

HUNTINGTON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1

APRIL, 2016



SPRING 2016



Huntington Lake Fire's new 3,600 gallon Water Tender

This used water tender is in addition to our 2,100 gallon tender & was key

Letter from the Chief

Imagine... A lake with water!

We are all looking forward to fun on the lake this summer as snowmelt promises to bring back sailing, water skiing and boating to the High Sierra. I hope to see you all soon!

Your fire department has been working all winter on projects to improve our service to the community including extensive on-line training and vehicle maintenance to be fully ready to respond to 911 calls this summer. This spring we will once again conduct a three day intensive training program for our firefighters. This program was a great success last year and it is in addition to our regular Wednesday and Saturday trainings.

Lots of Dead Trees

Of special concern this year is the number of dead and dying trees in our forest and Statewide. Aerial surveys taken in December showed nearly 30 million trees that are already dead and another 70 million that may not recover from the drought. Forest Service estimates go as high as **ONE BILLION** dead trees in our California forests!

A view from the four-lane shows many areas of extensive die-off of trees due to the bark beetle infestation and a ride through the Big Creek basin, Blue canyon and Jose Basin can be shocking. These stands of dead trees have enormous potential of almost instantly creating a crown fire, which would be very difficult to control. Studies show that hot fires can run uphill at a frightening rate of speed. Your Christmas tree a month after Christmas is a very dangerous thing to have in the house ...imagine what a whole stand of 100' tall dead trees could do to kindle a forest fire!

*This year especially,
Be **VERY CAREFUL** of fire!*

ISO Rating (Insurance Service Organization 'property protection class rating')

Many of our residents have reported that their insurance premium has been cut in half since we earned our ISO "PPC" rating of 6/6Y. If you have not yet done so, have your agent change you're rating right away. Visit the newly remodeled Insurance" web page on the fire department's website for more

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR JULY 3rd!

The Huntington Lake Volunteer Fire Department Pancake Breakfast returns in conjunction with the **Sixth Annual Silent Auction!** The event will be held at Lakeshore Resort from 7 A.M. to 11 A.M. on July 3rd and will benefit the HLVFD.

We are ever grateful to Lakeshore for the willingness to host this event. Enjoy great pancakes, an opportunity to purchase cool HLVFD sweat shirts and t-shirts, and do some early Birthday and Holiday shopping at the fabulous Silent Auction. We will be auctioning gifts and crafts from Huntington Lake, Shaver Lake, and Fresno residents and businesses. We have two new wonderful carved bears, dinners, rides on the Fire boat, excellent wines, kayaking, horseback riding, great artwork and Fresno Grizzly tickets. This list barely scratches the surface.

The fire danger this summer will be extremely high reflecting the diseased and drought stricken trees across the Sierra. This event is a major contributor to the HLVFD's ability to protect you, your families, and homes. It is also an opportunity to say thank you to our incredible volunteer fire fighters who are always on call to protect us. If you would like to donate an article to



Save Up to 50% on your insurance!

Call your insurance agent today and have her or him change your Property Protection Class Rating (PPC). Your new rating for Huntington is now either a Six (6) or Six-Y (6Y).

Dowville, the Condos/Eagle's Nest, Old College, Lower Deer and Ranchiera Enterprises are PPC Six (6) and all other tracts are Six-Y (6Y). Many of your neighbors have made the switch and are reporting about a 50% reduction in their insurance premiums.

Check out the department's web page for more details and links your agent can use to change your rating. You can find the rating for your property/cabin and lots of other insurance information on the insurance page of the fire department's website.



A Message from the Board of Directors

As always, the focus of the Board and the Department is to ensure our ability to provide fire and medical services and protect the Huntington Lake community and its residents. We rely on the community to provide the resources to enable us to maintain that ability.

This year the Board welcomes John Slater as its new President. We are very grateful to John for his willingness to serve. We have been gratified by the level of support from the members of the community in past years and trust that such support will continue. Principal vehicles for receiving that support continue to

be the Annual Appeal and the Pancake Breakfast, including the Silent Auction that has become a centerpiece of the breakfast, which will be held at Lakeshore on July 3rd. Of course the pancakes are terrific and the event is a great opportunity to see our Huntington friends and their families. As always, the Department will have HLVFD hats, tee-shirts and sweatshirts on sale and we hope everyone who can attend will be there.

In addition, Department members will be attending the annual tract meetings to converse with community members, hear their views about the Department and answer any questions they may have about its operations. As always, we ask that each tract notify us of the time and place of its tract meeting. We look forward to seeing and talking to you. We also ask that you respond as generously as possible when you receive the Annual Appeal letter in the next few weeks.

For additional information about