

Annual Picnic/Potluck September 15th

SUMMER/FALL 2013 NEWSLETTER

www.gchna.com

23nd Annual Neighborhood Family Picnic/Potluck September 15, 2013 3:30 to Dusk

Chris Owen's "Terra Sol" 13620 Bodie Ridge Rd. West end of Cement Hill Rd.

You're invited on Sunday, Sept 15th to your annual family picnic. Come listen to the music of Stepside and help us celebrate 23 years. Everyone's welcome to visit with old friends and make new friends at the beautiful estate of Chris Owen. Information of interest to our neighborhood will be available through exhibits by local organizations.

Our theme this year is "Focus on the Future".

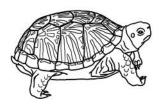
3:30-4:30 Music and Happy Hour 4:30 Dinner and program Our program includes short presentations from Rem Scherzinger, General Manager of NID speaking on his vision for NID, Jessica Hudson, Nevada County Librarian speaking on the new tech center being built at the Madelyn Helling Library, and Nate Beason speaking on the General Plan update process.

Harvest Potluck - Bring a favorite main dish to share (no desserts needed.). GCHNA will provide beer, wine, tea, soda, and dessert. Thank you Flour Garden Bakery for providing the cake. Please bring your own place settings (non disposable eating utensils and plate - we're continuing to be green!).

Come join the "GCHNA gang" for this wonderful yearly event!

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Gchna Steering Committee At Work

By Ellen Hagan

The last Steering Committee meeting was held on July 1, from 6:00 to 8:30 at the NCCFD Station 84 in Nevada City. Attendees included: Susan Wiesner, Willie Brusin, Eve Collins, Bill Holman, Larry Cook, Ellen Hagan, Bill Sheatsley, Deborah Wandro, and Terry Wagner.

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Steering Committee From page 1

After eating pizza and socializing, the business meeting began with the usual reports. We have 212 members. The Treasurer's report shows that the revenues, the operating surplus, and the general fund balance are comparable to last year.

Neighborhood reps reported that there was a breakin on Applewood Ln. Terry reported on the on-going concerns of the Indian Flat neighbors regarding the use of Hirschman's Trail and its impact on water quality and wildlife. Sierra Streams is monitoring water quality and gathering data on wildlife. They will provide updates on their findings. They are looking for volunteers to help in this effort. The Indian Flat subdivision has been impacted by the trail as well. Meetings continue between county representatives and the Indian Flat/Indian Trails neighbors to resolve road safety issues as people exit at the intersection of Indian Trail and Indian Flat. Ellen reported that the emergency access road from the Haight property seems to have been graded.

The newsletter committee is preparing for the summer/fall issue which will include the picnic invitation, a map of the fire emergency access road, and an article from Sierra Streams.

The 2 year Ferrellgas contract will expire at the end of 2013. Comparing our costs with costs from the Farm Bureau and another propane company, it looks like Ferrellgas is giving us a "good shake". (The latest news is that the Steering Committee has approved a one-year extension of our Ferrellgas contract.)

The Sept 15 Family Picnic is our big up-coming event. It will be at Chris Owen's from 3:30 to dusk.The band Stepside has been booked. Our theme will be "Focus on the Future". We will invite Rem Scherzinger, the new general manager of NID to speak about his vision for the future of NID. We'll also ask Jessica Hudson, the County Librarian to speak about the new tech center at the Madelyn Helling Library. Nate Beason, our County Supervisor will be asked to speak on the General Plan update process.

The FireSafe Council has requested that a GCHNA rep speak at the July 9 Board or Supervisors meeting to give evidence about how the FireSafe Council has assisted our neighborhood in fire prevention activities in the hopes that the Board will match funds from the Fire Chiefs of Nevada County to provide a formula for permanent funding for the Council. Jeanette Clark will be asked to speak. (Jeannette Clark did speak at the meeting. We want to thank her for her very effective presentation.)

The Board of Supervisors is in the process of updating the general plan. GCHNA is looking for someone to monitor the proceedings and keep the Steering Committee updated. The next meeting is Monday, Oct 7, 2013, 6:00 at the NCCFD Station 84, Coyote Street, Nevada City.

Up-Coming Events

23rd Annual Family Picnic Sunday, Sept 15 3:30 to dusk (see article)

Steering Committee Meeting Monday, Oct. 7 6:00 to 8:30 NCCFD Station 84, Coyote St., Nevada City

Cement Hill Community Facilities District Guide to be Available Soon

By Susan Wiesner

Since August 2011 NID treated water has been flowing to many participating homeowners in the Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood. This project was more than 15 years in the making with the Nevada Irrigation District, County officials and local citizens working in partnership to accomplish something that should serve the community far into the future. In addition to having a reliable source of quality drinking water, the entire area benefits from the installation of 55 fire hydrants funded by the NID Community Investment Program.

Detailed project information will soon be available to the public online. A "Guide Booklet" will provide the background of the Community Facilities District (CFD 2007-1) and include the district boundaries, how parcels may be added, detailed construction costs and funding. Also covered will be current management and the annual reporting for tax lien purposes.

This document will be posted this fall on the NID website: <u>nidwater</u>. <u>com</u>. It will be found under "Financial and District Documents," which can be accessed from the "About NID" tab on the main page. Thanks go to our Division I Director Nancy Weber, NID Assistant Manager Tim Crough, and a volunteer citizens committee who have all helped to document this project.





Sierra Streams Institute Update on Hirschman's Pond Study

At the end of 2012, Sierra Streams Institute (SSI) was awarded a 3-year grant from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC), under SNC's Healthy Forests Initiative. This project is primarily focused on developing a brush and ladder-fuels reduction project at Hirschman's Pond, and will include the development of a Land Management Plan for the area, with the goal of guiding management of the property to maintain a healthy forest in perpetuity, to improve recreational opportunities, and to prevent catastrophic wildfires.

The overall goal of the proposed project is to develop a plan for a healthy forest through the reduction of forest fuel loads, thereby reducing the risk of catastrophic fire, and subsequent erosion and sedimentation. Maintaining a fire safe forest in the Hirschman's Pond area will prevent potential water quality impacts to Woods Ravine, a tributary of Deer Creek, by preventing erosion that ensues after catastrophic fires, and ensuring that the resulting sedimentation and nutrient additions to Woods Ravine are avoided. The property is currently infested with non-native plants, primarily Scotch broom and Himalayan blackberry, which greatly increase the fire danger.

Improvements to the vegetative complex in the area, and reduction of wildfire risk, would therefore have an important benefit for recreational use and overall watershed health in the Deer Creek watershed, by improving water quality, reducing erosion, and increasing native habitat.

In order to understand the current state of the Hirschman's Pond property, SSI is conducting a suite of biological surveys in the area, which will be used to inform the Land Management Plan. Our primary concern when conducting any research projects at SSI is to maintain the integrity and well being of the environment and all of the organisms living within it. Spring and early summer studies include:

- Spring bird surveys, in which we spotted dozens of bird species, including wood ducks, belted kingfishers, Canada geese, and acorn woodpeckers
- 2 weeks of mammal surveys, in which we identified multiple deer mice, dusky-footed wood rats, and a striped skunk!
- Amphibian and reptile surveys (beginning the week of 7/22)
- Forest structure and vegetation surveys
- Water quality analysis

We've had quite a few members of the neighborhood sign up to volunteer to help us with these projects, and are exceptionally grateful for those of you who have already contributed time & meaningful data. If you have any questions about SSI, our projects at Hirschman's or other sites, or are interested in volunteering with us, please contact Rachel Durben at rachel@sierrastreamsinstitute.org.

Notice of General Plan Land Use Element Amendment

The Nevada County Community Development Agency Planning Department sent a notice on June 21, 2013 regarding the update process for Phase I which will be a policy level "refresh" of the Land Use Element, rather than a comprehensive effort that would make any fundamental changes. Currently, the Planning Department is compiling a contact list of individuals, organizations, agencies and other entities that are interested in being part of the General Plan Land Use Element Update process. Public involvement is essential to the planning process. Public workshops and community presentations will be held throughout the County, in addition to Planning Commission meetings and regular website updates. For more information and/or to be added to the contact list, please contact Kim Hunter, Senior Planner at 530-265-1423 or via email at Kimberly.hunter@ co.nevada.ca.us





Fall Fire Prevention Activities

With the smell of smoke in the air from the nearby American River fire in Placer County, we are reminded that living in the Sierra Nevada foothills poses a very high wildfire threat to our community. Attaining defensible space – and keeping it – requires year round activities. Here's a calendar of reminders for fall to ensure you're always ready, no matter where and when a fire occurs:

SEPTEMBER

September often brings North winds and Red Flag Warnings to our area. This month is often the height of wildfire season due to these weather conditions. Work to keep fine fuels (leaves, grasses and pine needles) at least 10 feet from structures to protect your home from flying embers which may ignite your home during a wildfire.

