



THE SIERRA CLUB NEWSLETTER FROM CLAIR TAPPAAN LODGE (CTL)

LOOKS LIKE FALL HAS ARRIVED!

And what a beautiful time to be at the Lodge!
Perfect hiking weather, beautiful views.
And the holidays are right around the corner.



THANKSGIVING – Thursday, November 27

- Chef Brian Robinson will prepare a large feast with traditional Thanksgiving fare, including vegetarian option.
- Dinner at 6:00 pm.
- Organized hike or snowshoe trips available.

CHRISTMAS – Thursday, December 25

- Chef Brian will prepare a traditional holiday meal (vegetarian option available). Sure to be delicious!
- There will be lots of decorations around the lodge, including a big tree in the living room.
- All types of ski equipment are available to rent.

NEW YEAR'S – Wednesday, December 31

While the New Year's celebration will never be the same without Rich Johns, who passed away this year, we are hoping to do him proud with our plans for food, partying, and talent.

- We're usually sold out so sign up now!
- Lots of appetizers!
- Buffet-style dinner in the dining room.
- Talent show for all ages! Come show off your skills at singing, dancing, poetry reading, whatever! Always fun.
- Party hats and piñatas for the kids!
- Local musicians for more entertainment.

**CONTACT THE LODGE FOR
RESERVATIONS:**
530-426-3632
www.reservations@clairtappaanlodge.com

NEW STAFF AT THE LODGE

Lodge Manager Kevin Wallner

We have a new Lodge Manager, Kevin Wallner, who moved up from Assistant Manager after former Lodge Manager Bryan Allegretto accepted an out-of-state job. We are very happy to have such an enthusiastic, capable person at the helm. Kevin has a background in hospitality, banking, computer programming, and customer service. He is a California native, avid runner, snowboarder, cyclist, and backpacker.



Kevin has big plans for getting people to the Lodge, and keeping them happy, well-fed, and content during their visit. He is advertising widely (Facebook, Twitter, etc.), preparing a new Environmental Education page on our website (www.clairtappaanlodge.com), and working closely with the CTL Committee to plan for upcoming holidays and to advertise the Sierra Club CTL Foundation which gives grants to students to visit the Lodge and enjoy the outdoors.

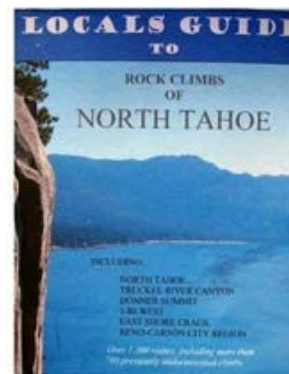
Assistant Lodge Manager John Jackson

John's wealth of experience includes four years as a ski area general manager overseeing operations, marketing, and financial/business plan development. He also brings over twenty years of custom residential construction, and commercial property maintenance experience to the Clair Tappaan staff. His last position was as regional branch manager for a national, exterior commercial property maintenance company.

John grew up in Grass Valley, moving to Truckee in 1983 to coach ski racing and teach skiing. He worked as a full-time, Level-3, certified ski instructor, and a Level-2 race coach at Alpine Meadows and Northstar for thirteen winters.



Having learned to rock climb on Donner Summit in 1982, he went on to establish rock climbing first ascents around the Tahoe/Donner region. In 2011, John completed a sixteen-year project of writing a definitive rock climbing guide. His popular book documents the rich climbing history of the North Tahoe-Donner-Reno-Carson region and details over 1,200 local rock climbing routes.



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REPORT ON OUR AUGUST FUNDRAISER

The 61 people who attended the annual August CTL Fundraiser were treated to wonderful hikes, a great art auction, interesting lectures, and exquisite live music in the woods. Very generous patrons bought raffle tickets and paid for wonderful pieces of art.

