



Pine Brook Press

A Quarterly Journal for, about and by
Pine Brook Hills Residents

AUTUMN 2011



NATIONAL FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR!

A year ago, in the Autumn 2010 issue, the Press chronicled the heroic efforts of Fire Chief John Benson and Water District Manager Bob de Haas in setting up and implementing the defense of PBH against the Four Mile Fire. The critical hours were on Thursday, September 9. But earlier that week, John and Bob directed the defense of our sister community, Boulder Heights.

For that effort, this summer John Benson, of our own Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District, was named the State and National Firefighter of the Year by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). As he drove down to Security, Colorado, John knew he was getting an award but the National Award was a total surprise. He started to leave the stage after receiving the State Award, when the National Award was presented!

John was nominated for these awards by Bucky Wells, trustee of Camp Paul Hummel located in Boulder Heights,



and two Boulder Heights residents, Cheryl Bailey and Becky Annandale. Monday and Tuesday, September 6 and 7, were critical times for our Boulder Heights and Carriage Hills neighbors. As the Four Mile Fire gathered momentum and swept unchecked towards Boulder

Heights, John got to the top of Boulder Heights, near the radio towers. He called in two more strike teams. Residents were evacuated and units were placed on the perimeter. Homes were triaged and defenses set up. High winds made the situation extremely critical and they had to be vigilant to control spot fires. At 5 P.M. the winds died down and gave the firefighters a little breathing room. Firefighters were on the lines all night. Some components of the towers were scorched, along with the ground around them and the fire came



John Benson (center) with State and National Awards for Firefighter of the Year

within a hundred yards of homes.

Of course, a couple of days later, the whole scenario was repeated here in PBH.

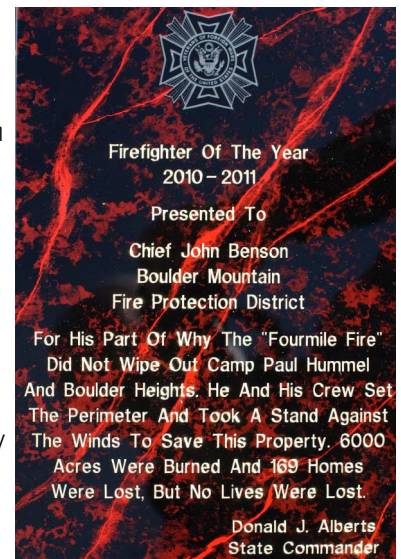
John has been Chief of the Fire Department since December 17, 2002. Prior to that he was Deputy Chief and Fire Marshall in Eagle, Colorado. He started firefighting much earlier: at age 14 he was a junior member of the Hartsetl Fire Department in South Park!

John is lavish in his praise of firefighters, Auxiliary and Third Arm. "This was a huge team effort," he says.

"The work of Steve Lynn and the mitigation crew was critical in fighting the fire and having fuel breaks in place, especially up at the towers."

We are fortunate for having a leader of this caliber and a community that pulls together in times of need.

Congratulations, John.



A CHANGING OF THE GUARD



After many, many years as Editor of the Press, Suzanne Adams (left) has moved to North Carolina. Amber Morris (right) is the new Editor of the Press (see page 14).



MOUNTAIN EXPRESSIONS 2011
Art, Craft and Baked Goods Sale

Saturday, November 19, 10 - 5
Sunday, November 20, 12 - 4



Sewing machines are humming...paint brushes are swishing...recipes are being picked...beads are lining up...pottery is forming and firing...knitting needles are flying...all in preparation for this year's Mountain Expressions.



You are the reason! Come enjoy the lovely, unique, and delicious masterpieces created by your neighbors who are artists, crafters, and scratch bakers.

It's all brought to you by your fire department Auxiliary. Mountain Expressions is the perfect opportunity to support your dedicated volunteer firefighters and to get a jump on preparations for all the



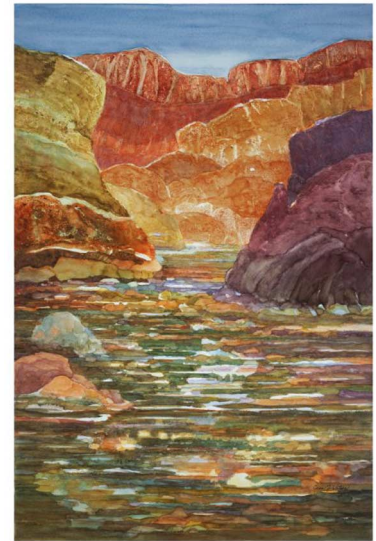
Aspen Swirls by Amy Mundinger

winter holidays. In addition to finding hand-made gifts and stationery, why not treat yourself to something exquisite for your home, closet, or jewelry box?

Finding us couldn't be

easier. Mountain Expressions is held at Station 1, aka PBH Community Center, on Linden. Just seeing the firehouse transformed into an art gallery is reason enough to stop by. Come enjoy a complimentary mug of hot cider or our famous Auxiliary punch.

If you didn't have the opportunity last year to participate in our secret bid drawing, you've got another chance this year. The drawing is an opportunity to make a bid to buy very special works donated by well-known artists in your fire district. This year, PBH fiber artist Amy Mundinger has donated *Aspen Swirls*, one of her perfect-for-mountain-homes art quilts. At *Awatubi Canyon*, a vibrant watercolor gilcee of Grand Canyon scenery, was donated by long-time PBH painter Jean Watson. You need to see these masterpieces in person!



At Awatubi Canyon
 by Jean Watson

So, mark your calendars. Also, check out our website at www.mountainexpressions.org. Mountain Expressions is a truly unique event, so tell all your friends in town. We're open rain, snow, or shine and we'd love to see you.

