



Pine Brook Press

A Newsletter for, about and written by
Pine Brook Hills Residents

AUTUMN 2001



THE TIES THAT BIND

On a bright Tuesday morning in September unfathomable evil descended from the skies over New York and Washington. Here, in our idyllic little community perched on the edge of the Rockies, we sat in our homes and offices watching horrors undreamed unfold on flickering screens, numb with heartache.

In subsequent days, countless commentators and writers have told us that these tragic events have changed America forever. Yes, we have changed, if they mean the grief that will remain with us for the rest of our days. Yes, September 11, 2001 will forever be stamped in the collective memory of this nation. But no, the fundamental values of this most inclusive of nations have not changed. Our actions on that Tuesday, and the days that have followed only reaffirm them.

We are the children of a hundred nations. Our religious beliefs and practices encompass all the faiths of the world. What binds us together are our most cherished values: liberty, openness, tolerance, justice, equality, fairness and an unshakable optimism in the potential of mankind. These hold steadfast for they represent the truest spirit of the human heart.

Emergency services in our community are staffed by volunteers. There was a special empathy as we watched firefighters, emergency medical personnel and police rush into harm's way to save others, and perish as the walls came tumbling. There was the spontaneous impulse to give, to help, from across the land. Countless volunteers lined up for hours to donate blood. Elementary school children in one of the poorest neighborhoods

collected pennies for the bereaved. We were, and are, one.

Other, older nations have always chided us for being too idealistic, too naïve, for not understanding the real world. We admit that we cannot understand

the darkness in the minds of those that perpetrated these atrocities. It is beyond our reckoning. And if that makes us naïve, if that makes us idealistic, then we proudly wear these labels.

We are far from perfect. We have made many mistakes. Less than a century after its founding, this nation fought a bloody fratricidal war to rectify a grievous wrong. But we have developed the maturity and self-confidence to admit our mistakes. Sometimes it takes us longer than it should, but, in the end, we strive to do the right thing. Our shared values leave us no other option.

Many may have seen the stars and stripes draped over our community center. There is no jingoistic intent in placing the flag there. It is there, brightly visible day and night, emblematic of our bedrock values and the ties that bind us.

We have always cherished our loved ones. But in our sadness our hearts are wide open as we embrace our neighbors down the street, and all the residents of our community. We do not stop there. We continue eastward across the high plains and rolling prairies to the great cities of the Eastern seaboard. And westward, across deserts and mountains, to the Pacific breakers.

Out of many, one.

Invincible.



Param Singh and Jim Eyster hang
flag at Community Center/Firehouse



NEW RECRUIT?

Cassandra Rindels tries on the garb and rides the fire truck at the HOA Summer Ice Cream Social.



THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL
By Sheryl Genco

The Ice Cream Social was a huge success. Neighbors got to meet others with children in the area. Also, this event proved to be a great networking forum for babysitters and parents to meet each other. Several different games were set up for the children and their parents.

One of the most popular activities involved GOO. We have had several requests for the GOO recipe. Here it is:

1. Mix 1/2 cup Elmer's Glue w/ 1/2 cup water. Add a few drops of food coloring.
2. In a different bowl, add: 2 tsp of Boraxo powdered soap (or 1 tsp of borax powder) and 1/2 cup water and stir until the Boraxo is dissolved.
3. Pour the colored glue-water mixture slowly into the Boraxo-water mixture. A big glob of GOO will form right before your eyes.
4. Reach in and pick up the glob. It will be very slippery, but will get less slippery the more you play with it.

Caution: this stuff may stick to carpet, furniture and clothes. It should never go in the mouth.

If you have any questions about the Ice Cream Social, contact Sheryl Genco at sherylgenco@home.com

**THE HAUNTED
FIREHOUSE!!!!**

Come one, come all, children and adults, in costume if possible, to a Community HOA Halloween party at 7 P.M. on Wed., Oct 31! Join the spooky Trick or Treat Hunt as you look for hidden goodies! Laugh at people looking silly! For planning purposes, an RSVP to Karen Peperzak (440-0691) is appreciated but not mandatory. Be there and be scared!



Karen and Suzanne enjoy the Black and White DineAround. REMEMBER TO SIGN UP FOR THE HALLOWEEN AND HOLIDAY DINEAROUNDS. See the insert in this issue, and call Karen Peperzak (440-0691) for details.

**PINE BROOK
WHO
DUNNIT?**



We all see the Pine Brook Hills sign on the right as we drive up Linden. But who whacks the weeds so that the sign is visible? See p. 15 for answer.

**PINE BROOK HILLS
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WATER DISTRICT

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings are at the Community Center/Firehouse unless otherwise noted.

PBH HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION - COMMUNITY HALLOWEEN PARTY ON WED., OCT. 31 at 7 P.M. Fun for all the kids and the kid in us all. Costumes encouraged. Please come!

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE - Meets 2nd Tuesday every month at 7 p.m.