OCTOBER

Fire prevention week is the first week in October. When daylight savings time arrives, remember to check your smoke detector batteries. Do you have a reflective address sign at your home? If not, get one! Moments matter during medical emergencies and first responders need to be able to find you quickly.

NOVEMBER

Fall is a great time to manage vegetation and create defensible space. It's cooler, you have more opportunities to burn (if you elect to do so), and it is much safer. After the first good soaking rain, burning will be allowed. Always be sure to contact the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District (530-272-2465) to ensure it is a permissive burn day prior to lighting a pile. Please burn hot, clean fires to avoid creating smoke nuisances.

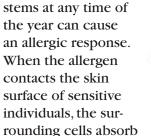
Clearly, fire prevention is an activity that must be ongoing in order to be effective. It is not a matter of if, but when and where, another wildfire will occur. September 11, 2013 marks the 25th anniversary of the 49'er Fire. The 49'er Fire burned over 33,700 acres and 312 structures and still ranks as the 17th largest wildfire in California history by structures lost. Once a fire is ignited, it is too late to take action. Please do your part to be prepared year round – it affects everyone in the community.

For more information on how to prepare, please visit www. areyoufiresafe.com, or call the Fire Safe Council for personal assistance at (530) 272-1122.

Poison Oak

Poison oak is widespread throughout the mountains and valleys of California. It thrives in shady canyons and riparian habitats. Poison oak is a woody shrub or vine that loses its leaves in winter. In open areas under full sunlight, it forms a dense, leafy shrub usually 1 to 6 feet high. In shaded areas, such as oak woodlands, it grows as a climbing vine, supporting itself on other vegetation or upright objects using its aerial roots. Leaves normally consist of three leaflets with the stalk of the central leaflet being longer than those of the other two. Each leaflet is 1 to 4 inches long and smooth with toothed or somewhat lobed edges.

Contact with poison oak leaves or



it. Within 1 to 6 days, skin irritation and itching will be followed by water blisters, which can exude serum. Contrary to popular belief, the serum does not transmit the rash to other parts of the body or to other people.

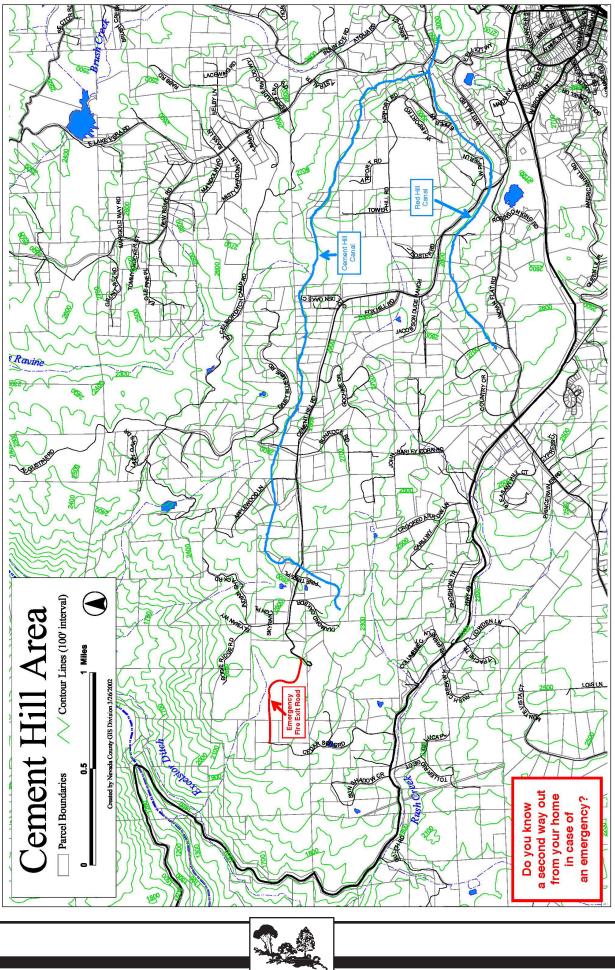
The best precaution is to know what poison oak looks like at all seasons and don't touch it. Be aware that you can get poison oak by petting a dog that's rubbed against the plant. Know also that burning poison oak disperses the oils via the smoke particles. Breathing this smoke can cause severe respiratory irritation.

