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*Hammond Ranch Landowners Association  
Annual Membership Drive*

It's a new year and time again for our annual membership drive. Join us! Membership dues are still only \$55 per year (a lot less costly than most other LOA's). 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 ([www.hammondlandowners.org](http://www.hammondlandowners.org)).
- 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.

If you have questions, you can contact Katie LeBaron at 831-246-0123.

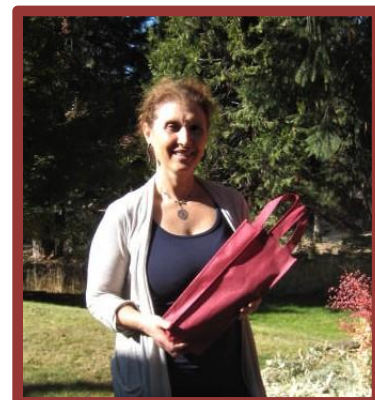


*Welcome Basket*

Sally and Pam (the Welcome Basket committee) presented Anca Sira with a Welcome Basket in late October last year. She and her son, Gabriel, along with their dog, Pepper, moved into their home on Sugar Pine. They had lived here previously for one year, moved abroad for a while and moved back one year ago.

Gabriel is a student at Mt. Shasta High School and Anca is an acupuncturist at Acupuncture Mt. Shasta.

Welcome to the Ranch, Anca and Gabriel!



**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

In November and December 2018 the fire company responded to 1 unknown fire, 1 vegetation fire, 1 possible train fire, 4 traffic collisions, 4 medical calls, 2 smoke checks, 2

structure fires, 1 public assist, and 1 other assist (possibly a phone line across the road. A little bit of everything! Many thanks to our volunteer department.

## Fire Engine Mobile Data Terminals

The Hammond Ranch Firefighters Association recently (October 2018) met with Hammond Ranch Fire Department and approved the purchase of six Mobile Data Terminals. These terminals will allow each fire truck to have a Mobile Data Terminal mounted inside the cab, on the dashboard, for easy access when a fire occurs.

The terminals allow the firefighters to quickly notify the dispatch center that the fire truck is en route. They display a large map of the area and a direct route in red to the fire. When arriving on scene, with a simple push of a button the dispatch center is notified that the Hammond Ranch fire truck has arrived. They also show how many fire engines are on scene, so that the dispatch center can manage the number of fire engines that may be needed.

Another very nice feature of these terminals is that when dispatched to an unfamiliar town or city, they show where all local fire hydrants are located so the drivers do not need to search the streets, wasting time before filling the truck's water tank. Amazing technology!

*Robert Keyser, President*

*Hammond Ranch Firefighters Association*



## Wildfire Financial Grants

On December 12<sup>th</sup>, the Northern California Resource Center submitted the Hammond Ranch Area Hazardous Fuels Reduction Program grant to the state of California on behalf of the Hammond Ranch FireSafe Council.

The project, if approved, will remove 240-acres of dense fuel to reduce the chance of wildfire and create a healthier forest in the Hammond Ranch Volunteer Fire District area of responsibility. A shaded-fuel break will be created along Dogwood Ridge and vegetation adjacent to emergency evacuation roads will be removed.

We will be notified in April if our grant is approved and work will begin in September. If approved, starting in May and continuing to September, volunteers will be conducting landowner training and education, obtaining landowner agreements for reducing fuels along evacuation routes and preparing a detailed work plan. Let's hope we get the grant!

*Paul Elberts, Secretary*

*HLA Board*

## CodeRED Reminder

Many of you already know, Siskiyou County has instituted a rapid emergency notification service called CodeRED®, which is a system that will distribute emergency messages via telephone to targeted areas or the entire county at a rate of 1,000 calls per minute.

Several have asked about getting CodeRED messages for their second home or when out of the area. You are able to register your second home or any address in Siskiyou County on the Siskiyou County website.

To register, the website is:

<https://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/content/codered-emergency-alert-system>. Click on the logo at the top of the page. By registering, you'll be added to the emergency call list.

You may also register by using the CodeRED Mobile Alert app. It is available thru the app store or Google Play. However, the Mobile Alert app will only register your location by your location app. So, by registering on the website you can add multiple addresses.

**The County Office of Emergency recommends ONLY signing up for CodeRED on the website and not thru your mobile device app.** They also have stated that they will be testing the system in the near future.

After registering, you can do a test to be sure your telephone numbers are registered correctly.

This service can be used in case of fires, chemical spills, evacuations, lock downs, downed power lines, lost individuals, natural disasters, abductions, water system problems, bomb threats or other emergencies. Calls can be geographically targeted for localized messaging. If widespread, the entire community could be called within 20 to 30 minutes. The system also reports who did not get a call so that they may be contacted by other means.

