

PONDEROSA PROPERTY OWNER'S ASSOCIATION

November

NEWSLETTER

2014

President's Message

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November 2014

Greetings:

We made it through summer and it is starting to feel like fall. We will all need to get ready for winter and hope for rain and snow. The next PPOA event for homeowners and guests will be the Thanksgiving Potluck Party. This will again be held at the Brewer's Ponderosa Lodge, on Saturday, November 29. Look for more information on this annual event in this newsletter.

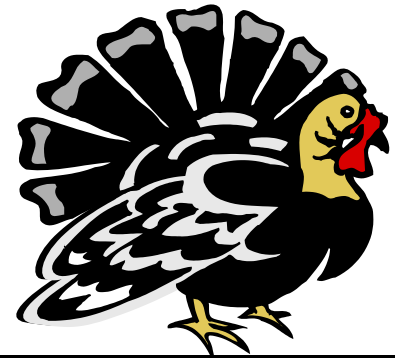
As always, I encourage anyone who is not a member of the PPOA, to consider becoming a member. There are many projects that your community PPOA board provides to you to keep our community up-to-date, safe, and a wonderful place to visit.

There is a membership form available on line at the community web site: www.ponderosaca/pondo, and in the newsletter. You can also find the PPOA meeting minutes and newsletters located at this site.

Regards,

Kit Korf

PPOA President



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Personal ads are free for PPOA members space permitting.

\$5- Business card

\$10- 1/4 page

\$15- 1/2 page

\$25- Full page

\$40- Both sides of page

Contact PPOA Treasurer Gail Lack at
glack@bak.rr.com for payment

Circulation 250

The next newsletter will be out in Feb.

Please have submissions in by Jan. 22 nd

Chimney Fires, Causes and Cures

This article provided courtesy [Chimney Safety Institute of America](#)

(Submitted by John Kracik)

As you snuggle in front of a cozy fire or bask in the warmth of your wood stove, you are taking part in a ritual of comfort and enjoyment handed down through the centuries. The last thing you are likely to be thinking about is the condition of your chimney. However, if you don't give some thought to it before you light those winter fires, your enjoyment may be very short-lived. Why? Dirty chimneys can cause chimney fires, which damage structures, destroy homes and injure or kill people.

Chimney fires can burn explosively - noisy and dramatic enough to be detected by neighbors or passersby. Flames or dense smoke may shoot from the top of the chimney. Homeowners report being startled by a low rumbling sound that reminds them of a freight train or a low flying air plane. However, those are only the chimney fires you know about. Slow-burning chimney fires don't get enough air or have enough fuel to be as dramatic or visible. But, the temperatures they reach are very high and can cause as much damage to the chimney structure - and nearby combustible parts of the house - as their more spectacular cousins. With proper chimney system care, chimney fires are entirely preventable.



Creosote and Chimney Fires: What you MUST KNOW!

Fireplaces and wood stoves are designed to safely contain wood-fueled fires, while providing heat for a home. The chimneys that serve them have the job of expelling the by-products of combustion - the substances given off when wood burns.

As these substances exit the fireplace or wood stove, and flow up into the relatively cooler chimney, condensation occurs. The resulting residue that sticks to the inner walls of the chimney is called creosote. Creosote is black or brown in appearance. It can be crusty and flaky ... tar-like, drippy and sticky ... or shiny and hardened. Often, all forms will occur in one chimney system.

Whatever form it takes, creosote is highly combustible. If it builds up in sufficient quantities - and catches fire inside the chimney flue- the result will be a chimney fire. Although any amount of creosote can burn, sweeps are concerned when creosote builds up in sufficient quantities to sustain a long, hot, destructive chimney fire.

Certain conditions encourage the buildup of creosote, restricted air supply, unseasoned wood and cooler-than-normal chimney temperatures are all factors that can accelerate the buildup of creosote on chimney flue walls.

Air supply : The air supply on fireplaces may be restricted by closed glass doors or by failure to open the damper wide enough to move heated smoke up the chimney rapidly (the longer the smoke's "residence time" in the flue, the more likely is it that creosote will form). A wood stove's air supply can be limited by closing down the stove damper or air inlets too soon and too much, and by improperly using the stovepipe damper to restrict air movement.

Burning unseasoned firewood : Because so much energy is used initially just to drive off the water trapped in the cells of the logs - burning green wood keeps the resulting smoke cooler, as it moves through the system, than if dried, seasoned wood is used.

