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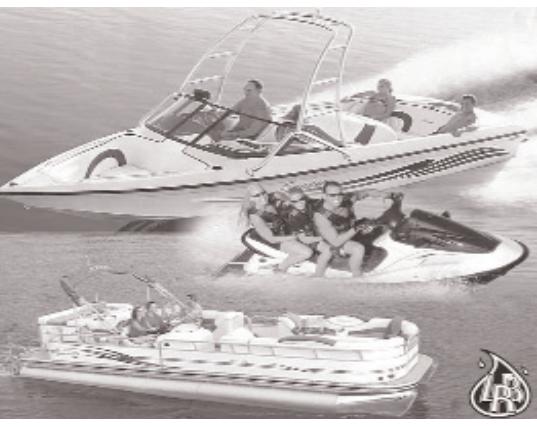
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Lake Berryessa - The Map - Page 6

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Spanish Flat Center is this type of narrative history, for example. Also see Monticello Rodeo story on Page 9.

A great book is "Roots of the Present: Napa Valley 1900 to 1950" by Lin Weber, available at the Napa County Library. It reads like a novel, but is an academically solid description of Napa County "History".

Continued on Page 2

### Lake Berryessa: When Do Past Memories Actually Become "HISTORY"?

by Peter Kilkus

A fascinating document surfaced recently (sent to me by an attorney friend) with the simple title: Investigative Report: Pensus, Inc. The 17-page report was prepared by the Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of the Interior, at the request of Congressman Mike Thompson and released on March 3, 2011 (although sources kept telling me that it had not yet been made public).

The report synopsis stated, "In his letter to the Acting Inspector General, the Congressman noted several concerns received from his constituents (John and Linda Frazier of Markley Cove) about the integrity of the USBR contract process."

The report concluded, "We found no evidence that USBR violated the law or public policy in regard to the contract solicitation and award to Pensus for the Lake Berryessa concession contracts."

There's much more about this report to come later in this story, but it reminded me that we are in the last stages of a "historical" process that began about ten years ago. On November 7, 2000 the Bureau of Reclamation published a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register initiating their plan to destroy a family-based recreational culture at Lake Berryessa.

In a BBC History Magazine poll readers were asked when they thought history began – in other words, how much time has to pass before a certain event becomes history. The response that received the most votes: a second before the present. The second largest response was that events become part of history only after a decade has passed. This is a practical peo-

ple-based view of history.

Academic historians define history as presenting facts without expressing any opinion or analysis of the events whereas memories are comprised of emotions that can have a great influence on the perception of an actual event. Critical historians live by the old saying of "there are two sides to every story and then there is the truth." Historians live where the truth is hidden in the 12 different stories told by the 12 different people all witnessing the same event from a different viewpoint.

That's why they believe that it takes approximately fifty years before a balanced view of what actually happened and why emerges. The people involved have to die off and stop defending turf before a more objective viewpoint can develop. A good example of this are the two recent examples of revisionist history just released by Donald Rumsfeld and Dick Cheney.

I'm more interested in the narrative approach to defining history. It is organized chronologically; focused on a single coherent story; primarily descriptive but also analytical; primarily concerned with people but also the abstract circumstances in which they find themselves; and deals with the particular and specific first and the collective and statistical second.

To me a big part of the fascination with any history is trying to discover what was going on inside people's heads in the past, and what it was like to live in the past. Carol Fitzpatrick's Town of Monticello History Exhibit at the

## Investigation of History

Continued from Page 1

So how does this new Inspector General's Investigative Report fit into Lake Berryessa history?

The report itself is not a thorough legal investigation as much as it is a narrative of recollections and comments of the participants in the process. The "bad guy" in all of it turns out to be a single unnamed individual attorney in the DOI's Office of the Solicitor (SOL).

The first bid process was complete. The Pleasure Cove contract had already been negotiated and signed. The Pensus contract had been negotiated and in review. The Markley Cove contract negotiations were ready to begin.

During review of Pensus' contract, SOL identified legal flaws that would supposedly put Reclamation at risk of violating the Antideficiency Act which prohibits the government from purchasing, or implying that they may purchase, assets for which funds have not yet been approved by Congress.

Reclamation had inadvertently used a clause from a National Park Service contract template that included this type of language. Since no one could predict the financial situation at the end of a 40-year contract, nor would anyone expect Congress to actually make an appropriation in 2010 for a 2050 expenditure, the contracts would previously just state something like "depending on funds being appropriated by Congress".

Apparently this was not acceptable to the SOL. Nor was it acceptable to simply remove the offending language by "red-lining" it and getting on with business. The Attorney-Advisor said that would be unfair to the losing bidders and that the only fair alternative was to re-do the whole bid process. As a result, SOL advised USBR to rescind the June 2007 prospectus and all associated agreements on February 26, 2009, and requested that the prospectus be revised and rebid.

were hopeful that Forever Resorts would be that "white knight".

Aside from the shocking use of the word "fair" by the SOL to justify undoing years of effort, that "fairness" had actually not been applied during the original bid process.

There were six original bidders. The owners of Rancho Monticello and four partners had applied to run five of the seven resorts under the name Lago Resorts LLC. One of the partners, California Parks Co., a company that runs the concessions across California, would manage the resorts.

1

In the event this occurs and Reclamation determines it necessary to establish an interim concessionaire, in a similar manner as this contract, the Pleasure Cove concessionaire could be assigned that responsibility through an amendment to this contract."

But apparently Forever Resorts' experience at Lake Berryessa did not incline them to get in any deeper financially.

The Lago Resorts bid was outstanding. In the interest of full disclosure, I wrote the ISO 14000 Environmental Management System for Rancho Monticello which was used in the Lago Resorts bid. I also wrote the Environmental Management Plan for the Steele Park bid and participated in writing one for the Markley Cove bid.

But a funny thing happened to the Lago bid on the way to the evaluation. It was rejected as non-responsive and tossed out. Arguably an outstanding bid backed by substantial investment resources and managed by people with decades of experience.

It was never evaluated!

Per the Whites,

"The bid was

declared non-responsive due to one sentence that did not make the U.S.

government the first lien holder on personal property loans, i.e., cars, equipment, etc. We did request consideration and revisions, but were flatly rejected.

That "first lien" clause has since been removed from all current contracts."

## Event Calendar

September 17 - Saturday: Coastal Cleanup Day, 9 AM - Noon. Volunteers needed above and below our waterways. Underwater scuba dive clean-up at the Pope Creek Bridge. Contact Marianne Butler at (707)301-5778 or Jason Jordan at 707-966-2111, ext 143, or [jgjordan@usbr.gov](mailto:jgjordan@usbr.gov).

The elevation of (Glory Hole) at Monticello Dam is 440 feet (msl). Lake Berryessa has had 37.92 inches of rain since July 1, 2010. The water is now 12.30 feet below the top of the spillway.

Date	Elevation	Evap	High	Low	Rain
8/22/11	428.65	0.20	88	53	0.00
8/23/11	428.58	0.28	89	57	0.00
8/24/11	428.51	0.25	96	57	0.00
8/25/11	428.44	0.28	97	56	0.00
8/26/11	428.36	0.30	98	56	0.00
8/27/11	428.28	0.28	99	54	0.00
8/28/11	428.22	0.29	99	54	0.00
8/29/11	428.13	0.28	96	58	0.00
8/30/11	428.06	0.32	97	54	0.00
8/31/11	427.99	0.23	90	54	0.00
9/1/11	427.91	0.25	92	56	0.00
9/2/11	427.84	0.21	96	56	0.00
9/3/11	427.76	0.29	99	56	0.00
9/4/11	427.70	0.27	98	56	0.00

## Dam Level Update as of Monday, 9/5/11

The elevation of (Glory Hole) at Monticello Dam is 440 feet (msl). Lake Berryessa has had 37.92 inches of rain since July 1, 2010. The water is now 12.30 feet below the top of the spillway.

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8/27/11	428.28	0.28	99	54	0.00
8/28/11	428.22	0.29	99	54	0.00
8/29/11	428.13	0.28	96	58	0.00
8/30/11	428.06	0.32	97	54	0.00
8/31/11	427.99	0.23	90	54	0.00
9/1/11	427.91	0.25	92	56	0.00
9/2/11	427.84	0.21	96	56	0.00
9/3/11	427.76	0.29	99	56	0.00
9/4/11	427.70	0.27	98	56	0.00

## Obama Turns 50 Despite Republican Opposition

WASHINGTON—After months of heated negotiations and failed attempts to achieve any kind of consensus, President Obama turned 50 years old Thursday, drawing strong criticism from Republicans in Congress.

"With the host of problems this country is currently facing, the fact that our president is devoting time to the human process of aging is an affront to Americans everywhere," said Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, who advocated a provision to keep Obama 49 at least through the fall of 2013.

"To move forward unilaterally and simply begin the next year of his life without bipartisan support—is that any way to lead a country?"

According to White House officials, Obama attempted to work with Republicans right up until the Aug. 4 deadline, but was ultimately left with no choice except to turn a year older.

## Bureau of Reclamation Events at Lake Berryessa

### Saturday, September 24, 8 to 10 a.m. Paddling Berryessa

Meet at Smittle Creek Day Use Area Parking Lot to experience the beauty of Lake Berryessa from a unique perspective on this Ranger-led paddling tour for a fun 2-hour paddling trip, exploring the tranquil waters between the shoreline and Big and Small Islands. Watch for bald eagles, ospreys, otters and other creatures as the Ranger discusses the natural and human history of Lake Berryessa. This outing is open to anyone with a kayak, canoe or other non-motorized boat.

### Saturday, October 1: Berryessa Fall Bird Species Inventory, 8 AM – Noon,

A great way to get a little exercise, learn some local history and tally Berryessa's fall bird species all at the same time. Join Reclamation Ranger and former professional birding guide Scott Huber as he visits Berryessa's three dominant vegetation regions - oak woodlands, chaparral and grasslands - to inventory the newly returning fall migrants. Led by the Ranger, participants will car-pool the length of the lake stopping for short walks at the most likely spots to build an impressive 1-day bird list. Along the way, participants will also learn about the history of the Berryessa Valley and the Solano water project. Children are urged to attend but must be accompanied by an adult. Meet at Monticello Dam Overlook Parking Lot.

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## **The Lake Berryessa News**

**Owner/Editor:** Peter Kilkus  
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Subscriptions - \$35 per year.

**The Lake Berryessa News - Peter Kilkus**  
**1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558**

Why is it called tourist season if we can't shoot them?

Why do they report power outages on TV?

A Freudian slip is when you say one thing but you mean your mother.

## **Community Church of Lake Berryessa**

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For information please contact Bob Lee

Phone: 707-252-4488

Email: [terribob@lakeberryessa.net](mailto:terribob@lakeberryessa.net)

If a tree falls in the woods...or across Steele Canyon Road...

