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# the Condor

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

2524 Beechwood Way . PO Box P  
Pine Mountain Club . California . 93222  
[www.pinemountainclub.net](http://www.pinemountainclub.net)  
661.242.3788 . 661.242.1471 (fax)

**PMC's 50th birthday**  
**celebration event was a day-**  
**long event full of fun, food,**  
**information, music and more.**  
**See photos on page 3.**



# the Condor

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

VOLUME 43 . NUMBER 9 . SEPTEMBER 2021

Check out PMC's website at [www.pinemountainclub.net](http://www.pinemountainclub.net)

## Our World of Nature

### Yes, We Have Lizards and Snakes

By Lynn Stafford, Liz Buchroeder and Bill Buchroeder

Some folks find it hard to fall in love with reptiles. They are covered with scales; they either crawl or slither; some look like creatures from a horror film; and a few are even poisonous. However, reptiles are quite special. I am going to start by introducing two fancy scientific terms. Homeothermic: having a relatively stable body temperature independent of the outside temperature. This term describes all birds and mammals, including humans. Poikilothermic: having a body temperature that is either equal to or warmer than the outside temperature. This term describes reptiles and many other animals. So, when it gets cold outside, they get cold inside.

Therefore, reptiles are different in their physiology from



**Fig. 1: Female western fence lizard**

birds and mammals. This causes them to behave differently. They tend to be seasonal in temperate zones. In our region, they shut down and enter torpid states during the cold months. Some also avoid the hottest periods of the year.

Most reptiles are carnivorous. And they tend to need less food than comparably sized birds and mammals. If one is interested in looking for reptiles in our area, Spring is a good time to begin. Warm rocks along a trail, warm soil and warm pavement are excellent places to start searching. Also, the sunny sides of buildings are good for certain lizards. Depending on their size and structure, reptiles are looking for insects and other invertebrates or for small mammals. Bird eggs are not off-limit for some arboreal snakes.

Here in PMC, we have a modest variety of lizards. I will discuss five of them. Because of our climate, they are strictly seasonal. In the spring, we can begin to see western fence lizards in

'NATURE' Continued on page 12

## Want to Join CERT? Register for the Upcoming Training

PMCPOA CERT

The CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their community. It trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescues, team organization and disaster medical operations. Using training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhoods following an event when first responders are not immediately available to help. We have one fire station with three firefighters; in a large disaster, they may be overwhelmed. The CERT team works under the guidance of Kern County Fire Department.

To become a member of CERT, you are required to take a 20-hour CERT training class and must be over 18 years of age. We will be conducting CERT training classes on Sept. 25, Oct. 9 and Oct. 23. The classes usually run from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and you must attend all three sessions. The training will be held at our CERT facility on Symonds Drive.

We have a very active CERT in PMC, but we are in need of more members. We hold meetings and trainings on the fourth Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m. For more information or to sign up for the classes, contact Tom Yancey at [tomlyancey@gmail.com](mailto:tomlyancey@gmail.com) or at 242-1094. For more information on CERT, please visit our website at [pinemtnacert@samariteam.com](mailto:pinemtnacert@samariteam.com).

If you put your name on the CERT interest sheet at the Meet and Greet or at one of the concerts, please also send an e-mail to Tom Yancey. The handwritten e-mail addresses on those lists are sometimes difficult to decipher. We do not want to miss anyone who is interested.

Preregistration is required for the classes, and the deadline to sign up is Sept. 18.

**Save the Date**  
**Houchin Blood Drive**  
**Friday, Sept. 24**  
**10am-2pm**

**PREPARE TO PROTECT**  
**Preparing for Disasters is Protecting**  
**Everyone You Love**

*PMCPOA Emergency Preparedness Committee*

National Preparedness Month is an observance each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. The 2021 theme is “Prepare to Protect. Preparing for disasters is protecting everyone you love.”

Each week in September, the campaign will focus on a different aspect of preparedness for individuals, families and communities.

