



PMPO

www.PMPOinfo.com

Summer 2022 - Volume 33

The Palomar Mountain Planning Organization

Board Members: Mike Appelman, Lafe Ball, Glenn Borland (Chair), Robert Carlyle, Diana Forero-Cook, Renee Forero-Cook (alternate), Ryan Flohr, Josephine Flohr (alternative), Elizabeth Gettys (alternate), Elizabeth Getzoff, Rosemary Johnston, Brian McBrayer (Vice-Chair), Hiroshi McDonald, Michael Pique (Secretary), Yvonne Vaucher, Michael Walsh (Treasurer), Jack Weisgerber

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

by Glenn Borland



Welcome to the 2022 edition of the PMPO newsletter. The Palomar Mountain Planning Organization is a nonprofit public benefit organization whose purpose is not only to provide planning oversight for the Palomar community but also organize responses to particular Mountain needs. These needs range from road traffic and safety to representing the Palomar Mountain community in county planning issues. The board consists of fifteen members who are elected to three-year terms. Five member positions come up for election every year and candidates are drawn from Palomar Mountain residents, property owners, and business persons. If you would like to participate in board activities, please do not hesitate to contact any of the board members, or email secretary@pmpoinfo.com.

As COVID seems to be winding down, the Palomar Mountain boards are starting to meet in person. This last year we continue to see changes on the mountain. We are still currently on red resident tags for all mountain residents. These tags are set to expire in July of 2023. See Lafe's article for further details. These tags have been a very effective aid in helping the CHP regulate the traffic traveling to the mountain top during snow days.

Good news, the CAL FIRE crew quarters is

complete and occupied. Staffing of the fire station by the San Diego County Fire District/CAL FIRE continues to be exceptional. Thanks to Captain Dean Kowalski and all of the firefighters who staff the station. With the completion of the crew quarters, work is now beginning on the Community Center to ready it for use by the Palomar Mountain community. See Cliff Kellogg's report on fire station developments.

The PMPO website (pmpoinfo.com) continues to take form. This was brought about by the hard work of Betsy and Charles Gettys. Thanks for your perseverance and patience. Also thanks to Mike Pique for consolidating the Minutes and Newsletters into a form suitable for web publication.

The Fire Safe Council continues to support the community by sponsoring workshops, safety courses, and dumpster days. These 'Dumpster Days' seem to have become a *de facto* meeting place for mountain residents. Serious commitments to fire prevention and brush clearing on our properties must remain a high priority. An important part of preparedness is the maintenance of our access roads. The Fire Safe Council is currently working with landowners and the Fire Department to ascertain where work needs to be done.

Widening of roads through the back areas of the community is moving along with several sections complete. The question is not whether we will have another fire, it's simply when, and how prepared will we be? On this note, the PMPO gives thanks to the Department for their ever-present vigilance, CAL FIRE and the US Forest Service with their wider venue of the forest and surrounding areas, and the Forest Fire Lookout Association with their group of volunteers who keep an eye out for all of us.

On the subject of community service, Bill Leining is our CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) leader. Under Bill's leadership CERT continues to thrive. There will be a CERT Academy held this summer. Please see Bill's article for more information on CERT.

On another note, it is with sadness that the mountain has lost one of its most beloved residents. Alan Serry passed away last September. He will be missed.

As you read this newsletter, you are looking at the work of not only the contributors who wrote the articles, but also the work of publisher Susan Humason, editors Mike Pique and Elizabeth Getzoff. Many heartfelt thanks to them and to all of the other people who have contributed to the activities of the PMPO.

PMPO Annual Pancake Breakfast: TBD

PMPO Annual Meeting: Virtually, by Webex on Saturday, May 28, 2022 at 10am



Check out
PMPOinfo.com
for more details

Join at web.webex.com/sign-in, Meeting number 2553 999 5297
Password: uqHk5J2ZwR5 (87455529 from phones)

Join from mobile phone +1-415-655-0001,,25539995297#87455529#
Or email secretary@pmpoinfo.com for link or phone instructions

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**Palomar Mountain
Planning Organization (PMPO)
Box 145
PALOMAR MOUNTAIN, CA 92060-0145**

This newsletter is produced annually and distributed in May of each year. Without the help of many volunteers, this newsletter would not be possible.

Coordinator: Glenn Borland
Publisher: Susan Humason
Editors: Michael Pique & Libby Getzoff
Photography: Michael Pique & Bonnie Phelps

Article Contributors:
Thank you to all contributors who make this newsletter possible.

Assemblers:
Thanks go out to the individuals, especially Michael Pique, who help each year with the assembly and mailing of the newsletter.

