



Cabin Tracks

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners' Association

Vol. No. 6 Issue Number 3

5/1/12

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With the snow melting and the river up, thoughts of getting back to our cabin are racing through my mind. I love the snow around our cabin, but can't wait to see the last of it melt away when May comes around!

I want to thank everyone who responded to my membership letter last February and paid their 2012 member dues. We currently have 116 active members, which include 17 associate members. This is more than we have ever had in recent memory.

For those of you who are new cabin owners, or just haven't gotten around to joining our organization yet, I encourage you to do so as soon as you can so you don't miss out on any of our activities. You will find complete membership information at our web site at www.cpcoa.com/membership.htm. Be sure to include your email address so we can keep you updated on issues and activities that affect cabin owners.

Speaking of CPCOA activities, I'm delighted to announce some really great new field trips for 2012! Be sure to check out Carl's announcement on pages 7-8 for more information. You'll want to sign up early as space will be limited for some of these outings.

Your CPCOA board has been busy the past few months working on a number of projects that we hope will enable you to gain more benefit from your CPCOA membership. In fact, at the last meeting, the board decided to form a sub-committee to come up with specific recommendations on how we could better meet your needs. Mike Berriochoa, our immediate past-president, has accepted the challenge to chair this group which will be meeting from time to time over the next year. There are a couple of open positions on the committee that we would like to fill with members who are not currently serving on the board. Please contact Mike or myself if you are interested in this very important work. We will discuss this further at our next membership meeting.

Cabin fees continue to be an issue for all owners of cabins on Forest Service land nationwide. While attending the National Forest Homeowners national convention held last month, I learned that the Forest Service will not keep our fees at the pre-CUFFA level after this year no matter if Congress passes the Cabin Fee Act (CFA) or not.

Because the Cabin Fee Act will impact every one of us, I've asked one of the leaders of the NFH's C2 effort, Doug Gann, to give us all an update on this important legislation at our June meeting. Doug is also President of the Lake Wenatchee Summer Home Association and will outline for us not only the CFA activities & progress, but also tell us what it takes for cabin owners to appeal the new fee assessment.

So mark your calendars now for the next CPCOA member meeting, which will be held on Saturday June 23rd at the Nile Valley Community Church. As we have in the past, the pot luck lunch will start at 11:30 AM and the program will run from noon to 2:00 PM. Besides Doug's presentation on the CFA, Carl will provide more details on this year's field trips and I have invited the Naches Ranger District staff to update us on all their recent activities.

I hope to see you all at the June meeting!

Dave Leinweber

WELCOME

New Cabin Owners

We welcome the 27 new cabin owners and hope you will enjoy your cabins as much as many of us have for years. Please consider joining our association and meet other cabin owners, which is open to all owners of cabins on Forest Service land on the east side of Chinook Pass. We'll provide you with lots of great information and give you plenty of opportunities to meet other cabin owners. The association will have 2 potluck/meetings this year: summer (June 23rd) and fall (October 6th). Field trips for cabin owners and friends are scheduled during the summer months. Visit our website: cpcoa.com for updated association information or contact one of our officers or board members.

In Remembrance of Al Molineux

Our thoughts and prayers go to the family of Alfred 'Al' Moineux who passed away April 14th while attending the National Forest Homeowners' Association Convention in Vancouver, Washington. Al was a retired Yakima County Sheriff. He was past President of the Rimrock Cabin Owners' Association, and first President of the Washington State Forest Homeowners' Association. He loved spending time with his wife and family at their cabin in the mountains. He was a current NFH director. His long-time service to the cabin program is appreciated and he will be missed. Our association donated \$100 to the Shriners in honor of Al.

Deputy Steve Says-

By Yakima County Sheriff Deputy Steve Sutliff

It's been a quiet winter up in the mountains with no criminal activity reported. This will no doubt change as spring arrives and the snow melts away. So I want to pass on the usual recommendations:

- Don't keep valuables in your cabins, especially Flat Screen TV's, newer model CD/DVD players or any other valuable items or family heirlooms.
- Especially don't leave any firearms or valuable fishing/hunting gear.
- Keep the doors and windows as secure as possible.

