

# WILSONIA TIMES

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~SPRING EDITION~

www.wilsoniavillage.com

## 2011 Schedule Full of Fun Activities

With about 3' of snow still on the ground (and more accumulated in many places) the summer Wilsonia season is just under one month away. We're hoping the snow is melted away enough for our Memorial Day Potluck. If the roads and Clubhouse are still snowed in (as they were last year), we may need to cancel the Memorial Day weekend events. Beyond that though, we have a very full calendar.

Scheduled for this year are many of your favorite events (potlucks, parade and ice cream, the Quilters' Retreat), and the Black Pot Cook-Off and an end-of-summer square dance will return as well. We have added a few more programs of educational interest: a Tulare County Historical Society luncheon with speaker Steve Stocking (who will also be leading our annual nature walk) and a evening program on John Muir. Also, back after a one year absence, The Amazing Race. Please see the calendar insert for the dates and times of these events, and watch the web page and bulletin board for updates or changes to the schedule.

To kick off the summer, a Sunday afternoon concert on June 12th by award winning singer Juni Fisher... read on.

## Juni Fisher in Concert – Sunday June 12th, 1pm

Join us for a western music concert. Award winning singer and songwriter Juni Fisher will be in concert on Sunday, June 12th at 1pm at the Wilsonia Clubhouse. Tickets are \$15 per person. A portion of the concert proceeds will go to the Wilsonia Historic District Trust. A Tulare County native, Juni writes and performs western music all over the United States, and she does it very well as evidenced by her many awards including the Wrangler Outstanding Heritage Album of the Year in 2009 from the National Cowboy Museum. More on Juni Fisher at wilsoniavillage.com.

**Get your tickets now** by calling Sally Tripp at 559-269-4441 or sierra64@sbcglobal.net, or at the Collin cabin at 83772 Fern Lane.

## Black Pot Cook-Off

The increasingly popular Wilsonia Black Pot Cook-Off will be back for a third time this summer. This year it will be held on Saturday, June 25th. The cook-off will start at 2pm at the McCormick Cabin on Grant Lane. Max and Linda Montgomery will be hosting again. Pull out your old cook pots, or unpack that new one you bought last year, after you were inspired by the fabulous recipes and talented chefs. Last year's event featured many delicious recipes ranging from "fried turkey nuts" to "jack rabbit chili". The ideas for recipes are almost endless - many black pot recipes can be found online.

Rules for the cook-off: Bring your own ingredients to assemble and cook at the event, and of course, bring your black pot. Coals will be provided. Lemonade will be served, but if you want other beverages, please bring them. If you are not cooking, a small salad will help balance the dinner menu. Judging and dinner will be at 5:30 pm. There will be prizes again this year for the crowd's favorite recipes.

Come one and all for food, fun, laughs, old-time tales, music and what ever might come up. Hope to see you there.



## Upcoming Events:

### May 28th

- WVI Board Meeting - 1 pm
- Potluck Dinner - 6 pm

### May 29th

- Rubber Duck Race - 1 pm

### June 12th

- Juni Fisher Concert - 1 pm

### June 25th

- WVI Board Meeting - 10 am
- Black Pot Cook-off - 2 pm

see complete calendar insert



## Snow Report

The 2010-2011 winter was a long wet season in Wilsonia and Grant Grove, and one of the ten wettest on the books - probably coming in 4th, when the numbers are confirmed. In the seven-day storm beginning the first day of spring, 8' of snow fell, with a record setting 39" accumulation in one 24-hour period. There is still over 3' of snow on the ground in most places.

Season totals to date:

Snowfall: 312.1" (average 180.97")  
from July 1st, 2010 to April 28, 2011  
(data from the Kings Canyon Visitor Center)

Thanks to Postmaster Jerry  
for his frequent winter updates and photos  
of Wilsonia and Grant Grove  
on the Kings Canyon Post Office Facebook page

## Does It Snow in Wilsonia?

### Ask the Hills

by Neal Mixer

What should have been the start of spring turned out to be an amazing winter experience for John Hills in Wilsonia. John and Kim Hills spend quite a bit of the winter at their cabin on Sierra Lane in the southeast corner of Wilsonia. Kim was down in Visalia with her mother; John was spending a few days alone. He went to bed for the night on March 20th, with just a little snow coming down on top of the 10' to 12' base. His Snowcat was parked just

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## NPS - Reed Canarygrass Project Updates

*Submitted by Matt Bahm - Invasive Plant Ecologist*

Greetings! I wanted to provide everyone an update on the reed canarygrass control project and to thank you all for your support and assistance throughout the project. We are entering the final year of our large-scale reed canarygrass removal project in Wilsonia. Crews have achieved control of the majority of the areas and will be focusing on eradication of the few remaining patches in the coming season. In addition to seeing crews out conducting control efforts around the area, you will also be seeing the removal of all tarps and planting of native species throughout the area. We will be hosting several volunteer groups that will be planting 20,000 native plants throughout the area! We are also interested in organizing a volunteer work day for members of the Wilsonia community to help with planting activities. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Matt Bahm at (559) 565-3720. I will be contacting landowners via phone and/or email in the coming weeks as dates are scheduled to alert you to crews working in the area.

