

The Beachcomber



HMC Newsletter

November/December 2019



President's Message

Happy Holidays to all Herron Islanders

The Boosters put on another fantastic Holiday dinner celebration - a fun evening of food and fellowship and a testament to the amazing volunteerism on our Island. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who made the party possible and so successful. For those who missed this Booster event, plan to attend and have fun next year.

Now some serious news – Mainland Ferry Loading. Pierce County has received complaints from our neighbors on the mainland. There is increasing concern about our practice of lining up on Herron Road to wait for the ferry. The County is worried about the liability of local traffic being forced to drive the wrong way. Recently, our Island Manager Jane Wooster and I met with the County to listen to the concerns. We reminded them of our 61-year history of using the road and need to access the ferry. The County reminded us that it's technically illegal to park on the road. We agreed to work together to develop a mutually agreeable plan. In the meantime, please remember to pull up closely to the vehicle in front of you in line. This will help make the line shorter. Allow cars to pass by on Herron Road; keep your doors closed and do not stand or congregate on Herron Road. We will keep you informed as this situation progresses.

Now some bad news – The cost of diesel fuel for the ferry is going up 18.9%. This is just another example of the rising costs to our association. This will impact on our future budgets.

Speaking of money – The HMC Board and Finance Committee held a joint meeting to jumpstart the process of planning the 2020-2021 Budget, which begins next October. As mentioned above, costs like ferry fuel are going up. We discussed our reserve accounts at length. Reserves are money we set aside to fund both

short-term and long-term expenses. We have state law to comply with and we have community assets that need to be maintained and periodically replaced. Allow me to be blunt and tell you that our reserve accounts are significantly underfunded. We will need to put additional money into reserves just to reach a minimum level. What does this mean? Don't expect your annual assessments to go down. As we begin to put real numbers into our anticipated budget, we will keep you fully informed about what these costs will be for each of us.

The best news - We have a lot to be thankful for on Herron Island. We are surrounded by natural beauty – from the pristine waters of Case Inlet to the majestic mountains. We see incredible wildlife frequently – deer, eagles, seals and, occasionally, even an Orca. We have an experienced, dedicated and friendly ferry crew who brave the weather to get us on and off our Island. We have a talented office staff who work hard on our behalf. We have dozens of volunteers who work countless hours for our community.

I truly believe Herron Island is a wonderful place with special people. Thank you for your support this past year. 2020 will be a good year. Happy Holidays to you and your families.

**Reed West, President
Your Board of Directors**

B.O.O.S.T.E.R.S.

Just a note that there will be **no Boosters potluck and meeting in December**. We will resume in the new year. We hope that you can join us on January 11th at 6 PM at the community center.

See the separate announcement on Page 6 about **winter wreath and swag-making** on Friday, Dec 6th. Also, 2020 **calendars** and **directories** are available from either Robin Kelly or Leslie Sanderson. See the flyer on Page 9 of this issue..

Since this is the final "Beachcomber" for 2019, it is a fitting time to say THANK YOU to all who have helped during the year with the many, many Boosters events and projects. Sometimes there are lists of names to recognize for various or specific contributions, but there are also people behind the scenes who just quietly get things done. You know who you are--and if I have not personally thanked you, I would like to do so at this time. Just want you to know how much your ideas, suggestions, energy, and follow-through are appreciated. Fantastic to have you in the right place or moment when needed. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!

Leslie Sanderson, Boosters President

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Important Phone Numbers**Island Manager**

Jane Wooster (253) 884-9350

HMC Board of Directors

Reed West, President (253) 884-9350

Chet Latimer, Vice-President (253) 884-9350

Ferd Reichlin, Treasurer (253) 884-9350

Merry Kogut, Secretary (253) 884-9350

Kathy Deuster, Member-at-Large (253) 884-9350

Additional Contacts

Frank Harrison, Water Repair (253) 884-9350

Frank Harrison, Water Committee (253) 884-9350

Gary Wanzong, Finance Committee (253) 884-9350

Dan Marten, Roads Committee (253) 884-9350

Beth Owen, Rules Committee (253) 884-9350

Dale Miller, Parks Committee (253) 884-9350

Ken Higgins, Emergency Preparedness (253) 884-9350

Alan DeGood, Small Boat Docks (253) 884-9350

Carolyn Snyder, Office Manager (253) 884-9350

Merry Kogut, HMC Calendar (253) 884-8484

Ken Freeman, Beachcomber/Webmaster (253) 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

