



The Cormorant's Call

February 2010

Volume 14, Issue 1

A Publication of Cormorant Passage

Homeowners' Association

President's Report

Hello Cormorant Passage!

Let's get the important business out of the way first. This is your notice that Homeowner Association dues of \$50 are due no later than March 15. Sometimes people tell me they never receive a dues notice - - well, this is the notice.

If you haven't visited Cormorant Park lately you need to go. It looks AMAZING!!! Our neighbor Jim Senko has spent countless hours working on the park. He is single-handedly raising property values with his transformation of the park. Please see the article inside for more information.

Now that we've got the neighborhood entrance lettering secured, we are working on the lighting. You should see improved lighting for the signage monuments very soon. Our neighbor Jim Van Vleck spends his volunteer hours working at the entrance. The two Jims do a great job keeping each end of our Cormorant Drive looking great!!

WOO HOO! We finally have a new Treasurer!! A big thank you to Fred Crumley for agreeing to serve. Sadly, we lost our long time Secretary, Norm Gaudreau, as the family relocated to Germany. Also, I am sad to report we are losing Kellene Greenwood as Welcome Wagon chair - also due to relocation. She is going to Hawaii with all that sunny, warm weather. Mahalo Kellene & many thanks for serving!

Please contact any board member if you are interested in serving in either of those important Association positions ('Secretary' or 'Welcome Wagon chair').

Happy Spring!!

Karen McIver, President CPHA

Safe Streets

SAFE STREETS is a proactive program to help us keep our neighborhood safe. The **Safe Streets** sign at the entrance and around **Cormorant Passage** are the start, telling anyone, folks are watching out for each other in this neighborhood. Our **Cormorant Passage** chairpersons are **Judy Foster** and **Jim Van Vleck**. The program intends each homeowner or resident have a list of close neighbors, the block leader, and all their phone numbers. When you are going out of town for a few days or more, use this list to inform your neighbors. Ask them to watch your house, bring in newspapers or solicitations left on your front porch. Public Safety still recommends that each house in the neighborhood leave the front and back porch lights on; they feel that this is a significant deterrent to vandals. In a few areas we are seeking folks to serve as the block leader; please volunteer. If you have any questions, need a list of your block, or notice anything in the neighborhood that you want the rest of the homeowners to know about, please feel free to call either **Judy** or **Jim**. We hope you post your list by your phone and use it; the success of this program depends on all of us being involved in our own block.

Jim Van Vleck
582 - 7475

Judy Foster
581 - 2930

News Alert: Pepper has been found... thanks from Karen!

Pepper has been found. Some of you heard me calling for my newly adopted black poodle, **Pepper**, who managed to escape from my yard. Sincere thanks to all of you who kept an eye out for him. I love this neighborhood and this town because of how helpful people are when someone is in need. I phoned Public Works and asked if they could watch for him as they traveled the town. They did a radio announcement and immediately **Paul Reynolds** reported that he'd seen **Pepper** visiting his neighbor's dog. Thankfully, **Pepper** was still there when I arrived. As the weather warms up we'll be walking the neighborhood, so if you see us out and about, stop and meet the wily **Pepper**... (now also known as **Houdini**).

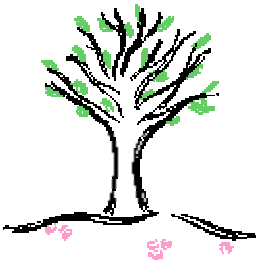
Annual Homeowners Association Dues Time!

Neighbors it is again time for annual dues for 2010. Dues remain \$50. You will find the detachable remittance form on the last page, and a return envelope enclosed with this mailing. Please remit before 15 March to **Cormorant Passage Homeowners Association**, PO Box 88704, **Steilacoom, WA 98388-0704**. A REMINDER: In order to encourage prompt payment, there is a \$10.00 per month late fee.

