

FRIENDS OF PINECREST

Early Summer  
Edition

June 2013

Friends of Pinecrest  
is an advocacy  
group dedicated to  
the recreation  
interests of the  
Pinecrest Basin.

## Friends of Pinecrest

### E-News

Pinecrest Lake filled early this year and the warm spring brought the Lake to a comfortable swimming temperature in early June. "Heaven in the Hills" arrived early for water lovers.

**Day Use Area Construction:** Reconstruction of the Day Use Area began last fall, and is expected to be complete by the start of summer season 2014. Many of the new restrooms are built and in use. There is a new fish cleaning station at the Marina. We have some concerns about overlooked items, such as the

lack of trash bins in the new restrooms. We are documenting our concerns with the Forest Service. New ADA accessible asphalt paths have been layed. The "turn-around" at the end of Lakeshore Drive has been reconstructed.

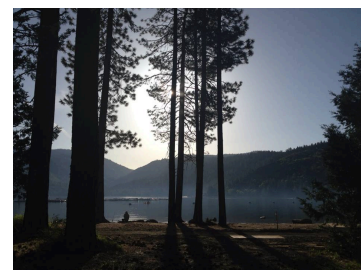
**Lake Level Status:** FOP arranged a meeting in May with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in Sacramento. In attendance were: Allen Green, FOP; Tim Fisher, Pinecrest Permittees Association (PPA); Brian Bosque, PPA Fire Dept.; John Buckley, Executive Director

Central Sierra Environmental Resources Council; and Laurie Cashman, General Manager Pinecrest Lake Resort. The purpose of the meeting was to urge the SWRCB to issue a decision on the lake levels. This issue has been dragging on for several years without resolution. SWRCB said a decision from its office would soon be made.

### **FRIENDS OF PINECREST ANNUAL MEETING**

This year's Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 20 at Dodge Ridge. Arrive at the Lodge at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and registration. The meeting will start promptly at 10 a.m. We will be voting in our very first Board of Directors! Items in this newsletter will be discussed in full.

photo by Laurie Cashman



## Tuolumne Utility District

The Tuolumne Utility District (TUD), has deployed a marketing campaign against the current provisions of the lake level agreement contained within PG&E's operating license for Pinecrest Lake. TUD, principally it's General Manager Pete Kampa, has been waging a campaign of fear, intimidation and misinformation through the local press and to TUD's residential and commercial water clients. TUD claims it will run out of water unless the license conditions are modified to allow PG&E to draw more water from the Lake before Labor Day. By TUD's own admission, 40% of the water it gets from Pinecrest Lake is lost to leakage in its ditch and delivery system. The SWRCB is aware of this situation. At our urging and that of the parties who attended May's meeting with the SWRCB, the Board has recommended that TUD's request for more water could be considered if TUD takes action to reduce leakage. Instead of addressing leaks in its system, TUD publicly blames cabin owners and sailors for thwarting the Utility's ability to capture more water for its customers. We submitted a Letter to the Editor to the Sonora Union Democrat, highlighting these issues and providing some background and education on the matter. The paper published the letter, which you can read here: <http://www.uniondemocrat.com/Opinion/Letters/Letters-to-the-editor-for-May-22-2013>

## Pinecrest Cabin Lot Appraisals

The Forest Service has approved the new cabin lot appraisals. Contact the Forest Service if you have not received yours. Or, bring your "typical lot" number to the FOP Annual Meeting on July 20. We have the information and can tell you what your new fee is. Invoices are held up by a computer problem originating in the Washington, D.C. office.

## Shoreline Management Plan

Recall that FOP filed a formal complaint with FERC regarding the lack of an environment assessment for this Plan (SMP). District Ranger Molly Fuller understands the high level of controversy surrounding the SMP. She is considering establishing a task force to tackle the issues. For this season, we expect no changes in the management of the shoreline, except for the possibility of increased attention to enforcing the rule of no personal craft and beach items left overnight on the shore.

*The Forest needs volunteers in the Recreation department and in other general forest management activities. Contact Molly Fuller or Marie Malo at Summit Ranger District. (209) 965-3411*



*Yosemite Super Moon  
June 2013  
photo by Peggy Sells*

## *Friends of Pinecrest Corporate Governance Update*

**FOP is in the final stages of filing  
for non-profit incorporation in  
California.**

**The following FOP members are  
standing for election at the  
Annual Meeting on July 20:**

**Chair: Allen Green, Lakeshore Dr.**

**Vice-Chair: Charles Grinstead, Highland Dr.**

**Secretary: Doug Wiele, Southshore**

**Treasurer: Dave Holland, Cold Springs**

**Members at Large:**

**George Cardinet, Lakeshore Dr.,**

**Nancy Fouquet, Pinecrest Ave.,**

**Keri Green, Lakeshore Dr.**

### **Central Sierra Environmental Resources Council (CSERC)**

This non-profit group is based in Twain Harte and does exceptional work on behalf of water, wildlife, and wild places across our spectacular region. FOP works closely with CSERC, particularly John Buckley, Executive Director. John has been instrumental to FOP in many ways, collaborating with us on lake level strategy and process, and providing advice and expertise in forest management issues. CSERC has a small staff and can use some support. FOP has provided a small donation. We encourage others to do the same. Please visit their website: <http://www.cserc.org>

### **Floating Swimming/Sailing Docks Update**

Thank you to all who provided historical information about the last two remaining docks that were confiscated by the Forest Service in 2011. Allen Green is in the process of filing a complaint against the Forest Service for this action. He has obtained two estimates for replacement docks that he will submit with the complaint. If you have knowledge or information that could be helpful to this effort, and haven't yet contacted Allen, please do so by using the contact information at the bottom of this page.

### **PPA Meeting Reminder**

The Pinecrest Permittees Association Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, July 6 at 10 a.m. in the Amphitheatre. Board members will be elected at this time. Allen Green is up for re-election to serve a third term and would appreciate your vote. Here he is in the photo below, having canoed to the "inlet" and now contemplating the beauty of early morning on the Lake.



photo by Keri Green

### **And lastly,**

The new composting toilet at the east end of the Lake at Sunrise Point is now operational. FOP donated a dog waste bag station for this facility. Please encourage all your friends and canine friends to utilize this facility. It is not ADA compatible, but has a very nice view from the throne room if you can make it up the steps.

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