

# HALO Neighbors!



The Newsletter of  
Home and LandOwners  
Organization, Inc  
Summer 2019

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## **Message from the President**

While we hope everyone is having a great Alaskan summer, enjoying fishing, camping and gardens, we also had a rude wake up call with the MLK Fire. The scant rain of July has led to serious wildfire danger. How well have you and your family prepared to face a wildfire?

AFT Forrester John See and AFD Fire Investigator Brian Dean lead a tour of the MLK Fire last Monday with Assembly Representatives John Weddleton and Chris Constant and community representatives. Those present were able to see the way this fire behaved and the several probable encampments present prior to the fire. This fire was relatively easy to address, as it was accessible to transportation, personnel and water sources, and the terrain flat. The same size fire on Hillside would be a very different scenario, with our limited road access, more difficult terrain and lack of water sources. Read the message from these AFD Representatives in this issue.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, August 1st. Remember, we meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Holy Spirit Retreat, corner of Hillside and O'Malley. This is an odd numbered year with no State elections and therefore no Candidate Forum.

Meanwhile, if you or your neighborhood have any specific concerns, please feel free to contact your area representative.

Please come out and join us!

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## **From the Anchorage Fire Department: MLK Wildfire July 2, 2019**

At 4:30 pm on July 2, 2019, the Anchorage Fire Department responded to a fire in the greenbelt area of the North Fork of Campbell Creek. Arriving units quickly requested a 2<sup>nd</sup> alarm response and began planning for structure defense and evacuations in the neighborhoods to the north and west of the greenbelt. The fire quickly grew to 10 acres burning in black spruce with 60-foot flame lengths. A Unified Command was established with the AFD and the Alaska Division of Forestry. The fire was brought under control through the combined resources of AFD, the Division of Forestry and JBER including helicopter water drops and air tankers.

Before being contained the fire expanded to 25 acres moving eastward toward Elmore Road and reaching the south fork of Campbell Creek and crossing the north fork of Campbell Creek. Along with AFD, firefighters from Mat-Su Forestry, smokejumpers from Fairbanks, hotshot crews from the Swan Lake fire and the Gannett Glacier Type 2 initial attack crew continued working the perimeter into the night. Final mop up of the fire would continue for 4 more days. While a specific ignition for

the fire could not be determined, based upon the numerous indicators of activity in proximity to the origin, the fire was ruled human caused.

The Anchorage Fire Department Fire Prevention Division would like to take this opportunity as a reminder for all of us to be prepared for wildfire danger. Human preparedness plays a major role in whether a wildfire will grow out of control or not – and whether firefighters will be able to defeat it.

Be Firewise! Take personal responsibility and prepare long before the threat of a wildland fire so your home is ready in case of a fire. Create defensible space by clearing brush away from your home. Use fire-resistant landscaping and harden your home with fire-safe construction measures. Ask for help if you need it .... AFD has a FREE home inspection program to help you quickly identify and treat problem areas where embers can ignite your home from a nearby wildfire.

Click on Wildfire Mitigation and Firewise Home assessments for helpful information and to apply, online: <http://www.muni.org/fire>

Assemble emergency supplies and belongings to a safe place. Plan escape routes and make sure all those residing within the home know the plan of action. Put your skills to the test! Go to the Ready, Set, Go! website to learn tips about the steps involved in planning an evacuation from your area: <https://www.wildlandfiresg.org>.

Join your friends and neighbors at HALO, your homeowner's association meetings, community council meetings and Anchorage Assembly meetings to participate in meaningful discussions about wildfire prevention and preparing for Firewise home assessments.

Brian Dean, AFD Fire Investigator

John See, AFD Forester

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## **Who are the HALO Committees and What do they do?**

HALO has several standing committees, and they work independently:

### **Hillside Roads, Drainage and Trails Service Area Committee (HRDTSA)**

This committee is looking at the long-term idea of creating a Hillside Service Area/Areas, something recommended in the Hillside District Plan. They meet as needed. Members: Shawn Dooley, Christine Monette, Katie Nolan, Rodney Powell.

