



To The Point

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contact@TTPnewsletter.com

Published independently by Kala Point Residents for Kala Point

A Smattering of History

By Judith M. Lewis

Neighbors, I am sure by now you have heard that I am moving away from Kala Point at the end of April. I will miss my good friends here and in other parts of Washington and the wonderful mountain views.

Many of you have been reading my writing now for over five years. I appreciate the many notes and verbal comments I have received regarding our efforts with the Kala Pointer and To The Point.

It might be interesting to walk down memory lane on how this all came about. The Kala Pointer was originated by a long time Kala Point resident named Audrey McConachie. She diligently produced the newsletter for nine years or more. Then she turned the reins over to a series of editors each of whom published the newsletter for a stint from six months to a year.

Then, toward the end of 1999, when the then Kala Pointer editor, Kathy Shumate, felt she could no longer continue with the publication, it was announced that if a new editor was not found by December, 1999, the paper would discontinue.

As a retired editor/journalist, I agreed to take on the task. The committee (I was told) was much smaller than it had been over the previous years, but it seemed big enough. They were very good workers and really understood what the term "deadline" meant. I was quite amazed. I had professional writers and journalists who worked for me that never did seem to learn that lesson.

When a command was made by the board president (of the time) in April, 2002, that he be given three days after the publication was finished to censor the content of the newsletter, I, and most of the committee moved into a more independent status by producing To The Point.

Continued on page 2

Community Goodwill & Teen Services

This newsletter is offering:

FREE ADVERTISING for any KP member offering volunteer services to help another KP member or any KP teen advertising oneself for hire. A few examples would be a teen who would like to pet sit, mow the lawn or computer lessons. Other examples are a neighbor donating ones time to someone temporarily laid-up or immobile. Please email or write us with your ad up to 4 lines.



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Swiftly Speaking

View Preservation Upheld

By Editorial Staff

Homeowners who attended the Tacker’s tree appeal hearing on February 7 had reason to be encouraged. The Board listened very carefully to Dr. Tacker’s well presented arguments. There was a capacity crowd present for the meeting, which lasted more than two hours. Everybody who wanted to comment was given the opportunity to be heard. Board President John Snyder was very diligent in keeping everybody to the three minute rule. All sides of the issue were heard. There was much discussion about trees, protecting the bluffs, and wildlife.

The meeting was orderly and well conducted. The appeal hearing, as required by governing documents, was held in open session so all members could attend. Most of those who attended appeared satisfied with the board’s decision.

Regardless of one’s point of view in the Tacker appeal, there was reason to be pleased. Diverse opinions were listened to with respect. The tone, and the manner of the meeting was positive, and gives us reason to have optimistic expectations regarding future homeowner meetings.

The board, on appeal, decided to base their decision not upon some members’ current opin-

ion about “sufficiency” of another member’s current view, but rather upon the governing document’s contractual member rights to preserve views.

A Smattering of History Continued from page 1

Even though there has been controversy, we have accomplished many changes. It now looks like there is a new era of cooperation evolving between the governing neighbors and those they govern. This is good news for us all.

Something that might surprise most of you, most of what you have been reading in To The Point over the last six months was written by others. Knowing this move was in the offing, we set about to get everyone involved in the editorial committee up to speed to effectively take over To The Point. As of the February issue, it was produced and written totally without my input.

Frankly, I think the committee is doing a great job. I am pleased to be able to turn this independent resource for information into such capable hands.

We will have another couple months here. I will try to get around to say good-bye to our friends. I wish you all and the Kala Point community a bright and friendly future. Judie Lewis

