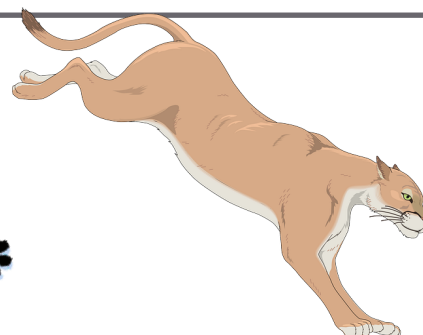


The Cougar KITTEN

Supporting the Sam Rodius Memorial Parkway Association (SRMPA)



Happy New Year! Welcome to 2018 in the Gulch!

2018

Winter is in full swing and the holiday celebrations are now behind us. This is the time of year your community board gears up for another year of planning and preparing for events and community get-togethers on behalf of all neighbors and residents of the surrounding area. These events include a variety of Hall preservation fundraisers, community dinners, 4H activities and opportunities to connect with friends and neighbors. Our annual membership drive is in full swing this quarter (see related article below). Membership dues, per family residence, are \$25 from January through March. Dues increase to \$30 per family from April through December so get your dues in early and save!

We look forward to providing a variety of options to capture your interest and offer something over the course of the year to please as many people as possible. This includes dances, crafting events, art auctions, oral history events, dinners, gaming nights, neighborhood clean-up efforts, 4H events, the annual potlucks and other things such as our Ice Cream Social and Chili Cook-off night. We always welcome individuals who would like to help by participating in events or activities with the board or those who would like to contribute dollars. Let's make 2018 an opportunity to be an even stronger community with a sense of communal activity and neighborhood pride.

Check out the articles in this issue about our upcoming events and projects. Your ideas to support and enhance our community are always welcome! Please feel free to contact any member of the board. Happy New Year, everyone!



Back by popular demand! Your community board has elected to continue the practice of providing a \$50 VISA gift card to one lucky winner in April. All families that pay membership dues for 2018 between January 1 and March 31 will go into a drawing to win this gift card. Drawing will be held at the April board meeting and the winner will be announced later in April. *Note: Board members are exempt from this drawing.*

Annual Membership Drive, 2018



The Meadowbrook Hall relies on the good will and generous community spirit of the neighborhood to maintain its current building. Your membership dues pay the monthly bills—keeping the lights on, paying the taxes and insurance, supplying consumables used during events, heating propane and even cleaning supplies. Without YOUR SUPPORT, the Hall cannot function at its current, minimum levels.

Membership dues are earmarked for those items outlined above and like-types of expenses to run and maintain the Hall for all to enjoy. None of these funds are used for our current building preservation fund that will eventually insulate and re-side the Hall. We have over 500 homes in the Cougar Gulch area and to date, our membership dues come from less than 75 families.

Our goal again this year will be membership support from at least 100 homes. There are a variety of ways to provide your membership dues. Please see the related article on page 2. And, as always, there is a form at the end of this newsletter that you can print out and mail in. Thank you everyone to helping to make our community strong and active.

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Membership & Donation Payment Options

As time marches on and more people move into the Gulch, families are now more connected with NextDoor, our Community Website and the KITTEN newsletter. More people are also attending community events, so the board is always looking for ways to help neighbors and friends of the Meadowbrook Hall donate or pay dues easily.

January—March is our annual membership drive and we rely on these funds to *keep the lights* on so to speak. One easy way to renew your membership or become a member is to print out the last page of any Cougar KITTEN newsletter, clip the membership application and mail your check to SRMPA in care of our treasurer. EASY!



when purchasing

Another way to make donations or pay membership dues is through our community website at CougarGulchCommunity.com. On the SUPPORT tab, you will find links to donate to our community building fund through our GoFundMe page, and a link to amazon.smile where you can designate the Sam Rodius Memorial Park Association (SRMPA) as your chosen charity goods online from Amazon. Extra EASY!

NEW in 2018! Drumroll, please.....we will be able to take credit card and debit card payments at the Community Hall during our events, and through our website. This option will be available in January and provide an additional way to contribute. Community members can make membership payments through our website and instructions will appear on our webpage and be reviewed on our February Community Update. Even EASIER!

And finally, all residents and friends of the community and the Meadowbrook Hall can seek out any board member to help with membership or donations. We are all happy to assist you, or, receive your dues and or donations and make sure you get a receipt. Let's make 2018 our strongest year!



