



Spring 2022 Newsletter

Spring is upon us, and it is glorious! All seasons in Glenbrook are beautiful, but the season of new life is inspiring. Brown turns to green; chipmunks play rather than forage. Please enjoy this update on activities throughout our community!



Photo Credit Candace Leven

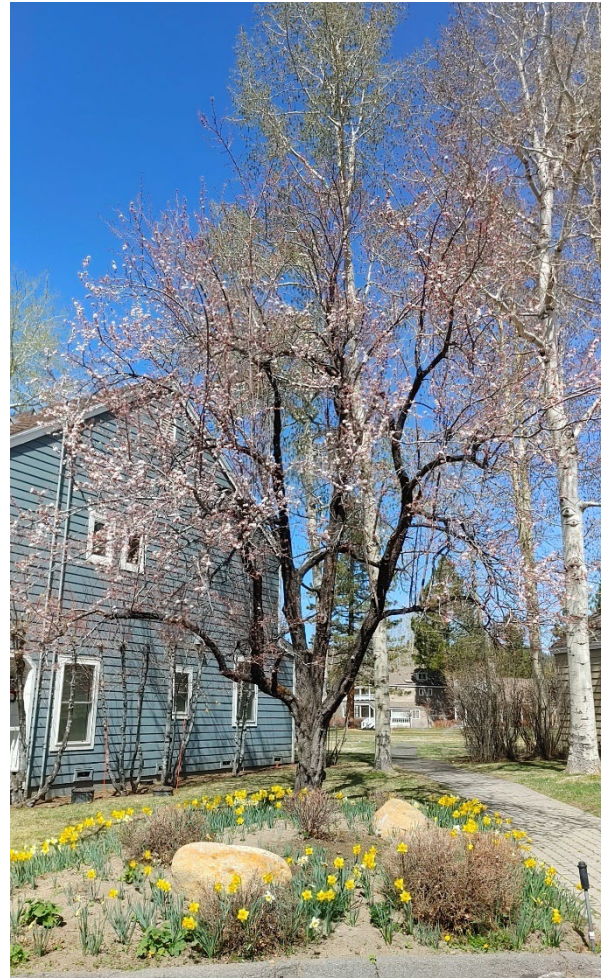


Photo Credit Nicholas Saadi

Fire Safety and Meadows/Forest Health Committee Report

(Photos and article by Roger La Voie and Sydney Morrow)

Cal Fire Crews

You may have seen Cal Fire crews in Glenbrook and wondered – what are they doing here? Cal Fire crews, staffed by young workers from the California Conservation Corps (CCC), are working in Glenbrook to reduce combustible material in





our forests through cooperation with Tahoe Douglas Fire District (TDFD) and NVENV. It costs us nothing as a portion of our local property tax goes to fund TDFD who is absorbing the very affordable cost of \$225 per day for the entire crew.

After a tour of Glenbrook with members of the Fire Safety / Forest & Meadows Committee as well as TDFD and NVENV, it was decided the single highest priority area was Lot X as well as adjoining private parcels including the Icehouse. Cal Fire will work on private land if the owners approve and allow access. The next highest priority will be a parcel along The Back Road near Driving Range Road, which is owned by The Glenbrook Club. The crews began in earnest on April 4. They started on the steep slopes above Pray Meadow Rd and Short Rd and are working toward US Hwy 50.



NDF – Lot X

Glenbrook has been extremely fortunate to have been approached by Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) to conduct major fuels reduction work on GHOA owned land in the Lot X area. NDF is utilizing federal grant funding sources for logging and tree removal encompassing both sides of Glenbrook Canyon, essentially going from US 50 to Old 50.



From October to December NDF Crews felled, and then through their cabling system, dragged approximately 300 trees up to Old Hwy 50, where the logs are now stacked. They plan to complete the massive project by late June. However, it is GHOA's responsibility to remove the piles of logs. Our new committee member (and GPOA representative) Porter

Felton put us in touch with Kevin Leary, a Glenbrook resident on The Back Road. Kevin is building a new lumber mill just 10 miles away on the southwest side of Carson City. Thanks to Porter and Kevin, problem solved!

Slaughterhouse & Old Hwy 50 Signage

The trail that runs from the green USFS gate along Highway 28 down Slaughterhouse Canyon attracts many hikers and bikers. Some of them find their way into Glenbrook. Several of our own residents who frequent the trail themselves believe that most of these “visitors” are unintentionally off course. They set out to visit Skunk Harbor, but due to a total absence of signage by the USFS, some end up taking a wrong left turn into Slaughterhouse. We formed a small sub-committee of Dave Hoverman and Porter Felton who volunteered to construct signage, with USFS approval, at several key intersections to point the hikers & bikers in the right direction. Another sign will be placed with appropriate wording at the border of GHOA’s property (about 500 yards from Land’s End Road). Similar signs will be placed along Old Highway 50 (above the GHOA office), where our community gate is being replaced. Again, thanks to Porter and Dave.

West Side - Lake Mill Meadow



NVENV has completed the work they were contracted to do on the west side of Lake Mill Meadow. They removed a significant amount of encroaching vegetation including many smaller aspens which were sprouting up close to the Lake. Within the meadow Sullivan Creek had developed a head cut, i.e. an erosion feature whereby the stream was creating deep gullies. It has been restored by

installing a rock structure to maintain the banks and lowering the flowline from the meadow elevation to the lower channel elevation.

A 4’ wide trail covered with wood chips now runs from the cart parking area along Pray Meadow Rd to the top of the cliff above the beach. Now we need to construct a much safer

trail and access to the beach. Ideally, we envision a curving ramp that would allow strollers, wheelchairs, etc. Mountain View Landscaping is drawing up a proposed path and structure. However, this will require TRPA permitting and likely become a 2023 project. We also envision adding a nice entrance from Pray Meadow Rd to include a bench, granite rocks, and some color.



East Side – Lake Mill Meadow

During the current spring run-off the pond persists on the northeastern side of Pray Meadow Rd. When the triple culvert was originally constructed, TRPA imposed a height limit such that it would keep sediment from travelling to the Lake. That led to an area of standing water as



the meadow would not drain and provided a mosquito breeding area. NVENV went back to TRPA and last year obtained a permit to raise the level by adding fill and rocks. They also filled unvegetated areas containing stagnant ponds nearby in other sections of the meadow. They brought in as much fill as was allowed. While the ponding persists, we believe that over the next 2-3 months it should recede through natural evaporation

and seepage. We have succeeded in reducing both the size and time duration of the pond. If necessary, we will treat the pond to prevent mosquito breeding. If this does not solve the problem, then we can consider going back to the TRPA requesting a permit to fill the entire volume below the culvert. However, this would require filling 1 or more acres. It would involve a long and expensive permitting process, as it would no longer be considered an Environmental Improvement Project.

FireWise USA and Fire Adapted Communities

Several committee members attended a FireWise workshop which was held in Tahoe City on March 28. To date, Glenbrook and Uppaway have had their assessment completed by the Nevada Division of Forestry and the report has been finalized. We will move on to the planning phase of the application. Residents are welcome to provide input or submit questions to Sydney Morrow at 713-208-6655 or smorrow@accessexploration.com. Information on *The Glenbrook Project*, provided by Steve and Martha Dow, was exceedingly helpful in establishing Glenbrook's historical efforts at wild fire prevention. Roland Tognazzini continues work on the Fire Adapted Communities project. Summer meet-and-greet your neighbor sessions are being discussed.

Glenbrook Underground

(Written by Ms. DD Felton, Glenbrook Underground Board member)

In Feb 2020 the idea to underground all utilities in Glenbrook was conceived, spurred by a succession of unprecedented northern California wildfires e.g., Dixie, Caldor, Tamarack in the western region that includes Lake Tahoe Basin. Some of the worst were caused by above ground electrical utilities and ended with catastrophic results.

"Glenbrook Underground, Inc." is a community wide organization whose mission is to reposition underground all utilities in Glenbrook, most importantly electrical. The success of GU's mission hinges on easements provided by GHOA to enable undergrounding of all utilities, most specifically electrical.



Glenbrook Underground was incorporated in early 2021 and has a pending 501(c)3 application. It recruited community board members with expertise critical to its success:

Nancy Baxter - Professional Fundraiser

Sarah Coverley - Accountant

DD Felton – Finance

Meridee Moore - Hedge Fund Owner former PGE Board Member

Standish O'Grady - Engineer with prior experience in undergrounding

Garrett Sutton - Attorney

Glenbrook Underground's activities have been initially funded by its Board of Directors. Having received the necessary easements from GHOA (contingent on a more detailed plan and outlined set of responsibilities between GU and GHOA), GU will actively seek financial contributions and grants from individuals, private foundations, governmental entities, corporate entities, and other nonprofit corporations. The goal is that undergrounding will be fully funded from outside sources and donations.

More information will be forthcoming soon and a website is nearing completion!

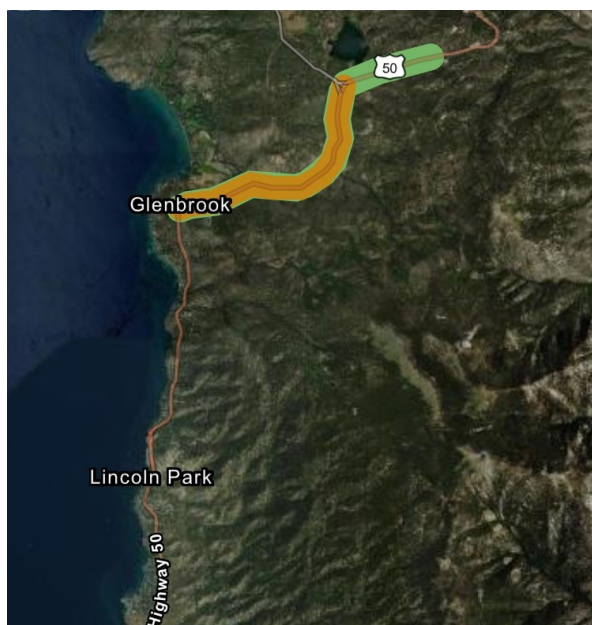
WHY UNDERGROUND UTILITIES?

- **Community Safety:** Burying powerlines greatly reduces fire hazards, accidents, and safety risks due to downed lines. Proactively undergrounding electrical lines will ensure that the Glenbrook community and the surrounding areas including BLM and National Forest land no longer have to worry about the threat.
- **Reliability:** Falling tree limbs, high winds, and heavy snows are just a few things that frequently cause utility disruptions. Burying lines eliminates weather related power outages and protects lines from environmental decay.
- **Connectivity:** Trenching utilities will allow for additional connectivity and enhanced communications capability, which is particularly important in an emergency and is a priority for the current administration's Infrastructure Program.

Proposed Changes to Highway 50 – Spooner to Kingsbury

(Written by Janice Key, David Stewart and Sydney Morrow)

NDOT held three informational meetings in late March to which we encouraged interested community members attend. David Stewart (thank you David) kindly provided the Board with a summary and overview of some of the important changes to Highway 50 that are being proposed. "According to NDOT, their intentions are to 1) find ways to slow down traffic; 2) make it easier for residents to make left turns into individual driveways and other roads that do not have a dedicated left turn lane; and 3) implement a bike/walking route along the entire corridor."



From Spooner Summit down to Glenbrook, the plan includes narrowing the traffic lanes in an attempt to force cars to drive more slowly. The alternative suggestion made by many members of our community to prevent head-on collisions – to put a concrete median like the one that exists on the east side of Spooner Summit – was not incorporated into the proposal. The current plan also does not, sadly, include a left turn lane for Glenbrook residents to merge onto Highway 50 heading eastbound.

From Glenbrook to Kingsbury Grade, NDOT proposes to slow speeds using the installation of roundabouts and more dedicated left turn lanes which together with the bike path will serve to reduce the current four lane road to three and sometimes two in certain locations.



Importantly, consideration is being given to the bike lane travelling from Spooner Junction down to Glenbrook on Old Highway 50, crossing over the Glenbrook Creek ravine somewhere shortly before the land becomes private Glenbrook property. The crossing would either be a series of switchbacks or a large bridge, or some combinations of these. Obviously, many of the changes being proposed will affect our community. We encourage you to visit the project website, review the ideas and comment. NDOT expects to make a formal proposal in summer of 2022 – so the time is now!

Please visit the website to obtain the most up-to-date information and provide feedback at dot.nv.gov/US50EastShore.

Passing of Jim Guzy

Jim Guzy, a 32-year homeowner in Glenbrook, passed away April 11, 2022. Glenbrook was his favorite place on earth. He is survived by his wife, Marcia. They were the parents of six children and fifteen grandchildren. Jim was one of the first people in Silicon Valley and was on the Intel Board for forty years. There will be no memorial service as per his wishes. Condolences may be sent to their Menlo Park home.

Things to Know and Important Dates!

- Post Office new hours, effective April 18th window will be closed from 12:30-1:00 (instead of 12:00-12:30)
- 4th of July festivities will return to full pre-Covid glory! Activity schedule will be released in May, but watch for a letter requesting donations to Glenbrook Fireworks, Inc. for our annual extravaganza!
- Racks for watercraft are open as of April 1st to store your kayaks, paddleboards, and other items.
- Buoy application requests are due by April 29, buoy shuttle service starts May 26.
- Irrigation -no systems to be turned on prior to May 1. Other than heavy sun exposed landscapes, the recommendation is to start watering May 15 or later.
- Reminder! 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 ClubHouse from 9:00 – 11:00 AM.
- And from Management, GHOA member's portals have been updated with Association documents such as minutes, agendas, DRC forms, governing docs, etc. We are continuing to work on updating the GlenbrookTahoe.org website along with member portals.
- Douglas County Sheriff's Office's open house is 4-7 p.m. May 11 at the Judicial Law Enforcement Building, 1038 Buckeye Road, Minden. The event will feature K-9 demonstrations, the SWAT team, Bike Team, Motorcycle Unit, Sheriff's Office Vehicles, Marine Boats, Explorers, Search and Rescue, Jail walkthrough and many other special units and vehicles of the Sheriff's Office.
- We're getting a Board Game! Top Trumps USA announced Thursday, April 14, that they will debut Monopoly Lake Tahoe February 2023 during SnowFest, under license from Hasbro. The Lake Tahoe edition of the world's most popular board game will celebrate historical landmarks and iconic establishments from around the lake nominated by community members and fans. Through June 3, fans, locals, and vacationers will be able to share which locations they think should be featured on the board by emailing the official Monopoly Lake Tahoe team at laketahoe@toptrumps.com. All submissions will be reviewed, tallied, and considered throughout the board curation process, said a news release.



Photo Credit Candace Levien

Update on Board Matters

- Board member Karen Diepenbrock resigned in February. At the April 7th Special Meeting, Gayle Riley was appointed to the Board. Ms. Riley is currently on the Finance Committee and as many of you recall, received the exact same number of votes in last summer's election as current Board member Janice Key. Congratulations to Gayle!
- The Board reached a mediated settlement agreement with Jellerson Cottage, LLC regarding our rental policy and the process by which it can be changed or amended. We will announce the details of that settlement at our May Board meeting.
- The Board has been working diligently to negotiate a settlement agreement with Postmistress Properties regarding a number of disputed issues. At our April 7th meeting we approved Turner Surveying, Inc. to complete the necessary surveys and maps (Postmistress Properties to pay half the cost) in order to bring the details of this settlement to the community sometime in May or June for approval.

2021 – 2022 Board Members

Jonathan Fore – President

Tom Tornga – Vice President

Kent Imrie – Treasurer

Roger La Voie – Secretary

Janice Key – Director

Rick Wolford – Director

Gayle Riley – Director

Big Thanks!

Much appreciation for those who sent in photos for the newsletter including: Candace Levien, Arne Hoel, Dave Sweet, Samantha Dinsmore, Robin Leason, Richard Walker, Roger LaVoie, Sydney Morrow, and Nicholas Saadi. I can't use them all but I try to offer a range of material. Keep it up!



Photo credit Dave Sweet



Photo Credit Samantha Dinsmore