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# SPRING VALLEY NEWS

SVLPOA - 3005 Wolf Creek Rd. - Clearlake Oaks, CA 95423  
(Online previous and current SVL Newsletter: [svlpoa.org](http://svlpoa.org))



**DECEMBER 2022 EDITION**



## President's Message by Helen Mitcham

'Tis the season! Yikes – how did it get here so fast? It has been a great year for the SVLPOA! We currently have 118 members and hope all of you whose memberships expire this month will re-up for 2023! We will continue the “buy 6 – get 1 free” breakfast benefit for members and of course, there's the annual member dinner to say “thank you” all for your support.

Karaoke on the last Friday of each month (we try to stick to that schedule) has been a hit SVGT (Spring Valley's Got Talent!)

We are so sorry we had to cancel our Holiday Tea hosted by Gayle Christian this year but it just wasn't possible. We have our fingers crossed it can happen in Spring.

We served just over 100 for our Veteran's Day breakfast – thank you again Vets! And thanks, Jim Cary, for making those Chile relleños.

Don't forget our annual Christmas dinner – December 17<sup>th</sup> doors will open at 5:00pm –expect some holiday specials in the bar. **Santa** will arrive about 5:15pm and he's promised to bring something for every good kiddo! PARENTS: Please let one of our Valley Elves know names and ages so Santa's sleigh has the right goodies.

As we do each year, we're asking for donations of turkeys (we need about six 20-pounders) and a couple of hams – if you're able! This is a traditional Christmas dinner with all the fix in's – masked potatoes and gravy, stuffing, green beans, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, the works!

In your family, what's your special dessert? Want to bring some to share with your neighbors? Please bring a dessert if you can!

We hope you can make it – it is free for all valley (Spring Valley & Long Valley) residents. Guests from outside the valley will be charged.

Don't forget, Christmas caroling around the valley on December 20<sup>th</sup> We'll meet at the Community Center at 6:00pm – load up – and take a spin around the valley. Let's bring a little good cheer and music to all our neighbors!

Last month, I mentioned maybe having a New Year's Eve party. Unfortunately, that's just not possible. All events at the Center must end at 10:00pm so that puts a kibosh on New Year's. But how 'bout this ... a SUPER BOWL party? The SVLPOA is hoping Santa will bring us a big screen TV ... perfect for that kind of thing, right? Let's see if his sleigh has enough room!

**From all of us on the board (Lori, Vickie, Julie, Mark, and me) – we wish you a safe and wonderful holiday season!**

**Merry Christmas! Happy Hannukah! Happy Kwanzaa! Happy New Year!**

**Contact Information**

**EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

Emergency Services	911
Sheriff Dispatch	707-263-2690
CDF-Clearlake Oaks (Hwy 20)	707-998-3711
Northshore Fire	707-274-3100
Animal Care and Control	707-263-0278
Special Districts (Water)	707-263-0119
Poison Control	800-222-1222

**SVLPOA OFFICERS**

President –Helen Mitcham	707-998-9194
Vice President-Vicki Hennen	707-900-1935
Secretary –Lori Gomez	707-317-4711
Treasurer – Julie Sahf	608-235-2738
Bldg. Cord - Mark Peterson	650-218-6317
Camp Info. - Helen Mitcham	707-998-9194
Camp Keys -Helen Mitcham	707-998-9194
News Letter-Kristin Langdale	707-540-2589
Co. Center Rental-Connie Sager	707-303-0797

**SPRING VALLEY CALENDAR**

**DECEMBER**

December 3	Sat.	<b>Holiday High Tea Has Been Cancelled</b>
December 7	Wed.	EaRTH Meeting- Moose Lodge 4 pm.
December 11	Sun.	SVLPOA Breakfast Community Center 8:00am –11:00am
December 15	Thur.	Clearlake Gleaners Food Bank Comm. Center 8am-10 am
December 15	Thur.	SVLPOA meeting Community Center 6:30 pm
December 17	Sat.	Christmas Dinner Community Center 5pm-? <b>++ Santa will be here before dinner this year! ++</b>
December 20	Tues	Christmas Caroling Meet at the Community Center 6pm.
December 31	Sat	<b>NO NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY</b>

