



# The Breeze

February 2026

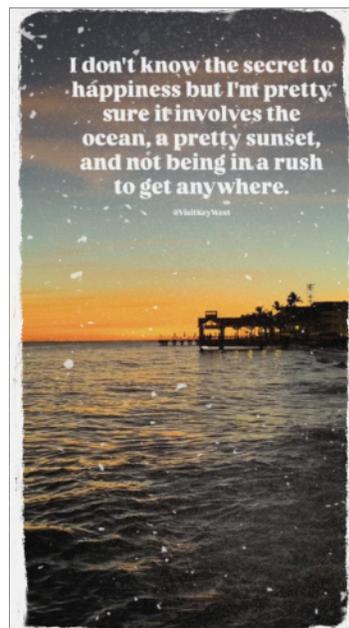
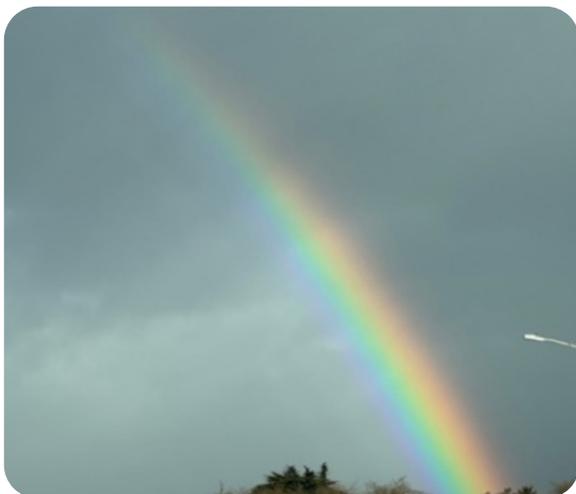


## Editor's Message

Recently, I put out a call via an email from the office asking new Bayshore members, those who have been members for less than a year, to contact me so I could do a short write up of them and “introduce” them to other Bayshore members via the Breeze. I’ve done this before and had one or two new members contact me. But lo and behold, and much to my surprise, I had five new members contact me. What a jackpot! I thought about sharing the information about some of those members this month, and then the rest in March. It is always nice to have some information/stories ready for the next month ahead of time. But then I thought: why wait?! As you will see when you read their short stories, these new members are quite diverse in who they, what they do, and even in age. Their stories show that Bayshore is not stagnant; it is continually growing and changing. I’m hoping that learning a bit about these new members, that you will stop and say hello and welcome them to the area when you meet them here in Bayshore or somewhere close by. I believe Bayshore is a welcoming community. Let’s show it to these new members.

P.S. I found the meme you can see below on the right. Anyone who knows me knows that could have me who wrote that! 😊

*Kenn Apel*



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## President's Corner

### Bayshore's New Website

Bayshore has a new website! Bayshore's prior website needed to be updated and the process of adding new information to it turned out to be hard to accomplish. Luckily, Bayshore member John Parulis had the knowledge and skills to create a new and improved website. As you can see when you access the webpage (follow this link), the ability to move around the webpage, as well as find needed information, is much improved. There now are quick links to popular parts of the webpage (i.e., Planning Committee, Communications Committee). The Planning Committee page has all of the paperwork that members need when submitting requests for building construction as well as vehicle permits and complaint forms. The Communications Committee page provides access to past Board meeting minutes and past Breeze issues. On each page of the website, members will find a list of upcoming activities. One of the most unique pages for the site is labeled "Media." I really like this page because when you click on the Media page, you can view aerial panoramic views of Bayshore. You can manipulate the images so that you likely will find your house! When the weather cooperates, John will get his drone up and hopefully add more areas of Bayshore to this section. Many thanks to John for setting up this much improved page. As with any webpage changes, errors may occur. If you find such an error, please contact Kathy in the office and she will work on getting it updated. Kathy Drossel will be working with John in keeping information updated. Now, go check it out!

Roger Smith, BOD President



### Highlights from January Committee Reports

All committee reports are emailed to members with the BOD's agenda and meeting minutes. A few highlights of those reports are the following:

Facilities Manager Report: Facilities Manager Kirk McClain reported on bids for resurfacing Bayshore's tennis court. The Board approved spending up to \$19K to resurface the court. Kirk also is looking at the cost of a pool table light. See the BOD Minutes for further information.

Planning Committee: The committee's actions included approved construction-related items, new complaints filed (4), and sending complaint letters to members (one about a sign, one for an unkept yard, and one about Scotch Broom).

Policies and Procedures Committee: The Board unanimously approved Bayshore's new HR manual.

Nominating Committee: Three members were approved to serve on this committee: Ray Gamel, Rob Wert, and Jeri Reinhart.

