

## **Message To Owners**

### **Merry Christmas to Howard Mesa owners!**

Well, another year done and no real issues, problems or serious damages. That's means we're getting it right, I think. After 25 years (actually more like 27) the association remains solvent with a small surplus. Remember we still have about 3 more months before dues start trickling in so we have enough for continued road maintenance and snow plowing.

This coming year 2026 is going to be hopefully about the same. We are having board elections this year for 3-year term board members. Some board members will be up for reelection but we'd like to see more new people. If you'd like to run please submit your nomination to the board before January 15<sup>th</sup>. We need to include the nominations in with your dues bill. You can select up to 4 10 acre lot members and 5 36+ acre lot members. The nominees must be full time residents of Howard Mesa Phase 1. We need people available for emergencies and meetings. The election committee will include information on voting. Please consider who you're voting for and that they reflect what you want to see in the future direction of the association. The board is a volunteer group of owner/residents. Ask questions of the nominees. Do you want us to become like associations in the suburbs and cities that run it like an HOA and want your lawns cut, approved colors, etc.? Or do you want us to take care of the roads and pretty much leave the rest of us alone? Actually, we're somewhere in between. We don't care about your lawn or what color you paint your house but you still must follow the CC&Rs. Those rules are for the health and safety of your neighbors. To avert most issues start talking to your neighbors and be mindful of their needs. Our charter is road maintenance. We shouldn't be policing. That's up to you and your neighbors and the board will, if necessary help enforce the rules.

As for me, this is my last year. I've resigned as president and Roger Inman, as VP has stepped in. I'll help wherever I can, but age has caught up with me and I'm no longer able to get around like I used to. The new board will elect a new executive committee of President, VP, Secretary and Treasurer. I'm not going anywhere. I've been here 25 years and not looking to move. Seems like the biggest problems we've had in those 25 years are new people with some great ideas but at a greater cost or bad ideas because the real HOAs have paved roads, streetlights and sidewalks. They don't know what they bought or why. It'll take a couple years to figure out why they really like it here. Keep it that way. We moved to rural for the

wildlife, dark skies, slow easy life. Don't make it a city with too many rules. Keep the roads up and enjoy life.

I wish all our owners, even if you don't live here yet, have a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Cliff Hall