



# Cascade Connections

## CSHA Newsletter • Fall 2013

### President's Report

Harry Wander

#### **BATTLE OF THE BLADDERWORT**

Everybody who has used Lost Mine Lake knows of the problem that exists there with the Bladderwort plant. It grows rapidly during the warm months and continually threatens to take over the lake. Its roots are in the lake bottom, but then as it grows the stem breaks off and the plant floats freely around the lake and continues to grow. It is very difficult to physically remove it, as when wet it is very heavy. This past summer we tried controlling its growth with a combination of removal and chemicals. This was partially successful. After much discussion, the Board of Directors decided to try an approach that we heard worked fairly well back in the '80s and early '90s.



It was also recommended by an outside expert whom I consulted. This approach was to partially drain the lake and then remove as much of the Bladderwort roots as possible from the exposed areas. We heard that there was actually a drain pipe buried deep under the outlet creek. Unfortunately, nobody knew where the control valve was located and the pipe was buried under many feet of silt. We decided to dig a new trench as deep as possible, drain down the lake and install a new pipe, with the valve being located where we could access it in later years. When we found the old pipe it was packed with silt, so finding the valve would not have helped anyway.

The project was undertaken by Board members Doug Gloff, Larry Marvin and Harry Wander. Jimmy LeFrancois, who was not even a member, contributed a huge amount of effort to the project. We rented a large 4 wheel drive backhoe. This was operated by Jimmy, thus saving the expense of hiring somebody to do it. A trench, 200 feet long, and eight feet deep at the lake end, was dug

from the lake to the culvert. This lowered the lake level about 6 feet. Jimmy then used his father's somewhat smaller backhoe to put some finishing touches to the job. A 4 inch PVC pipe was then laid in the ditch from the lake to the culvert. Jimmy then partially refilled the trench. A great deal of sand and gravel is carried into that gully from the Gas Canyon Road area during the winter months and will gradually fill it the rest of the way.

The next step in the project, scheduled for next week, will be to remove as many of the Bladderwort roots as we can, by removing the top layer of the soil in which they are implanted. The removal will be primarily by Jimmy using their family's equipment, with the rest of us

*Continued on page 2....*

### **Inside this Issue**

Cascade Shores Community Septic Proposed .....	2
Fire Safety Update - Fall 2013 .....	3
Cascade Shores Picnic .....	4
Lost Mine Lake .....	4
Calendar .....	4
Benefits of Membership .....	5
Service Provider List .....	6
Service Provider List .....	7
Cascade Shores Officers & Committee Contacts .....	8

*President's Report Continued...*

providing the shovel work. After that step is completed, the valve in the drain pipe will be closed and the coming rains will refill the lake. Next spring we will again use chemicals aggressively as there will still be many roots we were unable to remove. However, since it grows most vigorously in shallow water, and that is where we will have removed a lot of the roots, the magnitude of the problem will have been significantly lessened.

Draining and cleaning the lake can be repeated as often as needed, now that a new drain pipe is installed and the valve location accurately recorded.

Keeping Lost Mine Lake clear of Bladderwort appears to be a never-ending battle.

Harry J. Wander, President, CSHA

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## **Cascade Shores** **Community Septic** **Plant Being Proposed**

Nevada County has come up with a solution to reduce the excessive sewer rates many in our community are forced to pay. We currently pay one of the highest rates in California to operate our existing sewage treatment plant. Due to the increasing environmental standards that the sewage plant is required to meet, the cost of maintaining it has continued to soar. Even with all the expense put into the plant, currently it still does not meet standards. Many of you may have received a letter in the mail from Nevada County describing the project. In the proposal, the County plans to decommission the existing Cascade Shores Wastewater Treatment Facility, and instead direct wastewater flows to a new community septic system. Construction will consist of two 20,000 gallon tanks, a lift station, conveyance forcemain, motor control center, emergency generator, leachate tanks, and a leach field consisting of buried 7,700 feet of PVC pipe. The site is on 40 acres bordered by Mountain View Drive, Pasquale Road, and Pacific Close (APN: 38-570-04). The project has been identified to reduce the cost of operation for the Cascade Shores Residents while improving water quality.

Supervisor Nate Beason will schedule a meeting with interested homeowners to lay out the plans for the new system and to answer questions from homeowners who are sewer users and any interested parties who are not.

