

BUSINESS NAME

MEETINGS 1st Wednesday

of the month
at the
SLO Elks Lodge
222 Elks Lane, SLO

SOCIAL: 6:00pm
MEETING: 7:00pm
Board Meeting: 5:30pm

JOIN US

Annual Dues: \$40
sloskiers.org

SUMMER BIKE RIDE SCHEDULE First Friday of the Month

UPCOMING RIDES:

June 5th
Bob Jones Trail
10am

June 28th
SLO Seven
Sisters Ride

July 3rd



www.sloskiers.org

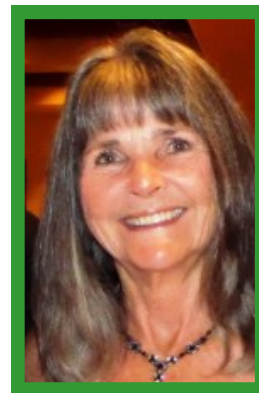
Official Newsletter of *The SLO Skiers Club, Inc.*
A Ski, Sport and Social Club

JUNE 2015

A Message From Our President...

It seems May has come and gone in a flash! The 2015- 2016 SLO Skiers calendar year is in full swing.

Sixty+ SLO Skiers attended the end of the year party at the SLO Elks lodge. We all enjoyed the beautiful poolside event on such a lovely spring day. We have **Joe Chufar** to thank for the delicious BBQ chicken and tri-tip. Joe spent his day in the BBQ room getting our meal 'just right'. **Thom and Sharon** lead the crew responsible for organizing and setting up this special event. A final big thank you goes out to the **creative SLO Skiers** that put together our ski theme table decorations and provided the wonderful side dishes, appetizers, and desserts.



President Fran Long

As always, our hiking poet, **Pete Sarafian**, gets a shout out for organizing and leading our monthly hike.

Our second meeting of the month was held at the Elks Lodge on Wednesday, May 20th. Twelve SLO Skiers attended our first session on understanding and navigating Meetup. Amongst the wine, and a little technological chaos, we all learned a bit more about Meetup...including the session presenter, ME.

In addition to our hiking program, our biking program is now in full swing. The schedule is listed in this newsletter. Check it out, and find a ride that is just right for you. One of our newer members, **Kara Edwall**, has volunteered to help out with bike rides. Thank you, Kara, for stepping up to help out with your club events.

Two of those bike rides are also campouts. You will want to make plans for those well in advance, as the camping facilities are limited. Look for that information in this newsletter as well. And remember, you don't have to ride a bike to enjoy the campout. There are plenty of other options available to you. Congratulations to our March and April SLO Skiers of the Month, **Barbara Collins** and **Bonnie Long**. Both of these ladies helped out with our week long ski trips this year. Bonnie was a huge support to Lauren for the Mt. Bachelor trip in February, and Barbara filled the same role for the Big White trip in March. Thank you both for the many hours you spent on behalf of your club.

Avila Trek Nice As Heck

The hike was at SLO Bay Estates,
In Avila, it really was great.
With near perfect weather,
We all got together,
And set out at a brisk rate.

The number of hikers, eleven,
Climbed halfway up into heaven.
To be more specific,
We saw the Pacific,
And none of us even gave in.

Our wonderful hosts were the
Hydes,
Laura and Bob and besides,
Their doggy named Bailey,
Wagging her tailey,
Trotted along for the ride.



From left to right- Bob Hyde, Carolyn Holley, Laura Hyde, Teresa Rice, Pete Sarafian & Bailey, Pam Olsen, Kathleen O'Neill, Donna Etter, Peter Jacobsen, Chris Lopez and Barbara Collins.

Photo by Pete Sarafian



Training w/ Fran

On Wednesday, May 20 a bunch of eager SLO Skiers assembled at the SLO Elk's Lodge for some Meetup Training. Anyone who wanted to learn more about navigating thru Meetup was welcome. The training was wonderful and Fran did a fabulous job as our Meetup instructor. She showed us many of the functions Meetup has to offer including:

- how to update our profiles
- how to print or save copies of pictures
- how to find schedules of activities
- how to upload photos into albums
- how to upload a profile picture
- how to find schedules of activities
- how to message other members
- how to find the Gazette Newsletters
- and much more!

