



The Beachcomber



HMC Newsletter

November-December 2007



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

There was a lot of discussion at the November HMC Regular Board Meeting about the options for replacing our water distribution system. Virtually all present accepted the fact that something needs to be done but there were many opinions on how we should proceed. The need for member-side meters, usage sensitive billing, and financing were among the topics discussed along with the options of having an external company build out and operate the system or trying to do it all ourselves. There are many members, however, that might not understand the urgency of upgrading our water distribution system.

Last month I attended a daylong meeting on new State Law regarding municipal and community water systems. The gist of the law is aimed at water conservation and efforts by water system operators to encourage water conservation. On Herron Island we have two wells that currently supply sufficient water for all our members so why do we have to participate in water conservation? Aside from being a new State law passed last February that states we have to, there are good reasons. Our wells do share water aquifers with other communities that are seeing increasing demands. So while we want these other communities to conserve so that they do not draw down the aquifer we use, the State wants all communities to participate so that the burden is equally shared. There are plenty of examples of aquifers being depleted or Island wells seeing salt-water intrusions. On the Island, we will also see increased demand as more homes are built, more properties developed, and more members use their properties more often. Conservation is a needed reality. This is why you see major water suppliers like Seattle, Tacoma, and most all cities participating in efforts to conserve. Now State Law says we all have to. Conservation is needed on both the water suppliers and the water users. Water systems like ours have to create mechanisms to detect leaks or failures in the delivery of water to its members and have plans in place to fix any

defects. Users have to have incentives and mechanisms to detect wasted water (like leaks in the access to the homes or in faucets or toilet tanks) and to minimize waste. That is why all water systems must install and use water meters both on the supply side and the user side. The system must determine leaks in the system by measuring the total water supplied from sources (like our wells) and the total water delivered to its users (from meters at the user delivery point). The difference between what was pumped and what was delivered is wasted water lost due to leaks. The State has set a goal for all water systems to have less than 10% lost water. On the user side, there must be incentives to conserve water and to detect waste due to leaks. That is another reason that meters and usage sensitive billing are being suggested as both fair and encouraging conservation.

The law was passed last February and all smaller water systems like ours have until July 1, 2009 to report how they are going to conserve, implement, and fund the needed elements. Supply side meters are required now, user side meters are required on any new hookup and must be totally implemented in 10 years at the latest. Water systems must establish conservation goals and start reporting to the State on actions to implement them in 2009. Failure to do so could mean the water system might be shut down or financially penalized.

Thus, the Herron Island water system must plan to install and use meters to detect waste and encourage water conservation. Given the condition of our distribution system and the high probability of undetected leaks and waste (without meter data, it is hard to tell), it is imperative we plan a replacement distribution system and install user side meters as part of the replacement. The decisions as how we can fund, implement, and operate the system are what are being looked at by the water committee. Funding should be accomplished in a manner that spreads the cost over all the members over many years. Since the system will be used well into the future, the cost burden should be born by the users in the future as well as the current users. The operations must consider the added burden of data collection, accounting, billing, and reporting along with the systems to create the data. The new system must be well documented and de-

signed to facilitate leak detection, repair, and new hook-ups. The water is going to be a precious commodity and the State is going to regulate all water systems to conserve and protect each other. We as an Island community need to step up the pace of our project as some of the opportunities for replacing our distribution system and operating the water system in light of the new law may not be available in the future or may be more costly. I look forward to recommendations from those studying the alternatives and will report back to you the members very soon. As the recommendations for the top two alternatives get developed, our intent is to have the membership vote to choose the best alternative and then to develop the implementation plan for a final vote of the membership.

Fred Fath
President

Office Closure

The office will be closed for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years.

Reminder

Effective October 1, 2007, your member number must be included on all guest passes presented to the ferry crew. If you do not know your member number, please contact the office. Also, the winter ferry schedule began October 1st.

