



Pine Brook Press

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

WINTER 2011



Yeah, Covenants!

By Bill Alexander, HOA President

I want to thank all the many folks who each spent many hours helping a majority in every one of Pine Brook's seven individual units sign to ratify the Revised Covenants. From now on Pine Brook Hills will be legally what just about everyone agrees we are psychologically - a single unified community! All lot/house owners in PBH will be getting their own copy once the Revised Covenants have been properly recorded in Boulder County government's records. Special thanks go to our Covenants Captains who did a huge amount of this Revised Covenants ratification work: Joyce Colson, Rob Quinn, Mel Beauprez, Brad Schildt, Kirk Hendricks, Richard Fozzard, Al Gerrish, Shaun Minné, Martin Rybczynski, Eric Erickson, Toni Erickson, Dave Davies, Pamela Creswell, Allen Saville, Shawn Roberts, Ben Bowen, Peter King-Smith, Hillary Grady and Suzanne Adams.

We are very fortunate to have so many people willing to volunteer their time to help our Pine Brook Hills community - including not only the above individuals but also perhaps a hundred more amongst the Architectural Review Committee, Beetle Busters, Fire Mitigation Planning, Roads Repaving, Website & Forum, plus the huge commitments of many more involved with Pine Brook Water and Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District. They are the example of what makes Pine Brook Hills a very special community and just a wonderful place to live.

Boo Hiss Sprinklers!

PLEASE READ ON

By Bob de Haas, Water District Manager and Firefighter

During the Four Mile Canyon Fire, after the area was evacuated, the Water District noticed that the water levels in the tanks continued dropping. This was frustrating since there was not supposed to be anyone left in the area and of course there was no



Water dump on south flank of Sunshine Canyon during the Dome Fire.

power even for the Water District to produce water to put into the tanks. What was going on?

It was finally discovered that numerous residents had turned on sprinklers outside their homes and then evacuated. There was enough demand created by these sprinklers that the District was actually using up more water per day than was used before the area had been evacuated.

Some of you may feel, "Well, so what, we wanted to protect our home." The fact of the matter is that water systems are not designed to handle this kind of demand. Even if there had been power available to produce water early on, the Water District could not have kept up with this excess

demand. The filter plant is designed to produce about 0.21 million gallons per day or 6.3 million gallons per month. Even during the summer we rarely have to produce more than 3.5 million gallons per month. To keep up with even 25% of the homes running sprinklers for fire prevention would require a production capability

Continued on page 5

COLD IN COLORADO ? TRAVEL "DOWN UNDER!"

Presentation to be made at Jan. 25, 2011 HOA
Member Meeting by Peter King-Smith

Our own Pine Brooker Peter King-Smith was born and grew up in Australia. After starting a software company in New York in the 80's, he moved to Los Angeles, sold the business in the mid 90's, then made the right decision to relocate to PBH with his wife Della. He has traveled regularly between Australia and the U.S. throughout that time (around 75 times and counting) on business and to visit family, often with Della, sometimes with his U.S. daughters and this year with their Colorado grandchildren.



He has continually been asked for years by friends, neighbors and random acquaintances about planning a trip to Australia. In conjunction with planning their family trip for this

past summer Peter decided to create a website with a comprehensive set of travel options so others could plan their own personal itineraries.

Peter will demonstrate how the website works and provide a link to those who attend so they can plan



their own personalized trip. He will discuss the many options available when planning a trip down under (including New Zealand), share some of his photos, stories and favorite places and answer everyone's individual Aussie and Kiwi travel questions.

MOUNTAIN EXPRESSIONS 2010

By Susan Maxwell

At the end of a year that found our minds very focused on fire danger, your fire district Auxiliary is extremely pleased to report that their fall fundraiser was a huge success. Total sales during the November 13-14 art, craft and baked goods sale came to a whopping \$17,300, shattering previous records.

Of our total sales, the \$6500 profit will stay with the Auxiliary to be used two ways. Half these earnings will support our dedicated BMFPD volunteer firefighters. The other half



will be contributed for Fourmile Fire relief efforts. The Auxiliary feels this, of all years, is the time to be aware of the challenges faced by our fellow mountain fire districts.

Here is a sampling of what it took to achieve the show's success:

- 36 artists displayed their work, 29 of them donated all or partial proceeds
- 18 artists spent the weekend selling their work and visiting with customers
- 3 nationally known artists donated works for our new Secret Bid Drawing that by itself brought in \$1675
- close to 40 bakers contributed made-from-scratch goodies to earn just under \$1400
- 8 crafters had fun all year long working to fill the Auxiliary craft table and brought in \$1500
- over 50 volunteers publicized, decorated, set-up temporary galleries, made and served refreshments, sold items, cashiered, directed traffic and cleaned up.