If thieves want in to your cabin, they will get in and in the process may do more damage to the cabin dollar wise than what they may find in the cabin itself. The Sheriff's department does what it can, but the remote nature of your cabins makes it very difficult to catch a break-in when it happens. That's why we need your help!

When around your cabin, be sure to report any unusual activity. If at all possible, get a **vehicle license number**. Other information such as vehicle description, direction of travel and time of the incident, and a description of the person or persons involved would be very helpful. Start at the top of the person and work your way down: hat or no hat, color of hair, eyes, facial hair, shirt or coat color, type & color of pants, and shoes.

More Crime Prevention information can be found on the Yakima County Sheriff's Office web site: <http://www.yakimacounty.us/Sheriff/CrimePrevention.htm>

The direct line to the Sheriff Office dispatch is (509) 574-2500. I know that there is little or no phone service in many areas of the forest, but there are pay phones in Cliffdell and limited cell phone coverage at the Morris Creek snow gate or at the 1901/1903 intersection in the Little Naches for US Cellular and Verizon phones.

A new 150' tall cell tower is being installed on the top of Mt. Clemans by US Cellular and will support US Cellular and Verizon cell phones. Current plans call for it to be fully operational by the end of this summer. While the cell tower will cover a very large area, the terrain will create a number of dead zones which won't be apparent until the system is operational.



WSDOT Update

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has begun its repairs to the stretch of Highway 410 that was destroyed by the landslide in the fall of 2009. Ever since the slide, travel detours were made thru the Nile Loop Road. For Nile Valley residents, this detour has been a major headache and the start of construction equipment has been music to their ears. Here are some details we gleaned from a presentation WSDOT gave for Nile Valley Residents:

- The slide has been determined to be stable now, so the new stretch of road will extend through the lower end of the slide area.
- WSDOT has been working hard since the slide to design the road and meet all of the geological, safety and environmental requirements
- The new road will be built along the toe of the slide with only one small corner of the slide at the west end to be removed.
- A buttress will be built on the west end of the slide. Other than that, the slide itself will remain as is.
- Some work has already started with placement of river rip-rap in advance of the spring runoff.
- Total construction time is estimated to be 100 working days, which means the new road could be open about the end of August.

Further information can be found on the WSDOT web site:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/sr410/nilevalleyreconstruction/>

From Our Naches Ranger Station Friends Michelle King

The Naches Ranger District has a busy summer planned, with a wide variety of projects.

Nelli Restoration Project

The Naches Ranger District is proposing restoration activities that include vegetation, road management, and trail management in the Dry Creek, Orr Creek, and Nile Creek Areas. These activities would be implemented through harvesting mostly mid to

understory trees, thinning and pruning of vegetation in selected stands, treating activity-created fuels, under burning natural fuels, and treating invasive plant species. The planning process for the Nelli Restoration Project is currently underway and the district is seeking public review. For more information go to refer to the complete scoping letter "Nelli Public Scoping Brochure" at <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php/?project=38522>

Adopt-A-Trail Program

The Naches Ranger District is in the process of instating an Adopt-A-Trail Program. The program will help provide critical maintenance and management of the National Forest system-trails. When an individual or group decides to Adopt-A-Trail, they can select to be either a 'Friend of the Trail' or the 'Trail Steward'. A 'Friend of the Trail' may choose to only complete certain maintenance or clearing tasks, while the 'Trail Steward' is committed to all aspects of trail maintenance. If you would like to Adopt-A-Trail or would like to find out more information on the program, please contact Resource Leader Jacque Beidl (509-653-1432 jbeidl@fs.fed.us) or the Trails Coordinator Jeff Leisy (509-653-1438 jleisy@fs.fed.us).

