



Ponderosa Property Owners' Association Newsletter

August

2018

President's Message

August 2018

Greetings,

We had our annual picnic last month, and it turned out great. Thanks to Kelsey Lane for putting it all together. In addition, our thanks to Manuel and Carol Gregory for donating the meat, Joe Lane for cooking it on the BBQ, and Yves and Dominique DeClerck for providing their French crepe dessert.

More thanks to everyone who donated items for the auction, Tom Griesbach for being the auctioneer, and Dave Reese for helping as needed. As we have in previous picnics, we thoroughly enjoyed the music by Patti Torrey & her musicians. It was a good time in our beautiful Ponderosa.

Before the auction, recognition was given to Mary Brewer for the years she and her family have owned the Brewer Ponderosa Lodge. A recognition plaque will be made and hung on the Memorial Bench, when completed. Yves has put together a scrapbook with pictures and best wishes from Ponderosa friends for Mary.

There may be a vacancy on the PPOA board in September. If anyone is interested in being on the board, contact one of the board members for more information.

Betty Korf is always updating the PPOA Directory as changes occur. If your information is not correct or missing in the Directory, please let her know.

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 in this newsletter. Visit the web site: ponderosaca.com to view the PPOA meeting minutes and newsletters.

Kit Korf
PPOA President

Welcome New Ponderosa Property Owners

Beth Benton

Frank and Ana Ohnesorgen

David and Jennifer

New Owners of the Ponderosa Lodge



To place an ad:

email ppoanewsletter@gmail.com

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 Yves Declerck at declerck.yves5@gmail.com

Circulation 250

The next newsletter will be out in November

Please have submissions in by Saturday, November 3

Please feel free to submit articles, pictures, recipes, etc. that you feel would be of interest to the Ponderosa community.



Summer Fun in Ponderosa!

There were approximately 60 owners, children, grandchildren and dogs to celebrate Independence Day on Saturday July 7 in Ponderosa at the annual PPOA picnic. We enjoyed a delicious pot luck with tri-tip graciously offered by the Gregory family, as we listened to the music of Patti Torrey and her band and conversed with

friends. The highlight of the gathering was a formal appreciation to Mary Brewer and her father Pete for the more than 40 years of service to the community at the Ponderosa Lodge. We announced to Mary that a plaque of appreciation to her and her father from the PPOA will be placed at the commemorative shelter under construction. Mary also received a "scrapbook" with messages from many of her friends in Ponderosa. The party ended with a successful auction of more than 25 items led by Tom Griesbach and David Reese and traditional French crepes from the DeClercks. Thanks to all who participated in the auction to raise \$900.

Many thanks to **Kelsey Lane** as the Social Committee chair and those who helped make the picnic such a successful and enjoyable event; **Kit and Betty Korf, Tammi Stewart, Mike and Cheryl Benson, Joe and Lynda Lane, Dave Reese, Carol and Manuel Gregory, Patti Torrey, Yves and Dominique DeClerck and Tom Griesbach.**



The Brewer family operated the Lodge since Memorial Day 1972 providing lodging, food, drinks and fun. A small gift shop and store provided goods for campers and residents alike. There were numerous events including chili cook-offs, holiday parties and jeep runs. The Lodge also supported and fed fire-fighters during the McNally and Pier fires.



Mary Brewer, Julie Korf, Brett Korf, Doug Brewer (1970)

The Lodge was the cultural and social gathering point on the mountain.

Thanks Mary!

Community Voices...

Update on grant proposal from Jeff Gletne

The Tulare County Resource Conservation District has been awarded a grant for over \$350,000 for the "Ponderosa Community Protection Project". This will be a fuels reduction project focused on removing dead and dying hazard trees and thinning small overcrowded trees. The result will be a healthier and much more fire safe forest. Work is expected to begin in Spring 2019. It will be important to get participation from as many property owners as possible to make this work most effective. More details to follow.



Congratulations to Tom Griesbach and Lorna Manning who were married on May 26, 2018. We wish them many years of happiness together.