**JANUARY**

January 4	Thu	Clearlake Gleaners Food Bank Community Center 8 am-10 am
January 4	Wed	EaRTH Meeting- Moose Lodge 4 pm.
January 4	Wed	CSA #2 Advisory Board Community Center 7:00 pm.
January 8	Sun.	SVLPOA Breakfast Community Center 8:00 am- 11:00am
January 14	Sat.	Campground Meeting Community Center 10:00am
January 19	Thu	Clearlake Gleaners Food Bank Community Center 8 am-10 am
January 19	Thur.	SVLPOA Meeting Community Center 6:30 pm.
January 27	Fri.	Karaoke Community Center 5:00 pm – 10:00 Pm.

**Sunday Breakfast**

8 AM – 11 AM

**All you can eat Buffet**

Scrambled Eggs, Hash Browns, Potatoes O’Brien, Sausage and Bacon,  
Biscuits and Country Gravy.

**Only One Special Order per person, from the Kitchen.**

Omelets, Pancakes, Waffles or any Sunday special  
Unlimited Coffee and Juice Included in the Price.



SVLPOA Members (\$7)

Adults (\$9)

Child Age 3-12 (\$3)

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**ON THE GREENBELT by Joe Welz**

A shirt tailed relative led me to Spring Valley in 1979 to hunt buck deer. I was 23years old and for many years I never saw a live buck, you see, I had to learn to see as a hunter.

After 43 years I came to respect these little deer very much, with nerves of steel they would rather hide than run, they will circle behind you and see what you are and where you are going. 3-year-old bucks are harvested mostly but occasionally an older more mature buck makes a mistake and is harvested. The hunting season in Northern “A” zone for archery and the general season are 9 or 10 weeks long and is the longest season I know of.

Hunters have a very long time to hunt these mountain lions educated bucks, this is considered fair chase and is pretty tough as the buck season closes. Then it is time for the rut season to begin. At this time the Gray Ghost or old moss bucks show themselves as they search for receptive does, these are the bucks that should do the breeding, to pass on the genetics to survive the predators in this area, it is pretty hard for a buck to live 7-8 years.

A nice 4 pointer came into my area to court the does. He was around a few days and I enjoyed seeing him very much. One morning while working in the yard a rifle shot was fired close by, I never saw that buck again. Killing a mature trophy class buck deer after the season closed during the rut, while the bucks throw caution to the wind to pass on their genetics is not hunting but the act of a cowardly poacher-stealing this animal from our local deer herd and everyone in this community who appreciates wildlife. So, a 3-year-old came around to do a buck’s job this time of the year. I was very sad at the loss of this animal. But life goes on.

The acorn crop wasn't too much this season. Deer have been seen running other deer off if they find a tree with a few acorns. Acorns are important for a lot of wildlife within the eco system where we live, Winter will be that much harder on wildlife this season.

**ROCKS** by Joe Welz

If you remove a rock or dig one out of the ground, PLEASE fill in the hole, Thank You.

**Clarification** by Joe Welz

Last month in my article I stated the \$18.00 campground fee was meant to maintain the greenbelt, this is not true. Campground and Greenbelt are different, the greenbelt starts at the Volleyball court and follows Wolf Creek up stream thru the subdivision to BLM land. Campground is everything else including the Community Center. (Confused join the club).

Well wishes, the best of health, a Happy Holiday Season to you and yours, Now and always

**Merry Christmas.**

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**WOLF CREEK FIREWISE** by Win Cary

The good news is that we have received our 2023 Certificate of Recognition from the national Firewise program, and will be able to assist our neighbors for another year.

Also, thanks to the assistance of Supervisor Ed Crandall we have received a \$10,000 grant from Lake County to purchase a wood chipper for our program. We will be having planning and procedures meetings to develop a safety program for using the chipper. All residents are welcome to these meetings. Our first meeting was Nov. 30 at the Community Center. Future meetings will be posted on the "Wolf Creek Firewise Community" facebook.

The annual totals for the 2021/2022 fiscal year for Firewise show that the residents and the 15 plus volunteers worked a total of 3,858 hours, spent \$10,260, and removed 112,850 pounds of fire fuels from our subdivision. In previous years we worked at cutting tall grass and trimming up trees.