Trails and Wilderness Interest Group (TWIG)

If you like to hike, bike, drive, ski, snowmobile, hunt or participate in any other type of activity on the Naches Ranger District... you should be a part of TWIG! The Trails and Wilderness Interest Group is an open public group that meets several times a year at Naches Ranger Station to discuss trails, projects, volunteering, and other issues that pertain to the National Forests. Please call or email Jeff Leisy (509-653-1438 jleisy@fs.fed.us) to be added to the TWIG mailing list. TWIG is a great way to stay involved in what is happening on your National Forest and how you can help.

Flood Repair Projects

In May 2011, the Naches and Cle Elum Ranger Districts experienced a 100-year flood impacting several roads, campgrounds, and other recreational areas. The flood damage was so extensive, the Forest Service general funds were not sufficient to be able to even begin working on the damaged areas. In June 2011, the Okanogan-Wenatchee South Engineering Zone applied for (and was granted) Federal Lands Highway funding. Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads, known as *ERFO*, is making it possible for the Naches and Cle Elum Districts to begin to plan and implement flood repair projects. The two districts have now created an ERFO Team to work on the damage on both the Naches and Cle Elum districts. The team has completed the environmental analysis on four projects: Forest Service Roads 1808, 1601, 3100 mile post 0.9-2.2, and 3100 mile post 10.4. Construction is scheduled to occur for these projects between July 15 - October 15 of 2012. The ERFO team is currently in the planning process of six additional projects: Forest Service Roads 1501, 3120, 1901 system, 3300 system, 1700 system, and 4517. These projects will be constructed in 2013. Several of these projects

include multiple roads and multiple damaged sites within one road system. A list of proposed actions for these six projects can be expected later this summer. For more information on the Flood Repair Projects, please contact Michelle King (509-653-1420 mdking02@fs.fed.us).

Spring Burning Announcement

Controlled burns are a necessity for forest health, but the impacts of smoke in the air are just as important. The Naches Ranger District is now beginning their Spring Prescribed Burning program. Prescribed Fire in the spring is typically conducted to remove post-harvest woody materials, to reduce excess fuel and fire hazards in the Wildland Urban Interface, and to restore ecosystem health. If you or someone you know is sensitive to smoke, we invite you to join our *Prescribed Fire Information List* to receive daily updates on smoke conditions. Please contact Michelle King (509-653-1420 mdking02@fs.fed.us). Once burning begins, daily updates will be available on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Alerts and Notices website under Prescribed Burning on the Naches District: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/okawen/alerts-notice>. Updates are also posted to the Forest Twitter site at www.twitter.com/OkaWenNF.

Want to stay updated?

Join the Naches Mailing List! Receive updates on upcoming projects and volunteer opportunities on the Naches District. You can choose to be contacted by email, phone, or mailing address. To join, contact Michelle King (509-653-1420 mdking02@fs.fed.us). Your comments and feedback help the Naches District better manage your National Forest.



Fire Protection for Cabins

Take a little time to review your homeowners policy it just may save you some money.

One of our summer home residents recently reviewed their homeowner's policy which had substantially increased from the previous year. We discovered that the insurance company had their insurance rating information wrong. The fire protection class, residence not located in the fire district, and fire station was more than 5 miles from their home, was how their insurance premium was rated and all three ratings were incorrect. The insurance company was notified to correct this information and their premium was adjusted.

Review your homeowner's policy for the following:

- (1) Fire insurance rating: Class 8
- (2) Is your home within the fire district?
- (3) Is your residence within 5 miles of a fire station?

Don't just assume that the insurance company knows where you live. Review your homeowner's policy to make sure your insurance company has the correct information to calculate your premium.

If your insurance company needs documentation concerning the rating class, please contact Mary Smith, Fire District Secretary, at 509-658-2445 (message phone).

If you are not sure if your summer home is located within Yakima County Fire Protection District No. 14 (Nile-Cliffdell Fire Department); one of the easiest ways to check is to look on your property tax statement for that parcel and it will list if you are paying fire protection taxes.

