

Amador Pines Landowners Association

Units 2 & 5

P.O. Box 630, Pioneer, CA 95666

Spring 2020 Newsletter

Editor: Nancy Edwards

APLO President's Message

In the winter of 2019 when all four of our snowplow units broke down, we had to face the fact that they were just worn out, too old to continue and had to be replaced.

We began that process in the summer of 2019 and replaced two of the units. Now in 2020, the Board will be working on replacing a third unit. Then in 2023, the Board will be considering replacement of the fourth unit a 1991 International truck.

The increase in traffic from the closure of Shake Ridge road, PG &E's large trucks working on removing trees and replacing power poles and time, have created many potholes. as well as the need for more chip sealing.

Starting in May, the road crew will be out attending to those needs. The road crew needs a crew of eight people to function properly. Right now, we only have five. Without additional volunteers, we will not be able to make much of a dent in the need. They must have more volunteers.

Anyone who has some time to help should call Jim Eldredge at 209-295-7455.

Rich Urban and the brushing crew will be out clearing the shoulders of the roads. Rick Onstad is doing a great job on the signs/mailboxes.

Mike Currier is our park & pond chair. His current dream is to repair/replace the fence

around the pond before it falls down. He can also use some help.

Our Board starting in September meets on the third Tuesday of every other month at 6:30 pm down at the shop next to the park & pond and, of course, our annual meeting this year will be on June 13th.

Jerry Caton, President, 209-295-5167
email: jrrycat@aol.com

Treasurer's Report

It's spring and time once again to pay your Annual Assessments. Invoices have not been included in this newsletter but are coming to you in a separate envelope for your convenience. The annual amount is \$260.00 per parcel per year and is due no later than July 1, 2020. If not received by August 1, 2020, a 10% late fee will be applied and interest at 1% per months will start to accrue.

You will find a report of the proposed budget for 2020-2021 included in this newsletter. The proposed 2020-2021 budget has been approved by the Board for presentation to the membership at our annual June meeting.

The association is in a stable financial condition in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Standards and is in compliance with state and federal regulations.

Dru Agostini, Treasurer, 209-295-3844
druagostini@gmail.com

Snowplow Report

The first part of the winter was not too bad, with only a couple of storms that required plowing. Our new plow truck is working out very well. The new dump truck/snowplow is ready for use when the next storm arrives. We are left with only one old truck (#8, the gray Ford). Once we get that replaced, we should be good on trucks for the next 20+ years. We had a couple new volunteers step up driving the snowplows. Thanks to Dan Schumann and Jay Thrift for offering your assistance. Even though we have not had much plowing need as of this writing, it still offered a chance for drivers to take a break. And thanks to the returning drivers Danny Schacht, John Martini, Rob Riehs, and of course, our dedicated spreader driver, Bob Alvarez.

Snowplow Chairman, Gary Johnson
POC Jim Eldridge

Roads/Culverts

As of the writing of this report, we have had a pretty mild winter. As such, most of the roads have held up pretty good, with a few exceptions of potholes. There is still a good amount of patching work to be done that was left over from last year. The road crew will get as much of this completed as possible. There was no chip sealing done this past year, but we plan to have that done this year. There are a few roads in very bad shape that we plan to address including Spring Rd./Sprint Ct, Gold Hill Camp and Manzanita Ct. (from Manzanita Way to the dead end). We will do others depending on the final budget approval and the cost of chip sealing this year.

We received a new truck last year to replace the old #3 truck (the red Ford double cab). The truck proved to be very useful and was nice to not have to worry

about breakdowns. We recently received our new dump truck to replace the old #2 truck. Again, this will be nice to have a good truck that we can rely on.

We can always use help on the road crew. We meet on Wednesday mornings at 8 a.m., at the maintenance shop starting the first Wednesday in June. I realize that many people may not be available at this time, but this day and time has shown to work best for the majority of the volunteers.

