

the Condor

The official publication of the Pine Mountain Club Property Owners Association, Inc.

2524 Beechwood Way . PO Box P
Pine Mountain Club . California . 93222
www.pinemountainclub.net
661.242.3788 . 661.242.1471 (fax)

**PMC's annual Tree Lighting
will take place on Friday, Nov.
26. See details on page 11.**



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The official publication of the Pine Mountain Club Property Owners Association, Inc.

VOLUME 43 . NUMBER 11 . NOVEMBER 2021

Check out PMC's website at www.pinemountainclub.net

Our World of Nature

Odd Stories from Nature

By Lynn Stafford, Liz Buchroeder and Bill Buchroeder

If we take a walk or drive in the natural country around PMC, some creatures are easy to notice. The pines and oaks are obvious with their different postures. A bright blue Steller's Jay glides between the trees. Many wildflowers below on the forest floor produce shows of color at times. The scurrying bunnies, chipmunks and quail speak of secret lives being led in the woods. However, there are less obvious or understandable lives around us. I will discuss four of these strange beings in or near our neighborhood.



Fig. 1: Common Poorwill on San Emigdio Mountain

There are two types of birds that occur locally but are rarely seen. On a quiet night in the summer, a curious sound may be heard up on the ridges -- "poorwep poorwep." This is the call of a Com-

mon Poorwill (Fig. 1). The Poorwill is a strange night bird that looks like a cross between a pinecone and a giant moth. Figure 1 was taken up on San Emigdio Mountain. The bird was sitting on a dirt road waiting to fly up and gobble a night-time insect. It has a very large mouth and whiskers. Its camouflage coloring protects it when it sleeps under a bush during the day. An interesting note about the Poorwill is the fact that it was the first bird in the entire world to have been discovered hibernating. That discovery was made in a California desert.

Have you ever heard the expression "as skinny as a rail"? That saying refers to a fence rail. But there is a group of birds called rails. Most of them live deep within clumps of cattails and bulrushes in marshes. At



Fig. 2: Virginia Rail at Quail Lake

'NATURE' Continued on page 12

PMC Facebook Page

The only OFFICIAL PMCPOA Facebook page can be accessed at: <https://www.facebook.com/pmcpoa>

Grow House Operations in Pine Mountain Club

Bill Lewis II, PMCPOA Chairman

As you may have heard or read, Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) served search warrants last month for illegal cultivation of marijuana at eight houses in Pine Mountain Club. Two of these locations had been previously served a few months ago. These illegal operations are commonly referred to as "grow houses" and I understand, but have not yet confirmed, there are several more of these houses being operated within our community and some of the operations from last month are already in the process of resuming their illegal activity after all of the plants were removed.

For a little insight, criminals are purchasing houses in PMC, tearing down interior walls of these houses, and converting the insides to accommodate the grow house operations. Whether you see marijuana as a harmless herb or a serious threat to civilization, these illegal operations mean a potentially dangerous criminal element may be involved and present in our community. Grow houses also pose a considerable fire risk due to custom electrical rewiring and the use of hot grow lamps. Grow houses often consume six times more electricity than a typical family, maxing out transformers in the process.

The recent search warrants were a result of ongoing investigations by KCSO and tips from residents. These tips have been directed to KCSO and through PMC Patrol who relays the tips to sheriff's investigators. PMC residents are encouraged to report suspicious activity. A single public tip on its own is unlikely to result directly in a search warrant

'HOUSE' Continued on page 13

NOW IS THE TIME TO PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR WINTER

PMCPOA Emergency Preparedness Committee

Winter is coming! Have you taken steps to prepare your home for the cold weather? Here are some things you should do:

- Check your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. Change the batteries at least twice a year. As of July 1, 2011, it became a state law in California for carbon monoxide detectors to be installed in dwellings that have an attached garage, fireplace, wood stove or gas heaters and appliances.
- Have your heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Check all the weather stripping around windows and door frames for leaks to prevent heat loss.
- Clean gutters of leaves and pine needles.
- Trim overgrown branches back from the house and electrical wires to prevent iced-over windswept branches from causing property damage or a power problem.
- Insulate hot and cold water pipes in the crawlspace under your house as well as in the basement attic and exterior walls with snap foam insulation. Make sure foam insulation fits tightly without gaps. Apply duct tape to joints in insulation and miter foam around elbows so that joints in pipes are completely covered.
- Consider wrapping problem pipes with UL-approved heat tape that has a built-in thermostat to prevent overheating.
- Turn off and drain your sprinkler system.
- Disconnect and drain garden hoses.
- Check your emergency supply of food and water.
- If you will be away from your home for an extended time, turn off the water to the home and drain the pipes.

Daylight Saving Time ends Nov. 7. Time to change the batteries on your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

Please help us to save trees and keep our costs down substantially by allowing us to email all of your member notices and your monthly Condor to your email address. Simply email me at gm@pmcpoa.com and we will add your email address to your member account.

***Thank you,
Karin Shulman, GM***

Website/Online Payments Update

Northstar, our website developer, has removed both the member payment tab and the Grab-n-Go tab from the website. After two years of limited success with website payments, and with the Grab-n-Go for food orders not working at all, we will no longer be using the website to take payments or to order take-out food. We will continue to take payments in the association Business Office at the window during business hours, via phone (661-242-3788) or through the mail, and food orders can be placed and paid for in person at the Café or over the phone (661-242-2233). Thank you.

the Condor

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PMCPOA, Inc. does not endorse the products of advertisers in *The Condor*.

The PMCPOA Board of Directors meets on the third Saturday of every month at 10 am in the Condor Room of the Clubhouse. All members are invited to attend the open session. The executive session is a closed meeting for the discussion of and action on legal and personnel matters, third party contracts, and member-requested hearings.

Members may request copies of the open Board Meeting minutes. These requests should be made in writing to the Corporate Secretary. There is a charge per page for making copies of the minutes.

Tips on Winterizing Your Home in PMC

Winter is just around the corner. Here are some tips from the Mil Potrero Mutual Water Company for winterizing your PMC home if you are going to be away for a few days or longer during the cold months.

In either of the following cases, if you are not sure how your system works, or, for some reason you desire to have the water shut off at the meter, **REMEMBER: Only Mil Potrero Mutual Water Company personnel can operate the valve at the meter** and will do so upon request. Homeowner use of this valve is a violation of section #11 of the General Provisions of Rules, Regulations and Rates of Mil Potrero Mutual Water Company.

Shutting it Down for an Extended Period

1. Shut off the water supply outside the home.
2. Open the outside hose-bib.
3. Open all inside faucets at the sink, lavatory and bathtub.
4. Open the water heater drain valve at the base of the water heater.
5. Shut off the master breaker switch to the house.
6. Pour approximately 1 tablespoon or less of *food grade* antifreeze (a non-toxic propylene that is safe for drinking) into the toilet bowl and the same amount into the tank and flush the toilet. Then pour another tablespoon or less into the water standing



in the toilet. (The tank should be left empty. Overuse of food grade antifreeze may hinder septic tank function).

7. Pour 1 tablespoon or less of antifreeze into the sink, lavatory and bathtub drains.

8. Insulate any exposed piping on the service side of the main water shut-off valve to the house, including any that are under the floors of the house. Wrap pipes with polyurethane, a minimum of 2" thick and bind with duct tape or equivalent to below its entry into the earth. "Heat tape" can be used and is available

locally.

Temporary Winterizing

1. Leave the heat on inside the home with the thermostat set at the lowest setting that will assure its operation during the coldest periods (it must be set to maintain home above freezing. This will minimize power costs and yet prevent freezing of the house and pipes).

2. Shut the water off at the outside source.

3. Open the outside hose bib.

4. Open all inside faucets at the sink, lavatory and bathtub.

5. Shut off the electric breaker to the water heater, if applicable.

6. If you can shut off the water heater separately, you may elect to use heat tape to prevent freezing of exterior piping (entire length of all exterior pipe wrapped

'WINTERIZE' Cont. on page 4

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September Blood Drive in PMC Draws 35 Donors; Next Drive is Nov. 22

The blood drives in Pine Mountain Club have been a huge success! Thanks to all who have participated and given blood. Kristel Pollock from the Houchin Community Blood Bank said, "We are pleased with the success of the drive and willingness of each donor. Your efforts are greatly appreciated, and the blood donations will go a long way towards replenishing blood supplies and ultimately saving lives."

In the September drive in PMC, there were 35 donors registered, including three new donors. "We collected 30 units of blood. With every unit saving three lives, your contributions and ongoing support will help save 90 lives in our community," said Pollock.

With such a great turnout, we have another blood drive scheduled for Monday,



Nov. 22 from 10am-2pm Potential donors are encouraged to schedule appointments. This helps cut down on any wait time when donating blood. To register, visit <https://connect.hcbb.com/donor/schedules/centers>.

Busy Season Begins in PMC Post Office

The holiday season is approaching, and the Post Office in PMC will be busy. Catalogs, ads and packages take up a lot of room in the boxes, so please pick up mail regularly when possible.

A reminder also that the PMC Post Office receives a lot of mail that has to be returned to the sender because it does not have a post office box number on it.

Please make sure you provide your PO box number to anyone who will be sending anything to you. This includes bills, catalogs, postcards, DMV paperwork, etc. You don't want to miss out on receiving something important because it can't get to you.

Remember: Mail does not get delivered to physical addresses in PMC.

'WINTERIZE' Cont. from page 3

with heat tape, including pipe under the house) or insulate as described in #8 for extended periods. The insulation in lieu of heat tape is more economical and can be left on the exposed piping all year.

You should winterize your home selecting the method that will best suit your usage. If you are planning on coming up several times a month, then it is suggested that you only do a temporary winterizing of your home. If you are going to leave the house for a long or more extended period of time, then it would normally be best to completely winterize the home using the extended winterizing procedure.

In either situation, you must not leave the water running at the hose bib or inside your home, as this will cause other problems, including possible backup of your septic system and undermining of your home's support footings, and the icing of your driveway and association streets. It will also waste water, cost more for power and is a violation of Mil Potrero Mutual Water Company's rules, regulations and rates, Section #4, general provisions. In such a case, the water will be shut off by the company at the meter, with all responsibility and damages at the expense of the property owner.

If you have questions, please call MPMWC at 242-3230.

**Happy Thanksgiving
from the staff at
PMCPOA!**

Sign Up for Ready Kern to Receive Needed Notifications

Are you signed up with Ready Kern for emergency notifications? Once signed up, you will be notified on your cell or home phone of any dangers that might be close by, such as fires in the area, flash floods, etc. To sign up, please visit www.readykern.com or call 661-873-2602.

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Adventure Ink Activities

Adventure Ink in the Village has fun activities for the community. On Thursdays at 3 p.m., the Chess Club meets, and all skill levels are welcome.

On the first Thursday of each month, Adventure Ink hosts Poetry Night. All ages are welcome to read their own poems, read poems from other authors or attend and be part of the audience. Reading begins at 6pm outside of Adventure Ink Bookstore, 16229 Pine Valley Lane, or inside at Artwork Community Galley, depending on the weather.

Live Theater Returns with ‘Sarah’s Last Day’

Sarah believes it’s her last day, based on a fortune cookie, and a few unanticipated guests arrive to check on her well-being, as live theater returns to Pine Mountain Club (if COVID cooperates).

Speak Easy Theater Club presents the “world premiere” of a two-act musical by Bill Lewis II at the PMC clubhouse, with six performances scheduled Nov. 4-6 and 12-14. Show times begin at 7:30 p.m. each night, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Nov. 14. The play features a cast of local talent, with original music and lyrics by Kevin Quinn and Steve Kramer.

Tickets are on sale at the PMCPOA office for \$10 per person and are limited to 40 people per performance at this time.

Condor Cafe Hours

Breakfast and Lunch

Wednesday through Sunday

8 am to 2 pm

Wednesday thru Saturday: Breakfast 8-11 / Lunch 11-2

Sunday:

Breakfast 8-12 / Lunch 12-2

The Condor Café is open for inside dining for breakfast and lunch. Patio seating is available weather permitting. Takeout is also available; please call 661-242-2233.

Dinner

Thursday (Special)

4 to 7:30 pm

Fridays and Saturdays

4 to 8 pm

The Condor Lounge is open for dinners on Thursdays from 4-7:30pm and Fridays and Saturdays 4-8pm. (The Bar is also open Thursdays through Saturdays.) Walk-ins are welcome. If you have a party of four or more, we require a reservation. You can call the café any time during our hours of operation at 661-242-2233 to place your reservation with a server. Please note that due to lack of staff, take-out is not currently available on Friday or Saturday nights (for dinners).

Condor Lounge Hours

Thu, 4-9 p.m.

Fri, 4-11 p.m.

Sat, 4-11 p.m.

Breakfast and Lunch served in Lounge on Sundays, with full bar available.



Ellie Melili
DRE# 01301719

Property Management/Real Estate Specialist

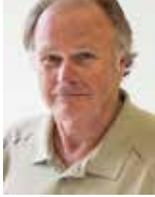
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WE HAVE QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WHO ARE READY TO RENT YOUR HOME NOW

A Message from the Chairman

Bill Lewis II
 pmcboard@pmcpoa.com

We had some very important items on the October agenda and issues that needed to be addressed with respect to mandatory compliance with the civil code and being more efficient in our due process. Once again, the board received a lot of input on these issues and we welcome that input – it conveys to us that members want to be involved in or informed about what occurs in their association – but I’m a little disappointed when I read or see information shared that is



blatantly wrong, based on rumor, and misrepresents the issues and the law – and, unfortunately, there’s no accountability for those who spread this misinformation.

I replied to quite a few emails personally this past month attempting to explain the issues and correct the misinformation. I met in person with a few members. For the most part, members respond positively in appreciation whether they agree or not.

I’ve read some positive comments and suggestions based on facts, and I’ve read some negative comments based on bias,

speculation and assumptions. When the board considers these types of issues, we rely on facts, member input, civil code, the Davis-Stirling Act, and verifiable data when it’s available.

I do appreciate members who ask questions and seek to educate themselves on our governing documents and the civil code and use relevant facts when seeking to be better informed about the processes involved with their association and I hope more members will do the same. We are here to work together.

Be safe, stay healthy, and be positive.

PMC Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

Grace Wollemann, Recording Secretary

These are highlights of the Board of Directors open meeting of October 16, 2021. Complete minutes are available at the business office or online at www.pinemountainclub.net after their approval at the next board meeting. In the regular open meeting, Chairman Bill Lewis II called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Seven directors attended: Cam Acosta, Richard Ballard, Philip Gabriel, Tony Harmon, Peggy Hoyt-Voelker, Bill Lewis II and Ellen McClellan. Directors Steve Burkett and Phyllis Throckmorton were excused. Also in attendance were General Manager Karin Shulman and Recording Secretary Grace Wollemann.

