

## WINTER 2022



Website: [lagoonpoint.com](http://lagoonpoint.com)  
Email: [info@LPCAWA.org](mailto:info@LPCAWA.org)

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### LPCA EVENTS

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month LPCA Board of Directors Meetings 4:00 pm\*
- **April 29, 2022 – Annual General Meeting**  
**Greenbank Progressive Club at 7:00 PM**

\* Board of Directors Meetings are held at Whidbey Water Services 5585 Lotto Ave Freeland.  
Board of Directors Meetings are open for observation by all LPCA Members.

From the LPCA Bylaws

*"The purpose of this association shall be to develop and maintain the common properties in the plat of Lagoon Point."*

# Lagoon Point Community Association Newsletter

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## VIEWPOINT:

*Teresa Becker, [President@LPCAWA.org](mailto:President@LPCAWA.org)*

**The Lagoon Point Community Association Annual General Meeting will be held at the Greenbank Progressive Club at 7:00 PM on Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

You will soon be receiving a ballot in the mail. It is your opportunity to weigh in on the selection of the LPCA Board of Directors, Area 1, 3 & 5 Representatives, the operating budget, reserve funds, a financial audit and proposed capital projects. The ballots can be returned by mail, delivered to the LPCA dropbox or cast at the LPCA Annual General Meeting.

Several positions on the board are being vacated this year, so you will notice some changes and new names on the ballot. The Nominating Committee is made up of the Area Representatives. They will begin reviewing nominees for the ballot following the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting. Any Member in good standing wishing to serve on the Board of Directors and have their name on the ballot should submit their name to the Board no later than March 11, 2022. At that time nominations will be closed in order to print the ballots. You may contact me directly before that date if you wish to volunteer or discuss the requirements of any of the positions.

[President@lpcawa.org](mailto:President@lpcawa.org)

The purpose of the LPCA is to develop and maintain our community properties. Other neighborhood topics are often covered in the newsletter to keep us all living together as a cohesive neighborhood. Here are a few recent topics of communications.

- Please remember that Island County code requires dogs to be on a leash no more than 8' in length. Be a responsible pet owner by controlling your dogs and picking up after them and do not put poop waste bags in the porta potty.
- In the Winter 2020 newsletter Allan Darr wrote an article about responsible outdoor lighting. As a new reminder, please review your own property at night and make sure your nighttime light footprint isn't overstepping its boundaries. See Terry Shaub's article about his observatory on Steelhead Drive, in this edition to see why our dark night skies are so valuable here.
- Another burning issue is smoke from fireplaces and outdoor fire pits. See Kim Serwold's article to see why it is important to consider what you are burning.

## New Contact Info:

*Teresa Becker, [President@LPCAWA.org](mailto:President@LPCAWA.org)*

[LPCA99@gmail.com](mailto:LPCA99@gmail.com) is going away. Soon you will see mail from [Info@lpcawa.org](mailto:Info@lpcawa.org). The past few months we have been working to change the old LPCA Gmail accounts over to a Microsoft Office business account. The old system had some limitations that affected our communications with members. The new email will allow us to send to all members in one email. It will also give us more cloud storage for our documents and allow shared document access by the board members. The shared email folders will allow for communications and working documents to be passed on when board members leave their positions. This will provide better continuity and avoid rebuilding the wheel every time a

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position changes hands. As we transition to our new system over the next month you may receive an email from our old address telling to check your junk mail folder and save our new address as a safe sender. All of our LPCA email contacts are included on the back page of this newsletter.

Please let us know if your contact information, mailing address, email or phone number has changed so that your ballots, annual assessments and email notifications are received. You should email any changes in your contact information to [Secretary@lpcawa.org](mailto:Secretary@lpcawa.org)

## Some Things Burning

*Contributed by Kim Serwold*

Lagoon Point can be a windy spot, but often in the winter we can experience periods of air stagnation. What you put into your fireplace may infiltrate into your neighbor's home. While you might not realize the emissions are bothersome, your neighbors certainly do. The elderly, children and those with asthma or allergies are vulnerable to bronchitis and susceptible to air pollution.

Burning items in your fireplace such as driftwood is harmful to you, your family and your neighbors. Burning driftwood may seem harmless, but it releases toxic and harmful chemicals. Carcinogenic dioxins released by the dried salt and other additives is not healthy. The emissions irritate eyes, nose, throat and lungs. It can make you wheeze, cough, cause shortness of breath and headaches. It can make heart and lung conditions worse. Release of the toxins and harmful chemicals also causes corrosion and rust to the woodstove, fireplace and venting system. Other practices, such as, burning plastic, food, and trash exposes us all to dioxins and furans.

