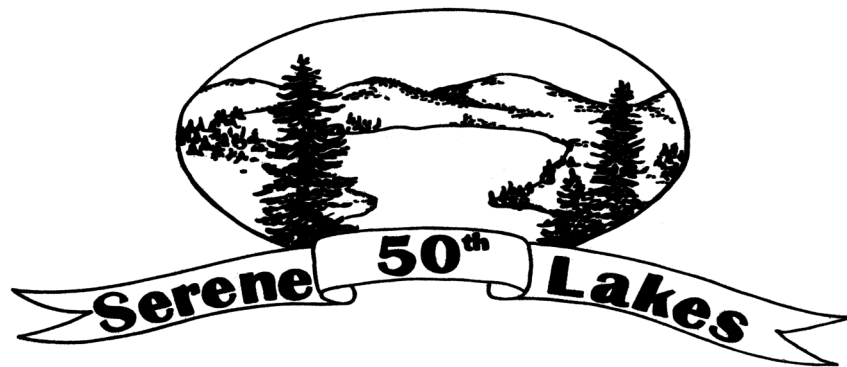


**Summer 2015**

## Serene Lakes Property Owner's Association



### 50 Years of Newsletters

SLPOA was started 50 years ago to give homeowners a voice in dealing with Sierra Lakes Corporation (later called Serene Lakes Club) that was developing a new mountain community around three lakes known as Ice Lakes. Luckily, for us today, the people who started SLPOA wanted to communicate with the community so they started a newsletter. Also luckily for us, Margie Powell took the time to gather all of these newsletters and put them on CD's. Again lucky for us, Dick Simpson took the time to put all fifty years of newsletter up on our website.

In honor of our 50<sup>th</sup> An-

niversary, I thought that it would be interesting to find out when we had the first annual meeting and BBQ (1965), when we had the first Serene Lakes Days (1968), the first Cabin Tour (again in 1968), etc. So I perused the old newsletters and captured some of the key events in our association's history. Some of the problems have gone away like winter on-street parking and some have stayed the same such as issues with dogs off leash and dog poop.

Read through these events of the past 50 years and remember the diligent people who recorded the happen-

ings in our small community. The early newsletter editors were Dick Bartholomew (1965), Arlene Grainer (1966), Genevieve Zimmerman (1968), Corrine Undercoffer (1978), Margie Powell (1982), Bill Oudegeest (1987), Kathy Neuburger (2008), and Nancy McMillan (2010). The newsletter is the glue that keeps our small community together.

On the back of this special newsletter edition, is a list of all the SLPOA presidents. If you see them over this summer for our big celebration, please tell them thank you for volunteering their time for the good of Serene Lakes.

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## 1965-1966

The Treasurer reported that as of the meeting date there were 55 paid memberships (Eight more have been added since that time.)

The County recommends that all windows within 50 feet of a road be shuttered, or suffer the fate of one of our members who discovered his kitchen full of snow. The snow plows throw the snow a maximum of fifty feet and windows within that range will suffer. Also the County is not responsible for windows broken in this manner.

### REPORT FROM SERENE LAKES CLUB

Nevada County has committed itself to paving the last section of County road provided the SVH Corp. assist engineering problems and in obtaining of rights-of-way.

Repairs and improvements to the water and sewer systems are being undertaken

The Water District is contracting for a hydrologist to survey the club property with the view of the complete development of water resources

Camping and trailer facilities will be fully developed. The rope tow is being moved to the new ski hill which is just south of the meadow on the county road.

There will be no golf course.

A note to remind you that dues are now payable for 1967. Please send your check for \$5.00 in now

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## 1967-1968

### REPORT FROM SERENE LAKES CLUB

The horse stables have been moved to the meadow area east of the County road. A recreation area will replace the old stables area. Tennis and handball courts are being considered. For safety reasons horses are no longer permitted on the County roads.

Serene Lakes Days will take place August 9, 10, and 11. The program will be similar to last year except more events will take place on Sunday. The Club is also planning a luau for later in the summer, date to be announced soon.

### SERENE LAKES' FIRST CABIN TOUR

For those property owners who have bought lots but not yet put up a cabin, SLPOA will sponsor a Cabin Tour from 10 A.M. to 12 noon on September 1st. Ten cabins will be open which present a variety of approaches to building snow-country cabins. Cabin tourists will be able to ask questions as to what owners might do differently, what they are most pleased with, etc. A map locating the cabins will be on the back of each ticket, which may be purchased for a 50 cent donation per person at any of the cabins on tour. Money raised at this event will go toward constructing a boat-launching ramp and playground on the Water District property at the end of the upper lake.

### CHICKEN HOLDS OUT

Over 200 persons attended SLPOA's annual meeting September 1st, and 540 dinners were served at the BBQ following it. At the First Annual Cabin Tour held in the morning, 182 tickets were sold with a total of \$91 taken in for the SLPOA treasury.

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## 1969

### WINTER OF 1968-69

Just before "going to press" (Thursday, January 30th), we called Mr. Fisher for his most current analysis of the snow situation. At Serene Lakes there are banks of snow up to 25 feet, 4-5 feet of new snow, and only the main road is

open. It is snowing presently, a new storm is forecast for the weekend, and the highway conditions are uncertain. Four inches of snow fell overnight at Auburn. Mr. Fisher feels that with the additional burden of Tahoe being snowed in, they may be unable to do anything but keep the main

County road open and will have to leave the remaining roads snowed in. One of the problems is that the banks are so high the equipment cannot blow the snow over.

## 1970-71

### SERENE LAKES CLUB ACTIVITIES

The Club Luau will be held July 18th, and Serene Lakes Days on August 7th, 8th, and 9th. Bingo will be played every Saturday night, and, during the summer, also on Wednesday nights. Color TV is now installed in the Club lounge. When the snow has melted, outside facilities will be completed. The Club bar will open again for full service on June 1st, and a cocktail hour from 4:30 to 5:30 will feature drinks for 50 cents.

### WATER DISTRICT DEVELOPMENTS

Our Water District has entered into an agreement with Donner Summit P.U.D. to export our sewage to that area. This was possible as a result of the major water and sewer system improvements now being undertaken by Donner, all of which are being financed with the aid of a 70 per cent Federal grant. This will provide a long range solution to our sewage problem and will be much less costly than going it alone.

### WHERE LIGHTNING STRIKES

On a weekday afternoon in late August lightning struck a dead tree on the west side of Lake Serena, and immediately flames flared up. Within minutes the sound of timber crackling as it burned could be heard, even across the lake. Fortunately, the Bill Greens, whose cabin adjoined the vacant land on which the fire began, were in their cabin and saw the fire as it started. Within a short time Tom Egan with the water district's pumper and the Forest Service were at the scene, and in about an hour and a half the fire was out.

## 1972-73

### ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Bill Enkeboll, Chairman, and his architectural review committee consisting of Bill Anderson and Gene Walton, request that persons planning to build this summer should submit their plans to SLPOA as early as possible, and the architectural review committee will check them for compliance with subdivision covenants and deed restrictions. Plans also must be submitted to the Placer County building inspection department, which reviews for compliance with the County code.

### SERENE LAKES DAYS

August 11th, 12th, and 13th. Plans include a Teen Dance at 8:30 P.M., August 11th, a Barbecue at 5 P.M. on the 12th, and a Brunch from 9 to 11 A.M. on the 13th. Among the competitive events will be horseshoes, soft ball, boat races, an egg toss, a queen selection, and a "brother of the brush" competition.

### SNACK SHACK

If you've been around much this summer, you don't need to be told about Jeannie's Shack at the Beach under the Lodge deck. Open from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M., this is run by Jeanne Art, SLPOA member, whose accent would mislead you to think she should stick to southern fried chicken and corn pone. Instead, she's serving up some great tacos – also chiliburgers, hamburgers,

## 1974-75

In the ten year history of SLPOA this may turn out to be one of its most significant and historic meetings. The deterioration of the clubhouse to a repugnant situation resulting in its closure; the threatening and near-arrest of beach users, people who bought property with the understanding that they and their guests were entitled to such; the severe cut in snow

removal services to take place this winter; the delinquent taxes of the developer and the failure of the Water District's request for an essential tax increase, leaving cabin owners faced with a drastic increase in service fee in the near future - these are among the reasons why SLPOA urgently solicits your membership for the next year and your active support and participation in any way your time may permit.

### SAVE OUR BEACH

Don Scoble, Chairman of S.O.B., prepared the following current statement: "The SAVE OUR BEACH committee met for its fourth consecutive meeting on August 10th. The major topic under consideration with Attorney Steven Lieberman was the matter of access to the beach adjacent to the clubhouse. Our attorney reported that he is in active negotiations to clarify the rights of all Serene Lakes property owners with respect to access to the beach.

## 1976

### OUR PLACE IN THE SUN AND ON THE SAND

Jackie Temple is working with Ray Tewell on plans for developing lot 1 into a useable beach and recreation area. SLPOA can lease the lot for \$1.00 a year, but volunteers are needed for any number of jobs and supplying of materials. We need sand, grading equipment, cement blocks for a barbecue, chemical toilets, and lots of elbow grease. Provision must also be made for garbage, insurance, and safety because of the fairly steep drop.

### JULY 4TH PARADE

The July 3d parade organized hastily by Serene Lakers returning inspired from the Truckee parade. With only a few hours of work the group carried off a splendid march in late afternoon, rising loftily above such limitations as marching to the tune of bagpipes.

## 1976 (continued)

### DONNER SUMMIT AREA ASSOCIATION

The organization, formed this summer has over 150 members and meets regularly the first Tuesday of each month. Committees are being set up to deal with a wide range of concerns including Forest Service developments, the effect on the area of the Pacific Crest Trail, the Overall Economic Development Program, and in general anything that will promote the health, economically and physically, of the Summit area. Serene Lakes property owners have become involved, and your membership at \$10 is encouraged. Rudy Knudsen of Serene Lakes is President.

## 1977

### SKATE SHARPENER NEEDED FOR SERENE LAKES

Not all was lost recreation-wise over the holidays. This was one of those years when good ice skating was possible, and a number of people took advantage of it around the lodge. As many as 50 skaters were out at a time - a beautiful sight to

see. Too bad the meteorologists have such a poor batting average. In years like this we could promote the pleasures of a skating rink. Skating enthusiasts could organize a few races and figure skating contests - a hurry-up winter time Serene Lakes days.

### SODA SPRINGS RESOURCES EXPANDING

A cheese shop has opened on the Soda Springs left-hand corner turning into Serene Lakes, supplying home-made bread, sandwiches, and a variety of cheeses. As of April 1st Lyla and Oren Horst became the owners of Donner Trail grocery store and trailer park. Fresh meat and produce will come in 2 to 3 times a week. As of June 5th the store will be open from 8 A.M. to 9 P.M. Sunday through Thursday. Friday and Saturday hours will be from 8 A.M. to 10 P.M.

### ROYAL SERENE LAKES NON-YACHT CLUB

A motley but highly colorful crew of sailors of all classes and ages on Saturday afternoon, July 3d, staged what may have been the Bicentennial's most curious flotilla of boats and races, taking off from "Morgan's Landing." A "loose" group, perhaps an understatement, this Club is headed by non-Commodore Harold Fiosne, has no dues, no meetings, and is open to anyone who is willing to race for non-prizes vessel.

### RESCUE AT BLACKWALL

Two Serene Lakes residents, Steve Lieberman and Steve Beucus, were among six volunteer firemen who made an early morning rescue of two young Grass Valley men from Blackwall on the eastern side of Donner Summit on September 27th. The climbers had reached the three-quarter mark when it became dark, so they decided to spend the night, not realizing how cold it was. Their shouts, heard by Norm and Betsy Wilson, sent the Donner Summit Volunteer Fire Department's rock rescue team on its way to where they were suspended about 250 feet from the bottom of the cliff, a little over 150 feet from the top.

### WHY DOES LAKE VAN NORDEN LOOK THAT WAY?

PG&E has scheduled hearings on November 18th in regard to repair of the dam. The lake was drained in August because PG&E wanted to work on it to prevent a small amount of leakage around the dam, which was built in 1908, earthen filled. However the State Division of Dams wanted the work to go to bedrock 40 feet below soil, which may turn out to be too expensive. The lake probably will be unfilled next summer and might revert to meadow.

### PERSONALIZED SNOW REMOVAL SERVICE AVAILABLE

Michael McClintock, 12 year old son of Ray and Ann McClintock, top of Kilborn Drive, is ready and willing to shovel a path into your cabin for you this winter. He quotes an "average" price for the job at \$3.00, barring unusual conditions. You should call him three days ahead.

## 1978

### SERENE LAKES DAYS AND SQUARE DANCE

Our annual Serene Lakes Days chaired by Larry Undercoffer with many helpful assistants, was a huge success: A grand time was had by all. The square dance, chaired by Ernie Holmer, had at the height of the evening, 12 squares. That's 96 folks rompin' and stompin' on the deck. Many thanks to the chairmen and all their helpers, and to all of you for your support. And to all you people who missed it - we hope to see you next year.

### CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

We invited the owners of Royal Gorge Ski Touring to speak on their efforts to solve our parking problems with the cross country skiers. Royal Gorge has purchased a snow blower like the County blower, and a snow plow. This year, Royal Gorge will plow the same pattern in Units 5&6 as the County did last year to provide parking for any one at no charge. They have also leased portions of the Soda Springs Ski Hill parking lots on both sides of the road for their students and beginners at their Van Norden site. All local residents of the

### SERENE LAKES BUILDING BOOM

The Architectural Review Committee has, in the last two years, reviewed 54 sets of plans, and with so much going on, Serene Lakes hasn't been so Serene!

## 1979

### DEVELOPMENT BOOM?

Nevis Industries (our new developers) have submitted to our Water Board and the Placer Co. Planning Department plans for a 288 lot development East of Baker Ranch-Soda Springs Road starting where the stables used to be (by the meadow), going down toward the Lodge and back over the hill. In addition to home sites is a proposed ski lift and day lodge! There are no plans for an additional or alternate egress to Serene Lakes. If you have any thoughts on this proposal please contact the Placer County Planning Department in Auburn.

### CABLE T.V.

Just when most of the kinks have been ironed out of the cable TV system, more equipment has been stolen from the shed on top of Rowton Peak. It was also discovered that someone was shooting at the shed and the lock on the door with a 22 rifle. 4-wheel drive tire tracks and cartridges from the rifle were found and the police are investigating the matter. Cable T.V. of Lake Tahoe stated that these thefts and acts of vandalism

### UNSUNG HEROS

Every community has a few people who see things that need to be done and quietly go ahead and do them. We all launch our boats and use the dock at the end of Sierra Drive. That dock needs repairs almost every year, and the Russell Family on Donner Drive have taken it upon themselves to make the necessary repairs. Also, our thanks to Ann McClintock and her children for cleaning up Lot #1 at the beginning of summer. They distributed the sand and picked up all the broken glass and discarded cans. Our hats are off to these two fine families.

## 1980

From the Santa Rosa Press Democrat:  
"Contamination warnings for the Serene Lakes near Donner Pass in the Sierra have been posted by Placer County health authorities. Health Director Martin Winston said drinking water was contaminated by sewage that was washed by rain into the lakes from a spill at a lift station. The spill occurred in January and an outbreak of gastroenteritis in the area led officials to have the water sampled. Laboratory tests confirmed the contamination and residents were advised to use only bottled water or boil lake water before ingesting it."

### GARAGES IN SERENE LAKES

To date there are two garages and one under construction. Two of these garages were granted a variance from the 30ft. setback in order to build a garage "within 10 ft. from the front property line. Two more requests for a 10 ft. setback variance have been turned down by the County Planning Commission.

### SODA SKI HILL OVERPASS

As you can plainly see, there is no overpass over the Baker Ranch-Soda Springs Road. Since the overpass was a definite stipulation to the Ski Hills use permit (issued by Nevada County), and the Ski Hill is just as plainly being used, the logical question arises - What happened? How about it Nevada County?

