

SPRING VALLEY NEWS

SVLPOA - 3005 Wolf Creek Rd. - Clearlake Oaks, CA 95423

Current & archived SVL newsletters available online at www.svlpoa.org



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 POSITIONS

President –	Jeff Graves	707-350-6300
V. President –	Cheryl Graves	707-350-6300
Secretary –		
Treasurer –	Vicki Hennen	707-900-1935
Bldg. Cord –	Bryan Schwartz	707-845-8042
Camp Info. –	Helen Mitcham	707-998-9194
Camp Keys –	Helen Mitcham	707-998-9194
C.C. Rental –	Bryan Schwartz	707-845-8042
Newsletter –	Valerie Jennings	707-761-3824

THE VALLEY CALENDAR

Jan

Jan 5	Mon	Spring Valley Bible Study - <i>Community Center</i> – 7pm – 8pm
Jan 7	Wed	Clearlake Gleaners Food Bank - <i>Community Center</i> - 8am -10am
		E.R.T.H. (<i>East Regional Town Hall</i>) - <i>Moose Lodge</i> - 4pm
		CSA #2 Advisory Board - <i>Community Center</i> - 7pm
Jan 9	Fri	Set up for Breakfast - <i>Community Center</i> - 10 am
Jan 11	Sun	SVLPOA Breakfast - <i>Community Center</i> - 8am – 11 am
Jan 12	Mon	Spring Valley Bible Study - <i>Community Center</i> – 7pm – 8pm
Jan 15	Thu	Clearlake Gleaners Food Bank - <i>Community Center</i> - 8am - 10am
		SVLPOA General Meeting - <i>Community Center</i> - 6:30 pm
Jan 19	Mon	Spring Valley Bible Study - <i>Community Center</i> – 7pm – 8pm
Jan 26	Mon	Spring Valley Bible Study - <i>Community Center</i> – 7pm – 8pm
Jan 30	Fri	Karaoke - <i>Community Center</i> - 5pm – 10pm

Feb

Feb 4	Wed	Clearlake Gleaners Food Bank - <i>Community Center</i> – 8 am -10 am
		E.R.T.H. (<i>East Regional Town Hall</i>) - <i>Moose Lodge</i> – 4 pm
		CSA #2 Advisory Board - <i>Community Center</i> – 7 pm
Feb 6	Fri	Setup (for monthly breakfast - <i>Community Center</i> - 10am
Feb 8	Sun	SVLPOA Breakfast - <i>Community Center</i> - 8am – 11 am
Feb 19	Thu	Clearlake Gleaners Food Bank - <i>Community Center</i> - 8am -10am
		SVLPOA General Meeting - <i>Community Center</i> - 6:30 pm
Feb 27	Fri	Karaoke - <i>Community Center</i> - 5pm – 10pm

Every Monday

New Spring Valley Bible Study - *Community Center* – 7pm – 8pm





Sunday Breakfast

(2nd Sunday of every month)

8 AM – 11 AM

All you can eat Buffet

Scrambled Eggs, Hash Browns, Sausage, Bacon,
Biscuits and Country Gravy.

Only One Kitchen Order per person

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



SVLPOA Members (\$10)

Adults (\$12)

Children Aged 5-10 (\$7)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE- *by Jeff Graves*



December was a busy month at the Community Center with the Christmas dinner, monthly breakfast, New Year's Eve celebration, and installation of the new kitchen stove.

Thank you to everyone who donated and volunteered at the December events: Mark, Sandy, Joe, Sarah, Helen, Lily, Gigi, Dan, Mark, Bruce, Jim, Valerie, Dawn, Anthony, Claudia, Kris, Annie, Eric, and Jacob. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated. Our community events would not be possible without you!

Upcoming events for January will include breakfast on January 11 and karaoke on January 30. We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. Happy New Year!

CAMPGROUNDS *- by Helen Mitcham*

Meet the latest addition to the cooking crew!!! This beauty arrived the day after Christmas and replaces one of the old ones (the workhorse!) It's not fully set up yet, but it'll be hooked up in the newly steam-cleaned kitchen in time for the January breakfast on January 11, 2026. The floor has a new coat of epoxy, and the fans have been serviced and are operating at maximum efficiency. Thank you to the SVLPOA for their contribution of \$1,467 to this much-needed project! Total project cost is expected to be \$17,140.73 including the stove, delivery and take away of the old stove, steam cleaning the floor and walls, servicing and cleaning the hoods and applying three coats of epoxy on the floor. We have needed this since lighting the ovens had become a challenge and due to its age, service was becoming a problem. This will ensure many more years of breakfasts and events at the Community Center. And no doubt it will bring lots of pride to our human kitchen crew!



Santa brought a lot of rain with him this year and several limbs and trees came down onto the roadways. Please be careful when you're out and about! Joe has been setting up to burn some piles in the campground and the large one across from the Community Center is being broken up and parts removed before he burns it too! He worked with Special Districts to get the necessary permit (not an easy task!) Happy 2026 Spring Valley!!!



