



PMCPOA'S Exterior House Decorating Contest

We will be having a house decorating contest as well as giving PMC residents the chance to view the houses.

Decorating can start Thanksgiving weekend. Enter the contest by completing the section below and submit via email or the drop box located by the front door at the PMC Clubhouse.

All votes must be submitted between

Sunday December 12th – Sunday December 19th

Votes will start being counted on Tuesday December 21st

Winner announced on Thursday December 30th

- ♦ 1st place: \$75 Gift Certificate
- ♦ 2nd place: \$50 Gift Certificate
- ♦ 3rd place: \$25 Gift Certificate

There will be a list with addresses only of houses that signed up to be viewed available at the clubhouse or via the email blast. Along with the form to vote.

Receipt@pmcpoa.com

(661) 242-3788

The list will be sent out Monday December 13th.

Lights need to be on from 6-10pm

Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____

Phone Number (used by PMCPOA staff only): _____



the Condor

The official publication of the Pine Mountain Club Property Owners Association, Inc.

2524 Beechwood Way . PO Box P
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www.pinemountainclub.net
661.242.3788 . 661.242.1471 (fax)

Ring in the New Year at the
Clubhouse! The annual New
Year's Eve party is back!
See page 9 for details



the Condor

The official publication of the Pine Mountain Club Property Owners Association, Inc.

VOLUME 43 . NUMBER 12 . DECEMBER 2021

Check out PMC's website at www.pinemountainclub.net

Our World of Nature

Our Forests

By Lynn Stafford, Liz Buchroeder and Bill Buchroeder

Trees are all around us here in PMC. But what are they? Are they individual organisms locked in a to-the-death struggle with each other and all other creatures? This is the classic competition model for existence in nature. Each living thing is in a battle with other living things for life. Or is the situation more complex? Recent research has shown that there are intricate networks of roots and fungal strands in the soil connecting trees and other plants. These are called "mycorrhizal associations." Chemical analysis including using radioactive isotopes to trace movement of materials have shown that these organisms pass water, food and minerals back and forth along the network. The fungal strands create the connection between root systems and provide minerals and water to the roots. The plants supply food

to the fungi. And there is even evidence that neighboring trees of different species share resources.

Figure 1 shows a mature canyon live oak with young pinyon pines and oaks underneath it (note the hiker for size comparison).

Is this a "mother tree" providing shade and nourishment to these youngsters? Scientific studies indicate that this might well be true. Elder trees may be the hub of mycorrhizal transportation and communication between trees. This concept presents an entirely



Fig. 1: Canyon live oak with Randy Cushman

different way of viewing the forest. It is already known that

'NATURE' Continued on page 12

Membership and Article 22

Bill Lewis II, Chairman of the PMCPOA Board

The recent approval of the rule change by the board regarding short-term rentals (Article 22 – Sections 22.03 B & C) took into consideration the possibility that the restrictions would create two classes of membership. The Board has investigated the issue of membership classes to include consulting with legal counsel and determined that:

Section 3.01 of the Bylaws does not bar the adoption of a short-term rental (STR) restriction notwithstanding the fact that it will only be binding on new owners.

Section 3.01 prohibits creating two classes of membership. However, we are not creating two classes of membership. Each lot has an equal membership interest, one vote per lot. (Bylaws, Art. IV, § 4.01.) Each lot has the same membership rights, i.e., to vote, to run for the Board, and to obtain corporate records. (Bylaws,

Art. II.) The use of Association property for each owner is subject to reasonable rules adopted by the Board. (Bylaws, Art. II, § 2.3.)

The fact that the rental restriction would not be enforceable against owners purchasing before its adoption does not render it invalid. To the contrary, state law authorizes such disparate treatment. Civil Code Section 4741 expressly permits an Association to adopt a short-term rental restriction despite the fact that pursuant to Civil Code Section 4740(a) expressly restricts the enforcement of any rental restriction to those owners who purchase after its adoption. (See, *Brown v. Montage at Mission Hills, Inc.*, 2021 WL 3701864 (2021).) The Board has authority to adopt rules governing the peace and enjoyment of the residents and the regulation of all matters consistent with the Civil Code. (CC&Rs, Art. 3, § 3.2(h); Bylaws, Art. IX, § 9.02E.) Rules may be enforceable even if they do not impact all owners in the Association. (See, e.g., *Sui v. Price* (2011) 196 Cal.App.4th 933, 939-940.)

The membership rights of current owners and future owners are the same. They are all governed by the governing documents. Nothing prevents a future Board from repealing this rule and, unlike by-law changes, rule changes are not subject to a vote by members.

Note to Realtors: Please close your escrows by 12-31-2021 if your buyer is purchasing the property to operate as a short-term rental (STR). A rule change regarding STRs was passed by the board on Oct. 16, 2021 and is effective immediately. Your buyers need to know that if escrow closes after Jan. 1, 2022, they may not operate the property as a short-term rental.

To view Article 22, please visit the Association Rules page of the PMCPOA website at <https://pinemountainclub.net/web/pages/pmcpoa-governing-documents>.

WINTER HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

PMCPOA Emergency Preparedness Committee

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

HOLIDAY DECORATIONS:

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- If using an artificial tree, check that it is labeled “fire resistant.”
- If using a live tree, cut off about 2 inches of the trunk to expose fresh wood for better water absorption, remember to water it and remove it from your home when it is dry.
- Place your tree at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, heaters and other heat sources, making sure to not block doorways.
- Do not overdo it on the lights. Check the lights’ packaging for the power output and never plug in more than what a power strip or outlet says it can handle. You never want to connect more than three strings of lights in one series. Always look for the UL symbol when buying electrical items and pay attention to its color: green means it is approved for indoor use, and red means it can be used indoors and outdoors. If you are using old lights, check the wires to make sure there are no signs of fraying or cracking.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

CANDLES:

- Keep lit candles at least 12 inches away from surrounding objects. Trim wicks to a quarter of an inch before you light them, and only let candles burn for one hour for every inch of diameters, so the wax can melt evenly.
- Never leave lit candles in a room that is unattended.
- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles.

Before Heading Out or to Bed:

- Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

Test your smoke alarms!

Busy Season Ongoing in PMC Post Office

The holiday season is here, and the Post Office in PMC is busy. Catalogs, ads and packages take up a lot of room in the boxes, so please pick up mail regularly when possible.

A reminder also that the PMC Post Office receives a lot of mail that has to be

returned to the sender because it does not have a post office box number on it.

Please make sure you provide your PO box number to anyone who will be sending anything to you. This includes bills, catalogs, postcards, DMV paperwork, etc. You don’t want to miss out on receiving something important because it can’t get to you.

Remember: Mail does not get delivered to physical addresses in PMC.

the Condor

VOL 43 . NO 12 . DECEMBER 2021

Published by

Pine Mountain Club

Property Owners Association, Inc.

www.pinemountainclub.net

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Address Changes

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The PMCPOA Board of Directors meets on the third Saturday of every month at 10 am in the Condor Room of the Clubhouse. All members are invited to attend the open session. The executive session is a closed meeting for the discussion of and action on legal and personnel matters, third party contracts, and member-requested hearings.

Members may request copies of the open Board Meeting minutes. These requests should be made in writing to the Corporate Secretary. There is a charge per page for making copies of the minutes.



Kids' Halloween Party at Park: a Blast for All!

Liz Venegas, Recreation Supervisor

On Saturday, Oct. 30, PMCPOA hosted the annual kids' Halloween party at Lampkin Park. In years past, the party has been held in the evening in the Condor Room. Because of the ongoing pandemic, the decision was made to hold the party outdoors this year, and it was a smashing success! We had an incredible turnout of more than 100 people! From decorating pumpkins to a Halloween face mask craft and lots of games with prizes, fun was had by all. It was a joy and pleasure for the POA to host this event and see it enjoyed by so many members of the community.



Gift-Giving Opps for Local Kids in Need

- There is a Toys for Tots box in the Clubhouse Lobby for NEW unopened toys. All toys collected go to children who live here on the mountain. Let's make a local child's Christmas a little better.

- The Mountain Community Family Resource Center is taking applications for children ages 0-18 to receive gifts. Call 661-245-4303 to schedule an appointment. The last day to apply is Dec. 3.

Please help us to save trees and keep our costs down substantially by allowing us to email all of your member notices and your monthly Condor to your email address. Simply email me at gm@pmcpoa.com and we will add your email address to your member account.

*Thank you,
Karin Shulman, GM*

Golf Course/ Pro Shop Hours

**9am to 5pm
Every Day**

The Pro Shop has T-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, drinking glasses with PMC logos on them, greeting cards, PMC license plate holders and puzzles available for purchase.

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Equestrian Center Barn Bash: a Spooky Good Time!

