

CAL FIRE VIP Meeting Minutes – Mar 19, 2016

Attendees: 18

Topics:

- 1) Unexpected death of SCU - FF-1/ Loma Prieta Vol FF, Kirstin Jane Snook. See attached e-mail transcript from Chief Witmer.
- 2) Forest Fire Lookout Assoc status: Sacramento Legal working on the agreement between us.
- 3) Six Defensible Space Inspectors started Mar 1.
 - a. Been training with Pam. Will start DS inspections first of April.
- 4) Sun, Mar 13, Flooding of Thousand Trails RV Park
 - a. Residents evacuated to CF MH Sta 1. Refreshments provided by Fire Associates (John, Bill, Bruce) and handled parking control in front pkg lot. CF crew handled EMS and other evacuee care. Evacuees with pets were routed to San Martin Shelter for pet care. Red Cross brought more refreshments and blankets.
 - b. Around 30 evacuees were routed to Presbyterian Church, MH, for overnight care by Red Cross.
- 5) Events:
 - a. Wed, Mar 23, 5-6pm: Smokey & Sparky appearances at **Brownell Ele. School, Gilroy.**
 - i. So far Roth – Smokey, 3 Fire Inspectors will be handlers & Sparky.
 - b. Fri, Apr. 22, 10a-2p, **Arbor/Earth Day Celebration, Santa Clara city**
 - i. Smokey and a Prevention booth
 - c. Jun. 25 & 26, **Ham Radio Field Day.** Comm Van will participate by setting up in MH Sta front parking lot.
 - i. Garlic Valley Amateur Radio Club (GVARC) has asked to join us at our location. Waiting approval from Cal Fire.
 - d. Wayne Rhoten: MH Red Cross needs volunteers for smoke alarm give away. Volunteers will provide up to 3 smoke alarms to a local mobile home park.
Lunch will be provided.
- 6) New Member Candidates:
 - a. Shawn Rhoe:
 - i. VFF at Fremont FD. Wants to become a fire prevention inspector.
 - b. Nick Arnett:
 - i. Fire service chaplain
 - ii. 10 yrs of fire service stress management
 - iii. Ham radio operator
- 7) Tower topics:
 - a. Still waiting for weather to subside for new roof installation. Need 1.5 wk of dry days. Expect May/June timeframe
 - b. VIPs should contact John for training/retraining days and sign up on website calendars
- 8) Comm Van:
 - a. Portable repeater training today after meeting by Ben using ECC PR.
 - b. New 800 mhz Uniden radio installed?

- 9) Reminder to submit Defensive Driving course certificate to Pam if not already done.
- 10) Apr Meeting, Sat. Apr 16th is Safety Training Day. Bring your PPE.**
- 11) Roth has VIP t-shirts for sale.
- 12) Some VIPs expressed interest in planning meeting location at other Cal Fire Stations [i.e. Alma (Heli Tac Ops)].

Training: Portable Repeater (from MH-ECC)

Ben gave an overview of the remote repeater from the ECC, including construction and operation followed by a setup demonstration outside in the parking lot.

Comm 1629 crews can use this repeater with permission from the ECC when deployed for fire ground communication support. Further practical training will be scheduled and announced by the Unit Leader.

From: Witmer, Derek@CALFIRE

Sent: Sunday, March 13, 2016 8:57 PM

To: CALFIRE SCU; Larkin, Ian@CALFIRE; Upton, Scott@CALFIRE; McFadden, Greg@CALFIRE

Subject: SCU FF I / Loma Prieta Vol FF Kirstin Jane Snook

Santa Clara and San Mateo/Santa Cruz Unit Family;

It is with a heavy heart that I have to pass on very tragic news. Santa Clara Unit Firefighter I, Santa Cruz County Loma Prieta Volunteer Firefighter Kirstin Jane Snook has passed away as a result from the injuries she sustained in a vehicle accident this past Friday. Fire Captain Streck has been with Kirstin and her family providing all the support that they need. Fire Captain Carrol has also been assigned. The Reno Fire Department and CAL Fire NEU have been there to support in any way they can. It is never easy to say good bye to a daughter, sister, or friend. I ask that you keep Kirstin's family in your thoughts and prayers. I will pass on information as it comes available. We have experienced many tragedies and losses over the last few years. I ask all of you to take care of yourself and each other. Remember we are all family. Employee Support Services will be available in the Units. If you need to talk, do not hesitate to call me. Stay Strong!

Derek J Witmer

Fire Chief

CAL Fire Santa Clara Unit

South Santa Clara County Fire

Morgan Hill Fire

408-779-2121

