



SILVER LAKE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Spring 2019

<http://slhoa.biz>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/109849652384142>

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

What an amazing winter we've had compared to last year. And it appears that the snow is melting fast, leaving us with a much higher water table this year. It will be interesting to see if the algae in our beloved swimming hole, Rim Rock, will finally dissipate. In the meantime, I'm happy to report that Gene Stewart will be returning as our caretaker for another season. With the heavy snows this winter, there may be a fair amount of clean up to do or minor repairs, so please do not hesitate to contact Gene should you need to hire him to help out. You can email him at gene4261@yahoo.com, or reach him by cell at (541) 954-7167. Also, should you still need any of your trees taken down that were tagged by the Forest Service last season, you can contact Mark Rayburn at bubbaone47@gmail.com or at (530) 256-3425, to coordinate the job with Spike Peterson. And of course, please contact our USFS District Recreation Officer, Stacy Kronner at (530) 258-5162 or at srkronner@fs.fed.us, if you need any trees tagged for removal at your cabin. Mark also let me know that he no longer has refrigerators to sell, but he can make himself available to work on any existing ones should you run into any needed repairs.

Please check out the "Resource" button when you log into the Silver Lake website. We've updated it with contact information and listings for local contractors, cabin insurance information, the National Forest Homeowner's (NFH) website, USFS representatives' names and contact information, and cabin restoration/maintenance product information. Should you have additional resources, or a resource is no longer available, please email me or Kim Andrews and we will update the webpage.

This past May 3 and 4, I attended the NFH annual meeting in San Diego. It was actually a lot of fun, pretty informative, and I made some great contacts. The two day conference started with the Tract Leader's meeting. Needless to say, I was one of several people representing a Silver Lake located in California. I believe there are a few, but of course "ours" is really rather exceptional! And admittedly, I was really rather proud to represent **the** Silver Lake Tract, Lassen National Forest. Did you know that there are 18 National Forests located in California and 65 Wilderness areas, our own Caribou Wilderness being one of them? That's a fair amount of open space for us to play in, and more than in a lot of other states. During the conference, I had the opportunity to get to know board members of the NFH who are all seemingly very conscientious and great advocates for cabin owners when it comes to working with the USFS. The NFH board and staff of three have worked hard this past year to update their website to provide NFH members with free access to helpful resources that include:

- NFH Community Forum – Provides an opportunity for cabin owners to network, ask questions of each other regarding cabin maintenance, permitting, whatever your cabin related inquiry is, and get feedback. Photos can also be posted here and shared.

- Marketplace – Provides a platform for NFH members to post cabin's for sale and include links to real estate brokers. The public can see the post, but unless they are NFH Members they cannot view photos, cabin details, or contact information.
- Working on developing a webpage where NFH member cabin owners can contact each other to consider "trading" cabin visits for a week or two, or sell cabin items such as canoes, kerosene lamps, etc.
- NFH Cabin Owners Insurance Program – The NFH has partnered with Assurance Risk Managers, Inc. (ARM Multi Insurance Services) located in Woodland, CA, to provide cabin owners with options to insure their cabin, and help identify the exposures and risks that may exist. More information will also be provided on the Silver Lake Website Resources page.

In regard to the NFH Insurance Program, I met Parker Humes, Personal Insurance Manager at ARM, who has been working closely with the NFH, and said that he's familiar with our Silver Lake as he's insured a couple cabins. So it sounds like some of you may already know him. Parker recommended that if you currently have insurance on your cabin, don't worry about shopping around for a better deal. Insurance on cabins like ours is pretty much the same across the board and once you have it, you want to be sure to hold onto it as it may not be so easy to reapply if cancelled. And if you do not have cabin insurance, it's wise to consider obtaining it. One of the costs associated with a loss such as fire, is the hazardous waste removal before you can even rebuild. This cost can be extreme, not to mention the clean-up itself is emotionally challenging. There were at least a couple cabin owners at the conference from tracts that have already lost a number of cabins to forest fires this past year, and it was very heartwarming to hear how their tracts have really come together to help rebuild. I know that all of us at Silver Lake have been and continue to be diligent when it comes to fire precautions. You can pick up a campfire permit from the USFS office in Chester (they're free), and check with Stacy or the USFS office in Chester on obtaining a burn permit to do any larger burn jobs at the beginning of the season, or end of the season in late fall. The USFS posts periods when debris burning is allowed.

The NFH Board is also looking forward to developing a ten year strategic plan that will take into account such issues as the threat of climate warming and potential for increased wildfires, not to mention water quality issues that may affect cabin life, and what kind of support the NFH may provide cabin owners in this regard and in other matters that may arise.

I also had the opportunity at the conference to meet the USFS Recreation Special Use Program Manager, Deborah Gaynor, who works out of the USFS office located in Vallejo, California. She was a pleasure to speak with, knows Stacy Kronner, and was very open to speaking directly with cabin owners to work through any issues that may arise, such as permitting for a large maintenance or rebuild project. As Deborah mentioned to me, they're all remaining hopeful that in five years, 2024, per the Cabin Fee Act, all our permit fees will finally be redirected out of the U.S. Treasury and back into the USFS to better support its recreation/special uses programs. Look to the Resource Page on the SLHOA website for Deborah's contact information.