The SNOWBALL Barn Dance—Saturday January 27, 6—9 pm



Shake off the "Cabin Fever" and dance away those extra holiday pounds! We are kicking off 2018 with a great fund raising event for the whole family in support of the Meadowbrook Hall! Come and KICK UP YOUR HEELS at the Snowball Barn Dance. **Admission is \$8 for adults, \$5 for teens and children 12 and under are FREE!**

- ◆ Saturday, January 27th from 6 pm to 9 pm
- ◆ Meadowbrook Community Hall—8088 W. Meadowbrook Loop
- ◆ Live Music by Arvid Lundin & Deep Roots
- ◆ Dance to Expert Caller Susan Dankovich
- ◆ Hot drinks & water provided
- ◆ **CAKE WALK**—win a delicious pie or cake
- ◆ **PRIZE-TASTIC Raffle**—win a great prize
- ◆ No experience necessary—all dances will be taught
- ◆ No need to bring a partner
- ◆ Please bring a snack to share

Upcoming Community Events

Valentine Craft Event

Saturday, February 10th—3 pm

Bring the kids!! Make valentine treasures to keep or give. Enjoy holiday treats and mingle with other Gulch families.

This event is FREE!



Pancake Breakfast Event

Saturday, March 10th—9—11 am

Join us for the annual pancake breakfast at the Hall. This event will serve from 9 am to 10:30 am. Pancakes, ham, fruit and juice & coffee. Don't be late and miss the blueberries! \$5 per person. Kids 10 and under are free.



Open Event

Saturday, April 14th

The Hall is reserved and we want to do something the community is interested in. VOTE for your preference by emailing us at CougarGulchCommunity@yahoo.com!

- ♦ Wine Tasting—OR—
- ♦ Family Bingo Night—OR—
- ♦ Family Bunco Night

Respond by April 1st and we will organize it!



Mother's Day Hanging Basket Sale Event

Saturday, May 12th

Mother's Day is Sunday May 13th this year. Consider pre-ordering your baskets early and save! And be a hit with mother too! Fill out the order form below and mail in at your earliest convenience. These baskets will be in limited supply so don't wait.



Mother's Day Basket Preorder FORM

2018 Cougar Gulch Mother's Day Hanging Basket Flower Order Form

Preorders are \$30 and \$35. Baskets purchased on the date of sale are \$40 and \$45. These lovely, large baskets contain a variety of hearty, beautiful blooming flowers specifically designed for hanging baskets and grown here in the pacific northwest. All proceeds will go to the Meadowbrook Building Fund.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Make checks payable to SRMPA. Baskets will be available for pick up at the Meadowbrook Hall on Saturday, May 12th from noon to 3 pm. Questions? Call Diana Nottage 208-661-3663 or Julie Schmidt 425-319-0915. Mail checks to: Julie Schmidt, 5255 W. Crazy Creek Road, CDA, ID 83814

Item Description	Price	Total Number Ordered	Total Line Price
Medium Hanging Flower Basket	\$30.00 each		
Large Hanging Flower Basket	\$35.00 each		
Total Order:			\$

DONATION STATION: Making 2018 Our Strongest Year Ever

Your SRMPA board of trustees continues to work on options to allow residents, neighbors and other interested parties to help raise enough money to insulate and re-side our community Hall. This project is a multi-year long commitment to collect donations and we have come up with a few ways to help people donate easily. REMEMBER: Your donations are tax deductible.

Amazon Prime (Amazon Smile)

One easy way for everyone in the community to participate is through *Amazon Smile* at smile.amazon.com.



For those of you who make purchases from your computer or iPad, .5% of each purchase can be donated to SRMPA (Sam

Rodius Memoria Parkway Association). It's easy and everyone wins! Set it up once and use smile.amazon.com each time you make purchases to support SRMPA!

Think of your community every time you purchase items online from Amazon. If you have not done so yet, sign up for an amazon account, designate SRMPA as your support organization :-)) and give it a try! We are grateful for all donations to help us save our community building.

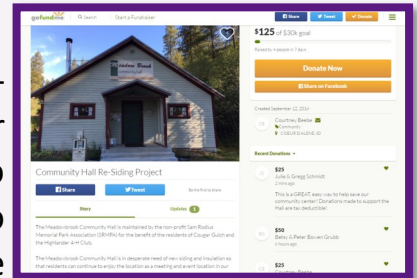
Check out our website at :

www.cougar gulch community.com - Click on the **SUPPORT** tab inside the website and access Amazon Smile—OR—GoFundMe links for easy giving access.

