

# NEWSLETTER

## December 20, 2007

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Tom Harris

Most of you that would visit this website are aware that the Park, after 23 years of operation, is now owned by Klamath County.

This action was necessary to secure the location in perpetuity for the multi-faceted recreation that takes place here. Securing the necessary funding and drafting the associated language that guarantees this location will be used into the future was a lot of work and is an important coup for us all.

The relationship between the County and the Sportsman Park Steering Committee is a sound and amicable agreement. The County and the Steering Committee both want the Park but it requires both parties for success. The County provides both the property and the grant base. The various recreational entities, under the Steering Committee, provide the expertise and the subsequent liability protection necessary for operation.

This brings us to the forecast alluded to earlier. We must now develop a professional management plan and prepare for the improvements we will certainly need in place to accommodate increasing numbers and the safety and liability needs in the near future.

This effort would obviously be enhanced by more members becoming more active and sharing in the needed planning. Volunteer ownership is not only necessary but it is empowering.

It boils down to a rather simplistic question; what do you want the Bill Scholtes Klamath Sportsman Park to be?

### PARK BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Klamath Sportsmans Park Association will be held on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The meeting place is the Seniors Center. The meeting begins at 6:00 PM. The delegates from the Member Groups will be seated and elections will take place during the meeting.

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The newsletter is being posted online for a couple of reasons. It allows us to get news to you more quickly and it is less expensive than snail mail (very important). Please give us feedback on this method of delivering news to you.

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If you are reading this newsletter online, please click on the "contact us" button and send us your email address. We hope to begin notifying Members of Park news by email. Please add any comments or questions.

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The management contract between the County and the Park Association is nearly done. It is a fairly simple document and it will not cause any major change in the way the Association operates the park. One change that did impact us right away was the County's requirement that the Association increase insurance coverage to \$2,000,000.00. The increase in the premium cost is \$1500.00.

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The Board of Directors will be holding elections at the January 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Each of the Member Groups (Jefferson State Shooting Association, Flightmasters of Klamath Falls, Sporting Clays, Southern Oregon Dirt Riders, Kingsley Bow Hunters, Four Runners 4WD Club of Klamath Falls and The Klamath Cowboys) will name a delegate to the BOD, prior to the meeting. At the meeting a Treasurer and a Vice President will be chosen from among the delegates. Additionally, a Director At Large will be chosen from a list of nominees. If you wish to get a seat on the BOD, ask your group to choose you as a delegate or just give your name to Pat Harris to be put on the list of candidates for Director At Large. The BOD meets at the Senior Center at 6:00pm on the second Monday each month.

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The yearly dues total does not amount to enough to operate the Park. You surely have noticed price increases everywhere else. Even with more active participation by Members, it is very likely that dues will increase next year. One factor in this possible increase is repayment of a \$50,000 loan from the County.

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You may notice a cover has been erected for the Range Host. Just in time, as the long term forecast tells us there may be serious snow after Christmas. JSSA purchased the cover as a temporary measure. We hope to build a structure similar to the covers at the registration kiosk at a future date.

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We are looking for some expertise on well drilling and pump capacity. There may be a need to drill an additional well and to change the pump and storage tank currently in use. Click on "contact us", give us a phone call or come to the next meeting.

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Before next fire season begins, at the latest, we need to have a first strike fire truck. The tanker you have seen on the property is not a firefighting unit, never has been. What has been discussed is a reliable  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton or 1 ton cab and chassis with a 350 gallon tank and a pump with an electric start. An automatic transmission would be a plus. Basically, we want a vehicle that can be operated by anyone and which doesn't require special training.

What we need is for a few Members to take on the task of researching and shopping for what we need. Click on "contact us".

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