Roads email: HMC Roads@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 November 9, 2019

Administration:

- Thank you to Dan Marten and Charlie Folk who spent a recent Sunday filling the potholes, they are looking good.
- Thank you to Sherri Anderson who was able to make the camera recording equipment work again. Please note, the film on the device is very grainy and it is impossible to read license plates. The sheriff can only investigate with license plate information.
- Grading of roads will occur the week of November 11, this is merely clean-up of the roads and will happen again in April. No roads will be closed for this work. A broadcast email will go out ahead of time.
- HMC is due for cables and pulleys inspection and replacements, this will be done in November or December, it means that noon runs will likely be affected. This will be broadcast as much ahead of time as possible. More to follow.
- Annual reporting is going on in the office for water and dolphin USDA loans.
- The mainland parking lot Honey Bucket is now locked at the last ferry run and unlocked at the first ferry run. Thus far this seems to have cut down on unauthorized overnight parking lot use.
- Reports from mainland neighbors that several kayaks have been stolen across from the island along Herron Passage. In addition, they report an increase in theft of homes and assumed drug activity.
- Package delivery to ferry - as a convenience the ferry crew will generally bring packages delivered to the island side shed, however, if items are heavy you will need to pick them up on the mainland side.

Departments/Committees

Maintenance: Gary Wanzong to report

Parks: Dale Miller to report

Policies: Mike Gage – to report

Roads: Dan Marten – to report

Emergency Preparedness: Ken Higgins - to report

Water: Frank Harrison - no report this month
Charles Smith is out on leave, please contact Jane Wooster in the office, 253-884-9350 for immediate needs

Rules:

- One hearing was held in October
- Three new complaints and hearings have been scheduled

Legal Liaison: There are 18 delinquencies; 11 with our attorney for action.

The Board will be sharing brief biographies of HMC staff with HMC Members. This is the third in the new series.

Carol Miller

HMC Receptionist

Receptionist

Carol has worked as a Registered Medical Assistant, Registered Dental Assistant, and College Dental Instructor, and served in management in both the medical and dental fields. She moved to Herron Island to semi-retire. Currently, she runs a vacation rental and works with wonderful people in the HMC office as their receptionist. She loves spending time with her family, writing books (author), and kayaking.

Welcome, New Islanders!

HMC welcomes new Members to Herron Island:

- Terry Tilton
- York & Geri Lambrecht



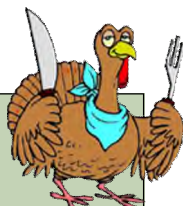
No Beachcomber in December



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

Holiday Office Closures

The HMC office will be closed on Thursday, November 27th and Friday, November 28th for Thanksgiving, and Tuesday, December 24th and Wednesday, December 25th for Christmas.. Have a wonderful holiday!



Are You on the List?



HMC now has 400 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.



Holiday Wreath and Swag Making Party

When: Friday, December 6 9:00 AM

Where: Herron Island Community Center

What to Bring: Suggestions--metal wreath hoops (can be purchased at Michaels); wire cutters and green wire; hand foliage cutters for materials being put on your creations; various decorations for your wreaths/swags. You may want to bring gloves, and some people choose to use glue to attach some things. It would also be wonderful if you could collect some greens, interesting branch limbs, and pine cones to use and/or share.

We encourage folks to bring a plate of finger-food snacks (either sweet or savory) to share.

Duration: This "party" lasts as long as people are working, but please don't show up *too* late--we need time at the end to clean up the Community Center when we are finished.

Contact: Dana Gruber at walogcabin@yahoo.com or 253-884-6898 for any questions.

This is always a fun get-together. Hope you can join us for the chance to make something creative and beautiful for your island or other home...or perhaps for the home of a friend.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Captain's Corner

Howdy, from the weekend ferry Captain: Joe LaPoint.

