Hammond Landowners Association	What's Inside?	
The Hammond Ranch Scene www.hammondlandowners.org	Message from the President Ranch Roads Annual Picnic HRFC Run Report Update from the Chief Welcome Baskets Warning: Foxtail Season Overheated Dogs 2024 Board Members Calendar Helpful Links	1 1 2 2 3 4 4 5 5 5

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Message From the President

Be aware! All outdoor burning is now illegal because of the severe wildfire danger. If you see smoke, don't post on social media, CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY, and provide them with accurate location. Minutes can mean the difference between containment and disaster.

Over 60 residents took advantage of the CalFire Chipping Program. We hope that with conditions permitting, we can have another chipping session in the fall. Creating personal, shaded-fuel breaks and reducing fuel on your property benefits everyone.

Plan to attend the Hammond Landowners Association members meeting on November 2, 2024. We hope to have a representative from the Fire Safe Council and the insurance industry available to answer questions about hardening your home and how that can affect your home insurance.

Have a great summer and stay cool and safe. *Erích Zíller*

Ranch Roads

There has been some controversy and complaints about parking on Ranch roads. Please keep in mind that all of the "roads" in Hammond Ranch are actually private easements. These easements pass through private property, allowing landlocked parcels passage to and from their property to North Old Stage Road and South Weed Boulevard. Parking on any of the easements is illegal according to California easement law.

Annual Pícnic 2024

The annual picnic was held at the property of Janet and Linda – Skydance – on Fuller Drive. What a wonderful venue! Lots of thanks go to Janet and Linda for sharing their beautiful home with the members. Despite the heat, nearly 70 people came to enjoy the good food and great company. We found plenty of shade.

Many thanks are also due to the volunteers who made it possible: Valerie Baake, Bebe Birnbaum, Rick and Diane Blakely, Susan Brennan, Tricia Elberts, Paul Elberts, Evan Hadfield, Stephanie He, Neera Paine, David Scott, Larie and Tom Wearing and Erich and Nancy Ziller.



Setting Up



Janet & Linda, and friends.

Run Report



As always, we very much appreciate CAL FIRE's Siskiyou Unit and the HR Fire Company for their hard work.

From the Chief

The Hammond Ranch Fire Department is always looking for more volunteers. We are in need of assistance, as most of our volunteer force are permanent Cal Fire personnel.

Currently, we are working on some grants to get the gear that we wear updated to meet new California National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards. If anyone is willing to help, please reach out.

As always, be fire safe this summer and keep Hammond Ranch green.

Kyle Lunsford, Chief 4200









The Cooks

Lost Serving Spoon

A serving spoon was left after the picnic. If it is yours, give Larie Wearing a call, 530-859-0990.



Welcome Baskets



Sami Sweet says for years she hoped to one day live in Hammond Ranch. She and Jack married at the Mount Shasta Ski Park in June of last year. They feel so lucky to have found their special place on the Ranch.

In February of this year, they moved in with their two cats and dogs, Macy and Millie.

Sami grew up in Weed and is the Curriculum Specialist at College of the Siskiyous. She graduated from COS and holds a BS in Innovative Leadership from Southern Oregon University in Ashland.

Jack hails from Montague and is a Yreka High graduate. He also graduated from the COS Fire Academy, and after advanced training is now a Captain at the CalFire Hornbrook station.

They are passionate about the outdoors and enjoy fishing, kayaking, paddle boarding, backpacking, skiing and traveling as well. *Welcome to you, Jack and Sami*!







Jack & Sami Sweet



Like many Ranch residents, the *Tracy Marsala* and *Aram Khajetoorians* had not seriously considered moving when a chance visit (to Tracy's brother in Shastina) brought them to Hammond Ranch. That was last December. Amazingly, in February of this year, they were moving into their snow-inundated dream home in our neighborhood.

Aram had retired from his job as freight container captain and later truck driver and was ready for another big change when he and Tracy met, just over two years ago, in Los Angeles. They realized it was time to leave the big city and make space for their love of the outdoors. What better place than Siskiyou County?

