

Newsletter

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- Cohasset 4-H News & Events
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Volume 39, Issue 10

www.cohassetcommunity.org

April 2010

School Acquisition Committee Holds Successful Community Meeting



Please Plan on Attending the SAC Workshop Saturday April 17th.

Over forty-five Cohasset residents attended the Cohasset Community Association General Meeting Thursday, March 11, 2010, in order to be apprised of the current situation regarding the Cohasset Elementary School buildings and property. The CCA has formed a volunteer committee whose purpose is to work with Chico Unified School District in an amicable relationship toward utilizing the closed school building. The School Acquisition Committee is composed of Tony Baptiste, Beth Spencer, Dan Botsford, Lara Conkey-Wiebelhaus, Jill Stewart, Bob Hursh and Lisa Vegvary.

The SAC spoke for over an hour to the CCA board and interested community members, beginning with a current history of the CCA's involvement with CUSD and a Powerpoint presentation outlining the ways in which the SAC anticipates the property being of use as a Multi-Use

Community Center and Park, and finishing with a rousing question and answer session. Several important points that were addressed were: the community applying for grant monies, using the building and property with goals of community involvement and fund-raising potential, leasing or sub-leasing classrooms for educational or service-oriented programs, expanding the current monthly activities offered by the CCA to the community such as the potluck and Mountain Music.

There is a need for more community involvement for this ambitious proposal to move forward. A call has been put out to interested community members to attend more of the CCA General Meetings wherein the SAC presents current information.

Another General Meeting is scheduled for June 10th, when the General Elections will be held and the SAC will speak to attendees. Most importantly, the SAC has scheduled a two-hour-long workshop

for Saturday, April 17th, from 10 am to Noon. This workshop will be held at the CCA building. Please clear your calendar for this hands-on meeting! Attendees will be working in groups to brainstorm ideas for possible funding opportunities necessary to maintain and run the school building and property, and compiling lists of the very exciting multitude of uses that the community can envision for the buildings and property. Some current fundraising ideas are Bingo Nights, Movie Nights, computer classes. Some of the suggested uses have been playgroups, pick-up athletic games, a community garden, an amphitheatre for music and plays, sub-leasing to a preschool, renting for seminars. This workshop is anticipated to be a fun morning filled with good discussion, the meeting of minds and neighbors, the generating of ideas and proposals. No idea is too small or too big – please attend and become a part of this exciting opportunity!

Report by Lisa Vegvary





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Newsletter

Mike & Rhonda - 898-1871

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Mike, Rhonda & Daniel

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CCA Newsletter

**11 Maple Creek Ranch Road
Cohasset, CA 95973
(530) 332-9550**

April Deadline - April 8th, 2010

CCA Home Page

What's Happening?

It's gets very busy during springtime on the Cohasset ridge. The winter rain and snow subside, the perennials sprout toward the long-awaited appearance of the sun, and the annual seeds begin their fight for a place of their own this season.



And it's not just the farmers who get busy; it's the entire town. There's the annual Spring Plant Sale and the annual Road Clean-Up keeping volunteers busy with preparations. There's the anticipated demolition of the old firehouse finally getting finished, and there's the upcoming annual CCA General Election where we say goodbye to some old familiar faces and welcome new blood to the board, and, as always, there's the Annual Bazaar and Music Festival planning to be solidified and initiated.

This particular spring brings all that and much more to our communal agenda as the CCA School Acquisition Committee team rallies forces to join in the fight to save our abandoned school site for the benefit of our community's future use. New projects like BINGO are gaining momentum, successfully working toward raising some of the extra money we'll need this year to accomplish the lofty goals we've chosen to attack. It's not going to be easy, but things worth having seldom are.

Now is the time for all the good men and women of Cohasset to step forward, be accounted for and chip in. Opportunity's knocking for you to take charge and once again become major players fighting for our future, contributing your expertise and sound advice. For many others who have more recently joined us or have enjoyed sitting on the sidelines in the past, now is the perfect time to volunteer for some much needed and timely community service.