Many thanks to our neighbors who are not members of the Association but still generously donate to help pay to keep our neighborhood looking great: **Peter and Laverne Williams, Cathy Nugent, Charles Anderson, Terri and Ken Wright, Patricia and Jim Senko, Joan and John Shalikashvili, George Doolittle, Dr. James and Kerin Leone, Sue and Merlin Johns, Dr. Stephen Elder, Penny and Marshall Reed, Toni and J.C. Roberge, Ruby Jewett, Janet and Bill Cox, Susan and Robert Andrew, Candace and Robert Enquist, Margaret and**

Gene Pankey, Robyn and Larry Berrett, Joanne and Frank Adams, Evangelina and Brent Hassel, Sammy Smith, Nancy and Everett Cooper, Barbara and Don Danielsen, Rebecca and Drew Reeder, Jung Suk Moon, Song Yim, Pam and Ed Trobough, Kristen and Brad Bales, Betty Coates and Takashi Kimura. Whew...there are many of you and we couldn't do it without you. **THANKS!** Our sincere apologies if we erred, and left someone off the list.

Cormorant Park



If you haven't seen it in a while, you won't recognize Cormorant Park. Gone are the blackberries along Chapman Loop, gone are the weeds and grass in the flower beds, gone are the weeds around the sign, gone is the peeling paint on the sign. It has truly been transformed. Jim Senko has been leading a band of neighborhood volunteers to clean up the park with assistance from the Town's Public Works Department, especially Rick Creger. Jim has generously donated hundreds of dollars worth of plants for the park. The sign is freshly painted and the flower bed filled with new plants. It is also planted with daffodils that should bloom this Spring. The gazebo and picnic table have been waterproofed. The weeds and grass have been removed from the flower beds by the gazebo and have been replaced with lovely plants. Along Chapman Loop, Jim worked with the Town to have the blackberries removed. They've been replaced by trees, shrubs and benches that Jim handcrafted from a fallen tree in that area. Stop by to relax on Jim's benches and enjoy a wonderful view of the ravine that used to be hidden by blackberries.

BUNCO - - Still Looking

There were 6 or 7 people interested in participating in a monthly neighborhood Bunco group. It takes about 12 people. If still interested, or are newly so, please email or call Karen McIver at mciver047@comcast.net or 253.301.3252. If you have never played, don't worry. The only skills you need are rolling dice and counting 1, 2, 3, etc. It's easy.

Cormorant Passage Website - Emailing the Board

Our website has a feature that allows you to send emails to any Association board member. From time to time, we receive messages from "Anonymous". If you send a message without the requested contact information the software removes the text; all such messages arrive as blank pages. If you sent an issue this way, we aren't ignoring you; we may not have received it. Please try another method of contacting us, or try including the contact information. We try very hard to be responsive.

Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

A reminder: Homeowners planning home improvement projects, your copy of the Covenants (always available on the CPHA website) specifies those require approval by our Architectural Review Committee before work can begin. The Covenants provides information on what needs

to be submitted for home improvement projects affecting your residential structure or additions built on your property (examples: paint scheme, siding, roof, windows, out-buildings, or other material replacement).

So if you are planning a spring-summer project, please contact the ARC! Contact information below. These great folks are volunteers who work within the Association standards to *preserve the integrity of our unique community*.

Eva Vanderbilt
584 - 7605

Malcolm Whitaker
267 - 1334

Harald Pederson
314-5913

Did You Know... ?

Did you know... that our Kautz Court is named for Augustus Valentine Kautz? An Army officer of local renown, arriving to Fort Steilacoom in 1853, he fell in love with this area and served with distinction in the 1856-57 Puget Sound War with local tribes. Kautz, who later rose to the rank of *General*, is particularly famous for his admiration and active support of captured Nisqually leader Chief Leschi who was questionably charged with murder. Kautz sought to influence both public opinion and Governor McMullen to free Leschi, to no avail. The Nisqually warrior was infamously hanged 151 years ago on 19 Feb 1858. Today the massive Urban Training City on Fort Lewis is named "Leschi Town" in his belated honor, and we have Kautz Court!

Did you know... who our Henley Court is named for? Could it possibly for another productive South Sound citizen who played a role in a Steilacoom "First" - the first territorial, then federal prison located on McNeil Island? After officially beginning operations in May 1875, the primary prison transport devolved into mere rowboats; a quite slow, awkward and dangerous method. Then one of the guards with a sailor's background, Neil O. Henley, designed and supervised construction of a 24-ft sloop which made mail & supply runs to Steilacoom considerably faster and safer. And in 1911 Captain Neil Henly built the '*John G. Sargent*', a 46 foot powerboat that served the prison for another 50 years.

