

Newsletter



Southern California Association of Foresters & Fire Wardens

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

2016-2017

OFFICERS

President Vaughan Miller—VNC
First Vice President Dan Snow—BDF
Second Vice Pres.— Kurt Zingheim—MVU
Secretary Tim Chavez—RRU
Treasurer Dave Witt—KRN

DIRECTORS

Kevin Johnson—LAC
Troy Whitman—SCE
Nathan Judy—ANF
Phil Johnson—ORC
Tim Ernst—LFD
Ron Janssen—BDU
Chris Childers - SBC
Dan Johnson—CSR
Dave Fowler—SLU
Gary Helming—LPF
Stan Hill—CNF
Ed Shabro—Vendor Representative
Doug Lannon—Arrangements
Don Forsyth—Safety

We, the members of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens, do band together for the purpose of strengthening inter-agency cooperation, fire safety coordination, and fellowship.

Below— Valley Fire Presenters at the 2016 Conference



**An Association dedicated to the
Training and Safety of Southern
California Wildland Firefighters
for over 85 years.**



Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens
Feb. 3, 2017, Dana Point, California

Fire Whirls

From President Vaughan Miller



Well, Southern California firefighters are coming out of the rainy, snowy La Nina of 2017. What a ride! Swiftwater rescues, mudslides, sinkholes, spillway erosion and trees fell down everywhere. Whew!

Now firefighters are looking forward to the coming Spring, Texas, Oklahoma are getting fires, they have been dry all winter. Snow melt and runoff, the green grasses and new ladder fuels (the ones we haven't seen in five years) will cure in our forests of stressed, bark-beetle infested trees. Sounds like a recipe for **'the worst fire season ever'**.....

Spring is gear-up and training season for wildland firefighters. Incident Management Team meetings, agencies refreshing their personnel, apparatus and equipment, seasonal reviews and forecasts, promotions, retirements all occur in the off season. It is also time for our annual conference for wildland firefighters.

The Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens has put together a training and safety conference for the last 86 years. Our goal is to support wildland firefighter safety and build networking relationships across agency lines. I can tell you that we are preparing a great conference for you with the best available presentations all at one inexpensive price. Lodging, meals and education all for \$125.00



Foresters and Fire Wardens was formed to support the line firefighters in their work. We give our experience readily so

that the next generation of firefighters has it better than we did. Take a look at the program we are planning, and join us in Pilgrim Pines May 4-5.





Above-747 Global Tanker in Chile– Below Badlands Fire RRU 2011



2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF FORESTERS AND FIRE WARDENS

The board of directors will begin working on the programs and speakers for the **87TH Annual Wildland Fire Training and Safety Conference** that will be held on **May 4 & 5, 2017** at **Camp Pilgrim Pines** in beautiful Oak Glen, California. This promises to be another exciting and informative conference and we look forward to seeing you back at Pilgrim Pines.



You can now go directly to our web site by scanning the QRC (quick response code) with your smart phone.



Foresters and Fire Wardens Contact Information
Mailing: SCAFFW c/o Tim Chavez 1550 E. 6th Street, Beaumont, CA 92223

E-mail: Tim.Chavez@fire.ca.gov
Web Site: www.scaffw.org



Cover Photo

Copper Fire ANF 2002



“Like” us on Facebook at
Foresters & Fire Wardens

Did you or are you thinking of changing your E-mail address? Please remember to contact the SCAFFW at SCAFFW@aol.com and let us know so we can send you your newsletters and other important information.



**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF FORESTERS AND FIRE WARDENS
87TH ANNUAL WILDLAND FIRE TRAINING AND SAFETY CONFERENCE.**

May 4 & 5, 2017

Check our web site for further information www.scaffw.org

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION
of FORESTERS & FIRE WARDENS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
February 3, 2017**



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING NOTES

The meeting of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens was called to order by President Miller at 0907 hours at Dana Point Marina Inn, Dana Conference room, California on Feb 3, 2017.

Officers and Directors Present:

Dan Snow – San Bernardino National Forest
Doug Lannon – Arrangements Chair
Phil Johnson – Orange County Fire Authority
Tim Ernst – Los Angeles Fire Dept.
Troy Whitman – Southern California Edison
David Witt – Kern County Fire Dept.
Kurt Zingheim – CAL FIRE – San Diego County
Vaughan Miller – Ventura County Fire Dept.
Tim Chavez – CAL FIRE – Riverside County
Chris Childers – Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.
Ed Shabro – Vendor Representative
Kevin Johnson – Los Angeles County Fire Dept.

Officers and Directors Absent:

Dan Johnson – CAL FIRE – Southern Region
Bart Kicklighter – Sequoia National Forest
Nathan Judy – Angeles National Forest
Ron Jansen – CAL FIRE – San Bernardino Co.

Guests:

Darryl Felgar- San Bernardino Co. Fire Dept.
Jarrod Dowden- San Bernardino Co. Fire Dept.
Trevor Johnson- Ventura County Fire Dept.

Minutes: The minutes for the Dec 2nd, 2016 meeting were presented for approval. Motion to approve the minutes by Director Whitman, Seconded by Director Witt. Passed unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report was presented for approval. Director/Treasurer Witt. Director Witt advised only one check had been written for the website. Soon the check will need to be sent for Pilgrim Pines. A discussion occurred regarding insurance needs. The carrier has advised that the cost will be \$191 this year. Last year was \$301. An additional condition by the insurance company was that if adult beverages are served, it must be by a licensed distributor, which will be an additional cost. In the past, we have had a truck by a vendor at the conference. We have always gotten a pass since we have Peace Officers and a presentation by CHP at the conference. We may be able to arrange a vendor or get our own license/1 day permit through ABC. Director Whitman advised that he had to hire a vendor for a wedding for \$300. Insurance vendor advised to have our organization under the servers license. Discus-

sion whether it was more a Treasurer function or Arrangements Chair or Entertainment Chair function. Director Lannon advised he would research and come back at the next meeting.

Director Witt advised the Taxes have been filed and the Square Account has not yet been purchased. Still figuring out Paypal. Motion to Approve the Treasurers report by Director Ernst, seconded by Director Childers. Approved unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Arrangements: Chairman Lannon reported that Camp Pilgrim Pines had some damage from the recent storms. Thanks to Oak Glen Conservation Camp they were able to recover. The building that is on stilts had some rot and the stilts have been repaired. The A/V system has improved. They now have two wireless mics and two headsets. The Kitchen has reviewed some of the evaluations from last year's conference regarding the food. Overall the buildings are in shape. Denise at Laws Coffee Shop is ready for the Directors Dinner, it will still be \$15 and the menu will be either Tri Tip, Chicken or Salmon-with pie alamo. \$20 was suggested so that the tip would be included. VNC has two vans available for the conference. The Crew was discussed and Director Johnson said LA County Camp crew would be available. WIFI was discussed regarding access for the Registration. A back-up of a phone hotspot from Director Snow will be available.

Program: To be handled later in the agenda

Exhibits and Demonstrations: Director Zingheim reported that he will be attending Firehouse World next week in San Diego and will attempt to recruit some vendors. A plan for a tent was discussed in case of inclement weather and the flow of the crowd will be managed so they file by the vendors. Director Zingheim suggested once the vendors are confirmed that we could add their logos to the flyers and advertisements. Trevor Johnson suggested another gear oriented survey of equipment and after discussion it was suggested maybe a survey of safety gear would be good to see what agencies are using for PPE. An open invitation was extended to all agencies for new apparatus for display. A discussion of raising the vendor fee or leaving it the same resulted in proposing \$150. A link on the web page for vendors to pay their fee will be proposed to the Webmaster. A motion was made by Director Lannon to raise the vendor fee to \$150. Seconded by Director Zingheim. Passed unanimous.

Registration and Membership: Director Phil Johnson reported that Larry Kurtz is working on converting eventually to online registration. We will use the same program for registration this year as we did last year. WIFI reception in the registration room is an issue.

Entertainment and Raffle: Director Ernst reported that the Directors raffle contributions are welcome starting now. A disbursement of \$500 to get the raffle going was proposed. Motion by Director Snow seconded by Director Childers. Passed unanimous.

Publicity: Director Judy was absent

Historian: Historian Whitman has nothing to report. He is always looking for old things F & FW related.

Safety: Chairman Forsyth was absent but by email stated he had nothing new to report.

Golf: Director Snow reported that the contract was signed, President Vaughan advised Director Whitman is banned from winning. The flyer is ready.

Newsletter: Director/Secretary Chavez said he would do his best to get the newsletter out soon.

Old Business: Motion by Director Ernst to authorize \$75 to send flowers to Director Helming who has two new babies in the hospital. Seconded by Director Chavez. Motion passed unanimous.

Directors shirts: Director Snow has catalog for new Directors shirts. Dri-fit shirt preferred. Color a shade of green and logo was discussed and an informal poll was taken debating the "1930" logo, the small tree logo or the large circle tree logo. Small tree logo with a smaller "Established 1930" was the choice of most Directors. Moved by Director Ernst, second by Director Johnson to have a new shirt for the 2017 Conference.

Second Vice President- Bart Kicklighter is not able to fulfill his duties. The director should be from a forest agency. Director Judy is not present, Director Helming is busy with new babies, Cleveland and Sequoia Forest do not have a representative on the board. Director Snow appears to be the only option. Motion Director Lannon, Second Director Chavez to have Snow be the Second VP until Kicklighters situation is clear. Motion carried unanimous. A discussion of succession after the May conference concluded the topic.

Program: Director Ernst led the discussion on the program. Program development notes will be in an attachment. The program will solidify around 3/1, any subsequent contacts need to be made before then.

Life Membership Recommendations: None at this time.

New Business:

Give away item for conference: Director Ernst suggested that it has been a while since we gave away coffee mugs. Green mugs with white logo was determined to be the style. Motion by Director Witt to expend up to \$1500 for coffee mugs was seconded by Director Zingheim. Passed unanimous.

The Board of Directors meeting schedule for 2016-2017 is:

- April 7, 2017 – Santa Barbara County
- May 3, 2017 – Camp Pilgrim Pines

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens will be held April 7, 2017 in Santa Barbara County, California. Director Childers will notify every one of the arrangements.

The meeting was adjourned at 1200.

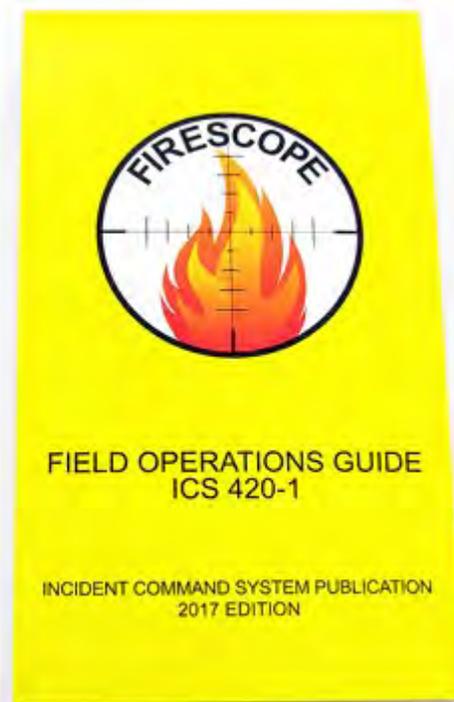
Respectfully submitted,
Tim Chavez,
Association Secretary



FIRESCOPE Field Operations Guide

The latest version of the FIRESCOPE Field Operations Guide is available for purchase at the FIRESCOPE web page: <http://www.firescope.org/fog-order-info.php> .

