



The Lake Berryessa News

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May 5, 2005



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NVLSA Proposes New Ballot Initiatives

The general membership meeting of the Napa Valley Land Stewards Alliance (NVLSA) at Napa Library on April 20 was typical of many volunteer groups. When you are dependent on committed individuals to help make a difference, it's not always easy to find enough people to take on the additional duties of being a Board member. And when the Board meetings are at 7 A.M., even the good food at Mrs. McDonald's Restaurant may not be enough to convince you. But George Bachich, President of the NVLSA, and the rest of the members present, were able to fill the vacancies.

As Bachich explained, "So far, we have had no trouble filling our Board positions. We encourage new people to participate. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated and selfless group."

If you are not familiar with the NVLSA, they were instrumental in defeating Measure P, the Stream Setback Ordinance, last year. The group formed when several people became convinced that Measure P was detrimental to property owners without a corresponding benefit to Napa County residents or environment.

Per their mission statement, NVLSA is organized to promote responsible and thoughtful stewardship, and the wise and sustainable use of privately owned land. Another key objective for them is to promote the principle that respect for the environment and respect for individual citizens and their property rights are equally important, and that these values are mutually consistent. They want to bring common sense and balance to local land use decisions by ensuring that all viewpoints are represented, all arguments are considered, and the effects of newly proposed regulations are well understood, so the best decisions can be made based on the merits.

In direct parallel to the efforts of the Citizens to Protect Lake Berryessa and other groups contesting the Bureau of Reclamation's plans for Lake Berryessa, the NVLSA wants to bring sound environmental reasoning to local land use decisions to ensure that protective measures are sensible, cost-effective, and fair, so that man and environment can truly benefit without inflicting injustice or disproportionate cost on any segment of society.

The NVLSA has been very active in the County General Plan meetings and is gathering signatures for two initiative ballot measures stemming from their experiences with the unintended consequences of previous County regulations. Members at the meeting referenced a UC Davis study that they said was quoted in the St. Helena Star showing that Napa County is the most regulated county in the state.

The first initiative is quite simple..It's called the Read and Understand Act and requires that "...each County Supervisor read and understand each ordinance, regulation, or resolution he/she votes to adopt and certify in writing that he/she has thoroughly read the ordinance, regulation, or resolution and thoroughly understands the impacts the ordinance, regulation, or resolution may have on the citizens of Napa County."

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The Lake Berryessa News

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The Supervisor vs. the Lake

Several weeks ago, Solano County Supervisor Duane Kromm wrote a Letter to the Editor in the Fairfield Daily Republic supporting the Bureau of Reclamation’s plans for Lake Berryessa, part of which is quoted below:

“The Bureau has studied Berryessa and concluded that lake access should be opened up. This means the current concessionaires and trailers will largely disappear to be replaced by public park facilities. More people will be able to use Lake Berryessa under this plan.

An additional benefit of this new plan is that problems with sanitation and fire risk will be dramatically reduced. All of us who drink water that originates in Lake Berryessa will be better off.

I personally support more public access at a cleaner Lake Berryessa. I hope the residents of Solano County will soon be able to picnic and camp and swim and boat at a cleaner, more accessible Lake Berryessa.”

Duane Kromm
Solano County Supervisor District 3

Following is the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce response. The headline was added by the editor of the Daily Republic.

Fairfield Daily Republic
Sunday, April 19, 2005

County supervisor flaunts false data

It is rare to see a letter from a county supervisor which in one fell swoop manages to conflate data that has been discredited several times with opinion that insults all the businesses and residents of the Lake Berryessa area.

But Solano County Supervisor Kromm has managed to do so by implying that the lake is polluted, access is denied to citizens, the whole lake is somehow unsafe and that this is all the fault of the resorts and the mobile homeowners. Statements like his are simply not true and have contributed to the decline in the economic climate at the lake which has hurt our local businesses.

The Bureau of Reclamation never actually "studied Berryessa." They decided on an outcome, the total destruction of everything that exists now, and wrote a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to support that goal. An independent analysis by economists Adam and Michael Summers concluded that Reclamation's plan was not financially feasible. This document is available on the Citizens to Protect Lake Berryessa web site at www.ProtectBerryess.org.

You don't have to destroy the lake to renew it! The current resort owners have proposed a plan to redevelop the lake that is financially feasible and represents the visions of the concessionaires, whereas Reclamation's Alternative B plan was formed without input from those providing facilities and services at the lake and fails to embody a cooperative vision of existing stakeholders.

Also, Reclamation never contacted our Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce local business members to determine the impact of their plan on us. It would be a disaster.

The Resort Owners Plan (ROP) would provide new and improved facilities, particularly for short-term and day users. It would do so without having to shut down the lake for two years. Day users would be afforded greater shoreline access and recreation areas. Some long-term sites would be removed, per Reclamation's wishes, but this vital economic component would be allowed to remain, ensuring continued year-round services for long-term, short-term, and day-use visitors alike.

Even the Bureau of Reclamation stopped talking about pollution at the lake a long time ago. Supervisor Kromm has definitely not talked to Budweiser, which uses Lake Berryessa water since it is the cleanest around. He has obviously not looked at the Solano County Water Agency data that shows Lake Berryessa exceeds water quality standards.


Continued on Page 3

On March 25, Peter Kilkus debated Carol Kunze on the merits of the Bureau of Reclamation’s plans for Lake Berryessa. They appeared on [Letters to the Editor](#) on Napa Channel 28. The show, hosted by Rachael Frank-Clark, airs in Napa all month. This discussion will help you understand the issues and judge the impacts to the lake community. You won’t learn about these issues in any other media outlet except The Lake Berryessa News. For a free VHS or DVD copy please call Peter Kilkus at 415-307-6906 or email at pkilkus@aol.com.

Continued from Page 2

And closer to home, the Winters City Council passed Resolution 2004-34 which states in part that the Council "believes that Reclamation's DEIS Alternative B has not addressed the broad range of concerns of local communities like Winters." This conclusion was echoed in a letter from the Winters Chamber of Commerce.

I am pleased that Supervisor Kromm supports the same values we all do, especially those of the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce, for a better Lake Berryessa. But why doesn't he understand the actual facts involved rather than parrot unfounded criticisms? I would be more than pleased to show Supervisor Kromm the environmental and economic data anytime he wishes.

Peter Kilkus
Executive Director, Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce


**Resort Owners Respond to
Pleasure Cove Shutdown**

To the Bureau of Reclamation,

At a Special Meeting of The Lake Berryessa Resort Owners Association, we discussed the Bureau of Reclamation's (BUREAU) actions at Pleasure Cove Resort. We believe that the Bureau has acted improperly in this matter.

It is apparent to us, that the Notice of Violation of February 24th 2005, is flawed. No "Default" was declared against Pleasure Cove Resort Asset Management Group (PCRAMG). No 15 day period, from the declaration of Default, in which to cure a "Financial Default" was granted. The "Notice of Violation" was not issued by the "Contracting Officer". No notice of "Right to Appeal" was issued.

The Bureau has offered the assets of PCRAMG to prospective bidders to operate a thirty month interim contract. The Bureau has made no effort to pay "Fair Value" as required by Public Law 96-375, even though the assets are required

to remain by the terms of the proposed interim contract. The Bureau is attempting to declare the assets abandoned, in order to acquire the assets without payment. If PCRAMG attempts to remove its property by May 12th as required by the "Notice of Termination" and it prevails in its appeals, PCRAMG will suffer irreparable damages. The Resort cannot operate without these assets remaining in place. If PCRAMG removes its property the Interim Concessionaire will not be able to fulfill the proposed concession requirements. Either way Pleasure Cove Resort will not be able to reopen. PCRAMG has notified the Bureau that it will not abandon its property without payment.

The appeals process of 43 CFR Part 430 may last beyond July. If the Bureau waits for the appeal to finish, prior to reopening Pleasure Cove, the users and customers will be further harmed. The Bureau has not allowed customers to use their boats or trailers. Boat owners are being told that if a boat leaves its slip to use the Lake it will not be allowed back.

Trailer owners are being told they cannot use their trailers. They are only allowed into the resort to remove personal property and once removed not allowed back in.

The interim contract jumps the gun on the Record of Decision [ROD] by requiring the removal of long term sites even if the ROD allows long term sites to remain.

The entire dispute is over the wording of a \$100,000 bond. Reclamation has already spent in excess of \$150,000 to close the resort, with costs to taxpayers mounting.

We believe that Pleasure Cove Resort should be reopened by Pleasure Cove Resort Asset Management Group during the appeals process, or Pleasure Cove Resort Asset Management Group should be paid "Fair Value" by the Bureau of Reclamation.

Lake Berryessa Resort Owners Assoc.


Calendar of Events Around Lake Berryessa

Senior Center Crafts
Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month
Call Betty at 966-2254

Every Monday – Bingo – 1 PM til??
Every first Monday is Bingo Pot Luck – Starts at Noon.

Seniors Pot Luck
Every 3rd Friday Night – bring a dish.

Senior Center – Call 966-0206

Valley Christian Church
Weekly Bible Study on Monday nights, 7:30 ubtil 8:30 PM.
Currently meeting at the Community Church across from the Corners. For more information call 257-0527.

Get your event on the calendar!
Call The Lake Berryessa News at 966-3806 or 287-6240
Email shirlake@myexcel.com or pkilkus@aol.com.

Seniors Legacy Reno Trip

Bus leaves the Senior Center at 7:30am on June 7th & will pick up at the Corners for the Highland & Napa people.

Bus arrives in Reno 11am.

Stay over night. Double occupancy \$78. 00 per person.
Single room, \$99.00 / night. \$5.00 cash back & \$3.00 food credit.
Next day, leave Silver Legacy at 10:30 am & arrive at Boomtown for Buffet Lunch. Leave Boomtown at 3pm & arrive at the Senior Center by 7pm.

Money due in by May 5th. For more info.
Call Rosemarie 707-966-4505

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at The Lake**

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2 Miles from The Corners
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BREAKFAST
Eggs Benedict-Chicken Fried Steak-Huevos Rancheros
DINNER

New York Steak, Garlic Mashed Potatoes,
Caesar Salad, French Onion Soup

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT
Rane Connor & Jerry Stapleton, Chef
1962 Capell Cross Rd.
(707)251-0134

Continued from Page 1

NVLSA

NVLSA believes it is nothing more than a reminder from the voters that reading and understanding is part of the Supervisors' job description.

The second initiative, the Fair Compensation for Public Benefit Act, is more far-reaching and “requires Napa County to either (1) compensate owners of real property located in the unincorporated areas of the County for any established decrease in value of the property due to the impact of any new Napa County land use restriction, or (2) eliminate the adverse impact on property values by rescinding or waiving the new regulation.”

The initiative language goes on to detail how the initiative will be implemented. The NVLSA states that their goal is limited to requiring basic fairness for all new regulations, not undermining existing environmental protections.

Petitions are being circulated and both initiatives are coming under intense attack by some County Supervisors and local environmental groups.

However, a quietly determined George Bachich believes "all the objections we have heard so far are based on misinformation about what the Fair Payment For Public Benefit Act actually does. Once people see how well the initiative protects all our existing land use restrictions, and how it really only provides for the fair handling of future new land use restrictions, they agree that this should have been part of Napa County policy all along. Once people learn that under existing County policy the County can take nearly all your property value through new land use restrictions and owe you nothing, they are eager to correct this injustice by signing the initiative petition. More details at www.landstewards.org."



County Budget Problems

\$220 million seems like a lot of money to most people, but for Napa County it’s just enough to meet the basic desires of its diverse citizenry within its varied geography.

From the recently increased transient occupancy tax paid by overnight visitors to inns on unincorporated county lands to the second phase of previously approved fee increases for various county services, many County budget items will affect the Lake Berryessa area.

One of these is tourism. The Napa Valley Conference and Visitors Bureau and the Napa Valley Economic Development Council are trying to enhance the Napa Valley's tourism and business climate. Who this effort will include and how it will be funded using County dollars will be of great importance to the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce. An email request for information regarding the amount of funds allocated to improving tourism at Lake Berryessa was unanswered.

In its mission statement, the Napa Valley Conference and Visitors Bureau states that it leads **countywide** tourism management efforts to communicate the diversity of our destination, strengthens the local economy, and preserves Napa Valley's agricultural heritage.

Another budget item of interest to Lake Berryessa residents is the increase in planning and building fees. There are many project plans around the County that were in process under the old flat rate fee schedule but have not been approved because they were incomplete. If not completed by a certain date, they could fall under the county's new rate of \$116 per hour of staff time. This could net the County an additional \$200,000.

After the Supervisors and County staff have worked out the initial 2005-2006 county budget outlines, formal public hearings will occur in June.



General Plan Steering Committee

The County Planning Director has been hard at work since the last General Plan input session at the Lake Beryessa Senior Center on April 6, 2005. Unfortunately, many of the ideas raised at that meeting seem to have been misplaced. A report summarizing seven workshops is available at www.co.napa.ca.us. A comment card can be filled out on the public input section of this web page.

The County Board of Supervisors met on April 11 and 12, 2005 in what was publicly billed as a “retreat”. Unfortunately some people took this to mean that it was a private meeting of the supervisors and did not attend. However, there is no such thing as a private meeting under California’s Brown Act.

The only time the Supervisors can all meet in one place without it being considered a public meeting requiring a previously announced agenda is for social functions during which no public business can be discussed. Whether the word “retreat” was consciously chosen to discourage public participation, that was the result for some activist members of the community.

Of course, the two-day length of the “retreat” was also not conducive to public participation. The first day was attended by the Supervisors, some staff members, three members of the public and a reporter. Berryessa Supervisor Dillon somewhat ingenuously said she was “very surprised, especially given the level of participation at the workshops.”

Planning Director Hillary Gitelman said there will be significant challenges in putting the plan together and gave an optimistic timeframe of three years. As was clear from the Lake Berryessa community meeting there will be a creative tension between preserving natural resources while taking care not to tamper with individual property rights.

The Board gave their preliminary direction to proceed with an update to the General Plan incorporating eight separate “elements” or chapters. These will be (1) Agricultural Preservation & Land Use; (2) Housing; (3) Circulation; (4) Recreations & Open Space; (5) Conservation; (6) Economic Development; (7) Safety; and (8) Community Character. Although the concept of Sustainability was not included as an element, as it has been in neighboring counties, water use and historic preservation were identified for possible inclusion.

The Board established a Citizens Steering Committee to gather community input throughout the General Plan Update. Lake Berryessa residents are encouraged to apply for this committee if they wish to protect their community’s future.



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Pleasure Cove Shutdown:
History & Issues

The following is a summary of the Bureau of Reclamation's actions regarding the proposal for the award of a new interim concession contract for Pleasure Cove Resort.

Background Information

In a letter dated March 28, 2005, Reclamation formally served written notice of termination on Steve Petty, Pleasure Cove Resort Asset Management Group, LLC ("PCRAMG"), based on the default of a contractual obligation to obtain and submit a \$750,000 performance bond. The notice of termination ended PCRAMG's management of Pleasure Cove Resort and withdrew authorization to provide long-term or short-term recreational facilities and services at Lake Berryessa. In a letter dated the same date, Reclamation notified interested and affected parties of PCRAMG's termination and the closure of Pleasure Cove Resort until the effective date of a new interim concession contract.

On March 28, 2005, Reclamation issued a notice entitled "Pleasure Cove Resort Area Potential Interim Operator Letter of Interest Indicator" announcing its interest in issuing a new short-term concession contract to provide public recreational facilities and services at the resort on or about May 1, 2005. Reclamation's notice included a contract term of May 1, 2005 to May 1, 2007, and outlined minimum (mandatory) services and facilities and optional (discretionary) services. Reclamation set the deadline for the submission of letters of interest and concept proposals on April 8, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. On March 31, 2005, Reclamation issued a draft interim concession contract, defining expectations for performance. (Reclamation's draft document was forwarded to 15 individuals/entities listed on an attachment addressed to "All Interested Parties.")

On April 26, 2005, Reclamation published a "Prospectus Update - Pleasure Cove Resort." The report advised that "the contract has still

not been released to the Lake Berryessa Office" and that once the prospectus is open, "you will have 10 calendar days to submit your prospectus bid..." and that "once the selection of the winning concessionaire is made, the resort will be scheduled to be open within one week later."

Some Issues and Concerns

Status of Long-term Permittees

Although Reclamation states the term of the proposed new interim concession contract is for a term from approximately May 1, 2005 to May 1, 2007, draft documents (See e.g. Prospectus, paragraph 4) confirm that long-term trailer sites must be terminated by November 1, 2005:

"4. Outline in detail how you will accomplish the requirement of the Contract (Sec. 2.A.1.c and Sec. 10.A.3) to terminate the use of long-term trailer sites no longer than November 1, 2005 and facilitate the removal of all personal property no later than December 15, 2005. Indicate if you propose to establish another type of use in the vacated private trailer sites as in the Contract (Sec. 2.A.2.b)."

In other words, is Reclamation using PCRAMG's default and the termination of the interim concession contract to implement the permanent removal of long-term permittees from Pleasure Cove Resort effective November 1, 2005? Is it Reclamation's intent to change the use of the resort to short-term and day-use RV and camping facilities only with the permanent removal of long-term permittees? What are the long-term permittees planning to do individually and as group to expose and fight Reclamation's clandestine plan?

Local, State and Federal Permit and Regulatory Issues

Serious questions have been raised regarding Reclamation's compliance with local, state and federal permit and regulatory requirements. Reclamation's own internal investigation and the Solicitor General's report and findings regarding Lake Berryessa

concession operations and record keeping failures are only the tip of the iceberg in this pyramid of bureaucratic failures

Timing of Proposed New Interim Concession Contract

Reclamation's announced target date for the re-opening of Pleasure Cove Resort is Memorial Day weekend (May 30, 2005). This may be unrealistic in light of Reclamation's previous history.



This is a Classic but Some People Still Don't Get It!

A man and his son are in a car accident. The father dies on the scene, but the child is rushed to the hospital.

When he arrives the surgeon says, "I can't operate on this boy, he is my son!" How can this be?

!rehtom sih si noegrus ehT

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From Mom & Dad

May 8th
HAPPY MOTHERS DAY To
All of You Great MOMS!!

MAY 10th
Happy Birthday
Charles Romriel
Stella Romriell

May 12th
A Special Happy
80th Birthday
To My Mom
With Lots of Luv
From Your Daughter
Shirl & Son-in-law Dave

May 13th
Happy 1st Birthday
Sierra Rose Ball
Love from Grandpa C.

May 14th
Happy Birthday to
Kenneth Smith, & To
Grandson Kenneth Jr.
Love from Grandpa C.

May 27th
Happy 14th Birthday
Hailey
Love from Pop Pop

May 19th
Happy Birthday
To ?? ??
I won't mention her name but
she works at
the Boat House??
Have a good Summer!
From you know who??

May 19th
Happy Birthday
Dave Eck
From your
Father-in-law
Mr. C.

May 29th
Happy Birthday
Jolene Romriell

Explaining the American Press

The Wall Street Journal is read by the people who run the country.

The Washington Post is read by people who think they run the country.

The New York times is read by people who think they should run the country and who are very good at crossword puzzles.

USA Today is read by people who think they ought to run the country but don't really understand The New York Times. They do, however, like their statistics shown in pie charts.

The Los Angeles Times is read by people who wouldn't mind running the country - if they could find the time and didn't have to leave Southern California to do it.

The Miami Herald is read by people who are running another country but need the baseball scores.

The San Francisco Chronicle is read by people who aren't sure there is a country - or that anyone is running it; but if so, they oppose all that they stand for. There are occasional exceptions if the leaders are handicapped minority feminist atheist dwarfs who also happen to be illegal aliens from any other country or galaxy provided, of course, that they are not Republicans.

The National Enquirer is read by people trapped in line at the grocery store.

And The Lake Berryessa News is read by some of the nicest people I know.



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HA! HA! HARVEY – The HEARING TEST

An elderly gentleman of 85 feared his wife was getting hard of hearing. So one day he called her doctor to make an appointment to have her hearing checked. The doctor made an appointment for a hearing test in two weeks, and meanwhile there's a simple informal test the husband could do to give the doctor some idea of the state of her problem.

"Here's what you do," said the doctor. "Start out about 40 feet away from her, and in a normal conversational speaking tone see if she hears you. If not, go to 30 feet, then 20 feet, and so on until you get a response."

That evening the wife is in the kitchen cooking dinner, and he's in the living room. He says to himself, I'm about 40 feet away, let's see what happens. Then in a normal tone he asks, "Honey, what's for supper?" No response. So the husband moved to the other end of the room, about 30 feet from his wife and repeats, "Honey, what's for supper?" Still no response.

Next he moved into the dining room where he is about 20 feet from his wife and asks, "Honey, what's for supper?" Again he gets no response. So he walks up to the kitchen door, only 10 feet away. "Honey, what's for supper?" Again there is no response.

So he walks right up behind her. "Honey, what's for supper?" (I just love this!)

"Damn it Earl, for the fifth time, CHICKEN!"



Today, when I awoke,
I suddenly realized that
this is the best day of my life,
ever
There were times when
I wondered if I would
make it to today;
but I did!
And because I did I'm
going to celebrate!
Today, I'm going to
celebrate what an
unbelievable life I
have had so far:
the accomplishments,
the many blessings,
and yes, even the
hardships because
they have served to
make me stronger.
I will go through this
day with my head held
high and a happy
heart.
I will marvel at God's
seemingly simple
gifts:
the morning dew,
the sun, the clouds,
the trees, the flowers,
the birds,
& the Wild Turkeys.
Today, none of these
miraculous creations
will escape my notice
Today I was walking down my
lane & saw a wild female
Turkey
& following all around were at
least a dozen baby Turkeys. I
quietly walked towards them &
yes, I had to get close enough to
hold one. I slowly creeped up to
them & picked up two, so
precious & yes, with Mommy
Turkey keeping her distance as
she watched me very carefully.
Today this was God's simple
gift.

True story
With Luv ANGEL

Dear Friends,

Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's nationwide signature event that raises awareness of cancer in the community and raises funds to fight cancer. I'm on a team (Team #11) this year and we are planning to raise \$2,000+. Throughout the twenty-four hour event, my teammates and I will take turns walking around the track and camping out. If you would like to help in the fight against cancer, you can make a contribution to the American Cancer Society through Relay For Life.

The First Annual Dixon Relay For Life will take place on Saturday, June 11 at the Dixon Fairgrounds starting at 9:00 a.m. I would be glad to walk in honor or in memory of someone you know who has survived cancer, or lost their battle with the disease. For a donation to the American Cancer Society (of any amount), I will make sure that the person's name is included in the Luminaria Ceremony.

A Luminaria is a small bag filled with sand and a small candle that makes it glow. Each Luminaria bears the name of a person who has battled cancer. At dusk, we light all the candles along the path and they bum into the night to light the way for walkers-creating a path of hope. In addition, we will include a photo and/or the name of the person in our power point show. You, your friends and family members are invited to attend the ceremony at 9:00 p.m. and experience this emotional and powerful ceremony.

If you are interested in purchasing a Luminaria, please fill out the form below and return it to me (or Korie Robinson-my sister) by May 15th. You will be truly lighting the way for cancer research, education programs and patient services. There's no finish line until we find a cure.

Gratefully, Meshell Hays (Daughter of Shirt Katleba, Lake Berryessa News), 667 Colusa Court Dixon, CA 95620

LUMINARIA FORM

Name: Phone:

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Email:

Team # Team Name:

Amount enclosed: \$ Cash Check Credit Card

Please make checks payable to the American Cancer Society.

Visa MC AmEx Disc #

Expiration Date: Signature:

If you would like to provide a photo for the power point show, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope and we will return the photo to you after the event.



Valley
Christian Church

At Volunteer Fire Station
Next to Cappell School
off of Hwy 128
Valley Christian Church
Is a Safe & Healthy place to learn
about God's plan for your life.
Bible preaching & great contemporary
music worship team.
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~ You are Welcome ~
Please come as you are &
Worship God with Us.
Sunday Service at 10am.
Sunday School for the Children.



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Lateral Thinking
Exercise

A man is wearing black.
Black shoes & socks,
trousers, jumper, gloves
and balaclava.

He is walking down a
black street with all the
street lamps off.

A black car is coming
towards him with its
light off but somehow
manages to stop in time.

How did the driver see
the man?

!.emit yad saw tl

**Envirosports Ironman
Event Returns to Putah
Creek Park**

Putah Creek Park resort has been the host to a series of triathlons during the last seven years. This year the route for the bicycle portion of Sunday’s event has been expanded. Riders will leave Putah Creek and head south on Knoxville Road to Highway 128 at Turtle Rock. They will then pedal north on Hwy 128 to Pope Valley and return to Putah Creek. Details of the two-day event are given below or see www.enviropsorts.com. All Lake Berryessa residents and businesses are encouraged to show there support for this event along the bicycle route Sunday.

May 14, 2005

Lake Berryessa provides a gorgeous venue for this triathlon. This is a great event for beginners and a perfect race for seasoned athletes to get ready for the rest of the season. This event sold out January 17.

DESCRIPTION: Half-mile swim, 15-mile bike, 4-mile run

You'll begin your race following a half-mile triangular swim course in Lake Berryessa at the Putah Creek Resort. With water temperatures in Lake Berryessa hovering in the low 70s, the decision to wear a wetsuit is up to you -- they're not required. Next, jump on your bike for an out-and-back 15-mile spin along the rolling hills surrounding Lake Berryessa. Find your running legs as you head out onto the Knoxville/Berryessa Road for the out-and-back 4-mile course over rolling terrain.

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Guide Service**

Lake Berryessa - Lake Sonoma
Ocean & Bay
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Ask for SID!
www.fishingconnection.net

May 15, 2005

THE HALF IS HERE! Since our Napa Valley Sprint has grown so popular, we've decided to supersize the event you love so much! Sign up early and count yourself among the first to race this exciting Half-Ironman distance course. Strictly limited to 500 athletes! No waiting lists once event fills!

DESCRIPTION: 1.2-mile swim, 56-mile bike, 13.1-mile run
You'll begin your race following a 1.2-mile triangular swim course in Lake Berryessa at the Putah Creek Resort. With water temperatures in Lake Berryessa hovering in the low 70s, the decision to wear a wetsuit is up to you -- they're not required. Next, jump on your bike for a 56-mile tour through the rolling countryside of Chiles and Pope valleys, passing scenic vineyards, idyllic pastures and charming old barns along the way. Enjoy views of Lake Berryessa along the final Half Marathon, which follows a double out-and-back course along the rolling hills of Knoxville Road.

FISHIN WITH DINO
May 1

Salmon are hitting at Berryessa! Anglers using Apex lures trolling the surface hit limits of salmon and trout all weekend. Skiers Cove shoreline or outside the cove of Spanish Flat Marina were hot spots.

Bass anglers did well throwing plastic roboworms or crawlers in many coves around the lake. Small mouths are in 15 feet of water. A few large mouths were also caught this weekend.

Catfishing is still on the slow end, but should speed up with warmer weather ahead. Crappie anglers are doing or using jigs or minnows off the bottom. Early morning hours or night fishing for crappie are the best times.

The water temperature is at 60 degrees 8 feet from the surface.

Dino Righetti
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Fishing with SID

April 27th

Seventeen fishermen went out on the "Golden Eye" last week in San Francisco - 4 halibut, 1 striper and a 64" sturgeon were caught with Father Michael from "Holy Trinity Church" catching the first halibut. It goes to show it never hurts to have a little help from above.

I just got back last night from Miami. Had ten days of great fishing. One day in 160 feet of water over a shipwreck I hooked an 80+ pound nurse shark which we let go. That day I caught a lot of undersized king mackerel and plenty of bait for the boat to use. If any of you guys go to Miami, and you want to go on a party boat, the Kelly Fleet out of Haulover near 150th and Collins Avenue in Miami Beach will run you about \$30.00 for 3-4 hours of fun.

On another day I caught red snapper and a grouper. In fresh water, one day I caught approximately 47 fish within 4 hours. Another day I went out with my friend Felix and introduced him to the senco worm. We ended up with a limit for the day. My largest fresh water fish was a 10 pound largemouth bass.

I hunted all the fish down. I am between four to fifteen feet above the canal wearing polarized sunglasses and I can see rocks and logs moving. The rocks were mostly turtles and the logs were either largemouth bass, peacock bass and some I'm not sure what, but could have been catfish. In some areas there were as many as four generations of bass. I fished 90% with the weightless senco. I don't think the color made any difference. The next time I go down I'll bring some top water lures and I think the morning and evening bite will be great.

Now back to Lake Berryessa in California. Don't forget the full moon is on May 23. Fish from the 19th thru 28th. The females will be on their beds. Fish the east side of Lake Berryessa in the vineyards in about 2 to 4 feet of water. Please release the Big Gals quickly.

Till next time, good Fishing.

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This is worth remembering

A true story – Susie is recouping at an incredible pace for someone with a massive stroke – all because Sherry saw Susie stumble - that is the key that isn't mentioned below - and then she asked Susie the 3 questions.

So simple - - this literally saved Susie's life - - Some angel sent it to Suzie's friend and they did just what it said to do. Suzie failed all three questions so 911 was called. Even though she had normal blood pressure readings and did not appear to be a stroke victim since she could converse to some extent with the Paramedics, they took her to the hospital right away. Thank God for the sense to remember the 3 steps!

Read and Learn! SOMETHING WE ALL NEED TO KNOW, IS IT A STROKE?

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

- *Ask the individual to SMILE.
- *Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.
- *Ask the person to SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE.

If he or she has trouble with any of these tasks, call 9-1-1 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

After discovering that a group of nonmedical volunteers could identify facial weakness, arm weakness and speech problems, researchers urged the general public to learn the three questions. They presented their conclusions at the American Stroke Association's annual meeting last February. Widespread use of this test could result in prompt diagnosis and treatment of the stroke and prevent brain damage.

BE A FRIEND AND SHARE THIS ARTICLE WITH AS MANY FRIENDS AS POSSIBLE. It could save their lives!

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You are invited even though you are not a member of the organization sponsoring the events. We hope to see you there!

June 7th &	Reno Trip (overnite) Berryessa Senior Center
June 8th	Rsvp. by May 5th 966-4505 or 966-0206

June 18th Fathers Day Picnic ~ Monticello Ski Club *

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2005 Lake Berryessa Calendar of Events

You are invited even though you are not a member of the organization sponsoring the events. We hope to see you there!

- May 29th** 31 Night (8:pm) Monticello Ski Club/Chuck
- June 7th &
June 8th** Reno Trip (overnite) Berryessa Senior Center
Rsvp. by May 5th **966-4505 or 966-0206**
- June 18th** Fathers Day Picnic ~ Monticello Ski Club *
- June 25th** Food, wine, Cheese & Olive Oil Tasting (4 to 7pm)
Berryessa Senior Center **966-0206 or 966-2127**
- July 3rd** Horseshoe Tournament Monticello Ski Club *
(10am Sign up at Ski Platform) (Sharky)
- July 3rd** 31 Night (8pm) Monticello Ski Club/Chuck *
- July 16th** Potluck Breakfast (9am to 11:30 AM)
Berryessa Senior Center **966-0206 or 966-2127**
- July 30th** Flea Market ~ Berryessa Senior Center
Tables to be Rented to Private Parties **966-2795**
- Aug. 6th** Poker Run ~ Lions Club Berryessa Chapter, **966-1413**
- Aug. 6th** Bingo (8pm) Monticello Ski Club (Chris & Cheryl) *
- Aug. 20th** Pancake Breakfast ~ Monticello Ski/Club/ Auggie & Shirley *
- Aug. 20th** Casino Night/Pasta Dinner
Berryessa Senior Center ~ Big Raffle
- Sept. 3rd** 31 Night (8pm) Monticello Ski Club/Chuck *
- Sept. 4th** Golf Cart Parade? Rib Cook-Off ~ Monticello Ski Club *

* Secretary of the Monticello Ski club is Shirley, **Call 469-8863**

Many of our events that are free. Others charge a very nominal fee.
For some, the fees are fundraisers to keep the organization going.
Check with the phone numbers listed for more information.

**If we missed your event & you would like to have it listed please call or
e-mail the Lake Berryessa News.**



The Lake Berryessa News

Community News Makes a Better Community

Memorial Day Weekend is coming! Time for Summer Fun to Start!

May 19, 2005



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Flowers and Fire at Lake Berryessa

I was talking to Brad Kirkpatrick up in Pope Valley the other day about the fascinating history and politics of the Lake Berryessa region. Because of the long rainy season this year we wandered onto the topic of the beautiful crop of wildflowers. Hiking around the lake is even more enjoyable when the view is framed by so many colorful flowers. Since Brad is also the Chief of the Pope Valley Volunteer Fire Department, I asked him about something that has been bothering me for the thirty years since I came to Northern California.

Whenever there is an especially wet year, the fire professionals warn that it will be a “bad fire season”. But every year that rainfall is low, the same fire professionals warn that it will be a “bad fire season”. Are they just trying to scare us every year? Is it just news media sensationalism as usual?

Brad laughed at the question, but seemed to believe that although a wet season can be bad, a dry season could have the greater potential to be “badder”. The real difference is in the type of “bad”.

I stopped at the CDF fire station on Knoxville Road on the way home to see what they thought about my confusion. Tina, Ken, and Bob were on duty and gave me a rundown on the technical issues. First, there is no “good” fire season. The difference in “bad” is based on the type of fire which can be caused by the different fuel loads.

Continued on Page 4

DAM LEVEL UPDATE

The elevation of the spillway (Glory Hole) at Monticello Dam is 440feet.

The water is now ____ feet below the top of the spillway

Lake Berryessa has had ____ inches of rainfall since July 1st, 2004

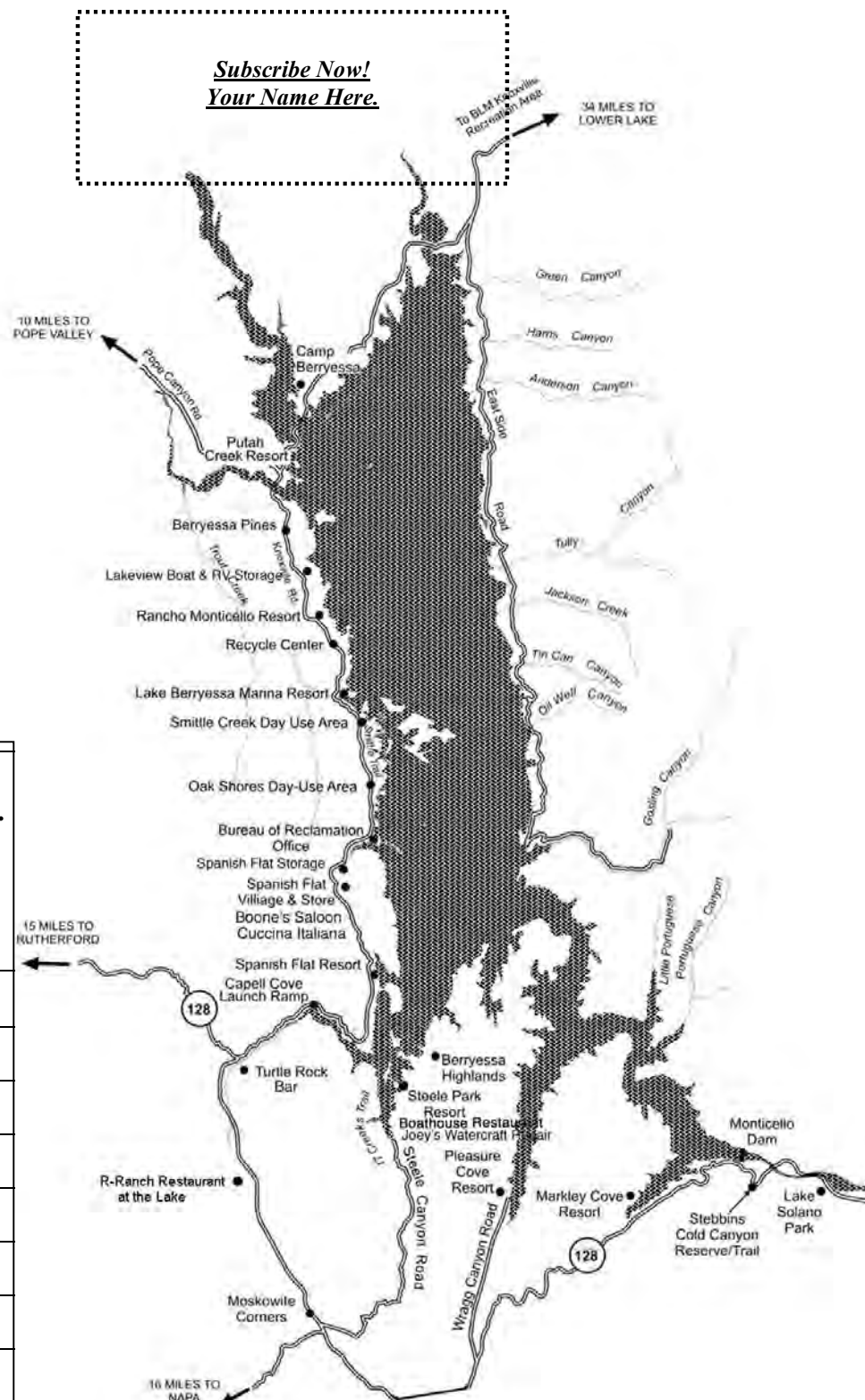
As reported by Carlos Jeffreys of The Corners

