

Kala Pointer

THE KALA POINTER IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE KALA POINT OWNERS ASSOCIATION
OCTOBER 2023



In This Issue

- President's Message
- Board Meeting Summary
- Nine Board Candidates
- Voting
- A Kinder Election
- Letter to the Editor
- Volunteer Opportunities
- *Kala Pointer* Survey Results
- Great Shakeout
- Grounds Committee Information
- Fire Ecology on the Peninsula
- Native Plant Sale
- Get To Know Your Neighbors
- Food Bank Drive
- Kala Cares
- Free October Concerts
- Open Studio
- Through the Lens
- Committee Reports
- Advertising

Hard Copies and Magnification Tip

To obtain a hard copy of the *Kala Pointer*, visit the Administration Office or the Clubhouse. To view the newsletter on the Kala Point website, visit kalapoint.org/kala-pointer/view-past-issues/.

To increase your viewing magnification: on a Mac, click and hold "+" and "command" at the same time; on a PC, click and hold "+" and "Ctrl."

Special Notice Emails

If you are not receiving special notice emails from KPOA, please contact the Administration staff at 360.385.0814.

Attention Gmail Users

Since the *Kala Pointer* is larger than most emails, Gmail automatically cuts it off at a certain point. To ensure you see the entire newsletter, click on the “View Entire Message” link at the bottom of this email. ♦

From the Desk of KPOA President

[Mark Lannon](#), Board President

Progress has been made gathering additional information regarding the Pier Project. Many of the documents related to this project have been added to the KPOA website under Amenities kalapoint.org/amenities/beach-pier-project/. You must sign into the website first.

As you may remember, the pier was inspected earlier this year and rot was discovered in some of the pier’s beams. That discovery led the Board to ask the General Manager (GM) to identify potential marine structural engineering companies that could inspect the pier, and provide a report about its safety and potential remedial actions. The GM then reached out to about a dozen structural engineering companies locally and in the Puget Sound area.

The resulting “2023 Marine Structural Engineer Initial Contact List” can be found on the Pier Project page (link above).

Requests for Information (RFI) were sent out asking for basic information about each company's capabilities. Three responses were received, all of which are on the Pier Project website. Those three engineering companies then received our Request for Proposals (RFP), and we recently received their proposals. The GM is now working to get some questions answered about those proposals, and we expect to include additional information on the website very soon. ♦



Nighttime at the Wooden Boat Festival by Donna Abear

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Cover Photo: Kevin Smith

Next Newsletter Deadline:

October 19 for the
November Issue

Submit your articles to:
YourKalaPointer@kalapoint.org

Our Letter to the Editor policy

Look under section H.

The Kala Point community is a common-interest residential homeowner association (HOA). When purchasing or building within Kala Point, homeowners agree to follow the HOA's governing documents, which include: Conditions, Covenants and Restrictions of Record (CC&Rs); Rules and Regulations; Bylaws; and detailed Administrative Policies and Procedures (APPs). APPs are Board-enacted rules. The protective umbrella of these governing documents works in the best interest of all homeowners ensuring higher standards of neighborhood appearance and enhancing the collective value of the homes.

Committee Chairs 2023

Architectural [Pat Miles](#)

BMAC [Scott Love](#)

Elections [Patsy Mathys](#)

Emergency Preparedness (EPC) [Mark Miller](#)

Finance [Kevin Skolrud](#)

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[Click here](#) to email the entire board

September Board Meeting Summary

[Dan Nordlund](#), Board Secretary

The September KPOA Board Meeting was held September 12 at 3 p.m. It was a hybrid meeting held in person at the Clubhouse and over Zoom. Directors in attendance: M. Lannon, president; J. Reeves, vice president; D. Nordlund, secretary; K. Skolrud, CFO; and Directors S. Stanton, P. Miles, M. Machette, and D. Moses (on Zoom). Also in attendance were Keith Larson, general manager; and Felice Thompson, executive assistant. There were also nine self-identified Zoom attendees and 28 in-person attendees.

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order. The September 2023 agenda was approved (as amended). It was announced that the deadline for articles for the October *Kala Pointer* was September 19.

Under member comments, Marlene Newman thanked Kevin Skolrud for the Budget Open House meeting. Mary Ann Schulte spoke about committee volunteers, and Wayne Scamuffa suggested that there be a membership survey about the pier project. Several members commented on our CC&Rs allowing non-members to serve as directors. It was clarified that while non-members can serve on the Board, only members can serve as officers.

The agenda for the September meeting and the minutes of the August 8, 2023, Board meeting were then approved. The minutes of the Board's Special Executive Meeting on August 28, 2023, were also approved.

Next the consent calendar was approved which appointed the following people to the ad hoc Pedestrian Safety Committee: Geoff Genter, Phil Brodt, Scott Rovanpera, Tom McFarling, Allen Vaa, and Dennis Struecker.

General Manager's Financial Report

GM Larson presented two resolutions from the Finance Committee which the Board approved to be sent to the membership for a vote at the Annual Membership Meeting. The first resolution would require any income in excess of 2023 expenses be applied toward reducing the 2025 assessments. The second resolution would waive the requirement for an audit of the 2023 financial statements. Also, the KPOA has received an additional delinquent timeshare payment. There are still four remaining to be collected, totaling \$1,039.

With regard to the Clubhouse, GM Larson reported that there has been an “uptick” in blatant disregard for rules at the pool and the hot tub. Please pay attention to the Clubhouse attendants regarding the rules, and treat staff with respect.

Most reserve projects for 2023 have been completed. There are still some road repairs and paving of Hemlock and Pinewood Courts remaining. The mooring buoys at the beach are not to be used until further notice. The anchoring systems need to be checked for safety.

Old Business

- GM Larson has received three proposals from marine structural engineering firms regarding the pier project. There will be a meeting to review the proposals; following the meeting, the KPOA website will be updated for member review
- There are a total of three proposed amendments to Articles 7 & 15 of the CC&Rs which were originally to be voted on as a whole. The Board voted to separate the three changes so that each could stand (or fall) on its own.
- Following a second read of APP XIV – Project Study Committee (formerly Strategic Planning Committee), the Board approved the changes: four Pedestrian Safety Committee members were approved, and Phil Brodt and Geoff Genter will co-chair the committee. Plans include research to suggest cost-effective solutions for pedestrian safety on Kala Point Drive.

New Business

- The Elections Committee discovered an inconsistency in our governing documents regarding methods of voting. As a result, the Board passed a motion that voting in the 2023 Annual Membership Meeting would be by mail, in person, or by proxy.
- The Board approved a motion to send a resolution to the membership for a vote at the Annual Membership Meeting which would amend the CC&Rs to add electronic voting as an option for all elections. The main goal here is to align our governing documents.

There being no further business, the Board voted to recess until the October 10 meeting time.

Note: For more details about the meeting, supporting documents, and a recording of the Board meeting, visit the Board of Directors landing page on the website at kalapoint.org/board-committees/board. ♦

A Kala Point Record: Nine Board Candidates

Patsy Mathys, chair, Elections Committee

As you know, the Kala Point Board has nine members. Every year three members retire and the membership elects three new Board members. This year, Michael Machette, Dan Nordlund, and Kim Titus are our retiring Board members.

Most years we only have three people who volunteer to be a Board candidate. This year the Elections Committee was thrilled when 10 — a record! — Kala Point members submitted their Letters of Interest by the September 15 deadline. One of the candidates politely withdrew, leaving us with nine, still an admirable number.

With that said, our 2023 Board candidates are Donna Abear, Marilyn Berry, Michael Connor, Geoff Genter, Bob Goldstein, Dan Kimball, Bob Longmire, Cindy Torpey, and Fred Wilson.

We thank each of you for volunteering to serve on our Board. Our members now have nine candidates from whom to choose.

How did this happen? We had four dedicated recruiters on our Elections Committee: Paul Fleischman, Jani Weller, Charla Jean Lo Reaux and myself who gave their all. Thank you, EC team!

Note, at this point any additional member or resident desiring to be a candidate can do so by becoming a write-in candidate; [see APP IX](#). ♦



Image by Freepik

We Will be Voting Differently This Year

Mark Lannon, Board President, and Patsy Mathys, Elections Committee Chair

The Elections Committee recently discovered that we have a conflict in our governing documents. In 2016 when the electronic voting option was added to our By-Laws, the CC&Rs were not updated. The CC&Rs don't allow electronic voting.

Since the CC&Rs take precedence over conflicts with the By-Laws, we cannot do

electronic balloting without risking that the entire election be disqualified.

The Elections Committee also discovered that our CC&Rs give a member the choice to vote by mail, in person at the meeting, or by proxy. These voting options will be added to your December 2023 voter instructions. ♦



*The Elderberries entertained us with their classic cover rock sound in September!
photo by Phyllis Wurscher*

A Kinder Election

Patsy Mathys, chair, Elections Committee

Many of Kala Point's past elections for new Board members have been uncontested, with only three candidates for three open positions, essentially giving the membership no choices when voting. When we've had more than three candidates, those who were not selected often had a negative reaction to the process, and did not consider running for the Board again at subsequent elections.

The Elections Committee has been evaluating this issue. We desire an election process that fosters harmony and encourages those who were not the top vote-getters to run again. After all, we are all neighbors.

In past elections the final vote count for each Board candidate had been announced at the annual meeting, on bulletin boards, and in the newsletter. If you are one of the candidates who had the lowest vote count, how might you feel? Some candidates have thick skins, but this is not necessarily everyone. Keep in mind this is a volunteer position, not a paid position as in political elections.

Rather than announcing the actual vote counts of all candidates, our committee is considering announcing only the three candidates with the highest number of votes who will become the new Board members. This information would continue to be publicized at the annual meeting, bulletin boards, and newsletter. Any candidate or member who truly wants to know the vote count can request it from our Administration Office.

For transparency and involvement, we would like to hear from you, the membership, before we take the next step.

Please send your thoughts to ElectionsCommitteeK@gmail.com, and let us know

whether you like the idea. Feel free to give extra comments or suggestions. Your feedback will truly help us do our part to help build community.

Ideally, we would appreciate just one email per household. Please consider including your address to allow us to check addresses. The Elections Committee thanks you for your views and comments. ♦



Letter to The Editor

Open letter to the KPOA Board and Elections Committee:

I would be happy to get together a list of Kala Point volunteers to work together with the Elections Committee to count and certify the mail-in ballots for our election this December. We routinely did this 25 years ago without error or a hint of impropriety. Doing this internally, using our own resources, would save several thousand dollars per year — always a desirable goal.

Marlene Newman
373 Fairbreeze Drive ♦



Two Important Ways You Can Help in Our Community

Work with Great Kids and Educators at Chimacum Middle/High School

Doug Edelstein

Chimacum Middle/High School's homework help center is recruiting qualified tutors in math, writing, science, civics and more. Sessions are Tuesdays and Thursdays after school, 2:20 to 3:15 p.m., with other possible hours as well.

How's your algebra? Linear equations? Geometry, trig, and beyond? When was the last time you read Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, short stories by Poe, or the legend of *Beowulf*? Civics classes discuss and learn about local, national and world issues, developing skills in critical thinking, writing, and more.

Tutoring kids allows you to put your education and experience to the best use: helping amazing students improve their grades and achieve their goals.

Email Doug Edelstein at daedelstein2@gmail.com to find out how you can help at awesome Chimacum MS/HS.

Help a Child Learn to Read

Janice Templin-Weller

Volunteers sought as tutors for the AAUW (American Association of University Women) kindergarten reading program at Chimacum Creek Primary School. Commitment is one hour, one day per week during the morning October through May.

