South Skyline Association
General Meeting

*Imagine the Future of Open Space!*

MROSD (Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District) is currently in the midst of a 16-month vision plan process to determine the future of its open space preserves. MROSD staff will join the South Skyline Association’s Fall meeting to present information about their community engagement efforts and environmental analysis. MROSD has used all this information to develop priority actions to include in the vision plan.

**Friday, October 25, 2013 at 7:30pm**  
Saratoga Summit Fire Station  
12900 Skyline Blvd.

Please bring a dessert to share. SSA will provide beverages.

The August Meeting at the Jaqua’s ranch started with a great potluck under ideal weather conditions followed by the program “Water and Fire” by CalFire Captain Tim O’Donoghue and SSA President Larry Watson. Wildfire is a very serious concern in the South Skyline Area so please understand the importance of maintaining defensible space and removing burnable materials from the roof, the gutters, and around all your structures.

SouthSkyline.org Committee. The board is happy to announce that Frances Mann-Craik has agree to become the new webmaster in October replacing Bill Prince. We all owe thanks to Bill for his many years as webmaster. We are also seeking individuals who would like to participate in the future migration of our website to a CMS-based platform as members of the committee.

- Skylines The board was very pleased that Tanja Anderson’s first Skylines issue as editor was so well received. Thank you, Tanja.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Board Members</th>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Board Responsibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patti Begley</td>
<td>Highway 9 - Santa Cruz County</td>
<td>Membership/Communications Committee, Website Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Gechlik</td>
<td>Highway 35 - Long Ridge</td>
<td>Vice President; Programs Chair; BAAQMD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim Hamilton</td>
<td>Highway 35 – Oakridge</td>
<td>Public Works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Harriman</td>
<td>Las Cumbres</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Jewett</td>
<td>Saratoga Gap</td>
<td>Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connie Kleinjans</td>
<td>Highway 35 - Page Mill Road</td>
<td>Treasurer, Website Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Myers</td>
<td>Las Cumbres</td>
<td>Public Safety, SSEPO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marianne Rose</td>
<td>Highway 35 - Long Ridge</td>
<td>Communications Committee, Website Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruth Waldhauer</td>
<td>Portola Heights</td>
<td>Membership/Communications Committee, SPUG, Website Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Watson</td>
<td>Highway 9 - Santa Cruz County</td>
<td>President, Website Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace Welcome</td>
<td>Skylonda</td>
<td>Communications Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Morris</td>
<td>Saratoga Gap</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Rowe</td>
<td>Highway 9 - Santa Cruz County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The South Skyline Emergency Preparedness Organization (SSEPO) held our bi-monthly meeting on August 6 at the MROSD Skyline Ranger Station. Bryan Osborne demonstrated set-up of the 6 meter antenna at the medical trailer and we reviewed the equipment and supplies in the trailer. Jerry Parsons reported that 16 people completed the CERT training class at Las Cumbres and there are plans being made to follow up with first aid training available to those interested.

Discussions are underway to conceptualize a southern communication and medical hub at Las Cumbres similar to the northern hub at the MROSD Ranger Station. It was decided to hold a communications drill on Saturday, November 9 to create a disaster scenario that tests our communications equipment and abilities in conjunction with the medical facilities. Neighborhood coordinators and cluster leaders would be involved in the drill as well as ham radio operators.

Our next SSEPO meeting will be held Thursday, October 24th at 7:00 PM at the Las Cumbres Community Center and I urge all interested community members to attend and give us your ideas and volunteer to help us with our activities.

Save the Date!

Save the date for the 2013 Las Cumbres Holiday Bazaar! On Sunday, November 17 from 10 am to 4 pm, local artists, bakers, craftsmen, gardeners and cooks who live in South Skyline will be showing and selling their products. Hand-crafted jewelry, felted clutches, painted silk scarves, soaps, lavender and bee-related items are in production, along with holiday crafts, decorations and handmade ornaments.

In addition to early holiday shopping, breakfast pastries, homemade soups, and seasonal beverages will be offered throughout the day.

The Las Cumbres Conservation Corporation community center is located at 18260 Las Cumbres Road, Los Gatos, 95033. Contact JulieSchmidlen@verizon.net for more information.

HaHa Halloween!!!!

Why did the skeleton cross the road?

What room does a ghost not need?

Why are ghosts so bad at lying?

(Answers on bottom of Page 9)
Having a directory of providers that serve our mountain community is indeed a must have! The Whole Mountain Source Book is the one-stop to find what you need fast!

Your SSA Board agrees having this publication at your fingertips may enhance your life in the mountains.

Currently this directory is made available to mountain residents between the intersections of Bear Creek/Skyline Blvd (to the south) and Route 9/Skyline Blvd (to the north).

