



Arrowhead Improvements Association

Smoke Signals

August 2006

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Gary Keiser

Log trucks are on the Alpine once again. Loggers are working on the Ridgestock timber contract, which was signed almost ten years ago. They are cutting on four separate sites of national forest above Arrowhead. We have been told that the hauling will be finished this fall, but they have already had two extensions. Be careful driving on the Alpine.

Amendments to the Arrowhead Regulations were presented at the July Board meeting. These amendments are necessary to comply with the new Colorado law affecting home owners' associations. Fortunately, none of the changes have a significant impact at Arrowhead. The Board will act on the changes at the August meeting. If you want to review the changes, ask the AIA office for a copy.

The Fire District Committee has recommended the formation of a separate fire district for Arrowhead, after two alternatives were rejected by the Gunnison Fire Protection District. The fire department members also voted in favor of a separate fire district. Your Board has previously decided to obtain approval from all owners before proceeding with the formation of a separate district. At the August meeting, the Board will decide whether to proceed with that vote. If we do proceed with a vote of owners, you will receive a ballot accompanied by a letter explaining the steps to be taken and costs involved, as well as the pros and cons.

Mitigation of the extreme area above Evergreen Lake has been completed. Because of the steepness, the work was all done by hand, and the slash was cut into pieces and spread on the ground, as recommended by the Colorado State Forest Service. This mitigation was important to protect the Southwest corner of the subdivision, as the prevailing winds are from the southwest, and there is significant timber in that direction.

This has been the wettest and coolest summer in the six years we have been at Arrowhead. While parts of the country have had record heat, we have been wearing jackets and dodging the daily showers. The result is a very green landscape and full lakes.

Fire Department News

FIRE CHIEF'S LETTER Ron Benson

In the past 7 weeks there have been 6 instances where people have called the Arrowhead emergency fire and medical phone number for what were routine questions or requests. The emergency number, 862-9911, is only to report a fire, vehicle accident, or medical emergency. The non-emergency phone number for security is 862-8262. Leave a message and security will call you back.

The fire department membership voted at the August 2nd meeting on whether to start a separate Fire Protection District or remain part of the Gunnison Fire Protection District. There are pros and cons to both options, but the members voted overwhelmingly to proceed with a separate district. This is an important issue, and you will be hearing more about it in the future.

The annual wildfire/evacuation drill was held on July 26, 2006. This drill included the firefighters and the Firehouse Command groups of traffic control, medical, evacuation, and communications. Overall the drill went well except for some communication problems and a few minor equipment issues. Future meetings of the groups are planned to improve our procedures. Volunteers are still needed for some of the groups. Without volunteers, there would be no volunteer fire department. Without a fire department at Arrowhead, homeowner's insurance would be very expensive.

The monsoon rains have begun so Arrowhead is getting the benefit of plentiful rainfall which reduces our wildfire danger. However, we still experience spells of dry windy weather which can dry out vegetation and topsoil in just a few days. We need to guard against complacency and continue to practice safe campfire techniques. Also of note, when Gunnison County declares a fire ban, Arrowhead will comply and display our fire ban signs until the county's fire ban is rescinded.

The stump dump is growing almost daily as residents continue to clean their lots and create defensible space around their homes and campsites. It is to each resident's benefit to clear some of the common land adjacent to your lot because it reduces the chance a wildfire will spread from common land to your lot. Large logs should not be piled and left on the side of the road. It's quite unsightly and can be a fire danger in drier conditions. You may offer the logs to your wood burning neighbors, but it is the lot owner's responsibility to dispose of these logs.

A cement pump truck overturned just below the beaver slide on the Alpine Rd. The truck was badly damaged and tied up traffic on the Alpine for hours. Fortunately the driver was not seriously injured. Excess speed probably played a role in this accident which could have been a disaster if oncoming traffic had been present.

Use a lower gear to descend the beaver slide and save your brakes.



Board Reports

MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENTS

Paul McDermitt

This summer has been a busy time for the Arrowhead community volunteers. Landscaping around the new Arrowhead sign welcoming residents and visitors at the corner of the Alpine and Lake Road, has been completed. This beautiful addition is a credit to many individuals who volunteered their time, energy, materials and equipment. Special thanks to volunteers Doug and Mary Cockes, Martha Cook, J. R. Ellis, Will Hobson, Glen Isbell, Star and Eric Johnson, Pete Nauyokas, Dee Sedgewick, and Gerry and Mike Wigent whose efforts made this project possible.

After several heavy windstorms this past winter and spring, there were numerous areas in Arrowhead where large trees had been blown down on the common area adjacent to the roads. On June 24, the area looked like an ant hill with volunteers working in teams to limb, cut up, load and haul much of the debris to the forest refuse disposal site (stump dump). Although this project was highly successful, there still are a number of trees which need to be removed. Residents are welcome to cut up these downed trees along the roads for firewood. A caution, however, make sure the trees are actually on common ground, not on a private lot. Limbs and branches which are cut from these trees must be hauled to the stump dump. Leaving them by the road is not only unsightly, but also creates a fire hazard.

This time of year, we start seeing the summer growth of thistle. We encourage owners to work with the volunteers who annually spray these noxious weeds on common areas along the filing roads.. A community effort is needed to keep this noxious weed under control. Special thanks to Bruce and Marion McGoldrick who have been spraying the common areas along the roads.

This fall, the trail up the valley at the bottom of Beaver Slide is going to be closed to allow for natural restoration. A sign will be posted, and the Board requests residents and visitors to cooperate with this restoration by not driving wheeled vehicles (ATVs, bicycles, motorcycles, cars and trucks) on this trail. With everyone's cooperation, this trail will still be available for hikers and horseback riders, and will allow emergency access in the event of a wildland fire.

Board Reports

Security Notes

Lindy Lindner

It has been a wonderful summer on the mountain. The wildflowers are just lovely and the grasses are lush and green. We are so fortunate to be able to spend time in such a beautiful place.

Security has been quite busy with all the folks on the mountain this summer. They have issued/renewed nearly 300 fire pit permits, countless vehicle stickers and visitor passes in addition to their regular rounds.

There have been a couple of accidents, primarily involving ATVs. Fortunately, riders suffered scrapes, bruises and bumped heads, but no serious injuries. Most of these accidents have involved children, under the age of 16, riding without adult supervision.

For the safety and consideration of everyone, please do not ride ATVs off the filing roads, on private property, on the Alpine Road, or on the dams at the Flint Lakes and Hazel Lake.

Arrowhead owners have access to the Flint Lakes, but the land surrounding the lakes is privately owned. The owners have horses loose in the pasture. They have asked that we stay in the area near the lakes and that we not try to pet or feed the horses. They plan to put an electric fence around the parking area to keep the horses away from the vehicles.

While updating records over the summer, we noticed that the list of numbered vehicle stickers for the winter parking lot is growing. We need to remove the numbers for vehicles no longer using the lot. If you have changed vehicles or snowmobiles, please let Security know which numbers are no longer valid so they can be removed from the list.

Bids are being accepted for last year's security snowmobile until August 17th. If you are interested in submitting a bid, please send it to the AIA office: P.O. Box 89, Montrose, Co. 81402 or aia@arrowhead1.com.

Community News

Health on the mountain

Joyce Boulter

This has been a delightful summer, with plenty of rain and cool temperatures. Everything is green and the wild-flowers are beautiful. I am repeating my information on chain saw safety for those still working on their winter wood supply.

1. Know your chainsaw, READ the manual and understand its operation.
2. Personal protective equipment:
 - Hard hat**-use when falling timber. The hard hat can also protect from saw kickback.
 - Chaps** – these are made for chain saw use and protect the legs from cuts.
 - Footwear**- cut and slip resistant boots should be worn when using a saw.
 - Safety goggles, glasses**-always wear eye protection when using saws of any type, especially chain saws.
 - Ear plugs**- necessary when using any loud equipment.
 - Hand protection** - gloves, especially leather will protect the hands from cuts.
 - Refueling** – Use care with storage and the refueling of gasoline operated chainsaws
Use proper outdoor electrical cords and care that you don't trip over cords when using electric power chainsaws.
3. Equipment Maintenance - Sharpen, lubricate and adjust the chain according to directions. Always turn saw off after a cut and before setting it on the ground.
4. Use safe cutting techniques – avoid cutting with the saw above shoulder height. The manual will also outline safe cutting techniques. Ron Benson, Fire Chief, or Joe Reitz, Design Review Committee can help you decide which trees can be cut. Remember, Always ask first! Call the fire department and one of the members can review your lot for defensible space. There are several good web sites that give good information on chainsaw safety. Keep a jug water nearby cutting area in case a fire starts from the sawing.
5. Emergency reminder – There is an emergency phone located in the winter parking lot and a new phone at the phone terminal about halfway down the Alpine. Do not hesitate to call for emergency help. The numbers are 862-9911 for the Arrowhead Fire Department and 911 for Gunnison Emergency Medical Service. These numbers are printed on the back of the new Arrowhead Awareness booklet. These numbers are for fire and medical emergencies **only**. When you call the fire number it rings in 20 residents. For non-emergency or information calls, call security at **862-8262 or 209-6335(cell phone)**.

This has been a busy summer for me and most of the residents. A lot of friends and relatives have been visiting our little paradise to get away from the heat in other parts of the country. Please be aware that your guests are coming to a high altitude and allow them to acclimate before going out trekking on the mountain trails. They need to rest a day or two and keep well hydrated. Remember George Hill's recommendation of at least 8 glasses of water a day and to limit alcohol and coffee. Your guests should also bring any emergency supplies with them. For those with insect sting allergies, an epi-pen is essential as we have a good supply of bees and stinging insects. Remember we are 45 minutes from emergency medical help. Simple home remedies for insect bites include:

1. Cold compress or ice pack (never leave ice on skin for more than 15 min and always place a towel between pack and skin).
2. Meat tenderizer solution, mixed with 1 part meat tenderizer and 4 pts water. Apply with cotton ball.
3. Baking soda paste applied to the bite.

