

# CVPA NEWS

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## **A word from incoming president, Chuck McCollough**

**W**ell, here I am back where I started. This time I've got a tough act to follow after the outstanding three years Jo Anne Huckins has served us so ably. One of her shining accomplishments was a major role in the defeat of the proposal to put a facility for 1500 Sexually Violent Predators in Cummings Valley. With her fearless and tireless approach to the issues she kept CVPA in the forefront of any considerations that could affect our members. Fortunately, she is staying on the board as Vice President, so her skills will still be very available.

Also let's welcome new Board members Priscilla Mester as Treasurer and Gail Bennett as Corresponding Secretary. And thanks to Irene Gunshinan for taking another year as Recording Secretary. We also thank outgoing Treasurer, Al Sanbrano, for his three years of able service and outgoing Corresponding Secretaries, Ben and Laurie Rude who alternated in this position almost from the beginning of CVPA.

We can't predict what issues we may face in the coming year, but we do know we must increase our membership to levels that get peoples' attention. We currently have 373 members on our roster, but 183 of them have not paid their dues so far this year. I will push for a campaign to encourage members in arrears to renew, and a campaign to recruit new members to replace the many we have lost by attrition. The goal is to return to our previous level of over 500 members.

CVPA's mission continues to be to support the Kern County Zoning Ordinance in ways that preserve farming and the rural beauty and quality of life in Cummings and Brite Valleys. Preservation of these irreplaceable agricultural and scenic resources is also of benefit to surrounding communities and the area as a whole.

## **COUNTY REDISTRICTING**

**C**CVPA's President, Vice President, Treasurer and a number of members joined a large crowd at the redistricting workshop in Tehachapi July 16. We were in accord with almost everyone there that the current districts 1 and 2 representing East Kern should be maintained rather than combining all the vast mountain and desert area into one unmanageable district as proposed by State Assemblyman, Dean Florez. We followed up with a letter to the Board of Supervisors expressing this position and the reasons therefore. Those reasons are that we have better representation by a supervisor covering less area and thus more familiar with local issues, and that two supervisors representing East Kern may be more effective in preserving the two military bases, China Lake and Edwards AFB which are important to the local economy.

# CVPA BARBEQUE SET FOR SEPTEMBER 22

**O**ur big annual event, the September barbeque, will start at 4:00 PM at the beautiful Souza Ranch in Cummings Valley. The menu will again be barbecued tri-tip and chicken breasts with beans, rolls, salads and dessert. Beer, wine, ice tea and lemonade will be provided, or you may bring your favorite beverage. Cost will be \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members.

There will be music by Betty and J.J. and a white elephant raffle. So, everybody, bring all those white elephants you've got hanging around being useless! And bring a friend to enjoy the event and get acquainted with CVPA.

Please call Laurie Rude at 821-1904 to let her know you are coming so she can plan how much to buy.

## Meeting Schedule

**W**e are in the process of setting up programs for the five meetings for the current year. The first meeting will be on September 6 at 7:30 PM at the Cummings Valley School. We are looking forward to an outstanding presentation by Janice Hagen Armstrong on the history of soaring. With Tehachapi being considered the Soaring Capital of the World, the slide illustrated talk should be of special interest. Janice will also tell us about the World Soaring Event to be held here in 2002.

### MTBE

**I**n response to our letter to the Regional Water Quality Control Board requesting a copy of the remediation plan for the MTBE leak at CCI we received a phone call to inform us that the official reports of October and April were in error, and that as yet a remediation plan has not been written. There are plans to drill a couple more monitoring wells in the next few months to better evaluate the extent of the leak. We will continue to monitor this matter.

### Trash Pickup

Our next trash pickup along roads in Cummings Valley is scheduled for October 13. You will be hearing more about this before the date.

### Wind Turbines

**S**uperior Sod has recently installed a wind machine at their beautiful new office on Pellisier Road. It is a small 10 KW generator which is in compliance with County Ordinance requirements limiting wind turbine generation

of electricity to on site use.. We believe the intent of the law limiting wind generator size to 15 KW in certain zones such as Estate Residential is not to limit how much electricity a person can have (since it is wind generated, why would it matter?) but to limit the size of the equipment and its visual impact on the area.

In regard to the commercial size 65 KW wind turbine components currently stored at the foot of "Hang Glider Hill" CVPA sent a letter to the County Planning Department restating that we would oppose a conditional use permit for installing even one of these big machines. A copy was sent to the property owner. A concern in addition to the sheer size of the machines is the impact on the terrain if installed on the steep rock slope. Free standing tubular towers like these require massive concrete foundations which would necessitate a large and deep excavation resulting in a very large scar on the hillside. In addition a considerable work space would probably need to be cut into the hillside for the large crane required for erecting the tower and installing the big turbine. Another

major concern is that if one conditional use permit were allowed, it would set a precedent for others to put up big machines in Cummings Valley.

We realize that a large wind turbine can be modified to limit output to 15 KW, but believe such a move should be looked at as a ploy to try to circumvent the intent of the County Ordinance..

## **SAFE 1 Credit Union**

We understand that because of CVPA's membership in this credit union any of our members is also allowed to join. If this is of interest, take your CVPA membership card with you when you apply. If you experience any problems, please let our treasurer, Priscilla Mester know at 822-6159.

## **Biennial Bus Tour a Huge Success**

This year's Historical and Local Color bus tour got rave reviews from a number of those who went. The first stop was at Jack and Elaine Palance's Hollybrook Ranch and was a real treat for everyone. Jack played the gracious host and Elaine surpassed herself as tour guide and ranch historian. We were privileged to be allowed in the old adobe house and be toured through the barn with the vintage luxury automobiles and Jack's art studio with hundreds of his paintings and other works of art.

Thanks, Jack and Elaine, for your wonderful hospitality!

At our second stop we were able to poke around the little old out buildings that are all that is left of the old Banducci Ranch which was an important stop-over below the grade to Alpine Forest Park for travelers passing through the valley. We were fascinated listening to Jon Hammond's accounts of the important early grain farming operations in Cummings Valley as we viewed an amazing old harvesting machine. This stop was do thanks to cattle rancher, Neal Losey.

After viewing historic landmarks in Brite Valley we made the last stop at the Souza Ranch where we were greeted by Bob and Patty dressed as Elijah Stowell and Chloe Brite Stowell, the original owners. In their usual gracious manner they gave tours through the 1888 home which they have beautifully restored, and served cookies and lemonade in the rose garden. Thanks, Bob and Patty for your hospitality!

Thanks are also due those who organized and implemented the tour, especially Laurie Rude who in her competent way hired the bus, took the reservations and made sure it all worked. Thanks, also, to Jon Hammond and Chuck McCollough who co-narrated the two tours.

## **Membership**

If you haven't renewed your membership for the July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002 year, please take a moment now to do so. If you are not sure, check the year on the address label on this newsletter. A date of 2002 or beyond means you have paid, and we thank you.

By sending your renewal now you can save us the time and expense of "friendly reminder" phone calls or special mailings. Please consider a multiyear renewal to reduce our expenses even more.

We need your membership to help preserve the special qualities of the area which in turn maintain desirability and property values.

# Cummings Valley Protective Association Membership Application - - July 1 through June 30

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
(If not same as local)

Check Appropriate Area

<input type="checkbox"/> Alpine Forest Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Country Oaks	<input type="checkbox"/> Hidden Oaks	<input type="checkbox"/> Sand Canyon	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Bear Valley Springs	<input type="checkbox"/> Cummings Valley	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian Hills	<input type="checkbox"/> Stallion Springs	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brite Valley	<input type="checkbox"/> Golden Hills	<input type="checkbox"/> Old Town	<input type="checkbox"/> Tehachapi	

e-mail addr: \_\_\_\_\_

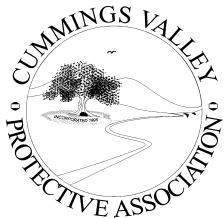
Dues are \$12 per Family per year

**Mail to: Cummings Valley Protective Association  
17851 Tejon Drive  
Tehachapi, CA 93561**

\$12  One Year    \$24  Two Years    \$36  Three Years

Because CVPA is a tax exempt California nonprofit public benefit corporation, your contributions may be tax deductible.

Thank you for your support!



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