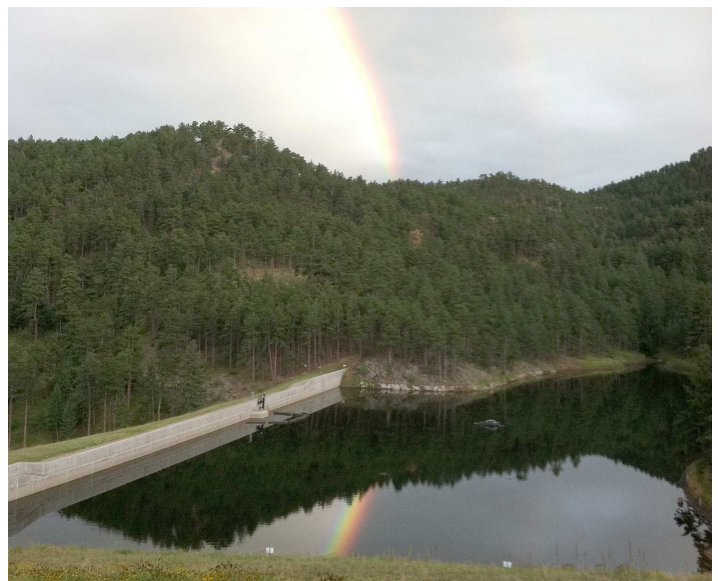
BMFPD Auxiliary

Want to bake? Contact Della King-Smith
 303.442.7698 dkingsmith@comcast.net

Want to work at the sale? Contact Susan Maxwell
 303.444.9851 scmbonniestudio@comcast.net



RAINBOW REFLECTOR



Another use for the Reservoir!

Photo by Maury Brochstein

**PINE BROOK HILLS
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

PRESIDENT

Bill Alexander, 544-1333

VICE PRESIDENT

Dave Davies, 938-0522

SECRETARY

Tom Mann, 449-0730

TREASURER

Terry O'Brien, 530-3199

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Suzanne Adams

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

Neil Patel, 444-4886

NEWCOMER WELCOME

Jo Wiedemann, 447-2569

SOCIAL CHAIR

Pam Creswell, 720-406-9783

FIRE CHIEF

John Benson, 440-0235

FIRE BOARD PRESIDENT

Eric Ramberg, 443-8084

THIRD ARM

Bob Loveman, 926-0204

FIRE AUXILIARY

Ann Blonston, 720-295-2660
& Susan Maxwell, 444-9851

WATER BOARD

Kirk Hendricks, Pres., 442-1308

WATER DISTRICT

Robert de Haas, Mgr., 443-5394

PINE BROOK PRESS

EDITOR

Amber Morris, 443-0571

LAYOUT:

Param Singh, 417-0373

ADVERTISING:

Tim Gerchar, 440-5708

E-MAIL: press@pinebrookhills.org

WEBSITE: www.pinebrookhills.org

WEBMASTER: Param Singh,
417-0373

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

HOA MEETING, Oct 25th. Potluck at 6 P.M.

followed by new neighbor introduction at 7 P.M. At 7:10,
Talk "Raptors!" by Boulder County Parks and Open Space.

Business Meeting at 7:40, HOA Board Elections and Roads
Discussion.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE - Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7 P.M.

BEETLE BUSTERS - Training and Seminar, Sunday October 16, 9 A.M. to noon. Interested? Send email to beetlebusters@gmail.com. See page 9.

FIRE BOARD - Meets the 2nd Monday of every month at 6:30 P.M. at either the Pine Brook or Boulder Heights Firehouse. Call 440-0235 for specifics.

FIRE AUXILIARY - Generally meets the first Sunday of every month at 7 P.M. Call 444-9851 for confirmation.

MOUNTAIN EXPRESSIONS - Sat., Nov. 19, 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. and Sun., Nov. 20, noon to 4 P.M. See page 2.

WATER BOARD - Meets first or second Thursday of every month at 4:30 P.M. Call Water Office at 443-5394 for dates.

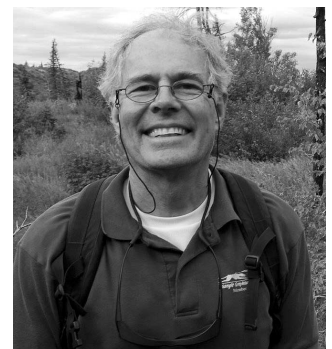
PRESIDENT'S PATTERN

Birds of Prey - Raptors! plus HOA Board of Directors Election and Roads

By Bill Alexander, HOA President

Our next HOA members meeting will be on Tuesday, Oct. 25th. Times and the agenda are in the Calendar, above.

- Remember, all Residents and Lot owners here in PBH are invited.
- If you can't make the early potluck, come later to help us elect our HOA Board and to discuss our roads repaving.
- Contribute your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions on the various topics during the Business meeting.



Birds of Prey - Raptors!

Join Boulder County Parks and Open Space volunteer naturalists to learn about birds of prey -- hawks, eagles, falcons, and owls -- in the skies above Boulder County. You'll learn a bit about how to distinguish between different raptors as well as the habitat requirements and ecology of these magnificent birds. A representative from the Boulder County Audubon Society will also be present to answer questions you may have about a wide variety of our feathered friends.

The HOA Nominating Committee has helped identify the following

candidates for the 2012 HOA Board of Directors:

- Bill Alexander moving from President to Member at Large
- Dave Davies moving from Vice President to President
- Neil Patel joining as Vice President
- Terry O'Brien continuing as Treasurer
- Tom Mann continuing as Secretary.

We are always looking for future HOA Board candidates. If you are interested, please call Bill Alexander at 303-544-1333.

Roads Repaving alternatives include all lot owners being billed yearly with your county taxes and cost hundreds of dollars, so come help us wrestle with what should be done about this.

- Lot owners that are impacted include not only PBH, but also Fountain Tree subdivision as well as lots close to PBH.
- Please consider reading the Roads section at the pinebrookhills.org web site. This will help you understand our situation.

I hope to see you all at the October 25th meeting - especially with the importance of discussing how to fix our roads!

Remember - save our bears and reduce dangers to humans - No garbage out until morning of pickup.

There seem to be quite a few garbage cans/bags put out on Tuesday evening rather than the Wednesday morning of pickup.

