



November 10, 2023

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## A Message From Our Newsletter Committee

A very happy holiday season from your Newsletter Committee. Please enjoy this special time of the year creating memories for a lifetime.

In this final edition of our newsletter for 2023, we decided to spotlight major events during the year, update committee activities, review major community projects, get introduced to some of our new neighbors while adding a few holiday traditions accompanied by a few recipes and holiday humor. We also included information provided by the CSD regarding the recent rate study.

How are the roads? Know before you go! The [Caltrans QuickMap](#) will show you first-hand if California interstates or state routes are closed or are experiencing a traffic jam. You can even see live video of road conditions in specific areas by downloading the Caltrans QuickMap phone app! Click [here](#) to learn more.

Have you heard of CareFlight? A program of the Regional Emergency Medical Service Authority (REMSA), Care Flight is a 24/7 air ambulance service covering approximately 50K square miles of California and Nevada

with the ability to navigate rural and complex alpine terrain. One of their bases is in Beckwourth with a medical transport helicopter that is accessed by calling 911. CareFlight is a private non-profit community-based service which is solely funded by user fees. Click [here](#) to learn more.

As always, we encourage members to share any ideas that they would like included in our newsletter, and we truly appreciate the efforts of all who contribute. Send your ideas to George Papa at [GPapa99@me.com](mailto:GPapa99@me.com). Content is provided by many residents in addition to those people on the newsletter team. We thank you! Now on to the message from our President, Mark Roberts.



# President's Message

By Mark Roberts

On behalf of the Grizzly Ranch Board of Directors, Martin Stepina, Marty Greenstein, and George Papa, I'd like to wish you and your family a very happy holiday season. We hope you can spend time with family and friends and reflect on happy memories made over the past year.

Similar to last year, we are ending 2023 with a newsletter to wrap-up the year, spread some cheer, and highlight holiday happenings as well as winter activities in and around Grizzly Ranch.

We would like to thank all the employees and volunteers who worked toward keeping Grizzly Ranch an incredible place to live.

As 2023 rolled in, we were hit with frequent heavy snowstorms which would ultimately produce more snow than Portola has seen since 1953. Many counties and cities reached all-time record snow levels in California. As with any challenge, there comes the opportunity to be creative and find ways to overcome those obstacles. Faced with the challenge of snow removal in 2022-2023, and working with Bryan Draper of Grizzly Ranch Golf, as well as the various committees, a solution was created for paying for these unexpectedly high costs and our budget was revised to meet these expenses without impacting Association dues.

At our August 4th Annual Meeting, we thanked Laura Reis for her service as a Board Member and Treasurer. Although no longer on the Board, Laura will continue to volunteer on a number of committees that interest her. Her talents will be missed on the Board.

Also on August 4th, Martin Stepina, the Vice President of the Board, agreed to remain on the Board to serve a second term and was appointed through the Acclamation process. We are thrilled to have Martin back with us for

a second term, as he is a valuable member of the Board, the committees on which he serves, and this community.

## *South Gate Project Update*

Following a community vote in February, the construction of the south gate is underway. In August, the Board was invoiced 50% of the gate fabrication cost - which was \$27,897.50. In September, the Board paid Williams Construction \$29,495 for excavation, utilities, lumber, PSREC services and the keypad. At the end of September, Williams Construction had concrete poured for the footers of the pillars and the base for the keypad. Construction of the pillars is in progress and when complete, Tholl Fencing can install the gate and keypad.

## *Line of Sight Project Update*

A traffic study report completed in October of 2016 recommended that the line of sight be adjusted for vehicles exiting the south gate. The grading of the area has been completed in accordance with the study's recommendations.

Let's take a look at some of the accomplishments made by the various committees.



# Grizzly Ranch Association Committees

## ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

Mark Roberts-President/Treasurer

Martin Stepina- Vice President

Martin Greenstein-Director at Large

George Papa-Secretary

### FINANCE

When the Finance Committee was faced with the challenge of paying for snow removal due to the storms in 2023, its members brainstormed various options to avoid a special assessment to the community. The Committee's solution was different than many other Associations that had to require a special assessment for snow removal. They came up with a plan to work with the Golf Course Management team and developed a payment plan that was agreeable to both parties. A 6-month payment plan was structured with the Golf Course, and by October the golf course was paid in full for the services they provided to the community from February through April. This payment plan enabled the Association to defer payment of these first quarter expenses until quarterly dues were collected later in the year.

The Committee continues to work to maximize our investment strategies for both our Savings Account and our Reserve Account through Fidelity. As investments mature, they are reinvested into CD's or Treasury Notes that are now paying returns of up to 5.65%. With these higher rates we are looking into 3-5-year options as well as the shorter time frames. By the end of 2023, some of our investments will mature (\$171,000), and we will consider reinvesting those funds into the longer-term options.

In 2020, the Board overfunded reserves by \$150,000 in anticipation of the road Slurry Sealing project in 2021, which cost \$269,567. In 2021 we overfunded our Reserves by \$75,000, and in 2022 we overfunded our Reserves by \$69,500. In 2023 we will incur a shortfall in funding our reserves of \$91,000, due to the cost of snowplowing. Our 2024 budget, approved at the October 13, 2023 meeting, puts us back on target to fund reserves as scheduled. Our funding level as of October 17th was 52.8%; whereas, in 2021 we were at a level of 45.7%. We achieved this increase while covering all the costs for upgrading gate parts over the past 2 years. By year end 2023, we plan to be at 56.1%, and by year end 2024, our goal is to be at or above 65%. A number above 70% would put us in a strong financial rating.

In each of the past three years, the Committee developed a budget that did not require an increase in Association dues. Income from Association dues paid from the sales of GRI lots has contributed to that effort; and much credit for these sales goes to the hard work of Ron Hemig, Sierra Sotheby's real estate agent, and George Papa.

### HIKING

Committee Chairperson, Ed Koenig, established a trail system signage map. The committee has identified 16 points where signs will be placed on the trails, highlighting trailheads, T-intersections on the trails, and vista points. Ed is also working with a sign maker, Bob Zwitch, to design and create signs made from a material similar to Trex, so the signs will hold up in the weather and won't require much maintenance.

The Committee has worked on clearing the Bucks Pass Trail and the Crocker Ridge Trail/Riker Trail in addition to consulting with Paul Ithurnburn, of the US Forestry Service to rename the East Ridge Connector Trail in a way that will honor the firefighters who protect our community. These firefighters run our trails for training, and the committee would like to acknowledge them. We learned from Paul that on the top of Sally Peak, there is a memorial created by the Beckwourth Hotshots, in memory of Damian Rivadeneyra. He was the Captain of the crew and was very well respected in the fire community. He died tragically in a skiing accident around Christmas 2019.



# Grizzly Ranch Association Committees



## DESIGN REVIEW

In March, the DRC was restructured, making Stephen Tange a paid consultant for the DRC. In his role, Stephen is doing the administrative work that is required to complete a build which is covered through the Design Review fee.

The committee consists of Bryan Draper, Martin Stepina, and Mark Roberts. The paid consultants for the committee are Stephen Tange, Mike Marquette, and Matt Williams (if Mike is unavailable as our building consultant).

## COMMUNICATIONS

The Board thanks our dedicated and creative Newsletter committee members, Kathy Roberts, Kathleen Schonder, Lynn Desjardin, and Margaret Skillicorn, Paragon Marketing and their leader, George Papa who guides team in putting all the pieces of the puzzle together to provide an entertaining and informative newsletter.

# Grizzly Ranch Entities

## CAMCO

Cassidy Wicks, Property Manager  
Cassidy@CAMCOtruckee.com  
530-587-3355 or 800-916-2262

Eric Wicks, Property Manager  
Eric@CAMCOtruckee.com  
530-587-3355 or 800-916-2262

## Grizzly Ranch Golf Club (GRGC)

Caleb Olsen, General Manager  
Caleb@GrizzlyRanchGolfClub.com  
530-832-4200

## Grizzly Ranch Community Services District (CSD)

GrizzlyRanchCSD.com  
Larry Smith, General Manager  
gmsmithgrcsd@gmail.com  
918-728-4776

## Grizzly Ranch Conservancy (GRC)

GrizzlyRanchConservancy.com  
Donna Lindquist, Executive Director  
donnaL@psln.com  
530-902-12710

## Firewise Committee

(See GrizzlyRanchAssociation.com)  
Kathi Stepina and Kathy Roberts  
GrizzlyRanchFirewise@gmail.com

## Grizzly Ranch Association (GRA)

GrizzlyRanchAssociation.com  
Mark Roberts, HOA Board President  
MarkRRoberts22@gmail.com  
610-209-9659

## Grizzly Ranch Design Review Committee (DRC)

Mark Roberts, Chairman  
MarkRRoberts22@gmail.com  
610-209-9659





# Firewise

By Kathy Roberts and Kathi Stepina

We have been so fortunate that this has been a quiet wildfire season this year. One incident close to home occurred during a thunderstorm in the afternoon on May 24 when lightning struck a tree on the north side of Grizzly Ranch Road. The U.S. Forest Service stationed at Beckwourth Station on Grizzly Road responded within minutes to put out the small fire before it reached an adjacent home.



The annual Firewise education event was held on Sunday morning after Homecoming. Speakers from Beckwourth Fire Department and the U.S. Forest Service provided information about home hardening and reviewed wildfire evacuation procedures. The event was followed up with ice cream sundaes at the Outpost. The raffle of wines donated by many Grizzly Ranch members raised \$1,100 for the benefit of the Beckwourth Fire Department.

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council again provided chipping services for property owners in Plumas County. They made two visits to Grizzly Ranch this summer providing the opportunity to chip branches cleared from owners' properties.

Thank you to all of the property owners who completed the tracking sheet to document their efforts to reduce fire fuels around their property. Consolidated tracking data from Grizzly Ranch owners is one component to maintaining our recognition as a Firewise community. When combined with other communities in Plumas County, the data helps the area qualify for grants to fund Firewise activities, including the chipping program. Consolidated data also provides information for home insurance companies that may be interested in understanding fuel reduction efforts in areas they insure. Forms are available on [GrizzlyRanchAssociation.com/firewise](https://GrizzlyRanchAssociation.com/firewise) and can be submitted throughout the year to [GrizzlyRanchFirewise@gmail.com](mailto:GrizzlyRanchFirewise@gmail.com).

In the November local general election, there were two measures on the ballot regarding the development and funding of the Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District (FPD). The new consolidated district would provide emergency services in Eastern Plumas County currently served by the City of Portola, Beckwourth FPD, Gold Mountain Community Services District (CSD), and Sierra Valley FPD. The FPD would also serve areas that are currently outside of any local jurisdictional boundary assigned to provide services. Approval of the measures will ensure continuation of emergency services to Grizzly Ranch and surrounding areas.

To fulfill the requirements to maintain Grizzly Ranch Firewise Recognition, John Reynolds, Chair of the Plumas County Fire Safe Council, Paul Ithurburn, Captain E312 of the US Forest Service, Ken Osburn, Interim Chief of the Beckwourth Fire District, and members of the Firewise Committee participated in a Risk assessment of Grizzly Ranch on October 17. While the development in general is in good shape, several areas were identified that need some work, for example, to remove dried vegetation and dead trees, thin out saplings, trim ladder fuels and remove pine needles from rooftops. The CC&Rs Section 8.2, outlines owners' maintenance obligations, including removal of dead or diseased/infested trees and vegetation for fire prevention and safety purposes. We encourage owners to maintain their property to help keep Grizzly Ranch safe.



# Design Review

By Stephen Tange

The 2023 building season is coming to a close with several large projects well under way. The Shaffer and Moreno homes have broken ground and are close to being enclosed before the snowy weather. The Design Review Committee is working with a number of developers who have purchased lots over the past 12-18 months and are looking to break ground in the spring of 2024. One individual lot owner on Big Grizzly Road broke ground in early October.

Certainly, the availability of affordable premium lots is attracting many to Grizzly Ranch.

