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Reminder to Members

Don't forget to RSVP for the annual members' luncheon meeting on Saturday, November 5, 2016 at 11:30 a.m. at the Best Western Tree House in Mount Shasta. The RSVP is due to the HLA **no later than October 26**. Your attendance is important as several Board members are up for reelection. Also, if you have any interest in joining the Board, please let us know.

Michael Kobseff, County District Supervisor, will be our guest speaker. Michael will address many issues of interest and answer your questions.

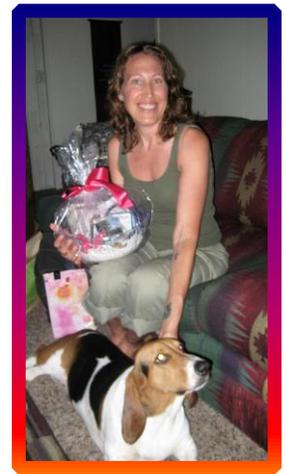
If you do have questions for Michael, please send those questions in advance so that Michael will be fully prepared to answer. It will save time and make for a smoother presentation.

Questions can be sent to the HLA at P.O. Box 795, Mt. Shasta, CA 96067 or emailed to the HLA at www.hammondlandowners.org.



Welcome Baskets

On a hot, sunny day in July a Welcome Basket was delivered to Asil Donna, her 7-year-old daughter and their two dogs. They moved here from Wisconsin in 1999 and have been living in Hammond Ranch since 2005, however, never received a basket. She is an environmental consultant for nonprofit organizations along with being involved in doing hypnotherapy and personal growth consulting. Welcome to the neighborhood!



Rain,Rain,Rain

Please come with crystal clear drops,
Please come with a heavy shower,
Please come with great thundering,
and lightening..
lands are lying desperately
lands are drying,
Spring are waiting,
Again the world will be green,
Heaven waiting.
Rain,rain,rain,
Rain,rain,rain
Please come
Let's pray for a heavy shower of rain.



by Diana, 4/29/2014

Sally and Pam also presented a Welcome Basket to Melissa Moore on that same hot day in July. Melissa had just moved into her home on Columbine one month before. She had lived in Mt. Shasta for the previous four years. When she adopted LuMae, her basset hound, she decided she needed to buy a house now that she had a dog. Melissa teaches English and also is the Academic Adviser at Jefferson High School. Prior to moving to our area, she was living in Santa Rosa. Welcome, Melissa.





Run Report

Our amazing volunteer fire department responded to the following calls this quarter, quite a varied sort of emergencies: 2 vehicle fires, 14 wildland fires, 4 traffic collisions, 2 smoke checks, 3 medicals, 1 illegal campfire, 2 traffic collisions and 2 structure fires.

From the Chief

It has come to my attention, via several Hammond Ranch residents, that insurance companies are doing audits and inspections of properties in our area. These inspections are for the purposes of risk assessment for the insurance company. Their standards are very stringent and far exceed the requirements of CalFire. After the inspection, the property owner receives a letter of deficient items and a time period to correct them before policy cancellation.

I have spoken to insurance company representatives who have said that many companies want to reduce their exposure in areas of high risk such as Hammond Ranch.

I cannot stress enough the need for fuel reduction around homes and out buildings, not only for safety but to simply retain your fire insurance policy.

*Dave Jenkins, Fire Chief
Hammond Ranch*

Wildlife on the Ranch

Our first fall rain brought out some interesting-looking mushrooms, Shaggy Manes (*Coprinus comatus*). Here's some info according to "All That Rain Promises and More..." by David Arora. They range from 2-10" in height, are cylindrical when young, the cap is shaggy with brown scales on a white background and the caps and gills digest themselves (deteriorate and become inky) from the bottom edge of the cap upward as they mature, eventually turning into an inky black fluid.

"Shaggy manes are the soldiers among mushrooms -- hundreds can be seen 'marching' in columns or ranks along country roads. They will even push up through asphalt..."

They are edible, however, perishable and delicate. Pick only those that have not begun to liquify and get inky and eat them as soon as possible. Also, beware of those growing along busy roads, as they may be contaminated by exhaust fumes. They should be wiped clean or scraped gently, using as little water as possible.

The book suggests they can be marinated by slicing them and sprinkling them with basic vinaigrette ingredients: three to four parts extra virgin olive oil to one part vinegar, adding whatever herbs you might like.