The 2017 Field Operations Guide was released in March and has many updated and additional material that is essential to safe and organized operations on wildfires and other all-risk incidents., including hazmats, multi-casualty, etc.



Where you go to help you know; wildland fire mobile apps cheat sheet.

Alaska Fire Service

July 28, 2016 – These days, a world of information is at our fingertips. Here's a list of mobile applications widely used within the fire and aviation management community. The cheat sheet, provided through the [Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center](#), is based off of feedback and field information from pilots over the past year. It's consolidated into general categories – most commonly occurring and relevant – to those working in the wildland fire management world. The intent of this cheat sheet is to provide a starting point for employees using mobile tech, primarily through applications and devices, in fire.

This is not an all inclusive list and there may be more out there that may be beneficial for specific users.

Do you see one that is not on this list?

Collector [ESRI, Collector for ArcGIS](#) iOS, Android, Windows 10 Offline collecting and updating of data in the field that works with ArcGIS Online. IMTs will be using this increasingly during fire season for incident data collection and maps.

Avenza PDF Maps [PDF Maps website](#) iOS, Android Geospatial PDF, GeoPDF and GeoTIFF reader. Easily downloads, browses and interacts with maps. Formats supported by ArcGIS. Ability to geotag photos, mark waypoints, export, etc. Available offline.

Topo Maps [USGS topographic Maps on iPhone and iPad](#) iOS Downloadable USGS Topo-Maps and many features available such as waypoint marking, distances, navigation, etc.

GIS Pro by Grafata [GIS Pro on iTunes for iPhone and iPad](#) iOS Downloadable map tiles and ability to create features while collecting data. Easy import and export via iTunes or email – of KMLs and SHP files. Available offline.

Glympse [Glympse an app to Share location information](#) iOS, Windows, Android Location sharing in real-time

ForeFlight [Foreflight, Intelligence mapping for pilots](#) iOS Intelligence mapping for pilots. Features hazards, track up, terrain maps, runway centerlines and traffic patterns. Also provides documents for Flight Ops. Yearly subscription cost.

Gaia GPS- Offline Topo Maps [GAIA GPS, Downloadable topo maps](#) iOS, Android Downloadable topo maps, offline caching availability.

*GAIA is free for [firefighters](#).

You Need A Map [iTunes Various Maps of the USA](#) iOS Large US map. Data is based on US Census and OpenStreetMap.org. Large file 2GB. Good quality topo with roads included.

Aero Weather Lite [Lakehorn, AeroWeather Pro](#) iOS Current weather conditions and forecasts for pilots. Also contains searchable database.

Darksky [Dark Sky, Source of Hyperlocal Weather](#) iOS, Android Dark Sky is the most accurate source of hyperlocal weather information. With down-to-the-minute forecasts, you'll know exactly when the rain will start or stop, right where you're standing.

Sunrise [Sunrise/Sunset Calculator](#) iOS Simple sunrise/sunset times automatically selected based on your lat/long location. Can operate on an iTouch and offline.

My Radar [NOAA Customizable Animated Radar](#) iOS, Android Animated weather radar around your current location. Option to receive weather warnings and alerts.

Wundermap [Weather Underground Customizable weather](#) iOS, Android Displays weather at your current location.

Google Applications (Drive, Docs, etc)

Google Mobile

iTunes App Preview Android, iOS

DoForms DoForm, Mobile form builder Android, iOS

Evernote EveryNote Android, iOS

Notability Notability, Note taking on Mobile device iOS

Theodolite Theodolite on iTunes

(Theodolite lets you take geo-tagged camera images, screenshots, movies, and screen movies directly from the app, with 2X and 4X digital zoom and fast buffered saves. You can choose to overlay geographical data, time, date, and custom notes directly on photos and movies.) iOS

Incident Command Table Table Command Homepage iOS, Android

MS Office Apps Microsoft WORD on iTunes iOS, Android,

Fire Weather Calculator Fire Weather Calculator on Google Play

Fire Weather Calculator on iTunes iOS, Android
Calculation of RH, FDFM, and PIG. Archiving of weather obs. Attach pics and share.

