

# Nordic Gazette September 2012



<http://www.sfvikingskiclub.org>

## Calendar

### Work Parties at the cabin:

September 22–23 trail building/work party  
October 13-14 annual deep cleaning work party

### Wednesday, September 5 – BBQ and General Meeting

6:00 PM Beresford Park, San Mateo  
**NO MEETING @ Bayshore Corporate Center**

### Wednesday, October 3 – General Meeting Bayshore Corporate Center conference room 1710 S. Amphlett Blvd, San Mateo

7:00 PM Board meeting  
8:00 PM General meeting

### SAVE THE DATE:

**Friday, December 7  
Annual Holiday Dinner @ Nick's Restaurant**

## President's Message

### Work Party Reminders

We still have two scheduled work parties coming up. September 22/23 trail building. Please let Mike Masek ([mikemasek@juno.com](mailto:mikemasek@juno.com)) know if you are coming. October 13/14 is the final cabin cleanup headed by Jeannie and Richard

([rdoleman@comcast.net](mailto:rdoleman@comcast.net))

There are opportunities for those who haven't been able to make the scheduled work parties. We need someone to accept and stack a delivery of two more cords of wood for the winter. Please contact Mike ([mikemasek@juno.com](mailto:mikemasek@juno.com)) for this or any other task you have in mind.

## August Work Party

### Thank You Peninsula Ski Club!

The August work party focused on two tasks, the parking lot and firewood.

Peninsula Ski Club sent two very hardworking young men over to help us with the parking lot. We filled about 80% of the cracks with a thick sealer applied by hand with large putty knives. About 1/4 of the parking lot received a slurry coat.

Gary Kramer brought a van load of old and well seasoned 2 x 4's donated by Walter Kilik. These were cut to length and stacked along with the the large pile of firewood split by the July work party. About 2-1/2 cords are now ready for next winter, with room for another 2 cords.

Thanks to Rory Hayden, Gary and Ellie Kramer, Lawrence Doxsee, Cecily Harris and PSC for all your hard work.

Mike

## Meeting & BBQ – Wednesday, Sept. 5 Beresford Park

The annual Fall Cookout & meeting will take place at Beresford Park in San Mateo on Wednesday, September 5 at 6:00 PM. Please contact Margaret Glomstad to give us an idea of numbers of attendees and to help if you can. [mglomstad@comcast.net](mailto:mglomstad@comcast.net)  
We will be collecting \$\$ from adults at the picnic to help defray costs.

Directions: From Hwy 92, take the Alameda de las Pulgas exit south, right on 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue, right on Parkview Way, parking lot is on right.

## **Lange Women's Ski Boots for Sale**

Model - Anthem, Size 25.5. (about 8 1/2 in US size) 4-Buckle. Color Gray \$20 or Best Offer. Contact Ellie Kramer at [408-732-0404](tel:408-732-0404) or email [kramerel@yahoo.com](mailto:kramerel@yahoo.com).

## **Vikings Photo Albums Restored & Club History Updated!**

In January 2012, on a cold windy Monday, Carol Reed was out skiing all day while I stayed in the cabin and read my book. I got tired of reading and decided to take a look at the old photo albums in the solarium. After going through a few of the albums, I noticed that most of them were falling apart due to use and old age. I spent the rest of the day repairing the ones that were salvageable. When I returned to the cabin the following month I brought supplies with me to complete the restoration of the remaining albums. They are all now in pretty good shape, and will be able to be enjoyed by present and future members for many years to come.

In the process of going through the photo albums I also discovered an old leather folder with the Vikings emblem etched on it. Inside was a copy of the club history as written by; Alma & Walter Turnquist in May 1953, and updated by; Bea Lufi November 1<sup>st</sup> 1987. This was the same history document that has been published in the Gazette in the past. After talking with some of the past club Presidents, especially Gary Cramer, I was able to revise the document and bring the history of our club up to date as of; April 1, 2012. A copy of the revised document is now in the cabin next to the stereo, also expect to see the revised version of the document published soon in the Gazette. If any of you would like a digital copy of the revised club history document, feel free to contact me and I can e-mail you a copy.

Curt Haney, ([LingKing@sbcglobal.net](mailto:LingKing@sbcglobal.net)),  
(415)-640-6233

## **HISTORY OF THE SAN FRANCISCO VIKINGS SKI CLUB TO 1953**

It was in the year of 1937 when an Axel Olsson conceived the idea that San Francisco should have a ski club to encourage skiing amongst those of Scandinavian birth. Action was started by placing an ad in the Swedish newspaper "Vestkusten", asking for members. Hence the San Francisco Viking Ski Club was organized January 17, 1938 in

a committee room at the Dover Hall with nineteen charter members, of whom two are still active. Election of officers was held January 24, 1938 with Ernie Nordstrom being elected first president, and the club was off to its roaring future. Membership in the club doubled and redoubled in three months, and the qualification that members must be Swede or Norse was soon forgotten with the admittance of many heritages. The first ski trips were hilarious affairs made on chartered busses to Cold Springs. These trips amazed the snow less folks in the Bay Area: they uttered such remarks as "You SKI? WHERE?"

As was to happen many times after, a committee was formed immediately to investigate a cabin site. At this time, however, there were two factions: those for Highway 40 and the minority for 50, which caused a split in the club and resulted in the minority canceling their memberships. The committee then located a favorable lot at Cisco on Government property with a lease for 99 years. So began the club's first construction project, which never rose beyond the foundation, due to financial difficulty. It was at this time that the members were assessed the first \$10.00 for a building fund and, again, many memberships were cancelled.

Spirits soared within the club when the cabin committee succeeded in renting the large and famous Ammon house on the edge of the Yuba River, which was to be the club's home for two years. Our hearts were young and gay and so were the parties, and only fun was made of the lack of water, electricity, bathroom facilities, heat and privacy!

In the fall of 1939 the Vikings unexpectedly received their first great publicity through Oliver Kehrlein, and the Examiner Ski School. First it was the sand skiing on the dunes in the Sunset District and, secondly, the Vikings entertained the Ski School, which launched us socially into the ski world.

1940, leap year, arrived and a precedent was established for the Vikings! The male contingent fell like tenpins and from June on, marriage celebrations were interspersed with the more serious accomplishments of the club. The club became incorporated and joined the California Ski Association, thereby taking its rightful place among the ski clubs. It was at this time that Chris Snead, a board member, brought before the club an original idea to join the Bay Area ski clubs in a federation.

Upon a vote of confidence from the club, Mr. Snead organized the still-existent Bay Area Ski Federation. 1940 was a very active year and practically all members took first aid courses. Consequently the Vikings boasted a busy patrol sanctioned by the National Ski Patrol. To show the novelty of the Vikings, at one meeting in November, they had as guests, Dr. Frank Howard, Oliver Kehrlein, Charlie Proctor and Luggi Foeger. The club also felt it had outgrown the inconveniences of the Ammon house and leased two dormitories at the House of Vanderford (later destroyed by fire).

The next year Mrs. Vanderford leased Slater's cabin to the club, which was to become infamous for its "Dead Viking". During the two years on Mrs. Van's property the Vikings skied exclusively on Johnny Ellis's hill with the steepest rope tow on 40, and the ski patrol proved to be an active and efficient force.

World War II was now in full force, so the club officers were appointed for the duration. With the end of the war, 1945, once more a cabin committee was appointed, and a dormitory was rented at Crampton's Lodge.

In 1945 Ernie Nordstrom announced to the club that he had leased Mrs. Vanderford's property with the option to buy and would sublease a strip to the Vikings for their hut. Great financial arrangements for a loan from a bank, bonds sold within the club, and the second \$10.00 assessment enabled the club to start its second construction – which flourished and stood. On the strength of a case of beer, cooperative club member's poured concrete, blasted rock, cut their own wood, painted like mad and emerged by New Year's with a home to celebrate their first Glug Party.

In 1947 the great problem with the Southern Pacific Railroad arose; the water supply was cut off and it was discovered that fifteen feet of the cabin overlapped on the Southern Pacific property. It took great diplomatic strategy and know-how to secure a lease for the encroaching piece of property from the S.P. It was not until 1948 that blasting - with mattresses flying – was completed in solid rock for the surface water supply. With the cabin constructed, the members settled back for a couple of years to enjoy their efforts, except for sporadic flurries to install a new furnace, plaster, or paint. By 1952 the club secured an additional lease from the

S.P. for the property extending from the rear of the cabin - 50' x 75'.

So, at last, after all these years, the Vikings are no longer considered a "party club", but have arrived, with a club house and a racing team, which have done the club credit. As for the future, there is still the question of possible ownership of the land under the cabin, but for the true Viking spirit we wish victory and success.

Submitted by:

Alma & Walter Turnquist, May, 1953

TO BE CONTINUED.....Curt Haney

## **Support the Future of the San Francisco Viking Ski Club**

(Gift and Estate Planning)

For 75 years the SF Viking Ski Club has been an innovative and educational icon in San Francisco and the Sierra ski community. The club has a long term financial obligation to maintain a lease on a portion of the ski cabin which is on Union Pacific Railroad property. You may have assets to donate that can help ensure the long term future of this great club. The SF Viking Ski Club has enriched the lives of hundreds of Northern Californians. Your future gift can help sustain the club's contribution to our community for many years to come. Please remember the San Francisco Viking Ski Club in your living will or trust.

## **How To Make Your Cabin Reservations**

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.)

1. Email [mglomstad@comcast.net](mailto:mglomstad@comcast.net) or call 650-349-7542 **before 8 PM.**
2. Give the **nights** that you will be staying at the cabin.
3. Give the makeup of your group (i.e. 3 males, 2 females and guest or member).
4. Bunk or room preference.
5. 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**

- 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.

- 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 Margaret Glomstad [mglomstad@comcast.net](mailto:mglomstad@comcast.net) 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. They are 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.skimtta.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/news12/september12.pdf>

### **Editor's Note**

Don't forget to participate in one of the work parties – two more opportunities remain.

*Happy Trails,*

*Anne Ording*

*Gazette Editor/Corresponding Secretary*

## San Francisco Viking Ski Club Officers - 2012/2013

**President:** Mike Masek

**Vice-President:** Margaret Glomstad

**Recording Secretary:** Betty Avila

**Treasurer:** Paul Thompson

**Corresponding Secretary/Nordic Gazette**

**Editor:** Anne Ording

**Cabin Reservations:** Margaret Glomstad

[mglomstad@comcast.net](mailto:mglomstad@comcast.net)

**Cabin Chair:** Mike Masek/Warren Stewart

**Board Members:**

Charles Gresl

Bill Kahrau

Stephanie LaCarrubba

Marjorie Pitkin

Mark Sorensen

Melissa Targgart

Roger Zeltmann

**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 Margaret Glomstad. Please send your email address as well as contact updates to:

[mglomstad@comcast.net](mailto:mglomstad@comcast.net)

### 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

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SAN FRANCISCO CA 94133-0484