**Week 1 -- September 1-4: Make a Plan**

Talk to your friends and family about how you will communicate before, during and after a disaster. Make sure to update your plan. Have an out-of-state contact if possible.

**Week 2 -- September 5-11: Build a Kit**

Gather supplies that will last for several days or more after a disaster for everyone living in your home. Do not forget to consider the unique needs each person or pet may have in case you have to evacuate quickly. If you already have “grab-and-go” car and pet kits, now is the time to go through them and update items. Because of COVID-19, be sure and include masks and hand sanitizers.

**Week 3 -- September 12-18: Prepare for Disasters**

Limit the impacts that disasters have on you and your family. Know the risk of disaster in your area and check your insurance coverage. Make your home safer from fires by clearing around your home and make it stronger to withstand an earthquake. Be prepared to act fast if you receive a local warning or alert.

**Week 4 -- September 19-25: Teach Youth About Preparedness**

Talk to your kids about preparing for emergencies and what to do in case you are separated. Reassure them by providing information about how they can get involved.

For more information on making a plan and building disaster kits, go to [ready.gov](http://ready.gov).

**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](mailto:gm@pmcpoa.com) and we will add your email address to your member account. Thank you, Karin Shulman, GM**

*the* **Condor**

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The Condor is published monthly by PMCPOA, Inc. and is the official publication of the corporation. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the Condor Committee, the PMCPOA Board of Directors, or the management. Please contact the PMCPOA office with change of address at the phone number above.

PMCPOA, Inc. does not endorse the products of advertisers in *The Condor*.

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.



*The 50th anniversary celebration for PMC on July 31 offered a nice blend of information, entertainment and fun! The event included a workshop on the clubhouse revitalization project, historical presentations, a free barbecue lunch, live music and more. Here's to the next 50 years!*



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## Community Picnics in the Park Continue

Wednesday "Picnics in the Park" at Lampkin Park group picnic area will continue every Wednesday until the weather turns cold.

Picnics start at 5 p.m. Bring something to throw on the BBQ if you wish, a dish to share and your own drinks and table service. Come out and enjoy the great food and visiting with your friends and neighbors. It's a great time to meet new people. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, call 242-1094.

## Everything Exchange is September 12

The Everything Exchange will be Sunday, Sept. 12 from 10am-3pm at the basketball courts in Lampkin Park. Small household items, music, books, office items, computer software, jewelry, knickknacks, rugs, small tools, sports equipment, toys, games, etc. are all welcome.

This is a community swap meet where you can give, take or both, for free! To donate items, call Pam at 661-242-2035 or Tara at 661-242-6901.

## Condor Cafe Hours

### Breakfast and Lunch

**Wednesday through Friday**  
**8 am to 2 pm**

**Saturday - Sunday**  
**Breakfast 9-12 / Lunch 12-3**

**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.**

**Please note that due to lack of staff, take-out is not available on Friday or Saturday nights (for dinners) until further notice.**

## 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.**

**The editorial and advertising deadline for the October 2021 Condor is Monday, Sept. 13.**

**Content can be submitted to the editor at [rwilde@pmcpoa](mailto:rwilde@pmcpoa).**

## Change of Address?

If you have a new mailing address or phone number, please call the office to update your account. If you use the website, it might take a while for us to get it because the site does not notify us that a change has been made. The developer is working on that issue, but in the meantime, please call us or stop by to let us know so that your information will be updated more quickly.

**Ellie Melili**  
DRE# 01301719

Property Management/Real Estate Specialist

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# A Message from the Chairman

**Bill Lewis II**  
*pmcboard@pmcpoa.com*

The New Member Orientation and the Meet & Greet both held on August 14 were very successful and a special thanks to the committees, clubs and staff for being present to answer questions and share information about PMC with the members who attended. Thank you to Karin Shulman, Liz Venegas and her staff and the Communications Committee for helping to organize the event. We hope to get back into the swing and host these events a little more often to keep members better informed.



