



WILSONIA TIMES

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July 2014

~early summer edition~

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Meet Your Wilsonia Neighbors at the Cabin Tour

Please stop by the Aufweidersehen Gerdes Faszholz cabin behind the Clubhouse and tell me you will open your cabin for the August 2nd Cabin Tour... or see me at the 4th of July festivities, or phone 335-2563... or let Neal know. If your cabin was on the tour years ago and you would like to show off your additions/improvements, I would love to sign you up. We need about 7 cabins to spread out the crowd of usually around 100 fellow cabin owners who tour and oooh and aaahhh. We've seen so many wonderful cabins in years past. Won't you let us add yours to the list?

Thanks, Jean Faszholz

WHDT Educational Program and Nature Walk

Come to the Clubhouse at 7:30 pm on Friday, July 4th for a program about "The Giant Sequoias of SKCNP". Steve Stocking will be presenting the program which coincides with the release of the latest edition of his book by the same title. The next day, Saturday, July 5th, Steve will lead a morning walk, starting at the Clubhouse at 10am, to learn about the flora and fauna of our Village. Come join him for this leisurely and informative walk. Bring your curiosity, camera and questions.

Steve, a long-time Wilsonia resident, is the education chair for the WHDT and volunteers to conduct these programs each year. He is a retired professor, interpretive ranger and is our local expert on native wildflowers. If you have not attended his programs or walks, you are missing out on some great information from a wonderful guide. Wouldn't you like to know what to tell your kids or grandkids when they ask "what kind of flower is that?"

WHY A HISTORIC DISTRICT?

The Importance of Keeping Your Cabin Historic

by Jim Spitze, Co-Founder WHDT

Friends of Wilsonia,

As some of us not too fondly recall, in the 1970s and 80s, the National Park Service actively sought to purchase and remove cabins in Wilsonia. More than fifty cabins were purchased and totally removed, concrete foundations included. If nothing had been done, Wilsonia would have vanished within 5-10 years. At a 1991 meeting in our Clubhouse, Fran Preston (a long-term cabin owner) proposed the formation of a Historic District that would effectively halt the NPS "buy and remove" activities. A motion was made to move forward with the idea. Jim Spitze volunteered to serve as the committee President and Fran Preston volunteered to serve as its Treasurer, two roles that both of them were to play

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Wilonia Advisory Team

After many meetings through the winter and spring, the Wilsonia Advisory Team presented the draft Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the NPS to the Wilsonia community on Saturday, June 7th. This draft agreement will be for Wilsonia cabin owners to review, edit, approve or reject through their respective representative organizations: WVI Board of Directors, WHDT Board, or the Sierra Masonic Family Club. The MOA sets the purpose of the agreement, defines the make-up and role of

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Upcoming Events:

June 28th

WVI Board Meeting - 10 am

July 4th - Friday

"Cabins" book -presales begin

Parade - 11 am

Ice Cream Social - 1:30 pm

Program - 7:30 pm

July 5th - Saturday

Wildflower Walk - 10 am

Silent Auction 1 pm - 8 pm

Potluck - 6 pm

July 6th - Sunday

W.H.A.T. Hike - 9 am

complete summer schedule on insert



Silent Auction

Saturday July, 5th 1- 8 pm

Goods, Crafts and

Food needed!

The success of the auction, our biggest fundraiser of the year, depends on two things: 1) Great items to bid on and 2) generous and competitive bidders. **We are asking for nice, new or very gently used items only, please** (this is not a white elephant or yard sale). Sheri says that baked goods (pies, cobblers, breads) are always a great seller. Do you have a service to offer? Why not donate a gift certificate?

Please bring your donated auction items to the Clubhouse between now and July 4th. Thanks to all who donate to and participate in this annual fundraising effort.

Questions? please call:

Uschi Hamm 559-287-4803 or

Sheri Parkinson 559-259-5981

In Memory of

Shirlene Moody

and

Bud Rice

Wilonia friends and neighbors
who will be dearly missed.

July 4th Parade - New Information

Please Read

The "biggest" little Independence Day Parade is coming soon. Wilsonia participation seems to get bigger and better each year. Who thinks they can outdo team Gunning/Kirchman for the best entry? Anyone can enter; decorate your car, jeep, bike, wagon, and of course, yourselves, in your patriotic best. If you are participating in the parade, please line up next to the Grant Grove Fire Station by 10:45am on parade day, Friday, July 4th.

