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*Erich Ziller  
Many, Many Thanks*

Our President, Erich Ziller is stepping down this year to a bit more leisure and other pursuits. He has served HLA in many capacities over the years since 1994. His spirit and passionate support for our community have always been tempered by level-headed guidance as well as articulate communication between HLA members, County officials and the general public.

Erich embodies community service. He has spear-headed and supported many HLA project efforts. Most recently he has been the main liaison for our efforts to deter the installation of a major truck stop (Love's) that threatens the safety of the ranch. Thankfully, he has agreed to continue to oversee this effort wherever it leads.

"Thank you" doesn't seem like enough, Erich! A **BIG GROUP HUG** coming your way.....from a distance, of course!!

*Could It Be You? By Katie LeBaron*

*When I became an HLA board member and treasurer in 2016, I had never served on a board and wasn't sure what to expect.*

*My service has been a rewarding and educational experience, but it is now time to pass on this role to another Hammond Ranch resident.*

*Could that be you? If you are interested in joining the board and, in particular, taking on the office of treasurer, please contact us at:*

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

*We welcome you!*



*President's Message*

2020 has been a challenging year for everyone, including all of us in Hammond Ranch. While we are fortunate to live in a low-density rural area with beautiful nature and outdoor activities to enjoy, the pandemic has forced everyone to make adjustments in our lives.

For the first time, HLA was forced to cancel our summer picnic and annual members' meeting in November. The HLA Board has arranged to provide our members with reports, our annual budget proposal, and the slate of candidates for the Board coming soon by mail. Please take the time to review this and to cast your vote for the budget proposal and candidates so the Board can continue to work for your benefit.

The HLA Board is your source for information about your property rights, and as the moderator for disputes and problems. While the Board does not have enforcement powers, our CC&Rs are aligned with Siskiyou County laws, ordinances, and codes. We can provide members with pertinent information, and we can intercede with county departments and officers on behalf of our members when needed.

There are reports in this newsletter about the Boards' work in the United Way Disaster Preparedness program, the Fuels Reduction Project, and the Love's Lawsuit. This past year, the Board has dealt with trespass issues, illegal drug activities, camping violations, and the ubiquitous road problems.

Through many years, it has been my pleasure to serve on the HLA Board with dozens of Ranch residents. Each brought their special knowledge, skills, interests, and desire to make Hammond Ranch a better place to live. Much has been accomplished through their efforts. We have many new residents on the Ranch who can bring fresh perspectives to the Board. I hope some of you will consider offering your talents and energy to serve your neighbors.

*Erich Ziller, President HLA*

**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.



# Hammond Fire Zone News By Mark Dibelka

With the retirement of Dave Jenkins as the chief of Hammond Ranch Fire many misconceptions came to light, and it seems like a good time to share some "lost knowledge" with the citizens of Hammond Ranch.

What is now known as CSA-4, Hammond Ranch Fire Zone, started out as a privately incorporated volunteer fire company in 1989. Along the way there were growing pains, disagreements (yes, the current chief is aware of the malice held towards particular members of the Hammond Ranch community, but he also asks you to be aware he lived in another state from 1988 to 2017 and was not involved in any of that – no matter how many people want to hold him accountable), and an evolution that allowed the fire service to continue the community based, personal service that is expected when our citizens call for fire or rescue service.

Because the old label has remained on everything, it is easy to understand why people still think of Hammond Ranch Fire as it has always been and are wondering what the "new" fancy title means.

Hammond Ranch Fire is no longer a private corporation, but has become a part of Siskiyou County Community Service Area 4 (CSA-4). CSA-4 is part of the Siskiyou County Fire Warden's Office and is under the direction of County Fire Warden, Phil Anzo. Chief Anzo is also the CalFire Siskiyou Unit Chief. This arrangement provides a standard of professionalism and education upon which Hammond Ranch Fire may draw as needed. Although Mark Dibelka carries the title "chief," he has three steps above him in the chain of command. Hammond Ranch Fire is under the direct supervision of the CalFire Battalion 3 chief, who reports to the Assistant Unit Chief and the Unit Chief. Being a county agency allows for a tax base that supports the maintenance of the station and apparatus, as well as provides the ability for the station to be staffed with resident firefighters ("sleepers") who are relied upon as the first level of response when we are called.

In an effort to identify our place within county government you will begin to see the official title of the agency show up on the apparatus as well as hats and other clothing.

