

WILSONIA TIMES

Volume 17, Issue 2
August, 2018

~mid summer edition~

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Wilsonia Centennial

There was so much fun and lots to do in this once-in-a-hundred years' celebration. We're more than thrilled with the turnout and enthusiasm of all who came to the Village for the week. If you were not around, it is hard to put into words what you missed, but there is a recap on page 2 and 3.



Upcoming Events:

August 4 - Saturday

WVI Board Meeting 10 am

BBQ Dinner 6 pm

General Meeting 7 pm

August 25 - Saturday

WAT / NPS Lunch 12 pm

at the Masonic Picnic Area



Goal \$24,000

Clubhouse Bathroom Fundraiser

We are continuing to fundraise for the upgrade to the Clubhouse bathrooms, which need to be stabilized and made accessible. To date we have raised **\$17,902** through generous donations, quilt and table ticket sales, the sales of Centennial merchandise and from donations in the memory of Doug Lawrence. Our goal is to raise \$24,000. We have received NPS and SHPO approval and have the County permits, we are targeting early fall for the upgrade.

Thanks to those who joined the **100 club**. If 100 Wilsonians will donate \$100 dollars each, for our 100th birthday, we will raise an additional \$10,000 and will have reached our goal.

You can donate online, mail a check, or donate in person at any event.



Community Fire Clean-Up

If you have walked or driven around Wilsonia lately, you will notice that we have a lot less fuel on the ground than in recent years. The efforts from Clean-Up Day and the work by the NPS and PG&E contractors has greatly reduced the fuel load in our community. Work is ongoing, and there are still a few piles and hazard trees to remove.

Thanks so much to the more than 50 volunteers from Wilsonia and the NPS that worked hard on June 23rd. That day we removed more than 80 loads filled with logs, branches and needles. If you notice that your area got cleaned, please consider a donation to the Wilsonia Fire Committee. Send it to the address on the back, or make an online donation. We have ongoing needs to help keep our area FireSafe; we hope to raise enough money for a pump trailer to use with our water tanks as a supplement to NPS fire response.

Black Pot Cook-Off

The 9th annual cook-off was held on June 16th. We had a lighter attendance this year (maybe everyone was gearing up for the Wilsonia Centennial). Those that came were treated to some incredible recipes from some very talented cooks. If you haven't been before it's quite a sensory experience. Being able to sample from all of the unique culinary crafts is one of the great parts of this popular Wilsonia tradition.



The winners of the very close competition were Chad and Lynn Fjeld for Main Dish and Katie Wilson and Jason Padrick for Dessert. You could be the winner next year... buy a pot and start practicing for next summer.

Wilsonia Advisory Team Community Lunch

The Wilsonia Advisory Team and its National Park Service members invite you to a casual lunch on Saturday, August 25th beginning at noon. The lunch will take place at the Sierra Masonic Family Club picnic area on Hillcrest Road just north of Lilac. We will be barbecuing, and we ask that you bring a side dish, salad or dessert.

This past Sunday, July 29th, Captain Brian Hughes of our local Arrowhead Interagency Hotshots was struck and killed by a tree while working with his team battling the Ferguson Fire. He was described as "one of the best" who loved what he was doing. Remembrances in his name can be made to the Wildland Firefighter Foundation at wffoundation.org

We try to include the names of Wilsonia friends and loved ones that have passed on. Sometimes we miss a few names in between issues. Listed are two of those... my apologies. If you would like to have a name listed, please email or write to the address shown on the back page. Thank you.

In Memory of
William Giddings
and
Doug Lawrence

Wilsonia friends and neighbors
who will be dearly missed.

Wilsonia Centennial Week in Review

June 30th: Potluck Dinner and Kick-off event

A packed house (more than 100) dined together on the delectable salads, fresh fruit, hearty main dishes and scrumptious desserts, all of which are the wonderful expectation of Wilsonia Potlucks. After dinner, Jim Spitz, of the WHDT gave a history of Wilsonia leading up to this centennial year. He then invited all the board members of WVI, the WHDT and the Sierra Masonic Family Club to join him in standing in front, as the whole group sang the National Anthem accompanied by a special recording of the pipe organ from the First Congregational Church of Berkeley. Thanks to the Wilsonia DAR group for decorating and hosting the event.

July 1st: Centennial Birthday Party

Just when we thought we couldn't assemble a larger crowd, what seemed like all of Wilsonia streamed into the Clubhouse for the official Wilsonia 100th Birthday Party. Two birthday sheet cakes (donated by the Wilson Family) and an amazing rustic Clubhouse replica cake centerpiece (donated by Sara DeJager) were the focal points of the party. Centennial Chairperson Sara DeJager led us all in singing Happy Birthday. She then welcomed two invited dignitaries to the front of the Clubhouse. Superintendent Woody Smeck of the NPS presented an official proclamation to the community recognizing our history and our role as a NPS partner in preserving the history and natural beauty of the Central Sierra Nevadas. Sara next welcomed Tulare County Superintendent Steve Worthley who read the proclamation signed by the Board of Supervisors. The document recognized the cultural significance that mountain communities play in the history of the County.

Before slicing into the cakes, the attendees, representing multiple generations, posed in front of the Clubhouse for a once-in-a-centennial group photo. Photos will be available on Labor Day Weekend.

July 2nd Events

We wanted to have a centennial event just for the kids. So, the corner of Park and Lilac was transformed into the 100 Acre Wood. A nice group of youngsters had a great time in Tigger's Bounce About, Rabbit's Run, hunting for Pooh's hunny and many more. Thanks to the Mixters for hosting, and TJ, Logan, and Camryn for their help.

That afternoon, a few Wilsonians got together for a make-up-the-rules-as-you-go horseshoe tournament. The winners of the first Wilsonia Horseshoe Tourney were Mary and Chris Rennie.

July 3rd: Nature Walk

In memory of Steve Stocking, we gathered for a reboot of the nature/wildflower walks led by Steve for so many years. More than 20 of us took a leisurely stroll through the Village and over to the Native American grinding holes. We relied on each other to properly identify the flora along the way. Many times we had to turn to Steve's book "Wildflowers of Sequoia Kings Canyon National Parks" for help... we sure do miss Steve!

Continued on page 3

WVI Memorial Weekend Meeting

The WVI Board Meeting was held on Sunday, June 24th at the Burgin Cabin. Business discussed:

- NPS Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Wilsonia Centennial planning and events
- WI100 Sales and Fundraising Report
- Update on the Clubhouse Restroom Process.

The next meeting will be on Saturday, August 4th at 10am at the Clubhouse. At 7pm, the annual WVI General Meeting and elections will be held.

Clubhouse Museum

by Jean Faszholtz

We now have a dozen Storyboards temporarily hanging on the Clubhouse walls. More will be finished before Labor Day. I have ideas for others if you would like to volunteer! This will be an ongoing project. The display shelves project that Bob Hills started and was not able to finish when he became ill, was taken over by Max Montgomery. The cabinets are beautiful and very near completion. Before Labor Day they should be secure and safe and ready for your loaned and donated vintage items and old framed photographs. Next summer the Storyboards will be mounted in a more permanent fashion. I am so grateful for those of you who have finished your Storyboards and to Dede Virgo who has been my right hand helper and advisor.

#Wilsonia100 exclusive, limited-time merchandise (shirts, hoodies, mugs, stickers, etc.) can be ordered online. You can also view and purchase items at Wilsonia events (subject to availability).

Make sure you perform your recommended defensible space clean-up and return your green hang tag to the fire station for a beautiful gold Wilsonia Centennial challenge coin.

Please read the Insert from the WHDT; and please take time to review the Wilsonia Historic Architectural Guidelines through the link provided.

Please help protect our wildlife. Don't leave garbage out where it is a temptation to wild animals. Please latch the garbage bins... if the bins are full, please take the trash home!!

THE WILSONIA CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE

The Wilsonia Amazing Race was rebranded this year as the Wilsonia Centennial Challenge. On Thursday July 5th, more than 2 dozen competitors divided into 8 teams raced around the Village in this annual battle of brains and grit. This year's racers had a taste of life in early Wilsonia; they built a log cabin (or teepee), sloshed through a fire bucket brigade, went fishin', made homemade ice cream, and did laundry the old fashion way. The winners of the event, were the trio of McKenna Ruby, Zach Shinnick and Maya Shinnick. Gamemaster Neal Mixer thanks all who helped with the activities... he is already planning next year's race.

Wilsonia Village - Centennial

Summer 2018 - Remaining Events

All events at the Clubhouse unless stated otherwise

Sat. Aug. 4	8 am	W.H.A.T. Hike — this activity has been CANCELED
	10 am	Board of Directors Meeting
	6 pm	WVI Barbecue Dinner / Potluck
	7 pm	Annual General Meeting and Elections
Sat. Aug. 11	Half Day	Clubhouse Rental - NLC
Sat. Aug. 25	12 pm	Advisory Team / NPS community lunch - Masonic Picnic Area
Sat. Sept. 1	6-7:30 pm	Taco Night Dinner - WHDT hosts
	7:30 pm	Bingo
Sun. Sept. 2	8-11 am	WVI Pancake Breakfast - Adults \$5, Children (12 & under) \$3
	1 pm	Board of Directors Meeting
Mon. Sept. 3	8 am	W.H.A.T. Hike - tentative, location TBA

Centennial Week Review (cont. from page 2)

July 4th in Wilsonia

The July 4th parade was more than twice the size of any other year. Multitudes of Jeeps and trucks towing trailers, cars, offroads, bikes and pedestrians showed off their patriotic pride and love of Wilsonia in this great little parade tradition... there was even a T-Rex representing the Wilsonia "Pre-Hisoric" District. After the route through the Visitor Center area, the parade regrouped and made a big loop through Wilsonia.

The second event of the day, another July 4th tradition, was the Ice Cream Social. We sincerely thank Dick and Mel Peters for years of hosting this event; this was to be their final time, but they were unable to be here. They have passed on the scoop to Debbie Faszholz and her friend Michelle Yokum, who put on an amazing Centennial Ice Cream Social. They scoured stores and thrift shops for pretty ice cream dishes and décor... the result was over the top. Wilsonians went through more than 12 gallons of Fresno State ice cream with more than 100 topping combinations!

July 6th and 7th

For the final few days of the Wilsonia 100 week, the Clubhouse was transformed for the first ever Wilsonia Quilters and Crafters Show. Most of the Village, and many people from down in the valley, visited during the two-day show to ooh and aah over the talented handiwork of the Wilsonia community, including dozens of home-made quilts, table runners and wall hangings. A few antique quilts and other handcrafted goods rounded out the beautiful gallery. The show also featured an opportunity drawing with a chance to win the 2017 Wilsonia Cabin Quilt project. The drawing raised over \$3700 for the Clubhouse bathroom project. Andra Walton was announced as the winner at the Saturday evening party.

The grand finale of the Wilsonia Centennial Week celebrations was the Wilsonia 100 party at the John Wilson cabin. Music welcomed the 100+ attendees who brought food and drinks to share with their Village friends and neighbors. The drawing for the quilt and the magnificent table (hand-crafted by Max Montgomery) was held. The table was won by Julie Smith. Julie immediately donated the table back to the community, setting off a community live-auction bidding war. The winning bid of the table auction was \$1050 by Jason Padrick. Thanks Jason!!

Thanks so much to all who helped and participated in all the events of this very special week for our Village. A very big thank you to the WVI board, and the Centennial Committee of Sara Dejager, Jean Faszholz and Neal Mixer.

CABIN FOR SALE

83793 Lily Lane

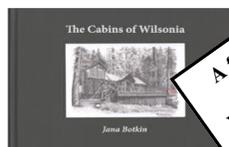
Contact owner
Dennis Patzkowski
at

559-638-9802

559-908-1013

for more information

The Cabins of Wilsonia
A look at 21st century cabin life



A fantastic souvenir book for Wilsonia's Centennial!

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273 drawings, many quotes from cabin folks
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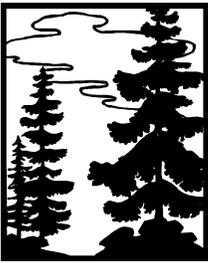
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WILSONIA TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF
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SERVICE CHANGE REQUESTED

WVI Board of Directors 2017-2018 Contact information

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Grant Grove	NPS Visitors Center		(559) 565-4307 (559) 335-2856
Ash Mountain	NPS District Office	www.nps.gov/seki	(559) 565-3341

EMERGENCY ** CALL 911 and 565-3196 / 3197 NPS Dispatch**

Bear sightings, problems or questions?



Please contact
the KCNP
Bear Tech at
(559) 565-4258

- Please -

*Be a considerate neighbor and
help protect the native wildlife in
Wilonia and in the Park*

*Keep all pets on a leash or secure
at your cabin at all times*

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