



WRRA Spring 2017 Newsletter

White River Recreation Association

REPRESENTING FEDERAL LAND PERMITTEES IN THE UPPER WHITE RIVER VALLEY AND MT BAKER-SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST SINCE 1929

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WRRA Spring Dinner Meeting

Greenwater Fire Station and Community Center

Saturday, April 29, 2017 starting at 5:30 PM

~ CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION ~

Please join your fellow cabin owners, families, and friends for our annual WRRA Spring Dinner! We have a fun and social evening planned, featuring great Mexican food, beverages, timely information, plenty of socializing and prizes. Based on previous feedback from our members, we are holding the meeting near the cabins, at the Greenwater Community Center/Fire Station.

The dinner will be a Cinco De Mayo theme, and food will be provided by New York Catering from Enumclaw.

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|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5:15 PM | Arrival, registration and name badges. |
| 5:30 PM | Welcome and opening remarks, updates and announcements – Kevin Orth, President
Social Time: An assortment of fine wines, beers and non-alcoholic beverages will be available. The cost is included in the price of dinner. |
| 6:30 PM | Dinner - Cinco De Mayo Celebration including Tortilla Chips and Nachos with condiments, Taco Bar with all fixings, Tamales, Rice and Beans, Mexican Corn Cobs, Salads and Fruit, and Cake. |

At the end of dinner we will be providing additional updates from USFS, Law Enforcement, Greenwater Fire, and more – as available.

7:45 - 8:00 PM Door Prizes.

Spring Dinner Policy & Cost:

Cost will be \$30.00 per person, tax and tip included. The maximum number of WRRA members and guests that can be served is 100. To guarantee a place at the table, your reservation must be received by April 26, 2017. Those who miss the deadline but wish to attend will be subject to a \$10.00 surcharge if space is available. No refunds or cancellations after April 26, 2017.

See page 7 for Reservation Form

President's Message

Happy Spring! Can we even call this spring? At the time of this writing, we are still experiencing winter weather. And, what a winter it has been! We have twice had to cancel board meetings due to severe weather in Seattle. But on the flip side, we have had some of the best skiing in years!



Well, I am sure the warm weather will come soon enough, and with it the melting of the snow and the transition to spring and summer activities. As such, I wanted to remind and encourage you all to attend our upcoming Spring Dinner and social event, in Greenwater on April 29th. It should be a lot of fun, celebrating Cinco De Mayo! And also make sure you have on your calendar our traditional Summer Picnic and Cabin Tour event, July 29th.

These social events are part of the core mission of our organization, and are a great way to get together with fellow cabin owners and others in the community, share camaraderie and stories, and learn about what others are doing in their cabins, and in their lives.

I also wanted to remind everyone about the upcoming National Forest Homeowners (NFH) conference which will take place in Seatac, April 21-22. The conference should be a fantastic opportunity to interact with other cabin owners from around the country, discuss issues, and get new ideas for our cabins and community. It is a wonderful opportunity since this national conference is taking place in our backyard, at Cedarbrook Lodge; I hope that many of you will consider joining members of the board in attending the conference! For more information see the article in this newsletter.

Lastly, I wanted to note that I was reminded about what makes the WRRA so special, when I attended Elizabeth Hampson's memorial service

in January. The church was packed to overflowing, and a good half of those in attendance were WRRA members. It was a wonderful and emotional service, and the remembrances and pictures were often focused on Elizabeth's time and activities in the cabin community. The bonds we share and the connections we have to other members of the WRRA community was certainly very evident that day. I am proud to be part of that community spirit with all of you.

Please drop me a note if you have any questions, concerns, or input, at president@wrra.net.

I hope to see you up at the cabins or in the mountains soon! ~ Kevin Orth, WRRA President

WRRA Membership Drive

A big thank you to all the members who have sent in their 2017 membership dues. We absolutely love you!

If you haven't sent in your 2017 dues yet, please take this as a reminder that we absolutely need you! Take this opportunity to fill out the form below and send in your check today.

WHY IS THE WRRA IMPORTANT?

As cabin owners, we all know the importance of connecting and working together as a group to affect needed change to ensure the enjoyment of our cabins and the beautiful Cascade Mountains they are nestled in.

- The WRRA has been our collective mouthpiece and guiding force for over 70 years to help shape the form of many decisions that impact our use and enjoyment of our precious cabins.

