

Sierra Recreation Association

November 2005

Contact by **MAIL** at P O Box 116 Long Barn, CA. 95335 by **PHONE** for call back only 209-586-3098  
**NEW by e-mail** [sierrapark@varvayanis.com](mailto:sierrapark@varvayanis.com) We are going to try this with Charles' help of providing the service.  
 Also, check out: [www.varvayanis.com/sp](http://www.varvayanis.com/sp) This is a trial site Charles set up a couple of years ago. Thanks, Charles

**Christmas Dinner: December 17<sup>th</sup>. 5:00 P.M.**  
 There will be a raffle to raise funds for the fishing derby in June. If you have donations for the raffle or you can help with the dinner contact Roger at 209-529-8315. *Everyone is invited to share this meal. Bring your table service and one of the following: salad, vegetable or dessert.*

**Calendar:** Next Board Meeting: December 17<sup>th</sup> 8:30a.m.  
 I.O.O.F. Lodge meetings: December 7<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m.  
 Rebekah Lodge meetings: December 7<sup>th</sup> at noon.  
**NO** Lodge potluck this month because we will all be sharing the December 17<sup>th</sup> dinner.

**Resignations**

It was with regrets that the Board of Directors accepted 2 more resignations at the Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Tom Clark resigned for personal reasons and Norinne Coyle resigned due to Bud's health problems. We will miss their services.  
 We thank the Lodge for doing an initiation for new members as some of them are interested in serving on the Board. Contact a Board member if YOU are willing to serve our beautiful park. Although the normal term in office is 3 years, the terms to be filled will be completion of the resigned terms. Your help and support is needed.

**SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

You read and hear it a lot of places but I am going to mention it again. **DRIVE safely!** Driving in snow and on wet needles require you to be very cautious and reduce your speed. Don't park in the road when the plow might be coming by. You may need to park in the parking lots if you do not have a clear driveway.  
**FIRE SAFETY** Unfortunately, fires do not become less dangerous just because it has rained or snowed. There are many sources of fires at this time of year, but stay especially aware of Christmas trees, lights and fireplaces & hot ashes.

**REMINDER TO ALL HOMEOWNERS:** If you or your guests bring RV's, trailers, etc to the park, they must be parked on your lot or in the paved parking areas. ***IF they are parked in the parking areas they must not be used for sleeping or eating.*** In simple terms, **NO CAMPING** of any kind in the parking lots. You might respect the health and safety factors involving disposal of water and trash but the next person that wants to "camp" might not. If we ask for pay to camp, we get involved with collecting and paying lodging taxes to the county. These problems and their time and effort stopped camping several years ago here in Sierra Park.  
**Please respect this rule.**

**COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE**

Want to know the weather at the park? Check out the web site shown at top of page. Cold Springs is colder than we are but it is fun to see.  
 I am still compiling the current phone number and e-mail address list. THANK YOU to those who have responded, I at least know you read this newsletter. Anyone who has not sent current address, phone number & e-mail information, Please write to P O Box 116 Long Barn, CA. 95335 or e-mail [sierrapark@varvayanis.com](mailto:sierrapark@varvayanis.com)

**November 28<sup>th</sup>, First snow of the season.** We had about an inch and a half but it stopped before noon and then rained so it is not a winter wonderland as yet. Maybe with the next storm expected soon.

**Homeowners Support Needed**

Your Board of Directors is looking for homeowners with background and experience in fields that will help the board make decisions. Small committees to be used as a resource in areas of *insurance, legal, finance, construction, electrical, heating, water, etc.* would be of benefit to everyone to help keep assessments as low as possible. The committees might need to meet once or twice a year or just be asked questions by phone or e-mail. If you can donate a little time to help in your area of expertise,  
 Call and leave message at **209-586-3098** or e-mail [Sierrapark@varvayanis.com](mailto:Sierrapark@varvayanis.com)

**VOLUNTEER THANKS!**

Daryl Clark for cleaning & leveling and planting native grass in the burn area. That was a job that could have been on the "Dirty Jobs" show. Thank you, Daryl

Board of Directors Meeting

November 19, 2005

Present: President Roger Townsend, Treasurer Doris Selman  
Members Mike Van Gundy and Charles Varvayanis  
Excused: Charles Aston

The meeting was called to order by President Roger Townsend at 8:30 a.m.