Mabel Campbell, GRI

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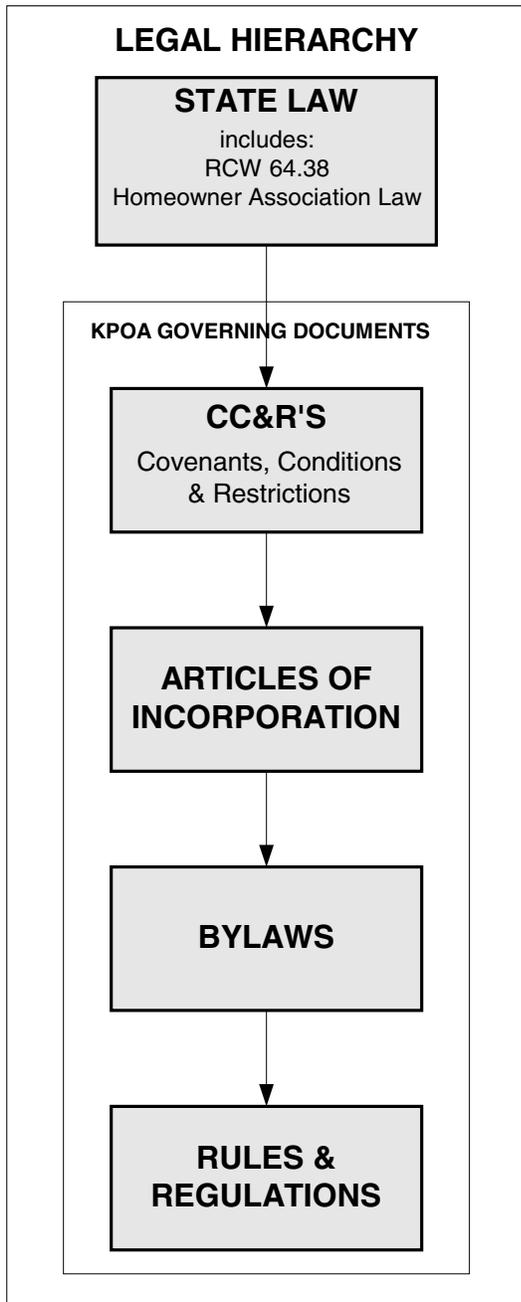


To The Point Staff

To The Point is produced for Kala Point by a volunteer group of Kala Point residents interested in the well-being of our community and the individual interests of the residents. If you are interested in participating with this group or would like to express an opinion on a Kala Point issue, you are welcome to contact us. Article and/or letter writers may request anonymity, but the editorial staff must know who you are so we know that what is expressed is from a resident of Kala Point.

Understanding Our Governing Documents

Before delving deeply into the specifics of our CC&R's, we first need to understand the basic hierarchy of our governing documents. Below is a flow chart of our governing documents. You may want to keep this chart handy for future reference as we will refer to it from time to time during this series. This will be a helpful reference on this topic.



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All of our governing documents are located on our web site: kalapoint.org. Click on the “Members Only” link on the left side on the page. A box will pop up titled “Enter Network Password” and you will need to enter a User Name & Password provided to you by the KPOA Office and then select “OK”. You will then be at the Members Only Main Page. Here you will click on “Governing Documents” link located on the left side. This will bring you to the Governing Documents Main Page.

Once at the Governing Document Main Page you will see all of our governing documents listed.

The first item listed is: **Revised Code of Washington Chapter 64.38 - Homeowners’ Associations**. Although the layman does not automatically think of this as part of our Governing Documents, it is actually at the top of the hierarchy under the **State Law** box.

In 1995, the Washington State Legislature recognized that there was no statutory law that specifically addressed the organization, management, and powers of homeowners’ associations. **RCW 64.38** was passed to address these issues. The intent is to provide consistent laws regarding the formation and legal administration of homeowners’ associations. **RCW 64.38** was created because there was no specific law in the State of Washington on legal administration of a Homeowners Association. It is only 5 pages long. This is a good place for you to start if you want to do some homework in preparation for this on-going series.

Anti-Virus for your Computer

By Pete Juliano

In this article I would like to talk about Anti-virus Software, but with a twist. Anti-Virus is but one element in protecting your computer against viruses and hackers.

First let us talk about what is anti-virus, what does it do and how effective is it. For some unknown reason there are many in cyberspace who delight in creating software that when it gets loaded on to your computer causes a variety of problems. Many times this occurs without you knowing that it happened. Viruses can be so deadly that they can wipe out your hard drive or render your computer useless. Others take over your machine and send pornographic material to everyone in your address book. So it can be nasty! Anti-virus is intended to prevent this.

Just how does anti-virus work? Think of it as being comprised of two pieces. The first is a detector which spots the virus coming in based on a set of virus definitions. The second is software that after detection typically causes the virus to be either neutralized, quarantined or deleted. This is the action part of the anti-virus.