It's all rewarding, but without customers it just wouldn't work! THANK YOU to the many Pine Brook Press readers who were among the over 400 supportive customers.

P.S. If you would like to learn more, please visit:

www.mountainexpressions.org

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VICE PRESIDENT
Dave Davies, 938-0522

SECRETARY
Tom Mann, 449-0730

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

HOA MEETING, January 26. Potluck at 6 P.M. followed by new neighbor introduction and Covenants Celebration at 7 P.M. At 7:15 P.M. Guest Speaker Peter King-Smith, Aussie native and Pine Brooker, will talk about planning trips to Australia and New Zealand. Business Meeting at 7:45 P.M.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE - meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7 P.M.

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 786-8476 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 PATTTER

By Bill Alexander, HOA President

When it's cold outside - warm up with cake and a trip "Down Under!" Our next HOA members meeting will be on Wednesday, January 26, starting at 6:00 P.M.

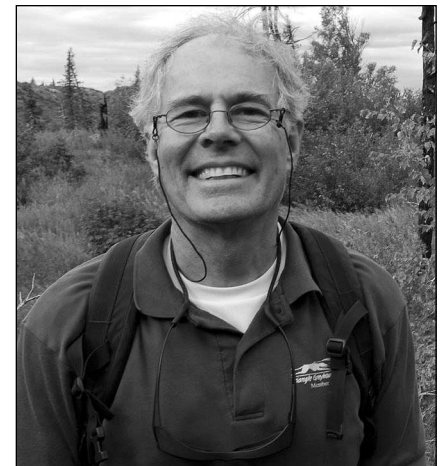
6:00 P.M. Potluck with HOA supplying the drinks and cutlery/plates while YOU supply the food. Except - don't bring a dessert - the HOA will be supplying a celebratory cake for all

7:00 P.M. New Neighbors Introduction, then Covenants Celebration & Cake now that all 7 PBH Units have agreed to join a Unified Pine Brook Hills (See story on p. 1).

7:15 P.M. Guest Speaker "COLD IN COLORADO -- TRAVEL "DOWN UNDER!" Aussie native and Pine Brooker Peter King-Smith will talk about planning trips to Australia and New Zealand with his tailored web site (see article about this on page 2).

7:45 P.M. Business meeting including: Voting on HOA Budget for 2011, Committee Reports from Treasurer, Roads Repaving, Beetle Busters, etc.

Remember, all residents and lot owners here in PBH are invited. If you can't make the early potluck, come later to listen to Peter and go "Down Under." Contribute your thoughts, ideas and suggestions on the various topics during the business meeting.



Speaking of which, here's a suggestion. We have two areas that need more volunteers:

Architectural Review Committee -

There is a meeting once a month if/when Pine Brookers are making changes to their property. This requires minimal time just a few times a year.

PBH HOA Board Nominating Committee -

Several existing HOA Board members are term limited. We need folks to help identify new board member candidates for the 2012 PBH HOA Board.

Please consider volunteering - to do so either call me, Bill Alexander 303-544-1333, or Neil Patel 303-284-0824.

I hope to see you all at the January 25th meeting. It should be fun!



THE TREASURER'S TROVE

By Pam Creswell

Thank you again to those who support the HOA through payment of the voluntary \$75 annual dues. As most of you know, most of the money is spent on fire mitigation and forest health in our neighborhood. We are hoping that with funds collected this year and next we will be able to do some significant fire mitigation. This is always important but that fact was made more poignant by the fires last fall. Our Beetle Busters have had a great year but will really have their hands full this year as the beetles are now flying more often. Please volunteer to help - it is more important than ever. Every time I look around at the brown trees north and west of us and along highway 70, I silently thank our Beetle Busters and the HOA that supports them!

Again, thank you for your support.

On a personal note, I am now a grandma! My grandson, Taylor, was born on November 4. I get to spend lots of time with him and it is heavenly!



THE ARC NEEDS YOUR HELP

By Dave Davies, HOA Vice President

No, not Noah's Ark but your ARC - the HOA's Architectural Review Committee.

We need some additional volunteers to join the committee and help us out; we are looking for a few good people who need not have expertise but are willing to help. However it would be really great if we could find a person or two with background in residential construction or equivalent and/or in the associated permit process. That said we also want interested amateurs.

A few Frequently Asked Questions on this topic:

Q: What does the ARC do?