As a reminder, re-staining existing homes will require a Design Review approval.



# Landscaping

By George Papa

The committee is in the process of developing a detailed 2024 plan for Grizzly Ranch. That plan will be communicated to the community once finalized. The efforts of DeAnn Baker, Julie Stringham, and Tera Saefke are truly appreciated. Results of those efforts are visible at the entrance of Grizzly Ranch and around the Sales Office. As a testament to their dedication and knowledge, we didn't lose a single planting that took place a year and a half ago.

Mark Sokolov was hired as our new Maintenance Supervisor and started working on August 14th. A very warm welcome to Mark. We're excited to have Mark on board and working closely with the committee to enhance their efforts. Looking forward to seeing all the daffodils in the Spring.





# Homecoming

By Laura Reis, Homecoming Chair

The annual Homecoming event this year was centered around a backyard barbeque. Our 2023 Homecoming was organized by Kathy Roberts who managed all the logistics; Becky Bolt managed the menu and coordinating with The Farmhouse, and Laura Reis coordinated the rentals and table decor. We celebrated this year's homecoming on Saturday, August 5, 2023.



With over 100 members and their guests, the event was certainly well attended and a good time was had by all! The weather was picture perfect, and those who came found it to be a great way to spend some time with neighbors. Every year, this event offers an opportunity to make connections with the newest neighbors or to re-connect with old friends.

The day started off with the annual golf tournament where about 50 members and guests vied for the bragging rights of First, Second and of course "Most Honest"! The winners received donated wine and hand-made Grizzly Ranch wine bags.

The food was fantastic and definitely a home-run hit catered by The Farmhouse of Sierraville. They went above and beyond to ensure the pork roast menu (and all the fine accompaniments) was a big success. If you haven't visited the restaurant in Sierraville, you might want to give it a try – breakfast and lunch on weekends, or dinner on Monday nights; it's always a great meal.

Musical entertainment was again provided by Tuck Wilson from Lake Tahoe. He played your requests, and we tested members' knowledge with a round of golf trivia.

Events like this take volunteers to ensure everything goes as planned, so a special thank you to the additional volunteers who stepped up to help out on the day of the event: Tera Saefke, Kathi Stepina, and Joanne Papa who helped set the tables and successfully pinned down those pesky table cloths, and helped to stuff all of the many name tags and drink tickets! And also, to Lori Tange who sacrificed a bit of the cocktail hour to help check in all the members and their guests. Finally, the night would not have been complete or a success without the help of the Lakehouse staff! They rock! Thanks so much for help getting us served in short order and kept those drinks coming!

We hope you had a memorable time! I know I did!

If you have comments, ideas, suggestions for how we can improve future homecoming events, OR if you want to help out or get involved, please contact [laura@reisources.com](mailto:laura@reisources.com). We look forward to fresh ideas for next year!



# Grizzly Ranch Golf Club

by George Papa

The heart of Grizzly Ranch continues to be our Golf Club. Under the leadership of Caleb Olsen, General Manager, we realize top course rankings for public courses across the US. Mike Baty, Director of Agronomy, has provided quality leadership ensuring superb golf course conditions. These accomplishments go a long way in driving the success of our Golf Club by a very effective word of mouth promotion. Our congratulations and thanks to Caleb and Mike along with their respective teams for a job well done. Now, let's hear from Caleb:



## Grizzly Ranch Golf Club

By Caleb Olsen, General Manager

The 2023 golf season wrapped up on October 29. It was great to see those of you who played with us this past season or spent time with us at the Lake House. The golf course is always in terrific playing shape, but the course conditions this year were some of the best that I have seen. Throughout the season, we always look to improve on what we can add for the following season. Next season, we look to add more golf events, such as:

- Match Play
- Member-Guest
- Skins Games (Net/Gross Division)
- 9-Hole Couples Golf Events

The club will send updates on those events and additional social events after the new year.

The Impossible Open was on October 8. Everyone who played enjoyed the setup; yes, it was tough, but the laughs and time together outweighed the difficulty. We host this event each October. Hopefully, those who missed it can see the setup next season and continue to help raise funds for the Beckwourth Fire Department.

Lastly, stay tuned for our holiday specials that will be launched just before the Thanksgiving Holiday. There will be many options for those on your gift giving list.

The Golf Club offers pre-2024 season specials, and gift cards that are available online 365 days a year 24/7! Click [here](#) to see the online shop. [Sign up](#) for the Golf Club eblast to keep up to date on upcoming specials..

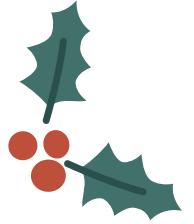
Thank you to all who continue to support Grizzly Ranch Golf Club. I look forward to having another great season with all of you in 2024. As long as the weather works in our favor, Opening Day will be May 3, 2024.

Caleb Olsen  
General Manager  
Grizzly Ranch Golf Club





# Grizzly Ranch Community Service District [CSD]



by Larry Smith, Grizzly Ranch CSD General Manager - Office phone: 530-832-4716

## WATER TANK INSPECTION

Blue Locker Diving was hired to perform a potable water tank dive inspection for Grizzly Ranch CSD. They inspected the tank utilizing a certified commercial diver, backup diver, and tender for their operations. BLD Divers are NACE certified and have over 20 years of commercial diving experience on both enclosed and open water reservoirs. They were hired to observe both interior and exterior coatings, structural integrity as well as report any safety and/or health code violations with both video and photos taken to record the condition of the tank. The tank interior was vacuum cleaned, and ½ inch of bottom sediment was removed. Overall, the tank is in good condition. As the tank is 22 years old, the coating system will require a waterblast and a recoat in 3-5 years. This will help prolong the life of the original coating system to provide an anticipated life of 35 years.



## COMMUNITY SERVICE DISTRICT RATE STUDY UPDATE

We would like to take this opportunity to share some information with our customers pertaining to the recent notice that you should have all received about the possible change to our water and wastewater rates.

The Community Services District (CSD) has the capacity to provide water and sewer treatment services to over 300 customers in Grizzly Ranch. The District last reviewed the schedule of rates and charges in 2021. At that time, for connected customers, we initiated a base charge for system use as well as a rate for water volume usage, in addition to the annual standby parcel tax.

This year, Grizzly Ranch CSD retained DOWL Engineering to perform a condition assessment of the existing water and sewer assets and provide an analysis of user rates for its water and sewer systems. The condition assessment was performed in order to identify any deficiencies in the distribution and collection system. The District's assets have not been assessed since the system was constructed in 2004. The water system consists of a treatment plant, three wells, one storage tank, and 6.2 miles of water pipes ranging from 6 to 8 inches. The existing sewer system consists of a wastewater treatment/recycle facility, an emergency storage pond, an irrigation pond, and 5.8 miles of low-pressure collection system.

The full rate study completed by DOWL Engineering can be viewed at [grizzlyranchcsd.com](http://grizzlyranchcsd.com). The rates calculated in the study for the sewer and water utilities follow industry-standard principles of equitable cost-of-service allocations that are in compliance with Proposition 218.

The District's current rate structure includes an annual standby rate, a quarterly base rate, and a volumetric rate tied to water consumption. The standby rate is charged as a tax and applies to both active and inactive customers, while the quarterly base rate and volumetric rates apply to active customers only and are billed separately from the standby charge.

As a result of ongoing capital projects and existing debt service, the sewer fund is operating at a cash flow deficiency.

The water fund, on the other hand, is in a solid financial position and revenue from rates are sufficient to cover annual expenses. For the sewer fund, it is recommended that the District increase rates in order to fund our operating expenses, debt service, and capital projects. The goal of these rate adjustments is to increase revenue by 13.9% each year from FY 24 through FY 26 and continue to implement annual automatic adjustments equal to CPI thereafter (dependent on Board of Directors and current financial positions.)

Since the current water rates are sufficient to fund annual operating expenses, no increase was recommended. However, through the cost-of-service process, the water rates need to be restructured to ensure equitable charges among customer classes. It is recommended that the District continue to adjust rates equal to CPI on an annual basis.

