

SunLand

BULLETIN

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Let me first wish all our residents the best for the New Year. A new year brings with it new opportunities. During the past year as I drove around Sequim during my everyday activities, I noted what a fantastic community we share. SunLand is, in my opinion, the best kept, inviting area in the county. I, of course, have not traveled everywhere, but we are doing something right here.

My thanks go out to all the SunLanders that put up holiday decorations and all those that take such meticulous care of their homes and landscaping. I am encouraged to see new construction and renovation of existing properties. The quality of these projects raises the value of all of our homes.

A project on Woodcock Road comes to mind when I think of renovations that raise the bar for our neighborhood. I am thankful our homeowners who value their properties enough to invest in them.

One of my duties concerns the RV storage lot. I am interested in what users of the lot believe needs attention. If you have feedback I would be interested in your requests. That doesn't mean we can complete them all, but I would like to hear what people have had dif-

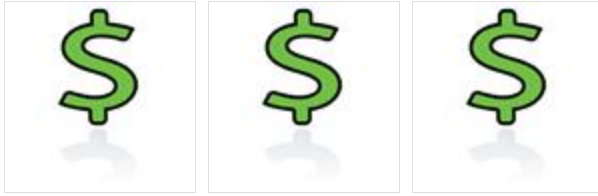
ficulties with or what amenities the lot lacks. It appears to me we need a better water control system to ensure against freezing in the winter months. The water is currently shut down, but I believe we could plumb the faucet to allow year round use. It also appears we need a few loads of gravel. I plan on bringing a few loads of gravel in this spring. The lot is also a no pesticide area as it borders our water system. This was recently brought to the Board's attention by the Water District Manager. In the future we will not be using pesticide for weed control.

On a safety note, thanks to all the residents that wear reflective outerwear during the evening hours while on walks. The ability to see our walkers at night is of great importance as we share the road with them. I would hate to see someone hit by a car due to not being visible.

We have also had a series of dog incidents, with injuries to pets and owners recorded. Please follow the rules and be thoughtful to your neighbors by always leashing your dog if they have the ability to escape your control. Please also remind your guests of our rules and the importance of them. A loose dog presents a real danger to our pets, older citizens and children.

John Hamer, President

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT <http://www.sunlandowners.com>



TREASURER'S REPORT

Fiscal year 2011 ended with our community spending 88 percent of our approved budget. This will allow some funds to be added to our reserves and offer a solid base as we move into the new fiscal year.

The approved budget for 2012 leaves less wiggle room without a dues increase. Now is the opportunity as a community to take a look at priorities, services, and the ability to respond to the needs of SunLand as we move into the future. The demographic of SunLand is more diverse than 30 years ago, has grown substantially in size (we are now at 848 homes), and is not immune to the impacts of society, both negative and positive.

After spending a year on the Board I will be forwarding some of my concerns, along with affordable solutions to the Board for consideration. Nothing drastic, just suggestions based on observations over the last year as a resident and Board member who still is in the work force full-time, responding to what you have expressed are your concerns for SunLand moving forward.

My wife Nicole and I continue to enjoy living in SunLand, have wonderful neighbors, and want to continue to be active and concerned members of our beautiful community.

As always, if you have questions, concerns, or suggestions, please don't hesitate to call or email:

Chris Clark, Treasurer
683-2411, charleyclark@gmail.com

ARCHITECTURALLY SOUND

There has been some confusion about what kind of home improvement projects need approval from the Architectural Committee. A lot of this confusion arises from the unfortunate reality that each successive committee chairman seems to have a different approach to the interpretation of the CC&Rs. One of these confusing regulations is the need for an architectural permit for any home improvement project. During my tenure in this assignment, you only need to apply for Architectural Committee approval if your project changes the appearance of your residence from the outside or alters its footprint.

If your project involves something like a fence or a tool shed, your best insurance against Architectural Committee objection is to talk it over with your neighbors in advance so objections don't crop up in the approval process. As a community, what our neighbors think is often much more important to our happiness than what our community government thinks. Our CC&Rs are supposed to be guidelines for getting along amicably in a likeminded community, not rules for forcing us into an alien lifestyle.