AUXILIARY FIRE AND MEDICAL - MOUNTAIN EXPRESSIONS Fine Arts, Crafts and Bake Sale NOV. 3 (10-5) and 4 (12-4). Next meeting Dec. 2. Call Nancy Tamura at 448-0225.

BIBLE STUDY - Meets weekly. For information call Greg or Donna Johnson at 449-1692.

DINEAROUNDS: Call Karen Peperzak (440-0691) for reservations for the Halloween DineAround on 11/3 & the Holiday DineAround on 12/7.

FIRE BOARD - Meets Monday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m. at the Community Center, and Monday, Nov. 19, at BMFA Fire Station #2, 50 Overlook, Boulder Heights.

FITBALL - Meets Friday mornings, 8:30-9:30 a.m. Free and fun. For information call 449-0997.

PBH WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB - Next meeting is Tuesday, November 6. Please call Eileen McKenna at 415-1111.

WATER BOARD - Meets Thursday, Oct. 4 and Thursday, Nov. 6 at 7 p.m.

**SO WHO IS THE NEW
HOA PRESIDENT?**

By Jim Eyster

On Monday, September 10, I started to write an article about how pleased I am to be your new HOA president and to introduce myself. I wanted to welcome the new HOA officers and share my feelings about how lucky we are to live in such an idyllic foothills community with all its beauty and wildlife, yet still so close to Boulder, with community water and a vigilant volunteer fire/medical service. The more I wrote the more euphoric I became. I finished my article with great excitement and decided to proof the text the next day.

The events of Tuesday, September 11, quickly drained my euphoria. Nothing I had written seemed important or worthwhile anymore. Just the



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day before I had laboriously honed words to convey the right message. Now nothing had relevance. What do I say now? Who even cares?

My initial reaction to the tragedy was denial. It seemed a sick media event like "War of the Worlds" was to a previous generation. I took comfort in being home with Kathy and our dogs and checked that our children were safe. But after being transfixed by the media for several hours, I needed a break to protect my sanity. I did what I usually do when I need a break. I played golf.

A few days later I sat down again to rewrite this article. I found it reassuring and therapeutic talking with friends and relatives. We are all grieving; not just for the fallen, but for our nation and way of life. Not surprisingly, I also sensed a kinder, gentler attitude among Americans, a sense of national pride and community. Even strangers seemed more tolerant when I was following up on problems. I know I've changed.

A suggestion was made that we needed to show our community spirit and support by placing an American flag at the Community Center/Firehouse. Working together we were able to procure a flag and attach it to the east side of the building. The symbolism of this flag, tying us to the greater community of our nation, gives me comfort.

It is this renewed, stronger sense of community that we need to nurture and capitalize on. Pine Brook is a community of talented, capable people and we should start here to make positive change. There is nothing wrong with flying the American flag, waving to a neighbor, or helping one another. Let's each do our part to keep the spirit of community alive. As part of this effort, I hope we have strong community support for the HOA Halloween masquerade party at the Community Center on Wednesday, October 31. We need to help the younger generation enjoy the traditions that we cherish.



On The Waterfront

With Bob de Haas

As I write this we are listening to the further developments at the World Trade Center and along the East coast. It makes what I have to say seem very insignificant.

We made it through this summer without having to declare an overall drought. Our surface water source

had almost dried up when it started raining and brought the source back to life. Then, when the rains stopped and the stream showed signs of drying up again, it rained again (in fact it snowed in the upper reaches of our source!). This is the kind of summer we like.

As noted in our last newsletter and also on the September billing, the Pine Brook Water District is developing a website. Part of the goal for this website is to allow people to be able to find out on a daily basis what the drought status is and whether or not there is a need to conserve water that day. We feel that this will allow people to feel free to water outside plants, take those nice long showers or whatever, when the water is available, and to fully conserve when the water is not available. The drought status would be updated daily during a drought. We would also devise a means for those homes that do not use the internet. This might be a posted sign. People can also call the office for drought information.

The website will also provide information on water quality, the rules and regulations of the district, water rates and more. The goal is to make it easier for people to get the information they may need or desire.

The other issue that is requested of us regularly is automatic payments. We still do not have a system for automatic payments. Part of the problem is that since we are a small entity the costs simply do not justify it. You know the old saying, "Nothing is free." There are costs for credit card debiting, automatic payments, etc. This means that we would either have to include those costs in the water rates or have two different water rates (one for those who receive a bill and another for those with automatic payments). It does not appear at this time that it would be fair to add charges to everyone's billing to cover those costs.

One of the ways that many of our residents use is to have their banks send their payments to us. To be honest, we do not know if they do this via on-line banking or how. I do know that these people do not have us send their bills directly to their bank.

We will keep you informed as the website is developed and if any changes occur that will allow us to accept any kind of direct payment. Thanks, and let's hope for a snowy winter.

