

Lake Berryessa News Newsletter: March, 2022

"Without The Lake Berryessa News, there would be no Lake Berryessa news."

Welcome to Spring at the lake - a seesaw between very cold and very warm, and very dry!

Daylight Savings Time in California will begin at 2:00 AM on Sunday, March 13, 2022.

3.14 is PI DAY (that's March 14, 2022).

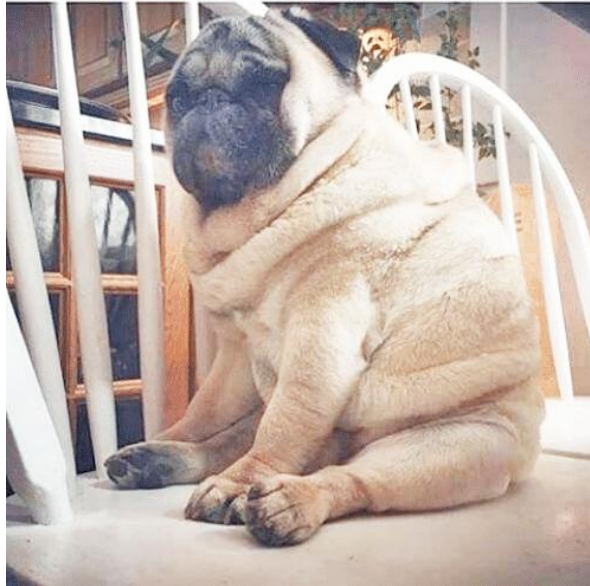
The 74th day of the Roman calendar is March 15. It is known as the Ides of March.

3/17 is St. Patrick's Day

3/19 is National Let's Laugh Day

If February 29 is someone's birthday, do they celebrate on March 1?

Finally my Winter fat is gone,
now I have Spring rolls.



Sunday Funnies

Free Sunday Funnies at: <https://comics.azcentral.com/>

(Dilbert is perfect this week!)

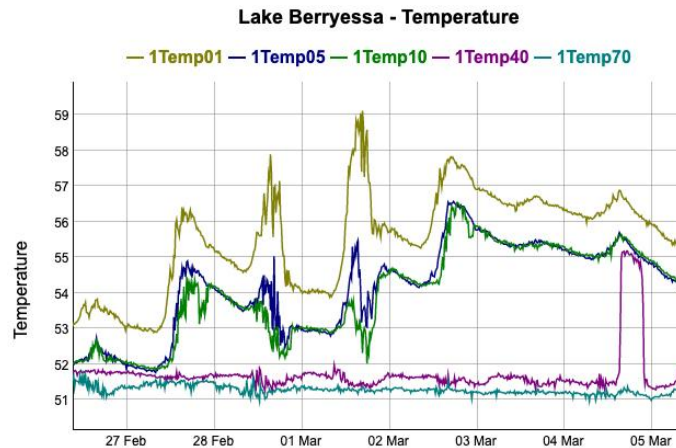
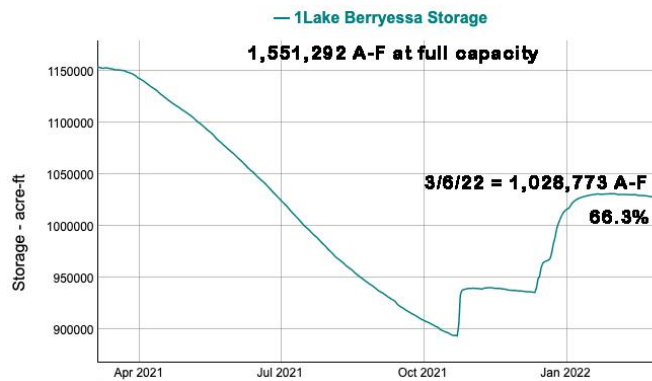
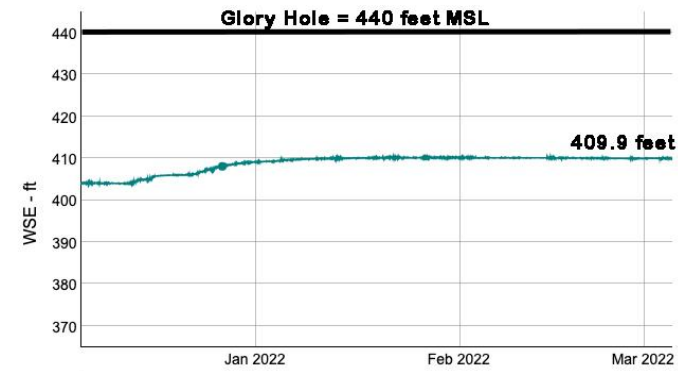
Lake Berryessa Statistics (3/6/22)

The lake level lost a tenth of an inch to 409.9 feet- 30.1 feet below Glory Hole. The lake level has held steady for almost 2 months. The light drizzle over the last two days can hardly be called rainfall and only added .14 inches. The official rainfall total at Monticello Dam is now at 15.98 inches.

We had a slight hailstorm on 2/22/22 but no measurable precipitation. There has been no rain since January 5 - 57 days. This is the longest winter dry spell since 2015. It is also the longest winter dry spell going back to 1993 in the records I can access. This third year of drought as January and February turned out to be two of the driest months in more than 100 years in California according to state water officials.

The Gamble Gauge shows the lake is now at 66.3% capacity using the new number approved by the SCWA. See the capacity report at:

The standard capacity was 1,602,000 acre-feet (AF) The new curve has a lake capacity of 1,551,292 AF at a level of 440 feet - 50,708 AF less than previously calculated.



Historical Tidbits

On April 27, 1956, the 84th United States Congress, 2nd session, approved bill S-2775, which named the reservoir behind Monticello Dam. Until then, the reservoir had been referred to as "Monticello Reservoir." From then on, however, it would be known as Lake Berryessa.

All Solano Project construction was essentially finished at the end of 1958. Monticello Dam, Lake Berryessa, and Putah Diversion Dam were all transferred to operative status on July 1, 1959. Lake Berryessa filled on April 18, 1963.

The photos below show the lake filling from the north and the south. Check out the unfinished dam and roads in the second one.



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More History - Never Forget!

The Bureau of Reclamation destroyed recreation opportunities at Lake Berryessa for a generation of families and children. Many folks who live at the lake now, as well as others around the Bay Area, don't realize what a disaster the BOR and their fellow travelers perpetrated on the public.

Here's an interview I did in 2010, just after Pensus had been given the contract for 5 resorts. As we all know Pensus was subsequently kicked out in 2012. Brian Hackney is still a news anchor on KPIX.

<https://youtu.be/nP9K8Ai0Lkc>



Feds Final Folly: The Destruction of Steele Park Resort - Ten Years Later (2019)

The following story about Steele Park Resort from 2019 (updating an original 2009 piece) is meant to provide some context to the present efforts to revitalize Lake Berryessa.

"As the Bureau of Reclamation's Katrina-like process at Lake Berryessa lurched on to an unknown resolution, local residents and previous lake recreation users were fed up with the Feds. Both Supervisor Diane Dillon and Congressman Mike Thompson were clearly frustrated by their apparent helplessness to do anything about Reclamation's lack of progress in signing the new contract for the five major west shore resorts. The Steele Park Resort contract was especially important since it would have a major impact on the water and sewer rates for

Berryessa Highlands residents which appeared to be headed for a minimum 82% increase by August, 2009.

Four of the resorts had been closed since the middle of summer. Steele Park was shutting down soon and would be demolished during the next nine months. The Pensus Group was chosen in May to manage these five resorts, but Reclamation has been unable to finalize a contract with them since that time. In several public statements, Reclamation claimed that there would be a "seamless transition" and recreation services would be only minimally affected as the resorts were all upgraded and improved. Tragically, this did not happen, although the Reclamation refrain has remained, "We are making good progress and expect the contract to be signed soon." The first such statement was made in May, 2008 and last publicly-stated deadline expired with no action."



See more photos of the destruction of Steele Park Resort at
<http://www.lakeberryessanews.com/photo-album/steele-park-demolition/>

Tragically, the "seamless transition" never happened, although the Reclamation refrain has remained, "We are making good progress and expect the contract to be signed soon." The first such statement was made in May, 2008 and last publicly-stated deadline expired last week with no action.

In a May 19, 2008 letter Reclamation stated: "Based upon evaluation of the successful proposal and subsequent confirmation with the successful offeror, The Pensus Group LLC, Reclamation has determined that all permanent facilities in your Resort concession area must be removed by the end of the concession contract."

See the original story at:
www.lakeberryessanews.com/past-stories/feds-final-folly-the-destru.html

This KPIX Eye on the Bay interview I did in 2010 is a relevant introduction to the substance of the book: Policy and Politics Betray the People, The Lake Berryessa saga, 1958-2020.

Without THE LAKE BERRYESSA NEWS there would be no Lake Berryessa News...and finally there would be no definitive history of what happened at Lake Berryessa. Having participated directly for more than twenty years as an advocate for the lake in the fiasco that was the Bureau of Reclamation's Visitor Services Plan, its farcical but tragic outcome, and the process of rebuilding, I have very strong views of the causes and results - supported by facts and data.

This book is a historical anthology, a raw, as-it-happened, unfiltered picture of what many of us lived through. The goal is to provide the history and the context within which such an incredibly destructive course of action took place. It is dedicated to documenting this tragedy, this final betrayal of Lake Berryessa by the federal government - and, hopefully, the promised revitalization.



The definitive book about what happened at Lake Berryessa!

Policy and Politics Betray the People:
The Lake Berryessa Saga, 1958-2020

https://www.amazon.com/Policy-Politics-Betray-People-Berryessa-ebook/dp/B08MFSQDBR/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=1646593188&sr=1-13

The advertisement is for 'BERRYESSA BOAT REPAIR'. The top section features a photograph of a white and blue speedboat on a body of water, with the company logo 'BERRYESSA BOAT REPAIR' overlaid. The logo includes a stylized propeller icon. Below the photo, the text reads: 'BERRYESSA BOAT . JET SKI . RV REPAIR & STORAGE', '4420 KNOXVILLE ROAD | 3 MIN NORTH OF SPANISH FLAT RESORT', and a paragraph describing their services: 'We offer quality repairs and a gated storage facility. We service all makes and models of Boats, Jet Skis, and RVs. Whether you need a basic tune up, rebuilt engine, gel coat or upholstery, we are your best choice. We are Mobile too, land or water, we can come to you! Outdoor Storage from \$50 per month is available. Our Parts Department is available to order anything you need, whether a battery or an engine. Proshop coming soon with basic boating supplies and hot new products for fun on the water!!'. The contact information 'berryessboatrepair@gmail.com | 707.966.9954' is provided. At the bottom, there are logos for 'MERCURY MerCruiser', 'YAMAHA', and 'VOLVO PENTA', along with small images of a boat and a motorhome.

English is Hard, But What About Ukrainian?

This section was originally intended to be a humor post. But my son, Chris, who has been living in Kyiv, Ukraine for the last two years, escaped to Budapest, Hungary with his girlfriend, who is

a Russian model and fashion photographer, two days before the Russian invasion. He is a well-known fashion photographer and video producer. He had to leave all his possessions and photo equipment behind. He had been living most of that time in an Airbnb in Kyiv. Some of you may have seen all the Facebook posts about Americans supporting the Ukrainian people by renting Airbnb sites they will not use, some of which have been turned into shelters for displaced civilians.

He is now working with the Ukrainian resistance to rally artists and musicians to publicly show their support of the Ukrainian people.

<https://www.facebook.com/UkraineUA.MFA>

So this piece is my little bit of moral support for Ukrainians through humor. We've all seen posts about how hard a language English is to learn. Since I'm of Lithuanian heritage I sometimes use Google Translate for fun to translate English to Lithuanian for notes to my family since I don't remember all the Lithuanian I learned in my Chicago grammar school. So I took the original puff piece about English being difficult and translated the phrases into Ukrainian and then back into English. I'm glad I don't have to learn a new alphabet too.

Do you notice how many Ukrainians in the news reports, both politicians and ordinary people being interviewed, speak good English? How many Americans do you know who can speak even one other language?

- A. Translate English to Ukrainian
- B. Ukrainian Spelling
- C. Ukrainian Pronunciation
- D. Translate Ukrainian back to English

The bandage was wound around the wound.
На рану намотали пов'язку.
Ukrainian Pronunciation: Na ranu namotaly pov'yazku.
A bandage was applied to the wound.

The farm was used to produce produce.
Ферма використовувалася для виробництва продукції.
Ukrainian Pronunciation: Ferma vykorystovувалasya dlya vyrobnytstva produktsiyi.
The farm was used for production.

We polish Polish furniture.
Шліфуємо польські меблі.
Ukrainian Pronunciation: Shlifuyemo pol's'ki mebli.
We polish Polish furniture.

The man decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
Чоловік вирішив залишити свій десерт у пустелі.
Ukrainian Pronunciation: Cholovik vyrishyv zalyshyty sviy desert u pusteli.
The man decided to leave his dessert in the desert.

Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
Оскільки нема такого часу, як теперішній, він подумав, що настав час представити сьогоднішня.
Ukrainian Pronunciation: Oskil'ky nema takoho chasu, yak teperishniy, vin podumav, shcho nastav chas predstavty s'ohodennya.
Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.

When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
При пострілі голуб кинувся в кущі.
Ukrainian Pronunciation: Pry postrili holub kynvsya v kushchi.
When shot, the pigeon rushed into the bushes.

I did not object to the object.
Я не заперечував проти об'єкта.
Ukrainian Pronunciation: YA ne zaperechuvav proty ob'yekta.
I did not object to the object.

They were too close to the door to close it.

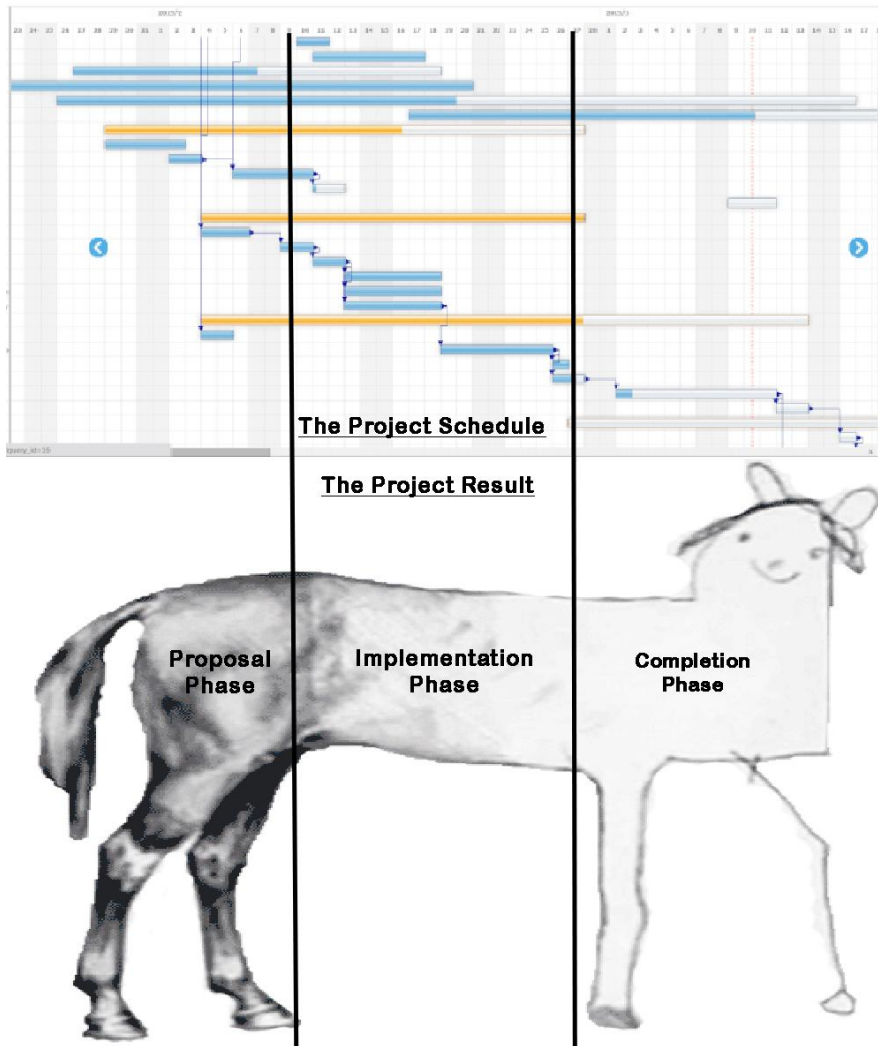
Вони були занадто близько до дверей, щоб зачинити їх.

Ukrainian Pronunciation: Vony byly zanahto blyz'ko do dverey, shchob zachynyty yikh.

They were too close to the door to close it.

Project Management: Herding Cats

Many of us have had to run important, or maybe not so important, projects during our careers. Sun Lake Berryessa has some extraordinarily complicated projects to complete here at the lake. Below is a graphic of the progress of a typical project. Remember, the initial 90% of a project takes 90% of the time. The final 90% of any project takes the last 90% of the time.