Lori Harmon, Equestrian Center Manager

There were witches and vampires, ghosts and goblins...There was fun and adventure, including the Haunted Barn, wacky horse costumes, games, prizes, candy, dancing to spooktacular music and of course, the delicious hamburgers from the Giddy Up Café. All this and more made the Pine Mountain Club Equestrian Center Halloween Barn Bash the best one ever! A warm thank you to all our volunteers and visitors who made this Halloween party a grand success with their presence. Such great community support!




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Please: Do Not Use Rodent Poison in Your Yard

A beautiful 4-year-old Huskey dog died in late October. She died a horrible, painful death in front of her owner at the emergency vet hospital. All because a neighbor thought it was prudent to poison all the squirrels and rabbits on their PMC property. A dying squirrel crawled into the dog's yard looking for water, and the dog picked it up and chewed on it, causing secondary poisoning.

There are apparently some PMC residents who are still using rodenticides (rat/mouse poisons). My question is, why would anyone move to the forest, and want to kill wildlife? Exclusion from your home, together with good housekeeping, is all that is required to keep rodents out.

Association Rule 7.11 states: Exposing wildlife to any toxic substance such as, but not limited to, poisons, automotive fluids, household chemicals or other harmful substances that may attract wildlife is prohib-



ited.

THIS RULE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED. Fines for violating Article 7, Rules Regarding Wildlife, can range up to \$2,000.

A few months ago, letters were sent to all the local pest control companies informing them that bait boxes containing poisons of any kind are not permitted in PMC. I hope these companies are respecting this notice, BUT THE PROPERTY OWNER IS ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE for ensuring POA rules are followed.

-- Patrice Stimpson, PMC Patrol Chief

AmeriGas Tanks -- If you have an old AmeriGas Propane Tank that has not been picked up yet after switching companies, please call the EC Office, 242-3788, and speak to Kay at ext. 213.

Condor Cafe Hours

Breakfast and Lunch

Wednesday through Sunday
8 am to 2 pm

**Wednesday thru Saturday:
Breakfast 8-11 / Lunch 11-2**

**Sunday:
Breakfast 8-12 / Lunch 12-2**

The Condor Café is open for inside dining for breakfast and lunch. Patio seating is available weather permitting. Takeout is also available; please call 661-242-2233.

Dinner

Thursday (Special)
4 to 7:30 pm

Fridays and Saturdays
4 to 8 pm

The Condor Lounge is open for dinners on Thursdays from 4-7:30pm and Fridays and Saturdays 4-8pm. (The Bar is also open Thursdays through Saturdays.) Walk-ins are welcome. If you have a party of four or more, we require a reservation. You can call the café any time during our hours of operation at 661-242-2233 to place your reservation with a server.

Friday and Saturday night dinner takeout is back!

Condor Lounge Hours

Thu, 4-9 p.m.

Fri, 4-11 p.m.

Sat, 4-11 p.m.

Breakfast and Lunch served in Lounge on Sundays, with full bar available.

Ellie Melili
DRE# 01301719

Property Management/Real Estate Specialist

818-983-9689

WE HAVE QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WHO ARE READY TO RENT YOUR HOME NOW

A Message from the Chairman

Bill Lewis II
pmcboard@pmcpoa.com

My message this month is simple, brief and sincere. I would like to commend the overall work being done day in and day out by the employees of this association. I watch them work, I review some of their work product, I have worked with a few of them, and I receive compliments about them quite frequently. They troubleshoot, resolve prob-



lems, take pride in their work, handle complaints, assist when assistance isn't always mandatory, and they work hard to serve our community. They do a good job – and we should be thankful for their efforts and dedication.

I would also like to commend our general manager, Karin Shulman, who oversees our employees and works around the clock to make sure this operation runs as smoothly as possible – despite mechan-

ical failures, broken pumps, a drought and many other challenges. As members, we should truly appreciate these efforts by our employees and be thankful for their service.

I hope you had the opportunity to enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday and celebrate and give thanks with your family and friends. I wish you the best for the upcoming Christmas season and the coming year.

Be safe, stay healthy, and be positive.

PMC Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

Grace Wollemann, Recording Secretary

These are highlights of the Board of Directors open meeting of Nov. 20, 2021. Complete minutes are available at the business office or online at www.pinemountainclub.net after their approval at the next board meeting. In the regular open meeting, Chairman Bill Lewis II called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Six directors attended: Cam Acosta, Richard Ballard, Philip Gabriel, Peggy Hoyt-Voelker, Bill Lewis II and Ellen McClellan. Directors Steve Burkett, Tony Harmon and Phyllis Throckmorton were excused. Also in attendance were General Manager Karin Shulman and Recording Secretary Grace Wollemann.

