

MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Reports for the Annual Meeting, September 19th, 2020

Message from the President

I have been tasked with writing my Annual Meeting address instead of standing before you looking at your smiling faces. We could not have envisioned this a year ago. Amazing! Usually I look back over the past year since we last met and summarize the signature events in our home away from home. And often I sidetrack myself and ramble on some tangent. Let's see if this written address works any better.

The Coronavirus is still with us [and the world] and we have all have had to make adjustments. I am afraid this thing will be with us until the virus has run its course, and it will be relentless. Despite the inconvenience and hassles, do what you must do to safeguard your health – especially if you are elderly.

It is amazing how much I have missed the MLIA social events – the people, food, games, fun. We are lucky we can “shelter in place” in our little bit of heaven on Mount Laguna. Group gatherings are not allowed on the forest due to anti-viral protocols, so we have no place to meet. So we are joining the on-line crowd and having our MLIA Annual Meeting via Zoom. This method has worked quite well with our Quarterly MLIA Board meetings. I understand it has also worked well with the Community Safety Council board meetings. Hopefully many of you will make the effort to join us in this endeavor. Many thanks to Meg Moore and Laura Bier and Joanne Odenthal for their efforts to get this new methodology working. The NFH Annual Conference is also going to be remote. This should be interesting.

Last year we finalized our revised MLIA Bylaws and reduced our number of Directors. It looks like we did a pretty good job. We have not found any major discrepancies, just two minor edits to language. There was a question whether our bylaws can encompass on-line/remote meetings. We decided it does.

The old service panel on the pump house has been replaced. In the process SDG&E discovered that a transformer providing 3-phase power to the pump house died and had to be replaced. The water system is functioning well. The new well pump replaced last year is performing as expected. Water samples have all come back from the laboratory Absent of bacteriological contamination. Excellent!!

The Chariot Fire Recovery Committee, headed by Devin Breise, has moved forward by making a proposal to the Forest Service to construct a new well in the Shrine Tract to provide a permanent water source for them. The Board considered four funding proposals for the effort and finally agreed to split the cost 50/50 including the \$13,000 Shrine Camp lawsuit contribution. The prior proposals put

forth to share Forest Service water or share Laguna Campground water or lay a water line from the Laguna Tract were all rejected by the Forest Service.

There has been a lot going on in the Recreation Area this past year. The Laguna Campground has finally been renovated [a 7 year effort has finally been completed]. Lindsey Steinwachs did a fairly good job communicating campground progress and Laguna Tract access issues through our secretary Joanne Odenthal. Our District Ranger, Bob Heiar, has returned from the Forest Service Washington Office where he assisted with the USFS Budget planning. The two fill-in/ Acting District Rangers did a good job. He is happy to be back and is ready to tackle tasks on the Descanso District. He is looking forward to having his usual one-on-one meeting with the new cabin owners. His primary concerns will be dealing with the Coronavirus and the SDG&E power pole replacement and the decommissioning of the Shrine Camp, and an apparent windfall of 5 million dollars from the Great American Outdoors Act for the Cleveland NF. A long-term project is the development of a permit that encompasses all of the cabin access “roads” and the MLIA water system. And further down the road, Bob Heiar is excited about celebrating the 100 year anniversary of the formation of the Laguna Mountain Recreation Area in 2026.

SDG&E has finally begun to replace its wooden power poles with larger, taller steel poles. Please make yourselves aware of their activities near your cabin. When they mark out the location of a power pole replacement, there is little consideration of what is in the ground until they hit it – water lines, propane lines. If you think their work will negatively impact your cabin, contact SDG&E and voice your concern. If SDG&E breaks your waterline, call Dan Fritz immediately.

Recently we experienced a spate of cabin break-ins along Sunrise Highway and Lower Boiling Springs. This is something that rears its ugly head every few years. Thanks to the sharp eyes and diligence of Tom McWay, the culprits were apprehended by the Sheriff. This is another reason why we need to visit our cabins often to ensure they are secure.

That's it!!

Any Questions?

Frank Kalinoski, MLIA President

2020 Annual Water Report

9/14/2019 to 9/7/2020

Data

Location	2019	2020	Difference
Well	6936700	8097300	1,160,600 gal
Los Huecos tank level	8'8"	13'8"	5' = +26250 gal
Los Huecos usage	574300	713300	139,000 gal
Pump House transfer to Ole	5258280	6231230	972,950 gal
Ole tank level	8'	17'6"	9'6" = +166,250 gal
Ole usage - Front	1027000	1292400	265,400 gal
Ole usage - Back	200	362200	362,000 gal

Analysis

1,160,600 gallons of water was pumped from the MLIA Well #2 to the Los Huecos tank. The Los Huecos tank net gain is 26,250 gallons with 139,000 gallons distributed to the Los Huecos and Laguna Tracts, leaving 995,350 gallons available to be transferred to Ole.

972,950 gallons were transferred to Ole, with 22,400 gallons unaccounted for – about 2.25%.

The Ole tank net gain is 166,250 gallons, with 627,250 gallons distributed to the Boiling Springs and El Centro and Burnt Rancheria and Escondido Ravine and Piedra Tracts. There is 179,300 gallons unaccounted for. This is substantial – 18.4%. This loss could be due to unfound leaks or broken lines to cabins or damaged lines from SDG&E power line replacement activities or line flushings or accounting inaccuracies. We are planning to have the Ole tank cleaned in October to meet county requirements.

The well continues to pump at 23 gpm. The Static water level remains at 225 feet and the Pumping water level remains at 217 feet with a constant drawdown of 8 feet. It appears that the aquifer we are accessing with our well is stable. The water quality remains excellent. All of the bacteriological water samples this past year have been returned as Absent, except one transient exception.

The threat of our water lines being damaged by the SDG&E power pole replacement is real. Last month the 1 inch line supplying six cabins 504 to 523 was severed by a pole hole auger. It was easily and quickly repaired the same day.

Recently we investigated a report of poor water quality in the Burnt Rancheria tract and we discovered a substantial leak in an old steel 2 inch supply line. The line was patched but will need to be replaced, which will require permission from the Forest Service to trench and relay a replacement line.

Community Safety Council

The equipment has moved to Jack's cabin #472 and Richard's cabin #702. The truck will remain in its present location until further notice. Contact Richard or Jack for equipment and truck usage (contact #s on www.mtlaguna.org). The brush pile and dumpster at Camp Ole will remain open from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm, daily, until further notice by the Forest Service. This is the last dumpster for the year until next spring/summer and please use the graded area downhill from the existing brush pile to unload your brush now. The FSC will have Zoom meetings open to the public on October 17th and November 21st. Notification and sign-in instructions will be emailed to all prior to the meetings. Elections will be held at the November meeting. If you are interested in running for a Board position or a Director, please contact Doug Reed at ohio0411@hotmail.com no later than October 23rd.

Doug Reed
FSC President

Cabin Access

Rains are coming! The Firefighters will appreciate them as will our beautiful oaks and pines. Our roads are another story. They are much better off dry and dusty. Please be vigilant during rain events by watching out for pot holes and ruts that turn into gullies. These need to be repaired quickly to avoid damage to the roadway and your vehicle. Each tract has a road captain that knows how to make repairs and solicit volunteers. Don't be shy; be proactive. Your own hand tools can make a huge difference when put to use before it's too late. Enjoy life on the mountain!!

Carl Sessions
Vice President, MLIA

Website
<https://mtlaguna.org>

Don't forget . . . contact information for the Forest Service, Safety organizations as well as cabin fuel reduction information is readily available anytime day or night that you want it.

Plus lots and lots of other information useful for cabin owners.

- Cabin improvements and sale, hazardous tree removal and other USFS reps: <https://mtlaguna.org/cleveland-national-forest-2/>
- Fuel reduction: <https://mtlaguna.org/summer-cabin-cleanup/>

Eugenie Newton
Website and Newsletter Editor

National Forest Homeowners

All MLIA members are also members of the National Forest Homeowners Association. The organization works to support the needs of cabin owners across the country. Check their website at www.nationalforesthowners.org.

The 2020 annual meeting of the NFH will be held via Zoom on October 16th and October 17th. There is no charge to attend, but you must register in advance. Go to the NFH website for updates.

Brock Houston
NFH Representative

Social Events

The usual social events—Chili Fest, Picnic, Wine-a-Bit, and Fall Festival—were all cancelled this year due to the COVID 19 pandemic. So, social remains distant! Donated gift cards are being reviewed to extend expiration dates and to establish whether or not the provider is still in business. Any ideas for fund raisers? Online auction? Hope to be back together soon.

Kerry Anderson
Social Committee