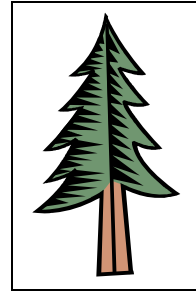


# SIERRA PARK NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 116 Long Barn, CA 95335

February 19, 2011



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Telephone: 209-586-3098

## 2010 - 2011

### Directors

President - Gloria Harvey  
Vice-President - Friedhelm Peter  
Secretary - Mike Rainwater  
Treasurer - Shaun Velayas  
Buildings - Dick Barrett  
Equipment - Friedhelm Peter  
Gate - Charles Varvayanis  
Recreation -  
Roads - Paul Emery  
Health & Safety -  
Timber - Charles Varvayanis  
Water - Ron Hawke

## Rebekah's Corner

Dogwood Rebekah Lodge #200  
meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each  
month in the Lodge Board room.

## Snow Removal Reminder

Remember: No parking is  
allowed on the roadways during  
snow removal. Vehicles will be  
towed at owners' expense.

## Woodcutting

Wood cutting at the old  
campground continues until  
further notice from the Board.

## Lost & Found

Found in the lake parking lot  
was a key ring with two car keys.  
Contact the park if you lost a set  
of keys.

## President's Message

Dear Homeowners,

It has been a busy time for the caretaker. From Thursday, February 17, to Saturday morning the 19<sup>th</sup>, the park had over three feet of snow. The caretaker was able to keep the roads open until Friday evening. To avoid hitting a van that was parked across the road, the snowplow slid into the ditch. A tow truck was required to pull out the snowplow. Due to the heavy demand for tow trucks in the county, it was twelve hours before one arrived. During that time, the snow was falling heavily. It was necessary to call for help to clear the roads at considerable expense to the park. The expense to the park because of this situation was a total of \$751.25 which included towing, overtime, outside contractor, and grader operator. By Sunday morning, the roads were all open and widened and the sun was shining. Thanks, Mark for a job well done.

**AGAIN, I cannot over emphasize the importance of NOT parking in the roadway during snow removal. It takes time to call and to wait for towing to remove the illegally parked vehicles. This valuable time is needed for snow removal. Please, avoid a towing charge and help the park by parking in the parking lot unless you have off road parking. The park owns a minimum of 10 feet on each side of the road. This space is used for piling the snow.**

Some information has been circulating regarding the actions of the current Board members. This information is being circulated by one of our own Board members.

I find the language of the letter confusing and misleading.

The posting of communications between board members to the web is a concern. I ask you to read these with care. When one reads a statement, not intended for mass circulation, the reader is at a disadvantage. He does not know the situation or the circumstances that lead to the communication. Therefore, he cannot interpret its true meaning, significance or purpose. To understand the intent one must view it in context and this information is not available on the web site.

We are a conscientious group of volunteers who serve at your request. I encourage you to attend a monthly meeting or the Annual Meeting and judge our actions for yourself.  
Sincerely, Gloria Harvey

**Fishing Derby:** The annual fishing derby is Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup>, mark your calendar.

**Recreation Assistant:** The board is looking for a homeowner who could assist with the picnic portion of the fishing derby, please contact President Gloria Harvey at 209-586-6161.

**ODD FELLOWS SIERRA RECREATION ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
FEBRUARY 19, 2011**

**INTERIM MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 P.M. by President Harvey. Board members present: Emery, Barrett, Harvey, Peter, Hawke, Rainwater, and Varvayanis. Excused absent: Fialho and Velayas.

