



# Serene Lakes News— July 2018

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dennis Fisco

Thanks to the more than forty SLPOA volunteers who participated in the 2018 Sand Fling. Many hands made quick work of setting up Lot 1 and the various boat storage and docking areas. There was lots to do for folks of all ages from 5 to 85 and it is a great way to mark the start of summer activities here at Serene Lakes.

July 4th, 2018 has come and gone and what a week it was! Thanks to all of the volunteers and participants who helped make this such an enjoyable holiday week in Serene Lakes. From the Kid's Club Day of Service, to the Float Decorating, to the SLPOA Parade, to the Chili Cook Off, to the first Sailboat Race of the year there was plenty of fun and action enjoyed by all!

It is mind boggling to think that this was just the beginning of our fun summer activities. Check out other parts of this Serene Lakes News for details about the Summer Trail Runs, the Ragnar Trail Run, Serene Lakes Days, Movie Nights at Lot 1, the Margie Powell Memorial Hike and of course our most popular event of the year – the Cabin Tour followed closely by the Annual Membership Meeting.

Your Board members have been busy helping to plan these many events so be sure to let them know your appreciation when you see them and come enjoy the Pot Luck with them on Lot 1 on July 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM after the 4 PM Board meeting. It is a great way to meet your neighbors and enjoy some wonderful food and drinks.

Maya Angelou said: ***"I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back."*** As we prepare to transition through the summer and toward our Annual Meeting in September please consider "throwing something back" by volunteering with SLPOA. It's a great way to play ball and to meet your neighbors!

See you around Serene Lakes!

### SLPOA OFFICERS AND BOARD

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The Serene Lakes Property Owners' Association Newsletter  
P.O. Box 669, Soda Springs, CA 95728  
Serene Lakes on the Internet: <http://www.slpoa.com>



## COMMUNITY EVENTS BULLETIN BOARD

**July 14**—Serene Lakes Sing Along, 7 PM, Lot 1, see below.

**July 20-21**—Ragnar Trail Run at Royal Gorge, p. 4.

**July 21**—SLPOA Board meeting, 4 PM, Water District office, Short Rd. followed by 6:30 potluck, Lot 1.

**July 28, September 2**—Summer Trail Runs, 7:45 AM, meet at Serene Rd. at Lot 1.

**July 27, 28, and 29**—Serene Lakes Days --Friday night Volunteer Happy Hour, Lot 1, p. 14

--Saturday: Serene Lakes Days events, Lot 1, p. 13-14.

--Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ice Lakes Triathlon, second Sailboat Race, Lot 1

**August 4, August 11, August 25, September 1**—Movie nights on the beach, 7:30 PM.

**August 11 & 12**—SLPOA/Historical Society co-sponsored Marge Powell Memorial Hike, 10 AM, p. 15.

--Heritage Trail—all Placer County museums open, including Donner Summit Historical Society.

**September 1**—Cabin tour, 2 -5 PM. **Tickets are sold out, but we need volunteers for event.**

--SLPOA Family movie night, begins at dusk, Lot 1

**September 2**—Membership Meeting, 9:30 AM; Barbecue, 2 PM; Sailboat race 2 PM, all on Lot 1, p. 16.

**September 15 & 16**—Donner Party Hike, visit [donnerpartyhike.com](http://donnerpartyhike.com)., p. 11.

### Serene Lakes Sing Along

Come on down to Lot 1 for  
an old fashioned sing-along  
on

**Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup>**  
starting at 7 pm.

Bring your guitar,  
banjo, voice and join  
Diana Fredrich and  
friends  
for a family fun  
evening of song!



The poster features a close-up of a person's hands holding a small insect, with another person's face partially visible in the background. The text is overlaid on the image.

**Serene Lakes Science  
Exploration Camp**

**July 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>**

**Scientists ages 5-16**

Presented By



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## The Mayor's Corner

By Ralph Suter

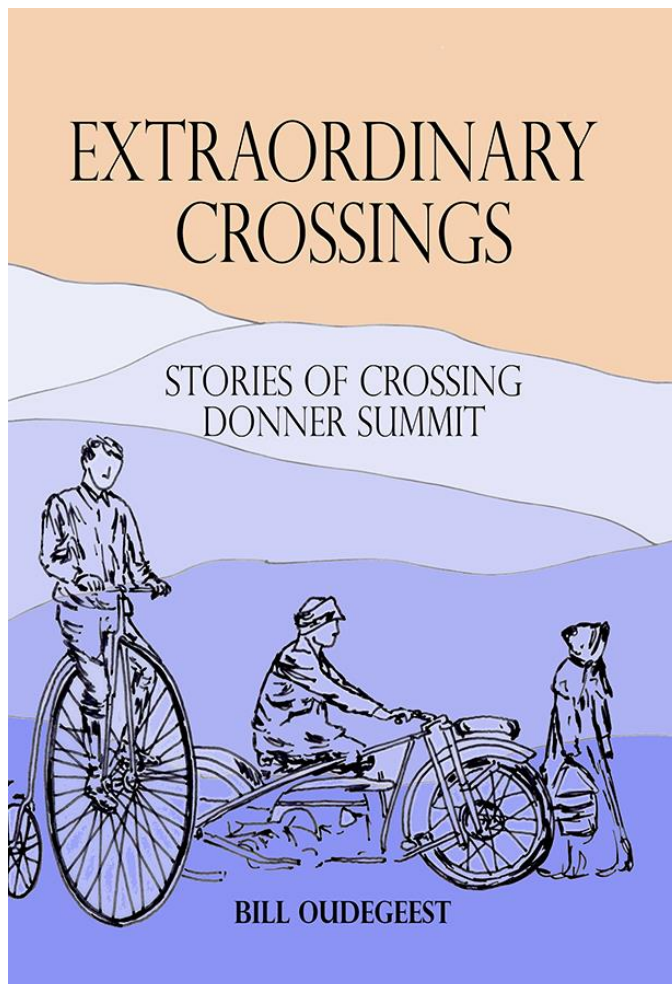
Summer is finally here! Daytime temperatures are in the low to mid-70s and the evenings drop to the 40s. Thanks to all the volunteers who turned out to clean up and restore Lot 1. It looks beautiful. Thank you, Ed Bubnis for all the work on the sprinklers and other things that needed repairing. Be sure and check out the improvements. The horse shoe pits, bocce ball court, sandy volleyball area, covered gazebo, electrical outlets, picnic tables, improved drainage system and big boulders would not have happened without your yearly dues.

Travelers from Serene Lakes include Linda Cashion and George Lamson who took a road trip to Canada. Dave and Marsha Lose explored Vietnam and Cambodia. Jen, Mike, Ella and Saxon relaxed in Greece. Adrian and Elizabeth Mopas visited the Philippines. Carol Raisbeck and Gordon Steindorf toured the Baltic Capitols. Laurel Tuggey surfed in Mexico.

Rumor has it that Sugar Bowl's Lake Mary will be offering dinners again this summer on the last two weekends in July and the first weekend in August. The Alpine Skills Institute is also operating a beer garden, open on weekends from 11 to 6. The Little Truckee Creamery down by Donner Lake has wonderful homemade ice cream, and on Mondays and Fridays tacos are available. Old Highway 40 Bar and Grill at Donner Ski Ranch is open daily from 11am until 9 pm and has added breakfasts on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 8am until noon. Be sure and try Scott's wonderful Eggs Benedict. We heard that Sierra Mountain Pizza in Kingvale ran into some permitting problems, but are hoping to open in August. In the meantime, you can always get a take and bake pizza from the Soda Springs Store. Our very own Snack Shack at the beach is scheduled to open Saturday, June 30th and will be open weekends and holidays through Labor Day.

In case you missed the Grand Opening of the Nancy O Glass and Gallery in Soda Springs, stop by and check it out Thursdays through Saturdays from 11 am to 4 pm. She features local artists and also offers an array of classes.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at Serene Lakes Days festivities. Till next time. Let me know your news—Ralph Suter, (530)426-3855 or [Ralphbrenda@att.net](mailto:Ralphbrenda@att.net).



## A new book of Donner Summit History

Through Donner Pass have funneled many stories – stories of heroism, adventure, excitement, pathos, courage, and tenacity.

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For more:  
[donnersummithistoricalsociety.org/pages/store](http://donnersummithistoricalsociety.org/pages/store)



## Ragnar Relay Returns July 20-21 By Ann Reisenauer

The Ragnar Relay on July 20-21 will be the largest event held on the summit this summer.

The race's format will be similar to last year. Most runners will arrive Thursday July 19 and park in the Soda Springs Ski Area lots. The runners and their gear will be shuttled to the tent village at Summit Station where they will camp Thursday and Friday nights.