Because the organization is part of county government, the citizens who work as EMTs, firefighters, and auxiliary support are county employees who volunteer their time until the real work starts and the benchmarks are passed that allow for paid service. The current rate of pay is \$33.87/hr.

Unfortunately, Hammond Ranch Fire is finding itself in a hard place, right next to the rock, that is exacerbated by old feuds.

The citizenry demands that the problems surrounding obtaining and maintaining homeowners' insurance and emergency medical care be addressed in an efficient and timely manner. The best way to carry out this mission is with many hands to help.

Unfortunately, there are only five citizens who are actually taking part in this mission (two of whom don't live in Hammond Ranch and both of whom are over 70 years old), supported by two sleepers and two auxiliary volunteers.

It has been said that Hammond Ranch Fire is nonviable and should be turned into a CalFire station because there were several months in 2019 when no sleepers were available.

Should Hammond Ranch Fire terminate service, the building would be used by the county roads department and our first line fire/EMS response would be from the CalFire station on Rt. 97 in Weed.

If this is truly a caring community, a community that cares for our neighbors, then our community should stop relying upon the good will and desperation of young people from hundreds of miles away to carry our emergency medical response and initial fire attack. These young people may be wonderful individuals, but they are not invested in our community; they are here to gain education and experience, using our community as a stepping stone so they can move on without looking back. If we want to have a fully functioning fire/rescue department that meets our needs, then we need to step up and become members of the fire department.

It is no secret that giving of your time (either volunteer or compensated) requires a reduction in time elsewhere. It's been heard time and again that many don't believe they can run into a burning building or dig a fire line, but EMTs are needed as well. If you don't feel you can help with emergency medicine, then light mechanics, groundskeeping, accounting, cooks, and office management are needed.

If none of that fits what you think you can do, the fire department probably needs your skill set as well. Please, look inside, look at your neighbor, look at the drying ground and dying trees due to lack of water and consider what you can do to build Hammond Ranch into a community in which you would not be scared to have your children or grandchildren live.

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## Trespassers

A recent incident on the ranch has prompted us to, once again, encourage all absentee and part-time landowners to periodically check on their property. In addition, it is a good idea to have a Trespass Authorization filed with the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Dept. and HLA. This document allows a neighbor to report a trespass if the landowner is not present. Without this, the neighbor or friend has no authority to report trespassers. You do not have to name a specific neighbor, only that you will allow another person to report the trespass.

In the recent incident, the trespassers had set up an elaborate "grow site". The landowner discovered the set-up when visiting and called the Sheriff.

You can find a Trespass Authorization Form for download at [www.hammondlandowners.org/trespass](http://www.hammondlandowners.org/trespass). If you do not have internet, call any board member (numbers on page 7) and a form will be sent to you.



## Love's Truck Stop Update

Our attorneys submitted our opening brief to the Appeals Court in Sacramento on September 24. We will now wait for Love's attorneys to respond.

Our position is that the EIR and CEQA noise, pollution, and fire analyses were incomplete and not specific to this South Weed site. Our main concern for Hammond Ranch is the increased potential for wildfire. This project will bring 3,000 to 5,000 travelers **every day** to our high-risk fire area. It will also transfer an estimated 100,000 gallons of diesel and gasoline from fuel trucks to holding tanks and then to trucks and cars daily.

We already know the intense fire risk that our area has due to drought, dry vegetation, high temperatures, and wind. This project greatly increases the chance of creating a spark that would threaten both Hammond Ranch and the City of Weed. The fire in Talent and Phoenix has shown us once again how quickly disaster can strike.

For more information contact: [erichziller@yahoo.com](mailto:erichziller@yahoo.com)



## Propane Choices in our Area



Many of us in Hammond Ranch rely on propane for home heating, cooking or hot water. We want reliable service and fair pricing.

Choosing a propane company is no simple matter. Whether you need a new provider or would like to explore options to switch, you should carefully determine what services you need or what options might be desirable. Then you need to call each company to request detailed quotes. It is the comparison between these quotes that will enable you to make an informed choice.

Several years ago, our HLA Newsletter, had an article about a propane "collective" in Hammond Ranch supplied by Ferrellgas. This is still ongoing, but there are other options. In our area there are 4 main propane suppliers (alphabetically) Blue Star, Campora, Ferrellgas, and Suburban. **The first chart below** compares some of their services and costs.