The publisher of this directory is expanding the availability of her directory further north to include more mountain residents.

This directory consists of (1) an annual printed publication and (2) website resources for the unincorporated mountain communities of the Santa Cruz Mountains. It’s filled with useful information and service providers who work in our mountains.

Michele will make the book available at our general meetings for free. The websites are currently available with the 2013 edition. This will be the 19th year of this yearly publication. It is already enjoyed by many of our members and many of our local businesses and professional services are already represented in the book and on the websites. If you would like to receive a copy just come to our future general meetings. Also, if you own a business or service that would benefit from advertising in the book and on the websites, email advertise@wmsb.net or call Michele at 408-353-3535.

www.wmsb.net
www.LosGatosMountainHomes.com
www.SantaCruzMountainsWineries.com

Adopt-A-Highway by Ruth Waldhauer

In May 2005 South Skyline Association (SSA) and Skyline Historical Society (SHS) took on responsibility for clearing litter along Skyline Boulevard from SMC mile marker 2 north to the Vista Point below Russian Ridge and north to Rapley Ranch Road. So far, there are 159 names on the honor roll listing those who have participated.

Ami Jaqua and friends participate in Adopt-A-Highway caring for Skyline Boulevard from Rapley Ranch Road to Old La Honda Road. Many thanks to Ami and friends!

In accordance with the Adopt-A-Highway agreement, every two month volunteers gather litter. We love getting new recruits. Please join us!!! You will find it rewarding and fun.

Adopt-A-Skyline!!!
Contact Ruth Waldhauer at ruth.waldhauer3@gmail.com or 650-948-1466

On July 13, the volunteers who cleaned up litter. From left to right are Joe Hall, Christopher Kolon, Reingard Kolon, Doug Jacobson (all from Jikoji Zen Center), Armen Leonian, and Robert Bradford. Photo by Ruth.
Quarterly Roundup

After our busiest month ever in June, we had a generally normal pace of incidents over the rest of the summer. We’re getting accustomed to our recent acquisition, Engine 2911.

Some of you may have noticed the “Fill the Boot” fundraiser for the Muscular Dystrophy Association at Saratoga Gap on August 24th. A few of us assisted the Saratoga Summit Cal Fire crew with this fun and important fundraiser. By the end of the day, over $3000 was raised for this good cause.

We received a good number of donations during the SSA membership renewal drive – thanks to all who participated. The South Skyline Firefighters is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and we are always grateful for donations. Our business address is:
Saratoga Summit Station
12900 Skyline Blvd. Los Gatos, 95033.

Recruiting

We have one candidate for the volunteer fire academy next spring. In the past two months we held several open houses and distributed a recruiting flyer to all mailboxes in our response area. From these efforts, we have a few new prospects. They may not quite make it through the application process in time for the upcoming academy, but we’re hopeful of adding a few more and having a bumper crop in the subsequent academy.

We’re always happy to have anyone interested contact us for more information or come observe one of our training sessions to get a better idea of what is involved. No prior experience necessary. Leave a message at (408) 395-5811, use the contact form on our website, http://southskylinefire.org, or talk to any of us in person. 650-948-1466

Thank You Adopt-A-Highway Volunteers!

On September 7, In the second photo shown (left to right) are: Robert Bradford, Victoria DeMartini, Armen Leonian, Eric Jewett, and Sarah Glover. Photo by Ruth.
Geocaching in Our Backyard by Tanja Anderson

Geocaching is an outdoor treasure hunting game. “The word Geocaching refers to GEO for geography, and to CACHING, the process of hiding a cache” (www.geocaching.com). With use of a GPS-enabled device one can navigate to find these countless treasures.

You can sign up for free at www.geocaching.com for more coordinates or we will feature coordinates in the Skylines newsletter. If you find our featured Geocache or a cache near the Skyline route, please send us your picture, coordinates and a brief description of your experience so that we might feature your story.

Called the Dollar Cache—Exchange something worth $1

N 37° 19.415 W 122° 12.283
UTM: 10S E 570460 N 4131065

Nice short hike. You will need to go off the trail. 2392 elevation. Be safe and have fun!
Golden Chinquapin -the name just falls off the tongue. I love to say it when one is unexpectedly encountered along the trail.

A large shrub or small tree, golden chinquapin (Chrysolepis chrysophylla) has leaves of dark, shiny green on top and bright golden scales underneath. Leaves are 2 to 6” long and tapered on each end. Trees are evergreen, losing about one third of their leaves each year.

The plants typically have more than one trunk. Bark is pale gray on shrubs or younger trees, furrowed gray-brown on mature trees.