MOTION by Director Hoyt-Voelker, **SECOND** by Director Acosta that the agenda for the Board of Directors Meeting of Nov. 20, 2021, be adopted. **MOTION** carried.

There was one (1) committee application for approval.

MOTION by Director Hoyt-Voelker, **SECOND** by Director Ballard to approve the consent agenda. **MOTION** carried.

Chairman Bill Lewis II presented the Chairman's report.

General Manager Karin Shulman presented the General Manager's report.

Director Cam Acosta presented the Treasurers report.

MOTION by Director Acosta, **SECOND** by Director Hoyt Voelker to ratify the Association's October 2021 financials in accordance with Civil Code §5500 and

§5501. **MOTION** carried.

The board acknowledged receipt of the committee minutes.

There were four (4) Environmental Control Committee projects recommended.

One (1) cottage industry permit was removed from the agenda.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS:

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION by Director Ballard, **SECOND** by Director Hoyt-Voelker to approve **RESOLUTION #01-11-20-2021**, the changes to Association Rule 3.22, Discharge of Firearms, as submitted. **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Ballard, **SECOND** by Director Hoyt-Voelker to approve **RESOLUTION #02-11-20-2021**, the changes to Association Rule 16.07, Swimming Pool (Jacuzzi), as submitted. **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Ballard, **SECOND** by Director McClellan to approve **RESOLUTION #03-11-20-2021**, the changes to Association Rule 16.15, Swimming Pool, as submitted. **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Ballard, **SECOND** by Director Gabriel to approve **RESOLUTION #04-11-20-2021**, the changes to Association Rule 19.10 Common Rules for All Committees, as submitted. **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Ballard, **SEC-**

OND by Director Acosta to approve **RESOLUTION #05-11-20-21**, Not to Exceed (NTE) \$55,000 from greenbelt cleanup operating fund to remove brush and dead vegetation, dead trees, and limb up trees. **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Hoyt-Voelker, **SECOND** by Director McClellan to approve Business Policy C-2 (Condor (monthly newsletter)). **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Hoyt-Voelker, **SECOND** by Director Ballard to approve Business Policy C-3 (Compliments, Complaints, Concerns (CCC) Box). **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Acosta, **SECOND** by Director McClellan to establish the STR working group. **MOTION** carried.

The board sent and received thirty-seven (37) items of correspondence.

The next Regular Open Board Meeting will take place on Dec. 18, 2021, at 10 a.m. in the Condor Room.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

PMC Facebook Page

The only **OFFICIAL**
PMCPOA Facebook page
 can be accessed at:

<https://www.facebook.com/pmcpoa>

Treasurer's Report

Pine Mountain Club POA, Inc.
Treasurer's Report
As of October 31, 2021

	Actual	Budget	Over (Under) Variance	
Revenue				
Current Year Assessment Revenue	1,564,694	1,562,556	2,138	
Operations/Maintenance	123,482	68,580	54,902	
Social Activity	247,708	239,695	8,013	
Interest Income (Operating)	7,461	6,990	471	
Total Revenue	1,943,346	1,877,821	65,525	
Operating Expenses				
Operations/Maintenance	1,470,654	1,581,875	(111,221)	
Social Activity	385,690	423,485	(37,795)	
Operating Projects	52,597	120,202	(67,605)	
Designated Fund Projects	810	30,000	(29,190)	
Reserve Contribution	152,000	152,000	0	
Total Operating Expenses	2,061,750	2,307,562	(245,812)	
Other Operating Transactions				
Additional transfers to Reserve fund	(325,129)	(325,128)	(1)	
Assets purchased	(25,389)	0	(25,389)	
Foreclosed Lots transferred to Property	7,991	0	7,991	
Total Other Transactions	(342,527)	(325,128)	(17,399)	
Total Change in Operating Fund	(460,931)	(754,869)	293,938	
Payroll Summary				
Payroll Wages	723,087	801,488	(78,401)	
Payroll Benefits	113,677	132,708	(19,031)	
Taxes and Worker's Compensation	88,611	109,246	(20,636)	
Total Payroll Expense	925,375	1,043,442	(118,067)	
	Assessment Billed	Assessment Collected	Assessment Receivable	Assessment Receivable %
18/19 Assessment Collection Update	4,231,452	4,230,582	870	0.02%
19/20 Assessment Collection Update	4,631,550	4,629,946	1,604	0.03%
20/21 Assessment Collection Update	4,628,342	4,608,284	20,058	0.43%
21/22 Assessment Collection Update	4,694,082	4,547,753	146,329	3.12%
Reserve Fund Update	Beginning Balance July 1, 2021 3,082,499	Plus: YTD Interest and Contributions 484,589	Less: YTD Purchases (172,839)	Ending Balance Current Period 3,394,249
Operating Fund Cash Balance	2,912,953			
Reserve Fund Cash Balance	3,697,449			

Respectfully Submitted



Cameron Acosta / Treasurer
November 20, 2021

--- General Manager's Update ---

Karin Shulman

Snowplows are ready for snow! If you do not know the Snowplow Policy, please pick it up at the front office. We plow all main streets first to the highway. Secondary streets second, and then cul-de-sacs. Yes, you may have a berm to shovel. The association does not shovel out berms. The only situation when we take care of berms is if you have an ADA registration in your car or a doctor's note explaining why you cannot shovel your own berm. The berms will not be attended to until last. If you have a medical emergency, PLEASE CALL 911. They will alert the PMCPOA office that those medical vehicles are on their way, and staff will make sure that the medical vehicles have access to your home. A doctor's appointment, lunch with your friends or going to the market do not qualify as emergencies. We usually have notice when a storm is coming in, so please be prepared. If a car is parked on the street or children are playing in the street or cul-de-sac, your street will not be plowed.

The new Bobcat was delivered last month. Staff used the Bobcat to clear out the dead brush along Mil Potrero Frontage Road by the bed and breakfast, and it looks great. We expect our two John Deere carts to be delivered in December, and the large John Deere tractor to be delivered in January.

The Reserve Study called for the clubhouse roof and the maintenance roof to be replaced in the 20-21 year. Instead, we sealed the clubhouse roof and patched the maintenance roof to give the roofs two more years of life. Should the board or future board move forward with the additional phases of the facilities, the roofline of the clubhouse would change, and the money spent on a new roof would be wasted, as it would be ripped off for the new remodel.

The October financials shows the association is better than budget by \$241,018. We still have one assessment to collect from 18/19, one assessment for 19/20, 22 assessments from 20/21 and 155 assessments for the 21/22 year.

The mailboxes at Tirol have a new cover, just in time for winter.

The annual Halloween party for kids was in Lampkin Park this year. There were about 100 kids, and they had a great time decorating pumpkins and playing games along with the music. The Equestrian Center had the third annual Barn Bash, with about 300 people in attendance. There were crafts, horses in Halloween costumes

and a barbecue of hot dogs and hamburgers for \$7. Fun was had by all. At the time of this writing, we are looking forward to our annual Christmas Tree Lighting, and our annual Craft Fair, which came back onto the schedule this year after two years of cancellation due to COVID-19.

'GM' Continued on page 15



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PMCPOA New Year's Eve Party!

Friday, Dec. 31

Dinner: 6pm sharp

**Band: Weekend Warriors
8:30pm-12:30am**

Pre-purchase tickets for dinner in PMC Office, or call 661-242-3788

**Dinner: \$65 Per Person
Appetizer Bar: \$25 PP**

Menu:

*** Arcadian Spring Mix Salad with Feta Cheese, Walnuts & Strawberries/Balsamic Vinaigrette**

*** Soy Garlic Edamame**

*** Butternut Squash Ravioli
Appetizer
Choice Of:**

*** Cowboy Cut Prime Rib, or 4-oz. Lobster Tail & Jumbo Wild-Caught Scallops**

*** Both Served with Baked Potato & Seasonal Vegetable**

*** Add-On: 4-oz Lobster Tail, \$16.95**

(Vegetarian Option Available)

*** Cheesecake Drizzled with Raspberry Sauce**

Champagne Toast at Midnight!

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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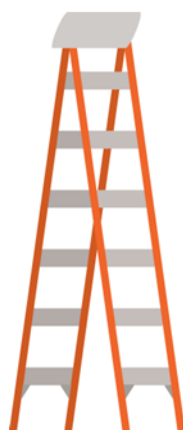
**Ablaze Tree Service
(661) 699-8630**

Professional Services ads are \$5 per line per month, two-line minimum, when paid by the year.

