



Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association

Protecting and preserving the rural qualities of our neighborhood by providing a forum for group action as needed.

President's Message

by Will Hart



It has been more than a year since our former president, Patricia

Fuenzalida, was called away by family circumstances. She was respected, hardworking and committed and is greatly missed. Since then, our Firewise Committee of four have been filling in, for which they deserve much credit.

I have decided to step into the president's role in an effort to help. It feels difficult to fill Patricia's shoes, but I am up for the challenge, and with your help I know I can succeed.

GCHNA is a community organization, committed to our neighborhood's safety and well-being. Fire awareness and preparedness are our primary goals, but our vehicle is people working together on a variety of projects.

I invite you to join with us in making our community a better place. Become a member. Come to our next meeting. Have some fun with us along the way!

In this Issue

Page # / Title

- (1) President's Message
- (1) Committee Meeting Highlights
- (2) Introducing Will Hart
- (3) Get to Know Your Neighborhood Organization
- (3) Autumn on Cement Hill
- (4) Firewise Committee News
- (5) Steering Committee Info
- (6) List of Current Members
- (7) Membership News
- (8) Contact Info
- (8) GCHNA Mission Statement

Membership

Join or Renew Now!
www.gchna.com

Steering Committee Meetings

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Meetings are every other month on the first Monday, from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

2024 dates

February 5	August 5
April 1	October 7
June 3	December 2

Location

Community Room
Madelyn Helling Library
Rood Center, Nevada City

Steering Committee Meetings Highlights



The October and December meetings included Treasurer's reports, Firewise Committee news, a follow-up on the August neighborhood gathering, discussions about the newsletter, and time for attendees to make comments and bring up issues. Last but not least, we had a unanimous vote for our new president, Will Hart! Will's leadership in the coming year steel's our resolve to move forward on new and ongoing programs.

Treasurer's Report and Membership

At the December meeting, our Treasurer Janet Johnson, provided very detailed reports on GCHNA budgets, expenses, and income dating back to 2014. With our projected year-end balance, there is concern that it is significantly lower than in the recent past. After much discussion about raising the membership dues for the first time since GCHNA was founded in 1991, the Steering Committee voted to increase the dues from \$20 to \$30. This will make it possible to sustain the organization, and accomplish what we feel is important for our community.

Membership

Joy Elson reported that membership totals were 245 for 2023, and was happy to say that there has been an increase in membership every year since 2021. With about 500 households in our neighborhood, we hope that even more will join in 2024 and we can keep up the trend. *(cont.)*



*Steering Committee Meetings
Summary continued ...*

Donations on Behalf of GCHNA

Motions were passed to make donations to the Fire Safe Council, Yuba Net, CHIRP, and the Bear Yuba Land Trust.

Introducing Will Hart

Our New President

by Will Hart

Whether living in rural Appalachian WV or on a small island in the Caribbean, I came to understand what it is to rely on your neighbors and to be part of a community.



In the early 70's, after college in PA, I moved to a 47-acre farm in Appalachian WV. Friends followed and we resurrected a forgotten town in the forest. Self-reliance and reliance on each other developed, as we shared house/barn-raising, a community sorghum project, setting up a sawmill (skidding logs with horses and trucks), planting gardens, putting up hay, and making cider. It was hard, dirty and glorious work, and it all took a lot of hands. We pulled each other out of ruts during mud season, and shared swimming holes in the summer. Dinners with neighbors were frequent.

There were no TVs, but everyone played an instrument, so it was dinner and music. Bands formed, and square dances and contra dances became regular events. Friends of Old Time Music and Dance (FOOTMAD) grew out of the music and still exists today.

Children came along. A cabinet shop

and a construction company with my neighbor were also born. Filling 15 years of my life was easy, but there was a new adventure coming our way in the US Virgin Islands (VI).

My wife Jan was in St. Croix (STX) with our three young daughters for only 10 days when Hurricane Hugo hit in 1989. She had accepted a teaching job and had to be there for the start of school while I was finishing a library for a client back in WV. The island was ill prepared and easily 1/3 of the housing was destroyed.