The presentation of the clubhouse revitalization project held on July 31 was also very successful with about 50 members attending and participating in the hands-on workshop to provide input on the project and a few other association matters. Presentations were later given to the Planning Committee and Environmental Control Committee to seek their input on the project

per their charters in hopes of getting their recommendations to move forward to assist us in preparing the final plans so that we may ascertain a cost.

We have recently issued a few more citations for leaving trash outside of homes and trash containers left outside containing trash and not being certified bear-safe. The trash being left out has attracted bears. Once again, we remind and ask members to please not leave trash out that can be accessed by the bears.

There has been much discussion recently about the enforcement of our rules. I'm still surprised to learn that we have some members who have not read the governing documents and are not knowledgeable about the rules that govern how this association operates and the expectations of members. It's imperative that members be informed and educated about these rules for the betterment of the community – but we cannot force feed this information to members if there is a resistance or

disregard for the rules – and in some cases a blatant disregard.

We have construction projects occurring without the proper permits and some members do not believe it is necessary to obtain the necessary paperwork, permits or permission. We have recently had to utilize legal counsel to assist us in seeking to gain rules compliance in a few cases where violations have occurred and the respective members have refused to correct their violations.

We are doing our best to enforce the rules, but we also truly rely on members being responsible and being compliant on their own. It is not okay to disregard a rule simply because another member is non-compliant. And, particularly regarding violations of the Environmental Control Code, we first seek to gain compliance with warnings either verbally or in writing that provide an opportunity to correct a violation in lieu of a citation within a reasonable amount of time.

I hope you are all staying safe and continuing to enjoy our beautiful community.

## PMC Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

*Grace Wollemann, Recording Secretary*

These are highlights of the Board of Directors open meeting of August 21, 2021. Complete minutes are available at the business office or online at [www.pinemountainclub.net](http://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 10:00 a.m. Eight directors attended: Cam Acosta, Richard Ballard, Steve Burkett, Philip Gabriel, Tony Harmon, Peggy Hoyt-Voelker, Chairman Lewis II and Ellen McClellan. Director Phyllis Throckmorton was excused. Also in attendance were General Manager Karin Shulman and Recording Secretary Grace Wollemann.

The board acknowledged receipt of the committee minutes.

There were three (3) committee applications for approval.

There were five (5) Environmental Control Committee projects recommended and three (3) cottage industry permits.

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

Chairman Bill Lewis II presented the Chairman's report.

General Manager Shulman presented the General Manager's report.

Director Acosta presented the Treasurers report.

**MOTION** by Director Acosta, **SECOND** by Director McClellan to ratify the Association's July 2021 financials in accordance with Civil Code §5500 and §5501. **MOTION** carried.

### **BOARD ACTION ITEMS:**

**OLD BUSINESS: NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**MOTION** by Director Acosta, **SECOND** by Director Hoyt Voelker to ap-

prove **RESOLUTION #01-08-21-2021**, to replace Reserve Item #6020 Kubota Utility Tractor Series (B), with one tractor, not to exceed (NTE) \$76,000 from the Reserve Fund as amended. **MOTION** carried.

**WITHDRAWN - MOTION** by Director Hoyt-Voelker, **SECOND** by Director Gabriel to approve the Emergency Preparedness Committee Charter.

**MOTION** by Director Hoyt-Voelker, **SECOND** by Director Burkett to approve the "PMC Seasons" informational flyer adding community yard sale, hyphen between snow chains and peace and removing second golf camp. **MOTION** carried.

The board sent and received thirty-eight (38) items of correspondence.

