



Kala Point News & Views

February 2010

Serving our Community with Information

a state of the community message

A long-time member of the Kala Point community recently took stock and offers the following thoughts about the Kala Point News and Views and the community which it serves.

The KPNV, as an unofficial newsletter, performs an important role for the community. It is unencumbered by being the official spokesman of the prevailing establishment, which is the assigned function of the Kala Pointer. The Kala Pointer is limited to the information that the Association wants to release to its members. KPNV is free to disclose information that is not made readily available to the members and voice opposition to Association actions which are contrary to the governing documents or not beneficial to all or segments of the members.

Today's environment includes disregard of the governing documents to promote and further certain agendas. There is a continuing lack of ready access to useful information concerning actions of the Association, if such information even exists, and rarely there is an explanation of why. Has anyone else noted that the Kala Pointer now has either a President's message or Secretary's report but not both, contrary to the practices of past Boards? Is this because there is little going on or a manifestation of closed governance? Many members do not attend Board and Committee meetings, for valid reasons, to observe their dynamics and hear firsthand the discussions leading up to decisions. Is there ever dissent within the Board or Committees or do they operate as a mindless entity? It seems disclosure of the dynamics involving significant decisions would be of interest to the members and allow them to perhaps better understand their governance and the beliefs of the people responsible for those decisions. The Kala Pointer does not accept articles from members concerning the Association or present opposing views. Our community's unofficial newsletter, KPNV, attempts to keep the members informed and does provide a forum for presenting opposition positions and even the occasional "well done".

The Association establishment does not deal fairly with members who voice opposition. There have been instances when the Board has decided a member volunteering for a

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Managing Editors:

Jay Burcham
Don Meister

Contributing writers include other named and unnamed individuals, all owners within the community, expressing their own viewpoints in this forum. Articles without a byline are presented by the editorial staff.

Please feel free to participate in any way, from submitting articles and/or opinions to volunteering in some capacity. Thanks and we look forward to your input. Email us at contact@ttnnewsletter.com.

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committee position required special scrutiny because they were “guilty” of having the audacity to write articles questioning actions of the Board. The volunteers singled out withdrew their offer of support and the Association lost their services. Who was the “winner”? It has not been uncommon for certain members to label dissenters insurgents despite its connotation in today’s world. What has happened to the America that used to be when Freedom of Speech was considered an

What has happened to the America that used to be when Freedom of Speech was considered an inalienable right and opposing views were at least treated with respect and given some consideration?

inalienable right and opposing views were at least treated with respect and given some consideration? Is there a correlation between a disinterested and/or uninformed electorate and a disappearance of common values?

The Association, through the actions of the Board and an ad hoc committee, returned the Association to a General Manager form of organization.

This was a notable, perhaps the most important, achievement of the Association in recent years. The good performance of Keith, as General Manager, and the personnel under his management, is a testament to the value of that decision by the Board. The challenge now is for the Board, operating as a whole, to provide policy guidance but then let Keith do his job without indi-

vidual Board members looking over his shoulder. Keith is proving to be the most significant source of information to the members that emanates from the Kala Pointer. If only we had the same level of information from the Board.

The Kala Point community is blessed with an outstanding aesthetic environment.

Part of the community has the potential for magnificent marine views. The other part of the community enjoys home sites situated in a wooded area dominated by towering conifers. These surroundings and a moderate climate make Kala Point one of the best locations in the world to establish a home if only the natural attributes are considered. Another important consideration though is governance. Kala Point has comprehensive, well thought out and documented governing documents which are supposed to protect the individual homeowners in a fair and consistent way while also protecting the community as a whole.

Unfortunately, the documents which are supposed to protect each member have been consistently and imaginatively interpreted to meet the agendas of activist groups within our community to the detriment of the rights of individual members. It is a case of practicing the power of eminent domain by an association which does not have that power, a power reserved for government entities. The activists prevail and will continue to do so unless one of two actions occurs: 1. A member, or group of members, with deep pockets, will sue the Association to attain a right which has been denied. 2. Members will come forward, including that significant majority of members who are indifferent to the course of prevailing governance, and say “return to the intent of the governing documents”. Indifference results in the governance deserved!

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Some summary thoughts regarding the State of the Community:

◆ The majority of the community wants to be left alone and is indifferent to the actions of the Association because they have yet to be affected negatively. This results in a politically weak community. When a member is adversely affected they will find it is too late, no recourse is available in a weak, disinterested community.

