



# ***The Cormorant's Call***

***February 2011***

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***A Publication of Cormorant Passage***

***Homeowners' Association***

## **President's Report**

**Greetings - Cormorant Passage!**

The Association's annual dues reminder once again comes to us all in the form of this "Cormorant Call" newsletter. The last page includes your cut-away payment slip for return in the provided pre-addressed envelope. This act is the first we all perform in making Cormorant Passage Homeowners Association - viable and strong; as always, we appreciate your timely payment.

On December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 we held our annual meeting at the Steilacoom Community Center. We did not have a large turnout. We can all be grateful of those who once again agreed to continued service: Fred Crumley (Treasurer), Neal Snider (Member-At-Large), Jim Van Vleck (Member-at-large, Webmaster & Asst Safe Streets), Judy Foster (Safe Streets), the Architectural Review Committee of Eva Vanderbilt, Malcolm Whitaker, and Harald Pederson, and Mike Peppers, our Newsletter Guy. We attended to basic business, as well as brainstorming over needs of the neighborhood and Association, especially the need for board members.

We are still looking for our next Secretary, as interims will no longer do. If you are at all interested, please give me a call!

Thanks for Jim Van Vleck and Fred Crumley for keeping the lights on at the front entrance. It is nice to have the letters staying put and the lights staying on. We all hope you and yours are passing the Winter smoothly, and like many of us, are looking forward to the Spring ahead.

**Sincerely,**

**Karen McIver, President CPHA**

## **Safe Streets**

**SAFE STREETS** has been a proactive program to help us keep our neighborhood safe. The success of this program depends on all of us being involved in our own block. The system is principally organized around volunteer block leaders and block phone tree-lists, for proactive use when there are safety concerns or information flow/reactive measures following an incident. Block leader volunteers or renewals are needed; last known information is posted on our website.

For **Cormorant Passage**, overall **Judy Foster (581-2930)** and **Jim Van Vleck (582-7475)** will take your call at any time with safety concerns or to report a burglary, vandalism, or any activity in the neighborhood that you find suspicious.

We hope you post your block lead/phone tree list by your phone and use it. When you are going out of town for a few days or more, use this phone list to inform your neighbors. Ask them to watch your house, bring in newspapers or miscellaneous solicitations left on your front porch. There is nothing like neighborly vigilance to keep **Cormorant Passage** safe and connected.

## **Your Covenants for CPHA - signed August 1988**

The **CPHA Covenants** are essentially a 21-page item that fully documents our neighborhoods 'Rules to Live and Grow by'. With 14 pages of particularly pertinent text, its 6 sections establish this organizations legal basis and enforcements and cover many day-to-day things. Section 3 enumerates several guidelines for things from street-side parking, pets, easements, to antenna services. Section 4 lays out the **Architectural Committee's** composition, duties and standards. Sections 5 and 6 cover the **Association by-laws**, **Board Member** elections to 2-year posts, and appeal procedures. As homeowners and residents of **CPHA**, we ought to know our covenants.

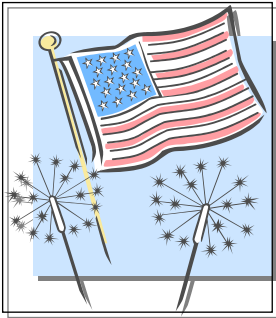
The top complaint received regarding non-compliance is street parking. Every home has space for four (4) vehicles to park off-street. Please use your driveways.

## **Annual Homeowners Association Dues Time!**

Neighbors it is again time for annual dues for 2011. 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 16 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!!*

## Cormorant record - supporting Citizens Fireworks Committee 2010



The local members of the Steilacoom Citizens Fireworks Committee would like to thank *All of Cormorant Passage* for your donations and support in raising the funds for a safe, and always inspiring 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2010 fireworks display as part of our towns historic and patriotic celebrations each year.

*Our thanks for helping to continue this worthy project!!*

Jim Taylor  
984-7572

Mike Peppers  
964-1175

## Other Notes from the Annual Board Meeting

- The association's need for new Board members and volunteers is becoming acute. Several current Board members have been 4 years or longer. The Secretary position have been unfilled by permanent personnel for nearly 2 years.
- The Board discussed sharp revisions to current programs/position to act on the point above, including disbanded Safe Streets (due to lack of block coordinators; neighbor reluctance with block 'phone trees' to provide notice) and creating a single "Public Safety Coordinator" board position. It is possible that future safety notifications will only be sent via email. This is a very good reason to provide your email address to the Association.
- Board discussed but did not act on number of fresh programs to seek neighbor volunteerism, example: "A Handyman Committee" to once or twice a year work on the front entrance, park, or other common grounds for the greater good of all.
- The Board members really, truly, continually seek your ideas and discussion.