Siskiyou County residents are welcome and encouraged to enter their contact information for home, business and mobile phones so they may be contacted by the system in the event of an emergency. It is important for city residents and businesses customers to register, especially if they use unlisted numbers, cell phones or VOIP. Those who do not register their address and phone number may not be notified with CodeRED in the case of an emergency. Registration is confidential, free and easy.

## Emergency Notification System

For those who don't know already, the HLA now has in place an "unofficial" emergency notification system which was successfully tested last spring among its approximate 100 landowner members.

While the system does NOT replace CodeRED, it may prove useful as an early alert tool in the event of a wildfire or other emergency affecting Hammond Ranch.

If you have not yet signed up or would like more information, please contact Katie LeBaron at [katielebowden@gmail.com](mailto:katielebowden@gmail.com) or 831-246-0123.

*Katie LeBaron, VP*

*HLA Board*

## Love's Truck Stop

Hammond Landowners' Association Board has filed a lawsuit against Love's and the City of Weed to stop a 17.6 acre Love's truck stop from being constructed at the east end of Sugar Pine Road at Vista Drive and South Weed Blvd. The Board has concluded that this project endangers the health and safety of nearby Hammond Ranch residents and constitutes an extreme fire danger to all of Hammond Ranch and westside Weed residents, including College of the Siskiyou.

This project would bring 3,000 to 5,000 nonresidents into our extreme fire danger area every day, plus provide overnight parking for 97 semi-trucks. The lawsuit targets procedural errors and challenges the Environmental Impact Report. HLA is represented by the Law Offices of Donald B. Mooney of Davis, CA. For more information or questions, contact [erichziller@yahoo.com](mailto:erichziller@yahoo.com).



## Wildfire Presentation

The wildfire presentation by the FireSafe Council of Siskiyou County in December was interesting and informative. Here are a few pointers brought out at the meeting:

- Plant only low sap/low fragrance plants within five feet of a house;
- Roof vents should be screened with 1/16" metal mesh.

In the event of evacuation, with adequate time, it was suggested the below things should be done to help the firefighters defend your home:

- Wet down around the house;
- Rake around the house;
- Seal attic and ground vents with plywood or foil;
- Shut off the gas;
- Remove flammables from around outside of windows;
- Turn on all lights;
- Erect ladders to roof; and
- Pull car out of garage and mechanically disconnect garage doors.

It was also mentioned that [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) is a good site for information on how to be prepared in the event of a catastrophe such as fire.

## CalFire Chipping Program - Year Two

The CalFire Chipping Program seems to have settled into a somewhat reliable pattern. 2018 saw the fire crews successfully complete a test that our FireSafe Council had set up early in the year to be sure the program would work. A horrendous fire season followed, which took the fire crews away to do what they do best. By the time they had returned to the area, more than a dozen Ranch landowners had placed materials along roadways and driveways to be chipped. With the exception of a small portion of material on one property, all had been chipped by year end.

Availability of the equipment and crew depends, first, on fire conditions at any given time. In addition, these crews are often used on public-property work and as standby for control burns. Only when those responsibilities are satisfied will they bring the chipper to Hammond Ranch for our projects.

If you wish to have the crew chip material on your property, please contact Wyatt Tanner at 530-938-2322. He will need your name, phone number and address where the material is located, as well as a very rough estimate of the amount of materials to be chipped (i.e., a stack about \_\_\_ feet long by \_\_\_ feet high).

Once Captain Tanner has enough work scheduled and the crew is available, he will begin the chipping. For 2019, the work will begin early in the Spring, depending upon weather conditions. Please review the Chipping Instructions for Do's and Don'ts below in preparing the stacks. Note that the ends of the material must be placed ninety degrees to the roadway, not parallel with the roadway.

### DO'S—PLEASE:

- LOCATE MATERIALS FOR EASY ACCESS TO THE CHIPPER;
- STACK MATERIALS ON LEVEL GROUND OR UPHILL SIDE OF THE ROAD;
- MINIMIZE SMALL (LESS THAN 1" DIA) MATERIALS.
- PLACE CUT ENDS IN ONE DIRECTION FACING THE CHIPPER (90 degrees to the road); and



### DON'TS--PLEASE DO NOT:

- NO ROCKS, MUD, STUMPS, OR ROOTS;
- NO POISON OAK, BLACKBERRIES OR VINES;
- NO PILES OF LEAVES, PINE NEEDLES, OR YARD CLIPPINGS;
- NO NON-VEGETATIVE MATERIALS (GARBAGE, PLASTIC, METALS...);
- NO TREE LIMBS GREATER THAN 8" IN DIAMETER;
- DO NOT STACK MATERIALS DOWNHILL OR IN A DITCH; and
- DO NOT STACK MATERIALS HIGHER THAN 5 FEET.



