



Sherwood Forest Estates Newsletter

Spring 2015

<http://sherwoodforestestates.org>

From the President

Notes from the SFEP OA President:

Spring, my favorite time of the year. Most of the snow is gone except for the white cap on the Peaks. The soil is still damp and green is poking through, foretelling of blooms to come. The nights are still "Let's build a fire" cold, but the days are short sleeve warm. Light rain is forecast tonight with heavy showers tomorrow. This will wash the dust away, leaving that bright green look to the forest growth and its floor.

I hope you all had a very safe and enjoyable winter and to our hardy neighbors who are here year round, thanks for watching over our small piece of paradise. Your friends and neighbors who create the fun things we do like pancake breakfasts and parties are hard at work already. Look for some of these activities in this newsletter.

We are concentrating on being fire wise in this letter. Remember, we chose to live up here in this pine covered heaven, but we have a responsibility to care for it. Clean up your property, clear the duff from under your trees, watch where and when you empty your fireplace ashes and above all, watch where you store flammable things like oily rags!

Your Auxiliary, your Property Owners Association, Block Watch and your Fire Department are always looking for your help. Names of who to contact are in this newsletter and whether you are here full time, part time or weekends only we have a place for you. You get to know your neighbors and have some fun while contributing to your community.

Once again I remind you that the roads in Mountain Rose Ranch are private. Because of some property destruction they have locked the gate leading to FS 102. Our fire department has a key for use in case we need an emergency exit. Please let's respect our neighbors and stay off those roads. Vacation rental owners: please tell your renters to stay out of MRR.

See you at the pancake breakfast, the neighborhood cleanup and your annual meeting,

Jack

SFEP OA Annual Meeting

July 4th 2015

Our Annual SHERWOOD FOREST ESTATES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION meeting will be held on Saturday, **July 4th 2015** at the Sherwood Forest Estates Fire House. Refreshments and sign-in starts at 8:30AM with the official meeting starting at 9:00 AM.

2015 SFE POA Board

President:	Jack Hadley	jshadley@q.com	928-635-2055
Vice President	Judson Swearingen Jr.	mrnet@ix.netcom.com	818-621-1865
Treasurer:	Frank Honer	fhoner@cox.net	602-882-1923
Secretary:	Doris Allen	doris@allallens.com	
Member:	Chris Babcock	jcbab@netzero.net	928-635-2025
Member:	Wayne Marx	wmarx2009@q.com	928-607-3005
Newsletter:	Judson Swearingen Jr.	mrnet@ix.netcom.com	818-621-1865

SFEPOA Treasurer's Report

2013 - 2014 TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand June 5, 2013	\$2,286.24	SFEPOA Annual Web service	\$160.00
Dues/donations/interest	\$3,125.00	Italian Night dinner	\$206.35
Mountain Rose Street Address Signs	\$80.00	POA Barbeque grill	\$215.81
Interest earned	\$0.88	Post office box rental 2013	\$54.00
Total income	\$3,205.88	Post office box rental 2014	\$58.00
Total	\$5,492.12	Arizona Corporate Commission	\$10.00
		Arizona Annual Liability Insurance	\$394.00
Disbursements		Total disbursements	\$1483.44
Annual POA Raffle Tickets	\$75.00	Bank Balance July 1, 2014	\$4,008.68
SFEPOA Annual Web service	\$160.00		
Material and food for		Frank Honer, July 1, 2014	
Annual POA meeting refreshments	\$76.19		
Chili cook-off supplies	\$234.09		

* The SFEPOA has approved an expenditure of up to \$1000 for training mandated by the State of Arizona. The training, to be held this fall, is for SFE Fire District Board Members, The Training Officer, and Fire Chief. The training consists of District finance, Board Member Responsibilities, and Open Meeting Laws.

SFEFD Auxiliary

The SFEFD Auxiliary has resumed their meetings for this season. Plans are underway for the annual Memorial Weekend Breakfast to be held on Saturday, May 23, from 8-10 a.m. Set up for the breakfast will be on Friday, May 22 at 4:00 pm. Please come help, if you can.

The auxiliary is a volunteer organization whose primary function is to support the fire department financially by hosting two breakfasts during the summer and other fund raising activities. Of course, all donations are gratefully accepted. The monies raised help provide meals for firefighters, hats and shirts, firefighting and CPR training, certification, purchasing and maintaining equipment.

Our next meeting is Saturday, June 6 at 2:00 p.m. in the Sherwood Forest Fire Station. Everyone is invited to attend our meetings and participate in all our activities. Your fresh ideas and help are needed. It's fun and a great way to meet your neighbors.

Please watch for signs at the subdivision entrance for notice of future meetings/activities. If you would like to be on an email list for notice of these meetings, please contact any auxiliary member.

Current officers for the auxiliary are:

President: Mary Honer, (602)-882-1921, mhoner@cox.net
Secretary: Sue Hadley, (928)-635-2055, isjhadley@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Doris Allen, (480)-391-2214, doris@allallens.com

Annual Neighborhood Cleanup

Danny and Vicky Hunter, Walt and Kathie Krushinsky have agreed to help again this year. Plan to meet at the fire house at 9:30AM on Saturday, June 6th. We will have the plastic bags for you and Danny has once again volunteered to bring his trailer and then take the trash to the Williams transfer station. We are usually done in less than 2 hours. Bring your ATV, UTV or just come. We will find someone for you to ride with. This is a great way for you to get to know your neighbor and help make Sherwood Forest Estates a cleaner, nicer place to live.

Summer Social Events

1. Chili Cook-off Contest

To Our Community of Neighbors in SFE and MRR,

You are invited to the “3rd Annual Chili Cook-Off” hosted by Sherwood Forest Estates’ Property Owners Association (POA) and Mountain Rose Ranch’s Home Owners Association (HOA). This year’s date of the Cook-Off is to be determined, but is usually the 4th of July weekend at the Firehouse. The Cook-Off is usually on the afternoon of Sherwood Forest’s Property Owners Meeting to permit a full day of laughter with friends, family and neighbors.

If you are interested in entering the Chili Cook-Off and sharing your favorite chili recipe please email Kathie Krushinsky at krushinskywk@gmail.com with “Chili Cook-Off” in the subject line. Additional information will be emailed to you.

We will also be recruiting neighborhood volunteers for judging the chili in a blind taste test. The ‘Chili Chow Down’ will open to the neighborhoods after the judging.

The day’s events are being held to encourage each person to meet neighbors and form new contacts. Please come with the mindset to introduce yourself to individuals you have not yet met.

More information coming soon.

2. Fall Dinner and Door Prizes

To Our Community of Neighbors in SFE and MRR,

Last October Doris Allen, Kathie Krushinsky and many wonderful volunteers put on the “International Dog Night” dinner. We had several countries sausages (dogs) and toppings represented and a table of delicious desserts. We had a very nice turnout and a lot of fun. Several Door Prize baskets were also raffled.

This year we may have the Old 50’s Dinner. We are still working on the menu and date/time. This will be held at the Firehouse. We will also schedule on a weekend that will not conflict with the “Moonset Pit” dates. If you have suggestions for this meal or even better would like to volunteer, please contact Kathie Krushinsky krushinskywk@gmail.com or Doris Allen doris@allallens.com.

Neighbors Looking out for Neighbors

It is hard to believe that it was over 30 years ago when a small group of SFE residents got together and decided to form a volunteer fire department in Sherwood Forest Estates. They had tried to contract with Parks/Belmont and Williams, but along with the very long response time and the fact the responders could be held up by a train, these departments became concerned about law suits if they could not control a fire in a more reasonable time so both of them canceled the contracts with little or no notice. It was shortly thereafter that the Parks/Belmont FD went broke and was taken over by the County.

Creating a fire department was a great deal of hard work by many, many men and women, but year after year progress was made. Today we have one of the finest volunteer fire departments in the state. With some of the modern equipment we have it is possible for one person to sit in an air-conditioned cab and spray out a brush fire over a hundred feet away!

Sherwood Forest Estates Fire Department is not just a bunch of people responding to fire calls. It is the center of our neighborhood. It is where we gather for meetings, it is where we gather for parties and it is where fire training takes place.

One of the best parts of SFEFD is that if a situation does arise there is a good chance the responders will be your friends and neighbors. They know the neighborhood and you. Men or women, 18 to 90 there is a place for you in the SFEFD. If interested, call Chief Wayne Marx at (928) 607-3005 or if you would like the perspective of how it is to be a volunteer from an old man, (I am in my late 70s and still active) call me (Jack) at (928) 607-3547.

Moonset Pit

Your Sherwood Forest Estates Fire Department encourages you to rake, prune and gather debris from your property and deposit it at Moonset Pit. This is an important step in reducing the risk of wildfire damage to your home.