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


Meeting adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

# Treasurer's Report

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

	Actual	Budget	Over (Under) Variance	
<b>Revenue</b>				
Current Year Assessment Revenue	391,173	390,636	537	
Operations/Maintenance	41,056	17,145	23,911	
Social Activity	75,334	61,305	14,029	
Interest Income (Operating)	1,600	1,480	120	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>509,162</b>	<b>470,566</b>	<b>38,596</b>	
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Operations/Maintenance	573,811	629,249	(55,438)	
Social Activity	109,531	106,845	2,686	
Operating Projects	14,795	78,000	(63,205)	
Designated Fund Projects	540	0	540	
Reserve Contribution	38,000	38,000	0	
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>736,677</b>	<b>852,094</b>	<b>(115,417)</b>	
<b>Other Operating Transactions</b>				
Additional transfers to Reserve fund	0	0	0	
Assets purchased	0	0	0	
Foreclosed Lots transferred to Property	7,991	0	7,991	
<b>Total Other Transactions</b>	<b>7,991</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,991</b>	
<b>Total Change in Operating Fund</b>	<b>(219,524)</b>	<b>(381,528)</b>	<b>162,004</b>	
<b>Payroll Summary</b>				
Payroll Wages	179,899	201,587	(21,688)	
Payroll Benefits	23,460	33,177	(9,717)	
Taxes and Worker's Compensation	24,990	27,432	(2,441)	
<b>Total Payroll Expense</b>	<b>228,350</b>	<b>262,196</b>	<b>(33,846)</b>	
	<b>Assessment Billed</b>	<b>Assessment Collected</b>	<b>Assessment Receivable</b>	<b>Assessment Receivable %</b>
<b>18/19 Assessment Collection Update</b>	4,231,452	4,230,582	870	0.02%
<b>19/20 Assessment Collection Update</b>	4,631,550	4,628,669	2,881	0.06%
<b>20/21 Assessment Collection Update</b>	4,628,342	4,587,170	41,172	0.89%
<b>21/22 Assessment Collection Update</b>	4,628,343	2,683,204	1,945,139	42.03%
<b>Reserve Fund Update</b>	Beginning Balance July 1, 2021	Plus: YTD Interest and Contributions	Less: YTD Purchases	Ending Balance Current Period
	3,082,499	39,622	(13,203)	3,108,918
Operating Fund Cash Balance	3,335,035			
Reserve Fund Cash Balance	3,070,918			

Respectfully Submitted



Cameron Acosta / Treasurer  
July 31, 2021



# General Manager's Update

*Karin Shulman*

In August, we hosted a New Members' Orientation. Thank you to the new members who made the time to attend. The Meet n' Greet also went well. Thank you to the committee and club representatives who attended. We appreciate all of you.

We also hosted a Movie on the Greens last month, which was well attended. If there is enough interest, we can screen an indoor movie once a month. Please let the recreation supervisor or me know.

The Community Garage Sale was the last weekend in August. At the time of this writing, we had 58 garage sales signed up.

Our last Concert on the Greens will take place on Sunday, Sept. 5. This usually serves as the end of the summer festivities. We will keep the pool open as long as we have hot weather or until the second week of October, whichever comes first. The Recreation Room is open Friday through Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

The road crew is still out rebuilding berms on the roads and bringing some cut wood out of Snowflake Trail. We have been putting some wood on the corner of Mil Potrero Highway and Symonds for free pickup.

This is a reminder that due to the drought, the golf course is starting to brown up. We will be hand watering for about a month. We will water the greens and tees fully, and water everything else at about 50 percent in hopes of keeping the roots wet.

We would love to have some member volunteers join some of our committees. We need you. Please be invested in your community. You can make a difference.

*Please remember the speed limit on our roads is 25 miles per hour. Let's protect our residents and wildlife by obeying the speed limit.*



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## 2021 Pool Hours

8-10am - Morning Lap Swim  
10-11am (Mon/Wed/Fri) -  
Water Aerobics with Stefani  
12-7pm - Open Swim  
7-8pm - Evening Lap Swim

### Important Reminders:

- No lifeguard on duty
- Member or guest cards are required to enter pool
- Every member/guest must have a signed waiver on file
- Ages 14 and under require adult supervision (ages 15-17 may swim without adult only if a parent or legal guardian has a completed waiver on file at the office)
- No alcohol permitted in pool area
- No sports equipment allowed for safety reasons, and no floaties larger than 3 feet
- Lap swim is for all ages, subject to the above reminders

## PMC Fitness Classes

### Yoga

Every Tuesday and  
Thursday at 12pm

Please bring a yoga mat  
and some water.  
Classes are in the Condor  
Room.

