



HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL



One Voice for the People of Homestead Valley

- Next Meetings
- Monday July 16
at Yucca Mesa
 - Monday August 20
at Johnson Valley



POKER RUN 2012



Breakfast at Yucca Mesa, visit to the Landers Museum, drawing cards under the tree at Gubler's Orchids in Landers, snacks at Flamingo Heights, lunch at Johnson Valley, Ice Cream Social and finale at Landers...a busy day...a successful fundraiser for the four community associations!

PHOTOS BY C.V. GREENE, BETTY MUNSON



Thanks to Gubler's Orchids and the Morongo Basin Historical Society for your hospitality!



*Lots of prizes!
Winning hand:
a Full House!*

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Officers Elected

At the June 18 meeting in Landers, HVCC elected candidates unopposed for the 2012-2013 term. They were sworn in by outgoing president Jim Harvey:



President
Rick Sayers
YMIA



Vice President
Betty Munson
JVIA



Secretary
Nancy Sammons
YMIA



Treasurer
Tory Preston
FHCA

A Note from outgoing president

Jim Harvey

What an honor it has been to serve the Council in this capacity for the past 3 years. We can all be proud of the accomplishments HVCC has achieved. I take great joy in knowing that the Council's best days are still ahead.



PHOTOS BY ALAN RASMUSSEN

HVCC Actions: Renewable Energy, Eagles, Rural Issues

The Homestead Valley, and indeed, all rural desert dwellers, face increasing pressures from many directions.

GOVERNMENT MANDATES FOR INDUSTRIAL WIND AND SOLAR PROJECTS

- The HVCC Position Letter to legislators opposing industrial-scale solar farms and wind turbine installations, spells out the drawbacks of the federal and state mandated use of these technologies with unproven benefits. HVCC urges renewable energy sources near the point of use in already developed environments. Taxpayer subsidies of industrial projects and destruction of public lands are major points at issue.

- An HVCC Resolution specifically opposes the proposed wind turbine project on the scenic Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa, overlooking Pipes Canyon in the Pioneertown area.

HVCC member associations have presented their own resolutions against the project.

- A letter to Element Power, the company which has already erected test towers on the buttes, was approved in the June meeting. It details the many reasons the project will face strong opposition if granted a right of way to install the 40-story-high turbine towers. The destruction of this unique landscape and its prehistoric, cultural and biological treasures has not only met with a determined NO from local residents who formed www.saveourdesert.com, but also HVCC, other organizations, and individuals have made their opposition widely known.

- Another wind energy issue is the US Fish and Wildlife Service policy change concerning the destruction of the protected Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle by the huge wind turbines. The plan to increase what used to be a 90-day "take" permit, now a 5-year permit, to an astounding 30-year permit goes against everything Fish and Wildlife has published in the past about preserving the eagle populations.

The wind energy companies are being given a license to kill these birds, whereas if you do it, you will be prosecuted. HVCC has sent a letter to Fish and Wildlife strongly objecting to this change.

CSA 70 TV SERVICE GOES DIGITAL

Tim Millington, Regional Manager of County Special Districts answered questions at the June meeting about the change from analog to digital and how it affects users of the TV5 signal. The large crowd in attendance learned they will still be able to receive all but Channel 29 as analog. Due to the delay in the switchover by the county, the funds to get a digital converter box for TV's over 3 years old are no longer available. The converter costs \$49.

SEPTIC SYSTEM POLICY CHANGES

HVCC sent an objection to State Water Resources Control Board policy recommendation changing the current minimum .5 acres per dwelling requiring septic system waste water disposal to an astounding 2.5 acres per dwelling.

HVCC strongly opposes any further restriction on the rights of property owners to develop their properties, and will continue this fight as more and more questionable restrictions are handed down by the state's bureaucracies.

More on www.hvccsite.org

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