

The Beachcomber



HMC Newsletter

November 2012



President's Message

Measuring Our Progress

In each of my President's Messages, I try to give you my perspective of the big picture: what is happening out here on Herron Island and what we need from each other as Members. This is not without its limitations. I can't begin to tell you in a few paragraphs every last thing that is happening or everything we need. But if the number of emails I have processed as HMC President is any indication of how much is going on out here in our island community, then we must be pretty darn busy. (In the first two weeks of this month alone, my inbox has seen a total of 448 Herron Island emails and, since this time last year, over 6,000 have crossed my cyber desk and probably a similar amount have crossed the desks of my fellow Board members). As you read on, you will see that some specific areas have their own "performance yardsticks."

Our Rules and Policies

- Pages of Rules reviewed by the Board so far: 25
- Number of Rules reviewed, scrutinized, and revised by the Board: 68 (or so)
- Total time spent to date by the Board editing the Rules: 1,131 minutes (over 18 hours)
- New Policies developed and adopted by the Board: 4

The Board continues to work on its review of the Rules, and we are now nearly at the point where we can go over the Rules complaint, adjudication, and appeal procedures. Sound official? Well, yes it does, and it is. Does all of this have to be hard to understand and hard to comply with? No, it doesn't. The focus of our efforts here has been to get to a point where we can present the Membership with revised Rules that are clear, make sense, are reasonable, are enforceable by appropriate means, are consistently formatted (the bane

of all word-processing computer users), and, above all, are truly meant to protect the quality of life we have on Herron Island.

As we've gone through the Rules, we have also been extracting some materials that are more appropriately set forth as Policies – protocol and procedures that are not so much "do this and don't do that," but that are more along the lines of "this is the way we do things." For example, we recently adopted a Policy for Use of the HMC Community Garden and a Roads Encroachment Policy; both of these were plucked from the 2007 Rules and virtually restated. Other administrative Policies have been "dusted off" and "freshened up," like our new Records Retention Policy and new HMC Employment Background Check Policy.

At this point you may be asking (or may have been asking for some time now, but have never really gotten satisfactory answers): What happens to all these Policies? Where can I find them if I really want to see them? Well, until recently, our various HMC Policies were somewhat scattered amongst the file drawers and boxes at the HMC Office. When she started as Island Manager, Claudia enlisted the help of Judy Greinke and Kathy Deuster to round up all of the existing Policies and at least put them in the same three inch (!) binder. That has been the answer to those questions for about three years now. Great start, but having the sundry Policies all in one binder just revealed the great amount of work that remained. While a few Policies had found their way onto the Herron Island website, most were still not readily accessible to the HMC Members. Here's the fix and where we're headed: we have dedicated a box on the website for posting all effective HMC Policies – it is on the new Island Documents page among other changes to that page. Now, don't drop the Beachcomber this moment and go running off to the Island Documents page thinking there will be a trove of Policies for you to review – yet.

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President's Message
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We plan to put Policies on the website as they are adopted (except for Policies that are primarily internal and administrative, like the Records Retention Policy). As we sort them out in the next few weeks, you should also start seeing older, outdated, or superseded Policies posted in an "archives" section for your late-night reading pleasure.

Our Water Project

- Miles of pipe laid: 6.7 (I think)
- Number of water Connections installed (or about to be installed): 444 (or so)
- Initial total cost estimate: \$2,308,700
- Projected total capital cost: \$1,818,870 (under budget!)

The Water Project completion date has been extended out to November 30, so the Contractor can complete the installation of the meters. As each meter is placed, the meter serial number is being assigned to the address for our accounting systems. This is quite the chore.