## Cormorant Passage Website - Emailing the Board

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

## Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

The ARC asks any homeowner considering an exterior home improvement project to first read the covenants, and then contact the ARC for the pre-approval. Your copy of the Covenants (always available on the CPHA website) specifies the rules.

What we will need is a written proposal stating what you plan to do including paint colors, siding choice, roofing material, pictures, etc. It is helpful if you also include the covenant that pertains to your project. We are here to work with you!

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*. Thank you! The ARC:

Eva Vanderbilt  
584 - 7605

Malcolm Whitaker  
267 - 1334

Harald Pederson  
314-5913

### Did You Know... ?

Did you know that our webpage links to a Gallery of Steilacoom related photos? The site has grown to 3 pages and over 40 scenic and iconic photos of where we live. The added shots include the traditional historic buildings, our parks and nature and uncommonly beautiful South Sound views and sunsets. This remains a great resource!

Did you know that the Cormorant family of seabirds has over 40 species cousins worldwide? Here along our part of the Pacific coast the Tahoma Audubon Society e 2007/8 bird count advises the most prevalent Cormorants are *the Double-crested (557 annual sightings)*, *the Brandts (136)* and *the Pelagic (79)*. In 'Area 6' (where we are), there were 75 sightings, all double-crested variety. Should you see one in the park or on the water this spring - most likely it is a double-crested Cormorant!

Did you know Cormorant Passage streets, loops, and courts are frequently named for historical figures that played a prominent role in the founding of Washington State? For example, Sheridan Place is named after famous Union cavalry general, Indian War campaign leader and eventual General of the Army - Philip H. Sheridan. It was a young Lieutenant Philip Sheridan who first served with the 4th U.S. Infantry in the Pacific Northwest 1855-57; including a topographical survey mission to the Willamette Valley, and in the Yakima War & Rogue River Wars, gaining experience in leading small combat teams and negotiating with Indian tribes.

### Steilacoom and Area Events

**Annual Spaghetti Dinner - Friday, February 18, 2011** The Steilacoom Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Spaghetti Dinner at the Community Center from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. For only \$6.95/adults and \$3.95/kids under age 12 are served a delicious full course dinner. Revenues are earmarked for scholarship programs

Steilacoom High School students to Pierce College. Live music by Steilacoom's own Larry Juhnke, as well as a silent and live auctions presented by the Steilacoom Tribal Museum to refurbish their historic structure on Lafayette Street. The resurrection of this building to its original state will certainly enhance downtown.

**Steilacoom II Ferry Welcome Home Sailing - Saturday, February 19** The ferry will depart at 9:30 a.m., from the Steilacoom terminal for its "welcome home" celebration sail. Boarding begins at 9:20 a.m. The ferry stop at the Anderson Island terminal at 9:50 a.m. to pick up residents and take them on an hour sail around their island while everyone enjoys coffee, cake, and various presenters. This is a walk-on sail only. Be sure to bundle up in case of cold weather!

**"Gem of the Puget Sound"** - Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge restoration project early opening 1 Feb; and last section construction on the 5,524 foot long boardwalk will be completed February 21-25. The boardwalk allows visitors to experience first-hand a delta that is in recovery; views of Mt. Rainier are simply spectacular. When you visit, go prepared; on sunny days, bring water, sunscreen and hats. Binoculars will give you a better view of the abundance of wildlife. The visitor center is open Wednesday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Refuge is located off exit 114 on I-5; follow the signs; entrance fee is \$3 per vehicle. For more visit [www.fws.gov/nisqually](http://www.fws.gov/nisqually), or call 360-753-9467.

**Puyallup Spring Fair - 14 - 17 April** The spring classic at the Fairgrounds is back and this year includes: Free Entertainment & Fabulous Food; Slamfest Demo Derby (this is smashing, crashing fun for the whole family); Fiesta Mexicana; Creative Kids (see what kids can create); Rides; Animal Exhibits; Garden Show; Auto Alley (with cars from the LeMay Car Museum); KidZone (enjoy big fun for little ones!); Science Fair (enjoy amazing displays and two great shows from the Pacific Science Center).

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**---

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: Sherri Gimlett, 581-1288

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: <a href="http://cormorant.steilacoom.net/">http://cormorant.steilacoom.net/</a>		
Steilacoom Web site: <a href="http://steilacoom.org/index.html">http://steilacoom.org/index.html</a> .		

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Please fill in your dues/donation information below, detach this portion, and include it along with your payment in the provided CPHA pre-addressed return envelope. *Thanks Neighbor!*

**Cormorant Passage Homeowners Association Dues**

(Please consider providing your e-mail information, as it helps CPHA get the word out in this increasingly connected world!)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Comments: