

# Realtors specialize at Black Butte Ranch

Black Butte Ranch is a beloved place for thousands of people who have vacationed there since childhood. For many, it is a lifelong dream to live there or to have a vacation home on the Ranch.

Black Butte Realty is on the Ranch to help make those dreams come true.

“Black Butte Ranch is a very special place,” says managing broker Gary Yoder. “I traveled for 20 years all around the planet, and have visited some special places — Black Butte Ranch is definitely one of them.”

Yoder has a particular connection to the place: his father-in-law, Robert Muir Graves, designed the Big Meadow Golf Course on the Ranch, and Robert’s Pub is named in his honor. Gary’s wife Katy recently completed a book commemorating Black Butte Ranch’s 50th Anniversary.

Don Bowler, president and co-owner of the company, concurs with the assessment. He knows, because he lives there.

“It’s a pretty unique place,” he says. “Most people think of it as a vacation place, but there are about 300 of us who consider it a residential community.”

Like many of his clients, Bowler dreamed of living at the Ranch

when he retired from a successful corporate career — and he fulfilled that dream. After flunking retirement, he decided to go into real estate and facilitate the dream for others.

Black Butte Realty has a special relationship with the Ranch.

“We’re the exclusive on-site Realtor for the Ranch,” Yoder explains. “We specialize in Black Butte Ranch real estate and have been doing so for many years.”

Yoder notes that the amenities on the Ranch are top-quality and the golf courses are prestigious. Yoder worked in golf at the Ranch before moving into real estate. Bowler extols the delights of an active, engaged group of homeowners.

“It’s a fantastic community,” he says.

The Ranch offers a wide range of activities for vacationers and homeowners alike.

Black Butte Ranch has unique requirements — for instance a requirement for maximum tree density and defensible space in a community that is vulnerable to fire. It doesn’t have more restrictions and requirements than other places, necessarily, but they may be different — and Black Butte Realty is positioned to guide



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

clients through the complexities.

Bowler is a gregarious, personable sort who thrives on engaging with people on the Ranch. Yoder brings the locked-down detail orientation he developed in his military service to bear. And they pride themselves on providing top-quality and highly ethical service to each client — buyer or seller, the client comes first.

“That’s the way we approach the business,” Yoder says. “We’re going to be the most ethical company we can be.”

Taking care of clients at Black Butte Ranch requires a high degree of engagement. Bowler notes that not only is it a dream to live there, it can be a very

emotional event when a family has to sell.

Black Butte Realty also features the services of Joe and Carol Dye — who have been homeowners since 1993 and agents since 1996, Ross Kennedy, and a great new addition to the team, Corrie Lake.

The agents and brokers at Black Butte Realty feel the same emotional connection that countless clients feel toward a very special place, and it informs every aspect of their work.

“We feel a responsibility to the Ranch,” Yoder says.

In addition to real estate transactions, Black Butte Realty manages 40 vacation rentals on the Ranch.



photo by Curtiss Abbott



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