

# MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION CABIN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 18, No 76



## Mount Laguna News

*Frank Kalinoski, MLIA President*

This time last year the year 2020 was looking pretty good. Now, not so good. As you are ALL too well aware, 2020 has been without precedent with the world-wide impact of COVID-19 on ALL of our lives. We are so lucky to have a place of refuge on Mount Laguna. So, keep the faith, hang in there, hold the course, or whatever other adage you can think of between now and whenever. Hopefully, some time next year after sufficient numbers of people have received their COVID vaccinations, *and* the positive test rates fall and stay low, *and* the government allows businesses to re-open, *and* people feel safe to get out and do things without undue fear and apprehension, we, the MLIA cabin owners, will be able to gather and meet and greet and celebrate.

### **Looking out for the mountain**

Recently, Denise Whisman and Arthur Miramontes (Cabin #715 in Boiling Springs) ventured to pick up trash along Sunrise highway and were surprised and disgusted at what they found along the roadway. Apparently, some people are abusing our forest with their refuse. I forwarded her findings to our District Ranger.

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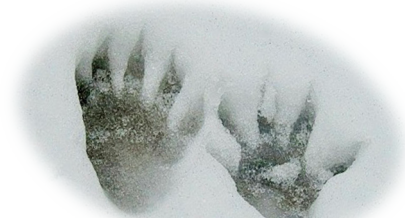
## 2021 Dates

### MLIA Board Meetings

February 6th  
May 1st  
August 7th  
November 6th  
9:00 – 11:00 am  
Conducted via Zoom.

### MLIA Annual Meeting

September 18, 2021





## Cabin Lease Fee Bills

If you have not received a cabin fee bill yet, please contact one or all of the following people:

- **Kim Villa**  
Recreation Residence Permit Administrator  
[lillian.villa@usda.gov](mailto:lillian.villa@usda.gov)  
(619) 971-5415
- **Bob Heiar**  
District Ranger  
[robert.heiar@usda.gov](mailto:robert.heiar@usda.gov)  
(619) 445-6235
- **Joseph Holzinger**  
Acting National Billing Team Lead  
[joseph.holzinger.usda.gov](mailto:joseph.holzinger.usda.gov)  
(208) 765-7279

## Remembering Al Clarkson

Al, a Mt. Laguna cabin owner for many years, died in December, 2020. Al was active in MLIA serving on the Board for many years. He moved to Wyoming in 2018 to be near family. More information can be found on Facebook.



## Mount Laguna News, continued

Let us all make a mental note to be aware of what is going on around our cabins and when we are out and about hiking. If you see an illegal campfire, call 911. If you see people camping outside a campground, notify the District Ranger ([robert.heiar@usda.gov](mailto:robert.heiar@usda.gov) or (619) 445-6235). If you see hunters near cabins (within 150 yards) in the act of hunting, let them know where they are and what the rules are.

### Cleveland Forest updates

Devin and I had a Zoom call last week with Bob Heiar, our District Ranger. Most of the discussion concerned the Shrine Tract water system, but we manage to get any information we could about the forest happenings. Our Lands & Recreation Officer, Lindsey Steinwachs, has moved on to bigger and better things in the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area in the Toiyabe National Forest in northern California. Tracy Knapp remains with us as the Acting Lands and Recreation Officer.

The Cleveland NF has snagged some monies from the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) and will be making recreation improvements in the Laguna Campground, Boulder Oaks Campground and Noble Canyon Trail. To take advantage of this one-time opportunity, the Forest Service had to shift their efforts to the GAOA planning and requesting funds for 2020-2021 fiscal year and away from other projects. The Valley fire this summer requires them to perform Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) on the national forest area affected by the fire further dragging resources away from ongoing projects. As it stands now the best guess for progress on our cabin access "roads" is fiscal year 2021-2022. The piles of brush cleared around the cabins are supposed to be burned this year after it snows.



