



TRAILS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CALIFORNIA ALPINE CLUB

Volume 93

November 2017

No. 9

MEMBERS AFFECTED BY THE NORTH BAY WILDFIRES

We woke to smoky skies, to breaking news of wildfires and uncertainty. Many of our Santa Rosa, Sonoma, and other North Bay county members faced a harsher reality. More than 90 Club members live in affected areas. Some have lost their homes. Gone. Nothing left. Others were evacuated and waited. Too many trudged off to work not knowing what would happen in a day's time.

The pall of uncertainty, the not knowing what a shift in the winds will bring, is weighty. No predictability from nature, and about the same from insurance folks. No one is sure whether the paperwork or the details supplied will suffice.

Your club moved quickly, phoning members in affected areas (sorted by zip code), then texting, then emailing.

The message was clear: CAC is here for you. Alpine Lodge welcomes you and your immediate family as needed (and after a review by leaders to consider the best solution for each member). Some came to the sane, safe and familiar surroundings of the Lodge, to coffee brewing. Others considered the option but felt compelled to stay closer to their homes, closer to the latest updates.

The rest of us want to know how we can help. There are plenty of financial and donation channels, but what can our CAC brothers and sisters specifically?

Our members are a resilient bunch, able and energetic, focused and ready to move their lives along. Still the question of how to help gnaws at the rest of us. Your friends from the Club have volunteered to contribute their vocational talents to the mix (with insurance claims, and even legal or computer issues). Others have volunteered moving-work-parties. And more ideas will surely come as the ashes settle.

For now, we are taking cues from those members directly affected. They know that CAC is ready and willing with resources. As requests come in consistently, and specific action is needed, CAC leadership may be requesting help from more of you.

It's still early, though, and we, too, are in a waiting stage. But we have a band of big-hearted brothers and sisters behind us, ready to reach out and help. At this writing we do not have specific plans in place, other than offering our Lodge as a respite for members to find refuge. Please contact **Jay Gustafson** at jaygustafson@yahoo.com or cacreferralnetwork@gmail.com 415-381-7261 to either request or offer help.

Jay Gustafson, CAC President

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PARTY ALPINE LODGE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2017

All generations, come join us for the Children's Holiday Party, December 9, 2017 from 1pm to 4pm. Tim Cain, a wonderful guitarist and the Balloon Lady will be there to entertain the children. The Club will provide beverages, ham and rolls. All participating families will bring a favorite dish to share.

The reduced early registration cost is \$20 per family (two adults and children) for reservations made before November 27, and \$30 for those made after November 27. Additional adult family members are \$10 each. You are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors and their children. It is a wonderful way to introduce new families to CAC. Do not forget to bring a wrapped gift for each child in your group with his or her name clearly written on the top. Santa will make a special visit give the children their gifts.

Sign up with **Mary Frey** by sending her your check. Please state how many children and adults will be attending with your family. Also let Mary know if you can help before or after the party. Contact Mary by phone or email if you have questions. For reservations, mail your check to her address: Mary Frey, 100 Thorndale Drive, Apt #251, San Rafael, CA, 94903. Phone: 415-492-2510. Email: Marymaryhiker@aol.com. For overnights, contact Donata Mikulik, donatabo@hotmail.com.

Ann Meneguzzi and Mary Frey, Event Coordinators

HIKERS' SOUP AND SALAD JANUARY 1, 2018

We are returning to our long tradition of Hikers' Soup and Salad on New Year's Day, January 1, 2018. The day will start at 9:30am with a hike led by Carol Bodtker to the top of Mount Tam. After acknowledging the new year at the top of the mountain, we will head back to the Lodge for happy hour, and enjoy soup and salad about 3:30pm. The cost for this fun day is only \$10 for members, and \$12 for guests. Volunteers to help set the tables, and to clean up afterwards are needed. For reservations, email **Maureen Smith** at MissBrigid@aol.com or call 650-697-3846. Send your check to Maureen Smith, 219 Barclay Avenue, Millbrae, CA 94030.

Maureen Smith, Event Coordinator

Monthly TRAILS Editor ~ Anita Cabrera

California Alpine Club - The purpose of the Club is: To explore, enjoy and protect the natural resources of our land, including wildlife, forests and plants, water and scenic values; to support and promote educational programs on these and related subjects; at all times, to protect and as far as we are able, to improve the environment in which we live; and to strengthen a sense of community among our members.