**What do you do?**  
By Evan Kilkus

A 50 foot tall pine tree fell across and blocked Steele Canyon Road for less than thirty minutes Sunday afternoon, August 28. It caused a minor delay for drivers, but also showed a great collective get-involved-and-help effort from the community and visitors. Fortunately the tree did not hit any passing motorists, but within ten minutes there was already a line of twenty vehicles, and growing.

Initially, one of the drivers in line unloaded a small hand saw, which was very effective at removing the smaller limbs and getting them out of the way. Just as the group of neighbors and visitors finished removing all of the bulky and thin branches, a Berryessa Highlands resident arrived with a chainsaw. Within 10 more minutes, the spontaneous volunteers cut up and removed the entire tree, while safely guiding the line of lake-goers trying to get home on the lane that they had initially cleared.

CAL Fire was called about 10 minutes after the tree fell, but 15 minutes after that, the tree was already cleared from the road, and the first-on-scene volunteer firefighter called them off.

And that's how it's done at Lake Berryessa!



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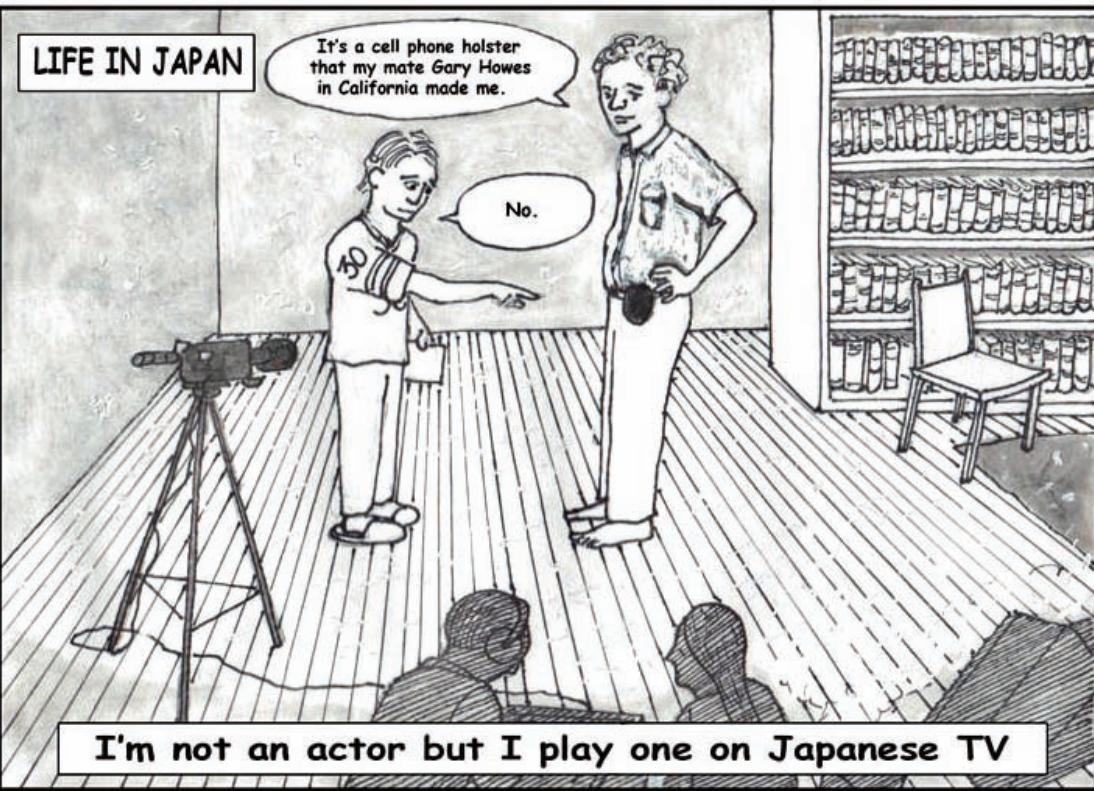
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**NAPALACHIA by Bill Scholer**

- You Know You're Getting Old When....
- \* The little old gray haired lady you help across the street is your wife.
  - \* A fortune teller offers to read your face.
  - \* Everything hurts; and what doesn't hurt, doesn't work.
  - \* Your back goes out more than you do.
  - \* You feel like the morning after but you didn't go out the night before.
  - \* Your children begin to look middle aged.
  - \* Your idea of weight lifting is standing up.
  - \* You know all the answers, but nobody asks you the questions.
  - \* It takes twice as long to look half as good.
  - \* You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going.
  - \* Your knees buckle and your belt won't.
  - \* You and your teeth don't sleep together.
  - \* Your idea of a night out is sitting on the patio.
  - \* You regret all those mistakes you made resisting temptation.
  - \* Your secrets are safe with friends, they can't remember them either.
  - \* You are cautioned to slow down by the doctor instead of by the police.
  - \* You're asleep, but others worry that you're dead.
  - \* You try to straighten out the wrinkles in your socks and discover you aren't wearing any.
  - \* You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge.
  - \* You're 17 at the neck, 42 at the waist, and 106 at the golf course.

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## History of Investigation

Continued from Page 2

The Inspector General's report shows that most of the local Reclamation officials did not really want to redo the bidding process. But there are pretzel-twisting rationalizations of why a winning bid award does not mean a contract. There are long sections of self-justification and hand-wringing, which makes for interesting reading, but then Reclamation did the totally unnecessary anyway - and forced a re-bid.

One interesting revelation is the mindset of BOR Area Manager Michael R. Finnegan. Finnegan did not participate in the June 2007 bid review or selection process. Finnegan believed that the review panel misinterpreted the evaluation criteria and selected the Fraziers as having the best proposal for the Markley Cove concession only because it misinterpreted the Record of Decision and failed to seek clarification.

Finnegan explained that the review panel had misinterpreted the "continuity of operations" provision in the Record of Decision to mean that there must be zero impact on the continuity of business operations at the Markley Cove concession during the new concession contractor's transition phase. Finnegan emphasized that if not for the panel's misinterpretation, Pensus would have been selected as having the best proposal for the Markley Cove concession.

Conclusions? Read the report for yourself if you're interested. It's on the Lake Berryessa News web site for download. Or you can go to the source itself: [www.doiig.gov/report-database](http://www.doiig.gov/report-database) to get Report OI-CA-10-0470-I.

A basic unanswered question which will probably remain unanswered is why - when the new prospectus was the same as the old prospectus - did Markley Cove lose the bid the second time? SOL did not investigate that nor will the primary documents be released - even under a Freedom of Information (FOIA) request. The Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce tried the FOIA process and was rebuffed.

None of the principals in the report were willing to comment publicly since apparently some discussions are ongoing. It appears that much pain and suffering have been caused by a government agency out of touch with its impacts on the lives of real people and local communities. The report is another example of something that just didn't have to happen this way.

It's past history with overtones of current events. What will "future history" bring?

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## Volunteers Needed for Coastal Cleanup Day to help clean up Lake Berryessa!

Canoeists, scuba divers, kayakers & folks to scour the shoreline are all welcome and needed

Saturday, September 17th is the 27th Annual Coastal Cleanup Day, an international event with more than 50 cleanup sites in Solano County and 12 in Napa County alone.

The lake provides drinking water for almost a half million people in Solano County including the Budweiser Brewery and the Jelly Belly factory.

Last year, nearly 100 volunteers collected 800 pounds of trash and 1800 hundred pounds of recyclables from the lake and shoreline.

Lake Berryessa will be hosting two of the cleanup sites in Napa County. One of the sites will be along the trails near Markley Cove where we need volunteers for the ground crew.

The other site is located under Pope Creek Bridge where we need the assistance of divers and canoeists.

This year we are working to lesson our ecological footprint by inviting volunteers to bring reusable gloves and water bottles. Hope to see you there!

Organizers for the event include the Bureau of Reclamation, Solano Resource Conservation District, Blue Ridge-Berryessa Natural Area Conservation Partnership, Napa County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program and Iguana Bob's Dive Center.

### TO VOLUNTEER

Ground crew information near Markley Cove:

Contact Marianne Butler,  
[Marianne.Butler@Solanorcd.org](mailto:Marianne.Butler@Solanorcd.org) 707.301.5778

For dive, canoe & kayak crew near Pope Creek Bridge: Contact Robin Metoxen, [iguanabobsdivecenter@gmail.com](mailto:iguanabobsdivecenter@gmail.com), 707.252.1219

Why is there an expiration date on sour cream?

So, what do you call a man with a seagull on his head? Cliff.

What do you call a man with a spade in his head? Doug.

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## Oak Shores Trail Construction at Lake Berryessa

The Bureau of Reclamation announced that, in cooperation with Berryessa Trails and Conservation, it will construct a 3.6 mile hiking/biking trail along the shores of Lake Berryessa. The trail will start at the Visitor Center and end at Coyote Knolls in the Oak Shores Day Use Area. Contact Melissa Vignau (916) 989-7182

## Catch A Special Thrill at Lake Berryessa!



Kids Fishing Event at Lake Berryessa! Enjoy the awards ceremony afterwards with barbecue and prizes.

- When: Saturday, October 15th, 2011 8:00am - 2:00pm
- Where: Pleasure Cove Marina

## **BOATERS NEEDED**

If you are interested in participating or for more information contact Jason at 707-966-2111 ext. 143 or [ljordan@usbr.gov](mailto:ljordan@usbr.gov)

Children ages 5-16

Sponsored by:

The Bureau of Reclamation, C.A.S.T. For Kids Foundation, and Pleasure Cove Marina.

## Of Rodeos and Barbecues: How Memories of the Past Become "History"

I just read a fascinating book available at the Napa County Library: Roots of the Present: Napa Valley 1900 to 1950 by Lin Weber. It reads like a novel, but is an academically solid description of Napa County "History". I had heard about oil well drilling in the Berryessa Valley but had not known that there were actually two oil rushes out here - first in 1901 and again in the early 1920's. Nor that Putah Creek was pronounced "Pewter" by the old-timers.

The following description of the Monticello Rodeo brings it back almost like a memory rather than history. Photos and video of the old rodeo are on display at Carol Fitzpatrick's Monticello History Exhibit at the Spanish Flat Village Center.