The board acknowledged receipt of the committee minutes.

There were two (2) committee applications for approval.

There were four (4) Environmental Control Committee projects recommended and one (1) cottage industry permit.

MOTION by Director Hoyt-Voelker, **SECOND** by Director McClellan to approve the consent agenda. **MOTION** carried.

Chairman Bill Lewis II presented the Chairman’s report. General Manager Karin Shulman presented the General Manager’s report. Director Cam Acosta presented the Treasurers report.

MOTION by Director Acosta, **SECOND** by Director McClellan to ratify the Association’s September 2021 financials in accordance with Civil Code §5500 and §5501. **MOTION** carried.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS:

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION by Director Ballard, **SECOND** by Director Hoyt-Voelker to approve **RESOLUTION #01-10-16-2021**, the changes to Association Rule 2.02, Due Process and Enforcement as submitted. **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Ballard, **SECOND** by Director Hoyt-Voelker to approve **RESOLUTION #02-10-16-2021**, the changes to EC Code VI, Enforcement as submitted. **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Lewis, **SECOND** by Director Hoyt Voelker to approve **RESOLUTION #03-10-16-2021**, to amend Rule 22.03 to prohibit the operation of a transient or short-term rental by an owner on their separate property interest if title is acquired to the property after January 1, 2022 as submitted. Director Ballard opposed. Directors Acosta, Gabriel, Harmon, Hoyt-Voelker and McClellan approved. **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Ballard, **SEC-**

OND by Director Harmon to amend **RESOLUTION #04-10-16-2021**, the 2020-2021 audit as prepared by Stern, Kory, Sreden & Morgan to reflect in Note 12, “for those leases.” **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Hoyt-Voelker, **SECOND** by Director Acosta to approve the update to Bylaw 11.01 as presented. **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Hoyt-Voelker, **SECOND** by Director Acosta to approve the update to Business Policy A-11 (Hearings Before the Board). **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Hoyt-Voelker, **SECOND** by Director Ballard to approve the update to Business Policy H-14 (Notice of Proposed Resolutions). **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Hoyt-Voelker, **SECOND** by Director McClellan to approve a memorial rock plaque at Fern’s Lake. **MOTION** carried.

MOTION by Director Hoyt-Voelker, **SECOND** by Director McClellan to approve the Internet Radio Club as a sanctioned club. **MOTION** carried.

The board sent and received forty-seven (47) items of correspondence.

The next Regular Open Board Meeting will take place on November 20, 2021 at 10 a.m. in the Condor Room.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Treasurer's Report

Pine Mountain Club POA, Inc.
Treasurer's Report
As of September 30, 2021

	Actual	Budget	Over (Under) Variance
Revenue			
Current Year Assessment Revenue	1,173,520	1,171,916	1,604
Operations/Maintenance	88,753	51,435	37,318
Social Activity	190,249	182,665	7,584
Interest Income (Operating)	5,513	4,920	593
Total Revenue	1,458,036	1,410,936	47,100
Operating Expenses			
Operations/Maintenance	1,157,981	1,272,966	(114,985)
Social Activity	293,685	320,909	(27,224)
Operating Projects	53,743	68,000	(14,257)
Designated Fund Projects	540	30,000	(29,460)
Reserve Contribution	114,000	114,000	0
Total Operating Expenses	1,619,948	1,805,875	(185,927)
Other Operating Transactions			
Additional transfers to Reserve fund	0	0	0
Assets purchased	0	0	0
Foreclosed Lots transferred to Property	7,991	0	7,991
Total Other Transactions	7,991	0	7,991
Total Change in Operating Fund	(153,922)	(394,939)	241,018
Payroll Summary			
Payroll Wages	538,522	603,176	(64,654)
Payroll Benefits	78,754	99,531	(20,777)
Taxes and Worker's Compensation	65,916	82,139	(16,224)
Total Payroll Expense	683,192	784,846	(101,655)

	Assessment Billed	Assessment Collected	Assessment Receivable	Assessment Receivable %
18/19 Assessment Collection Update	4,231,452	4,230,582	870	0.02%
19/20 Assessment Collection Update	4,631,550	4,629,946	1,604	0.03%
20/21 Assessment Collection Update	4,628,342	4,598,403	29,939	0.65%
21/22 Assessment Collection Update	4,694,082	4,453,320	240,762	5.13%

	Beginning Balance July 1, 2020	Plus: YTD Interest and Contributions	Less: YTD Purchases	Ending Balance Current Period
Reserve Fund Update	3,082,499	119,555	(54,013)	3,148,041
Operating Fund Cash Balance	4,272,112			
Reserve Fund Cash Balance	3,033,241			

Respectfully Submitted



Cameron Acosta / Treasurer
October 16, 2021

--- General Manager's Update ---

Karin Shulman

Thanks to all who attended the October board meeting.