If you have any information that you would like to contribute to future newsletters, please email the information to

Glenn Borland at:
chair@pmpoinfo.com
attn: PMPO Newsletter

Thank You to Our Paid Advertisers who help offset the production and mailing costs.

Palomar Mountain Planning Organization

TREASURER'S REPORT

2021 - 2022

By Michael Walsh, PMPO Treasurer



The financial status of the Palomar Mountain Planning Organization remains strong and stable, consistent with the past several years.

Thanks to the generous donations from our community supporters, we were able to offset expenses and maintain our financial position. The PMPO operates as a CA State registered, charitable 501(c)(3) organization, and donations to the PMPO are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Jan 1, 2021

Checking Acct. Balance	\$ 16,043.13
Savings Acct. Balance	\$ 33,981.33
Total Accts. Balance	\$ 50,024.46

Jan 1, 2022

Checking Acct. Balance	\$ 16,480.01
Savings Acct. Balance	\$ 36,075.63
Total Accts. Balance	\$ 52,555.64

Difference

Checking Acct. Balance	+ \$ 436.88
Savings Acct. Balance	+ \$2,094.30
Total Accts. Balance	+ \$2,531.18



Mountain Forestry Services

- Stump Grinding
- Tree & Brush Work
- Firewood



Robert Carlyle
760-742-1891

This is a Paid Advertisement.

PMPO NEEDS YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT...

All property owners, residents, and any parties interested in the Palomar community are members of the Palomar Mountain Planning Organization. PMPO is recognized by both Federal and State Taxing Authorities as a tax-exempt organization. This means that your gifts are income tax deductible.

The Palomar Mountain Planning Organization (PMPO) studies and tackles issues of importance to Palomar Mountain, its residents, and visitors. Your financial support represents the Mountains' ability to make its voice heard and have its concerns expressed to the applicable local government agencies.

Palomar Mountain Planning Organization -- 2022 Contribution --

RETURN TO:

PMPO, Box 145

PALOMAR MOUNTAIN, CA 92060-0145

PMPO IS RECOGNIZED BY FEDERAL

AND STATE AUTHORITIES

AS A TAX EXEMPT 501 (c)(3) ORGANIZATION.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE 100% TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

OR DONATE ONLINE AT WWW.PMPOINFO.COM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

I AM CONTRIBUTING: \$ _____

*We depend on
Your Support.
Please,
Give Generously.*

Thank You

PMPO BOARD MEMBERS...

We would like to thank all of the Board Members who are currently serving and who have served over the many years that the PMPO has been active.

Our active Board Members are listed on the cover page under the PMPO banner. Please take a minute to thank them for all of the time and effort they put into serving this vital organization.



Remembering Alan Serry



Long-time mountain resident Alan Serry, husband of Diana Serry, passed away September 27th, 2021. He will be remembered for his participation in essentially all aspects of mountain life, especially his efforts to improve security and traffic safety via his personal interactions with the County Sheriff and CA Highway Patrol. Alan helped create Palomar Mountain CERT and was active in the PMPO for 20 years.

Alan was a good and generous friend to all he met. His presence and community efforts will surely be missed by all here on the mountain.



Palomar Mountain
Volunteer Fire Department dba

PALOMAR MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY FIRE ASSOCIATION

REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



By Cliff Kellogg

Cliff Kellogg, President
Glenn Borland, Vice President
Mike Pique, Secretary
Keith Ronchetti, Treasurer
Robert Carlyle, Member at Large

The Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department (PMVFD) has been in existence since 1976, providing fire and medical aid to Palomar Mountain. Now that the San Diego County Fire Protection District is responsible for those services, it is time for the PMVFD to begin a new phase.

Last year the PMVFD started doing business as the Palomar Mountain Community Fire Association (PMCFA). This DBA does not change the corporate name or status of the PMVFD as a 501(c)(3) non-profit but since the department is no longer providing volunteer firefighters to the community, we felt that a change was in order. We appreciate the community support over the years and want to continue to enhance the safety of the mountain.

As I write this, the construction is nearly completed for the new crew quarters behind the existing fire station. The County of San Diego hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony on March 8th with Supervisor Jim Desmond and officials from the San Diego County Fire Protection District and CAL FIRE. After the ceremony, the public had a chance to tour the inside of the building. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a large kitchen, ready room with a wood-burning stove, and a patio with barbeque, picnic table and chairs really make the new crew quarters a very comfortable and appealing place to stay for the firefighters. Paving of the entrance to the fire station, upgrades to the office in the engine bay, and storm water management issues have been completed.