One of our good friends in the mountains, **Jim Parminter** donated his Toyota Landcruiser to the EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal). They are the military's "bomb Squad". Their job is to disable the IED's (Improvised Explosive Device) that kill or maim our troops along with many other people. He invited all of his Veteran friends to the small ceremony at his cabin. They represented all the different branches of military.

The EOD with the help of many military veterans donating their time will tear it down and restore it from the ground, up. It will be like new. They will then raffle it off at \$100 a ticket. They hope to raise a half million dollars which will go to Wounded Warriors Foundation. Please go to www.blastersgarage.com to purchase raffle tickets.



**FYI.....ads can be placed on the Ponderosaca website and Facebook for minimal cost. Please contact Julia Inestroza if you are interested.
(Julia@tenalu.com)**

Commemorative Shelter & Bench Update.....by Rich Thomas

We have made good progress this summer on the Commemorative Shelter. Perhaps you have seen it. It is right next to the PCSD Building on Aspen Drive.

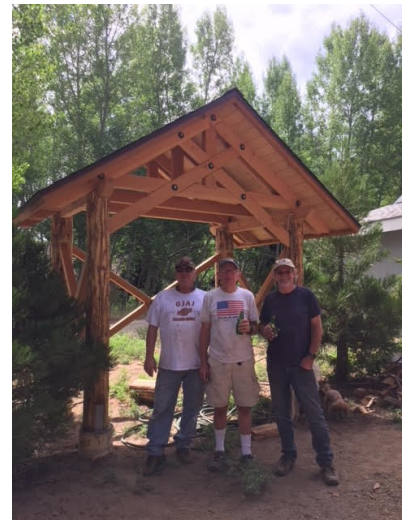
We got started in late May by digging and pouring the concrete footings for the shelter with the help of **Robbie Cope, Larry & Juana Gray, Dana Stewart, and Richard Thomas**. The job was made easier by **Boz Bozanich** lending us his cement mixer.

Then in June, **Will Legette** and his crew donated their time to actually construct the shelter. Will is a local contractor who has done a lot of work here in Ponderosa - Thank you Will. Once the shelter was up, **Bill Dolmovic, Yves DeClerk and Rich Thomas** put the roofing on.

While the project is not yet complete, we have made significant progress. The next phase will be to pour footings for the memorial bench which will be made out of redwood. **Dennis Brown** who is a local tree cutter has offered to help us with the redwood slabs for the bench. Once the footings are complete, we will then construct the bench and put some wood slabs on the sides of the shelter upon which commemorative and memorial plaques can be placed.

The PPOA approved this project last year, and we are very pleased with the progress to date. If any of our PPOA members are willing to help with this project please send an email to **Rich Thomas - richjefe@aol.com**. We hope to complete this project before winter.

Below are some photos that show the progress our our project.



Sierra Skies

Submitted by Mike and Lorna McWilliams



We spent the weekend of August 10-12 at our cabin in Ponderosa knowing that the peak of the Perseid meteor shower would be that weekend. Meteors or shooting stars are solid particles from space that burn up in the earth's atmosphere and leave a streak of light across the sky. Each August 12, the earth's orbit intersects the center of a stream of particles that make up the Perseid meteor shower, which in some years consists of meteors that are visible at rates of up to one per minute. Sadly, that was not the case when we looked!

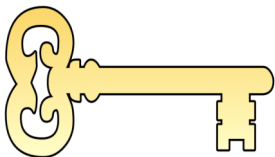


Many times a year the earth's orbit crosses a stream of particles believed to be (in most cases) from a comet. These particles make up meteor showers. The Perseids in August are among the most well-known. Other meteor showers between now and the next newsletter in November will be the Orionids in late October, the Taurids in early November and the Leonids in mid-November. Meteor showers are named after the constellation where they appear to originate.

