



Memorial Day Bocce Contest



The 6th Annual Bocce Tournament and community picnic was held on Sunday, May 28th.

Everyone enjoyed the sunny day. Folks came out to join in on the games, picnic and cheering section and to meet new neighbors and catch up with friends. The perpetual trophies were handed off to our new champions who claimed the coveted prize until next year. Winners of the 2023 Annual Bocce Tournament from left to right: Tom Farrish, Marian Lundell, Missy Goerlitz, Rob Enos. Looking forward to next year's tournament which will be held on Memorial Day weekend, weather permitting.

For all of you that can't wait a whole year to play bocce and mingle with friends, Mike and Diane Miller organize a weekly game on Tuesday nights and everyone is welcome!

The Summer Forest Meadows Wall

As the seasons flow from one season to another we can enjoy the changes at our front "Wall!" A focus on adding some perennials that come back on their own each year is an ongoing experiment when we consider our elevation and temperatures.

This Summer we added types of flowers that have been incorporated along with traditional ones that you have seen in the past.

One addition is the *Brachyscome* perennial, the "Brasco Violet" that loves sun and heat, is drought resistant and a profuse bloomer, Spring through Fall. The purple daisy like flower has a yellow center and grows 12" to 18" in height and is very happy in our area.

The white and purple *Alyssum* in the border area blooms Spring through Fall and are perennials.

Another bright and cheery bloomer with lots of color is the *Biden Mega Charm* yellow daisy. In our area these flowers will have to be replanted yearly. Our cold temperatures take them out of the category of being a perennial.

As you know we have had a very hot Summer. A flowering plant that is a "real trooper" in the heat is the *Vinca* plant. It can take that hot direct sun happily! It comes in many colors, and we set some in our wall area the first of August. It is cherry red in color and should give us a nice look for the Labor Day holiday and bloom into Fall. Speaking of Fall... if you know anyone that might have some extra pumpkins to embellish our Fall Wall (that rhymes!), please have them give us a call. 209-728-1226.

We thank our HOA for the opportunity to collaborate with them to make our Forest Meadows Wall and entrance bright and cheery. Good curbside appeal is an important welcoming optical message.

—Sincerely
Aric and Suzette Glanville

A special thanks to Trifilo Garden Center and Calaveras Lumber for helping us find flowers and for giving us breaks for our HOA purchases.



FMOA's Mission:

To preserve, protect and maintain the value and desirability of our unique community while promoting a safe environment, the quiet enjoyment of our amenities, community cooperation, and good citizenship.



2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
board@fmowners.com

Karin Silcox-Baker
President

Judy Johnson
Vice President

Lori Marshall
Treasurer

Chris Mejia
Secretary

Steve Jewell
Director at Large

Preston Powell
Director at Large

Dave Stormont
Director at Large.

BOARD MEETINGS

HTCH & Via Zoom
2nd and 4th Wednesday—6:00 P.M.

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

ARC 2nd Tuesday—10:00 A.M.

CEC Varies

Roads & Trails Varies

Check online calendar for meeting dates & locations.

WEBSITE fmowners.com

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

PO Box 1096 Murphys, CA 95247

Hours 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or by appt., M-F
(Closed weekends and holidays)

Telephone 728-2511

FAX 728-8615

Clubhouse reservations 728-2511

Community Monitor phone 728-2511

Scott Devereaux General Manager

gm@fmowners.com

Keith Pierce Maintenance Supervisor

keith@fmowners.com

Accounting Department
accounting@fmowners.com

Deanna Ghirardelli Community Service
deanna@fmowners.com Administrator

Kammi Teixeira Operational Process
kammi@fmowners.com Administrator

Jeff Livergood Compliance/Covenant & Fire
compliance@fmowners.com Mitigation Coordinator