As we "Spring Forward" this year, I'm confident there are plenty of competent and willing community members considering volunteering for one of the two vacated 1-year board commitments, and I know many of you won't hesitate for even a minute to join the School Acquisition Committee, and without question there is someone out there who's been yearning to take on the CCA Newsletter's editor position where keeping your finger on the pulse of the community becomes a passion you will enjoy passing on to eager readers each month.

Helping out with the Newsletter this last year has been a personally rewarding experience, and I'm honored to have had the privilege of serving our glorious community. On behalf of Rhonda and myself, I wish to thank you for the opportunity and for all your kind and encouraging words. Farewell.

Mike DuFloth, Editor

CCA Building Rental Reservations

The Cohasset Community Center is available to rent for private functions. The rate is \$125 per day, and \$60 for a half-day (5 hours).

For more information, call 893-1616, email info@cohassetcommunity.org, or view the CCA rental agreement at:

<http://cohassetcommunity.org>



Please Renew your Membership or join the CCA Today

Check one:

- Grey Pine \$10 Ponderosa Pine \$15 Sugar Pine \$25
- White Pine \$50 Lifetime \$100 Other \$ _____

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____

Mail to: 11 Maple Creek Ranch Road, Cohasset, CA 95973

Checks payable to CCA or call Janice at 343-1754

Cohasset Community News



Butte County Supervisor News

by Maureen Kirk,
Butte County Supervisor, District 3

I knew there was something nagging me in the back of my head. I thought it was doing my taxes, but it was this column that needs to be done and always surprises me how fast they come around. It is kind of like going to the grocery store and looking at the expiration date of milk. I am always again surprised how far in the future that seems, and then it is here.

There are a few things that the Board of Supervisors has done since I last wrote. One is to delay for 22 months the discussion on marijuana dispensaries. As I said last month, the lawsuits and potential voter initiatives can make whatever we do out of date. We will study the issue and arrive at a decision which works for Butte County.

The other issue is called the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance. This was passed by the State in 2006 and now applies to charter counties. The purpose of the ordinance is to be as water efficient as possible. We could have adopted the state model, but decided to craft one more suited for Butte County. It applies to public, private or multi-family development projects with 2500 square feet or more of landscaping. For private residential development, it would apply to landscape areas of 5000 square feet or more. It would require a permit, a water efficient worksheet, irrigation design, and grading plan. It would require the services of a landscape architect, landscape design professional, or civil engineer. This would add to the costs of projects and require a permit with fees to pay for the processing in the Development Services Department. Unequivocally, I want to conserve our water, but I agreed to delay it to figure out how to make it less onerous to builders and homeowners. Our 2030 General Plan encourages the use of gray water, when possible, and more shaded areas in parking lots. As technology evolves, irrigation supplies can also be more efficient. We will revisit this issue with the goal to conserve water, but not put a burden on our builders and homeowners.

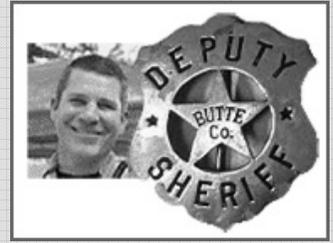
When I was moving my mother out of her home, I found this wonderful quote in my dad's desk. "You are old when your memories are more important than your dreams."

Keep dreaming.

◆ mkirk@buttecounty.net ◆ 891-2800

Police Beat

by Butte County Sheriff's
Deputy Doug Patterson



Recently I have had a spate of residential break-ins in the Butte Meadows area. In most of these break-ins firearms have been stolen. When I asked the victims for the serial numbers to their firearms they had no idea what the serial numbers were, except for one victim.

That one victim had his handgun recovered two days after his break-in when a very observant police officer from Elk Grove PD stopped a subject and located the firearm in his possession. Upon running the serial number of the firearm, the Elk Grove PD dispatcher advised the officer that the gun had been listed as stolen in the stolen firearm database and provided that officer with my case number and contact information.