WHO'S WHO AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

Pine Brook Scat, or The Straight Poop (OOPS!) Scoop

By Anne Singh

Tricia Eyster, daughter of Jim and Kathy Eyster, and David Lacy were married on Saturday, August 25, 2001 in Door County, Wisconsin. Father Bill Pauly, David's uncle, married them in St. Mary of the Lake Church in Bailey's Harbor, on the shores of Lake Michigan. They honeymooned at Princeville, Kauai, and reside in San Francisco where Tricia works for the Leukemia Society and David is with DIVA Systems. They had dated for 8 years, since they were seniors in high school. Although they attended different universities, David at Wisconsin and Tricia at Stanford, love prevailed and both Kathy and Jim are very happy for them, and so are we! We wish them a long and happy life together.

Steve Grad gave a zestful performance as the libidinous Norman in Part 2 of Alan Ayckbourn's trilogy *The Norman Conquests*. If you missed the delightful show, plan to catch it next summer at the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, where the entire trilogy is planned for performance in repertory.

We are happy to report that a baby boy, Carson Michael, was born on September 13, 2001 to Karen and Joe Johns. Weighing in at 8 lbs. 8 oz., he joins his two and a half year old sister, McKenzie. The whole family is doing well and we welcome Carson Michael!

While on her way home one night recently, Cyndy Brooks was startled to see something rather large lumbering across the road in front of her as she rounded the curve close to the firehouse. As she drove closer she saw that it was, indeed, a big, fat black bear and she was able to catch a glimpse of its yellow eyes shining in her headlights.

You just never know whom you'll meet when out for a walk in Pine Brook Hills. Kathy Eyster was taking a stroll around Pine Brook Loop one Sunday morning at about 6:30. Rounding a curve (beware of curves!), she came to a full stop when the road was occupied by the very largest male deer she'd ever seen. VERY big deer. Big horns. Not moving. Prudently, Kathy withdrew, but

returned a few minutes later to see if the way was clear. It wasn't. OK, new plan: Kathy went home to read in the Sunday Camera that an ELK, of all things, had been wandering around the Wonderland Lake area. If Kathy's deer was an elk, it was a rare bird indeed for Pine Brook Hills!

Although the editors of The Pine Brook Press had requested contributions for the "Scat" column, they were nonetheless surprised to discover a very large contribution, full of chokecherry seeds and left by a black bear (Cyndy's?). The bear had raided a neighbor's can of sunflower seeds and dragged the can to "Press" headquarters on Alpine Way, there to picnic and make a deposit. Other less literal contributions are still being solicited.

Please send contributions for the next edition to Anne Singh: annelsingh@aol.com, by phone at (303) 417-0373, or in person at 63 Alpine Way.



HELLO? HELLO??

TIME FOR A NEW PBH PHONE DIRECTORY!

By Suzanne Adams

You may already have received a red sheet asking you for your desired listing in the 2002-2003 Pine Brook Hills Directory. BE SURE TO RETURN THE RED FORM! You can mail it to me at 25 Alpine Way, put it in the HOA drop box (newly relocated in the Community Center parking area), or respond electronically. Without your help, and sometimes even with it, mistakes do happen. For example, Rae Polis was listed for years in sequential directories as Raeistopher Polis. It seems that someone named Christopher had used the original form from which phone book information was derived, and the name was incompletely erased. The error was only corrected a few years ago when Rae gently requested a listing with her actual name. Too, wedded couples have been separated by the directory: Harriet Edelman was inadvertently paired with someone named Mike, rather than Ken Suslak in the last directory. A misreading of "and Marcie" led to the creation of a mysterious Annemarie. "Who is this Annemarie?" Marcie Goodwin wondered, when seeing a listing of "Goodwin: Walter and Annemarie" in the 1998-99 directory. Life is hard enough. Please fill out the questionnaire clearly and

completely, and hope for the best. If you have misplaced your red form or swear that you never received one, please call (303) 449-0997 and another will gladly be given to you. Thank you!



THE CHIPPING PROJECT

By Mike Weinstein

Once again, the HOA sponsored a chipping project to reduce the amount of wildfire fuel in PBH. Last year, 120 homes participated. This year, approximately 70 homes are participating. Boulder County is paying for 40% of the effort and the HOA is paying for the remainder.

The HOA feels that wildfire is our number one danger in Pine Brook Hills and the chipping project is one of the places where we should spend the money collected from homeowners' dues and other events.

A total of 15 different contractors were contacted and evaluated for this year's project. The short list was narrowed to 3, and Pine Mountain Contractors was selected. Pine Mountain Contractors also completed the job last year.

This year's chipping began on Wednesday, September 19 and was scheduled for completion within two weeks.

If you were not able to participate in this year's chipping project and have slash to be removed or trees that require trimming, it is never too late. Michael Schmidt of Pine Mountain states that winter is an excellent time to remove extra trees and slash because less damage is done to the ground.

If you have any questions about this year's project, contact Mike Weinstein (mike-weinstein@home.com). If you require any additional fire mitigation work, Pine Mountain Contractors may be able to assist you. They can be reached at 720-352-0099 or pmountain@qwest.net.

Thanks to Cecile Duray-Bito for taking all of the phone calls and compiling the list of participants.



WHA' HOPPEN?



