



**MOUNT LAGUNA  
IMPROVEMENT  
ASSOCIATION**

**SPRING, 2017  
VOLUME 15, ISSUE 61**



# **CABIN NEWSLETTER**

## **What's Coming Up!**

### **Chili Fest Social**

**Saturday, April 22**

1:00 – 4:00 pm

Details page 3.

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### **Fire Safe Council**

**Saturday, April 22**

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Red-Tailed Roost

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### **MLIA Board Meeting**

**Saturday May 6**

9:00 – 11:00 am

Red-Tailed Roost

## **President's News**

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*Frank Kalinoski*

*Do you know where your water meter and  
water shutoff valve are?*

*When you leave your cabin after your stay, do you  
shut off your water at the water meter or somewhere  
close to your cabin?*

We had a catastrophic water loss from the Ole water tank in late January and early February. It turns out not shutting the water off at the cabin meter was a major contributor to our water loss.

In the process of trying to find the leak that caused a loss of 300,000 gallons of water (one-third of our annual usage), Dan Fritz and I checked the cabin water meters and shutoff valves for problematic cabins. We found about 25% of the cabins had left the meter shutoff valves open!!

It took us about 10 days to find the cause of our huge water loss. The cause was two-fold. We found a corroded valve on a

*(Continued of page 2)*

## President's News, *continued.*

3/4" line (teed off from a 2" distribution line) leading to cabins 585 and 587 that had totally failed.

A second leak was discovered by a cabin owner who was walking among the cabins in Upper Boiling Springs. A cabin had not shut off the water at their meter and water was found flowing from the cabin drain line down the cabin steps. We could not prevent the buried, corroded valve failure, but water running from a cabin drain line was preventable.



Dan removed the corroded valve problem so that is fixed. The cabin owner who had not shut off their water valve running has been informed about the problem it caused. A 3/4 water line can lose about 10 gallons per minute (GPM) or 14,400 gallons a day!

The Ole tank has been filled again, and the water system served by the Ole tank appears to be secure. We are investigating ways to better monitor our water tank and water distribution. There has been some confusion among cabin owners as to which water tanks serves which cabins. Here is a summary of the cabins served by each water tank:

- Los Huecos water tank supplies the following tracts: Laguna (cabins 305-334) and Los Huecos (cabins 452-495).
- Ole water tank supplies the following tracts: El Centro (cabins 504-590), Piedra (cabins 607-608), Boiling Springs (cabins 701-797 and 1101-1156), Burnt Rancheria (cabins 801-813), and Escondido (cabins 927-984).

Our Vice-President, Carl Sessions, will be traveling to Seattle on April 21-22 for the National Forest Homeowners Annual Conference this year instead of me. (So he will be missing the Chili Cook-off!) Let Carl know if you have any topics or questions you would like him to carry forward to the NFH meeting. The Forest Service sends regional representatives to the meeting and it is a great opportunity to get information directly from the USFS. *See you on the Mountain! Frank*

## CABIN BREAK-IN ALERT!

We have had reports of several cabin break-ins in the last few weeks. Four break-ins were in the Burnt Rancheria tract, one in El Centro tract, one in Boiling Springs, and one private residence. (Cabin owners also received information about these through email recently.)

### What To Do?

Be on alert and when you are at your cabin please walk around and check your neighbor's cabin. Neighbors keeping an eye out for neighbors is how several of these break-ins were discovered.

### Who To Notify?

If you find any cabin break-in please report it immediately to:

1. **The cabin owner!**  
Contact info is on the Membership List.
2. **San Diego Sheriff -**  
Pine Valley Station (619) 473-8774  
Emergency Dispatch (858) 565-5200
3. **Forest District Ranger -** (619) 445-6235
4. **Border Patrol -** (619) 938-8700  
Border Patrol keeps its own watch on the mountain and can assist.
5. **A MLIA Board Member -**  
Contact information is on our website at <http://mtlaguna.org/mlia-directors>.

MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

# CHILI FEST SOCIAL

All MLIA Cabin Owners,  
Private Property Owners, LMVA,  
Visitors and Guests  
Are Invited.



RSVP by  
April 15!!

Saturday, April 22

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Hosted by  
Cabins 588 and 587

Cabins are located on  
Sunrise Highway between the  
Visitor's Center and Mt Laguna  
Community Center.

\$10.00 Gift Card or  
Cash Donation  
Per Person



**Good Food!**  
**Good Neighbors!**  
**Lots of Fun!**

Bring your favorite Chili, Cornbread,  
Salad or Dessert to share.

**Vote for this year's "Best Chili."**

Hand-crafted items are welcome for our  
"Opportunity Drawing."

MLIA will supply drinks, plates, utensils and cups. Bring your  
chili in a crockpot to keep it warm and  
serving utensils for your dish.

Please bring a chair or two for seating.

*San Diego County Regulations allow only Service Animals at  
functions serving food. No pets, please.*

RSVP to Joanie Cochran so we have a head  
count and know who's bringing what!  
(619) 443-4105 or  
email: sassysilks8501@att.net.



## FIRE SAFE COUNCIL SPRING NEWS

Springtime on the Mountain . . . one of our favorite times.

The first Mount Laguna Fire Safe Council meeting of the year will be on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10 a.m. at the Red-Tailed Roost. This is a change because our usual third Saturday meeting day falls on Easter weekend this year.

With all the rain this winter we'll have an abundance of grass growing which means lots of weed whacking is in order. And because of the winds and storms there will be a lot of branches to clean up too

Thanks to our friends at the US Forest Service we have a place to deposit our needles, leaves, and branches. A dumpster is available at the old Air Force station in the same location as last year. You can get the key from Tom McWay at the Laguna Mountain Lodge.

For those new cabin owners, Welcome! The Fire Safe Council has a variety of tools as well as a truck for your use if needed to help with your cabin cleanup. If you have any questions about cabin fuel brush reduction, please contact me at 619 540- 4616 and I'll try and point you in the right direction.

One new project we will be working on this spring is repairing the wood tract signage at the entrance to each tract area. Many of them need to be secured, leveled, painted, etc. John Wallar is coordinating this project, as well as the hundred other things he does for us. More details will be available at the Fire Safe Council meeting on April 22. We will be looking for volunteers to work on this project. We'd appreciate all the help we can get and it's a great way to meet fellow cabin owners.

Mount Laguna has been named a Fire Wise Community again this year because of all the fire safety effort you put in. *Thank you!*

See you all on the 22<sup>nd</sup>-  
Joe Cochran, President MLFSC

### **MLIA Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup**

Sunrise Highway  
between mile markers 23.5 - 26.0

**May 6, 2017**

**Noon**

**Visitor's Center Parking Lot**



Cream cups



Baby blue eyes

# Blooming Spring

Grape soda lupine



The rains this year should give us a fantastic spring wildflower season on the mountain. Since the flowers are now just budding here is a preview of a few you might find when things start blooming.

*Photographs by Joanne Odenthal*



Scarlet bugler



Wine cup clarkia



Wallflower



## Stay Current with National Forest Homeowner News!

Visit the NFH website at <http://www.nationalforesthomeowners.org> to stay in touch with key national forest information that affects your cabin. Special information to help homeowners with cabin issues is also available by setting up a Member Login. Some information for cabin owners is only accessible this way.

In the last NFH newsletter information was given about how to do a Member Log In.

1. Click on the Sign In box in the top left of the web Home page.
2. Enter your Username and Password. Click *Sign In*.
3. Forgot password? Click on "Forgot your password?" for more instructions.
4. Forgot Username? Send email to [skarr@nationalforesthomeowners.org](mailto:skarr@nationalforesthomeowners.org)



### Photographs by Nola Houston

Many thanks to Nola for sharing her Mount Laguna photographs used in this Spring Newsletter including the front page, and pages 4, 6, and 7. Thanks also to Brock Houston for the California Tortoiseshell butterfly photo on this page.





Big Laguna Lake, March 10, 2017  
*Eugenie Newton*

**MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION**

**SPRING, 2017**

## **Water Maintenance Problems or Questions?**

Please report immediately to  
**Dan Fritz**  
at **(619) 405-1452**.

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## **Keep MLIA Up-to-Date!**

Send your email, phone  
or address changes  
to  
**Karen Motta** at  
**(619) 977-2083** or  
**RKMotta@cox.net**

[www.mtlaguna.org](http://www.mtlaguna.org)



Founded in 1935,  
the Mount Laguna  
Improvement  
Association acts as a  
liaison between the  
cabin owners and the  
Forest Service  
addressing water, roads  
and wood removal.



*Eugenie Newton, Editor*  
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