

Fall 2013

Idle Times

A publication for the Greater Idlewild Community

Idle Times Fall 2013



Photo by Chris Herring

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President's Letter

To All Idlewilders:

The progress made in the past continued this season. We had a terrific list of preachers for Worship services and attendance was very strong. We started clearing of the property across from the Community Center. Dry weather allowed us to conserve funds allocated for road repair, so we underspent the budget.

Our fire protection efforts were delayed, since we relied on Colfax County to provide their chipper, only to find that they have changed the application rules to our disadvantage. They will only chip on Highway 127. Further, we have to share usage with the County Road Department and other communities. There are other issues as well. The combination of these restrictions makes their chipper of little value.

We have, of necessity, taken the chipping and clearing efforts into our own hands. Frank Dodge purchased a tractor and installed a blade for it that he already had. He can now do some roadwork that we used to contract out. Further, the tractor has a Power Take-Off that can drive the chipper that I purchased. Both of these items are for the sole use of Idlewild. While we are limited in the size of the material we can chip, we can chip on our own roads. The enthusiastic response of cabin owners to the need for thinning and cleanup can be continued with this equipment.

With the approval of the board I wrote to the War Chief of the Pueblo, asking for a meeting to discuss possible joint efforts for firebreaks at property boundaries. We briefly discussed the potential for collaboration in these areas before I formally requested their participation. As yet he has not responded.

After more than a year of requesting a Fire Risk Assessment from the State Forestry Division, three members of the Division completed the job. Their full report is on the Idlewild website and a table with selected results is provided in this newsletter on page 4. A brief scan of the table will show that there are a number of items where we can, over time, substantially lower our score and fire risk. We are addressing the items where our scores and fire risk can be readily reduced.

On September 24th, I made a presentation to the Colfax County Commissioners regarding the need for a much stronger fire protection response for the Moreno Valley communities. The transcript of the presentation is printed on page 5. In the presentation the Commissioners, Fire Marshal, and I discussed a number of items where our fire risk score could be lowered. Fire water storage in Idlewild was one of those items. With the permission of the board, I wrote our Commissioner, Landon Newton, asking that the County grant to Idlewild four lots in Block 129 that we can use for fire water storage. Hopefully, the county will respond favorably to our request.

There were no sales of property this year. Some efforts are under way to consolidate properties, single lots first, as described in this newsletter.

The board and I are making good progress on numerous fronts. We'll continue to evolve efficiently and responsibly to the challenges ahead.

See you on the mountain!

Paul Fahrenthold

EMS Registration Form

The Colfax County Office of Emergency Management has implemented a mass notification system. This system will allow us to keep you informed of any hazardous or emergency situations in your community. Please sign up for the system by going to the County website at <http://www.co.colfax.nm.us>, or to the direct registration address: <https://alertregistration.com/ColfaxCoNM/>.

A Letter to Single Lot Owners

The table below identifies, from the Idlewild database, owners of single lots. Ownership of a single lot has no practical use, unfortunately, due to environmental restrictions established by the State of New Mexico. With no practical use, they are seldom maintained to remove fallen and diseased timber. If your ownership is listed in the table we urge you to recover the value of the lot through a sale to a neighboring property owner. We will be happy to assist you in contacting your neighbors if you should need help. Frank Dodge, our Caretaker, has maps and a Directory that will provide the needed information. He can be reached at 575-377-3334.

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIPCODE	PROPERTY
Dorothy H. Bennett	110 Dundee	Victoria	TX	77904	B102L12
Mitzi & Connie Bernardi	P.O. Box 429	Wilburton	OK	74578	B125L16
Harold & Karen Butts	309 Parker Ln.	Whitesboro	TX	76273	B1L4
Ronald Cloud, Jr.	2643 NW Kennedy Ct.	Portland	OR	97229	B81W/2L6
Earl & Darlene Coffee	8112 Eddy Ave. NE	Albuquerque	NM	87109	B63L9
Molly Gorman	351 Barbara Dr.	San Antonio	TX	78216	B40L7
J. L. Henly, c/o Ted Henley	13028 Highway 12	Orange	TX	77632-7419	B71L8
Buster Huddleston	4504 3rd St. NW	Albuquerque	NM	87107	B4L6
Wayne Larsen	HC99 Box 184-13	Clifton	TX	76634	B97L9
Edwin Maestas	5510 Harvey Ln.	Alexandria	VA	22312	B4L2
Robert & Pam Mayes	444 S. 4th St.	Raton	NM	87740	B12L14
Dr. Guy Owens, c/o Mrs. Wm. Campbell	11 Glenshire Ct.	Dallas	TX	75225	B2L8
Mrs. Jesse Rogers	P.O. Box 10253	Amarillo	TX	79106	B110L13
G. L. Taylor	743 Alvarado Rd. SE	Albuquerque	NM	87108	B4L2
Dr. Ronnie Thomas	13875 Riverhead Ct.	San Diego	CA	92129	B102L11
Ron & Jannett Walker	P.O. Box 47	Eagle Nest	NM	87718	B97L10
Norma Whitten	P.O. Box 40	Bovina	TX	79009	B63L12

