

Grocery Store  
Ice  
Beer  
Soda  
Snacks  
Dairy

Bar

8 Draft Beers

Happy Hour

4 HD TVs

Weekly Promotions

**The Crossroads at Lake Berryessa**  
Grocery Store: Mon - Thurs: 9:30 AM - 8 PM  
Fri: 9:30 AM - 9 PM, Sat: 8 AM - 9 PM  
Sun: 8 AM - 8 PM

Restaurant: Mon - Thurs: 11:30 AM - 8 PM  
Fri: 11:30 AM - 9 PM, Sat: 8 AM - 9 PM  
Sun: 8 AM - 8 PM

Bar: Mon - Fri: 2 PM to Last Call, Sat - Sun: 12 PM to Last Call  
Breakfast Sat. & Sun. from 8 AM to 11:30 AM  
Pizza served daily from 4 PM to Closing

At the Crossroads of Hwy 121, Hwy 128, and Steele Canyon Road  
Phone: 707-255-5455  
Email: [thecrossroadslakeberryessa@yahoo.com](mailto:thecrossroadslakeberryessa@yahoo.com)  
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Lake Berryessa Boat Repair

## Winterization Special

**Don't Store Your Boat Without Winterizing It!**

**\$\$\$\$\$ Winterizing Your Boat Will Save You Lots of Money Next Spring \$\$\$\$\$\$**

Winterizing your boat will eliminate:

Hard starting issues

Damage to fuel injectors, carburetor, fuel lines

Cracked blocks, manifolds, and water lines

\*\*\*\*\*

Winterization consists of stabilizing fuel; fogging the engine with special fogging oil;  
draining manifolds, engine blocks, and all hoses;

lubricating hoses and drain plugs; replacing drain plugs as needed;

spraying entire engine and electrical system with an anti-corrosion lubricant that displaces moisture.

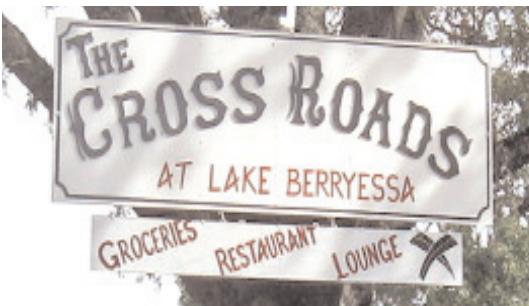
\*\*\*\*\*

**Call Marty to schedule an appointment ~ (707) 966-9954**

**20% Off All Boat Covers!**

**Lake Berryessa Boat Repair**

**20% Off All Boat Covers!**



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Breakfast  
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Friday & Saturday  
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Pizza

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# The Lake Berryessa News

[www.LakeBerryessaNews.com](http://www.LakeBerryessaNews.com)

1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558

Your Best Source for News of Lake Berryessa and our Napa Back Roads!

October, 2011



Lake Berryessa - The Map - Page 6

End of Summer Special!

30% Off All Boat & Jet Ski Rentals for  
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If a man is offered a fact which goes against his instincts, he will scrutinize it closely, and unless the evidence is overwhelming, he will refuse to believe it. If, on the other hand, he is offered something which affords a reason for acting in accordance to his instincts, he will accept it even on the slightest evidence. The origin of myths and religions is explained in this way. - Bertrand Russell



### Pope Valley Market

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- ✓ Saves Energy
- ✓ Reduces Waste
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Let's hope the lake does finally fill up this year for the first time since 2005!

## <sup>2</sup> Capell-Berryessa Community Center Update

The local citizens group working to obtain the old Capell Elementary School site as a community center is pleased to announce that we are now preparing paperwork to become incorporated and insured. We had our final preliminary meeting with the Napa County School District officials in September. The District is very supportive of the community using the school site and details have been worked out.

We have been setting up preliminary financing and have selected a Board from local citizens to oversee the center. All the pieces are coming together to make this a reality and we thank the community for their support so far. As we get close to setting an opening date we will be seeking additional community help to operate and maintain the site.

\*\*\*\*\*

### News from Supervisor Diane Dillon

New SRA Fee Coming Your Way?

Fire suppression responsibility is divided into two basic areas in the state -- SRA (State Responsibility Area) and

LRA (Local Responsibility Area). In Napa County, the LRA is the area within each of the cities, on the Napa Valley floor (basically) between Silverado Trail and Hwy 29, and the Carneros area. An easy way to remember this: LRA is the Napa Valley floor.

The SRA is the rest of the County, i.e., the vast majority of the unincorporated area. Maps showing these two areas can be found at this website. Why this distinction matters is because the State Legislature passed a bill in June imposing a fee of up to \$150 per structure in the SRA.

I co-wrote and signed a veto letter to the Governor (available here). But

### The Lake Berryessa News

Owner/Editor: Peter Kilkus

415-307-6906, PKilkus@LakeBerryessa.net  
Subscriptions - \$35 per year.

The Lake Berryessa News - Peter Kilkus  
1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558

the Governor was supportive of the bill and signed it into statute and, in August, emergency regulations were adopted by a reluctant Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (BOF). These regs set new annual fees of \$90 per first dwelling, and \$25 for each additional dwelling, to be placed in a special fund for fire prevention activities only. The regs create a tiered system so that it is possible to give discounts to property owners.

But this unfair "fee" is not as large as the Legislature and the State Administration would like it to be. Thus, in the waning days of the legislative session, there was another attempt to raise the fee to a minimum of \$150 for the first structure, without discounts, plus a tiered fee on unimproved and agricultural lands, starting at \$1 per acre for the first 100 acres.

The good news is that RCRC (the Rural Counties association that I chair) and its allies were successful in holding off the new increased SRA fee bill. We were assisted greatly in this process by the support of our former State representative, Senator Wes Chesbro; please read his well-written letter here.

While it is unlikely that any property owner will see a fee imposed before next Spring, attention on the issue will now turn back to the BOF, as the Administration will likely make an attempt to get a new set of implementing regulations based on the parameters of the June bill. Additionally, another attempt at finding an alternative financing method is likely to come up in discussions this fall or bill packages pursued by the Legislature or Administration.

This is an important issue for almost every property owner in the unincorporated area of Napa County; I will continue to fight it. Please let me

Hindsight is a wrong-way time machine.

Why don't aliens eat clowns.  
Because they taste funny.

Two snowmen are standing in a field. One says to the other : "Funny, I smell carrots too".

Two peanuts walk into a bar. One was a salted.

## >>> BOAT SHOW <<<

### NAPA VALLEY RV AND MARINE'S

#### 1ST ANNUAL BOAT SHOW AND FOOD DRIVE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2011 ~ 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

480 Soscol Avenue, Napa, CA  
(next to the Napa Bowling Alley)

Your non-perishable food donation to the Napa Valley Food Bank  
GETS you an AUTOGRAPH of an S.F. 49er Cheerleader!

know if you would like more specific information about this issue.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Napa County recognized for excellence in financial reporting

For the sixth consecutive year, Napa County has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Financial Officers Association (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR).

The CAFR covers the County's fiscal activities with information on financial policies; fiscal overview and analysis; county-wide and departmental balance sheets and statements of revenues and expenditures; and 10 year statistical data.

According to the GFOA, Napa County's CAFR for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010, demonstrates "a constructive 'spirit of full disclosure' to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR. This Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial

reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management."

\*\*\*\*\*

Q. Who are some of the werewolves cousins? A. The whatwolves, the whowolves and the whenwolves.

Q. What do goblins and ghosts drink when they're hot and thirsty on Halloween? A. Ghoul-aid!!!

Q. What do Italian's eat on Halloween? A. Fettucinni Afraid-o.

Q. Why did Dracula take cold medicine? A. To stop his coffin.

Q. How do you keep a monster from biting his nails? A. Give him screws.

Q. Why does a witch ride a broom? A. Vacuum cleaners get stuck at the end of the cord.

Q. What do you call a monster who poisons corn flakes? A. A cereal killer.

Q. What is a vampire's favorite fruit? A: A necktarine

Q. What do you give to a pumpkin who is trying to quit smoking?  
A. A pumpkin patch!!!

## Event Calendar

October 14 - Friday: Bingo in Pope Valley. Pope Valley Farm Center, 6:30 PM, Cash Prizes. Sponsored by the Pope Valley Parent Group. Food and fun for family and friends.

October 15 - Saturday: C.A.S.T for Kids fishing event, 8 AM - 2 PM, Pleasure Cove Marina.

October 15 - Saturday: Berryessa Seniors Pot Luck Dinner. Bring something to share. 5pm social hour and 6pm dinner. 4380 Spanish Flat Loop Road, 966-0206

October 16 - Sunday: Pope Valley Turkey Shoot. See flyer on Page 9.

October 22 - Saturday: The Winters Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Center is sponsoring a Winters Ag Exploration Tour to the Dixon Ridge Farms, a family owned and operated organic walnut farm since 1979. The tour includes the farm's "BioMax" operation, which converts walnut shells into renewable energy. After the tour, there will be lunch prepared by Chef Fred Reyes of Putah Creek Café. Meet at 9 AM at Steady Eddy's. Tickets are \$60. For tickets or reservations, call the Chamber office, 795-239 or send an email to the Winters Visitors Center, director@visitwinters.com.

October 24 - Monday: Napa Food Day, 4 - 7 PM, Yountville Community Center, Find out how Napa County folks are working together to form a more sustainable local food system. Explore and celebrate the abundance of local food, local family farms and farmers' markets, along with the restaurants, grocers, and organizations that support them.

November 6 - Sunday: Daylight Savings Time ends at 2 AM. Set your clocks back an hour.

November 19 - Saturday: National Public Lands Day. Help restore Lake Berryessa's native landscape at this restoration event. Volunteers will plant native trees and plants and install birdhouses as part of an ongoing restoration and wildlife enhancement project. There will be prizes for volunteers! Please contact Jason Jordan at 707-966-2111 ext. 143 or jgjordan@usbr.gov.

