



CHUCKANUT NEWS

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General Meeting

Wednesday, October 1st, 7:30 PM

Chuckanut Fire House

Ken Mann

Whatcom County Council Vice-
Chairperson

Councilmember Ken Mann will speak on the state of the county, issues and concerns. Councilmember Mann is currently serving his second term on the Whatcom County Council. His first term began January 2010. In 2014, Councilmember Mann is the County Council Vice-Chairperson and is a member of the Council's Planning and Development Committee and Public Works, Health, and Safety Committee. In addition, he is appointed to several community boards and committees.

Here is your opportunity to hear about current and future county issues and ask questions. Please join us for this informative presentation.

President's Message

In 2009, the South Whatcom Fire Authority fully and professionally assumed management of our local fire department. Since then, the Chuckanut Bay Community Association mission has been redefined as follows: "The Association shall be maintained by the members as an administrative, fundraising and social organization devoted to the safety and welfare of the Chuckanut community."

We've agreed that the organization should represent all community residents, and therefore should not take political stances on issues which could be potentially divisive. For example, it's fair to assume that our community includes some residents who oppose, and others who support, the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal; thus the CBCA is not a proper forum for promoting either viewpoint.

On August 26th, I sent an email message ("Rail Shipment of Crude Oil") to all residents, containing information on how to register support for increased safety of the tank cars which carry petroleum products through our community. I saw this as a safety issue, rather than a political one. How, I thought, could anyone object to safer transport of potentially dangerous substances past our doors? Yet, I wonder if my message might have been viewed by some as political. So I'm asking for your input: is this the kind of information you wish to receive from your organization? Log on to our website, www.chuckanutcommunity.org and post your opinion under the User Bulletin tab. If you need a registration code for first-time login, shoot me an email at admin@chuckanutcommunity.org.

I'm listening...

J. Michael Newlight
President, CBCA

CBCA Election Notice

Nominees Are:

President	J. Michael Newlight
Vice President	Jennie Tuckerman
Secretary	open
Treasurer	Karin Todd
Trustee	Mary Anne Ruf

Voting will take place at the General Meeting Wednesday, October 1. Nominees from the floor will be welcomed, as long as the nominee has agreed to serve if elected.

From your editor:

Our long time secretary, Ann Jones Richardson, has resigned due to health issues. Thank you, Ann, for a job well done. The position is now open. I know there are other members of our community that could fill this spot. Please think about this and volunteer your name for the upcoming election. If you are willing, please contact Jennie Tuckerman at 656-5216.

See you at the meeting October 1.

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Starfish Wasting Syndrome

Compiled by Jennie and Steve Tuckerman

Background

Sea stars (aka star fish) along much of the Pacific coast of North America are experiencing a mass die-off called sea star wasting syndrome. Early signs of the syndrome can include a “deflated” appearance; unnatural twisting; or small, white lesions on the surface that may increase in size and number. Wasting syndrome can progress rapidly, and often leads to loss of arms, softening of tissue and eventual death in just a few days. The syndrome had been reported previously on both the east and west coasts, but they were very localized and short lived. Dr. Benjamin Miner from Western Washington University characterized the sea star wasting syndrome as possibly the biggest marine die-off in terms of biomass and aerial extent (Mexico to Alaska) in recorded history. Unfortunately, some of the sea star populations from earlier outbreaks have not fully recovered after 30 years.

Dr. Miner’s wife, Melissa Miner, is also involved in studying the syndrome through her work at the University of California at Santa Cruz (UC Santa Cruz). Both Dr. Miner and Melissa Miner have made presentations to the local community and have provided training to recognize and report evidence of the disease.

Distribution of the Disease

Signs of the recent sea star wasting syndrome have been observed from Alaska to Mexico, with the intensity of the infection varying from low levels to mass mortality. The recent syndrome was first noted along the Washington coast and in Chuckanut Bay in the summer of 2013. Both healthy and diseased sea stars have been seen in Chuckanut Bay since then, but the overall population seems to be smaller than before the syndrome. At least 10 species of sea stars have shown signs of infection, some species are affected much more than others. Two species for which massive, geographically expansive (but patchy) declines have been well documented are the sunflower and ochre stars (the purple ones). Ecologists consider sunflower and ochre stars to be keystone species because they have a disproportionately large influence on the distribution and abundance of many other species. Scientists anticipate that such a large mortality event in keystone species could change the intertidal and subtidal seascapes.

