

FALL 2009

the

Idle Times

A publication for the Greater Idlewild Communities



If I was a season I would have to be fall. The colors of the leaves, the fireplace, the Frank Sinatra music, all put me in a good mood to anticipate holidays and family time. I join good company as I accept responsibility for the Idle Times newsletter. A gracious thank you to Sandy Jefferson (and Mark too) for their work on the newsletter this past year. The bar has been set high for my publishing and computer skills, so bear with me as Office for Mac and I become acquainted. Please send your input, email, questions or ideas to:

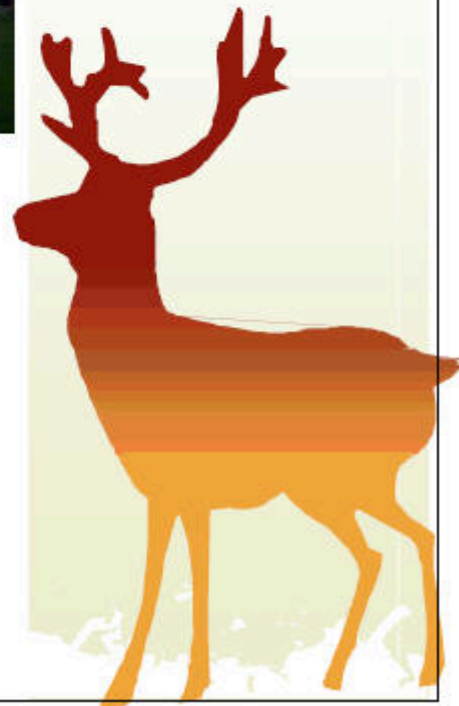
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Winter Cabin visits Page 2
Letter from the President Page 5
Worship Report Page 6
Dues Page 7
Annual Meeting Page 8
Directory Page 10
Facebook Page 11
Letter to Friends Page 12
Chairs and Committee P 13
Memorial P 14



Wintertime Cabin Visits

By Jim Herman

When the snows arrive and blanket our hillside, Mother Nature enforces a very different set of rules than we are familiar with in warmer months. Those of us, who choose to accept her terms and make winter visits to our cabins, owe it to our community to conduct ourselves in a way that causes the least amount of disturbance for our fellow residents. To make that happen requires some hefty doses of both understanding and planning.

It is essential to know that the snow cover makes everything more difficult and take longer to accomplish. Nightfall further complicates the daytime's difficulties, as well as creating its own



set of problems. In addition, the winter days are short. Near the winter solstice, our mountain is cloaked in darkness by 5:00 P. M. -- even earlier if heavy overcast is present.

Having a well thought out strategy for reaching the Moreno Valley, then getting to your cabin, and then getting all your cargo unloaded and inside, is a must. Jumping into your vehicle and blasting off for your

cabin in hopes that you will encounter favorable conditions, or that someone will be available, or willing to help you when things don't go well upon your midnight arrival, is not a recipe for success or enjoyment.

It's only natural to hope for the best, but the wise will also plan for the worst. If you are arriving late, you might be well advised to spend the night in a local motel, then attempt to reach your cabin the following morning.



Did you arrange for snow removal from your road, or driveway, or intended parking spot before leaving home? If not, your chances could be bleak. Even if you did, it may have snowed, or blown and drifted during your travel time. To my knowledge, our residents have established contacts with four local individuals who are willing to do snow removal.

Their contact information can be found on Idlewild's website, www.idlewildcommunity.org. Click on the header "Contractors Service Providers" which will display information for snow removal services and much more.

Unless you are very lucky, it is almost certain at some point that your vehicle will lose traction and you will find yourself against something immovable, or that one of your wheels is buried in the deep stuff. Expect it and be prepared. Do not let yourself be completely dependant upon someone else to get you out of your jam.

Then, there is the weather itself. As we all know, it matters very little what the Tulsa, or Seattle, or Indianapolis, or even Albuquerque television station says the forecast for north-central New Mexico will be. Our mountains make their own weather. It's even more true in the winter, which makes it all the more necessary to be flexible and adaptable.

Along with having a good understanding of winter's unique challenges, plus a solid plan to deal with those challenges, a wintertime visitor should be as self-sufficient as possible. Be prepared to manage your own mishaps.

Allow me to wear my Road Committee hat and my Board of Directors hat simultaneously for a moment in order to address a few points and clarify some others.

The I. W. C. C. Board of Directors has not made any arrangement



Snow removal

David Dening
Backhoe service
(575) 377-2414
(home)

Stacy Schafer
Pickup mounted
snow blower
(575) 741-0225 (cell)

Paul Timberlake
Pickup mounted
plow
(575) 595-3637 (cell)

Craig Vanderlie
Backhoe service
505) 603-9088 (cell)



with Frank Dodge or the Hatfield's to handle snow removal for individual property owners. The Board did enter into an agreement to pay the Hatfield's an hourly rate for the use of their tractor, with Frank Dodge serving as the operator. The sole purpose of this agreement is the maintenance of community roads in an effort to minimize the need for an outside contractor.

If you have been unclear about the nature of the I. W. C. C. agreement, and if you have used Mr. Dodge and the Hatfield's tractor for snow removal, you may want to consult with Mr. Dodge or one of the Hatfield's to assure you are not indebted to someone.

Be understanding of the fact that our caretaker cannot accommodate all the requests he receives for individual assistance. This circumstance is magnified in the winter when, even though there are very few of us present, our needs are greater and more urgent because of the conditions.

As mentioned earlier, the cabin owner's best assurance of an enjoyable wintertime visit is the ability to resolve his or her own problems.

Allow me to remind all of us that I. W. C. C. has never put anything in the caretaker's responsibilities that directs him to perform tasks for individual property owners. If Frank Dodge has assisted you with your personal projects, he has done so at his own initiative and does not receive any form of payment from I. W. C. C. for his efforts.

As long as there is a Highway 127, it will likely be a problem in one-way, or another. In mid-winter it is flanked on either side by high banks of snow created by the activity of the snowplows. It is nothing unusual for the wind to blow and drift snow back into the driving lane shortly after the plowing is completed. Thereby, stranding residents either in, or out, of our community.

In late winter and spring, Highway 127 becomes a series of mud bogs. It is passable when it is frozen, but during the warmth of the day it's a roll of the dice. Another issue is parking your car along the highway. For your own sake and the consideration of others who may be in the community, make absolutely certain other vehicles can get by yours. Remember that the snowplows are over-width. Their priority is to plow the road, which they will do, then leave you to deal with the consequences.

If the difficulties and uncertainties of Highway 127 are problematic for you, give some serious thought to the wisdom of making a winter trip to your cabin. If you are on a tight schedule and the highway closes, there simply is no way to remedy the situation. A possible solution might be to leave a vehicle somewhere in Eagle Nest. It is almost always possible to walk or snowmobile to town.

Above all, have the utmost respect for the property of other community residents. One of the real curses of wintertime visits is that the conditions just seem to make things go wrong. As careful as we may be, there is still plenty of opportunity for misfortune and adversity. I can't explain why, I just know from experience that's how the winter is.

If you find yourself in a predicament whereby you cause damage to something of your own, sorry for your bad luck. If it becomes unavoidable that you damage something of your neighbor's, uphold your responsibilities to the damaged party.

As more and more of us seek to use our cabins in all four seasons, the challenges of winter visitation will become more apparent and better understood. With some forethought and preparation, increased winter visitation does not have to be accompanied by frustration, distress and disappointment.

Hello Idlewilder,



Once again the summer has flown by. Donna and I almost two months in the peaceful community of friends and church in Amarillo, but Idlewild is just beat. Since this was the first summer after able to spend time doing things we have always Wheeler Peak, Touch Me Not, Lost Lake, and Middle many walks to the Klondike Mine. The Lord willing, hopefully our health will allow us to enjoy doing the same next summer. You can learn so much about friends and yourself on a long hike. Thanks too many

had the blessing of spending Idlewild. We love our home, special and extremely hard to retirement, Donna and I were wanted to do. We climbed Fork Lake, along with

friends in Idlewild for your friendship and company on these LONG hikes.