Firewise Risk Assessment Evaluation

On July 24, 2013, three members of the New Mexico State Forestry Division performed a Firewise Community Assessment of Idlewild. The Assessment is designed to provide an effective management approach for preserving wildland living aesthetics. The results of the Assessment can be tailored to a community by identifying vulnerable areas that can be addressed to gain maximum protection from wildland fire. The full report, titled “Idlewild Firewise Community Assessment,” is available at idlewildcommunity.org.

The numerical scores for selected categories of the Assessment are provided in the following table. The Idlewild score indicates the maximum risk for us due to wildland fire. Examination of the table indicates that there are areas we can address that will give us the maximum benefit for our efforts, such as water storage, increase in defensible space, and better ingress and egress. We are facing a situation that has arisen over the 80-year history of Idlewild and will not be significantly reduced without much effort over a substantial period of time. Our past efforts were recognized by the assessors during their visit. Continuing them over time will reduce our score and, thus, reduce any potential damage from wildland fire.

SELECTED HIGH-RISK FIRE DANGER CATEGORIES

Risk Assessment for Fire Danger—Idlewild Community, Eagle Nest, NM			
A. Subdivision Design	Points	House or Area	Notes
1. Ingress and egress			
Two or more roads in/out	0		
One road in/out	7	7	
4. Fire service access			
< = 300 feet , with turnaround	0		
> = 300 feet, with turnaround	2		
< = 300 feet, no turnaround	4		
> = 300 feet, no turnaround	5	5	
B. Vegetation (Fuel Models)			
2. Defensible space			
More than 100 feet of treatment from buildings	1		
More than 71–100 feet of treatment from buildings	3		
30–70 feet from buildings	10		
Less than 30 feet	25	25	
G. Available Fire Protection			
1. Water source available (on-site)			
500 gpm pressurized hydrants <1000 feet apart	0		
250 gpm pressurized hydrants <1000 feet apart	1		
More than 250 gpm nonpressurized 2 hours	3		
Less than 250 gpm nonpressurized 2 hours	5		
No hydrants available	10	10	

Paul's Fire Safety Presentation to Colfax County Commissioners

Referenced from Page 2

STATEMENT OF IDLEWILD COMMUNITY

Since April of this year we have engaged in an aggressive program of clearing slash, fallen trees and other forest detritus from the property of cabin owners. This program has succeeded beyond any expectations held by me or other residents of Idlewild.

The contribution of Colfax County and the CCCFC through the use of the Vermeer chipper was a critical part of what has been accomplished thus far. We are immensely grateful for that cooperation.

The early stage of becoming firewise, as described above, is clearly recognized by our cabin owners. We have received great participation from them and it is increasing. As was anticipated, however, now that some work has been accomplished the true scope of our problem has become clearer. We are obviously engaged in a multi-year effort that requires substantial additional effort beyond picking up slash and fallen trees.

With our current resources, the goal of becoming firewise will take many years. We need, therefore, additional resources to expedite our efforts and keep the existing momentum we have generated with cabin owners. There are two short term requests that we think must be addressed and other long term actions that must be placed on the schedule.

Short term we must have a reliable chipper and schedule. Materials collected cannot be realistically disposed in their collected form. There is just too much volume. Secondly, we need a means to remove deadfall from generally inaccessible areas. Dragging material either uphill or downhill is far too labor intensive and would require too long to accomplish to maintain our current momentum for becoming a firewise community.

As a long term goal we need to become educated regarding defensible space. This effort can be combined with a general review of Idlewild to establish priorities for implementing the needed measures.

We ask the CCCFC to assist us in obtaining the necessary additional resources and assistance in prioritizing our future efforts.

