



# Cascade Connections

CSHA Newsletter • Spring 2021

[www.cascadeshores.org](http://www.cascadeshores.org) / members can find us on Facebook

## President's Message

The Cascade Shores Homeowners' Association continues to do well. We currently have 144 members, compared to 161 this time last year. We believe this is due to the current pandemic, as many people are not as comfortable with their money situation as they were a year ago. Membership is important, as maintaining the Lost Mine Lake facility requires significant cash flow.

Our member's propane discount from Suburban ranges from 38% to 60% of non-member pricing, depending on seasonality. The discounted pricing agreement is periodically reviewed and renegotiated to ensure the most savings for our members.

Many Cascade Shores residents have received either a large increase in their fire insurance premiums or outright refusal to renew. I hope that the huge number of trees that PG&E is removing in an attempt to reduce the fire danger will be noted by the insurance companies and induce them to be less restrictive in their underwriting policies. Something which may help owners in negotiating is to point out that Cascade Shores has received national recognition as a Firewise Community.

Last year's annual meeting and the Holiday dinner party had to be cancelled because of the pandemic restrictions. Unfortunately, we will have to cancel the annual meeting again this year. Whether further events will have to be cancelled will depend upon how the pandemic goes.

Improvements at Lost Mine Lake have continued. These will be detailed by Vice President and Lost Mine Lake Supervisor, Doug Gloff. He and Andrew Guevel have devoted many hours working there. Unfortunately, their work, and our costs, have been significantly increased by acts of vandalism and by people dumping their household trash there. If anybody sees somebody doing those things, please call one of the board members.

We are losing a valued Board member. Liz Kellar's husband has accepted a position in Alaska and they will

soon be moving there. We will greatly miss her.

Liz has also been the person performing the Home Monitoring Service. Cheryl Lester, our Treasurer, has graciously volunteered for the additional duty of being her replacement.

We have 4 vacant positions on the Board of Directors. Anyone interested in taking a more active role in the organization should talk with me or another Board member. The term of office is 2 years. The Board of Directors can appoint new Directors at any time.

Since there is no contest for any of the vacant positions on the Board of Directors and all of the present Board members wish to continue, there will be no election this year.

Please stay safe and get your Covid immunization as soon as you are able to do so. I am a member of the Sutter Health Vaccine Committee. We have extensively reviewed the data. All vaccines are extremely effective and extremely safe.

Harry Wander, MD, CSHA President

## Treasurer's Corner

Opening fiscal-year cash balance at 4/1/2020 was \$4,440. Projected FY2020 annual deposits (memberships, donations, Lost Mine Lake rentals, and vendor advertising) total \$22,500. Projected annual expenses (primarily Lost Mine Lake maintenance and improvements, insurance, and utilities) total \$22,200. Ending FY2020 cash balance is projected at \$4,700.

Looking forward to FY2021, we anticipate annual deposits of \$20,900 and annual expenditures of \$18,400, with ending FY2021 cash balance of \$7,200. If we stay on-track with our spending plan, we hope to do additional updates at Lost Mine Lake, including refreshing the memorial garden and removing a tree.

Cheryl Lester, CSHA Treasurer

# Cascade Shores Firewise Committee

Hello Neighbors, my name is Anne Merdinger and I am writing to you as a representative of the Cascade Shores Firewise Committee. First, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge three people who started this program in conjunction with the Fire Safe Council: Kent Rees, Joan Hardy and Jan Guevel. After 8 years of dedicated service to the cause of making and maintaining Cascade Shores a certified "Firewise Community" they have retired from their leadership roles, although their experience and advice is still most welcome. Kent, Joan and Jan deserve our great appreciation and heartfelt thanks. At the end of my letter you will find a list of projects and on-going work that they initiated and that we strive to continue.

There are five topics I would like to briefly consider in this space: house hardening, defensible space, advisory visits, evacuation plans, and community involvement.