Although AAUW membership is open to everyone, you do not need to be a member to help. Please call Christine de Vries to sign up at 201.290.4761. ♦



***Kala Pointer* Survey Results**

Laurie Engelbeck

The *Kala Pointer* Survey was sent to all emails on the KPOA email list and was open from August 14–31. Of the 185 people who responded, 98 percent indicated that they read or skim through the entire newsletter most months. As such, this may be a sample biased toward regular readers.

Kala Point as Home

- For 87% of respondents, Kala Point is their primary residence
- 42% of respondents have lived in Kala Point for more than 10 years
- 20% have lived here 1–3 years; this sample may be skewed to longer-term residents

Articles Ranked by Interest

The types of articles that interest readers most, in rank order, were:

- Kala Point community issues (elections, budget, pier status, etc.)
- Upcoming Kala Point Community Events
- KPOA President's Message
- KPOA Board Meeting Minutes
- Articles about emergency planning
- Committee Reports

Articles Ranked by Personal Preference

Favorite types of articles, in rank order, were:

- Community issues
- Neighbor profiles
- Community events
- Committee reports
- All of them
- Board meeting minutes
- Photos
- President's message
- Articles about plants and animals
- Emergency planning articles such as fire prevention
- Sharing the good life
- Port Townsend and area events:
- Ads

Respondents' Feedback

When asked what they would like to see more of in the *Kala Pointer* and what changes they would like to see, respondents had a wide range of opinions. Many comments were directly contradicted by other comments. For example, while several readers indicated that they would like to see more neighbor profiles, recipes and articles about what residents do, including their art and community involvement, others specifically said they

wanted to see less about their neighbors and fewer or no recipes.

Some expressed loving the photos of the local area; others asked for fewer photos. One person specified that three photos per month was enough.

Several people suggested that the newsletter is too long, while others asked for *more* information about committee and Board meetings, as well as events outside of Kala Point and information about local (Port Townsend/Port Hadlock) community issues and politics. It is clear that the *Kala Pointer* staff cannot satisfy everyone, but we appreciate the comments. We will continue to keep our focus on the Kala Point community.

There were several requests for more information about the activities of the KPOA general manager, the Board, and committees. There already is a general manager report that is part of the Board meeting summary in every edition. Further information about the Board and the committee meetings/activities are available on the KPOA website kalapoint.org/board-committees. Information about finances and where our KPOA dues are spent is also available through articles in the *Kala Pointer* and on the website.

We will continue to feature articles about the activities of the committees. Starting this issue, we are adding the name of the person who wrote the committee meeting summary to allow readers to contact that person for more information.

For those who asked for more articles about pets or those residents who have passed away, the *Kala Pointer* staff does not usually have this information unless it is provided. If you have information you would like to share about a person or pet that has died, consider submitting an article.

Some respondents suggested that it would be nice to be able to skip through the newsletter rather than having to scroll through all articles. The staff agrees that this would be a great feature; however, the KPOA office prints hard copies of the *Kala Pointer* for those who do not have email, or who prefer to have a hard copy. The "jump links" that allow readers to skip to articles of interest would result in the office not being able to easily print hard copies.

Different Ways to View the Newsletter

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For those who reported that the font is too small, you can increase your viewing magnification: On a Mac, click and hold "+" and "command" at the same time; on a PC, click and hold "+" and "Ctrl."

Letters to the Editor

The *Kala Pointer* continues to welcome articles of interest to the community as well as letters to the editor about concerns. When possible, we will print a response from a Board member. Send your articles and letters to YourKalaPointer@kalapoint.org.

The policy on letters to the editor is available at kalapoint.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/13_App-XIII-Publications_2023_04_11-3.pdf, see section 8.

Thank You!

The *Kala Pointer* staff appreciates all the feedback and will try to incorporate it into our work when possible. We thank those who indicated they might like to help with the production of the *Kala Pointer* or who are willing to be featured in the newsletter. ♦

The Great Shakeout is Coming

Mark Miller, chair, EPC

On 10/19 at 10:19 a.m., the Kala Point Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC) encourages you to participate in the Great Shakeout exercise. At that exact time, cell phones all over the U.S. will light up with alerts, the tsunami sirens will sound, and announcements will be made: “Earthquake drill! Drop, Cover and HOLD ON!”

Immediately following this simulated earthquake, Kala Point Block Captains will open their zone’s Emergency Gathering Places, just as they would in an actual emergency (of any type), and you are strongly encouraged to attend. In addition to being an opportunity to get to know your Block Captain and meet your immediate neighbors, your BC will have a lot of very useful information available, such as how to call for help when cell phones and power go out, what to have in a “Go Bag” and how to know where to go in case of evacuation, plus how to receive an alert with up to 20 seconds of warning *before* the ground starts shaking – possibly enough time to:



It is easy to forget that we live in an earthquake zone, even though just 60 miles off our coast lies the [biggest earthquake fault](#) in this hemisphere, and it’s past due for the “Big One”! But did you know that a much closer, high-risk fault, the [Southern Whidbey Island Fault](#), runs right between Port Townsend and Whidbey Island? Because it is a mere three miles from here, even a moderate quake would hit with *no* warning, level buildings and homes, damage bridges and roadways, cut communications and power for an extended period, cause untold injury, and completely overwhelm local emergency services.

Kala Point is divided into 19 Zones. Each zone has a Block Captain (although we have several Zones in need of a volunteer), and a designated Gathering Place where residents gather in an emergency to obtain and share information, request aid, check on vulnerable neighbors, etc. The EPC’s team of First Aid responders can be called upon to provide care when all three of East Jefferson’s paramedic units are unavailable in a disaster, and EPC’s Search and Rescue team can help locate and extricate victims.

The Pet Management team is here to help with lost or injured pets, and the HAM radio team can communicate with the local and state Emergency Centers when other forms of communication are out. To find out which Zone you are in and who your Block Captain is, go to the [EPC’s landing page](#), and look under “Zones & Member Lists.” You can also email epcKalaPoint@gmail.com

No one can predict — or stop — a disaster from happening, but it takes very little to be prepared. ♦

Join Us in the World's Largest Earthquake Drill.