The weather has finally cooled off. It was in the 30's three nights in a row last month, so the pool closed for the season a couple of days ahead of schedule. The pool will open again Memorial Weekend in 2022.

We have had lots going on these days, which is a welcome change. There is Monday Night Football in the Lounge. Come and enjoy the game, pub food and drink specials. It is a fun night out.

Every Friday there is arts and crafts for kids in the Recreation Room from 3-5 pm.

October was a busy month for us. The Flu Shot Clinic was on Wednesday, October 20th in the Lounge, and the shots were free this year!

On October 23, we had a free music class scheduled (at the time of this writing), taught by BJ Saidi in the Condor Room. The session was a broad overview for beginners touching on the basics of Music Appreciation, Music and the Metaphysical, The Tempo of Music, Reading Music, Playing by Ear and Music Theory. The class was open to everyone.

Halloween activities (as of this writing) included a kids' Monster Bash in Lampkin Park the day before Halloween, and that night, the Halloween Party for adults in the Condor Room and Lounge with dancing, drink specials, live music and a costume contest.

To top off October activities, on Sunday, October 31, the Halloween Barn Bash at the PMC Equestrian Center is 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event includes a haunted barn, trick or treating with horses and horses in costume. Games and free candy are on tap for kids and adults. There will be hamburgers, hotdogs, chips and drinks for \$7.

November brings us "Sarah's Last

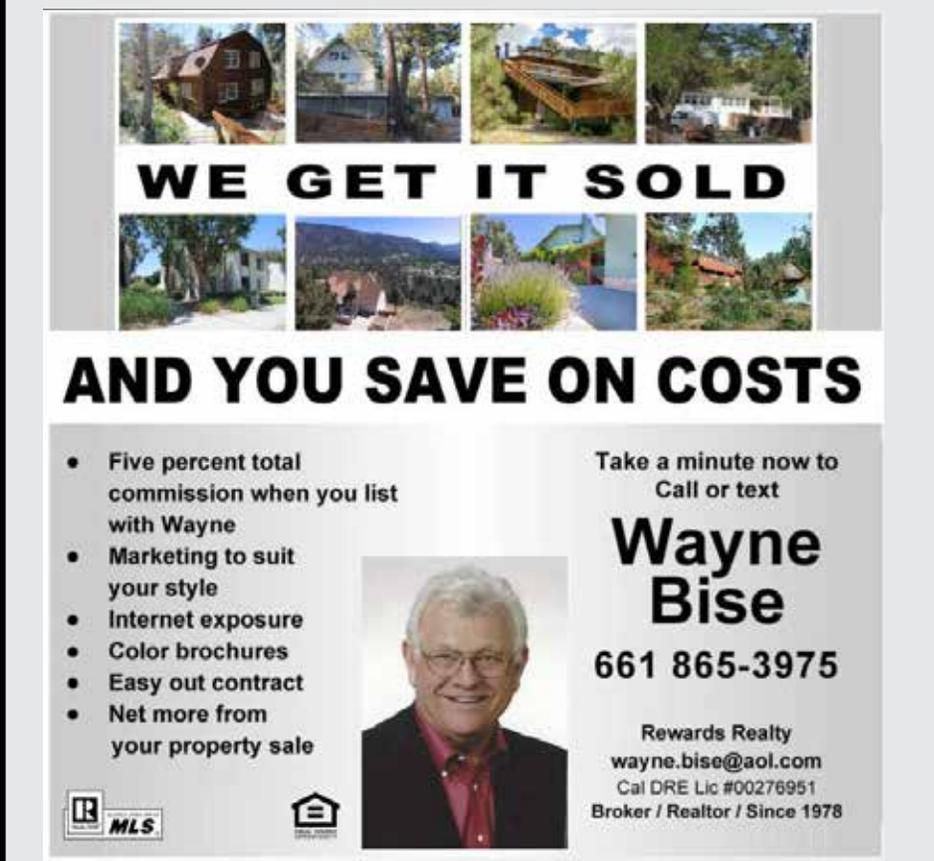
Day," a two-act musical by our own Chairman of the Board, Bill Lewis II. The dates are November 4, 5 & 6 and 12, 13 & 14. Performances are 7:30 p.m. except for November 14, which is a 2 p.m. matinee. You can purchase tickets for \$10 at the office.

The audit will be mailed by the end of October if approved.

We are coming upon the end of 2021, and we all hope for a better 2022.



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MLS

The editorial and advertising deadline for the December 2021 Condor is Monday, Nov. 15.

Content can be submitted to the editor at rwilde@pmcpoa.com.

Reminder to Water Down Ashes Prior to Bringing to Transfer Site

Please Help! We cannot accept hot ashes at the Transfer Site! Please water your ashes down before you place them in the large gray ash container.