◆ The governance of the Association is controlled by agenda driven activists and their followers. The Association does not respond to the voices of significant minorities. Compromise is not in the lexicon of the activists.

◆ There is apparently no dissent from individual Board Directors to decisions contrary to the governing documents despite the fact they campaigned that they would comply with the governing documents.

◆ The intent and content of the governing documents are ignored when convenient by the Board's Directors whose basic responsibility is to enforce those documents.

◆ Piling on bureaucratic documents and procedures does not counter the member's rights provided by the governing documents. However, bureaucracy is a powerful means of obscuring the taking of rights from the unsuspecting.

◆ Opposition to Association actions is termed insurrection. There is no acceptance that opposing views may

have merit and should at least be considered.

◆ The status/planning for reserve funding and its adequacy and application remains a concern. The common concept of reserve is not being provided for. Reserve funding seems to be funded only in the amount to meet the next year's planned utilization with no meaningful provision for following years. There is no reserve for the unexpected.

◆ The community is unable or unwilling to embrace the concept of having both view and wooded home site areas and insist that each have unique property rights that should be protected.



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from michelle at evergreen fitness center

Commandment #6: Thou shall drink alcohol in moderation.

Alcohol use: Why moderation is key

Can alcohol benefit your health? It depends on how much you drink.

You've likely heard to drink in moderation, but what does that mean? And why is moderation important?

Moderate alcohol use seems to offer some health benefits, particularly for the heart. But too much alcohol raises the stakes, putting you at risk of adverse health consequences.

Whether you drink is up to you and your doctor. But here are some points on alcohol consumption to consider.

What is moderation?

Moderate drinking is defined as two drinks a day if you're a male 65 and younger, or one drink a day if you're a female or a male 66 and older. A drink is defined as 12 ounces (355 milliliters) of beer, 5 ounces (148 milliliters) of wine or 1.5 ounces (44 milliliters) of 80-proof distilled spirits. Moderate alcohol consumption may provide some health benefits. It may:

- Reduce your risk of developing heart disease
- Reduce your risk of dying of a heart attack
- Possibly reduce your risk of strokes, particularly ischemic strokes
 - Lower your risk of gallstones
 - Possibly reduce your risk of diabetes

Who shouldn't drink alcohol?

People with certain health conditions shouldn't drink any alcohol, as even small amounts could cause problems. Don't drink alcohol if you have:

- A history of hemorrhagic stroke
- Liver disease
- Pancreatic disease
- Evidence of precancerous changes in the esophagus, larynx, pharynx or mouth

If you have a family history of alcoholism, be particularly cautious when it comes to drinking, as you're at higher risk of alcoholism. And if you're pregnant, avoid alcohol entirely because of the health risks for your unborn baby.

Also, alcohol interacts with many common prescription and over-the-counter medications.

Check with your doctor if you take:

- Antibiotics
- Anticoagulants
- Antidepressants
- Diabetes medications
- Antihistamines
- Anti-seizure medications
- Beta blockers
- Pain relievers
- Sleeping pills

If you combine alcohol with aspirin, you face an increased risk of gastrointestinal bleeding. And if you use alcohol and acetaminophen, you increase your risk of liver damage. In fact, the Food and Drug Administration requires all over-the-counter pain relievers and fever reducers to carry a warning label advising those who

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consume three or more drinks a day to consult with their doctors before using the drug.

Risks of excessive drinking

Though moderate alcohol use seems to have some health benefits, anything more than moderate drinking can negate any potential benefits. Be cautious because excessive alcohol consumption can lead to serious health problems, including:

- Cancer of the pancreas, mouth, pharynx, larynx, esophagus and liver, as well as breast cancer
- Pancreatitis, especially in people with high levels of triglycerides in their blood
- Sudden death in people with cardiovascular disease
- Heart muscle damage; leading to heart failure
- Stroke
- High blood pressure
- Cirrhosis of the liver
- Fetal alcohol syndrome in an unborn child, including impaired growth and nervous system development
- Injuries due to impaired motor skills

