

# Glenbrook Life

Nature's paradise on your doorstep  
Winter 2022

**In our continuing effort to provide you with timely updates on the activities of the GHOA Board and community, please enjoy this Winter newsletter.**

Jonathan Fore, President  
Tom Tornga, Vice President  
Roger LaVoie, Secretary  
Kent Imrie, Treasurer  
Karen Diepenbrock  
Rick Wolford  
Janice Key

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## Let it Snow!

We survived the record-setting snowstorms of December 2021 with the help of our new snow removal contractor Mountain View Landscaping. There was a steep learning curve and a few missteps in the beginning but, overall, the Board is pleased with the performance of Mountain View. In sharp contrast with December, we had an exceptionally dry January but recent storms over President's Day weekend and into the following week have delivered about 6 new inches of snow! We really do not know whether this winter will bring us out of drought conditions or not. Keep your fingers crossed that we get a few more storms!



# Environmental and Fire Safety Projects in the Community

- **Slaughterhouse Creek and Pond** – Nevada Environmental (NENV) work on this project is almost complete - seeding took place last fall and we anticipate that the spring growth of vegetation will restore the meadow! The remaining work consists of constructing an observation deck with signage regarding the history of Slaughterhouse Canyon and an explanation of the environmental features of the meadow and pond. Planned work on the observation deck and kiosks will commence in April, weather dependent.
- **Lakemill Path** – Nevada Environmental (NENV) work is complete. Both sides of the path to the lake have been reseeded following the path improvement last fall. The pond on the east side of Pray Meadow has been partially filled and seeded with native plants. This should reduce the issue of standing water and mosquitoes - all of course subject to the timing and distribution of snowmelt and rainfall.
- **Glenbrook Underground** – There is a project being led by D.D. Felton of GPOA to bury the power and communication lines in Glenbrook. As we are all aware, above-ground power lines have contributed to massive wildfires in Northern California. Mrs. Felton presented an overview of the project to the Board at our December 10th public meeting. We have indicated that we are committed in concept to move forward but there are many details that would need to be presented such as the location of GHOA easements, timing, and status of fundraising. Ms. Felton will present to the Board again this spring and we will continue to update the community as more information becomes available.



Photo Credit: Jay Crosson – Beautiful view from China Garden Beach



# Fire Safety And Meadows/Forest Health Committee Report

Written and submitted by Ms. Sydney Morrow, committee member

Your committee members are wrapping up a busy quarter! We ended 2021 with a delivery to the Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District (TDFPD) for their Christmas toy drive. Thanks to generous contributions from the committee and owners of Tahoe Toys & Treasures, over \$500.00 worth of toys headed to Renown Children's Hospital just before "snowmeggedon" hit. Keep it Local! If you need gifts for upcoming birthdays or holidays, give Tahoe Toys a try.

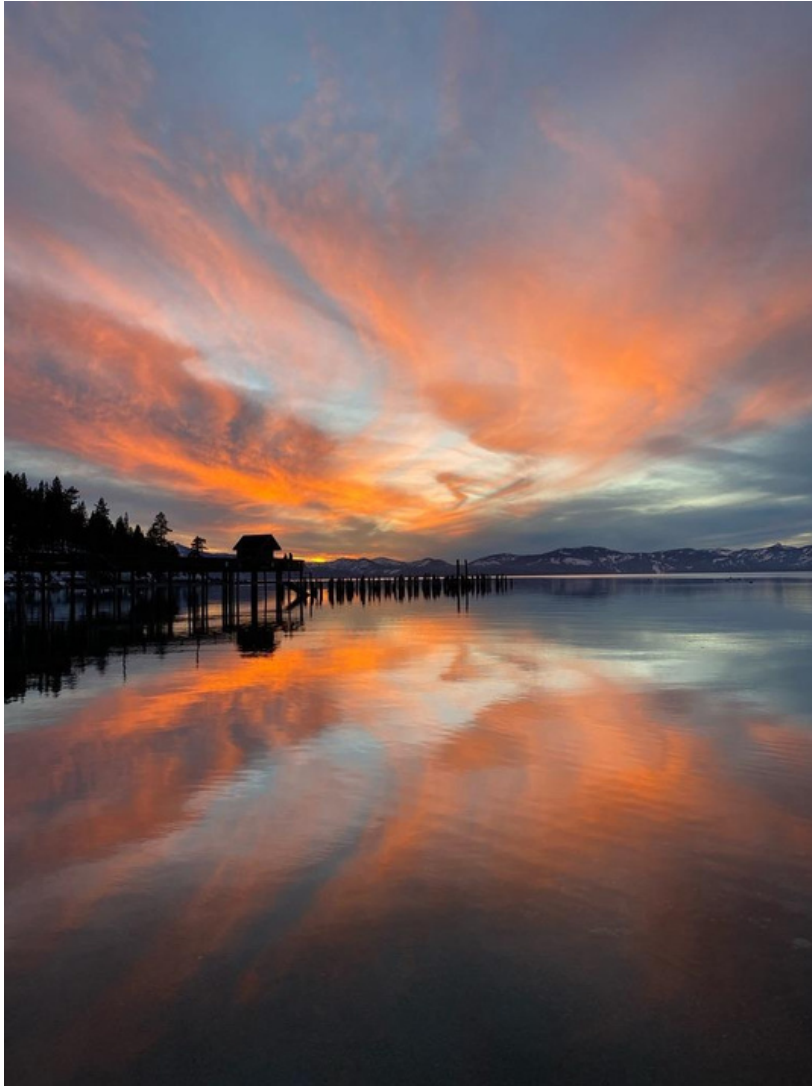


- Roger La Voie and Nicholas Saadi continue working with the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) to extend the defensible space around Glenbrook. Trucks moved off to other locations after the snow, but NDF will be back to finish thinning trees in the canyon along Glenbrook Creek by June. Last month, GHOA also received an offer from Cal Fire Amador to do fuels reduction work in our neighborhood. We are now coordinating use of their crews with TDFPD. Although based in South Lake, federal grants allow Cal-Fire to work in Nevada at minimal cost. Young men and women from the California Conservation Corp – Lake Tahoe make up the teams. To learn more about the CCC-Lake Tahoe, go to <https://ccc.ca.gov/locations/tahoe-center>.
- Mark your calendars! Tuesday, July 12 we will host Fire Chief Scott Lindgren for a wide-ranging discussion of fire safety and the evacuation plans for Glenbrook. The program will be held at The Glenbrook Club House from 9:00 – 11:00 AM and will be led by committee member, Peyton Bruns. If you have questions or concerns that you would like to see addressed at this important meeting, please email Peyton at [vpeytonbruns@aol.com](mailto:vpeytonbruns@aol.com)
- Glenbrook is now a member of The Lake Tahoe Fire-Adapted Community Network run by the Tahoe Resource Conservation District. Program Coordinator, Amanda Milici, and our Neighborhood Leader, Roland Tognazzni, will be working with other Tahoe Basin communities to educate residents and help us secure our homes. Although we are just now entering the network, we will be needing other residents to participate. If you have an interest in getting involved with these efforts, please email Roland at [rotogs@yahoo.com](mailto:rotogs@yahoo.com)
- Lastly, we are starting the application process for recognition by FireWise USA. FireWise, through the National Fire Protection Association, acknowledges fire safety efforts of communities throughout the United States and is becoming increasingly accepted by insurance companies as proof that a community is being proactive in limiting wildfire damage. Both TDFPD and the Fire-Adapted Community Network are encouraging us pursue this recognition. Our goal is to submit the application by May and become the first FireWise community on the East Shore!





## Other Projects of Interest to the Community



- **Gate Operations** – during the December snowstorm we had some issues with the gate (freezing which rendered it temporarily inoperable). Our management company is in the process of obtaining bids for gate replacement as well as modernization of the operating system and we will review those options at our next Board meeting.
- **Replacement & Upgrade of Old Highway 50 Gate** – it has come to the attention of the Board that there has been some illegal dumping up Old Highway 50 past the GHOA Office in addition to random bikers and hikers entering into our community. While there is a fence and gate present, both need repair/replacement. The Board opened three bids at our December 10th meeting and are in the process of reviewing them for consistency and completeness. We will keep the community informed of this project as it moves forward.
- **Irrigation and Landscaping** – After a thorough review of competing bids the GHOA and GCTA Boards awarded the 2022 Landscaping contract to Mountain View Landscaping. This company is also our current snow removal provider and offered a 10% discount as a result of that relationship. In addition to being competitively priced, Mountain View's bid provided for more onsite staff during the upcoming season. Completion of the new irrigation system remains a priority and our service and parts providers along with Landscape Committee Members Tom Tornga and Kent Imrie are confident that can be achieved prior to the start of the season (as always, weather dependent!).

## Of Interest that Impacts the Community

- **Opening of land adjacent to Glenbrook for Snowmobiling**

– The US Forest Service has a proposal to open a new recreation area for winter snowmobiling at the juncture of SR28 and US Highway 50. This area would only be separated by 1/4 - 1/2 mile from Glenbrook. The GHOA and GCTA Boards sent a letter in early February to the US Forest Service expressing our deep concern about the potential impact of this project including:



Photo Credit: Richard Walker – Winter residents of Glenbrook include this stunning bobcat, sighted often by many residents

1) loss of winter habitat of the bald eagle, 2) negative impact to the Glenbrook community including noise, intrusion, and loss of habitat for local animals and plants, and 3) negative impact to the enjoyment and safety of the family sledding hill at the same juncture. We would encourage members of the Glenbrook community to write letters expressing their concern as well - there is power in numbers! Please direct your letters to: Ashley Sibr, Recreation Planner/Landscape Architect, US Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Mgmt Unit, 35 College Drive, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150-4500

- **Red Flag Days** – The Fire Safety and Meadows Committee wants to remind you just exactly what a “red flag” day means and what activities should be restricted.

Despite the cold temperatures during Glenbrook winters, residents should be aware that Red Flag Warnings can be issued any time of the year. Given our ongoing drought conditions, the Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District asks you to be especially mindful of the following when The National Weather Service declares a Red Flag Warning:

- Avoid cooking outdoors even on gas grills. Outdoor flames are dangerous under these wind conditions.
- Keep a fire-safe container on your property for disposal of cigarettes/cigars if your family or guests smoke. Remind contractors/work crews to use these containers when at your residence.
- Be extremely careful using chainsaws, lawnmowers, weed-eaters or gas-powered landscaping equipment on red-flag days.
- Avoid parking cars on grass or other dry vegetation as catalytic converters can ignite a fire under parked cars.
- Outdoor fires are strictly prohibited on red flag days. This includes fires in residential fire pits or on any Lake Tahoe beachfront.

Glenbrook will raise a red flag at the gatehouse and on Pray Meadow Road near the golf course when red flag warnings have been issued for our area. Let's be extra vigilant on these days!

## Let's Look Toward Spring/Summer!

- Watch your mail for buoy application and shuttle operation information – the Board voted to maintain the current pricing and policies of buoy and pier operations for the 2022 season.
- The GHOA Board will be hosting a “Meet the Candidates” Event in July for all candidates (incumbent or non) running for Board seats. Governance Committee Chair Janice Key is looking for interested volunteers to help organize this event. Please email her directly if you are willing to help! JanJanKey@aol.com
- Glenbrook Fireworks, Inc. – This is a 501c3 company founded by some members of the Glenbrook community in 2011. The educational and charitable purposes of this organization are:
  1. Honoring our nation's history
  2. Promoting the safe use and display of fireworks with the local fire department & US Coast Guard
  3. Recognizing active and former US military personnel and finally,
  4. Educating the general public about the history and cultural heritage of Glenbrook, NV.

Wow! That suggests there's a lot this organization can do besides putting on a 4th of July fireworks show. Recently some Founding Board members retired – leaving Treasurer Roger La Voie and new Board member Janice Key as the sole Directors. We could use some help for sure! If you are interested in possibly joining the Board of this non-profit organization please send Janice Key an email that briefly outlines your interest – we would welcome both GHOA and GPOA residents to reach out. JanJanKey@aol.com

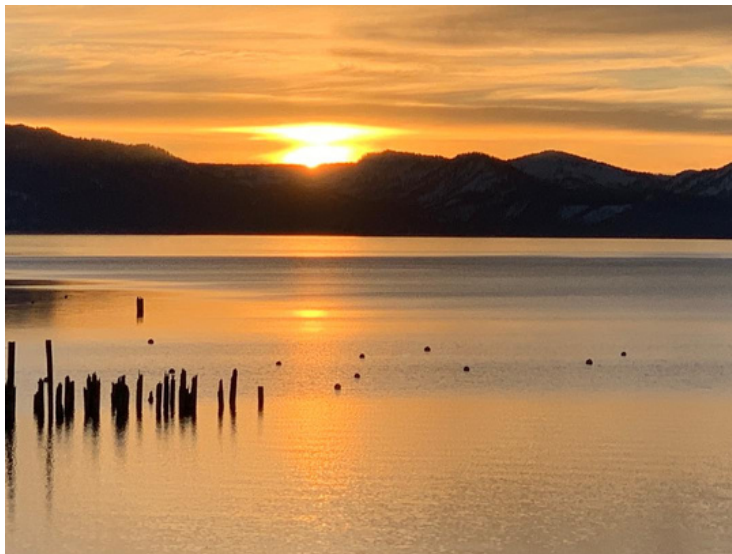


Photo Credit: Lyndy Richardson – Sunsets in winter never disappoint

## Finally, BIG THANKS to everyone who submitted photos for this edition of the newsletter

Including Judith Harris, Arne Hoel, Marie Hoel, Claude Hutchison, Lindy Richardson, Richard Walker, Karla Campbell, and Jay Crosson. There were so many great shots from which to choose! Please enjoy some views of the winter wonderland of Glenbrook!