

**Chinook Pass Cabin Owners' Association Fall Meeting  
October 4, 2014—Nile Valley Community Church**

President Dave Leinweber called the meeting order at 11:45. He introduced our guests: USFS—Kathryn Buchholz & Bill Zimmer, and Washington Dept. of Ecology & Senior Water Rights—Tyson Carlson. The CPCOA board members were also introduced. Dave took tract roll call and 32 members attended the meeting. Dave shared the meeting agenda and then invited members to enjoy conversation with other cabin owners and eat. Thank you to those who brought food. Also, a thank you to Peggy and Alvin Driesen for being such gracious hosts. It is always a pleasure to be able to hold our meeting at such a great location.

Dave opened the meeting. Yakima County Sheriff Deputy Perry Brown was invited to speak but wasn't able to attend.

President Dave introduced Kathryn Buchholz and Bill Zimmer who updated us with news regarding the Naches Ranger Station. There have been many new faces at the ranger station and the new ranger, Kelly Lawrence, is to arrive Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>. Bill is new to the area and replaced Jackie Beidl. He shared that building a relationship and partnership with the Ranger station employees and cabin owners is his goal. He said that communication between the two groups is vital to be successful. He asks that we be patient while he is getting his "feet" wet and learning about the ranger district. Kathryn spoke about fuel reduction and what cabin owners can do make our cabins fire safe. She distributed copies of "*Vegetation Management*" from the ranger station. She informed cabin owners of the Chipper Program and encouraged tracts to arrange with Mike Tobin (509.454.5736-ext. 112) to schedule the chipper crew to come and help rid tracts of wooded debris. Cabin tracts need to have piles ready for chipping. Kathryn reported that new ranger district policies are being written but are on hold until the new ranger is on board as all policies need ranger approval. She distributed a handout that showed the status of road repairs in the district. If you have any problems or concerns about your cabin, please contact Kathryn.

**DOE Water Bank Update:** Tyson Carlson updated our members regarding information on Senior Water Rights. He will be working with Chinook Pass Cabin Owners this fall. If your tract wishes to seek Senior Water Rights, Tyson would like 1-2 members of each tract to be contact people. After he completes a site visit, he will proceed to complete the process. Contact Tyson at 206.838.5842 or his email, [tcarlson@aspectconsulting.com](mailto:tcarlson@aspectconsulting.com) if you have any questions regarding Senior Water Rights. Now is the time to act, if you have Senior Water Rights for your cabin you should be assured you will be able to access water during times of drought.

**Little Naches Restoration Project:** Wayne Bell is our cabin owners' representative for this project. The purpose of this group is to make recommendations to the Forest Service on how best to restore Little Naches Watershed. Funding is available. He asked members for information if and how they use the Little Naches area. Our association wishes to be proactive on forest issues and be part of the decision making process rather than reacting after decisions are made. This group will make recommendations to the ranger by the end of December 2014, who then gives final approval on the restoration recommendations made by the committee.

**Issue Updates:**

**Cabin Fee Act:** This act was passed by the House Natural Resources Committee and the House of Representatives. It now goes to the Senate but not until Congress reconvenes November 11<sup>th</sup>. The act eliminates the appraisal cycles and fees over \$5500/\$5600. The key provision for us is fee retention. The forest service fully supports this legislation.

**E-11 Permit Clause:** Nothing has changed new permits containing the E-11 language has not been issued to Bumping Lake cabin owners. However it will be included in any new permits issued.

**Naches Ranger District Fire Ban Process:** The Naches Ranger District has been lucky so far this year with no major fires. There were fire bans for outside fires but we were able to have fires in our cabins. We will be communicating with the new ranger about the fire issues we have experienced the past few years. Members are reminded to help by maintaining clean and well repaired chimneys with functional spark arresters. Also create defensible space around your cabin. This helps firefighters protect your cabin should fire occur.

**Business Meeting:**

**Field Trips:** Carl Buchholz thanked members for their attendance at the 3 field trips held this year. He is planning next year's field trip. Possible trips are: Fife Peak's Area, Mushroom Collecting, Bumping Lake History, and Mystery Thunder Eggs Hunt. If members have any suggestions please contact Carl.

**Sawmill Flats Re-roofing Project:** Roy and Winona Rombough are still working with the Naches Ranger Station personnel on this project. The challenge is to find cedar shake shingles that fulfill the historical requirements. Winona will be checking some resources on the west side of the state. This project is on hold until next spring.

**Financial Report:** Jim Lundeen reported we have 135 members. There are 114 full members (10 new) and 21 Associate members (4 new). We had new members join our group today. Budget information: Our checking account balance is \$3,881.48 with a few expenses to be paid. Our association collected \$2,935 for the Defense Fund and donated \$1,390 to the C2 committee with a balance of \$1,545.00. Next year's budget: Anticipated Income-\$8000.00 with expenses \$7,725. Expenses include: National & state dues, mailings, meeting expenses, website, national conference attendance and a directory update. This leaves a surplus of \$275.00.

**Announcements:** Summer meeting—June 20, 2015 Nile Valley Community Church. Check us out on Facebook. Thanks to Noma Hudson for keeping this site updated. Thank you again to Peggy and Alvin Driesen and the Nile Valley Community Church for their fantastic hospitality and use of their facility.

Meeting adjourned about 2:15.

Respectfully submitted by

*Maureen Bell*

Maureen Bell, Secretary