



Joshua Tree Highlands Association

2023-2025 Board Bios

President



Chris Schweidler

I have lived in and loved calling the JT Highlands community and environment home for many years. I have served on the board for JTHA and remain committed to supporting our community's priorities. My background and training is in public health, and I am a co-owner of a community research and technology coop. I work with communities to design and implement practical solutions to real world problems.

Treasurer



Yvonne LeGrice

My husband and I have been members of the Highlands community for over 9 years. I'm a partner in an accounting firm that specializes in nonprofit accounting and also volunteer with several organizations in Joshua Tree including the Mojave Desert Land Trust and the Morongo Basin Humane Society.

Secretary



Karen Reid

Hi, my name is Karen Reid. I am a full time resident of the Highlands and have been for 18 years. I am a 3rd grade teacher at Morongo Valley Elementary School and have taught there for 21 years. I still consider myself a climber even though I am slowing down. I have seen a lot of change in the neighborhood within this time. My vision for the neighborhood association is for more inclusion and less cost. I feel we need to reach out to homeowners rather than raise the dues and put the burden of cost on the precious few that pay dues. I look forward to working to keep our roads safe, and our communication clear and welcoming.

Members-At-Large



Cindy Beck

Our family has owned our piece of paradise in the Joshua Tree Highlands since 2008. We are in love with the quietude, flora and fauna, dark skies, and awesome geology. I am currently retired from UCSD School of Medicine (immunology research) and when I'm not at our home in Joshua Tree I reside in Encinitas where I spent many years serving on various community/city boards. I have experience with city/county codes and departments in both Encinitas and San Bernardino County. And since we do rent our home to others when we are not using it, I have become familiar with the county requirements and local problems regarding STR issues. My priority is to forever protect, preserve and maintain the nature and quiet, rural feel of the Highlands for the enjoyment of all who live and visit here.



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Frederick Fulmer

20 year resident in Joshua Tree Highlands. Artist and founder of Joshua Tree Highlands Artist Residency. Avid gardener and friend to all desert critters.



Terry Harris

My grandparents built our home in the mid 50's and I have been coming here since I was born. I am an avid lover of Joshua Tree and the high desert. My children and grandchildren also love the desert and frequent our home.

I have seen many changes in the Highlands and became a board member years ago. I would like to continue to be involved in the Joshua Tree Highlands Association and keep our neighborhood a safe, natural, and beautiful place to live.



Tannis Kobrinsky

I bought my home in the Highlands in August 2016, and operate it as a short term rental. I divide my time between Joshua Tree and Echo Park in Los Angeles. I was born in Canada and grew up in Santa Barbara. I majored in Theatre at Cal State Northridge and UCLA, and have lived in Los Angeles ever since. I worked in the entertainment businesses as an actress and dancer, and behind the camera in production and casting and as a writer. I've taught movement and fitness for 5 decades, and Pilates for 20 years. I opened my own business Pilates & Arts Echo Park, www.pilatesandarts.com in 2011. It closed due to the Pandemic. In 2021 I opened a Pilates & Arts studio plus art gallery in downtown Joshua Tree. I love nature, the arts, have strong networking skills, and care deeply about protecting and preserving Joshua Tree and surroundings.



Cal Gerberding

My name is Cal Gerberding, and I have lived in Joshua Tree since 1993, coming here to live a "lifestyle" of cycling, rock climbing, & hiking right outside my door. Had been in San Francisco & Berkeley working for "the man", and was over it :) My husband Steve and I bought our home on Weaver Way in 1998, now 22 years! I make my living as a certified fitness trainer, going to clients' homes in Palm Springs since 1993. Hope to get to know more of the locals here in the neighborhood, and look forward to helping the Highlands continue to be safe for all, and have "friendly"/kind roads to all that use them.



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Steve Anderson

My wife and I became part-time residents of the Joshua Tree Highlands in 2015 and we spend as much time here as possible while working toward retirement from our day-jobs as creative artists and professors of digital media in the film schools at USC and UCLA. I believe strongly in the importance of organizations such as the JTHA and am excited about becoming more involved in this remarkable community. I look forward to living full time in JT and would like to explore ways to create a sustainable balance among humans and the natural environment of the desert.



John Schoenfeld

Hi I'm John Schoenfeld, I'm a native southern Californian and proud to say I've been a home owner and stakeholder in the Highlands for 22 years. I still have the same awe and inspiration for the desert that started when I was a teenager. Now, many years later, I continue to put priority on the preservation of its natural beauty, quite serenity, while keeping a balance with the reality of our short term guests and AirBnB community. I've had the pleasure of witnessing our Highland community grow and change while still maintaining its very special integrity. I have confidence The Highlands can continue to evolve in that positive direction. With our many new residents and a reestablished JTHA there is a great opportunity to further untie the JTHA and successfully promote preservation and create a platform for our shared aspirations, concerns and actions.

I am a part time resident, I am a full-time photographer and producer, lover of nature, and ardent believer in the extremely special qualities of the Highlands.