



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

# MONTHLY UPDATE

August 2023

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## NOTES FROM THE PROGRAM MANAGER

by Carol Hallett



As we watch the seasonal changes happen so go the seasons of life, changing without much notice.

Here we are at the end of summer and on the cusp of seeing the beautiful fall colors. Along with those changes, we find ourselves noting the changes in our own life. We are growing older each day, which is hard to measure because we are so busy. But somehow when fall arrives the change is unmistakable, noticeable, and real! We see the color change, the leaves fall to the ground, and the trees preparing for the inevitable cold winter.

This autumn let us all relish in the change, embrace the coolness of the air, and the light breeze that will blow the leaves to the ground. Along with this, let's appreciate our relationships, embrace our friends and family, and enjoy the lighthearted breeze of conversation.

August was a very busy month for us all. We all had personal things to attend to but we balanced it with volunteering for our community. As you will read in the newsletter we kept ourselves occupied. I hope you enjoy reading all about our activities. All I can say is that I am very grateful for the Twain Harte Area CERT staff and volunteers; you color my life with happiness and joy.

When you know you live in



Photo by: Christy Olson

Paradise

# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2023

by Mary Schreiner, PIO



National Night Out is an annual event, sponsored by the Sheriff's Office, that was created as a community-building campaign to improve police-community partnerships. Typically held the first Tuesday in August, this year, the event was held at Eproson Park in Twain Harte.



Along with the Sheriffs Office, many other agencies participated: CalFire Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California State Parks, CHP-Sonora, FEMA, Sonora Police Department, Tuolumne County Animal Control, TC District Attorney's Office, TC Probation Dept, TCSO Community Services Unit, TCSO Search and Rescue Unit, TC Social Services Dept, Twain Harte Fire, and, of course, THA-CERT.

THA-CERT members pose in front of the Cooling Station with a member of the TCO

Kids of all ages enjoyed seeing the SWAT and SAR vehicles, fire engines, police canine units, and fire fighting equipment, including "jaws of life". You could experience using a fire hose, practice your radio skills, and cool down in THA-CERT's Cooling Station.

It was a fun evening that was very well attended by friends and neighbors who not only the got to meet the first responders and agencies listed above, but also enjoy treats that were available from SaveMart, Twain Harte Pizza Factory, Kona Shaved Ice, Rock It Tacos, and Simply Amazing Kettle Corn.

Mark your calendars for the first Tuesday of August 2024 so you don't miss out on this fun and informative event. We will post the location as soon as we know where it will be held.



Members of all of the participating agencies pose for a group photo

# TWAIN HARTE DRIVE LANE CLOSED

by Mike Mandell, Team Leader



We received a request for deployment from Twain Harte Community Services District (THCSD) crew, specifically Miguel Fernandez. Once we received approval from Carol Hallett & Chief Gamez, we were ready to go... well sort of!

Miguel explained to Carol that they needed to pick up piles of debris along Twain Harte Drive (between Wayne's Service Station and Marquis). They would use shovels and a tractor and would load all the piles into a trailer pulled by a truck. It was obvious that we would need to close down a lane.



We could have closed the entire lane from one end to the next but it was early Friday morning and Carol, thinking about how this would affect the people who needed to get to work or appointments, chose to close the lane just enough to keep the crews safe.



It was going to be a challenge to keep everyone safe, keep traffic moving, and clean up the piles along the roadway. Carol had a brief with us before we got started, we were assigned our jobs, given radios, and then we waited. Carol was clear on what needed to be done and we wanted to make sure the team was all there, along with the caution signs and all the equipment. Once everything was in place we got started.

We closed the lane but just the distance

needed for the crew. They cleaned up the piles and loaded them into the bucket of the tractor. Once the bucket was full, we heard the announcement over the radio from Carol requesting to hold traffic in both directions so that the tractor could load it into the trailer. Then the tractor moved up the road to the next pile along with the truck and trailer. That is when we heard another transmission over the radio from Carol



## TWAIN HARTE DRIVE LANE CLOSED, cont'd

to move the line. We picked up the cones and moved them up the road, while keeping enough cones in place to keep the crew and our volunteers safe and behind the orange cone line. Carol, Mike, Bob, and Mary D moved the cones like a synchronized swimming team. Victoria and Lise kept the traffic moving by communicating on the radio.

We heard positive comments from residents who were caught up in the traffic. This traffic control project, although different from most, went very smoothly.



The Crew (from left): Mike Mandell, Lise Lemonnier, Victoria Forrester, Linda Postma, and Mary Dearborn. Not pictured: Bob Schreiner and Carol Hallett



## PAPA SMURF UPDATE

by Bob Schreiner, Logistics Section Chief

The project of converting our land-sea container, affectionately referred to as “Papa Smurf” (because it’s “Smurf blue”), into a climate-controlled storage and work space is coming along. I ordered all of the lumber, insulation, screws, nails, and staples that we will need. All of the materials will be delivered in early September and we can start building walls and adding insulation. Installation of the electrical elements will happen at a later date.

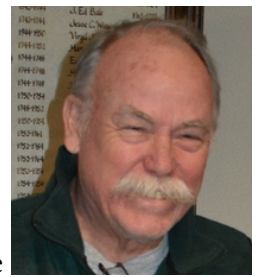
Once complete, all of our equipment will be able to be housed in one unit, which will make maintenance and inventory much easier, as well as being more efficient when we need to load up for a deployment or event.

Stay tuned for photos of our project in process and the finished product!



# MUSIC IN THE AIR

by Ed Proctor, Cooling/Warming Unit Leader



The third annual Sierra Bigfoot Music Festival occurred Friday, August 25th, through Sunday, August 27th. It was a very well-run event with more than 24 bands, musical artists, and performers and 50 craft and food vendors. Twain Harte Area CERT was requested by the organizers to deploy our cooling station for the weekend, so we were able to enjoy the music (and the delicious food), while providing a place for everyone to cool off.

We were able to setup on Thursday, and found out that there would be no EMTs available during the weekend. This caused us to include first aid and AED equipment, along with the pop-up tent and mist fan.



The first shifts on Friday covered by Carol Hallett, my wife Odette, and myself. The weather cooperated in not being too hot, and the entire day was fairly quiet.

Mary Schreiner, Bob Schreiner, Carol, and Victoria Forrester covered Saturday. There were two aid events: one with a woman experiencing a blood pressure issue, and another who overheated.

Carol, Mike Mandell, and Mary Dearborn covered Sunday. Again, there were several aid events involving bandages being provided for several scrapes and cuts. We were able to shut down the cooling tent by 4:30, and we were all finished by 5:30.

Both setup and take down were done by Carol, Mary and Bob Schreiner, Mike, and myself.

My thanks to all who helped and volunteered.



Enjoying the mist beneath her wings

# MUSIC IN THE AIR...THE HELPERS

Our volunteers, the “Cool Kids”:



Set up and tear down crew: Mike Mandell, Mary Schreiner, Bob Schreiner, and Ed Proctor. Not pictured, Carol Hallett



Odette and Ed Proctor



Carol Hallett and Victoria Forrester



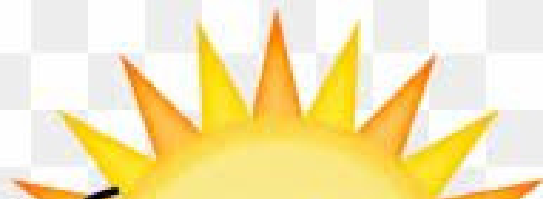
Mary and Bob Schreiner



Mary Dearborn and Mike Mandell



Mike Mandell just hosing around



# OUR SUMMER VACATIONS

by THA-CERT Staff



This summer my favorite place to be was at the beach on my property, better known as Nana's Beach. Sitting there with my bare feet in the cool water is the best medicine ever. No matter what else is happening in our lives being in your happy place is important for the soul.

*Carol Hallett, Program Manager*



Growing up with no aunts, uncles, or first cousins here in California, I look forward to any opportunity to connect with my east coast relatives. There was an “impromptu mini-family reunion in Maryland and I flew east to be there. Ok, it was my Aunt Jeanne’s memorial, but as she exceeded her goal of living to 100 by well over a year, it felt more like a family reunion. It was great to see my cousins, their children, and their children’s rapidly-growing families. Despite the circumstances, it was a fun gathering and wonderful to meet the newest members of the family.

*Mary Schreiner, Public Information Officer*



Great sighting in the Grand Tetons this summer.

*Margaret Lawrence, Training Officer*



Family time in Montreal.

*Lise Lemonnier, Planning Section Chief*



## OUR SUMMER VACATIONS, cont'd



I spent my summer evenings at Bucks Patio Bar! The perfect escape!  
*John Buckingham, Safety Officer*



Not taking vacation until October, but every Wednesday evening during the summer you can find us at the Concert in the Park. We pack up a picnic dinner, the dog, chairs, and a blanket and head down to Tuolumne Memorial Park. Our Standard Poodle, Lulu, is always a hit with everyone who stops by. The concerts are a great break in the middle of the week and a nice way to reconnect with neighbors and friends... and we get to enjoy some good music while doing it. It's always sad when the concerts end, along with summer, but we always look forward to next year.

