

# **The History Of Tahoe Timber Trails**

**1970 - 2006**



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

My husband, Ed, and I have been members since 1973. We were not, however, OFFICIAL members until 1974 due to the failure of Unit II to close impound the first year it was opened.

I served as Treasurer of Tahoe Timber Trails continuously from 1984 to 1993 and was asked to serve a partial term in the summer of 2003, after the unfortunate demise of Arno Pappi. It has also been my pleasure to serve as Chairman of the Bylaw and Policy Committee for many years as well as the Election Committee on several occasions.

Ed and I have both Chaired and worked on many fund raising committees and some major renovation projects (Harris hall kitchen and Bill's Place) throughout the park. We are currently working on the Front Gate Beautification Project.

This History of Tahoe Timber Trails has certainly been a Love – Hate relationship for me, and has consumed the better part of five years. There were times when I was totally obsessed with its writing and times I simply couldn't face another day glued to my computer. Gathering information, interviewing members, taking pictures, reviewing minutes and newsletters have been both entertaining and time consuming, but in the end, I must admit it has been a total pleasure.

It is my sincere hope that all who read this journal will be both informed and ..... most of all..... entertained.



## **DEDICATION**

This History of Tahoe Timber Trails is dedicated to the Board of Directors for their tireless and sometimes thankless endeavors; to the Committees who have raised well over \$175,000 for improvements throughout the Park; and to all those members that have given tirelessly and unselfishly with no personal agenda other than the good of the Park. Without all their continuing efforts there will no longer be a Tahoe Timber Trails.

Most of all, I dedicate this manuscript to my husband, Ed Blanchard, without whose patients and understanding I could never have completed it.

## **DISCLAIMER**

Every attempt has been made to be as true and accurate as possible in the publication of this history. Some stories and anecdotes are as told by the person being interviewed and may or may not reflect their own personal opinion.

## **SOURCES & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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# THE HISTORY OF HOBART MILLS

Lumber Ghost Town

By: Phillip I. Earl

Mineral County Independent News

Hawthorne, Nevada

"This was Nevada" series prepared by the Nevada Historical Society

Although mining and communities associated with mining tend to dominate the literature of Nevada's history, lumbering was an important element in the state's economy a century ago and has left many remnants and historical sites. The remains of lumbering operations can still be found in the Sierra, as can ephemeral lumber camps and such lumber towns as **Boca**, Franktown, Galena, Huffaker, Mill City, Ophir, **Verdi**, Crystal Peak and **Hobart Mills**.

Located eight miles north of Truckee, CA, Hobart Mills was the last of the big operations, finally shutting down in 1937. Today, there are few physical remains, visitors being reminded of the history of the site only by a granite marker bearing a bronze plaque which pays tribute to Walter Scott Hobart, Sr., founder of the Sierra Nevada Wood and Lumber Company.

Established in 1896 as a company town bearing the name Overton, the community became Hobart in 1900 and Hobart Mills in 1917. W. S. Hobart had been involved in lumbering in the Lake Tahoe Basin since the late 960's and he and his parents had extensive land and lumber holdings, some 21,000 acres, from Crystal Bay south to just beyond today's Sand Harbor. These included the town site of present-day Incline Village and seven and one-half miles of Lake Tahoe beachfront.

The operation also included the Hobart Estate Railroad and numerous feeder rail lines into the logging areas. Some six hundred to eight hundred men were employed in the forests and the population of the community averaged about 2,000. Company officials put much emphasis on the hiring of men with families rather than single loggers and mill-men, providing them with modern housing, sanitation facilities, a hospital and a school. Like many company towns in the American West, Hobart Mills was "dry," no saloons or liquor stores, nor was there gambling or prostitution. Truckee was close, however, as was Reno, and both towns provided everything that anyone could want.

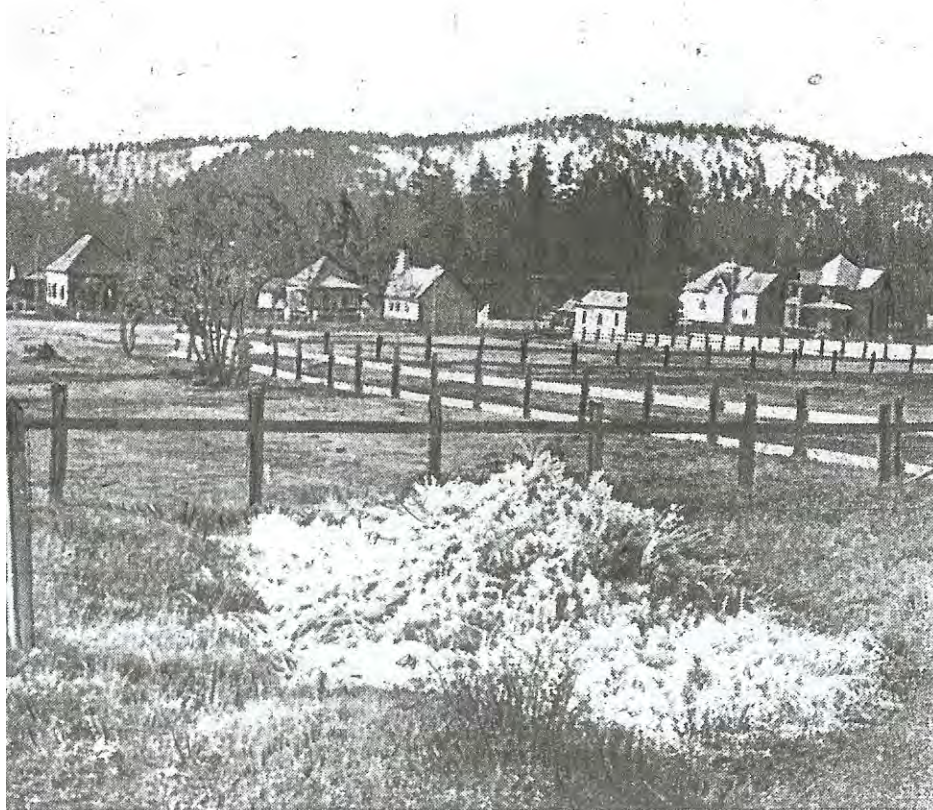
The railroad was sold to the Southern Pacific and May 1932, becoming the Hobart Southern. By 1935, the 65,000 acres of timber were nearly depleted and company officials were making plans to shut the operation down. The last of the Hobarts, Walter S. Hobart, Jr., had died on November 9, 1933 and logging operations were terminated in late August 1936. The last log was run through the mill on September 25. Some planning and custom work continued for another year until operations were suspended permanently on October 30, 1937. The direct current generator was disconnected and the lines of the Sierra Pacific Power Company brought only enough electricity to supply lights for the caretaker and the few houses still occupied.

Broker Norman Blitz negotiated the sale of the Lake Tahoe estate holdings to George Whittell in November 1937 and the Hobart Mill town site, the logged-out acreage and the railroad were purchased by the Los Angeles Iron and Steel Company in July 1938. At that time, fifty-five houses still stood, thirty of the occupied by men employed on the construction of nearby Boca Dam. Men involved in a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) reforestation project later lived at Hobart Mills also.

Joseph E. Lensberg, president of the Los Angeles Iron and Steel Company, had plans for developing a resort on the site – equestrian facilities, fishing, hiking trails, ice skating on the mill pond and skiing – and tried to interest Hollywood friends to shooting films on location there but nothing came of his scheme. In 1939, a fire destroyed the mill and box factory. Much of the machinery had been sold for scrap by that time and only a few houses were occupied. The end came when the post office closed on December 31, 1939.

The Hobart Southern tracks were being taken up at the time of the fire and eight of the ten locomotives were in storage in San Francisco. The W.S. Hobart was in use on the track project and the J.W. Bowker was at the New York World's fair. The Bowker had previously been used in the filming of John Ford's "Union Pacific" in Utah and eastern Nevada and is today on exhibit at the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento.





HOBART MILLS, early 1930's  
Nevada Historical Society Photo  
From MINERAL COUNTY INDEPENDENT NEWS – Hawthorne, Nevada



By 1978, the last building at Hobart Mills was a very large old home known as Hobart Mansion. It was located back in the pine trees about 50 feet behind where the historical marker now stands on Hobart Mills Road. After the 1940's, the house had been used as a private residence, boarding house for the Southern Pacific and Union Pacific railroad crews, restaurant, a hotel and even a house of prostitution. Sometime in the mid 1970's the Hobart

property was purchased by Fibreboard Corporation. The company had been trying for over two years to find interested people to take the mansion for free under the condition it would be moved, restored, and used as a private residence. The Mansion had been empty since its last known occupants, Fibreboard employees, left in 1976. Sadly, the old home had been quite neglected after that and vandalism started to deplete the homes stock of brass door knobs and oak window frames. Fibreboard officials voted to strip the house entirely of valuables. Furniture, elegant door hinges and other hardware were all put in storage to wait the day someone would restore the mansion to its original glory.

The lavish mansion was built in 1906 by English-born Lance G. Thompson, who planned the town of Hobart Mills for the founder; Walter S. Hobart. The home boasted seven upstairs bedrooms, two fireplaces and a living room the size of many modern homes. The cost to build the mansion at that time was \$10,000.

The Cola and Trost families accepted the offer from the Fibreboard Corporation and they were the perfect combination to do so. Cola was a general contractor and Trost was a retired professional house mover. Plans were quickly made to begin the relocation of the mansion. The purchase would end up costing them \$35,000 for the moving, another \$3,000 for assorted fees involved for permits. Flagmen for the two hour move would cost \$1,500 and all power lines and road markers had to be removed. The procession finally got under way on a cool September morning.

On October 28, 1978, a dedication and ground breaking ceremony was held at the new site on East Alder Creek Road just off of HWY 89. The grand opening celebration was planned for the yearly reunion of "The Cola and Trost Mountain Retreat."



## IN THE BEGINNING

Tahoe Timber Trails was the “brain child” of Gordon McMahon. It was his dream to have a place where people of all ages could bring their families, communicate with nature, and enjoy friends. Everything he did in the planning of the park reflected that idea. The Bylaws were designed to make the newly forming membership as comfortable as possible and still maintain a feel for the great outdoors. Ground breaking ceremonies were in the spring of 1970, and on October 29, 1970, the Articles of Incorporation were adopted and filed with the Nevada County Recorder. The first sites were sold in 1971 when A, B, C, and D Loops were opened.

A few new members purchased their site when there was still snow on the ground and site boundary markers were hardly visible. There were few amenities and members frequently had to carry their own water, but the dream was coming true. People were anxious to begin their first camping season.

The campground was still basically owned by the developer. He hired all staff, paid all the bills, and made all the decisions regarding the overall function of the Park. Development would be in three stages, or Units. Each Unit had only one year to be developed and at least 2/3 of the sites had to be sold in order to close that Unit in an escrow fund. Buyers paid a \$3,500. “Membership fee” and the individual sites were priced from \$300 up. The membership fee was paid to the developer. This allowed the Park to continue to development to its completion.

The first Board of Directors was appointed by the developer rather than elected by the Membership. Gordon J. McMahon, President, Ronald A. Wagner, William A. Quinby, Justin M. Roach, Jr. Stephen H. Schadlich, Raoul D. Kennedy, and Ronald V. Rosequist comprised that first Board.

Boards of Director Meetings were held as scheduled by the President, and the first ANNUAL MEETING was held on December 18, 1971. Thereafter, Annual Meetings were held during the summer at the current location of Bill's Place.



Annual Meeting  
Registration 1973

No improvements had been made to the landscaping in that area, and seating was on park benches placed on the side of the hill. One had to be careful which end of the bench you sat on or you could soon find yourself on the ground. As a result, members were usually early for the meeting in order to get a "good" seat. It was not until June 18, 1977, that a Bylaw amendment fixed the Annual Meeting to the third Saturday of August at 10:00 a.m.

Framed and glassed bulletin boards lined the path from the parking lot to the cook shack. They displayed pictures of recent activities and other items of interest for the members and prospective members to view.

A full fledged sales and marketing program began in 1972. Work continued on all of the underground water lines, sewer lines, and electrical lines in Unit II. Road layouts, site determination and location of improvements were being determined with a minimum of disruption.

It was announced in summer of 1974 that "Unit II was now open for sales." (E, F, G, H, I, J, and K Loops) This was good news for members because it meant that the date was soon approaching when developer would turn over control of the Park to the membership.

As prospective buyers came for a visit, they were given a cooks tour of the park in a golf cart. Upon their returned to the parking area, they were invited to enjoy a wonderful hamburger and hot dog lunch. A free night's stay in a fully furnished Wilderness Travel Trailer was available. On occasion, Coleman Lanterns and other gifts were also given out to prospective members. The staff seemed to go out of their way to make people feel at home.



The salesmen used battery operated golf carts to show prospective buyers the available camp sites and the lodge area in early 1970's. Picture is taken from the lower parking lot at Bill's Place.



Campsite development was meager at best. Only a narrow driveway and simple RV parking pad were “pushed in” and then topped with black or red cinderlite rock. Each camp site was given a wooden table and two benches. Loop roads were not yet paved. All proposed improvements were explained to a prospective member as they were shown where the new swimming pool and other amenities would be located. The pool was finished in the summer of 1975 and Unit III was opened for sales.

Unit III opened very early in 1976. ( L through W Loops) and by late May, all of the land and improvements in Units I, II, and III were deeded to Tahoe Timber Trails Association free and clear of any liens or encumbrances. The title report reflecting this was issued for the Board of Directors. All other amenities throughout the Park also had to be complete by April 18, 1979, when the Final Subdivision Public Report was scheduled to expire. There were only 180 remaining sites to be sold. The Lodge was completed in the summer of 1976.



For the first few years, dues were \$7.50 per month which paid for the utilities only. The developer paid all other expenses, including salaries, taxes, insurance, etc. A Property Management Service headed by Mr. Al Gaston handled all financial transactions for the new Association. The “Park Manager” (in those days the title was Park Operations Supervisor - POS) was really not much more than a title given to the person that fielded problems and questions for the developer. The managers living quarters were what are now known as the office. The inner office was in the managers’ dining room. Expansion of the office was approved in June of 1987 and the new office opened its doors in October of that same year. The managers living quarters were still in the back half of the mobile.

True to the wilderness theme of the park, the developer had erected two tee-pees and an A-frame where Bill’s Place is now located. One tee-pee was a sales office and the other was a

First Aid Station. Some of the salesmen joked that when “flatlanders” came up to the mountains they often had trouble breathing all the fresh air, so a salesman would put them on a cot in the First Aid Station, back up a truck, start the engine, and let the poor fellow breath in some exhaust. In no time at all they were revived.



Tee Pee first aid station



A-frame hamburger stand and Sales Office

The A-frame was used as a hamburger stand and gathering place for social activities.

While the park was still being developed, Mr. McMahon hired a “Social Director.” Her name was Tracey Allen and she joined the staff in the summer of „75. Tracy came to TTT from a large apartment complex in Walnut Creek, where she served as Recreational Director. She planned activities for young and old alike. Some of the activities were outings to pick berries, river rafting, camp fire sing-a-longs, crafting, and pot-luck dinners. From fall 1974 newsletter - “Beginning September 7<sup>th</sup> weekly campfires and sing-a-longs at the fire pit will become a part of Timber Trails Saturday Evenings. Tune up your tonsils and bring your guitars, harmonicas, tissue paper and combs - any instrument you can dig out of your closet. The campfire is torched at 8:00.”

In November of 1976 Tahoe Timber Trails was completed. Gordon McMahon officially stepped down as President and Harold (Hal) Harris was elected to that position. The rest, as they say, is history.



## THE ROGUES GALLERY

Each Director has contributed countless hours, ideas and expertise for the good of our Association. If it were not for these dedicated volunteers, Tahoe Timber Trails would not be the facility it has become. We are all indebted to them.

As you look through the list of Directors and review their pictures, you will soon notice that they are always busy aside from their official duties as a Director. They all work on various committees and support them in any way they can. They unselfishly make themselves available to our Members, frequently at an inconvenience to themselves and their families.

Unfortunately, I was unable to obtain pictures of every Director. Those that I do have are shown here with their respective information. They are listed alphabetically.



From Left to Right

Gordon McMahon  
William (Bill) Rosche'  
Hal Harris  
Melvin Borden  
James Gainer  
William (Bill) Sanford, Jr.  
Bruce Nelsen

**1973**

James Gainer  
Clare Sanford  
Gordon McMahon  
Hal Harris  
Russell Bowton  
Bruce Nelson  
William (Bill) Rosche'

**1974**





Al Barrow 1985 – 1987



Marie Blanchard 1984 – 1993  
2004



Robert (Bob) Boulanger 1980 – 1982  
1992 – 1993



Russell (Russ) Bowton 1974



Ron Caballero 1990 – 1992



Russ Cafferata 1984 – 1986





Lew Case 1992 – 1994



Gloria Cloninger 1980 – 1982



Frank Datson 1987 – 1990



Paul Domer 2005 – 2008



Mel Glaze 1997 – 2003 & 2005-2008



Steve Hainsworth 1998 – 2000





Hal Harris 1973 – 1980  
1986 – 1990 1996 2005



Bill Holland 1987 – 1990



Ron Hoy 1999 – 2003



Jim Kattleman 1985 – 1987



John Kidwell 1986 – 1988



Al Knutson 1991 – 1996





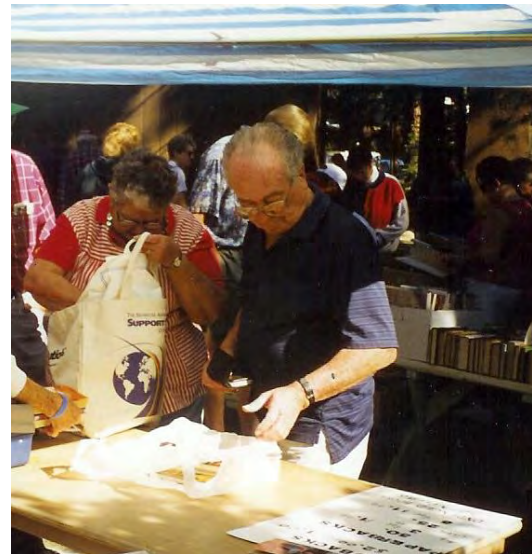
Gary Kurk 1992 – 1994



Conrad Laube 1998 – 1999



Gary Mallon (with microphone) 1985 – 1987



Keith Mathews 1997 – 1998



Gordon McMahon 1970 – 1976



Beth Michitsch 1979 – 1981





Bob Nesler 1987 – 1991



Justin Sloan Olin 1981 – 1983



Barbara Patterson 1987 – 1989



Pat Patterson 1981 – 1983



JoAnn Petterson  
1998 – 2004



Bill Rosche'  
1973 – 1974





Lee Rousseau 1991 – 1995



Millie Salerno 1993 – 1996



Bob Shilato 1993 - 1997



Dewey Smith 2002 - 2007



Frank Smith 1999 – 2003    2004 – 2008



Louise Thiede 2004 – 2008





Bob Springer 1997 – 1999



Bob Werner 1978 – 1980  
1982 – 1984 1993 – 1995  
1996 – 1998



Mark Wykoff 1994 – 1998



Ralph York  
1982 – 1984 1985 – 1987

## THE TEEN CLUB

In the summer of 1974, by Resolution, the Board of Directors recognized and sanctioned the **TEEN CLUB** and Pot Luck Pancake Group. No other groups or clubs were recognized or authorized to sponsor functions at Tahoe Timber Trails. From that date forward, any group wishing to plan activities where money was collected was required to make "formal application to the Board" for their approval before the activity could proceed. The Board also resolved that "Each club or group from that day forward must expend its collections and revenues for the benefit of Tahoe Timber Trails and accumulating or keeping monies on hand in excess of its current needs, and each club's or group's treasurer or appointed chairman must submit an accounting to the Board of Directors of monies raised and expended at the last Board meeting of each calendar year."

The Teen Club and Pot Luck Pancake Group were the first of many, many committees to come. Those original basic rules, although they have been expanded, still hold today.

The new Teen Club soon formed a "Junior Board" and began to hold meetings to establish some "Teen Rules of Conduct" and to form activities designed specifically for teens. The "Senior" Board was happy to see that the teens had decided to police themselves. They were also very hopeful that this new program would curtail some of the vandalism that had begun to show up in the park. The teens met, adopted their rules, and presented them to The Board of Directors for their approval. This certainly seemed to be a step in the right direction.

### JUNIOR BOARD ADOPTS "BYLAWS OF TEEN ASSOCIATION"

1. To be a member of the Teen Association, your parents must be owners and every teen must abide by the teen rules, which are:
  - a. Cigarette smoking: permission slip from parents that states your parents know and it's okay for you to smoke.
  - b. Driving in the park is not permitted without license or parent in the car with your permit.
  - c. Necking: There's a time and a place for everything.
  - d. Curfew: 10:00 p.m. on all days except on special events, then it's 11:00 p.m.
  - e. Alcohol: No alcohol permitted for young adults under 21, and for adults who are chaperoning any teen functions.
  - f. If expelled from any teen functions for doing anything wrong, one of the parents who are chaperoning will escort you back to camp.
  - g. No back talking to adults when being called down.
  - h. All teens will take care of equipment or cannot use or participate in activities.
  - i. Age level – 13 through 19.
  - j. In order to have activities, there will be at least two chaperones – one adult each from two different families.
2. Voting and Elections:
  - a. Each and every teen member has a right to vote for whomever they think most likely to be best for the teen council.
  - b. Elections will be held once a year, on Labor Day weekend.
  - c. When we have elections, we will elect a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

- d. President is the chief of the council, has the right to elect a new Vice President if the old one resigns with agreement from council. Above statement also the same for Secretary or Treasurer.
  - e. Vice President: Whenever President is absent or can't fulfill his job, Vice President will take over.
  - f. Secretary: to be at all meetings and to keep her own notes of each meeting of what goes on.
  - g. Treasurer: to keep money made by teen association.
3. Chaperoning – realizing as teens, we must have chaperones at various activities, each one of us must therefore encourage our parents, as well as other adults, to act as such.
4. Purpose of Teen Association:
- a. Bring teens closer together by various activities.
  - b. Help foster good relations between adults and teens.

The teens soon began to plan activities and even adopted some safety rules. The following article appeared in the Newsletter.

### **JUNIOR BOARD SETS BICYCLE SAFETY STANDARDS**

The Junior Board of Directors of Tahoe Timber Trails has set forth bicycle safety standards for the park. This is part of a program initiated by the Junior Board to establish and implement policies of conduct for the young adults. It is great that the young adults want to assume this responsibility rather than the adults having to tell them what to do.

The adopted safety standards for riding bicycles in the park are:

- 1. Speed limit – 5 miles per hour.
- 2. Always go right direction on one way roads.
- 3. No riding on pathways.
- 4. One rider per bicycle – no double riders, please.

I am sure everyone will agree that the bicycle rules are for the convenience and safety of walkers as well as rider. Mark Hallet, President of the Junior Board, did a very good job of presenting this program to the Senior Board of Directors.

Mark also mentioned that the young adults will be sponsoring a car wash on weekends – check bulletin board for information.

On Saturday, August 10, 1974, the Teens sponsored a Spaghetti Feed. The menu consisted of spaghetti, salad, French bread and beverages for \$1.00 for adults and \$.50 for under 18. The funds raised at the dinner helped to sponsor a party for the teen club from Calaveras Timber Trails (our sister camp) when they came to visit on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Unfortunately, the Teen Club gradually faded away and now it no longer exists, but to be sure, they had set some good rules for themselves and managed to have a lot of fun doing it. While they were still active vandalism was greatly reduced throughout the Park. They had successfully accomplished in their goal.

## HARRIS HALL and SURROUNDING AREA

Construction of The Lodge began in 1973 when the underground water, electrical and sanitation systems were installed. By the fall of 1974, construction was nearing completion and the developer planned to have it open by the first of November.



Developer Gordon McMahon  
inspects progress on the  
Lodge construction in the  
Summer 1974

Notice the open space in the  
center of the building.

In the fall of 1974, the developer announced that beginning September 7<sup>th</sup>, weekly campfires and Sing-A-Longs would be held at the fire pit. Seating was in an amphitheater located just below the Lodge where the landscape slopes down to the baseball field. Huge logs had been debarked, cut flat to form a bench for comfortable seating, and then set into the bank in a half circle. At the base of the "theater" was a huge fire pit. Members were encouraged to "tune up your tonsils and bring your guitars, harmonicas, tissue paper and combs - any instrument you can dig out of your closet. The campfire is torched at 8:00." Song books were handed out and it wasn't long before the sounds of music filled the air every Saturday night.



Summer fun at the Sing-A-Long  
1975



In May, 1975, construction was continuing on the Lodge and the contract for the swimming pool had been awarded. Both were scheduled for completion by the end of 1975.

The original Lodge was built with a large breezeway centered between rooms at either end. A single split level flat roof covered the entire structure. Rooms to the west of the building housed the kitchen facilities, store room, rest rooms, a small meeting room and the laundry room. On the east end of the building you could enjoy the large meeting room and a cozy fire, have some fun in the game room, or just enjoy the quiet of the reading room. The original building, however, was not completed by the developer until the summer of 1976.

Winters winds and drifting snow were already beginning to take their toll on the Lodge and it was feared that unless the building was enclosed, there would soon be some serious problems. In 1977, Hal Harris asked for, and received, permission from the Board of Directors to enclose the center section of the building to protect the interior from the elements and put the entire building to better use. The project was estimated to take two years to complete and Hal set out to begin the project with donated funds and volunteer man power. A small group of Members were forming a fund raiser to help defray the cost of the lodge renovation and purchase some amenities (See related information in "Activities-Committees and Their Funds.")

The South wall of The Lodge was constructed to make a solid wall between the two "ends" and the cinderblock support beams were now incorporated into the newly developing "meeting" room. Although the original plans called for the removal of the cinderblock beams, it was felt that this might cause some structural problems. Sliding doors and large windows were installed so as not to inhibit the view. An extended roof section completed the new wall.

The front (North) wall was recessed a few feet from the two sides to give a foyer effect for the entrance and the roof line did not extend over the entire entry. The windows were corrugated fiberglass to let in the light, but keep the cold out.

By the summer of 1978, the Lodge renovation was about 90% completed. There was still some calking, painting and roof patching to finish. The cost of materials to date was \$531, of which \$435 had been donated by members. If there was still a balance due on material at the completion of the project, Bingo and Pancake Breakfast pledged to pay the remainder.



Turkey Day



Bingo

As expected, the Lodge soon became the center for many more social activities.

Sometime during that summer the developer put a sign up at the Lodge that read “Mr. Gordon McMahon.” As you might expect, it didn’t take long for everyone to start calling the Lodge our very own “MGM,” as it was truly becoming a “grand” place.

The renovation was completed in 1978, but by 1986 the Lodge was again in bad need of repairs to the siding and some new paint. In September, the Board approved the cost of the painting and other supplies. It was fast becoming the habit for members to volunteer when there was a job to be done around the Park, and that was again true in this case when Hal Harris formed a band of volunteers to do the job. The volunteers planned a big party to tackle the task at hand and mix some fun in with all the hard work. While the men were busy putting the primer on the building, the women were preparing food in the kitchen. Suddenly, one of the ladies burst into the kitchen almost in tears and exclaimed that the men were painting the building PINK. In total disbelief, the women all ran outside to investigate. Sure enough, the building was pink. The men could hardly control their laughter as they explained that PINK was only the primer color. The finished product would be a beautiful shade of tan. Things settled down and the Lodge was painted in its entirety for the first time since its original construction.

The parking lot was partially paved and marked to provide paved handicapped access and a loading zone. It was decided that the remainder of the parking lot would remain graveled to avoid expensive future upkeep.

It was 1989, and the Lodge was now 13 years old. Several severe winters had done their dirty work and it was becoming apparent that the Lodge roof was going to need extensive repairs. Costs were estimated to be as high as \$30,000 to contract from outside the Park. Needless to say, the Board was looking for additional bids and alternative ideas. Mr. Harris and his band of volunteers made some minor repairs to the Lodge roof to buy some time for the association to study this major repair project further.

The Lodge continued to become the meeting place for everyone and many activities, but there always seemed to be something missing.....it was a flag. In 1989, that problem was solved when there was an accident at Carson Furniture in Carson City, Nevada. It seems that a large delivery van backed into their flagpole and sheered it off at the ground. The store owner replaced his flagpole and planed to have the broken one taken to the dumps. Ed Blanchard was the Manager of Carson Furniture at the time and asked if he could have the discarded flagpole. The next thing you knew he had it strapped to the top of his motor home and was hauling it up the mountain to Timber Trails. Bob Nesler brought some telephone pole metal straps and Ed lined them with carpet to prevent the metal from cutting the pole in half when the wind blew. With the help of several “sidewalk supervisors,” Ed and Bob were able to mount the pole at the front of the lodge. A large flag was donated by a member, a light was installed and Old Glory is still waiving proudly today.

The Lodge gets a flagpole in 1989



After the developer left, there was no Lifeguard at the swimming pool, as that would have been an expense the Association just could not afford in those early days. For several years, volunteers manned the swimming pool but by 1986 there was a possibility that the pool would not open due to a shortage of Members wishing to volunteer their time. The problem of “what do we do now” was debated and studied by the Board of Directors and Members alike until there was nothing more to say. A decision was made to hang up a sign with the newly developed “Pool Rules” and advice that there was no Lifeguard on duty. The Members seemed to be quite content with that arrangement and the use of the swimming pool has been basically the same since then.

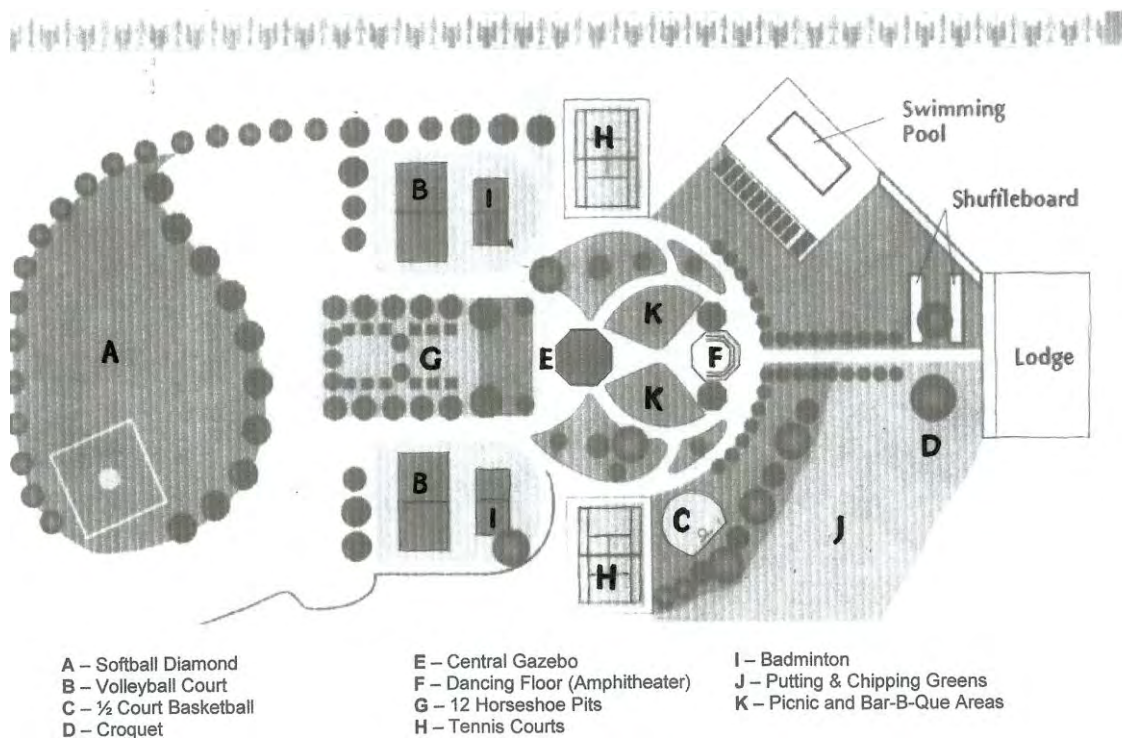


Poolside mid 1980's

In June of 1989, Chuck Trautman presented a plan for improvements to the grounds surrounding the Lodge, complete with a scale model showing all the developments called for in the proposal. The model was left on display and the Board of Directors would consider approval of the project at the July Board Meeting. Due to the complexity of the project and the anticipated cost, the Board planned to study the project very carefully before making their decision. The Board did tentatively approve the project, but they then planned to present the total program at the Annual Membership Meeting for member comments and general consensus. The project was expected to take ten years to complete and would become known as **Project 2000**. The cost was estimated to be somewhere between \$20,000 and \$25,000.

At the July Board Meeting, there was quite a discussion about the newly proposed Project 2000 development. Questions of finance and a labor force were discussed at great length. Of particular interest was a proposed plan for a large gazebo, complete with kitchen facilities and bathrooms which would be located below the Lodge. This would involve major plumbing, electrical and septic changes, to say nothing of the cost.





### Original Project 2000 Plans

Since the plan called for volunteer funding and labor for a period of ten years, the Board felt that while the project certainly had merit, it also had its pit-falls. After all was said and done, the Board decided it would be in the best interest of all concerned if only the **concept** of the project was approve and its annual progress would be carefully reviewed. The subject was again discussed at the Annual Membership Meeting in August when more members were present. The membership agreed with the Boards decision.

In August of 1989, **the** planned improvements to the grounds around the Lodge were put into motion. The first part of the project was to clear the existing game areas for further improvements and lay a sprinkling system for all grassy areas. The Bazaar Committee contributed over \$8,000 to get the project under way. Additionally, Hamburger Feed, Bingo, Spaghetti Feed, Horseshoe Committee and Rummage Sales made contributions. Members on J Loop cleaned campsites and donated the proceeds. Mr. H. Jones from M Loop donated the use of a backhoe for the remainder of the season, which saved hundreds of dollars for the project.

In 1990, Chuck Trautman found it necessary to withdraw himself as Chairman due to other interests and Bonnie Hernandez took over as Chair of Project 2000. Several Chairmen followed; 1992 – Dick Holms, 1995 – Lee Rousseau & Mike Varlas, and in 1997 – Mike Varlas

Hal Harris, Lew Case and Dick Balmar volunteered to build the shed at the Ball Field as part of the Project 2000 plans. The shed would house equipment and the new electrical components for the ball park water system. In 1991 ground was broken and work on the shed began.



By 1994 and 1995, enthusiasm for Project 2000 was waning. Countless man hours and thousands of dollars had been contributed. Workers were tired and Committees were anxious to fund other projects. In 1997 the last funds were committed to Project 2000 in the amount of \$2,460 to complete the Basketball Courts. All told, almost \$29,000 had been spent, and the project had completed resurfacing the pool, new pool cover and roller, installation of a sprinkling system, a new septic installed below the pool, underground electrical and water systems, an improved volley ball court, and lawn and basketball courts. In 1998, Bazaar netted \$10,770.57 and pledged most of the funds to completing the new playground, walk/jog/roller blade/skateboard track near the Lodge for all to enjoy. Bazaar also spent an additional \$8,714 on major pool repairs in 1999. That is believed to be the last funds committed to the original Project 2000.

\* \* \* \* \*

Let us return to the early 1990's. The Lodge building itself was scheduled to get a complete face lift. Before all was said and done, it would include a new roof, fresh paint, moving walls, lowering the ceiling, remodeling the kitchen and adding storage cabinets for various committees. New window and floor coverings would also be installed. Let's take a look at those two or three years to see how it all happened. The whole mountain was a beehive of activity.

Bids for the major roof repairs that had been recognized in 1989 were now being reviewed. In the meantime, a volunteer committee, headed by Hal Harris, presented a proposal to the Board that called for moving the front wall of the Lodge out a little further to provide more useable space inside and close the open portion of the roof. The work would be done by volunteers using volunteer funds and would be completed before the major roof repairs began. In 1990 the Board of Directors approved the plan. Hal and his band of volunteers started work in late June and completed the job in July. Perhaps this would be a good time to mention that if volunteers showed up for work that was a good thing. If they didn't, Hal worked by himself. If you happened by he might offer you a hammer and a carpenters belt.



Original roof line



Roof line will cover  
the entire front of building



Roof extension almost complete



Roof is extended and front wall is  
pushed out several feet to allow  
more storage inside the building



Finished new roof line – north side

In August of 1991, major roof repairs were completed at a cost of \$16,590., which was paid for by the Association.

Ed and Marie Blanchard were the Chair of Turkey Day again in 1991, and they approached the Board of Directors with plans to renovate the Lodge kitchen. More and more activities were now utilizing the Lodge and the kitchen facilities left a lot to be desired. Their proposal was to remove the wall that separated the store room from the kitchen. As they pointed out to the Directors, everything from rat poison to pool supplies were stored in a room you had to pass through before you could enter the kitchen. Refrigeration was limited to two or three donated household refrigerator/freezers and provided less than adequate food storage for the



various events. New ones would be purchased. Only a small standard double sink had been installed by the developer, and work space was limited to a folding table in the center of the kitchen floor. Counter work space was only available at the service window. Storage was practically nonexistent and each Committee really needed their own storage space. A small gas stove with a grill and two side burners and a standard electric stove constituted the only cooking area. Both stoves would be replaced with a larger and more efficient commercial gas stove. Once again, the proposal called for volunteer labor and donated funds. The Board approved the project and work began in the summer of 1991. Bazaar, Bingo, Pot Luck and individual Members joined in with more funding.



You can see the old storage room through the window



Notice the location of the old wall to the right



Working on the old folding table.



The new sinks were installed where the old fridge is shown



Taking the hams out of the old oven

Workers removed the wall between the store room and the kitchen. Pool and cleaning supplies were moved to the smaller exterior store room, the stove was moved to Bills Place. (See related storey on Bill's Place) The inefficient refrigerators were removed. Bob Nesler rewired the entire kitchen and installed the new lights. Many Directors and Members dropped by to do a little sidewalk supervising and soon couldn't resist the chance to pick up a hammer or paint brush. The effect was much like Mark Twain's story about painting the white picket fence. Before you could shake a stick, Director Lee Reausau was helping with the installation of the new storage units and Director Al Knutson was rolling paint on the ceiling. Chuck

Taylor stopped by to say he would build a work station for the center of the kitchen and Manager Bob Kennedy lent a hand with the plumbing problems.

A new commercial stove with two large ovens and a substantial grill, and a commercial refrigerator/freezer were purchased and installed. Chuck Taylor was working on the new center island work surface. New pots and pans had been purchased and now there would be a brand new stainless steel sink large enough to wash them.

As it turned out, the new center island work surface was too big to go through the door leading to the new kitchen. Chuck Taylor and Ed Blanchard, supervised by Sharon and Marie, dismantled the unit and took it through the service window. All the pieces were put back together again in the center of the brand new kitchen. The new utensils completed the picture. It couldn't get much better than that for the next Turkey Day and other committees that were to use the kitchen for future activities.



Although the kitchen renovation was not yet completed, Turkey Day workers were able to work on the new center island work station.

It's amazing what you can find in a shoe box. Hidden on the floor of a dark closet in the office was a hand written note reminding us that "the Lodge Beautification Program would continue through the fall of „91 and spring of „92." Truer words were never spoken. Between Project 2000, kitchen remodeling and the new roof the whole area was like an ant hill with each worker totally dedicated to the completion of his or her task. In addition to all those projects, a satellite dish was installed, carpet and window coverings were added and the swimming pool was resurfaced. A new suspended ceiling with acoustical tile was put in place, a storage room for tables and chairs was added and some new furniture was purchased for the Children's Room. By September of 1992, the Lodge had been completely renovated. All of these improvements, with the exception of the major roof repairs and the swimming pool resurfacing, were done with volunteer funds and man power.



The original ceiling in the center room of the Lodge was at least 14 feet high. When the room was enclosed, the acoustics were very bad. Donated carpet sections were placed around the top of all the walls to buffer the sound. The suspended ceiling was not installed for several years.



### Lodge ceiling in 1986

Lighting was limited. Jerry Darney Installed hanging neon panels, which were a big improvement.



In 1995, Joanie Knutson spearheaded an improvement project for the teen room at the Lodge and asked that teens help police the area, as there had been considerable damage and vandalism to that room. (See related story in "The Teen Club") She encouraged parents to supervise their own children, and reminded them that Lodge Attendants could not be held responsible for the Members children. Joanie had been a long time advocate of the Teen and Children's rooms at the Lodge and worked for many years to see that they were well equipped and that the Board was made aware of their needs.

Joanie Knutson works to raise money for teen and children's rooms at Harris Hall



June 1996, a Hal Harris asked for permission to improve the entrance area to the Lodge. The project was approved and, once again, the work and funding would be done by volunteers with volunteer funds. On any given day for the next few weeks you could find Hal working away on the project. Terraced planters were built and a new staircase made entrance to the Lodge much easier to maneuver. If other volunteers came to help they were welcomed with open arms, and if they didn't....Hal continued to haul rock and build the walls by himself.



Before

After

1999 - There was extensive damage by vandals at the Lodge. The Teen room and main TV room were left in total disarray. The wooden compartment door that housed the Dish Network receiver was torn from its hinges. The memory card was removed from the receiver and thrown somewhere in the room. Both the men and women's bathrooms were vandalized and left in a "disgusting condition." This was certainly not the first time the Lodge had been vandalized and the Board had tired of the continuing problem. Committees were hesitant to contribute more funds to a problem that just didn't seem to go away. As a result, the Board voted to close and lock the Lodge at 5:00 p.m. ADULTS that would like to use the Lodge after 5:00 p.m. would be permitted to do so by obtaining a key from the Office. That adult would then be responsible for the Lodge during the time they had possession of the key.

It was spring of 2000, and by this time one thing had become abundantly clear. Timber Trails had one long time Member that was ALWAYS there when work was to be done at the Lodge and elsewhere in the Park. Director Joanne Petterson approached Marie Blanchard with an idea. Joanne felt it was time to recognize Hal Harris for all his dedicated service and hard work over the years. The idea was to have a big 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration and dedicate the Lodge to Hal by renaming it "Harris Hall." The dedication was to be a secret, which was not going to be an easy task. First of all, naming the Lodge Harris Hall would require Board approval. Secondly, keeping anything a secret would be next to impossible in a place where even the trees whisper stories.

Since Directors are prohibited from discussing things of this nature in Executive Meetings, and because approval at the June meeting would certainly let the cat out of the bag, JoAnne privately asked each individual Director if they had any objection to the plan. Of course, they all thought it was a wonderful idea and one that had been a long time coming. The proposal could then be approved "after the fact" at the July Open Board meeting.

The lesser of the two hurdles was now solved, but the "secret" part could prove to be much more difficult. After all, Hal was always at the Lodge doing one thing or another and visiting with friends. His family would have to be notified and sworn to secrecy. It would be very important to give them plenty of notice to make sure they could all be there. Hal would probably not be suspicious because it was going to be a holiday celebration and his family frequently visited the Park all at once for such occasions.



Marie Blanchard set out to carve the two signs, one for each side of the building, and Rico Bigotti donated some beautiful wood for the project. Wide red, white and blue banners were purchased to cover the signs after they were hung and the plan seemed to be coming together.

The night before the celebration, Ed and Marie Blanchard, Frank and Barbara Smith all met at the Lodge just after dark. With the signs, banners, drills, hammers, a ladder and flash lights in hand they were ready to hang up the new Harris Hall signs and cover them with their banner disguises. Of course, no one had to be worried that Hal would show up unexpectedly as it was well known that Hal always retired as soon as the sun went down.

Now all that remained was the wait and see if all the plans would come together the next day.

That 4<sup>th</sup> of July was a picture perfect day. The sun was shining, there wasn't a cloud in the sky and a slight breeze blew across the mountain to keep it from getting too hot. The band was playing and everyone that knew "the secret" was busy being busy so that a glance in Hal's direction would not give anything away.



Picture perfect day  
for a 4<sup>th</sup> of July BBQ

AT LAST! It was time for the dedication ceremonies. The band gave a drum roll and President Ron Hoy took the microphone to call everyone to attention. Ron announced that this was a very special day, indeed, and Marie Blanchard was asked to make a presentation. She chose to make the announcement in the form of the following poem. As it was read, the crowd began to look around wondering what this was all leading up to.

Come on everybody, Come gather around.  
Let me tell you a story „bout this here piece of ground.

Some folks were sittin” around their campfire one night...  
Just tellin” some tales and enjoyin” their site.

One said to the other “you know what?  
We oughta name that lodge on our mountain top.”

“That”s a great idea! Now let me see...  
Let”s think of some letters....from **A** to **Z**”

“Well – **B** is for BEAUTY – just look at this place!  
And **V** is for VIEW of this wide open space.”

“Hey, how „bout **R** and **L**. just for a change of pace.”  
“And **S** is for SUMMER and the SUN in our face.”

“There”s more great letters – like **F**, **G**, **I** and **Q**  
And we dare not forget to add some vowels, too.”

“I like **H** – standing firm and tall  
I think **H** should be on our lodge wall.”

Well...we talked and laughed and went on and on  
Till the night slipped away....my gosh, it was almost dawn.

We picked up the letters and bagged „em up tight  
To consider the placement some other fun night.

Well.. I opened the bag on my deck the next day.  
But the darned old wind blew some of the letters away.

So... we put what was left in a big old pot...  
Stirred them around and here”s what we got,.

## *HARRIS HALL*

As luck would have it, Hal, hands in his pockets as usual when he was in a thoughtful mood, and his entire family was all standing almost directly in front of the Harris Hall sign on the south side. As Marie read the poem Hal scurried to get out of the way of what ever was happening as Ed Blanchard and Frank Smith unveiled the new sign. By the time the poem was finish and Hal was called forward for the presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation, he began to tremble in disbelief. The impossible mission had been accomplished..... Hal was completely surprised and totally speechless.

The Lodge was officially dedicated and named Harris Hall at a celebration on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2000.



Sign is unveiled



Hal sees the sign

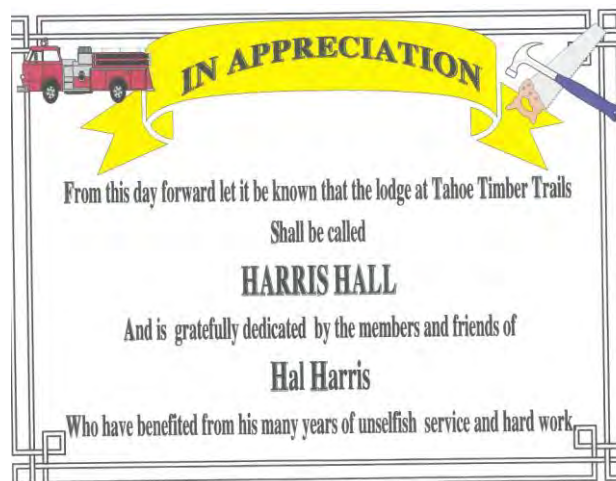
Receiving  
Certificate of  
Appreciation



Hal and Dorothy



A thoughtful moment.





Let's return for a moment to 1998. the Bigotti brothers, Rico and Joe, recognized that there was still much work to be done on the Lodge grounds after Project 2000 had ended. They approached the Board with a plan to complete or improve several items beginning in the spring of 1999. The Board approved, provided that there would be no expense to the Association until after the completion of the various projects. After that, as is always the case, it would be the responsibility of the Association to maintain the improvements.

That same year, Bazaar netted \$10,770 and pledged almost all of the funds to improvements on the new playgrounds and completion of the walk – jog and roller blade – skateboard track below the Lodge.

The playgrounds were the first priority of the improvements, as the safety of children was at stake. With starting funds now pledged from the Bazaar Committee, work began in the spring of 1999.



The Bigotti brothers rounded up volunteers and funding for their proposed improvements and work soon began on the playgrounds to bring them up to acceptable safety standards. It should be pointed out at this time that Joe and Rico were able to obtain materials at either cost or by donation. The savings to the Association can not be measured. This was not the first time, nor would it be the last, that the Bigotti brothers made major contributions to the park.



In 1999, Bazaar again stepped up to the plate with a contribution of \$3,386 to get the work started on the Kids Track and \$8,714 for major pool repairs. Chicken Bar-B-Que also contributed \$650 for pool repairs.

In 2000, Bazaar made a contribution of \$5,000 towards the Kids Track and Aluminum Beverage pledged funds for new carpet in the Lodge TV Room. Deep Pit Bar-B-Que purchased a new PA system for \$800.



The new Bocce Ball court was completed in 2002, and the ball field had a new supply line and yard hydrant. In October, Bazaar pledged another contribution of \$5000 to the Kids Track.



The pool and surrounding areas take on a new look.



All that remained now was to lay the sod. The work was finally completed in 2003.

Project 2000 was only three years past its originally scheduled completion date. That's no small feat when you consider that all work was done by volunteers unselfishly giving of the time and funds donated by hard working volunteer committees.

The Board of Directors and Members all commended the Bigotti brothers (Joe and Rico) and all their volunteer crew members for completing the playgrounds and bringing everything up to acceptable safety standards. They received a standing ovation for ALL the improvements to the rest of the grounds and the pool as well.

\* \* \* \* \*

It seems that improvements and renovations at Harris Hall are never finished. Various committees can always find something to do. In October of 2002, Bingo purchased new ceiling lights for the main room at the Lodge for \$2,000.

In 2003, the Bazaar Committee purchased new gas dryers for the Laundry Room at a cost of \$2,500. They also purchased new canopies for the pool. Bingo bought new lights for the TV Room, DG for the Bocce Ball Court, two motion sensor sprinklers and a sound system for a total of \$1,280. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee purchased gravel for the Lodge parking lot. Aluminum Beverage Fund installed and paid for an upgraded Dish Network satellite system.



## Installation of new sidewalks in 2007





## BILLS PLACE

In November 1973, the developer announced that the new BBQ building was nearly completed. A permanent sales office would replace the two tee-pees that were presently being used as a first aid station and sales office. Shuffleboard courts, additional playground equipment, a mobile port, well storage building and a dance pavilion (now the BBQ pavilion) were also nearing completion. The BBQ building became known as the "Cook Shack" and almost from the very beginning it became the center for activities in the park.

The Cook Shack was an "A" frame building with a back door and a single front serving counter. Interior working space was limited to a 6' X 8' plywood floor and cooler chests served as the only refrigeration. The building was used primarily by the sales force to provide buffalo burgers, buffalo stew, hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages to prospective buyers.



Original Cook Shack.  
Note the bulletin boards  
along the path.

Members, Bill and Amy Ashford were usually the cooks on duty, and although the hill was not terraced and sitting on the park benches was a little tricky, everyone always managed to enjoy a great meal.

The Annual Membership Meetings were always held on the hillside next to the Cook Shack and a Pot Luck was frequently served after the meetings. Members were encouraged to use the Cook Shack for more of their own activities.



That was all the invitation Bill Ashford needed. Both he and Amy were avid fishermen and frequently had more fish than they could eat. When this happened, they would have an old fashioned fish fry at the Cook Shack and invite anyone in the park that would like to come. It soon became Bill's dream to have a larger, more useable Cook Shack for the members to use.

Activities were becoming more and more frequent in the area surrounding the Cook Shack. The Bazaar was becoming an annual event and in 1982, Bazaar Chairpersons, Bonnie Lindstrom and Gloria Cloninger, pledged money to fund the construction of a new Cook Shack. With the Developers blessing, Roald Lindstrom and Hal Harris immediately set out to design a rustic log cabin Cook Shack.

Hal and Dorothy Harris visited a log cabin manufacturing yard just east of Carson City, NV. The decision had been made to select "factory second" logs in order to save money. The old Cook Shack was moved elsewhere to be used for a storage unit and construction on the new Cook Shack began in the spring of 1982.

Bill Ashford was the "Supervisor" for the project and paid close attention to every detail. His dream was becoming a reality.

Soon, the work area was a beehive of activity. Members were coming in from every direction to work, sidewalk supervise or be a gofer. Members Bob Glover and Paul Davidson laid out, formed, poured and finished the concrete floor. Water and electric hookups were installed by Al Barrow, the Park Operations Supervisor. (Now known as Park Manager)





The logs were sorted, cut to proper length and fitted together. Bridge spikes were used to fasten the logs.



Hal Harris



Roald Lindstrum



The walls are going up quickly.



The dance pavilion becomes an outdoor BBQ area.





Hal Harris, Bert Quinn  
and Roald Lindstrom

Bert Quinn tackled the roof, using salvaged 6' X 12' goods from the windbreak at the amphitheater behind the lodge. (See reference to the amphitheater in the Harris Hall section.) New cedar shakes gave the finishing touch.



The Lindstroms donated some Youngstown cabinets and counter tops. Russ Cafaretta donated pots, pans, kettles, knives, and serving equipment, much of which are still in use today.

By the middle of the 1982 camping season the new Cook Shack was finally ready for business. Unfortunately, the man with the dream, Bill Ashford, passed away shortly before its completion.

Although the members were saddened by Bill's passing, everyone knew he would have wanted a Grand Opening to celebrate all the hard work. In the fall of that year members gathered for the official dedication of the building. Al Barrow made the wooden plaque that now hangs on the cook shack and **BILL'S PLACE** was officially born on September 4, 1982.



In 1984, Nita, "The Rock Lady", Schuler decided to make some improvements to the area. As she so aptly put it, everyone was sick and tired of the seesaw benches and uneven tables that we had all used for so many years. With the Boards blessing, she took on a monumental job and almost single handedly terraced the hill and built all the stone retaining walls around Bill's Place. More of her stone work can also be seen on A 17 & 18.



The pipe railing was added later as a safety measure



Many unusual festivities have been held at Bill's Place. Not the least of which was a WESTERN ROUNDUP, Pot Luck, dance and hay ride on Saturday June 30, 1990. It was a



one time only event and was advertised as “The music won’t be live, no live horses allowed, but dress up in your cowboy clothes, cowboy hats, and saunter on down for a good time at the old coral (Cowboy Bill’s Place). No six-guns or spitting will be tolerated. Sign up at the office, anyway, podner.”

It had been almost ten years since any improvements were made to Bill’s Place, and in July of 1991 The Lindstroms put a new face on the building with a fresh coat of sealer inside and out.

In July of 2002, extra fire hydrant stand pipes were being installed throughout the park. Of course, the first one to be installed was at Bill’s Place.

Bob & Dorothy Werner recall that they and their crew served hamburgers and hot dogs at Bill’s Place off and on for 13 years. Most of the money earned was spent on a beautification program around the front gate and parking area.

By September of 2002, it had been twenty years since Bill’s Place was built. No real care or maintenance program had ever been in place and now a potentially dangerous health problem existed. Bill’s place was no longer a safe place to prepare food. Ed and Marie Blanchard proposed a major renovation to the inside of the building.

The project would include enclosing the ceiling; sheet rocking and painting; installing a pull down ladder for the attic; installing cupboards, cabinets, counter tops, new sinks, fire extinguishers, venting the stove to the outside and replacing the 5 gallon hot water heater with a new 20 gallon one.



Hot water heater, sink and stove area  
before remodel.





old corner storage



under the  
old service  
window



Tina Marlia, Ron Hoy, Nancy Hoy, Don Howton and Karen Burke get ready for Bazaar and prepare food for one of the last times in the old kitchen.



With unanimous approval of the Board of Directors, the Blanchard's took on the task of the renovation. With just over \$2,300 on hand and an estimated cost \$4,500 to \$5,000 they asked for help from other committees and the membership itself. As usual, both were quick to take up the cause and before you knew it the project was under way.

John and Peggy Olsen joined forces with the Blanchard's and the "B & O Ice Cream Social" raised additional funding for the project. It was hoped that the remodel would be completed before the next Annual Deep Pit BBQ and Bazaar, 2003.

The building was cleaned out and a very full truck load of miscellaneous junk and discarded items went to the dumps. Bazaar was happy to receive some items for next years festivities and the TTT shops were now the proud owner of all the old Youngstown kitchen cabinets and counter tops. The ceiling and walls were sheet rocked and painted.

Snow was already beginning to fall and everyone thought the work would have to stop for the winter. Joe and Rico Bigotti were determined to work on the project even in such terrible weather. Who could refuse such dedication to the project? They were the experts and without their knowledge and strong backs the project would never have been completed in less than a year. They were also instrumental in getting building materials at a tremendous savings.

new  
hot water  
heater



new sink area and cabinets



new freezer donated by Bingo,  
and under counter  
storage



On June 14, 2003, a grand RE-OPENING of Bill's Place was celebrated with another Ice Cream Social and silent auction. The old Ice Cream Social sign had been found amongst the discarded items in the attic and refurbished by Marie Blanchard. New serving tables were purchased for the outside serving area with proceeds from the Ice Cream Social.



The rock walls and railings were really beginning to show their age. Of particular concern was the safety of members and guests during large and crowded activities. Once again, Bazaar took up the gauntlet, and in 2006 they set out to completely restore the walls. This would be a major project, but the Bazaar was more than willing to tackle it. The results, although expensive, were certainly well worth it.



For over 25 years, Bill's Place has hosted everything from a HOBO POTLUCK and a WESTERN ROUNDUP to Teen Hamburger Feeds. It has been "home" for the Bazaar since its inception and many a Deep Pit BBQ, Hamburger Feed and Pancake Breakfast have been enjoyed. True to Bill Ashford's dream, TTT members have enjoyed many wonderful events at Bill's Place and, the Good Lord willing; will continue to do so for generations to come.



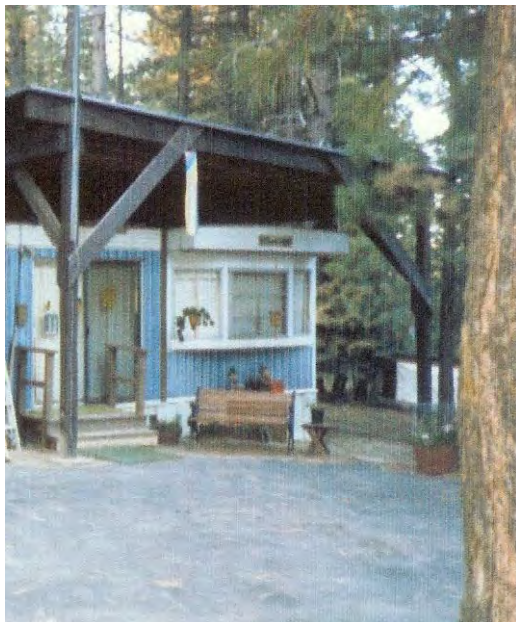
## **OFFICE And MANAGERS LIVING QUARTERS**

As was mentioned before, the original “office” was a Tee-Pee located close to Bill’s Place. Late in the summer of 1974, the developer replaced the Tee-Pee with a mobile unit that was parked in the lower parking lot. In the earlier years, there were fewer members (only about 140) and MRS services were little more than propane sales and trailer dumping. The Bookkeepers’ duties were limited to receiving money and making a weekly deposit, so a small room for bookkeeping and two or three desks for the sales staff seemed to work quite well. An off-site bookkeeping service handled all other financial transactions.

In the fall of 1974, the Newsletter introduced Ralph York as the first Park Operations Supervisor. Ralph had served six years with the US Forest Service in Eugene, Oregon. He was joined by his wife Jean, who was hired as Office Bookkeeper. Both played golf and were experienced tent campers. Ralph would gladly swap a fish story now and then with anyone that would listen.

The developer purchased a park model trailer as living quarters for the new Park Operations Supervisor and in the spring of 1975 Ralph and Jean moved in.

As the membership grew there was less and less need for a sales office, and more need for an office for the members to conduct their business. In 1980, a portion of the Managers Mobile was cordoned off for use as an office and in July of that year, the office extension was completed. The small 8’ X 10’ space seemed to be quite adequate, but it certainly did not afford the Manager any privacy. The office did not have a bathroom of its’ own, so members frequently used the one in the Managers mobile. Remember, the unit was still the Managers living quarters, so privacy for them was nonexistent.



Original Managers mobile



Office renovation in 1980

The mobile was increasingly more difficult and expensive to keep warm and in December of 1981 a new fireplace was installed.

Chuck Trautman proposed a plan to the Board of Directors to expand the office and improve privacy for the Managers. The plan was approved in 1987 and work soon began on the project.



The original dining room in the Managers mobile was incorporated into the new office. A wall was put up to seal off the kitchen.



Ed Blanchard  
Chuck Trautman – Forman  
Gary Kurk - Manager



Ed Gary  
Gary's brother – Norman



Frank Datson carefully removes the paneling from the old office to be used later in the kitchen.





Break Time



The new Office is completed.

The November, 1987, Newsletter tells us “The beautiful new office was completed. Chuck Trautman’s design and labor, along with the able assistance of Gary Kurk (Park Manager), Hal Harris, Bob Nesler, Frank Dotson, Ed Blanchard, and Jan Trautman have made the new addition one we can be proud of. It will also allow more privacy for the manager.”

Our hats were all off to the Bookkeeper, Mary Kurk, and her assistant, Jeanette Rhyen, for their determination to keep things as normal as possible during all the remodeling. If you have ever remodeled something as involved as a kitchen, you have a small inkling of their patience.

This mobile home continued to serve as both Office **and** Managers living quarters until 1993 when a new mobile was purchased for the Managers living quarters.

## ROADS

In 1974, the developer resurfaced East Pasture Road. (Sometimes called Hobart Mills Road) from Hobart Mills to Timber Trails at his own expense. The task required some 1800 tons of gravel to smooth out. Until then, pulling your RV over that corduroy country road shook you eye teeth loose, to say nothing of the beating your vehicle and RV took.

The June 1976 Newsletter announced that in order to be consistent with the other loop road names in the park, it would be necessary to change the names of four loop roads.

**A Loop** - Presently Tamarack Lane would be changed to Acorn, Alder, Ash, Aspen or any other name of a tree or animal starting with the letter A

**B Loop** – Main road “Ponderosa Lane” and the inner road “Hemlock Lane” would be changed to Balsam, Beech, Birch, Bay or any other name starting with the letter B

**C Loop** - Presently “Sugar Pine Lane” would be changed to Cedar, Chestnut, Conifer, Cottonwood or any other name starting with the letter C

**D Loop** – Presently “Aspen Lane” would be changed to Dogwood, Douglas Fir or any other name starting with the letter D

By 1976, Timber Trails International (the developer) had spent over \$50,000 on just one mile of the road from Hobart Mills to expand, grade and rock it. Unfortunately, just after that, logging trucks damaged the road extensively. Ralph York (Park Operations Supervisor) and Western Leisure Properties (the mother company for Timber Trails International), made a formal request to Nevada County to restore the road to its original condition.

In 1980, work on the road improvement program continued inside the park with equipment purchased by the Association, and in 1981 the asphalt was completed on the main road in the park. The loop roads were still unpaved. But in the late summer of 1982, the Board spent \$50,000 to have an outside contractor pave eleven loops. The program would continue through the next summer to preserve the existing base on the remaining loops.

The 1984 Newsletter tells us that the Association spent \$75,000.00 for paving. Bids were sought for the repair and paving of those loops that were not included in the road paving program of 1982. Repair and maintenance of the loop roads was now a priority.

On April 27, 1984, there was still 1 ½ inches of snow on the ground and temperatures were in the teens. A new logging program was begun just 2 miles North West of Timber Trails. The Association was informed that there would only be one logging truck and no more than four trips would be made daily. Timber Trails was also assured that the speed limit would be enforced and if that was not the case, the Association should contact the Forestry Department and they would take care of the matter. The road was graded from Hobart Mills to TTT and in order to keep down the dust, it was sprayed with water daily. Logging would continue through the 17<sup>th</sup> of July.

In August of 1984, paving of those roads that were not paved two years ago was completed.



East Pasture Road was in constant need of repairs which became increasingly more expensive for the developer to maintain. Since this was, after all, a Nevada County road, Director John Kidwell was determined to continue efforts to seek county help for the road improvements. In December of 1986, he made an all out push to get the subject on the agenda of the County Board of Supervisors. His pleas fell on deaf ears even though some residence from Russell Valley had joined the cause.



East Pasture Road before paving

Ten long years had passed with no help from Nevada County to improve East Pasture Road, and in December 1996 President Bob Werner solicited comments and input from the membership in the Boards ongoing efforts to persuade the County to pave that terrible road. The Board wanted to hear from members since most would not be able to attend the meeting with Nevada County Board.



An agreement with Nevada County was struck in 1997. Timber Trails would pay for 25% of the cost to pave from Hobart Mills to the entrance of the park. After paving, the County would be responsible for the maintenance. A total of \$18,250 would be needed to proceed with the project when Bob Gaston and Cecil Mitchell took on the fund raising program. The funds would be raised through donations only, and no Association funds would be spent. Bob was very determined to make this program a success, and all his hard work finally paid off. An astounding \$15,500 in contributions from the membership was now on deposit.

Bob Gaston raises money for roads.

By October 1997 the final funds for the road paving program were received, plus a little more. When the final tally was in, the membership had contributed a grand total of \$20,100. A letter was sent to the County of Nevada Supervisors asking them to allocate their 75% of the

money and begin the project the following spring. The Association was notified that the Board of Supervisors was designating their share of the money from their 98/99 budget and at long last the road would be paved. The extra funds that had been raised were spent on improvements to the park.

Work began on the paving in 1998, and the County expected to have East Pasture Road finished by the end of the season. True to schedule, the paving was completed in late September of that year.

The main road and loops within the park were scheduled to be repaired and sealed with two coats of overcoat. It was expected that this would last for four or five years.

Road maintenance continues to be an ongoing and expensive program, but it is certainly a necessary evil.



## MAJOR COMFORT STATION PROJECTS

In earlier times, volunteerism was not only something everyone did, but it was even expected that the members would be more than willing to do just about anything for the good of the park. Perhaps that explains why the June, 1981, Newsletter made the following announcement.

**“Painting Program –** Paint is being purchased for the exterior of the comfort stations. Members on each loop will be responsible for painting their comfort station. This could be a good reason for members of each loop to get together.”

The July Newsletter reminded members again that each loop was responsible to paint the exterior of their Comfort Station. By August of that year, the Comfort Stations had all been painted.

In the fall of 1985, the Board of Directors identified major concerns for repairs in the Park and Comfort Stations were at the top of the list. The original comfort stations, except A, B, little B, C, and D, had all been built with flat roofs. This was definitely of great concern as it was feared that heavy snows could cause expensive and lengthy repairs. Several leaky roofs had already shown up. A construction company was hired to put peaked roofs on the stations that summer, but it was terribly expensive and by fall, it was felt that the Association simply couldn't afford to continue the program. Instead, in December of 1985, the Association purchased the trusses, and once again, volunteers came forward. Hal Harris volunteered to head up the program.



Flat roof on F Loop

Manager Gary Kurk and his son  
remove old roofing material



By June of 1986, peaked roofs had been completed on five more comfort stations and by June of 1987, ten roofs had been changed. Hal Harris and Co. had saved the Association in excess of \$3,000 in 1987, alone. Five more stations were completed by the following summer bringing the total to fifteen.



Volunteers finish the job in 1987.

This might be a good time to mention that in 1978, members contributed a small fee to purchase the materials and install light switches in the comfort stations. The original switches were on light sensors, and on a cloudy day you could hardly see to take your shower. The Association hoped to realize a large saving in electricity because the lights would be off at night. Member, John Bossert was an electrician by trade and there was nothing he couldn't repair. He had repaired the front gate so many times he could probably do it in his sleep. John agreed to head the rewiring of the comfort stations and all work was done by volunteers.

In 1991, Paul & Karen Lenoir donated new shower heads for each comfort station which was expected to save a considerable amount of water.



## **VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT and RELATED STORIES**

As you might expect, fire has been first and foremost on the minds of both members and the Board of Directors since the day the park opened. After all, without our trees we have no park and in the early 80's the horror of a fire in the park came close to being a reality. A spark from the railroad tracks sparked a fire in the brush close to Boca. Flames shot up the steep hill beside I-80 and headed toward TTT. Members from Reno, Sparks, Carson City, and Sacramento responded to the call for help. A fire watch was quickly set up at the top of T Loop and what meager fire equipment we had was put in place. Under the supervision of Park Manager Al Barrow, members took four hour shifts around the clock until the danger passed. Needless to say, everyone suddenly faced the reality that our Association was in desperate need of more adequate fire protection.

In June of 1981, a "new" fire truck was purchased and additional equipment was installed to improve the parks fire protection system. A demonstration by Bob Boulanger (Fire & Safety Director) was planned for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and fire sirens were sounded. The new fire truck toured the loops to lead a parade of volunteers to the site for the educational demonstration and all members were encouraged to participate. That fire truck soon became known as our very own "OLD RED."

Some of you may wonder why the "old timers" love this little red fire truck so much. Perhaps as you read of his history, you will understand more clearly why OLD RED has become such a part of Tahoe Timber Trails. He was our first line of defense against fire and has saved our bacon on more than one occasion. Now, OLD RED is more a symbol and mascot than anything else. But rest assured, should the need arise OLD RED would be right there.

The Association had long since recognized the need for not only a Volunteer Fire Department, but CPR skills as well and in July of 1981, CPR training was planned for the summer. Classes were held at the Lodge on weekends and members were eager to participate.

By August of 1981, all fire hydrants in the park had been standardized. In addition to OLD RED, the Association pickup was converted to a fire fighting pumper truck.

Jim Kattelman was the Editor of the TTT Newsletter in 1981, and he related the following storey.

"It was only a false alarm but enough friction was generated to set the forest ablaze. I (Jim) was in the shower at the time, therefore, the report was entirely second hand. On Saturday, September 5, 1981, a fire alarm was sounded to find out how members would react to a spontaneous situation. Many, many members rushed to the scene, but their preparedness to fight fire was questionable. Too many vehicles congested the roads, most people arrived without protective clothing, almost no shovels or axes were brought to the scene and confusion about who should bring what equipment existed. After the "smoke" had settled, it was concluded that our method of attacking a fire would be, at best, humorous. "

Because of member reaction, the Board of Directors stated that "NO FALSE ALARMS

WOULD BE SOUNDED IN THE FUTURE. “ That statement was later amended to say that alarms would be sounded, but only with proper notification of the members.

It had quickly become very clear that in addition to fire equipment, a training program was badly needed. Unfortunately, members were not very interested in participating in a “dress rehearsal.” And so, you see, the more things change the more they remain the same.

In May of 1982, the Forest Service established a clearing program around the exterior of the Park that would continue until the following summer. This would diminish the fire hazard considerably.

The Board approved a “burn pit” for the convenience of the members. It was located below the lodge and would afford the members a place to put their pine needles during the spring clean up. On Monday night May 31, 1982, we had the first major **FIRE** in the history of the Park. Our Park volunteers were able to control the blaze, although the Forest Service was called in to assist. The entire dump was burned, but no other property or structures were involved. This fire was caused by someone who had put hot coals or ash in debris that was being dumped. Because of this thoughtless action, the Forest Service ordered the dump closed! Members were advised they would have to dispose of their needles some other way.

July, 1982, a new siren system was set up, and by August of that year additional fire hydrants were installed and existing hydrants were painted bright orange for easy identification. A special “FIRE DAY” was held on Saturday, August 14, 1982, to demonstrate the fire fighting equipment and give instructions on what to do in case of a fire. This drill was repeated the following spring.

Just one year later, on July 17<sup>th</sup> 1983, at approximately 10:00 p.m., all hell broke loose. **FIRE ON T LOOP**. A trailer fire at T-3 had erupted. The sirens were sounded and the Forestry Service was notified. As was planned and practiced the preceding year, staff and volunteers were able to bring the fire under control in record time. The Forestry Service responded promptly to finish the job. They repeatedly stated how our Volunteer Fire Department, Old Red, and the pumper truck had avoided what could have been a major catastrophe.

The continuing problem of “what to do with the pine needles” prompted the Board to allow a burn pile in the spring of 1984. It would be located in the ball field behind the Lodge close to where the old amphitheater had been located. Dumping was allowed on weekends only and members could bring their needles to the ball field to be burned by staff. The program seemed to work quite well that year and the Board was giving consideration to continuing it the next season.

The following summer, the Board expressed some major concerns for repairs to the yellow pumper truck, fire equipment at the comfort stations and clearing the fire break around the Park. Various Committees donated money and volunteers donated time to address these concerns. An emergency evacuation plan was published in the news letter, again.

In the spring of 1986 the members were doing the usual grumbling about site cleanup. The major complaint was that it was difficult to dispose of the needles. The Board of Directors tried to resolve the problem by allowing a “burn pit” to be installed again where the old baseball diamond was below the lodge. The Forestry Service allowed the Association to have a “pine needle pick up program” which included a variance allowing us to burn the plastic



garbage bags that the needles were in. Members were advised to bag their needles, put them at the road in front of their camp site, and staff would pick them up. The program was well received and very helpful to the membership. Unfortunately, as so often happens, some members chose to abuse this program. A blatant disregard for the safety of others was demonstrated when someone placed both aerosol and gas cans in the center of a bag of needles. Fortunately, no one was injured when the cans exploded. AND EXPLODE THEY DID! The Forestry Service did a routine surprise check of the burning program, and the violations were obvious. They stopped the burn program immediately and declared that we had a garbage burn, not a needle burn. Once again, a burn pit for the convenience of the Spring clean up program had failed.

Even more unfortunate was a terrible accident that happened before the dump site could be completely extinguished and closed down. Some children were visiting their relatives and playing at the Lodge. As children do, they were running and playing tag. As adults, we know the fire might look like it's out on the surface but there are still hot embers underneath. Children don't understand or comprehend this danger. These children were unattended, so there was no one to warn them of the danger. Both of them jumped into the fire pit because they didn't realize there were hot cinders just below the surface of ash. It was horrible. Their screams could be heard all over the mountain. By the time anyone could get to them and drag them out of the pit, both of them had third degree burns on their feet and some lesser burns on their hands. First aid was administered by staff as best they could until the ambulance arrived. Although it was not his fault, the Manager was so devastated by the accident that he could no longer work at TTT and he resigned shortly after the incident. One of the boys recovered in a reasonably short amount of time, but the other would be facing several surgeries stretching over a couple of years. The Association was held responsible for the medical bills and was very thankful to have good insurance.

It was announced in the March, 1987, Newsletter that due the abuse of the burn program and the tragic accident, the park did not plan to operate a burn pit or program that Spring. It would be up to each member to clean their site and dispose of the needles themselves.



Because we live in the wilderness, we are faced with the danger of not only camp fires and trailer fires, but Mother Nature herself can dish out some pretty scary stuff.

Lightning has struck several times in the park and it can easily spark an instant fire in the dry tinder. On one occasion, the lightning strike was so strong that it ripped a splinter the size of a 4 X 4 from a tree and drove it through the front of a trailer on B Loop. Thank goodness no one was in the trailer at the time.

Aren't we all glad to have Old Red and the pumper truck?

Because of the constant danger of fire in the park, the Board of Directors has always been willing to try new ideas. Before the end of the 1986 camping season, member Bob Blanford,

from T Loop, developed a plan to thin and clean the greenbelts. With Board approval, Bob cleaned about an acre near the top of T Loop to serve as a model. The project was supposed to continue the next year, but a lack of volunteers ended the program.

In an attempt to solve what had seemingly become a perplexing and perennial problem, TTT would conduct a contest to determine the best solution for site clean-up. In July of 1987, the Board announced a "Disposition of Pine Needles Contest" based on a suggestion by Bill Fry from J Loop. The winning suggestion would be awarded a prize of \$100 which was donated by the Hamburger Lunch Committee. The rules were as follows:

1. Deadline for submitting entries is March 1, 1988
2. Entries must include a complete description of how the suggestion is to be implemented and in comprehensive detail for the entire operation from beginning to end. Particular attention should be given to specific details such as, practicability, feasibility and economical concepts as opposed to generalities in order to receive proper consideration by the BOD.
3. All plans must include an operational cost or cost estimate.
4. Date of receipt will be entered on all entries. Winning entry will be determined by date in the event like or similar entries are received.
5. The Board shall be the sole judge of all entries, and their decision is final. All entries shall become the property of TTT.
6. Winning entry will be announced after the March Board meeting in 1988.

By March of 1988, the Board had only received a few entries, but information on the winning suggestion and the winners name was not found in Newsletters or minutes of the Board meetings.

Director Barbara Patterson spearheaded a greenbelt clean-up program scheduled for that September. Slash and needles could be piled in an open area where it could be burned after the first heavy rain or snow fall.

Some time had passed since fire drills had been held and on May 27<sup>th</sup>, 1989, a hands-on rehearsal on the use of Old Red, the brush rig, and the hoses was held at the Lodge. California Forestry Dept. was invited to demonstrate forestry methods and help TTT more easily understand the reasons we must be prepared to help ourselves in the event of a fire. Our staff and Volunteer Fire Department will always be our first line of defense.

Five years of drought had caused some grave concerns and members were asked in March of 1991 to conserve water as much as possible to avoid serious problems for the coming season. And then it happened - **FIRE**. In July of that summer an RV caught fire. Management and volunteers extinguished it quickly, although considerable damage was done to the RV. Gary Kurk, Park Manager, was concerned that our fire fighting ability was sadly lacking and the park desperately needed better equipment and a well trained corps of volunteers. It was getting harder and harder for Old Red and the pumper truck to keep up.

Hal Harris spearheaded and Chaired a program to build fire engine sheds to protect the equipment from the elements and construct fire hose boxes strategically located throughout the park. In September of 1993, over forty volunteers helped with the construction and various committees donated funds to this project. The fire truck sheds were built first, followed by several hose boxes each year until the project was completed in 2002. No



mention is made of the amounts donated by each committee, but the following committees contributed: Hamburger Committee, Turkey Day, Pancake Breakfast, Dance Committee, Bingo, Spaghetti Feed, Deep Pit BBQ, Aluminum Beverage Bazaar and Afghan Raffle.



Breaking ground. Old Red gets a truck shed in 1994



Hal Harris and Lew Case  
working on a shed for  
Old Red at Harris Hall

It's done! Time for a  
GRAND OPENING !







**OLD RED GETS A NEW HOME.** The shed was dedicated at a 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration in 1994. The ceremony took place at 11:00 a.m. in front of the Lodge. Old Red's Shed was decorated with red, white and blue streamers and a lovely 4<sup>th</sup> of July flower arrangement. Hal Harris was Master of Ceremonies with a little help from Lew Case.



Everyone piled into and onto "Old Red" for a 4<sup>th</sup> of July ride around the campground with Hal Harris serving as Fire Chief. The parade circled the park complete with sound effects, costumes, a float and people marching with flags. If you weren't there, you missed a good time. After the ride, coffee and donuts were served at the Lodge.

Once again, the Board was trying desperately to stress the importance of fire safety to the members, and in June of 1995, some formal Fire and Safety rules were adopted. You may recognize some of the rules, as most of them were adopted into the Policies we use today.



1. Fires must not be allowed to become larger than is necessary and SAFE, being considerate of environmental and climatic conditions in existence. Burnable material (fire fuel) must not protrude outside of the fire pit or fire box opening. UNSAFE OR UNCONTROLLED fires in the park or in the near vicinity shall be reported immediately to the Park Operations Supervisor on duty.
2. No fire, including charcoal and lit camp stoves shall be left unattended at any time. Any person who discovers and unattended fire shall extinguish it immediately and report the incident to the offender (if available) and to the Park Operations Supervisor.
3. Fires in all fireplace devices, including wood burning stoves, shall be extinguished and all containment covers shall be in place and closed on the device before leaving the campsite or retiring for the night.
4. No OPEN CAMPFIRES are permitted whenever the "NO CAMPFIRES" sign is displayed near the park entry.
5. The "NO CAMPFIRE" sign shall be displayed whenever, in the judgment of the Park Operations Supervisor on duty, a hazardous fire condition prevails. When the „NO CAMPFIRE" sign is initially posted, the Park Operations Supervisor on duty shall notify residents already in the park. He shall solicit assistance from owner/members in each loop to relay the word to other residents within their loop.
6. No fire is permitted in any permanently installed campfire/barbecue pit or other fireplace device including wood burning stoves, unless that device has been previously inspected and approved as hereinafter specified. Temporary installations are not permitted.
7. Portable devices, such as barbecue pots, hibachis, and camp stoves need not be inspected and approved. Such devices shall be used only in the manner and for the purpose for which designed, and in accordance with good standard safety practices.
8. Every permanent installation of a fire pit, barbecue pit, or other fireplace device shall be inspected at its installed location by the Park Operations supervisor or his authorized alternate, or other as specified below in Paragraph 10.

Either of the following should result:

a) A written approval certificate will be issued to the owner/member for each of those devices that meet the criteria defined hereinafter;

OR

b) A written disapproval certificate will be issued to the owner/member denoting the discrepancy(ies), and that all future use of the identified device is considered unsafe and in violation of the park rules until such time as the deficiency is corrected, and/or a subsequent inspection is conducted and written approval has been issued.

9. Annual inspection shall be conducted at each campsite prior to June 30<sup>th</sup> of each calendar year. New installations shall be inspected within a reasonable time after the owner/member has made a request to the Park Operations Supervisor.
10. In the event a fire device is disapproved and the owner/member feels that the installation is fire-safe though not fully in accordance with the criteria defined in the Inspection Criteria, the owner/member may request a second inspection shall contract one member of the Board of Directors and one other owner/member and the three of them shall, at the next most convenient time within seven days jointly inspect the fire device and campsite in question and either issue an approval certificate or uphold the previously issued disapproval. An approval certificate may be issued if two of the three inspectors concur with the owner/member who requested the inspection. If the disapproval is upheld, the owner/member shall have no recourse but to correct the deficiency(ies) or remove the device within a reasonable time period specified by the inspection team.

Don Blanchard gave a "Fire Safety Presentation" to the members at the Annual Meeting in

August of 1995. In September, it was hoped that a tree thinning program and removal of dead and dying trees would make the park much safer and also be of benefit to the growth of remaining trees. There were still about 200 dead or dying or beetle infested trees. Members were advised that cut trees should be sprayed to protect them from the beetles, and then covered with a tarp to prevent the beetles from spreading to more live trees. Cut wood should not be stacked between trees for the same reason. All slash had to be burned. Lindain spray

was offered to members for a cost of about \$20 a tree. "Stump grinding" was offered for \$3 a diameter inch.

Shortly after midnight on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1996, a trailer **FIRE** struck TTT again. A call was put in to 911 and the member was asked to wait at the gate for the Fire Department to arrive. The Manager then took Old Red to the campsite, fully expecting to find the campsite engulfed in flames. Instead, he found a 13 or 14 year old boy who explained that while his mother was going to get help, he turned off the propane, disconnected the battery and emptied two fire extinguishers on the flames. He then used a garden hose to put out the rest of the fire. Thanks to the bravery and quick thinking of the boy, only the trailer was damaged and the fire didn't have time to spread to the park.

The Board had established another burn pit which was located behind S Loop. It was intended to be used as a place for staff to pile needles and slash from the spring clean-up. The burning would take place after the first snow fall at the end of the season. Spring was just around the corner and memories of the tragedy associated with the last burn pit were still fresh in the minds of some members. In March, 1997, some members expressed their concerns about the new burn pit. The Forest Service had received a complaint with questions about the air quality when burning such large piles of needles and slash. The membership was assured that proper permits for burning were in place, and that the Forestry Service would be inspecting the burn area for any violations. A discussion to address fears and concerns about the burn pit was scheduled for the May Board meeting.

Another year had passed and in March of 1998, US Forestry Service was proposing an extensive cutting, clearing and burning project in the forest surrounding Tahoe Timber Trails. The project was entitled "The Stampede Project" and possible logging was also being considered. President Mel Glaze and Park Manager Curtis Vahl attended a meeting to discuss the impact of this project on TTT. Our membership had just concluded a major fund raising and collected \$20,000 to pave the Hobart Mills Road. The paving was scheduled to begin that same spring. (See related story in the "Roads" section) All of our members had waited years to have the Hobart Mills Road improved and many could still recall when the logging trucks had caused extensive damage to that road in the past. Additionally, there was growing concern about the burning program and what problems the smoke could cause to the camping members. Members sent cards and letters to the Forestry Service to address the project and make sure our position was made very clear them. The project was then put under Congressional Inquiry.

In May, a letter was sent to both the US Forestry Service and the County of Nevada from the Board of Directors documenting their understanding of the agreements reached on February 6<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. A representative from the US Forestry Service was scheduled to be at the May, 1998, Board of Directors meeting to answer any questions from the membership and any other questions the Directors may have.

Poor OLD RED was showing his age, and in October, 1998, the Volunteer Fire Dept. was authorized to paint him using the TTT shop that winter. Funds for this project and other



improvements/repairs to OLD RED were donated by Aluminum Beverage, Deep Pit BBQ, Spaghetti Feed and member Charles Batz.

In the September 2000 Newsletter, members were reminded of the location for the three emergency sirens in the Park. One is located at the pump house by the lower playground, one at the "H" comfort station and one at the "T" comfort station. Tests of the sirens were planned.

By December of 2000, the Forest Service and loggers had logged the south side of Tahoe Timber Trails all the way to the firebreak, but it was not a "clear cut." On the first logging road as you left the Park there were huge piles of slash that would be burned when they dried out the next year. South and west of the park, fires were set to burn low brush and pine needles between Prosser Lake and Timber Trails and the Forestry Service planned a winter burn from Timber Trails to the logging roads. They also planned to clean pine needles and slash from the fire break road. You can still see how close the fires came to the park if you look toward the mountains across from the entrance to O Loop.

In the fall of 2001, the Association started a project to put Fire Hose Boxes at each of the 19 fire stand pipes in the park. The estimated cost per location was \$30 for materials and \$200 for the hose and nozzle. Each box would require about 250 feet of hose. The total cost would be \$4,370 to complete the project and the 2001 Bazaar had pledged \$3,414 of that expected cost. Hal Harris announced that Deep Pit BBQ and Aluminum Beverage funds would be used to complete the fire engine shed by A Loop and any additional funds would go toward materials for the hose boxes

In July, 2002, the Association became the proud owner of a "new to us" fire truck. Members could find out how to operate it by contacting Hal Harris or the Manager. The Volunteer Fire Department was trying to raise \$3000 to buy a portable pump to improve OLD RED and replace the broken PTO operated water pump. They offered the following in an effort to accomplish this:

1. Cash donations from members and committees would be gratefully accepted.
2. A raffle of an afghan made by Dorothy Harris would be held at the Annual Members Meeting.
3. They would build a storage shed for the highest bidder.

Hal later announced that Dorothy's afghan brought in \$172.50 and a donated gazebo brought in and additional \$20.

Instructions for use of the fire boxes were printed in the September Newsletter as:

1. Raise the top cover and lower the front to the ground.
2. Hook the hose to the fire stand pipe.
3. Pull all of the hose straight out of the box.
4. With fire hose nozzle open, open the stand pipe valve.
5. Direct a fine spray at the base of the fire.

In September, the Volunteer Fire Department was busy completing work on fire hose boxes and fire stand water pipes throughout the park. Eight boxes were in place and seven more were waiting for the members to dig the holes. Materials to build the remaining eight boxes still had to be purchased. There was \$2,600 remaining in the special fund that had been

donated by Bazaar to complete the project, but there would still be the considerable expense for the hoses unless, of course, a generous donor came forth. And come forth they did. Robert Driver and former member Charles Birtz provided all of the hoses and nozzles needed to equip not only the originally planned 19 boxes, but also 8 additional boxes that had been installed since the project started. Thanks to committee donations, private contributions and A LOT OF HARD WORK, the park was now the proud owner of 27 hose boxes. Once again, this was at no cost to the membership.

The Emergency Evacuation Plan that was adopted previously was again printed in the Newsletter to remind members what to do in case of a FIRE.

“In the event of a fire or other disaster that threatens us, our property, our equipment, it might become necessary for our members to evacuate the campground and leave emergency personnel and equipment to deal with the situation.

If time and location of the emergency permit, exit from the campground would probably be out the main gate and either left or right on Hobart Mills Road.

If that exit is not usable due to the emergency location, equipment traffic, or other causes, there are four other possible emergency escape routes that fire and safety officials might direct us to use. They are dirt, narrow winding roads but could be used by pickups or sedans.

1. Exit between D-14 & D-15 south to Old Reno Road.
2. Exit between R-8 & S-1 south to Old Reno Road.
3. Exit between T turn-around east then north to Hobart Mills.
4. Exit across from lodge north to Hobart Mills Road.”

Winter of 2002 was especially brutal and many, many trees in the park were downed by strong winds. The US Forestry Service and Truckee Fire Department volunteered to chip the slash from the trees that were blown down at no cost to Tahoe Timber Trails. They supplied a wood chipper and an operator from the Truckee Fire Dept., and the Forest Service supplied two people to help feed the wood chipper. The wood chips were taken to the ball field to dry out for later use in the lower playground to replenish the old ground cover. It was hoped that this program would greatly reduce the possibility of FIRE.

It was now 2004. the Manager asked the Board of Directors to consider selling the two fire trucks and purchasing another brush truck. His reasoning was that not enough volunteers were knowledgeable to sustain a Volunteer Fire Department. New California regs and OSHA requirements demanded that volunteer fire departments have up to date fire equipment and continuing training and there could be insurance requirements. It appeared that for a one time fee of about \$1,500, TTT could be annexed into Truckee Fire Department’s jurisdiction, which would mean that they would have to respond to all fires at TTT even if they had limited units available. Presently, that was not the case. The Board would consider that a brush truck could respond more quickly. Old Red would, of course, be kept.



## **BEETLE INFESTATION of OUR TREES**

Tree Beetles have always been a grave concern to the health of our Sierra Nevada forests, and Timber Trails is not exempt from that concern.

As early as 1974, the California Division of Forestry warned our members that it was unwise to stack cut wood against any living tree as it creates a potential for beetles to spread to the healthy tree. They advised that it is best to stack wood in tiers between two supporting post with the stacked wood being at least 5 feet from any living tree. The cut wood should then be covered with a trap.

Members began to notice many trees dying throughout the park and by 1978 the Park Manager noted that there were over 300 dead trees. The beetles were, indeed, spreading quickly through the park and we had a problem that many feared would be a very expensive one to cure.

An effort was made in 1981 with a tree replacement program and free pine trees were offered by Ownership Campground. (the developer) Members could have up to three seedlings. Although the trees were small, they began to take root and grew quickly.

By July of 1989, the serious Beetle infestation problem continued and our trees were dying all around us. The Association was in constant contact with the Forest Service to determine if there are any additional actions that members could take to help control the beetle problem.

The December 1994 Newsletter told of a tree removal program to get rid of beetle infested trees and remove them from the park. The Board had approved the program and it was scheduled to begin on November 22, 1994, and be completed by May 31, 1995. The Association entered into a contract with a lumber company for \$10,000. The contract called for the removal of dead trees and thinning of large clumps and included a penalty clause of \$1,000 per day if the job was not completed by May 31, 1995. It was hoped that winter storms would not delay this completion date.

Unfortunately, the dead tree removal and thinning program could not be started until December and it was progressing slower than had been anticipated due to the early, heavy snow fall. It was feared that all the snow and late removal of the dead and diseased trees might even delay the park opening that year.

It was now September, 1995, and a successful tree thinning program as well as the removal of dead and dying trees would certainly make the park much safer and be beneficial to the growth of the remaining trees. There were still some 200 dead or dying trees, but it was felt that Management could remove them. The procedure was simple enough, although back braking. Cut trees had to be sprayed to protect them from the beetles and then covered with a tarp to prevent the beetles from spreading to more live trees. Slash had to be burned. Lindain spray was offered to members for a cost of about \$20 a tree. "Stump grinding" was offered for \$3 a diameter inch.

The program was over, and we were all in hopes that our efforts had at least contained the problem for the time being.

## PLAGUE

In 1989 and again in 1990, Plague was on the rise in our area and at Lake Tahoe. It had reached the point that warnings were issued to every State Park, public beach and even home owners in the area. Our park was no exception. Chipmunks and Golden Mantels were trapped in all these areas, and a "flea count" was made. People were warned not to feed the animals or touch a dead one with bare hands. Any dead animal found in the park was wrapped in plastic and kept in a freezer. The Health Department then collected them and inspected them for plague.

The summer of 1989 was a very frightening one. The Plague was so bad that pets were banned from the park and tent camping was prohibited until further notice. A rodent dusting program was started in cooperation with the Health Department and volunteers formed work parties to assemble 4" PVC tubes with peanut butter, birdseed and suet bait. As the animal came to get the food, they were "dusted" with a powder provided by the Health Department. The traps were placed strategically all over the park.

On August 29, 1989, the State Health Department came to the park to trap rodents and make flea counts. The Golden Mantle flea count had been reduced from 9.0 to .05 per animal. Chipmunks reduced from 3.0 to 1.2 per animal. The Calif. Ground Squirrels which normally have from 10 to 40 fleas only had 0.3 per animal. The Department lifted the ban on tent camping but NO pets were be permitted in the park for the remainder of the season.

In September, The Health Department returned to the park for another inspection.

The December Newsletter told us that Plague control will be an ongoing program. Reducing the rodent population required the cooperation of all campers. If state inspections were to reveal a re-occurrence, the threat of restricted camping, no pets, and eventual **park closure** could be a reality.

In May of 1990, more rodent dusting tubes were being made by member work parties and the Association planned to start using them early in the season. The tubes were used throughout that entire season and it was announced that a monitor was needed from each Loop to maintain the tubes in that Loop.

By 1991, the major scare was over and serious health issues had been avoided. The park returned to normal and pets were again allowed to return to the park. There was another Plague warning in 1995 and several more since then, but never as serious as the Plagues of '89 and 90.

## SNOW in the SIERRAS

The winter of '74 – '75 was a particularly bad one. It was also the first winter the park Managers would spend in the new living quarters at the park. Ralph and Jean York were beginning to wonder just what they had gotten themselves in for. The developer, Gordon Mc Mahan, was equally concerned for their safety. The snow just kept coming and there didn't seem to be an end in sight. The York's had plenty of food and pretty good heat, but none the less, it was becoming obvious that a scary situation was developing. Mr. Mc Mahan kept in touch by phone as best he could, but lines were going down all around the area. Finally, Gordon decided that nothing was worth Ralph and Jean's safety. He told them to pack enough clothes for a couple of days and grab a tooth brush. In just a few minutes, a helicopter was landing in the parking lot ready to whisk them off to a safer place.



The winter of 1982 brought 295" of snow and 30" of rain. But that was nothing compared to the winter of '83 when a record breaking 497 – that's **41 feet 5 inches** of snow fell on Donner Summit. It was the snowiest winter in the Sierra's since the late 1800's. The previous record had been a mere 31" 5". The National Guard was air lifting hay for deer and standing by in case people in Truckee and Russell Valley needed help getting out.

By mid December, snow started falling again and didn't quit until Timber Trails was buried under 6 1/2 feet of fresh snow. This was on top of a 4 foot base they already had. Electrical failures became a way of life for staff. One storm boasted winds up to 70 MPH at Hobart Mills, blowing every fuse in the lines. They were without power for 7 days and no phone for 8 days. Cell phones were a thing of the far distant future. Snow fall by February 22nd was a whopping 15 feet 4 inches. Sierra Pacific came into the park in a huge snow cat to repair the damage at 3:00 A.M.



1984 was an exceptionally cold winter. Managers Bud and Jackie Behrend recalled one particularly cold afternoon in December when they participated in a life and death situation.

It seems that three men had made their way in to Stampede with all their gear to enjoy an afternoon of duck hunting. Even though it was bitter cold, they took their boat out on the lake to bring home the duck, so to speak. No one knew exactly how it happened, but suddenly they were all in the freezing water.

Somehow, they made their way to Tahoe Timber Trails. Two of the men were suffering from extreme hypothermia. The living room of the managers mobile quickly became a MASH UNIT as they attempted to lend first aid and keep the hunters warm. It was a long 2 ½ hours before the ambulance finally arrived from Tahoe Truckee Hospital.

All three men pulled through with no lasting problems and they even returned several days later to thank Bud and Jackie.





The Hobart Mills Road was always closed to vehicles after the first snow fall until the 90's. A large gate spanned the road close to where the target range is located now. It was locked by the county until the spring thaw. Russell Valley residents and our own employees commuted to Hobart Mills daily on their snowmobiles. Everyone parked in a clearing, left their snowmobiles, and exited to Truckee in their cars. In the evening, the routine was reversed. Local dog sled racers in training for the annual races frequented the meadows and often visited the Managers at Timber Trails.

The first snow storm in 1985 dropped 4", the second storm dropped 8", and the third dumped a whopping 3 feet with temperatures as low as minus 5 degrees.

Huge piles of sand and gravel now occupy the area where the Hobart Shops Building once stood.



That winter left its mark by way of damage in both California and Nevada, and Timber Trails was no exception. There were several days of heavy rain before the high winds and snow hit. Power was down for 5 days which, of course, meant they were unable to run the pump and snow was their only source for water. The dirt road from Hobart Mills (East Pasture Road) to Timber Trails was damaged quite badly and would need to be repaired by the County before vehicles could travel on it. The County would probably not do any grading until late May after putting in a new culvert and filling in the washed out areas. Damage to the park could not be determined until after the snow melted.



1988 also had its share of snow. Manager Gary Kurk is busy shoveling roofs.





A single storm dumped 4 feet of snow in only two days in 1993. All told, they had 11 feet of snow in the park beginning in mid December. Between storms there were 30 MPH winds, sleet and rain. Many sheds and small campers were damaged. There was limited space at Hobart Mills for parking due to the enormous piles of snow, and East Pasture Road to Timber Trails was closed.



Winter view of Harris Hall and spring run-off in '93 - '94



B Loop winter of 1993



F Loop winter of 1993

T Loop winter of 1993



In 1995 it started snowing early and just kept on coming. All together, about 22 feet of snow fell as well as a lot of rain. They thought it would never end.

The road coming into the park was in very bad condition again that year. For most of the winter the road had been plowed, but from Timber Trails to Russell Valley the road had been closed for about two months. There was a wash out on the road down by the pasture which made it very rough to travel. Nevada County hoped to be able to start work on it by the first part of May.

Conditions inside the park as of the first of May were not good and there was still some snow on the roads. The tree harvest was not as good as expected and there were still a lot of trees down on member sites as well as the roads. Tree work was put on hold for the last month because of the weather. Members were advised that they may suffer some inconvenience if they came to the park before the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. Due to the severe conditions, site cleanup and temporary snow roof removal deadlines were changed to July 5<sup>th</sup>.

In 1997 about 6 feet of snow fell in December and the shop roof had to be supported. By May there was still about 4 feet of snow on the ground, but there was only nominal damage to the park. Staff was busy cleaning and preparing for camp opening and many birds and animals had already returned to the Park.

It was February of 1998 when the VP Mel Glaze visited the park. There were 5 or 6 feet of snow and drifts much higher in some places. By the end of that winter, Donner Summit was approaching 33 feet of snow. Fortunately, no trailer damage was reported that year, but a major water break had occurred sometime during that winter and there was no water above D Loop. Repairs could not be made until around the end of April or the beginning of May due to the weather. It was anticipated that park opening could be delayed due to the amount of snow still in the park.

On April 18<sup>th</sup> 1999, there was still two feet of snow on Timber Trails roads. It was still snowing as the Newsletter went to press. Major electrical problems started in December and there were 10 separate power failures. It did not look good for the scheduled May 15<sup>th</sup> opening of the park.

In November of 2001 the snow was already falling and the members were all gone. Only the bobcats, gray squirrels and coyotes remained in the park to keep management company.

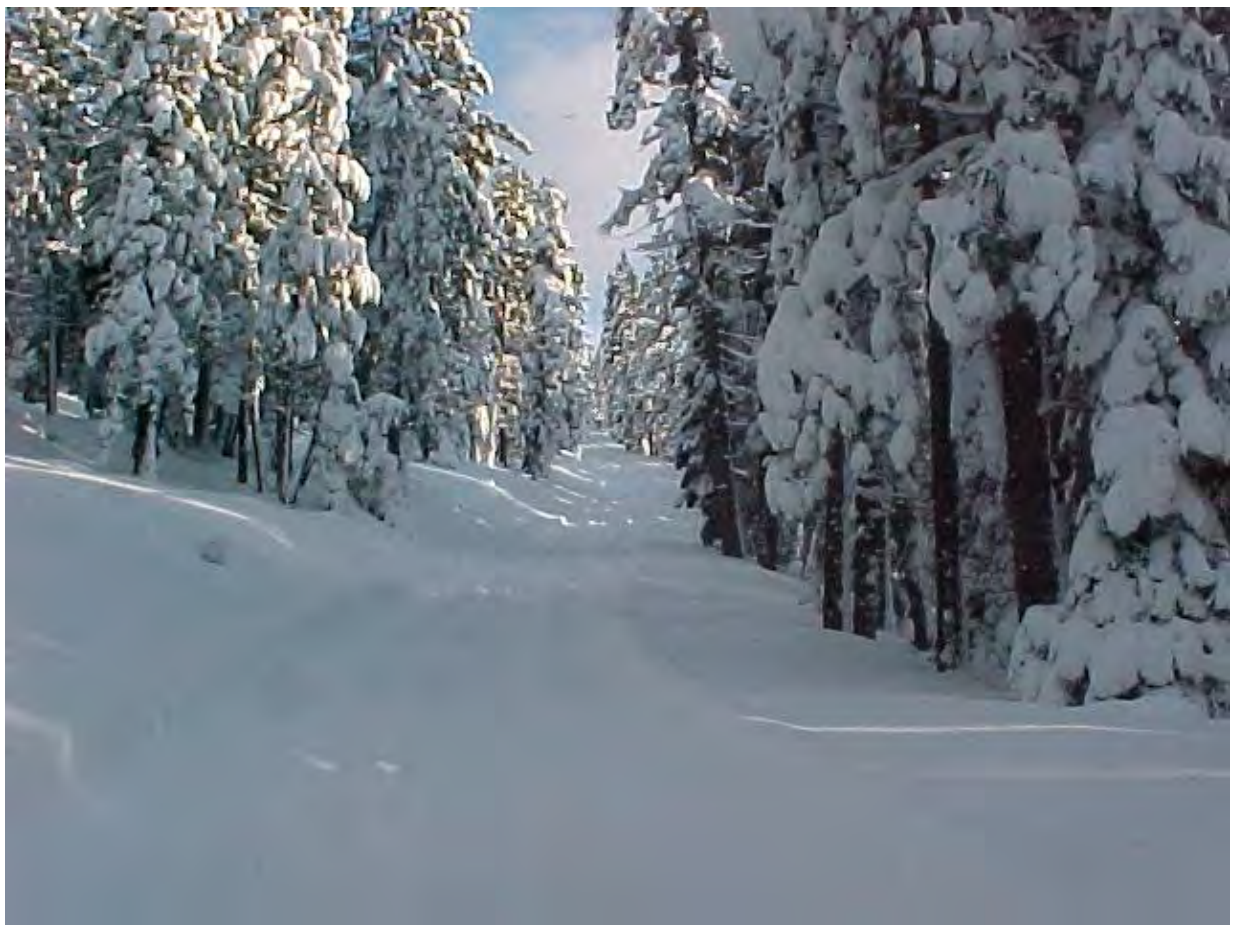




The park manager reported in 2002 that “it seems that in December all we do is dig out – SNOW – LOTS OF SNOW.” There was 4 feet of snow on the ground and another storm on the way. Right from the very first winter storm that year it was dangerous and scary. It started with rain and continued to rain hard the first two days. Hurricane force winds brought even more snow. It came fast and furious and was known locally as Sierra Cement. With the weight of the snow on the trees and the bad winds, trees were dropping everywhere. There were huge power outages all over the area from downed trees. Schools and businesses in Truckee were shut down. Timber Trails lost power and phone service for a full week and there was still about 4 feet of snow on the ground. It’s a good thing they had an emergency generator, cell phones and a good wood stove, which was going day and night.

As late as April there was still a lot of snow and ice, but management was working hard to get it cleared as soon as possible for park opening.

In 2004 and 2005, there was an abundant snowfall. Action Tree was kept busy with snow removal, and it was hoped that drought conditions would be lessened so that members could spend more happy times around the campfire.



Its quiet beauty is deceiving.

## CAMPGROUND BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS

In 1975, the developer sponsored a contest to encourage the members to take pride in the development of their campsite. As you can see, the rules were simple and the idea was well received. Categories and winners were announced in the July Newsletter.

### Timber Trails Campsite Beautification Contest

Timber Trails International is happy to announce that we are sponsoring a Campsite Beautification Contest. Awards will be presented on the following basis:

#### A. Eligibility:

1. All members with dues paid currently are eligible to enter.
2. Each member will have to conform in every respect with all requirements of the by-laws.
3. All members may sign up with the Park Operations Supervisor, on the attached form.

#### B. Judging

An Independent committee of non-members will serve as the judges.

1. The deadline for entering will be Sunday, August 17, at noon.
2. Judging will be held on Sunday, August 31, 1975, and the winners will be announced at 3:00 p.m. Judging will be based upon:
  - a. Overall appearance
  - b. Use of natural materials and earth colors.
  - c. Care of natural forestation and plantings, if applicable.
3. Entrants need not be present to win.

#### C. Disqualification

1. Failure to sign up prior to August 17, 1975.
2. By-law violations observed dealing with health (sanitation) or safety (fire pits.)

#### D. Prizes

All prize money will be donated by Timber Trails International.

#### E. Categories

##### **Judges Grand Award**

1<sup>st</sup> - \$50.-      2<sup>nd</sup> - \$25.      3<sup>rd</sup> - \$10

Winners - 1<sup>st</sup> place Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Schuller A-18  
2<sup>nd</sup> place Mr. & Mrs. Jack Fidler C-29

##### **Most Natural Site** - (Minimum improvements: neatness, maximum display of nature's best)

1<sup>st</sup> - \$25.      2<sup>nd</sup> - \$15.      3<sup>rd</sup> - \$10.

Winners 1<sup>st</sup> place - Mr. & Mrs. Dan Leeke - D 15  
2<sup>nd</sup> place - Mr. & Mrs. Steve Gregory - D 4

**Most Improvements** - (Maximum amount of materials and labor done in good taste)

1<sup>st</sup> - \$25.      2<sup>nd</sup> - \$15.      3<sup>rd</sup> - \$10.

Winners 1<sup>st</sup> place - Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Schuller A-18  
2<sup>nd</sup> place - Mr. & Mrs. James Bayers D-11  
3<sup>rd</sup> place - Mr. James McDaughrey

**Most Attractive Fire Pit Area** - (Seating, shape, size, materials and pit)

1<sup>st</sup> - \$25.      2<sup>nd</sup> - \$15.      3<sup>rd</sup> - \$10.

Winners 1<sup>st</sup> place - Mr. & Mrs. Ed Blanchard F-27  
2<sup>nd</sup> place - Mr. & Mrs. Jack Conley D-2  
3<sup>rd</sup> place - Mr. & Hrs. Henry Elsesser H-8

**Most Unique Layout**

1<sup>st</sup> - \$25      2<sup>nd</sup> - \$15      3<sup>rd</sup> - \$10

Winners 1<sup>st</sup> place – Mr. & Mrs. Jack Fidler C-29  
2<sup>nd</sup> place – Mr. & Mrs. Buck Hardie D-5  
3<sup>rd</sup> place – Mr. & Mrs. R. Skurka D-32

**Plantings**

Winner 1<sup>st</sup> place – Mr. & Mrs. Lee Burge C-21 \$25.

**Blend of Colors**

Winner 1<sup>st</sup> place – Chuck Bedell C-24 \$25.

**Most Participation by Wives**

Winner 1<sup>st</sup> place – Marie Blanchard F-27 \$10.

**Judges:**

Tom Benneite – Tahoe Donner Recreation & Park District  
Hal Harris  
Jim Gainer  
Russ Bowton  
Bill Rosche  
Clare Sanford



In the fall of 1982 and spring of 1983, bushes and flowers were planted at the front gate, office and new mobile. The project was financed by Bazaar. Mel & Millie Salerno, Bob & Doris Glover contributed their time to do the planting. Everyone noticed what a difference just a few hours of TLC can make.

In 1985, another “Park Beautification Program” was initiated and Director Gary Mallon asked members to help by sprucing up around comfort stations, along the roads, and especially at the front entrance.



The July, 1987, Newsletter told us of plans being formulated for a Front Gate Beautification program. Bob Werner would Chair the committee and they were asking for input and volunteers from the members. By the time they had finished there was a sprinkling system on both sides of the front gate and beautiful flowering Scotch Broom greeted us all as we came "home" in the spring of '88. That committee was also instrumental in moved the park equipment from the front parking lot to the rear of the Managers Mobile and shop area. They also built bins to hold the gravel and D.G., which had previously been piled in the parking lot.

As an enhancement to the appearance of the park entrance, a new "Event" bulletin board was installed in the area between the office and Timber Trails Road in 1991. It featured removable letters/numbers so that items of interest could be changed easily and the members would have one place to check current information. The bulletin board was later moved to the other side of the road.

It was now July, 2002, and yet another Front Gate Beautification Program was begun, but it was short lived. The old sprinkler system at the entrance to the park was repaired and a statement appeared in the Newsletter that "if anyone wants to plant anything – they are welcome."

In September of 2004, Marie Blanchard asked the Board of Directors to approve a "Beautification Project" at the entrance to the park. Approval was given and before the close of the season Marie and her husband Ed had already started to clean up the area between the Assistant Managers living quarters and A Loop. Critter resistant plants were planted and fire resistant grass with wild flower seed would be planted before the first snow fall.

The "Y" in the road at the entrance was cleaned out and a few surprise plantings were planned. Manager, Nelson Evans, repaired the old sprinkling system and within another week or two, a group of volunteers all came to a "rock throwing party" to move a mountain of river rock from a pile in the road to the "Y."

The old stone pillars at the gate entrance had been repaired so many times that they could no longer be fixed. They were replaced with the pillars as you see them today.

A "wish list" for plants was printed in the Newsletter and members were encouraged to donate a few plants. The Blanchard's' limited funds could then be used for the more expensive items such as a sprinkling system for the "meadow" behind the bulletin board. Some plants known to grow in the area and that are less interesting to the animals were listed as Scotch Broom, Cat Mint, Oregon Grape, Yarrow and Russian Sage.

## CHAPEL OF THE PINES

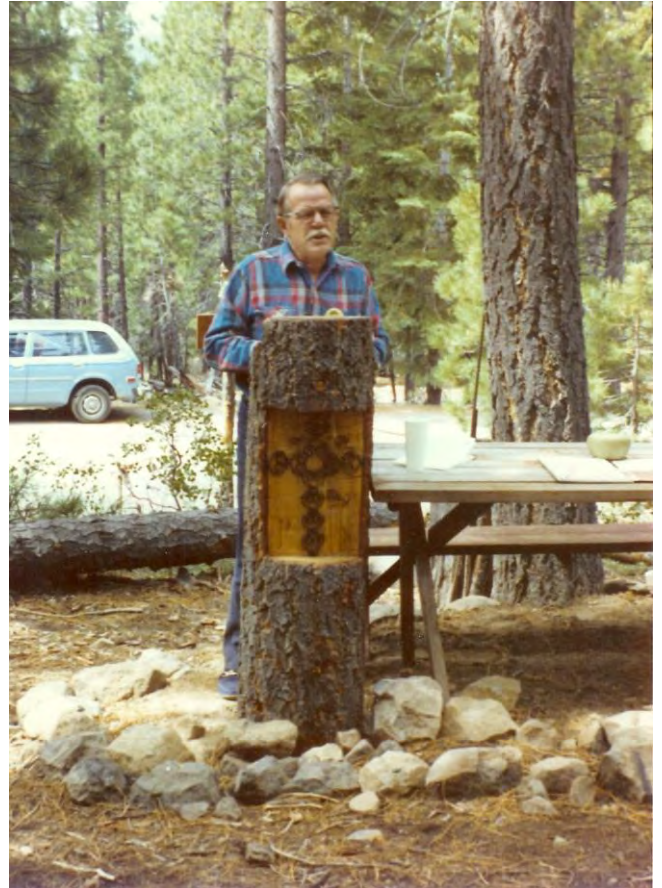
In 1974, the Board circulated a questionnaire amongst the members asking them to indicate their wishes and desires about the opening of a Chapel in the park. It would, of course, be a non-denominational gathering to worship. The response was overwhelmingly in favor of the idea.

The new Chapel of the Pines was located in greenbelt at the "Y" where the main road splits to go up the hill to Harris Hall or towards "O" Loop.



Russ Bowton carved this beautiful sign in 1975.

Ray Meyer presides at church services until the early 1980's.



Members bow their heads in prayer.



A thoughtful member donated a bell for the chapel





Russ & Maxine Bowton took over duties for the Chapel of the Pines in 1986. Russ conducted services for the adults while Maxine held Sunday school classes for the children. Someone made a beautiful cross for the chapel and donated it anonymously. Unfortunately, the cross has long since disappeared.



Accordion and violin music packed the Chapel for Sunday services. Occasionally, Doris Riddel played the keyboard and her husband Hal played the harmonica.



Gale Sulezich, pictured here on the left, often sang for Sundays services. Her magnificent soprano voice could be heard throughout the park.



In March of 1990, Russ asked the Board for permission to relocate the Chapel to an area in the green belt north and east of Harris Hall. The site was tree sheltered and reasonably level. It would also allow better parking for people attending services. Access would be by a D.G. surfaced walkway from the lodge parking lot. The Chapel area itself would be about 30 X 50 feet in size, 50 feet south of Timber Trails Road and 60 feet from the nearest campsite on Maple Loop. Members on Maple Loop had no objection to the proposal. The Board strongly supported the relocation and, at the April Board meeting, the proposal was approved.



[New location for Chapel of the Pines](#)

Russ and Maxine Bowton continued to conduct Sunday services and Sunday School activities for the children until 1998. They left TTT at that time due to Maxine's ill health, and sadly, that part of our history seems to be lost. Perhaps someday, someone will pick up where they left off. The space is still there.....waiting patiently to be used.

The Chapel of the Pines bell has been relocated to the Memorial Tree project. (See related story in the "Memorial Trees" story.)

## MEMORIAL TREES

In 1999, Bob Shillato asked the Board for permission to plant native trees in an area to the south east behind Harris Hall as a memorial to past members. The cost would be born by any member wishing to purchase a tree and dedicate it to the memory of a loved one. Bob, in turn, would plant the tree and place a dedication plaque beside it. The Board approved of the program and Bob has unselfishly dedicated his time and expertise to what has become known as the Memorial Trees.



The grove has a beautiful view of the Sierras.

Bob has moved stones and leveled paths to enhance the beauty of the area. Members frequently take a morning or evening stroll through the trees.







Fall, and the colors are beautiful.

A bench has been placed in the shade of two native Jeffery Pines. You can just see its shadow in the picture above. Members enjoy a quiet interval, peaceful time to meditate, or just the mountains at their finest.

The bell from the Chapel of the Pines is on loan to the Memorial Trees until such time as the Chapel reopens for services. Or perhaps, it will remain there and services will again be relocated. What ever happens, the bell will always have a home at TTT.

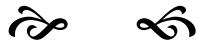
Single-handedly, Bob has installed a drip system and continually improved the area until it is the place of beauty that we all enjoy today. On weekends, you will almost always find Bob working away quietly on his very special and unique project.



## STORIES \* TALES \* MEMORABLE PEOPLE

### RAFTING on the TRUCKEE

In the fall of 1974, 44 people from ages 6 to 50 enjoyed the 3 ½ mile rafting trip on the Truckee River. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the trip and began to plan another rafting journey next year. The “white water” was rougher than usual. Both Harriet Pangelinan and Sam Lorenzo kept falling out of the raft.



### MORE THAN JUST BINGO



The original Bingo board was on wheels. When not in use, a large painting of the Sierras covered the numbers to hide them, and the board was then rolled over to the side. The bingo cards were made of cardboard and you simply covered the numbers by moving a “window” over them. As time went by, paper “bingo cards” and dabbers came into use.

George Schuller was a member with a very vivid imagination and a lot of energy. In 1980, he decided to conduct a treasure hunt. George hid the clues everywhere ... under a rock ... on top of a post ... at the Cook Shack ... at the Lodge ... at the Chapel ... tied to a tree or bush ... tacked to the front gate ... or just about any place you could think of and some you couldn't. He could be seen skulking around all hours of the day and evening, always peeking over his shoulder to see if anyone was watching.

At times, there were 25 or 30 people running from pillar to post throughout the park trying to find the clues to the “treasure.” The treasure was always something very simple, sometimes a candy bar or a coffee cup, sometimes a big bag of peanuts or a wooden spoon. The fun was not in winning the “treasure,” but just in being outside enjoying friends and having a few laughs.

The next year, Bingo sponsored the Treasure Hunt and donated a cash “Treasure” for the winner. This hunt would be more like a Scavenger Hunt and much more difficult. The following poem appeared in the May, 1981, Newsletter. It was written by Bingo Chair and “Treasure Hunt Master” George Schuller

Next Saturday night (30 May), we'd like to initiate  
Something different. We hope you'll participate.

We're going to have a hunt for treasure.  
Gives you something to do during your leisure.

Could be profitable for you – I mean money wise.  
It'll darn sure give you some exercise !

By the end of June, the prize should be won.  
We may repeat it – if you think it was fun.

With the Bingo gave, it won't interfere.  
We'll have them weekly – same as last year.

About this new thing that we're going to do:  
Tell your campsite neighbors, and the kids too.

The instructions and clues for this mystery gave,  
Will be posted in the bulletin board frames.

BUT – on Saturday evening –

When you come to Bingo, then during intermission,  
You'll hear all about this new innovation.

Won't give you more details here and now.  
Come to Bingo next week and we'll tell you how!

Hooter said that!  
(Hooter, the Owl, that is.)

Mr. Schuller was the Chair for Bingo. He and his Bingo Buddies were constantly coming up with a unique idea to keep interest in the event. Helpers, Dave & Smokey Hillerich, were noted for their visits to salvage areas to collect prizes.

On a couple of occasions, there was a "Price is Right" show before the bingo games started. John Sulezich was the announcer, while his wife Gail and Nancy Caffaretta were the "girls" in the show. Russ Caffaretta was the man in the audience with the microphone. It was an adlib mock TV show as scripted by the "actors" on the spot. Contestants had to guess what the price of the gift was in order to win it. Great fun!

It was June 1982, and George Schuller was at it again. He decided to have another treasure hunt. The hunt was open to all members, men, women, and children. George could be seen all over the park hiding clues to the place where he had hidden an empty film cartridge. Being a man with great imagination, and pretty cagy, to boot, he even went so far as to pretend to hide

something just in case someone was watching. Fifteen numbered “slips” could be found in or on the Green Belt areas. “No special equipment or tools are required. The slips are NOT buried below ground, nor placed more than 6' above ground.” If you were the luck one to find the clue, you were instructed to endorse the slip and your autographed slip would allow you to participate in a random drawing held on Bingo night. You had to be present to win. Holder of a winning number would be reimbursed for the number of Bingo cards he purchased up to \$5.00. A GRAND PRIZE drawing was held at the Bazaar and the holder of the winning number was awarded \$100.00. First Prize was \$25. The prize wasn’t the important thing, although in 1982 that was quite a tidy prize. Getting together just to have some fun was the real prize. George published his poem in the June 1982 news letter again to promote the treasure hunt.

The June 1984 Newsletter announced that “The well known, popular game show, “THE PRICE MAY BE RIGHT” with game show host BOOB BAKER, announcer, JOHNNY COLSEN, and the GIRLS ...at least two ...will be presented LIVE, at the clubhouse on Saturday, July 29, starting promptly at 7 p.m. Valuable prizes will be offered. Contestants will be selected at random from the audience. If you would like to be a contestant, sign up in person immediately prior to the show. COME EARLY. Preferred seating to those holding BINGO CARDS. BINGO games start immediately following the show.”

“Future” BIG GAME SHOWS” would be posted on the bulletin board. Depending on the reception that this first production receives, and on the disposition of the players, it may be possible to book other game shows in the future, such as : BALLYHOO SQUARES; WHEEL OF MISFORTUNE; DREAMY OUT-HOUSE; SALE OF THE WEEK; FAMILY FOOD” AND their respective hosts like: Richard Awesome, Gene Sideburn, Pat Sadsack, Vana Black, and etc.”

In 1984, another “equal opportunity” scavenger (treasure) hunt was in progress in conjunction with the weekly Bingo games. Weekly prizes could be won, and a GRAND PRIZE would be awarded at the end of the contest on July 21<sup>st</sup>. A list of the „Hunted” items were given out at the weekly Bingo games. There were new clues each week. If you brought a 1977 or 1978 half dollar Bingo would exchange it for a BINGO card that could be played for the entire evening!



## MUSIC MOUNTAIN

There were times when some very strange music could be heard floating around the park. The music was lovely, but the voices left something to be desired. The mystery was finally solved when George Schuller and Bill Ashford were discovered sitting up on the hill playing “Bolero” on the radio and singing at the top of their lungs. Their singing abilities were enhanced by sipping a little Canadian Whiskey.





## THE PET PARADE

On June 16, 1984, the first ever TTT Pet Parade was scheduled. Any member with a pet was invited to enter. George Schuller organized the event but couldn't find a judge that would be totally impartial so he decided to go to Truckee to find the perfect one. He soon returned with a sweet little lady. The lady and her granddaughter consented to do the job and they were allowed to make up the rules. Thirteen entries, and equally as many spectators counting the Judges and registrars, showed up for the posh affair. Cash and specially designed "rosettes" were awarded the winners in each of five categories i.e. Appearance, Personality, Talent, Most Unique, and Judge's Choice. Everyone gathered around to cheer on their favorites and the winners all received a blue ribbon. Of course, after so much excitement, everyone was famished and so they settled down to enjoy a marvelous pot luck dinner.



## THE MARY KAY PARTY

Not to be out done by the ladies at camp, the fellows decided to have a Mary Kay party of their own just to poke a little fun. George Schuller booked the party with member Debbie Hagen, a distributor. The guys really got into the mood and some allowed Debbie to make them up while others put on the make-up themselves. You can imagine what a site it was. Dave Hillerich, Ralph York, Russ Caffaretta, Fred Grove, Vern Hazen, Hal Harris, George Moke, Ed Blanchard and George Schuller were the models and dressed in their finest. Hors d'oeuvres and Bloody Marys were served, which added to the spirit of the evening. George decided to chase Hal all over the area to give him a kiss on the cheek because he was "just so cute." Hal, of course, ran as hard as he could, screaming all the while "Stay away from me...stay away from me!" By this time, the wives, who had all been watching this hilarious affair from behind the trees, could hardly contain their laughter another moment. In no time at all, everyone was laughing hysterically and holding their sides. Needless to say, the party was declared a complete success.



## THANKSGIVING DAY in the PARK

Barbara Wickham recalls that in 1977 several members decided to have a Thanksgiving feast on Thanksgiving Day in the park. Everyone brought their favorite dish and headed up the mountain but the road up to the front gate was so slippery that almost everyone had to be towed over a particularly icy section. Remember, in 1977 Harris Hall was all open in the center where the main room is now. There was no water and only the fireplace for warmth. Dinner was held in what is now the children's play room. In spite of the bad weather and ice, a wonderful time was enjoyed by all. They did decide, however, that Thanksgiving Day would be spent at home next year.



## LADY and the TRAMP

One late summer afternoon, a beautiful stray dog found her way into the park and hearts of the members of Tahoe Timber Trails. No one could claim her, nor could they catch her, but the entire park adopted her. She was cautiously friendly and loving with big brown eyes that won everyone's heart. It was obvious from her appearance that she was someone's pet and the members were all determined to find her owners.

There was a happy ending to this story. "Lady", as the members had named her, was finally captured by the animal control people. Everyone was both relieved and saddened to know that our "Lady" was leaving us and going home to her rightful owners. Who could have guessed that she came from a very special family in Russell Valley? They had been desperately looking for her all this time. As it turned out, her name was "Summer" and she was the lead sled dog for a team out of Northstar. Needless to say, her owners were very happy to have her back again.

"Lady" and her owners were to have yet another remembrance of TTT. A short while after she was returned to her loving family, "Lady" gave birth to a single puppy... a beautiful little female that they named "Solo." As it turns out, Tahoe Timber Trails had its very own version of "Lady and the Tramp."



## CB RADIOS

It was 1984, and communications became very important to the members. There were concerns about fire safety, emergency health issues, and just the plain old ability to talk to your friends to see what time the BBQ would be ready. Cell phones were certainly a thing in the FAR distant future and a C.B. Radio seemed to be the perfect solution. Before you knew it they were widely used for both member communications and as a "safety net" for the park. The rules were announced as follows:

- The TTT office "handle" will be "TIMBER."
- Any calls going to all CB Radios in the Park will be „TIMBER ZERO."
- In event of an emergency the call would be „CODE RED" FOR FIRE OR "CODE BLUE" for medical. i.e. "FIRE" the call would be "TIMBER ZERO, CODE RED AT (location). MEDICAL THE CALL WOULD BE "timber zero code blue" at (location).
- When „TIMBER ZERO" is sent out all transmissions except emergencies should stop.
- channel 22 will be monitored

The CB's were used vigorously for several years by over 150 members. Committees used this as a means to advertise their activity; the Volunteer Fire Department announced fire drills; staff used it to deliver messages and make announcements. On at least one occasion, a call on the CB announcing a lightning strike and its location which quite possibly allowed members to put out a fire before it had a chance to spread. There were several occasions when the CB brought help quickly to an ill or injured member.



## MYSTERY AT THE SWIMMING POOL

The original heating system for the pool was oil and the water was never warm enough to really enjoy. After the first solar system was installed, the members were able to enjoy warm water for first time and the pool was FINALLY being enjoyed by many. Suddenly, for no apparent reason, the water was cold again. No one could figure out what the problem was. The pool was checked out thoroughly to no avail and the problem persisted. The possibility of having to replace the expensive solar system was even discussed by the Board of Directors.

One evening, a member was taking a stroll around the park and happened to notice something going on at the pool. It was late and quite dark. The pool was closed so the activity going on there tweaked the member's curiosity. He went closer in investigate. Lo and behold, there was the Lodge Attendant quietly dumping several bags of ice into the pool. At last, the mystery of the cold water was solved. It seems that the Attendant didn't like to clean the pool and thought if it was cold the members wouldn't use it as much. Needless to say, we were suddenly looking for a new Lodge Attendant.



FUN AT THE POOL







## THE BLUE GOOSE

In the mid 1980"s, Timber Trails had a serious problem with an old blue trailer that was not up to code, to say the least. The owner had become quite ill and suffered from periods of dementia. He had placed rubber tires on top of the trailer to hold down the roof when the wind blew and he kept everything, including several cooler chests and lanterns, under lock and key. Each day he seemed to bring in more stuff to lock up and the campsite was full of clutter. Before long, he was keeping several very large chains on his belt to hold all his keys. The poor man seemed to be obsessed with the notion that someone wanted to steal his possessions.

His site became so cluttered and the trailer was in such bad condition that the Board of Directors began exploring alternatives to rectify the situation. In those days, there were no written rules and only a vague reference in the Bylaws, but the situation simply could not continue as it represented a serious danger to other members. The owner had even begun to run gray water on the ground and insisted on washing his dishes and doing his laundry at the comfort stations.

One cold night the owner turned his generator on inside the trailer to keep warm and closed all the doors and windows. When neighbors became concerned for the mans safety they asked the Park Manager to investigate. He broke into the trailer only to find the member unconscious and totally naked. An ambulance was called and the member was taken to the hospital. After he was stabilized, the hospital promptly sent him to Social Services for a psychiatric evaluation.

In the meantime, the Board truly had a crisis on their hands. The man could not continue to live in the trailer in its present condition and he had already received several warnings. The safety of his neighbors and the park was foremost in their minds and yet they wanted to be completely fair to the owner. To make matters worse, the Board had learned that the member was living on a small disability income and had no place else to go.

Social Services returned the poor man to the park a couple of days later with nothing on but a hospital gown and his boots. He carried all his keys with both hands. It was a sight to behold, for sure, but it had become very obvious that he really needed some professional help.

The Board was torn between protecting the members, their legal requirements and responsibilities, assisting the troubled member, and what would be the best for the Association. It was finally decided that the trailer should be removed from the park and, at that point, it was moved to the parking lot by the Park Manager and several Board members. The member was interviewed and agreed with the decision that he must remove the trailer from the park altogether.

The sheriff was notified and the trailer was removed from the park that day. The member only took the trailer as far as a wide place in the road on East Pasture Road where it remained for several weeks before the member was sited by the County and finally moved it someplace else.



## CASE OF THE WRONG CAMPSITE

Have you ever wondered why all our guests must register? Here is a little story you may find amusing and it may also answer that question.

It was a warm June afternoon in the summer of 1989. The sun was beginning to cast beautiful shadows across the campgrounds and the smell of campfires was in the air. Two guest families came in with a key card that was given to them by their host member. It probably didn't seem too important to them to register as a guest, so they proceeded straight to the campsite. They carefully set up their tents, arranged their equipment and had a cold one to relax and enjoyed a pleasant campfire while they made plans for the rest of the weekend. Their host knew them to be trustworthy and was very comfortable allowing them to use his campsite in his absence. There wouldn't be any problems and, after all, who would ever know. **WRONG! THE GUESTS WERE ON THE WRONG CAMPSITE.**

The next day the guests took one of their cars to Truckee to see what was going on. They secured their camp, locked the other car and went to town for a bite of lunch. While they were out of the park, the member on whose site they were camping came in to use his site. You can imagine his wonderment when he discovered that Papa, Mama AND Baby Bears were sleeping in HIS camp. The Manager was called; of course, it was now his job to remove two tents and all the equipment from the campsite. A tow truck was called to remove the locked vehicle.

Now it was the guests turn to be quite surprised. They returned to find all their belongings gone and someone else was enjoying a campfire in their stead. It didn't take very long for them to learn what had happened and that they were now responsible for the towing charges.

Thank goodness both the member and the guests were all very understanding or there could have been a real donnybrook.



OLD FRED

Fred and Dowina Grove were some of the very first members at Tahoe Timber Trails. They had once owned a bar, and Dowina could tell jokes one after the other for a full day, and never say a dirty word. She suffered from cancer, but there wasn't a "poor me" bone in her body.

Fred was well known for his "morning constitutional" walks clear up the mountain. He walked the full length of the main road around the park at least once a day....rain or shine....and always had a kind word and a smile for everyone he met along the way.

Now, Fred was not known to sit idly by when there was a job to be done or something he could do to supplement the family income. He chose to clean campsites in the spring. In June of 1986, when Fred was in his early 80's, he was still doing site clean-up and removing pine needles for members. He even listed his name at the TTT Office as "Contact Fred if you want your needles cleaned up." He was also hired by the Association when members didn't complete their own clean-up on time.

Eight years later, in August of 1994, Fred was still cleaning sites.... and lots of them. For those members that were unable to do it themselves or just plain didn't want to, Fred was always available. By this time, he was pushing 90, and more than one member said they felt a little strange having him do the work for them when they were barely 50. He was making plans to retire at age 90.

Dowina had been ill for many years, and so that meant Fred was also their chief cook and bottle washer. He was well known for his Sunday Breakfasts featuring scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage and waffles.... all cooked on the outdoor stone stove that he built himself. Come Sunday morning the smell of bacon, sausage and Fred's special waffles permeated the mountain air. All of his friends were invited to partake, but please don't ask for his secret waffle recipe. Dowina was always ready to greet you with a laugh, a twinkle in her eye and the best tall stories and jokes you ever heard.

Dowina loved books and worked on the Bazaar book sales for many years. Fred loved the Cake Walk and always walked till he won at least two cakes. He ALWAYS gave a very generous Cake Walk entry fee.

After Dowina passed away in 1997, Fred only stayed for one or two more summers. He retired to the Elks Home in Reno and continued to walk about seven miles a day.



### **MILLIE SALERNO SHARES HER MEMORIES**

Millie recalls that Ralph and Jean York were managing the Park under the direction of Gordon McMahon and his development group. Salesmen were all over the place. Amy Ashford cooked and served hamburgers for the prospective buyers. Phase III of the project was in progress and several of the loops were still full of fallen logs.

Millie and her husband Mel listened to the salesman's "pitch". His name was Donahue, she



recalls. When they had completed their tour of the park, they parked their RV on a lot in back of K Loop to spend the night and discuss the lots they had seen that day. It was a tough decision. Did they want a large lot or a lot with many of trees? Although H-6 was a small lot, it had over 70 trees and they knew they could fix it up - and that they did for many years. Only natural stone and logs could be used for building materials then, and they could use the fallen logs from the P Loop development for retaining walls and we all know there is a mountain top full of rocks to build a fire pit and steps.

They had 24 wonderful years at TTT. Mel volunteered for everything from repairing park equipment, welding where needed, and tarring the newly paved roads. It was hard work but so rewarding that they rejoiced and celebrated at the end of each day.



Mel and Millie each served three years on the Board and Millie chaired the Bazaar for many years, frequently taking on the part of Cricket the Clown. She recalls riding around the loops in the back of a pick up with a CB loudspeaker reminding everyone of the up coming fun and asking them to bring cakes for the cake walk. There was a craft table with beautiful hand made items. For a few years they rented a dunk tank from a scout troop in Truckee. Directors were the target and were such good sports because they were nearly drowned by the end of the afternoon.

After 24 years of "heaven" Mel was called off to his heaven and Millie is now an occasional visitor because of the many wonderful friends that are still there.



### **FLAG at the PARK ENTRANCE**

Cathy Davidson presented the Association with the American Flag that draped her husband Paul's casket when he passed away in June 1983. On Sunday August 19, 1984, the Manager and Asst. Manager raised the flag on the pole at the entrance to the park where it was displayed until the park closed that year. Paul was very much a part of TTT in the early years.

## FUN AND GAMES

This section is truly just a collection of various tidbits of information that didn't seem to fit elsewhere, but were certainly worth mentioning because they are indeed a part of the parks history.

As early as 1974, the developer recognized the need for activities and so a July 4<sup>th</sup> Relay was planned. Relay races seemed to be one of the most popular family events and they were divided into age groups. The most remarkable team was the Hale family in the 6 and under category with 2 year old Danny, diapers and T-shirt as his uniform, toddling across the finish line to win. The best all around athlete was Steve Blodgett for winning the most events and Mike Hale for displaying best sportsmanship. To complete the day, everyone enjoyed a chicken barbecue with corn on the cob. To work off such a fine feast, a Square Dance called by Howard "Move-out" Shoemaker of Reno, soon got under way.

A big Labor Day celebration was planned for Saturday August 31<sup>st</sup> and Sunday September 1<sup>st</sup> to include a Treasure Hunt. Participants were grouped in teams of four to tackle the clues. The final Judging of the "Campsite Beautification contest" would be announced in September.

The summer 1974 Newsletter sought amateur talent for the "Sing-a-Longs" and other evening campfire events. Huge bonfires were in order every Saturday night below Harris Hall. By the fall of that season it was announced that "Beginning September 7<sup>th</sup>, weekly campfires and Sing-A-Longs at the fire pit will become a part of Timber Trails Saturday Evenings. Tune up your tonsils and bring your guitars, harmonicas, tissue paper and combs - any instrument you can dig out of your closet. The campfire is torched at 8:00." Many a beautiful evening was spent at those bonfires.

A hike to Prosser Lake was planned for Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. The group left at 3:00 for a short three mile walk that was not the least bit strenuous. Hikers brought their sleeping bag, warm clothes, toilet articles and \$1.00 to cover meals. Dinner, a snack and breakfast over an open fire were planned. Equipment was delivered to Prosser Lake by car so it won't have to be carried by the walkers.

It was now 1975, and while the park was still being developed, Mr. McMahon hired a "Social Director." Her name was Tracey Allen and she joined the staff early that summer. Tracy came to Timber Trails from a large apartment complex in Walnut Creek, where she had been serving as Recreational Director. She planned activities for young and old alike and included such activities as outings to pick berries, river rafting, crafting, and pot luck dinners.

Our Park was nearly ten years old and an Anniversary Celebration was planned for August 22, 1981. Plans were made for a CHILI COOK-OFF CONTEST and dance to celebrate. The Saturday event would be held at the cook shack. There were plenty of "cooks" BUT they wanted musicians to form their own dance band. If anyone had any musical talent they were asked to please step forward. Our very own Association Dance Band would be a great addition for all the activities now being held in the Park.

**Birds in the Park** ...Here is a list of birds that are known to be in our park. They were identified by an unidentified ornithologist in the Dec. 1982 newsletter.

Turkey Vulture	Red-breasted Sapsucker	Western Tanager
Calliope Hummingbird	Cassins Finch	Fox Sparrow

Red-tailed Hawk  
Mountain Chickadee  
Mountain Quail  
Red-breasted Nuthatch  
Red-shafted Hicker  
Mountain Blue Bird

Olive-sided Flycatcher  
Red Crossbill  
Western Wood Peewee  
Dark-eyed Junco  
Violet-green Swallow  
Song Sparrow

Steller Jay  
Mallard  
Hairy Wood Pecker

Sunday morning walks to Prosser, or Boca, or maybe even Stampede were scheduled the summer of 1984.

Do any of you remember S & H GREEN STAMPS and BLUE CHIP STAMPS? For those of you that do, you will also remember how valuable they were to all of us. An innovative member came up with the idea in March of 1986 to hold a drive and collect the stamps for dance door prizes and a Bazaar Raffle. It was quite successful and brought in enough money to buy some very nice prizes.

Family dances and movies for the children were planned for July and August that year. A "Special Refreshment Center" was set up and "donations" to the center were graciously accepted. Since alcohol was not actually being sold, no license was required. Admission was \$2 for ages 16 – 90 and children were free. If you were over 90 years of age THEY PAID YOU.



Relaxing at the "Refreshment Center"



If you ate too much at the hamburger feeds, Dorothy Harris sponsored an exercise get-together. Stretching and bending on Monday's, Wednesday's and Fridays at Harris Hall was enjoyed by many a lady. The men, however, were more interested in watching than participating.

As you may have noticed, our members are very innovative when it comes to a money-making project. The project may be for Timber Trails or for a worthy cause. Perhaps that's why in 1987 members were asked to save the pull tops from aluminum cans. The money raised was used for dialysis treatments through Sparks Family Hospital. When the program was discontinued the tabs were still collected and proceeds were given to the State-run Carson City Children's Home in Carson City, Nevada. At the time, that facility housed up to 70 children in a foster home-type setting. Timber Trails members had already contributed several thousand pull-tops that year and everyone was encouraged to save tabs over the winter months and turn them in to Louise Mastroianni or the Hancock's in the spring. This is believed to be the forerunner of the Aluminum Beverage Fund.

In 1989, members volunteered to paint site numbers on the loop roads to help with site location.

Ron & Bev Gott hosted a TEEN DANCE on May 27<sup>th</sup>, 1990 at Harris Hall. The Aluminum Beverage Fund contributed funds so there would be no charge at the door. Admission was an empty aluminum can.

A new program of having a Pot Luck immediately following the monthly Board of Directors meetings was initiated on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 1991.

Joanie Knutson came up with a wonderful idea and hosted "Make a New TTT Camping Friend and Renew the Spirit" get together for new members on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> and August 8<sup>th</sup> 1991, at Harris Hall.

Ralph Your and Ed Blanchard, along with wives Jean and Marie, chaired Turkey Day 1992, and convinced the out-going and incoming Board Members and their spouses to assist with the event. They weren't "Happy Campers" about it at first, but after it was all over they had to admit that they all had a wonderful time.

On July 2, 1994, Director Millie Salerno arranged some entertainment as part of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend celebration. Amy Smith put on a high energy concert with her singing. Fred and Carol Richman's son, "Ryan" was the featured guitar player and accompanied Amy.

Margaret Glaze conducted a fund raising program in 1994 with the cooperation of Scolari's Grocery chain whereby members could donate their grocery receipts from Scolari's to raise money. Margaret was in charge of collecting the receipts and receiving the monies.

In 1994, Joanie Knutson was again trying to raise funds for the Teen Room. She conducted a Poster Contest and the winning posters were framed and displayed, in the Teen Room. Donations were requested to sponsor the event and all proceeds were used to make improvements and purchase Nintendo and other video games and a pinball machine for the room.

Timber Trails joined the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and went INTERNET in December of 1998. The web site would include Newsletters, photos, recent activities, the current Sites for Sale listings. It was hoped that members would show a real interest in this new service.

Marie Blanchard was attempting to write the History of Tahoe Timber Trails and was soliciting information from members in 2001. She expected the research and writing to take several years to complete.

Louise and Bruce Thiede presented a proposal for a Snack Bar to be located at Harris Hall. It would offer hot dogs, polish dogs, sodas & water, ice cream and other frozen items, packaged chips, candy and cookies. All profits were used for improvements throughout the park. Their plan was approved and work soon began on the little snack bar. A contest was conducted to name the new building, and the name chosen was Grizzly Bar. In addition to the hot dogs and polish sausages, tasty hamburgers have frequently been served on special occasions. Unfortunately, after several years of open doors and terrific food, Louise and her work force had to give it up and no other volunteers have stepped forward to keep the Grizzly Bar open.



## **INTERESTING INFORMATION MEMBERSHIP, FINANCES & SERVICES**

In September of 1972, the developer was delighted to announce that the final Public Report for Unit II was received. This had been eagerly awaited because the second unit called for installation of amenities which included a barbeque shelter, a second children's playground, volleyball, badminton and horseshoe courts, a putting green, croquet area, a lodge and parking area.

That October the General Membership Meeting was held at the Sacramento Inn, Comstock Room, at 7:30 p.m. at which time a discussion would be held on the proposed Bylaw change to stagger the term of office for Board members.

It might be interesting to note that in those early days, campsites sold for between \$350 and \$1,000 but there was a membership fee of \$3,500. The fee went to the developer and allowed the rest of the park to be completed in stages. It was a way for the developer to "pay as you go" and still make a profit for his development.

Only members in Unit I were eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting in June of 1973 because the impound conditions were not yet met for Unit II. The total cash on hand was \$5,030 and dues were \$7 per month. That sounds wonderful until you understand that just about the only thing the dues paid for was the utilities. The developer was still paying for everything else.

On June 30, 1973, when the second Annual Meeting was held, there were 139 members eligible to vote. The following people were elected to the Board: (retained for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term) Melvin Borden, Wm Sanford, Wm Rosche, Gordon McMahon (new) Hal Harris, James Gainer, and Bruce Nelson.

In July of that same year, members received notification that U. S. Financial, Inc. (among the largest real estate development companies in the country) was filing for a Chapter 11 Bankruptcy. U.S. Financial was the lender committed to over five million dollars in total financing to Timber Trails International for its projects. The developer did not feel that this situation would interfere with continued use and enjoyment of Timber Trails. Fortunately, they were correct and the Park was able to continue development and sales until its completion.

By August, the land in Unit I was paid for and deeded free and clear to the Association. All major improvements were either completed and paid for or covered by completion bonds. Unit II applicants cash payment were secure in the Union Bank impound account and, as a buyer, you would receive either the site and improvements you bargained for or 100% of all monies paid would be returned.

It was now September, and the developer had secured financing for prospective new members through Union Bank of L.A. as well as funds to pay all necessary bills for Unit I. By October, everything returned to normal. The Bankruptcy had been settled and development of the park continued without further interruption.

The new Lodge had been winterized and underground water, electrical and sanitation systems were being installed.



At the Annual Membership Meeting held on July 6, 1974, 140 members were eligible to vote and the quorum was established at 56.4%. A whopping 114 members attended that meeting and the cash on hand was \$5,533.

Pancake breakfasts were now being served every Sunday morning as part of the planned social activities.

In 1975 the dues were still \$7 a month (\$84 a year). The total budget for 75-76 was \$46,452. The Association paid 20% of the Management salaries and 20% of the cost of utilities and major facilities operations. The developer still paid the rest of all costs.

At the Annual Meeting that year, of the total membership of 280, **112 were in attendance**. That's a whopping **40%** of the total membership at the time. Proxies numbered 51 and a quorum was established at 163. It was assumed that the remaining sites in Unit III would be out of impound and assessable for dues commencing October 1, 1975. The total budget was \$46,452.

It was announced at the July, 1976, Annual Meeting that the bank balance was \$31,094.52. Mr. McMahon gave the President's report on the status of the Association and stated that the project that had commenced in September of 1970 was now completed in accordance with all agreements.

Unfortunately, a quorum was not present and the meeting was recessed at 11.30 while registration continued. There were 356 members eligible to vote. When the meeting reconvening, a quorum had been established with 155 members registered, and 72 proxies for a total of 227.

Dues were increased to \$12.50 a month or \$150 per year in 1976. The developer was still paying many of the bills. In addition to a Manager and Assistant Manager, we employed a Life Guard (\$800. per year) and a Recreation Director (\$1,150. per year) We also hired security for \$1,900 per year and paid an outside management firm \$13,000 per year. Our property and other taxes were \$18,000, the electricity was \$6,000., trash pick up was \$1,300., and pool supplies were \$800 per year. The total budget paid by the members was \$82,950.

Starting in 1976, ALL Board meetings were open to the membership and were scheduled for April, May and June. There were still 175 unsold sites. Mr. McMahon stated he would resign as President of the Association when all sites were sold, but would continue service on the Board.

By September, 1981, there were 70 memberships still to be sold. If sales continued as projected, all memberships in the Association would be member owned. A permanent re-sale program was planned.

There were 6 memberships listed for re-sale.

The Five Year Plan (forerunner of the Reserve Plan) was formed as a financial plan for "Future Repair and Replacement of Facilities." The Board approved a \$5 dues increase

making, the monthly dues \$20. Approximately \$18 would be used for operating expenses and \$2 was set aside to fund the new Five Year Plan.

In 1982 there were 17 campsites listed for sale with an average sales price of \$9,500.

In 1985 there were 20 memberships for sale and the average sale price was \$12,033.

By September of 1986 it was necessary to raise the dues to \$25 a month, an increase of \$5. The increase was due primarily to a large increase in the insurance premium and more funds need for the Five Year Plan.

That year there were 68 sites listed for sale. The average price was \$10,500.

The 1988-1989 budget was approved for \$165,000.

By 1991, the budget was \$182,490 and the dues were increased to \$27.50 per month.

It is sometimes interesting to compare THEN & NOW. Here is the 1991 – 1992 budget.

Salaries.....	\$ 55,206.
Property Tax.....	\$ 11,500.
All Other Taxes....	\$ 12,026.
Employee Health Ins...	\$ 8,000.
Insurance Package....	\$ 19,300.
Utilities.....	\$ 26,200.
Administrative.....	\$ 5,625.
Legal & Accounting .	\$ 3,950.
Operating Supplies....	\$ 6,020.
Health & Safety.....	\$ 2,650.
Repairs & Maint.....	\$ 8,950.
Leases.....	\$ 840.
Vehicle Licenses.....	\$ 385.
5 Year Plan.....	<u>\$ 21,838.</u>
	\$ 182,490.

The park was getting older and in need of some major repairs. The proposed budget for 1995 – 1996 was \$196,990, which brought the annual dues to \$357.

At park opening that spring, 24 sites were listed for sale.

Another dues increase was scheduled for 1997, and this brought the dues to \$395 annually with a budget of \$218,203.

In May of 1998, 27 sites were listed for sale and in March of 1999 there were 17 sites listed. Dues were still \$395 annually. But in 2000, the Board again was forced to raise the dues. All expenses were going up, major repairs were beginning to pop up here and there, and salaries were not adequate for the times. The dues were increased \$45 per year for a total of \$440 per year.

The park was now 30 years old and very expensive repairs were exceeding the amount that was deposited in the Reserve Plan. A proposal for a special assessment was introduced by President Ron Hoy at the Annual Meeting. A lengthy debate regarding the legal distinction between dues increase and an assessment ensued. It was finally determined that it was, in fact, a dues increase. The dues were increased to \$528 per year in 2000.

Dues remained the same for several years. A special assessment of \$105.60 was approved in 2004, and the last dues increase was approved in 2006. Dues are currently \$684 annually.

### **MEMBER REIMBURSED SERVICES**

Some of you may remember that in 1973, members were advised to remove their trailers from the park for the winter unless they wanted to make arrangements with a private party to shovel the roof of their trailer for a small fee.

In 1974, Trailer Dumping fees were \$3.

It was now 1976, and a propane storage tank for MRS use was installed. The initial fuel price was set at .50 cents per gallon. The charge for moving a member's trailer either on to or off of a site was \$5, but there was no charge for the **first** parking and removal each year. Battery charging was \$1.

Rock and Gravel were now being offered to the members for \$15 per yard, delivered. The telephone booth by Bill's Place was removed for the winter months to save \$114.

In 1978, members could purchase "ad" space in the news letter for six issues at a cost of \$10 to \$15. It was hoped that this program would help off-set the cost of the Newsletters. There would be no charge for a simple listing of a site for sale.

For the first time, the Assoc. offered snow removal for members wishing to leave their trailer in the park during the winter months. They would be shoveled by management and there was a sign-up list in the office.

By May of 1984, propane was \$1.05 per gallon including sales tax, and by April of 1985 it had gone up .11cents to \$1.15 per gallon. Propane went up again in 1986. It was now \$1.20 per gallon, D.G was \$17 per yard, and Transfer Fees were a flat \$50. The swimming pool was by donation only.

The swimming pool was manned by volunteers and there was a possibility that it would not open the summer 1986 due to a shortage of volunteers. Bazaar was also desperately in need of a Chairman.

A new proposal came to the park in December of 1991 and it was approved by the Board. Members could now make arrangements to install a 120 gallon propane tank on their site for a \$10 installation fee. Specific rules were established and members were informed that the tanks would be leased directly from the propane company for \$25 the first year.



## POEMS

From time to time over the years members have offered poems for the Newsletters. Some are original and some are not, but they are all pretty clever.

### 1981 Bingo sponsors a Treasure Hunt

George Schuller wrote this poem to peak interest in Bingo and just having some fun. The poem is also written in the “Stories, Tales & Memorable People” section. It was so clever that it seemed worth while repeating.

Next Saturday night (30 May), we'd like to initiate  
Something different. We hope you'll participate.

We're going to have a hunt for treasure.  
Gives you something to do during your leisure.

Could be profitable for you – I mean money wise.  
It'll darn sure give you some exercise !

By the end of June, the prize should be won.  
We may repeat it – if you think it was fun.

With the Bingo gave, it won't interfere.  
We'll have them weekly – same as last year.

About this new thing that we're going to do:  
Tell your campsite neighbors, and the kids too.

The instructions and clues for this mystery gave,  
Will be posted in the bulletin board frames.

BUT – on Saturday evening –

When you come to Bingo, then during intermission,  
You'll hear all about this new innovation.

Won't give you more details here and now.  
Come to Bingo next week and we'll tell you how!

Hooter said that!  
(Hooter, the Owl, that is.)

### **In 1988, Russ Bowton offered the following about volunteers**

Some members keep their organization strong, others join just to belong.  
Some dig right in; some go along just for the ride.  
Some volunteer to do their share, others lay back and just don't card.  
On meeting days some always show, while there are others who never go.  
Some always pay their dues ahead, some get behind for months instead.  
Some do their best, some let thing go.  
Some never help their organization grow.  
Some drag, some pull, some don't and so do.  
Consider now – which of these are YOU?

### **A 1991 Poem Written by Diana Hancock**

I looked to the heavens  
And what did I see,  
But a 200 lb. Blue Jay  
Up in a tree.

Well, we recognized him  
From way back in May,  
He was tiny and cute  
And became "Our Blue Jay"

He swooped to the table  
And lit with a crash -  
He looked rather indignant.  
He looked a bit brash.

We fed him each week  
And he ate from our hand,  
But we never knew he'd insist  
To be fed on demand.

He eyed us all closely  
Then said, "Holy, Cow!"  
I want some fresh peanuts  
And I want them NOW!

Well, today we have learned  
And the lesson is true,  
Don't feed peanuts to jays  
Who may grow bigger than you!

### **A 1991 Poem Written by Marie Blanchard**

Turkey Day served 236 people in 1991 using the newly remodeled kitchen. The menu was turkey, dressing, gravy, mashed potatoes, candied yams, ham, green beans and rolls, which was all prepared and cooked by the committee. Marie Blanchard simply couldn't resist writing a poem for the occasion. This poem was given to all Turkey Day volunteers as a "Thank You."

1) We rolled up our sleeves  
and donned our work duds.  
Made lots of gravy,  
and whipped up the spuds.

3) We set up the tables  
And swept the floors,  
Rolled out the streamers  
Then opened the doors!!

2) We carved all the turkey  
and sliced up the hams,  
Mixed the dressing  
and candied the yams.

4) Lots of people  
Soon left with a smile  
Now doesn't that make it  
All worth while?

### **1991 Poem by Joanie Knutson**

The sky is clear - the smell of pine,  
A kind of peace surrounds your mind  
A deer appears and then is gone,  
You notice then she had a fawn.  
These are the gifts we receive from our Park.  
Do you feel and see?  
Do other things leave a mark?

"Do unto others as they would unto you,"  
Should be the code, the model, for our Park, too.  
No rearing down of others by some unthinking means,  
But supporting honesty, integrity,  
being an above board team.

These are what our beautiful park should be,  
Kindness, caring, sharing for others to see.  
So everyone, when you enter this place of peace  
Say "Hi" and wave and let troubles cease.



## ACTIVITIES, COMMITTEES And THEIR FUNDS

As is mentioned elsewhere in this chronicle, social activities and working committees have played a very important part in the history of Tahoe Timber Trails. Not only have they provided a place and motive for members to come together, but they have saved the Association thousands of dollars in improvements to the park that members would have had to provide with their dues payments. Without question, it is safe to say that committees have risen close to \$200,000 since 1974.

Here are just a few activities that have taken place over the years. Some of the ideas and projects were very creative and all of them have proven to be a great way for members to enjoy the time they spend at Timber Trails. The pages that follow will give you some idea of just how long some of these committees have been volunteering their time and money-making expertise to Timber Trails. Several one-time-only activities are also listed.

As early as 1974, the developer recognized the need for activities. On July 4<sup>th</sup> of that year, a large celebration was planned. The most popular events were the running relays that were divided in to age groups. The most remarkable team was the Hale family. In the 6 and under category, two year old Danny, diapers and T-shirt as his uniform, toddling across the finish line to win. The best all around athlete was Steve Blodgett for winning the most events and Mike Hale for displaying best sportsmanship. After a chicken barbecue and corn on the cob, a square dance got under way. The dance was called by Howard "Move-out" Shoemaker of Reno.

Saturday, August 10, 1974, the Teens sponsored a Spaghetti Feed. The menu consisted of spaghetti, salad, French bread and beverages for \$1.00 for adults and \$.50 for under 18. The funds raised at the dinner were earmarked to help sponsor a party for the Teen Club from Calaveras Timber Trails (our sister camp) when they visit on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

A big Labor Day celebration was planned for Saturday August 31<sup>st</sup> and Sunday September 1<sup>st</sup> of that year. The celebration would include a treasure hunt. Participants were grouped in teams of four to tackle the clues.

The summer 1974 news letter sought amateur talent for "Sing-a-Longs" and other evening campfire events. September of that year boasted weekly campfires and Sing-a-longs at the fire pit below Harris Hall. Members were asked to "tune up your tonsils and bring your guitars, harmonicas, tissue paper and combs - any instrument you can dig out of your closet. The campfire is torched at 8:00."

A Pancake Breakfast was scheduled every Sunday morning for the summer of 1974.

Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> was set for a hike to Prosser Lake. The group planned to leave at 3:00 that afternoon. The distance was only three miles so the walk would not be too strenuous. Participants were asked to bring a sleeping bag, warm clothes, toilet articles and \$1.00 to cover meals. Meals included dinner, a snack and breakfast over an open fire. Equipment was delivered to Prosser Lake by car.

In 1975, while the park was still being developed, Mr. McMahon hired a "Social Director." Her name was Tracey Allen and she joined the staff that summer. Tracy came to TTT from a large apartment complex in Walnut Creek, where she had served as Recreational Director. She planned activities for young and old alike. Some of the activities were outings to pick berries, river rafting, camp fire Sing-a-Longs, crafting, and pot luck dinners

It was June of 1977 and the first edition of a Tahoe Timber Trails Cook Book went on sale for \$1.50. Proceeds were used to help equip the kitchen at the lodge. Others were published in 1980, 1997 and again in the early 2000's.

The October 1978 Newsletter announced that members could purchase "ad" space in the Newsletter for \$10 to \$15 for six issues. It was hoped that this program would help off-set the cost of the Newsletters. There would be no charge for a simple listing of a site for sale.

A Thanksgiving Dinner Pot Luck (forerunner of Turkey Day) was held on Saturday October 28, 1978, at 3 p.m. The Association provided the turkey dressing, potatoes and gravy. Members brought their favorite side dish. The cost per person was \$1.50.

By June of 1981, the Bazaar had been a successful activity for four years and they were busy making improvements throughout the park wherever the need arose. That year, they were purchasing tables and chairs, and constructing a shaded area along the west side of the pool. They were about to pledge over \$4,000 to the construction of Bill's Place.

The park was nearly ten years old now, and plans are being made for a Chili Cook-off Contest and dance to celebrate the event. The occasion was held at the cook shack on August 22, 1981, with plenty of cooks on hand. Musicians were asked to form our own Timber Trails Dance Band.

Millie Salerno was busy organizing the first Family Kids Day. Activities would include T-Shirt painting, craft and hobby tables, races, and ice cream. . Bazaar agreed to subsidize the event that first year.

The Association would again provide turkey and dressing for a "Thanksgiving Dinner" in October and members were asked to bring a favorite dish.

In 1982, the second Annual July 4<sup>th</sup> event was sponsored and funded by the Bazaar. The celebration was held at Harris Hall and included "Fire Truck Parade" rides on the fire trucks for kids of all ages and a demonstration of equipment. A full day of games & contests for everyone was planned.

Summer of 1984 brought Sunday morning walks to Prosser, Boca, and even Stampede sometimes preceded by a pancake breakfast.

In June of 1985, Hal Harris started the "Aluminum Can Fund" by putting out barrels at the garbage pick-up areas for members to deposit their aluminum cans. He then smashed them and hauled them off to a recycle dealer. Hal retired in 2002 and the project was continued by Director Dewey Smith.

An "OLD TEEN" reunion was being planned for sometime the next season. All Old Teens or Young Adults planned to hold a dinner, dance and wrap session at Harris Hall.

Here is a good one that all the old timers will get a kick out of. Young ones will have no idea what we are talking about. In March of 1986, S & H Green and Blue Chip stamps were being solicited from the membership for use in the Bazaar Raffle and door prizes for the dances.

A family dance and movies for the children was planned for July, 1986. A "Special Refreshment Center" was set up and "donations" to the center were graciously accepted. Since alcohol was not being sold, no license was required. Admission was \$2.00 for ages 16 to 90. Children were free and if you were over 90 years of age THEY PAID YOU. Pat and Barbara Patterson managed the "Refreshment Center" and made a profit of \$31. The event was a huge success and another was planned for August.

If you ate too much at the hamburger feeds, Dorothy Harris sponsored an Exercise Get-together featuring stretching and bending on Monday's, Wednesday's and Fridays at Harris Hall.

In 1987, the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Memorial Day Horseshoe Tournament was held on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Members demonstrated their generosity by saving pull tops from aluminum cans for dialysis treatments through Sparks Family Hospital in 1987. When the program was discontinued members still collected the tabs and proceeds were given to the state operated Carson City Children's Home in Carson City, Nevada. The facility housed up to 70 children in a foster home-type setting. Timber Trails members had contributed several thousand pull-tops that year and were encouraged to save more tabs over the winter months. Louise Mastroianni, and Dianne Hancock would then collect them for the project.

Let us not forget that wonderful Western Roundup, Pot Luck, dance and hay ride that took place on Saturday June 30, 1990, at Bill's Place.

In October of 1991, Turkey Day was chaired by Ralph & Jean York, Co-chaired by Ed & Marie Blanchard. Ralph and Ed had coaxed both the out-going and incoming Board Members, and their spouses, to work on the event.

A new program of having a Pot Luck at the monthly Board of Directors meetings began that year on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

Joanie Knutson hosted "Make a New TTT Camping Friend and Renew the SPIRIT" get together for new members on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> and August 8<sup>th</sup> at Harris Hall.

Let us move up a couple of years to July 2, 1994. Director Millie Salerno arranged some entertainment as part of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend celebration. Amy Smith put on a high energy concert with her singing. Fred and Carol Richman's son, "Ryan" was the featured guitar player and accompanied Amy. About 45 members attended the event.



Margaret Glaze was conducting a fund raising program with Scolari's Grocery chain whereby members could donate their grocery receipts from Scolari's to raise money. Margaret was in charge of collecting the receipts.

In 1996, Irene and Steve Hainsworth were busy compiling another Timber Trails Cookbook and wanted to focus on campfire cooking and pot-luck dinner recipes. They hoped to have it completed by the end of the season in 1997.

The laundry room at Harris Hall boasted a new 3 slot detergent, bleach and fabric softener dispenser in March of 1997. It was proved with proceeds from Aluminum Beverage Fund.



Watch for other stories about events and activities throughout these pages. Items in the Newsletters dwindled after 1999, and very little information about activities is available after that time. Minutes of Board meetings usually only reference the financial statements of the fund raiser without any story content.

The following pages reflect a small part of the work the volunteers have done and what they did with their funds. Sometimes, the amount spent on a project was not available. This is by no means a complete list but does give some you idea of just how important a part these activities and committees have played in the history of Tahoe Timber Trails.



**COMMITTEES & THEIR FUNDS**

**Please note that when expenditures and amounts are not shown it is because no information was available on that project. Committees may also have taken more than one year to fund or help with a specific project. The list shows the committee, chairperson and funds spent whenever the information was available.**

**4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY CELEBRATION**

2000 – JoAnn Petterson - carpet for Harris Hall TV room.....	\$1,230.
2001 – JoAnn Petterson – Nancy Hoy	
2002 – JoAnn Petterson – Nancy Hoy – Barbara Woodcock	
2003 – JoAnn Petterson – gravel for Lodge parking lot	
2004 – Louise Thiede – .....	\$2,237.
2005 – Louise Thiede –	
2006 – Louise Thiede –	

**ALUMINUM BEVERAGE**

1978 – Hal Harris – starting balance \$57.38	
1985 – Hal Harris	
1986 – Hal Harris – drapes for east window of Lodge and VCR movie rentals.	
1989 – Hal Harris – start VCR library; beautification & other park improvements.....	\$ 650.
1990 – Hal Harris – sponsor teen dance	
1991 – Hal Harris – improvements at Harris Hall & Project 2000	
1992 – Hal Harris – lower ceiling in Lodge.....	\$2,277.



## BAZAAR

Since its inception the Bazaar has made a huge impact on the Association by raising funds for projects throughout the park. They have funded, or helped to fund, everything from the plants at the gate entry to toys for the kiddy play room at the Harris Hall. When ever there is a major project that needs to be done you can count on the Bazaar to come through. This has not only kept our dues down but we have all had fun either working on or attending the festivities for over 30 years. The original Bazaar was sometimes called **FAMILY DAY**.

1977 – RuthAnn Wagner – first Aid Kit for lodge	
1978 – RuthAnn Wagner, Ann Moyle – Lodge pool cover; help with Lodge back wall, carpet	
1979 – RuthAnn Wagner, Ann Moyle – umbrellas for pool.	
1980 – Millie Salerno – patio tables & chairs for pool area, shaded area on west side of pool installed; subsidize FAMILY FUN DAY	
1981 – Lila More – Build “Bills Place”; fund Family & Kids Day at the Lodge.....	\$4,300.
1982 – Lila More & Doris Glover – equipment for Bill’s Place; Sponsor Family Day.....	\$3,000.
1983 – Doris Glover – help enlarge the main room at the lodge build snow shelter for vehicles.....	\$3,600.
1984 – Millie Salerno & Louise Matthews additional work of lodge and carpet.....	\$6,473.
1985 – Barbara Patterson & Naomi Barrow – playground equipment, carpeting and blinds for lodge, ceiling fan for Bill’s Place, Trauma kit for Lodge; new TV and VCR, antenna and installation, upgrade children’s area; pool cover basketball net, repairs to shuffle board courts.....	\$7,144.
1986 – Jan Trautman & Helen Jones – finish funding 1985 projects	
1987 – Jan Trautman & Helen Jones – trauma kits, Lights & fans for Harris Hall Park Development Plan (Project 2000).....	\$6,555.
1988 – Cindy Nestler & Jan Trautman – Park Development Plan	
1989 – Cindy Nestler, Gwen Holms & Marla Caballero – Project 2000.....	\$6,511.
1990 – Marian Case & Jean Thornton – Project 2000.....	\$3,200.
Balance of \$5,000 remains for next year “start up funds.”	
1991 – No Chair on record – Members volunteered to put it on without one. A satellite Dish for the Lodge and furnishings for children’s room were purchased. Storage shed, sprinkling system, sml. tractor for Project 2000.....	\$5,500
Help with purchase of new stove and cupboards for kitchen renovation All other funds were pledged to Project 2000. Gross proceeds were \$9,400.	
1992 – Millie Salerno – carpet, window coverings for Lodge.....	\$4,310
1993 – Millie Salerno	
1994 – Susan McGaughy – paint, equipment, posters, frames and dart board for Teen Room	
1995 – Joanie Knutson – Project 2000 - \$1,000; Lodge electrical - \$800.; steam Tables - \$336.; Deep Pit BBQ \$500.; Site signs & stickers \$520.; PA system \$396.; Lodge sidewalks \$354.; work shirts for staff \$212.; Laser printer for office \$513.; pool equipment \$600.....	\$5,239.
1996 – Joanie Knutson – Harris Hall ventilation \$1,441.; new computer for office \$2,479.; Upgrade old computer \$507.; office bulletin board \$58.; floor lamps for Lodge \$64.; new chairs for Lodge \$424.; air compressor \$222.; food Slicer \$94.....	\$5,289.
1997 – Steve & Karen Kruse – Bluegrass music \$300.; postage for special letter \$177.....	\$ 477.
1998 – Darlene Gaston, Margie Glaze Bev Fischer, Sally Edmunds – D.G. for parking lot \$102. pool cover and parts \$1,421, office computer \$308.; Project 2000 \$2,460.....	\$4,291.
1999 – Marge Glaze & Darlene Gaston – shops \$719.; Pool repairs \$8,714.; gravel and Project 2000 \$3,386.....	\$14,240.
2000 – Darlene Gaston – kids track at Harris Hall.....	\$5,000.



2001 – Rene Smith & Sally Edlund – lower playgrounds; fire engine sheds  
hose boxes .....\$15,000.

2002 – Nancy Hoy - Vera Miller & Barbara Smith net profit of \$9,128. - \$5,000 pledged  
to kids track at Harris Hall, \$2,400 for new gas dryers in the laundry room

2003 – No Chair on Record – gas dryers for laundry room; pool canopies;  
Saw horses & doors for Bazaar displays.....\$5,800.  
lower playgrounds.....\$7,500.  
fire boxes.....\$2,002.  
Grizzly Bar.....\$2,801.  
landscaping at Bill's Place.....\$3,000.  
carpet for TV room.....  
gravel for parking lot.....  
canopies for Bazaar.....\$1,396.  
Kids Track at Harris Hall.....\$1,782.  
Pledged to Kids Track.....\$3,217.

2004 – Louise Thiede – lower play grounds.....\$1,600.  
Total project funds spent for that year was \$22,218.

2005 – Louise Thiede & Barbara Smith

## BINGO

Bingo has also been a very important part of T.T.T. entertainment off and on since at least 1977. In October, 1978, records show that Hal Harris was Chairman and there was a balance of \$603. Most of the Bingo monies are returned to the players either as cash or prizes.

1976 – Bingo had a balance of \$225 at the end of the season.

1977 –

1978 – Hal Harris – balance on hand \$603.

1980 – 1981 – Bob & Tillie Weiss

1981 – 1982 – George & Nita Schuller

1983 – Dave & Smokey Hilerich

1984 – George & Nita Schuller - A - 17

1985 – Bob & Dot Werner

1986 – Bob & Dorothy Werner , Bruce & Marian Nelson

1987 – Bob & Dot Werner

1988 – John Kidwell, Pat & Barbara Patterson

1989 – John Kidwell

1999

1990 – Mary Kofoed & Dee Dee Standish

1991 – Bernie & Ruth Fideldy - Lodge kitchen

1992 – Bernie & Ruth Fideldy

1993 – Bernie & Ruth Fideldy – Safety rails for showers, repairs to fire truck; fire engine  
Sheds & hose boxes,; Chapel of the Pines.....\$2,800.

1994 – Bob & Tillie Weiss – Deep Pit BBQ construction and fence.....\$ 300.

1995 – Bob & Dot Werner – 3 two-way radios for park.

1996

1997 – Mary Kofoed & Dee Dee Standage

1998 – No Chair on Record – battery chargers and pool repairs.....\$1,220.

2000 – Joe and Eileen Bigotti; Rico and Earlene Bigotti – lounge chairs for pool

2001 – Joe and Eileen Bigotti; Rico and Earlene Bigotti

2002 – Joe and Eileen Bigotti, Rico and Earlene Bigotti – lights for main Lodge room  
3 new tables and a PA system.....\$2,000.

2003 – Joe and Eileen Bigotti, Rico and Earlene Bigotti – lights for TV room.....	\$1,500.
Freezer chest for ice at Harris Hall	
5 lounge chairs for pool area	
5 8 foot picnic tables	
freezer for Bill's Place.....	\$ 300.
8 ceiling lights for Harris Hall	
Motion sensor sprinklers for Harris Hall	
Sound system of Harris Hall.....	\$ 300.
D,G. for Bocce Ball Court.....	\$ 680.
Bill's Place renovation.....	\$ 430.
2004 – Joe and Eilene Bigotti, Rico and Earlene Bigotti .....	\$ 612.
2005 – Joe and Eilene Bigotti, Rico and Earlene Bigotti .....	

### **CHICKEN BBQ**

1999 – No Chair of Record – pool repairs.....	\$ 648.
2001 – No Chair of Record – new snow roof for Managers mobile.....	\$2,300.

### **CHILI FEST**

1998 – Millie Salerno	
1999 – Millie Salerno – Nevada Bluegrass Assoc. music.	
2006 – Retha Domer	

### **DOROTHY HARRIS AFGHAN**

2002 – Dorothy Harris.....	\$192.50
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### **GRIZZLY BAR**

2002 – Louise Thiede .....had a net profit of \$1,300. for their first year.	
2004 – Louise Thiede - .....	\$855.

### **HAMBURGER FEED**

For several years in the early 1980's, Bob & Dorothy Werner and Keith & Louise Matthews put on a hamburger feed to raise funds for a beautification program to improve the park entrance and just have some fun.

1986 – Hal and Dorothy Harris start the hamburger feed again at the new Bill's Place. It was to be a non-profit activity that would be for fun only. Burgers sold for \$2 on the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturdays.	
1987 – Hal & Dorothy Harris; Boyd and Joyce Peck – prize money for “Pineneedle Disposal Contest” .....	\$ 100.
1988 – Hal & Dorothy Harris	
1989 – Bonnie Hernandez	
1990 – Bonnie Hernandez	
1991 – Al & Joanie Knutson; John & Carolyn Sapp.....vacuum for Harris Hall	
1992 – Al & Joanie Knutson – vacuum for Lodge, toys for Kids Room, repair kit for Pool room. \$500. for Lodge Kitchen renovation, work shirts for managers, Bingo prizes and refreshments for kids. Picnic table for back of Lodge.....	\$ 500.

1993 – Al & Joanie Knutson – fire engine sheds and hose boxes  
 1994  
 1995 – Bob Boulanger – redo the Shuffle Board area  
                   Beautification Program.....\$1,000.  
 1997 – Warren & Cathy Hummer  
 1998 – No Chair on record – pool repairs.....\$1,000.

### **HARVEST FEAST**

1995 – Dixie Lucas – see Turkey Day

### **HORSESHOES**

The Horseshoe Tournaments, like Bingo, return most of their funds to the participants in the way of prize money. They have, from time to time, also been able to contribute to a park project.

1984 – George Moke (1<sup>st</sup> annual tournament was held at Bazaar)  
 1986 – Ralph York – Chuck Trautman  
 1987 – Chuck Trautman & Ed Blanchard  
 1988 – Bob Nesler & Ed Blanchard  
 1989 – Ron Caballero Chair, Dick Holms, Ed Blanchard, Bob Nesler  
 1990 –  
 1991 – Ron Caballero, Dick Holms, Bob Nesler  
 1992 – Ron Caballero, Dick Holms, Bob Nesler  
 1994 – Deep Pit BBQ and fencing.....\$ 200.  
 1995 – Chuck Trautman – shed to house all Horseshoe equipment  
 1996 – Chuck Trautman  
 1997 – Chuck Trautman  
 2000 – Chuch Trautman – netted \$410.

### **ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

2004 – Ed & Marie Blanchard, John & Peggy Olsen – Beautification Program.....  
 2005 – Ed & Marie Blanchard, John & Peggy Olsen – Beautification Program.....\$1,540.  
 2006 – Ed & Marie Blanchard, John & Peggy Olsen – Beautification Program.....\$ 162.

### **MEMORIAL TREE GROVE**

#### **Started in summer of 1999**

2001 – Bob Shillato - trees, benches and sprinklers.....\$500.  
 2004 – Bob Shillato – trees and improvements.....\$295.

### **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

The Pancake Breakfast has been an ongoing tradition at TTT since around 1977 although there were a few years that it was not active. The Breakfast has always been a “just for fun” event and not intended to be a big money maker.

1981 – John & Lil Bossert – new folding chairs and speaker system in Harris Hall.....\$1,300.  
 1982 – David & Smokey Hillerich



1984 – Al & Naomi Barrows  
 1985 – 86 - Al & Naomi Barrows  
 1988 – Frank & Lana Dotson – laundry carts with racks for laundry room  
 1989 – Frank & Lana Dotson  
 1990 – Mary Lou Howton  
 1991 – Al & Naomi Barrows  
 1992 – Al & Naomi Barrows  
 1993 – Ralph & Jean York – fire engine sheds & hose boxes  
 1994 – Deep Pit BBQ & fencing.....\$ 200.  
 1995 – Tina Clark  
 1997 – Karen Burke & Joanne Petterson  
 1998 – Karen Burke & Joanne Petterson  
 1999 – Large fry pans and utensils for lodge kitchen  
 2000 – Carpet for Lodge

2004 – Dewey & Shirley Smith, Paul & Retha Domer.....\$ 648.  
 2005 – Dewey & Shirley Smith, Paul & Retha Domer  
 2006 – Dewey & Shirley Smith, Paul & Retha Domer, Jack & Judy Wilson – new pots  
 and pans for Bills' Place; 2 – 27" color TV's for Harris Hall; Play Station  
 for children's room; shredder for office; binder machine for office

### **POT LUCK**

1991 – Shirley Rousseau – Lodge improvements.....\$ 500.  
 2000 – Sally Edlund  
 2001 – Farewell Potluck

### **EAST PASTURE ROAD PAVING PROJECT**

This was a ONE TIME PROJECT spearheaded by Bob Gaston to raise money for the paving of East Pasture Road. All money was contributed by the general membership. The fund raiser exceeded expectations and the project was able to purchase a new computer system for the office.

1998 – Paving East Pasture Road.....\$18,250.  
 New computer and Upgrades.....\$ 2,458.

### **RUMMAGE SALE**

As far back as 1990, Dorothy Harris has had a rummage sale, with or without help from others. She has also crocheted an afghan to raffle. In 1992 the clothing sale and afghan brought in \$383, which she pledged to ceiling tile for Harris Hall. Dorothy has worked on the Rummage Sale every year until 2004 when she retired. Mary Lou Howton and Valita Chadwick continue the project.

1990 – Dorothy Harris  
 1991 – Dorothy Harris – help purchase door and windows for lodge expansion .....\$292.  
 1992 – Dorothy Harris – Ceiling tile for Lodge.....\$380.  
 1993 – Dorothy Harris  
 1994 – Dorothy Harris – VCR and lights for the teen room.....\$283.  
 1995 – Dorothy Harris  
 1997 – Dorothy Harris – pool table for Lodge.....\$318.  
 1998 – Dorothy Harris  
 2001 – Rene Smith & Sally Edlund

2002 – Dorothy Harris – fire engine sheds and hose boxes  
 2003 – Dorothy Harris  
 2004 – Dorothy Harris  
 2005 – Valeda Chadwick  
 2006 – Valeda Chadwick

### **SOLAR ELECTRIC**

1985 – Hal Harris; Vern Hazen – “Self containment and living without an electric umbilical cord” was offered. The program was in effect for several years and was strictly a non profit endeavor just to help out members. The program featured the sale of solar panels and catalytic heaters and installation.

### **SPAGHETTI FEED**

1981 – NO CHAIR OF RECORD – Spaghetti Feed & Dance  
 1990 – Barbara and Gene Ferri  
 1995 – Mike Varlas  
 1997 – Mike Varlas  
 1998 – Gaston Gundry – food slicer; fire engine sheds & hose boxes.....\$ 250.  
 2003 – the project grossed \$1,435.  
 2004 – Bigotti Family.....\$1,167.  
 2005 – Bigotti Family  
 2006 – Bigotti Family

### **SQUARE DANCE POTLUCK**

1998 – John & Peggy Olsen  
 1999 – John & Peggy Olsen  
 2000 – John & Peggy Olsen  
 2001 – John & Peggy Olsen

### **TURKEY DAY**

Turkey Day began as a Pot Luck in the late 70's at the close of the season. In 1987 Ralph York and Ed Blanchard decided that the dinner should be a full course planned meal. They and their committee prepared turkey, dressing, gravy, ham, mashed potatoes, candied yams, green beans, rolls and butter. Members brought a salad or a desert. Around 1998 the feast was again a Pot Luck.

1984 – Al & Naomi Barrow - \$166. profit  
 1985 – Al & Naomi Barrow – price per person was \$2.50  
 1986 – Al & Naomi Barrow  
 1987 – Ralph & Jean York, Ed & Marie Blanchard  
 1988 – Ralph & Jean York, Ed & Marie Blanchard – renovation Harris Hall kitchen..... \$ 495.  
 1989 – Ed & Marie Blanchard – Harris Hall kitchen center isle..... \$ 516.  
 1990 – Ed & Marie Blanchard – new pots and pans; renovation of kitchen.....\$ 500.  
 1991 – Ed & Marie Blanchard – renovation of Harris Hall kitchen.....\$ 450.

1992 – Ralph & Jean York, Ed & Marie Blanchard  
 1993 – Ralph & Jean York, Ed & Marie Blanchard  
 1994 – Ed & Marie Blanchard  
 1995 – Dixie Lucas (it was called Harvest Fest that year)  
 1996 – Dixie Lucas  
 1997  
 1998  
 1999  
 2000  
 2001  
 2002  
 2003 –  
 2004 –  
 2005 –

#### **VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

1995 – Hal Harris – balance on hand \$822.79  
 1997 – Hal Harris – sheds and boxes.....\$230.  
 1998 – Hal Harris & Pete Leadbeter  
 2002 – Hal Harris – install fire hose boxes and fire stand pipes. ....

#### **PROJECT 2000**

Bigotti Brothers picked up the ball in 1999 and finished the project in 2003.

1999 – Jo & Rico Bigotti  
 2000 – Jo & Rico Bigotti  
 2001 – Jo & Rico Bigotti  
 2002 – Jo & Rico Bigotti  
 2003 – Jo & Rico Bigotti

At times over the years, entertainers have been hired and sponsored by various committees to perform at an activity. Their music and entertainment was always well received by the members.



## BOARDS OF DIRECTORS and ELECTION INFORMATION

1970 – Gordon J. McMahon – President and Developer  
Ronald A. Wagner  
William A. Quinby  
Justin M. Roach, Jr.  
Stephen H. Schadlich  
Raoul D. Kennedy  
Ronald V. Rosequist

1971 – Gordon J. McMahon – President  
Wayne Ellifson – Secretary/Treasurer  
Melvin Borden

1972 – Melvin Borden  
Bruce Thayer  
William Sanford, Jr.  
Wayne Ellifson  
Gordon J. McMahon

1973 – Gordon J. McMahon – President  
William Sanford, Jr.  
Melvin Borden  
William Rosche  
James H. Gainer  
Bruce Nelsen  
Harold W. Harris

1974 – Russell Bowton  
James Gainer  
Harold Harris  
Gordon McMahon  
Bruce Nelsen  
William Rosche  
Clare Sanford – **First woman to serve as Board of Director**

1975 – 1976 - Gordon McMahon – President  
James Gainer – Youth Recreation & Entertainment Committee  
Harold Harris – Rules & Design Committee  
Clare Sanford – Adult Recreation & Entertainment Committee  
George Moke – Youth Recreation & Entertainment Committee  
George Schuller – Fire & Safety Committee  
Arthur “Bud” Williams – Rules & Design Committee

**Nov. 1976** - Gordon McMahon announced that it was his sincere belief that his nearly five years of service in the position of President was sufficient and that the degree of owner/members involvement in officerships and direction of the entire facility would now take place in a most orderly manner. “I shall continue to devote my substantial efforts for the continued well being of the Assoc.” **The Board elected, unanimously, the new President, Mr. Harold W. Harris.**

1976 – 1977 - Gordon McMahon – **Resigned in November of '76.**  
**Hal Harris became the first MEMBER to be President**  
Harold Harris – Vice President  
Clare Sanford  
George Moke  
Samuel Cloninger – **resigned 5-31-77**  
Bert Butterfield  
Warren Brainard

**August 24, 1977 – First Board of Directors elected entirely from the membership when ownership of the Park passed from the developer to the members.**

1977 – 1978 – Keith Jacob – President  
Bert Butterfield – Vice President  
Clare Sanford  
Albert Fox  
Jack De Witt  
Bruce Nelsen  
Jim Duncan

**Until 1978, the Board of Directors was elected for a one year term. This By-Law was amended in 1977 and all terms were then for two years.**

1978 – 1979 - Robert Werner – President  
Harold Harris – Vice President  
Robert Shillato – Treasurer  
William Colbath  
Keith Jacob – **resigned and was replaced by Mel Salerno in July of 1979**  
Bruce Nelsen  
Clare Sanford  
Mel Salerno

1979 – 1980 - Robert Werner – President  
Gary Moyle – Vice President  
Robert Shillato – Treasurer  
William Colbath  
Harold Harris  
Beth Michitsch  
Mel Salerno

1980 – 1981 - Gary Moyle – President  
Mel Salerno – Vice President  
Frank LeVeck – Treasurer  
Robert Boulanger  
Gloria Cloninger  
Beth Michitsch  
Kalo Neidert

1981 – 1982 - Frank LeVeck – President  
Mel Salerno – Vice President  
Kalo Neidert – Treasurer  
Robert Boulanger  
Gloria Cloninger  
J. Sloan Olin  
Pat Patterson

1982 – 1983 - Robert Boulanger – President  
Mel Salerno – Vice President  
Robert Werner – Treasurer  
Justin Sloan Olin  
Pat Patterson  
James DeCoster  
Ralph York

1983 – 1984 - James DeCoster – President  
Robert Glover – Vice President  
Thomas Spencer – Treasurer  
John Harshman  
Robert Rusche'  
Robert Werner  
Ralph York

**In 1984 specific committee assignments were again given to individual Directors.**

1984 – 1985 - Moris Womack – President  
Robert Glover – Vice President  
Marie Blanchard – Secretary/Treasurer  
Robert Rusche'  
Russell Cafferata – Policies & Procedures  
Mel Salerno – Documentation  
John Harshman – Rules & Design

1985 – 1986 - Russell Cafferata – President  
Ralph York – Vice President  
Marie Blanchard – Treasurer  
Mel Salerno – Equipment Maint. & Property, Inventory, Fire & Safety  
Jim Kattleman – Policies & Procedures  
Al Barrow – Documentation  
Gary Mallon – Rules & Design, Bldg./Grounds  
Jean York – Recording Secretary

1986 – 1987 - Ralph York – President  
Gary Mallon – Vice President, Rules & Design, Fire & Safety  
Marie Blanchard – Treasurer  
Hal Harris – Buildings & Grounds, Equipment  
Al Barrow – Documentation, Inventory  
Jim Kattleman – Newsletter, Communications, Insurance  
John Kidwell – Policies                      Jean York – Recording Secretary



1987 – 1988 - Hal Harris – President  
Barbara Patterson – Vice President, Rules & Design  
Marie Blanchard – Treasurer  
Bob Nesler – Buildings & Grounds, Equipment  
John Kidwell – **resigned and was replaced by Frank Dotson in December**  
Frank Dotson in December – Policies  
Quentin Dillard – Fire & Safety, Inventory  
Bill Holland – Newsletter, Communications, Insurance  
John Kidwell – Parliamentarian

1988 – The Board was elected by acclamation from the floor. There were only 3 vacancies and 3 candidates.

1988 – 1989 – Hal Harris – President  
Barbara Patterson - Vice President – Rules & Design  
Marie Blanchard – Treasurer  
Bob Nesler – Buildings & grounds & equipment  
Quinton Dillard – Fire & Safety  
Bill Holland – Newsletter, Insurance, Communications  
Frank Dotson – Policy

1989 – 1990 - Hal Harris – President  
Frank Dotson – Vice President, Policy, Newsletter, Communications  
Marie Blanchard – Treasurer  
Bob Nesler – Buildings & Grounds  
Bill Holland – Insurance  
Bonnie Hernandez – Secretary/Asst. Treasurer  
Al Lamberti – Fire & Safety, Rules & Design  
John Kidwell – Parliamentarian

1990 – 1991 - Ron Caballero – President, Policy  
Bonnie Hernandez – Vice President, Newsletter, Communications  
Marie Blanchard – Treasurer  
Bob Nesler – Buildings & Grounds, Roads  
Ron Gott – Insurance & Inventory  
Guy Goodlet – Rules & Design  
Al Lamberti – Fire & Safety, Plague  
John Kidwell – Parliamentarian  
Bev Gott – Recording Secretary

1991 – 1992 - Ron Caballero - President, Insurance, Buildings & Grounds, roads  
Ron Gott – Vice President, Inventory, Policies  
Marie Blanchard – Treasurer  
Allen Knutson – Buildings & Grounds, Roads  
Bob Boulanger – Rules & Design  
Harriet Pangelinan – Communications, Newsletter  
Lee Rousseau – Fire & Safety, Plague  
Bev Gott – Recording Secretary

1992 – 1993 - Bob Boulanger – President, Insurance, Roads, Buildings & Grounds, Equipment  
Lew Case – Vice President, Fire & Safety, Plague  
Marie Blanchard – Treasurer  
Allen Knutson – Inventory, Policy  
Lee Rousseau – Rules & Design  
Harriet Pangelinan – Communications, Newsletter  
Gary Kurk – Roads, Buildings, Equipment  
Bev Gott – Recording Secretary

1993 – 1994 - Bob Werner - President, Communications  
Allen Knutson - Vice President  
Robert Shillato - Treasurer  
Lee Rousseau - Rules & Design, Insurance  
Millie Salerno - Newsletter, Member Concerns & Activities  
Lew Case - Fire & Safety, Plague  
Gary Kurk - Roads, Buildings, Equipment  
Naomi Barrow - (Recording) Secretary

1994 – 1995 - Bob Werner – President, Communications  
Allen Knutson – Vice President, Policy  
Bill Colbath – Treasurer  
Lee Rousseau – Rules & Design, Insurance - **left the Board in June and was replaced by Bob Shillato**  
Millie Salerno – Newsletter, Member Concerns  
Bill Wollitz – Fire & Safety, Plague  
Mark Wykoff – Roads, Buildings, Equipment  
Naomi Barrow – Recording Secretary  
Bob Shillato – Appointed as Asst. Treas. Until June

1995 – 1996 - Bill Colbath – President, Communications  
Allen Knutson – Vice President, Rules & Design, Inventory  
Mark Wykoff – Treasurer  
Bob Shillato – Policies & By-Laws  
Millie Salerno – Member Concerns, Committees  
Bill Wollitz – Fire & Safety  
Mike Varlas – Roads, Equipment, Insurance  
Naomi Barrow – Recording Secretary

From the September 1996 Newsletter - **“After 2 hours of “beating the bushes” to get a quorum, the Annual Membership Meeting was officially started. This was not the first time, but hopefully would be the last, that the opening of the Annual Meeting was delayed due to the lack of a quorum. “**

1996 – 1997 - Bob Werner – President, Communications  
Hal Harris – Vice President, Rules & Design, Inventory  
Mark Wykoff – Treasurer  
Bob Shillato – Policies & By-Laws  
Bill Colbath – Member Concerns, Committees  
Bill Wollitz – Fire & Safety  
Mike Varlas – Roads, Equipment, Insurance

1997 – 1998 - Bob Werner - President, Communications  
Mel Glaze - Vice President - Policies & By-Laws  
Mark Wykoff - Treasurer  
Keith Mathews - Rules & Design, Inventory  
Karen Kruse - Member Concerns, Committees  
Bill Wollitz - Fire & Safety, Health  
Bob Springer - Roads, Equipment, Insurance  
Sherel Harris – Recording Secretary

The **July 1998 Newsletter** tells us that there were FIVE openings on the Board and only TWO announced candidates.

1998 – 1999 - Mel Glaze – President, Communications  
Bob Springer – Vice President, Roads, Equipment, Insurance  
Steve Hainsworth – Treasurer  
Pete Leadbeter – Fire & Safety, Health  
Tom Mayer – Policies & By-Laws  
Jo Ann Petterson – Rules & Design, Inventory  
Conrad Laube – Members Concerns

**In June of 1999 Bob Springer took over as President due to medical problems suffered by Mel Glaze. Mr. Glaze remained on as a Director. All other positions remained the same.**

1999 – 2000 - Ron Hoy – President, Communications  
Frank Smith – Vice President, Policies & By-Laws  
Jo Ann Petterson – Treasurer  
Pete Leadbeter – Fire & Safety, Health  
Mel Glaze – Member Concerns  
Tom Mayer – Roads & Equipment, Insurance  
Steven Hainsworth – Rules & Design, Inventory

2000 – 2001 - Ron Hoy – President, Communications  
Frank Smith – Vice President, Policies & By-Laws  
Jo Ann Petterson – Treasurer  
Linda Law Chandler – Insurance  
Linda Phillips – Members Concerns  
Mel Glaze – Rules & Design  
Jim Varbet – Fire & Safety

2001 – 2002 - Ron Hoy – President  
Frank Smith – Vice President  
JoAnn Petterson – Secretary/Treasurer  
Linda Law  
Mel Glaze

**Two Directors resigned late in the season and the positions were not filled.**

2002 – 2003 - Ron Hoy – President  
Dewey Smith – Vice President  
Arno Pappa – Vice President  
Sheila Stark – Treasurer  
JoAnn Petterson – Secretary  
Frank Smith  
Mel Glaze

2003 – 2004 – Dewey Smith – President  
Donald Bissett – Vice President  
Arno Pappé – Vice President – **Arno passed away, and in June Marie Blanchard was appointed to fill the position**  
Marie Blanchard  
JoAnn Petterson - Secretary  
Sheila Stark – Treasurer  
Harry Archer  
Joe Kalvelage

2004 – 2005 – Dewey Smith – President  
Frank Smith – Vice President  
Joe Kalvelage – Vice President – **resigned in July and was replaced by Hal Harris**  
Louise Thiede – Secretary  
Sheila Stark – Treas. – **resigned in August. Louise Thiede assumed Treasurers Responsibilities**  
Don Bissett  
Harry Archer

2005 – 2006 – Dewey Smith – President  
Frank Smith – Vice President – Policy & Bylaws  
Jack Beach – Vice President – **resigned in July, 2006**  
Louise Thiede – Sec ./Treas.  
Mel Glaze  
Paul Domer – Policy & Bylaws  
Harry Archer – **resigned in July, 2006, due to illness**  
**The two vacancies created by resignations were not filled due to the close proximity of the elections in August.**



2006 – 2007 – Dewey Smith – President  
Jim Shirkey – Vice President  
Frank Smith – Vice President – Policy & Bylaws  
Louise Thiede – Sec./ Treas.  
Mel Glaze  
Jeannie Mc Bride – **resigned and was replaced by Dixie Lee Lucas**  
Paul Domer

2007 – 2008 – Frank Smith – President  
Dewey Smith – Vice President – Policy & Bylaws  
Jim Shirkey – Vice President  
Louise Thiede – Sec./ Treas.  
Paul Domer – Activities  
Mel Glaze – Architectural  
Dixie Lee Lucas - Communications

## PARK MANAGERS

In the early days the managers were known as "Park Operations Supervisor" The position was later re-named "Park Manager" then re-named again to be "Park Operations Manager" then back to "Park Manager."

July 1974 - to - September 1977.....Ralph & Jean York  
July 29, 1977 - to - October 15, 1977.....Glen Knowles  
October 6, 1977 - to - May 8, 1978.....Lester Sauers  
May 4, 1978 - to - June 29, 1978.....Joe & Fae Nailer  
July 1, 1978 - to - June 26, 1982.....Al & Naomi Barrow  
July 1, 1982 - to - August 8, 1983.....Dave & Betty Trudell  
October 1, 1983 - to - January 7, 1984.....Stewart & Kay Saunders  
January 8, 1984 - to - July 8, 1984.....Arvin & Jackie Behrend  
July 9, 1984 - to - November 30, 1984.....John & Audry Serowchak  
December 1, 1984 - to - August 1, 1986.....Lloyd & Brenda Rapp  
August 1, 1986 - to - September 1, 1989.....Gary & Mary Kurk  
September 1, 1989 - to - March 3, 1990.....Bob & Rose Lovie

### 1990 - News Letter

**President Hal Harris** and wife Dorothy; **Treasurer Marie Blanchard** and husband Ed took over the day to day **operation of the park** and kept it going until new managers and assistant managers could be interviewed and hired. Gary and Mary Kurk will return to the park on a temporary basis until a new manager can be hired.

NOTE: In the winter of 1989, the Manager and Bookkeeper were terminated. There was no Asst. Manager team in place. There was a foot or more of snow on the ground and the only way in or out of the park was via a snowmobile. The President and Treasurer had to move in to the park housing facilities in order to provide security for the park and see to the daily work. In late April and early May, some members came to help with the park opening. The following article appeared in the June Newsletter.)

"We try to recognize and thank all the wonderful volunteer workers and members that donate time and goods for the entire membership to enjoy. Here are a few members that have contributed recently

- Lew and Marian Case, K-2, to Lew - hundreds of hours helping clean up, preparing the park for opening and to Marian for working full time in the office.
- Don and Mary Lou Howton J-25 for their help cleaning up the park, painting J comfort station and painting – cleaning at the Lodge
- Gene Kirker, W-14, for thirty VCR movie tapes donated, and two large dry powder fire extinguishers that will be placed in the truck garage.
- Roald and Bonnie Lindstrom, C-3, for painting the cabinets in the Managers mobile.
- Vern and Charlene Hazen, A-13, for burning the slash behind E loop.
- Lee and Shirley Rousseau, J-24, for helping in the preparation for park opening.
- Chuck and Sharon Tayler, F-16, for making the rodent dusting traps.

Board President Hal Harris and Treasurer Marie Blanchard (and their respective spouses) performed way beyond their job description and campaign promises this winter. On short notice, these two took over the day to day operation of our park and kept us going until arrangements could be made. We may have taken this kind of dedication from these two for granted, but we shouldn't. Frank Dotson, Director - Newsletter Editor

March 10, 1990 to June 30, 1990..... Gary & Mary Kurk  
 June 28, 1990 - to - May 15, 1993..... Bob & Susie Kennedy  
 June 1, 1993 - to - May 10, 1996..... Ken & Margaret Parker  
     Ken & Margaret quit without notice. Curtis & Tammy were promoted to management  
 May 18, 1996 - to - September 30, 1999..... Curtis Vahl & Tammy Mason  
 September 6, 1999 - to - May 15, 2000..... Chuck & Tricia Saylor  
 May 21, 2000 - to - Sept 30, 2003 ..... Douglas & Edie Alderman  
 Oct. 1, 2003 – to – present..... Nelson & Patricia Evans

### **ASSISTANT MANAGERS**

1974 - to - 1975..... Swede & Tillie Johnson  
 1976 - to - 1979..... Lester & Esther Sauers  
 April 1, 1980 - to - March 1981..... Earl & Brenda Standring  
 May 23, 1981 - to - July 1, 1982..... Dave & Betty Trudell  
 July 12, 1982 - to - September 17, 1983..... Earl & Brenda Standring  
 October 15, 1983 - to - January 8, 1984..... Arvin & Jackie Behrend  
 February 25, 1984 - to - June 8, 1984..... William & Gladys Fitzsimmons  
 June 10, 1984 - to - December 1, 1984..... Lloyd & Brenda Rapp  
 December 1, 1984 - to - January 15, 1985..... Dennis Peachy  
 April 15, 1985 - to - May 20, 1985..... Leroy & Virginia McCormick  
 May 18, 1985 - to - November 15, 1985..... David (Skip) & Laura Allen  
 February 1, 1986 - to - July 31, 1986..... Gary & Mary Kurk  
 September 8, 1986 - to - February 18, 1987..... Ray & Judy Johnson  
 March 8, 1987 - to - April 1, 1989..... Paul & Jeannette Rhyein  
 April 1, 1989 - to - September 1, 1989..... Bob & Rose Lovie  
 September 1, 1989 - to - November 30, 1989..... Mike & Winnie Hart  
 December 1, 1989 - to - February 15, 1990..... Roy & Sharon Westberg  
 August 1, 1990 - to - July 1, 1992..... Ken & Margaret Parker  
 October 1, 1992 - to - May 4, 1993..... Joe & Dottie Lee  
 June 22, 1993 - to - July 23, 1993..... William & Janice Cosimini  
 August 15, 1993 - to - January 15, 1994..... Michael & Sandra Adams  
 January 24, 1994 - to - June 17, 1994..... Martin & Brenda Nielsen  
 August 1, 1994 - to - May 18, 1996..... Curtis Vahl & Tammy Mason  
 August 1, 1996 - to - May 1, 1998..... Pet Leadbeter & Thelma Vahl  
 September 1, 1998 - to - July 2000..... Craig & Berverly Vermillio  
 August 2000 - to - December 2003 ..... Richard & Leslie Ratliss  
 August 4, 2004 – to – July 2005..... Tony & Lynn Wangen  
 October 2005 – to – February 2006..... James & Roe Delfin  
 April 2006 – to – October 2006..... Al & Mary Garlick

### **LODGE ATTENDANTS**

1977..... Hal & Dottie Harris  
 1978..... John & Harvie Inglass  
 1979..... Hal & Fran Crawford  
 1980..... John & Harvie Inglass  
 1981..... John & Audry Serowchak  
 1982..... Al & Naomi Borrow  
 1983..... no record  
 1984..... John & Audry Serowchak  
 1984..... Virginia Bell (finished the season)

1985.....Neil & Betty Hope  
 1986.....John & Audry Serowchak  
 1987.....Larry & Jenny McCormick  
 1988.....Don & Mary Lou Howton  
 1989.....Dick & Liz Bolmer  
 1990 .....Chester & Ruth Everett  
 1991.....Chester & Ruth Everett  
 1992.....Chester & Ruth Everett  
 1993.....Chester & Ruth Everett  
 1994.....Brenda & Konnie Box (finished the season)  
 1995.....Al Knutson  
 1996.....Pete Leadbeter & Thelma Vahl  
 1996.....Del & Lynn Haskins (finished the season)  
 1997.....Del & Lynn Haskins  
 1997.....various employees finished the season  
 1998.....Dewey & Shirley Smith  
 1999.....  
 2000.....Larry & Dana Haworth, Helen & Bud Swanson, Sally & Mark Edlund,  
                   Dorothy & Don Floren, Dewey & Shirley Smith  
 2001.....Larry & Dana Haworth  
 2002.....Larry & Dana Haworth, Valeta Chadwick  
 2003.....Dana Haworth, Valeta Chadwick  
 2004.....  
 2005.....  
 2006.....



## MORE PICTURES



Digging the hole for  
the BBQ pit.

The original Deep Pit was nothing more than a hole in the ground. The fire of hard wood was lit and attended all day until there was a bed of white hot coals. The meat was prepared, wrapped, and lowered into the pit. The "fire tenders" stoked the fire half the night until the meat was done.

Ed Blanchard came home from a family reunion that had featured a deep pit barbequed beef hind quarter and a piglet. He quickly drew up some plans, contacted Hal Harris, and before you know it, they were well on the way to having the Deep Pit we have today.

Members enjoy the Annual  
Deep Pit BBQ



TTT gets new maintenance shops.  
Management and volunteers did  
all the work.





Until new regulations went into effect, TTT had its own underground gas tank. Here you see its removal.



The old Assistant Managers living quarters left quite a bit to be desired. The unit was finally replaced in 2005. The movers truck broke down on Interstate 80 and the unit was left there for a couple of months. It was last seen at Boomtown, waiting for even more repairs on the movers equipment







Horseshoe Tournament anyone?



It doesn't get much better than home made ice cream on a summer afternoon.





Guess who came to dinner?



Aren't I beautiful?



We were just out for a stroll.

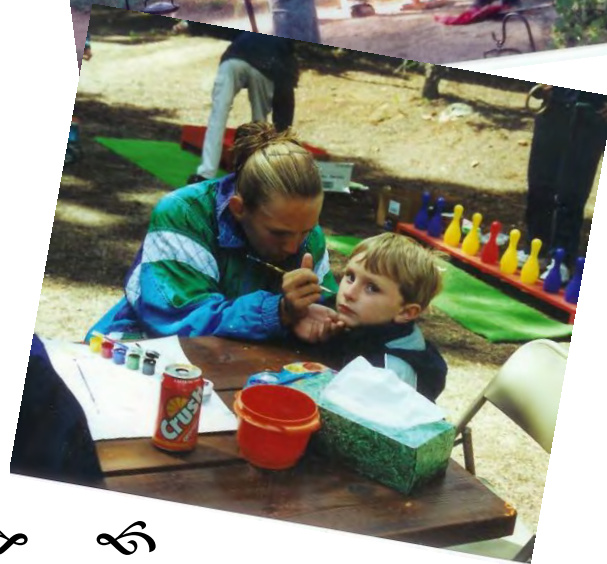


Fun in the lower playgrounds  
Early 1990's





## KIDS HAVING FUN



## BAZAAR



Cake Walk



Auction





Wonderful Food



There's ALWAYS room for a snow cone!