The following is a copy of a letter sent to the Nevada County Department of Public Works from the CSHA Board voicing our concerns about the Community Septic Plant proposal.

David A. Garcia, Jr., Transportation Planner  
Nevada County Department of Public Works

Dear Mr. Garcia;

The Cascade Shores Homeowner's Association Board has reviewed the Cascade Shores Community Leach Field Project Initial Study Report, and we have discussed it at our recent board meeting. I'd like to start by thanking you for your efforts to alleviate the excess cost burden the current sewer treatment plant has brought upon our community. We realize that the current plant is not up to standards, and that something needs to be done to stop the escalating costs associated with it. We are not adverse to the construction of the Community Septic and Leach Field in our community to bring down costs as long as we can be assured that there will not be an adverse environmental impact for our community. The Mitigated Negative Declaration did not appear to address the possibility of ground water contamination. The report stated that the project would not deplete ground water supplies or interfere with ground water recharge, but there was no mention of its possible adverse effect on ground water quality. With 14,000 gallons of waste water flowing through 7,700 feet of leach lines, the possibility exists that the waste water could seep through the soil and contaminate the underground water aquifer in our community. Many of our residents have wells, and have expressed concerns about their ground water quality being negatively impacted by the project. The second concern/question that we have is regarding future expandability of the community septic project once built. In the report it was stated that the project is being built to accommodate the 88 or so properties currently required to be on the system. Should future properties be required to be on the system due to septic failure or new construction, will the project be able to accommodate them?

To address our concerns regarding the environmental impact to our community we request that a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR) be done. To address our ground water concerns we request that a Ground Water Study be conducted. Thank you for your consideration of our concerns,

Harry J. Wander, President  
Cascade Shores Homeowner's Association

# Fire Safety Update - Fall 2013

From this picture, we can see that we live in a beautiful forest. But it's become so thick that you can't see the houses anymore. There is danger within that beauty – the risk that these trees, denser and drier than ever, could some day catch fire. If that happens, we'd "be toast."



At last April's general meeting, there was overwhelming support for improved fire safety in Cascade Shores following a talk by Joanne Drummond from the Nevada County Fire Safe Council.

A committee of interested people was formed, and we started working toward the implementation of the nationally recognized FIREWISE model with the support of the Fire Safe Council. Please see [cascadeshores.org](http://cascadeshores.org) and click on Fire Safe Council to learn more about the FIREWISE movement and the vision for our community.

A large piece of this program has to do with education: getting residents and owners in Cascade Shores up-to-date in regard to learning about fire safety in a woodland environment, identifying local resources and people who can help with questions and safety improvements, and understanding the laws and other legal requirements that impose expectations on all of us.

However, the busy fire season has held up our efforts to arrange an official "assessment" of our problems and exposures from fire authorities. Additionally, a

community fire safety education day scheduled for the firehouse property, has been delayed for the same reason. As a result, many of the planned "30 Day Clean-Up Notices" will be pushed into next year. It's important that we do our part to get out as much information as possible as the first step.

## **To date, the Firewise Committee has:**

1. Placed fire safety signs and reminders throughout the community.
2. Mailed a first letter, announcing FIREWISE, to over 500 property owners.
3. Received fire safety training from the Fire Safe Council, fire officials, and insurance representatives.
4. Helped conduct courtesy safety inspections in the field.
5. Participated in fire safety canvassing of properties within Cascade Shores.
6. Upgraded the [cascadeshores.org](http://cascadeshores.org) website to include all FIREWISE information (under the heading of Fire Safe Council.)
7. Notified, by mail, more than 80 vacant lot owners of the need to clean-up any dangerous, untended properties. (Some of these places have not been touched in years.)

If you would like help in evaluating potential fire dangers on your property, members of the Firewise Committee are available to visit, discuss risks, and provide you with a written report. This is simply an informational report as a courtesy to you and CSHA membership is not required.

Please do your part to learn about FIREWISE and support our work. The first step is to take a honest look at your own property and ask yourself if it would pass inspection. If not, you need to set a goal for yourself and get started with cleaning up. Small improvements, over time, will yield big results. Many property owners have already gotten a good start, and we commend your efforts.

Please refer any questions or requests to Jan at 265-2435.