## Dam Level Update as of Monday, 10/10/11

The elevation of (Glory Hole) at Monticello Dam is 440 feet (msl). Lake Berryessa has had 0.91 inches of rain since July 1, 2011.

The water is now 13.92 feet below the top of the spillway.

Date	Elevation	Evap	High	Low	Rain
9/26/11	426.47	0.05	73	51	0.03
9/27/11	426.43	0.13	83	52	0.00
9/28/11	426.40	0.17	87	55	0.00
9/29/11	426.38	0.17	92	57	0.00
9/20/11	426.32	0.17	99	56	0.00
10/1/11	426.27	0.18	82	56	0.00
10/2/11	426.23	0.15	77	52	0.00
10/3/11	426.18	0.14	79	50	0.00
10/4/11	426.18	0.02	64	50	0.17
10/5/11	426.19	0.04	64	52	0.59
10/6/11	426.16	0.06	66	47	0.08
10/7/11	426.13	0.06	60	43	0.04
10/8/11	426.10	0.08	73	46	0.00
10/9/11	426.08	0.09	77	48	0.00

A magician was driving down the road..then he turned into a drive way...

## Pridmore Storage

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#### ANGLER'S CHOICE BASS TOURNAMENTS 2011-2012 BERRYESSA TRAIL

1st Tournament: Oct. 23, 2011 (Sunday)

2nd Tournament: Nov. 27, 2011 (Sunday)

3rd Tournament: Feb. 26, 2012 (Sunday)

4th Tournament: March 25, 2012 (Sunday)

5th Tournament: April 28, 2012 (Saturday)

6th Tournament: May 20, 2012 (Sunday)

7th Tournament: June 30, 2012 (Saturday)

All Tournaments will be out of Markley Cove!

Contact Duke Kanaya for info (530)795-2659

Email: dukekalani@yahoo.com

#### October Birthdays

Georgia Craddock 1st

Betty Pederson 3rd

Bob Lowdermilk 4th

Al Wynrib 4th

Carol Hancock 9th

Rudy Fehrenkamp

Cathy Parrish 23rd

Sybil Beeson 23rd

Mary Carpenter 19th

Harry Fitzpatrick 28th

Bea Junk 28th

Joan Fuller

At the Volunteer Fire Station  
Next to Capell School off Hwy 128

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Community Church of Lake Berryessa Special Awana Program

Hey it's not too late to get your kids into Awana at the Community Church! Our club has started and will run through the school year, but there is still room for preschool through grade 6 aged children. It is on Sunday in the evenings from 5 until 6:30.

A registration fee of \$45 covers all materials and awards, fee does not have to be paid immediately. The program includes a structured game time, Bible learning and praise.

A lot of fun is had by all. AWANA has been around for over 60 years with over 1.5 million children and youth around the world in attendance.

You can learn more at AWANA.org or stop by the church on a Sunday and check the program out for yourself. Please call the church at 707-252-4488 with any questions.

**Fly Fishing Putah Creek**

By Jordan Romney

The time is getting close when the water levels drop to perfect on Putah Creek. We all know how tough things can be in the summer with the 600+ cfs water levels. The summer levels only leave a few spots on the creek open to finding fish. Plus the fish are really spread out, once the water drops they tend to start to stack up in the holes and runs.

The levels are dropping making all those areas that are not accessible easier to get into and get some fish. These spots are my personal favorite to fish. One of the many secrets of the creek are the overgrown trail systems that take you to the holes that you cannot see from the road. Sometimes it feels like you are in a jungle when hiking these trails early in the fall.

The weather is starting to cool off turning the "good" fishing to the entire day rather than the mornings and afternoons. I have had a lot of trips recently and everyone seems to be hooking up with fish with a lot of long line releases.

Indicator nymph fishing and high sticking the pocket water has been getting most fish. The hot flies as of recent have been a green rock worm caddis, sparkly pupae, and a pheasant tail. All small mayfly patterns have been will work this time of year.

Remember that Putah is one of those places where you have to make every fish count. You do not get a lot of second chances here. The creek will fish well from now until the end of November. Spots are booking up fast so give us a call to get in on the creek 707 287 2939.

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**\$289,000**  
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880 square feet of new decking overlooking open space to lake  
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# NAPALACHIA by Bill Scholer

**LIFE IN JAPAN**



Bill really loves his awesome new Japanese electronically-controlled, warm-water shooting, air-drying toilet, but forgot to read the operating manual!

What a strange trip! by Bill Scholer

I played a gig in the city of Fujisawa which is just north of Kamakura about 55 minutes from where we live in Kamoi. The map said 15 miles which I thought would take a half hour at the most. Not in Japan, traffic lights everywhere you turn. Luckily I have a GPS that I had someone program on the Navy base. But I didn't know exactly where I was going....a hall?....a House?....a restaurant?

The GPS took me to the Fujisawa train station then said, [translated here into English] "OK Buddy, my job's done." So I called Mayumi, the person who hired me, and we tried to figure out where I was. But of course I kept circling around. Every time I'd stop someone would honk at me to get moving. Finally I just stopped with the taxis at the train station and waited for Mayumi to find me - which she did.