**House Hardening** This refers to the actions we can take to reduce the chance of ignition from direct flame, a fire storm of embers or radiant heat. It applies to all structures on your property. A few examples are maintaining gutters and roofs free from debris such as leaves, twigs and moss, and covering all vents with mesh screens. If you haven't undertaken this work yet, now is a great time to start.

**Defensible Space** Since January 2005, 100 feet of defensible space around each house is the law, PRC 4291. Most people are aware by now of the critical importance of maintaining a cleaned-up area around their homes, but many are not clear about what that entails. One thing it does NOT mean is that homeowners are required to clear cut that space! Over the past several years I have seen many of my neighbors work diligently to improve their lots in terms of fire protection. It takes a great amount of effort, or money, or both. Add to that the tree-cutting work PG&E has been doing, and I expect we have all seen some dramatic changes in our community. For some, that can be alarming. Many of us moved here because we love the trees and the beauty of living in a forested area. However, it is also a fact that our forest is not as healthy as it should be and that it is overgrown. Finding a balance between safety, beauty and forest health is a goal we should be united in striving for. We will only achieve that goal through education and working together.

**Advisory Visits** One of the services the Cascade Shores Firewise committee offers is free advisory visits to individual properties. There is a lot of information out there for homeowners to read concerning making their

property safer, but it can be helpful to have someone with a trained eye and experience look things over, answer questions and help get you on the right track. If the work seems overwhelming, they can help you prioritize. They may also be able to help you connect to services to assist you in getting the work done.

**Evacuation Plans** The most important issue for many is evacuation. How will we get out? As of today, there are only two well-paved roads out of Cascade Shores: Pasquale and Quaker Hill. The road across the dam is gated in more than one location, and as of now there is no fool-proof strategy in place to ensure the gates are opened in case of fire. Another option, the dirt road at the end of Banner Quaker Hill Rd., just past the last Summit Ridge Drive turn off, is neither safe nor suitable for all vehicles. The fact is, we are vulnerable and need to explore every possible solution. Here are some of the suggestions I have heard:

- Through the use of technology, connect the gates to a downtown office (NID?) so that they can be opened remotely in case of fire.
- Grade and make usable the road that connects Banner Quaker Hill Rd. to Highway 20. (Expense?)
- There exist some properties past Lost Mine Lake that are not very far from connecting to roads on the other side of Cascade Shores, leading ultimately to Highway 174. Would it be possible for the short distance to be developed as an emergency road? That would depend on property owners' willingness to allow it.

As you can see, there are no easy answers. The committee is seeking community members who have connections to NID or state leaders who may be able to assist us with grants. Also, if you are, or know, a property owner with access to a potential alternate evacuation route, we need your input.

**Community Involvement** For each of the previous topics, there is an abundance of information, but also ongoing challenges. Fire safety is something that concerns us all in our tightly-connected community, and no one person, or even one committee, has all the answers. If you are not on the mailing list, if you have suggestions, or if you are interested in joining the committee, please contact me at [annemerdinger@gmail.com](mailto:annemerdinger@gmail.com) If you would like a trained advisor to look over your property, contact me, or you can call the Fire Safe Council directly at 530-272-1122 You can also contact me if you are new to the area and would like a Welcome Packet.

*Continued on page 4*

[www.cascadeshores.org](http://www.cascadeshores.org)

# Your Hard Work Needs to be Counted PLEASE HELP!

Our Firewise Community must renew its standing each year in order to be re-certified.

