

North Forty
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The late season rain was a welcome blessing last week. The 5.34" of rain, measured at the northtrinitylake.com weather station, kept the inflow into Trinity Lake about even with the huge ramp up to the five-day release into the Trinity River of 4,500 cfs. The net difference between the releases and the rain allowed the lake to rise about one foot. However, reduced release flows – but still high for a lake that is 87 feet down – are scheduled to continue until the end of May. One would think that the USBR would want to hold water in the lake to ensure that cold water is available for the river salmon later in the year and for the lake fish.

The USBR release schedule for Lewiston Dam into the Trinity River can be viewed at www.trrp.net/water. Predicted 2009 lake levels, showing the elevation of the lake marinas, is available at www.trrp.net/water/lake.html. On this latter graph, you can see that Cedar Stock marina may go dry in August. Although these releases are mandated by an obscure, complex political and environmental process, one would think that logic would prevail and the lake would not be drawn down below its pool elevation. Who knows what next winter will bring? There appears to be no plan for an extended drought.

The "must attend" event this weekend is the 37th annual Fishing Derby at Carville Dredger Pond. The derby is hosted by the Trinity Lake Lions Club. Registration is from 8 to 9 a.m. Fishing is from 9 a.m. to noon. Free tackle, hot dogs, and soda will be available to registered fisher-kids. Only bait fishing is allowed. So kids, bring your own pole, toss in your line, and test your skill for one of the many prizes. Please call Dennis at 266-3338 if you have any questions.

Join the Coffee Creek community on May 17 at noon to dedicate the new Coffee Creek Church Community Center. At the potluck lunch, the volunteer builders will also be honored.

The TCVFD invites you to attend a May 20 meeting to coordinate work volunteers for the annual fundraising BBQ. The workers' meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. at the Firehouse. The BBQ will be held June 13 from 4 p.m to 7 p.m.

The TCVFD Auxiliary is seeking new members. The Auxiliary is the fundraising organization for the new fire station. Raising money for the station will be an enormous task and we need everyone's help. Our next meeting is June 3 at the IOOF hall at 6 p.m.

One of the first fundraisers for the fire station is the wonderful cookbook compiled by Linda Baird. This cookbook contains many of the delicious dishes that you have sampled at our community events. Community members have been gracious in offering their prized recipes to you. You can preorder the cookbook for \$15. At the TCVFD BBQ and thereafter, the books will sell for \$20. Preorder your copy today by calling Virginia Allin at 266-3518.