October 19, 2023
10:19 am

**Shake
Out**TM

Grounds Committee Information

Scott Rovanager, chair, Grounds Committee

RV Parking in Kala Point

One of the noticeable problems the Grounds Committee observes each summer is the number of RVs parked on driveways or in front of homes. This article will serve as an educational reminder that boats, trailers, and RVs have specific parking restrictions.

The [KPOA Rules and Regulations](#) (Chapter II Regulations Section B "Vehicle & Parking Regulations") define where and how long a member can park their recreational vehicles on the Covered Property:

The Kala Point Owners' Association encourages garaging of all vehicles and discourages outdoor residential parking of commercial and other vehicles that are not normally associated with a residential community. Outdoor parking or storage of large recreational vehicles, boats, trailers, vehicles that are unlicensed or inoperable, and vehicles with an overall wheelbase greater than 180" or a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating greater than 15,000 pounds shall not be permitted on Covered Property, except in designated storage lots. **Temporary parking on private property for a maximum of 72 hours will be permitted for loading, unloading, maintenance, or repairs.**

Extensions on this time limit may be granted by the General Manager on a case-by-case basis. (CC&R Art. IV B Sec. 6)

Guest(s) shall be permitted to park their recreational vehicles in a host's driveway for up to one week. Extensions shall require General Manager's approval. (CC&R Art. IV B Sec. 6).

These rules were intended to limit the amount of time a member (or his guest) can have a recreational vehicle parked in his driveway or on the street. Thus, Kala Point does not allow parking of boats, trailers, RVs, and any commercial vehicle parked at one's home unless you can comply with these Rules & Regs.

Vehicle parking regulations are observed and enforced by the general manager. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Keith Larson, general manager, at the Kala Point Admin Office (360.385.0814).

West Mooring Buoy Out of Service

On September 9, it was observed that the trimaran tied to the west KPOA buoy was drifting west, with buoy and chain attached. The general manager has contacted a diver to retrieve the buoy and reanchor it to its 9,600-pound anchor block.



Bluffs Drive Trail Repair

Tom McFarling noted that the sloped trail to the beach below Bluffs Drive was eroding due to water runoff. He asked the general manager if some volunteers from the Grounds Committee could provide a proper repair.

With the GM's blessing, Tom, Scott Rovanpera, and Kevin Skolrud arrived on site with materials, tools, and a vision. The trail now has steps and is engineered to direct the runoff to the lower side of the trail. Tom discovered another location on the same trail that will require some further improvements, so more repairs will be scheduled. ♦



Newly repaired trail below Bluffs Drive



Scott Rovanpera, Tom McFarling and Kevin Skolrud

Fire Ecology on the Peninsula

Tree Committee with the assistance of Cindy Griffin

This article is the first in a three-part series from the Tree Committee. Part II will be Limbing, Thinning, and Dead Trees. Part III will be The Trifecta of Cedar, Douglas Fir and Red Alder trees.

As summer comes to an end on the Olympic Peninsula, we say goodbye not only to our gorgeous warm and sunny weather, but also to what is known as fire season. We see fewer horrific fires on our national news programs and (mostly) fewer smoky skies as fires diminish in Canada and Oregon. Some Kala Point residents heave a sigh of relief, others continue to fret, and a still a few are puzzled by all the fuss.

During this fire season, some reached out to the Tree Committee for guidance. Forest fires are real and can be devastating, but how do fires behave here on the Olympic Peninsula and what can the Tree Committee offer in the way of useful information to Kala Point residents? Three things might be helpful as our community moves into fall and thinks about what next summer may bring: what is fire behavior on the Olympic Peninsula, what can we do to stay as “fire safe” as is reasonably possible, and what are some legitimate, as well as unfounded, fears around fire here in our area?

Kala Point residents, who made a commitment to live in a wooded community when they purchased homes here, may wonder about their own safety and any danger they might be in from fire. According to Brian Harvey, Daniel Donato, and Joshua Halofsky, environmental and natural resource scientists (and University of Washington faculty and affiliate faculty), wildfires behave differently in Western Washington compared to the eastern part of our state, and to central and eastern Oregon and California. As such, they require different approaches.

Harvey, Donato and Halofsky explain that large-scale fires, although infrequent in Western Washington, can happen but only when a “recipe of three aligning factors” occur. These three aligning factors are late summer drought, a major east wind event, and an ignition — such as lightning, or a campfire left unattended. Examples of such

fires are the 1902 Yacolt Burn, the 1933 Tillamook Burn, and the 2020 west-side fires; all three “bore striking similarities in terms of size, speed and severity,” and all three happened in the context of the three aligning factors.

With decades between these fires, the important message is “to not let rarity breed complacency” — it could happen. However, Harvey, Donato and Halofsky explain that the ways we prepare for, or respond to, the threat of fire must be different from eastern-slope approaches because our weather patterns are different, making our forests different. The Olympic Peninsula is characterized by substantial rain and a year-round damp, moist, and cooler climate.

The takeaway: hot and dry climates are prone to large-scale fires far more than cool and wet climates. Weather drives massive forest fires, rather than fuel source. Long, hot, and dry summers and high winds are always a part of a catastrophic fire, and ignition is a must. Fires are driven more by weather than fuel accumulation.

What can a homeowner concerned about large-scale forest fires do? Pay attention to the weather: if your plants are showing signs of stress, increase your watering cycle if a summer is long, hot, and dry.

Second, attempting to remove all fuels from your property is unnecessary and can even be harmful. Harvey, Donato and Halofsky share that fuel suppression has not decreased the amount or severity of fire in the Western part of our state. All too often removing all your understory not only creates the drought conditions you are attempting to avoid (those plants and sticks that cover the ground keep the soils cool and moist) but it stresses the trees, which rely on the total ecosystem of a forest to thrive.

Rather than clear out all of your understory, plant fire-resistant plants. Amy Jo Detweiler, horticulturist with the Oregon State University Extension Service says, “Fight fire with plants? You bet.” Fire-resistant plants can create a kind of “living wall that reduces and blocks intense heat.”

