

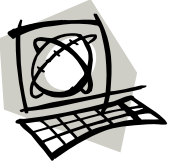


# The Beachcomber



HMC Newsletter

March 2006



<http://www.herronisland.org>  
**President's Message**

During the March HMC Board meeting, several items are worthy of your attention. The first involved the operation of the ferry under power outage situations. The discussion centered on the possibility of installing a diesel generator of sufficient capacity on the ferry to operate the ramps when the power is out. The problem with this solution is that often the power goes out in storm conditions and there is a crew safety concern when a deckhand has to get off the ferry with the power cables to connect to the ramp motors. If the ramp is too high or too low, the process is too risky. Depending on the tides and wind conditions, the captain must make the decision not to land if the crew is at risk. A revised ferry operation policy covering power out operations is being formulated that would limit the ferry runs under these conditions regardless of if a new generator is installed. Another idea was put forth that would install backup generators on the docks at both the mainland and island sides. These generators would have the capacity to operate the ramps and remote controls so that normal ferry operations could continue even when there are power outages. This would mitigate the crew safety issues of having to climb off the ferry to operate the ramps, would facilitate Peninsula Light being able to get to the island when power is out, would provide continuous ferry service and even enable emergency service if it were needed. By placing large generators on both docks, the expense is greater than the temporary measures we have today but it would allow the ferry to operate safely when the power is out. Given the amount of power outages experienced this year, it was decided that this option needs to be pursued further. HMC is going to contact Peninsula Light to see if they can assist in this manner (as it is in their best interest also) and to get estimated costs. If the project looks economically and operationally feasible, we would put the project on a ballot to the membership to authorize the expenditure of funds from the dock reserves. These expenditures would then be replaced into the dock reserve fund over a period of several years via the normal budget process.

Another project to extend the small boat dock at the North Beach was proposed. This project would use the existing pilings out off the end of the current dock and extend the dock. By having the docks extend out with the pilings being interior to the docks, the number of and provision for boat access would be greatly expanded. This is especially true for low tide situations. This project will require a special assessment and a vote of the membership. You should carefully consider this proposal.

We are now in the initial stages of preparing the budget for the coming fiscal year that starts next October. Since the budget is voted on at the annual meeting in June, it must be started this early. The finance committee is taking all possible steps to keep the costs down while maintaining our facilities and operations for the benefit of us all. As per our by-laws, any major projects will be submitted to all the members for a vote.

Thanks again to all the volunteers running the various committees. So much work is done by these members in the boosters, the rules and regulations committee, the emergency preparedness committee, the parks, the roads, the water, events like the brush burn, dock maintenance etc. I think that those of us who are not down on the island as much should really express our appreciation to all these volunteers who carry so much of the load. If we had to contract for all the work they do, our expenses would be far higher than they are today.

Finally, we are still looking for members to run for two positions on the HMC Management board of trustees. The application to run is in this Beachcomber. It is important for our Island community that we get good representation on the Board that shares the interests of all the members.

Fred Fath  
President

**Important Phone Numbers****Island Manager**

Doug Allen (253) 884-9350

**HMC Board of Trustees**

Fred Fath, President (206) 246-7016

Bill Zazzo, VP &amp; Water (425) 823-1902

Kathy Fennell, Treasurer (206) 987-5737

Clarrie E. Jones, Secretary

Al Moren, Land Use &amp; Roads (253) 884-2721

**Additional Responsibilities**

Nick Huff, Transportation (253) 884-4663

Dick Mowry, Water Field Examiner (253) 884-7663

Dick Zottman, Water Field Examiner (253) 884-9920

Scott Schultz, Water Field (253) 884-3196

Bill Zazzo, Acting Chair Rules See Above

Tracy Anspach, Parks (253) 588-1921

Patty Haenen Jones, Office Manager (253) 884-9350

**Herron Island Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
9:30 am to 5:30 pm. The office is CLOSED Monday,  
Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday.**

