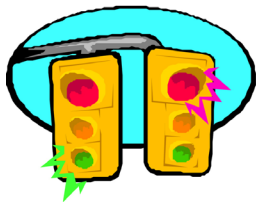


BASS LAKE BULLETIN



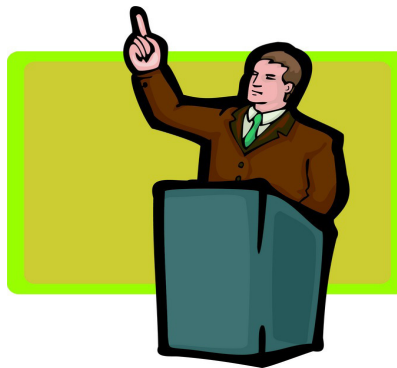
Map showing the location of the new traffic light on Cameron Park Drive



LA CANADA DRIVE TO GET TRAFFIC LIGHT

Western Engineering Contractors Inc., with a bid of \$1,007,001, has been awarded the contract to install traffic signals at the intersection of Cameron Park Drive and La Canada Drive in Cameron Park.

In addition to the new four-way traffic signals, left turn pockets will be added to Cameron Park Drive at the intersection. Cameron Park Drive will be improved approximately 900 feet to the south and approximately 500 feet to the north of La Canada Drive to accommodate the addition of the left turn pockets. Road improvements to La Canada Drive will extend approximately 500 feet west and approximately 100 feet east of Cameron Park Drive. ~



BLAC TO HOST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISOR DISTRICT CANDIDATES

Bass Lake Action Committee will host the candidates for the El Dorado County Supervisorial Districts 1 and 2 at its regular meeting to be held on Monday evening, September 8, at 7:30 at the home of Hal and Barbara Erpenbeck, 9045 Orchid Shade Drive, El Dorado Hills.

Candidates for District 1, John Knight and Harry Norris, and candidates for District 2,

Ray Nutting and Barbara Smiley, will present their platforms and answer questions.

All Bass lake residents are cordially invited to this event. Please RSVP to the Erpenbecks at 530-677-5533 if you plan to attend so that seating may be arranged. ~



THE ORIGINS OF THE LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

More than 100 years after the first Labor Day observance, there is still some doubt as to who first proposed the holiday for workers.

In any case, the first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. The Central Labor Union held its second Labor Day holiday just a year later, on September 5, 1883.

In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and by 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country.

(continued on the next page)



Typical smart electric meter

NEW ELECTRIC METERS COMING NEXT YEAR

In August of 2009 homes in El Dorado Hills are scheduled to be fitted with Pacific Gas and Electric's new SmartMeters, the new high-tech electric meters designed to provide a wide range of benefits to customers while increasing operational efficiencies at the utility. When your home has a SmartMeter, your electric bill could be based on when you use power, not just how much power you consume.

The SmartMeter program stems from a 2002 California Public Utilities Commission order for utilities to consider programs and tools that offer customers improved options to reduce their electric usage during high-demand situations. California's investor-owned utilities were directed to explore advanced metering technologies and conduct a two-year statewide pilot program to gauge customer interest in dynamic pricing options. The results of the pilot showed that enough customers are interested in enrolling in such pricing options that the SmartMeter program should realize its goal of substantial power procurement savings.

The electric SmartMeter device is virtually identical in size and appearance to existing electric meters. Dozens of utilities in the United States are already employing these advanced meters. However, PG&E's program is the largest of its kind in the United States.

SmartMeters are read remotely using a radio frequency. Meter readers will no longer need access to a home or apartment building to check usage. Once the SmartMeter system is in place, customers will no longer need to unlock gates, tie up dogs or make special arrangements to allow meter readers access to hard-to-reach meters.

Customers will also have online access

to daily information about their energy use, allowing them to make better decisions.

As part of the plan, PG&E could let small business and residential customers try new ways of paying for power. Those who volunteer would receive lower rates in return for agreeing to use less energy at times when electricity demand is at its highest—typically, energy usage is at its highest from 3:00 to 7:00 P.M. on summer days when air conditioners are running full-blast. Because the SmartMeter system records each electric meter's usage every hour, customers will be able to voluntarily take advantage of electricity prices that vary by season and time of day potentially reducing their bills by shifting their energy use from peak to off-peak periods.

The ability to reduce peak load on the very hottest days by providing financial incentives to customers who voluntarily shift electricity usage away from critical peaks will reduce PG&E's need to purchase power to meet demand at the most critical times, help avoid strain on the power grid, and help reduce reliance on fossil-fuel generation.

To achieve these benefits, the CPUC has approved PG&E's proposal to offer customers a Critical Peak Pricing (CPP) option. Residential customers who voluntarily enroll in the CPP program will reduce their electric rates by nearly 3 cents per kilowatt hour from June 1 to September 30 during non-CPP events. During a CPP event, enrolled residential customers would pay a 60 cent per kWh surcharge in addition to their regular rates for energy used between 2 and 7 p.m. The number of CPP events would be limited to no more than 15 per year, and only from May 1 to October 31, but typically a CPP event would occur only on the hottest days of summer.

However, a typical CPP customer who reduces energy usage by about 25 percent just during those CPP hours will save about 10 percent on electric bills during the four-month summer rate period. CPP rates have been available to customers with SmartMeter devices since the spring of 2007. PG&E estimates that only about 15 percent of its customers will need to enroll in CPP for the SmartMeter program to offset 10 percent of its projected cost.

The SmartMeter system will also make it easier for customers to enroll in a separate program called time-of-use rates, which now require the installation of a special electric meter and payment of a monthly fee for that meter.

PG&E's investment to deploy the new

SmartMeter technology throughout PG&E's service territory is estimated to be \$1.74 billion, consisting of \$1.41 billion of capital and an estimated expense of \$330 million. PG&E projects that these costs will be offset through operational and power procurement savings achieved by the use of these advanced meters.

To fund the deployment of the SmartMeter program, PG&E is seeking slight rate increases. For the average residential customer with both gas and electric service, the increase ranges from 49 to 99 cents per month for the first five years, or about 1 percent, and decreases each year afterward. After this initial period, it is projected that future rates will reflect savings generated by the SmartMeter program.

PG&E expects the new equipment eventually to save money by making meter-reading far less labor-intensive and by encouraging customers to cut power consumption. But The Utility Reform Network, a utility watchdog group, questions how much residential customers will be able to reduce their electricity use during high-demand days. "We're going to pay out one and a half billion (dollars) and hope we get some benefits in 12 years," said Marcel Hawiger, staff attorney for the watchdog group.

For more information about Pacific Gas and Electric Company's SmartMeter program, visit www.pge.com/smartmeter or www.pge.com/news. ~

LABOR DAY *(continued)*

Through the years the nation gave increasing emphasis to Labor Day. The first state to officially recognize Labor Day was Oregon on February 21, 1887. During that year four more states — Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York — created the Labor Day holiday by legislative acts. By the end of the decade Connecticut, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania had followed suit.

By 1894, 23 other states had adopted the holiday in honor of workers, and on June 28 of that year, Congress passed an act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories.

The original forms that the observance and celebration of Labor Day took were a street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and *esprit de corps* of the trade and labor organizations" of the community, followed by a festival for the recreation and amusement of the workers and their families. This became the pattern for the celebrations of Labor Day.

(continued on next page)

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Hello Everyone,

The other day Fran and I returned from a motoring trip that had taken us to Grand Junction, Colorado, to the Western States Meet, a convention of Jaguar car owners held under the auspices of Jaguar Car Clubs of America. The meet included a car rally, a concours d'elegance, a visit to a car museum, and various local sight-seeing trips in the local area. The scenery was beautiful, as those of you who have been to that part of Colorado know.