Important New information

We had some close calls last year with children running out into the road for candy and getting into the path of vehicles and horses. So this year, **we ask that candy be distributed to children from the sides of the route only and not thrown by parade participants.**

Let's keep it safe for the kids!

Keeping Your Cabin Historic - cont. from page 1
for well over ten years.

A few days later an evening meeting was held in Bob Dean's cabin and Fern Tripp passed the hat to raise money to hire a lawyer to get the thing rolling. Milt Miner joined the committee, as did Bob Dean. It took several years and several thousands of dollars, but in 1995 an ultimately successful application was made to the State of California's Historic Preservation Office which, in turn, asked for Historic District protection from the US Department of the Interior. That too was successful, and on March 15, 1996 we received word from Washington DC that the entire community of Wilsonia had been designated by the US Department of the Interior as a Historic District which put an immediate halt to the NPS "buy and remove" effort.

However, this is not permanent protection. At least 66% of our still standing cabins must continue to be historic in nature. If a cabin is extensively modernized, so much so that it no longer has its historic appearance, it can no longer qualify as historic. Obviously, if a historic cabin is torn down, it too loses its historic designation. If our percent of cabins designated as "Historic" ever drops below 66%, the US Department of Interior can take away our "Historic District" designation which would then enable the NPS to resume their "buy and remove" program. We must be eternally vigilant to make sure this never happens.

Black Pot Cook-Off - "Best Party Ever in Wilsonia"

This year's Black Pot Cook-Off was a roaring success, and many said that it was the best party they have ever gone to in Wilsonia. There were 83 people that gathered to smell and taste the delicious cooking of the 23 chefs. Main dishes ran from mac-n-cheese and shepherd's pie to Cornish game hens and venison stew. Lots of yummy desserts were inhaled, including pineapple upside-down cake, bread pudding with whiskey sauce, and caramel brownies. Five ribbons each were awarded in two categories. Main Dish top finishers were; 1st: Jeff Pace, 2nd: Tyler Lester. Dessert Category: 1st: Katie Wilson for her ice cream sandwiches and 2nd: Russell Halterman. A special blue ribbon went to John Wilson for his Jazz Dogs. The winner of the auction for the bench, handcrafted and autographed by Max Montgomery, was Rick Kirchman. It was a hard earned battle for that bench. It may be the last by Max... so if you didn't bid, your loss. It was a beauty.

Thanks to the musicians and all who attended and supplemented the food. A BIG THANKS to hosts and helpers: Max & Linda Montgomery, Chuck & Penny Burgin, Chad Fjeld, John Wilson, Dick & Mel Peters, Gwen Paulus and Uschi Hamm.

WVI Board Meeting

The WVI Board of Directors held its first meeting of the summer season on Saturday, May 24th, 2014 at 1pm at the Wilsonia Clubhouse. Business discussed:

NPS Report

WHDt Report

W.A.T. Report - MOA progress and June 7th mtg.

Treasurer's Report - Dues, Purchases & Fundraising
Clubhouse Cleaning and Maintenance

Black-Pot, Auction, Rentals and Coming Events

The next Board Meeting will be on Saturday, June 28th at 10am at the Clubhouse. All are welcome to attend.

Please Clean Your Property Dry Vegetation = High Fire Danger

The July 1st deadline is nearly here. Even if you do not use your cabin, if you own it, it is your responsibility to make sure the yard is cleaned up. Please make arrangements to clean your property, to make your cabin and the community of Wilsonia FIRE SAFE!

All natural yard waste can be disposed of at the NPS dump. Please check out a key at the visitor center desk.

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

**While you are cleaning... take a look along the road.
Trim up those tree branches and shrubs that may be overgrown into the road.**

NOTICE : Please do not place yard waste on adjacent empty lots, NPS or privately owned. All yard waste, garbage, ashes and other discards should be disposed of in the proper places.

Questions? Contact a Board Member listed on the back page.



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paid advertisement

The Cabins of Wilsonia - The Long-Awaited Book:

Update from Jana Botkin

- ◆ Presale price: \$60 + tax + postage = \$70
- ◆ After publication price: \$75 + tax + postage = \$86
(\$81 without postage - if you buy in person)

The book is being proofed several more times to be certain it is the best it can be. It will go to the printer sometime in July, and will take about eight weeks in production and shipping. When it arrives, I'll be sending the pre-ordered books out via the US Postal Service.