Young Shaggy Mane



Mature Shaggy Mane

County Fair Beer Booth

This year the Hammond Ranch Firefighters Association again had a very successful five days selling beer at the Siskiyou County Golden Fair. We sold two kegs more than last year, which of course, increases our bottom line. Everyone had a good time listening-- and some dancing -- to the music while selling beer. It was a great place to people watch as well as enjoy the local talent.

Thank you to everyone for volunteering and doing such a great job. A special shout-out to Mike Roesch, Mike Miller, Joe Luddon and Steve Braz for doing such a great job pouring beer Friday and Saturday nights when we were so busy. There was a reunion in the area next to the booth which kept us very busy. The guys stayed in there and kept pulling beer. Thanks again, guys.

We will need to bid for the Beer Booth next year, and that could be tricky because of the high cost we were paying this year. If we win the bid next year, Sally McGraw will run the night shift and I will run the day shift. This will help both of us out and improve the overall working of the booth.

Bob Keyser

Hammond Ranch Firefighters Association



Tom, Lynn & Bob



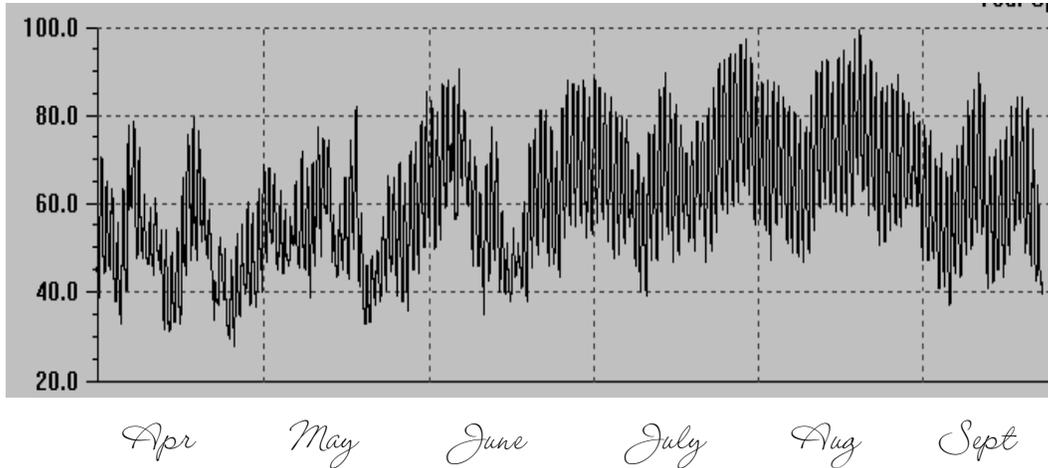
Mike & Mike



Terry & Sally

Weather by Dan Axelrod

The end of the summer is a good time to look back at the recent history of high temperatures and wildfire smoke - two of the most prominent features of the local "dry season" weather - and the prospects for the coming winter. As measured in Mt. Shasta City, the late afternoon high temperatures in the warmest part of this past summer of 2016 were significantly above normal: by 5 degrees in July and by 7 degrees in August. The early morning lows were also above normal, by 3 degrees in July and 4 degrees in August. Here is a complete trace of the temperatures, with readings taken every ten minutes at the 4200 foot elevation level in Hammond Ranch:



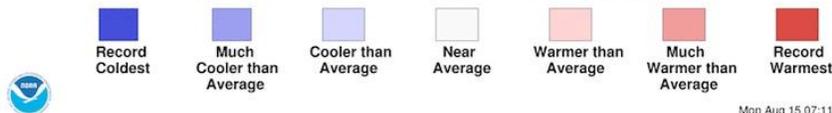
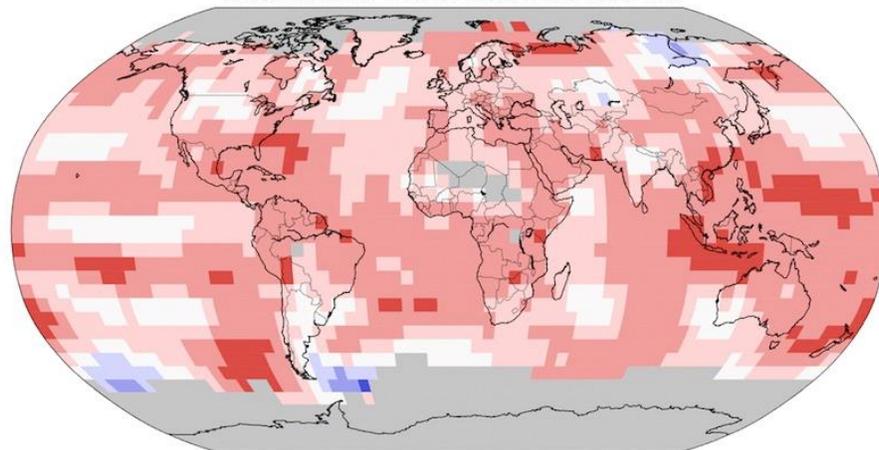
Summer was a bit late getting started: the last snowfall was on May 20 (0.6" at 4200') for a total 2015-2016 winter of 182.5". As can be seen from the chart, most of May was not much warmer than April.