On any night with perfect conditions, you are likely to see a random meteor every 10 minutes or so. These are called sporadic meteors. The brightest meteors are called Fireballs and they can take half a minute to cross the sky. A meteor may appear in any part of the sky so to use a telescope or even binoculars would limit your field of view. The best way to observe a meteor shower is to lie back on a lawn chair or blanket with a glass of wine and enjoy the night.



Reference: Peterson Field Guides—Stars and Planets, 4th edition, 2006



Do you want a Ponderosa mailbox? Ponderosa residents interested in getting a mailbox key, please contact Tammi Stewart (559) 542-2218 or (949) 492-3659.

Summer Dump Hours until September 30

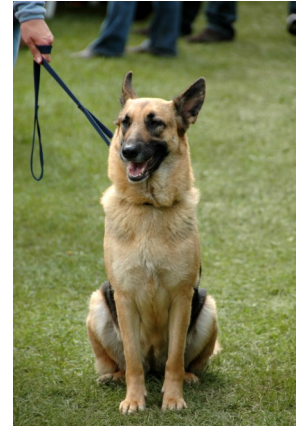
Saturday and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Monday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
(559) 542-0311

Rattlesnake Avoidance Training For Dogs

by Dana Stewart

On July 14 the Ponderosa hosted Andy Andrew's Rattlesnake Avoidance Training Course for Dogs at the PCSD building on Aspen Drive. Eight dogs participated in the program. The cost was \$65 per dog. The course kicked off at 10:00am with Andy, the snake handler, placing snakes at 3 different locations in the grass field. Each dog owner walked their dog on a lease through the course. If they showed any interest in the snakes, they were corrected with a shock collar in order to discourage further interaction with the snakes. Andy then let a snake loose in the clearing, to see if the dogs would react to the snake crawling across open ground. I'm pleased to report all of the dogs were avoiding any contact with the snake. Andy let all the dogs go through the course a couple of times to ensure complete satisfaction with the program and to ensure the dogs were successful. Andy brought a dozen snakes to work in the program.



Needless to say, the training was popular with the locals, as several people stopped to observe the activities. By the conclusion of the training, none of the dogs wanted anything to do with the snakes! Subsequently, the program was a great success! A two page flyer explaining the value and benefits of the training has been posted on the Ponderosa web site if you are interested (www.ponderosaca.com).



CALENDAR

LABOR DAY – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
PPOA BOARD MEETING SUNDAY, SEPT. 2 AT 10 AM

FIRE BRIGADE TRAINING:
AUGUST 18, SEPTEMBER 15, OCTOBER 13

PPOA THANKSGIVING POTLUCK – NOV. 24
(TIME AND LOCATION TBA)

More Rattlesnake Info.....

The dos and don'ts in snake country:

Rattlesnakes are not confined to rural areas. They have been found in urban areas, on riverbanks and lakeside parks and at golf courses *and at Ponderosa*. The following safety precautions can be taken to reduce the likelihood of an encounter with a rattlesnake.

Be alert. Like all reptiles, rattlesnakes are sensitive to the ambient temperature and will adjust their behavior accordingly. After a cold or cool night, they will attempt to raise their body temperature by basking in the sun midmorning. To prevent overheating during hot days of spring and summer, they will become more active at dawn, dusk or night.

Wear sturdy boots and loose-fitting long pants. Never go barefoot or wear sandals when walking through brushy, wild areas. Startled rattlesnakes may not rattle before striking defensively. The rattle is sometimes missing on young snakes and may be broken off on adults, so don't automatically assume that a snake with no rattle is not a rattlesnake.

Children should not wear flip-flops while playing outdoors in snake country.

When hiking, stick to well-used trails. Avoid tall grass, weeds and heavy underbrush where snakes may hide during the day.

Do not step or put your hands where you cannot see. Step ON logs and rocks, never over them, and be especially careful when climbing rocks or gathering firewood. Check out stumps or logs before sitting down, and shake out sleeping bags before use.

Never grab "sticks" or "branches" while swimming in lakes and rivers. Rattlesnakes can swim.

Be careful when stepping over doorsteps as well. Snakes like to crawl along the edge of buildings where they are protected on one side.

