
MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

CABIN NEWSLETTER

Volume 20 Number 82



President's Report

Frank Kalinoski

The air is warming up, The woodpeckers are chattering. The bugs have hatched and are buzzing. The oaks have fresh, new green leaves, The wild flowers are showing off their colors. The grasses and weeds are growing. That means it is time to get out the weed whackers and make the area around our cabins fire safe. Don't forget to limb up the trees and clear away downed branches.

Dead slash up to 6" in diameter can be taken to the Camp Ole burn pile. Use your Fire Inspection Report from last year as a check list. I do not know when the Forest Service will start their fire inspections. I asked but received no response. Incidentally, the National Forest Homeowners website has some great information about Fire under Resources. And finally, just step back when you have completed these tasks and admire your hard work. Then sit down and enjoy your cabin in the

continued on page 2

~ Coming Soon ~

June 18

Community Picnic

See page 3 for details.

August 6

MLIA Board Meeting

9-11 am
Via Zoom

August 20

Wine-A-Bit & Beer Fest

Watch for flyer.



President's Report, *continued.*

mountains.

The **MLIA water system** appears to be working quite well. The water level in the well remains at a constant level and the pumping drawdown is less than five feet. Dan is keeping the water tanks full. The monthly bacteriological water samples come back as Absent, which is good. We will be putting out the annual Consumer Confidence Report soon. There are no notable incidents to report.

We have been notified that the **Red-Tailed Roost is again available** for meetings, so we are planning on having the MLIA Annual meeting on September 17 there in person instead of via Zoom. Hopefully many of you will be able to join us on the third Saturday in

September.

If you missed the Chili Fest in April, you missed a chance to meet and greet and eat in person on a beautiful day. It was really nice to enjoy each others company in person again.

The **MLIA Annual Picnic** is scheduled for the third weekend in June on Saturday the 18th. Yes, that is the day before Fathers Day and three days before the Summer Solstice for you Druids. Hopefully we can all meet again and enjoy our picnic celebration with good folks and good food and good times.

See you on the mountain!!
Frank



This is the El Prado Ranger cabin in the 1920's. It was built in 1911 by the rangers for seasonal use.

*Cleveland National Forest,
James Newland, 2008, p.36.*

Laguna Mountain History



This is the Ranger cabin 100 years later. Photographs taken by Nola Houston in 2018.



Mount Laguna Improvement Association

Community Picnic

Saturday June 18, 2022

Hosted by Carl and Vicki Sessions
Cabin 716 in Boiling Springs Tract

All Mt Laguna Community
Are Invited!

Cabin Owners - Private
Residents - Cal Fire and
USFS Fire Personnel



1:00 pm Potluck Picnic

3:00 pm 50/50 Drawing

\$100 Grand Prize

Must be present to win!

RSVP to
Kerry Anderson
(928) 503-7965
pokokerry@aol.com

Bring a potluck dish to share, your meat to grill and any beverage you would enjoy.

MLIA will provide grills to use, Mountain water, lemonade, paper products and utensils.
Please bring your own chairs.

Only Service Animals are allowed at functions serving food. No pets please.

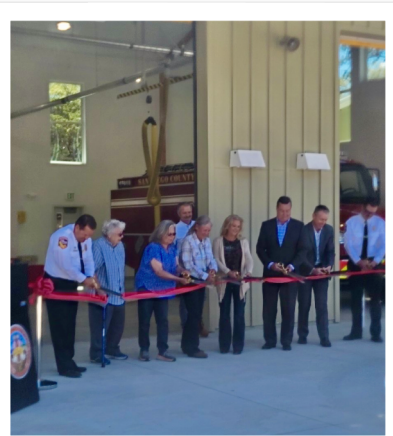
Fire Safe Council News

This month's **MLFSC meeting is scheduled for Saturday June 18th at 10:00 am at the Roost**. An invitation will be emailed prior to this meeting with the meeting agenda. Our meetings will continue to be held on the 3rd Saturday of the month at the Roost through November. *Note: If the Forest Service closes the Roost, we will continue meetings via Zoom until we are able to safely return to the Roost.*

Forest Service and CalFire inspections will start in June

and wrap up by July 4th. So, make sure your home, cabin and property is ready. This all helps to reduce the wildfire fuels in our beautiful forest.

The **new CalFire fire station** ribbon cutting ceremony was held on May 4th. The new station is located on Mt. Laguna Drive at the County Operations complex. Many people attended and we were able to tour the new fire station.



Equipment for Cleanup

- Gas powered **weed whackers** for \$20/1 or 2 day.
- Gas powered **trimmer and pole saw** for \$20/1 day.
- Pick-up **truck** to use for hauling approved debris to and from Camp Ole **only**, \$20/day donation.
- Gas powered **wood splitter** for \$30/1 day.

To schedule use, contact equipment manger Jack Splinter @ 858-472-4368 or Richard Willis @ 619-990-1404

Thanks to the community, Forest Service, and MLIA for their continued support.

Doug Reed,
MLFSC President

Camp Ole

Open 9:30 am – 5:30 pm, 7 days a week

1. The dumpster is for leaves, grass/weed cuttings, pine needles and pine cones **only**. **No dirt, rocks or bags allowed**. Unload to the back and up to the top edge of the dumpster first. Please close the doors after unloading.
2. The brush pile is for native shrubs, brush and branches up to a maximum of 6" in diameter **only**, and **only** from the Mt. Laguna community. Unload toward the back of the brush pile first.
3. Please keep the site clean of trash and construction debris is not 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.

The Outdoor Recreation Economy

2022 NFH Annual Spring Conference

A major theme of this year's conference was "What is the impact of the outdoor recreation and the cabin program on rural economies"

Slides used in the different presentations are available for viewing on the National Forest Homeowners website

<https://www.nationalforesthomeowners.org>

The presentations included:

- NFH 2022 Business Meeting
Primarily an administrative meeting it was mostly attended by tract leaders.
- The Outdoor Recreation Economy
An introduction to the conference theme, agenda and the recreational cabin program.
- The Outdoor Recreation Economy: No Longer a Sleeping Giant
While the focus of the presentation was on Oregon, the goal of the NFH's efforts to survey the impact of our recreational cabins was clearly to highlight the important impact that our cabin program has on local economies wherever our cabins are located.

The survey indicated that our 13,800 cabins in 24 states paid \$33 Million in Permit Fees, \$19 Million in taxes, \$16 Million in insurance premiums, \$8 Million in Utilities, plus another \$70+ Million in other economic benefits to local communities.

- US Forest Service: National Picture
This presentation summarized the USFS

current priorities. Number one is the threat from wildfires, and number 2 is the impact of climate change on the national forests.

Also, important 'Recreation Residence Program Updates' provided useful cabin information from the USFS perspective.

- National Forest Homeowners Federal Affairs Update
Focusing on issues and Acts related to wildfires, the funding of mitigation efforts and fire fighting programs.

The Breakout Sessions included:

- Understanding and Living with your Permit
- Heritage and Historic Cabins
- Connecting Cabins with Community Science
- NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) – How Does it Affect Cabin Owners
- Economic Benefit Study: Deep Dive

Each year's Conference has a different focus, however several of the sessions are always included covering subjects such as Cabin Permits, what's happening in Washington that impacts our cabins and presentations by key Forest Service personnel. Take a look at next year's Agenda when it's available on the NFH website. Meanwhile, go there for a deeper look at the subjects that interest you.

*Brock Houston
Cabin 807*



Monarch Butterflies and Native Milkweed

Most people know that monarch butterflies depend on milkweed for their food. Although the butterflies do sip on other nectar bearing plants such as ceanothus and manzanita, they lay their eggs exclusively on milkweeds, so the caterpillars depend on that for their food. Development and monoculture farming has destroyed much of the native milkweed that the monarchs used to depend on. Migrating monarchs find less and less native milkweed on their travels, and as a result monarch populations have plummeted.

Many people have tried to mitigate this effect by planting milkweed in their home gardens, and even public gardens. *This only helps if the milkweed is really native to the habitat.* A milkweed commonly planted (and sold in garden centers) in Southern California is tropical milkweed, *Asclepias curassavica*. **DO NOT PLANT TROPICAL MILKWEED.** This milkweed ends up being detrimental to monarchs because it blooms all year round.

Why would this be a problem? Well, because the monarchs carry a parasite which can infect the next monarch generation unless the milkweed dies off seasonally. Native milkweeds die off, but tropical milkweed doesn't. This is all just background information in case you're ever interested in planting milkweed in your home garden or near your cabin. (Go to xerces.org for information on planting milkweed.)

One of the native milkweeds in our mountains is the narrow leaf milkweed,
Asclepias fascicularis.



Two others you can find in Mount Laguna are
continued on page 6

Monarchs and Milkweed, *continued*

California milkweed, *Asclepias Californica*,



and Indian milkweed, *Asclepias eriocarpa*.



Sometimes you can see large milkweeds in bloom along Sunrise Highway near mile markers 18 and 19 in May and June.

The Santa Monica Mountains Trails Council (SMMTC) published an article about milkweed in the coastal mountains. The plant has toxic alkaloids which the caterpillars ingest and which make them basically taste nasty to potential predators. When native milkweeds go dormant in the fall, this leads the monarch butterflies to head south for the winter. Coastal and mountain native peoples used milkweed for a variety of things, from cordage to chewing gum, according to the SMMTC. <https://www.smmtc.org/plantofthemonth/>

Heavy Duty Access Road Maintenance

Many thanks to our friend Dave Keller for the referral to Kurt at Alpine Fence. Kurt came across some heavy gauge fencing that was burned in a back country fire. He gladly provided the MLIA with a 6x6 section for the manufacture of a top-of-the-line road drag for the use by the MLIA community.

I have reached out to another cabin owner in my tract who has access to piping, wire, and great ideas to make this a road maintenance tool to be proud of.

We hope to have it put together within the next couple of weeks, maybe in time to show off at the Community Picnic!! See you then ...

Carl Sessions VP-MLIA
Cabin 716

[California Milkweed.php](#)

The entire species of milkweed, *Asclepias*, was named for Asclepius, the Greek god of healing, so presumably there were healing powers ascribed to it when Linnaeus was developing his botanical naming conventions. Considering the toxic alkaloids present in most milkweeds, however, a person would be advised to use caution.

Joanne Odenthal
Cabin 505

Photos from Calscape, the California Native Plant Society, calscape.org

SUMMER 2022

MOUNT LAGUNA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION



Photograph by Nola Houston

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

New Email? Let Us Know!

Send email, phone and
address changes to
Joanne Odenthal
Joanne6336@gmail.com

Water Maintenance

Please report any problems with
the MLIA water system to
Dan Fritz at (619) 405-1452.

Eugenie Newton, Editor
evn8@san.rr.com