



The Bonita Highlander

November 2021

From the President

I hope your October was a pleasant one and that your November will be even better. With the Holidays just around the corner, homeowners will be putting up decorations and lights. Please note that we do have some regulations as to when they may be put up and when they should be taken down in our Rules and Regulations.

You will also note on page three of this newsletter, that anyone wishing to run for a BHHA Board office should identify such to our Recording Secretary by December 7th, 2021. This will put their name on the ballot, which will be mailed out to all homeowners prior to the election. Our BHHA election day is March 7th, 2022, which is the first Monday in March. Mail in votes will be counted that evening during our annual 7 p.m. meeting as well as any votes submitted at the meeting before 7:20 p.m. The results of the election count that night will be made known at the meeting before it concludes.

After the board members are elected, the newly elected board members will then decide who will fill each of the chairs of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Member-at-Large.

One last note is that there will also be a regular March board meeting on the second Tuesday, which will be March 8th, the following evening.

Cheers! ~ *Mike*

From the Open Space Chair

Manners Matter

Did you know that manners matter even on the trails? The County of San Diego Parks & Recreation Department has a link on their website for trail etiquette and their trails have “Right-of-Way” signs posted at trail entrances. We have no etiquette signs posted on our trails, but as part of the County of San Diego trail system, their rules for right-of-way apply to our trails, too. Trail etiquette, therefore, is a great topic for this newsletter.

Let’s start with a little history lesson. In the late 1970’s-early 1980’s, when Bonita Highlands was a new development, over 150 lots were designated as “horse” lots and more than 80 horses resided here. Bonita Highlands was developed for this purpose, and horses were a vital part of the community. At that time, horse owners helped with trail maintenance and trail rides were part of many horse owners’ daily lives. There wasn’t much of a question about who had the right-of-way. Fast forward 45 years and only two horses reside in Bonita Highlands, and hikers and bikers dominate our trails.



I spoke with one of our homeowners who rides horses on Bonita Highlands and County trails as to how to keep our trails safe for everyone. His advice was to adhere to the County guidelines for using a multi-purpose trail. It goes like this: bikes yield to both hikers and horses, and hikers yield to horses. That is, a horse has the right-of-way in all encounters with bikes or hikers. The safest thing to do when sharing the trail with a horse is to stop on the trail, move to the side, and let the horse pass. Bikes need to move over for hikers.

Something to keep in mind is that a spooked horse can kick out and injure a dog or person. All dogs should be leashed on our trails. This is the law and should keep your dog a safe

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Events in Our Community



Optimist October Book Sale!
Thanks to you . . . we raised
\$5,814.01!
This was our BEST sale ever!!



<p><i>Life is what happens when you're busy making other plans.</i></p> <p>~ John Lennon</p>	<p><i>You must be the change you wish to see in the world.</i></p> <p>~ Mahatma Gandhi</p>	<p><i>Whether you think you can or you think you can't, you're right.</i></p> <p>~ Henry Ford</p>	<p><i>Tough times never last but tough people do.</i></p> <p>~ Robert H. Schuller</p>	<p><i>You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough.</i></p> <p>~ Mae West</p>
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(From the Open Space Chair, continued from page 1)

distance from horses, people, and other dogs when on the trails. If a horse approaches, keeping your dog quiet and from lunging helps too. Children who want to pet a horse should ask permission before approaching. The rider will let you know if the horse is friendly and how to pet the horse. When a horse is in front of you on the trail, call out to let the rider know you are coming from behind. Horses don't move very fast, so give plenty of warning. This is especially important for bikes on the trails. Please, slow down, and let both horse riders and hikers know you are coming by calling out to alert them. Courtesy goes a long way in keeping everyone safe on our trails.

The County of San Diego Parks & Recreation Department recently replaced the "No Motor Vehicles Allowed" signs at the trail entrances. This regulation does not pertain to E-Bikes. The Board of Directors has approved a 1-year trial allowing Class 1 and 2 E-Bikes on our trails. Class 3 E-Bikes are considered motorized vehicles and are not allowed on County trails or in Bonita Highlands. We hope this works out for everyone.

Keep our trails and open space clean. Carry out any water bottles or trash. Keep your dog on leash. Clean up after your dog, and please do not leave bags with excrement on the trail. Pick it up and carry it out. Report any suspicious activity to us at bhighlander@cox.net. We appreciate your being our eyes on the trails and keeping everyone safe.



Enjoy the open space. ~ Michelle Kriz



If you are new to the "Highlands" or know of someone who just moved in, please contact **Ray Snider**, who will stop by to welcome you, or them, with a Bonita Highlands mug and some information about our HOA. Ray may be reached by electronic mail at rsnider742@cox.net or by phone at (619) 421-9384.