Cascade Shores Firewise Committee

# Cascade Shores Family Picnic

This year's Family Picnic was held at Lost Mine Lake on August 24th. The event was free for all CSHA members and their guests. Attendees braved the smoky skies, but enjoyed beautiful outdoor temperatures. Delicious hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, grapes and sodas were served. CSHA members spent the day getting to know their neighbors, as well as catching up on the latest happenings in our wonderful community. There are few locations for a picnic that are prettier than our very own Lost Mine Lake

Suburban Propane, for the second year in a row supported our community by providing, cooking and serving the hamburgers and hot dogs. Thank you Suburban Propane!

If you missed attending this year, please watch for announcements and join us next year.



# Lost Mine Lake

Another fun summer at Lost Mine Lake is coming to an end. We hope you had a chance to enjoy the lake for a family outing or to attend one of the many planned activities that were held this summer.

A large portion of your annual dues go toward the maintenance of the lake and surrounding property. To insure that all CHSA members are able to enjoy the area the board has adopted a list of rules for everyone to follow.

## **LOST MINE LAKE RULES**

The Cascade Shores Homeowner's Association (CSHA) has adopted these rules for the use of our lake. Thank you for your cooperation.

**This is private property. Use is restricted to CSHA members and their guests.**

**Use of the Lost Mine Lake property is from dawn to dusk.**

**Guests must be accompanied by an adult CSHA member.**

**Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult CSHA member.**

**Swimming is at the swimmer's own risk.**

**There is no lifeguard on duty.**

**No dogs are allowed within the fenced area.**

**Dogs are to be in the designated dog beach area only.**

**No fishing is allowed within the fenced area.**

**Fishing is catch and release only.**

**No fireworks or campfires are allowed.**

## CSHA 2013 Calendar of Events

CSHA Board meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Firehouse.

<b>November 6</b>	Wednesday	CSHA Board Meeting	6:30 pm	Firehouse
<b>November 16</b>	Saturday	Women's Club Membership Drive	1-3 pm	Firehouse
<b>December 4</b>	Wednesday	CSHA Board Meeting	6:30 pm	Firehouse
<b>December 11</b>	Wednesday	CSHA Christmas Party	6 pm	Restaurant TBA
<b>December 14</b>	Saturday	Women's Club Kids Christmas Party	1-3 pm	Firehouse

# Benefits of Membership

- **Voluntary and affordable (\$100.00 per year)**
- **About 20% discount on propane**  
*The discount varies depending on membership. More members means bigger discount.*
- **Summer events that include:**
  - Family Outdoor Movies at the Firehouse  
*Every Friday night in July in the Firehouse parking lot. Popcorn and drinks provided.*  
**Everyone is welcome!**
  - Every Wednesday Night in July BBQ's  
*The coals will be ready and the utensils, plates, cups, napkins and condiments will be provided. Bring something to grill and a little something to share.*  
**Everyone is welcome!**
  - Community Yard Sale  
*All advertising and signage provided.*  
**Everyone is welcome!**
  - Family Picnic  
*Includes free food, games and prizes.*  
**Members and their guests only**
  - Wine Tasting  
**Everyone is welcome!**
- **Full use of our private Lost Mine Lake**
- **Kids' holiday parties at the firehouse**  
Halloween, Christmas and Easter  
*Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny will be there with games and prizes, crafts and food.*  
**Everyone is welcome!**
- **A strong voice heard with the county officials**
- **Informative website**
- **Community newsletter**
- **Help with code enforcement, fire safety and defensible space**
- **Private security patrol with "Enhanced Membership"**

Your dues provide a discount on propane from Suburban Propane (see the chart below for a comparison of member to non-member pricing), provide for maintenance of the Lost Mine Lake facilities and to fund the many activities that are available to everyone who lives in Cascade Shores.

## PROPANE

In case you haven't heard, you can save big bucks on Suburban Propane by joining the Cascade Shores Homeowner's Association. The difference in the non-member and member price is usually around \$1 a gallon. One tank alone would more than pay for your membership for the year. So, what are you waiting for? Also, you can go down to Suburban's station at 12575 Charles Drive in Grass Valley and fill your portable tanks or motor home for the same great savings. You can leave your empty portable tank beside your big tank and they will fill it at the same time. Saves a trip to the plant. Who doesn't want to save that kind of money on fuel these days?

**If you are a member but not a Suburban customer,** it is easy to switch. Just call Suburban at 273-6113 and tell them you would like to change over. They will come out to your house, transfer any remaining propane in your existing tank to a Suburban tank, and set aside your old tank so all you have to do is call your old supplier for pick-up.