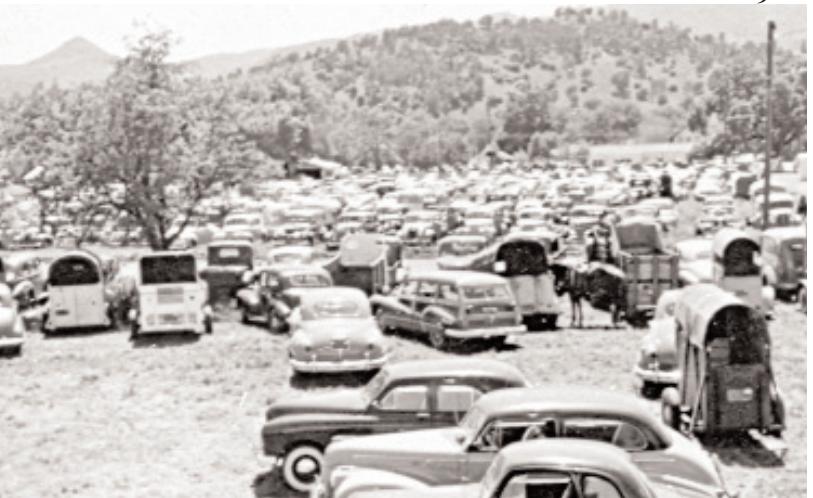
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Monticello's main claim to fame in the 1930's was not its illusory oil fields nor its good, honest grain, but its annual rodeo and barbecue. It had been attracting thousands since 1926. An outgrowth of the little valley's annual springtime cattle round-up, it was one of the first in California to feature professional contestants. The Monticello Community Club hosted the event on the first Sunday of May for 15 years, and the program was always the same.

The night before the event, the barbecue committee built a bonfire of oak wood in a big pit next to the Monticello community hall. When the timbers became white-hot coals, the men and women of the committee sprinkled on a thin layer of loamy dirt and then dropped in some prime hindquarters of local-grown beef, which had been wrapped in many layers of cheese-cloth. They covered the meat with more loam and then built a new fire over it all, which glowed all night. Meanwhile, they cooked up several huge kettles of pinto beans.

Late the next morning, the smell of roasting beef greeted the jam of cars that pulled into town from just about everywhere. Those who arrived early could play in a pick-up baseball game on the diamond next to the barbecue pit or just sit around and enjoy John Philip Sousa music provided by a live band, which performed all day. Early in the afternoon the barbecue lifted the roasted beef from the pit with big hooks. An endless supply of beer was available, both during and after Prohibition, as was an endless supply of cake.

Then the rodeo began. There were saddle- and bare-back bronco riding, bull riding, calf roping and wild cow milking. There were races. There were clowns. There were courtships. Between the Blue Ridge hills to the east and the chaparral of Cedar Roughs to the west, under the hazy May sky in a gentle, grassy valley, there was asweet, simple, down-home joy.



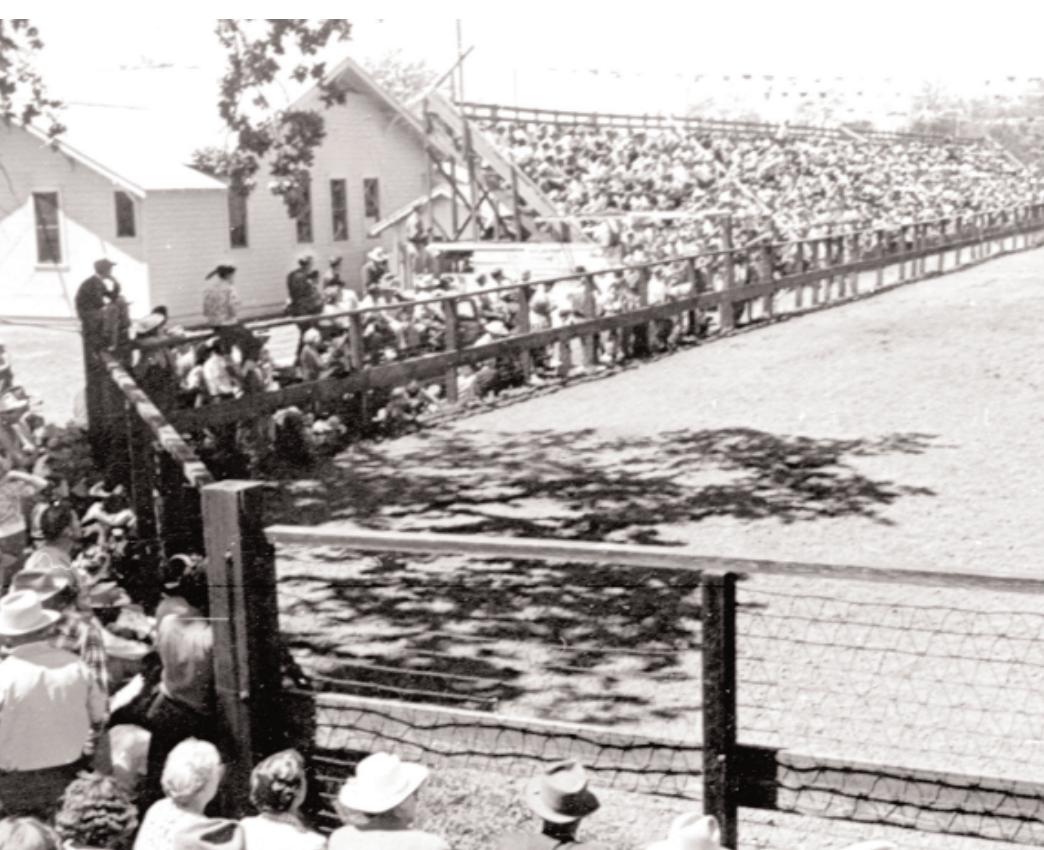
Burning Monticello at the end. See 1929 Monticello rodeo videos on the Lake Berryessa News web site: [www.LakeBerryessaNews.com](http://www.LakeBerryessaNews.com)



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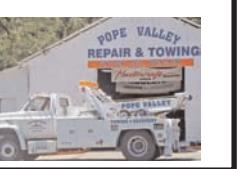


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## 40 Years of Barrels or A funny thing happened on the way to Alaska

by Phil Burton, Owner, Barrel Builders

It was a different world when Barrel Builders was started in the early seventies. No desktop computers, no cell phones, no instant gratification. But that's when Robert Mondavi began importing barrels from France. In those days they only came partially assembled, so coopers from France came to teach a few employees to assemble the barrels and do the finish work.

Not being dummies, Skip Lane, Don Surplus and Keith Roberts (who later went on to found Mendocino Cooperage) decided that there was an opportunity here and left Mondavi to start Barrel Builders.

About that time, I was coming off a stint working as a backpacking instructor for a pilot project with the San Diego Juvenile Probation Department. Jerry Brown was governor back then and cut the funding when several purses were stolen at our first awards dinner where he happened to be a guest.

Newly jobless, I headed north for Alaska by way of the Napa Valley, where I happened on job at BB. I thought a short stint here would be fun, and also yield a grubstake. So it was in 1975, that I began building hot tubs, planters and ultimately, wine barrels. The photo on the right from Sunset Magazine has me pounding hoops as an apprentice cooper (I'm the one with the long hair). By then, my fate was sealed.

Fast forward, in 1986, several employees (myself among them, as I had by then lost interest in Alaska) bought the company from the owners. Five years later, I bought out my last partner, Henry Work (who is now a cooperage consultant in New Zealand).

Shaving barrels used to be a huge business. That same year we shaved over 6,000 barrels from New York to Israel and South America. Used barrels were virtually free.

A lot has changed in the industry since then, when only a handful of wineries spotted the Napa Valley and the old giants in the Central Valley still held sway. I'm looking at our 1978 price list: French oak barrels cost \$155. American oak - \$75. There were only about 10 cooperage suppliers here in the US.

Then the premium wine industry took off after the famous Paris Tasting put Napa on the map, and all hell broke loose. Back then, wineries were welcomed and the remaining orchards and ranches turned to grapes. Local governments all but gave permits away; tasting and ancillary events were expected and the growth was exponential. Heady times in the wine business; you almost couldn't NOT make money.

Charles Krug's ads mirrored much of the Valley sentiment with their "CK is OK" branding. Everyone seemed to help each other. Of course, this was before Jess Jackson sued Jed Steele for taking his winemaking secrets with him and the rise of corporate winemaking began. Walla Walla? Central Coast? Texas? Temecula? I recently returned from visiting clients in Maine where there is a "Wine Trail" with over a dozen wineries and some beautiful facilities. In Maine!

Nobody in his right mind enters the wine business to get rich; it's the lifestyle and the connection with the land that makes this business the wonderful thing that it is. I can't conceive of a more rewarding and fun job and the friendships and connections that I've made over the years are incredible.

We have been in the business of repairing and maintaining cooperage for over 35 years. During that time we have been asked to fix virtually every type of problem you might have with a barrel - from simple bore-bug holes to multiple stave replacements when a barrel falls off a forklift. Our coopers are experienced, competent and efficient. If we can't save a barrel (or it is not worth saving) we will let you know.

I am also grateful for my wonderful staff who are some of the hardest working people around and have insured our success over the years. My profound thanks to you all and here's to the next decade of fine winemaking.



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## The Lake Berryessa News Horoscope

Aries (March 21-April 19): You really hate it when people say "let's get out of here" in disaster movies, which is hypocritical given how it's usually the first thing out of your own mouth during a disaster.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Remember: If you give in to the impulses to do whatever you want with your life, you'll become one of those happy, satisfied people you resent so much.

Gemini (May 21-June 21): You may treasure the sense of mystery you have about the future, but really, learning the days of the week won't ruin the magic.

Cancer (June 22-July 22): Travel and adventure are in your future this week as your captors continue crossing state lines to stay one step ahead of the law.

Leo (July 23-August 22): Your sneaking feeling that people are out to get you just shows how delusional you are, as you should know damn good and well that they're out to get you.

Virgo (August 23-September 22): They say lightning never strikes twice, which doesn't explain what's been happening to you at three o'clock every Wednesday for the past three months.

Libra (September 23-October 23): You always dreamed of being a human cannonball, but you had no idea that advances in artillery technology would limit your career to a very small number of appearances.

Scorpio (October 24-November 21): You may have great quantities of bravado, élan, and puissance, but there's no way to be sure until you find out what those words mean.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): The stars foresee many amazing things ahead of you this week, but really, they're too good to just tell you about in advance.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19): Unfortunately, popular entertainment has led you to believe that when you try to deliver a baby while trapped in a malfunctioning elevator, the mother and baby both survive.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18): You'll be ruled unfit for trial, but they seem to think you're just fine for sentencing and execution.

Pisces (February 19-March 20): You will soon make a comfortable living exploiting other people's deep-seated anxieties and crippling fears.

Artificial Intelligence is no match for Natural Stupidity.

Never underestimate the power of very stupid people in large groups.

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## Honoring Napa County's Centenarians

Sept. 22 is National Centenarians Day, a day to recognize and honor individuals who have lived a century or longer. The Napa County Board of Supervisors plans to honor Napa centenarians at its Sept. 20, 2011, Board meeting at 10 a.m., followed by a cake and coffee reception inside the board room.

Life expectancy for Americans increased dramatically from 49 years of age in 1900 to more than 76 years as a result of improved health care, nutrition and quality of life, a trend that is expected to continue. Centenarians have defied life expectancy projections by at least 20 years and serve as role models and examples of aging with dignity.

If you know someone who is or will be a centenarian by Sept. 22, 2011, please contact Board of Supervisor's Staff Assistant JoAnn Melgar at (707) 299-1478 or [joann.melgar@countyofnapa.org](mailto:joann.melgar@countyofnapa.org). Names are requested even if the centenarian cannot attend the recognition ceremony.

**At the Volunteer Fire Station**  
**Next to Capell School off Hwy 128**

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 Boating, Fishing

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 Sunday School for the Children.  
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## **Spanish Flat Village Country Store & Deli**

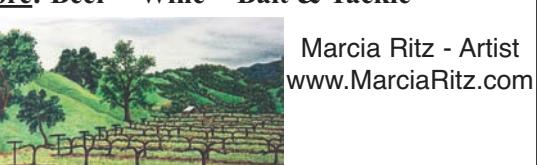
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**General Store:** Beer ~ Wine ~ Bait & Tackle

Owner - Marcia Ritz  
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 FAX: 707-966-1602

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**4318 Knoxville Road in the Spanish Flat Village Center**

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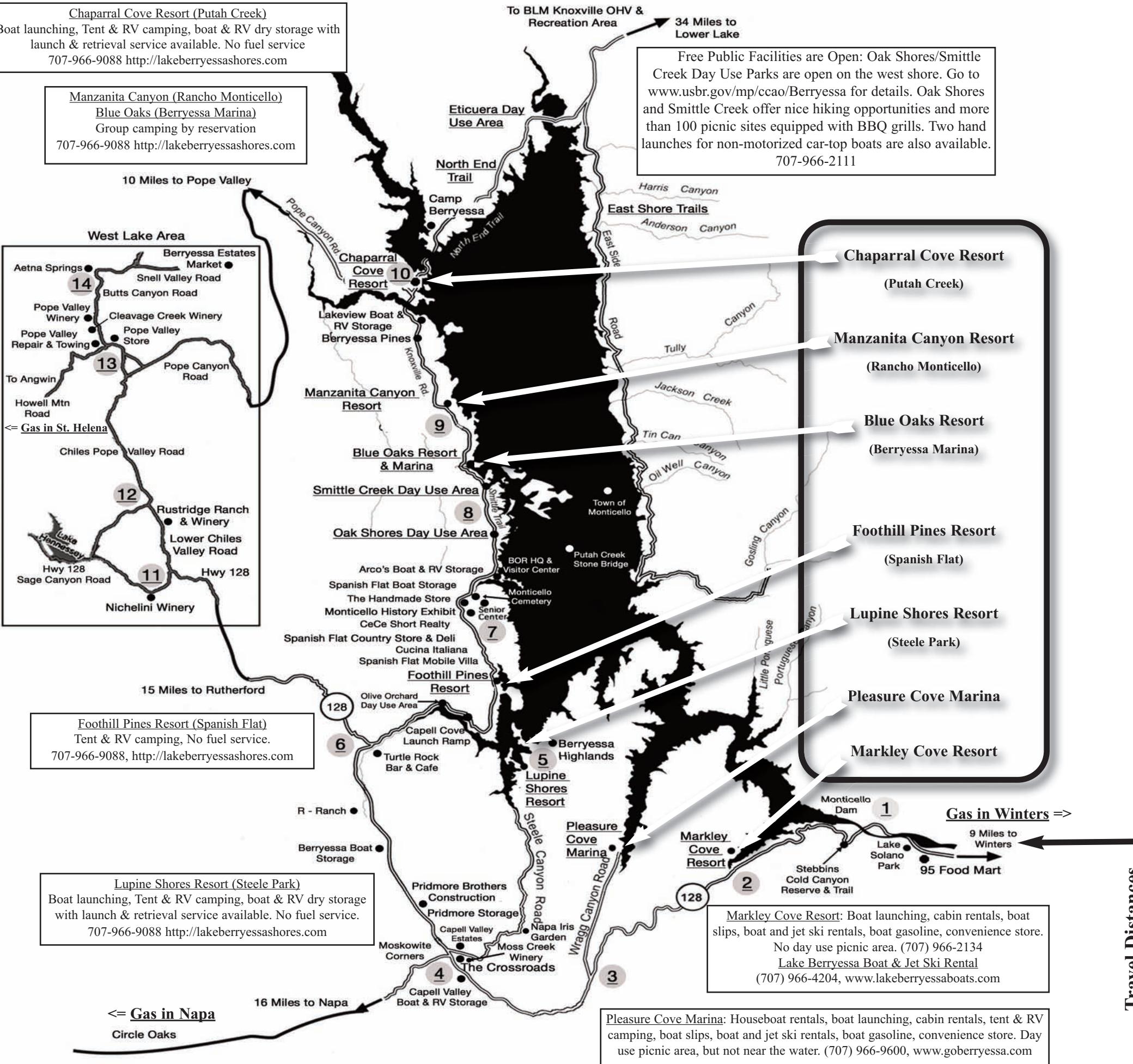


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Manzanita Canyon (Rancho Monticello)  
Blue Oaks (Berryessa Marina)  
Group camping by reservation  
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## Blue Green Algae at Lake Berryessa

Bureau of Reclamation Press Release

With long summer days and heat, Lake Berryessa becomes an ideal habitat for cyanobacteria. Cyanobacteria, also referred to as blue-green algae, are a common and natural component of the microscopic plants (plankton) in Lake Berryessa. Some types of blue-green algae produce natural toxins or poisons. When these algae die and break down, toxins can be released into the water.

Blue-green algae are usually present in lake water in low numbers.

But once the water warms up in shallow areas, blue-green algae can become very abundant in some sections of Lake Berryessa. Under calm conditions, blue-green algae can accumulate in thick layers at the surface or along the shoreline. These accumulations are frequently referred to as "blooms" or "scums." Wind can blow these accumulations around the lake.

While blue-green algae toxins have been detected at many locations in Lake Berryessa, the highest concentrations of toxins are usually found in blooms and shoreline scums. These dense accumulations pose the greatest potential health risks. Watch for dense accumulations of algae and avoid these areas.

Blooms generally have the following properties:

- Water may appear cloudy and look like thick pea soup.
- Blooms are generally green or blue-green in color, although they can be brown or purple.
- A thick mat or foam may form when a bloom washes onto shore.

Weather influences where blue-green algae will accumulate in a given location. During extended periods of calm and sunny days, blooms can accumulate at the surface in any location. Wind and waves may cause them to form along shorelines or in protected areas. Shifts in wind direction can move a bloom's location.

Recreational contact, such as swimming with water not visibly affected by a blue-green algae bloom is not expected to cause health effects. However, some individuals could be especially sensitive to even low levels of algal toxins and might experience mild symptoms such as skin, eye or throat irritation or allergic reactions.

Direct contact or breathing airborne droplets containing high levels of blue-green algal toxins during swimming or showering can cause irritation of the skin, eyes, nose and throat and inflammation in the respiratory tract.

If you have any questions or concerns, call the Lake Berryessa Ranger Department at 707-966-2111 ext. 113.

1.	Monticello Dam	1=>2	3.0 miles
2.	Markley Cove Resort	2=>3	5.3 miles
3.	Wragg Canyon Road	3=>4	3.0 miles
4.	Moskowite Corners	4=>5	5.0 miles
5.	Lupine Shores Resort	4=>6	4.7 miles
6.	Turtle Rock	6=>7	5.0 miles
7.	Spanish Flat Village Center	7=>8	2.4 miles
8.	Oak Shores/Smittle Creek/Visitor Center	8=>9	2.4 miles
9.	Blue Oaks/Manzanita Canyon Resorts	9=>10	2.8 miles
10.	Pope Canyon Road/Chaparral Cove Resort	10=>13	10.2 miles
11.	Hwy 128 @ Lower Chiles Valley Road	6=>11	3.0 miles
12.	Pope Valley Road	11=>12	3.2 miles
13.	Pope Valley	12=>13	8.5 miles
14.	Aetna Springs	13=>14	3.7 miles

**Note: No auto gas available between Winters and Napa or at Lake Berryessa!**

## "THE GREEN THING"

Be who you are and say what you feel. Those who matter won't mind, and those who mind don't matter. In the line at the store, the cashier told an older woman that she should bring her own grocery bags because plastic bags weren't good for the environment.

The woman apologized to her and explained, "We didn't have the green thing back in my day." The clerk responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment." He was right -- our generation didn't have the green thing in its day.

Back then, we returned milk bottles, soda bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled. But we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks. But she was right. We didn't have the green thing in our day.

Back then, we washed the baby's diapers because we didn't have the throw-away kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy gobbling machine burning up 220 volts -- wind and solar power really did dry the clothes.

Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing. But that old lady is right; we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

Back then we had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief (remember them?), not a screen the size of the state of Montana. In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us.

When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used a wadded up old newspaper to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn.

We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity. But she's right; we didn't have the green thing back then.

We drank from a fountain when we were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time we had a drink of water. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull. But we didn't have the green thing back then.

Back then, people took the streetcar or a bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service. We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances.

And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza joint.

But isn't it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the green thing back then?

Grocery  
Store

Ice  
Beer  
Soda  
Snacks  
Dairy

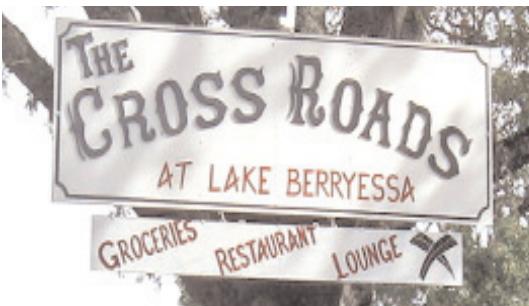
Lounge

8 Draft  
Beers

Happy Hour

4 HD TVs

Weekly  
Promotions



## The Crossroads at Lake Berryessa

Grocery Store:

Sun - Thurs: 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Fri & Sat: 8:00 AM - 9:30 PM

Restaurant:  
8:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Lounge:  
Mon - Thurs: Opens at 2:00 PM

