

Nordic Gazette July - August 2010



<http://www.sfvikingskiclub.org>

Calendar

Saturday – Sunday, July 3-4

Work party & meeting at VSC Cabin

Saturday – Sunday, July 24- 25

Work party duct work at the cabin. Please do not plan on using the cabin this weekend

Wednesday, Aug 4 –

8PM General meeting at OPYC

7PM Board meeting at OPYC

Saturday, Aug 21

Work Party at VSC Cabin & possible drinks with PSC

Sep TBD –

Picnic Meeting at Beresford Park

Wednesday, Oct 6 –

8PM General meeting at OPYC

7PM Board meeting at OPYC

Saturday – Sunday, Oct 16 -17

Final work party at VSC Cabin

President: Paul Thompson

Vice President/Membership: Elanie Honjas (returning)

Treasurer: Linda Kahrau (returning)

Secretary: Bill Kahrau (returning)

Gazette: John Fox (returning)

Reservations: Margaret Glomstad (returning)

Newly Elected Board Members:

Charles Gresl

Mike Masek

John Nitenson

Carol Reed (2nd term)

Returning Board Members:

Betty Avila

Marg Pitkin

Melissa Targgart

Many thanks to Board members Alice Masek and Warren Stewart. It was great serving with you. A special thanks to Margaret Glomstad for continuing as Reservations Chair.

Once again, we had an excellent Installation dinner and meeting at Nick's Rockaway Beach, although turnout was rather less than it has been. Thanks, Jan Neilsen, for organizing it again.

Fellow Vikings,

Welcome to summer at last. I hope you all had a good ski season, I certainly did, and am looking forward to the next. As your new President, I must say that I have enjoyed being a member for the last fifteen years or so, I think we have a great club. As you may know we had our elections on May 5.

Welcome to our new Board members. The results were:

Work Parties are upon us again. The July monthly meeting will be at the cabin as usual, and be combined with our first general work party. There is painting to be done, some rusty nails to pull from the siding, and other maintenance tasks. I expect we shall have a BBQ Saturday afternoon, followed (or interrupted) by our monthly meeting. Just think, members need three meetings per year plus one work party (minimum) to stay active, here you get two commitments for the price of one!

Seriously, though, we do want everyone to come to a lot more than three meetings! The remainder of the organized work parties will be promulgated soon. Again there will be a trail-building party organized by Mike Masek later in the season, for the Truckee Donner Land Trust. This has been a great contribution from our club to the community. Learn about the Trust at www.tdlandtrust.org Last year this was a split event, with about half the work party going trail building, and the other half working on the cabin. See- multiple choice!

Remember, the cabin is year-round, it's a great economical place to spend a few days: country walks, grand views, lots to see. However, best NOT to plan on going there July 24-25th; Bill Kahrau, Larry and myself will be installing new ducting into the furnace closet, this will necessitate interruption of gas and hot water, plus disruption at the entrances to both bathrooms from the party room.

The 2010 - 2011 roster will be coming out shortly. IT IS IMPORTANT that each of you , YES YOU, check your entry and forward all changes to Elaine Honjas- ehonjas@aol.com . Then we can have a new 2010-2011 correct roster (yes, I know I still have my work phone in there even though I retired fully last June)

A few people have still not paid their annual dues. Please send them immediately to Elaine. Thanks.

Have a good summer
Paul Thompson

Summer Work Parties

The schedule for this summer's work parties is currently scheduled as follows:

July 3 Work party and meeting at the club.

July 24/25 Specialized work party for combustion air project. Please do not plan on using the cabin this weekend. For more info, contact Paul Thompson.

August 21 Work party and possible drinks/potluck with PSC.

September trail building. This will be the third or fourth weekend in Sept. depending on Donner Lake Rim Trail's schedule.

Oct. 16/17 Tentative schedule for the final cabin clean up.

Adventures in Europe

As some of you know, Amber Mortensen has taken a leave of absence from work to live in Paris and travel for three months. She is enrolled in a French language school to relearn French which she took in high school. She promised to call us on Skype as soon as she arrived at her apartment, but we didn't receive any word for 20 hours after her expected arrival in Paris. Lynn was all but frantic as to what happened to her, but Carl was non concerned and was sure it was a technological glitch. He was right. She tried and tried to get on line to call us until she went to bed exhausted. The next morning she started scouting about and found that the router has been unplugged. Lynn was soooo relieved.

She had a few problems finding out how to get a monthly pass on the metro as metro stations won't accept U.S. credit cards unless you go to the information kiosk. At one station she was transferring to the pink train, one of which had just pulled out when she arrived at the platform. The next trains were green. She waited. More green trains. Finally she was the only person at the station. An employee helped her find the right train by taking her to the track that ran in the *opposite* direction (good thing she missed that other pink train). Turns out he was the driver of the train she needed. Later she learned that during rush hour, trains aren't necessarily the color indicated on the metro map. When trains are in short supply on a given route, any color will do and one needs to look at the front of the train to see what the last stop is. In spite of a little homesickness for things familiar, Amber is gradually making friends and learning to explore on her own.