### Water Aerobics

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fri-  
days at 10am in the pool

All classes \$5

Please note that Interval Train-  
ing on Tuesday nights and  
Stretch & Tone on Wednesday  
mornings have been post-  
poned until further notice.

Join us for another...  
**Movie on the Greens**

Friday, Sept. 10  
8 p.m.

**“Sonic the Hedgehog”**



## Message from EC

### Re: Firewood

Firewood should be stacked neatly, with as few voids as possible, at least 10 feet from the structure and should have surface fuels removed (pine needles, etc.), at least 3 feet around. Earth tone tarps are acceptable if securely fastened.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

### Electrical Work

Old Wire Electric  
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### Yardwork, Etc.

Ron’s Odd Jobs & Yardwork  
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### Tree Service/Arborist

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Professional Services ads are  
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Otherwise, \$6 per line per month.  
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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](http://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

- A huge thank you to all involved in our awesome new pool. I so appreciate having it and how well it is taken care of.

**Response:** You are welcome. The pool has been a big hit, and we are glad that you enjoy it so much.

- I just wanted to take a minute to thank everyone involved in the management and administration of PMCPOA and its many facilities and services. I have lived here parttime and fulltime for over three years, but I was reluctant to invite friends and

family to spend time here as my guests because of all the negative articles I had been seeing over the last few months; people complaining about not having their needs met right away, and insulting and berating the folks who work hard to help us.

I must say I have not had that experience here, the more I get out to meet everyone. Neighbors, shopkeepers, clubhouse assistants and restaurant staff have been simply wonderful. I took my wife and granddaughter to the clubhouse for the first time since buying property here for my wife's birthday dinner. The waitstaff and kitchen staff were outstanding, and we thoroughly enjoyed our excellent meal and courteous service.

I can't say enough about how wonderful it is to have people around us who take the time to care. I hope others will take the time to notice the difference kindness makes, and offer it in return. Thanks!

**Response:** Thank you for taking the time to write a wonderful compliment to our staff. We do have a great staff, and we are so happy you took notice. Again, thank you.

### CONCERNS

- Please put in two to three clothes

hooks in the pool changing room and both bathrooms. Thanks!

**Response:** The hooks for the pool bathrooms and dressing room are on the way. Thank you for the suggestion.

- At the pool today, the woman next to me said, "For the unsupervised children up here, the showers are a water park." She is right. We are in a megadrought, yet I have seen young children take ten showers in a row, jump in the pool and then shower again. The prior CEO dealt with this.

**Response:** The children are entitled to shower before they get in the pool and after they get out of the pool, the same as adults. The parents are responsible for their children, not the staff.

- This is for the Board of Directors: We do not want the new recreational vehicles rule where we can no longer have our RV at our home. We keep it in case of evacuation for fire or to live in if our house is severely damaged in an earthquake. This new rule will make it impossible to keep it in PMC since there is a waiting list for the PMC RV storage. EC has been to our house in the past to check that our RV is in back of the 50-foot requirement for our driveway to the middle of the street ease-

*'CCGs' Continued on page 11*



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'CCCs' Continued from page 10

ment.

**Response:** (This response was sent out as an email blast by Bill Lewis, Chairman of the Board, on Wednesday, Aug. 18, 2021). The two recent proposals to modify the Environmental Control Code rule (7.22) regarding the storage of RVs and other vehicles/vessels have been removed from the upcoming agenda for the open board meeting on Aug. 21.

I anticipate similar proposals to be re-submitted for consideration at the September meeting, but have noticed that a few changes are being made to address some input from members on the topic and based on further review of the intent. We will share any proposals if submitted and I'm certain the board appreciates the feedback on the matter from the members.

## Wood Pellet Delivery Information

Wood pellet delivery to PMC has started! Golden Fire Wood Pellets are delivered two tons at a time to your PMC lot. Two tons equals 100 40-pound bags on two 4 x 5 pallets.