Lucky for me Mayumi's friend Koji was there to help me with my stuff. So we rushed upstairs with my guitars and amp to the waiting party. It wasn't exactly a party, it was a memorial for Mayumi's mother. Since everyone had been waiting while I was circling the place I rushed right into performing.

I think I was a bit hurried and played the songs too fast. Koji joined me on "Sukiyaki" but it was too fast and the key was too high for him. I took a break and ate then played a second set that went much better. Everyone thanked me for the music. They were very nice with their applause. I don't know exactly how to drive efficiently yet to our place, but with some weaving around I arrived back home. What a day.

**RUSTRIDGE HARVEST CELEBRATION**

Join Jim, Susan, Chuck, the horses, the cats, and the dogs for an afternoon of food and wine at the RustRidge Harvest Celebration from Noon – 4pm on Sunday, October 23rd. Taste our new releases while enjoying culinary delights prepared specifically for the occasion.

Tickets are \$30.00, \$20.00 for Trifecta Club members.



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What do you call a fish with no eyes? A fsh

What do you get when you cross an elephant and a rhino? el-if-i-no



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## 4 What You Should Know About Oak Chips

By Phil Burton, Barrel Builders

Oak chips are a fixture of the wine industry due to their ease of use and the cost of new cooperage. The use of oak chips can add a significant amount of oak character at a tiny fraction of the cost of new barrels. (We have several winemakers who refer to chips as "micro-barrels.") Chips have become a staple, particularly in the fighting varietal category where they can add much complexity at an affordable price.

There are hundreds of tons of chips used annually - but very few wineries will admit usage. Two reasons wineries do not advertise the use of chips are: 1) the use of chips is considered "cheating" - a sign of low quality and; 2) In the US, toasted chips were illegal until 1993, even though winemakers used them.

Chips are one of the cleanest ways to get a decent oak flavor into bulk wines since the addition can be easily done in a tank. Especially with new methods such as micro-oxygenation, chips can produce wines that are similar to fairly good barrel-aged wines.

Chips are best added during fermentation so that the oak flavors integrate well with the wine, but they can be added anytime except right before bottling.

### WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN CHIPS

Generally, American and French oak chips are available from several suppliers. A variety of toast levels are available although most manufacturers have a house toast which has proven most successful for them.

At Barrel Builders our house toast for French oak chips is a light golden-brown; what we would classify as a medium toast. Our American oak chips are toasted slightly darker since this seems to mellow the extractives somewhat. The toasting for both is done slowly so that the color is uniform throughout the chip and all the chips are about the same color.

When shopping for chips, look for uniformity of color and size. Be careful not to buy chips that are really shavings or sweepings from the cooperage.

Quality oak chips will be made from

wood that is a by-product of the barrel manufacturing process; stave ends, rejects, and other scrap. Consequently the wood will have gone through the same aging process as the manufacturer's barrels - hopefully with extended air drying.

Wet or kiln-dried wood will impart the same characters as kiln-dried wood used in barrels and are particularly noticeable in American oak. Some vendors have three-year chips available which have a more mellow flavor.

### HOW CHIPS ARE USED

We have discussed use patterns, amounts, times and results with numerous wine makers and there is a wide variety of opinion. Following are general guidelines:

A range of 10 to 15 pounds of chips per thousand gallons of wine appears to be a common dosage.

When customers are first experimenting with chips, we often recommend using 8 to 10 ounces for one barrel - start light, you can always add more.

Published literature suggests that extraction is largely complete in a couple of days. However, many winemakers extract for a week or more while some others wait several months. One large user swears that a subtle change in flavor occurs between weeks 3 & 5.

Chips can be introduced in several ways. They can simply be dumped into the wine where they will sink in a couple of days and the wine can be racked off.

Several wineries have developed sophisticated methods using stainless steel screens that fit over drain fittings. After the wine is drained from the tank, the door is opened, the screen is removed and the chips, lees and residues are hosed out.

The most common method is to use "tea bags". A bag of loose cloth or other porous material is made up to hold the chips. Attaching a rope makes it easy to get the bag in and out of the tank. Yet another method is to add a large quantity of chips to a small amount of wine to create an oak extract. The extract is then used to add flavor during the blending process.

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## What's Inside: Red Bull

Meat Sugar, Caffeine, and Bile!

### Glucose

Like most popular soft drinks, Red Bull is largely sugar water. But don't count on its glucose to "give you wings," as the ad says. Multiple studies have debunked the so-called sugar high.

### Taurine

Also known as 2-aminoethanesulfonic acid, taurine was originally isolated from bull bile in 1827. Now made synthetically, it is the magical elixir said to bring out the kitesurfing extrovert in any Web-surfing nerd. Taurine's actual effects, while not as drastic as the hype, are pretty wide-ranging, even from the amount found in a single can: Not only is it an inhibitory neurotransmitter (in some cases acting as a mild sedative) and an age-defying antioxidant, it even has the potential to steady irregular heartbeats.

