

## Sierra Recreation Association

November 2003

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR****HOLIDAY DINNER****DECEMBER 13, 2003 at Lodge Hall****Plan to attend—Bring veggies, salad or dessert****The rest of the dinner is provided.****Raffle tickets for "Prizes" will be sold at the dinner to support the fishing derby.****If you have a prize to donate for the raffle  
Call Roger Townsend 529-8315 or 586-9522**

## Calendar of Meetings

**BOARD MEETING: 8:30 a.m. Sat. Dec. 13, 2003****Sierra Park Lodge #376****Lodge meetings held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 6:00 P.M.  
2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of month includes spouses at potluck 6:30 p.m.****Think winter—WINTERIZE YOUR CABIN  
&****CARRY CHAINS****Law requires them even in a 4x4.****BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Nov. 15, 2003****Attendance:**

President, Fred Coleman Present      Vice-President, Robert Snell Present      Secretary, Norrine Coyle Excused  
Treasurer, Richard Bonner Present      Members, Ed Smith, Sean Kasper, Neil Selman & Roger Townsend Present  
Member, Greg Brown Unexcused

**President Fred Coleman called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.****Invocation by Richard Bonner****Minutes of the October meeting were approved as mailed. Motion by Snell/Selman (unan)****Members Before the Board:** 1. John Bordes brought a copy of a letter his attorney sent to the Park attorney asking for information of agreement on the Wallace property. Fred will look into this matter again. 2. Pat Monahan wanted the board to know that they approve of the tub grinder for needle disposal. She also has information on a grant that could cover cost. There will be a meeting of the Fire Safety Council on Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at the Mi Wuk Ranger station for outreach to area communities.**Correspondence:** 1. State of California, Secretary of State, \$25 annual fee notice for corporations. 2. Insurance form. 3. Water Control Board, MTBE information is posted on their website. 4. Coldwell Banker Realty ad.**5. Condor, asking for evaluation of their services. 6. Letter from Gordon Bettencourt re; problem with closing water line on property. The caretakers took care of the problem. 7. EDD, information regarding new family leave laws for employees. 8. Calif. Water journal 9. Letter from atty. Brown regarding dates for Boy Scout lawsuit. A settlement hearing is scheduled 3-18-04 @ 2:30 p.m. in Dept. 1 Sonora Courthouse. If this goes to trial then trial date is 5/10/04 8:15 a.m. Dept. 1. 10. Dorothy Goff brought in a beautiful donation of hand-quilted pillows and a wall hanging for the Christmas dinner raffle. She is a 30-year homeowner and still doing her part for the kids.****11. 24 responses to the request for opinions to use the tub grinder service, 19 approvals and 5 negative. Also, many positive verbal responses were given board members. This program will be pursued.****COMMITTEE REPORTS****Buildings** – Ed reported the plumbing work is finished except for back ordered parts for the men's room. As soon as the parts arrive the work will be completed. This work will save water due to leaks. Gary and Mike will proceed with original plans in the upstairs office. Sean said he had some insulation that he would donate. A night-light will be added in the back of the lodge building as security for equipment area. Caretaker's cabin had sewer problems at connection with Lodge lines. They were cleaned out and a review of improving this connection will be addressed to avoid future problems.**Gary was shocked while doing electrical work in the office, it is recommended to have a licensed electrician come in to check wiring. Also, get a line tester for safety, if the Park does not own one.****Water** – Neil reported a decrease in water use for the month to 695,400 gallons. System in good shape. Well house #5 & # 6 have some roof damage occurring due to service drops connecting to PG&E lines. He met with a PG&E representative and we need to place a new 30ft. pole next to each well house to correct the problems. He will contact another department at PG&E to get an estimate of costs. This change should also raise the lines across Jordan West and that will be a safety factor for larger vehicles and trucks using the road.

**Roads:** Snell reported he had checked with George Reed and figured the expenses for road work. All is correct and he approves the bill for payment.

**Timber:** Coleman had no report for logging. However, a few park trees are being cut due to beetle damage. A tree near well house #5 needs to be removed to avoid problems.