We have received concerns from landfill staff that we are delivering hot ashes to the landfill. They cannot accept hot ashes due to resulting hazards. Hot ashes also cause problems for Mountain Disposal related to hauling them to the landfill. The landfill could begin refusing to receive ashes from Pine Mountain Club POA. Once again, we ask for your help.

If you arrive at the Transfer Site with hot ashes, staff will ask you to water them down in your container prior to disposal. Thank you for your cooperation in this.

PMC Fitness Classes

Yoga with Deb

Every Tuesday and Thursday at 12pm

Please bring a yoga mat and some water.

Low Impact Cardio

Dance/Tone with Stefani

*Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays
10-11 a.m.*

Classes are in the Condor Room. All classes \$5

Reminder: The pool is closed, but your pool card keys do not expire. They are good every year that you own your property. Please do not toss them out at the end of the year. They Cost \$100.00 to replace.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Electrical Work

Old Wire Electric
The Old House Wiring Specialist
(818) 533-1975

Tree Service/Arborist

Ablaze Tree Service
(661) 699-8630

Professional Services ads are \$5 per line per month, two-line minimum, when paid by the year.

Yardwork/Hauling

Ron's Odd Jobs & Yardwork
(323) 590-4563

Otherwise, \$6 per line per month. No refunds. The fee includes the name of your business and phone number. PMCPOA does not guarantee the accuracy of the information nor does it endorse any business or service listed here. To place an ad here, call 242-3788.



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Call us at 242-5500 x64 for more information

COMPLIMENTS, CONCERNS, COMPLAINTS

PMCPOA welcomes member input. Drop ideas off in the CCC Box in the Clubhouse Lobby, or click on the "CCC Box" menu item on the members'-only side of the PMC website at www.pinemountainclub.net. Anonymous submissions will not be published.

Thank you for your submissions to the Complaints, Concerns and Compliments Box. It takes a village to run a village, and your care and concern help keep PMC the wonderful place we love.

Look for responses in the Condor. Please be sure to include your contact information. While your name will not be published or posted, we don't respond to anonymous submissions.

If you have a concern that involves maintenance, sanitation or safety issues, or is of a confidential nature, please contact the Business Office immediately at 661-242-3788. Thank you!

COMPLIMENTS

(Please note that there were two compliments about the band Meridian after they performed in the Lounge in September. The response is below the second submission.)

- This is the first time I have enjoyed the music here in the PMC Lounge by Meridian. This band plays a variety of top music (not only country) at the right volume, and makes it danceable. I hope they can be invited again.

- We love this Meridian band! Plus, tonight's special tribute to Elton John's hits

was a treat that no one else could/would attempt! Honestly, this is the kind of band we crave for our clubhouse. Please try to get them to play here more; it seems they only play here once a year. Thanks.

Response: We are glad you were happy with the band Meridian. They were invited back to perform at the adult Halloween party on Oct. 30, and will likely be invited back again and again.

COMPLAINT

- I was told the pool closes Friday, Oct. 15. If so, this is typical of PMC's discrim-

inatory attitude toward weekenders, as it closes before the weekend rather than on Monday, Oct. 18, after the weekend. Weekenders pay equal dues and deserve equal privileges.

Response: We usually close the pool after Labor Day Weekend. Since the pool opening was delayed, we attempted to leave it open until Oct. 15 this year. However, because temperatures were dropping down into the low 30s at night, we had to close the pool a few days early on Oct. 12. There is nothing discriminatory about closing the pool for the season.

CAL FIRE Tips on How to Stay Safe and Warm in Winter

The days are shorter now, the outside temperature is lower and in some places, it's beginning to get cold, icy and snowy. Winter brings a change in season and a time to think about home-heating safety. Did you know that heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fires and home fire deaths? With a few simple safety tips and precautions, you can prevent most

heating fires from happening.

CAL FIRE would like to offer the following fire safety tips to encourage safety and warmth:

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away from heating equipment such as the furnace, fireplace, woodstove or portable space heater.
- Have a 3-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.

'SAFE' Cont. on page 15



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Or By Appointment
Call 661-245-7747

PMCPPOAS Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

**Join us Friday November 26th at
5:45pm at the PMC Clubhouse
There will be free Hot Chocolate,
Cookies & a Christmas
Carol Sing along.**

**For everyone's safety
masks and social distancing
is preferred.**

Lights go on at 6pm Sharp!

'NATURE *Continued from page 1*

Quail Lake, off of Highway 138, two species of rail live in secrecy. Yes, their bodies are thin, which aids them in their secretive movements through the thick marsh. The Virginia Rail (Fig. 2) has a long bill, with which it probes for insects, slugs, snails, crustaceans and worms. The Sora (Fig. 3) sports a short, stout bill for cracking open seeds of various plants. Other lo-



Fig. 3: Sora at Quail Lake

cal ponds and marshes occasionally are visited with rare detection. A Virginia Rail stayed for while at Fern's Lake in PMC. Only a very patient photographer managed to get a glimpse.