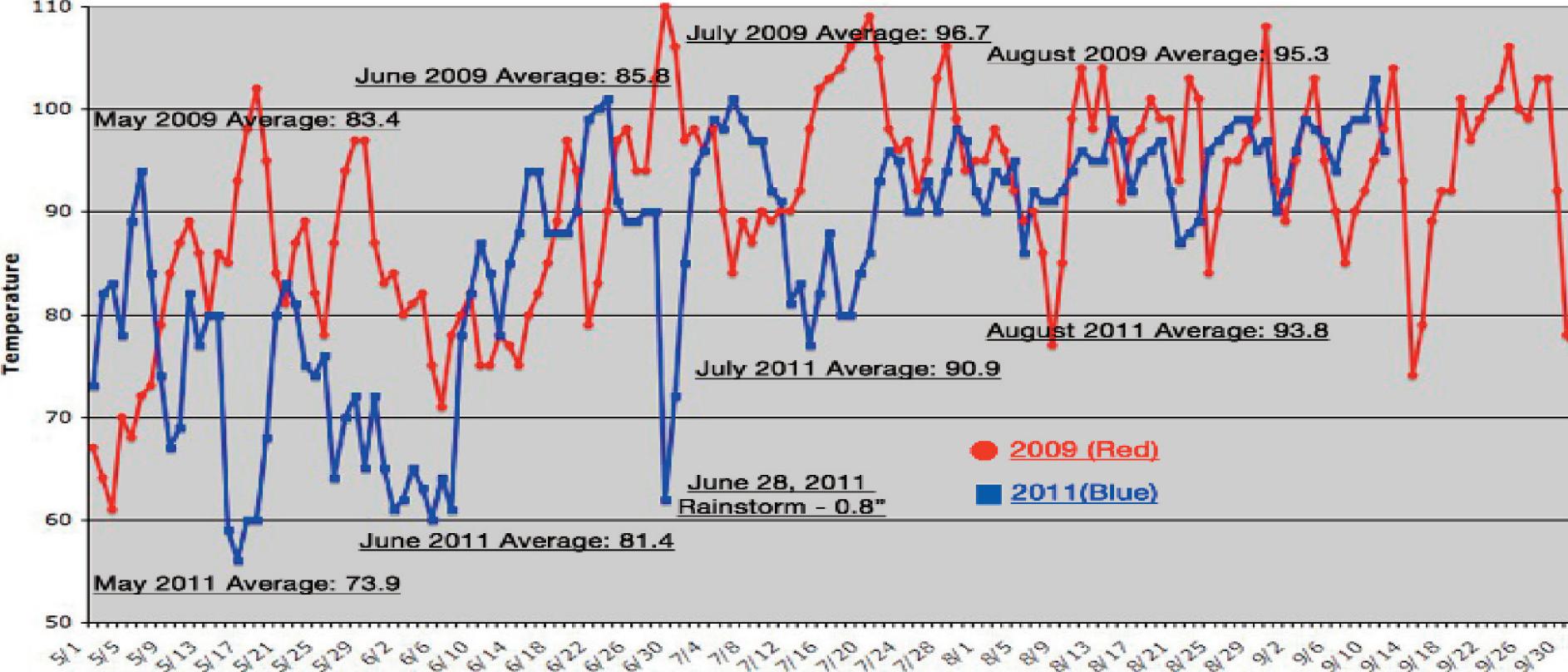
Fri - Sun: Opens at 12 PM

At the Crossroads of Hwy 121, Hwy 128, and Steele Canyon Road  
Phone: 707-255-5455

Email: thecrossroadslakeberryessa@yahoo.com  
Facebook: The Crossroads at Lake Berryessa

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### Temperature Comparison 2009 vs 2011



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# The Lake Berryessa News

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Your Best Source for News of Lake Berryessa and our Napa Back Roads!

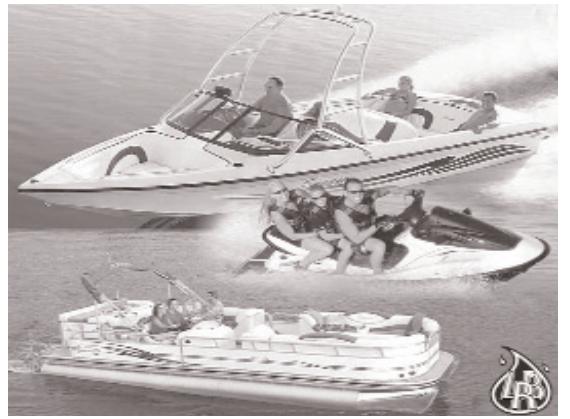
September 21, 2011



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Lake Berryessa - The Map - Page 6

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Cabin Rentals Markley Cove Resort (707) 966-2134

Lake Berryessa News Winter Schedule

Hope you had a great summer! The print edition of the Lake Berryessa News will be published monthly from Oct., 2011 through Mar., 2012. The website, [www.LakeBerryessaNews.com](http://www.LakeBerryessaNews.com), and Lake Berryessa News Facebook page will be updated regularly. Sign up for my weekly email newsletter if you're not already on my list at [pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com).

### NBRID Nightmares: When So Many People Are Trying To Do the Right Thing, What Could Possibly Go Wrong?

by Peter Kilkus

Well, how about a \$330,000 proposed fine? Which would be added to the nearly \$900,000 in loans already owed to Napa County by the Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement District.

How about a Cease & Desist Order against the District by the State Water Quality Board? Which prevents any new hook-ups in the Berryessa Highlands.

How about a controversial RFP process for Water and Wastewater Facilities? Which many (but not all) Berryessa Highlands residents believe is a flawed approach to solving the problems because of the way in which the process was handled.

The list goes on. Many problems, many justifications for the problems, many potential solutions, many opinions about the right solution...

The residents of the Berryessa Highlands are tired of suffering from high rates. But most have neither the time nor inclination to get into the gory details of the issues. They simply want three things. Get it done now; tell me the cost to me personally; give me a new resort at Lupine Shores.

The NBRID has had operating problems since at least 1995 when it was cited by the State Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) for wastewater discharges. In 2006, state water regulators imposed a moratorium on new Berryessa Highlands construction.

Residents approved a bond issue although the bonds are never

sold because of uncertainties about when the old Steele Park Resort would reopen.

The RWQCB issued a Cease and Desist Order in September 2010 effectively extending both the existing moratorium on sewer connections and the timelines that the District must follow.

Berryessa Highlands residents, and Pensus too, are caught in a Kafkaesque scenario. Highlands property owners are not able to hook up to the system and build a house on their empty lot. Homeowners have an obsolete \$16,000 bond issue lien on their house which impedes their ability to sell. And Pensus can't develop Lupine Shores until the system improvements are complete and the CDO is lifted.

An Ad Hoc Residents Rate Committee was formed several years ago to work with the NBRID Board. They pushed hard and succeeded in getting the NBRID Board and the Local Agency Formation Commission to agree to allow Highlands residents to form their own Community Services District (CSD) like the residents of Circle Oaks and Spanish Flat/Berryessa Pines have.

The Board also appointed an NBRID Transition Committee to "meet jointly with the NBRID Board for the purpose of educating District residents regarding the duties and responsibilities of the Board during the transition from a Resort Improvement District to a Community Services District." Members of the committee are

Continued on Page 2

## **NBRID - Continued from Page 1**

What do the official documents say and where do opinions differ. The underlined sections in the following excerpts are some points of contention.

Let's start with the February 1, 2011 NBRID Resolution: "To ensure continued qualified oversight of the District's operations, the Board of Directors will immediately explore utilizing Section 5956-5956.10 of the California Government Code to employ a public private partnership process for the selection of a contractor or contractors to manage District operations on a long term basis, and to determine whether it is in the best interest of the District to contract for the design, building, operation, and financing, or any combination thereof, of the District facilities."

This implies that the primary goal of RFP is an immediate "operations-only" contract. The determination of the type and extent of capital improvements and new facilities is left to a further stage of "competitive negotiations".

Then follow-up with Government Code 5956: "5956.5. ... the governmental agency soliciting proposals and entering into agreements with private entities for the studying, planning, design, developing, financing, construction, maintenance, rebuilding, improvement, repair, or operation, or any combination thereof, by private entities for fee-producing infrastructure projects shall ensure that the contractor is selected pursuant to a competitive negotiation process...The competitive negotiation process shall utilize, as the primary selection criteria, the demonstrated competence and qualifications for the studying, planning, design, developing, financing, construction, maintenance, rebuilding, improvement,

### **The Lake Berryessa News**

**Owner/Editor:** Peter Kilkus

415-307-6906, PKilkus@LakeBerryessa.net  
Subscriptions - \$35 per year.

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**Community Church of Lake Berryessa**  
Located at 6008 Monticello Road  
(Moskowitz Corners)

For information please contact Bob Lee  
Phone: 707-252-4488  
Email: [terribob@lakeberryessa.net](mailto:terribob@lakeberryessa.net)

**At the Volunteer Fire Station**  
Next to Capell School off Hwy 128

Valley Christian Church is a Safe & Healthy place to learn about God's plan for your life. Camping, Boating, Fishing

Please come as you are and worship Jesus with us.  
Sunday Service at 10 A.M.  
Sunday School for the Children.  
Pastor Randall Roach (707) 718-0995

**Event Calendar**

October 1 - Saturday: The ALS Association will be hosting the 11th Annual Walk to Defeat ALS at Raley Field, West Sacramento. Registration 9:00 AM. Walk 11:00 AM. Face painters, clowns, and vendors. Free to the community including a complimentary continental breakfast. ALS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, also known as, "Lou Gehrig's Disease" is a progressive degenerative disorder of the upper and lower motor neurons.

Octobeer 1 - Saturday: Berryessa Fall Bird Species Inventory, 8 AM – Noon. A great way to get a little exercise, learn some local history and tally Berryessa's fall bird species all at the same time. Join Reclamation Ranger and former professional birding guide Scott Huber as he visits Berryessa's three dominant vegetation regions - oak woodlands, chaparral and grasslands - to inventory the newly returning fall migrants. Led by the Ranger, participants will car-pool the length of the lake stopping for short walks at the most likely spots to build an impressive 1-day bird list. Along the way, participants will also learn about the history of the Berryessa Valley and the Solano water project. Children are urged to attend but must be accompanied by an adult. Meet at Monticello Dam Overlook Parking Lot.

October 10 - Monday: Free Flu Shots, Berryessa Senior Center, 11:00AM—13:00PM, 4380 Spanish Flat Loop Rd

October 15 - Saturday: C.A.S.T for Kids fishing event, 8 AM - 2 PM, Pleasure Cove Marina.

October 16 - Sunday: Pope Valley Turkey Shoot. See flyer on Page 9.

October 24 - Monday: Napa Food Day, 4 - 7 PM, Yountville Community Center, Find out how Napa County folks are working together to form a more sustainable local food system. Explore and celebrate the abundance of local food, local family farms and farmers' markets, along with the restaurants, grocers, and organizations that support them.

## **Dam Level Update as of Monday, 9/19/11**

The elevation of (Glory Hole) at Monticello Dam is **440** feet (msl). Lake Berryessa has had **37.92** inches of rain since July 1, 2010. The water is now **13.14** feet below the top of the spillway.

