



MONTHLY UPDATE

August 2021

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IN THIS ISSUE...

Anyone who pays attention to current events knows that a lot went on in August in Tuolumne County. As with all monthly publications, many of our items are written well in advance of publication. Sometimes things already written coincide with recent events, such as in Program Manager Carol Hallett's message this month, as well and John Buckingham's article, later in this issue.

Also on tap are an update by Supervisor Ryan Campbell, a profile of member Mike Mandell, information on our participation in National Night Out, our deployments for the Rotary Deep Pit BBQ, evacuation assistance for the Washington fire, and the Sierra Big Foot Music and Art Festival. You'll get an update from our Training Unit Lead, Dawn Cronin, and hear about a generous donation for our training supplies. Last, but not least, you hear what's been happening with the UAS Unit and we'll let you know about upcoming events in our community.



(Above) View of Washington Fire from the Racetrack side of town

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.

NOTES FROM THE PROGRAM MANAGER

by Carol Hallett, Program Manager, THA-CERT

California is experiencing one of the most deadly fire seasons in recorded history with powerful wildland fires raging out of control. We have seen the images on television and it reminds us all of those summer months not that long ago when the RIM fire was in full force. Tuolumne County has been spared thus far this year through the grace of God, some forest clean up measures that have been implemented, and the quick response from our Fire Fighters. That said, we need to make sure that we are prepared to help ourselves!

Do you have an evacuation route figured out? Do you have a plan B for that route? Do you practice those routes alternatively? Do you have a contingency plan if neither one of those routes are available to you? Our former Fire Chief Todd McNeal used the acronym: PACE (Plan, Alternative Plan, Contingency Plan & Emergency Plan)...we need all of those when a wildland fire comes our way. Your normal road may be blocked, inaccessible or so crowded that the traffic is stopped. What will you do? Do not rely on only one way out. Do not panic, have a back up plan.

Plan: The road that you most often travel when you leave your house.

Alternative Plan: A different road it may not be as direct but would be an alternative way out.

Contingency Plan: How about going a different direction? Instead of going down the hill would it make sense to go up the hill?

Emergency Plan: Your best course of action maybe to go to an open space that is close to your home and stay there for help to come and get you. Where is that? Is there a lake, parking lot or golf course near you? Can you get there easily?

Planning ahead and practicing will allow you to feel more confident and less panicked when it comes time to evacuate. Do it today!



NOTES FROM THE PROGRAM MANAGER, cont'd

Fire is so unpredictable, and spreads so fast. It is indiscriminate about what it will destroy or whose life it will change.

Whether fire is started by nature, accident, or intentionally set, it is a real danger for those who live in fire-prone areas, such as the Mother Lode. We have included a checklist for preparing to evacuate.

Here is a link to a video about preparing your home for wildfire. We hope you find it helpful.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vL_syp1ZScM



WILDFIRE EVACUATION CHECKLIST

REVIEW THIS INFORMATION NOW TO PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A QUICK AND SAFE EVACUATION.

TO-GO BAG ESSENTIALS:

- Important documents (bank, IRS, trust, investment, insurance policy, birth certificates, medical records)
- ATM, credit and debit cards
- Medications
- Prescription glasses
- Driver's license
- Passport
- Computer backup files
- Inventory of home contents (consider making a video inventory now, prior to an emergency)
- Photographs of the exterior of the house and landscape
- Address book
- Cell phone charger
- Personal toiletries
- Enough clothing for 3-5 days
- Family heirlooms, photo albums and videos.

WHAT TO WEAR:

- Wear only cotton or wool clothes, including long pants, long-sleeved shirt or jacket, a hat, and boots.
- Carry gloves, a handkerchief to cover your face, water to drink, and goggles.
- Keep your cell phone, a flashlight, and portable radio with you at all times.

PREPARE FAMILY MEMBERS, PETS, AND LIVESTOCK:

- If possible, evacuate all family members not essential to preparing the house for wildfire.
- Plan several evacuation routes from your home.
- Designate a safe meeting place and contact person.
- Relay your plans to a contact person.
- Evacuate pets and livestock whenever possible and never turn the animals loose.
- Notify your local Humane Society or other organizations for assistance with animals if needed.
- Be aware of your emergency notification system such as reverse 911.

PREPARE VEHICLE:

- If you can lift your garage door manually, place vehicle in the garage pointing out with the keys in the ignition and disconnect the electric garage door opener. If not, park in your driveway facing out.
- Roll up the car windows.
- Close the garage door, but leave it unlocked.
- Place essential items in the car.
- If you do not drive, make other arrangements for transportation in

INSIDE THE HOME:

- Close all interior doors.
- Leave a light on in each room.
- Remove lightweight, non-fire-resistant curtains and other combustible materials from around windows.
- Close fire-resistant drapes, shutters, and blinds.
- Turn off all pilot lights.
- Move overstuffed furniture, such as couches and easy chairs, to the center of the room.
- Close fireplace damper.
- Close or block off any doggie-doors.

OUTSIDE THE HOME:

- Place combustible patio furniture in the house or garage.
- Shut off propane at the tank or natural gas at the meter.
- Close all exterior vents, doors, and windows.
- Prop a noncombustible ladder against the house to provide firefighters with easy access to the roof.
- Make sure that all garden hoses are connected to faucets and attach nozzles set on "spray".
- Leave exterior doors and gates unlocked.
- Turn on outside lights.
- If available and if there's time, cover windows, attic openings, and vents with plywood that is at least one-half inch thick.

CERT AT NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

by Mary Schreiner, PIO, THA-CERT

Twain Harte Area CERT joined the Tuolumne County Sheriff's Office, Tuolumne County Animal Control, TCSO Search & Rescue, and other organizations in participating in National Night Out on August 3rd, at Railtown in Jamestown. CERT had demonstrations in cribbing, tours of our Firefighter Rehab Vehicle, and demonstrations



(Above) Sheriff Bill Pooley (third from left) joins CERT members (from Left) Lise Lemonnier, Charli Freeman, and Carol Hallett at the CERT tent

by our UAS Unit, along with information on preparing for emergencies and CERT training. Our cooling station was especially popular, as temperatures topped 100 degrees, even into the evening.

It was an evening of getting to know your neighbors and learning what type of assistance provided by each agency. The children were enthralled by the TCSO SAR unit's off road vehicle.

Despite the heat, it was a lovely evening and I encourage everyone to participate in National Night Out in coming years.



(Above) Mike Mandell explains "cribbing" to a young visitor, as Charli Freeman and Bob Schreiner look on.



(Above) Carol Hallett (second from left), Doug Simmons, and Michelle Wagner (gray shirts) explain the many ways the UAS Unit can be utilized by local first responders

FROM THE COUNTY SUPERVISOR'S DESK

by Ryan Campbell, Tuolumne County Supervisor, District 2

(Editor's note: Supervisor Campbell's article was submitted prior to the discovery of human remains in the ashes of the Washington Fire)

Embers continue to smolder at the site of the Washington Fire, which on August 26th, sent a towering column of smoke over the City of Sonora and threatened the very heart of our community. County fire investigators have yet to make a full accounting of the damage wrought by the blaze, but at present there are 17 structures that have been damaged or destroyed, 100 acres burned, and a large number of our citizens have been displaced.



I am extremely grateful to our local fire agencies for their quick work to extinguish the fire, which was particularly important as most of the damage occurred within just the first few hours of the fire. In

this case, we were able to bring air resources to bear very early to douse the flames with fire retardant. Additionally, many ground attack resources were still in the area due to the nearby Airola Fire, which burned 700 acres on the north bank of New Melones Reservoir in Calaveras County.

The Washington Fire burned both sides of the road near the Highway 49 offramp into Sonora. Many of the structures burned were on Golden Dove Lane or Silver Pine Drive, but the flames also threatened Stockton Road businesses, structures owned by the City of Sonora and the TUD wastewater treatment plant off Highway 108.



The Washington Fire, as viewed from downtown Sonora

As an odd twist of fate, The Tuolumne County Office of Emergency Services, was preparing to conduct a training session on the day that the fire broke out. Obviously, we cancelled the training in order to deal with the real emergency as it unfolded. I declared a Local State of Emergency and our team quickly began to pull together the necessary components to manage a rapidly changing crisis. I must give special credit to the County OES Coordinator Dore Bietz, our partners with the City of Sonora, our local Red Cross chapter, and Twain Harte CERT, for their service during this emergency.

To me, the fire underscored the need for increased vegetation management throughout our county. The area the burned during the Washington Fire, hadn't been burned since the mid-1950s, and the steep grade coupled with thick brush and limited clearance caused the fire to spread rapidly to homes and structures.

FROM THE COUNTY SUPERVISOR'S DESK, *con'td*

The Citizen Fire Advisory group is in the process of developing a countywide vegetation ordinance that will encourage fire fuels management on private property beyond the state Public Resources Code. We are actively seeking public input on this ordinance, as the only way to increase vegetation management and fire risk reduction is to get public buy-in. Many other rural counties have passed similar ordinances, and recent rulings from the state Board of Forestry will likely make such ordinances mandatory.



Aerial view of Washington Fire

The Next Fire Safety Advisory Committee will be held Wednesday, September 22nd at 10:30. We would love to have your input. Visit <https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/1341/Fire-Safety-Advisory-Committee>

Be prepared, be informed and stay safe.



Flames from the Washington Fire



Devastation left behind the fire's path

DEDICATION OF TWAIN HARTE BOCCÉ COURT

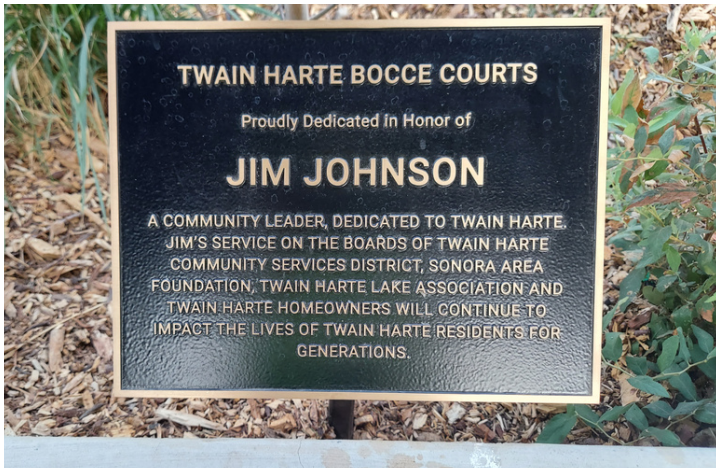
by Carol Hallett, Program Manager, THA-CERT

It was a beautiful evening in Twain Harte and a perfect setting to do a dedication of our Bocce Court and BBQ pavilion. Twain Harte Community Services District General Manager, Tom Trott, did a fabulous job thanking all who participated in the build. He explained that the goal of this and the new park is to utilize as much as he can from grants, for the money portion, and community spirit to help put it all together. That is exactly what he did here.

The structure looks sturdy and depicts Twain Harte with strong studs, beams and brackets that show the strength of our spirit. There were approximately 70 people in attendance with representatives of Homeowners, Rotary, Lake Association, THA-CERT, Sonora Area Foundation, Tuolumne County District 3 Supervisor Anaiah Kirk, District Two Supervisor, Ryan Campbell, along with a host of residents from the area.



(Above) THCS D General Manager, Tom Trott, speaks during the dedication ceremony



(Above) Plaque dedicating Bocce Courts to Jim Johnson

The courts were dedicated to Jim Johnson, who was a long time resident of Twain Harte, and a community leader for years. He was on the THCS D, SAF, Homeowners, and Twain Harte Partners boards, some for more than a decade. He would have been happy to see the beauty that has been brought to Twain Harte in his name.

(Below) Guests stand by the bocce court during the dedication

The other exciting news is that the plan is to break ground on the new park next summer. I hope you have all had the opportunity to see the rendering; it is going to be such a fantastic addition to our town.



THE AIR WE BREATHE

by **John Buckingham, Safety Officer, THA-CERT**

Every year, smoke from wildland fire near and far poses a health threat throughout the Mother Lode. Here are a few tips to protect yourself from smoke exposure due to the wild fires:

- Avoid outside activities during smoky weather
- If you must be outside, wear an N95 mask (the cloth masks don't block the small smoke particles)
- Stay indoors, closing windows and doors to keep smoke particles outside
- Bring pets inside to reduce smoke particle exposure
- Create at least one room on your residence where no outside air can get on and operate an air filter in that space (available at hardware stores or on Amazon)



WHERE DOES THE TIME GO?

by **Lise Lemonnier, Planning Section Chief, THA-CERT**

Wow, our teams have been busy this month. Thanks to all of the CERT members who volunteered their time this month!

Administration = 165
Training = 120.5
Deployment = 159.5

Total for August = 445

CERT MEMBER PROFILE: MIKE MANDELL

by Mary Schreiner, PIO, THA-CERT

If you've been at any event where CERT is on hand, you probably have seen Mike Mandell. Mike always finds time to do whatever needs doing both behind the scenes and right up front.

Mike grew up in the Bay Area town of Sebastopol, attending Analy High. After he finished school he worked several jobs, including training wild animals for Walt Disney Productions and managing a Round Table Pizza in Petaluma, before moving to Sonora in May of 1973.



Firefighting is in Mike's blood...even at home!

Mike joined the Sonora Fire Department in 1984 and worked there for 23 years. He became interested in THA-CERT after seeing their trailer parked outside the Twain Harte Fire station. He asked then Chief Todd McNeal about CERT and attended their next meeting. He has been a member of THA-CERT for about 3 1/2 years now.

Mike and his wife, Joni, have been married since 2000; between them they have 5 children and 6 grandchildren. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Sonora Volunteer Fire Museum as Secretary Treasurer. The Museum helps preserve our history of fire fighting by educating children about our history and conducting school tours of the Museum. Mike is also Past President and Secretary for the Sonora Kiwanas.

Mike worked in construction, as a tree faller, drove a route truck, and worked as a bartender. In 1975, Mike joined the Columbia Volunteer Fire Department. Unbeknownst to him, the tradition at CVFD was to select their Chief by asking for volunteers for the job and then selecting anyone who didn't raise their hand. So Mike became Fire Chief at CVFD and served in that capacity for 8 years.

Mike then worked for California Department of Parks in Big Trees State Park as a fire specialist, doing controlled burns within the park. He also worked in purchasing and sales for the former Tuolumne Foundry and Machine Works, and owned an antique store.



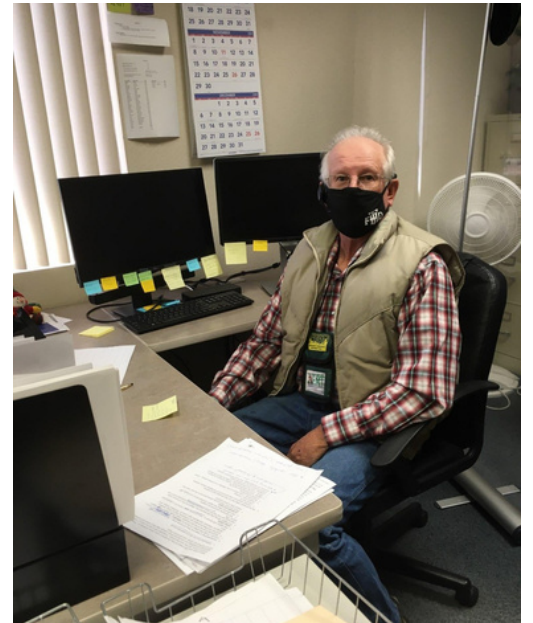
Mike and an equine friend

MEMBER PROFILE: MIKE MANDELL, cont'd

Mike says that "fire service will always be in my heart". He likes volunteering with CERT because he enjoys being useful. He says he likes "being part of the Twain Harte community and helping in any way an old person can...it's something I feel good about. It's not a job, it's enjoyable."



Joni (left) and MikeMandell (right) hang out with their pal, Smokey (center) at the Sonora Volunteer Fire Museum



(Above) Mike answers the COVID help line for Tuolumne County Public Health

(Below, from Left) Matt Kain, Mike Mandell, and Lise Lemonnier prepare for one of the drive through COVID vaccine clinics in March



STEPPIN' OUT

by Michelle Wagner, UAS Unit Leader, THA-CERT

Randie Revilla, Ben Wagner and I had the opportunity this month to help out at the final scenario training for Sonoma County North CERT. We set up (including moulage) and proctored two scenarios – a building collapse/search and a motor vehicle accident. CERT



(Above) Sonoma CERT member practices extracting a victim from simulated building collapse

teams searched, triaged, and extricated victims. They set up a medical staging area and provided 1st aid. They practiced radio communications and even used a runner system when their radios system went down. We finished the day with a visit and demonstration from Henry One – the Sonoma County Sheriff Helicopter.

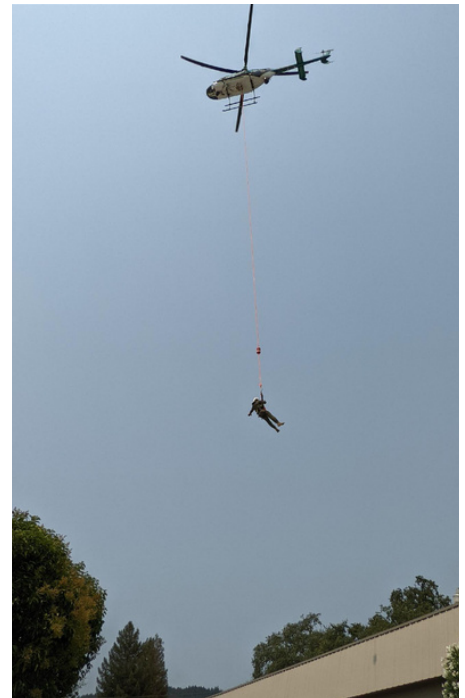
It was a fantastic experience. It was very inspiring to see how eager people were to learn and to participate and no matter what people's background was, everyone had something valuable to contribute.

Everyone had a lot of fun, built confidence and came away with new skills and new friends.

All in all, a total success!



(Above) First aid and triage practice



(Above) "Henry One" demonstration

TWAIN HARTE ROTARY DEEP PIT BBQ

by Mary Schreiner, PIO, THA-CERT

The annual "Deep Pit BBQ and Craft Fair", in Eproson Park on August 20th, hosted by the Twain Harte Rotary, was another big success. THA-CERT had planned on providing a cooling station for the event, but the weather was cool enough not to warrant having one. Instead, we handed out tow chain covers to anyone who had a trailer, and provided information on CERT to interested attendees.



Vendors prepare for shoppers in Eproson Park

deep-pit roasted meat, with beans, salad and other sides.

There were silent and live auctions, raffle prizes and Cub Scout Pack 513 held a cake walk.

The popular cover band Burn Permit, ended the evening with a free concert at the Eproson Park Ballfield and concert goers arrived early in the day to set up their chairs for later.

The proceeds from the event will benefit community service projects and scholarships.



(Above and Right) Food vendors kept Fair-goers happy until the BBQ started

Although the title said "BBQ", it was an all-day event, beginning at 8 am with a pancake breakfast, served by Boy Scouts Troop 500, at the Cal Fire Station parking lot.

Additionally, there was a craft fair held with vendors from near and far offering their wares for sale, along with food booths to keep the crowd going until it was time for the BBQ.

The gates for the Deep Pit BBQ opened at 4 pm, the dinner included



(Above) The challenging task of putting up our canopy under low-hanging branches



BIGFOOT CAME TO TWAIN HARTE

by Lise Lemonnier, Planning Section Chief, THA-CERT

The Big Foot Music Festival in Twain Harte this past weekend was a success. We opened our cooling station on Friday at 1:00PM, it was a mild day, we kept busy by cutting up fire hose for chain guards, we did not have anyone come into the cooling station.



(Above) CERT Cooling Station

Things changed on Saturday, it was a lot warmer, in fact it was HOT. We had several people come into the popup to cool down, we had ice cold water and talked to several people about CERT.

When Sunday came around it was even HOTTER (104o) We had almost a hundred people come to cool off, we put ice in the fan supply and it was nice in there. We spoke with many people about being prepared, we gave away several chain guards. The music was fantastic, this may become a regular thing!

Thank you for all the volunteers, Bob Schreiner, Mary Schreiner, Mik Mandell, Matt Kain, Linda Postma, Charli Freeman, Carol Hallott, John Buckingham, John Bagley, and Lee Smith.



Above, from Left) Lise Lemonnier, Lee Smith, and Mike Mandell cut old fire hose to lengths for use as tow chain covers

Editor's note: Who would use tow chain covers, you ask? Well, anyone who has something they tow...trailers for landscaping, camping, and transporting horses and livestock, just to name a few. The covers protect against the chains causing sparks - which could start a fire - should they come loose while driving. The tow chain covers are available for free to anyone who requests a pair (donations to CERT cheerfully accepted). Contact us at twainhartecert@gmail.com if you are interested in obtaining some.

A MEETING WITH THE CHIEFS

by Carol Hallett, Program Manager, THA-CERT

I was given the opportunity to speak at the Tuolumne County Chiefs meeting on Thursday, 12 August 2021; the subject, my favorite...it was all about CERT volunteers.

I informed the Chief's that we have a team of 56 active volunteers that are at their disposal. That we are trained to help support them and me, our First Responders, and that the community is behind them too.

I presented to them the two resources (FF Rehab and UAS) for which we have fund raised and received donations, and have developed, trained, and practiced, and are ready to deploy.

First was FF Rehab. I explained to them that the community, through donations, and CERT, through fund raising, have pulled together approximately \$25K to ensure that we have a beautiful and functional vehicle, stocked with supplies to support their personnel while



From Left) Twain Harte Fire Chief Neil Gamez, CalFire Chief Andy Murphy, THA-CERT's Randie Revilla and Carol Hallett, and two unidentified CalFire Chiefs

deployed. A group of THA-CERT members have gone through training as well and continue to train hands-on, using approved curriculum and practices for years now. We are ready for the various Chiefs to request our service.

Second was UAS Unit. Again, explaining that through donations, grants, and fund raising, we have procured approximately \$30K in UAV equipment: 4 UAVs with cameras and monitors, and 2 training UAVs. We developed the training manuals, policies and procedures, as well as trained personnel. Again, we are ready and eager to be deployed by the Chiefs.

I let the Chiefs know that the answer to the protocol to determine as to whether or not they need these resources was for them to call Chief Gamez, and he will make the decision as to whether or not to deploy us to request them.

Our teams are ready and eager to assist!

TRAINING UPDATE

by Dawn Cronin, Training Unit Leader, THA-CERT



THA-CERT members enjoy brunch and getting a chance to socialize at the August meeting

For our August 2021 Monthly Training, we decided since it has been a long, hot summer already to take it easy and have a social event rather than a training. The event was a Breakfast Pot Luck. We had about 15 attendees - some Staff attended, as well as some long-time members and brand new members. The food was delicious and plentiful, the coffee strong, and the conversation lively!

For our September 2021 Monthly Training, we are planning to have our Go-Bag presentation given by Program Leader Carol Hallett, and some in-depth conversation about planning for evacuation and emergencies. (See Carol's article on Page 2 of this newsletter.) Details will be distributed closer to the date, but please mark September 25 on your calendar and please plan to be there for this very important and relevant training.

If you know someone who is interested in becoming trained with Twain Harte Area CERT, please have them contact us at twainhartecert@gmail.com. I'm happy to call people as well - just add your phone number to the email.



Delicious home-made breakfast goodies



Strong coffee, fresh fruit and sweet treats



L to R: Randie Revilla, Carol Hallett, Michelle Wagner, Lise Lemonnier

A GENEROUS DONATION

by Carol Hallett, Program Manager, THA-CERT

It is impossible for me to express my feelings about this community but I hope my smile tells part of the story. THA-CERT volunteers have been working hard on reorganizing and doing inventory of the trailer. We have built new shelving; some on wheels and some connected to the walls, but all are filled with tubs, marked, labeled and inventory adjusted in our master list. It allowed us to see some of the things that we were missing.



(Above) Nice tidy bins in our CERT trailer

I was so deeply touched...I told him we could find another way, but he said, "I already did it!". That is our community for you...you need something...it is already done! Thank you Chief Gamez!

I made a request to Linda Postma, our Fund Raising Coordinator, to see if she could ask a few key people in the community to see if they had some old, extra or left over scissors for our training supplies. I shared with her a few people that I would contact. She got a quick, "yes" from Chief Gamez; he was sure that they had some extras that he could share with his CERT team.

When he went to look for them he realized that the stash he thought he had was not around anymore...so he purchased the 25 medical scissors that we requested.



(Right) Scissor donation from Chief Gamez

WASHINGTON FIRE EVACUATION DEPLOYMENT

by Carol Hallett, Program Manager, THA-CERT

We received a request from OES via Chief Gamez at 2:30 pm on Thursday, August 26th, to get a team of ten to twenty people together to help with an evacuation center, as a response to the Washington Fire. The internet was down, as was the power, so we started quickly making phone calls.

Lise Lemonnier and I split the list and we contacted our volunteers. Within minutes we had a group of people ready to deploy. By 3:00 the Office of Emergency Services (my contact was Steve Boyak) requested that we report to Tuolumne Memorial Hall to help Red Cross to set up a Temporary Evacuation Point (TEP). We had eight volunteers at the Hall by 3:17, with two others on call. No one was at the hall. We waited for others to show up and asked our standby volunteers to wait.

The hall was opened up by the Veterans-VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars). They organized not only the use of the hall but also had a member, Vice Chair Jill Main-Paterson, there 24/7 for security and she also cooked dinner for everyone that first night.

They supplied water, sodas, and snacks for us to hand out. Each day we had anywhere from one to four veterans there to ensure that we had support and security for everyone; such an awesome group of people.



(Above)Lise Lemonnier helps set up Evacuation Center

Red Cross was in charge of the evacuation center. They have their rules and requirements to run the center, but as they arrived they did not have any of their supplies. As the Red Cross Leader, Larry Warnick, called for support, THA-CERT welcomed the evacuees to the hall. THA-CERT brought our Fire Fighter Rehab Vehicle so that we would have some supplies, which were utilized (water, bandages, hand sanitizer, masks etc). Evacuees showed up in cabs, Dial-a-ride buses, and community members just driving people away from the fire to safety.

Each person was greeted, names were taken, and then they were brought inside by a THA-CERT volunteer to a chair and offered water (which was all we had to start). It was amazing to see how many people just had to run from their homes without anything but themselves.

We had several people who had health issues, two who were in wheel chairs (one of whom was brought to us in an ambulance) and who had wounds that needed to be tended. We called OES for support.

WASHINGTON FIRE EVACUATION, con'd

They sent an amazing group of people from Disability Resources Agency for Independent Living in Modesto. DRAIL is a non-profit corporation that is community based. They help to increase the independence of people with disabilities by empowering them to improve their quality of life. They sent out about 7 volunteers to help assess that the Hall could be set up to ensure the safety of anyone that needed it. I was very impressed with this very professional organization.

Eventually, DRAIL had to leave and OES sent nurses from Public Health. We had coverage around the clock. Thank you to Betty Axiak, Amanda Bruner, and Amberly Hall.

OES decided that we needed to have an overnight shelter so we turned the TEP into an evacuation center to house evacuees. A Me-Wuk security truck showed up to deliver 6 beds, blankets, toilet paper and water.

(Below) Matt Kain and Mike Mandell set up cots in the Evacuation Center in Tuolumne Veterans Hall



pulled together to take care of each other.

CERT members get ready to assist at the Evacuation Center in Tuolumne (from Left) Bob Schreiner, Carol Hallett, Matt Kain, Mike Mandell, Mary Schreiner, Lise Lemonnier



(Above) Lise Lemonnier and Matt Kain tape off sleeping spaces

A Red Cross trailer showed up with additional supplies (cots, blankets, water, snacks).

Red Cross asked CERT to set up space in the gym for people to sleep. Our team got busy taping out 10x11 spaces according to Red Cross request. We did not have enough tape so we just measured out the proper distance and set up cots with blankets. We had people sleeping inside the hall, in their cars (with their pets) and in the park. It was amazing to see how everyone



UAS NEWS

by Michelle Wagner, UAS Unit Leader, THA-CERT

Our unit had a pretty quiet month. We continue to prepare ourselves and our equipment for when we are called upon. To that end, Doug Simmons and I spent a couple hours doing something we don't normally do, and that is fly in tandem. We started out just to practice flying in proximity to each other.

But we discovered a side benefit. The prop wash created by our larger aircraft pushed our smaller aircraft around. This allowed us to practice flying windy conditions. Who would have thought?

We put our tandem flying skills to the test, this time with Doug Simmons and Ben Wagner at the controls. We were asked to perform a "flyby" at the Bocce Ball dedication to honor THCS Board member Jim Johnson, who passed away. Ben and Doug represented our Unit and our CERT team well. Thank you very much, Gentlemen!

We will continue to come up with creative ways to train so we keep our skills sharp. You never know what unexpected side benefits may result!

WHAT'S NEXT?

Here are some of the local events you can look forward to in the next couple of months:

September 11th

Saturday, September 11, 2021, at 0911 hours.

Please join us at the Tuolumne Memorial Hall for free BBQ, music, family friendly bounce house, and corn hole tournament. Hosted by VFW.

49er Festival

Saturday, September 18th, Groveland

Groveland's Annual 49er Festival and Chili Cookoff, Vendors, Parade, Beard and Costume Contests

Twain Harte Mountain Air Market

Thursdays, Eproson Park, 4 pm - 7:30 pm

THA-CERT Monthly Meeting

Saturday, September 25, Twain Harte Community Center, 9 am - 12 pm

Tuolumne Public Health Drive Thru Flu Clinic, Sonora

Wednesday, October 6th, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sierra Bible Church, 15171 Tuolumne Road (at Standard), Sonora

Tuolumne Public Health Flu Clinic, Groveland

Mid-October, please check this space in next month's newsletter for date, time, and place.



(Above) The UAS flyover at the Bocce court dedication