Calaveras County Sheriff 754-6500

Official Election Results

FOREST MEADOWS OWNER'S ASSOCIATION 2023 BOARD ELECTION

Election Date: July 22, 2023

Inspector of Elections: Abigail Padou, Pro Elections LLC

Number of Ownership Units: 724

Number of Ballots Received: 344

Quorum Achieved: Yes

BOARD ELECTION

Number of Candidates/Seats: 8 candidates for 4 board seats

Result:	Lori Marshall	261 votes - ELECTED
	Judy Johnson	251 votes - ELECTED
	Steven Jewell	245 votes - ELECTED
	Chris Mejia	190 votes - ELECTED
	Preston Powell	108 votes - not elected
	Joshua Bryant	93 votes - not elected
	Kevin Simpson	73 votes - not elected
	Darcie Leone	65 votes - not elected
	Blank	3 ballots
	Invalid	1 ballot

IRS RESOLUTION

Vote on Resolution Regarding IRS Revenue Ruling No. 70-604:

Yes	315 votes – APPROVED
No	12 votes
Blank	17 ballots
Invalid	1 ballot

MINUTES VOTE

Vote to Approve Prior Year Annual Meeting Minutes

Yes	268 votes - APPROVED
No	28 votes
Blank	48 ballots
Invalid	1 ballot

I certify that the foregoing election results are true and accurate and were derived in compliance with all applicable statutes and provisions of California law and Association governing documents.



By: *Abigail Padou*

PRO ELECTIONS LLC

Independent third-party Inspector of Elections

PRO ELECTIONS LLC

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President's Message

Dear Forest Meadows residents,
I would first like to thank everyone that participated in this year's election. The last two years we have seen a steady climb in voter participation; this shows our community commitment is growing. I remember last year when I chose to run for the Board, people would ask me "why are you running for the board? it's never going to change". I would reply, "the reason I wanted to run was so I could contribute to the solutions, not be part of the problem". I was tired of complaining and wanted to start doing something to be part of the change. Last year I learned a lot about being on the HOA board, and there were some challenging times, but I believed my presence was making a difference for our community, or at least I hoped so.

I also had the opportunity to be the Board Liaison for the Community Events Committee, which was fun to be part of such a great group of residents working together. This fantastic group of dedicated and motivated people were committed to planning and implementing exciting fun-filled events for our community and a plus was the lasting friendships we made throughout the community. I am sharing this with you, in hopes each one of you knows that you can be part of this change too. I encourage you to take small steps and start to get involved in our community. Embrace the opportunity!

- Attend a class, like Yoga Monday & Wednesday or Water Aerobics Monday through Thursday.
- Play Bocci Tuesdays.
- Join a committee!

- Go to an event like Game Day, Happy Hour, or dance at a concert!
- Get to know a new neighbor!

Each small step is the beginning of building a stronger community, and each of us can play a role. This Board is committed to volunteering our time to represent each one of you towards this progress, but we cannot do it without you. As a board we are committed to speaking to each other and our community with dignity and respect; being open, honest, and transparent. At times, we will agree to disagree but without anger or judgment. We will practice proper decorum and lead by example.

As a community we need to work together and support each other, that includes our HOA staff. The staff deserve to be treated with respect, dignity, and appreciation for their commitment and work within our community. If a resident has an issue or disagreement with a staff member that needs to be addressed, you must speak directly to our GM Scott Devereaux, or send him an email (GM@fmowners.com). As residents it is not our job to approach, direct, inform, or argue with the staff.

I believe we can grow from all our experiences and heal from our past. We now have an opportunity to move on and make that commitment to work together to improve our community as a whole.

I leave you with a quote.

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."

—Thank you,
Karin Silcox-Baker
Your FMOA President

1st Open House Informational Session

Planned and implemented by the Community Events Committee, the open house on Saturday, June 3rd was well received. Approximately 50 folks came to enjoy refreshments while they learned about Forest Meadows amenities, explored resident events, and other local community activities and resources with 4 informational stations for residents to retrieve information:

- Community Resources—local information

- FMOA website station highlighting all FM amenities and activities
 - Red Cross—Outreach and support
 - Emergency preparedness and Fire mitigation information
- The next informational Session will be held in November.



