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Your Quarterly Newsletter – June 2023

Gold Ridge Forest

A Hidden Gem in Nature's Wonderland



Current Topics >>>

Upcoming Events

**Annual
Membership Meeting
Saturday, July 8th
6:30 PM
@ the Lodge**
**To accommodate our new
directors' schedules**



From our President

Up on the mountain there, there's a special gem in the Sierras - sometimes you can feel the wind chill or see the snowcapped mountains around. It's a place of scenic beauty, bears, deer, laughter, and even a waterfall not too far away. For those of us that live there, we call it Gold Ridge Forest, nature's wonderland; and what an amazing time to live and be in our beautiful place in the woods on top of that mountain.

We have come so far by restructuring the way we do business; adding Zoom meetings to Board meetings to increase engagement and transparency; remodeling our pools; installing a gym; adding security cameras to increase safety; and adding a new card key access system for our FOBs (the list of changes goes on). We have also invested more resources into cleaning up the greenbelts - a long sought after project only realized in the last few years.

We have improved all key aspects to the Association that were antiquated and needed an overhaul (thank you Steve and Carol Steinbrecher for all of your help and support through the overhaul). By no means was it easy, but all of you stood by the Board as we worked hard to deliver Gold Ridge Forest into a modern era. I'm very pleased writing this letter knowing where we are at, and where we are headed. Our very own Gold Ridge Forest bear mascot resembles our resiliency and our commitment to this community - to come together when in need. And that statue will stand for decades to come at the entrance to Gold Ridge Forest to remind us all of what this community means to one another.

Our financials are watched carefully by our bookkeeper and CPA who diligently ensure we receive financials on time. Our greenbelts have been attended to through grants, some funds of Gold Ridge's, and Dom Smith who has worked harder than anyone to ensure the greenbelts did not get neglected. A very special thank you also goes to the Fire Council Chair, Sherry Hawk, who worked closely with the Gold Ridge Board, and the government, to get this work paid for. And it appears we have more grant monies in the pipeline. Go Gold Ridge, go!

I would be remiss if I did not mention the CC&Rs - and while no CC&Rs are perfect, for the first time Gold Ridge has bylaws that make sense, and if those pass, it will take a community vote for there ever to be a management agency trying to take over or manage Gold Ridge Forest.

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President's Message (continued)

This was put in the bylaws to ensure future Boards remember that it's we the people of Gold Ridge who steer our own futures - not outside agencies. Is there room for additions? Of course there is. That's the beauty of any piece of legislation. And if we don't get there yet, with the new rules that empowers homeowners to have more home autonomy and less regulations, we will get there in another round in the future. Your Board is listening!

This isn't the end, it's just the beginning for Gold Ridge. The nice thing is that if there is ever a need for a few small amendments to the CC&Rs, it won't cost much money because the hard work on the CC&Rs has been done. So don't give up Gold Ridge - keep fighting for what you believe in because all of you matter. And this is our community. Having served on the Board I know first-hand what Boards can do. And to give more power to homeowners over their homes rather than delegate those duties to a Board, all members need to do their part and vote! Thank you Marie Zandona-Harger for all of your dedication and support to Gold Ridge for so many years. When she sets out to do something, she puts her heart into it, and it shows.

To our Recreation Director, Rose Smith, she has been instrumental in the rebuild and reshaping of Gold Ridge's recreational facilities. I'm beyond grateful for her dedication and support as we quickly moved to deliver a state-of-the-art pool. To those that know her, we all know how much time and energy she puts into everything. So, if you see her around, thank her for a job well done.

In addition, we have hired pool operators (now reclassified as Facilities Operators), who oversee the recreation area and are certified to check the chemical balances of the pools. All groundskeepers are now called Facilities Operators, under the umbrella of Facilities Operations, and they all have unique qualifications such as plumbing, equipment management, and chemical balancing. This was vital for Gold Ridge in order to protect our biggest investment, our pool. Maintenance is key going forward, and every future Board must ensure our facilities are being maintained properly and that they are held accountable by all of us as members.