Office Phone: (253) 884-9350

Office Fax: (253) 884-5047

**Website: <http://www.herronisland.org>**

Office Email: [Office@herronisland.org](mailto:Office@herronisland.org)Manager email: [HMCManager@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCManager@herronisland.org)Beachcomber: [beachcomber@herronisland.org](mailto:beachcomber@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.)*

**Delinquency List as of March 2006**

FLADAGER - KIRK, L. - KIRK, M. Estate of - LAWRENCE - O'NEILL - OVERLAND, Estate of - RUCKS - TITZLER - TCHOCHIEV - TUTTEROW

**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. PROVIDING GUEST PASSES IS NOT PART OF THE DECKHAND'S JOB.**

**Beachcomber News Items need to be submitted by the Friday after the Monthly Meeting. Items MUST be emailed in electronic format. Your name and phone number are to be included in case there are any questions. Paid advertisements are to be arranged through the HMC Office **PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.****

**HMC Management  
Board Meeting Summary  
March 11, 2006**

Administration

- The Board decided not to incorporate a wireless internet connection at the office.
- The Board discussed imposing a fee for any vehicle, such as motorcycles and ATV's (typically brought over by guests) or vehicles not capable of operating under their own power (i.e., junk vehicles), carried or towed onto Herron Island and that do not have a current HMC sticker of the appropriate type. No action was taken at this point.
- The Board agreed to the attorney's request to "stake out" the residence of a seriously delinquent member in order to serve legal papers. This will be done on a case-by-case basis if the situation warrants it.

Information items

- On both Worker's Compensation and Unemployment Insurance (FUTA-SUTA) HMC's rates have dropped to the absolute minimum that is charged. This is due to excellent claims records over the past four years.
- We will shortly be requesting Pierce County to release the set-aside funds (\$1500.00) they required for the new water reservoir permit.
- Because of the need to maintain privacy of individual's records in the office, a small swinging gate has been installed to help insure that visitors remain in the front desk area.

Emergency Preparedness/Fire Department

- A report to the Board was prepared by Carole Crowley.

Land Use

- A serious landslide has occurred at the rear of a lot overlooking South Beach. Property stakes at the top of the cliff there indicate that the material that broke away was on HMC property. The Board decided to request information from an attorney regarding the various legal issues that may be associated with landslides.

Legal

- One of the principals in our attorney's firm is leaving.
- The attorney's office will soon require that each client have a written policy on collection of debts. The Board agreed to establish one.

Transportation

- The cost of using a locally-available landing craft while the ferry is in dry-dock has been determined to be \$150.00 per hour. This does not include crew costs, fuel costs or special (temporary) insurance costs.

Water

- Recent special testing required by law of copper and lead content have found that both were non-detectable (neither were found in tests several years ago, either). Since the new reservoir went in service there have been no bacteria detected in the monthly testing.
- The Montgomery Water Group sent a new agreement (signed during the meeting today) to move ahead with the Small Water System Management Program that will, among other things required in it, detail how to plan for, purchase materials for and install a new water distribution system.

### Summer Ferry Schedule

Effective April 1st, our ferry will be running on summer schedule. The only changes from the winter schedule are the addition of 2:30/3:00 runs on Monday and Friday and 1:30/2:00 runs on Sunday.

### Annual Burn

HMC plans to request a permit from the Key Peninsula Fire Department to hold our annual community burn at the North Beach in May. If granted, the prohibition against transporting burn material from one property to another would be waived, and a burn pile would be accumulated in the parking lot over a two-week period. The pile would then be inspected by the fire department and no further materials could be accepted after that time. The fire would be ignited the next day. Only natural vegetation would be allowed, with no building materials or trash permitted. The department last year emphasized that the waiver only applies to non-commercial yard waste, and that the permit does *not* include land clearing material. Dirt-encrusted roots and stumps, as well as any other debris resulting from clear-cutting, are strictly prohibited and will result in refusal to issue the permit if found during inspection. All debris would then have to be hauled to the mainland at considerable expense to the membership. In order to allow the fire to burn down within a reasonable time, no stumps or trunks greater than six inches in diameter can be accepted.