Roads and Culverts, Gary Johnson
POC Jim Eldridge

Maintenance

I've been tasked with the responsibility of maintaining APLO's fleet of vehicles for the past five years. It's a well-known fact that due to the snowfall 2018-19 and the age of all the vehicles, we were left without means of clearing/plowing the roads. Repair costs for the vehicles that were 25-35 years old totaled \$12,000.00. It was my intention and the intention of the association to begin to purchase and update our fleet. In August 2019, the first purchase was a new 2018 Ford F-450, with the addition of a dump bed and plow for the total cost of \$68,000.

The Board then approved the purchase of a 2020 International truck with a five-yard dump bed and a snowplow that was ordered directly from the factory. The cost of the vehicle as outfitted was \$142,000.00. The reason for purchasing new vehicles instead of used is that the California Air Resources Board will not allow the purchase of a used diesel vehicle without an \$80,000.00 conversion per vehicle to meet California's standards, which came to our attention after over 250 hours of research. Both vehicles that were purchased in the past fourteen months have been service for the 2019-20 snow season. It is my intention,

with Board approval, to purchase another Ford F-450, equipped like the current F-450.

My opinion is, with the upcoming costs of replacement of the old with new, our dues should be increased. In this association's history, we had never purchased a new vehicle before 2019. Not only are our original vehicles aged, our sander, chipper and roller are about 30 years old.

Charlie Tine -- 295-2376,
mtn.man@volcano.net

Park/Pond

Some of you may not realize that we have a beautiful park and pond here in Amador Pines. It is located at the maintenance shop and is maintained by a few dedicated volunteers. This last spring and summer we cleared two trees that had fallen during the winter storms and repaired the damage they caused. We cleared brush within the park and along the entire front of the pond along Inspiration East. Thank you to Rich Urban and the brushing crew for chipping it. Our group of five, with the help of Danny Schacht, rebuilt several feet of the bank and trail. Unfortunately, when the brush was cut back and cleared, we found three more broken cement posts bringing the total to eight and several holes in the wire fence that had been built in the early eighties. I consider this to be a safety issue that we hope to address this summer. We usually start our work at the park and pond in April but a starting date is unknown at this time due to the weather.

We can always use additional volunteers.

Mike Currier 295-3239,
pamela_currier@yahoo.com

Signs, Mailboxes and Bulletin Boards

I recently found out, that after many years of our friends and neighbors bonking their

heads on the low roof support beam at the mailbox located at Pine Dr West & Lupin Rd, several requests have been made to do something to resolve this. I am happy to report we are planning to retro fit the roof and eliminate this problem.

Thank You Charlie Tine for taking the reins on this project and getting the job done.

Rick Onstad -- 510-861-7242
onstad@comcast.net

Please do NOT leave pamphlets, flyers, books, or mail at the mailboxes. They blow around, get wet, and become litter. Please keep our neighborhood green!

Brushing Crew Report

First, I would like to thank all members of the brushing crew for their hard work and all the effort they put in to make our workload easy and safe.

Because of our current situation, there is no designated brushing schedule. We will meet on Tuesdays, beginning when we can get out to work together. We will be working to pick up the fallen branches, etc.

We could use more volunteers on the brushing crew so if anyone would like to volunteer call Richard Urban at 295-1185.

Rich Urban, Brushing -- 295-1185.

Remember to drive slowly and watch for the brushing crew in your area!

Welcome/Volunteers

As an introduction to APLO's new owners, they are sent a welcome package with helpful hints, pertinent phone numbers and contacts. If you are new to Amador Pines and haven't received a Welcome package, please contact me.

If you prefer to receive the APLO newsletters via email instead of USPS, please send me your email address. This will allow our association to save on printing and postage costs. Every little bit helps.

Volunteers are essential to keeping our community running. Please consider joining the small group of existing volunteers. Each committee could use more help.

Sue Cola, Volunteer/Welcome
295-1887 suejcola@aol.com

Annual Membership Meeting

On Saturday, June 13th at 12 noon, the APLO Annual meeting starts and the Board Member voting ballots will be counted.

Please mail or turn in your ballot(s) before this meeting.

Independence Day Parade & Picnic

Join us on Saturday, July 4th for the Annual Tractor Parade and Picnic.

Watch APLO Bulletin Boards for more information about these events.