. Signed guest passes must be given to the guest or the ferry crew by the member. The crew has been instructed not to provide blank passes to guests.

Although the season is not yet over, it looks like Washington might escape any West Nile Virus infections this year. Since the national outbreak began in 1999, Washington has had two horses and two crows infected in northern counties, all in 2002. There has never been a human infection in the state, although two cases were suspected but turned out to be caused by other viruses. The epidemic began in New England and has steadily spread west, so Washington may very well be hit next year or the year after. All we can do is remain vigilant and take mosquito-suppression action if required.

Two final items: County emergency preparedness experts will be here on Saturday, October 4th to meet with island residents and review preparations and actions we can take in the event of a disaster that would isolate us from the mainland. The meeting will begin at 11:00 AM at the Community Center and all residents are invited to attend. Also, Andy Thompson is compiling an updated island phone book for the Boosters. A form is printed in this Beachcomber for your use if you wish to be included.

Please email me at President@herronisland.org if you have any questions or comments and I'll get back to you.

Ken Freeman





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Important Phone Numbers

Island Manager

Doug Allen (253) 884-9350

HMC Board of Trustees

Ken Freeman, President (253) 884-2749
 Bill Zazzo, VP & Water (425) 823-1902
 Fred Fath, Secretary/Treasurer (206) 246-7016
 Ferd Reichlin, Rules & Regs (206) 242-7847
 Al Moren, Land Use & Roads (253) 884-2721

Additional Responsibilities

Nick Huff, Transportation (253) 884-4663
 Dick Mowry, Water Field Ops (253) 884-7663
 Tracy Anspach, Parks, (253) 588-1921
 Patty Jones, Beachcomber

Herron Island Office Hours: Monday 9:30 as long as the necessary but at least until Noon; Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 to 4:30; Fridays as necessary. The office is CLOSED Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Office Phone: (253) 884-9350

Office Fax: (253) 884-5047

Website: <http://www.herronisland.org>

Office Email: Office@herronisland.org

Manager email: HMCManager@herronisland.org

Beachcomber: hjonesp@yahoo.com

Emergency 911

Ferry Cell phone (253)691-1457

(Cell phone to be used for scheduling heavy loads, big vehicles or having something in tow, and for information regarding ferry services.)

Delinquency List as of September 22, 2003

BAKER, Larry	MARTIN, Sarah
BOYAKINS, May	MATTICE, John
COOPER, Marc	OVERLAND ESTATES/ J. Holt
DICKINSON, Linda	TITZLER, David
DROUILLARD, Joni	Renter: CARLYLE, Tom
KIRK, LeeRoy	EUBANK, Lance

Ferry Business

- Call ahead if you are planning to use the ferry for a trailer, boat, or large vehicle!
- Only those guests with valid passes will be allowed on the ferry.
- Plan your arrival to the dock at least 5 minutes before the scheduled time of departure.
- Walks-ons are not to be on the dock or ramp when cars are being loaded. Watch crew for permission to board.
- Only service and deliver people may charge wares.

LATELY WE HAVE EXPERIENCED GUESTS AND SERVICE PEOPLE EXPECTING TO COME OVER TO THE ISLAND WITHOUT GUEST PASSES. THIS VIOLATES THE ACCESS POLICY THAT WAS PUT IN PLACE FOR ALL OF OUR SECURITY. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR GUEST HAS A VALID GUEST PASS SIGNED BY YOU TO ENSURE THEY ARE ABLE TO RIDE THE FERRY. PROVIDING GUEST PASSES IS NOT PART OF THE DECKHAND'S JOB.

Beachcomber News Items need to be submitted to the HMC Office by the 12th of each month. Items may be handwritten, typed or emailed. Your name and phone number is to be included in case there are any questions. Paid advertisements are to be arranged through HMC Office.



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HMC
Board Meeting Summary
September 13th, 2003

Administration

- Fire District 16 has been requested to advise what they are doing about the recent fire on the west side of the island. They state that the report was sent to the Air Quality District.

Transportation

- Fill-in Ferry Captain: newly-hired individual resigned after about 27 hours of training. Our existing fill-in captain is currently unlicensed and has not returned phone calls. Recommendation: request her resignation or terminate employment.
- Of the nine parties responding to our March advertisement, one is still up in Alaska and has not contacted us, one resigned during training and one was hired elsewhere and is no longer interested. We have advertised again and renewed the search for a P/T captain.
- The Board discussed the use of guest passes, and possible modifications to program.
- The DNR lease has been reduced from \$1446 annually to \$853.

