

Nordic Gazette

December 2015



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 11 - Friday – December General Meeting and Annual Christmas Dinner at Nicks, Pacifica– See Articles in December Special Edition and November Gazette

January 1, 2, 3rd – General Meeting and New Years at the Cabin

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

El Nino has come in like a lamb. May he go out like a lion. We have inches, not feet, but the mountains are white and wet. They are no longer arid and dusty. I, for one, am not just delighted but full of hope for a season in which I will float over fields of snow that may linger into late spring and even into summer on the highest peaks and provide some relief from our persistent drought.

As I am writing, Thanksgiving's bounty will remind me more of what we hope for than what we have been experiencing. I will celebrate and wax my skis in anxious anticipation, since the mountain management wants to keep the few good runs for the guests, not those of us who will have many weekdays in the season to enjoy ourselves.

I welcome our new members and look forward to their company in the cabin and on the slopes. And I am thankful that I can call myself a San Francisco Viking and one of your company.

I look forward to celebrating Christmas with all of you at Nicks on the 11th. This is a great time to have your friends who may become members introduced to the Vikings. We'll have them staying at the cabin as probationary members in record time!

Wishing you and yours the best of the season.

Rory

OUR NEW CLUB BROCHURE IS SPECTACULAR

Our new Viking brochure is attached and is also available on the Viking website. Feel free to print it and give it out to friends. We are still in desperate need of and seeking new members.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY PARTY AT NICK'S RESTAURANT – Friday December 11

Details are in the November Gazette, and the Special Edition Gazette that came out last week.

If you haven't sent in your reservations by **now**, get on it right now!!! If you can't make the big event, consider sending in a donation or buying **raffle tickets** from **Carol Reed**.

We are reminded the Vikings provide wine with dinner, however, we pay a corkage fee to Nicks. Please, before ordering another bottle of wine, be sure to look around at other tables who may not be drinking all of their wine and ask for a glass!!! Let's not leave half opened bottles on the tables!!!

MEMBERSHIP

The board and the rest of the Vikings extend a cheerful welcome to our newest probationary members.

67 Active (max 125)

17 Junior

4 Life

35 Passive

8 Probationary

3 Student Leave

2 Applicants

We want to welcome 4 new Probationary members:

- Dylan Savidge**, Walnut Creek- dylanrose@astound.net- sponsored by Barb Sorenson
- Bill Barber**, Walnut Creek- bj1350@comcast.net- sponsored by Jan Neilsen
- Aaron McMoran**, Walnut Creek- almcmoran1@gmail.com- sponsored by Barb Sorenson
- Jim Barger**, Sacramento- jhb4711@hotmail.com- sponsored by Penny Bair.

We also have 2 applicants processing:

- Thom Penner**, Auburn- thomcwol@yahoo.com, sponsored by Barb Sorenson.
- David McNulty**, Milpitas- david.s.mculty@gmail.com- sponsored by Barb Sorenson

NOVEMBER SKI SWAP

Barb Sorenson and team set up a booth at the San Ramon Valley Ski and Bike Swap in early November. Although the attendance was not what it once was at this great event, everyone who came through knows about the SF Vikings. We passed out nearly 150 flyers on the club and signed up a few people who were very interested. The Ski Patrol and Oakland Ski Club was also there along with another racing club. Next month I will publish a list of the members who came and worked the booth.

This swap was a great place to get new or used clothing and ski equipment at decent prices. Several stores liquidate their old inventory at great discountss. I (Maureen) picked up 3 pairs of used child snow boots, a used child overalls, and new adult name brand gloves for a total of \$35. Paul Thompson picked up a new jacket for \$40.

NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND AT THE CABIN

Get your reservations in now. There will be a general meeting held and staying at the cabin this over New Year's counts as attendance at a meeting. Sometimes with large groups staying at the cabin, a group dinner is coordinated. A chairperson is needed if there is enough interest in a New Year's Eve party and dinner. Let Janet know when making reservations.

VIKING NEWS CORNER

IN MEMORIUM - VSC Club member, **Mary Lu Lowe**, passed away on September 29th, 2015, after a courageous battle against lymphoma. Mary Lu joined the ski club in the late fifties shortly after graduating from college. She was active in the ski club for a few years; but her travelling bug got to her and off she went to Germany teaching students of American Military Personnel. While there she got to ski a lot in Germany and Austria. She came back home in the mid sixties and became active in the ski club again, met Tom Lowe and was married in 1966. Mary Lu was an avid skier, could ski down a field of moguls like she was on one ski, just hitting the tops of the moguls with the tips of her skis....poetry in motion. Mary Lu continued to ski for many years, walked every day, and her love for travelling continued throughout her lifetime, all over the world with her husband Tom.

Sincere condolences to **Tom Lowe**, their sons **Mark, and Brad Lowe** and their families.

