



The Bonita Highlander

May 2020

From the Board President - Mike Seiler

Spring is upon us and changes in the Bonita Highlands are underway.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, I want to congratulate **Michelle Kriz**, who was elected to be our Open Space Chair. We believe that she will be a valuable asset to our BHHA Staff in her new capacity.

Michelle is taking over for **Glenn Kopp**, who has held the Open Space Chair position for about 35 years and has decided to “hang up his spurs” as of April 30th.

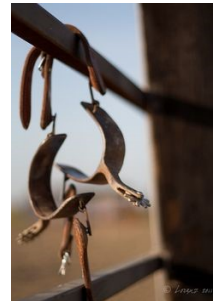


Over the years, Glenn has always gone out of his way to speak kindly with homeowners who have problems with Open Space or Common areas within the Bonita Highlands. He has offered timely recommendations to those in need of assistance. He has overseen major repair and replacement efforts within the Highlands, including land slippage events (subsidence) and horse ring road repairs. He regularly checks irrigation water usage to ensure we don't waste water. He has worked with our maintenance contractors to ensure trail grooming and annual wild oats mowings occurred on time and were done properly. He provided regular monthly reports to the Board on scheduled and unscheduled events, and was the major force on the BHHA Staff who ensured that our Bonita Highlands landscapes have been kept in excellent shape. Glenn even took it upon himself to repaint the upper horse ring metal railing one year so we could keep them looking good beyond their years. He also painted curbs to identify trail entrances and put up split rail fencing to enhance trail

entrances. He ensured brow ditches in open spaces were cleared and repaired when necessary... and the list goes on and on and on.

Thank you Glenn for helping to make the Bonita Highlands a wonderful place to call home.

While we can't take Glenn and his wife Susan out to dinner just yet, we will definitely plan on doing so when we get beyond the current State-mandated restrictions on meetings and dining in restaurants. For now, I'll just use a traditional U.S. Navy farewell, ***“Fair Winds and Following Seas”*** in your retirement from the BHHA Staff Glenn. I hope we see you around and at our HOA meetings from time to time, and I (and I'm sure Michelle) look forward to any suggestions you may offer when you see something in the open space or common areas that “just doesn't look right.” ~ Mike



Old golfers never retire... they just putter around.



Communication is “Key”

This might sound familiar, but as I was thinking about “pertinent” information to add to the newsletter, I thought I should reiterate this notion. As BHHA Recording Secretary, I am responsible for the minutes taken at meetings, but also for putting “staff reports” into the minutes. I am amazed month after month when I type the ACC– Compliance report that many of the people receiving letters regarding maintaining their property DO NOT RESPOND. If you receive a letter from the HOA please open it and take the time to read it. If you disagree or have some reason not to comply, please contact the sender either by First Class mail or an e-mail to bhighlander@cox.net.

Ignoring a letter just exacerbates the problem. After the non-conformance/warning letter, fines may be levied if the situation is not corrected. Ignoring the letter and subsequent letters causes fines to grow to large amounts quickly. To save yourself a lot of time and money, reach out to the BHHA Staff person contacting you and work out a solution to the problem. If you have a plan to deal with the issue, providing Staff with a “game plan” and timeframe simplifies matters and most likely saves you a fine. We all appreciate living in this beautiful community.

If there is an issue that concerns you, please contact the HOA. There are things we CAN do to help with situations but if it is not within our purview, we can often give you contact information to help with resolution. Again, communicating is the key. ~ Ed.

U.S. Postal Address for Correspondence

Bonita Highlands Homeowners’ Association
P.O. 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:** www.bonitahighlands.org

Bonita Highlands HOA Assessments

Please be advised that the **Annual Assessment of \$395 was due and payable on April 1, 2020.** It became late if not paid or post-marked by midnight, April 15th. A late fee of \$39.50 has been added to unpaid accounts as of April 16, 2020.

For those of you who have already paid, we thank you for your timely remittance. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you might have.

Thank you.

Sandra Jones, Financial Officer



The next monthly **BHHA Board of Directors meeting is** scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2019 at **6:30 PM** in the Bonita - Sunnyside Fire Station’s Community Room, located at 4900 Bonita Road.

