

Ping Brook Press

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

SUMMER 2008



TIME FOR AN OLD-FASHIONED COMMUNITY PICNIC!

By Mark Menagh, HOA President

() Ie are planning a very special social event for mid-summer. Everyone on the HOA Board loves a good picnic and we have decided it is time to have some old fashioned fun. Let's bring everybody together at a family event that we all can enjoy.



The Huddle girls, Annabelle and Serafina, practice for the Potato Race.

to visit with neighbors, eat great food, play games, watch the kids play and challenge a few of us in some exciting contests for the benefit of our community. There will also be some friendly competitions Photo By Anne Singh between the different

volunteer

groups, so plan on cheering on your friends. Do join us at Pam Creswell's and Marshal Swanton's home (12 Boulder View Lane) for a picnic-themed party that includes the celebration of our outstanding volunteers and their organizations.

The HOA is providing the food and drink for the day, but contributions are welcome. We plan to spend the afternoon outdoors with fun and competitive games, a traditional American barbeque complete with roasted corn, and a chance to kick up our heels with special themed dancing. So pull out the calendar and boldly mark SUNDAY, AUGUST 10 at 4:00 p.m. with "PBH **PICNIC."** We hope to see you and your family there!

MOVING THE DAM DIRT! (See On the Waterfront, p.5)

Included in this great event will be a silent auction to raise as much money as we can to pay for putting the dirt that was piled by the reservoir up where it belongs, on the east side of the dam. Many thanks to Al Gerrish for his diligent efforts to raise funds. He has raised \$26,000, one-third of the amount needed. Let's add to that and complete the revegetation this year. We are fortunate to have an anonymous donor who is willing to match all the money we can

raise at our summer picnic social! For the silent auction, please consider a donation of something special but no longer used by you. Others might offer services, like time for an attorney or accountant, gardening advice or work, cooking lessons, music, art or photography lessons, help organizing, an expert fishing trip, a beach retreat weekend, etc. (I know you will be able to bid on Boulder Farmers'



Photo By Anne Singh Amber Finley and Alec Haukeness train for the Sack Race.

Market bucks). Please email Pam Creswell, picnic@pinebrookhills.org with contributions or suggestions of others who might have contributions. If you have great ideas for challenges or games or would like to be the lead adjudicator on some of the games send me an email: markmenagh@comcast.net.

THE GARAGE SALE



Third Arm member, Bob Loveman, holds back the hordes prior to the start of the annual Fire Auxiliary Garage Sale in support of the fire department. (For details, see story on p. 6).

BIRDS LIKE THE NEW BIRDHOUSES

The Rites of Spring:

- (1) Find mate, ©
- (2) Move into house, ©
- (3) Feed the kids. ⊖
- (4) Keep repeating (3). \odot

May we suggest beetles for dinner? Thanks to Roger Svendson, Tom Foster and Mel Beauprez, who have made birdhouses at cost for the community. While putting up birdhouses won't solve our entire beetle problem, "It can't hoit," as the joke goes. Pygmy nuthatch on left, Bluebird on right.





Photos by Jim Adams

It's a bird...It's a Plane!...IT'S HEID!!

Pine Brookers were somewhat startled on Friday, April 25, when several large planes flew over our little community. On Sunday, April 27, there was even more excitement - three huge planes flying in formation low and fast right over our hills. What WAS it? A fire somewhere? Or...something worse?



Photo by Bart Adams

No, it was actually something nice. Tim and Penny Triggs' daughter Heidi and her husband Eric Bucheit, both pilots and graduates of the Air Force



Academy, had been able to arrange a "cool training flight," according to Tim, each flying a plane low, wingtip to wingtip, at about 300 feet, right over the Triggs' home on Alder Lane (a corner of their house appears in the

photo above). Heidi and Eric, who have both served in the Air Force for ten years, were each in command of one of the big Air Force C-17 cargo planes. They recently bought property on Sugar Loaf and hope to build a home there some day.

So, no problem. Just the neighborhood kids having a little fun.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

HOA BUSINESS MEETING, July 30, 7 p.m. OLD FASHIONED COMMUNITY PICNIC - Sunday,

August 10, 4 P.M., 12 Boulder View Lane. Bring the kids, play games.