Lastly, a large focus of this year's conference was "cabin advocacy." Discussions revolved around how to work in a positive manner and collaboratively with the USFS, the need for cabin owners to understand the responsibilities outlined in their permit, and on individual advocacy. This included transitioning ownership and the permit in a cabin, and the importance of educating the next generation. All good information that you can look into further if you're interested at the NFH website at www.nationalforesthomeowners.org.

And on that note, I'm looking forward to seeing everyone up at the lake this summer and hopefully at the July 6 General Meeting at 4:00 p.m. and the Social at the Caretaker's Cabin at 5:00 p.m....ish. Hopefully, we can all get in soon! I know word travels fast when the last snow flurry on the Silver Lake Road is busted through! And don't hesitate to email me should you have any questions.

All my best, Barb Andrews

TREASURER'S REPORT

Fiscal Year 2019 (05/01/2018 through 04/30/2019) – 12 Months

Revenues

Permit Holder Dues	\$ 23,520.00 (48 paid, 49 budgeted)
Family and Associate Dues	2,345.00 (67 paid, 70 budgeted)
NFH Dues	175.00 (7 paid, 8 budgeted)
Bank Interest	1.56
SLHOA Events	734.00
TOTAL	\$ 26,775.56

Expenses

Caretaker Cabin Insurance Premium	\$ 1,392.30
Caretaker Cabin Maintenance	966.42
Waste Management	1,688.10
Caretaker Net Pay	6,233.14
Employment Development Dept.	282.94
IRS Quarterly Fed Tax	1,916.21
Lassen County Prop Tax	667.30
Misc. – Other, Stamps, Check, etc.	637.06
NFH Dues	2,135.00
Newsletter/Directory Web Expenses	177.48
US Forest Service	3,312.50
Silver Lake Water Testing	264.00
SLHOA Events	166.44
State Comp. Ins. Fund	1,058.97
Road & Trail Maintenance / Other	120.00
Utilities – Propane	323.46
Wells Fargo/PayPal Fees	104.50
TOTAL	\$ 21,620.82

INCOME

\$ 5,154.74

Checking Account Balance

\$ 12,817.46

Savings Account Balance

5,216.03

Prepays

4,288.90

TOTAL

\$ 22,322.39

Erik A. Foraker

Nominating Committee and Elections –

During the SLHOA General Meeting on Sunday, September 1, 2019, we will be holding elections for two positions on the Board of Directors.

Scott Carroll will be running for a third term.

Ken Kendall is resigning from the board effective with close of the September 1st meeting, so his position is open.

Anyone interested in running to serve on the Board of Directors should let a board member

know. Nominations will be accepted from the floor during the September 1st meeting. To serve on the board, one must be a regular member of the SLHOA or a family member.

Ken Kendall

Announcements:

February 18, 2019 Jehan Moulton-Kyllo and her husband Jeff Kyllo welcomed a baby girl to the world and to our cabin community!

Wishing a warm Silver Lake welcome to Valfreyja Eloise Moulton-Kyllo!



Snow, Snow, SNOW!!!

Silver Lake saw quite the snowfall this year! Great news for the water levels and hopefully for the fishing! While it might delay trips in, here are some beautiful shot from the brave souls who dared the cold!



Silver Lake, April 2019, Linda Mark



McNary Cabin, April 2019, Jeff Cutler



Lassen Peak at Sunset, Lake Almanor, May 11, 2019
Barb Andrews



Silver Lake, May 2019, Barb Andrews

(Reprint) TREE REMOVAL AND WOODCHIPPING

Tree Removal/ Tagging:

Cabin owners should contact Stacy Kronner if they need a tree tagged to take down. Once it's tagged, homeowners can contact Mark Rayburn to set up a date for Spike Peterson to take it down if they wish for him to take care of it. Spike will only fell trees and not clear or cut into rounds. It's about \$150/tree to fell.

USFS has commissioned the Landreth's and de Graff's to remove the trees that had been hit by lightning located in between their cabins. Ken McNany proposed that next July 4, cabin owners pull together a work party to help with the removal.

Wood Chipping/Burning:

Scott spoke to Stacy Kronner about the idea we had to see if chipping tree and pine needle waste would be an acceptable alternative for burning or hauling it away. She said chipping is perfectly acceptable way to deal with the material and that we would want to make sure that the chipped material is then spread no deeper than one inch thick on the soil.

There is a wood chipping program in Butte County. It's run by the non-profit Butte County Fire Safe Council. The website for the program is here: <http://www.buttefiresafe.net/chipper-program>. The program operates early in the summer and residents who wish to participate notify the program and haul their fire hazardous brush to within 5 feet of the road, stack it rows no higher than 4 feet in height, free of mud, rocks and roots, with all the ends facing toward the road, and then the program comes by and chips it all for them. Homeowners can line their driveways/paths to a thickness of 2in with the chips, but cannot distribute the wood chips on the main roads. It's about \$1,000/week and they can do about 5 properties a day.

Scott contacted Zamora's in Susanville (wood chipper rentals) to see what chipper they had and which would be best for the job. He told them that it would be for a mix of pine needles, brush and trees and they recommended their 12 inch chipper, which is their brush chipper. The cost is \$288.12 per day 8 hour run time per day, including taxes. After three days they said it's better to go for the week price, which is \$1152.50. Their phone number is: [\(530\) 251-4033](tel:5302514033)

Wood Burning – Stacy Kronner has also said that the USFS does not have to come out to approve a burn pile location, but that burn piles and burning activity have to meet certain specifications listed on a residential burn permit either from Cal Fire or the USFS.

GARBAGE PICK-UP

Pick-up will begin on or about June 29, 2019 (weather permitting), and end September 8, 2019 (weekend after Labor Day).

(Reprint) 2018 ANNUAL WATER TEST RESULTS

On an early October morning, in borrowed canoe (thank you Amanda and David of the Stephens' cabin!), a friend and I paddled around the lake to collect three sets of samples for the SLHOA annual end of season bacteria testing. Samples were collected from the north and south sides of the lake towards the cliff, and at the exit cove near the caretaker's cabin. They were placed on ice and taken that day to the analytical laboratory in Reno, Nevada for testing.

The tests we run look for enterococcus, total coliform, and E. coli. While the E. coli and enterococcus results were in line with what we normally see, the total coliform result was several times higher. This is likely due to the samples being collected after unexpected heavy rainstorms in the days before. Rainstorms often flush soil and other potential sources of coliform into the lake. We had a similar situation a number of years ago when we sampled immediately following a heavy rainstorm, and, as expected, tests run the subsequent spring showed normal levels. After a brief consultation with the hydrologist at Eagle Lake Ranger District, we will continue to conduct yearly water tests of the lake in the late fall. Any water tests in the spring will more than likely produce normal results due to the winter snow pack and spring flush of water. As mentioned below, a best practice is to always boil drinking water.

The SLHOA Board reminds members that these tests give an indication for safety related to recreational uses of the lake, such as swimming and boating. They do not indicate the safety of the lake water nor your well water as a source of drinking water. We are not testing for many things that could be a concern for drinking water, such as viruses, fuel and fuel additives. As we have mentioned before, the only water that is tested regularly for safety for consumption is the water found in the Forest Service well in the campground. Many of our cabin wells are not built or maintained to the same standards as the Forest Service wells, which could make them more prone to contamination from surface run-off, critters that fall into them, etc. The same is true for cabins that draw their water directly from the lake.

A best practice for cabin users to avoid problems related to bacterial and viral contaminants in water used for drinking, tooth brushing, and dish washing is to simply boil the water for 3 minutes. Note that because we are above 5,000 feet the time required is two minutes longer than lower altitudes. If water is cloudy, let it settle and filter it through a cloth, coffee filter, or paper towel before boiling. A flavor helper tip from the EPA's page on water disinfection: Adding a pinch of salt per quart or liter, or pouring the boiled water from one clean container to another several times can improve the flat taste that can come from boiling. Another method of water purification for your consideration, is to use water purification tablets, such as Potable Aqua.

For more info on preparing drinking water visit: http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/dwq/Boiling_water_01_15.pdf

and at

<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/emergency-disinfection-drinking-water>

Scott Carroll

SILVER WEAR ORDERS

AND SLHOA WEBSITE

It's just about Summer, and time to get your new favorite "Silver Wear" from Kim McNany Andrews! Just access the link to purchase on the main page of the SLHOA website.



www.SilverLakeLassenCounty.com

You must be an SLHOA Member to access the member button on the website. Just go to the website, log in and create a password. Kim Andrews will receive a message regarding your request and can approve your access. Once you are approved, you will have access to newsletters, forums, events calendar and more.

For Sale: Karen Mark, Cabin 66 – Two neoprene life vests for kids 30-50 lbs. If interested, please contact Karen Mark at karenemark@yahoo.com.

SILVER LAKE SLHOA MEETING AND SOCIAL EVENTS

The Board of Directors sincerely thanks all hosts and attendees of the SLHOA social events for their generous donations of food, beverages and dollars that offset the cost of financing these events. Your continuing support helps to maintain our expenses at the lowest possible level.

NEXT SLHOA MEETING

Sunday, July 6, 2019, 4:00 p.m.

SOCIAL, 5:00 p.m., hosted by Barb Andrews and Sally Jeskey Timperley @ the Caretaker Cabin

LABOR DAY SLHOA MEETING

Sunday, September 1, 2019, 4:00 p.m.

SOCIAL, 5:00 p.m., hosted by Davis, Cabin 70



SLHOA Board of Directors

Barb Andrews, Cabin #17, President, bandrews@calacademy.org
Erik Foraker, Cabin #23, Treasurer, eforaker@mindspring.com
Sally Jesky Timperley, Cabin #8, Secretary, timpersj@charter.net
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Please submit any and all contributions to newsletters to Tara Bedney at bedneys@yahoo.com.
Thanks!