As you probably noticed, our Pine Brook Hills marquee (including the HOA and Water Dept. drop boxes) bit the dust recently. Who dunnit? Answer: apologetic county road workers grading what was, after all, the County's right of way. Resilient Pine Brookers, nothing daunted, were seen placing their water bills in the water department drop box, even though that box was disconnected from the sign and lying on the ground! No one can say we're not adaptable! However, because many people have felt that it was dangerous to stop on Linden Drive at that point, it has been decided to relocate the marquee and the drop boxes in the parking area at the Community Center/Firehouse, 1905 Linden Drive.



IF DISASTER STRIKES HERE

The East Coast terrorist attacks led a number of people to wonder how PBH is set up for disaster response. Boulder Mountain Fire Authority (BMFA) Disaster Preparedness Officer Bruce Hertelendy and Fire Chief Don Whittemore outlined the systems in place here.

The Boulder County Dispatch Center (at the Police Headquarters building in Boulder) receives all local 911 calls and activates the appropriate agency. In our case, for a local problem, that would be BMFA and/or the Sheriff's department. The County is set up with what is called the MODE system:

MODE 1: Local departments handle everything.

MODE 2: Call for mutual aid from other nearby communities and organizations.

MODE 3: County takes over with the Sheriff in overall command.

MODE 4: Federal or State authorities take over and bring in their resources.

This is the system for a problem evolving from a local level, like a wildfire, structure fire or vehicle accident. As the problem grows, higher modes are activated. When the County or Federal authorities come in they also take over the financial burden. Last year's Walker Ranch Fire ratcheted to MODE 4.

For hazardous-materials containment, clean-up and disposal, both the Colorado State Patrol and the County have "Hazmat" teams. Local firefighters are trained to an awareness level. The actual work is done by the Hazmat teams.

In a National Emergency or widespread disaster, directives would flow down (typically through the Department of Justice) to the regional Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), local FBI and state offices. Colorado is part of FEMA Region 8 and there is a State Emergency Operations Center in Golden. FEMA coordinates the Federal response and brings in resources, if needed, from other parts of the country. Among other things, they brought urban search and rescue teams into New York. FEMA and the State Center maintain operational plans for dealing with possible emergencies such as floods or the release of hazardous materials.

At the county level, services are coordinated through MACS (Multi-Agency Coordinating System), which is chaired by Larry Stern, Director of Emergency Services. MACS would evaluate the situation and implement county-wide plans. It includes all the Chiefs of Police, Fire and Sheriff Departments. It can also have representatives of public utilities and Public Information Officers who can disseminate information to the public through radio and television stations. On Tuesday, September 11, both Don and Bruce were called to a MACS meeting at 7:58 am, while the events in the East were still unfolding. Don came back to PBH while Bruce stayed at the MACS situation room throughout the day.

Instructions to local departments and personnel would be relayed through Boulder County Dispatch.

Boulder also has what is colloquially called "reverse 911." The dispatch center can call all numbers within a designated geographic area with instructions on what to do.

This brings us to what we can do. There are some things that go a long way in developing an orderly, effective panic-free response. It is recommended that we have enough basic necessities for a minimum of 72 hours but preferably for up to eight days. A suggested list can be found at www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared. We should listen to the media. If there is need for evacuation, BMFA or Sheriff's department personnel will tell us where to go. The PBH phone directory shows emergency evacuation routes. However, depending on the particular situation, the nearest or most obvious route may not be the best. It is best to follow directions. In case we are instructed to "shelter in place" we should remain in our homes and not rush out to make grocery trips or to pick children up from school. Schools have plans to take care of their charges.

As the events of last month showed, it is impossible to plan for every contingency. However, plans exist for the most likely scenarios and there is a structure in place to respond to the unknown. The clean-up efforts at Rocky Flats and Rocky Mountain Arsenal result in our region having large numbers of personnel well versed in dealing with nuclear and chemical incidents. In regard to water contamination, the FBI has asked for increased security at water facilities. PBH supplies can be switched to deep wells, with no intake of surface water.

Those interested in more information can reach Bruce by email at disasterprep@home.com.



EMERGENCY RELIEF EFFORT PLANNED

The Pine Brook Hills Fire Protection District and the Boulder Mountain Fire Authority are seeking ways to help the families of emergency workers who died in the September 11 terrorist attack. The PBH Firefighters Fund is contributing \$1000, and the Fire Auxiliary will match that gift. In addition, all proceeds from the Gingerbread House Raffle, a popular event at the Auxiliary's annual Mountain Expressions Arts, Crafts, and Bake Sale, will be donated to the cause. Added to these funds will be nearly \$17,000 raised by the "Fireman's Boot" project conducted by the Boulder Mountain Fire Authority in Pine Brook Hills and in Boulder Heights. Those who ran the Boot project were amazed by the communities' generosity.

BUDGET TIME IN PINE BROOK HILLS

A Notice from the Water and Fire Boards

It's that time of year when the Pine Brook Water District, the Pine Brook Hills Fire Protection District, and the Boulder Mountain Fire Authority begin their budget discussions. As expected, property values in the area have increased. This can translate into an increase in tax revenues. You are invited to attend the budget discussions to learn how tax dollars are being allocated and to provide your input.