Date	Elevation	Evaporation	High	Low

In the News

- Indian Casinos at the lake?
- Congress supports PWC in National Parks
- Iron Man Triathlon at Putah Creek

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The Lake Berryessa News

An Independent Community Newspaper

Published the first and third Thursday of each month.

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Peter Kilkus

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Local Boat Dealer Grew Up at Lake Berryessa

After reading information for and against, I have to ask who is going to pay for the proposed demolition and reconstruction of the entire lake. There is no plan or budget disclosed or any idea of how much it will cost and who is paying for it. The government is already so cash strapped that it can't fund our schools and we're talking about spending millions on a minority group's whim of what the world should be like??

Putting the whole lake under one resort is ABSURD. Look at Lake Sonoma. It has the WORST resort/marina in this state. Lake Sonoma is a one-concessioner lake that has abused the public. Doing the same to Berryessa would result in the same problems only bigger. When that one concessioner runs out of money, what happens? Those will be harder shoes to fill when everything is run down and out of cash.

It is sad when a small group can effectively persuade the government to cost the taxpayers more grief with no plan, when the thousands and thousands of locals who want to do what's right are not being heard. The economic result of even thinking of closing the lake is catastrophic.

The boat dealers, boat service centers, repair facilities, etc. of the bay area and Sacramento all bring in collectively over \$120 million a year to these communities in sales. That's \$120,000,000.00! Multiply that by an average sales tax of 8% and you have over \$9,600,000.00 in annual sales tax revenue. The personal property tax all these boaters pay on their boats averages approx. \$350 per year per boat. Multiply that times all the registered boaters in these communities and you're looking at another \$7,000,000.00 per year the counties are counting on.

There are plenty of small lakes that ARE restricted to small boats that people can go on, Lake Hennessy for starters!

I can safely say for all my fellow boat dealers in the Bay Area and Sacramento, that Lake Berryessa is one of the top destinations for our customers and their families to enjoy a day, weekend, or the entire summer. In a time when family recreation is strained, restricting tax-paying families from enjoying a great form of family recreation is just not the right thing to do. How many families do you think the BOR will affect by taking their kids away from time at the lake with Mom and Dad?

I grew up on this lake and have many fond memories of boating with my family. My son learned to ski there and also has a lot of great memories. Keeping kids in mind with this process should be a priority in planning. Kids that go boating with their families have been shown to grow up to respect the environment, and grow up to be more responsible, tax-paying citizens of this community.

I hope the Bureau of Reclamation will look at the financial severity of their actions when making a decision and come up with a solution that hears all voices and weighs the majority, not the extremely small minority, as our government is supposed to do. I hope you'll listen to the locals and realize they are not the bad guys here.

Thank you for your time,

Jim Hammer
Hammer's Ski & Marine, Inc.
Petaluma, Ca.
www.hammerski.com
707-763-7066

In addition to our normal locations, the Lake Berryessa News is also now available at the Last Gun Shop – Napa, Sweeney's Sport Store – Napa, Mako Marine Outfitters – Napa, Monticello Deli – Napa, Steve's Hardware – St. Helena, Silverado Ace Hardware – Calistoga, Manka's Corners Restaurant, Tower Mart – Suisun Valley Road – Fairfield, Oakville Grocery, Ranchers Market II – Yountville, College Market – Angwin, and the Pope Valley Store. Let them know you appreciate their support and tell us about any other potential distribution locations for The Lake Berryessa News. Thanks.

Annual Rancho Monticello Shoreline Cleanup

By Cheryl Lacombe

Rancho Monticello Resort sponsored their annual Lake Berryessa clean up on Saturday, May 14th. Volunteers who participated included Rancho Monticello Permittees, friends, Resort Staff and Monticello Ski Club members.

The shorelines on the north end of the lake and islands were cleaned of debris that included white styrofoam, bottles, cans, flip-flops and shoes. This year the clean up was especially important as the April Earth Day lake clean up sponsored by the Bureau of Reclamation had been cancelled.

Barbara Hinkley-Teel of Napa stated that this is her 4th year to participate in the lake clean up and has always been amazed at the quantity of trash collected, but happily, she has noticed a decline over the years. She and her husband Don stated, "We find it very rewarding and it keeps us in touch with nature. We enjoy spending a few hours with friends on the lake, making a difference".

The goal of the cleanups is to not have trash littering the shorelines. A number of the volunteers feel that the cleanups are working, as the amount of debris that is collected has greatly diminished from prior years. In the past, refrigerators, washing machines, engine blocks and tires littered the shorelines. Today water bottles, cans and stray shoes are the majority of the trash collected.

Fire Safe, California!

Create a **DEFENSIBLE SPACE** of 100' around your home. The area closest to your home is the most important.

Try to get 10 to 15 feet of spacing, both vertically and horizontally between shrubs, large plants, and trees. If you have 4 foot high brush underneath larger trees with limbs, limb up the tree at least 14 feet. This eliminates the "fuel ladder" to the tops of trees. Breaks like this in the vegetation help to slow down an advancing fire and gives firefighters a fighting chance.

Plan your landscape to eliminate a continuous path of vegetation. Do not have any combustible fuel within three feet of your home.

For landscaping purposes, use of irrigated fire resistant plants is encouraged. Green lawn, rock, stone, and other materials can be used to create an attractive and fire safe landscape.

Clear all vegetation and other flammable materials from beneath your deck. Enclose undersides of elevated decks with fire resistant building materials, or with screen mesh with openings no greater than 1/4 inch.

Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Monday, May 23rd, 6-8 P.M.
at
Cucina Italiana
in the
Spanish Flat Village Center,
4310 Knoxville Road
New Members Welcome!

Napa County's Wetlands: A Vital Resource

10 AM Saturday, May 21 at the Carolyn Parr Nature Center,
Westwood Hills Park, Napa

Michael Champion, Education Coordinator for the Napa County Resource Conservation District, will describe the variety of wetlands and marshes that can be found throughout Napa County and how they help improve water quality, reduce flooding, and provide valuable habitat for fish and wildlife. Using historical photos, Michael will show how the landscape has changed as well as discuss the implications of restoration.

Information: 255-6465

Seniors Legacy Reno Trip

Bus leaves the Senior Center at 7:30am on June 7th & will pick up at the Corners for the Highland & Napa people.

