

Happy 2nd Birthday! to

March 2007

From the Editor

Would you like to receive the Hitchin' Post by e-mail? Just let me know, and I'll add your name to the list. Save trees!

If you would like to donate to the Hitchin' Post, please consider giving me your empty print cartridges instead of throwing them away.

Many thanks - Patsy Ward

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 11, at 2 a.m. Remember to set your clocks forward 1 hour before going to bed Saturday night.

Anniversaries, Birthdays, Comings & Goings, Get Well Wishes

Happy Anniversary to:

Dennis & Phyllis Newton - 3/13

Steve & Stephanie Toth - 3/20

Russ & Elaine Wright - 3/23

Don & Glenna Freeland - 3/26

Tom & Patsy Ward, Walter & Lillian Stugis - 3/30

Happy Birthday to:

Sandra Hunt, Meagan Coder - 3/7

Oscar Moore - 3/9

Janie Hudman - 3/10

Ryan Harvey - 3/14

Katie Walker, Pat Hammett - 3/19

Rachael Burton - 3/23

Doreen Teel - 3/24

Janson Ham - 3/26

Paul Schreiber - 3/27

Rentz Ankrom - 3/28

Ken Hammett - 3/30

Dennis Newton - 3/31

Get Well Wishes to:

...Larry Crawford

...Obie Manning

...Pat Hammett

...Barb Schuessler

...Terry & Marie Rodgers

...Paul & Mary Muncrief

...Birgit Davidson

Welcome to:

...Bill & Glada Baker

A Heartfelt Thanks to all those who prayed, called and sent cards to Obie. He is home and feeling much better. We serve an awesome God! God Bless each of you,
Obie & Pat Manning

Sympathy

Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers go out to Steve Cook on the death of his father February 23.

"The quality of an individual is reflected in the standards they set for themselves." - Ray Kroc

Weed Café Winter Hours - Revised

Sunday & Monday	Closed
Tuesday	8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Wednesday & Thursday	11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Friday & Saturday	8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Junior Dougherty - March 24

Weed/Sac VFD

- Randy Adams

Thanks to everyone who turned out and helped on clean-up day, February 17. We certainly accomplished needed repairs and just hands-on work. To those who could not make this festive affair, you certainly missed some good chow, prepared by H.B., Barb, and Pat, which was enjoyed by all.

We purchased a used camper shell for unit 831. It is being painted to match the truck color. The shell should be ready for installation on Friday. We will plan another occasion to eat, drink, and visit; but, first, you have work for your lunch. Thanks Everyone.

If you're interested in joining our organization, come to the next meeting on March 6 at 7 p.m. You'll be more than welcome!

Did you see the horse artwork on the chalk board in the station? Tanya Maberry drew a fantastic looking horse on the (green) blackboard and a fire pump being pulled by horses.

More VFD News

-Teri Alvarez

The Sac/Weed VFD will be working hand and hand with the Mayhill and James Canyon VFDs providing mutual aid for all fires. They will automatically respond to help us and we will respond to help them.

The Sacramento Mountain EMS Council met at the Weed station for the first time last week. The Council was established to facilitate sharing resources and combining training for all mountain EMS folks and everyone a chance to know each other better. The goal is to provide the best care possible for all mountain residents.

The Sac/Weed VFD should be receiving a "new to us" ambulance from Cloudcroft sometime in March. Russ and Elaine Wright and Randy Adams have worked long and hard to achieve this. Please don't forget to thank them for their continued diligence and persistence for our community.

Sac/Weed VFD elections will be held at the March meeting.

Weed Community Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for March 27, 6 p.m., at the Gosses. The Bluegrass Festival will be discussed. We would really like to have everyone attend who would like to help with the festival and other community projects.

At the recent meeting, the following items were discussed:

--Game night will resume as soon as the weather warms, there is no heat nor water until we thaw out.

--Gospel Music on Sunday afternoon will be forthcoming. Date to be announced .

--Bluegrass Festival: Shirley Akers will contact bands; Debbie Stone will do the P.R.; Francis Goss will handle the doors; Noel Akers and Slim Stewart will supervise cleanup; Barb Schuessler will help find someone to do the concession, she is stepping down this year; there will not be a tee shirt contest this year, but the committee will consider any ideas anyone has.

--Shirley Akers and Frances Goss led a discussion on having a band twice a month in the old school this summer. News forthcoming.

--The current officers were re-elected. Slim Stewart, President; Tom Ward, Vice President; Francis Newell, Sec./Treas.

Sacramento Mountain Ministerial Alliance

The SMMA is sponsoring 12 Noon 'till 1 p.m. soup and sandwich luncheons during Lent on each Wednesday from now through the Wednesday before Easter. Different churches provide the devotional speaker and soup each week. These luncheons are held in the fellowship hall of Cloudcroft United Methodist Church. All are invited to attend.

