

THE CACHAGUA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, 3rd Quarter 2015



From the Chief:

Hello Folks. I hope everyone is enjoying a fire safe start to summer. To keep us safe, I have two subjects that I would like to touch on this quarter.



Chief Gregg Curry

First is the issue of fireworks – legal or illegal. I know the July 4th holiday has come and gone but often during the summer, whether at family outings or just for the fun of it, there is a temptation to light off a few firecrackers. The Cachagua Fire Protection District has a ban on the use of fireworks of any kind, any time. Basically this means all fireworks are forbidden and use of them can get you arrested along with a very hefty fine. And if a fire were to occur because of the use of them, you can be found liable for the costs of putting out the fire which can quickly get into the thousands, if not the hundreds of thousands, of dollars.

SO PLEASE - NO FIREWORKS WITHIN OUR DISTRICT BOUNDRIES

The other subject is in reference to the address marking of our residences. We ask for, and require for new construction projects, 5" number markers. In my 30 years in the fire service, this is one of the most important and helpful things you can do to aid us in finding your home. We have map books and Google maps but living in a rural area like Cachagua, it is often tough to find your homes in a quick and efficient

way. Just the other day we had a call in the middle of the night and, of course, the numbering did not make sense. The larger number to mark the front of the residence was completely past the residence. It turned out that the residence did have the proper address posted, except the numbers were 1" in size, not reflective, and nailed to a tree 5-6 ft up from the ground. You can imagine how frustrating it is for the responding units to waste time trying to find the correct residence.

Also, when driveways are shared, it is nice to have directional pedestals that indicate which driveway to use to reach a particular address. It can, for example, be a simple sign with 5" letters and arrows: left arrow points to address 123 and the right arrow points to address 456.

The actual design of the letters is up to you. We only care about the size, proper placement, and reflective properties.

So, no fireworks ever and please mark your homes so we can find you. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer. Please feel free to contact me at cfchief@cachaguafire.com if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Fire Chief Gregg Curry

WILDLAND FIRE SCHOOL

Every year, unless conditions will not permit, there is a very special training held at Fort Hunter Liggett: Wildland Fire School. For three days, agencies from Monterey, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz counties get together to practice fighting wild land fire

together, often for the first time. To complicate matters, Wildland Fire School is run as if it were a real incident, complete with live fire.



Strike teams are formed and the scenario is set. The firefighters then practice controlling, containing, and suppressing the fire utilizing a variety of tactics and tools such as aircraft, heavy equipment, hand tools and hand crews, water, and fire itself. It is not uncommon to see a Type 1 structure engine participating; with today's wildland urban interface it is critical that city firefighters be familiar with wildfire.



Adapting, overcoming, and learning are all important parts of firefighting; nowhere else is as perfect to practice and hone firefighting skills as is Wildland School.

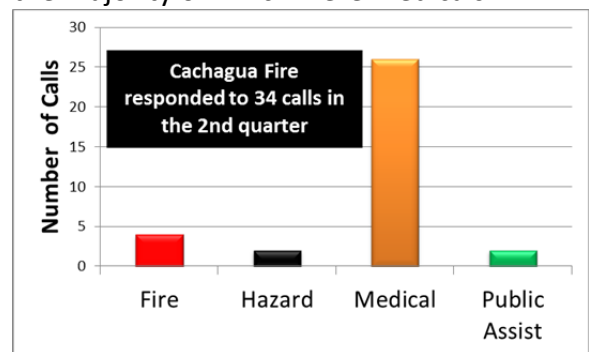
Everyone who has attended speaks in glowing terms and cannot wait to go again!

This year, Cachagua Fire sent Engine 7731 with a crew of four, Captain D. Bonsper, Firefighters J. Drew, J. Reimer, and S. Reimer who once again distinguished Cachagua Fire by their performance. A mechanical failure nearly took the engine out of the action, but a field repair was made by the well prepared crew and they were able to resume their firefighting activities and return safely to home base. Well done gentlemen!



Second Quarter Incidents (April-June)

Cachagua Fire was busy in the second quarter of 2015. We responded to 34 calls, the majority of which were medicals.



CACHAGUA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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