When you purchase the software (usually on a subscription basis) you are buying these two pieces. A feature of the anti-virus software is that during the term of the subscription it can be updated via the Internet. The updates usually are of the definition part. But many times based on the severity of the virus, it may also require an update of the action part. Here is a common mistake -- an individual will buy a subscription and after expiration does not renew. One can continue to get updates thinking it is still active. Wrong! What you are getting is the new definitions but not the changes required to act on the new definitions. So you will get a virus! That is how the anti-virus companies continue to make money! Now how effective are the anti-virus software products? You can go to the following URL and get a

feel for how good they are:
www.av-comparatives.org

You might be surprised at the results! So it pays to shop. Without boring you with the math details if one anti-virus is 99% effective and one is 96% effective, what does that mean? On a per million opportunity basis 99% means 10,000 viruses will slip through the process and 96% means 40,000 will slip through. If the anti-virus companies were quality oriented and had what is called six sigma processes then only 3.4 viruses per million opportunities would slip through. I know which one I would buy!

Now to the other two pieces. We as computer users need to think about hackers who try to get into our machines. For those of us who are on cable we are always connected to the Internet -- even when you are not Surfing the net your machine is connected. Without some sort of software or hardware called a firewall between your machine and the Internet, hackers will be in your machine and looking over everything you have stored on the machine. Social Security Numbers and Credit Card Numbers are especially vulnerable. Other software called Spyware can even tell the hackers what sites you visit, how often and what you are buying. So having the firewall is also a critical component. I have both hardware and software firewalls on my machine. With the hardware firewall I am able to look at how many unauthorized attempts on my machine are made on a daily basis --typically over 100 per day.

Thus one should not just purchase anti-virus software but Internet Security software that has both an Anti-virus and Firewall component. Many of the offerings have added bonus features such as anti-spam, pop up blockers, & content filters.

The third piece is you! Yes one has to think about what is stored on the machine and to back up critical information. I can't stress enough that identification information such as SSN's or Credit Card Numbers should not be stored on your computer. You are just asking for trouble. Keep in mind too that the anti-virus software is not six sigma and so even though you are protected for the

majority of viruses there is a small probability it will happen. When you find a virus on the machine that is not the time to think about backing up the photo files!

So think in bigger terms! Get a good anti-virus and firewall program, keep it current, back up your files and never store identification information on your computer. Set your Internet security programs for daily updates and scan your computer regularly to assure no viruses have been put on the machine.

Board Meeting February Highlights

By Patsy Mathys

Rules and Regulations: John Snyder, Board President stated at February's board meeting that our Rules and Regulations (abbreviated as "R&R" in this article), per our CC&R definition, "applies only to common area" (beach, roads, etc.). For some unknown reason, some restrictions on "covered property" (includes all privately-owned property) have improperly been added to our R&R. John Snyder further explained that "a significant portion of the (our current) Rules and Regulations deal with covered property. There is a significant amount of our (current) Rules and Regulations which technically are in violation of our CC&R's."

To solve this legal violation, the board discussed initiating a resolution for membership vote at July's annual meeting changing the R&R definition to include all property "within Kala Point's gate" (by changing our CC&R definition from common area to covered property).

Issues: Presently, most new rules concerning private property must be voted upon by the membership as a CC&R change. However, the board's current resolution suggestion would take away this decision making from the membership and give it to the board (with no required membership input or vote). If approved, the board could make new rules, such as disallowing

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fireplace burning on personal property, without a membership vote. This crucial topic will be discussed at March's board meeting and be reported in upcoming To the Point publications.

Board Vacancies: The methodology to fill board vacancies was also a February board topic. Currently, if a board member resigns, the board fills this vacancy. As discussed at January's board meeting, each board vacancy filled over the past two years has been filled differently. To maintain an impartial process, Tony Costa volunteered to draft a standard board vacancy procedure. Please send your suggestions to Tony before the March 15th board meeting (how to advertise opening, how member states his/her candidacy, whether board has open or closed vote).

Legal Compliance: At February's meeting the board evaluated whether to actively review our governing documents for legal compliance since this is one of their 2005-2006 goals. They decided instead to wait until a member points out an inconsistency. This is odd since the board, (together and individually), not the membership, has an affirmed duty of state law and governing document conformance. If you are aware with any inconsistencies within our governing documents or to state law, please ask our board for a legal review.

Lecture Series, PT

Six speakers of national renown were chosen to lecture in Port Townsend this last fall and throughout the winter in a new humanities series. Talks are scheduled at the Rose Theatre, at 1 PM, the second Sunday of each month.

The organizers, a group of local citizens including Rocky Friedman, Rick Kenney, Peter Simpson and Leslie Cox, hope this may become an annual contribution to the intellectual and imaginative life of Port Townsend.

The series speakers include:

March 13-**Bill Porter**, also known by his literary pseudonym, Red Pine, will speak on Eastern religions and practices. He lives in Port Townsend.