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

BEETLE BUSTER SEMINAR: September 27, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., FREE (lunch included). Reservations necessary - call Suzanne Adams at 449-0997 or email <u>BeetleBusters@pinebrookhills.org</u>

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

FIRE BOARD - Meets the 2nd Monday of every month at 7 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 440-6132 for confirmation.

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 THOUGHTS

By Mark Menagh, HOA President

Because the HOA is putting most of our volunteer time for the next month toward our Mid-summer Social we are going to stick to busi-

ness at the July 30 HOA meeting. We will skip the pot-luck, meet at 7 p.m., focus on the HOA business agenda and do a little last minute planning for the party. Please remember our HOA meetings are the chance for you to find out what is happening in your community and to help set the priorities for your Home Owners Association. We hope you will attend. If you miss a meeting or want to know what we have been up to, all the minutes of our



meetings are on our website at www.pinebrookhills.org/HOA/HOA.htm.

Summer is definitely with us, our wild flowers are blooming and the wind is blowing. Accompanying appreciation of the season is a worry about wildfires. I would like to encourage everyone to follow our fire department's recommendation to remove all flammable material, like the pine needles and cones that we have an endless supply of, from at least 20 feet around your homes.

Speaking of fire mitigation, we have an opening for a very important volunteer position in our HOA community: Project Coordinator for our forest mitigation projects. This volunteer position reviews the grants available for the most critical projects and then investigates the businesses that can implement the mitigation. I know we are all busy but please search your time and availability to determine if you can assist all of us by taking on this critical role that works to enhance both the beauty and safety of our community.

The Beetle Buster team is reminding us that one of the most obvious positive attributes of our location is under threat: our trees. We can work together to keep our forest from being devastated by keeping an eye out for evidence of the beetles. If you suspect any type of beetle is in your trees call the Beetle Busters and then act on their recommendations. It is also helpful to decide what trees you simply are not willing to lose and arrange to have those trees sprayed. It is apparent that spraying is a useful tool in the battle to save our trees.

The bird houses provided by our neighbors' efforts (thank you!) are now homes to some very happy and vocal avian friends. Deborah and I are enjoying their company.

Remember our next homeowners' meeting is on July 30 and our community summer picnic is on August 10. We are really looking forward to having an enjoyable time with all of you. Be prepared to laugh, cheer and compete in some fun contests.

Enjoy summer!



FIRESIDE CHAT

By John Benson, Fire Chief

hope this finds everybody ready for the summer time season. Although, with the crazy weather patterns we have been experiencing, who knows what is going to happen day-to-day?

Before we get into the summertime fire prevention tips, I wanted to take a moment to thank everyone who attended the annual Garage Sale this year. Your continued support to BMFPD and our mission is GREATLY APPRECIATED. It's so much fun to talk with residents both past and present. I am always amazed at how much I learn about the community and especially about the history of the Pine Brook Hills Fire

Protection District. I always sit back and think, if it had not been for the vision, participation and hard work of those who came before us, where would we be today?

On behalf of BMFPD I would especially like to thank the Boulder Mountain Fire Auxiliary for their hard work, time and energy. I have noticed that even when things are not going quite right or the day has been long and exhausting, they all still have smiles on their faces. Art and Babett Markey, what can I say, both of you are true "work horses." The funds from the Garage Sale will go to equipment that we do not have covered in our annual budget. I also wanted everyone to know that the Auxiliary does so much more than putting on the annual garage sale. Each time BMFPD conducts our monthly station maintenance the Auxiliary provides us with breakfast. They provide us with lunch or dinner when we are conducting trainings or drills. In the event of a real emergency we always know we can make a phone call and get what we need without question or hesitation. On behalf of BMFPD thanks again for all the support and dedication.

The Third Arm has really evolved into a great organization. The membership has been involved in multiple calls this year for traffic control during some events, motor vehicle accidents and other incidents. The Third Arm folks have been instrumental in allowing the fire-fighters to conduct on-scene functions vital to the incident, while providing us with a safe means to conduct those functions. WAY TO GO! This month the Third Arm members were involved in their first mock evacuation drill of Boulder Heights. The team performed flawlessly. Those residents who participated were treated to coffee and refreshments at the Fire Training Center off of Lee Hill Drive, thanks again to the BMFPD Auxiliary.

