



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

Annual
Picnic
on
Sunday
September
21

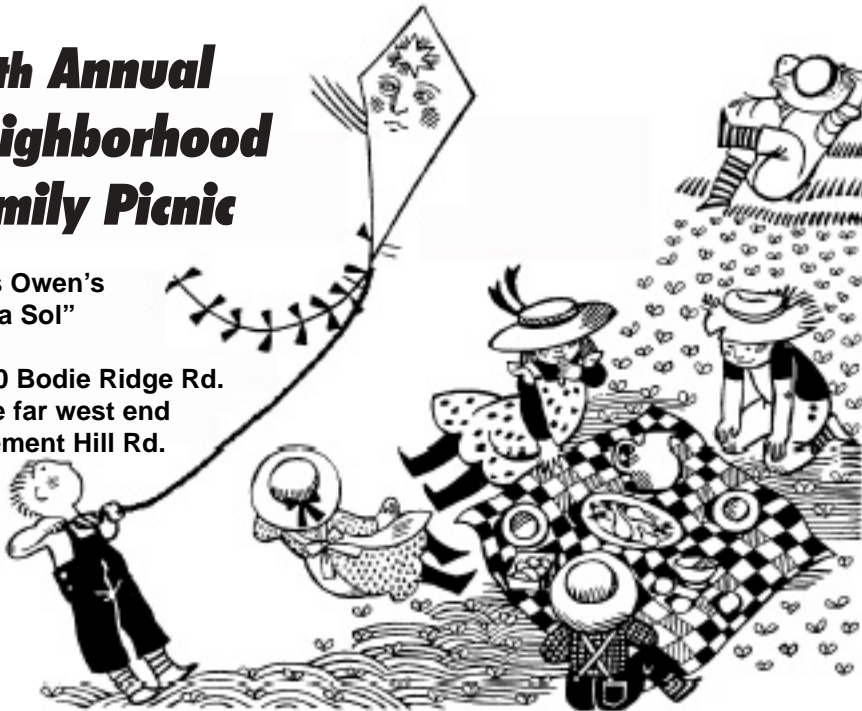
SUMMER 2008 NEWSLETTER

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18th Annual Neighborhood Family Picnic

Chris Owen's
"Terra Sol"

13620 Bodie Ridge Rd.
at the far west end
of Cement Hill Rd.



Getting to know you!
You're invited on Sunday
Sept 21st.

Please join us in our annual celebration of our neighborhood community. Everyone's welcome to visit with old friends and make new friends at the beautiful estate of Chris Owen on Bodie Ridge. Information of interest to our neighborhood, will be available through local organizations who have been invited to exhibit.

Harvest Potluck

Please bring a favorite main dish to share, and your own chair. GCHNA will provide beer, wine, tea, soda, plates and place settings and dessert.

Schedule

3:00 – 5:00 PM
Happy Hour and socializing
View Community exhibits

5:00 PM Dinner and
Special Guest Speakers

Bill Haire – Trails Coordinator for the Land Trust for Hirschman's Trail
Paul Matson - "Mr. Nevada City" – presenting an overview of Cement Hill's open space, with an emphasis on the Hirschman's Trail project.

7:00 PM Open Mike

NID Cement Hill Water Supply Project

*By John Houlihan, Project Manager
HydroScience Engineers*

Most of the survey has been completed, and we are working toward completion of the 50% (preliminary) design package. Current target for public review of the 50% package is early to mid August. We're looking at a format for the review which will best allow neighbors to focus on what is planned in their immediate area. We look forward to this opportunity for good input from the Cement Hill Community.

Within the next 2 weeks, we will have a more definite picture of the meeting format, time and place. At that time, we will be sending out a mailing and will have a notice on the project web site at www.nidcementhill.com

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Delicious Day at Riverhill Farm

by Jeanette Clark

April 27th was a beautiful spring day in the neighborhood. About 35 guests participated in the annual GCHNA "Spring Garden and Tea Tour" at Riverhill Farm at the end of Cement Hill Road. Alan Haight and Jo McProud greeted participants and spoke about the mission of Riverhill Farm. In particular, Alan addressed the serious issue of sediment runoff when irrigating crops and how Riverhill is addressing the challenge to keep soil and nutrients at the Farm. The weather was perfect and the tea, with all the sweet and savory goodies, was served among flowers and graceful shade trees. Harp music, supplied by Lisa Stein, softly lulled the ears of all... We appreciate everyone who made this event so special! Hope to see you next year when we host the 2009 *Spring Garden and Tea Tour*.



