

October 2015

LAGOON POINT

Lagoon Point Community Association Newsletter



In this issue:

- 2016 Board Election
- 2016 LPCA Nominees
- Announcements
- 2015 Fishing Derby
- Community Feedback
- 2nd Purple Martin Summer
- Architectural Committee
- Advertisement Section

2016 LPCA Board Election

The 2016 LPCA Board Election will be held in October, 2015. The ballots will be mailed to each home-owners' registered mailing address.

Nominees are listed in this month's newsletter and each nominee's bio will be included in the ballot.

2016 LPCA Nominees

2015 LCA Board of Directors Nominated for Re-election:

President—TJ Burke

VP—Danna Owen

Treasurer—Vicki Powers

Asst. Treasurer—Cheryl Kuss

Secretary—Melody Carney

Area 2 Rep—John Klemser

Area 4 Rep—Allan Darr

Area 6 Rep—Pat McDaniel

New Nominees for 2016

President—Bob Morikado

VP—Ray Lane

Asst. Secretary—Jeanette Requea

Area 6 Rep—Steve Kesselman



Announcements

December Meeting (Community Social)—December 4, 2015, Greenbank Clubhouse

2015 Lagoon Point Fishing Derby

The Planning Committee, Vicki Powers, Dick and Cheryl Kuss, Pat McDaniel and Allan Darr extend our appreciation for your participation in the 2015 Lagoon Point Fishing Derby. The sun was shining, the fish were jumping and the food was tasty. A grand day indeed.

We developed a “success” scale. We used smiles, laughter, and community spirit as our measures. By all measures, the Derby was a huge success. We sold more Derby and raffle tickets than the previous year and we received more raffle prizes than the previous year.

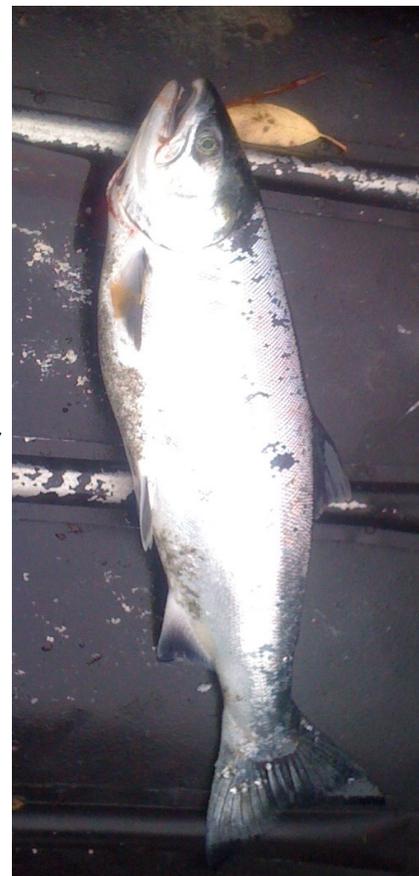
Oh yes, and folks ate more than last year, so much so that we were out of food early. Next year, the aspect of “potluck” will be emphasized so we have a bit more dishes to sample.

Those contributing prizes for the raffle receive our sincere appreciation. They were very generous and we thank them. The Committee also says thank you to the community volunteers who weighed the fish, cleaned up, helped with the food, sold raffle tickets, set up and put away supplies. Community spirit in action.

We especially lift a hotdog to Kim Olson of Payless Foods for donating the drink, hotdogs, buns and condiments. Additionally, her generosity extended to paying for the T-shirts which were sold at the Derby. The funds will be utilized for those in the community who are struggling and need a bit of help for their day-to-day expenses.

The following were the stars of the day that caught fish and took home some cash:

Adult Beach:	1 st	Brent Morris	6 1/2 lb. Pink
	2 nd	David Rouselle	5 7/8 lb. Silver
	3 rd	Ed Kearney	5 1/8 lb. Silver
		Andy Garmoe	5 1/8 lb. Silver
Adult Boat:	1 st	Dave Earp	11 3/4 lb. Silver
	2 nd	Don Sanford	6 5/8 lb. Silver
	3 rd	Steve Zylstra	6 1/4 lb. Silver
Kids:	1 st	Will Randolph	4 1/16 lb. Silver
	2 nd	Alex Dilger	3 7/8 lb. Silver
	3 rd	Katie Kvamme	3 3/4 lb. Silver
Bullhead:		Madeline Semlar	11”
Perch:		Adam Olsen	5 1/2”
		Ethan Elias	5 1/2”



Community Feedback

Could we ask people to quit putting their fish and crab cleanings in the canal and boat ramp? The request is to put it in their garbage (it helps to freeze it first and put it in the can the day of pick up) or take it home if you don't have garbage service at Lagoon Point. It looks so awful at the boat ramp area. Thank you for keeping our community areas clean.