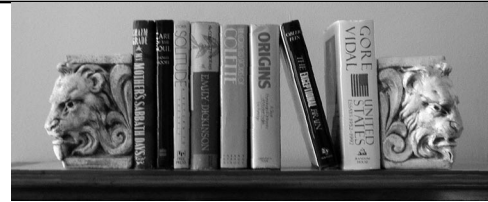
The Pine Brook Water District will be discussing their budget for 2002 at meetings on October 4 and November 6, both of which will be held at the Pine Brook Hills Community Center at 7:00 p.m. Copies of the proposed budget are available at the Pine Brook Hills Community Center.

The Pine Brook Hills Fire Protection District will also be discussing their 2002 budget. The first discussion will be held at the Pine Brook Hills Community Center on October 15. The second budget meeting will be on November 19 at the Boulder Mountain Fire Authority Fire Station #2, located at 50 Overlook in Boulder Heights. Both meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. Copies of the proposed budget are available at the Pine Brook Hills Community Center.

The Pine Brook Press attended the PBH Fire Board meeting on September 17. Because preliminary figures indicate a 21% increase in the assessed values of property in Pine Brook Hills, tax revenues for the Fire District will also increase above expectation. Our best guess at the moment is that the average increase in the Fire District tax bill for each homeowner will be in the neighborhood of \$30 to \$40. The actual impact may be lower since this is a deductible item on income tax returns.

The Fire Board considered and will again consider at its future meetings how this unanticipated revenue should be allocated. Should it be returned to the taxpayers or spent to meet Fire Department needs? These needs are real. The "Personal Protective Equipment" (PPE) that the firemen wear during emergencies is, in many cases, quite old and may have compromised effectiveness. There are insufficient medical kits to supply one to each of our medical responders. And there is always the need for fire mitigation in our vulnerable forest environment. For those reasons it is the recommendation of The Pine Brook Press that the Fire Board use the money for Fire Department purposes. The return to the individual taxpayer would be small. The importance of the funds to the Fire Department would be significant.

Fire Protection District Board of Directors meetings are open to the public and you are welcome to attend.



WHAT ARE YOU READING?

A CONSPIRACY OF PAPER, By David Liss
Reviewed by Cyndy Brooks

"The first stock market crash in the English speaking world is about to burst and a whole way of life is about to burst with it."

Benjamin Weaver is an ex-boxer, a Jew and an outsider in eighteenth century London. Weaver's current source of income involves tracking down debtors and felons for his aristocratic clients – until he is asked to investigate his own father's suspicious death. Throughout Weaver's investigation the reader is treated to the sights, sounds and smells of eighteenth century London, from the bordello to Newgate Prison to Change Alley (London's stock exchange at the time). The vivid details indicate a great deal of research. We are also given a very good history lesson on the birth of the stock market. This is an old-fashioned detective story with fascinating characters and crisp dialogue. I was intrigued with the eighteenth century words and phrases which I have heard all my life but never questioned whence they came.

David Liss is a young author on the literary scene. He is currently a doctoral candidate in the English Department at Columbia University, where he is completing his dissertation on how the mid-eighteenth century novel reflects and shapes the emergence of the modern idea of personal finance.

If you like historical novels – mysteries – intelligent discourse – don't miss *A CONSPIRACY OF PAPER*.



PBH WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

By Eileen McKenna

The Pine Brook Hills Women's Book Club is blazing a trail to the movies. In lieu of our regularly scheduled meeting for the week after Thanksgiving, we will go to a movie in Boulder on Nov. 6. Afterwards, we will convene at the Red Robin to discuss it. Please let me know your choice of movie (call me at 415 – 1111) and I will let you know the result.

On Jan. 22 at 7 PM we will hold our regularly scheduled meeting at the PBH Community Center to discuss the Pulitzer Prize winning autobiography *Personal History* by the legendary Katharine Graham. Following her husband's death by suicide on Aug. 30, 1963, she became the owner and president of the Washington Post Co. and later, in 1969, publisher of *THE WASHINGTON POST*.

WELCOME TO PINE BROOK!

Sally Ashby and Shoni Kahn

Co-Chairs, Newcomer Welcome

The long-awaited, much talked about, coolest gathering in the hills is happening Tuesday,

Nov. 6, 7 pm at the Community Center.

Mark your calendars now and save the date.

Meet your new neighbors as you enjoy wine and cheese at the informal and informative Welcome to Pine Brook Gathering. RSVP by Monday, Nov. 5, to Shoni at 303-786-8919. In case of inclement weather please call Shoni about rescheduling.

We welcome Nancy Thomas to Pine Brook Hills. She originally came from New York state, grew up horse-back riding, and goes back to NY in the summer to run a riding camp which has been in her family for 57 years. But she prefers living here with her children: Timothy (18), Connor (15) and Shannon (12) Cleary.



