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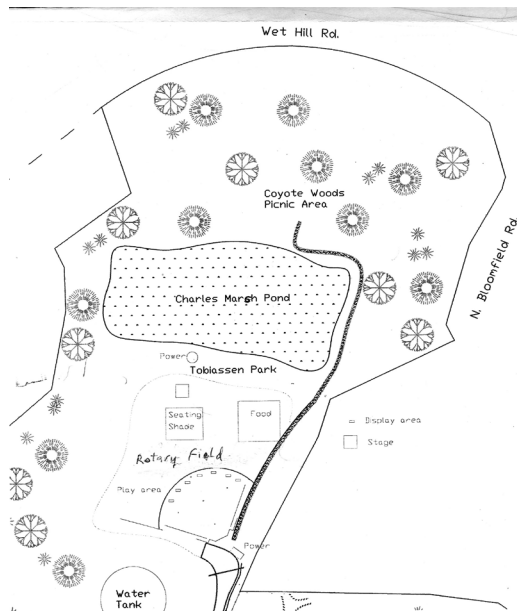
## Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association

Annual Picnic  
and  
Park Dedication  
September 18

## SUMMER 2011 NEWSLETTER

for PDF file copies of our newsletter go to [www.gchna.com](http://www.gchna.com)

### 21st GCHNA Annual Family Picnic and Tobiassen Park Dedication



#### 21st Annual Neighborhood Picnic

Sept. 18, 2011

3:00 to dusk

GCHNA will be celebrating our 21st year at Tobiassen Park (aka known to the locals as Coyote Park) behind the Madelyn Helling Library in Nevada City. Park at the library and follow the signs.

Join us for a very special celebration and collaboration with Nevada County. As usual, this year's picnic will provide time to socialize with neighbors and catch up on issues of importance to our community. In addition, the program will include a ceremony to officially dedicate Nevada County's only park - Tobiassen Park. Music will be provided from 3:00 to 5:00 by the local band HIGHWAY 49. Be ready

to enjoy country classics and rock and roll favorites from the 40s to the 80s. Take in this lovely setting which includes a pond and viewing platform, a shady picnic area, and a softball diamond.

#### Harvest Potluck - Bring Your Own Place Settings

Bring a favorite main dish to share and your own chair. Think green! GCHNA will provide munchies, tea, lemonade, soda, and dessert. County ordinance prohibits alcohol. Thank you Flour Garden bakery for again providing the cake for the event.

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### HERE'S the Deal ..

By Jeanette Clark

\* Picnic - What a beauty! This picnic is a remarkable collaboration between Nevada County and GCHNA. Thank you to Nancy Paulson



and others who represented GCHNA and contributed ideas along the way. GCHNA was invited to design the interpretive signage describing the features of the park. Our own Joanna Buryn has designed stellar signage that you can see. Thank you Joanna. On the Rotary softball field, Tobiassen (aka Coyote Park) above the Madelyn Helling Library...3:30 until dusk...

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**GCHNA Mission - To protect and preserve the rural qualities of our neighborhood by providing a forum for group action as needed.**

bring a potluck dish for 8-10 hungry people, enjoy the entertainment and the beautiful pond beyond the softball field. For your benefit, several exhibitors will be displaying their agency's mission and accomplishments.

\* Community Block Development Grant (CBDG) for the Community Facility District's (CFD) Cement Hill Pipeline Project, which will benefit low income property owners. This grant is still STUCK at HUD in Washington DC!!! All the paperwork (27 pages for the waiver request) is on someone's desk. Tom McClintock's office has been keeping us informed (as well as Nate Beason's desk) as to its current trajectory into funding. Should be interesting if there is any money left!

\* Cement Hill Pipeline Project is on track. Meters are being installed as this newsletter is going to press, the pressure tank on Sugar Loaf is being built (needed for pressure in the line for fire hydrants), Daisy Blue Mine is being worked on, and water is actually running through the pipes along all roads except Daisy Blue Mine Rd. and one service that extends off Cement Hill Rd. Fantastic!

\* Augustine Road "Slide" has been slated for repair hopefully mid-August. Nevada County's Public Works office and our Supervisor Nate Beason sent us a note hoping that the repair will be somewhat finished by rain/snow, so as not to use Excelsior Ditch Camp Road.

#### Schedule

3:00 to 5:00 - Socializing, music, strolling around the park, and viewing exhibits

5:00 - dusk - Dinner and our program Speakers include: Nevada County's Tom Coburn, Supervisor Nate Beason, Joanne Drummond from the Fire Safe Council, and Ed Buryn on local history.

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### **Appreciation From A Neighbor**

*By Nancy Paulson*

*(Nancy lives adjacent to the Tobiassen Park property and has been involved with the County and other organizations in the development process.)*

The agreement between the Wet Hill neighborhood and Nevada County over the Tobiassen Park development has been honored. I am grateful for the work that has been completed and that the park is now ready for use by all people: families with children fishing, others playing ball, people walking their dogs, and people enjoying the quiet picnic area. It has been 15 years in the making, but finally we all can be proud of the outcome. I want to thank Tom Coburn who works for Nevada County for all his efforts to see that this park is completed according to the neighborhood agreement with the County. He has been wonderful to work with and has made sure that all parties were kept informed and engaged. Thank you, Tom, for all your hard work and dedication. Now the time has come to enjoy this lovely park!

### **Update on Hirschman's Trail**

*By Bill Haire*

Construction of the accessible trail between Cement Hill Road and Hirschman's Pond started after the July 4 holiday. During construction, that area will be closed to access at times for safety reasons. Signs will be posted during closures.

From May 19 to June 20, as weather allowed, the trestle over the ravine near the "red house" was constructed. Bill Haire worked with a group of volunteers and trail contractor, Bob Hale, to build the structure, using local cedar obtained from the Kubich Mill in Grass Valley. Volunteers included Gene Haroldsen, Ray Bryars, Matt Freitas, Sara Freitas, Dave Brennan, Ron Cook, Chris Gee, Orval Choate, and Jerry Henderson. Construction of the trestle will be complete when the safety railing is fabricated and attached.





## ***Sightings on Hirschman's Pond***

By Robert Trent

Hirschman's trail, from the Rood Center to the shore of the pond has seen significant changes over the past year. The trail has been transformed from a modest path to practically a country back road. Still more changes are in store over the next few months as the trail work continues.

One thing that hasn't changed is the amazing variety of wildlife that can be observed in and around the pond. Over the past year, I have noted all of the species I have encountered during my hundreds of visits to the pond.

The cliff-side is a haven for ducks and waterfowl. American Widgeons, Grebes, Mallards, and Wood Ducks are there seasonally, and currently a Belted Kingfisher and Great Blue Heron are regularly seen at dawn fishing on the little island. On rare occasions, a pair of Pileated Woodpeckers is banging on dead Ponderosa Pines or a solitary Osprey is spotted swooping down for fish. Recently a juvenile Bald Eagle jetted from a tall tree and sent one of her feathers floating to the water.

Of course, birds are not the only abundant creatures at the pond, however they are the ones I am most drawn to. A wide variety of amphibians have been seen- a good sign for water quality and nature's ability to recover from the mining days. Wood rats, voles, fox, cougar and bear all call the pond their home. In early spring, a Boy Scout troop reported they saw a pair of river otters. I'm still on the lookout for them.

If you would like to share your sightings at Hirschman's Pond or discuss trail development and usage, recreation, or photos of the pond, please join our Facebook group at [facebook.com/groups/hirshmanspond](https://facebook.com/groups/hirshmanspond).

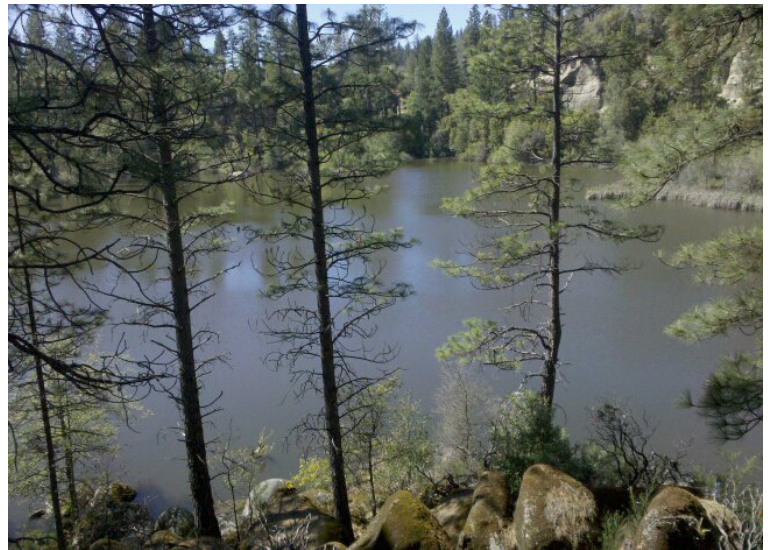
See you on the trail.



**Hirschman's Pond, Jack Foster**



**Belted Kingfisher**



# **Allen Chapman & Nellie Pooler Chapman – Bringing Dentistry to Nevada City**

*By Susan Wiesner*

Cement Hill history is intertwined with the stories of people who passed through or settled in the area. This is the story of the Chapman family who had a house in Nevada City and a homestead on the southern edge of Cement Hill.

Allen Chapman arrived in Nevada City in April 1856, having sailed from New York to San Francisco crossing the isthmus of Panama. He brought \$10,000 worth of dental supplies and the skills he had acquired practicing dentistry for 13 years in Troy, New York. Those supplies were promptly destroyed in the Nevada City fire of July 19, 1856. Few buildings escaped the blaze, but the brick Kidd-Knox building survived and still stands on the corner of Broad Street and Pine. Probably because it withstood the fire, Chapman selected an upstairs corner office for his new dental practice. By 1861 Dr. Chapman took on a partner, Dr. J. H. Hatch, as announced in the Nevada Journal of January 4th. On March 24th of that same year, Dr. Chapman married Nellie Pooler, who had similarly traveled from the East Coast to the West Coast via Nicaragua with her Canadian parents, arriving in this area in 1854.

Some time before 1862, Dr. Chapman acquired substantial property about 2 miles west of Nevada City by Indian Flat (the junction of Highway 49 and Newtown Road). In the assessor's rolls of 1862, the property is described as "Possessory right, title and claim to a certain tract or parcel of land in Township of Nevada, situated on the head of Rush Creek, North of and adjoining the land of Mrs. Web-

ber, containing 70 acres, more or less. Improvements thereon consisting of house, orchard, fencing and fixtures. Personal property consisting of dental instruments and office furniture." The acreage included land on both sides of the Indian Flat Road near highway 49 and the area surrounding Country Circle.

The presence of dental instruments at the house suggests that Chapman practiced there. He may have divided his time for a while between the homestead office and the office in town. Between 1862 and 1864 Chapman built a house at 227 Sacramento Street to accommodate his growing family. Nellie gave birth to their first son, Sargent Allen, in March 1861 and a second son, Chester Warren, in June 1864. Both sons ultimately pursued dental careers but that is another story...

Although Dr. Chapman had a lucrative practice, he experienced financial difficulties due in part from not being able to collect his fees and also from co-signing notes of friends who later defaulted. After being advised to declare bankruptcy he declined stating "I went into this with my eyes open and assumed responsibility; I will therefore pay it to the last cent," which he did. To relieve his financial situation he sold off many of his assets (but not the homestead) reducing the debt from \$43,000 to \$16,000. At this time (mid 1870s) he also decided to open a second practice in Virginia City, Nevada.

