

pedestrian safety

There has been extensive discussion concerning pedestrian safety on our Kala Point roads. Most of the attention has been given to the potential risks imposed by the many vehicles that use our roads every day. The Board has taken action to introduce sheriff patrols on our private roads to ameliorate the risk caused by speeding vehicles. But what about pedestrian responsibility? They should take certain precautions and avoid certain behaviors to improve their safety.

Some pedestrians behave in such a way which can result in injury from attentive drivers in vehicles obeying the speed limit. These include walking with the traffic rather than facing the direction from which the traffic is approaching, wearing dark clothing and walking two or more abreast. These are fundamental safety precautions taught to school children but are often disregarded on our roads.

Our roads, because of the many trees, are often in shadow even during the brightest days. This often makes it difficult to see pedestrians from a moving vehicle.. The passage of drivers from bright patches to shade makes it even more difficult to see pedestrians. The use of light colored clothing can significantly

increase pedestrian visibility. Wearing fluorescent vests in the evening is also beneficial. Walking the roads at night, with little or no light is dangerous and should be avoided or undertaken with extreme caution and pedestrians should carry a lighted flashlight at night to advertise their presence.



Our roads are not well designed for pedestrians because of the traffic we are experiencing, their relative narrowness and the absence of walk-ways. The situation is made more dangerous when pedestrians walk well into the traffic lane and not single file.

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Pedestrian Safety

Continued from front page

There are several maintained trails within the Kala Point community and they should be used for walking exercise rather than the roads. Our roads are considered private

and it certainly is understandable that our members want to walk on them and enjoy our park-like setting. The potential will always exist for a vehicle caused injury.

Perhaps the Board, responsive to their concern over pedestrian safety, should address itself to improving the basic safety of the road design.

There are several behaviors by pedestrians on our roads that can result in injury from attentive drivers in vehicles obeying the speed limit.

Is the construction of paths adjacent to the road feasible? Would identifying a bicycle/pedestrian lane at the edge of the road by painting lines on the road, a common practice in many communities, be possible?

Are the roads wide enough to designate a bicycle/pedestrian lane? If not, how can they be considered safe for pedestrians? A little thought will disclose other safety promoting ideas.

In summary, pedestrian safety is a shared responsibility entailing safe driving practices as well as safe pedestrian actions. We all need to address the safety issues and do our part to ensure there are no vehicle caused injuries on our roads.



Cooks Night Out

King's Wok Buffet

By Don Meister

You've been shopping all day in Silverdale and you are starving! What do you do? Try the King's Wok! The food is amazing with a huge selection. The chefs at King's Wok have been hired from all over China and the food is authentic Cantonese, Szechwan, Hunan and Peking styles.

The menu has a long list of seafood that is offered including sushi, as well as pork, beef, duck, and chicken dishes. They also have chef specialties, combination plates, desserts, and lunch specials which are served with vegetable fried rice.

You have 2 sizes of containers for carry out which you also use if you decide to go through the buffet instead. Just fill up on any combinations you want. What you pay is determined by the weight of the food you can fit into the container. The prices are great! For example, for the **dinner buffet**: it is all you can eat plus a beverage for \$10.30; Mon.-Sat., 4:00 until 9:30 p.m. **Lunch buffet** is also available Mon.-Sat. for only \$6.99 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. **Lunch combos** are \$3.75 to \$4.75. **Sunday buffet** is available all day for only \$9.99. **Takeout prices are:** Lunch, \$3.29/lb.; Dinner, \$3.99/lb.; Seafood, \$6.99/lb. King's Wok is located on Silverdale Way, just south of Ridgetop Blvd by Safeway.

King's Wok Buffet

9960 Silverdale Way Northwest

Silverdale, WA 98383

360- 360-337-2512

kala point theater lovers

by Nita Edgcombe



Attention all you theater lovers! On Saturday, April 12th we are going to the 2 p.m. matinee at the 5th Avenue

Theater to see Cabaret. The decadent world of 1930s Berlin comes to life in this Tony Award-winning musical.

Tickets will be for the Orchestra/Grand Tier section and are offered at approximately \$70 or less. This is a savings of at least \$9.50 or more depending on how many people sign up.

