



www.hammondlandowners.org

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*Calling All Hammond Ranch Landowners!*

It's a new year and time again for our annual membership drive. Join us! 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 it 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.

Renew your Hammond Ranch Landowners Association membership. If you haven't been a member before, consider signing up. Thank you.



*Emergency Phone Tree/Alert System*

Because of the horrendous fires in 2017, the Board has initiated an emergency phone tree system, mainly in the case of fire danger and evacuation. Using the phone tree system can spread a brief message quickly and efficiently to a large number of people. Katie LeBaron has volunteered to be the coordinator for that project. Even if you signed up with CodeRed, it would be wise to sign up for the phone alert system as sometimes systems fail.

To join the phone tree call list, be sure to check the box at the bottom of the 2018 Membership form or email Katie at [katielebowden@gmail.com](mailto:katielebowden@gmail.com). You can also send her a message via snailmail to HLA, PO Box 795, Mt. Shasta, CA 96067 or by phone at 831-246-0123. Please include your name, address and contact number(s).



*No Snow*

I wish we had a little snow;  
But nothing here! I do not know  
Why not this year; why not at all?  
I'd love to play and have a ball.  
A snowy day, what a delight.  
The child in me, from morn till night,  
Would happily skate on the ice,  
And build snowmen. That would be nice.  
It hasn't snowed since don't know when!

by Jack Horne

**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

During the last quarter of 2017, our volunteer fire department responded to 16 calls! They were: 3 vegetation fires, 3 alarms sounding, 3 medical calls, 2 structure fires, 1 smoke check, 1 debris fire, 2 lift assists and 1 illegal burn.

## From the Chief

As winter is upon us, the focus at the Fire Department shifts towards structure fire prevention. Most winter-time structure fires are caused by fireplace/stove-related activity. It's recommended to clean and inspect such systems annually.

Enough said about the stuff you already know. Here is something you probably don't know. The Fire Department has a new volunteer firefighter, Mark Dibelka, son of George and Wilma Dibelka on High Meadow.

Mark grew up in Hammond Ranch and graduated from Mount Shasta high school. Mark then served in the Navy and later became a policeman with the Rochester New York Police Department. Mark is also an ordained Pastor. After retiring, Mark moved back to his roots here at the Ranch with his wife and family, to assist his parents and raise his young son.

*Dave Jenkins  
Fire Chief, Hammond Ranch*



Studying hard



Chief Jenkins & the Board



Phil Anzo, CalFire



Michael Kobseff, Nancy & John

## Annual Members' Meeting

The annual members' meeting was held on November 4, 2017 at the Best Western Tree House. 65 people attended. What a turnout! It was a great time to renew friendships and get the latest information.

The meeting was very informative, with lots of discussion and interchange. Topics discussed included the new Hammond Ranch FireSafe Council -- including the Northern California Resource Center's assistance in applying for grants -- the Emergency Alert System, violations of the CC&Rs, the proposed Love's Truck Stop at the South Weed exit.

Guest speakers included Randy Klokow, about the FireSafe Council and personal wildfire action plans; Michael Kobeseff, about CodeRed and fuel reduction in the county and the possibility of a local ordinance to address that issue; as well as Phil Anzo of CalFire.

Tom Wearing, Jeanne George and Paul Elberts were re-elected to the Board, and Betty Leas was elected to join the Board of Directors. She will be a great addition.

At the Board meeting following the annual meeting on November 20, Erich Ziller was re-elected President; Paul Elberts stayed the Vice President; Katie LeBaron remained Treasurer; Jeanne George kept the position of Secretary; Bob Keyser, Betty Leas, Pam Robinson and Tom Wearing are Members at Large.