I arrived two weeks later to find Jan and the kids living in a blown-out condo where they were catching rainwater in a bathtub for drinking water. Fortunately, they had lots of help. We moved from place to place for nine months, living off a generator until we found a house to buy with no roof, windows, or doors (something we could afford).



Building in the VI differs from the states. Everything is made of concrete and block. I went to work for a construction company as a project manager, and we had plenty of work. After 10 years the company moved to St. Thomas and I stayed on STX and started my own. The VI were originally Danish and many of the buildings date back to the 1700s. The colonial division of the island was into plantations, with many having beautiful old ruins

of Great Houses. I was fortunate to have many interesting projects as a restoration builder that were usually long term - some as long as four years.

I loved the people and the island life. I had a crew of 18-25 and we were like a big family. We worked hard, enjoyed each other's company, talked through problems in a group, and remain friends to this day. I lived on STX for 32 years and many of my guys worked for me for more than 25 years.

Jan had a children's summer theater camp for 25 years that was very successful. She also directed in the schools, greatly giving back to the community as a teacher and director.

Music has always been a big part of my life, and the Caribbean had its sound, with Bob Marley, Jimmy Buffet and several island bands playing in town, at resorts, on boats, or in funky beach bars.

We endured probably ten hurricanes in the time we spent there. Some were just a whisper, but others were like a freight train. We spent months living on a generator, with shortages in food and building materials and no internet. Yet it was always the same - with your neighbors you helped with each other's problems, and made sure everyone was doing okay.

And now here we are living in Nevada City, our last adventure. We truly love the people and the area. There is a deep-rooted commitment to community here that was on display at the Gathering in August.

I encourage you to get involved with GCHNA! We have important work to do, but we always have fun doing it. We can all make a difference!



Get to Know Your Neighborhood Organization

by Eileen Jorgensen



Is there anyone we have more in common with than the folks in our neighborhood?

They share the environment, services, emergencies, disturbances, road issues with us. They are the people we see most often. We all know each other's patterns, lifestyle, exercise habits, dogs, cats, cars and vacations habits. We are in each other's destiny.

I initially joined the GCHNA Steering Committee in 1990 as it was forming because I felt our neighborhood was threatened by developers who needed to hear from the people who lived here. I was happily surprised to find that the GCHNA Board was comprised of like-minded people who may not have the same political or cultural beliefs as me, but who shared my values of caring for where we lived.

GCHNA offered a voice to City and County officials during the General Plan updates. The organization generated surveys to best ascertain neighborhood sentiment. These were powerful tools that were presented to County and City officials during their General Plan updates and later as the Nevada County Government Center and Nevada City's Open Space Projects were being envisioned.

We also tackled the issue of a low water table at the top of Cement Hill and worked for years to bring treated NID water throughout the neighborhood. Only by organizing could we have achieved this goal.

For 33 years, GCHNA has organized Scotch Broom pulls, neighborhood gatherings, candidates nights, and produced regular newsletters that have kept us informed and inspired. We have brought government officials to our gatherings to hear our thoughts and listen to their plans.

Recently, much effort has gone toward updating our Firewise Community status and organizing free chipping events offered by the Fire Safe Council. These important events could only happen within an organization.

The Ferrellgas contract has given us substantial discounts on propane. This partnership with GCHNA and Ferrellgas is nurtured by a few dedicated volunteers.

Lastly, our website is world class and we are blessed to have an expert who dedicates her time to keep us organized and informed.

The greatest benefit of GCHNA, however, is friendships. I have personally benefited by finding a good friend in the organization who I have worked and played with for many years now.



Thankfully, our neighborhood is facing few crises and through the years of effort by our Firewise Committee we are always preparing for the worst. However, crisis breeds participation. Let us not wait for one. I invite you to get more involved, and join us at our bi-monthly meetings!