Note that it is against the law to put garbage out until the morning when it is to be picked up. This is to prevent dangerous situations developing between humans and the bears that live up here. Colorado has state fines that can lead up to a \$1,000 ticket for intentionally feeding a bear.

From our poet laureate, former resident Suzanne Adams -- to be sung to "Springtime in the Rockies:"

When it's garbage day in Pine Brook all the world is bright and gay,

Unless the bears are acting in their old, familiar way.

If you put your stuff out early they'll spread it, far and wide!

So please, until it's garbage day, keep your garbage safe inside!

Check out the Colorado Parks and Wildlife website for additional information: www.wildlife.state.co.us/bears

Also, feel free to call or email Kristin Cannon at 303-291-7117; email Kristin.Cannon@state.co.us. She is our local District Wildlife Manager from Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Terry O'Brien, HOA Treasurer

Hello fellow PBH residents - I took over the treasurer's job a couple of months ago. After a couple of vacations, I am just getting into the "nitty-gritty" details of the PBH HOA finances. Adding to my short time in the job, I lack a sense of history about when the various revenues and expenditures occur during the year that would be very helpful in making comments. So bear with me in the near future while I get my financial footing.

At the time of this writing, almost nine months through the current fiscal year, the PBH's finances are running favorable to the budget approved for 2011. And, if everything goes according to plan, it appears this situation should continue to the end of the year. Dues contributions are running less than budget. Luckily, this variance is offset by expenditures also running less than budget. There will be several larger bills being paid before the end of the year, including fire mitigation costs. Therefore, if you haven't paid your dues for 2011, we would appreciate your contributions. A full report of revenues and expenses will be available for the annual meeting and quarterly updates are provided to the HOA board. If you have questions, please feel free to give me a call (303-530-3199) and I'll certainly do my best to get you an answer. Even though my wife Cathie and I have lived in PBH for almost eight years, my short time in the treasurer's job has given me a whole new appreciation for all the volunteers who contribute their valuable time in helping this community operate and to be one of the best (if not the best) mountain communities in the Front Range.

As a reminder, dues payments should be made payable to Pine Brook HOA and either mailed to 1907 Linden Drive, Boulder, CO 80304 or dropped off at the drop box near the entrance to the Community Center. Thank you for your support!



THE STORK COMES TO PBH

MaryLynn and Brad Schildt are thrilled to announce the arrival of Tristan Ryan Schildt as the newest, youngest neighbor in Pine Brook Hills. Tristan was born on August 5. He enjoys sleeping, eating, snuggling, and hogging all the attention, to the detriment of Moki, Foxy, and Ally.

ON THE WATERFRONT

With Bob de Haas

Water Taste/Odors Issues

Many, many of our PBH residents noticed this year that the water had a strange taste and/or odor to it. We currently estimate that about 50% of our consumers noticed it. We put out information about the problem and talked with many of you.

To review, the problem was not a health issue, as all our testing showed that the water served was as good or better than the standards set by the EPA and the State of Colorado. It is strictly an aesthetic issue. A troublesome one to be sure!

It not only irritated the residents who noticed it, but it also bothered the District since normally everyone considers the water here to be quite nice.

All our investigations indicated that the problem was three fold.

1. A majority of our water comes from Four Mile Creek and that water was affected by the Four Mile Canyon Fire of 2010 as that fire burned up approximately 40% of that watershed.
2. The District's ability to move water that was "decent" from over there was lost mid-July when the heavy rains caused flooding on Four Mile Creek and wiped out the diversion structure. As a result, the District could not move any water over to the reservoir. The new diversion structure is now in place and water is being moved, as available.
3. The weather since mid-July has been very dry and hot.

What does this mean for PBH water? There is no fresh water moving into the reservoir, the water that was in there was heating up excessively, and the water that had been moved since the fire was contributing to the aesthetics of the water. The District consulted with the State Health Department and the Denver Water Department (they have extensive experience with burn areas and how it affects the water quality and taste of the water).

What did we learn? It drives everyone crazy! The water coming out of the filter plant has no taste or odor issues but then it gets out into the system and the phone calls, emails, etc., start! The Denver Water Department told us that they experienced these same problems after portions of their watersheds burned up. This phenomenon lasted for several years for them.

There is hope it will not last that long for us as the Four Mile burn area is showing promising signs of new vegetation growth.

Can the District do anything about it economically? So far the District has not been able to find an economical way to address the taste/odor issue. The process that would probably best address this problem would cost in the neighborhood of \$350,000! This is a lot of money to spend on a problem that should get less noticeable each year and be gone within two to four years.

Have we given up? Certainly not, the District is still researching other methods to see if a cost-effective solution can be found.

What can an individual do? For most people, a simple charcoal filter on the main tap that they use for drinking and cooking will take care of the problem. We have had a few reports that even that did not eliminate the problem, but most reports have been that it did.

Credit Card Payments

Since we introduced the ability to use credit cards on our website, we have seen very limited use even though we had quite a few requests for this service. The use is so low that this service is costing us instead of being revenue neutral. The District has decided to continue to accept credit cards through the end of the year. However, if the use is still low (we are only seeing about a dozen "uses" per month) the District will probably discontinue this service as the cost benefit just is not there.

Budget Time!

This is the time of year when all special districts begin discussing their budgets for the following year. A proposed budget has been given to the Pine Brook Water District Board. It will be discussed at the November and December Board Meetings. The dates of these meetings are November 10 and December 8. The meetings begin at 4:30 pm and are held at the Pine Brook Hills Community Center in our offices. If there are a lot of attendees, then the meeting will be moved out into the main meeting room instead of in the office.

Currently, the Board is intending to increase the water rates. This increase is due to the District's increased costs. The monthly service charge that everyone pays, whether you use water or not, is planned to increase from the current \$29 a month to \$30 a month. Then each of the rate steps will be

adjusted. The goal is to generate income over the estimated costs for operations each year, these funds are then put into reserves for capital equipment replacement. Capital equipment replacement is for replacement of pumps that fail, the painting of water tanks, vehicle replacement (the current vehicles each have more than 130,000 miles on them, one is now 12 years old and the other is almost 9 years old), etc.

The District has also seen increased costs for fuel (just like all of you), electrical costs, and general repair costs - especially for repairs of paved roads after a water main break.

The other area that is increasing dramatically is our chemical costs. This is due largely to the new process at the filter plant. This process allows us to continue to meet all the water quality standards set by the EPA and the State of Colorado. This year we will spend about \$15,000 (because the new process has only been in use for part of the year), next year we estimate it will cost about \$35,000 for chemicals.

Copies of the proposed budget can be obtained from the office and of course everyone is welcome to attend the Board meetings.

ROAD COMMITTEE UPDATE

By Cindy Lindsay

The Roads Committee has been working diligently with the assistance of Bill Alexander, President of the HOA, to put together accurate information on the situation regarding road rehabilitation in Pine Brook Hills.

The options for our roads are a very complicated subject. There is significant information on the pros and cons of each option on the Roads Page of the Pine Brook Hills website. To find out more, go to: <http://pinebrookhills.org/> and click on the "Roads" tab.

Here is current status from the Roads Committee

1. Bill Alexander has prepared an Advisory Vote on the roads issue that has been provided to each property owner to ascertain the wishes of the majority of the neighborhood.
 - a. Do Nothing
 - b. Create a Political Action Committee
 - c. Create a Local Improvement District (LID)
 - i. Fund through Accrual
 - ii. Fund by Bonding
 - d. Create a Public Improvement District (PID)
 - i. Fund through Accrual

- ii. Fund by Bonding
- e. Delay the establishment of a funding mechanism (LID or PID) for road repair until a more detailed plan for roads can be developed. This plan will address specific road sections in need of repair and timelines needed to address those repairs.



HOA meeting on Roads, Sept. 20, chaired by Cindy Lindsay.

When you receive the Advisory Ballot notification by email or snail mail or via the Yahoo group, PLEASE READ THE INFORMATION ON THE PBH ROADS WEBSITE CAREFULLY and VOTE! This is a critical issue for our community!

2. If the vote indicates that PBH wants to rehabilitate roads, we have a good estimate of the maximum cost, which would allow the rehabilitation of all roads in PBH in 2012/2013. The cost is \$2,654,593. The Roads Committee and Boulder County focused on full rehabilitation as this was the option in last summer's LID vote which PBH approved, but was voted down county-wide. Alternatives to full rehabilitation are still being investigated.
3. Road work (funded through a LID or PID) can be started at any point that PBH determines that it wants to put a funding structure in place. The chosen road work plan will need to be paid for either through bonding or by accumulating funds to start the work.
 - a. Bonding adds approximately 75% to the total cost
 - b. Accumulating full funding takes an extremely long time (~19 years). If accumulating funds is the desired funding method, a more reasonable approach would be to repair roads on a priority basis by:
 - i. Collecting funds and addressing the worst sections of road over time
 - ii. Accelerating the collection of funds to address bigger road projects in a shorter

time frame

See the Q&A document posted on the PBH website for details:

<http://pinebrookhills.org/HOA/Roads/RoadsHome.htm>

4. If the Advisory Ballot decision is to do nothing or to make a repair and financing decision at a later date, the roads will receive only county maintenance in the interim (pot hole repair, patching, snowplowing, etc.).
5. If the decision to provide road rehabilitation is delayed, work to determine the new costs and financing options will need to be done. Inflation will be an unknown factor impacting the costs of future road projects.
6. Financing rehabilitation work is the most difficult issue we face. Previous requests to the County Commissioners to help with the financing of the PBH Road Rehabilitation Project have been denied. Now that we have the final cost estimate with financing options, we find that the solutions put a significant cost burden on property owners in PBH. We are arranging meetings with the County Commissioners to lay out our case that the Commissioners should, at least, help with financing.
7. The County Commissioners have indicated that if the PBH Advisory Ballot vote indicates the desire to establish a LID, the county will do so, but only at the request of the PBH HOA.
8. The county has completed work on calculating the cost of bonding a LID for road rehabilitation work in PBH. That bonded cost totals \$4,980,454 over 20 years. The county has put bonding on the November ballot. A bonding vote will only be valid if PBH establishes a LID. Look for more information prior to the election relative to the Advisory Vote and its impact on the county bonding issue.

We will keep you posted via email, the website, and the Yahoo Group.



BMFPD NOMINATED FOR NATIONAL AWARD

By Allen Saville

Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District (BMFPD) has been nominated for a National Award by the Colorado Governor's Office of Homeland Security. The award that BMFPD has been nominated for is one of

the FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Community Preparedness Awards.

News has been getting out about some of the ways in which BMFPD has organized and prepared for emergency incidents and the difference that has made to the effective manner in which we respond to those incidents. One of the things that set BMFPD apart from numerous other departments is the high level of community support and volunteerism.

After hearing about what BMFPD has been able to accomplish, the reaction from the folks from the Governor's Office of Homeland Security was:

- "The work you're doing not only should be commended but shared."
- "A nomination for the FEMA Community Awards was submitted for Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District. We felt strongly that the work should be recognized on the national level."

Whether or not BMFPD receives any recognition at all in the FEMA Community Awards process, it is gratifying to us that other agencies have noticed the good work that we are doing and that our efforts have been commended at the State level.



FIRE SIDE CHAT

By John Benson

First, I wanted to say Thank You. I am very humbled to have my name listed on the Pine Brook Hills Information sign. Never in my wildest dreams did I think that something like this would happen to me. I am greatly appreciative of the members of the fire department and the citizens we protect. It is hard to believe that I have already been here for almost nine years. When I first took this job, I was really wondering how everything would work out and how I would be accepted. All I can say is "What a Great Ride it continues to be." I believe I have the best job and always look forward to going to work in the morning. "Thank you for your continued support toward BMFPD."

As we move into the fall and winter season, I want to remind everyone of a few things that you can do to help protect you and your family.

- ❖ November 6 is the date when you need to move your clocks back one hour. This is also the time to check your smoke detectors and to change their batteries. If you are not using lithium batteries in your detectors, I highly recommend changing those

batteries. If you need assistance, please feel free to call and we will be more than glad to assist you.