Springtime at Riverhill Farm.



Eileen Welcomes guests.

Hirschman Trail Project Update

By Bill Haire, Trail Coordinator for the Land Trust

The Hirschman's Trail Project is being funded by the Recreation Trails Program, a Federal program administered by the State Department of Parks and Recreation. There is a 2-step progress, first an application to the State, and then if the project is selected for funding, the Federal requirements must be met. As we have been chosen for funding, we are currently working on satisfying the Federal requirements which include an assessment of cultural resources that might be affected by the trail project (historic and pre-historic resources).

Best estimate at this time is that we will not be able to satisfy the Federal requirements before the end of September. After that occurs, the contract between the City and State must be signed and then work can begin.

The City is the grant applicant and is responsible for building the trail. However it is our intention that the Nevada

County Land Trust will continue to act as the agent of the City to manage the construction of the trail in accordance with our Memorandum of Understanding.

We hope to begin trail construction this fall with brush removal and engineering work. The more primitive section of trail (from Hirschman Pond west toward the Willo) may be built this winter/spring, depending on when we get started and what type of a wet season we have. The accessible portion of the trail from Cement Hill Road to the pond will be much more complicated and construction of this section of trail must wait on engineering and design work. I would guess that construction will not begin until next spring at the earliest.

All of this is dependent upon when the Contract between the City and State is signed; we cannot do anything until that time unless we don't care about being reimbursed for that work.

(Editors note: Bill will be a speaker on this topic at our Annual Picnic- 9/21)



History Lesson at Hirschman's Pond.



Current 2008 GCHNA Members

This is our current membership list. If you don't see your name and you still wish to join, it is not too late! A renewal form is included in this newsletter.

Jim & Marge Addleman
Richard & Catherine Alderman
Francesca Alexander
Sallee AllenGene & Shirley Anderson
Ed & Judy Arnott
Wallace & Marilyn Bair
Luci Baker
Christy Barden
Ken & Laura Bigham
Malaika Edwards & Gordon Bishop
Anna Bousouris & Sam Vanderhoof
Molly Breen & Mike McRae
Elana & Kevin Brennan
Steve Star & Carol Brodsky
Michael Brook & Cathy Blake
Willie & Sue Brusin
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
Julie Cobden
Doug & Eve Collins
Larry & Cheryl Cook
Glen & Nathalie Cooley
William & Susan Copeland
Lana Corless
Ron & Diana Coronel
Sue & Jeff Cowitz
Robert Crawford
Charles & Nancy Creech
Dale Tom & Sandy Creighton
Luise Cummins / Jill Cummins- Muhlbach
Richard & Joan Davis
James Doak & Ginger Konvalin
Laurence & Mary Anne Dulmage
Tom Dunham & Terri Beedle
Stephen & Deborah Edwards
William & Shirley Elliot
Myles & Colleen Ericson
Doug & Caryl Fairfull
Greg & Susan Fenner
Mark & Delora Ferry
Diane Fetterly
Jack & Patti Foster
Gary & Cathy Fouyer
Amy & Brendan Fowler
Kate Frame
Frank & Fran Francis
J. Frenzel & J. McEnroe

