

The Beachcomber

HMC Newsletter

January-February 2016



President's Message

Happy New Year! **Goodbye 2015** and **Hello 2016!**
This year we get one extra day in February since it is a leap year. What are your New Years' resolutions for 2016? Please consider getting involved with Herron Island, whether it is volunteering on committees, helping out your neighbor, engaging in BOOSTER events, or getting involved with your homeowners association, HMC Management, and becoming a Board Member. The time that you can donate is invaluable. The Members are so important and contribute to the success and triumphs on Herron Island. Have a wonderful New Year.

Finance Committee will be kicking off this year with its first meeting scheduled for January 23rd. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you would like to be included on communication, contact Gary Wanzong at HMCGaryWanzong@herronisland.org.

One of the biggest money items to tackle this year will be the Dolphin Replacement project. Thank you to all that were able to attend the January 9th PND Engineering presentation. We want to keep the Members informed and involved as much as possible. We are getting closer to knowing what type of dolphins, costs and timeline for this project. But there is still a lot of work to be done. For more information on the Dolphin Replacement Project, please refer to the separate article within this Beachcomber issue.

Before you know it, summer will be upon us and many more Members, family and guests will be visiting our wonderful island, Herron Island. Cheers to the year 2016!

Sincerely,

Sherri Anderson
HMC Board President

Welcome, New Islanders!

HMC welcomes the following new Members to Herron Island:

- John & Jennifer Tegge
- Chelsea Orvella
- Gillian Conroy
- Joyce Major
- Jordan Cruz-Vick



Are You on the List?



HMC now has 347 Member email addresses on the notification list. If you want to get notice of the online Beachcomber, or get the latest on windstorms, power outages, water line breakages, or other news, please send an email to office@herronisland.org and request that your email address be added. To be used for HMC purposes only.

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
Important Phone Numbers.....	2
Island Manager Report.....	3
Dolphin Replacment.....	5
Volunteers.....	6
Notices.....	7
Emergency Preparedness.....	8
Ferry Schedule.....	9
Commercial Ads.....	10

Important Phone Numbers**Island Manager**

Claudia Ellsworth (253) 884-9350

HMC Board of Directors

Sherri Anderson, President (503) 860-4888

Gary Wanzong, VP and Treasurer (253) 884-9350

Mike Graham, Secretary and Co-Treasurer (253) 884-9796

Sam Argo, Co-Secretary (253) 884-9350

Eric Bergson, Member-at-Large (253) 830-4413

Additional Contacts

Charles Smith, Water Repair (206) 707-4645

Charles Smith, Water Committee (206) 707-4645

Gary Wanzong, Finance Committee (253) 884-9350

Jack Wells, Roads Committee (253) 884-0850

Max Hochanadel, Rules Committee (253) 884-9350

Tracy Anspach, Parks Committee (253) 588-1921

Mike Shettlesworth, Emergency Prep. (253) 884-6919

Land Use Chair, Vacant

Fred Fath, Technology Committee (206) 246-7016

Carolyn Snyder, Office Manager (253) 884-9350

Ken Freeman, Beachcomber/Webmaster (231) 544-2456

Herron Island Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The office is CLOSED Monday, Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday, and after 2:00 PM on Fridays before Board meetings.

Office Phone: (253) 884-9350

Office Fax: (253) 884-5047

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

Office email: Office@herronisland.org

HMC Water email: HMCWater@herronisland.org

Manager email: HMCManager@herronisland.org

Beachcomber email: beachcomber@herronisland.org

Parks email: HMC Parks@herronisland.org

Member Input to Board: MemberInput@herronisland.org

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.)

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 at 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 delivery people may charge fares.

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. BLANK GUEST PASSES ARE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS AT THE OFFICE, BY MAIL, AND ON THE FERRY.

Nondiscrimination Statement

If you wish to file a Civil Rights complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint form, found online at:

http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html

or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form.

Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at:

**U.S. Department of Agriculture
Director, Office of Adjudication
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410**

Or fax to (202) 690-7442 or email to

program.intake@usda.gov.

Beachcomber news items must be submitted by 5:00 PM on the Wednesday after the monthly Board meeting on the second Saturday of the month. Items MUST be emailed in electronic format to beachcomber@herronisland.org. Include your name and phone number in case any questions arise. Paid advertisements are to be arranged with the HMC office PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

Island Manager Report
January 9, 2016

Administration: .