Manager's Message

It's hard to believe I have been on the job for a little over six months now. I'd like to thank the Board of Directors, staff, and the membership for the warm welcome and support I have been given. We've gotten a good start on a long list of items that need to be addressed in our community.

BOD—As happens every year, our Board of Directors has transitioned with the recent election. We say thanks to Eric Davis, Allen Dodson, Darcie Leone, Sharon Ritchie, and Frank Ross. Congratulations to Steve Jewell, Judy Johnson, Lori Marshall, and Chris Mejia who were elected by the membership. Congratulations also to Preston Powell who was appointed to the board due to a recent resignation. Preston had the highest vote total of those candidates not elected to the board. And we don't want to forget returning directors Karin Silcox-Baker and Dave Stormont.

Board Meetings—Beginning in September, board meetings will be moving to the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Also coming soon, non-confidential information given to directors before a meeting will be posted to our website along with the agenda. This will give members a better opportunity to understand what is being discussed and if they want to make comments at the meeting.

Calaveras County Water Rates—As many of you may have already seen and read, the water district is proposing a rate increase for water and wastewater. The association is in a difficult position of not knowing how our members view such an increase. Therefore, we will not be formally commenting at this time. Members who wish to formally protest this increase must do so in writing to be received by the county prior to September 13, 2023. Protest must include your assessor parcel number or street address, a statement that the letter constitutes a protest of the proposed rate changes (and whether you are protesting water, wastewater, or both), and the letter must be signed by the owner of record of the property. Letter can be mailed to the Calaveras County Board Clerk at 120 Toma Court, San Andreas, CA 95249.

Road/Drainage Study and Front Entrance Drainage Proposal—The Board has authorized both proposals to move forward. It looks like work will begin before the end of the month. The road/drainage study will give us an assessment of our roads and major drainage areas,

work to be done, an approximate timeline and rough costs. This will allow us to schedule reserve fund work going forward in some form of organized fashion. The front entrance proposal will analyze the drainage problems at the front entrance, develop specifications for a fix and solicit bids from various service providers.

Pools—We continue to have problems with the kids' pool. We are losing water so expect there is a crack somewhere. We are also having issues with the chlorinator and acid feeder systems. Shallow pools of this type are very difficult to regulate in our type of environment. As an alternative, staff has been asked to look into the option of some type of splash pad to replace the current pool. More on this as it develops.

Pool Cameras—There continues to be much misinformation circulating around the use of pool cameras. For the cameras in each pool, presently, there is no live feed going to any computer or phone. Each system has a central location at pool location with limited access. To date, none of the footage acquired has been reviewed by anyone. For the pool kiosks at the pool gates, these are motion activated and record approximately 10 seconds worth of video so we can see who activates the gate system. The pool kiosks do feed into a computer in the administration office. It is not actively monitored and is only accessed when it appears we have an issue with entry into one of the pools.

In closing, I would like to say thank you to our staff. This group of individuals work very hard to keep Forest Meadows attractive and safe. They work long hours when it snows to keep our roads open and passable. I am discouraged with the number of comments I am receiving from many on the staff regarding inappropriate behavior from various members of the community. This behavior must stop. If you have a problem with a member of the staff, you should contact me directly so I can address the situation. Members who continue to act inappropriately with staff, use foul language and/or harass the staff will face possible disciplinary action by the Board of Directors. It is past time that we make an effort to work together to make this a great community to live in, recreation at and work for. I'm hoping I can count on your cooperation in this matter.

Enjoy your community to the fullest.

—Scott Devereaux, CMCA, AMS, PCAM



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Common Cents

To begin, I would like to say thank you to long-time Treasurer, Eric Davis. Eric has successfully watched over finances at FMOA for many years.

Our new Treasurer is Lori Marshall. Lori and I are working together to get her up to speed with how our finances work here at Forest Meadows. For now, I will do the financial reports under Lori's review.

For this report, we will be looking at the first six months of 2022 against the first six months of 2023. We will also look at 2023 actual vs. 2023 budget.

Balance Sheet

- Operating Cash—\$441,333 - \$192,630 less than June 2022.
- Reserve Fund—\$532,421 - \$44,225 more than June 2022.
- Accounts Receivable—\$278,694 - \$3,070 less than June 2022.

Profit & Loss Statement

- Revenues—Are right in line with our budget.
- Operating Expenses—Are running high for first 6 months (\$118,553)
- Net Income—\$113,484 - \$62,066 behind where we hoped to be at the end of June.

Expenses

- Collection Fees—Over budget by \$6,326. The Association uses a third party to collect delinquent dues. As long as

owners pay, there are no fees to the Association. If we can't collect on an account, then the collection fees are paid by the Association.

- Fuel—Over budget by \$4,510. Price of gas along with abnormal winter where vehicles were out on the road more often.
- Legal—Over budget by \$36,020. This is a combination of items. Several 2022 bills were received late and are included in 2023 numbers. There were member issues that the Association had to address. A new employee handbook was developed, and two other HR issues were dealt with to be compliant with California laws.
- Operating Contingency—Over budget by \$18,900. Cost of recruiting a new General Manager and moving expenses.
- Outside Services—Over budget by \$18,687. Accounting and IT services.
- Payroll—Over budget by \$32,252. Extra overtime and general wages.

We will continue to keep an eye on all expenses and see what can be done to bring some of these numbers down. The good news is that the Association appears to be on solid financial ground. We'll have a better picture as the year continues and as we develop the budget for 2024.

—Scott Devereaux, CMCA, AMS, PCAM

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Be a good Neighbor—Noxious Lighting and Light pollution

Be a good Neighbor by understanding what is noxious lighting, and how light pollution can impact your neighbors here in Forest Meadows. Our CC&R's refer to noxious activities, lighting falling under Section. VIII 8.03 pg. 50

CALIFORNIA LIGHT TRESPASS LAWS STATE...

All lights shall be directed, oriented, and shielded to prevent light trespass or glare onto adjacent properties, onto public rights-of-way, and/or driveway areas. Lighting shall not cause light trespass, disabling glare or nuisance glare on surrounding properties. Sec. 39.1. - Intent.

The intent of this chapter is to restrict the permitted use of certain light fixtures emitting into the night sky undesirable light rays which have a detrimental effect on astronomical observation and research. (Ord. No. 91-46, § 1, 10-9-91)

WHAT ARE THE 4 TYPES OF LIGHT POLLUTION?

Light pollution is caused by inefficient or unnecessary use of artificial light. Specific categories of light pollution include light trespass, over-illumination, glare, light clutter, and skyglow. A single offending light source often falls into more than one of these categories.

Light trespass is a real thing and can even enable your neighbors to make formal complaints and force you to take down or stop using your lighting. Even if they do not complain, it isn't great to think that the things you have done to make your home look better or feel more secure are having a negative impact on the people around you. It really is a good idea to understand about what light trespass is and how to avoid it before you put in place designs for a new lighting installation on the outside of your home. Unless you live far from other homes, you should make this a priority.

WHAT EXACTLY IS LIGHT TRESPASS?

Light trespass is something that can be relevant to both domestic and commercial premises and usually refers to illumination from one property lighting up areas outside of its perimeter—something known as 'light spill'. Glare from lights or lights shining into the windows of other properties would also be light trespass.

You can also consider buying 'dark sky friendly' lights. These are lights that have been created to focus light down toward the ground, where it is actually needed, and not to create additional light around them. They get their name from the fact that if all lights were designed in this way, the light pollution that stops people in highly populated areas from being able to see the stars on a clear night because the sky isn't dark enough would be less of a problem.

The dark-sky movement is a campaign to reduce light pollution. Light pollution has also been found to affect human circadian rhythms. The dark-sky movement encourages the use of full-cutoff fixtures that cast little or no light upward in public areas and generally to encourage communities to adopt lighting regulation.

THERE ARE WAYS YOU CAN REDUCE LIGHT POLLUTION AND HELP REESERVE DARK SKIES IN YOUR AREA OF THE WORLD.

1. Use Core Glow stones for all your Outdoor Night Lighting.
2. Only purchase IDA Approved light fixtures.
3. Talk to your local representatives and support Dark Sky initiatives.
4. Set an example—Turn your lights off by 10 pm!
5. Encourage a safe, secure, and less light-oriented nighttime environment for residents, businesses, and visitors.
6. Promote a reduction in unnecessary light intensity and glare, and to reduce light spillover onto adjacent properties.
7. Protect the ability to view the night sky by restricting unnecessary upward projections of light.
8. Promote energy conservation and a reduction in the generation of greenhouse gases by reducing wasted electricity that can result from excessive or unwanted outdoor lighting.

Welcome New FMOA Owners



JUSTIN BRADFORD

SEAN MCCARTHY

KATHLEEN & WULFRANO PENA

SALLY PHAM & EDWARD SPORBERT

ALFREDO RIVAS-DUKE

CAROLINA RUBIO & CARLOS LUGO

DEBRA STEPHENS

KIMBERLY WEST

Independence Day Parade

Forest Meadows had a great time celebrating July 4th this year with a community parade on Saturday, the 1st of July. There were festive decorated golf carts joined by a patriotic pickup truck! All had a great time driving through the streets of Forest Meadows as neighbors came out and cheered them on from their driveways.

Thank you to all the volunteers who made this happen.

4TH OF JULY PARADE WINNERS:



Second Place—The Kemmers



First Place—The Hatfields



Third Place—The Party Girls

The Red Cross Smoke Alarm Replacement/ Repair Program

The Red Cross Smoke detector alarm team will come to Forest meadows Quarterly to replace up to (3) smoke detectors per home, at no cost to you!

Please sign up at the FMOA office or call 209-728-2511 and provide your full name, address and phone number.

The Red Cross will contact you and schedule an appointment to come to your home.



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Compliance Corner

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- The Speed Limit throughout Forest Meadows is 25 MPH unless otherwise posted.
- The stop signs in the community mean Stop and Look for traffic. You would be surprised how often this does not happen. CHP is actively patrolling the community and the ticket for failing to stop and/or speeding is costly.
- Remind your guests, contractors, delivery drivers and family of the 25-mph speed limit in Forest Meadows and be sure they know your address, they will need it to get through the gate, expediting the check-in process.
- Leaves and pine needles that fall on your property should not be raked onto FMOA Common Areas. Please dispose of them properly.
- The snowplow activities may leave a snow berm in front of your mailbox and driveway which is your responsibility to clear during the winter.
- With Fall almost upon us, you should be prepared. Last Winter brought heavy snow and rains and some flooding, downed trees, power outages, etc. Now is the time to get ready. Vacation owners and part timers, try to visit by Thanksgiving to check out your property. Don't forget to:
 1. Clean up fall leaves and pine needles and anything that can clog storm drains.
 2. Look for weakened limbs or trees that might fall over in heavy wind or rain.
 3. Clean your gutters and check your roof.
 4. Get a supply of salt or ecological alternative and sand, just in case we get snow and ice.
 5. Get a supply of batteries and lanterns.
 6. Winterize your house. Make sure all your weather stripping is in good order, fireplace and chimneys are clean.
 7. Get a supply of firewood if you have a wood stove or fireplace.
 8. Get out your old fondue pot or chafing dish, and a supply of sterno. A good way to heat up food without power.
 9. Have ingredients on hand for a couple of no cook meals.
 10. It is recommended that homes that are empty for long stretches have heat set at 55 degrees. This helps prevent pipes from freezing.
- One of the biggest complaints for every homeowners' association is dogs barking or dogs running loose. Forest Meadows is not immune. Please be responsible pet owners, and as a reminder—No dogs are allowed in the community parks.
- Three additional dog stations have been installed in the community. Please be courteous to your neighbors and clean up after your pooch.
- Parking can also be an issue; please contact the office or the guardhouse when planning large family events so we can