GoFundMe.com

www.gofundme.com/MeadowbrookHall

Our very own GoFundMe page was created specifically for our community to raise funds so we can insulate and re-side the Meadowbrook Community Hall.



This avenue to donate is super-easy. Just type:

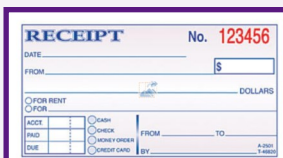
www.gofundme.com/MeadowbrookHall

into your browser and our page will come up. You can donate, read about our efforts and see the donations made to date. REMEMBER—your donations—whether in the form of monetary gifts for annual membership dues, contributions to our building fund or donations to offset the cost of our new propane stove installation are tax deductible.

Consider donating both ways over time. Let's work to make 2018 our strongest year ever!

Donate

Need a charitable donation receipt?



For all members of the community who would like a receipt for donations made to the Sam Rodius Memorial Parkway Association-SRMPA,

please send an email request to: Cougar-GulchTreasurer@yahoo.com. Be sure to include your full name. During events, if you donate in cash and want a receipt, please indicate so at the time and we will be happy to email it to you. Your generosity is critical to keep our community center strong.

THANK YOU!



Fundraiser Update:

Friends of the Gulch show their generosity.

Totals for gofundme.com and smile.amazon.com for 2017:

- ◆ [gofund me:](http://gofundme.com) \$237.10
- ◆ [smile.amazon:](http://smile.amazon.com) \$ 39.83

Fall and Winter Events, 2017 - A Look Back

Elegant French Dinner

In October and again in November, the Meadowbrook Hall was transformed into an elegant French Bistro, complete with décor, flowers, candles, beautiful cutlery and fabulous five course dinners. Chef Patricia Hebert-Jenks, raised in Normandy, France and a resident of the Gulch was inspired to create these special experiences for her friends and neighbors who love authentic French food. Each dinner started with appetizers, moved to a starter, then, a delicious main course—followed by salad and cheeses— and finished with an exquisite dessert. Both of these events were sold out and all participants enjoyed the intimate setting, good food, great friends, wine and French music.



Oktoberfest and Community Chili Cook-off & Costume Contest

The annual Oktoberfest celebration was held at the end of October at the Hall combined with a chili cook-off and Halloween costume contest. The results were a smashing success! Residents and neighbors in the Gulch came out in force—and in costume—for a delicious night of chili and other potluck items. A total of 18 families enter the chili cook-off and more than 60 people were in attendance. Event goers voted for their favorites and while all were different and delicious, first place was captured by Barba Attinger-Snarr for her lamb chili and second place went to Patricia Hebert-Jenks for her wonderfully tasty concoction. Adults and youth alike dressed to celebrate the Halloween season—with winners from both groups—complete with prizes! The dinner was complimented with desserts and drinks and everyone enjoyed a fun evening at the Hall. This community event was such a great big hit that we will look forward to planning it again next fall.



Fall and Winter Events, 2017 - A Look Back

Heart of the Hall Art Auction



Your Cougar Gulch Community Volunteer Board is always looking for great activities and events to peak the interest of local area residents. In mid-November, the board held the first ever *Heart for the Hall* Art Show and Auction fundraiser to continue raising funds for the preservation of Meadowbrook Hall. The event drew over 20 different artist and over 33 art donation for the auction. Many of the artist attended the auction and were able to interact with event-goers to learn about and purchase their artwork. The auction raised just under \$1000 and the proceeds have been placed in our Building Fund account. Special thanks to Dawn Myers for spearheading this event and to Deb DeSalliers and



Kristen Dillard for participating as major art sponsors. This hosted event showcased everything from paintings, weavings, metalwork, wood carvings, hand-spun yarns, photographic prints, saltwater flies, jewelry and more. Also, special thanks to Beauty Bay Winery for providing mulled wine, to others who donated food for the event, and to our art patrons and our auction bidders, who together, made this so successful! Thank you everyone.

Wreath Making Parties



The annual wreath making party, held the first week after Thanksgiving, is always a huge hit with the community and this year was no exception. The event is a two day affair. Day 1 hosts women, wine and tasty treats. Day 2 is focused on families, holiday treats and beverages. The holiday event is hosted by the Diana Nottage family and friends and is open to the community. Again this year, dozens upon dozens of women and families gathered for holiday cheer and made gorgeous wreaths. It has become such a hit that an additional, special group event has been added for 2018. **It's not too early to mark your calendar for 2018.** November 28th—private event; November



29th—Women, Wine and Wreaths; November 30th— Families, Treats and Wreaths

Holiday Potluck



December 3, 2017, marked the date of the annual holiday potluck. The tree was trimmed, and the tables set with festive boughs and the Hall was "decked" for the season. Attendees provided a host of delicious potluck dishes for the occasion. Ham, drinks and desserts were provided by the board and families rounded out the festivities with delectable salads, main dishes and home made desserts.



YOUR Community Board



Your volunteer board of trustees holds monthly meetings at 7:00 pm, the first Thursday of each month, September through June. These people are leaders in YOUR community and give their time generously so we all might all benefit. They attend meetings, encourage membership, host and manage community events, rent the Hall, and keep your donations and membership dollars in good order and according to our bylaws. They also write this newsletter and monthly community updates, sponsor Nextdoor.com, manage our 4H club and our website: CougarGulchCommunity.com. They also keep the Hall in good repair and ensure it is clean and stocked for rentals. Make sure to say thank you to them when you can.

Julie Schmidt,	President	425-319-0915, Communications
Barbara Snarr,	Vice Pres.	408-646-2228, Nextdoor Lead
Courtney Beebe,	Treasurer	208-447-8159, Nextdoor Lead
Julie King	Secretary	208-771-0071, Events, 4H
David Foster	Director	Events, Signage
Jason Shanley	Director	Events
Dawn Myers	Director	Events, 4H
Becky Karvonen	Director	Webmaster, 4H
Diana Nottage	Director	Hall Rentals, Events
Julia Mangan	Director	Events, 4H

The board welcomes all community members who would like to drop in to a meeting, listen to the proceedings and provide ideas. We also encourage anyone who would like to join the board to please contact **Julie Schmidt** for more information. Let's make 2018 our strongest year ever!

GOT VOLUNTEERS???

Your community board continues to look for residents and members of the local area who would like to donate some of their time and talents on occasion.

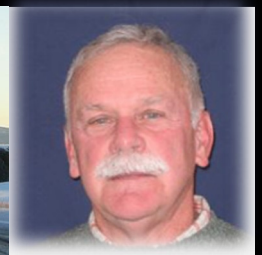
We need auxiliary board members to help augment our community effort over time. Auxiliary board members do not need to attend board meetings or help at every event. Auxiliary board members can choose how and when to participate. Here are some things auxiliary board members can do to help:

- ◇ Help at a 4-H meeting, class or event.
- ◇ Help at a community event such as Hall set up, clean up, decorating, or cooking.
- ◇ Help by providing person-power to clean the Hall on occasion or help take care of the outside landscaping.

Please contact any board member for more information. We would love to see more volunteers!



Worley Highway Districts Notes



Keeping roads cleared for traffic during morning and evening commuting periods is the district's number one priority this winter. Sometimes, as with the last storm, it takes all our allotted hours and then some. Then we catch up on maintenance and get ready for the next storm. I want to sincerely thank our motivated crew!

Looking back to the end of October, the district completed repairs on Burton Road. The problem was inadequate culverts to handle spring runoff, resulting in Bozard Creek overflowing the road and dumping large quantities of gravel in a prime trout stream. This led to the gravel having to be replaced on the road year after year, a repetitive and costly routine. The new bridge will allow a much larger volume of water to flow under the road. This effort was a joint project with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe.

Also squeezed before winter was a project that reduced a rock outcrop at Tall Pines and Loffs Bay Roads that resulted in doubling

the sight distance at this intersection and made a left hand turn much less risky. Some the boulders pulled from the outcrop will be used on the Sgt. Moore Memorial.

Previously reported, we completed the Clemetson Road project, and started an improvement project on Carnie Road. Repairs were made on Greensferry Road, which had been partially blocked by a slide, and two-lane traffic was restored.

During the next two months the district board, in consultation with the district supervisor, will set priorities on what projects we will try to wedge in between our normal road maintenance tasks for 2018.

Most important during winter, start your trip early, slow it down and enjoy the ride.

Jim Mangan, Commissioner, Sub District 1
208-660-7956

Community Cookbook Project



This summer will mark the 100th year anniversary of the founding of our official neighborhood organization. To

celebrate our special community, a project is underway to compile a commemorative cookbook with recipes submitted by YOU and other Cougar Gulch residents. The cookbook will also include historical information about our community. The project will be seeking your recipes in an upcoming letter to be mailed to your home address via US mail. There will be a form to write your recipes (a max of 3 per household) and an option to preorder your cookbook. You can also email your recipes to cougargulchcommunity@yahoo.com. The book will be for sale this summer for \$20 and pre-orders can be purchased for \$18. More information will be coming your way soon.