The next phase of construction will be the upgrades to the community center (the small house next to the engine bay). This will entail enlarging one of the restrooms to comply with ADA requirements, eliminating the shower

area to make way for another restroom, and other upgrades. The community center will be under a licensing agreement between the County of San Diego and the community groups that have requested access, including the Community Center of Palomar Mountain, the Fire Association, PMPO, Fire Safe Council, and others. The county will continue to provide maintenance and utilities to the building at no cost to the community.

The Palomar Mountain fire association board continues to work with County Fire and CAL FIRE. Senior station personnel attend board meetings to keep the department and the community up to date on what's going on with staffing, call volumes and administrative issues. The fire association continues to get updates from the San Diego County Fire Advisory Board on subjects that pertain to both Palomar Mountain and the county at large, such as the Agricultural Pass Program, Heli-Hydrants, and evacuation routes.

Palomar Mountain residents are always welcome to our board meetings held on the first Saturday of the month at 9:00 am, see palomar-fire.org. Attending board meetings is the best way to get accurate information on current happenings with the fire department. Get involved! There are three board positions opening this fall.

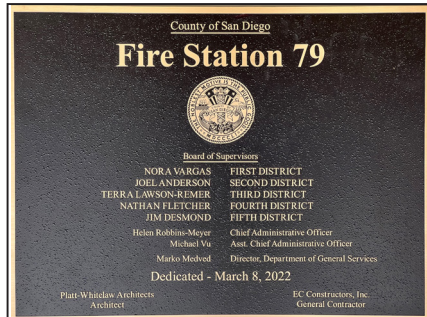


BOARD MEETINGS
9AM
1st Saturday of the
Month

(760) 742-3701 • FAX: (760) 742-0574
www.palomar-fire.org
21610 Crestline Road • P.O. Box 235
Palomar Mountain, CA. 92060

THANK YOU
for supporting the
Palomar Mountain
Community Fire Association

Ribbon-cutting ceremony at the fire station on March 8th with Supervisor Jim Desmond and officials from the San Diego County Fire Protection District and CAL FIRE, hosted by the County of San Diego.



*Photos Courtesy of
Michael Pique*



Friends of
PALOMAR MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

FRIENDS OF PALOMAR MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

By Rosemary Johnston

Last Fall, the State Park had a successful 'mini Apple Festival' with about 150 people attending. Activities included cider-pressing, sack races, and making cornhusk dolls. Friends of Palomar Mountain State Park continues its support of the park, including maintenance projects this past year as requested by park administration. We are funding the internet services for the park interpreter and had been funding his salary the past few years. Happily, the park administration was able to take on that expense this year. During the COVID closure, our interpreter developed online videos about the park: its history, unique features, and various hiking, camping, and fishing opportunities. This past summer we were able to staff a pop-up canopy on weekends to answer visitor questions, sell merchandise, and distribute information about the park. The park

interpreter Will Meyst also brought animal skulls and track castings to share with the public. Since then, a Palomar resident has offered to donate a 27-foot trailer that could be renovated to meet ADA requirements and utilized as an interim visitor center where we could sell our coffee mugs, insect repellent, hats, patches and other items as well as dispense information about the park. We are looking forward to moving the trailer to one of our board members' homes on the mountain to complete necessary renovation before moving it to Silvercrest or Doane parking lots. We envision it will be open on summer weekends and staffed by volunteers. Our current Cooperating Association Liaison, Terry Gerson, will be retiring, and the district superintendent Ray Lennox will be the interim State Parks representative attending our board meetings.



We held elections recently and the current officers Rosemary Johnston (president), Sharon Dall (vice president), Steve Lopardo (secretary), and Michael Walsh (treasurer) agreed to continue serving. Other board members include Micah Beard, executive director of Palomar Christian Conference Center, and Walt Johnston, an ex officio board member.

We continue to rely on the generosity of our donors, so please consider making a donation on our website at www.friendsofpalomarsp.org. Remember there's no such thing as a bad day at the park!

PALOMAR OBSERVATORY

SPRING 2022



*By Steve Flanders,
Public Outreach Coordinator*

Despite many restrictions, during the last 12 months, the Observatory has extended its operations, brought new programs into development, and made significant contributions to science. Let me review items from last year's newsletter and describe some of the year's accomplishments.

COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Operations

Two years ago, operations on the Hale Telescope were suspended and the Observatory was closed to everyone except members of the staff. But conditions improved over the next 12 months as we implemented methods to control the spread of the virus. By the spring of 2021, operations at the Observatory had returned almost to normal. Even so, conditions were not quite as they had been before the pandemic. Masking and social distancing were required, weekly COVID tests were being performed on the staff and, as had been the case throughout the winter, our daily 7:00 AM operations meetings were being held outdoors.

And the Observatory remained closed. The astronomers remained at their home institutions – Caltech, JPL, Yale and others – where they controlled the science instruments on the telescope and collected their data by logging in through the Internet. Observing was being done remotely and only the engineers who needed direct access to the equipment were allowed on the grounds.