Topical steroid cream or calamine lotion with benadryl.

If there is more swelling than just around the bite, emergency treatment will be needed especially if the bite is on the face or head. Any difficulty in breathing is indication of a serious medical emergency. Call 911! Planning ahead will help you have a safe and enjoyable summer.

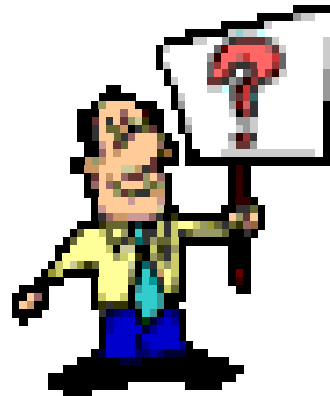
Community News

SIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Sign Review Committee, sub committee of Design Review, is sending out a letter to property owners indicating the status of their signs. Compiling pictures of each sign or noting the lack of a sign, and matching signs with current owners has been a long process. The majority of the signs are in compliance with the new regulation. The most consistent problem is that the sign can't be seen in the winter above the snow or doesn't have the street number. Placing the street number higher on the post or painting the number on the upper crossbar of the sign can easily solve this problem. Those owners who take down signs in the winter need to have their street number on the signpost so that it is above snow level during the winter. This is necessary to facilitate an emergency response on or near your property. The new sign regulation has been revised in the Design Review regulations and can be found on the AIA web site. The new sign regulation also reflects the Gunnison County Regulations for residential address code. In our mock fire evacuation drill, July 26, we discovered the necessity and usefulness of street signs identifying addresses.

If you need help with your sign, the AIA office (970 240-9599) will have a list of people willing to make or modify signs. There will be a fee for this service. When you have made the necessary corrections, please send a picture to the AIA office at Box 89, Montrose, Co 81402 in care of Design Review, so we can update our database. This has been a volunteer project and we hope that we have all the right signs with the right people, but if we don't, please notify the AIA office so we can correct our records. The next Design Review meeting will be August 14, 10:00 at the firehouse. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sign Review Committee



Community News

Arrowhead Photo Contest Winners

Scenery	"Aspens" Berry Paine
Seasonal (tie)	"Aspen Leaves" Linda Dysart and "Frosty Morning" Cheri Ratliff
People and Activities	"Log Truck" Bill Paine
Pets	"Little Blue" Lucia LeBon
Wildlife	"Baby Pine Martin" Noreen Horwitz

The contest was a very enjoyable evening and raised \$490.00 for the Fire Dept. Besides the contest, there was a silent auction held and residents could buy the photos on display. The event took place May 13, 2006. Beverages, appetizers and music topped off the evening.

Thanks go out to Cheri Ratliff, Shirley Ambruster, Stella Martin, Oscar Ratliff, Ralph Ambruster, the contestants, The Inn at Arrowhead for sponsoring it, and the community for supporting the fund raiser. Plans are being made to make this an annual event.

YARD SALE

652 Snowshoe Lane
Labor Day Weekend

For Sale: Winter clothes
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Community Ads

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Granite Kitchen countertops

8' x8' kitchen island

Window package brings forest in

Travertine and oak floors

Custom travertine/marble bathrooms

Copper penny color metal hip roof

two 10' tall garage doors

Minka Lavery Belcaro lighting pkg.

Bonus Room above garage

Elevated washer/dryer in laundry

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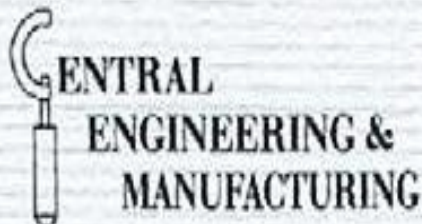
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Cell 970 250-4405
email: gdietmeyer@hotmail.com

John Hollenbaugh
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Great lot with easy slope for daylight basement design. Open view East no cleanup necessary, ready to go. 690 Crest Drive L13B11F3 \$75,000

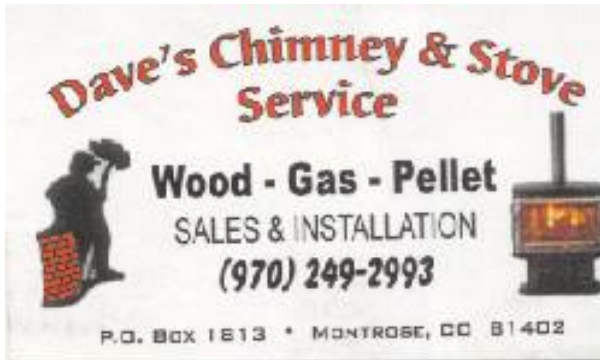
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