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It's that time of year to review all of the cabin rules and reminders, along with instructions on how to make Cabin reservations.

How to Make Cabin Reservations

Please indicate VSC or cabin reservations in subject line, so that your email does not get deleted due to large volume of email.

Due to the increased usage of the cabin especially during holiday periods please use the following information to ensure we can get maximum usage of the cabin. Reservations must be made year round. (Work party reservations should be made with the cabin chair or person leading the work party.)

- Contact Diane Kemsley/Janet Neilsen
Email janneilsen@juno.com or call
925-837-8664 before 8 PM.
- Give the **nights** that you will be staying at the cabin.
- Give the makeup of your group (i.e. 3 males, 2 females and guest or member).
- Bunk or room preference.
- If you do not receive confirmation within 48 hours email or call again.

Guests:

Guests can get bumped from the cabin based on the needs of the members. The official deadline for bumping guests, per cabin rules, is the Thursday before the weekend of your reservation, but the reservations person will try to inform you before then.

Cancellations:

If you are unable to make it to the cabin or need to change the nights of your stay, it is very important to inform the reservations person as soon as possible. This will allow for members/guests who might be on a waiting list to get a bunk in the cabin.

Rooms and Bunks:

Requests for specific bunks or rooms will try to be accommodated. Unfortunately there will be times that your request will not be able to be fulfilled due to the needs to accommodate as many members/guests as possible. Once at the cabin, if you would like to change your assigned bunk/room see the weekend chairperson before making any changes to the bunk list.

Weekend Chairperson:

Each weekend or holiday period, a weekend chairperson is assigned. The weekend chair assigns the chores, collects the nightly fees and mails them to the treasurer, and makes changes to the bunk list as necessary. They are also there to resolve any issues that might come up during your stay.

Important Information and Reminders

- Please leave the water heater pilot lights on by turning the control to pilot.
- Thermostats for upstairs and downstairs furnaces are programmed – do not change the programming. Instructions provided at each thermostat.
- The first person at the cabin should take chore #1: shoveling the stairs to the solarium and removing the ice. This must be done at the beginning of your stay, and touched up while people are there. (Have cabin chair assign it to a second person if a storm comes through.) The stairs are our fire escape, and must be kept free of ice for safety. Also, shovel and remove the ice at the entrance.
- Don't forget to clean out your food locker.
- The blue trash bags are for recycling only. They are sorted out by the trash company after they are picked up. The heavy duty white trash bags are for the compactor only.
- Please mark your skis, snowboards and bedding. Names should be on all bedding in the solarium cupboards. Unmarked bedding and sleeping bags will be disposed of. It would be a good idea to also mark jackets and gloves.
- Please initial your chore after you have completed it, it is easy to forget and many of us do forget. We have a "bear" box for the garbage which means we don't have to take garbage home with us!
- However, we still have to put it into the garbage can and put the can into the box. The waste disposal company will only take garbage in the can. Recycling, in a blue bag, can be set next to the can, or in the can, space available. To recycle cardboard, it needs to be in a blue plastic bag. If the garbage collector has to pull out loose items that are not either in the trash can or a blue bag we are charged extra fees. Even stacks of cardboard that are bound together must be in a blue bag. The box is located out by the road on the cabin side of the parking lot driveway. It's painted grey-blue and raised on stilts to keep it above the snow, so someone has to lift the can to get it in (ask for help if you need it.)
- Please keep Barbara Sorensen barb@barbsorenson.com and Maureen Sala mo_sala@pacbell.net informed of your current address, phone number(s), and email so that important information reaches you.
- We have Viking Ski Club stickers available for \$2. The stickers must be displayed in your vehicle when parked at the cabin. Cabin keys are available from Mike Masek or Board members for \$3.
- Keep the front door to the cabin closed and locked at all times. Do not leave the door open with the expectation that someone else will close and lock it.
- If you are staying in one of the smaller rooms, please remember to vacuum the room as well as your assigned cabin chore before you leave.

San Francisco Viking Ski Club Officers - 2015/2016

President: Rory Hayden
Vice-President: Barbara Sorenson
Recording Secretary: Mike Maesk
Treasurer: Paul Thompson

Corresponding Secretary: Rick Haglund

Cabin Reservations: Diane Kemsley/Janet Neilsen

Tel: 925-837-8664 e-mail: janneilsen@juno.com

Cabin Chair: Mike Masek, Paul Kensinger

Nordic Gazette Editor: Maureen Sala

Board Members:

Roger Zeltmann, John Fox, Bill Kahrau, Maureen Sala, Curt Haney, Paul Kensinger, Laura Salcido

Info: vikinginfo@prodigy.net

Cabin: 530-426-1231

Web Site: www.sfvikingskiclub.org