Please be patient with the Contractor as they complete the last steps of the installation. And please be kind to our roads and the new water system. Respect the roads and please tell your contractors to do the same (especially those with HEAVY trucks). In particular:

- Drive down middle of the road. The edges are usually softer and more prone to damage.
- Drive even more slowly than you usually do (or are supposed to do) – there are several new bumps in the roadway (actually they are dips) where the water system laterals have been trenched across the road. Our Roads Committee is working to keep our roads in passable shape by delivering gravel to some of the emergent problem areas. If you see someone filling dips, please take the time to thank them.
- Drive around (*i.e.*, not over) cones that are placed in the roadway. These are being used to identify the location of water system components like valves.
- Don't freak out if you encounter an unanticipated

road block. Our Contractor is doing most everything possible to warn us of possible road blockages. Let's do our part and stay aware of where we are driving and, if necessary, turn around and go another route. Don't try to "squeeze by" the Contractor's equipment or people as you drive on the island.

Some other points about our Water System:

Only the Island Manager has direct authority to employ additional contractors on behalf of HMC Management for work associated with the Water System. (Be assured, however, that the IM does this with the advice and consent of the Board). As an example, even if I as the Board President were to tell you or ask you to do work for HMC (and you aren't a volunteer), you should not expect to be paid for that work unless you have prior authority from the Island Manager to do the work. This protocol ensures that there is only one point of contact and one point of *contract* before spending our Members' money. It also ensures that we are not paying for work to be done that should have rightfully been done by our Water System Contractor and paid for under the Water Project Contract.

We are looking at getting a bigger emergency generator fuel supply to serve the generator that supplies our water system pumps. This will allow the system to run longer in the event of an island power outage.

You will find an explanation of water billing later in this edition of the Beachcomber.

Our Ferry Crew

- Number of permanent crew: 4
- Aggregate years of crew experience on the Herron Island Ferry: 59+
- Average age of our current crew members: none of your darn business :)

Our Ferry Crew is great. For this section, I'll take the "yearbook autograph" approach. . .

To John Farris: "Nice job on keeping the ferry up. Stay as sweet as you are." As Senior Captain, John did a great job in bringing the Charlie Wells back from the shipyard alive and in better shape than ever.

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President's Message
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To Steve Wiggins: "Hope you chose a good college. Good luck always!" Steve is retiring at the end of the year (article further on in this edition). We wish him fair winds and following seas.

To Terry Kraft: "I didn't get to know you very well, but we'll see you next year." Terry has signed on to be one of our ferry captains beginning in January. To Terry and his wife Deb, welcome!

To Donny Surratt: "Wow, I can't believe we've made it this far. Congratulations!" Donny has faithfully served our Island ferry needs for the past twenty (!) years. Thank you for being professional and staying true.

And to Kevin Kircher: "To a steadfast varsity player ... 2kul2btrue!" Kevin has been a fixture at the ferry lines and on the deck forever it seems, and is a venerable trooper for our spirits. Thanks for everything.

Our Needs and How We Fulfill Them

- Number of Herron Island BOOSTERS members: 98
- Number of Member email addresses in our database: 290
- Number of Volunteer hours spent on all Island matters: countless
- Value of Volunteer hours spent on all Island matters: priceless

As always, we have needs (and plenty of them). To fulfill those needs, we need Volunteers (and plenty of them). Many of those Volunteers connect with us and each other through the emails they have shared with the HMC Office. Become a part of that group and contact the HMC Office to get on the list.

Our Volunteer BOOSTERS have been a big part of Island affairs and they are stronger than ever. They have recently met our needs and wants in several ways -

- Provided new garage doors for the Community Building (come take a look).
- Plan to install French Doors and maybe add a ceiling fan or two in the Community Building.

- Treated us to a Thanksgiving feast – a special thank you goes out to birthday girl Sue Pottorff for stepping up to the plate as Event Chair to coordinate a fun night.

But there are more needs (we're always asking, aren't we?):

We need ideas. Our Parks Committee is looking for ideas for what to put in place of our old basketball court. Some people might think we should leave it as a flat spot at Goodpastor Park; others think we should rebuild a new basketball court with hoops; still others think we should improve it into a multi-function court facility (with bleachers and stadium lighting?). What do you think? Let your Parks Committee know – you may see a survey within the next few months to more officially "take your temperature."