Steve Schermerhorn, Chairman



RECREATION

Although the pool is closed there is still maintenance being done. Doris Cosman and I are in the process of cleaning gutters and fixing the leaking corners of the pool house. Also, new signs are being made and we have accepted a bid to fix the water problem on the west side of the pool house.

That's all for now,

Larry Laing, Chairman

GREENBELTS, PARKS & LOTS

Concern about the English ivy growth on some of our SunLand trees has been brought to my attention and so I did an internet search to determine to what degree this might be a problem and how it might best be handled. Following is a summary of various articles on the subject for those of you who may have ivy infested trees.

It was loved for gracing "hallowed halls" back in its day, but English ivy has become a major invasive villain in the Pacific Northwest. As a vine, it can completely engulf shrubs and encircle tree trunks of all sizes, leaving nothing uncovered. Shrubs shrouded in ivy may eventually die because light can't reach their leaves. Trees usually survive ivy invasion, even though weakened by retaining a "broccoli head" of foliage at the very top. In some cases, it can cause the premature demise of the tree. It has no natural enemies to keep it in check and balanced - not even slugs will eat it!

It is important to remove ivy from trees because once it reaches the top or apex of the tree, it blooms and sets seed. Hand removal is the most efficient because ivy's waxy cuticle makes it resistant to typical herbicide applications without the use of additional chemicals.

The most basic technique to stop tree-climbing ivy dead in its tracks is to use either loppers or a pruning saw to cut through each vine clinging to the tree trunk at shoulder height and at ankle height. This severs the connection between the life sustaining roots and the rest of the ivy. Be sure to cut ALL vines as even one can continue to nourish ivy higher up the tree. Strip the ivy away from the tree between the two cuts - some vines can be so big that you need to pry them away from the tree - just be careful not to damage the bark.

The next step is to clear the surrounding area of ivy. Imagine a 6-foot radius circle around the tree; begin by peeling back the ivy mat 6 feet from the tree and thoroughly pull every vine and root from the circle. You may also find it helpful to cut "slices" in the ivy mat within your imaginary circle and rip out ivy like a piece of pie.

Research has shown that once ivy has been pulled more than six feet away from a tree it will continue to grow away from the tree rather than towards it again in most cases. Field tests have shown that a good six foot plus lifesaver will slow the re-infestation of a tree for over five years!

Now I know many of our greenbelt trees face this very problem and we cannot begin to treat them all, but where any given tree threatens a property, we will certainly address it.

Monica Ostrom, Chairman

LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE

SunLand remains one of the best maintained areas in the Sequim-Dungeness Valley. Although a lot of the trees did not lose their leaves until mid-December, most of the yards have been meticulously maintained. There seems to have been a lot of debris deposited during the many windy days that we have had lately. To those residents that have picked up and disposed of those pesky little sprigs of evergreens that seem to be constantly falling - Thank you!

Driving around SunLand there are a few places where a shrub or two seem to be dead or dying. Some of them may merely be dormant and will rejuvenate themselves come spring. In the meantime, we can all look forward to spring and the spring clean-up of our yards including removal of those shrubs that are dead and a final raking of the leaves.

Eleanor Guion, Chairman

SECURITY & ROADS

An incident was brought to my attention where a fire rescue unit was dispatched to a SunLand residence and knocked on the wrong door. This happened because the address on the caller's home was not plainly visible. I have noticed, in the course of my duties, that many homes have addresses either difficult or impossible to find. I have actually had to guess at an address, e.g., this must be 120 because it's between 118 and 122. This could be a dangerous situation when minutes or even seconds count. An address on your mailbox isn't the answer if it's not directly in front of your house. You have probably seen the small green and white reflective address markers at some homes. These have been required on all new homes for several years. They are available from Clallam Co. I highly recommend you obtain one if your home is not so equipped.

It has been noted that quite a few more yard lights are out than in the past. We will be making an attempt to contact homeowners who don't have functioning yard lights. Please check your lights and get them working. If a neighboring house is vacant and the light is out the most practical thing to do is put a bulb in it. Everyone would be grateful and the problem would be corrected much more quickly than waiting for us to find it and notify the absent owner.

