



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

Remember To
Renew Your
Membership

WINTER 2010 NEWSLETTER

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Cement Hill NID Treated Water update

By Susan Wiesner

It's happening! On September 9, the NID Board awarded the Cement Hill Water Supply Project to Marques Pipeline, Inc (General Engineering Contractor) in the amount of \$5,695,865. This Project will consist of approximately 11 miles of pipeline, a 1 million gallon welded steel tank, a pump station installed at the District's decommissioned Snow Mountain Treatment Plant, two pressure reducing stations and approximately 55 fire hydrants.

Evidence of the work to come is now visible. Pipe is being delivered and stored at the old airport with the permission of Nevada City. Actual trenching is not estimated to begin until the first week of January. A project sign will be placed on the east side of Cement Hill Road just after the turn from Highway 49. A map and written construction schedule will be on display so residents will know what to expect. Similar information will also be available online at <http://www.marquespipeline.com/cementhill/>. The NID project manager is Doug Roderick (530) 271-6866; email Roderick@nidwater.com. The Construction Inspector will be Ed Rossovich.



Water pipes waiting for the start of the Cement Hill NID water project.

What's Inside

2. Annual Neighborhood Picnic
3. Membership Renewal
4. Solar Energy; Our Newest Crop
5. Historical Mining Display
5. Up A Tree
6. Current 2009 GCHNA Members
7. Neighborhood Representatives
8. Membership Guidelines
8. Who to Contact

President Pro-Tem Sez -

By Jeanette Clark

A new year? A new agenda? A new way of thinking? I often wonder and ponder the "why" and "how" we conduct our lives as proactive citizens of our neighborhood. Are we the silent majority, the peaceful majority who wait to see how "things" turn out? Or, are we the "off-the-charts" few, (the hell-raisers, if you will) who take action to insure our rural life style remains intact? Are we becoming so "gentrified" that we resist change that could and would better our neighborhood? So we join our local neighborhood association to do our part, get the "bennies" of lower priced propane fuel, stuff ourselves at the annual road picnic and call it a day. Such proactive activity...it amazes me. The GCHNA Steering Committee spends countless volunteer hours and your

Continued on page 3

Another Wonderful Annual Neighborhood Picnic!

By Ellen Hagan

A pleasant, informative afternoon was had by one and all at GCHNA's 19th annual picnic in September. About 80 people gathered on the grassy knoll at Nancy Herrick and Roger Morrison's Farmhouse to socialize, eat delicious food, and catch up on issues of concern on Cement Hill.

After opening words by Pat Lind-Kyle, Jeanette Clark, our President Pro-Tem, introduced the neighborhood reps and special guests such as County Supervisor Nate Beason, and described the opportunities for involvement in GCHNA committees. Nancy Weber, our NID director since 1988, was recognized for her service to our community. Marty Pezzaglia's moving letter expressed our appreciation for her tireless effort to get a treated piped water system to Cement Hill. Nancy praised GCHNA's resolve and perseverance on this issue, and assured us that work is progressing on our project. An indoor fountain, our gift to her, was presented by Tim Hagan.

Hank Meals, our guest speaker, researched our area and provided an interesting overview of the geology and history of our "Hill". He described a bit of the life of the Maidu, the gold miners, and the influx of new people, including the Italian families who settled the Hill.

Ferrellgas continues to work with GCHNA to provide propane at a reasonable cost. We appreciate the funds they provided for picnic expenses. Bill Haire of the Land Trust provided a visual interpretation of the future development of Hirschman's Trail.

Issues surrounding the threat of fire have always been a GCHNA concern. Joanne

Drummond from the Fire Safe Council provided information on their services. Tim Hagan reminded people about the importance of continued brush clearing. Through FONA, Trees Unlimited offered a discounted rate for their services. Also, don't forget about the evacuation route along the emergency road through the Riverhill Farm property out Cedarsong Road to Hwy 49.

A great deal of effort went into the planning and preparation for this event, and the GCHNA Board of Directors would like to thank the many people who contributed. I apologize in advance to anyone I've inadvertently left out. The picnic committee: Eve Collins, Eileen Jorgensen, Susan Wiesner, Jeanette Clark, and Ellen Hagan (On a personal note, I want to express how much I enjoyed working with this group. It was my first time on the committee, and the meetings were well-organized and fun.)