Autumn on Cement Hill

by Spencer LeGate



Cement Hill this year gave us the most splendid fall in memory, a gold treasure spilling from oaks, then

transformed by a curious alchemy into an amalgam of copper and brass overlay across the landscape.

The memory of another autumn tradition was recently refreshed when I was offered some Winesap apples, the same variety whose fragrance filled the orchard packing sheds at the former Sky Ranch during fall picking. Apples are the signature tradition of fall, releasing tantalizing scents from the budding flower through to rot and decay. Some fill pies, become sauce or the base of a variety of drinks, their macerated remains often distilled into a warming digestif.



Other orchard crops were cultivated commercially on Cement Hill including pears and several nut species. Mountain misery, *chamaebatia foliolosa*, or tarweed as we called it is also a trademark here. Local Miwoks found it a multi-purpose medication. As a decorative plant, its purported virtues are not everywhere admired.

Regrettably, my olfactory factory no longer processes well the sensory pleasures of nature's cologne, an essence unmatched for its ability



Autumn on Cement Hill continued ...

to permeate outerwear, a lingering odoriferous testament to one's outdoor adventuring.

Add to other memories of those days the universality of the rouge patina that covered backwoods transportation before paved secondary roads arrived on Cement Hill forcing retreat of ubiquitous dust and red mud that enveloped our automobiles.

Thanks to nature and nurturing, our area is evolving from long ravaged landscape into breathtaking scenery; yet the threat of fire is ever greater along with the risks that accompany denser human settlement. Robust commitment to wildfire prevention is surely one reason for the less dramatic fire season just passed. Much credit goes to those long dedicated to improving fire safety and educating us to the almost year round dangers and need for steps to take for protecting life and limb, those sentient and otherwise.

GCHNA has stepped up its game along with independent homeowner initiatives that have provided benefits both communal and personal.

Fall Mushrooms Spotted at Hirschman's Pond

by Joy Elson



FIREWISE COMMITTEE NEWS

It's a new year and our Firewise Committee wants to keep you up to date on our efforts to maintain our national Firewise Community status and help our community prepare for wildfire.

Many thanks to Ellen Hagan for getting the Risk Assessment report submitted, and to Joanne Brown for compiling and submitting our yearly Firewise Community application.

General Firewise News

by Ellen Hagan

Risk Assessment Survey

The National Fire Prevention Association has accepted our Risk Assessment report! Hallelujah! It included the Risk Assessment Survey data that was submitted by neighbors over the summer.

What's new are the recommendations written by the Fire Safe Council based on that data. They include continuing our focus on creating defensible space, educating members on home hardening including using non-combustible materials in the first five feet surrounding the home, and creating awareness of safe evacuation strategies. A complete copy of the Risk Assessment Report is available on the website.

Firewise Community Certificate

You are eligible for a discount on your homeowners insurance because you live within the boundaries of a Firewise Community. The latest official certificate (2023) is available on our website.

Evacuation

The County Office of Emergency Services has announced plans to



Team Members: Karen Wcislo, Ellen Hagan, Joanne Brown, and Joy Elson

implement strategic measures to make evacuation safer and more efficient. We'll keep you posted.

Free Defensible Space Assistance

Available to low-income residents who are either 65+ or disabled. Get information about the Access and Functional Needs program at <http://www.areyoufiresafe.com>.

Neighborhood Chipping Day

Winter is the prime time to clear brush, create and maintain defensible space and prepare for a fire event. GCHNA will again sponsor a free chipping day for members in 2024 provided by the Fire Safe Council. So, stack your brush properly and take advantage of this member perk! In 2023, 16 GCHNA members participated in the free chipping day.

Scotch Broom Pull

GCHNA would like to sponsor a Scotch Broom pull in March. We're looking for a patch along a roadway with little traffic that is adjacent to several properties. Neighbors affected would need to participate. Please let your road rep or our committee know if you have a Scotch Broom patch that suits us. We'll be asking members to volunteer to help with this event.

We All Make a Difference

Our community is safer as a result of GCHNA members working together on fire preparedness. Let's keep up our good work!



Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association Firesafe Mitigation Form

Making your property more fire safe? Let us know!

Household Fire Risk Contributions for Year _____ Date Submitted _____

Please submit this form by October 31

Mail: GCHNA, P.O. Box 1343, Nevada City, CA 95959 • Email: firewise@gchna.com • Fill out online at www.gchna.com
If you have any questions, send an email to firewise@gchna.com

Name _____ Email _____

Property Address _____ Phone _____

Zone and Action	Hours, People, \$
Home Ignition Zone - HOUSE - 0 to 5 Feet from foundation (roof to foundation risk reduction) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Clean litter from roof and gutters <input type="checkbox"/> Screen vents, enclose soffits and eaves <input type="checkbox"/> Clean and clear under decks (flammables and vegetation) <input type="checkbox"/> Fire resistant roofing, siding or decking <input type="checkbox"/> Replace mulch with gravel and stone <input type="checkbox"/> Remove pine needles and leaves <input type="checkbox"/> Trim back trees that hang over 5 foot areas near foundation <input type="checkbox"/> Move firewood 30 feet from house and cover with a Firesafe tarp 	Hours _____ # People _____ Cost of Materials \$ _____
Intermediate Zone - 5 to 30 Feet from House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Clear vegetation from under large stationary propane tanks <input type="checkbox"/> Create fuel breaks with driveways, walkways/paths, patios, dry creeks <input type="checkbox"/> Space trees with an 18' separation between tree canopies <input type="checkbox"/> Reduce all ladder fuels, prune shorter trees up to 1/3 of overall tree height <input type="checkbox"/> Thin and limb up all trees reducing distance to minimum of 18' between the crowns <input type="checkbox"/> Cluster trees and shrubs to break up the continuity of vegetation to discourage fire flow <input type="checkbox"/> Tree canopy no closer that ten feet to the edge of structure 	Hours _____ # People _____ Cost of Materials \$ _____
Extended Zone - 30 to 100 Feet from House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Remove all needles within 30 feet of house <input type="checkbox"/> Thin trees and ladder fuels, small conifers growing between mature trees <input type="checkbox"/> Remove vegetation adjacent to storage sheds <input type="checkbox"/> Trees 30-60 feet from home should have 12 feet between canopy tops 	Hours _____ # People _____ Cost of Materials \$ _____

Other Money Spent	<input type="checkbox"/> Chipper rental, fuel, disposal fees	\$
	<input type="checkbox"/> Green waste removal fees, number of runs	\$
	<input type="checkbox"/> Power equipment, hand tools, chainsaws (rental or purchase)	\$
	<input type="checkbox"/> Arborists, landscapers, forestry service	\$
	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction (re-siding, re-roofing)	\$

TOTAL MONEY SPENT (Materials and Other)	\$
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GCHNA IS A RECOGNIZED FIREWISE COMMUNITY

Help is needed yearly from residents in our neighborhood for continued qualification.

To continue to qualify as a Firewise Community, each year we are required to report on the ongoing work (hours and dollars) that residents in our neighborhood do to reduce wildfire risks, and address the areas identified in the community wildfire assessment plan, by submitting a renewal application.

Our community's effort to reduce wildfire risk each calendar year is reflected in the risk reduction investment of all the hours worked and dollars spent on our properties. The yearly reporting of our contributions by submitting the form on the other side of this newsletter insert demonstrates the strong commitment of our community to create defensible space and reduce the threat of wildfire. Mitigation totals reported by GCHNA and other local Firewise communities help in getting "in-kind" grants for Nevada County.

FIREWISE INFORMATION PACKET

Our Firewise Committee member Joanne Brown has created a packet with Firewise Information, for new residents and others interested in having a copy. You can request one by sending an email to firewise@gchna.com.