If you're interested in learning more about how Meetup works ask Fran to schedule another training session. Oh...and wine was involved!



SLO Skiers First BBQ of the Year! TUESDAY, JUNE 16

5:00pm until ?

Spyglass Park, Pismo Beach

What should you bring??

SOMETHING TO SHARE: Salad, dessert, casserole, anything goes!

SOMETHING TO DRINK: Water, soda, beer, wine, anything goes!

SOMETHING TO BBQ: Chicken, beef, fish, veggies, anything goes!

OTHER: Bring a chair and something warm to wear as the sun sets

See you at the park

SLO SKIERS T U R T L E A U C T I O N SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2015

South Bay Community Center, Los Osos



WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS!

Help the SLO Skiers Club have another successful event.
Money raised help offset the cost of ski trips and events.

Question? Want to volunteer? Contact Thom or Sharon Page

Put your thinking cap on! What will you be donating this year??

BIKE & CAMP MONTEREY

July 30 - August 2



Back by popular demand is our summer Bike & Camp trip to Monterey. We will be camping at the Monterey County Fairgrounds (MCF). The reason we chose MCF is location, location, location. The facility is located close to the bike trail.

The bike ride will start Saturday at 10 am from the MCF. We will bike through the Cannery Row area towards the beautiful 17 mile drive. The round trip ride is approximately 20 miles and is rated beginner/intermediate. The scenery is world famous. Be sure to bring a helmet, water, and money for lunch. After the ride on Saturday we will have our usual group wine down. We plan to pack up and head home around noon on Sunday.

The club has reserved 4 RV spaces in the overflow grassy area. We chose to reserve spaces there to accommodate parking of the larger rigs. Tents are no longer allowed in the RV area. However you can sleep in the back of your SUV or truck. You may also consider sleeping on a cot under one of the RV awnings. Visit the MCF website at www.montereycountyfair.com for more details. For those of you that like a bit of luxury there is no shortage of lovely hotels/motels in the area.

To amp up for the fun on Saturday and Sunday, the Scottish Games and Celtic Festival is happening at MCF on August 1 & 2. Check out the next page! The Festival features a weekend of fun. Athletic competition is Caber toss, weights for distance and heavy hammer. Wow...that sounds interesting. The Scottish Clans will be in attendance in their full regalia. You can also enjoy one of Scotland's best exports at the Single Malt Whiskey Tasting. You can purchase your tickets in advance at montereyscotgames.com.

Check In/Out: Starts at 1pm. Gates close at 8pm. Check out time is noon.

Meals: Friday night dinner you're on your own.

Amenities: RV spaces have full hookups (electrical 20/30/50 amp, water and sewer).

Activities: There is a golf course located right next door.

Rates: RV spaces are \$50/night. You get 10% off as a senior over 65. The extra vehicle fee is \$5/night. That fee has NOT been prepaid.

Payment Due: \$50 payable to SLO Skiers, P.O. Box 1047, SLO 93406. Be sure to write "Monterey Camping" on your check. **Full payment is due by July 1**

Lauren will also be collecting money at the meeting on June 3.
Questions? Email Lauren at mlnskier@gmail.com or call 805-636-0477. If you are staying in a motel please let me know for planning purposes.



HAPPY TRAILS!
LAUREN





AUGUST 1 & 2, 2015

The Monterey Scottish Games & Celtic Festival

HOME OF KILTS, CELTS & KINGS!



Back by popular demand is the acclaimed "Classic Drum Major Contest" featuring world class Drum Majors. The Drum Majors parade the pipe band while showing off their skills for the honor of top Drum Major of the Monterey Games



Single Malt Whisky Tasting

Come enjoy one of Scotland's greatest exports—fine, single malt Scotch Whisky. Our Whisky Tasting event will provide you with a greater understanding of the history, distillation process and various tasting characteristics of fine Whiskies.



AUGUST 1 & 2, 2015

GREAT SCOT!

Nearly 50 years of tradition competition and performance



2016 SKI SEASON

First, THANK YOU, to the 42 members who went to Mt. Bachelor and the 55 members who went to Big White!

In 2016 we are featuring **THREE** weeklong trips. January 30th to February 6th we will join 400 or so of our friends from Far West Ski Association at Telluride, Colorado. February 20th to 26th will a six day trip to Vail owned resort (still negotiating a killer price) and March 19th to 26th Park City/Canyons Resorts.

For a poor snow year we found lots of decent skiing in 2015. Next year, there are strong indications El Nino will bring epic precipitation. Speaking of **EPIC**... the club will have available for purchase the Vail Epic Local's Pass. The cost is \$579. Be sure and watch for emails or announcements on Meetup. Don't miss out on this opportunity. This is what you get for that price: Unlimited, unrestricted skiing or riding at Breckenridge, Keystone, Afton Alps, Mt. Brighton and Arapahoe Basin with limited restrictions at Park City, Canyons, Heavenly, Northstar and Kirkwood. That also includes a total of 10 days at Vail and Beaver Creek with holiday restrictions. The blackout dates are; Vail, Beaver Creek, Park City, Heavenly, Northstar & Kirkwood 11/27 and 11/28 12.26-12/31 of this year. In 2016 1/16, 2/13-2/14. Over 30 SLO Skiers purchased these passes in 2014. Next season you can use the passes at the Park City/Canyons and February week long trips PLUS any of the other Vail resorts you may choose to visit.

I'm sure Fran will have lots of information on the trip to Telluride in another article. Here is some basic info on the March trip.

The big news in US skiing is the expansion of the Park City Ski Area. What good luck. We will be able to check it out in person. Next year Park City and the Canyons Resort will be linked together via an 8 passenger high speed gondola. There will be 7300 acres of skiable terrain. The combined resorts feature 17 peaks and 14 bowls. There are over 300 trails. These trails are serviced by 22.39 **MILES** of lifts. The average snowfall measured at the top of the Jupiter chair is 360 inches per year. There are 480 snowmaking guns. When you want to stop for a bite to eat there are 16 on-mountain locations. Are you starting to get the idea that this is the one totally awesome ski area? Well now, let's talk about the town. First we will be staying at the Park Station Condos. They are located at Main Street and the Town Lift. These are very nicely appointed condos. In addition to featuring the amenities the SLO Skiers have come to expect, the location is perfect. It is easy walking to downtown Park City's numerous shops and restaurants. The town is one of the best ski towns anywhere. It is only 32 miles from Salt Lake City. It is located in the Wasatch Mountains. The average snow base depth in 2014 was 56". In comparison; Vail 52", Sun Valley 29", Mammoth 29".

Lauren

Summer Bike Schedule

As you can see by the schedule below, there are still plenty of opportunities to hop on your bike and take a bike riding adventure with your SLO Skier friends. Check out the schedule below and join your fellow SLO Skiers for a series of superb summer (and spring) bike rides. Mark your calendar with the following bike ride dates. Exact locations and times will be announced on Meetup and in the newsletters. Some rides will be local, and some will be combined with a campout. ALL rides will have something to offer to everyone!

Friday, June 5th First Friday Bob Jones Trail Ride

Sunday, June 28th, SLO Seven Sisters Ride

Friday, July 3rd, First Friday Bob Jones Trail Ride

Sunday, July 12th, location TBD

Thursday-Sunday, July 30-August 2, Monterey Camp and Bike

Friday, August 7th, First Friday Bob Jones Trail Ride

Sunday, August 16th, location TBD

Friday, September 4th First Friday Bob Jones Trail Ride

Sunday, September 20th, location TBD

Friday-Sunday, October 2-4, Morro Bay Camp & Bike (Weekend campout in Morro Bay with other central California ski clubs)

Sunday, October 10th, Templeton Wine & Roses 30 Mile Ride (Register now at: wineandrosesride.com)

Contact Fran at fancat87@gmail.com if you would be interested in captaining one of the rides.



10 Bicycle Safety Tips for Safer Cycling

Just a reminder as we head in bicycling season



Compliments of AAA

The best guideline is:

Be Alert

Be Wary

Be Seen

Be Alert. Be Wary. Be Seen..

Scan ahead, center, left and right.

Pay attention to vehicles, pedestrians and others on the road.

Use your horn, hand signals, and light to be seen by others.