Members before the board: Ron Hawke to observe. Barry Dugan to give information on generator and Tom Clark. Tom turned in his resignation as of November 12, 2005, but also stated he would continue to complete projects he had started.

Minutes of the October meeting were approved as mailed, with the correction of this meeting date. (Motion VanGundy/Varvayanis)

Correspondence: Letter of resignation from Tom Clark. Letter from Norrine Coyle resigning due to the health issues of her husband. Also, letters from homeowners who were late with their assessments complaining and questioning the late fees that were added.

**Committee Reports:**

**WATER** – Roger—Water usage was 987,400 gals. There was a water valve break at the corner of Debra & Esther on a Friday. It required calling in Siminaci Construction to do the repair and since it was on Saturday the cost was at double time. System was chlorinated following standard practices.

**ROADS** – The marks on Debra were filled by George Reed to complete their paving job. The low spot on Wheeler causing cars to veer off road has been filled with cold patch

**BUILDINGS** \_ Tom said he would complete getting the sand shed door repaired.

Discussed the need to always get a rental agreement whenever the recreation hall is rented. It will avoid questions, make a paper trail for the fees and allow refunds of deposits in a timely manner.

**TIMBER – Townsend** – A dead tree on Beersheba & Abraham is to be removed by P.G. & E.

**HEALTH & SAFETY**- The lake has been drained.

**EQUIPMENT – Van Gundy** – Snow chains have been received, correct seat covers for the new pick up are installed and the window for the backhoe has been taken care of.

**RECREATION** – Roger will look for homeowners to help with the Christmas Dinner and enable us to have Santa visit with the children. This is also a fundraiser for the kids fishing derby. Speaking of fishing a few people did fish when the lake was opened to all ages and fish were caught.

**FINANCE – Selman** – A couple more assessments were received. We are trying to avoid going to small claims and liens on property, but it appears that may be necessary for a few homeowners.

Motion to pay bills (Varvayanis/Van Gundy) unanimous. The total amount approved included payroll already issued. The bills approved are listed on the ledger in the newsletter attached.

**OLD BUSINESS** – The generator was discussed after a presentation by Barry Dugan a local electrical contractor. Mr. Dugan has done work in the park and is familiar with our pumps and needs for generator back up. It was voted to purchase the new generator from Barry Electric, he could possibly have it installed in January. (Quorum was satisfied by the availability by phone of Charles Aston and the fact that this purchase was approved at the annual meeting.)

**NEW BUSINESS** – The resignations received from Tom Clark and Norinne Coyle were accepted with regrets. We send best wishes to them and their families.

An e-mail from homeowner Clark Kellogg suggesting a web site for the park and e-mail correspondence was discussed. Since Charles Varvayanis set up a web site a couple of years ago and has the facilities through his business to provide e-mail service for a trial, it was agreed to begin a test of interest. He has set up the e-mail address: [sierrapark@varvayanis.com](mailto:sierrapark@varvayanis.com) and the web site is [www.varvayanis.com/sp](http://www.varvayanis.com/sp) It was mentioned that sending the newsletter by e-mail or posting it on the web site will save postage. That would only be for those choosing to receive it in this manner as we can not stop sending the information by mail to those without e-mail service.

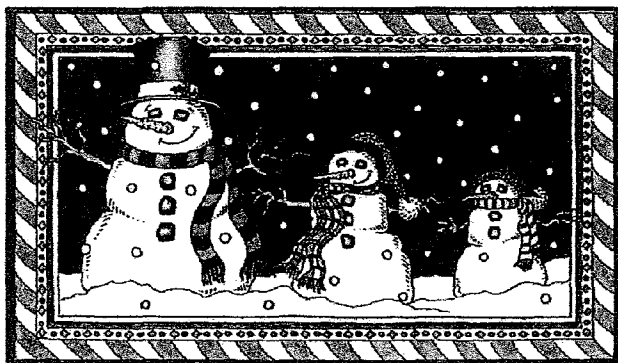
It was suggested that a special brainstorming meeting be held to discuss future necessary projects. Then put them in priority and time frame for completion. Homeowners input would be asked for and welcomed.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. Next Board meeting will be December 17, 2005 at 8:30a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Doris Selman, acting secretary

Our condolences and sympathy go to Mike & JoJo Caropreso on the recent loss of his father.

