

Spring 2012
Volume 2, Issue 1

The Treetop Times

The Newsletter of the Arnold Lilac Park Homeowners Association

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Points of Interest:

- Board Meetings are held the first Saturday of each month. Check the web site for location.
- The Lilac Park Pool opens June 1!! Weather permitting.
- The ALPHA web site is your source for up to date news in Lilac Park.
- The ALPHA Social Committee kicks off its first event in June!
- ALPHA voicemail messages are sent by email to several board members.
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Thank you, Frank.

Many of you are aware that Frank Samuelson, ALPHA's President for the last several years, was injured in a fall at his cabin here in Lilac Park last September.

Shortly after his fall, Frank underwent surgery to repair a broken hip and is currently in a rehab facility in Concord. Frank's recovery has been slow-going over the last seven months, with some improvements and some setbacks.



According to Mike Willemsen, ALPHA's Vice President, Frank's slowed recovery will prevent him from fulfilling the duties of the office of President of the Board anytime soon.

As a result, the Board of Directors unanimously moved Frank away from the office of President and has named him ALPHA's first **"Honorary Board Member for Life"** in recognition for all that he's done for Lilac Park over the last 25 + years. While there are certainly other homeowners in Lilac Park also worthy of this recognition, the current Board of Directors wanted to recognize Frank and thank him for his leadership and past contributions to our community.

The board of directors is asking ALPHA homeowners to send Frank a card or note of encouragement to the address below.

**CK Care Home
Attn: Frank Samuelson
3724 North Park Ct
Concord, CA 94519**

Thanks for all you've done, Frank. We appreciate you.

Assessments Now Payable By Credit Card

Beginning in November 2011, ALPHA began accepting credit cards for payment using the PayPal Service. For those of you unfamiliar with PayPal, it is the largest provider of online payment services in the world. There are no extra fees for using this secure service, it's quick, convenient, and let's you stretch your payment out over time. Plus you can take advantage of any points or award incentives offered by your bank! For more information or to make a payment, please visit:

<http://payments.arnoldlilacparkhoa.org>

New Pool Solar Coming

Warm water!!!!

Last summer, your Board of Directors decided to utilize some of the association's reserve funds to update the pool's solar system, including the structure on top of the roof house where it sits.

Because the late winter last year forced roof renovations into August, the board decided to wait until this year to complete the installation of the new panels.

The board plans to complete the installation this May so that the pool is warm on the planned opening day of June first.



Protect Your Home

A home is robbed every 14.6 seconds and the average dollar loss per burglary is \$2,119, according to statistics just released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. And that's the good news because burglaries were down slightly in 2010 compared to 2009. Sure you lock your doors and windows when you're not home. You'd be surprised how many people don't.



Fire Danger on the Rise



Let's prevent this in Lilac Park.

Even with the late storms we've had recently, this has been one of the driest winters on record. The fire danger is likely to be VERY high this year and we can look forward to a dry summer that comes with a significant threat of wild fire in our community.

Please take the appropriate steps to protect your property and community by removing dead or dying timber (whether standing or not), clearing your lot(s) appropriately of needles, slash, and other potentially flammable debris. There are a number of trees in Lilac Park infected with the Bark Beetle and these should be removed to reduce fire loading and to prevent spreading these pests to healthy trees.

See CalFire Guidelines for appropriate clearances and other things you can do to protect your property. Start early, doing a little bit over a longer period of time helps make it an easier task. If you are unable to do this yourself, consider hiring a lot clearing service. Preliminary CalFire inspections have already begun.

The ALPHA Social Events Committee Kicks Off in June!

In years past, the ALPHA board hosted a monthly get-together at the pool over the summer ending with the Annual Association Meeting in September. Well, we want to bring this tradition back.

The current committee, Karen Nelson, Ahna Brown, and Chairwoman Sue Lynch, plan to host a variety of events for folks of all ages.

Ideas for these events are always welcome and some have already been discussed including a root beer float social, movie night, kids' swim night, and wine tasting and finger-food-potlucks.

Nothing is set in stone yet, so look to the web site and your email for more information as the weather warms up some.

All ALPHA homeowners and their guests are welcome.



Did you know ...

Arnold is named after Bob and Bernice Arnold, who, in 1927 opened the Ebbetts Pass Inn. Prior to that, the community consisted of two large ranches where logging was the main industry.

The inn served as a stop for people traveling along the Ebbetts Pass route as well as lodging for those visiting nearby Calaveras Big Trees State Park. In 1928, Camp Wolfeboro was established nearby as a Boy Scout camp and continues to be in operation today. The first post office was opened in 1934.

ALPHA Names New President

To fill the vacancy left by Frank Samuelson's delayed recovery from a fall last year, the ALPHA Board of Directors has named Mark Carlson as President of the Board.

Well, that's me. In case you're wondering who "me" is, I'm the one who generates the posts and articles on the ALPHA web site and sends the email updates. I accepted Mike Willemsen's nomination for board president because I saw a need to make a few changes to how the board of directors operates and to bring the ALPHA into compliance with state law.

So what does that mean?

With a background in the technology industry, I saw an opportunity to modernize many of the procedures and workflows that will allow the board to operate more efficiently and hopefully provide you, the homeowner, with the most positive experience possible when you have contact with the board of directors.

In the last 18 months, the ALPHA web site and email have become key communication tools between the board and you. Since we launched it in January 2011, we've received a number of positive comments regarding the site and the automatic updates you receive when a new article is posted to it. We look forward to the continued use of these tools in the future.

The board is currently taking steps to formalize a collection policy, and with the number of homes for sale in Lilac Park, an architectural review policy is also coming. The purpose of these policies is simply to provide clarity to those already-existing elements of the CC&Rs and bylaws. Plus, they're required by law.