On the way to Colorado we passed through beautiful countryside, ranging from tall mesas and arid deserts to vast salt flats. Highway 80 wound up and over high mountain passes and crossed endless miles of what seemed like nothingness. My favorite pastime was watching how the highway paralleled the railroad tracks, sometimes running close to the road, other times disappearing behind a mountain.

Then it was all over, time to pack up, and the homeward trip began, retracing our way back to El Dorado Hills.

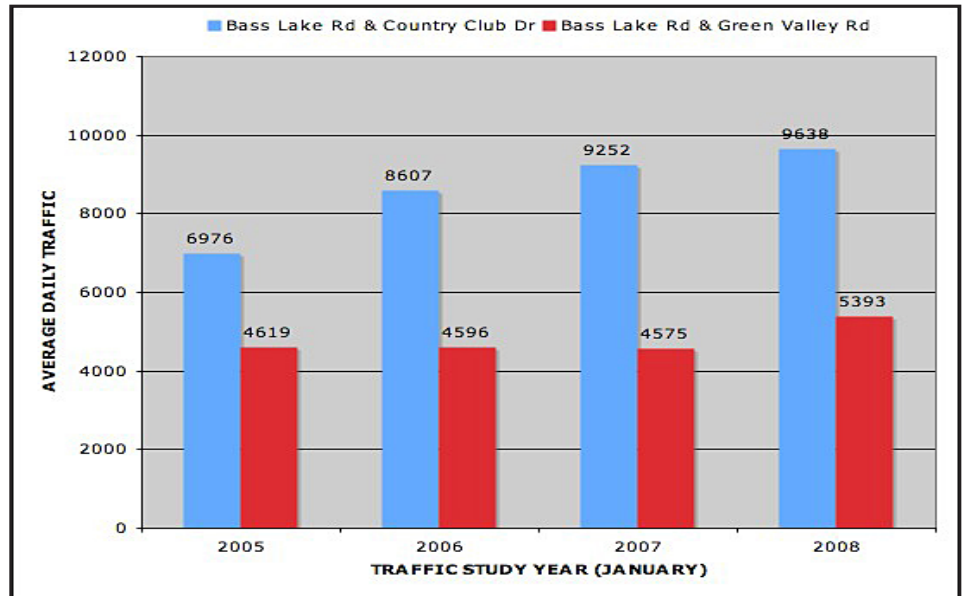
Back through Utah and Nevada, through Reno, then Carson City, then the climb up the east side of the Sierras on Highway 50, and then over the crest, and there it was: Lake Tahoe, sparkling blue in the sun. What a glorious sight!

To celebrate getting back to our own stomping grounds, we had lunch at Friday's Station atop Harrah's Casino, where we again drank in the spectacular vista of Lake Tahoe.

As we came down Highway 50 through the national forest, we marveled at where we live. We had been through magnificent country, but we realized that we live in one of the best places in the world right here in El Dorado County.

We decided then and there that Dorothy, in the *Wizard of OZ*, was right when she said, "There's no place like home!"

John E. Thomson
President



Graph showing the increase in traffic along Bass Lake Road

TRAFFIC INCREASING ON BASS LAKE ROAD

The January 2008 traffic count for the southern portion of Bass Lake Road shows that average daily traffic (ADT) has increased by about 400 cars per day since the January 2007 traffic count, from 9,252 vehicles per day to 9,638 vehicles per day. The southern survey is taken near the Bass Lake Road's intersection with Country Club Drive.

Compared to the 2005 ADT of 6,976 vehicles per day, the 2008 ADT is an increase of 2,662 vehicles per day, or a 40% increase in daily traffic along the southern portion of Bass Lake Road over the last three years.

The January 2008 traffic count for the northern portion of Bass Lake Road shows that the ADT has increased by about 800 cars per day since the January 2007 traffic count, from 4,575 vehicles per day to 5,393 vehicles per day. From 2005 to 2007 the northern ADT stayed at about 4,600 vehicles per day, until the recent jump in traffic last year. The northern survey is taken near the road's intersection with Green Valley Road.

