

The Berryessa Highlands is Becoming Fire Wise!

By Evan Kilkus

Napa Firewise is a fire awareness program designed to educate the residents of Napa County about the dangers wildland fires pose and the need to create "defensible space" around their homes. Defensible space is a zone where vegetation and fire fuels have been reduced to stop fire spread. The goal is to save homes and lives. Defensible space is a law as well as an approach to vegetation management.

The Berryessa Estates at the north end of Lake Berryessa formed a Fire Safe Council in 2007 as part of the Napa Firewise program. Not far behind in protecting their own community was a group of concerned residents of the Berryessa Highlands who recently formed the Berryessa Highlands Fire Safe Council.

As many Berryessa Highlands residents have probably noticed, there has been some tree trimming and brush-clearing going on in the neighborhood over the last few weeks. This clearing is the first phase of fire hazard reduction work that is planned to take place across the Berryessa Highlands area.

The work is a joint effort including CAL FIRE, the Napa County Fire Department, the Napa Communities Firewise Council, and the Berryessa Highlands Fire Safe Council.

Highlands Hot Spots Identified

With the help of Don Gasser, Fire Smart, Inc., who is an expert at identifying wildfire fuels and fire hazards, the council identified thirteen project areas during their initial meetings in 2010. They found areas with extremely high concentrations of fire fuels, including the clusters of eucalyptus around the sewer plant and water tank, and the dense brush to the West of Rimrock Road.

They also decided that any large clusters of brush along Steele Canyon Road should be cleared out, since Steele Canyon is the only access road serving the community.

Additionally, specific locations

were identified as in need of fire fuel reduction, including under the PG&E power towers, and around the chimneys at some homes.

Current Project Status

With the Berryessa Highlands Fire Safe Council organized, the Napa Communities Fire Wise Foundation set aside \$10,000 of its 2010/2011 county-wide grant for use in the Berryessa Highlands.

Initially, using a fifteen man CAL FIRE Delta Camp Crew, they created a 200-300 foot perimeter of defensible space around the treatment plant.

This first project included removing all lower brush and small pine trees, and removing and/or pruning a dozen or so large and dense eucalyptus trees. There was also a large amount of brush and pine up the hill between the plant and Steele Canyon Road that was thinned out.

The second project was along Steele Canyon Road between the Lupine Shores entrance and Rimrock Road. Specifically, there were six or seven strips of land between houses where they were able to make an impact.

The third project area during this initial phase will bring the work crew up Rimrock, where they will clear the highly flammable and dense chamise brush. They will primarily work on the south sides of Poppy Lane, Manzanita Lane, and Black Oak Lane.

As we all know, it is the homeowner's responsibility to clear within 100 feet of their home. The work crew will be concentrating on the next 100 feet beyond that, doubling the "buffer" area. Some of this brush will be hauled up the hill and



The Store is Open!

Snacks, Grocery, & Dairy Items

Fresh Deli Selections



The Crossroads
at Lake Berryessa

Winter Hours:
Store: M - F, 9 AM to 9 PM, Weekends, 8 AM to 9 PM
Cafe: M-Th. 11:30 - 8:30, Fri. 11:30 - 9, Sat. 8 - 9, Sun. 8 - 8:30
Lounge: Daily 2 - 9 PM, Happy Hour 3 - 6 PM
Pizza 4 PM to Close

At the Crossroads of of Hwy 121, Hwy 128, and Steele Canyon Road (Moskowite Corners)
Phone: 707-255-5455
Email: thecrossroadslakeberryessa@yahoo.com
Facebook: The Crossroads at Lake Berryessa

The Restaurant is Open!

Fri. & Sat. Night Dinner Specials in the Lounge

chipped, but a majority of it will be cut, piled, and burned by the CAL FIRE crew between 10 AM and 3 PM.

Finally, towards the end of March, the work crew will clear out much of the dense brush on the north side of Steele Canyon Road, between Arroyo Lindo Court and Arroyo Grande Drive. This will ensure that the Headlands Drive area has a safe "evacuation route" along Steele Canyon Road.

Long Term Plans

The next step for the Council is to create a Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and submit that, with a grant application, to the state in order to receive additional funding to complete the remainder of projects. The application submission and approval process

will take place over the next several months, with future projects estimated to take place as early as next Winter.

The Berryessa Highlands Fire Safe Council wishes to personally thank Stephen Gort of the Napa Communities Firewise Foundation and Ken Pridmore of CAL FIRE for their leadership in developing this program.

The project also received the cooperation of the Bureau of Reclamation, the County of Napa, Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement District, and private land and home owners. Sincere thanks to them as well. Finally, thanks to the volunteers who have come from our community to utilize this government program to help make our community Fire Wise! Contact the Berryessa Highlands Fire Safe Council at: highlanders@napafirewise.org.

Council Members: Susan Sedillo, Evan Kilkus, Jerry Rehmke, Jim Rubins, Dee Cuney, Wendy Wallin, Marc Pandone. Consultants: Stephen Gort, Napa Communities Fire Wise Foundation, Ken Pridmore and Mike Wilson, CAL FIRE, and Pastor Bob Lee.

The Lake Berryessa News

www.LakeBerryessaNews.com

1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558

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

25¢
Donation

March, 2011

Springtime at Lake Berryessa: Pensus in Bloom?

Now that the Bureau of Reclamation has approved the new plans for the Pensus Lake Berryessa resorts, anticipation of summer fun at the lake is growing. Although 2012 will be the year for major improvements, 2011 will see many upgrades to amenities at Lupine Shores, Chaparral Cove, and Foothill Pines (Memorial Day opening) resorts. Markley Cove Resort, Pleasure Cove Marina, and all public recreation facilities are open for business as usual.

In the longer term, David Ffinch, President of Pensus, stated that, "Pensus plans to provide a safe, high quality and varied recreation experience to satisfy the desires of all who choose to enjoy the extraordinary beauty of Lake Berryessa"

A joint Pensus - Bureau of Reclamation press release stated last month that five concession areas managed by Pensus will be open this summer. There will be a single telephone number for reservations and information: 707-966-9088.

Pensus said that a new web site (<http://lakeberryessashores.com/>) will go online soon with detailed information about the Pensus Lake Berryessa resort offerings. Until then people should use the web site: <http://berryessalake.com/>

Chaparral Cove (formerly Putah Creek) and Lupine Shores (formerly Steele Park) recreation areas are currently open for day use, boat launching, and RV and tent camping.

Beginning Memorial Day weekend, Foothill Pines (formerly Spanish Flat) will be open for day use and RV and tent camping. The resorts will have new concrete picnic tables and BBQ/fire rings.

Chaparral Cove, Lupine Shores, and Foothill Pines are expected to be served this summer by restroom trailers with running water (no showers) and an RV pump out service. For this season

Pensus will have a retail trailer unit at Lupine Shores and Chaparral Cove. It will sell convenience items, ice and some packaged food and beverages.

Blue Oaks (formerly Berryessa Marina) and Manzanita Canyon (formerly Rancho Monticello) will be open for group camping on a reservation basis. These sites will not have the upgraded picnic tables and fire rings and will be served by porta-potties.

Daily Launch Fee is \$21 which includes six people in your boat. Additional people would pay the \$3 per person Day Use Fee.

Annual Launch Passes are now available for \$225 and are valid from March 1, 2011 – March 1, 2012. The pass is attached to the boat. Pass is good for entry of one watercraft trailer and up to six people. Additional people will be subject to the day use fee.

The annual launch pass will be honored at all Pensus resorts. For the 2011 season that will include Lupine Shores and Chaparral Cove. When the remaining launch ramps are built the passes will be honored at those resorts as well.

Dry Boat Storage will be available at Chaparral Cove and Lupine Shores beginning in March and potentially at Manzanita Canyon beginning Memorial Day weekend. Dry Boat Storage Rate: \$4.20 per linear foot. This includes unlimited self-launch fee. Launch and retrieval service is available for \$40 or \$20 each way.

RV Storage Rates are the same as the Boat Storage Rates. One free weekend of camping per month will be included in the RV storage price. (Not applicable for holiday weekends)

The hours of operation for day use at Chaparral Cove, Foothill Pines and Lupine Shores will be 8 AM to 8 PM. RV and camper walk-ins and launchers who have not purchased the annual pass will need to check in between these

Lake Berryessa Boat Repair

Factory Certified Marine Technician With 10 Years of Experience

Land or Water - We Come To You!

Call Marty, Owner, (707) 966-9954



- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| •Full Tune Ups | •Welding:
-Stainless
-Aluminum
-Fabrication | •Polylift Installation & Repair
•Boat Detailing
•Trailer Repair
•Trailer Brakes |
| •Electrical | | |
| •Water pumps | | |
| •Engine Rebuilds | | |
| •Scag Repair | | |
| •Stereo Installation & Repair | | |



Insurance Work

Ask about our specials!

Schedule an appointment at (707) 966-9954



Jet Ski Maintenance • Boat and Jet Ski Accessories • Fiberglass Repair

hours as well. RV and campers who have made online reservations in advance will be able to access the sites at any time, as will those who purchase the annual pass.

Pensus is also finalizing signage for the concession entry locations as well as investigating billboards and radio advertising and preparing brochures.

Although wet slips are now shown in the Lupine Shores plan, Pensus cannot install wet slips until the environmental process is completed. They expect to obtain price approvals for wet slips within a few months. All things going well they will start construction of slips in late 2011 for 2012 season occupancy.

Employment opportunities will be available. All applications should be submitted on the Pensus website. Each submission is acknowledged immediately. However, they caution applicants that they are inundated

with job requests in all areas of operation and it is impossible to respond to or interview all applicants.

New Lake Berryessa Park Manager Appointed

One year after the resignation (February 8, 2010) of Janet Rogers as Park Manager, her position has now been filled.

Reclamation has appointed Lynn Pilgrim-Little to the position. Lynn was introduced to the local community at the February 28 Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce meeting.

New management at the local Bureau of Reclamation headquarters combined with the Pensus renovation of the resorts promises to have a continuing positive influence on the future of the lake and local businesses and residents.

Capell Community Center Update

On Thursday, February 24, members of the Capell Community Center group met with the Napa Valley Unified School District to further discuss the possibility of obtaining the closed Capell Elementary School site for a Community Center. The group, including Dee Cuney, Bob Lee and Amber Payne, were informed the School Board is willing to proceed with the idea, and we are beginning to work on a written proposal.

Two requirements would be that we are a recognizable group such as a non-profit, which can be insured and that we pay a basic fee to cover our utility usage. We are exploring options regarding the insurance and will need help with initial funding to get the Center off the ground.

Insurance costs are unknown at this time, but utilities would be in the \$100 a month area.

If there are parties interested in donating please contact Bob Lee at TerriBob@lakeberryessa.net or Dee Cuney at decuney@aol.com. We would not collect anything at this time but would wait until the process is finalized.

Highlands Dog Poisonings

After talking with more neighbors about the dog poisonings on Rimrock Drive in the Berryessa Highlands, Vic Venuta discovered another three dogs and a cat were poisoned and killed by someone.

So the totals now are 6 dogs and one cat poisoned resulting in four dead dogs, two recovered, one dead cat.

Reward is now \$1,000. Call Napa County Sheriff, Kieth Walmsley, 707-253-4509 or Victor Venuta, 707-738-7844

Pope Valley/Berryessa Musings

I spend considerable time thinking about the early days of Pope Valley. Most of those settlers arrived

exhausted, too late to plant, and everything they had was in the back of a 20 ft. wagon. But they had little quit in them and within 20 years, they had farms, schools, churches, and an inexhaustible supply of alcohol. They never had much with respect to material goods, but they and millions like them built this country.

Even with the strings they had hanging off them, they were good people at the core. I knew their children and never realized how classy they were until I lived in a wider world.

At 17 yrs and as smart as I was ever going to be, I landed a job with a Nevada fence company who was building the fence around Lake Berryessa. The lake was filling, and driving the rattlesnakes up into the surrounding hills - which already boasted about 5 rattlers/acre. It was the toughest job I ever tried (drove about 150 T-posts/day) but I was young, stupid and immensely qualified.

I had never been beat arm-wrestling so when my buddy said he had arranged a wrestling contest with the Nevada company's representative, I said, "No problem." They brought in this giant who easily went 6' 9" and about 240lbs (He was right out of James Bond). I did beat this guy, which was no surprise because I had always won. Then they brought up this guy who was about my weight (180) but kinda thick through the shoulders. I should have known! He slammed my hand to the table so hard I still have the bruises.

Being a few brain cells shy, I figured he just got the jump, but after several more examples, I paid him the money and left a bit wiser. He must have broken my spirit because that was just the start of a long list of losing. The last time was to a student who couldn't have gone more than

150 lbs soaking wet.

So if that was the apex of my legendary strength, it was also for my IQ, which continues to drop. Is Berryessa still the western center for rattlesnakes?

Vern Duvall

Monticello History Exhibit News

Hi, Recently Wayne and Dot Little came to the exhibit. Wayne's Grandfather ran the Peacock Hotel when the town was just forming..Wow....

Also Dustin Dorman will be helping at the exhibit in the up coming months. He is going to put together a web site and organize the photos. He is studying History in college. Dustin is also a descendant of the pioneers of Monticello.

His grandfather is Larry Gardner. Larry also has photos that he will be sharing soon. Marie Rossi came to the exhibit. She and her brother Bill and Micheal Cox are the ones that brought the sign in form the Monticello Hotel"Thanks so Much"

I will be sharing a big surprise...soon..something has been found from the valley and it is wonderful. It will be displayed in the exhibit for the old timers picnic at the cemetery on Memorial Day week end..Carol

Larry Chance - 1946-2011

Larry passed away on Feb. 28, 2011. He was born Oct. 15, 1946, in Vallejo and spent his early childhood in Benicia and Vallejo. He attended schools in Vallejo, Napa and Fairfield, graduating from Armijo High School in 1965. He served his country through military service in the Navy.