You also need to decide if you want to take advantage of the bus that includes a driver for transportation to and from the show. If we get 30 people, the price for the bus, round trip, will be \$35 per person.

Here is what you need to do:

- ◆ If you want to go to the show AND take the bus you need to send in a \$75 deposit per person.
- ◆ If you only want to go to the show, send in a \$55 deposit per person.
- ◆ If you don't want to go to the show but want to take a fun trip into Seattle, send in a \$20 deposit.

Deposits must be received by February 5th. Send your deposit to Nita Edgcombe at 121 Cedarview Drive, Port Townsend, WA. 98368.

You will be invoiced for the balance due and payment will need to be received by March 15th. The tickets for the show and/or the bus in

non-refundable. If for some reason you cannot go, you are responsible to sell your ticket.

The approximate timetable for the day is: Departure from Kala Point will be around 11:00 a.m., arriving in Seattle at 1:30 p.m. After the show is over, there will be approximately 1½ hours for dinner, departing Seattle at 6:45 p.m., arriving back in Kala Point at around 9:15 p.m. A precise timetable will be provided in March.

If you enjoy going to the show, a musical, or concert, then come join the new Kala Point Theater Lovers! The larger the group, the better the price of the tickets and carpooling is fun and economical. What could be better than going to an event with the ease of having a professional driver at the wheel? We welcome individuals or couples.

Contact Nita Edgcombe at 379-1635 or tupnee9@yahoo.com for questions or to join in on the fun.

classic book club

By Carol Fischbach



The Classics Book Group meets monthly at the Library in Port Hadlock at 2pm on the second Sunday

of each month. **Anna Karenina by Tolstoy** will be discussed at the February 10th meeting. It is a story about the doomed love affair between the sensuous and rebellious Anna and the dashing officer, Count Vronsky. For March, it will be **Light in August by William Faulkner**. It is a story about Joe Christmas who does not know whether he is black or white. Faulkner makes of Joe's tragedy a powerful indictment of racism; at the same time Joe's life is a study of the divided self and becomes a symbol of 20th century man.

a letter to the editors

To the Editors of newSkoop

Subject: The matter of the Juliano Trees.

I was distressed that your 'alternative' paper, which we had hoped would put a less confrontational face on matters, is again taking the low road of misinformation. I would like to correct your suggestion that the Board overturned a decision made by the Tree Committee on a bias toward Mr. Juliano, and based on no applicable APP's or CCR's. Such is absolutely not the case and I hope you will retract this statement in your next publication. Article VIII Section 6 "Appeals" in the CCR's clearly states that, on appeal, the Board shall render its written decision, which written decision shall be binding upon the Architectural (Tree) committees and the Member so appealing its decision. At the Appeal hearing, the Board ruled that the trees specified by Mr. Juliano, not be approved for removal unless there was a material or significant change. The Tree committee should never have ruled again on these same trees, since the CCR's are clear that the Board's decision is final. Mr. Juliano was not able to prove that there had been a significant change so that the decision made by the Board had to be upheld. -Renate Wheeler

Editors Response: Ms. Renate Wheeler states in the first paragraph of her letter the following: *"I was distressed that your 'alternative' paper, which we had hoped would put a less confrontational face on matters, is again taking the low road of misinformation. I would like to correct your suggestion that the Board overturned a decision made by the Tree Committee on a bias toward Mr. Juliano, and based on no applicable APP's or CCR's".*

It seems in recent memory that any dissenting opinion regarding the actions of the Board is considered confrontational and often the false charge of misinformation is used when such is not the case. newSkoop shall continue to question all actions of the Board which are considered contrary to the governing documents.

newSkoop is not disputing the right of the Board to render final decisions regarding appeals even if such a ruling is contrary to the studied position of its own Committees. What newSkoop is contesting is making a ruling which does not uphold a member's right as specified in the CC&R's and using false criteria for doing so.

In accordance with Ms. Wheeler's letter, "the Board ruled that the trees specified by Mr. Juliano, not be approved for removal unless there was a material or significant change". At the time of the ruling there was no governing document, including APP's, imposing that additional restriction on member rights. So the Board sidestepped the appeal issue concerning tree removal by saying in effect that there was no basis for reversing an earlier ruling because newly created arbitrary criteria had not been met. The CC&R's do not impose that additional requirement on the members.

