HLA Annual Members Picnic

Over 70 members and guests gathered on Saturday, July 6th to meet new neighbors, get reacquainted with old friends and enjoy a great lunch in a setting that couldn’t be beat. From the youngest resident (4 months) to our oldest (all the rest of us), it was a beautiful afternoon at Janet Zalewski and Linda Richter’s gorgeous home. Thank you so much, Janet and Linda.

We also want to thank all the volunteers who made this possible. Jeanne George was our coordinator, tireless (or maybe just a BIT tired), extremely well organized and assisted by her husband Leland, who was also one of our cooks. Many others helped to make this a really fun picnic. Special thanks to our other cooks, Dave Scott & Bob Harmon; Davis Bowden & Marianna Harmon – parking; Betty Leas & Pam Scott – Greeters and general help; Klokows and Georges - shopping. Katie LeBaron worked very hard to put together a wonderful variety of silent auction items donated by kind and talented Ranch Residents. The funds from their sale will go toward HLA Special Projects when they arise. Special thanks to Frank Mueller for offering parking on his property.

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.
From the Fire Chief

This is our latest water storage tank located 500 feet above the Hammond Ranch Fire Department. The hydrant is located in the parking lot.

This tank is the result of a grant procured by our Firesafe council and the hydrant and plumbing was purchased by the Hammond Ranch Firefighters Association. Volunteer Firefighters provided the labor to install the plumbing.

The tank stands ready to help defend our community in the event of a fire.

There is only one problem: Person or persons unknown removed all the water from the tank last month leaving it high and dry. The theft was discovered the next day during a routine equipment check.

The water is for fire fighting not local construction projects or any other reason. If you see any suspicious activity please call the Sheriffs Department.

Dave Jenkins
Hammond Ranch Fire Chief

Keep Your Phone Handy

With Wildfire season upon us, we would like to remind all Hammond residents that in order to be notified of wildfire alerts or an evacuation order you must be able to hear your phone. Both Code Red and our Hammond Ranch Emergency Alert telephone tree send messages via your phone.

We all hope that we never have to receive that emergency alert, but this is the time to prepare.

Keep your phone near your bed at night. Yes, random tones or calls might be annoying, but you wouldn't want to miss being notified of an impending emergency.

This is also a good time to review what you have included in your "go" bag. Medications, cash, credit cards, pet supplies, change of clothing, spare glasses, battery radio, flashlights with fresh batteries... Each "go" bag is unique to each person. Think of the things you could not replace - items with special meaning.

You may have only minutes to evacuate. Make those minutes count. Get out quickly and safely.

Love’s Truck Stop

HLA’s lawsuit against the Loves Truck Stop project continues. Our attorney submitted a 41 page Opening Brief to the court and we are waiting for Love’s reply. Our arguments focused on shortcomings in the EIR and procedural errors by the city of Weed and Loves. Emphasis was on the increased fire danger the truck stop will bring to the westside area, and a lack of analysis for placing the project on the eastside of I-5 where the needed infrastructure already exists. A decision is possible as early as the end of July.

For more information contact erichziller@yahoo.com

10000 gallons of water ready to put wet stuff on red stuff.
Welcome to Hammond Ranch

A welcome basket was delivered to Steve and Maurine Duncan on Rocky Rd. They moved in to their home in November, 2018 and are quite happy being here. The couple lived in Arizona for 28 years where Steve was a fireman. He retired from and moved to this area. He is now the Fire Chief for Weed. We are lucky to have him. Steve and Maurine have 3 children. One in California and two are living in Arizona. They are in the process of building a run for their dog.

We welcome them to our Ranch.

On the first Sunday in June, the Welcome Basket Committee (Larie and Pam) delivered a basket to Alan and Beatrice Berkowitz on Sugar Pine Road. The couple have lived in their house for the last 9 years but just recently bought it. They had previously been living in Ithaca, New York. Alan had lived in New York for 40 years, and Beatrice was born in Brazil. They have a daughter who lives in Boston. They both fell in love with this area at once after visiting and moved here within two years. Both Alan and Beatrice are psychologists and continue to work, conducting classes and making presentations. Part of their work involves translating - - from Portuguese and Spanish into English and vice versa -- and publishing spiritual works. Their webpage is www.shasti.org.

Welcome to our neighborhood, Alan and Beatrice!