Fire-resistant plants have particular characteristics that are easy to spot. Their leaves are supple, and they don’t stick to the plant once they have died. The sap of these fire-resistant plants does not have a strong odor and is more water-like. Detweiler explains, “Plants that are flammable generally have fine, dry or dead leaves or needles” that accumulate on the plant, rather than dropping to the ground. “Their sap is gummy, resinous and also has a strong smell.”

Detweiler shares two additional facts important to Kala Point. One, although we think removing the underbrush and replacing it with bark mulch is a good way to reduce the likelihood of fuel ignition, it is not. “Bark mulch can also easily ignite,” she says — in the right conditions: hot and dry.

Two, contrary to what Kala Point residents have been told, salal is a fire-resistant plant, rather than a fire-activating one. Salal is supple and its leaves don’t stick to the plant when they die. Salal also is on the list of shrubs Detweiler and other horticulturists recommend as fire-resistant and good to have in our yards. Many other plants and shrubs Detweiler recommends are those that are common and easily grow here: *Ceanothus gloriosus* (Point Reyes ceanothus), *Mahonia aquifolium* (Oregon grape holly), *Mahonia repens* (creeping holly), *Gaultheria shallon* (salal), *Rhododendron macrophyllum* (Pacific rhododendron) and azaleas, *Cornus sericea* (redosier dogwood), *Philadelphus lewisii* (mock orange), *Ribes spp.* (flowering currant), *Rosa spp.* (shrub rose), *Symphoricarpos albus* (snowberry), spirea, and *Syringa* (lilac).

Fire-resistant trees include *Thuja plicata* (Western red cedar), *Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Doug fir), *Acer macrophyllum* (Big Leaf Maple), *Aesculus hippocastanum* (horse chestnut), *Alnus rubra* and *Alnus tenuifolia* (red and mountain alders), Western Catalpa, and *Quercus rubra* and *Quercus garryana* (red and white oaks). (For a full list of ground covers, perennials, shrubs and trees, check out the sites listed below.) The takeaway:

removing the understory in your yard is not an effective way to prevent fire; leaving and planting fire-resistant plants is.

Finally, as we think about fire on the Olympic Peninsula, residents can take time to identify their phantom- and fact-based fears around fire — they are two different things. Forest fires do happen, but a phantom fear about fire in our area tells us we are poised for “the big one” at any minute, when in fact, we are not.

A fact-based fear reflects Harvey, Donato and Halofsky’s research and experience. Kala Point residents can ask themselves, do we have the recipe of three aligning factors at play in any given summer? And if we do, then they can reassure themselves that they have made their property and homes as safe as possible by following Detweiler’s suggestions for keeping and adding fire-resistant plants, shrubs, and trees to their yards.

For questions about trees and fire ecology here in Kala Point, please contact the Tree Committee.

Resources

Fighting Wildfires in Western Washington Requires Different Approaches.

crosscut.com/opinion/2021/07/fighting-wildfires-western-wa-requires-different-approaches#main-content

Fight Fire With Plants? You Bet. today.oregonstate.edu/archives/2012/jul/fight-fire-plants-you-bet#content

Fire Resistant Plants for Home Landscapes.

catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/pnw590.pdf

Fire Resistant Landscaping Your Home disastersafety.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Fire-Resistant-Landscaping-for-Your-Home.pdf. ♦

NATIVE PLANT SALE

Saturday, October 21, 2023
11am – 2pm



HJ Carroll Park

9884 WA-19, Chimacum

Fundraiser for Kul Kah Han Native Plant Garden

Cash or Check only thank you!

More about KKH Native Plant Garden at www.nativeplantgarden.org

Get to Know Your Neighbors

Story and photo by Laurie Engelbeck

**Mike Connor and
Christine Werme
Cedarview Drive**

Mike and Chris met when they were in graduate school in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, where they were both studying marine biology. They enjoyed outdoor research then and have continued in their love of the outdoors, native plants and animals, and seafood for more than 40 years. Mike describes Chris as an “excellent seafood cook.”



Mike was a teacher with Volunteers in Asia during his college years, and he and Chris still get together with other alumni of that program to travel and raise funds. They've made several trips to Asia and Europe, including Burma, Vietnam, Thailand, and Japan. "We enjoy traveling with this group of fun travelers," says Mike.

Chris has lived in Belgium and Germany. Their daughter grew up traveling with them and is now a "globalist," having lived in France, Norway, and now in the Netherlands where she is a professor of linguistics.

Mike and Chris lived in the Boston area for many years where Mike was a chief scientist on the Boston Harbor Cleanup project. After he left that job, Chris started working for Boston Harbor, writing reports on their research. Her work also made it easy to keep in touch with some of the people Mike had hired over the years.

They moved to the Oakland/Berkeley/San Francisco Bay Area where they lived for more than 20 years, including the pandemic years. Mike says, "We don't miss the city life."

They had visited the Olympic Peninsula several times but were waiting to see where their daughter settled before they decided where to retire. When their daughter chose the Netherlands, Mike and Chris decided to settle in the Port Townsend area. They spent several months in a rental in the Uptown area that they enjoyed. They also had a rental on Marrowstone Island, but eventually decided on Kala Point.

After putting low bids on several houses, they found their current home. They are happy that the house won't require much fixing up. They closed on their house on a Friday, and by Sunday they were out in their kayaks and loving the view of Kala Point from the water.

They like exploring the beaches, hiking, kayaking, and are looking forward to clamming, crabbing, and fishing. They both like to read and belong to a natural history book group. They have become involved in the Jefferson Land Trust and took a natural history course called Tidelands to Timberline, enjoyed the field trips, and the opportunities to learn about places to hike. Mike is involved in a project counting salmon in Chimacum Creek.

As they get settled into life in Kala Point, Mike and Chris are looking for ways to get involved in the community and meet people. Mike is thinking of leading a course on restoration projects which would include bees, flowers, and fish. They are interested in book groups and cooking groups.