### Glucuronolactone

Internet rumors claimed this was a Vietnam-era experimental drug that causes brain tumors. Luckily, that's not true. But don't crumple up your tinfoil hat yet — hardly anyone has looked into exactly what this stuff does. So little research has been done on glucuronolactone (and most of it 50 years ago) that almost all information about it is mere rumor. Users generally believe it fights fatigue and increases well-being, but that could turn out to be bull, too.

### Caffeine

Ah, here are Red Bull's wings. All the things this drink is supposed to do for you — increase concentration and reaction speed, improve emotional state, and boost metabolism — are known effects of this white powder, a distant cousin of cocaine.

### Niacin (niacinamide)

Also known as vitamin B-3, niacin increases so-called good cholesterol (HDL) by preventing the formation of triglycerides, making it a terrific cholesterol drug. Unfortunately, there isn't enough niacin here to have this benefit. And it's not even pure enough to give you the mild head rush dubbed the "niacin flush."

## Sodium citrate

Commonly used as a preservative in soft drinks and spreadable cheeses, sodium citrate also helps convert glucose into lactic acid during exercise, producing a measurable effect on athletic performance. In at least one test, it shaved an average of 17 seconds off a 5K run.

### Inositol

A carbohydrate found in animal muscle (sometimes called "meat sugar"), inositol is turning out to be a wonder drug that significantly reduces depression, panic attacks, agoraphobia, and obsessive-compulsive disorder. It might even be what makes whole grains effective cancer fighters. Instead of being a bit player in Red Bull (you'd need to drink up to 360 cans a day to get its benefits), inositol probably deserves a drink of its own.

\*\*\*\*\*

Red Bull is an adaptation of the Thai energy drink Krating Daeng, which translates as "Red Bull". Based on market share, it is the most popular energy drink in the world. The company was founded by Thai national Chaleo Yoovidhya and Austrian national Dietrich Mateschitz. Mateschitz was the international marketing director for Blendax, a toothpaste company, when he visited Thailand in 1982 and discovered that Krating Daeng helped to cure his jet lag.

Red Bull's slogan is "it gives you wings" and the product is aggressively marketed through advertising, tournament sponsorship.

In 2009 it was discovered that Red Bull Cola exported from Austria contained trace amounts of cocaine. Red Bull has also been the target of criticism concerning the possible health risks associated with the drink.[8]

A review published in 2008 found no documented reports of negative or positive health effects associated with the amount of taurine used in energy drinks, including Red Bull, concluding that "The amounts of guarana, taurine, and ginseng found in popular energy drinks are far below the amounts expected to deliver either therapeutic benefits or adverse effects."

## Wine Facts, Statistics, and Trivia

Age of vine before producing useful grapes: 3 years

Age of vine before full production: 5 years

Productive lifetime of a vine: 30-35 years - although the quality can remain good, the yield begins to decrease after that.

Grape clusters in bottle: 5-6

Grapes in a bottle: 500-600

Clusters on a vine: 40

Grapes in a cluster: 75-100

Grape clusters in one glass of wine: 1

Vines per acre: 400

Pounds of grapes produced by one vine: 8-12

Tons per acre: 5 (average-can vary greatly)

Gallons of wine per ton of grapes: 120

Gallons of wine per acre: 800

Barrels per acre: 13.5

Bottles per vine: 10

Bottles per ton: 500

Bottles per acre: 4,000

Cases per barrel: 24.6

Glasses per acre: 16,000

Glasses in a bottle: 5-6

Bottles per 60 gallon barrel: 300

Calories in a 5 ounce glass of dry wine: 100-125

Fat in a 5 ounce glass of dry wine: 0

Carbohydrates in a 5 ounce glass of dry wine: 1-2

Cost of French oak barrel: \$600-850

Cost of American oak barrel: \$300-550

Average age of a French oak tree used to make barrels: 170 years

Number of years an oak barrel is used: 5-8

Average annual wine consumption of French per capita: 15.81 gal.

Average annual wine consumption of Germans per capita: 6.05 gal.

Average annual wine consumption of Canadians per capita: 2.14 gal.

Average annual wine consumption of Americans per capita: 2.01 gallons

Average annual soft drink consumption of Americans per capita: 55 gal.

Average annual beer consumption of Americans per capita: 22 gal.

Average annual coffee consumption of Americans per capita: 22 gal.

Average annual bottled water consumption of Americans per capita: 11 gal.



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#### The anatomy of a wine barrel

Oak barrels are like a winemaker's spice rack - that was the analogy that someone used when trying to explain what purpose the oak barrels served in making wine.

Different types of oak have different types and amounts of tannin, which is a component of wine. A very important one, in fact. Those tannins contribute to mouth feel and body in wine.

There is also a diversity of oak grain offered by the various types of oak. The grain size of the barrel helps to control the exposure of oak to the wine. With a smaller-grained oak barrel, the wine will receive a slower exposure to the oak influences. Larger-grained barrels expose the wine to oak more quickly over time, and are most useful for wines aged for a shorter time in barrel.