Deliveries are scheduled by area of PMC to reduce delivery time and cost. Keep in mind that we bring in over 130+ tons before Thanksgiving. There are no wood pellet deliveries in December.

If you are interested in wood pellet delivery, please call Vicky at 661-242-6988 with your name, phone number and cross-streets.

## Botanical Talk Taking Place at Gallery in Village

Artwork Community Gallery (in the village) is sponsoring a talk by Pam De Vries, local botanist and author. "A Botanical Tour of San Emigdio Mountains Region" will be presented on Saturday, Sept. 11 at 10 a.m.

A \$10 per person donation will be taken, with all proceeds going to support the Lockhart Native Plant Garden in PMC. De Vries has worked as a botanical consultant in Southern California since the mid 1990s. She and her husband moved to PMC in 2006. She has authored a popular field guide titled "Plants of the San Emigdio Mountains Region of California." She has also assisted with the identification of native plants in the Lockhart Native Plant Garden.

## PMCPOA Assessment is Now Past Due

The 2021/22 assessment is now past due. The amount is \$1,624.00 this year (a \$20 increase), and was due by July 1.

Assessments will become delinquent on Sept. 15, 2021 at 5 p.m. You can mail a check to P.O. Box P, Pine Mountain Club, CA 93222, drop it off at the Business Office or call us with a credit card at 661-242-3788.

## Final Concert on the Greens

4:30-7pm, Free

Sept. 5 -- Jimi Nelson Band

*Outdoor food and BBQ available for purchase. Please no outside food brought in.*

## PMC Facebook Page

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

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

## EC Committee Seat Open

*There is an open seat on the EC Committee. We are looking for someone with an architectural and possibly structural background, as well as construction knowledge. If you would like to apply, please complete a committee application, available in the EC Office or the Business Office.*

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**'NATURE** *Continued from page 1*

our gardens, on our wooden fences or even on the sides of our homes. Fig. 1 is a female; males have bright blue underparts, hence the alternate name, blue-bellied lizard. If you see a 'blue-belly' doing push-ups, he is either warning off other males or trying to attract a female with his bright colors (is this comparable to showing off one's biceps?). In some of our drier areas lives a modestly attired lizard called the side-blotched lizard. It looks somewhat like a female fence lizard but has a little dark spot above the front legs (Fig. 2).



**Fig. 2: Side-blotched lizard**

Then there is the alligator lizard (Fig. 3). It is quite large and fast-moving. It often can be found in gardens. Trivial detail: It is the only lizard with a purple tongue. A favorite of mine is the western whiptail (Fig. 4). It could be named "Nervous Nellie." It moves in a series of jerky undulations. Because of its movements and its characteristic back color pattern, it is easy to identify. Finally, there is the coastal horned lizard (or horny toad). A meadow west of PMC may hold one of the height records for this species at 6,200 feet. Camouflage is this animal's chief defense. Can you find the one in Fig. 5?



**Fig. 3: Northern alligator lizard**

On to the legless wonders, the snakes. Fear of snakes is very common among people. Even with my decades of experience with snakes in the field, I can be startled by the sight of a weaving hose. It is an involuntary, probably instinctive, reaction. However our emotions may feel about it,

**Photos by Bill Buchroeder, Randy Cushman, Edie Stafford, Lynn Stafford and Roger Stafford**

snakes are an integral part of our natural world. I will discuss three species; several others are possible in our area. Snakes have evolved to use body movement instead of leg movement to propel themselves. Some lizards, such as the alligator



**Fig. 4: Western whiptail**

lizard, use a combination of these techniques.

If one is driving up or down Hudson Ranch Road west of PMC, it is wise to drive slowly to avoid running over a snake. Two that are common out there are the gopher snake and the Pacific Rattlesnake. They like the warm pavement, and often



**Fig. 5: Coastal horned lizard**

cross the road slowly. These two snakes look somewhat alike. They are quite large and have similar diamond-patterned backs. However, rattlesnakes tend to be chunkier in body and somewhat darker. They have triangular heads (Fig. 6), and of course, rattles at the end of the tail (Fig 7). Gopher snakes have heads that slope forward from the body, and have no rattles (Fig. 8). Rattle snakes have no desire to hurt humans or dogs. They simply don't want to be stepped on. Their poisonous bite has registered in the collective intelligence of large prairie mammals, such as bison, over



**Fig. 6: Pacific rattlesnake - showing triangular head**

many generations of evolutionary change. The rattle is a warning. Nonetheless, it is important to be alert when outside during the warm seasons. My rule is to nev-

er take a step without looking first. That includes stepping over logs. Never pick up a flat object like a piece of plywood so that the opening faces you. And, of course, dog owners have to use special precautions. Many dogs do not have a sense of rattlesnake presence. My dog once walked over a dead rattlesnake without being aware; and she was walking straight at an agitated rattler when I called her on another occasion.



**Fig. 7: Pacific rattlesnake-showing tail rattles**

Another snake found locally is the two-lined garter snake (Fig. 9). It has linear stripes along its body, rather than rectangular patches, like the two snakes previously mentioned. It prefers water and wet habitats near water.

There are several other snake species possible in our area, including the king snake, ring-necked snake, racers, whipsnakes and others. Please try to avoid running over, or killing, any snake, when possible.

Lizards and snakes are important natu-

**'NATURE** *Continued on page 13*



**Fig. 8: Gopher snake**

**'NATURE** *Continued from page 12*

ral predators and should be treated with respect. Some of the larger snakes help keep the rodent population in balance. I am going to mention one other reptile that is not found in PMC, but is a very special animal because of its rarity. This is the western



**Fig. 9: Two-lined garter snake**

pond turtle. The nearest population to us is in a seismic sag pond on Gorman Post Road, southeast of Gorman. This population is being studied by a California State University at Bakersfield biology professor (Fig. 10). Also, our local nature pho-



**Fig. 10: Western pond turtle -- marked and studied by a population researcher**

tographer, Bill Buchroeder, has been documenting its presence for the last five years (Fig. 11). This population of pond



**Fig. 11: Western pond turtles warming in the sun**

turtles lives in a pond that dries up each summer. The turtles simply burrow into the mud and remain inactive until the next filling. Any turtles found in local ponds, such as Fern's Lake, are introduced, non-native species that have been carelessly discarded as unwanted pets. Of course, no pets should be discarded.

Now repeat after me: "Reptiles are beautiful; reptiles are beautiful!"

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### **Please Pick Up After Your Pets**

*Please be considerate and pick up after your dog. The association office has been getting lots of complaints about dogs doing their business in other people's yards, on the street, on walking paths, etc. Please take along a bag when you are out walking your dog. Thank you.*

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## **Reminder: Fire Danger Level is EXTREME!**

*We are in a high drought season. Please remember to conserve on water, and do not throw cigarette butts on the ground. Visit [KernFireSafe.org](http://KernFireSafe.org) to see how to harden a home for fires with defensible space, landscaping and evacuation preparation. Be prepared in case we have a wildfire in our area. Per the Forest Service – the fire danger level is EXTREME in our area. To check status of fires in California go to <https://www.fire.ca.gov>.*

## **Post Office Reminder**

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.

The staff at your post office reminds you to 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.

### **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.*

**Richie's Plumbing**  
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[richmann1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:richmann1@sbcglobal.net)

**PMCPOA**  
**Office Hours**  
**8am-5pm Mon-Fri**  
**8am-3pm Sat**  
*(Closed for lunch 12-1 pm)*  
**Office 242-3788**  
**Patrol 242-3857 (24 hrs)**

## A Few Association Rule Reminders:

### Lampkin Park:

13.03 -- All litter must be placed in the provided containers.

13.04 -- Park hours are from dawn to 10 p.m.

13.05 -- Loud noises that would disturb others are not permitted at any time.

13.06 -- Care should be taken during play and other recreation to preserve the health and beauty of all plants, shrubs and trees. Activities such as golfing, bike riding, etc. are not permitted in the park area.