### **Land Use and Parks Committee**

This committee reviews land use planning on the Hillside and how each change relates to our guiding documents, including Title 21 and the Hillside District Plan. Members: Sarah Denson, Albert Fogle, Peter Johnson, Marc June, Gail Morrison, Frank Pugh.

### **Communications Committee**

This committee oversees getting our message out to the public and increasing visibility on the Hillside. Facebook: Albert Fogle. Newsletter: Katie Nolan. Website: Christine Monette.

### **Historical/Archival**

This committee is working on ensuring the history of HALO and the Hillside is not lost, including gathering information on our structures, residents and our Hillside Founders. Members: Pat Abney, Sarah Denson, Peter Johnson, Christine Monette, Kurt Rein.

### **AdHoc Committees**

HALO also has ad hoc committees to address short term issues.

### **Board Development**

This committee is tasked with enhancing representation on our Board to build better working relationships with our area community councils. Members: Katie Nolan.

### **Boundary**

This committee is tasked with studying our existing historic boundaries and researching whether or not these boundaries meet today's needs. Members: Pat Abney, Christine Monette, Gail Morrison, Katie Nolan.

Do you have an interest in serving on one of these Committees? Are you knowledgeable about Title 21, Facebook or our history? We would appreciate your particular expertise. Please contact the HALO President and contribute your skills.

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### **Your 2019 HALO Board of Directors:**

<i>Area G-1 Seat A</i>	<i>Kurt Rein</i>	<i>344-5554</i>
<i>Area G-1 Seat B</i>	<i>Sarah Denson</i>	<i>2LPS4SJD@gmail.com</i>
<i>Area G-2 Seat A</i>	<i>Brena Doolen</i>	<i>brena_doolen@hotmail.com</i>
	<i>Nancy Kaufman</i>	<i>njkaufman@gci.net</i>
<i>Area G-2 Seat B</i>	<i>Albert Fogle</i>	<i>albert.fogle@yahoo.com</i>
	<i>James Kaufman</i>	<i>jkaufman@gci.net</i>
<i>Area G-3 Seat A</i>	<i>Christine Monette</i>	<i>customtravel@gci.net</i>

	<i>Susan Richards</i>	<i>stone_creek1@yahoo.com</i>
<i>Area G-3 Seat B</i>	<i>Katie Nolan</i>	<i>PresidentHALO@gmail.com</i>
<i>Area G-4 Seat A</i>	<i>Gail Morrison</i>	<i>gmorrison@alliedgis.com</i>
	<i>Rodney Powell</i>	<i>sub@mooseak.net</i>
<i>Area G-4 Seat B</i>	<i>Pat Abney</i>	<i>patabney@gmail.com</i>
	<i>Marc June</i>	<i>Junelawyer@cs.com</i>
<i>Area G-5 Seat A</i>	<i>Peter Johnson</i>	<i>joy_peter@aol.com</i>
	<i>Frank Pugh</i>	<i>steamboat_000@aol.com</i>
<i>Area G-5 Seat B</i>	<i>Mike Kenny</i>	<i>mvk@bearvalleyak.net</i>

<i>President Katie Nolan</i>	<i>PresidentHALO@gmail.com</i>
<i>Vice President Frank Pugh</i>	<i>ANCHALOVicePresident@gmail.com</i>
<i>Secretary Nancy Kaufman</i>	<i>ANCHALOSecretary@gmail.com</i>
<i>Treasurer Christine Monette</i>	<i>TreasurerHALO@gmail.com</i>

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## For Your Calendar

HALO Meeting 7 pm Thursday, August 1st, at Holy Spirit Retreat  
 (corner Hillside & O'Malley)

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## Join HALO

If you haven't already paid your dues this year, you can do it now or bring this form to the next meeting. HALO is supported solely by membership dues and donations. Dues are just \$10 per year, and your participation ensures the future of this worthwhile organization.

Do you have a neighbor who should be involved in HALO? Forward this E-Newsletter to them, or bring them with you to the next meeting!

If you can't attend the event, fill out and return this for your membership renewal:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

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