## It's Yard Clean-Up Time, Again

WVI asks you to set July 1st each year as the target date for having your property cleared of fallen branches and pine needles, and for creating a fire safe perimeter around your cabin and other buildings.

Once again, this year there will be open access to the Park Dump every weekend in June for disposal of your natural yard waste. On weekdays, and at all other times the rest of the year, you may gain access to the dump by signing out a key at the NPS Visitor Center.

**\*\*IMPORTANT\*\***

**No plastic trash bags are allowed at the dump! The only materials allowed in the dump are natural yard waste - pine needles and branches. No lumber, household trash or discards of any kind are allowed. No plastic bags!**

Please make an effort to be in Wilsonia sometime during the month of June to clean your yards and make your cabin and our community FIRE SAFE! Remember, the clean-up responsibility falls on each property owner, whether or not you use your cabin.

## WVI Winter Planning Meeting

The annual winter meeting of the Wilsonia Village Inc. Board of Directors was held on Saturday, February 26th at the Mixters' home in Reedley.

WVI President Chuck Burgin, plus five Board members, WHDT President Gus Collin, Sally Tripp and NPS Ranger Ned Kelleher were present. Business discussed:

- WHDT Report - amendment still pending
- NPS Report
- Fundraising - Silent Auction, new shirts and hats
- Clubhouse Maintenance - spring opening
- Summer Calendar of Events

The next meeting of the WVI Board will be at 1pm on Saturday, May 28th. All are welcome.

## Verizon Cell Tower Update

*The 80' monopole tower was installed on Park Ridge late last fall, but is not yet operational. More work needs to be performed by Verizon once the snow has melted.*

*We will provide updates when more information is available.*

## GARBAGE SERVICE

*- please read and share with other cabin users -*

Garbage service will resume in Wilsonia on Memorial Day weekend. This service is **only** for those Wilsonians who have helped to pay for the service by paying dues.

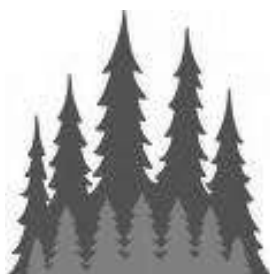
The disposal bill continues to be one of the biggest expenses for WVI. Please do not use the dumpsters for anything other than daily trash and kitchen garbage. If you bring up a large box or package (TV, furniture, etc.), please take the packaging back down the hill with you.

PLEASE! The dumpsters are **not** for the disposal of furniture, appliances, household discards, lumber or other building materials.

Please recycle all glass, cans and bottles. We will be working with Tulare County CCET to try to improve our recycling program. We do not have paper or cardboard recycling. Please burn them, reuse them or take them home to recycle.

*Please protect the wildlife - keep the dumpsters latched, food and garbage out of site. Please keep your dogs on a leash.*

## LOT CLEANUP



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## Ed Warren

*Ed Warren passed way on Dec. 2, 2010. He was a long time resident of Tulare. Ed purchased the SUM-ER-INN cabin on Willow Lane in about 1977. He enjoyed building things, so he rebuilt that cabin into the fine cabin we have today. Ed was a past Wilsonia Village Board Member. He, with the help of 4 others, installed the roof that is now on the Clubhouse. He will be missed by his family and friends.*

**Does it Snow?** - continued from page 1

outside their back door, and the supply of firewood was just a few steps away.

When John awoke in the early morning and looked out his second floor bedroom window, he was looking at bank of snow. Overnight, more than 3' had fallen, with drifts of over 7' from the snow blowing across the meadow. Needless to say, the Snowcat was buried, digging out for more firewood seemed an impossible task, and to top it off... the power was out. Thankfully, the phone was working. John was willing to rough it, but at the encouragement of a worried Kim, and just to be safe in case another 3' of snow might fall the next night, he thought he should get out. Kim called Keith Cosart, who then called Scott Edgerly. Scott and Keith headed up to the mountains that morning to help John dig out (it was also a great excuse to go to Wilsonia).