This victim was able to get his firearm back, a suspect went to jail, and upon further investigation the Elk Grove PD officer and myself solved the break-ins to the Butte Meadows area. This was all due to a victim knowing the serial number to his firearm. Many people do not know that when you purchase a handgun in California, law enforcement is able to look up that serial number and can provide it to the victim in case of a handgun theft. What law enforcement cannot do is look up the serial numbers to long guns; rifles and shotguns. The reason why is once a person passes the 10-day wait period for the purchase of the long gun, the firearm system purges the serial number based on the large amounts of long guns that are bought in the state of California, mainly for hunting. There are so many long guns purchased that it would overload the serial number database.

Many people have firearms handed down to them by family members—such as when a grandfather passes away and the firearm goes to his grandson—and those folks (who can possess firearms) are not required to register the firearm or transfer the firearm through an FFL dealer.

If anyone wanted to voluntarily register a handgun or long gun with the DOJ, one could just access the DOJ website where many firearm forms are located; complete the form, send in your money and the completed form and it will be registered. Others do not trust the "government" and do not register their firearms for fear that the "government" will come knocking on their home and confiscate their guns.

POLICE BEAT CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Cohasset Community News

Another CCA Community Service *The E-Mail List*



The e-mail addresses of community residents and CCA members have been combined into an email list for use by the CCA. This list is not sold or shared. It is used for community reminders, lost animals and emergencies. When used, the list is sent as a blind copy so that the email addresses cannot be accessed. If you are not currently on the list and would like to be, e-mail Mayeve: Mayeve@hughes.net



Bingo!

Over the past few years, several community members have suggested that the Cohasset Community Association sponsor bingo at the Community Center. Thanks to your suggestions, the CCA Board approved starting Bingo in Cohasset! We are currently working through the bingo license process with Butte County and hope to be completed by the end of March. If all goes well, we will hold a kick-off Bingo Night before summer starts. So ink up those daubers, dust off your bingo dogs, brush up on your bingo lingo, and get ready for playing the fun game of chance right here in your community— BINGO! Look for more details in the next CCA Newsletter. *Report by Daniel. Botsford*

Mountain Lions Here



Mountain lions have been reported in several lower Cohasset locations and a few above Vilas Road, so be more aware and on the lookout.



Cohasset 4-H news

Butte County 4-H held the annual Rainbow Craft Field Day in Durham on Saturday, March 13th, and Cohasset 4-H Club sponsored the event. This event gives 4-H youth a chance to show off their craft and hobby skills, including giving an oral presentation to a group of judges. Several Cohasset 4-H members entered the event and we came away with some great results!

Cohasset 4-H Member

Member	Award	Category	Description
Gage Conkey-Wiebelhaus	Medal Winner	Fine Arts/ Decorative Paint	Dragon
Jacinda Myre	1st Place	Photography	Golden Gate Bridge
Sarah Buckhold	1st Place	Fine Arts/ Decorative Paint	Charcoal Wolf
Dillon Campbell	1st Place	Metalworking	Pig Walker
Madison Campbell	1st Place	Metalworking	Pig Walker
Gage Conkey-Wiebelhaus	1st Place	Woodworking	Indian Axe
Zoe Conkey-Wiebelhaus	1st Place	Fine Arts/ Decorative Paint	Fairy
Zoe Conkey-Wiebelhaus	1st Place	Fine Arts/ Decorative Paint	Chinese Blossom Tree
Danielle Hedglin	2nd Place	Fine Arts/ Decorative Paint	Horse Pencil Drawing
Jacinda Myre	2nd Place	Photography	Sun Comes Out After Rain

Wow, what a great turnout for the Annual Cohasset 4-H St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Saturday, March 13th. Thank you all so much for supporting the Cohasset youth; your generosity will go a long way to ensure our community youth have opportunities to benefit from the Butte County 4-H program. A special thank you to Janeane Minter for organizing the setup/cleanup for the event including the raffle, and to chefs Linda Hartsong and Liz Weber, assistant chef Les Vander Velden ☺ — the Corned Beef and Cabbage was superb!

