

Timberlake Times

Timberlake Landowners' Association
A Deed Restricted Community
HC 61 Box 767, Ramah, NM 87321

© March 2010

Web site: www.trnews.info

PRESIDENT'S PONDERING The Fog of Winter

As I sit here looking out the window searching for some inspirational theme to fill this front page, all I see is thick fog throughout the valley and the beautiful hoarfrost covering the trees. I know that the sun will soon break through and it all will be gone momentarily. In essence that is a short synopsis of the winters in Timberlake.

It has been a harsh one. Several have commented that this is actually a normal winter – others say it mimics the winter of 1931-1932 where thousands of sheep died. A few landowners packed their suitcases, cars and RVs, or purchased airline tickets and headed for warmer climates for a few months “getting the heck out of Dodge.” The rest of us hearty souls either have to work or prefer the beauty and yes, the isolation and the peaceful quietness – that time of year where you can catch up on indoor projects.

I grew up on a farm in Montana before moving to Arizona. I still remember those winters as a kid where drifts would reach the eaves of the sheds and nearly cover the trees in the shelter belt.

There were major power outages during blizzards and the annoying inability to go anywhere until a path was cut on the gravel roads. Things haven't changed much in rural life after forty years. The only difference between Montana then and New Mexico now, is that schools didn't close or delay openings. Country kids simply missed school.

I wanted to return to that environment when my husband and I retired where there were four distinct seasons again. Timberlake certainly has that. After eight (8) years here, however, it is more like the four “screams” – hollering for snow removal, followed by the squealing for gravel because of the mud, the screeching over Juniper gnats (no-see-ums) and finally the crying for rain. It is perpetual.

This winter has also reminded me of “no man is an island” and “the bell doth toll to call all of us.” We humans do not thrive in isolation. Neighbors have to help neighbors and I see much

of this. The volunteer landowners who spent more than 180 hours to keep the roads open were always on call. There has been six feet (6') of snow since the beginning of winter and the road crew volunteers deserve a lot of admiration and appreciation. Finding the road under all the snow is just as difficult for them as it was for those of us who got stuck thinking we were on a solid base.

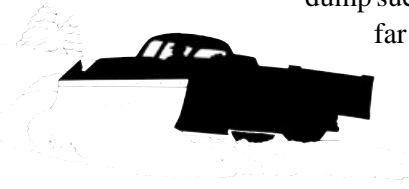
It is obvious that the Board made the right decision to purchase a multiuse vehicle that can plow snow, haul brush and dump such items as carried. The price of decision is far less than the long-range risks and costs of comfortable inaction. We have to look inside ourselves for vision as we can't borrow somebody else's vision; we have to look behind us to see what we've learned; we have to look around us to see what is happening to others; we have to look ahead to see what the big picture is; and we have to look beside us to see and understand what resources are available.

TRLA has thirty-eight (38) miles of side roads to maintain and there are now residences over 11 miles apart. When plowing snow you have to double this mileage and in some places triple it because it takes two or more passes to remove the snow. The roads dictate where the grader can go and where the Zetor tractor must be used. There are trees in the road easements that hinder snow removal and the ability for the grader to turnaround. These issues will have to be dealt with in the near future along with the increase in labor costs to solve the problems.

The fog of isolation is now disappearing and the beauty of winter will start to fade because the sun has awakened and spring will soon follow. Here comes the mud!

So, for now, it is farewell from Timberlake, where the volunteers are strong but tired, the deer are good looking – and most left for winter as the snow was so deep they couldn't move, and there is eternal hope that the lake will soon rise. ^T_T

...Linda Pederson



TREASURER'S REPORT

Eileen Domer, Treasurer

Treasurer's Report for FY 2009-2010 February 20, 2010

See attached spread sheet for detailed income and expenses for the Month of January 2010 and current bank balances.

Summary:

Income: \$27,540.11

Dues collected for

Current year: \$26,685.73

Previous year: \$ 600.38

Expenses: \$ 8,785.00

- Significant expenses:
- Postage: \$ 992.00
(Bookkeeper purchase stamped envelopes.)
- Legal \$ 452.00
- Continued renovation on ranch house:
\$ 2,694.00
- Electrician: total spent on the Ranch house since
October: \$ 9236.00
- Tractor: \$ 221.00 service at JRL/repair brakes
- Gravel: \$ 367.00—on Cottonwood
- Notes payable:
\$ 1615.00
- Collections:
- One account with lawyer in foreclosure.
- On 2/12/2010: Thirty-one (31) lot owners owe one year plus interest total:
\$ 7,485.00
- Forty (40) lot owners owe one half year plus interest total: \$ 4,816.03
- Plan to send out "pink reminder slips" in March.
- Members not in good standing because of delinquent dues will be notified in April. ^T_T

“Faith is like radar that sees through the fog — the reality of things at a distance that the human eye cannot see.”

~ Corrie Ten Boom; *Tramp for the Lord*

Treasurer's Report for FY 2009-2010 March Timberlake Times

See Pie charts for detailed income and expenses for the Months of July 2009 to December 2009

Summary:

Income: \$126,452.42

Total Dues collected for:

Current year: \$121,807.00

Previous year: \$ 2,272.43

Other income: \$ 2,791.00

(interest, donations, sale of keys and Dues from Woodland landowners)

Expenses: \$ 99,399.00

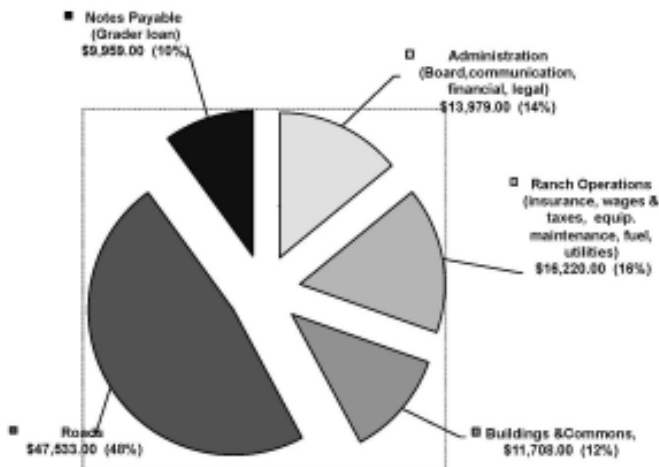
- Significant expenses:
- Office supplies: \$ 1,039.00
includes purchase of copier for
\$ 599.00
- Financial: \$ 7,989.00
includes Accountant wages, income and real estate taxes
- Legal: \$ 2,250.00
- Employee wages-taxes: \$ 5,328.00
- Building and Commons: \$ 11,708.00
includes installation of septic system, electrical rewiring and building renovation at Ranch house.
- Equipment maintenance and repairs:
\$ 3,218.00
- Gravel: \$ 47,533.00
- Notes payable: \$ 9,959.00
(loan will be satisfied May 2010)
- Collections:
- As of December 31, 2009 we have collected seventy-one percent (71%) of the expected dues. The collections at this time last year (2008/2009): sixty-six percent (66%).
- Approximately Fourteen (14) new liens will be placed after March 1st on lots that are eighteen (18) months past due.
- One lien will be released.
- Liens currently in place: Ten (10) lots. ^T_T

“Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves . . .”

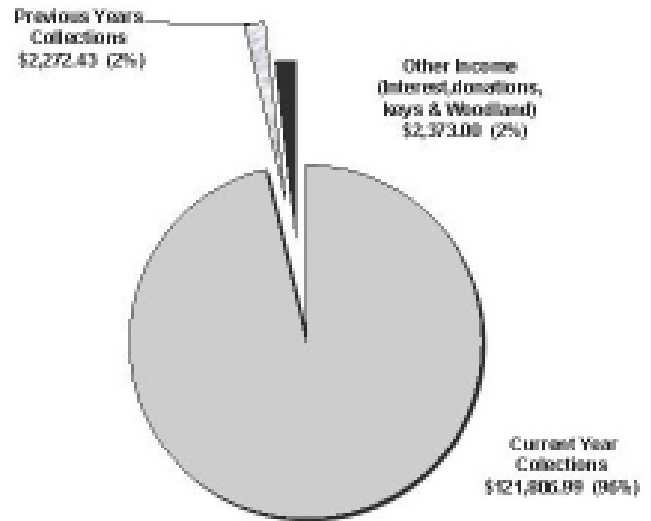
~ Abraham Lincoln

Fiscal Year 2009-2010	2009		2010	
	October	November	December	January
INFLOWS				
Assessment Fees				
current yr collections	7,145.26	\$ 1,488.14	2467.62	26685.73
previous yrs collections	1,125.04	\$ 107.92	0	600.38
Assessment fee Woodland	0	\$ -		
Key Income	21	\$ -		
Donations	0	\$ -		
Finance Charges	333	\$ 298.00	259	254
TOTAL income	\$ 8,624.30	\$ 1,894.06	2726.62	27540.11
Annual Meeting	0	0	0	0
Insurance-Directors & Officers	1957	0	0	0
Meetings and socials	0	0	0	0
Office Supplies & Exp	658	0	0	66
Postage	1	1	0	982
Subscriptions and Dues	0	0	0	0
Mileage - Board Members	0	51	0	0
TOTAL	\$ 2,616.00	\$ 52.00	\$ -	\$ 1,058.00
Comminications				
Newsletter	0	123	0	0
Website	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$ -	\$ 123.00	\$ -	\$ -
Financial				
Accounting	641	642	892	642
Audit	6	0	0	0
Taxes - Real Estate	181	671	0	0
Taxes - Income	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$ 828.00	\$ 1,313.00	\$ 892.00	\$ 642.00
Legal				
Legal				
Legal - Casutt	0	1395	364	452
Lien & Notary Fees	0	27	0	9
TOTAL	\$ -	\$ 1,422.00	\$ 364.00	\$ 461.00
RANCH OPERATIONS				
Insurance				
Insurance - Workers Comp	0	228	115	115
Insurance - Liability & Bond	683	0	0	1184
TOTAL	\$ 683.00	\$ 228.00	\$ 115.00	\$ 1,299.00
Employee Wages & Taxes				
Wages				
Grader Time (\$5100.00)	1088	0	81	0
Brushhog Time	0	0	0	0
Snowplow (\$2,500)	0	0	0	0
Sanitation & Janitorial (W-9) (\$1,400)	180	0	100	0
Ranch Hand (\$5,000)	160	0	360	0
Taxes				
Taxes - FICA	97	0	34	0
Taxes - Federal Unemployment	11	0	4	0
Taxes - State Unemployment	22	0	8	0
Mileage - Foreman & Employees	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$ 1,558.00	\$ -	\$ 587.00	\$ -
Buildings & Commons				
Operating Supplies	0	80	0	0

**TRLA Expenses
July - December 2009**



**TRLA Income
July - December 2009**



Fiscal Year 2009-2010	2009		2010	
	October	November	December	January
Building Maintenance & Repairs	0	0	0	
Ranch House	4370	1806	366	2694
Sepic tank (Lawn Equipment asset)		2901.75	0	0
Bath House	0	0	0	0
Common Land Maintenance/Repairs	0	0	480	11
Sanitation & Janitorial Supplies	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$ 4,370.00	\$ 4,787.75	\$ 846.00	\$ 2,705.00
Equipment Maint. & Repairs				
Dump Truck	0	0	0	0
Grader	0	0	1856	25
Pick Up	0	0	0	0
Tractor	0	558	0	221
Other	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$ -	\$ 558.00	\$ 1,856.00	\$ 246.00
FUEL				
Gasoline	224	129	56	148
Dyed Diesel	1071	0	0	82
TOTAL	\$ 1,295.00	\$ 129.00	\$ 56.00	\$ 230.00
ROADS				
Gravel	24651	2743	2616	367
Road Maintenance & Repairs	700	19	0	0
TOTAL	\$ 25,351.00	\$ 2,762.00	\$ 2,616.00	\$ 367.00
UTILITIES				
Telephone	109	0	0	75
Electric & Propane	111	46	289	88
TOTAL	\$ 220.00	\$ 46.00	\$ 289.00	\$ 163.00
NOTES PAYABLE				
Copier	0	0	0	0
Grader	1539	1548	1558	1567
Interest Expense	75	66	57	47
TOTAL	\$ 1,614.00	\$ 1,614.00	\$ 1,615.00	\$ 1,614.00
Contingency Fund				
Total expenses	\$ 38,536.00	\$ 13,034.75	\$ 9,236.00	\$ 8,785.00
Bank acct balances as of 02/17/2010				
\$	74,047.69			
\$	27,391.10			
\$	1,519.28			
\$	76,696.53			
\$	179,654.60			

Well Policy Update



A scheduled Board of Directors meeting was held on February 20, 2010. Notification to all landowners was sent electronically and by hard copy on January 17th requesting landowners to give input and discussion at the meeting to the proposed Ranch House Well Policy.

Sixteen (16) landowners submitted suggestions via E-mail and three landowners were present at the meeting to offer more suggestions. Slight modifications of the proposed policy were made. The Board will be voting on the following at the March meeting with an implementation date.

TCC Ranch House Well Policy

The following uses are allowed in descending order.

- Supplying the ranch house and bathhouse.
- Emergency use by landowners in case of personal well and/or pump failure. The landowner would be required to present the Board with a plan of action to remedy the situation within Fourteen (14) days.
- Maintaining plantings and grounds on common areas.
- Recreational use (such as camping), as long as the water is not used for human consumption.
- Other occasional uses if approved in advance by the Board of Directors.

The following uses are not allowed:

- Commercial purposes, including but not limited to gardens, livestock, and construction.
- Potable water. ^T_T

“Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty . . .”

~ John F. Kennedy

A Note of Thanks

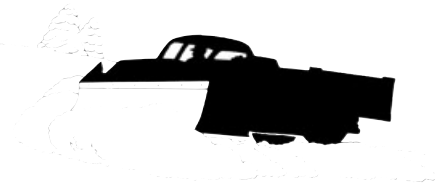
... to those heroes who snow plowed the roads – Jerry Toellner, Danny Montoya, Jack Mansperger and Dick Knowles.

...to the generous anonymous donor who gave money to buy two electric wall heaters for the Timberlake Community Center Ranch House Book Room.

...to all those who stopped and helped their neighbor or stranger get their vehicle unstuck

...to Larry, Jack, Chopper and worker bees who are trying to upgrade and renovate the Timberlake Community Center Ranch House during the coldest time of year.

Thank you! ^T_T



Just How Much Snow Did We Get?

It is a well known fact when you talk to residents of Timberlake, that the amount of snow varies from the top of Halcon to the edge of Woodland to Timberlake South to Deer Run. It varies from areas edging the cliffs to the valley with the cliffs getting several inches more.

A few full-time residents faithfully recorded the number of inches and they all said it was near 6 feet or slightly more. A wireless rain gauge on Black Bear is measuring 10.66 inches since the start of the New Year and it coincides with an actual measure of snow melt on Cottonwood Loop of 13.2 inches since November 2009 with the first measurable snowfall.

The annual average precipitation at Ramah is 15.3 inches and distributed throughout the year with August being the wettest month with an average rainfall of 2.79 inches. ^T_T

Vacant Board Positions

Landowners interested in filling vacant Board positions should notify Linda Pedersen at 505.783.2465 HC 61 Box 833, Ramah, NM 87321 or pete137@juno.com. ^T_T



Architectural and Maintenance Committee Report



The Committee received and approved two requests. One for a new residence and one for a porch addition to an existing home.

The forty-six (46) CC&R violations that were on file prior to passing the new covenants in July, 2009 were reviewed.

Twenty-eight (28) of those were closed because they no longer are in violation with the new covenants.

Eighteen (18) still need further investigation.

Communication with landowners has closed the files on three more and one will be closed by the end of July.

Letters will be sent to fourteen (14) landowners in the near future for clarification and how to proceed for closure of the covenant violation.

These include lots with abandoned foundations, sheds that appear to be over 200 square feet or undersized residences less than 600 square feet, trailer storage, and more than one shed on a lot without a permanent residence. ^T_T

**“I would rather see the United States respected
than loved by other nations . . .”**

~ Henry Cabot Lodge

Timberlake Neighborhood Volunteers Need Items for Annual Yard Sale



Timberlake Neighborhood Volunteers would like items for their annual yard sale this summer. If you haven't used it in two years, do you really need it?

Proceeds from the yard sales for the last three years have been used to build the Community Bulletin Board, promote the Book Room, purchase a flag pole and flags for the Timberlake Community Center Ranch House, etc.

If you have items that you wish to give to a good cause, call 783.2465 or 783.4045 or leave them on the porch at the Ranch House. Sorry, we can't take large appliances. ^T_T

TRLA Board of Directors Request \$3.3 million to Upgrade 48A/BIA/Timberlake Road

The Board was contacted on the 16th of February by Constituent Service Representative Joshua Sanchez for Congressman Harry Teague's Los Lunas Office. Mr. Sanchez is assigned to provide any assistance to the Ramah area that is within the 2nd Congressional District and found our Web site in his search for contacts. Congressman Teague was accepting FY11 Appropriation Requests for projects and infrastructure improvement to areas within the second (2nd) Congressional District by 2.26.10.

Wilson & Company Engineers & Architects were contacted to see if the Engineer's Feasibility Report issued on January 16, 2006 was still current. This study was contracted by Cibola County in cooperation with McKinley County and the Bureau of Indian Affairs to upgrade 11.4 miles of dirt and gravel road from Hwy 53 to the entrance of Box S. The Engineer responsible for the report validated the report was still current and to contact Michael Sage, Associate Planner for the Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments.

A meeting was held with Mr. Sage and Robert Kuipers who is also an Associate Planner with expertise in transportation planning. At the meeting it was decided that Mr. Sage would contact Congressman Teague's representative in Washington D.C. to coordinate the electronic filing of the Appropriation Request along with securing a letter of support from the Cibola County Commissioners and/or Cibola County Manager. The TRLA Board was to procure a letter of support from the McKinley County Office of Fire-EMS.

Mr. Sage and Mr. Kuipers were not optimistic on funding, but they were more than willing to update and resubmit each year. In addition, they strongly recommended that the Board make a 15 minute presentation at the next Regional Planning Organization (RPO) meeting in April to introduce Timberlake Ranch and its unique problems with lack of coordination of road maintenance between Cibola and McKinley County. The RPO Technical Committee provides collaboration and coordination for development and maintenance of transportation infrastructure shared between the various governments in Northwest New Mexico. They were more optimistic that this process could be accomplished.

All forms and letters of support were electronically submitted by the deadline of February 26, 2010. ^T_T

**“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men
are created equal. That they are endowed by their
Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among
these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”**

~ Declaration of Independence, 1776

Continental Divide and Power Outages in Timberlake Ranch

Courtesy of Continental Divide Electric Co-op

Macario “Mac” Juarez Jr. (Member Services Representative for Continental Divide Electric Co-op) responded to a request in finding answers for several questions that are often asked as to why the power outages in Timberlake, and other general information.

• **How many grids are there in Timberlake?** The Timberlake area is fed entirely from the Ramah substation. The reason why you may have power, but your neighbor does not is because of the multiple protection devices located throughout the line from Timberlake to the substation. These devices help your Co-op pinpoint and isolate the trouble spot (more on protection devices below).

• **Did the new substation by Lewis Trading Post affect the Timberlake area and if so, how?** The substation was brought into operation in mid-2007. The \$2.1 million investment was among the goals set by CDEC’s management and governing board of trustees. It is located about four miles east of Ramah, on the north side of NM Highway 53. It is capable of delivering up to 12,500 kilovolt-amperes.

The improvement, along with upgrades to the Zuni substation in 2006 enabled CDEC to better balance its electrical load in the region and, in the future, give your Co-op the ability to “backfeed” the area when power outages occur for extended periods to minimize disruptions. The Ramah substation also allows the Co-op to more efficiently troubleshoot and isolate electrical problems on lines and equipment in that area.

• **What causes the power to be on/off/on/off/on/off within a few minutes?** Blinking lights are the result of momentary outages that occur when some type of disturbance, such as a tree branch or another electrical line, comes into contact with an energized power line. When such a disturbance occurs, a utility breaker called a circuit recloser, or OCR, interrupts the circuit momentarily. If the short circuit continues, the OCR will try to reclose a second, then third time, before stopping the flow of electricity and causing a true power outage. This process protects the lines from damage, cutting off power to the affected section of line and isolating the problem until it can be repaired.

• **What does Continental Divide recommend to residents on how to handle these situations?** (This puts a tremendous strain on appliances and most costly in having to replace refrigerator/freezer compressors). Power blinks may make it necessary to reset digital clocks and appliances with

digital displays, but they rarely damage electrical equipment in your home. On the other hand, power surges can occur after longer interruptions, or actual power outages. This occurs when electricity is truly interrupted then started again or when something – such as lightning – causes electricity to flow back into the system. Surges can travel through electric, telephone and even cable TV lines. Most surges, however, come from electrical devices inside your home, such as refrigerators, air conditioners, printers and hair dryers.

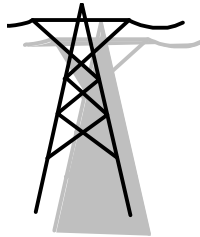
Since circuit breakers do not always protect your electronics from surges, further steps are needed. It is always a good idea to unplug appliances that are not in use and CDEC does recommend plugging them into surge-protection devices. Power surge protection puts up guards in two places: 1) where electricity enters your home and; 2) inside your home where equipment is connected to electricity through outlets.

A meter-based surge protector protects your home from power surges at the entry point, which is where your home and equipment are most vulnerable. Plug-in devices for surge protection inside the home protect your equipment at the outlet stage. When used together, meter-based and plug-in devices provide good protection. Always consult an electrician or the Co-op, if you are considering meter-based protection.

• **Should residents cut all power to their residence when it appears that the power is not at full strength as indicated by dim lights?** It is up to the individual as to whether all power to their residence should be cut off, in the event of dimming lights. Most newer appliances have short time-delay that prevents them from tripping.

• **What are the main reasons for power outages in this area?** Trees that have grown into power lines are a big reason for power outages during storm weather. In the winter, snow/ice buildup wreak havoc when it weighs down lines and causes them to spring up and down during melt-off.

• **Are there situations where landowners can help prevent these outages?** CDEC encourages landowners to report overgrown trees in power lines, whenever possible. The Co-op does its best to contract with tree-trimmers during the spring and summer months, especially after particularly wet winters and springs. Each year, your Co-op spends thousands of dollars to have trees trimmed throughout its 2,700-mile service area. CDEC tries to trim an area every three to five



years, depending on the previous seasons' moisture levels.

Keeping power line right-of-ways clean is the best preventative maintenance to protecting the electrical equipment during stormy weather.

- **Does Continental Divide inspect power line easements to see if trees need to be removed/trimmed? How is this handled?**



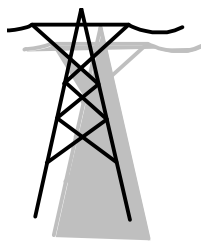
CDEC is always patrolling its system to inspect power line easements. We are required to keep at least 10 feet of space free of potential hazards in all directions of power lines. Sometimes, we can clear a wider swath, if there's a chance that

tall trees in the area could collapse and fall into power lines or equipment. As a courtesy, CDEC and its contractor Asplundh try to alert residents who live in clearing areas, even though notification isn't required.

- **What is the best method to notify Continental Divide of power outage? Of potential problems? Would a contact person(s) in Timberlake be helpful to Continental Divide in troubleshooting power outages?** The best way to notify Continental Divide Electric of a power outage is to call our office at (505) 285-6656, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Calls after-hours or on holidays can be made to our 24-hour dispatch center at 1-877-775-5211. Calls made to this number are routed to an emergency dispatch center in Moriarty, N.M., that is used by several Co-ops across the state.

Dispatchers always know who is on-call at CDEC and notifies those workers within minutes of a call. Potential problems, such as overgrown trees in power lines, should be directed to the Grants or Gallup offices, unless they pose an immediate safety danger. Timberlake is considered to be a part of the Gallup office's area of command, so Timberlake residents should call the Gallup office at (505) 863-3641.

The Co-op's community liaison and member services representative is Mac Juarez. It is his job to facilitate communication between consumers and the Co-op. He can always be reached during regular business hours at the Grants office (505) 285-6656. There is also an information form consumers can fill out on the "contact us" page of CDEC's web site cdec.coop. That form is also received in real-time on the member service representative's handset. Please allow up to 24 hours response time for non-emergency issues.



- **Does Continental Divide strategically place linesmen during storms to facilitate turnaround time or do they all wait at a central location to get calls? Is there a priority**

list or is it a first call first fixed situation? In any electrical outage, the first priority is to get the greatest number of people back on line as quickly as possible. That's why electric co-ops, not just CDEC, follow a sequence of repairs that restores power to large groups of consumers before tackling smaller groups and individual consumers.

In a nutshell, the main distribution line from the substation must be repaired before anyone can have power. Next, crews repair primary lines that bring power back to the greater number of consumers in a community. After this, attention to secondary lines and individual homes is established. CDEC staffs offices in Gallup and Grants. In the event of a major outage, assistance to, or from either office is available.

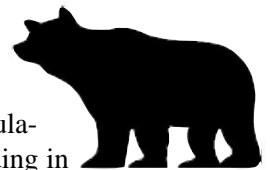
- **With the population growth of this area, will we experience more power outages or does Continental Divide have a proactive program of upgrading and updating?** The Co-op is always updating and upgrading short-term plans and its longer term, four-year work plan. The proactive approach includes keeping trees out of the lines, as well as assessing weak equipment and replacing it before it gives. From that standpoint, power outages are not so much a function of dilapidated equipment, but rather of Mother Nature. A wet winter such as this will likely create more outages, as will a lightning-filled monsoon season. ^T



Black Bear — Little Known Facts

Information provided by New Mexico Game & Fish Department

The black bear is not a threatened or endangered species in the West. However, because of its mating habits and reproductive cycle, bear populations are watched closely. Bear breeding in New Mexico generally doesn't begin until an animal is 5-6 years old, and a female who successfully raises cubs will mate only once every two years. For this reason, wildlife management policies take care to prevent over-hunting of black bears. In New Mexico, black bear breed between mid-May and July but give birth in the winter in the den. The reason is the delayed implantation of the egg. Though fertilized, the egg remains a cluster of cells and doesn't implant itself into the uterine wall until mid-November. Embryos may not develop at all if the female doesn't have enough body fat by the time fall arrives.



Females give birth in January or February with a litter size of one to two cubs. Newborns are about the size of a mouse and weigh just six to eight ounces. The newborn bears are blind and helpless and purr while they nurse. Within a month, they will weigh between 2-2½ pounds.

Mother bears provide excellent den care, and infant mortalities are rare. By the time they venture out of the den in April or May, the cubs weigh six to seven pounds. ^T

TIMBERLAKE RANCH 102 “Origins and Stories”

by Linda Pedersen

Recap of Timberlake Ranch 101 Timberlake Times November 2009.

- 1864 Pacific Railroad Act grants 20 miles of alternating sections on either side of the track along with 10 extra miles called “indemnity strip.”
- 1866 Congress passes a law incorporating the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad in exchange for completion of railroad along the 35th parallel by 1878 and A&P RR receives all land grants from Pacific Railroad Act.
- 1876 Mormon missionaries first settle the area and call the settlement Savoia. The smallpox epidemic and severe winter nearly wipes out the inhabitants in 1877-1878.
- 1883 Cebolla Cattle Company is formed (changed to Cibola Cattle Company) with headquarters in the Box S.
- 1886 Atlantic and Pacific Railroad agrees to sell 65 sections to the Cebolla Cattle Company.
- 1889 Eviction notice given to people living on Section 35 Township 11 North Range 16W (includes the town of Ramah) by the Cebolla Cattle Company, EA. Carr, president.
- 1893 Cebolla Cattle Company enterprise never proves profitable and comes to an end with the depression.
- 1899 General Carr buys the company at a sheriff’s sale.

THE HAMBLIN YEARS (1912-1930)

The House by the Road Side

Excerpts taken from “*Encounter with the Frontier*”

by Gary Tietjen, Reprinted with permission.

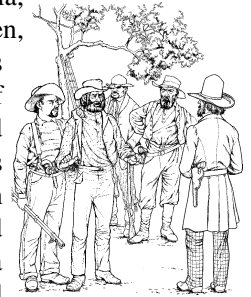
“In 1912 Duane Hamblin bought a ranch above Ramah Lake and then built a home.” *This home is the current Timberlake Community Center Ranch House without the adobe room additions that were added in the 1940s.*

Duane Hamblin was born in 1862 and one of twelve children born to Isaiah and Daphne Hamblin. Three of his brothers were of some fame in the “Wild West.” William Haynes was known as “Gunlock” Hamblin because he was a very good gun mechanic. Gunlock, Utah, is named after him. Jacob Hamblin was a famous Indian scout. Fredrick Hamblin was one of the original settlers of Alpine, Arizona.

Duane Hamblin and his family were sent by the Mormon Church to Alpine, Arizona where they helped build a fort for protection against the Indians and the New Mexicans who were stealing their stock. He built his first home at Nutrioso and according to his daughter, “He always had a good team, horses, a few cows, wagon and farm implements...” Duane met Sue Greer in Eager at a church dance and her father gave her an oak churn for a wedding gift. She became the best butter maker in the State of Arizona. Duane hauled freight from Albuquerque to Flagstaff and, in 1897 moved to a ranch in Greer, Arizona.

In 1901 the Arizona Rangers were organized and Duane became one of only twelve. According to the first Captain Burton

Mossman, the organization was strictly nonpolitical and recruit enlistments depended on their records as efficient officers, good shots and good frontiersmen, well acquainted with the country. During the first year, 125 arrests were made of actual criminals.” Duane and another member, Carlos Tafolla, reinforced by four Saint Johns cattlemen, chased the Jack Smith band of outlaws into the Black River country south of Springerville. The outlaws were headed for Mexico with a band of stolen horses and were surprised while in camp. After an apparent surrender, they dodged behind trees and opened fire. Tafolla and a cattlemen name Maxwell were killed and two of the outlaws wounded. Captain Mossman, with three more rangers soon were on the trail but the gang, stealing fresh horses, managed to escape in the snow of the New Mexican mountains.” The gang was never active again and Duane served two years in the rangers.



After moving to the Ramah Lake area, Duane became a hard worker in the Church in Ramah and was Bishop from 1914-1916. His daughter wrote, “Although he had no college degree, his knowledge of human psychology, his tender thoughtfulness in dealing with his fellow man far exceeded anything. He was always the same at home as he was abroad an example in dignity, generosity and loving kindness. He never had time for himself. He was never known to speak a cross word to his wife.”

Their home was called “The House by the Road Side.” Everyone was welcomed and treated as one of the family. He was given the great gift of healing. On his deathbed he said, “Never deny the Gospel, it is true.” He sold the ranch and moved to St. Johns, Arizona, and died in his home 27 June, 1936. Sue joined him 16 years later.”

Duane and Sue Hamblin had six children. Polly, their middle daughter, died at the age of 18 and is buried in the Savoia Cemetery to the north of the TCC Ranch House. ^T_T

Timberlake Community Center Ranch House

by Eileen Domer

The Restoration of Timberlake Community Center Ranch House is going full steam ahead.

Plumbing upgrades for a new bathroom toilet and wash stand, kitchen sink, hot water heater and drainage to a new septic tank were completed the end of October 2009 by F.P.C. Plumbing from Grants. A new septic system has been installed by Louis Munoz on the east side of the building. The project was completed and inspected by the NM Environment Department November 25, 2009.

TCCRH, cont’d page 9

Roads Report

by Eileen Domer

After the roads were repaired in September and October following the "storm of the century," (when 3.5-5 inches of rain fell in 90 minutes washing away parts of seven roads along the flood corridor) there were a few weeks of calm. During that time the side roads were graded, culverts cleaned, brush and fallen trees removed and 251.52 tons of gravel were spread on areas of Green Meadow, Blue Jay Ct., Yucca and Cottonwood.

Then the snow arrived. Several areas of the Ranch received up to 3 feet of snow December 22- 30th and then again during the week of January 19-23rd. Another snow fall in February left another foot of snow. Many thanks to our volunteers; Danny Montoya, Jack Mansperger and Dick Knowles and Board member, Jerry Toellner who put in over 180 hours plowing snow in order to keep the roads passable.

The weather has caused many of the side roads to break apart. As the snow melts many of the side roads are almost impassable because of mud. Unfortunately, not much can be done with muddy roads except wait for the winds to dry the ground before the grader can be used to smooth out the ruts. Due to proper preparation of the surface, the un-designated section of Timberlake Road (aka "no-man's land") where 1,239.35 tons of gravel was placed has not broken down.

We have traded the 2001 Dodge pick up for a new 2011 Ford F550 truck equipped with a snow plow and dump truck bed, from the Ford dealer in Grants for \$48,000.00. We are expecting to receive the new vehicle in a couple of weeks and will finance either through the Dealer or apply for another Wells Fargo Commercial loan.

The tractor and grader are currently in good operating condition and have received regular maintenance. The grader loan will be paid off in May 2010.

Spring on the ranch will be keeping our guys busy repairing the damage from winter and improving other areas before next year. When you see our volunteers working on the roads please stop to say "Thank you." ^T_T

TCCRH, cont'd from page 8

Mansperger Electric started rewiring the building in December. After installing new breaker boxes it became clear the remaining lath and plaster walls would need to be taken down in order for the work to continue in a timely manner. With no volunteers to do the work, the Board hired Elton White, a contractor from Pine Hill to do the job.

Mr. White removed all of the necessary walls and built two archways going from the library to what will be the history room. They have almost finished installing insulation, hanging sheet rock on the walls and ceiling of the new bathroom, kitchen and history room.

New electric heaters have been installed in the ranch house and near the water pump. Currently the electricians are rewiring the Rock Room, office, porch and work shop.



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TCCRH, cont'd

This spring the trees will be trimmed. Volunteers will be needed to help install fixtures, paint, do the finishing work and clean, as there is a coat of dust on everything.

When all is complete, the Ranch House will once again be a nice community center, a place to meet our neighbors or have family parties. ^T_T

Freedom Isn't Free



RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

TRLA
HC 61, Box 767
Ramah, NM 87321-9611

Know Your Nation's History

Declaration of Independence of the United States of America



Drafted by Thomas Jefferson between June 11 and June 28, 1776, the Declaration of Independence is at once the nation's most cherished symbol of liberty and Jefferson's most enduring monument. Here, in exalted and unforgettable phrases, Jefferson expressed the convictions in the minds and hearts of the American people. The political philosophy of the Declaration was not new; its ideals of individual liberty had already been expressed by John Locke and the Continental philosophers. What Jefferson did was to summarize this philosophy in "self-evident truths" and set forth a list of grievances against the King in order to justify before the world the breaking of ties between the colonies and the mother country. We invite you to read a transcription of the complete text of the Declaration. Read it on-line at:
<http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/declaration.html>.^T

The Constitution of the United States of America

The introduction of the Constitution of the United States of America.

"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessing of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

Read the complete Constitution on-line at:
<http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution.html>.^T



"It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and to humbly implore His protection and favor . . ."

~ George Washington