

MOUNT  
LAGUNA  
IMPROVEMENT  
ASSOCIATION



# CABIN NEWSLETTER

## News from the MLIA President

*Frank Kalinoski*

Did it seem like 2021 would never end?? Do you think 2022 will be any better?? **Of course, it will!!!** Already, we have more rain and snow than this time last year. The coronavirus will be better managed. I am looking forward to lots of wildflowers and sitting on my cabin deck watching the world go by. We are going to plan for MLIA social events this year, where we can meet and greet and eat and play cornhole. We are in need of a cabin owner to step up and volunteer to host our Spring Chili Fest. In the past we held it at the community church, but its status is not known.

Our water system is performing well with the drought and we have had no major problems. Even though it does not seem like it with the rain and snow, we still need to be good custodians of our precious water resource. With freezing weather there is a risk of broken water pipes in our cabins and in the MLIA distribution lines.

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**February 5th**

MLIA Board Meeting  
9:00 am via Zoom

**August 6th**

MLIA Board Meeting  
9:00 am via Zoom

**April 23rd**

Chili Fest  
Watch for flyer

**September 17th**

MLIA Annual Meeting  
10:00 am via Zoom

**May 7th**

MLIA Board Meeting  
9:00 am via Zoom

**November 6th**

MLIA Board Meeting  
9:00 am via Zoom

**June 18th**

Spring Social  
Flyers will be sent

**Fire Safe Council Meetings**

Monthly 3rd Saturday  
April – November  
9:00 am

**Coming Up  
in  
2022**

**President's News, *continued from page 1***

**If you see water where it should not be, please notify Dan Fritz (phone ) so that he can check it out.**

All of the bacteriological water samples this past quarter have been negative. All of our required chemical tests have returned results within the approved limits.

There have been a few hiccups in the annual MLIA billing process, but our new Treasurer, Mary Ladewig, is working through the process. A few questions that have arisen and the board will be addressing the issues to bring clarity to the process.

I am working with the Forest Service to try and format a form that can be used to request *septic tank replacement or repair* and can be used to document the repair request progress towards approval. Seems that the septic tanks mandated by the Forest Service to be installed 20 to 25 years ago are now in need of repair or replacement. There have been problems/delays getting approval from the Forest Service due to agency resources and turnover. There has also been some confusion regarding the

information needed by the Forest Service to ensure the approval process is not delayed. We have a new Recreation Residence Program Administrator, Madison Ayde. I am hoping we can make quick work towards getting this repair request form approved so that the cabin owners in need will have a tool to help them and the Forest Service through the approval process.

We continue to have our quarterly MLIA board meetings via Zoom and probably will continue to do so. They are more convenient than in-person and we get good participation. We will have to wait and see if the Forest Service will allow usage of the Red-Tailed Roost for meetings. *Only the Shadow knows!*

See you on the mountain!!

*Frank*



## KEEPING THE ROADS CLEAR AND CLEAN

The rain and snow event of mid-Dec did not involve the flurry of snow players that has happened in the past. I was there before, during, and after the storm and saw little to no visitors cruising our cabin access roads. This was a good test of previous clean up activities as it relates to run off dispersal. My drive around found no serious gullies or pot holes needing repair.

Still no word from the Forest Service on an eventual permit allowing MLIA to perform it's own maintenance on our access routes. Do you ever notice the large cloud of dust coming up from the rear of your car or truck? That is the roadway blowing away. Eventually our water lines will be exposed. An SDGE claim was recently filed for a water line pulled up that was only 2" deep. It did not begin that way. The Forest Service does not replace the degraded road base as it should and will not support us in doing it our way for them. So, we work defensively, fixing as we go.

Let me know if you have any questions about how to fix a poor runoff situation. You almost need to be out there in the rain to see how things happen to determine how to fix it. There is great satisfaction in making the fix during the rain and the instant gratification it provides. Either way, I love my job but the pay sucks!!

*Carl Sessions, VP-MLIA  
Cabin 716, 619-751-2284*

## Then the ice storm came!



## But before the snow and ice . . .

Sunrise Highway clean-up happened on Dec 4<sup>th</sup>.

The road was in very good shape and only took about two hours to complete the project. *Denise Whisman*



### Clean Up Crew

*The Bier family, Tom, Matilda, Jasper, and Laura, and Dre Guerrette, Denise Whisman and Art Miramontes.*





## Keep Watch

Some small items have “walked away” from unattended cabins recently. Items such as carabiners to close winter shutters, cabin decorations, thermometers, etc. have been reported missing from front porches and cabin areas. Although nothing of large monetary value has been reported missing, we know that a lot of items at our cabins have sentimental value and are irreplaceable.

The good news is that these petty thefts have not included any known cabin break-ins. Be on alert and make sure that you secure any items that would be hugely missed.

If you notice anything amiss at a neighbor’s cabin, send them an email to let them know.

## News from the NFH National Conference

The 2021 theme for the NFH National Conference, held online this past Fall, was “Restoration: Cabins, Forests and Community”. NFH has just released the recordings, including slides, of the from the Conference sessions.

If you haven’t had an opportunity to attend an NFH Conference in person, reviewing these sessions will give you a good sense of the quality of the information and presenters. Each year has a new theme. However, each year there’s an update on the latest issues/rules on permits as well as the current activities of the Forest Service.

Sessions were packed with useful and updated informative cabin news. Sessions recorded and available for viewing include:

- The Kick-Off and NFH Business Meeting
- Permits: Fact v Fiction
- Restoring the Past: Treasure Island with Historic Cabins Quiz: After a Fire: What’s Next?
- USFS & Ask the Experts Panel with national Forest Service leadership, and the NFH President and Directors

Login is NOT required to see the sessions and materials.

Go to:

<https://www.nationalforesthowners.org/general/custom.asp?page=2021VirtualPortal>

Ideally next year’s Conference will be able to be held in person where the advantage is an opportunity to meet cabin owners from around the US, talk informally with Forest Service representatives, share ideas and learn that our location on Mount Laguna is special in many ways.

And don’t forget, the NFH website has a tremendous amount of information for cabin owners.



*Enjoy!  
Brock Houston  
Cabin 807*

# Happy New Year to All!

## from Doug Reed, MLFSC President

The MLFSC annual elections were held at this year's November 20th Zoom meeting. The following are the results of this election and the Board and Directors from now until the November 2022 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 brush pile at Camp Ole has NEW hours of operation. The new hours are 9:30 am to 4:30pm.** The brush pile access is subject to closure due to bad weather and/or bad road conditions. Please follow the rules for using the brush pile and keep this area clean.

During this winter, it is a good time to **check your heater and fireplace flues and dampers** for proper operation and that they are free of any obstructions and soot build-up. Test all smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors and replace the batteries if they are older than one year. Please check your detector manual for requirements to replace batteries.

As a reminder, **SDG&E will set-up power Community Resource Centers (CRC) during a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)** or an emergency evacuation of our community. Check the SDG&E website for exact locations of these charging stations. The SDG&E website shows these CRC locations, outage maps, weather reports, area cameras and power shutdown status. Be sure to sign up for weather and power outage warnings and alerts to your cell phone and email through your SDG&E online account.

### Key Reminders

- Winter is still the time to keep your roof gutters clean and keep the leaves from piling up around your house and in the valleys of your roof.
- Please continue to contact our Equipment Managers, Richard Willis (619-990-1404) or Jack Splinter (858-472-4368), to schedule your usage of the MLFSC equipment and truck.

Thank you to all those people that made donations to the MLFSC this year. This money will help to support our 2022 operations and expenses.

**Our next MLFSC meeting will be on April 16, 2022.**

Time and location to be determined at a later date. We will send out an email with the details.

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

*Have a wonderful and safe winter!*  
Doug  
ohio0411@hotmail.com

# MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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

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



**Thank you to contributing photographers:**

**Nola Houston for photos on page one, two, four and six;**

**Reina Nevius for page one photos;**

**Laura Bier for page three and four photos; and**

**Frank Kalinoski for page three photo.**

## WATER ISSUES?

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

## NEW CONTACT INFO?

Send your new email, address,  
or phone number to  
**Joanne Odenthal**  
**[joanne6336@gmail.com](mailto:joanne6336@gmail.com)**

*Eugenie Newton, Editor*  
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