That was a year ago. Now, as of mid-April 2022, many of these measures have been relaxed. Masks are optional and the special rules set up to control social distancing have been dropped. The COVID tests were discontinued quite a while ago and our morning staff meetings are once more taking place indoors.

Even so, in two key respects, the pandemic is not over. First, as was the case a year ago, the astronomers are not yet permitted to return to the Observatory and so observing is still being done remotely. Second, also as a year ago, the public has not returned, and the Observatory remains closed. I do not know when we will reopen.

Palomar Science and Discoveries

The Zwicky Transient Facility (ZTF) is the Observatory's engine of discovery, and, with its advanced wide-field camera, the 48-inch Samuel Oschin Schmidt is our

discovery telescope. Operating robotically, the 48-inch photographs the entire visible sky once every two nights. Then, a machine learning system automatically compares each set of new images to previous images and looks for objects that have appeared in the sky or have changed in any way.

When ZTF determines that an “interesting” transient object has been found in data from the 48-inch, spectrographs on our 60-inch telescope and sometimes on the 200-inch telescope are used to identify the new object. Since ZTF's inception, we have discovered:

- **5932 Supernovae:** These violent events mark the death of stars and provide us with information regarding subjects as diverse as the rate of expansion of the Universe and the origins of the chemicals that support life.
- **60 Tidal Disruption Events:** When a star is disrupted as it passes close to a supermassive black hole, we are able to gather information about the way black holes accrete matter, about how galaxies have evolved and about other the changes taking place in the Universe.
- **230 Near-Earth Asteroids and Comets:** Many of these objects contain material that is unchanged since the formation of the Solar System. Knowing their locations and orbital characteristics is essential if we are to defend ourselves against an asteroid strike.
- **45 Ultra-compact Binaries:** Ultra-compact binary systems frequently contain two massive stars that orbit each other sometimes in an hour or less. These are rare objects and ZTF has almost doubled the number that we know of. From them, we gather information about stellar evolution.

New Instruments and Programs

A great deal of development work is taking place to upgrade and improve the science instruments on the Hale Telescope. Here is a sample of some of our major projects :

- **The Next Generation Palomar Spectrograph (NGPS)** will replace the Double Spectrograph (DBSP), an instrument that has been in service for several decades.
- **A novel adaptive optics system called SIGHT** will be coupled with NGPS to create multi-wavelength scanning efficiencies ten times greater than what is currently available using DBSP.
- **DSOC** is a program NASA will use to test laser communications from a spacecraft in deep space. The Hale Telescope will be the ground receiving station for this experiment.
- **FlairScope** will use a robotically controlled telescope to make rapid follow-up observations at optical wavelengths of radio events detected at Caltech's Owens Valley Radio Observatory.

PALOMAR OBSERVATORY (CONTINUED)

Protecting the Health of the Forest

Healthy forests face a lesser danger from forest fires. With this in mind, Palomar Observatory applied for and, at the beginning of 2020, received an award from the state aimed at restoring forest health, protecting watersheds, and promoting long-term carbon storage.

Issued under California's Forest Health Grant Program, this award provides funds for priority treatment of 312 acres on Observatory grounds that require mechanical thinning, mastication, and brush removal. In addition, the grant makes money available for clearing a 31-acre fuel break along the Palomar Divide Truck Road to serve as the primary fire suppression access route on the upper ridge of Palomar Mountain.

Unfortunately, these and other projects were delayed by the pandemic. But, with improving conditions, work has finally begun. Much of the activity is taking place in the interior sections of the property. There are, however, at least two places along Canfield Road where you can see what is being done. The first of these is on the right several hundred yards before the turn at the Cleveland National Forest Fire Station. The second location is on the left a short distance before the gates to the Observatory.

In these areas, the larger trees remain standing while brush and the ground clutter has been cut away. Crews have been on the job since late March and apparently, they still have a great deal of work to do.

Public Outreach

With the Observatory closed to the public, the outreach program has moved online. Using Zoom, we are holding a bi-weekly astronomy lecture series called the Greenway Talks Online. In addition, we provide Zoom presentations on the history and science of the Observatory as well as virtual narrated tours of the Hale Telescope.

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PALOMAR MOUNTAIN MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

By Joanne Marugg, President

California is experiencing another year of drought. The Palomar Mountain Mutual Water Company has enough water to meet the needs of our shareholders with continued conservation efforts. As shareholders, we expect pristine water when the taps are turned on, but there is only a finite amount of water coming from our wells. More importantly, we need to remember that outside irrigation with sprinklers or irrigation systems is not allowed. There is no car washing. Good conservation methods also include installing low volume toilets and low flow shower heads.