Well, I took a fly fishing class at the Amarillo College and thought it would be pretty easy to learn. Boy was I wrong. The lessons continue, and with the help of Chris Herring, maybe one day I will be able to master this great sport.

Idlewild seemed busier than ever this summer. The weather was absolutely beautiful in Idlewild when much of the country was burning up. Many residents did a lot of housekeeping, by making repairs or updates to their cabin. That is something we can always look forward to. I can remember when my parents and I bought our cabin in 1975. It seemed every trip to the cabin was one for work. You know we really enjoyed the time even if it was work. It would take us away from the hustle and bustle of the city life.

We are getting close to a completion on the caretakers cabin. The contract on the porches has been signed, permits are almost complete, and we have been promised the job will be complete in a couple of months weather permitting. A little landscaping will be done next spring, which should conclude this project. Thanks to the Idlewild volunteers for the caretaker workday of painting the garage, and the window trim. The next project is to complete the out side of the garage.

At the yearly meeting we discussed the issue of dogs running loose and not being on a leash. Please understand Colfax County does have a leash law. Residents that have had conflicts with dogs that were running free have been told to call the Colfax County Sheriff Department. We have been advised that tickets can be issued to owners of these dogs. Idlewild has no authority to police this issue. We as Idlewild

property owners are responsible for friends, family, and pets that are staying with us, or using our property in our absences.

The Deputy Sheriff has told me it would be easier for emergency personal to find cabins if they had larger numbers posted.

To better serve the Idlewild Community, please send all issues and opportunities in writing and signed to any board member. A list of the board members email and addresses are in the Idlewild directory.

A special thanks goes to Kathy Michael for assuming the duties of publishing the "Idle Times". Idlewild residents are encouraged to send Kathy articles and pictures that you would like to be published in the News Letter. Kathy's email address is kathleenmichael1@mac.com and her phone number 806-353-4504. 6910 Calumet, Amarillo, TX 79106

Winter is approaching, and hopefully we will have lots of snow. Please try to make arrangements for snow removal of roads and driveways prior to your arrival. Idlewild property owners are responsible for snow removal to roads and driveways leading to there property off the main highway. The fee is \$35.00 per hour for the use of the tractor and Frank is responsible for his hourly wage while Operating the tractor.

Idlewild Worship Chairman

Thank you to those of you who gave me names of ministers this past year. We had a very successful summer of 2009. I already have the names and phone numbers of 23 new ministers for next summer, and have calls coming in from past ministers who are asking if they might return in 2010!! That is a compliment to YOU who worship there and who are so very hospitable to our visiting ministers and their families. Keep those minister names coming in and we will continue to have meaningful worship services in our

Chapel under the Pines.

Donna Porter
812 W. 59 Terrace
Kansas City, MO. 64113



Idlewild Community Center
P.O. Box 225 Eagle Nest, NM 87718

We in Idlewild enjoy a unique community experience. Please help to ensure that we can continue to enjoy our quality of life at Idlewild by paying your fair share of our many expenses. At the 2009 Annual meeting, residents voted to raise the annual dues to a total of \$200. However, due to the current economic times, the Board of Directors felt it was fair to limit the increase in dues to \$175 and offer a special recognition of those families who donate above and beyond \$250. The owners contributing an amount in excess of \$250 will be recognized in the 2010 Idle Times and at the 2010 Annual Meeting.

Annual Dues 2010

Cabin owners, please remit:

Road Fund	\$50.00
General Fund	<u>125.00</u>
Total Due	\$175.00

Above and Beyond _____

Owners of lots only, please remit:

Road Fund \$ 50.00

Those property owners paying their assessment prior to January 1, 2010, will be thanked by name in the Spring edition of the *Idle Times*, and each property unit will, in addition, receive the Idlewild and Surrounding Communities Directory listing names with home and mountain telephone numbers, addresses and e-mail addresses.

Checks should be made payable to: Idlewild Community, c/o A.J. Beretta, Treasurer. Please include the slip below with your check.

Name _____
_____ Mailing

Address _____
_____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
_____ Property

Address: _____
_____ Other persons, if any, who share ownership of this
property _____

Payment should be made prior to January 1, 2010 Mail in the enclosed stamped,
pre-addressed envelope to Idlewild Community, c/o A.J. Beretta, P.O. Box 71,
Eagle Nest NM 87718

Idlewild Community Annual Meeting

July 26, 2009

1:30 p.m.

President Don Woolsey called the meeting to order and opened with a prayer.

Board Members present and introduced were A.J. Beretta, Sue Dorr, Jim Herman, Chris Herring, Mark Jefferson, Ann Knupp, Jerry Middleton, Don Reavis, Jerry Thomason, Ron Wells and Don Woolsey. (Lisa Henthorn arrived from Colorado Springs as soon as possible.)

Ron Wells moved to accept the minutes of the July 2008 meeting as published. Jerry Middleton seconded. Motion passed.

A.J. Beretta presented and explained the Treasurer's Report. Dot Wells moved to accept the report. Mary Lib Thornhill seconded. Motion passed. (Financial Report attached.)

Frank Dodge, Caretaker, thanked the community for the new house.

Joe Stehling of Hidden Lake discussed Fire Wise and safety issues.

The topic of unleashed dogs running loose was discussed. Members were told to call the sheriff if they have a problem. The county law says dogs must be on a 6 foot leashed being controlled by an adult.

A Caretaker Cabin Committee was formed. Chris Herring will chair the committee.

The Preacher Cabin needs refurbishing. Jerry Thomason will be in charge of the repairs.

Jim Herman reported on the Road Committee. Work has been done. There is a trouble spot on Road 4

Jim Herman reported on the directories and maps.

Jim Herman reported on the Idlewild website. The website has been updated. Craig Sutton is the web master.

Mark Jefferson reported on the Property Committee. The Kaye's property deal has been completed and the Kaye's made a generous donation to the Eagle Nest Volunteer Fire Department to help with buying an RTV. Jan Clay's request to buy lots is in the works. The form requesting to buy lots has 90 days to be finished. Mark continues to work with Glen Raef concerning IWCC buying his lots adjacent to the Worship Center.

Mary Lib Thornhill reported on the Beautification Committee. The only problem is the "swimming pool" on Road 9. Jim Herman is pursuing the problem.

A.J. Beretta reported on the Forest Safety Committee. Idlewild needs an escape plan in the event of a forest fire. The developed plan will hopefully be in the newsletter. The Eagle Nest Volunteer Fire Department is accepting donations for a Polaris Ranger 6x6 (RTV), which is much needed for rough terrain. Don Woolsey said that in discussing the issue with the fire department, there was talk of putting in a water holding tank on IWCC property.

Sue Dorr reported on the Property Rental Committee. The guidelines are posted on the bulletin board at the Worship Center.

Ann Knupp reported. Ron and Dot Wells will format the cabin histories.

Mark Jefferson asked that articles for the newsletter be sent to Sandy Jefferson.

Donna Porter was thanked for her wonderful job with the Worship Committee. Theo Houser asked for a vote on whether all should be introduced at the worship services. The vote was no, although it is for the worship leader each Sunday to decide.

Frank Dodge gave the Caretaker Report. Frank said he enjoyed being the caretaker. Frank was thanked for the good job he continues to do for Idlewild.

New Business

The necessity for having dogs on leashes will be put on the website.

The Board of Directors recommends that the annual dues be raised from \$150 to \$200. Theo Houser so moved. Dot Wells seconded. The motion passed.

Don Woolsey reported on the survey of IWCC boundaries, which was done by Bill Masher. Six border points were established. David Hamilton explained the survey.

Jim Herman reported on the Nominating Committee. His committee included Wana Castleberry and Jerry Porter. Sue Dorr, Jerry Middleton, Donna Porter and Ann Knupp were nominated for the Board of Directors. Theo Houser moved to accept the slate by acclamation. Chris Herring seconded. Motion passed.

Lisa Henthorn thanked Jim Herman for all the work he has done for the community. He was applauded. Lisa also said she was sorry the calendar was late this year due to the hurricane which wrecked her house.