TWO GUYS AND A DOG! - by Helen Mitcham

IF you've lived in Spring Valley for very long, I bet you recognize that guy on the left ... and IF you're a 49er fan, I bet you recognize that guy on the right ... and then there's that beautiful (and smart) dog! Yes, that's our very own Kenny Breen with Brock Purdy and best friend Gavin!

Recently, Kenny got the chance of a lifetime when he was chosen along with four other local Vets and five people involved with a Buster Posey organization, to go to Levi's Stadium and meet QB Brock Purdy.

The 49er organization showed all of them a great time! They each received a new Rivalries jersey (one the team hasn't worn yet – they're saving it for the Seahawks game), an autographed football, and tickets to the last home game (against the Seahawks)! But the real highlight of the day was when they went to leave and out in the parking lot there were 10 brand new Toyotas with big red bows – one for each of them - from Brock and Toyota!

So, when you're out and about in the valley and you see a big, white Toyota SUV, look for Gavin in the back seat - and wave! Congratulations, Kenny!



WOLF CREEK FIREWISE - by Win Cary

The Firewise USA certification for 2026 has been completed. Residents can request a copy for their homeowner's insurance company by calling 707-998-3004.

ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING – Saturday, January 10, 1:00 PM, at the home of the Cary's. We will be discussing how to help neighbors with wildfire mitigation procedures and the ways and means of maintaining a non-profit program. All residents are welcome to attend. If you need help with your property or want to volunteer call 707-998-3004.

We have all heard that the climate change is causing more and larger wildfires. The current state and Cal Fire codes say you need to clear the weeds 20 feet or more from your buildings, and if you have roadside frontage, you should clear at least 5 feet from the pavement. I know the country should do this job, but have they done it in the last few years? Some neighbors with smaller lots have been told by their insurance that they need to spray or cut the weeds in the undeveloped lots around their fence line to comply with the 20-foot clear space around their buildings.

Weed spray or weed cut? Now is the time to begin work on clearing the weeds from your property. Your choice is to use weed spray now or cut the weeds later in the year. If you are concerned about using weed spray around animals, there is a spray named Spruce that advertises it can be used around animals.



Thank you to the Northshore Fire Hogback Ridge wood chipping crew working in the valley clearing wood piles for neighbors. If you have trimmed trees or cut down shrubs, sign up with Clear Lake Environmental Research Center (CLERC) at 707-245-9991 or email at chipping@clerc.co to have the wood chipping crew come to your property. CLERC received the grant funds to provide this service for all of Lake County, so they have to do the paperwork for the program. Their crew is stationed at the Upper Lake facility, so they wait to come to Spring Valley until there are five or more jobs to do. They are working throughout the county to assist any residents needing their help.



ON THE GREENBELT - *by Joe Welz*

Happy New Year. The weather at the beginning of December was nothing short of spectacular cold mornings, many with ground fog, clearing to crystal clear blue skies and quiet like nowhere else. Warming to beautiful afternoons, day after day. Just beautiful, peaceful, and quiet.

Living on the fringe of wilderness, our ecosystem is very well and alive with many forms of wildlife. Year round there is always something in bloom with a fair acorn crop and the early rains starting the forbs and grasses. The warm afternoons helping the willows to form their buds early, providing our rodents, herbivores, and omnivores with plenty to eat. In turn feeding the predators who live amongst us. Even the feral cats people dump out here fall prey to our native predators.

A beaver has dug a den and put up a damn. The beaver is about 80% through a large red willow. I put up wire to protect the other trees coming out of the root ball. I could trap this one easily, however California law, people and pets is why I cannot. So, I put up wire to protect the trees, so we have summertime shade sitting by the creek.

Would the person putting large rocks and pinecones in the puddles on the trails, in the campground, please stop. This behavior could damage a vehicle or hurt a person. Also, someone is piling up branches on a trail, blocking it. I work very hard keeping the trails open for people walking. But more importantly for emergency personnel in case a fire broke out. So please stop.

I would encourage the young people of our community to volunteer to train as fire fighters. This could work into a career.

As of 12/17/25, Indian Valley Reservoir storage was at 194.870 ac ft, releasing 10 cfs. Clearlake is at 2.90 on the Rumsey gauge, releasing .67 cfs (damn leakage).

I have measured 6.30 inches of rain at my home, 18 inches to go. 23 – 25 inches is average at my house.

I started working on the debris pile across the street from the Community Center. It's been growing for several years and in advent of a wildland fire on a north wing would threaten both the Community Center and water plant. It will take a while to get it managed.



Happy New Year
Till next time
Joe G. Welz

CSA #2 ADVISORY BOARD - by Cindi Storrs



Present: Jim McDole, Helen Mitcham, Scott Renkes, Mark Sahf, Ed Smith, Cindy Storrs, Joe Welz
Meeting called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00PM. Minutes of November meeting approved.

