

Aspendell South Fork Volunteer Fire Department
Tax ID #61-1730953, a 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable non-profit organization

FALL NEWSLETTER - November 2014

As a brilliant "Fall color" season is nearing its end, we want to thank you for your past support and report on our ongoing efforts to establish, equip and train our volunteer fire department and its volunteer firefighters. With your assistance, much has been accomplished. As you will read, much also remains to be done and we hope for and will greatly value your continuing support.

ASFRA/ASFVFD Organizations: On the organizational front, we just received word from the IRS that ***both*** the Aspendell South Fork Residents Association (ASFRA) **and** the Aspendell South Fork Volunteer Fire Department (ASFVFD) **organizations have received IRS 501(c)(3) tax exempt status** (effective July 9 and September 9 of 2013 respectively). Our ASFRA and ASFVFD tax-exempt letters are posted at: http://asfra.net/IRS_exempt_letter.pdf. You'll recall that ASFRA was the predecessor to ASFVFD. As of the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2014), ASFRA had transferred all of its assets to the newly formed incorporated ASFVFD.

Training: In the latter part of August, we hosted focused training for our **current roster of 7 volunteer fire fighters** and ASFVFD Board members led by a State Fire Marshal certified trainer who provided both "classroom" and hands-on training. The training, which was funded by your contributions, was excellent. We obtained very useful knowledge about firefighting, fire prevention and safety and the operation and use of our engine. The trainer also gave us extensive and practical advice about what we need to do to become an effective firefighting force, including the need to establish lines of communication with other local firefighting agencies such as CalFire, the Bishop Volunteer Fire Department and the US Forest Service, and where we might be able to obtain surplus equipment.

Equipment: With the funds made available to date through your generous donations, we have continued to purchase necessary equipment, including Nomex wildland fire fighting jump suits, helmets and neck shields, nozzles, etc. We are also seeking donation of other types of equipment from other firefighting forces. We plan to purchase firefighter boots in the near future (~\$1200) and we are aware of additional personal equipment that needs to be acquired. Our present financial situation requires that we stagger some of these purchases.

Finances: A financial summary as of October 17, 2014 is included at the end of this newsletter. Please note that this summary does not account for near term obligations including quarterly firehouse rent (\$900), quarterly worker's compensation insurance costs (\$850), annual auto/liability insurance premium (\$3000) and additional needed firefighter personal equipment (seven pairs of NFPA boots and gloves ~\$1500). Given these needed expenditures of \$6,250, the end of year cash balance will be less than \$300 !!!

Please Support Our Efforts: It is important for all residents to understand, *we are completely independent* from and do not receive any financial support from taxes or fees from any other organization or public agency. With our new tax exempt status, you may now deduct both future and past contributions from your Federal and State Taxes as a charitable donation (please consult your accountant to confirm). We have attached a donor stub and enclosed a self-addressed stamped envelope to simplify the donation process. Checks can be made out to the Aspendell South Fork Volunteer Fire Department and sent directly to us at 111 Columbine Drive, Bishop, CA 93514. We offer our most sincere thanks in advance.

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Volunteers Still Needed: In closing, we also need other assistance. As we said in our June 2014 Newsletter to you, if you have skills you would like to offer, please let us know. We still need volunteer firefighters, particularly in the South Fork area, but we also need volunteers engaged in fundraising activities, including grant solicitations, web page design and in building and equipment maintenance and repair. Also, if you have ideas for fundraisers and/or would be willing to help to set-up/oversee such an event, please let us know at asfra@asfra.net.

With best wishes for you and yours—



Joe Hart
 President, Aspendell South Fork Volunteer Fire Department

July 1, 2014 to October 17, 2014 - ASVFD Financial Report

Income		
	ASFRA donation	\$ 11,806.24
	Member donations	\$ 925.00
	total income	\$ 12,731.24
Expenditures		
	accounting	\$ 10.50
	rent and utilities	\$ 1,414.98
	safety equipment	\$ 2,281.97
	insurance	\$ 1,692.50
	training	\$ 736.14
	web page	\$ 107.52
	total expenditure	\$ 6,243.61
	Income less expenditures	\$ 6,487.63
	Cash balance	\$ 6,487.63

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Donations: Checks can be made out to the Aspendell South Fork Volunteer Fire Department and sent to us at 111 Columbine Drive, Bishop, CA 93514. A self-addressed stamped envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Thank you!!!

\$50 ___ **\$100** ___ **\$200** ___ **\$500** ___ **Other \$** _____

Name: _____ Address: _____