

# Nordic Gazette

## November 2014



<http://www.sfvikingskiclub.org>

### Calendar

#### NOTE CHANGE IN LOCATION

#### Wednesday, November 5 – General Meeting

Home of Rosanne Ratkiewich and Noah Saederup

See separate email or roster for address

7:00 PM Board meeting

8:00 PM General meeting

#### ANNUAL HOLIDAY /AWARDS

#### DINNER/MEETING, Friday, December 12

#### 6:30-7:30 No-host cocktails/7:30 PM Dinner

Nick's Restaurant, Rockaway Beach, Pacifica

NO MEETING IN SAN MATEO

#### Wednesday, January 7 – General Meeting

#### Bayshore Corporate Center conference room

#### 1710 S. Amphlett Blvd, San Mateo

7:00 PM Board meeting

8:00 PM General meeting

#### A note from the President and the Board

We have discussed a number of ways to increase our membership. We may be trying one or more of the ideas that have discussed. If you have any great ideas please share them. In an effort to make the experience of the club more family friendly your board met and decided to try two cabin rule modifications. Additionally we made a decision to begin to deal with a long-term financial issue: the railroad lease agreement that is due to be renegotiated in a few years.

Item One – Infants and young children in the cabin  
Our experience is that club members enjoy one another's company and are considerate of the needs and wishes of each other, children included.

We have had several couples who had to drop out because they had new infants. So we decided to eliminate the lower age limit for guests in the cabin. Some concerns were raised, such as:

What if a member brings up an infant and it cries all night long. We decided that it is possible that might happen. We were sure that the parents would do all they could to make the infant as comfortable as possible and keep the infant from disturbing the sleep of others, not to mention themselves. It is quite likely other members with previous experience would offer to help in such an unlikely event.

Does the club need to stock mattress covers or special hygiene materials in the event of infant mishaps? We decided that these are clearly the responsibility of the parents, steps they would need to take any time they travel. We certainly can expect the parents would make sure that appropriate hygiene measures would be taken for the sake of both the infant and fellow club members.

Should the club put a fence at the top of the stairs?

As to the steps, the expectation will be that if a parent brings a child that needs supervision plus gates they will provide both.

We are all friends and can make it work.

Item Two – Guests allowed in the cabin without their hosts

We decided that it should not be necessary to require guests to always be accompanied by their

hosts in the cabin. For example, if a member who is a ski patroller brings a guest that guest should not have to leave the cabin at 6 am when the patroller has to report for duty. We will provide a checklist that the hosting member can use to train their guest in the safe use of the cabin. The host and guest will sign off on the form. At that point the guest may remain in the cabin in the absence of the member.

#### Item Three – Railroad Lease Kitty

We are concerned about ensuring that we will be able to pay the RR whatever it will cost at the end of the current 20 year lease on the property on which the back half of the cabin rests. Starting December 1, a RR lease surcharge of \$1 will be added for each night members or guest stay in the cabin. The proceeds will go into a separate account reserved for the eventuality. The board will meet with Paul Thompson, Treasurer, to review the current cash position and see how much of what we currently have can be transferred to start that account.

We hope these changes seem as reasonable to you as they did to us.

If you have any “inside” connections please use them to pray for snow, do a snow dance or anything else you think will help bring us a year of abundant snow.

Rory

### **Raffle Donations Needed!**

Fellow Vikings,

As the ski season approaches it's once again time to prepare for our annual Christmas Dinner and Raffle at Nick's in Pacifica which will be held the evening of Friday, December 12, 2014. Thank you for your support if you have donated raffle items in the past. Remember, the success of the raffle depends largely on member generosity and creativity. Now is the time to take stock of your connections, creativity, generosity and resourcefulness and contribute to making this year's raffle a triumphant success! Notify raffle organizer, Adam Flores, what item or items, big or small, you can contribute.

[adamflorespt@yahoo.com](mailto:adamflorespt@yahoo.com)

### **SF Viking Ski Club Annual Holiday Dinner Meeting, Friday, December 12**

It is that time again for all of us to get together for the annual Holiday Dinner and Awards Meeting on December 12, Friday night, at our favorite restaurant: Nick's at Rockaway Beach, Pacifica (see attached flyer for details). Sure hope all you Vikings can make this dinner. It's a great way for old and new members to meet and to start off the holiday season with a bang!!! Children are welcome as Santa always pays us a visit.

For those of you that like to "cut a rug" Nick's always has a great band playing out in the bar area after our dinner. Past years have seen some pretty fancy footwork out on the dance floor by Vikings. And, as wine flows freely, you may consider staying overnight at the Sea Breeze Inn, right next door to the restaurant. Sure looking forward to seeing all of you at the dinner.

### **WINTER CABIN RESERVATIONS - PLEASE READ**

Starting NOVEMBER 1st, 2014, thru JANUARY 3rd, 2015, reservations will be accepted for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

All guests will be placed on a wait list to be confirmed by 12/15. After 12/15, members and guests will be confirmed on an equal basis.

#### WEEKEND AND HOLIDAY RATES:

\$12.00 - (includes \$1.00 Railroad Fund) - Active, Probationary and Junior Members

\$21.00 - (includes \$1.00 Railroad Fund) - Passive Members, Student Leave, Guests.

HOLIDAY RATES WILL BE EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 19th, 2014 THRU JANUARY 3rd, 2015.

Reservations for January start December 15, 2014  
Reservations for February start January 15, 2015  
Reservations for March start February 15, 2015

Contact Janet Neilsen for Reservations:  
e-mail [janneilsen@juno.com](mailto:janneilsen@juno.com) or call: 925-837-8664

## **New Members!**

I realize, as membership chair, it would be a nice gesture to put in the Gazette the names of our new members!! I apologize for not having done this sooner. I'll go back as far as January 2014!