Roads

- There have been a number of complaints regarding children and teens of varying ages driving recklessly on island roads. The Board is considering ways to handle this.

Water

- Several times this year our routine water sample has not passed the test process. Each time we have taken additional samples that did pass. However, one of the several repeat samples in August tested as "unsatisfactory." Per State Department of Health requirements, and after doing two chlorinations of the reservoir and distribution system, we took five additional samples this week, plus an annual nitrate sample. All the coliform tests were clear (no coliforms) and the nitrate level fell well within requirements.
- Though the source of the coliforms appears to be the old concrete reservoir, with the situation aggravated by the unusually warm summer, both wells were chlorinated.
- The new, and better-sealing, lid for the reservoir has been installed. Our Water Manager, Larry Williams, also suggests that we seal the long crack at one corner of the concrete structure. He will advise on appropriate materials.

Parks

- Work to repair the small boat launch ramp is pending.



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HERRON MAINTENANCE COMPANY

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT YOUR WATER SYSTEM

Coliform maximum contaminant level (MCL) exceeded: Non-acute MCL

September 12, 2003

The HMC water system, I.D. 325505, located in Pierce County, WA is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants, including the presence of total coliform bacteria, on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During the month of August this type of bacteria was detected.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms found in our August water samples were a warning of potential problems. The samples were further tested to see if bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or *E. coli* were present. **None of these bacteria were found.**

You do not need to boil your water. People with severely compromised immune systems, infants and some elderly may be an increased risk and may want to contact their health care provider for additional guidance.

The suspected source of contamination is the concrete reservoir that holds water after it has been pumped from the wells and before it is pumped into the distribution system. The unusually warm weather may have contributed to the problem. To eliminate the contamination, the reservoir and distribution system have been chlorinated twice.

At this time:

- No action is required by users.
- The problem is resolved. Five routine coliform samples required for the month of September have been collected and were found to show no presence of coliform bacteria.

For more information you may contact HMC at 253.884.9350 or at P. O. Box 119, Lakebay, WA 98349.



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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS/FIRE DEPARTMENT

We have now scheduled this as an all day event October 4th. Crime Prevention will be about 11AM emphasizing identity theft and vandalism. We will possibly have a Sheriff representative out here to speak and answer questions.

Emergency Preparedness will be a ride around the Island and deciding our most vulnerable places for earthquakes or wind. We will be doing a couple of scenarios, so make sure you are available to be familiar with procedure.

Community building October 4th at 11AM until we are done!

BURN BAN IN EFFECT

FIRE DANGER: HIGH

***We are still working on evidence and information for the June 27th Brush Fire. Please trim ANY roadside grass that you can and USE YOUR ASHTRAYS!**

Remarks: Effective 8.00 a.m., Thursday July 10, the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in co-operation with local fire departments/districts have restricted the size and location of recreational campfires in Pierce County and completely banned all forest debris/ silvicultural land clearing and yard debris burning. As a precautionary measure, effective 8 a.m., Thursday, July 10, the fire risk rating of Pierce County will be elevated to "High". For more information on local fire restrictions in Pierce County, call your local fire district, (253) 884-4222, the Fire Prevention Bureau at 253-798-7179 or 1-800-323-BURN or Herron Maintenance Co. Office at 253-884-9350.

NO OPEN FLAME ANYWHERE OR ANYTIME ON HERRON ISLAND. THIS INCLUDES BEACH FIRES! Please use common sense—have hoses ready even when using barbecues..



A BURN BAN IS IN EFFECT ON HERRON ISLAND.

NO OUTDOOR BURNING IS ALLOWED.



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VIEW N. BEACH & CASE INLET

Two plus bedroom, 1 ½ bath.
\$124,750.

BUILDING LOTS

Only 3 left. All w/septic drain fields
installed. Call for details.

*Are you thinking of selling your property?
Interest rates remain attractive ~ we still have
buyers ~
Give me a call – Let's talk!!*

DALLAS AMIDON, Resident Island Realtor
Windermere Key Realty, Inc.
Pgr/Msg: 800-786-3966
Cell: 253-606-0972
Website: www.HerronIsland.com

For Rent: \$100/day \$500/week**This waterfront cabin on Herron Island offers:**

- Large deck, one bedroom with double bed in loft.
- Kitchen and bath are fully supplied.
- No TV or phone.