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MOUNTAIN EXPRESSIONS 2001

An Exhibit and Sale of
 Fine Art, Crafts & Home-baked Goodies
 November 3, 10 am - 5 pm November 4, noon - 4 pm
 PBH Community Center/Firehouse

Mountain Expressions is the perfect way to get in the holiday spirit and support your volunteer firefighters - exhibitors donate part or all of their profits to help fire protection in Pine Brook Hills and Boulder Heights. PLEASE note that we are open two days this year, and then write MOUNTAIN EXPRESSIONS 2001 on your calendar RIGHT NOW. Thank you!

Two other exciting changes will increase convenience for you: customers will pay for items at a centralized check-out and the Auxiliary will now be set up to accept VISA and MASTER CHARGE credit cards.

Whether you celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or just our beautiful fall season, there will be lovely handmade gifts, cards and decorations in all price ranges. And perhaps this is the year you will find the perfect painting, weaving, stained glass or piece of pottery for your home. And don't forget there are baked goods from our exceptional local cooks, and raffle tickets to win the by-now famous annual Auxiliary gingerbread house.

So, stop by for a complimentary cup of punch or hot cider and shop a bit - no obligation to buy - just oohing and aaahing is fine!



If you are a PBH or BH artist, crafter or baker the Auxiliary does not know about, please call or e-mail Susan Maxwell to participate: (303)444-9851
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**DOG GONE IT**

The Pine Brook Press received two letters and several phone calls on the subject of dogs – dogs barking and dogs running loose. We print the letters below and hope all dog owners will read and consider them.

One phone call was potentially quite serious. It was from the daughter of one of our beloved longtime residents, who recently celebrated an 89th birthday. Dogs have been running loose on this senior resident's property and deck, jumping on him and threatening his balance. His daughters try to encourage him to stay inside, but he should not have to suffer house arrest because of what Boulder County Ordinance 97-1 defines as illegal activity: **"It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog to fail to prevent the dog from running at large in the entire unincorporated area of Boulder County."** Although the dogs in question are friendly, Boulder County Ordinance defines a **"dangerous dog"** as **"any dog that, without provocation...has demonstrated tendencies that would cause a reasonable person to believe that the dog may inflict serious bodily injury upon or cause the death of any person."** The daughter of our elderly neighbor is a reasonable person.

Some callers have wondered whether they have any legal recourse when they are troubled by habitually barking dogs. They do. To quote again from the Boulder County Ordinance: **"It shall be unlawful for any person owning or keeping a dog to fail to prevent such dog from disturbing the peace of any other person by loud, persistent and habitual barking, howling, yelping or making any other loud, persistent and habitual noise, whether the dog is on or off the owner's premises."**

Penalties for the owners of dogs running at large or habitually disturbing the peace range from fines to imprisonment – of the owner, not the dog (although a dog deemed dangerous can be euthanized). Anyone troubled by dogs barking or running at large will surely want to talk first with the owner. If that is ineffective one can call the Boulder County Sheriff at (303) 441-3626. Be prepared to give your name, the name of the owner (if known) and a description of the dog with specific information as to the problem.

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Certified Psychotherapist
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No one wants to bring down The Law upon a neighbor. And most Pine Brook dogs are a pleasure to have in the community. But if you own a dog, think of your neighbors. Let's cherish the peace we have in Pine Brook Hills.

Copies of Boulder County's animal control ordinance 97-1 are available from the Sheriff's Department or The Pine Brook Press.



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

To Our Pine Brook Friends and Neighbors:

Most of us moved to Pine Brook Hills because it's convenient to town and still offers the beauty, peace and quiet of mountain living. It's really an ideal location, but it's easy for the idyllic nature to be shattered by the noise we all moved here to escape. Sound travels long and far up here. Some things – homes being built or renovated – can't be helped, but others can. For the sake of your neighbors, please try to keep your dogs quiet, especially late at night or early in the morning. If you're having a party on your deck, please remember to move it inside or quiet down around 10:00 pm; some of us have to get up early to go to work. More than anything else, it's a matter of staying aware and respecting our friends and neighbors and the relatively peaceful life we're fortunate enough to live up here.

Thanks,
Steve Grad

To the Pine Brook Press:

Since the last article in the Pine Brook Press on barking dogs, a number of neighbors have moved in with their dogs. Most of our hills are bowl shaped, resulting in echoes from the barking dogs as the noise reverberates from one side to the other. One dog starts another barking and away we go. The incessant barking depreciates the value and quality of life for all in Pine Brook Hills. Many people may not know of the leash laws and barking prohibition here, set by Boulder County Law. Another cause may be owners who let their dogs out early in the a.m. and then go back to sleep, or leave to go shopping or to work, with the dog tied outside to a stake.

Let's keep Pine Brook Hills the place to live that it should be.
Leon C. Tupy

THE COCHINEAL INSECT: A BUG THAT CHANGED HISTORY

By Peter D. Goldfinch

As you trudge over your estate in the hills of Pine Brook, look at the often neglected underside of the Prickly Pear Cactus pads. Note that some plants bear whitish blobs reminiscent of a spitball, from the size of a pinhead up to one centimeter in diameter, in some cases merging with neighbors to form a continuous mass covering the underside of the cactus pad. You are a fortunate observer of colonies of the Cochineal insect, or *Dactylopius Cocco* (whence the word cochineal). (See photo).