Flowers bloom from July to August. Upright male catkins are off white. Female flowers are greenish, tiny and at the base of the catkins or at twig axials. Chinquapin flowers are primarily wind pollinated, but bees and other insects attracted to the flowers may aid in pollination. Fruits are spiny burs, 1 to 1 ½ “ across and contain 1-3 small nutlets. The burs are reminiscent of chestnuts. The related plants are both members of the oak family Fagaceae. After 2 years of growth, burs ripen in early fall. Although the nutlets are edible, getting to them requires thick gloves and often insects have been there.

Plants can reproduce both by seed and vegetatively. Seeds are dispersed in fall by gravity, squirrels, and birds. Young plants germinate in late winter or early spring. Seedlings require moist conditions while adult plants survive better in dry, infertile, rocky soil. Wet growing conditions can shorten the plants’ survival due to fungal rot. In dry growing conditions, they may survive 400 to 500 years, while in wet growing conditions lifespans of up to 150 years are more common. Fortunately, they can also reproduce from roots into small colonies of genetically identically plants. Root sprouting may result in one individual tree/colony appearing as multiples trees above the soil surface. In dry areas, sprouting is a more important means of reproduction.

There are 2 subspecies of golden chinquapin. Chrysolepis chrysophylla var. minor is more common in the Santa Cruz Mountains. It grows as a bush or small tree less than 30’ tall and leaves are folded upward along the midvein. Chrysolepis chrysophylla var. chrysophylla can grow as a larger tree and leaves are flat.

Chinquapins can form both flower stem and leaf galls in response to 2 different species of cynapid wasp. Flower stem galls are ½ “ diameter red globes. They easily detach from the plant and can sometimes be observed littering the trails (another way to notice chinquapin).

Chinquapins are moderately resistant to fire due to thick bark (when present) and sprouting from root crowns, burls, or roots. However seed germination is not increased by fire.

Several tribes of California Indians used chinquapin seeds for food. The seeds could be roasted, dried, pounded into meal, or eaten raw according to tribal custom. Paiutes made a tea from chinquapin leaves.

Golden chinquapin is found below 6000’ from Washington south through coastal mountains of California to San Luis Obispo County and in parts of the Sierra Nevada.
Kings Creek Truck Trail Clearing Project Completed!

By Dick Schwind, President of Southskyline Firesafe Council

Thank you, all you volunteers that have helped us with the HUGE project of completing the clearing along the lower Kings Creek Truck Trail (KCTT). Over 1600 hours of volunteer effort were required to complete this second grant. (The first grant funds were used to clear along part of Skyline Blvd and part way down the KCTT.) The Las Cumbres community and surrounding homes now have better protection from a major wildland fire. See the insert in this issue which describes the project.

Thank you, project leader Fred Glover with the major help of George Johnson, Amit Vacher-Gnanathural, Sarah Glover, Ed Hayes, Bill Guenther, and all the sponsors that helped manage the Ben Lomond crew!

Our FireSafe Council now looks forward to helping to clear along our community private roads, helping homeowners with their defensible space and continuing our other programs.

Announcement for Sudden Oak Death Follow-up Training Meeting

The results from the 2013 Sudden Oak Death blitz study are almost ready! A big thank you to the participants who collected samples and who attended the community meeting back in May. We turned in more than 20 envelopes of samples ranging from La Honda to Bear Creek Road--one of the highest participation rates of all the localities. It is probably safe to say that our area is the SOD infection world capital, but all hope is not lost!! Over the years, SOD researchers have steadily discovered more science to teach us actions which can help diminish the risk of oak mortality. Larry Watson’s article in the last Skylines issue describes some of this current knowledge.

The South Skyline 2013 SOD blitz follow-up meeting will be in Sunday, November 17th at the Saratoga Summit CDF fire station. This meeting will cover the newest results and science, as well as provide a very informative outdoor, hands-on training about SOD control methods. This is similar to last fall’s outdoor meeting, with a lot new information about fungicide application (the injection has changed significantly).

If you might be interested and would like an email reminder about the meeting date/time, please email Jane Manning at skyline_sod@yahoo.com.

Other SOD events: Dr. Garbelotto is holding a talk about the 2013 results and the SODMap iPod and Android apps on Oct 3rd at Mulford Hall at 7pm on the Berkeley campus. The webcast will eventually be made accessible online—please email Jane if you want the update.
SERVICES

*Residential Design* Country and urban custom houses, remodel and additions. 20+ years experience in California. Local references (economic and high end) See some of my work at: http://www.TSVresidential.com

Taruno S. Vega 650-747-0654
taruno@coastside.net

Creative Learning Strategies One-on-one tutoring in your home by qualified educators. K-12, all subject areas including test prep ISEE, HSPT, SSAT & SAT, Contact Learning Strategies, www.creative-learning-strategies.com or email victoriaskinner@creative-learning-strategies.com or call 650-747-9651 for a free phone consultation.

