

# HLPOA NEWSLETTER

HIGHLAND LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

October 2021  
Volume 2021 - Issue #4

It just seems a few weeks ago that I started my message for our Newsletter. Looking back, that was in July. I guess the old saying is true -- "time flies when you're having fun".

We have had an active summer with the highlight being our Annual Fishing Derby. We learn something nearly every year and this year we learned that the fish don't always bite. Not a lot of big ones went into the net. Roger did his normal outstanding job. Prizes were handed out in all categories and the food provided to all attendees was terrific.

Watch for notices about the Halloween Party on October 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be a "Trunk or Treat" at the Community Building beginning at 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm. We're anticipating many decorations around the building and pavilion. Should be a great time.

We're in the planning stages for a Christmas Party. We'll try to get the information to you as soon as possible so your family plans can be made as well. Look for a "BLAST".

Be sure to check our **Communication Boards** at the intersections of Pinon Lake and CR 512; Blue Mesa Drive and CR 512; Twin Lakes Drive and CR 512; Blue Mesa Drive at Cottonwood Lake Drive; and Blue Mesa Drive at Deer Lake Drive. Wendy Boals, our new Activities Chair, has been doing a super job preparing monthly calendars with all our activities listed and making sure they are posted on the Boards each month.

I'm trying to keep this a little shorter than normal, so I'll see you at the next get-together.

**Smile time:** I ordered an extension course called, "How to Deal With Life's Disappointments." Yesterday, I got the first lesson by mail. It was an empty envelope.

**Thought for the day:** "Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there." Will Rogers, American Author/Actor

## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

Paul Stecklein  
President, HLPOA  
[epstecklein@aol.com](mailto:epstecklein@aol.com), 687-2234

## Committee Reports and Information

**Activities Committee:** Where did the summer go? With the leaves changing, I hope everyone can get out and take a walk around our beautiful community. If you haven't noticed, we now have communication boards at most mailboxes. There you will find a lot of information along with details about the many upcoming events. Most everything is in place and I have some details to fine tune. I will keep everyone updated through Facebook, emails, and communication boards.

I received a suggestion for a get together for stay-at-home moms and their children. How does this sound? Any input?

Here are our upcoming events:

**Harvest Trunk and Treat Party** – Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm at the community building.

How would you like the bragging rights for having the best chili here in Highland Lakes? We will be having a Chili Cook-Off – let me know if you want to participate by October 17<sup>th</sup>. The residents will be doing the voting! 😊

Bring your decorated pumpkins to show off and possibly win a great prize. There will be a Trunk and Treat for the children. Prizes awarded for the best decorated trunk and costumes in the following categories: infant – 2 years, 3-6 years, 7-12 years, 13-18 years, and adults. ***Come out for a great day!***

**Holiday Bazaar** – Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm at the community building. I will be meeting with all of our local vendors in November, and this will be a great time to buy your unique Christmas presents.

**HLPOA Food Drive** – December 6-11. Last year we had over 600 lbs. of donated food for the Woodland Park and Divide Food Pantries. Donations can be dropped off at the community building, Linda Becker's house, or Wendy Boals' house. Better yet – bring your donations to the Christmas Party on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

**HLPOA Christmas Party** – December 11<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm at the Divide Community Center. Come out for a good meal and a fun afternoon with Santa. I'm still working on the details for a nice hot meal for everyone. Reservations will be required for this event, plus there will be a cost which hasn't been set yet. Stay tuned for more information on Facebook, emails, and the communication boards with the details by the end of October.

**Wendy Boals, 719-686-6971, [wendyboals@yahoo.com](mailto:wendyboals@yahoo.com)**

**Architectural Control Committee: HAPPY FALL IN THE ROCKIES!** Sam here again. I have been spending a week each month in Amarillo with our 96-year-old Dad. If you don't reach me on the house phone, send an email to [sambo49@outlook.com](mailto:sambo49@outlook.com). I will also have my cell phone with me while I am gone and can receive emails on it. So, if you need to send me a project information request, I will respond ASAP.