**INVOCATION:** Given by Ron Hawke

**HOMEOWNERS & OTHERS PRESENT:** Homeowners, Mike VanGundy, Steve Wallace, and Carmi & Matt Ennis

**CORRESPONDENCE :** President Harvey reported receiving correspondence from: Maynard Wallin regarding damage to his wall during snow removal in November; an e-mail from homeowner Varvayanis requesting a refund of assessments paid on lots merged at the county in 2004 and 2007 ( 3 lots into 1); an e-mail from Varvayanis requesting that the refund on assessments be applied to as a credit to future assessments; an e-mail from Varvayanis stating other property owners who have over paid for assessments and that OFSRA needs to pay an assessment for the caretaker's cabin; a letter from Craig Pedro, County Administrator, regarding a meeting was held for Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> at the Sierra Bible Church, to review the Fire and First Responder plan for the County of Tuolumne. All agencies with fire protection were invited and homeowners who are affected by the services were to attend. President Harvey did attend; an information item, last month insurance people were in MiWuk to assess the I.S.O. ( it has to do with rates charged in the area). Linda Clark who works at the MiWuk Fire Station said they might be coming to our area soon or the results may affect rates in our area; an e-mail from Director Velyas in response to questions asked about financial statements; and a letter from Director Velyas concerning Director Varvayanis' behavior.

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING of January 15, 2011:** Director Hawks moved that the minutes be accepted as presented, Peter seconded, motion carried.

**DIRECTOR REPORTS:**

**WATER – HAWKE :** Remember, homeowners are strongly encouraged to turn off their water supply valve and drain their cabins whenever they are going to be away during the cold winter!

A water level monitoring system has been fabricated and installed on two of the Park's storage tanks. The Park has long needed to be able to determine the stored water level without driving to the tanks, which is sometimes impossible. The options considered included: 1) a video camera monitor so as to observe the mechanical level indicator, 2) an ultrasonic depth gauge, 3) an array of float switches installed in the tanks and 4) pressure transducers to monitor the water pressure at the base of the tanks. It was decided the 4<sup>th</sup> option was the best combination of cost effectiveness, least intrusiveness, and is the easiest to fabricate and install. Two pressure transducers were purchased and installed on the tanks at the Wheeler tank farm, one at the base of the large tank and one at the base of one of the 4 auxiliary tanks. An existing cable that runs underground from the tank farm to an outlet at the end of Joseph Dr. is used to supply the low voltage to power the transducers and read out the gauge voltages, which provides the measurement of the water level heights. The system is working well. The time needed for the Caretaker to measure the system water level has been reduced from about half hour to 10 or 15 minutes and made it possible to monitor when access to the tanks is impractical.

The State is still working on their report on our water system and reissuing of our license.

Investigation of repairs and refurbishment of the problems the divers found in our water tanks last July is underway. So far, the pipes in the well houses have not dropped below 34o F and 42o F on wells 5 and 6 respectively, even while the interior of the well houses has dropped to 31o F.

There were no water leaks this month.

Director Hawke also reported that there is a training class for the water license is scheduled for March 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> at a cost of \$200 in Tracy, CA. Emery made a motion that the Board spend the \$200 for Mark, caretaker, to attend the class; Hawke seconded, motion carried.

Water usage for the month of Jan. 2011 was 384,000 gallons.

**ROADS – EMERY :** There are no new updates or information at this time.

**BUILDINGS – BARRETT :** Update on the new fireplace in the caretaker's cabin; working extremely well.

**EQUIPMENT – PETER :** All the equipment is holding up well with no problems.

**TIMBER – VARVAYANIS :** Contacted Will Dorrell, park's timber consultant, regarding the possibility of timbering this year. The mill in Sonora is due to open in May and there is a second market, overseas, that might need our timber. Mr. Dorrell will get back with us in the future. A tree located at 25483 Rebekah, appears that it might need to be removed.

Varvayanis asked that other Board members take a look at this tree and provide additional insight. At this time, no one is sure if the tree is located on a homeowner's property or Park property.

**GATE – VARVAYANIS :** The new magnets to the gate have been installed at a cost of \$1,725.00. The old magnets were disposed of by Varvayanis as scrap metal and sold to a scrap dealer. A computer has been installed in the gate house that will enable Directors/caretaker to search the video files quickly in order to view problems that have occurred at the gate in the past. A new surge protector battery was installed. There was money collected for gate openers totaling \$290.00.