Housekeeping: HMC is in need of a monthly cleaning service to clean the community building kitchen, restrooms and meeting area. Anyone interested in a few hours work per month should contact the office.

Cleanup from Windstorms: The winds have brought down many branches, and some trees, and at least one power outage. Volunteers have brought windfall to the community building parking lot.

Water Operations:

HMC is now billing for water usage, with one month's usage reflected in the most recent billing. So far, all seems to be going well. Thanks again to the Water Committee for their hard work.

The large pile of spoils dirt dumped at the Yew/West Herron intersection is gradually being removed by Kramer's Excavating at no cost to HMC, and delivered to private parties at their own expense. If any remains, it will be dumped at the HMC lot next to the Community Building.

Water Committee Report: Charles Smith will report for the committee. The committee has drafted a nondisclosure agreement for signature by its Members, as an assurance to the Membership that individual information will be protected.

Fire Department Liaison: Fire District #16 (KeyPen Fire) is providing the ferry crew with a new radio, and conducting training on Friday, January 8.

Land Use: No report.

Emergency Preparedness: None this month.

Parks: Committee Report. Parks Committee meeting set for January 9, following Board meeting.

Roads: Committee Report.

The Committee did not meet this month. Thanks to Jack Wells for all his efforts in cleaning up ferry hill after the bad weather and windstorms. The pavement along the south side of the Ferry Hill Road is seriously degraded, and will be reviewed by the Roads Committee. Also, the wet weather has called attention to at least two other locations where culverts could improve drainage.

Rules: There are three pending Rules complaints. Alan DeGood has resigned from the Rules Committee, which leaves the Committee membership at the required three member minimum. Max Hochanadel has been selected as Chairman, Mark Anderson as Secretary and Beth Owen as member at large.

Herron Island Ferry:

Dolphin Replacement Project: PND Engineers will report on January 9, regarding soils testing and design alternatives. These reports will be posted on the HMC website.

(Continued on Page 4)

Island Manager Report (Continued from Page 3)

Other: Donnie Surratt will be on leave for a few weeks, dealing with health issues. We wish him a speedy recovery. During his absence, Kevin Kircher will be working the weekday shifts, and standby deck hands will cover the weekends. A recruitment notice for standby captain has been placed with Craigslist.

Technology: No report.

Legal Liaison: We currently have 28 delinquencies, 7 of which are with the attorney for collections. Delinquency rate of 7.3%. One longstanding delinquency was paid in full, at approximately \$7,000. Last year at this time we had 25 delinquencies, with 7 at collections. Currently, HMC has 383 Assessable Units and 397 Water customers.

Fallen Behind on your Assessment?

If you owe \$200 or less, you may get access to the island by paying the delinquency in cash to the deckhand. At the March 14 meeting, the Board increased the limit from \$100 to \$200.



Reminder

Requests for reimbursement must be accompanied by a receipt and received by the office by the Thursday before the Board Meeting to be included in the list of bills to be approved by the Board. Failure to get your bill in on time will result in a delay in payment until the following month.

Package Delivery



If you order packages to be delivered to the mainland terminal, please track their delivery so you can be available to pick them up or make other arrangements. It is not the responsibility of the ferry crew.

Keeping You Informed - Replacement of the Ferry Dolphins January 2016

John Olson, project engineer with PND Engineers, presented a concept report on replacement of the dolphins at the January 9, 2016 regular meeting of the Board of Directors. A copy of the Concept Study Report and concept drawings are posted on the HMC website at www.herronisland.org. The backup documentation for this report is available for review at the HMC office.

Based on subsoil testing conducted by PND and Quigg Brothers, a marine pile-driving contractor, PND considered four different dolphin designs. PND has recommended concept one, a tripod dolphin structure, for all dolphins on both the island and mainland ferry docks. The total cost estimate is \$1.5 million for all eight dolphins, which includes engineering costs, permits, construction, construction oversight, sales tax and contingencies. Options two, three and four range in total cost between \$1.6 million to \$2.3 Million. In addition, concept one requires the least amount of permitting.

PND has put forward a schedule based on an assumed Notice to Proceed dated February 1 (Please see online report for details). This will likely be delayed until financing of the project has been finalized. The Board can contract for engineering services as long as funds are available.

