

# Fall 2006

## HUNTINGTON LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



### Letter from the Chief

#### Special points of interest:

- *Our staffing level is at a record high!*
- *We now are on our own financially!*
- *Please let us communicate via your email address*
- *Plan to join the Club for 2007*

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This year has been very busy, setting a new record for the most number of calls in a single season. During the summer, (June 1 to September 5) we had over 40 emergency "911" calls. Most of you know about our flash flood emergency and the several fires in the woodlands around the lake, but we also had an abnormally high number of medical calls as well: heart attacks, seizures, hemorrhages, gall bladder emergencies and, as we have every year, several 911 calls to assist patients with "breathing difficulties" (one busy week we used 11 bottles of oxygen!)

This summer we also had several serious auto accidents. Thanks to the generosity of all of you, we had the personnel, training and equipment to respond effectively to them all.

We were very pleased with the performance of the new fire engine that ten Huntington Lake families donated to the department last Spring. It has significantly reduced the time it takes responders from the east end of the lake to arrive at the scene. These minutes make a

real difference especially during medical emergencies. We are all indebted to those families who have gone way above the norm to help us all!

Last summer we greatly improved our level of service to the community by creating the position several "First Responder" positions. These new positions allow members of our community to assist the fire department in limited ways, without having to complete and maintain the extensive training and certification necessary for a firefighter/EMT.

We conducted a two day training session to certify seven new first responders, all of which are full time residents at the Lake. Each of the new members received training in first aid, splinting, CPR, oxygen administration and a host of other medical skills. Additionally, all of our new members received training and certification to serve in one or more of the following positions: 'medical assistant' (responders that assist our firefighter/EMT's on medical calls), 'water tender

driver' (responders that make sure the firefighters have the water they need at a fire scene), 'snowmobile rescue specialist' (responders who are specially trained in winter rescue).

This significantly increases our response capability year round and our new volunteers have thus far demonstrated excellent skills in assisting patients. I am proud to say that we now have the highest staffing level in the history of the Department! You can check out our new website at [www.hlvfd.com](http://www.hlvfd.com) for more information on our department as well as a complete job description and requirements for our first responders.

Finally, during this special holiday season I give special thanks for all of you, *the people of Huntington Lake* that make it possible for us, your fire department, to serve you. It is because of your continued generosity that we are able to bring aid and comfort to those in need!

I hope you all have a joyous and safe Holiday Season and winter.

### A message from the Board of Directors

The summer and fall has been eventful for our department. As you know from the letter above the past summer has been one of the busiest on record. The board of the fire department has also been busy working to support the work of the department, the firefighter/EMT's and our new first responders.

One of the most controversial

changes we made is the way we hope to fund the department in the future. Last summer we asked the Huntington Lake Association to stop collecting an assessment after this year. Next year we would like the fire department to be able to ask residents for a gift either directly or through their tracts. Our hope is that we can more equitably share the real costs of operating

the department among all the lake residents. We are deeply indebted to the Huntington Lake Association for their support over the years and the work they have done to 'rescue the department' from it's financial struggles in the past. We look forward to their continued support of the 'pancake breakfast'. Under their direction this has grown into a wonderful community event, and a great

Telecommunications support provided by Ponderosa Telephone



## Board of Directors (cont.)

fund raiser for the department.

Although we are very pleased that we now will receive financial support directly, we do have some level of trepidation because it is a significant change from how we have raised operating funds in the past. In addition we are asking that residents consider giving \$140.00 annually which would combine their old assessment with the what most people give to the annual appeal.

Although since it is a gift, and people are free to give any amount they choose, we are confident that with the goodwill of the residents of the lake, we can work our way through this change and keep the Department on a sound financial basis.

You will see our first direct contact asking for your support as part of the fund raising effort for 2007 in early January. We hope all of you will support our direct appeal next year.

We continue to have communication with SCE regarding the new Water Tender and each time they talk with us, they assure us the funds are coming. However, we have not received the funds and will not obligate the Department for an expenditure of this magnitude until we have a formal commitment document in hand.