The tentative plan is for accumulation of materials to be completed by Friday, May 19th, and for the inspection to be performed late that afternoon. The material would be burned on Saturday, May 20th, although no additional material could be accepted that day. The fire will be manned by volunteers, and anyone who contributes burn material is asked to help out on Saturday. We will keep you informed of updates on the web site and in the April Beachcomber.

### HMC Activities Calendar

Tuesday, March 21st

9:30 am, Emergency Preparedness Training

Saturday, April 8th

10:00 am, Monthly Board Meeting

1:00 pm, Finance Committee Meeting

6:00 pm, Boosters potluck

Sunday, April 16th

7:00 am, Special ferry run to island

7:30 am, Easter Sunrise Service

### Helicopter Operations

Occasionally island residents have had guests land personal helicopters on the playground. While the area is designated as a landing zone for Airlift Northwest medical flights, members are reminded that HMC Rule E-2 prohibits the operation of motor vehicles on playfields. The board has interpreted this rule as applying to private helicopters as well as land vehicles.

### Crime Report

Over the past several weeks, the following incidents have occurred:

- The newspaper box was pried open and damaged.
- Trash was dumped at the North Beach and island ferry dock.
- Items were stolen from a car at the North Beach.
- A dinghy was set adrift from the North Beach.

It only takes a few individuals to commit such antisocial or outright criminal acts and spoil the island atmosphere for the rest of us. If you observe such behavior, please report it to the office.

### Motorcycle Parking

Two small motorcycles were recently parked inside the island ferry dock shelter. Please remember that the shelter was built by volunteers for the use of school kids and other passengers only.

## **Notice of Special Membership Meeting of HMC Management**

**Notice is hereby given pursuant to Article 4 of the Bylaws of HMC Management that a special meeting of the membership will be held on Saturday, April 8, 2006 at the hour of 12:00 Noon at the HMC Community Building. At the meeting, one (1) ballot proposal described below which has been set before the members by action of the Board of Directors will be voted on.**

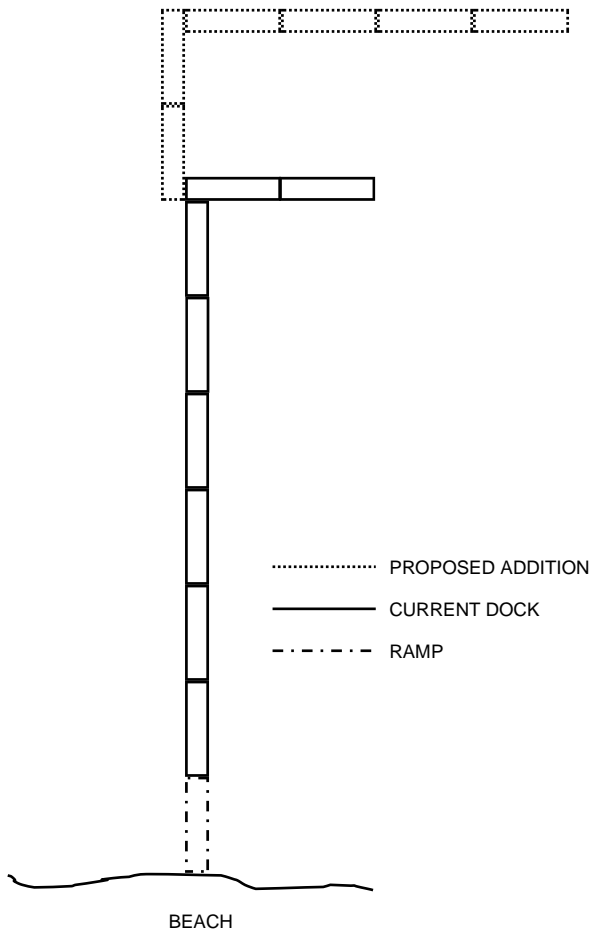
**Members may vote in person at the meeting or by mailing or delivering the enclosed absentee ballot to the HMC Office so that it is received prior to the time of the meeting. *Ballots will not be counted unless your name and signature appear on the large envelope.***