After chaining up at Snowline, they got to Wilsonia to find the parking lot buried and completely inaccessible. They unloaded Keith's Snowcat at the NPS maintenance yard and began the "rescue ride" to the Hills'. Scott, even with snowshoes on, was sinking up to his chest in the soft new powder. The Snowcat had to inch along, packing down, backing up, and inching forward again to make any progress. What should have been a fifteen-minute drive took close to five hours. Finally reaching John around 5 pm, they dug him out and gave him a ride out of Wilsonia.

John's Land Cruiser was buried in the parking lot under 6' of snow, but with some tugging from Keith's 4WD, they were able to, as John put it, "pop it out" of the snow and get out of there. They drove down to Bear Mountain Pizza, where John treated them to dinner and shoveled off some of the 3' of snow still frozen to the roof of his Toyota.

... 4 or 5 days after the "rescue", at the end of the week long storm, Scott and Allison Edgerly went back to Wilsonia. The snow was so deep they needed to step over the phone lines to get into their cabin.

*We don't have time to use it!*

**Cabin for Sale**

83638 Willow Lane

Historic 1000 sq ft 3 br/1ba on double lot

To view cabin or submit offers, contact Mitchell Brookins (559) 335-2812 or Neal Mixer (559) 643-8518

**Wilsonia Cabin for Sale**

83740 President's Lane

1-1/2 story, 4br/2ba

Call for details  
Karen Sledge  
(559) 734-9648

Clubhouse  
Clean-Up Day  
is  
Saturday  
June 11th

**Have you paid your 2011 dues?**

*If you have a dues reminder included with your Newsletter,*

**Please pay your dues today.**  
Thank You

**Silent Auction**

**Saturday July, 2nd 1- 8 pm**

**Goods, Crafts and Food needed!**

Please bring your donated auction items to the Clubhouse on weekends from Memorial Day through July 1st, or contact a Board Member for other arrangements. We are asking for nice, new or very gently used items only please (this is not a white elephant or yard sale). Thanks in advance to all who donate to and participate in this annual fund raising effort.

**CALLING ALL QUILTERS & CRAFTERS**

The Annual Wilsonia Quilters Retreat will be held, Tuesday through Saturday, **July 12 - 16, 2011.**

The retreat takes place over five days this year. Come for one day, two days or all five, depending upon what fits your schedule and the size of your project(s). More details in the next newsletter.

**Clubhouse Rental**

The Wilsonia Clubhouse is available for rental for your family or social gathering. Please contact Neal Mixer for available dates and rental details

**Clubhouse Rental Rates:**

Parties of 15 or fewer	\$50 /day + deposit
Parties of 15-50*	\$100/day + deposit
Parties of 50 or more**	\$200/day + deposit

\*Renters must provide proof of insurance and

\*\*provide portable toilets and trash disposal.

**The Quacks are Back**

Please join us again this year for the 2nd annual Wilsonia Rubber Duck Race. This friendly competition is a fund raiser for the village and so much fun. The race will take place in the creek above Hazel Lane at Lily (at Sara DeJager's cabin). Join us for the fun Sunday, May 29th. If by chance the creek is still covered by snow, we will try to reschedule... or, how about duckie bobsled?

*New Wilsonia Village long sleeve T-Shirts and Hats will be available on Memorial Day Weekend!*

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# *WILSONIA TIMES*

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
**WILSONIA VILLAGE INC**  
C/O 1118 S. KLEIN AVE  
REEDLEY, CA 93654-3720

## ***SERVICE CHANGE REQUESTED***

### **WVI Board of Directors 2011 Contact information**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Cabin Phone</u>
Chuck Burgin	President	chuckpen@gmail.com	(559) 332-2817	335-2509
Del Tiffin	Vice-President	dkttiffin@pacbell.net	(209) 526-1819	335-2819
Sheri Parkinson	Secretary	teebars@yahoo.com	(559) 638-4527	335-2252
Neal Mixer	Treasurer-Newsletter	mixter3@msn.com	(559) 643-8518	335-1144
Karen Carlstrom		wilsonia@comcast.net	(559) 732-1928	335-2539
Susan Doyle		sfaulkner@psci.net	(812) 568-7610	335-2460
Uschi Hamm			(559) 643-0807	335-2575

Grant Grove	NPS Visitors Center		(559) 565-4307	335-2856
Ash Mountain	NPS District Office	www.nps.gov/seki	(559) 565-3341	

**EMERGENCY \*\* CALL 911\*\* and 565-3196 / 3197 NPS Dispatch**

#### **Bear sightings, problems or questions?**



Please contact  
the KCNP  
Bear Tech at

**(559) 565-4258**

#### **June is**

#### **YARD CLEAN-UP MONTH**

The park dump will be open for  
disposal of pine needles, branches  
and natural yard waste  
every weekend in June.

#### ***Still getting your newsletter in the mail ?***

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