Please note that Ray is not a point of contact for problems, complaints, or issues. Such items should be identified either at our monthly Board meetings, by e-mail to bhighlander@cox.net, or by letter to our postal address on page 3 of this newsletter. *Thanks!* ~ Ed.



From the Financial Officer—Budget Time

The annual budgeting process has begun. The first of three budget “Readings” will be held at the November Association meeting. The next two will take place in December and January. The 2022-2023 budget and the annual Assessment amount will be approved at the January meeting. If you are interested in the budgeting process, please attend any or all the budget meetings.

You may request an invitation to the ZOOM HOA board meetings by sending a note to the Recording Secretary at our bhighlander@cox.net address. The link to the meeting will be sent out the Monday before the meeting.

Sandra Jones, Financial Officer

CANDIDATES FOR BHHA BOARD CLASS OF 2022-2023 Must submit form by December 7, 2021.

Those wishing to be on the 2022 ballot must complete a Candidate Qualification Form. The Candidate form and Election timeline may be found on the Bonita Highlands web site (bonitahighlands.org) and must be received by December 7, 2021.

When completed you may return the form by U.S. mail (BHHA P.O. Box 458, Bonita CA, 91908), or scan and forward a .pdf or .jpg document to bhighlander@cox.net, by December 7, 2021



U.S. Postal address for the
BHHA:
Bonita Highlands Homeowners’
Association
PO Box 458
Bonita, CA. 91908-0458

E-mail address: bhighlander@cox.net

FAX only: (619) 479-2200 (24 hours)

You may also find documents, forms, meeting minutes, and notices on our **BHHA** web site: bonitahighlands.org

Save a Tree & Save Some \$\$\$

Receiving HOA documents electronically instead of by postal mail saves BHHA time, paper, and postage. With your permission, we now have the ability to send some documents via email. You can request an Electronic Transmission Consent Form from our Secretary at bhighlander@cox.net . According to the law, some documents must still be sent by U.S. mail. We will still send your annual courtesy invoice by mail.

Our next large mailing takes place in January when we will be mailing the budget for 2022-2023. We are required to send this to each homeowner. As postal rates and printing costs have increased, the ability to send documents electronically would save the HOA a considerable amount of money. Please consider filing your request with us before our next mailing. Thank you.



MEETING! Until the Fire Department’s Training Room is again opened for community use and the pandemic eases up a bit more, BHHA monthly meetings will continue to be held by way of Zoom video teleconference (VTC). Our next VTC meeting will be on **November 9th at 6:30 p.m.**

All Bonita Highlands Homeowners are welcome to attend! Homeowners wishing to attend the VTC meeting must send an e-mail to our Recording Secretary requesting that they be included in the distribution of the e-mail, which will provide the meeting’s VTC link: bhighlander@cox.net

Homeowners wishing to attend who don’t have a computer may send a letter to our above U.S. postal address with their phone number and our Recording Secretary will contact them to provide a homeowner’s address who has volunteered an outside VTC station at their residence within the Highlands. ~Ed.

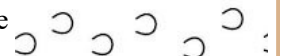
The Bonita Highlander is the monthly newsletter of the Bonita Highlands Homeowners’ Association, a California non-profit corporation whose mailing address is: **P.O. Box 458, Bonita, CA 91908-0458**



This newsletter is distributed (postage paid) to each residence within the Bonita Highlands community.

Editor / Distribution: **Mary Ellen Phillips**

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The Bonita Highlander

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Bonita, CA. 91908 - 0458

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The next monthly BHHA HOA meeting will be held on **Tuesday November 9th 2021 at 6:30 p.m.** The meeting will be convened via a Zoom video teleconference (VTC). To attend, please send a request to **bhighlander@cox.net** and our secretary will forward an e-mail to you a day prior to the VTC with a link to the meeting. If you do not have a computer or e-mail capability, please send a letter to our mailing address on page 3 of this newsletter, including your telephone number, and someone will contact you with a dial-in telephone number for the meeting.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance, Announcement of the Next Meeting, Adoption of Minutes from Last Meeting.
2. Homeowner Open Communications.
3. Homeowner appearances for appeals to violation notices, fines, requests for structural alterations.
4. Committee and staff reports. 5. Old Business. 6. New Business.
7. Community items of interest. 8. Board Member Comments.
9. Adjournment.
10. An Executive session may be held.



The Bonita Highlands Homeowners' Association Board of Directors welcomes and encourages e-mail and letters from other homeowners. Any letter sent to the Board may be published in this newsletter. Please sign letters and include a phone number (which will NOT be published). Any opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the author, the editor, or other contributor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Board of Directors or any member thereof.