## Wild Tracks on the Ranch



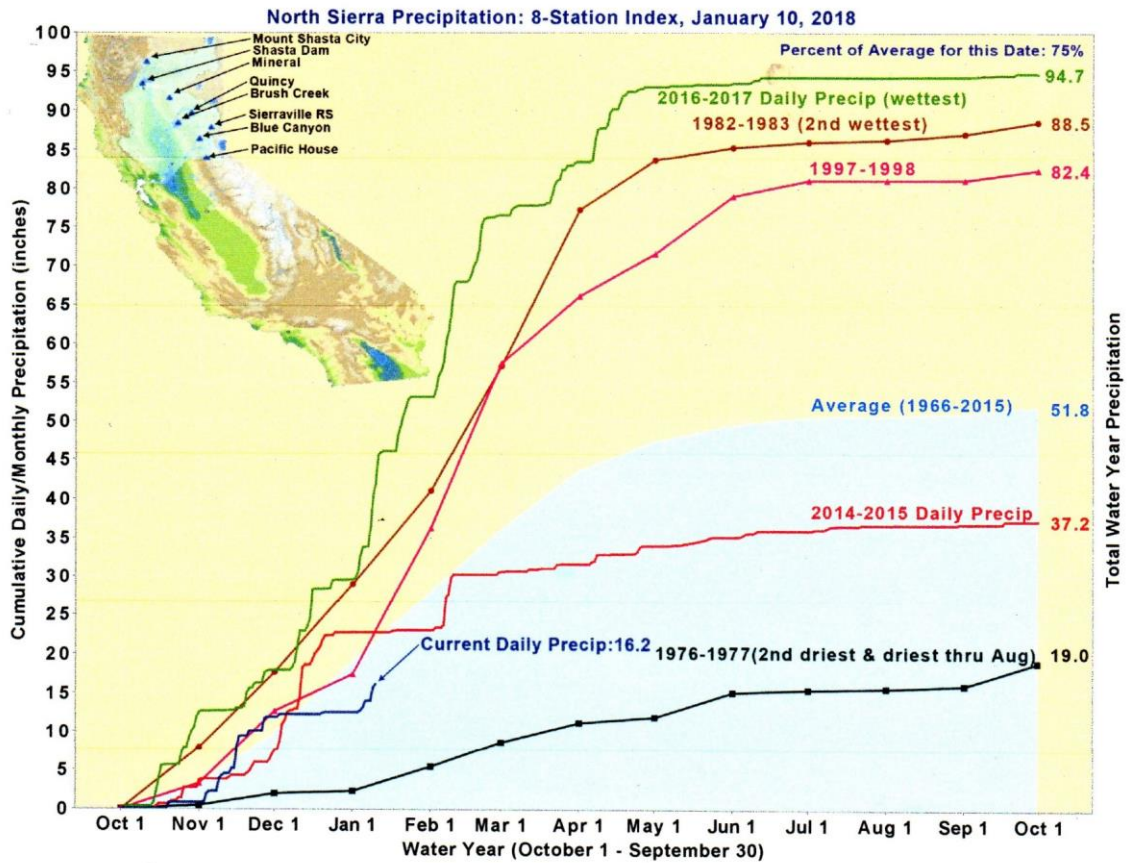
Mountain lion tracks found above the Ranch in December. The boot is a size 11. You can imagine the size of the animal!



Bear track found above Dale Creek Road also in December. You never know what's out there!

## Precipitation Chart

Interesting comparison of historical precipitation levels in the Northern Sierra area put out by the Department of Water Resources Data Exchange Center.



## Five Lessons from the Napa Wildfires

Recently my wife and I had to evacuate during the fast-moving Napa wildfire. We were not prepared to evacuate. To help you avoid some of the problems we encountered, my wife and I offer the following 5 lessons. It is our hope you can learn from our experience.

### **FAILING TO PLAN IS PLANNING TO FAIL.**

Prior to the fire, we had tons of time to prepare. We didn't do it. On the night of the fast-moving fire, we had little time to pack essential items. Our outdated emergency evacuation kit was not useful, the emergency water was undrinkable, the emergency clothes were covered with mold and the emergency radio and lights were inoperable (dead batteries).

**LESSON 1:** PREPARE A USABLE EVACUATION KIT AND KEEP IT IN GOOD SHAPE.

**WHERE IS THE FIRE?** The fast-moving wildfire burned down the communication systems. We had little information regarding the location and direction of the fire and what roads were safe for evacuation. We had no Wi-Fi, internet, TV, cell phones or FM radio. Only one AM radio station was able to broadcast wildfire information.

**LESSON 2:** ENSURE YOU HAVE A WORKABLE EMERGENCY RADIO.

**WE ARE IN THE DARK AND HUNGRY.** The wildfire burned down the electrical distribution system. We had no lighting or food refrigeration. Our emergency flashlights were inoperable (dead batteries) and the light on our cell phone quickly lost power. Candles do not provide sufficient light. Food quickly spoils in the refrigerator. Restaurants, food markets and gas stations will probably not be open due to loss of electrical power.

**LESSON 3:** ENSURE YOU HAVE OPERABLE LED FLASHLIGHTS AND LANTERNS. ENSURE YOU HAVE A SUPPLY OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD.

### **WHERE ARE MY VALUABLE RECORDS?**

Computer records could not be downloaded due to the loss of electrical power. Valuable family albums, keepsake treasures, financial records and insurance records were scattered in different locations inside the dark house. There was little time to locate important records.

**LESSON 4:** LOCATE AND PACK IMPORTANT RECORDS IN ONE LOCATION (PLASTIC TUBS) SO THEY ARE EASY TO FIND AND TRANSPORT. CREATE A CHECKLIST OF ITEMS TO ALLOW RAPID PACKING.

### **BREATHING WILDFIRE SMOKE IS**

**UNHEALTHY.** At times the smoke from the wildfire was heavy and unhealthy. Smoke masks were quickly sold out at local stores.