A few items of safety we've noticed over the last few weeks...

How fast should I drive on the ferry?

5 mph or less, or a walking speed is safe.

If you load at higher speeds we don't have time to correct you before you scrape on one side or the other or hurt a crew member.

If you are at a higher speed we may leave later as we stop and remind you to slow down, or this could be the reason you scraped your or another vehicle as you drove faster than we could correct you.

Why does the ferry stay if it's full of cars?

If we fill the ferry before our departure time we will stay until the five minute departure window for two reasons: 1) To see if another vehicle arrives to make it a shuttle; or 2) for any walk-ons.

If the ferry is leaving and I drive up on the ramp (against a red light!), honk and flash my lights, will the ferry return?

No.

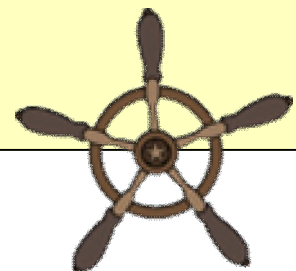
Also, please do not drive up on the ramp if the light is red.

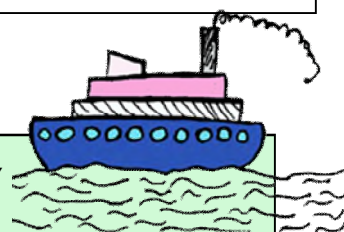
Related to the last question...Our island ferry crew is perfect, right?! We try...but we have our human moments, perhaps have too much or not enough coffee, growl at someone who doesn't follow directions and generally make mistakes (like leave green light on). We are works in progress.

A short notice on electric and hybrid vehicles: since mostly they make no noise when they are 'on' or 'off' please be sure they are 'off' and in 'Park' when parked. We have had an electric car jump forward after we removed the front chock. It was still 'on' and in drive and just resting against the chock! Obviously, uber unsafe for you and us.

Also, if there is room we may have you park outside or over the painted yellow lines to improve the stability and handling of the ferry."

Happy Fall and see you on the ferry!





A REMINDER ABOUT FERRY ACCESS POLICY

The [Ferry Access Policy](#) is posted on the HMC Website under the Ferry Schedule tab. The portion of the policy related to departure reads as follows:

"The ferry crew may begin boarding vehicles/passengers ten minutes prior to the scheduled departure time, or earlier if a shuttle run is anticipated. Vehicles/passengers must arrive no later than five minutes before the scheduled departure time to ensure a place either on the current ferry run or shuttle that may be required for those arriving before the cutoff time."

We all benefit by having a published ferry schedule. It is important that our ferry follows this schedule and leaves on-time. Our ferry crew works hard to transport members on and off Herron Island.

To ensure the ferry runs on schedule, we require members and our guests to arrive a minimum of five minutes before the scheduled departure time. This allows the crew to safely prepare the boat for transport and pull away from the dock on time. If the ferry is full, the boat may leave early and may shuttle.

The crew tries their best to accommodate members, but they are directed to leave on time. This means a late arriving member will be left behind. You are encouraged to arrive a minimum of 10 minutes early.

Board Member Email Addresses

HMCReedWest@herronisland.org

HMCChetLatimer@herronisland.org

HMCFerdReichlin@herronisland.org

HMCMaryKogut@herronisland.org

HMCkathyDeuster@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.

Committee Email Addresses

HMCRules@herronisland.org

HMCRoads@herronisland.org

HMCEmergPrep@herronisland.org





HERRON ISLAND
CALENDARS
MAKE EXCELLENT
GIFTS

GET YOURS TODAY
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.
ONLY \$15 EACH

Contact either [Robin Kelly](#) @ 253-884-1883 or [Leslie Sanderson](#) @ 253-209-402-4001 if you would like to purchase the calendar and/or directory.

THE HERRON ISLAND
2020 MEMBER DIRECTORY
INCLUDES MANY CHANGES
IN MEMBER INFORMATION,
AS WELL AS PAID ADVERTISING
FROM VENDORS, CONTRACTORS
AND SERVICE PEOPLE WHO WANT
YOUR BUSINESS. AND THIS YEAR
IT IS IN FULL COLOR!

