

January 2000

Dear Neighbors:

Now that the rush is over we want to wish you the very best for the New Year.

~~~~~

The rest of this letter comes from Marolyn ... without Pete's (Earl's) knowledge.

One evening we came home to find a huge dirt moving operation taking place just short of the cattle guard before Clow Ridge turnoff. I'm sure you remember this. A day or so later Pete, in shock, said that it would cost about \$16,000.00. Near the finish, alarmed, he said it looked like \$26,000.00! So he asked to be returned to the road committee, even though we live on Clow Ridge Road and he is extremely busy with his consulting work. (This job was not properly done and requires even more work.)

We came here in '47 and drove our road 'in the rut' in summer (for self preservation) and on the top to flatten the road in the winter. The next year we had Wilb rock and grade it, laying a good base which served us for many years, with some occasional shovel work. Wilb's physical problems caused him to turn over the road work to his friend, a good man, who was a master road man for logging roads, which are supposed to be flat. When he later did our road work, he flattened the crown, filling the ditches, soon resulting in potholes, etc. Pete and our sons filled potholes and dug ditches by hand to save the road. Nash Road also became flat, not as Wilb had graded it.

In addition to his engineering education Pete has much practical experience on roads, has learned from Wilb and Bill Holcomb. He also he consults one of our sons who is a licensed civil engineer.

Pete organized "pothole parties", etc. which brought a sense of neighborly camaraderie. He has filled potholes and dug ditches by himself in the rain (because that's when the work needs to be done) and has worked on the road far past our turnoff also (because he is a neighbor).

'One dark and stormy night' we returned home about 10:30 to find a message on our answering machine from a neighbor who lives quite a few miles back on Nash Road, saying that 1/2 mile or so past our turnoff there was a slide and people probably would be unable to get out by morning. Pete put on his boots and rain gear, took a garden spade and went out, carried that muck a shovel full at a time across the road, dumping it over the side. I went out at 12:30 with hot soup and tea. He asked me to stay with the car because the truck was low on gas, since he had to leave it running to give him light. I sat in the heated car with the lights on while he finished the job (at 2:30 am) which included a tall berm to deflect the mud and water down to the pipe at

the turn. Those on the upper road were then able to get out the next morning, and in and out the rest of the winter.

He is one of the kindest, most humble people I have been privileged to know. (That's why I don't want him to know I've done this. Please!) He is not trying to keep our neighbors from anything good in asking to see specific plans, rather than circles on a map, concerning the work to be done. In one case when he asked the man who is to be in charge of the road job how he would replace a large pipe on the road Pete was told the dirt would be taken out by a cat. This would remove a huge amount of road which has been built up for years. Instead an excavator should be used, removing only the road top over the pipe, the new pipe put in and that small amount rebuilt. We do not want a repetition of the \$26,00.00 mistake which took place below the cattle guard.

It is also very important to remember that when the work as proposed is finished the Road Group must pay for upkeep as required by Fish and Game for the next 5 years!

Two of our Board members are retiring and as new board members are chosen we are hoping that they will have road building knowledge or experience.

My best to you! (Our best to you!)

*Marolyn Peterman*

Marolyn Peterman

P.O. Box A Philo CA 95466-0360

P.S. If you live below Clow Ridge Road I want to share these thoughts with you anyway.

Dear Association Members,

May 20, 2000

The following is a list of what I feel we need to included in the Grant Proposal which have not been specifically addressed or answered:

1. Contour of the road is to remain the same.
2. Increase crown of road and rocking.
3. Additional culverts installed.
4. New culverts should be plastic
5. Extension for some of the existing culverts so the water will go back into the root of the channel where it belongs.
6. Continue in sloping of the roads.
7. Rock bedding in the ditches prevent erosion.
8. The outside berm left in place.
9. Appropriate out ditching away from steep slopes.
10. The berm acts as a safety curb plus channels the water away from the edge which when draining over steep banks creates erosion and failure.
11. The bridge should be looked at cautiously. For our protection, a consulting Engineer should be retained to design the bridge to handle loading and resistance seismic forces. We cannot approve something and say we are not responsible for the liability of it.
12. We should consider the option of installing an arch culvert. This will enable a *wide and safe roadbed* as compared to the alternative of a *narrow unsafe 12' wide train flat car*.
13. We should consider seeking our own Grant, hire an outside administrator and Contractor to do the work. We will supervise and control the work to be done ourselves.
14. If we accept the Grant Proposed, we should consider the 10 years we are subjecting our loss of rights.
15. We must maintain all 'improvements' for 5 years and we have no specific description of what these 'improvements' will be. Furthermore, we do not know what they are and we have no money to budget the maintenance of these 'improvements.'
16. Culverts are inexpensive and easy to maintain if plastic, sizing and installation is correct. Roads with a series of successive dips are not proven and will be very expensive to maintain.
17. If we do not direct the Project, then we must obtain agreements from the RCD or Contractors to indemnify us, the Land Owners, from any actions done by them.
18. Once construction has commenced, the Association shall not interfere with the methodology used by the contractor. However, the Association must stay directly involved in order to protect the road. Some practices if not clearly stated and understood prior to start of work could jeopardize the road. *These details are very important and we do not have them.*

Please vote against the Proposed Grant and let us move forward with *our own* Grant specifically tailored to *our own* needs with *our own specific* input that satisfies the need of the *fish habitat* and *our* specific road safety and well-being.

Page no. 2  
May 20, 2000

The Grant as proposed is troubling. If you wanted your kitchen remodeled and a friend offered to pay for it, would you feel comfortable saying, "Go right ahead" and have no further involvement in the project. The possibilities for disappointment, conflict, liability and accusations are obvious. An example of this has already taken place in our past experience with the Big Culvert Project. The job was poorly planned and supervised and ***now we are faced with an expensive and controversial correction and the same unspecified approach is dooming us to make the same mistake. We have had a failure and there is no recourse to correct it.*** Such a situation will exist under the proposal you are considering approving today.

Sincerely,

Robert Battinich  
Nash Mill Road Board Member

# NASH RANCH ROAD ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 400  
Philo, CA 95466  
Fax: (925) 855-1174

Directors:

Bob Battinich  
Dan Imhoff  
Claire Korn, Secretary  
Earl Peterman, Chairman  
John Wild, Treasurer

July 7, 2000

Dear Nash Ranch Property Owner:

We have previously advised you of a grant of over \$228,000 by the California Department of Fish and Game to the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District to reduce sediment in Mill Creek by making certain drainage improvements in our road system. The grant was overwhelmingly approved by the members of our Association at a general meeting on May 20, 2000.

This effort has been at least temporarily frustrated by a lawsuit filed in the Superior Court of Mendocino County by plaintiffs Bob Battinich, Thomas and Robert Spinardi, and the Aladdin Depot. Mssrs Battinich and Spinardi are property owners on Big Meadow Road, one of the roads maintained by the Association. They strongly advocated rejecting the grant at the May 20 general meeting. Aladdin is a partnership owned by Mr. Battinich and the Spinardis.

The Nash Ranch Road Association is a defendant in the lawsuit as are Danny Hagans with Pacific Watershed Associates, Dan Sicular the Navarro River Coordinator for the Conservation District, Evelyn Ashton owner of property adjoining the Battinich-Spinardi property and 100 (John) Does.

The plaintiffs allege trespass on plaintiffs' property, damage to plaintiffs' property and to property belonging to others, and that continuing efforts to obtain grants will result in further destruction to existing roads and surrounding areas.

The plaintiffs ask for a temporary restraining order, a temporary injunction, a permanent injunction, damages resulting from the conduct of the defendants, punitive damages in the sum of \$500,000.00; costs of suit and attorneys fees, and such other relief as the court may deem proper.

The Association has retained the services of Mr. Tom Brigham an attorney in Ukiah to assist us at least temporarily, and both Dan Sicular and Evelyn Ashton have

retained attorneys to defend their interests. We assume Danny Hagans has or will do the same.

We have tendered our defense to our insurance carrier with the request that they utilize the services of Mr. Brigham.

We have been in contact with representatives of the Resource Conservation District and Fish and Game and have been assured that they will do what they can to keep the grant alive as long as possible as we work our way through this.

