

# SPRING VALLEY NEWS

SVLPOA, 3000 Wolf Creek Road, Clearlake Oaks, CA 95423

Find us online at [svlpoa.org](http://svlpoa.org)

November 2015

## Area Activities for November

- |         |                        |   |
|---------|------------------------|---|
| 4       | Lake Recovery Meeting  | Community Center, 9:00 a.m.             |
| 4       | CERT Meeting           | Community Center, 6:00 p.m.             |
| 4       | CSA2 Meeting           | Community Center, 7:00 p.m.             |
| 8       | SVLPOA Breakfast       | Community Center,<br>8:00 to 11:00 a.m. |
| 13 & 14 | Annual Holiday Bazaar  | Community Center,<br>9:00 to 3:00 p.m.  |
| 19      | SVLPOA General Meeting | Community Center, 6:30 p.m.             |

## Spring Valley Calendar

### November 2015

4	Lake Recovery Meeting	Community Center	9:00 a.m.
4	CERT Meeting	Community Center	6:00 p.m.
4	CSA2 Meeting	Community Center	7:00 p.m.
8	SVLPOA Breakfast	Community Center	8:00 to 11:00 a.m.
13, 14	Annual Holiday Bazaar	Community Center	9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
19	SVLPOA General Meeting	Community Center	6:30 p.m.

### December 2015

2	Lake Recovery Meeting	Community Center	9:00 a.m.
2	CERT Meeting	Community Center	6:00 p.m.
2	CSA2 Meeting	Community Center	7:00 p.m.
5	Residents' Holiday Dinner	Community Center	Bar opens at 4:30 p.m. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m.
13	SVLPOA Breakfast	Community Center	8:00 to 11:00 a.m.
17	SVLPOA General Meeting	Community Center	6:30 p.m.

### Happy New Year!

### January 2016

6	Lake Recovery Meeting	Community Center	9:00 a.m.
6	CERT Meeting	Community Center	6:00 p.m.
6	CSA2 Meeting	Community Center	7:00 p.m.
10	SVLPOA Breakfast	Community Center	8:00 to 11:00 a.m.
14	SVLPOA General Meeting	Community Center	6:30 p.m.

#### Editor's Note:

Be watching the upcoming newsletters for a much-awaited Murder Mystery Dinner early in 2016! It should be lots of fun, even if you've never been part of one before. Also, Whitewolf Switzer and Nan Sea Love will be presenting information about the many uses of Mugwort, which is a native plant here!

### Breakfast

Sunday,  
November 8  
8 to 11 a.m.

#### Special: Holiday Bread!

Pancakes and Omelets  
Hash browns  
Sausages and bacon  
Biscuits and Gravy

"Service with a smile."

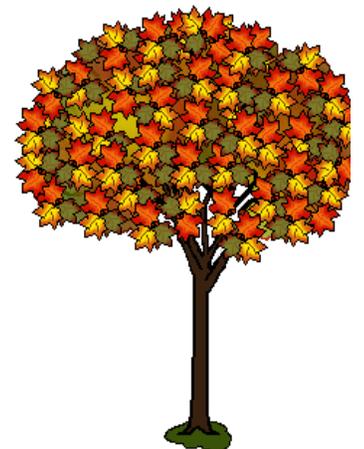
Adults \$7.00 Kids \$3.00

### Resident's Dinner

Mark your calendar for December 5th for our residents' free holiday dinner. We will have turkey, ham and all the trimmings. Residents are free but guests will pay only \$7.00. We are hoping that Santa will come by with gifts for the children. The bar will open at 4:30 pm and dinner at 6:00 pm. This is a great time to come get together with your neighbors!

#### Send Someone a Bit of Sunshine

If someone you know could use a bit of sunshine due to an illness, or whatever, please let our Sunshine Lady know. Linda Mann, 998-9464, will be happy to send some warm wishes to them.



**SVLPOA Officers**

President	Gayle Christian	998-9928
V. President	Kathy Vogan	998-3819
Secretary	Sunny Gardner	530-5497
Treasurer	Donna Barker	998-9350
Bldg. Co-or.	Jon VonSchaik	998-9781
Newsletter	Carol Butzbach	998-9107

Please submit articles for the next newsletter to [cbutzbach@ngl.net](mailto:cbutzbach@ngl.net). Deadline: December 20<sup>th</sup>!

**Campground Committee**

Campground Information	998-9194
Campground Keys	998-9376
Report Vandalism – Sheriff Dispatch	263-2690
Sheriff’s Office	262-4200

Sheriff Brian Martin’s email address:  
[brian.martin@lakecountyca.gov](mailto:brian.martin@lakecountyca.gov)  
Community Center 533-9810

**Our President’s Message**

Hello Friends and Neighbors!  
This is going to be a beautiful fall in Spring Valley. It's a good time to take advantage of the cooler weather to clear out debris and brush from around your property. It was a great October breakfast with over 100 guests. Steve Odom on the grill made some delicious blueberry pancakes. Thank you! On Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, we were busy setting up for the breakfast and John VonSchaik was making "memory stones". Please call me to do your stone and help us try to continue our walkway. We also had a huge trailer in the parking lot to take away paint cans free of charge. Too bad more people did not take advantage of it. We had representatives from the SPCA at our POA meeting and lots of people had questions. Let us know if there is someone you would like to have as a speaker at one of our monthly meetings. October 17th was our Octoberfest and everyone agreed the pork chops and scalloped potatoes were the best! This is the first time the POA was hosting the community wide yard sale. It was on October 24th. Looks like this is an event that will continue. Nicole VonSchaik and her crew are busy getting the children’s Halloween party organized.

**County Service Area (CSA) #2  
Advisory Board Members**

Chair (Water/Roads)	Jim McDole	998-9535
Chair (Lake Recovery)	Mark Currier	998-0241
Chair (Safety)	Peggy O’Day	998-2987
Chair (Finance)	Ed Smith	998-1167
Secretary	Toni Field	
Members	Helen Mitcham	
	Monte Winters	

The Advisory Board has different committees to help deal with issues in our Valley: Finance and Planning, Water, Lake Recovery, Roads, Dams and Bridges, and Community Safety.

**Our President’s Message continued**

Wow, what a busy month and a lot of volunteers to make it happen! Thank you to everyone! A special thank you to Chris Musser who keeps our building sparkling clean and puts our newsletter on the web for us. He is just one of our unsung heroes! The next POA meeting is November 19th. Please put it on your calendar. We need your input! See you then. Gayle Christian, President

**An Alternative to Flu Shots**

I use Olive Leaf Extract as it works more effectively than the flu shots with no side effects. Olive Leaf's medicinal qualities are well documented, scientifically. UpJohn Pharmaceutical studied Olive Leaf until 1996 but couldn't figure out a way to tweak the chemistry so they could patent their olive remedy. So they terminated the project after verifying olive leaf's effective as an anti-viral, anti-bacterial and anti-fungal. I'll be teaching a class on this in January. In the meantime, for those who are interested you read 'Olive Leaf Extract', Nature's Antibiotic by Dr. Walker. Health and Happiness to All, from Whitewolf Switzer

**An Important Reminder**

It is illegal to shoot a gun within our community. Presently it is also unwise to have any sort of fire outside. No camp fires are allowed in the campground at this time!  
Remember to keep the gate to the park closed and locked at all times.

### **Our Holiday Bazaar is Coming!**

We will be having our holiday bazaar on November 13th and 14<sup>th</sup>. Homemade crafts make wonderful holiday gifts. Tables are \$15.00 for both days. Hours will be 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on both days. We will be having egg & sausage muffins in the morning and chicken or loaded baked potatoes for lunch, and free coffee all day. And as always, the POA will be having a bake sale. We will need donations for that. Tables are limited so call right away to reserve your table. Gayle 998-9928

### **Update on the Valley Stray Cat Round-up**

by Linda Holt

Animal Control had to cancel our appointment at the last minute due to the increased need during the fires. Pat Knowles has made another appointment for Monday, November 2. Anyone interested in participating? If you have any questions or want to volunteer, please contact Pat at 998-9908. She has volunteered to take the stray males to County Animal Control for neutering. After their surgery, they will be returned to you. These newly neutered and now semi-feral strays make an excellent defense against pests like mice, moles, voles, and rats. All you need to do is contain them in a carrier and bring them to Pat on Sunday, November 1st. Per Animal Control rules, there can only be one cat per carrier. Pat will keep them in the carrier overnight and take them to Lakeport the next day. You will need to give her your phone number so she can let you know when they are ready to be picked up. My phone number is 998-9497 and Pat's number is 998-9908.