We monitor our water usage daily and have our water tested frequently in a laboratory. We appreciate reports of any water leaks immediately to the water company. Our website at <http://www.palomarmountainwater.com/> relays information to the public including board meeting minutes, rules for water usage, well levels, consumer confidence reports, and emergency contact phone numbers.

**Most importantly, PLEASE report any water leaks immediately
to the water company.**

The emergency phone number is 760-207-7779.

**If you have any business-related questions,
our office phone number is 760-742-3516.**

The Board of Directors thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

THE COMMUNITY CENTER OF PALOMAR MOUNTAIN

By Rosie Lopresti



The CCPM Board is looking forward to having the community center building (located next to the Fire Station) being returned to the community now that construction of the new CAL FIRE crew quarters is complete. We are hoping to have a picnic Labor Day Weekend. However, because the PMPO Pancake Breakfast is not able to go on Memorial Day weekend because of construction, I

am pretty sure our board would help the PMPO have the breakfast Labor Day weekend.



THE PALOMAR MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY SPONSOR GROUP

MEETINGS: 3rd Thursday of the Month - 6pm

In 2020, with support from the PMPO, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors authorized the Palomar Mountain Community Sponsor Group. The PMPO and the sponsor group are complementary and synergistic as advocates for the Palomar Mountain community. As a non-profit, the PMPO has flexibility in fundraising and planning community events, whereas sponsor groups operate under strict county disclosure rules and are subject to the Brown Act. Sponsor groups officially advise and assist the County Board of Supervisors and the County Planning Commission in the preparation, amendment and implementation of community and subregional plans in unincorporated areas. Our sponsor group has seven members who serve staggered 4-year terms: Mike Appelman, Micah Beard, Robert Carlyle, Cliff Kellogg, Bill Leininger, Teresa McCarthy, and Dutch Bergman.

So far, virtual meetings have been held by Zoom, and are regularly scheduled at 6pm on the third Thursday of the month. Community members are welcome and agendas can be found online at www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/northmntn.html.

Ron Schramm from the San Diego Lotus Club (SDLC) presented a proposed 'hill climb' in the Fall, which would require closing down the South Grade Road on a Saturday. The County requested the Mountain residents' interest in such event - pro or con. After further community discussion, the sponsor group endorsed the rally.

David Hogan presented a proposal to establish the Chaparral Pacific Crest National Monument, encompassing 480,000 acres within San Diego County; the group wants more information before considering an endorsement.

The County Board of Supervisors has sent us a request to determine interest in County-funded community signage for Palomar Mountain. Cliff Kellogg has been appointed Chairman of a subcommittee to determine interest and ideas for the mountain.

For more information, e-mail Chairman Robert Carlyle at rcarlyle@outlook.com.

Images of Palomar



*Photos Courtesy of
Bonnie Phelps*



PALOMAR MOUNTAIN FIRE SAFE COUNCIL (PMFSC)

A 501c3, non-profit organization dedicated to helping keep Palomar Mountain fire safe

By *Cecelia Borland,*
Secretary PMFSC

In another busy year for the Fire Safe Council, we have been able to provide 10 large dumpsters moving over 24 tons of refuse from the mountain, and 6 days of free chipping for 60 mountain residents, through grants from the San Diego County Board of Supervisors and SDG&E. We are also partnering with CERT to provide Barricade Fire Retardant Gel for mountain residents; please contact Bill Leininger (palomar.mountain.cert@gmail.com) if you want some.

Roadside brush clearing, funded by CAL FIRE, has progressed through the Birch Hill loop and down to the far east end of Crestline. We are now starting to work our way west from the lodge. We will continue to offer dumpsters once a month, free chipping, and Barricade to residents of the mountain.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the programs

we've sponsored in our efforts to make Palomar Mountain and our community more fire-safe.



*Photos
Courtesy of
Michael Pique*



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

By *Katie Heuermann*

NON-Emergency Lines:

Sheriff 858-565-5200

Vehicle Related Issues:

CHP 858-637-3800

Your neighborhood watch team continues to connect with local law enforcement regarding myriad safety issues on the mountain, including the recent snow days. Our local law enforcement friends have really stepped up to help us control visitation and traffic on these days. Chain checks and early signage have helped make these events more manageable.

Recently, county code compliance has become a hot button issue on the mountain. If you have any questions or concerns about filing a report or complaint, receiving a citation, or any other code compliance issues, please feel free to reach out to the mountain's point of contact: Brandy Contreras (619-517-1047, brandy.contreras@sdcounty.ca.gov). Some of you may remember her from her days as our neighborhood watch liaison when she worked for the Sheriff's Department. She is a great advocate for the mountain and is happy to work with the community in this new capacity.