Date	Elevation	Evap	High	Low	Rain
9/5/11	427.64	0.28	97	54	0.00
9/6/11	427.57	0.24	94	53	0.00
9/7/11	427.51	0.26	98	53	0.00
9/8/11	427.46	0.24	99	55	0.00
9/9/11	427.40	0.29	99	56	0.00
9/10/11	427.33	0.25	103	60	0.00
9/11/11	427.28	0.33	96	58	0.00
9/12/11	427.22	0.24	82	57	0.00
9/13/11	427.16	0.23	90	59	0.00
9/14/11	427.11	0.19	94	61	0.00
9/15/11	427.03	0.28	94	53	0.00
9/16/11	426.98	0.20	87	52	0.00
9/17/11	426.91	0.21	86	52	0.00
9/18/11	426.86	0.15	89	53	0.00

## **2011 FREE Flu Shot Clinics**

### **Get Vaccinated!**

\* Flu vaccine is **FREE** for anyone 3 years and older from Napa County Public Health  
2011-2012 Flu Vaccine includes Influenza A H1N1 & H3N2 and Influenza B

\* **EVERYONE** who can should get vaccinated to protect themselves AND others from the flu

\* Whooping cough (pertussis) is still epidemic: Pertussis (Tdap) vaccine will be available

CITY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Yountville	Sat, Sept 17	9 AM - 12 PM	Yountville Community Center 6516 Washington St
American Canyon	Mon, Sept 26	3 PM - 6 PM	Senior Multi-Use Center 2185 Elliot Dr
Napa	Mon, Oct 3	10 AM - 1:30 PM	Senior Citizens Center 1500 Jefferson St
Lake Berryessa	Mon, Oct 10	11 AM - 3 PM	Berryessa Senior Center 4380 Spanish Flat Loop Rd
Calistoga	Wed, Oct 12	4:30PM - 7:30PM	Calistoga Fairgrounds, Butler Pavilion, 1435 N Oak St
Angwin	Mon, Oct 17	3 PM - 7 PM	Angwin Fire Department 275 College Ave
Napa	Mon, Oct 24	3 PM - 7 PM	Napa Elks Lodge 2840 Soscol Ave
St. Helena	Wed, Oct 26	3 PM - 7 PM	St. Helena Presbyterian Church 1428 Spring St
Napa	Wed, Nov 2	11:30AM - 5 PM	McPherson Elementary 2670 Yajome St

### **For More Information about Flu Clinics:**

\* Call the 24/7 Flu Clinic Hotline: (707)253-4540  
Visit: [www.countyofnapa.org/publichealth](http://www.countyofnapa.org/publichealth)

### **Missed the Flu Shot Clinics?**

\* After Nov. 2 call (707)253-4270 for a free appointment:  
Public Health Clinic, Building G (2344 Old Sonoma Road, Napa)



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Caltrans has started preliminary work on the Capell Creek Bridge replacement project a couple of miles up Monticello Road from the Corners. We will all get to practice one-way traffic control a lot during the next couple of years.



### Algae at the Lake Explained - Again

The Lake Berryessa News received several calls and emails about the recent algae growth in Lake Berryessa. Several came from long-time lake users who said they had not seen anything like it before. Biologist Ken Davis has done some further analysis of the algae situation at the lake and has this to say.

\*\*\*\*\*

There are three separate issues here – well actually two since one transforms into another. Over the last week, I've taken a good look at many sites on the lake, collected samples, and examined them using a compound microscope.

Note that all of the algae mentioned below are commonly found in plankton samples from the lake, just not in the density seen lately.

1. The floating particles (filaments) are the blue-green (cyanobacteria) that I reported a month ago – that's an algae called Phormidium.
2. When Phormidium and other algae die, they produce a gas and float to the surface where they form the familiar brown mats we have all seen. Typically they are windblown and end up in windblown coves.
3. The green slim (film) is another blue-green algae called Oscillatoria. It can also be found commonly in the water column, but weather conditions cause it to come to the surface and form the green slime and eventually a green, very flat mat on the surface.
4. There is a third blue-green in the mix, but it's rare, called Lyngbya.
5. They can also be mixed in the same "scum" and they are not easy to identify without the proper equipment.

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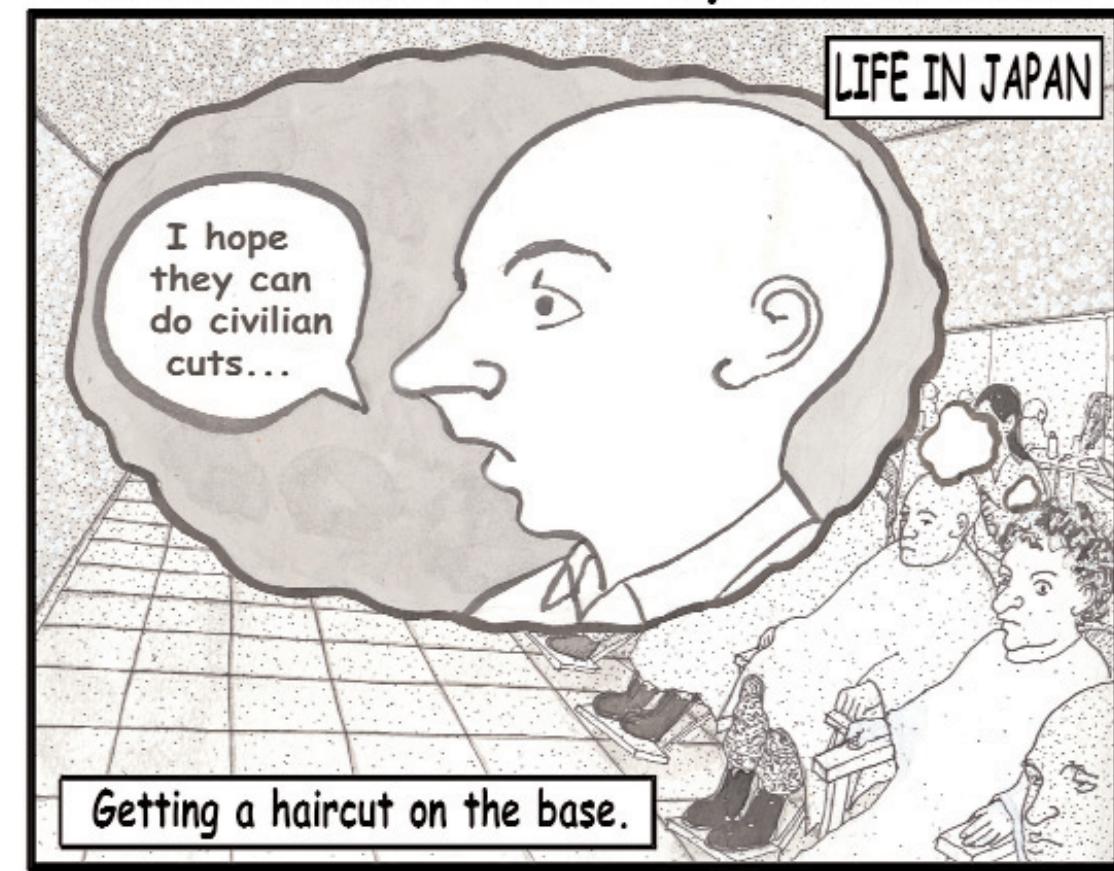
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# NAPALACHIA by Bill Scholer



### My 15 seconds as an actor on Japanese TV: By Bill Scholer

Well, I had my 15 seconds of fame on Japanese television. I can't explain the show I was on but I'll try anyway. It was a collection of little segments about famous people with re-enactments of important events in their lives. Then there was a panel of people, Hollywood Squares like, who seemed to be voting on each episode. One episode was a fellow that had a gong fall on his head in a TV game show. Another was a couple that won the lottery. Also on the show was a Japanese kick boxer, a baseball player, Bill Gates, Brad Pitt, Lady Gaga and Yuko Matsuoka Harris, the woman who translated Harry Potter into Japanese. She seems like a wonderful person. And yes, I had my little scene in that segment.

And it somehow all makes sense now.

# NAPALACHIA by Bill Scholer



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At a recent MIT astrophysics conference a prominent astronomer confirmed that the two most prevalent elements in the Universe are hydrogen and stupidity.

**4** The state of affairs of the NBRID has resulted in some public rancor and criticism. The NBRID Transition Committee meeting on September 6 at the Capell Valley Fire Station successfully provided a general summary of information regarding the status of the ongoing NBRID activities. But many details and next steps were fuzzy...

This is the context of the following letter from Aquagy Corporation. Aquagy has been involved with the NBRID and with Pensus for some time. Aquagy is also one of the companies which responded to the NBRID RFP. Several of the items in the letter are explained further in the lead story on Page 1 of this issue.

#### Open Letter to NBRID Stakeholders from Aquagy, Inc.

At the NBRID Transition Committee's meeting Tuesday night, 9/6/11, several accusations and statements were made that require our response to the homeowners of the Berryessa Highlands:

-Aquagy was invited to the meeting by the Chairman of the Transition Committee to observe and answer any questions that might come from the homeowners or District staff pertaining to the proposal we submitted for the Design/Build/Operate and Finance of the District.

-We did not protest any actions by the District Board of Directors because we don't wish to hamper or slow the District's forward progress.

-We have spent the last two years providing input to the community, District staff and Board, especially pertaining to an alternative that allows the expedited processing and private funding of public projects, in accordance with California Code (Section 5956).

-We have not been compensated by the District, homeowners, or Pensus, the resort owner.

-We have always advocated a transparent process that would lead to selection of the best alternative for the residents and resort owner. There is no communication we have had with any of the involved parties, including the Board of Directors that we would not readily provide to the homeowners and public.

We are disturbed by the veil of secrecy that the Board and District staff is employing to obscure the selection process for NBRID's water and wastewater services contract. While the Board speaks of "transparency", they have been anything but transparent in their management of the RFP process, changing the composition of the Interview Panel and refusing to compare the key terms of the four proposals. Such secrecy in the review and selection process is not only unnecessary, it is inappropriate for a contract being expedited and negotiated through Section 5956.

At the Tuesday night meeting, Director Caldwell reprimanded and lectured the members of the NBRID Rate Committee and Transition Committee for asking reasonable questions about how the four proposals compare to one another. He categorically stated that "any engineering firm that claims to know how much it will cost to fix NB's problems is lying." Director Caldwell is not an engineer, nor is he qualified to make that assessment.

There is no great mystery to the technical problems facing NBRID or to the repeated violations and Cease and Desist Orders. It's simply inaccurate to claim that the scope of work required at NBRID cannot now be known.

The Aquagy proposal is not confidential and we informed the District in writing, so there is no reason that the details of our proposal cannot be shared with the homeowners and Pensus. In fact, as the primary stakeholders, it's the right and duty of the homeowners and Pensus to demand to see all four proposals before supporting a contract on the District's behalf.

The Aquagy proposal contains fixed, not-to-exceed estimates for construction cost, total project cost, annual operations cost, and for a proposed rate increase. It includes fixing the I&I, storage, and disposal issues contained in the CDO, and all improvements to the water and wastewater treatment plants needed to provide uninterrupted service for the next 30 years.