Ron Wells, Pot Luck Lunch Chairman, thanked all who helped. Ron was thanked for all his efforts in making the Pot Luck Lunch a success.

The next Annual Meeting will be July 25, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Knupp
Acting Secretary



DIRECTORY COMMITTEE REPORT - FALL 2009*By Lisa Henthorn*

First, I'd like to apologize to all those who attended this year's annual meeting. Someone mentioned that it would be nice to have Idlewild's website address appear in the directory. As I stood before the group, I assured everyone that the address was printed within the booklet. As you might guess, when I had time to check for myself, there was no such address in the directory. That circumstance will be remedied in the next edition. Mary Lib, you got me again.



Changing topics, I would really like to emphasize how useful it would be to have an email address for each of our community's property owners. I know this is not a new plea and I know several residents have expressed concerns for having their email addresses printed somewhere. If you are one with concerns, I would like to suggest, with all due respect,

that you might not understand the realm of email very well.

I completely understand how you could have no interest in receiving email advertisements for Viagra, or that tickets to the Grateful Dead concert in Zurich are the last thing on your mind. But there are simple-to-use and reasonably reliable tools that would enable you to participate in email activities without subjecting yourself to a barrage of on-line harassments. If you would like to become more informed about how to be a

more comfortable with email, I and many of your Idlewild neighbors, would be happy to pass along our tricks and tips.

With that said, I would like to make it a priority for our directory to dramatically increase the number of

Directory Changes

Send changes to: Jim Herman, 1817 St. Andrews Dr., Clovis, NM 88101. *Or e-mail to:* jh1008@gmail.com.

Please give information as you wish it to appear in the directory. Remember that accurate Block and Lot ownership information is also important for the master Idlewild database and the Idlewild maps.

Last Name _____		First Name _____	
Home Address _____	City _____	State _____	Zip _____
Cabin Address (for example, #30, Rd. 6) _____		Eagle Nest P. O. Box No. _____	
Property Owned (for example, Block 20, Lots 6-12) _____			
Phone Numbers (Home) _____		(Cabin) _____	

Idlewild is on Facebook!

By Kathy Michael

Find us at: Idlewild Community, NM

There is no escaping that social networking is changing our world. It used to be that if you lost touch with people, that was usually it. Sites like Facebook let you stay in touch with people next door or around the globe. All those friends that you wish you had time to call and visit with or that you want to see what they have been up to are suddenly easy to connect with. You can share those daily thoughts, moments and pictures with all your friends in one posting. Most of Facebook's features depend on the idea that there are people in your life that you like to stay in touch and connect with. Whether these people are best friends, family, coworkers, or acquaintances, once you connect to them, they are considered Facebook friends. Once you go to facebook.com and create your profile, it will prompt you to find friends in several different ways. It can search your current email address book or you

can look up people by their names individually. I know, I was a skeptic too. I thought it was something just for



teenagers. All I can say is try it; you can always delete it if you find it's not for you. At current writing there are about 45 of us in

Do you have a new addition to the family? Want to showoff pictures of that new grandbaby? Catch a prize fish? Attend a fun event? Capture a picture of somewildlife? Remodel your cabin? Want to meet some more of yourIdlewild friends? Have you lost touch with an old co-worker or schoolmate? Then Facebook might be for you.



**Don't forget Idlewild is on the web
at www.idlewildcommunity.org**

To My Friends and Neighbors

By Jean S. Stevens

My husband and I started our house in the early 1970s. My husband spent several months each summer in Idlewild. It has been only recently that I (and my dog Mimi) can stay all summer. So, in 2008, I was totally unprepared for the large number of dogs allowed to freely roam the community!

Instead of pleasant walks 2-3 times a day, the walks turned into events and anxiety and fear attacks. I had to "case" the area to see arrived – and do they have a dog with them?? I started carrying a the day when my walks will be relaxing and I can enjoy the sheer mountains without having to keep a constant eye out for

After a harrowing summer, I called Raton to inquire what, if any, county has in regard to dogs and specifically in Idlewild. I talked people.

There IS an ordinance. They sent a copy to me; I sent a copy to Don the telephone number of the Sheriff's Deputy for our area for me to call.

