

Fire Brigade News October 2012

Wasn't the rain wonderful!!! The first good one, I had a little over ½ inch. It will put a damper on fire season, not to say if we get another hot week we would be right back into it. The weather man is predicting more though. I go to the annual winter storm meeting on Thursday so will get the scoop for what is supposed to come.

Good news! The contractor is going to keep the road open for us on Halloween! So make sure and get your tickets for the annual Bal Masque.... one of our major fund raisers!!

And speaking of fundraisers, we are having a kickoff event this Sunday the 28th for a quilt raffle at Ventana. This is to raise funds for a much needed new water tender. (Our current one is a 1978). We will raffle off only 500 tickets @ \$25 each or 5 for \$100. Great Christmas presents!!

And speaking of Christmas, hey, the decorations are already out in the stores, Treebones and River Inn are carrying some very cool Brigade logo merchandise. They have adult size clothing and some very cute "baby wear". In addition, there are cinch packs, you have to see them, just ask Bob Sayre, and other miscellaneous items.

The Fire Brigade has continued to meet with other emergency organizations to make sure we are ready when the road is closed, (that starts tonight, the 22nd) We have a notification procedure set up through Cal Trans and CHP dispatch. Call 911 as usual for any emergency.

We have two more first aid classes with the FB and CERT members, they are all doing a great job!

And speaking of doing a great job... (OK, last time I use that, couldn't resist) the FB had a three day rescue class this weekend. Lots of information and hard work, the last day they didn't finish until 7:30 PM in the dark! We had eleven FB members finish the class for the first time and three repeating it to refresh their training. We got called out at 03:00 on Sunday morning for a rescue at JPB, (again). Five young people decided it would be a good idea to climb down to the beach around midnight. Only two were able to climb out and three had to be rescued. We didn't get home until 07:00 and the group started their class at 08:30, a long day for them!

My phone rang quite a little bit when the first bills for the SRA "fee" came out. Many questions regarding it. The Howard-Jarvis taxpayers association has challenged the "fee" calling it a tax. You can get more information on our web site at www.bigsurfire.org. It was discussed at the last BSMACC meeting and Rick Hutchinson the Cal Fire unit Chief was able to come down to answer questions. I will say again that the unique BSMACC meetings are a great way to get information and address concerns, it would be great if more people attended them. It was announced at this one that a bike ride with 170 recovered veterans is coming through tomorrow, (the 23rd) We also have the 32nd annual River Run coming up on Saturday, another big fund raiser for us.

Don't forget to change your clocks on Saturday night November 3rd, fall back....and at the same time check the batteries in your fire and carbon monoxide alarms.

Lastly, the Air Resources Board is requiring permits this year for back yard burning. So anyone wanting to burn will need to get one. We are getting our web site set up so you will be able to fill one out online. You may also contact us ahead of time if you would rather get one at the firehouse. You will only need to get one permit for the entire burn season. Don't forget you will still need to call the FB every time you burn! The usual postcards will go out as reminders...

Martha Karstens
Chief