alleviate any parking situations. We will ask that your guests and contractors park first in your driveway and then any overflow cars should park in the same direction on one side of the street only. This may mean some guests will need to walk a little farther but ensures Emergency Vehicles can pass.

FIRE MITIGATION

Thanks to everyone who worked hard this year on our Fire Mitigation efforts. We have taken big steps toward being fire safe year-round instead of passing inspection once each year. You should work to keep your property cleared for fire safety all year.

Here are a few things to keep in mind when trying to protect your home:

- Remove combustible items from under decks and stairs.
- Wherever possible, create space between your home and trees/bushes. Make it difficult for your home to catch fire.
- Propane tank enclosures should have clearance from vegetation 10 feet around and above the tank.
- Remove pine needles, leaves and other debris from your roof.
- Cut out dead trees, branches, and bushes—this is a huge help for fire mitigation.

Remember, embers from a wildfire can travel several miles. If one of those embers land in a pile of pine needles, your home might be at risk. Clearing combustible materials from around your home is a worthwhile effort.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE—(ARC)

Over 120 improvement projects have come through the ARC already this year.—Thank you to all who have submitted their ARC Applications to the committee for approval. All these improvement projects add to home values.

When submitting applications, please check the Architectural Guidelines for specifics on plan submittal requirements. For larger projects, we can more than likely provide you with the site plan of your home as a starting point, so stop by the office when you begin planning for your project.

You should notice the bright yellow Approval Placards posted on all ARC approved projects. Please remember to return your Approval Placard to the office or call and let us know when your project is complete.

Not sure if your project requires ARC approval? Anything indoors does not require ARC approval. Aside from planting your flower gardens, or washing your house and / or decks, any changes that you make to the outside of your home or yard, whether large or small, requires submittal of an ARC Application. If you have any questions, please call the Association office 209-728-2511. Deanna will be happy to help you through the process.

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SPACE ETIQUETTE FOR DOGS

To: People with "Friendly Dogs", Off-Leash Dogs, & Retractable Leash Dogs



NEWSFLASH: Running up to another dog and ignoring requests to go away is not "friendly", it is rude.

Just like people, DOGS NEED PERSONAL SPACE. If a stranger came up and put his hand on your body, you'd be allowed to step back, yell, and push him away. Dogs have the same right to enforce their boundaries. Some dogs are called "reactive" because they are more sensitive than others. Reactive dogs are good dogs, they just need more distance and compassionate training. You can help them by honoring their need for personal space.

1. NEVER LET YOUR OFF-LEASH DOG GO UP TO AN ON-LEASH DOG.
2. LOCK RETRACTABLE LEASHES WHEN YOU SEE OTHER DOGS.
3. ASK BEFORE APPROACHING OR PETTING ANY DOG.
4. HAVE COMPASSION FOR PEOPLE WITH SHY OR REACTIVE DOGS.

Please do not chase us. Let us pass without interaction, and keep your judgements to yourself.

Summer Flower Gardens in Forest Meadows



*Spread a little kindness
 Sprinkle as you go
 Send it out into the world
 Watch it ebb and flow
 Plant a kindness garden
 The more seeds that you sow
 You'll find that your own
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—Laura Jaworski

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Forest Meadows/Wylderidge Fuel Reduction Project

Fuel reduction efforts have been ongoing this year with significant results. These “before and after” pictures give a great view of the work done on the edges of Forest Meadows