Social Committee: Members of the committee and Karen Moorhead, Board Liaison, were thanked for all they did to make the Holiday Dinner a success.

A new work group, Bayshore's History, was approved to document the history of the Club.

# The Nature of Bayshore

by Lynda Apel

## Meet Our Neighbors: The Pinnipeds (Part 2)

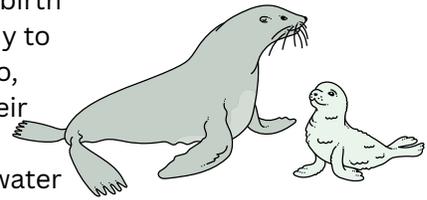
*A Closer Look at Bayshore's Most Common Marine Mammal*

Now that we've been introduced to pinnipeds and explored their physical traits, diets, habitats, and communication, let's take a closer look at harbor seal intelligence, social behavior, and pup development.

Harbor seals are highly intelligent, often demonstrating problem-solving abilities comparable to other well-studied marine mammals. They can process information, form concepts, and anticipate outcomes—clear signs of both biological and cognitive intelligence. Beyond survival skills, harbor seals are also known for vocal mimicry, with documented cases of individuals successfully imitating human speech patterns.

Socially, harbor seals are mostly solitary. However, during the breeding season—March through August—large groups of several hundred may gather at haul-out sites, and interactions can become quite aggressive. Males typically mate with multiple females and initiate courtship through chasing, neck and flipper biting, and embracing. Females respond with growling, head thrusting, and flipper waving. Mating usually occurs in the water shortly after females wean the pup conceived during the previous breeding season.

After an approximately 11-month gestation period, mothers give birth to a single pup in late spring or early summer. Pups are born ready to swim, having already shed their fluffy baby coat, known as lanugo, before birth. During the first week, mothers stay very close to their pups on land and in calm waters. As the mother's need to forage increases, she begins leaving the pup at a haul-out site or in the water while feeding nearby.



Mother and pup maintain close physical contact to strengthen bonding. They often play together—touching, splashing, twisting around one another, and leaping from the water. Pups may even ride on their mother's back. To help their mothers locate them, pups call out while swimming with distinctive “krooroo-uh” and “kroo-roo” sounds, each pup having its own unique variation.



Harbor seal pups grow rapidly, gaining about a pound per day. They nurse for four to six weeks, after which weaning occurs abruptly—the mother simply does not return after one of her foraging trips. This is the most difficult and vulnerable period of a young seal's life, and smaller pups are less likely to survive their first year. Those that do survive will take several more years to reach breeding size and will continue growing beyond that.

In the wild, harbor seals typically live into their 20s, with males having slightly shorter lifespans, likely due to the stress and injuries associated with mating-season fights. Seals living under human care may live up to 30 years or more. Did you know that the world's oldest known living harbor seal, Skinny, lives at our Oregon Coast Aquarium? In 1975 she was a starving pup rescued in Washington and in June of 2025, she celebrated her 50<sup>th</sup> birthday!

## The Nature of Bayshore (cont.)

In closing, here is some important information we all need to know in case we come up a adult harbor seal on our beach:

- **Do not touch, feed, or disturb seals.** Federal and state laws protect marine mammals, and if a mother senses disturbance, she may abandon her pup.
- **Keep your distance from dead seals or other marine mammals.** They can carry bacteria and viruses that may be transmitted to humans and pets.
- **If you see a seal that appears sick, injured, or stranded,** contact the Oregon State Police Tip Line at 800-452-7888.



### Resources:

[www.oregoncoastmagazine.com](http://www.oregoncoastmagazine.com)

[www.oregonlive.com](http://www.oregonlive.com)

<https://seaworld.org/animals/all-about/harbor-seal>

## Bayshore Members Sharing Their Talents



In the November/December issue of the Breeze, I put out a call for members who would like to share their talents and skills with other members. Just recently, I received a message from Rob Wert (one of the Park Pruners - see that article on page 9). Here is Rob's message: *"I live in Division Six near the first station. I serve on the Planning Committee. I am a retired remodeling contractor and property manager. If you are thinking of a project or*

*or repair and want some neutral advice, give me a call. I will not charge of this service. Nor will I refer you to any specific contractor. Advice is limited by my experience and time variable. I am computer illiterate, so a text or call is the only way to reach me. 541-901-1108 (9am -9pm, please)"* Thanks, Rob, for offering your talents and skills for free too Bayshore members. If you'd like to share your talents/skills, email Kenn at [bayshorebreezeditor@gmail.com](mailto:bayshorebreezeditor@gmail.com)



Compliments of Lynda Apel

**A Word a Day...**  
Obelus: The a symbol (†) used as a reference mark in printed matter.