After coming in contact with the allergen, the best way to prevent skin irritation is to pour rubbing alcohol over the exposed area then wash with plenty of cold water. If isopropyl alcohol is not available, use cold water by itself to help dilute the oil and keep the rash from spreading. The product Technu, which most drug stores sell, will remove the poison oak oil from your skin. You should wash the contacted areas within 2 to 8 hours after exposure.

Enjoy our Nevada County trails taking precautions against poison oak.







Scott & Karen Adams Marge Addleman Richard & Catherine Alderman Franceska Alexander Sallee Allen Ron & Judy Anderson Chip & Peggy Arenchild Ed Arnott Marty Austin Wallace & Marilyn Bair Luci Baker Christy Barden Jeff & Regina Barton Mike & Jane Betts Ken & Laura Bigham Malaika, Gordon, Amari & Oriah Bishop Tom Anderson & Eileen Blodgett Anna Bousouris Molly Breen & Mike McRae Brian & Jennifer Breiling Bob & Edy Britts Michael Brook & Cathy Blake Ken and Joanne Brown Gary & Margaret Brown Willie & Sue Brian & Ruthanne Buckley Fred & Margie Buhler Mike, Karen, Shannon & Amber Busse Jon Byerrum & Holly Hermansen Stan & Linda Byrne Chip Carman & John Paul Jill Caruthers & Jon Fox Denis & Jennifer Cebollero Ernest & Linda Chiappari John & Lisa Christensen Gordon & Jeanette Clark George Cloud Martha & Jeff Coleman-Hunt Doug & Eve Collins Barry R. Collins Larry & Cheryl Cook Diana Cooley Charles & Leora Coovert William & Susan Copeland Diana Coronel Sue & Jeff Cowitz Robert Crawford Charles & Nancy Creech Dale Tom & Sandy Creighton Ralph & Lisa Cutter Richard & Joan Davis Babette Donaldson Larry & Mary Anne Dulmage Tom Dunham & Terri Beedle Carl Eckardt & Priscilla Rose-Eckardt Stephen & Deborah Edwards William & Shirley-Mae Elliot Myles & Colleen Ericson Greg & Susan Fenner Ric Ferrentino & Vicki Parker Diane Fetterly Jack & Patti Foster Gary & Cathy Fouver Frank & Fran Francis Terry & Midge Gallagher **Richard Geroux** Mike & Barbara Getz Dave Giguere Darryl & Barbara Goehring Gary & Nancy Goerz Jeff & Anna Gold Henry Goodman & Susan Jakubik Clark & Fran Gordon

Current 2013 GCHNA Members

Harold & Patricia Graves Bill & Linda Greig Martin Hachler & Dawa Fitzmaurice Tim & Ellen Hagan Alan Haight & Jo McProud Cheryl Haines & Daniel J. McCoy Greg & Nicolette Hansen Pat & Shaun Havard Annika Haves Larry Heiniemi & Carolyn Sherwood Howard & Jill Hersh Richard & Susanne Hinman Lita Holleman Bill Holman Bob & Cindy Hren Terry & Courtney Hundemer Charles I. Hurst Dale & Diane Jacobson Jean Gilbert & Sylvia Jensen Betty Johnson Blane & Linda Johnson Ralph & Michele Joiner Steven Jones & Liz Meyers Brett & Louis Jones & Barbara Hall Paul & Eileen Jorgensen Ronna Lee Joseph-Murray & Tim Murray Scott & Yvette Joslyn Frank Joyal Kevin & Lisa K Kevin & Ricki Kartes Richard Katz & Patricia Kaminski Iim Keem James Kelleher & Terri Schwaderer Tom & Kathleen Kellv Al & Pat Kennerley Patrick Kleinhammer & Kimberly Shepard Karen Kline & Becky Smith Ginger Konvalin Allan & Mary Krosner Ronald & Melanie Kuhnel Dennis Kurlander David Kyle & Patt Lind-Kyle Ellen Laird Suesan & Jeff Larsen David Lee & Sassi LaMuth Harley Lehman Stan & Donna Levin Steve & Shervl Levy Jenelle (Jeep) Lindsay David & Lorraine Livingston Vincent & Alana Lucia Art Lynn . Henry & Arabella Macias Ken Macklin & Marla Charbonneau Margaret Austin & William Mandel Dennis & Penny Matthews Chuck Mattison Gardiner McCauley Craig & Gayle McClelland Rod & Mariorie McConnell Iim McCranev Helen McDonald Julie & Jay McEnroe Don McIntyre & Gail O'Malley Tom & Cara Meinholz James & Sherry Miller Carla Woodside & Doug Mitchell John Morales Roger Morrison & Nancy Herrick Scott Muir & Julie Poulton Joan Regal & Steve Myers LaVeta Nevius Bill & Chris Newsom

