

# Newsletter



## Southern California Association of Foresters & Fire Wardens

### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

2015-2016

#### OFFICERS

President Steve Reeder—SLU  
First Vice President Vaughan Miller—VNC  
Second Vice Pres.— Bart Kicklighter—SQF  
Secretary Gordon Martin—CNF  
Treasurer David Leininger—LAC retired

#### DIRECTORS

Dan Snow—BDF  
Kevin Johnson—LAC  
Robert Michael—RRU  
Troy Whitman—SCE  
Nathan Judy—ANF  
Kurt Zingheim—MVU  
Ken Cruz—ORC  
Dave Witt—KRN  
Tim Ernst—LFD  
Ron Janssen—BDU  
Chris Childers - SBC  
Dan Johnson—CSR  
Ed Shabro—Vendor Representative  
Paul H. Rippens—Newsletter Editor  
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.*



**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  
May 6 & May 8, 2015, Irvine Ranch, California

## Fire Whirls

*From President Steve Reeder*



For the next year, it will be my pleasurer to serve the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens as president. This is not a job that I or any of those that have proceeded me take lightly. We have the daunting task of trying to provide current, up-to-date

programs that are not only interesting but also informative to meet the training portion of the conference. Sometimes things don't work out as planned or the speaker is not quite as dynamic as we wanted them to be, but all the members of the Board of Directors do everything they can to provide our members with a quality conference.

In December, we will meet to begin the process of selecting the programs for the 2016 conference. Board members will bring their suggestions and we will discuss these ideas and select programs we think you will like and will help you in your job as a wildland firefighter. If you have any ideas for programs, please contact your director (names are listed on page 1 of this newsletter) and ask them to bring your suggestions to the meeting.

As this article is written, fire season is well underway in California. We've already had a 30,000+ acre fire on the San Bernardino National Forest and numerous fires in just about the entire state. After five years of drought the forests are dry and ready to burn. There is little that be done about the situation except increase the fire prevention messages and be prepared for what

could be an unprecedented fire season. The most important issue is that we all do our jobs, protect lives and property, are return home safely.

If you attended the 2015 conference in May, you listened to three programs that covered incidents involving the loss of firefighters and the near miss that two others experienced. These programs, the Yarnell Incident; the Beaver Fire Shelter Deployment; and the King Fire Near Miss were extremely interesting to listen to and gave those attending an idea of how quickly things can change and how fast one can find them self in a life threating situation. If you were unable to attend our conference and hear these programs, I suggest that you research these incidents and read about what happened and how the firefighters involved in the Beaver Fire Shelter Deployment and the King Fire Near Miss were about to make it through these situations.

After three years of holding our annual conference at the Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center in Orange County, we have been informed by the center that they will no longer be able to accommodate our dates and that we will need to find another venue for our conference. While disappointing, it does provide us the opportunity to return to Camp Pilgrim Pines in Oak Glenn. For many of our members who attend the conference every year, the move from Pilgrim Pines was disappointing. We are pleased to be returning to this beautiful mountain setting. I hope to see many of you there on May 5 & 6, 2016 for the 86th Annual Conference of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens.





## 2016 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 **86TH Annual Wildland Fire Training and Safety Conference** that will be held on **May 5 & 6, 2016** 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.



Foresters and Fire Wardens Contact Information

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1147 E. 6th Street, Corona, CA 92879

**E-mail:** SCAFFW@aol.com  
**Web Site:** www.scaffw.org



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



### Cover Photo

*We do not have any information on this photograph.*



**“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  
86TH ANNUAL WILDLAND FIRE  
TRAINING AND SAFETY CONFERENCE.**

# May 5 & 6, 2016

Check our web site for further information [www.scaffw.org](http://www.scaffw.org)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION  
of FORESTERS & FIRE WARDENS  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
May 6, 2015**



The meeting of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens was called to order by President Dan Snow at 1600 hours at the Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center, Orange County, California on May 6, 2015. Director Cruz introduced Chief Jeff Bowman of the Orange County Fire Authority who welcomed us to the County and wished us well with the conference.

**Officers and Directors Present:**

Dan Snow – San Bernardino National Forest  
Gordon Martin – Cleveland National Forest.  
David Leininger – Treasurer  
Bart Kicklighter – Sequoia National Forest  
Doug Lannon – Arrangements Chair  
Kevin Johnson – Los Angeles County Fire Dept.  
Ken Cruz – Orange County Fire Authority  
Tim Ernst – Los Angeles Fire Dept.  
Paul H. Rippens – Newsletter Editor  
Nathan Judy – Angeles National Forest  
Troy Whitman – Southern California Edison  
Don Forsyth – Safety Chair  
David Witt – Kern County Fire Dept.  
Kurt Zingheim – CAL FIRE – San Diego County  
Ed Shabro – Vendor Representative  
Robert Michael – CAL FIRE – Riverside County

**Officers and Directors Absent:**

Steve Reeder – CAL FIRE – San Luis Obispo Co.  
Chris Childers – Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.  
Vaughan Miller – Ventura County Fire Dept.  
Ron Jansen – CAL FIRE – San Bernardino Co.

