South Skyline Association

http://www.southskyline.org

April 2001

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 SSA General Meeting
- 2 SSA Bylaws Amendments Mountain Schools
- 3 Living With Wildlife
- 4 Wild Pig Updates Skyliners Aid In India
- 5 Deer Repellent SPUG Report Lightning and Modems Membership Roster Revisions
- 6 Farewell Note Invite to Saratoga Summit Fire Station Hiker Rescued Barricade Info
- 7 Oak Mortality Syndrome Solomon's Seal
- 8 Local Business Directory Classifieds SSA Calendar

SAVE THE DATE SUNDAY- JULY 22

For a picnic and social at Ami & Dick Jaqua's Ranch

FUN! FOOD! + FACTS

Have your disaster preparedness questions ready for U.S. Geological Survey Expert, Dr. David Howell



SSA Spring Quarterly General Meeting Friday, April 27 at 7:00pm

The next South Skyline Association meeting will feature a presentation and slides on *Spring Birds and Birding* by Craig Breon, the Executive Director of the Santa Clara Chapter of the Audubon Society.

Also, there will be a short talk on *Living With Wildlife* by Patty Mayall, a volunteer with the Wildlife Care Center of the Peninsula Humane Society.

At 7:30 the meeting will open with a vote on the changes to the SSA bylaws (see article on page 2), followed by our featured presentations.

This event will be held at beautiful Thomas Fogarty Winery. Premiere Fogarty wines will be available. We request a donation of \$3.00 per glass. There will also be soft drinks, snacks and goodies to eat.

Thomas Fogarty Winery 19501 Skyline Boulevard (2.7 miles north of Page Mill Road, across from the entrance to Yerba Buena Nursery)

Is by Amil Jagua

Artwork by Ami Jaqua

Many thanks to the friendly folks at Thomas Fogarty Winery for once again hosting our spring meeting. The Winery is now open for tasting Thursday through Sunday from 11am to 5pm at a cost of \$5.00 per person. The facilities are available for private parties, weddings, and corporate events.

SSA Bylaws Amendments

The SSA Board of Directors is recommending the following changes to the bylaws, which will be voted by the regular members present at the **April 27 meeting**. Changes are indicated in italics.

Article I, Area: The South Skyline is defined as the area long Skyline Boulevard, or with access from Skyline Boulevard between Woodside/La Honda Road (Highway 84 on the north), and the southern terminus of Skyline Boulevard at Bear Creek. Also included are upper portions of Gist Road, Black Road, Highway 9 east, Page Mill Road, and Old La Honda Road; Highway 9 west to Waterman Gap; Alpine Road west to Rogers Gulch; and Portola Park Road, including the Middleton Tract.

Article II, Purpose: To foster a sense of community spirit, to keep residents and property owners informed of public agency actions or other items of concern in the South Skyline sphere of influence, to protect the rights and represent the interests of the residents and property owners of our area, and to engage in various projects to enhance the unique South Skyline environment.

Article V, Para. 3, Vice President: The vice president shall assist the president and take the place of the president when the president is unable to perform his/her duties. The duties of the vice president include program and event planning responsibilities

Article V, Para. 4, Treasurer: ... Any other expense over *fifty dollars* (\$50.00) shall be specifically authorized by the board before payment.



Mountain Schools Need Our Support

La Honda-Pescadero Unified School District

For many of us, the local schools are the center of our community. The La Honda-Pescadero Unified School District serves La Honda, Pescadero, Loma Mar and surrounding areas. With small class sizes, committed teachers and a high level of parent involvement, our schools provide a fantastic primary experience for our children.

The school district is struggling to maintain excellence in education for our children in the face of a chronic lack of funding. California's annual per student spending is \$1000 less than the national average, less than half of what some states spend, and 40th in the nation.

The La Honda and Pescadero Education Foundations (non-profit 501c3 organizations) have joined forces this year to raise money from our extended community to supplement limited state funding for the Elementary schools. Although many residents of this area do not have school-age children, strong schools make for strong communities, boost property values, and benefit us all.

We need your help. Your tax-deductible contributions will go directly to enrichment programs that benefit our local elementary schools. Please send contributions to: The La Honda and Pescadero Education Foundations, P.O. Box 225, La Honda, CA 94020. For more information, contact Scott Elrod, President, La Honda Educational Foundation, 650-747-9406.

