

TWAIN HARTE AREA



& FIRE ASSOCIATION

MONTHLY UPDATE

October 2022

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NOTES FROM THE PROGRAM MANAGER



October was a wonderful month, it is always one of my favorite months because of the change in the weather and the promise that the gorgeous fall colors are on the way.

Like the weather, you may notice a little difference in the newsletter. We have been working on merging THA-CERT & the Fire Assoc. volunteers. It has been a lot of work but the result is that the group is now a 501c3 now we can stay focused on the needs of our community, while all donations will be a write off for our residents. To that end, we have been very busy with lots of meetings, trainings, deployments and fun events.

Check out the articles about our fundraiser, volunteer appreciation luncheon, generosity of our community, safety suggestions, and much more.

We are all working so hard but I am proud to say we are also taking time to enjoy life and the beauty of fall in Tuolumne County.

We hope you enjoy this month's issue. Our goal is to provide information to the community, focusing on safety and health.

If you have a suggestion for future articles, please contact twainhartecert@gmail.com for consideration of the topic by the board.



A glass pumpkin patch

TRAFFIC CONTROL IN CONTROL

by Margaret Lawrence, Traffic Control Unit Leader



We received a request to do traffic control in Twain Harte by Twain Harte Community Services District (THCSD). There was a leak that needed to be attended to but when is the best time to close down a lane on Twain Harte Drive? Taking all things into consideration the decision was made to do it on a Wednesday afternoon.

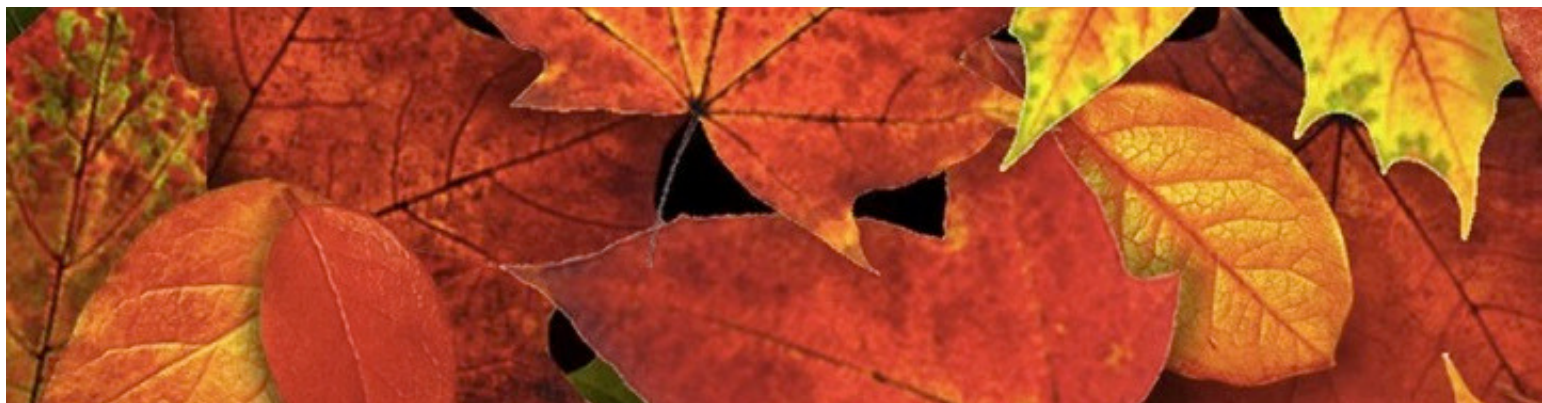
I was not able to make it to this deployment but I had my "A" team available, Carol Hallett, Mike Mandel and Lise Lemonnier. Each took a corner armed with a radio, sign, hi-visibility vest and helmet ready for the event.

THCSD staff worked efficiently and quickly to open the road, access the damage and come up with a plan of action. They worked hard and fast while THA-CERT traffic control team kept them safe.

The road closure was a quick 4 hours while that was amazing the thing the wonderful and heart-filling thing was something different. It was that the drivers were all respectful, took their turns and did it with smiles and waves.



This is what makes us all proud to live, work and volunteer in this beautiful community.