Environmental Consultant Certified by State of California Asbestos, Lead, Mold, and Indoor Air Quality. 20% discount to SSA members EPA Approved Training Provider info@ertinc.com 1-800-660-1808

Dog Days Since 1995 Training, Exercising, Socializing. We have two sessions that begin each season, Monday evenings & Saturday mornings at Woodland School in Ladera (Portola Valley) 650-851-5500 Winner 2013 Daily News BEST Dog Trainer & BEST Dog Day Care

SC4 Amateur Radio Club Welcomes those interested in amateur radio for emergency communications and neighborly talk. License is free. Simple exam: No Morse code. We offer classes. Visit www.sc4arc.org or write: SC4ARC, PO Box 237 La Honda, CA 94020

*Skyline Broadband Service* - Now offering speeds up to 25 Mbps broadband in the South Skyline area. http://SkylineBroadbandService.com 650-972-9279

Free fire fitting for those in the South Skyline Fire & Rescue primary response area. This fitting will allow the connection of a fire hose to your water supply and can be utilized by the fire department to access the water necessary for fire suppression. South Skyline Fire and Rescue, web site, http://www.southskylinefire.org/ in the "Help us help you" section

REaltors

JOHN & BARBARA - MOUNTAIN REALTORS

We know the mountains because we live in the mountains!

Barbara Harriman (C) 408-656-8209
John Harriman (C) 408-332-4780
Barbara.Harriman@cbnorcal.com
John.Harriman@cbnorcal.com

We’re with Coldwell Banker

Highway 35 Chip Seal

Submitted by Bruce Hildenbrand

Assemblyman Richard Gordon’s Transportation aide, Jeremy Dennis, recently visited Highway 35. He is in the process of working with the SVBC (Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition) and Caltrans on any Chip Seal issues on Skyline.

If you have any comments or concerns about the Highway 35 chip sealing please direct them to Jeremy Dennis via E-mail, at Jeremy.Dennis@asm.ca.gov

Advertisements

Our Web www.harrimanrealty.com
Our Blog http://harrimanrealty.tumblr.com/

JAMES MORRIS, REAL ESTATE Broker Associate and General Contractor with Alain Pinel Realtors

With over 30 years extensive construction and property development including septic and well experience, uniquely qualified to evaluate, acquire, and renovate properties. (C) 408-828-3998 or www.apr.com/jmorris

FOR SALE

Dog Obstacle Course - Very Lightly used various ladder, ramps, and tube. Asking $450. Please call 650 851-5500 & leave a voice-mail anytime.

For Sale - 15 KW Onan Generator 120/208 volts, 3 phase, propane, skid mounted, enclosed, used only 470 hrs. Manuals included for engine and Generator. Starts and runs great. Used for standby power. $1,200. obo call 408-483-2232

Highway 35 Chip Seal

Submitted by Bruce Hildenbrand

Assemblyman Richard Gordon’s Transportation aide, Jeremy Dennis, recently visited Highway 35. He is in the process of working with the SVBC (Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition) and Caltrans on any Chip Seal issues on Skyline.

If you have any comments or concerns about the Highway 35 chip sealing please direct them to Jeremy Dennis via E-mail, at Jeremy.Dennis@asm.ca.gov

Answers from page 3, "HaHa Hallowen!"
1. To get to the body shop!
2. A living room!
3. Because you can see right through them!
Consider getting Your Skylines by Email
For those members who receive the Skylines through the Post Office please consider the option to receive it on-line. This will save paper as well as postage. If you sign up for this option you will be notified by email when the next issues is released. Sign up and update your email address with Ruth Waldhauer at: ruth.waldhauer3@gmail.com or 650-984-1466

Those member who live locally where we stuff mail boxes will continue to get a paper copy.

SSA Calendar - General Meeting –
Friday, October 25, 2013 at 7:30p. Saratoga Summit Fire Station at 12900 Skyline Blvd.

Business Meetings on Thursdays at 7:30p
November 14
December 12

President Larry Watson
408-313-6293
Editor Tanja Anderson
408-882-7829

Skylines is Published Once A Quarter
Skylines invites individuals to submit articles and artwork.

Policy on Classified Ads: Ads are free to SSA members. No continuing ads will be accepted. They must be resubmitted for each issue.

Skylines Ads and News Articles: The Deadline for submitting ads and articles for the next issue is December 5, 2014.

Send all ads and articles to: Skylines Editor c/o 224400 Skyline Blvd #35, La Honda CA 94020, or SkylinesEditor@yahoo.com. 408-867-3973. Subject Line for articles should read: FINAL DRAFT

We reserve the right to edit all submissions. We assume no responsibility for omissions, incorrect information or personal opinions.