A: The seven units of PBH were established as a covenanted community as far back as the early 1960s; part of those covenants required the formation of an Architectural Review Committee to ensure that external property changes follow the neighborhood's approved covenants. The ARC reviews proposed external changes to the properties and invites neighbor input if the changes fall within the strict scope of the covenants. This results in a brief public hearing & neighbor input after we have posted the property.

Q: Who brings these proposed changes to the committee?

A: The PBH home owners themselves are required to submit any proposed external property changes. Neighbors may query changes and the Boulder County Land Use office also sends us all the in-process permits they have for PBH.

Q: Doesn't this overlap the County Land Use permit process?

A: The County no longer has the resources to have public hearings on most property changes. The hearings are mostly waived. ARC hearings are often the only way there can be input by neighbors into changes that could affect them. Bear in mind the issues raised must be within the strict scope of the covenants; this can not be a broad sweeping complaint opportunity.

Q: When and how often does the ARC meet?

A: Just once a month for about two hours, second Tuesday of the month at the Firehouse/Community Center. Occasional site visits are required and these assignments are distributed amongst the committee.

Q: Does the committee get compensated for this

time?

A: NO, this is a completely volunteer effort; there is no compensation. A small fee is collected from the homeowner but it goes directly and completely into the HOA general fund.

Q: So if there is no compensation why should I do it?

A: First, as a way to give back to the PBH community, even in a small way. Second, it is surprisingly interesting; you get to meet a lot of fascinating neighbors, talk about the interesting projects and understand more about what is happening in PBH and indeed in the County itself.

So if you are interested contact one of the current committee members mentioned below. We need help.

Neil Patel - Chairman, neil@casanp.com
303.444.4886

Dave Davies - davedavies.sbr@gmail.com
303.938.0522

Ben Bowen - benjbowen@gmail.com 303.658.9317

Tim Triggs - timtriggs@comcast.net 303.444.4093



WATERSHEDS AND FIRE

By Bob de Haas

What a year this has been! Two fires threatened our area and one, the Four Mile Canyon Fire, burned up 40% of our main watershed from which we bring water over to the reservoir. The burning of this watershed meant that there would be changes to the raw water brought over from this area which in turn meant that we would have to implement changes to our treatment system. The good news was that the State of Colorado made grant money available to pay for those changes if the need for the money could be shown. The State agreed that the changes the District proposed were needed and they awarded the District grant money to pay for those changes. So the District's ability to provide safe, potable water will not be interrupted.



For those concerned by the Reservoir water levels: as of December 30, 2010,

Gallons	% Full
29,908,068	92

Boo Hiss Sprinklers.....continued from page 1

of 0.72 million gallons per day, OR OVER THREE TIMES THE CURRENT CAPACITY!

To redesign the system and build it to be able to handle this kind of demand would cost millions of dollars. The Water District was designed to provide water for in-house use. The improvements that the District has done over the years have allowed it to be able to provide beyond that. That the District has fire hydrants is a HUGE benefit to the area and the Fire Department. While these fire hydrants do not flow the normal "fire flows" as defined by many codes they do provide more water than could normally be supplied by trucking it in during a fire. Just ask the Fire Chief what he thinks about having fire hydrants.

So why is the District worried about it? If the District cannot produce water and water is being used anyway the possible consequences are:

1. Less water available to the fire department to use to fight the fire at the actual points where the fire is coming into our area.
2. If the fire department doesn't have the water to fight the fire where it is coming in then the entire subdivision might be at an increased risk of burning and possibly more homes would be lost.
3. So even if your home was saved what do you think your view will be like and what will happen to your property value if many homes burned up around yours? How will you feel if, after the fire has burned through the area, the Water/Fire Departments announced that part of the problem was that so much water had been drained out of the system by individual homes that there was no water available from the fire hydrants?

Is the District over-reacting to what happened? NO. DURING THE SECOND FIRE (THE DOME FIRE) THE TANK THAT SERVES LOWER PINE BROOK HILLS WAS SO FULL AT 6:30 PM THAT THE DISTRICT STOPPED FEEDING WATER INTO IT SINCE IT WAS JUST GOING TO SPILL ON THE GROUND. THE FIRE WAS "LAYING DOWN" FOR THE NIGHT. THE FIRE, THOUGH NOT OUT, WAS CONTROLLED ENOUGH THAT WE SENT OUR FIRE FIGHTERS HOME FOR THE NIGHT, **YET BY 12:15 AM, LESS THAN 6 HOURS LATER, THAT TANK WAS EMPTY!!!!!!!!!!** Normally that tank, when full, holds enough water to service its area for 36 to 48 hours before running dry.