**Health & Safety:** Kasper plans to put more signs at the lake in the spring. He also has plans to save the bridge crossing the stream on the west side of the lake. This will be addressed in the spring. CDWR report to be filed and get a copy of the license to keep the lake. Sean & Roger will get bids for dredging the lake before filling next year. Another lake matter is to cover the drainage valve for safety purposes. Trash problems at the garbage bin continue. New signs will be placed at the fence gate.

**Equipment:** 4 new tires for the backhoe were purchased and a battery for the grader. This is important maintenance for winter work.

**Recreation:** Townsend reported the one-day adult fishing day was held and about 5 or 6 people went fishing. A few fish were caught. Discussion will be held about making this an annual event. Roger needs volunteers to help with the Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> Holiday dinner. Call Roger at 586-9522 or in Modesto at 529-8315.

**Finance:** Bonner reported monthly bills total \$14,903.25. The cost was higher this month as tax assessments are included. Motion to pay by Snell/Townsend (unan.). Two homeowners have not paid assessments; they will be taken to small claims court, unless paid soon. The audit of Park books back to 1997 is expected to be complete by the Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. One recommendation from the auditor is to have an assistant Finance director for back up knowledge of handling Park affairs. The audit process was discussed and the board will consider audits anytime a President or Treasurer leaves the Board or every 2 years, regardless of who leaves the Board.

**Caretakers:** Main jobs for the month were cleaning drain ditches, draining the lake, remodeling the office and snowplowing. Gary is answering calls regarding gate cards and setting up a new system for contractors working in the Park. We are not replacing the gate cards now in use, the only change is for Gary to handle this matter and relieve Richard of the time & work. Fred reminded the Board that work assignments for caretakers go through him.

**Old Business:** Gate cards. We will stop using Village Mail to handle contractors access to the Park. Homeowners need to get permits & contact the Board if the work involves Park property. Gary will be issuing temporary cards for the workers as there has been abuse using cards from the Village Mail, both by contractors and homeowners.

In October the lawyer from our Insurance Company reviewed the area in conjunction with the Boy Scout lawsuit.

**New Business:** Coleman contacted the Insurance company regarding volunteers operating Park equipment. A letter was received stating that no insurance would cover accidents involving anyone other than employees. Therefore, overtime, when needed, will be paid or an outside contractor will be used. Coleman will check with Sumanaci Co. about providing help with snowplowing, if necessary.

Burn permits are not needed at this time, but our burn area is under Air Pollution Control Board regulations. Their restrictions control the burn area opening this fall. (I.e. All slash needs to dry for 6 to 8 weeks, 8 hours of smoke a day is maximum. Must have someone present at all times of burn) These rules are difficult to meet with weather at this time of year and only 2 caretakers. A motion to open the burn area by Snell/Kasper was defeated.

Discussion about the policy of opening the gate to the gravel road was held. The policy, in the past, has been to keep it open until the forest service closes the gravel road at 3N01. This policy will be continued, except it will be locked during needle removal season to prevent illegal dumping. The policy will be reviewed if problems are brought to the attention of the Board. Kasper requested using seasonal speed bumps to slow traffic in some areas. He will check into using some that we already have if they can be installed properly to avoid damage to the roads.

The Volunteer Dinner was held with about half those invited attending. A big thanks to Doris Selman and Ann Coleman for their efforts. Mike will do the Christmas decorations again this year and he will work with Ann to plan time for cleaning the Hall. Volunteers will be appreciated.

