



Friends of Boggs Mountain

P.O. Box 735 ~ Cobb, CA 95426

www.boggsmountain.org

NEWSLETTER

Volume 7, Issue 3

September, 2011

AUTUMN IN THE FOREST

The leaves began to fall as if they were programmed to start dropping on the 1st day of... fall. By now the trails are powdery from the summer activities and the forest is thirsty, very thirsty. Thus begins another transition; the passing and rebirth of some of our favorite things, like the Braken Ferns, Spikenard, Cow Parsnip and Giant Horsetail. They have added so much to our enjoyment these past months, but the excitement of knowing what is about to come lessens the empty feeling we get as the Black Oaks lose their leaves and the forest floor loses so much of its cover. But alas, the Snowberry Bushes and the Coffeeberry Bushes are laden with berries, as are the Blackberries, Manzanitas and Dogwoods. As the rains begin, we will start to discover a rebirth of wildflowers, mushrooms, and other changes throughout the forest. Every season has its own rewards, and change is what feeds our souls as we wander about the forest, intoxicated by the beauty surrounding us.

RESTROOM PROJECT FLUSHED

“Funding denied” was the response from Calpine’s Cobb Geothermal Mitigation Fund Committee regarding our application for funds to build a public restroom in the Boggs Forest parking lot and to move the current outhouse to another location.

Before we submitted our application, we learned that a group representing a local horsemen’s association had applied for funding to build an outhouse in the Horse Camp, and their application was approved over a year ago, but they had not yet started their project. When Committee Chairman Robert Stark learned of our plans to apply for a restroom, he arranged a meeting with CalFire representative Joe Mathews and the two applicants of the Horse Camp project. It was agreed between the four of them that rather than having to fund an outhouse and a restroom both, by moving the outhouse from the parking lot to the horse camp, it would leave more money in the community fund for other local improvements. Unfortunately, CalFire management had simultaneously made a commitment to a local 4-wheel group to move the outhouse to their camp, which is located in the northeastern part of the forest, so we had to include in our application the cost of moving the outhouse to the 4-wheeler’s “Crawlers Camp”.

In the Fund Committee's response to our application, Stark cited that there were other issues in the forest that were not being addressed or considered in advance of such a large project where a facility (Horse Camp) currently exists, and the Committee would prefer to look towards partial funding with an equal or greater share coming from CalFire (Division of Forestry) or other forest related groups. They also had concerns regarding maintenance and repairs, and would there be an ongoing commitment from CalFire Forest Management or their replacement to do that. What action we will take on the status of this matter will be discussed at our quarterly board meeting.....

**FRIENDS OF BOGGS MOUNTAIN -
QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING**
Thursday, October 13 at 7 p.m.
Cobb Area County Water District Office
~Members and public are welcome~

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OTHER FOREST NEWS:

Our July 2nd Saturday morning TALK on the natural history of Lake County with special guest speaker, Dr. Harry Lyons, was a huge success. The outdoor event was literally standing room only with over 80 people enjoying his presentation. Comments like "really interesting", "totally entertaining", "what a character" and "I go to all of his public appearances" were just a few of the many praises flying about on the Interpretive Trail (IT) after his TALK.

Speaking of the IT, for those of you who are slower paced and have been asking about easier hikes, we have them and we hope you will take advantage of the opportunity. Take a casual, educational fall walk with Darlene. See the schedule below and treat yourself to one of her memorable walks in Boggs Forest.

On a recent hike with her, we were surprised and delighted to find, as we came up the IT to Road 500, a new, permanent bridge across the drainage ditch where the IT continues on the other side. Made with a culvert, large boulders, rocks and ground asphalt, the little bridge was way more than we could have imagined. Our previous wooden structure was dislodged by a horse and needed repairs, but the bridge disappeared before we could do it, and we were working on plans for a new one when this one suddenly appeared. I emailed the Forest Manager to see if she knew who the Good Samaritans might be and was told that her husband and son, Kelly and Nathan Fletcher were the builders of the new bridge and we are grateful for their generous contribution that will be enjoyed for years to come. Thanks, gentlemen!

Calfire has started charging a \$10.00 fee for overnight camping in Calso Campground, and we now have 10 mph speed limit signs on our forest roads and 5 mph in the

campground, so watch your speed next time you visit. For all the pedestrian, mountain bike and equestrian traffic using the forest roads, this is a welcome change.