We do not know what to anticipate next but we will keep you advised. In the meantime be assured the assessment funds which have been received to supply the Association's matching grant funds (approximately 50% has been collected to date) will be kept separate and will not be used in defending the lawsuit. If you have not yet responded we encourage you to do so as soon as possible.

Should you wish to give the board the benefit of your thoughts we would welcome hearing from you.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
NASH RANCH ROAD ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, May 20, all Nash Ranch property owners will be asked to vote on whether or not we want the Nash Ranch Road Association to proceed with the presently funded grant for streambed and road rehabilitation. The vote is not conclusive, but is one of the indicators to the State Fish and Game Commission that the plan as proposed is or is not best matched to our wants and needs.....They will then make their final decision.

The Board has spent hundreds of hours debating the merits (and problems) of this plan, which is intended to reduce the silt in Mill Creek and Little Mill Creek for the sake of better fish habitat. This is a worthy goal, providing that we are also optimizing the way we maintain our roads.

The fact is, our judgement about the details of the plan is still hampered by generalities; and attempts to get specific information have been met with still more generalities for months on end. What we need to know are some of the same things the county will need to know when they go for permits.

One thing you should know about this grant is the association's need to raise approximately \$29,000 in order to move forward. It includes a proposal that a new crossing be installed at Mill Creek, and that amount is part of the cost.

Neighbors, this is a very large undertaking without specifics, and there are two of us on the Board who feel we're biting off more than we need to. If you too feel pushed, uncomfortable or nervous about this one, remember that two or three smaller grants can do our job, and spread it out over 3 or 4 years or more. The money will still be there, and there are well qualified grant writers ready to help us get it. Duke Foster at National Grant Services is one example of people who come well recommended, and who know the various sources well, and the best fit to our particular situation.

We can help the fish, and make our roads easier to drive, too.

Earl Peterman  
Bob Battinich

31 August 2000

Dear Nash Ranch Neighbor,

Soon you'll receive a ballot concerning the removal of one of the members of our Road Association's Board of Directors.

The reason? Well, the bottom line is that one of our directors, Bob Battinich, along with his two partners, the Spinardi brothers, is suing the Nash Ranch Road Association--that's suing all of us as well as himself, two named association members, Dan Sicular and Evelyn Ashton, and an expert on building ranch and forest roads, Dan Hagens. The suit asks for a stop to all road work and \$500,000 punitive damages, and more. For the moment our legal defense is being paid for by our liability insurance provider; we hope that when the dust settles they'll still insure us.

At issue is a \$228,879 grant funded by California Fish and Game.

In 1999, before Bob and I were elected, the Board signed an agreement with the Mendocino Resource Conservation Board allowing them access to our roads to do work under this grant. Nash Ranch member, Dan Sicular, had applied for the grant to improve the quality of water in the Navarro River basin by decreasing the silt in tributary streams. What's important to the Road Committee is that improving road run-off improves both water quality for fish and roads for us. An earlier grant had financed a study to identify the worst locations and recommended somewhat non-traditional methods for decreasing the silt runoff. Dan Hagens, the head of Pacific Watershed Associates, is the grant's experienced expert in designing ranch and forest roads.

In 1998 Sicular and Hagens had installed four rolling dips on Big Meadow Road to reduce sediment run-off. Permission was given by the former Board and the work, partially funded with other grant money, was carried out on what was thought to be Evelyn Ashton's section of road. Of course we all have easements for the access of others across our pieces of the original Nash road system. Unfortunately the dips proved not to be on Evelyn's property, but on Battinich-Spinardi section of road. Bob was most unhappy and is suing that these improvements be removed. I drive these dips to get home and they appear to be serving their purpose.

Since then many adjustments have been made to the



grant's work plan. No work is to be done without understanding and approval of each property owner.

At the May 6th meeting of the Board of Directors, Bob's motion that the grant be rejected failed, and we voted, 4 to 1, to continue negotiations with the Mendocino Resource Conservation District towards implementing the terms and conditions of the previous letter of agreement.

At the May 20th Special Meeting of the members, where both bad feelings and good ideas were expressed at length, the membership voted 16 to 5 to assess themselves \$400 above regular dues to provide matching funds necessary to get the benefits of this grant.

Next came the lawsuit. At the August Annual Meeting, Bob refused to share his concerns with us and said we'd have to talk to his lawyer, but he did, after declaring his intentions, tape-record the long, long meeting.

Because of the lawsuit the MCRD is postponing signing the prepared Fish and Game contract until they get the go-ahead from the county attorney.

With all the heat and controversy on the Board, it has been almost impossible to get ahead with the road work we all need. Although differences of opinion can lead to creative solutions, we're bogged down in legal battles and conflicts of interest. That's why I was one of the many recommending Bob Battinich be removed from the Board and why I am voting "Yes" on the ballot. It's an uncomfortable, unpleasant action, but we need to move ahead.

It's up to you.

Sincerely,

*Claire*

Claire V. Korn, Secretary  
Nash Ranch Road Association

# Nash Mill News

The Nash Mill Ranch Newsletter

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NASH RANCH ROAD ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY AUGUST 19, 2 P.M.

AT THE IMHOFFS, 631 NASH MILL ROAD

2000

With an ongoing lawsuit, votes to amend the Association by-laws, fall grading and rocking plans, one grant awarded and others now being proposed, a board member re-election, a guest appearance from the local volunteer fire department, and last but by no means least--the annual potluck feast--this year's annual meeting is sure to be interesting, if not down-right entertaining. The Imhoffs (Quincey, Dan, Willa and Gardner) have agreed for the third year running to host the meeting at their place on what is now Scott Homestead Road. Follow the signs for "631" up through Stump Hollow, taking a hard right at "the forks," and right again soon after that. The path will be well marked on the day of the meeting, or you can just follow the swirling dust devils at around 2 on Saturday afternoon August 19th. Remember to bring a dish for the potluck and any refreshment or libation of your liking that may not be provided. The meeting agenda will be explained in a little more detail below.

**1. Financial Report.** A concise statement on Association reserves, including breakdowns of the Lower and Upper Road Funds, as well as the status of collected assessment funds for the Fish & Game grant.

**2. The Year's Accomplishments.**

And delays, as it were. We'll discuss what maintenance has been done this year, why some hasn't, and what we hope to do in preparation for Winter 2001. Perhaps most lively will be "the Grant" status, which, while receiving popular support at our May meeting, has suffered a temporary setback.

See you there!  
Don't forget  
your favorite  
hot weather dish.

would like to continue. The Board approves.

**5. The Fire Department.** We'll have a visit from the Valley volunteer fire department, who may be searching for a Nash Mill representative.

Anybody up on their CPR, like hot weather and interested in a free radio?

**6. Proposed By-law amendments.**

After eight years, we're discovering we need a few more details and procedures to fine tune our By-laws. With a quorum (20 percent, or 11 voting members) and a majority of that quorum, we can legally

make those changes. There are three proposed changes that deal with two different topics: a) and b) refine the geographical boundaries that

Association and a number of other individuals have been sued by board member Bob Battinich and his partners. We'll get an update on where we stand.

**4. Board Member election.** Claire Korn's first term on her one-year seat is now up. Claire dutifully served as our secretary last year and

the Association is responsible for maintaining; c) establishes a procedure to remove a director from the board.

**7. Additional grant possibilities.** Chair Earl Peterman has taken on the task of pursuing other grant funds to work on areas of our 13-mile road network that weren't covered in the grant written by Dan Sicular. He'll supply details.

Nash Ranch Road Association, PO Box 400, Philo, California 95466

# Nash Mill News

The Nash Mill Ranch Newsletter

## Winter 2001

Light rains have recently begun to fall again and it's easy to pinpoint many areas up and down the road where rocking or maintenance would minimize water damage and runoff. At the same time, having spent every cent available for the Upper Road on rocking and grading by the end of December 2000, and with the exception of some areas of persistent potholes, the Road is in as good condition as it's been in a long time. Those potholes should be addressed sometime this year by the grant.

### **The Grant is the Big News for 2001**

2001 should be one of the biggest years for maintenance since the beginning of the Nash Ranch Road Association, and by summer's end, should include a new crossing at Mill Creek. The Board has been keeping in close contact with the Resource Conservation District, Pacific Watershed Associates and others in an effort to set the stage for work to begin as early as possible. According to Tom Schott, the Resource Conservation District and Fish and Game have formalized their agreement for the grant. Pacific Watershed Associates will manage the project.