Despite the warmer-than-normal summer, the excessive heat here was minor compared to the situation in the rest of the world. Below is a map of the globe, showing that our "warmer than average" (light pink or grey) zone is embedded in a much larger area of "much warmer than average" (dark pink or medium grey) and "record warmth" (red or dark grey) that completely spans the globe in both hemispheres. Globally, July 2016 was the hottest month in all of recorded history (!) and the 15th consecutive month that the global monthly temperature record was broken.

Land & Ocean Temperature Percentiles Jul 2016

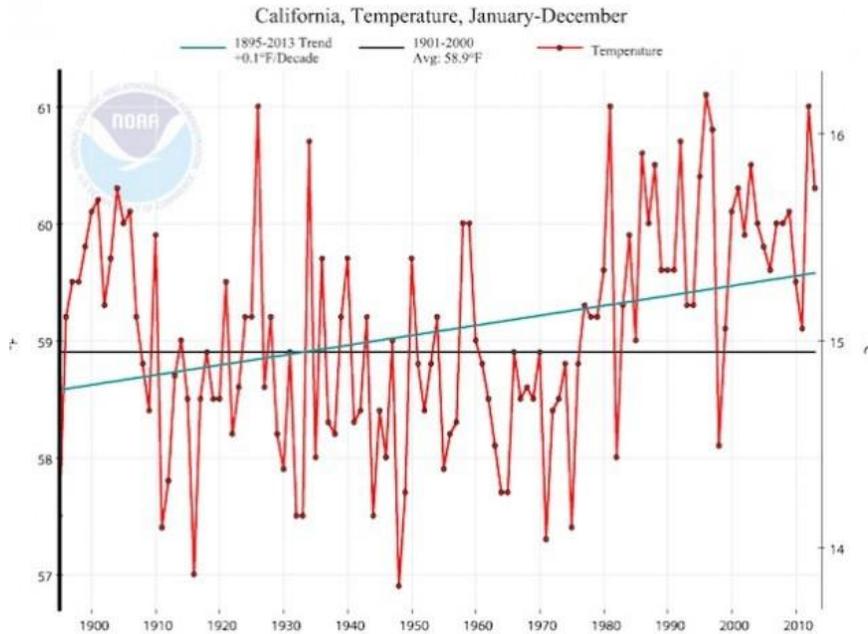
NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information

Data Source: GHCN-M version 3.3.0 & ERSST version 4.0.0



Mon Aug 15 07:11:32 EDT 2016

Statewide in California, there has been a trend toward warmer temperatures over the past few decades. Here is a graph showing a general increase since about 1900 but mostly from about 1970, albeit with large year-to-year fluctuations.



We are lucky to live in an inland mountainous area where we can "beat the heat" (not to mention beating the coastal flooding effect of rising ocean levels), simply by spending the day at higher altitudes whenever possible. It is commonly known that temperature drops about 1 degree for every 200 feet increase in elevation, in dry air. Temperature is lower when air molecules move more slowly. But why should they move more slowly at high altitude? To see why this happens, imagine a parcel of air at the ground, enclosed in a plastic balloon. The air molecules inside dart about at random, crashing into each other and into the inside walls of the balloon, and recoiling (on the average) with about the same speed after each collision as they had before the collision. Now pull the balloon upward. The outside pressure pushing in on the balloon decreases with increasing altitude because the air pressure is proportional to the weight of the air only above, not below. So the balloon expands. Just as a baseball would behave when thrown against a wall that is moving away, the molecules inside the balloon bounce back from the receding wall with decreased speed. That decreased speed is the cause of the lower temperatures at higher altitude. The effect is the same even without the balloon plastic demarking the outside edge of the air parcel, as molecules inside the parcel rebound against receding air molecules outside the parcel with reduced speed.

