

Sierra Recreation Association



Annual Christmas Dinner - December 11, 2004 - 6:00 P.M.

Please bring a salad or dessert and table settings

Annual Christmas Raffle

A donation of a raffle prize would be appreciated

A craft item, baked goods, or a gift

President Rainwater's Open House - December 18, 2004

2:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. - 25490 Wheeler Road

Join us for appetizers and beverages

President's Corner

Well, where has this year gone to? It seems just like yesterday that I was writing my first newsletter. How time flies when we're having fun!!! You would think that after six months of newsletters that we could put page two and page three in their proper order. I truly apologize for last month's newsletter, but it appears that our printer can't distinguish the difference between page two and page three. I mean when you only have four pages; how hard is it to get them in the proper order??!!

Please don't forget the Annual Christmas Dinner to be held at the lodge on December 11th at 6:00 P.M. This dinner is for all park residents including children. The Association provides the turkeys, mashed potatoes and gravy, dressing, cranberry sauce, and beverages (coffee and punch). Santa will make an appearance and provide a gift for each child. Come meet your neighbors and enjoy the Christmas holidays with good food and good company. Then mark your calendar for December 18th and plan on attending the Rainwater's Open House from 2:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Join us and come share in the holiday spirit. Appetizers and beverages will be provided.

During our last Board of Director's meeting, the Board had the unfortunate task of accepting a resignation from one of our fellow Board members. Greg Brown submitted his resignation due to a heavy demand from his personal business. On one hand, this is good for Greg; but on the other hand, it's unfortunate for the Park. Even though I was not able to work with Greg for very long; I was impressed with his demeanor and concern for the Park. The Board of Directors has lost a dedicated, hard working individual that demonstrated a sincere concern for the Park. Greg, thank you for your years of service to the Park and good luck with your expanding business endeavors.

The Board now faces an unusual dilemma, normally; the Board would appoint a new Board member from the candidates that ran for the Board at the last Annual meeting. However, all the candidates who ran for the Board were elected. The by-laws indicate that the Board can appoint a qualified Odd Fellow or Rebekah to fulfill this position for the remaining time left on Mr. Brown's term. The Board agreed to allow anyone who is qualified and interested to notify President Rainwater and those names would be submitted at the next Board meeting for consideration. If you are interested, please contact Michael Rainwater at 209-358-0694.

Winter is upon us and it's time to winterize. Please use your drain systems and empty all your water lines when you leave. Do not leave your water system on with an open faucet allowing the water to run. If the caretaker finds a cabin with its water running; he will shut the system down, close the valve in the water box and place a lock on the valve. Winterizing in this manner is a waste of Park water and will not be permitted. Please know how your system works and drain it properly.

One last item that I would like to mention is the Tuolumne County Sheriff's Department sells reflector house signs. If you are interested, simply stop by the substation in Twain Harte and order your house sign. The signs can then be picked up in approximately seven days. CDF and the Sheriff's Dept. recommend these signs making it easier for them to locate your residence in case of an emergency.

Hope to see all of you on December 11th at the Annual Christmas Dinner and on the 18th for the Open House. If previous scheduled events prevent you from attending; then have a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Michael Rainwater, President

P.S. A large amount of firewood has been delivered to the campground and is available to all Park residents. Please be careful when cutting and remember fire safety, bring the proper equipment when cutting. Have fun!!!!!!!

Caretaker's Corner

October and November were very busy months for Mike but the Park shows his hard work. The lake was drained for the winter and the snow plow was serviced and chained up for the upcoming snow storms. Four trees had been dropped and Mike delivered them to the campground for Park residents. All bar ditches have been cleaned out and are ready for the winter runoff. Prior to leaving on Mike's vacation to Chicago, Mother Nature decided to drop a few inches of snow that required plowing. Repairs to the heater in the shop were completed and the Park's gas and diesel for the winter months were delivered. In addition, the sand for snow plowing was delivered. As a precaution, Mike trained several of our Park residents on how to plow snow. The Park's truck was repaired which included a new heater core, two new tires, and a front end alignment. Mike built three new gates, two of which were chain gates that were placed at different locations on Rebecca. The third gate was a replacement gate at the corner of David and Goliath on the road that leads to Long Barn. It appears that someone had cut our lock to either enter or leave our Park and thus it became necessary for Mike to build a new gate that was designed so that the lock could not be cut. All of the Park's equipment, snow plow, backhoe, and grader, have been rearranged so that they are now stored inside out of the weather. Nice job Mike. The Park and its residents truly appreciate your dedication and hard work.

November Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Rainwater at 8:45 A.M.

Present were: President Michael Rainwater, Vice President Bob Cloak, Secretary Norrine Coyle, Treasurer Roger Townsend, Members Charles Aston, Tom Clark, Sean Kasper, Robert Snell. Resigned, Greg Brown.

Members before the Board: Doris Selman, Ed Smith

Correspondence: Greg Brown's resignation from the Board; letters from Roger Brown returning our check for \$20,000.00 which he was holding pending payment by CNA Insurance Company which he had received, a copy of his letter to CNA with his bill for additional services, and a copy of his letter to CNA requesting payment to Odd Fellows for the \$26,893.73 owed, all in connection with going to court re. the Boy Scout matter; letter from Caldwell Insurance with an endorsement adding Joanne Caropreso to our policy as a driver; letter from Lynette Falkner, American Tree Farm System, regarding "Family Forest Heritage Campaign"; letter from California Dept. of Health Services regarding grants; notice from the California Rural Water Assn. re. a membership meeting in Shell Beach on 12-9-04; letter from the County Development Dept. re. the Williamson Act; bill from the California Rural Water Assn. for \$240.00. By motion (Clark/Kasper, unan.) the bill was approved for payment.

Committee Reports:

Water - Cloak: Water used during the past month was 531,000 gallons. Necessary additions on Esther and Deborah have been completed. They will be flushing the lines every 2 months. There are grants available for major water projects.

Roads - Snell: We won't need "cut back" until spring for any road repair.

Buildings - Clark: We need some mortar to fill in places in the lodge building fire place. Materials for an electric light at the sand shed are here and will be installed soon. Materials that were to be used to connect to a gate when we thought we could subdivide the 5 acres are no longer needed. Ed Smith mentioned that at the 3 Links Camp, there is a building with 108 beds and a number of camp sites. He understood that if the property is not used for an Odd Fellows youth camp, it is to revert to the Odd Fellows Park. Tom Clark will check on the property deed.

Timber - Townsend: The grinding has still not been done. He has been trying to get in touch with Will Dorrell to find out what is happening. Last spring, the total amount of materials from the grinder for all of the areas involved was 4,073 tons. A grant application or proposal for grinding for next year is due in February. Rick Jerome will help with the forms. The California Dept. of Forestry wants reflective street signs.

Health & Safety - Kasper: Dirt bikes are still a problem in the park. The pay phone has been repaired. Some logs will be placed in the old camp ground for park property owners to cut for use in their wood burning stoves in the park.

Equipment: President Rainwater said a leak in the heater core in the Park's truck and various other items were repaired and maintenance done. Mike has parked all equipment inside of buildings. There was a discussion about whether or not we need a small used mower.

Recreation – Aston: He has 6 turkeys in the freezer and will get the potatoes, coffee, and punch. Tom Clark will prepare the dressing and cranberries. In addition to bringing a salad or dessert, people are encouraged to bring craft items, baked goods, etc. to be raffled for funds for the kids fishing derby next June.

Finance – Townsend: Deposits totaled \$1,525.73. Bills totaled \$12,762.79. By motion (Aston/Cloak, unan.) the bills were approved for payment. Gary Whiteman still has not paid the assessment, but it is understood that his place is being sold.

Old Business:

Bob Snell said Industrial Electric in Modesto has a generator for about \$22,000. Sean Kasper thinks he can get one for \$12,000. More information will be obtained in time for the annual meeting in May so it can be voted on at the meeting.

Bob Snell said he has not been able to find someone who can dredge the lake. The one who did it before has passed away. He will continue to work on it. He has checked on signs to put on the gates around the perimeter of the park that will say something to the effect of "Private Property, no trespassing, keep out, no ATV's, etc. He will check on the price of smaller signs.