 $\sim\!\!Scott\;Elrod$

Lakeside School Community Foundation's 16th Annual Family Fun Day & Auction

Join us for a fun day of:

- * Great Food, Great Fun, Great People!
- * New Games & Activities for the Kids!
 - --Climbing wall, horse rides, and more!
- * Silent and live auction!
- * Live Band & Dancing to Ossum Possum!
- * Kid's "Toy Store"!
- * Our famous Lakeside strawberry "daiquiris"!

You can also support your local school community by donating goods or services for the auction. All proceeds are used to pay for educational programs at Lakeside including: Art, Music, Spanish, Computers, Physical Education and Teacher Grants. Send a donation pledge with name, address, phone; gift certificate, item or service; restrictions; and value to the school office, or call and we will come and pick it up. All donations are tax deductible.

Lakeside Elementary School 19621 Black Road, Los Gatos, CA 95033 (408) 354-2372

Lakeside has positions open for a 1st grade teacher, part time Art, PE and Music teachers, and part time afternoon Day Care. If interested call Principal, Martin St. John. *~Patti Begley*

E scrip ID Numbers

e Scrip is a service that registers credit cards, ATM debit, and Safeway cards to electronically contribute a portion of our purchases to our schools. To sign up for e Scrip call 1-800-592-0942, or register on-line at www.escrip.com

ID numbers for our local organizations:

- Lakeside Elementary 39431539
- La Honda Elementary 7682218
- South Coast Children's Services in Pescadero 139593757

Living With Wildlife

When I first moved to this area eleven years ago, I knew very little about living with wildlife, despite having a degree in environmental studies and reading about animals and ecosystems since childhood. When I tried to rescue an injured owl The Peninsula Humane Society (PHS) Wildlife Care Center's employee coached me on the phone on how to humanely capture and transport the beautiful bird to the center. Yet I was much too timid in my failed capture attempt, and the owl escaped into the brush with his broken wing. I felt terrible about this and wanted to learn how to help the local wildlife effectively, so in 1995, I fulfilled a life-long dream and began volunteering at the Center. I learned how to handle some of the adult birds at the Center and how to care for orphaned wild birds and animals, which I also care for at home.

If you see a fawn, it's best to leave it alone!

Deer fawns are often left alone for up to 12 hours while the doe feeds. Fawns instinctually know to lay still, hide and wait for mom's return. They do not have any scent that will attract predators; so being still protects them and allows them to rest. Disturbing a fawn in ANY way may risk or end it's life since running from people can attract a predator, separate it from mom, or lead it into danger zones. Handling a fawn may cause it to become so stressed that it will go into shock and die. Dogs that are allowed to roam (unfenced or offleash) are a common cause of harm and/or death for fawns. Please always be a responsible dog owner and take extra precautions through the spring!

After 12 hours of observing a fawn (from a distance), if you are concerned



that the mother is not returning, then call the PHS Wildlife Care Center at 650-340-7022, ext. 340. "Every year, well-intentioned people bring in 'abandoned' fawns to the Center, which are often returned to their original locations. Nine times out of ten we find the doe there looking for her youngsters," reports the Center's Manager Sue Kelly.

What to do if a baby bird is in trouble

If you see a baby bird on the ground which does not look sick or injured, and it has feathers, but is at risk in an open area, then: gently put it under a shrub and watch to see if a parent finds and feeds it. If the baby bird has no feathers or appears sick, injured or orphaned, then: gently put it in a small box with a top, air punctures, and a small rag or towel on the bottom and bring it to PHS Wildlife Care Center, where it will receive experienced care.

It is an incorrect "myth" that handling a baby bird will cause its parents to reject it. You won't catch any rare diseases; yet always wash your hands well after helping a bird.

Again, being a responsible pet owner can save many birds' lives, as domestic cats are the leading predators to all our local wild birds. PHS encourages people to have indoor cats that go outdoors in "specialized cat fenced areas. The folks in the Animal Behavior Dept. (650-340-7022, ext.783) have experience and great resources.

People can be of help to birds and animals, or we can be the number one danger to them. With the best intentions, many of us want to feed wild birds and animals, which is a practice that the Wildlife Care Center strongly discourages. Leaving out any food (including dog and cat food) can attract too many animals and birds to an area, making them dependent on the source

The Peninsula Humane Society (PHS) Wildlife Care Center has

recently celebrated its 25th Anniversary and has become one of the nation's leading centers. It treats more than 5,000 animals each year. The goal is to treat and release these wild creatures. Only a handful of skilled employees do all this, so they depend on volunteers for help. Rescued baby birds need feeding every 20 minutes and the Center desperately needs volunteers in the spring and summer. The Wildlife Care Center is located at 12 Airport Blvd., San Mateo. Take Hwy 101 north to Dore exit; follow the signs to Coyote Point Museum, then to the Animal Shelter. The phone number is 650-340-7022. If you get the answering machine, don't panic, leave your message and number; they check messages frequently. If it is an emergency, press "0" for a dispatcher. More information is available on their website at

www.peninsulahumanesociety.org.

and a problem for neighbors. What seems like an act of kindness can imbalance an entire ecosystem, as when there is an abundance of food, all wild creatures will reproduce more. The kinder and better way to attract birds is with one or more shallow birdbaths.

By moving into the wild creatures' territory, we have changed their environment significantly. Wildlife has had to learn to live with us, and we can learn to live with them—hopefully in harmony!

~Patty Mayall lives in the north Skyline area and can be contacted at 650-851-1902



Seeking Legislative Help for Wild/Feral Pig Control

With 56 out of 58 counties in California witnessing rapidly increasing populations of wild/feral pigs, the problems of environmental degradation require a more regional approach than MROSD or South Skyline Association can address. Extensive literature searches confirm that at present no fertility control methods for pigs exist. Needed research is very expensive. MROSD in conjunction with other open space districts is asking legislators to approve grants for research in pig biological control methods (contraceptives), and also grants for pig depredation. To further support a regional approach, SSA's committee on wild/feral pigs, in conjunction with scientific and environmental groups, is beginning a letter writing campaign headed by Bill Fowkes to petition CA Department of Fish and Game to declare a "pig-free" zone in our bioregion -- from the Golden Gate south to the Pajaro River, and San Francisco Bay west to the sea. Changing the classification of wild/feral pigs from game animals to pests will make control less difficult.

~Ruth Waldhauer

MROSD Continues Pig Trapping, Other Parks Starting

At a special meeting in February concerning wild pigs, the MROSD Board unanimously approved the second year of a planned three-year program for trapping wild pigs on their Skyline area Preserves. They increased the program funding to \$35,000, allowing their contractor to trap 150 pigs (\$230/pig), up from 75 pigs this last fiscal year. They authorized that the trapping continue without interruption, not waiting for the next fiscal year. South Skyline Association president, Larry Myers, read our letter to the board praising their trapping program and urging that it be continued. To date all the trapping has been in the Long Ridge Open Space District, but it is expected that trapping will be extended north following the wild pig expansion.

Meanwhile, wild pig depredation has started and is gaining momentum in the local state and county parks. San Mateo County is in the budget process to hire a trapping service to remove wild pigs from some of their parks.

~Dick Schwind

Landowners Goal is 50 Pigs This Year Traps and Bait Are Available

MROSD plans to double its take of wild pigs this year. Their efforts can only be successful if there is a regional approach and if landowners contribute significantly in pig eradication. Our goal for this year should be to double our take, from approximately 25 last year to 50 this year. This won't be easy as the pigs start to disappear; a strong community effort will be required. Please volunteer to help.

For the next three months Pat Congdon has volunteered to lend the community traps, and distribute bait. Call him at 650-941-9832. (In 3 months Dick Schwind will return to duty.) To get your depredation permit call the CA Fish and Game at 831/649-2870. The MROSD trapper has set us up with a barrel of fermenting corn, his primary bait. Call Pat Congdon and bring a bucket, preferably with a top, as it is sloppy and smelly! Make a donation of eight dollars per large bucket, or better, bring a bag of corn purchased from a feed store. When the pigs change their tastes in the dry summertime, we will attempt to change to the appropriate berry flavor bait.

On February 28 interested locals came to the pig-trapping seminar where the MROSD trapper, Dick Seever, shared his techniques for pig trapping. Some of these are: special baits depending upon the time of year; bait an area first to see if the pigs come to the area, then place the trap; for multiple catches in the trap, lock the gate open and use plenty of bait inside and outside the trap until the pigs are used to entering the trap.

Please report pig kills, whether trapping, shooting, or bonking them with your vehicle (not recommended!), to Pat Congdon at (650) 941-9832. We want to know approximately when and where a pig is taken and how. We do not want to know who took it nor whether it was done legally. We certainly encourage all kills to be done legally, but we understand that some will not be. We want to know about all kills and purposely will not ask about legalities and names. Call and say you know of a pig taken, or have a neighbor call for you. Since this approach can lead to double counting, please supply us with approximate date and location.

~Dick Schwind

Skyliners Fly To India On Medical Mission

This month our neighbor, Rich Lee, M.D., flew to India to provide medical assistance to victims of the 7.9 earthquake that devastated the state of Gujarat in India on January 26. With him are two other Skyliners, James Malone, M.D., and his wife Jessica Hancher, R.N. Rich organized and heads up a team of nine neurosurgeons, six nurses and surgical technicians. He transported a planeload of specialized surgical and rehabilitative medical equipment.

The United Community Appeal for India asked Dr. Lee to organize the neurosurgical team to treat patients whose backs were crushed by falling roofs and flying debris during the quake. While India has highly trained physicians on scene, specialists are needed to treat and rehabilitate spinal injury victims. Over 100,000 were injured, and a million are homeless as a consequence of an earthquake that was 16 times stronger than the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. Our good wishes go with Rich, Jim and Jessica!

~Eva Blum

Oh Deer!

How to Stop Deer and Rabbits from Eating Your Plants

Robert Criswell, owner of the Black Road Christmas Tree Farms, shares with us in formation on a safe, inexpensive, biodegradable, effective deer and rabbit repellent. This mixture applied to plants has no odor detectable to humans. Plants sprayed with the mixture glisten. This repellent is also reported to be effective on elk.

Materials: 1 dozen eggs 1 gallon tepid water Nylon stocking material Sprayer

Optional: Bond (an agricultural extender for non-edible plants) can be added to help hold the mixture on the plants for three full months through wet conditions. Bond is available without permit from United Agricultural Products in Watsonville, phone 408-724-0661.

Open one dozen eggs into a gallon of tepid water. Run the mixture through a blender for 15 seconds. Let the mixture stand (ferment) for two hours. Filter the mixture three times through nylon stocking material to remove egg membranes that will clog a sprayer. Apply this mixture to plants with a sprayer.

Criswell applies this mixture to his trees with a 4-gallon Solo backpack sprayer. Any type of sprayer can be used, but high-pressure sprayers tend to clog. The clog can be dissolved with an enzyme type drain opener. To protect seedlings and new growth of his fir trees he applies about 3 coats, wetting the foliage thoroughly each time and letting the trees dry between applications. For his tree farm Criswell has found that a sunny, warm day with little wind is ideal. Eighty dozen eggs were enough to provide 100% effective protection on 10,000 Douglas Fir seedlings for 3 months, or until the new growth had hardened off and was no longer attractive to deer. For economy, Criswell buys eggs at Costco during their spring sale.

One source for Criswell's information was Bruce Elliot, a biologist recently retired from CA Dept. of Fish and Game in Monterey. He also found a tape on deer control in the Los Gatos library that recommends this repellent.

For more information you may contact Criswell at 408-354-8472. He will welcome comments on how effective you find the mixture.

Thanks, Robbie.

Correction...

Please note that in the Emergency Contact information given in the SSA Directory there is an error in the phone number for the Santa Clara Sheriff's Department. It should be 408-299-3233.

SPUG Quarterly Report

Thankfully propane prices have eased off from their all time high in early January. It still is wise to CONSERVE! Recent SPUG prices are:

January (beginning)	\$1.789/gallon
January 19	\$1.659
February	\$1.559
March (beginning)	\$1.509
March 30	\$1.279

Prices are subject to changes each Friday. Reported here are usually prices for the first week of the month. See www.southskyline.org for recent updates. Members 55 years of age or older qualify for a 5% discount in addition to the SPUG group price.

For information about joining the Skyline Propane Users Group (SPUG), or for members wishing to have current information on the Amerigas contract with us, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope with your request to Ruth Waldhauer, SSA Membership Chairperson, 22400 Skyline Boulevard, Box 35, La Honda, CA 94020.

~Ruth Waldhauer

Lightning & Modems



You'll likely all recall our region's sudden and brief lightning storm in early February this year. Without any warning, there was no time to unplug vulnerable equipment and some Skyliners lost their computer modems to the electrical strikes, resulting in costly and time-consuming repairs and replacements.

Help is available in the form of surge protector strips for phone lines, often in combination with electrical outlets in one unit. The key to choosing a surge protector strip (available at electronic equipment stores) is the number of "joules" (pronounced "jewels") indicated on the packaging. The higher the number, the better the protection.

Of course, the only way to truly guarantee not losing your modem or phone line to an electrical strike is to unplug them from the wall.



Or to be REALLY sure you avoid these problems, you can convert your computer to a flower planter and be done with it altogether.

~Georgia Stigall

Revisions to Membership Roster

Have you found errors or omissions in the Year-end 2000 Membership Roster mailed to members in early January? Please send corrections to Ruth Waldhauer at waldhauer@batnet.com or to 22400 Skyline Boulevard Box 35, La Honda CA 94020.

Farewell to Jinx and Steve

The South Skyline Association members take leave sadly of Jinx and Steve Wolf who have lived in our midst for the last twenty-five years. Jinx has been an enthusiastic parent volunteer in the playgroup, the school and the social committee of our association. She was a member of the South Skyline Horsemen's Association. She has been working in the Cardiac Unit at the Stanford University Medical Center, is a keen gardener and most generous neighbor. Jinx and Steve's daughter Stephanie has been following her mother's hoof prints; she too is a horsewoman and Rodeo Queen.

After the Loma Prieta Earthquake, Steve, who worked at USGS, put his professional skills, his knowledge of local conditions and of locals at the service of the community, studying the impact of the quake on individual water wells. He persuaded the USGS to fund further research on the topic. His efforts advanced scientific knowledge and helped property owners whose wells had gone dry or were cracked, to make the hard choice between importing water or drilling for new wells.

Steve served as Board Member of the South Skyline Association. He shared with us his meticulous weather data. He recruited outstanding experts to speak to the group. Most recently, he spelled out for area residents how to contact emergency response (911) dispatchers. During this year's February snowstorms he helped organize a successful search and rescue of a lost hiker who was on the verge of becoming hypothermic (see "Hiker Rescued Just in Time" on this page).

We will miss Steve and Jinx both for their friendship and their contributions. Go well!

~Janet Schwind, Jo Barrett, Eva Blum

Battalion Chief Invites Residents to Saratoga Summit Fire Station

The January 26 SSA meeting on emergency preparedness was filled with good thought provoking information. Hopefully, that will be the stimulus for residents to find out how they fit in the 911 system and to take inventory on their personal plans in the event of an emergency.

I would like to extend an invitation to the community to visit the Saratoga Summit fire station and meet the personnel. Let us help you with fire and emergency preparedness questions and concerns that you may have. You can help us by verifying that we have your name and address in our response books. This will allow us to respond to your need as quickly as possible in the event of an emergency. We could also assist you with information on creating and maintaining defensible space around your homes, burning regulations and requirements and provide general fire safety tips and information.

It has come to my attention that some residents are still having problems with the 911 centers having the right information. If you are not able to get satisfactory results with your 911 test, please let us help. If you give us your Name, Phone #, street address, the county you live in and any other pertinent information (special directions, gate combination, etc) we will assist you in mitigating the problem. If the system is weak or broken it must be fixed. I personally will follow up on remedying this situation.

Thanks, Peter Yaninek Battalion 1712 Ph. (408) 867-3625

Hiker Rescued Just In Time

A crisis situation in February became a real test of the 911 emergency response system. The sun had already set that eventful day. The sun had set, it was near freezing, and getting colder. From our deck I heard a call for help coming from deep in Stevens Creek Canyon. I yelled back and got responses that indicated the person was in trouble and needed help. I called 911.

I told the dispatcher of the situation. He said he's got me, "they" will find me. Shortly after a MROSD ranger arrived on site. She began getting calls from other emergency personnel asking for directions, as they were having difficulty finding the location. After I set out flares on the highway, the others began to appear on site. By now, the hiker had been out there for a few hours and if the search didn't start soon he may not stay conscious long enough to respond to calls to help locate him. After much time and discussion it was decided to call for the volunteer Santa Clara County Search and Rescue Team.

I was very impressed with the professionalism of the team's ability to take charge once on site, develop a plan of rescue, and get into action quickly. Once the hiker was located and on site, he got immediate medical help.

Two lessons are to be learned from this episode of events. First, too much time was lost due to inefficient co-ordination of emergency responders. Secondly, even though I had specific directions to our residence entered into the 911 dispatch system, they apparently lacked key information that would have assisted emergency responders to locate us without others directing them to the site. It is vitally important to have the 911 emergency operations group and the summit CDF staff review directions that we provide them to use in emergency situations to avoid serious delays and miscommunications in response efforts.

~Steve Wolf



New Distributor for Barricade

Barricade (fire blocking material) has a new distributor, Allstar Fire. They are located in Hayward, California and can be reached by telephone or their web site http://www.allstarfire.com. Given that they have just taken over sales for Barricade, obtaining the homeowner kit is a little slow. I'll be working with them to set up a demonstration this summer and will provide information on that date when it is finalized. Any questions can be directed to Pat Congdon at 650-941-9832.

Oak Mortality Syndrome



The saga of Oak Mortality Syndrome (aka "sudden oak death" although the trees do not actually die suddenly) is continuing. As I've reported previously, the latest breaking news may be found at http://www.suddenoakdeath.org.

The presence of this syndrome has been documented in Marin, Monterey, Napa,

San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz and Sonoma counties.

The next meeting of the California Oak Mortality Task Force (COMTF) is on April 25 and 26 in Felton. All registration information is on the web site cited above. If you need the meeting information and do not have Internet access, call me at 650-941-1068.

The South Skyline Association is not taking a position on whether or not to employ herbicides. This is a personal and controversial decision that, as previously covered in SKYLINES, should be decided by individual home and landowners.

Local residents can help with this problem by noting the following information from the task force:

"Any agent that carries infested soil can spread the disease. Infested soil can be transported on the soles of shoes, animal feet, vehicle tires, and construction equipment. The greatest threat of spread occurs when the soil is damp or wet and readily clings to these surfaces. This is also the time when the pathogen is at its most active and propagule numbers are at their greatest."

And: "Visitors to infested oak woodlands should be aware that they can spread the pathogen. Accumulations of soil or mud should be washed from shoes prior to leaving an infested site. If this is not possible, change shoes and wash them in an area at home that will not result in mud being washed directly towards other trees. Mountain bikes should also be washed of mud. Horses hooves and dogs paws should be cleaned, if possible, on location. If vehicles have been in an infested area where mud could accumulate in tires, it is suggested that they be run through a car wash prior to driving to non-infested areas. Construction or tree removal equipment working in areas of infestation probably represents one of the more likely causes of soil movement. In particular, vehicles that must go off road represent the greatest risk. Trucks should be washed down prior to leaving any site in which infested oak woodlands are involved. Wash stations should be on asphalt or gravel, well drained, and, if possible, as close to the area where the soil was accumulated. If the new oak Phytophthora is soil-borne, then recommendations discussed here will greatly reduce spread of the pathogen to healthy oak woodlands."

Lastly, firewood from infested areas should not be transported out the area, as this is another way to spread the Phytophthera.

~Georgia Stigall

Solomon's Seal - True or False?

Solomon's Seal (members of the genus *Smilacina*) grows locally in mixed evergreen and in redwood forests. Two species are found throughout the U.S., including the Santa Cruz Mountains – Fat Solomon's Seal (*Smilacina racemosa* var. *amplexicaulis*) and Thin, Slim, or Star Solomon' Seal (*Smilacina stellata* var. *sessifolia*).

Members of the Lily family, both species are geophytes – perennials that grow from fleshy underground rootstalks in late winter and die back to below ground toward the end of the year. The genus name means scraper, and refers to the hairy, unbranched stems. Oblong or lance-shaped leaves alternately clasp the stem, and have parallel veins.

Fat Solomon's seal grows 1-3 feet high, and has wider leaves (usually more than 2 inches across at the base of the plant). A thick, well-branched, often pyramidal plume of tiny white flowers grows at the end of the stem. The white, sixpetaled flowers bloom from March to May.

Round berries begin yellow, then green, ripening bright red from August to October.

Thin Solomon's Seal grows 1-2 feet high, has narrower leaves (usually ½-2 inches wide) and far fewer flowers at the tip of the stem. These bloom from February to April. Berries are green, striped with red, or red with purple, also ripening in late summer to early fall.