Easter Sunrise Service is planned by the Alliance for April 8. The tentative time is 7 a.m., with breakfast following the service. As always, the Alliance invites all who will go to the effort to be present and celebrate this event of all events which unites Christians. - Dulaney Barrett

Art for the Fun of It!

If you've lived in New Mexico very long, cabin fever in the winter is followed closely by "hope the cabin doesn't blow down" fever in the spring. If you show symptoms of either of these fevers, please do the following:

Consider joining us for the Wednesday watercolor class, 3 p.m., Weed Café. We have beginners joining in regularly. Come and give it a try. There is a \$20 per week class fee. Supplies can be furnished by Cyndy. For information contact Cyndy Nesbit 687-3486.

OR

If you are one that just needs to get those creative juices flowing after a cold winter, join the Art Group. Artists and Crafters, meeting together just to spend creative time as each individual works where their interest lie. Group sharing of ideas and techniques is encouraged. Creative time together is cherished. There is no class fee or charge. For information contact Janet Cliff.

Journey To Healing: Your Skin and Its Care

Your skin is a living, vital organ. Just like every other organ, wholesome nourishment is required to maintain the homeostasis (balance) necessary for good health. Come hear Yvonne Hutchinson-Saldin aromatherapist, herbalist, and alchemist tell us what she has learned on her journey towards personal and family health and her

search for an all natural skin nutrition product line. April 15, 3 p.m., at RavenWind B&B.

Area Churches

Mayhill Baptist Church - Norman Green, Pastor. Sunday School at 10 a.m., worship services at 11 a.m. Children and youth Bible drill and adult and youth Discipleship training, 5 p.m. Evening worship service, 6 p.m. Children and youth Bible study and adult Bible study and prayer meeting, Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Men's breakfast and devotional, Thursday, 7 a.m.

Mayhill Church of Christ - Marlon McWilliams, Pastor. Sunday Bible class, 9:30 a.m.; worship service, 10:30 a.m. Evening worship, 6 p.m., and Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Piñon Baptist Church - J. B. Craft, Pastor. Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.; Worship service, 11:30 a.m.; 12:30 potluck.

Piñon Church of Christ - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Worship Service, 11:30 a.m.; potluck 12:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study, 7 p.m.

Sacramento Mountain United Methodist Church - Joy Garrett, Lay Minister. Sunday worship service at 10 a.m., Sunday School at 11 a.m.

Vernon and Vicky and Vanessa Baker will be here the weekend of March 9-11. Vernon and Vicky are former employees of the Camp and the founding Pastor of Sacramento Mountain United Methodist Church. He is to preach on the 11th. All are invited. Services start at 10 a.m.

Weed Baptist Church - Wade Maberry, Pastor. Sunday School begins at 10 a.m., with Worship Service at 11. Bible Study/Prayer, Wednesdays at 2p.m. A potluck luncheon is held on the third Sunday of the month.

Weed House of Prayer - Don Brown, Pastor. Services are held every Sunday in the home of Jimmy and Frances Goss. Prayer and singing begin at 10 a.m.; sermon begins at 11 a.m. Prayer service is held each Wednesday at 10 a.m. Wednesday Bible study class, 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. A potluck luncheon is held the first Sunday of the month.

Piñon News

- Margaret Merritt

Greetings! Our 2006 grass crop was covered in snow for much of February. About the time we began to melt and thaw, another snowfall arrived. So far, I have 6 inches of snow this week! Four new baby calves are frolicking in the snow bank. They know spring is coming with green grass.

The Cook Shack is cleared out and waiting. I think the cook decided to take a break. Most seasons for hunting are off just now. Bird season and pigs and maybe javelina still on in Texas (nearby -if you count 50 miles of dirt road nearby). Hunters do.

Just why would a nice fishing boat be in spruce-up progress at Micheals' place? Because Cook Shack Super knows of a fishing place in South Texas which needs exploring by him and his grandson, and school holidays are coming up now. Have fun, guys!

The Bookmobile in January was fun. Good attendance, lots of books, and the Home Schoolers' oratory was good. Beverly and Dan Bell and Margaret Merritt were invited to a Valentine Party

at Hibbard Ranch. Also invited were a fine family from the Cloudcroft area who home school their 8 children. A program of recitations, readings, and poetry about "Why Valentine Is" was enjoyed. A 5+-year-old read four stories from Mother Goose with no hesitation/mistakes. Margaret helped hold the book. Snack foods were available and enjoyed by all.

After the recitations came game time. Ever try picking up Valentine candy hearts with chop sticks as a contest? A determined 2-year-old figured out how to do it. John Hibbard was best of the best at it, even beating old pro Dan Bell.