However, this meeting may be canceled of we are still under strict COVID-19 separation/Shelter-in-Place restrictions. We will post status and intent on our BHHA web site (bonitahighlands.org)

If an meeting is held, an Executive Session may follow, if required.

All Bonita Highlands homeowners are welcome to attend!



The Bonita Highlander

...is the 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 published periodically (usually once per month) at Bonita, CA, and 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.

Meet our new Open Space Chair

What a blessing to live in Bonita Highlands! It would be difficult for me to pick one thing that makes living here the best. We have been living in Bonita Highlands for close to 24 years. About 13 years ago, I began taking classes at Southwestern College in the Horticulture department. Several years later, I completed two Associates Degrees: one in Landscape Maintenance and one in Retail Nursery Operations. I have also completed classes in Sustainable Landscape Practices and Landscape Design. My specialties are trees and native plants.

When the Open Space Chair position became available, I applied right away. I am looking forward to the challenge of taking over the reins from Glenn Kopp. His shoes will be hard to fill as there is no replacement for 30 plus years of experience.

The open space of Bonita Highlands is a great place to explore, especially now that we are being asked to stay close to home. While some of our trails are covered with our annual oats, many are clear. So, get out there and enjoy.

Michelle Kriz
 Bonita Highlands Homeowners' Association
 Open Space Chair



Those Pesky Weeds are Back!!!

At the March meeting, a HO mentioned the level of the reservoir and the possibility of raised water rates and possibly shortages. Well, after several HEAVY storms, thankfully, our Sweetwater Reservoir has some unanticipated water. With the wonderful soaking the rain provided, lawns and plants in the Highlands are thriving and in beautiful bloom...but so are the weeds. With all the news about "Round Up," many homeowners prefer something less toxic. Both "Home Depot" and "Lowe's" sell organic weed killers or you can make your own. There are two remedies that you can make with ingredients you probably have in your kitchen already.



Vinegar - Lemon Weed Killer:



1. Trim the weeds with shears or a weed whacker.
2. Cover the plants you want to protect, as overspray will harm plants you'd like to keep.

Mix 4 ounces of lemon juice with a liter of white vinegar. Fill Spray bottle, and spray directly on the weed leaves. This solution kills the leaves, not the roots directly but weakens the plant system and, after several applications, the weeds will die.

White Vinegar Weed Killer

This recipe calls for 1 gallon of white vinegar, one cup of salt and a tablespoon of dish soap. The addition of salt dries out the plant and the dish soap helps the solution stick to the leaves. *(I learned the hard way that salt impacts the soil and prevents plants from growing there, so be careful where you spray. - Ed.)*

Info found on homeguides-sfgate.com



New Neighbors: Call the Bonita Highland's "Welcoming Committee" representative Bobbie Snider and "get mugged" (a coffee mug, that is)! Call (619) 421-9384 to set up an appointment or ask questions.





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P.O. Box 458

Bonita, CA 91908-0458

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BHHA Board Meeting Agenda May 12, 2020. Start Time is 6:30 p.m., if the meeting is held.

1. Call to order, roll, announcement of next meeting, adoption of minutes and agenda.
2. Homeowner Open Communications.
3. Homeowner appearances for appeals to violation notices or fines and requests for structural alterations.
4. Committee and staff reports.
5. Old Business.
 - A) Open Space Contract
 - B) Ring Road Encroachment
6. New Business
7. Community items of interest.
8. Board Member Comments
9. Adjournment. 10. Executive session will be held.

BHHA Board Meeting Agenda, June 9, 2020 Start Time - 6:30 p.m.

1. Call to order, roll, announcement of next meeting, adoption of minutes and agenda.
2. Homeowner Open Communications.
3. Homeowner appearances for appeals to violation notices or fines, requests for structural alteration.
4. Committee and staff reports.
5. Old Business. 6. New Business. 7. Community items of interest.
8. Board Member Comments. 9. Adjournment.
10. Executive session may be held.

Please do watch out for kids in the morning at crosswalks! Slow down or stop as directed.

(Cartoon drawn by **Joe Schmidt** and used by permission of his family.)



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.