What Ms. Wheeler and the Board fail to recognize is that previous rulings which are not in accordance with the CC&R's, and are actually in direct conflict with a right granted to a member, have no legal basis. In any event, the presence of a 'material change' actually did exist in this case: the Tree Committee found that the trees had grown since the last ruling.

The Board and the Association it directs has no 'governmental' authorities or functions. Its responsibilities are limited to the enforcement of the governing documents and maintaining the Association's commonly held infrastructure. Unlike a governmental agency it does not have the legal right to legislate restrictions on the members which conflict with or are additional to the rights and restrictions delineated by the governing documents. The APP's implement the governing documents but must be in consonance with them. **newSkoop will continue to contest** Association actions which are in conflict with the governing documents.

get fit and have fun

New Exercise Class at Clubhouse: Instructed by Marga Smith

By Nita Edgcombe

Starting January 29th there will be a new exercise class at the clubhouse with Marga Smith as the instructor. The classes will be held



at 10.30 a.m on Tuesdays and Fridays. Cost will be \$5 per class or \$32 for a punch card for 8 classes.

Marga moved to the area in 1977 as a Respiratory Therapist at JGH. She has been in and into the fitness

world since high school. She was a state class athlete in track and field, played softball till she was 45, started playing soccer at 30, learned to ski at 45. Physical activity has and is a huge part of her world. She has been in the fitness industry for 25 years, and started teaching at the Athletic Club in the mid to late 80's, where she is presently.

She has worked as a group instructor teaching Body Pump, Pilates, Stretch, Sr. class, and as a Personal Trainer and had helped with weight loss. She graduated from P.T. School of Massage in 1999 and is presently enrolled at Olympic College working towards a certificate as a Physical Therapy Assistant.

Marga loves teaching people about the body and tries to bring a diverse presentation to classes. She believes fitness has to be fun or it doesn't get done. She also believes in fitness to health and well-being of ourselves. She believes it helps bring a quality of life at any age. It is never too late to promote fitness for ones self.

This class is for ALL different levels and is open for both men and women. Street clothes

are fine but wear sneakers with support. Everyone is welcome to "get Fit and have Fun"!

If you are interested in joining this class, contact Nita Edgcombe at 379-1635 or tupnee9@yahoo.com to sign up.



casino night!

Free Bus Ride to 7 Cedars Casino

by Suz Garthwaite

If you are in the mood for fun and excitement, come join us on February 26th on a trip to the 7 Cedars Casino in Sequim.



Here you can enjoy a delicious dinner in the Salish Room and

if you are feeling lucky some of the games offered include Table Games, Slots, Poker, Keno, and Bingo. While you are here, why not visit the Northwest Native Expressions art gallery that features traditional and contemporary artwork by Northwest Coast Native Americans and other artists.



At 3pm, we will depart from the Clubhouse and take a FREE bus trip to the casino. We will arrive back in Kala Point at approximately 7:45pm.

To sign up for this fun event, call Fun 'n Games: Suz Garthwaite at 344-3361 or Hank Krist at 379-9878. Be sure to state your name and email address so we can email out additional information. The deadline to reserve your seat on the bus is February 12th. Hurry, space is limited!



personal finance

What about the Stock Market and the Economy Now?

By: Hank Krist

Last September, I wrote about the state of the stock market and the economy. In that article, I said that we would probably soon go into a recession, and that it would be deeper and last longer than prior recessions. At the time of the writing of this article (January 22), many analysts are now predicting a recession, and today, the Federal Reserve took the unusual step of meeting between it's regularly scheduled meetings and lowered the fed funds rate by 75 basis points to stimulate the economy. Congress is also considering a fiscal stimulus package of \$150 billion. Both of these measures are intended to prevent a recession.

In spite of the massive amounts of money being pumped into the economy at low interest rates, I'm not convinced that a recession can be prevented. I believe that too much speculation has occurred in all asset classes driving prices to

unsustainable levels, which are still too high. Therefore, unless an investor has discretionary funds available for speculation or has a long-term horizon i.e. 3-5 years, I would recommend a strategy of building liquidity and preserving capital. There are a few sectors of the equity market such as airlines, pharmaceuticals, banks and some tech stocks, which should do well over the long-term, but diversification is important.