Information programs, community meetings, and our advocacy efforts need to be documented for our application. However, an important part is the work that is being done on each property to improve fire safety, something that only the residents can claim. **We need your help to document what you have been doing so that we can complete our firewise renewal.**

**We are simply asking for a rough estimate of your time and money spent.**

Please take a few minutes to copy and complete this form and mail to:

Cascade Shores Fire Wise Committee  
16528 Pasquale Road, Nevada City, CA 95959  
or e-mail this information to [CSHAFirewiseCmte@gmail.com](mailto:CSHAFirewiseCmte@gmail.com)

Tell us of your efforts for the time period of your own choosing:

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
(month) (year) (month) (year)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>Hours spent cleaning your property:</b> Dry debris, limbing trees, felling dangerous trees, burning, hauling, trimming, chipping, etc.</p>	
<p><b>\$ spent cleaning your property including:</b> Purchase of equipment, gasoline/other supplies, dump fees professional help, etc.</p>	
<p><b>\$ spent hardening or retrofitting your property to make it more fire resistant including:</b> Enclosed gutters, hardscaping, safer roof, vents, screening, replacement windows/skylights, fire resistant siding, safer decks/rails, etc.</p>	
<p><b>Miles driven to complete any activity above</b></p>	

*Firewise Committee article continued from page 2*

Although there is no way to make Cascade Shores absolutely fire proof, if we work together we can ensure that we have done the best we can to make it safer to live here and enjoy our beautiful surroundings.

For more detailed information, go on line to Fire Safe Council of Nevada County at [www.areyoufiresafe.com](http://www.areyoufiresafe.com)

**Last thoughts:** Every year we need to fulfill certain requirements to keep our standing as a Firewise Community. One of those is a documented account of hours and money invested in improving fire safety. Every minute and dollar you expend in that goal counts! A form is attached to this newsletter (*page 3*) that you can use to help us meet that requirement. Thanks!

**Cascade Shores Firewise Committee activities:**

- Put up seasonal fire safety signs throughout our community.
- Write fire safety articles for our local newsletter.
- “30-day clean-up notice” to motivate owners.
- Annual “education days” to inform the public.
- Host guest speakers on education days and at HOA events.
- Distribute “welcome packets” with safety information to new residents.
- Organize Scotch Broom pulls in affected neighborhoods.
- Host mock fire emergency training drills with follow-up with letters to our most vulnerable residents.
- Canvas neighborhoods for “dirty” properties, getting to know residents and their concerns.
- Conduct “Defensible Space Advisory Visits.”
- Publish and distribute a Cascade Shores Evacuation Guide.
- Set annual goals reflecting the priorities outlined in our Hazard Report.
- Share our experiences with other Firewise Communities within the Coalition of Firewise Communities.
- Coordinate a fuel reductions program with NID
- Develop a plan to provide emergency access over the dam.
- Maintain an information “red box” at the Cascade Shores General Store.

Anne Merdinger  
Cascade Shores Firewise Committee

# Lost Mine Lake Spring 2021

This year we will be installing another shed at Lost Mine Lake. This will be completed in the spring and will allow for better organization of our supplies.

Other projects include new fencing around the memorial garden, painting and a general clean-up of the grounds.

We have removed the cottonwood tree next to the fencing because it was becoming a safety hazard.

Other activities include regular mowing, trimming, lake maintenance and trash clean-up.

It has been a busy winter for Andrew Guevel and myself. We have had to deal with the kitchen being burglarized and the constant problem of trash dumping. We have reinforced the security of the buildings. We actually had a local resident cut the locks twice on the dumpster. We did identify the individual, who did make partial restitution. Illegal dumping continues to be a problem and is a low priority with the Sheriff. It is costly and a waste of our time. If you see something, please report it.

Lost Mine lake has provided a quiet and safe place for our members to have to themselves during this strange time. Seeing our members enjoying themselves makes all of the work required to maintain Lost Mine Lake worthwhile.

Doug Gloff, CSHA Vice President  
and Lost Mine Lake Supervisor

## Community Yard Sale

This year we returned to a past version of the community yard sale that allows sellers to hold the sale at their own home. We printed maps showing the participating homes and placed them out in front of the firehouse for shoppers to pick up and it was a huge success. Shoppers were also able to download the map to their devices through social media sites. The more households on the map, the more compelling the advertising and this year twelve families participated in the sale and the feed back from shoppers and sellers alike was very positive.