Tracy, a Labor Compliancy Consultant for the State, runs her business from her new home, surrounded by beautiful gardens and all the hiking, biking and boating opportunities she could wish for.

She and Aram also enjoy exploring the wider area on their motorcycles. They look forward to making new friends and finding ways to connect to the community.

Welcome Aram and Tracy!



Tracy & Aram

Life on the Ranch

Here are some interesting and helpful articles for dog owners at this time of year.

Warning: Foxtail Season

It's a good idea to keep your dog out of overgrown grassy areas and be vigilant in checking your dog's fur for seeds. Be sure to check the fur between their toes. The most dangerous exposure is when dogs inhale a barbed seed. This can happen if your dog runs with its mouth wide open in a field of foxtails. Inhaled foxtail seeds can wind up in the lower airways of your dog's lungs. (Credit: Amazing Small Animal Practice)

Foxtails are very dangerous to dogs. Your dog can step on the seeds or brush by the plants without realizing it. The seeds can enter your dog's body through their skin. Embedded Foxtails don't break down and can cause discharge, abscesses, swelling, pain and even death.

Overheated Dogs

Did you know that you should not spread cold water on an overheated dog or put a wet towel on its back?

Never make the mistake of pouring cold water on an overheated dog or putting a wet towel on its back. You will see the opposite effect.

Due to cold, the veins contract and due to high temperatures (above 42°C/107°F degrees), the proteins in the blood collide, causing the blood to become thick and tight.

Due to the combination of these two factors, blood stops entering the heart and organs fail one by one due to lack of oxygen. The result is a very slow but very painful death. If you try to help an overheated dog in this way, it will die anyway.

First give it lukewarm water to drink, then cool its feet and chest/belly with a wet towel. Then put the dog in the shade on a wet towel!!!

From Dudzom Mantra Carver (on Facebook)



What are the key signs that your dog is overheating?

1. Excessive Panting. One of the first signs you will see when your dog is getting too hot is excessive panting. So how do you tell the difference between normal and excessive panting? If your dog is breathing as if they are from an intense run, yet they are just taking a stroll then most likely they are overheating.

2. Excessive Drooling. Some dogs drool more than others. However, you should be alarmed by excessive and abnormal drooling when the temperature is hot. The thicker and stickier saliva helps the dog dissipate heat more efficiently when panting.

3. Fast and Irregular Heartbeat. In normal temperatures, a healthy dog has a slower heart rate. However, when it's hot dogs dissipate heat through vasodilation. A fast heartbeat means that your dog is pumping overheated blood away from the vital organs to the extremities.

4. Rapid Breathing. Your dog may switch from excessive panting to deep, noisy and rapid breathing. This indicates that they are trying to get oxygen into their system for cooling relief from overheating.

5. Lethargic Behavior. Excessive heat can cause lethargy in pets. You may notice your dog napping more or having trouble standing up and walking.

6. Disorientation. In addition to lethargy, your pet may stumble when walking or be unaware of their surroundings and may for instance bump into furniture.

7. Vomiting/Diarrhea. Overheating can cause severe dehydration. This, in turn, causes gastrointestinal upset resulting in severe diarrhea and vomiting that may also have traces of blood.

8. Collapse. Intense overheating may cause your dog to collapse, and there may be other signs of neurological distress such as convulsions. At this level, it's an emergency, and you should call an ambulance to get your pet to the Vet.

How do you prevent your pet from overheating?

- Never leave your dog inside a parked car.
- Ensure there are shady spots on your compound for your dog.
- Avoid walking your dog when temperatures are too high.
- Ensure your dog always has enough water.
- Keep your house cool.

How do you treat overheating?

1. Immediately take your dog to a cooler area.

2. Wet your pet with cool water, but not cold water since rapid cooling can be dangerous.

3. Place your pet in front of a fan to dry off. Check their temperature every few minutes, and if you have a pet thermometer, you can use it. Once the temperature gets to 103 degrees (F) stop wetting and fanning them. 4. As your pet continues to cool give them cool (not cold or ice) water to drink.

Remember overheating, and heatstroke is life-threatening. So even if your dog is recovering okay, you need to get them to your veterinary doctor for monitoring and treatment.

(from the Shot Spot)