Your new Board is more than qualified to take over, and I'm pleased to see new faces step up to the plate to serve this wonderful community. Your new Board consists of Deputy Sheriff Jack Mermod, former IRS attorney Mark Weiner, Chris Soule of El Dorado Irrigation District, and Robyn Swift in construction, all of them bring their own set of skills and experiences. You will be in good hands.

As I finish this last letter as your President, I humbly say thank you for giving me the opportunity and privilege to serve as your President. It's been an honor to serve you and to listen to homeowners, while improving all facets of our Association. Onward and Upward Gold Ridge. Never stop improving, never stop believing. The future is all of ours if we turn those dreams into tangible realities.

Yours truly,

Dr. Jeremy Sundby
President
Gold Ridge Forest Property Owners Association

CC&R

Marie Zandona-Harger

This note is to inform you that with great sadness in my heart, I am resigning from the positions of Vice President, Secretary, and Director of CC&R's on the Board of Directors for Gold Ridge Forest Property Owners Association in July.

I appreciate all the experiences and I would like to let you know that I felt honored to be a part of the Property Owners Association Board of Directors. Moreover, I appreciate that I have had the opportunity to work along-side the other Board Members, and I will miss the relationship and teamwork energy we have created.

However, even if I am resigning from all my positions on the Board, I will be available to offer my help. I will never lose interest in the HOA. It is my pleasure to be part of such an amazing community.

Kind Regards,

Marie Zandona-Harger

Notes from the Forest

To Members of Gold Ridge,

As my third term as Board Member and greenbelt director ends on July 8, 2023, I want to thank all the volunteers listed below who helped me with the projects involving the greenbelts. Without your help, it would have been a tougher job for me; especially locating greenbelt property lines. When I needed you, you were there, and I really appreciated your dedication working to make our greenbelts what they are today. Special thanks to Sherry Hawk and the Fire Safe Council for getting grants to clear our greenbelts. Also to Bob Schoggins and Tony Ferrari for keeping our grounds looking great and helping to build my special project the ' bocce ' court. Let's not forget our two contractors Joe Garrett, from Garrett Forest Management and Adam Rohrbourg, from A-Team Tree Service who both went out of their way to help us take care of our greenbelts.

I wish you all the best,
Dominique Smith,
Greenbelt Director

Volunteers:

Steve & Carol Steinbrecher
Tony & Colleen Ferrari
Gary & Joan Scheppelmann
Bob & Pat Schoggins
Sherry Hawk
Rich Wade

Recreation Update

On May 29, 2023, our GRFPOA community celebrated the opening of the new large saltwater pool with a barbeque and potluck. Getting to this happy day was not without its challenges, but the smiling faces of all the families enjoying that day was worth all the efforts needed to get it done! We can look forward to many years of continued swimming pleasure through proper maintenance and care.

We have continued to extend voting deadlines to July 10 for the CC&R and Bylaws revisions election. A simple majority of votes does NOT qualify as a valid election in this case.

The new proposed CC&R's and Bylaws are less restrictive on homeowners, and they give you more flexibility in making decisions with your home.

In order to pass the new CC&R's Gold Ridge Forest needs 315 YES votes to change the CC&R's. If the new proposed CC&R's and Bylaws do not pass, the current CC&R's and Bylaws will remain in effect.

If you have not voted, please mail your ballot today! If you need another ballot, please contact the office at grfoffice1@gmail.com to request a replacement.

This will be my final newsletter contribution as my term on the Board at GRFPOA comes to an end. I want to thank all our members for their continued support and encouragement as we all dealt with the challenges of the past two years.

July will see a new Board take up the reins, the next Board will also appreciate your participation and feedback.

Sincerely,

Rose Smith

Gold Ridge will NOT require a signed pool waiver from members/guests for pool use.



Gold Ridge WILL Require a signed Waiver for those members who wish to use the GYM once it opens. Contact the office to request one.

Thank you for your patience as we continue the work to install and program the new pool/tennis gate access system. Please ask the staff to open the pool gate and sign in (PLEASE PRINT) your name and address at the desk. More information to come as we get closer to completion!