Public Input (items not on the agenda)

- Vegetation Manager Joe Welz reported that we have applied for a burn permit; waiting for it to arrive after Air Quality has complicated the process; will burn piles in the campground and across the way from CC (all located in the greenbelt)
- Scott asked that the PGE underground utility boxes be addressed as they are loose and have been seen open to the roadway (Scott has secured them when he has found them open) Helen has sent an email already about this issue **and will send another.**
- Coyote Way fire: (addressing some of the rumors and gossip that has been posted) Fire was called in at 6:04PM on Thanksgiving evening. First engines (CalFire and NFPD) arrived 20 minutes later. Home was fully engulfed. LCSO arrived as well (6 deputies) who assisted fire personnel with rescuing as many dogs as possible. Equipment and Personnel on the scene: CalFire 3 engines (9-12 crew members); NFPD: 3 engines (6 personnel); 1 ambulance (2 person crew); South Lake Fire 1 water tender (2 person crew); Lake County Chief 700; Wilbur Springs engine (CalFire); LCSO (6 deputies); NFPD Support Team and Chaplain (5 total personnel); NFPD Chief Banks; CalFire IC. Crews were on the scene until approximately 10:30. PGE was notified and arrived to disconnect service. SD was notified by Chief Banks about the fire and the use of water from local hydrants.

Report from EARTH meeting (Sterling)

- Marcus Beltramo was guest speaker. Reported on recent work in the area; looking into another dump day, possibly one in SV; Klaus Park is being readied for use; still hoping to link the lakebed spoils with the Sulphur Mine Superfund project


Project/Issues/ Action

- Hydrant leaks continue to be addressed. Hydrants on Quail Trail have been fixed, replaced and in one case removed as unfixable. Matt from SD continues to search for leaks. Platinum CA Rural Water System will be coming out to check water pressure. SD continues to map zones, search for leaks, minimize variance between water produced and water billed. Pressure zones have been identified, and tanks will be installed in some areas to both stabilize pressure and accumulate additional water reserves.
- The well: a sand filter will take care of the manganese. Installed.
- SD Administrator Robin Borre will be presenting a proposal to the BOS at their next meeting to remove the language "structure or permit to build" in order to facilitate the removal of the \$6/month standby fee. Letter will be sent as soon as the BOS approves this action.
- CC Parking lot/resilience center project has been approved and staff directed to get the project completed ASAP
- (Item not on the agenda) the new stove for the CC has been ordered and will be installed before the end of the month. Along with deep cleaning of the kitchen and all of the associated vents.
- Lakebed recovery: Multi agency meeting scheduled for tomorrow.
- Budget report 1st quarter actuals have arrived. The Board will continue to ask for in-depth information and details of finances.

For the Good of the community

- Scott and Mark will research what grants might be available for road repair. Scott has located the possibility of 6 potential grants available for rural communities and road repair. **Motion was made and passed for Helen to send an email to Robin indicating that Scott is interested in working with SD staff around this issue and has Board approval to do so.**
- Ed Smith thanked the Board for one of the best meetings he had ever attended and reported that due to some health concerns and the need to address those this would be his last official meeting. Offered his ongoing assistance whenever it might be needed.

Meeting Adjourned. **Next meeting February 4, 2026**

 SPRING VALLEY LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOC. 3005 Wolf Creek Rd., Clearlake Oaks. 95423 Membership Registration (January 1 thru Dec 31) 2026				Yearly membership: \$15 per person
Date paid: _____		No. of members: _____		Amount paid: _____
Spring Valley Address _____		Clearlake Oaks, Ca. 95423		
Mailing Address (if different) _____		City _____	State _____	Zip _____
Name: _____ First Last		Newsletter delivery method: select your preference/s Mailed* and/or Email		
Phone: _____ Area Code				
Email: _____				
Name: _____ First Last		Newsletter delivery method: select your preference/s Mailed* and/or Email		
Phone: _____ Area Code				
Email: _____				
Newsletters: _____ * only one mailed newsletter per household Available at Spring Valley Pantry (while supplies last) Always Online @ www.SVLPOA.org Payable in-person at any event (cash, check, debit or credit card) Or checks can be mailed to: SVLPOA 3005 Wolf Creek Rd. Clearlake Oaks, Ca. 95423				

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 call us at
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**WOLF CREEK FIREWISE
COMMUNITY**

Win Cary
 3243 Weeping Willow Way
 Clearlake Oaks, Ca. 95423
 (707) 998 - 3004
win.cary3243@gmail.com



Someone you know in need
 of a bit of Sunshine?
 Let our Sunshine Lady know and
 she will perk them up!
 Linda Mann 998-9464

Advertising in the SVLPOA Newsletter is easy and cost effective.

All ads should be the size of a business card (see above). Your artwork or business card will do.

Ads may run: Monthly - \$10, Quarterly - \$25, Half-year - \$45, Yearly - \$80.

To advertise make checks payable to: SVLPO, 3005 Wolf Creek Rd., Clearlake Oaks, CA 95423.

Thank you for your support.