Coming events:

In honor of THE BIG READ, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, we are having a mystery hike with Edgar Allan Poe on Saturday, October 15 at 9 a.m. Come enjoy a 3.8 mile hike filled with a round-robin reading of *The Tell-Tale Heart*, a discussion of ravens and crows and a reading of *The Raven* and maybe we'll find some surprises as we stroll through the forest. Allow about 3 hours for the event and dress appropriately for the weather in either 19th century or 21st century garments with sensible shoes. See hike schedule for more information.

The following day, Sunday, October 16, if you are a marathon runner, or would like to volunteer to help, there will be a 50K Run beginning at 8:30 a.m. For more information about the race, go to: <http://www.bogqsmountainboogie.com/> or to volunteer, email fobm@mediacombb.net

TRAIL MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8 at 9 a.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20 at 9 a.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17 at 9 a.m.

Allow 2-3 hours; bring water, work gloves and a hand tool of your choice. We have tools available also. We meet in the Boggs parking lot.

If you would like more information, Call or email:

David Thiessen – 928-0465

Boone Lodge – 928-5819

fobm@mediacombb.net

We are very grateful to our most recent volunteers:

Darlene Hecomovich, Ron Haworth, Bill Sullivan & Boone Lodge

Our member support is critical to our survival, and we like to recognize and thank the most recent renewing and new members:

Teresa Marks, Cobb; Ian vanZyl & Ewa Konopka, Cobb; Kenneth Roberts, Loch Lomond; Jim & Barbara Rothberg, Cobb; Reikor & Saro Deacon, Cobb; Milt & Jan Andreasen, Cobb; Rick & Carol Magill, Cobb; L. Boyd Green, Cobb; Suzy Pearson, Lower Lake; Eric Sims, Deer Park; Corey Dahline, Angwin.



TAKE A HIKE *with* **FRIENDS OF BOGGS MOUNTAIN –**

- **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2 at 7a.m.** – 10-14 mile strenuous hike with Carol on the Glen Eden Trail. Wear sturdy shoes, bring lots of water and snack. Reservations are required: 928-5423 or c.magill@mchsi.com
- **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9 at 9 a.m.** – 4 mile moderately-paced hike with Boone on various Boggs forest trails. Bring water, a snack and wear sturdy shoes. We meet in the Boggs parking lot. Questions? fobm@mediacombb.net Boone 928-5819
- **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15 at 9 a.m.** – 3.8 mile moderately-paced hike with EDGAR ALLAN POE, honoring THE BIG READ, sponsored by The National Endowment of the Arts. Hike will be interspersed with poetry, a discussion of Ravens and Crows and a round-robin reading of *THE TELL-TALE HEART*. We meet at the covered kiosk in Boggs parking lot. For more information: fobm@mediacombb.net Boone 928-5819
- **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23 at 10 a.m.** – 6 mile fast-paced hike with Carol on various Boggs trails. Wear sturdy shoes, bring lots of water and snacks. We meet in the parking lot, Boggs forest. Reservations are required. 928-5423 or c.magill@mchsi.com
- **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26 at 9 a.m.** – 1.3 mile comfortably-paced hike with Darlene on the Interpretive Trail. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water; We meet at the covered kiosk in the parking lot and hike begins promptly at 9 a.m. For more information: 928-5591 or heco@mchsi.com
- **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5 at 10 a.m.** – 3 mile moderate-paced hike with Boone on various Boggs trails. Bring water, a snack and wear sturdy shoes. We meet in the Boggs parking lot. fobm@mediacombb.net Boone 928-5819
- **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13 at 9 a.m.** – 1.3 mile comfortably-paced informative hike with Darlene on the Interpretive Trail. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water; We meet at the covered kiosk in the parking lot and hike begins promptly at 9 a.m. For more information: 928-5591 or heco@mchsi.com
- **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19 at 8 a.m.** – 10-12 mile strenuous hike with Carol on the Oat Hill Mine Trail in Calistoga. Wear sturdy shoes, bring lots of water and snacks. Reservations are required. 928-5423 or c.magill@mchsi.com
- **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 at 9 a.m.** – 4.5 mile moderately-paced hike with Boone on Boggs trails. Bring water, a snack and wear sturdy shoes. We meet in the Boggs parking lot. Questions? fobm@mediacombb.net or 928-5819
- **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7 at 9 a.m.** – 2.25 mile moderately-paced hike with Darlene on Boggs trails. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. We meet at the covered kiosk in the parking lot and hike begins promptly at 9 a.m. For more information: 928-5591 or heco@mchsi.com

- **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 at 10 a.m.** – 5-7 mile fast-paced hike with Carol on Boggs trails. Wear sturdy shoes, bring water and a snack. We meet in the Boggs parking lot. Reservations are required. 928-5423 or c.magill@mchsi.com

This newsletter was compiled and edited by H. Boone Lodge