Emcee: Tim Hagan
Picnic Prep: Nancy Herrick and Roger Morrison, Tom Stone who made sure we had beer and wine and provided the sound system and delightful music throughout the afternoon, Carl Plaza and Jean Oliver (signage and reception), Ted Smith and Gordon Clark (The parking worked out!), Terry Wagner for appetizers, Willie Brusin (chairs), and the neighbors who helped set up

Exhibitors: Fire Safe Council, Nevada County Land Trust

Other: Flour Garden Bakery (The cake was delicious.), Riverhill Farm (parking)

Finally, thank you to all who attended and those who stay informed about the concerns of our neighborhood. See you at next year's picnic.



Schmoozing before we eat.



President Pro-Tem Sez – continued

membership fees formulating a newsletter, planning two (if not more) events, and attending local agency (county and otherwise) meetings to stay on top of local “happenings” to keep you informed (our mission statement, by-the-way). Where am I headed with this? It’s an invitation to come join the fray, be an un-silent majority investing time and effort to do what is right by consensus for our neighborhood. We need neighborhood reps or alternative reps and event volunteers. So join us in representing this neighborhood. Yeah GCHNA!

2010 GCHNA Membership Renewal Notice

By Eve Collins

I can’t believe it is 2010! But it is and it’s that time again to renew your GCHNA membership. The due date is February 1st (with a grace period until May 1st). Plenty of hard work has been ongoing with the treated water project on its way, and our information packed newsletters continuing through these trying times. We had an awesome Tea and Garden Tour at “Terra Flora” in May and an equally fantastic family picnic potluck at “The Farmhouse” in September. Our Ferrellgas propane

contract, available to our membership, is a great opportunity to save on propane costs. Steering Committee meetings are available to everyone to voice concerns and present opportunities to our membership, held the first Monday of the month at the fire station on Coyote St. To renew or join, please fill out the membership form in this newsletter or use the form available on our website – www.gchna.com – and mail it with your check for \$20 to GCHNA, P.O. Box 1343, Nevada City, CA 95959. If you have any questions regarding your renewal, please call Eve Collins at 265-6540. Thank you very much for your support this past year and we hope you will continue supporting your neighborhood association in 2010.

More GCHNA Picnic Photos



The Farmhouse, a wonderful venue.



Nancy Weber given our community award by Tim Hagan.



The guest speaker, author Hank Meals.



The picnic enjoyed well into the evening.



Solar Energy: Our Newest Crop

Reprinted from The Union article by Michelle Rindels dated Wednesday, November 25th, 2009

An abandoned airstrip that hasn't welcomed planes in decades could one day be home to a solar farm. The city of Nevada City is considering a \$6.5 million project to build a configuration of solar panels at the old Nevada City airport off North Bloomfield Road that would dwarf all other solar installations in the county. The proposed system would have a maximum capacity of 1,000 kilowatts, which is equal to 1,340 horsepower. At that rate, it could power nearly 17,000 60-watt light bulbs at once. Other solar energy installations on city property have a capacity of about 10 kilowatts.

The airstrip — an unpaved, roughly cross-shaped clearing slightly overgrown with trees — has been out of commission since shortly after World War II, according to Nevada City Engineer William Falconi. At times, it has been co-opted as a motocross course, and it now serves as a storage grounds for miscellaneous city equipment.

City officials worked with Chevron Energy, a division of oil giant Chevron Corp., on a preliminary feasibility study earlier this month at no cost to the city. They found the system would have virtually no negative effect on the environment and would not be visible from surrounding residences, Falconi wrote in a memo to the City Council. Council members reviewed the project at their meeting last week, but made no decisions on it.

Should the city move forward, it can contract with Chevron to draw up design plans for \$16,000. Officials aren't moving forward yet, said City Manager Gene Albaugh. They need the financial stars to align first.



First, the city is working on applying for a \$3 million grant from the California Energy Commission. That would help cover the initial investment costs. Second, the city is waiting to see if the California Public Utilities Commission will change payback rates to make large-scale solar operations worth the investment.