NOW let's talk about ACC projects. Please be aware of the ACC rules located on the HLPOA.NET website, under rules, construction. The ACC Form (HLPOA ACC Construction Approval Checklist) for projects is posted on the first page under RECENT UPDATES. These are in place to hold our community to the highest standards. Please remember that our rules require that colors (painting, siding, or roofs) should be approved, and they should be of an EARTH tone (browns, greens, grey, tan -- not white or lime green). Think of the colors in the forest (NOT the flowers -- LOL) -- trees, grasses, tree bark, earth. If you are building, your design should be similar to a MOUNTIAN CABIN design with a roof pitch of 6 to 12.

Please remember that we are living in a Covenanted Homeowners Association Community and the rules we have are for you. By joining the HLPOA and following the rules, you enjoy a NICE -- not trashy looking -- neighborhood. This keeps your property values high. We take pride in ourselves that we have a clean, neat, BEAUTIFUL community that everyone enjoys as we drive through the neighborhood. You benefit from all the extras -- fishing, recreation center, slash pile site, voice in operation of our community -- not to mention ALL the great fellowship from your friends and neighbors in the HLPOA. We have over 360 homes in our community.

Now that summer is gone, it's time to start planning your projects for next year. Also take time to enjoy our great scenery and all the fall COLORS. Don't you just love all the yellow and golden leaves that seem to explode with excitement? The aspens seem to be saying that they are leaving you for the winter and will see you again in May as they begin their winter sleep.

We have all just experienced very trying times with the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope all of you are well and made it safely through the last 2 years with little or no illness.

THANK YOU to everyone this last year for contacting your Architectural Control Committee for all your projects. Please forward all your planned projects with designs and plans to me so we can get committee approval as soon as possible -- [Sambo49@outlook.com](mailto:Sambo49@outlook.com).

Please remember all new projects, such as storage sheds, garages, additions that are over 200 square feet REQUIRE a Teller County building permit. A copy of the building permit needs to be sent to the ACC as soon as possible. If you are repainting, reroofing, or putting on new siding, please send paint colors to the ACC for approval. No Quonset hut designs or metal barn siding are allowed.

May you enjoy the 2021 winter and holiday season. Happy Halloween, Happy Thanksgiving, and MERRY CHRISTMAS to one and all. **Sam Baucom, ACC chairman, 719-687-8581 or cell 806-679-2250, [Sambo49@outlook.com](mailto:Sambo49@outlook.com)**

**FireWise Committee:** The FireWise organization is a multi-agency program that encourages the development of defensible space and the prevention of catastrophic wildfires. It is a community fire prevention partnership. Highland Lakes is a participating member of the organization.

Our goal is to provide you with information on being FireWise and to encourage you to do mitigation projects on your property. Will you help our community to continue to be FireWise and help us in maintaining our FireWise certification? We, along with the Colorado State Forest Service, DFPD, and other agencies can provide you with information and answer your questions.

We hope you completed fire mitigation on your property. So that we can meet our requirements for having our FireWise certification renewed, we are asking for your help. If you worked on a mitigation project or hired someone to do it from November 2020 to November 2021, please let us know. If you did the work, we need: description of project, number of workers, hours worked for each, any expenses incurred. If you hired someone: company or individual name, project description, and cost incurred.

The slash area behind the Community Building is open. Contact me or call one of the numbers on the gate to get the combination. Please visit HLPOA.net and read the slash rules. While you are there, look at the Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Also, visit <https://csfs.colostate.edu/wildfire-mitigation/>

Finally, go to YOUTUBE and check out: "Your Home Can Survive a Wildfire". For more information, contact **Garry Cote, [sgcote@aol.com](mailto:sgcote@aol.com), 687-0338**.