**FINANCE – VELAYAS : (EMERY)** Due to Velayas being absent, Emery presented the bills for payment which were: \$16,962.40. Hawke moved to approve payment, Barrett seconded. Motion carried. The repayment of reserve funds and loan to the specific funds will be paid at the end of the fiscal year as it has always been done in past years.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS :**

**WATER LICENSE – VARVAYANIS :** Varvayanis reported that the Park's attorney addressed the questions asked by the Board at last month's meeting regarding the new Water Use Agreement and License Agreement. The committee then made slight changes to the verbiage and finalized the two documents. Those documents will be presented at the annual meeting, May 2011. President Harvey thanked the committee for their hard work. A new committee was created regarding the Rules/Regulations document which is connected to the Water Use and License Agreement documents. That committee will consist of Hawke, Rainwater, and two homeowners from the Park.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **RAFT – EMERY** reported that the cost to install a new raft at the lake would be \$2,000. The cost would include new floatation material, trex boards, and safety ladder. This item and the cost will be presented to the general membership at the annual meeting in May.
2. **LIGHTS – PRESIDENT HARVEY** recommends that the lights at the garbage, garage (behind the lodge building) and fire station be left on all night. (This is currently being done) The light at the lake is property of PGE and they charge the Park a minimal amount each month for that light and its maintenance. President Harvey will seek bids for the installation of an additional 20 amp line to the lodge kitchen. The light fixture behind the lodge building will be changed to a motion sensor.
3. **Internet Connection – Varvayanis** asked why the Board decided to use dial-up versus a high speed connection concerning the corporation's computer? The board explained to Varvayanis that it was taking too long for the installation and the installation was becoming complicated. Varvayanis also expressed his concern that his actions when dealing with Sierra Communications was in the best interest of the Park. The Board responded that they felt that there was a conflict of interest between Sierra Communications and Varvayanis' personal business.
- 4.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Acceptance of the resignation of Director Nelson.** With great regret, Peter moved to accept, Barrett seconded. Motion carried.
2. **On February 2, 2011,** response by e-mail of six positive votes supported the appointment of Mike Rainwater to fill the vacancy of Secretary for the remainder of the year.
3. **Appoint** Director for recreation director, no one volunteered. President Harvey will check with other people.
4. **Request** for refund of assessments, this issue will be discussed as old business next month.
5. **Issuing** stock certificates to OFSRA members. Hawke moved to issue stocks, Varvayanis seconded. Motion carried. Rainwater indicated that he would like to complete this task and is asking all Odd Fellows and Rebekahs that have not been issued certificates to contact him. The number is 209-586-2792. Verification of OFSRA membership and owned property in Park for 5 years.
6. **Budget** review forms were provided by Velayas via e-mail for next month's meeting.
7. **Apple** orchard pruning bids have been received. Joe Cover's cost was \$1500.00 and Gordon Rosefield cost was \$850.00. The job included the 23 trees being topped, thinned, shaped, remove dead, and a follow up in the Spring. Motion by Hawke to accept Rosefield's bid, Barrett second. Motion denied due to budget constraints at this time. This matter will be passed onto the next Board.
8. **Move** paper boxes to a new location. The present location is unsafe for both the delivery person and Park residents who pick up their papers. Discussion between Board members as where to place the paper boxes and keep them easily accessible. After some discussion, further review for new location will be conducted by all Board members.

ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 4:10 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CALLED TO ORDER AT 4:15 P.M.

ADJOURNED EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 4:40 P.M.

OPEN REGULAR SESSION AT 4:41 P.M.