A pdf sample of it is at: http://www.gchna.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/GCNA_FirewisePacket.pdf

FIRE EMERGENCY INFORMATION SOURCES

YubaNet	www.yubanet.com/fire	
Radio Stations	KVMR: FM 89.5 (Nevada City) or FM 105.1 (Truckee) KNCO AM 830 STAR FM 94.1	
Ready Nevada County	nevadacountyca.gov/3453/Ready-Nevada-County	
Cal Fire	www.fire.ca.gov/	530-823-4083
Nevada County Coalition of Firewise Communities	www.nccoalitionfwc.com/	
Watch Duty (cell phone app)	www.watchduty.org/	
Connecting Point	211connectingpoint.org/	
National Weather Service	www.weather.gov/sto/	
PG&E PSPS forecasts (Public Safety Power Shutoff)	m.pge.com/?#registration	

GCHNA STEERING COMMITTEE

2023 Mitigation Form Results

By Joanne Brown

GCHNA is required to provide the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) with a summary of the annual mitigation forms submitted by our residents. This is one step in the process to renew our Firewise Community status. This year 105 forms were completed. FYI, there are approximately 500 households within the GCHNA boundaries.

The time we spend maintaining and/or improving the defensible space on our properties is valued by NFPA at a rate of \$29.95/hour. We worked hard in 2023, reporting a total of 78,805 hours spent. That equals \$2,360,210! No wonder we're tired and nursing sore muscles!

NFPA also tracks the actual cash we spend on defensible space, like paying arborists and landscapers, updating our houses' vent covers and the skirting around our decks, removing all combustible materials within five feet of our foundations, purchasing the tools and materials we need, and paying Waste Management to haul away our green waste. The list goes on and on. In 2023 we spent \$645,172 in cold, hard cash.

Adding the value of our hours and cash spent results in a total investment of \$3,005,382, well over the minimum NFPA requires. This total is about one-and-one-half times last year's investment. I suspect the authorities who reviewed our renewal application must have been awe struck as they renewed our Firewise Community certificate!

2024 Mitigation Forms will be due October 31

A 2024 Mitigation Form is included with this newsletter. Please consider posting it with a pencil next to your gardening tools. That way you can easily keep track of the hours and money you spend between now and the end of October 2024 when it is due.



Hirschman's Pond Trail

To contact GCHNA for membership related questions or to reach a member of the Steering Committee, please send an email to: members@gchna.com.

OFFICERS

President	Secretary	Treasurer	Membership
Will Hart	Ellen Hagan	Janet Johnson	Joy Elson

NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVES

Airport Road: Uli Paulin (includes Tower Hill Road, West Airport Road, East Piper Lane and Sheriff Road)

Applewood Lane: Elena Rayo (includes Indian Shack Road)

Augustine / Daisy Blue Mine / Excelsior Ditch Camp Road: Eve Collins and Jan Wood-Hart (includes Leisure Lane and Lazy Oaks Drive)

Gochine Drive: Dale Tom Creighton (includes Mt. Auburn Circle)

Sunrock Road: Marlene Widmann

Indian Flat Road: Joanne Brown (includes Indian Trails, Country Circle, Woods Ravine Ct. and Robinson King Road)

Wet Hill Road / Lower North Bloomfield Road: Sierra Buryan (includes Sierra Springs Circle and Elliot Way)

West End Cement Hill: Ellen Hagan (includes Sunshadow Circle, Cedarsong Road and Garesio Ranch Road)

Upper Cement Hill: Jeff Coleman-Hunt (includes Pine Tree Place, Diamond Oak Drive, Bodie Ridge Road, Skyranche Road and Elysian Way)

Central Cement Hill: Joy Elson (includes Whispering Oaks, Merryhill Way, Gold Court, Spanish Quartz, Ragon Road and Fox Hill Road.)