- ❖ Make sure that your furnaces have been inspected by a qualified specialist and are ready for the upcoming cold season. With all the fall warm weather, it is hard to think about this upcoming winter, but the time is coming.
- ❖ Make sure that all your chimneys and flue pipes are clear of obstructions. Clogged flues can cause a backup of carbon monoxide. Remember, CO is a colorless, odorless by-product that can cause severe health problems and even death.
- ❖ Even though we are embarking on the winter season, please remember that Boulder County sees some of our worst fires during the fall and winter season. Please take the time to clean out your gutters and make sure that your flammable and combustible liquids are properly stored. Remember, the areas under decks and in any small openings are an invitation for an ember to generate heat and cause unnecessary fires. Everyone needs to be vigilant of wildfires until we have a good layer of snow on the ground. I have heard different forecast reports such as warmer, dryer, and heavier winds, to a normal winter. At this time, I don't think anyone has a clear answer as to what we will see. So, I ask everyone to be extremely careful and if you think you see or smell smoke call 911 immediately.
- ❖ IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY I BEG YOU TO CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY, DO NOT CALL THE STATION. There are times when we are out in the field or out at meetings, and there is no one here at the station to take your call. REMEMBER, TIME IS CRITICAL.

THE GRANITE GARDEN PLUM GOOD!

By Jay Markel

This season's consistent rain has brought out a wonderful crop of native plums throughout Pine Brook Hills.

Several things occurred to me that I thought were worth sharing. First, some PBHers will be surprised at just how many native plums there are that go unnoticed most years. These hardy shrubs will thrive even in dry years. However, they will not fruit unless there are consistent rains throughout the summer months.



Not only can *Prunus Americanis* be enjoyed as fresh fruit, I've enjoyed them semi-dry, as prunes, and have even picked them very late in the fall fully dried to use in cooking.

These are wonderful shrubs to plant on your property. They feed us, as well as a host of wildlife, but their hardiness in dry times is worthy of note. I like to use them in our garden designs, especially on bench-like land forms used to slow runoff. Their lateral roots will create quite a nice thicket with spring flowers, fruit, and nice fall color.

Cities have begun to see the wisdom of runoff gardens, as a way of cleaning water that would otherwise pollute rivers and streams. In the mountains, plums naturally line arroyos to use the water flowing by and in return, they stabilize the banks. Our preference, if the site supports the design, is to have the water move flatter and slower, rather than deep and fast.

With not very much work, flattened benches can be formed, and plums will both take a substantial flow, and use the water passing across your property. When properly established, these benches can be expanded to support many plantings.

A recently completed garden of ours, Le Jardin De Mon Coeur, demonstrates how a natural slope can be redesigned to better accommodate people, and use the water that would previously have been moving too fast to really water your garden plants. Examples of this can be seen at www.viriditas5.com.

I'd like to mention that Kelly Grummons, of Timberline Gardens, has, after six years of work, been able to propagate several types of Manzanita. These have an excellent survival rate, unlike the harvested plants we have struggled with for many years. This is the single hardiest xeriscape shrub I've ever come across. They have a lovely spring flower and are the only broadleaf evergreen I've been able to use successfully in a hot, windy, full sun location, and their red-purple branches are exquisite. Quite a find!

I'd also like to give another shout out for the Sonoran Sunset Hyssop or *Agastacia rupestris*. These perennials are very hardy, great hummingbird attractors, beautiful, with a long flowering season, and have a wonderful scent. They will also self-seed and spread on difficult terrain, with nutrient poor soil.

Timberline has a number of different varieties of Hyssop, and an additional bonus is that they are all very deer resistant.

Happy Gardening!

BEETLE BUSTERS MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

By Brian Ridley

Since January 1, 2011, your PBH BeetleBuster (BB) team has conducted approximately 85 property inspections and identified 132 beetle-hit trees. The battle continues! We are pleased to report that most homeowners are very responsive in removing brood trees (trees that are housing live beetles ready to fly and infest other trees) promptly.

The flight season for pine beetles should be almost over for the year. BeetleBuster property inspections will resume in mid-October. From then until early spring is the best time to remove beetle-infested trees.

Remember:

- Your first line of defense should always be to keep your trees as healthy as you can. Thin the forest and plant different species rather than the monoculture we tend to see.
- Inspect your trees regularly.
- Spray your trees once or twice a year to help protect them against beetles.
- If you can't spray, consider pheromone (Verbenone) packets.

If you find pitch tubes or otherwise suspect trees here in PBH go to the BB website (<http://www.beetlebusters.net/>), click on the link to request an inspection, fill out the form, and click on submit.

It is very important to locate and remove infested trees during the winter months. But to keep up with the many inspections typically requested, we really need more volunteers. The BeetleBusters will train you and provide you with the tools you need. If you don't want to scramble up and down hillsides, there are plenty of other, equally important jobs to be done.

If you are interested in becoming a BB, send an email to beetlebusters@gmail.com and come to the next BB training and seminar session that will be on Sunday, October 16, from 9:00 am to noon at the Community Center/Fire Station (1905 Linden Dr.). Everyone is welcome! There is no obligation to become a BeetleBuster, but it is a good chance to brush up on skills, learn more about the various problem beetles and the defense against them, or to sign up to become a volunteer BB.

ANNUAL FAMILY PARTY AND SQUARE DANCE

By Tom Anglewicz

August brought us an abundance of bright sunshine days with record setting temperatures in the 90s. As luck would have it, though, Sunday, Aug. 28, turned out to be heavily overcast with threats of rain throughout the afternoon. The "YeeHaw" Family Gathering and Square Dance, planned initially as a gala outdoor event, was wisely moved indoors at the PBH Community Center.

Well, it may have been pretty damp outside, but spirits were warm and jovial in our community room turned dance hall. And talk about dancing! Your Pine Brook neighbors pulled out all the stops and turned out to be dancing fools!



