

# Sunset Cove Newsletter

## Eighth Annual Picnic:

Volume 7, Issue 2

Summer/Fall 2011

Even if it doesn't always feel like it weather-wise, it *is* the middle of summer and time to start thinking about the famous annual Sunset Cove picnic. So why should this summer be any different than normal?!

Everyone is invited to attend this fun and informal event!

Ü Saturday, September 10

Ü 2 to 6 pm

Ü Washington Park, by the playground

Hamburgers and hotdogs will be supplied; please bring your own beverages. We also welcome any appetizers, side dishes/salads, and desserts from our neighbors.

We suggest families with last names beginning with the letter

indicated bring an item in the category of ...

A—G : salad / side dish

H—N : dessert

O—Z : appetizer

Please RSVP to Jim Nelson at [jamesn1@comcast.net](mailto:jamesn1@comcast.net) and let him know how many people will be in your party (we don't want to run out of hot dogs!).

We look forward to seeing all of you this year!!!!



### Special Points of Interest:

- Picnic Time
- Walking the Waterfront Trail
- Community Events
- Reminders
- Board Notes
- Sunset Cove HOA

## 2011 Board of Directors

The current Board of Directors, and their positions, are as follows:

- President, Paul Allen (term ends 12/31/11).
- Vice President, and Audit Committee Chair, Ted Filler (term ends 12/31/11).
- Secretary and Treasurer, Jackie Etsell (term ends 12/31/12).

- Architectural Review Committee Chair, Don Berg (term ends 12/31/12).
- Publicity Committee Chair, Jim Nelson (term ends 12/31/11).
- Landscape Committee Chair, Barbara Ballentine (term ends 12/31/12).

Remember, if you have any questions or concerns that you

wish to bring to the Board's attention, or you just want to make them aware of how you feel about something, feel free to use the blanket email address:

[board@sunsetcove.org](mailto:board@sunsetcove.org)

Also, check out the meeting schedule for the board on page four of this newsletter, or on the website:

[www.sunsetcove.org](http://www.sunsetcove.org)

## On The Waterfront Trail

By John C. Howell

*In our [last issue](#), Rick Etsell wrote about the Flounder Bay Railroad, and walking the waterfront from Sunset Beach to the ferry terminal. The Crest resident and homeowner, John Howell, wrote me soon after:*

Yesterday, inspired by your reportage of the old railroad, I donned my coonskin cap and conjured up an appropriate Davy Crockett mien and went exploring.

I walked up the paved roads into San Juan Passage, then down to the Guemes Channel Trail. At the "T" one can turn left or right. I first went right. Paved asphalt for a half mile until a large sign that announced the bad news: 'End of Trail'; however, at the bottom of the sign was the good news that it is the future intent to have the trail go all the way into Anacortes and (presumably) connect with the Tommy Thompson Trail. It did not say when.

I retraced my footsteps back to the "T" and continued straight on a compact gravel trail that wound its way through the marshland behind the old cannery. The last segment of perhaps 100 meters was in the sand. I popped out near the story boards explaining the history, plant, and animal life of the surrounding area.

I walked up the road to the ferry ticket booth and was told there was a trail from the ferry terminal area along the water into the Shannon Point Research Center. I asked about any Homeland Security restrictions on trails near the terminal; she was not aware of any. Hmmm. So I headed down the hill to the terminal and sure enough there was a trail at the end of a chain link fence and behind a parked construction trailer at the southwest corner of the property.

The first few meters were easy going. The path skirted Cannery Lake, where I paused to listen to the red wing blackbirds calling from the cattails. The sun came out and was pleasantly warm.

Then began the brambles, fallen trees, gnarled tree roots, underbrush, bogs, and other obstacles which collectively enjoined me to 'return from whence you came, fool.' I hitched up my sweat pants and went down a bank, mostly on my butt as my sneakers reminded me this was not their preferred terrain. I emerged at the research buildings and walked out to Sunset Avenue and on into Washington Park.

I shall now clean my musket and rub some bear grease on it in preparation for the next leg of the exploration: Shannon Point to our gazebo.



A view of the Washington Park-to-Shannon Point trail on a nice rainy July day.  
Inspiration for the next installment of "Exploring with John Howell." [Rick Etsell photo]

## Upcoming Area Events

Some of the many activities in our community this summer and fall:

- **50th Annual Anacortes Arts Festival**, August 5-7, 10am-6pm, downtown Anacortes; arts, crafts, demos, music, & food! Family fun for everyone! [www.anacortesartsfestival.com](http://www.anacortesartsfestival.com)
- **Skagit County Fair**, August 10-13, Mount Vernon; food contests, displays, live entertainment, kid zone events, & more. Info & tickets at [www.skagittourism.com](http://www.skagittourism.com).
- **Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival**, August 12-27; talks, concerts, seminars, and interviews. ([www.oicmf.org](http://www.oicmf.org) for pricing & ticket options)
- **La Conner Classic Yacht and Car Show**, August 13, 10am-4pm; La Conner Marina South Basin, 312 N 2nd St; pancake breakfast (7:30-11am), kids activities, vendors & exhibitors booths, car & boat show, 10am-4pm; (small fee) ([www.laconnerchamber.com/classics.cfm](http://www.laconnerchamber.com/classics.cfm))
- **San Juan County Fair**, August 17-20, Friday Harbor; art & gardening exhibits, animal events, entertainment, and food - times and prices vary. ([www.sanjuancountyfair.org](http://www.sanjuancountyfair.org))
- **34th Annual Victoria Classic Boat Festival**, September 2-4; Victoria's Inner Harbour; boats, parades, and the Victoria Classic Rowing Regatta! ([www.classicboatfestival.ca](http://www.classicboatfestival.ca))
- **35th Annual Wooden Boat Festival**, Port Townsend, September 9-11; Fri & Sat, 9am-7pm, plus after hours music until midnight; Sun, 9am-5pm, sail-by at 3pm; all types of boats! (For schedules, tickets, & other info, please visit [www.woodenboat.org](http://www.woodenboat.org))

- **Anacortes Antique Engine and Machinery Show**, September 10, 9am-4pm; Market & T Ave (north and east of the WT Preston snag boat). ([www.anacortes.org](http://www.anacortes.org))
- **Oyster Run**, weekend of September 25; music at 1pm, 7th & Q St; "Largest Motorcycle Run in the Pacific Northwest!", according to their website, [www.oysterrun.org](http://www.oysterrun.org)
- **Farmers Market**, (ongoing) Saturdays, 9am-2pm until October 15; at the Depot Arts Center, 611 R Ave. Come support your local Skagit Valley growers and crafters! ([www.anacortesfarmersmarket.org](http://www.anacortesfarmersmarket.org))

*"The road to a friend's house is never long."*  
- Danish Proverb

## Neighborhood Notes

- Thank you to all homeowners for keeping the neighborhood looking neat and trim, "horticulturally" speaking! Besides keeping grasses and weeds under control, it also reduces the fire hazard that can result from dry and overgrown lawns, according to the City of Anacortes. (Of course this seems to imply that drier weather will indeed come around *sometime* this summer!)
- Summertime and the living is easy ... plus, there are a lot of people strolling, of all ages, so please observe the 25-mile per hour speed limit when driving up and/or down the boulevard.
- This message is for the dogs of Sunset Cove: thank you to your people for having you safely on a leash at all times (and for cleaning up after you!).
- The Anacortes Senior College will soon be gearing up for fall classes; for schedules and information call 360.293.1200 or go to [www.seniorcollege.info](http://www.seniorcollege.info).
- If you have an idea, topic, article, or burning desire to see your name in print, please feel free to submit your morsel for this newsletter. Believe me, I am running out of ideas — and new and different voices are always welcome!!
- As usual: if you have received this newsletter via regular mail this means we do not have a current e-mail address on file for you. PLEASE contact [rick@etsell.com](mailto:rick@etsell.com) with your e-mail address, either new or changed, so we may update our records.
- The secret password to the documents section of the Sunset Cove website is **ssc98221** (lower case letters). You'll find the minutes of the Board meetings, past newsletters, both sets of CC&R's, by-laws, etc. (And just a note: the minutes get posted after they're approved by the Board, which is usually after the next meeting.)

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Sunset Cove Homeowners Association  
P.O. Box 943  
Anacortes, WA 98221



**Publicity Committee**  
Newsletter Editor: Jackie Etsell

We're on the Web!  
[Sunsetcove.org](http://Sunsetcove.org)

## Board Meeting Schedule:

The Sunset Cove Development Homeowners Association has scheduled board meetings at the Anacortes Public Library, Community Meeting Room, for 7 p.m. on the following dates:

- Thursday, August 18
- Thursday, September 15
- October, TBD
- November, TBD

Although these are working meetings of the Board, the community is invited and encouraged to attend. Contact Board President Paul Allen if you have any business to bring to the attention of the Board.

Always double-check the website, [www.sunsetcove.org](http://www.sunsetcove.org) for meeting reminders. E-mail: [board@sunsetcove.org](mailto:board@sunsetcove.org)

## Sunset Cove HOA:

Located in Anacortes, Washington, at the western end of Fidalgo Island, Sunset Cove is uniquely situated with views of the San Juan Islands, Rosario Strait, and Burrows Bay, and enjoys the privilege of adjoining beautiful Washington Park, with miles of beaches, trails, and picnic and camping sites.

The Sunset Cove community consists of Washington Park Estates (homes along Washington Boulevard), Sunset Cove Estates (homes along Washington Court), and The Crest and The Gardens at Sunset Cove (condominiums and townhomes).

Welcome to all our neighbors, new, "established", and those who haven't moved here yet!