Mike and Chris like to eat out and have been checking out the local restaurants and other activities. They look forward to having their daughter visit their new home this Christmas. ♦



October is Kala Point's Annual Food Bank Drive



Kala Point is again participating for the 27th time in **The WAVE (What A Valuable Experience)**, the annual drive to replenish the shelves of the four food banks in East Jefferson County.

Please give generously as you have in the past. Your contribution goes a long way toward purchasing necessary food items at a discount for area families in need.



Checks only, please! Make payable to:
Jefferson County Food Bank

Mail or drop off checks at:
Jean Reed, 353 Fairbreeze Drive, Port Townsend, WA 98368

Deadline for receipt of checks is Wednesday, October 25

Thank you for giving!



Kala Cares

Harvey Putterman



Free October Concert

Karl Bach

The Port Townsend Symphony Orchestra's first concert of the 2023–2024 season will feature Principal Cellist Pamela Roberts as soloist for the world première of *Romance For Violoncello and Orchestra* composed by Kala Point resident Karl Bach.

The other music in the concert will be *Unfinished Symphony* by Franz Schubert and *Danzon No. 2* by Arturo Marquez.

The concert will be held 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 29, at the Chimacum High School Auditorium. While the concerts are free to attend, they are not free to produce, so contributions are gratefully accepted.

Karl Bach is the conductor emeritus of the Port Townsend Summer Band which he conducted for 17 years. He has composed music for concert band, brass band, orchestra and chorus. ♦



Eat, Drink & be Scary!

By KP Social Plus Committee

Social Plus has been waiting for just such a night

To practice Mayhem and Mischief and other such fright!

Join us for a happy hour of Halloween fun!

Please bring an appetizer with a Halloween theme to share, and of course BYOB! We will supply the plates, napkins and utensils.

Costumes are optional but encouraged!

Witching hour: Friday, October 27, 5–7 p.m.

at the Kala Point Clubhouse

If you have any questions, please call the [gHost](#):

Pattie Horvath (360.385.4458)



Open Studio

**George Seifert:
woodworker and marquetry artisan**



Door harps

Saturday, October 14

1717 Kala Point Drive

10 a.m.–4 p.m.

georgepseifert@gmail.com



Bookmarks

- Marquetry demonstrations
- Workshop tour
- Many items for sale



Custom jobs

Ornaments





THE ELDER BERRIES



Highway 20 ROADHOUSE

2152 W Sims Way, Port Townsend, WA

7:00-10:00 PM

Friday Oct. 13



Follow us on 

Looking for Things to Do in Port Townsend?

Check out enjoypt.com and ptscene.com for art, events and Port Townsend activities. ♦



Through the Lens

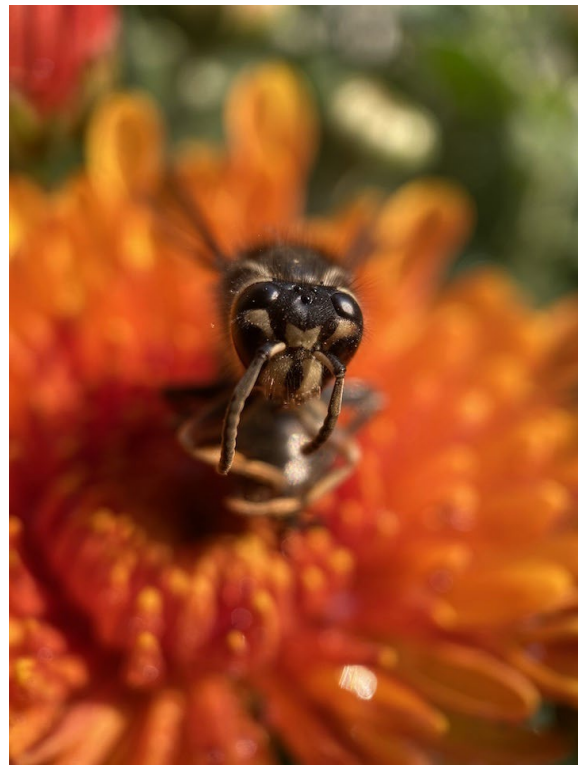
Lots of Bee Photos this Month!



Native Bees by Kris Ethington



*Sweat Bee in Grand Teton NP
by Kris Ethington*



*Bald Face Hornet
by Suzanne Eggleston*



*Great Golden Digger Wasp
by Ann Kirby*



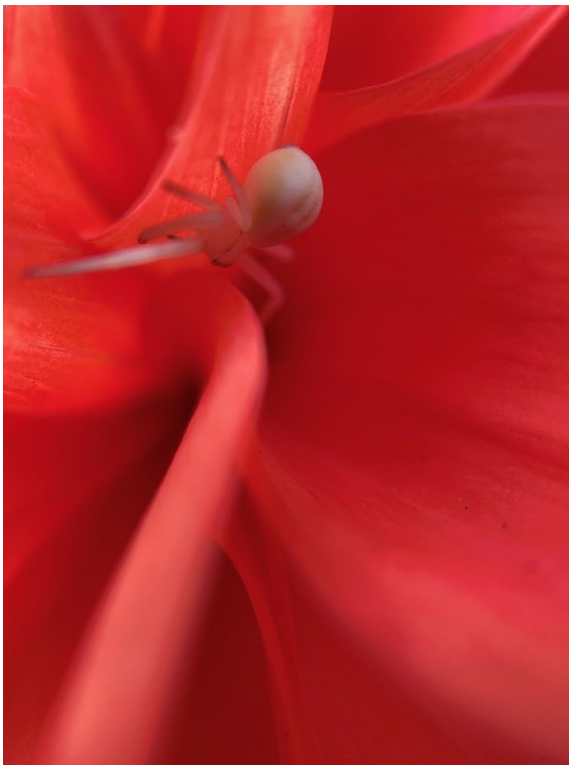
*Busy Bumbler
by Dave Pitts*

Orcas in the Bay!