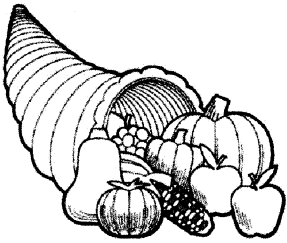
Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30a.m. The next meeting will be held on Dec. 13, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Neil Selman, acting secretary

*Give Thanks for life's treasures. Drive safely on your travels over the river and through the woods to be with your families.*

CHECKS DISBURSED OCTOBER 2003					
DATE	NUMBER		NAME	MEMO/ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
10/23/03	10939 *		Michael W. Caropreso	payroll 10/1/03	683.39
10/23/03	10940 *		Gary A. Scarborough	payroll 10/1/03	871.62
10/31/03	306		Michael W. Caropreso	Payroll 10/13 to 10/26/03	683.40
10/31/03	307		Gary A. Scarborough	Payroll 10/13 to 10/26/03	475.68
11/8/03	10941		State Compensation	Insurance	1,023.99
11/11/03	10942		USBank - Taxes	Payroll Taxes	1,588.36
11/11/03	10943		Employment Develop	Taxes Payroll	141.08
11/11/03	10944		USBank - Taxes	Timber Tax	1,300.00
11/11/03	10945		Franchise Tax Board	Franchise Tax	1,200.00
11/14/03	308		Michael W. Caropreso	Payroll 10/27 to 11/09/03	683.39
11/14/03	309		Gary A. Scarborough	Payroll 10/27 to 11/09/03	871.62
11/16/03	10946		Frank D. Hodges	Property taxes/ 1st instlmnt	1,116.67
11/16/03	10947		Ann Coleman	Gen'l Park maintenance/ dinner	28.74
11/16/03	10948		Postmaster	Member Communications	250.00
11/16/03	10949		Waste Management	Garbage	784.20
11/16/03	10950		PG&E	Utilities / Park	983.72
11/16/03	10951		Eric A Carlson	Accounting	600.00
11/16/03	10952		State Farm Bank	Payroll Deductions	100.00
11/16/03	10953		State of California	Filing fees, Homeowners	25.00
11/16/03	10954		J. S. West	Propane	43.12
11/16/03	10955		Michael W. Caropreso	Empl. Bene. Medical	577.04
11/16/03	10956		AquaLab	Water Testing	285.00
11/16/03	10957		Roger A Brown	Prof. Services	1,040.20
11/16/03	10958		SBC	Telephone	66.04
11/16/03	10959		PG&E	utilities / caretaker	41.30
11/16/03	10960		Duane St. Clair Trucking	Maintain Roads	153.00
11/16/03	10961		Village Mail & Printing	Member Communications	53.09
11/16/03	10962		Twain Harte Lumber	Supplies Shop	122.20
11/16/03	10963		A & A Portables	Health & Safety	71.68
11/16/03	10964		Richard Bonner	Auto mileage expense	50.37
11/16/03	10965		Dunlop Plumbing	Maintain Buildings	100.00
11/16/03	10966		George Reed, Inc.	Maintain Roads	320.41
11/16/03	10967		Roger Townsend	Auto mileage expense	52.56
11/16/03	10968		Robert Snell	Auto mileage expense	54.75
11/16/03	10969		Doris Selman	Gen'l Park maintenance/ dinner	16.64
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,903.25</b>
		*	Replaced misprinted checks # 304 & 305		
			not included in total.		

Chuckle, this could be us someday. Three sisters, ages 92, 94 & 96 live in a house together. One night the 96-year-old draws a bath. She puts her foot in and pauses—then yells to the other sisters “Was I getting in or out of the bath?” The 94-yr. old yells back, “I don’t know. I’ll come up and see.” She starts up the stairs and pauses. “Was I going up the stairs or down?” The 92-yr. old is sitting at the kitchen table listening to her sisters. She shakes her head and says, “I sure hope I never get that forgetful.” She knocks on wood for good measure. She then yells, “I’ll come up and help both of you as soon as I see who’s at the door.”



**WANTED:** Donation of prizes for the raffle

Also, **HELP** with the Holiday Dinner, Dec. 13th

Contact Roger. 586-9522 or 209-529-8315

**NEEDED:** An hour or so of your time to help clean the Lodge Hall

Thursday Dec. 11th, 11a.m.

Call Ann Coleman 586-0551

Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Association  
P.O. Box 116  
Long Barn, CA 95335

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

U.S. Postage Paid  
Bulk Mail  
Permit #2  
Long Barn, CA 95335