This is when his wife, Nellie, really came into her own. When Nellie married she was young, only 13 years old compared to Allen's 34 years of age, and with little formal education. However she proved herself to be a quick study and assisted her husband by applying iodine and pain relievers

to his patients. Her dental skills grew to the point where she was able to maintain their original practice out of the front parlor of their Sacramento Street home. Her capabilities allowed Allen to open that second practice, increase their combined income and pay off all their debts.

Although Dr. Nellie Chapman was a rather petite woman the use of a corkscrew type tool, which wrapped around the tooth, allowed her a good grip to wrench it out. Her drills operated through use of a treadle that worked a flywheel, providing the energy to power the drill. In her parlor stood an imposing wooden cabinet the size of a tall, roll-top desk and outfitted with shallow drawers for tools as well as cupboards and shelves. The patient's chair was covered in red velvet and labeled "imperial Columbia" in gold script. It was fitted with a porcelain bowl on a stand, an aspirator, and a holder for a crystal water glass. Nellie sat beside it on a round stool



Allen Chapman & Nellie Pooler Chapman.

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covered with red and white cut velvet in a floral pattern.

In 1879, dentists were required to be registered and Nellie qualified under a "grandfather" clause. She was listed as number 79, the first woman dentist certified in the western territories. In addition to her professional life, Nellie wrote poetry and was a prominent member of the Shakespeare Club. She was a good musician, writing and publishing songs with a family friend, Edward Muller. Although nothing is written specifically about this, Nellie may also have been involved with the running of the homestead property on Indian Flat. The property had 3000 fruit trees and a large vineyard. A letter written by Allen and found in one of Nellie's medical texts discusses the sales of pears and apples the family sent to him in Nevada. The "pears came in all right and as far as I see in good condition." He goes on to tell his son, Chester, to "write at once if there are good Spitzbergs and Baldwins." Dr. Allen Chapman continued his Virginia City dental practice until 1895 when he was injured in a "runaway accident". His health deteriorated and he died in 1897 at the age of 70. All the while Nellie practiced dentistry in her home until her death in 1906. Her obituary in the Daily Union barely recognized her professional achievements but lauded her abilities as a writer, composer, and elocutionist. However, her story is testimony to a woman who lived life beyond the normal constraints and expectations of her time and left a legacy for others to follow.

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*Much of the material for this article was found in an article by Peter W. van der Pas in the Nevada County Historical Society Bulletin (Volume 44, No. 4, October 1990) and With*

*Great Hope - Women of the California Gold Rush by Jo Ann Chartier and Chris Enss.*

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## **Marsh Pond**

*by Ed Bury*

This large pond is the central feature of Nevada County's only county park, located next to the Madelyn Helling Library at the Rood Center, adjacent to the site of this year's Neighborhood Picnic. It is named after Nevada City pioneer Charles Marsh, and the following information about him is mostly gleaned from local historian David Comstock.

Charles Marsh was born December 6th, 1825, probably in Vermont. He emigrated from Wisconsin to California at age 24 and prospected along Deer Creek, becoming the first official resident of Nevada City (which was then variously called Deer Creek Dry Diggings, Caldwell's Upper Store, and Coyoteville). Marsh soon gave up prospecting to go into the water business, supplying water to miners via a ditch he dug from Rock Creek to Coyote Hill in 1850, the same year that Nevada City was named and incorporated. In 1851 he was elected county surveyor. In 1852 he became a director of the Sacramento Auburn and Nevada Railroad Company. In 1855 he was elected to the first County Board of Supervisors.

In 1860 he proposed to expand water service to Nevada City through his South Yuba Canal Company. This pond here, now named Marsh Pond, was built in 1861 as a reservoir for that effort. It was completed later that same year with pipes brought by ships around the horn of South America.