Cool flue temperatures : In the case of wood stoves, fully-packed loads of wood (that give large cool fires and eight or 10 hour burn times) contribute to creosote buildup. Condensation of the unburned by-products of combustion also occurs more rapidly in an exterior chimney, for example, than in a chimney that runs through the center of a house and exposes only the upper reaches of the flue to the elements.

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HOW CHIMNEY FIRES DAMAGE CHIMNEYS

Masonry chimneys. When chimney fires occur in masonry chimneys - whether the flues are an older, unlined type or are tile lined to meet current safety codes - the high temperatures at which they burn (around 2000° F) can "melt" mortar, crack tiles, cause liners to collapse and damage the outer masonry material. Most often, tiles crack and mortar is displaced, which provides a pathway for flames to reach the combustible wood frame of the house. One chimney fire may not harm a home. A second can burn it down. Enough heat can also conduct through a perfectly sound chimney to ignite nearby combustibles.

Pre-fabricated, factory-built, metal chimneys. To be installed in most jurisdictions in the United States, factory-built, metal chimneys that are designed to vent wood burning stoves or pre-fabricated metal fireplaces must pass special tests determined by Underwriter's Laboratories (U.L.). Under chimney fire conditions, damage to these systems still may occur, usually in the form of buckled or warped seams and joints on the inner liner. When pre-fabricated, factory-built metal chimneys are damaged by a chimney fire, they should no longer be used and must be replaced.

WAYS TO KEEP THE FIRE YOU WANT... from Starting One You Don't!

Chimney fires don't have to happen. Here are some ways to avoid them :

Use seasoned woods only (dryness is more important than hard wood versus soft wood considerations)

Build smaller, hotter fires that bum more completely and produce less smoke

Never burn cardboard boxes, wrapping paper, trash or Christmas trees; these can spark a chimney fire

Install stovepipe thermometers to help monitor flue temperatures where wood stoves are in use, so you can adjust burning practices as needed

Have the chimney inspected and cleaned on a regular basis

PROPER MAINTENANCE

Clean chimneys don't catch fire. Make sure a [CSIA Certified Chimney Sweep™](#) inspects your solid fuel venting system annually, and cleans and repairs it whenever needed.

Your sweep may have other maintenance recommendations depending on how you use your fireplace or stove.

CSIA recommends that you call on certified chimney sweeps, since they are regularly tested on their understanding of the complexities of chimney and venting systems .

Signs that You've Had a Chimney Fire

Since chimney fires can occur without anyone being aware of them ... and since damage from such fires can endanger a home and its occupants, how do you tell if you've experienced a chimney fire?

Here are the signs a professional chimney sweep looks for:

"Puffy" creosote, with rainbow colored streaks, that has expanded beyond creosote's normal form

Warped metal of the damper, metal smoke chamber, connector pipe or factory-built metal chimney

Cracked or collapsed flue tiles, or tiles with large chunks missing

Discolored and distorted rain cap

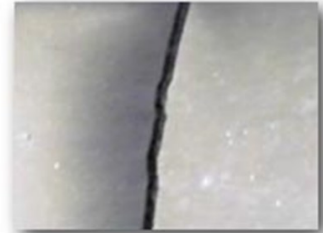
Creosote flakes and pieces found on the roof or ground

Roofing material damaged from hot creosote

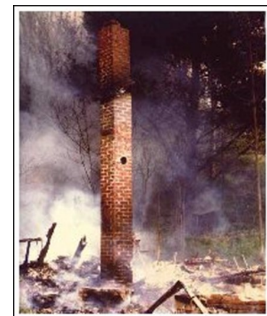
Cracks in exterior masonry

Evidence of smoke escaping through mortar joints of masonry or tile liners

If you think a chimney fire has occurred, visit the [Chimney Safety Institute of America](#). They have a searchable index of sweeps you can access by state from their home page. If your suspicions are confirmed, a certified sweep will be able to make recommendations about how to bring the system back into compliance with safety standards. Depending on the situation, you might need a few flue tiles replaced, a relining system installed or an entire chimney rebuilt. Each situation is unique and will dictate its own solution.