The U.S. government and the Federal Reserve will go to great lengths to prevent a recession and/or deflation so interest rates probably have a bit further to fall. As a result, the next few months should be a good time to refinance a house.

While the price of gold as risen dramatically in the past year, I expect it to go much higher this year based upon the inflationary measures taken by the government and the Federal Reserve. Please remember, however, that gold is very volatile and is a high-risk investment.



neighbor-to neighbor classified ads

Misc. for sale: Custom area rugs: green with burgundy trim: 5ft. & 6ft. round, & two - 7' X 9', tv stand, 6ft. oak shelf, 39" square coffee table, 2 oak end tables, brass table lamp, large mirror. **Call if interested 385-6763.**

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Port Townsend, WA 98368
(Kala Point Resident)



walkinghiking club
February Schedule

By Carol Fischbach

Meet on Wednesday's at **Hank Krist's** at **9:00am** at 370 Pinecrest Dr. We will arrange for car pools and give out directions to the trailhead. It is ok to leave your vehicle here. Just keep the garage door clear on the far right hand side. Contact Michael at 385-2041 or michaelkubec@cablespeed.com and Bill at 379-3808 or bkaune@cablespeed.com to be put on the hiking email list or for more information.

Feb 6th - Sandy Shore Lake:

A few miles west of the Hood Canal Bridge is Sandy Shore Lake, a private lake stocked with Rainbow Trout. Ratings: Appeal 2, Difficulty 2, roundtrip distance 4 miles, elevation gain 200 feet, dog friendly. Contact Allen Vaa if you would like to bike - allenvaa@hotmail.com or 536-1822.

Feb 13th - Mount Walker: Ratings: Appeal 2, Difficulty 3, roundtrip distance 5 miles, elevation gain 2000 feet, dog friendly. **Please RSVP &** contact Allen Vaa if you have a suggestion other than Mt. Walker - allenvaa@hotmail.com or 536-1822.

Feb 20th - Bike the Discovery Trail-Sequim:

Bike about 6 miles roundtrip or about 2 hours. Possible lunch at Oak Table in Sequim. Ratings: Appeal 2, Difficulty 1, **Please RSVP:** 536-1822 or allenvaa@hotmail.com.

Feb 27th - Miller Peninsula & Thompson Spit: Special departure time: 11 am so we can hit the low tide and walk on the beach to Thompson Spit. Hike to a beach with an amazing view of Protection Island. Ratings: Appeal 2, Difficulty 2, roundtrip distance 5 miles, elevation gain 360 feet., dog friendly. Contact Allen Vaa if you would like to bike - allenvaa@hotmail.com or 536-1822.

second call for kala point artisans!
Whatever your canvas...

By Joanie Reynolds

Are you passionate about your creative abilities? Would you like to connect with other Kala Point artists? Would you like to sell some of your inspired creations? Thanks to



those who responded to **Kala Point Artists Guild** our 1st call for KP Artisans from the Kala Point Artists Guild. Our goal is to stimulate creativity, exhibit/sell KP artists' creations in a private setting and to foster personal growth as an individual artist and Kala Point neighbor. Our first cooperative event is scheduled for May 24, 2008. We will showcase a diversity of *Affordable Creations in all artistic categories.

Our current lineup includes canvas artists, jewelry artists, photographers, woodworking artist, potter, glass artist, garden artist, candy maker artist, weaver, quilter, writer (cook book), and gift basket creator. Do you or anyone you know make dolls, teddy bears, candles, birdhouses, leather work or perhaps do ceramics? We are open to all creative efforts – including those done by men and women alike.

If you are interested or know of a KP artist who would like to be included, please contact Joanie Reynolds at joaniereynolds@msn.com or 385-1699, but no later than 7pm please. We look forward to seeing your creations!

***Affordable Creations** are a practicality to all artists in our show. The only charge to each artist is \$10.00 for any and all advertisements in newsprint and/or posted flyers in our local communities. There is No Commission paid to the hostess to sell your work.

trip to leavenworth

Special Pricing for Hiking Club

by Allen Vaa

The Kala Point Hiking Club is planning a Spring Get-a-way to Leavenworth. It will be for three nights, June 6th through 8th, at Der Ritterhof (www.derritterhof.com), which is a motel only a couple of blocks from downtown



Leavenworth with suites, single rooms, double rooms, and dog friendly!

