

Fleur du Lac Estates

Winter 2020 Newsletter



FLEUR DU LAC

WINTER 2020

STILL WAITING FOR SNOW!

With our early season snowfall, cold temps, and snow-making equipment at the ski areas, the Tahoe Resort Community was able to get off to a great start for skiers and boarders. The resorts opened nearly all the runs early this year, which made for great holiday skiing in Lake Tahoe. The rest of the season has unfortunately been lacking as far as snowfall amounts. Despite the low snowpack, town has been bustling and Fleur du Lac has had many visitors, keeping us all busy.

February has, for the most part, been icy-cold – good for preserving well what snow we do have. Skiers and boarders report conditions being excellent despite a dry January and February.



Meanwhile, Fleur du Lac staff has been busy planning for a project-filled summer season; it may be to our advantage to move right into spring to get the ball rolling on our hefty project list. But it would not be a surprise if we had another Miracle March with oodles of snow for all to enjoy! So, we will wait and see what Mother Nature delivers to us.

NEW SERVICE ROAD

The new Service Road installation was completed in early November. We had to contend with an unexpected soil contamination issue and its extra time, cost and inconvenience. With the new lighting that was purchased and installed by Doug Stuart, the new road/parking area is working very well for us. Clean, safe, and efficient, it keeps our vehicles, equipment, and the dumpster well out of sight.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Grandbaby

Charlie Shackleton!

Shared by Denise Shackleton

Charles George Shackleton arrived in time to be the first newborn in San Francisco for 2020, but we call him Charlie. His father and his grandfather are both George Charles. Megan chose to use our last name of Shackleton for him. Charlie was born on New Year's Day at 12:40 AM weighing in at 7 Lbs. 9 Oz. Megan went into labor around 5:00 AM the prior day, so they weren't sure which year he'd be born in! Later that morning, Charlie was [interviewed](#) by three major local TV stations which featured that evening!



So far, his two-year-old sister Annaliese has been very sweet with the new member of the family.

Charlie got to meet his other local cousins, Bennett and Carter, and Aunt Courtney and Uncle



Andrew the next weekend. His Uncle Drew also flew up from LA to see his new nephew!

Both Megan and Charlie are doing great (mom's remembering how to function on little sleep again) and proud Papa George is excited to have both a boy and a girl to help raise!

NEW YEARS EVE AT THE LAKE

For those who celebrated the Christmas Holiday at Fleur du Lac, you probably know that the Boldts and the Baggetts have somewhat initiated a holiday tradition here: they invite everyone over to the Yacht Club the afternoon of December 28th to watch college football championships and share some holiday cheer. Fun and games were complemented again this year by a grand potluck. Everyone here for the holidays was encouraged to come and cheer on their favorite team and socialize with their Fleur du Lac neighbors. Plenty of chips and salsa, soups, and cornbread were available to share, and everyone had a great time celebrating.

The New Year's Eve festivities were just as much fun with many homeowners still on the property, and the spirit of the holidays was in full swing. Pizzas, salads and lasagna were again a big hit this year, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. We hope for even more participants in the coming years!



MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Spa Cover



The long-awaited Spa Cover is finally here, and it looks great. The first one came with some errors in construction, but Hot Tub Works has rebuilt the entire cover correctly and shipped it to us, all for no additional charge. Please feel free to call the office if you need help in removing or replacing the cover.

Landscaping changes/Update

At the end of the busy summer/fall season last year, you may have seen Christine Savage of Greenscapes Property Services out on the grounds. We have enlisted her help again this year to help map, re-work, and fine tune our irrigation systems. Also new this year, the Landscaping team will be implementing a structured rotational schedule to be sure that all areas get the attention needed.

Other Maintenance Projects

Another major project planned for this summer is more replacement of the old steel waterline with 2" HDPE, the current industry standard. This year we will replace the lines from Unit 13 through 20. Fortunately, those lines are under landscaping and grassy meadow areas which will not require replacement of pavement. We anticipate beginning this work May 1, with completion set for June 1. In 2021 we plan to do Units 9-12 and the Yacht Club. Then, all that will remain for that project will be the Office, Maintenance Garage, Aspen House, and Units 21 and 22. We hope to finish those areas in 2022.

Harbor Issues





Many Lake Tahoe marinas sustained damages in the hellacious winds of February 9, including Fleur du Lac, where we incurred some significant damage to the outer sheet pile at our Boathouse Jetty. Lane and Ed are in the process of assessing damages and getting bids from three local companies (Tahoe Marine & Excavation's Matt Daniels, Pacific Built and Ginsberg Excavation).

Maintenance Shop

The Stuarts have opted to spend the winter with us here at Fleur du Lac, their first winter since they bought their unit! While here, Doug has been very generous with his time, helping with many tasks throughout the property. While cleaning and organizing the Maintenance Shop, Doug noticed that the elevated storage area needed attention. The floor is sagging under the weight of items stored, and access to the area is insufficient.

This project was already under consideration by The Board. The Board has enlisted the services of Engineer Tim Ferrell to get the process going. The drawings are being created now; as soon as they are completed, there are several contractors willing to bid the project, to be undertaken as soon as possible this spring. This should increase storage and mobility in the shop, making for more efficient use of the space available and eliminating any safety hazards. Thank you, Doug, for all your help!

Furry Neighbors

We all know that critters are a part of life. At the end of summer last year, there was some damage done to Stewart Koch's boat which was attributed to muskrats. To curtail this activity, Doug Stuart volunteered the use of and set up a motion-activated-camera at the location of a trap that Ed set to try to capture the wily critter. (It helps to know just what varmints we have, so we know what to bait our trap with.) Ed noticed the scat in the area has changed in appearance since this effort began. Perhaps a mink or an ermine has eaten the muskrat! To date, the camera has only caught the investigatory efforts of our stealthy mascot, Elwood! As soon as True Service can access them, the vole traps will be re-baited, and bat deterrent will be put up early in the spring before the bats can begin nesting activities.

THINGS TO SEE AND DO

Surfing Lake Tahoe Anyone?

You must ask yourself ~ Really, where else can you surf in the morning and ski or snowboard on the same day? For those cold weather adrenaline-junkies, Tahoe is the place (plus, here you can get a little taste of the wind/wave action that did the damage at the Marina on February 9th)! [Surf's Up! Garwoods January 9, 2020.](#)

If that's not enough fun, then check this out. It's been around for a while and is a great option when the snowpack is minimal and temperatures have been low enough to keep it firm: Fat Bikes. Not enough snow? Go ride a bike! Tahoe Donner Cross Country, Northstar California, and Kirkwood Mountain Resort allow Fat Bikes (Mountain Bikes with minimum 4" wide soft pressure tires for gripping softer surfaces). Fat Bikes originally invented in the late 1980's for riding the Iditarod Trail in winter, and they have become another way to get out there, get a work-out, and soak up some Tahoe! Check into it here: [Snow Biking](#)

Crab & Pasta Feed, March 21: All-you-can-eat Dungeness Crab anyone? Then, look into this annual fundraiser put on by the [Rotary Club of Truckee](#) that benefits a different local Non-Profit each year. This year's recipient will be the Contractors Association of Truckee Tahoe (CATT) who will do the work to convert an outdated play-

ground into an ADA-accessible picnic area, amphitheater, sensory garden, and a more organic play area. View a Site Plan of the project here: [Truckee Downtown Arts Center](#). For information on the Downtown Truckee Park Project: [Truckee Downtown Park Project](#).

If you have never heard the kids from the North Tahoe High School play music, you will be blown away! Just try to sit still at their sassy 40's Night Jazz Night Fundraiser at the North Tahoe Event Center in Kings Beach on March 13, from 6 to 9 PM. Or, listen to the progression of each high school age group in Tahoe City on June 4 for their Spring Concert at the High School. Make sure to stick around for the Jazz Band's Finale ~ a real crowd-pleaser, you'll find yourself hoppin' n' boppin' for days!

A newcomer to the local area internet map is the [Tahoe Daily Tribune Podcasts](#) or TAP Program: **T**hings to do, **A**dventure, and **P**eople around the Lake Tahoe Basin. The Tahoe Daily Tribune is based out of South Lake Tahoe and might be worth a listen. Speaking of internet resources, [Tahoetopia](#) has added many more internet WebCams to their system, including this one just down the street at [Obexers Marina](#).

There are many other hidden gems to be found on this website (type in "Moonlight Tours," for example), and it's a great way to, and it's a great way to see what the roads *really* look like before you head up the hill.. Then there are always the old standby sites like [GoTahoeNorth](#), [Visit Reno/Tahoe](#), or [Reno - Things to do](#) – just in case you run out of ideas.

Now, get out there and have some fun!

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