Screen-Shots From Camera



Fire Brigade

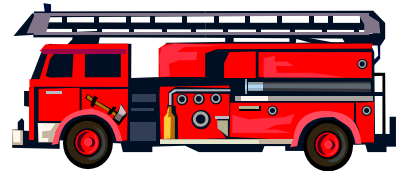
The fire brigade has continued to train all summer and fall. The September and October trainings were well attended. Both trainings had over 12 brigade members attending. We are currently working with a new Division Chief to firm up training and equipment needs. So far all of our discussions have been quite positive.

Our next training will be on the third Sunday of the month at 10 AM. If you are not a brigade member and would like to join or just watch the brigade during their training please attend this training.

This will be our last training for the year. We will start training on the 3rd Sunday in May.

Have a great holiday season and stay safe!

John Kracik



Thanksgiving in Ponderosa at a time of drought

120,000 Gallons, 60 PSI and Many Thanks

Most of you are aware that the Ponderosa Water System Improvement Project has now been completed. This project has included the replacement of the 60,000 gallons water tank on Summit by a 120,000 gallons new tank, an automated valve shut off system that prevents water loss in case of break in lines, the placement of a new water pressure system with automated gas generator for the residents on Summit (who typically have no water in case of power failure) and the replacement of a main water line for the entire length of Tamarack that is now buried at the appropriate depth. All of this work has resulted in a significant water saving for our Ponderosa Community. For example, on the 4th of July week end, when typically on day 2 the summit tank is down to 30,000 gallons and water has to be transferred from the Holby tanks, the summit tank had 100,000 gallons and no water transfer was needed. Moreover, despite freezing temperatures last winter and little snow cover, there has been no break in pipes. The result of all this work has been a 30% decrease in water consumption.

So, our entire community is deeply grateful to all of those who worked quite hard on making this project a reality. It is because of their vision and deep sense of service to our community, that – as we experience one of the most severe droughts in California 's history – we continue to have access to water. As we celebrate Thanksgiving, our deep appreciation goes to the following individuals in particular:

Water Board members: Dale Doty, Cheri Benton, Mike Moroney and Bill Benton

Water Group: Dave Robertson, Jim Parminter, Dennis Lack, Rod Coffee, Marv Shortz, Bill Dolmovic, Bill Benton and Dale Doty

The PPOA Board



Be careful with your pets all. The coyotes are out in force!

CURIOUS COYOTE FACTS:

- Only 5-20% of coyote pups survive their first year.
- The coyote can run at almost 40 mph and can get over a 8' fence.
- Coyotes can breed with both domestic dogs and wolves. A dog-coyote mix is called a "coydog."
- The coyote is more likely afraid of you than vice-versa.
- Coyotes maintain their territory by marking it with urine.



By [Jim Bremner](#) - DesertUSA

Bourbon balls bowl 'em over

Bourbon balls improve if they are allowed to mellow for at least a week, And they can be made up to one month in advance.

Bourbon Balls

- 9 oz Box vanilla wafer cookies
- 3 cups powdered sugar
- 2/3 cup bourbon
- 1/3 cup corn syrup
- 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/2 pound shelled pecans (about 2 cups)

In a food processor, combine vanilla wafers, 2 cups of the powdered sugar, bourbon, corn syrup and cocoa powder. Process until the cookies are ground to crumbs and the mixture is evenly blended.

Add pecans and process, pulsing, until nuts are finely chopped. Turn out into a bowl.

Form mixture into 1-inch balls, rolling them between your palms until smooth. Dredge in remaining powdered sugar to coat. Store in an airtight container.

Makes 5 doz. Cookies.



Brewer's Ponderosa Lodge

559-542-2579

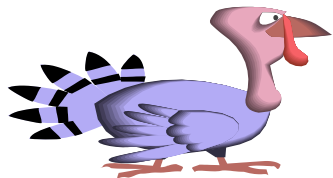
Winter Hours:

- * Open midweek 10-6 pm
- * Open weekends 9-6 pm
- * Thursdays: 4:30—6 pm: Happy Hour Cocktail Party with appetizers
- * With road closure, lodge not open Tues. & Weds.
- * Lodge will be closing early, Nov. 26th 10 am-4 pm

Closed Thanksgiving day, Nov. 27th

Important Dates:

- * Nov. 29th: Thanksgiving potluck at the lodge 5 pm
The lodge will be providing the main dish & soup/salad
- * Sat., Dec. 20th: Community Christmas party potluck at 5 pm
White elephant exchange plus 12 days of Christmas with Bill D.
- * ***New Years Eve Party!*** (Live Music Pending) hats & horns provided! Prime rib dinner starting at 5 pm
(Reservations Please)



*** Turkey Facts ***



Columbus thought that the land he discovered was connected to India, where peacocks are found in considerable number. And he believed Turkeys were a type of peacock (they're actually a type of pheasant) so he named them "Turka", which is "peacock" in the Tamil language of India.

