

SERENE LAKES

NEWS—August 2018

President's Message

By Dennis Fisco



As usual, Serene Lakes Days was a huge success with all sorts of contests both serious and fun! Thanks to Bob and Sharon Ruffner, who chair this much loved event, and to the many volunteers who assist them. Check out the contest results, the numerous photos of the events later in this newsletter.

As we head into Labor Day weekend we can look forward to SLPOA's last big event of the year. Once again, tickets for SLPOA's cabin tour are sold out. If you were lucky enough to obtain a ticket, you will have the opportunity to visit five cabins, obtain design inspiration, and meet the owners and many of your Serene Lakes neighbors on Saturday, September 1st. Thanks so much to the five families who agreed to open their cabins, and to the many volunteers who help to make this event so special!

Speaking of volunteers, as of this writing, there are still volunteer opportunities available for the cabin tour and the annual barbeque. Please consider getting involved. It is a great way to meet neighbors and make new friends while giving back to the community. It is quick and easy to sign up at the SLPOA website: www.slpoa.com. Our friends at the Truckee Donner Land Trust are having a trail maintenance day on August 18th working on some trails around Serene Lakes. You can obtain details and volunteer by visiting their website at www.tdlandtrust.org

SLPOA's annual meeting will be on Sunday September 2nd at 9:30 AM. This is a special time when we can all get together, share the events of the past year and greet our neighbors before we retreat for the winter! There are always a large number of SLPOA members in attendance so bring a chair and stick around after the meeting to visit with new and old friends. And, don't forget our annual barbecue. Be sure to buy tickets in advance on the SLPOA website so we have plenty of food for all.

This is my last message as your President in 2017/2018 and it has been a pleasure and honor to serve you. We have accomplished much with a terrific group of Board members. Because it takes a village, I want to acknowledge my fellow Board members: John Loll, Cathy Pearson, Walter Dahl, Cliff Busby, Bob McCormick, Jenyth Gearhart-Utchen, Roger Drosd and Diane Scanlon. Special recognition should go to Walter, John and Cliff who are termed out after serving for four years each. We have a terrific slate of five persons running for the Board including three new faces. I will remain on the Board for one more year which will allow me to help familiarize our three new Board members with all things SLPOA!

Lastly, I want to give special recognition to SLPOA's retiring administrative assistant, Linda Cashion, and her husband George Lamson, who tirelessly and competently have handled the behind the scenes work critical to SLPOA's successes. Their efforts have included running the boat storage program, keeping our website up to date and accurate, recruiting new members and greeting the old ones and collecting the dues and paying the bills! They are moving away from the summit this fall so when you see them be sure to tell them thanks as they will be sorely missed.

So long and see you around the Lakes!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY, August 25—
SLPOA Movie Night, 7:30PM, Lot 1

FRIDAY, August 31—
4:30 PM, Meet to assemble
cabin tour packets, Lot 1

SATURDAY, September 1
2-5 PM, CABIN TOUR—SOLD OUT
Go to Lot 1, 10 AM to Noon,
to pick up glass and map

SLPOA Movie night, 7:30 PM, Lot 1

SUNDAY, September 3—
All at Lot 1 Beach
9:30 AM, ANNUAL MEETING

2-5 PM—BARBECUE Dinner
\$20/adult, \$8/child ahead,
\$25/\$10 on day of event

11:30 AM—Registration
1:30 PM—SAILBOAT RACE #3

Tickets for barbecue:

- Website (www.slpoa.com)
 - by mail to SLPOA
P.O. Box 669,
Soda Springs, 95728

September 15 & 16
Donner Party Hike, p. 3

The Mayor's Corner

By Ralph Suter



Photo by
Peg Bettcher

Except for the smoke, the weather has been warm and beautiful; daily temperatures in the mid-eighties with nights in the low fifties.

It seems to be a good year for the geese with only two families remaining. Luckily they have not been frequenting our beach as much, knock on wood. There have been sightings of four river otters which is pretty exciting unless you are a competing fisherman.

Serene Lakes Days went wonderfully thanks to Bob and Sharon Ruffner and many volunteers. As usual, Barbara and Don Scoble served up some fabulous refreshments for all the helpers. A big thank you to the barbecuers who prepared almost 800 hot dogs on the 4th of July and Serene Lakes Days. They included Cathy and Ed Bubnis, Bill and Susa Cooper, Cherie Cox, Dave and Sandy Davini, Mateo Galaz, Susan Gallegos, John Horsch, Victor Hough, Harry Humes, Gina Lattorra, Dave and Marsha Lose, Jennifer, Josh and Reed Lyons, Dave Newhouse, Bev Singer, Dan and Yvonne Stockton, Terry Tuggey, Dana Vogelpohl, and Jeff Yee.

Congratulations to Barbara Drew who traveled to Washington, D.C. with Denis for induction into the American Nurses Association Hall of

Fame. Collen and Lilly Chu cruised to Cuba and Puerto Rico. After the Hall Family visited historical Boston for the fourth of July, Ken and Lynn flew off to a Portugal vacation. Ed and Judy Lieb met Randy Dias and Jack Schwartz in Munich before opera hopping in Salzburg. Jane, John, Henry, Maggie and Oliver Loll explored Washington, D.C. and London. Hiedi and Merlin Van.. journeyed through Scandinavia.