**Guests:**

Trevor Johnson – Member, VNC  
Tom Browning – Speaker  
David Allen – Member, CAL FIRE – San Diego County  
Anthony Caezza – Life Member, VNC, Retired  
Larry Kurtz – Member, OCA  
Rod Megli – Life Member, Past President, VNC  
Corey Rose – Speaker, Los Angeles Fire Department  
Matthew Gurrola – Member, VNC

**Minutes:** President Snow presented the minutes of the April 9, 2015 meeting. A motion was made by Director Whitman seconded by Treasurer Leininger, to approve the minutes. The motion was approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Leininger presented his report covering April 9, 2015 to May 6, 2015.

Balance as of 4-9-2015	\$24,364.93
Receipts:	
Dues and Conference Registration	\$9,026.16
Total Receipts:	\$9,026.16
Disbursements:	
Tim Ernst (Raffle)	\$500.00
Jim Bunte (Website Maintenance)	\$300.00
Quality Instant Printing (250 History Books)	\$1,922.76
Total Disbursements:	\$2,722.76
Balance on hand:	\$30,668.33
Last year at this time:	\$34,420.56

Motion by Director Ernst, second by Director Witt to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. The motion was approved.

**Committee Reports:**

**Arrangements:** Chairman Lannon reported that it has been a busy couple of days. The round tables are gone so we have had to make do with the rectangular tables but, there should be room for everyone. The menu is set and we have the upgraded meals for Thursday lunch and dinner. We have adjusted the number of meals that we are paying for to be more in line with the numbers that we saw last year. They have seen 17 rattlesnakes so far this year, so watch out.

**Program:** President Snow went over the program to ensure that we were ready for the Conference. Director Cruz reported that we were only able to get color guard members from the OCFA but they also have their Pipe and Drum corps. We will honor the CAL FIRE pilot who died this past year at the bell ceremony. President Snow will present the proposed by-law amendment to the membership just before he introduces the Program Chair. All presentations and speakers are confirmed except for Jim Snow Jr. who is unable to attend but Corey Rose will continue with the presentation.

**Exhibits and Demonstrations:** Vendor Representative Shabro reported that we have 10 vendors confirmed with 2 others possible. Two of the vendors need electric. Member Johnson reported that the displays of the antique fire apparatus and the hose packs were ready to go.

**Registration and Membership:** Director Cruz thanked Member Kurtz for setting things up, and reported that we are ready for tomorrow.

**Entertainment and Raffle:** Director Ernst reported that the giveaway T-shirts are ready. He also reported that the polo shirts for the Directors were miss-printed and all of them came with the logo on the back. The company is not going to charge us for those shirts. He

asked some of the younger people in his department and talked to Member Johnson and got ideas for raffle prizes and then took the money he had and bought prizes with those suggestions in mind. Any of the other Directors that have their donated prizes can bring them tomorrow to the raffle area.

**Publicity:** Director Judy reported that we have been publicized.

**Historian:** Historian Whitman reported that he has his camera. He has pictures of the golf tournament and will be posting those.

**Safety:** Chairman Forsyth stated that we will have two CHP officers tomorrow to give the safety speech. As a reminder we will not have paramedics on standby at the Conference since we are close to regular emergency services.

**Golf:** Director Snow reported that the golf tournament went well and that we had 79 golfers out of 80 paid. The team of Whitman, *et al* finished at 13 under par and took the tourney.

**Newsletter:** Editor Rippens thanked Secretary Martin for getting him the notes from the last meeting promptly. He reported the he and Treasurer Leininger had taken the webmaster out to lunch and presented him with the check from the Association to thank him for all of his work. Treasurer Leininger reported on the attempt to fix the online registration so that someone could register multiple people and we could capture the names. He made a proposal that the Board approve up to \$100 to purchase a program that will allow multiple names to be registered on the website next year. The motion was seconded by Secretary Martin and the motion passed.

**Old Business:** We have a site reserved at Camp Pilgrim Pines for next year but we should all look around for other suitable locations and bring those to the December meeting.

**Life Membership Recommendations:** There were no Life Member recommendations.

**New Business:** Treasurer Leininger nominated Director Kicklighter for the position of Second Vice President; the motion was seconded by Director Whitman. The motion passed.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens will be held at 1400, May 8, 2015 at the IROEC, Orange County, CA.

The meeting was adjourned at 1704.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gordon P. Martin, Association Secretary



**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION  
of FORESTERS & FIRE WARDENS  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
May 8, 2015**



The meeting of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens was called to order by President Steve Reeder at 1329 hours at the Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center, Orange County, California on May 8, 2015.