Bylaws or Rules Changes

If any members have suggestions for changes to the island Bylaws or Rules, please send them to the office.

Ferry Schedule Changes

The New Year's Day schedule will now be the same as that of Thanksgiving Day, with 8:30, 11:30 and 6:30 runs off the island and 9:00, 12:00 and 7:00 returns. The Christmas schedule remains unchanged, with 8:30 and 6:30 runs off the island and 9:00 and 7:00 returns. Also, the September-October Beachcomber incorrectly listed a 2:30-3:00 run on Friday for the winter schedule. The first Friday afternoon run is at 3:30.

Paid Beachcomber Advertisements

HMC Management neither endorses advertisers nor vouches for their being properly licensed.

Parks Committee Meeting

Parks Meeting, January 12th from 8:30 to 9:30 am prior to the Board Meeting at the Community Center to discuss North Beach storage building, South Beach project and 2009 budget.

Welcome, New Islanders!

HMC welcomes the following new members to Herron Island:

- Mark Jelinek and Martha Hale
- Doyle and Rhonda Parnell

Important Phone Numbers**Island Manager**

Doug Allen (253) 884-9350

HMC Board of Trustees

Fred Fath, President/Treasurer (206) 246-7016

Kathy Deuster, Vice-President (253) 884-6898

Janet Podell, Secretary (253) 874-2452

Mike Shettlesworth, Board Member (253) 884-6919

John Dolan, Board Member (253) 884-6570

Additional Responsibilities

Nick Huff, Co-Transportation Chairman (253) 884-4663

Mike Shettlesworth, Co-Transp. Chairman (253) 884-6919

Mike Davis, Water Chairman (253) 884-1423

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

Dick Zottman, Water Field Examiner (253) 884-9071

Scott Schultz, Water Repair (253) 884-3196

Merry Kogut, Rules Chairperson (253) 884-8484

Tracy Anspach, Parks Chairman (253) 588-1921

Allen Moren, Roads Chairman (253) 884-2721

Carole Crowley, Emergency Prep. Chair (253) 884-5288

Kathy Deuster, Land Use Chair (253) 884-6898

Carolyn Snyder, 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.orgManager email: HMCManager@herronisland.orgBeachcomber: 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 November 13, 2007

BUCKNER - OVERLAND (Estate of) - RUCKS -
TITZLER - TCP INC/DON MAUER

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. BLANK GUEST PASSES ARE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS AT THE OFFICE, BY MAIL, AND ON THE FERRY.

Beachcomber news items must be submitted by 5:00 PM on the Wednesday after the monthly Board meeting on the second Saturday of the month. Items **MUST** be emailed in electronic format to beachcomber@herronisland.org. Include your name and phone number in case any questions arise. Paid advertisements are to be arranged with the HMC office **PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.**

Online Beachcomber

If you wish to read your Beachcomber online at www.herronisland.org and save HMC the price of printing and postage, please notify the office.

**HMC Management
Board Meeting Summary
November 10, 2007**

Administration

- The Board decided to add a disclaimer to the advertising sections of the Beachcomber, island Yellow Pages and Website. HMC neither endorses advertisers nor vouches for their being properly licensed.
- In the next Beachcomber the Board will ask the membership for their suggestions on any changes to the Rules and Bylaws.

Information

- A letter went to the County regarding stop signs and the speed limit on Herron Road.
- Fire District 16 has some old, surplus exhaust fans that are available to HMC if they would be a good fit for the building. It was decided that they are not.

Legal

- A letter was sent to Tim Jones, et al, regarding the adjacent HMC property.

Transportation

- The new ferry ramp generator on the island was replaced under warranty.
- Recent information indicates that HMC's ferry captains, and possibly other employees, will have to apply for Federal I.D. cards (TWIC). The Board agreed to cover the enrollment cost and the required personal appearance of each affected person at the TSA enrollment center.
- The Board adopted an updated version of the guest pass.
- The Island Manager had negotiations with Tacoma Diesel and was successful in getting the engine overhaul bill reduced by \$8837.54.
- The Board decided to change the New Year's Day ferry schedule to be the same as on Thanksgiving Day. There will be morning runs at 8:30 – 9:00 AM and 11:30 – 12:00 noon, and an evening run at 6:30 – 7:00 PM.

