

THE WOODS

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE CASCADEL WOODS
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

HAPPY EASTER



April 1

VOLUME 29 April 1, 2018

RAINS OF MARCH

We experienced torrential rain in the middle of March which caused silt from the Mission Fire burn area to flow into our culverts. The waters partially washed out



Cascadel Drive at the culvert between Vista and Loma Linda. Emergency repairs were completed by SKC Construction.



Before SKC arrived several resident volunteers came to our aid and we wish to give

each one a special **Thank You!** Aimee Cox, Mike Ketscher, John Taylor with tractor, and Forrest Negrette who operated the Backhoe, which was donated for our use by Pat



Coleman. Shane Killian (SKC) added a second Backhoe. We also had one Madera County Sheriff and Cal Fire Rancieria Station Captain, Justin Macomb and another fire fighter assisting in the unclogging of the culverts. Sandwiches from the Pizza Factory were given

to the Rancieria Station, with thanks, and were donated by Carol & Stan Eggink and Joe & Karen Balog. The fire crews



were very happy about the food.

Both of the larger culverts were unclogged quickly and often. There is a small culvert which is still



clogged. This culvert is being fed from Peckinpah Mountain. We are working with PG&E and the US Forest Service to



develop a permanent solution to this problem since several clogged USFS culverts located above our community added to the flooding.

SEARCHING FOR SOLUTIONS From Mountain Runoffs

Stan Eggink has been in contact with PG&E and their contractor as well as the engineers from USFS to resolve the damage from the recent torrential rains in March and the January and February rains of 2017, both of

which did damage to the roads in Cascadel. They are all looking for the permanent solution. Any progress made will be shared in next month's news letter.

Firewise Day May 5

We did not get the \$500 Grant through NFPA this year. The Firewise Brigade will still do community work which will involve bringing the chipper through the subdivision to residents who request their brush piles be chipped into their yards. The piles will need to be in close proximity to the road and you will need to call Carol Eggink at 559-877-6290 to be put on the list for chipping.

Firewise Brigade/Committee

The Fire Brigade training was postponed due to inclement weather in March. The training day was changed to April 29, 10AM.

The Brigade will be burning slash piles created by the removal of many dead pines to create a better fire safe zone around the homes.

The fire boxes have new Break-Away Locks installed to hopefully prevent further destruction of our fire boxes in the event of utilizing our shelter in place areas.

The Firewise Committee is raffling off 20 person hours again this year to raise funds which enable the Fire Brigade to continue fire safing the subdivision. The 20 person hours can include chipping, splitting, weedeating and limbing up of low branches for the lucky winner. Tickets are \$1.00 for one ticket and \$5.00 for 6 tickets. Contact Brian Curtis to purchase before the BBQ at 559-877-4379. Tickets will be sold during the BBQ as well. You do not need to be present to win.

The Firewise meeting will be held on May 19, from 10:00AM- Noon. Pot Luck & BBQ begins at noon.

There will be a short class on the proper use of Fire extinguishers for the home and which type to use for what type of fire by Jamie Williams of Cal Fire.

USFS Mastication Project According to Forester Francey Blaugrund, the USFS will be performing mastication East and North of Cascadel Woods water tanks along Gurtrude Creek. This is a continuation of the project which began in 2014.

Approximately 28 acres to the east side will be affected. On the north side, since the Mission Fire took out a large portion of the intended work area. This area will be reassessed. The equipment was placed in the work area in late February. The work will begin as weather permits.

NEW EQUIPMENT

The CWPOA has taken ownership of a new-used Skid-Steer. It came with a



grapple to assist with the relocation of downed logs. This was provided by our current grant.

ROAD PATCHING

With the use of our new skid-steer and bucket, we were able to use the cold patch left at the bridge to fill some of the holes on Cascadel Drive.

Volunteer and part time resident, Ken Trapp was at the ready



assisting Stan Eggink in this fun job. Thank you Ken for your time and help!

Events and Meetings

- **CMWC Board Meeting**
April 13, 3PM at clubhouse
- **Firewise Brigade/Committee**
TRAINING DAY April 29, 10AM

Next Month

- **Firewise Brigade/Committee**
May 5, 9AM
Fire Preparedness Chipping Work Day for the community.
- **Annual Firewise Community Awareness Meeting & Pot Luck BBQ**
May 19, 10AM- Noon then lunch will be served Noon- 2PM.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN RHODES

Due to inclement weather in March, the Celebration of Life for John was delayed to May 1 at the Clubhouse at 11:00AM. A vegan lunch will be served.

500 Seedlings to Help Reforest Cascadel Woods & Cascadel Heights

The CWPOA was given 500 seedlings, (400 Ponderosa Pines and 100 Sugar Pines). The donations are from Justine Reynolds of the Yosemite Sequoia Resource Conservation District in North Fork and were provided by One Tree Planted in partnership with CAL FIRE. Distribution assistance was provided by El Dorado Resource Conservation District, the Bass Lake Ranger District of the US Forest Service, and Supervisor Wheeler's office for the County of Madera.



Kathy Tooms of the Heights

The seedlings were offered to residents of Cascadel Woods & Cascadel Heights. As of the publication of this newsletter, all the Sugar Pines are gone or assigned for pick up. We have about 260 Ponderosa's left. One of our resident's who has a lot of acreage will take all that remain to reforest their land. But he will wait until everyone has had a chance to grab a few trees for their property. Time being a sensitive issue for the seedlings requires we allow only one more week for you to decide if you want any trees. All trees will need to be given out by April 6. Please contact Carol Eggink at 559-877-6290 or egginks@netptc.net if you wish to obtain free seedlings for your lot here in Cascadel. Thank you to all who have already received and planted your seedlings.

ART CLASSES

Jo Ann Huffman will be teaching her art classes the first week of April. She will postpone classes after that week due to her schedule. If you need more information, please call Jo Ann at 559-877-6254 or email her at jthuffman@netptc.net.

WATER COMPANY NEWS

In last month's "The Woods" we reported a drop in water pressure for properties west of the bridge. With no detectable leak(s) found the focus shifted to an air blockage in the main lines caused by cavitations by one of the well pumps. We used our spring to supplement the well water supply in order to minimize the use of the pumps and with that, pressure returned. The suspected pump was repaired, the spring shut off and the pressure gradually returned to normal. We will continue to monitor the daily PSI for a few more weeks.

Volunteers really came out this month and we are thankful for the donations of your time and the use of your equipment! You all ROCK!

YOUR NEWSLETTER

We hope you enjoyed The Woods Newsletter. Send any submissions for the May Newsletter to Carol Eggink by April 28 at egginks@netptc.net.

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

**To everyone who's
Birthday is in April!**