**ALL IN ONE
BUILDING & SUPPLY**

General Contractor, Lindal Dealer, Huntwood Cabinets

CHUCK GILLETT
Owner

2801 C Academy Drive
Auburn, WA 98092

Gillettesunroom@msn.com
Office: 253-839-0176
1-800-470-1102
Cell: 253-670-9485

- The WRRA was instrumental in helping all cabin owners' work with the Forest Service & Congress to get an equitable resolution to our annual cabin permit fees through the passage of the Cabin Fee Act. Cabin fees that we can all live with!
- Currently, we are actively working with the Forest Service on changing the regulations regarding metal roofs. This has been a process that has been going on for years and we continue to be hopeful!

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO GROW WRRA MEMBERSHIP

As an organization, membership is our lifeblood! We are very strong with over 80% of all cabins represented with memberships. HOWEVER, like any organization we continue to look to new memberships to keep us connected, relevant and strong.

As mentioned in previous appeals, each cabin can have up to 4 memberships and we already have a

number of cabins that have multiple memberships. Please consider reaching out to your cabin partner(s), relatives and friends that share your cabin. They need to be involved with "their cabin" and see the larger picture of how we all protect this beautiful asset we share.

Also, incredibly many cabins are transitioning to their 2nd, 3rd and possibly 4th generation of owners. WRRA is a great way to share the legacy and start sharing responsibility of cabin ownership with our next generations! Please consider adding at least one membership to your cabin in 2017!

WRRA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Four newsletters each year
- The annual Summer Picnic, a chance to mingle and have some great fun with your neighbors and other tract cabin owners!
- A collective representative to the Forest Service on issues of importance to us all.

Dues Renewal Form

Name(s):		
Address:		
City: State Zip		
Home Phone		Cell Phone
Work Phone		Cabin Phone
Email address (WRRA news updates)		

HOW TO VERIFY/CONFIRM IF YOU HAVE ALREADY PAID FOR 2017

Please send an email to treasurer@wrra.net requesting a record check for 2017 payment. You can also check your newsletter address label for "Member 2017" as verification of 2017 payment.

- White River Recreation Association Dues: \$40
 National Forest Homeowners Dues (optional): \$40
 Contribution to Cabin Defense Fund (optional): _____
 New Membership? yes____ no____ Cabin #_____

Permit holder? yes____ no____

Total Enclosed: _____

Please make check payable to "WRRA" and send complete membership dues form to:
 Kevin Bannon WRRA Treasurer, 4637 South 168th Street, Seattle, WA 98188

Treasurer's Summary

2016 Overview:

2016 produced solid results. Both net income and membership numbers made turnarounds. Gross income continued a declining trend.

2016 Notes:

Memberships: 2015's low membership count of 211 members improved in 2016 by signing up 227. The recent norm has been about 225 -235.

National Forest Homeowners (NFH): While many association/tracts require members to join NFH, it is optional for WRRA members. In 2016 an all-time low number, 33, joined WRRA while 11 board members also joined. Board members have their NFH memberships paid by the WRRA general fund. It is important that our leadership stay informed on important issues.

General Fund Results: Net income for 2016 of approximately \$2057. Results were helped by good membership enrollment plus fiscal discipline. Volunteers continue to be critical for the success of WRRA. Their contributions are valuable and appreciated.

Cabin Defense Fund: Donations from members totaling \$700 were received and this represents a low point. \$560 of dues overages were transferred over on December 30. Inadvertently dues statements sent in January, 2016 billed members for the wrong amount. Those not requesting refunds were given the option of donating any overage to the cabin defense fund. Interest revenue for the year of about \$19. Silent Auction Receipts of approximately \$756. While donations were disappointing, receipts from the cabin tour and silent auction were excellent. Net balance of Cabin Defense Fund is about \$32,352.

Copeland Fund: Consisting of a bequest from late member Dorothy Copeland, there was interest income of approximately \$40 for the year. Balance is approximately \$27,970.

Web Page: Approximately \$120 was paid from the special fund, created by a member donation,

purchasing one year of hosting services by Wix.com

What You'll See in 2017:

2017 Budget: In October 2016, because of projected expenses, the board approved a \$5 dues increase and announced it at the Fall Dinner. This is the first dues increase in 15 years.

Tiny General Fund Deficit Projected: Prospects to end the year with a modest net income are good if the board makes one or more reasonable adjustments: 1. Recruit additional members. 2. Generate new advertising income. 3. Keep costs within the budget. 4. Make additional expense reductions should income not meet projections.

Seeking Opportunities: The Membership and Fundraising committees are at work looking at ways to bring memberships back up to historic levels as well as bringing back former income sources such as advertising revenue.

Financial Reporting Improvements: Financial records are now kept using QuickBooks. Besides more robust financial recording capabilities, QuickBooks also allows electronic receipts and billing. Hopefully you are finding your 2017 dues receipts helpful. Additionally, changes were made to the chart of accounts and balance sheet format to make our finances more in line with the standards expected by the IRS.

Working with others of the board, improvements will continue to be introduced and members will receive periodic reports as stipulated in the bylaws. Complete written reports are available at WRRA meetings. Questions can also be emailed to treasurer@wrra.net.

Thank you for keeping your information current. Appreciation to the members who responded to our appeal to provide WRRA with contact information of their other family members as well as silent partners so that information can be passed on in the event of an emergency and WRRA cannot get hold of you. We will continue to accept and collect the names and contact info you wish to share with us.

Are you getting email updates from WRRA? If you are not and would like to receive them we will happily add your email address to our list. Please drop us a line. ~ Kevin Bannon

2017 National Forest Home-owners Conference – CLOSE TO HOME

WRRA members have a wonderful and exciting opportunity to get involved with a national organization, the National Forest Homeowners (NFH), when they hold their upcoming conference on **April 21 and 22, at Cedarbrook Lodge in Seatac.**

The theme of the conference is “Cabin Living—Finding the Balance”. Programs will focus on the balancing act between being a good steward of the land/nature, and being a homeowner in the national forests.

The main speaker, Dr. Jerry F. Franklin has spent more than 50 years studying forest ecology, primarily in the Pacific Northwest. Dr. Franklin has been called the “father of new forestry” and is one of the country’s leading authorities on sustainable forest management and maintaining healthy forest ecosystems. Additionally, he is a cabin owner himself in the Government Mineral Springs site on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

Workshops will focus on **Historical Preservation**, as well as **Trusts** (how to set up your cabin’s transition to the next generation), plus how to find **Cabin Insurance, Preparing For Forest Fires, and Water Rights.**

Round table discussions will provide an open-ended opportunity to network with other cabin owners from across the country, to listen and learn in a small group setting.

During the conference there will be ongoing opportunities to meet and interact with Region 6 USFS Regional and District staff as well as national leaders from Washington D.C.

And, there will be raffles with top prizes of a week-long stay at a choice of a cabin in Montana or California, and a two night stay at a Washington Inn – plus a wine raffle.

All WRRA members are highly encouraged to attend, learn, and ask questions. Several of your board members are attending, and we will provide some updates at the upcoming WRRA Spring Dinner (April 29th) as well as in the next newsletter. Come join us!

For more information, and to register online, please check out the NFH website:

www.nationalforesthomeowners.org

~ Kevin Orth

Hello Cabin Owners,

Have you ever had work done at your cabin by a contractor, had your septic tank pumped out, chimneys swept, pest control or other services done with glowing satisfaction? We'd like to know. We've all experienced challenges in finding the right service provider -- one that will make the trip to the cabins at a reasonable price and perform services in a quality manner.

If you have had a great experience, please send your service providers' contact info to:

markcurran@gmail.com

for possible inclusion into the upcoming WRRA directory. Let's reward these folks that help us make cabin ownership just a bit less challenging.

Phyllis Hartford, Realtor
MOUNTAIN LIFESTYLES



Mountain View Properties

www.CrystalMountainCabinsAndHomes.com
Office: (360) 663-2459
Cell: (206) 617-1049

Sledding Social Recap

After three failed attempts the last three years due to Mother Nature and scheduling issues, we finally had a fantastic, fun, and successful Cabin Sledding Social on Presidents Day weekend this year!



The weather couldn't have been more perfect, and it was a great time of sledding, sliding, socialization, camaraderie and fellowship!

Around 3:30 pm we had our first group of sledders show up, and by 4:00 we were around 20 people strong.



