

Board Members: Heather Beer, Glenn Borland (Chair), Robert Carlyle, Donna Dose, George Evangelou, Brenda Fromlath, Libby Getzoff, Bruce Graves, Zachary Harris, Rosemary Johnston, George Lucia, Mike Pique (Secretary), Linda Thorne (Treasurer), Yvonne Vaucher, Michael Walsh (Vice Chair)

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR by Glenn Borland

elcometo the 2014 edition of the PMPO news letter. The Palomar Mountain Planning Organization is a nonprofit public benefit organization whose purpose is not only to provide planning oversight for the Palomar community but also organize responses to particular mountain needs. These needs range from road traffic and safety to representing the Palomar Mountain community in county planning issues. The board consists of fifteen members that are elected to three year terms. Five member positions come up for election every year and candidates are drawn primarily from Palomar Mountain property owners and business persons. If you would like to participate in board activities please do not hesitate to contact any of the board members. The various articles in this news letter will give you a feel for the activities of the board. Mike Chesney continues to maintain our web site (PMPOInfo.com) which is the single point source of information on the activities of the PMPO. Robert Carlyle has been the point man on

obtaining grants to continue brush clearing and other fire safety issues. Mike Pique, our faithful scribe, again has done exemplary service in taking and delivering the minutes. Alan Serry, a past board member, has taken up a leadership position in the Palomar Mountain CERT. This and many other mountain activities are represented in the following newsletter articles.

As you read this newsletter, you are looking at the work of Susan Humason. She has been responsible for the publication of the news letter for many years. Thanks to Susan for her many years of service both on and off the board. Thanks to Brenda Fromlath for all of her efforts in wrangling all the contributors and advertisers into a coherent package. And many thanks to Michael Walsh, who has served as chair and vice chair over the last several years, and is my right hand man! Also thanks to the PMVFD, who have made their facilities available to the PMPO for its many events over the years. And last but not least, a hearty thanks to all of the people that have contributed to the activities of the PMPO.

Glenn Borland PMPO Chairman chair@pmpoinfo.com



PMPO BOARD ELECTIONS by Glenn Borland

The PMPO Board consists of 15 volunteers, five of which are up for election every year. These elections occur during the Annual Board Meeting following the Pancake Breakfast. The next Board meeting will be held Saturday at 11:00 AM, May 24th 2014.

Membership on the PMPO Board is open to any individual resident, property owner, or business person in the Palomar Mountain area of San Diego who wishes to contribute time and effort to achieve the purposes of this Organization. Members may be elected for more than one consecutive term. Board members serve without compensation. Board members must meet the attendance requirements as stated in the PMPO By-laws article 7.6. The Board meets a minimum of four times a year.

A description of the PMPO and its various Committee activities, Articles of Incorporation, and By-laws can be viewed on the PMPO web site, PMPOInfo.com.

This year, five current Board seats expire. There are also two vacant positions. The duration of these terms will be the years remaining of the original three-year term. This results in a total of seven seats up for election. If interested in being a candidate, please email chair@pmpoinfo.com.

The following seats are up:

- 1) Glenn Borland (term expires 2017)
- 2) Michael Walsh (term expires 2017)
- 3) Robert Carlyle (term expires 2017)
- 4) Heather Beer (term expires 2017)
- 5) Elizabeth Getzoff (term expires 2017)
- 6) Linda Thorne (term expires 2015)
- 7) George Lucia (term expires 2016)



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Palomar Mountain Planning Organization (PMPO) Box 145 PALOMAR MOUNTAIN, CA 92060-0145

This newsletter is produced annually and distributed in May of each year.

Without the help of many volunteers, this newsletter would not be possible.

Coordinator: Brenda Fromlath Layout & Design: Susan Humason Proof Readers: Michael Pique, Libby Getzoff, & Glenn Borland

Article Contributors:

Thank you to all contributors who make this newsletter possible.

Assemblers:

Thanks go out to the many individuals that help each year with the assembly and mailing of the newsletter. They all make it possible to get the newsletter out on a timely basis.

If you have any information that you would like to contribute to future newsletters, please email the information to Brenda Fromlath at: beppebrenda@gmail.com attn: PMPO Newsletter



Bailey's Palomar Resort

Since 1888 Camping • Lodging • Events



For over a century now, folks have been coming up to Bailey's for a special slice of San Diego's back country. Bailey's sixty-acre mountaintop environment is a unique blend of cool forest and rich meadow.

The historic General Store, Dance Hall, and the newly restored Hotel provide an authentic look and feel to a valley that has changed little over the last 100 years.

Lodging at the Bailey House, camping, and cabin rentals are available.

Let Us Help You Plan Your Next Event

760-742-1859 www.BaileysPalomarResort.com

Palomar Mountain Planning Organization **Treasurer's Report** 2013 - 2014

Submitted by Linda Thorne, Treasurer



There has been little activity on our accounts since the end of the year. Almost all donations arrive after the Newsletter comes out in May of each year.

There are expenses for the Newsletter and for the yearly Pancake Breakfast that is held on Memorial Day weekend in conjunction with our Annual Meeting. We also have expense for tax preparation.

Last year we had no unexpected expenses and gave no donations to other organizations.

January Statement 2014 January Statement 2013 Checking \$ 8,171.82 \$ 6,443.28 Savings \$33,315.34 \$ 33,287.04 Total \$ 41,487.16 \$ 39,720.32

There were donations from 21 donors last year. I have written thank-you notes including our tax ID number to all of them.

Total donations were: \$3,528 for 2013

All of our required filings are current. Tax returns and Charitable Trust filing reports are located on our web site.



For information on the Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council please contact Robert Carlyle at 760-742-1891.



Check the bulletin board by the Post Office for notices.

PMPO Needs Your Financial Support... All property owners, residents, and any parties interested in the Palomar community are We depend on members of the Palomar Mountain Planning Organization. PMPO is recognized by both Federal our Support. and State Taxing Authorities as a tax-exempt organization. This means that your gifts are income tax deductible. Please, Give Generously The Palomar Mountain Planning Organization (PMPO) studies and tackles issues of importance to Palomar Mountain, its residents, and visitors. Your financial support represents the Mountains' ability to make its voice heard and have its concerns expressed to the applicable local government agencies. **Palomar Mountain** NAME: **Planning Organization** Address: -- 2014 Contribution --**RETURN TO:** PMPO, Box 145 PALOMAR MOUNTAIN, CA 92060-0145

Palomar Mountain, CA 92060-0145 PMPO is recognized by Federal and State Authorities as a tax exempt 501 (c)(3) organization. Your contributions are 100% tax deductible. Or Donate Online at www.PMPOinfo.com

Phone:_____

Email: _____

AM CONTRIBUTING: \$_____

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)

The Community Emergency Response team (CERT) educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned, CERT members can assist others when professional responders are not immediately available to help.

People who go through CERT training have a better understanding of the potential threats to their home and community and can take the right steps to lessen the effects of hazards. If a disaster happens that overwhelms local response capability, CERT members can apply the training learned to give critical support to their family and neighbors. CERT training gives people the decision making, organizational and practical skills to offer immediate assistance.

Following a major disaster, first responders who provide fire and medical services will not be able to meet the demand for these services. Communication failures and road blocks will prevent people from accessing emergency services. People will have to rely on each other for help in order to meet their immediate lifesaving needs.

What can Palomar Mountain CERT do to prepare citizens for this eventuality?

• Present the facts about what to expect during a major disaster.

• Give the message about their responsibility for preparedness.

• Train them in needed lifesaving skills.

• Organize teams so that they are an extension of first responder services offering immediate help.

The CERT course will benefit any citizen who takes it, and they will be better prepared to respond to the aftermath of a disaster.

CERT is about readiness, people helping people, rescue, safety, and doing the greatest good for the greatest number. CERT is a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situations where citizens can make a difference.

In additional to national CERT training standards, Palomar Mountain CERT members receive training in disasters that may impact our community, such as earthquake, wildfire and snow emergencies.