Contact Jerry or Christine Palmer: 253-529-1378



Rent a cute little cabin on Herron Island—
Two Bedrooms, kitchen, one bath. Enjoy
our lovely little paradise. \$80 a night—bring
your own food.

Call
(253)884-2054



Rent a house to make your flight an easy
experience. One mile West of Seatac air-
port. Leave your vehicle in a safe cozy
neighborhood.

Call
(253)884-2054



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Captain John says:

I would like to remind everyone that the Winter ferry schedule is starting October 1st.

I would also like to remind everyone that cell phones are NOT to be used during loading/unloading of the ferry until your vehicle motor is turned off.



Come to the all new Herron Island AA meetings on Sunday mornings, 9:30AM at the Fire Station Community Center.

IN MEMORIAM

Eloise Gray passed away on September 15th. She had been a resident of Herron Island for 26 years.

Her memory shall always live on in our hearts.



Women's Bible Study starting 9/11/03 at 7p.m. This will be for six weeks. Interested? Call Linda Shettlesworth at 884-6919 for details before the end of August so materials can be ordered

Garden Club News

The club has had a busy and fun summer. In June, we visited Vacey's nursery in Puyallup which has lovely baskets and a wide assortment of plants. A Memorial Day sale earlier with hundreds of plants donated by Dan Jansen brought an infusion of money to our budget which was then used to provide help for member activities. The July bus trip to Sequim, provided by Sunnycrest Nursery, was a visit to the lavender farms and festival. Many members attended that and had a great time. Our next activity was another Tuffa pot creation at Julie Tyson's; something like big mud pies which become pots or stepping stones.

Coming up for Oct. 13th at 10A.M. we will be exchanging plant divisions from our gardens and making garden labels. This will be held at Carol Cutlers home, 884-5388. Please bring metal skewers and plant names for the labels. Bring plants for the exchange and plastic sacks.

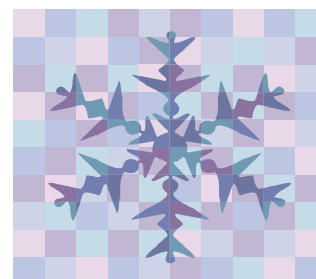
In December, we will meet on the 2nd Monday at Pet Cawthon's home for a Christmas party. This will be a potluck and will be just for fun. No special activity at this time. Pat lives at 108 Herron Lane. Phone number is 884-2072

Carol McNair - 884-4467

WINTERIZE NOW:

Now is the time of year to consider winterizing your place. If you plan to be away for an extended period of time, remember :

- To turn off your electric water heater
- And main water valve at the road
- And to drain the water pipes if you can .





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Boosters

LABOR DAY WATER REGATTA

HERRON ISLAND BOOSTERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING WINNERS!

BLIND MAN'S DINGHY RACE

- 1 Tom Tighe & Steve Allwine
2. Mike Moren & Rodger Mitchel
3. Nella Pugh & Ted Jensen

KAYAK RACE

Kayak boats 12' 6" & Under

1. Carolyn Troutman
2. Carole Crowley
3. Sue Surratt

Kayak boats 12' 7" & Over

1. Bill Placek
2. Jim Eichholz
3. John Holmes

SAILBOAT RACE

Monohull

1. Stan Worden & Craig Weagent

Congratulations Stan and Craig for sticking it out for three hours and forty minutes!

Where was the wind?

MULTIHULL—No Participants

FREE Classifieds on the Web

HMC web site (www.herronisland.org) now has a classifieds section for members. Just send an email to webmaster@herronisland.org with the text of your ad.