**1. Pursuant to Paragraph 2.1.3 of the Bylaws of HMC Management, the Board of Directors has proposed that a special assessment of \$100 per assessable unit, due and payable June 1, 2006 and to be applied to the cost of expansion of the small boat dock with any excess to be applied to the general fund, be ratified by the membership.**

## Ballot Explanation

The current small boat dock has limited space for mooring and cannot satisfy summer demand. Most of the existing spaces are unusable at low tide. The proposed plan, illustrated in the diagram below, would increase the dock area by almost three quarters and double the number of mooring spaces. The new spaces would be in deep water and would be unaffected by low tide.

Johnston's Docks has provided us with a quote of \$34,543.56 for the job. A special assessment of \$100 per assessable unit will cover this amount, leaving a small surplus to be applied to the general fund.



### Argument in Favor of Proposition 1

The N. Beach Small Boat Docks are in need of expansion to continue years of service to the island membership and their guests. The enhancements will increase usability. Vote for Proposition 1 for the following reasons:

- Maintain and increase the value of this island asset.
- The small boat docks benefit all property owners as an island amenity.
- Project includes more useable space in deeper water using existing pilings.
- Quote from the same company who provided the original small boat dock includes materials, construction, delivery, installation and tax.

Respectfully submitted by The Parks Committee

**Official Ballot and Voting Instructions**  
**Sample Ballot - Use ballot received from USPS for voting.**

1. Vote yes to accept the proposal set forth below. Vote no to reject it.
  
2. Insert your ballot in the envelope marked "Official Ballot" and seal the envelope. Do not put your name on this envelope. Do not place anything other than one Ballot in this envelope.
  
3. Place the small envelope marked "Official Ballot" in the large envelope. **You must sign the large envelope and make sure that your name and address appear on the large envelope. *If your name and signature do not appear on the outside of the large envelope, your vote will not be counted.***
  
4. To be considered a member in good standing and have your vote counted, all delinquent charges and assessments must be paid in full before the Ballots are counted.
  
5. Please make sure that your name is legible on the large envelope. If your name cannot be read, the ballot will not be counted.
  
6. Your absentee Ballot must be received in the HMC Office by 12:00 Noon, Saturday, April 8, 2006 to be counted. If you prefer to vote in person, please attend the meeting. The Ballots will be counted at that time.

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**Proposition No. 1**

(Ratification of Special Assessment)

Shall a special assessment of \$100 per assessable unit, to be applied to the cost of expansion of the small boat dock with any excess funds to be applied to the general fund, and due and payable by June 1, 2006, be ratified by the membership?

**YES** (For Proposition)

**NO** (Against Proposition)

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**BOARD CANDIDATE APPLICATION**

(Please complete and return to HMC office)

**NAME** (as you would like to have it listed on the ballot): \_\_\_\_\_

**YEARS AS A MEMBER OF HMC:** \_\_\_\_\_

**OCCUPATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PROFESSIONAL OR VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION OR TRAINING (after high school):** *Please list up to three degrees, certificates, or other educational achievement.*

School/College	Major	Years Attended
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**HMC EXPERIENCE ON THE BOARD, COMMITTEES OR OTHER ACTIVITIES:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**GOALS:** *Please list goals you would have for HMC and Herron Island during your term on the Board.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CANDIDATE STATEMENT:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Candidate's Signature:* \_\_\_\_\_

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## Seasons of the Deer

### WINTER

(October – March)

- The mating season is called the rut which begins in October and ends in February, with the peak of the rut occurring in November. A buck will find a suitable doe and they will often play chase games at breakneck speeds before mating. The greatest amount of a males' time is devoted to advertising – that is, displaying its dominance. In principle, a courting female performs acts that normally startle or arouse a buck or cause aggression such as sudden bolting - followed by a series of quick turns and running around the male in small circles. The female may twist her head, buck and strike the ground with her front hooves. The male continues to stand rigid, averting his eyes until he drops into a low-stretch courtship. They will remain together for several days.
- Antlers are shed after the breeding season, from mid-December to about mid-April. Both antler beams rarely are shed at the same time.