Never hike alone. Always have someone with you who can assist in an emergency.

Do not handle a freshly killed snake, as it can still inject venom.

Teach children early to respect snakes and to leave them alone.

Leash your dog when hiking in snake country. Dogs are at increased risk of being bitten due to holding their nose to the ground while investigating the outdoors. Speak to your veterinarian about canine rattlesnake vaccines and what to do if your pet is bitten or have your dog trained to avoid rattlesnakes.

What to do in the event of a snake bite:

Though uncommon, rattlesnake bites do occur, so have a plan in place for responding to any situation. Carry a cell phone, hike with a companion who can assist in an emergency and make sure that family or friends know where you are going and when you will be checking in. In the event of a bite:

Stay calm but act quickly.

Remove watches, rings, etc., which may constrict swelling.

Transport the victim to the nearest medical facility.

For more first aid information, please call the California Poison Control System at (800) 222-1222.

What you should NOT do after a rattlesnake bite:

DON'T apply a tourniquet.

DON'T pack the bite area in ice.

DON'T cut the wound with a knife or razor.

DON'T use your mouth to suck out the venom.

DON'T let the victim drink alcohol.



Note: Most snakebites can be avoided if you leave the snake alone - don't try to catch, kill, handle, or otherwise provoke a rattlesnake into acting in self-defense by striking at you. And always watch where you are walking and where you put your hands when you are in areas where rattlesnakes are present.

There is much more information on the internet. Some material from this page came from the following sites:

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/news/snake>

<https://www.eurekacamping.com/blog/article/6-venomous-rattlesnakes-california-and-how-identify-them>

<http://www.californiaherps.com/snakes/pages/c.o.oreganus.html>

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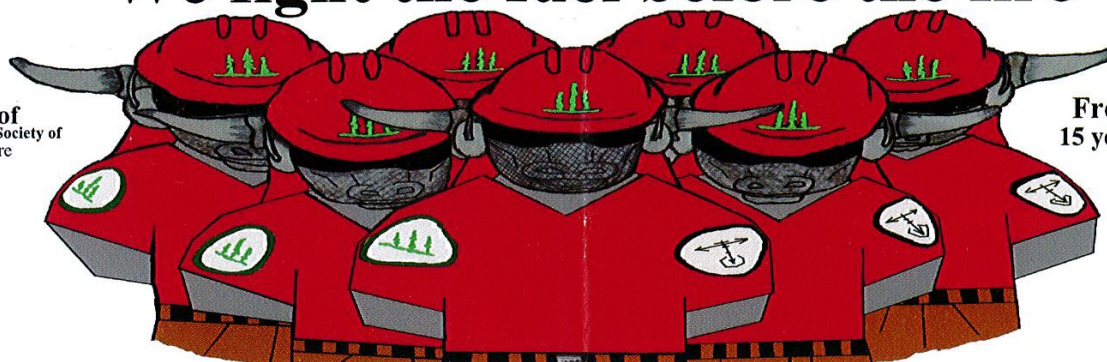
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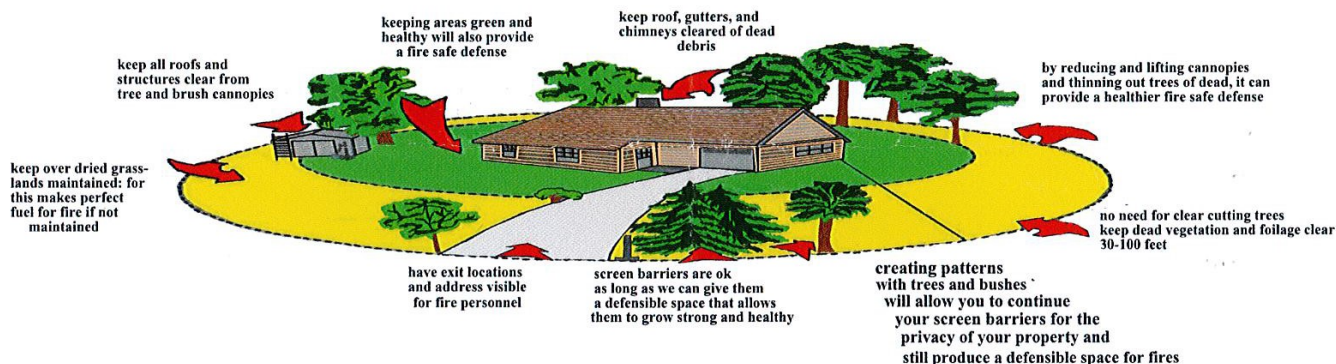
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TorosTreeCare@hotmail.com