Break-ins

A beach cabin was broken into and burglarized on Seashore Ave, Monday (8/24) evening. The door on the beach side was kicked in and all electronics, guitars, binoculars, etc. were taken. They had plenty of time to go through all drawers, garage, etc. and had to have backed a car or truck right up to the front door. As we head into the off-season please keep your eyes out for any peculiar behavior; the sheriff said, they are seeing the break-ins pick back up.

SECOND PURPLE MARTIN SUMMER – Part One

By Mary Hollen

The 2015 Lagoon Point (Whidbey Island) Purple Martin Summer began in the fall of 2014 with my acquisition of a Starter Gourd Set from the Purple Martin Conservation Association (www.purplemartin.org); Bob Vierra and Dan Brock's construction of permanent and removable piling caps on our shared dock; and the guys' herculean efforts to install the concrete-lined pole base on a piling to be ready for spring. Just in case the birds showed up again.

Highlights of the year include:

Craig Johnson donates t-shirt recognizing people involved in

May 1, 2015 Purple Martins arriving in South America. Jim Croll's piling cavity porch from a boat by John

May 3 Jim Stanton helps me place the pole sleeve and gourd rack on the pole base. Several Purple Martins watch me raise the gourd rack and one gorgeous dark blue fully adult male flies to a gourd before it is all the way to the top of the pole. Score!



art "I'm a Purple Martin Landlord" for recognizing the local recovery efforts.

show up above Steelhead Drive from winter. Stanton observes two birds sitting on Sheri's porch (porch built by Neil Kenworthy and installed by Schmidt). Two days later I hear their beautiful songs overhead and see them on my dock piling. Yay!!

place the pole sleeve and gourd rack on the pole base. Several Purple Martins watch me raise the gourd rack and one gorgeous dark blue fully adult male flies to a gourd before it is all the way to the top of the pole. Score!

Days go by while more Martins show up and try to get into the gourds but can't, then stand back and watch the starling that has taken over my piling cavity. Starlings not supposed to nest over water but this one didn't read the rules, or the pilings are too close to land. Eventually I sized the piling cavity opening small enough to prevent the starling while allowing Martins to enter. The manufactured gourd openings needed some shaving to accommodate Western Purple Martins (we have our own subspecies) who are a tiny bit larger than the better known variety that summers in the rest of North America. And that the gourds were manufactured for.

I learn that there is an international Western Purple Martin Working Group headed by Bruce Cousens of Nanaimo, B.C. and of which Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife is a member. Participants in U.S. and Canada have been conducting a banding and population demographics study for nearly 20 years. On May 9 a banded fully adult female shows up; I take pictures of her bands via phonescope, and learn that one of Bruce's volunteers banded her on Blackie Spit south of Vancouver B.C. when she was a baby. I turn in her numbers to USGS and get a Certificate of Appreciation to hang on my wall!

More days go by as more fully adult and teenage Purple Martins show up to inspect and peek into the gourds and piling cavity. Last year's fledging success brings them, but not necessarily the same individuals to the same nests. Helps preserve genetic diversity crucial to the breed's survival I'm told. I get advice from all over and remove house sparrow nests from Bob's bird houses, then add dried grass to the plastic gourds and piling cavity. I fiddle with the "starling resistant entrances" on the gourds and anxiously observe.

Bert Pack adjusts the opening on his piling cavity, but it is hard because he isn't there often enough when the starlings are nesting. It takes trial and error. A starling takes over. Key concept: body size is very similar starling to martin; leg length is longer on the starling and they can't crouch as low. Keep the porch level with the bottom of the opening and lower the header until the starling can't make it but the martin can.

Bob Vierra modifies a large white plastic "rural"-size mailbox to become a Martin nest box with porches inside and out that the birds can dig their claws into. Sizing the opening "just barely" big enough is critical to keep out Starlings.

House sparrows and starlings, both alien invasives, plague the Purple Martins constantly and I'm afraid Martins won't enter the gourds or piling cavities. The Purples haven't yet evolved to resist these aggressive nest invaders which is why they need people to intervene. I learn to stop feeding bird seed in my yard and offer water instead. This results in fewer aliens and no loss of native songbirds.

Phyllis Kind brings the Birding in Neighborhoods-South group of Whidbey Audubon birders to see the fun; Dan Pederson attends and takes pictures for his blog "Off The Rails". Stan Kostka emails that there are martins in gourds at Dines Point across Whidbey from me. I contact Dave Parent.

Finally a month after arriving in the area Purple Martins begin actually entering the gourds, piling cavity, and mailbox. Betsy Shapiro across the canal reports on their activities. They especially love the mailbox and play in it extensively, adding their own materials to the dried grass put in by me. Craig and Joy Johnson arrive to photograph the birds and write about them. See their work at <http://www.pugetsoundbackyardbirds.com/Purple%20Martins%video.html>

"I'm A Purple Martin Landlord" t-shirts arrive from the printer and are duly distributed to the participants. Tom Mueller of Bainbridge Island sends helpful advice and martin triplex plans. Important feature: rooms deep enough that a Great Horned Owl can't read the back and grab a nestling. I send them to Bob, whose birdhouses are already very popular with the Purple Martins.

Two fully adult females decide on nests at my place: the first female to arrive takes a gourd and the banded female takes my piling cavity. The first one's mate is a beautiful blue-black fully adult male, while the banded female takes a "younger man" for her mate. At Sheri Croll's piling cavity a fully adult pair had begun nesting earlier. Purple Martins are now cheerfully tearing leaves out of my crabapple trees to use as nest lining and egg covers. More males than females gather leaves. Beautiful songs fill the air. I try to record them but my cell phone is too full of pictures.

6/21/15 Nest check reveals one egg in my piling cavity and two eggs in the gourd nest! By now I know things can still go wrong, yet I relax a bit. Take a deep breath, there are ups and downs yet to come.

Next installment: Will more eggs appear? Will the birds stick around to hatch them? Will babies survive, or succumb to predators, mites, or starvation during rainy weather? Their sustenance is flying insects brought by parents but not during the rain. Success is not assured. Tune in next issue and find out!

Division 2-3-4 Architectural Committee Election

In accordance with the Lagoon Point Division 2-3-4 Covenants, section 3, a three member Architectural Committee is established to implement and enforce those covenants. The duties consist mainly of reviewing and approving building plans for new homes and for major remodel projects to ensure compliance with the covenants. Each Architectural Committee member serves a three year term.

The current members are:

Jan 2013 – Dec 2015	Kathleen Thorsvig	Div 4	360-678-4240	kathorsvig@gmail.com
Jan 2014 – Dec 2016	Andrew Messer	Div 2	360--639-9229	acm@whidbey.com
Jan 2015 – Dec 2017	Robert VonDrachek	Div 2	360-222-3309	bv1@whidbey.net

Each fall one position is open for election. Kathleen Thorsvig will not be running again this fall. Kathleen has been an Architectural Committee member since 2007 and we thank her for her service and dedication to the Lagoon Point Community.

Volunteers are needed to be nominated for this fall election to the Jan 2016 – Dec 2018 position and Janet Bondelid has volunteered to be nominated.

As provided for in the Division 2-3-4 Covenants 3.c.: "Should only one candidate be nominated, the election may be made by acclamation." Otherwise Architectural Committee member election ballots will be mailed in November.

If you own property in Division 2, 3 or 4 and are interested in volunteering for a position on the Architectural Committee, please contact one of the Committee members and we will add your name to the ballot. While full time residents are desirable, we appreciate and encourage all nominees.

LPCA Advertisement Section -

email LPCA99@gmail.com to be considered for this section

- Kitty Care or Weekday Dog Walking- contact Robyn and Tom Wozab- South Whidbey Pet Nannies- [360.661.5837](tel:360.661.5837)
- Upholstery Work- All kinds, Auto, Truck, Boat, Furniture. Have mobile unit. 40 years experience. All work guaranteed. Free estimates. Pat McDaniel at [360 222 3275](tel:360.222.3275)
- Mobile Notary - Notarization of documents in the privacy of your home. Sandy Moon [360-672-8320](tel:360-672-8320)
- If you need a baby shower gift, I do alterations. Call Monica at [360-310-0936](tel:360-310-0936)
- Estate Services Simplified, consulting, buying & selling; we buy vintage jewelry...please call Shelly at [360-929-1116](tel:360-929-1116)
- Lot for Sale by Owner: 3771 S. Shorewood Avenue. 60 ft X 260 ft, access from both Shorewood and Lagoon View Drive. Water and 3 bedroom septic on site. \$50,000 or best offer. Craig Koch (Coach) [206-932-5464](tel:206-932-5464)
- Looking for monthly mowing of our meadow on Smugglers Cove Road. Please call Anne at [801-598-9258](tel:801-598-9258) or e-mail me at: plethoraofnothing@gmail.com