Another was the pinhead game which requires balloons, with lots of huff/puff going on. Eventually enough balloons acquire air. Pinheads are chosen to acquire a cap with a straight pin coming out the top. ON TOP two teams count off 1-2, 1-2. #2 line, #1 line. When whistle blows, each line tries to pop their balloon on THEIR pinhead. Orderly line, PLEASE. Surprising how difficult that POP is. One 6+-year-old popped his every time, then rejoined the line to help another "see." Maybe some of those balloons were tougher? Most everybody got a prize, anyway.

The kitchen crew rounded up the snackings and did dishes while the home schoolers picked up game debris. Fun party, Hibbards and guests!

Michael & Lynda M..... (?) Had a Super Bowl Party at their house. A house full of folks enjoyed the evening.

Another home school outing day planned for Hibbards. Bells are returned from Africa after 20 years there. Geography for the Hibbards just now is Africa. Given Prather, John, James, Joseph, Jacob and maybe Jesse Hibbard had a day of Africa and an African meal February 23 at Bell's house. Looking forward to hearing how it went. Menu was Ugali with meat sauce to begin. Wonder if they used plates? When we Merritts were in Kenya at a nice home, our Ugali was served from a pot turned out on a banana leaf. Place setting was a banana leaf. Serving utensil was RIGHT hand. No lefties. Wonder how this was. Request more later?

Must be approaching fire season. Southeast of Piñon, a pickup parked in a corral by strangers caught fire and burned down corrals. Heat scorched electric wires, also.

Meek as a lamb? Maybe not so meek depending on age, size, and disposition. My friend Marjorie was attacked by an overaged family pet as she was getting on her 4-wheeler. She's now on the couch gingerly nursing bruises. Those of us who love her are contemplating a re-adjustment of the lamb's disposition or perhaps relocation. Early Fourth of July BBQ of lamb?

CVE crew has been busily replacing poles in the electric lines I suppose. My lights just flickered. My parking lot has certainly been used lately!

Till next time, Adios!

This & That

- Joy Garrett

I never thought I would enjoy walking on dry ground so much. I just stand on it and enjoy! The snow has been wonderful and I appreciate every flake, but I was ready for a break. When Harold and Susan Ideus still lived here, we were

complaining one day about all the mud we were dealing with as an aftermath of all the mudslides we had as a result of the 2000 fire. He listened a bit and then reminded us "Mud is better than ashes". Of course he was right and all this snow and mud will go a long way toward preventing ashes this fire season. For those who are interested...my doggy door is still intact!

More Party Goods

Another place in Alamogordo to buy party goods is Party Masters, 507 24th Street, 505-437-8155. It is in the same building that sells welding supplies (down the street from Foxworth Galbraith).

Farmers' Almanac March Gardening Tips

- 1-5 A most barren period. Best for killing plant pests or doing chores around the farm.
- 6-7 Favorable days for planting root crops. Fine for sowing hay, fodder crops and grains. Plant flowers.
- 8-9 Excellent time for planting root crops that can be planted now, and for starting seedbeds.
- 10-12 Poor planting days.
- 13-14 Any root crops that can be planted now will do well.
- 15-16 A barren period. Best suited for killing pests. Do plowing and cultivating.
- 17-18 First day favorable for planting root crops such as beets, carrots, radishes, salsify, turnips and peanuts. Second day good for planting aboveground crops. Both days good for planting cucumbers, melons, pumpkins and other vine crops. Set strawberry plants.
- 19-20 Cultivate and spray. Do general farm work, but no planting.
- 21-22 Favorable for planting crops bearing yield above the ground.
- 23-24 Seeds planted now tend to rot in ground.
- 25-26-27 Best planting days for aboveground crops, especially beans, cucumbers and squash where climate permits. Plant seedbeds and flower gardens.
- 28-31 A most barren period. Best for killing plant pests or doing chores around the farm.

809 Area Code Scam

Claim: Unsuspecting phone customers have been gulled by scam artists into placing calls to area codes in the Caribbean that result in hefty charges.

Status: Real fraud, but its usage is rare and most victims are taken for only a small amount money.

Origins: This scam is real, but four important pieces of information to keep in mind are:

- Not every phone number in the 809 area code is part of this scam, and calling such a number will not necessarily result in exorbitantly large charges on your phone bill. Most 809 numbers are ordinary, legitimate phone numbers.
- This scam has been used with other area codes besides 809.
- The amounts of money involved have been greatly exaggerated (probably by computer-introduced transcription errors) as this warning has circulated on the internet over the past several years. Actually, a victim might realistically be taken for \$25 to \$100, but not thousands of dollars.
- This scam is not very common; the average U.S. resident is unlikely to ever encounter it.

Information provided by www.snopes.com.