

Sierra Recreation Association

August 1999

Keep Your Fork

There was a woman who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and had been given three months to live. So as she was getting her things "in order", she contacted her pastor and had him come to her house to discuss certain aspects of her final wishes. She told him which songs she wanted sung at the service, what scriptures she would like read, and what outfit she wanted to be buried in. The woman also requested to be buried with her favorite Bible.

Everything was in order and the pastor was preparing to leave when the woman suddenly remembered something very important to her. "There's one more thing," she said excitedly.

"What's that?" came the pastor's reply.

"This is very important," the woman continued. "I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand." The pastor stood looking at the woman, not knowing quite what to say. "That surprises you, doesn't it?" the woman asked.

"Well, to be honest, I'm puzzled by the request," said the pastor.

The woman explained. "In all my years of attending church socials and potluck dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say, 'Keep your fork'. It was my favorite part because I knew that something better was coming...like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance! So, I just want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder 'What's with the fork?'. Then I want you to tell them: "Keep your fork....the best is yet to come".

The pastor's eyes welled up with tears of joy as he hugged the woman good-bye. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see her before her death. But he also knew that the woman had a better grasp of heaven than he did. She KNEW that something better was coming.

At the funeral people were walking by the woman's casket and they saw the pretty dress she was wearing another favorite Bible and the fork placed in her right hand. Over and over, the pastor heard the question "What's with the fork?" And over and over he smiled. During his message, the pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the woman shortly before she died. He also told them about the fork and about what it symbolized to her. The pastor told the people how he could not stop thinking about the fork and told them that they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it either. He was right. So the next time you reach down for your fork, let it remind you oh so gently, that the best is yet to come.



Calendar of Events

Thanksgiving &
 Christmas Dinner.....Saturday, December 11, 1999
 St Patricks Day Dinner.....Saturday, March 11, 2000
 Annual Meeting.....Sunday, May 28, 2000
 Fish Derby.....Saturday June 17, 2000

Sierra Park Lodge #376

Our regular monthly meetings are held on the second and fourth Saturday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Recreation Hall. There is a potluck held the fourth Saturday before the Lodge meeting, to which all are welcome.



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 15, 1999

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by President Del Wallis. Those present were President Del Wallis, Vice President Jim Morrison, Secretary Norrine Coyle, Treasurer Richard Bonner, Members Fred Coleman, and Bob Snell. Absent were Greg Brown, Deena Hague, and Ron Hawke, all excused.

The invocation was given by Richard Bonner.

MINUTES - By motion (Morrison/Snell, unan.), minutes of the July 11, 1999 minutes were approved as mailed.

MEMBERS BEFORE THE BOARD - Daryl D. Clark spoke about his concern of the time and expense to the Park, such as extra garbage and Randy's time to keep people from parking in the meadow and other areas where parking is not allowed. He mentioned that there have been some outstanding groups that have obeyed the rules, but there have been some groups that have caused a lot of grief. It was mentioned that there is one more function booked for this year. By motion (Coleman/Morrison, majority, Snell-no) no new reservations will be made until after the next annual meeting when the Board would present some suggestions and have some discussion by those attending the annual meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE -

Three form letters from the State Department of Health Services to all Public Water Systems, referred to Randy Tolbert. Letter from Lionel Mattos regarding sale of property. Letter from Accountant Eric A. Carlson, recommending an upgrade in our computer software to become Y2K compliant as well as become compatible with his computer, which Bonner reported is being done. Letter from homeowner Daryl Clark regarding use of the park and hall for private parties. Annual form from the Secretary of State to be completed with association officers' names and addresses. Grant deeds regarding the following sales of property: Lionel Mattos to Dennis & Barbara Tungate, Mildred Unger to Richard & Lorraine Friedlander, Roy & Theresa Turner to Dana Christensen, Barbara Armstrong to John & Marilyn Dahl, John Rawles to Michael Nelson.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

WATER - Morrison - Water usage for the past month was 1.6 million gallons. Randy took out all 1" plastic line under Ruth which had been broken. A complete Caretaker's report is attached to the original minutes.

ROADS - Snell - He received a very good bid from George Reed for paving Rebekah, Esther, the entrance road that is cracking in the gate above the gate area, and fog seal Wheeler Road. The short section of David will be delayed until next year

when the main part of David is paved. By motion (Morrison/Bonner, unan.), the bid was accepted.

BUILDINGS - Hawke (absent) - Randy reported that the restroom in the former campground will be taken out this month.

TIMBER - Coleman - The consultant will give us a plan for compartments 1, 5, and 6. Funds will be held in the trust fund until the final billing is received from the Forest Service. Some burning is necessary in compartment 4. Piles of materials will be prepared and covered until there is snow before burning is done. The consultant said, too, that compartment 8 needs to be surveyed and recommended Mr. Walter. By motion (Morrison/Snell, unan.) The consultant's recommendations were approved. Another concern of Mr. Coleman was growth of thistles in the meadow. It was agreed that Randy would get together a work party to trim the blossoms in the near future, and that next spring we may need to get Angels Pest Control to spray the area for any regrowth.