Pacific Watershed will now survey the road and review its previous assessment study, before proposing a set of pri-

orities for this summer's work. According to Tom Schott, the Resource Conservation District hopes to complete as much of the work as possible. Part of the coordination will include contacting adjacent owners and making them aware of and amenable to the proposed changes before work proceeds.

In addition, the Board has been exploring the possibilities of other grant opportunities that could address sections of the road not included in our existing project.

### **The Board Welcomes Bill Maruna**

Full-time resident Bill Maruna, who has expressed interest in serving on the Board for a few years now, has been selected to fill our vacant seat through August 2002. Bill has been a regular volunteer at all the pothole parties, and made the handcarved sign at the entrance to the Road. He also performs a funny chainsaw skit. (It should complement Earl's virtuosity on the saw pretty well.)

### **Time to Pay Your Dues**

It's that time again, when the coffers are running low and there's always more rock to buy. Your bills are included. Please pay promptly!

# Nash Mill News

The Nash Ranch Newsletter

**Spring 2001**

## **WORK UNDER THE GRANT:**

Work on Association roads by the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District is scheduled to begin soon after June 1. You may have noticed orange tapes hanging at various places on Nash Mill Road, Little Mill Creek Road, Scott Homestead Road, and Big Meadow Road. Preliminary markings were placed several years ago, but the final markings prior to the actual commencement are now in place. Details of the work are being closely reviewed by the Board of the Association. Shortly, the owners on whose land improvements are scheduled will also have a chance to examine and sign off on the proposals.

We plan to mail each owner involved a summary of the work to be done on their property. If the owner is satisfied, he or she will return a card so indicating. If the owner would like more information, Danny Hagans, the project manager for the Resource Conservation District, will be available on a Saturday in early June (probably June 2 or 9) to explain the proposed work in greater detail. He plans to dedicate several hours to each road on that Saturday. Interested owners should plan to attend. Once the owners and the Board are satisfied with the work plan, the project will begin.

## **THE BRIDGE:**

The Board intends to engage the services of Humboldt Forest Products (HFP) to design, construct and install a

bridge over Mill Creek. HFP, who specializes in this field, has located surplus steel which was removed from a Caltrans bridge on Highway 101. The steel is available at a reasonable price and we have authorized them to complete the design and apply for necessary permits.

At seven feet tall, the steel beams are far sturdier than we have any real need for, but "the price is right." The proposed bridge will be 70 feet long and 12 feet wide. The bridge is extremely strong and should accommodate any foreseeable vehicle and equipment load; it will also have protective guard rails. (We are exploring the costs to expand the width to 16 feet). It will be located a bit to the left of where the present crossing is (as you are driving up), and will require the removal of the logs. A major benefit of this location is that the present road will stay in place until after the bridge is completed and there will be no inconvenience to outlying residents while the bridge is under construction.

## **FINANCES:**

We have collected and have in the bank \$26,815 for our matching grant contribution. Our agreement with the Resource Conservation District calls for \$29,400, so we are nearly there! We urge those owners who have not yet made full payment of \$250 toward the matching grant to do so as soon as possible. (This comment applies only to those owners whose property is located beyond Clow Ridge and who will use the bridge for access.)

**Nash Ranch Road Association, PO Box 400, Philo, 95466**



Summer 2001

REMEMBER THE ANNUAL MEETING ON AUGUST 11<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. It will be at John and Mimi Wild's place, 40055 Nash Mill Road. It will be marked with streamers.

We may be short of chairs. If you want to be assured a seat bring one of your own.

Agenda for the Meeting:

Election Results: The Board has two openings for 3 year terms, and two people, Doug Nelson and Diane Paget, were nominated within the time allowed by the Bylaws. With 2 legal nominees a formal election is unnecessary.

Financial Report

Road Maintenance Report

Grant Status

Bridge Status

Lawsuit Status

Pot Holes - is there an answer?

Comments from the owners - open discussion

Recognition of retiring Directors

Following the meeting we will have the annual potluck. Bring something to share.

SEE YOU THERE!