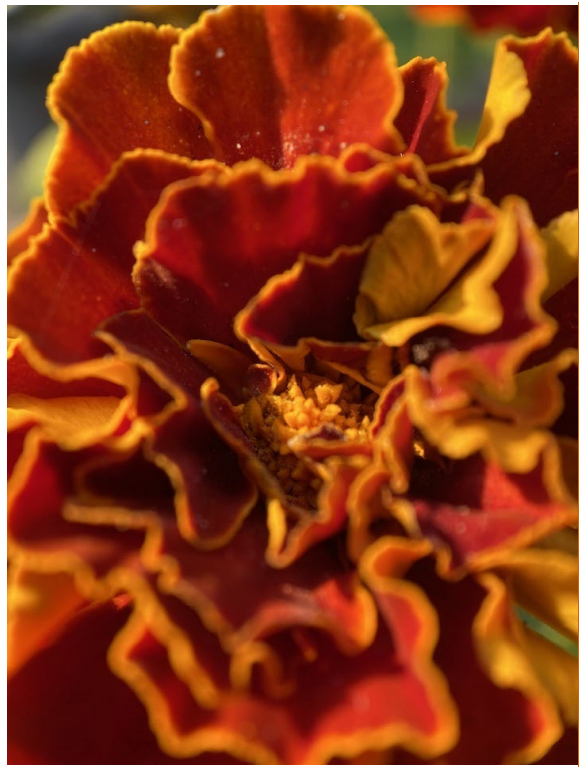
*These Orcas were spotted off Kala Point Beach on August 30
Photos by Pamela Thompson*



Gardens and Plants



Dahlia Denizen by Suzanne Eggleston



Marigold Marvel by Suzanne Eggleston



*Chocolate Lace Flower
by Suzanne Eggleston*



*False Lily of the Valley
by David Pitts*



Late Bloomers by Ann Kirby

Around the Neighborhood



When Art Imitates Nature — or Vice Versa!
photo by Donna Abear



A Tribute to Jimmy Buffet at Ray and Roxy Larson's Home. Photo by Hugh Musser

Editor's note: Rebecca Carroll submitted a very similar photo. I'll have to walk by to take a look!



*(Left) Rigo Explores Ft. Flagler
Photo by Alison Ebbott*

Send Us Your Photos!

Do you have images that showcase the character of Kala Point? New images that highlight the natural setting, facilities and people of Kala Point will be featured in the *Kala Pointer* or on KPOA website. Please submit your full-resolution jpegs, one at a time, to photos@kalapoint.org by the **19th of the month**. Thank you! ♦

Committee Reports

Architectural

Meeting on September 21, 2023

Submitted by Mark Lannon

The rebuilding of burned home on Oak Shore has started

The Architectural Committee and homeowners resolved a non-compliance issue about a fence on Kala Heights

Total of 14 projects are ongoing

Three new projects:

- Disapproved homeowner request for variances (exceptions to the APPs) to materials and location of a fence; site visit concluded that there was not a compelling justification for requested variances
- Approved new addition to home on Saddletree above garage for a new kitchen/dining room; will not increase the footprint of the home
- Approved replacement deck for home on Trafalgar; new build but essentially the same footprint

Next meeting: October 19 at 2 p.m. in Clubhouse Fireside Room (Change from usual 9:30 a.m. time made to accommodate “Great American Shakeout” exercise at 10:19 a.m. Three AC members are also on EPC and are needed for the exercise).

Emergency Preparedness

Meeting on September 7, 2023

Submitted by Sue Stanton, Board Representative

July 6, 2023, minutes approved as written. (August 3, 2023 meeting cancelled due to scheduling conflicts.)

Discussions:

Chief Black’s talk on August 9 was well attended; he spoke about the recent fire in Chimacum Valley and the Oak Bay fire

- Special notes on how quickly the fire expanded, vehicle access to the area was a challenge, the effectiveness of the water drop to control the fire
- The Oak Bay fire was caused by lightning which is unusual for this area
- As conditions and climate changes are evident, we need to prepare for these kind of events by adhering to FireWise techniques in controlling bushes and other foliage around homes
- Further discussion on how we should maintain empty lots for vegetation problems

All-county picnic was visited by smoke; turnout appeared to be 75% of pre-COVID times

Kala Point EPC shared a table with NPREP

The need to encourage people to be active in EPC matters was discussed

Some local communities are moving toward a neighborhood hub idea; KP is well beyond what this effort is trying to accomplish

Chief Black shared they are starting a new care program to take calls on smaller non-emergency calls to relieve burden on first responders; a discussion ensued about applying KPOA yearly donations to this program

Great Shakeout: October 19, 10:19 a.m.

- EPC's focus this year is on neighborhood block effort, where people gather at their zone's gathering place and try radios, get handouts, sign up for NIXLE, etc.
- Promotion to KPOA membership will be in the October *Kala Pointer*, email blasts, bulletin boards, etc.
- Discussed the need to update lists and maps; e.g., members, gathering places, warming centers, etc.

Upcoming events:

FEMA Emergency Alert System test: October 4, sometime between 11:20 and 11:50 a.m.

This is a nationwide test of the alert system, which will include sirens, text messages, etc.

Radio check: October 9 at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Great Shake Out: October 19, 10:19 a.m.

