



Working to Preserve a Reasonable Balance

# Preserve Unique Magnolia

A S S O C I A T I O N

P. U. M. A. Newsletter • Box 536 • Nederland, Colorado 80466

## PUMA Potluck



All Magnolia-area residents, landowners, and their friends are invited to attend the annual potluck, sponsored by (PUMA) Preserve Unique Magnolia

Association.

**Saturday, August 4th, 4 to 8 p.m. (or thereabouts)  
rain-or-shine at Scott Reuman's, 7425 Magnolia Rd.**

Come meet your neighbors for an afternoon of laughter, games, catching up, and filling up. Kids welcome. There will be a fire for BBQ, paper plates and utensils, and some soft drinks provided by PUMA. Please bring a food contribution to share and whatever else you want to drink. PUMA membership is not required.

RSVP is helpful, but not required: 303-442-0406 or [scottreuman@compuserve.com](mailto:scottreuman@compuserve.com)

## Feeding Birds



As spring arrives, our summer birds do, too. Many of us are interested in feeding them, and some of us are interested in identification, by sight and sound, and learning about aspects of behavior. I am intrigued

with the thought that birds are bipeds! They are intelligent beautiful creatures, so different from us! Here are some points to keep in mind if you feed them:

- Keep your feeding areas clean. Accumulated debris can mold and grow other types of bacteria. Water needs to be kept clean.

- Hummingbirds should not be fed the hummingbird nectar available in stores. Instead, mix one part white cane sugar with four parts boiling water to make your own syrup. This mix will ferment in the feeder; so, feeders need to be cleaned and refilled at least every other day, and DAILY on hot days or if your feeder is in the sun. Fermented syrup will damage their livers, causing death. I keep a quart of syrup ready in the fridge.
- For wild birds, a good seed mix or straight black sunflower seeds work best. Suet is a wonderful treat, but spoils in the heat, so it's best left for winter months. When I was little, my mom put out old bread for birds. This practice does not give them the nutrients they need.
- And please keep your cats indoors! Cats are incredible super predators, for which our native birds are not prepared. It is not fair to attract them with food and allow pet cats to prey on them. Does your neighbor's cat visit your feeders?
- Birdfeeders attract bears. We have lost several feeders, and finally posted little notes to ourselves to bring the feeders in at night.
- We have put netting over our windows near the feeders. This is not as obtrusive and distracting as you would think, and keeps birds from flying into the glass.

Please report any unusual birds or animals to Cherie Long. My most unusual birds have been Band-tailed pigeons and two goshawks. Here they come! Hopefully these notes will help you to set up a safe and healthy feeding program.

*By Jennifer Stewart*



**A reminder to all who drive on Magnolia and its tributaries: While a horse on the road may be fine with traffic, he may be startled by a dog, a rabbit, a bit of trash --- and jump away from it and into the road.**

**Please slow down for people on horseback! Thank you!!**

## Weeds



This morning I saw my first pasque flower. Soon my meadow will be full of them. Then, moisture permitting, my meadow will spend the entire summer sending up one extravaganza after another. This is as it should be.

BUT --- among the natives, here and there, I will find (Aaargh!!) **NOXIOUS PLANTS!!**

Noxious plants are plants from somewhere else; Eurasia, the Mediterranean --- and they have no natural controls here so they are free to TAKE OVER. Some of them are toxic, some are very beautiful, some have medicinal properties, and they ALL displace native species.

Last year I visited several property owners and we identified such plants on your property, as well as those, which belong. I had a lot of fun doing this, and I will be able to do it again this year. I was an emissary of the State Forest Service, which I will be again this year, but I don't yet know whether they will ask me perform that free service. (Stay tuned. I will be doing it as a volunteer if the State doesn't pay me!) This is all part of the Winiger Ridge Project. I also scheduled and supervised inmate and workender crews and worked with USFS personnel at less accessible sites.

We will again have the backpack sprayers and the herbicide Curtail will be available (already purchased and on hand). This is a technology that keeps getting better, so what we have this year may be new and better, i.e., more specific, less toxic. PUMA also has a weed whacker, which can be checked out by PUMA members.

As we have been doing "integrated weed management", we will also be hand pulling and weed whacking. Biological controls are being used on some populations of spurge and musk thistle, but these take time to build up.

I will notify people of upcoming community weed pulls. These have been fun and successful in the past!

Of course conflict exists over the use of herbicides and biological agents. We do not know what the really (really!) long-term results may be. On the other hand, we can see what will happen if the proliferation of noxious plants continues. Simply put, native plants will disappear and wildlife will starve. Land will be devalued as it is taken over by species that livestock cannot utilize. To me anyway, it is a tough but clear choice. I've seen Montana.

We are lucky, really. I went to Gold Hill recently and learned they are being crowded out by leafy spurge. We have very little of that here, as of now. It is one of the worst, with a root system that can be 18 feet deep!

Over here, we are dealing primarily with diffuse knapweed, dalmation and yellow toadflax, and hounds tongue. Secondly we have Canada and musk thistles and the ubiquitous cheat grass. Finally, assorted mustards, wooly mullein, and a few miscellaneous composites. We also have the results of applications of "wildflower mixes" which may include flowers not naturally here --- Sierras, maybe, but not the Rockies.

Please call or email me with any weed related questions! We are ready to be proactive! Grass seed is also available from me.