*Frank Kalinoski with his "Outstanding Leadership" Award from the National Forest Homeowners organization.*

### SDG&E activities

The SDG&E steel power pole replacement project continues. High winds and fire dangers have affected their schedule though. Winter rains and snow will also slow them down. Please be aware of what SDG&E is doing around your cabin. Huge heavy trucks around cabins can adversely affect shallow water lines or septic lines. If you think

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## Mount Laguna News,

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their pole placement or pole support wire placement is questionable, then ask them to reconsider what they have planned to do. They should cooperate. If not, contact District Ranger Bob Heiar or Joe Raphael at the Cleveland Forest offices in Rancho Bernardo (858-673-6180).

The SDG&E work is projected to continue through the Spring. SDG&E is supposed to remove all of their stakes, waddle and signage and restore their "work access roads" to native land, when the job is completed. We will see.

### Ole water tank

We engaged a diver to inspect the interior of our main water storage tank, Ole. It is a steel bolted tank 55 feet in diameter and 24 feet tall and can hold 400,000 gallons of water. It was a used tank erected in 1970. It has served the MLIA well for 50 years. This tank supplies all the cabin tracts except Los Huecos and Laguna. In 2006 the tank was re-coated inside and out. The inspection report noted questionable deficiencies in the tank floor and the roof supports.

Long term, the tank needs to be replaced. We had a water leak in an old 2" steel line that feeds Burnt Rancheria cabins near cabin 561, south of Los Huecos Road. To determine where the old pipe goes, we purchased a metal water line detector. Dan and I checked it out and it works wonderfully. And we

discovered where the old steel line *really* goes - not where we thought it did! This will be a valuable tool to help us find old steel lines that need replacing.

### Our meetings

For the foreseeable future, the MLIA officers and board will meet via Zoom, as will the Community Safety Council (FSC).

**The next MLIA Board meeting is  
February 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.**

**Meetings are open to all MLIA  
cabin owners.**

**Email Joanne Odenthal, MLIA  
secretary, at [mliacabins@gmail.com](mailto:mliacabins@gmail.com)  
to receive the meeting Zoom link.**

WE will do our best to "plan" for the future not knowing what the heck is going to happen next or not happen next as the case may be. It shall be interesting.

Pray for rain.

Pray for (more) snow.

Pray for an end to the pandemic.

Pray for sanity in this crazy world.

Pray for your family and friends.

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

*Frank*





## Fire Safety Council

The MLFSC annual elections were held at the November 21st Zoom meeting. The following is the results of this election and the Board and Directors from now until the 2021 elections.

President – Doug Reed  
 Vice President – Marilyn Huntamer  
 Treasurer – Tom McNicol  
 Secretary – Meg Moore  
 Directors – Mike Jacobs, Tina Pivonka,  
 Richard Willis and Joe Cochran

**Congratulations to all of you and thanks for your commitment and hard work.**

The **Camp Ole brush pile NEW hours and days** of operation are Sunday through Wednesday, 9:00am to 4:30pm. Please keep the brush pile area clean and follow the rules.

**Thank you to all those people that made donations** to the MLFSC this year. We were unable to do fundraisers in 2020 so less money was available for the dumpster program and it ended early.

**Donations to the MLFSC in any amount are appreciated. Please send to MLFSC, PO Box 292, Mt. Laguna, CA 91948.**

Donations may be tax deductible. All donated funds will support our 2021 brush clean-up operations and expenses.

### Equipment Update

Starting in 2021, there will be a \$10.00 per 1 or 2 day rental charge for each weed whacker. Please contact our Equipment Managers, Richard Willis (619-990-1404) or Jack Splinter (858-472-4368), to schedule usage of the MLFSC equipment and truck.

The San Diego County Fire Department has a program for qualified San Diego county residents to receive a **free Residential KnoxBox**. This program provides high quality lock boxes at *no* cost to eligible residents. San Diego County Fire will install them on or near the front door of the home.

A spare house key is stored inside the lock box. In case of a medical emergency or life-threatening disaster firefighters can open the Knoxbox box to use the key and gain access in case you can't open the front door. The program flyer with contact information, qualifications and sample application are posted on the MLIA website at <https://mtlaguna.org/fire-safe-council-update/>.

Our **next MLFSC meeting will be in April 17, 2021**. The time and location will be announced via email as the date gets closer.

Have a wonderful and safe winter!  
 Doug Reed, President MLFSC  
[ohio0411@hotmail.com](mailto:ohio0411@hotmail.com)



# Our Cabin Access

Winter is definitely upon us.

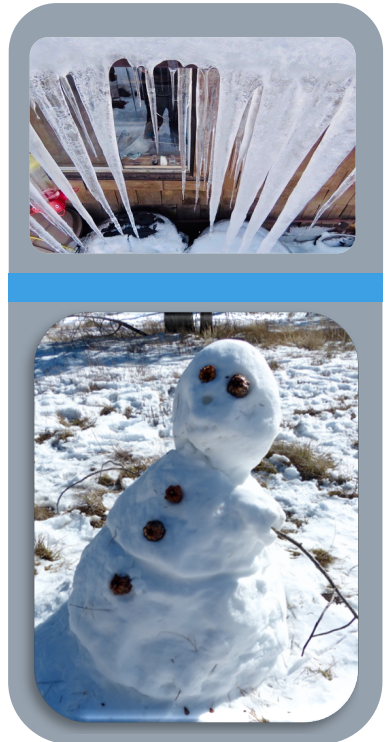
The entrance to Burnt Rancheria/Escondido Ravine has been completely renovated with steel plates over the existing drain pipes and a nice contoured "ramp" of road base on either side. Our appreciation for this substantial upgrade goes to Mary Beth Hayes, a long-time cabin owner in this tract, who communicated with the proper folks at SDG&E to make this happen. Thank you, Mary Beth! You worked some magic!!

The recent snow falls were perfect for previous road work. Runoff was minimal thus no significant damage to our access points. Shedding leaves, pinecones, and needles are now the biggest issue for our drainage system. I have found a blower to work well enough to corral the leaves to bag up and haul away, otherwise they return with the next winds.

Our planned November Adopt-a-Hwy clean up was officially postponed due to heavy residual snow cover. Denise Whisman and Arthur Miramontes did an impromptu cleanup on December 19 & 20. MANY THANKS to both of them for tackling a difficult and really unpleasant job.

So, on we go into the winter season, enjoying cabin life. The air is clean to breathe, the neighbors are friendly, and the wildlife carries on no matter what. We are so fortunate to have our mountain retreat to enjoy!

*Stay Safe  
Carl Sessions, VP-MLIA*



## Not Pretty!



Arthur Miramontes and I did the trash pick on December 19 and 20, working half Saturday and half Sunday. With the increased COVID-19 restrictions we just decided that it was best not to try an organized group cleanup event. I feel like the forest really needed us to do this now and not wait until Spring.

We were totally disgusted by what we found. We spent a lot of extra time cleaning up the turn-outs. Apparently, people had been camping there a lot. We found lots of port-a-potty bags, (with potty in them), soiled underwear, tons of masks, disposable gloves, cups, take out containers and urine filled water bottles!

I know we picked up more than a hundred pounds of trash. We didn't think it looked that bad until we got into the trees along the road where people have camped. So, I think this would not have been a fun event for our group.

I hope the next Sunrise Highway cleanup event will be better!

*Denise Whisman*



# Kerry Anderson' Shelter-at-Home Sourdough Bread

## ... recipe by popular request!

Starter: 1 cup unbleached flour (rye flour works best for 1<sup>st</sup> day then go to regular unbleached flour)

½ cup water and mix in container (I use a plastic soup container with lid). Place lid on loosely, and leave out in a warm place (I put next to coffee maker).

Each day for next 7 days, empty ½ of container and add ½ flour and ¼ water (do not use chlorinated water. If you have to use tap water let sit out overnight.)

After 7 days empty ½ again. Add 1c flour and ½ c water in am. Let set all day. In evening mix :

- 4 c + 2 tbsp unbleached all purpose or bread flour and 1.5 tspn fine salt together in a large bowl
- 1.5 c + 4tbsp warm water (no chlorine) and 1/4c starter in small bowl
- Combine the wet and dry ingredients; mix thoroughly.

Place dough in a bowl, and cover with a damp cloth and seal with lid or plate. Let rest for 1 hour.

Uncover and fold dough 4 times by grabbing dough, pulling it out and folding back to middle.

Cover dough with damp cloth and seal with lid or plate. Let rest overnight for 12-15 hours.

In morning, lightly flour work surface and pour the dough out of bowl.

- Lightly press the dough to stretch into a rectangular shape, and then fold it into middle from each side.
- Flip it over so that seam side is down, and gently pull it towards you, using the friction of the table to tighten it.
- Once it is a rounded shape, place dough seam side up in a bowl lined with a flour dusted cloth.

Let dough 'proof' (sit ) for 1 hr.



While dough is proofing, place a dutch-oven in the oven and preheat to

500 degrees. (A Copper Chef pot with oven lid in oven pre-heated to 450 works too.)

Cut a piece of parchment paper and turn dough onto paper. Pull towards you as before.

When nice round ball is formed, use a sharp knife to score top of loaf.

When oven is preheated, place the dough into the dutch-oven and put the lid on top, sealing it in.

Reduce heat to 450 and bake with lid on for 30 min. Remove lid and bake for 20-25 more minutes

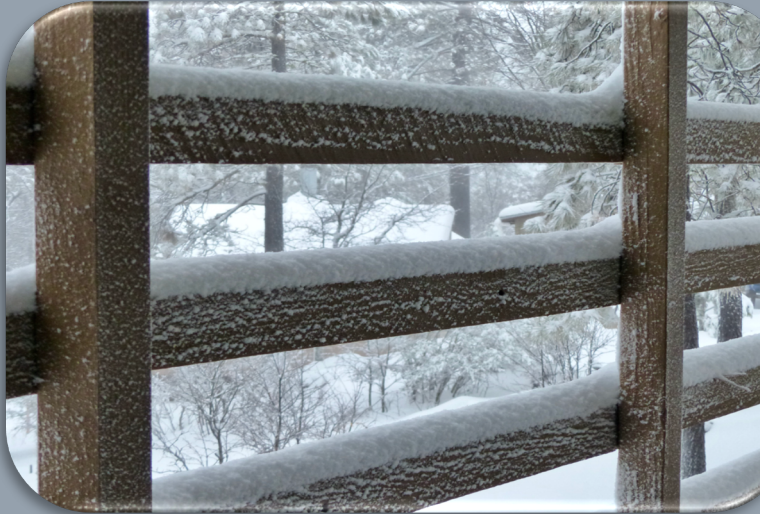
Remove loaf from dutch oven place on cooling rack for 30 minutes before cutting.

After initial 7 days, you can keep the starter in the refrigerator but 'feed' once a week.





# MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION



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.

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

I am very appreciative of the many cabin owners who share their photographic talents for our newsletters and the [mtlaguna.org](http://mtlaguna.org) website.

Thank you to  
Nola Houston, Kerry Anderson, Donna Crossman, Mike Margolis, and Denise Whisman.

Eugenie Newton, Editor  
[evn8@san.rr.com](mailto:evn8@san.rr.com)

**Issues with cabin  
water?**

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



**Stay in touch!  
Send all contact  
info changes to**

**Karen Motta at  
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com](mailto:KLMotta46@gmail.com)  
(619) 977-2083**