FUND RAISER FOR CERT & FIRE

by Matt Kain, Operations Section Chief



The Twain Harte Christmas Outdoor Market event was held the weekend of October 15th and 16. Judging by the crowds, I'm going to say that October definitely wasn't too early to start thinking of Christmas shopping. As with the Summer Outdoor Market in July, THA-CERT and Fire Association sponsored booths selling beer, wine, water, margaritas, and THFD swag.

The beer booth was back in its customary spot in the parking lot next to the Sportsman Coffee Shop, while the wine booth, the margarita booth, and the swag booth were in front of the THFD fire station. Both locations received a lot of traffic and both saw a lot of sales, in addition to cash donations. It was not unusual to have someone buy something for \$15, give us a \$20 bill, and say "keep the change".

Again, the wine for the wine booth was donated by Lise Lemonnier. We sold wine for \$5 a glass or \$10 for a bottle. Some people bought a "six pack" of wine, which really helped us move some inventory.

The swag booth sold t-shirts, hats, mugs, and beer glasses with the THFD logo on them. We also had some t-shirts and tank tops with artwork from previous years available for \$5 each. One graphic designer came by and commented on what a great logo THFD have, saying that it is unusual to find a fire department with such a sophisticated logo.

Again, any remaining inventory was delivered to The Harte of the Kitchen and Earthly Essentials for sale. Mugs and beer glasses are at The Harte of the Kitchen, while Earthly Essentials have the t-shirts and hats.

In addition to our booths, firefighters offered tours of the fire station to visitors and gave out firefighter helmets to children, along with offering them an opportunity to sit in the antique fire engine and the big engine.



AMAZON SMILE

by Bob Wagner, Finance Section Chief



THA-CERT and Fire Association are happy to announce that we are now part of the "Amazon Smile" program.

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.



When you want to shop on Amazon you just go to: smile.amazon.com, sign in and put "Twain Harte Fire" in the search box. Voila!! Just shop as you normally would and Amazon Smile will do the rest.

thank you



TWAIN HARTE (GOOD)NEWS

by Carol Hallett, Program Manager & President



I absolutely love to talk about our wonderful town and residents and I was afforded that opportunity once again. To add to that, this time I was able to have part of that conversation with Chief Gamez.

Access Tuolumne has a broadcast, "This week in Tuolumne County" that highlights the good news in Tuolumne County. This month we were able to talk about things that Twain Harte residents, Firewise neighborhoods and Chief Gamez have done to promote fire safety in Twain Harte. I hope you are able to watch the broadcast:

<https://media.accesstuolumne.org/CablecastPublicSite/?channel=1>



COLUMBIA COLLEGE LIVE BURN TRAINING

by Mike Mandell, Team Leader



The Columbia College Live Burn training for the Fire Academy students is one of the most rewarding deployments we are blessed to participate in each year. The primary coordinators: Captain Brittan Gregory (Sonora Fire) and Captain Mark Slater (Twain Harte Fire) along with the instructors were ready to get this training started at 0800. The class (31 students divided up into 5 units) were wide eyed, anxious and excited as they lined up in perfect formation with their turnout gear in front of them waiting for the brief in the morning.



Captain Gregory stood in front of the cadets and went over the rules, spoke about the event and introduced the leaders. Then with one quick command all of the students put on their turnout gear as they were timed. In under one minute, they all stood ready for the day.

There were 5 different stations that the units would go through on the first day. They were: Search, Force entry, Hose, Fire Behavior followed by CERT (firefighter rehab). All of the assignments have their challenges with Fire Behavior being the one that kept the students wondering until after they went through it. They all came out excited.

- Search Assignment: Students conducted a search of a building under live fire conditions.
- Force entry: Forcible entry of door prop using a variety of tools and techniques.
- Hose: deploy hose lines and work on hose management and advancing hose lines.
- Fire Behavior: unit goes into the live fire burn box (1,000 degrees) to learn fire behavior.
- CERT: have vitals taken, re-hydrate, stay in rehab until blood pressure returns to normal.



THA-CERT had 10 volunteers that worked over the two day period for a total of 74 hours. We ran Firefighter rehab the first day and did tank refill the second day. We were on standby at the firefighter rehab station in case the students or instructors needed assistance.

This event is always a great opportunity for us to give back to our community, work with Columbia College Academy Staff (Chief Warner & Captain Van), the instructors (fire personnel from all over), and see our youth grow into (possibly) firefighters for our county or our state. We always learn so much from this experience.