Bus arrives in Reno 11am.

Stay over night. Double occupancy \$78.00 per person.

Single room, \$99.00 / night. \$5.00 cash back & \$3.00 food credit.

Next day, leave Silver Legacy at 10:30 am & arrive at Boomtown for Buffet Lunch. Leave Boomtown at 3pm & arrive at the Senior Center by 7pm.

Money due in by May 5th. For more info.

Call Rosemarie 707-966-4505

Calendar of Events Around Lake Berryessa

Senior Center Crafts

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month

Call Betty at 966-2254

Every Monday – Bingo – 1 PM til??

Every first Monday is Bingo Pot Luck – Starts at Noon.

Seniors Pot Luck

Every 3rd Friday Night – bring a dish.

Senior Center – Call 966-0206

Valley Christian Church

Weekly Bible Study on Monday nights, 7:30 until 8:30 PM.

Currently meeting at the Community Church across from the Corners. For more information call 257-0527.

Get your event on the calendar!

Call The Lake Berryessa News at 966-3806 or 287-6240

Email shirlake@myexcel.com or pkilkus@aol.com.

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DINNER

New York Steak, Garlic Mashed Potatoes,

Caesar Salad, French Onion Soup

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Rane Connor & Jerry Stapleton, Chef

1962 Capell Cross Rd.

(707)251-0134

Continued from Page 1

Flowers and Fire

A wet season causes heavy growth of flowers, small plants, and grasses. When these dry out they can feed a very aggressive hot fire that is hard to attack. The larger fuel such as trees contain a lot of moisture after a long wet season and will not burn early. Professional fire fighters judge fuel loads by the time it takes them to dry out. One hour and 10 hour fuels like grasses dry fast. Even if they were wet in the morning – they're dry an hour later in the sun. The 1,000 hour fuels like big trees can take 42 days to dry out. That's why you may have huge late season fires like the Oakland fire in October – the big fuel loads have finally dried out.

So which is worse? Dry seasons can have fires that start early in the year (February-March) and can still happen until late in the year. Wet season fires don't start until later in the fire season (June-July) but can be fast and furious and be even larger later in the year (September-October).

Wet year or dry year, Bill Robertson, Fire Prevention Specialist with the Napa County Fire Marshall's office, says, "People should be prepared for the worst ever fire season because every fire season has the potential for being the worst ever. Property owners need to take the initiative to do the work to create defensible spaces around their homes because even minor prevention preparation can make a major difference in survival."

Gil Pridmore, Chief of the Capell Valley Volunteer Fire Department added another dimension. He said that fire weather during the season was more important than how a season may start. Long stretches of hot weather with high winds

multiplies the problems. Also, when firefighting resources are stretched thin across the state, any fire can be hard to eliminate.

So enjoy the flowers while you can. Flowers burn too – some are even worse than grasses because of their oil content. I also learned that vineyards burn – they may look a bit like firebreaks, but they're not. And they make attacking a fire more difficult because of the stakes and guy wires uses to support the vines.

Many thanks to our dedicated fire fighters – those suits are not air conditioned!

Peter Kilkus



Congress Supports PWC Use in National Parks

After more than ten years of spreading misinformation about personal watercraft (PWC) in an attempt to have them banned from all waterways, the Bluewater Network and the National Parks Service have been strongly criticized by the U.S. Congress. In backroom deals with the NPS, supported by threats of lawsuits, the Bluewater Network in 2000 forced the NPS to establish regulations that generally prohibited personal watercraft use (PWC) in most National Recreation Areas, Lakeshores and Seashores. At the same time, the Park Service established a two-year grace period for 21 park units where personal watercraft use was prevalent. Each unit that seeks to reopen to PWC is required to complete a comprehensive scientific study of PWC impacts on the local environment and economy and prepare a rule allowing continued PWC use.

To date, fifteen National Parks have completed a detailed

environmental assessment, all of which conclude that PWC use should be allowed.

This conclusion is relevant to Lake Berryessa since the Bluewater Network wrote 888 form letters to the Bureau of Reclamation during the first DEIS comment period last year demanding that PWC be banned from Lake Berryessa.

Members of the Resources Subcommittee on National Parks in the U.S. House of Representatives decried the baseless discrimination against PWC last week in a hearing on Capitol Hill. The committee stated that it is vitally important that our National Parks be open and accessible to everyone, including those who want to use personal water craft.

Advancements made to PWC technology have resulted in a 75 percent reduction in emissions and 70 percent reduction in

sound since 1998. These enhancements have made today's PWC some of the most environmentally-friendly motorized vessels on the water.

More than 1.4 million Americans enjoy boating on personal watercraft. PWC can fit up to three people and are an affordable boating option for family recreation with the typical PWC customer today being over 40 years old and married. The Personal Watercraft Industry Association actively advocates for states to adopt reasonable regulations such as mandatory boating safety education for all PWC users, a minimum age of 16 to operate PWC, and daylight-only usage restrictions.



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Indian Casinos in Napa?

We've all heard rumors about "the Indian casino at Lake Berryessa" – maybe up by Putah Creek! It ranks up there with the one about the big Marriot Hotel that will be built out here. Readers should send in their favorite rumors and we'll print a column of them.

As reported by Jay Goetting in the Napa Register last week, after a special seminar on the topic, our supervisors don't believe Napa County is at high risk for a potential tribal gaming casino. Although there is no tribal land nor any Native American reservations in Napa County, a tribe could claim a historic connection to the land and go through a lengthy and complex series of actions to gain approval by the federal government.

Two new casinos near Cloverdale are in planning stages. Rohnert Park is already going through legal battles over its proposed casino. The Rohnert Park casino would be one of the largest resorts in Northern California. The original casino was to be built near Sears Point but never got off the drawing board. Instead the tribe chose land in Rohnert Park.

Lake Berryessa has been mentioned as an area with casino potential, but Supervisor Diane Dillon, who represents the area, said it would not be appropriate on any agricultural land in Napa County. The Berryessa area is designated as an agricultural area. However, with Indian tribes treated as sovereign nations, their ability to circumvent local and state land use laws and environmental controls has become legendary.

In what the Lake Berryessa News can only assume is part of the ongoing attempt by the Napa Supervisors to denigrate the Lake Berryessa community by complaining about Lake Berryessa's "cost" to the County, Wagenknecht likened the casino potential to what happened with the formation of Lake Berryessa. "A federal entity (Bureau of Reclamation) comes in and establishes it," he said, "at huge cost to Napa County."



The Importance of Coordination

A southern Baptist minister was completing a temperance sermon. With great emphasis he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

With even greater emphasis he said, "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

And then finally, shaking his fist in the air, he said, "And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

Sermon complete, he sat down.

The song leader stood very cautiously and announced with a smile, nearly laughing,

"For our closing song, let us sing Hymn #365: "Shall We Gather at the River."



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CDF 2004 Fire Season Summary

2004: 5,574 fires, 168,134 acres

2003: 5,961 fires, 404,328 acres

2002: 5,759 fires, 112,810 acres

5 yr Average: 5,739 fires, 168, 134 acres

CDF cost: \$166.4 Million Damage costs: \$126.8 Million

Top Five Fires in Acres Burned:

Rumsey, 10/10 to 10/16, Yolo County - 39,138 acres

Cerrito, 5/3 to 5/7, Riverside County - 16,640 acres

French, 8/14 to 8/20, Shasta County - 13,005 acres

Geysers, 9/3 to 9/8, Lake County - 12,525 acres

Bear, 8/11 to 8/16, Shasta County - 10,848 acres

HAPPY BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY



May 19th

Happy Birthday
To ?? ??