The fluffy white protective covering is composed of waxy filaments overlying and secreted by a colony of carmine-colored, segmented insects 0.1 to 0.2 inches long, without appendages, easily discernible with your microscope. The reddish pigment contained within is an anthraquinone, which apparently protects against parasites, rendering the cochineal free of its own bugs, in contrast to other parasite-ridden scale bugs. You are seeing the females, many with their proboscises inserted into the cactus, sucking its vital juices. The colorless males are almost too small to see, and fly about pathetically, looking for females with which to mate. When eggs laid by the females hatch, their offspring are carried by the wind on gossamer wings of waxy filament to other cacti, to start their own careers of spinning, sucking, mating and egg laying.

Cochineal belongs to a group of scale insects and mealybugs, horrid creatures which you must have noted sometime in your life, clinging like limpets to some of your house plants or tender branches of favorite shrubs, sucking out their vital fluids and bringing death to your garden. Not wanting to be negative, we must note that several of these bugs have proven useful to *Homo Sap.*: Cochineal has been the source of a beautiful scarlet dye and food coloring; Kermes yields a reddish dye, dull and faded in comparison to cochineal, used in the Middle Ages and found in Neolithic cave paintings and the wrappings of Egyptian mummies; Lac Scale Bugs exude a resin used in making shellac; *Trabutina mannifera* or manna, is a scale insect found feeding on Tamarisks growing by the Red Sea and in Sinai, and extruding a nutritious substance described in Exodus 16:31 as "like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it was like

wafers made with honey.” Modern scientists speculate that a massive swarm of manna bugs had invaded the Sinai during that time, allowing for large quantities of their bodies and secretions to be “harvested” for breakfast each morning, moistened by the night’s dew (hence, honeydew). Others speculate that the Jewish nation survived on this substance during their trek thru the Sinai desert, although forty years of manna made for a monotonous diet, leading the Israelites to complain that “...we have naught but this manna to look to.” However, I digress. Back to the cactus patch.

Without getting it impaled on cactus thorns, press a fingertip against one of these fuzballs and mash it. (See color spot, right lower center, in photo). The brilliant red insect bodies staining your finger are the source of cochineal dye, used for thousands of years in the Americas for coloration. By the 14th century the Aztecs and Incas had whole agricultural systems based on cactus-grown cochineal, apparently valued by them as much as gold.

When Cortez landed in the New World around 1520, he was amazed to see the Aztec ruler Montezuma and other nobles clad in robes dyed a brilliant, vivid red, and was transfixed as he gazed at the native women’s hands and breasts dyed in the same vivid color. He found bags of dried cochineal which had been sent as tribute to Montezuma, and shipped them back to Spain, where it was almost instantly in high demand. By 1600 cochineal had grown second only to silver and gold as the most valuable imports from the New World. Our friends the Pirates accordingly took a lively interest, in the 1620s attacking Spanish galleons with cochineal cargoes as well as those carrying silver and gold.

Spain was able to maintain a cochineal monopoly for over 200 years after the insect’s discovery, since most Europeans had misconceptions (cactus fruit, etc.) about the source of the dye. The Spanish developed an elaborate disinformation campaign to encourage these erroneous beliefs, at the same time prohibiting export of live cochineal insects and preventing foreigners from visiting production areas in the Americas. In 1704, the Dutch amateur scientist Antoni van Leeuwenhoek used microscopic lenses to analyze dried cochineal and determine that it consisted entirely of female scale insects. Many people found this unbelievable.

The discovery of the use of mordants, tin chloride

in this case, to enhance adherence of dyes to fabric, led to the invention by Cornelius Dribble of a brilliant scarlet cochineal dye. Cromwell used this in 1645 to dye the uniforms of his New Model Army, known thereafter as the “Redcoats”. Later, there were scarlet coats for Canadian Mounties. And surely you know of the Roman Catholic Cardinals robes, the breeches of the Hungarian Hussars, the Turks’ Fez and the skullcaps of the Greeks.

In addition to dyes for fabrics, cochineal is used as a food coloring to brighten beverages, jam, sausages, dried fish, strawberry yogurt, maraschino cherries, Campari and tomato products. It is the only natural red food coloring approved by the FDA, under the official name “Carmine.” You can find it as well in medical tracers, artists’ paints and microscopy stains.

Not until the late 1700s, when the insects were successfully introduced and grown outside the Americas, was there wide acceptance that cochineal dye was produced from the cochineal insect. Production peaked in the 1870s, reaching an annual world output of 7 million pounds of dried insects. The introduction in the 1880s of much cheaper aniline synthetic dyes and subsequent red azo dyes virtually eliminated cochineal production as well as cultivation of prickly pear cacti for this purpose. Plantations still exist in the Canary Islands (where I have relatives), Peru, Mexico and Algeria. With recent discoveries that synthetic dyes in foods can cause cancer there has been some renewed interest in cochineal production. One example is the government sponsored Kuru Cochineal Project in Botswana, begun in 1998 to provide native peoples with a new means of livelihood.

