

# Bush Prairie News

## February 2011

Our mission, as the Bush Prairie Homeowners Association, is to enhance the value and desirability of all real property within the association and promote the health, safety and welfare of our residents, while fostering a friendly and neighborly community.

### Board Members

#### **President**

Roger Fish 753-7100

#### **Vice President**

Alida Abbott 705-0461

#### **Board Members**

Elena Guinn 956-3860

Randy Taylor 705-1857

Kirsten Wees 236-9973

### Officers

#### **Secretary**

Terry Kirkpatrick 943-3293

#### **Treasurer**

Bill Moneer 943-4776

### Committees

#### **Architectural Control Committee**

Lex Nepomuceno 206-219-3783

#### **Covenants Committee**

Fred Schaefer 570-1800

#### **Emergency Preparedness Committee**

Fred Schaefer 570-1800

#### **Landscape & Maintenance**

Shawn Deskins 789-4663

#### **Mailbox Committee**

Roger Fish 753-7100

#### **Newsletter Committee**

Elena Guinn & Bill Moneer

#### **Recreation Committee**

Elena Guinn 956-3860

#### **Webmaster**

Bill Moneer 943-4776

#### **Welcoming Committee**

Jeanne Kirkpatrick 943-3293

## President's Message

Now that 2010 is a wrap, I thought I would step back and view last year's accomplishments. Overall, I think we had a very good year with several initiatives completed or substantially pushed forward. We started the year with five aggressive goals and fully completed three. The mailbox project was the largest capital improvement the Association has tackled in a long time. It was completed on budget and is currently helping our community keep its mail secure. We have a balanced budget and are organizing our community to assure that we are prepared for any large-scale emergency.

When you look at our mission statement, we made strides in several areas important to the value, desirability, safety, and friendliness of our neighborhood. That's what our Board focuses on each time we meet. Our accomplishments could not have been done without the efforts of our Board, committees, and homeowners. Thank you for your support and input! I look forward to serve another year as your President as we together continue to improve our community.

- Roger

## Annual Meeting Happenings

This year the meeting was held in the Training Room of the East Olympia Fire District Headquarters Building on Normandy Street. What a great meeting place it was! Lots of room, new, neat, good amenities at no cost to BPHA. The election for two board members resulted in Randy Taylor and Kirsten Wees elected to the Board. Bill Moneer has assumed the positions of Treasurer and Webmaster of the BPHA website. New chairperson for the Architectural Control Committee is Lex Nepomuceno. Major projects for the year were the installation of the clustered mailboxes and implementation of an Emergency Preparedness Plan for Bush Prairie. Homeowners present voted to set aside money in a "Capital Fund" for future major improvement/replacement projects.

**BPHA Emergency Preparedness Plan:**

**Map Your Neighborhood**

The earthquake we felt before the holidays was a good reminder that we need to be prepared for emergencies. Implementation of Bush Prairie’s Emergency Preparedness Plan continues in 2011. Alida Abbott, Vice President, spearheads this project. Training meetings are being held for each mailbox cluster unit in Bush Prairie. We would like to thank Lucy Comley and Elena Guinn for hosting training meetings for mailbox cluster units H and L in 2010. We are still looking for volunteers to host meetings in their homes for the following clusters: A -D, G, J- K, Q-S. The host family picks a time for the meeting and hosts it in their home. They also help invite their neighbors to the meeting. The host can present the training themselves or ask Alida to conduct the training. If you are interested please contact Alida at 705-0461 or [agpa@uw.edu](mailto:agpa@uw.edu). Our goal is to provide training in half of the mailbox cluster units by year end. If you get your mail at cluster unit E or F (near the 79<sup>th</sup> Street entrance to Bush Prairie) your meeting will be held within the next six weeks. You can look forward to one of your neighbors inviting you to the training meeting. We hope to see you there!

*Thank you for driving slowly and carefully in our neighborhood, you and your neighbors' safety depends upon it. Remind your teenagers of the dangers and consequences of driving reckless.*

**2011 BPHA Budget**

The following budget for 2011 was approved at the annual meeting.