*Bob Schreiner, Logistics Section Chief*



(Editor: Generic California coast photo, since Bob didn't take any)

Didn't really do much this year. Mostly complained about the heat.

Made it to the coast a couple of times. It was good to get away. It's always good. Thought we might get to Yosemite for a few days. Didn't happen. Why is that? We can drive three plus hours to the crazy Bay Area, but not two to pristine Yosemite? What's wrong with this picture?

Speaking of pictures, I have none. I gotta get out more!

*Bob Wagner, Finance Section Chief*





## OUR SUMMER VACATIONS, cont'd



This is what I did for the summer...dealt with a contractor, counter guys, and cabinet guys who couldn't get along. Finally got it done.

*Mike Mandell, Team Leader*



El Nedo, Phillipines, living the good life!

*Matt Kain, Operations Section Chief*



Finding tranquility.

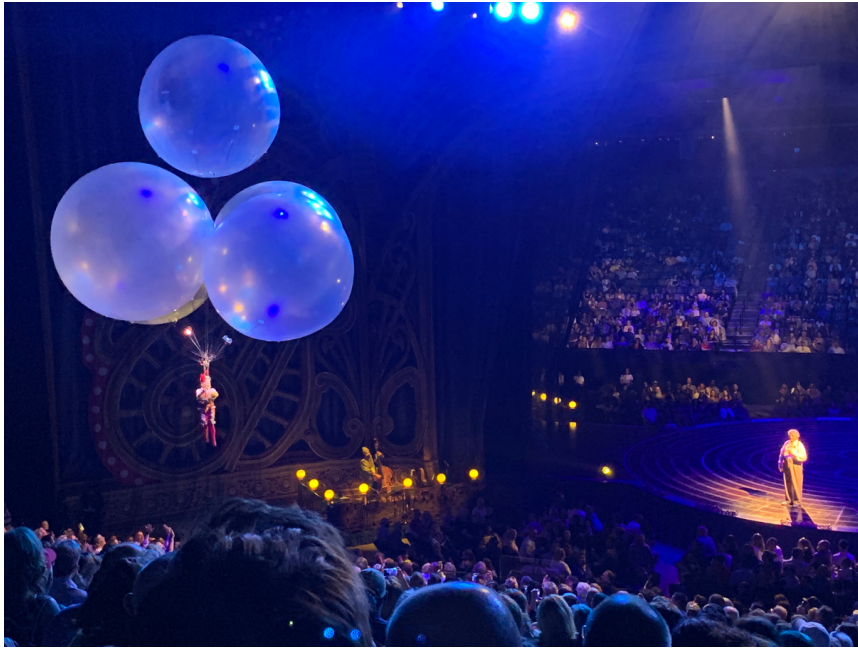
*Randie Revilla, Firefighter Rehab Unit Leader*



Lost in the symphony.

*Michelle Wagner, UAS Unit Leader*

## OUR SUMMER VACATIONS, cont'd



We went to see Cirque du Soleil "Corteo" in Sacramento for my birthday. Yes, that is a small woman flying underneath a balloon above the audience.

*Ed Proctor, Cooling/Warming Unit Leader*



Great American Restoration Tour with Patriot friends in North Carolina, Texas, and Oklahoma.

*Linda Postma, Fund Raiser Coordinator*



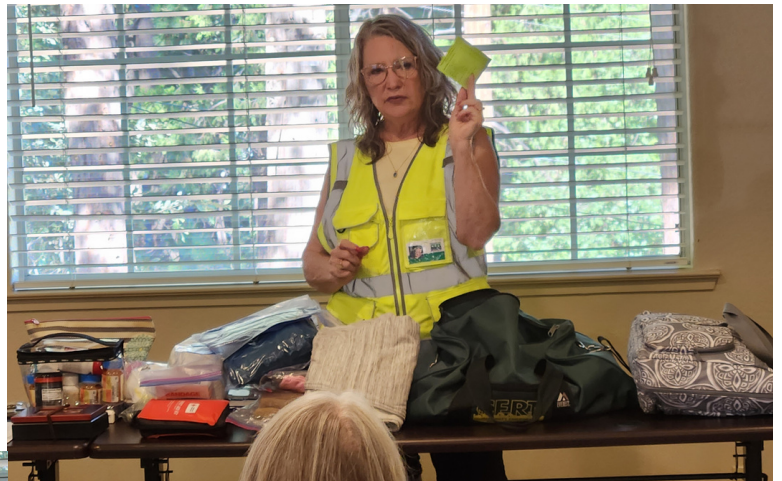
# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

by Margaret Lawrence, Training Officer



Twelve members of our community are now prepared to evacuate their homes quickly in the event of an emergency. Carol Hallett, THA-CERT Program Manager, did a great Go Bag demonstration for our August training. Carol also talked about the need for first aid and emergency kits.