Most of the providers in our area also have *incentive programs* for new customers. If you decide to explore that option, make sure to ask how the rates will change when the incentives expire. See the **lower chart** for some of the incentive programs offered in our area.

Propane market prices vary and are mainly influenced by crude oil prices which have recently been fairly low, but are expected to rise in the next few months. Non-collective rates between \$2.50 and \$3.70 per gallon are common at this time. "Supply and Demand" fluctuations result in lower prices when summer demand is low, higher prices during winter when usage is higher. It's always a good idea to top off your tank before winter weather and winter prices kick in; generally before 10/31.

Be aware that additional fees could be added to your propane bill; for example, there is usually a hazardous materials fee and some have a Fuel Recovery fee or other fees to recover the cost of delivery. Different companies have different fee structures. Be sure to ask about them.

**The good news:** In 2001 AB426, provided tax relief for rural residents in the form of a full sales tax exemption. This means that a primary residence (not a secondary or vacation home), with a supply tank of 30 gallons or greater, pays no sales tax on their propane.

Most of these company's websites give excellent suggestions for energy saving steps to reduce propane usage and save money as a result. See [www.hammondlandowners.org/serviceproviders](http://www.hammondlandowners.org/serviceproviders) for company contact information.

### Costs and Services Comparison: As of 9/23/2020

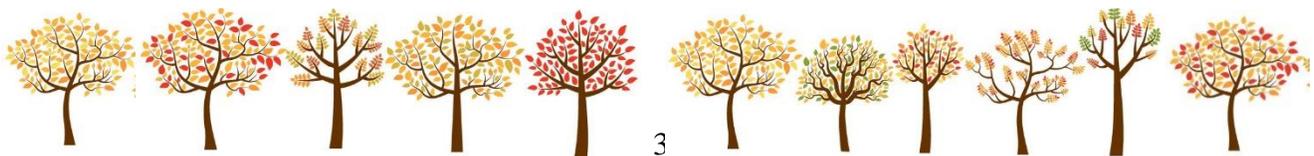
Company	Tank Rental Per yr.	24 hour Emergency Service	Remote Tank Level Monitoring	Underground Tank Option	Can Own your own tank?	Delivery Options	Flexible Payment Options	Online Access
Blue Star	\$70	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Will Call or Automatic <sup>2</sup>	Yes	Yes
Campora <sup>3</sup>	\$70	Yes <sup>1</sup>	No	You Own/Will Fill	Yes	Will Call or Automatic	Yes	Yes
Ferrellgas	\$65	Yes <sup>1</sup>	No	You Own/Will Fill	Yes	Will Call or Keep Full	Yes	Yes
Suburban	\$60	Yes <sup>1</sup>	No	Yes <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Will Call or Automatic	Yes	Yes

1. Ask how they handle emergency calls. 2. See <https://bluestargas.com/elert-tank-monitors> for more information.  
 3. Campora does not deliver to ALL areas of the Ranch. 4. Will provide underground tank. Fill & service.

### Incentive Programs:

Company	First Fill Rate	Tank Change Out <sup>1</sup>	Pump Gas to New Tank <sup>1</sup>	Tank Rental Discount	Your Referral to New Customers	Locked-In Price	Online Sign-up & notifications
Blue Star	\$1.69	Free	Free	Free - 1 <sup>st</sup> yr.	Variable Rebate	\$2.19 until 1/21	Yes or Call
Campora	Varies	Free	Free	Free-1 <sup>st</sup> 6 mo.	Free 35 gal.	\$1.79-\$1.99 until 10/21	Yes+Free 35 gal.
Ferrellgas	\$2.11 <sup>2</sup>	Free	Free	Free - 1 <sup>st</sup> yr.	Up to \$75 credit	\$2.11 <sup>2</sup>	No - Call/Email
Suburban	\$1.59	Free	Free	Free - 1 <sup>st</sup> yr.	Free 35 gal.	\$1.99 first year	Yes or Call/Email

1. Most tanks - be sure to ask about specifics. 2. Collective Rate - Can vary, but is usually competitively low for the life of your account.