We need a writer. Around the island, you have no doubt seen the many white boards that contain the day's announcements (community meetings and events, burn bans, etc.). Ever wonder who keeps up those white boards? Volunteers. After several years of unfailingly keeping us informed, we need someone new to pick up the torch and be our white board person. This is an invaluable service opportunity for someone who is good with a dry erase marker. Please give the office a call if you can spare some handwriting time for the sake of your fellow HMC Members.

We need careful drivers. Enough said.

We need our trees. Don't cut down or trim any tree that is in the HMC road right-of-way or on HMC property **unless you have permission in advance** from HMC. The trees belong to everyone, and if you cut without permission, you may be breaking the law and made to pay triple damages. *See*, Chapter 64.12 RCW.

We need no tansy. Every year, the island is spottily aglow with the pretty yellow flowers that are tansy ragwort, a noxious weed that keeps coming back for more. And every year, we have had HMC Members getting rid of it along our island roads. We need some dedicated Volunteers to pick up this baton and beat back the tansy. Any takers? Any pickers? I know you're out there.

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President's Message
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We need permits, where applicable. Think before you dig.

So much is being done on our Island to fill the needs of our Membership. Too often, we don't recognize those needs until someone stops doing them. And too often, those needs are fulfilled without proper recognition of who is actually doing the work – our Volunteers, our BOOSTERS, our Island Manager, our HMC Office

Manager, our Ferry Crew, our Committee Chairs and members, and our Board. When you consider the wonderful Island life you see around you, I invite you to ask yourself, "how did that get done and by whom?" Then go looking for that answer and thank the people that made it happen. And maybe you can proudly become a part of that answer in the future.

Mark B. Anderson, President
HMC Board of Directors

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Emergency Preparedness Meeting

There will be an Emergency Preparedness event at the Community Building on Saturday, November 24th at 1:00 PM. Emergency supplies will be demonstrated and available for purchase. Contact persons are Sam Argo 206-799-7709 or Mike Shettlesworth 253-884-6919.

Important Phone Numbers**Island Manager**

Claudia Ellsworth (253) 884-9350

HMC Board of Directors

Mark Anderson, President (253) 677-3900

Janet Podell, Vice-President (253) 884-9350

Dianne DeGood, Secretary (316) 794-8391(H)
(316) 641-4014(C)

Pat Zazzo, Treasurer (253) 884-6719

Sherri Anderson, Member-at-Large (253) 884-9350

Additional Contacts

Washington Water Svc., Water Repair (253) 851-4060

Judy Greinke, Water Chair (253) 857-5463

Pat Zazzo, Finance Committee Chair (253) 884-6719

Jack Wells, Roads Chair (253) 884-0850

John Farris, Rules Committee Chair (253) 884-9350

T. Anspach/T. Chilson, Parks Co-Chairs (253) 588-1921

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

Land Use Chair, Vacant

Fred Fath, Technology Chair (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

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

In accordance with Federal law this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-2372 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

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 10, 2012

Administration:

Volunteers: We need a few volunteers to help out with some HMC projects and tasks. First, we could use some licensed electrical help in the Community Building. Second, the kitchen and restrooms need regular maintenance, perhaps every two weeks. We have a volunteer who comes in monthly, but a second volunteer would be very helpful. Finally, we need a volunteer to post “HMC Lot for Sale” signs on 10 properties. If you can volunteer, please contact the Office.

Policy Updates: HMC’s policy on background checks for employment candidates was originally adopted in 2000. Without altering the basic intent or requirements of the policy, we have updated it to the new format, to add to the list of policies under review. The revised policy has been reviewed by the Board and is ready for Board adoption.

Records Retention: Following the newly adopted policy on records retention, HMC has disposed of over a ton of obsolete material formerly occupying the attic above the office space. This clarifies the management of records and provides more space for items that need to be kept indefinitely. Sensitive materials have been sent to the shredder.

Water System Maintenance and Operations: No report.