April 10-**William H. Calvin**, Ph.D., author of *A Brief History of the Mind: From Apes to Intellect and Beyond*, Oxford University Press, 2004, will speak on behavioral sciences and psychiatry.

Individual lecture tickets go on sale one week before the lecture, cash or check only, made payable to School of Athens, PT Extension.

The self-styled School of Athens takes its name from the Vatican fresco by Raphael which depicts the ancient Greek *gymnasia* or speaker's forum with all the philosophers of that period.

For more information: www.athens-pt.org.

PT Orchestra Concerts Series

The April 30th concert the orchestra's principal flutist, Judy Johnson, will be the soloist in James Galway's beautiful arrangement of Rodrigo's beautiful "Fantasia para un Gentilhombre".

To finish the season, the orchestra will present its first annual fund-raising "pops" concert Sunday afternoon June 5th at Fort Worden Commons.

The concerts are free of charge; however, donations are welcome at the door. The orchestra is supported by the generous contributions from its patrons and from local businesses. More information is included on the orchestra's website: www.olympus.net/community/ptorchestra.

Adult Volleyball Fun

By Hank Krist

We are starting a Kala Point co-ed adult volleyball league. Whether you are a beginner, brushing up on skills, desiring mild exercise or just social fun—we want you. We will be playing twice a week in Kala Point. Attend whenever you desire. If interested or have questions, please call Hank Krist at 379-9878 or Patsy Mathys at 385-3810.

Port Ludlow Garden Club March Program

The Port Ludlow Garden Club March field trip date is Wednesday, March 23. This date enables members to have the widest selection of bulb plants possible. Bring a container for any cut flowers you wish to take home with you! Potted plants can be stored under the bus in the luggage compartment. Our bus leaves the Bay Club at 8:15am sharp! Please check in by 8am.

We will be touring the Van Liriop Bulb Farm in Puyallup and browsing their charming gift and gardening shop. They offer over 300 varieties of crocus, daffodils, hyacinths and tulips.

Our next stop is Gig Harbor. Lunch will be "on your own", at any of the fabulous little restaurants dotting the shoreline in Gig Harbor. Alternatively, bringing a lunch will maximize one's time in the wonderful little gift shops.

After a few hours to dine and roam Gig Harbor, we head for the Rosedale Gardens nearby. Rosedale is one of the oldest nurseries in the area and features a virtual outdoor art gallery which combines wonderful sculptured hedges, water features, nature trails and walking paths. A quaint gift shop and full service nursery are also available. Statuary is one of the nursery's specialties. We return to the Bay Club at approximately 5pm.

Cost for the tour is \$26 for Garden Club Members and \$32 for non-members. The registration deadline is March 18. Mail your check to PLGC, PO Box 65235, Port Ludlow, WA 98365. Contact Sydney at 437-9111 or seathru@cablespeed.com

We Get Letters

“Letters to the editor” reflect the views of the person writing the letter and may or may not be shared by the publishers/staff of To The Point.

Judie Lewis Moving

A great loss to our community

When I heard that Judie Lewis was leaving Kala Point I was truly unhappy. I felt that I would rather see an earthquake occur than lose the ‘liberal voice’ of KPOA. Strangely enough, when I congratulated Judie on her liberal posture, she informed me that she was a staunch conservative and that her point of view was based on her strong religious and political convictions. What a surprise to me. A conservative posing as a liberal or visa-versa. Shades of Lincoln, McCain, and Powell. Neither red nor blue, but a shade somewhere in between.

Kala Point is much like the U.S. in that it appears divided among the red and the blue. There are those in favor of maximum control and those that favor minimum control. The make up of any given Board determines where we lie on the continuum. Most of us realize that we must reduce the polarization in our community to make it a better place to live. Recently, two prominent local doctors looked at KPOA but decided not to move here. To me, that is a loss we cannot afford.

In my opinion, losing Judie Lewis is a great loss to us all. If you think carefully about it, Judie tried quite hard to steer a middle course. Of course, some will disagree. I hope there are many others that recognize that they judged her incorrectly, as I originally did. Remember her credo: “The right to FREE speech and a FREE press are important to our FREE society.” Unusual words for a conservative, don’t you think?

