

YWPHI Newsletter: Editor Harry Hagan was not present. Anyone with suggestions or wishing to contribute articles for inclusion in the newsletter is encouraged to contact Harry.

Fire Safety: Fire Safety Chair, John Mock, expressed thanks to the National Park Service (NPS) and specifically to NPS personnel for their efforts to aid Yosemite West with fuel reduction on Park property adjacent to our community. Last year the NPS performed further fuel reduction on Park property bordering Henness Circle.

This year, NPS will implement a fuel reduction program along the entry road to Yosemite West. Also, on September 25, 2004 there will be an NPS sponsored fire-safety meeting in Yosemite Valley. It will focus on presentation of a preliminary fire safety study (by a consultant, Wildland Fire Associates) for Yosemite West.

John estimated that response time for fire engines to reach Yosemite West is 45-60 minutes. Residents have been training in the use of fire hoses, hydrants, etc. with the goal of isolating a fire until help arrives. The next training session will be on September 11, 2004. All community members are encouraged to attend the training sessions.

The Mariposa County Fire Department has been working on firesafe assessment reports for each house in Yosemite West. First drafts will be shown at the September 25 meeting. It is based on data collected in May, 2004 by Assistant Fire Chief Jim Middleton with the assistance of Yosemite West Community volunteers. Homes are assigned a color code based on evaluation of specific firesafe criteria. The color code ranges from red, orange, yellow to green, with red the worst prepared and green the best prepared. No Yosemite West homes earned the green rating.

Kay Pitts asked the Board to consider purchasing a siren for use during fires.

Website: Thanks to the efforts of webmaster Kim O'Neil, the new YWPHI website is up and running at www.yosemitewest.org. Please visit the site for community information.

Old Business:

Maintenance District Update: Don Pitts (Yosemite West Maintenance Advisory Committee Member) presented a summary of the sewer repair situation. Target date for completion of the project is November, 2004, although it may slip to next Spring. No building permits will be issued until the repair is completed and tested.

Concern was expressed over the pH level of Yosemite West water. Treatment by the County to stop the leaching of copper from pipes within homes has not been successful. George Barber pointed out that the concrete seals within the water distribution system are probably being impacted by the acidic water also. The Maintenance Advisory Committee recommended a prohibition on export of water from Yosemite West, but it has not yet been acted on by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors. Lastly, the roads were patched again this year.

Yosemite West Planning Advisory Committee (YWPAC) Update: YWPAC is continuing to develop a Special Plan for Yosemite West which should complement the new County General Plan (in progress). The Planning Advisory Committee consists of seven Yosemite West property owners, with support from personnel from the Mariposa County Planning Department. Drafts can be obtained from the Planning Department (209-966-5151). Some of the issues which are being addressed include home building footprints, the number of rentals allowed per person, outside lighting, parking, and rental check-in facilities. The committee is advisory in nature, and final determinations will be made by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors following public input.

Memorial Day Clean-Up: The 2004 memorial Day Clean-Up was very successful. The participation level was significantly higher this year compared to past years. Residents are