



THE WOODS



A NEWSLETTER FROM CASCADEL WOODS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION VOLUME 59 OCTOBER 1, 2020



REFLECTION & HERE WE GO AGAIN

Every September 3rd, we all reflect back on 2017 and the raging Mission Fire many of us had to literally drive through on Road 233 in order to get off this mountain. There were 3 homes lost and a few outbuildings in that fire.



Your Firewise Brigade works very hard each year along with many volunteers to get the subdivision in top shape to make us as defensible as we can be in the event of a wildfire.



The area surrounding Cascadel Woods on the northeastern and southern side has been the area of serious concern for the Firewise brigade due to the

very dense vegetation. Then on September 6, the wildfire began to eat the fuels in each of the areas just mentioned around Cascadel Woods. The Creek



Fire had spotted out 5 miles to reach us here on Peckinpah mountain area. We were under mandatory evacuation as well as



Cascadel Heights and Road 233. This fire had the



strength to take out the entire mountain top. Thanks to the quick work of 12 fire

crews that day and heavy equipment cutting dozer lines all around the community and up Autumn Ridge Way, we made it through the night. Then on September 8, the winds pushed the fire into the



heavy fueled areas on the northeastern portion of Cascadel Woods and 4 homes were lost on the outer edges of Cascadel. The crews used their bulldozers to plow the tall dead grasses on two

of the CSA open areas for safety and to be able to park equipment and other vehicles on the land.

The Water system was pushed to its limits. At least 15 engines were on the mountain with as many water trucks.

The fire crews nearly ran the tanks empty. Stan Eggink



wells could be brought back on line. Eventually, Rick and Kris Hamilton asked if they could assist us with a propane delivery for the water system. We took them up on this offer and portable tanks were brought up to one area and then filled. This enabled the system to run

had to turn the spring up and guide the water tenders to the lower hydrants to allow the water tanks to refill. With no power the S&S Water crew brought up another generator so the



longer without manual maintenance. During all of this, there were fire crews all around the locked down clubhouse. Again Kris Hamilton was able to talk to Jay Varney, CAO of Madera County and the Clubhouse was allowed to be used for the First responders. Stan and Carol went in, cleaned the place and turned the water on. Still no power but at least they could sit at a chair and a table to relax while they ate. The guys found the candles in the drawers and made good use of them.

Paper products were brought in for convenience. John Taylor had use of a generator so he



opened up his property and allowed crews to wash up and rest in the shop and anywhere on his property. Thank you John.

Rick and Kris Hamilton also had a house generator and they also housed a few crews each night around the cull de sac on Cascadel Heights Road. They were able to provide a nice coffee bar for the crews as well. Eventually the power came on and the people were allowed back into Cascadel Woods and Cascadel Heights.

The power had been out for two weeks and well, all food was spoiled., so with several calls, Stan managed to get EMADCO to bring in dumpsters for the residents' disposal of the spoiled food just before the evacuation was lifted. The dumpsters remained for about a week or so. The CWPOA Neighborhood watch paid for this convenience for the community.



The cost for the dumpsters was \$1,140.88. Ashley of EMADCO donated \$427.23. Our cost is \$713.05. You can send



“Thank You” cards to Ashley in Care of EMADCO, PO Box 2386, Oakhurst, CA 93644.

With the power back on life became a lot easier in the clubhouse. The refrigerator was plugged in and supplies were brought in from many places. It really was a something to watch the love and generosity flow into the clubhouse



for these men and women.

The residents brought in hot food from El Cid and some made homemade meals and brought it to the crews at the clubhouse. John Taylor supplied many meals at his place for those crews as well. This is what it means to be part of a community. You just do for each other because you see it needs doing. Thank you to each one who took homemade cookies, supplies, fruit and water. It all meant so much to the crews. The Thank You Cards from residents and their children were such a welcomed gift for the crews. They were really missing their families.

There was one day of huge excitement for everyone including the fire crews. We were able to watch the Helicopters pull water from our pond. Three different types of Choppers were used.



There was a K-Max, one I do not know the identity and a couple of Chinooks. When the choppers take off they are much heavier and so they use more power. John Taylor has a great video and

story to tell about this very issue. Funny guy. The kids were treated so sweet by the San Diego Fire crews at the Cascadel Woods pond. They all received two different types of sticker badge replicas of their individual station houses.







Bob D. Begley

December 8, 1938-September 7, 2020



On September 7, 2020 Bob Begley, husband of Sheila and long time resident of Cascadel Woods, passed away after a fairly lengthy illness.

Bob was an Air Force veteran who served in Vietnam and Cambodia. He married Sheila Carano in 1965 and eventually joined the Kings County Sheriff's Department in Hanford, CA, where he retired as Captain. He also taught criminal justice at San Joaquin Valley College.

Bob & Sheila built their home here in the Woods. Bob, as many others, served on the CWPOA Board of Directors. Bob, Sheila and their family loved this community.

Bob owned the huge BBQ we always use at our annual BBQ for the Firewise educational day each year. Bob kindly donated this BBQ to the Cascadel Woods community. I am happy to report that the BBQ survived the Big Creek/Peckinpah Fire of Cascadel Woods in September.

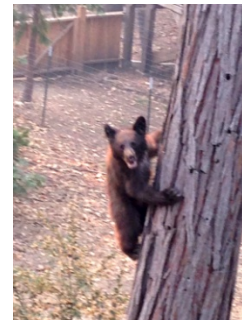
Our sincerest sympathies go out to Sheila Begley and the family.

Private services will be held, due to Covid-19, for family only.

Rest In Peace Bob

BEAR AWARE

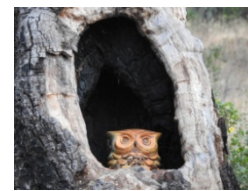
Bears are particularly active this time of year gathering food and preparing for winter. Since the Peckinpah – Cascadel Fire hit us in September; there have been several sightings of bears. They have possibly lost their homes and their food supply, so they will come down to search for both. The fire crews, near the clubhouse, were sleeping on top of their rigs a couple of nights. So be vigilant and keep an eye out for the bears to protect yourself and your family.



As it turned out on Friday 10-2-2020, this little guy was found treed in The McClure's yard. So keep watch on your trash and animals.

SURPRISE ART FOUND

On Sept. 2, I spotted this cute Owl in a tree stump just outside the arches of The Woods near the mailbox cluster on Road 233. I am not while it was such a nice surprise to see when coming home.



NFPA FIRE PREVENTIONS WEEK

October 4 - 10 is Fire Prevention week and this year the focus is on Safety in the Kitchen for everyone, especially children. Please enjoy some fun while learning how to stay safe in the kitchen with your family. Go to National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).org. Look for Fire Prevention Week activities. Enjoy.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- **Oct 10 – CMWC Annual Members Meeting**
10:00AM – Cascadel Woods Clubhouse Front Lawn-59827 Cascadel Dr-Bring your own chair.

NEXT MONTH

- **Oct 4 – 10 NFPA Fire Prevention Week**

FROM THE EDITOR

We hope you enjoyed The Woods Newsletter. Send submissions for the November Newsletter by October 27, 2020 to Carol Eggink at egginks@netptc.net. Let's see your Halloween pics!