Water System Project: Judy Greinke continues to spend a huge number of hours implementing the meter system, preparing documentation (with Mark Anderson’s assistance, and Carolyn Snyder’s input) of parcel numbers, division/block lot numbers and street addresses to be paired with the electronic number of each meter, to allow for remote reading of meters. (If you think it’s easy to match all parcel numbers and all addresses, please see Judy or Mark for enlightenment.)

ADA Restroom:

Andy Anderson made the final adjustments, and USDA has accepted verification by photo. Thank you, Andy!

Annual Audit:

Michael Kander, our auditor, has submitted his audit letter (contract) for HMC’s annual audit. The audit fee will be \$4000 - \$4500, and the audit should be completed no later than January 31, 2013. The audit proposal needs to be accepted by the Board and signed by the President.

A-133 Audit:

Project that spend over \$500,000 in federal funds (or federally guaranteed funds) in a single year are subject to an A-133 single audit. This audit is to be conducted by an independent auditor and submitted to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse. The “single audit” is so called because prior to 1984 a single project could be audited by multiple agencies which might have an interest in some aspect of the project. The fee for this audit will range from \$2000-\$3000. This audit should be completed on the same schedule as the general audit. This audit proposal is also ready for acceptance by the Board.

Trailers & Septic Systems:

It’s time for a general reminder to Members with trailers that the Island Rules and the Pierce County Code require all trailers permanently occupied to be completely self-contained or be connected to a previously approved and installed septic system. HMC Form 13, which must be filed with HMC

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before a trailer can be brought to the island, requires an update where the usage of a trailer changes from “long term occasional use” to longer term usage. If Members are renting trailers to fulltime tenants, there must be an approved septic system in place. Proper disposal of septic waste is critical to the maintenance of our water quality, general health of the island, and our marine environment.

Fire Department Liaison: No report. As soon as all hydrants are operational, we will inform the fire department.

Land Use: HMC is negotiating with one purchaser who has made a full price offer. The other lots are listed on Craig’s List and will soon carry “HMC Property for Sale” signs. We are looking for a volunteer to post signs?

Emergency Preparedness: Mitigation plan meetings resumed on October 10.

Parks: Committee Report.

Roads: Committee Report.

A section of HMC unmaintained road was recently excavated by a Member, and the Member is in receipt of a Notice to Correct from Pierce County, which requires an application fee, plan to address the problem – grading more than 50 cubic yards, and performing the activity in a potential critical area (landslide), plus a geological assessment. HMC will have the corners of the roadway and adjacent properties surveyed and marked so that HMC is certain that the roadway has been adequately repaired.

Please be aware that if you plan to do earthwork, or other modifications to your property, you need to be certain that you are not encroaching on HMC roadways, which are considerably wider than the graded surface of the road, in most cases. The PenLight power poles are on HMC roadway and provide a general “line of sight” guide to the edge of HMC property. If you have any questions, please contact the Office or the Roads Committee.

Rules: The Board is continuing to work methodically through each individual section of the Rules. If Members have suggestions, it is not too late to send them to the Board.

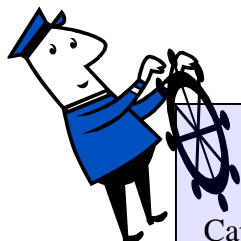
Technology: No report.

Herron Island Ferry: The Coast Guard inspected the ferry operations and safety procedures on October 23rd, and all was satisfactory.

Captain Steve Wiggins has announced his retirement effective December 31, 2012. Steve has served HMC Members since November 2001, as part-time (weekend) captain.

Terry Kraft, HMC Member and one of our standby captains, will be taking Steve’s place as permanent part-time captain, effective January 1, 2013. Terry’s maritime experience spans years as boat captain of tugs in Florida; supplying oil rigs in Louisiana, and captaining passenger vessels in Gig Harbor. Terry and his wife, Debra, are now fulltime residents of Herron Island. Please congratulate Terry when you see him.

Legal Liaison: We currently have 12 delinquencies, of which eight are with the attorney for action. Delinquency rate of 3%.