There is an important complication to all of this which accounts for why we experience wildfire smoke problems. At night, the ground cools off faster than the air above it by radiating infra-red light into space. So then the air in contact with the ground becomes even colder than the air above it, especially in valleys where cold air rolls down from the mountains (because cold air is denser than warm air at the same pressure) and gets trapped by the valley walls. Then, if a parcel of dense cold air starts rising, it encounters the warmer lighter air above and just settles back down in the valley. This common situation, called a temperature inversion, in which warm air places a "cap" on trapped cold air below, suppresses any vertical mixing. Wildfire smoke generated even tens of miles away just spreads out horizontally in the trapped colder air and does not vent out to higher altitudes. This situation enveloped the Shasta Valley/Weed/Mt. Shasta area in thick smoke for more than a week this summer, emanating from the "Gap" fire about 25 miles WNW of Yreka.

As mentioned, this is also the time of year to wonder about the prospects for the winter. In general, most of the rain and snow comes from a handful of very heavy events in the December-to-March period. It generally does not just drizzle lightly for long periods, but instead occasionally dumps large quantities of water from "atmospheric river" events. If a couple more, or a couple less, of those big events occur, it makes a major difference in total precipitation. This all-or-none tendency makes predictions around here prone to large errors. For example, the strong El Niño effect (warm surface water in the tropical eastern Pacific) last winter was supposed to make Southern California wetter than normal and the Pacific Northwest drier. The actual fact turned out to be completely the opposite because of a few very heavy storms. The uncertainty is compounded by the rain/snow line occurring at altitudes right near the Hammond Ranch ground elevation, so a small temperature deviation makes a big difference in snowfall, especially with climate warming. This year, the tropical Pacific reversed itself into a La Niña effect for a while and is now receding back to neutrality. Consequently, the National Weather Service is predicting an average winter in terms of temperature and precipitation in far northern California. But the "error bars" are large: "average" means a 33% chance of above normal, and 33% chance of normal, and a 33% chance of below normal.

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
<i>The Hammond Ranch Scene</i> 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.

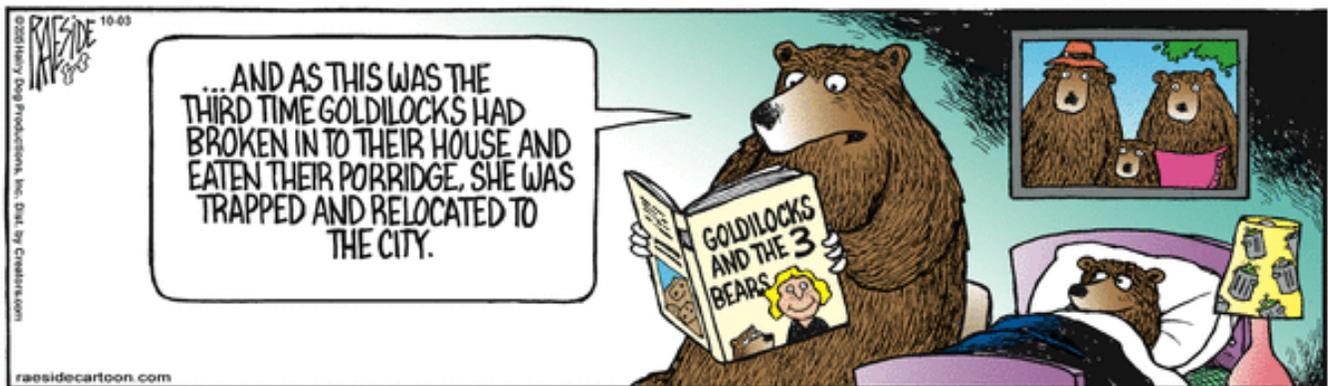
We also encourage members to write to us and create a dialogue on topics of interest to Hammond Ranch landowners. The Board members can be reached by phone at the numbers listed above, by snail mail c/o HLA, P.O. Box 795, Mount Shasta, California 96067, or via email at hla@hammondlandowners.org.

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, November 8, 2016 location to be determined. Call one of the Board members for that information.
- HLA Annual Picnic – Saturday, July 8, 2017.
- HLA Members' Annual Meeting and Luncheon – Saturday, November 5, 2016, Best Western Tree House, 11:30 a.m.
- 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 Fire Safe Council -- The council is inactive and the meetings are temporarily suspended.

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.



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 to:
hla@hammondlandowners.org

Hammond Landowners Association, Inc.



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