



Blackhawk Ranch Newsletter

April 2015

FIRE MITIGATION TO BEGIN

Utilizing state grants that Blackhawk Ranch has received, ForestWise LLC, under the supervision of Colorado State Forest Service district representatives CK Morey and Mark Loveall, will begin fire mitigation on Brodmore Spur as soon as weather permits. Landowners have been contacted and signed permits have been returned. Next, mitigation will continue on Rugby and Four Mile Canyon. Those with land bordering these roads have also been contacted.



SPRING GREETINGS!

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Feedback as well as ideas for the newsletter are welcome!

Blackhawk Ranch POA Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting for the Blackhawk Ranch POA owners will be held at 10:00 on July 18 at the Walsenburg Community Center with registration beginning at 9:00. There will be no silent auction this year; instead, a special exhibit will showcase Blackhawk owners' artwork, photography, hobbies, and special talents. Please bring your items along to the meeting! Owners may bring their favorite main or side dish (as well as dessert) for the pot luck following the meeting.

Board positions will be open, so if anyone is interested in running, please contact president Nancy Pasternak, so a short bio can be included in the Annual Meeting packet.

PREPARING FOR FIRE SEASON

The Emergency Management committee has been busy contacting 47 land owners on Brodmore Spur, Rugby Mines Road, and Four Mile Canyon Road to explain the fire mitigation efforts and to obtain permission to thin trees for a shaded fuel break. Members are also finalizing plans on making two emergency exits more accessible, one to the east on Howard's Draw and another to the south on land bordering Bighorn Ranch. In addition, 911 coordination efforts between Las Animas and Huerfano counties continue to be pursued.

The committee decided to hold ranch mitigation days once a month this year on the second Saturday of each month in hopes that more people will show up to help if it is not scheduled so often. It is important because the individual hours volunteered go toward matching funds for



the grants awarded to Blackhawk. The mitigation days will begin on May 9th and run from 8:30 – noon, including lunch. If you are unable to help with the cutting and chipping, please consider supporting the workers with providing a noon lunch.

A special work session will be held the Friday before the Annual Meeting with a noon

barbeque for all Volunteers.

FIRE MITIGATION WORK DAYS

May 9
June 13
July 17
August 8
September 12
October 10

Chipper Rental for Blackhawk Residents



Several Blackhawk property owners have already begun taking advantage of the new chipper to do fire mitigation on their own properties. It rents for \$15 an hour with a 2-hour minimum to members of the POA in good standing. It must be used on the Ranch, will be

full of gas when you pick it up at the Bloomfield's Lot #63, and must be returned full of fuel. (The machine uses approximately one gallon of gasoline per hour of use.)

To make a reservation for its use, contact Terry Bloomfield at 308-991-8264.

SNAPSHOTS OF TALENTED BLACKHAWK RESIDENTS

Tom Severance



Blackhawk Ranch mourns the death on February 12, 2015, of Tom Severance, who loved the night skies of his beloved Colorado. A leader in our rural community, especially in his proactive efforts in obtaining grants for fire mitigation and emergency management, his legacy will live on in the continued safety of all Blackhawk residents and our beautiful forested land.

Tom, an amateur astronomer, moved with Cissy to the foothills of the Spanish Peaks to take advantage of the spectacular dark skies. They celebrated their 40th anniversary last December.

If you are inclined to make a donation in Tom's name, he would suggest the Huerfano County Fire Protection District.

GINA BUTTIGNOL (Lot #153)

Gina's interest in art began when she was a child, sketching comics from the Sunday paper. Encouraged by her grandfather as a child, she continued her art education from many different artists through the years. Although Gina has painted with many mediums, she prefers watercolor and acrylics. Her favorite subjects are wildlife and landscapes, and her goal is to create paintings of every wild animal and bird that are native to Colorado as well as mountain landscapes. Gina and Roger are new full time residents at Blackhawk.



CATHLEEN SAVAGE (Lot # 124)

Cathleen enjoys painting in all forms. Her most recent series of watercolors features close-up views of cakes and pastries. Her style is realistic, and she paints strictly for personal enjoyment. Currently, one of her paintings is part of the 2015 Twitter Art Exhibit in Moss, Norway. Cathleen and Don have also recently become full-time residents and are often on the road exploring new avenues for Cathleen's art and Don's photography.



ALIS OLSON (Lot #157)

Alis, a sculptor who works with natural materials to explore our relationship with nature, received her MFA in photography, but she soon began working with the landscape instead of photographing it. She creates outdoor installations as well as studio pieces from plant materials that she finds. Her work can be seen in galleries in Minnesota, and she also conducts workshops at Blackhawk. Alis and Barney, part time residents, live in Minnesota.



Please contact the editors with the names of other talented Blackhawk owners that we can showcase in our newsletters.