Yardwork/Hauling

**Ron's Odd Jobs & Yardwork
(323) 590-4563**

Otherwise, \$6 per line per month. No refunds. The fee includes the name of your business and phone number. PMCPOA does not guarantee the accuracy of the information nor does it endorse any business or service listed here. To place an ad here, call 242-3788.



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COMPLIMENTS, CONCERNS, COMPLAINTS

PMCPOA welcomes member input. Drop ideas off in the CCC Box in the Clubhouse Lobby, or click on the "CCC Box" menu item on the members'-only side of the PMC website at www.pinemountainclub.net. Anonymous submissions will not be published.

Thank you for your submissions to the Complaints, Concerns and Compliments Box. It takes a village to run a village, and your care and concern help keep PMC the wonderful place we love.

Look for responses in the Condor. Please be sure to include your contact information. While your name will not be published or posted, we don't respond to anonymous submissions.

If you have a concern that involves maintenance, sanitation or safety issues, or is of a confidential nature, please contact the Business Office immediately at 661-242-3788. Thank you!

COMPLIMENTS

• My wife and I spent a very enjoyable evening at the Clubhouse on Thursday, Nov. 4, opening night for the musical "Sarah's Last Day." First, kudos to our esteemed Chairman of the Board, Bill Lewis II, for coming up with such a delightful concept and pulling it all together after a year-long delay because of COVID. All of the players were wonderful, as were the musicians. Our evening began with the excellent Thursday night meal, prepared under the direction of our wonderful Chef Mike. What made it possible to enjoy the meal was Chef Mike's

eagerness to accommodate my wife's need for a gluten-free meal. Mike was so kind to come by our table during our meal. I got a chance to introduce him to my wife, as they had never met before. She thanked him profusely for accommodating her gluten-free needs. He said that once he was asked, he was going to find a way to accommodate her request. Mike is truly quite a guy.

Response: Thank you for the wonderful compliment. This has been passed on to the Food and Beverage Manager and to Bill Lewis II.

• We ate dinner on Friday evening, Nov. 5, and tried two of the new menu items: chicken pot pie and shrimp tacos. They were wonderful! And although we did not try any of the drink specialties, they look delicious! Kudos to the chef and staff! Servers were attentive and pleasant. We had a nice experience.

Response: Thank you for your kind compliment, and for taking time out of your schedule to thank the staff. The kitchen and staff work very hard, and they take great pride in their jobs. Again, thank you.

SUGGESTION

• Thank you for opening the café at 8 a.m. on the weekends. Maybe the café

could do pumpkin pancakes on the weekends, or just on Sundays? Oh yeah, the sourdough bread the café has is not good. Maybe change brands.

Response: Thank you for your kind input. The Food and Beverage Manager will be putting a Sunday Brunch on the menu starting in January. The brunch will feature a new menu just for Sundays. It will also feature specialty drinks, Mimosa's and Bloody Mary's, along with a full bar. We appreciate your input about the café, including the bread.

COMPLAINT

• I would like to know why it takes so long to get anything done here with the committees. You are extremely quick to get the fees for your permits, but it takes weeks to months just to get a decision, and meanwhile, it makes it almost impossible to get a project started when you have to work with contractors and weather scheduling. I've worked with other HOAs, and usually it takes at most two weeks to get approval. This HOA is slow; I'm an upset owner.

Response: We are sorry you are upset. Can you please be more specific? What project are you referring to?



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'NATURE' *Continued from page 1*

trees can communicate bark beetle outbreaks and other traumas to their neighbors. Now, research indicates that there may be intricate communication and transportation networks within a forest. Instead of nerve ganglia and axons, as in animal nervous systems, there are underground root and fungal pathways.



Fig. 2: Jim Whitener Tree with Lynn Stafford and Liz Buchroeder

Current forest management practices, such as clear-cutting and removal of elder trees, may be counterproductive. It is likely that members of the forest exist in a finely tuned system that benefits all the inhabitants. We humans know little of this world that is hidden in plain sight. We tend to give artificial values to trees. Is it commercially valuable? Does it look old and scarred? Is it just a dead snag? I will now focus on a few wonderful trees in PMC.