Improvements to the southern portion of Bass Lake Road will probably be delayed until the resumption of housing development along that stretch of the road, as the developers must fund the road improvements under their existing development agreements. The recent slump in housing has postponed both home building and the related road improvements.

On the northern stretch of Bass Lake Road, funding is in place for construction to begin next spring on Silver Springs Parkway that

will connect Bass Lake Road to Green Valley Road. Right-of-way problems seem to have been resolved for the southern end of the parkway and the county Department of Transportation is moving forward in the preconstruction phase.

Bass Lake residents will be able to get an update on Bass Lake Road improvements from the county Department of Transportation at a BLAC meeting later this year. ~

LABOR DAY (continued)

The character of the Labor Day celebration has undergone a change in recent years, especially in large industrial centers where mass displays and huge parades have proved a problem. This change, however, is more a shift in emphasis and medium of expression. Labor Day addresses by leading union officials, industrialists, educators, clerics and government officials are given wide coverage in newspapers, radio, and television.

The vital force of labor added materially to the highest standard of living and the greatest production the world has ever known and has brought us closer to the realization of our traditional ideals of economic and political democracy. It is appropriate, therefore, that the nation pay tribute on Labor Day to the creator of so much of the nation's strength, freedom, and leadership — the American worker. ~





Bass Lake's own Oak Knoll Park, which has been recently vandalized

VANDALISM PLAGUES BASS LAKE AREA

Representatives of Bass Lake Action Committee (BLAC) met recently with El Dorado Hills Community Services District (CSD) park management to discuss the recent spate of vandalism attributed to juveniles in the Hills of El Dorado and WoodRidge neighborhoods.

Vandalism damage has been ongoing and escalating, and the cost is not borne by the EDHCSD. Money for repairing vandalism comes out of the cash reserves of the Bass Lake Village Lighting and Landscape Assessment District (LLAD) that is comprised of the neighborhoods of WoodRidge and The Hills of El Dorado.

The entry sign for the Hills was recently damaged, and the cost of repairs is estimated to be in the thousands of dollars.

The recent wildfire that damaged the open space belonging to the LLAD along Bass Lake Road in front of the Hills of El Dorado was probably arson, according to the fire department.

The landscape lights at the WoodRidge entry were repeatedly damaged until they were recently replaced with vandal-proof lighting.

Oak Knoll Park has suffered broken sprinkler systems, broken lights, broken windows, and broken roof tiles at the club house. Incidents of graffiti have increased, which may indicate incipient gang activity. Pool furniture has been thrown in the pool.

The CSD is operating a separate security patrol to cover Oak Knoll Park, and Kalithea

Park at the Promontory, every night. They report having similar problems at Kalithea Park, and other CSD parks, but nothing that approaches the level of vandalism that is being experienced at Oak Knoll Park. While the juveniles involved in the vandalism are not known at this time, authorities tell us they are typically local teenagers

The CSD has also been filing reports with the Sheriff with the hope that enough complaints will result in more frequent patrols. The graffiti complaint has been handed over to the Sheriff's gang detail.

Hills of El Dorado residents each pay an assessment of \$99.00 a year into the LLAD, while Woodridge residents each pay an assessment of \$299.00 a year into the LLAD. The Hills of El Dorado assessments generally cover the upkeep of its landscaping and entry sign on Magnolia Hills Drive and the streetlights in the Hills. The WoodRidge

assessments generally cover the upkeep of its landscaping and entry sign on Madera Drive and the streetlights in WoodRidge. WoodRidge residents also pay for all the expenses of maintaining Oak Knoll Park.

Neighbors are urged to report any suspicious neighborhood activity at any time to the Sheriff at 621-6600. Residents are cautioned to avoid confronting suspicious individuals. ~

August

*Birds fly in formation;
Tree leaves sway from side to side;
Clouds gather in small huddles,
discussing the weather;
Grass shoots shoot up once more,
their roots replenished;
A Phoenix nearby hums his Ode;
Tranquility is in place,
after the long bitter wait;
Alive, now, is the world.*

- J. I. Stuart

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