New Water Tank Installed

Congratulations to Mark & Rochelle Granger for their installation of a new 3000-gallon wildfire water storage tank. Mark and his son did a spectacular job of purchasing and installing “Fire Water Tank #7.” The new tank will improve the wildfire safety of residents on Oak Ridge Dr.

Water storage tanks are an important part of fire fighting in the Hammond Ranch area. Responding fire vehicles carry a limited supply of water. Local water storage tanks provide an immediate backup when fire vehicles run out of water. It is strongly recommended that each Hammond Ranch road have at least one backup water storage tank.

The Fire Department will certify and fill a tank upon completion. In addition, the tank will be identified on a computer data base for quick location during a wildfire.

At the current time, water storage tanks are available as follows:

- **Volunteer Fire Department**- 10,000-gallon storage tank, 4,000-gallon mobile water tender, 500-gallon fire truck, 400-gallon fire truck, and 200-gallon fire truck.
- **Hammond Ranch Roads**- Ponderosa (one 2500-gallon tank), Rocky Road (three tanks-4700-gallons total); Dale Creek (three tanks-7,500-gallons total), Oak Ridge (two tanks- 5,500 gallon total).
- **Hammond Reservoir (Pond)**- two standpipes (when water is available).
- **Miscellaneous**--There are reportedly other sources of water available but not certified for use by the Fire Department. If you have a source and would like to have it available for fire department use, please contact Mark Delbilka (mark@dibelka.us) to inspect and certify your source.

At the current time, there is no funding assistance for purchase and installation of water tanks. The purchase of a 2,500-gallon tank and connecting standpipe is approximately $1,500. This could be a great community project to improve wildfire safety.
CALFIRE has approved and funded our Wildfire Protection Grant for the Hammond Ranch Fire District.

THE GRANT WILL IMPROVE WILDFIRE SAFETY IN FOUR AREAS:

- Remove fuel along emergency evacuation roads.
- Create a shaded fuel break at Dogwood Ridge.
- Create 100ft. Defensible Space demonstration homes.
- Provide Wildfire Public Education.

The grant will remove about 240-acres of wildfire fuel. A landowner must agree (in writing) to allow fuel reduction work on their private property. Work must be completed by March 2022.

The grant will require about 2100-hours of volunteer community service.

WHAT’S NEXT?

1. Obtain final CAL FIRE signature approval on the grant contract.
2. Pending final approval, obtain advance funding to conduct a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) study. The CEQA study must be completed and approved before any fuel reduction work.
3. Conduct landowner briefings to define the scope of work for each work area.
4. Obtain landowner approval signatures. Landowner written approval must be obtained before working on their property.
5. Prepare lessons and coordinate with the College of Siskiyou to conduct the landowner public education class.
6. Work with Siskiyou County to define work and work restrictions along County evacuation roads (Old Stage and College Ave).

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROJECT, PLEASE SEND YOUR NAME, PHONE #, AND ADDRESS TO: hammondfiresafe@gmail.com

NOTE—You do not need to send an email if you are already receiving emails regarding this grant.

HIGH MEADOW WORK GROUP

Congratulations to the High Meadow Work Group for their recent road clearance along High Meadow. Their team got organized, talked to the neighbors, picked a date and held a work party to remove fuel from the edge of the road. This is the type of community effort that will make a difference in our wildfire safety.

RUN REPORT--HAMDORN RANCH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

During the second quarter of 2019 (Apr to June), the HRVFC responded to 2 structure fires, 3 medical calls, 3 traffic collisions, 1 lift assist, 1 wildland fire, 5 vegetation fires, 1 untended burn pile, and 2 alarms sounding.

Many thanks to our Volunteer Fire Company.
New Evacuation Road

Safe evacuation roads are one of the most important parts of wildfire safety. The recent Paradise Fire proved what can happen when people get trapped on inadequate roads.

A primary concern in a wildfire will be the safe evacuation of residents. An evacuation in Hammond Ranch could be difficult and perhaps dangerous due to the high number of single dead-end roads. There are very few alternate backup emergency escape roads in Hammond Ranch.

Recently, Asil Donna recognized the problem and initiated action to build a new emergency evacuation road across her property that connects Fern Lane with Columbine. The road could prove to be a lifesaver as it provides a backup exit route for Rocky Road, Blue Jay, Fern Lane and Columbine. With some of her neighbors and the HLA chipping in financially, Asil was able to have a licensed contractor build a road that can provide access for residents in an emergency.

