

Sunset Cove Newsletter

Volume 9, Issue 3

Winter 2014

Special Points of Interest:

- Annual Meeting
- Crime Prevention
- Community Events
- Irrigation
- Board Notes
- Reminders

Annual Meeting

As a resident and/or owner in the Sunset Cove community, you are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting on **Saturday, February 1, 2014** in the meeting room at the Anacortes Public Library.

Light refreshments (cookies and coffee) will be available starting at 12:45 p.m., with the gavel falling to start the meeting at **1:00 p.m.** Come early and get to know some of your neighbors!

The agenda is likely to include the Treasurer's report, a review of activities and projects from 2013, and the election of new Board members.

Meanwhile, a shout out and a HUGE **Thank You** to **Jim Gray**, as he finishes his two-year term! The time and attention he devoted to the Board and Association are greatly appreciated. Be sure to visit when you and Sherry are back in town!

If you have any agenda items or other concerns that you would like discussed, please feel free to email any of the current members of the Board at:

board@sunsetcove.org

If you are unable to make the meeting, please mail in your ballot and proxy to:

SCHOA

PO Box 943

Anacortes, WA 98221

**We look forward to
seeing you all!**



Reminder:

Homeowners' Association dues for 2014 are due by January 1, 2014. Late fees apply if received after January 31.

2013 Board of Directors

The current Board of Directors, and their positions, are as follows:

- President, Paul Allen (term ends 12/31/13).
- Vice President, Jim Gray (term ends 12/31/13).
- Secretary and Treasurer, Jackie Etsell (term ends 12/31/14).
- Architectural Review Committee Chair, Vickie Cooley (term ends 12/31/14).
- Publicity Committee Chair, Victor Brzeg (term ends 12/31/13).
- Landscape Committee Chair, Barbara Ballentine (term ends 12/31/14).

Remember, if you have any questions or concerns that you wish to bring to the Board's attention, or you just want to make them aware of how you feel about something, feel free to use the blanket email address: board@sunsetcove.org.

Thanks!

Crime Prevention Tips

Neighbors Stan and Susan Singer are members of the Citizens Auxiliary Patrol in Anacortes, and submitted the following information from Capt. Lou D'Amelio of the Anacortes Police Department:

Anacortes is undergoing a rash of daytime burglaries. The person gains entry by kicking in a door or going in through an unlocked window or door. There are a couple of inexpensive and easy ways to make entry much more difficult.

- (a) Lock all windows and slider doors - then secure them by using dowels cut to about 1/2 inch shorter than the trough distance. Frontier Hardware is one place that will cut the purchased dowels to the lengths you need. (Another possibility is to use PVC pipe that can be easily cut with a hack-saw.)
- (b) Doors in our homes are put in place in their frames with very short screws, making it easy to kick in a door ... so get 3" to 4" screws and replace the screws in the hinges, the plates, and the lock mechanism.
- (c) If you have a window in your garage it is recommended that you have a window blind or covering so potential thieves cannot see any tools, etc. that might make it worthwhile to steal.

There have been burglary cases recently in which electronic forensics has produced a lot of

information for the police department. Detective Chris Hansen is one of two certified specialists in Skagit County. Washington State law is tougher than the federal law regarding getting information from electronics - a warrant is required to download anything that an officer hopes to use in court.

[Meanwhile,] we have no official "walk in" shelter in Anacortes. Councilman Eric Johnson works with a consortium that provides money to rent motel rooms for the homeless - much needed as cold weather approaches. Another alternative to having the homeless freezing on the streets is to encourage the homeless individuals to go to Mount Vernon, where the Friendship House is a walk-in shelter.

Frauds and Scams

In the 2013 Fall Menu of the City Newsletter, Capt. D'Amelio also wrote about some of the most popular **scams** perpetuated both online and by telephone:

- 1) **"You've won the lottery!"**
Usually all you have to do is send some sort of fee to the company to release the funds; that is the last you'll hear from them and you'll never see that money again.
- 2) **"Your relative is in big trouble and needs help (or money)!"**
Once the scammers have a family member's name (often found on Facebook), they call claiming to be an attorney who is helping said rela-

tive out of a jam, usually an arrest where bail money is needed right away. Be aware of where your immediate relatives are actually traveling!

- 3) **"I'm calling from the bank to investigate a fraud on your account."**
The caller or emailer claims to be a fraud investigator for the bank, and asks to "verify" your personal information. Of course you will not be verifying anything; in fact, you'll most likely be supplying it.

Senior citizens are frequent targets for these scammers because many seniors have well established financial accounts with significant assets.

How do you protect yourself from scammers? Here are a few suggestions:

- Never divulge financial account numbers over the phone or internet.
- Never wire money from one place to another unless you are absolutely sure who is receiving the funds. Legitimate businesses generally deal in credit cards, checks, or bank transfers, which produce a paper trail.
- If in doubt, contact the police department and speak with an officer.