Black-tail deer, 2 point.  
Source: WDFW, Darrell Pruett.

- Male fawns develop “buttons” (small bumps on the top of the head) at six to eight months of age. Just before the fawn's first birthday, these velvet-covered buttons begin to elongate, growing from bony extensions of the skull.

### SPRING/SUMMER

(April – July)

- When antlers start to grow again in the spring the group of deer breaks up; females goes off by themselves and eventually give birth and nurse their young; males wander in friendly twosomes or small bands throughout the summer months as antlers grow.
- From April (or May) through June, after about a 195 – 212 day gestation period, the doe generally gives birth to one fawn at the first pregnancy and twins thereafter.
- In the spring it is a perfectly natural occurrence to come across a fawn that is seemingly by itself.
- Weight is gained in summer and early autumn.
- Fawns are weaned at the age of 60 – 75 days.

### FALL

(August – September)

- By September these first antlers are fully grown spikes or small, forked antlers with two points.



(Drawing by  
Darrell Pruett.)

- In the fall bucks begin to rub antlers on trees to remove the velvet.
- Breeding occurs in the fall, when bucks fight each other to exhaustion, setting up territories based on domination.
- Weight lost during the autumn and winter is common. Deer feed at all times of day and night.

## More about Antlers...

**Did you know...** antlers are true bone and form beneath a covering of living skin? This skin, called velvet, is complete with hair, a very sensitive nerve network, and blood vessels. When antler growth is complete the velvet dries, shreds, and peels off, leaving the hard, mineralized antler ready for the breeding season.

Each year, the antlers tend to grow in mass and diameter. Older bucks tend to have more antler points than younger bucks, but the number of points is not a reliable indicator of actual age. Antler size and conformation are also expressions of genetics and nutrition, and thus serve to advertise the physical condition of the buck. Bucks generally attain adult-size antlers when they are four to five years of age, but the size and weight of the antlers may continue to increase each year until age ten and then start to decrease with age.

Does tend to select dominant bucks with large antlers for their mates, and this selection enhances the success of bucks with large antlers and contributes to producing bucks with genetic tendencies toward developing large antlers.

**References** “Mule and Black-Tailed Deer of North America – A Wildlife Management Institute Book.” Olof C. Wallmo.

“Living with Wildlife in the Pacific Northwest.” Russell Link – Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.



**Dolphin Avenues  
Presentations**  
Nancy Broege  
PO Box 974 Lakebay WA  
253 229 2007

Join us in celebration at our Herron Island  
2006 Sunrise Easter Service

Catch the 7:00 am special ferry run if you would like to join us!

**Fellowship time: 7:00—7:20 am: Help yourself to coffee & donuts.**  
*Take a few minutes to chat with your neighbor.*

**Service begins at 7:30 am**

**Opening prayer: Dallas Amidon**

**Special reading: Mike Shettlesworth**

**Special message: Harvey Roberts, Lakebay Community Church**

**Special Music & Sing-A-Long**

**Closing prayer: Dallas Amidon**

**All are invited to enjoy hot clam chowder following the service:**  
**compliments of Brigette Vogel**

*Donations accepted to cover the special ferry run  
and other expenses. Thank-you!*

## FREE CLASSIFIED ADS

9 ft. Livingston Boat \$100.00  
8 hp Johnson Recently Serviced Long Shaft \$650  
Please Call 253 884 5023

Save the date! Fifth Annual Kayak Trip from Johnson Point to Herron Island weekend of August 5-6th. Potluck at Merry's the afternoon of the 5th. Information: Merry Kogut 884-8484 or mkogut@lawyer.com. Merry's house is at 22415 So. Herron.