## *Hammond Fire Safe Council News*



### **WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THE RECENT ALMEDA (ASHLAND-TALENT-PHOENIX, OR) WILDFIRE?**

The recent Almeda wildfire offers several lessons for Hammond Ranch residents:

#### **#1-EVACUATION ALARM FAILURE**

The public evacuation alarm systems did not provide an adequate warning. Many Talent-Phoenix residents stated they never received a notification to evacuate. The alarm evacuation systems were either not activated or failed to provide accurate and timely information.

Emergency response personnel attempted to warn residents by direct contact, but the wildfire moved so rapidly they were barely able to stay in front of the fire. The evacuation developed into chaos as escaping residents received little or no information to guide them to safety.

Sadly, evacuation alarm system failures are not uncommon. In past wildfires (such as Paradise, Santa Rosa, Napa and Redding) many residents never received an evacuation warning or the warning came too late.

In the Hammond Ranch area it is essential that residents evacuate "quickly." Hammond Ranch evacuation roads can rapidly catch fire and block residents from a safe evacuation. "Quickly" means the escape vehicle should be out of the garage, packed, fueled and ready to go within minutes.

In Hammond Ranch, residents should never wait for an "official" notice to evacuate.

If you feel threatened-EVACUATE. Do not wait for an "official" announcement or a knock on the door that might never happen.

#### **#2--FIRE FIGHTING WATER SUPPLIES**

In the Almeda fire, the Talent-Phoenix fire hydrants ran dry. The fire department suddenly had no water to fight the fires. Firefighters had to pull 2-man crews off the fire lines to drive to Ashland (15 to 30-minutes) to fill vehicle water tankers. Each refill trip got longer due to blocked roads caused by downed power lines and vehicle gridlock.

The lack of water was a serious problem for the responding fire fighters.

In Hammond Ranch there is no community fire hydrant system. Limited fire fighting water is initially provided from tanks on the fire engines. A mobile water tanker is used to refill the fire engine tanks. The mobile water tanker must travel to the closest source of water for refill.

On some Hammond Ranch roads (such as Oak Ridge, Rocky Road, Dale Creek and Ponderosa) 2,500-gallon water tanks have been installed by the residents to provide a close source of water for fire fighting.

Not all Hammond Ranch roads have water storage tanks. Residents on each road should evaluate their water supply and install tanks as needed. Tank installations must be coordinated with Hammond Ranch Fire to ensure access and the correct fire hose fittings. The Fire Company will keep the tank filled. Please see the HLA newsletter dated July 2019 for additional water tank information. This newsletter can be found on our website:

[www.hammondlandowners.org/newsletters](http://www.hammondlandowners.org/newsletters)



#### **WILDFIRE FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT STATUS**

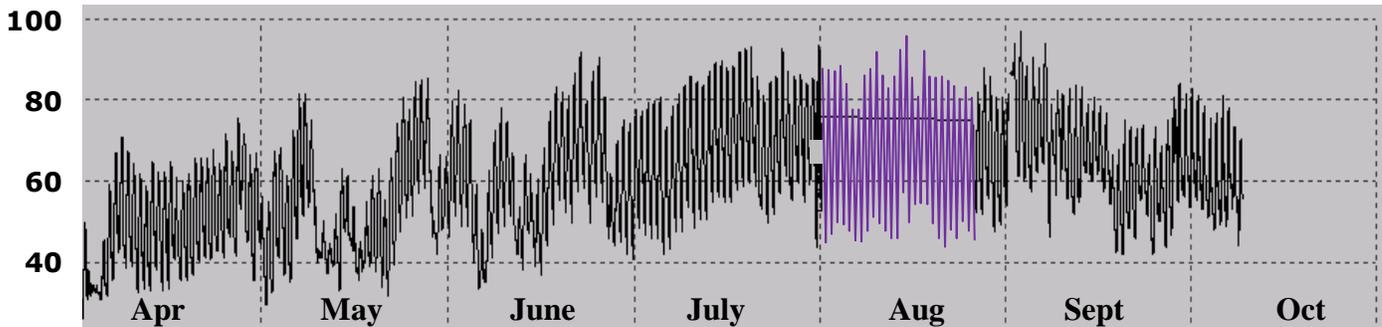
1. Work on the Hammond Ranch wildfire fuel reduction project has been temporarily suspended due to Covid-19, Final Environmental Approval (CEQA Study), and dangerous wildfire work conditions. The \$648,000 project remains on schedule to be completed by Mar 2022.

2. Completed actions include the Phase I and Phase II chipping programs and submittal of the environmental study (CEQA) to CALFIRE for final approval.