Reminder: The Cohasset 4-H is sponsoring the Cohasset 4-H Pizza Night at Round Table Pizza on Tuesday, April 13th from 5 - 9 pm. Round Table will donate 20% of your total purchase to the Cohasset 4-H. Hope to see you there.

Report Midge Vander Velden and Daniel Botsford

Cohasset Community News



Cohasset Gardens

How blessed we have been by the rain this year; our total at 3200 ft. elevation is over 50" so far! It's pouring snow right now and I'm sure the next month will bring the usual variation on spring with hail, snow, rain, and glorious sunshine. This is a busy, fun season for gardeners and time to plant spring annuals and perennials.

If you haven't planted snow peas, lettuce, spinach, beets, carrots and other cool annuals, if we get a few sunny days, the earth will dry enough to cultivate and plant. Summer annuals can be started in the greenhouse or cold frame about mid-March for May planting.

It is also time to plant perennials, bare root trees, roses and shrubs in the next months. Although we have had a better rain year, drought tolerant plants should be the focus in Cohasset. We are a dry ridge and there are many varieties that thrive with little water. A drip irrigation system will help get plants started and allow tapering off watering as the plants mature.

On our land I have significantly decreased our watering and garden space in the last years due to drought and wanting to conserve resources—mostly water and my back!

Most of the water consumed and diverted from streams and rivers in California is used for irrigation. I realize I would rather have salmon in our streams and a healthy wildlife population than a big lawn! Most of my perennials did fine when I completely turned off the irrigation. I mulch heavily and apply a few inches of manure or compost around each plant in the spring.

Replacing lawns can be overwhelming because often the space is large. If you have the time, energy and money, do it all at once. If you don't have these, try to decrease the size of the lawn yearly. You can do this by turning off the water to parts of the lawn and allowing it to naturalize, I covered my areas with pine needles. Or you can dig up parts of the lawn and replace with hearty perennials that you can hand water until they become established.

A couple of fun websites for native plants, wildlife friendly gardens and other info are: www.nwf.org/backyard, www.natureserve.org/explorer, www.cnps.org (California Native Plant Society).

I heard the first robin sing yesterday, and the geese and cranes are honking up a storm on their journey north....

Enjoy the rebirth!

Cohasset Gardens
"A Sense of Place"

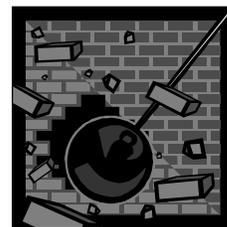
by Trish Puterbaugh

Annual Cohasset Road Clean-Up Mark your calendars!

*May 15th, 2010
8:00am—Noon
Meet at the CCA Bldg.*



Come join your neighbors to clean up Cohasset Road. The road clean-up is important to us all; the reward is immediate and it's a lot of fun, too! Shout-outs go to you Cohassians who walk the road daily cleaning up as you go. Meet at the Cohasset Community Association Building at 8:00 AM, May 15th. Coffee, Juice and bagels will be served. Papa Murphy's pizza will be served when we finish. Bring gloves and water. Picker-uppers, vests and bags will be provided. Questions? Call Rupert McDowell at 343-5701



Fire House Demo

During the process of the demolition of the old fire house some good usable materials were salvaged. Items include dual-pane windows, 10ft OSB siding, redwood siding, toilets, small sinks, shower stalls, and shelving. Move information will be available in the next newsletter.