I wrote Don Woolsey advising him of my concerns and attached a copy of the ordinance so he could put something in our last newsletter. It slipped his mind.

However, he and Frank Dodge and myself, all spoke to the Sheriff's Deputy. He reiterated that there has been a dog problem for quite a long time and it was getting worse. He has been called many times about dogfights, aggressive dogs and consequently, people problems. The fines for re-claiming a pet can be SUBSTANTIAL.

Don and Frank spoke to the attendees at the annual meeting, to wit – dogs are to be on a six-foot leash held by an adult when they are outside the cabin. The problem was that EVERYONE was not at the annual meeting! Summer 2009 was no more pleasant than 2008 in regard to loose dogs.

The roads of Idlewild belong to all of us; we should feel free to walk on ANY road without fear of a dog attack. Dogs are still wild animals even though we give them "people" names and treat them as our children. A dog on a leash (as Mimi is) is poised to be extremely protective of themselves and their owner.

Don Woolsey, our President, suggested I write something on this situation for the *IdleTimes*. So, I appeal to all my friends and neighbors to please keep your pet under control at all times. Be a responsible pet owner. Thank you.

Jean S. Stevens
244 Highway 127



blood-pressure-raising
what resident had
long stick. I long for
beauty of the
unsupervised dogs.

ordinance the
with 2

Woolsey. They gave

Committee Chairs

Caretaker	Frank Dodge	f.dodge@att.net
Beautification	Mary Lib Thornhill	thornhillartsources@yahoo.com
Caretaker Cabin Ways & Means	Jerry Middleton	gtgriffin@suddenlink.net
Directory	Jim Herman	jh1008@gmail.com
Forest Health & Safety	Frank Ray	frankray@swbell.net
Greeting Committee	Joan Hart	all4hart@aol.com
Historian	Ann Knupp	arco_iris@msn.com
Maps	Frank Ray	frankray@swbell.net
Music Ministry	Bill and Helen Goodwin	billhel@earth-comm.com
Newsletter/Idle Times	Kathy Michael	kathleenmichael1@mac.com
Nomination	Lewis Palmer	wusturner@aol.com
OHV-ATV		
Physical Property	Ron Wells	waldow2@sbcglobal.net
Property	Bob Kaye	rkaye98140@aol.com
Roads	Jim Herman	jh1008@gmail.com
Worship	Donna Porter	djint@sbcglobal.net

Board of Directors

Don Woolsey	President	dwoolsey@peoplepc.com
Jerry Thomason	Vice President	jerry_t@swbell.net
Lisa Henthorn	Secretary	apropos2lisa@aol.com
A.J. Beretta	Treasurer	aj@kitcarson.net
Sue Dorr	Member	rickbacker@aol.com
Jim Herman	Member	jh1008@gmail.com
Chris Herring	Member	cherriflyfish@aol.com
Joan Hart	Member	all4hart@aol.com
Ann Knupp	Member	arco_iris@msn.com
Jerry Middleton	Member	gtgriffin@suddenlink.net
Don Reavis	Member	nancyanddon1@suddenlink.net
Ron Wells	Member	waldow2@sbcglobal.net

A donation in the amount of _____ has been made to the Idlewild Community

In memory of _____

This gift is given by _____

Name of donor

Address

City, State, Zip

Payable to: Idlewild Community, Attn: A. J. Beretta, P. O. Box 225, Eagle Nest, NM 87718-0225

Please provide the information requested above, detach here, and include with your donation. Thank you

Memorial Plaque Order

Each plaque costs \$47.00. Each plaque has two lines with a maximum of 20 spaces per line. Mail completed order with a check, and direct all questions to:

May 15th to Nov. 1st: Louise Montague

General Delivery

Eagle Nest, NM 87718

(575) 377-3847

Nov. 1st to May 15th: Louise Montague

11536 De La O Rd.

Scottsdale, AZ 85255

(480) 585-6031

Please detach this order form and include with your check.

Each line may be up to 20 spaces total, including letters, spaces between letters, and punctuation.

Line One _____

Line Two _____

Ordered By _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Remarks _____