The 24-hour trail relay begins Friday morning and ends Saturday afternoon. About 2,500 runners will compete this year. Only one member of a team runs at a time and the runners are spread out over 3 courses on Royal Gorge trails. You can still use the trails, but you'll see a lot of runners. Please be considerate.

**Traffic advisory:** For the past 2 years, there has been bumper-to-bumper traffic on Soda Springs Road on Thursday afternoon. To ease the congestion this year, Ragnar has developed a new, improved parking plan – let's hope it works. John Svahn of the Truckee Donner Land Trust says this will be their last chance to get the parking and traffic right.

**NO PARKING ZONE:** To keep the roads open for emergency vehicles, avoid parking along Pahatsi and Hillside Roads near Summit Station.

For more information about the race, see [https://www.runragnar.com/event-detail/trail/tahoe\\_ca](https://www.runragnar.com/event-detail/trail/tahoe_ca)

### CABIN TOUR UPDATE

- **Cabin tour tickets sold out within the first weekend of sales.**
- **We need about 20 more volunteers—please see signup option on SLPOA website.**



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# Royal Gorge Trails

By Ann Reisenauer

The Truckee Donner Land Trust has completed most of the trail construction around Serene Lakes and is shifting its efforts to trail maintenance. This summer they are planning to install 24 directional signs on the trails and to update the Royal Gorge trail maps on their web site. To find the maps, go to [tdlandtrust.org](http://tdlandtrust.org), click on the "Plan your Visit" tab at the upper right, then scroll down to "Royal Gorge."

**Recommended hike:** For spectacular views, hike the new section of the Point Mariah trail. It climbs from the Sterling's Canyon trail to the ridge where it winds through hoodoos and other volcanic formations before rejoining the trail to Point Mariah.

## Memorial Overland Emigrant Trail

Placer County is working with TDLT and the Forest Service to construct a section of the Memorial Overland Emigrant Trail through Royal Gorge this summer. The three-mile section west of Soda Springs Road and parallel to Pahatsi Road is shovel-ready; construction may start as early as August. When completed, the Overland Emigrant Trail will follow the original wagon route from Donner State Memorial Park to Kingvale.

The long-range plan is to connect the Royal Gorge trail network with Sugar Bowl trails, the Memorial Overland Emigrant Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail.

**Trailheads:** There are Sani-Huts at the Hoelter-Hall and Summit Station trailheads again this summer thanks to SLPOA and TDLT. Moreover, TDLT is looking into the feasibility of building permanent pit toilets.



**Forestry:** TDLT plans to do some hand thinning in the thickets below Serene Lakes dam. They did not receive the state grant to do the thinning project in the Bogus Basin/Overload area.



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## CELEBRATING INDEPENDENCE DAY SLPOA STYLE





## MORE INDEPENDENCE DAY SLPOA CELEBRATION



All 4<sup>th</sup> of July Photos by Peg Bettcher





Photos by  
Peg Bettcher



## Chili Cook-Off Results

By Sue Busby

Best Adult Chili  
Jan and Kristin Paul  
"Hot Chili Peppers"

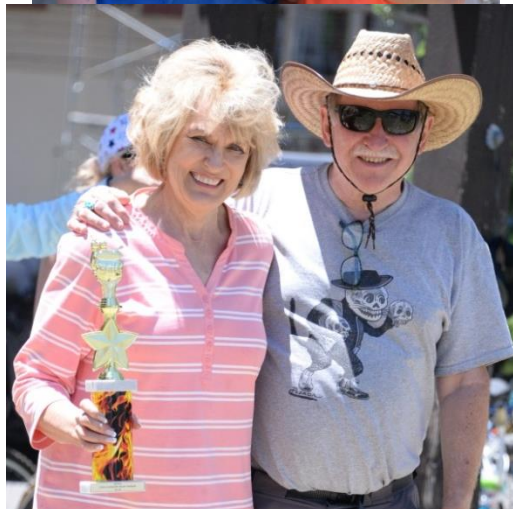
Best Junior Chili  
Brothers Myles Wener &  
Wyatt Janover  
"Choco Chili"

Best Spirit  
Pam and Holly Sherwood  
"Eat Your Veggies Chili"

Most Unique Ingredient Chili  
Barbara and Denis Drew  
"Aunt Ming's White Bean Chili"

Best Overall Chili  
Amy King  
"King's Texas Blasphemy  
Chili"

Thank you to **ALL** of the  
cooks! We realize the  
expense, time and energy to  
create your masterpieces and  
to participate. We appreciate  
it! Thank you too to all who  
helped to create another  
successful Cook Off!







## Sailboat Race Results

By Charlie Eddy

Yolo county smoke blown up from the valley was cleared away by gusty winds on Wednesday, July 4th. One of those gusts carried Jerry far ahead of the pack and caused Stu to dump. The race was on.

After the first mark, Ralph and Seth Eddy got to pass to first as Jerry went the way of Stu. After passing through the middle of the lake and going to the far end, Dave had achieved a place in first that was going to stick — in the meantime, Ed, Eddy and Eddy were neck in neck. Rob Hamner with a French co-pilot, Nancy Wilson, and Bernard with his boots, came up to give chase with great exuberance. Up with these five was John Childs in a colorless sunfish with one window, all jockeying for position in the second lap.



There may have been some more dumping. I am always surprised when a sturdy Sunfish goes over! Bernard and his boots were overcome by John Childs as Jerry tried to right his Laser at the north end of Dulzura. Dave and Ed caught some wind and became the peleton of this race.



In the end, Dave, with his red, white, and blue sail, proved America number one in the 1st race of the 2018 season at RSLYC. Ed was a close second, and Stu came in third to the great excitement of many — especially John Childs, who was rounding the mark when Stu crossed the finish line, followed by the Hamner and Eddy boats, and Bernard, and his boots, and Nancy Wilson. (All photos by Peg Bettcher)





First merchandise sales of the season—look for more at Serene Lakes Days and Labor Day



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## Nancy O Glass & Gallery

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Featuring local Summit artists

Upcoming classes, all 5-7 PM:

July 25, Glass Jewelry

August 1, Basic Fusing

August 15, Glass Mosaics

Paint and Sip evening:

August 10, 7-9 PM

RSVP for classes:

[nancy@nancyoglass.com](mailto:nancy@nancyoglass.com) or  
(209)968-0146

# New Bench on Thauvette's Frolic

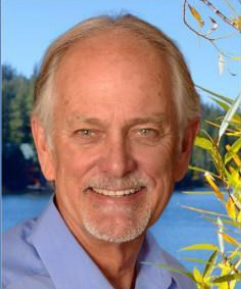
By Ann Reisenauer

A shout out to Russell Kustic of Sacramento Boy Scout Troop 1. Russell (on left with big hat) built and installed a bench at the top of the Thauvette's Frolic trail as his Eagle Scout Merit Badge Project. Fellow scouts and leaders helped him install the bench; the lumber was generously donated by Truckee Tahoe Lumber Company.

Check out the new bench! If you don't know Thauvette's Frolic, this short, hiking-only trail connects the Kat's Walk/Reindeer junction to the Half Hitch/Castle Pass junction.




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## Exciting SLD Team Sports

By Sharon Ruffner

### Serene Lakes Days Bocce Anyone?

Get your team of four, come down to Lot 1, and sign up for your games/times at the headquarter table on Saturday at 9 am. The first game will start promptly at 10:00 am. What a great way to use one of our newest beach games and meet your Serene Lakes neighbors. NO PRIOR BOCCCE EXPERIENCE REQUIRED. Must have a sense of humor; adult libation optional. High brow trash talking allowed.

### Paddlefest

Racing Scull or Rubber Ducky, if you have a vessel that floats and can get you to the end of the lake and back come on out for the Serene Lake Days Paddlefest! Separate awards for first male and female in Kayaks, Canoes, Paddleboards etc. Special award to the vessel judged most inspirational—unique, decorative, likely not to succeed but kudos for staying afloat!

One mass start at 12:30 pm Sunday. Stick around for the Sailboat races immediately following. Buoys will be set several days prior to the event.

### Calling All Horseshoes Teams

If you have been thoroughly enjoying the two-day Horseshoe Tournament year after year, you can thank the Treon family and their spouses Barrys, Lincolns and Morrows for dedicating their annual Serene Lakes Days weekend to running the event. We are looking for a family or team to shadow them this go-around and step into their "shoes" next year. Either stop by the pits at Serene Lakes Days for more info or email [SharonRuffner@yahoo.com](mailto:SharonRuffner@yahoo.com)



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## Serene Lakes Days 2018 - July 28, 29, 30

### Friday Events

5:30 PM -7:00 PM—Volunteer Happy Hour. Sign up on Friday to help out on Saturday or Sunday, enjoy a drink & chips. **Following Happy Hour, kick off Serene Lakes days on the right note with the 5th annual Open Mic Beach Jam & Campfire at 7PM hosted by Norm Follett.** Bring your instrument, and voice or just clap your hands and check out the summit high talent of your friends and neighbors. Bring your drinks, family, friends, and chairs and enjoy the stars on the beach and in the sky.