Der Ritterhof would be used as a “base camp” to hike,

kayak, fish, golf, bike, shop, tour other areas, etc. It will be loose for people to do what they please.

The first level suite has already been reserved. It has a large living area, dining area, and kitchen. This can be used as the meeting place for activities, group breakfasts, and movies in the evening, coordinated breakfast(s), as well as other meals depending on what everyone would like to do. There is also an outdoor BBQ and large picnic area off of the first floor suite for outdoor activities.

A block of rooms is being held for us at a special rate until March 4th. After that they will be released to the public.

Listed below are the rates for the rooms that are being held for our group:

Single Queen:

Fri & Sat = \$86 per night,
Sun rate = \$75
(reg \$94 per night)

Double Queen:

Fri & Sat = \$94 per night,
Sun rate = \$75
(reg \$104 per night)

Family Suites:

Fri & Sat = \$117 per night,
Sun rate = \$75
(reg \$126 per night)

An extra person is \$8, based on double occupancy. Dogs are welcome and are only \$10 per pet per night. There is a 72 hour cancellation notice without penalty.

To make a reservation, call 1-800-255-5845 and identify yourself as being with the Kala Point Hiking Club. When you make your reservation, please let me know so that a master list can be developed for the notices that will be sent out to participants with additional information. Several people have already booked their room.

Come and enjoy the wide variety of activities and camaraderie! For more information, contact Allen Vaa at 536-1822 or allenvaa@hotmail.com.



Some of the many activities available in the Leavenworth area.

kala point owners' association financial review

The KPOA 2007 financial review prepared and disseminated in support of the 14 December 2007 Budget Ratification Meeting was very well done with respect to the actual 2007 and the forecast 2008 operating budget. Our new Chief Financial Officer, the Finance Committee and our Operations and Office Managers are to be commended for a job well done. With assessments necessarily increasing every year just to support operations it is essential that the Association's members be kept well informed about its finances.

There are still some questions unanswered with respect to keeping the members knowledgeable concerning the Reserve expenditures and funds. This is an important component of our annual assessment amounting to over 28% of the total assessment for 2008. The report states "the reserves allocation has increased this year and may increase further in the future".

Several months ago it was commonly rumored that the reserve fund was under funded by over one million dollars. This figure was supposedly based on a reserve study authorized by the Board and accomplished by an outside organization. The basis/rationale for the results of that study, if it occurred, were never disseminated in useful detail to the members. As stated in the financial report, maintaining our roads is a major component of our common infrastructure reserve needs. It was also stated that an engineering study of the condition of our roads was completed at a cost of \$16,700 and the results of that study were never released to the members.

The financial report now states "our reserves' picture looks much better than

originally reported." The question is how much better and why? The members deserve more information than just a conclusion. The past year found it necessary to repair Kala Point Drive's first three quarters mile. It is anticipated that a major part of the \$107,987 cost of asphalt repair accomplished in 2007 was used for Kala Point Drive.

What about the other almost seven miles of road? The amount of \$700,000 to go seems an appropriate estimate of projected road repair funding during the next few years. While Kala Point Drive was built to a County 30 Year Road Standard, as required by

the County, what standard was used for the other roads? Were they built to lesser standards and if so will they deteriorate faster than Kala Point Drive? Roads reportedly account for only about one-half of our reserve needs!

It should not be misconstrued that it is being implied that the statements in the 2007 Financial Report regarding reserve funding are incorrect or misleading or that there is even a suspicion of such practices. But since reserves are a significant portion of our 2008 assessment and may increase in the future, it is suggested that making the supporting information available to the members is the right action to take.

Considering the rumors which are circulating and the resulting confusion arising out of the sequence of summary information given to the members, wouldn't it be a good idea to provide the members with complete information pertaining to reserves: their calculation, status and projection?