- Helen Yang - voted in as an "active" member February 2014
- Chris and Maureen Oaks- voted in as "active" members in May 2014
- Noah Saederup and Rosanne Ratkiewich- voted in as "active" members in Sept. 2014
- Rick Hagland- voted in as "probationary" member May 2014
- Annabelle Zakaluk- voted in as "probationary" member Sept. 2014
- Jesse Nelson Dunn - voted in as "probationary" member October 2014

A warm welcome to all the above new members!!!

### Membership Report for October, 2014

68 active

4 life

3 probationary

17 junior

36 passive

2 applicants

2 student leave

This is a low number of "active" members for our club. We like to have a membership of at least 90 and no more than 120. We would like to increase the club membership! Invite your friends and family to join!

At the general meeting in October, we discussed the idea of posting a banner outside the cabin which might read something like this: "Viking Ski and Outdoor Club. Membership is available!

Contact: [www.sfvikingskiclub.org](http://www.sfvikingskiclub.org)

VSC members- give us your feedback!

Thank you,

Barb Sorenson, VSC Membership Chair

[barb@barbsorenson.com](mailto:barb@barbsorenson.com)

## **SO LONG..... MARGE !!!**

Marge Pitkin, a longtime member of the Vikings Ski Club, for close to 30 years, passed away on

Saturday, October 18, after a 3-week stay in Sunrise Memory Care Unit in San Mateo.

Her daughter Ann had been caring for her at home before moving her to Sunrise.

Marge was an avid skier, from her days spent racing on the slopes in Germany as a member of their racing team. She not only enjoyed skiing the various slopes around Tahoe, but accompanied the Peninsula Ski Club on their numerous ski trips, both in Europe and the U.S.

Marge was a retired teacher, and very active member of the Club for many years; serving as editor of the Gazette, and several terms as a Board member. She also was involved in several fund raising efforts; such as the Flea Market at Foothill College, and hosting a Bed-n-Breakfast at the cabin for members of a motor cross team from Donner Ski Ranch.

Marge and her late husband Peter spend their retirement years traveling the world.

Marge, we will miss you!!!!

## **Ray DeVincenzi**

1921 - 2014

Recently, longtime active/passive member Ray DeVincenzi, passed away. In true Viking tradition, Ray is on his way to Valhalla.

For many years Ray was a very active member of the ski club, a strong skier, he never missed a weekend at the cabin during ski season and off season, he never missed a work party. In between times Ray played handball, golf, water skied, was an avid diver and loved a good game of poker and cribbage.

Ray took many ski trips with the Vikings to Sun Valley and Aspen. He traveled to far away exotic places with his good friends, Ed and Fran Carcot, Bob King and Bud Smith.

In the days when the Bay Area Ski Council put on skits in the mountains, Ray was always active in playing funny, comedic parts as he had a great sense of humor. The skits were held in Truckee, the club would head down old Hwy. 40, over the Summit, many times in a snow storm to arrive at the non-

heated Veteran's Hall to continually win the grand prize for the best skit.

In 1957, I joined the VSC and Ray taught me how to ski. Blizzard or not, Ray would say, "OK kid get your skis on we are heading out over the hill, crossing Lake Mary, through the train sheds to Sugar Bowl," a quick stop at the bar for a shot of whiskey, then off to the ski runs saying to me, "just follow me down."

After retirement from the telephone company, Ray continued to ski thru his mid-eighties, put up his skis and became very active with golf, traveling around the country trying out new golf courses with a friend, Ray Marion.

A good friend, a buddy to many Vikings, he will be missed. Janet

## **STICKER SHOCK - SUGAR BOWL RATES - 2014-2015**

	DAILY RATE	CORE PASS	HOLIDAYS	CORE PASS
Adults 23-54	\$95	\$80	\$99	\$84
Young Adults 13-22	\$78	\$63	\$82	\$67
Children 6-12	\$55	\$40	\$59	\$44
Senior 65-74	\$78	\$63	\$82	\$67
SS Senior 75 plus	\$55	\$40	\$59	\$44

Under 5 Free

Holidays: 12/20/14 - 1/4/15, 1/19/15, 2/14/15, 2/22/15

Check out Sugar Bowl's website for Season Pass Information.

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:barb@barbsorenson.com) and Anne Ording [ording.anne@gmail.com](mailto: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/november14.pdf>

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

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

## **Editor's Note**

Sounding like a broken record... Pray for snow!

*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](mailto: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](mailto:vikinginfo@prodigy.net)

**Cabin:** 530-426-1231

**Web Site:** [www.sfvikingskiclub.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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**

**ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER/AWARDS MEETING**

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

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2014**

**DINNER: 7:30 PM.**

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

**MENU: Choice of one of the following: Prime Rib of Beef au Jus, Roasted whole half Chicken, Grilled Halibut Steak. 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 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.**

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**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: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2014.** Any questions and/or last minute reservations, please call Janet at (925) 837-8664.

**MENU: Grilled Halibut \_\_\_\_\_ Roast Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Prime Rib of Beef \_\_\_\_\_**

**CHILDREN'S MENU: Chicken Fingers \_\_\_\_\_ Hamburger \_\_\_\_\_ Fish & Chips \_\_\_\_\_**

**REMINDER: Attending the dinner counts as a required meeting attendance. There will be no general meeting on Wednesday December 4, 2013, at the location in San Mateo.**