

Plumas Eureka Fire Department
Fire Chief's Report
For September 9, 2015
By Tom Forster



Personnel: No changes in personnel, recruiting continues.

Equipment: All-Star Fire Equipment tested Our Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), during a period of time when they also tested numerous other local FD's including Graeagle. This testing is for proper functioning of the units themselves, not the annual firefighter 'fit testing' required by OSHA. All passed after several repairs were made. Thanks to Craig Fox for working with the All-Star technician.

Fire Prevention and Ordinance Recommendations: Tom and Dave Stone will have a draft of the recommended changes for 2016 at the October meeting.

PECAUX: Special thanks to Larry and Renee Walker for their hard work on the breakfast last Saturday, along with all of the other PECAUX volunteers and the firefighters who helped – Rich, Craig, Jenni, Jeff, John, Bill, and Tom. The event was very successful, and we look forward to the next one in about eight months.



Training Schedule: The joint training schedule for August-December was finalized, although September specifics are being moved around due to the late planning for an open house at the new Graeagle Station 2 at Whitehawk Ranch on Saturday, September 26.

PCFCA: The 3rd Quarter meeting for the Plumas County Fire Chiefs Association has been rescheduled for Saturday, October 3 in Graeagle. Tom serves as the Secretary/Treasurer, and Graeagle Chief Ed Ward is the President.

Weekend National Fire Academy Class: Tom is coordinating a second weekend class from the National Fire Academy, titled “New Fire Chief: Challenging Issues”. This is another special outreach class offered from the National Fire Academy, sponsored by California State Fire Training and the Plumas County Fire Chiefs Association, and hosted by the Quincy FPD on the weekend of November 21-22. This is targeted towards not only new fire chiefs, but also other Chiefs and officers in general.

Firewise Communities DRAFT Report Completed: Nils Lunder has issued a third draft report that will be finalized shortly if there are no further changes.

Lost Sierra Hoedown: Asst. Chief Bill Robinson will be coordinating Emergency Medical Services coverage for this 4-day music and camping event to be held in late September at the Ski Bowl in Plumas Eureka State Park. This is volunteer EMS standby with at least two providers. Last year several FD’s helped provide coverage.

National Fire Academy Class “21st Century Training for Fire and EMS”: Tom completed this 6-day class at the National Fire Academy August 15-22 (two additional travel days.) This was at no cost to the FD. FEMA reimburses airfare, provides lodging, shuttle, and all class materials. Tom was responsible for his food

for the week, luggage costs, an unexpected hotel overnight in Dallas Fort Worth when the second leg of his flight on Saturday the 15th was cancelled to WA DC (got there a day late along with eight other students – all inbound high altitude flights to east coast airports were cancelled due to an FAA computer problem), and incidental expenses.

His project for the class was to plan how best to incorporate online training opportunities with hands-on, for both our local training and the Quincy Fire Academy. Modern teaching concepts like “Flipped Learning” and “Student Centered Learning” were also studied. This will be incorporated into the training schedule next year and for the 2016 Quincy Fire Academy.