Current Work Being Done

Field surveys are being done by the Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network (MARINE) at long-term monitoring sites along the entire west coast. It is very important to capture the timing of new disease clusters since so little is known about the rate and patterns of disease spread in the ocean. Reports of healthy populations of sea stars with no signs of the disease are also being documented. In addition to the MARINE effort, numerous universities, government agencies, aquariums, and citizen scientists have been involved in this large collaborative effort and are listed at www.seastarwasting.org.

Scientists are working hard to understand the causes and consequences of the event. Molecular sequencing work is underway to identify possible viruses and bacteria that could be causative agents. Pathology samples are being evaluated to define the disease process and help determine the underlying cause. Grants are also supporting infectious disease experiments at Western Washington University.

(Continued on page 5)

Larrabee State Park by Amber Forest

The end of the summer season is upon us. This season we were blessed with great weather. The good weather brought us several new visitors from nearby and afar. Many were on a leisure Sunday drive to just “drop” in and see the park. Some were surprised to know that Larrabee is Washington State’s first park! We hosted several events this summer such as the first annual Bandit Run. It was well attended and lots of fun for the whole family. We had a weekly Junior Ranger program for kids and families to enjoy which was presented by park aide Sue Morrison and camp host Joan Ryan. The annual Chuckanut Foot race took place in June and the most recent MS ride in September which were both a success. We also hosted several ultra-trail races that challenged athletes as they made their way through the arduous trail system within the park. We also enjoyed hosting the “bug lady” for her third annual visit to the park. Her program is very popular among families and it is free! If you are interested in any of the events within the park or interpretive programs you can call us for more information 676-2093, check our website at www.parks.wa.gov , or email us at Larrabee@parks.wa.gov. We would love to see you at the park.

ANIMALS OF ALL KINDS

The park hosts not only people but also wild animals. You may see wild bunnies, black tail deer, many birds, and sometimes mountain lions although a sighting would be rare. This summer we had a couple of sightings of a mountain lion in the park during the month of August. The park staff notified Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife of the sightings and will report to them again if the mountain lion is causing too much trouble. If you would like more information on mountain lions commonly called cougars you can visit <http://wdfw.wa.gov/living/cougars.html>. It is unlikely that you will ever see a cougar. They are elusive animals and do not frequent heavily populated areas often.

Precautions for Hikers and Campers

While recreating in a cougar’s territory, you can avoid close encounters by taking the following precautions:

- Hike in groups and make enough noise to prevent surprising a cougar.
- Avoid hiking after dark.
- Keep small children close to the group, preferably in plain sight ahead of you.
- Do not approach dead animals, especially recently killed or partially covered deer and elk.
- Be aware of your surroundings, particularly when hiking in dense cover or when sitting, crouching, or lying down. Look for tracks, scratch posts, and partially covered droppings.
- Keep a clean camp. Reduce odors that might attract mammals such as raccoons, which in turn could attract cougars. Store meat, other foods, pet food, and garbage in double plastic bags.



Figure 7. To avoid a close and unpleasant encounter with a cougar, do not hike alone in cougar country.
(Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife)

Excerpt taken from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife web page.

We have not had any reports of this mountain lion in the past two weeks and we think that it has likely moved on to another area less frequented by humans.

Larrabee (contiued)

SAFETY CORNER

As fall approaches be mindful of the cooler temperatures and earlier hours of dusk. We see more lost hikers in fall then in any other time of the year. Hikers are used to the long day light hours of summer and get caught off guard when fall approaches and fail to plan their hike appropriately. Make sure to have your ten essentials with you in your back pack at all times. It is always wise to leave a hiking plan with someone that you know. Let them know when you are leaving and when you are expected to return. Stay safe out on the trails and waterways this fall.

CAMPING UPDATE

Our camping season has changed from two seasons to three. We now have the peak season, off season and shoulder season. We also changed from one camping price structure to a variable fee price structure. The season and fee changes are posted at the bulletin board in the campground and entrance booth. You can make reservations 9 months in advance. If you would like to camp out close to home I recommend making reservations far in advance. We book up fast. Our reservation period begins May 15th and ends September 15th. After that we are a first come first serve park.

