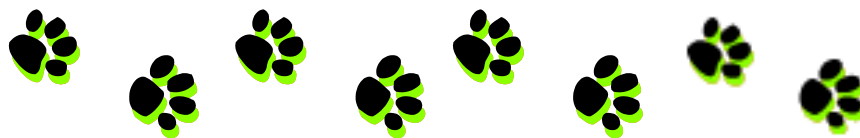


# The Cougar KITTEN



## Spring Pancake Feed Well Attended by Community Neighbors



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The Spring Pancake Feed was held at the SRMPA Community Hall on Saturday, March 8th from 8 am to 11 am. Attendees were treated to delicious pancakes with huckleberries, awesome chunks of 4-H ham that nearly melted in your mouth, and fresh scrambled eggs with cheese—

all washed down with hot coffee and cold orange juice. This gathering brought approximately 45 residents together to feast and connect. Those attending want to give a big THANK YOU to the

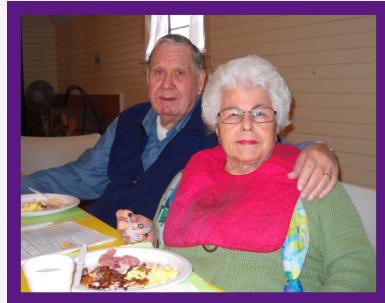
SRMPA board members

who hosted the event and provided the set up and excellent cooks to make this get-together full of friendly, family fun. We were very please to see Ray and Louise Oliver in attendance. Ray and Louise were long-time residents in the Gulch and still maintain their yearly membership while regularly attending events.

Congratulations go out to them for celebrating 63 years of marriage recently. We look forward to seeing them both at many more functions in the years

to come! Please see page 7 in this issue to review a list of

other, upcoming events hosted at the Hall for 2014 .



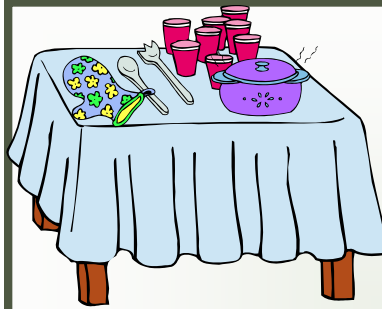
## 2014 Board of Trustees

Your elected community board of trustees holds monthly meetings at 6:30 pm, the first Thursday of each month, from September through May.

Tom Wambolt, President	208-664-7705
Phil Cooper, Vice President	208-818-1844
Karen Wambolt, Treasurer	208-664-7705
Julie Schmidt, Secretary	425-319-0915
Julia Mangan	Board Position 1
David Foster	Board Position 2
Mavis Tysdal	Board Position 3
Jason Shanley	Board Position 4
Sandra St. George	Board Position 5

The board welcomes all community members who would like to drop in to a meeting, listen to the proceedings and provide ideas. For more information and meeting locations please contact Tom Wambolt.

## Spring Ladies Lunch Bunch Event



The 2014 Spring Ladies Lunch Bunch luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 16th at the home of Buffy Rennie. All current and past women residents of the Gulch are invited to attend. These quarterly gatherings are a great way to connect with old friends, meet new neighbors and support one another. Attendees bring a main dish, a salad, or a dessert to the lunch. If you come regularly, consider bringing a new neighbor or old friend along. The fun begins at noon and the address is 5869 W Heine Rd. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Julie Schmidt via email at:

**julielinez1951@gmail.com**, or by phone at 425-319-0915. Let's make the Spring event a large, well attended, robust affair. See you there!

*Cuisine*

*Conversation*

*Camaraderie*

## The 2014 Annual Membership Drive Continues



The Cougar Gulch annual membership fundraiser continues. If you have not signed up and paid dues this year, please consider joining. Your membership donation is tax deductible and the monies are used for activities to maintain the Hall and put on fun events for the community.

The Hall acts as our Precinct #65 polling location and hosts dances, weddings, potlucks, and community gatherings. Consider your next party or family gathering at the Hall. To book

and event, please contact Gail Carlson at 208-699-5055 or via email at **gcarlson@mormfg.com**. This yearly membership drive is important to maintain the Hall as a strong, vital community connection for all the families of the Gulch.