GET YOURS TODAY,
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
ONLY \$5 EACH.



Is your Auto Decal Current?



With the first half assessment billed and effective as of October 1st everyone should have their new auto decal affixed to the lower driver's side corner on the windshield of their car. These decals are required by the Ferry Access Policy to ensure that only members in good standing are able to access the ferry. Each decal has an expiration date and your vehicle's license number which must match the plate on your car. Only vehicles owned and registered in the name of the member or authorized renter can receive an auto decal. Swapping of decals or sharing with non-members is not permitted.

NOTE: If you have an expired decal on your vehicle and wish to board the ferry, (and the deckhand's iPad records shows you to be a member in good standing), you will be permitted to board **but you will be charged the guest rate until the current decal is affixed.** We realize that this may be an inconvenience for some, but please don't take it out on the ferry crew. They are just doing their job at the instructions of the HMC Board. It is in everyone's best interest that the Ferry Access Policy be followed. Please do your part and make sure your decal is current before you arrive at the ferry dock.

The complete Ferry Access Policy can be found on the front page of the HMC website.

Members Hiring Realtors on Herron Island



Any member hiring a realtor to sell their property must be aware of the risk of placing a real estate sign anywhere near a water meter. When placing signage for properties that are for sale, it is very important to be aware of where there may be underground utilities. During the recent ditch clearing, we noted two incidences where realtors have placed signage within inches of water and electrical lines. For example, if a water line is damaged, it would require turning the water off at the water main and impacting several properties until the damage has been addressed. If a significant repair is needed this may mean that people will not have water service for days. The best choice would be to call 811 (utility locators) before you dig. Members will be held liable for any damage to HMC water meters or surrounding pipe.

SCHEDULE OF MEMBERSHIP BILLINGS

Note: Bills that are not received or postmarked by the 25th of the month they are due are late and subject to a late fee.

General Assessments: Assessments for the general fund are billed semi-annually.

half: Billed and Due October 1

half: Billed and Due April 1

Water Assessments: Assessments for water-related services are billed quarterly.

quarter: Billed and Due November 1

quarter: Billed and Due February 1

quarter: Billed and Due May 1

quarter: Billed and Due August 1

1st

2nd

3rd

4th

*Just a
quick
reminder!*

Special Assessments: These are billed and due on the first day of the month as designated by the Board of Directors.

Miscellaneous Billings: These are other items billed to your Member account, such as charged Ferry fees for contractors. They are billed and due on the first day of the month following the month in



Got Junk?
Please don't leave it on the roadside



In recent months we have been seeing more and more discarded items left on the roadside with "Free" signs. Some unwanted items have even been left on other members' properties! Members are reminded that this is a Rules violation, not to mention unsightly. Everything from trailers, tables, chairs, televisions, barbecues and old bathtubs are being left on the road. HMC Rules Section E8 reads in part:

"Dumping of personal items is prohibited in all Common areas" (Class B). This prohibition also applies to leaving items with a "free" sign on them." (E8)"

Please dispose of your unwanted items properly. Thank you.

SUMMER FERRY SCHEDULE - APRIL 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30													
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	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00
8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00
9:30	10:00			9:30	10:00					9:30	10:00	9:30	10:00
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12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	11:30	12:00	11:30	12:00
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3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00
4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00
5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	***	***	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00
6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00
								7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00
								8:30	9:00				
*** ferry will not operate during these times to allow for mandatory crew breaks. This includes shuttle runs.													
HOLIDAY SCHEDULES - SUMMER													
Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day run on the Sunday schedule.													

WINTER FERRY SCHEDULE - OCTOBER 1 THROUGH MARCH 31													
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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5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00						
6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00
								7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00
								8:30	9:00				
HOLIDAY SCHEDULES - WINTER													
Thanksgiving	8:30am - 9:00am			11:30am - noon			6:30pm - 7:00pm						
Christmas Day	8:30am - 9:00am						6:30pm - 7:00pm						
New Years Day	8:30am - 9:00am			11:30am - noon			6:30pm - 7:00pm						

NOTE: Check for low tide ferry cancellations. They are posted on the HMC website.