We have our investment program in place for monies that we have collected and are pleased to report that the earnings from the investment of your gifts for the new fire engine significantly exceeds the interest we will pay for our three year lease/purchase. This investment plan can also be used for any new equipment purchases in the future such as the water tender, thus lowering the price we pay for new equipment.

Through the efforts of one of our firefighters and the donations from Ponderosa Telephone, we have our first generation website operational ([www.HLVFD.org](http://www.HLVFD.org)). It still has a few bugs that we are working out, but we are updating it on a regular basis with news from the Lake.

From the home page ([www.hlvfd.org/index.htm](http://www.hlvfd.org/index.htm)) click on the news tab to see the most recent photos from the lake. We also are in touch with at least one of the digital mapping companies about the location of the firehouse, so in the not too distant future, those of you with in-vehicle navigation systems will see the firehouse displayed when you request emergency facilities. This may not be as important to our residents as it is for our thousands of summer visitors.

We want to extend a sincere thank

you to Mr. Steve Bowker, President of the Omega Architectural Group in Benicia and a resident of Idlywilde. Steve has agreed to provide pro bono architectural services to rework our existing firehouse to 1) make the upper floor usable for training, 2) provide workable snow shedding so that the doors are not blocked by ice dams in the winter as they are today, and 3) investigate how we might inexpensively add a fourth bay (for winter storage of snow mobiles or year round storage of an ambulance). After Steve's work is complete and approved by engineers we will then be able to approach our many friends in the construction industry to solicit help in getting the changes made.

Another great thank you to the Coca-Cola Bottling company of Sacramento. This fall they donated over \$10,000 of much needed fire equipment to our Department. We now have the large diameter hose and fittings needed to access and deliver large quantities of water. Thanks Coke!

*Please give us your  
E-Mail address*

## Community Feedback

Now that we have our own website and email addresses, we would like to use outbound email as a less expensive and faster way of communicating with our community. This year, members of the Board have been personally paying for the publication of our newsletters because we had no budget for it and its effectiveness was not yet proven. We think that the value of routine communication has been proven now and want to make it a standard part of our operation. To that end, we would like to be able to send our newsletter in the form of an attachment to an e-mail because our current cost per newsletter mailing is \$800. However, to do that, we need to 1) know what your email address is and 2) have your approval to use your email address for newsletter distribution. See our privacy policy on the next page.

We will only use your email address for newsletter distribution.

Please send your email address to us at [comments@hlvfd.org](mailto:comments@hlvfd.org) with your name and residence address so that we get our records straight. If we do not hear from you, we will assume that you want to continue to receive the newsletter via the US Mail in hardcopy form. You can also send along comments to us at any time to that same email address. We monitor it year round.



## HLVFD Privacy policy

- 1) Mailing address and email address information will only be used for the direct purposes of the HLVFD.
- 2) HLVFD will not provide mailing information to any outside organization.
- 3) Discussions of the residences will be done only in the aggregate (e.g. "415 cabins, 98 condos," etc.)
- 4) Addresses and names of individuals or residences calling for our service will never be provided to the public by HLVFD personnel.

## Join The Club for '07!

*Plan your donations for 2007 now.*

### Chief's Club

Gifts of \$750 and above

Earn a personalized bottle of our coveted 2007 'Firehouse Red' two "Chief's Club" Polo Shirts and a classic Engine 62 baseball hat!

### Captain's Club

Gifts of \$400— \$750

Earn a personalized bottle of our coveted 2007 'Firehouse Red' and a classic Engine 62 baseball hat

### Fire Fighter's Club

Gifts of \$300— \$399

Earn a personalized bottle of our coveted 2007 'Firehouse Red'