Also in 1860, Marsh co-founded the Central Pacific Railroad Company (CPRR), along with Theodore Judah and Daniel Strong. They were later joined by the "The Big Four" (businessmen and financiers Leland Stanford, Collis Huntington, Charles Crocker, and Mark Hopkins). In 1863, over 12,000 mostly Chinese laborers began laying rails eastward from the San Francisco Bay Area to meet with the Union Pacific Railroad to form the nation's first transcontinental railroad. On May 10th, 1869 in Promontory Utah, the two rail-building crews met and completed the railroad, driving the famous "Golden Spike," making it possible to safely cross the continent in eight days instead of via months-long, hazardous wagon trains or sea voyages.

This historic moment in American history is preserved at the Golden Spike National Historic Site at Promontory Utah. Charles Marsh was present there on that day and he appears in the famous photo commemorating the event. Marsh later dropped out of the railroad company, but his name is still engraved into the rails at this site, along with the other directors of the company. As a surveyor Marsh also helped find the railroad route over the Sierra Nevada near Donner Pass, and was instrumental in convincing investors that such a railroad could be built. Charles Marsh is thus not only a major figure in the history of Nevada City and Nevada County, but also an unsung hero in American history as well.

In 1872, he was one of the organizers of the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad (NCNGR), nicknamed Never Come Never Go, that operated from

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## Are You Curious? Mystery Revealed

Some neighbors may have noticed bright orange insect traps hanging from trees and bushes in the Cement Hill area. The California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA), together with California County Agricultural Commissioners and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), are working cooperatively to respond to the threat posed by the European Grapevine Moth (EGVM). This moth also known as *Lobesia botrana*, was first reported in North America in Napa County Vineyards in September 2009. The larvae feed primarily on the flowers and fruit of grapevines, and the flowers of olives and rosemary. However, it will also feed on the fruit and/or flowers of other nearby plants such as blackberries and stone fruit trees. When the larvae feed directly on grapes and grape flowers, they make the grapes unmarketable. This pest could impact the quality and yield of both homegrown and commercial grapes. The traps have been set in areas where potential host plants are nearby and they are being checked periodically by State workers to determine the distribution of EGVM and take appropriate action to

control moth populations. For more information visit [www.cdafa.ca.gov/go/egvmq](http://www.cdafa.ca.gov/go/egvmq) and if you want to report to report a suspicious pest, please call the CDFA Pest Hotline at: (800) 491-1899. Information for this article was extracted from a brochure published by CDFA.



European Grapevine Moth



*Marsh Pond from page 5*

1876 to 1943 providing freight and passenger service from Colfax to Grass Valley and Nevada City.

Tragically, Charles Marsh died suddenly at the young age of 48 in a San Francisco carriage accident on April 28th, 1876. He left a widow, Ellen Brown Marsh, and daughter Louisa Marsh.

Enjoy your picnic at this site created by Charles Marsh 150 years ago.



Charles Marsh

## GCHNA Needs You!

Representatives and Board members are needed! Please consider joining the Board, contributing ideas, and helping on projects. Meetings are the first Monday of each month, 6:30 til 8:30, at the Fire Station on Coyote Street in Nevada City. Call a member of the Board and let us know of your interest.



March Pond.





**Join GCHNA or Renew Your Membership** (check your membership status at [www.gchna.com/membership](http://www.gchna.com/membership))

If you haven't joined or renewed your membership to GCHNA, we hope you will do so now.

Here's my \$20 GCHNA membership fee for 2011. Enclosed is a check made out to GCHNA.

NAME(s) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check & form to: GCHNA, PO Box 1343, Nevada City, CA 95959 ☐ E-mailed (PDF) newsletter preferred



**GCHNA Neighborhood Representatives**

**West End Cement Hill**

West end of Cement Hill Road, including Sunshadow Circle, Cedar Song Road, and Garesio Ranch Road.  
Ellen Hagan, Tim Hagan, (timhagan@oro.net) 265-9746

**Applewood Lane**

Applewood Lane, including Indian Shack Road.  
Larry Cook, (2cooks@att.net) 265-3088