PRESIDENT HARVEY ANNOUNCED no action was taken regarding serious personal issues.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:42 P.M

NEXT MEETING March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Michael Rainwater, Secretary

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>NUM.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SPLIT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
CHECK	1/19/11	1674	Aloha Painting	777 Maint. Bldg - capital expense	-\$1600.00	\$13,183.06
Liability Check	1/24/11	1675	EDD	payroll tax	- 20.46	13,162.60
Paycheck	1/28/11	1676	Higgins, Mark	payroll	-1,005.86	12,156.74
Liability Check	1/31/11	eftps	Oak Valley Bank	330 - FUTA LIABILITY	- 47.99	12,108.75
Liability Check	2/3/11	1677	EDD	Payroll Tax	- 140.31	11,968.44
Paycheck	2/11/11	1678	Higgins, Mark	payroll	-1,060.45	10,907.99
Check	2/11/11	1679	Anthem Blue Cross	728 - Employee Benefits	-2,075.06	8,832.93
Check	2/15/11	eftps	Oak Valley Bank	796 - Income Tax Expense	-1,818.00	7,014.93
Liability Check	2/15/11	eftps	Oak Valley Bank	payroll tax	- 961.54	6,053.39
Check	2/22/11	1681	Mark Higgins	728 - Employee Benefits	- 23.52	6,029.87
Check	2/22/11	1682	AT & T	telephone	- 98.46	5,931.41
Check	2/22/11	1683	Auto Discount Repair	773 - Maint. Equipment	- 395.85	5,535.56
Check	2/22/11	1684	Carlson, Huff & Assoc.	accounting	- 1,613.31	3,922.25
Check	2/22/11	1685	Davidson's Training	775 - Maint. Water System	- 200.00	3,722.25
Check	2/22/11	1686	El Dorado Septic Service	740 - Health & Safety	- 94.21	3,628.04
Check	2/22/11	1687	Ferguson Enterprises	775 - Maint. Water System	- 175.99	3,452.05
Check	2/22/11	1688	General Plumbing Supply	775 - Maint. Water System	- 76.36	3,375.69
Check	2/22/11	1689	George Reed Inc.	774 - Maint. Roads	- 718.13	2,657.56
Check	2/22/11	1690	Gloria Harvey	766 - Office Supplies	- 61.20	2,596.36
Check	2/22/11	1691	Ron Hawke	775 - Maint. Water System	- 419.48	2,176.88
Check	2/22/11	1692	Hoge, Fenton, Jones & Appel	755 - Professional Services	- 2,940.00	- 763.12
Check	2/22/11	1693	J.S. West	792 - Utilities	- 859.05	-1,622.17
Check	2/22/11	1694	Mark Vann Trucking	774 - Maint. Roads	- 660.00	-2,282.17
Check	2/22/11	1695	Peter, Friedhelm	Maint. Roads & bldgs.	- 412.70	-2,694.87
Check	2/22/11	1696	PGE	utilities	- 844.25	-3,539.12
Check	2/22/11	1697	Randy's Tire & Wheel	773 - Maint. Equipment	- 1,556.73	-5,095.85
Check	2/22/11	1698	Sierra Instant Printing	758 - Member Comm.	- 212.06	-5,307.91
Check	2/22/11	1699	Tuolumne Tax Collector	785 - Taxes - Property	- 1,583.63	-6,891.54
Check	2/22/11	1700	Twain Harte Lumber	772 - Maint. Bldgs.	- 389.68	-7,281.22
Check	2/22/11	1701	Valley Entry System	737 - Gate Expense	-1,725.00	-9,006.22
Check	2/22/11	1702	Charle Varvayanis	Office supplies, gate expenses	- 79.37	-9,085.59
Check	2/22/11	1703	Waste Management	736 - Gargage	-1,829.29	-10,914.88
Check	2/22/11	1704	Odd Fellows Sierra Rec.	133 - Oak Valley Comm. Bank	25,000.00	14,085.12
Paycheck	2/25/11	1705	Higgins, Mark	payroll	-1,874.22	12,210.90
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					-2,572.16	12,210.90