A few of the Board members gave a list of their duties to President Rainwater. Others are still needed.

Our former burn area will be a slash site for grinding again this year. No one wants the needles any longer.

New Business:

A very large dead tree by the creek on East Jordan needs to be taken down. It will cost \$350.00. By motion (Clark/Kasper, unan.) it was agreed to go ahead before the tree falls and causes major damage.

The stove and microwave in the caretaker's cabin doesn't work. Because they have been used for some time, by motion (Kasper/Cloak, unan.) it was agreed to purchase new ones. Tom Clark and Charles Aston will check on new appliances. It was mentioned that the heater in the lodge is inefficient and very noisy. Bob Cloak will check on it.

The agent for the Park's liability insurance will attend the January meeting.

Ed Smith mentioned that the room where the Board meets was once a storage room and was fixed up by the Lodge for about \$3,500. In answer to his question, he was told that there is no truth to the rumor that the Board was considering charging the Lodge for using the building.

It will be necessary to appoint someone to replace Greg Brown who resigned. Anyone interested must notify President Rainwater by December 10th so the appointment can be made at the meeting on the 11th. Phone 209-358-0694.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 A.M. The next meeting will be on December 11, 2004, at 8:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Norrine Coyle, Secretary

<u>Date</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Payment</u>
10/25/04	11268	Cambridge General	Insurance	\$94.39
10/28/04	11269	Cambridge General	Insurance	\$46.61
10/29/04	380	Michael Caropreso	Payroll	\$1,020.46
10/29/04	381	State Farm Bank	Payroll	\$50.00
10/31/04	6	Caretaker	Petty Cash	\$1.60
11/06/04	11270	State Board Equal.	Taxes	\$100.20
11/06/04	11271	State Board Equal.	Taxes	\$100.24
11/12/04	384	Michael Caropreso	Payroll	\$933.86
11/12/04	385	State Farm Bank	Payroll	\$50.00
11/15/04	382	Employment Develop.	Taxes-payroll	\$144.28
11/15/04	383	US Bank Taxes	Taxes-payroll	\$1,360.32
11/20/04	11272	PG&E	Utilities	\$628.21
11/20/04	11273	SBC	Telephone	\$64.40
11/20/04	11274	J.S. West Propane	Propane	\$68.53
11/20/04	11275	Waste Management	Garbage	\$776.42
11/20/04	11276	George Reed	Maintain Road	\$648.60
11/20/04	11277	W.H. Breshears	Fuel	\$1,120.95
11/20/04	11278	Eric Carlson	Accounting	\$830.00
11/20/04	11279	Village Mail & Print	Communication	\$63.71
11/20/04	11280	Twain Harte Lumber	General Maintain	\$33.44
11/20/04	11281	A & A Portables	Health & Safety	\$73.63
11/20/04	11282	California Reforest	Timber Expense	\$1,950.00
11/20/04	11283	Steve Lavagnino	Maintain Equip	\$262.72
11/20/04	11284	Angels Pest Control	Maintain Build	\$120.00
11/20/04	11285	Ambrosia Chimney	Maintain Build	\$89.00
11/20/04	11286	SBC	Telephone	\$21.29
11/20/04	11287	Roger Townsend	Mileage	\$125.00
11/20/04	11288	Frank Hodges	Taxes-Property	\$1,126.54
11/20/04	11289	Tom Clark	Holiday Dinner	\$99.89
11/20/04	11290	Calif. Rural Water	Annual Member	\$240.00
11/20/04	11291	M. Caropreso	Medical Ins.	\$181.00
11/20/04	11292	Duane St. Clair Truck	Maintain Roads	\$337.50

Sierra Park Lodge #376
Lodge Meetings held on 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 6:00 P.M.

Rebekah Meeting
3rd Wednesday at 12 noon (Lunch)

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Association
P.O. Box 116
Long Barn, CA 95335

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

U.S. Postage Paid
Bulk Mail
Permit #2
Long Barn, CA 95335