HMC has been reserving funds for replacement of the dolphins for several years, but a significant amount of additional funding is required. HMC has been exploring the possibility of obtaining another low cost loan from USDA, as with the water system. The interest rate for this option is currently 3.125%, which expires March 31, 2016.

The Board authorized the Island Manager to begin preparing an application to USDA, in order to lock in this low rate. Any borrowing to construct dolphins must be approved by a vote of the membership. The Finance Committee prior to any further Board action will consider funding options of this improvement. You can direct your comments or questions to the Board or the Island Manager, and check the Herron Island web site for new information periodically.

Volunteers and Committees

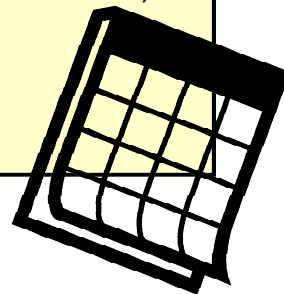
Our volunteers are a big part of what keeps Herron Island going. There are many who gear up to help at work parties and others who contribute their time and talent behind the scenes. Thank you to Merry Kogut for her volunteer work on calendar updates.

Attend the monthly Island Board meeting every second Saturday of the month and get involved in the various Committees to find out how you can volunteer.

Committee meetings are posted on the website calendar, so remember to check the calendar to see when the committee is scheduled to meet. Some committees meet at a regular day and time each month, but there could be exceptions which should be noted in the calendar. All Members are welcome to join the meetings at anytime.

The Water Committee: Volunteers are being asked to join this committee and attend the monthly meetings that have now moved to the first Saturday of the month. We hope this change will allow more Members to be able to attend and get involved.

The Technology Committee is coming back to review the ferry ticketing and look at possible ways to automate the fee collection process so that it can be more efficient for both the ferry crew and the office. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Fred Fath, 206-246-7016, fred.fath@comcast.net or Eric Bergson, 253-830-4413, ebergson@gmail.com.



FREE CLASSIFIED ADS

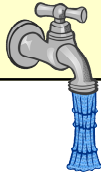
Large Garage Available For Rent. West Herron Blvd.
\$295 Month

Our huge Barn/Garage/Shop is available for rent at 1302 W. Herron Blvd. The space is large enough to park a 30' RV, a boat and much more. Full garage area plus upstairs loft. Super easy access. Drive right in. Roll up door is 9.5' wide and 10' high. All of the stuff in the photos will be gone. The garage is currently occupied but should be available within the next few months. Available as a non-living space only. \$295 month. Donn, 206-353-6145

Non-commercial ads of 100 words or less will be accepted for inclusion in this section free of charge. Please email your ad to beachcomber@herronisland.org. Subject: Beachcomber Ad. The ad must be resubmitted for each issue in which it is to be printed.

Water Bills

Water Bills will be going out February 1st. If you do not receive one, please contact the office.



No Beachcomber in February

The Beachcomber is published nine times per year. There will be no issues in October, December, or February.



Website Photos

If you have any photos from island activities that you would like to share on our website, please send them to webmaster@herronisland.org.



Concerns or Ideas

All Members are invited to voice their concerns or ideas by using the Member Input email address, contacting the Board Members or the HMC Office:

MemberInput@herronisland.org

Board Member Email Addresses

HMCSherriAnderson@herronisland.org

HMCGaryWanzong@herronisland.org

HMCMikeGraham@herronisland.org

HMCSamArgo@herronisland.org

HMCEricBergson@herronisland.org

Please use these email addresses for all future communications to Board Members. They can be accessed on our website (herronisland.org) under the HMC Board tab.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIP OF THE MONTH **SHUTTING OFF UTILITIES**

Propane Gas or Natural Gas: Propane and natural gas leaks and explosions are responsible for a significant number of fires following disasters. It is vital that all responsible household members know how to shut off propane or natural gas. The shut-off valve on a propane tank is a straightforward gate valve. To shut off the propane flow, turn the valve all the way to the right (clockwise).

Because there are different natural gas meter configurations, it is important to contact your local natural gas company for guidance on preparation and response regarding gas service to your home.

