

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners Association Spring/Summer Meeting June 25, 2011

Our association met at 11:30 a.m. at Nile Valley Community Church for a potluck/meeting. Sixty (60) members attended the meeting.

Dave Leinweber, who was subbing for President Mike Berriochoia opened the meeting at 11:45 welcoming members. He introduced Chris Carlile, pastor of the Nile Valley Community Church, who spoke briefly and blessed our food and meeting. This is a great facility and we thank the church for allowing us to use their church. They also provided a church member to assist in the kitchen for set-up and clean-up.

Dave asked members for a moment of silence for absent friends and family members. Time to eat—again what a great spread of food for all members to enjoy. I heard several times that this is the best potluck to attend. Thank you to our members for your participation. Also, thanks to Patty Leinweber and Ginny Lundeen who assisted getting things ready for the potluck.

Speakers: Dave introduced Kelsey Collins from the Washington State Department of Ecology who updated the group on the water bank status. Kelsey stated that ecology bought water which has been placed in a trust for future use. They are in the process of selling the rights to groups of “junior water rights holder” so that they will not be turned off in times of drought. This year there probably won’t be a water shortage. They also are taking the proceeds from the sale of this water and using it to buy more water for the bank, which in some year in the future would include folks other than Junior water rights holders. Kelsey left a list for members to sign with their e-mail addresses so she can keep members updated on mitigation water. If you failed to sign the list you can contact Kelsey at kesi461@ecy.wa.gov.

The next speaker was Jacquie Beidl from the Naches Ranger District. Jackie replaced Mike Rowan and we welcome her to our group. The ranger station will have a new webpage beginning June 27th. This site should be easier to use and has all of the forms needed for our use. She reminded cabin owners that the “Recreation Resident Self-Inspection Report” is due July 1st. Dave reminded everyone that the form is available on the CPCOA.COM website.

All members should have received their appraisals. The 60 day period is up for members to inform the Ranger District that they wish to reserve the right to seek a 2nd appraisal.

Jackie reported there has been much damage to roads from the recent flooding especially from the creeks flowing into the Naches River. At this time many roads are closed to all traffic and use (see the Naches Ranger District's website for the road closure list) and will be closed until further notice. Plans for road repairs are underway but since the budget is "tight" it may be awhile before work is completed.

Cabin owners were reminded that our Special Use Permits require cabin owners to be responsible for any road repairs or driveways by their cabins.

Plans are underway to begin the Bumping Lake salvage sale of timber. The forest area beyond Bumping Lake Resort was badly hit and several trees are down. This sale will help cabin owners clean up the area around their cabins.

Brian White's, WSDOT's State Regional Administrator for Design and Construction for the South Central Region, presentation was very interesting and informative. His slide presentation of the Nile Valley Landslide was excellent. Brian showed us the plans for relocating Highway 410 through the slide area. Construction should begin the spring of 2012 and completed the fall of 2012.

Ted Filer, from the Rimrock Cabin Association and National Forest Home Owners Association board member spoke. He updated members on the CFA (Cabin Fee Act). A lot of time has been spent writing this bill. At this time the bill currently has "bi-partisan support." Rep; Doc. Hastings, from the 16th District, will present this bill to the house in the near future. Ted shared that all local, state and national level members have been dealing with issues regarding our cabins. He invited us to become actively involved to support their efforts.

The appraisals are completed and have been sent to all cabin owners. The Rimrock Association is seeking a 2nd appraisal for all their tracts and the group is working out the plans for this to happen. CPCOA members who are planning on obtaining a 2nd appraisal were encouraged to contact Ted Filer at

tfiler81@aol.com to see if they can save time and money by joining in the efforts of the Rimrock Cabin Association. Ted reminded us that 2nd time appraisers need to follow forest regulations when appraising such tracts and the Forestry doesn't have to accept these appraisals.

Ted invited members to attend the upcoming NFH FORUM to be held September 17, 2011 at the Red Lion River Inn in Spokane. These regional forums provide a wealth of information for cabin owners on the future of the Recreation Resident Program.

Carl Buchholz discussed the "Community" Wildfire Protection Plan. Most of our cabins are not covered for fire protection. Indian Flats Tract has contracted the Nile Cliffdell Fire District #14 to cover their area by paying a fire tax to the county. For this to occur, everyone in their tract had to agree to pay for this protection. We are planning to have a speaker at our fall meeting to speak on this issue and share more information with us.

Carl also shared that the Northern Yakima Conservation District owns and operates a wood chipper. Cabin owners can arrange to have this group come and chip any wood debris collected around their cabins. For further information call 509-406-4985. This grant concludes at the end of 2011.

Field Trip: Kelsey Collins and David Huycke will lead a geology field trip. If you have any suggestions on a topic or area that cabin owners would be interested in including in a field trip please contact Kelsey, David or Carl at buchcs@aol.com.

Labor Day Weekend on Saturday, September 3rd at 1:00 p.m. Carl Buchholz will lead a Bull Trout Spawning Field Trip at Union Creek. Interested members can meet at Union Creek Cabin Tract, cabin #4 to participate. Carl has asked that no animals be brought to the field trip and children should be warned that no rock throwing or skipping will be allowed to protect the fish at this time. You will view the spawning from top of the creek bank.

Dave Leinweber asked if members would be willing to become involved in volunteer projects for the forestry. Many members raised their hands to agree to volunteer. We will keep in contact with the ranger district for possible projects.

Dave also shared with the group that the Washington Trail Association will be doing maintenance on Trail 999, Pleasant Valley in late July. There are a few volunteer spots available so please contact them if you are interested in volunteering.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Lundeen reported our association's treasurer balance is \$3797.85. We have 36 members as of today. He reminded members that dues are \$50.00 of which \$35.00 goes to National. Members are asked not to pay dues directly to National as Jim pays these and to disregard any billing you may receive from National asking for payment.

Before eating, Dave shared a proposal from the board to amend our By-Laws by adding 2 Members- at- Large to have more cabin owners' representation on the board. On each table there were copies of the amendment for members to read. Winona Rombough made a motion to accept the amendment as written with a 2nd from Ralph Berthon. The motion passed.

At our fall meeting, nominations are open for President (Mike Berriochoa has opted not to run again) and for 2nd Vice President along with the 2-At Large Board members. If you are interested please contact one of the board members.

Dave announced we are seeking a webmaster for our webpage. He explained this is not time consuming but someone with e-commerce experience would be beneficial. Contact Dave Leinweber if you are interested at dave_leinweber@hotmail.com

Drawing: Dave and Jim held the door prize drawing. Thanks to Whistlin' Jacks and Gold Run Restaurant for the \$25.00 gift certificates. We gave away 15 scratch tickets and the book, *We Never Got Away* which is a traveling door prize. The winner was Dave Hoffert from the Crag Tract. We ask that it be returned at our next meeting to be given to another person to read and enjoy.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Maureen Bell

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