Larry married his soulmate and the light of his life, Diane, on Oct. 1, 1968. They moved to Lake Berryessa, where they spent their married life.

Larry wore many hats in his life. He worked in the automobile business

for a number of years, eventually operating his own used car dealership, State Motors. During this time he began pursuing his lifelong dream of becoming a cowboy, a profession he loved and continued throughout his life.

While working at Basalt Rock, Larry was on the crew that repaired the Bay Bridge following the 1989 earthquake. He also worked for Pridmore Brothers Construction. After Diane retired, Larry said that he was retired as well. He remained, however, a full-time cattle rancher.

Larry was a compassionate man. He opened his home to many people and animals alike. There was always room for one more at dinner, always a place to sleep and an ear to listen.

He had a knack for telling a story, filling the room with a humorous tale and sometimes inserting a little life lesson. Family, friends, neighbors and the occasional stranger were all recipients of Larry's great generosity and hospitality.

Helping Local Business

From Supervisor Diane Dillon

I'm pleased to announce that the County recently adopted an enhanced local vendor preference policy. We have had a policy in place for several years related to the purchase of vehicles, which has brought business to our local auto dealers, but the revised version goes further.

The new policy does the following: (1) extends a similar 5% price preference for all local vendors, (2) provides for additional outreach to encourage local vendors to bid; (3) encourages the use of local subcontractors, when they can be used; (4) ensures insurance requirements are not unnecessarily strict; and (5) includes various tracking and reporting mechanisms so we can evaluate the effectiveness of the policy in the future.

March Birthdays

2nd	Ken Pridmore	13th	Jerry Burch
3rd	Stefano Gusberti	22nd	Dolores Atkinson
3rd	Howard Pickett	22nd	Darlene Carpenter
4th	Marlene Lines		

Event Calendar

March 12 - Saturday: Berryessa Lions Club St. Patrick's Day Party at Turtle Rock, 5:30 PM, 707-966-2246.

March 16 - Wednesday: Napa County Wildflowers – A Spring Primer, 7-9 PM, Skyline Park Social Hall, 2201 Imola Ave, 707-253-2665, California Native Plant Society, info at www.napavalleycnps.org

March 19 - Saturday: Seniors St. Patrick's Day Dinner, 5:30 pm., 707-966-0206

March 19 - Saturday: Art Stroll in Winters, 4 PM, Celebrating Youth Art Month, participating merchants will display the work of Winters High School art students. 530-795-2329

March 26 - Saturday: Putah Creek Trout, a local nonprofit working to protect and improve the Wild Trout fishing below Monticello Dam, is celebrating Spring by sponsoring a fly tying and fly casting event from 12 Noon-3 PM at the new Lake Solano Nature Center in the Lake Solano Park. If you have wanted to learn more about fly fishing, fly casting, or making your own flies, this is the event for you. All ages welcome - come join us for some great fun, raffles, contests.

Berryessa Pro Team Trail Bass Tournaments : 3/27/11 (Sixth); 4/17/11 (Seventh & Last). Any questions email dukekalani@yahoo.com or call (530)795-2659.

April 2&3 - Sat./Sun.: Wildflower Show & California Native Plant Sale, 10 AM-4 PM, Skyline Park, 2201 Imola Ave, 707-253-2665, California Native Plant Society, info at www.napavalleycnps.org

Ongoing Events:

STEBBINS COLD CANYON--UC Davis Reserve--NATURE OUTINGS See the Spring/Summer 2011 Schedule at www.LakeBerryessaNews.com It is the goal of the NATURE OUTINGS program to offer a diverse schedule to the campus and local communities. We hope you find something of interest, something to help you experience the reserve and continue to develop your relationship with the natural world.

Exhibit honors Monticello Valley: A free exhibit, honoring the people of Monticello Valley, which was flooded in 1956 to create Lake Berryessa, is open at Spanish Flat Village Center, 4318 Knoxville Road, Lake Berryessa. For information, call Carol Fitzpatrick at 287-3708 or e-mail pumpkinridge@ymail.com.

2011 Berryessa History Calendar Now Available. Printed by the Berryessa Senior Center with great historical photos. Available at the Monticello History Exhibit and the Country Store. Proceeds support the Senior Center.



If you forgot it in Winters, you can get it here!

95 Food Mart

Intersection of Hwy 128 and Pleasants Valley Road

Across from beautiful Lake Solano Park with its Great Camping & Fishing

On the way to Lake Berryessa



Last Auto Gas Between Winters and Napa!

25635 State Hwy 128 Winters, CA 95694 530-795-3850

Dam Level Update as of Monday, 3/7/11

The elevation of (Glory Hole) at Monticello Dam is **440 feet** (msl). Lake Berryessa has had **21.91** inches of rain since July 1, 2010. The water is now **16.85** feet below the top of the spillway.

Date	Elevation	Evap	High	Low	Rain
2/7/11	417.83	0.17	77	39	0.00
2/8/11	417.84	0.12	71	41	0.00
2/9/11	417.84	0.18	59	40	0.00
2/10/11	417.83	0.13	61	34	0.00
2/11/11	417.84	0.11	65	34	0.00
2/12/11	417.83	0.06	67	34	0.00
2/13/11	417.85	0.06	67	33	0.00
2/14/11	417.85	0.02	69	31	0.08
2/15/11	418.08	0.01	55	46	0.46
2/16/11	419.07	0.00	60	42	1.63
2/17/11	19.93	0.01	51	37	0.60
2/18/11	420.45	0.00	47	31	1.35
2/19/11	420.84	0.00	43	33	0.83
2/20/11	421.05	0.04	46	30	0.02
2/21/11	421.21	0.02	53	33	0.00
2/22/11	421.32	0.04	52	30	0.00
2/23/11	421.43	0.05	61	29	0.00
2/24/11	421.53	0.06	60	32	0.00
2/25/11	421.86	0.00	51	42	1.55
2/26/11	422.04	0.06	52	27	0.02
2/27/11	422.15	0.07	52	27	0.00
2/28/11	422.24	0.07	59	27	0.00
3/1/11	422.24	0.08	60	31	0.00
3/2/11	422.55	0.08	62	36	0.48
3/3/11	422.73	0.01	57	42	0.23
3/4/11	422.84	0.02	67	35	0.00
3/5/11	422.93	0.08	64	37	0.00
3/6/11	423.15	0.01	67	40	0.52



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

Valley Christian Church is a Safe & Healthy place to learn about God's plan for your life. Camping, Boating, Fishing Please come as you are and worship Jesus with Us.

Sunday Service at 10 A.M. Sunday School for the Children. Pastor Randall Roach (707) 718-0995

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

Nichelini Winery Renovation Uncovers History – Literally!

By Doug Patterson

May 4, 1939. Fred Nichelini is on his hands and knees. He is in the process of removing a floorboard in the old Nichelini house in Chiles Valley built by his father in 1895. You know, the one built on top of the old stone winery cellar. His father had died two years earlier. His brother Bill and he would often come up from Oakland to do handyman work for his mother, who still lived there. Besides, after 44 years it was time to lay down some modern linoleum on top of the well-worn wood floor. Over the years his 11 brothers and sisters had literally beaten a path in the doorway between the living room and dining room.

The floor had to be flat with no bumps or depressions when the linoleum was laid. In order to get it that way he had to use a shim under the board. So he went out to his car to get a newspaper he had brought with him, tightly folded it up and tucked it neatly under the board. It worked.

Last week, Ken Wainright, a fourth generation Nichelini, along with his cousins Phil Sunseri, his wife, Leslie, their son, Josh, and Marvin Asher, were doing some repair work on the floor. They noticed a particular area was a slightly "soft". It sort of gave way a little. Investigating this further, Ken removed the board and there was Fred's newspaper. It had not seen the light of day in 72 years. Yet it was as good as new.

He carefully unfolded it. The Oakland Tribune, May 4, 1939. Three big headlines caught his eye. History was to prove that all three were to ring hollow as predic-

tions. "Japan Split with German Axis Hinted", read one. The second read, "Germany Offers Guarantees to Balkan Nations". And the last one was, "Poland Will Say 'No' To Hitler In Danzig. Warsaw is Calm Over New Crises". Four months later, on September 1, 1939, Germany invaded Poland and a new term in warfare was created, the blitzkrieg.

"It was like going back in time", said Ken Wainright, "World War II was only four months away and nobody knew it. Of course, when you are on a piece of land that has been home for the same family since 1884, not too much surprises you. What's fun is that the next surprise never seems to be too far away."

"My father, Fred Nichelini, was a real handyman", said Carol Nichelini Madigan. "We don't know for certain that it was he that did that specific floor repair but, at that time, between his brother Bill, who was the family's second-generation winemaker, and he, most of the needed repairs got done. Also, my father was working as a ship building inspector at Mare Island in 1939, so he would have been keenly interested in the German situation". In fact, in that same newspaper on the front page was another article, "Navy Asks for More Warships", a request to the U.S. House of Representatives that was, in fact, for a record peacetime appropriation for naval vessels.

First it was the four beehives we found in the old barn walls (story previously printed in the Lake Berryessa News). Now a perfectly preserved 1939 newspaper under the floorboards. The next "renovation surprise" could come any day!

NICHELINI FAMILY WINERY

EST. 1890

5 generations 1 passion

Open 11 AM to 5 PM Weekends
2950 Sage Canyon Road (HWay 128)
By appt 1-800-WE-TASTE



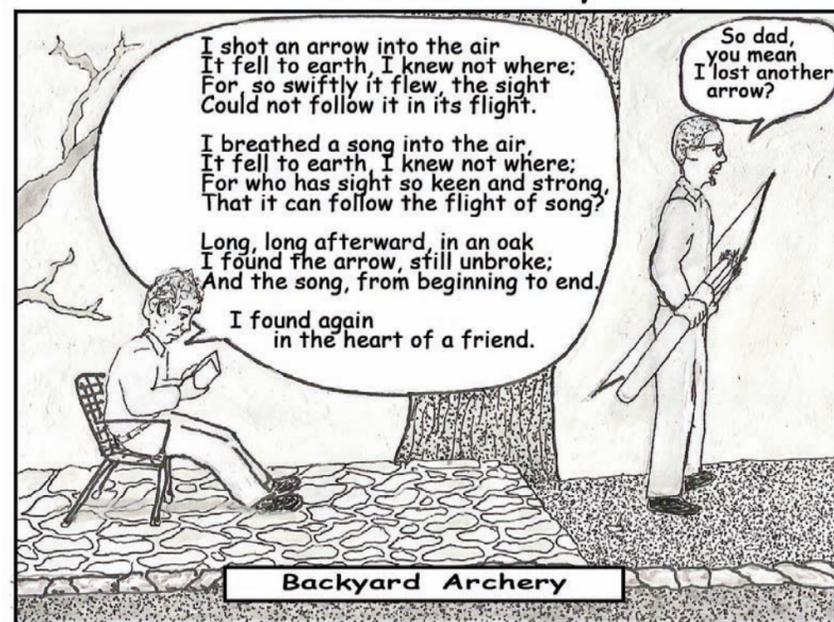
Doug Patterson is a great-grandson of Anton and Caterina Nichelini, and with his sister, Diane, owns a home on Lower Chiles Valley Road. You can read a high resolution photo of the paper at www.LakeBerryessaNews.com. Also see www.nicheliniwinery.com.

Pridmore Storage

Boats ~ RVs ~ Trailers Dry Storage Available

1305 Capell Valley
707-224-0682

NAPALACHIA By Bill Scholer



A husband and wife are shopping in their local Wal-Mart. The husband picks up a case of Budweiser and puts it in their cart. "What do you think you're doing?" asks the wife.

"They're on sale, only \$10 for 24 cans" he replies. "Put them back, we can't afford them" demands the wife, and so they carry on shopping.

A few aisles further on along the woman picks up a \$20 jar of face cream and puts it in the basket.

"What do you think you're doing?" asks the husband. "It's my face cream. It makes me look beautiful," replies the wife.

Her husband retorts: "So does 24 cans of Budweiser and it's half the price." He never knew what hit him.

The face of a child can say it all, especially the mouth part of the face.



Rustridge Ranch & Winery is open 7 days a week. Bring the family and explore the backroads of the Napa Valley. Come picnic under the ancient oaks while tasting our award winning estate-bottled wines. Tour the winery and learn about thoroughbred racehorses. There is something for everyone at RustRidge.



RustRidge B&B / Winery
2910 Lower Chiles Valley Road
St. Helena, CA 94574
1-800-788-0263 or (707) 965-9353
RustRidge@RustRidge.com



CUCINA ITALIANA



AT THE SPANISH FLAT VILLAGE
Fabulously Fresh Italian Food!

Napa County's First Certified Green Business Restaurant

707-966-2433 (CHEF)

Special Events Catering - Fresh Boxed Lunches To Go

4310 Knoxville Rd • Lake Berryessa



The Lake County Sheriff's Office is seeking public comment on a grant application it is submitting to create an off-highway vehicle response team for the Knoxville OHV Area north of Lake Berryessa. The project also will provide for effective responses and abatement efforts relating to OHV trespass problems on private undeveloped lands and encourage the use of authorized, well managed, OHV recreational areas through public education. A 30-day public comment period for the grant application begins March 7 and ends April 4. The public may provide comment on the proposed project to the Lake County Sheriff's Office by contacting them at jwb@co.lake.ca.us

SPANISH FLAT MOBILE VILLA

The Only Privately-Owned Park within Walking Distance to Beautiful Lake Berryessa

This small, well-run park combines affordable vacation spaces with permanent homes in a safe, attractive setting.