The total cost for these improvements is estimated at just under \$6 million dollars and would require a phased rate increase over five years of about 7 to 8% per year. Those are the TOTAL costs over the life of the 30-year contract, other than periodic inflationary adjustments.

Notwithstanding what's already past, this selection process could be righted and completed as soon as next week, and meaningful work could begin shortly thereafter. How? By the stakeholders deciding to take control of the district they are paying for so dearly, and firmly directing the Board to adhere to the Section 5956 process they committed to.

If District stakeholders sincerely want Pensus to be part of the NBRID system, a new operations-only contract is not sufficient; tangible improvements are needed immediately to satisfy the CDO, the Regional Board, and the schedule Pensus is bound to in their contract with the Bureau of Reclamation. Achieving those immediate improvements was the whole point of issuing a design-build-operate-finance request for proposals.

Although Aquagy was not the team selected for contracting with the District at this time, we remain willing and able to advise the homeowners and District in any manner that might be of benefit.

David Hammond, Ph.D., Myke Prael, P.E., Aquagy

-Section 5956 dictates use of a "*competitive negotiation*" process, as distinct from a traditional "competitive bidding" process. There is no need for (nor benefit to the stakeholders) from having a secretive selection process; quite the contrary. **The Selection Committee should have gone directly to an open-forum negotiation phase, involving any or all of the four proposing teams that were "responsive" to the RFP. This would have facilitated the District getting the best possible deal for its rate-payers in the most expeditious process.**

The entire interview process was unnecessary and a waste of valuable time at a juncture when efficient management of both time and money are of dire importance to the District, especially for lifting the Cease and Desist Order and connecting Lupine Shores.

Additional fines are likely if the Regional Board doesn't see tangible and comprehensive improvements very soon. For the past year the general consensus of district stakeholders has been that the County's current schedule is simply too little, too late and that the best interests of the District will be served by an expedited process to secure private funding for immediate, sweeping improvements.

In recent weeks, County staff has claimed that "price doesn't matter" and that the current RFP is for a "professional services contract". That is incorrect. Price does matter – in fact it is central – and Section 5956 provides exemption from most requirements of the Public Contracts Code, with the specific intent of facilitating rapid and competitively-priced infrastructure projects.

The total cost for these improvements is estimated at just under \$6 million dollars and would require a phased rate increase over five years of about 7 to 8% per year. Those are the TOTAL costs over the life of the 30-year contract, other than periodic inflationary adjustments.

Secrecy and confidentiality are inappropriate for the NBRID RFP process because the use of an expedited schedule was predicated entirely on application of the legal mechanism known as Code Section 5956, which dictates a very different process than the traditional bidding process governed by the Public Contracts Code:

***The express intent of Section 5956 is to enable the use of private funding for public infrastructure projects.*** Section 5956 specifically stipulates: "*The agreement between the governmental agency and the private entity shall include...: Adequate financial resources of the private entity to design, build, and operate the facility after the date of the agreement.*" Any proposal that did not guarantee immediate financing needed to assume full responsibility for the District upon signing the contract should be deemed non-responsive to the RFP and should be immediately disqualified for not meeting the conditions required by Section 5956.

Although Aquagy was not the team selected for contracting with the District at this time, we remain willing and able to advise the homeowners and District in any manner that might be of benefit.

David Hammond, Ph.D., Myke Prael, P.E., Aquagy

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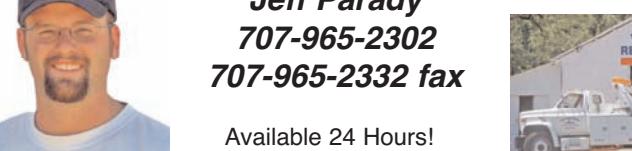
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### Getting your boat ready for Winter

From the Western Boaters Safety Group

The worst thing that can happen to a boater is to come to your boat in the spring, remove the cover and find out it's full of water, or covered in mold and mildew. There is no way to store your boat all winter that is foolproof. The best thing to do is check on your boat often, especially if there has been any kind of inclement weather.

You may still get some warm days to take the boat out, but you can start the process now. First thing is to add fuel stabilizer to your fuel. Even if you go out several more times this season, it is a good idea to add it early. That way if you don't use the boat again it's in there. The stabilizer works best if you add it to the fuel and then take the boat out on the water. That way it gets run through all the fuel lines helping to prevent a buildup of varnish that can cause poor performance next year. This is cheap and adds so much.

Check your owner's manual for the manufacturer's recommendations for winterization or off-season lay up. It is highly recommended that you contact a reputable boat service center and pay to have your boat winterized properly. This is the best way to make sure your boat is ready for the winter as well as making sure the regular maintenance has been done.

**Take out the drain plugs.** Allow any moisture in the boat to get out. Make sure you clean out any debris in the bilge area so that it can't build up in front of the drain plug opening. Make sure you store the boat in a bow-up position. Make sure your cover fits and that it is tented properly. In other words be sure the water will always run off and not puddle in the canvas. If you store in a barn or other outside type building, you may want to cover the cover with a sheet of plastic just loosely draped over the cover to keep bird droppings off the canvas and the boat. The acid in the droppings can cause color fade on both the canvas and the gelcoat on the boat.

Another tip for keeping the moisture in check is to take plain Tidy Cat cat litter and pour it into 3 or 4 vinyl dishpans. This will absorb several times its own weight in moisture. Spread the dishpans out in the boat. Be sure to use smaller dishpans as a large one will get too heavy to remove from the boat when filled with moisture.

**Inside Storage.** The best way to store your boat is to have it in a locked, indoor facility. But even then

### Position Available

Pope Valley School would like to interview candidates for a 1/2 time instructional aide position. The position requires a minimum of a 2 year AA degree, and preference will be given to candidates with a 4 year degree or a teaching credential. Please e-mail featon@ncoe.k12.ca.us for an application form.

### Pope Valley Turkey Shoot



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\*\*\*\*\*

Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.

**NBRID: Continued from Page 2**

So we are left with a rather odd situation in that the NBRID Board has seen all the proposals. Two members of the Transition Committee (Sedillo, Bryant) have seen all the proposals. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Transition Committee have seen only the Summit proposal now being negotiated. And Aquagy has made the core of their proposal public in a letter to NBRID stakeholders. The Lake Berryessa News has sent the County a California Public Records Act request to have all the proposals be made public.

The next phase of the process, after a successful contract has been completed with Summit, is to continue to negotiate with Summit for the Design-Build part of the DBFOM process. This has raised serious questions in the minds of some, including Aquagy, because actual cost and rate proposals were not required in the original Code 5956-based RFP process.

Although this does not feel right to some people who are more used to a competitive bidding process, which would include a cost component originally, it does not seem to be prohibited by Government Code 5956.

The argument made by critics is that without a second phase of the RFP comparing all the proposals again, with actual cost and rate data comparison, ratepayers may never know which company could have been the most cost-effective overall.

Meanwhile NBRID staff and consultants are scrambling to meet a November 1 deadline imposed by the State Board for completion of several reporting milestones required under the Cease and Desist Order.

On that date the following reports are required by the state: Interim Spill Prevention and Control Plan (Completed), Preliminary Revised Inflow/Infiltration (I/I) Assessment Report, Preliminary Revised Wastewater Facilities Plan, Preliminary Collection System Improvement & Wastewater Facilities Financing Plan.

The County is making good progress on these reports. Video recording and smoke testing for Inflow and

Intrusion points have been completed with a report due soon. Walker Associates is completing a facilities plan that will be used to develop actual dollar figures for required capital improvements.

Critics say this Walker work was wasted since the RFP itself could have required that all the proposers actually submit capital improvement costs and future rates. This expanded requirement might have delayed the RFP process which was so focused on an immediate solution to the operation and maintenance issues. But it may also have generated less controversy.

The District has just been threatened with a \$330,000 fine. A public hearing about the fine will be held in Sacramento at the end of November with the NBRID Board and Transition Committee members attending to argue against the fine.

Money, money, and more money. And the elephant in the room is still the \$900,000 owed by the NBRID to Napa County.

If your mind is spinning after reading all this – which is only part of the public record – I sympathize.

There appear to be two paths forward. The one the NBRID is on now which seems to be to negotiate an operations contract with Summit followed by negotiating the capital improvement project with Summit. This is quickest.

The other is to negotiate an operations contract with Summit then go to phase two of an RFP to re-propose (remember it's not a bid under 5956) the capital improvement project with cost and rate impacts. Much more complicated and not guaranteed to provide a substantially better result.

What would you do as a Berryessa Highlands resident? This will be the type of decision an independent CSD Board will have to make in the future – and with no County deep pockets help in the wings. What would happen if someone called a CSD election and no one showed up?

A much longer version of this article with additional references is on: [www.LakeBerryessaNews.com](http://www.LakeBerryessaNews.com)

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## The Lake Berryessa News Horoscope

Aries (March 21-April 19): Wilderness sports may be growing in popularity, but people are not yet ready to appreciate your expertise at trout-shotgunning.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Your life will soon cross the line from comedy to tragedy, sending an entirely different group of people into gales of laughter.

Gemini (May 21-June 21): You'll slowly start to see the value of improving communication in all your relationships, if only to better understand what the frantic firemen are trying to tell you.

Cancer (June 22-July 22): You'll finally learn you can't run away from your problems, but you haven't given up on escaping by donning a clever disguise and hiding in a crowded restaurant.

Leo (July 23-August 22): Mars rising in your sign usually indicates increased conflict in life, but in this case it means the orbital plane of Earth has shifted & we are all about to die.

Virgo (August 23-September 22): It turns out you're the reason your sign is associated with daring, free-spirited people who like to borrow whole seasons of shows on DVD and not give them back.

Libra (September 23-October 23): A heralding angel of the Lord will appear unto you, seem confused, ask the date, apologize for visiting a few years early, and tell you not to use birth control for a while.

Scorpio (October 24-November 21): You'll soon enjoy a nice hearty Italian dinner with your family, just like you always do after convincing Mom to enter rehab.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): You'll provide much-needed insight and deep wisdom when you loudly proclaim that those politicians are just a bunch of crooks in front of the whole bar.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19): Expect little change from last week, aside from the marauding badgers growing rudimentary thumbs and learning to use chipped flint tools.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18): While it's true they laughed at your dreams of being a talk-show host, it was actually because you did the monologue so well. Your choice of guests, however, sucks.

Pisces (February 19-March 20): You will take the first hellish step down a dark path from which there can be no return when you agree to get updates on Carnival Cruise specials and discounts.

Thanks to all of the volunteers who came out and supported the Coastal Clean-Up Day at Lake Berryessa. What a heap of trash (and recyclables) they all collected! Lake Berryessa

Boat and Jet Ski donated one of their patio boats to pick up the trash bags.



