

# President's Message

By Ron Hascall, Forster Highlands Board President

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays. I thought the neighborhoods were especially festive with some very creative lighting and other holiday presentations on most every street. Though this letter was written before the announcement of this years Holiday Decorating Contest winners, I congratulate you and all of your neighbors for spending the time and effort to make Forster Highlands so festive!

At our last meeting in November, a half dozen attendees (along with a few e-mails & phone calls) in support of year-round pool heating convinced a Board majority to keep the heat on over the winter months this year. While many may not find this an environmentally or fiscally responsible practice, there were none present to counter their very vocal persuasions. I encourage you all to take advantage of the pool this winter as we are one of the very few remaining HOA's that have this amenity available to their residents during the winter months.

The Board was effective at holding the line on most other expenses during 2009. We were even successful at obtaining a reduction in fees from our Management Company and our landscaping contractor, with no impact on services. As a result, we will experience a very minor increase in our monthly assessment of \$1 to \$194. This small increase provides little, if any, room for unexpected/unanticipated expenses (other than covered by our reserves), but with a little luck and lots of your help, I am hopeful that we can again 'hold the line' in 2010.

As I stated in our last newsletter, the temporary fence along the access pathway between Aire de la Sal and the schools is being removed. Once it is removed, I am hopeful that we will keep our children off the slope, and give the vegetation a chance to fill-in the open areas. If not it may be necessary to close this access way, putting more of our children on the sidewalks

along Calle Sarmentoso.

We have many projects to tackle this year, along with our continuing litigation against the developers. I will keep you informed as they proceed. May 2010 bring for you happiness, success and be filled with peace, hope & the togetherness of your family and friends!