

CPCOA Fall 2010 Meeting
September 25, 2010
Nile Valley Community Church—Naches, Washington

Mike Berriochoa call the meeting to order at 12:15 pm and welcomed members. Attendance was lighter than usual, with an estimated 30 members attending. Mike then offered a moment of silence in memory of love ones who are no longer with us.

After reviewing the agenda, Mike announced that Jack Selby had retired from the board and that the board had appointed Dave Leinweber to complete Jack's term as VP. He also informed the membership that elections for 1st VP and Secretary would be held later in the meeting.

Mike then introduced Mike Rowan and Karen Lindhorst (klindhorst@fs.fed.us) from the Forest Service. Mike Rowan announced that he has accepted a promotion to the Humboldt - Toiyabe Nation Forest and will be moving to Sparks Nevada in a few weeks. His duties will be shared by Karen and Jackie until a replacement is found. He stated that Irene Davidson (Naches District Ranger) has acknowledged that the Special Uses team is understaffed and that his position will be refilled hopefully sometime after the 1st of the year.

As recognition for all that Mike Rowan has done for cabin owners, Mike Berriochoa presented Mike Rowan with a plaque from the CPCOA members thanking him for supporting the organization.

Karen then addressed the gathering and provided an update on the cabin appraisal process, which is almost complete. She has been impressed with the work that has been done so far on this complex task and looks forward to completing the process this fall.

Karen also talked about the lack of resources to respond to cabin owner's requests. Still, she reiterated the need for cabin owners to contact her prior to making changes to the cabin beyond the normal maintenance & replacement of like features of cabins. The process has been documented in the "Naches Ranger District Recreation Residence Operations and Maintenance Plan" which every cabin owner received last fall. The document is also available on the [Wenatchee](#)

[National Forest - Naches District website](#) as well as on the [CPCOA Website](#). The more that cabin owners understand and follow the process, the faster requests will be processed.

Priority is given to Hazard Tree requests which now has a normal turn-around time of a few weeks. Other requests are prioritized in safety/health fashion (i.e: requests to repair existing septic systems are of higher importance and requests for new systems).

Karen stated that some cabin owners have been requesting permission to replace their current roof with a metal one to better protect from fires. Many requests have been denied due to the historical status of cabins over 50 year old. She stated however that while the Forest Service will do it's best to save cabins, a wildfire can burn down even those cabins with metal roofs.

Karen then spoke on some of the things that cabins owners can do without receiving permission. For example, it is permissible to paint your cabin the same color as it currently is or replace a rotten railing with a new one as long as it is the same as the old one. Since there are numerous historical artifacts in cabin sites, digging is not permitted without permission. However, cabin owners may replace rotten posts supporting wood piles and such as long as they don't disturb the ground any more than it has already.

Finally Karen stated that all of the files on our cabins have been updated with detailed measurements and many pictures, so they will know if a cabin has been modified without permission.

Mike thanked Karen for coming and then introduced Yakima County Sheriff Deputy Steve Sutliff.

Deputy Steve reminded members that they should call in any break-ins or suspicious activity immediately by calling the main Sheriff's office at (509) 574-2500 and to not ask for him specifically. While he is on duty only 4 days a week, there are other Deputies available to provide backup and that often getting to a cabin break-in right away makes a big difference in their ability to catch the thief. This is especially true now with budget cutbacks as Deputy Steve must cover both Chinook and White pass areas.

He also reminded members that they should not leave valuables in their cabins, especially guns. Some cabin owners have taken to leaving their cabins unlocked and he noted a certain wisdom in doing so as often the biggest cost of a cabin break-in is not what was taken, but repairing the damage done entering the structure.

Finally he spoke of some plans that he has heard of to increase the number of cell phone towers in the valley. A temporary cell phone towers put in for the Nile slide last fall is still in operation. While these towers are company specific, he reminded everyone that no matter what service you have on your cell phone, dialing 911 will work with any cell phone company's equipment. So try dialing "911" on your cell phone even if you don't have any bars. It may save you a drive down to Whistlin Jack's.

Mike then moved on to the business portion of the meeting by asking Jim Lundeen, CPCOA treasurer, to give a treasurers report.

Jim Lundeen reported we have a balance of \$3,328.37 in our account. There have been a couple of special expenses including \$500.00 to the CUFFA 2 for lobbying and \$60 for website hosting. We currently have 94 full members and 16 associates.

Carl Buchholz gave a summary reported on the CPCOA field trips for this last summer. The geology trip was a big success with 37 attendees joining Dr Paul Hammond at the Nile slide. While the Bull Trout trip had less than 10 attendees, Gary Torreta did a very good job of informing folks about the Bull Trout. The group saw a pair of trout in the process of spawning and later a third one swam by. Copies of handouts for both field trips, along with pictures, are now available on the [CPCOA website](#).

Carl then asked members for ideas on other field trips to hold next year as well as when was the best time. He can be contacted at buchcs@aol.com.

Finally Carl informed the members that the North Yakima Conservation District has a large wood chipper that is available to cabin owners for fuel reduction. They come with a Washington Conservation Core employees and chip up your

piles of tree branches. To inquire, call 406-4985 and make arrangements with Mike Stowell, the crew chief. They will be chipping the first two weeks in October of 2010 and their grant will allow them to continue providing this service in 2011.

Moving on to the next item of business, Mike Berriochoa then gave an overview of the board's efforts to update the CPCOA By-laws. Copies of proposed new by-laws were mailed out to all members and every table had at least one copy for members to review. Mike asked for comments/discussion on the document. There was none. A motion was made from the floor to adopt the new By-Laws as is. The motion was seconded. Mike then called for a vote, in which all members voted for, none against and none abstained.

A call for officer elections was then made by Mike as the new by-laws state that the Secretary and 1st VP are to be elected in even years. Maureen Bell was nominated to continue as the CPCOA secretary. No other nominations were offered. Mike asked for a vote to approve Maureen as secretary and all members voted for, none against and none abstained.

Dave Leinweber was then nominated for the position of 1st VP. No other nominations were offered. Mike asked for a vote to approve Dave as 1st VP and all members voted for, none against and none abstained.

Mike then asked the members if they had ideas about other things that the organization could or should be doing. A discussion ensued covering past efforts including rebuilding of the day shelter at the American Forks campground and trail maintenance being done by other organizations.

Carl Buchholz agreed to contact the Forest Service to inquire about future projects that members could participate in.

Dave Leinweber agreed to contact the Washington Trails Association to see if the two organizations could start working together to improve trails in the area.

The drawing was held for Washington Lotto scratch tickets and some Elderberry Jelly donated by Wynona and Roy Rombough who picked the berries and Sue and Carl Buchholz who made them into jelly. Since there were so few attendees, most everyone went home a winner.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Dave Leinweber (substituting for Maureen Bell, Secretary)