BMFPD and the Third Arm will be conducting more mock evacuation drills of both Pine Brook Hills and Carriage Hills in the future. Stay tuned for a mock evacuation near you. Only by working together can we effectively be prepared in the event of a real emergency. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

As we all know with hotter and drier weather coming on during the summer season, the green grasses we see all around us will start to turn brown and cure out in July or August. Here are a few tips to make your summer a safer one:

Keep your grasses moved around your home.

Mowing your grass will prevent the buildup of ladder fuels around your home or property.

- **Do not park vehicles in tall grasses.** It only takes one hot catalytic converter to cause a major wildfire, not to mention the loss of a vehicle.
- Use only designated cooking devices, This will reduce the likelihood of embers escaping into the forested areas.
- If you are having work done on your property such as welding or cutting, have a water source available to extinguish any fire which may occur.
- When staining or water-proofing your decks, rails, or homes, make sure you properly dispose of your rags. The use of air tight containers or water pails will help you prevent a spontaneous combustion incident. Heat starts to build up in rags left unattended and wadded up.

From all of us here at BMFPD we hope your summer season is enjoyable and safe. Always remember, if you have any questions please feel free to contact us at 303-440-0235.

ON THE WATERFRONT

With Robert de Haas

n June 19th we received word from the State of Colorado that our plans for backfilling had been approved! Moving the Dirt is scheduled to begin around July 14 and should take about two weeks. The Water District is committed to getting the dirt moved A.S.A.P! That means the District has to take money from other projects to pay for it UNLESS more donations are made. Help us help you by preserving the monies needed for other important or deferred maintenance projects such as ADDITIONAL TREAT-MENT TO REMOVE THE DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS, IF NEEDED, pump replacement/upgrade and tank painting.

Some have wondered why the money wasn't kept aside for moving the dirt to the face of the dam and revegetating the area. As explained in previous district mailings and Pine Brook Press articles, those reserves were used to make up the shortfalls in projected water revenues, so that we could operate the water system, which is the first priority.

The District has received contributions from about 60 homes amounting to about \$26,000. We appreciate those donation very much. The remainder of the money, if not raised through additional contributions, will be taken from the other needed projects and used to move the dirt and revegetate the area.

If you have questions please feel free to attend our monthly Water Board meetings, or call us at 303-443-5394.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

By Mike Connolly, Chair

"There's more to the truth than just the facts." ~Author Unknown

That might well describe the role of your Architectural Review Committee: taking the hard and fast rules of the Pine Brook Hills Covenants and doing our best to make them work in the real world.

Usually this isn't a problem; however, we recently had a proposal that has tested the very limits of our system. It was found workable, though in need of some fine tuning.

HOA Vice President Bill Alexander is studying whether we need new covenants or the possibility of ratifying the existing set, which was just a few votes short of the number required from all "Units" to be fully approved when it was presented to the community in the 90's.

Projects presented since the beginning of the year include:

Liz Kandalaft, 584 North Cedar Brook, remodel and addition

Jason Fell, 1352 Linden, new garage and studio Mark Wishner, 16 Wagner Circle, new house Kirk Hendricks, 250 Pine Tree, solar array Scott and Leslie Westfall, 101 Meadowlook, remodel and addition

Ellie Halpern, 2936 Linden, remodel and addition Peter and Della King-Smith, 114 Balsam, new deck Katie Lehr & Jamey Valentine, 82 Pine Needle, garage, remodel & addition

Be sure to contact Mike Connolly at 303.444.6644 if you are considering a project on your property. You will need to submit plans and a description at least two weeks prior to our meetings, the second Tuesday of each month.

The ARC is looking for a few good members! Learn more, serve your community - ask Mike or any of the Committee members about membership on the ARC Board! We are looking for new members and some fresh blood so we'd welcome your interest. No previous experience is required, just an interest in what's happening our amazing community!

GARAGE SALE 2008: Another success story!