Lower Cement Hill: Brian Waag (includes West Piper, Deer Crest, Rancheria Court, Red Hill Road, Foster Driveway, Picton, Picton Way and Foster Road)

Southside Cement Hill: Debbie Wandro (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)

AT LARGE

Christy Barden	Eileen Jorgensen
Bill Holman	Spencer LeGate



CURRENT GCHNA MEMBERS (as of 1/6/24)

- Dee Alcott-Rodriguez & Daniel Rodriguez
- Adriel & Misty Alderman
- Catherine Alderman
- Sallee Allen
- Peggy & Chip Arenchild
- Bob Aron & Yvette Young
- David Augustine & Shanza Baig
- Margaret Austin & William Mandel
- Marty Austin
- Roger & Carolyn Baker
- Ann & Alan Barbour
- Christy Barden
- Jeff Barton
- Michael Bettes
- Kenneth & Laura Bigham
- Malaika & Gordon Bishop
- Cathy Blake & Michael Brook
- Eileen Blodgett & Tom Anderson
- Steve & Ashley Blonstein
- James & Mary Booth
- Anna Bousouris
- Ken Bradford & Nelle Engoron
- Molly Breen
- Brian & Jennifer Breiling
- Joanne & Ken Brown
- Joe Brusca & Ursula Donofrio
- Willie & Sue Brusin
- Hamilton Bryan II
- Brian & Ruthanne Buckley
- Sierra & Ed Bury
- John & Jean Butterfield
- Linda Byrne
- Scott & Tish Caddell
- Neal & Patricia Cavanaugh
- Denis & Jennifer Cebollero
- Ernest & Linda Chiappari
- Gordon & Jeanette Clark
- Richard & Nancy Colby
- Freedom & Jessica Cole
- Doug & Eve Collins
- Meghan Coolbaugh
- Diana Cooley & Similoni Filikitonga
- Chuck Covert
- William & Susan Copeland
- Diana & Ronald Coronel
- Jeff Cowitz
- Robert Crawford
- Dale & Sandy Creighton
- Kathleen & Robert Curlee
- Richard & Joan Davis
- Joanne Devries
- Elizabeth Dieter & Kristy Cortright
- Brian Dilts
- Arlene Douglass
- Larry & Mary Anne Dulmage
- Tom Dunham & Terri Beedle
- Gregory & Carolyn Dwight
- Stephen & Deborah Edwards
- Bill & Shirley-Mae Elliot
- Joy & Tom Elson
- Lesley Estes
- Greg & Susan Fenner
- Emmett Miller & Sandra Ferreira-Miller
- Michael Flynn
- Jack & Patti Foster
- Gary & Cathy Fouyer
- Jill & Jon Fox
- Kate Frame
- Frank & Fran Francis
- Patricia Fuenzalida
- Patrick, Rita & Chris Fuenzalida
- Terry & Midge Gallagher
- Susan & Jeff Gaughan
- Richard Geroux
- Mike & Barbara Getz
- Dave & Barbara Giguere
- Marion Gilbert
- Joanie & Mark Gillispie
- Jeff Gold
- Henry Goodman & Susan Jakubik
- Clark & Fran Gordon
- Meg Gordon
- Jim & Jane Graves
- Patricia Graves
- Greg & Cathy Grebe
- Bill & Linda Greig
- George Grist & Patricia O'Connor
- Martin Haechler & Dawa Fitzmaurice
- Ellen & Tim Hagan
- Cheryl Haines
- Greg & Niki Hansen
- Carolyn Hardy
- Will Hart & Jan Wood-Hart
- Pat & Shaun Havard
- Will Havard & Shawn Szurley
- Stephen Hein
- Larry Heiniemi
- David Herbst & Linda Andreas
- Nancy Herrick & Roger Morrison
- Howard & Jill Hersh
- Anne Hildebrand & Christopher Severino
- Richard & Susanne Hinman
- Bill Holman
- Nancy Holman
- Stanley Hooper
- Cynthia Hren
- Terry & Courtney Hundemer
- Barbara J. Hurst
- Linda & Mark Hurst
- Freda Husic & Wayne Grant
- Blane & Linda Johnson
- Janet & Brad Johnson
- Hunter Jones & Lindsey Gordon
- Paul & Eileen Jorgensen
- Patricia Kaminski & Richard Katz
- James Keem
- Kathleen & Tom Kelly
- David & Shan Kendall
- Eileen Kennedy
- Al & Pat Kennerley
- Toki & Kumiko Kidera