Contact: Jennifer Stewart at 303-442-7460 or [larkspur@indra.com](mailto:larkspur@indra.com).



**PUMA needs funds to cover events, newsletter expenses and mailings to almost 400 residents.**

**If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership or join now. Dues are \$24 annually (calendar year) per household, or any amount you can afford.**

**Please send your check or money order along with your name, address, phone number, and email address to PUMA, P. O. Box 536, Nederland, CO 80466**

# Aviation Noise News

by Paula Hendricks & Norman Lederman

*At a certain point you say to the woods, to the sea, to the mountains, the world, Now I am ready. Now I will stop and be wholly attentive. You empty yourself and wait, listening. After a time you hear it:*

*There is nothing there... You feel the world's word as a tension, a hum, a single chorused note everywhere the same. This is it: The hum is the silence.*

Annie Dillard from *Teaching a Stone to Talk*



On April 11<sup>th</sup>, Boulder County woke up to a lot of snow...and blessed *silence*. The airports were closed! The sky was silent! This was an extremely rare opportunity to fully experience a vanishing resource...*natural quiet*.

The "90 Day Experiment" at DIA that compels the airlines to comply with Adams County noise abatement agreements continues to unfold. According to the DIA Noise Abatement Office, as of April 18 the airlines (primarily United) are 75% in compliance with rerouting procedures that indirectly benefit Boulder County. The procedures call for the redirecting of the noisiest "hush-kitted" stage 2 jets north and south to gain altitude before heading west. Instead of approximately 50 of these jets passing low over Boulder each day, we can expect a dozen or so. Naturally, this is good news for us...but may not be good news for areas where these jets are being directed. Ultimately these obsolete aircraft will be retired...but that could take years.

The precious resource of natural quiet is endangered by an industry that has very few environmental controls. DIA stands poised for tremendous expansion of passenger and cargo service (CNN recently reported that at 53 square miles DIA is the "largest" airport in the world!). If citizens don't question it, our skies will ultimately be filled with aircraft 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Once this happens, the resource of natural quiet will be gone forever.

Globally, environmental activists are confronting airport expansions from Europe to the Far East. In the USA, local governments are achieving some success in slowing airport expansion and are encouraging discussions pertaining to alternative means of travel such as high speed rail. After several past attempts to

gain enough support in Congress, the Quiet Communities Act (bill #H.R. 1116) is back again as a pending congressional bill that would return the monitoring and oversight of aviation noise pollution control to the Environmental Protection Agency whose primary goal is to *protect the health of people*. Currently, aviation noise pollution is controlled and monitored by the Federal Aviation Administration whose primary goal is to *promote aviation*. A serious conflict of interest!

We urge concerned citizens to contact Colorado's Congressional representatives (Wayne Allard 303-220-7414, Ben Nighthorse Campbell 303-843-4100, Mark Udall 303-457-4500) in support of the Quiet Communities Act. Congressman Udall is to be congratulated for supporting this bill! We also recommend that citizens call our County Commissioners (liaisons Marianne Reichert 303-441-1688, Dickey Lee Hullinghorst 303-441-3561) and encourage them to implement the recommendations pertaining to aviation noise pollution contained in the Magnolia Environmental Protection Plan that was accepted by the County last year. And, while it is a real drag, calling/faxing in noise complaints to DIA (303-342-2380, 2366 fax) serves two purposes: it documents our community's aviation noise problem, and it is our only *official* way of telling the DIA Noise Abatement Office how effectively they are meeting the public's needs.

For more information about aviation noise pollution issues and/or the MEPP recommendations, please contact us at 303-449-2202 or oval@infi.net.



**GARAGE SALE**

Coming July 14  
Community Garage Sale  
To benefit PUMA and HCFD  
We are asking for donations of  
**GOOD STUFF**  
(No junk please)  
for info  
Call Jennifer at 303-442-7460

## Reporting Bear Sightings



I have attended the Colorado Division of Wildlife Bear Awareness Training for the past three years. The purpose of these trainings is to have a volunteer from the neighborhood to take local reports of bear sightings and submit the information to the District Wildlife Manager. This allows the DWM to spend more time on urgent wildlife problems. Of course, if there were a serious problem with bears, the DWM would be contacted immediately.

There is no urgency if the bear is just passing through your property or seen along the road. However, if the bear is threatening humans or agricultural livestock, call immediately.

Report bear sightings to:

*Jerry Griess, Tel. (303) 402-1194, email: [jgriess@qwest.net](mailto:jgriess@qwest.net)*

For information about bears, check out the web site: [www.nature-net.com/bears/black.html](http://www.nature-net.com/bears/black.html)

## Monthly Meetings



PUMA meetings are usually held on the first Thursday of every month. They are held in member's homes and begin at

7:00 PM.

The next meetings will be held on the dates and places indicated below:

Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at Cherie and Ed Long's home, 1289 Pine Glade.

Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at Rosalie and Jerry's home, Mountain Lion Lode, 2440 Magnolia. Dan Martin, Nederland Historical Society, will lead a hike around some of the old Magnolia Gold mines and mills and present a history of this area. Bring your hiking boots.

### ***PUMA Email***

To have your email address included in the PUMA list-serve group send an email to [puma@indra.com](mailto:puma@indra.com).



Editor: Jerry Griess, email:

[jgriess@qwest.net](mailto:jgriess@qwest.net)