Steve Wiggins – Retiring after 13 Years with HMC

Captain Steve Wiggins, hired January 3, 2000, has decided to retire and move from Herron Island with his family. Steve also served as a relief captain, starting August 3, 1999. Prior to working for HMC, he was variously employed as captain and deckhand. Steve's wife, Kerstin, was previously employed as a standby deckhand on the Charlie Wells. Steve's actual last day of employment will be the morning of New Year's Eve, December 31. Be sure to stop by and say thanks, and "bon voyage".

Donnie Surratt – 20 Years of Service to HMC Members

Donnie Surratt, our "weekday" deckhand, recently completed 20 years of employment with HMC. Donnie was hired November 3, 1992 as a permanent employee, having been hired as a relief deckhand in May, 1991. Please be sure to congratulate Donnie and thank him for his service.



As a point of interest, Donnie, his wife Sue and their family live in a home first constructed by Terry Kraft's grandfather in 1963-64. Terry, a standby captain and deck hand, will join the permanent part-time crew, filling the vacancy which will be left by the retirement of Captain Steve Wiggins.



Winter Ferry Schedule

Our ferry is operating under the winter schedule from October 1st to March 31st. The only difference from the summer schedule is the elimination of the 1:30/2:00 runs on Sunday and the 2:30/3:00 runs on Monday and Friday.




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.

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



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.



Holiday Office Closures

The HMC office will be closed for the holidays Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23rd, and again on Christmas Day, December 25th.

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.



Welcome, New Islanders!

HMC welcomes the following new Members to Herron Island:

- Brianna Lemos & Sandra Barajas
- Sean & Alicia Cline



Are You on the List?

HMC now has 290 Member email addresses on the notification list. If you want to receive updates about the water project, 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.



Board Member Email Addresses

HMCMarkAnderson@herronisland.org

HMCJanetPodell@herronisland.org

HMCDianneDeGood@herronisland.org

HMCPatZazzo@herronisland.org

HMCSherriAnderson@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.



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

Band of Obviously Super, Terrifically Enthusiast Recreation Supporters

The BOOSTERS Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner was another huge success again this year!

The Community Center was filled with all kinds of delicious food and about 90 or more people, young and old, all enjoying the fun filled evening.

A big "Thank You" to Sue Pottorff for chairing the event along with the many Booster Volunteers who worked right along with her.

Bingo, officiated by Carolyn Anspach, was silly and fun for everyone with good prizes enjoyed by all the winners. Thank you Carolyn and all your helpers!

Raffle tickets were purchased and drawings held throughout the evening which added to the excitement and good spirit of the evening. Thank you to Darold and Carla Vierra for donating all those beautiful baskets filled with wonderful treasures, and thank you to all those who purchased tickets which helps build our BOOSTERS Bank Account for future projects.

Herronopoly, our very own private board game personalized to Herron Island locations and uniqueness, was donated by Mark Anderson and his wife Jena. In fact, they donated 2 of those very special games this year plus a framed art piece showing the Herronopoly playing board. One game was added to our raffle which added to the anticipation during the drawings since everyone who had a ticket had a chance to win Herronopoly. The framed art work and the other Herronopoly game were auctioned off at the exciting conclusion to the evening. Lucky winners and high bidders! A great fun filled evening was enjoyed by all.

There are still Herron Island 2013 Calendars available. If you would like to purchase one (or more) contact the BOOSTERS at HIBoosters@yahoo.com.

HERRON ISLAND WATER - “INACTIVE VS. ACTIVE CONNECTIONS”

“Water” continues to be a hot topic around Herron Island especially now as meters are being installed and the end is in sight. Once meters are installed at every connection, HMC will begin recording the amount of water used per connection and establish a water usage rate structure that is fair to all. A Rate Study will take place in preparation for the next fiscal year 2013/2014 when water usage charges begin. During this 2012/2013 Rate Study period, the same interim flat rate of \$20 per month per connection will be billed. This bill covers charges for operations, maintenance, reserves, and zero to unlimited water usage. Debt service charges will be added to your bill if you do not pay the capital improvement cost in-full when the USDA Loan is finalized.

