

# THE WOODS

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE CASCADEL WOODS  
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION



October 31



VOLUME 23 OCTOBER 2017



## Water Company News

During the Mission Fire, Brian Curtis, Ken Wood and Stan Eggink were present at the Incident Meetings each morning, due to Cascadel Woods being one of the locations for water to fight the fire.

These meeting helped to develop a stronger working relationship with Cal Fire personnel, as well as the US Forest Service Bass Lake Director, Denise Tolumie. In a separate meeting with Denise, our ability to deliver water was discussed along with our new 99,000 gallon storage tank placement. Since we currently have a Land Use Permit for our spring with the US Forest Service, we presented the possibility of a second permit to raise the level of the new tank to improve water flow and PSI, especially on the west end of the system. Denise was open to the concept and had her District Lands Officer meet with us at the proposed site. The USFS is definitely eager to assist us.

We supplied Almost 600,000 gallons of water to the various fire crews during the Mission Fire.

With no electricity to run the pumps, the water lines were gravity fed. The spring was introduced into the lines to insure water was plentiful. This caused the inspection of water use to be monitored several times a day to regulate the water evenly among the tanks to prevent damage.

Thanks go out to Brian Curtis, Ken Wood and Stan Eggink for their dedication in keeping the water flowing in such a safe manner.

Water board meetings held the second Friday of the even numbered months at 4pm at the clubhouse.

### **Emergency Contact's for Water Co.**

(Broken water lines, etc.)

For a quick response to water problems;  
First call Ken Wood: (559)676-5387 Cell  
Second call Brian Curtis: 559-877-4379  
Third call Stan Eggink: (559)877-6290

## PG&E

Contact was made with ACRT, the company marking trees for removal, and we were told they should be back in the subdivision mid to late October. For questions, contact PG&E: 1-800-743-5000, ext 4.

## Firewise Committee/Brigade

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, the Fire Brigade took a tour of some areas where the Mission Fire crept into Cascadel Woods as well as Mr. Morgan's place, just outside the arches. Some residents were invited to join in for the tour. Eleven guests were present along with five Brigade members. The tour was led by Brian Curtis, the training leader.

The tour began at the clubhouse firebox where it was explained why these boxes are kept locked. Our hydrants are sensitive and

must be energized properly in order not to cause harm to the hydrant or our water lines. The same is true when de-energizing the hydrant. The Brigade has been trained in this procedure and refreshes this procedure several times a year. Any person who is not on the Brigade and properly trained will be held responsible for damages to the Hydrant and the water system. Therefore the boxes are locked to prevent any non trained persons from attempting to hook up a hose to the hydrant and energizing the hydrant.



If you are interested in becoming trained in this procedure, you are welcomed to join the Firewise/Brigade Committee.

To become a fully recognized member of the Brigade or Firewise Committee, you need to attend three meetings. Our meetings are usually held every third Saturday of each month. If interested contact Carol Eggink (559)877-6290 or email [egginks@netptc.net](mailto:egginks@netptc.net).

The tour continued on to areas which were damaged by the fire. It was pointed out how the fuels reduction in the



damaged areas allowed those spots to be defended to prevent complete devastation to the structures.

When we arrived at Mr. Morgan's property, it was pointed out how the fire crossed over Road 233, got into the ravine on Forest Lands, gathered a lot of energy and roared up that hillside to the Morgan property. There simply was no stopping the fire at this point and the home was lost. This ended the tour.

It is important for any person who is butted up to the Forest Lands to be pro-active with the US Forest Service personnel at the Bass Lake station. Denise Tolmie is the District Ranger of the Bass Lake Station and can be reached at 559-877-2218 x3100 or email her at [dtolmie@fs.fed.us](mailto:dtolmie@fs.fed.us) with your concerns.

The Firewise/Brigade achieved good standing for the coming year on September 14, 2017. The National Fire Protection Association-Wildfire Division was very impressed with all of the fuels reduction accomplished by our Firewise/Brigade this year. So much so they posted a blog for all to see on their web site. You can see it at:



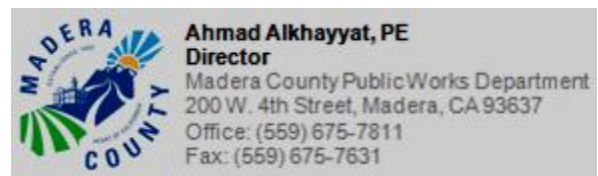
**Xchange**™

<https://community.nfpa.org/community/fire-break/blog/2017/09/19/firefighter-and-community-efforts-make-a-difference-in-ca-wildfire>

Without the support of the residents of Cascadel Woods this would never have been able to happen. We work hard at making our community Fire Safe for the good of all.