Water

- Discussions with Peninsula Light Co. continue, as does the work of the Water Committee to gather information relevant to making a decision on what approach to the water project would be best.

Roads

- A gravel delivery by barge has been re-promised by the vendor for late November.
- A member at the south end has done grading work that may cause instability of the road above the property. After a visit to the area by the I.M. and roads maintenance person, a letter of concern was sent to the member.
- The Board discussed the status of Fir Lane. This right-of-way has not been maintained for many years. Now there is some potential for a new house or two there.

HERRON ISLAND WATER SYSTEM UPDATE

The Herron Island water system is approximately 50 years old. The original piping is 4" to 6" asbestos cement piping/PVC. There is not enough capacity to support fire hydrants, except the new one at the reservoir next to the road. We need a new system for the island, 30,000 ft of 6" to 8" water pipe, 41 fire hydrants, and water meters for each residence.

The Water Committee is currently working on the cost for the new system. I have contacted Active Construction for a bid and am waiting for their response. The committee is comparing costs from local systems, cost of water meters, and ways to manage the new system.

The Water Committee is asking everyone for their patience at this time, as we are investigating all your questions, this takes time because we want to be as accurate as possible.

Finally, when leaving the island for more than one day, I am asking you to turn off your water and hot water tanks so if you have a leak, it will save damages to your home and also prevent the loss of water.

*Mike Davis
Water Chairman*

253.884.1423
yukon44@centurytel.net

HERRON ISLAND WATER COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Herron Island Water Committee is to give unbiased information to the Board on options and related costs to replace the water distribution system.

Our diligent efforts to acquire accurate information about all options have been challenging but we have made progress.

1. We learned about many new requirements and compliance deadlines from Washington State. Water conservation is the primary goal for all consumers.
2. We surveyed island members to determine their water service needs.
3. We conferenced with Peninsula Light documenting our questions about costs and services to clarify their bid to Herron Island.
4. We acquired a bid from Active Construction on materials and labor to install a new distribution system keeping ownership with Herron Island. To actually use Active, we need to attain additional estimates on engineering, operation, and maintenance. Requests are being processed at this time.
5. Solutions regarding how to pay for upgrading and retaining our water system remain unsolved. Many believe that utilizing the current method of paying with a special assessment is the best option requiring members to get their own financing if necessary. While others believe finding an island funding option is best although most do not want to encumber HMC in a huge debt. If you have a financial background and can provide assistance in this area, please contact Judy Greinke at 253-857-5463 as soon as possible.

Your water committee's goal is to provide two comparative options with pros and cons on both plans to the HMC Board early in 2008.

WINTER FERRY SCHEDULE (10/1 through 3/31)

| MON | | TUE | | WED | | THUR | | FRI | | SAT | | SUN | |
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| | | | | | | | | 8:30 | 9:00 | | | | |

Thanksgiving and New Years: Lv. Island 8:30, 11:30, 6:30
Lv. Mainland 9:00, 12:00, 7:00

Christmas: Lv. Island 8:30, 6:30
Lv. Mainland 9:00, 7:00

Booster News

The following officers were elected during the October meeting:

- Dana Gruber, President
- Nancy and Jack Wells, Vice Presidents
- Merry Kogut, Secretary
- Kathy Deuster, Treasurer
- Anita Bray, Social Activities
- Nancy Grant and David Franzmann, Clothing Sales

The Community Thanksgiving party was fabulous. The past officers (Mike Shettlesworth, Judy Greinke, Carole Crowley) were thanked for all their contributions and given gift certificates. The big storage cabinet in the Community Center is being installed. This project should be finished soon.