Year-Round RV Spaces and Manufactured Home Sites Available

Within the Park: Pool, Laundry Facility, Lake Access Trail

Within Walking Distance:
Cucina Italiana Restaurant,
Spanish Flat Country Store

For application, please call
707-966-1124




C.B. Fenlon Tile




Ceramic Tile Butch Fenlon P.O. Box 9187 Napa, CA 94558 Custom Bullnosing

Contractor Lic. #625723 707-966-2787

Triploid Trout Stocking Begins in Lake Berryessa

By Peter Kilkus

The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) has not stocked rainbow trout in Lake Berryessa since April, 2010. This has changed since 3,400 pounds (6,800 fish) of catchable triploid trout were planted in Lake Berryessa on February 15, 2011 according to Mike Ficele, Fish Hatchery Manager, Silverado Fisheries Base, at the Yountville DFG office.



A lawsuit filed in 2006 by the Pacific Rivers Council and the Center for Biological Diversity against DFG claimed that DFG's fish stocking operation did not comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). DFG had to complete an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that considers species and habitats affected by hatchery-raised rainbow trout. One of the conditions of the EIR is that each water planted throughout California must go through a Pre-Stocking Evaluation (PSE) Protocol.

DFG recently completed a PSE for Lake Berryessa and the lake was approved as a "triploid waters" for the stocking of sterile triploid trout.

According to Ficele, more trout are being raised at Darrah Springs Hatchery near Redding and are almost ready for release. The release standard is two trout per pound. They are now at the 3 trout per pound stage. Future releases should take place during March. The target is to release 40,000 pounds of trout (80,000 fish). "It looks like we may



actually hit the target goal of 40,000 lbs, and stockings should really get going in March," according to Ficele.

Through the mandated environmental impact studies done on California's trout stocking program, it was found that the steelhead, a federally threatened species, could interbreed with the non-native strains of hatchery trout that could escape over the dam. So in order to protect the genetic integrity of the native steelhead, only the sterile triploids are allowed to be stocked in Lake Berryessa.

The "triploid" trout are normal rainbows that have been modified to be sterile, but are otherwise identical to other rainbow trout. They look, fight, and taste just the same. With no ability to reproduce, triploids focus all of their energy on eating and growing

large — sometimes to exaggerated proportions. But the largest of them, 20 pounds and above, are found in the lakes of Washington and Idaho.

But they are not actually "genetically-modified" in the sense that their genes have not actually been "changed" and thus don't deserve the negative description as "frankenfish". They are rare but natural phenomena in the wild. But to create thousands of them at a time took scientific experimentation. The science behind creating these fish happens during the incubation of the trout eggs.

When trout spawn, the female's eggs possess two sets of chromosomes and the male's sperm possess one set. After the eggs are fertilized, the chromosomes recombine and each egg inherits one set of chromosomes from the female and another set from the male — similar to humans. The third set is then kicked out of the egg. Rarely in the wild, an egg will "forget" to kick out the third set and the fish becomes what is known as a triploid (possessing three sets of chromosomes). Triploid fish look, swim, jump, and taste like normal fish, except for one important difference — they never develop normal eggs or sperm and are unable to reproduce (i.e., they are sterile).

Through experimentation with this natural process, researchers found that they could create triploid trout both by exposing trout eggs to pressure and by placing trout eggs in a warm water bath shortly after fertilization. Both processes inhibit a trout egg's ability to kick out that third set of chromosomes and a triploid fish is born. California's DFG is currently using the pressure method for the production of their triploids.

The DFG plants catchable rainbows after they grow to a half-pound as part of a "put & catch" fishery that is designed for anglers to have at them for a short time. Survivability and growth are not a goal of the program. Sterile trout will be raised to the same half-pound before being released. There will not be an attempt to engineer monster-size trout.

These "put & catch" fish are meant specifically for anglers to catch. A rule of thumb is that there is a 50% catch rate by anglers during the first 6 months to a year of fishing. All rainbow trout have the potential for large growth spurts if they find a healthy spot, but it is unknown whether a triploid will grow any larger than a fertile fish.

Trout feed on small insects, minnows, crustaceans and worms. Aquatic and terrestrial insects are the main sources of natural food for trout. The triploids are not expected to have a negative effect on the number of other game fish in the lake. There may be specific factors about Lake Berryessa that would cause some especially large trout to grow from those that were planted. But we won't know that for several years.



A lazy person like me would probably rather catch two ten-pound trout than ten two-pounders that I'd have to clean. Besides fishing is for the fun of the catch, so real anglers would rather catch more small fish than a few bigger ones (right?).

House to Rent

Upscale, furnished 3 bedroom,
2 bath home on acreage.

Near intersection of
Hwy 128 and Knoxville Road
at Lake Berryessa

\$2,200 per month. Free water.

707-966-2495

The Lake Berryessa News Horoscope

Aries (3/21-4/19): God will sincerely apologize to the rest of the hemisphere this week, explaining the snowstorms were the only way to prevent you from wearing those awful sandals.

Taurus (4/20 – 5/20): Okay, the stars realize that last week's prediction of increasingly lower temperatures may not have been that impressive, but this week's alien zombie invasion should make up for it.

Gemini (5/21 – 6/21): You're not the kind of person who likes to ask for help, but for Christ's sake, that's an overturned city bus you're trapped under.

Cancer (6/22-7/22): You're getting better at figuring out what your dreams really mean. However, all that stuff that happens when you're awake is still pretty baffling.

Leo (7/23-8/22): Although it's true that violence never solves anything, it turns out it's just fine for a quick temporary fix in many situations.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): They say that it's not how well the bear dances that's impressive, but that the bear can dance at all, which is kind of insulting considering the number of hours you spent teaching it.

Libra (9/23-10/22): You'll soon provide proof that a small, dedicated group of people can change the world by accidentally driving a rented moving truck into a petroleum storage facility.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): Your biggest mistake wasn't assuming there was some kind of secret to life. It was assuming that it was the kind of secret that would make your life better.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): While it's true that only God can judge you, it also won't take Him more than a couple seconds.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): In the end, you won't wish you'd done anything differently; you'll just wish you hadn't had to do anything.

Aquarius (1/20-2/18): Mercury rising in your sign indicates that things are getting hotter, as the mercury has expanded, causing it to rise up the thermometer.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): You thought there was nothing in life that the music of Al Green couldn't fix, but then you found out about reactor meltdowns, crop failure, and cardiac embolisms.

HOW TO START A FIGHT

I took my wife to a restaurant. The waiter, for some reason, took my order first. "I'll have the rump steak, rare, please."

He said, "Aren't you worried about the mad cow?" "Nah, she can order for herself."

And that's when the fight started.....

When our lawn mower broke and wouldn't run, my wife kept hinting to me that I should get it fixed. But, somehow I always had something else to take care of first, the shed, the boat, making beer. Always something more important to me. Finally she thought of a clever way to make her point.