This meant that the District personnel, who had been

helping with the fire all day and into the night, were called out in the middle of the night because of a lack of water in the system. We searched for a water main break as it did not occur to us that so much water could have been used in that little time. **It was not until almost 3.00 A.M. that we finally determined that there was no water main break and the water loss was caused by sprinklers left running during the night. In the event of a large wildfire such as the Four Mile Canyon Fire, putting out a sprinkler is not going to make a difference if you haven't done adequate mitigation..**

To help make your home safer go to:
www.bouldermountainfire.org/node/39



DAY THREE of the FOUR MILE CANYON FIRE

1 69 homes were lost in the Four Mile Canyon Fire last September. It was almost 170.

The fire started on Monday, Sept. 6. Those of us who watched helplessly from a distance saw the explosions of black smoke as one house after another succumbed to the flames. By Wednesday, the fire had swept through the areas that were eventually burned. The next job for a team of firefighters was to check the houses still standing. It sometimes happens that



a house that has survived the first wave of a fire will burn later on, often due to smoldering embers. Three BMFPD firefighters, Steve Lynn,

Shawn Roberts and Matt Baris, were assigned to return to Sunshine Canyon in the area that had burned, to look for hot spots. The team went house to house, circling each home looking for evidence of fire. It was striking to see how some houses were still intact while others, very near, had burned to the ground. While in some places the devastation seemed random, in most cases the houses that survived did so because of good mitigation. Initially, everything looked OK and the

team was ready to leave, when Matt looked back once more and saw what looked to him like a little bit of smoke under the eaves of one house. Matt has been a firefighter for three years; the others were more experienced. He called Steve, who agreed, "Yep, that's pretty important."

They were a Wildland Fire Team, equipped to fight fire outside of homes. Going into a burning house is a job for a Structure Team with different equipment and bunker gear. While Shawn stayed out front with the engine, Matt and Steve circled the house again, looking for open windows, but there were none. They broke one, and on a bottom floor utility room they could see that the carpet was smoldering and the fire was getting into the walls. Without entering the house they sprayed the walls with water, holding the fire at bay until the Structure Team arrived about 20 minutes later. The house survived.

Why had this particular house been vulnerable to fire? There was a continuous pine needle cover going under the house, providing a path for the fire to follow. Many of us who have done mitigation around our houses may still be vulnerable to fire from embers blown into what fire researcher Jack Cohen calls "The Home Ignition Zone." Embers can ignite little things, like a pine needle cover, a broom under a deck, or a flammable welcome mat next to a home.

So who is this Matt Baris? As a kid in Pine Brook Hills Matt admired the fire department and always felt that he'd like to be part of it. "It was something I'd wanted to do for a long time. I grew up in PBH and our family was evac'd a few times. I wanted to be a part of the response and be helpful. It's been very satisfying to me."

In recollecting the events of the fire, Chief Benson commented, "Good eye on that one, Matt!"



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“OUR” MOUNTAIN LION

By Amber Morris

Grrr....

What was that? It was a bright, sunny November afternoon in Pine Brook Hills and I was working in my home office. I looked at our house cat. Nothing seemed out of the ordinary.

GGRRRRRR!!!

I dashed to the window convinced I was about to see what I had been waiting for ever since moving into our PBH home eighteen months ago. A mountain lion!

Nothing could have prepared me for what I was about to witness. A mountain lion and a female mule deer were tangled up together in the middle of our driveway.

“Ian, come quick and bring the camera!” I hollered to my husband. Luckily, he rapidly complied (even in the midst of a conference call) and due to his speed, we caught the final throes of the kill in both pictures and video.



Little did we know that this was just the beginning of our mountain lion experience.

There is a large balcony overlooking our driveway, so we had a direct line of sight to the lion and her kill. However, we felt we were far enough away and close enough to a door that we were both safe and not interrupting the lion. After several minutes, the deer stopped moving and the lion seemed content that her efforts were successful. I wondered if we would now be “treated” to watching her feast - right here on our asphalt. Thankfully, the lion was intent upon moving the full-grown deer to a safe location. She began angling the deer away from the drive and up our very steep hillside. It rapidly became apparent that

the lion may have bitten off more than she could chew. No pun intended.



No amount of tugging, pulling, or yanking on various body parts could get the deer up that hill. The lion would work for a bit, then lie down across the deer to rest and seemingly ponder her next move. Or she would sit next to the deer, look down at it, then up the steep, rocky hill, then back down at the deer. You could almost hear the curses coming from her! At one point, the lion and deer were right outside our back door window, which allowed us a very close look. How small and young she looked!