The Jim Whitener ponderosa pine (Figure 2) is our best-known and largest tree. It stands close to Mil Potrero Highway in the Yellowstone Drive area, but is difficult to reach on foot. It appears quite healthy, although it lost its top a few years ago. The diameter near the base is 6 feet, 8 inches. Age estimates go from 400 years on up. We have two three-needle pine trees known as yellow pines in PMC. The common species here is the Jeffrey pine. The



Fig. 3: Counting ponderosa pine annual rings – Randy Cushman, Lynn Stafford, Mary McDevitt

Photos by Bill Buchroeder, Liz Buchroeder, Maryann Ryan, Mary McDevitt and Lynn Stafford

Whitener Tree, plus a few other large ponderosas, may be remnants from a cooler and wetter past.

Near the Whitener tree was a large ponderosa pine that lived next to the highway.



Fig. 4: Lightning strike scar on Jeffrey pine

It died and became a standing snag. The snag was cut down in 2018 because of the danger to the road. I, along with friends, measured the trunk and counted the tree rings (Figure 3). This one lived for more than 250 years. It was growing before any of the local mountain communities existed.

Jeffrey pines are found throughout the higher and cooler portions of PMC. The large pines around the Business Center are



Fig. 5: Great horned owl on Jeffrey pine

Jeffreys. Figure 4 shows one of the ordeals a tall tree must endure – lightning strikes. Lightning often travels down the outside of the trunk in the living tissue immediately below the bark, producing a linear scar. Jeffrey pines also provide homes for many animals. This great horned owl and her mate raised a family of two young in a Jeffrey pine close to the Post Office in 2018 (Figure 5).

Single-leaf pinyon pine is our most common, and least-appreciated, conifer. It doesn't grow very tall, is grayish blue in color and often does not look very majestic (Figure 6). However, pin-



Fig. 6: Pinyon pine

yons are extremely important trees in our mountains. They occupy dry, hot slopes shunned by other conifers. Their rich pine nuts are favored by many animals and humans, alike. Their foliage offers hunting for insect-eating birds, such as the mountain chickadee (Figure 7).



Fig. 7: Pinyon pine foliage with mountain chickadee

There is a conifer tree in PMC that has been seen by very few people. It resides in an inconspicuous, little-visited canyon. It is a particularly large specimen (6 feet, 8 inches in diameter) of an unusual species called the bigcone Douglas-fir (Figure 8). This tree is only found in Southern California. This giant thrives unseen within our community. PMC is still able to provide sanctuary for portions of the natural world.

Lastly, I would like to recognize a tree that does not occur in PMC but is found in our mountains. This is the valley oak (Figure 9). The Community Park in Frazier Park has a heritage grove of venerable oldsters. Some community activists are working to protect these trees and young saplings appearing around them. The great horned owl is one of many birds inhabiting these oaks. This mother owl is



Fig. 8: Bigcone Douglas-fir with Edie Stafford and Jim Lockhart

'NATURE' *Continued on page 13*



Fig. 9: Valley oak showing rounded lobed leaves and long, pointed acorns

protecting two fluffy youngsters nearby (Figure 10).

Plants of the San Emigdio Mountains Region of California by Pam De Vries discusses these and other local trees. It can be purchased at AdventureInk bookstore in PMC Business Center. Mycorrhizal associations are thoroughly covered in *Finding the Mother Tree* by Suzanne Simard.



Fig. 10: Valley oak with great horned owl

Sign Up for Ready Kern to Receive Needed Notifications

Are you signed up with Ready Kern for emergency notifications? Once signed up, you will be notified on your cell or home phone of any dangers that might be close by, such as fires in the area, flash floods, etc. To sign up, please visit www.ready-kern.com or call 661-873-2602.

Adventure Ink Activities

Adventure Ink in the Village has fun activities for the community. On Thursdays at 3 p.m., the Chess Club meets, and all skill levels are welcome.

On the first Thursday of each month, Adventure Ink hosts Poetry Night. All ages are welcome to read their own poems, read poems from other authors or attend and be part of the audience. Reading begins at 6pm outside of Adventure Ink Bookstore, 16229 Pine Valley Lane, or inside at Artwork Community Galley, depending on the weather.

The editorial and advertising deadline for the January 2022 Condor is Monday, Dec. 13.

Content can be submitted to the editor at rwilde@pmcpoa.com.

Clubhouse Gift Cards Make Great Gifts

If you are looking for a quick gift for the holidays, a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion, why not give a Gift Certificate that's good at the PMC Clubhouse? The cards can be used in the Café, Lounge or Pro Shop. Come by the Business office to purchase a card of any monetary amount.