Moonset Pit will be open on the second and fourth Saturdays of the summer months. On the dates that Moonset Pit is open, fire personnel and community volunteers staff the pit from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. to ensure access and prevent disposal of unauthorized materials. Only natural, woody debris (such as tree limbs and pine needles) may be deposited at Moonset Pit, located one mile west of Parks, AZ on the north side of old Route 66. Open pit dates for 2015 are as follows:

Moonset Pit Fast Facts:

- YES- un-bagged woody debris, branches, leaves, pine needles
- YES- public access on open dates from 9am to 3pm
- NO- garbage, building materials, treated wood, household items
- NO- bagged items of any kind

2014 Public Use Schedule:

Saturday May 9	Saturday June 13	Saturday July 11	Saturday August 8	Saturday Sept 12
Saturday May 23	Saturday June 27	Saturday July 25	Saturday August 22	Saturday Sept 26

The use of the pit is a community service provided to help private citizens create defensible space and improve forest health in their communities. The Kaibab National Forest and the communities of Parks and Sherwood Forest Estates in coordination with the Rural Communities Fuels Management Partnership offer this service.

Volunteers are needed to staff the pit. Please contact Anne Dudley at (928) 635-0417 to help out. We welcome new volunteers and are happy to train them. This is a great way to meet your neighbors and help your community.

DID YOU KNOW? By George Schatz



As we drive through our railroad crossing, we see a sign that reads “CHALENDER.” The sign looks like those used to mark towns. The name tells a wonderful story of a community that existed nearby known as “Chalender.” The name Chalender appeared as early as August, 1882, when it was used synonymously with “Pitman Valley” to designate the stage stop located about nine miles east of Williams. George F. Chalender was the Superintendent of Motive Power of the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad.

The community attained importance as a ranching and lumber town. It thrived from the early 1880s through the turn of the century. When the railroad was being constructed, a saw mill was set up at or very near Chalender. In the 1890’s, several lumber companies established saw mills in Chalender, although their main offices were in Williams.

Chalender enjoyed a post office that was established on May 2, 1883, but was

discontinued on August 27, 1897. The first appointed Postmaster was Harry L. Harris, reportedly “a dealer in ‘liquors’.”

In 1884, Chalender’s population was estimated at 100 people. That year, livestock was listed as a principal product shipped at Chalender. Fourteen livestockmen were listed at Chalender.

In the water short year of 1899, the Saginaw Company hauled water from the Chalender station to its mill in Williams.

After the turn of the last century, Chalender declined, and by 1906, it was described as “a lonesome place.”

So when you read the sign, remember the thriving community that preceded Sherwood Forest.

How Old Is Too Old?

Here's a fact you may find interesting if not totally amazing. Nationwide, 70 percent of all firefighters are volunteers and a large percentage of those are no longer spring chickens.

Using my own situation as an example, I was 54 years old when I went through the basic Structural Firefighter I & II training which is a good ten years after a career firefighter would have put in for retirement. Who was I trying to impress?

More than 50% of the volunteers on our department's roster are over 60 years old and we are very glad to have them. Typically, a volunteer in his or her "golden years" will bring a built in work ethic to a department, they are aware of the dangers an adrenalin rush can create, are focused and reliable. Mature firefighters are not interested in grandstanding or heroism; they understand the job and perform to the best of their considerable abilities. In our case, it also helps that we have very user friendly equipment and train with age limitations in mind.

What prompted this article is the recent departure of two of our highly valued, gray haired volunteers. They have decided to move to a warmer climate coupled with a more affordable cost of living. The duty performed by the husband and wife team of Bill and Marilyn Gildersleeve in many ways is fairly typical. Marilyn helped in the office, worked as a dispatcher and was active in the Auxiliary while Bill worked on fire trucks and equipment, did building maintenance, assisted in training exercises and was the first guy at the station when the alarm sounded.

What is really remarkable is that Bill has had, for years, a debilitating form of MS. He knew in advance he wouldn't be a frontline firefighter but had a burning desire to help and, fortunately for us, we were able to take full advantage of his many talents. What I will always remember most is the exhilarating feeling I would get as I, and all the others responding to an emergency call, rolled up to the station. Without fail, the bay doors were open, the lights and radios were on and all the engines were running. We only had to grab our gear and select the proper truck for the job. Bill, on many occasions, saved us a great deal of precious time.