The road, unfortunately, is not currently fully funded. If you would like to help, please contact Asil at aqterra@att.net

The new road is an emergency road ONLY. The road is NOT to be used for normal vehicle travel or for recreational activities such as hiking, biking, riding horses, etc. The road is blocked and restricted for emergency use only.

Huge Thank You Asil for all your efforts.

Air Ambulance Services

The HLA is now providing group memberships for PHI and AIRMED medical air ambulance services.

**PHI** offers limited nationwide air ambulance service with two resources in northern California (Redding & Susanville). They do not serve Oregon. The current discount cost of a PHI group membership (for you and your family) is $40/year.

**AIRMED** is a nationwide alliance of four air ambulance services (320 locations in 38 states). AIRMED has several services in northern California (Redding, Crescent City, Eureka, Ukiah, Willits, Sacramento & San Francisco areas) and in Oregon (Klamath Falls, Roseburg). The current discount cost of an AIRMED group membership (for you and your family) is $65/year.

To obtain more information about PHI and AIRMED services, see their internet web sites.

In Hammond Ranch, air ambulance services might be required for the following medical problems:

• **“Emergency”**—This could be a serious auto or hiking accident that would require immediate transportation to the nearest hospital. In our area, PHI and AIRMED offer emergency air ambulance services on an alternating 24-hour schedule. One day PHI provides the service, the next day AIRMED provides the service. The injured person has very little control over which air ambulance will provide the service.

• **Hospital-to-Hospital Transfer**—This is a medical situation where the patient needs to be quickly transferred to a larger medical facility (For example-UC Davis). Both PHI and AIRMED provide hospital-to-hospital services dependent upon availability of aircraft and flight personnel. If the transfer is not an emergency, the patient might be able to request a specific air ambulance service.

Air ambulance services in a rural area can be costly. Recently we were advised that an air ambulance service from Mt. Shasta to a San Francisco area hospital could be up to $80,000! Medical insurance companies will typically pay only a small amount (if anything) and you could be responsible for the remaining amount of the air ambulance bill. Visit the internet to obtain more information about the high costs of air ambulances.

NOTE—The group membership is NOT “insurance.” A group membership is exclusive to one company. PHI and AIRMED are independent companies. A group membership in one air ambulance service will NOT cover costs if the other air ambulance service is used.

If interested in joining, contact the HLA to obtain a membership application form. Visit the website: www.hammondlandowners.org

NOTE—The Hammond Landowners Association cannot give legal, medical, or insurance advice. Please obtain professional assistance for legal, medical, or insurance issues.
Volunteers Make a Community

In this newsletter, you have read about your neighbors who are taking steps to build a community and also improve wildfire safety. For example, our picnic, a new water storage tank on Oak Ridge Dr., wildfire fuel reduction along High Meadow, a new emergency evacuation road between Fern Lane and Columbine, and a newly funded wildfire fuel reduction and education grant.

All of those efforts were accomplished by “volunteer heroes.” There is no city government responsible for the welfare of our community. Volunteering is an essential part of living in Hammond Ranch.

Living in a rural area requires a large degree of self-reliance, but residents also need to work together. Hammond Ranch works best when residents work together to solve community problems.

Making a transition from city living to Hammond Ranch living is a change from "Why don't they...?"-to-"Why don't I...?"

The people who work on these projects are local heroes. They see a need whether it is danger from wildfire or helping neighbors solve other problems and just get to know each other. It is up to you, as a volunteer, to identify, develop and implement solutions to create a better community.

Please volunteer to help!! It takes a community effort working together to to build a great community.

www.hammondlandowners.org
Road Reimbursement

Reminder to all road committees: Keep your receipts from any road work that you do as the year progresses. Receipts are due by October 1st for consideration in the current fiscal year's budget. Please remember to have them signed by 2 HLA members on your road. Submit them to any board member or mail to Hammond Landowners Association, P.O. 795, Mt. Shasta, CA 96067-0795

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 August 13, 2019, location to be determined. Members welcome. Call any Board member for the location and to confirm before attending.

- HLA Members’ Annual Meeting and Luncheon – Saturday, November 2, 2019. Tree House Restaurant, Mt. Shasta. 11:30AM

- 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.
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