There will be no holiday activities or monthly potluck dinners until next year.

Boosters wish everyone a safe and joyous holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Dana Gruber

Odds and Ends

Carolyn Snyder in the HMC office is a notary public.

There is a "lost and found" basket in the Community Center. Currently, there is a pair of gold rim, male prescription glasses in the basket.

Diesel exhaust really *stinks*! Fire District 16 in Key Center has a sign outside the door stating diesel motor exhaust is harmful to your health! If you are waiting in the ferry line and the inside of your vehicle has gotten warm, please turn off your vehicle's diesel motor.

Notable Items

The new guest pass with the member number and name on the portion that remains on the auto dash (or visible in a guest boat) will soon be available. Please contact the office at 253.884.9350 to get these passes. These new guest passes **must** be used starting January 1st.

If you want to add your service (or remove it) to the Yellow Pages, please contact the HMC office in writing. The HMC address is PO Box 119, Lakebay, WA 98349 or email them at office@herronisland.org. If you want to recommend an off-island business that will come to the island let us know.

If you have any suggestions for Bylaws or Rules changes, please notify the HMC office.

Emergency Preparedness Committee Report November 10, 2007

We met last Tuesday and fine combed our response to power outages, etc.

When we lose our power we plan to go to every home and meet the owner, explain who we are and let them know who to call should they need something but are unable to get it themselves.

Reminder for all members: Check your batteries in flashlights, smoke alarms, check your fire extinguishers, gas and oil supply for generators, and condition of extensions cords. Pen Light has a 72 hour emergency kit for \$37.00 if anyone is interested. It could be a lifesaving present for a family member or friend.

Carole Crowley, Chairperson

FREE CLASSIFIED ADS

2002 Honda quads-2 available. 2 Wheel Drive. Very little usage-like new condition. \$3500 ea. Please contact Jerry @ 253-954-0843

Wanted to Rent: Responsible Adult wishes to rent Herron Island Cabin - \$600 OBO. 206-459-0675

Non-commercial ads of 100 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.

Herron Island Properties

**Herron Island is a year round "retreat".
Less than 1/2 tank of gas and you're on a private ferry taking you
to a private island in the South Sound. You can choose from nice
homes, cabins, and lots. Some have water, power and septic ready
for your RV or to build your little get-away cottage.**

**To view some of the properties, visit my web site
www.herronisland.com to see the pictures and information.
Call me for your visit and I'll show you the island and available
properties.**

**Dallas Amidon
Your Resident Island Realtor**

(Paid Advertisement)

HERRON ISLAND YARD MAINTENANCE

**ALLEN MOREN
253-884-2721
ESTIMATES BY THE YARD**

- *Also works with Tansy**
- *Appliance Disposal**
- *Deck Cleaning**
- *Restaining**

(Paid Advertisement)

*(Note: HMC Management neither endorses advertisers nor
vouches for their being properly licensed.)*

*(This poem was received from former islander Bob Jensen
to honor Wilson Gay, who has also moved off-island)*

My Friend Wilson Gay

There is a place I stayed more than a while.
It wasn't very long - just about a mile.
I called it my home - it was Herron Isle
And one person there always made me smile.

Usually, I'd see him, just after dawn.
He was wide awake and I at mid-yawn.
He and his little dog walked past each lawn
And they did not trouble deer or fawn.

Vitamins, herbs, walks - kept his body fit
While his cheerful spirit kept laugh lines lit.
At times, I did visit. We'd sip and sit.
He shared with me wisdom and his sharp wit.

Memory holds dear my rhodies in May,
Walks where the border of sea and land lay
And a special gentleman - Wilson Gay,
Who wished and gave me many a "good day".

I thank you.

Your friend,
Bob Jensen

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WELCOME ALL NEWCOMERS!



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

BOOSTERS

The Beachcomber

HMC MANAGEMENT

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Lakebay, WA 98349

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Inside this issue...

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