- * Wear your helmet. Follow this simple rule and you reduce your risk of serious injury by as much as 85%.
- * Keep your head up and look ahead, not at the ground. You need to see what is coming up so you have time to react and maneuver.
- * One person per bike. Riding with unsecured passengers puts you at risk for injury to yourself and others.
- * Ride in single file line with space between bikes.
- * Ride on the right side of the road, never against traffic. Otherwise, you are at risk for an accident – or a ticket.
- ** If you will be riding in an unfamiliar area, check out local laws and rules first.
- * Avoid busy roads and peak traffic times on your route.
- * Before riding at night, ask someone to help you check your visibility to motorists.
- * Maintain the bikes in your household. Keep chains clean and lubricated and periodically inspect brake pads.
- * Plan ahead if you will ride in a group. Agree on the route ahead of time. Have a plan on what you will do if separated by traffic.

Bachelor Accounting			
INCOME		EXPENSE	
Paid	\$ 46,206.00	Amtrak	\$ 11,503.20
Norm & Jan	\$ 1,160.00	Awards	\$ 135.54
Club	\$ 1,720.00	Crater Lake	\$ 2,466.00
Crater Lake	\$ 1,667.00	Elks	\$ 644.50
Ski Storage	\$ 420.00	Food Vouchers	\$ 740.00
TOTALS	\$ 51,173.00	Glasses	\$ 105.10
		Hospitality	\$ 954.82
		Hotel	\$ 24,521.56
		Lift Tickets	\$ 6,492.00
		Non-skiers	\$ 482.09
		Ski Storage	\$ 460.00
		Transportation	\$ 1,917.00
		Trip Leader Reimbursement	\$ 714.39
			\$ 51,136.20
Balancing Remaining	\$ 36.80	UNDER BUDGET!	

Long Term Planning for Membership Recruitment

by Thom & Sharon Page, Grandparents

We'd like to introduce the newest member of the SLO Skiers family...

Sydney Olivia Esparza

Sydney was born May 7, 2015. Thank you to all of you who were a part of picking the material, in Sister's Oregon while on our Mt. Bachelor trip, and assisted in creating her baby quilt, my first...soon to be finished. Thank you also goes out to all of those who had to listen to me go on and on about our first grandchild! She is beautiful and we are proud grandparents,!

Can you see a SLO Skier in the future?!!



Stranded in Russia (Part 3) by SLO Skier, Helen Jacobsen

In Part 2 we were glad to see that Helen finally got her passport back and left on a flight to Frankfurt, Germany. Will she catch up with the rest of her group? Helen realized her adventure had just begun!



I had to catch a subway to the train station for my next leg. A nice young lady with a back pack offered to help me get the oppressive luggage on the subway. She helped me get it off the subway when we arrived and then proceeded to point out the information booth and wished me well. By now it was 11 pm. They spoke English here so I showed her the name of the ski lodge I was headed to in Austria. Her efficient, state of the art computer, printed out a detailed itinerary for me with what trains to take and what platforms to load from. It was a wonderful piece of paper. I held it in my anxious hands. Then she looks me directly in the eye and says, "...but you are in the wrong section of the train depot. You must go to another one." But where is this other section? How do I get there? She waves me away. By now she has a large line forming behind me and has no more time to talk with me. I am now exhausted and frustrated! At least point me in the direction I am supposed to go, I pleaded. She ignored me and waited on the next person in line. I was bewildered as I looked around the station.

There was major remodeling going on. The normal platform I should have been on with clearly marked signs had now changed. This platform was now used by another train. Very little of the changes were marked correctly due to construction. Exhausted and helpless, nerves now grabbed at me. I stood there trembling, surrounded by my pile of luggage. A very tall young man in the back of the line said in perfect English, "I am going where you need to go. I will take you." He helped me take my bags up two long flights of stairs and rode with me to the correct train depot. By now it was after 1am, it was a very cold February winter night, and I had been up since 5:30am the day before. My connecting train did not leave 'til 3am, so the young man helped me take the cumbersome luggage to a Burger King and showed me which platform I needed to be on, at 3am (of course it was up three flights of stairs). He said "Burger King closes at 1:30am." At least I would be out of the cold until then.