Recently, some absolute vegetarians were shocked to learn that the fruit juice they had been drinking contained a natural additive, which is OK, but unfortunately a food dye of cochineal, made of insect parts. An outcry ensued. You may have heard it. Their fruit juice contained, yes, animals! Please don’t tell them that many plant-derived foods contain a few insect parts. Fruit fly larvae here, some dried aphids there, some cochineal insect elsewhere. It just can’t be avoided. Does it seem hypocritical for vegetarians to go about eating animals?

Finally, a few further bits of froth about the Bug That Changed History. It takes 70,000 cochineal insects to make one pound of dried cochineal. One pound sold for \$150 in 1995. Cochineal has been



proposed to be the Arizona State Insect. Pine Brookers who wish to bore more deeply into Cultural Entomology might visit the website http://www.bugbios.com/ced1/cult_ent.html. The site cites several sightings of insects in literature, such as *The Gold Bug* by E. A. Poe, *Metamorphosis* by F. Kafka, and *Autobiography of a Flea* by Anonymous.

We had best stop here.



Dwarf Mistletoe - Not a Kissing Matter

By Jo Noble



For city dwellers, it is a holiday treat that can mortify a 12 year old boy and delight giggly young girls. For us mountain dwellers, it's an entirely different matter. Unlike the holiday species, our local variety is a parasite that slowly sucks the life out of our pine trees. And, it is not easy to get rid of.

Dwarf mistletoe (*Arceuthobium*) is a gold-colored flowering plant with leafless shoots of one to five inches. During August or September, the mature seed is ejected from the plant at up to 60 miles an hour and can travel about 50 feet. The way mistletoe grows usually directs the ejected seeds upward, infecting higher branches, although it is extremely efficient at infecting trees growing nearby. The seeds are sticky and easily transported by deer, our beloved Abert squirrels, birds, etc. to other trees.

Dwarf mistletoe kills slowly, and as the tree starts

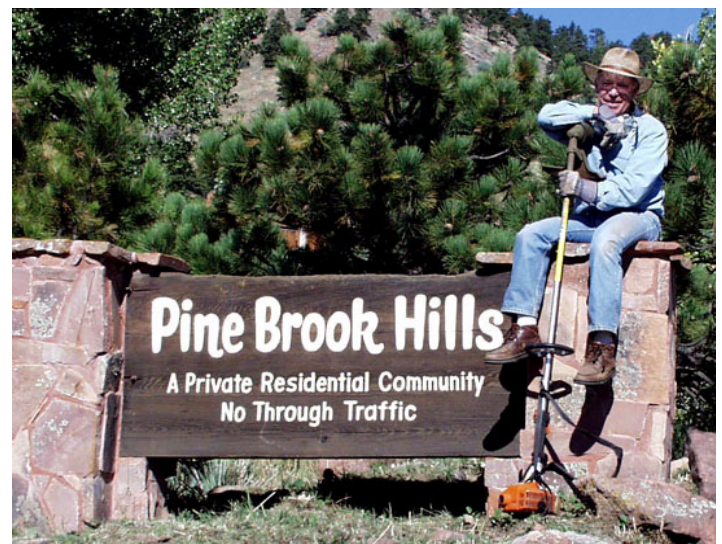
to wither it becomes more susceptible to attack from pine beetles. Even though it causes more damage to forests than any other disease or insect, there has been, so far, no chemical treatment that can kill the mistletoe without killing the tree. Removal and proper disposal are our best choices. Pruning infected branches is a beginning. But because dwarf mistletoe seeds can lie dormant for several years, continuous re-inspection and further pruning is paramount.

The best protection from dwarf mistletoe is prevention. A healthy stand of Ponderosa Pine provides us with beauty, fire mitigation, and insect and disease mitigation. Pictures from the early 1900's before logging show a healthy, more park-like Ponderosa forest with trees as much as 30 to 50 feet apart. Periodic fires would sweep through the forest, burning out small seedlings and killing invading plants, bugs and fungus. Although we certainly cannot promote this fire cycle, we can thin our trees to allow healthy stands.

If you have questions about mistletoe, bugs, disease or any other concerns, you can contact either Allen Owen or Craig Jones at the Colorado State Forest Service, Boulder District Office. For a small fee, they will come out and do an evaluation of your forested property. Their number is (303) 823-5774.

Another excellent reference is Charles Arnold's "Homeowner's Guide to Dwarf Mistletoe Management." You can find it on the net at www.rmrs.nau.edu/mistletoe/hguide/.

ANSWER TO PINE BROOK WHO DUNNIT



The Mystery Weed Whacker on p. 2 is Don Baer. Don acted as producer for the placement and rebuilding of the Pine Brook sign and now voluntarily keeps it visible.

VIEWS FROM PINE BROOK - NORTH FLATIRON



MORE RAINBOWS ARE NEEDED AT THIS TIME

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