Reservations must be made with the ferry when towing or a vehicle exceeds 25 feet prior to arrival.

Ferry Cell Phone: 253-691-1457. Users are asked to arrive at least ten minutes before the scheduled departure time.

Ferry Rates		
Ferry User Fees	Member	Guest
Vehicle (up through 20') & Driver	\$8.00	\$20.00
Passengers & Walk-Ons		
Age 12 and Over	\$3.00	\$3.00
Age 5 - 11	\$1.00	\$1.00
Under Age 5	Free	Free
Vehicle Length Fares		
21' through 30'	\$16.00	\$32.00
31' through 40'	\$24.00	\$48.00
41' through 50'	\$32.00	\$64.00
51' through 60"	\$40.00	\$80.00
Special Runs	\$175.00	\$175.00
911 Medical Runs off the Island	Free	Free

Basic Ferry Safety Rules
Smoking is not permitted.
Marijuana is not permitted.
Open alcoholic beverages are prohibited (RCW 46.61.519)
Passengers must remain behind the safety lines in place across each end of the ferry.
Passengers must remain in vehicles or passenger cabin while ferry is loading/unloading vehicles.
Passengers under the age of 13 must be under adult supervision at all times. Passengers ages 13-17 who are unaccompanied by an adult must remain in the cabin until a crewmember tells them they may leave.
Propane tanks must be shut off and sealed prior to boarding.
Gasoline is allowed in CG/UL-approved portable containers no more than six (6) gallons in size with no signs of deterioration that could affect silt integrity. Containers must be properly secured for transit and cannot exceed a total volume of twelve (12) gallons on any one trip.

Access Policy Main Points
Member vehicles must have a valid HMC Sticker. (If sticker is invalid guest rates apply.)
Guests must provide a completed guest pass to the deckhand/purser, filled out and signed by a Member, to be admitted onto the ferry.
Roundtrip payment is required on the mainland side by cash or check.
Charges to Members can only be authorized for utility, service or delivery services.
A reservation must be made in advance and confirmed by the ferry Captain to transport any combination (in-tow) of any length and/or single vehicles longer than 25 feet.
Maximum gross weight is 40,000 pds.
Maximum vehicle length is 60 feet.

Loading/Unloading Procedures
Speed limit on the ramps and boat is 5 MPH.
Follow all directions given by crew.
Set parking break and turn off engine when loaded.
Do not start engine until directed by the crew.
Turn off all vehicle lights while on the ferry, ramp or pier during loading and/or unloading.
To load vehicles proceed to the concrete pier when light turns green. Proceed one vehicle at a time down the wooden ramp and wait at bottom until directed by crew to drive onto the ferry. Follow instructions of crew where and when to park.
To exit the ferry restart your engine and release parking break only when directed by crew. Exit ferry as directed by crew.
Foot passengers may not board when light is green. Passengers are to remain in cabin when ferry is docking or at dock.

Boarding/Shuttling
Ferry crew may begin boarding 10 minutes prior to scheduled departure.
Vehicles/passengers must arrive no later than five minutes before the scheduled departure time to ensure a place either on the current run or a shuttle.
Vehicles/passengers arriving after the five minute cutoff time are not assured a place either on the current run or shuttle.
If additional vehicles/passengers arrive after the cutoff and prior to the final shuttle departure they will only be accommodated as space permits on the shuttle. Any remaining vehicles must wait until the next scheduled run.
The ferry may not make shuttle runs if the ferry crew reach legal work hour limits. Some shuttles may not be made to assure the ferry crew gets required breaks.

Holiday Restrictions
Combinations (in-tow) of any length and/or single vehicles longer than 25 feet will not be transported after noon, the Thursday before Memorial and Labor Day holiday weekends. Restriction dates will be posted for the Independence Day holiday.

Ferry Cell Phone
253-691-1457
Call the ferry to schedule heavy loads, when towing vehicles and any vehicle longer than 25 feet. Confirmed reservation is required by the ferry Captain prior to loading.

Member Responsibility
Members are responsible for their guests actions at all times and to assure a completely filled out guest pass is issued to their guest prior to the guest arriving at the ferry.