Some Members do not want any water available at their Lot and do not want to pay for water usage. There are two options to accomplish this: 1) Members may be on **active status** and manually shut-off their meter paying only if water is used, or 2) Members may request HMC to place their connection **in inactive status** with a lock on their meter. The lock can only be removed by HMC and \$50 will be charged (per the Member-approved fee schedule) to remove the lock and return the connection to active status. Every Connection, whether active or inactive, will continue to pay operations, maintenance, reserves, and (as applicable) debt service.

ACTIVE CONNECTION

Water Bill includes:

- HMC Loan Debt Service unless paid in full
- Base Fee
- Reserve Contribution
- ***Metered Water Use Charges***

ADVANTAGES:

- Water available at all times.
- Leaks detected by amount of water used.

DISADVANTAGES/ADVANTAGES:

- Meter may be manually turned on and off.
- Member pays usage only when water is used.

INACTIVE CONNECTION

Water Bill includes:

- HMC Loan Debt Service unless paid in full
- Base Fee
- Reserve Contribution
- ***No Metered Water Use Charges (meter is locked so no water is available)***

ADVANTAGES:

- No one can “borrow” your water
- No leaks because there is no water to property

DISADVANTAGES:

- Advance notice (5 days) must be given and a \$50 charge paid to remove lock and turn water on.

QUESTIONS? Contact the Island Manager at 884-9350
or @ HMCmanager@herronisland.org





SCHEDULE OF MEMBERSHIP BILLINGS

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

- 1st half: Billed and Due October 1 – Late if not received or postmarked by October 31
- 2nd half: Billed and Due April 1 – Late if not received or postmarked by April 30

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

- 1st quarter: Billed and Due November 1 – Late if not received or postmarked by November 30
- 2nd quarter: Billed and Due February 1 – Late if not received or postmarked by February 28
- 3rd quarter: Billed and Due May 1 – Late if not received or postmarked by May 31
- 4th quarter: Billed and Due August 1 – Late if not received or postmarked by August 31

Special Assessments: These are billed and due on the first day of the month as designated by the Board of Directors. Payment is late if not received or postmarked by the last day of the month in which the Special Assessment is billed.

Miscellaneous Billings: These are other items billed to your Member account, such as charged Ferry fees for vendors. They are billed and due on the first day of the month following the month in which the item was processed. Payment is late if not received or postmarked by the last day of the month in which the items are billed.

Late Fees will be charged to your Member account if your payment is not received or postmarked by the last day of the month in which the payment is due, as noted above. Late Fees vary and can be found in the Member-approved Fee Schedule on the Herron Island website.

Free Classified Ads



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.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIP OF THE MONTH

WOODSTOVES & FIREPLACES

KEEP THOSE HOME FIRES BURNING SAFELY!



Keep Woodstoves and Fireplaces Clean

- Have your chimney or wood stove inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist.
- Clear the area around the hearth of debris, decorations and flammable materials.
- Leave glass doors open while burning a fire. Leaving the doors open ensures that the fire receives enough air to ensure complete combustion and keeps creosote from building up in the chimney.
- When you reload your woodstove or start a fire, let it burn with dampers wide open for five minutes. This will help burn out creosote deposits in the chimney. Warning – Do not start a hot fire if there is a 1/8 inch or greater thick layer of creosote in the chimney pipe.
- Close glass doors when the fire is out to keep air from the chimney opening from getting into the room. Most glass fireplace doors have a metal mesh screen which should be closed when the glass doors are open. This mesh screen helps keep embers from getting out of the fireplace area.
- Always use a metal mesh screen with fireplaces that do not have a glass fireplace door.
- Install stovepipe thermometers to help monitor flue temperatures.
- Keep air inlets on wood stoves open, and never restrict air supply to fireplaces. Otherwise you may cause creosote buildup that could lead to a chimney fire.
- Use fire-resistant materials on walls around wood stoves.