# Nash Mill News

The Nash Mill Ranch Newsletter

## News and Updates

### The Fall Grading Plan

The booming economy has kept most equipment operators in the valley working six days a week, and we only succeeded in hammering out our Fall rocking and grading plan during a recent rainstorm (when Dean Titus couldn't otherwise be out working somewhere). Luckily, things have dried out and calmed down a bit, presenting almost ideal road working conditions—now if only the weather holds out long enough to get our wish list accomplished!

Our upper road maintenance strategy has been to address areas that really need help—i.e. upper sections of Nash Mill Road between the crossing and the forks, pieces of Big Meadow Road in dire straits, and some outreaches of what is now Nash Mill (toward Hollibaugh, Casey, Buonanno, etc.) that rarely receive our attention. We're also trying to survive one more rainy season without spending too much money on places that are slated for work under the grant next year, such as the entire area between Clow Ridge and the Crossing. We will be doing some rocking and grading to keep things passable all winter long, but we're also trying to make our limited funds stretch as far as possible. All in all, some 20 loads of rock will go on the Upper Road. If you want to personally pay for some addi-

tional rocking or grading in your area, we recommend that you call Dean directly (895-2515) to try to arrange it.

The Lower Road is scheduled for a thorough grading and up to 15 loads of rock—as long as the weather and the quarry cooperate. Keep your fingers crossed.

### Results of the September Ballot

After mail-in ballots were counted, Bob Battinich was recalled from the Board by a vote of 35 to 5. Twelve members abstained from voting. The Board will appoint a replacement to complete this three-year position.

### Status of the Grant

Notwithstanding any roadblocks from the still ongoing lawsuit, the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District (MRCD) is moving forward with the grant and we anticipate beginning work in the Spring. The Settlement Committee has been busy with their charge, but as of yet, there are no major developments to report.

# Nash Mill News

The Nash Mill Ranch Newsletter

## The Membership Calls for a Mail-in Vote on Director's Position

Last month's general membership meeting proved to be eventful, and as expected, much of the discussion (or intentional lack thereof) centered around the status of the Fish & Game grant and the lawsuit filed by Board Director Bob Battinich and his partners, Bob and Tom Spinardi. By the meeting's end, 79 percent of those present called for an election to consider removing Bob Battinich from the Board due to a conflict of interest. Before turning our attention to that rather unique and timely situation in detail, however, below is a summary of some of the meeting's other outcomes.

### Some Quick Highlights

Bob Battinich announced during our Introductions that he was audio taping the proceedings, (so if anyone wants to hear the blow-by-blow there appears to be a recording). John Wild reported on the status of the Association's available funds for both the Upper (\$9,068) and Lower (\$8,218) Roads. Earl Peterman explained plans for fall rocking and grading, however, any or all of those funds may or may not be available, due to the outstanding lawsuit (or potential settlement). Claire Korn was re-elected as a Board Director by acclamation, this time to a three-year term. Earl Peterman outlined his intentions to seek further

**Ballots are due by  
September 15, 2000.**

**One vote per property  
owner, regardless of  
number of parcels or  
multiple owners.**

**A non-vote will be  
counted as a "no" vote.**

grants for the Nash Mill Ranch roads, though he is presently uncertain which specific agency or program the application would be filed under.

### By-law Amendments

The Association by-laws were amended to delete road sections previously included that the Association has never been responsible for maintaining. After considerable discussion, the by-laws were also amended to include a procedure for removing a Director from the Board. That procedure requires, first: a 2/3 majority vote among a quorum present at a general or specially called meeting recommending a vote on whether or not to remove a Director, followed by a 2/3 vote of all members through a mail-in ballot, (or 35 "yes" votes).



### **The Upcoming Vote**

This decision was prompted in no small part by Director Bob Battinich's ongoing lawsuit against the Association and others, which is blocking the \$228,000 Fish and Game grant that a majority of the Board and a majority of members are in favor of. It also sets a procedure for any other similar situations should they arise, and requires participation and consensus among an overwhelming majority of the membership.