WildFire Info http://www.firewhat.com/app/ **NOT ACTIVE** iOS Incident information including fire perimeters

Wildland Toolkit Peakview, Wildland Toolkit iOS Fire behavior checklists and calculations as well as IRPG safety checklists.

Application Website Operating Systems Description

AndFTP AndPDF for FTP Clients Android FTP client to use when accessing the NIFC FTP site (the official interagency repository for incident data)

Perfect Reader Perfect Reader Pro – PDF and Document Reader iOS PDF Reader, annotator and file converter

DropBox Dropbox, Mobile File Storage App iOS, Android, Blackberry Cloud storage

FTPClient Pro FTP Client Pro on iTunes iOS
FTP client when accessing the NIFC FTP site (the official interagency repository for incident data)

QR Reader Tape Media QR Code Reader iOS, Android Scans QR codes

Social Media Official Twitter / Facebook pages iOS, Android, Blackberry, Windows, Nokia
Social media apps, track real time info, follow IMTs, Crews, Dispatch Centers, GACCS, etc.



Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and the Rim Fire: Lessons Learned from the IMT By Josh McDaniel

Winter 2014

Firefighters on the 2013 Rim Fire were aided by a new tool in the firefighting toolkit, MQ-1 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) – commonly known as Predator drones. On the Rim Fire, the UAVs proved particularly effective for perimeter and spot fire detection. Fire managers on the Rim Fire say that the UAVs also have potential application in a wide range of missions related to communications, crew safety, and night

ops. According to Mike Wilkins, Incident Commander (IC) for the Southern Area Blue Team, the



Predator quickly demonstrated its value on one of its first flights, picking up a critical spot fire that had developed between a handline and a drainage that could have quickly resulted in fire spread into a populated area. “The biggest benefit of the UAV is that it gives you another set of eyes,” says Wilkins. “You can look at different parts of the fire real-time, instead of having to rely on IR [infrared] data that may be eight hours old.” There have been some small experiments with UAVs in the past; however, the Rim Fire was the first and most significant deployment of these types of aircraft on a major U.S. fire. Lessons learned on the Rim Fire could point the way to how these assets are used on future fires.

On the Rim Fire, the UAV was supported by the California Army National Guard J-6 Emergency Communications and Air Na-

tional Guard 163d Reconnaissance Wing. Only the military crewmembers operated the aircraft, and they provided the IMT with imagery to support operations and planning. Marc Hafner, Situation Unit Leader with CALFIRE, served as the primary liaison between the UAV crew and the IMT. He says that the military personnel were not experienced at assessing fire behavior and were not familiar with identifying significant events on the fire, however, working closely with a FBAN (Fire Behavior Analyst), they were able to provide valuable streams of information, especially in perimeter detection. “With just a couple of keystrokes they could look real time at anything we wanted to look at,” says Hafner.

On the Rim Fire, the UAV flew the following types of missions:

- ◆ Reconnaissance and monitoring during burnouts
- ◆ Reconnaissance following IR (fixed-wing line scanner flights) to verify hotspots outside the fire perimeter
- ◆ Reconnaissance of known spot fires (verification of both location and size)
- ◆ Fire perimeter mapping during daytime hours
- ◆ Real-time observation of structures immediately after crews had backfired and pulled out of the area
- ◆ Ad hoc tasking to verify fire had not overrun structures reported as threatened
- ◆ Completed a VHF communication check on Air-to-Ground Tac between the UAV and Incident Communications
- ◆ Enabled digital information exchange with reduced time for information flow from sensor to action

See the rest of the article on the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Site