3. The CEQA study took approximately 9-months to prepare. Work included a site field study, evaluating State and Federal Government endangered species requirements, and obtaining interested party approvals. The comprehensive (62-page) study should soon receive final approval to allow work to proceed on the Dogwood shaded fuel break and Columbine road wildfire fuel removal.

## Our Weather by Daniel Axelrod

This summer was clearly warmer than decades-long averages. June was not so extreme; 17 days out of 30 had daytime high temperatures that were above average. But July (23/31 days), August (25/31), and September (26/30) were clearly above average enough to suggest a trend. Here is the temperature graph at 4200' in Hammond Ranch.



Due to an equipment malfunction, the local Hammond Ranch 4200' data for most of August is not available. So in the graph above, data from the August 1-25 period is replaced by the official NOAA observations from Mt. Shasta City, except shifted down by three degrees (shown in purple). Temperature generally drops by 5 degrees for every thousand feet of elevation in clear dry air, so a three degree adjustment for a 700' increase in elevation is likely a good approximation.

Although the temperatures trended above normal, there were few extremely hot days. The highest temperature recorded here was 98 degrees near the beginning of September, and only 12 days recorded 90 degrees or above. Nonetheless, climate change is best viewed on a global scale. Globally, August 2020 was the second hottest ever recorded (just behind the "winner" 2016) and September was the #1 hottest.

NOAA's long-range forecast for the upcoming winter calls for slightly above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation.

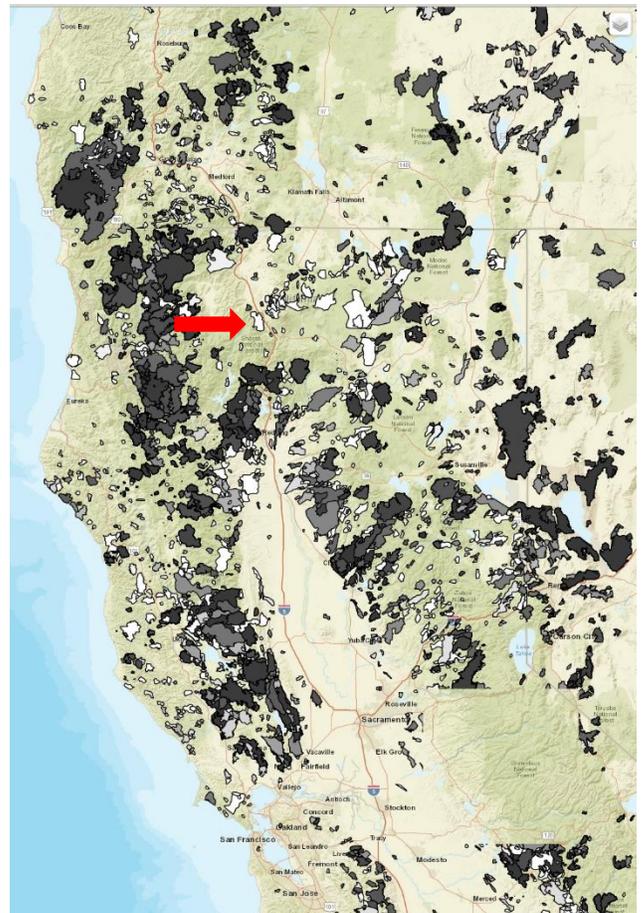
Smoke, rather than temperature, is the feature that stands out for this summer. This area was obscured by heavy smoke for most days since Aug. 15, due to very large wildfires to the NW, W, SW, and S, which are still burning as of this writing. None approached closer than about 30 miles from here. Many of those fires were triggered by dry lightning, particularly the ones to the S, which were sparked by an unusual line of thunderstorms on Aug. 14 that migrated northward up from the Bay Area and dissipated only short of the city of Redding's latitude.

Smoke both affects weather and is affected by it. On many days that might have been hotter, blockage of the sun reduced the afternoon high temperatures by at least several degrees. Since the development of new thunderstorms depends on the ground being heated by the sun and thereby triggering upward convection, the smoke actually suppressed thunderstorm development on several days, dry lightning from which could have made the fire situation even worse.

During clear summer nights, the ground dissipates heat (by infra-red radiation) into outer space, and air cooled by contact with the ground rolls down the slopes and gathers in the valleys. This creates a temperature inversion that acts like a cap and prevents smoke from venting upward out of the valley.