Items that your donation support this year will include painting the outside of the Hall, installing a propane heater in the kitchen, fixing a minor roof leak, and helping to keep the lights on.

Membership has it's privileges too! Members can rent the Hall at a reduced price and advertise for free in the KITTEN.

**Consider getting involved.** The board welcomes new members and looks forward to all the help it can get.

## Keeping the Gulch Clean

The snow has melted, the roads are being swept of gravel, and the creeks are flowing.

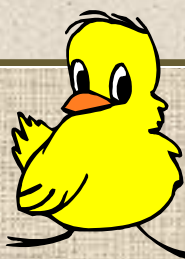
The Gulch is a lovely place to drive through as spring blooms anew. Unfortunately, it also uncovers things that we don't especially care to see—litter.

You can help keep the Gulch litter free by using your ashtray, carrying a litter bag in your car and teaching your younger drivers to respect the roads.

Consider joining the annual road clean-up in the Gulch scheduled for Saturday, June 21st. Neighbors work on those roads in their specific neighborhoods, and everyone benefits! For more information on joining the clean-up crews, please call Tom Wambolt.



## The Cougar Chick



Welcome to *The Cougar Chick*, a column dedicated to agricultural pursuits in Cougar Gulch. You'll find information about grower and livestock practices as we feature neighbors involved in farming and related activities, either for commercial sales or personal enjoyment and consumption.

I met recently with Steve Greene who graciously conducted a tour of his family's well established property on Greensferry Road. The Greene's have four green houses, laying hens, and fenced orchards. They are fortunate to have multiple water sources, including a well, a small spring fed pond, and a creek that flows eleven months of the year.

Our tour began inside the Greene home where Steve and wife Susan have a corner of one room dedicated to shelves of seedlings for their vegetable garden, which they start each year in February. The cabbage, radishes, corn, chard, broccoli, and other vegetables are destined for cold frames inside the greenhouses. (*Seed source: "Irish Eyes" brand, available at Pilgrim's Market*).

Steve constructed the shelves from 1" x 2" lumber and places the seedling trays very close to the lights to promote sturdy growth by preventing the seedlings from growing too tall too quickly in their effort to reach for the lights.



As the seedlings grow, he removes the wood pieces under the trays. Typically, the Memorial Day weekend marks the end of frost danger, so plants are not usually put into the green houses until then, unless placed into the cold frames with a light bulb for warmth. The greenhouses provide protection not only from the elements, but from insects and hungry deer. The Greene's use no herbicides or pesticides in their garden.

Amazingly, some of Steve's Swiss chard and radishes from prior seasons survive our cold north Idaho winters inside the greenhouse cold frames, with the added warmth of blankets laid over the tops of the raised bed cold frames when the outside temperatures fall below freezing. The greenhouses are constructed from scrap lumber and hog panels, with 6ml thick plastic sheeting over the tops to retain heat. The plastic is rated to last six years. (*Plastic sheeting sources: Look for 16 ft. wide sheeting at about \$1 per linear foot, from various online sources.*)

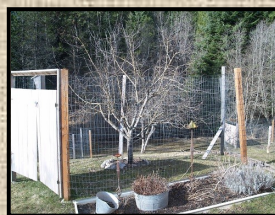
Steve built and installed wood plank walkways inside the greenhouses to keep boots out of the mud. There is no heat source inside the greenhouses, only electric fans equipped with thermostats to cool the air when the summer temperatures soar to 90 degrees inside.



The Greene's also have some very happy laying hens, who enjoy a spacious outdoor run with direct access to the shelter of the barn, which also has an indoor brooder room for new chicks. (*Feed sources: Big R in Coeur d'Alene; "Jelka", a Stateline, WA supplier, not certified organic, but non-GMO, telephone: 509-999-3754*)



The nearby orchard, which is fenced with 6-foot high field wire, features apple, cherry, plum, and pear trees. The 7-year-old apple tree produced abundantly in its sixth year, and the same is expected of some of their younger, 2- to 3-year-old trees. With tall fences to keep out unwanted visitors, the Greene's plan to have more fruit than they can eat fresh, so they plan to dry the rest and enjoyed fruit all winter long. They previously dried their fruit in the sun, but now use electric driers for a more consistent heat source. (*Drier source: Cabela's in Post Falls*)



Thank you to the Greene's for sharing their abundant knowledge and expertise.

\* \* \*

A few of our neighbors have expressed an interest in a neighborhood farmers market style gathering in the summer and/or early fall where neighbors could bring surplus crops for sale or trade. Another idea is a neighbors-only farm and garden tour/open house day. Please contact me by email if you have an interest in participating in these or other activities you might suggest, or if you would like to have your farm or other agricultural or food-oriented venture featured in *The Cougar Chick*.

\* \* \*

*Karen Thurston and her husband John and two children have lived in the Meadowbrook Loop area of Cougar Gulch for about 10 years and have operated Thurston Family Farm since 2007. They raise laying hens for commercial egg production, spring lambs through their Community Supported Agriculture program, and a variety of herbs, vegetables, and fruit, currently for their personal consumption. You can reach Karen by email at [Karen@ThurstonFamilyFarm.com](mailto:Karen@ThurstonFamilyFarm.com)*



# The Cougar KITTEN SPRING Classified Ads

**Century 21**  
BEUTLER & ASSOCIATES

Michael Wendland  
REALTOR®  
www.MichaelWendland.com



1836 Northwest Boulevard  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814  
Cell (208) 651-3406  
Direct (208) 676-2128  
Office (208) 765-5554  
mwendland@21goldchoice.com

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

**Fireman Joe's**  
**Chimney Sweep**




Chimney cleaning \* Relining \* Repairs

Serving North Idaho for 22 years  
Call 208-777-8985 ~ Joe Schindler ~ Insured

**Judi's Pantry**  
Fresh Breads, Jams & Gift Baskets, Weekly on Saturdays & by Special Order

Judi Horton

6863 W. Meadowbrook Loop  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
208-665-0871  
tomandjudi@maxmail.net




**Vacation Retreats**  
Vacation Property Rentals  
"We treat your home like our own"

Diana Nottage  
Debbie Mott

208-661-3663  
diana.nottage@gmail.com


Mrs. Clean



**Diana Nottage**  
**Debbie Mott**

Residential, Commercial, Vacation & Construction Clean Up


oed.clean11@gmail.com  
112 Hazel Avenue  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
208.661.3663



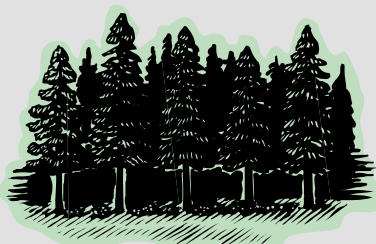
**CREEKSIDE FARMS**  
Landscaping  
Lawn Maintenance  
Sprinkler Systems

208-661-3663  
112 E. Hazel  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Lepeep Lady.  
Fresh Eggs.  
Please call Tiffani  
at  
208-664-0998




**Timber exemption tax help and preparation.** Long time Gulch resident with 40 years of forestry experience. Please contact Larry Isenberg at 208-661-5457 or please email Larry.isenberg50@gmail.com. I'm the one with the garden and windmill at the Lynx and Cougar



**ZUMBA**

In your neighborhood! Classes start soon—no fees. Call Tiffani at 208-664-0998.



Diana Nottage  
Debbie Mott  
bookkeeping.cda@gmail.com

**Pantandle Business Services**  
Accounting - Payroll - QuickBooks - Financial Planning

112 Hazel Avenue  
208.661.3663 Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814



Since I will be retiring at the end of June, I'm excited about spending more time with my horses. I am wondering if there are any other ladies here in the Gulch who would be available to ride with this summer. Perhaps we can get a saddle club going? Please contact Nancy Hayes at

**idaho\_native@hotmail.com**

**HORSES -**

Have them? Love them? Let's get together and share the joy. Please call Tiffani at 208-664-0998.