I will be in Wilsonia July 4-6, staying in Gus and Barbara's small family cabin, AKA "The Coll-Inn". I will have the original drawings with me and they will finally be for sale! In addition, I'll be pre-selling the book. I accept cash, checks, and (with Neal Mixer's help) credit cards. If you contacted me to say you want your cabin's original drawing but have not yet bought it, I will have them with me but keep them held out for you. If you did not speak out about wanting to buy your cabin drawing, someone else may get it before you do! - Jana

Note: Jana will be preselling at the auction and other July 4th weekend events. She will have original drawings for sale AND has also generously donated the drawing (shown at right) to be sold at our auction, Please come, pre-order the book and bid, bid, bid.



W.H.A.T. Happenings!!!

- Hike: John Muir Grove with optional extension to Lost Grove
- Date/Time: Sunday, July 6th, 9am
- Meet/Bring: Wilsonia Parking Lot, lunch, water, solid shoes

W.H.A.T. (Wilsonia Hikers And Trekkers) is planning the second hike of the year for Sunday, July 6th beginning at 9am. We will be meeting in the Wilsonia Parking Lot and driving to Dorst Campground. The main hike will be to and from the John Muir Grove, beginning at Dorst. The roundtrip is about 4 miles with little change of elevation. After the John Muir Grove hike is completed, an optional extension hike to Lost Grove will be available for those that are more ambitious. That hike is a moderate hike with only a 200' elevation change. We will leave one or more cars at Lost Grove, so the optional hike will end there.

15 people attended the May 25th hike to Redwood Canyon. We are looking forward to a wonderful hike on July 6th and two more hikes planned for later this summer.

Questions? Contact David Doyle at 559-907-0890 or Ty Parkinson at 559-638-6176

Wilsonia Cabin For Sale By Owner

1200 sq. ft. 2 bed, 1 bath on 1/2 acre lot – Tehipite Lane
160' deep well and updated septic system
Great new kitchen and modern bathroom
\$390,000
contact owner at 208-762-7550 or 208-762-7334

For Sale - Cabin on the Meadow

2 bed, 1 bath - Two Story with Sleeping Loft
Great Location - Back Deck Overlooks Meadow
\$345,000
contact realtor 559-638-2500 or 559-787-2981

Wilsonia Advisory Team - cont. from page 1

the Advisory Team, and develops an annual work plan. The two preliminary goals of the Team are improved communication between the NPS and the Wilsonia community, and development of a Work Plan to address priority action items that are of mutual concern to Wilsonia and the NPS.

The Wilsonia Advisory Team thanks all that were in attendance at the Saturday morning presentation. Many excellent questions, comments and concerns were voiced. All will be discussed and considered as we revise the MOA and send it back to each board for further edits, approval or rejection.

The Team is very encouraged by the conversations with and letters of support from Superintendent Woody Smeck. The team has been working with him and with NPS representatives Ned Kelleher and Christine Smith. Superintendent Smeck, at our last meeting and again at the June 7th presentation, emphasized the importance of cooperation and communication with Wilsonia residents and reiterated his support for private property ownership in Wilsonia. He stated that he would like to see Wilsonia, as a community, become self-determinate; that we, as a group of united property owners, develop our **own** guidelines for the community, ones that are compatible with the mission of the NPS.

Thanks to Drew Sorensen of WHDT for moderating the morning event and to Dick Moss of WVI for presenting the information. Thanks also to the NPS and Superintendent Woody Smeck for meeting with us and answering questions about this new effort to improve communication and develop a working relationship between Wilsonia and the NPS.

The minutes of all Wilsonia Advisory Team meetings are posted on the Wilsonia website and will be mailed to you upon request. Contact Neal Mixer for copies, 559-246-7963.

Upcoming meeting times/dates are listed on the calendar.



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 2013-2014 Contact information

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Dick Moss	Vice-President	rmoss@ppeng.com	(559) 798-0163	335-2117
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Linda Montgomery		lindam@netptc.net	(559) 855-2338	259-5960 cell

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

- Please -

*Be a considerate neighbor and
help protect the native wildlife in
Wilonia and in the Park*

*Keep all pets on a leash or secure
at your cabin at all times*

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and save some paper and the cost of a stamp.

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**Type "subscribe" in the subject line
& provide your name and cabin address**