I plopped down and ate a somewhat familiar burger, and rested for a minute. It was warm; it felt a little like home. As closing time approached I dreaded going out into the cold and facing the three long flights of stairs, as a beast of burden with my luggage. (I hate to confess but I am now also dragging around the beautiful bouquet of flowers.) I started towards the door. The young man working must have seen the exhausted look on my face, so he turned to me and said, "It takes about an hour to clean up so you are welcome to wait in here till we lock up". The thank yous gushed out. I was so grateful. At 2:30am sharp he motioned for me to leave. I drug my entourage of luggage out the door. He stepped out and I heard the lock click behind us. I looked towards the three long flights of stairs to the loading dock. It was freezing cold and I was losing heart. As I headed out I felt the young man step up behind me. I turned as he grabbed several of my bags and said in his broken English "Please let me help you." Up the stairs we went. After a big hug and goodbyes I sat on my suit cases alone bundled up against the cold.

Then a thought hit me. I have no German money to pay for the train ticket. I panicked. I could

see another train had just come in on a lower dock. I left everything and ran down towards the voices of the passengers getting off. I heard two couples speaking English. They were dressed to the nines, like they had just come from an opera. I looked like I had been pulled through a knot hole backwards. I interrupted, "Excuse me, could I please get some marks for the train ticket? All I have is twenty American dollars." They looked at me and handed me the equivalent of thirty American dollars in German marks. I started digging through my pouch for more money. They refused to take any of my money and waved me off wishing me the best of luck. I stood there dumb founded; they strolled on picking up their light chatter where they had left off.

I ran back up the stairs to the top platform. It was just a few minutes now until the train would come. Finally, I had all my stuff safely on the train. I was off to Austria. I was sitting in a warm compartment with my ticket in hand. I now could relax. Knowing how garbled the announcements are on the trains PA system, and not understanding the language, I was worried I would miss my stop.

Across from me sat a young black man. He looked like a T.V. drug dealer; skinny as a rail, dripping with heavy gold chains, lots of rings, and a large diamond stud in his ear. I explained I was afraid I would miss my stop. He reassured me he would watch for it and I could get some rest. Five miles down the track I glanced over at him and he was sound asleep. Now my eyes were as big as saucers. Forcing myself to stay awake I followed the map in the car. At about 7am I saw my stop finally coming up. I gathered up my heavy luggage. My compartment mate was still fast asleep. I headed down the car to the exit. I was getting excited. I was almost there.

I stood at the door. I had a plan. I would throw the two biggest bags off first, then take the others and hop off the train. I knew from earlier experience the doors only stayed open a very short time. That is why the trains are on time in Europe. The door opened and I made my move. I stopped short and ran into an obstacle; a very large German lady. She was almost as wide as the door and strong as an ox. She had two very large suitcases, one in each hand. She was talking loudly in German, and barreling onto the train in a big hurry; almost mowing me down. I regained my footing, yelling at her that I needed to get off this train. I started out the door when it abruptly closed right in front of me. I screamed, "Stop the train" as I pulled on the emergency cord. Absolutely nothing happened, and the train proceeded on. I missed my stop.

What is Helen going to do now?
Will she catch up with her group?
Stay tuned for the conclusion of
"Stranded In Russia."





Board of Directors & Officers 2015-2016

Your Board is here for you. If you have any questions, suggestions on activities, want to be more involved, contact any of the following Directors or Officer. Remember, the SLO Skiers & Social Club is YOU!

DIRECTORS & OFFICERS:

- ♦ **President** - Fran Long—
president@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Vice President** - Steve Thatcher—
vicepresident@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Secretary** - Ralph Gibson—secretary@sloskiers.org
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- ♦ **Trip Director** (Week Long) - Lauren Nagle—trips@sloskiers.org
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- ♦ **Meet-up Coordinators** (Website) - Jana Favalara & Fran Long—
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- ♦ **Schedule Coordinator** - Fran Long—president@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Philanthropy Chair** - Michael Krebsbach—philanthropy@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Club Photographer** Helen Jacobsen—photo@sloskiers.org
- ♦ **Past President** - John Smith
- ♦ **Publicity Chairperson** - Pete Sarafian—publicity@sloskiers.org



Thanks to our Sponsors who support
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Do you have something newsworthy to share with the SLO Skiers? Contact Newsletter Editor, Stacey King and she'll help you get it published. Send her an email to slostacey@yahoo.com or send her a message on Meet-up!