Date	Chk. #	Payee	Memo	Amount
10/28/05	11544	Joanne Caropreso	Payroll 10/10 -10/23/05	396.94
10/28/05	11545	Michael Caropreso	Payroll 10/10 - 10/23/05	1148.79
10/28/05	11546	Phillip M. Rainey	Payroll 10/10 - 10/23/05	361.43
10/28/05	11547	State Farm Bank	Payroll savings deduction	50.00
11/8/05	11551	EDD	Payroll expense	129.75
11/8/05	11552	U.S. Bank	Payroll expense	1196.90
11/11/05	11548	Joanne Caropreso	Payroll 10/24 - 11/06/05	561.34
11/11/05	11549	Michael Caropreso	Payroll 10/24 - 11/06/05	932.16
11/11/05	11550	State Farm Bank	Payroll savings deduction	50.00
11/22/05	11557	SBC	Utilities/ phones	61.91
11/22/05	11558	Angels Pest Control	Maintain Bldgs/ spray buildings	130.00
11/22/05	11559	Simunaci Consturction	Maintain Water System(break)	1200.00
11/22/05	11560	Charles Varvayanis	Equipment/ replace computer	1210.29
11/22/05	11561	State Water Resource	Taxes & Licenses	100.28
11/22/05	11562	State Water Resource	Taxes & Licenses	100.24
11/22/05	11563	Mike Caropreso	Maintain Water	21.00
11/22/05	11564	Gary Marais	Outside Service/ bar ditches	1200.00
11/22/05	11565	Mike's Mowers	Maintain Equip./	15.00
11/22/05	11566	Zaks	Maintain Equip/supplies for oil chn	371.22
11/22/05	11567	Zenith Insurance Co	Insurance/ workers comp	597.00
11/22/05	11568	Midstate Rental	Maintain Equip/ replc windshield	320.28
11/22/05	11569	Tom Clark	Ref rental dep/ mileage/ ofc supp.	381.16
11/22/05	11570	Doris Selman	Member commun/copy newsltr	50.23
11/22/05	11571	Waste Management	garbage	828.45
11/22/05	11572	A & A. Portables	Health & Safety 2 months.	153.36
11/22/05	11573	PG & E	Utilities/ electricity	695.91
11/22/05	11574	Snoquip	Equipment/ snow chains	737.58
11/22/05	11575	Sierra Instant Print	Office supply/ signature stamp	21.50
11/22/05	11576	Mike Caropreso	Employee health benefits	362.00
11/22/05	11577	Eric A Carlson Acctg	Accounting	664.44
11/22/05	11578	Twain Harte Lumber	road/ water/ & shop supplies	88.27
11/22/05	11579	AquaLab	Water Testing	1409.00
11/22/05	11580	J. S. West	Utilities/ propane	72.51
11/22/05	11581	Postmaster	Member commun/ postage fund	240.00
11/22/05	11582	Tuolumne Tax Collector	Taxes / Park property tax 1/2 yr	1160.25
			Total	17019.19
		skipped sequential check numbers will appear next month as they were used for payroll on 11/25		



## *Peace & Happy Holidays to all!*

Advice from a snowman: be a jolly happy soul,  
 spend time outdoors, avoid meltdowns,  
 be well rounded, stay cool,  
 it's okay to be a little bottom heavy,  
 be kind & live well because life is short.

Sand & Stone— A story tells that two friends were walking through the desert. During some point of the journey, they had an argument, and one friend slapped the other one in the face. The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything, he wrote in the sand: Today my best friend slapped me in the face. They kept on walking, until they found an oasis, where they decided to take a bath. The one who had been slapped got stuck in the mire and started to drown, but his friend saved him. After he recovered from the near drowning, he wrote on a stone: Today my best friend saved my life. The friend, who had slapped and saved his friend, asked him. "After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand, and now, you write on a stone, why?" The friend replied: "When someone hurts us, we should write it down in sand, where the winds of forgiveness can erase it away, but when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone where no wind can ever erase it. Learn to write your hurts in the sand and to carve your blessings in stone.— Unknown

Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Association  
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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