Any questions, call Bob at 345-4796

Community News



Church News

A question to ponder—some may think it silly, but it really is not—How do you look at life, specifically, your life? Now, if you have reached a conclusion, reflect on what caused you to reach the conclusion you did concerning how you look at life. I think so often so many people go through life without reflecting on what life is all about. Plato said, “The life

which is unexamined is not worth living.” A bit of hyperbole, exaggeration, possibly, but still there is a lot of truth in the statement. For the Christian, he or she looks to God to find the answers for they believe God created them, and if He did, He certainly has all the answers to life’s questions. God said as recorded in the Bible, “Let us examine and probe our ways, and let us return to the Lord.” These are some of the issues of life we look at and examine at our Sunday morning Church Services. All are invited to our services; you might actually find what is discussed and taught at church to be stimulating. Sunday April 4, 2010 is Easter and we will be looking at the resurrection of Jesus and its significance; if this may not interest you, I am sure Nancy Svec’s choir will, it is going to be a wonderful presentation, I know, I have heard them practice. After the service, the church will host a barbeque to which all are invited.

On a different subject, the church is considering using the church building during the week for a pre-school or day care center. We explored this about ten years ago, but found it would be too costly to bring the building up to the standards required. The church now has some cash available to use for upgrading the building. But, the first thing we need to know is if there is any interest in the community for such a project; i.e., how many parents in the community who have children would be interested in having or enrolling their children in a pre-school/day care facility. If you have children and might be interested, please call Brian, 343-8479, and let him know; if you get the answering machine, just leave a message of how many children you might consider enrolling. *Report by Pastor Brian Hall*

Don't Miss the April Asian Potluck Saturday the 17th

Our theme in April will be Asian, one of the five great world cuisines. Your dish could be Chinese, Thai, Japanese, Malaysian, Indonesian, Filipino, or Indian; you bring it and we'll love it!



Don't be scared away from making Asian food. As well as some very complex and delicate dishes, there are the old easy-to-make standbys, such as fried rice, chow mein, and those fantastic curry dishes!

Mexican May Potluck

It looks like our theme in May (it is Cinco de Mayo month!) will be Mexican. That should fun and really yummy. I may make my New Mexican favorite green chili stew from a recipe I got from the chef at Doc Martin's Cafe in Taos. So put on your serape and get to thinking Mexican

For more information call the Tates at 342-3494.

Report by Bob Tate

POLICE BEAT CONTUNUED FROM PAGE 3 I completely understand this mentality for it has happened in many countries throughout the world; Germany, England, Australia.

My advice to the gun owner is to write down the manufacturer, model, caliber, and serial number to every firearm they possess. Once this is done, store the serial numbers in a safe place. Remember, a computer, file cabinet, or gun safe is not a safe place since thieves usually take these items during residential burglaries. What I do is hide a list of my serial numbers somewhere in my home, but I also provide a copy to my best friend and another copy to my father who lives hundreds of miles away. That way if a thief happens to find my list, I have a back-up list to go to in order to assist law enforcement in the recovery of my guns.

Once a victim provides the serial number(s) to their stolen firearm(s), law enforcement will have the serial number (s) entered into the stolen firearm database. This database is accessed by all law enforcement agencies in all 50 states. Criminals usually do not file off the serial number to a firearm since this action alone is a felony. The criminal can only hope that the victim did not know the serial number and it has not been listed as stolen.

I hope this little bit of information helps because it would help me to have you know your serial numbers in case of a theft. Of course, this applies to anything with serial numbers (electronic equipment, bikes, etc.). Take care, and I will see you out there. Contact me at 538-7321 or email: dpatterson@buttecounty.net. *Report by Deputy Doug Patterson*

Upcoming Events & April Calendar

Annual Plant Sale & Cinco de Mayo Feast

**Sunday May 2nd
10 am – 2 pm**

Mark your calendars for our Plant Sale and Cinco de Mayo Feast. Linda Hartsong will be cooking some scrumptious Mexican dishes from 11 am to 2 pm. Shop for beautiful, healthy plants to pot up or add to your landscape from 10 am to 2 pm.



Join us for a great day on the Cohasset Ridge! Visit with neighbors, shop, and enjoy fabulous food all at the Cohasset Community Center. See you Sunday May 2nd.