## Wildlife on the Ranch

Look what stopped in for a leisurely dip in a neighbor's birdbath this fall!

It's a Northern Pygmy Owl (*Glauclidium gnoma*), native to the western US. This little owl is about the size of a bluebird, with a wingspan of up to 15 inches, but it fearlessly attacks prey larger than itself. It is mainly nocturnal but often active in daylight, especially at dawn or dusk. It eats insects, small mammals, small birds and an occasional reptile. They nest in natural tree cavities or woodpecker holes about 8-25 feet above ground. They produce one brood a year with 3-6 eggs about 1.1 inches long. Incubation is about 28 days. They are relatively tame, allowing a close approach. Inhabits densely wooded canyons in foothills and mountains. It is monogamous. Its song is a series of mellow whistles on one pitch, also a thin rattle around the nest.



## I Welcome Winter

With cooler nights and soft warm days,  
quilts for the beds, days breeze welcome.  
We say goodbye to summer's blaze.  
Gold, orange and red are my Chrysanthemums,  
as fall doggedly leaves the desert kingdom.

Soon will be gone, the light weight jackets.  
Leaves, will finally, dance from the trees.  
Goodbye to all the Farmer's Markets.  
While I warm my hands round a cup of hot tea,  
powdered sugar snow, in the hills I see.

The bird bath has a coat of ice,  
small creatures go off and hibernate.  
My home is redolent with baking spice,  
red berries in the bushes, so ornate.  
It's Winters time to dominate.

by Paula Swanson

## 2018 Annual Members' Meeting

The annual members' meeting was held on November 3, 2018 at the Best Western Tree House. Nearly 60 members attended. A great turnout! It was nice to see so many members participating.

The meeting was very informative, with lots of discussion and interchange. After the regular business of the Board, Dr. Arielle Halperin, Senior Program Director of the Mt. Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center; Dave Jenkins, Hammond Ranch Fire Chief; and Randy Klokow, Hammond Ranch FireSafe Council chair, were guest speakers. Dr. Halperin gave a presentation about "Changing Our Relationship with Fire in Hammond Ranch" as well as the importance of prescribed burning to mitigate future catastrophic wildfires. Randy Klokow reported on the FireSafe Council's recent activities. Dave Jenkins discussed recent developments at the firehouse and reported that Hammond Ranch is classified as an extreme fire load area, among other things. The CalFire chipper program, the Emergency Alert System, the proposed Love's Truck Stop at the South Weed exit were also discussed.

Bob Keyser, Katie LeBaron, Pam Robinson, Erich Ziller and Wilma Dibelka were elected to the Board.

At the Board meeting following the annual meeting on November 20, Erich Ziller was re-elected President; Katie LeBaron became the Vice President; Betty Leas became Treasurer; Jeanne George has the position of Recording Secretary; Paul Elberts agreed to be Correspondence Secretary and Bob Keyser, Pam Robinson and Wilma Dibelka are Members at Large.



## Historical Information

The Archaeological Resource Report for the Hammond Ranch Community Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project in 2010, prepared by Nicholas Dennis, Ph.D., reveals many interesting facts about the history of our region.

**Prehistoric Cultural Setting:** The project area (west Hammond Ranch) was prehistorically occupied by the Shasta Valley tribe of Shasta Indians, a branch of the Hoka-speaking people who first settled California more than 10,000 years ago. Shastan tribes usually dispersed seasonally from small permanent winter villages located at lower elevations of Shasta Valley to warm-season base camps throughout the surrounding higher-elevation areas. The nearest known villages to the project area were *Aste* near contemporary Gazelle and *Ahawaswig* near Mt. Shasta City. Occupation of the project vicinity appears to have been limited mainly to the warm seasons, when it was used for upland hunting, fishing, and gathering of acorns and other foods and materials. Materials (e.g., obsidian) were also obtained through trade with neighboring tribes. Estimates of the population of Shastan-speaking people around the time of first contact with Euro-Americans are as high as 10,000, but center in the 2,000-3,000 range. Following contact, their numbers decreased rapidly.

**Historic Cultural Setting:** The first Euro-Americans to visit the project vicinity were Hudson's Bay Company trappers in the 1820s and 1830s. Stephen Meeks operated a trading post on Willow Creek several miles north of the project area around this period. Permanent Euro-American settlements were first established in association with the discovery and mining of gold in the 1850s. By 1860 the Yreka and Redding Road (also known as California-Oregon Road) was in service; it was roughly contiguous with the current alignment of North Old Stage Road.

