

Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade Fire Brigade News – February 2016

Everyone is asking what has happened to our El Nino? Where is our rain? Believe me I am wondering the same thing; the weather was in the 80s for a week. Then a little bit of rain and now they are saying another week of warm weather. Maybe a miracle March? One can only hope. And of course due to the nice weather we had a million people down here over the Presidents weekend. A triple whammy of sorts, Presidents days, the AT&T golf tournament and Valentine's Day. The number of cars and people down here was as bad as a Labor Day weekend. We did OK until Sunday when we got four calls in one day, crazy!!

We got our first page for a rescue at Hurricane Pt. for a man who went down to the beach and hurt his ankle. We requested SO to respond as well, then on our way out there we got another page for a medical on one of the trails in the State Park, unknown which one. As SO was able to handle the Hurricane Pt incident we diverted to the State Park. Fortunately we located the injured person right away near the bottom of the Pfeiffer Falls trail. A short time later we got paged for a carry out at JPB on the Ewoldsen trail, part way through that we got paged for a vehicle over the side just south of Partington Cove. CHP H70 was already on scene when I arrived, hovering over the car that was about 500 feet down. I had to drive down to JPB as our rescue team was not within radio range and let them know we had yet another incident. Our rescue team set up a system and went over the side but there was no one at the accident we could find and the CHP pulled the car up the next day. A busy afternoon and evening!

We are in the middle of one more Title 22 First Aid class with 9 people attending, some CERT and some Brigade members. And last night we did the first of two PG&E classes. We have them come down every few years and they do a great job reminding us about all the hazards involved with electrical lines. CERT is also taking one of the classes. We are working on our ongoing EMT/EMR recert and need to get going on a Hazmat recert, always some kind of training to do! This is of course all in addition to our regular fire and rescue training.

There doesn't seem to be as many people burning this year, don't put it off! By the time you read this there will only be two more months left to burn. And don't forget sometimes depending on the weather the season can end early.

We had a few people take advantage of getting their fire extinguishers filled up at the fire house, the fire extinguisher man doesn't mind and I think it is a good opportunity so you don't have to drive to town.

Martha Karstens
Chief