

MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Cabin Newsletter

VOLUME 16 – NUMBER 68



President's News

Frank Kalinoski

By the time this newsletter is published it will be January 2019. So I hope you all had a good Christmas with family and friends, and you are all ready for an exciting 2019.

I have been in conversation with Sharon Leach, Executive Director of the National Forest Homeowners organization about the **NFH National Conference being held in San Diego on May 3 – 4, 2019**. It will take place at The Dana on Mission Bay. Sharon will be working with me and other Southern California cabin tract leaders including Pine Creek tract and Holy Jim tract in Trabuco Canyon to fashion an informative and productive NFH Annual Conference.

I imagine most of you have never been to an NFH Conference nor had an opportunity to converse with cabin owners from other National Forests. The NFH Annual Conference is an opportunity to converse with NFH and US Forest Service leadership as well as cabin owners in other forest tracts. You really do not know how lucky you are to have access to your cabin almost any

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Save The Date

February 2
MLIA Board Meeting

9 am – 11 pm
Red Tailed Roost

April 13
Chili Fest Social

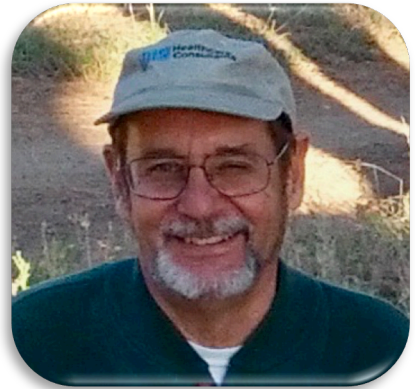
Watch for flyer!

April 20
Fire Safe Council

10 am – 12 pm
Red Tailed Roost

President's News, *continued*

day of the year. I do not have the details yet of who will be there, the meeting agenda and the cost, but as soon as I know I will let you know. I hope when the time comes in May many of you will take the time and make the effort to attend the conference. The way I look at it we are paying annual dues to the NFH, so now is the time to see what our contributions are going for and where the NFH efforts are going. **We are exploring the opportunity for the NFH leadership to visit Mount Laguna and Pine Creek.** As you can guess, I am jumping into this thing with both feet because we need to take this opportunity to show off a bit. Don't ya' think?



We have all received our annual bills from the Forest Service. Bob Heier, Descanso District Ranger, included two pages of rules we are supposed to adhere to as recreational residence permittees with the bills. Whether we like it or not, we have to strive to keep our end of the bargain in return for having a cabin in the mountains on national forest land. I realize sometimes it seems a bit of a pain to have to deal with the federal bureaucracy, but we have to try. And if there is a misunderstanding or a question needing clarification, then we should be able to go the Forest Service and get a reasonable explanation/resolution to the problem. That is my goal.

In other Forest Service related news, I have no information when SDGE is going to start replacing their wooden power poles with steel. The Forest Service is also slowly moving forward with resolving the Shrine Camp Fire debacle and clarifying the position of the remaining Shrine Tract cabins.

Dan Fritz and I have been monitoring our water system and things look pretty good. The tanks are full so we will be monitoring the distribution meters to ensure that it matches the storage usage. Dan took a Drought



Preparedness class this past October and we use some of the information he learned to determine if we have excessive losses due to leakage. If so we will try to find any leaks and try to make our system more efficient. Our water is so precious.

*See you on the mountain!!
Frank*

Nola Houston



We are experiencing a cold winter this year. We have already had two cabins experience serious leaks from **frozen pipe breaks** they were not aware of while at their cabin.

This resulted in a noticeable **water loss** from the Ole water tank. If you experience low water pressure at your cabin, inspect for signs of a leak and perform a **leak check**:

- Close all valves and faucets in the cabin
- Open your cabin water-meter valve. Your meter will turn briefly to fill the pipes, but it should then stop.
- **If the meter continues to spin, you have a leak.**

During winter . . .

- **DRAIN** your cabin water pipes, and
- **SHUT OFF YOUR WATER AT THE METER BEFORE** you leave your cabin.

Contact Dan Fritz, MLIA Water Supervisor
to report water line problems
(619) 405-1452.

The National Forest Homeowners Annual Conference San Diego May 3 - 4, 2019

Join cabin owners from around California and from out of state for one and a half days of great information, enjoyable discussions with other cabin families and the opportunity to interact with the USFS. NFH will hold its Annual Conference and membership meeting at The Dana on Mission Bay in San Diego, on Friday May 3rd and Saturday, May 4th, 2019.

Our NFH annual conference provides a practical program with useful information specific to permit holders in the Recreation Residence program and a collaborative atmosphere for engaging in dialog with the Forest Service. Since this conference is right in our back yard, we intend to actively be involved in hosting it. As our plans firm up, we'll be in touch about how you can participate.

Brock
Houston



Joanie
Cochran

THANKS!
FROM THE MOUNT LAGUNA
FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

Our great appreciation to Joe Cochran for all his hard work and dedication to the Fire Safe Council and the community of Mount Laguna for the past two years as the President of the FSC. Enjoy your "retirement" and we will see you and Joanie on the mountain!

Congratulations to Marilyn Huntamer (Vice President), Tom McNichol (Treasurer), and Meg Moore (Secretary) on your re-election and hard work for the Mount Laguna Fire Safe Council. Also, thanks to John Wallar and new volunteers Richard Willis and Jack Splinter, for their work with the FSC truck and equipment rentals.

Our 2019 FSC meetings will be held on the third Saturday of each month starting in April and ending in November. There will

be no meeting in September due to the MLIA general meeting on the 21st. All meetings will be held at the Red Tail Roost, beginning at 10:00 am.

With heating season here, it is a good time to check your heater and fireplace flues and dampers for proper operation. It is important that they are free of any obstructions and soot build-up. Test all smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors and replace the batteries if they are older than one year. Please check your detector manual for requirements to replace batteries. Thanks to the MLIA and the Mount Laguna community for their continued support of the Fire Safe Council!

*Doug Reed, MLFSC President
ohio0411@hotmail.com*

~ 2019 MLFSC Meetings ~

April 20	July 20
May 18	August 17
June 15	October 19
	November 16

FEBRUARY

2nd - MLIA Board Meeting

APRIL

6th - MLIA Board Meeting
13th - Chili Fest

JUNE

15th - MLIA Community Picnic

AUGUST

3rd - MLIA Board Meeting

**2019 DATES
TO REMEMBER**

SEPTEMBER

21st - MLIA Annual Meeting

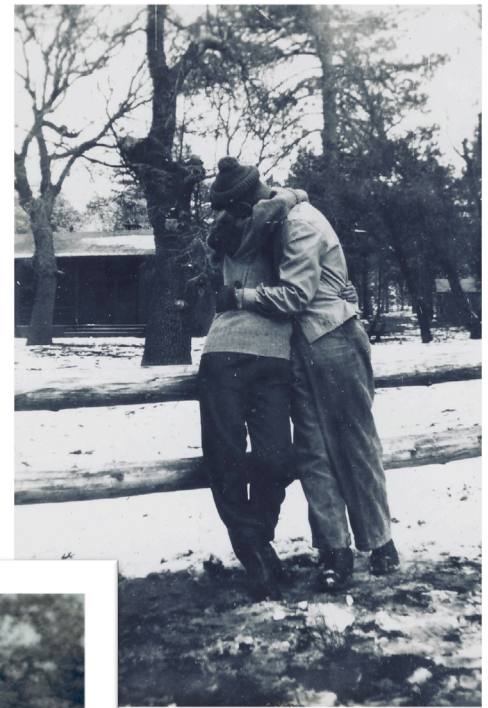
NOVEMBER

2nd - MLIA Board Meeting



Mount
Laguna
snow
circa
1945

These photos are shared by cabin owners Connie and Lynn Baer (Cabin 318) and were received from Bud Close. According to Bud "We always enjoyed going to the snow either in Larry Johnson's '39 Ford Sedan convertible or my '29 Model A rumble seat Ford. The '39 was Larry's



brother's car; he was away in the war flying B-24's. The nice thing about the '39 Ford was that there were always so many kids in it that some of the girls had to sit in our laps."

Access Committee News!

We had a full house for the November Adopt-a-Highway clean-up. Volunteers included Cindy and Gary Jensen (1121); Art Miramontes, Denise and Donna Whisman (715); Michelle Stone and Marica Martinez (759); Joe and Joannie Cochran (554); Richard Willis (702); Steve DiDonna (713). The post clean-up BBQ gave us all chance to meet and greet and produced a new volunteer to take over this bi-annual event. She will be announced at our next Board Meeting on February 2nd and plans to go right to work for the next clean-up event in April, 2019!



Nighttime fox
Carl Sessions

The Boiling Springs Road cabin owners continue to step up to maintain the flow of water to the Sunrise Highway culvert. Leaves were removed, culverts cleared, and thanks to Joe Cook several weirs were constructed to slow the flow and movement of silt. We are getting a handle on it and learning as we go.

It is always fun to see cabin owners walking the road in the rain to see the fruits of their labor! We have a request for road repair assistance from cabin owners near the north entrance to lower Boiling Springs where the road bottoms into the creek bed. We are working on a proposal for repair to present to the cabin owners. No others have reported problems in their areas.

Carl Sessions, Cabin 716
(619) 571-2284

There has been at least one break-in in the past couple of weeks. Cabin #801 was entered through a window, food was eaten and the place was

evidently trashed, but the big screen TV and other valuables were left. When the intruders left through the door, the alarm sounded and the sheriff responded.

When you are on the mountain keep an eye on the cabins around yours for security. This is especially true for those of you in the 800s' as those cabins are targeted repeatedly, especially at this time of year.

Notify the Sheriff and Border Patrol of a break-in by calling

SHERIFF
(858) 565-5200

BORDER PATROL
(619) 473-0021
Pine Valley Office

Cabin Break-ins

Last September I received an email from cabin owner Denise Whisman, asking for help identifying a plant. She found the plant during a moonlight hike up the Kwaaymii trail behind the Visitor Center. The flowers were near one of the remaining piñon pines at the crest of the trail. Her photo showed a beautiful purple flower, one I had never seen before.

Moonlight Beauty

Mirabilis Multiflora

I did some and in my plant make a identification. the Kwaaymii the flower. It glorious display opened my and took a the app. Then I came back as *multiflora*, also Four o'clock or o'clock.



searching online books, but didn't definite So, I walked up trail myself to find was there in a of purple. I iNaturalist app photo from within asked for an ID. It *Mirabilis* known as Desert Colorado four

Native to the Southwestern United States and Baja California, *Mirabilis multiflora* grows in dry, rocky or sandy soil. It is a member of the *Nyctaginaceae* family, also known as the Four o'clock family. These night-blooming flowers open in the late afternoon, which explains the name "four o'clock."

In traditional American Indian medicine, the root was used to suppress appetite, treat indigestion, and reduce swellings and edema. The root is hallucinogenic and was used by American Indian shamans to assist with diagnosis. It is also known to be toxic. The Zuni used the powdered root in bread to decrease appetite.

If you are interested in identifying mountain wildlife and plants, consider downloading the iNaturalist app. It's free in your app store, for Mac or Windows.

Joanne Odenthal, Cabin 505
Photograph by Denise Whisman

MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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



**Have new contact information?
Keep MLIA current!**

**Send your updates to
Karen Motta
(619) 977-2083
rkmotta@cox.net**

mtlaguna.org

for

**MLIA and Safety Council
information**

**Eugenie Newton, Editor
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