The name, Solomon's Seal, has two possible sources. One refers to the interlocking triangle shape of the flowers, the other to the reported mark left by the upright branch shoot on the underground rootstock.

To answer the above quiz, members of *Smilacina* are more correctly referred to as false Solomon's Seal. The "true" Solomon's Seal, *Polygonatum*, has similar leaves, grows in the East and has axial, bell-shaped flowers. However, Westerners, knowing where they are and what they mean, often leave the term "false" implied, rather than directly stated.

~ Sarah Schoen

Directory of Local Businesses and Services To Be Published

Are You a Local Service or Business Owner? Would you like to be one of the many businesses listed for free in the RE/MAX Pioneer - Skywood Local Service Directory?

We are compiling a directory of local businesses and services in our mountain area from A to Z. We would be delighted to highlight your expertise in an effort to support our local professionals and provide our mountain neighbors with a valuable reference guide of services available. Please give us a call, email, or stop by our office at the "4 Corners" if you would like to take part in this helpful community service. Best of all, this service is FREE! Let's help support each other!

We look forward to hearing from you. The Staff - Re/Max Pioneer Skywood Realty 17285 Skyline Blvd. Woodside, CA. 94062

Phone: 650-851-8100 Fax: 650-851-3346

Email: manager@skywoodrealty.com

FOR SALE



BACKUP ENERGY SYSTEM:

Electric golf "pickup" with 110V AC from an 1800W Heart inverter. 5000W peak can start motors and compressors. Powers a large refrig plus small appliances for over 24 hours. This 12mph wheelbarrow with built-in drink holders carries 250 lbs. plus passengers, climbs a 45% grade (slowly), and can tow up to 1/2 ton. Yamaha factory refurb 5/98: new Trojan batteries, wheels, tires, heavy-duty suspension, seat covers, floor

CLASSIFIED ADS

mats, and halogen headlights, plus rebuilt 36V charger. For more days, a small generator (not included) can run the 800w battery charger. User manuals. \$3000. Larry 408-867-2444.

WOODSTOVE: Airtight, heavy cast iron, 1 side door and 2 front arched doors with glass! Built-in damper & regulator! \$295 650-851-3181

Six 5-gal. Glass water bottles suitable for making wine, beer, etc. \$5 ea. Jody 650-851-7649

Oak veneer wall unit. Measures 72" high, 61" wide, 19" deep. \$200.00. Call 650-941-1068

SERVICES

Skyline Handyman--experienced handyman for home repair/remodel and some tree work.
Ron Collins 408-741-1003

SERVICES

Private & safe mailboxes for rent at Skywood Trading Post. Competitive prices includes signing for pkgs. Call Beshara at (650) 851-0914 or inquire in person.

WANTED

Llama or Donkey (650) 941-8869

FREE

Fire Fittings Convert 1 ½ inch pipe thread to fire thread. Blue reflectors included. South Skyline Fire & Rescue. George. 408-354-1401

Freezer: 18 cubic foot upright frost-free freezer. Hardly used--works well. Miriam 408-354-7316

Satellite TV System: 12-foot antenna on 21-foot pole, 50- foot cables, receiver, tracker, video cipher. **Free** for the dismantling, hauling, and plugging of the holes. John Landre (650) 851-1021

Upright piano: Nice. Bench included. Free, come and pick up. 650-917-1030.

Policy on Classified Ads: Ads are free to SSA members. No continuing ads will be accepted. They must be resubmitted for each issue during the month before the deadline. Deadline dates are generally July1, October 1, January 1, and April 1. **Skylines News Articles:** The deadline for submitting articles for the next issue is June 25, 2001.

Send all ads and articles to Patti Begley 26160 Highway 9, Los Gatos, CA 95033, or email TheBegleys@msn.com.

SOUTH SKYLINE ASSOCIATION

Box 400, Star Route 2 La Honda, CA 94020

President Larry Myers 408-354-5830 Editor Patti Begley 408-867-3973

SSA CALENDAR

General Meeting April 27, 7:00 pm Thomas Fogarty Winery

Business Meetings at 7:15 pm Thurs. May 10 - Bo Gimbal's Thurs. June 14 - Georgia Stigall's

Thurs. July 12 - Location to be determined (Call Larry Meyers for location and directions)