Terry & Midge Gallagher
Dave & Kathy Giguere
Gregory & Marion Gilbert
Patricia Rusert Gillette, Scott Gillette
Jeff & Anna Gold
Henry Goodman & Susan Jakubik
Clark & Fran Gordon
Harold & Patricia Graves
James & Diane Greig
Dona Groves
Barbara Hagan Tim & Ellen Hagan
Alan Haight & Jo McProud
Cheryl Haines & Daniel J. McCoy
Greg & Nicolette Hansen
Jon & Ann Heinrich
Howard & Jill Hersh
Norma Hildebrand
Richard & Sue Hinman
Ed & Lita Holleman
Bill Holman
William & Mijo Horwich
Bob & Cindy Hren
Mike & Elaine Hughes
Terry & Courtney Hundemer
Charles J. Hurst
Dale & Diane Jacobson
Clifford & Odette Jager
Yohanna Landers & Jacqueline Janssen
Betty Johnson
Steven Jones & Liz Meyers Brett & Louis Jones
Paul & Eileen Jorgensen
Ronna Lee Joseph-Murray & Tim Murray
Frank Joyal
Kevin & Lisa Kalajan
Rick & Elizabeth Kalb
Kevin & Ricki Kartes
Richard Katz & Patricia Kaminski
Jim Keem
Tom & Kathleen Kelly
David & Shan Kendall
Al & Pat Kennerley
David Kyle & Patt Lind-Kyle
Ronald & Ellen Laird
Suesan & Jeff Larsen
Ina Lejins
Stan & Donna Levin
Steve & Sheryl Levy
Jenelle Lindsay
David & Lorraine Livingston
Henry & Arabella Macias
Ken Macklin & Marla Charbonneau
Lin Donald & Tom Manuel
Dennis & Penny Matthews
Gardiner McCauley
Rod & Marjorie McConnell
Jim McCraney
Helen McDonald
Tom & Cara Meinholz
James & Sherry Miller
Carla Woodside & Doug Mitchell
John Morales
Roger Morrison & Nancy Herrick
Scott Muir & Julie Poulton
Joan Regal & Steve Myers
Terry Naleway

Mike & LaVeta Nevius
Bill & Chris Newsom
Michael & Dorothea Nudelman
Jim & Janice O'Brien
Marcella Oglesby & Patricia Link
Andy & Jean Oliver
Chris, Kyle and Ryan Owen
David & Linda Palley
Denis & Nancy Paulson
George Cloud & Linda Pearson
Michele Furtado & Andy Peterman
Marty Pezzaglia
Patrick & Wathada Phillips
Charles & Julieta Phillips
Carl & Joyce Plaza
Remo & Randi Pratini
Terry & Robin Prechter
Robert & Ruth Racine
Saul Rayo & Elena Powell
George & Jo Ann Rebane
Dee & Dan Rodriguez
Gabriel Ross
Ruth Rutherford
Karen Rynberg
David Schwendeman & Leslie Edwards
John & Lorraine Shankland
Bill & Stevie & Shannon Sheatsley
Wayne & Karen Siegel
Richard & Cherie Simpson
Lewis & Edris Sitzer
Carson & Miriam Skaggs
Marilyn Smith
HOLL'R n PINES / Mark & Judy Staneart
Lisa Stine
Tom Stone
Norman & Bev 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
Louis & Waynette Trovato
Dennis & Yuko Tucker
Donna Uran
Patrick & Theresa Wagner
Jack & Debbie Wandro
Don & Louise Warner
Alexandra & Gerhardt Wassermann
Jacquie Weills
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



Carl Plaza

- representing Gochine and Mt. Auburn
Circle 14226 Gochine Drive



Native Californian born in Handford Calif.. Grew up and raised in the Bay Area (Sunnyvale, CA); Graduated from Fremont High School (Class of '53). Attended San Jose State majoring in Accounting and Business Administration.

Married to Joyce Plaza and has 3 Daughters, 6 Grandchildren, and 1 Great Granddaughter.

Worked for Hewlett-Packard Corp. for 30 years (mainly in Procurement and Inventory Management areas). Retired in June of 1995 as Purchasing Manager for the Research and Development Divisions of HP.

Moved to Nevada City in October of 1995 and built a home on Gochine Drive.

Was a past member of the GCHNA Steering Committee during the years 1998-2000 again representing Gochine Dr. and Mt. Auburn Circle.

Hobbies include playing Racquetball, Tennis and Cooking for family and friends.

Susan Wiesner

Neighborhood Representative At Large



Born in New Jersey but followed advice to "head west young woman". Most recently moved to Nevada City from Walnut Creek after retiring from Bank of America. Interests include travel, books, hiking, and gardening. Also appreciates good *slow* food (preferably fresh and local ...and shared with friends). Wants to get involved with some activities, but always leaving time to head down "blue" high-ways with her husband, Ted Smith.