- Karen Kline & Becky Smith
- Adele & Joseph Koenig
- Ginger Konvalin & Dan Bibelheimer
- Amber Koshofer & Jason Clark
- Danielle Krauss
- David Lorenzo & Ann Kladis
- Donna Layburn & Jerry Mackey
- Spencer & Maren Le Gate
- David Lee & Sassi LaMuth
- Jennifer & Greg Lee
- Steve & Sheryl Levy
- David Kyle & Patt Lind-Kyle
- Owen Lindsay & Amber Hill
- Lorraine & David Livingston
- Elizabeth Locicero
- Lloyd & Becky Woodman
- Thomas Long & Alice Beal
- Art Lynn & Katherine Whan
- Henry & Arabella Macias
- Susan Marks
- Frank & Sue Marshall
- Chuck Mattison
- Gardiner McCauley
- Helen McDonald
- Jay & Julie McEnroe
- Don & Gail McIntyre
- Paul Mellersh & Catherine Arbini
- Steven Jones & Liz Meyers
- Greg & Sharon Miller
- James & Sherry Miller
- Carla Woodside & Doug Mitchell
- Tom & Kathy Mollet
- Richard Mooney
- Alonzo Moriel
- Scott Muir & Elizabeth Fries
- Kelly & Ian Mullen
- Lori Muller & Stan Morse
- Tim Murray & Ronna Lee
- Joseph-Murray
- LaVeta Nevius
- Christine & William Newsom
- Randy & Blair Newsome
- Mike & Linda Nowlen
- Robert Dean Nyberg & Patricia Exley
- Derek & Maureen Olsen
- John & Becky Olson
- Chris, Rebecca, Ryan & Kyle Owen
- David & Linda Palley
- Samuel Palmer & John Wunderley
- Rick & Chris Panos
- Bill, Laura & Zephyr Pappani
- Jay & Laura Patt
- Ulrich Paulin
- Nancy Paulson
- Veronica & Jason Pearson
- Floyd & Joy Perry-Thistle
- Lerry Peterson
- Mike & Donna Peterson
- Helena Polchowski
- Randi & Remo Pratini
- Robin & Terry Prechter
- Nathan Prouty & Abigail Hipps
- Scott & Cyndie Purdy
- Michael & Lourdes Rainey
- Gabriel & Jennifer Ramirez
- George & Jo Ann Rebane
- Gary & Shirley Reedy
- Christina Reski & Robert Ruschke
- Brad Reynolds & Linda Katz
- René & Amanda Ringnald
- Marilyn Rohrbacher
- Randy & Jolene Romriell
- Gabriel Ross & Claire Leve
- Joseph & Diane Rossi
- Shelley Salvatore & Eligio Salvatore
- Chuck & Janice Schretenthaler
- Terri Schwaderer & James Kelleher
- David Schwendeman & Leslie Edwards
- Laurie Dahm Segal & Andrew Segal
- Kimberly Shepard & Patrick Kleinhammer
- Richard & Cherie Simpson
- Lew Sitzer
- Erin Smith & Mark Ball
- Glenn Smith & Julia Kelliher
- Rebecca Sonu & Sheldon Dean
- Jenene Sowell
- Justin Sternberg
- Tom Stone
- Roger & Lisa Strong
- Louisa Suta & Richard Lowry
- Rita & Joel Sweet
- Edyann & Steve Switzer
- Celia & Lukas Tate
- Randy & Nahid Thompson
- Jeff & Sue Thomsen
- Bob Thurman & Joanna Cote
- Stacy Tobias
- John & Bonnie Torres
- Peter & Amy Traugot
- Paul & Mary Trethewey
- Patrick & Gerry Tribble
- Yuko & Dennis Tucker
- Scott Tuma & Peter Ryan
- Fred & Sarah Tuttle
- Douglas & Marina Tweed
- Cheryl & Ted Vrakas
- Patrick & Theresa Wagner
- Jack & Debbie Wandro
- Michael Waring & April Bruder
- Alexandra Wassermann
- Karen Wcislo & Steve Danner
- Jeff Wells
- Jack & Michele White
- Kevin & Sharon Whitlock
- Nick & Cathy Whittlesey
- Dharma Widmann & Marlene Weiss
- Olivia L. Williams
- Robert Ray & Susie Willour
- Laura Wilson
- Dennis & Anita Wygal
- Shirley Yeager
- Kirsten Young & Jonathan Robinson
- Jacob Zaller



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Thank you to all who supported GCHNA in 2023!