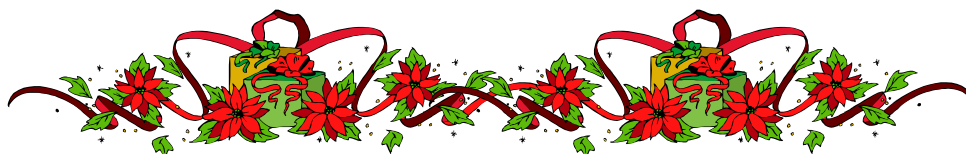
Doing business over the phone or the internet requires a lot of diligence. Never share any information with anyone you do not completely trust. Remember, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

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Upcoming Area Events:

Some upcoming community events that may be of interest (and get us up off the couch this winter!):

- **La Conner Lighted Boat Parade**, December 7, 6-7 p.m. along the Swinomish Slough.
- **Wonderland Walk at Washington Park**, December 13 & 14, 5-8 p.m. View the decorated campsites at the park, and maybe even see Santa!
- **Anacortes Annual Lighted Boat Parade**, December 21, 5-9 p.m. along Guemes Channel; 360.507.9999 to participate.
- **Fishing Derby: 11th Annual Salmon Classic Invitational**, February 6-8, Roche Harbor; entries limited, lots of cash prizes; 360.378.5562 or visit www.rocheharbor.com for entry information.
- **La Conner Smelt Derby**, February 22, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; pancake breakfast @ 8 a.m., 5K-10K Smelt Run/Walk @ 10 a.m.; prizes and raffles throughout the day (for more info, 360.466.4778).
- **Anacortes Salmon Derby**, March 29-30, activities include a free fishing seminar and door prizes; entries due by Jan. 31; for tickets and more information, visit www.anacortessalmonderby.com
- **Skagit Valley Tulip Festival**, April 1-30, Skagit Valley; tours and flowers galore! (visit www.tulipfestival.org)
- **Anacortes Annual Quilt Walk**, April 1-30, downtown Anacortes; call 360.293.0622 for information.
- **First Friday Gallery Art Walks**, first Friday of every month, generally 6-9 p.m., downtown Anacortes (visit www.anacortes.org for info).



Are You Irrigated?

The Anacortes Municipal Code says that all in-ground irrigation systems must have a backflow test performed annually. This important test is done by a small number of local, City approved contractors.

If you have an irrigation system that isn't being tested annually because the City isn't aware you have a system (meaning you don't receive the City form in the mail) we have a solution for you.

The Landscape Committee of the Association has arranged for all testing to be

done at the same time during May of each year. The test costs each owner \$35.00 and will be submitted to the City. Additional costs will be charged for needed repairs, meaning your system may be contaminating the local water supply if the backflow device isn't doing its job.

Be proactive and email the Landscape Committee chairman, Barbara Ballentine (bjballen@aol.com), asking to be on the list for next May's backflow testing.

— Paul Allen



Sunset Cove Homeowners Association
P.O. Box 943
Anacortes, WA 98221



Publicity Committee

Newsletter Editor: Jackie Etsell

We're on the Web!

sunsetcove.org

Board Meetings:

The Sunset Cove Homeowners Association schedules board meetings at the Anacortes Public Library, Community Meeting Room, at 7 p.m., usually on the third Thursday of each month. The dates for 2014 meetings have not specifically been scheduled yet.

Although these are working meetings of the Board, the community is invited and encouraged to attend. Contact the Board President if you have any business to bring to the attention of the Board.

Always double-check the website, www.sunsetcove.org for meeting reminders and other information. E-mail the board@sunsetcove.org with any thoughts, suggestions, ideas, or concerns.

Don't forget the **Annual Meeting** on Saturday **February 1, 2014** at the library! (More details on page 1.) See you there!

Neighborhood Notes:

- Please observe the **25-mile per hour** speed limit when driving up and/or down the boulevard.
- As you know, the Board took action last summer to successfully combat an infestation of the trees along Washington Boulevard. We'll take another look in the spring to see if re-spraying is in order. Thanks to all the affected owner's cooperation in this effort to keep the trees healthy and disease-free.
- This message is for the dogs of Sunset Cove: thank you to your people for having you safely on a leash at all times, and for cleaning up after you! Everyone appreciates it!
- The **Anacortes Senior College** will soon be gearing up for winter and spring classes; for schedules and other information call 360.293.1200 or visit www.seniorcollege.info.
- Attention all budding writers: ideas for topics and articles for this news-

letter are welcome and encouraged! Just email your contributions to me at jackie@etsell.com to see your creativity and name published!

- Usually if you have received this newsletter via regular mail this means we do not have a current e-mail address on file for you. **For this issue, however, everyone has received a hard copy with their dues assessment and annual meeting notice.**

PLEASE continue to contact rick@etsell.com with your e-mail address, either new or **changed**, so we may update our records. **Your** notification to us is the only way we can keep up.

- The secret password to the documents section of the Sunset Cove website is **ssc98221** (lower case letters). You'll find the minutes of the Board meetings, current and past newsletters, both sets of CC&R's, by-laws, etc. (And just a note: the minutes get posted after they're

"Be at war with your
vices, at peace with your
neighbors, and let every
new year find you a
better man."

- Benjamin Franklin

approved by the Board, which is usually after the next meeting.)

- Speaking of Association business, please don't forget to mail in your dues **before** the end of the year! Thanks!
- And, finally, happy new year!