### Saturday Events

8:00 AM Trail Run— Sign in at 7:45

9:00 AM Bocce Ball Signups

9:30 AM Horseshoe Tournament SINGLES SIGN UPS @ Horseshoe Pit

9:30 AM Volleyball sign ups @ Court- get a team of 6-8 members (limited to 16 teams)

9:30 AM Running Broad Jump (ages 3-17)

10:00 AM Horseshoe Tournament begins (singles)

10:00 AM Triathlon Signups – Race on Sunday

10:00 AM Bocce Ball

10:30 AM Lawn Games – (3 legged, Sack, Peanut Spoon)

12:00 PM Volleyball Preliminaries

1:00 PM Swimming Sprints followed by Lake Swim (short and long courses)

1:30 PM Tug of War

2:30 PM Water Balloon Toss

### Potluck/Barbecue

6:00 PM Bring your item to cook on the big barbeque, plates, utensils, drinks & dish to share with 8-10 friends: A-H dessert I-N salad O-Z side dish

**STREET DANCE** 7:00-9:30 pm in front of SLPOA beach – Music provided by DJ Lisa

### Sunday Events

7:30 AM Road Run (2 miles, age divisions)

8:00 AM Running Races (short sprints)

8:30 AM Bicycle Races – (Helmet REQUIRED)

9:00 AM TRIATHLON (Bike, Swim, Paddle---Ironperson or Family Relay) SIGN-UPS 10am Saturday

9:30 AM Volleyball Finals

9:30 AM Horseshoe Tournament DOUBLES SIGN UPS @ Horseshoe Pit

10:00 AM Horseshoe Tournament (doubles)

12:30 PADDLEFEST (No Sign ups) just need a vessel that floats & gets you to the end of the lake & back

2:00 Sailboat Race (SIGN-UPS from 10am to race time)

**Volunteers Needed! Contact Sharon Ruffner at (916)-716-9433 sharonruffner@yahoo.com.**



# Margie Powell Hike, 2018 August 11&12



Margie Powell was the inspiration for the Donner Summit Historical Society. She was also the energy behind the founding. In her memory we've held annual Margie Powell hikes in August. Our hikes have gone down Summit Canyon, up to Roller Pass, around Van Norden, and around Serene Lakes. We've covered the Lincoln Highway, the Emigrant Trail, Native Americans and what they've left behind, the 1914 underpass, Tunnel 6, snowsheds, Van Norden Dam, Soda Springs (the original and Soda Springs Station), ice harvesting

On this, our seventh year, we're going to tour mostly on the north side of Old Highway 40, Donner Pass Rd. Of course the walk will be illustrated with dozens of historic photographs and lots of stories.

This year will be very ambitious for the number of stories to tell. We'll be starting at the Donner Ski Ranch parking lot and talking about Tunnel 6, the Summit Hotel and the railroad facilities right there. Then we'll cross Donner Pass Rd. and talk about Sierra Junipers, the transcontinental air route (and the remains of the weather station buildings where there is a GREAT view - see above), the Catfish Pond or Maiden's Retreat, the idea that the north side of Old 40 was the Emigrant Trail (see photograph below of Trails West marker there) and possible proof, the recent report of cadaver dogs and Donner Party, down and around to Old 40, Donner Pass Rd. and across to the petroglyphs, China Wall, up the old Lincoln Highway to the PCT trailhead, and back to the start.

***Do not consider going on this hike unless you are nimble because there are parts where we'll have to scramble over some rocks since there is no trail.***

The dates: August 11,12 9:30 AM each day. Meet at the Donner Ski Ranch parking lot.

## Bring:

comfortable shoes - no flip flops  
water  
sunscreen  
insect repellent  
camera  
hat  
Lunch

Both photos by  
George Lamson



**SLPOA**

**P.O. 669**

Soda Springs, CA 95728

Address Service Requested

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

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

Entrée choice: Beef Tri Tip \_\_\_\_\_

Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ (must be ordered by 8/29/18)

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

Total amount \_\_\_\_\_

Complete order form and mail to: SLPOA  
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