Entertainment was provided by the Pragmatics, with Barb Kirchner on keyboard and Mark Brissenden on fiddle. Music consisted largely of early American folk music designed for line dancing or square dancing. "Calling" and basic dance instruction, with ample humor, was provided by Chris Kermiet, who talked and walked the group through its paces. Some good natured confusion was present, but it was coupled with ample laughter and toe-tapping fun.

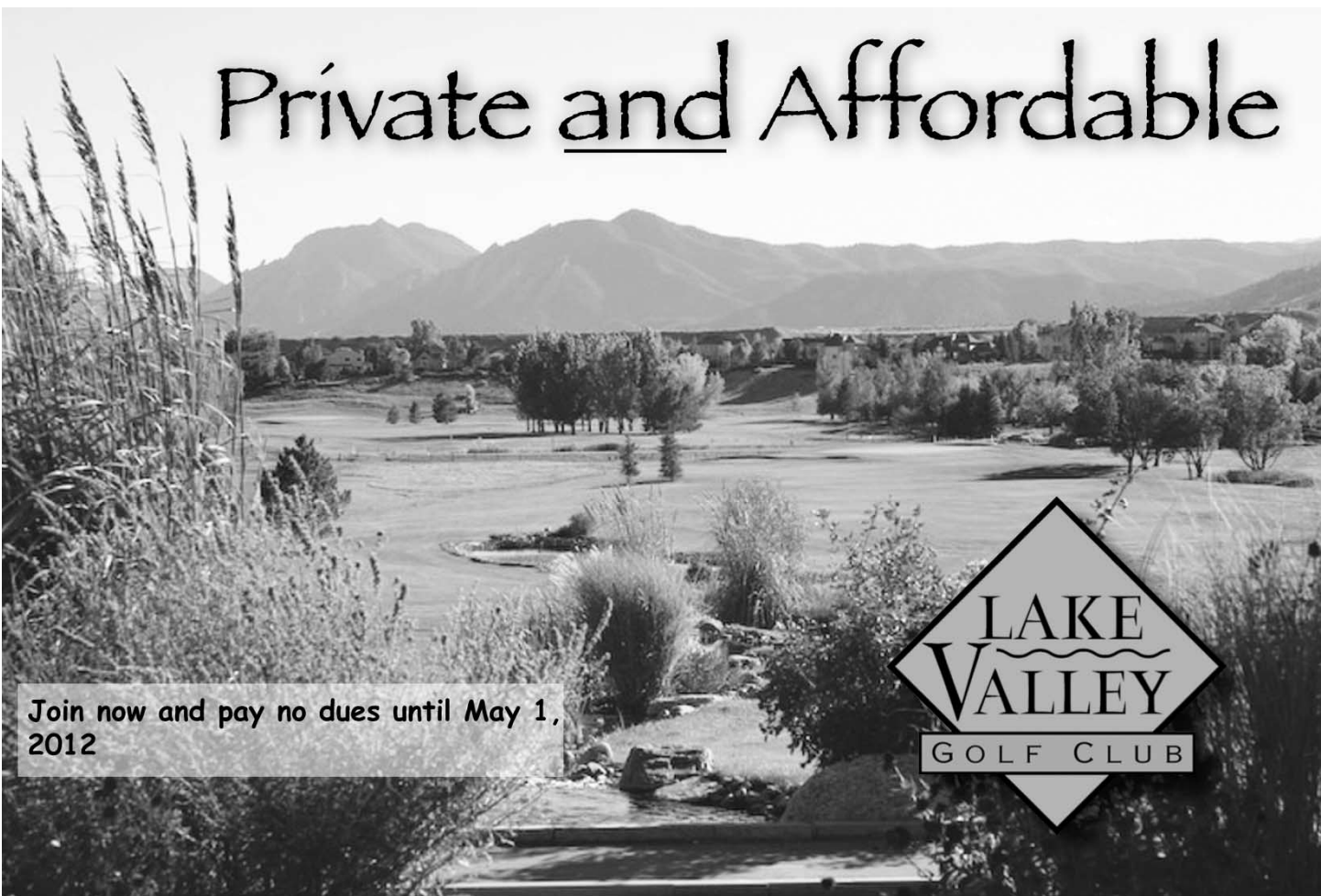


Needless to say, the potluck dinner was excellent as always, and the decor took on a decidedly "autumnal" look, thanks to the table centerpieces provided

by former HOA President Pam Creswell.

All in all, the gathering and dancing was more than worthy of a big ole YeeHaw!

Private and Affordable



Join now and pay no dues until May 1, 2012

303.444.2114 ext. 22 - www.lakevalley.com



MELTON

CONSTRUCTION

303.473.9542

WWW.MELTONCONSTRUCTION.COM



BOULDER HOMEOWNERS CHOOSE MELTON

From kitchens to additions, bathrooms to whole house remodels and exteriors, commercial tenant finishes to energy efficiency, Melton is the design/build remodeling company Boulder County homeowners go to first for innovative solutions, meticulous craftsmanship and solid value.

Smart, Sensible and Innovative
DESIGN ■ BUILD ■ REMODEL ■ PERFORMANCE

Rocky Ridge Construction

Celebrates its 12th year in Pine Brook Hills

Custom Homes and Remodels
Ken Larkin (303) 417-1465

Helping our Mountain Communities to Rebuild

Your Complete Landscape and Forest Management Company

- Forest Management
- Erosion Control
- Patios, Decks, Arbors
- Native Xeriscapes
- Landscape Design and Install
- Native Revegetation
- Retaining Walls
- Noxious Weed Mgmt

**DISCOUNTS
FOR THOSE
AFFECTED BY
THE FIRE**
*Call For Details

FIREWOOD
Pine, Pinon Pine,
Hardwoods

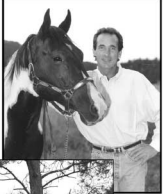



303.447.2282 • www.EcoscapeDesign.com


Call Today for a FREE Site Evaluation & Estimate



JIMMY KEITH
 No. 1 Foothills Realtor For 25 Years
 303-441-5621
 jimmykeith@boulderco.com
 www.jimmykeith.homesandland.com

480 Timber Lane
 Wonderful home in private setting with views of surrounding mountains. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Light and bright living room with soaring ceilings. Kitchen has slab granite and custom cherry cabinets. Master suite with sitting area & study. Beautiful hardwood floors throughout the main level. 3 fireplaces, skylights, built-in bookcases, wet bar. Large brick patio with gas grill connection.
 MLS# 641611. \$575,000.