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RAFFLE WINNERS

1) **HERRON ISLAND BASKET- Won by Amy and Masari Kato**

Donated by Doug Kammerer -

- A picture of the Annabelle and Charlie Wells

Donated by Bob Konkel:

- Home made wine

Donated by Sound Graphics:

. One stadium blanket

Provided by the Boosters:

2 Herron Island sweatshirts, 2 T-shirts, and a Herron Island, the Maui of Puget Sound license holder

2) **\$200.00 overnight stay at the ENZIEN MOTOR INN—LEAVENWORTH, WA- Won by Roger and Judy Merrifield**

3) **ASSORTED DONATIONS BY GIG HARBOR MERCHANTS - Won by Jana Phillips**

- The Inn at Gig Harbor—I night at this lovely hotel with Continental Breakfast

- \$15.00 Precision Tune Certificates

- 1 Party tray from Blimpie

- 3 Great Car wash certificates from the Great Car Wash

- 6 6" Subs from Gig Harbor Subway

4) **BONUS BASKET DONATED BY THE D. VIERRA FAMILY - Assorted items - Won by Eric Moreland**

Please shop these Merchants who support the Boosters!

LETTER OF PRAISE FOR OUR VOLUNTEER EMTS AND FIREFIGHTER!

"I would like to sincerely thank Claudia and Bronson Jones, Michael D. Jones and Mike from the Home Fire Dept. for their prompt and caring response to our 911 call on the day after Labor Day. It is reassuring indeed to know that medical emergencies on the island are met by a trained response team ready to offer prompt medical aid.

It is difficult to find the words to truly express my gratitude, so I guess a huge THANKS is the best I can do.

Sincerely,

Warren and Pat Carlson



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HERRON ISLAND DIRECTORY:

A few years ago the Boosters produced a directory of members names, address and phone numbers. It was a big success and many of our copies are now dog-eared and doodled up and definitely outdated.

We've decided to do it again. **Your name will be included *only* if you fill out and sign the form below.** Even those members who already signed for the old directory must complete this form.

Mail in the form by October 31st, 2003 to: Andy Thompson , 222 West 4th Street #213, Ft. Worth, TX 76102.

I WISH TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION PRINTED IN THE HERRON ISLAND DIRECTORY:

(please type or print clearly)

Names of Adults: _____

Island Street Address: _____

Island Phone: _____

Mainland Phone: _____

Email _____

Mailing Address: _____

Signature: _____

WINTER SCHEDULE

October 1st through March 31st

MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.
6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00				
7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00				
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								7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00
								8:30	9:00				

Thanksgiving:

Lv Island 8:30, 11:30, 6:30

Lv Mainland 9:00, 12:00, 7:00

Christmas:

Lv Island 8:30, 6:30

Lv Mainland 9:00, 7:00

New Years:

Lv Island 11:30, 4:30, 6:30

Lv Mainland 12:00, 5:00, 7:00

FERRY RATES

	Members	Guests
Vehicle and Driver (vehicle ≤ 20')	\$6.00	\$12.00
Passenger or walk-on		
12 & over	\$2.00	\$2.00
5 through 11	\$1.00	\$1.00
Vehicle length based fares		
21'-30'	\$12.00	\$24.00
31'-40'	\$18.00	\$36.00
41'-50'	\$24.00	\$48.00
51'-60'	\$30.00	\$60.00
Special run	\$125.00	\$125.00
Emergency medical run off the island	free	free
Monthly commuter pass (car & driver only, must be used within the month)		
20 trips	\$80.00	
22 trips	\$88.00	
Senior/Disabled pass (car & driver only, must be used within the fiscal year)		
20 trips	\$80.00	
Coupon book		
(10 trips)	\$53.00	
(25 passenger or walk-on)	\$44.00	



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
OCTOBER			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Board Meeting 10AM- Boosters 6PM
12	13	14	15	16 Transportation Committee 7:30 PM	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Holiday Craft Bazaar

Saturday October 18th

10:00 – 3:00

1006 Yew Blvd - Near the Community Blvd

Xmas ornaments, Hand crafted and Quality Gifts for Family, Friends, Co-workers,
even your Kids and Pets....

AND at affordable prices!

Stop by with a Friend and pick up your free holiday gift!

Thousands of gift items!!

A note to all islanders - There is a **BURN BAN**. Help keep Herron Island safe!



BOOSTER POTLUCK AND ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS
SATURDAY OCTOBER 11 AT 6 PM IN THE COMMUNITY BLDG

Get involved! We need you! It's fun!

BOOSTERS

The Beachcomber

PRSRT STD

U.S. Postage

PAID

Lakebay, WA

Permit No. 7

HERRON MAINTENANCE COMPANY

P.O. Box 119

Lakebay, WA 98349

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