Report by Lara Conkey-Wiebelhaus

Cohasset Home Brew Club News

Tuesday, April 6th, 7pm CCA Building

At our March meeting we had a special guest speaker, Cheryl Murphy. Cheryl has won many state and county fair awards with her homemade mead. We sampled clover and orange blossom honeys and then very rare anise and macadamia honeys. Cheryl offered a tasting of

a half dozen flavors of her mead. Some tasted like champagne, some like sherry and spice, others fruity like berries or red wine. All were delicious and Cheryl was very informative. Many club members brought in one or two meads for evaluation, from Honey Run to homemade.



Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 6th at 7pm at the CCA building We will be tasting porter style beers. So f you want to come, mark your calendar and pick up a bottle or two of an interesting porter for show-and-tell.

For more info, call David Westphal at 343-4951.

Report by Eric Peterson

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7-9pm Cohasset Volunteer Fire Dept. Mtg	2	3
4 10:30am Church Service	5 Cohasset 4-H Meeting	6 7:00 - 9pm Brew Club	7	8 7-9pm CCA Board Mtg.	9	10 5
11 10:30am Church Service 10:00am African Dance	12 <i>Reminder!</i>	13	14 12pm-2pm Commodities Distribution	15 7-9pm Cohasset Volunteer -Fire Dept. Mtg	16 <i>Don't Forget</i>	17 10am-Noon School Acquisi- tion Workshop 5:30-9pm Community Potluck Dinner
18 10:30am Church Service	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 10:30am Church Service 10:00am African Dance	26	27	28	29	30	

April 2010

Cohasset Community Association

Newsletter

11 Maple Creek Ranch Road
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COHASSET, CA 95973**

Scotch Broom is a Bad, Bad Plant—and We Have It.

What does it look like?

It belongs in the pea family and has pretty yellow sweet pea-like flowers. Its leaves are small and grow along its stems.



Where is it from and how did it get here?

It is native to southern Europe and northern Africa. It was introduced into the United States as an ornamental, and used later to stabilize road cuts.

Broom is an invasive weed that many of us have learned about the hard way. The seeds are transported from place to place in mud stuck to vehicles, equipment, shoes, soil and the feet of animals. I found seedlings of it growing in gravel from the valley I had delivered for my road! Seeds may be carried via runoff from roads into streams and gullies.

What makes it a BAD plant?

Scotch broom is a prodigious seed producer. The seeds have hard coats enabling them to survive in the environment for up to 80 years. Then seedlings may establish along stream sides and along gully walls. Scotch

broom forms dense brush fields over six feet tall. Areas of dense brush shade out and kill native grassland plants in invaded areas, and favor invasion by other woody, non-grassland plant species.

How can we get rid of it?

Pull out the entire plant, including roots. When the soil is moist, small plants can be pulled out by hand. Winter and spring are good seasons to do this in Cohasset. Larger plants cannot be removed by hand unless you don't care about your back. A better way is to remove them with a Weed Wrench. The CCA purchased weed wrenches for use in Cohasset. Rupert McDowell is the Official Keeper of the Weed Wrenches. You can call him at 343-5701 for info on free rental (refundable deposit required).

Be sure to remove the entire plant. Broken stems re-sprout and are much harder to remove for the next person. It's not necessary to dispose of the pulled plants. You can leave them where you pull them.

Well planned prescribed burns in the fall can further reduce the broom in infested grasslands, but BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE and be sure and get a burn permit.

What can we do to help eradicate it?

Spread the word to your friends and neighbors about how this plant alters the natural scene, displaces native vegetation and degrades habitat

for wildlife. Encourage them to remove it.



Distribution of Scotch Broom in California, note Butte and Shasta Counties

Look forward to my upcoming series of articles on the coniferous trees (pines, firs, cedars etc) of Cohasset

*Report by Bob Tate
Info cribbed from various governmental sources.
Many thanks to Donna Hall for providing me with the encouragement and reference materials to write this article*