Mark Curran arrived shortly thereafter with tiki torches that he set up on the upper part of the sledding hill, where my spotlights didn't reach. Thanks Mark!



The numbers of attendees waxed and waned as families with smaller kids went in for dinner, and older kids joined later, but we had around 30 at the maximum, and all told over 50 cabin owners, family and friends cycled through.

We ended up getting some music going, and a bonfire and hot cocoa too. There were several adults there who had no kids sledding, and they were loving the environment and social aspect.

Everyone was having a great time, there were no injuries, and lots of smiling and screaming kids and adults both. Although the official end time was 6pm, we kept it rolling until 7 when the last group headed in for dinner.

A hugely successful event by all counts. Can't wait to do it again next year.

~ Kevin Orth



Visit our Facebook page for frequent updates on social events and other topics:
White River Recreation Association

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WRRA Calendar 2017

April 21-22	National Forest Homeowner's Conference, SeaTac, WA
April 29	*Spring Dinner, Greenwater Community Center
April 30	Spring Road clean up, Hosted by Silver Springs
May 22	Spring Board Meeting, Location TBD***
July 28	Summer Board Meeting, Cabin Area
July 29	Picnic, Dalles CG/SS CG
July 30	Summer Road clean up, Hosted by Silver Creek
Oct 15	Fall Board Meeting, Location TBD***
Oct 28 or Nov 4**	Fall Dinner Meeting, Greenwater
Oct 29 or Nov 5	Fall Road clean up, Hosted by Dalles
Sept 30	WSFHA Fall Meeting, Wenatchee Tract
Nov 4/11 **	Board Planning Meeting, Seattle

* Depends on Crystal Mountain Schedule

** Depends on UW Football Home games

*** Board member home - TBD

RESERVATIONS FORM: WRRA Spring Dinner Event

Greenwater Fire Station and Community Center

Saturday, April 29. 2017 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

By Brown Paper Tickets: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2905727>

By phone: Kevin Bannon 206-244-9683 (between 6-8 p.m.)

By email: treasurer@wrra.net

By mail: *WRRA Treasurer, 4637 S. 168th St., Seattle, WA 98188* (include the form below)

Please include payment, payable to "WRRA" with reservation

Name(s):			
Number Attending		@ \$30/person	
		Total Enclosed:	

WRRA

The purpose of White River Recreational Association (WRRA) is to promote and protect recreational interests along the Mather Memorial Parkway and throughout the Upper White River Valley; to do any and all things lawful, just and necessary to better the interests of the members of the Association; to secure equitable legislation; and to cooperate with the Forest Service in the protection and administration of all recreational feature.



WRRA Board for 2017

President Kevin Orth, SC 26 Home: 206-232-1764 Cabin: 360-663-0164 president@wrra.net	Vice President Tim Curran, DC 3 Home: 425-641-9335 Cabin: 360-663-2631 vp@wrra.net	Immediate Past Pres. Rena Irwin, DC 17 Home: 360-866-2570 Cabin: 360-663-2428 renairwin1@comcast.net
Secretary Anne Turner, SC 2 Home: 425-218-9822 Cabin: 360-663-2377 secretary@wrra.net	Treasurer Kevin Bannon, SS 155 Home: 206-244-9683 treasurer@wrra.net	Dalles Representative Mary Anne Gillett, D 26 Home: 253-839-0176 Cabin: 360-663-2417 dalles-rep@wrra.net
Silver Springs Rep # 1 Bill Vlases, SS 80 Home: 206-878-2541 Cabin: 360-663-7752 ss-rep@wrra.net	Silver Springs Rep # 2 Mark Wellington, SS 148 Home: 206-524-4036 Cabin: 360-663-2271 ss-rep@wrra.net	Silver Creek Rep Karen Buhler, SC 9 Home: 206-782-9175 Cabin: 360-663-2405 sc-rep@wrra.net
Goat Creek Rep #1 Tom Wood, GC 95 Home: 253-631-2653 gc-rep@wrra.net	Goat Creek Rep #2 John Campbell, GC 4 Home: 206-675-1516 Cabin: 360-663-2589 gc-rep@wrra.net	Deep Creek Rep Mark Curran, DC 3 Home: 206-933-8922 Cabin: 360-663-2631 dc-rep@wrra.net

WRRA Spring 2017 Newsletter



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