



www.hammondlandowners.org

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HLA Annual Membership Drive

It's 2016 and it's time again for our annual membership drive. We only had 106 members last year, less than previous years. Let's make it more and merrier this year! Membership dues are still only \$55 per year. Enclosed with this newsletter is a Membership Application. To renew your membership or to join for the first time, fill out and return it, along with your check made payable to the HLA, to Post Office Box 795, Mount Shasta, California 96067.

Again, a few reasons for landowners to become members:

- HLA negotiates with the County for needed improvements and support for Hammond Ranch.
- HLA promotes the maintenance of our roads by coordinating upgrades and by reimbursing road maintenance costs according to a prescribed schedule established by the HLA Board. Currently, two thirds of HLA's annual budget (your dues) goes toward road maintenance costs.
- HLA has a website that is helping to inform residents of issues related to the Ranch.
- HLA members are eligible to purchase PHI (Mercy Air) emergency medical evacuation services at a discounted rate.
- HLA publishes a quarterly newsletter informing members of important issues, with articles of interest to the Ranch.
- HLA members are working with road committees, the fire department as well as the County and local Fire Safe Councils.
- Annual luncheon meeting in November each year.
- Annual picnic in July each year.

Please renew your Hammond Ranch Landowners Association membership. If you are not already a member, please sign up. Thank you.

*Tom Wearing,
President*

Annual Members' Meeting

The annual meeting was held on November 7, 2014 at the Best Western Tree House. Over 40 people attended, a good crowd. The Tree House did a great job of providing a deli buffet.

The meeting itself went well, with lots of discussion and interchange. There was discussion about, among other things, electrical service reliability in our area, firehouse issues, the Fire Company's beer booth. The guest speaker, Monte Mendenhall of Pacific Power, gave a short speech and answered questions.

Two new members were elected to join the Board of Directors: Jeanne George and Paul Elberts. They are a great addition to the Board. Pat Emerson, past President, sold her home and moved to Bakersfield to be near her family and Pam Scott resigned her seat. Both Pat and Pam's service to the Board is greatly appreciated and the Association thanks them very much for all their contributions. All the other members up for reelection were voted in.

At the Board meeting following the annual meeting Tom Wearing was again elected President; Erich Ziller became the Vice President; Doug Lathrop remains the Treasurer; Pam Robinson remains Secretary; Bob Keyser, Jeanne George and Paul Elberts are Members at Large.

Little Lending Library

Do you like to read? Looking for a book to read? How about a "little lending library" on the Ranch?

Several months ago, there was a discussion on the Nextdoor website about the new idea of having a "little lending library" on the Ranch. Are people interested? Would you donate books? Would you borrow books? Here's a link for pictures and what the movement is all about. <http://littlefreelibrary.org/> Contact HLA via the website (www.hammondlandowners.org) with your thoughts and ideas about location, builder, etc.



Our Mission Statement: To provide information, to assist in the coordination of group actions, to determine guidelines and make suggestions in matters relating to development and use of property on Hammond Ranch.



Run Report

October: 1 wildland fire (a false alarm); November: 1 debris burn, 1 control burn notification, 1 structure fire; December: 5 structure fires, 2 medicals, 1 traffic collision, 1 alarm sounding and 1 lift assist.

The Fire Company finally has their new medical response truck completely furnished and in service. The old response vehicle served them so very well through the years, but it had become very unreliable and upkeep on it was becoming very expensive and fruitless. A new 2015 Ford F-150 pickup was purchased by the County, and the Firefighter's Association paid for radio installation, purchase and installation of a new light bar, emergency reflective striping and identification and a new canopy. With some creative engineering by the Chief, they were able to use the slide-out equipment tray from the old pickup, saving the cost of a new tray (over \$3,000). A photo of the new truck is below. Insomuch as they hope to not have to respond to anyone's residence for a medical emergency, they are thrilled to have the new and reliable vehicle available if needed.



Snow Plowing on the Ranch

The Landowners Association is in need of people on the Ranch that are available for hire to snowplow. If you are available for snowplowing, please contact Larie, the editor, at 938-4288. Your name will be included on the Service Provider list.

It's also time to update our service provider list. If you have heavy equipment and services available to Ranch residents and you'd like to be included on the list, contact Larie at 938-4288 or via email at lariedw@gmail.com. The list will be updated and posted on the website.

Winter
thick blanket of snow
snuggling the flowerbeds
with a winter wrap

by Jan Allison

Sugar Pine Road East Needs Help

Recognizing the importance of Sugar Pine Road East as quick access for emergency vehicles to reach Hammond Ranch residents and as an evacuation route during disasters, the HLA Board has established a special fund to assist with maintenance and upgrading of the road. Heavy usage and unnecessary speeding during wet winter months combine with poor drainage and subsurface water flow to create mud slogs that at times are impassable. These funds will be used to fortify the road surface and to grade for better drainage. The few residents who use Sugar Pine for access to their properties will continue to fund annual grading and spot repairs, but there is heavier use on the road than just those residents and these additional funds will benefit all Ranch residents.