Many members have expressed concerns that Bob's continuing presence on the Board and simultaneous suit against the Association constitutes a conflict of interest and is negatively affecting the work of the Board. A number of reasons have been voiced, including that the litigation is being used to overturn decisions already made by the Board and the general membership; and that a \$500,000 judgment would potentially bankrupt the Association. Bob was unwilling to explain or defend his position in any detail to the general membership under advice of an attorney.

A motion was made and seconded to consider removing Bob from the Board and passed by 79

percent of those present and voting. The mail-in ballots are due no later than September 15, with non-votes counting as "no" votes.

### **Settlement Committee Formed**

Significant concerns about settling this matter out of court and in a fair manner were also expressed. Just before adjourning, Andy Marks, Steve Williams, Bill Maruna, and Fred Bonano were charged with assessing that possibility. They will report back to the Board as soon as possible.

### **Further Information**

You should already have received correspondence from Board member Claire Korn expressing her position on this issue. Bob Battinich has also been given membership mailing labels to offer his side of the story. If you have any further questions, you might contact your neighbors, or the Board members whose phone numbers are listed below.

### **Board Members**

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| Earl Peterman | 707.895.3128 |
| John Wild     | 925.837.2824 |
| Claire Korn   | 510.848.6520 |
| Bob Battinich | 510.393.3939 |
| Dan Imhoff    | 707.895.3490 |

# Nash Mill News

The Nash Mill Ranch Newsletter

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NASH RANCH ROAD ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 2 P.M. 2001

AT THE WILDS, 40055 NASH MILL ROAD

By the time our annual meeting rolls around, road work funded by the grant will be well underway. For reasons well known by now, the process has been slow, considering the first meetings with the Association took place more than three years ago. The Battinich/Spinardi lawsuit continues, and has been partially responsible for the delay, despite attempts by the settlement committee established at last year's meeting to come to some more neighborly agreement. Perhaps the road meeting will shed some new light on the situation. In the mean time, there are some urgent matters that will need our attention, the most important being the election of two new Board members, which will be explained in more detail below. To get to the Wilds', go straight up past the Marks' homestead, continue through Stump Hollow up to the Forks, then go hard right. There is a red house set down off the road on your right, and there are lots of shady trees and a great view for the meeting. Bring your favorite dish!!

**Property Owners Give Approval on Proposed Road Work.** On June 9, Danny Hagans of Pacific Watershed Associates, (the contractor for the Fish and Game grant work), spent a long day on the road, explaining what all those plastic streamers mean. Parcel by parcel, Hagans outlined his plans for reducing sediment using a variety of methods and techniques, the most prominent being culverts (which will be plastic in compliance with Earl Peterman's and Bob Spinardi's lobbying.) In accordance with the process the Association established, all property owners were brought up to speed on the proposed work traversing their properties, and all signed letters of consent for the work. This is true democracy in action, and

**Road Work Begins—Expect Delays of Between 1/2 and One Hour.** Our Fish and Game grading permit is now in hand. Dean Titus is scheduled to begin work in mid-July, installing some 1500 feet of 18-inch plastic culverts between Clow Ridge and the Mill Creek crossing. We're sure

Dean will do his best to keep traffic flowing, but please be understanding. Stream crossings will be passable at the beginning and end of each day. Whatever you do, don't sneak up on heavy machinery or try any Evil Kinevil stunts.

**The Board of Directors Wants Two of You! Nominations Due by August 1st!** The Board identified a number of nominees to fill the

seats of chairman Earl Peterman, and of our valiant and irreplaceable John Wild, who has

**The Road Work Begins  
July 16 between Clow  
Ridge and Mill Creek  
Crossing. Expect  
delays. Be patient and  
plan accordingly.**

considering the State's present budget crisis, and the ongoing lawsuit, one has to wonder whether this kind of program will ever come our way again. **The Board Passed a Motion Approving the Plan at the June 29 Meeting,** with the exception of the work on Scott Homestead, which needed approval from the Paget/Seekins household. Since then, Bill and Diane have approved the plan.

shouldered a great deal of the Association work over the past decade. Only one nominee reluctantly agreed. The Board is continuing the search, and will be accepting volunteers and nominees through August 15 as well, after which a ballot will be mailed out. Your votes must be cast either by ballot and received by August 11, or in person at the annual meeting. Any volunteers!!??

Nash Ranch Road Association, PO Box 400, Philo, California 95466