

The *Shorewood News*

February– 2016

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President's Letter

2016 is well under way and as the New President of the SOTS Board I'm so excited that Barrett Knudsen got his wish "a new President". When first approached at the September Board meeting I had a quick "no". After much contemplation I decided to step up and run. I've been privileged to have served SOTS since we moved here in 1999. We joined the Board to get better acquainted with the neighborhood and our neighbors and find ways to contribute. From 1999 to 2011, I served in a variety of positions from Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Welcoming Committee Chair, and supporting my husband Cal who was President from 2003-2005.

What I've learned throughout life is that it takes a village and the support of others to make life great. We are so fortunate to live in this amazing neighborhood that continues to have a Community committed to being better, to contributing to each other's lives in positive ways, and be supportive of our neighbors. We have enjoyed many Salmon Bakes, Easter Egg Hunts and Summerfests getting to know each other and enjoying life's blessings. There is nothing like coming home after being away and driving into the magic of Shorewood on the Sound with its expansive views and peaceful living environment.

An enormous thank you to Barrett Knudsen, our outgoing President. He held the Presidency for the past 5 years, longer than anyone has ever held the position. His selfless service to our Community is so appreciated. Barrett's compassion and Community building skills kept the Board focused and moving forward with the many challenges that came along. He will continue to be on the Board to give his support and wisdom as I move forward in the position. We are so fortunate to have great new members join the Board bringing their youth, energy and new ideas. Our returning members continue to bring their experience, knowledge and wisdom.

2016 Board Members

President - Angelica Spates

Vice President - Rand Fullington

Secretary - Dana Wheelock

Treasurer - Gary Harris

Members at large; Chestine Edgar, Bob Edgar, Patty Knudsen, Rick Goroski, Lori Buchsbaum, Kyle Lonzak, Eli Tuttle, Barrett Knudsen by virtue of "Past President"

One of our goals this year is to improve communication and education of what Shorewood on the Sound has to offer our Community. I encourage everyone to get engaged by learning what we are about and participating in the dialogues as we move forward. We will be publishing a New Updated Directory this year

that requires the best information we can get. Please respond to the mailing, fill out your information and find ways to participate and contribute where you can.

We are a volunteer organization and more hands make for quicker success. Your dues pay for the maintenance, upkeep and improvements to the beach, the Directory, and all the activities we have come to expect like the Salmon Bake, the Easter Egg Hunt, Streets of Garage Sales, Summerfest and the Christmas Lighting Contest. It's pretty clear that the treasure of our private beach is one of our biggest natural assets and needs on-going work throughout the year. Without your supporting membership some of these events could be in jeopardy. I'm thrilled to see so many younger families moving into the neighborhood and getting involved. As we plan our year I hope we can count on you to help make each and every event the best one ever. Nothing happens without a plan, commitment and open and honest communications.

In order to stay connected and learn what is happening, our Shorewood on the Sound web page is available at www.shorewoodonthesound.org. We will be posting events, notice of meetings and whatever we feel is beneficial to you keeping updated. There is also a Shorewood on the Sound Facebook Group. Please join if you are on Facebook.

I welcome your comments, questions, and input. I can be reached by email at angelicawre@comcast.net or by phone 206-769-0889.

Angelica Spates, President, SOTS Community Club

Shorewood Park and Beach Work Parties

Please join your neighbors on **April 9th** to work at Shorewood Park in the morning from **10am - Noon** and at Shorewood Beach from **1:30-3:30** in the afternoon. Shorewood Park is on 28th Ave SW just down the street from Shorewood Elementary School. Meet at the main entrance on 28th. **KIDS ARE WELCOME!** At both sites we will rip out as much English Ivy as possible. English Ivy is very invasive, especially because insects and animals do not eat it. It is a dead zone in our ecosystem.

Please email Jean Spohn, jeanspohn@centurylink.net if you have questions or would like to help with set-up.

Editor's note: These work parties are fun and rewarding. I brought my 8 year old to one, and after a little goofing off I actually got some work out of her. We had a great time identifying plants and yanking out the invasive ones. Jean and her crew are wonderful neighbors and I highly recommend coming out to meet them and pull a little ivy.