Did you know... that Aug 23-29 the 2010 U.S. Amateur Golf Championship will be here in the South Sound? The U.S. Amateur is the oldest championship conducted by the USGA, and is among the most prestigious in the world. The event will be contested at Chambers Bay Golf Course in University Place; and the assisting course will be the Home Course in Dupont. The 2010 U.S. Amateur Championship will be broadcast on NBC and worldwide on the Golf Channel. Nearly 400 volunteers are needed. Many consider this the 'test-run' for Chambers Creek and the South Sounds hosting of the 2015 U.S. Open Championship.

Steilacoom and Area Events

Annual Steilacoom Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction - Thursday, February 19, 2010 The Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Spaghetti Dinner from 5:30 to 7:30PM at the Steilacoom Community Center, 2301 Worthington Street. Proceeds from the event go to

scholarships for Steilacoom High School graduates who enroll at Pierce College. Price is \$6.95 for adults and \$3.95 for children under age 12. Advance tickets available at Steilacoom Marine & Spirits. Call 584-4177 for details.

"You Can't Take it With You"- February 5-28, 2010 Join Lakewood Playhouse for some laughter this February. In this classic comedy the Sycamore family gives up world success to live a happy stress-free life and convince everyone they meet to do the same. This production features a talented cast of regional actors and is directed by James Venturini. Appropriate for all ages. Performances: Fridays & Saturdays - 8pm and Sundays at 2pm. There will be a 'Pay What You Can' performance Thursday, Feb. 11 at 8pm. Tickets range from \$22-\$14. Lakewood Playhouse is located in the heart of Lakewood Towne Center. For tickets & reservations call Box Office at 253.588.0042 or visit www.lakewoodplayhouse.org.

Black Tie and Blue Jean Ball - Saturday, 6 March, 2010 The 3rd annual Black Tie and Blue Jean Ball will be held on Saturday, March 6, 2010 starting at 6:00 p.m. in the McGavick Student Center at the Clover Park Technical College, 4500 Steilacoom Blvd SW. in Lakewood. "Blue Jeans and Bling" is the theme for the evening and we'll have 'Dancing with the Stars' demonstrations. Tickets for this event are \$50 each and include heavy appetizers, live music, and dancing. A dessert auction is planned so bring your sweet tooth. All proceeds from this event will support building a new restroom near the playground at Fort Steilacoom Park. *Do it for the children!*

"Nibble & Quibble" - American Cancer Society 'Relay For Life Lakewood' Dinner- Auction - Friday, 2 April, 2010 Please join us for a fun filled auction night; local businesses have donated many items to your delight, McGavick Center, Clover Park Technical College; \$25.00 a ticket or a table for \$200 - on sale now. There will be a desert run and a fun filled night to help as we celebrate with our survivors, remember our loved ones who have lost their battle. If you would like to purchase tickets, donate an auction item, or contribute funds to help our event please contact eventchairs@lakewoodrelay.org or Mike Darrah 253.307.2962.

"May's Vote" - Thursday, March 18, 2010 Washington State History Museum, 1911 Pacific Ave., Tacoma. Barbara Callander and Toni Douglass appear as suffragists Emma Smith DeVoe and May Arkwright Hutton. 6:30 p.m. Tickets will be \$5 for Tacoma Historical Society members; \$8 for others.

Do you have a useful or important message for our Neighborhood? ...please contact one of the CPHA Board members and share it!!

We are always looking for ideas, messages, short articles & commentary that help us remain a thriving and safe community...

CPHA Board of Directors

President: Karen McIver, 301-3252

Secretary: ---**VACANT**--- (interim - Kellene Greenwood)

Treasurer: Fred Crumley

Members-at-Large: Neal Snider, 583-8293 & Jim Van Vleck, 582-7475

Safe Streets Coordinators: Judy Foster 581-2930 and Jim Van Vleck, 582-7475

Architectural Review Committee: Eva Vanderbilt, 584-7605;

Malcolm Whitaker, 267-1334; Harald Pedersen, 314-5913

Webmaster: Jim Van Vleck, 582-7475

Welcome-Wagon: Kellene Greenwood

Association Address	Newsletter Editor	E-mail Contact Point
CPHA PO Box 88704 Steilacoom, WA 98388	Mike Peppers 964-1175	See Web site
Cormorant Passage Web site: http://cormorant.steilacoom.net/		
Steilacoom Web site: http://steilacoom.org/index.html .		

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Cormorant Passage Homeowners Association Dues

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Dues (\$50.00)/donation Amount included: _____

Comments: