

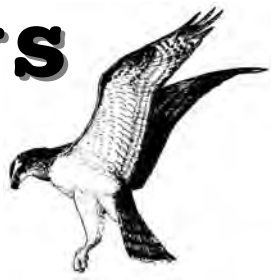


The Lake Berryessa News

Community News Makes a Better Community

Since 1994 - For things to know and places to go at Lake Berryessa!

June 2, 2005



25¢

Cheap at any price!

How Many Places Can You Eat at Lake Berryessa in One Week?

Over the years “dining out” at Lake Berryessa has been an interesting challenge. I decided to work my way around the lake and see what’s available. This is not a traditional restaurant review since I’m not a gourmand. But the places I visited had more than just food. Each had enthusiastic owners who really care about this lake and want to improve the overall community. Most are members of the new Lake Berryessa Chamber of commerce and each had something unique that made it worth stopping by. So, in sort of alphabetical order, let me describe my travels around the lake last week.

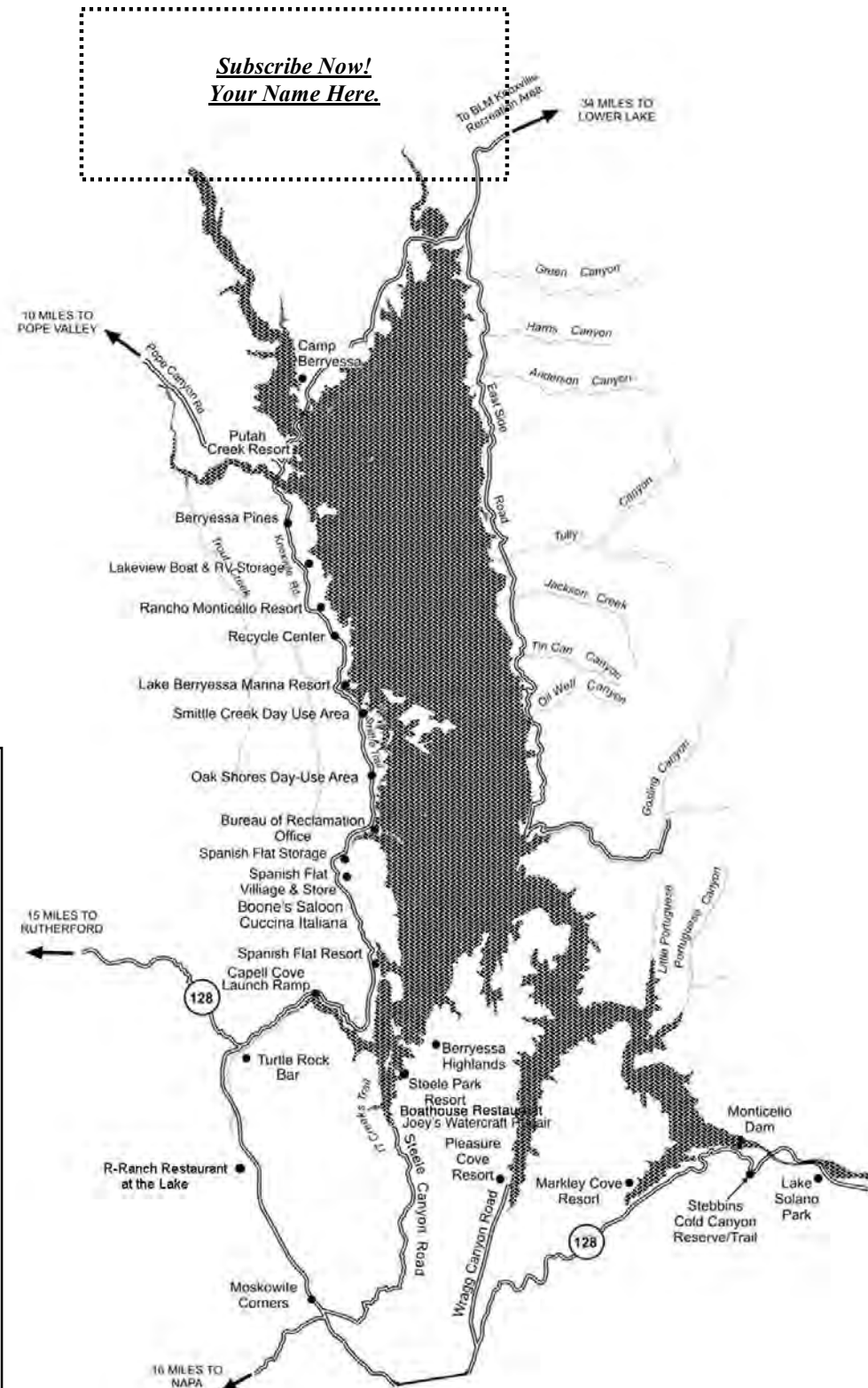
Jim and Linda Tschida’s venerable Spanish Flat Inn at the Spanish Flat Village Center was transformed by Yevo and Suzanne Jeworowski into **Boone’s Saloon** more than a year ago. I sat next to the namesake of the place, 4-year old Boone, as he polished off a steak on a beautiful Sunday evening after music on the patio. Suzanne explained that they serve fresh-prepared food to order with steaks fresh cut from the loin, hand-packed hamburger patties, and sliced fresh whole potatoes to make their outstanding fries. Liquor Chef Maxine takes good care of you at the bar and Food Chef Todd makes a mean burger, but there’s a wide range of food on the menu. Boone’s is a biker bar with heart and soul and they emphasize that all ages are welcome. The atmosphere is very friendly and the pool table is often in use. Their All-You-Can-Eat Taco Tuesday is another big hit. Get the latest at www.Boones-Saloon.com.

Continued on Page 4

In the News

- Good food, good friends, and atmosphere!
- Pleasure Cove Boils Over
- Project Kokanee at Markley Cove

Subscribe Now!
Your Name Here.



How Do You Get to Lake Berryessa?

Most people who come to Lake Berryessa regularly develop family traditions of where to go and what to do. From the East Bay and points south, a major route to the Lake is Hwy 680 to Suisun Valley Rd. to Wooden Valley Rd.

If you come that way you can stop at Tower Mart 99 to get your snacks or gas - and a copy of The Lake Berryessa News. Manager Lilia McCauley and her staff will take good care of you. Across the Rockville Corners intersection you can stop for a bite at Joe Bosco’s Joe’s Valley Café - and a copy of The Lake Berryessa News. Farther up the road you can take a left to quiet Manka’s Corners where Gigi and Ray Canepa’s Vintage Café serves gourmet food in a very pleasant setting. Hank Howard of Steele Park claims they serve some of the best lamb he’s tasted. By the way, you can pick up a copy of The Lake Berryessa News there too!

Let us know about your favorite family things-to-do on the way to the lake and at the lake and we’ll print them in The Lake Berryessa News.

Letters to the Editor

The Lake Berryessa News

An Independent Community Newspaper

Published the first and third Thursday of each month.

Owner & Editor

Shirl Katleba

Co-Editor & Writer

Peter Kilkus

All copy is subject to editing and must be submitted with the understanding that the Lake Berryessa News reserves the right to reject letters or articles and reject or discontinue advertisements that the publisher deems unsuitable.

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Contact Peter at: 415-307-6906 (Cell)

Email: PKilkus@aol.com



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6244 Hwy 128
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Dear Lake Berryessa User:

You may be surprised to learn the Bureau of Reclamation plans to cut watercraft use from over 3,000 to only 700. Motorized watercraft use is in jeopardy. The BOR also plans to reduce tent campsites from 504 to 250, dock slips from 1438 to 600, dry boat storage sites from 1068 to 100, long-term trailer and mobile home sites from 1347 to 0.

Amazing as it sounds, the Bureau of Reclamation is planning to force out the very people who pay money to support your use of Lake Berryessa. The BOR thinks it is better to get money from the taxpayers. Congress has other priorities. BOR won't get the money. All the present resort owners at Lake Berryessa are likely to be out by 2009 if BOR gets its way. BOR plans to eliminate at least 4 of the 7 existing resorts. The lake will be shut down for two years and the public services they provide will be gone.

BOR is waging a war against public use at Lake Berryessa and destroying forty years of family recreation history choosing certain approved users who can stay and forcing other users to get out. The Bureau of Reclamation shows no sign of any willingness to be a good neighbor or to find a solution to this mess they have created at Lake Berryessa. Armed guards continue to interdict people trying to get to their mobile homes at Pleasure Cove. BOR has taken possession of the entire Pleasure Cove Resort without the clear authority to do so.

Fear is a bad thing. The BOR is threatening all mobile home, dock owners and other users on the lake with losing their rights and access. People with vested interests at the lake live in fear that they will lose everything of value they have at Lake Berryessa.

Call, fax and e-mail your local congressmen. Ask them to request an investigation by the Resources Committee in the House and the Energy and Natural Resources Committee in the Senate. Ask them to request that funds for Lake Berryessa management by the BOR be cut until the Administration reins in this out of control agency.

Call, fax and e-mail:

Secretary of Interior Gale Norton (202) 208-7351, FAX: (202) 219-2100 -
gale_norton@ios.doi.gov

Deputy Lynn Scarlett (202) 208-4203, FAX: (202) 208-1873 – lynn_scarlett@ios.doi.gov

Commissioner of Bureau of Reclamation – John Keyes (202) 513-0501 – FAX: (202) 513-0309 – jkeys@usbr.gov

Mark Limbaugh – Deputy Commissioner of Reclamation (202) 513-0540 – FAX: (202) 513-0309 – mlimbaugh@usbr.gov

Resources Committee – Water and Power Subcommittee – Kiel Weaver -- (202) 225-8331 – FAX: (202) 226-6953

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee – Water and Power Subcommittee -- Kelly Donnelly -- (202) 224-4971 – FAX: (202) 228-0541

- Insist that the Bureau of Reclamation planning process for Lake Berryessa be reopened in a fair and unbiased way.
- Insist that there is room for all users of Lake Berryessa. In fact, there is room for more.
- Insist that the use of motorized watercraft not be reduced below 3,000 boats.
- Insist on more campsites, RV sites, cabins, and motel rooms, not less.
- No private property should be taken without compensation. The BOR must follow Public Law 96-375.
- BOR must stop the discrimination against short-term users, long-term users and motorized watercraft.
- Bush Administration officials must require the Bureau of Reclamation be good neighbors at Lake Berryessa.

Thank you for your support,
Chuck Cushman

American Land Rights Association: www.landrights.org

Chamber of Commerce

The Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce met on Monday, May 23, at Cucina Italiana. Chamber members decided to create a seven member Board of Directors and begin actively recruiting for candidates, to become a member of the Napa Valley Conference and Visitors Bureau, and to create simple advertising collateral for distribution. Businesses and organizations which have become members to date are:

- 4 Star of Lake Berryessa
- American Watercraft Rentals
- Berryessa Boat Storage
- Berryessa Electronics & Mechanical Services
- Berryessa Senior Center
- Berryessa Trails & Conservation
- Bill Lang Cadillac Pontiac
- Boone's Saloon
- C & C Trucking
- California Watershed Posse
- Catacula Lake Winery
- Citizens to Protect Lake Berryessa
- Cuccina Italiana
- Davies & Gamble
- Envirosports
- Joey's Watercraft Repair
- Hammer Ski & Marine
- Kastner Motors
- Markley Cove Resort
- Monticello Ski Club
- Pacific Coast Entertainment,
- Polylift of California
- Pope Valley Repair & Towing
- Pridmore & Son Construction
- Pridmore Bros. Inc.
- Putah Creek Resort
- Rancho Monticello Resort
- R-Ranch Restaurant

- RustRidge B&B/Winery
- Spanish Flat Center
- Spanish Flat Country Store
- Spanish Flat Resort
- Squeaky Clean
- Task Force 7
- The Corners
- The Lake Berryessa News
- Tri-Eagle Beverage
- Turtle Rock
- Viking Propane
- J&R Wilson Real Estate
- Mosley Electric

Napa Library Commission

There is one (1) opening on the Napa City-County Library Commission with a term to commence July 1, 2005 and expire June 30, 2008.

The Commission consists of eight members: three appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The Library Commission meets the second Monday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in the City-County Library in Napa.

Contact the County Executive Office, 1195 Third Street, Room 310, Napa, telephone 253-4421. The deadline to submit the completed application is Friday, June 17, 2005 by 5:00 pm.

2005 is the Year of Einstein

"We should take care not to make intellect our god; it has, of course, powerful muscles, but no personality."

"Whoever sets himself up as judge of truth and knowledge is shipwrecked by the laughter of the gods."

Albert Einstein

Seniors Legacy Reno Trip

Bus leaves the Senior Center at 7:30am on June 7th & will pick up at the Corners for the Highland & Napa people.

Bus arrives in Reno 11am.

Stay over night. Double occupancy \$78.00 per person.

Single room, \$99.00 / night. \$5.00 cash back & \$3.00 food credit.

Next day, leave Silver Legacy at 10:30 am & arrive at Boomtown for Buffet Lunch. Leave Boomtown at 3pm & arrive at the Senior Center by 7pm.

Money due in by May 5th. For more info.

Call Rosemarie 707-966-4505

Calendar of Events Around Lake Berryessa

Senior Center Crafts

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month

Call Betty at 966-2254

Every Monday – Bingo – 1 PM til??

Every first Monday is Bingo Pot Luck – Starts at Noon.

Seniors Pot Luck

Every 3rd Friday Night – bring a dish.

Senior Center – Call 966-0206

Valley Christian Church

Weekly Bible Study on Monday nights, 7:30 until 8:30 PM.

Currently meeting at the Community Church across from the Corners. For more information call **257-0527**.

Sufi Center ~ Meditation & Healing Circle - Pope Valley

Every Thursday - 7pm ~ Every Sunday - 6pm

1st Sunday of every month - Pot Luck - 4pm to 6pm

Info - Call 707-965-0700, 2950 Pope Valley Canyon Rd.

Get your event on the calendar!

Call The Lake Berryessa News at 966-3806 or 287-6240

Email shirlake@myexcel.com or pkilkus@aol.com.

R-RANCH RESTAURANT at The Lake

Open To The Public

2 Miles from The Corners

Open ~ Fri ~ Sat. & Sun

Open 6 Days a week

Closed Wednesdays

Breakfast 7am ~ Noon

Lunch & Dinner ~ 9pm

Pizza made to order from scratch

Ice Cream ~ Snacks

Chef Jerry's Specialty's

BREAKFAST

Eggs Benedict-Chicken Fried Steak-Huevos Rancheros

DINNER

New York Steak, Garlic Mashed Potatoes,
Caesar Salad, French Onion Soup

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Rane Connor & Jerry Stapleton, Chef

1962 Capell Cross Rd.

(707)251-0134

Continued from Page 1

Cucina Italiana, also in the Spanish Flat Village Center has worked its way into the hearts and stomachs of the locals, tourists, and often large groups of resort visitors. The heart part is tickled by Chef Stefano Gusberti's enthusiasm combined with the 5 foot high flames that often leap above the kitchen stove without seeming to singe his eyebrows. Sharyn Simmons is the perfect complement to the Chef with her customer-friendly approach, her wine expertise, and her ability to translate what Stefano is saying while being ready to extinguish him if he does catch fire. Stefano was born in Salsomaggiore and studied at the Institute Lovate in Parma, Italy. After creating gourmet masterpieces at The Rex II Ristorante in Los Angeles and Massa's in San Francisco, Sharyn and Stefano moved to Berryessa in 2001. The stomach part is always more than satisfied by the delicious food in large portions. Not many folks (me either) have been able to finish a whole meal - which is part of Cucina's philosophy of satisfying their clients. I think they pay more for plastic "doggie boxes" than they do for napkins. An outdoor patio, new grapevines in front, as well as plans to add a bocci ball court will make this an even more pleasant place to spend time.

I have to admit that the ad in the Lake Berryessa News is what attracted me to **R-Ranch Restaurant at the Lake**. I hadn't had huevos rancheros since my last Mexico dive trip. I followed the signs on a Sunday morning to the R-Ranch entrance gate. The office gave me a pass and stamped my hand with an S for Special and told me to walk up the hill to the pool area. I met an enthusiastic owner Rane Connor and Chef Jerry Stapleton at the poolside restaurant. The seating

was basic but the breakfast fare looked great. I had the huevos outside with a view of the kids playing in the pool. I need to get back there for dinner some night. It would be nice if the R-Ranch let you drive up, but it's worth the trip to try something new.

Many fishermen know about Steele Park's **Captain's Cove** since it's open so early and serves great breakfasts. My son Evan and I have been going there for ten years. Eating with a view of the cove and launch ramp is a great way to have breakfast, lunch, or simple dinner. But my favorite view is still the one at Steele Park's **Boathouse Restaurant**. Although it is only open during the summer season, it attracts many local people from the Berryessa Highlands. Michelle Peace, owner/chef, has put together an excellent menu ranging from simple but delicious salads to gourmet dishes with eye-pleasing presentations. A couple of years ago the Boathouse installed a pizza oven which was an instant success because their wide variety of very tasty and filling pizzas. People rave about the crust. Watching the sun go down over the lake while finishing a good meal with friends is the type of summer experience you don't forget - unless you stay too long at their round bar.

Turtle Rock has always intrigued me since the first time a few years ago I went in to drop off some information about the Bureau of Reclamation's plan to shut down the lake and demolish the resorts. That's when I first met Pete Leung, Jr. who has been carrying on his father's tradition as: Home of the "World Famous Eggrolls". When I dropped by last Sunday I finally asked him how the tradition started and he pointed to his father's picture on the wall. Father Leung, a former Hong Kong resident, had expertise in

egg roll recipes. The family has owned Turtle Rock for 25 years, and 20 years ago the "World Famous Eggroll" was perfected. I bought some frozen ones, and although I didn't really burn myself too badly cooking them, I think I'll get them already fried next time. Dozens of egg roll wafer packages were spread around the bar. Pete said that they would be making 3,000 egg rolls for the upcoming Memorial Day weekend. Must be quite a project to watch! By Friday evening (5/27) he had already sold more than 200. There was quite a crowd sitting outside with cool drinks watching the traffic going home from a day at the lake. With all the sharp boat-towing rigs and roaring motorcycles flowing by, it was almost as much fun as the traditional visit to the launch ramp to watch folks try to sink their trucks.

There are also a couple of other places to try. The **Putah Creek Resort restaurant** has a sweeping view of the north end of the lake. The **Rancho Monticello Resort restaurant** also has a panoramic view across the middle of the lake from the north end to Big Island. Although **The Corners** is still not serving food, they do have a full bar tended by Carlos Jeffreys on weekends. Carlos, as you may notice from our regular dam level update table on the front page, is the keeper of the official rainfall totals for Lake Berryessa. And I'm sure Brenda at **Brenda's Country Store** right between Boone's and Cucina would be happy to whip something up for you at any time.

Let me know if I missed anyone. Now it's time for me to get something to eat!

Peter Kilkus

■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■

CHEF STEFANO GUSBERTI
PRESENTS
**CUCINA
ITALIANA**



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SPANISH FLAT VILLAGE CENTER

707-966-2433 (CHEF)
Now Open for Lunch
11:30 AM til 9 PM
Closed Monday and Tuesday

■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■

Pleasure Cove Boils Over!

Reclamation's sudden closing of Pleasure Cove Resort more than a month ago has had wide-ranging repercussions. Pleasure Cove Asset Management Group, with the support of all the other resort operators at the lake, has taken vigorous legal action to take the resort back. This BOR police action, as well as Reclamation's extremely controversial DEIS proposal, precipitated the involvement of a major national land rights group, the American Land Rights Alliance. More than 100,000 emails were sent during the last two weeks generating thousands of letters and calls to Congress. 5,000 Congressional Testimony Questionnaires were distributed to lake visitors at all the resorts and businesses this holiday weekend. Several members of Congress, the highest levels of the Department of the Interior, and both a Senate and a House committee are now deeply involved.

Until this weekend the BOR refused to say which company they had chosen to take over the Pleasure Cove contract. However, Reclamation personnel apparently told at least one Pleasure Cove mobile home owner early in the week that the chosen company was Forever Resorts headquartered in Scottsdale, Arizona, which owns and operates more than 55 properties located in or near national parks, recreation areas and national forests across the United States and more than 20 properties in Europe and Africa. Forever Resorts also states that they are the clear leader in manufacturing luxury houseboats and in providing them for vacation rentals.