Michael A. Tobias

Community Responder Group Being Considered

While it’s still the “first priority and goal” to have one resident in every house at Kala Point trained in First Aid and CPR, there is a Community Responder group being considered. The EPC heard the proposal on Feb. 8th, and we are now seeking interested residents for an organizational meeting. These volunteers would receive 8 hours of training at no cost, be ‘on-call’ occasionally to respond to a medical call (within the gate only) as dispatched by JeffCom 9-1-1, and be able to render aid to a neighbor *while the medic unit is enroute from the City or Fire District 6*. This effort is being considered because the current medical unit response time to Kala Point is anywhere between 9 and 12 minutes.

As an extension of the First Aid Committee of the EPC at Kala Point, we are asking for anyone interested in this community responder group to call Daphne at 385-1119 —or email LKBear2@cablespeed.com — to attend the organizational meeting which will be held in the near future. From this meeting we will proceed with registration for training if there are enough volunteers.

The group would have medical oversight, liaison and support from the City fire department and Fire District 6. If you think you would like to respond to medical calls at Kala Point, you can attend the organizational meeting to find out more and then decide whether to sign up. We will discuss details and time commitments then, and discuss a flexible schedule for being ‘on-call’ so no one is “tied” to staying home for long periods. This community service opportunity is a way to put your First Aid/CPR training into action.

NOTE to all Kala Point residents: A community responder will NEVER replace the more-highly-trained medical professionals responding from the City or Fire District 6, but would simply put a trained neighbor on-scene in those first few minutes of a crisis or injury. D. Kilburn

Thank you Daphne. We appreciate you making such an effort to reach everyone in our community with this information.

A Few Good Men (And Women, Too!)

By Patsy Mathys

Remember the great movie “A Few Good Men”? The setting: a courtroom military murder trial. The defense lawyers (Tom Cruise and Demi Moore) exposed the excessive disciplinary tactics which the military commander (Jack Nicholson) inflicted upon his marine recruits.

What in the world does this have to do with Kala Point? During July’s annual meeting, KPOA membership will replace three of its nine board members. They will serve three-year terms. Bottom line, Kala Point needs you—a few good men and women to become board candidates.

The strength of our community is dependent upon our board’s talents. Thus, this article’s purpose is to encourage/recruit capable KPOA members to run for the board. Also, this article will enumerate some responsibilities of this position.

So what exactly is the role of our board members? Per state law our board’s primary purpose is to manage the affairs of our association by acting in all instances on behalf of the association. Some of the specific tasks are: conforming to state law, administering our governing documents, protecting community assets, directing the budget process and employing staff. Per CAI (Community Associations Institute), “Board members should work together with one goal in mind: to make their community a better place to live in”. In addition, each board member has an important legal fiduciary responsibility that encompasses:

- **Duty of Care:** requires each director to be informed and exercise independent, non-biased judgement in order to make prudent board decisions.
- **Duty of Loyalty:** requires board members to exercise their powers in the interest of the association, not in their own or any other’s interest. There should be no perception of conflict of interest and they must maintain confidentiality of non-public information.

- **Duty of Obedience:** requires board members to comply with all laws that govern our association.

Our association is dependent upon our talented board and committee volunteers. Without their contributions, our association literally could not exist. Thus, we encourage anyone interested in being on our board to earnestly pursue this quest. Being a board member is a tremendous responsibility, as well as a great reward serving our membership.

Are you interested in become a board member? If so, send a letter to the nomination/election committee (via KPOA office) stating your interest in being a 2005-2006 board candidate. The official deadline is April 15th if you want your name on the ballot. However, since the committee will meet on April 1st, it would be prudent to submit your letter before April 1st. Any candidates coming forward after the deadline will be a write-in candidate.

Our community needs a few good men and women, nine in total, to serve on our board. Make a difference. Get involved and also encourage others to get involved by becoming a board candidate.

“55 Alive” Drivers’ Ed

By Sylvia Bowman

In March and April, the “55 Alive” course for older drivers’ safety will be given at the Tri-Area Community Center. It’s worth signing up for. A phone call to the Center will reserve your place.

Bob and I took the January class and as a result we will be saving about \$250 on our auto insurance over the next two years. More valuable by far, we learned techniques to compensate for loss of peripheral vision, slowed reaction time and the inattentive driving style we had grown into so gradually that we hadn’t noticed.

The course runs from 10-2, with a half-hour brown-bag lunch break, on two consecutive days. Cost: \$10 for the materials. The teacher is a long-time volunteer, and she is good. The time goes fast. It’s fun. And what you learn could save a life.

Raccoons in your garbage?