This year we also had to remove a number of dead trees, each one weighing 500 pounds or more. We will continue helping our neighbors during 2023.

In 2018 when I originally signed up 480 homes in Spring Valley on the Firewise application, I was informed that my report each year needed to include 480 hours of work. Obviously, we greatly surpassed that goal this past year.

THANK YOU to the property owners that kept their property cleared and trimmed this year, and MANY, MANY THANKS to the volunteers. They are a fantastic group of people!

## CAMPGROUNDS by Helen Mitcham

The campground is a beautiful place this time of year ... it makes me wonder why people say we don't have seasons in California! It's definitely Fall – or Autumn if you prefer! Our many types of oak trees are putting on a show for sure!



The picture above shows one of those spots ...  
do you know where it is? Look close ...  
can you see the ducks?

The picnic tables and bench have been ordered and should arrive in 6 – 8 weeks. We will be recycling the ones that are replaced for use around the park and Community Center. Plans are still in the works for more lighting around the Center and you're in for a lighting surprise just in time for Christmas dinner inside the Center.

The Campground Committee will hold its next meeting on January 14 th at 10:00am in the Community Center. Come by and hear what's planned, offer a hand on a project or just give us your thoughts.

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**



## CSA #2 ADVISORY BOARD by Helen Mitcham

This meeting was full of discussion about all sorts of things ... and some questions were posed that we'll have answers for at our next meeting (January 4th). Firewise was happy to tell us that they will be receiving \$10,000 from Lake County to purchase a wood chipper! They've done such great work around the valley – this is a welcome addition.

We heard that the construction near the roundabout at 53/20 will result in a new cell tower – provider unknown at this time.

The plans for our new fire station have been approved and power was actually installed the day of this meeting. They will need a new septic but that's in the works now.

The Quail Trail water project is underway and making good progress. When completed (In January) we will have a "closed" water system – this project creates a loop. There are 3 new fire hydrants in this project. Questions were asked about the location where the material being removed is taken – isn't this a Lake Recovery spoils site?

We are still waiting for the final budget information for FY21/22 (it was received the day after this meeting!). We are reviewing it and the report of "Does Water Pay for Water?" and will report at the January meeting.

We had a pretty lengthy discussion about our roads – and how we missed an opportunity to improve Quail Trail with the water project currently in progress. This would have been the time to fix the road – and do more than just pave the narrow patch where the pipe is being laid. It's a reminder to us that we need to take advantage of other projects like this one.

And the replacement of the three bridges in the Valley seems like a perfect example! With a little luck and some planning, we should be able to repair more than just the short approaches and actually repave some of the road leading up to the bridges. We will be working on that for sure!

There is no meeting in December so our next meeting is at 7:00pm on January 4, 2023.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.

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## HAUNTED HOUSE

Oh my gosh! If you missed it ... you really missed something ghoulishly special! We know there were at least 275 ghouls over 10 yr. old, that came to celebrate and see what tricks we had in store for them!

In anticipation of a big turn-out we even cut a new parking area – thanks Anthony!

There were just too many to get a complete count but we had lots of treats – popcorn, cotton candy, hot dogs, hot chocolate ... and that was before you even got inside! Once there, you found 5 scary rooms and a "portrait hall" full of creepy things. (I still shudder at the spider room!)

For the little ones, we had some not-so-scary singing pumpkins and a coloring contest (winning entries will be available in the Kid's Area picture album).

We had a very successful (and yummy) Cake Walk with cakes of all shapes and decorated in true ghost and goblin fashion (thank you Sarah and Scott Renkes).

The generous donations from our community of candy plus those of local stores made this night a scary, sweet success! Here are some of the ghouls who made it all possible: Claudia and Anthony Lindheimer (he engineered the house – she enrolled local businesses to support this event), Savannah and Michael Busby (seriously, the spider room was scary! And oh, that make-up!), Mark Sahf, Lori Gomez, Vickie Hennen, Bryan Schwartz, Dirk Widman, Mark Peterson, Connie Sager, Catalina Gonzales, Dan Meyers, Win and Jim Cary, Richard Vasquez and Peggy O'Day. I know I've forgotten several and I apologize ... it took all of you! Many, many thanks from me and all those who enjoyed this really fun event!