Palomar Mountain CERT members are trained to assist the fire department in public safety, radio communications, and first aid. Palomar Mountain CERT has their own fire engine and is trained to apply Barricade Gel to homes that are threatened by fire. Our 4 wheel drive Suburban can go where needed to assist our community.

A Basic Academy Training Course is being offered Friday-Sunday June 6-8, 2014.

This 9 unit (20 hour) course covers; *Disaster Preparedness Fire Safety Disaster Medical/Psychology Search & Rescue CERT Organization* The course finale is a realistic disaster simulation. For more information about this opportunity or to enroll in the June 6-8 class; contact CERT coordinator

Alan Serry 760-533-1268.

CERT Academy graduates are encouraged to participate in our monthly training sessions.

Meetings are on the second Saturday of each month at 8 AM. Topics include; *How to apply Barricade Gel Search & Rescue First Aid Radio Communications*



PALOMAR MOUNTAIN CERT NEEDS YOUR FINANCIAL HELP!

A trained community benefits all! Palomar Mountain CERT needs your financial help! Donations can be made to Palomar Mountain Fire Department. Please note on your check that the donation is for CERT CERT is a part of the Palomar Mountain Fire Department, which is a 501C3, and all donations are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to Palomar Mountain Fire Department and specify CERT on the check. Mail your donation to Palomar Mountain Fire Department PO Box 235 Palomar Mountain, CA 92060

Donations can be made to Palomar Mountain Fire Department. CERT is a part of the Palomar Mountain Fire Department, which is a 501C3, and all donations are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to Palomar Mountain Fire Department and specify CERT on the check. Mail your donation to Palomar Mountain Fire Department PO Box 235 Palomar Mountain, CA 92060

PLEASE SPONSOR A PALOMAR MOUNTAIN CERT VOLUNTEER

Our cost to train each volunteer at the CERT academy is approximately \$95.00 per person. CERT graduates are provided with a well-equipped CERT backpack so that they are prepared to help in an emergency. Each volunteer is also provided with a training manual plus practice simulation supplies.

Additional overhead costs include vehicle maintenance, as well as supplies needed for our monthly training.

For more information about this opportunity or to enroll in the June 6-8 class.

Contact CERT coordinator Alan Serry 760-533-1268

BOUCHER HILL LOOKOUT UPDATE

by Curt Waite



s we are all aware, San Diego County is experiencing critical drought conditions. This poses a much higher-than-normal wildfire potential for our backcountry areas. Helping to keep watch over Palomar Mountain during these critical times are the two fire lookout towers, Boucher Hill and High Point, restored and staffed by the Forest Fire Lookout Association.

FFLA spring training for volunteer lookouts began the first Saturday in April. Applicants must attend two eighthour classroom sessions and two days of in-tower training including State Park orientation before they can serve as volunteers. This training is funded in part by a grant in aid from San Diego Gas and Electric.

The lookout towers will be opened for training purposes from April 20 through May 16 and will be in fullservice for the 2014 fire season on May 17. During the 2013 fire season High Point was staffed 100% of the time from May 11 through December 7. Due to the shortage of volunteers, Boucher Hill was only able to be open about 40% of these days.

This year fourteen new volunteers have applied to work at Boucher Hill along with an equal number of veteran lookouts who have now been accepted as State Park Volunteers. It is hoped that the lookout will be able to serve the public as a "fixed-point fire detection station" 100% of the time this season.

Any time that Boucher Hill is staffed, it is open to the public as an interpretive site and is an important drawing-card to Palomar Mountain State Park. On the days the lookout was open last season, over 3000 visitors climbed the stairs to enjoy the view and talk with the lookout/ docent volunteers. The volunteers are able to share with visitors the history of Boucher Hill lookout and Palomar Mountain, and educate them on the importance of wild-land fire safety.