HEALTH AND SAFETY - Hague - Randy said the lake is still okay for swimming. Coleman mentioned that one home has sewage leaking from its septic tank that will be causing some problems to the community. If not taken care of, the County Health Department will be notified.

EQUIPMENT - Brown (absent) - The Board has an estimate of \$2169 to repair the pickup but with no guarantee. We are aware of a used pickup, 1-ton flatbed, for \$8,500. We will have the transmission checked out, and if it appears to be okay, the President will poll the Board members to see if they feel we should purchase this truck, or continue putting money into the old truck.

RECREATION - Coyle/Snell - Coyle suggested a "Calendar of Events" that could appear in the newsletter each month so people would know in advance of various activities. She suggested a holiday dinner on Sat. Dec. 11, a St. Patrick's dinner on Sat., Mar. 11, and the annual fishing derby on Sat., June 17.

FINANCE - Bonner - The PG&E bills need to be checked. He and Randy will do this. He asked the Accountant to look at the past income and expenses because it appears we may have a refund due from the IRS. Bills for the month totaled \$14,043.25, including the fencing. By motion (Morrison/Snell, unan.) payment of the bills was approved.

At 9:40 a.m., President Wallis was excused from the meeting and Vice President Morrison took over as Acting President.

OLD BUSINESS - Our attorney has said the Boy Scouts do not have a proscriptive right to use of our roads. This was in answer to a question raised at the annual meeting.

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NEW BUSINESS - One property owner's family members are riding bikes without licenses and do not go up to the water rank as required, have cut holes in water bars, and continue to allow their dog to run loose. By motion (Coleman/Bonner, unan.) the president will be asked to talk to the Park's lawyer about writing to the owner about these problems and telling them some action will be taken in court if the problems are not corrected. Another group is shooting a gun in the park. By motion (Coleman/Bonner, unan.) It was agreed to ask the lawyer to write to these people telling them that no firearms are allowed in the park.

Another property owner has allowed dogs to run loose. It was suggested that a letter from the board member in charge of Health & Safety write to this person about the problem, and tell them that in the future, the County animal control Department will be called, and they have said they will come and pick up the dogs.

It was suggested that all of these letters be sent certified with a return receipt.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting will be held on September 12, 1999 at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Norraine Coyle, Secretary

Checks Disbursed for July 1999

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
7/26	9203	US Bank Taxes - Payroll	112.00
7/26	9204	Employment Development Dept. Taxes - Payroll	163.92
8/9	9205	Twain Harte Lumber Gates	450.01
8/13	9206	US Bank Taxes - Payroll	902.98
8/13	9207	Employment Development Dept. Taxes - Payroll	59.67
8/15	9208	Eric A. Carlson, Accountancy Accounting	540.80
8/15	9209	Randall J. Tolbert Payroll	800.70
8/15	9210	Michael W. Caropresso Payroll	497.66
8/15	9211	Randall J. Tolbert Payroll	800.70
8/15	9212	Michael W. Caropresso Payroll	497.66
8/15	9213	JS West & Symons Supplies - Shop	50.70
8/15	9214	Postmaster Stamps/Box Rent	57.00
8/15	9215	Valley Doors and Electronics Service. Call & Openers	1465.50
8/15	9216	George Reed, Inc. Maintain Roads	128.91
8/15	9217	Duane St. Clair Trucking Maintain Roads	144.00
8/15	9218	Angels Pest Control Health & Safety	110.00
8/15	9219	Zaks Supplies - Shop	14.08
8/15	9220	Modesto Welding Supplies Supplies - Shop	122.82
8/15	9221	Village Mail & Print Stop Newsletter/Annual Mtg Minutes	165.66
8/15	9222	General Plumbing Supply Maintain Water System	139.27
8/15	9223	Kolpack Maintain Roads	91.16
8/15	9224	Glenn S. Caldwell Insurance	88.00
8/15	9225	Cal Sierra Disposal Garbage	1093.80
8/15	9226	Sonora Fire and Safety Health and Safety	99.80
8/15	9227	Lawrence Haun, Legal Services	140.50
8/15	9228	JS West & Symons Propane	39.52
8/15	9229	AquaLab Water Testing	75.00
8/15	9230	AT&T Telephone	13.96
8/15	9231	Pacific Bell Telephone	56.24
8/15	9232	PG&E Electricity	1026.58
8/15	9233	Richard L. Bonner Office Supplies	62.19
8/15	9234	US Bank Payroll Deduction - Retirement	175.00
8/15	9235	Twain Harte Saw & Mower Supplies - Shop	38.73
8/15	9236	Mother Lode Toilets Health & Safety	18.21
8/15	9237	Anderson Fencing Maintain Water System	3683.02
8/15	9238	Jasper Morrison Mileage	45.00
8/15	9239	Robert Snell Mileage	37.50
8/15	9240	Norraine Coyle Mileage	36.00

Total 14,043.25

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