Idlewild website

A BIG thank you to our Webmaster Craig Sutton, who keeps the idlewildcommunity.org website up and running. If you haven't visited the site lately Craig keeps lots of useful links to things like the Eagle Nest weather cams and listings of contractors and service providers such as plumbers, electricians, and septic repair. Department of Transportation, utility contacts, and interesting things like the history of the Klondyke mine can also be found here. Craig also converts the newsletters into HTML so that they may be viewed on the web in digital format. Archived newsletters from previous years are stored there as well. If you see Craig, give him a big Thank You!



Why We Need an Events Committee

By Kathleen Michael

When my son was younger, I always wished there was a way for him to get together with other kids in Idlewild while at the cabin. It's always tough when you have an only child. Facebook and many other programs have made that possible. Our own Idlewild Facebook page is up to about 143 members. I am so happy to see our community use it to communicate news and weather and everything in between. We have found lost dogs and shared best recipes. Ann Knupp Matta has saved me from a coffeepot emergency and Theo has served peach pie to unexpected guests. It's great to hear about each others' cabin adventures. And yet, . . . I want to see it go further. Three Potlucks and a Hotdog Cookout per summer is just not enough socialization for me! I think Idlewild is just getting started!

I envision so many other ways we could get our kids and grandkids, and ourselves, involved in Idlewild:

- I think a scavenger hunt would be a fun idea. We could incorporate a visit to several fire exits along the way to make it a learning experience as well as a social one. Each road could have a host cabin with snacks served as teams checked in. I think an adult hunt could be fun too.
- For the older kids it would be fun to teach them how to Geocache. This is using GPS map coordinates to find a hidden treasure. We could hide several on Idlewild property.
- I know some avid fly-fishing guys around the mountain that need to pass along their skills to the younger set as well (sans hooks).

For the younger set, a movie night or karaoke night in the Community Center could be a lot of fun. It wouldn't take much to borrow a screen projector and a big popcorn machine.

- Don't think I have forgotten you older folks, I see a need for IPAD, IPHONE, classes.
- Now that the stumps will be removed from the large grassy area in front of the Worship Center, that could be used for all sorts of other picnic events, horseshoes, croquet, or ice cream socials.

The important thing is that we build memories for our kids and grandkids to remember us by, and this place that we love so much. If they will grow up loving it as much as we do, they will come back to cherish and protect it, just as we do. Please, if you feel this is an area you would be interested in volunteering for, please contact Paul Fahrenthold or Kathleen Michael.

Free Directories for Early Assessment-Payers

As in previous years, the IWCC is pleased to thank those who paid their cabin's assessments by January 1, 2014. A free Directory will again be offered to those paying their dues by January 1, 2014. These Directories will be mailed to residents' home addresses in May. Additional copies of the Directory will be offered for sale in Idlewild during the summer. If you or others associated with your property have any changes you would like included in the new edition, please send them to Jim Herman, by email at jh1008@gmail.com, or by using the Directory Change form on page 9. Email addresses and current phone numbers are particularly welcome.

Beautification Report

Idlewild is glowing green after these months of afternoon rain showers. Guests and service people are appreciative of the bright yellow road signs the board has erected. I have seen no littering and most of the properties are tidy.

We all regret that trees along Road 9 north of the Randall cabin were removed. We understand that the policy of the board to prevent the future unauthorized removal of trees is to notify property and cabin owners and the board for approval before removal.

The unfinished concrete foundation in Block 28 on Road 9 may soon be gone! A new owner, Jason Wagner, has bought the north half of Block 28 and will be building on the property. He deserves a big welcome from us all.

