



# Audubon Hills Spring 2002 Newsletter

## Calendar of Events Meetings & Picnics

### May 3 & 4

Garbage Dumpster (page 3)

### May 16-7:00pm

AHCSD Meeting

### June 1

AHPOA Community Meeting

### June 15

\$25 Dues are due

### July 18

AHCSD Meeting 7:00

### August 3

Community Picnic

#### AHCSD Officer's

Chairman-Mike Fennessy

fenn@cwnet.com

644-3855

Co-Chair

Craig Tarzia 644-4807

Treasurer

Ernie Woods 644-4500

Directors

Jim McCarthy 647-8878

Victor House 644-2944

#### AHPOA Officer's

Chairman-Jim McCarthy

jimm@tehrace.com

647-8878

Co-Chair-Kim McCarthy

kimm@tehrace.com

647-8878

Secretary/Treasurer

Sue Collier 644-8878

Directors

Steve Bates 644-4699

Don Murray 644-6262

Do you have something to say? Then come to our Audubon Hills Property Owners Association (AHPOA) community meeting on June 1, 2002. Your dues (which are due June 15) will allow you, as a current member, to vote on any decisions at this meeting.

Please call or e-mail Jim McCarthy, to tell him that you would like to be included on the agenda. This will be our official community meeting, and voting on issues will occur.

Neighborhood Watch, community beautification, and various community needs will be discussed. Bring your lawn chair, coffee mug, and questions. Coffee and pastries will be provided.

CSD and neighborhood watch will be present for updates and answer any of your questions.

**Date:** June 1, 2002

**Time:** 9am—10:30am

**Where:** On Kingfisher Lane, over the pond, left side, on the grass, under the trees.

### Picnic

Put it on your calendar now! Our community picnic will be held on Saturday, August 3, 2002. Location and times will be in the next newsletter.

Last year's was FANTASTIC, and fun was had by one an all. It's a nice easy going way to meet and talk with neighbors, and let the kids play. We'll have the jumping balloon again!

Inside this issue:

Letter from AHCSD	2
A Mystery	3
Garbage Dumpster	3
Neighborhood Watch	4
Beautification & Good Deed Do'ers	4
Experienced Opinions on Raising the CDS Dues	5
New Audubon Hills website	6

## What's new with the A.H.C.S.D. (our road committee)

---

Many things are going on with Audubon Hills Community Service District. Remember, you are welcome to attend any of the meetings that occur, their times and dates are posted at the front box. Look for the change in paper color, then you'll know there is a new meeting coming up. Dates of future meetings are posted below as well, mark your calendars. If you wish to be included on the agenda, or have something you would like to have discussed, give the President Mike Fennessy a call two weeks in advance. They stick to the agenda, so everyone can go home at a decent hour to be with their families. Here's what's going on right now:

- A contract has been accepted, by the board, for Foothill Lawn care to do the road clearing. We'll soon have clearer corners and road side, to keep our community safe . You'll see them doing their thing, at the end of April AND in September.
- Contracts are currently being reviewed for paving the next section of Audubon Drive. The contract will we discussed and voted upon at the May 16, 2002 meeting.
- Get ready Kingbird and Thrush, contracts have already been accepted to re-chip seal your roads!

Here are the meetings that are scheduled for the rest of the year. The board meets at 7:00, rotating meetings between the homes of the board members. Give Mike Fennessy a call if you have any questions, 644-3855.

### 2002 Meeting Schedule



**\*May 16, 2002                      7:00 pm**

**\*July 18, 2002                      7:00 pm**

**\*September 19, 2002    7:00 pm**

**\*November 14, 2002    7:00 pm**

---

## Special Assessment Update

Think nothing is going on with the Special Assessment increase? Well, you couldn't be farther from the truth! There is a lot involved with putting on a 'Special Election' for a 'Special Assessment' increase.