As a reminder, if you would like to give the sheriff's department permission to intervene on your property in the event that you are not present and someone is trespassing, please make sure to have a 602 form on file with the sheriff's office. Please email Katie Heuermann at katiemich@gmail.com if you would like an electronic copy. Forms can be mailed to the Sheriff's substation: 28201 N Lake Wohlford Rd., Valley Center, CA, 92082. Forms can also be emailed directly to Porscha.Snow@sdsheriff.org.

As always, if you see something, say something! If it's an emergency, of course call 911. If you need help with a person-related issue (like trespassing) and it's not an emergency, call the Sheriff's non-emergency line at 760-751-4400. If you need help with a vehicle-related issue (breakdown, car accident, illegal parking) and it's not an emergency, call the CHP's non-emergency line at 858-637-3800.

The best way to report activity and get assistance from your neighbors is through the NextDoor portal. To access NextDoor, please go to nextdoor.com and set up an account. Your neighbors are already using this tool to communicate with each other, and updates from your Neighborhood Watch team and Snow Safety team (and many other important mountain organizations) are posted here. Stay safe and healthy, and don't forget to keep an eye out for yourself and your neighbors.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

SPRING 2022

By Bill Leininger

Palomar Mountain Community:

As we resume more in person contact, you'll see us out into the community. Highlights of our activities:

- Purchase and build out of our CERT Trailer – will make us MUCH more capable for our disaster responses.
- Community Outreach Events with the "Prepare in a Year" Campaign.

Look for the upcoming events on July 23rd and October 22nd, with up-to-date information and free giveaways.

- Distributing reflective house number signs – these help our firefighters get to you faster.

At the educational events and community activities, look for our green pop-up canopy and sign, where we'll have preparedness and fire season safety information for you.

Want to get more involved? We're holding another CERT Academy this summer (tentatively in July), where you learn first aid, home preparedness, fire safety, search and rescue, and other skills. The training is tailored to your level of ability, and we need members of all abilities – from hiking over rocky trails to comforting scared disaster victims to organizing people and supplies. For more details, see my contact information below.

As summer approaches, our fire risk increases. Before the warmer temperatures and Santa Ana's return, make sure your home is ready. While all the vegetation is green, now is the time to clear your defensible space and get your evacuation plan updated. Go to www.readyforwildfire.org for more details, and to sign up for wildfire notifications.

For more good information on disaster preparedness, try this site:

San Diego Office of Emergency Services – www.readysandiego.org

- Sign up for AlertSanDiego (reverse 911)
- Explore the San Diego County Emergency App – download it for free, so you know what to do before, during, and after an emergency
- See how to Make a Plan, Build a Kit, and Stay Informed

Visit us our booth at upcoming community events (announced on NextDoor), or contact Bill Leininger at Palomar.mountain.cert@gmail.com, or 760-807-6923.



MOUNTAIN NEWS

For all things Palomar, simply self-subscribe at www.PalomarMountainNews.com

It's FREE! Opportunities abound for you to keep up on the latest or get involved. Have you already subscribed and you're not getting the News? Have you changed your email address lately? **You do need to cancel your old email, then you can re-subscribe.** Also put 'Palomar Mountain News' on your White List. You can scroll through the archives or type in key words to locate information. You'll also find lots of photos of events and happenings on your favorite mountain! Several mountain authors have published their books; lots of events and ideas are always on the horizon. I'll keep all the news of your favorite mountain coming your way, and that's a promise!

This is a Paid Advertisement.

From the MOUNTAIN to MISSOURI

The Phelps Family is heading off on a new adventure. As most of you know, we have new addresses in the state of Missouri. It is with very mixed feelings as I thought we would be here forever. However, the winds changed and as much as we have loved Palomar, we are excited about our futures together in the Show-Me State. I thought I was retiring! But, our son Brandon and his wife Heidi asked to team up in Real Estate! Of course I said "yes" and now our business is expanding. Missouri is a reciprocal state for California Realtors, so my Broker-son, Nathan, and I will be opening doors there, too. Two friends have already closed escrows for their new Missouri properties, and more on the way. Several of you have asked "Why Missouri?" We'd be glad to share that with you and introduce you to the very beautiful state. Like to travel? We'll be halfway across America and love to have you visit. Meanwhile, I'll be here a while longer as Nathan plans to re-hab Shady Oaks, the cabin next door to his Cabin Fever Rental. We'll be working together for all your Real Estate needs on Palomar and in the cities, too.