### **Coyotes**

by Joe G. Welz, SVCC

Being concerned with small children and pets, one of the Valley's ladies contacted our local Fish and Wildlife Warden with a complaint of too many coyotes in the area. The Warden called in a Federal Trapper who in turn met with me. Litter survival was very good this year and there are coyotes everywhere. Personally I find the dark of night a lot lonelier without the yip, bark, or howl of our native wild dogs. Coyotes do serve our community by removing rodents, rabbits, skunks, and other unwanted pests. But too many coyotes incite panic.

As far as territory goes, coyotes have a territory and keep moving to find food but if they find a consistent food source, they will stay! Do NOT feed any wildlife. It is against the LAW! That's enough about coyotes and the things humans do.

Hopefully fall rains will begin. Soon after there should be a freeze. The insects that feed on some of our trees will die or hibernate until next spring, and it is time to think about next year's fire safety. Is your home fire safe? Remember, if you have under an acre, all your brush goes to Quackenbush Mountain resource recovery and compost facility at the Clearlake landfill (995-0104). If you have over an acre, you are allowed to burn. You go to Clearlake Oaks Fire Station and get a permit. Keep your piles small! You need a hose, rake and shovel. Do not let your pile get away from you. If it does, call 9-1-1 immediately!! After a few years you will get the hang of it.

### **Looking for Information on Bees**

by Carol Butzbach

I wonder if you have seen what I have seen. I have a huge honeybee population (of at least a thousand bees), and I have no hives and no crops. The bees are swarming the hummingbird feeders and that is scaring off the hummers. To try to mitigate this, I put sweetened water in a birdbath and now that is surrounded by bees, as well. Could it be that they are just thirsty? Recently there was a news segment about a woman who invented a chip to apply to a honeybee's back so that the bee could be studied because wherever she lives, the bees are disappearing. Is it possible that they are just relocating? Do we have any honeybee experts in Spring Valley who could offer advice?

I would like to have a "Letters to the Editor" column, and this would be the perfect way to start!

### **The Poetry Corner**

from Gayle Christian, poet unknown

#### **The Dirt Ranch**

Over the hills & through the valleys of this life's wandering  
from tract homes, to this acre of dry soil,  
I've arrived at my heart's desire, "the gazebo"  
An oasis in the uncultivated desert,  
the towering structure to shield my soft skin from  
the Salish summer sun.  
Among an army of miniatures their dramas played out.  
On my plot of land I've grown this sweet second of time as my very own.

### **A Solar Utility Cooperative for Spring Valley**

by Whitewolf Switzer

Since moving here 5 years ago, I have often had the thought that we should be using solar power in our valley with our abundance of Sun. Well, Solar Cooperatives are sprouting up all over the country and we could get in on it. Nan Sea Love, one of our newest residents, has shared a link to a free webinar, Community Solar 101, from the nonprofit Center for New America's website.

### **Advice on Erosion Control**

by Nan Sea Love

Since the recent fires, erosion control is a big concern. However, rather than just starting to plant things, consider what Lake County Master Gardener Gabriele O'Neill says, "In their desire to do SOMETHING, people often rush to re-seed burnt areas. This is often not only unnecessary, but sometimes downright detrimental, especially if they use non-native, Eurasian forage grasses: these outcompete native wildflowers and, if not mowed down in spring, create even more fire danger when they are mature and dry." I suggest going to UCCE Lake County Master Gardeners <<https://www.facebook.com/UCCELakeCountyMasterGardeners>> page to learn more about erosion control.

## **Bus Service for Spring Valley?**

*by Nan Sea Love*

The Clearlake Oaks Post Office has a poster announcing a bus for seniors that serves Spring Valley. However, it only takes seniors to lunch at the Live Oaks Senior Center. While this is a valuable service, we can do better for those who truly need transportation.

Recently Whitewolf Switzer suggested having a Facebook group for "Spring and Long Valley Residents" where we can interact. (You are welcome to join and invite your friends and neighbors, the web address for that group and other online resources are at the end of this article.)

After creating the group I learned there is already a group called "Spring Valley Lakes Subdivision." In that group I learned of Cindy Burton's petition asking Lake County Transit Authority to provide bus service for Spring Valley. Many people in the group were enthusiastic about the petition. But when the petition was left at the Pantry the response was discouraging.