HIGHWAY 40 SNOW REMOVAL

Beginning with the 1982-83 season, Cal-Trans will no longer plow Old Highway 40 from the I-80 interchange to the Donner Ski Ranch. Public meetings will be held for input from the Summit Area. SLPOA will have a representative at all of these meetings, and you will be kept informed, to be sure! Under discussion at this time are two financing methods: Forming a Joint Special District for sharing costs equitable to both Placer and Nevada County

THE LITTLE ENGINE THAT COULD (AND DID)

At Noon on Wednesday, April 29, two of the last huge steam powered locomotives chugged their way into Truckee, climbed the summit, and passed through Soda Springs on their way to Old Sacramento to go on display at the new Railroad Museum. For the 200 or so people, old and young, gathered at the tracks in Soda Springs it was a brief look into the past, and for some of us, brought back memories of our early travels. The cameras were snapping, and the tape recorders whirring. It was quite a scene,.

1981

SIERRA LAKES COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Our new water treatment plant is finished and operating. There will be an open house on Saturday, June 20th from 10:00 A.M. to Noon. At 1:00 P.M. on the same day will be the first of the summer meetings to be held in Serene Lakes. We urge you to attend the Water Board meetings, especially the summer meetings held here. The new facility is located on Lot A at the end of Short Road off of Yuba Drive. By the time you receive this Newsletter, the 'Boil Order' imposed by the State should have been canceled.

WINTER PARKING

As more and more cabins are built we, of course, have more and more cars to park. . Yes, it can be quite a hassle to move your car every day, but this has proven to be an effective means of keeping the roads open during the Winter months.

1982

SNOW

This years snow fall of 611.5 inches is the 2nd highest in recorded history, topped only by the winter of 1952. The snow pack of 138 inches while pretty deep didn't set any record. The storm starting March 27th and running through April 8th dumped 181 inches at the recording station at Norden, and we get about 24 inches more than that. This last storm gave us an additional 181 inches of the white fluffy stuff. We didn't see a plow for a week, and nothing moved! Then everyone had to come up to see, and made the situation almost impossible for the clean-up crews. Those who made it up here in spite of all the warnings couldn't get out because, lo and be-

hold, we got a warm rain Easter weekend and the Yuba River flooded the bridge and made it impassable for almost 2 days. It took about 32 charges of dynamite to free up the ice dam below the bridge so the river could resume its normal flow. .There will be many stories told about the storm of '82 in the years to come. Those of us living here year round spent all our time shoveling, plowing, and moving cars. Some of us couldn't keep ahead of things, and lost driveways and snow tunnels. We even lost some cars. The plowing at its best was pretty terrible, but at the storms highest peak, even the County plows (if they were here) would have bogged down. We were totally isolated for 8 straight days. Most of us had plenty of wood, food and booze, and were comfortable. It really is essential if you have a cabin up here to keep it stocked with enough staples powdered milk, bottled water, candles, fire wood etc. to last at least 2 weeks, and a months supply is ideal. We had some people stuck up here who ran out of food. They alled for emergency rations to be brought in by snowmobile!

1982 (continued)

MORE SNOW

On the lighter side, Stew and Lynn Treon came up on March 27 to spend a week in their cabin, and were to proceed on to So. Shore for their daughters wedding on April 3rd. Like the rest of us, they got snowed in, and, like the rest of

us, kept waiting for the snow plows which never came. Meanwhile, daughter is frantic; Mother and Father are frantic; wedding can't be postponed; bride and groom are at So. Shore; Mom and Dad are stuck in Serene Lakes, and as if that wasn't bad enough, the Bridal gown was also stuck in Serene Lakes with Mom and Dad! A real emergency right?

You bet! Not life and death, but an emergency all the same. We couldn't get them out to Soda where Amtrack was picking up passengers. The groom arranged for a helicopter to pick them up on the lake, but the weather was too chancy. Finally they contacted Norm Saylor who chugged with his blower and guided them out Thursday night April 1st.

## 1983

### SNO-PHONE

A new service to association members is the newly installed message unit and phone which will give you latest road conditions at Serene Lakes. The number is (916) 426-9275. These messages will be kept as up to date as possible, so before leaving home call this number. Bear in mind, however, that road conditions can change from hour to hour, and plan your trip accordingly.

### DONNER SKI RANCH DISCOUNT

Your SLPOA membership card has just become more valuable. Thanks to Norm Sayler you can save \$2.00 on a ski lift ticket by presenting your membership card when you purchase ticket. This offer is good every day except Wednesday.

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## 1984

### PROPANE TANKS

As we have written in previous letters, improperly installed propane tanks create a very dangerous situation in Serene Lakes. Placer County has passed an emergency ordinance regarding propane tanks. One provision of the ordinance requires that tanks must have marker stakes color coded with the propane supplier installed by Oct. 15, 1983. The Donner Summit Fire Department has brought it to our attention that very few tanks in Serene Lakes comply with this requirement.

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## 1985

### SNOW REMOVAL AND PARKING

According to State Vehicle Code, the county has the right to restrict and govern parking regulations in snow areas. Therefore, we must comply with 1) the posted no parking signs on those streets so designated for off-street parking this year, and 2) must still observe the alternate parking days on those streets where parking is still allowed. Those cabins on the no parking streets should contract for snow removal with a contractor having an encroachment permit with county.

### DSPUD MORATORIUM

The sewer hook-up ban was extended on Feb. 8 and will be reviewed again in late Spring. At April meeting Bob Franklin will have latest information from CCWD and the DSPUD Facilities Plan. Water board meeting has been changed from March 14 to March 28.

### SNOWMOBILES

Snowmobiles are not allowed on the lake. As unlicensed vehicles they may be used on private property with consent of the owner. SLCWD has informed the sheriff that the water district does not want snowmobiles on their property and the sheriff will enforce.

**SLPOA membership**, this year, reached 403. You receive many benefits for your \$25, beginning with the free Labor Day Barbeque.

### SNOW TUNNELS

Just a reminder that Placer County requires that snow tunnels must be removed by the first part of June. Because of the heavy snows last year the county did not enforce this ordinance. They have advised us that they will vigorously enforce the ordinance this year.

### CONGRATULATIONS

A belated congratulations to Biathlete, Lyle Nelson, a competitor in the Winter Olympics, who recorded the top time for an American in the 20-K biathlon. It was such a surprise to see his picture in the Jan. 30, issue of TIME and even a mention of Serene Lakes. Did you know that our own Norm Sayler carried the Olympic torch in Squaw Valley during the 1960 Olympics?

### A FISH STORY

Yes, Virginia, there are still trout in Serene Lakes. Just ask Paul Zarubin, who, from the boat dock, reeled in a 20 incher weighing 4 pounds. Paul lost him the first time as his net was too small to land him (her?). Same fish was caught on second cast. Bait used is a closely guarded secret.

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### T-SHIRTS AND HATS

If you liked our hats—you'll love our T-shirts. Same color, blue with red lettering, but a size for everyone; from Teddy bear to Santa Claus. Don't feel left out. Shirts and hats will be available on cabin tour and at barbeque and meeting. Price for shirts is \$6, hats are \$4.

### POTLUCK

Come to the February meeting and plan to stay for dinner. Bring your drinks and a dish of some kind – casserole, salad or dessert. It's a nice way to meet new people, or a chance to see old friends.

### CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

if you haven't been out Pahatsi to see Royal Gorge's new trail-head building, do so, it is beautiful. Royal Gorge will host the U.S. Ski Association Cross-country Championships in March of 1986.

## 1986

### SMUD TRANSMISSION LINE

Sacramento Municipal Utility District is proposing a high voltage transmission line along the 1-80 corridor which would cut a swath 1000 feet wide through the north portion of Serene Lakes. Your board has taken a position to oppose this route which runs about 500 feet on either side of Pahatsi Rd. Individual letters from property owners would also be helpful.

### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Our lakes, originally called Ice Lakes, referred to the 19th century harvest of ice done here. I guess the Southern California developers who sub-divided this area thought the name Ice Lakes too foreboding, so gave sweeter sounding names to our two lakes. **Serena**; evening dew; serenade

**Dulzura** (quality of dulce); sweet, honeyed, gentle, soft, meek & mild, fresh (of water), pleasant, unsalty, agreeable

## 1987

### SIERRA LAKES COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

A contract for 1987 sewer construction and repair (to enlarge the main line to the treatment plant and repair sewers where needed) was awarded. Bonds were sold to cover our share of this project and of the recent enlargement of the sewage treatment plant, which is owned and operated by the Donner Summit Public Utility District (DSPUD), but serves both areas. In response to a contractual dispute between the two districts, SLCWD brought suit against DSPUD to protect its rights. The merits of this suit were hotly debated.