This exercise in futility literally went on for hours. Up and down the driveway the deer was dragged. At



times, the lion was just moving it in circles. Ian and I watched this whole exercise with both curiosity and ever growing amusement. As twilight approached, the mountain lion finally realized that she wasn't

going to get the deer to where she wanted it to go. So, using gravity, she dragged it down through a small meadow between our house and the neighbor's house. Eventually, she stopped about 30 yards downhill from our home. After nearly three hours, the lion finally began to feed on her hard-earned kill.

Ian and I marveled at being lucky enough to witness and record this wildlife moment. I couldn't believe that after the initial growling, there was no noise and very little blood. As darkness fell, we figured our mountain lion adventure was over.

Much to our surprise, the mountain lion was lying in the same spot the next morning. However, the deer was nowhere to be seen. How could such a little cat eat such a large deer in one sitting?



We learned the answer: A mountain lion will "cache" its kill by covering it with grass, pine needles, and whatever else it could find. Then, over a week or so, the lion will feed upon it. Viewing the scene through binoculars did reveal a large disturbed mound of vegetation close to where the lion was located.

At the suggestion of a fellow Pine Brooker, Ian contacted the Colorado Division of Wildlife. A wildlife person arrived that afternoon and took great pains to answer all of our questions and reassure us about any concerns, including that mountain lions very rarely attack humans. They definitely felt that the kill so close to houses wasn't a sign that the lion had grown used to humans. The simple fact was she was chasing a deer, which are everywhere in PBH, and the take down just happened to be in our driveway.

We were presented with three possible options: move the deer to a more remote location; remove the cache and fire rubber bullets at the lion so it would associate negative thoughts with the area; radio collar and tag the lion and possibly move her to another location. Our next door neighbor, Scott, had come home from work specifically to see the lion so he was on hand to help make a decision. The unanimous vote was "whatever is best for the lion."

If the lion was still there the next morning, then the wildlife people would return and we would decide then

what to do.

Throughout the rest of the day, we periodically checked to see what "our" lion was up to. She spent most of the day sleeping and basking in the sun. We never saw her actively feed, but she was always lying close to her cache. Her camouflaging was incredible; if we didn't know she was there, we never would have seen her.

Wednesday dawned with clear blue skies and a lion still in our backyard. Around noon, three wildlife personnel arrived. Since the lion was so easily accessible, it was decided that she would be tagged and radio collared. As they began walking down the hill armed only with a tranquilizer gun and bear pepper spray, the lion left her kill...which is exactly what they wanted. While two people moved the deer slightly - to entice the lion to return as soon as possible - the third person took up position behind a boulder with the tranquilizer gun. In a surprisingly short amount of time, the lion cautiously returned to the area. Magpies had flocked to the exposed deer carcass and once the lion realized this she rapidly returned to her kill. She investigated it and quickly began to rebury it. Her scratching motions reminded me exactly of a house cat scratching in a litter box!



"Pop!" The first bright pink tranquilizer dart fell short of its mark, but the second one didn't. The lion quickly went to sleep and the wildlife people began their work. Much to our delight, we were invited to watch the activities close up. I couldn't believe I was close to and touching the lion that just two days ago was killing a deer in our driveway.

Blood was drawn; temperature was taken; sex, age, and lack of offspring were confirmed; and nearly every

possible appendage length and combination were duly recorded. She was unceremoniously hoisted by three legs to determine weight and she got an antibiotic injection. Throughout this activity, her eyes were open, which is normal, but it still was alarming.



We were informed that she was a healthy 18-month-old female weighing 82 pounds. A full-grown female is about 100 pounds, so she has a lot of growing yet to do. A male can get to more than 200 pounds! Looking back, I'm glad "ours" was smaller than average.

I was amazed by all of the tracking information she was given. Two green ear tags--in case she ripped one out. One microchip--in case she ripped out both tags or if hunters tried to sell her and had notched out the ear tags. One radio collar, which transmits her location seven times a day. This information is used not only for tracking, but also a lack of movement over several days indicates another kill, which will be recorded as well.

We half-seriously asked if we could track her as well. The very serious reply was "no." The sad answer was that if the lion's movements were given out, people might very well use the information to hunt them. I learned that there is indeed a mountain lion hunting season in Colorado. Before the lion was awakened, the wildlife people asked what we'd like to do with her. If we felt very insecure about her location, they would move her. Our answer again was "whatever is best for the lion." Because of winter coming on and her small size, it was decided that she and the deer would be left as is.