Kelsey Lane
Owner/Secretary

Toro Lane
Field Manager

(559)542-0042

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Grading Drainage Building Sites
Fire Clearance Tree Removal/Haul Away

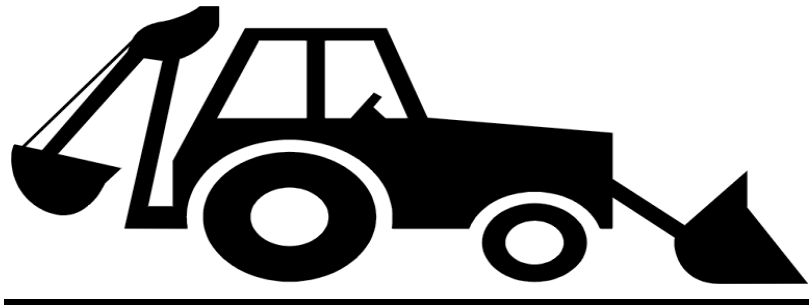
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Bill Dolmovic
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Change of Address

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 ppoanewsletter@gmail.com or mail this form to Lorna McWilliams, 7300 Feather River Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93308

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 2018-2019 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 2018-2019

Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Cabin/Lot Address _____

☐ Cabin

OR

☐ Lot \$ _____

Volunteer Fire

Brigade Fund \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Newsletter delivery by: ☐ mail, ☐ hard copy mail or ☐ both

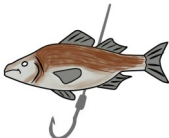
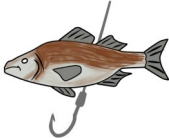
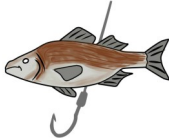
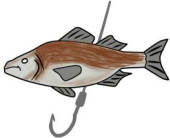
Home Phone _____ Cabin Phone _____

Mike & Lorna McWilliams
7300 Feather River Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Address Service Requested

PPOA Board Members

<u>President:</u>	Kit Korf	(559) 542-2504 or (805) 498-2944 korfknb@netzero.net
<u>Vice President:</u>	Barbara Arnold	(559) 542-2766
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Yves DeClerck	(323) 661-8482 or (559) 542-2872 declerck.yves5@gmail.com
<u>Secretary:</u>	Kelsey Lane	(559) 542-0042 kels.lane@hotmail.com
<u>Members ~ at ~ Large:</u>	Bill Dolmovic	(559) 542-8000 highsierra@wildblue.net
	Richard Thomas	(559) 542-2970 or (805) 640-1266 richjefe@aol.com
	Juana Gray	(559)542-2993 juanagray@gmail.com
<u>Social Committee:</u>	Kelsey Lane	(559)542-0042 Kels.lane@hotmail.com
<u>Sunshine Committee:</u>	Tammi Stewart	(559) 542-2218 or (949) 492-3659 tammistewart27@gmail.com



Street Signs and Roads Committee:
Open Position

Fire Truck Community Emergency Response Committee:
Dana Stewart
greywolf8783@gmail.com

Mail Boxes : Tammi Stewart
(559) 542-2218 or (949) 492-3659
tammistewart27@gmail.com

PPOA Newsletter:
Mike and Lorna
McWilliams
ppoanewsletter@gmail.com

Webmaster: Julia Inestroza
Julia@tenalu.com

Newsletter available online at: <https://ponderosaca.com>