Ancient River Channels

Part 1 of an Ongoing History Series

By Susan Wiesner

Some Cement Hill residents may not realize that they are sitting above waterfront property! As in much of the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada, rivers flowed through this area shortly after the time of the dinosaurs. The river beds of granite and metamorphic slate gravel deposits were later overlaid in places by lava flows and volcanic material. Interestingly, the general course of these streams is almost at right angles with present rivers such as the South Yuba that now

carry water to the Sacramento Valley. Erosion forces have left the current drainage system level much lower than the old, so that what was formerly a river bed is now the dividing ridge between two streams. Such is the case with the "Cement Ridge" auriferous gravel deposit identified by J. D. Whitney in 1873. Gravel deposits from extinct rivers channels with their quartz veins were of particular interest to gold miners.

Footnote: This geological phenomenon was described in detail by Thompson & West in their 1880 History of Nevada County California (pages 178-179), available at the Searles Library.

Nevada County Is Understaffed And Under-equipped To Handle Any Major Wildfire Event

by Warren Knox

Published Jun 28, 2008, YubaNet.com

A recent newspaper poll has underscored the complete lack of understanding residents of have about wildfire safety here in Nevada County. That non-scientific poll of 800+ of the newspapers readers indicated that 71% of those responding thought that Nevada County was well prepared for the next wildfire.

The truth is Nevada County is understaffed and under-equipped to handle any major wildfire event. The Consolidated Fire District, for example, is responsible for the 150 square miles of area around Nevada City and Grass Valley. To protect this huge area, it has only seven fire engines. Other fire organizations are similarly under-equipped. Fuel levels on this landscape are up to eight times higher today than they were prior to the gold rush, and those landscape fuel levels have been significantly increased by the

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Defensible Space is Key to Protecting Homes from Wildfires

By: Northern California Fires Joint Information Center

Step One: Determine a defensible space zone at least 100 feet from the home in all directions. Communicate with neighbors that defensible space is most effective when whole communities participate. Get federal, state and local permits when necessary.

Step Two: Remove all dead, dying, and diseased vegetation. These are the dry, brittle fuels including trees, limbs, shrubs, and plants. Duff, leaves, and debris on the ground should be removed to a depth of 3 inches. Leaving some soil cover prevents erosion, introduction of non-native species and under story growth.

Step Three: Create space between vegetation so fire can not transfer. Leave at least 10 feet between the branches of adjacent trees, increasing up to 30 feet as slope increases. Continuous canopy stands are the exception to this. Limb trees up to at least three times the height of lower shrubs, but don't remove more than a third of a tree's limbs. Tree limbs should not extend over a home. Shrubs should have a distance of at least 4 feet between them. Grass should be kept to 4 inches unless it's totally isolated from other vegetation or being used as soil stabilizer.

Step Four: Create a "Lean, Green, and Clean" area around the home. Within 50 feet of the home, prune shrubs and trees back even further. Create an irrigated area of grass or herbaceous plants to offer a moist barrier to fire. The 3 feet directly against the house should be a noncom-

combustible material, such as bare soil or brick, to prevent ignition of siding. Store firewood at least 100 feet from the home. Clear all flammable material within 15 feet of the propane tank.

Step Five: Keep the roof and gutters clean and consider replacing wood shingle roofs. Roofs are the most vulnerable part of a home. Remove all debris from the roof and gutters as needed. Wood shingles are especially fire-prone. Consider replacing shingle roofs with a noncombustible material, being sure to comply with zoning regulations.

Step Six: Maintain the defensible space. Each year, before fire season, reevaluate the area surrounding the home, reestablish the distance between fuels, clean up and haul off debris, and keep the roof clean.

Are You Prepared?



Nevada County Is Understaffed Continued from page 4

addition of 60,000 piles of concentrated fuels called homes.

Local communities have often rejected even modest attempts to assess themselves to improve this situation. Many of these same citizens insist on their rights to plant and maintain hedges of explosively flammable Scotch Broom and cedar as privacy screens. They refuse to replace thirty-year old shake shingle roofs. Literally thousands of people live on single exit, private roads that are tunnels in the flammable forest fuels.

Talk to any fire official, and they will tell you that the only question is when disaster will occur. These amazing heroes respond to nearly 10,000 fires a year, often taking significant risks to save the property of citizens who refuse to take even minimal steps to address the fuel load on their own property. Perhaps they do too good a job controlling and putting out the frequent small fires, and so lull us all into a comfortable sense of complacency.