Fig. 4: Several species of Rock Lichen – near PMC

Have you seen the bright-colored lichens (Fig. 4) that sometimes grow on rock outcroppings and trees? These organisms stretch one's idea of what is life. They hardly seem to be doing anything. First of all, they are not one organism. There are many species. Each species is a combina-



Fig. 6: Dog Vomit Slime Mold – Day 2 or 3 of emergence

**Photos by Bill Arbanas,
Bill Buchroeder, Liz
Buchroeder, Randy
Cushman and Lynn Stafford**

tion of a fungus and a single-celled algae or bacteria. What we see is the fungus. Inside the fungus, the algae cells create food by photosynthesis. The fungus allows the algae to live in locations where it would otherwise perish. The algae feeds the fungus, which cannot make its own food.

Finally, we come to a strange group of organisms that has taxonomists scratch-



Fig. 5: Dog Vomit Slime Mold – Day 1 of emergence

ing their heads. It is called a Slime Mold. However, it is not a mold, which is a fungus. It is apparently a tiny single-celled or-

ganism. These cells live in decayed wood, and occasionally come together to form masses several inches across, and sometimes shift across their substrate a few inches. These are the fruiting bodies. Here in PMC, there is one species that favors piles of wood chips from our green waste site. Several residents have encountered them. Because of their color and form, they have been given the 'delicate' name, "Dog Vomit Slime Mold" (Fig. 5). How cute! The masses last only a few days, changing in color from bright yellow to red (Fig. 6), then black. Dog vomit slime mold is harmless and helps in the process of plant decay and soil production.

There are many secret lives out there in our mountains.

Change of Address?

If you have a new post office box or phone number, please call the office at 242-3688 to update your account. If you use the website, the office may not receive the information for a while because the site does not automatically notify the office that a change has been made. Please call us or stop by to let us know so that we will have your up-to-date information right away.

'HOUSE' *Continued from page 1*

but can assist investigators in monitoring locations and gathering evidence. The investigators rely on public tips as they do not arbitrarily drive around the neighborhoods searching for potential grow houses. Listed below are some signs and activities that may indicate a house is starting or contains a grow house operation:

- Owner, tenant, or workers unload unrecognizable equipment and very few household furnishings, often using unmarked trucks and utility vans.
- Owner, tenant, or workers unload copper and/or PVC pipe, soil, halogen lamps, trusses, large amounts of black plastic, aluminum ducting, and fans, often using unmarked delivery-style trucks and vans and loading/unloading during late-night and early morning hours.
- Unusual visitor behavior and a lot of late-night activity that includes inconsistencies in visitors to and from the residence, ranging from no visitors giving the appearance of seclusion, to frequent visi-

tors for short time periods.

- Most grow house operations do not have people living inside the houses.
- The sounds of humming fans can be heard because the air may be vented through the chimney or into the attic.
- The sounds of construction late at night.
- Construction-related activity, like cutting PVC piping, being conducted outside of the house but not in view of the street.
- Windows boarded up or covered with plastic, heavy curtains pressed against windows, and/or blinds that are tightly shut and pressed against the windows. These window coverings will more than likely never be opened.
- Strong odors.

Please take note that one or more of these indicators do not necessarily equate to criminal activity related to a grow house operation, however, these indicators may assist investigators in determining their best course of action. If you suspect suspicious activity at a house, you may contact KCSO or PMC Patrol with the address of the house and any indicators that you have seen or heard to include vehicle descriptions and license

plate numbers. Do not "investigate" on your own beyond making observations from afar nor confront potential participants.

The situation is both disappointing and difficult to prevent. We are not ignoring the situation. We are working with law enforcement to do what we can legally do to minimize and hopefully eliminate the activity. You must activate your "eyes and ears" as you are crucial to the effective enforcement of the situation by reporting suspicious activity.

Unfortunately, there is a chance some of the criminals involved with these grow houses may also be reading this article as "members" of the association. If so, it should come as no surprise to them that the law-abiding members and residents of PMC will probably not tolerate this type of activity and will take whatever steps legally available and necessary to assist law enforcement to make our community safe and crime-free.

Clubhouse Gift Cards
Make Great Gifts

If you are looking for a quick gift for a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion, why not give a Gift Certificate that's good at the PMC Clubhouse? The cards can be used in the Café, Lounge or Pro Shop. Come by the Business office to purchase a card of any monetary amount.

Property Addresses

The property address must be clearly marked on your home or a sign post and be visible from the road for emergency responders.

Message from EC
Re: Firewood

Firewood should be stacked neatly, with as few voids as possible, at least 10 feet from the structure and should have surface fuels removed (pine needles, etc.), at least 3 feet around. Earth tone tarps are acceptable if securely fastened.

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PMCPOA
Office Hours
8am-5pm Mon-Fri
8am-3pm Sat
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Office 242-3788
Patrol 242-3857 (24 hrs)

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'ArtFlix at Artworks' Free Film Series

Artworks Community Gallery, a non-profit gallery in Pine Mountain Club, is offering movie night with a focus on the arts. It's called "ArtFlix at Artworks." The lineup includes documentaries and bio-pics about famous and not-so-famous artists; movies about art movements; dancers; musicians; playwrights; other creative people and projects. "ArtFlix at Artworks" is scheduled every second and fourth Thursday of each month starting at 6:30 p.m. It's free of charge with a \$3.00 donation for snacks.