Consider placing your classified ad in the Cougar KITTEN. Do you have something to trade or barter? Something to sell or market? Paid member ads are FREE. Non-member ad prices:

- ◆ 15-20 words: \$5/issue.
- ◆ Business Card Info: \$25/year

**Contact Julie at julielinez1951.com**

## Worley Highway District Notes



*This article submitted by Jim Mangan, Commissioner, Sub District 1, Worley Highway District. Jim can be reached at 208-660-7956.*

**Road Damage:** The recent rains, combined with abundant snow and ice blockages in culverts and ditches, has caused road damages not seen in many years. Several of our roads were closed, some for up to 24 hours. Some roads still have sections restricted to one lane, especially a part of Loffs Bay Road that simply slid down the hill. Expect to see more than usual ditch clearing this coming summer.

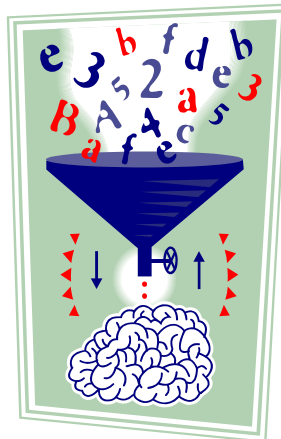
**Magnesium-Chloride:** Of the approximately 192 miles of roads in the district, 103 of those roads are unpaved. The dust you may see coming off an untreated road surface consists, in part, of very small rock called fines. Fines helps keep the larger rocks embedded in the surface. Without the fines, the larger rock will be come loose, leading to wash boarding, and even more material blowing off the roads. An application of Magnesium-Chloride allows our roads to pull moisture out of the air and keeps the road surface from to-

tally drying out. The result is a more stable road surface with noticeably less dust which reduces the need to blade the roads. Magnesium-Chloride is applied annually to the majority (74 miles) of unpaved road surfaces. Your highway department typically starts the process of "laying down Mag" in the latter part of April, beginning south of the district, and working north as the roads dry—finishing this overall effort in about 5 weeks.

**Clemetson Road:** Our proposed project for Kidd Island Road is slowly wending its way through multi-agency reviews. Construction there won't begin until 2017, a year later than originally estimated. Therefore, this presents us an opportunity to begin work sooner than expected on a smaller project—The Clemetson Road Improvement Project. This project is totally funded by the highway district so it does not require State review. Work will begin there this coming summer by preparing the right of way and beginning the build up of gravel layers. This initial phase will be completed in the summer of 2015, and paving will be done in 2016.

### Did you know.....

- ♦ Did you know reindeer like bananas?
- ♦ Did you know the longest recorded flight of a chicken was 13 seconds?
- ♦ Did you know rabbits like licorice?
- ♦ Did you know a bear has 42 teeth?
- ♦ Did you know an ostrich's eye is bigger than it's brain?



- ♦ Did you know goldfish can see both infrared and ultraviolet light?
- ♦ Did you know cats spend 66% of their life asleep?
- ♦ Did you know macadamia nuts are toxic to dogs?
- ♦ Did you know Koalas sleep around 18 hours a day?
- ♦ Did you know frogs can't swallow with their eyes open?



## NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO VISIT A WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA



Spring is here and tundra swans seem to be dabbling in every wetland in northern Idaho, eventually continuing northward to nesting grounds in Canada.

Brilliantly colored wood ducks are pairing up and paddling around in every wetland that has trees nearby with cavities in which they nest. Drake (male) wood ducks in spring plumage sport spectacular coloration. The more subtly colored hen wood ducks have a striking ring around each eye and are also beautiful and fun to watch.

When driving these days, watch out for geese standing right on the edge of the road. They are on the lookout for any potential danger to their nearby nests. Early nesters, they will have little yellow and brown baby goslings hatching and running along behind them very soon. One more thing to watch out for as you travel through our community and beyond.

Songbirds are also showing up too. Although not very melodious, the song of the varied thrush is something I always listen for as a sure sign of the coming of spring. I first heard them on March 6 this year. Hummingbirds do not arrive in the area until very late April or early May. At my house, they first show up within one day either side of May 3...every year.

After a long winter of gray skies, drizzle, and snow, it is no wonder people are ready for spring and all it brings. For wildlife enthusiasts, spring is one of the best times of the year to see migratory birds, deer fawns, elk calves, and butterflies.

The Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG) manages thirty-two Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) around the state that have been established to protect wildlife habitat. Varying from 275 to 85,000 acres, each area is managed to provide quality habitat for waterfowl, songbirds, big game, and upland game. They also are available for hunting, fishing and other public enjoyment of wildlife. And now is a great time to head to a WMA to see wildlife of all types. There are seven WMA's in the Idaho Panhandle and they are some of the best places to enjoy wildlife.

**The Coeur d'Alene River WMA** is just east of Harrison and south of Coeur d'Alene, about one hour on Highway 97. This area encompasses most of the lateral chain lakes of the Coeur d'Alene River and is a haven for nesting birds and other wildlife. Look for all species of ducks and geese, great blue herons, red-tailed hawks, northern harriers, rails, kingfishers, snipe, mourning doves and wild turkeys. Over 50 pairs of osprey nest on the lower Coeur d'Alene River and an additional 30 pairs near the mouth of the St Joe.

**McArthur Lake WMA** is adjacent to Hwy 95, eighteen miles

north of Sandpoint and thirteen miles south of Bonners Ferry. McArthur Lake WMA provides excellent goose nesting habitat and a large numbers of pintails have been there for the last several weeks.

**Boundary-Smith Creek WMA** is, as the name implies, on the US-Canada border near Port Hill. Many of the wetland cells are now full, providing great opportunities to view migrating waterfowl. Large numbers of pintails are also currently at Boundary-Smith Creek WMA. There are also numerous beaver, muskrat, otter, mink, raccoons and moose. Watch for turtles laying eggs in the gravel along the roads; be careful not to run over them! After all, as you would expect...they "move like, well...turtles." Grizzly bears do occasionally appear the meadows of the WMA in the spring too, so watch for them and observe from a distance.

**The Pend Oreille WMA** is best reached by taking US 95 to Sandpoint. The various parcels are found off Highway 200 or Highway 2. Western grebes are abundant in the Denton Slough segment and you can check out the Clark Fork delta segment where you may see common loons. And diving ducks are fairly common here with the close proximity to Lake Pend Oreille.

**The St Maries WMA** is in Benewah County about 5 miles south of St. Maries. This WMA is managed primarily for big game habitat and hunting, fishing access, and wildlife viewing.

**The Farragut WMA** is adjacent to the town of Bayview, Farragut State Park and Lake Pend Oreille. White-tailed deer are common with 5-10 deer per square mile. Turkeys are also common as are many species of small mammals.

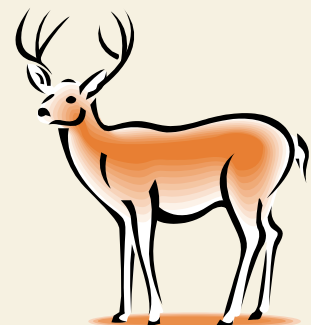
**The Snow Peak WMA** is 25 miles southwest of St Regis. It is home to mountain goats, elk and...lots of snow. Wait until July to visit!

For complete details on the WMA's managed by fish and game, check out our website [fishandgame.idaho.gov](http://fishandgame.idaho.gov). If you go to the Wildlife tab, you will see a sub-tab for Wildlife Management areas. Included are directions on how to get there and what you may see!

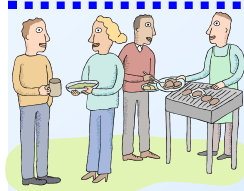
Phil Cooper, Wildlife Conservation Educator

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

[phil.cooper@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:phil.cooper@idfg.idaho.gov)



## Annual Summer BBQ and Road Clean-up



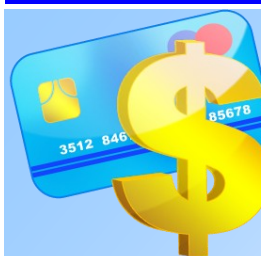
Please join us for the annual Cougar Gulch road clean-up event and community BBQ. To participate in the road clean-up, please contact Tom Wambolt.

Whether you can make it to the road clean up event or not, please do not miss the annual BBQ at the Hall. This get-together is a wonderful way to visit with neighbors in a community picnic style gathering. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided and so will the drinks. Please bring your favorite potluck main dish or salad to compliment the affair. Bring your family, your neighbors, and their neighbors too!

Road clean up: Meet at the Hall at 10 am

BBQ : Meet at the Hall at 1 pm

## And the winner is.....



Congratulations to Tom & Val Kuntz, winners of a \$50 VISA card, compliments of the Cougar Gulch Board, for being one of many neighbors who submitted their 2014 membership application and dues prior to April 1st this year. Their name was picked at random in a drawing held at the regularly scheduled April board meeting. Membership dues and donations make it possible to keep our community Hall functioning for the community. If you have not yet signed up, please see the application on page 8. It's never too late. Thanks!

## 2014 Cougar Gulch Community Events



**Saturday, May 3**  
**Taco Feed & Bingo**

Join us at the Hall for delicious "make-your-own" tacos. Dinner is \$5 per person, children under 5 are free. Stay for BINGO! Each card is \$10. Cash prizes to the winners. **6 PM**

**Saturday, May 17**  
**Community Garage**

Cougar Gulch Community Garage Sale. See details on page 8 to participate. This is a great opportunity to do some spring cleaning and get a large shopper base to visit your sale. **8 am**

**Saturday, June 21**  
**BBQ and Road**  
**Clean-up**

Welcome to Summer! Save this date for our annual community Road Clean-up AND BBQ potluck. See details on page 7. Start this season out by helping to keep the Gulch litter-free and enjoy a BBQ and potluck with friends. **Cleanup: 10 am; BBQ: 1 pm**

**Saturday, Oct. 11**  
**Dinner & BINGO**

We celebrate the Fall season with another community dinner and BINGO event at the Hall. Stay tune for details in an upcoming issue of the KITTEN. **6pm**

**December**  
**Holiday Dinner**

Our annual holiday dinner/potluck will be held at the Hall in December to celebrate the season. Stay tuned for details in an upcoming issue of the KITTEN. **Time TBD**

# May 17—Community-Wide Garage



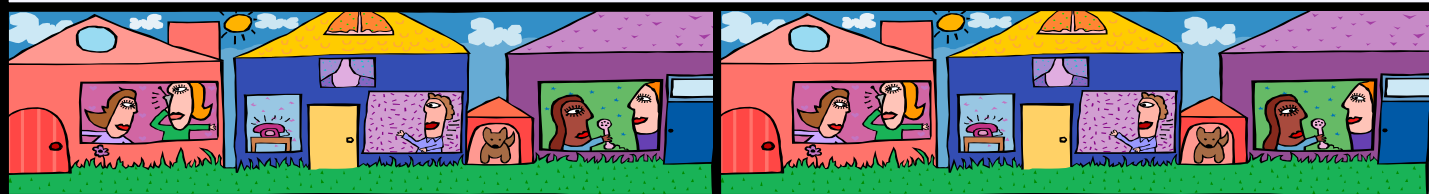
**SAVE THIS DATE!** Your Cougar Gulch Board is sponsoring a Community Garage Sale! Start collecting your items for this neighborhood-wide event now.

⇒ You can hold your sale right in your own yard or rent space at the Hall. All participants can choose their selling location. The board will provide shoppers a community map with locations of neighbors who want to participate and want their address identified. Shoppers will start their experience at the Hall where they will be provided with the garage sale map of the neighborhood. Please call Mavis Tysdal at 208-667-5802 or email her at

**mavisandbobbysdal@gmail.com** to sign up as a participant.

- ⇒ Provide her your name, address, phone number, and a general description of the type of items you will have for sale. **ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST REGISTER BY MAY 3RD** to have their sale location and sale items noted on the community garage sale map. **(Note: Names & phone numbers will not be made public, only sale items and locations will be provided on the shoppers map).**
- ⇒ The board will advertise this sale by email to our neighbors, via our reader board to travelers in the community, through news print ads and online via Craig's List to people in the surrounding areas.
- ⇒ The garage sale will be advertised to start at 8 am. If you would like a spot to sell at the Hall, members are free and others can reserve a space for \$10, plus \$5 for a table. Neighbors who have not paid membership dues are welcome and encouraged to participate too. There will be a \$10 fee to non-members to help cover advertising costs. Here's a great opportunity to get lots of garage sale traffic to purchase your treasures of yester-year.

## 2014 Annual Cougar Gulch Membership Application



### 2014 Cougar Gulch Community Membership Application

#### Tax Deductible Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues: \$25. 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

10988 W. Thompson Road, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814