By Babette Markey, for that dynamic duo, Aunt Tique and Uncle Junque

or 2008, gross income was just a bit under \$12,500. That's not a record but we can't set records all the time now, can we? After all, for last year's sale folks had two years to save up their donations due to the construction of the reservoir in 2006. This year, after the first drop-off weekend, we were actually a bit concerned since we had not collected nearly as much as we had in past years. But everyone came through by the end of drop-off.



Babette and Kathy Eyster hold valuable artwork donations given to the sale.

Rain (and SNOW!!!!) threatened us this year during the set-up week. We ended up with a bit of a mad scramble to get all the things on the deck ready to go. But as

usual, the worker-bee crew came through and we hit the ground running (or should I say the SHOPPERS hit the ground running) at 9 AM on Friday under friendlier skies.

As usual, great donations, including a lot of furniture and a car, helped us reach that nice total. And what can I say about the volunteers? They were great as always. A special thanks to Vicki Schilling and to John and Jackie Nairn for each stepping up and taking ownership of a drop-off weekend, relieving us of those jobs. I know it made me feel much more relaxed and ready to face the final count-down that is set-up week and the sale! And for all of you who signed up for multiple shifts before, during, and/or after the sale, or those who signed up for one shift but kept coming back to help again and again, please give yourselves a big pat on the back from us. Your help is so vital to the success of the sale.

Our parting message Start collecting your donations for next year!

SURELY NOT IN PINE BROOK???

By Peter King-Smith.

We had a disturbing incident occur at our home on Balsam Lane Saturday night, April 12th. I reported details at the time via the PBH Safety & Security reporting system and thought I'd share this information with those in the community (specially those with daughters!) who are not on the PBH Alert email list. See below if you'd like to join.

At around 11:00 p.m. a very distressed young lady came to our door asking to use our phone as she was trying to escape from a man in the area. She had tried to call for help but her cell phone had no coverage. She had made contact over a period of time with a man on the Internet and agreed to meet. She thought they would go into Boulder but he convinced her to go to his place to watch a movie. She parked at the bottom of Linden and he drove her to his place, saying she otherwise might get lost.

She says he made physical advances which she made clear were not welcome. This continued and she became so scared that when he was not looking she ran. She thinks she ran for 20-30 minutes during which time he was driving around looking for her. She hid in bushes until he had gone. Ours was the first house she saw with lights on so she came to our door. She was shaking and clearly very distressed and we were somewhat startled when the doorbell rang and we saw this frightened young lady at our door.

The young lady was in her mid twenties, very nicely dressed, very polite and well spoken. She did not appear to have had anything to drink and was most appreciative to be able to use our phone, all the while admonishing herself for getting in this situation. I drove her back down to her car and followed her until it was clear that there was nobody following. She was grateful and things seemed to end satisfactorily although he continued to leave messages on her cell phone as we drove down the mountain.

She called us Sunday to thank us profusely and said that she had reported the incident to the police. I thought it best to also notify the Sheriff, which I did. The Sheriff's Deputy assigned came to our home to collect details, was extremely professional and followed up immediately.

As a result of distribution of my PBH Safety & Security incident report I received numerous emails which by early Tuesday had resulted in identification of both

the location and specific individual involved. The individual is temporarily renting while the home owners are overseas.

On the following Tuesday I had phone calls from the home owners who were quite concerned and who did everything they could from half way around the globe to help us quickly resolve the situation. It is indeed a small world.

In fairness to all concerned, I don't believe it is appropriate or necessary to report specifics of the home or individual involved as the matter was thoroughly investigated and no charges were filed as the case involved too much "he said/she said."

This incident was not what one would expect in our area. It's obviously not wise to jump to conclusions where personal relationships are concerned but this young lady was clearly very upset and frightened. This is most likely a result of behavior that is not OK.

This incident has, however, highlighted the effective-ness of the PBH Safety & Security reporting system and we should all thank Martin Lasher for his efforts in acting as the distribution point for these community messages. If you know of any of your neighbors who are not yet on the distribution list you might suggest they send their email address to pbhsafetyandsecurity@hotmail.com. The more of us who are involved the more effective the system becomes. It is an opt-in system.

