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Dartmouth Outing Club of Northern California



Fall Newsletter - December 2008

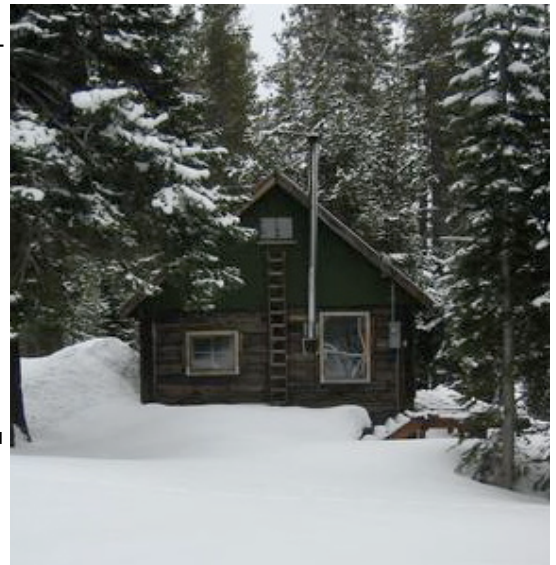
The ocean has already rolled two winter storms our way. A foot and a half of snow already blankets the road leading to our beloved Lake Mary cabin. And the mountain-loving Dartmouth alums of Northern California—yes, that's you—have already been daydreaming of white peaks against blue sky.

The DOCNC Fall Newsletter arrives to heighten that delicious anticipation for the winter ahead. Read on for important reminders and updates on

- Dues
- Capital Campaign
- New Web Site and DOCNC Forum
- SAVE THE DATE: Upcoming Club Events
- Merchandise
- Winter Procedures

Thank you for your support and enthusiasm for the DOCNC, and we hope to see you all soon!

Think snow,
The DOCNC Board of Directors



Time to pay 2008-09 Membership Dues

Last year's DOCNC membership expired on September 30, so it's time to update your membership by paying your dues for 2008-09.

Although 100% of you have used the cabin at some point in your life as a Dartmouth alum, only a small fraction of you pay your annual dues. The DOCNC is an independent, not-for-profit organization; we receive no financial support from the college. Membership dues play a vital role in paying for the cabin's annual operating costs.

Annual dues are \$40 for alumni who graduated within the last ten years and \$50 for those who graduated from Dartmouth earlier than 1998.

To pay by PayPal, send your dues to
mary@marychoy.com
(Include a note specifying that the payment is for membership.)

To pay by check, please send your payment to
John Kunz, DOCNC Treasurer
913 El Cajon Way
Palo Alto, CA 94303

The Capital Campaign: Help Save the Cabin!!



Over the past decade we've observed a general deterioration of the cabin's structure due to fierce Sierra winters and normal wear-and-tear. Our hats off to the original Dartmouth alumni builders for their "amateur" construction that lasted almost 70 years!

As a result, we've embarked upon a capital fundraising campaign and are asking everyone for financial help to make sure that generations of future alums have a West Coast home. Our ultimate goal of \$150,000 will cover

- A new foundation built to local building codes: earthquake ready, rot-proof, waterproof, etc. and ready to take the cabin through 100+ years
- Replacement of two main structural beams that have rotted and been damaged by bugs
- Safety updates to the stone fireplace
- New industrial kitchen stove
- New kitchen flooring
- New fire safety tile around wood stove
- "Warming lamps" for the bathroom (it gets cold in there in the winter!)



We are scheduling the work to be done THIS COMING SUMMER. We can't put this off any longer. Every cabin user—past, present, and future—needs to contribute.



So far, almost \$25,000 have been pledged to the cause; we are deeply grateful for the generosity of these early contributors.

But we have a long way to go. Most cabin-users have not yet pledged. Slowly but surely, board members and a handful of other volunteers are making calls to the Dartmouth alums of Northern California to make a personal plea for financial support. You can help us enormously by responding to this email rather than waiting for that call.

The Club is granting membership terms for certain contribution levels:

- * A \$100 or more capital campaign contribution includes club membership for 2008-09.
- * A \$750 or more capital campaign contribution buys a lifetime membership in the club.

To contribute to the Capital Campaign by PayPal, send your payment to mary@marychoy.com
(Include a note specifying that the payment is a capital campaign donation.)

To contribute by check, please send your payment to

John Kunz, DOCNC Treasurer
913 El Cajon Way
Palo Alto, CA 94303

New Website and DOCNC Forum

Take a look at our newly revamped website at www.docnc.net. We are excited about this long-overdue upgrade to the club's online presence. We are planning ways for members to post photos and trip reports on this site in the future.

In addition, the club has set up the DOCNC Forum, an online community bulletin board where members can coordinate rides to Tahoe, find a biking partner, plan a backcountry ski trip, organize a Marin Headlands trail run, and generally connect with fellow outdoors-folk. Anyone can read the forum, but posting requires joining the group as a member. It's easy: just [visit the Forum](#) and click "Join this group."

Our first post: Matthew David is looking to do a Tahoe ski house rental share with other Dartmouth people. Email him at mdavid@tweisel.com if you are interested.

Web-based Reservations Calendar

You can now track cabin reservations on Google Calendars. The ability to see which weekends are available should save you a step when exchanging emails with our reservations guru, Mary Choy (mary@marychoy.com).

You can view the calendar over any web browser at

http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=choyberg%40gmail.com&ctz=America/Los_Angeles



Mac users can subscribe to the calendar through iCal with
<http://www.google.com/calendar/ical/choyberg%40gmail.com/public/basic.ics>

There are still a handful of winter weekends available, so don't delay.

SAVE THE DATE: DCGSF/DOCNC Annual Holiday Party & Reindeer Romp

December 7 - 1:00 pm 'til 5:00 pm: The DCGSF and DOCNC are breaking tradition and hosting the Holiday party on a weekend. The festivities are open to all alumni and families!

Do you remember those winter afternoons on frozen Occum Pond? Join Dartmouth alumni, families, and friends at the San Francisco Zoo this holiday season, and see Santa's reindeer and stay for the ice skating. Holly, Velvet, Belle and Peppermint will be landing once again to bring the spirit of the season to children of all ages. Back by popular demand, families, couples and ice skating enthusiasts can take to the ice at the Zoo's enclosed ice skating rink. Make special holiday plans to gather your family and friends to ice skate, meet Santa's reindeer and even watch other Zoo animals enjoy holiday treats!

Location:

San Francisco Zoo
1 Zoo Road
San Francisco, CA 94132

Cost:

Adult DCGSF or DOCNC Member: \$11 *
Adult non-member: \$20 * (It's not too late to join!)
Children: \$7 *
(Rates includes admission, skating rink, and skate rental.)

In order to aid in the planning, RSVPs are required to James von Rittmann '95 at DCGSFTreasurer@aol.com (Please include full name, class, and the names of all guests.)

SAVE THE DATE: Winter Carnival West (formerly known as Telefest)

This season's Winter Carnival West—the annual all-DOCNC event now six years running—is scheduled for March 6-7, 2009. Highlights include a wild costume party on the slopes of Sugar Bowl, a “pink-time” happy hour on the frozen beach of Lake Mary, and a bounteous cabin banquet. More details to come, but clear out the weekend now.

SAVE THE DATE: Fundraising Party for the DOCNC Cabin!

The club will be throwing a party for the Lake Mary cabin on February 7 at the Stern Grove Clubhouse in San Francisco's Stern Grove. We hope all members will come out for a strong show of support to the cabin and to each other. We'd like to hold a raffle for fabulous prizes, as well as a silent auction. If you have anything to donate (ski tickets, wine, outdoor gear, professional services, etc.) please email Xantha Bruso at xantha@xantha.net. We'll be sure that you or your company receives extensive acknowledgement of your donation prior to and at the event. More details coming soon!



Thank You Fall Work Weekenders; Next up: Spring Work Weekend

After an initially slow response, members came out in good numbers for our Fall Work Weekend this past September. In addition to the normal winterizing duties, we had a chimney sweep crew come out for a thorough survey and cleaning of our wood stove and fireplace.

It's not too early to be thinking about Spring Work Weekend, always the third weekend in June. Carve it into your calendar for June 20-21, 2009.

The spirit of work weekend has been captured and preserved by Zander Riggs (son of board member Larry Riggs) in a [video posted on YouTube](#). Check it out!



New Club Schwag!

At one of our early Winter Carnival West parties, we released a DOCNC winter hat. The desire to display club pride on the slopes was strong; the hat sold out



immediately.

Good news: the DOCNC winter hat is back on the market. Hats are \$30 a piece plus shipping. They're handcrafted in Vermont of 100% wool with a non-itchy fleece inside band. They're made by the same company that makes all the knitwear for the Dartmouth Co-op, and they are in the official D green color (despite the photo). Email our president Susy Struble (Susy.L.Struble.93@alum.dartmouth.org) to place your order while they last.

We also have copies of two volumes of historical DOCNC documents available. Same set that's in the College's Rauner archives. Documents from 1938 and on, letters, plans, fun stuff. Contact [Susy](#) if you want copies.

New Board Members (and How About You?)

During the past year, three new members have joined the DOCNC Board: Xantha Bruso '97, Scott Jules, Tuck '97, and Libby Hadzima '06. Xantha and Scott both bring valuable fundraising experience to our club, much appreciated as we undertake the Capital Campaign. Libby, our youngest board member, will be involved in club communications. Welcome, Xantha, Scott, and Libby, and thank you for your service. We are still looking to expand our Board, so please contact [President Susy Struble](#) if you would like to participate. Volunteerism is what gave us our cabin; it is our only means for passing the cabin on to future generations.

Winter Procedures

A few reminders for members using the cabin this winter:

- Remember to read the Cabin Operations and Procedures document on the web site before you drive up.
- We are handling ashes differently than we have in the past. When closing up the cabin, leave burning embers and ashes in the woodstove. This means that incoming cabin users will first need to clean the woodstove of old, cold ashes before starting a fire. However, you must leave the fireplace clean when you depart. This means timing your fire such that the embers and ashes are dead and cold before you leave, and putting these cold embers and ashes into the metal bins in the lean-to.
- As in years past, we have three parking spaces at the Sugarbowl Ski Academy assigned to the DOCNC. You will need to display a parking permit in your window if you park in this lot, which you will have to do during the winter, or you are likely to be towed. Parking permits are emailed when reservations are received. Any questions, please contact Mary Choy at mary@marychoy.com
- It is vital that you follow water procedures to the letter. Our pump-drawn water system is complex and fragile, especially in the winter when freezing temps are always lurking to damage the pipes. One member's carelessness can damage the system for the rest of the winter's guests.

Thank you for taking this time to catch up with club news. We hope to see you at an upcoming club event.

Happy Winter,
The DOCNC Board of Directors

Susy Struble, '93, President
Mary Choyberg, '88, Secretary
John Kunz, '65, Treasurer
Craig Sakowitz, '93, Director
Justin Wells, '95, Director
Jen Cohn, '93, Director
Xantha Bruso, '97, Director
Larry Riggs, '70, Director
Scott Jules, Tuck '97, Director
Libby Hadzima '06, Director