A few months ago when I wrote the Spring Newsletter article, I was optimistic about the 2020 season on the mountain. Now, the reality of the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on all of our lives has put a damper on all of our usual annual activities on the mountain. Sad, but this will pass . . . eventually. To that end, as you know, there is not much happening on the mountain socially. We have had a few new cabin owners this year and I am looking forward to meeting them when the world returns to some sort of normalcy.

Oh! The Pine House Cafe has a new owner/operator. His name is Eric (I think) from France. He really likes people. Their menu is limited, but it is quite good. It is open Thursday evening thru Sunday evening. Of course, they have to comply with the ever-changing county health rules. But venture in and give it a try. Any worthwhile enterprise on the mountain deserves our support.

We have been having our quarterly MLIA board meetings via ZOOM and it has worked quite well thanks to Joanne Odenthal, Meg Moore and Laura Bier. (They know what they are doing!) We have decided to try our hand at a larger attempt with the MLIA Annual meeting on September 19th.

We will hold our 2020 Annual Meeting via Zoom. There is no physical space available to hold the meeting this year.
The Red-Tailed Roost is closed and many cabins do not feel comfortable for groups which is understandable.

The meeting will be fairly straight forward without any speakers or special project votes or awards. An election ballot has already been emailed to cabin owners. All of the usual handout materials will be distributed to the cabins through the mail or electronically prior to the meeting. Regardless, we hope you will all join in the adventure of a remote meeting and participate to the best of your abilities.

The National Forest Homeowners’ Annual meeting that was supposed to happen in Vancouver WA in April and was postponed to September. Now it too will be a virtual meeting in October.

They are going to send me my NFH Outstanding Leadership Award plaque in the mail and then they want a selfie of it and me. I was looking forward to receiving this award in person in front of the NFH, but sometimes the mop flops the wrong way. I am still quite surprised and honored. Now I have to live up to the expectation. That will not be too difficult, because I am quite lucky to have many quite talented and capable people in this organization willing to step up and meet the challenges we face to get done what needs to get done. THANKS.

**SDG&E** is in high gear digging holes and replacing wooden power poles with large steel poles. Be aware around your cabin where SDG&E has marked out a Work Area for a power pole replacement and where your underground water lines, power lines and/or propane lines might be. They managed to break one of our water lines between cabins 523 and 516 on Los Huecos Road. We were notified and it was repaired pretty quickly.

ILB, an underground utility company is boring for underground lines down upper Los Huecos Road into the 552-560 and 562-569 cabin access areas. This sort of thing has been going on all summer and will continue into the fall.

If you have a water problem related to the SDG&E or ILB activity, please report it immediately to Dan Fritz at (619) 405-1452.

The Forest Service is supposed to be re-opening the Laguna Campground soon with the completion of the campground renovation of the camp sites, water system, toilets and repaving of the "roads". Our District Ranger, Bob Heiar, has returned from Washington, which is a good thing. But he has been assigned as the COVID-19 honcho for the Cleveland NF. His assistant, Lindsey Steinwachs, the Recreation/Lands officer, has been detailed to the Inyo NF in Mammoth as a Deputy District Ranger. Lindsey's assistant, Tracy Knapp, is apparently minding the store in Alpine. I have heard that the cabin inspections have been completed, but I have not heard of nor seen any reports.

**Water-wise, our water system is functioning quite well.** The monthly bacteriological water samples have all come back as Absent Coliforms, which is what we all want to see. The new well pump is producing as expected. The water tanks are nearly full. We have had no major leaks. Dan wants to replace a few old valves and meters on 2” water lines below the main Ole water tank. In the September through October time frame we scheduled an interior inspection and cleaning of the main Ole water tank. This has to be done to comply with our San Diego County water permit.

See you on the mountain!!!!!!!

Frank
Notice of Annual Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the 58th Annual Meeting of the Mount Laguna Improvement Association to be held at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, September 19, 2020.

The meeting will be held via Zoom due to COVID-19 and the unavailability of meeting space.

The meeting is for the following purposes:

♦ General Business Operation
♦ Secretary’s Report
♦ Financial Report
♦ President’s Report 2019-2020
♦ Current Water System Activity
♦ Transact such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting
♦ Election of Officers and Members of the Board of Directors

All members are welcome and we urge you to attend!

