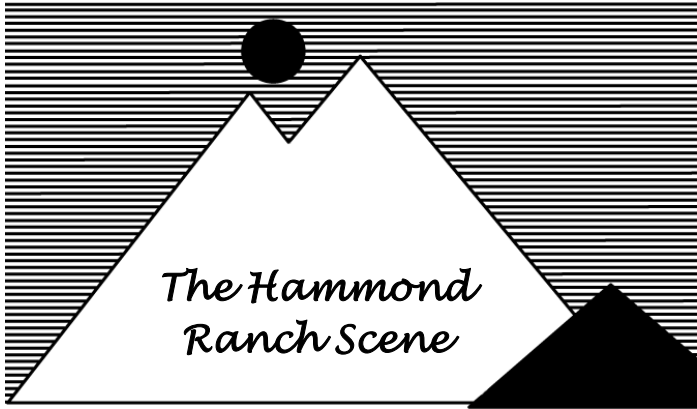


Hammond Landowners Association



www.hammondlandowners.org

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FEBRUARY 2022

Volume XLVII

Number 1

President's Message

Hello Hammond Ranch Residents,

Welcome to the winter Hammond Landowners' newsletter, and here's hoping that we'll see more winter (in the form of snow or rain!) and less Coronavirus, in our near future! As many of you know, the winter newsletter is sent to all Ranch residents, rather than just current HLA members, as a part of our membership drive. It is especially important this year, as Covid-19's continuing effects, combined with an overall decline in volunteerism throughout the region, has impacted HLA's ability to recruit both Board members and volunteers for the many activities that HLA carries out. Please consider carefully how you can contribute to the important functions that HLA carries out on behalf of the community.

In order to continue Association functions in challenging times, the Board is proposing a change to the bylaws to allow for a five-member Board if necessary, while keeping the upper limit at nine.

Additionally, take a look at the list of activities the Association sponsors and consider how you can contribute. Your involvement is needed to make these happen. There are opportunities to help with ongoing projects. Some take just a few short minutes a month; others consist of short-term help with planning and carrying out annual functions like the picnic and annual membership meeting (when Covid restrictions allow). Additionally, we need several committed individuals to carry on the fire-safety activities on behalf of the entire Ranch community. Perhaps there's a particular skill or interest you possess that could benefit the Ranch community? Let us know!

Those that renew or become members, if you receive this newsletter via email, please reply and indicate your vote on the proposed bylaws change with a "YES" or "NO," and also indicate which activities you are willing to help with. If you receive a paper newsletter, please return the ballot in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you in advance for your support and participation. The Ranch community needs and appreciates your involvement.

*Sally McGregor,
HLA Board President*



Hammond Ranch Landowners Association Annual Membership Drive

It's a new year and time again for our annual membership drive. The 2022 dues will temporarily be reduced to \$45, but will return to \$55 in 2023. A special price of \$89 for a 2-year membership is also being offered, giving you a chance to "lock in" the lower price.

A modernized, fillable membership form is attached to this newsletter. It is also available for download on the HLA website at www.hammondlandowners.org/membership. Download it, open Adobe Reader, select "Fill In & Sign", fill it out on the screen and email it back to the HLA without the need for printing. Of course, the option to print and mail remains.

- Online banking: Most banks will send a paper check if HLA is added as a new payee and provided the mailing address: *HLA, P.O. Box 795, Mt. Shasta, CA. 96064.*
- *Venmo: Unfortunately not available at this time. The website will announce when it will be available.
- Information about setting up a Venmo account is on the HLA Website at the Venmo Tip Sheet on the bottom of the page (www.hammondlandowners.org/membership).

Functions of the HLA

Here are some of the functions and reasons for landowners to become members:

- HLA provides road signs;
- Welcomes new owners;
- Provides the *Hammond Ranch Handbook*;
- Provides and maintains trespass authorizations;
- Negotiates with the County for needed improvements and support for Hammond Ranch;
- 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;
- Hosts a website that is helping to inform residents of issues related to the Ranch (www.hammondlandowners.org);
- Members are eligible to purchase PHI (Mercy Air) emergency medical evacuation services at a discounted rate;
- Publishes a quarterly newsletter informing members of important issues, with articles of interest to the Ranch;
- Members work with road committees, the fire department as well as the County and local Fire Safe Councils; and
- Hosts an annual luncheon meeting in November, as well as the annual picnic in July.

