

Fall 2016

# Idle Times

A publication for the Greater Idlewild Community

---

# Idle Times Fall 2016



---

## Inside this issue:

President's Letter	Page 2
Caretaker News	Page 2-3
Property Speculation	Page 3
Minutes of the Idlewild Community	Page 4-5
Firewise Activity	Page 6
A Word about Worship	Page 6
Road Committee Notes	Page 7
Board of Directors/Members	Page 7

A note from your editor....The changes we started last year with the newsletter continue in this edition. Please see our website, [www.idlewildcommunity.org](http://www.idlewildcommunity.org), for forms to change your address, phone, or email. Forms for memorial plaques are also located on the website. Please bear with us as we try to trim costs and make better use of Idlewild funds.

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Fall has arrived in Idlewild. We closed our cabin October 5<sup>th</sup> this year. This was the first time I've been in Idlewild at the right time to see the aspen trees in full golden splendor. It was wonderful. I hope each of you has an opportunity to see the beauty of fall in the mountains.

Next year will be a year of transition for Idlewild. For those of you who are signed up to receive emails from the IWCC the following announcement was sent out by email on 10/4/16.

(Excerpt:) The Board of Directors is pleased to announce that it has completed the search for a new caretaker. Kevin (Goose) Jarigese will start December 1, 2016. Frank Dodge will continue as caretaker until November 30, 2016. Frank will move out of the caretaker house by November 15 so that cleaning and any needed repairs can be made. Frank will continue to be available to open and close cabins and perform other such duties for those who desire to engage his services. Those arrangements should be made with Frank directly.

### **Frank Dodge Contact information:**

Cell phone: 575-595-3335

Email: [f.dodge@att.net](mailto:f.dodge@att.net)

I received several notes expressing appreciation of Frank's many years of service to Idlewild and well wishes for his future endeavors. The board shares these sentiments and wishes to express its sincere appreciation to Frank for his assistance in the transition. We also want to express our gratitude to Frank for his 20-plus years of service to the community of Idlewild. He has been a friend and a help to many and he will be missed.

*Maxi Millican, IWCC President*

- ◆ All keys currently at the caretaker cabin will remain at the caretaker cabin unless other arrangements are requested by email to [maxitoo@swbell.net](mailto:maxitoo@swbell.net) or postal mail to Maxi Millican, 110 Hillside Drive West, Burleson, Texas 76028.

### **Private Facebook Group**

Open your FB page, click on Home, search for "**Idlewild Community, NM**"; click on that to access the group. If you're not a member, click on JOIN. Members can post messages and enjoy other features of the group.

## MEET KEVIN and KIM JARIGESE

I have been an educator for 30 years, teaching science to middle school, high school, and college level students in both New Mexico and Colorado. I have also worked as an Interpretive Ranger for Stagecoach State Park in Colorado and spent time doing research at the Nevada Nuclear Test Site and in Ghana, West Africa. I love to ski, ride my mountain bike, hike, and rock hunt.

My wife, Kim, has been a marketing manager at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque for over 26 years. She is looking forward to retiring from UNM in the near future and living in Idlewild. Kim loves to paint and take photographs and is excited to have new scenery for her subject matter.

We have two lovely daughters, Dana and Shelley, who are both in college in Colorado. Dana received her BS in Animal Sciences at CSU and is currently



working on her Master's in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Northern Colorado. Shelley is working on her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing at Regis University in Denver.

We have been guests of Richard Cernosek and Sandy Chavez for the past nine years and have really enjoyed being a part of the wonderful Idlewild hospitality. We look forward to a new chapter in our lives, living in Idlewild and working with the community.

### **The following examples of Caretaker Services have been supplied by Kevin**

Caretaker Services are available upon negotiation based on scope of project needed.

Available services include but are not limited to:

- Open and close cabins
- Meet with contractors at cabin and oversee work
- Make cabin repairs
- Help clean trees and lots, particularly for fire safety

**Caretaker Services supplied by Kevin (Cont.)**

- Coordinate cabin cleanings with local help
- Other work is negotiable between owner and caretaker.
- If Caretaker cannot do the work, the caretaker can assist the owner in finding a contractor in the community to complete the required work and be the main contact for said work.



**Kevin (Goose) Jarigese’s Contact information:**

Cell phone: 505-506-8467  
Email: [goose57@comcast.net](mailto:goose57@comcast.net)

**Duties of the caretaker on behalf of IWCC:**

1. Will perform or oversee the maintenance and up-keep of all the Community’s physical properties (i.e. Mayme Marrs Memorial Worship Center, Idlewild Community Center, preacher’s cabin, caretaker’s residence, etc.) in proper condition to operate. When necessary, the Caretaker will assist and cooperate with outside agencies of the Community’s choice to facilitate maintenance and repairs.
2. Will supply a vehicle adaptable to all seasons and terrain at the Caretaker’s expense and will carry all insurance required by law.
3. Will be responsible for security and maintain a general awareness of the status and condition of the Community; will travel all numbered roads a minimum of once every seventy-two hours, at non-regular times, for the purpose of performing a visual check of individual properties; will report any irregularities or suspicious findings to the affected property owner(s) or the appropriate law enforcement agency at the Caretaker’s discretion.
4. Will work in cooperation with all the committees established by the Idlewild Community Center Board of Directors.

5. Will keep records of all expenses incurred on behalf the Community and will promptly contact the Community’s treasurer for payment of all statements.
6. Will live in the caretaker’s residence as his primary residence; will maintain the caretaker’s residence and all physical properties and grounds of the Community in a functional, clean, attractive condition that enhances the entrance to and general appearance of the Community.
7. Will consider these specified services as his primary duties. All responsibilities to the Community will be fully discharged prior to undertaking any activity for individual property owners.
8. Will maintain compliance with all laws and regulations and will provide all forms of insurance necessary to conduct business in the state of New Mexico.

**PROPERTY SPECULATION  
IN IDLEWILD**

Several property owners in Idlewild have recently received offers to buy their property in Colfax County from potential buyers who are using “EagleWeb,” the County Assessor’s public search engine of all property in Colfax County.

Since the Assessor’s data is public and contains mailing addresses for deed holders, any entrepreneur can send a letter offering to buy. It’s clear from the letters received that these prospective buyers have no knowledge of Idlewild and the local real estate markets, and are just mining the County data, fishing for “low-ball” opportunities.

The latest one the Board of Directors is aware of came from Troy Shireman, at a Tempe, Arizona, address, offering \$500 for five acres, or \$100 per acre. This did not make much sense, since this is not a typical acre valuation for Idlewild.

There is no evidence that these offers are a part of some crooked scheme, but time will tell.

**MINUTES OF THE IDLEWILD  
COMMUNITY ANNUAL MEETING  
July 31, 2016**

Board President Maxi Millican called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m. Invocation by Theo Houser.

**Reading and Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes**

Minutes were distributed and read. Bill Bratton moved that they be approved as submitted. Walt Davis seconded. The vote was called and the motion passed.

**Election of Board of Directors' (BOD) Members**

Maxi Millican presented the slate submitted by the Nominating Committee for four Directors for three-year terms ending in 2019. Nominated are Walter Davis, Teresa Griffin, Becky O'Steen, and Percy Reid. Theo Houser moved that the nominations be closed and the nominees be accepted by acclamation. Bill Bratton seconded. The vote was called and the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report**

Gabe Thornhill was unable to be present, but had reviewed the budget with President Millican. Copies of the report were distributed. Following some discussion and clarifications of the nature of the expenditures, Walt Davis moved to approve the budget as submitted. Bill Hull seconded. The vote was called and the motion passed.

**Committee Reports**

- *Roads*: Chris Herring reported that Johnny Johnson, a contractor, had made repairs to most roads after they were reviewed by Frank Dodge, Skip Johnson, and himself. The roads are currently in fairly good shape and will be reviewed following the monsoon season.
- *Worship Committee*: Donna Porter was absent, but she requested that individuals send her preacher recommendations for next year.
- *Newsletter*: Kathleen Michael is no longer able to coordinate the newsletter. The community is seeking a volunteer to assume this important position. The board is still anticipating additional decreases in the cost of the newsletters by distributing the newsletter electronically by 2020.
- *Data Management*: Frank Ray reported that after considerable effort using the relational features of the Filemaker database, the Directory is now

automated, removing duplication in the tables of the database and adding additional functionality in reporting. Ron Wells recognized the work Frank Ray has done to get to this point.

- *Firewise* (formerly Forest Health and Safety): Frank Ray passed out information on a YouTube video, a series of workshops, cabin number sign applications, and an email verification and approval form to sign up for electronic documents like the newsletter and any other community publications. IWCC is now a Firewise member. To maintain membership we must have at least one Firewise event a year. We will set up document links on the [idlewildcommunity.org](http://idlewildcommunity.org) website with information regarding forest health and fire safety and with links to more in-depth information on the sites.
- *Maps*: There are no new maps this year. The next printing for maps will be in 2017. PDFs of the current maps are available on the IWCC website ([www.idlewildcommunity.org](http://www.idlewildcommunity.org)).