MAINTENANCE

This fall and winter we are excited to welcome back Washington Trails Association to help us with the trail maintenance. Washington Trails Association has put in thousands of hours on our trails and is the main reason why they are kept up so well. If you are interested in volunteering this fall and winter you can sign up for a trail work party at www.wta.org. They tend to meet about every other week at the park. They have an excellent crew leader who explains everything in detail. It is a great way to give back to your local park.

We hope to see you in the park this fall and winter. It is a wonderful time of year. The park quiets down and you might find yourself on a trail all by yourself for the whole day. Come and explore your Washington State Park this year.

Starfish Wasting Syndrome (continued)

Much of the research results done to date have not yet been published. Preliminary results factors include warming temperatures, biological agent(s) (virus, bacteria, biotoxin or any combination), and water quality.

To close on a more upbeat note, Dr. Ben Miner does not think any species will be completely wiped out and there are indications that juvenile sea stars don't seem to be affected as much as the adults. An interesting tidbit from Dr. Ben Miner is that sea stars can live from 30 to 100 years!

How to Help

Work is underway to launch citizen science projects to help map the spread and distribution of the disease in different sea star species aifferent regions. If you would like to establish a long term monitoring location for tracking the disease, please contact Melissa Miner at cmminer@ucsc.edu. She can discuss whether or not your proposed location is suitable for their program and she will come out to help you establish boundaries and train you for the monitoring program. For general information about wasting disease go to:

<http://www.eeb.ucsc.edu/pacificrockyintertidal/data-products/sea-star-wasting/>

Additional Sea Star Wasting Disease web sites:

vanaqua.org/act/research/sea-stars

inaturalist.org/projects/pisaster-disaster-tracking-starfish-wasting-disease

www.sickstarfish.com

Neighborhood Coordinators

Manager: Ken Kaliher – 734-2096

Volunteer Captain	Address	Phone
Marsha Riek—All of Beacon Rd, Cove Rd E of RR Trk (13)	297 Beacon Road	733-8277
Chris Thorndike-Kent	1338 Chuckanut Crest Drive	920-5210
Marsha Alan-1341-1402 Chuckanut Crest Drive (13)	1385 Chuckanut Crest Drive	734-8538
Diane Staves-Ch'nut Crest DR., Ch'nut Height's Ct. (10)	1700 Chuckanut Crest Drive	733-4229
B.K. Smith—All on Chuckanut Crest Lane (5)	1234 Chuckanut Crest Lane	676-1955
Diane Smith—All on Brighton Crest Dr.& Lane (19)	1234 Chuckanut Crest Lane	676-1955
Martie Lopez—All on Kathryn Lane (3)	1595 Kathryn Lane	756-0706
Susan Gelhar- 630, 645-797 Chuckanut Dr. (odd #s, 12)	655 Chuckanut Drive	752-0177
Frank Schultz- 682-694 Chuckanut Dr. (even #s 10only)	694 Chuckanut Drive	676-0115
and all on Chuckanut Heights Road (9)		
Al Race- 754-924 Chuckanut Dr. (even #s only 10)	892 Chuckanut Drive	734-4491
Kathy Lorson Howell	1096 Chuckanut Drive	736-0416
-- 938-1096 Chuckanut Drive (14, even #s only)		
Will Cady- 933-1127 Chuckanut Dr. (18; odd #s only)	1105 Chuckanut Drive	756-0511
Ken Kaliher (Klipsun)	1207 Chuckanut Drive	734-2096
-- 1177-1247 Chuckanut Drive (9; odd #s only)		
Leslie Welden-1220-1278 Chuckanut Dr. (even numbers)	1207 Chuckanut Drive	734-2096
Dale Anderson & Joanie Greenberg	1317 Chuckanut Drive	592-0223
-- 1261-1323 Chuckanut Drive (9 odd)+ 1306,1314		
DL (Pat) & Mary Patterson	1329 Chuckanut Drive	922-0049
-- 1325-1419 Ch'nut Drive (9 odd),1326-1368 (6 even)		
Liz Wright—All on Chuckanut Point Road (23)	280 Chuckanut Point Road	671-5518
Nancy Stumvoll--Working with Liz Wright above	266 Chuckanut Point Road	738-7928
Gale Gropp—All Chuckanut Shore Rd.& Chuckanut Lane	745 Chuckanut Shore Road	733-3991
Michael Bowtin – 340-373 Cove Rd. west of RR tracks (7)	349 Cove Road	733-5353
Emily Larson-Rutter—All on Dolphin Place, E. Dolphin Pl.	502 E. Dolphin Place	647-1343
-- & 508,525 Chuckanut Dr. (15)		
Susan Brown—123-185 Hiline Road (7)	185 Hiline Road	650-9511
Carletta Vanderbilt—913-915 Hiline Road (2)	915 Hiline Road	676-6044
Laura Leigh Brakke—All on Pleasant Bay Rd. (11)	585 Pleasant Bay Road	734-3771
Julie Carpenter—All on Soundview Road (10)	101 Soundview Road	647-1215
Rolf Park -- Working with Julie Carpenter above	107 Soundview Road	647-9632
Dave Franklin—All on Whitecap Road (22)	546 Whitecap Road	671-2957
Larrabee State Park Ranger Amber Forest	249 Chuckanut Drive	676-2093