Energy is worth about 14 cents per kilowatt hour, Falconi wrote, although the price fluctuates depending on the time of day and season. PG&E pays contributors more for energy during peak hours, which are usually during the day and in summer months. At those rates, the city could bring in more than \$1 million yearly by selling energy from the proposed solar system.

The problem is PG&E does not pay the full per-kilowatt-hour rate; about half is discounted for transmission costs. The lower rate would not generate enough revenue to pay capital costs and interest

rates, Falconi wrote. The PUC could make it possible if it increases what's called a "feed-in tariff." Feed-in tariffs have been used for years in Europe as incentives for people and businesses to install solar generators. Rather than have the government subsidize solar construction, other customers of utility companies pay a little more on their bill each month. The extra revenue allows the utility company to buy back energy from customers with solar panels at a higher-than-market rate. Feed-in tariffs already are in place in California, but the rate is not high enough to make large-scale solar production profitable, Albaugh said.

Nevada City already has solar installations atop City Hall, at Pioneer Park and at the city's storage yard, but those produce only enough to defray the city's energy bill, Albaugh said. Falconi and Albaugh said the project will likely be in discussion for years to come before residents might expect a productive farm.



Historical Mining Display Draws Interest

By Susan Wiesner

This past year local residents driving north along Highway 49 probably noticed a developing historical mining display near the turn to Cement Hill Road. Each week the scene changed as equipment and materials were delivered, starting with two hydraulic monitors. The equipment was set up as it would have appeared in a gold mining operation. In addition, the site itself was especially appropriate because the County Government center was built on land reclaimed from some of the earliest hydraulic operations which started on nearby American Hill*. The man behind this intriguing display is Mike Nevius, a Cement Hill resident for the past 32 years.

These particular monitors came from the Pacific Slab Mine at Last Chance. They are unique in that they were the last working hydraulic monitors in California – still in use under a permitted operation as late as 1970 and documented in a film made by the State Parks.

The monitors had been resting at a “bone yard” in the Yuba gravel bearing gold fields 10 miles east of Marysville. After discovering them, Mike tracked down their history and persuaded Lowell Robinson, the owner, to donate them to the Native Sons of the Golden West whose mission is to preserve California history. With the support of County Supervisor Nate Beason, approval was obtained for placement on the public property. Dan Jasper from Relief Hill near Washington donated the piping and Teichert Materials donated 48 tons of rock. All the assembly work was done by volunteers including the pipe welding and rock placement. The project is so realistic that one almost expects water to start blasting from the monitors.



Hydraulic monitors.

Mike has played a major role in acquiring and setting up similar displays on a smaller scale in various areas of Nevada City and Grass Valley. In 2009 he was honored by Nevada County as the Historical Man of the Year. Local gold mining history flows in his blood as he was raised in the area and lived near the Empire Mine. His expertise in equipment operations comes from his career managing the fleet for the Tahoe National Forest. Among other activities, he volunteers with the North Star Mine Museum, but he doesn't leave his hobby there. At home on West Piper Lane, he and his wife, LaVeta, have collected and arranged old mining iron over their three acres in what Mike calls “his Rustic Iron

Preserve”. The hillside around their home is covered with old hydraulic monitors, mine cars, stamp mills, some Pelton wheels, sinking buckets, and mine shaft displays.

He likes to share his passion for local mining history and generously invites neighbors to see his operating 19th century 2-stamp mill. You may contact him at 265-2592 to learn more and arrange for a tour of his property.

* Gold Districts of California, by: W.B. Clark, California Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology, Bulletin 193, 1970.^o

Up A Tree

(and I do not mean a Christmas Tree!)

By Jeanette Clark

The 10 year-old cat which owns property on central Cement Hill climbed a tree sometime during the day on Friday, December 4th and wouldn't come down. She did this same trick six years ago, however, not up the same tree. You would think that she would have this prior incident somewhere in her cat memory. The tree was a cedar and approximately 90 feet tall, and she managed to get to a height of about 65-feet. Did she back down? No! So she

spent Friday night above “it” all, yowling her head off. Saturday, did she back down? No! We called three known tree service people and had no luck. It snowed on Sunday night, and she still was high above it all and managed to survive. On Monday, through the efforts of a good friend in town, the cat was rescued. Now, the moral of this story is, if a cat owns you, always have on hand about \$75.00 in cash to pay for the rescue service, the handy telephone number (ours is now posted right beside CDF's burn-day number), a heavy pillow case and loads of old towels. Are we happy campers? You bet! And so are our neighbors who no longer have to endure the yowling. Hear you later!