<b>Income:</b>	<b>\$ 35,115</b>
(dues, storm water dues, interest, finance charges and balance of Insurance Claim)	
<b>Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 32,797</b>
Community Relations	\$ 2,105
Covenants/By-laws	\$ 50
Landscaping Contract	\$ 8,000
Maintenance	\$ 6,000
Insurance	\$ 2,500
Legal & Accounting	\$ 500
Management Fees	\$ 4,800
Office Expenses	\$ 500
Postage	\$ 500
Stormwater Expenses	\$ 1,392
Taxes	\$ 150
Utilities: Power	\$ 5,500
Water	\$ 800

**BPHA Goals for 2011**

In 2011, we will continue to push several goals started in 2010. We are going to extend our emergency preparedness throughout the community and continue initiatives to keep our streets safe from speeding vehicles. Also on the goal list is to establish a capital fund, get our Board and committees better organized, and enhance the way we communicate with our membership. These are again fairly aggressive goals, but attainable with some hard work. If you have ideas, comments or issues please feel free to come to our monthly meetings, call any of the Board members or contact us through the website. We are here to improve your community – to do that we need to hear from you!

## Christmas Contest Decorations

Selected for the best holiday display was 7828 Paddock Ct., home of Stanley & Becky Henry. They received a \$50 gift card to Fred Meyer. Thank you for a display that conveyed the meaning of the season. Congrats!!!



## Best Yard of 2010

Congratulations, Fred & Pauline Schaefer at 7827 Gelding Dr for “Best Yard of 2010”. They were awarded a \$50 gift card to Home Depot. Your yard is a beautiful asset to Bush Prairie.

## December’s Board Meeting

Roger Fish was elected President for a second year and Alida Abbott was elected Vice President at the December ’10 meeting. The board meetings are open to all homeowners and are usually held the second Thursday of each month. The agenda and loca-

tion are posted on the Bush Prairie web site. The next meeting is at 7 p.m. on February 10, 2011 at the Abbott residence, 2024 Arena Ct.

*Check out the Forest walk. It is a 1/3 mile walk through Bush Prairie community property.*

*Go to the end of Arena Ct to start your walk.*

## Accidents in Bush Prairie

Early in the morning of Sunday, November 21 the Clustered Mailbox Unit near the duplexes on Trails End Drive was run over, knocked off the foundation and damaged by a hit & run driver who was seen backing up and off the unit. A resident called 911, sheriff responded but unfortunately not enough info was available to apprehend anyone. The unit has been replaced but at great expense

to BPHA. Another of the large pear trees at the 79<sup>th</sup> Avenue entrance to Bush Prairie was destroyed resulting from a car crashing into it on January 5<sup>th</sup>. The accident was reported and we are hopeful cost of replacement will come from the driver’s insurance company. If anyone has information on either of these incidents or other damage to BPHA property, please contact anyone on the Board.

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# Bush Prairie News

## Mailboxes

### *What should I do if I lose all of my mailbox keys?*

This is just one of the questions we will soon be adding to our FAQ's on the Bush Prairie website ([www.bushprairie.com](http://www.bushprairie.com)). We will updating the FAQ's to address the new mailboxes and some of the questions that might come up for our residents. To answer the question, the keys to your mail slot are your responsibility. If you have misplaced your keys or your mail slot lock becomes damaged, you have several options:

- 1) contact a locksmith for remedy. They will replace the lock for you.
- 2) contact Auth Florence (800-275-1747), the CBU manufacturer, to purchase re-

placement keys or lock. You can contact the recently formed Mailbox committee for the key ID number for your mail slot.

- 3) Contact the Mailbox committee for a lock replacement (\$50 charge). We have a few replacement lock and key sets. For options 2 and 3, if the old lock cannot be opened, you will need to have the Postal Service maintenance department replace the lock for you. Contact the downtown Olympia USPS office.

## Winter Weather Maintenance

This winter has brought more rain and snow than last year. Keeping street storm drains free of debris and leaves assures drainage of water off the driveways and streets of Bush Prairie. To help keep our storm drains clear::

- 1) don't blow or rake leaves from the yard into the street. Pick-up yard waste and discard in your yard bin;

- 2) if you have a storm drain near your home please check it periodically to insure it is free of debris; and
- 3) if you are a walker or runner in the neighborhood be on the lookout for clogged drains and clear them if you can.