Please consider volunteering to be a Neighborhood Coordinator in one of the following address ranges:

- Heron Point Lane – all households (at least 5)
- Chuckanut Drive, odd numbers from 809 to 919 (at least 12 households)
- Chuckanut Drive, even numbers from 1220 to 1278 (at least 6 households)
- Chuckanut Drive, odd numbers and a few even from 1325 to 1419 (about 15 households)
- Chuckanut Drive, even numbers from 1372 to 1486 (at least 14 households)
- Chuckanut Crest Drive – additional help dividing up at least 25 households

Contact Ken Kallher at kenkaliher@hotmail.com for details. Thank you!!!

CBCA Officers

CBCA OFFICERS	COMMITTEE CHAIRS
President Michael Newlight 734-5890	Membership Amy Van Pelt 220-1748
Vice President Jennie Tuckerman 656-5216	Publication /Sales Pat & Mary Patterson 922-0049
Treasurer Karin Todd 676-5606	Neighborhood Coordinators Ken Kaliher 734-2096
Secretary Ann Jones Richardson 733-9140	Landscape / Grounds Frank & Carol Schultz 676-0115
Trustees Carletta Vanderbilt 676-6044 Mary Anne Ruf 676-9249 Kathy Howell 738-0416	Hospitality Moiree Landgren 734-8084
	Newsletter Georgia Heald 733-9358
	Adopt-a-Highway Will Cady 756-0511
Fire Commissioner Lynn Trzynka 715-8038	Memorial Garden Susan Brown 650-9511 Frank Schultz 676-0115

**On-Going Fund Raisers:
Call the Pattersons 922-0049**

Books

Chuckanut Chronicles
Chuckanut Memories
\$16.50 each
Historic Chuckanut Cook Book
\$3 each

Note Cards

Chuckanut Memories
Chuckanut Island
Six for \$1

Reflective ID Driveway Posts

Available at \$25 each. These will easily identify your house in an emergency.

CBCA Mission

The Association shall be maintained by the members as an administrative, fundraising, and social organization devoted to the safety and welfare of the Chuckanut community.

Bulletin Board

The October Bulletin Board is
EMPTY

If you are looking for someone to provide a service or if you have a service you would like to offer community members like pet sitting, babysitting, house sitting, lawn or yard care please provide the information to gbianchi@aol.com with "Bulletin Board" in the subject box.

Chuckanut News

*Chuckanut Bay Community Association
PO Box 4403
Bellingham, WA 98227-4403*

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CBCA Important Dates:

- Wednesday, October 1st: General Meeting 7:30, Fire Hall
- 2nd Wednesday of each month: Fire Commissioners meeting, 3-5 pm, Geneva Fire Hall, public welcome

Please send all news, announcements, articles, photos, story ideas, artwork, or letters to:
gbianchi@aol.com or call Georgia Heald, Editor, 733-9358