The message for those of you who think it might be rewarding to volunteer with an emergency service agency such as a fire department or a local CERT group but feel you couldn't do everything required of a fulltime professional, just think about how valuable Bill and Marilyn were to our department. I wish we had ten more just like them.

Wayne Marx
Chief, Sherwood Forest FD

Changes looming in your Fire Department

This just might be the most important newsletter I have ever been asked to write. Our fire district is at a crossroads and I will be asking all of you to get involved in one of the biggest decisions our department has faced since we were established nearly 30 years ago.

Due to our aging population and a lull in the number of new, younger volunteers stepping forward, our fire department is looking into the prospect of merging with the Ponderosa FD.

At the present time there are deeply divided viewpoints on this issue and I am urging everyone to learn as much as you can about the process, the possible ramifications, both good and bad, and then let your opinions be heard.

At this point, our fire board has heard a presentation from Ponderosa's fire chief and has instructed me to move forward with a fact finding plan of action. This will include researching the financial ramifications of such a merger, how the coverage within our district might change and, in general, if such an agreement would be a win/win situation.

In order to accomplish this assignment, I will be forming work groups and committees to research the critical facets of a merger and conduct as many public meetings as may be necessary so that every property owner in the Sherwood Forest Fire District has an opportunity to hear all the facts. We will provide a platform where persons with differing opinions can speak freely and ask the tough questions. If you have an interest in being part of a research or planning group, please contact the office at 635-9837.

Please keep in mind, there are alternative organizational opportunities that could also address the reduction of operating costs and improved responder efficiency. Rather than entering into a permanent merger, one plan is more like an area wide cooperative agreement with a centralized administration office. If we compare this with purchasing a new car, it would be similar to a "trying before buying" scenario. The big advantage to doing business this way is, if it doesn't work as advertised or does not create a working relationship that benefits all parties concerned, it can easily be modified or canceled. That is one big drawback to a merger; once it is in place, there is no going back.

There is no denying, we have some problems that need immediate attention and we are making good progress in resolving them. What we are experiencing is nothing new; we have been here before and successfully worked our way out. Also, our situation is not unique and there are a number of local agencies willing to help us through this rough period.

Throughout it all, we continue to have a top notch fire department. SFEFD has in place a comprehensive, localized training program and possesses firefighting equipment that rivals, or is better than, organizations many times our size. What we do need are more firefighters and it would be beneficial if we rely on people living in our own neighborhood. However, not everyone needs to be a frontline firefighter; we also need more behind the scene workers to keep everything running smooth. Please consider being part of the solution to our current needs.

Be safe out there,
Fire Chief, Wayne Marx

***Important Phone Numbers**

- Call 911 first with your emergency. This will reduce delays and get the proper resources responding.
- Emergency..... 911
- SFE Fire Dept..... 928 635-9837
- Chief, Wayne Marx ... 928 607-3005
- SFE Fire Board Chairman
Ric Switzer 928 310-8505
- SFE Auxiliary President
Mary Honer 602 822-1921
- SFE POA President
Jack Hadley 928 635-2055
- Coconino Sheriff 928 635-4487
- Forestry Service..... 928 635-5600
- Coconino Animal Management
..... 928 228-2717

***Mail or Email, a choice you can make now!**

If you are ready to go paperless, please send an email (SFEPOA@SherwoodForestEstates.org) or a message using our website’s guest book (found in the website’s *Contacts* section) and tell us “**yes, email please.**” Provide the following information:

- your full name
- lot number or full SFE address
- your email address

We will send you an email notice whenever a key event or the latest Newsletter is posted on the SFEPOA Website.

Remember, the web’s guestbook is the perfect place to share your thoughts and concerns with your POA board and the SFE community. **Check it out!**

Just in case you missed us at the meeting; here is a form you can use for the dues.... Thank you

Sherwood Forest Estates Property Owners Association

SFEPOA 2015 Annual Membership Dues Form

Please PRINT, fill out and mail this form along with \$20 to:

SFE POA, P.O. Box 211, Williams, AZ 86046-0211

Make checks payable to: SFEPOA

Please fill out the entire form. Providing all information allows us to properly update and maintain our data base and is very much appreciated.

Date: _____

Name: _____

Lot Number(s) _____

SFE Address _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (s) _____ or _____

Email Address _____

Additional Preferred Contact info: _____

If you are not already receiving your newsletter via email, would you like to?

Leave name and email info at SFEPOA@SherwoodForestEtates.org

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