GENEROSITY SAVES LIVES

by Neil Gamez, Chief THFD



The top three causes of death to our firefighters are heart attack, occupational cancer, and chronic respiratory disease, followed by PTSD. Anything we can do to lessen and/or alleviate this stark reality is most important.

There are ways to help lessen these illnesses but THCSO, THFD, and THA-CERT & Fire Association felt that we should put in place a real solution that will help mitigate this for our firefighters, interns, and volunteers. Each of these groups encounters stress and/or smoke as part of their daily life.



The reason this is such a passion to me is because of the loss of one of our own, Captain Paul Waite Jr. who succumbed to the effects of job related cancer in August 2016. Captain Waite began his career in the fire service in 1989 as a volunteer firefighter with Tuolumne County Fire. In 2001, he became a full-time fire engineer with Twain Harte Fire, where he served until retirement. Paul promoted through the ranks to captain and oversaw the department's fire training where his commitment to improving the profession showed in his

dedication to training volunteer and professional firefighters. He was a friend to all and made an impact on everyone who worked with him.

I did some research and found that there were options to support our teams but one stood out from the rest, the mPulse Conquer Sauna. The sauna works in a unique way with the infrared light therapy heating your body from the inside out, which helps to build blood oxygen levels. The system helps the release of excess metals and toxins in the blood stream. The many benefits the infrared sauna technology has to offer including relaxation, deep cleansing, and muscle recovery as well as strengthens immune health.

The problem was that the price was beyond our budget, so I put it on my wish list. My phone rang and one of our amazing residents said that they were looking to make a donation to the fire department for tax purposes and wanted to make that donation before the end of the year. They asked what THFD needed/wanted. I mentioned a few items but as soon as I said the infrared sauna they said that this is what they wanted to get for our hard working firefighters. I told them the price tag and a check was immediately delivered. I am always blown away by the generosity of our residents. It is amazing how hard our firefighters work for us, the community. Now we will be able to have a place they can go to rejuvenate after a hard day's work. This sauna will be a Godsend to Twain Harte Fire Department, our current and future firefighters, Interns, and fire volunteers now and for years to come.



Thank You!

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

by Carol Hallett, Program Manager & President



The volunteer appreciation luncheon was one of the best deployments I have attended in a long time. It was a great opportunity to chat, catch up with people, meet new friends and thank the people that always answer when the call comes to volunteer.

We were blessed to have 4 of our founding members in attendance, Wes Jordan, Rich & Marilyn Knudson, and myself. It is amazing when you realize that we started this journey 8 years ago in April 2022. It is the spirit of that original team that I still see in the volunteers today.



As always, THFD is there to support us as we support them. This time it was a great opportunity to have them join us for lunch. Thank you Captain Slater and Intern Noonan for spending time with us.

El Jardin catered the food for us and it was amazing. The spread was bountiful, delicious and festive. Chasity did a wonderful job ensure that we were well cared for...she said, "CERT does so much for the community it is my pleasure to do something back for you" and she accomplished her mission.

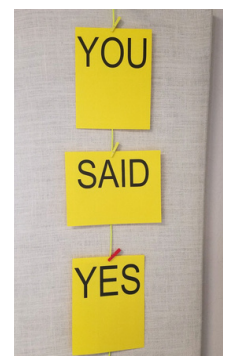
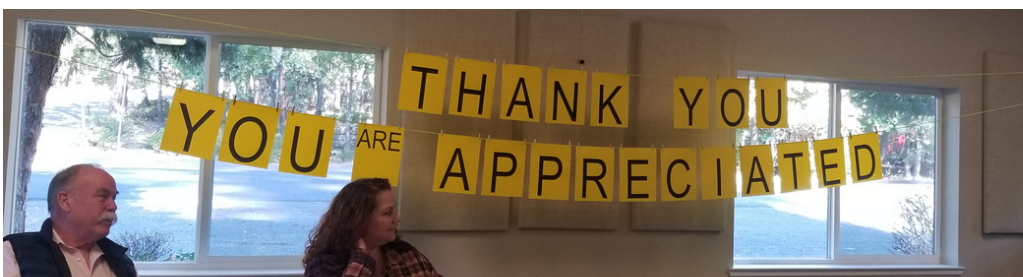
"It is easier to give than receive."
Marilyn Knudson, Founding member THA-CERT

This year has gone by fast and we were able to accomplish a lot because of our great volunteers. I mentioned the fact that we were having this luncheon to Tammy Schultz, an aesthetician at Rooted, and she donated 2 facials. I choose Lise Lemonnier and Mary Schreiner as the recipients. They both deserve an of hour of relaxing.