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God Regrets Never Learning Spanish (or Ukrainian)

Thousands of Truckers and Anti-Mask, Anti-Vaccine Protesters Crowd Streets as Pandemic of Stupidity Spreads North into Canada

Pope Francis Using New Treadmill Altar To Add More Physical Activity To Workday

Putin claims Russian troops just lining up for new Texas-style BBQ restaurant on the Ukrainian border

Ukrainians Hold Mass Public Burnings of Beatles' Record "Back in the U.S.S.R"

Man's Garbage to Have Much More Significant Effect On Planet Than He Will

Local expert loses all credibility due to eyebrow piercing.

Excited Man Only 2 Therapy Sessions Away From Resolving Issues

Report: More Companies Offering Paid Maternity Leave To Mothers Who Complete 3 Months Of Work Ahead Of Time

Kids Excited Mom Learning to Swear

Children's Museum Just Thousands of Buttons That Light Up When Pressed

Biden Vows That If Russia Invades Ukraine, U.S. Will Invade One Country Of Equivalent Value

Rams Dedicate Win to Whatever City They Play For

Putin says Russian troops along Ukraine border are actually just "Freedom Truckers" who want to occupy Kyiv to stop vaccine mandates.

Corporate America airs Super Bowl ad to remind viewers to give them all their money



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In a medical emergency, every second counts. No one knows that better than your EMERGENCY providers in Napa County.

American Medical Response (AMR) and Reach Air Medical Services, a provider in the AirMedCare Network (AMCN), are your local EMS providers responding to scene calls and hospital-to-hospital transports — carrying seriously ill or injured patients to the nearest appropriate medical facility.

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- Your membership financially protects not just you, but anyone who resides in your home, and is valid across 320 locations. Teladoc Access is also included for members, qualifying for a special discounted rate as low as \$3 per month plus co-pay.
- AMR is the exclusive 911 ground ambulance provider in Napa County.
- REACH Air Medical Services has a helicopter at the Napa airport which allows us to offer an enhanced level of care to the sickest patients in hard-to-reach areas of the county or those critical patients who require emergent transport to facilities outside of Napa County.

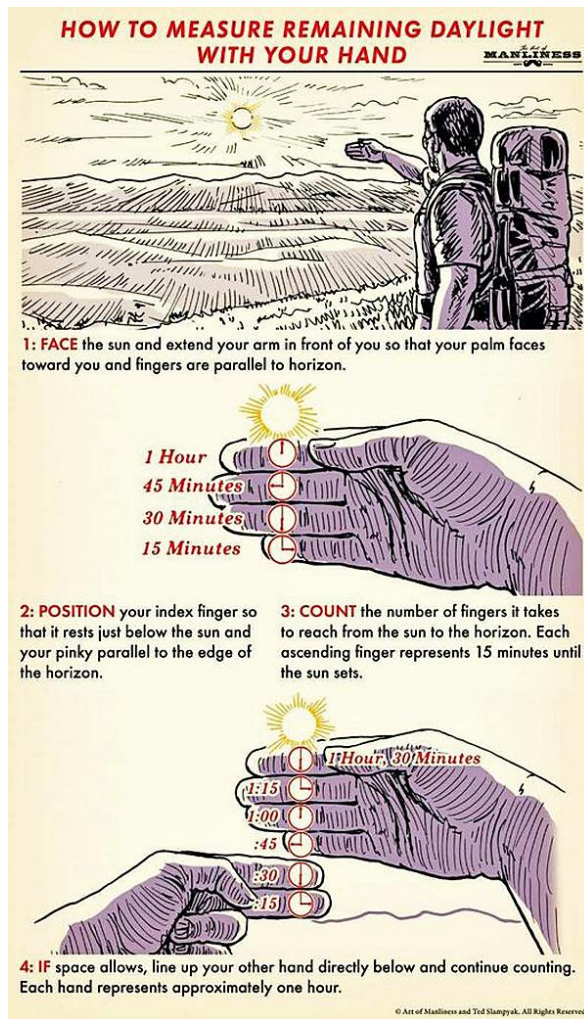
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Steele Canyon and Spanish Flat Recreation Areas Continue to Improve

Both areas continue to make improvements for the summer recreation season. Members of Sun Communities management visited both locations last week to continue the planning process which is now going through the required NEPA, CEQA, and Corps of Engineers permitting processes. Sun has developed new websites for both areas with online booking capabilities.

SPANISH FLAT:

<https://www.sunoutdoors.com/california/spanish-flat>

STEELE CANYON:

<https://www.sunoutdoors.com/california/steele-canyon>



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