When you learn the proper shut-off procedure for your propane tank or natural gas meter, share the information with everyone in your household. Be sure **NOT** to actually turn off the gas when practicing the proper propane or natural gas shut-off procedure!

CAUTION – If you turn off the propane or nature gas for any reason, a qualified professional must turn it back on. NEVER attempt to turn the gas back on yourself. The lines must be pressure tested.

If You Think You Smell Gas or Hear a Blowing or Hissing Noise:

- DO NOT turn on or off light switches, appliances or thermostats.
- Evacuate everyone from the building immediately.
- Shut off the gas supply from an outside tank.
- Call your local fire department immediately from a telephone outside of the building and stay outside.
-

Water: Water quickly becomes a precious resource following many disasters. It is vital that all responsible household members learn how to shut off the water at the meter. Cracked lines may pollute the water supply to your house. It is wise to shut off your water until you hear from authorities that it is safe for drinking. If your residence also has a shut-off valve at the house, shutting this valve can ensure that gravity will not allow the water in your water heater or toilet tanks to drain out.

Electricity: Electrical sparks have the potential of igniting propane or natural gas if it is leaking. It is wise to teach all responsible household members where and how to shut off the electricity.

Preparing to Shut Off Electricity:

- Locate your electricity circuit box.
- Teach all responsible household members how to shut off the electricity to the entire house.
-

FOR YOUR SAETY: Always shut off all the individual circuits before shutting off the main circuit breaker.

**PLEASE JOIN YOUR HERRON ISLAND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE FOR ITS
NEXT MEETING - MARCH 12 AT 12:30 IN THE COMMUNITY BUILDING
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL MIKE SHETTLESWORTH 253-884-6919**

HERRON ISLAND FERRY SCHEDULE													
Departure times from ISLAND (IS) AND MAINLAND (ML)													
MON		TUE		WED		THU		FRI		SAT		SUN	
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				
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								8:30	9:00				
SUMMER SCHEDULE ONLY Apr 1—Sep 30 ADDED RUNS INDICATED BY * AND SHADING (Not available Oct 1—Mar 31)													
HOLIDAY SCHEDULES (Ferry runs start from Island)													
Thanksgiving	8:30a—9:00a		11:30a—Noon		6:30p—7:00p		Memorial Day		Same as Sunday				
Christmas Day	8:30a—9:00a		—————		6:30p—7:00p		Independence Day		Same as Sunday				
New Years Day	8:30a—9:00a		11:30a—Noon		6:30p—7:00p		Labor Day		Same as Sunday				

Ferry Brochure



A new printable ferry brochure, along with the ferry schedule combining summer and winter schedules, is now available on the HMC website at www.herronisland.org. Check under Ferry Schedule and Printable Brochure.

Thanks to Terrill Chilson for preparing this simpler version of the old schedules.

Tide Tables

Plots of the monthly tide tables are available on our website (herronisland.org). The plots are for nearby McMicken Island, which is the NOAA data point closest to Herron Island.





Tree Service You Can Count On

Professional & affordable tree services

Axia Trees is pleased to offer Herron Island our full tree services, along with excavation and dump truck services. Our company founders, Jonas Ray (island member since 2010) and Zoltan Dornay, have completed many tree removal and pruning jobs on Herron Island and are very familiar with the ferry scheduling and HMC rules.

Axia Trees is fully licensed, bonded, and insured. By using our own equipment, we can keep costs low and affordable. We look forward to providing you with a free estimate on your next project.

253.380.2856 | www.axiatrees.com | info@axiatrees.com

(Paid Advertisement)

OWNER: STEVE KRAMER



RESIDENT/MEMBER SINCE 1959

EXCAVATION:

**SITE PREP, SEPTIC REPAIR, WATER
& POWER LINES & CULVERTS**

HAULING:

**DRIVEWAY ROCK, TOPSOIL,
SAND MIX & DRAIN ROCK**

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DECKS & ROOFING

DECK STAINING

DEMOLITION - DUMP RUNS

**RETAINING WALLS & STONE/
BLOCK WALLS**

HOME REMODEL & REPAIR

**CARPET, VINYL & LAMINATE
INSTALLATION/REMOVAL**

SITE CLEAN-UP

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(Note: HMC Management neither endorses advertisers nor vouches for their being properly licensed.)

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**253.884.3671 OR 253.857.9202
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