Jim & Janice O'Brien Alberta Oates Marcella Oglesby Derek and Maureen Olsen Chris, Kyle and Ryan Owen David Painter & Sharon Winegar David & Linda Palley Jay Patt Illi Paulin Denis & Nancy Paulson Floyd & Joy Perry-Thistle Marty Pezzaglia Charles & Julieta Phillips Carl & Joyce Plaza Randi Pratini Terry & Robin Prechter Robert & Ruth Racine Christina Reski & Robert Ruschke Anthony & Jacki Kay Richards Kirk & Fran Robertson Lowell & Diane Robertson Doug & Penny Rodrick Dee & Dan Rodriguez Gabriel Ross & Claire Leve Karen Rynberg Chuck & Janice Schretenthaler Tom & Joan Seabury Tim & Candace Segale Bill & Stevie Sheatslev Richard & Cherie Simpson Lew Sitzer Carson & Miriam Skaggs Marilyn Smith Ernie & Jenene Sowell Lisa Stine Tom Stone Norman & Beverly Stout Rick & Mary Street John & Sylvia Sutfin Joel & Rita Sweet Steve & Edyann Switzer Arlene Taylor **Richard & Theresa Thomas** Randy & Nahid Thompson Jeffrey & Sue Thomsen John & Bonnie Torres Gerda & Juergen Traub Paul & Mary Trethewey Patrick & Gerry Tribble Dennis & Yuko Tucker Donna Uran & Mark Ostrov Michael & Nikki Vasquez Peggy Vierra Patrick & Theresa Wagner Doug & Debbie Wagner Jack & Debbie Wandro Don & Louise Warner Iacquie Weills Alan Weisberg & Susan Gregory Jack & Michele White Kevin & Sharon Whitlock Ted Smith & Susan Wiesner Dennis & Lee Williams Robert & Susan Willour Susan Wilson David & Joyce Yaksick David & Shirley Yeager Michael & Jill Zan

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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 2013. 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 I would like to become involved. Please contact me.

| Q.Q. | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 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, Skyranch Road, and Elysian Way. Willie Brusin, (wbrusin@att.net) 265-4018

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 to Central Cement Hill area. Patt Lind-Kyle (patt@lindandkyle.com) 478-9622

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. **Open**

Indian Flat Road

Indian Flat Road, including Indian Trails, Country Circle, Woods Ravine Ct. and Robinson King Road. Terry Wagner (twags40@hotmail.com) 470-9206 and Bill Sheatsley (stevieandbill@sheatsley.com) 265-2808

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. Debbie Wandro (1starrydeborah@att.net) 478-1498

Wet Hill Road

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

Airport Road

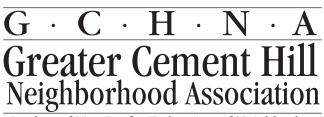
Airport Road, including Tower Hill Road, West Airport Road, East Piper Lane, and Sheriff Road. Scott Adams, (sadams1635@sbcglobal.net) 470-0273

At Large

Eve Collins, (collins@theunion.net) 265-6540 Bill Holman (bholman@succeed.net) 265-8387 Uli Paulin, (upaulin@ttz.com) 265-4194 Bob and Susie Willour (bobnsusiew@att.net) 265-5754







Member of Non-Profit . Federation of Neighborhood Associations P.O. Box 1491, Nevada City, CA 95959

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Who to Contact...

Membership Information Eve Collins - 265-6540 Ferrellgas Information Customer Service - 265-5896 <u>ferrellgas.com</u> The Fire Safe Council Joanne Drummond - 272-1122 www.areyoufiresafe.com 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.

Web Master

Alana Lucia

Newsletter Contributors

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