An antidote to the tranquilizer was injected and we all moved back several yards. After a while, sluggish motion was detected and she eventually staggered to her feet. In amusement, we watched her wobble and

weave away from the humans. Confident that the lion was well on her way to recovery, the wildlife people left with a cheery wave. They had three more mountain lions to get to that day!

Throughout the day, Ian and I watched in vain to see if the lion would return to her kill. But she was missing for the rest of the day. However, Thursday morning arrived and she was back guarding her kill (once again reburied) and snoozing in the sun. She didn't look nearly as noble with tags and a collar on her. Occasionally, she'd tug at the collar or stretch her neck against the new restriction. Every hour or so we looked out our windows to check up on her. This activity went on throughout the weekend and we joked about having a "pet" mountain lion.

Monday morning, a week after the whole adventure began, she was gone. Truly gone. We determined this by her kill, what was left of it, being completely uncovered



and exposed. Also, the magpies moved in and she never reappeared to protect her food. The circle of life continued when a coyote was spotted munching away on the leftover

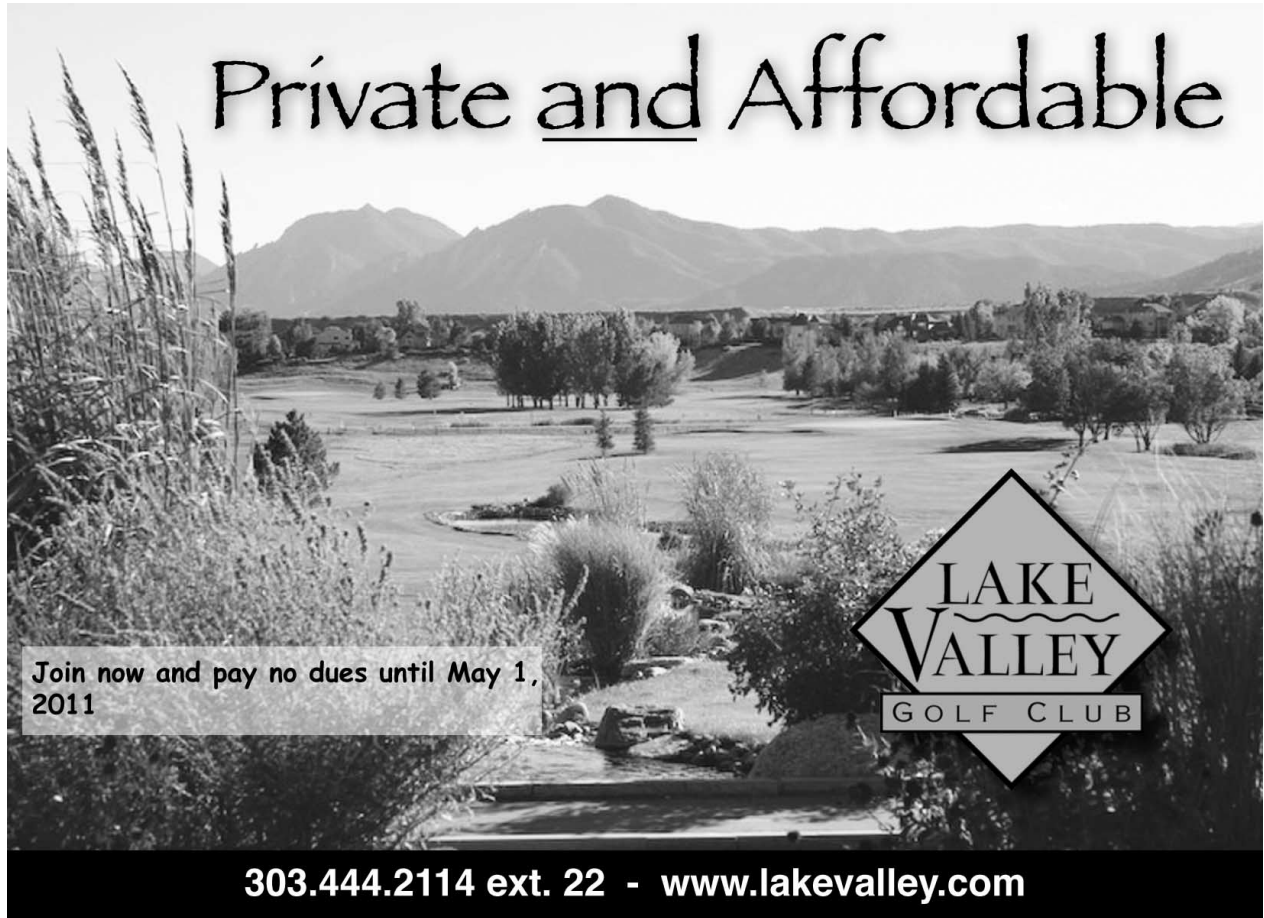
bones a few days later.

