



**Carmichael Creek
Neighborhood Association, Inc.**
Est. 1986
www.carmichaelcreek.org

THE CARMICHAEL CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC. (CCNA) formed in 1986 to improve the general quality of life and preserve open space and the neighborhood's unique semi-rural character. **Your membership is important for our ability to continue these vital preservation efforts!**

CCNA boundaries are: **North** along both sides of Sutter Avenue, **South** along both sides of Stanley Avenue, **East** at the American River, and **West** along California Avenue. Anyone over 18 years of age in the membership area can be a voting member of CCNA. Those outside the boundaries can join as non-voting members. Annual household dues are \$20.

----- Clip and Mail -----

**Carmichael Creek Neighborhood Association
Membership Form – Dues \$20.00 per household**

Name: _____

Residential Address: _____

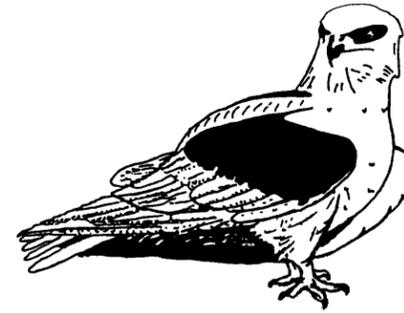
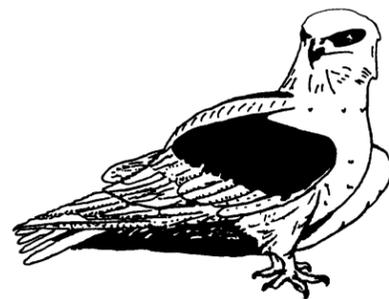
Mailing Address (if different): _____

Email Address (To receive monthly minutes electronically): _____

Daytime Telephone: _____ Evening Telephone: _____

Make \$20.00 check payable to the CCNA.

Mail to CCNA Membership, c/o Anne Berner, PO Box 1902, Carmichael 95609-1902



**CARMICHAEL CREEK
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Newsletter

VOL. 22, October 2016

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SAVE THE DATE:

Annual Meeting

**Tuesday, November 15, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

**Carmichael Library Community
Room, 5606 Marconi Ave.**

Speakers:

Susan Peters – Sacramento
County Supervisor, 3rd District

Community Policing
Representative – Sacramento
County Sheriff's Department

Steve Nugent – Carmichael
Water District

Refreshments will be served

www.carmichaelcreek.org

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/2dFcQEg>

CCNA Membership, PO Box 1902,
Carmichael 95609-1902

President's Note

By Gareth Lacy, CCNA Co-President

One of the many reasons my family chose to settle in the Carmichael Creek neighborhood is that we look in the sky at night and can actually see the stars. Without the glare of street lights there is peace and a rare opportunity for quiet reflection. This is an unusual joy in an era of ever-increasing urban density, and something worth preserving and defending.

Our mission is set forth in County Ordinance 83-10, which authorized our Association in 1988:

“Preserve and protect the unique semi-rural residential character of the neighborhood ... and further the purposes of the Carmichael Community Plan.”

Our community fights hard for these values, to slow the ever-present risk of “up-zoning,” which slices up great swathes of wildlife habitat, urban farms, and open space to build multiple tract homes in violation of existing zoning. Such actions undermine the terms of our Neighborhood Preservation Area because they degrade community's unique rural character.

The rural, open space of Carmichael Creek also provides critical wildlife habitat to animals including mule deer, coyotes and hawks--the symbol of our Association. By carrying out our Association's mission, we preserve open space for these residents as well.

In addition to protecting precious open space, we work hard to improve quality of life. We are proud to improve quality of life with projects
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President's Note (Continued from page 1)

such as helping build Sutter-Jensen park, a new 14-acre preserve with a meandering pathway through a historic olive grove, Carmichael's largest community garden, and our only botanical garden. It is a hidden gem that truly represents our neighborhood's rural character.

Make no mistake about it: We must stay vigilant if we will succeed in continuing to protect open space, habitat and our unique, semi-rural way of life. As property values continue to rise, powerful interests will again seek ever-greater exceptions to the rules to cut down native trees, pave seasonal creeks, and build more and more houses on smaller and smaller lots. Once this place is paved over, it is very difficult, if not impossible, to ever restore its natural state. Let's join together to continue to prevent that.

Your strong support for this community helps ensure this neighborhood remains a vital rural oasis in an increasingly dense urban area. Your membership sends a message that this community will stand together and protect the things that matter to us all.

We cannot do this work alone. Our Board has vacant positions so please join us! We will take volunteers from the floor at the annual meeting, and would be delighted if you would volunteer. Thank you for your continued support!

Meet Our Members

By Manda Ness, CCNA Co-President

"HELP WANTED – Neighborhood Association seeks community organizer to fundraise; recruit new volunteers; organize brick, t-shirt, art, and yard sales; secure live music at events; and clean up Fair Oaks Boulevard."

So who responded to this Ad, time and again? Sandy Helland!

Sandy and her husband Jerry moved to the neighborhood in the 1980s. They chose the area's natural beauty and semi-rural character. Sandy's work with CCNA began with quarterly Fair Oaks Boulevard Brush-Ups, where we pick up trash on the section of road our Association has adopted. Since that time, she and Jerry have been regulars at our clean-up events.