We had a nice visit with Helle and Werner Siegert and were happy to see that she is making progress. She is looking forward to coming back to Serene Lakes. We are sorry to hear that Linda Cashion and George Lamson are leaving our wonderful community. Not only will we miss them, I don't know how we will get along without them. Welcome to Jan and Kevin Paul who are full time Serene Lakes residents.

Not much new in the eats department, but we enjoyed the delicious street tacos that are available on Mondays and Fridays at the Little Truckee Creamery. The latest word on the Sierra Mountain Pizza and Kingvale Daily Grind is that they may open in three weeks. Keep your fingers crossed. See you at the Labor Day events. Till next time. Ralph Suter 426-3855 Ralphbrenda@att.net



Learn secrets of the Sierra as you hike with local historians.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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Summit News Tidbits

By Kitty Harvey

Labor Day helpers are still needed for both the cabin tour and the barbecue. Sign up on the SLPOA website.

New Band on the Summit: Banjoe and the Grizzlies is a trio of Sugar Bowl Ski Patrollers featuring Joe Brennan (Banjo, Guitar, Vocals), David Galson (Mandolin), and Jon Masztakowski (Percussion, Harmonica) who have combined to bring music to the Summit, the old fashioned way... live! Acoustic covers of Americana, rock, and bluegrass.

After years of performing, skiing and having fun on the summit, the group has joined forces in the quest to master all three. Come join us next season! Check out our website: <https://www.banjoeandthegrizzlies.com> for fall and winter performances or cotact us to schedule one of your own. Bookings: 530-426-5310.

Find Us On  facebook

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Kathy Neuburger, istahap@jps.net—May, July, and August issues

Bill Oudegeest, slpoa@oudegeest.com—October, January, March issues

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Some Otter News

By Ann Reisenauer

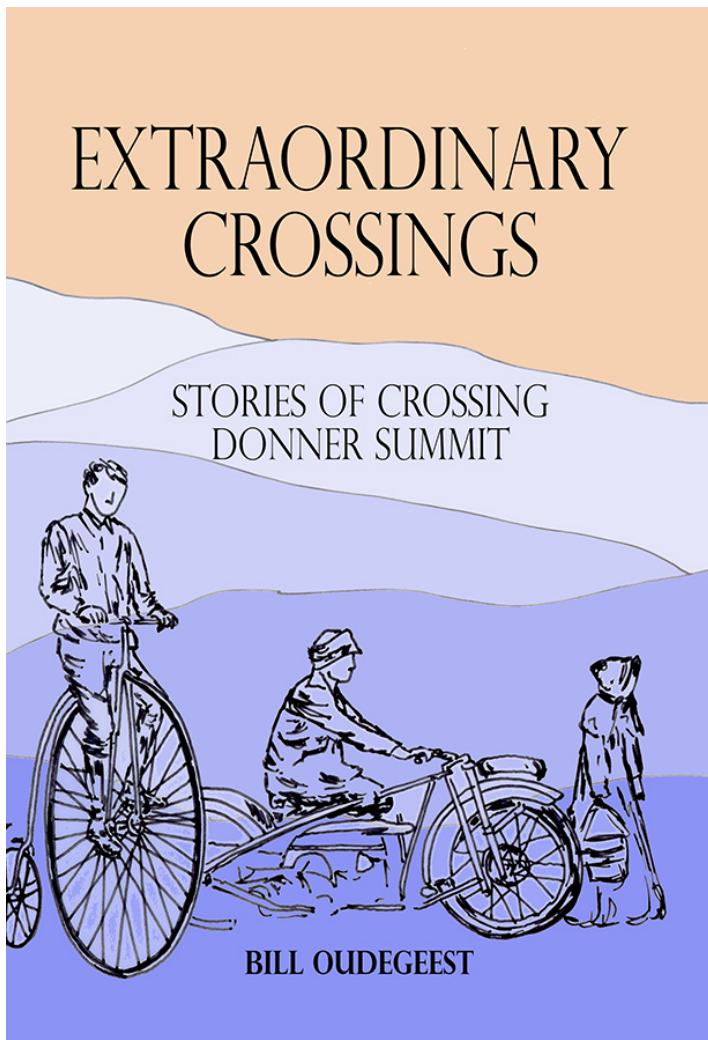
We have an otter family living in Serene lakes! Mom, dad and 1 or 2 pups (depending on who you talk to). The otters are playful, cute, and not dangerous to people or pets. According to Wikipedia:

Where do they live and eat? The North American river otter is found throughout most of the US, including the Sierra Nevada. Otters are at home in both the water and on land. They live in dens or [burrows](#) close to the water's edge. The den typically has many tunnel openings which allow the otter to enter and exit the water. Otters are carnivores that eat fish, crayfish, snakes, birds, and frogs.

Family life. In the Sierras, river otters usually have their young in March or April. Litters average one to three young, called pups. The mothers raise their young without help from the father. When the pups are about two months old and their coats grow in, their mother introduces them to the water. By fall the pups are able to take care of themselves, but usually stay with their families, sometimes including the father, until the spring.