COMMUNITY TIDBITS ... from Bonnie Phelps

MOUNTAIN NEWS

Opportunities abound for you to get involved or just keep up on the latest. Have you subscribed? It's FREE! Have you changed your email address? Occasionally folks tell me they are no longer receiving the Mountain News. Often it is because their email address has changed. For all things Palomar, simply self-subscribe at www.palomarmountainnews.com. You can spend hours scrolling down through the archives or type in key words to locate information. You'll also find lots of photos of events and happenings on your favorite mountain! Several mountain authors have published their books; lots of events and ideas are always on the horizon. I'll keep all the news of your favorite mountain coming your way, and that's a promise!



WALKABLE ADVENTURES

Would you like fresh eggs? How about fresh roasted organic coffee? Do you have friends or family coming up that would like to visit a little farm and see turkeys, chickens, goats or sheep? Do you like all things crafty? How about stuffed bears, moose, frogs, or you name it?! If you are

over on Crestline or Birch Hill, these adventures are even walkable outings from your cabin! You can visit our friendly residents that welcome you calling ahead, and coming for a little 'Field Trip'. To see what is available so far, simply visit www.palomarproperties.com and search "walkable" Would you like to be included? Just let me know!

MOUNTAIN YELLOW PAGES



When you need services on Palomar, you might visit the Mountain Yellow Pages. Don't see what

you're looking for? Or, would you like to be added? Do you have a company that you were very pleased

with? Just let me know. Additions and corrections always welcomed. www.palomarproperties.com/yellowpages

VACATION RENTALS ON PALOMAR

The Vacation Rental market is really amazing on this mountain! There are some very fun cabins available for your overflow when you're entertaining. Or, are you thinking of renting your cabin on weekends or holidays when you aren't able to be here? It has proven to be very lucrative year round! Thinking of having your property as a rental but don't know where to start? We have great housekeeping options, and listing your property as a rental at www.palomarproperties. com/rentals is a free service. I'm glad to pass on tips for you to manage the bookings, or leave it all to someone else. Visit the Rentals page, and contact Bonnie at (760) 742-1742 with any questions you might have.

BURN PERMITS

Folks with mountain property always seem to have downed branches especially after storms. Wondering what to do with all the trimmings after 'parking up' your property? Would you like to have a campfire or burn your cut brush? A permit is required. Permits are available only when the U. S. Forest Service deems it is safe. After a rain or snow is often a good option. Call the US Forest Service Lake Henshaw station (760) 782-3472, or Ramona office (760) 788-0250 to help keep our forest green and fire safe.

EXPLORE THE STARS

The Explore the Stars Program takes place one weekend a month, from April through October, at the Observatory Campground on Canfield Road, about half way down on the right. Amateur astronomers from San Diego, Riverside and Orange Counties bring out their own telescopes, sharing spectacular views of the night sky with all comers. Saturday nights feature a talk at the campground amphitheater at dusk. Click on www.fs.usda.gov/cleveland/ and search "Explore the Stars"

HISTORICAL GEMS

One of our Mountain historians, Peter Brueggeman, is working on biographies of two other Palomar Mountain associated people: Esther Hewlett and Clark Cleaver. Do you have photographs and/or materials on them that you would be willing to share? That would be wonderful! Peter recently completed a biography of George Doane. It is available to download and has over 350 times people have already enjoyed that free gift to us! If anyone has additional photographs or materials on George Doane that they don't see in his biography, Peter would be interested in hearing from you.

The newest addition for us to check out are late 1800s US Surveyor General's Office maps of Palomar Mountain to his MAPS section. Peter and his wife sold their cabin on Palomar a few years ago, but he continues to bless us with lots of historical finds on his ever-growing website: http:// peterbrueggeman.com/palomarhistory/ Thank you Peter!

"The Mountain Years" - A new book telling of adventures on Palomar nearly 100 years ago is getting closer. Barbara Anne Waite is bringing another delightful book our way. Her grandmother Elsie was one of our pioneers and left her journal and letters telling of delightful adventures on Palomar. When it is published, you'll be the first to know on the Mountain News. Please stay tuned as we introduce the links through the Mountain News. Meanwhile there are hours

MORE MOUNTAIN TIDBITS...from Bonnie Phelps

of photos and stories at http://www.mypalomarmountain. com/historical/ where you'll also want to click on Peter's wonderful archives.

PICNIC IN THE STATE PARK

Next time you have family or friends up, you might just pack a picnic basket and head over to the State Park. Most of you know about the miles of trails. One of my favorites for kids of all ages is just the loop around Doane Pond. There are tables right there by the pond and a perfect place for a



relaxing time around the pond. Good trout fishing in Doane Pond with some great historical sites to discover and lots more right in our own back yard! Have you been in the Ranger Station lately? Stop there for a trail map and more in their interesting mini museum. Visit the park online at www. parks.ca.gov and click on San Diego County.

LIKE TO VOLUNTEER IN THE STATE PARK?

There are many different opportunities waiting for you in our 2000-acre treasure on Palomar. Ranger Jessica is glad to get your questions answered anytime (760) 742-3830.

RECYCLING

You are invited to take your aluminum and bottles for recycling at the Fire Department. Be

sure to have the lids off the bottles. Please have everything

securely in bags. The bins are to the right of the entrance. It helps the environment and the Fire Department! Thanks to all!



DAFFODILS



Like to do your part in painting the mountain? Every year there are more beautiful daffodils all around Palomar. Cecilia Borland is putting together a co-op order again this year. If you would like to go in on it, the order needs to be placed by the end of July. The shipment we got this year produced such a fabulous variety of flowers. They bloom from March through May and are a flower that the critters leave alone. You just plant them in a sunny location and forget about them. To get in on the fun spreading spring time color simply give Cecilia a call at (760) 742-8741.





Bonnie Phelps, Realtor In the Cities and Above the Clouds - Real Estate & Vacation Rentals Thank you for entrusting me with so many wonderful properties over the years. Your business and referrals are sincerely appreciated! 760-742-1742 CalBRE #01293655 PalomarProperties.com • MyPalomarMountain.com • PalomarMountainNews.com

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE?

By Alan Serry

Does the Fire Department know where you live? What is your easement number? What are your house numbers? Your neighbor may be a thousand numbers different than yours (mine is).

Each fire truck carries a cross reference book that has addresses and names to find your easement road. The Palomar Mountain Fire Department has a good system to find you, but it may need to be updated. PLEASE stop by the CERT booth at the PMPO Breakfast and check your information. Learn your easement number and make sure everyone in your household knows your address. Post your address on your house (3" numbers) and at your driveway to be located from the easement or street.

If you are unable to attend the PMPO Breakfast this year, please call Cliff at 760-742-3701 or Alan at 760-533-1268 to verify your information. Remember, this information is private and confidential, only for use by the Fire Department. This is a public service event from your local Community Emergency Response Team. (Easement numbers apply only to Crestline/Birch hill area)

PALOMAR CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER

Camp is "Blooming" at Palomar Christian Conference Center

Verywhere we look on the mountain right now, we see things blooming! It's a beautiful time of year on the mountain and at PCCC.

Right now at PCCC we are gearing up for our summer retreats and program camps. We always like to invite our Palomar Mountain friends and neighbors to check out our website to see information about our Program Camps. We offer Girl's Horse Camp, Boy's Outdoor Adventure, and this year we are offering a brand new program camp, Base Camp!

Girls Horse Camp is for girls ages 9-17. This camp is a week-long and includes: horsemanship, horse science lessons, vaulting, trail rides, fun games, daily Bible studies, worship services, campfires, zip-lining, archery, pool time and much more!

Boy's Adventure Camp is for boys ages 11-17. This camp is a week long adventure program which includes: backpacking in the great outdoors, wilderness lessons such as knife throwing, shelter building, land navigation, fishing, paintball, skeet shooting, zip lining and much more!

Base Camp is for both girls and boys entering 6th through 9th grades. This week long program camp will use camp activates to show how we can have fun and still live our lives for Christ. Their week will include archery, zip lining, pool time, fun games, daily Bible studies, campfires, and much more. Each day will also include a nightly worship service called Summit.

We love getting to share God's creation and the beauty of Palomar Mountain with our campers each and every day! If you are interested in any information about these camps or anything else going on at PCCC, you can visit our website at www.pccc.org or give us a call at 760-742-3400.