Bonnie Phelps, Realtor

760.533.1742 • Tel & Txt

COMMUNITY WEBSITE: MyPalomarMountain.com



TRAFFIC SAFETY

By Burt Hulbert

Greetings Palomar Mountain residents. We are well into 2022 and, from here, a better view than the year before. It seems racing traffic is sporadic and not nearly the large mobs of years past. As always, the police response to racing is driven by citizens reporting via phone. If no one calls, "it didn't happen" so please do call to report racing. Sunday, March 27th, we saw a motorcycle crash on South Grade from our home. Although I phoned CHP and I drove past the scene finding only skid marks, our engine #79 had already checked the area. So yes, unsafe driving still occurs and needs our calls to CHP. As for our problems after snowstorms, I'd say we've dodged a couple calamities. This past winter's snowfalls have generally been early in the week, followed by adequate melt or cloudy weather less conducive to snow tourism blocking our roads. Yet still, if you observe trespassing or blocked roads, call law enforcement. Again, if no one calls "it didn't happen". With no further ado, it's time I got busy weed whacking and clearing fallen dead wood. It's fire season you know.



RESIDENT

RED TAGS *By Lafe Ball*



Hello Palomar Residents:

There may be some new residents, or some may have missed previous communications regarding the Palomar Mountain Resident Tags developed by the PMPO in early 2019. The PMPO developed a new resident access tag to promote increased community engagement, help get through some of the challenges at the snow stops at the bottom of the mountain, and to allow residents a way of connecting to other residents with this simple visual reference. Prior to Alan Serry's passing (RIP), he worked diligently with the CHP and Sheriff's Department to make them aware of the resident tags, thus helping greatly during the infamous "Snow Days". Based on positive responses for the first 2019-2021 (GREEN) tags, we created the new 2021-2023 (RED) tags that are now in use. If for some reason a Sheriff Deputy or CHP Officer is not familiar with the tags (the staffing changes often), let them know the tag's purpose.

Kudos to Cecelia Borland, who continues to manage the distribution of these tags to residents. Tags are \$5.00 each to cover cost and any additional monies support activities managed by the PMPO.

NOTE:

If you have the Green 2019-2021 tag in hand, it has expired.

We have new 2021-2023 Red tags,
so please contact Cecelia at (760) 742-8741
or cecelia10@idafab.com.



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COMMUNITY TIDBITS . . . *By Bonnie Phelps*

STATE PARK FUN

When was the last time you visited our State Park? People come from around the world to enjoy our 200-acre park. You can too. Time it right when Boucher Lookout is staffed and climb those stairs up to an amazing view and interesting info from the volunteers watching for smokes. Great picnic spot there and another looking out to Doane Pond. The Ranger has some fun campfire events planned on the weekends through the summer. Campers and the locals are invited, too! Click on the search button for the State Park Campfire Schedule, then bundle up your family and friends for some old-fashioned fun in the park.

READY FOR WILDFIRE APP

CAL FIRE has a great app for your phone to be 'Ready, Set and Go' for emergency situations. Also, Alert San Diego is where you can enter your cell and VoIP phones for reverse 911 calls. It pays to be prepared! Search www.palomarmountainnews.com (also known as PMNews) for the link to both.



PICNIC TIME

Another great picnic spot is the County Park on Crestline. Nice tables and a change of view with a fun place for the kids to play. Go up Crestline to Road Marker 4. Great parking, it's free, and you usually have it all to yourself.

VACATION RENTALS

One of the sources of lots of joy since 2013 has been sharing this mountain through managing our son's vacation rental, Cabin Fever. Usually, I don't meet the guests but when I do, it's a real treat. Our longest stay so far was a couple with two little girls from Beijing. They were moving to Washington DC with his job transfer. They enjoyed a few days in Hawaii then after 3 weeks on Palomar, they were on their way to meet the container ship with their belongings on the other side of the US. So interesting and fun to meet up with them several times. They like many others have invited us to visit them, so we have guest rooms available in England, Ireland, Norway, France and all

across America. Many times, the guests mention they will be on the mountain for a wedding, birthday celebration, anniversary or family reunion. Most often, they are just seeking to get away from the stress of the city and leave here refreshed, rejuvenated with the promise to return to our beautiful mountain.

So, how many vacation rentals are on Palomar? I just went to Airbnb and typed in 'Palomar Mountain'. It said there are 35 rentals on Palomar??? That couldn't be. So, I looked at their map. Several property owners off the mountain mention Palomar in their postings but they are not on up here. When you enlarge the map, we only have 22.

LIKE A JOB ON PALOMAR?

These vacation Rentals have been providing some nice income for house cleaners, contractors, handymen, plumbers, electricians, snowplow guys and more. Do you have an interest in one of these areas? Theresa McCarthy is working to gather a current list for property managers and to update our Mountain Yellow Pages. Please contact her for more information: 760-855-4015. We will have an updated 'Yellow Pages' posted on PMNews soon.