Scavenging raccoons are familiar to KP residents, but this time of year often brings increased reports of nighttime visits. Experts believe there are two main reasons for this; both spring-weather related, and both tied to the reproductive lives of the brazen bandits. Females with the last brood of kits still hanging around with mom are typically given the boot in early spring as she prepares for another litter. Kicked out to forage for themselves, these youngsters are locating new food sources and establishing territory, in competition with others. That leaves mom also working to build up fat reserves to support gestation and nursing her new litter. Presto! Warm weather triggers it all.

Well known for their nocturnal ingenuity and perseverance, raccoons are smart, highly dexterous, and entirely serious about their 3AM feeding. So homeowners need to take special measures, particularly with outdoor garbage cans. Once successful finding a meal in your garbage, your address is burned into the animals "meal spots" memory bank, the original GPS unit. Worse yet, that information is passed on to the kits as mom takes them on the nightly "restaurant tour." You may then expect return visits for years to come once your home appears on the list.



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There are a variety of expensive raider-resistant trash cans available, with elaborate mechanisms many people even find challenging. Pictured here is one inexpensive proven technique to foil even the most determined raccoon garbage can raider. Just stretch a foot long bungee cord over the secured locking handles. It seems that, despite those nimble little paws, they don't fully grasp the concept of simultaneously stretching the cord and pulling the hook off the handle. Should you enjoy a late night show, it's fun to watch them trying, planning on about twenty minutes duration.

Be careful, as always, with bungee cords. Keep your face out of range of any recoiling bungee. If you slip while attaching or releasing you can lose an eye, or get a nasty tear from the sharp metal hook. Plastic hooded bungee cords are available. Make sure it is securely attached before releasing your grip.

Courtesy Ford: Tips for healthy vehicles

During Kala Point's infancy Courtesy Ford manager, Grant Diekman, began his 30-year career in the automobile industry. He started out in Bellevue Auto Row and then finally moved out to the Peninsula to Courtesy Ford in Port Townsend. His principles of caring for his customers have always been a priority to him.

Grant had some helpful hints to keep our vehicles healthy. "Drive your car at least once a week. This keeps everything lubricated and keeps the seals from leaking. A drive of around 50 miles round trip will bring your car up to a running temperature to burn out off the contaminants."

Besides driving once a week, he said there are two things to do annually: Flush out the cooling system and change the oil. If the coolant is not changed, it builds up electrolytes which starts to eat the block of the engine within 5-8 years. Also, change the fluids every 3,000-5,000 miles or annually, whichever comes first.

Grant also recommends that we keep our cars updated. "Cars that are 5 years old and younger have tremendous improvements with the newer technology. They are safer, more fuel efficient, and won't break down as easily." These newer cars have side-impact air bags which can be a life saver as well as helping to prevent neck, hip, and shoulder injuries.

He recommends trading in your car every 2-3 years. That way when you trade your car in, it still has value. If you buy a one year old car, you will enjoy the largest amount of depreciation (greatest price reduction). Drive for 2-3 years and then trade in for another one year old car. If you keep up this cycle, you will have fewer breakdowns, maintain the best trade-in value for your car, and stay up on the latest technologies that will make you safer as you are driving down the road.

To All KPOA Board Candidates

By Patsy Mathys

Are you deciding whether to become a board member? These sensible tips are from CAI (Community Associations Institute), current and former KPOA board members:

- Attend board and community meetings to better understand community issues, time commitments and meeting procedures.
 - Read state law, our governing documents and APP's (available on our website kalapoint.org or from the KPOA office), KPOA budget/financial statements and Robert's Rules of Order.
 - Talk to current and former board members to gain an inside perspective.
 - Be able to represent the membership, not yourself, in your decisions.
 - Listen, listen, listen to varying members' needs and concerns.
 - Be able to embrace legitimate diversity.
 - Promote community respect and harmony.
 - Be open-minded and non-judgmental.
 - Be willing to appreciate both sides of an issue.
 - Be able to make unbiased, objective decisions.
 - Be a problem solver.
 - Be able to compromise.
 - Refrain from micromanaging our manager or staff.
 - Listen to the community. Avoid viewing your board slot as a power position, but rather as an act of service.
 - Avoid getting caught up in the desires of a select few.
 - Look at the big picture to achieve legitimate community goals.
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Shore Road Nursery - Country nursery owned by botanist David Allen. Specializing in native plants & select garden perennials, shrubs, trees. 616 Shore Road, PA (between PA & Sequim). Open Tue-Sat, 10-5. **360-457-1536**.

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