Moderation, I believe, holds true for most things in life; food intake, exposure to the sun, yes, even exercise (ouch that hurt). Moderation may mean different things for different people according to your current health. If you are unsure, ask your physician. If I can be of any assistance in helping you get more information on this topic or other articles I have submitted, please give me a call at 360-385-3036, or email: evergreenfitness@qwestoffice.net or stop in at Evergreen Fitness Center...we're just around the corner! Michelle West

chamber music society of port townsend

Saturday, February 27, 2010 at 2:00PM the Chamber Music Society of Port Townsend under the direction of William Doppmann, a



distinguished pianist and composer, will present: music of Rameau, Bartok,

Britten. Saint Saens and Poulenc performed by Jeff Rathbun, Principal Oboe the Cleveland Orchestra, previously a member of the Atlanta, San Francisco, Oakland and Honolulu symphony orchestras; Charles Ullery, Principal Bassoon the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra; and Walter Gray, cellist and soloist with the Seattle Symphony. This concert will have special appeal for chamber music lovers as the program features works for two instruments not usually associated with the chamber music repertoire: the oboe and bassoon. Additional information about the performers is available at our website at www.chambermusicsocietyofporttownsend.org, and this event is also listed on the ptguide.com website.

Tickets are \$25 each and available on line from Brown Paper Tickets or by calling 360-385-4599. Our last concert was sold out, so be sure to order your tickets early. All concerts are held at the Quimper Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall in Port Townsend, 2333 San Juan Avenue, Port Townsend which provides the intimate setting important for chamber music as well as an outstanding Steinway concert grand piano. We look forward to sharing this exciting program with you.

Letters to the editor:

Kala Point Survey Results

I read the monthly Kala Point News & Views with interest and have a question regarding the survey which you reported in the last issue. I was one of the respondents to the survey, so I wonder how many surveys you sent to residents and how many were answered and returned to you. I am curious to know what percentage of Kala Point residents responded so I can get a sense of how well the survey results represent the views of the Kala Point residents in general.

I appreciate your efforts to bring the Tree Committee and the Board to task for not representing the wishes and the preferences of the majority of Kala Point residents. I look forward to reading your publication each month and draw some hope for being able to do something about the gradual loss of the beautiful ocean view from my house...

I appreciate all that you're doing and hope that these efforts might bring some change in current policies and practices. Thank you

Editorial Response:

Thanks for your email. We received several comments and questions regarding the survey. The survey was sent to all of the recipients of the newsletter. Most of the replies were from the estimated 35% of the members who have potential marine views. That percentage is a really rough estimate! We received just over 60 surveys. With just over 600 voting units in Kala Point, that would represent about 10% of the membership that responded and almost 30% of the approximate 210 members that have potential views.

The CC&R's are supposed to give you protection with respect to preservation of your

view: to the greatest extent reasonably practicable.

We suggest you try to get the tree removed or at least altered sufficiently to not inhibit your view. While the agenda of the Tree Committee continues to preserve trees rather than complying with the word and obvious intent of the CC&R's we direct your attention to the following sections of the CC&R's:

Article IV Property Rights, B. Uniform General Requirements:

Section 4. Fences - No fence, wall or hedge shall unreasonably restrict or block the view from any adjoining lot.

Section 9.View - All owners shall restrict the height of improvements constructed on their properties and the height of planted trees and vegetation growing thereon to the end that the view of other owners within the Project **shall be preserved to the greatest extent reasonably practicable.**

The complete text for the above sections can be found on page 7 of the CC&R's and found on the Kala Point web site within the owner's section under governing documents.

practicable:
Definition: Capable of being effected, done, or put into practice; feasible.

Where the CC & R ' s references "owners", we are ALL owners, so this protection includes common areas as well.

Even if the Tree Committee should not approve your request you will know that you are joining other members who have been abused by the special interests and who have taken the time to register a protest. Maybe collectively the protests over time will result in some changes.

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Kala Point News & Views



kala point hiking club

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Our mild climate in the Pacific Northwest allows hiking as an activity that can be enjoyed all year long. This is the time of year when we enjoy the "River Hikes" where the trail follows the lowland rivers with spectacular river and waterfall views.

If you would like to be put on the hiking email list to receive hiking schedules and information, contact Allen Vaa at allenvaa@hotmail.com.

Hikes are usually on Wed. at 9am but longer hikes can start at 8am so you will need to check for different start times.



A recent hike on Lower Big Quilcene River Trail in the Olympic National Forest