I completely understand that mountain lions are killers and that residents of PBH have lost beloved pets to them. However, I feel truly blessed that Ian and I witnessed this amazing series of events and I shall always treasure the moment I got to touch the mountain lion. I may have walked to the mailbox for a few days carrying an air horn, but this was more because I felt I should do, not because I had to.

I confess I do miss the lion, even though she was in our lives for only a short amount of time. Weeks later, I find myself still looking down at the cache site hoping to catch a glimpse of her. But I know that she is around PBH somewhere and perhaps one day we'll see her again.

Lions are a threat as well as a thrill. A large lion recently visited Linda Watkins' and Steve Maier's elevated deck in full daylight, perhaps stalking their dog. Linda is carrying bear mace these days. - ed.

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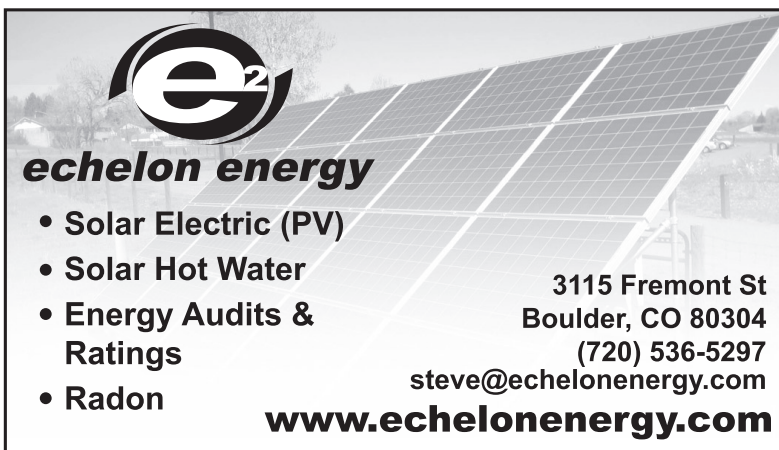


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PINE BROOK'S BEETLE BATTLE

This year the volunteer BeetleBusters accepted 132 requests to inspect properties ranging from a few acres to 35 or 40 acres. That means that on more than one third of the days of the year our neighborhood Beetlers were out checking for bark beetles in our fire district. The good news is that people who have mitigated their properties for wildfire are far less likely to have beetle problems. But even good guys get beetles. Over the course of the year we identified more than 400 trees infested with one or more of the five bark beetles at work in our forest (Mountain Pine Beetles, Ips, Turpentine, Douglas Fir/Pole Beetles, and Twig Beetles). As each infested tree can infest three to ten healthy trees in the next flight, it remains critically important to remove and treat the sick trees. This year the vast majority of infestations were of MPB, in contrast to past years when storm damage and residue from cutting and chipping attracted large populations of Ips Beetles.

What Can We Expect of the Beetles in 2011?

After a fire the trees are more vulnerable. We had two fires last fall. Beetles are smart, and they are bullies. They take advantage of vulnerability. Dead trees will attract Turpentine Beetles and Douglas Fir/Douglas Pole Beetles. Trees that have been scorched will attract large populations of both Turpentine Beetles and Ips Beetles. These beetles are capable of killing trees on their own, but if they don't, the further weakening of the trees from these insect attacks can attract the Mountain Pine Beetles that will finish the job.

A Nasty New Development

Mountain Pine Beetles historically have had one generation per year, with the "new" beetles typically flying some time between mid July and late August. Oh, for the happy days of yesteryear! Now there is irrefutable evidence that the beetles are moving into a two generation per year pattern, with largely unpredictable flight times. Bother! This means that it is even more important to find and remove infestations during the winter, when the beetles are lying low. Although beetle populations in the high altitude lodgepoles are beginning to crash in areas where there are few remaining living trees for habitat, pressure on the Front Range will probably continue for several more years, particularly if we do not have cold spells in the fall or spring, during the times when the beetles are not protected

by glycol, the antifreeze that they produce to protect them from winter weather.

What Can We Do?

