MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

CABIN NEWSLETTER

Volume 17, No 71



MLIA President's Update

Frank Kalinoski

Since the last newsletter in early June we have had our **annual Picnic** hosted by the Anderson's (Cabin 723 in Boiling Springs), and the **Wine-A-Bit & Craft Beer Fest** hosted by the Cochran's (Cabin 554) in the El Centro Tract. It just dawned on me that these two hosts reside in Yuma. WOW! If these people can trek up from the desert to host an MLIA social event, everybody else in the neighborhood should (if their busy schedules permit) try and make it up the mountain and join in to celebrate our MLIA cabin community.

Dates to Save

MLIA ANNUAL MEETING

September 21, 2019 10:00 AM Red Tailed Roost

Agenda on page 3

Fall Fest & Comfort Food Event

Saturday, October 19 2:00 – 6:00 pm

See Flyer with details page 7

MLIA Board Meeting

Saturday, November 2 9:00 – 11:00 am Red Tailed Roost



We have had at least two dozen cabin owners change hands in the past 2 years. We strongly invite and encourage you newer MLIA members to join in. All you need is a few hours on a Saturday afternoon and a chair and a smile and a few bucks to spend for a fun prize!

With the early summer rains, the weeds and grasses celebrated by growing like crazy. That made whacking the weeds down and clearing around the cabins a little bit harder this year. The heavy rains also made a mess of some of our "roads" especially in Boiling Springs tract. I spoke with our District Ranger Bob Heiar and he said the **cabin "roads**" are his biggest complaint. They are actually

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President's Update, continued

classified as "unauthorized roads" because they are not Forest Service designated or owned by some other government entity. We are having conversations with the Forest Service about the roads. However, with current rules and regulations, engineering requirements and staffing resources, the Forest Service will have difficulty addressing the issue any time soon. They do realize they have to work together with the MLIA to make this work. The way this will likely work out is that a permit will be issued with its accompanying operation and maintenance requirements. That will require a lot of work to determine what is needed and allowed, and who does what and where and how. The devil will be in the details.

If you have a cabin in the Boiling Springs Tract or in the El Centro Tract north of Los Huecos Road, you have noticed large piles of brush and tree trimmings around the cabins. At the August Fire Safe Council meeting, Jason Kraling told us the Forest Service contracted to have this fuel cut to reduce the fire danger around the cabins. The plan is to have these piles removed in a prescribed burn this winter. There was some concern about the proximity of these piles to overhanging trees and the cabins. Jason assured us that the Forest Service would have engines and hand crews available to properly manage the controlled burns. At the Wine-A-Bit we noticed Engine 349 driving around the cabin roads checking out the accessibility for their Type 3 engine. It was reassuring.

Two weeks ago the submersible pump in the well died. It has been there since it was last replaced in 2002. These pumps usually last about 10 years depending on their quality and the condition of the well. We got our money's worth on this one. By the time this newsletter is published, a **new well pump**, 462 feet of new 2 inch pipe, and a new pump power line will be installed. This will cost at least \$10,000. [In 2002 the cost was \$5000.]

A year ago I asked the Board to review our



Installing the new well pump

MLIA Bylaws, which have not been reviewed since 2002. When I read them, they appeared to have a few large holes, discrepancies and unanswerable questions! Our Secretary, Joanne Odenthal, volunteered to tackle the job.

Joanne awakened a monster! Through much research and many reviews and many rewrites and many long tedious hours, Joanne has persevered. She has done a fantastic job researching how our non-profit corporation bylaws should be brought up to date. We even went so far as to have a lawyer review her efforts. We are in the final stages of this process.

If we can get a few remaining points finalized, it is our hope to have a final draft ready for general membership approval at the Annual Meeting on September 21. This will be an all or nothing approval. To review each change and the reasoning behind the additions, deletions and edits, would take many hours. The membership will be allowed to review the changes prior to the Annual Meeting where final approval will be asked. This is another reason why it is worth your time and effort to plan on attending the Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 21st, 10:00 am at the Red-Tailed Roost.

See you on the mountain!!!

Frank

MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE 57TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION TO BE HELD AT 10:00 A.M. ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019 AT THE RED TAILED ROOST ON SUNRISE HIGHWAY ACROSS FROM THE FIRE STATION.

THE MEETING IS FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

- 1. GENERAL BUSINESS OPERATION
- 2. Introduction Of Associated Organizations
- 3. SECRETARY'S REPORT
- 4. FINANCIAL REPORT
- PRESIDENT'S REPORT
 2018 2019
- 6. CURRENT WATER SYSTEM ACTIVITY
- 7. TRANSACT SUCH OTHER BUSINESS AS MAY PROPERLY BE BROUGHT BEFORE
 THE MEETING
- 8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME AND WE URGE YOU TO ATTEND!

MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
910 16TH STREET
RAMONA, CA 92065



FIRE SAFETY ON MOUNT LAGUNA

With cabin clean-up season winding down, the dumpster on site off Thing Road may be the last one for the year. The brush and shrub pile is available all year. Please continue to follow the rules for using the dumpster and brush pile. We all did a great job this year following the rules and keeping this area clean. Thanks to Joe Cook for some extra clean-up around the dumpster and Jason Kraling of the US Forest Service for this location again.