It was really impressive and reassuring to see so many people respond so quickly. This form of "neighborhood watch" is certainly very effective.

It seems that Pine Brook has quickly returned to its relaxed and relatively uneventful quietness. Let's hope it stays that way...

WHO'S WHO AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING? Pine Brook Scat, or the Straight Poop (00PS!) Scoop

There's no swimming in the Reservoir! But Pine Brooker Pete Lillydahl looked across the street toward the reservoir at eight one morning and saw ripples on the water - BIG ripples. Further investigation revealed the identity of the rule-breaking swimmer - a black bear.

Because we had trouble with the Post Office delivery of the last issue of the Pine Brook Press, we were interested in John Seward's story of communication techniques in early Pine Brook. Seems there was a large and friendly buck that visited both the Sewards' house on Wild Horse Circle and a friend's home on Linden near the Firehouse. The friends exchanged messages by tying them to the deer's antlers. So I'm thinking, if we got a LOT of deer...?

Report from Bob Loveman: "Last night I joined a packed audience at Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History to hear Dennis Dimick's presentation on "The Challenge of Climate Change." Dimick is executive editor at National Geographic magazine and leads NG's coverage of environment, energy, and climate issues. Pine Brook Hills resident Jim Balog's work in the area of melting glaciers was highlighted throughout Dimick's presentation, including Jim's interview on NBC News, with dramatic time-lapse footage of glacier contraction in Greenland. You may recall that Jim's photo graced the June 2007 cover of National Geographic. Well NOW, the newly released NG special report on "Changing Climate" has both a Balog cover photo and additional shots within (on news stands until 6/22/08). National Geographic is one of the major funders for Jim's "Extreme Ice Survey" project. Check it out at www.extremeicesurvey.com! Great job Jim!!"

NEWCOMER NEWS

By Pam Creswell and Evie Gray

Bob Reed and his wife, Maryjane Zimmer-Reed, are new homeowners on North Cedar Brook. Bob and Maryjane were among the first people to live in Boulder's Newlands neighborhood. They loved the sense of community there but were ready for a change this year. Maryjane, a psychotherapist who works out of the home, needed a quieter atmosphere - like Pine Brook.

While living in Pine Brook Hills may increase Bob's commute (he is an architect with a firm in Denver), they feel that it is definitely worth it. When asked about "community" she commented that she finds it here in Pine Brook. Whenever she walks her two dogs, she meets other residents that she describes as "incredibly sweet and warm."

Maryjane is also an artist. The highly regarded Loveland Sculpture Show has just accepted Maryjane as a participant. Watch for her work when you next attend the show!

Kieuly Dang and Robert Lee were originally thinking

about getting a downtown loft. They could hardly have ended up in a location more diametrically opposed! Their beautiful home sits high in Pine Brook almost at the end of Fountain Tree. Kieuly is a "stay at home mom" and stays busy with their 10 month daughter, Karlein. Having a young child, they watch out for mountain lions and other wildlife. In fact, in the short time they have been here they have already had an exciting bear encounter: "There was no more than a door between us and the bear!"

Kieuly and Bob moved to Boulder two years ago from San Jose, California. For the last 15 months they have been building and now decorating their Pine Brook home. Rob, a project manager for Hewlett Packard, was intimately involved in all aspects of the home design. With both Kieuly and Bob being rock climbers, hikers, and in general outdoors people, they have certainly come to the right place.

Kimberly Curtis and her dog Denali are both very happy in their new home on Wild Horse Circle. While Kimberly is a trained chef, her employment is as a software engineer at Evergreen Investment, a subsidiary of Wachovia. When I asked her about meeting neighbors she explained that she just doesn't "have much time," which is understandable, as in addition to working full time she is also a full time graduate student in the MBA program at the Leeds School of Business. Steve Mackay, who shares Kimberly's hobbies of cycling and rock climbing, will be joining her soon and we look forward to adding him to our newcomer list.

Drs. Mila and Yun-Tao Ma are now settled in their new home on Wildwood Lane. "Outstanding!" is Mila's one word description of all aspects of her Pine Brook Hills experience. Mila obtained an M.D. in Germany. After a life-changing climbing accident she directed her energies into helping others with physical trauma. She now works in Sports Medicine and Trauma Rehabilitation using medical acupuncture.