## **RATE STUDY DETAILS**

### **Methods**

DOWL performed a visual assessment of the District's water treatment plant, 2 booster stations, and wastewater treatment plant. Acoustic leak detection was used to find possible leaks in the sewer low-pressure collection system and the water distribution system.

### **Sewer System Assessment**

No leaks were discovered in the sewer collection system, and therefore no improvement projects resulted from the condition assessment.

### **Sewer System Revenue Requirements**

The revenue requirement presents the relationship between revenue collected from user fees and the costs incurred by serving those customers. This study performed an analysis over the 5-year study period and was used to determine the approximate rate adjustments needed to support projected expenses and capital improvement projects for the sewer system. In the course of developing the revenue requirement, it is assumed that the District's sewer utility, as an enterprise fund, is self-sufficient and without financial support from other funds. This analysis found that the existing sewer rates are not sufficient to fund ongoing capital projects over the next 5 years. As a result, annual increases were recommended.

### **Water System Assessment**

Through the visual assessment, deficiencies were identified. The water treatment plant has a chlorine analyzer, flange adapter, and ductile iron pipe 90-degree elbow that had been rusted due to age. The water distribution assessment results reveal leaks occurring at a yard hydrant and two fire hydrant assemblies.

### **Water System Revenue Requirements**

The water fund revenue requirement takes place over the 5-year study period and was used to determine the approximate revenue adjustments needed to support projected expenses and capital improvement projects. Based on the analysis, the revenues generated from the water fund are sufficient to fund annual operating expenses. Through the cost-of-service process, as required by Proposition 218, it was found that the existing rates should be restructured to ensure that customers pay the rate in proportion to their impact on the system.

If any customers have questions about this study and the proposed rate increase/restructure, please reach out to the staff at the office, and they will be happy to answer those questions. If you have not received your notice and ballot, please contact the office to update your mailing address or contact information. Written protests on the quarterly base and volumetric rates are being accepted at the office. A hearing for the proposed increase will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023, at the Grizzly Ranch Outpost at 9 a.m. Thank you for your continued support.





# Grizzly Ranch Holiday Activities & Traditions

## Local Winter Events

By Kathy Roberts

### PORTOLA

#### Christmas in Old Town

Friday, December 1, 5-9 p.m.

Parade 5:30 p.m., followed by Tree lighting, meet Santa – Raffles, bonfire, craft vendors, Free gifts, bonfire, food & drinks. Outdoor Holiday Craft Fair

### GRAEAGLE

#### Holiday Festival

Saturday, December 2, 1-5 p.m.

Enjoy an old-fashioned Christmas festival and tree-lighting. Businesses host winter drinks, appetizers, and special promotions. Pictures with Santa at 3 p.m. Christmas Tree Lighting at 5 p.m.

#### Mohawk Community Art Fair

Friday, November 25, 10-4 p.m.

Saturday, November 26, 10-3 p.m.

Graeagle Fire Hall

### QUINCY

#### Sparkle Celebration

Friday, December 1

Annual Sparkle Celebration starting at 5 p.m.

Evening of fun, shopping, and entertainment

Parade begins at 6:30 p.m.

Tree lighting at 7:29 p.m.

### JOHNSVILLE

#### Longboard races at Johnsville Historic Ski Bowl.

Held on the third Sunday in January, February, and March, starting at noon.

### VINTON

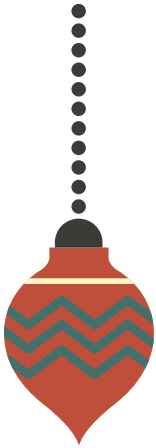
#### Sierra Valley Grange Craft and Home Faire

Sunday, November 12 at 9 a.m.

Sierra Valley Grange



# Grizzly Ranch Happenings and Ideas



The Card Group meets on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Outpost to play Hand and Foot. If you've never played before, please stop by and learn!

The Book Club will restart their meetings on Thursday, November 16 at 4 p.m. at the Outpost. Attend a meeting and learn about new material you haven't yet explored! For additional information, contact Rob Thayer at [Rob@ofresources.com](mailto:Rob@ofresources.com).