HOUSE NUMBERS REQUIRED BY LENDERS AND INSURANCE COMPANIES

My last several escrows have had unusual last-minute requests. Apparently, lenders and/or insurance companies have new conditions prior to closing. We must provide "three photos of the house, taken from different directions showing the house number, permanently attached and clearly visible". You can order the reflective numbers through CERT or in a pinch, paint your own real quick.

HAVE SOME STUFF TO GO AWAY?

I was absolutely amazed at the results from a post on PMNews recently. Several new listings had lots of free stuff to go away. I turned around the photos and so many of you showed up and cleared us out. When you are in the spring cleaning mood and need stuff to go away, you might connect with me as 'one man's trash can be someone else's treasure'.

FUN THINGS TO DO ON PALOMAR

When you are looking for fun things to do on Palomar, there is a link for great ideas. It is simple to turn around to family and friends planning a stay on the mountain and provide to your vacation rental guests. Simply visit www.palomarmountainnews.com and search Fun Things to Do and you'll be all set. Have something to add? Just let me know!

POEM TO MEMORIZE

One of the first lovely spring green colors is out but before picking it for a nice centerpiece, you might want to count the leaves and remember this little poem: "Leaves of three, you'd better flee, or you'll be in misery."



BURN PERMITS

Folks with mountain property always seem to have downed branches especially after storms. Wondering what to do with all the trimmings after 'parking up' your property? Would you like to have a campfire or burn your cut brush? A permit is required. Permits are available only when the U. S. Forest Service deems it is safe. After a rain or snow is often a good option. Call the US Forest Service Lake Henshaw station (760) 782-3472, or Ramona office (760) 788-0250 to help keep our forest green and fire safe.

BOOKS OF PALOMAR

Have you discovered the fabulous finds former cabin owner has waiting for all who love Palomar? You are invited to get real comfortable in your favorite chair and visit <https://peterbrueggeman.com/palomarhistory>. Lots of interesting history and wonderful photos. Even free downloads of historical books. You can be lost for hours and enjoy every minute, that's a promise.



MOTHER'S KITCHEN RESTAURANT & THE PALOMAR MOUNTAIN GENERAL STORE

By Francisco Valdovinos

We miss our food, cooking it, sharing it with our friends and all those who came through our doors.

It's been two-plus years waiting on the sidelines. Repairs to our kitchen area have been delayed due to lack of able, willing, and consistent, competent help.

It appears that we will soon resume our much-needed repairs to our kitchen area. It is almost there!

So, when will we reopen? We've been trying to guess this since the summer of 2020. We will announce reopening as soon as we are getting closer and it becomes a reality.

We look forward to cooking and sharing with you our food, friendship, and smiles.

By the way, The Palomar Mountain General Store (palomarmountainstore.com) continues to serve and provide our groceries and unique souvenirs. Stop by to say hello. We would love seeing your smiling faces.

Best regards to all and may this find you
happy and doing well.



**The Community Safety
Presentation
at the Lodge was well attended.**

August 8, 2021

Photos Courtesy of Michael Pique



**Local Postal Customer
Palomar Mountain CA 92060**

PMPO BOARD ELECTIONS



*By Glenn Borland, PMPO Chairman
chair@pmpoinfo.com*

The PMPO Board consists of 15 volunteers, five of which are up for election every year.

Membership on the PMPO Board is open to any individual resident, property owner, or business person in the Palomar Mountain area of San Diego who wishes to contribute time and effort to achieve the purposes of this Organization. Members may be elected for consecutive terms. Board members serve without compensation. Board members must meet the attendance requirements as stated in the PMPO By-laws article 7.6. The Board meets a minimum of four times a year. A description of the PMPO and its various Committee activities, Articles of Incorporation, and By-laws can be viewed on the PMPO website, PMPOinfo.com.

Election of PMPO Board Members will be accomplished at the Saturday May 28, 2022 Annual Meeting virtually by Webex (see page 1 of the newsletter for details on logging into the meeting).

The following board members' terms are ending:

- 1) Mike Appelman
- 2) Lafe Ball
- 3) Rosemary Johnston
- 4) Mike Hopper (stepped down November 2021)
- 5) Jack Weisgerber

Of the above board members, the following have agreed to run again:

- 1) Mike Appelman
- 2) Lafe Ball
- 3) Rosemary Johnston

Thank You

**For Your Service to the
Palomar Mountain Community**

To nominate a Board candidate, including yourself, email secretary@pmpoinfo.com.

Please visit:

PMPOinfo.com for information on the PMPO,
and its Annual General Meeting and Elections.