Yun-Tao is an internationally recognized pain specialist. With an M.D. from China and 30 years of experience as an acupuncturist, Yun-Tao then went on to earn a PH.D in neuroscience in the U.S. and developed a "contemporary style of acupuncture" which is quite different from the traditional approach. He has published four books. Biomedical Acupuncture for Pain Management, his most recent book, has been translated into four languages.

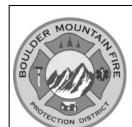
Mila says, "After years of being university gypsies and $_{8}$

living grant to grant, this is the first time we are settling down." While Yun-Tao still travels to Europe, Asia and South America (as well as within the US) to teach medical students, he and Mila are happy to feel they really have a home.

Donna and Gordon Matsuda are happy to be here in Pine Brook where they are near their daughters, their grandchildren, and the many outdoor activities - skiing, snowshoeing, backpacking, and hiking - that they enjoy. They came here in May from Hilo, Hawaii, via Redstone and Loveland.

They met, married, had a son and two daughters, and spent several years in St. Louis, MO, but enjoyed their visits to Colorado where the climate is more favorable for the outdoor activities the family loves. They also like the beauty of the area.

They lived for about 20 years in Hilo, where Dr. Matsuda, now a semi-retired urologist, had an active practice. Donna, then a nurse, worked with him. While in Hilo, they met a Chinese couple who taught Donna the technique of watercolor painting on treated silk. It is an ancient Chinese technique of painting and a medium Donna still employs for her paintings, which she never sells, but gives as gifts. Beautiful gifts!



Boulder Mountain Fire PD Mitigation Services Forest Health Management (303) 440-0235

SECRET PASSIONS OF PINE BROOKERS: SQUARE DANCING

A Letter from G. Edward Bixby

Pinebrookers:

Norma and I invite you to consider joining us in the great sport of SQUARE DANCING. Beginner's lessons will start this September. We have enjoyed square dancing for many years following our marriage in 1967. We find it a very meaningful exercise, both mentally and physically, as well as providing socialization with a very friendly and wholesome community. Recently we joined the Columbiners, a Boulder based club, and enjoy dancing with our many friends belonging to associated clubs in Longmont, Louisville, Lyons, Arvada, Wheat Ridge, Frisco and other communities.

I am currently lesson coordinator for our club. We thought you might consider square dance as a new, healthy, and social hobby.

Although square dancing is the authentic American folk dance, it is practiced worldwide. Once a basic set of calls is learned one can dance with almost any club anywhere in the world. The caller uses unique combinations of those calls to lead the squares through what can be very simple or very complex figures, always inventive, often challenging, and eminently enjoyable.



Dancers of all ages enjoy the sport, many of them well into their senior years and we have seen many marriages resulting from the socializing. A night's dancing can be roughly compared to walking five miles. My wife and I certainly cannot compete with the ultra-marathon tri-athlete twenty or thirty year old genre popular in com-

petitive sports so highly touted in "FIT BOULDER." But we can still dance an evening away, no wheel chairs, walkers or enhancement drugs required. Yes, we do have dancers participating who now need oxygen backpacks and even semi-blind dancers who dance better than we do. Talk about just keeping on keeping on! No, we aren't all geezers although we have dancers into their seventies and eighties (nineties?).

In September the nationally recognized caller Mr. Don Rouze will be calling a demonstration and introduction square dance in association with local square dance clubs at a free ice cream social. We would like you to consider joining us there. Please call or email me for information.

Sincerely,

G. Edward Bixby, 1138 Timber Lane, Boulder, CO 80304 (303) 449-0392, edbixby@aol.com

THE BEETLE BATTLE: We're All In This Together!

Next Beetle Buster Training Seminar: Saturday, September 27, 9-3 at the Firehouse

We can mitigate the damage from the bark beetle epidemic if we work together as a community. ALL of us have to know how to spot beetle-hit trees and what to do about them. If at all possible, attend the Beetle Buster Training on September 27, even if beetle hunting is not your favorite outdoor sport. We all have to be on the alert for the symptoms of infestation (see below). Please don't be annoyed if a neighbor should call and point out a problem with one or more of your trees. Having bark beetles is not a cause for personal shame!