As lands moved from the public domain into private ownership in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, ranching and logging became the primary local economic activities. By the late 1870s project-vicinity sawmills were supplying lumber to gold mines near Yreka. In 1894 J.N. Durney was operating sawmills in Shasta Valley, moving the facilities when timber became unavailable. One of Durney's mills stood on the peninsula that now extends into the southern portion of Hammond Reservoir, just north of the project area. A narrow-gage railroad carried lumber from the Durney mill to Igerna on the Southern Pacific line near the current South Weed exit on Interstate 5, paralleling the current alignment of Sugar Pine Road and a portion of Dale Creek Road, either in or near the project area. Another mill, possibly owned by James Dobkins, was also located immediately north of the project area where Hammond Reservoir outflows join the Shasta River during this period.

A large ranch consolidated by the Hammond family included the project area and much of the lower eastern slopes of Mt. Eddy. In the 1940s, the Hammond family constructed a ditch diverting water from the North Fork of the Sacramento River near Morgan Meadows west of Mt. Shasta City north through the project area to Hammond Reservoir. The water right for this diversion was recorded in 1946. Hammond Ditch is the only diversion from the Sacramento basin to the Klamath basin. It was formerly operated under a U.S. Forest Service special use permit, and continues to supply irrigation flows to Shasta Valley lands. Hammond Ranch was subdivided into rural-residential parcels in the 1980s.

## Thank you to the Wearings!

After 11 years of service to HLA and Hammond Ranch landowners, Tom Wearing has resigned from the HLA board. Tom's most notable contributions have included serving as board president for many years, coordinating the Easement Defense lawsuit, active participation in the Hammond Ranch FireSafe Council and interagency projects to increase safety in Hammond Ranch.

Larie Wearing has also passed on the baton of the innumerable HLA projects and tasks that she has so effectively executed over the last 11 years, including quarterly newsletter editor, website administrator, annual HLA luncheon meeting and picnic coordinator and managing updates to the landowners and membership roster.

HLA board members wish to express their deepest gratitude for all that Tom and Larie have done for our small community. We wish them many happy years of well-deserved retirement!



## Flora on the Ranch



### *Neolentinus ponderosus* (Giant Sawtooth)

These mushrooms were found above Dale Creek Road in November. It is solitary, scattered to clustered near or at the base of conifer stumps and logs; common in the Sierra, rare at low elevations; fruiting from late spring to late summer. Edible and very good, especially when young. Some use it as a Matsutake substitute. Because of its toughness, either slice it paper thin or parboil it thoroughly.

Thanks to George Stroud for identifying it.



## 2019 Board Members

President	Erich Ziller	938-4993
Vice President	Katie LeBaron	831-246-0123
Recording Sect'y	Jeanne George	524-7278
Correspondence Secretary	Paul Elberts	938-3835
Treasurer	Betty Leas	926-2149
At-Large	Bob Keyser	938-4140
	Pam Robinson	707-217-1309
	Wilma Dibelka	938-2055

*The Hammond Ranch Scene* Editor  
Larie Wearing 859-0990

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.

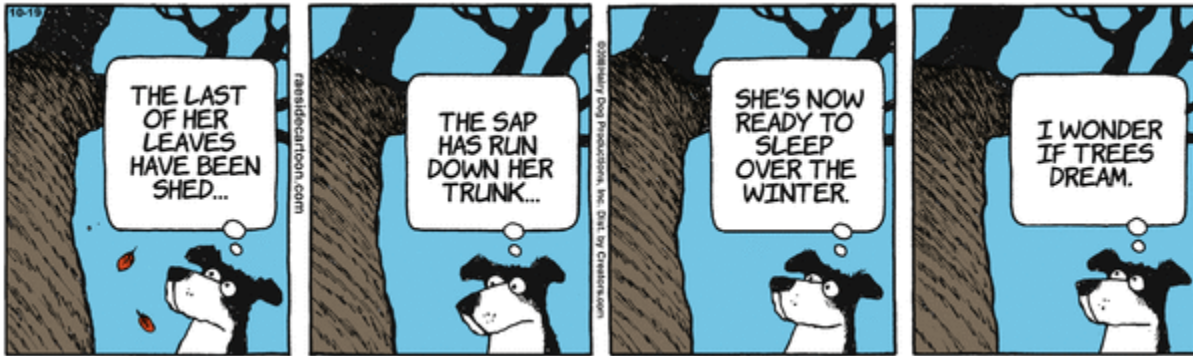
We also encourage members to write to us and create a dialogue on topics of interest to Hammond Ranch landowners. The Board members can be reached by phone at the numbers listed above, by snail mail c/o HLA, P.O. Box 795, Mount Shasta, California 96067, or via email at [hla@hammondlandowners.org](mailto:hla@hammondlandowners.org).

## 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 12, 2019, location to be determined. Members welcome. Call any Board member for the location and 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