



RIDGEWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The RNA holiday party will be held on December 9, 2012 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Willow Springs Ranch clubhouse in Willow Springs, CA. The clubhouse is located on Willow Springs Drive. Cross highway 108 onto Soulsbyville Road, turn left at the Willow Springs Market onto Willow Springs Drive. Proceed about one quarter mile on Willow Springs Drive and you will see Willow Springs Ranch on your left. There are plenty of parking spaces available, a large meeting area with plenty of tables and chairs, a full kitchen and clean restrooms. Please include the December 9, 2012 RNA Holiday Party on your calendar. Please bring your favorite hors d'oeuvre to share with your neighbors, and if you wish the beverage of your choice. The Ridgewood Neighborhood Association will supply soft drinks, water, eating utensils, paper plates and cups.

I am sure most residents noticed that the Ridgewood sign near the Crestview Drive entrance was recently damaged. It appears that a vehicle collided with the sign sometime during the third weekend in September. The Tuolumne County Sheriff Department was contacted and they referred us to the California Highway Patrol. The Highway Patrol said they would come out and investigate the accident. When it was obvious that the highway patrol investigation was not going to yield any useful information, we decided to move forward with repairing the sign. After determining that the sign repair required someone skilled in masonry, we decided to contact at least two local contractors and ask them to submit repair cost proposals. After receiving both proposals, and checking references to make sure that both contractors were licensed and capable of repairing the sign, we decided to award the job to the lowest bidder. When the selected contractor tried to purchase the decorative stone used on the original signpost he found that it was no longer available from a local supplier. After some investigation the contractor was able to locate the decorative stone at a Manteca supplier. The selected contractor, who also happens to be a Ridgewood property owner, proposed two possible repair solutions. One repair solution was to mount the decorative stone on a wood frame similar to the original design. The second solution was to mount the decorative stone on a cement post. At first we thought mounting the stone on cement would be a better solution. However, after some discussion we decided that if a vehicle struck the post directly neither a wood frame or a cement post would be able to withstand the impact. We finally decided to go with the decorative stone mounted on a wood frame. The cost of the wood frame was \$200 less than the cement post. We all agreed that the Ridgewood sign at the Crestview Drive entrance is in a vulnerable location.

During the past year we have had several incidents where individuals, or in at least one case a group, tried to enter a home when the resident was present. Recently the Ridgewood Block Captain committee met to discuss how we could improve security in our neighborhood. For example, we discussed using a "telephone tree" to get important information to all Ridgewood residents as quickly as possible. I will be prepared to talk more about our plans to improve security at the upcoming holiday party. However, in the mean time here are some useful home security ideas. Exterior doors should be strong enough to withstand excessive force. All exterior doors should be secured with a deadbolt lock. Keep your exterior doors locked when you are in your home. We had at least two cases where an intruder attempted to enter the house when the resident was at home. The main entrance door should have a wide-angle (180 degree) viewer/peephole. Sliding glass doors and windows should be secure against forcing the locks or from being lifted. For example, place a wooden rod between the sliding door and the doorframe so that the door will not move even if the lock is broken. Timers (both interior and exterior) should be installed to activate lights in your absence. Set the timers so that the lights come on at different times. Having all the lights go on or off at the same time is an indication that nobody is home. High-risk windows (basement, garage, ground-level, partially or totally secluded, latched, etc.) should be secured sufficiently to discourage or impede possible intrusion. Trees and shrubs should be trimmed to allow visibility along the perimeter (particularly entries) of the house.

If you notice a red dot at the top right hand corner of your newsletter, it indicates that our records show that we have not received your 2012 annual dues. The \$10.00 annual dues are used to pay for the printing and mailing of the newsletter, as well as helping to fund the RNA summer and holiday parties. Also, if you would like to include an extra \$10 for 2012, or 2013, to help cover the cost of the Ridgewood sign repair it would be very much appreciated. The extra \$10 donation for sign repair costs is optional. Please mail a check payable to "Ridgewood Neighborhood Association" to "Ridgewood Neighborhood Association, P. O. Box 1128, Soulsbyville, CA 95372". **A form is included below.**

If anyone is planning to add an addition to their home, build an exterior fence, or build an additional building on their property, please be sure to contact the Architectural Committee chairmen Marty Gerbasi. Marty, or someone from the Architectural Committee, will go over your plans and make sure nothing violates the CC&Rs. Marty's telephone number and the Ridgewood CC&Rs can be found on the Ridgewood website at: <http://ridgewood.netfirms.com>. You can also find Marty's telephone number at the end of this newsletter.

Propane News

Due to our contract with Amerigas, the current propane price for Ridgewood residents is \$1.62 per gallon

Calendar of Events

Ridgewood Neighborhood Association Holiday Party
Sunday December 9, 2012
Willow Springs Ranch Club House
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM
See details above. For additional information contact
Dave Palmer at dpalmer348@aol.com or 209 352-6157

Committee Chairman

Propane

Ralph Legg, 533-4228

Ridgettes

Carol Robinson, 588-9519

Webmaster

Don Nester, 588-0782

News Letter Editor

Jeanne Legg, 533-4228

Board of Directors

Dave Palmer, President 352-6157
Bim Hastings, Vice President 533-0606
Kathy Luke, Secretary, 533-3683
Sandy Piercey, Treasurer 533-2353
Ralph Legg, Member at Large 533-4228

Architectural Review

Marty Gerbasi, Chairperson, 588-1589
Sandy Fisher, 532-3306
Karen Hebert, (408) 838-0902

Block Captain/Neighborhood Watch

Glenn Mutch, 588-8404
Robin Ronan, 533-4683

CC&R Committee Chairman

Bim Hastings, 533-0606

**RNA Membership Renewal
ANNUAL DUES**

Your 2012 dues are due. Your dues pay for the Post Office Box rental, postage, printing, annual meeting party expenses, new resident welcome gifts, award gifts, special circumstance gifts (Hospitalization and condolence), and Ridgewood web site fees.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

LOT # _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

☐ **Please E-mail me the newsletter**

\$10 CASH/CHECK ENCLOSED _____

Make the check payable to "Ridgewood Neighborhood Association" and mail to: Ridgewood Neighborhood Association, P. O. Box 1128, Soulsbyville, CA 95372



Ridgewood Neighborhood Association
PO Box 1128
Soulsbyville, CA 95372