Sandy is a pillar in local community organizing with her incredible ability to get people involved. She perfected her team-building skills as part of the Newsroom team at local Channel 3 TV. From there, she taught CSUC faculty how to instruct design

students on emerging media forms. After her retirement, we have all benefited from her energies. When the County began its formal Fair Oaks Boulevard Beautification Project, Sandy attended multiple planning meetings and shared her visions about the future of our community.

In addition, Sandy started attending the Carmichael Recreation and Park District meetings. At that time, the Park District was considering selling 10 acres of open space and Sandy believed there was better choice. She joined with others in the Association who refused to sit back and allow open space to be put in jeopardy.

Together with Anne Berner, Lora Cammack, Peggy Berry and Riki Merrick, she formed the Citizens' Committee to Preserve Sutter Jensen Park. Sandy and Lora chaired the Committee to raise funds to help build this new park in Carmichael and protect open space from development. To date, they raised approximately \$50,000 in cash and in-kind services, vital contributions that today have brought us 14-acres of beautiful open space and Carmichael's newest park--right in our neighborhood.

Sandy has been a long-time CCNA Board member and is consistently ready to join us and support us. Please thank her for her service the next time you see her on a walk along the beautiful new path through Sutter Jensen Park. It's thanks to Sandy and her dedication and hard work that we all enjoy such lovely things in our community.

A Water District To Be Proud Of

By Peggy Berry, CCNA Board Member

Many Carmichael Water District (CWD) ratepayers may not know that a very complex, sophisticated and important 5-year water project was recently successfully completed. The major participants, CWD, Golden State Water Company (GSWC) and Aerojet Rocketdyne mutually benefit from this historic project led by CWD's General Manager, Steve Nugent.

The project, known as the American River Pipeline Conveyance Project uses existing treatment capacity from CWD's Water Treatment Plant to provide a replacement water supply for residents in Gold River and Part of Rancho Cordova impacted by groundwater contamination from Aerojet Rocketdyne. The project raises revenue in our district and provides clean, safe water for more people.

The project removed a decades-old corroding water

pipe running under the American River at Carmichael, across from Rancho Cordova, with a new one set deeper. The project also included stream restoration and erosion control.

This historic event, completed September 2016, followed years of critical planning and crucial negotiations between CWD, Aerojet Rocketdyne, and numerous regulatory and environmental agencies.

Although I was not able to personally experience the actual removal event in person, CWD has posted videos of the operation at www.carmichaelwd.org for everyone to see.

This project is another example of CWD competent staff and Board of Directors managing infrastructure, securing the water supply and reducing costs. I am proud and impressed with our progressive and innovative Carmichael Water District and its major contribution to making Carmichael a desirable place to live.

It's A Hit, Unofficially

By Anne Berner

The pathway connecting Sutter and Jensen Parks was dedicated last November 21 and it appears to be very popular with residents and visitors alike. In random, non-scientific "Person on the Pathway" interviews conducted in September, visitors said really like the walk.

Everyone I interviewed raved about the natural look of the new Park, and the ability to get off main streets and stroll through the old olive grove that flanks the winding pathway. Here are some of the comments:

Jamie, who lives in the neighborhood, and walks the pathway at least once a month with her two dogs said: *"I like that the pathway is wide and that it's so natural. It's a very nice daytime stroll for me and my dogs."*

Greg and Kendyl, of Granite Bay, were interviewed pushing daughter Mikaela in her stroller during their first walk on the new pathway after reading about the project: *"We like the fact that it's a paved walkway.....perfect for a stroller. We will be back."*

Henry and Emily, who recently moved from Indianapolis, were visiting for the first with their granddaughter Elie, of Carmichael. They are pleased to live near the park and enjoy adventures with their

granddaughter. Henry said he was impressed with the number of parks in the area and liked that they could visit Jensen Botanical Gardens and tour the Carmichael Community Garden in the same trip.

Jeannette lives off Fair Oaks Boulevard and walks her three dogs daily along Fair Oaks to Carmichael Park, down Sutter, and completes their circuit on the pathway. The pathway is their favorite part of their walk. Jeannette is a wildlife biologist and likes the natural setting. She appreciates that dogs are on-leash and that the park district keeps the pathway clean and safe. She often sees the same people and surmises that they use the pathway as part of a daily exercise routine.

Gardeners at the Carmichael Community Garden have noticed an increase in the number of visitors strolling through the garden and attribute the increase to the popularity of the walk. Are there improvements to be made at the Sutter-Jensen park sites? Tarry Smith, Carmichael Recreation and Park District Administrator, hopes that memorial bricks purchased by neighbors and residents will be installed by the pathway in the Spring of 2017. He states that the park district and neighbors are working on an installation plan.

Join The Board of Directors!

CCNA members will elect a 15-member Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting. The nominating Committee proposes the following slate:

Anne Berner	Lora Cammack
Jorel Cooper	Sharon Doughty
Manda Ness	Julia Reyes
Laverne Shell	Cindy Younger
Jan Watts	Peggy Berry
Gareth Lacy	Thilo Protze

Three vacant Board positions remain, and we will warmly accept new volunteers at the Annual Meeting.

Email any questions about serving on the Board to garethlacy@gmail.com