## CSA-21

The CWPOA is continuously contacting the County of Madera regarding dead trees on this property which are threatening homes butting up to the CSA. We were told by Ahmad Alkhayyat, Director of the Madera Public Works Department, that Clean Cut Trees was hired to remove 8 trees from CSA properties located on Cascadel North. Evidently, Clean Cut was delayed and the expected removal did not take place. We will make contact with Mr. Alkhayyat again on Monday, Oct 2, 2017 regarding these trees as well as trees threatening several other homes around the subdivision. We hope to be in contact with the homeowners who have informed us of the newly dead trees next to their homes with some news of action to be taken and when it will occur by mid week. If you desire to contact Mr. Alkhayyat yourself, his info is below.



The Coarsegold Resource Conservation District, (CRCD), is the manager of a grant awarded to Madera County for the CSA-21 area. This grant was awarded in 2016, it is believed. Carol Eggink attended their last monthly meeting in September to get an update on the grant.

Wade Wheeler, who sits on the CRCD Board of Director's, informed Carol of the following:

Wade Wheeler and Roger Tucker, who also sits on this board, met with Cal Fire Forester Len Neilson to discuss this grant. It was decided due to the Mission Fire, the area originally set by the grant may be altered, if approved by the Forest Service. Carol shared concerns about the Cascades area along Cascadel Road up to the Taylor property and beyond.

There will be a meeting to view areas of concern around Cascadel in the near future. This meeting will include Forest

Service personnel as well as CRCD Director's and Cal Fire Forester Len Neilson.

The grant is also to include removal of logs from the CSA areas and fell dead trees on the CSA land as well as any trees threatening the roads.

It is Wade Wheeler's hope go begin work on this grant in late October. Updates to follow as they are received.

## **CWPOA**

The CWPOA held its annual Membership Meeting and Pot Luck Saturday September 30 at the



clubhouse. A quorum of Director's was present as well as a quorum of members including ballots and proxies. The Pot luck was plentiful with amazing home cooking and enjoyed by all in attendance.

Your new 2017-2018 Board of Director's:

Stan Eggink – President  
Susie Odry - Vice President  
Ken Trapp – Treasurer  
Ken Wood – Secretary  
Ava Thieson – Director

## **RETIRING**

After 40 years on the job, Cindy Curtis is retiring from her position as the CWPOA and CMWC office personnel.

Cindy had been considering retiring her position for awhile, and then she was diagnosed with Breast Cancer. With this news, Cindy decided it was time to retire. Cindy had surgery late September and will be going through radiation therapy. I am very happy to report Cindy's prognosis is very good.

In 1977, Cindy began working for the CWPOA & CMWC. Her office was in a second bedroom of her home until the mid 1980's when the County Service Area was formed. Then her office was moved to the clubhouse. Her current office, at the CDC Mill Site, experienced water damage and again she had to move back to the second bedroom of

her home. Strange how things work out. The office is once again back at the CDC.

While working at the clubhouse office, Cindy did so much more than her office duties. She kept the Clubhouse cleaned and was the community's reception office for anyone who was having a hard time finding someone's home in the Woods. She kept a watchful eye out on the children of Cascadel Woods as they waited for the school bus or when the children were dropped off.

Cindy would decorate the clubhouse for events held there for the community and cleaned it all up afterward. Seriously, Cindy was the heart of the Woods while her office was in the clubhouse. I for one miss that very much.

Cindy told me what she loved most about working for all the Board of Director's for both companies all these years was the relationships she formed with so many of you. She now looks forward to being able to spend more time with her family and her many friends.

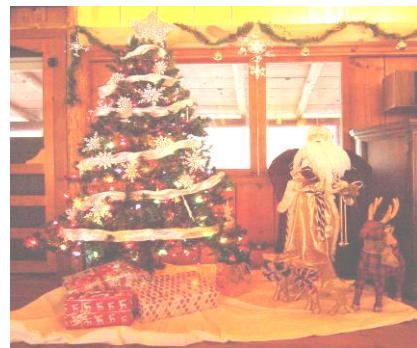
## **Events and Meetings**

- **Water Company**  
October 13, 2017 4PM at the Clubhouse
- **CMWC Firewise/Brigade**  
October 21, 2017 10AM at Simon Elman's home for Structure Fire Training

## **NEXT MONTH**

- **CMWC Firewise/Brigade**  
Nov 18 10AM Clubhouse for a work day. We will be checking hydrants for clearance to operate properly.

## **COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY**



## **DECEMBER 2, 2017 at 5 PM, CLUBHOUSE**

Yes, it is time to mark your calendar for the Christmas party. Bring your place settings. A card will be mailed to you as a reminder in November.