Now is the time to become a member or renew your membership for 2024. Member dues are due February 1st, with a grace period until May 1st. It is also a good time to remind you of all that your member dues make possible for GCHNA to do. Membership dues support GCHNA's activities and expenses throughout the year.

Thanks to members' support, in 2023 GCHNA was able to:

- **publish** the newsletters with timely information on defensible space practices, home hardening, evacuation concerns, Fire Safe Council services, events, area history, and more.
- **pay for** insurance, the website, email accounts and online member management software;
- **sponsor** a fuel reduction/ education work day pulling Scotch broom;
- **host** a large neighborhood gathering and a garden tour;
- **provide** a neighborhood chipping day;
- **qualify again** as a Firewise Community, which may mean a discount to your insurance. One of our members with State Farm saves \$250 a year!
- **be a vehicle** for community action. We have provided input to the Nevada City Council regarding the maintenance of City-owned property in our area and to Nevada County's OES evacuation study.
- **make donations** to support the Fire Safe Council, Bear Yuba Land Trust, Uba Seo, and Yubanet.
- **offer a discount** with Ferrellgas. Our partnership with Ferrellgas over the years is the envy of other communities. Prices vary, but on the average GCHNA members save between \$.50 and \$.65 per gallon over regular prices. On our fill-up of 153 gallons last month we paid \$1.99 per gallon. That's \$75 less than we would have paid otherwise.

~~~~~ WHAT'S NEW ~~~~~

In order to sustain the organization and accomplish what we feel is important for our community, the Steering Committee voted in December to increase the yearly dues for the first time since 1991 to \$30.

GCHNA's financial footing has been a concern for a while. An increase in existing expenditures, a declining reserve built up during COVID, and new expenses have caused us to review the budget. To see a chart showing income, expenses and 2024 budget, please visit the website.

Membership payments are due **February 1** with grace period ending May 1 (at which time you are removed from the Ferrellgas discount member list. You may join at anytime during the year to reinstate your Ferrellgas discount status.)

GCHNA MEMBERSHIP – JOIN OR RENEW

Membership dues are \$30/year.

Mail this form with your check to GCHNA, PO Box 1343, Nevada City, CA 95959 or pay online at www.gchna.com.

Name(s) _____

Property Address _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone(s) _____

Email(s) _____

How long have you lived in the Cement Hill neighborhood? _____ Interested in becoming involved? yes





Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association

PO Box 1343, Nevada City, CA 95959

Contact Information

GCHNA

President:
president@gchna.com

Treasurer:
treasurer@gchna.com

Membership / Website:
members@gchna.com

Firewise Committee:
firewise@gchna.com

OTHER

Ferrellgas: 530-265-5896
www.ferrellgas.com

The Fire Safe Council:
530-272-1122
www.areyoufiresafe.com

**Nevada County Coalition of
Firewise Communities**
www.nccoalitionfwc.com

GCHNA Mission Statement

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

Purpose

- 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.
- Work to reduce fire hazards in our community.
- Promote safety on Cement Hill Road and local trails.
- Collaborate and communicate with Nevada County Board of Supervisors and Departments.
- Identify and help preserve historic sites in the area.
- Represent and provide balance of diverse interests in reviewing and prioritizing projects or issues of concern to our neighborhood.
- Support other neighborhood associations as their interests coincide with GCHNA.

Newsletter Team

Editor: Ellen Hagan **Design & Layout:** Joy Elson
Thank you to all our authors and photographers!

