

The Bodega Volunteer Fire Department



Chiefs Report Winter 2011

Chief Ron Albini

Hello to everyone. 2010 turned out to be a very eventful year for our department. We have achieved some major milestones.

After many years our building has finally become a reality. I have heard a lot of wonderful comments from our local communities and people who are just passing through our area. We have a long way to go to complete the building but I'm quite pleased to say that even in these tough times we continue to receive calls and e-mails from businesses and people that want to help either by donating or providing their services at a reduced cost. Our new building is a reflection of the uniqueness of the Bodega Community.

No other Fire Station has been built with the care and love that has gone into this project.

We were very fortunate to receive the 2009 Assistance to Firefighters grant last April to replace our current Type 3 Wildland Engine which we built by using the tank and pumps off a 1962 CDF Engine 26 years ago. In the near future we will be flying back to South Dakota to do the final inspection and take delivery of our New Type 3 Wildland Engine. Josh Perucchi, Shannon Deniz and I will take turns making the 30 plus hour drive home. We also just received notification on February 11, 2011 that we received the 2010 Assistance to Firefighters grant for a Fire Gear Washer and Drying Cabinet. This will enable us to clean and maintain our gear on a regular basis to keep our firefighters safe. We also have been working on a grant through Fireman's Fund Insurance Company with Christine Daleiden from our community for an Emergency Backup Generator for our New Station. Hopefully we are successful; this will allow our new station to continue to operate in the event of any type of emergency. I am proud to say that Firefighters and Community members have written all of our grants voluntarily.

Our 19 active Volunteer Firefighters/Explorers continue to train a minimum of 6 hours per month, perform maintenance on vehicles and work at fundraising events, all while still being available 24/7 to respond to all types of emergencies. Our call volume was 142 emergency responses for the year.

We welcome and encourage anyone who is interested in joining our Volunteer Firefighter/Explorer team or would like to come be a part of our support staff. Please contact me for more information, chief8700@comcast.net

Grant Report -- Josh Perucchi-Volunteer Fire Captain/ Grant Writer

This past year we have been very fortunate in securing grants to purchase equipment that we could not otherwise afford.

April--\$6,000 from Bodega Bay Fisherman's Festival for firefighting equipment and rain-coats/pants

May--\$259,000 from AFG FEMA to pay 90% of a new Type 3 Wildland Fire Engine to replace our current 26-year-old unit.

June--50% cost share grant of \$2,500 from CDF towards equipment to outfit the new fire engine that we are expected to take delivery of in April 2011.

November--we received notification from Sonoma County CSA40 that they received a \$100,000 grant from California Office of Traffic Safety to replace our Extraction Equipment (Jaws of Life). We will have the equipment in service in spring of 2011.

February 11th --\$16,435 from AFG FEMA for a commercial Washer/Extractor and Drying Cabinet for the new fire station to be able to properly clean our firefighting gear.

Without these grant opportunities there is no way our department would be able to afford to purchase this needed equipment. We continue to look and apply for grants to supplement our department with the equipment we need to enhance our ability to provide emergency response to our community.

Calendar Dates

Polenta Dinner – March 26th

Pancake Breakfast – May 15th

Big Event – August 7th

Seafood Art and Wine Festival

August 27th and 28th

Polenta Dinner – October 8th

Our phone number is 707-876-9438

Our website is www.bodegafire.org

Building Report – Bill Newman

Although it's been a rough winter with the wet weather putting some of the outside priorities on hold, the Bodega Volunteer Fire Department is moving along with construction of our new Fire House. The tank of our 35,000 gallon Catchment Storage System is more than half full with about 20,000 gallons of water from the approximately 40 inches of rain which has fallen this season on the roof of the new Fire Station.

Meanwhile work goes on inside as money and volunteers are available. Most of the interior walls have been framed and are ready for roughing-in of plumbing, electric and communications systems as well as heating and ventilating ducts. When all interior rough-ins are complete we will be able to start hanging sheetrock. In the upper storage loft the floor decking has been installed as well as the stairs leading up to it. Fire sprinkler plans are soon to be completed and will then go to the Country PRMD for approval. PG&E has installed the electric service and the Fire House now has power. A new fence is being planed for the North side to provide privacy for our neighbor Linda Sauter. Final work on the outside apron and connections to Bodega Water, Pac Bell, and Comcast will happen this spring.

A local Architect, Rhen Benson has volunteered his services and expertise and has taken over as Architect of Record and Inspector of Record for our project. Rhen's work with us these last few months has been great, and has shown again how our local community supports this worthwhile undertaking and how if we all come together great things happen.

We are always looking for donors and volunteers to help finish our magnificent Fire House.

Dues Due Date is coming up

The BVFD's fiscal year is from June 1st to May 31st. We will be sending a membership form in the June Newsletter.

The dues are \$50/household. If you are renting it is considered a "household." Dues are one very important way to support this grand department.

The Bricks Are Coming, The Bricks Are Coming !! --Will Morris

The Building Committee is finalizing the initial order for the **“Adopt a fire station - one brick at a time”** campaign. There have been 127 bricks already sponsored by 103 individuals, families or groups. Due to some confusion about different sources for the customized bricks and the amount of text they can have, it has been decided to go with the laser-etched brick. These bricks can have up to 3 lines with 23 characters per line, including spaces and punctuation.

We are requesting that all brick sponsors complete the enclosed post card to finalize the message to be etched on your brick(s). Please return your completed card(s) or respond by e-mail (www.bodegafire.org) no later than April 15th. Our goal is to have the first batch in place for The Big Event in August.

If you have not yet purchased a brick, we still have room for about 100 more. You can sponsor a brick by sending a contribution of \$250 for each brick along with your completed text.

Where will the bricks be? They will be on the front of the new building where the “Tyvek” is at the present time.

There also has been some discussion about **“Bricks for Pets”**. A hunt is currently underway for a fire hydrant.

Don't miss this opportunity! Thank you for your support.

Hall Rental Policies

McCaughey Hall (The Fire Hall) is available for rental to groups and individuals for private, non-BVFD events. Anyone wishing to do so needs to attend a regular BVFD business meeting, (the second Tuesday evening of each month), at least one month prior to the date of their intended event, and describe the event they propose, including the number of people, facilities needed, duration, etc. Permission to rent will be determined by a discussion and vote of the membership at that meeting.

The requirements, including insurance, security deposit, & cleanup, are available on request. You can contact us by mail, BVFD, P. O., Box 28, Bodega CA, 94922 or e-mail at chief8700@comcast.net or our website www.bodegafire.org. To serve the local community, preference and reduced rates are offered to all BVFD members.

As a general policy, we do not rent the hall for any event that involves the sale or serving of alcohol. However, if we do make an exception, it will necessitate additional requirements such as an ABC permit, supplementary insurance, security guards, and the unanimous approval of the BVFD board.

Crafts Faire Organizer Needed

This will be the last year that Vickie Watts will be organizing the Crafts Faire. She has been doing a wonderful job for many, many years and needs a break. We need someone to step up and do this important function. If you can do it, you and she will do it together this year. Please let her or one of the board members know if you are the one!

Bodega Volunteer Fire Department
P. O. Box 28
Bodega, CA 94922

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