Combined, AHCS and AHPOA determined whether or not a special election was something the 'people wanted'. Then started the hard work. AHPOA collected the Special Election Fee from the wonderful neighbors that donated to fund this election.

Then there is the Elections office,

legalities, fee's, setting dates, what the 'special assessment' will and will not take care of, ballot verbiage, voters pamphlets, etc. Although one may feel like the ball has been dropped, this couldn't be further from the truth.

This has been an exciting lesson into the American Voting Process. Soon, the ballots will be mailed out and then, our democratic society will decide how important their road maintenance is.

You spoke we listened. This is your vote. Make a difference.

## The Sign At the Time-A Mystery. By: Kim McCarthy

It was the typical fall day with the changing colors of maple and pistash bursting all around. Our first rain was followed with a hint of that familiar smell of burn piles permeating the air. One could only smile at the glee their neighbors must be feeling. FINALLY, those piles from spring could be incinerated, forever removing their existence from memory. Clean up could now commence.

Then a local, a resident if you will, noticed a peculiar thing. There was a cleaning up of sorts, but alas, someone has gotten carried away. Surely it must be a mistake, but no, it seemed to be more sinister than that. Soon it would be revealed that this was not a typical well meaning oversight, but a mystery that involved theft and destruction of private property. It has become a case of 'Who Done It?'

- Location; Audubon Drive east of Kingfisher.
- Description of Item; White and Black 25 MPH sign.

- Last Seen; Early Fall
- Suspects; Speeders

Local, who wishes to remain anonymous, stated that they noticed the sign gone. Their first instinct was only to think that it was being repaired. But after waiting an amount of time, that seemed longer than needed for repairs, said local called the official "Sign Man" of Audubon Hills. The sign man is in charge of all installations and repairs of local signs, and therefore, would know what had happened to previously described missing item.

It has been stated, for the record, that the sign man was currently not repairing or improving any of the speed limit indicators. Which is why this has become a case of:

### ***Who done it?***

Was this thief and destructor of private property not wishing to obey currently posted speed limits? Was the removal of posted limits giving

the suspect sanction to reach high speeds with reckless abandon?

Or, was it a prank? A highly time consuming, I want it hanging in my room cause it's cool, I hope I don't get caught, prank?

Together, this community must keep their eyes open and perhaps crack this case wide open. These assaults on defenseless signs must stop.

This crack reporter has been informed of a similar crime in the area, and she has her theories.

Perhaps, the speed sign is with the missing Audubon Drive sign facing Kingfisher. Coincidence? I think not. Same intersection, another sign missing, someone with too much time on their hands to be able to remove two LARGE 3 1/2" bolts without getting caught? Anyone that cracks this case wide open, and aids in the return of said signs, will receive a free A.H.P.O.A. membership for the 2002 year.

## Paid Dues Get Appointment With A Dumpster

No, we're not throwing money away, just your trash. ONLY paid members get the opportunity to dump their trash. Appointment only trash disposal, will insure everybody gets a turn. In the past, the dumpster was filled within an hour. ONE small truck load per house, will insure everybody, that has paid their dues, will get a chance to

dump their trash.

The dumpster will be behind a locked gate, so please don't just drop by, or leave stuff at the gate. This gesture has been abused in the past, so we need to work together on this one.

Both a regular dumpster and a green dumpster will be present. The green dumpster is for yard waste (anything that

grows on your property), the other dumpster is for everything else except appliances, tires, and toxics.

Those will need to be taken to the recycle yard on HWY 49.

Dates: *Friday & Saturday  
May 3-4*

Appointments: *647-8878 or  
kimm@techrace.com*

## Good Deed Do-ers. They give you a smile.

---



Some people have done some nice things for Audubon Hills, and we would be remiss if we didn't acknowledge their efforts and contributions.

At the end of last season, John & Lori Lauder, owners of Camino Garden Center, donated approximately 250 bulbs to Audubon Hills. These daffodils have been in full bloom, at the entrance, under the big Audubon Hills sign. Next time you visit the Camino Garden Center, give them a hearty THANK YOU! It was very much appreciated by all. Sue Collier, Kim McCarthy, and Quinn McCarthy's toil in the soil allowed us to enjoy these bulbs.

Another thanks goes out to Bob Brown for repainting the letters in the Kittywake sign. Looks nice Bob. So many areas have been beautified, and we don't know 'who dunnit'. If you know of some "Good Deed Do-ers", please call or send their name and efforts. Every little bit counts and is appreciated. So, thanks to all, for the efforts. They are appreciated.

## Looking Into Neighborhood Watch

---

"What's the point of starting a neighborhood watch? We live in the country, have no crime, and everyone knows each other."

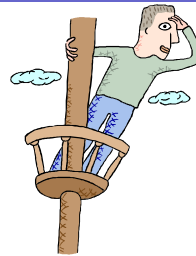
These were some of the questions asked, when the neighborhood watch first began. Many couldn't understand why such a thing needed to be put together. For some families in Audubon Hills, they want to be left alone. They want to take care of themselves, and have everyone else to do the same. The problem with that is this, there are bad people in the world.

Neighborhood Watch was created, as more families had two people working. With nobody in the home, it left thieves a perfect opportunity to break into a home and rummage through the owners belongings without being interrupted. Neighborhood watch, makes a community cohesive. Neighbors looking out for neighbors.

We enjoy the peacefulness of Audubon, and at times, forget to keep an eye out for the 'bad guy'. But alas, incidents pop up, and we need to look. Now is one of those times.

Lately, it appears, we have been invaded by unwelcome intruders. Our Neighborhood Watch needs to become cohesive again.

If something looks suspicious, call the police. If you hear of something going on in the neighborhood, call or e-mail the neighborhood watch commander, or Jim and Kim McCarthy. That's what we're here for, and if we don't know



something is going on, we can't cover each others back. It's as simple as that. This way, we can notify neighbors to not be quite so relaxed, and watch their surroundings.

Our neighborhood watch is in need of fine tuning. Some section commanders have moved, or are unable to use their phone tree any longer, because it's out dated. Others are not even on the phone tree because they are new to the area. Others don't even know what the phone tree is or who the watch commander is! Neighborhood watch is part of our Property Owners Association. They are not separate entities, and we need to get the community together again in the event of an even bigger emergency, such as a wild fire or immediate threat.

Unfortunately, those bad things do happen in this really great place. As long as we are prepared and in tune with one another, we will all be safe. Keep in mind, if you change your number, notify us. If you change your e-mail, notify us. If you get a new neighbor, notify us. Communication is the key, together we can keep us strong AND Safe.

Neighborhood Watch information, sign ups for sectioned watch commanders, and introductions will be addressed at the community meeting on June 1. (See front page.)

## What do you think about raising the AHCS D dues for roads?

---

Many perspectives help us make the decisions we need to make. Specially the perspectives of those responsible, past and previous, for how our community is maintained. Here is what they have to offer. Their views have been printed as provided. For more perspectives, check out [www.techrace.com/audubonhills](http://www.techrace.com/audubonhills), click on the AHCS D tab, and see what's going on.

- The issue is the level of maintenance we want on our roads. We can probably maintain the current conditions, if we do not have any major problems, i.e. bridges or culverts to replace. If we want to pave the side roads instead of the current chip and seal and/or we want roads cleaned or plowed more often we need to increase the road district fee. This very modest fee increase will allow over time the upgrading of the side roads and more frequent cleaning and snow plowing. I support the increase.

Chuck Egbert  
former AHCS D President

- I think the road committee's five year plan, to pave every side road, is well worth the extra \$4.17 a month. Everyone's property value will appreciate considerably. Even those who have not wanted to contribute to the fund FOR YEARS!!!