While change is coming to the board, we also look forward to bringing back some traditions that have been forgotten in recent years. Beginning later this spring, ALPHA plans to organize and host a number of social events at the pool.

Sue Lynch has agreed to chair the Social Events Committee and together with Karen Nelson and Ahna Brown, they've got some great ideas for events.

We look forward to a great year in 2012 with a few planned improvements like new solar panels for the pool, some new paint, and a few other updates. Personally, I look forward to swimming in warm water this year.

Anyway, as your board, we're here to serve you, the homeowner's association, so if you if you have any questions or comments, please email them to me at info@arnoldlilacparkhoa.org drop a note to ALPHA, PO Box 722 Arnold, Ca. 95223.

~Mark



My son Adam and I playing at Bear Valley.

Volunteers don't just do the work, they make it work.

Your Board of Directors:

President

Mark Carlson

Vice President

Mike Willemsen

Secretary/Treasurer

Maria Carlson

Director

Cora Bell

Director

Sue Lynch

Director

Ahna Brown

Directors

Mark & Karen Nelson

Alternate Director

Gaylord Blackburn

Alternate Director

Jeff Lindevald

What is an 'Alternate Director?'

Alternate directors have voting privileges if present and their attendance is required to establish a quorum.

Updated Lot Maps

Updated Lot Maps are available. Drop us a note or give us a call if you would like one.

info@arnoldlilacparkhoa.org



Spring Clean Up Day Coming!

ALPHA has been able to keep it's dues low in part because we've been able to clean up the common area with your help. If you can lend a hand, please let us know!! Drop us a note or give us a call.

The Spring Clean up will be in early to mid-May.

**Arnold Lilac Park
Homeowners Association**

PO Box 722
Arnold, CA 95223

<http://www.arnoldlilacparkhoa.org>
209.795.3807

The Treetop Times

The newsletter of the Arnold Lilac Park Homeowners Association

Welcome to the Treetop Times. The Lilac Park Homeowners Association aims to produce two to three newsletters per year. For complete and up to date information, please visit the ALPHA web site at

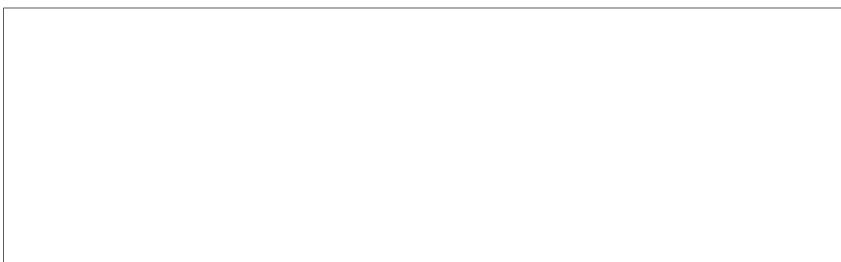
<http://www.arnoldlilacparkhoa.org>

Reminder : Assessments are due by April 30, 2012.

You can pay by US MAIL using a check or you can use a credit card on-line at
<http://payments.arnoldlilacparkhoa.org>



Find us on Facebook!



Is Your Lilac Park Home a Rental?

If you rent your Lilac Park home, the Board of Directors wants to know about it. Please take a moment to fill out the attached form, clip it out, and mail it back to ALPHA at the address above.

Please fill this card out if you rent either short or long term. If short-term, please put "short-term" in the 'Renter's Name' field.

You can also complete this information online at <http://www.arnoldlilacparkhoa.org> and look under "Homeowners" on the menu bar. It takes just a second to complete.

Your Lot Number:	_____
Your phone #:	_____
Renter's Name(s):	_____
# of renters:	_____
Renters phone #:	_____
Date First Rented:	_____
Renter to access pool?	YES NO

Water Conservation is Important

The lack of significant rainfall and snow in the Sierras this winter will have an impact on water storage that comes from the many lakes, streams, and rivers in our area.

Proper water conservation practices are crucial to preventing heavy restrictions on use of water and most are relatively simple and inexpensive to put into use around your Lilac Park home. Here are just a few tips to help conserve:

- When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a water-efficient model.
- Collect the water you use for rinsing fruits and vegetables, then reuse it to water houseplants.
- Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 150 gallons per month
- Grab a wrench and fix that leaky faucet. It's simple, inexpensive, and you can save 140 gallons a week.

<http://www.wateruseitwisely.com>

Support Local Businesses

The Arnold Lilac Park Homeowners Association believes in shopping local.



Arnold Clothing and Boot Co.

Mountain Fitness
 Strength Training
 Group Fitness Classes
 209-795-5484
 Grizzly Plaza - 2704 Highway 4, Arnold, CA
 mountainfitness@goldrush.com

Ebbetts Pass Sporting Goods

The Rusty Knife

The Rusty Bear

Snowshoe Brewery

mCARLSON DESIGN
 Graphic Design / Logos & Branding
 Web Site Design
 Maria Carlson
 mcarlsondesign.com | 209.602.2583

FINE-THINGS
 1276 Oak Circle • P.O. Box 3329
 Arnold, CA 95223
 (209) 795-1811
 finethings1276@sbcglobal.net
 Gifts and Accessories...
 "Inspired by the eclectic"
 Gail Szukalski & Nicole Cockshott

Susie's Diner
 7-Days
 7am to 8pm

 1308 Oak Circle
 Arnold, California
 209.795.5156

Sierra Nevada Adventure Company

Everett's Snow Removal
 Driveway Paving, Patching, Sealing & Snow Removal
Everett Cockshott
 Owner
 P.O. Box 2891
 1240 Dunbar Road
 Arnold, CA. 95223
 209-795-7410
 License # 600883