The HLA Needs Your Involvement!

A community works better when it works together. The major "Big Four" activities are:

- Serving on the Board;
- Assisting with planning the annual picnic;
- Assisting with planning fall members' meeting;
- Participation in the various activities of the Fire Safe Council.

Additionally, here are some possibilities of other activities for which volunteers are needed: a Code Red Coordinator to assist with signups and interface with the county; hospitality outreach; timber sale monitor; grant-writing assistance; a real-estate liaison to connect with the realtors association, maintaining the community/fire safety bulletin boards at the mailboxes, assistant webmaster.

What skills and interests do you have?

How would you like to help?

Join the team!



Why Should I Join the HLA?

by Micha-El (Alan Berkowitz)

A Sugar Pine Road neighbor

Many of us who live and vacation in Hammond Ranch appreciate the opportunity for a more autonomous, individual life-style, free from the commitment and the relationships of a more community-oriented life. In light of this, one might ask the question: "Why should I join the HLA?" or even to ask, "Why do we even need a homeowners association?"

This is a good question that leads us to consider how we remain inter-dependent even while we may choose to pursue very independent lifestyles.

My personal answer is that we share a physical space that has roads that need to be maintained, and that requires that we do as much as possible to reduce the risk of fire, of theft and of trespassing – among others. These issues are all within the domain of the HLA that the HLA has addressed in the past and continues to address.

The next question to ask is: "What do I need or want from HLA?" The Board is open to hearing your advice and suggestions and to finding ways to meet the needs of our independent-lifestyle community.

I believe the answer to this question is that it is important to maintain the roads that my wife and I drive on, including that they are plowed in the winter, to minimize the risk of fire, to support the continuation of a Hammond Ranch Fire Department and to take steps to reduce the risk of theft and trespassing.

I will be sharing ideas about each of these issues with the current board and encourage you to do so as well. There are many things that can be done to enhance the quality of life for Hammond Ranch landowners without any of this interfering with our lifestyles and activities, and most of these projects can be undertaken at minimal cost.

So, in conclusion, the Board would like to have your input on these questions: "What do we need from the HLA?" and "Why do we even need a homeowners association?"

Please let us know your thoughts.

You can write to the HLA at

hla@hammondlandowners.org or to me personally at alan@snowcrest.net.

'Hope' is the thing with feathers –
That perches in the soul –
And sings the tune without the words –
And never stops – at all ...

Emily Dickinson

Easements

(Note: The word "roads" is not going to be used because to many people that implies that they are available for public use. Legally, these are easements, not roads.)

I must admit that when I built my home at Hammond Ranch 30 years ago, I was quite uninformed about the Ranch easements. "An easement is a right to cross or otherwise use someone else's land for a specified purpose."

Except for properties on Old Stage Road, all other Hammond Ranch parcels require an easement to access the closest public (taxpayer-funded) road. While easements often cut directly through a private parcel, Hammond Ranch subdivision attempted to create easements along property boundaries. Each property owner owns to the center of the easement and must dedicate 30 feet for the easement.

While the land is owned by the property owner, the property owner cannot restrict the easement user from accessing their parcel by driving on the easement.

Physical maintenance of the easement is the responsibility of everyone who uses the easement from their parcel to the nearest public road. All easement users are required by law to contribute to their easement maintenance and the "cost shall be shared proportionately to the use made of the easement by each owner."

Erich Ziller
Vice President



"Safer from Wildfires"

This press release was received on Monday, February 14.

Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara and emergency management leaders in Governor Gavin Newsom's Administration today announced "Safer From Wildfires," a new insurance framework that incorporates wildfire safety measures to help save lives while making homes and businesses more resilient.