We would love to make this fall's event an even bigger success. The sale will be on Saturday, September 4, on Labor Day weekend, so you have all spring and summer to plan ahead. We will still take care of all of the advertising, social media, signage and preparation of the maps. If you have any comments or suggestions please e-mail us at [cshayardsale@yahoo.com](mailto:cshayardsale@yahoo.com).

# Home Monitoring Service

The home monitoring services monitor checks on homes weekly to make sure that doors and windows are secure and everything looks OK. Typically, walking around the entire house and onto decks to make sure there isn't anything out of the ordinary for vacation monitoring or unoccupied home monitoring. When something is noticed the home owner is contacted immediately. If necessary, law enforcement will be contacted. A few of the issues found are open doors and garage doors, trash from bears strewn around, and storm damage with trees and lines down. Luckily, there have not been any issues with trespassers or vandalism.

We highly encourage anyone who is not a permanent resident to sign up for the home monitoring service or at the very least, to join the association. A while back, for example, a resident who is not an association member sustained serious tree damage to his house and left his garage door open for weeks. Neighbors or the homeowners' association did not have his contact information so both issues went un-addressed for quite some time. Another resident went on vacation and within a few days of leaving, a water pipe broke at the back of the house. The home monitor noticed the leak and immediately arranged to have it fixed. There's no telling what would have happened over the course of their vacation. A huge water bill and possible damage to the house immediately come to mind.

Please remember that the home monitoring service is not law enforcement. If you have issues or concerns like people stealing mail out of our mailboxes, off-road vehicles being driven on our residential streets, offensive noise levels from unruly neighbors, alarms going off at unoccupied homes, suspicious activity occurring at a neighboring house, dogs not on leashes, or excessive speeding on our streets, please contact the appropriate Nevada County authorities. They have the legal authority to respond and act. Their phone numbers are:

## Law enforcement

Nevada County Sheriff's Office: 530/265-1471

## Animal Control

Nevada County Animal Control: 530/273-2179

If you are interested in the home monitoring service, check out the CSHA website: [www.cascadeshores.org](http://www.cascadeshores.org) and click on the Home Monitoring Services link on the left side of the screen. The "Authorization for Home [www.cascadeshores.org](http://www.cascadeshores.org)

Monitoring Services" form is located there. Enhanced Membership is an affordable \$200 a year, which includes a weekly inspection of your home (April 1 to March 31). Here is a quick summary of what CSHA home monitoring service provides for "Enhanced Membership":

### Weekend/Vacation home owners:

A weekly inspection of your vacation/weekend home and timely contact if something is amiss.

### Permanent resident home owners:

Twice-weekly inspection of your permanent residence while you are on vacation, if requested. A weekly drive by inspection of your permanent residence.

## Summer Events in Cascade Shores

### Lost Mine Lake Clean-up Day Saturday, May 8 • 9 am

Taking care of our Lost Mine Lake property is all done by volunteers and your help in getting it ready for summer fun is appreciated.

Please bring garden tools if you can: rakes, shovels, weed eaters, etc., and don't forget your gloves, a hat and sunscreen.

Refreshments will be served.

Call Doug at 530-470-8643 with any questions.

### Thursday Night BBQ's at Lost Mine Lake June 24 / July 8, 22 / August 5, 19 • 6pm

The coals will be ready and the utensils, plates, cups, napkins and condiments will be provided.

Lost Mine Lake looks great, come check it out and meet the CSHA board members and your neighbors.

Bring something to grill for yourself  
*and a little something to share.*

### Community Yard Sale at Your House September 4 • 8 am-2 pm

Again this year we will create a map of participating homes and we'll take care of all the advertising. Couldn't be easier! E-mail [cshayardsale@yahoo.com](mailto:cshayardsale@yahoo.com) to add your house to the map.

Everyone in Cascade Shores is welcome to join the event. You'll have all spring and summer to get sorting!