Instructions for attending the Annual Meeting via Zoom and how the meeting will be conducted will follow.
For the first time the Mount Laguna Improvement Association is holding its Annual meeting digitally, via Zoom on September 19, 2020. As we all know, the ongoing uncertainly of the COVID-19 pandemic along with State, County and Forest Service health regulations preclude being able to safely hold large in-person, indoor gatherings.

Several email communications and mailings have gone to cabin owners since the middle of August with important information pertinent to Annual meeting normal business. As a reminder, the following information has been distributed:

- 2019 Annual Meeting minutes - sent August 24th.
- MLIA By-Laws approved at the 2019 Annual Meeting – sent August 24th.
- Official Ballot – sent August 25th. All ballots must be completed and returned by September 17, 2020. One ballot per cabin may be submitted.
- Instructions for using Zoom to participate in the Annual Meeting – sent August 27th.

Please watch your email inbox for additional information prior to the meeting:
- The President’s report
- Treasurer’s report
- Other relevant business reports
- Zoom link to access the meeting.

As a reminder . . .

There is NO trash pick-up service for Mount Laguna cabins!

We have to take all our own trash and recycle material home.
Community Safety Council

The Mount Laguna Safety Council will host meetings on October 17th and November 21st via Zoom. Both these meetings will start at 9:00 am and instructions to join the Zoom meeting will be emailed to members prior to each meeting.

Our annual elections will be held at the November 21st meeting. If you are interested in a Board position or Director position, please contact me at the email below. We do need additional Directors to ensure a Directors’ quorum at all meetings and for more member involvement.

Due to the lack of funding and donations, the dumpster onsite will be the last one for the year. The brush and shrub pile at Camp Ole will continue to be available to all community members. Please follow the rules for using the dumpster and brush pile! Hours of operation will continue to be 9:30 am to 5:00 pm, seven days a week. Camp Ole personnel have extended the brush pile downhill from the taped off pile already filling the uphill area. Please unload your brush towards the back of this new area. We all did a good job this year following the rules and keeping this area clean.

With fall soon to arrive, continue to keep gutters and roofs clean of leaves, pine needles and debris. Also keep the wind driven areas around your house and out buildings where leaves collect clean throughout the year.

The Forest Service hopes to have all the cabin annual inspections complete by the middle of September. Then they will determine the best method to deliver the reports to the cabin owners since their offices are still closed.

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

Doug Reed, President
ohio0411@hotmail.com

National Forest Homeowners Conference is Free and Online

The NFH is not holding an in-person conference in September due to health concerns and current conditions. Based on their survey results, NFH Members are invited to the 2020 NFH Virtual Conference.

WHEN: Fri, Oct 16 and Sat, Oct 17
COST: Free to NFH Members

Program and session information will be coming later. Check online at the NFH web site for updates: https://www.nationalforesthomeowners.org/default.aspx
Maintaining Cabin Access

The rain is coming!! Its never too early to **prepare for wet weather.** Erosion is the worst by product of rain runoff, puddling, and heavy truck traffic. Now is the time to patch pot holes and ruts, clear drainage ditches and culverts of debris, and generally keep a close eye on trouble spots before they become bigger access problems.

We have had very good success at organizing cabin owners to participate in improvement projects directly related to their ingress and egress to their specific cabin properties. Contact me if you have questions relating to your specific area and lets meet to talk about ways to mitigate a drainage or erosion problem using our own tools, labor, and local materials.

Larger, more complex projects will be subject to approval by Forest Service personnel. **Being proactive by developing a maintenance team** now will keep travel to your cabin as smooth as it should be. *Emergency safety, rescue, and medical professionals will thank you for keeping access points free of dangerous surface conditions so that they may safely save property and lives.***

**The next Adopt-a-Highway clean up is November 7th.**
**Meet at Noon at the Mt Laguna Community Center on Sunrise Highway.**

This coincides with the November MLIA Board meeting which we all hope will be in person at the Roost!

Carl Sessions, VP-MLIA
Cabin 716, (619) 571-2284
Founded in 1935, the Mount Laguna Improvement Association acts as a liaison between cabin owners and the Forest Service addressing roads, water, and wood removal.

www.mtlaguna.org

Thank You!

Nola Houston
Scott Knodle
Michael Margolis
Karen Motta
Trina Wiener

for your photographic creativity.

Cabin water questions or problems?
Call
Dan Fritz
MLIA Water Supervisor
(619) 405-1452

Have new contact info?
Send all updates to
Karen Motta
KLMotta46@gmail.com
(619) 977-2083

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