But in the background, behind every small fire event lurks the constant danger of catastrophe. Exacerbated by trees drier than kiln dried lumber, late frost damage to hearty oaks, and bone dry grasses, deer brush and Manzanita, these little fires need only the added component of a wind event - no more than 20 miles per hour out of the north - to fan them into a raging inferno.

Many of our small group of underappreciated fire fighters are now returning home after fighting massive wildfires all over California. Our firefighters are extremely well trained experts, and are passionate about their profession. However, it will take much more than they can give to overcome the naive complacency of Nevada County. Let's just hope we have not waited too long to understand the danger around us,

and together, start working on solutions. Readers can find out how to help by contacting the Fire Safe Council of Nevada County (530-272-1122).

Warren Knox is Co-President of the Federation of Neighborhood Associations of Nevada County and a Director of the Fire Safe Council of Nevada County. He lives outside of Nevada City.

Cement Hill Ferrellgas

By Tom Stone

Our gas contract with Ferrellgas is still the lowest in Nevada County.^o It is based on a 35 cent margin over the Bay Area refinery "rack" prices. This year the Cement Hill consumer price bottomed out at \$1.95/gallon in April and currently in July 2008 our consumer price is around \$2.17/gallon.

So what's in store for the winter?

Last winters prices peaked at \$2.25/gallon after a wild January increase. Then as noted above, they fell to \$1.95/gallon in April of 2008. According to Andy Fellman, the local Ferrellgas General Manager, the wild upswing we saw in prices last winter, will not occur again this winter. Let's hope not. As of July of 2008 we are already 60 cents above July of 2007 prices... \$2.17/gallon in 2008 vs \$1.47/gallon in 2007. If you want an educated guess, look for a heating bill around 20% higher than last years.

Remember, when you fill up your BBQ propane tank at the Fellellgas office on Lower Grass Valley Road, and you tell the pump operator you are a current GCHNA member, you can fill your BBQ tank at the current GCHNA contracted rate for gas.

Locals host activities for National Trails Day

By Willie Brusin

The Friends of the Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association, the City of Nevada City, Bicyclists of Nevada County, Friends of Deer Creek, Wolf Creek Community Alliance, Gold Country Trails Council, Nevada County Public Health, The Greater Champion Neighborhood Association, and the Nevada County Land Trust hosted a number of non-motorized activities to celebrate the National Trails Day on and about Saturday June 7th, 2008. The National Trails Day evolved from a 1987 report by President Reagan's Commission on Americans Outdoors. Bill Haire, the trails coordinator for the Nevada County Land Trust, organized the celebration. Several members of the Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association worked on the trail to Hirschman's pond several weeks prior to the event.

The Hirschman's Pond trailhead is located on Cement Hill Road across from the jail driveway. Nevada City was awarded a \$195,360.00 grant that will be used to build a 2.5 mile trail linking Cement Hill Road to Hirschman's Pond and the Indian Trails subdivision. Willie Brusin lead several walks to Hirschman's Pond on Saturday June 7th. GCHNA members Jeanette Clark, Eileen Jorgensen and Eve Collins manned an information booth at the trailhead to Hirschman's Pond on the day of the celebration, Saturday June 7th, 2008.



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 2008. 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 Mr. 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.

Donna Uran, (uran@alum.mit.edu) 478-1656

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.

Andy 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.

Lin Donald, (lin-tom@sbcglobal.net) 265-3334

Wet Hill Road

Wet Hill Road, including Sierra Springs Circle, Lower North Bloomfield Road, and Elliot Way.

Nancy Paulson, (smlduck@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

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





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Member of Non-Profit . Federation of Neighborhood Associations
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SUMMER 2008 NEWSLETTER

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

Brush Chipping

Joanne Drummond – 272-1122

Bear or Mountain Lion Problems

USDA Trapper Larry Lane

(916) 239-8978

Newsletter Contributors

Editors: Eve Collins & Eileen Jorgensen

Design & Layout: Bill Holman

Copy Editor: Marty Pezzaglia

*And a big thanks to all our writers
and photographers.*

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.