**Moving Sale!** Stereo speakers, DVD player, carpet shampooer, circular saw, twin beds, luggage. Call Ken, 884-2749.

*Non-commercial ads of 50 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.*

# Volunteers Needed

Herron Island Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Team needs **YOU!!**

Our team consists of a group of dedicated volunteers who are working hard to assure that you our neighbors, your homes and pets are safely taken care of during and after a major disaster. Part-time Islanders and renters are welcome.

Our Island Response Teams include:

First Aid  
Needs

Search & Rescue

Sheltering & Special

Safety & Security

Communications

Damage & Assessment

We are equipped with 2-way radios for communication and have weekly radio checks (Wednesday mornings 10AM on Channel 8). Any resident who owns a radio is encouraged to join us or just listen in. We have a limited number of radios we can loan out **if** you would like to volunteer and don't own one. The radios will be loaned on a first come-first serve basis.

We will be giving away the very informative "**Disaster Preparedness Handbook**" along with other literature, at North Beach on Memorial Day weekend. We are also having a garage and bake sale as fundraisers. Please stop by to say "hello" and pick up your handbook.

Most disasters/emergencies strike without warning. Our goal is to be ready when they happen!. With enough volunteers our island will be a safer place to live. **Let's be prepared!**

If you have the desire to help, want additional information, or would just like to sit in on one of our meetings, please call one of the members listed below.

Carole Crowley 884-5288

Mary Turpin 884-3089

Jack or Nancy Wells 884-0850

Mike Shuttlesworth 884-6919

Kathy Deuster or Dana Gruber 884-6898

## Community Garden News:

Many heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who have worked long hours on completing the following projects:

1. **Mulch on pathways:** Tim Jones, Karl Schafer, Carole Crowley, Kathy Deuster, and Dana Gruber.
2. **The 5:1 dirt over growing beds:** Steve Kramer for hauling; spreading by Rick, Heidi and *paperweight* (daughter Flame) Gonzalez, Kathy Deuster, Julie Tyson, Tootsie Duback, Carole Crowley, Dana Gruber, Karl Schafer, Judy Greinke, and Mike Shettlesworth; dollar donations from Denny & Tootsie Duback, Dick and Nella Pugh, Howard & Beth Owens, and the Boosters.
3. **Tree area clean-up:** Karl Schafer, Rick & Heidi Gonzales, Don Greinke, Dana Gruber, and Kathy Deuster.
4. **Shed Extreme Makeover:** Denny Duback and Tim Jones, construction; materials & dollar donations: Denny & Tootsie Duback, Tim Jones, Merry Kogut, and the Boosters.

Minor work still needs to be done on the fiberglass of the greenhouse. A few tables will be built for starter planting inside the greenhouse. *Can anyone contribute wood, potting soil or plastic pot containers?*

Finally, fencing will be installed very shortly. Then the plots will be delineated and assigned, so planting can start by mid April. If anyone wants a 10'x10' plot, please call Dana Gruber at 253-884-6898 immediately.

Dana Gruber  
253-884-6898

### Online Beachcomber

If you wish to read your Beachcomber online at [www.herronisland.org](http://www.herronisland.org) and save HMC the price of paper and postage, please notify the office.

**HERRON ISLAND  
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**WATCH [www.HerronIsland.com](http://www.HerronIsland.com)**  
**New listings coming soon!**

**DALLAS AMIDON**, Resident Island Realtor

Cell: 253-606-0972

Home: 253-884-6166

E-mail: [HerronIsland@hotmail.com](mailto:HerronIsland@hotmail.com)

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WELCOME ALL NEWCOMERS!



Get involved! We need you! It's fun!

# BOOSTERS

# The Beachcomber

HMC MANAGEMENT

P.O. Box 119

Lakebay, WA 98349

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*Inside this issue...*

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