

Nordic Gazette June 2014



<http://www.sfvikingskiclub.org>

Calendar

Saturday, June 7 – Annual Dinner

Meeting/Induction of Officers

6:30 – 7:30 No host cocktails

7:30 Dinner

Nick's Restaurant, Rockaway Beach, Pacifica

NO MEETING IN SAN MATEO IN JUNE

Saturday, July 5 – General Meeting and Work Party at the Cabin

NO MEETING IN SAN MATEO IN JULY

Wednesday, August 6 – General Meeting

Bayshore Corporate Center conference room

1710 S. Amphlett Blvd, San Mateo

7:00 PM Board meeting

8:00 PM General meeting

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Elections

Elections for officers and board members were held at the May meeting. The results are:

President- Rory Hayden

Vice President- Barb Sorensen

Recording Secretary- Lynn Mortensen

Corresponding Secretary – position vacant

Board Members: Adam Flores, Stephanie LaCarrubba, Bill Kahrau, Mark Sorensen, Paul Kensinger, John Fox, Maureen Sala and Mike Masek (the outgoing president an ex-officio board member for the first year after leaving office.)

Please come to the June dinner meeting and welcome our new and returning leadership team.

Work Parties

Work parties for this year are scheduled for July 5 & 6, this is also a general meeting. July 19 & 20 and August 16 & 17 are also scheduled. Please let Mike Masek or Jan Nielson know if you plan on attending. If you need to schedule a private work party talk to Mike about what you can do. The last work party of the year is the final cabin clean up for the following ski season. This is run by Richard Doleman and Jeannie Wedekind and will be scheduled later.

WOW

At the last meeting Paul Kensinger asked if there was a vegan option for the installation dinner. Stephanie LaCarrubba sent an email to Jan Nielsen on her smart phone at about 8 pm. Jan checked with Nick's Restaurant and emailed us the answer before noon the next day. Less than 16 hours from question to solution. Are we (the Viking Ski Club) good or what? Thanks Paul, Steph and Jan!
Mike

SATURDAY, June 7

Annual Dinner/Induction of New Officers

It's that time of the year again, when we all get together to greet the newly elected officers and board members and to make presentations to those members who have gone "above and beyond" for the club.

It's also a nice way to end up the ski season, to talk about some great skiing, not to mention meeting up with

old/new members. Guests are always welcome. No-host cocktails will be in the bar area from 6:30 - 7:30 pm, Vikings like their cocktails!!! Followed by dinner at 7:30 pm.

Remember attending the dinner counts as a required meeting attendance. There will be NO meeting on Wednesday, June 4, in San Mateo.

Please mail your check (made payable to the SF VIKING SKI CLUB), and the reservation form (attached) to: Janet Neilsen, 2974 Limestone Road, Alamo, CA 94507. DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: TUESDAY, JUNE 3. Any questions or last minute reservations, call Janet at (925) 837-8664.

SUMMER FUN at the Cabin

Our VSC cabin can be a great home base for summer activities! Whether you enjoy hiking, biking, rock climbing, swimming in mountain lakes, or even boating on Donner Lake, staying at the cabin allows easy day access to a vacation full of pleasures.

LONG LAKE is an especially charming swimming lake, with cliffs to jump off, an island to swim to, a slightly submerged flat rock to stand on, and picturesque Devil's peak (which I call Dragonback) on the west side. If you would like to know how to get there, call the Maseks for directions. (510) 538-7617

A short hike around the back of Angela Reservoir (no swimming) at the base of Donner Ski Ranch brings you to several other lakes you can swim in, (Flora is one) clear, pure, and relatively uncrowded. You can find them on topographical maps on cork board at cabin.

The Railroad Tunnel hike is especially refreshing in the summer, when the coolness of the tunnel and snow sheds are a welcome change from hot sun. The opening accessible on the other side of the Mt Judah road from the cabin, just about 200 feet south of the cabin, puts you on an unused railroad route (no tracks any more) with lovely views from openings and some great informal rock-climbing side routes. A rock wall at the entrance to snow sheds is called the "Chinese Wall" as it was built by Chinese Workers who also dug much of the tunnel.

There are many other attractions in the area, including the Pacific Crest trail, which crosses Hwy 40 about 200 yards uphill from the cabin, and which goes south behind Mt. Judah. Here's an invite to join in summer fun at the Viking Ski Club! Hope to see you there!

Alice and Mike Masek

Kahrau family learns to bond on the slopes

Reprint of an article from the SF Examiner on January 23, 2011.

By David Liepman

Bill Kahrau's 1968 divorce left him with sole custody of his six children, ranging in age from 15 months to 13 years. As the lone parent in the household, Kahrau relied on his passion for skiing to bond with the kids and provide a recreational outlet for the family.

For years, every other weekend Kahrau would load the kids in the camper of his pickup and head for the mountains.

"You relate as skier to skier, not parent to child," the San Francisco native said. "It's a pretty neat situation for your children."

Now 79, with his children grown, Kahrau hits the slopes every weekend during ski season. Home base is Sugar Bowl, where Kahrau has worked as a ski instructor for 38 years. He stays on Donner Summit in a six-bedroom cabin, owned jointly by his fellow members of the San Francisco Viking Ski Club.

The only evidence of slowing down is in his selection of classes.

"I teach beginner to intermediate level, the reason being that the high end, advance level is very physically demanding," said Kahrau, who runs his general contracting business during the week.

With the economy having affected his business, Kahrau keeps busy by remodeling his homes in Russian River and San Francisco.

In the spring of 1995, he moved from Daly City back to his childhood home in the Excelsior district after he suffered a broken leg during a club race.

"It required surgery to fix it," Kahrau said. "I needed somebody to take care of me."

Kahrau had hired Helga as caretaker for his aging mom. He became Helga's second patient in the house. Helga nursed Kahrau back to health; they began dating and the couple married in 2000.

Helga, a native of Nicaragua, prefers warmer climates and stays behind most weekends as her husband makes the Sierra trek.

Linda, the youngest daughter of the Kahrau clan, serves with her dad as an officer on the Viking Ski Club Board of Directors. He is the longstanding secretary, while she is the treasurer.

Linda was the downhill racer in the family, competing for several years with the Sugar Bowl Race Team with dad as one of her coaches.

“She won tons of medals. I was very proud of her,” Kahrau said. “When she was 25 and eligible for the masters circuit, she raced masters until she had children.”

And thus sprung the next generation of Kahrau skiers.

Viking Ship Papercut...

...was started but not completed. Alice has been cutting the most detailed parts, and Mike put in some time on the “shiver me timbers” front portion of the Dragon boat. Much cutting remains to be done, doable by folks with moderate competence with a blade. (Pieces to be removed range from about 1 inch to about a foot long). If you are interested in helping cut the VSC Viking Longboat, please contact Alice Masek (510) 538-7617, and we will find a date that will work for a group cutting session at the Masek home in Castro Valley, or at another home more conveniently located for those interested.

It would be great to have the Viking ship installed on the stairwell wall for the new ski season of 2014-15! (Hopefully it will bring more snow!)
Alice Masek.

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 chair before making any changes to the bunk list.

Weekend Chair:

Each weekend or holiday period, a weekend chair 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 Anne Ording ording.anne@gmail.com 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 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.

Links to Ski Organizations

There are many ski organizations that organize trips, publish newsletters, etc. Here are a few to check out online if you wish:

<http://www.skibac.org/index.html>

<http://www.fwsa.org>

<http://auburnskiclub.com/>

<http://www.fis-ski.com/>

<http://www.nationalskiclubnews.com/home.html>

Truckee Donner Land Trust Events

<http://www.tdlandtrust.org/news-events>

Check out the Donner Summit Historical Society newsletter:

<http://www.donnersummithistoricalsociety.org/PDFs/newsletters/news14/june14.pdf>

www.skiinghistory.org

New Digital Ski and Board Planning Guide

SnowBound – check it out, it's free

<http://boundforsnow.com/subscribe-now/>

Editor's Note

See you all at the annual dinner – sure to be as pleasurable as always.

Happy Trails,

Anne Ording

Gazette Editor

San Francisco Viking Ski Club Officers - 2014/2015

President: Rory Hayden

Vice-President: Barbara Sorenson

Recording Secretary: Lynn Mortensen

Treasurer: Paul Thompson

Corresponding Secretary: vacant

Cabin Reservations: Diane Kemsley/Janet Neilsen

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

Cabin Chair: Mike Masek/Warren Stewart

Nordic Gazette Editor: Anne Ording

Board Members:

Adam Flores

John Fox

Bill Kahrau

Paul Kensinger

Stephanie LaCarrubba

Maureen Sala

Mark Sorensen

Info: vikinginfo@prodigy.net

Cabin: 530-426-1231

Web Site: www.sfvikingskiclub.org

Club Meetings are held at 8:00 PM on the first Wednesday of every month at the Bayshore Corporate Center in San Mateo, unless otherwise noted in the Gazette or on the website.

The Nordic Gazette, the newsletter of the San Francisco Viking Ski Club, is published monthly. Items for publication should be submitted to the editor by the 20th of the month.

Please send all submissions via e-mail to the Nordic Gazette editor: Anne Ording

ording.anne@gmail.com

The Club Roster is maintained by Barbara Sorenson. Please send your email address as well as contact updates to: barb@barbsorenson.com

Directions to the VSC Monthly

Meeting:

Bayshore Corporate Center, 1750 S. Amphlett Blvd., conference room, San Mateo, is off Hwy 101 just northwest of the intersection of Hwy. 101 and CA-92. Please see the Viking website for more detailed directions.

Postmaster:

Please return undeliverable mail to:

SAN FRANCISCO VIKING SKI CLUB

c/o ANNE ORDING

PO BOX 330484,

SAN FRANCISCO CA 94133-0484

**SAN FRANCISCO VIKING SKI CLUB
INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS DINNER**

NICK'S RESTAURANT, ROCKAWAY BEACH, (Pacifica), CA.

SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH, 2014

DINNER: 7:30 PM.

NO HOST COCKTAILS: 6-30 -7:30 PM

MENU: Choice on one of the following: Prime Rib of Beef au Jus, Roasted whole half Chicken, Grilled Halibut Steak, or Vegetarian Pasta. All dinners come with a mixed green salad with seafood, baked potato with sour cream and chives, vegetable du jour, garlic bread, ice cream, coffee/tea and of course, WINE.

COST OF DINNER: PRIME RIB \$40.00, GRILLED HALIBUT STEAK \$37.00,

ROAST CHICKEN \$33.00, PESTO PASTA/VEGETABLES \$25.00 per person, which includes the tax, tip, corkage and wine.

CHILDREN'S MENU: Choice of one of the following: Chicken Fingers, Fish and Chips, Hamburger and Fries. COST: \$15.00 per person.

Please mail your check (made payable to the SF VIKING SKI CLUB, and reservation form to Janet Neilsen, 2974 Limestone Road, Alamo, CA 94507

Deadline for Reservations: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4TH, 2014, any questions and/or last minute reservations, please call Janet at (925) 837-8664.

MENU: Grilled Halibut _____ Roast Chicken _____ Prime Rib of Beef _____

Pesto Pasta/Vegetables _____

CHILDREN'S MENU: Chicken Fingers _____ Hamburger _____ Fish & Chips _____

REMINDER: The dinner counts towards a required meeting attendance. There will be no general meeting on Wednesday, June 4th, 2014, at the location in San Mateo.