The project's theme will celebrate our heritage and the cookbook will have photos, stories and interesting facts about our local history.

Cougar Gulch Lending Library



The lending library is fast becoming a landmark in the Gulch. The brainchild of our 4H Club, the refurbished newspaper box is perfect for a community lending library.

Stop by and check it out any time as it graces a spot near the front steps of the Hall. Bring your books by that you would

like to donate and feel free to take a book you would like to read. If you are new to the Gulch, welcome! We encourage you to participate in this great, sharing opportunity. Thank you to everyone who continue to use and donate to the library!

Meadowbrook Hall for Rent



Our community Hall is a great place to gather with friends, family or work groups. The Hall has a large main room with tables and chairs for up to 80. There is a full kitchen and a wood burning fireplace. There is also a piano and audio equipment available too.

The Hall has lots of parking for events and is ready to host your next get-together. Think: baby shower, weddings, birthday parties, family reunions or club events. Please visit our website at CougarGulchCommunity.com for all of the particulars and to download a copy of the rental agreement. And, feel free to contact one of the board members listed below if you have questions. We will be happy to help make your next family or business gathering memorable at an affordable price.

Diana Nottage
208-661-3663
Diana.nottage@gmail.com

Julie Schmidt
425-319-0915
Julielinez1951@gmail.com

Courtney Beebe
208-447-8159
cbeebe@hotmail.com

Do You Read the Cougar KITTEN?



The Cougar KITTEN has been faithfully produced in this format for over 5 years. Writers and contributors do their best to inform, enlighten and entertain the residents in and surrounding the Cougar Gulch area and we would like to know what you think.

- ◆ Are we hitting the mark?
- ◆ Are the articles of interest to you?
- ◆ What do you like best?
- ◆ What would you like to see more of or less of?

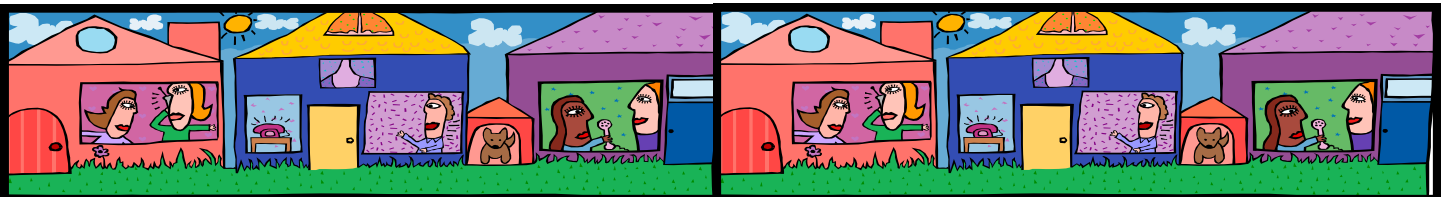
Email your answers to CougarGulchCommunity@Yahoo.com.

Each edition going forward will contain a "symbol" embedded for you to find. In this issue, the symbol takes the form of a *side-ways smile*: :-). Search for the symbol as you read the articles.

When you find it, email it's location (what page and what article you found it on) to CougarGulchCommunity@Yahoo.com by March 5th. All correct answers will be collected and one winner will be randomly drawn to receive 2 free pancake breakfasts at the Hall during our annual Pancake Feed on Saturday, March 10th from 9 am to 11 am.

YA-HOO—HERE IT IS!! Cougar Gulch Membership Application—2018

Annual membership is generally due the first quarter of each new year, however, we are always open to new member applications (valid through the end of each year) and donations. Your dues help maintain the Hall and provide for community events that take place all year.



2018 Cougar Gulch Community Membership Application

Tax Deductible Registration Form

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Current Email: _____

Home Address: _____

Annual Dues: \$25 (Jan—Mar). Please make check payable to SRMPA.

Additional Donation: \$ _____ TOTAL donation: \$ _____

I would like to have the Cougar KITTEN sent to my personal email.

____ YES ____ NO

Please mail this registration and your dues to:

SRMPA Treasurer

6637 W. Meadowbrook Loop Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

2017 Photo Page

