



CABIN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 19, No 77

Events to Know

Fire Safe Council

April 17, 2021

9:00 am via Zoom

Meeting link emailed
on Apr 11

MLIA Board Meeting

May 1, 2021

9:00 – 11:00 am

Meeting will be via Zoom

Email mliacabins@gmail.com for
the link if you want to attend.

President's Mountain Update

Frank Kalinoski

This time last year [after reviewing what my message was then] I was lamenting the difficulties presented by the coronavirus pandemic that had just begun in earnest.

This will be the fourth newsletter where this epic event has been an included topic. Now, many of us have had our vaccinations and we are looking forward to a better year than last.

But it might take a bit longer before everybody feels safe to congregate. Perhaps in six months things will begin to approach normalcy, but that might not quite be the same as it was before.

Not much has changed on the mountain since last spring. SDGE is still trying to replace the power poles while their project end-date continues to get pushed out. Things like heat, wind, rain, snow who-knows-what-else seems to get in their way. Be sure to keep a watchful eye of where your water lines are and where SDGE puts their huge heavy trucks. They can break water lines, as Dan and I have found out.

Devin and the Chariot Fire Recovery Committee in the Shrine Tract are still trying to get some sort of long-term resolution to their water situation. The government has their way and the staff



Looking east to the desert from Kwaamiii Point.

resource limitations that make progress slow and difficult. Something will happen sometime, but it is not a high priority in the district. Along those same lines, someday we may enter into a real conversation with the Forest Service about a cabin access/road permit. Again, this will be an agency resource issue.

Our long-time Treasurer, Karen Motta is about to sell her cabin and leave the mountain. We will have to break in a new board member to take her spot. Mary Ladewig (#1106 Boiling Springs) has volunteered to step into the vacated Treasurer position. The transition might have its hiccups, but we will all have to have patience and support Mary in this difficult task.

We do wish Karen all the best, a straight and easy path with the wind at her back. And she will be missed. She got things done! She was always there reminding us what to do and how to do it and was usually correct. When I travel down Los Huecos to my cabin and I look up and pass her cabin, #569 will be the Motta Cabin. 😊 *Take care, Karen.*

Water-wise the system is working well. The water samples have all been good. The state Department of Water Resources has sent out the list of required tests we need to complete this year and it is lengthy. We were also notified that the county wants to pass on to the small drinking water systems of the county a 41% increase in our water permit fees from \$2465

to \$3468. I have passed my objections on to our county supervisor Joel Anderson so that he will be able to question the county Department of Environmental Health when they go before the county board to justify this increase in fees.

We had an incident in January where the Los Huecos water tank was emptied by two cabins that had leaks after a heavy snow. Now that we have purchased a metal water line detector, we hope to spend some time tromping around trying to locate exactly where some of our water lines are and marking their location.

We will likely continue to have remote Zoom quarterly board meetings. Somewhere along the way we will have to decide about the Annual meeting in September. Last year the Annual meeting was quite successful and very well attended with Zoom. So, we might have to face facts and consider keeping that method to make the meeting more accessible.

The Annual NFH meeting had the same results. The NFH is planning to resume the Annual meeting as in-person in Lake Tahoe. Please consider attending. These folks work their butts off trying to put together an annual meeting that is meaningful and informative to we cabin owners. When I have an issue with the Forest Service, the NFH is my first stop for advice. They have our backs - as much as the Forest Service will allow.

Shelter in place amongst the trees ON THE MOUNTAIN!!

Frank



SUNRISE HIGHWAY CLEANUP



**Saturday
April 17, 2021
10:00 am**

Meet at the Desert View
parking lot.

Email Denise Whisman
to confirm participation.

denisewhisman@ferrellgas.com

Fire Safe Council 2021 Startup

Spring is here and the first MLFSC meeting of 2021 is set for Saturday April 17th at 9:00 am via Zoom. An invitation will be emailed prior to this meeting. Our meetings will continue on Zoom until we are able to safely return to the Roost.

Thanks to the US Forest Service, the community only brush pile and dumpster will continue to be located at the Camp Ole Fire Station. The Fire Station is open for our use Sunday thru Wednesday from 8:00am to 4:30pm only, until sometime in May. Days and hours may change at that time and we will notify all of any changes. Please follow these rules when using the dumpster and brush pile:

1. The dumpster, to be placed onsite in May, is for leaves, grass/weed cuttings, pine needles and pine cones only. Unload to the back and up to the edge of the dumpster first.
2. The brush pile is for native shrubs, brush and branches up to a maximum of 6" in diameter only. Unload toward the back of the brush pile first.
3. Please keep the site clean and no trash, bags or construction debris is allowed at this site.
4. This site is for Mt Laguna community members only, no contractors allowed.
5. Follow the signs that are posted to and from the brush pile and dumpster only, no entering of any buildings and drive slowly while in the Fire Station.
6. While on this Government facility, COVID-19 precaution masks are required to be worn at all times.

FSC has the following equipment available for use by our community members.

1. Gas powered weed whackers for \$10/1 or 2 day to use.
2. Gas powered trimmer and pole saw at no cost to use.
3. Pick-up truck to use for hauling approved debris to and from Camp Ole only, for a \$10/day donation.
4. Gas powered wood splitter for \$20/day to use.

Please contact one of our equipment managers, Jack Splinter @ 858-472-4368 or Richard Willis @ 619-990-1404, for availability and to schedule the equipment usage.

Thank you to those members who donated to the MLFSC in the past. If you wish to donate a tax-deductible contribution to the Fire Safe Council, please mail your check to:

Mt. Laguna Fire Safe Council
P O Box 292
Mount Laguna, CA 91948

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

Re-Introducing National Forest Homeowners

All MLIA members are also members of the National Forest Homeowners Association (NFH). We have so many new cabin owners, here is an introduction to what membership offers us. Because the association's efforts and service also change and expand over time, this may re-introduce long time cabin owners to what NFH currently does.

The website is www.nationalforesthowners.org. NFH is a member directed organization whose mission is to provide information and support to recreational cabin owners. Additionally, it advocates for cabin owners and the preservation of recreational opportunities in the national forests with minimal environmental impact. That seems pretty broad and generic so here are a couple of practical examples.

One example of NFH's advocacy is the passage of the Cabin Fee Act which has standardized stabilized and rationalized the process by which the Forest Service assesses our annual fees.

Currently the Forest Service has proposed 10 changes in our Special Use Permits. The NFH has raised objections to 8 of the 10 and a meeting of cabin association leaders was held at the end of March to discuss what those proposals are, how they could impact the recreational cabin program and what our response must be.

NFH offers many services, information about permits, cabin ownership, fire safety, cabin insurance, cabins for sale, etc. However, it is when major changes to our relationship with the Forest Service are proposed, that NFH membership benefits all of us.

NFH is our organization. To learn more about NFH and all that it offers, visit the website. There's a lot to browse.

*Brock Houston
Cabin 807*



Frank Kalinoski NFH Outreach Coordinator

The National Forest Homeowners organization announced that Frank Kalinoski has volunteered (!) to act as the NFH Outreach Coordinator for the Cleveland National Forest.

Contact Frank or Desiree LaMaggiore at NFH (desiree.lamaggiore@nationalforesthowners.org)

if you have questions or concerns about our MLIA cabin tract.

New NFH Benefit for Cabin Owners

MLIA cabin owners as NFH members can join AirMedCare, an air ambulance service.

One membership covers your household (including both your home and cabin), and will be available to you and your family members whenever you are in the AirMedCare coverage area. Find more information at <https://www.nationalforesthowners.org/page/AirAmbulance>.

Winter's Last Hurrah!

March 9 -13, 2021



~ Cabin Access Issues ~

Winter weather was in high gear in February and March. We experienced the usual snow play vehicles who get stuck periodically, spin their wheels, and ding our roads. They are a right of passage. What is different this year are the oversized and numerous SDG&E trucks doing pole replacement. The damage to already saturated access routes is significant in certain areas. Discussions between tract road captains on Upper and Lower Boiling Springs have been ongoing and will soon result in a claim being filed with SDG&E for reparations. Should any other tracts experience that same unfortunate damage to their access routes, please feel free to reach out to me to be included in our discussions.

We are also working on an access initiative that will provide much needed security for our Ole water reservoir. A proposal has been submitted to District Forest Service staff for permission to install a gate on Boiling Springs road leading to the tank. This is the only MLIA water resource that is not protected by either a locked building, gate, concrete enclosure or both. We hope to have a positive response in time for installation to occur by June 1. That's it for now.

Bring on Spring weather!!
Carl Sessions, VP-MLIA
(619) 571-2284





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.

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mtlaguna.org

Cabin water issues?

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

Stay in touch!

Send new contact information to

Karen Motta
KLMotta46@gmail.com

(619) 977- 2083

Eugenie Newton, Editor
evn8@san.rr.com