"I specialize in Pine Brook Hills properties. I am looking forward to working with you."

Simple, natural, elegant Italian

arugula

BAR e RISTORANTE



Organic/Local Produce • Colorado Pork/Lamb/Bison • Vegetarian/Vegan/Gluten Free Choices


Arugula is the perfect Italian bistro.

happy hour: m-th 4:30-6
 lunch: m-f 11-2:30
 dinner: m-th 4:30-9:30
 f-sat 4:30-10
 closed sunday

– Gabby Gourmet Restaurant Guide 2010

2785 Iris Ave. Boulder (NW corner 28th & Iris)
303.443.5100 • www.arugularistorante.com

Lauren Sawyer Vocal Studio
 Voice Lessons



Lauren Sawyer
 International Soprano

PINEBROOK HILLS 303.709.7277
 445 Fountaintree Lane sawyer.lauren@gmail.com
 Boulder, Colorado boulderopera.com



Bortz Scientific Consulting, LLC.
 Statistical and mathematical modeling, optimization, data analysis using modern statistical methods

PhDs in Applied Mathematics and Statistics with a 15yr academic and consulting experience
 Contact us for a free consultation: BortzScientific@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL TRANSPORTATION



DIA Transport, LLC

Tel/Fax (303) 632-8258
 Tel (720) 495-6699




"The Preferred"



ceo@DIATransport.net
 www.DIATransport.net

denver

MARSH

Marsh is the world's leading business insurance broker and a leader in servicing the personal insurance needs of upscale individuals.

Our ability to determine the best method to protect your wealth and assets is a result of our personalized Risk Management Review.

For your complimentary consultation and Risk Management Review, contact:

Kristin Atchison
 Marsh | Private Client Services
 Phone 312 627 6636 | Fax 312 627 6106
 kristin.p.atchison@marsh.com
 Marsh Inc. | marshpcs.com



WRIGHT-KINGDOM

Craig Peterson GRI, e-Pro
Listing and selling real estate in Pine Brook Hills



4875 Pearl East Circle, Suite 100 • Boulder, CO 80301 • 720.564.6008
 Craig@PetersonHomes.com • www.PetersonHomes.com

GREEN GIRL RECYCLING



Pine Brook's recycler since 1999

Affordable, Complete Recycling

Pick-ups at your front door

Call us: (303) 459-3456

www.greengirlrecycling.com
thegreengirl1@yahoo.com

We make recycling easy

**EXPERT INTERIOR/ EXTERIOR
 PAINTING OF YOUR HOME**

*EUROPEAN CRAFTSMANSHIP AT
 AFFORDABLE PRICES*

*PAINTS AND STAINS APPLIED, DRYWALL
 INSTALLED, REPAIRED, TEXTURED,
 KITCHEN CABINETS MAKEOVERS,
 DECK SANDING, SEALING AND STAINING.*

JOHN
 720 224 6144

PINEBROOK HILLS RESIDENT



mountain woodcare™
 Experts in Natural Wood Restoration and Preservation

WOOD
 SIDING

 LOG
 HOMES

 SHAKE
 ROOFS

 DECKS



**BOULDER
 RECYPARTY**
 WOODCARE
 PROFESSIONAL
 SERIES
 EXTERIOR
 NATURAL
 WOOD
 PRODUCTS
 CERTIFIED
 CONTRACTOR
 SERVING
 BOULDER
 SINCE 1980
MEMBER
 BOWEN & MERITT ASSN.

Restore weathered, darkened or opaque colored wood to a like new natural wood look
5 yr. Product and Labor Guarantee
Jay Nelson - Owner/Operator - Mountain Resident

www.mountainwoodcare.com
 35308 Boulder Canyon Dr.
 Boulder, CO 80302

303-638-3323

A Spa for women
 in Pine Brook Hills
 Come in your work clothes
 Go home in your robe!

Jan Mitchell
 407 Alpine Way
 303-939-9691

soul namaste

I use raw Shea Butter
 from Ghana

Full body Massage Body Wrap
 Chair massage Mini Facial

soulnamaste@gmail.com

THANK YOU, PINE BROOK HILLS, FOR 20 HAPPY YEARS!

What a wonderful place! It's beautiful, with its changing moods from morning mists creating "Island Pine Brook" to evening sunsets and the stillness of twilight. The foxes, deer, even the bears with their occasional predations and the scary, elusive mountain lions are part of Pine Brook's mystery and delight. But other mountain communities have beautiful views and animals. What is particular to Pine Brook is the extraordinary sense of community. I'm grateful to have known that community and experienced the treasured friendliness of Pine Brookers. Even though I am writing now from North Carolina and looking into woods of Southern Pine and Leyland Cypress rather than Ponderosas, I still feel like a Pine Brooker.

I wanted to send special thanks to some people who are doing "Pine Brooky" things that I have enjoyed: Amber Morris, new and talented editor of The Pine Brook Press (now the Press has a real, professional editor!); Param Singh (who does everything and does it well); the BeetleBuster "Bats" team (Jo Davies, Russ Endo, Jim Adams, Brian Ridley) and all the glorious BeetleBusters; the HOA leadership and the fire and water district volunteers. Volunteers make Pine Brook what it is - wonderful.

Not that it's bad here. It's not drop-jaw beautiful like PBH but it's very pretty. I don't want to conclude prematurely that North Carolina is more formal than Colorado, but this is the first house I've live in with crown molding - in the garage! Other surprises include people actually SELLING pine needles! Really! I'm not a good customer, I tell them, having spent 20 years trying to get RID of pine needles. I met a man who plays the guitar and may play some guitar/piano music with me. He says he likes "that Spanish flamingo music." Chirp!