**Fishing Committee:** I hope all you fishermen were able to get out and catch some fish this summer and fall. We stocked the lakes and ponds twice this year at a cost of about \$10,000. We completed weed mitigation twice. In the last couple of weeks, we moved fish (thousands of minnows, some of which we think were brookies; thousands of freshwater shrimp; a bunch of stoneflies; and about six mud puppies, which grow up to be salamanders) from Pond 1 to the other ponds since it is the next dam to be repaired. This year was an exceptionally hard year to catch fish because there was so much rain and nutrients washing into the lakes and ponds, but the fish ARE in there. I hope you get to do some fall fishing before ice on. It has been very productive lately. Ice fishing is allowed on Elk Lake only, and it is at your own risk. Don't be in too big a hurry to get out there - BE SAFE! Special thanks go out to Dave Ward and the fishing committee for a great fishing derby and watching over our lakes. Happy fishing, **Roger King, Chairman, 687-0104** and the fishing committee.

**Maintenance Committee:** Nothing new here -- just getting ready for winter. Just checking the area to make sure everything looks good. If anyone sees anything that doesn't look right, just call (224) 234-1755 or contact me at [hogpop57@gmail.com](mailto:hogpop57@gmail.com). Everyone stay safe and enjoy our beautiful Autumn. **Mickey Corcoran, Chairman, 453-1246 or cell 224-234-1755**

**Neighborhood Watch:** Hello, neighbors! Hope this finds each of you doing well. We continue to have a safe neighborhood with little to report and not a single Incident Report filed. We do occasionally get calls from concerned neighbors about speeders, dogs on the loose, or an unruly wild animal – however, few of these require a formal Incident Report to be filed. As a homeowner in Highland Lakes, should you ever need to file an Incident Report, you may find a copy on our **HLPOA.net** website. Make sure Fred Swets and Chris Becker get copies for our files. Making sure to document events carefully and completely is the most important issue when completing an Incident Report. We keep copies should we ever need to reference a filed report with our neighbors or police. Thanks for what you do to keep our neighborhood safe!

In August, Fred Swets, met with Sheriff Mikesell for the most recent quarterly meeting with subdivisions in our county. The Sheriff's Office receives about 60,000 calls per year. Some of the highlights from the Sheriff includes the following:

- 25,000 calls for service through July 31, 2021
- 269 arrests
- 6 deputies assaulted
- 32 major incidents – additional divisions called-in to assist with these incidents
- 327 motorists assists

This is just some of the information the Sherriff shared with attendees. As you can see, our Sheriff's office is kept quite busy. Come to the Oct. 7 Neighborhood Watch meeting (see below for details) to learn more of what the Sheriff had to share.

Should you need help, contact one of the following:

- Your Block Captain
- Fred Swets, Watch Commander, (719) 687-2307,
  - Email: reenie\_1@msn.com
- Chris Becker, Watch Committee Chairman, (636) 675-7854
  - Email: gardenworks4u@gmail.com

Future events: Our next Neighborhood Watch meeting information is below.

**When:** 7:00 pm on October 7, 2021

**Where:** Community Building

**Program:** Presenter, George Carey, has graciously agreed to do an encore presentation on his timely topic, "The Spycam Epidemic" in "areas of privacy." If you missed his first presentation, this is an excellent opportunity to catch it now. All are welcome to attend! Until next time -- Be Safe Out There!

**Should you need help, contact one the following:**

Your Block Captain

Fred Swets (719) 687-2307

Chris Becker (636) 675-7854

**or 911 for the Sheriff's Office**

**Trails Committee:** With all this great weather, check out our HLPOA trails. I have the signs painted and new steps will be put in on the Twin Lakes trail soon. **Ben Boals, Chairperson,**  
[boals.trucking@gmail.com](mailto:boals.trucking@gmail.com)

**Welcome Committee:** Our committee has been working hard making Welcome Bags for our newest residents and we have visited every new resident but two. We hope they enjoy the goodies along with some very important information about our community. The second New Residents Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30 am at the Community Building. **Wendy Boals, 719-686-6971, [wendyboals@yahoo.com](mailto:wendyboals@yahoo.com)**