What is going on in the City of Burien? Winter, 2016

The City is working on three major internal processes: a Burien branding and marketing plan to spark economic development for the City, a Strategic Plan for projects and City development during the next five years; and a re-design of the City web page. Don't be surprised if you are invited to participate in some activity to help further Branding. So far there has been an online survey available to citizens and some discussion groups on the topic. More work is still to come.

If you have tried to navigate the City of Burien web page, you already know that there are some gaps and problems when you try to find information about the city and communicate with the staff. The City hopes to remedy these issues and produce a more user friendly web page for citizens. If you have some suggestions for changes that make the page more user friendly, please contact me or the City Manager.

The cranes are up in Town Square and development is happening. With that development come other issues to resolve such as parking, storm water management and places for all of us to recreate and play. Hopefully, the Strategic Plan will help the City to better manage development while still addressing Burien's infrastructure needs. The Strategic Plan is intended to be a tool to keep the City staff as well as the City Council on track for the managed development while still allowing Burien to keep the small town flavor and service to citizens. Please stay tuned for the planning progress on this Strategic Plan and how you can participate in the process for developing this plan. The development of a Tree Ordinance and how to manage an Urban Forest are items for the City this year. Watch the announcements from the Planning Commission for more information on these issues.

Discover Burien has printed the 2016 calendar of their city events. Calendars can be picked up at the Discover Burien office on S.W. 152nd or at the Burien Community Center in the old library.

By now you should have received a couple of issues of the Burien City magazine. I would be interested in hearing your feedback on this new magazine. Please feel free to contact me at bobe@burienwa.gov or 206-734-9653.

-Bob Edgar, Director, SOTS Community Club

It's a Directory Year!

As much as we love Facebook and the many other modern ways to connect, nothing takes the place of the old-school paper directory this Club publishes every few years. We invite everyone to participate in this community resource. Please update your contact information when you send in your dues.

If you have something you would like to contribute to an upcoming newsletter, please contact Betsy Wheelock at wheelchock@msn.com.

Shorewood Community Beach - Amazing Asset (and Responsibility)

Did you know that Shorewood Community Beach is owned by the Shorewood on the Sound Community Club? And that your dues support the maintenance of the beach?

Title for the beach came to the community club in 1949 and the deed officially passed to the club in 1982. Since the 1950s the beach has been a focal point for community activity. In the past there were even bathhouses with running water!

Much work has gone into the beach over the years: repairing storm damage and vandalism, bulkhead repair and replacement, building and maintaining paths, adding native plants and controlling weeds. The club takes this responsibility seriously and depends on community support.

What can you do?

- Join / continue your community club membership
- Join work parties to maintain the beach (see article on page one of this newsletter)
- Enjoy this amazing resource all year round!

2015 Christmas Lights Contest

Dear Shorewood on the Sound –

Thank you to all who answered the call of putting up lights this year. It really was a beautiful sight every night coming home through a neighborhood full of lights and life. I look forward to heading up the competition again in 2016 and will talk more about this in newsletters to come. Thank you again and I hope that everyone has a tremendous year! The winners for the 2015 Christmas season are as follows:

12204 Shorewood Dr SW = Grand Prize
12237 Marine View Drive Southwest = Runner Up
12827 Shorecrest Dr SW = Most Original
12805 Shorewood Dr SW = Highest Wattage

-Kyle Lonzak, Director, SOTS Community Club

Easter Egg Hunt

Hey neighbors! It may be dreary and rainy right now but sunny skies will soon be upon us. Before you know it, you'll be marching the kiddos in your life down to the beach to collect candy-filled eggs under gloriously blue skies. Or dodging raindrops in construction-grade raingear.. who knows? What we DO know is that nothing stops Shorewood's smallest residents once they get a whiff of chocolate, so mark your calendars now. The Shorewood Easter Egg Hunt will be **Saturday, March 26th at 11:00 am**. We plan around the tide and it will be headed out so there will be plenty of beach to explore afterward. We hope to see you there!

-Lori Buchsbaum and Betsy Wheelock

P.S. If you'd like to sample the goods ahead of time we'll be having an egg-stuffing party the afternoon of March 22nd. Contact Betsy at wheelchock@msn.com for more info. Or, show up around 9:30 on the day of the hunt; set-up helpers are always welcome.