To highlight the contributions from this year we returned everyone's lost marbles...heaven knows we've all lost a few over the past couple of years! As usual Mike and Lise stood next to me and supported me in my crazy idea. It was a fun ad hoc event.

Dawn Cronin, on behalf of the team, presented me with a bottle of bubbly. I was taken back, it reminded me of what I have heard Marilyn Knudsen say in the past, It is easier to give than receive". It is so true!



WAYS TO SUPPORT THA-CERT & FIRE ASSOC.

by Mary Schreiner, Public Information Officer



In addition to the "Amazon Smile" program, there are other ways to donate as we have reported before the Harte of the Kitchen and Earthly Essentials in Twain Harte carry THFD "swag" for sale. Shop local and support our local merchants and THFD! You can identify the participating shops by the poster in the window.

Two of the things we are currently working to fund are a Mobile Warming/Cooling Unit for THA-CERT and a LUCAS CPR Unit for THFD.

Your donations can help make our vision of having these units available to assist our community a reality.



Support Twain Harte Fire Dept!
Your donation today will help us acquire a LUCAS* CPR Unit



*The Lund University Cardiopulmonary Assist System (LUCAS) is a mobile device that provides mechanical chest compressions to patients in cardiac arrest.

Twain Harte Area CERT
Donations Cheerfully Accepted!

We are raising funds to outfit a Mobile Cooling/Heating Unit

This unit will help us provide cooling, or heat, for members of our community wherever it is needed during a weather emergency.



As Carol mentioned at the beginning of this newsletter, THA-CERT & Fire Association are now a 501c3 non-profit and your cash donations are eligible for tax write-offs. You can send your donations to us at: PO Box 649, Twain Harte, CA 95383.

SAFETY ARTICLE FOR NOVEMBER

by John Buckingham, Safety Officer



Child health and welfare advocates organize resources and spend the month of November raising awareness about childhood safety.

- 1) **Make a list of contact information:** All parent contact info including home, office, cell, text, pager and hotel if traveling for easy and quick access. Have contact info on child's doctor, dentist, child's school, poison control center, fire and police departments
- 2) **Get a letter of permission from the parents enabling you to seek medical and dental care.** Parent must sign and date it. Keep handy at all times to show teachers or doctors
- 3) **Prepare for medical emergencies.** Have health insurance cards, list of child's Prescriptions and medications, and a list of allergies.
- 4) **Have a well stocked first aid kit.** Go to redcross.org for information on making your own kit.
- 5) **Make sure your house is child proof.** For more information go to: <https://www.safehome.org/resources/childproofing-guide>
- 6) **Take CPR/First Aid classes.** Staying calm in an emergency situation can be a matter of life and death. Go to redcross.org for information on how to sign up for classes.

WHERE DOES THE TIME GO?

by Lise Lemonnier, Planning Section Chief



The total THA-CERT volunteer hours for November are:

Administration =	507.5
Training =	0
Deployment =	152.5
Total November hours	660



Events

Visit Tuolumne County:
<https://www.visittuolumne.com/events>

Twain Harte Chamber of Commerce:
<https://www.twainhartecc.com/events>

Flying Flags in honor of our Veterans



CERT will be flying flags on Veterans day. Look for them on November 11th.

Save the date



November 28, 29 & 30th

10-noon

Volunteers welcome, show up downtown.
You will see us in our high-visibility vests,

Show your holiday spirit

Training

Twain Harte
Winter Wonderland
Parade
Friday, December 2, 2022



CERT Basic Training

November 18, 19 & 20
sign up by contacting OES:
OES@co.tuolumne.ca.us or
call 209-533-6395

Twain Harte CSD Board Meeting
<https://www.twainhartecsd.com/board-meetings>
Wednesday, 09 November 2022, 9:00 am

CERT & Fire Association Board Meeting
Thursday, 10 November 2022, 9:30 am



Meet with THCS D
GM Tom Trott,
THFD Chief Gamez
& THCS D board
members. This is
your monthly
opportunity to have
a face-to-face with
the Twain Harte
Community Services
District leaders.