

Fire Brigade News

We had the drawing for our quilt raffle on January 27th. Sierra Mar hosted the event for us and provided some delicious hors d'oeuvres! Chamber of Commerce President Kirk Gafill did the honors of drawing the winning ticket. Drum roll..... and the winner was..... Jaci Pappas!!!! How perfect and appropriate! She did so much work for the promotion of the raffle. You can see her stunned and happy pictures taken right after winning it on our web site at www.bigsurfire.org.

Between the raffle, some grant funds and other donations, we now have raised over \$70,000 towards our new water tender. We will continue to apply for grants and raise funds.

Believe it or not, by the time you read this you only have two months left in burn season. There have not been as many people burning so far this season, I'm not sure why. It did get off to a slow start with all the rain we had in December. I have issued 92 burn permits so far, thank you all for going through the process and getting them.

Once again we are offering the opportunity for you to be able to take your fire extinguishers up to the fire house and have them refilled. On Monday March 11th from 10:00 until noon you may bring up your extinguishers to our fire house at the Post Ranch. Monterey Fire Extinguisher will be there to check and/or fill them. The cost will vary depending on the size of your extinguisher.

The CERT members had their first meeting of the year last weekend and had new membership cards handed out in addition to the T22 (first aid) cards for those that completed the class. New radios were also handed out, the CERT repeater was narrow banded last month and the old radios were not compatible for NB. Monterey County Regional Fire District was kind enough to donate their old radios to the CERT team.

We had several Brigade members just complete the full 16 hour Hazmat, (Hazardous Materials) class. This was done over the super bowl weekend, not quite sure how that happened.... I wanted to especially acknowledge Jeff Carmichael and Torre Nichols for making the extra effort for coming off of Partington ridge during their road closure to attend the class both days. And on super bowl Sunday they started class at 07:00!!

The Fire Brigade was part of a benefit for the Independent Marketplace in Sand City this month. We shared the donation with Mid Coast Fire. We also had a table set up with merchandise sales along with our donation boot:) Thanks to our Auxiliary members Nadine Clark, Ann Hobson and Ken Lee for going up to help staff the table. Thank you to Todd Champagne for thinking of us and including us for this donation!

It is 45 degrees and hailing right now at 5:30 in the afternoon, I am glad to see winter is still here after the overly warm week we just had, 80 up here on the ridge on one of the days.

Martha Karstens
Chief