Please consider your neighbors and the environment when starting fires. If you have questions regarding what is acceptable to burn indoors and outdoors, please refer to [www.ecology.wa.gov](http://www.ecology.wa.gov).

## It's an Observatory:

*Terry Shaub*

### Is that an Observatory?

Neighbors have stopped and asked us about that thing on the upper deck of our home. Many guessed correctly that it was an observatory. Other guesses were, Sauna, Hot tub, Chicken Coop, and some other hilarious jokes. (We love this neighborhood!) Teresa stopped by and asked me to write up something so folks could get a little more insight about what this thing does. I will really try not to get too detailed here, but I'm a nerd so.....





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An observatory is basically a garage for a telescope system. In this system, the telescope is attached on top of an Equatorial Mount. This mount is robotic and is controlled by an application on my laptop. Using the application, I can select a celestial target and the mount will slew the telescope to be pointed precisely at objects, such as galaxies and nebulae. The robotic mount also tracks the object during the night while a camera is taking fairly long exposure pictures.

This is the nerdy part. This tracking is necessary because the Earth is spinning on its polar axis, and orbiting around the Sun. As such, the mount needs to know where it's at on Earth. The mount has GPS, so it knows the latitude and longitude. All it needs is to be in line with the polar axis. This information is given to the mount through a calibration process called "Polar Alignment". Earth's polar axis is very close to Polaris, the "North Star". The mount's polar scope needs to be pointed a few arc seconds (like degrees) off from Polaris. There are a few more sciencey things to do in the process of polar alignment and it takes about 30+ minutes if all goes well. It's being done in the dark... and a lot of time I am on my knees for part of the process.



*Western Veil Nebula photo by Terry Shaub*

### **So why the Observatory?**

Before the observatory, I would carry the rig out of the shop every night and go through the polar alignment process in the driveway. I decided that an observatory would not only eliminate carrying the telescope out every night, but it would also keep the mount polar aligned (once it was done inside the observatory).

I am doing astrophotography. It requires very sensitive cameras that take very long exposures (usually 2 to 5 minutes or longer exposures). I want to take as many pictures as possible. (Like Hubble, Images are processed by stacking all the pictures into a single aligned picture.)

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By having the observatory, the telescope doesn't have to be polar aligned and put away every time it's used. This gives me a couple of extra hours to take images.

The Observatory is mostly automated. The dome rotates as the mount moves the telescope across the night sky. Almost everything is run from inside the house. An astrophotography application tells the mount where to go and it slews the telescope to the precise location of the object. Then I can launch a programmable plan to take many pictures through various filters. I can monitor the images being taken on my laptop while watching TV, reading or napping. There is even a sensor that will automatically close the dome's shutter if it starts raining while I am sleeping.

So, there it is in a galactic nutshell.



I have a website where you can see some of my photography and even comment if you wish. <https://lagoonpointobservatory.space/> . The pictures are getting better as I get more experience. If you have questions or want to take a closer look at what's under the dome, you can email me at [tshaub@comcast.net](mailto:tshaub@comcast.net). If we're in the yard, feel free to ask questions. Megumi knows the basics. I'm the nerd.

Astronomers have a tradition of ending their emails and posts on blogs with "Clear Skies". Lagoon Point has Bortle 3 skies (that's really good. Bortle 9 is the worst of skies, defined as "Inner-city sky") Our skies here in Lagoon Point are *extraordinarily rare, very clear, and very dark*. I encourage everyone to take a moment before going to bed and look up at the sky on a clear night. We have some of the clearest and darkest skies in the world!

So with that I will close with...

Clear and dark skies!