Current 2009 GCHNA Members

Scott & Karen Adams
Sam Adams & Jeanette Cragle
Jim & Marge Addleman
Richard & Catherine Alderman
Franceska Alexander
Sallee Allen
Gene & Shirley Anderson
Ron & Judy Anderson
Chip & Peggy Arenchild
Ed & Judy Arnott
Marty Austin
Wallace & Marilyn Bair
Luci Baker
Christy Barden
Shari Barley / Judy Shillanger
Deanna Bartolucci
Jeff & Gina Barton
Mike & Jane Betts
Ken & Laura Bigham
Malaika, Gordon & Amari Bishop
Eileen Blodgett
Anna Bousouris & Sam Vanderhoof
Molly Breen & Mike McRae
Brian & Jennifer Breiling
Bob & Edy Britts
Steve Star & Carol Brodsky
Michael Brook & Cathy Blake
Elke Brown
Willie & Sue Brusin
Brian & Ruthanne Buckley
Fred & Margie Buhler
Mike, Karen, Shannon & Amber Busse
Jon Byerrum & Holly Hermansen
Stan & Linda Byrne
Chip Carman & John Paul
Ronald Carrara
Jill Caruthers & Jon Fox
Denis & Jennifer Cebollero
Ernest & Linda Chiappari
John & Lisa Christensen
Gordon & Jeanette Clark
George Cloud & Linda Pearson
Julie Cobden
Doug & Eve Collins
Larry & Cheryl Cook
Glen & Nathalie Cooley
William & Susan Copeland
Diana Soldavini Coronel
Sue & Jeff Cowitz
Robert Crawford
Charles & Nancy Creech
Dale Tom & Sandy Creighton
Richard & Joan Davis

Laurence & Mary Anne Dulmage
Tom Dunham & Terri Beedle
Carl & Priscilla Eckardt
Stephen & Deborah Edwards
William & Shirley Elliot
Myles & Colleen Ericson
Doug & Caryl Fairfull
Greg & Susan Fenner
Ric Ferrentino & Vicki Parker
Diane Fetterly
Jack & Patti Foster
Gary & Cathy Fouyer
Amy & Brendan Fowler
Kate Frame
Frank & Fran Francis
J. Frenzel & J. McEnroe
Terry & Midge Gallagher
Gary & Carole Gibson
Dave & Kathy Giguere
Marion Gilbert
Patricia Rusert Gillette & Scott Gillet
Gary & Nancy Goerz
Jeff & Anna Gold
Henry Goodman & Susan Jakubik
Clark & Fran Gordon
Harold & Patricia Graves
Bill & Linda Greig
James & Diane Greig
Edward Guinaugh & Caroline Desmares
Barbara HaganTim & Ellen Hagan
Cheryl Haines & Daniel J. McCoy
Pat & Shaun Havard
Richard & Annika Hayes
Jon & Ann Heinrich
Howard & Jill Hersh
Richard & Sue Hinman
Ed & Lita Holleman
Bill Holman
William & Mijo Horwich
Bob & Cindy Hren
Terry & Courtney Hundemer
Dale & Diane Jacobson
Jean Gilbert & Sylvia Jensen
Betty Johnson
Paul & Eileen Jorgensen
Ronna Lee Joseph-Murray & Tim Murray
Frank JoyalKevin Kalajan
Rick & Elizabeth Kalb
Kevin & Ricki Kartes
Richard Katz & Patricia Kaminski
Jim Keem
Tom & Kathleen Kelly
Al & Pat Kennerley

