

Membership

CVPA is growing up and needs to grow! Our organization continues to face new, more complex and far reaching challenges which demand commitment and greater than ever, reliance on a strong membership. The life's blood of CVPA has been and continues to be a strong and viable membership of people just like you who are committed to protecting our beautiful Cummings and Brite Valleys from sprawl and unbridled development. We need your help and support to meet the ever-increasing pressures from developers. Your membership is critical to CVPA's success! In today's world, where can you find such a bargain for just \$12 per year?

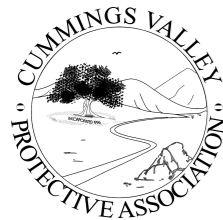
Do you:

Agree that Cummings and Brite Valleys are beautiful rural settings which should stay that way?
Believe that current zoning, permitting 20-acre estates in most areas of both valleys with limited areas allowing smaller residential parcels, represents the maximum acceptable density?
Agree that large billboards and oversized signs do not belong in Cummings and Brite Valleys.
Enjoy informative programs dealing with history, geology, flora and fauna as well as other topics related to the area.

Even if you don't have time to participate, the CVPA will represent your views. There is strength in numbers and we need your support! Please join us.

👉 Warning! 👈

Won't you visit cvpainc.org? We could use input from our members about what they would like to have on the website to make it viable, pertinent and interesting. Email us at cvpa@isp.com with comments.



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CVPA NEWS

Published Quarterly by Cummings Valley Protective Association, Inc., a Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Serving the Community Since 1990

P.O. Box 1020, Tehachapi, CA 93581 (661)822-3478, Internet: cvpainc.org No 59; March, 2006

WOW! WATER IN CALIFORNIA IS AS GOOD AS GOLD. COME HEAR ABOUT OUR LOCAL WATER RESOURCES FROM THE EXPERT!

CVPA is pleased to announce that Mr. Bob Jasper, the General Manager of the Tehachapi Cummings County Water District, will be the featured speaker at our next general meeting, to be held on Thursday, April 6th at 7:30PM at the Stallion Springs Community Services District office, 28500 Stallion Springs Drive.

Bob Jasper is THE water expert in the Tehachapi area. He has been with the Water District since its founding in the 1960s. He is retiring October 1st, 2006. We've asked him to talk about the history of the District, how the water system works, the future of water availability in the area, and pollution risks. Much of our water in the area is "adjudicated", and we look forward to also hearing his comments on just how secure that adjudication is related to future water availability, particularly if there is a water emergency or shortage or disaster affecting water supply.

So, mark your calendar, grab your friends and neighbors and come gain knowledge of local water issues! You can do some preliminary learning about water in our area by checking out the Tehachapi Cummings County Water District website at: <http://www.tccwd.com>.

BUS TOUR THIS YEAR!

Because so many of our members have been disappointed by not getting on our past bus tours, we've added a tour this year! The date is Saturday, June 3, 2006. The tour will not be advertised to the general public unless the two bus runs are not filled by members and friends by May 15th.

So, sign up now!! The cost will be \$15/person. Start times are 9 AM and 12 Noon. Specify your first choice, but be prepared to switch, if necessary. The start point is the Stallion Springs Realty Office. Checks must be sent in advance, made out to "CVPA" and designated for the bus tour. Send to: CVPA, P.O. Box 1020, Tehachapi, CA 93581. Refunds will be made only if the tour is cancelled or if individual cancellations are received by May 27th.

The itinerary will be:

STOP ONE: The original Banducci Ranch, with its historic buildings. This spot served as a stopover for travelers on the old wagon road between Tehachapi and points west.

STOP TWO: Indian Hill on Indian Hill Ranch, with gorgeous views and Indian bedrock mortars.

STOP THREE: Historic marble quarry, dating from the 1870s.

There will also "drive-by visits" to the Brite Victorian house, and the Elijah Stowell Victorian house. You will be entertained along the way with commentary about the flora, fauna, geology and other items of interest.

Thanks to Laurie Rude for arranging the bus charter, and to Tonie Siedschlag for serving as reservation manager! For reservation questions, call Tonie at 822-6588, or for other tour questions, call Chuck McCollough at 822-3478.

CVPA TRASH PICKUP - COME HELP US MAKE OUR BEAUTIFUL ENVIRONMENT MORE PRISTINE.

Saturday, May 20th will be our CVPA Trash pickup morning! Tired of seeing trash as you drive along? Come help us bag that trash. We will meet at 8 AM at the new Cummings Valley School. Bags and vests will be provided - wear sun protection gear and bring a water bottle and comfortable gloves. Help out as long or as short as you can - you will be amazed how much trash you can pick up in as little as an hour or so! Lunch will be provided for anyone who wants to stay for lunch.

AG FUTURES ALLIANCE

At the February 2nd CVPA meeting, an excellent turnout of members and guests heard discussions about the proposed "Agritourism" idea. Attendees were "wow-ed" by Michael Dimock of the nonprofit Ag Innovations Network, who spoke on the concepts of an Ag Futures Alliance (AFA). An AFA brings together interested stakeholders from a large cross-section of the community to build consensus on how to integrate preservation of agriculture into the inevitable residential and commercial growth of the area. Not only does it become a vision for the area, it has strong political ramifications as well. We believe that a vision derived by a local AFA could be an integral part of the Regional Plan ("Tehachapi Community Plan") being undertaken jointly by the City of Tehachapi and the County of Kern.