I won't mention her name but
she works at
the Boat House??
Have a good Summer!
From you know who??

May 19th

Happy Birthday

Dave Eck

*From your
Father-in-law
Mr. C.*

May 29th

Happy Birthday
Jolene Romriell



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Ironmen and Ironwomen Invade Putah Creek

Napa Valley Triathlons highlighted Lake Berryessa and featured local amateur athletes last weekend. About 800 Lycra-clad athletes descended upon Lake Berryessa Recreation Area for a weekend of fun-filled and friendly-spirited competition. On May 14th and 15th Bay Area event producer Enviro-Sports hosted the Napa Valley Triathlons. Among the participants assembled at the starting line were more than two dozen local Napers and St. Helenans. Joining them was a field of amateur athletes from 29 states.

Saturday's race, the Napa Valley Sprint Triathlon was the 7th annual event staged at the Putah Creek Resort at the northwest end of Lake Berryessa. The

event, which consisted of a half-mile swim followed by a 15-mile bike and a 4-mile run, sold out in mid-January at 800 registered athletes.

The half-mile swim course followed a clockwise triangular course starting and finishing at the boat-launch ramp at the Putah Creek Resort. Following the swim, participants hopped on their bikes for a 15-mile out-and-back ride north of the resort along Knoxville Rd. Finally, athletes laced up their running shoes for the final 4-mile run course, which also followed the rolling hills along Knoxville Rd. north of the resort.

Troy Taylor, 33, of Napa placed third overall in the 2004 Napa Valley Sprint Triathlon and competed again on May 14th. Members of the St. Helena High School wrestling team

volunteered at the Saturday event with duties including checking athletes in on race day morning and handing athletes water and sports drinks at aid stations along the course.

The tremendous popularity of the sprint-distance triathlon was the inspiration behind the new Napa Valley Half-Iron Triathlon, which debuted Sunday, May 15th. In this race, participants began by swimming a 1.2-mile clockwise triangular course in Lake Berryessa, starting and finishing on the boat ramp at the Putah Creek Resort. The second portion of the event took athletes on a scenic 56-mile bike tour of the greater area surrounding Lake Berryessa, including Pope and Chiles Valleys. The final 13.1-mile run was a double out-and-back course; starting from the Putah Creek Resort, participants

headed north along Knoxville Rd. approximately 3.25 miles to the turnaround point, then returned to the resort before completing a second lap.

Two hundred participants competed in Sunday's Half-Ironman distance triathlon. In all, the weekend festivities brought more than 1,200 athletes and spectators to the Lake Berryessa Area. Many athletes no doubt made an effort to extend their stay and explore the nearby Napa Valley with their friends and family.

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Lake Berryessa: The Trout And Salmon Jewel Of Napa County

by Cal Kellogg <http://www.fishsniffer.com/>, April 11, 2005

California is blessed with many top notch reservoirs. So many in fact, that no matter how much you fish it's hard to visit them all. For me this was the case with Lake Berryessa. I've known for a long time that it's an outstanding lake boasting strong populations of trout, bass, crappie, and catfish. The positive reports I'd received from Dino Righetti and Mike Keen at Spanish Flat Marina prompted me to visit the lake recently.

After launching and cruising outside the sheltered cove at Spanish Flat, I was immediately taken aback by the lake's size. I'd reviewed a map of the lake before visiting, so I knew it was a big body of water but it seemed even larger in person.

Our primary mission was to explore the lake and attempt to locate some concentrations of bass. I'd wanted to check out two large islands about midway down the lake. My Dad had seen some rainbows jumping and suggested that we troll our way across the lake. His idea sounded good to me, so I tied on a silver and blue Crippure, while Dad opted for a white Roostertail spinner. As we slowly crawled through the chop we saw several more trout jumping high above the water.

We had been trolling for less than 10 minutes when Dad's rod loaded up and started bucking wildly with the gyrations of a hard fighting trout. "Now it's my turn," I commented to Dad as we resumed trolling. As is often the case I was wrong, and Dad was into a second fish in short order.

My Crippure got hammered next and I started fighting the fish. When I looked back to see what he was doing I instantly noticed that his rod was bent and pulsating. "Dad you've got one on the hook," I said pointing at his rod. As Dad struggled to get the rod out of the holder the line suddenly went slack. With a little luck, (and vastly superior angling skill!) I was able to lead my fat rainbow into the waiting net.

We worked the coves surrounding Wragg Ridge for the next 3 hours using a variety of crankbaits, jigs, and plastic worms. Around 3 o'clock we called it a day and headed back to the Spanish Flat Marina for a soda and a fishing report.

At the marina we met avid fisherman and Fish Sniffer subscriber George Parish, just as he finished cleaning a fine mess of crappie. Mike Keen confided that the fishing had been going well, but that the wind and overcast had slowed the bite. Despite our modest success, this is a great time to visit Lake Berryessa. The trout are actively feeding near the surface and several bass with double digit weights have been reported in recent days. Add to that the strong crappie bite that's underway and you've got the foundation for a memorable day on the water.

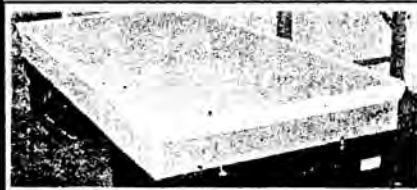


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2005 Lake Berryessa Calendar of Events

You are invited even though you are not a member of the organization sponsoring the events. We hope to see you there!

- May 29th** 31 Night (8:pm) Monticello Ski Club/Chuck
- June 7th & June 8th** Reno Trip (overnite) Berryessa Senior Center
Rsvp. by May 5th **966-4505 or 966-0206**
- June 18th** Fathers Day Picnic ~ Monticello Ski Club *
- June 25th** Food, wine, Cheese & Olive Oil Tasting (4 to 7pm)
Berryessa Senior Center **966-0206 or 966-2127**
- July 3rd** Horseshoe Tournament Monticello Ski Club *
(10am Sign up at Ski Platform) (Sharky)
- July 3rd** 31 Night (8pm) Monticello Ski Club/Chuck *
- July 16th** Potluck Breakfast (9am to 11:30 AM)
Berryessa Senior Center **966-0206 or 966-2127**
- July 30th** Flea Market ~ Berryessa Senior Center
Tables to be Rented to Private Parties **966-2795**
- Aug. 6th** Poker Run ~ Lions Club Berryessa Chapter, **966-1413**
- Aug. 6th** Bingo (8pm) Monticello Ski Club (Chris & Cheryl) *
- Aug. 20th** Pancake Breakfast ~ Monticello Ski/Club/ Auggie & Shirley *
- Aug. 20th** Casino Night/Pasta Dinner
Berryessa Senior Center ~ Big Raffle
- Sept. 3rd** 31 Night (8pm) Monticello Ski Club/Chuck *
- Sept. 4th** Golf Cart Parade? Rib Cook-Off ~ Monticello Ski Club *

* Secretary of the Monticello Ski club is Shirley, **Call 469-8863**

Many of our events that are free. Others charge a very nominal fee.
For some, the fees are fundraisers to keep the organization going.
Check with the phone numbers listed for more information.

**If we missed your event & you would like to have it listed please call or
e-mail the Lake Berryessa News.**