**COMMUNITY BUILDING CALENDAR – 2021** **Note: All activities are subject to Covid status in Teller County**

**Weekly:**

Monday	Line Dancing	11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Tuesday and Thursday	Yoga (gazebo in summer)	10:15 am - 11:15 am
Wednesday	Pickleball (resumes in Spring)	9:00 am – 11:00 am

**2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

October 2, Saturday	New Residents Meeting	10:30 am
October 7, Thursday	Neighborhood Watch Meeting	7:00 pm
October 30, Saturday	Harvest Truck and Treat Party	12:00 (noon)
December 4, Saturday	Holiday Bazaar	9:00 am - 4:00 pm
December 6 – 11	HLPOA Food Drive	
December 11, Saturday	Christmas Party	Details to follow

The HLPOA Board of Directors Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm.

The HLPOA Water Board Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm.

All Property Owners are invited to attend.

**ANY CHANGES WILL BE NOTED IN THE NEWSLETTER, SPECIAL EMAILS, OR THE COMMUNICATION BOARDS.**

**HLPOA Board Members:**

<b>Paul Stecklein</b>	<b>President, Director</b>	<b>687-2234</b>
<b>Fred Swets</b>	<b>Vice President</b>	<b>687-2307</b>
<b>Renee Tate</b>	<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>	<b>687-9465</b>
<b>Roger King</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>687-0104</b>
<b>Ross Parnow</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>719-373-0613</b>
<b>Sam Baucom</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>687-8581</b>
<b>Dan Odell</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>686-7704</b>

**Committee Chairs:**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Wendy Boals</b>	<b>686-6971</b>
<b>Architectural Control</b>	<b>Sam Baucom</b>	<b>687-8581</b>
<b>Budget/Finance</b>	<b>Renee Tate</b>	<b>687-9465</b>
<b>FireWise</b>	<b>Garry Cote</b>	<b>687-0338</b>
<b>Fishing</b>	<b>Roger King</b>	<b>687-0104</b>
<b>Maintenance</b>	<b>Mickey Corcoran</b>	<b>453-1246</b>
<b>Neighborhood Watch</b>	<b>Fred Swets</b>	<b>687-2307</b>
	<b>Chris Becker</b>	<b>636-675-7854</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Kathy Campbell</b>	<b>281-744-3349</b>
<b>Trails</b>	<b>Ben Boals</b>	<b>608-558-0038</b>
<b>Water District Liaison</b>	<b>Luke St. Onge</b>	
<b>Web Page</b>	<b>Dan Odell</b>	<b>686-7704</b>
<b>Welcome</b>	<b>Wendy Boals</b>	<b>686-6971</b>

**SNOW PLOWERS FOR HIGHLAND LAKES**

**(Revised 11-6-19)**

<b>Don Bartron</b>	<b>687-7561</b>	<b>Maroon Lake Circle</b>	<b>ATV with Chains</b>
			<b>Light Shoveling</b>
<b>Jay Brown</b>	<b>687-3029</b>	<b>Maroon Lake Circle</b>	<b>ATV with Chains</b>
<b>Rick Cochran</b>	<b>687-0340</b>	<b>3198 Blue Mesa Drive</b>	<b>ATV with Chains</b>
<b>Scott Rudy</b>	<b>687-4484</b>	<b>Lost Lake Drive</b>	<b>ATV &amp; Polaris Ranger Plow</b>
<b>Dave Walker</b>	<b>686-1210</b>	<b>Woodland Park</b>	<b>3/4 Ton Truck with Plow</b>
	<b>510-2623 (cell)</b>		

**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:**

**Highland Lakes Water District:**

**Business Office** 687-7937

**Emergencies** 247-1191

**Teller County Animal Control:** 304-5740

**Teller County Clerk/Recorder:** 689-2951

**Teller County Commissioners:** 689-2988

**Teller County Public Health and Environment:** 687-6416

**Teller County Sheriff's Office:** 687-9652