Items to consider for your first aid kit, along with extra bandaids, include antiseptic wipes, gauze/sterile pads, cold packs, triangle bandages to make a sling if needed, hand sanitizer, and soap. Items you might want to include in your emergency kits include toilet paper, N-95 masks (to keep smoke particulate matter out of your lungs), mylar emergency blankets, flash light,



extra drinking water/dehydrated food, duct tape, body wipes, can opener and solar lanterns.

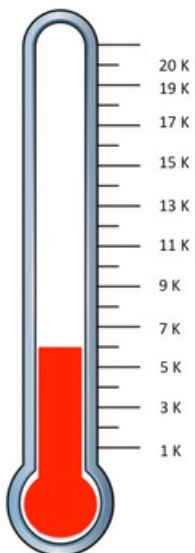
Having your Go Bag and first aid/emergency kits ready to go at a moment's notice is critical in an emergency situation. Make sure you are prepared today.

For more information, please visit our website at: <https://www.thacert.org>



## LUCAS Device

**GOAL!**



The Twain Harte Summer Outdoor Festival was a fundraiser for the LUCAS Device. We tallied about \$2K in profit. So our grand total so far is \$6K.

Thank you to all who so generously donated and to the volunteers who made this all happen.

Our next fundraiser for this device is the Twain Harte Fireman's Pancake Breakfast. All proceeds go towards the purchase of a Lucas Device for Twain Harte Area. There are only 2 devices in Toulumne County and they are both down the hill.

# SEPTEMBER SAFETY TIPS

by John Buckingham, Safety Officer



September is National Preparedness Month. We at THA-CERT are all about being prepared. In addition to the suggestions below, check out our web page at <https://www.thacert.org> for information and videos to help you prepare for an emergency.

1) Learn your risks and responses. Be informed of your options. Receive alerts wherever you are or what you are doing. In Tuolumne County, sign up to receive automated alerts from TCSO via you home phone, email, text message, or a combination of these options. To sign up, go to: <https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/1170/Emergency-Alerts>

2) Make a plan or plans to deal with risks. Develop an exit strategy from the risky situations. Go to <https://www.ready.gov/> for more information on making a plan.

3) Build a supply kit to escape with. Go to <https://www.ready.gov/> for lists and suggestions on what to pack.

4) Get involved with community groups and nonprofits to keep you informed... like THA-CERT! Our monthly training meetings are open to all and are no cost/no obligation. Our monthly newsletter keeps you updated on upcoming trainings.



Being prepared helps protect you and your family from the devastating consequences of a disaster or emergency.



*Editor's note: In light of the internet and cell phone outages experienced in Tuolumne county August 30th and 31st, it is a reminder that being part of a radio network is an important part of preparedness. The Twain Harte Radio Net meets twice a week, Wednesday at 7:00pm and Sunday at 9:00am.*



**TWAIN HARTE PANCAKE BREAKFAST IS ON SUNDAY**

# Twain Harte

## 28th Annual Firemen's Pancake Breakfast

Sausage, Eggs,  
Melon, Juice or  
Milk, Coffee and

*All You Can Eat  
Pancakes*

Adults \$15  
Children 5-12 \$10  
(children 4 and under  
no charge)



Sunday, Sept. 3rd, 2023

8 am to 12 noon

At the Firehouse

18781 Cedar Drive

Twain Harte



# WHERE DOES THE TIME GO?

by Lise Lemonnier, Planning Section Chief

The total THA-CERT volunteer hours for August are:

Administration =	203
Training =	45
Deployment =	74
Total August hours =	322



## Save The Date!

## Events

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

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

## Training

What training would *you* be interested in attending in 2024? Contact us at [twainhartecert@gmail.com](mailto:twainhartecert@gmail.com) with your suggestions.



## Radio Net

Join the Twain Harte Radio Net. We meet twice a week. Wednesday at 7:00 pm and Sunday at 9:00 am. If you want to borrow a radio to test, we have some available; once you test it, you should purchase one for yourself. Each of you should be on this net.

## Meetings

THCSD Board Meeting  
<https://www.twainhartecsd.com/board-meetings>  
Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 9:00 am

CERT & Fire Association Board Meeting  
Thursday, September 14, 2023, 9:30 am

*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](mailto:twainhartecert@gmail.com) for consideration of the topic by the board.*