Officers:

President	Jay Gustafson '18	415-381-7261	jaygustafson@yahoo.com
Vice President	Ann Meneguzzi '19	209-931-3423	tmlann@hotmail.com
Secretary	Dan Larson '19	831-465-9645	dlarson11@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jeff Grimshaw '19	707-484-0003	jeffrey.w.grimshaw@gmail.com
Registrar	Mark Sapiro '18	415-388-8910	mark@msapiro.net
Past President	Jim Nixon	650-756-7771	jimnixon2000@yahoo.com

Board of Directors:

Nancy Emerson '19	415-640-4149	qeh4@sbcglobal.net
Pete Castelli '19	510-525-5225	petecastelli@gmail.com
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Tim Warden '18	415-453-6595	timothyebdas@yahoo.com
Amy Pertschuk '18	415-686-5990	amy@kpwest.com

Committee Chairpersons:

Finance	Carroll Pearson	408-736-9403	pearsoncmp@aol.com
Historian (Acting)	Bill Mayers	415-785-3516	whmayers@gmail.com
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	Renee Hamilton	415-686-3966	renee@fallbrook.net
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Publications	OPEN		
Sunshine	Valerie Nelson	831-688-1524	valallen@cruzio.com
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Event Committee	Sue Karp	414-927-3221	suekarp@prodigy.net
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	Mary Jane McKown	415-383-2774	mjmckown@gmail.com
	Carroll Pearson	408-736-9403	pearsoncmp@aol.com
	Candy Barnhill	319-631-9110	wheeljeepfun_cb@aol.com
	Line Shanks	415-686-1799	lineshanks@comcast.net

Alpine Lodge Trustees:

	Tom Coleman '19	707-992-0650	travmcgee@comcast.net
	Axel Schmitt '20	925-577-0202	azschmitt007@hotmail.com
pro tem	Stephen High '20	916-759-2913	high.stephen@gmail.com
	Donata Mikulik '19	707-591-3129	donatabo@hotmail.com
	Wendi Olmstead '18	707-766-8038	wendiolmstead@comcast.net

Alpine Lodge Support:

Alpine Calendar	Donata Mikulik	707-591-3129	donatabo@hotmail.com
Alpine Treasurer	Michael Vaggione	408-865-1781	michaeljv@pacbell.net
Accommodations Reservations		707-591-3129	donatabo@hotmail.com

Coordinators For Alpine Lodge:

Innkeepers	Wendi Olmstead	707-766-8038	wendiolmstead@comcast.net
Hike Leaders	Jennie Bruyn	415 456-1877	jennielbruyne@outlook.com
	Lenora Young	310 408-8112	lenora_young@me.com
Hikers Weekend	OPEN		

Echo Summit Lodge Trustees:

Chair	Cindy Toran '19	707-321-3262	cktoran@gmail.com
	Nick Gregoratos '18	415-206-9152	nick.gregoratos@gmail.com
	Mary Larkin-Berlinski '20	831-345-6963	mlarkin804@sbcglobal.net
	Bob Henry '20	707-829-3728	clyde33301@comcast.net
	Richard Thornton '18	510-918-9001	RGThorn@pacbell.net

CAC Foundation Directors:

President	Arlin Weinberger	415-444-0611	acwein@earthlink.net
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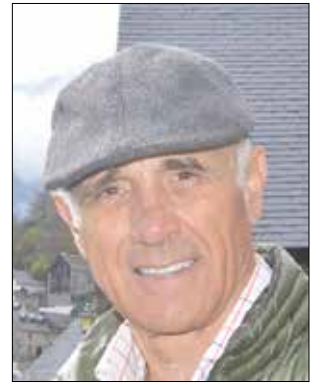
TRAILS is the newsletter of the California Alpine Club. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit all submitted copy.

Monthly Editors: Anita Cabrera, Susan Patrick, Heather Rand, Richard Thornton, John Peterson and Helena Troy.

Contributors this issue: Sandy Borden, Jennie Bruyn, Jay Gustafson, Renee Hamilton, Ann Meneguzzi, Donata Mikulik, Wendi Olmstead, Maureen Smith, Tony Smith, Cindy Toran, Bev Leve, Jerry Schweickert, and Lenora Young.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The unpredictable last month got us thinking. The North Bay surprises us with challenge and tragedy, and we as a club, a family of hikers and adventurers, get the opportunity to serve in ways unpredicted. Our members stood up, and continue to do so in service to fellow members who have lost homes, livelihoods, and stuff. Thankfully, we have had no reported loss of life.



If you haven't had a chance yet to contribute support to our members in need, you still have the opportunity. The recovery time is long, and faithful support often wanes, except from members of this 104-year old club. Alpiners are showing their stuff.

The hard core are definitely here for hikers' weekends. **Tony Smith** led the September outing through a record-breaking, sweltering weekend when ice-trays became central to relief, and even short were hikes long on hydration. Similarly, in October **Mary Cosgrove** and I spent time at the Lodge with others who just wanted a getaway, and not much hiking, as the smoke from the North Bay fires deterred many who had inquired. (**Jennie Bruyn** referred to it as *Beijing'esque* when she called off the Sunday hike that weekend.)

Our Outings Co-chair, **Renee Hamilton** and I visited the Peak Adventure (P.A.) team from Sacramento State recently to explore co-branding outdoor adventure opportunities with the club. They have a thriving program, which fits well with our members' plans. P.A. teaches aspiring outdoor industry players how to design, market, manage and execute outdoor adventure. They also have deep connections with state and national park service teams, vetted rafting and kayaking outing vendors, and a fleet of small buses outfitted to take CAC-size groups to adventure outings. Their team of keen and talented event leaders are to help realize our plans. Alpiners, I think we've made a connection of value, so let the imagination flow begin. Begin thinking about 2018 excursions and be ready to discuss them with the Outings Team at the November 18 meeting.

We continue to connect with the OneTam movement, offering Alpine Lodge for meetings and receptions (nothing like being on the mountain), service teams for nearby trail maintenance, and encouragement of youth involvement on Tam. Working with talented and motivated professionals with complimentary visions for Tam is refreshing. And those of you with ideas, suggestions and energies, hint, hint... **Amy Pertschuk** is our outreach lead.

As for that Parota slab acquired for the Joan Casey bench soon to adorn the front door at Alpine Lodge, you should be able to lace up your boots by now, while sitting on this masterpiece, as Axel Schmitt, Stephen High and crew have installed this ancient glory in our midst. Thanks to all. See you on the mountain.

Jay Gustafson, President

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2017

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530-559-4250
KJT@KJT.US
Sponsors: Sandy Borden and Jerry Schweickert

Bev Leve, Membership

ALPINE LODGE WORK PARTY SCHEDULE

Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Lunch will be served.
Overnight is possible. Please contact the host to RSVP

Nov 11	Garrett Hill	garrett@x2nsat.com
Dec 2	Garrett Hill	garrett@x2nsat.com
Jan 27	Garrett Hill	garrett@x2nsat.com

Tom Coleman, Alpine Trustee

California Alpine Club



WEBSITE IS AVAILABLE

<http://californiaalpineclub.org>
403 members registered.

Please REGISTER for our website,
if you have not already done so.

— Website Committee

TRAILS NEWSLETTER ALERT

Please email articles for the **December 2017/January 2018** issue to **Lenora Young** at lenora_young@me.com. **Lenora** should receive articles for the December issue no later than November 5. Electronic files are greatly appreciated.

NOTE! Please submit all articles by email. All articles should be prepared in WORD or PAGES and attached to your email as a document rather than being part of the text of your email. In the subject of your email please include the month and TRAILS ARTICLE. For June the subject would be JUNE TRAILS ARTICLE. This will help the monthly editors tremendously.

Digital photographs are appreciated and will be published as space permits. Send photographs to the editor as a jpeg attachments. Please state clearly the names of the people in the photo, the date and place of the event, and the title of the corresponding article if applicable. Make sure you have permission from the people in the photos to publish their photos in TRAILS.

The editor for the **February** issue will be Richard Thornton. Send to richard@thorntonpartners.us. Editors are always needed! If you would like to assist with the publishing of TRAILS, please contact **Helena Troy** at hmtroy@aol.com or 415-492-9576.

Helena Troy, Interim Publications Chair

Board of Directors and Quarterly Membership Meetings

If you have any questions or wish to have an item on the agenda, contact **Jay Gustafson** at jaygustafson@yahoo.com or call 415-381-7261. Members are welcome at Board meetings.

Jay Gustafson, CAC President

Nov 18	Board of Directors Meeting 2pm-3pm
Dec	No Meeting
Jan 20	Quarterly Membership Meeting 1pm-2pm
	Board of Directors Meeting 2pm-3pm
Feb 24	Board of Directors Meeting 2pm-3pm
Mar 17	Board of Directors Meeting 2pm-3pm

We have a number of items to discuss at the Members' meeting on January 20, so please mark your calendar to attend.

*All meetings are at Alpine and occur on Saturdays. The January and July Member meeting dates may be combined with a meal welcoming new members.

Correspondence: Please address correspondence concerning this publication to:
Jay Gustafson 402 A Ash St., Mill Valley, CA 94941.

CAC Website: <http://californiaalpineclub.org>

CAC Rosters and Privacy Protection

For CAC Roster, electronic copy either one time or on monthly distribution, request via email from present registrar. CAC Rosters and email distribution lists should be protected from indiscriminate distribution to other than club members and should only be used for CAC club business or personal contact. No solicitation or chain email correspondence.

ALPINE HIKE LEADER SCHEDULE

OPEN HOUSE EVERY SUNDAY AT ALPINE LODGE

All Hikes are 2B

Sunday	Start Time	Leader	Phone Number
Nov 5	9:30 am	Eva Libien (Low 2B)	415-383-5184
Nov 12	9:30 am	Lynn MacDonald	510-525-3843
Nov 19	9:30 am	Robert Freinkel	415-608-7938
Nov 26	9:30 am	Tom Dewey	510-381-8188
Dec 3	9:30 a.m.	Madelyn Misite	510-381-8188
Dec 10	9:30 a.m.	Jennie Bruyn	415-456-1877
Dec 17	9:30 a.m.	Brian Chan (Guest)	415-861-8956
Dec 24	9:30 a.m.	Open	
Dec 31	9:30 a.m.	Open	

Note:

If a Hike Leader is unable to lead their designated hike, they must find a replacement and notify Jennie Bruyn.

Contact Information for Hike Leaders:

Hike Leader Coordinator: Jennie Bruyn at jennielbruyn@outlook.com
Support: Lenora Young at lenora_young@me.com

Different Hikes for Different Types: Our Weekly Tradition for Sunday Hiking

Rain Cancels All Hikes!

Our 2B hikes depart from the California Alpine Club at 9:30 a.m. These hikes are 7-10 miles long, with an elevation gain of up to 2,000 ft. When there is no leader specified for a given Sunday, the convened hikers at the CAC will decide upon their own route.

A more informal, slower paced hike – designated as 1A – will depart from the CAC at 9:45 a.m. These hikes are typically 5-6 miles long, with an elevation gain of up to 1,000 ft.

Please remember to bring a light lunch and at least a liter of water. All hikers should have prior hiking experience and be able to maintain a moderate pace (i.e., approximately two miles per hour). The hikes usually finish at the CAC around 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Note: Hike group safety protocols prevail. If you want to hike in front of the leader, please inform the leader. If given permission, you must stop at any intersection or junction and wait for the group. You must also be within earshot in case the group is held up. If you do not follow these steps, we will no longer consider you part of the group.

If you are interested in leading a 2B hike, please contact Jennie Bruyn at 415-456-1877 or email jennielbruyn@outlook.com

If you are interested in leading a 1A hike, please contact Edie Nelson at 831-331-1754

ALPINE LODGE SUNDAY INNKEEPERS

Innkeeping is a great way to spend a day at our beautiful Alpine Lodge while at the same time fulfilling a portion of your volunteer responsibilities. You need not be host trained to serve as Innkeeper(s) however there are thorough instructions. If you don't wish to serve alone (if you are new to innkeeping, for example) consider serving together with another member – and co-innkeep! Email Trustee Wendi Olmstead at wendiolmstead@comcast.net. Thank You and Happy Trails To All!

Nov 5	Wendi Olmstead and Lori Sondheim
Nov 12	Nula Caufield
Nov 19	Bonnie Herzog
Nov 26	Diane Budo

Dec 3	Ursula Pedersen
Dec 10	Cindi Whitehead
Dec 17	Jana and John Shober
Dec 24	OPEN
Dec 31	Cindi Whitehead

MOST CURRENT STATUS OF SUNDAY INNKEEPERS To see the most current status of innkeepers and find out which Sundays are OPEN, go to the CAC webpage. If you can help email Wendi at wendiolmstead@comcast.net to sign-up to serve as a Sunday innkeeper. We appreciate your service to our Club.

Wendi Olmstead

CAC AT FEDERATION OF WESTERN OUTDOOR CLUBS 2017 CONFERENCE

"Keeping Public Lands in Public Hands" was a hot topic at this year's Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs (FWOC) gathering in Selma, Oregon, August 25-27. **Ann Meneguzzi** and **Mae Harms** drove on smoke-shrouded I-5 and US-199 to the Siskiyou Field Institute. More than 70 fires in Oregon and California darkened skies and reminded folks that our parks and forests are vulnerable to loss in ways beyond political actions. Conference attendees from hiking and outdoor groups in several western states discussed the threat of privatization of public lands.

Presentations focused on the recent efforts to shrink or eliminate national monuments, a deep concern for all members and frequent topic of conversation. CAC is a listed co-author of the accepted FWOC resolution opposing efforts to privatize lands that belong to all Americans. The Federation passed other resolutions concerning specific public areas in different states, climate protection, the Endangered Species Act, and the discharge of toxic materials. Ann Meneguzzi represented CAC as our Club's official voting delegate at this Conference. Since 2015 Ann has also served on the FWOC Executive Council as a California Vice-President.

CAC will co-host the Federation's annual conference slated for August 17-19, 2018 in Los Altos at the Jesuit Retreat Center. Learn more about FWOC at www.federationofwesternoutdoorclubs.org.

Ann Meneguzzi, CAC Vice-President

ALPINE LODGE EVENTS AND HOST CALENDAR

Event Reservations: Contact the host or leader listed. If you must cancel, please alert your host as food preparation is based on reservation count. CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR LATEST UPDATES.

ALPINE LODGE PHONE
415-380-8250
OUTGOING LOCAL CALLS ONLY
NO PAY PHONE

To Schedule an Event: For a private member event or a Club function, please email (preferred method) Donata Mikulik at donatabo@hotmail.com or call 707-591-3129.

NOV 3-5 FRI-SUN Wendi Olmstead 1444 Sunrise Parkway wendiolmstead@comcast.net Petaluma CA 94954	SCRAPBOOK AND CRAFT WEEKEND 707-766-8038	DEC 26-28 TUES-THU Stephen Branz & Emily Young Stephen.branz@sjsu.edu	PRIVATE EVENT	FEB 23-25 FRI-SUN Camille Smith-Ballon camillecruzfit@gmail.com	CHINESE NEW YEAR HIKE 831-239-0730
NOV 3-5 FRI-SUN Wendi Olmstead 1444 Sunrise Parkway wendiolmstead@comcast.net Petaluma CA 94954	HIKERS WEEKEND 707-766-8038 Hiking leaders needed.	DEC 28-31 THU-SUN Host needed. jaygustafson@yahoo.com	HIKERS WEEKEND 415-300-6660	MAR 2-4 FRI-SUN Wendi Olmstead 144 Sunrise Parkway wendiolmstead@comcast.net Petaluma CA 94954	SCRAPBOOK AND CRAFT WEEKEND 707-766-8038
NOV 11 SAT 9AM-3PM Garrett Hill	WORK PARTY garrett@x2nsat.com	JAN 1 SUN-MON Maureen Smith MissBrigid@aol.com	HIKERS SOUP AND SALAD 650-697-3846	MAR 10 SAT Sue Karp suekarp@prodigy.net	FRIENDS OF MT TAM MEETING 415-927-3221
NOV 17-18 FRI 4PM-SAT 3PM Donata Mikulik 2037 W. Hearn Ave Santa Rosa, CA 95407	HOST TRAINING 707-591-3129 donatabo@hotmail.com	JAN 12-15 FRI-SUN Wendi Olmstead 1444 Sunrise Parkway wendiolmstead@comcast.net Petaluma CA 94954	SCRAPBOOK AND CRAFT WEEKEND 707-766-8038	MAR 10-12 SAT-MON Ann Meneguzzi tmlann@hotmail.com	CA STATE PARKS ASSOCIATION
NOV 18 SAT 2PM-3PM Jay Gustafson.	CAC BOARD MEETING Jaygustafson@yahoo.com	JAN 19-21 FRI-SUN Candy Barnhill. Optional overnight	HIKERS WEEKEND 319-631-9110 Wheejeepfun_cb@aol.com	MAR 17 SAT 2PM-3PM Jay Gustafson	CAC BOARD MEETING Jaygustafson@yahoo.com
DEC 2 SAT 9AM-3PM Garrett Hill	WORK PARTY garrett@x2nsat.com	JAN 20 SAT Bev Leve and Candy Barnhill hikingbev@gmail.com wheejeepfun_cb@aol.com	NEW MEMBERS EVENT	MAR 24 SAT 9AM-3PM Stephen High high.stephen@gmail.com	WORK PARTY
DEC 8-10 FRI-SUN Donata Mikulik 2037 W. Hearn Ave Santa Rosa, CA 95407	YOUTH AND FAMILIES WEEKEND CHRISTMAS PARTY OVERNIGHTS 707-591-3129 donatabo@hotmail.com	JAN 20 SAT 2PM-3PM Jay Gustafson	CAC BOARD MEETING Jaygustafson@yahoo.com	MAR 30-APR 1 SAT-SUN Graham Forder gjfo99@yahoo.com	PRIVATE EVENT 415-827-4748
DEC 9 SAT 1-4PM Ann Meneguzzi Article on page 1	CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY 209-373-9844	JAN 20 SAT 1PM jaygustafson@yahoo.com	MEMBERSHIP MEETING 415-300-6660	Please note, private events allow for private use, but may not be exclusive. Another CAC member may stay overnight in an unoccupied area, or other CAC events may need to overlap with a private event for club or lodge purposes. All private event hosts will be contacted regarding any potential overlap.	
DEC 12 TUES 9AM-3PM Carol Bodtker	PRIVATE EVENT cbpostme@gmail.com	FEB 24 SAT 2PM-3PM Jay Gustafson	CAC BOARD MEETING Jaygustafson@yahoo.com		
DEC 16 SAT Host Needed	CAC HOLIDAY PARTY	JAN 27 SAT 9AM-1PM Tom Coleman travmcgee@comcast.net	WORK PARTY		
DEC 21 THU Jay Gustafson	PRIVATE EVENT jaygustafson@yahoo.com	FEB 17 SAT 9AM-1PM Tom Coleman travmcgee@comcast.net	WORK PARTY		

FIRST ANNUAL CAC MT. TAM CIRCUMAMBULATION SUCCESS STORY

What could be better than discovering another way to honor Mt. Tam and ourselves?

On September 23, **John Newman** led twenty-three hikers for about ten miles, miming "the way of the sun," keeping the mountain always on our right. Circumambulating is an ancient spiritual tradition. Poet Gary Snyder's own annual Buddhist-inspired version of the ritual that he started 1965 with Alan Ginsberg and Phillip Whalen is chronicled in Matthew Davis' book, *Opening the Mountain: Circumambulating Mount Tamalpais; a Ritual Walk*, written with Michael Farrell Scott.

Our journey included poems by Snyder read aloud by hikers and chanting to works by Thich Nhat Hahn, with a mile of solitary hiking to Inspiration Point. John handed out copies of the chants and poems so this experience can be easily duplicated and enjoyed in the future.

Participants **Kate Twain, Nancy Carlisle, Steve Virshup, John and Margy Eller, Linda Kumataka, Nancy Riess, Nancy and Glenn Westreich, Craig and Helen Dahl, Maryellen Buckley, Betty Stanfield, Ann Adams, Kana Koctl, Rani Devadajan and Drew and Celeste Levy** capped the day with abundant potluck on the deck of the Lodge.

Bev Leve, Membership Chair

INTO THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Greetings from your Outings Committee. Here are the updates for upcoming Outings. And more are in the works for members and friends, so stay tuned to future issues.

Dec 29, 2017-Jan 1, 2018: Imagine welcoming a New Year in Yosemite beneath a full moon as it illuminates a glorious landscape blanketed in snow. Join us for a very special New Year's weekend in one of California's most beloved settings. We have reserved all eight rooms of the historic River Rock Inn in Mariposa, built in the late 1800s, and we have arranged for a private guided evening snow-shoe tour on New Year's Eve beneath the full moon. There is much to do in Yosemite in winter: trails abound for cross-country skiers and snow-shoers, outdoor ice skating in Curry Village, sledding and snow tubing for the young and young at heart, and ranger-guided snow shoe tours can be arranged. And after a day of individual explorations of the park and environs, what better way to share our experiences than gathered round a table at the charming Savory's Restaurant in Mariposa on Saturday evening, December 30. Room rates for the River Rock Inn are \$79 for standard room (queen bed) and \$99 for the suite (two queen beds). For more information, please contact Renee Hamilton at rdmhamilton@gmail.com or 415-686-3966.

Mar 23-25: Ernie Castiaux is hosting two nights and three days at the beautiful Pinnacles National Park where we will find solitude, challenge, and escape from urban life. We will car camp as a group and hike during the day along the spectacular ridges and trails among the spring wild flowers. During the spring, hiking is at its best when the grasses are green and a variety of wildflowers can be seen along any trail. We will also be looking for the illusive condors, which make their home here. The group size will be limited. Sign ups begin in January.

May 30-Jun 3: Mary Larkin-Berlinski will host three nights and four days car camping at Lassen Volcano National Park, home to steaming fumaroles, alpine meadows, evergreen and deciduous forests, clear mountain lakes, and numerous volcanoes. This will be a base camp trip, with opportunities to hike and explore this magnificent and varied park. Trip cost is \$100 per person, which includes the campsite and all meals. For more information, contact Mary at: mlarkin804@sbcglobal.net or 831-345-6963. To reserve your spot, please send a deposit of \$50 to Mary at PO Box 776, Moss Landing, CA 95039.

Aug 12-17: Mary Larkin-Berlinski will also host a mule pack base camp trip to Green Lake in the Eastern Sierras. Trip cost is estimated to be \$375 per person, which includes the wilderness permit, mule outfitters, and all meals including Sunday night prior to meeting the outfitters on 9/10. For more information, contact Mary at: mlarkin804@sbcglobal.net or 831-345-6963. To reserve your spot, please send a deposit of \$100 to Mary at PO Box 776, Moss Landing, CA 95039.

Sep 17-21: Bob "Dr. Outdoors" Hanson returns to the water to lead us on a 4-night/5-day canoe exploration of the beautiful Upper Missouri River. He will be ably assisted by Mary Larkin-Berlinski as our camp chef and Renee Hamilton to handle registrations and communication. Trip cost is estimated at \$200 per person, which includes canoe rentals and abundant and delicious camp cuisine by Mary. It does not include transportation to Missouri or car shuttles at the river. Sign-ups will begin in January 2018.

Do you have an idea for a CAC outing? We want to expand our offerings to our membership, so we want to hear from you! Please send your ideas and/or wish list to Renee Hamilton at rdmhamilton@gmail.com (415-686-3966) or Ernie Castiaux at ecastiaux@hotmail.com (510-909-3301). See you in the great outdoors.

Renee Hamilton, Outings Committee Co-Chair

ECHO SUMMIT TRAIL WORKDAY A CLEARING SUCCESS

"Absolutely Terrific!" replied the US Forest Service representative when asked her opinion of the Echo Lakes area workday sponsored by the CAC. Members of the CAC, the Tahoe Rim Trail Association, and the Pacific Crest Trail Association met at Echo Summit Lodge and worked under the supervision of the Forest Service.

About 30 workers put in a full day's work on September 9 to maintain and improve the heavily-used trail running from Johnson Pass Road in the south, then north through the woods, and on to the lakeside trail ending near upper Echo Lake.

Volunteers completed a four-year effort to finish rerouting the PCT/ TRT across the upper parking lot at Echo Lake. New steps descending from the parking lot were located in a more visible spot. The project required quarrying, cutting, and transporting large stones from the Snow Park to Echo Lake over several years. The estimated total of five tons of boulders means workers lifted 50 tons -- accomplished by human power alone.

Bushes on both sides of the heavily trafficked trail above the Lake persistently overtake the pathway (ouch! those silver thorns are sharp) and a crew aggressively cut back the overgrowth, a job that needs attention at least once a year.

The trail from Johnson Pass Road to the parking lot also got a much needed makeover. It is now wider and easier to travel, with hikers not having to constantly navigate obstacles and trip hazards. People passing on the trail enthusiastically praised and appreciated our volunteer efforts.

Hosts **Hannah Dunton** and **Dianne** and **Jerry Schweickert** made this work party a fun event, continuing the tradition started by **Tom Coleman** over 22 years ago. The Echo Summit Lodge Trustees graciously allowed free use of the facilities and meals for members and guests. All in all, it was a great selling point for prospective new members who enjoyed all that Echo Summit Lodge has to offer.

See photo on page 7.

Jerry Schweickert, Event Coordinator

ECHO SUMMIT LODGE HOST SCHEDULE

To make reservations for a session, contact the host listed as early as possible. A deposit (minimum \$15 per person/day) is required to hold a reservation. Private Events are not available to the general CAC membership. Other sessions below are either general hosted events or hosted events with a special theme as described. Contact the host for details.

Phone **Cindy Toran** 707-321-3262 anytime up to 9 PM or e-mail to cktoran@gmail.com.
Echo Lodge Telephone: 530-659-7274

Echo Summit Lodge has a fresh supply of firewood in the basement to keep our lodge toasty warm; snow shovels are ready for action and all was spiffed by our awesome group of CAC volunteers at the Fall Work Party! We have Hosts, trained and ready to take your reservations; contact them while they still have room available ... and, enjoy winter in the Sierra Nevada! Let there be snow!

Winter/Spring Hosts: The Echo calendar still has a couple of prime February weekends and plenty of mid-week spots open, marked as **Available for Trained Hosts** in the schedule below. Hosted events get first priority, but private events are also available mid-week January through March, and any time from April through June. Send an e-mail to let me know your preferred times. I will do my best to accommodate your requests.

Sincerely, Cindy

Echo Lodge Trustees' Meeting Wednesday, November 8th, 5:30 pm, by teleconference. Contact Cindy if you would like to attend.

ECHO SUMMIT TRAIL WORKDAY

Just as rain started to fall at the end of the day, a happy trail crew celebrated completion of the stone steps below the upper Echo Lake parking lot. From left, Jerry Heitzler, Nick Wiswell, Jim Crompton, Clay Grubb, Don Bailey, and Hannah Dunton. Photo by Sandy Borden.



ECHO SUMMIT LODGE FALL/WINTER SCHEDULE

NOV 3-5 FRI-SUN	HOST APPRECIATION AND TRAINING	JAN 23-28 TUES-SUN	HOSTED EVENT
Cindy Toran cktoran@gmail.com	707-321-3262	Mary Larkin-Berlinski P.O. Box 776, Moss Landing, CA 95039 mlarkin804@sbcglobal.net	831-345-6963
NOV 9-13 THURS-MON	HOSTED EVENT	JAN 28-FEB 2 SUN-FRI	AVAILABLE FOR TRAINED HOSTS
Cindy Toran 932 Ripley Street, Santa Rosa CA 95401 cktoran@gmail.com	707-321-3262	FEB 2-4 FRI-SUN	CAC LEADERSHIP SNOW WKND
NOV 22-26 WED-SUN	HAPPY THANKSGIVING POTLUCK COOP MEALS	Jay Gustafson and Mary Cosgrove 4024 Ash Street, Mill Valley, CA 94941 jaygustafson@yahoo.com	415 381-7261
Alana Koch PO Box 1838, Sausalito, CA 94966 alanamkoch@gmail.com	415- 331-7246	FEB 4-8 SUN-THURS	PRIVATE EVENT
DEC 15-17 FRI-SUN	PRIVATE EVENT	Dave Chalk chalk@sonic.net	707-539-8847
Craig Anderson Cranders1@gmail.com	928-607-3608	FEB 8-12 THURS-MON	HOSTED EVENT
DEC 21-26 THURS-TUES	HOLIDAY CHEER HERE	Shelly Navine and Bob Henry 1286 Hurlbut Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472 clyde33301@comcast.net	707 829-3728
Wine And Funny Hats, COOP Meals Vicki Olds 534 6th Avenue, San Francisco CA 94118 volds@studiorflex.com	415-221-2830	FEB 12-FEB 19 (INCL. PRESIDENTS' WKND)	AVAILABLE FOR TRAINED HOSTS
DEC 26-28 TUES-THURS	AVAILABLE FOR TRAINED HOSTS	FEB 19-23 MON-FRI	KIDS AND GRANDKIDS SKI WK
DEC 28-JAN 1 THURS-MON	HAPPY NEW YEAR	Kathy and Bill Faherty 36 Cliffwood Place, Santa Rosa, CA 95409 kfaherty@mac.com	707-539-7081
Margaret and Rick Jacobson 1354 Ridley Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 mgiacobson66@gmail.com	707-548-5740	FEB 23-MAR 2 (INCL. A WKND)	AVAILABLE FOR TRAINED HOSTS
JAN 1-4, 2018 MON-THURS	HOSTED EVENT	MAR 2-4 FRI-SUN	FAMILY SNOW WKND COOP MEALS
Sylvie Shawn 4626 Geranium Place, Oakland, CA 94619 slangbehn@gmail.com	707-756-2638	Craig Anderson 9635 Appalachian Drive, Sacramento CA 95827 Cranders1@gmail.com	928-607-3608
JAN 4-7 THURS-SUN	FAMILY SKI WKND- COOP MEALS	MAR 4-6 SUN-TUES	AVAILABLE FOR TRAINED HOSTS
Craig Anderson 9635 Appalachian Dr, Sacramento, CA 95827 Cranders1@gmail.com	928-607-3608	MAR 6-11 TUES-SUN	WINTER ALPINE RETREAT
JAN 7-12 SUN-FRI	AVAILABLE FOR TRAINED HOSTS	Mary Larkin-Berlinski P.O. Box 776, Moss Landing, CA 95039 mlarkin804@sbcglobal.net	831-345-6963
JAN 12-15 FRI-MON	MLK WEEKEND	MAR 11-15 SUN-THURS	AVAILABLE FOR TRAINED HOSTS
Tawny and Steven High 1429 Badovinac Drive, Roseville, CA 95747 tawnyhigh@gmail.com	916-759-2913	MAR 15-18 THURS-SUN	HOSTED EVENT
JAN 15-19 TUES-FRI	AVAILABLE FOR TRAINED HOSTS	Karen and Jerry Wagner 2622 Wawona Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95405 oldmawagner@gmail.com	707-528-8197
JAN 19-21 FRI-SUN	FAMILY SKI WEEKEND	MAR 18-23 SUN-FRI	AVAILABLE FOR TRAINED HOSTS
Hunter Merritt 1217 El Encanto Way, Sacramento, CA 95831 merritt.hunter@gmail.com	916-873-6253	MAR 23-26 FRI-MON	YOUNG FAMILIES SKI AND SNOW PLAY
JAN 21-23 SUN-TUES	AVAILABLE FOR TRAINED HOSTS	Donata Mikulik 2037 West Hearn, Santa Rosa, CA 95407 donatabo@hotmail.com	707 591-3129

*** Watch for updates in future issues of Trails! ***

TRAILS

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on the TRAILS...

Robert Freinkel led a group of hikers on a little known trail to the Music Stand. In the late 1950's, according to Michael Hanrahan's *A Visitor's Guide to Mount Tamalpais and Muir Woods*, trailbuilder Ben Schmidt placed a music stand in a hidden area. Although not marked on most maps, hikers who manage to find the site often leave music-related memorabilia such as wind-chimes or other assorted instruments. The site is also a popular Geocache spot.

Photo Credit: Lenora Young, August 27, 2017