American oak, because it has more lactones (a chemical compound of sorts) offers hints of toasty, sweeter flavors like coconut and marshmallow; this species of oak also has naturally low levels of tannins.

French oak, on the other hand, brings a whole new set of flavors and aromas to the party. Characteristic of French oak are baker's spices (vanilla, cinnamon, clove, etc.) along with roasted coffee bean and chocolate characteristics. Hungarian oak rounds out the Winemaker's Spice Rack. Hungarian oak is known to have a bit more of a kick since it imparts more peppery spice notes.

One important area of note is toasting level, which is essentially the controlled baking of the inside of the barrel over a fire. Toasting will move the flavors of the wood from lighter and spicier to darker and more deep and roasted, with a big impact on the wine.

There is also the new-vs.-old oak to consider—as in, new barrels impart flavors more intensely than used barrels. The oak characteristics will, over time, get "leached" out of the barrels and after each use, the oak influence becomes more and more tame until there may not be enough to do the wine any good. It's usually around the third or fourth go with the barrel that it no longer brings any oak influence to the party and at that point the barrel goes out of circulation.

Barrel size also plays a part in imparting oak characteristics on the wine. It would make sense that the smaller the barrel, the more concentrated the oak influence would be on the wine, since there is relatively more barrel surface touching the wine in these smaller casks.

See Page 4 of this issue for more on wine flavoring and use of oak chips.

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## The Lake Berryessa News Horoscope

Aries (March 21-April 19): While it's true your future holds a possibility of love and a chance of financial success, it also holds an absolute certainty of angry Russian kidnappers.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You're certainly no George Orwell, although you shouldn't have to be to recognize the sort of thing that's going on at work.

Gemini (May 21-June 21): You're a self-made woman, which is a point of pride, but also means explaining a lot to the people working the X-ray machine at the airport.

Cancer (June 22-July 22): Everyone has their price, but since yours is so much lower than anyone else's, you have saved a lot of people from finding out what theirs is.

Leo (July 23-August 22): The Virgin Mary will appear in a dream and tell you to go forth in the world to help the poor and needy, causing you to wake up screaming in a cold sweat.

Virgo (August 23-September 22): Your crude and primitive sense of humor will offend lots of people, but just wait until they get a look at your crude and primitive sense of justice.

Libra (September 23-October 23): You're good at thinking on your feet, which means next week's encounter with the bear trap will leave you somewhat dull-witted in addition to everything else.

Scorpio (October 24-November 21): You'll learn the value of patience, compassion, and tolerance next week and be rather disappointed that it's actually so low.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): You used to think you were pretty dark on the inside, but a run-in with a pavement saw will prove there's plenty of purple, green, and translucent bits in you too.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19): Be more sensitive to the wishes of others this week, as your indifference to them is affecting your career as a magic-lamp genie.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18): You'll feel a strange mixture of pride and terror when NASA announces it will replace the space shuttle with you in launches starting late next year.

Pisces (February 19-March 20): Every marriage is like a little nation unto itself, and the failure of yours is a textbook example of how investment in education, the arts, and maybe a puppy are desirable goals for civilization.

## Take a walk on Quail Ridge Reserve

Visitors are invited to take a walk on the Quail Ridge Reserve from 2 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22. The reserve is on a peninsula at the southwest end of Lake Berryessa.

The walk on hillsides of California native grasses, shrubs and trees is of easy to moderate difficulty, and will be led by Quail Ridge Wilderness Conservancy executive director Frank Maurer, a zoologist and ecologist.

The reserve's perennial bunchgrasses in October will still look green, though other plants patiently await autumnal rains. Toward evening, with the help of a special ultrasonic device, the group will listen to local bats as they begin their evening feeding. Forest owls also may be heard.

The daytime temperature likely will be warm, but visitors should be prepared for a cool evening. Bring binoculars and/or a camera if you wish, drinking water and a snack.

To reserve a spot and get directions, call (530) 219-4477.

The group will gather at 2 p.m. at Markley Cove Resort to begin the walk and will return at about 6 p.m. All participants must leave the reserve at the same time. Heavy rainfall during the day will cancel the walk.

Donations are accepted for the conservancy's fundraising efforts to protect Quail Ridge lands.



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If all else fails, immortality can always be assured by spectacular error. - John Kenneth Galbraith

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<= Gas in St. Helena  
Chiles Pope Valley Road  
14  
13  
12  
11  
Nichelini Winery

