



BENNETT VALLEY VOICE

VOLUME 6 Number 2

BENNETT VALLEY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

April 1983

BVHA

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MEMO FROM THE BOARD

Thank you for your support of the BVHA. Our membership (included) this year totals 154 households. Some previous members have yet to re-join.

At this time we are sound financially and an increase in annual dues was not necessary.

Because of business reasons, Board Director Ted Chamberlain was forced to resign. We thank Ted for his years of service in the interest of valley residents. At the April 20 Board meeting Dona Moberly was selected to serve out the remainder of Ted's term.

Update: 4630 Pressley Road
Rezoning proposal

As reported in the January newsletter, the BVHA is opposed to this request by Mr. Schweiger because of severe geological constraints and non-conformance to the B. V. Specific Plan. Public hearings before the County Board of Supervisors were held with our participation, but a decision has been twice delayed.

Update: Pressley Road
FM transmission tower

The Federal Communications Commission has told the BVHA that the tower site has been changed by the applicant to a less visible location on Taylor Mountain. We will check on this.

The BVHA has been notified by the County of a request by John & Theresa Votruba, 4850 Peracca Road, for a small 1000 case winery at this location. Although only preliminary information is available at this, initial reaction by the BVHA is mixed. We have consistently supported agricultural pursuits in the valley, but there are concerns about the parcel size.

DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE

As many of you know, applicants for new construction in the 15,000 Bennett Valley Specific Plan area are required to submit their plans to the B. V. Design Review Committee. The BVHA has been asked, through our newsletter, to solicit interested valley residents who would like to serve on this important committee as vacancies occur. Architects, engineers, agriculturists, or just interested citizens are invited to apply. There is presently an opening on the committee.

If you would like to serve, please send your application letter expressing your interest, qualifications, and attitudes to the BVHA, P. O. Box 2666, Santa Rosa, CA. 95405. For additional details, telephone Paul Mowbray at 545-6523.

Reprinted below is a B. V. Voice news article from the January, 1981 issue.

WHAT IS THE DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE?

"Over the past several months a bit of confusion seems to have arisen over the differences between the Bennett Valley Homeowners Association and the Bennett Valley Design Review Committee. They are two completely different entities. The Homeowners Association is a group of concerned residents who represent and respond to the people of Bennett Valley and any issues that arise concerning the area. The Bennett Valley Design Review Committee is a committee of 5 area residents appointed by our County Supervisor to insure that the policies and requirements of the Bennett Valley Specific Plan are complied with by builders. A major purpose of the Committee is to accommodate the increasing number of buildings with the least amount of intrusion on the natural landscape...to maintain the inherent characteristics of the area. They bring to the Committee particular areas of expertise-- be it engineering, farming, architecture, etc.-- areas of knowledge which are most important in applying the design review requirements written into the Bennett Valley Plan. It is a difficult and often thankless job. To better understand how they function, area residents might wish to observe at one of their meetings: 7:30 PM at Bennett Valley School, 2nd & 4th Wed."

THE GRANGE HALL

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You may have heard that the Bennett Valley Grange is the oldest Grange Hall in the U. S. in continuous use for that purpose without interruption. A group of 16 local residents were responsible for this early start when they met at the old Strawberry schoolhouse on April 26, 1873 to form a "Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry". A series of meetings followed and these officers were elected:

- Master Nelson Carr
- Lecturer Isaac Deturk
- Overseer G. N. Whitaker
- Chaplain Holman Talbot
- Steward Benjamin Lacque
- Assistant D. E. Miller
- Gatekeeper G. W. Wilkes
- Secretary J. H. Plank

All charter members signed the roll and paid \$3 for each man and 50¢ for each woman (no women's lib then!). A by-laws committee consisting of A. Burnham, B. Lacque, and Mrs. Lyman was formed, and the existing by-laws of Napa Grange #1 were adopted. On July 26 it was reported that Mr. Hughes will give the Grange one acre of his ground for a building site. At the August 23 meeting the building committee recommended that \$292.82 worth of redwood lumber be purchased at Smith's Mill in Coleman Valley near Occidental. The articles of incorporation were adopted a week later, money to build the hall was borrowed, and by October they were ready to start construction.

Members immediately got busy donating their services and arranging "working days" as time permitted between farming and ranching operations. With the women providing a continuous supply of food, California's first Grange Hall

was completed and dedicated on December 4, 1873.

Activities began soon and included annual picnics, BBQ's, and dedication ceremonies. By 1937 the ladies of the valley had formed a Home Economics Club with Rosa Kirch as chairman. On May 11, 1945 a B. V. 4-H Club was organized and led by Orville and Vivian Burnside with help from Buddy Dexter (Pres.) and Vivian Dickerson Mazzeta (Sec.). The original group of 16 boys and girls quickly became one of the most active in Sonoma County.

In 1946 a Juvenile Grange was organized under the leadership of Mrs. Perina Pisenti with Mrs. Ula Babcock as the first Matron. They met the first and third Fridays of each month.

The B. V. Square Dancers, consisting of Grange members and their friends became active in March, 1957. Each Thursday night 6 to 8 squares would swing to the calling of Mark Dunn. Three years later, a youth group began with Miss Tasia Mouzakis as President. The Grange minutes from the October 10, 1960 meeting revealed that the last living Charter Member, Sarah Lacque Hanson, had passed away in 1945 after 72 years of active membership. This had left Mrs. Lucy Stetson as the oldest living member of the Grange order having signed the roll on March 5, 1898. Other long-time members included Frank Kirch, Fred Clark, Fred Bruggemann, and Wesley Beach. They each were given a Golden Sheaf Certificate in recognition of a half-century of service. At this time 51 members were recorded as having 25 years or more of continuous membership.