A call by the Lake Berryessa News to Forever Resorts on Wednesday, 5/25, was unable to confirm their selection. The VP-Public Relations would only say that she knew of no announcement by Reclamation. BOR management finally confirmed that Forever Resorts had been chosen in a letter to another bidder, the California Watershed Posse (CWP) on Friday, 5/27. CWP had been critical of the ongoing BOR activity

in this case and issued the following statement to Reclamation:

"The CWP, on behalf of all American taxpayers, will not tolerate being denied public access to Federal recreational lands at Lake Berryessa or the continued gross violations of Environmental Justice by Reclamation. It is with sadness that we inform you that this evening the CWP Board of Directors instructed General Counsel Frank Iwama to draft a referral to the U.S. Attorney Office requesting an investigation into the BOR Pleasure Cove Resort illegal enterprise activities at Lake Berryessa."

Other elements of this controversy that have generated widespread concern are sections in the proposed contract that appear to be contradictory to the new BOR policy regarding exclusive use and which imply that the BOR will take action against additional resorts.

For example: "Due to the approaching expiration of the other six concession contracts at Lake Berryessa it is possible that any of the other concessionaires could have their contract terminated in advance because of financial and performance problems. In the event this occurs and Reclamation determines it necessary to establish an interim concessionaire, in a similar manner as this contract, the Pleasure Cove concessionaire could be assigned that responsibility through an amendment to this contract."

The other resort operators view this as a thinly disguised method to bypass the present planning process and induce a major corporation to take over a single small resort with the implied promise that they will then be given the others. Experienced observers believe that since the BOR has spent significant effort in what appears to be an ongoing effort to close Putah Creek Resort during the last few years, it may be their next target. This is one reason that all the present resort owners are united in opposition to the BOR plans.

Another interesting section in the new contract gives the Pleasure Cove operator the right to install 75 new

private houseboats. Aside from the fact that Forever Resorts declares themselves to be the "clear leader in manufacturing luxury houseboats..." this number of private houseboats is larger than that now allowed at the lake. Since BOR policy attempts to eliminate "exclusive use" why does this contract allow exclusive use of the water surface by private houseboats when it requires removal of "exclusive use" mobile homes on land by December, 2005, although the new contract extends to 2007? The original contract under which the mobile homeowners initially bought their permits actually extended to at least 2008.



Pleasure Cove Remained Closed During the Holiday

Resort Closed signs greeted visitors to Pleasure Cove all along the road and at the gate this weekend. The BOR had told the media that they would re-open to the public, but since they could not collect fees, only mobile home owners and visitors with receipts for paid reservations were allowed to enter.

The Lake Berryessa News was told by BOR personnel at the gate Friday that the resort was closed. You couldn't even pay to get in or get a reservation. There was no restaurant, no store, no gas, no services. Happy Memorial Day the BOR way.

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Improving the Lake Berryessa Fishery

Last issue we told you about the California Inland Fisheries Foundation's — Project Kokanee Fishing Derby, Saturday, June 11th, at Markley Cove Resort. CIFI has had a long relationship with Markley Cove due to its Kokanee Project.

In 1999 CIFI financed a \$25,000 trout pen-rearing program to enhance Lake Berryessa's Rainbow Trout fishery. May 1, 2000 saw the end of a very successful initial project of pen raising of thousands of Rainbow Trout and King Salmon. When these fish were released they ranged in the 12-14 inch size.

In 2004 1,000 Eagle Lake Trout were brought to CIFI pens at Lake Berryessa to carry on with this highly successful project. As in the past the pens were the home of these trout until they reached trophy size and were released in the early spring. Markley Cove personnel volunteered

their time to assist CIFI in the feeding and monitoring of the fish and pens.

California Inland Fisheries Foundation Inc. was founded in 1992 to improve the fisheries of Kokanee Salmon. Project Kokanee became the first co-operative venture in fisheries improvement with the California Department of Fish and Game. Volunteers assisted in egg-taking, freeing Fish and Game employees for other duties.

Today, CIFI has grown to nearly thirteen hundred paid members, Project Kokanee has been joined by Project King Salmon and Project Rainbow Trout, and over 10 million fingerlings have been planted during the past nine years. For more information see www.Kokanee.org

CIFI
4260 24th Street
Sacramento, CA 95822
Telephone: (916) 456-5981
Fax: (916) 456-8753

Hunting Berryessa Valley

Lloyd Briggs, August 15, 1881

Started off today driving a nice pair of ponies with a sort of express wagon in which we packed our tents and provisions. We drove over the mountains to Berryessa Valley. The road is extremely dusty this time of year, owing to the large trucks loaded with quicksilver which travel from the Knoxville quicksilver mine to Napa. The scenery is superb, and the waving wheat, hundreds of acres of which we passed, looked like a golden realm in such a wild, mountainous country. Quail are plentiful and quite tame, also the turtledove, and cottontail and jackass rabbits; and I had my game bag well filled on arrival from what shooting I had while standing in the team. I have shot twenty-seven doves before it was fairly light in this valley, and innumerable rabbits.

We passed many ranches bearing peculiar names, such as "Hole in the Wall," "Windy Flats," etc. Arriving

at Monticello, a farming and mining town of about 100 inhabitants, twenty-five miles from Napa.

I enjoyed fishing in Putah Creek which runs back of the town. Of all the dusty places in this region this is the dustiest place I ever was in. We were white from the time we entered it until we left. The seats, tables, floors and counters, and all the articles on them, were buried in dust by the passing teams or puffs of wind; a cloud of dust arose from our beds as we retired for the night. I enjoyed talking with the inhabitants, who were kind and friendly.

Fishing Connection Guide Service

Lake Berryessa - Lake Sonoma
Ocean & Bay
(650) 583-3333
Ask for SID!
www.fishingconnection.net



Like to Water Ski or Wakeboard?

Monticello Ski Club has a tournament slalom course and dock facilities located in Skiers Cove on Lake Berryessa.

Annual Use Permits are \$60.00 and are available for purchase at:

**Turtle Rock Lounge
Markley Cove - Store**

Rancho Monticello-Gas Dock or Main Office

monticelloskiclub@msn.com

A California non-profit organization

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- *Full Service Store ~ Gas Docks
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- *Berths Available
- *Boat and Jet Ski Rentals
- *Launch Ramp ~ Open Daily



707-966-2161

www.lakeberryessa.com

Pick-A-Pet Comes to Lake Berryessa

Humane Society unveils its new adoption center on wheels. The Humane Society of Napa County is taking its show on the road. The pet adoption center and clinic, now known simply as Napa Humane, has purchased a high-tech mobile adoption unit, enabling the nonprofit organization to bring adoptive animals and clinic services to the community. Residents in almost every corner of Napa Valley will have a chance to see the rolling adoption center and take home a new pet. "We plan to have adoption fairs from Calistoga to American Canyon to Lake Berryessa to Angwin," Matovcik said. "We also plan to offer the use of the mobile unit to other nonprofit and private animal organizations."

Fishing Lake Berryessa
5/26/05 - Sacramento Bee

Bite is on for trout, salmon and kokanee on top to 25 feet down, on an Apex with or without a minnow added or try a Needlefish behind a dodger or lead core, four colors out. Trout fishing has been good from the banks off minnows and a bobber as well. Markley Cove is a good place to start if you're trolling as they released rainbow from the cages there to 5 pounds. Find steady bass action on plastics, Brush Hogs in baby watermelon or green, just about everywhere. Catfishing at night by the Vineyards area is producing fish to 6 pounds. Find a few crappie in Cappell Cove at night.

Hiking Trails at Lake Berryessa


Smittle Creek Trail is a 2.6 mile trail which runs between the two public parks at the Lake. It's a cozy trail, running past lots of small coves with views of the two largest islands in the lake. You can get to it either at the northernmost point of Oak Shores park or the southernmost point of Smittle Creek park. Leashed dogs allowed.

Pope Canyon Trail is basically an old roadbed which starts 2.1 miles up Pope Canyon Road from Berryessa-Knoxville Road. Look for a pulloff on the south side, and a brown and yellow striped bar crossing the trail. Head down the trail and turn left, following it for about 1.6 miles all the way down to the creek. Efforts are underway to extend this trail along the creek all the way to the Lake. Leashed dogs allowed.

North Shore Trail is in the process of being brought back to life. Originally built in 1976-77, the trail fell into disrepair but the trailbed is now being recut. Currently, there are more than three miles that can be hiked. The trailhead is just past Putah Creek bridge, but it can also be reached by numerous trailheads along Berryessa-Knoxville Road. Leashed dogs allowed.

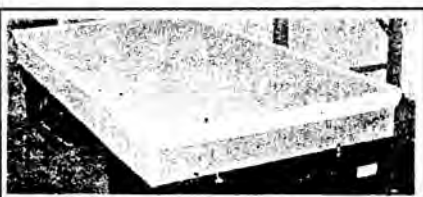
Stebbins Cold Canyon Loop Trail is a 4 mile strenuous trail that takes you up to Blue Ridge and spectacular views of the Narrows of Lake Berryessa. The first mile up the canyon is on land that is part of the UC Davis Nature Reserve system so no dogs are allowed. You can skip the Canyon part and just head up the ridge to the right for an out-and-back trail where leashed dogs are allowed.

Trail maps available at the BOR Visitors Center



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Equipment Rentals



Patio Boats

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Spanish Flat Marina



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The Lake Berryessa News

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June 16, 2005



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The Lake Berryessa News Forced to Apologize to the Napa Valley Register

Several months ago, due to a misunderstanding of copyright requirements and republication rights, we printed information that had appeared first in the Napa Valley Register. Although Lake Berryessa News readers such as Hank Howard (not a Register columnist) had often sent their letters to both the Napa Valley Register and The Lake Berryessa News at the same time in hope of being published in one or the other (publication of Letters to the Editor is not guaranteed by either paper), apparently the Register objects to us printing those letters too if they print them first.

The Lake Berryessa News distributed free copies of its April 7 edition to people attending the General Plan meeting at the Berryessa Senior Center, including a Napa Register reporter. Since this was probably the first time The Lake Berryessa News had ever been read by the folks at the Register, we are gratified that they noticed us. Unfortunately it was their lawyers who responded. Printed below is our apology as given to us by DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary US LLP, the Napa Valley Register's attorneys. For those of you who pay any attention to the Register, you'll notice that their reporter's name is incorrect in the statement below. We apologize to Gabe Friedman for his attorneys' oversight.

"Several articles in the April 7, 2005 issues of The Lake Berryessa News were copied from the Napa Valley Register and were republished without authorization from the Register. The article "Feds shut down Lake Berryessa resort," was written by Register staff writer Gary Friedman and was originally published in the Register on March 29, 2005. The column by Hank Howard, "Bureau needs to 'show me the money trail,'" was originally published in the Register on March 31. The letter to the editor "Public has plenty of lake access" was originally published in the Register on March 30.

The Lake Berryessa News apologizes to the Napa Valley Register for republishing these stories without permission and has agreed not to republish stories from the Register without authorization in the future."

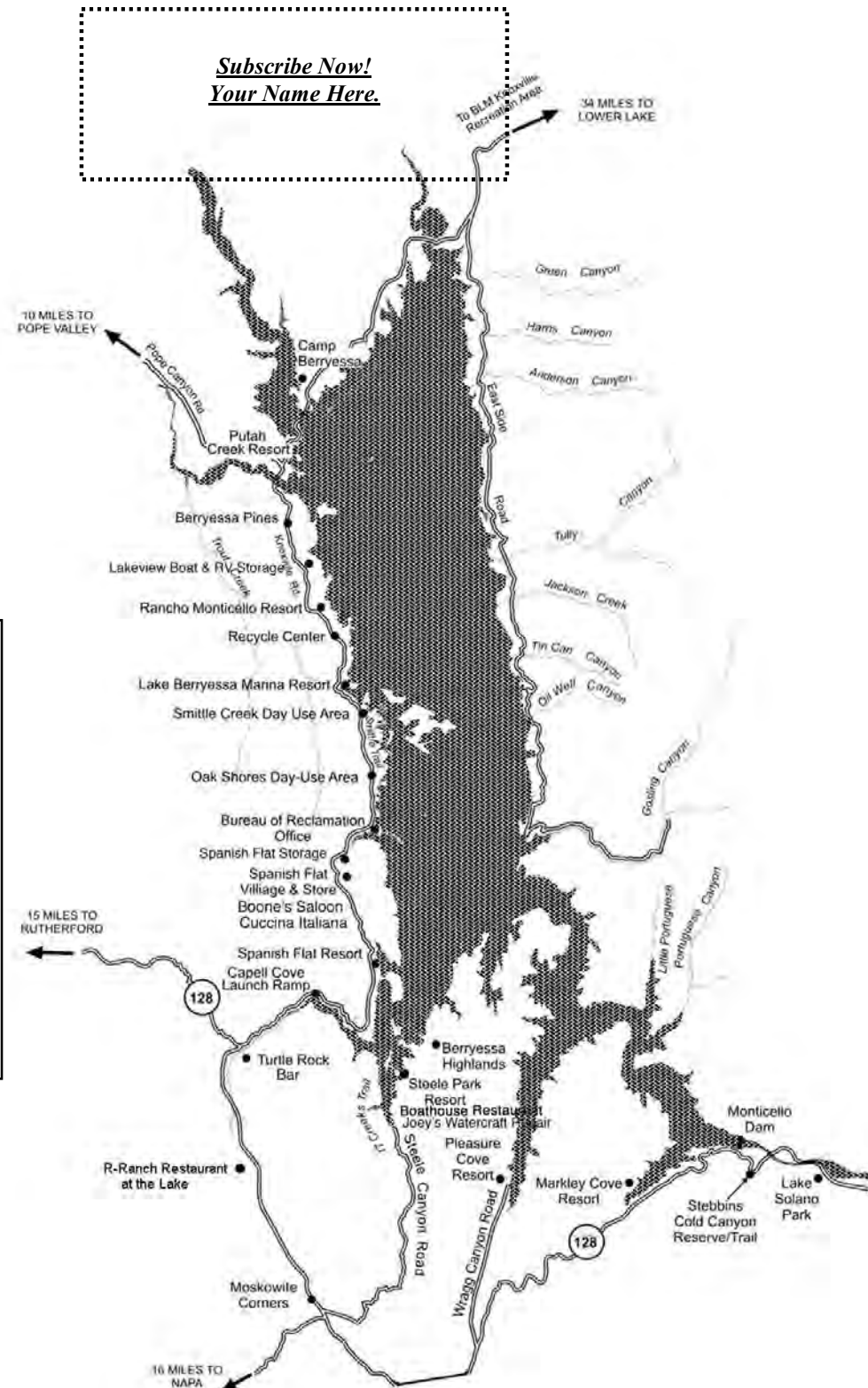
Critical Information You Won't Find in the Napa Register

To escape the grip of a crocodile's jaws, push your thumbs into its eyeballs -- it will let you go instantly. It is illegal to hunt camels in Arizona. There are 42 dots on a pair of dice. Human thigh bones are stronger than concrete! The average human will eat 8 spiders while asleep in their lifetime. On average, 100 people choke to death on ball-point pens every year. Number of moose that have broken into retail stores in Norway over the past year: at least 2. The tip of a 1/3 inch long hour-hand on a wristwatch travels at 0.00000275 mph. Diet Coke was only invented in 1982. Kermit the Frog has 11 points on his collar.

In the News

- Pleasure Cove "Re-Opens"
- Butterflies Flutter
- Pope Valley Hubcap Capital

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Dear Editor,

The public is being encouraged to believe, by both the Bureau of Reclamation and the local media, that the conditions at Lake Berryessa are so unacceptable that their only recourse is to level everything to the ground. But if it has really not degraded to that extent, why resort to such draconian measures? These are the key questions that should be answered before such a drastic and irrevocable action is taken.

The Bureau of Reclamation has had complete jurisdiction over Lake Berryessa since 1974. They have the authority, mandated by Congress, to manage the lake; that includes the water, the health and safety of individuals using the lake, and the seven resorts, in a manner consistent with the 1992 Resource Area Management Plan (RAMP), the 1993 Record of Decision (ROD), and Bureau of Reclamation policies. They are the sole administrator and everything undertaken at the lake is within their control, whether it is adding new campsites, paving a road, repairing a roof on a mobile home, cutting a tree limb, or setting the price on a bottle of ketchup sold at a resort store. They can require the removal of any mobile home or trailer for code violations. They can issue violations for minor infractions and defaults for more grievous ones, and have the authority to terminate a concession contract and evict a concessionaire. And, by the way, they can build trails, define 5 mile per hour zones for kayaks, canoes and swimmers, and add campgrounds, picnic areas, and launch ramps. For Reclamation to imply they had no power to effect conditions at the lake over the years is disingenuous at best - everything that exists at the lake today was done on their watch.

But we all know the best defense is a good offense, so the Bureau of Reclamation mounted a vigorous media campaign and as early as 2000 began conducting tours of the lake in order to exhibit examples of health and safety violations to members of the press. Rather than take prompt administrative action against the violators, these examples were used for public relations material.

In the public presentations and brochures, Reclamation assured us the less than 5 miles of the 170 mile shoreline occupied by long term sites would then be available for more diverse recreation - but can you think of any that is not available now? We would also have more hiking and nature based recreation - is there a real shortage? Napa County says it will solve their tax shortfall and improve business in the surrounding community, but no one has explained exactly how - it seems to have something to do with attracting a more affluent cross section of tourists who will pay higher prices for the far fewer facilities that will be offered than are currently available. Another change promised by Reclamation is the zoning of the waters' surface. Unfortunately the effect of that will be far fewer power boats on the lake, creating less rather than more visitors.

Reclamations' plan for upscale facilities, houseboat rentals, lodges and cabins will attract some people; but what happened to their professed desire to provide more access to Lake Berryessa for the general public? Will enough of these new facilities be affordable for the low to moderate income visitors who have made camping at the lake their favorite vacation spot over the years? Especially the 15,500 lake users who signed the Task Force 7 petition addressed to the Bureau of Reclamation asking to please upgrade, not destroy, the lake they love.

Is there another alternative? As a matter of fact, there is. At the request of the Bureau of Reclamation, the resort owners were asked to come up with a plan of their own. It was submitted to Reclamation on April 4, 2005 and is a thoughtful, well-executed proposal for bringing Lake Berryessa into the 21st century.

Pat Monaghan, Chair
Task Force 7 at Lake Berryessa

The Lake Berryessa News

An Independent Community Newspaper

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Peter Kilkus

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The Resort Operator's Plan referred to in the Letter to the Editor is available for download at www.ranchomonticelloresort.com/BerryessaROP.pdf

**Lake Berryessa's Fourth
Annual 4th of July
Light Parade of Boats!**

A parade of decorated, lighted boats will again sail from Putah Creek Resort along the west shore of the lake on Saturday, July 2. Interested boaters should meet in front of Putah Creek at 8:30 PM. Call 966-4323 or 966-0506 for more information.

Mars Spectacular!

The Red Planet is about to be spectacular! This month and next, Earth is catching up with Mars in an encounter that will culminate in the closest approach between the two planets in recorded history. The next time Mars may come this close is in 2287. Due to the way Jupiter's gravity tugs on Mars and perturbs its orbit, astronomers can only be certain that Mars has not come this close to Earth in the Last 5,000 years, but it may be as long as 60,000 years before it happens again.

The encounter will culminate on August 27th when Mars comes to within 34,649,589 miles of Earth and will be (next to the moon) the brightest object in the night sky. At 75-power magnification Mars will look as large as the full moon

to the naked eye. Mars will be easy to spot. In early August it will rise in the east at 10 PM and reach its azimuth at about 3 AM.

By the end of August when the two planets are closest, Mars will rise at nightfall and reach its highest point in the sky at 12:30a.m. That's pretty convenient to see something that no human being has seen in recorded history. So, mark your calendar at the beginning of August to see Mars grow progressively brighter and brighter throughout the month.

Share this with your children and grandchildren. NO ONE ALIVE TODAY WILL EVER SEE THIS AGAIN!

**Coast Guard Auxiliary to Visit
Steele Park**

Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 51 will gather at Steele Park Resort on Sept. 23-25, 2005. They intend to get everyone out on the water for fishing, training exercises, swimming and a lot of fun.

Intelligent Quotes

Question: If you could live forever, would you and why? Answer: "I would not live forever, because we should not live forever, because if we were supposed to live forever, then we would live forever, but we cannot live forever, which is why I would not live forever," -- Miss Alabama in the 1994 Miss USA contest.

Calendar of Events Around Lake Berryessa

Senior Center Crafts

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month
Call Betty at 966-2254

Every Monday – Bingo – 1 PM til??

Every first Monday is Bingo Pot Luck – Starts at Noon.

Seniors Pot Luck

Every 3rd Friday Night – bring a dish.

Senior Center – Call 966-0206

Valley Christian Church

Weekly Bible Study on Monday nights, 7:30 until 8:30 PM.
Currently meeting at the Community Church across from the Corners. For more information call 257-0527.

Sufi Center ~ Meditation & Healing Circle - Pope Valley

Every Thursday - 7pm ~ Every Sunday - 6pm
1st Sunday of every month - Pot Luck - 4pm to 6pm
Info - Call 707-965-0700, 2950 Pope Valley Canyon Rd.

Get your event on the calendar!

Call The Lake Berryessa News at 966-3806 or 287-6240

Email shirlake@myexcel.com or pkilkus@aol.com.

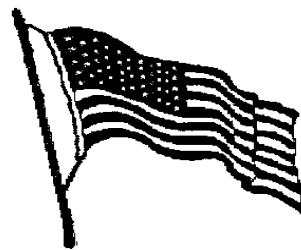
BERRYESSA FOOD & WINE TASTING EVENT -- The Berryessa senior citizens present a food and wine tasting event including assorted cheeses and olive oils, June 25 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the senior center, 4380 Spanish Flat Loop Road. \$10. All are welcome.

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Pleasure Cove “Reopens”

On Wednesday, June 1, the Bureau of Reclamation announced that Forever Resorts would assume management of a newly-named Pleasure Cove Marina. However, according to a manager of Forever Resorts, their company is not paying anything for the assets they have been given by the BOR which allegedly belong to Steve Petty and the Pleasure Cove Asset Management Group. This is one of the core issues in the continuing legal and political actions being taken by Petty and the present concessionaires.

Headquartered in Scottsdale, Forever Resorts is a multi-national group of companies which owns and operates more than 55 vacation and entertainment properties located in or near national parks, recreation areas and national forests across the United States, as well as more than 20 properties in Europe and Africa. They also state that they are the leader in manufacturing luxury houseboats and in providing them for vacation rentals. This is why readers may have already seen large houseboats moving down Highway 128.

It is not clear whether the Bureau of Reclamation has signed a final contract yet with Forever Resorts. The present concessionaires are concerned with the number of houseboats which would be allowed in their proposed contract which proposed the addition of 75 private houseboats at Pleasure Cove. There are only 34 more private houseboats permits allowed on Lake Berryessa and the BOR had already turned down requests by Markley Cove to add more private houseboats. The BOR's actions surrounding the awarding of a new contract with Forever Resorts has raised serious questions of propriety and conflict of interest concerns

among present concessionaires, Pleasure Cove permittees, Task Force 7, Citizens to Protect Lake Berryessa, and other individuals and groups.

At a Task Force 7 meeting at Putah Creek on Saturday, June 11 about 150 people heard the latest status on the actions being taken to convince Congress to bring the BOR under control. The California Watershed Posse, which had bid on the new Pleasure Cove contract and done extensive research into the BOR's recent management role, stated that there was enough legal basis to bring action against BOR employees and Forever Resorts under the federal civil RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations) Act which allows civil claims to be brought by any person injured in their business or property by reason of a RICO violation.

What is curious to some is that in a similar recent planning process at Canyon Ferry Reservoir in Montana, the Bureau of Reclamation's recommendations were distinctly different from their actions at Lake Berryessa. It seems that they listened to local citizens' input and agreed to work with the existing concessionaires. Their plan's recommendations were to continue all existing concession operations. From public input into this plan, the existing operators and operations were all viewed as competent, friendly, “Montana-style” small local businesses that are doing a good job of meeting the public recreation needs.

Another recommendation said: Do not seek out one single concession operator for the entire lake. There is strong local opposition to a single large operator—especially non-local. The public prefers small local “Montana-style” operators. A third recommendation was to continue to work with all present

concessionaires to assist them in planning for, or providing, the necessary services, facilities and infrastructure to accommodate public needs.

Although Lake Berryessa is not Montana, BOR opponents contend that there is a “Berryessa-style” issue here that can be addressed by incorporating the Resort Owners Plan (ROP) as well as other local groups' input into a reasonable planning process for the future of the lake.

California Landmark 939 Litto's Hubcap Ranch

Just past the Pope Valley Winery and before the Aetna Springs Golf Course sits a California landmark. It is one of California's exceptional Twentieth Century folk art environments. Over a period of 30 years, Emanuele 'Litto' Damonte (1892-1985),

with the help of his neighbors, collected more than 2,000 hubcaps. There are now estimated to be 5,000 which stretch along the road side fence and inland!

All around the hubcap ranch are constructions and arrangements of hubcaps, bottles and pulltops which proclaim that Litto, the Pope Valley Hubcap King, was here.

More Intelligent Quotes

"Smoking kills. If you're killed, you've lost a very important part of your life," -- Brooke Shields, in an interview to become spokesperson for a federal anti-smoking campaign

"Whenever I watch TV and see those poor starving kids all over the world, I can't help but cry. I mean I'd love to be skinny like that, but not with all those flies and death and stuff," -- Mariah Carey



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Resort Owners Plan (ROP)

The following excerpts from the ROP show in summary the proposals for each resort.

The Resorts have individual Master Plans that would have at least two phases each. For example, Phase I would be accomplished within 2 years, Phase II would be accomplished within 5 years. All Resorts would make Health and Safety issues a priority.

Infrastructure and upgrades to existing facilities are incorporated in the Plans. The fundamental change to "Non-Exclusive Use" at all the Resorts includes Resort-Owned and Permittee-Owned Units for Short Term Rental. The Resort Proposals implement changes mandated by RAMP in accordance with NEPA. All Resorts are Class I High Density Recreation Areas. Following are brief descriptions of what the Resorts are proposing, and Current to Proposed Comparisons.

Markley Cove Resort – Emphasis will continue to be the Marina / Docks - Long Term Sites decrease from 50 to 32, Short Term Rentals increase from 0 to 13, Day Use Parking increase from 100 to 180, Docks increase from 256 to 281.

Pleasure Cove Resort – Proposing a Hotel with Restaurant, Meeting Rooms, and Overnight Lodging. Develop Unused Resort Land - Hotel increase from 0 to 60 rooms, Long Term Sites decrease from 73 to 60, Short Term Sites increase from 185 to 348, Docks increase from 120 to 278

Steele Park Resort – Amenities Upgraded, Increase Day Use Parking - Long Term Sites no change 147 stays 147, Short Term Sites increase from 80 to 158, Day Use Parking increase from 400 to 600, Docks increase from 212 to 230 [Steele Park currently

has a swimming pool, natural water pool, tennis courts, restaurant, and a color palette for structures]

Spanish Flat Resort – Develop Unused Resort [225 Acres], Increase Short Term Sites - Long Term Sites increase from 198 to 225, Short Term Sites increase from 136 to 350, Day Use increase from 50 to 200, Docks increase from 201 to 224, Boat Storage increase from 19 to 100, add Equestrian amenities on newly developed Resort acreage.

Lake Berryessa Marina Resort – Propose to Re-Incorporate Smittle Creek with the Resort, Increase in Short Term Sites - Long Term Sites decrease from 157 to 120, Short Term Sites increase from 157 to 282, Day Use Parking increase from 90 to 140, Docks increase from 235 to 325, House Boat increase from 4 to 20, Boat Rentals move to Smittle Creek, preserve and manage Smittle Creek Day Use

Rancho Monticello Resort – New Facilities in Big Flat Area, Increase Short Term Units - Long Term Sites decrease from 569 to 420, Short Term Sites increase from 93 to 531, Day Use increase from 275 to 400, Docks increase from 386 to 420, Store increase from 1 to 2, Café increase from 1 to 2, Marina increase from 1 to 2

Putah Creek Resort – Replace Motel, Replace Restaurant/Bar, New Amphitheater, Develop West Entrance and Resort land – Hotel/Motel rooms increase from 27 to 40, Restaurants increase from 1 to 2, Add an Outdoor Amphitheater, Long Term Sites decrease from 152 to 140, Short Term Sites increase from 196 to 334, Day Use increases from 172 to 222, Docks increase from 142 to 220, reopen a Fuel Dock, Boat Storage increase from 50 to 100.

Summary of Major Changes:

85% of Current Long Term Sites are

retained and updated -1,347 to 1,198

1,551% of Current – Resort Owned Vacation Units [1,2,3 bedrooms] Short Term and Seasonal 6 to 93

New service – Permittee-Owned Vacation Units [1,2,3 bedrooms] Short Term and Seasonal 0 to 210

270% inc. – Hotel/Motel 43 to 116

511% inc. – Cabins 55 to 281

182% inc. – RV Sites 222 to 405

149% inc. – Camp Sites 504 to 750

750% inc. - Houseboats 4 to 30

84% inc. - Trvl Trlr Sites 330 to 277

135% of Current Launch / Day Use Parking 1,095 to 1,475

141% of Current - Day Use Sites 1,639 to 2,319

124% inc. - Docks 1483 to 1,839

218% inc. - Boat Rentals 87 to 190

44% dec.- Dry Storage 888 to 390 *

*Encourages outside development of storage businesses

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Painted Lady Butterflies

You may have noticed the large number of butterflies around, especially at the south end of the lake. Bureau of Reclamation Natural Resources Specialist Precious Peoples explained that this migration is of the Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui*. This species is the most wide-spread butterfly in the world and migrates from Mexico.

Linda Frazier of Markley Cove Resort said that in some previous years the butterflies would carpet the Markely Cove parking lot. A recent story from UC Davis explains that the millions of painted lady butterflies that fluttered into California's Central Valley in the last week of March could be just the advance guard of one of the largest migrations of the species on record. There were reports of "billions" of butterflies

around Trona, near Death Valley, and in the San Fernando Valley.

Painted lady butterflies spend the winter in the desert. As caterpillars turn into adults in the spring, they migrate north in search of fresh food and breeding grounds, powered by a supply of yellow fat they have built up over the winter. Painted ladies migrate every year, but usually less conspicuously and in far fewer numbers. This year, however, exceptionally high winter rainfall in southern California has created a bumper crop of plants, especially thistles, for the caterpillars to eat, fuelling a population boom.

The current generation will fly as far as southern Oregon. Their offspring will fly on to reach British Columbia by summer, before heading south again in the fall.

FISHIN' with DINO

The lake has turned! It's 72 degrees 8 ft from the surface. You need to troll at the 40 to 60 ft depths. Doug Roberts of Spanish Flat Mobile Villa has landed his limits of Trout and Salmon every day this week using a Needlefish at 50 ft. A few Salmon are showing up at the 60 ft. depths near the dam area.

Bass are hitting worms or plastics in 20 ft of water. Mostly shady or rocky banks are the spots for bass.

Catfishing is picking up. Dip baits or worms and livers will get you a cat. Get your bait to the bottom.

Crappie are going for jigs or minnows near the bottom. Cappell Cove is producing Crappie in early morning hours or late afternoon.

Fishing is very good now so get up to the lake and get a line in!

Dino Righetti
Spanish Flat Resort Marina
707-966-7708

Intelligent Sports Quotes

"I've never had major knee surgery on any other part of my body," -- Winston Bennett, University of Kentucky basketball forward

"The word 'genius' isn't applicable in football. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein," -- Joe Theisman, NFL football quarterback & sports analyst.

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www.lakeberryessa.com

Here's a tip for when you're not fishing or watching sports but can't wait to get back to fishing or watching sports:

Avoid cleaning brushes and rollers

Paint brushes and rollers used for an on-going project can be saved up to a week without cleaning at all. Wrap the brush or roller snugly in a plastic bag such as a bread or produce bag. Squeeze out air pockets and store away from light. The paint won't dry because air can't get to it. Unwrap the brush or roller and continue with the job. This works for water- and oil-based paints and stains. It does not work for varnishes or lacquer.

Berryessa Fishing Facts for the Newbie

Trout, Land-locked Steelhead, and "Trophy Trout": Beautiful, strong, game all the way-the favorite of fisherman everywhere, and Berryessa's prime game fish. Native trout go to 9 lbs. and bigger. Trophy Trout, which in less than a year have grown from an average ¼ lb. at time of planting (under a special State of California program) to between 21/2 to 31/4 lbs. are the second type of trout you'll find at Berryessa. There are also landlocked steelhead in the lake. Trout are cold water fish, so go deep in the summer when water temperatures on the surface are high. October to January, when temperatures are lower, they're closer to the surface. Primarily a lure fish at Berryessa, but live minnows will work.

Black Bass: Both large and small mouth bass await the fisherman and the large mouth go to 6 lbs. and bigger! Prime fishing areas are on the points of land, jutting into the main body of the lake, for shore fishermen. From your boat, plug the shorelines near moss brush or rocky points. When shad are running (a food minnow) watch for gulls, and the water's surface for signs of their schools-the bass will be nearby. In the heat of the day troll deep or bait cast deeper water; in the early morning or evening you can move closer to shore for good surface fishing. Again, a lure fish at Berryessa, but can be taken on minnows and worms.

Blue Gill: A great fish for your youngsters' first fishing trip. Olive green with darker green vertical strips. Fish close to shore, around sunken stumps and weed beds and dock areas. Good "old-fashioned worms" are the best bait, but they'll hit most any kind of bait - bread, cheese, salmon eggs, are all good bets. Will average 1lb. or smaller in size.

Crappie: Another game fish in residence at Berryessa. Gathers in schools (where you catch one, you'll find more) in the shelter of submerged stumps or brush heaps. Silvery with dark green or black mottling forming "stripes". Best lures are small flies, minnows, red worms and grubs. Average: 3/4 lb to 3 lbs.

Catfish: A night-feeding fish; feeds along the bottom. Prime fishing areas are the shallow waters near a creek, or tributary emptying into the lake. Bait, instead of lures are the best bet to take catfish. The most popular bait for catfish at Berryessa is clams. Other good baits are sardines, worms and minnows. Average size is 11/2 to 31/2 lbs., some going 5 to 9 lbs. have been caught.



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