Tom Fitzgerald, Chairman

UNLEASHED DOG ISSUES.

As many of you know we have had an incident in the original portion of Sunland involving two unleashed dogs attacking and injuring a smaller dog and one of the smaller dog's owners. In speaking with the victims of the attack I feel it is important to share information they have uncovered due to this unfortunate event.

Proper response when viewing an unleashed animal-*The Clallam county Animal control officer is the primary contact for any animal issues.* The phone number for Animal control is **417-2459**.

The serious nature of this issue requires a higher authority than the Board is able to deliver. This does not mean that the Board doesn't want to know about dog/animal problems. The point is the Board (Celeste) needs to be the second call made concerning animal problems.

If the community addresses this with the proper seriousness, possibly enough pressure can be exerted on the owners of these dogs to create a change in behavior. The Board does treat these incidents seriously and fines are and will be sent out concerning dogs not leashed.

John Hamer, President

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Yes, it is early to start talking about candidates to serve on the SLOA Board of Directors for next year, but I don't want to have to beg, plead, bribe people to serve *our* wonderful community when the time comes.

I have only been a Board member now for three months and I can tell you that the experience is very rewarding. You have the advantage of knowing what's happening in and around our little piece of Paradise. You also get to know your neighbors and the other Board Members a lot better.

If this has "peaked" your interest, would you call or email me and I will be happy to answer your questions and tell you more about this opportunity.

Diane Horton, Chairman (LgLDoc@gmail.com)

WATER NEWS

May Forum

Mark your calendars for the Water District Forum to be held at the SG&CC clubhouse at 4:30 p.m. on May 1st. This will be an informative presentation and the water district is seeking your input.

Water Conservation

Readings from our water production meters indicate that even though the community is using a little more water than last year, many have been doing a great job of conserving. Please continue to conserve water whenever possible. It saves you money.

And remember to:

- irrigate on even days if you have an even numbered address and on odd numbered days if you have an odd numbered address
- use drought tolerant plants
- Irrigate during evening and early morning hours
- Repair or report leaks as soon as possible (inside or outside)

Backflow Protection Assemblies

It's time to schedule your annual backflow protection assembly test. Contact your installer or call the Water District office to find out who is certified to conduct this required test. Washington Department of Health requires that anyone with an underground irrigation system or other cross connection have the assembly tested annually.

Wastewater Health

Please remember not to put plastics, pharmaceuticals, personal care products, diapers, sanitary wipes, or anything non-degradable in the toilet. All these things must be removed from the wastewater stream at great expense.

Meter Setters 2012

During 2012 meter setters are scheduled to be installed on Sunset Place, Hogan's Vista, Leslie Lane, Taylor Blvd unless completed, Medsker Road unless completed, and in all condo areas as can be completed.

Mike Langley, Manager
SunLand Water District



NEWCOMERS TO SUNLAND

Welcoming Committee Past & Future

During the past few years, SunLand has had the pleasure of having LaNice Korus as our official 'Welcomer' to the new residents of our community. LaNice is friendly and outgoing. She makes everyone she meets feel accepted and like an old friend. Her warm personality and big smile make new acquaintances feel right at home. She is sensitive to others and makes them feel welcome without feeling intruded upon. We feel lucky to have had her as a part of our SLOA volunteers serving our SunLand community.

But the time has come that LaNice feels she is unable to continue helping us at this time. So if you are a person that enjoys making new friends, likes to be active in your community and be of help to others, then please give Celeste a call at 683-7473 and learn more about helping others feel welcome and at home in SunLand.

Again LaNice, we want to thank you for your time and wonderful help that you have been to us during these past years.

Thank You!



**THE
GATHERING
PLACE**

FOR RESERVATIONS PLEASE CALL:

February	Gladys Dressler gdresler@olypen.com	582-3877
March	Karen Clatanoff kclatsy@wmconnect.com	681-3987
April	Heidi McGinnis Johnson hjohnson919@comcast.net	1-603- 568-8769
May	Karen Bulkeley kkb1@wavecable.com	681-5398

The volunteers listed above have charge of the Gathering Place reservation book in the months listed



Owners Association
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