**LESSON 5:** PURCHASE A SUPPLY OF SMOKE MASKS AND PLACE THEM IN YOUR EVACUATION KIT.

*Randy Klokov*



## Love's Truck Stop

As you may already know, Love's Truck Stops is considering developing one of their truck stops on the west side of the South Weed Exit on I-5. The proposed stop would include a couple of restaurants, a truck repair shop and overnight truck parking for 96 trucks.

Hammond Ranch, and especially the residents on Sugar Pine east, would be severely impacted by the noise and light pollution as well as increased traffic on Sugar Pine. Also, property values will be negatively impacted, as well as health (due to air pollution) and increased fire, trespass and vandalism risks due to the inevitable homeless encampments.

Some residents are getting together to try to stop it from happening.

If you would like more information or would like to help oppose the site, a Facebook page has been created to help in this effort. It can be found by following this link: [Stop Love's Truck Stop](#).

Updated information can be found there.



## The Day The Snow Finally Came

"It's the middle of winter," they would say,  
But I just stared in dismay.  
"How could it be winter without a blanket of snow?"  
They said, "We do not know."

I waited hours, I waited weeks,  
Yet you could still see those mountain peaks.  
"The snow will not come this year," I thought.  
Not a single dot.

I wanted to build a beast of a snowman this year  
And sled down those snow hills with no fear.  
Ski around the maze of trails with ease,  
Seeing all the lovable white trees.

Then one day I saw something fall,  
And it was so very small.  
There were millions of them coming.  
Oh, it was stunning!

The sun made the snow sparkle like glitter.  
It was a real home run hitter!  
Today the snow will fall all day,  
Leaving a path of fun on its way.

I immediately had chills run up my spine.  
This is my heart's sunshine.  
I love the snow so very much,  
And I ran outside to hear it crunch.

© Kathleen E. Sorensen

## 2018 Board Members

President	Erich Ziller	938-4993
Vice President	Paul Elberts	938-3835
Secretary	Jeanne George	524-7278
Treasurer	Katie LeBaron	831-246-0123
At-Large	Bob Keyser	938-4140
	Betty Leas	926-2149
	Pam Robinson	707-217-1309
	Tom Wearing	938-4288

*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. Members are 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

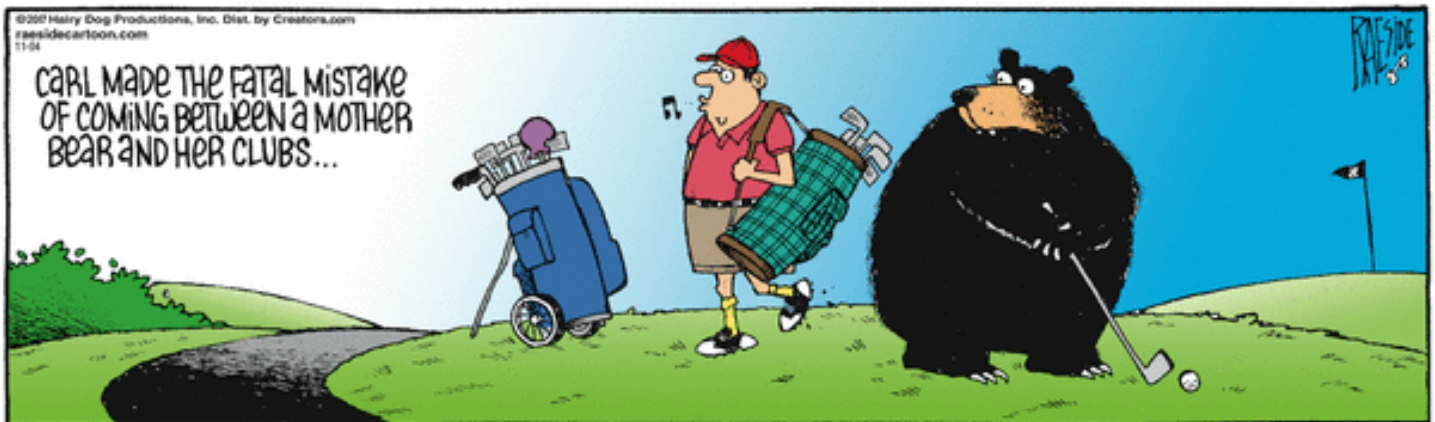
[hla@hammondlandowners.org](mailto:hla@hammondlandowners.org).

## 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 13, 2018 at the LeBaron/Bowden residence. Members welcome. Call to confirm before attending.
- HLA Annual Picnic – Saturday, July 7, 2018. Location and time to be determined
- HLA Members' Annual Meeting and Luncheon – Saturday, November 3, 2018. Location and time 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.
- Hammond Ranch Fire Safe Council -- Meetings are scheduled by Randy Klokow. He can be contacted at [rklokow@gmail.com](mailto:rklokow@gmail.com).

## 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](http://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](mailto:hla@hammondlandowners.org)

Hammond Landowners Association, Inc.



P.O. Box 795  
Mount Shasta, CA 96067