Whether you use Sugar Pine Road East out of necessity or as a convenience to access I-5 or south Weed, please contribute to the fund. Make your check payable and send it to:

HLA, Inc.

PO Box 795

Mt. Shasta, CA 96067-0795

Please write: "Sugar Pine Road" in the memo section of your check.

Thank you for helping to improve the safety of Hammond Ranch.



THE BLACK
SATIN HAT
SAT TIGHT ON THE YOUNG MANS BALD
HEAD. HIS
EYES BLACK AS
NIGHT STARED INTO
NOTHINGNESS. IN
FRONT OF HIM
WERE 3
PATHS WHERE THE
CHILDREN HAD ROLLED
THREE BALLS OF SNOW MUCH EALIER THAT VERY DAY.
PATCHES OF GREEN GRASS
STUCK THROUGH PACKED
FREEZING SNOW.
IN THE MIDDLE OF HIS FACE
A CROOKED CARROT POINTED TOWARD
THE HOUSE WHERE CHILDREN SAT LOOKING
OUT THEIR WINDOW AT THEIR NEW FOUND
FRIEND. HIS BUTTON MOUTH SHAPED FOR
HIM TO LOOK HAPPY SEEMED TO SMILE
AT THEM AS THEY STARTED TO BLOW
KISSES AT THEIR WONDERFUL
NEW SNOWMAN.

By Brenda Meier-Hans



Welcome Baskets

Sally and Pam delivered a welcome basket to the Tompkins family on Aspen Drive in late October. Andy was unloading a truck full of firewood as we arrived. The family moved into their house the end of July. The family moved from Lake Shastina. Andy was from Tulelake originally and Brittany was from Scott Valley. Their children are ages 3 and 8 months. Andy works for the Forest Service as a firefighter and Brittany is a nurse at Fairchild.



Sally and Pam also delivered a welcome basket to the Groves in their new house on Blue Jay in October. Lewis and Susan had just moved in a few weeks prior. Lewis is building their concrete home himself. Many of the rooms have gorgeous views of Mt. Shasta. Lewis retired from his chiropractic business in 2011 and Susan retired from her job as Chief Ranger for Castle Craigs and Burney State Park. They bought their property 15 years ago and are loving being in their home now. Trace, their pet dog, loves our great neighborhood too.



Welcome to the Ranch, the Groves and Tompkins!

About the Mountain Lion

The mountain lion is the largest feline carnivore of North America. On average, females measure 7 feet from nose to tail and weigh between 70 and 100 pounds. Males may reach up to 8 feet in length and weigh between 130 and 150 pounds. Largest recorded mountain lion weighed in at 276 pounds.

The lion's major prey in urban areas is predominately deer, then domestic animals such as cats and dogs. The deer are drawn to gardens for food and water; the lions drawn to the deer, their prey. So, if you don't want lions in your backyard, don't plant roses and don't feed wildlife.

The mountain lion's track is round in shape, rarely showing claws. The front track measures from 3 1/16" to 4 5/16", the hind tracks 2"15/16 to 4"1/8 L by 2"9/16 to 4"3/4 W. Dog tracks are often mistaken for cougar tracks. Dog paws do not have retractable claws/nails as mountain lions do. And lion tracks have a round *compression* shape, like a circle, unlike a dog track which has a Maple leaf-type compression shape. Dog tracks are much narrower in width than cat tracks. A *good cue is that cats* show their claws in tracks only about 10% of the time, where dogs show their nails 100% of the time.

Mountain lion scat is generally 3/4" to 1" tubular and segmented with at least 1 blunt end containing deer hair, bones and possibly some grass. However, lion scat can vary in size and shape. Mountain lions gorge on their prey and sometimes their scat reflects this in a loose pile of scat with no recognizable tubular shape at all. They do not always cover their scat as a domestic house cat will do. More often it's uncovered and in plain sight.

Other types of Mountain Lion Sign:

Scent Scrapes: One way cougars communicate their territories to other lions is by scratching together a single pile of debris called scent scrapes, which includes mosses and leaves or other detritus, such as sticks and conifer needles, to mark their territory. The scent scrapes can measure up to a foot in diameter. Once the scrapes are made, the cougar will then spray the piles with their urine, thus insuring communication to other cats. The scent scrapes are usually found at territorial intersections where other cougar territories overlap.

Reproduction: The mating season is commonly from December to March, but can happen at any time during the year. Gestation: 82-96 days. Litter size: 2-4 kittens.