### SLPOA MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

To finance a more active organization, including Lot 1 improvements, dues were raised to \$50 a year, subject to ratification by the membership. Subsequently, it was decided that the dues increase should only apply to cabin owners, and so it was decided to recommend to the membership a change in the bylaws to create two classes of members; cabin owner members, and lot owner members, with annual dues of \$50 and \$25, respectively. Creation of supplementary membership in cabins with more than one owner or owner-couple, and non-voting "Friends of SLPOA" was also discussed.

### RENT A MOVIE!

At last, no more drives back to Truckee to return those movies we enjoyed on snowy week-ends. We now have our own video rental right here in Soda Springs, on the corner of Soda Springs Road. Ken and Cherry Crawford are the proud owners. They have a good inventory of recent releases, some of the most popular rentals being BACK TO SCHOOL, STAND BY ME, SHORT CIRCUIT, and for you horror film buffs, DEADLY FRIEND. And yes, they do have TOP GUN. Use the free coupon with their ad and come in and get acquainted.

## 1988

### GIANT YARD SALE

Donations are needed for our fund raising sale on Lot 1 on August 6. Snow equipment and clothes, kitchen gadgets, books, games etc. are good sellers. Clean out those cupboards and closets and donate to SLPOA Lot 1 fund. Bring to Lot 1 on August 6.

**DID YOU KNOW** that it took 100 tons of sand to make our beautiful beach? Thanks to Norm Saylor, B.J. Biornestad, and Ken Knudsen for machines and labor which made shovels almost obsolete. Now that we have such a wonderful beach let's all help to keep it clean!

Following the Sand Fling, the Board met at Lot 1. Our treasurer indicated we had \$12,000 in the bank. Membership is just under 300.

## 1989

### THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS COME TO SERENE LAKES!

From April 1-8, 1989, 1400 special Olympians from twenty countries and all fifty states will descend on the California-Nevada Sierras. This is twice as many athletes as came for the whole 1960 Winter Olympic games. They will compete in five events: Alpine Skiing, Nordic Skiing, Figure Skating, Speed Skating, and Floor Hockey. Like the regular Olympics, these games will feature opening ceremonies, closing ceremonies, a torch run, cultural events, etc. Royal Gorge will be the venue for the Nordic Skiing. That will be exciting.

### SNOW PLAY

SLPOA cannot designate any areas as snow play areas because that might require that the organization carry liability insurance to protect it against accidents. John Slouber of Royal Gorge was even willing to let SLPOA use the hill opposite the beach if we would carry liability insurance. The cost would be prohibitive.

### MULTIPLE OWNERS OF PROPERTY

Do you own your cabin and SLPOA membership in concert with someone else? Are you tired of sharing these elegantly crafted literary newsletters with someone else? If so, send \$5 to SLPOA at the address above and you will begin receiving an additional copy starting with the next issue.

This year, for the first time in recent memory, a **FLOCK OF GEESE** have descended on our area. They are things of elegant beauty. They also deposit geese droppings throughout the area, and especially at the beach. We will need the cooperation of all beach goers with pooper scoopers (your children have them in their sand toys in case you did not know it) to pick up the droppings and put them in the garbage.

## 1990

### LOT #1 SURVEY

Thanks to all of you who responded to our survey. The comments that many of you wrote, not only about the building proposal, but about other things as well, will be very helpful to your board. Forty-one percent of all property owners responded as follows:

In favor of the proposal 308

Opposed to the proposal 100

Undecided 5

### YOU ARE INVITED TO A BIRTHDAY PARTY

A big birthday party for SLPOA's twenty-fifth birthday is being planned for August 4th. Get out your beads and Birkenstocks for a 60s theme party. Barbeque, dance, talent contest and more! The committee needs suggestions and help. Details will be discussed at SLPOA meeting.

### OLYMPIC PARK NORDIC SKI RESORT

Over the next ten years, the 470 acre project will contain two resort Inns, and recreational facilities; i.e. a refrigerated free-form ice rink, a luge run, training ski jumps, a biathlon facility, an equestrian center, three tennis courts and indoor swimming pools. Nine separate guest lodges in a "condominium hotel format" are tentatively planned to house the guests. Of course, there will be public meetings on a more finalized version of his (John Slouber's) development and another presentation to all the property owners at Serene Lakes, but our December 1st meeting is your chance for a preview of plans, which though tentative, are quite well developed.

## 1991

### STARGAZING AT SERENE LAKES

On Friday evening, July 5th, you are invited to join John Cobourn and Jack Sales, and other astronomy buffs for an hour or so of star and planet gazing. We will meet at the entrance to Lot 1 at 8:30 and proceed to a viewing point which will have less light interference. Please bring flashlights, insect repellent, and binoculars or a telescope to share if you have one. This event will enable us to better appreciate the wonderful clarity of our high elevation sky. We hope it will also help spread the word that all cabin owners are being urged to think about how they can alter their outdoor and indoor lighting so that it will cause the least possible light interference for those in the neighborhood who enjoy walking about after dark to enjoy the stars.

### THE NEW SERENE LAKES COOKBOOK

Several years ago Liv Fjosne, Jinx Fores and Lyla Horst compiled the Serene Lakes Cookery and Other Gems. With the many new faces at Serene Lakes and the delicious dishes that have been enjoyed at the pot-lucks, it seems appropriate to again share our favorite recipes with one another. We would like at least one of your favorite recipes because it is our hope to have a cookbook that represents the majority of the property owners. You may send, bring or phone in your recipe.

## 1992

### LOT 1 BUILDING

Looking back, four, five or more years, our dream of building the maintenance structure on Lot 1 is still one more court action away, because three persons wrote in opposition. As a reminder our by-laws state that "this corporation is organized to promote the welfare of and to protect, benefit and improve the Ice Lakes and Serene Lakes Subdivisions...as a first class residential and recreational area. Such purposes are pleasure, recreation and other non-profitable purposes." At the last board meeting it was agreed unanimously to attend the court hearing to show majority member approval.

We need to own our own equipment and we desperately need a place to store it. We have been borrowing cooking equipment, barbecues, shade tarps, speaker equipment, etc. We do own a fence, volleyballs, horseshoes, and a few picnic tables and benches. All these items need to be stored! Thanks to the Sierra Lakes County Water District, they have allowed us to temporarily use their extra storage space. By the end of next summer I am confident that our building will be in place and functional. Think positive.

### SLPOA NEWSLETTER

"To promote the welfare of and protect, the benefit of the Ice Lakes & Serene Lakes Subdivision as a first class residential and recreational area" a newsletter will be issued periodically based on information which in the judgement of the editor is considered reliable and accurate.

### WHAT'S THE HURRY?

The speed limit in Serene Lakes is 35 mph and in some places 25 mph. Take time to listen to the birds and smell the wonderful mountain air. The children, dogs, cyclists and walkers thank you.

## 1993

### TREASURER'S 1993 BUILDING FUND UPDATE

The goal of the SLPOA membership for a recreation building on Lot 1 is moving along. Construction will begin this summer. At the annual meeting September 6, 1987, the SLPOA membership voted to increase the dues of cabin owners by \$25/year and dedicate the increase for a recreation building. SLPOA board action on April 17, 1993 authorized a separate account as a Building Fund. During the past six years, the increased dues, plus savings from operations, interest earned, and profits from merchandise sales have been accumulating. On May 15, 1993, the SLPOA board authorized the transfer of these funds to the new Building Fund account. As of July 1993, the total in the fund exceeds \$35,000.

### LATEST UPDATE ON SEASON SNOWPACK

To bring last month's article on snowfall up to date, here is the latest from the Snow Lab. A total of 494 inches have fallen, making this season the eighth or ninth biggest snowfall in recorded history! The snow is dense - 52-53% water - and is melting slowly, at one-third the usual rate. (That is no surprise to us.)

### NEW ADDITIONS TO LOT 1

Sand fling '93 was a little like an auto show when the new models are rolled out. Everyone was "ooohing" and "ahing" the new fence and barbecue. By early afternoon, there was a volleyball game going, and families were on the beach. Only the dogs stared sadly at the forbidden territory. By evening, an impromptu potluck had been organized, and the barbecue was christened with a very small bottle of champagne. R.C. Morton's work of art cooked its first meal beautifully.

### FIRE DANGER – HIGH

We have had a very dry spring, and the fire danger needle is pointing to high. You may have a campfire or barbecue on your lot provided that the total fuel area is three feet or less, and less than two feet in height.

## 1994

### CURRENT FIRE STATION DEVELOPMENTS

A meeting was held August 4th with representatives from CDF, Placer County and SLPOA. Twenty years has brought us a far cry from the little yellow fire truck.

1. Placer County would like approval from SLPOA of the building plans and to that end will have the architect-project manager at the Annual Meeting, September 4th, to get feedback from the membership.
2. The lease agreement between the County and SLCWD is being readied for approval by SLCWD.
3. Funds for the project are "in the ballpark" with \$229,000.

### IT'S NOT A WAR, ARNOLD'S IN TOWN

Don't be alarmed by the sound of gun fire, helicopters pyrotechnics, as Omega Sector, Inc. will be filming scenes for True Lies, an action packed film starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. The filming will take place on old Hiway 40 near Rainbow Bridge and at Boreal, beginning March 14.

## SUGAR BOWL DISCOUNTS

## 1995

## CRIME WAVE CULPRIT CAUGHT!

Detective Don Pollock has in custody a suspect who has confessed to 34 burglaries in the Serene Lakes area. According to Detective Pollock it is not unusual for crimes such as these to be solved by a series of coincidental events rather than hours spent on stake outs. The series of events began when Fred and Ginger DeGregory were touring antique shops in Old Sacramento. They saw an antique telephone that looked like the one that had been taken during a burglary of their cabin. They contacted the Sacramento P.D., who interviewed the dealer. The dealer reported

Discount tickets to Sugar Bowl, good every day all season, are now available for SLPOA members and cost only \$29.00. Last summer, Sugar Bowl began a seven year, \$24 million expansion and upgrade program; and the initial \$6.5 million stages are apparent this winter. A new high speed express detachable quad chair (700 verticle feet) is operating on previously inaccessible Mt. Judah. An access road from Donner Pass Rd. leads to a new 350 space parking lot at the base of Mt. Judah.

ed that he had purchased the phone from a booth at the Galt flea market. The flea market dealer was able to point out the "fence" to Detective Pollock. This "fence" then provided partial information on the burglar. He was finally apprehended on an anonymous tip that he was at a bail bond business arranging bail on a drug charge. When arraigned he readily confessed, and drove around pointing out the cabins he had burgled. Some of the stolen properties have been recovered and more is expected to be.

## SKI INTO SUMMER (WELL ALMOST)

The late and heavy snows have allowed ski areas to extend their ski season, and most close not because of a snow, but a lack of skiers, as flat landers find other pleasures to pursue. Many of the resorts have reduced their prices during this period, so don't put your skis away yet.

## 1996

WORLD CUP COMES TO DONNER SUMMIT  
MARCH 8-10 AT BOREAL

Snowboarding has come a long way in just a few years and now we see even middle aged dare devils "shredding" the slopes with teenagers. As mark of its popularity and wide acceptance it is no longer banned at most ski areas and will debut as a medal event in the 1998 winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan. You can see many of the competitors vying for places on our Olympic team at the Grundig World Cup Snowboarding competition coming to Boreal. The World Cup has toured Italy, France, Germany, Japan, and Canada since its inception in 1995 and now it comes to Donner Summit where athletes from 13 counties will compete for \$30,000 in prizes and point ranking.

## SERENE LAKES LODGE

As of this writing the lodge is closed, as is the campground and the future use of the facilities is uncertain. Because of inactivity, their liquor license has been lost and the buildings are standing empty. Let's hope the owner will find a buyer willing to fix it up or tear it down. Local ownership would be better than absentee. (Editor's opinion.)

## DOG OWNERS - TRY A MUTT MITT

Use these handy pooper scoopers to keep our beach area, streets and subsequently our lake clean. You will find these easy to use, disposable mitts in a dispenser on Lot 1. Stick one in your pocket while walking your pooch.

CALIFORNIA TRAIL DAYS is celebrating the sesquicentennial (fancy for 150 years) of the Donner Party on August 15-18 with a series of events as varied as actually being part of a wagon train, to historical plays, dance, hikes and demonstrations.

## 1997

## A NEW ICE LAKES LODGE

Vicki and Matt Williams have purchased the Serene Lakes Lodge and have big plans for it and "once in a lifetime" plans for themselves. For years the previous owner played with selling the lodge using lease/buy arrangements but then foreclosing on the buyers or keeping various managers in it while keeping it up for sale. Royal Gorge even tried to buy the lodge, but John Slouber couldn't get the owner to come to a reasonable price. Now it looks like the Williams' have succeeded where so many failed before.

## ROYAL GORGE BUYS VAN NORDEN

Although \$2.5 million is a lot for 'self defense', you can see John Slouber's point in purchasing Van Norden meadow from PG& E. He has to be able to keep his options open and PG& E's wanting to divest itself of Van Norden presented an exceptional opportunity to do that. He has no immediate "grand plan", though, to develop Van Norden beyond it's use today.

Immediately following the parade will be the **First Annual Serene Lakes Chili Cook-off** and Fire Fest. Anyone may enter and anyone may judge. Setting up begins at 11, and judging will take place from noon to 1:30, when the winners will be announced. There will be prizes, as well as the satisfaction of having bragging rights for the best chili. There will be a separate kids' category for the junior chefs.

## 1998

### WHAT'S NEW AT ICE LAKES LODGE?

Probably all you can see right now is big hole in the ground (soon to be filled) next to the creek, where the fuel tank was removed. Fortunately, the tank was in good condition with no leaks and has been taken away to be recycled. Permits have been granted, liquor license posted, and all Matt needs to see is the ground. The first job will be installing pipes to the three lots across the street, and then weather and banks permitting, construction will begin sometime this summer.

### MORE MOUNTAIN CLEAN-UPS

For the fourth year Nancy Latimer and Mickey Gray have organized a pick up trash on the mountains day. Thanks to them and their helpers for this great service. Here in Serene Lakes Steve Evans and Ralph Suter are planning another pickup of members' trash of all kinds. This is your chance to get rid of old furniture, broken tree limbs, etc. Cost will be pro-rated by amount of trash, and was very reasonable last year. Instead of spring cleaning, it will be a summer event in late July or early August. Watch the bulletin board on Lot 1 for dates and details.

Unless La Nina brings early snows, opening date at newly expanded Sugar Bowl will be December 4. Christmas Tree Lift's towers have been removed and the lift has been replaced by the new CTEC Stealth quad. A new lodge has also been constructed at the base of Mt Judah parking lot. It cost \$5.5 million and has 20,000 square feet, indoor/outdoor dining, bars, rental equipment, a retail shop, and ticketing. It also has 15,000 feet of sundecks for wining, dining, mingling, or simply enjoying the view.

### MAYOR'S CORNER

Those who were here for the Labor Day weekend may not be surprised to learn that Richard Gau has recorded 6.25 inches of rain for September. It felt like that much fell during the BBQ. At least our first snow was kind enough to wait until the last weekend in September. Our average daytime high for September was 69 degrees. Summer has much too short.

### SUGAR BOWL'S EXPANSION

## 1999

### PROGRESS ON LOT 1

After years of talking about the problem someone finally did something about it- maybe the weather will be next. The ground cover on Lot 1 has finally been improved. You can see it if you pick up a corner of snow blanket we've put down as protection, or you can wait until spring. The SLPOA board has spent \$18000 to scrape the ground, grade, trench, install sprinklers and controls, mulch and seed with wild grasses. The new sprinkler system is guaranteed for five years. Once the snow leaves we'll begin to see a different look. The fencing and supports which were supposed to keep out dogs but never did, have been removed. With the new grass area the beach has effectively enlarged and will accommodate our larger crowds.

### PERCH - IN SERENE LAKES?

Someone claimed to have found some perch in Serene Lakes last summer and the evidence was delivered to the Department of Fish and Game who then conducted an electrofishing survey. In the past DFG has stocked the lakes with Brook Trout and Brown Trout. The survey took four hours. They captured 20 Golden Shiner of 2-3" and sighted another 200, 42 Brown Bullhead of 3-7" and sighted another 500+, and 8 Brook Trout of 4-8" and another 17 not captured. The also caught two crayfish about 4" and saw another 15. No Yellow Perch were found.

### NEW DOCK AT SIERRA

The boat dock at the end of the boat ramp on Sierra has been there for years. Last summer a good citizen volunteered to re-make the dock if SIPOA would pay for the materials. The new dock will be forty five feet long with a 10 foot T at the end. It will be anchored with cables to weights so the wind doesn't put it around. This will be Steve Muff 's Eagle Scout project.

## 2000

### MORE QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Here are some questions we were asked during Serene Lakes Days: When is the lodge going to open? The lodge will be open to the public for dinner on August 18<sup>th</sup>. From then on, the dining room will be open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The Grand Opening is slated for September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Old man winter took a while getting here, but when he arrived it was with a vengeance. Richard Gau and the guys at the water district report that there were 127 inches of snow in January, and February brought 186 more. During the first half of March we received 37 inches of the white stuff, bringing the season total at Serene Lakes to 397 inches. According to the Sierra Sun we have had five consecutive wet winters in the Sierra.

**THERE'S SOMETHING FISHY HERE** - Gordon Steindorf to the Rescue The Department of Fish and Game surveyed the fish population in Serene Lakes determined that the fish population consisted primarily of shiners and bullheads, which are "trash fish". The "trash fish" out compete more desirable fish such as trout and prevent any fish from growing to any good size. DFG suggested that we stock them with trout of the two to the pound size. Trout of that size would out compete the other fish and provide local anglers with some fun.

## 2001

### SNOWBOARDERS' DELIGHT

Boreal has purchased a new machine that will craft precision half pipes which are in great demand by snowboarders. The new Super Scorpion Halfpipe Cutter will cut 17 foot high walls. Remember when it was so simple? You got on the poma or rope tow, were pulled to the top and then had to negotiate the moguls in those halcion pre-grooming days?

### SNOWTUBING AT SODA SPRINGS

They say it's the biggest craze to hit Tahoe since Sony Playstation's Cool Boarders Snowboarding game. Soda Springs offers 4 tubing flumes and 2 tubing lifts. The flumes are designed with banked turns, rollers and giant dips for optimum fun and adventure. On select weekends they also offer snowtubing at night.

### UNDERGROUND UTILITIES INFORMATION

Because of questions about converting to underground utilities, Werner Siegert has contacted PG & E and found the following information. Lines can be put underground and would be done by PG&E at their expense, but only if it becomes an absolute necessity and if the existing lines are not safe. In the Serene Lakes Area case there is no such need for necessity and we would be on our own. If the community and land owners, however, decided to proceed on their

### PRIMARY SOURCES THE BEST

Another answer found. In 1946 Ralph, Goldie and Larry Rowton were running Ice Lakes Lodge. Ralph installed a ski tow on what he named Mt. Rowton, just east of the lodge. Nice when you can name your own ski hill. Ralph also kept the road open from Hiway 40 to the lodge with his tractor.

## 2002

### BEARS AT SERENE LAKES

Last summer, a pair of brown bears made frequent visits to Serene Lakes. While it is undoubtedly exciting to see these animals in our midst, human-bear encounters present grave risks - both to the humans and the bears. A bear feeding in our garbage quickly becomes a problem bear. Bears that become a problem are no longer tranquilized and relocated -they are simply destroyed. Thus, for the safety of the bears, and ourselves, there are a few precautions each of us should take to lessen the likelihood of unwelcome encounters.

### ICE LAKES LODGE ANNOUNCEMENT

The lodge has weddings or other events scheduled every Saturday this summer. So please enjoy their delicious breakfasts seven days a week, but save your dinners-out for Sunday to Friday nights.

### SERENE LAKES COOKING CLUB

The first meeting of the SLCC met at the home of Randy Diaz. Randy had prepared three high altitude desserts that were sampled by the 12 attendees. Later Randy demonstrated the piece de resistance, Peking duck. Recipes can be found SLPOA's web site.

### SLPOA FORUM

If you have not tuned into the SLPOA Forum on SLPOA website at [www.slpoa.com](http://www.slpoa.com), you should. It's turning into a good community forum for people to ask questions, pass on information, conduct dialogues, etc. Topics such as remote cabin heat, sewer hook-ups, spa service, and complaints have been recently covered.

## 2003

### THE ^%\$@ RAILROAD

Okay, I didn't mean ^%\$@ but we have had some frustrations with the railroad. The crossing doesn't ever seem to stay in good shape and the trains block the tracks. The latter is not even just a frustration but a safety concern. What happens if one of us oldsters has a heart attack and the ambulance can't get us to medical care because the train is blocking the tracks. Will UP be apologetic? Will it matter?

### X-COUNTRY SKIERS

How would you like better stability, greater directability and the speed of a waxed ski? Well, you get all three with John Slouber's newly designed ski, manufactured by Fischer, which won the European Sports Federation's Award for Innovation. Not since the Revolution ski has there been such a change in design. Right now you can test drive the Orbiter in-track ski at Royal Gorge.

### SERENE LAKES SPIRIT

The spirit, resourcefulness, and fortitude of Serene Lakes residents was never more evident than at this year's Serene Lakes Days. Following a deluge washing out all of Saturday's events, except the running broad jump, your Serene Lake Days committee pulled together to make Sunday a fun filled huge success. According to local "historians" this was the first time in over twenty-five years that part of SL Days was cancelled. All told we really only missed the barbecue, thanks to Ice Lakes Lodge for coming to the rescue for the street dance.

## 2004

### SODA SPRINGS STORE

We welcome the new owners of the Soda Spring's Store, Cheryl and Tony Paduano. Although they purchased the store in November they are not new to the hill. Their goal is to make it a community friendly store with attractive pricing and they invite any suggestions we might have. Please stop in and say hi.

### FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT AT LOT I BEACH

Saturday June 19th 9:00 PM

Bring blankets, warm clothes.

Movie is free, but snack shack MAY be open to purchase refreshments

### DONNER SUMMIT VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' BARBECUE & PICNIC

At Donner Summit Lodge Picnic Grounds.

Treat yourself and your family to an old-fashioned experience by attending this annual affair. It's one of the best barbecues you will ever attend. There are games for the kids, and a raffle and auction for the adults. All moneys go directly to improving fire, rescue and medical services for our area.

### FISH = BIRDS

Could it be the fish being planted, thanks to Gordon Steindorf and SLPOA, that has attracted a new wave of predator birds, such as the Golden Eagle, a pair of ospreys, a crane and the ubiquitous Mergansers? If so, welcome, it is wonderful to watch them dive or swoop down and come up with a fish morsel. They don't have to follow our "catch and release" rules. Someone even reported a pelican enjoying the wetlands of Summit Valley.

### PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE DUCKS & GEESE

## 2005

### ROYAL GORGE LAND SOLD

Royal Gorge, Rainbow Lodge, and about 3000 acres of land surrounding Serene Lakes, including Van Norden Meadow, owned by Rancho Monterey have been sold to Royal Gorge LLC a new entity whose managing members are Todd and Mark Foster of Foster Enterprises in Redwood City and Kirk Syme who runs Woodstock Development in Burlingame. Given that a development company has bought some prime undeveloped Summit land around Serene Lakes, some people would panic. Mr. Foster though, was quick to say that although he was born and raised in the Bay Area, he has a home in Sugar Bowl and is "passionate" about the Sierra. Mark is familiar with the Sierra too, being a part time resident in Incline.

### TEENS – HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A SERENE LAKES IDOL?

Start practicing! As part of SLPOA's 40th anniversary celebration we will be holding a contest for kids 20 and younger to find what talent we have right here in our own backyard. Prizes will be awarded.

### THE ROCK PEOPLE OF DONNER SUMMIT

As you drive up Old 40 past Donner Ski Ranch, look to your right, very carefully. You'll notice some very interesting sculptures. These are the rock people on Donner Summit. Artist, Midge Piland, has sentinels, garden people, and river people all made of native rock that she has lugged from around her house. .

### SERENE LAKES COOKING CLUB PIGS OUT

Last month the SLCC was invited to participate in an old-fashioned neighborhood pig roast complete with a one-hundred and seventeen pound porker! Ron and Heidi Kolbe and Rob and Marilyn Squire gathered the neighbors together to roast a pig three years ago, and the event has grown into a massive picnic, or should I say, pig out!

## 2006

### WINTER 2005-2006 - ONE FOR THE RECORD BOOKS

Holy cow, what a winter we had! The season began mild and wet, then turned into a monster snow maker. According to our water district, February brought only 26 inches of snow and almost 13 inches of rain. Then March slammed us with over 17.5 feet of snow, and April gave us almost 9 feet more of the white stuff and 5.3 inches of rain. Our grand totals for the season, so far, are 42.5 feet for snowfall and 55.51 inches for rainfall.

### ICE LAKES LODGE SOLD

Just as the lodge was barely able to break even, an offer to buy the lodge was made by Kirk Syme who is associated with the group buying the Royal Gorge lands and operations. The offer was accepted, somewhat reluctantly, and Ice Lakes Lodge will become part of the new Royal Gorge partnership. The new owners say there will be no changes for the immediate future.

### HIKERS & BIKERS

Royal Gorge has removed berms at the trailhead at Ice lakes Lodge to enable non-motorized access to portions of Reindeer, Tiny Tim, Sterling Canyon, Bogus Basin, Razor Back (to Lola's lookout) and Claim Jumper. They are hopeful that damage by motorized vehicles can be prevented.

### SLPOA MEMBERSHIP DUES GOING UP

At the March Board meeting, the Board approved a proposal to raise membership dues to \$100 for homeowners and \$50 for owners of lots without homes,

## 2007

### SERENE LAKES COMMUNITY "SUMMITS" APRIL 28

The Serene Lakes firehouse saw the most activity it's ever seen in its short life Saturday when almost 200 people followed up the SLPOA survey with their attendance to discuss the issue of the Foster/Syme Royal Gorge development. It was standing room only. This was intended to be an informational meeting where all members of the community could express their opinions and hear each other. This, along with the SLPOA survey would help the SLPOA Board gauge public opinion.

### SAVE DONNER SUMMIT

One of the "ad hoc" groups busy right now on the Summit and concerned with the Royal Gorge development, has produced a couple of bumper stickers. If you want one, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the address below. Feel free to include a donation to defray printing costs.

### LOT ONE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE FORMED

The Lot One Beautification Committee, or LOBuC as we like to call it for brevity, was formed by a handful of anxious volunteers. Our list of projects is lengthy: First of all, and most complicated, was to add an additional bathroom to the building. A bathroom and more storage can be accomplished by enclosing the existing concrete under the overhang. Our other construction project is the assembly of storage racks for canoes and kayaks in the existing area just north of the building and near the dock.

### FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT NIGHT

Saturday Sept 1st

The Fun Starts at 6:30 p.m. at Lot 1

The Serene Lakes Players perform "Save our Lakes" · View a Special Screening of "The Perils of Penelope Ducks" ·

Settle in for a Family Movie (G-rated)

\$ 1.00 Popcorn and S'mores!!

Bring the entire family, lawnchairs, sleeping bags

## 2008

### SOLIDARITY ON THE SUMMIT

The results indicate that community members of Donner Summit...have a highly positive opinion of the quality of life in the area. ...The natural environment, outdoor activities, and rural atmosphere were at the top of the list of most liked features of living in the Donner Summit area.... regulating growth and development and protecting the environment emerged as the two most important issues facing the area. Community members also showed the strongest support for prioritizing environmental preservation....

### DSAA BBQ COMING

The Annual Donner Summit 4th of July Celebration Picnic is being revived with the Donner Summit Area Association as its new sponsor. The picnic will be held on July 5th from 11am-3pm at Donner Summit Lodge. The barbecue will be great as always. There will be entertainment. The Mountain Belles and the Summit Sirens are already signed up to perform.

### SERENE LAKES KIDS' CLUB (SLKIC)

Hey everybody! I just wanted to let everyone know that we have a total of 103 members to the Serene Lakes Kids' Club after our three membership drives. Woohoo! We are having our second official 'Snowfolk' contest on Christmas Eve and we want everyone to come to the beach.

### DSHS IS LAUNCHED!

Our Donner Summit Historical Society (DSHS for short) is moving right along. Margie Powell and Norm Sayler premiered the banner at their 4th of July and DSAA Picnic booths, displaying photo albums and other memorabilia. With Bill Oudegeest's expertise, the web site is in its introductory stage. Members are also collecting pictures, historical artifacts, articles, and stories about the Donner Summit community.

## 2009

### MONTGOMERY WINS!

Jubilation reigned in Serene Lakes on November 4. Jennifer Montgomery, local resident, beat Bruce Kranz by more than 2000 votes of 20,000 cast, wow. We have an honest positive representative who has the best interests of Placer County in her mind as she moves into office to make decisions.

### LIFE IS BETTER, DSL COMES TO SERENE LAKES

Yes, now we can join the modern age. ATT has brought DSL to Serene Lakes. The actual speed you can obtain is determined by your distance from the equipment in Soda Springs. Some people in Serene Lakes will get faster speed than others.

### SLCWD CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Much was accomplished with the replacement of 2,428 feet of water main, 58 residential laterals and meter pits, 15 fire hydrants, 480 feet of sewer main and three new manholes. All of the projects were completed by November 1st and the new infrastructure is in service.

### PICK IT UP!

Ed and Kathy Bubnis organized a kids' painting activity for the "Pick It Up!" signs that Ed made using a sample recently left by an anonymous donor. The kids worked diligently and had fun painting the signs that you will now see around Serene Lakes. They are a reminder to all residents and visitors to pick up their pet waste.

## 2010

### NEW GRAND ENTRANCE TO THE BEACH

You have probably noticed the addition of the new entryway to the beach. Work began in September, just after beach closure. The beams and posts were pre-cut and stored in the Lot 1 building while holes were dug and concrete was poured for each of the post footings. Everything would be ready for assembly in the spring. Snow began to fall, and as winter went on and on, Ed Bubnis grew restless. He decided to speed things up. He dug two 20 feet deep holes into the snow to reach the footings and figured he would use the snow as natural scaffolding. Each post was hauled across the snow, slowly lowered into the cavernous holes and attached to the footings. More snow fell. The next step was to attach the cross beams. More posts were hauled across the snow and bolted together. More snow fell, but the structure was complete.

### SUGAR BOWL LAKE MARY EVENINGS

Sugar Bowl Resort continues its fine dining experience by hosting seven Saturday dinners at their exclusive Lake Mary Cabin this summer. Enjoy spacious patio style dining with sweeping views of the high alpine lake, The Palisades and Mt. Disney. Serving up French inspired California cuisine from 5-9 pm.

### GREEN WASTE DROP-OFF SITE WILL BE BACK

After a one year hiatus, the Green Waste Drop-off Site in the Soda Springs Ski Area parking lot will be back for 2010! The Drop-off Site provides a convenient way to dispose of the trimmings from defensible space cleanup efforts on your property. The Site will be open from July 1 through September 6 (Labor Day).

### 20 MILE MUSEUM

The Donner Summit Historical Society and the Donner Summit Business Group have teamed up to create a 20 mile museum along Old 4 from Cisco to Donner Lake. A few dozen historical spots will display interpretive signs containing the history of the spot, a good story, local activities, GPS coordinates, a map, and supporting businesses.