How can we protect the otters? Otters are near-sighted and may approach within a few feet of a boat or a person. They aren't dangerous to humans or pets, but humans and dogs can be dangerous to otters.

River otters, like all wildlife, require space. Don't approach otters you see in the water or on shore. Use binoculars to get close views. If the otter approaches you, stand still and silent. Let them go about their business; they are not a threat. **Remember: Never feed river otters or other wild animals.**



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SERENE



LAKES



DAYS



Photos by Peg Bettcher

Snippets from Serene Lakes Days 2018 By Sharon Ruffner

New Traditions Joined the Tried and True for a Perfect Blend!

The vibe at Volunteer Happy Hour/Open Mic Night set the perfect tone for the



Photos by Peg Bettcher



weekend where the mouthwatering appetizer spread provided fuel for a variety of incredibly talented musicians.

Trail Run #2 in the series welcomed some runners fresh off of the Ragnar Relay and athletes of all ages enjoyed two new course options on marvelous single track. The high spirited

Horseshoe and Volleyball community welcomed the new kid on the block...the brand new Bocce Ball courts were christened by at least 16 teams competing Saturday and many others enjoying free play on Sunday.

Swimmers and Tug-o-War contestants treated spectators on the jam-packed beach to energetic competition and the gigantic waterballon toss ended in 3-way tie with the champs challenged by oversized balloons that wiggled like an amoeba. Was the crowd really near 500???

Young and old came out to the potluck and street dance in big numbers to feast on BBQ and delicious side dishes and desserts. Calories were burned doing the limbo, chicken dance, hoola hoop circle contest, congo and hokey pokey. Will it ever get old seeing entire families do the YMCA together?

The lake run, short sprints and bike race were just a warm-up for several early risers who segued right into the Ice Lakes Triathlon. They pedaled, swam and paddled to earn plaques beautifully handcrafted by R.C. Morton.

Paddlefest was a colorful menagerie of racing boats, canines on paddleboards and a wacky floating island. The commodore and first mate of the pirate ship could be heard saying "arrgh...we've been taking on water for some time now" and "we failed to thoroughly research the aerodynamics of this vessel".

A nice wind was present for Sailboat Race #2 which ended with a hold your breath moment as the "little wooden boat that could" tipped over just near the finish line.

The hustle and bustle at the snack shack never let up where the most efficient team on the summit served up food and drink of the greatest variety while the merchandise crew waited on oodles of shoppers eager to procure the latest styles.

Veteran volunteers cheerfully shared their experience with newbies before, during and after the long weekend. From road closure to garbage detail, from street sweeping to traffic control, from judging finishers to recording results, from setting up equipment to washing swim caps, from playing music to providing color commentary, from handing out awards to providing safety support, volunteers did it all with a priceless smile.

Serene Lakes Days 2018 Results

Category listings without competitors were eliminated. All photos by Peg Bettcher.

Trail Run #2 **Long** Ryan McDowell, Sara McDowell, Jon Snow
 Short Camille Hamel, Debra Kustic

Running Broad Jump

3-4 yr. **GIRLS** Kennedy Wall, Adele Mccoll, Lilly Cabral
 BOYS Kal Himmelstein, Wyatt Coin, Walter Hoyt
5-6 yr. **GIRLS** Margot Wall, Kristen Cabral, Scarlett Freedle
 BOYS Easton Lazarus, Wyatt Gardner, Xavi Sandler
7-8 yr. **GIRLS** Cienna Lazarus, Myelena Cabral, Savana Haack
 BOYS Andrew Bailey, Lucas Hoty-Plank, Simon Keith
9-10 yr. **GIRLS** Gigi Ferreri, Talia Jones, Isabella Jones
 BOYS Jason Hoyt/Davis Smith, Will Bailey
11-12 yr. **GIRLS** Natalie Lane, Abi Jones
 BOYS Liam Joy, Joseph Willis, Josh Lyons
13-17 yr. **GIRLS** Anika and Anna



Three Leg Race

5 & under Ellie Holmerud/Phillip Valencia, Adella McCall/Anthony Neuburger Jude Byles/Walter Hoyt
6-7 yr. Solomon Himmelstein/Wyatt Gardner, Chris Holmerud/Phillip Valenica, Lilliana Galaz/Emily Capelli
8-10 yr. Davis Smith/Will Bailey, Cienna Lazarus/Easton Lazarus tied Will Raymond/Davis Raymond
11-13 yr. Liam Joy/Joseph Willis, Mari Green/Marin Hillyard, Natalie Lane/Ryan McDowell
14 & up Kenna CabralBecca Lincoln, Kim Chu Jones/Robert Jones, Sara McDowell/Greg McDowell



Sack Race

5 & under **GIRLS** Margo Wall, Josephine Pribuss, Adelle MColl/Kennedy Wall
 BOYS Anthony Neuburger, Jude Pyles, Jack Powers
6-7 yr. **GIRLS** Bethany Freedle, Olivia Dans, Scarlett Freedle
 BOYS Eastn Lazarus, Wyatt Gardner tied Caleb Shefftz
8-10 yr. **GIRLS** Gigi Ferreri, Piper Kalinowski, Mia Simpson tied Cienna Lazarus
 BOYS Benjamin Tuvilla, Thomas Capelli, Will Raymond
11-13 yr. **GIRLS** Annika Burns, Gigi Ferreri, Natalie Lane
 BOYS Tyler Tuvilla, Joseph Willis, Liam Joy
14 & up **GIRLS** Becca Lincoln, Lauren Wassermann, Kenna Cabral
 BOYS Mark Neuburger, Jason Mopas, Lester Mopas

Peanut Spoon Race

5 & under **GIRLS** Lila Snow, Samantha Salke, Lilly Cabral
 BOYS Jude Pyles, Anthony Neuburger, Brody Lely
6-7 yr. **GIRLS** Myelena Cabral, Bethany Freedle, Emily Capelli
 BOYS Mason Densler, _____, Dane Kalinowski
8-10 yr. **GIRLS** Gigi Ferreri, Piper Kalinowski, Dahlia Bain tied Stella Peters
 BOYS Davis Smith, Wyatt Hoyt, Myles Wener

Lake Swim-Not-so-Long Course

LADIES Annie Hansen, Wendy Lair, Jan Smith

MEN Jens Pfefferkora, Jim Taylor, Charlie tied Ralph Eddy

Lake Swim-Long Course

LADIES Annie Hansen, Anji Wall, Debbie Plant

MEN Graeme Plant, George Kreidler, Jake Zoin



Swimming Races

<u>6 & under</u>	GIRLS Stella Vegantes, _____, Scarlett Freedle
	BOYS Caleb Shefftz, Christopher Bailey
<u>7-8 yr.</u>	GIRLS Kylee Johnson, Bethany Freedle, Dahlia Bain
	BOYS Andrey Bailey, Grayson Young, Aaron Bain
<u>9-10 yr.</u>	GIRLS Stella Peters, Gigi Ferreri, Kiley Johnson
	BOYS Davis Smith, Will Bailey, Wesley Hoyt tied Ethan Tyler
<u>11-12 yr.</u>	GIRLS Natalie Lane, Paige Florio, Ava Brooks tied Abi Jones
	BOYS CJ Deleon tied Christopher Jones, Liam Joi
<u>15-16 yr.</u>	BOYS Michael Mosko

Tug-o-War 10 and under Boys over Girls, Geezers over Wannabees, Boys over Girls

Water Balloon Toss (nearly 500 participants) 3 way tie -James Veit & Zach Hollman, Dylan Whisenhunt & Parker Zavada, Liam Joy & Joe Willis

Lake Run

<u>10 & under</u>	GIRLS Grace Taylor
<u>11-14 yr.</u>	GIRLS Brinlay Chu-Jones
	BOYS Ryan McDowell, Mason White
<u>15-18 yr.</u>	BOYS Kyle Lin, Devin Rowe
<u>19-39 yr.</u>	GIRLS Meghan Snow, Sara Myers
<u>40-59 yr.</u>	GIRLS Kim Chu Jones, Coleen Byrne tied Chessy Stevenson
	BOYS Ryan Lazarus, Ryan Wener, Greg McDowell
<u>60 & up</u>	BOYS Nano Soto

**Running Races**

<u>5-7 yr.</u>	GIRLS Lila Snow tied Vera White
	BOYS Easton Lazarus, Lucas Hoyt-Plank, Anthony Neuburger
<u>8-9 yr.</u>	GIRLS Leah McDowell, Cienna Lazarus
	BOYS Will Bailey, Dadvis Smith, Grayson Young
<u>10-12 yr.</u>	BOYS Zane Hensley, Ryan McDowell, Liam Joy
<u>13 & up</u>	GIRLS Amelie Haji tied Annika Burns, Meghan Snow, Carrie Marshall
	BOYS Joseph Willis, Chris Wheaton, Will Bailey

Bicycle Races--Shorter Course

<u>6 and under</u>	GIRLS Anna Shefftz, Scarlett Freedle, Margot Wall
	BOYS Walter Hoyt

Lake Race

<u>10 and under</u>	GIRLS Grace Taylor, Addie Raynaud
	BOYS Davis Smith, Jason Hoyt tied Aaron Bain, Will Bailey
<u>11-14yr.</u>	GIRLS Amelie Haji, Catie Taylor
	BOYS Ryan McDowell, Zane Hensley, Jonathon Vanholt
<u>40-59 yr</u>	GIRLS Heidi Scoble, Sara Boscoe
	BOYS Eric Behr, Jeff Lin, Chris Wheaton
<u>60 & up</u>	GIRLS Debbie Plant
	BOYS Graeme Plant, Dick Simpson

Triathlon**IceMan****IceFamily****IceGirl****Ice Grandpa**

David Groechel, BJ Hamel **IceWoman** Michelle Hoyt, Wendy Lair

Dillons, The Third Leg is the Hardest, Team Walthausel

Catie Taylor, Camille Hamel **IceBoy** Zane Hensley

Graeme Plant and **OVERALL WINNER**

Ice Grandma Debbie Plant



PaddleFest

Most unlikely to Succeed

Ava & Aiden Brooks – Paddleboard with Sail Attachment

Most Impressive Multi-Person Craft

Paul & Elaheh Denzler, Kay Lin, Thomas, Emily, Marco, Mateo & Jesse the dog mascot!



Kayak

Girls Olivia Dans

Boys Jason Hoyt, Ethan Tyler

Men Case Jacobson, Corey Rowdon, Jack Groechel

Mens Tandem Ben & Wyatt Gardner

Mixed Tandem Barb & Ethan Kochis, Roberta & David Johnson, Marie & Leandro Galaz, Will & Victoria Bailey

Paddleboard

Girls Emma Dans

Boys Fabian Baranchuk, Ben Tuvilla, Sebastian Baranchuk, Mason Denzler

Women Erin Brown

Men Eric Paul, Mike Dans, Jeff Lin

Mixed Tandem DeLeone & Fischer Chuck

Womens Tandem Lisa Newsome & Lusi Baranchuk

Racing Scull

Men Dave Groechel

Canoe

Men Bob Ruffner & Victor Hough,

Scott & Grayson Johnson

Noah Jeppson & Case Jacobson were both first in class as well.



Mielcasz-Treon Memorial Horseshoe Tournament

Men's Singles Steve Morrow, Dan Murphy, Tony Salaiz

Women's Singles Colleen Wallace, Desi Soto, Laurel Morrow

Top Youngster Savanna Haac

Men's Doubles Steve Morrow & Ben Gardner, Dan Murphy & John Collins, Tony Salaiz & Jason Scammon

Women's Doubles

Laurel & Kristi Morrow, Becca Lincoln & Jenna Treon, Paula & Elizabeth Simpson

Mixed Doubles

Steve & Laurel Morrow, Kevin Miles & Anna Rebscher, Tony Salaiz & Lenka Collett

Volleyball Tournament

OPEN Division:

Champions: Iguana Squad

2nd: Seagull Awareness

3rd: BK Broilers

FAMILY Division:

Champions: Jones Family

Finalists: Hillyard Family (first timers!)

3rd: Kidding Around

Serene Lakes Days Volleyball

By Jenyth Gearhart-Utchen



Jones Family—Family Division Winners

Many people thought the smoke above the Serene Lakes volleyball courts was due to the Ferguson Fire, but in reality the hot volleyball being played on the sand sent up signals to all: the competition to earn a spot on the Jack Scanlon Tribute Trophy had begun. Game on! We saw some familiar faces, some new teams, a definite youth movement, and several players without teams joining others to find fun and success.

The Family Division was extremely competitive, as the defending champs

Kidd's Court were knocked down to the losers' bracket in the first round by the old Serene Lakes Militia, re-branded as the mini-Militia but still extremely potent. No Kidding Around here - the militia was too tough, but then they ran into a new family of Hillyards, who apologized for their lack of ability during sign-ups, but proceeded to advance to the championship round on Sunday! Everyone wanted to be better than the Joneses, but it was not to be. Captain Abi Jones (12) took over and led her crew of cousins, dads, and walk-ons to the blue ribbon. Little sister Bella Jones aided in the captaincy of the team of Jolie Jones, Talia Jones, dad Jacques "Big Duck" Jones, uncle Ian Jones, mom J.J. Jones, Liam Joy and Joe Willis. The Joneses swept the best of 3 final by the scores of 21-12 and 21-15. Kidding Around hung around to challenge them for a Loser's bracket vs. Winners bracket set, but the Joneses were unstoppable. Welcome to the neighborhood, Abi!

The Open Division has become a special kind of family rivalry between Curt Hovan of BK Whopper fame, and Tom Veit, patriarch of the Iguana Squad. These two families meet every year in this bracket, with amazing rallies and fantastic plays as a result. Without two-time defending champions 1001 Dalmatians, the battle to the



Iguana Squad—Open Division Winners

championship was pretty hard to predict. Enter some amazing female players who were looking for teams. The BK Whoppers picked up "Big Mama" Tara, who was playing in her 10th or so tournament. The Iguana Squad picked up Natalie Grover and the Seagull Awareness team picked up Mariah Grover. [Aside here - the girls' dad, Chris Grover, and I worked at Stanford Sierra Camp during college and vowed some day to own property near a lake. Fun that we both found Serene Lakes and reconnected on our volleyball court 30 years later.] The BK Whoppers made it to the Loser's bracket championship against the Seagull Awareness, as the Iguanas defeated both teams the day before. In an epic match with many lead changes, Seagull Awareness beat the Whoppers in overtime, by a score of 24-22. On to the finals soared the Seagulls, hoping to bomb the Iguana Squad. However, the Grover sisters served each other, blocked each other, and demonstrated a high level of volleyball rarely seen on the Mountain Court. The Iguana Squad had simply too much firepower, sweeping the championship round 21-8, 21-15. Congratulations to Captain James "Mo Bamba" Veit, Zach "Moose" Holman, Parker "Goose" Zavala, Spenser "Lightning" Heischlinger, Nate "Thunder" Cromwell, Cole "Ethan T. Veirs" Pasterski, and Natalie "Ringer" Grover for their victory. An explanation needed for names: Moose+Goose, Lightning+Thunder, Ethan + Ringer = Mo Bamba, according to Captain James. We are in good hands, if these Class of 2018 high school graduates are any indication of the youth movement.

(All photos this page by Jenyth Utchen)

First ever Serene Lakes Days bocce games—success!

By Kitty Harvey

In record time, 16 teams signed up to play in a one hour time slot against another cabin crew. The Pallina Pounders went up against the Ginger J Squad marking the first players to use the bocce court since Ed Bubnis worked his magic with oyster shells, oyster powder, and a water roller. Then the Mexiwegians faced off against Two Kathys and a couple of Men, keeping the competition friendly. The Wucaros played the Fantastic Ferreri



Four during the midday heat. In what turned out to be the most competitive match up of the day the Palisade Gulch

Crew went head to head with the Pardi gang. Camp Victor represented against some of the volleyball playing Iguanas for an exciting match until the water balloon toss took precedence. Carol's Cabin added Elijah and Michael to play the Dinger Daddys in a super fun game. As the afternoon turned into happy hour on the bocce court, the Mielcasz Clan and the Dachner Dudes toasted their beloved Fathers, who were long time Serene Lake friends who have passed on. It was a special moment. In the final game of the day, the Schmuttons took on Anna and Kevin to close out an action-packed day of bocce.



Horseshoe Tournament Pictures

By Peg Bettcher



More Serene Lakes Days Photos

By Peg Bettcher



Sweet Serene Sing Along a Success!

By Kitty Harvey

On a warm July evening, Diana Fredrich lead an eclectic group of Serene Lake neighbors in singing Americana songs from simpler times. We received lyrics to follow along her talented guitar playing and lovely vocals. Diana's most fervent fan and roadie husband, Mike, passed out kazoos to enhance the musical experience. The Ruffners set up the portable gas fire pit to add ambiance to our beach under the typically beautiful summit sunset skies. Hopefully, Diana will check her calendar and schedule another sing along in the future, if she does we'll get the word out so you can enjoy another magical evening of natural beauty, community fellowship, and classic folk music.

Ragnar Recap 2018

By Ann Reisenauer

The Ragnar Relay went smoothly this year, so smoothly that I hardly knew it was happening. Last year traffic was a mess on Thursday afternoon when the racers were dropping their gear at Summit Station. This year the traffic situation on Soda Springs and Pahatsi Roads was much improved. There was some back-up on Saturday as teams prepared to leave, but Pahatsi was cleared as quickly as possible.

If you watched some of the Ragnar Relay, you noticed that not all of the participants are in top shape. This is a fun run on steroids – each team member runs (or walks) almost 17 miles over 36-hours. Nonetheless about 2600 runners were out pounding the trails.

One of the highlights for Amber Hardesty, the Ragnar Race Director, was seeing teams embrace the fun of the event with costumes and camp decorations. She loved walking through the campsites to see the creative ways teams brought their personality to the race. Sugar Bowl would like to host the event next year, but the details for next year's race won't be decided for a few months.

Ragnar 2018 Agony of Da Feet

By Bob Ruffner



Ragnar Tahoe returned to Royal Gorge for their fourth year this past July. My wife Sharon and I have participated in two previous Ragnar events on the Summit. We would have entered last year but unfortunately we were out of the area. Our team, "Agony of Da Feet", was made up of six family members and two friends ranging in ages 13 to 59.

Never heard of a Ragnar? The concept is simple. Get eight of your running buddies, come up with a team name, make some T-shirts with your team name and bring all your camping gear for two days of running and hiking in the heat of the day and wonderfully cool nights on the Summit. Luckily for us our cabin is only a block away from Summit Station and the Ragnar Village. After each of our runs we were able to come back to shower and nap in the comforts of the cabin. Apparently renting cabins is the way to go considering every rental cabin in our neighborhood was occupied by a Ragnar team.

The relay went like this... 8 runners on a team were required to run three different loops of varying length. The green loop was 3.2 miles, yellow loop 7.1 miles and red loop 6.4 miles.

The first runner ran the green loop, second runner ran the yellow loop, third runner ran the red loop, fourth runner ran the green loop and so on. Once the eighth runner finished, runner number one started again and ran the yellow loop, runner number two ran the red loop. Again, once the eighth runner finished the first runner started again on his/hers last loop which was the red loop. Once the eighth runner completed their last loop the race was completed for the team. Our team was given a 7:30 am start time on Friday; we finished Saturday afternoon at 3:30 before the 4 PM cutoff time..

Most of our team members are confident trail runners but almost all of us had some concerns with the night portion of the relay. Getting lost, wild animals, falling down, getting lost, lights not working and did I mention getting lost. But to our delight the night runs were the most fun leg of the relay for all of us. The temperatures during the weekend were in the mid 80s during the day but on the ridges the temperature felt more like it was in the 100s. The trail was marked so well with reflective directional signs and tiny LED lights that the trail was easier to follow at night than during the day. The night time temperature was in the 50s. The waxing gibbous moon set around 2:00 am to give way to the stars of the Milky Way. Each leg of the run showcased our beautiful area by using a mix of Royal Gorge ski trails and Land Trust single track trails.



Sharon and I participate in numerous running races, bike races and triathlons each year. The promoter that organizes Ragnar Relays is exceptional. Leading up to the event they sent out numerous messages on what to expect at Royal Gorge during this event. They announced that there would be no parking at the venue or on any streets in the Serene Lakes neighborhood. Vehicles were queued in the dirt parking lot at Soda Springs Ski Resort and only sent up to Summit Station to drop off gear after a car returned back to park. At night there was a gas fire pit in the Ragnar Village for roasting marshmallows. Movies were projected onto a big outdoor screen while runners waited for their turn to hit the trails. During the day they offered yoga sessions and massages for tired muscles. Ragnar also strongly emphasizes low impact, leave no trace camping, recycling and separating all trash. If you wanted water, coffee or hot chocolate you needed to provide your own container. No paper cups.

The whole event was a blast for Sharon and me. Good times with family and friends and we made some new friends. We met a lot of folks on the trail from all parts of California and the US. We look forward to Ragnar and hope it returns to Royal Gorge and Serene Lakes next year.

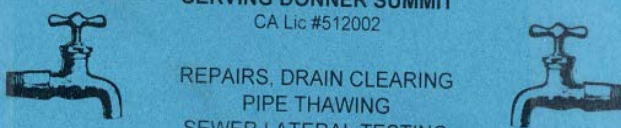
(Photos this page by Sharon Ruffner)



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2018 CANDIDATE STATEMENTS--In Alphabetical Order

JENYTH GEARHART-UTCHEN

This is my happy place, this one of a kind community of extraordinarily talented neighbors who know how to organize and provide amazing volunteer service. My two daughters grew up roaming the neighborhood on bikes, on the water, and on the trails. When I purchased my cabin over ten years ago, I stepped up in small ways, establishing a Kids' Club from 2007-10. We started the Snowfolk/Snowman-making tradition at the holidays, facilitated a beginners' sailing course for kids, and led several Girl Scout badge activities. I've run the Serene Lakes Days volleyball tournament for the past several years, and increased participation to record levels, with over 150 players this year. I listened to feedback, changed the format to include families with younger kids, and the alterations allowed more people to have more fun.

As a lakefront property owner, I can attest that the new lakefront management program has greatly reduced the number of times I have found strangers on my back yard launching their boats, drinking their beer, or leaving the remnants of partying behind. Having several authorized launch points has mitigated these confrontations. This is definitely a positive program for the entire community.

My experiences as a classroom teacher, college admissions counselor, nationally certified USA volleyball coach, and Positive Coaching Alliance national award winner have allowed me to develop the skill set necessary to build teams out of diverse groups. I enjoy creating consensus among those with different interests. As a real estate investor, I hold our property values dear. As an empty nester, I have the time necessary to devote to listening to the issues as they arise and for developing long-term strategic plans for our future.

I have enjoyed these past two years on the board and I am ready to continue our tradition of volunteer service and request your vote for second term on the SLPOA board. Thank you.



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TIM KUSTIC

My wife (Debra) and I purchased our Serene Lakes get-away house and joined SLPOA in 2012. We and our three children Allison (19), Russell (17) and Andrea (14) are often up here skiing, hiking, kayaking, biking, swimming, and so much more. We have enjoyed the many activities SLPOA has provided us these past few years. Since my retirement in 2014, I have steadily increase my volunteer activities here in Serene Lakes, at Sugar Bowl where I am on the Mountain Safety Patrol team (the yellow jacket folks), and with other organizations in Sacramento where we reside.

I'm honored to be considered as a candidate for the SLPOA Board. I have seen and appreciate the talented efforts by our Board members and hope to match their commitment and energy.

I spent the majority my career as a state regulator overseeing mining, oil, and gas operations in California. Although those specific activates do not relate to SLPOA's mission, I have extensive experience working on teams, managing projects, working on environmental issues, and leading organizations. I hope to use my skills to assist SLPOA in meeting their goals. I thank you and appreciate your consideration. Address: 2215 Hillary Drive.

JONI RUBIN

I am a relative newcomer to Serene Lakes--my husband and I purchased our cabin on Alpine Way in 2012. We live in Davis and both work in the Bay Area. I recently went from full time to part time work and am finding myself making more frequent trips to the summit and wanting to stay longer and longer. Beyond the natural beauty and great hiking, skiing and friends, I value the sense of comradery and am in awe at the level of involvement I see across the community. My interest in joining the SLOPA Board is born out of my desire to step-up and contribute to Serene Lakes as well: to help retain the uniqueness of the area, protect the local environment and find new opportunities to create community.

I have always worked in the public sector and I have lots of experience in strategic planning, fundraising, running organizations, and I have served on many advisory boards. I also volunteer at a non-profit organization in Davis, supporting fundraising events and mentoring clients.

I am eager to see how I can best contribute to SLOPA.

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DIANE SCANLON

It has been a pleasure serving on the SLPOA board for the past 2 years! During 2017/2018 I have served as Vice President and I am seeking re-election and to serve as the SLPOA President this year.

Serene Lakes has been my part-time residence since 1991. My husband, Jack (who passed in 2015) bought "The Cabin on Hemlock" in 1989 and we enjoyed all that the summit has to offer on a regular basis. There is no doubt about it—this place is special all on its own!

However, my relationship with the summit over the past 3 years has changed drastically. I have found new meaning to this place, not only for its natural beauty, but in becoming more involved in the community itself. I have been actively involved in raising money for SLPOA through merchandising—which I love—it's a great way to meet a lot of SLPOA members, their families and guests. I am also serving as a cochair SLPOA Cabin Tour Organizer. I want to continue to be a vital part of the community's efforts to preserve what we have while enhancing our neighborhood and honoring those who have come before us.

As a interior designer, it is important for me to listen to what my clients want, to manage expectations and competing desires. My job is to help make their vision come to life. Volunteering on the board is much like this. We represent the community as a whole, we listen to a variety of wants and needs and make decisions that best represent our common interests. Likewise, my focus in sitting on the board and being involved in the various activities is to bring people together—new and established residence alike, to understand what their needs are and to best represent the common goals of SLPOA. I appreciate your support for both my continued involvement as a board member, as well as acting President for the coming year.

JONATHAN SORGER

My parents had a cabin in Incline growing up – I recall countless hours in the back of a Chevy van on the 5 hour trip from San Jose. First watching my dad put chains on from the warm confines of the van, to lying on the freezing asphalt of I-80, doing it myself as my parents watched from the warm confines of said van. Learning how to drive in the snow in a Raley's parking lot during a blizzard... We took those trips every two or three weeks, even after my dad hurt his back and my mom blew out her knee. It defined my childhood.

My parents sold the cabin when I moved to San Diego for college and I longed for the Sierras ever since. Snow Summit and Mt. Baldy just didn't cut it. After school in Baltimore and Washington, DC, (ever go to Ski Liberty with its 620 vertical feet?) my wife Nicole and I moved back to the Bay Area. During day trips to Sugar Bowl, I discovered Serene Lakes on a wrong turn; we drove through, admiring the architecture for the next 3 years.

In the winter you will find us at Sugar Bowl and Royal Gorge, although my older son Noah (12) now hopes that it doesn't snow so he can play ice hockey, which made this past winter "the best ever". In the summer you can usually find me out on the dock helping Julian (9) fish... or out on the trails, accepting that jogging at 7000 feet is quite different than at sea level.

ane to go on vacation. I still can't figure out why my parents didn't bite the bullet and just buy a Subaru I am a scientist and Nicole is a history teacher, although we try not to think of those things when we're up here. I've been lucky enough to travel the world for work, and the last thing I want to do is get on a pl... We're "young'uns", having owned our place on Alpine for only 2 ½ years. Our neighbors built their homes when Nicole and I were 10. I feel fortunate to be a part of the next generation, to act as stewards of this beautiful place...

SLPOA 2018 ELECTION FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Voting Requirements for the Annual Meeting and Election of the Board of Directors.

1. Quorum Requirements. For a quorum to be present at the annual meeting, 10% of the voting power of the organization must be present either in person or via absentee ballot. At the present time we have 613 members which means quorum is established by 62 votes. This could increase by the time of the annual meeting if more people join SLPOA (see Section 5 f (5) of the Bylaws).
2. Election of the Board of Directors. Members may be elected to the Board by one of three methods. A committee of the Board chooses a slate for the open positions which is ratified by the Board. This has been done for this election. The nominees are Jenyth Gearhart-Utchen, Tim Kustic, Joni Rubin, Diane Scanlon, and Jonathan Sorger. A second method of being placed in nomination is via a petition. The petition must be signed by 10 members of the organization and must be presented at least 20 days before the annual meeting. This year the annual meeting takes place on September 2, 2018, so the petition must be received by August 14, 2018. If any group of members wants to nominate candidate(s) for the Board of Directors by petition, the petition should be mailed to the administrative assistant, Linda Cashion, at PO Box 669, Soda Springs, CA 95728. A third way of nominating someone for election to the Board is by a nomination from the floor during the annual meeting. A nominating person and a second is necessary to place that persons' name into contention for election to the Board of Directors (see Section 5 h (1)(2) and (3)).

Any member whose name has been placed in nomination can speak at the annual meeting to recite their qualifications for the position; however, only those persons on the slate selected by the Board have their qualifications printed in the newsletter unless a petition candidate's papers are received before the newsletter printing deadline, in which case that person's qualifications are printed in the newsletter. Petition candidates and candidates nominated from the floor may circulate written biographies at the annual meeting.

Vote for members of the SLPOA Board of Directors by marking no more than five (5) boxes next to candidate names:

<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Jenyth Gearhart-Utchen</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ (floor nominee)
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tim Kustic</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ (floor nominee)
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Joni Rubin</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Diane Scanlon</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Jonathan Sorger</u>	

The cabin or lot address for the membership must be included below for validation.

Cabin or Lot Address: _____

SLPOA ID (optional, see mailing label): _____

Mail to: SLPOA Board Election, P.O. Box 669, Soda Springs, CA 95728

SLPOA

P.O. 669

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Address Service Requested

Sunday, September 2—BBQ tickets, 2 to 5 PM (not refundable):

Adult plate tickets (Number)_____@\$20 each (\$25 day of BBQ) _____

Entrée choice: Beef Tri Tip _____

Chicken _____(must be ordered by 8/29/18)

Child plate tickets (6yo to 12 yo) _____@\$8 each (\$10 day of BBQ) _____

Total amount _____

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