"Safer from Wildfires is an interagency partnership between Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara and the emergency response and readiness agencies in Governor Gavin Newsom's administration to protect lives, homes, and businesses by reducing wildfire risk.

"With California experiencing devastating, climate change-intensified wildfires, homes and businesses need insurance they can rely on. Commissioner Lara is using every tool available to improve insurance for our communities. Drawing on the direct experience of first responders and the latest research on wildfires, the partnership created a consistent approach to reducing risk with a list of achievable and effective actions to help make existing homes and businesses safer from wildfires. The ultimate goal is protecting consumers by reducing wildfire risk in their communities, making insurance available and affordable for all Californians.

"This 'ground up' approach for wildfire resilience has three layers of protection — for the structure, the immediate surroundings, and the community — to prevent wildfires from catching and spreading to other homes and businesses in the neighborhood.

"Commissioner Lara is working to increase available incentives for wildfire safety. [Click here to view the list of insurance companies currently offering discounts.](#)"

(The full article with the mitigation measures spelled out can be found at: www.insurance.ca.gov/01-consumers/200-wrr/saferfromwildfires.cfm.)

HLA Easement Repair Reimbursement

About three decades ago, when Hammond Ranch had few permanent residents and the easements were at times barely passable, Hammond Landowners Association voted to provide a portion of member dues to assist with maintenance. The goal was to encourage residents to work collectively on repairs to improve emergency vehicle access. About a decade ago, a formula was created to determine the disbursement of these funds. At the 2019 members' general meeting, an update was approved that included new homes (easement users) and current HLA membership.

The formula has three parts: 1. Length of an easement segment; 2. Number of houses (easement users) using that segment; 3. Extra weight for current HLA members. A budget item is set with a maximum total possible annual disbursement and each segment is assigned its maximum potential share based on this formula. Receipts for materials and contracted labor need to be submitted along with two HLA member signatures by October 1 of each year. (Easement owner/user labor is not counted because easement maintenance is the legal responsibility of easement users.) HLA will contribute 25% of the receipts up to that segment's maximum annual amount.

HLA is committed to safety in Hammond Ranch and to promoting community awareness and cooperation.

Erich Ziller
Vice President

Thank You to Linda Klokow

The HLA Board thanks Linda for all her good work as newsletter editor, website administrator, Board member, as well as the various other tasks she performed for the HLA. It was very much appreciated.

Linda finds that she no longer has the time to devote to the HLA and is concentrating on other things. Good luck, Linda, and we hope you have fun!



Wildlife on the Ranch

These tracks were spotted in March last winter just off the ranch, near Dale Creek. Perhaps they are from one of the Whaleback pack!



Published in the Sierra Daily News in September 2021:

"The brand-new wolf pack that recently settled in California's Siskiyou County has had their first litter of 7 pups, according to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's wolf specialist Kent Laudon. The Whaleback Pack now sits at 9 wolves after the male gray wolf, dubbed OR-85, mated with a female in rural Northern California. They now sit as the second known full wolf pack in California.

"It was a major milestone for wildlife conservationists in California when OR-85 crossed over the Oregon border and settled in Siskiyou County in November 2020. In early 2021, the female was spotted with OR-85, alluding that the two could mate and create a full wolf pack. It's currently unclear where the female wolf came from. The wolf could have come down from Oregon or could be from the Lassen Pack, California's wolf pack in Lassen County."



Run Report

The Hammond Ranch Fire Zone responded to 8 medical aids, 2 vehicle accidents, 4 "other" type fires, 3 structure fires and 1 vegetation fire, a total of 18 incidents last quarter, October-December 2021.

As always, many thanks to all the fire personnel for their service! They are much appreciated.