15 Miles to Rutherford

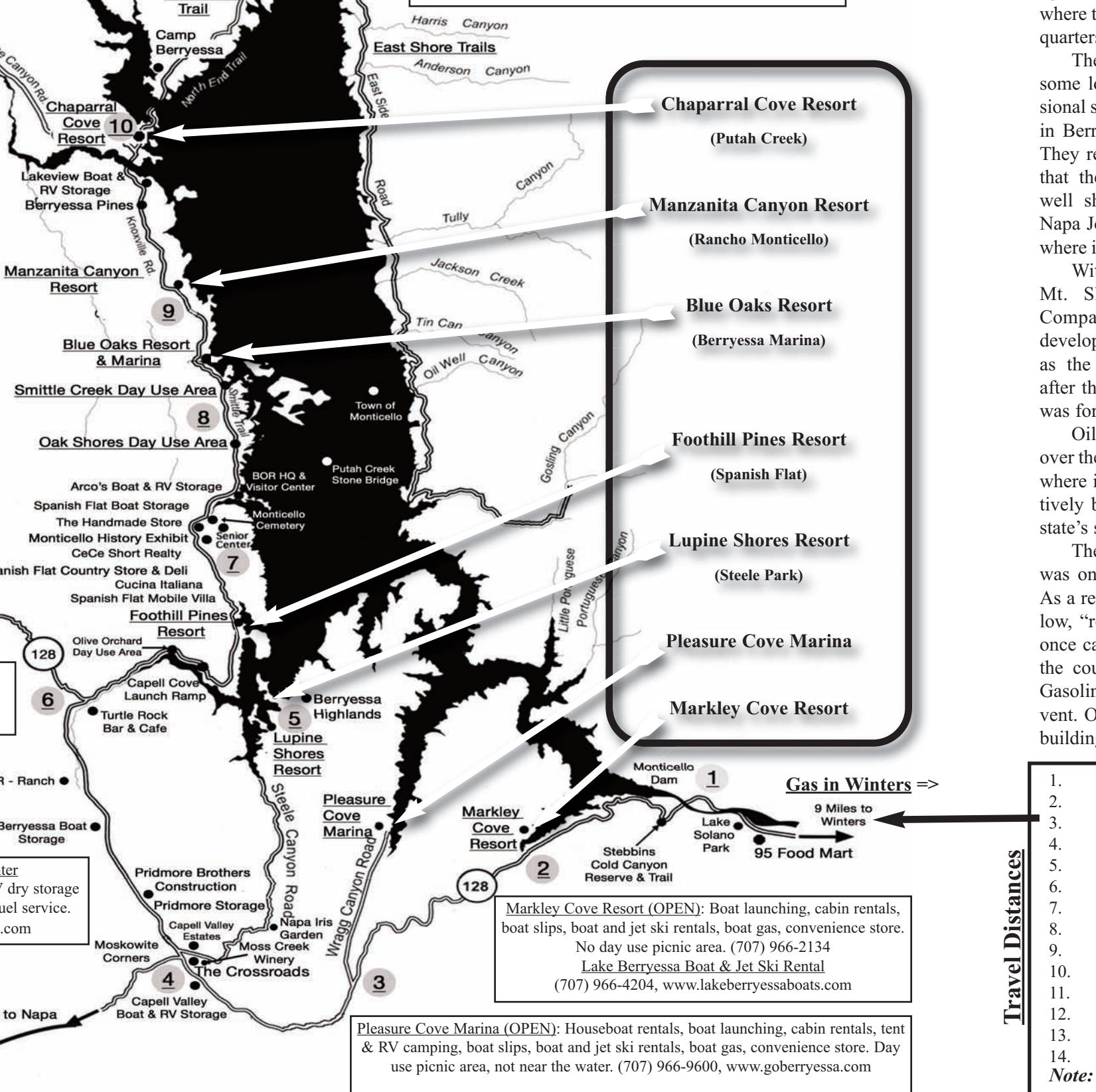
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Free Public Facilities are Open: Oak Shores/Smittle Creek Day Use Parks are open on the west shore. Go to [www.usbr.gov/mp/ceao/Berryessa](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/ceao/Berryessa) for details. Oak Shores and Smittle Creek offer nice hiking opportunities and more than 100 picnic sites equipped with BBQ grills. Two hand launches for non-motorized car-top boats are also available.  
707-966-2111



## The Great Berryessa Oil Rush(es):

### 1900 and 1920

By Peter Kilkus

If you look at the map of Lake Berryessa you'll notice a location on the east shore called Oil Well Canyon. I had always wondered what that meant until I attended a seminar a few years ago and saw photos of an oil well near where the Bureau of Reclamation headquarters building now stands.

The first "Oil Rush" began when some local businessman and a professional surveyor went prospecting for oil in Berryessa Valley in October, 1900. They returned with several full bottles that they said came from springs. A well should be drilled, one told the Napa Journal, to find the source somewhere in the sandstone and shale below.

Within days an "expert" from the Mt. Shasta Oil and Development Company said they were going to develop what suddenly became known as the "Berryessa Oil Lands." Soon after that the Monticello Oil Company was formed.

Oil strikes were making news all over the country. It was oozing out elsewhere in Northern California and positively bursting from the ground in the state's south.

The value of this new form of gold was only beginning to be recognized. As a replacement for whale oil and tallow, "rock oil" or "coal oil," as it was once called, illuminated homes around the country in the form of kerosene. Gasoline was used as a cleaning solvent. Oil was converted to light whale buildings as well as city streets. It lubri-

cated the moving parts of bigger machines, like the locomotives and cars of the Southern Pacific. But by far the most significant use of oil would prove to be as a fuel in a contraption called the "internal combustion engine."

