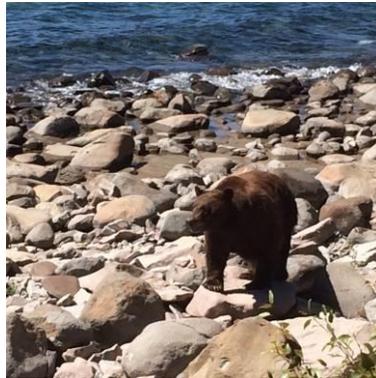
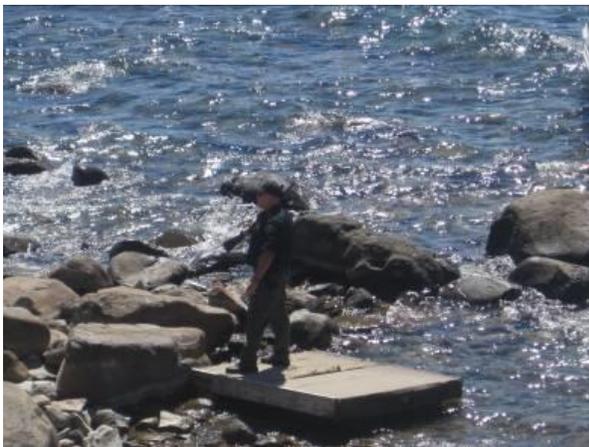


## Bears go into Politics.

Once upon a time, to be exact it was Sept. 5, 2015, a perfect sunny Saturday, 11 am, when guests told me there was a black bear at the Holiday House. I comforted them, saying that happens from time to time, is totally normal and continued with my hotel work



Then, all of a sudden, I noticed a huge assembly of heavily armed cars: the Sheriff, Highway Patrol, Animal Control and Fish and Game. I followed the policeman, who went with a drawn gun through the Holiday House. He took position on the shoreline aiming to the Eastside of the building. The Holiday House was full with old to young guests and their favorite dogs. We also had to rescue a motorboat which came loose during a 3day long heavy storm.



When I stood across the heavily armed policeman to question what he plans to do, I noticed his unfriendliness and my instinct warned me this policeman could feel threatened and shoot me out of self-defense. So I went back, looking for the

bear to help him escape safely across highway 28. But he was long gone and an hour later the armed occupation was lifted. The stranded motorboat was rescued, had no damage, which we celebrated after their test drive with happy hour drinks at Captain Jon's with a special Thank you, that the bear was alive.

Later I wrote the following letter to these 4 Agencies

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

A bear is not a criminal.

Tahoe bears don't threaten people.

Why then is a gunman in the middle of our private property without introducing himself or asking for permission?

Why is he brandishing a rifle? Why is he intimidating guests old and young and nice dogs?

You know who this was. We do not and we do not want this to happen again!

We supported you in the past, when you caught fleeing thieves hiding at the Holiday House or arrested a drunk driver who ran into our Lantern. But arriving mid-day unannounced, armed with a rifle ready to shoot, making us feel threatened on this past Saturday Sept. 5. 2015 is awful and not acceptable.

Luckily he could not shoot the bear, which would have been devastating for everybody at the Holiday House.

So please respect our place as a GUN FREE ZONE unless you ask for permission and have a very good reason. However a bear is not a criminal! Other aversion tactics can be used.

We had many visits of bears over the years, all with happy endings, because we respect each other and do not need guns.

Holiday House

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All my guests were shocked and sent pictures to me from the gunman and the bear who happily was unharmed

Three days later this bear came back, I named him Caesar the conqueror (of our hearts) I had just left on my Stand Up Paddleboard with my German Shepherd riding on the front. Caesar swam full of joy in front of my guests and was gladly posing for pictures



A month later he came back to swim, drink and play in the clear water. This was my first opportunity to call "you are so welcome and we love you" He of course enjoyed this and waited until I had my German Shepherd out of the way, so he could go back to his woods.



You might remember my first true bear2012story: one bear cub was hurt by a car on the left leg and mama bear was hiding it under the Holiday House deck. I believe this was Caesar, because this bear is still limping on his left leg



Now back to politics. Unfortunately, I never got an answer from any of these 4 agencies, not even after I called each one of them. Therefore I have no choice but to figure out myself, why they point a loaded gun at a bear with the intention to kill

1. Maybe they do not know better
2. Maybe because the bear has no gun (no danger)
3. Maybe because he is giant (easy to hit)

4. Maybe because he cannot file a lawsuit
5. Maybe because he does not vote
6. Maybe because he pays no taxes
7. Maybe they perceive the bear's life as having little value

I hope none of that is true and these agencies will come together with the bear league, myself and concerned citizens to work out a peaceful and successful plan. Or for now just call 530 525 PAWS the bear league (24 hours) and a volunteer will help to get the bear safely away from scared people.

I think what really happened was a 911 call from an influential wealthy person, who mistook this bear for a Grizzly bear. Grizzlies are dangerous, but Grizzlies are extinct in California, the last one was captured around the year 1900 at Mount Taillac and was moved on a big train to the San Francisco Zoo.

I also thought how rich people are sometimes deprived, because their parents are so busy. Maybe they never got a teddy bear, while I got 3 at my first birthday and my grandson 6 years old owns at least 25 teddy bears.



I am not saying these black bears are like teddy bears, no, they are much better. They are alive, they are not mad that we took their homes; they listen, trying to do the right thing.

Let's be kind. Killing is so final, irreversible, creates more hate.

When you compare my first true bear story from 2012 to this one 3 years later, it is frightening, how much violence has increased. My first story was bedtime reading for children, this story absolutely not.

The trend to violence is accelerating way to fast. Therefore this bear story is an invitation to hear both sides and see how much better we can do with communication and respect for other lives.



This is a true story about bears at Lake Tahoe, California, narrated by Alvina, Holiday House, Tahoe Vista, USA