13.07 -- When using park equipment or participating in other activities, no conduct offensive to others sharing the park or behavior that may cause injury is allowed. All equipment and facilities shall be used as designed and not in a manner that would cause injury or harm to anyone.

13.08 -- Children under the age of 8

must be accompanied by an adult.

### Clubhouse:

10:08 -- For safety reasons and hygiene, shoes and shirts must be worn. Wet swimsuits are not permitted, and swimsuits without cover-ups are not permitted. Violators of this rule will be asked to leave the clubhouse.

10:09 -- Recreational bike riding, skateboarding and roller skating are prohibited around the clubhouse parking lot and walkways.

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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 calledit "ArtFlix at Artworks." The lineup includes documentaries and biopics 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:

Sept. 9, 2021 -- Andy Warhol (documentary)

Sept. 23, 2021 -- Cadillac Records (movie)

Oct. 14, 2021 -- The Dance of Reality (movie)

Oct. 28, 2021 -- Trumbo (documentary)

Nov. 11, 2021 -- Gaugin-The Full Story (documentary)

Nov. 25, 2021 -- Amelie (movie)

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.

## Entertainment Line-Up:

### Fri/Sat Nights

Friday, Sept. 3

7-10pm -- Asher Nicholson

(Mellow and Love Songs)

Saturday, Sept. 4

7:30-11pm -- Runaway (Country, Classic & Southern Rock)

Sunday, Sept. 5

4:30-7pm (COG) -- Jimi Nelson Band (Country)

Saturday, Sept. 11

7:30-11pm -- Steve Hill (Country, Master Fiddle Player)

Friday, Sept. 17

7-10pm -- Gil Karson and Friends (Americana)

Saturday, Sept. 18

7:30-11pm -- The Dave Wilson Band (Country)

Saturday, Sept. 25

7:30-11pm -- Meridian (Music from the '60s, '70s & '80s)

First and third Friday, 7-10pm  
Every Saturday 7:30-11pm

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**Transfer Site Hours:**

**8:30am - 5pm Daily**  
**Open until 7pm Thursdays**  
**through summer**

**Reminders**

*A reminder that 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 Reminder:**

*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, Sept. 3 (First Friday)**

9am **Greens and Grounds** Pro Shop  
2 pm **Environmental Control** Condor Room

**Saturday, Sept. 4 (First Saturday)**

9 am **Governing Documents** ZOOM  
1 pm **Planning** Condor Room

**Tuesday, Sept. 7 (First Tuesday)**

6 pm **Communications** ZOOM

**Wednesday, Sept. 15 (Wednesday Before Board Mtg)**

6 pm **Budget & Finance** Condor Room

**Saturday, Sept. 18 (Third Saturday)**

10 am **PMCPOA Board of Directors Mtg.** Condor Room

**Saturday, Sept. 25 (Fourth Saturday)**

9 am **Emergency Preparedness** Condor Room  
10 am **CERT** CERT Facility

**Doing Some Work Around your Property?**

If you are doing any kind of work on or around the outside of your house (roof, painting, decks, putting up a shed or adding a fence to the property, adding a garage, removing trees, etc.) a reminder that you must

first talk with the PMCPOA Environmental Control Department. You can call them at 661-242-3788, ext. #212 or 213.

There are permits required for many projects, and guidelines that must be followed as per PMCPOA CC&Rs and the Environmental Control Code.

Also, if you are planning on having a yard sale, please call the EC office at extension #213 and have them send you a permit. You must have the permit on file before you have your yard sale. It's free; just fill it out and return it to them.

**Rec Room Hours**

**Friday, Saturday & Sunday 12-5pm**

**Also open School Holidays and Winter, Spring and Summer Breaks**

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

*If you are going off the hill and need to check for backups on the I-5 Freeway, there is a handy website to check before you leave: <https://www.sigalert.com/?lat=34.65778&lon=-118.69714&z=0>*

*You can select "Los Angeles" if you are heading south, or "Bakersfield" if you are going north. It will provide details about any problems and length of the backup.*