Invite some neighbors over for a game night –Pictionary, Rummikub, Mexican Train, Card games like Wild Rummy, Uno, Phase 10, or whatever favorite game you have.

Host a Super Bowl party!

Put together a progressive dinner with your neighbors.

Go snowshoeing at Lake Davis. Drive north on Grizzly Road to one of the plowed-out parking spaces around Honker Cove and access the hiking trail that parallels the road.

Snowshoe on the Grizzly Ranch golf course cart paths.

Sled down the Grizzly Ranch Golf Club driving range.

Please DO NOT step on or around the greens in the winter as it will damage the greens.

Grizzly Ranch traditions are the best!

Holiday Party – This year we're thinking of a Christmas tree ornament exchange. We'll also collect donations for a holiday giving opportunity for Portola Senior citizens. Stay tuned to CAMCO email for more details.





# OUT AND ABOUT – Holiday Happenings in Reno!

By Kathleen Schonder

If you haven't experienced the Reno Philharmonic with its amazing conductor, Laura Jackson, you have a treat in store. Laura continues to grow the Reno Philharmonic through her passion for the community, musical innovation, and leadership. She is so much fun to watch! Check out the Reno Philharmonic's [calendar](#) for this seasons performances. To really usher the holiday season in with some sparks, check out their "Spirit of The Season" performance.

## Spirit of the Season

FRIDAY, December 8, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, December 9, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, December 10, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

Celebrate the magic and warmth of the holiday season with your favorite festive movie music! Back by popular demand, the Reno Phil Orchestra and Chorus will take the stage for beloved classics and holiday concert must-haves. Sit back and enjoy the sounds of the season.

Of course you may also want to bring further enjoyment to the holiday season by attending the Performance of the Nutcracker which is always a wonderful addition to the season. Check out the info below and note that Laura Jackson will be conducting!!

## **A.V.A. Ballet Theatre presents The Nutcracker Ballet**

- a holiday favorite with the Reno Philharmonic

Friday December 15, 2023 at 8 p.m.

Saturday December 16, 2023 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Sunday December 17, 2023 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.



Bringing this epic masterpiece to life musically is the Reno Philharmonic, with Laura Jackson conducting.



Holiday happenings in the Reno Area.

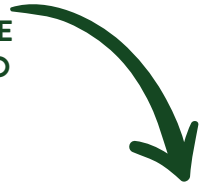




# Holiday Recipes

By Kathy Roberts

SCROLL OVER THE IMAGE  
AND CLICK THROUGH TO  
THE RECIPE





# Humor

## Winter Blunder

By Kathleen Schonder

So, as you sit down with your friends and family this Thanksgiving or holiday season, share some funny holiday jokes or stories with the important people in your life for a fun family tradition! It is a fun way to spend time together. Laughter and humor are so beneficial in our lives, and honestly the holidays are notorious for increasing our stress levels and what better antidote than laughter. Just what if, along with the traditional Thanksgiving dinner we served up some laughter to add to our traditions during the holidays? ! There are physical benefits for all ages including things like reduced blood pressure and muscle tension. A few laughs can definitely turn a challenging day around! Kids and adults alike can have fun guessing the answers to some holiday jokes like the ones below! There are so many to choose from online or from other resources, but I just bet your personal resources for some fun Holiday Humor are far better than what is offered here; i.e.. funny family stories over the years!!

DEAR SANTA,  
THIS YEAR I WANT A BIG FAT  
BANK ACCOUNT AND A SLIM  
BODY. PLEASE DON'T MIX  
THOSE TWO UP LIKE YOU DID  
LAST YEAR. THANKS.

SHIRPEEPRINT.COM

A few examples to have your guests guess at Thanksgiving!

Q: What's the key to a great Thanksgiving

A: the turKEY

Q: Who was the drummer in the Thanksgiving band?

A: The turkey, because he had the drumsticks!

Q: Why do pilgrims pants keep falling down?

A: Because their belt buckles are on their hats!

Enjoy the laughter or possibly even the boos but have some fun and enjoy the smiles that are a consequence of introducing some humor at your table!