When I arrived home one day, I found her seated in the tall grass, busily snipping away with a tiny pair of sewing scissors. I watched silently for a short time and then went into the house...

I was gone only a minute, and when I came out again I handed her a toothbrush. I said, "When you finish cutting the grass, you might as well sweep the driveway."

And that's when the fight started.....

The doctors say I will walk again, but I will always have a limp.

Pope Valley Repair & Towing

Auto, Agriculture & Truck Repair

Custom Fabrication & Welding - Manufacture of Hydraulic Hoses

All Brands of New Tires Light, Medium, & Heavy
Duty Tow Trucks



Jeff Parady
707-965-2302
707-965-2332 fax

Available 24 Hours!



Greiter
PLUMBING
707-637-7238

No Trip Charge

Free Estimates

Service * Repair

CA# 950376

Residential * Commercial

Insured * Bonded * 24 Hour Emergency Service

CAPELL VALLEY ESTATES MHP

Lease with Option to Purchase

2 Bedrm, 2 Bath Single Wide - \$829 per mo.

Mobile Home Lot Available for your Double or

Single Wide home - \$629 per mo.

(located at Moskowite Corners, Hwy 121 @ 128)

Please call: 925-939-7444, c: 925-588-6280

ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS



1305 Capell Valley
Napa, California 94558
PBCEstimating@gmail.com

707-224-0682
Fax 707-224-8104
Licence 384371

"Life's tough...It's even tougher when you're stupid." John Wayne

The young man came running into the store and said to his buddy, "Bubba, somebody just stole your pickup truck from the parking lot!" Bubba replied, "Did you see who it was?"

The young man answered, "I couldn't tell, but I got the license number."

Green River Fishing

By Jordan Romney

"Pick up a flat rock, skip it across Green River." Who knows where exactly John Fogerty was skipping rocks across Putah Creek way back when. Creedence Clearwater Revival's song "Green River" was about Putah Creek where John Fogerty used to spend summers as a kid. One thing is for certain, "Green River" would face her share of challenges flowing down stream.

Having grown up a few blocks from Putah Creek there was hardly a hole that I had not swum in, a riffle I had not fished, a fish that I had not met. Things were so much different back then in regards to regulations, methods, and fishing conditions.

An angler could have his limit in a couple of hours in those days of planted rainbows. Those days, are long gone. In 2008 Putah was added to the Department of Fish and Games no plant list. The put and take system that so many visitors had been used to was now eliminated. The creek might never be the same.

When the ruling went into effect that there would no longer be fish stocked in Putah Creek changes in the regulations did not immediately follow, leaving the wild fish that were left subject to the 5 fish catch limit. In 2007 a group of anglers: Greg Bonovich, Dr. Garrick Chang, Chris

Yama, Gordon Chappell, and others had noticed the drastic decline in the fishing and decided that something needed to be done. Putah Creek Trout, the organization, was born.

Their goal was clear, protect the wild fish that were left, preserve their habitat and they will re populate the future. In 2009, they began working with DFG's wild trout program specifically on changing regulations for fishing the creek.

In order to protect the wild fish, a zero take limit was put in place year round. No longer would it be common to see stringers full of fish leaving the creek. To help with releasing the fish safely only artificial flies or lures with barbless hooks may be used. The no bait regulation is by far the most unpopular.

The reason behind it is that when a trout eats bait it swallows it along with the hook. It is very hard to retrieve a hook from a fish once it has been swallowed thus harmfully affecting the survival rate of the fish that is released. When a fish takes a fly or slams a lure it immediately recognizes it as a non-food item and tries to spit it out. The hook gets caught in the lip, it is easily removed and fish is gently released. For more information on Putah Creek Trout visit our website <http://www.putahcreektrout.org/>.



PCT Spring Celebration!
Fly Tying and Casting Demonstrations and Lessons

Where: Lake Solano Nature Center
When: March 26, 2011 12-3 PM
At the Park
8685 Pleasants Valley Rd
Lake Solano
Regional Expert and Professional Tyers Licensed Casting Instructors
Buy Raffle Tickets for the Wood Pram donated by James Haan



Raffles: Tying Bench, Pram, Guess the # Lottery Accuracy and Distance Contests for all levels

Cost: \$5 per Family Suggested Donation \$5 Buy-in for Casting Contests

Monticello Dam: Tear it down - build it bigger!

by Peter Kilkus

The rumor of raising Monticello Dam has been around for decades. Where did this rumor start and why does it pop up every now and again? According to David Okita, general manager of the Solano County Water Agency, CalFed, a collaboration among 25 state and federal agencies, did a "brainstorming" survey many years go of every potential future water project in northern California.

Although raising Monticello Dam made the original list of possible projects, after practical criteria such as cost, safety, flooding adjacent property, were applied to screen the list down to real opportunities, raising the dam was dropped from the list. It has never been discussed seriously since then. It is NOT in any plan and never will be.

But there is another potential source to this rumor, and it was a much more ambitious project than just raising the dam.

According to "The Solano Water Story" published by the Solano Irrigation District, banner headlines in California's newspapers in September, 1963 announced Governor Edmund G. Brown's startling new state water plan in which Berryessa would have a major role.

The \$3.7 billion plan included 35 dams, 70 miles of tunnels, 10 pumping plants, and 15 powerplants. The time-table called for start-up in 1976

and completion about 2020.

According to the plan, the still-young, 304-foot high Monticello Dam would be removed, rather than letting it remain as an underwater barrier. It would be replaced with a 650-foot high earth and rockfill dam a mile downstream from the concrete arch dam. The new reservoir would be three times larger than Lake Berryessa, with 10 times its capacity or 16 million acre-feet (compared with Shasta's 4.5 million acre-feet).

The enlarged lake would extend into Pope Valley almost as far as Aetna Springs in Napa County and into Capell Valley, taking nearly 18,000 acres of agricultural and grazing land out of production.

Estimated cost of the Greater Berryessa Project, as it was called, was put at \$360 million by the State Department of Water Resources (DWR). The timetable for this part of the project indicated a start-up in about 1990.

In essence, the idea was to integrate the Greater Berryessa Project with the \$280 million Clear Lake Diversion Project. The latter included three dams on the Middle Fork of the Eel River, with tunnels to the Main Eel River, Russian River, and Clear Lake to Putah Creek, then through two more dams and Lake Berryessa to the Sacramento River.

From Clear Lake, the water would be diverted by a two-mile tunnel to Soda Creek in the Upper Putah Creek basin, developing 400 feet of power-

head that would be harnessed with the construction of two dams on Soda Creek. According to the DWR, discharges from the power facilities would be released into an enlarged Lake Berryessa capable of meeting the export demands of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and those of the Solano Project.

Even the Bureau of Reclamation, which had never been accused of thinking small, was impressed by the scope of Governor Brown's plan, describing the overall project as "staggering but physically possible and since the Greater Berryessa Project would not be built for at least another 30 years, the present Monticello Dam by that time will have served its useful life."

Brown's master plan for the state's water problems never caught on with the public or the legislature. His grand plans are collecting dust at the DWR.

Spelling Test: What nine letter word in the English language is still a word when eight letters are removed one by one? Hint: starts with an s and ends with a g. See answer on Page 8.

The voices in my head may not be real, but they have some good ideas!

Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won't expect it back.

For Sale: '83 Dodge 250 Ram Van, \$850 obo
 Vintage van with many newly installed parts!
 318V8 Automatic, Power Steering, 33 Gallon Tank Tow Package
 4 Low Mileage Tires
 Door-Mounted Spare
 2 Swivel Captain's Chairs
 New Windshield, Wiper Blades, Radiator, Hoses, Belts, Motor Mounts, Ball Joints, Shocks, Brakes & more...
 Bruce Blondin, 707-226-2815, brbphotography@napa.us



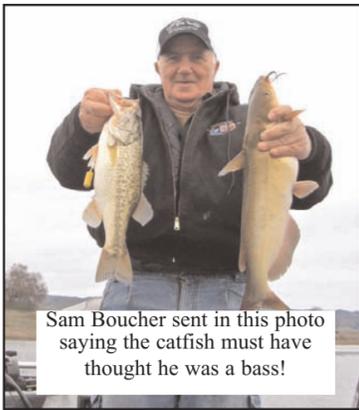
Startling Starting Staring String Sting Sin In I

Viking Propane, Inc.
"Where Service Always Comes First"
 Karah Erickson, Manager

17834 Railroad Street (530) 666-6996
 P.O. Box 70 Toll Free 1-800-621-8221
 Madison, CA 95853 Fax (530) 666-6435
www.vikingpropane.com vikingpropane@sbcglobal.net
 Home - Farm - Commercial - Industrial



Berryessa Pro Team Circuit: First Place finish by Father & Son Team, Jack & Colton Jaha of Alamo



Sam Boucher sent in this photo saying the catfish must have thought he was a bass!

Mark Amador License:626476
Ray's Radiator & Glass
Lake Berryessa - Pope Valley - St.Helena

360 McCormick St. Helena, CA 94574
Shop (707) 963-5223 Fax (707) 963-8285

Glass Commercial - Contracting Residential - Retail
Radiator Passenger Car - Trucks Industrial - Fuel Tanks

jan@raysradiatorandglass www.RaysRadiatorandGlass.com

SPANISH FLAT MOBILE VILLA
Homes For Sale

 \$7,995 2 bedroom, 1 bath Recently refurbished 57' x 10' - Large Lot \$575/mo rent	 \$8,995 2 bedroom, 1 bath Very clean 60' x 12' \$550/mo rent	 \$13,995 2 bedroom, 1 bath Recently refurbished 52' x 12' \$550/mo rent
--	--	---

100% owner financing with approved credit plus one year lease
 A Privately-Owned Park within Walking Distance to Beautiful Lake Berryessa

Within the Park: Pool Laundry Lake Access Trail		Within Walking Distance: Cucina Italiana Restaurant Spanish Flat Country Store
--	---	--

707-966-1124

Spanish Flat Village Country Store & Deli
Open 7 Days a Week from 6 AM to 6 PM
Deli: Chili Dogs, Hamburgers & Fresh Breakfast Sandwich
General Store: Beer ~ Wine ~ Bait & Tackle
 Owner - Marcia Ritz 707-966-1600
 FAX: 707-966-1602
 Marcia Ritz - Artist www.MarciaRitz.com
4318 Knoxville Road in the Spanish Flat Village Center



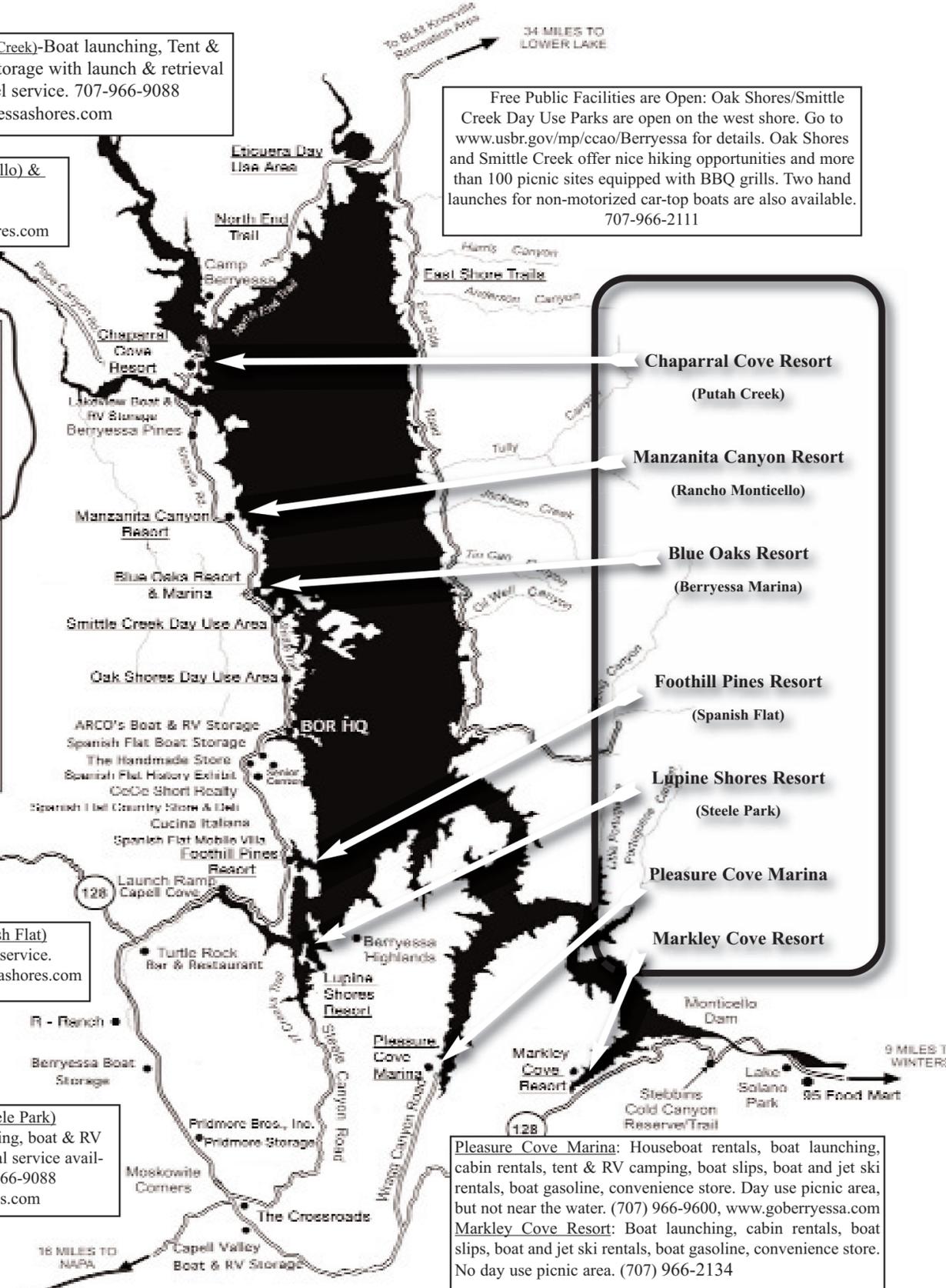
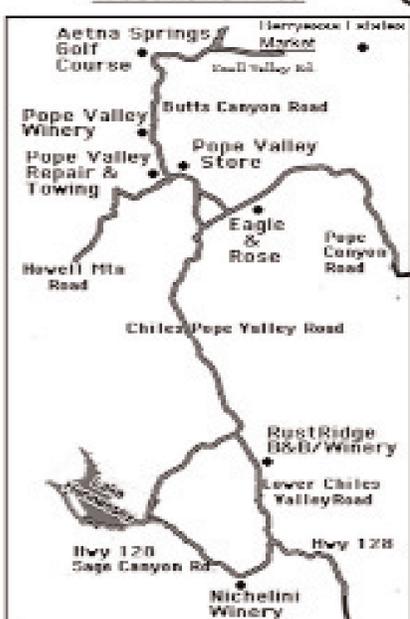
Community Church of Lake Berryessa
 Located at 6008 Monticello Road (Moskowite Corners)
 For information please contact Bob Lee
 Phone: 707-252-4488
 Email: terribob@pacbell.net

Chaparral Cove Resort (Putah Creek)-Boat launching, Tent & RV camping, boat & RV dry storage with launch & retrieval service available. No fuel service. 707-966-9088 <http://lakeberrysashores.com>

Free Public Facilities are Open: Oak Shores/Smittle Creek Day Use Parks are open on the west shore. Go to www.usbr.gov/mp/ccao/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

Manzanita Canyon (Rancho Monticello) & Blue Oaks (Berryessa Marina). Group camping by reservation 707-966-9088 <http://lakeberrysashores.com>

West Lake Area



Foothill Pines Resort (Spanish Flat) Tent & RV camping, No fuel service. 707-966-9088, <http://lakeberrysashores.com>

Lupine Shores Resort (Steele Park) Boat launching, Tent & RV camping, boat & RV dry storage with launch & retrieval service available. No fuel service. 707-966-9088 <http://lakeberrysashores.com>

Pleasure Cove Marina: Houseboat rentals, boat launching, cabin rentals, tent & RV camping, boat slips, boat and jet ski rentals, boat gasoline, convenience store. Day use picnic area, but not near the water. (707) 966-9600, www.goberryessa.com
Markley Cove Resort: Boat launching, cabin rentals, boat slips, boat and jet ski rentals, boat gasoline, convenience store. No day use picnic area. (707) 966-2134

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region

Fly Fishing the Green River

By Jordan Romney

The key to being a successful angler on Putah Creek is to keep at it and change your style regularly. It is important when fishing Putah Creek to set your expectations correctly. I tell my clients flat out, this is a tough place to catch fish. There are so many challenges when fishing Putah I don't know where to start.

I guess first is that dry flies will not produce a lot of fish. If you want to catch fish here you need to know how to nymph with weight and an indicator. This is a river where you need to know how to roll cast and you need to know how to roll cast well. With all of the trees, bushes, branches, and rocks working against you it is not uncommon to go a whole day without ever making a single back cast.

The rainbows here are all big, wild, and in great shape. There are a lot of fish 20 inches with some close to 30. Expect most fish to be in the 12-15 inch range.

March is one of the best months to fish on Putah Creek. The weather starts to get warmer meaning more bugs are activity. The fish are done with their spawn and ready to get fat again. The water levels will be in your favor at least until April 1st. When fishing here I recommend a standard 9'

5WT fly rod with a floating line. Use light leaders and tippet, either 5X or 6X. Some anglers here like to as light as 7X which is fine when fighting the smaller fish but if you hook a "Putah Pig" on 7X you will get worked.

In March the caddis will start to hatch, use your favorite pupae patterns both green and cream. There are always good mayfly hatches and midges. March is a good time to strip streamers. The creek is full of sculpins and sticklebacks; if nymphing isn't working try stripping a big sculpzilla or black bunny leach.

Presentation with your flies is the most important skill to have here. Smaller size flies in the 18-24 range will get more grabs than the bigger stuff. Also, make sure to change flies often, I can confidently make the argument that these fish see more flies than any other tail water in California.

Jordan Romney is a professional fly fishing guide who fine-tuned his craft at the Guide School at the Clearwater Lodge in California. His services apply to beginners and veterans alike, and he offer full day and half day trips, as well as casting instruction. He supplies rods, reels, tackle, lunch, instruction, waders, and boots with limited sizes. In the summer when the water levels become too high

for wading he offers float tube and canoe fishing trips as well as special trips down lower Putah Creek. This section of water is only accessible through private land and he can guarantee no one knows these spots like he does. Let's Fish!

Phone 530 304 8421

E-mail JordanRomney@gmail.com



Some people hear voices. Some see invisible people. Others have no imagination whatsoever.

Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

On the other hand, we have different fingers.



Lake Berryessa Area Travel Distances

- 11.8 Miles - Winters to Markley Cove
- 8.3 Miles - Markley Cove to Moskowite Corners
- 20.1 Miles - Winters to Moskowite Corners
- 4.7 Miles - Moskowite Corners to Turtle Rock
- 13.0 Miles - Moskowite Corners to Napa
- 3.2 Miles - Lower Chiles Valley Rd at Hwy 128 to Pope Valley Rd.
- 8.5 Miles - Lower Chiles Valley Rd at Pope Valley Rd. to Pope Valley
- 5.0 Miles - Turtle Rock to Spanish Flat Village Center
- 7.4 Miles - Turtle Rock to Oak Shores Park
- 3.0 Miles - Turtle Rock to Lower Chiles Valley Rd.

- 14.7 Miles - Turtle Rock to Pope Valley via Chiles Valley
- 15.5 Miles - Turtle Rock to Chaparral Cove Resort via Knoxville Rd.
- 10.2 Miles - Pope Valley to Knoxville Rd. via Pope Canyon Rd.
- 8.3 Miles - Pope Canyon Rd. to Spanish Flat Village Center
- 18.5 Miles - Pope Valley to Spanish Flat Village Center via Pope Canyon
- 19.7 Miles - Pope Valley to Spanish Flat Village Center via Chiles Valley
- 2.4 Miles - Spanish Flat Village Center to Oak Shores Park
- 10.5 Miles - Spanish Flat Village Center to Chaparral Cove Resort
- 3.7 Miles - Pope Valley to Aetna Springs Road
- 11.3 Miles - Pope Valley to Berryessa Estates
- 4.1 Miles - Pope Valley to Angwin

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