Next Meeting: October 5 at 9:30 a.m. in the Clubhouse Fireplace room and by Zoom

Finance

Meeting on September 5

Submitted by Kevin Skolrud, CFO

Internal Control Committee report: Maria Mendes gave a report for the Internal Control Committee, followed by Larry McDowell's report on account reconciliation

The committee reviewed August 2023 financial statements; a discussion of bank balances and FDIC insurance followed

2022 Federal Income Taxes reports were completed and submitted by our accountants

The committee voted unanimously to recommend two resolutions to the board:

- 1) Resolution to waive the requirement to conduct a formal audit
- 2) Resolution to apply any 2023 surplus funds to partially pay the 2024 assessment

The committee and guests discussed the proposed 2024 budget

Next meeting: October 3 at 9 a.m. in the Clubhouse Fireplace Room

Project Study Committee (formerly Strategic Planning)

Meeting on September 5, 2023

Submitted by Sue Stanton, Board Representative

August 1, 2023, minutes approved

Old Business

- Board Orientation and Digital Handbook Content/Assignments were reviewed and discussed as assigned
- Each member is asked to submit narratives to Marilyn Berry at least one week prior to the October meeting
- One person will maintain document control to provide consistency of the document format and keep track of changes as they are made
- The BOD orientation document will be discussed at the October meeting; when approved by the committee, it will be submitted to the Board for approval

Review of August Discussion of the 2023 Survey

Members were asked to retain August minutes for reference when the Board directs the committee to generate a member survey in 2024

New Business: Director Orientation Work Session

- A work session for new and returning Board directors was discussed
- All Board members, new and returning, will be asked to attend
- The work session will cover introductions, review of Board packet, responsibilities, review of how the Board does business, goals, email process, documents, and communications
- The work session will be held as soon as possible prior to the January Board meeting

Next Meeting: October 3 at 3 p.m. in the Clubhouse Fireplace Room

Publications

Meeting on September 11, 2023

Submitted by Michael Machette, alternate Board representative

Items reviewed or discussed included the following:

- A prospective member attended
- The committee shared a brief review of the publication process, duties, and capabilities
- The prospective member's name may be brought for approval at the next Board meeting
- *Kala Pointer* readership stats (sent versus opened) that come from our software (Robly)
- *Kala Pointer* survey results were discussed; an article will appear in the October issue
- 185 responses were received, 98% of whom are regular readers of the newsletter
- As a result of an inquiry by a KPOA resident, community ad guidelines were discussed as well as other ways to advertise member activities
- A Special Elections Edition will be published early November with information about Board candidates and community issues for voting

Next meeting: October 9 at 1:30 p.m. in the Administration Building's conference room

Social Plus

*Meeting on September 5
Submitted by Dan Nordlund, Board Representative*

From the Chair:

Natalie Wilson welcomed everyone back from summer break as Social Plus begins meeting quarterly

Secretary:

The minutes of the May meeting were approved
Natalie is serving as secretary until another volunteer is found

Treasurer:

Diana Zinn will serve through December 2023; a new treasurer will be needed for 2024

Kala Cares:

Phyllis Wurscher sent condolences to Karen Putterman, Joanne Murphy, and Lorna Ballein

Newcomers:

Katharine Donnelly and Vicky Miller are working on how to more efficiently identify and welcome newcomers to the KPOA community

KPOA Board Liaison:

Dan Nordlund had nothing to report from the Board

Previous Business:

With the shift from monthly to quarterly meetings, communications and discussions between committee members and event organizers will take place by email.

New Business: 2023 Events in progress:

Kala Point now has a Facebook page
October 1–23 WAVE Foodbank Drive
October 27 Halloween TGIF
October 31 Trick or Treating for kids
November 12 Kala Point Thanksgiving Potluck
November 21-December 14 Toys for Tots
December 10 Kala Point Home for the Holidays Cocktail Party
December 21 Caroling in Kala Point
December 31 Kala Point New Year's Eve Party 6 p.m.-9 p.m.

Also, watch the Kala Kalendar for other upcoming events.

Next meeting: December 5 at 1 p.m. in the Clubhouse Fireplace Room

Tree

*Meeting on September 14, 2023
Submitted by Sue Stanton, Board Representative*

Agenda – Approved as moved
August 10, 2023, minutes approved as moved

General Manager's Report

GM communicated receipt and availability of biodegradable tape and chalk for tree marking

Board Report

- CC&R Article IV, Chapter B, Sections 7 and 15 have been approved by the Board for submission to membership vote included in the yearly ballot

- Discussion around possible overlap between EPC and TC as pertained to Fire Ecology article to be submitted by TC to *Kala Pointer*
- It was agreed there is no overlap
- If there is a perceived overlap in business between any committees, it would be courteous and in line with APPs to share any potentially conflicting material

Review of Fire Ecology Article

Discussion and review of the first in a series of articles for the October *Kala Pointer*

Meeting adjourned for site visits

Site Visits

Case 2023.07.05: Case Mgr Harte — approved

Case 2023.09.01: Case Mgr Twiford — amended; will follow up

Case 2023.09.01: Case Mgr Arnestead — approved

Case 2023.03.01: Case Mgr McMillen — approved with recommendations

Case 2023.08.24: Case Mgr Titus/Harte — Pending

Case 2023.09.03: Case Mgr Harte — approved; no site visit required

Case 2023.09.06: Case Mgr Harte — approved; no site visit required

(Note: Further details available on Tree Committee Landing Page as minutes are approved)

Next meeting: October 12 at 9 a.m. in the Administration Building ♦

Neighborhood Ads

Attention Grandparents

Doll clothes designed and sewn



by Sharon Ross

360.385.2365

Sizes 10”–31”

Etsy.com “wonderfuldollclothes”

KPOA Book Club!



Each year the Book Club publishes a list of books for those of you wishing to join the discussions. We meet on the second Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireplace Room in the Clubhouse.

Please join us to discuss the following books:

- September 11, 2023: *Trust* by Hernan Diaz
- October 9, 2023: *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See
- November 13, 2023: *Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese
- December 11, 2023: *Gone with the Wind* by Margaret Mitchell
- January 8, 2024: *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson
- February 12, 2023: *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
- March 11, 2024: *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver
- April 8, 2024: *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt
- May 13, 2024: *Dinners with Ruth* by Nina Totenberg
- June 10, 2024: *I, Robot* by Isaac Asimov

For more information, call Mary Brunner at 360-379-8462.
December's Potluck meeting is at Mary Brunner's home: 54 Trafalgar Dr.

Commercial Ads



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 5-Star Reviews**



Kala Pointer Newsletter

Kala Point Owners' Association
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