Did you know that the SonomaCountyMountainGoats (SCMG) Google Groups email list has lots of options?

If you're perfectly happy getting SCMG emails in your inbox (one-by-one), then you really don't need to do anything else, and you can ignore the rest of these options. However, if you find that there is "too much traffic" on the email list and you want a more summary view of the emails, then you have several options. And interestingly enough, one of the options is to get *NO* emails at all, but yet you can read them anytime you like by simply pointing your web browser to the Google Groups web page where a nice threaded list of the emails and discussions can be found (most people don't even know this option exists!).

Options beyond the default (getting emails one-by-one anytime):

Google describes abridged email updates as a single email summary of new activity -- including messages from users and administrators -- per day. Another option is Digest email that shows the full content of up to 25 messages in a single email per day. While you can see the sender, subject and a brief summary with abridged emails, you can view all text and images from all group activity in the digest email. For groups that have more than 25 new messages, you will receive multiple digests.

Change Email Settings:

To change your email settings for a Google Group to which you belong, log on to the group in your Web browser. Click "My Membership" to open a screen where you can change email and other settings. Select either abridged or digest from the options. Google also allows you to choose the "no email" option if you only want to check your groups in your browser or "email" to receive a message every time someone posts to your group. Email settings are on a group-by-group basis so you can choose the settings for each group individually.

Now here's the tricky part about the above paragraph for changing your options. Many of you have Google Accounts, and so you can change these options by following those directions. However, you may not have a Google Account, so you can simply ask one of the SCMG Google Group Admins (Dennis Prior, Jim Gloystein or Lorenzo Freshnet) to change it for you. Easy peasy.

Not to confuse you any further, but you do *NOT* have to have a Google Gmail account to have a Google Login. Let's say your email address is "foo@bar.com". You can register "foo@bar.com" with Google, including your own preferred password, and you can use this to log into Google and enjoy a ton of free services (like Google Photos, Google Docs, and so on). But more importantly, it will allow you to choose the "No Email" option of the SCMG Google Groups and just log into the web page anytime you want to read the flow of emails (without any of them appearing in your inbox). Let us know if you need help with this.

Final Considerations:

If you simply want to reduce the number of email messages in your inbox, you may choose the abridged email delivery option. You may find that the summary saves you time by helping you choose the messages you really need to fully read. However, if summaries don't provide you with enough information, consider subscribing only to the digest. Note that because digests contain the full text, they may be much larger and require more time to download.

And for you "visually oriented" folks, here's a screen capture of the SCMG Google Groups web page:

