



NEWSLETTER

A QUARTERLY NEWSPAPER FOR SILVERHEELS RANCH OWNERS ASSOCIATION / VOL 40 / FALL 2016

A copy of this Newsletter and lots of other important up to date information is always available on the SROA website www.silverheels.org.

All emails sent from SROA Board will say from: *Silverheels Ranch Owners Association* board@silverheels.org



Silverheels in the Fall; Photo by Pat Mears

Annual Meeting 2016

The social hour was well attended. Everyone enjoyed the socializing, great food (by Java Moose) and the coffee provided by Jim and Jackie Burghardt.

President Kim Bundgaard called the meeting to order and established a quorum with 33 properties represented in person and 21 by proxy. All present were asked to introduce themselves. Then Captain Trent Smith from the NW Fire Protection District gave a very informative talk followed by a question/answer session.

Secretary/treasurer Mike Peterson gave the treasurer's report reviewing the income and expenses from last year and explaining the changes proposed for next year. Those included increases for maintenance, the website, equipment rental, office supplies and postage. The new budget was approved by a unanimous verbal vote of the membership.

Reports by Philip Tatar (ACC), Allan Pederson (maintenance), Mike Peterson (web site, fish stocking, newsletter), Page Tatar (directory, Nextdoor.com), and Rick Bremer (weed control) were given.

The first item of business was a discussion and vote on the proposed motion to allow short term renters to fish in the augmentation pond. Gene Bothun presented the arguments in favor and Mike Peterson gave an alternative point of view. The motion passed by written ballot.

Other business items included snowplowing, the natural gas project, and ATV use on forest service roads.

Next on the agenda, elections were held. There were three nominations for the BOD openings (2-year terms): Jackie Burghardt, Page Tatar, and Rob White. There were no nominations for the BOD alternate position (1-year term), but Tom Nourse volunteered after a plea from the board. Since there was only one nominee for each vacancy, ballots were not required and all were elected by acclamation with a unanimous verbal vote. The meeting was then adjourned at 11:58 am. Immediately following the annual meeting, the BOD held a short meeting and elected officers. The results are shown in the box below.

Everyone enjoys the door prizes that are given out during the social hour and meeting. The following businesses provided items this year: High Alpine Sports, Java Moose, Mason's High Country BBQ

and Salt Licking Goat Clothing Company. Please say "Thanks" the next time you visit. Other gifts were donated by SROA members. The feedback sheets included positive comments on the organization and brevity of the meeting. As always, complete Annual Meeting Minutes are available on line or by request from any BOD member.

Also, a big "Thank You!" to all of the volunteers who helped before and after the meeting.

Board & ACC Members 2016-2017

President, Rick Bremer

719-836-1595
rrbremer405@gmail.com

Vice President, Page Tatar

303.771.9462; 719.836.7042
page_72@q.com

Secretary-Treasurer, Mike Peterson

719.836.2465
mikep_silverheels@q.com

Board Member, Jackie Burghardt

719-836-1948, 303-503-8094
jaburghardt@comcast.net

Board Member, Rob White

719-836-4905
robwhite2@gmail.com

Alternate Board Member, Tom Nourse

719-836-3396
noursecoolit@yahoo.com

Architectural Control Committee Philip Tatar

303.506.8627
ptatar@enduringresources.com

Todd Scholl

719.836.2965
Todd@tschollfinewoodworks.com

Allan Pederson

719.836.0852

ACC: Fall Projects

Contact us now if you are planning to add solar panels, repaint, reroof, or build an addition, fence, wall corral, shed, etc. Your plans must be approved by the ACC before starting any work. Information and a simple form are available on the website. Or contact us via our new email address: ACC@silverheels.org or by phone (numbers are in the contact information box).



Young Moose in Winter; Taken by Rick Bremer

Directory

The Fall 2016 version is finished and will be distributed by email ASAP. We are growing and now have 108 entries representing 117 properties. The directory is not available on the website and only those property owners who participate will receive copies. If you would like to sign up or make changes to your entry, you can use the form available on the website or contact BOD member Page Tatar directly by email or phone. You can also request a hard copy by sending us a SASE with \$.68 postage to “[SROA Directory](#)” at P.O. Box 429, Fairplay CO, 80440-0429.

Hunting Season

Hunting season is in full swing! Deer and elk hunting began with archery season on 8/27/16 and continues with muzzleloader, regular rifle, late rifle and late archery through 12/31/16. In addition, there are dates for bear, moose, pronghorn, etc. with mountain lion April season ending 4/30/2017. When hiking or biking be cautious and wear orange! If you are a hunter

yourself, be safe and considerate. Hunting within Silverheels Ranch is never allowed. The only public access is at the Forest Service entrance. So, hunters crossing private land on foot or on ATVs without permission are trespassing. Please report any illegal activity to law enforcement: 911 or 719-836-2494.



Windmill; Taken by Sonnie White

Smile! You're on Camera!

Sad to say, your Board has received a report of an SROA member's photographic evidence of several someones (possibly neighbors) encroaching on his private land. This member moved to the mountains for the same reasons many of us have – for serenity, privacy, for the love of wildlife and the grandeur of the Colorado mountains.

This member has placed cameras around his land and has caught many great photographs of elk, mule deer, coyotes and bears. However, he has also documented photos of others walking their dogs on his land and even a person hunting with a compound bow.

Since this SROA member has photos of the trespassers, he can easily make this a legal matter but for the moment has requested only that we print this warning in our newsletter, and hopefully, we will get the message out. With all this beautiful land around us, much of it not fenced, it is easy to forget that you may be walking on another's land – and your Board recognizes this BUT to a landowner who has staked one of

his dreams here, that land is sacred and we all want it to be our own private domain—and not free to hunters, dog walkers, or even just hikers...

This is probably not you!! Those who read our newsletter are responsible neighbors BUT if it is you or you know of a person or persons that has willingly (or even unknowingly) encroached on another's private property, please report any trespassing issues to the Park County Sheriff at 719-836-2494, and any illegal hunting activity to our local Colorado Parks & Wildlife District Manager, Tyler Stolfus, cell #303-916-0784.



Canadian Thistle Update

I appreciate all the help from the membership in spotting the Canadian thistle around the subdivision. After several years of treatment I believe we have good control of them in Silverheels and it is now a matter of continued vigilance and seasonal control. When we first started the treatment program we had huge out of control patches, in the common ground areas, along the road ways, on private lots, and around the ponds. Now with all the help from the residents, it is now well under control. I also sprayed the disc golf course and outside the ball fields, with the herbicide they purchase, which helps us from having the wind spread the thistle seeds into our subdivision.

Bears

We live in bear country and we are the only ones who can prevent

bear problems. Bear calorie Counter (from Colorado Parks & Wildlife): bird seed (7 lbs) = 12,180 calories / dog food (25 lbs) = 42,425 calories / peanut butter (28 oz = 4,750 calories / shortening (3 lbs) = 12,430 calories / berries (1 lb) = 2,000 calories

Some suggestions to bear proof your house and property:

1) Bear-proof trash by keeping it indoors (garage) until pickup or dropping it off. Never leave it out overnight. Once bears learn where it is easy to get garbage, they will come back again and again. If you must leave it out use a bear-proof container.

2) Do not leave your house with food cooking and have doors and/or windows open with only screens. Keep all bear accessible windows and doors closed and locked (home, vehicles, and garage).

3) Feed pets inside and store pet food inside.

4) Burn barbecues to clean them after use and dispose of the grease in the trap.

5) Only feed birds in winter, not during months when bears are active. Bears love bird seed and hummingbird feeders. Letting your bird feeders turn into bear feeders teaches bears that it is safe to come close to people and homes. This can be a deadly lesson for the bear! If you do not want to stop feeding birds, hang your feeder at least ten feet off the ground and ten feet away from anything a bear can climb.

6) Never store food outside. Bears can even get into locked freezers.

7) Do not leave food, trash, coolers, air fresheners, or anything that smells in your car.

8) If you really want to compost keep it clean. Use a 2:1 dry: wet ratio.

9) If a bear comes near your home, do your best to chase it away. Yell, blow a whistle, set off your car alarm, clap your hands, or make other loud noises. I think it goes without saying, never approach a bear to scare him off unless you enjoy visiting the ER!

Here in Silverheels, let's get in the habit of being bear responsible. It is like recycling – at first it's a little extra effort, but soon it becomes a better way to live. We can be proud helping to make South Park and Silverheels a better place for both people and bears!

Moose



Moose Thinking...Tourists!!
Photo by Pat Mears

Colorado's Shiras moose are Colorado's largest big game animal with adults weighting 800 to 1,200 pounds. Bulls stand up to 6 feet at the shoulders. We are getting a lot of moose here in the Pike National Forest and Silverheels. They seem very comfortable being in close proximity to homes and people. Do not let their laid back, docile appearance be deceiving they can be very dangerous. They can also present a challenge to driving, so be careful here in the subdivision. I almost hit a cow with a calf when I was spraying with my ATV this spring on Palmer Peak. I was looking for thistle, not moose, and around a corner there they were.

The breeding season (rut) begins in mid to late September and runs through October. Both bulls and cows are aggressive during the

breeding season. Moose and canines are instinctively enemies. Dogs are in the same family as wolves and a moose will see them as a predator. If you are with your dog and encounter a moose take control of your dog and get to a safe distance. Mid May to June cows tend to be very aggressive, these are the months in which they will be defending their newborn calves from anything that may pose a threat. Never venture close to a moose and her calf for obvious reasons. If a moose feels threatened or agitated by people they will react in a few different ways. Here are some signs to be aware of:

- Moving toward you
- Laying back its ears
- Making strange grunting noises
- Stomping or clawing the ground
- Swinging its head back and forth

If you want to stay safe keep a distance from these animals. Observe from a far and they will likely be comfortable enough to stick around and give you some great pictures.

Mountain Lion



Mountain lions have been a part of our ecosystem for thousands of years. They are large predators feeding mainly on deer, but will happily take pets, sheep, livestock, or anything else that appears and easy meal. Lions have proven to be very adaptable living near cities and people, as long as there is ample prey and places to rest and hunt. We certain have them living among us here in Silverheels.

They are primarily nocturnal and secretive.

Here are some suggestions to avoid a problem with a lion encounter in Silverheels:

- If you think there is a lion nearby make plenty of noise to reduce the chance of surprise.
- If there are children keep them close and under your supervision. Do not let them out and around your house in the woods, particularly at dusk or at night.
- Always give a lion a way to escape, make sure they are not cornered.
- Stay calm and talk with a firm voice in an effort to demonstrate you are human and not its regular prey.
- Back away slowly, do not run which can stimulate a lion's instinct to chase and attack.
- Make an effort to appear as large as possible. Open your jacket to appear a more formidable opponent.
- If the lion appears aggressively throw rocks, sticks, or whatever you have without turning your back or bending down.

The chances of seeing a lion are slight and even less likely to be attacked by one, but it is still important to understand this magnificent wild cat that shares our natural areas here in Silverheels and South Park.



Fawn Meets Rabbit; Photo by Sonnie White

Signage and Road Info

The sign for Little Baldy Circle and Lumberjack are on order by the county and I assume will be installed when it arrives. The

repairs made this spring on Little Baldy by Skid Court have improved that section, but I am sure will be a challenge in the spring melt. It would be nice if there was more grading of the roads, but I know the county is hard pressed, with their personnel and budget constraints, to get here as often as we would like.



Mariposa Lily; Taken by Jackie Burghardt

Excessive Browning of Pine Needles

Many of us have noted that our pines, bristlecones in particular, seem to be displaying an excessive number of browning needles this fall. This is normal activity and generally is nothing to worry about.

Pines (and spruces and firs and other evergreens) put on new growth each year; that new growth stays with the tree for a period of years at which time it browns and falls off. Spruces and firs hold their needles for many years and pines drop them about every 4-6 years. Thus, spruces and firs have dense interiors and pines have more open or see-through interiors.

Fall is the time when evergreens naturally drop needles. Note that the top of the trees will not have browning needles. If you could know how many years' growth is from the top of the tree down to where the needles begin to brown you would know how long that tree holds its needles.

This year's additional needle drop can be attributed to the result of a year or more of low moisture. It

happens with deciduous trees as well. The trees begin to drop an excess of needles and leaves that stress their resources. It's a survival mechanism. I've seen the same needle fall in the city of Denver.

Forest Service Restricts ATV Access to Crooked Creek Trail (FSR 669)

SROA Residents and other users of the Forest Service Access at the end of Silverheels Road known as Crooked Creek Trail (FSR 669) found this sign when the gates were opened this summer:



The SROA Board of Directors reached out to the South Park Ranger District for an explanation and were told

“The Pike National Forest, South Park Ranger District’s motor vehicle use designations are shown on our motor vehicle use map (MVUM). This map shows the authorized National Forest System roads and National Forest System trails that are open to motor vehicle use pursuant to 36 CFR 212.51.”

“Specifically the road of your concern, National Forest System road 669 (Crooked Creek), is designated as open to highway legal vehicles only. This designation has been in place since the creation of the motor vehicle use map in 2010. The South Park Ranger District, is actively trying to sign these roads however, these signs are often vandalized and with 500,000 plus acres of land to manage and shrinking budgets it can be difficult to keep up with signing needs. This is why the motor vehicle use map is so important to reference while in the forest and

when planning recreational motor vehicle use trips.”

The South Park Ranger District MVUM, can be found at the following link,

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/psicc/maps-pubs>

In addition, these maps can be obtained for free from the South Park Ranger District Office in Fairplay, CO.

Silverheels Resident Tim Giles has started a petition to open Crooked Creek Trail (FSR 669) for ATV, UTV and Dirt Bikes

If you want to sign the petition, please contact Tim at: 719-836-1912.



Bobcat, Taken by Sonnie White

Windows 10 Users

Some of you who use Windows 10 may have noticed unusually slow wifi speeds. Additionally, users could be affected with massive bandwidth issues that cause these slow wifi speeds. It results from various background services, such as, automatic system updates and data synchronization services constantly communicating over the internet and across your local wifi. These consume huge system resources including the network bandwidth due to very poorly optimized system settings and they affect everyone on the local network. By making these changes we have made a huge improvement in our in home wifi speed. We think this problem with v10 could be affecting everyone here in Silverheels by creating

unnecessary demand for bandwidth when we already have a very limited supply.

Here are the steps:

1. Go to the windows tab at the bottom left and type in **Settings**
2. Click **settings** with the gear at the top
3. Click **Update & Security**
4. Click **Advanced Options** on right
5. Click **how updates are delivered**
6. **TURN OFF GET UPDATES FROM MICROSOFT, AND GET UPDATES FROM AND SEND UPDATES TO PC'S ON MY LOCAL NETWORK.**

What this does is broadcast signals constantly over your home network asking each computer if it has any updates. So if you add your phone, IPAD, another computer, and a printer you will slow down. After making these changes, you will need to periodically check to see if there are any updates to Windows. We believe this will be a better way of handling it.

The **second** thing you need to do is also in your settings:

1. **Right click on your Windows key** in the bottom left corner
2. Choose the **Control Panel**
3. In the search box in the top right corner, **type Performance** and hit enter
4. Find **Adjust the appearance and performance of Windows**
5. Go to the **Advanced tab** and click on **Change** in the **Virtual Memory** section
6. **Uncheck** the option **Automatically manage paging file size for all drives**
7. **Select** by clicking once the **default drive C:** as this is where your Windows 10 is installed and choose **Custom Size**
8. **Change Initial Size and Maximum Size** to the recommend values by Windows which is in the **Total Paging File Size For all Drives** section
9. **Click Set** and **O.K.** You might get a message that if you set this lower than 800k windows will not be able to send errors if a problem occurs, don't worry about it. It's not a problem.
10. **Restart your computer.**

We were amazed how fast our internet was running after making

both these fixes and hope this helps you!

Cathy Bremer has a picture to help understand the settings on her quilting blog (computingstitches.com) which may help.

Real Estate Sales

Below is a listing of all recent real estate sales in Silverheels Ranch. For a complete listing off all the sales that have occurred since January 2015, contact us at: board@silverheels.org

Lot 115 799 Palmer Peak Drive

Sold 9/2015 \$170,000
5.00 acres Residential
Seller: Bleakney
Buyer: Long, Wesley

Lot 137 24 Little Baldy Circle

Sold 10/2015 \$625,000
5.79 acres Residential
Seller: King
Buyer, White, Robert J & Sonnie B

Lot 14 700 Silverheels Road

Sold 11/2015 \$275,000
5.00 acres Residential
Seller: Matheson
Buyer: Ingle, Robert
& Battey, Nancy

Lot 142 972 Lumber Jack Road

Sold 7/2016 \$140,000
13.0 acres Vacant Land
Seller: Kirkland
Buyer: Maske, David

Lot 71 25 Skid Court

Sold 9/2016 \$275,000
6.0 Acres Residential
Seller: Spangler
Buyer: Buckley, Patrick Charles

Lot 139 1224 Lumber Jack Road

Sold 9/2016 \$318,000
5.0 Acres Residential
Seller: Bales
Buyer: Houghton, Kevin & Sharon

Lot 93 336 Palmer Peak Drive

Sold 9/2016 \$474,000
5.52 Acres Residential
Seller: Carnahan
Buyer: Woodland, Eric & Kathleen

Pictures in this Newsletter

Send your great pictures taken within our subdivision for publication in the newsletter to silverheelsnews@gmail.com.

All pictures in this newsletter were taken by our members except the mountain lion BUT we are seeking a picture of the lion that landowners see from time to time !!