Respectfully submitted,

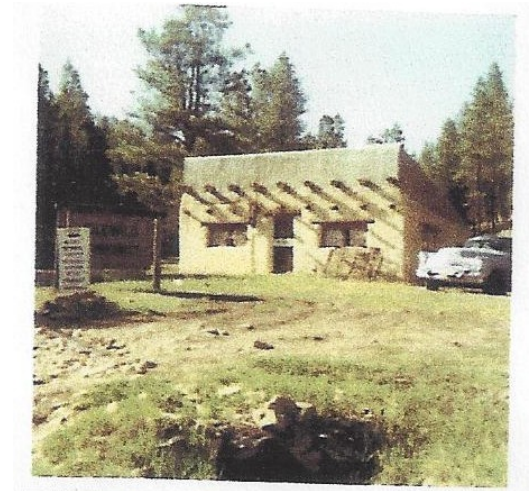
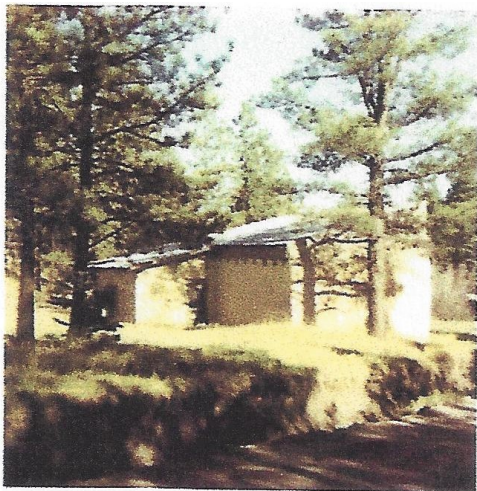
Mary Lib Thornhill, *Beautification Chairman*

Idlewild acquires a chipper of its own



Frank Dodge purchased his own tractor, shown above on the left. Idlewild has purchased a chipper that attaches to it, as shown above on the right. Notice that the chipper has no wheels. This makes it very maneuverable in our difficult terrain.

Photos by Kathleen Michael



These two pictures were submitted to me by Frank Dodge. They are of the original Idlewild Community Center, which stood across from the current Caretaker's cabin. Lots were sold out of this by day. Square dancing has been reported to have taken place in the evenings. If you have interesting history or pictures about Idlewild, please contact me or a board member so we can share them with the community. We love to keep our history alive!

Forest Health, Data Management, and Maps

Forest Health and Safety Committee Report, Frank Ray, Chair

Members: Frank Ray, A. J. Beretta, Paul Fahrenthold, Kala Marsh, Frank Dodge

Last fall, I traveled to Raton for a tour of the Track Fire area, and published a summary, after a review by Paul, of germane findings in the Fall 2012 *Idle Times*. With additions from Paul and Frank Dodge, the FHS committee also published an article in the Fall *Idle Times* listing fire prevention points specific to the IWCC area.

With approval from Paul, I teamed up with Raymond Stahl to purchase a durable, adjustable fire danger sign (Raymond's idea). We made an agreement with Frank Dodge to supervise its installation on the SH 127 right-of-way near Trail's End Rd., by a crew from the New Mexico Highway Department, who approved the plan. Installation was accomplished during the winter.

I fielded a request for special maps for the local emergency response (ER) teams from Eagle Nest Volunteer Fire Department Chief Scott Gibson (see the IWCC Map Committee report).

IWCC Data Management Committee, Frank Ray, Co-Chair

Members: Frank Ray, Jim Herman (co-chairs), Helen Hyams, Frank Dodge

This year I modified the FileMaker IWCC database structure to more efficiently serve the needs of Directory and *Idle Times* operations, making more use of cloud storage via Google Drive. I refined the Directory-generation script, automated the PDF assembly procedure, and created a "manual" covering all the details of typesetting the Directory. Frank Dodge, Helen, and I made several editing passes over the database, in support of Jim Herman's Directory production by a printer in Clovis and, with Helen's careful editing, this supported mailings for two *Idle Times* editions, the assessment letter set, and the early-payer free Directory set, using feedback from Treasurer Sparky Eckles. I exported the database, as it was defined on July 9, 2013, to Google Drive, minus scripts and formatted for Excel, and notified the current IWCC data group—the board of directors, webmaster Craig Sutton, Jim Herman, Frank Dodge, Philip Sutton, and Greg Giessner. Mailing feedback from the USPS, via Pan-handle Pre-Sort, was received and applied after each mailing. Using that method, in addition to "gleaned" information, the early payers' Directory mailing list (~200 items) had **zero** error notices.

IWCC Map Committee, Frank Ray, Chair

Members: Frank Ray, Sarah Anthony, Paul Fahrenthold, Helen Hyams, Frank Dodge

The committee continued gathering information from Colfax County, Frank Dodge, Jim Herman, and scattered residential reports regarding map and Directory updates. The map changes are targeted for a 2014 printed publication.