Mountain lions can bound 30 to 40 feet running, leap 15 feet up a tree, climb over a 12 foot fence, travel many miles at 10 mph, reach speeds of 50 mph in a sprint and take down adult elk.

Hunting Prey: Lions are most active during dusk and dawn, but they can be active at any time. Lions kill 1-2 deer a week and will hide and guard large carcasses and feed on them for several days.

Caution: If you discover a prey animal such as a deer or elk covered or partly covered in debris, leave the area immediately and report the site to Fish & Game. Mountain lions will protect their kills and can be aggressive. One lion can consume up to 20 or 30 pounds of meat in a single meal. Their diet consists of elk, deer, big horn sheep, mountain goats, moose, beaver, coyotes, porcupines, raccoons, mice, ground squirrels, rabbits, skunks, birds, cats and dogs. They will and do prey on other lions, if no other game is available.

Dogs and cats, left outside overnight especially when chained with an active lion in the area are easy prey. Don't feed pets outside or leave pet food feeding bowls out. It can draw in hungry lions.

Range – The range of a Mountain Lion may cover 25 to 785 square miles.

Lifespan – Mountain Lions live for about 8-10 years in the wild and can live up to 20 years in captivity.

Lifestyle – Mountain lions live solitary lives. A mother mountain lion and its kittens live together until the kitten is old enough to survive on its own.

Breeding Habits – Female mountain lions breed for their first time between 1.5 and 3 years of age.

Lion kitten lifespan – On an average only 1 in 6 survive.

Human and Cougar Conflict - In the event that you meet an aggressive Mountain Lion:

- Maintain eye contact and never turn away from the lion.
- Stand up straight with arms above your head to appear larger.
- Back away very slowly in case the lion is guarding a kill or her den.
- If the lion approaches, throw rocks or sticks and yell at the animal.
- If the lion does attack, fight back.
- If you play dead with a Mountain Lion, you will be.

***Remember: above all DO NOT RUN! No cat can resist the instinct to give chase.**

Hiking and camping in mountain lion habitat:

- Do not hike alone.
- Go in groups with adults supervising children.
- Avoid dawn and dusk excursions.
- Keep children close to you. Animals seem especially drawn to children.
- Pick up small children. The mountain lion will see small children as easier prey.
- Do not approach a lion. Most mountain lions will try to avoid confrontation, so give them a way to escape.
- Do not crouch down or bend over. A human standing does not resemble a mountain lion's natural prey.
- Do all you can to appear larger: raise your arms, open your jacket if you are wearing one, wave your arms slowly and speak firmly in a loud voice.
- Fight back if attacked. Mountain lions usually try to bite the head or neck; try to remain standing and face the attacking animal.

(This is edited and reprinted with permission from Mark Wienert. You can obtain more information from his website: Lifesongadventures.com.)



Annual Meeting Photos



Ranch Service Providers

A listing has been compiled of those available for hire with heavy equipment to provide services to the Ranch, including snow removal. You will find it by going to the website on the News and Events page: www.hammondlandowners.org.

2016 Board Members

President	Tom Wearing	938-4288
Vice President	Erich Ziller	938-4993
Secretary	Pam Robinson	707-217-1309
Treasurer	Doug Lathrop	938-3022
At-Large	Bob Keyser	938-4140
	Jeanne George	524-7278
	Paul Elberts	938-3835

The Hammond Ranch Scene Editor
Larie Wearing 938-4288

The HLA Board of Directors cares about and wants to hear members' opinions, suggestions and ideas. Everyone is welcome to attend any of the board meetings. If you plan to attend, please let the host know in advance so that accommodations can be made.

We also encourage members to write to us and create a dialogue on topics of interest to Hammond Ranch landowners. The Board members can be reached by phone at the numbers listed above, by snail mail c/o HLA, P.O. Box 795, Mount Shasta, California 96067, or via email at hla@hammondlandowners.org.

Calendar

- HLA Board Meeting – Second Tuesday of every month, 7:00 p.m. The location is available on the website or from any Board member. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at the Lathrop residence. Call Doug or Terry at 938-3022 to confirm.
- HLA Annual Picnic – Saturday, July 9, 2016.
- HLA Members' Annual Meeting and Luncheon – Saturday, November 5, 2016. Time and location to be determined.
- Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors – First, second and third Tuesdays of every month, 10:00 a.m., County Courthouse, Yreka. Call Clerk at 842-8081 to confirm the meeting.
- Greater Weed Area Fire Safe Council – Third Tuesday of every month, 6:30 p.m., Hammond Ranch Fire Station.



Moving or changing email address?

Please send changes of address to:
The Hammond Ranch Scene

c/o HLA

P.O. Box 795

Mt. Shasta, CA 96067-0795

or email address to:

www.hammondlandowners.org

Hammond Landowners Association, Inc.



P.O. Box 795
Mount Shasta, CA 96067