Micah Beard Executive Director

TRAFFIC SAFETY

By Alan Serry Interim Traffic Safety

Palomar Mountain Traffic Safety organized an Inter -Agency Task Force this Fall for the Snow Emergency Plan. Palomar Mountain Fire Department, in past years, has not been able to respond as quickly during "Snow Days" because of gridlock on State Park Rd. and Canfield Rd.

New personnel at both CHP and Sheriff Department were briefed on the huge number of visitors Palomar Mountain has to deal with on "Snow Days". CHP early enforcement to keep the roads clear has worked well. Also the Forest Service has been a big help keeping the roads open. This year both CHP and Sheriff Department have public relations departments that will give public service announcements to the local radio and TV stations (including Spanish speaking) reminding listeners of the difficult and severe conditions on top. Using phrases like "Chains will be required", and "Expect long traffic delays" may discourage some from adding to the huge numbers on top. We are also trying to get an electronic sign down at the "Y" to let the visitors know about conditions at the Summit.

These ideas sure worked well this winter! Oh, wait, we never got any snow.

Introducing your new Traffic Safety, Zack Harris. Zack has been busy becoming an EMT, but is looking forward to helping with the Motorcycle Racing on the South Grade this

BOARD MEMBER UPDATE by Mike Pique

The following board members' terms expire in May 2014 and so are standing (as far as I know) for re-election:

Heather Beer Glenn Borland/Cecelia Borland (alternate) Robert Carlyle Elizabeth Getzoff/John Tainer (alternate) Michael Walsh

The following terms expire in May 2015: Brenda Fromlath Zachary Harris Michael Pique Linda Thorne Yvonne Vaucher

The following terms expire in May 2016: Donna Dose George Evangelou Bruce Graves Rosemary Johnston George Lucia

Linda Thorne and George Lucia have announced their resignations from the Board, so the annual meeting will include those positions.



WELL Monitoring

There are no particular problems with the water at this point, but with the lack of precipitation this past winter, we may expect the levels to go down. The good thing is that we have data that has been collected over the years. We can use these data to make comparisons of well levels versus precipitation.

If you would allow the PMPO to measure your well a few times each year, email 'secretary@PMPOInfo.com'.

Brenda Fromlath, Realtor CABRE #01878971 North County Associated Brokers 760-803-9545 brenda@2sisterssell.com 2sisterssellhomes.com



Search the MLS @ <u>www.2sisterssellhomes.com</u>, click on listings tab. My home office is on the East Grade.

My sister Anita, in Escondido, is my real estate partner, so one of us is always available to assist.

PALOMAR MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY CHURCH

The congregation of Palomar Mountain Community Church holds its Sunday worship services in the trailer behind the Fire Station.

On behalf of the congregation, I would like to extend an invitation to any and all Palomar Mountain residents to join us on Sunday morning at 10 o'clock.

Our service follows a simple format: singing, prayer, the reading of Scripture, and a message based on a passage from the Bible. During the coming months, we will be continuing our study of the book of Acts in the New Testament.

On the first Sunday of the month we celebrate the Lord's Supper, and have a delicious potluck meal following the service.

Matthew Currie, Pastor

(760) 738 2638 • mpcurrie@sbcglobal.net Palomar Mountain Community Church P.O. Box 25, Palomar Mountain, CA 92060



PALOMAR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Palomar Amateur Radio Club is made up of members across San Diego County. The Club owns property on Palomar Mountain where we support repeaters for amateur radio uses. Our repeaters are open to all, in true amateur fashion. The club holds meetings the first Wednesday of each month in Carlsbad, and offers varied presentations related to our hobby.

Everyone is invited, amateurs and "to be" amateurs.

The Club hosts annually a field day at the end of June, and a Club picnic in August. Members participate in operating days and other public outreach events. They also support community events and distance events to include runs and rides. Come join us.