Victor House  
Director AHCS D

- The special assessment fee should be raised to \$75 per year. Currently the Community Service District does not have sufficient money to properly maintain the roads. The Property Owner's Association has been filling in, furnishing money for such items as the center divider line, roadside clearing and sign maintenance. Providing adequate money for the Service District will centralize and correct this situation as well as provide adequate money for basic road maintenance.

Donald A. Murray  
Chairman, Neighborhood Watch

- In life it is "Participation" that makes it all possible and will give one a warm feeling at the end of the day. For those who have not participated in one way or another, in the association, road committee, or a clean up crew you are probably too busy to do so. I suggest it is you that have lost in not doing so and then again maybe someday you will... BUT... until that time I suggest you ask around about how much it costs to live in other such great communities such as Audubon Hills and you will find you are paying a small percentage of normal costs at the \$25.00 level. So vote to increase the amount to \$75.00 ( 14 cents a day increase) and then you can feel warm until you have the time to participate in some way to make Audubon a better place to live..... And a big THANKS to those who do now !!!!!!!!

Jim Wells  
The Sign Man

- There are times everyone gets frustrated with the ever rising price of everything. I feel the same way. I'm always amazed when I go shopping, and find that the item I wanted just went up another ten cents or another dollar. We all have worked our way through life paying for the increasing cost of cars, milk, eggs, etc. We do so, because it keeps our quality of life where we want it to be. The crazy thing is, I think we all know it. The modest rise in the parcel tax is reasonable, it's fair, and it will directly effect the quality of life of our community. Please see your way to helping the CSD improve our roads.

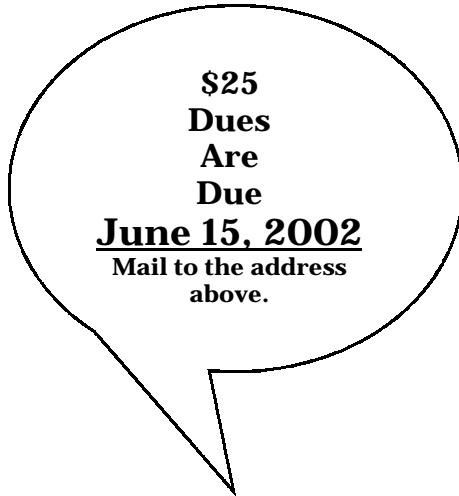
Jim McCarthy  
President, AHPOA





Birds of a Feather

**Audubon Hills  
Property Owners Association**  
www.techrace.com/audubonhills  
**P.O. Box 631**  
**Camino, CA 95709**



## [We're On The Web!....www.techrace.com/audubonhills](http://www.techrace.com/audubonhills)

---

Our esteemed president, Jim McCarthy, has a website for his business. He has generously donated the use of his website, to host our Audubon Hills website. This will give us a good trial run, to see if we like having our own website, and if it will be worth the effort to purchase our own. In the true nature of Kim McCarthy, Vice President and Sue Collier, secretary-treasurer; we are ALWAYS looking for a good deal. Free is about as good as it gets, as we're sure you will all agree. We will save the money for other projects within our boundaries.

We are thrilled to offer

our community this informational website. Local history, previous newsletters, copies of our bylaws, local gardening tips and timelines will be included. There's also a section that shows you pictures and sounds of the birds our streets are named after. There will also be links to local tourist destinations and weather. Not to mention Neighborhood Watch alerts.

There is also a link for the Audubon Hills Community Service District (our road committee) that will provide updates and plans, meeting schedules, and a place to download the road maintenance forms.

Once again, this boards goal is communication, communication, communication. Because this is just as important as location, location, location. We're proud of our community, and it's accomplishments. We're proud to offer this really great website.

Take a look and enjoy. Remember to logon, when you're wondering what's going on. There will be a link to the El Dorado County calendar of events

Remember the spelling of Audubon. Audubun Hills. The website again, is

[www.techrace.com/audubonhills](http://www.techrace.com/audubonhills)