The work of these Grange pioneers is appreciated.

Warren Watkins

REPORTER NEEDED! Your Bennett Valley Voice newsletter is in need of individuals to research and write articles. Ideas for articles and supporting information are also needed.

If you would like to contribute to your Homeowners Association in this manner several times yearly, please contact a Board officer. Thank you.

THE VOICE is compiled and distributed to members quarterly--look for the next issue this summer.

BVHA Mailing ADDRESS: P.O. Box 2666, Santa Rosa, CA 95405.

NEXT MEETING: We look forward to meeting you May 18, 1983 at 7:30 PM at the Bennett Valley Firehouse.

BENNETT VALLEY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
April 1983

Mr. & Mrs. Lee Adair	Clifford V. Heimbucher	Mr.&Mrs. David V. Phillips
W.O. Adams	Dick & Sandy Hensley	George & Marie Phillips
Gail Akamine	Mercedes D. Hill	John&Roberta Phillips
Gerald Aldridge	L.B. Holloway	Walter L. Price
Tom & Becky Alexander	O.R. & MaryLou Hopkin	Geary Rea
Bob Anderson	Mr. Mrs. Thomas Horgan	Barbara T. Reid
Jon & Helen Anderson	Mr. & Mrs. Weldon Jackson	John&Jean Richardson
Lauren Anderson	Bill & Ruth Jacobs	Mr.&Mrs. Kent Richmond
Mr. & Mrs. John Azevedo	Mr. & Mrs. N.F. Jacobson	Lois M. Roberts
F.W. Bartlett	Alan Jaroslovsky	Doug & Dee Rorick
Michael Bates	Lou & Ruth Jaroslovsky	Toby Rosenblatt
Nancy & Richard Batson	Ron & Marcia Johns	Mr.&Mrs. Dave Sandine
Bruce & Virginia Benson	Jon & Betty Joslyn	Jacques & Sande Schlumberger
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Mr. & Mrs. James Bergin	Frank W. Kimper	Robert Seisums
Norm & Eve Boling	Fred & Penny King	Mrs.J. Anna Settle
Gordon & Tamara Boulton	Regis & Myra Kramer	Phil&Linda Sevier
Jan & Al Brutocao	Bonnie L. Kreger	E.Kent Sibbald
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Buck	Mr. & Mrs. Frank Krutak	Richard&Mary Sibbet
Mr.&Mrs. G.R. Chamberlain	Frank & Marjorie Lange	Stan & Karen Sommer
Anita Christensen	Leo Leggins	Sonoma Mtn.Lighthouse
Tom & Kaye Clark	Jim & Verlene Leih	Bob & Sharon Sorani
Mel & Nancy Clarke	Lee & Cindy Liddell	Bill&Kathy Stambaugh
Kay Clegg	Donna & Andy Logar	Mr.&Mrs.Edward Steensland
Myron & Sue Close	Raymond&Peggy Longman	David Steiner
James H. Coops	W.H. Loving	Cole Stephens
William Costello	Ken & Barbara Maberry	W.C. Stephens
Bill Dayton	Sandra & Bill MacIver	Philip Fay Stevenson
R.S. deRopp	Millie Mansfield	James&Marilyn Stocks
Charlotte & Norm Dolan	Mr. & Mrs. Brian Marcar	Tom & Anita Taylor
Ray & Carolyn Dowdy	Warren Masson	Phil & Judy Temko
Norine M. Elledge	Robert & Jessie Mastin	Robert Thompson
Empire Investments	Dr.&Mrs.Theodore McCarthy	Dwight&Clarice Tipton
Marilyn K. Evans	William Morris McCarty	Jack & Cheryl Tolin
Linda Espinosa	Myron & Ann McClure	Jane M. Turner
Phil & Lynn Essner	Betty & Keith McDaniel	Robert&Beverly Turner
Yvette Fallandy	Martin & Olga McDonough	Views Land Company
Leonard&Bertha Fillmore	Royal & Betty McShea	George & Kathy Vogan
Richard Frahm	Donald & Sondra Meyer	Clarence & Anne Voigtlander
Keith & Marilyn Franc	Ray & Carol Michelis	Harry L. Walker
Dorothy & Abe Gerstein	Mr. & Mrs. Sam Mitchell	Ervin & Vera Watkins
Josee M. Ghilarducci	Dona Moberly	Warren&Marilyn Watkins
Richard & Anne Giles	David & Betty Moore	Brent & Sally Welch
Duncan & Helga Gillies	June A Mow	Larry& Rosemarie White
Lee & Modie Graybill	Paul & Margie Mowbray	Mr. & Mrs. Sam White
William & June Greer	Bill & Nancy Murray	Clyde & Berta Wiggins
Ralph&Verley Gregerson	Sylvia M. Neumann, DVM	Mr. & Mrs. J. Winset
Henry & Joyce Gronroos	Mr. & Mrs. George Nicholas	Tom & Sandy Winter
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Paul Hamilton	Bill & Marilee Parker	Donald E. Wolf
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