



The Bonita Highlander

February 2022

From the President

Not much to say this month, but if you haven't yet had a chance to get out and walk our trails, this is a great time to do so. The Highlands are greening up and looking spectacular. We are blessed to live in the Highlands.

By now, hopefully, all the Christmas and other December-January holiday decorations have been taken down and put away for next year. Once again, I have to say that this year's residence lighting was spectacular, and possibly the best overall that we've had in the Highlands for many years. "Well done" to all of you who spent the time and effort to share your holiday spirit with your community. ~ *Mike*

Your VOTE Counts!

In the mail, the first week of February, you should receive your Bonita Highlands Homeowners' Association ballot for the Board of Directors. We have three incumbents and three new people running for 5 positions on the board. The previous *Bonita Highlander* had candidate statements from two of the new people.

It is important that you take the time to vote, as we need a quorum to prevent us from having to go through the voting process again. Besides voting for the board, you are also asked to vote on whether the board should apply excess funds at the end of the fiscal year to help offset some of next year's members assessments.

However, the MOST important part of returning your ballot to us, is in the upper left hand corner of the blue envelope. You must print your name and address and then sign (**put your signature**) on the third line. If any of the three lines are incomplete, your blue envelope will not be opened and your vote will not be counted. Last year, we had to delete five envelopes because some of that mandatory information was missing. This is state law, by the way and not peculiar to your homeowners' association.

Lastly, please mail your completed ballot as soon as possible to ensure that it gets to the Bonita Post Office by March 7th. I will pick up the mail at 10:30 a.m. that day, when the PO boxes are filled. Those will be the mail-in votes that will count.

So what if you miss the mail-in vote timeframe. Well, you may always attend the annual March 7th meeting in person and cast your ballot that way. If we need to change from an in-person meeting to a virtual (Zoom) type meeting, we will arrange for a personal ballot drop-off site for in-person voting.

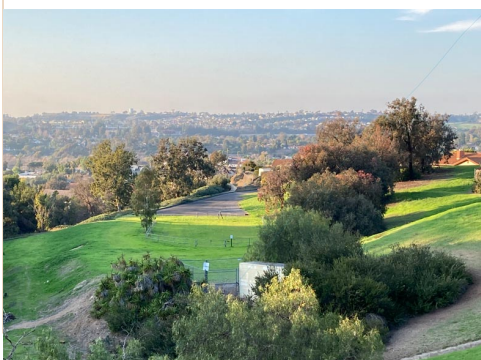
Thank you, and we hope to see you at our annual meeting. ~ *Ed.*

A REMINDER TO HOMEOWNERS WALKING FURRY FRIENDS. We ask that you bag the dog "poop" when your "furry friends" relieve themselves on the trails, open space or a neighbor's yard. The second part of this equation is to carry the bag home with you or drop it in the nearest trash can if cans are out. We are 50% successful in the following of the request. Sadly some people are dropping the filled bags on the trails or throwing them in/or under the brow ditches. This defeats the purpose. Please bag and dispose of properly. Thanks. ~ *Ed.*



A Short Walkabout in Our Open Spaces

If you haven't yet walked our trails within the Bonita Highlands this year, here are some pictures that might help motivate you to do so. Consider getting out and enjoying your Association's beautiful vegetation, fields and hill-sides. It is all there, just for you... and admission is free! ~ Ed.



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 - 2022-2023

Annual Assessment will be \$445.00

Following the third open reading of the budget on January 11, 2022, the Board approved the Budget and Assessment for the next fiscal year. Despite cost increases in certain areas, the savings in other areas helped to offset those increases. In the end, our Board of Directors approved a small increase of .83 cents in the annual assessment a month per unit, or \$10 a month per unit. The new assessment will be \$445.00, due and payable on 1 April, and will be considered as late on 16 April. A courtesy invoice will be mailed to your mailing address of record, which you should receive about March 1st. The Annual Budget Report was sent to all homeowners of record who should receive it around 1 February. Also included in this package will be a summary of our Reserve Funds and a copy of all required announcements of our association's policies, including the collection policy.

To attend the monthly HOA meetings via ZOOM, you may send a request by e-mail to the Recording Secretary (RS) at our official e-mail address: bhighlander@cox.net. The link to the meeting will be sent out the Monday before the meeting. If you wish to attend a Zoom board meeting but don't have a computer, contact the RS and we will link you up with someone who can host you. ~ Sandra Jones



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



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 [February 8, 2022](#) 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

Help Save a Tree and Some \$ for Your HOA.

You Still Have Time... Homeowners are slowly but surely returning their **ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION CONSENT (ETC) Forms**.

Homeowners seem to be eager to comply but somehow forget to submit a necessary ETC form. I have the forms on the front seat of my car, and when I see homeowners out in the yard, I stop and ask them to complete the form while I wait. It is EASY! Just print your name, sign the form, and add your e-mail and property addresses. Please do consider this.

If you'd like the form, and I don't see you in the driveway, simply send an e-mail Bhighlander@cox.net and request the form.

Note that this is not the same as a **Third Party Agent Form**. For that you may request a form from me at bhighlander@cox.net.

~ Mary Ellen Phillips, Recording Secretary

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**

Submissions for publication should be sent to the editor, copy-ready, at bhighlander@cox.net. The deadline is the 15th of the month for publication the following month. The Association reserves the right to edit any copy submitted for publication.

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

5073 Central Ave. #458
Bonita, CA. 91908 - 0458

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The next monthly BHHA HOA meeting will be held on **Tuesday February 8, 2022 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 Recording Secretary or Financial Officer 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.