

The Rancho Tehama Association TRAILBLAZER

MARCH/APRIL
2009

www.ranchotehama.org

for minutes, calendar, reports,
forms, etc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEWSLETTER

The official publication of your association for all members.

Staff 530-585-2444; Board 530-585-2631 Tel/Fax

Managed by Hignell of Chico, 530-894-0404

Spanish translations available on request.



Directors Sharon Easton
and Alan Mills help clear
the Rancho Tehama
Association foreclosure
lot on Fawn Lane.

BOARD VOLUNTEERS AT WORK

The First 150 Days

Wherever you turn today, be it television, radio, or the internet, you hear about the first 100 days of the Obama Administration. This is certainly an important, perhaps vital issue, and should concern each of us. But there is another issue that is important, perhaps vital to the Rancho Tehama Association. I am referring, of course, to the first 150 days of the current Board of Directors. Before being elected to the Board I thought I had a good idea of the responsibilities of a Director. I was wrong. The magnitude of the day-to-day responsibilities of the job, which is equivalent to running a million dollar business, is almost overwhelming, and it is definitely not for the faint of heart. Having said this, let me give you a partial list of the accomplishments of this Board during its first 150 days:

A revised Election Policy -A new Collections Policy -A Rest Room Policy -A Director in the office every day -A new utility vehicle -A revised payment plan -New roofs on all the office complex buildings -Painting the Rec. Hall and Post Office -A new back-up plan for our computers -Leading the fight in Tehama County against AB855 Regs -Cleaning up condemned properties -A new Road Traffic Survey -Providing fuel for our fire fighters -Re-establishing our ponds -Adding side-loading capability to our fire truck filling stations.

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FIGHTING FIRE WITH "FIRE" THIS YEAR!

Many of our out-of-town owners of undeveloped lots have received letters requiring them to clear 100% of their lot. The letters come from STATE CALFIRE and have the force of law. Those residing here are already getting on-site inspections from STATE CALFIRE. Rancho Tehama is in a high-risk category, so members are urged to comply immediately. The weeds posing a threat are already knee-high due to late spring rains. First responders at the ranch are the non-profit Old Timers Fire Fighters, Inc., who keep fire equipment at their homes so as to be on-scene 24-7 and they work until the Tehama County Station 13 Volunteers arrive. After that, CALFIRE crews arrive to work the fires with heavy equipment and tankers, if needed. Station 13 has been provided a brand new engine by the County (parked in our firehouse) but both Station 13 and the Old Timers operate with limited funds, so your donations are welcomed by them. The RTA Board is also expending funds to pump water to keep several fire ponds filled during this critical year for use by CALFIRE and the volunteer organizations.

BOARD MEETING CHANGE

Due to the Special Statewide Ballot on May 19, 2009, the regular Board Meeting will be changed to Wednesday, May 20, at 9:00 a.m. in the Recreation Hall.

ARE THE DUES GOING UP?—by Penny McGee

That is a rumor. The Board has not even talked about that possibility. Members are paying their dues, and there is enough money in the bank to pay the bills. The asset reserve bank account is growing even though we have been replacing roofs and painting buildings. Unless there is an emergency, the Directors will not be considering a dues increase until it is time to prepare the 2010 budget. Please be assured the directors will try to keep the dues as low as possible.

BOARD AT WORK—continued

In addition to these accomplishments we are currently at work on:

- Rewriting the CC&Rs -Designing a new post office
- Developing a Five-Year Road Plan -Developing a new Employee Policy -Re-placing or Re-Engineering Humboldt Bridge -Developing a Fire-Protection Plan.

And let's not forget the \$370,000 in the bank as of March 31, 2009.

In addition to all these special projects, the Board is involved in dozens of day-to-day activities such as trimming trees, grading roads, spreading gravel, overseeing the Reserve Study, the Budget, the Annual Report and the Audit, replacing culverts, scheduling the Rec. Hall, replacing flags, cleaning the ditches, repairing toilets, spraying weeds, hearing the complaints of members, cleaning up graffiti, and a hundred other things that I have failed to mention.

As you can imagine, a day does not pass in which your Board does not feel overwhelmed by the responsibilities of the job. Nevertheless, we are pledged to do our best this term, and hope for your support in this difficult task. Perhaps, when you lay your head on your pillow each night, you can say a little prayer for us. It will be greatly appreciated. ~~Alan Mills

ASSOCIATION ADMINISTRATION—by Carrie Lee

The Rancho Tehama Association recently posted and interviewed for temporary or part-time job openings for both clerical and utility employees. Thank you to all who applied; we had a very difficult decision with an overwhelming number of qualified applicants. We are happy to announce Sherry Parmeter as our new part time utility clerk for the Office/ Post Office, Robert (Bobby) Rios as our new part time grounds utility worker, and Eddy Ruelas as the first member for our summer road crew. We have a few good people in mind to fill the remaining positions on the road crew as we get closer to beginning the projected roadwork.

Tehama County Public Works came out to fix the spray painted signs at Rancho Tehama Rd. and Paskenta Rd. and noticed that somebody had already tried to fix the signs by spray painting over the graffiti. They were appreciative of the attempt however; the county signs have a protective film over them that require cleaning and not painted over. If anyone would ever like to help out please use brake cleaner and the graffiti will come off.

THANKS!

TO OUR
MEMBER
VOLUNTEERS.



Ballet Folklorico Group at Rec Hall

2010 FEDERAL CENSUS

The US Census Bureau Lister assigned to Rancho Tehama has already begun working at the Ranch.

ERRATA

Our zoning RE-1 means 1 large hooped animal per ACRE-not per lot—as printed erroneously in the February 2009

RANCHO TEHAMA HAS 40TH BIRTHDAY!!

Call the office to help with planning the celebration.

Written and Published by The Rancho Tehama Board of Directors:

- Sharon Easton Penny McGee
- Alan Mills Sheri Schultz
- William H. Westin, Jr.

ONSITE STAFF

- Office – Carrie Lee, Administrative Assistant
- Post Office – Danette Robinson, Senior Clerk; Shirley Cornelius, Clerk; Barbara Worthy, Clerk
- Utility Services – Roy Daniel, Senior Utility Worker; Florentino Ramirez-Yanez, Assistant

SATURDAY EVENTS

- MAY 2 – 10AM-2PM at Recreation Hall-Craft Fair and Bake Sale
- MAY 9 -- 1PM at Recreation Hall--Ballet Folklorico "Cinco de Mayo" Festival
- MAY 16-At Beach Park—Ducky Derby (Ducks now on sale)
2PM at Freitag Hangar-Friends of Airport Meeting—All invited
- SEPT 19-Autumn Barbecue—Raffle Tickets now on sale

The Association supports community activities, i.e. providing electricity and butane on events held at Fawn Meadows and the Recreation Hall, publicity, etc.

2009 ELECTION SCHEDULE

- Monday, June 1-Voting Date of Record—Dues must be Paid Up to Vote in the Election
- Tuesday, June 2-Candidate Letters of Intent Due
- Friday, June 19-Ballots Mailed
- Saturday, August 1-Ballots due and votes counted