At our August 17th meeting, Bob Uribe of Cal Fire mentioned upcoming Wildland Urban

Fire Safe Meetings

September – No meeting due to MLIA Annual Meeting.

October 19 & November 16 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Red Tailed Roost. Interface (WUI) seminars. The next WUI seminars are:
September 14th in Ramona and October 12th in Dulzura. Please continue to check the Fire Safe Council of San Diego County website.

www.firesafesdcounty.org events tab, for updated schedules, information, location, time and registration for these seminars.

Also, Jason Kraling updated attendees about the progress on the Forest Service project thinning and trimming trees along Los Huecos Road and Sunrise Highway. This is part of their effort to reduce hazardous fuels in the forest. The piles created by the contractor will be burned, as weather permits, this fall and winter by USFS fire fighters. Jason requested that cabin owners do not add anything to these piles!

Our **annual elections** will be held at the November 16th meeting.



Jason Kraling, USFS

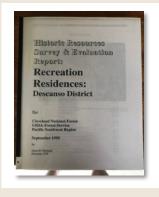




If you are interested in a Board position or Directors position, please contact me. We do need additional Directors to ensure a Directors' quorum at all meetings and for more member involvement.

Thanks to the Mount Laguna Community, US Forest Service and the MLIA for their continued support of the Fire Safe Council

Doug Reed MLFSC President, Cabin 703



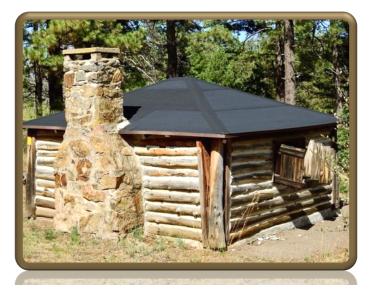
Cabin History Book Available to Order

The MLIA is taking orders for the cabin history book (shown here). The book is about our cabins, "Recreation Residences: Descanso District" and was compiled by the US Forest Service in 1995. The history of how the cabins came to be on Mount Laguna is described. Each cabin is listed with a description of when it was

built and the condition it was in when book was written. It is 460 pages and has a clear vinyl cover.

If you are interested in purchasing one please let Karen Motta know by Sept. 21, 2019. Email Karen at RKMotta@cox.net or call (619) 977-2083. The cost depends on the number of books ordered and should be \$30.00 to \$35.00 each.





National Forest Homeowners: Benefits of Our Membership

Ranger cabin

The National Forest Homeowners association is our advocate at the national level with senior Forest Service administrators. In addition, NFH offers other services directly to us that they are constantly looking to improve and expand. If you haven't been to the National Forest Homeowners website recently

(nationalforesthomeowners.org) it's worth taking a look at the Resources tab for some of these benefits of membership. As MLIA members we are all also NFH members.

In addition to the NFH Newsletters, some of the expanded services offered include:

Cabin Insurance

Insurance coverage for our cabins has always been difficult to find – few companies will even consider coverage for recreational cabins. Those that might will limit their exposure to such coverage which will limit the number of policies they will write. As wildfires become larger and more destructive, coverage is even more difficult to find. The NFH Cabin Insurance program is a very helpful option when your local insurance agent is unable to get you the coverage you need.

Cabins for Sale

This is a new program in 2019. As a free service for NFH members who want to sell their cabin and potential buyers looking to buy, it offers national exposure that's not otherwise available.

There is no charge to list your cabin and the NFH does not participate in either the buy or sell side of the transaction in any way.

Ask the Community

This is a moderated forum for members to share information on all subjects related to cabin ownership. We all share a number of common interests ranging from cabin inspections, road maintenance, cabin repairs and maintenance, water systems, security, etc. This forum offers us the ability to tap into the knowledge and experience of cabin owners across the country. It also helps identify areas where the NFH can work with the Forest Service to improve the recreational cabin program.

Some forum topics include:

- Cabin Trusts and Multiple Ownership
- Permit Fees
- Recommended Cabin Books
- Security
- Water
- Working with the Forest Service

Our NFH membership is an important resource for us. I encourage you to visit our member website and see what it has to offer.

https://www.nationalforesthomeowners.org/default.aspx.

Brock Houston









Community Picnic June 15th







Sunrise Highway Cleanup

Saturday, November 2nd
Meet at 12:30 pm
(after MLIA Board meeting)
Mt. Laguna Community
Church on
Sunrise Highway
Clean-up volunteers
treated to lunch after the
work party.

New Event!

Fall Fest and offort Food

Comfort Food
Gathering

Saturday, Oct 19

We are doing a new community event this autumn. Come join your fellow cabin owners for some comfort food as the weather grows colder.

Bring a casserole, crockpot dish or dessert to share. And bring your recipe to post so folks can take a picture of it.

Details on page 7.



MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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



Check out your website at www:mtlaguna.org

Need to know what to do about a hazard tree near your cabin?

Click on https://mtlaguna.org/hazard-tree-removal/

Update your contact information with MLIA!

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

Water line problems or questions?

Call Dan Fritz, MLIA Water Supervisor (619)405-1452