Chief Scott Gibson requested thirty 11x17-inch maps on waterproof polymeric media ("Rite-in-the-Rain") for use by ER teams in the field and six 24x36-inch laminated maps to hang in various ER offices, both maps spanning the greater IWCC area, and both including contour lines. I computed the contour lines from Google Earth terrain data using the SketchUp 3D CAD program and applied them to a special edition of the IWCC area map; I printed the field maps at home and took the file to Miller Blueprint in Austin for large-format printing and laminating. The IWCC will not be billed for this, and may consider it a donation to the ER units. All maps were delivered to Scott Gibson in late June.



Directory Changes & Talent Search

New Member of Music Ministry Needed

After many years of contributing his talents to our community as a member of the Music Ministry, our beloved Bill Goodwin has decided to retire from his position. Helen Goodwin will continue to lead the choir and congregation in song.

The community is looking for one or more people to play the organ for Sunday services, prepare hymns, accompany the Heavenly Choir when needed, and perhaps work toward increasing the participation of the Idlewild Band or other musicians during services. The position could be shared by more than one person to fit with their summer schedules.

If you think you would like this way of enriching our Idlewild services with music, please contact President Paul Fahrenthold paul@ctspirits.com, or Helen Goodwin, bilhel2@gmail.com.

Potluck Chairperson Needed

Potluck dinners are held following church services on Memorial Day weekend, the July Annual Meeting, and Labor Day weekend. Idlewild is in need of a new committee chairperson to oversee setup of the tables, make ice tea and lemonade, make sure the utensils and glasses are available and organized, and of course ring the all-important bell! If you are interested in volunteering for this position, please contact Paul Fahrenthold or Frank Dodge.

Idlewild Needs You!!

The New Mexico Forest Service's Assessment of Idlewild identified tasks that we need to address to reduce our potential damage from a wildland fire. Not all the tasks require muscle. We need more input from cabin and property owners to discuss available corrective actions and coordinate appropriate response activities (like a FireWise Cleanup Day). To enlist, please contact a board member.

DID YOU MOVE, CHANGE YOUR PHONE, NAME, OR EMAIL ADDRESS??

Directory Changes

Send changes to: Jim Herman, 309 Faculty Lane, Corrales, NM 87048. *Or email 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)

Email Address

Plaques & Memorials

DONATION in Memory of Loved one (NO PLAQUE)

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: Sparky Eckles, , 701 N.Trumbull, Spur, TX 79370

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

Important: Donations in Memory get mailed to Sparky Eckles above, Plaque orders ONLY get mailed to Louise at address below.

Memorial Plaque Order (This is ONLY for a Plaque)

Cost for a Plaque at time of printing is \$70.00. Prices are subject to change according to the supplier. Please confirm with Louise below.

May 15th to Nov. 1st: Louise Montague

General Delivery

Eagle Nest, NM 87718

(575) 377-3847

cell (602) 326 8102

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 _____

If you know of any deaths in our community of which we are not aware, please notify Frank Dodge or a member of the Idlewild Board.



In Memoriam:

Bob Bowen

Bill Dorman

John Guara

Jim Hare

Wade Henthorn

Stephen Pahs

Al Pons

Ken Randall

Don Reavis

June Speed

Jack Stanley

Gary Williams

Wayne Williams

Idlewild Community Board of Directors

		Term expires
President	Paul Fahrenthold	2016
Vice President	Chris Herring	2016
Treasurer	Sparky Eckles	2014
Secretary	Lisa Henthorn	2014
Members	Bill Bratton	2014
	Skip Johnson	2014
	Jeffrey Tidmore	2015
	John Forbis	2015
	Rick Palmer	2015
	Pamela Stork	2016
	Nancy Junkin	2016
	Kathleen Michael	2016

Committee Chairs

Worship	Donna Porter
Directory	Jim Herman/Frank Ray
Roads	Jim Herman
Maps	Frank Ray
Beautification	Mary Lib Thornhill
Facilities	Jerry Thomason
Newsletter	Kathleen Michael
Historian	Ann Knupp Matta
Forest Health & Safety	Frank Ray
Music Ministry	Bill & Helen Goodwin
OHV User Group	Jim Herman
Webmaster	Craig Sutton
Nominations	Ann Knupp Matta, Sue Dorr, Maxi Millican
Property	Robert Kaye
Preacher Cabin	Donna Porter
Chapel and Community Center	Sue Dorr
Data Management Committee	Frank Ray & Jim Herman

Idlewild Community
c/o Kathleen Michael
6910 Calumet
Amarillo, TX 79106