When Henry Ford began making gasoline-powered vehicles, he started a demand that transformed the world. Ford's first automobile was completed and ready to go in 1896. The horseless carriage had become a rare but impressive sight on the streets in many American cities by 1902, and someone had already driven a motored vehicle through Napa.

Prompted by the invention of the automobile, oil production in California had grown from 470,000 barrels in 1893 to 24,000,000 by 1903.

Now practically everyone with any cash in the bank made a beeline to Berryessa. President of the Miners' Petroleum Association said, "I consider the oil indications in Northern California superior to any that I have seen in any part of the world."

People promised that there would be an oil rush in California that echoed the great gold rush 50 years earlier. Indications for oil were supposedly popping up on the Gosling ranch in Berryessa and in Wooden Valley.

So much oil, of so fine a quality, so near the surface, so close to home!

In mid-April, a man from Capell Valley struck oil after drilling down 125'. After that... silence. There were no more big stories in the local papers about oil strikes. There may have been oil there, but somehow most of it van-

ished before it could come to the surface. The drillers and drifters, surveyors and investors quietly packed up their things and went away. A lot of money had changed hands for nothing, much of it going in legal and professional fees to attorneys.

The second "Oil Rush" began due to persistence, better known as an obsession in this case. Berryessa had long been a frustration to the scores of investors who had hoped to find oil and gas there. One persistent "wildcatter" was Walter B. Griffiths, a Napa realtor, state assemblyman, and self-styled petroleum expert. Like the prospectors who preceded him around the turn of the 20th Century, he had struck modest, short-lived pockets of oil and gas several times in the early 1920's.

When someone claimed to have found oil and coal on the McCormick ranch on Spring Mountain in St. Helena, a rush of speculation started again, and a batch of new companies appeared. One businessman convinced some Hollywood stars to invest.

The excellent Lin Weber book may also be purchased, along with many others by great local authors such as Dona Stanley Bakker, Ralph Ingols, Chuck O'Rear, and Lowell Young to mention but a few, featured at the cozy Main Street Books located at 1315 Main Street in St. Helena.

Local Napa businessmen also bought into the dream. But when a geologist from Los Angeles came to inspect the site, the expert advised folks to pull out. All the other little oil companies that had popped up in Berryessa soon reeled in their cables, too, and disappeared.

Convinced that Berryessa would yield oil, the driven Griffiths sank what was at the time the deepest hole ever drilled in Northern California. At 3,710', his 25'-long, heavy steel drilling cable snapped off. The line he used to rescue the cable also broke, and he had to seal the hole with cement.

He tried again with another well nearby, but this time it was he who busted. He found a Los Angeles firm that was willing to finish the job on contract, but then the stock market crashed and no one had the

cash to sink into questionable oil well investments.

As before, the only people to profit from Berryessa's gas and oil reserves were the lawyers who drew up the contracts.

\*\*\*\*

Much of the information in the previous article came from the excellent book: Roots of the Present: Napa Valley 1900 to 1950, by Lin Weber. This book was also the source of the information in a previous article about the Monticello Rodeo.

Regular Lake Berryessa News reader and local history connoisseur, Gregory Hunter of St. Helena, sent me this comment connecting the book to the universal local bookseller's dilemma of providing an important resource while trying to stay in business.

\*\*\*\*

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Liza Russ, the owner of Main Street Books in St. Helena, has been hanging on by a thread for several decades now given the most formidable competition presented by Amazon.com, chain retailers, etc. If she closed her popular independent bookstore all local authors, of which there are many, would lose an essential sales outlet and locals would suffer greatly.

Lin Weber is also an accomplished painter as her paintings were displayed for the month of August 2011 in the gallery in the St. Helena Public Library. This is an excerpt on it from the Library's e-Newsletter:

"Lin has been in private practice for almost 30 years as a licensed marriage and family therapist. She is also a well-known local author and historian, with publications of six histories and one novel. Now's your chance to see another side to Lin's talents: as an artist in water-mixable oils. Check out <http://www.linweber.com>."

1.	Monticello Dam	1=>2	3.0 miles
2.	Markley Cove Resort	2=>3	5.3 miles
3.	Wragg Canyon Road	3=>4	3.0 miles
4.	Moskowite Corners	4=>5	5.0 miles
5.	Lupine Shores Resort	4=>6	4.7 miles
6.	Turtle Rock	6=>7	5.0 miles
7.	Spanish Flat Village Center	7=>8	2.4 miles
8.	Oak Shores/Smittle Creek/Visitor Center	8=>9	2.4 miles
9.	Blue Oaks/Manzanita Canyon Resorts	9=>10	2.8 miles
10.	Pope Canyon Road/Chaparral Cove Resort	10=>13	10.2 miles
11.	Hwy 128 @ Lower Chiles Valley Road	6=>11	3.0 miles
12.	Pope Valley Road	11=>12	3.2 miles
13.	Pope Valley	12=>13	8.5 miles
14.	Aetna Springs	13=>14	3.7 miles

Note: No auto gas available between Winters and Napa or at Lake Berryessa!