**Gochine Drive**

Gochine, including Mt. Auburn Circle.  
Carl Plaza, (plaza@ncws.com) 478-1802

**Upper Cement Hill**

Upper Cement Hill Road, including Pine Tree Place, Diamond Oak Drive, Bodie Ridge Road, Skyranche Road, and Elysian Way.  
Willie Brusin, (wbrusin@att.net) 265-4018

**Sunrock Road**

Sunrock Road.  
Susan Wiesner, (sawiesner@gmail.com), 265-4824

**Augustine Road / Excelsior Ditch Camp Road**

Augustine Road, including Daisy Blue Mine, Leisure Lane, Lazy Oaks Drive, and Excelsior Ditch.  
Marty Pezzaglia, (martypezzaglia@spiralemail.com) 265-3288

**Crystal View Heights**

Crystal View, including Golden Oaks.  
**(Open)**

**Central Cement Hill Road**

Central Cement Hill Road, including Whispering Oaks, Merryhill Way, Gold Court, Spanish Quartz, Ragon Road, and Fox Hill Road.

**Lower Cement Hill Road**

Lower Cement Hill Road, including West Piper, Deer Crest, Rancheria Court, Red Hill Road, Foster Driveway, Picton, Picton Way, and Foster Road.  
Glen Cooley 265-4025

**Indian Flat Road**

Indian Flat Road, including Country Circle and Robinson King Road.  
Eileen Jorgensen, (eileen@themagiccarpet.biz) 265-6415

**Southside Cement Hill**

Highway 49, including Columbine Court, Delphine Lane, Shoshoni Trail, Old Faithful Court, Carli Way, Crooked Arrow Lane, John Barleycorn Rd., Frost Court and Cavanaugh Lane.  
(open)

**Wet Hill Road**

Wet Hill Road, including Sierra Springs Circle, Lower North Bloomfield Road, and Elliot Way.  
Nancy Paulson, (npaulson@nccn.net) 265-5919

**Airport Road**

Airport Road, including Tower Hill Road, West Airport Road, East Piper Lane, and Sheriff Road.  
Scott Adams, (sadams1635@sbcglobal.net) 470-0273

**At Large**

Eve Collins, (collins@theunion.net) 265-6540  
Bill Holman (bholman@succeed.net) 265-8387  
Uli Paulin, (upaulin@ttz.com) 265-4194





# G · C · H · N · A Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association

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## SUMMER 2011 NEWSLETTER

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### **Who to Contact...**

Membership Information  
Eve Collins - 265-6540

Ferrellgas Information  
Customer Service - 265-5896  
Larry Cook 265-3088

The Fire Safe Council  
Joanne Drummond - 272-1122

Bear or Mountain Lion Problems  
USDA Trapper Larry Lane  
(916) 239-8978

NID Web Site  
Doug Roderick 271-6866  
[www.nidcementhill.com](http://www.nidcementhill.com), regard-  
ing treated water pipeline  
[www.marquespipeline.com/](http://www.marquespipeline.com/cementhill/)  
cementhill/

FONA Web Site  
[www.fona-nevco.org](http://www.fona-nevco.org)

### **GCHNA Mission Statement**

The Greater Cement Hill  
Neighborhood Association is  
chartered to:

- Protect and preserve the rural qualities of our neighborhood by providing a forum for group action as needed.
- Communicate information quickly and efficiently about matters of neighborhood interest to its members and associates.
- Raise funds and supply volunteer labor for projects that enhance or improve our neighborhood.
- Be an organization through which our neighbors can meet and get to know each other in meetings and social gatherings.

### **Membership Guidelines**

Fiscal Period is  
January 1<sup>st</sup> - December 31<sup>st</sup>

Membership Dues due by  
February 1<sup>st</sup> Grace period to May 1<sup>st</sup>

Anyone may join anytime during the year but will have to negotiate with Ferrellgas if joining after May 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Newsletter Contributors**

*Editors:* Ellen Hagan  
*Design & Layout:* Bill Holman  
*Copy Editor:* Eve Collins & Eileen Jorgensen  
*And a big thanks to all our writers and photographers.*