**Old Business**

There were no property sales.

**New**

**Business**

Because of ample rainfall in the spring, the county burn ban was lifted in June and may have led to the numerous fireworks over the July 4th holiday. President Millican reported that several members of our community contacted her to complain about the noise. It was pointed out that state law prohibits a local government from prohibiting fireworks. Joe Craig expressed concern about what could be done locally to prevent fireworks. President Millican will look into this issue.

There was a lengthy discussion about escape routes in the event of a fire that threatened the Greater Idlewild community. President Millican announced that the board was planning to publish maps of the escape routes. Frank Ray suggested that we visit annually with our neighbors (ranches and the Pueblo) regarding escape routes.

**Adjournment**

There being no additional business a motion was made by Ron Wells and seconded by Earl O'Steen to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

*Skip Johnson, IWCC Secretary 2015-2016*

IWCC BUDGET 2015-2016

MONTHLY SUMMARY

	Income/ Donations	Caretaker Services	Utility	Worship Preach Cbn	Septic Tank	Misc Expense	Mailing Printing	Roads	Propane Expense	Acct'g Taxes	Insurance
07/01/15	0	0	(112)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
08/01/15	0	(2,200)	(257)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/01/15	2,010	(1,100)	(251)	(145)	(338)	(442)	0	(3,593)	(1)	0	0
10/01/15	140	(1,100)	(223)	0	(189)	0	0	0	(199)	(660)	(828)
11/01/15	0	0	(204)	0	0	0	0	0	(168)	0	0
12/01/15	11,000	(2,200)	(230)	0	0	0	0	0	(241)	0	(1,744)
01/01/16	14,034	(1,100)	(224)	0	(323)	0	(1,335)	0	0	(1,092)	0
02/01/16	2,750	0	(221)	0	0	0	(193)	0	(474)	0	(851)
03/01/16	1,801	(2,200)	(219)	0	0	0	(290)	0	(213)	0	0
04/01/16	0	(1,100)	(343)	0	(323)	0	(718)	0	0	0	0
05/01/16	425	(1,100)	(217)	0	0	0	0	0	(80)	0	0
06/01/16	0	(1,100)	(204)	(7,426)	0	0	(978)	0	(115)	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	32,163	(13,200)	(2,704)	(7,571)	(1,174)	(442)	(3,513)	(3,593)	(1,491)	(1,752)	(3,423)
7/1/15 -											
06/30/16	42,700	13,200	3,000	5,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	9,000	1,500	2,000	4,000
<b><u>PROPOSED BUDGET 2016/2017</u></b>											
	42,700	13,200	3,000	1,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	9,000	1,500	2,000	4,000

## FIREWISE ACTIVITY 2016

Since the incorporation in 1953 of the **Idlewild Community Center (IWCC)** property owners' association, a large segment of the Idlewild population has been diligently maintaining property, using common-sense practices. This tradition, reinforced by a tendency toward modernization and remodeling, remains as a strong foundation for our interest in Firewise practices. During his IWCC presidency, Paul Fahrenthold spent about four years preparing a formal application to **Firewise Communities**, an international organization supported by foresters, scientists, engineers, emergency responders, and governments at all levels.

In 2015, Paul and Maxi Millican submitted our first Firewise activity report to the New Mexico Firewise liaison office. A total of 84 volunteers contributed labor to feed a heavy wood chipper loaned by Colfax County during the 2015 summer months, generating a total investment, according to Firewise rules, of 14,643 points, more than enough to qualify for our first year of Firewise Activity. Toward the end of 2015, the IWCC purchased a smaller tractor-mounted chipper that is more versatile on the Idlewild terrain.

Our (required) Firewise Day on July 14, 2016, was focused on Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) safety as well as handing out sources of information available on the Internet. Sixteen people attended the gathering for about two hours, ending in a walking tour to examine the ignition zones of several cabins in Idlewild.

In order to maintain our standing as a Firewise Community, we must report a certain amount of activity by residents each year, including number of volunteers, volunteer-hours, and out-of-pocket investments. Improving one's cabin ignition zone can be done by each property owner at any time during the year and will definitely lower the risk of cabin ignition overall. We set a deadline of November 1st for our report to the state liaison office. As of today, our reported Firewise activity, largely dealing with volunteer work, but including some out-of-pocket investment in Firewise construction features and professional tree thinning, shows a total of 121 volunteers, 846 volunteer-hours, and a total annual investment of 49,918 points. Idlewilders can truly be proud of this year's Firewise volunteer and cabin improvement effort.