Bus service for Spring Valley will be very valuable for seniors, as well as those who cannot or don't want to drive. Personally I would prefer to relax and catch up on my reading on the bus while helping the environment—and have less wear and tear on my old car.

Lori Correla-Dwinell wrote, *"It is really needed out there...I mentioned it to a few folks...they feel the same, that this is a much needed service as some older folks have a harder time driving.... We have a lot of elderly residents some of which no longer drive and depend on family and friends for transportation and some use wheelchairs, which require a van/bus for transport. There is no service in Lake County for those in Spring Valley who need wheelchair assistance. We had to hire a company out of Ukiah to get a valley resident to the clinic and at a huge cost.... as a person who grew up in the valley I wish there would have been a service out there to get to and from the valley, it would have been so much easier to get a summer job, visit friends or just get to town. There is nothing...this is a wonderful idea and something that should have happened a long time ago."*

Whitewolf Switzer advises, *"[The] Best way to work on bus transportation is go to the CSA meeting. CSA...Community Service Advisory members are from Spring Valley and appointed by the County Commissioners. They are a very hard working group and get lots done."*

I agree with Whitewolf, having researched online petitions and found they often don't have the impact people think, (I have a whole blog on the subject.) However presenting a petition at the CSA meeting can help them to see this is something we want and need. I also suggest contacting our Supervisor, Jim Steele, who seems very responsive.

**Lake County Ride Share** Facebook group join at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/220747431410353/>

**Lake County Transit Authority** write: <http://laketransit.org/contact-us/>

**Supervisor Jim Steele** contact at:

[http://www.co.lake.ca.us/Government/Boards/Board\\_of\\_Supervisors/District\\_3.htm](http://www.co.lake.ca.us/Government/Boards/Board_of_Supervisors/District_3.htm)

**Lake County/City Area Planning Commission's "Non-Emergency Medical Transportation:**

<http://www.lakeapc.org/docs/Fact%20SheetNon%20Emergency%20Medical%20Transportation.pdf>

### **A message from "The Coyote Guy"**

I was at the Lake Recovery meeting on the morning of October 7 and it was announced that a trapper had been hired to eliminate coyotes from Spring Valley. It was reported that a local woman saw 3 coyotes in a vacant lot next to her house and they were chasing a loose little dog. She became concerned and called Fish and Game and they called a trapper to handle the problem.

Please understand that coyotes play an important role in our eco-system. They are considered a "keystone" species and their absence can detrimentally affect our environment.

Coyotes are important predators. They help control pest such as, rodents, jack rabbits, skunks, raccoons, even wounded and diseased deer. They also benefit the bird population by eliminating small mammals that prey on birds and their nests, like feral cats. Feral cats also prey on toads, lizards, and most other small things that move and are not harmful. The common Western Fence Lizard (blue belly) for example, is very important to humans and many other animals. A single lizard can host 30 or more ticks at one time and ticks that feed on Blue Bellies are purged of any Lyme Disease bacteria in their guts. Please help protect these important lizards.

The solution to our coyote problem is to keep them wild. They come into our areas seeking water, especially during this devastating drought. While seeking water, they search for food, especially food left out for pets and feral cats. They become comfortable around human activity. We should not allow that to happen. They should be encouraged to avoid humans.

An effective way to this is by hazing. I learned about hazing while chasing away bears during stays in rural Montana. One simple method is to put pennies in a soda can and shake it when coyotes are close by. Air horns are also very effective.

If you observe coyotes roaming the neighborhood in daylight hours, aggressively scare them away, as above, but do not put yourself in harms way. They will learn that they are not wanted during daylight hours. Coyotes will normally go away if they see a human. If you see one and, after a few seconds, it has not run off, make loud noises or throw something at it and it should leave. If it does not, or it moves toward you, you should be concerned, but not afraid. It could be they are merely expecting to be fed, but don't take a chance and scare them away. They must learn that they are unwanted. Even though coyotes are lone hunters, they run in packs. Alpha males are pack leaders, and when an alpha male is killed, the pack is leaderless and the females, when in heat, are sought out by transient males and the result can be multiple packs in the area. So killing a coyote may do more harm than good. If you are not comfortable with hazing and if all else fails, before you call Fish and Game, call me, during daylight hours only, please. I can be reached at 998-3369. Jeff "The coyote guy"

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