PMCPOA

Office Hours

8am-5pm Mon-Fri

8am-3pm Sat

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**'ArtFlix at Artworks'
Free Film Series**

Artworks Community Gallery, a non-profit gallery in Pine Mountain Club, is offering movie night with a focus on the arts. It's called "ArtFlix at Artworks." The lineup includes documentaries and bio-pics about famous and not-so-famous artists; movies about art movements; dancers; musicians; playwrights; other creative people and projects. "ArtFlix at Artworks" is scheduled every second and fourth Thursday of each month starting at 6:30 p.m. It's free of charge with a \$3.00 donation for snacks.

**Our lineup for the remainder
of the year is as follows:**

Dec. 9, 2021 -- Paris-The Luminous Years (documentary)

Dec. 23, 2021 -- Sirens Be Seduced (movie)

Artworks Community Gallery is located at 16233 Pine Valley Lane. For more information, call Artworks Community Gallery at 661-858-3130, or visit Facebook @artworkspmv or the website at www.artworks.space.

Property Addresses

The property address must be clearly marked on your home or a sign post and be visible from the road for emergency responders.

**Entertainment
Line-Up:**

Fri/Sat Nights

**Saturday, Dec. 4
7:30-11pm -- Boys Nite
Out
(Classic Oldies, Rock, Blues)**

**Friday, Dec. 10
7-10pm -- Matt Galindo
(Acoustic Alternative/Folk
Rock)**

**Saturday, Dec. 11
7:30-11pm -- Hollywood
Hillbillies
(Country)**

**Saturday, Dec. 18
7:30-11pm -- The Part
Time Playahz
(5-Piece Cover Band; Classic
Rock & "Funky Stuff")**

**Saturday, Dec. 25
Closed**

**Saturday, Jan. 1, 2022
Closed**

**Some Fridays, 7-10pm
Every Saturday 7:30-11pm**

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Transfer Site Hours:

8:30am - 5pm Daily

• *Our Transfer Site is strictly for PMC residents/guests and tenants. Please bring your Member or Guest card.*

• *Only four vehicles are allowed into the site at a time. All other cars will wait outside the gate. When one car leaves another car may come in. Please do not leave your car while waiting in line and walk into the site. Please be patient and wait your turn into the site.*

• *Please secure your trash before heading to the Transfer Site. There has been an increase in trash along the side of our roads from trash flying out the back of vehicles going to the Transfer Site. Let's keep our roads clean.*

Green Waste Site Reminders:

There are no trash bags, lumber or other non-green waste material allowed at the Green Waste Site. Please empty your trash bags and take them back with you or bring them to the Transfer Site for disposal. Bags and other trash get buried under the green waste and as a result end up getting ground up in the slash and can damage the machine. Your cooperation with ONLY dropping off green waste would be greatly appreciated.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Most committees are meeting live again. Please check with each committee for current details about the meetings.

Friday, Dec. 3 (First Friday)

**DARK Greens and Grounds Pro Shop
2 pm Environmental Control Condor Room**

Saturday, Dec. 4 (First Saturday)

**9 am Governing Documents ZOOM
1 pm Planning Pool Pavilion**

Tuesday, Dec. 7 (First Tuesday)

6 pm Communications ZOOM

Wednesday, Dec. 15 (Wednesday Before Board Mtg)

6 pm Budget & Finance Condor Room

Saturday, Dec. 18 (Third Saturday)

10 am PMCPOA Board of Directors Mtg. Condor Room

Saturday, Dec. 25 (Fourth Saturday)

**DARK Emergency Preparedness Condor Room
DARK CERT CERT Facility**

'GM' Continued from page 8

We are still in a COVID-19 pandemic. Masks are required in the clubhouse, pro shop and the post office. Kern County Health Department said the majority of our cases are in the unvaccinated population, and more than 99 percent of Kern County cases are in unvaccinated individuals. If

you are unvaccinated, please don't come in without a mask. If you insist on not wearing a mask, it will be noted that you are attesting to the fact you have been vaccinated.

I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

Rec Room Hours

Friday, Saturday & Sunday 12-5pm

Also open School Holidays and Winter, Spring and Summer Breaks

Arts & Crafts for kids every Sunday in the PMC Clubhouse Rec Room 3-5pm

PMC Fitness Classes

Yoga with Deb

Every Tuesday and Thursday at 12pm

Please bring a yoga mat and some water.

Low Impact Cardio Dance/Tone with Stefani

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays

10-11 a.m.

Classes are in the Condor Room. All classes \$5