## 2011

### THE GREAT SNOWS OF 2011

The California Department of Water Resources measured 740 inches of snow at Donner Summit by the end of March, the third highest amount on record, marking the fourth winter that snowfall has surpassed 700 inches since 1879. The heavy snowpack snapped power poles, interrupted electric service, and broke propane tank pipes. Propane leaks at homes and one explosion gave rise to a unified command to manage the situation, resident placards, abatement notices, evacuation center, and community meeting at Judah Lodge. Leaks have continued to a total of 38 as the snow melts, compacts, and slides and the ice encasing the propane melts.

### SERENE CYCLES..... THE WINTER BEGINS, AGAIN.

It was just getting dark when we skidded in to the cabin driveway a week before Thanksgiving. The remnants of previous snowfalls looked like old pie crust: sparse, dry, cracked and totally unappealing.....

### SERENE LAKES BOAT REGISTRATION TO START THIS SUMMER

Have you noticed how many boats we now store in the SLPOA racks? Have you ever wondered who owns all of the boats that use the homeowner's beach? We have and we think it is a good time to start a process of boat registration.

### FACEBOOK FOR BEGINNERS BY CHRIS AFRICA

As the youngest member on our board I thought it would only be fitting that I brought new technology to SLPOA and our members. SLPOA is now on facebook, with close to 300 members following our page, and very high profile views over the last few weeks. Our page is doing great!

## 2012

### *Let's Buy It!*

If we can pull this off, it will be the most significant event ever in the history of Serene Lakes. We believe we will have an unprecedented opportunity to buy and set aside as perpetual open space all of the Royal Gorge Development properties. We can turn the threat of time-shares, condominiums, hotels and commercial centers into a mountain valley that will forever be protected for hiking and biking trails and open space. What a spectacular opportunity!

### AMAZING ICE CONDITIONS

Most years there's no chance to ice skate because snow falls on the new ice. Those years when there is ice skating there is only a window of a few days before snowfalls and ruins the skating. This year, the the skating on glass-smooth ice went on for weeks and daily there were people taking advantage.

### A SIMPLY HISTORICAL SATURDAY

The First Annual Margie Powell hike on August 4th drew over 110 friends and family as well as a variety of canine companions. As the crowd gathered on old Hwy 40 they were treated to the fabulous news that the Land Trust's offer to buy Royal Gorge had been accepted. It was a perfect moment to encourage everyone to honor Margie and the jewel she loved so dearly and to give generously in her name. Docents Bill Oudegeest and Gene and Ann Bowles led the group on three hour hike past the old emigrant trail and granite billboards, to the Chinese wall, through the tunnels and more.

## 2013

**TIP OF THE DAY**

Truckee Fire Department says that your cabin's address must be clearly visible from the street so that emergency response personnel can easily locate your property.

**SUCCESS!**

Who Would Have Thought? Who would have thought seven years ago that we would be where we are today, purchasing 2,900 acres of Donner Summit. Seven years ago we were appalled by the proposed development that would bring a thousand residential units, hotel rooms, restaurants, and commercial space to Serene Lakes. \$3,730,592! Wow! Truly amazing! For our small community to meet such a huge commitment is one for the history books of foundation fundraising successes. Thank you! Thank you especially for those of you who met the "fair share" commitment 378 property owners stepped forward and met the challenge. Thank you. It brings a great smile to our face to see all of the cabins with a fair share donation plaque.

## 2014

**2ND ANNUAL KIDS' DAY AT LOT 1**

What better way to spend a lazy Saturday afternoon than to spend it with your family on the Beach. On August 9th, the craftiest kids on the summit joined together to make the Kids Craft Day the place to be. Grabbing a paint brush and coating everything from sticks to picture frames in vivid summery colors, is clearly a favorite activity with our local crowd.

**ICE LAKES LODGE SOLD!****ROYAL GORGE STEWARDSHIP**

The Truckee Donner Land Trust had a busy summer on the Royal Gorge property, monitoring public use, constructing trails, rehabilitating existing trails, planning new trails, installing signage, and completing fuels management in the forest.

## 2015

**DONOR BENCHES**

The Serene Lakes community achieved a remarkable result when it raised almost \$4 million dollars for the Royal Gorge Acquisition. Working with the Truckee Donner Land Trust and other organizations, we were able to preserve and set aside 3,000 acres of land. People can access that land in perpetuity. SLPOA had promised to recognize donors of \$25,000 or more by placing their names on plaques attached to benches sitting high above and overlooking Serene Lakes. In late October, just before the snows, Cliff Busby led an intrepid group up and the benches were set in the ground.

**PRESERVATION COMMITTEE DISBANDS**

After almost seven years of effort and success the SLPOA Preservation Committee, led by Cliff Busby, disbanded in January. Its job was over. In 2006 after Foster/Syme bought the Royal Gorge lands SLPOA founded the Preservation Committee to deal with the development proposals. Once the development threat receded, the committee focused on fund raising to help the Land Trust buy the Royal Gorge lands.

**AUGUST MOVIES, CAMPFIRE AND MORE!**

In August the sun sets a bit earlier and the mosquitoes have died down a bit. Join us at the SLPOA beach. Feel free to bring your own S'more makings to add to those provided.

**LAND TRUST ANNOUNCES 2013 FOREST THINNING WORK**

At the firehouse meeting on July 6 for Serene Lakes residents, the Truckee Donner Land Trust announced the location for the forest thinning project to be completed in the fall of 2013. The Land Trust released a map of a 115 acre parcel designated for "fuel reduction" work. The 2013 project will be the first phase of a multi-year effort to build a ¼ mile "shaded fuel break" around our subdivision. Work will begin after Labor Day.

**NEW SEWER PLANT: ON LINE, ON TIME, ON BUDGET**

December 31 the DSPUD takes complete ownership of the new sewer plant in Soda Springs. The \$25 million plant will be "substantially" completed next month and finally completed in December. Then it will be a matter of fine tuning things for optimal operation and that will take another six months.

**FOCUS ON FIRE SAFETY - ARE YOU READY?**

The King fire is another wake up call, a second chance for Serene Lakes homeowners to prepare their homes and lots for the forest fire that's coming. The American fire a year ago was the first. The Fire Committee heartily applauds all the work people put into defensible space this year.

**WATER DISTRICT TO RE-EVALUATE LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

When the Water District acquired the lake bottom parcel from the Land Trust, it also took on the responsibility of managing the community's most valuable asset. The Citizens' Committee, formed by the Water District Board to solicit community advice and develop a plan met many times over the summer. The plan covers access to the lakes, boat storage, rules for on lake residents and off lake residents, boat registration for parking on District property, docks and piers, and activities allowed at the various access points.

**LOOK WHO'S TURNING 90**

Gerry Simonds is turning 90 in 2015 and we will surprise her with a celebration in May. Gerry ran the office for Sierra Lakes Club and Sierra Lakes County Water District for over 25 years, starting in 1958. She worked alone most of those years, answering your calls, keeping the books, and working with the owners, board members, residents, and employees.



## PAST SLPOA PRESIDENTS

Year	President	Year	President
1965	Stu Treon	1990	Paula Buickerood
1966	Stu Treon	1991	Paula Buickerood
1967	Richard Johnson	1992	Jim Powell
1968	Richard Johnson	1993	Bill Abbott
1969	Richard Johnson	1994	Wade Freedle
1970	Bill Anderson	1995	Wade Freedle
1971	Dick Fores	1996	Wade Freedle
1972	Dick Fores	1997	Steve Evans/Brenda Suter
1973	Carl Hilker	1998	Cliff Busby
1974	Carl Hilker	1999	Cliff Busby
1975	Jackie Temple	2000	Bill Oudegeest
1976	Steve Beucus	2001	Bill Oudegeest
1977	Paula Buickerood	2002	David Africa
1978	Paula Buickerood	2003	David Africa
1979	Jane English	2004	David Africa
1980	Mike Valentine	2005	Martin Bern
1981	Corrine Undercoffer	2006	Bill Oudegeest
1982	Richard Clauser	2007	Bill Oudegeest
1983	Richard Clauser	2008	Bill Oudegeest
1984	Richard Clauser	2009	Bill Oudegeest
1985	Ulrich Luscher	2010	Ken Hall
1986	Ulrich Luscher	2011	Ken Hall
1987	Mark Himmelstein	2012	Ken Hall
1988	Mark Himmelstein	2013	Jim Holter
1989	George Garcia	2014	Bill Simmons