Although Ag Innovations has partial grant support, it will cost \$14,000 to organize, plan, conduct and lead nine gatherings over the next 12 months. The meetings will be conducted by Mr. Dimock, who is developing AFAs in four other counties, and is expecting some nine more counties to participate in the next three years.

Based on an almost unanimous show of hands in support of CVPA pursuing the AFA approach AND a similar show of hands indicating support for funding it, your CVPA Board has approved a commitment of \$14,000 for the first-year program. As the program develops, we expect to recover some of the funding through contributions from those who recognize the benefits.

The first meeting will be April 5th at 2PM at the Golden Hills CSD board room. Invitations are being sent to a substantial list of community leaders, agriculturalists, and others who may contribute to the establishment of an AFA. Michael Dimock felt that agritourism would ultimately be tied into the AFA plan, but recommended focusing on the more broad AFA development process for now. For more information on Ag Innovations and the associated projects such as Slow Food USA, check out this website: <http://www.aginnovations.net>. See also <http://www.slowfoodusa.org>.

Other news:

We have received this message from Joan Clayburgh of the Sierra Nevada Alliance:

The new issue of Sierra Nevada Alliance Sierra News is hot off the press and fresh on the web! Short and sweet articles include:

a.. How the Sierra Nevada is Preparing for Climate Change. Learn more about impacts of climate change on the Sierra and our new climate toolkit to help Sierra communities adapt to changes already underway as well as reduce emissions to prevent catastrophic change.

b.. The Sierra Conservancy's new staff and activities in it's first days. The newest and largest state conservancy in the US is up and rolling. Hear about the new director and efforts by the Alliance to help orient the board and staff.

c.. How Ski Resorts are Not So Hot on Keeping Winter Cool: The Alliance with the Ski Area Citizen's Coalition released the 2005/2006 Scorecard on ski area environmental performance and results find less than half the ski resorts in the west have efforts to reduce emissions to combat climate change.

d.. What's Up to Stop Sprawl at the Gates of Yosemite: Read about the Alliance's support of Mariposans for the Environment and Responsible Governments effort to get a smarter county plan in place to keep the area rural.

e.. The New Faces at the Alliance: Meet Kay Ogden - Development Director, Kim Carr - board member, and Gary Adest - Advisory Board Member.

f.. Information on the Latest Guide on Watershed Restoration: a quick summary on the Alliance's latest resource - a guide to getting started on the dynamic work of restoring watersheds.

g.. Five New Member Groups Join the Alliance: This article highlights five great groups who recently joined and are all working to protect special places in the Southern Sierra.

All this and more (including why Executive Director Joan Clayburgh's New Years resolution is to increase the number of "Wolverine" in the Sierra). Just view or even download the eight page newsletter as a PDF (Adobe Acrobat PDF Format 3843kb) on the website at:

http://www.sierranevadaalliance.org/publications/db/pics/1138739519_2206.f_pdf.pdf

Cheers, Joan

Joan Clayburgh, Executive Director, Sierra Nevada Alliance

And for those not familiar with our bus tour events, we present this bit of nostalgia **from the last century**, CVPA News #19, June 1995:

Reprint of 1995 CVPA News Article

BUS TOUR OF CUMMINGS AND BRITE VALLEYS

The second biennial bus tour was a huge success. We had to run the tour three times between 9:30 AM and 6:00 PM to accommodate the 115 reservations. New attractions this year were a big hit including Jack Palance's Holly Brooke Ranch where we were hosted by his son, Cody and the Tehachapi Ostrich Ranch where our hosts were CVPA charter member Les Hansen and his family.

A perennial favorite is Bob and Patty Souza's beautifully restored 1888 Victorian home built by Elijah Stowell for his bride Chloe Brite. With their usual hospitality they let us roam through the house as well as the old guest house and bunkhouse in the barn. Lemonade and cookies were served in the rose garden.

We owe a lot of thanks to a lot of people in addition to our host ranchers. Gloria Gossard bore the brunt of the organizing and reservations and had some dedicated help from Laurie Rude with telephone confirmations and bus assignments.

Mary Farrell and Jon Hammond did a great job of narrating the history, flora and fauna and points of interest along the way. Thanks to the ladies who baked the cookies.

Thanks to Norma Adams for donation of the Sunshine Girl quilt and to Betty and Rick Schreiber and Nancy Miller for handling the raffle. The drawing was held at the end of the bus tour with the winner being Ann Sutherland, CVPA member from Stallion Springs. We made \$190 from the raffle.

The purpose of the bus tour is to increase peoples' awareness of how special Cummings and Brite Valleys are, and we do not plan it to be a fund raiser. In spite of ourselves, we netted an even \$100 after paying Knutes Express \$475 for the bus.

Thanks to everyone who took part in this event.

Cummings Valley Protective Association, Inc.

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"/> Golden Hills | <input type="checkbox"/> Oak Knolls | <input type="checkbox"/> Stallion Springs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bear Valley Springs | <input type="checkbox"/> Cummings Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> Hidden Oaks | <input type="checkbox"/> Old Town | <input type="checkbox"/> Tehachapi |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brite Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> Fairview Ranches | <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Hills | <input type="checkbox"/> Sand Canyon | <input type="checkbox"/> ? _____ |

e-mail addr: _____

Annual dues are \$12 per family.

Please check one:

- One year \$12 Two years \$24 Three years \$36

Mail with payment to:

Cummings Valley Protective Association
P.O. Box 1020
Tehachapi, CA 93581-1020