**Our lineup for the remainder
of the year is as follows:**

Nov. 11, 2021 -- Gaugin-The Full Story (documentary)

Nov. 25, 2021 -- Amelie (movie)

Dec. 9, 2021 -- Paris-The Luminous Years (documentary)

Dec. 23, 2021 -- Sirens Be Seduced (movie)

Artworks Community Gallery is located at 16233 Pine Valley Lane. For more information, call Artworks Community Gallery at 661-858-3130, or visit Facebook @artworkspmv or the website at www.artworks.space.

Rec Room Hours

**Friday, Saturday &
Sunday 12-5pm**

**Also open School
Holidays and Winter,
Spring and Summer
Breaks**

**Arts & Crafts for kids
every Friday in the
PMC Clubhouse Rec
Room 3-5pm**

Entertainment Line-Up:

Fri/Sat Nights

**Please note that there
will be no live music
at the Clubhouse the
first two weekends of
November due to the
play, "Sarah's Last
Day."**

Friday, Nov. 19

7:30-11pm -- Matt

Galindo

**(Acoustic Alternative/Folk
Rock)**

Saturday, Nov. 20

**7:30-11pm -- The Part
Time Playahz (5-Piece**

Cover Band, New,

**Santa Clarita & Ventura
County Band**

Saturday, Nov. 27

7:30-11pm -- TBA

**First and last Friday, 7-10pm
Every Saturday 7:30-11pm**

Golf Course/ Pro Shop Hours

8am to 6pm Thru Nov. 6

9am to 5pm as of Nov. 7

Every Day

*The Pro Shop has T-shirts,
sweatshirts, hats, drinking
glasses with PMC logos on them,
greeting cards, PMC license plate
holders and puzzles available for
purchase.*

661-242-3734

Transfer Site Hours:

8:30am - 5pm Daily

Reminders

• *Our Transfer Site is strictly for PMC residents/guests and tenants. Please bring your Member or Guest card.*

• *Only four vehicles are allowed into the site at a time. All other cars will wait outside the gate. When one car leaves another car may come in. Please do not leave your car while waiting in line and walk into the site. Please be patient and wait your turn into the site.*

• *Please secure your trash before heading to the Transfer Site. There has been an increase in trash along the side of our roads from trash flying out the back of vehicles going to the Transfer Site. Let's keep our roads clean.*

**Green Waste Site
Reminder:**

There are no trash bags, lumber or other non-green waste material allowed at the Green Waste Site. Please empty your trash bags and take them back with you or bring them to the Transfer Site for disposal. Bags and other trash get buried under the green waste and as a result end up getting ground up in the slash and can damage the machine. Your cooperation with ONLY dropping off green waste would be greatly appreciated.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Most committees are meeting live again. Please check with each committee for current details about the meetings.

Tuesday, Nov. 2 (First Tuesday)

6 pm **Communications ZOOM**

Friday, Nov. 5 (First Friday)

9am **Greens and Grounds Pro Shop**
2 pm **Environmental Control Condor Room**

Saturday, Nov. 6 (First Saturday)

9 am **Governing Documents ZOOM**
1 pm **Planning Condor Room**

Wednesday, Nov. 17 (Wednesday Before Board Mtg)

6 pm **Budget & Finance Condor Room**

Saturday, Nov. 20 (Third Saturday)

10 am **PMCPOA Board of Directors Mtg. Condor Room**

Saturday, Nov. 27 (Fourth Saturday)

9 am **Emergency Preparedness Condor Room**
10 am **CERT CERT Facility**

'SAFE' *Continued from page 10*

- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Always turn portable heaters off when leaving a room or going to bed.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room.
- Allow fireplace ashes to cool before disposing of them. Place in a tightly covered metal container at least 10 feet away from your home and any other nearby buildings.
- Never empty fireplace or woodstove ashes directly into a trash can.
- Install and maintain carbon monoxide (CO) alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning.
- Install and maintain smoke alarms and test them once a month.

Roughly half of all home heating fires are reported during the months of December, January and February. For more in-

formation on safe home heating, visit the CAL FIRE website at www.fire.ca.gov.

When home fire sprinklers are used with working smoke alarms, your chances of surviving a fire are greatly increased. Sprinklers are affordable, and they can increase property values and lower insurance rates.

**Reminder: Fire
Danger Level is
EXTREME!**

Per the Forest Service – the fire danger level is EXTREME in our area. To check status of fires in California go to <https://www.fire.ca.gov>. We are in a high drought season. Please remember to conserve on water, and do not throw cigarette butts on the ground. Visit kernfiresafe.org to see how to harden a home for fires with defensible space, landscaping and evacuation preparation. Be prepared in case we have a wildfire in our area.