Palomar Club repeaters:

146.730-, 147.075+, 147.130+, 447.000- all 107.2 pl

More information at our webpage palomararc.org/

Dennis KD6TUJ 760-672-0223



PALOMAR MOUNTAIN Volunteer Fire department



Report from the Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department

The PMVFD responded to 99 calls in 2013. We averaged 1.90 calls per week and responded to 27 motorcycle accidents, 22 medical aid calls, and 20 structure/vegetation fires, ringing alarms and smoke checks, along with public assist calls and traffic hazards. The busiest month in 2013 was May and our busiest day of the week was Saturday.

We currently have 27 members with twenty one of them being EMT's. Most days we are staffing the station with two or three firefighters. We usually have three or four firefighters staffing the station on weekends. We have been actively recruiting new members by conducting interviews with recruits at the San Diego County Fire Authority offices. My goal is to build our roster to 45 members.

You may notice a Cal Fire engine parked at our station on Saturday mornings. The crew from Cal Fire Rincon (Station 70) comes up to train with us every week. Sometimes our station leads the training and other times Cal Fire leads. We have a great relationship with the Station 70 crew and our members enjoy the camaraderie and the increased level of training.

You may have heard that the Fire Department Board of Directors is currently investigating the option of signing a 50 year lease with the San Diego County Fire Authority. Like the other volunteer fire departments that have opted to sign a lease, our department would retain ownership of the property and would sub-lease back from the County. This arrangement would allow the Fire Authority to construct new station facilities without our community having to invest the time, energy, and money to achieve the goal of providing adequate housing for the duty crews. So far, De Luz Volunteer Fire Department and Montezuma Valley Volunteer Fire Department (Ranchita) have signed a lease resulting in new facilities amounting to \$815,000.00 and \$880,000.00 respectively. Ocotillo Wells, Shelter Valley, and Sunshine Summit are other stations that have had similar results. Your fire Board is carefully considering this option. The Board appreciates community feedback and invites everyone to attend Board meetings on the first Saturday of each month.

Don't forget to come out and say thank you to the men and women who make up your fire department on Awards Night. This year it will be held on Friday, August 29th, with a meet and greet beginning at 5:00 pm. Again, the family of Earl Walls will be carrying on his tradition of supplying the main course. Please bring a dish to share.

This year marks the 37th annual Fire Department Barbecue Fundraiser to be held on Saturday, August 30th, 2014. The Barbecue Committee has been burning the late-night oil figuring out what surprises are in store for us this year. From what I've overheard there are some interesting things in the works. Please mark your calendars and plan on coming out to support the department. Even if the department signs a 50 year lease with the county we still are responsible for operating and maintaining our station and equipment so every dollar earned helps to keep your fire department going. I hope to see everyone there.

Finally, the creation of the San Diego County Fire Authority in 2008 has brought about many changes that affect San Diego County volunteer fire departments in the back country. Change isn't easy and we've had to adapt, just like every other department. My goal, and the goal of the fire board, is to keep our volunteer fire department going strong for many years to come. An integral part of this is the fire board, elected by the community, to ensure that the decisions made are in the best interest of all of us here on Palomar Mountain. If you are interested in a board position please consider running for one of the three seats coming up this year. Nominations are closed 14 days prior to the annual meeting. Elections will be held at the annual board meeting Sunday, August 31st, 2014. Thank you for your support.

Clifford Kellogg Fire Chief Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department



21610 Crestline Road P.O. Box 235 Palomar Mountain, CA. 92060 (760) 742-3701 FAX: (760) 742-0574 www.palomar-fire.org

FRIENDS OF PALOMAR MOUNTAIN STATE PARK ANNUAL REPORT



By Ranger, Jessica Murany

Friends of Palomar Mountain State Park continue to push forward with a list of deferred maintenance projects at the park while strengthening the organization's infrastructure. After a very successful fundraising campaign that raised almost \$200,000, thanks to the generosity of our donors and the availability of an \$80,000 matching grant from the state's Department of Parks and Recreation, we are now at work collaborating with state park officials in the Colorado Desert region to prioritize utilization of these funds.