Fortunately, smoke is initially injected into high levels of the atmosphere because the heat of a fire breaks through any cap. But often, the wind direction at high altitudes vs low altitudes do not line up with each other, and the cross-shear at the interface creates turbulence, which then allows high altitude smoke to mix down to ground level.

There has been much discussion in the press about what causes so many wildfires lately, ranging from climate warming (and in California a longer dry period in the summer), all the way to defects in "forest management". It certainly is true that wildfire has been very common, even before the era of global warming. Here is a map of N. California where fires have occurred in the last 140 years (not including the ongoing ones).



*Our Weather (cont'd)*

The black areas depict the most recent fires, and the white ones depict the oldest. The red arrow indicates a fire that ripped through Hammond Ranch in 1939. Better "forest management" can include prescribed burns to simulate natural events. On the other hand, clearcutting (an extreme form of "forest management") would at first seem to create fire-resistant areas, but wildfire experts say that fires spread rapidly through clearcuts because of slash that remains there and the highly flammable low brush that rapidly regrows.

Recent research reported by the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences\* attempts to address how

much of the wildfire problem is due to climate change. It reports: "Anthropogenic increases in temperature and vapor pressure deficit (i.e. low humidity) significantly enhanced fuel aridity across western US forests over the past several decades and, during 2000–2015, contributed to **75% more forested area** experiencing high (>1σ) fire-season fuel aridity and **an average of nine additional days per year of high fire potential.**" So although fires are natural and serve to reduce burnable fuel, human-caused climate change is a major factor in allowing the fuels to become more combustible.

(\* Abatzoglou and Williams, 2016, PNAS 113:11770-11775)

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*Help our Community  
Help the Environment  
Siskiyou Opportunity Center (SOC)*

The Siskiyou Opportunity Center is now providing on-site recycling containers at the Black Butte landfill. You can easily drop off aluminum cans, glass (sorted by color) and redemption-value plastic bottles. No tin cans or common plastics.

The Siskiyou Opportunity Center is a private non-profit vocational training program for disabled adults. Founded in 1970, S.O.C. provides vocational training, meaningful employment, and community access for adults with developmental disabilities. Their goal is to assist those individuals in the development of work skills, earning their own income, and developing attitudes and behaviors which will enhance their employment potential and self-esteem. SOC director, Dan Chianello, is a Hammond Ranch resident.

SOC workers make and sell picnic tables, bird houses, kindling bundles, fencing, and firewood bundles.

They also operate a State Certified Recycling Center at 1526 S. Mt. Shasta Blvd. The center operates year-round, Monday-Saturday 9:00-4:00.



On site, the workers learn to operate bailers, crushers, conveyor belts and forklifts.

They learn customer service skills and how to dress for outdoor work.

The Yreka office of SOC assists their clients in learning computer skills, customer service and sales. They also learn how to sew and assemble projects.

SOC currently has 5 crews of outside workers in Siskiyou Co. Each contains 3 or more clients and one working vocational instructor. They maintain 2 Cal-Trans rest areas, 5 special day classrooms at county schools, one car dealership, the CHP Inspection Facility and the Mt. Shasta City Plaza.

By contributing your recyclables you are helping these members of our community and also helping to keep recyclable waste out of our landfills.



*United Way  
Emergency  
Preparedness Grant*



The grant activities have been continuing despite the limitations of social distancing. Preparedness brochures have been stocked at the Ranch mailboxes. They provide a good resource and checklist when preparing for emergencies. Look for them in the brochure boxes.

Our first Pizza at the Firehouse event was held on Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> and was well attended.

A second pizza evening was on October 8<sup>th</sup> was equally successful. Invitational postcards had been sent to all landowners in the Hammond Fire Zone response area. Due to social distancing requirements, this event filled quickly. We are hoping to have one more event this grant period, and that these get-togethers can be continued in the future as a way for ranch and "Hammond Fire Zone" residents to interact, share ideas and continue awareness and preparation for emergency situations.

*By Sally McGregor, Grant Administrator*

*---Thank you, Sally! Your efforts have been heroic under difficult circumstances. We are fortunate to have your skills and dedication. - The HLA Board*

*Camping on The Ranch*

Many Hammond Ranch property owners like to come and camp on their land for periods of time – usually in the summer months. We urge all landowners to restrict any open fire sources during Red Flag days or whenever the heat is high or winds are strong. As the fire threat in California and the West continues to escalate, all ranch residents want everyone to do everything possible to avoid tragedies like those seen in Paradise, Talent, Napa, and so many more.

