

Fire Brigade News November 2012

New!! Starting this year everyone is required to have a burn permit before doing your back yard burning. This is a requirement of the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District. In order to make it easier on all the residents, the Fire Brigade, will be issuing the permits. We also will not be charging any fees. Please go to our web site at www.bigsurfire.org for your permits, or you may call us at 667-2113 or mail us at P.O. Box 520 for one. We will issue a permit number and get a copy of the permit back to you.

Our annual Bal Masque was a mellow event, between being on a week night, with a threat of rain and confusion/concerns about the road at Rocky Creek we did not have a sold out night. But for those who were there it was a great evening. We appreciate Cal Trans and the contractor keeping the road open for us! The posters the Captain Cooper kids did for our party were the best ever :-). All the prizes were won by people that lived in Big Sur.... We really appreciate Post Ranch, Ventana, Deetjens and the Bakery for donating for our costume prizes. Thank you so much to Kirk and Holly and the enthusiastic Nepenthe staff for all their work!

We also had our 32nd annual Big Sur River Run, it was a beautiful day for it and we had a pretty good turnout of runners and walkers. Thanks to all the folks that came to help make this another success!

We have completed our First Aid class and had 10 CERT members finish it in addition to the Brigade members! While it is only a 16 hour class, it seems with our busy lives it is difficult to find the time to do anything. So I really appreciate them for making the commitment and finishing it. We hope they will not need it.

We have had three calls during the evening road closures and fortunately the timing was just right so there was no need to interrupt the road work when the ambulance transported the patients.

I attended the annual winter meeting and the phrase for the year is "equal chances". In other words, maybe we get a lot of rain, maybe not. There was mention of a mild El Nino and while that may not bring a lot of rain, what does come to us may all come at once. This can cause problems. As always our sand pile for your sand bags, should you need it, is already in place at the Pfeiffer ridge turnout. The Fire Brigade has sand bags if needed. After this last almost 3 ½ inches of rain I think we can safely say goodbye to the fire season, whew!!

In case you still haven't heard we have a beautiful quilt we are going to raffle off to help raise funds for a new water tender. You can visit our web site for more information or send a check to the Fire Brigade for tickets, 1 for \$25 or 5 tickets for \$100. This was hand made by Mennonite women and donated especially to our Fire Brigade. Only 500 tickets will be sold with the drawing to be on January 27th.

We again plan on having Santa travel around the community and stop at the resorts to deliver gifts for the children. You can drop off your wrapped gifts at the library with your child's name and where you would like Santa to deliver it written on it. Flyers will be going out with all the details.

We look forward to easing up with our trainings in December, only a couple planned, and trying to enjoy some of the holidays!

Martha Karstens
Chief