

North Forty
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Trinity Lake Lions held its gala annual awards banquet last Thursday night to honor outstanding community volunteers and to install its officers. While the honorees are selected by a secret committee the recipients came as no surprise to all of us. Kelli Gant and Mike McHugh, the husband and wife dynamos of North Trinity Lake shared honors as Citizens of the Year while Lion President Brian Bogdanich was named Lion of the Year (see picture).

Our area is so very fortunate to have the dedication, creativity and expertise of Kelli and Mike. To name a few of their accomplishments: they were instrumental in getting high speed internet in Trinity Center, the only town in Trinity County so blessed; they developed and maintain the North Trinity Lake website and weather station; formed with others the Trinity Lake Revitalization Alliance which will be a non profit organization of interested citizens with goals to enhance the North Lake area with such things as extended boat ramps and many recreational and business opportunities, including restaurants. Mike is an elected member of the Community Services District and Kelli is active in the TCVFD auxiliary and is co-chair of the upcoming wine and appetizer cookoff (July 17).

Lion of the Year, Brian, is a man of tremendous energy and creativity

. When an idea strikes him the enactment is almost instantaneous. Such was the case in the quickly organized Pancake Breakfast for relief of Eureka earthquake residents. The club has been super charged this year under his outstanding leadership and he will continue at the helm for the coming year.

FEAT, the Fire Emergency Assistance Team, has named Barbara Langford as Lieutenant, third in command to Dave Forbes, captain and assistant captain, Drew Rusnack. Barbara along with Betty Jenner and Chris St. Onge, get to almost every call out. She was a founding member of FEAT. Congratulations, Barbara!

I love the roar of Swift Creek at this time of year, evidence of the huge snowmelt coming down into the lake. The inflow is beating the outflow as we were up almost 3 feet this last week! Isn't the lake beautiful?! I didn't realize how much I missed it until we got it back. My weather journal reminds me that two years ago the terrible fires were upon us. Remember how the smoke was so dense on the lake that you couldn't safely rev up for skiing and wake boarding? And then, no lake to speak of last year. This is bliss.

As you read this it will be the last day of the weather year. I have recorded 59.18 inches of rain and snow melt for the year. The Journal tells us that we had 38.88 inches of rain for the year compared to 18 inches the previous year. The average is 36 inches. Hopefully "drought" is a word we can soon forget. Why does my PUD bill still charge a drought relief surcharge?

By the time you read this the Trinity Lake Revitalization Alliance will have held their "visioning" workshop where community members will join together in interest groups to develop action plans but I'll let Kelli fill you in on that next week.