There are three places in the United States named after the holiday's traditional main course—Turkey, Texas, Turkey Creek, La., and Turkey, N.C.



PPOA
Annual Thanksgiving Potluck
Saturday November 29, 2013
At Brewer's Lodge
5.00 pm till 8.00 pm

Mark the date!
This year we will again get
together for our Thanksgiving
Potluck
at Brewer's Lodge.

Bring your favorite
dish to share .
There will be a no-
host bar at the
lodge.



CALENDAR

NOVEMBER, 29TH : THANKSGIVING POTLUCK AT THE LODGE 5PM

SUNDAY, NOV. 30TH: PPOA MEETING: 9 AM AT PCSB BUILDING

DECEMBER 20TH: COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY POTLUCK AT THE LODGE 5PM

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY AT THE LODGE

BRIGADE TRAINING FOR 2014 IS NOV. 16TH 10 AM PCSB BUILDING.

THE FIRST TRAINING FOR 2015 WILL BE ON THE 3RD SUNDAY IN MAY.



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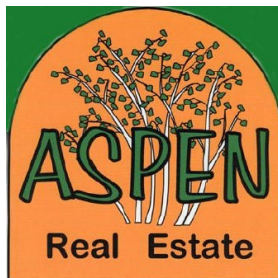
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Change of Address

Below is a change of address form. It is important to let me know if you have moved or have a new PO Box number. Each time I receive an address correction from the US Postal Service it costs PPOA extra money. Please notify me by email at jahansen@bak.rr.com, call (661) 836-2060, or mail this form to Julie Hansen at 8803 Brannock Ct. Bakersfield, Ca. 93313.

Name _____

New Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

New Phone _____ Email _____

Ponderosa Address _____

Detach here and mail to the address above

Below is a form to join the Ponderosa Property Owners Association if you haven't already done so for the 2014–2015 year. The cost for a developed lot is \$30 a year **OR** \$15 for an undeveloped lot. Fill out the form below and mail it along with your check to **PPOA 56693 Aspen Drive, Ponderosa, CA 93265**. If you wish to make a donation to the Volunteer Fire Brigade fund, please mark the form below with the amount desired along with your PPOA membership dues.

Detach here and return to PPOA at the above address

PPOA Membership Dues 2014 - 2015

Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Cabin/Lot Address _____

Cabin Phone _____

Email _____

☐ Cabin

OR

☐ Lot \$ _____

Volunteer Fire

Brigade Fund \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Mark & Julie Hansen
8803 Brannock Court
Bakersfield, Ca. 93313

Address Service Requested

PPOA Board Members

<u>President:</u>	Kit Korf	(559) 542-2504 / (805) 498-2944 korfknb@netzero.net
<u>Vice President:</u>	John Krack	(559) 542-2639 mountaintop56816@gmail.com
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Gail Lack	(559) 542-2437 / (661) 589-2739 glack@bak.rr.com
<u>Secretary:</u>	Alvie Krack	(559) 542-2639 mountaintop56816@gmail.com
<u>Members ~ at ~ Large:</u>		
	Bill Dolmovic	(559) 542-8000 highsierra@wildblue.net
	Richard Thomas	(559) 542-2970 / (805) 640-1266 richjefe@aol.com
	Yves DeClerck	(323) 661-8482 or (559) 542-2872 declerck.yves5@gmail.com
<u>Sunshine, Membership Committee:</u>		
	Barbie Dolmovic	(559) 542-8000 aspenrealstate@wildblue.net
<u>Social Committee:</u>		
	Dominique & Yves DeClerck	(323) 661-8482 or (559) 542-2872 ddeclerck49@gmail.com
<u>Street Signs and Roads Committee:</u>		
	Paul Cohen	(559) 542-0611 yakinbracha@earthlink.net
<u>Fire Truck Community Emergency Response Committee:</u>		
	John Krack	(559) 542-2639 mountaintop56816@gmail.com
<u>PPOA Newsletter:</u>		
	Mark & Julie Hansen	(661) 836-2060 ppoanewsletter@gmail.com

Newsletter available **online** at: <http://www.ponderosaca.com/pondo/>