**Officers and Directors Present:**

Dan Snow – San Bernardino National Forest  
Gordon Martin – Cleveland National Forest.  
David Leininger – Treasurer  
Bart Kicklighter – Sequoia National Forest  
Doug Lannon – Arrangements Chair  
Kevin Johnson – Los Angeles County Fire Dept.  
Ken Cruz – Orange County Fire Authority  
Steve Reeder – CAL FIRE – San Luis Obispo Co.  
Chris Childers – Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.  
Tim Ernst – Los Angeles Fire Dept.  
Paul H. Rippens – Newsletter Editor  
Nathan Judy – Angeles National Forest  
Troy Whitman – Southern California Edison  
Don Forsyth – Safety Chair  
Kurt Zingheim – CAL FIRE – San Diego County  
Ron Jansen – CAL FIRE – San Bernardino Co.  
Vaughan Miller – Ventura County Fire Dept.  
Robert Michael – CAL FIRE – Riverside County

**Officers and Directors Absent:**

David Witt – Kern County Fire Dept.  
Ed Shabro – Vendor Representative

**Guests:**

Trevor Johnson – Member, VNC  
David Allen – Member, CAL FIRE – San Diego County  
Anthony Caezza – Life Member, VNC, Retired  
Larry Kurtz – Member, ORC

**Minutes:** The minutes for the May 6, 2015 meeting will be presented for approval at the December meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report will be presented for approval at the December meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

**Arrangements:** Chairman Lannon reported that everything went well. The crew policed the compound and everything was spotless outside of one remaining full beverage container. President Reeder thanked Chairman Lannon for all of his hard work.

**Program:** First Vice President Miller asked if there was any feedback from this year's conference. Director Martin reported that the group from the Cleveland had expressed an interest in a dynamic leadership

Presentation such as we had last year from FDNY. Director Ernst raised the question of how we can ensure that the speakers are prepared. After a discussion, it was decided that the contact person for the speaker would be responsible for making sure that the presentation is on target. First Vice President Miller requested that everyone come to the December meeting with the names of speakers that they have already vetted.

**Exhibits and Demonstrations:** Second Vice President Kicklighter reported that Vendor Representative Shabro will be staying on and that he would be in contact with him.

**Registration and Membership:** Director Cruz reported that once we had things up and running things went well. However the room was opened before he was ready. We ended up with 165 registered attendees.

**Entertainment and Raffle:** Director Ernst reported that we had \$950 in raffle sales through registration for a total of \$3,994 in raffle sales. Bingo made \$1,124.

**Publicity:** Director Judy stated the sooner that we can get the speakers confirmed for next year the better it is from a publicity standpoint. Safety Officer Forsythe reported that Randy Marsile, the president of the Orange County Fire Service Association and SCAFFW Member, publishes a quarterly magazine and would like to do an article on the Association.

**Historian:** Historian Whitman stated that he would be posting the pictures to a drop box site.

**Safety:** Chairman Forsyth reported that the conference was safe.

**Golf:** Director Snow stated they are slated to go for next year.

**Newsletter:** Editor Rippens reported that we will be getting the next newsletter out soon.

**Old Business:** There was no old business.

**Life Membership Recommendations:** There were no Life Member recommendations.

**New Business:** President Reeder put forward a slate of Association Officers:

- Dave Leininger – Association Treasurer
- Gordon Martin – Association Secretary
- Ken Cruz – Membership and Registration Chairman
- Tim Ernst – Entertainment and Raffle Chairman
- Doug Lannon –Arrangements Chairman
- Paul Rippens – Newsletter Editor
- Ed Shabro – Vendor Representative
- Don Forsyth Safety Chairman
- Nathan Judy – Publicity Chairman
- Troy Whitman—Historian
- Dan Snow—Golf

A motion to approve the slate as proposed was made by First Vice President Miller and seconded by Second Vice President Kicklighter. The motion passed. The Board of Directors meeting schedule for 2015-2016 is:

- December 4, 2015—Bakersfield
- February 5, 2016—San Diego County
- April 1, 2016—San Luis Obispo County
- May 4, 2016—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 December 4, 2015 in Bakersfield, California

The meeting was adjourned at 1403 hours.

Respectfully submitted  
Gordon P. Martin, Association Secretary

### 2015 Conference photos





Chief Kim Zagaris - Cal OES



Mike Rohde



Kelley Gouette—CAL FIRE Retired



Johnna Holeman



CHP Officers Safety Message



Bill Clayton



L to R: Ben Culp, LFD; Chad Cook, MC, VNC;  
Ty Baker, LFD



After a three year absence, the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens will once again hold their annual conference at Camp Pilgrim Pines in beautiful Oak Glen. We've sure enjoyed the facilities at the Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center, however they can no longer accommodate our conference schedule.

Pilgrim Pines has recovered from the economic downturn and has began a program of updating the camp starting with their water and sewage systems. Updates on the buildings are in the near future which will make the site more comfortable for us to hold our conference.



We're aware that many of our members have missed being at Pilgrim Pines and we look forward to returning there on **May 5 & 6, 2016** for our 86th Annual Wildland Fire Training and Safety Conference. We hope you'll share our enthusiasm in returning to Oak Glen and will mark your calendar and plan on attending our upcoming conference.



John Truett, USFS



Rob Kron, USFS



Tom Browning



Mark Ingram, USFS



Corey Rose, LFD



Fred Burris, VNC & Matthew Gurrola