Ginger Konvalin
Ronald & Melanie Kuhnelt
Dennis Kurlander
David Kyle & Patt Lind-Kyle
Ronald & Ellen Laird
Suesan & Jeff Larsen
Stan & Donna Levin
Steve & Sheryl Levy
Jenelle (Jeep) Lindsay
David & Lorraine Livingston
Jennifer Lynch
Art Lynn
Henry & Arabella Macias
Cindy Mackey
Ken Macklin & Marla Charbonneau
Margaret Austin & William Mandel
Lin Donald & Tom Manuel
Dennis & Penny Matthews
Gardiner McCauley
Craig & Gayle McClelland
Rod & Marjorie McConnell
Jim McCraney
Helen McDonald
Tom & Cara Meinholz
Thomas K Micali
Michael Miller
Carla Woodside & Doug Mitchell
John Morales
Roger Morrison & Nancy Herrick
Scott Muir & Julie Poulton
Joan Regal & Steve Myers
Teresa Naleway
Mike & LaVeta Nevius
Bill & Chris Newsom
Michael Nudelman
Jim & Janice O'Brien
Alberta Oates
Marcella Oglesby
Andy & Jean Oliver
Chris, Kyle and Ryan Owen
David Painter & Sharon Winegar
David & Linda Palley
Laura & Bill Pappani
Denis & Nancy Paulson
Floyd & Joy Perry-Thistle
Michele Furtado & Andy Peterman
Marty Pezzaglia
Patrick & Wathada Phillips
Charles & Julieta Phillips
Carl & Joyce Plaza
Remo & Randi Pratini
Terry & Robin Prechter
Robert & Ruth Racine

Michael & Lourdes Rainey
Saul Rayo & Elena Powell
George & Jo Ann Rebane
Anthony & Jacki Richards
Kirk & Fran Robertson
Lowell & Diane Robertson
Doug & Penny Rodrick
Dee & Dan Rodriguez
Gabriel Ross
Ruth & Steve Rutherford
Karen Rynberg
Shelley & Eligio Salvatore
Timothy & Candace Segale
John & Lorraine Shankland
Bill & Stevie Sheatsley
Karen Siegel
Richard & Cherie Simpson
Lewis & Edris Sitzer
Carson & Miriam Skaggs
Marilyn Smith
Lisa Stine
Tom Stone
Norman & Beverly Stout
Rick & Mary Street
Dallas & Barbara Sutton
Joel & Rita Sweet
Steve & Edyann Switzer
Richard & Theresa Thomas
Randy & Nahid Thompson
Jeffrey & Sue Thomsen
Marilyn Rohrbacher & Jim Thornton
John & Bonnie Torres
Gerda & Juergen Traub
Paul & Mary Trethewey
Patrick & Gerry Tribble
Louis & Waynette Trovato
Dennis & Yuko Tucker
Donna Uran
Patrick & Theresa Wagner
Jack & Debbie Wandro
Don & Louise Warner
Alexandra & Gerhardt Wassermann
Alan Weisberg & Susan Gregory
Jeff & Lynn Wenzel
Jack & Michele White
Kevin & Sharon Whitlock
Ted Smith & Susan Wiesner
Dennis & Lee Williams
Robert & Susan Willour
Stu & Vera Wright
David & Joyce Yaksick
David & Shirley Yeager
John Zakoian



Join GCHNA or Renew Your Membership (check your membership status at 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 2010. 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.

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, Sky ranch 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.

Jean Oliver, (ajoliver@sbcglobal.net) 265-0269

Central Cement Hill Road

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

Jeanette Clark, (cementhill@aol.com) 265-2680

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.

(open)

At Large

Julie Cobden, (jacobden@gv.net) 265-5987

Eve Collins, (collins@theunion.net) 265-6540

Tom Stone, (tastone@pacbell.net) 478-1295





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Who to Contact...

Membership Information

Eve Collins – 265-6540

Ferrellgas Information

Customer Service – 265-5896

Neighborhood Ferrellgas Contact

Tom Stone – 478-1295

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, regarding
treated water pipeline
[www.marquespipeline.com/
cementhill/](http://www.marquespipeline.com/cementhill/)

FONA Web Site

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 1st – December 31st

Membership Dues due by

February 1st Grace period to May 1st

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

Newsletter Contributors

Editors: Susan Wiesner & Ellen Hagan

Design & Layout: Bill Holman

Copy Editor: Eve Collins &

Eileen Jorgensen

And a big thanks to all our writers and photographers.