## Our Thanks to '05 and '06 Club Members !

### Chief's Club

Mr. Peter D. Adams	Mr. and Mrs. Ray Eggebraaten	Mr. and Ms. Jeffrey S. Mayer	Mr. and Ms. R. William Tomlinson
Mr. Bruce Allbright	Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fox	Ms. Margaret G. Molarsky Trust	Upper Bear Creek Extension
Mr. and Mrs. Don Becker	Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Hallowell	Dr. and Mrs. Jack Oberti	Mr. and Dr. Ralph E. Waterhouse
Camp La Salle	Mr. and Ms. W. Jim Hines	Mr. and Ms. James Provost	Mr. and Ms. Robert G. Wilson
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Daniels	Mr. and Mrs. John P. Ingram	Mrs. Joanne H. Quinn	Mr. and Ms. Keith L. Woods
	Mr. and Mrs. Steven J. Jolly	Dr. David R. Taylor, Jr.	
	Mr. and Mrs. M. Robert Leach	Ms. Phyllis G. Thomas	



## Captain's Club

Ms. Lisa Allbright	Mr. and Ms. Lee R. Copeland	Mr. and Ms. Paul W. Hartloff, Jr.	Mr. Gary J. Passanisi
Mr. and Ms. Arthur Barker	Mr. and Ms. Michael Crill	Mr. and Ms. Edward P. Heck	Mr. and Ms. Dave Perbix
Ms. Katherine Beattie	Dr. and Ms. Stephen O. Davis	Mr. John Hempel	Dr. and Ms. Chris Perkins
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Berryhill	Mr. Al Dingle	Mr. David L. Johnson	Mrs. Joanne H. Quinn
Mr. and Ms. Steven L. Black	Mr. and Ms. Jon Eriksen	Mr. and Ms. Robert L. Kimball	Rancheria Enterprises
Mr. and Ms. Richard R. Bonner	Mr. Andre L. Fourchy, Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth N. Kreyenhagen	Sierra Summit
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Bricker	Mr. and Mrs. Larry Franks	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lapsley	Mr. and Mrs. John Slater
Mr. and Ms. Earl W. Brubaker	Ms. William Gentle	Lower Deer Creek Tract	Mr. and Ms. Thomas Smith
Ms. Katherine L. Brubaker	Mr. and Mrs. George Gilliam	Mr. and Mrs. Norman G. Macleod	Dr. and Ms. Steven Soares
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Burke	Camp Gold Arrow	Mr. James Manock	Mr. and Ms. C. Bret Sullivan
Mr. and Ms. Mike J. Conway, Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Griswold	Mr. and Ms. Harold Nelson	Mr. Frank E. Turpie
	Mr. and Mrs. John H. Harlan	Mr. and Ms. Richard Newton	Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Welton
	Mr. and Mrs. Tom A. Harris	Mr. and Mrs. John Paige	
	Mr. and Ms. Rick Harsh	Mr. David Parker	

## Fire Fighter's Club

Dr. Pete A. Akin, M.D.	Mr. and Ms. Peter Gonye	Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Long	Mr. and Ms. Ronald D. Regan
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Bibb	Mr. and Ms. Peter Gregg	Mr. and Ms. Craig M. Losee	Mr. and Mrs. Francis Samson
Mr. and Mrs. Les Bowker	Mr. and Mrs. Skip Hayden	Mr. and Mrs. Gary E. Marsella	Ms. Dorothy J. Seiferling
Ms. Betty Bryan	Mr. and Ms. Robert M. Heeren	Mr. Russell Marshak	Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Southard
Mr. and Ms. Thomas Butler	Dr. and Dr. William L. Hennrikus, Jr.	Camp Oljato	Mr. and Mrs. Frances Squire
Mr. and Ms. Mike Dresick	Mr. and Ms. John Horstman	Mr. and Ms. David W. Parker	Mr. and Ms. George Tamberi
Mr. and Ms. Fred Edwards	Mr. and Ms. Glenn L. Johnson	Mr. and Ms. Wayne D. Peoples	Mr. and Mrs. Jon Warner
Ms. Carrie A. Fox-Riis	Dr. and Mrs. Bernard K. Karian	Mr. and Mrs. William Perry	Mr. and Mrs. Donald T. Willet
	Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Kuest	Dr. Scott S. Peters, M.D.	Mr. and Mrs. James T. Winton
	Mr. and Mrs. Terry A. Langiano	Mr. and Mrs. Donald G. Potts	Mr. and Ms. Michael Wood