-Terry (and Megumi)

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## LAGOON POINT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (LPCA) CONTACTS:

### **LPCA FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

President	Teresa Becker	<a href="mailto:President@lpcawa.org">President@lpcawa.org</a>
Vice President	Stan Waldrop	<a href="mailto:VicePresident@lpcawa.org">VicePresident@lpcawa.org</a>
Treasurer	Vicki Powers	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@lpcawa.org">Treasurer@lpcawa.org</a>
Assistant Treasurer	Cheryl Kuss	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@lpcawa.org">Treasurer@lpcawa.org</a>
Secretary	Louise Abbott	<a href="mailto:Secretary@lpcawa.org">Secretary@lpcawa.org</a>
Assistant Secretary	Chris Anderson	<a href="mailto:Secretary@lpcawa.org">Secretary@lpcawa.org</a>

### **AREA REPRESENTATIVES**

Area 1	Shirley Hendricson	<a href="mailto:shirley.hendricson@lpcawa.org">shirley.hendricson@lpcawa.org</a>
Area 2	John Klemser	<a href="mailto:john.klemser@lpcawa.org">john.klemser@lpcawa.org</a>
Area 3	Bev Chan	<a href="mailto:bev.chan@lpcawa.org">bev.chan@lpcawa.org</a>
Area 4	Scott Brunner	<a href="mailto:scott.brunner@lpcawa.org">scott.brunner@lpcawa.org</a>
Area 5	Dick Kuss	<a href="mailto:dick.kuss@lpcawa.org">dick.kuss@lpcawa.org</a>
Area 6	Chuck Hammer	<a href="mailto:chuck.hammer@lpcawa.org">chuck.hammer@lpcawa.org</a>

### **DIVISION 2-3-4 ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE**

Position 1	Chris Anderson	<a href="mailto:caanderson1978@gmail.com">caanderson1978@gmail.com</a>
Position 2	Jim Norton	<a href="mailto:jknorton@whidbey.com">jknorton@whidbey.com</a>
Position 3	Howard Conant	<a href="mailto:konavu@gmail.com">konavu@gmail.com</a>

### **WATERWAY COMMITTEE**

Carl Haslam	<a href="mailto:carlhaslam@msn.com">carlhaslam@msn.com</a>
Tony Hartman	<a href="mailto:deepseatrucker@yahoo.com">deepseatrucker@yahoo.com</a>
Carl O'Brien	<a href="mailto:obmech@hotmail.com">obmech@hotmail.com</a>

If you have questions about Lagoon Point, send an email to [info@lpcawa.org](mailto:info@lpcawa.org)

**Has your Email, Phone Number or Mailing Address changed?** Send an email to [info@lpcawa.org](mailto:info@lpcawa.org) with your current contact information.

**Drop Box Location** – for dues payments, ballots and written correspondence:  
3675 Oceanside –box attached to the fence, right of the driveway when facing the house.

**Or Mail Dues and Ballots to:** LPCA  
P.O. Box 123  
Greenbank, WA 98253

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## **If you sell your home please do the following:**

- a. Contact LPCA email at [info@lpcawa.org](mailto:info@lpcawa.org) to notify that you have sold.
- b. Return your (2) LPCA Fishing tags, (1) LPCA Parking Hang Tag and (1) Boat Launch Gate Card to Dick Kuss prior to closing or you will be charged a \$300 fee at escrow. All 4 items must be turned in to avoid the fee. The address to return is 3675 Oceanside Drive. Email: [dick.kuss@lpcawa.org](mailto:dick.kuss@lpcawa.org)
- c. If your buyer requires Board Meeting Minutes, Annual Member Meeting Minutes and/or Financial Reports, you can find them at the website [lagoonpoint.com](http://lagoonpoint.com) under the tab "Members Area". It is your responsibility as a current LPCA property owner to supply a prospective buyer and/or real estate agent with the information.

## **GATE CARD, FISHING TAGS, PARKING PASS:**

If you have not picked up your Gate Card, Fishing Tags and Parking Hang Tag contact Dick Kuss at [dick.kuss@lpcawa.org](mailto:dick.kuss@lpcawa.org)

## **WEBSITE – MEMBERS AREA PASSWORD:**

In order to access the Members Area of the Lagoon Point website you must have a password. The following are the instructions on how to receive your password:

- Start on the Lagoon Point Members page by clicking on Private Information tab.
- A dialogue box will pop up on your screen. Click on "Register" in the lower left corner.
- The next dialogue box pops up titled "Register for this site" where you enter all your own information. You choose your own sign on name and your own personal password. You will be asked for your Lagoon Point address here on the island, not a mailing address somewhere else. Save your information somewhere safe.

Once you register for the Members Area, our web site server will notify us of a pending new member for verification. Once LPCA is notified of your registration, we can grant you access to LPCA private access. We don't set up your private info, you do.

If you have questions or need help contact:

Rob Powers Office: 425-635-0095, Cell: 206-953-5363, [rob@rdpowersalvage.com](mailto:rob@rdpowersalvage.com)