There are still some questions unanswered with respect to keeping the members knowledgeable concerning the Reserve expenditures and funds.

the new bluff management advisory committee

By Bill Kaune

Decisions regarding the management of trees and views on the Kala Point bluff common area have been controversial during the last few years. In response to this problem, and because of increasing concerns about the stability of the bluff, our Board of Directors established a Bluff Ad Hoc Committee in 2004 that prepared a report published in 2005. A second committee was then formed to develop a Bluff Management Plan (the Plan) that set out procedures and standards for making decisions regarding bluff vegetation. Our Board approved the Plan in December 2007 and established the Bluff Management Advisory Committee (BMAC) to implement it.

All members of Kala Point own the bluff common area jointly. Management of the bluff, including vegetation thereon, is the responsibility of our Board of Directors. The Board has formed BMAC to help it make decisions that reflect our CC&Rs, the Bluff Management Plan, concerns for both view maintenance and bluff stability, and the interests of members.

The purpose of BMAC is to receive tree/view action proposals from Kala Point members and to make consistent standards-based recommendations regarding these proposals to the Board. Final decisions regarding the disposition of such proposals will be made by the Board. Following the Plan, the bluff will be divided into "South", "Central", and "North" sectors. BMAC will concentrate on one sector each year, starting with the South sector in 2008. Members may submit proposals for tree/view actions in the appropriate bluff sector during February and March of each year. (Forms for this purpose can be obtained at the Administration Building.)

During April, the BMAC will develop draft written recommendations that will be circulated among members. The process BMAC uses to arrive at these recommendations will be fully documented and will be open for review by all interested members. During May and June, the BMAC will solicit comments from all interested Kala Point members. Based on these comments and ensuing discussions and negotiations, BMAC will develop and deliver its final recommendations to the Board.

During July, August, and September, the Board will publicize these recommendations, will hold public meetings where members may comment, will hold additional hearings to resolve contested recommendations, and will then make a final decision. During the remainder of the year, BMAC will implement the Board's final decision by hiring and supervising contractors to perform the approved work, and BMAC will deal directly with Jefferson County authorities as needed. (These actions will relieve members of this burden.) BMAC will also fully document all such actions and will place these documents in files for future reference.

The goal of our Board and BMAC is to have as fully open and transparent a process as feasible for making bluff vegetation decisions. The Bluff Management Plan establishes standards and procedures for making vegetation decisions. BMAC will document the process used in making a recommendation regarding each bluff proposal received from members and will explain in writing the basis for each decision.

Voting members of BMAC are: Tony Costa (Vice Chair), Jean Erreca, Bill Kaune (Chair), Ray Miller, Jim Newman, Dwight Oberholtzer, Golda Posey (Secretary), Fred Weinmann, and Renata Wheeler. The two nonvoting Board members are Winnie MacNair and Lane Stuart. Keith Larson, our Operations Manager, will also participate as a nonvoting member of BMAC.

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- having fun in kala point:*
- ◆ get FIT and have FUN at Clubhouse!
 - ◆ Free Bus to 7 Cedars Casino Feb 26th
 - ◆ Theater Lovers To See Cabaret April 12th
 - ◆ Kala Point Artist Guild plans event May 24th
 - ◆ Special Pricing for Leavenworth Trip June 6th

newskoop

kala point cooperative news

chimney fire on windship drive

By Hank Krist

Last month a homeowner on Windship had quite a scare when discovering they had a chimney fire. More and more of us are relying upon wood burning systems to heat our homes as heating costs continue to rise. Limited wood burning use, rather than daily-extended operation as the main source of heating a home, can actually increase the risk of a roaring chimney fire. Often owners don't arrange for the recommended annual inspection and cleaning because they think occasional use, or burning small fires, accumulates less creosote.

Actually there are so many factors affecting the dangerous build-up that an annual inspection is the only safe and sure way to be certain, unless you have not used the chimney and have no intention of doing so. Remember, a professional chimney

sweep looks after more than just soot removal. There is also a careful inspection for leaks, failing components, bad seals, and dangerous blockages (like bird, bee or raccoon nests) that can fatally block the discharge of carbon monoxide and provide added fuel for chimney fires.

Creosote builds up on the chimney interior for many reasons. A number of factors all contribute to "chimney health" and determine service requirements.

An annual inspection, however, is a must to assure safety. Having your chimney professionally cleaned and inspected is recommended at least every other year. See ad on page 11.



Fire truck coming into Kala Point