### Lost Mine Lake is available for rent.

Go to the CSHA Website, [www.cascadeshores.org](http://www.cascadeshores.org), and click on the Lost Mine Lake link for more information and availability.

# Join CSHA!

## Your \$125 Annual Membership Includes:

- **Dues are voluntary and affordable.**  
*As a CSHA member, you will be part of a community that values safety, quality of life, negotiated low cost propane prices and access and use of the Lost Mine Lake property. The collaboration of the Firewise Committee and the CSHA Board acts in the best interest of the members and whose goal is to provide essential public information updates and announcements.*
- **A strong, collective voice heard with county officials.**  
*Representation at City, County and State venues, and as a conduit to express wishes and grievances of local importance.*
- **Full use of our private Lost Mine Lake**
- **Rental Discount of Lost Mine Lake Pavilion for your private events.**
- **Summer events that include:**  
Several Thursday Nights in June-August BBQs  
*The coals will be ready and the utensils, plates, cups, napkins and condiments will be provided. Bring something to grill for yourself and a little something to share.*  
**Everyone is welcome!**  
Community Yard Sale at your home  
*Every September. We do the advertising for you.*  
**Everyone is welcome!**
- **About 40-50% discount on propane**  
*The discount varies depending on membership and season.*
- **Informative website:** [www.cascadeshores.org](http://www.cascadeshores.org)
- **Members only Facebook page**
- **Community newsletter**
- **Help with code enforcement, fire safety and defensible space**
- **Private home monitoring patrol with “Enhanced Membership”**
- **CSHA membership in the Fire Safe Council offers a chipping consultant to homeowners and scheduled service to chip piles.**

Your dues entitle you to a discount on propane from Suburban Propane. Your dues in turn provide for the improvement and maintenance of the Lost Mine Lake

facilities and to fund the many activities that are available to all residents of Cascade Shores.

## Propane

Cascade Shores Homeowners’ Association has preferred vendor pricing from Suburban Propane. Effective 4/1/2021, the pricing and the offerings from Suburban were refreshed as shown below:

- New competitive pricing (set at fixed margin of \$1.10 above Suburban’s variable cost)
- First fill rate for new accounts = \$2.07 per gallon (will be periodically updated)
- Same discounted pricing offered for automatic delivery and will-call.
- Annual tank rental fees for newly established accounts waived for two years (total savings of \$130.00)  
Subsequent rental fees = \$65.00 per year.
- Reliable 7-10-day delivery window on will-call orders.
- Continued low delivery fees.
- Referral program offers 35 free gallons for each referral (no cap).
- Portable tanks and RVs filled at Suburban’s Grass Valley location (12575 Charles Drive, Grass Valley) at the same discounted prices.
- 24/7 Emergency service.

During the last twelve months (April 2020-March 2021), average member propane pricing of \$2.88 was \$2.00 less than non-member pricing of \$4.88 (a savings of 41%). The new competitive pricing will provide members an even bigger discount and the new offerings will make it easier to select Suburban as your propane vendor.

If you are a member of CSHA, but not a Suburban customer, call them at (530) 273-6113 to change over. They will come to your home, transfer any remaining propane in your existing tank to the Suburban tank, and set aside your old tank so that your old supplier can pick it up.

If you are not a member of CSHA and would like to join to receive the propane discount, just fill out the enclosed application and mail in your check to the address shown on the application. You will then receive a membership card and your name will be submitted to Suburban. Note that you must be a current member to receive a discount.

[www.cascadeshores.org](http://www.cascadeshores.org)

# Service Provider List

## Randall's Computer Service

Expert repairs and service for Desktop, Laptop, iPhone, Android Phone, and Tablets.

Also service/installation and repairs of Home Audio/Video systems and many other electronic devices.

Tutoring and House Calls available.

Local Cascade Shores Resident.