This year, an anonymous donor generously gave us a \$2,400 “challenge grant.” Our guests enthusiastically met the challenge, eventually surpassing the match. These donations went to CTL’s Scholarship Fund in the Sierra Club Foundation, used for student grants to visit the Lodge. The fund gained over \$9,000 in donations from the weekend!! Thanks to all who contributed.



Saturday morning breakfast; Sierra Club President David Scott in foreground. (Photo by Olivia Diaz).



Art Auction (Photos by Olivia Diaz)



Don

Baldwin, as John Muir, shared amusing stories and beautiful photographs of the Sierra.

THE HIKES - BY RICK RAMOS (HIKE ORGANIZER)

The hikes this year were well attended, the feedback was great, and people had a hard time choosing. We started on Friday afternoon with a scurry up Donner Peak where we were greeted with a fantastic view of Donner Lake. Saturday morning, we all met in front of the Lodge and broke out into groups for the various hikes. These included a hike led by a professional photographer exploring the petroglyphs



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and old train tunnels with camera in hand. There was a professional geologist who took that group on a geologic investigation of Castle Valley. Also, one of the Donner Summit Historical Society Docents led a trip down the east side of the Old Lincoln Highway as he discussed the historical aspects of the area. Many went on the hike to Flora Lake and took a swim in the invigorating waters. An exploration of the Van Norden Meadow (also called Summit Meadow) was led by one of the scientists monitoring the rehabilitation of the recently purchased acreage. On Sunday, we repeated three of the Saturday trips, and added the Mt. Judah Loop into the mix so people could end the experience with some hearty exercise.

I want to thank the leaders and professionals who offered their time to make this fundraiser a success. Thank you Dana Bruce and Jessica Pittman for bringing the fun into photography; to Chip Bouril and Penny Proteau for your continued expertise and leadership skills on the hikes; Rachael Durben for wearing two hats on Saturday, as guest speaker and trip leader to the meadow; Sue Lederman for jumping in and doing a great job of leading some hikes; Kathi Simonsen for volunteering to lead "whatever is needed;" to the "Historian Par Excellence" Bill Oudegeest; and special thanks to David Lawler, the geologist who took time away from his busy schedule to lead a fascinating hike.



Happy hikers.



Bill Oudegeest, hike leader (center); long-time Sierra Club member and a CTL Committee member Rose-Marie Ullman (left); David Scott (right), Sierra Club President, who gave a great talk on the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act, and enthusiastically joined a hike.



Hiking in Van Orden Meadow.

(All photos on this page, courtesy Lesley Ewing)



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HUCHINSON LODGE



Stephen Holland entertained guests with his amazing guitar playing and singing in the woods at Hutchinson Lodge. His rendition of Leonard Cohen's "Suzanne" was wonderful.

Check out his music at: <http://stephenholland.info/index.html>

Hutchinson Lodge is the companion Sierra Club Lodge on what we think of as the 60-acre CTL "Campus." Hutchinson is located across the ravine south of Clair Tappaan Lodge. It is 10 years older than its neighbor, hosting skiers and other outdoor enthusiasts since 1924! Hutchinson comes fully equipped with a self-service kitchen, showers, toilets, two wood-burning stoves, a sauna, and two sleeping lofts with sleeping pads. Guests bring their own bedding, towels, toiletries, and food. Hutchinson Lodge is more intimate than CTL, and holds a maximum of 30 people at \$30 per person per night. There is a \$300 minimum. For more than 10 guests, there is an additional charge per night per person of \$30. Call Clair Tappaan Lodge at 530 426-3632 for details and reservations.



Photos by Wally Juchert.

CTL AUGUST FUNDRAISER REVENUE	
Reservations	\$6,222
Lodge Donations	\$3,060
Art and Merchandise	\$908
Total Lodge Revenue	\$10,190
Environmental Education Donations	\$8,748
Raffle Tickets	\$367
Total Donations to CTL Foundation	\$9,115
Total Revenue	\$19,305
Expenses	(\$8,206)
NET	\$11,099



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