If your summer home is located outside the fire district your cabin owners group may decide to form a fire service contract with the fire district. If you would like more information to form a fire service contact for your cabin owners group please contact the Nile-Cliffdell Fire Department at 590-658-2445 and leave a message and we will contact you.

Steve Smith, Fire Chief
Nile-Cliffdell Fire Department

Officers and Executive Board

President—Dave Leinweber (425) 643-2937 dave_leinweber@hotmail.com

First Vice President—position open

Vice President of Member Activities—Carl Buchholz (509)966-4861 buchcs@aol.com

Secretary & Cabin Tracks Editor – Maureen Bell (509)638-3867 bellwayne@charter.net

Treasurer – Jim Lundeen (509)575-8315 jimgin@q.com

Members At-Large—Mark Hevland—(509)737-1003 klamath87@charter.net

Kathi Lindberg—(509)965-3286 kjlindberg@msn.com

Scheduled Field Trips for Members and their Friends.



Planned & Scheduled by Carl Buchholz

SPRING MUSHROOMS

Date: Saturday, June 2, 2012

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Intersection of highway 410 and the Bumping Lake Road

Leaders: Yakima Valley Mushroom Society (YVMS) members

This will be an excellent opportunity to learn how to identify the spring mushrooms that are in the woods around our cabins. You will learn which mushrooms are edible, which are questionable, and which are poisonous. They will describe how to pick mushrooms, care for them, and even prepare them for the best eating.

You might want to bring some mushrooms that you have found near your cabin and they can identify them for you. If you have an area that you know where there are some mushrooms that you would like to share with the group let us know. We do not have exact locations where we will be looking at this time, because that will depend on the weather and when the snow melts. However, there are many good locations in our cabin areas for mushrooms.

The YVMS has a web site (www.yvms.org) that lists many good mushroom resources that you should check out.

Hope to see you on this field trip and bring any family and friend that might be interested in learning about mushrooms.

HISTORICAL ASPECTS OF THE BUMPING LAKE AREA

Date: Saturday, August 18, 2012

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: to be determined later (it will somewhere near the dam) check our web site under field trips

Leader: Suzy Cyr

Suzy Cyr is a cabin owner who happens to live in Jack Nelson's (The Gate Keeper) cabin. She has studying the history of the Bumping Lake area and will share her findings with us. We will be walking around and seeing the different locations that she will be discussing like the road to the quarry, it will be where camp 22 was located. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn about the history of the largest construction site in our area.

If you have not, you might want to read [We Never Got Away](#) by Jack Nelson who was the Gate Keeper of Bumping Lake.

COPPER CITY

Date: Saturday September 15, 2012

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Met at the intersection of highway 410 and the Bumping Lake Road

Leader: Jacquie Beidl (Forest Service)

We will met at the intersection of highway 410 and the Bumping Lake Road, carpool, and leave by 1:10 PM. Jacquie will go over some of the history of the area and we can see what is left of the largest mining area in the Chinook Pass area.

The Forest Service is still working on the road beyond the new bridge which should be finished by Mid August.

Always check our web site CPCOA.com before attending these field trips for the latest up dates.

WOOD CHIPPER INFORMATION

The North Yakima Conservation District (NYCD), in cooperation with the High-way 410/12 Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Steering Committee is starting its **FINAL** field season of chipping forest slash. This service is free to cabin and home owners. For more information about the program please go to their web-site

<http://nycd.scc.wa.gov> or

call Mike Stowell, WCC Crew Supervisor at (509) 406-4985.

Help Wanted

Webmaster

CPCOA is looking for a webmaster for its website: www.cpcoa.com.

The perfect candidate knows or has a strong desire to understand basic HTML structures and good web design. No experience necessary. Like all CPCOA board positions, the pay is the satisfaction of knowing that you've done a good job and that you are helping all CPCOA members!

*For more information, please contact
Dave Leinweber
dave_leinweber@hotmail.com*

**Remember CPCOA Summer Potluck & Meeting
Saturday, June 23, 2012—11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**

Nile Valley Community Church

Bring a hot dish and a salad or dessert