10% discount for Locals

**530-478-9033**

## Michael's Personalized Tree Service

Certified Arborist WE7065A

Defensible Space Contractor

SCL#723619

10% off any job for members of CSHA

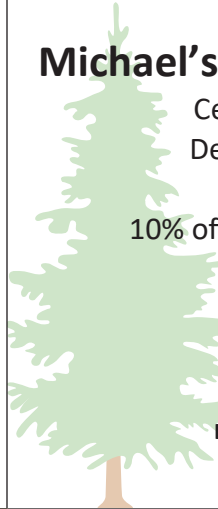
Senior Discounts

Michael Cotton, Owner

**530-265-5724 (office)**

**530-559-2408 (cell)**

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



## Irving's Gardens

Garden Design and Consultation

"Turning your yard into a garden"

[kathyandhutch@gmail.com](mailto:kathyandhutch@gmail.com)

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

*"Utilizing gardens to address our social challenges."*



**Become a Member Today!**

## AirMedCare NETWORK Membership

Phone Enrollment: Sonja Conklin,  
Membership Manager **530-648-6455**

Online Enrollment: [www.AMCNRep.com/Sonja-Conklin](http://www.AMCNRep.com/Sonja-Conklin)  
Enter Discount Code 14530-CA-BUS & Track Code 13818

Membership reciprocal partners in 38 US states,  
320+ base locations, including local providers  
CALSTAR & REACH Air Medical Services.

Call with questions, phone enrollment and more  
information on popular FlyUHome Membership which  
covers 48 contiguous states, hospital to hospital for  
recuperation transport, covers ground and air medical  
transport, 24/7 medical services hotline and even  
transport of mortal remains.

## Harry J. Wander, MD, FAAP

Sutter Medical Foundation

Yuba City

Sr. Aviation Medical Examiner

(All classes of FAA medical exams)

Basic Medical Exams

**530-749-3530**

**Fax 530-749-3439**

## Advertise with CSHA

To list your business on [CascadeShores.org](http://CascadeShores.org) and in print in the Cascade Shores newsletter (twice a year),  
contact **Cheryl Lester** at **408-656-9382** or email at [clester4300@aol.com](mailto:clester4300@aol.com).

Member price is \$25 per year; non-member price is \$30 per year.

Paid Advertisements



16528 Pasquale Road, Nevada City, CA 95959

# Cascade Shores Homeowners' Association

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

## Current CSHA Board Members 2021-22

<b>President:</b> Roads	<b>Harry Wander</b>	hjwander@comcast.net	530-264-7359
<b>Vice President:</b> Lost Mine Lake Supervisor	<b>Doug Gloff</b>	dgloff12@hotmail.com	530-470-8643
<b>Treasurer:</b> Membership, Propane	<b>Cheryl Lester</b>	clester4300@aol.com	408-656-9382
<b>Secretary:</b> Newsletter, Website Liaison, Lost Mine Lake Rental Contact, Facebook	<b>Leslie Grassi</b>	lesgrassi@yahoo.com	530-478-0386
<b>Home Monitoring Service:</b>	<b>Cheryl Lester</b>	clester4300@aol.com	408-656-9382
<b>Board Member:</b> Lost Mine Lake Assistant	<b>Andrew Guevel</b>	akguevel@comcast.net	530-264-5020

Association members are welcome to attend CSHA Board Meetings. Members who wish to present issues to the board shall so advise the President 3 days prior to the meeting. Participation by CSHA Members in board discussions is welcomed. Come meet your neighbors and help us make Cascade Shores a welcoming place to live.



The Cascade Shores Homeowners' Association has been in existence for over 50 years. Without a dedicated and committed board, very little can be accomplished each year. If you have been thinking about serving on the Board of Directors to help improve Cascade Shores, **NOW IS THE TIME!**

We're looking for additional CSHA members to join the board beginning April 2021. Please consider joining the board to help us make Cascade Shores the best it can be. If you are interested in serving or have any questions, please call or e-mail any board member, better yet come to any Board meeting the 1st Wednesday of the month