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13  
12  
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Sage Canyon Road  
Nichelini Winery  
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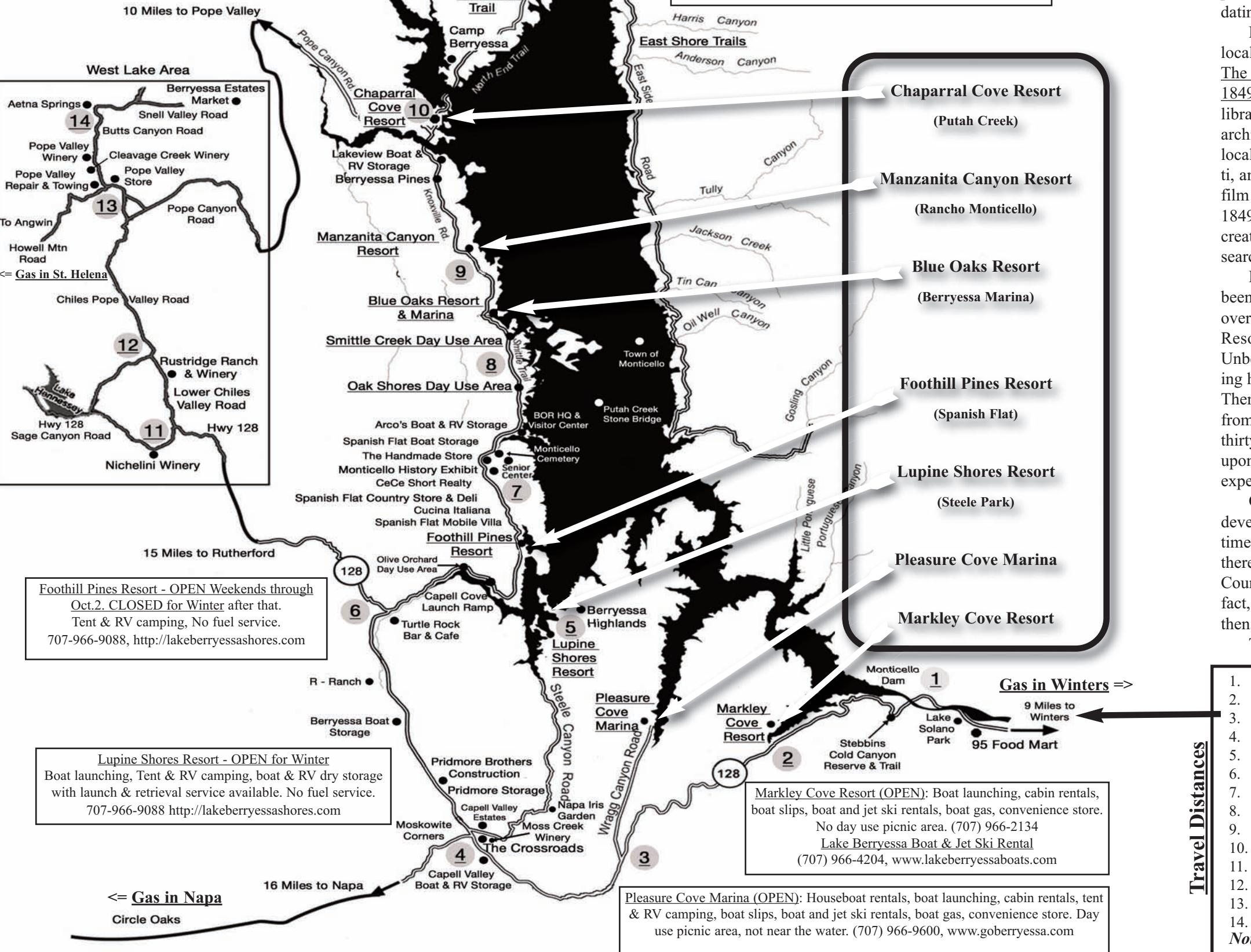
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Free Public Facilities are Open: Oak Shores/Smittle Creek Day Use Parks are open on the west shore. Go to [www.usbr.gov/mp/ceao/Berryessa](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/ceao/Berryessa) for details. Oak Shores and Smittle Creek offer nice hiking opportunities and more than 100 picnic sites equipped with BBQ grills. Two hand launches for non-motorized car-top boats are also available.  
707-966-2111



## A Historical Lodging Quest: Where Did Travelers Stay?

by Don Winter

I call upon the good people of the Independent Republic of Berryessa to assist me in my noble quest to identify and document the rich history of the lodging industry of the "Napalachia" region of Napa County. To date, I have unearthed 25 lodging enterprises in the greater Berryessa area, with the very first dating back to 1862.

For the past 3 years I have been researching our local County hotel history for my forthcoming book, The History of the Napa County Lodging Industry, 1849 – to the Present. After countless hours in the libraries and historical societies, man-months of archival internet search, the reading of more than 50 local history books, interviews with local cognoscenti, and the review of what seems like miles of microfilm I have documented the unimaginable – between 1849 and today, our Napa County has witnessed the creation of more than 580 lodging entities...and the search continues!

From the very inception of our County, Napa has been a thriving hotel destination environment, and the overwhelming majority of the hotels and inns were Resorts, catering to the Tourist segment. Unbeknownst to most, Napa County hosted a booming hotel economy for its first 80 years, 1849 – 1930. Then, the hotel industry languished for half a century, from 1931 to 1980, only to launch its Renaissance thirty years ago – a revitalization that continued right upon until the current recessionary period, and is expected to resume upon recovery.

One of the most astonishing findings I have developed and documented, and one that has long time locals shaking their heads in amazement, is that there were more hotel rooms per capita in Napa County back in the 1870's than there are at present! In fact, there were twice as many hotel rooms per capita then, as now!

The principal demand generator and driver of our

destination Resort and Tourist industry, since the very beginning has been "water" - coupled with our magnificent climate and scenery. (Recognizing the emergence in the past 35 years of Wine tourism, consider that Wine can be considered a form of "fortified" water!) The first Resort in California was White Sulphur Springs, focusing on the restorative and rejuvenating waters. The finest Resort of its time in the west was Napa Soda Springs – and in fact, its naturally carbonated waters were shipped all over the world, from the Napa waterfront. Brannan's Hot Springs promoted the waters, both for drinking, healing and soaking, and spawned an industry that thrives to this day.

Within the Republic of Berryessa, all are familiar with the once breathtaking Aetna Springs, which operated continuously for almost 95 years. Less recognized, but vitally important, were Walters Springs and Samuel Soda Springs (later, Grigsby) And, who now recalls Zem Zem Springs Resort, noted for its foul tasting waters, in the northernmost part of the region?

It is fascinating to contemplate that, for the first 110 years of our history, water was the primary attraction and yet... we didn't even have a lake! Dismissing for the moment all the pros and cons extant, the fact still remains that almost overnight, a full-fledged major lake appeared in our County around 1960, just 50 years ago. And this lake was a whopper – the 8th largest lake entirely within California, and the only one within reasonable proximity to major population centers.

For a variety of reasons, to be explored in a future column, Lake Berryessa's potential was grossly under-exploited and mismanaged. But, if properly planned and executed, which is by no means guaranteed, the Lake can eventually become a major driver of quality recreation and economic prosperity throughout region.

In closing, the 25 local Berryessa region hotels I have identified, ranging from Knoxville to the north

down through Windy Flats in the south, consist(ed) of 17 Resorts and 8 Commercial/Through Traveler hotels. More than half of them were built prior to 1899. There is a paucity of historical public record for many of these. (Thank goodness I have recently made the acquaintance of Carol McGinnis Fitzpatrick!) Thus, I ask you, the faithful subjects of the Independent Republic of Berryessa to favor me with any photos, brochures, clippings or anecdotes you may have pertaining to any of the historic or current hotels in your beautiful homeland. You will be playing a valuable role in helping to tell the rich story of a vital component of Napa County, and some of your input will appear in future editions of the Lake Berryessa News. Please forward hotel items of interest to [senwinter@aol.com](mailto:senwinter@aol.com).

- Don Winter has served as a nationwide hotel and restaurant industry consultant for the past 40 years, is a professional humorist on the side, and resides in Napa.

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## Hunting Berryessa Valley, Lloyd Briggs, 1881

Started off today driving a nice pair of ponies with a sort of express wagon in which we packed our tents and provisions. We drove over the mountains to Berryessa Valley. The road is extremely dusty this time of year, owing to the large trucks loaded with quicksilver which travel from the Knoxville quicksilver mine to Napa. The scenery is superb, and the waving wheat, hundreds of acres of which we passed, looked like a golden realm in such a wild, mountainous country.

Quail are plentiful and quite tame, also the turtle-dove, and cottontail and jackass rabbits; and I had my game bag well filled on arrival from what shooting I had while standing in the team.

We passed many ranches bearing peculiar names, such as "Hole in the Wall," "Windy Flats," etc. Arriving at Monticello, a farming and mining town of about 100 inhabitants, twenty-five miles from Napa, we put up at a hotel kept by E. A. Peacock, to whom belongs the distinction of building the first house in the town of Monticello in 1866.

I enjoyed fishing in Putah Creek which runs back of the town. Of all the dusty places in this region this is the dustiest place I ever was in. We were white from the time we entered it until we left. The seats, tables, floors and counters, and all the articles on them, were buried in dust by the passing teams or puffs of wind; a cloud of dust arose from our beds as we retired for the night.

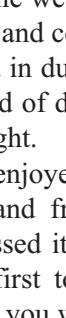
I enjoyed talking with the inhabitants, who were kind and friendly, but, as one visitor at the hotel expressed it, "They do want to know where you cut your first tooth and how old you were; when and where you were born."

Don Winter

above

Lake

Berryessa



1.	Monticello Dam	1=>2	3.0 miles
2.	Markley Cove Resort	2=>3	5.3 miles
3.	Wragg Canyon Road	3=>4	3.0 miles
4.	Moskowite Corners	4=>5	5.0 miles
5.	Lupine Shores Resort	4=>6	4.7 miles
6.	Turtle Rock	6=>7	5.0 miles
7.	Spanish Flat Village Center	7=>8	2.4 miles
8.	Oak Shores/Smittle Creek/Visitor Center	8=>9	2.4 miles
9.	Blue Oaks/Manzanita Canyon Resorts	9=>10	2.8 miles
10.	Pope Canyon Road/ Chaparral Cove Resort	10=>13	10.2 miles
11.	Hwy 128 @ Lower Chiles Valley Road	6=>11	3.0 miles
12.	Pope Valley Road	11=>12	3.2 miles
13.	Pope Valley	12=>13	8.5 miles
14.	Aetna Springs	13=>14	3.7 miles

Note: No auto gas available between Winters and Napa or at Lake Berryessa!