Unsupervised campsites for rent, arranged via outdoor recreation companies, have also become an issue on the ranch. When found, these companies have been referred to Siskiyou County's Camping Ordinance and have been reminded that our roads are private and our potential for wildfire is extreme. These companies have recognized that Hammond Ranch is not suitable for this type of commercial camping.



## 2020 Board Members

President	Erich Ziller	938-4993
Vice President	Vacant	
Secretary	Wilma Dibelka	938-2055
Treasurer	Katie LeBaron	831-246-0123
At-Large:	Randy Klokow	707-255-7729
	Neera Paine	859-1924
	Sally McGregor	541-973-7162
	Linda Klokow	707 255-7729

*The Hammond Ranch Scene Editor*

The HLA Board of Directors cares about and wants to hear members' opinions, suggestions and ideas.

We 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, 6:30 p.m. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 10, 2020. The Board is currently meeting (at socially distant spacing) at the Hammond Fire House. Call any board member or send an email to [HLA@hammondlandowners.org](mailto:HLA@hammondlandowners.org) if you would like to attend so that your questions or concerns can be included on the agenda.
- HLA Members' Annual Meeting and Luncheon has been deferred for this year. **See Presidents Message Page 1.**
- 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 [hammondfiresafe@gmail.com](mailto:hammondfiresafe@gmail.com).

## Wildlife on The Ranch

This ranch resident is a full size (3.5 in.) **California toad (*Anaxyrus boreas halophilus*)**. They can be found in all of Northern California and down south into Baja California. *They have also been found in my house!* I don't have a clue how one of the little ones got there.

The habitats of the California toad range from woodland, grassland, and meadows in forest areas to backyards and parks in the suburbs. They breed in lakes, creeks, ponds, reservoirs, slowly flowing streams, and canals.

They breed from January to July, with later spawning occurring at higher elevations. Many populations gather in suitable marsh or pond spawning sites in large numbers. Eggs number over 16,000 per female and are laid in strings in shallow water.

The toad has a wide range of coloration, from light gray to green to dull black; most however are brownish gray. The California toad walks rather than hops. Most toads actually prefer to walk. If they do jump/hop, they only move short distances. As such, they don't really need long legs like a frog does, so their legs are relatively short.



*California Toad*



## Observing Nature

After 2 years of copious production, it appears that our oak trees are dropping virtually NO acorns this year in most areas of the ranch. Weather is the main factor influencing nut production. Spring frosts, summer droughts and fall rains all have effects. This phenomenon can be very localized, with even adjacent regions having differing quantities.



### Run Report - Hammond Ranch Fire Zone

**Third Quarter 2020 (July to Sept.)** – 10 medical calls, 9 vegetation fires, 2 traffic collisions, 1 fireworks call, 2 debris fires, 5 structure fires, 2 vehicle fires, 1 smoke check, 1 false alarm.

Remember: You can get real-time information about our Fire Company's calls and activities on their website: [www.HMM4200.org](http://www.HMM4200.org)  
FYI – HMM4200 is the call sign for our Fire Company.

**You may access their Twitter feed at: @HMM4200**

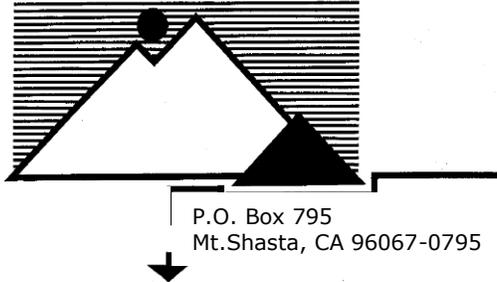
*Many thanks to our Fire Personnel for their Service*

### Correction!

A big "Thank You" to **Mr. John Schuyler**, a retired forester, who kindly and gently pointed out that last issue's Tree Quiz incorrectly identified the Cedar species in our area as a Western Red Cedar.

We only have **Incense Cedar** here unless a Western Red was intentionally planted. *Thanks, John!*

Hammond Landowners Association, Inc.



P.O. Box 795  
Mt. Shasta, CA 96067-0795



*We Love it Here !!*



*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)