Safely Burn Fuels

- *Never use flammable liquids to start or rekindle a fire.*
- Use only seasoned hardwood. Soft, moist wood accelerates creosote buildup. In pellet stoves, burn only dry, seasoned wood pellets.
- If you burn an artificial log, never poke it or burn more than one at a time. They contain up to 60% wax or Sterno and will burn extremely fast if broken up. This will damage your stove and may cause a house fire.
- Build small fires that burn completely and produce less smoke.
- If you use an airtight stove, open the intake damper fully before you open the door. The hot unburned fuel gases can burn explosively if air is introduced too quickly.

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Emergency Preparedness (Continued from Page 14)

- Never burn cardboard boxes, trash or debris in your fireplace or wood stove as these materials produce higher temperatures than a normal fire. Trash burning contributes to burns and injuries and pollutes the air outside your home.
- When building a fire, place logs at the rear of the fireplace on an adequate supporting grate.
- Never leave a fire in the fireplace unattended. Extinguish the fire before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Allow ashes to cool before disposing of them. Place ashes in a tightly covered metal container and keep the ash container at least 10 feet away from your home and any other combustibles. Never empty the ash directly into a trash can. Douse and saturate the ashes **with water**.

Protect the Outside of Your Home

- Stack firewood outdoors at least 30 feet away from your home.
- Keep the roof clear of leaves, pine needles, and other debris.
- Cover the chimney with a mesh screen spark arrester.
- Remove branches hanging above the chimney, flues, or vents.



BE PREPARED FOR A FIRE

No wood-burning system is 100% safe and fireproof. A safe installation and extra care will help prevent fire, but accept the idea that there could be a fire and be prepared to handle it. Make certain everyone in the house is familiar with the warning signs of a chimney fire (sucking sounds, a loud roar, and shaking pipes). Instruct everyone on what to do. All adults should know how and when to use a fire extinguisher.

1. Call the Fire Department immediately, before doing anything else.
2. Cut off the fire's air supply by closing all dampers on the woodstove and/or chimney pipe.
3. Get everyone out of the house and put them to work watching for sparks or signs of fire on the roof or nearby.
4. Keep a Class 1A:10BC dry chemical fire extinguisher handy. If the house catches on fire, try to extinguish it if it is safe to do so. Stand back 6 to 8 feet (6'-8') and direct the nozzle to the base of the flames.

(Continued on Page 16)



Emergency Preparedness (Continued from Page 15)

SMOKE AND FIRE PROTECTION

Smoke detectors in working condition and sleeping with the bedroom closed at night are important considerations for everyone, as 97% of the fire fatalities nationwide died of smoke inhalation without ever receiving a burn and 64% died in bed without ever knowing there was a fire. It has been estimated that one-third of these fatalities would have been prevented had they slept with their bedroom door closed at night.

For **Emergency Preparedness Committee** Information

contact Mike Shettlesworth 884-6919 or Pat Zazzo 884-6719

WINTER FERRY SCHEDULE (10/1 through 3/31)

MON		TUE		WED		THUR		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				
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
										10:30	11:00	10:30	11:00
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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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				

Thanksgiving and
New Years:

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



Herron Island Real Estate

The Herron Team wishes all of you a wonderful Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Although sales on the Island have been slow, we still see some activity. We will have a revised Web site up and running very soon. Thanks to all of you for trusting the Herron Team this past year. We are working hard to bring a buyer for your special places. God's Blessings to you and all your families. The Herron Team

Dallas Amidon & Sheryl Schull
www.Herronisland.com
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Longbranch Community Church
 16518 46th Street KPS, Longbranch
 WA 98351 253-884-9339
 Pastor John Day

Longbranch Community Church Invites Herron Island Residents to attend the Blue Grass Gathering every 3rd Sunday at 6:00, bring your voices and instruments and play along. We play until 8:30 but Herron Island residents usually leave early to catch the 8 PM ferry.

Please Join Us For Sunday Services

Sunday School 9:00AM

Church Services 10:30

God's Blessings to you,

The Amidons & Pastor John Day

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