Newsletter - September 2005

Editor: Barbara Danz

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<u>Upcoming Special Events</u>
At the District office:

Community Wildfire Plan
Meeting: Monday,
October 10, 5:30 p.m.

Emergency Services
Workshop: Wednesday,
October 12, 10:00 a.m.

Board Meetings

At the District Office: Tuesday, October 11, 8:30 a.m. Friday, November 11, 8:30 a.m.

ASCWD

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General Manager

John Collins



OPENING ON ASCWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tony Stefani, ASCWD Board member, and his wife, Diane, have sold their home in the valley and are moving to the Bay area. Unfortunately, this means that Tony must resign his seat on the Board of Directors. Tony has been an invaluable asset to the community and the District -- we will especially miss Tony's insight into issues regarding fire and emergency services. The Board is seeking an individual, who owns or rents property in Alpine Meadows and who is registered to vote here, to fill the unexpired portion of Tony's term, that is, until the November 2006 election. No specific qualifications, other than a sincere interest in the well-being of the community, are required. The position pays a maximum of \$150 per month. If you are interested in applying for the position, please contact Pam at the District office on or before September 30, 2005. Please submit a written statement expressing your interest in the position and the reasons that you should be selected. The Board plans to proceed expeditiously to fill the vacancy.

NEW GENERAL MANAGER

In July, ASCWD hired a new General Manager. John Collins comes to ASCWD with over 35 years of experience in the utility industry. He is a registered professional engineer and holds masters degrees in both civil engineering and business administration. He also holds a water treatment and distribution certification license from the State of California. Stop by the ASCWD office to meet him. If you have any questions please feel free to call John -- his extension is 12.

FALL CLEAN-UP - DEFENSIBLE SPACE PROGRAM

Fall is a beautiful time of the year at Alpine Meadows. Cool nights, warm days, the smell of pine and dry leaves. It is also a time of the year to improve the defensible space around your home. Ground defensible space clearance is 100 feet; that is, a homeowner is responsible for maintaining a clearance from any structure to 100 feet or to the property line whichever is closest. The vertical clearance requirement for tree limbs is 12 feet. "Clearance" means a break in the continuity of vegetation to slow the spread of fire. So, as you go about your fall clean-up and pruning, remember those clearance requirements. Cut those trees, shrubs and grasses back. It will also make for healthy growth in the spring.

COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PLAN

Hopefully, you have been able to attend one of the community meetings which ASCWD has held, in cooperation with NTFPD and Placer County, where the Community Wildfire Plan for Alpine Meadows has been discussed. The Plan is designed to help AM assess and address risks for wildfires in the community. The development of the Plan is a collaborative process among Federal, State and community agencies and the community itself and is funded with Title III funds from Placer County. The methodology for developing the Plan includes the following phases: 1-Assess Hazards: 2-Develop Mitigation Projects to Address Hazards: 3-Prioritize Projects. Clint Celio is the consultant who is working with ASCWD and NTFPD to develop the Plan. To date, two meetings have been held. At the third meeting, scheduled for Monday, October 10, at 5:30 p.m. at the District office. Clint will present a list of projects which will help mitigate the risks of wildfire. These may include fuels reduction projects, projects to improve defensible space, projects to improve forest health and projects to address community preparedness. Based on the community's input, the projects will be prioritized and project worksheets will be developed. These will allow homeowners' associations, government entities and other community groups to apply for grant monies to fund the projects. We hope you will be able to attend the meeting on the 10th to provide your input to the planning process.

EMERGENCY SERVICES WORKSHOP

The Board has scheduled a workshop to discuss the provision of emergency medical services in the valley. Mike Boyle, Deputy County Executive Officer for Placer County, and Leonard Inch, Regional Executive Director of the Sierra-Sacramento Valley Emergency Medical Services Agency, the agency which oversees the provision of emergency medical services for five counties, including Placer County, will be at the meeting to inform the Board and valley residents of how the County contracts for emergency medical services and the impact on Alpine Meadows and our decisions regarding fire protection services. The Workshop will be held at the District office on Wednesday, October 12, at 10:00 a.m. If at all possible, please plan to attend.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

Many of you may not know that Placer County has implemented an emergency and disaster response plan which includes notification of households in the valley in the event that the District's water supply is contaminated or there are water outages due to loss of power, localized flooding and/or acts of sabotage. In any of these events, the District office has been designated as the communication network emergency operations center. Procedures for resuming normal operations and coordination with other agencies have been formalized. In addition, the County's "teleminder" system will be activated. This system allows for the delivery of information, both emergency and public service, via computer to customers within a specific geographic area. District customers will be notified by a computerized phone message of the nature of the emergency, recommended procedures and a place to call for additional information. So, before you hang up on that pesky computer message, listen for a short time to be sure it is not emergency-related.

THANK YOU

The Board wishes to thank Peter Murray for his excellent service to the District as its Treasurer for the past year. Peter has been an invaluable asset to the District. He has been an active participant in Budget & Finance Committee meetings; he has guided the Board as it has sought investment options and banking relationships; and, most importantly, he has assured that our cash flow has been adequate to meet the District's operating needs. Peter has recently resigned his position as his commitments as Dean of Foothill College have taken more of his time. If you have an interest in this volunteer position, please contact John Collins, District General Manager.

ASCWD CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

This summer, ASCWD construction activity has been confined to routine repairs, replacements and maintenance. Staff has replaced 10-12 service meters, taken 64 water quality monitoring samples and reviewed and approved 20 home construction plans. There have been no leaks or repairs to the water main. Staff has been doing routine water tank inspections, 3-4 weeks of water meter readings, and maintenance and repairs of park facilities including pond water quality.