All the evidence confirms that timely removal of infested trees is the essential first step in controlling the outbreak. Because Pine Brookers have been active in doing just that, we have a healthier forest than many surrounding areas. We can't stop now! In addition to identifying beetle-hit trees, we strongly recommend implementing additional protective measures:

1. First, thin the trees! This has the happy effect of helping to protect your property BOTH from wildfire and beetles. Call BMFPD's Mitigation Services at 440.0235 or write beetlebusters@gmail.com, to find qualified mitigators.
2. Next, seriously consider protective spraying, which must be done before the beetles invade. Spraying is 98% effective when correctly applied, at the right time of year and in stands that have been thinned. The debate continues as to whether one spray per year is sufficient. The US Forest Service advocates one spray per year, while the Colorado State Forest Service recommends two applications. In any case, spraying should begin as soon as the snow is off the ground, preferably in April. If you decide on one spray, be sure the applicator uses a mix of 5 gallons Astro to 100 gallons water. If you plan to have a second spray applied in late summer, a 2.5/100 gallon mix is sufficient.
3. Verbenone (the beetles' anti-aggregation pheromone) is of questionable value by itself, but in combination with thinning, spraying and removing infested trees, Verbenone has been shown to augment insect control. One possibility is to spray once in spring with a 5 gallon mix, and then use Verbenone packets stapled to the trees in a grid pattern by the end of June to dissuade beetles from your trees for the rest of the season, which in 2010 seems to have extended into November.

Let's help each other!

Because our properties are large it is often not possible for a homeowner to keep an eye on ALL his/her trees. It may be that a neighbor has a better view of some of the trees. It's an act of kindness to inform a homeowner of an infested tree. Take that one out, and save three to ten others!

NEWCOMER NEWS

Compiled by Jo Wiedemann

Vanja Dukic and David Bortz moved into their new home here just in time to be evacuated while celebrating their first year anniversary. After that excitement, they are very happy to relax on their deck and watch the sunset over the mountains every evening... quite a change from Chicago! They're both professors of applied math at



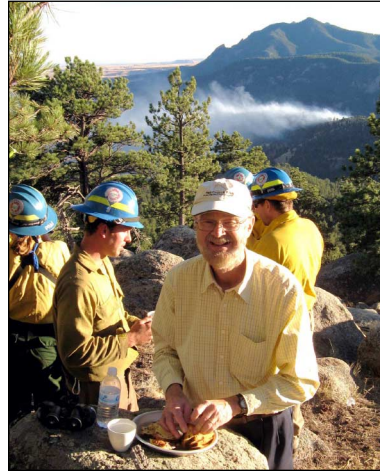
CU and run a mathematical and statistical modeling company in their spare time. David moved here a few years ago from the University of Michigan and Vanja moved here this year from the University of Chicago. As is a prerequisite for living in Boulder, they love nature, hiking and the great outdoors (no Subaru yet though). They very much look forward to meeting more of their neighbors!

Pam, Alan, Aviva and Rachel Kosansky moved to Wildwood Lane just before Labor Day from Kailua, Hawaii. Aviva and Rachel are in school at Tara Performing Arts High School in North Boulder, where Aviva is a junior and Rachel a freshman. Alan runs



his own supply chain consulting company and Pam was most recently the music director at the Honolulu Waldorf School. Moving to Boulder has been a wonderful experience. They have found people to be very warm, friendly and helpful. While the fire and evacuation the week after they moved in was challenging, they have been fortunate to experience first-hand how helpful and friendly this community is. They are really enjoying living in Pine Brook Hills with the beautiful views and wonderful people.

PINE BROOK VOLUNTEERS

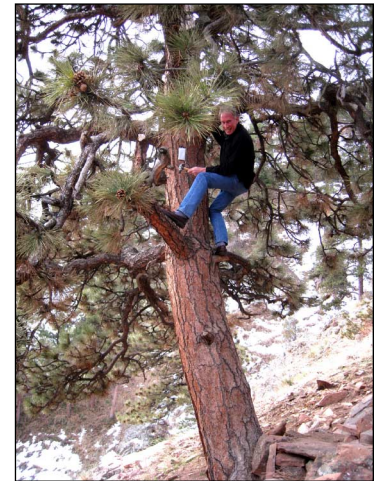


Juri Toomre feeding firefighters atop Alder Lane during the Dome Fire.



HOA President Bill Alexander presents cake and Comments Book to Firefighters, Fire Auxiliary and the Third Arm.

Allen Saville risking life and limb applying Verbenone patches to protect against beetles.



Cecile Duray-Bito and friend looking for beetle-hit trees.

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A slurry bomber drops retardant on the flank of Sunshine Canyon, just south of PBH, fighting the Dome Fire.