



THE AMHO NEWS

THE NEWS PUBLICATION OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURED HOME OWNERS

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Randy J Gibson, Editor Writer

AMHO CELEBRATES FIRST BIRTHDAY!

The November meeting of the AMHO Board of Directors included a celebration of AMHO's first year. Members of the Board also reported on recent activities and slated actions. AMHO Board members at the birthday celebration Top left – right: Frank Cheeney, Judith White Bottom left – right; Gerry Huffman Randy Chapman and Jo Parkening. Not pictured: Donald Charnley, Robert Case, Kylin Parks, Dick Wilcoxon, John Landis and Diane Navicki.



AMHO'S FIRST YEAR; EXPANSION AND ACCOMPLISHMENT!

In the year since its inception, AMHO has become a well recognized force in the efforts to preserve manufactured housing and affordable housing. AMHO accomplishments include:

- AMHO is statewide and has grown to well over 550 members with some 50 new members joining just recently.
- During the 2008 legislative session, AMHO activists lobbied for passage of a number of measures important to manufactured housing including a bill that would provide incentives to any community owner who chose to sell to the homeowners' association (passed and signed into law) and a three year notice of closure bill (instead of the current 12 months) – this one did not pass so AMHO members will be pushing for a 3 year closure bill in the 2009 legislative session.
- In early October AMHO will be hosting the 2009 National Convention of the Mobile Home Owners of America – lots more details to follow.

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AMHO'S FIRST YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Thanks to the work of AMHO Organizing Chair, Kylin Parks, Governor Gregoire declared October to be Manufactured Housing Community Month. AMHO Board members, Judith White and John Landis will represent AMHO at the Senior Lobby. The Senior Lobby actively works with state legislators promoting legislation relating to our state's senior citizens including affordable senior housing.

AMHO TOURS EASTERN WASHINGTON

AMHO Board Members Frank Cheeney, Kylin Parks, Gerry Huffman and AMHO Eastern Washington Vice President Randy Chapman were recently on tour visiting communities in eastern Washington. The tour included stops in Spokane, Moses Lake and Ellensburg. Presentations to attendees included how to form homeowners' associations.

AMHO EASTERN WASHINGTON PHONE NUMBER: 509-230-8508

AMHO WESTERN WASHINGTON PHONE NUMBER: 425-772-5174

UPCOMING EVENTS

One of the most important events of the year for manufactured homeowners is Housing Lobby Day to be held **in Olympia on Tuesday February 24, 2009**. AMHO's goal is to have 200 members attend this event so please mark your calendars now and plan to be part of the movement that will bring real change regarding your rights as manufactured homeowners. AMHO Board members will be contacting early in the new year to help you arrange your trip to Olympia.

October Was Manufactured Housing Community Month.

Events marking Manufactured Housing Month were held throughout the state from Bothell to Spokane. Highlights included:

A community forum in Bothell sponsored by the City of Bothell. The event was attended by some 70 people including Deputy Mayor Sandy Guinn who is a major advocate for affordable housing and manufactured housing. The event was televised on Bothell City Television (BCTV).

A meeting in Bellingham at Lakeway Estates. A celebration at Hidden Village Park in Lacey where the homeowners rejoiced in their recent acquisition of their community as a resident owned cooperative. First Gentleman Mike Gregoire and other elected officials were there to congratulate the homeowners on their success.

An educational forum was held at Spokane Community College. 13 legislators were among the attendees.

AMHO SPONSORED ED WALLACE IN SEATTLE MARATHON

Senior Athlete Ed Wallace, 72, participated in the recently held annual Seattle Marathon. Wallace is an AMHO member and resident of Kingsbury West manufactured housing community and is President of Kingsbury's Homeowner's Association.

Ed proudly wore his AMHO tee shirt for the 26 mile run. With the support of his "pit crew"; Wife Joni and daughter, Kim, son-in-law, Roland, grandson, Eddie, grandson, Alex, Ed made the entire distance! He was escorted from the 15 mile marker to the finish line by daughter, Lisa and granddaughter, Danielle.

Ed placed 44th overall (for his age group) with a total time of 8:14 for the 26 mile distance.

AMHO PRESERVATION EDUCATION FORUMS

AMHO provides educational forums, public event meetings for manufactured housing residents to inform and educate people about the rights of manufactured community dwellers and about ways residents can preserve their communities. For further information about holding an educational forum in your area or community, contact Kylin Parks at AMHO 425-772-5174 or e-mail: KylinP@wamho.org or Randy Chapman at 509-230-8508

CALL THE AG'S OFFICE WITH DISPUTES WITH PARK OWNER OR MANAGER

The State's Office of The Attorney General is now responsible for resolving issues between manufactured mobile park residents and park owner operators or managers.

AMHO members and all residents are strongly urged to report any violations of lease agreements or regulations governing parks to the AG's Office.

The AG's Office is genuinely interested in matters of violations and disputes between residents and owners/managers and will actively pursue them.

Forms for reporting disputes can be obtained at the AG website (www.atg.wa.gov/MHDR.aspx) or call 1-866-924-6458.

YOU ARE NEEDED!

Help Preserve Our Homes and Our Lifestyle.

AMHO is looking for a few leaders and workers to help develop a strong unified voice for the preservation of Manufactured Home Communities in the State of Washington.

Manufactured housing is one of the last forms of affordable housing for seniors and low income families. Communities are closing at a rate that is leading to more homelessness and subsidized housing

AMHO works to promote preservation of Washington's manufactured housing communities by promoting resident ownership of communities, improving and strengthening the state statutes that protect communities and not the least develop a non-adversarial relationship between community owners and homeowners.

If these goals are important to you please join AMHO! Become an AMHO Activist!

AMHO will provide training and support and work with you.

Contact Kylin Parks at 425-772-5174 or e-mail: KylinP@wamho.org