We work closely with Steve Lynn, our fire department's Mitigation Coordinator, who is beetle-savvy and runs a crew that can cut down killer trees and strip the bark to remove the beetles' habitat (simply felling the tree doesn't help).

What happens if we do nothing? Things get worse. On one property, in June '07, the Beetle Busters marked with red tape three or four infested trees that needed to be cut and treated. They weren't. This year that property had some sixteen trees needing treatment. In contrast, a homeowner who treated a number of infested trees had no beetles the next year. Preventive spraying also protects "pet trees."

Symptoms of infestation:

- Pitch tubes. These can look like gooey masses at ground level or like popcorn higher on the trunk. However, many of our trees are too stressed to put out pitch tubes
- 2. Frase, or boring dust (looks like sawdust and means the infestation is fresh)
- 3. Bird pecking activity, especially in the tops of the trees
- 4. Color change from green to pale green and then to rusty red
- 5. Tree dying at the top (suggests IPS beetle infestation)
- 6. Galleries under the bark. Each beetle makes its own distinctive branching pattern. Knowing which beetle is present determines the treatment plan.

To reach the Beetle Busters, go to pinebrookhills.org and click on Beetle Busters to send a message online, or contact the Mitigation Program at BMFPD: 303.440.0235.



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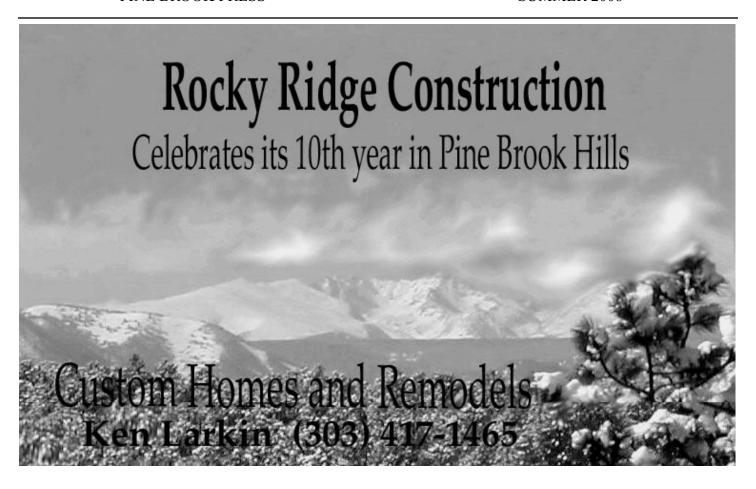
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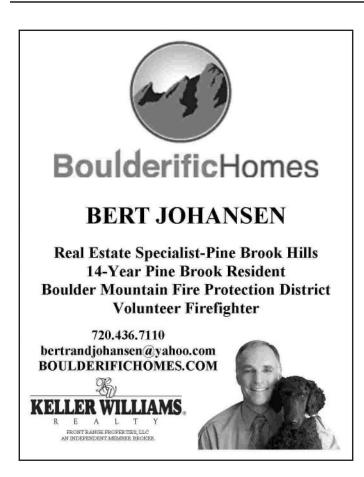
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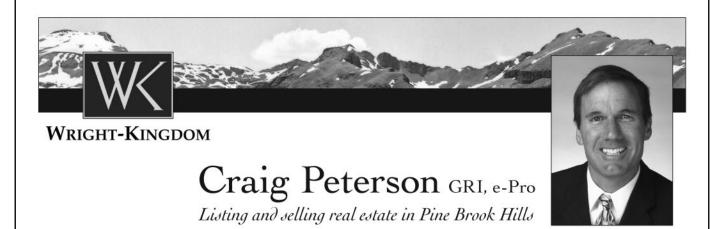


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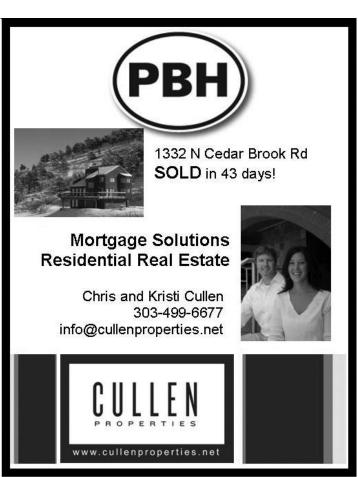
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THE GRANITE GARDEN -Choosing Perennials

By Jay Markel
In choosing perennials the first consideration is the location and its conditions. The second step is to know what you want of the plants.