**If you are not a CSHA member and would like to join,** just fill out the enclosed application and mail in your check. You will receive your new membership card and your name will be submitted to Suburban for your discount. You must be a current member in order to receive the discount.

**Propane Prices for Members vs. Non-Members Nov. 2011 – Feb. 2013**

Month	Sep 2013	Aug 2013	Jul 2013	Jun 2013	May 2013	Apr 2013	Mar 2013	Feb 2013
Member	2.03	1.77	1.65	1.53	1.64	2.05	2.14	2.36
Non-Member	2.76	2.70	2.59	2.50	2.70	2.90	3.00	3.10
Month	Jan 2013	Dec 2012	Nov 2012	Oct 2012	Sept 2012	Aug 2012	Jul 2012	Jun 2012
Member	2.06	2.10	2.01	1.76	1.76	1.75	1.73	1.82
Non-Member	2.78	2.95	3.00	2.99	2.99	2.94	2.84	2.90

# ***Service Provider List***

## **Harry J. Wander, MD, FAAP**

Sutter North Medical Group

Yuba City

Sr. Aviation Medical Examiner

(All classes FAA Medical Exam)

**530-749-3530**

## **Snow Removal & Plowing**

Clear driveway \$40

(including berm and car)

Berm only \$10 / Car only \$10

Sean O'Brien, Kabota Operator

**Home 530-265-0172**

**Cell 530-277-9179**

## **Rose Littau, M.F.T.**

Marriage & Family Therapist

1512 Starr Dr. Suite B

Yuba City

**530-674-2438**

## **House Cleaning & Janitorial**

Residential and Commercial

Move in, move out.

Non-toxic, scent and  
dye free products

Bonded. Work Guarantee.

17 years experience

Sharon Hess

**530-265-6286**

# ***Service Provider List***

## **Randall's Computer Service**

Expert computer repairs  
and service.

Virus removal, tutoring, consulting,  
any computer issue at all.

30 years experience.

Reasonable Rates.

Local Cascade Shores Resident

\$10 Discount for Locals.

Housecalls Available.

**530-478-9033**



## **Barrett Property Management**

Amelia Barrett

Owner/Broker

P.O. Box 85

Nevada City, CA 95959

**(530) 470-3272**

[ab.barrettpm@gmail.com](mailto:ab.barrettpm@gmail.com)

[www.barrettpm.com](http://www.barrettpm.com)

## **Michael's Personalized Tree Service**

Certified Arborist WE7065A

SCL#723619

10% off any job for members  
of CSHA

Senior Discounts

Michael Cotton, Owner

**530-265-5724**

[michaelthearborist.com](http://michaelthearborist.com)

## **O'Dell Realty**

John O'Dell

Located in Cascade Shores

**(530) 263-1091**

DRE 00669941



Member of non-profit  
FEDERATION OF NEIGHBOHOOD ASSOCIATIONS  
OF NEVADA COUNTY

**P.O.Box 1491**  
**Nevada City, CA 95959**

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# ***Cascade Shores Homeowner's Association***

A homeowners organization dedicated to the protection of our commonly held property, Lost Mine Lake, the promotion of community safety, property values, and the overall desirability of living in Cascade Shores.

## ***2013-2014 CSHA Board Members***

<b>President; Roads</b>	<b>Harry Wander</b>	hjwander@comcast.net	265-0884
<b>Vice President</b> Lost Mine Lake Supervisor; Message Board	<b>Pam Herrenkohl</b>	pamherrenkohl@sbcglobal.net	265-2363
<b>Treasurer; Membership; Propane,</b> Federation of Neighborhood Associations	<b>Larry Marvin</b>	ljmm3@sbcglobal.net	478-1095
<b>Secretary; Newsletter Editor</b>	<b>Leslie Grassi</b>	lesgrassi@yahoo.com	478-0386
Board Member at Large	<b>Open</b>		
Board Member at Large	<b>Open</b>		
<b>Security Patrol; Sewer Issues</b>	<b>Mike Inglis</b>	r_mike@yahoo.com	265-9147
<b>Store Liaison; Lost Mine Lake Assitant</b>	<b>Doug Gloff</b>	dgloff12@hotmail.com	470-8643
<b>Webmaster Editor</b>	<b>Judy Barlow</b>	Contact Leslie Grassi if needed	