



# CABIN-NEWSLETTER

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W I N T E R 2 0 0 8

## NATIONAL FOREST HOMEOWNERS

So much good information is contained in the NFH newsletter, I hope you all will take time to read it.

NFH is leading the effort to correct the problems of CUFFA, the Cabin User Fee Fairness Act. This act was supposed to protect us from unfair fees based on unrealistic appraisals of the land we occupy. This isn't the case because of changes in wording that were not meant to happen. NFH has worked for two years trying to get corrective action administratively through the Forest Service to no avail. Since CUFFA is an act of Congress, it will take Congressional action to change it.

We are making progress in this area. Thanks to all the letter writing so far, several members of Congress have joined the ranks of those that feel something needs to be done. But we can't stop now. We all need to take a few minutes and write our Senators and Congressmen and tell them we are concerned about what is happening around the country.

We on Mount Laguna may see a 20% or 30% increase in our fees. There are places in California and several other states that are seeing 200% to 500% increases. This could price many cabin owners out of the picture simply because it is no longer affordable. Think about it. Having to pay \$5000 to \$25,000 a year to maintain their cabin is a lot to ask and some people can't afford it. At those rates, the ability to sell the cabin is threatened also. If it can't be sold, it has to be removed from the forest. If removed, that permit is lost forever. No new permits are being issued. With every permit lost, the number of recreational residence permits dwindles, and we worry that eventually the number will get so low that the Forest Service will request the entire program be cancelled. We can't let that happen. We need your help!

The last newsletter has sample letters that can be used as guidelines to make it easier to compose your own thoughts. Please take the time to write a letter. The best way to make it count is to fax it to their office. Email and postal mail is not as effective. Any way you do it, please do it. Our future on the mountain could depend on it.

*Stan Jasek is an elected NFH Board Member supporting the future of the cabin program on National Forest land. For more information on the National Forest Homeowners Assoc. visit [www.nationalforesthowners.org](http://www.nationalforesthowners.org)*

WWW.MTLAGUNA.ORG

## NFH COMES TO SAN DIEGO IN JAN.

January 24, 2009 is the date for the National Forest Homeowner Winter Forum. Save the date! This will be a great opportunity to hear the latest information on CUFFA, what effect our appraisals will have on our annual fee, and what's going on in the Forest Service.

There will be a comprehensive presentation on the efforts to correct CUFFA, a review of the economic impact that cabin owners have on the community, and a lively question and answer session. Many high-ranking Forest Service personnel will be there.

It's only half a day, noon to 5:30, and the cost is \$15.00. In San Diego County alone, we have over 200 recreational residence permittees. Wouldn't it be impressive if the majority of us showed up in support of our program. It will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott, 8651 Spectrum Center Blvd., San Diego. We hope to see you there!

*Stan Jasek, MLIA Board Member, Cabin #802  
619-691-1423 [stanjasek@yahoo.com](mailto:stanjasek@yahoo.com)*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

For those of you who were not able to attend our Annual Meeting on Sept. 20, we have information that our permit fee reassessment is progressing. Although not confirmed, increases are anticipate at 20 - 30%, depending on location.

Board member, Frank Kalinoski, is working in cooperation with the Forest Service to improve our cabin access roads. The plan is to bring these routes up to an acceptable standard with the understanding that, at some point in the future, MLIA will take over the responsibility of maintaining these roads. We are currently assembling work parties and will be seeking funds for gravel to move this project forward.

*John Wallar, Cabin # 718  
MLIA President  
949-361-5572 [mwallar@cox.net](mailto:mwallar@cox.net)*

## WATER MAINTENANCE

Reminder, if you have any problems with the MLIA water system, please report it to Dan Fritz at 619-405-1452 or 619-749-4553.