On September 30th, I joined a dozen Firewise representatives for a day-long tour of a demonstration forest sponsored by Philmont Scout Ranch and the Ute Park Forest Rangers. Discussions included the various types of tree thinning, forest maintenance practices, the cause and life cycle of bark beetle infestations, how to measure the tree coverage in any forest, and how to obtain the proper tree density for our area.

Congratulations and thanks to all Idlewilders who have reduced fire risk on their property. Every bit of Firewise work helps each resident, spreads the knowledge of various fire risks, and contributes to the safety of all of us and our closest neighbors, the Mutz and Gallagher ranches and the Taos Pueblo high country.

*Frank Ray, Firewise Representative*

## A WORD ABOUT WORSHIP

The Idlewild Worship Center continues to be a gathering place of fellowship. It serves as a place for our church time together, our potluck lunches, music fests, and yes, even work projects. Those of you who have served as worship leaders, musicians, choir members, luncheon coordinators, audio technicians, and repair people have been the strong core that keeps our Worship Center healthy. We owe each of you a strong thank you!! But that is not to overlook those of us who fill the chairs that are lovingly set out by our Caretaker and our volunteers each Sunday morning. Those of us who participate in worship and contribute generously in the offering plate are also keeping our ministry in Idlewild alive and well.



Thanks to all of you for what you do. Our guest ministers continue to remark about your generosity and strong fellowship. And on the subject of ministers, don't forget that you may send your recommendation for a minister to [djint@sbcglobal.net](mailto:djint@sbcglobal.net). Please list the minister's full name, church and city, phone number, and email if possible. Have a safe and healthy winter!

*Donna Porter, Worship Comm. Chair*

**ROAD COMMITTEE NOTES**

Perfect imperfection is the best way to describe our Idlewild roads. One only needs to drive through some of the other communities in the Moreno Valley to understand how lucky we are. While there is always room for improvement, our weather has given us yet another break as far as our roads are concerned. While this last year was better than average for rain and snow, the upcoming winter and spring season will determine how much work will need to be done. It is my plan to return to Idlewild during the first week of April. After the spring thaw, Skip Johnson, the caretaker, Johnny Johnson, and I will make our rounds and see what needs to be done.

There is one road in particular (Road 3) that needs to be avoided unless you are a property owner. The crest of Road 3 is very hazardous during the winter. Sightseers trying to negotiate the crest often find it hard to turn around after putting themselves into awkward situations. After discussing this situation with cabin owners on Road 3, the decision was made to put “Warning: Steep Grades—Enter At Own Risk” signage on the east and west ends of this area. It’s my advice to avoid this area if you’re not a property owner. It’s very easy to approach the upper half of the road from Highway 127 before the cattle guard area and the lower half from Highway 127 near the caretaker cabin.

If you have any concerns, please shoot me an email or call my cell. (See the Directory.)

Have a safe fall and winter!!!

*Chris Herring, Road Committee Chair*



**IWCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Officers**

President	Maxi Millican
Vice President	Bill Bratton
Secretary	Bill Hull
Treasurer	Gabe Thornhill

**Members**

Bill Bratton	2017
Skip Johnson	2017
Maxi Millican	2017
Gabe Thornhill	2017
Ben Fahrenthold	2018
Sandra Waters Gorohoff	2018
Bill Hull	2018
Bobby Weidenmaier	2018
Walter Davis	2019
Bill Hull	2019
Percy Reid	2019
Becky O’Steen	2019

**Term Expires**

**Committee Chairs**

Data Management	Frank Ray
Directory	Frank Ray
Forest Health & Safety	Frank Ray
Chapel	Sue Dorr
Community Center	Sue Dorr
Facilities	Jerry Thomason
Historian	Julia Putman Virginia Dorman
Maps	Frank Ray
Music Ministry	Helen Goodwin
Newsletter	TBD
Nominations	Sue Dorr
Potluck	Casey Bratton Barbara Gibbs
Preacher Cabin	Donna Porter
Property	Bill Colson
Roads	Chris Herring
Webmaster	Craig Sutton
Worship	Donna Porter

From: Maxi Millican, IWCC Pres.  
110 Hillside Dr. West  
Burleson, TX 76028