Truck Stop Update

There have been no changes to the status of the Love's lawsuit appeal. It is still in process at the Appellate Court in Sacramento. If any changes occur, they will be posted to the HLA website at:

www.hammondlandowners.org/proposed-truck-stop

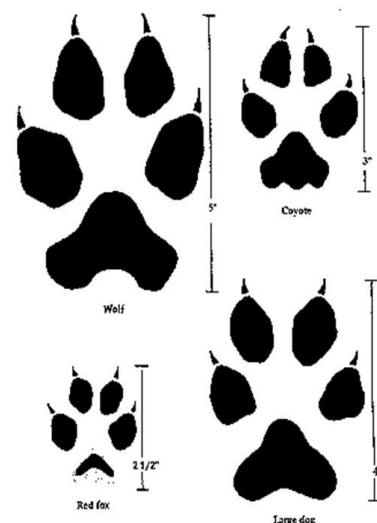
For more information contact:

erichziller@yahoo.com



Identifying Wolf Tracks

Wolf tracks are about 5 inches long **by 4 inches wide**, with four symmetrical toes and evident claws, and a single lobe on the front of the foot pad. Coyote tracks are similar, but about half that size, and even the largest domestic dog breeds usually have smaller tracks.



All Board Members that were up for re-election were approved in November.

2022 Board Members

President	Sally McGregor	541-973-7162
Vice President	Erich Ziller	530-261-0683
Secretary	Susan Grove	530-925-6859
Treasurer	Valerie Baake	925-788-9875
At-Large	Neera Paine	530-859-1924
	Rebekah Sluss	808-557-5834
	Larie Wearing	530-859-0990

The Hammond Ranch Scene Editor
Larie Wearing 530-859-0990

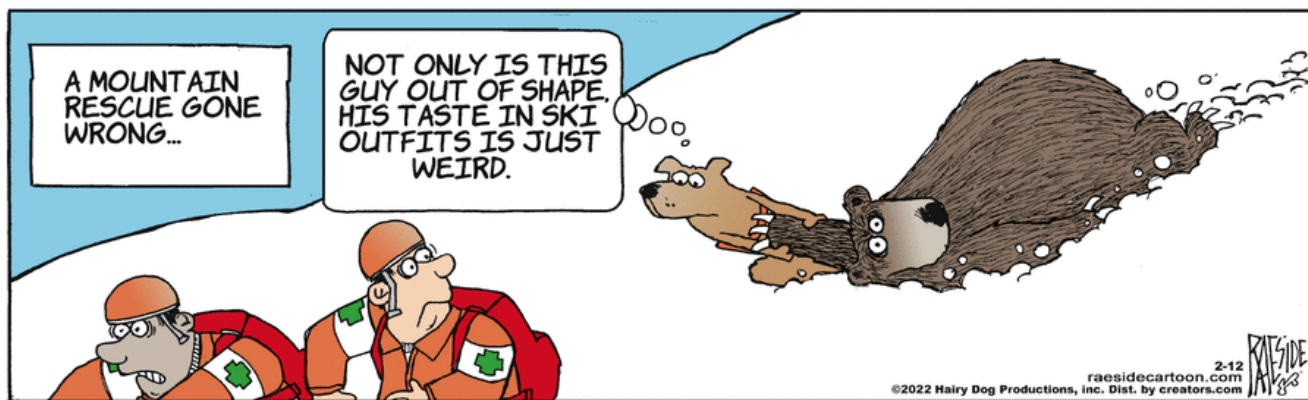
The HLA Board of Directors cares about and wants to hear members' opinions, suggestions and ideas. Members are welcome to attend any of the board meetings. If you plan to attend, please let the host know in advance so that accommodations can be made.

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.

Calendar

- HLA Board Meeting – Second Tuesday of every month, 6:30 p.m. Call any board member or send an email to hla@hammondlandowners.org for meeting location and/or Zoom link. Let us know of your questions or concerns so they can be included on the agenda.
- The Annual HLA Picnic is usually scheduled for the first Saturday in July. This is a great opportunity to meet your neighbors, near and far.
- HLA Members' Annual Meeting was virtual again last year due to continuing Covid restrictions and concerns. The meeting is scheduled for the first Saturday in November. We hope to be able to meet in person this year.
- 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 FireSafe Council -- Contact a Board member about participating.

From the Editor: If you have information you would like to share in the Newsletter with Ranch residents, give Larie a call or text her at lariedw@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