What follows are some excerpts from her blog:

<http://amberseuropeanadventure.blogspot.com/2010/05/daily-life-and-daily-baguette.html>

This morning, however, just as I was starting to feel proud of myself for adapting to my new environment and routine so quickly, I was reminded of just how out of place I am. I bought a bottle of lotion when I arrived, and this morning I noticed that it doesn't seem to be moisturizing particularly

well - in fact, quite the opposite. It also seems to have a weird consistency when I put it on, but I figured that must just be because I don't usually use Dove lotion. However, a quick look at the ingredient list gave me a slight "wait a minute..." moment, and then a quick check on Google translator confirmed my suspicion... for the last three mornings, I've taken a shower, dried off, then diligently slathered myself with Dove liquid "crème hydratante" SOAP.

Sacré Coeur is beautiful but mobbed with tourists, panhandlers, street performers, and impromptu souvenir salesmen. I followed the river of tourists into the church itself (it's free, so that's always an attraction worth visiting!), and immediately the noise outside subsided, replaced by low whispers. The river of tourists files up the left side of the sanctuary, behind the main altar, and down the right side to the exit. I broke ranks when I realized that there was almost no one sitting in the pews in the center of the church, but that they were open for people to use. I chose a spot right under the center of the dome. I sat there for 30 minutes or so, admiring the gold-gilded altar, the huge painting of Jesus behind the altar, and the dome with its four enormous angels looking down onto the congregation. From the perspective of the relatively uncrowded pews, it really does seem like a river of people, quietly flowing by on either side of the church. Despite the number of people, it was quiet and calm, especially in comparison to the "million ways to part with your money" buzz just outside the door. Once back outside, I settled down in the lawn and people watched for a bit before making my way back to the Metro.

Meal of the Moment: lunch at Autour d'un Verre, a small and nondescript restaurant (so nondescript that we walked right past it and had to double-back) with a front door that only opens about a third of the way before getting stuck on the tile floor, and a small dining room with plain tables and chairs. The food however, was fabulous. Mine consisted of filet de julienne, which was a white fish poached in a wonderfully light but buttery sauce and topped with toasted almonds, served with cauliflower (which I often find boring but this version melted in your mouth) and braised leeks. For dessert, crumble aux pommes, which was as fabulous as apple cobbler always is. Really, you can't go wrong with apple cobbler. The meal was made all the better by the

restaurant's resident housekeeper, an Aussie shepherd whose self-proclaimed job was to clean the floors under each table, and occasionally ask (very politely) if he could clean your plate as well.

Carl and Lynn Mortensen

Remembering Ruth Anderson

Family and friends are gathering to celebrate the life of Ruth Anderson, long time Viking Ski Club member, who passed away in April. Please join her family on Sunday, August 8th from 2:00pm – 5:00pm at the Highlands Recreation Center, 1851 Lexington Avenue, San Mateo to share your memories and reminisce about Ruth.

Important Information and Reminders

- Please keep Elaine Honjas 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 from Elaine Honjas for \$2. The stickers must be displayed in your vehicle when parked at the cabin.
- Please remember that reservations are required for cabin stays year round.

Cabin Reservations

PLEASE do not call before 7 a.m. (yes, it has been done) or after 8:30 p.m. You may also email Monday at mglomstad@comcast.net.

Editor's Note:

It's the beginning of an incredible summer and yet, we're already preparing for the ski season. Viking's never change!

Wishing you and your families all the best in 2010!
John

San Francisco Viking Ski Club Officers - 2010/2011

President: Paul Thompson

Vice-President: Elaine Honjas

Recording Secretary: Bill Kahrau

Treasurer: Linda Kahrau

Corresponding Secretary/Nordic Gazette

Editor: John Fox

Cabin Reservations: Margaret Glomstad

mglomstad@comcast.net

Cabin Chair: Mike Masek/Warrant Stewart

Board Members:

Betty Avila

Charles Gresl

Mike Masek

John Nitenson

Marge Pitkin

Carol Reed

Melissa Targgart

Info

vikinginfo@prodigy.net

Cabin

530-426-1231

Web Site: <http://www.sfvikingskiclub.org>

Club Meetings are held at 8:00 PM on the first Wednesday of every month at the Oyster Point Yacht Club in South San Francisco, unless otherwise noted in the Gazette.

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 John Fox at

jtfoxvsc@google.com

The Club Roster is maintained by Elaine Honjas.

Please send your email address as well as contact updates to: ehonjas@aol.com and the Viking

Gazette editor jtfoxvsc@gmail.com.

Directions to the VSC Monthly Meeting:

From Hwy 101 in South San Francisco, take the Oyster Point Blvd. exit. Go east on Oyster Point Blvd, cross the railroad tracks and to Marina Blvd. Go right on Marina Blvd, past an entrance kiosk and almost to the end. There is a sign that says "Oyster Point Yacht Club." Park in the parking lot on the left, just past the front door.

Postmaster:

Please return undeliverable mail to:

SAN FRANCISCO VIKING SKI CLUB

c/o John Fox

PO # 2576

WALNUT CREEK CA 94587