And we are encouraged and affirmed in our work by the park's citations for excellence from local, state, and national organizations. Recently, Sunset Magazine named the park one of the 44 best campgrounds in California and Hawaii. And the park became the only one in the county inducted into the Old-Growth Forest Network, a national organization which seeks to connect people with nature by identifying and helping to preserve the country's ancient forests. In addition, the San Diego Union Tribune named the state park one of the top 12 parks in the county.

Recently two members of the FPMSP board made a presentation to the Economic Development Committee of the North San Diego County Chamber of Commerce, pointing out that the park is an economic engine for North County communities as campers, hikers, and fishing aficionados stop for gas, food, and other commodities in nearby North County communities enroute to the park. We envision collaborating with Chamber members to promote and support the park in the future. During the Amgen bike race last May, we hosted an 'open house' at the park, offering free admission to bike fans assembled on the mountain to watch the cyclists as they raced up East Grade at a torrid pace, turned at the Fire Department site, and careened down South Grade. We also had a successful Apple Festival in October and are looking forward to hosting other special events during the year in cooperation with park staff.

In terms of infrastructure development, we continue to function under the auspices of Cuyamaca Rancho State Park Interpretive Association. However, we are moving towards becoming our own independent non-profit. Late last year we incorporated, and we await word that our 501c3 application with the federal government has been approved. We have developed and approved bylaws and are also developing a marketing program to expand awareness about the park and the work of FPMSP in order to boost visitation and revenue for the park.

John Muir once said, "Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul." We have that right here on the mountain at our awesome state park! Join us! For more information, check out our website at www. friendsofpalomarsp.org or 'friend' us on facebook. Or you can contact our board chair, Rick Barclay, at

(951)265-6385.



Thanks to All of the PMPO Board Members & Volunteers for their ongoing dedication and support in helping to better our Mountain Community!

Annual Pancake Breakfast & PMPO Annual Meeting

Breakfast 8am-11am • Annual Meeting immediately follows Breakfast @ 11am

Saturday, May 24th, 2014 at the Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Station

21610 Crestline Road • Palomar Mountain, CA 92060 * Intersection of East Grade Road (S-7) and South Grade Road (S-6)*

> \$3.00 - Adults \$1.00 - Children

Breakfast Menu: Fresh orange juice, strawberries,

hot mountain pancakes, sausage and steaming hot coffee

COME JOIN US!

Come on out, meet your neighbors, enjoy a delicious breakfast and hear about what's happening on Palomar Mountain!

Come Join Us! Help is wanted and needed on Friday, May 23rd to help set up for the breakfast on Saturday. If you can help out in any way, please contact Bruce Graves at (760) 994-7697 or email: bg4two@gmail.com. *Thank you for your support and help.*

COMMUNITY CENTER PALOMAR MOUNTAIN NEWS by John Lesac

Community center? What Community Center? Aren't the firefighters living in the community center building? Well, yes the community center house is currently occupied by the volunteer firefighters. The double wide trailer in the back of the fire department property is not suitable as a bunkhouse because it lacks toilets, showers, and running water. The community center house was the only option for housing the firefighters. Currently there are plans to build a new bunkhouse that is code compliant. If and when that happens, the Palomar Mountain residents will regain full use of the Community Center House.

Even so, we have been able to use the house for occasional events. On Christmas Eve the Community Center was utilized for a reading of lessons and carols. Cookies and snacks were served. We are also able to use the house kitchen for the Sunday potlucks that the Palomar Mountain Community Church organizes. The Community Center also sponsored a chili cook-off in October. The Fire department garage was used to serve the chili, drinks, ice cream, etc. The double wide trailer has been a useful service to the Palomar Community. The Church meets in the double wide trailer each week and donates a modest sum to the Community Center each month. The trailer is also suitable for other activities. A photography class, as well as other events, are likely to be held in this structure.

A poll was taken of mountain residents during the last Fire Department BBQ. Our neighbors expressed interest in Community Center sponsored events that included nature walks, bird watching, and wild flower hikes. If you have an interest in participating in or leading any other outdoor activities please contact John Lesac.

The Community Center is due to have an election of board members soon if you have an interest.

Please contact John Lesac for any Community Center information or board participation: email john. lesac@teradata.com. Phone 760-884-6476.

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