Let's compare two plants as an example: Fireweed and Prairie Mallow. They have a similar size and flower



Prairie Mallow

color. Fireweed gets its name from the tendency to establish in burned areas. It's great in dry areas of full sun and has many positive aspects, but I would never use it in a perennial garden because of its aggressive spreading habit. Yet it's perfect for large areas that are not going to be receiving

much care. Prairie Mallow or False Mallow is seen around this area in slightly moister areas with some sun, and would be a welcome plant in a native perennial garden.

Some of my favorites are natives who are moderately aggressive spreaders that migrate to the best long-term location in your garden on their own.

An example is Penstemon, a huge genus of North American natives that has been hybridized to increase bloom and hardiness. I like the modest Native Strictus and the hybrid Mexi-



Pike's Peak Purple

cali, in particular Pike's Peak Purple.

Campanula rotundifolia, or Harebell is a native



Harebell

that likes slightly shadier locations and will spread throughout the area it likes in your garden.

Planting several plants of the same genus but a different species can give a unifying, but hardier and slightly varied look. For example, try the Campanula carpatica, common name, Carpathian Harebell, with our native rotundifolia, known as Scotch Bluebell.

Some of the most widely used perennials in our area

are Sage and Lavender (see opposite page), which are prized for their color, scent, hardiness and resistance to deer. These are hard to beat stand-bys.

A great reference book is "Best Perennials For The Rocky Mountains and High Plains" by Celia Tannehill and James E. Klett,



Scotch Bluebell

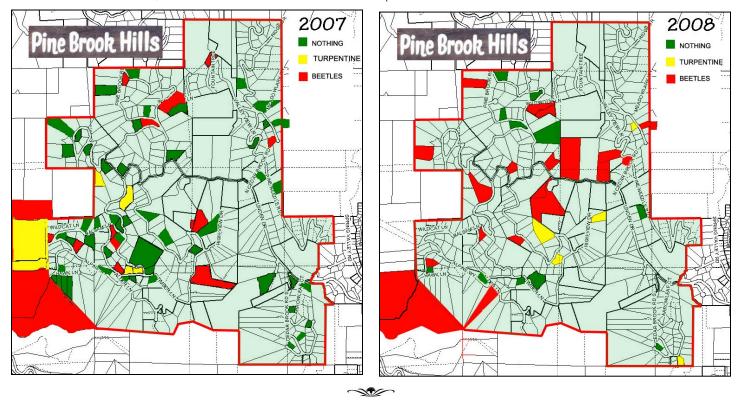
through the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Colorado State University. I like the bloom-time chart in the back, and haven't seen this done quite this way elsewhere. More easily found is, "Xeriscape Plant Guide" published by Denver Water. This is useful in that it includes trees and shrubs.

Happy gardening, and may the greening force be with you.

Thanks to Jay Markel for sharing his gardening ideas. Jay is a Pine Brook resident who has a landscape design business, Viriditas. Contact Jay at 303-444-7888 or www.Viriditas5.com

PBH BEETLE STATUS

The 2007 map is for the entire year. The 2008 map is current through mid June (before the flights of the Mountain Pine Beetles). Light green lots have not been inspected this year.



COMFORTING WORDS on GARDENING

From: Panayoti Kelaidis, Director of the Denver Botanic Gardens Outreach, quoted in <u>5280</u>, May, 2008

"Gardening in Colorado is synonymous with suffering and misery for some people." But,

"Working with plants is extraordinarily beneficial to your soul...The most miraculous thing in the world is a flower in bloom."

Some flowers LIKE to grow here:







RED FOREST



Grand Lake, Colorado

Photo Courtesy of Colorado State Forest Service

What the Beetles have wrought....PBH, let's all work together before it is too late! See story on p. 9

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