After almost a month without email or phone we now are able to contact the outside world again. Thanks to the Triggs, who "adopted" us on their Comcast account, we have access to our old email addresses again (sba.25@comcast.net, and badams171@comcast.net). We have phones (home: 980.207.2356, cell: 980.224.5510), and a mailing address (5043 Morrowick Road, Charlotte, NC 28226). We'd love to hear from you, PBH!

Suzanne Adams

FILLING BIG SHOES IN NEW POSITION

Pine Brook Hills has been my home for two years now. As a fresh transplant from Chicago, PBH was everything the Windy City was not -- peaceful, natural, and relaxing. I believe a visiting friend summed it up perfectly, "It's like you're camping all the time!"

When PBH became our home, we knew there was a community association. However, we had no idea it was so extensive, helpful, and friendly. After just a few short weeks of living here, we learned just how great and supportive it is. A ponderosa on our property was showing signs of beetle infection and the BeetleBusters were called in. A wonderful whirlwind of a woman showed up and sadly proclaimed the tree could not be saved. That woman was Suzanne Adams and what a joy she was to both learn from and work with from that day onward!

Suzanne, in my mind, embodies the spirit that makes PBH so special...generous, caring, and willing to roll up the sleeves to get the job done. Her love and dedication to the community comes through loud and clear in her earnest reports and sheer enthusiasm. Therefore, when she called me and asked me to take over the editor role for the PB Press, I was not only honored but flabbergasted as to how such an institution could leave our close community.

Up until now, I've been more of a sideline participant in the many goings on of the community. So this is a perfect opportunity to become much more involved and to truly become part of the community. I am proud to take up the reins for such an informative and interesting publication. I know that my background in publishing, including newspapers, magazines, and textbooks, will be useful as I work on the Press. Also, Param Singh has been very patient with me as I've learned the ropes for my first publication ASA (After Suzanne Adams).

I have no intention of changing the Press, but a few tweaks might be made here or there. Suzanne and Param both suggested the concept of "small beat" reporters. The idea is to have a person in sub-neighborhoods, such as North Cedar Brook or the Pine Brook Loop, report or suggest news that has to do with their areas. What a great idea! I know that I, for one, can feel "out of the loop" with what's going on even just over the hill from my house.

I look forward to helping show just how special a community PBH can be!

Amber Morris

NEW COMER NEWS

Compiled by Jo Wiedemann

Welcome to Terri Groh, new resident at 118 Meadowlook Way. She was born and raised in Cincinnati and had never lived anywhere else until moving to PBH. However, she had dreamed of Colorado and Boulder since her first trip out here after college. She says, "So I lost (or found) my mind when I turned 50 and left friends, family and my law firm behind in the Buckeye State. I decided that there was no reason to wait any longer in making my dream come true. I looked at homes and neighborhoods for nearly two years and told my realtor early on that I would wait for a house in PBH. I didn't know Boulder at all, but I knew PBH was home. Now I wake up every day thinking I am still asleep and dreaming. I live with my dog and cat. I love playing golf, and I am looking forward to hiking, biking and skiing. I am in transition professionally while I try to decide if I want to continue practicing law or veer off on a new venture." We're glad you're here, Terri!

Hello to our new Pine Brook Hills neighbors, Valin and Allyson Thorn, at 1145 Timber Lane (pre-



Valin and Allyson Thorn

viously John and Cynthia Kendall's home). They are both aerospace engineers (aka "rocket scientists") and work for NASA at the Johnson Space

Center in Houston, Texas. Valin is on assignment to help the Sierra Nevada Corporation (SNC) in Louisville, one of NASA's commercial partners developing human spaceflight systems. Allyson works on the International Space Station (ISS) Program in the Program Scientist Office where she has coordinated ISS research and, while teleworking from Colorado, is now focusing on communicating the results and benefits of ISS scientific research. For fun they are building an airplane, called a Lancair Legacy ("Only two seats but very fast."). It's still in a hangar in Houston for now. They say that they love it here in Boulder and hope the NASA assignment will become long term.

Jason and Summer Greer moved to 121 Meadowlook Way in July from Boulder Heights. They found Pine Brook to be a perfect move, a little closer to work and school without giving up the beauty and serenity of mountain living. Jason is the CIO of Colorado Com-

munity Managed Care Network (CCMCN) in Denver. He has been working in the technology field for 20 years and building technology programs in health care for the past nine years. Summer is the Managing Broker/Owner of Property Colorado, Inc. She has been a Realtor in Boulder for 11 years focusing mainly on residential real estate in Boulder. Summer and Jason have three children - Alexandra (9), Eleanor (5) and Asher (2). They also share their home with Khya, an 11 year old Siberian Husky. The girls go to The Alexander Dawson School and both are cellists with Boulder Suzuki Strings. The whole family loves the outdoors, camping, biking, hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, running, and all the wildlife. The Greens feel very fortunate to be living in such a beautiful and friendly community and look forward to getting to know more of the neighbors.



Alexandra, Eleanor, Jason, Summer and Asher Greer

Brian and Sarah Wahlert moved to Boulder from the Seattle area last November and found Pine Brook Hills as quickly as they could, moving to Alpine Way in August. Brian and Sarah have wanted to live in



Sarah, Ben and Brian Wahlert

Colorado since spending a winter in Breckenridge several years ago. So when Brian found out about a Microsoft office in Boulder, he got transferred. Sarah also used to work for Microsoft but now has a full-time job taking

care of young Ben and defending the house against woodpeckers. Sarah and Brian enjoy hiking, camping, skiing (Sarah) and snowboarding (Brian), playing ultimate Frisbee, and sitting on their deck around sunrise or sunset to watch the light change. Ben is a busy toddler who loves exploring outside, playing with trains, reading, and saying random words like "onion," "airplane," and occasionally "rainfly." He would love to find some playmates near his age in the area.

PINE BROOK PRESS
1907 Linden Drive
Boulder, Colorado, 80304

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BOULDER CO
PERMIT NO. 224



ELK SEASON

Photo by Ian Morris