



CHIEFS REPORT SUMMER 2007

Summer is here! and it's been another active year for the Bodega Volunteer Fire Department. In 2006 your volunteers responded to 110 emergency calls and 2007 is off to a busy start with nearly 50 calls to date.

In February we were awarded a Homeland Security Grant for a new Type 1 Fire Engine. We have been trying for a new Engine to replace our 40 year old Engine for several years. After many attempts and disappointments, this grant was really the boost we needed.

Once the grant was awarded we had 90 days to meet with vendors and spec the new Engine. It was a real challenge, and we feel confident that we chose the right Engine from a very reputable vendor. The vendor was given seven months to complete the new Engine. We chose a four door chassis with a rescue style body. This Engine will comfortably hold 4 firefighters and have plenty of storage space to accommodate all of our necessary equipment and carry 750 gallons of water.

Our Building and Funding committees have been very busy and the plans for the new building and its funding are starting to take shape. We all look forward to the day when all of our fire apparatus can be stored in one safe location. The new fire station is essential in order to provide emergency services today and in the future for our community.

If you are interested in assisting us in any way on either of these committees please contact me at:

874-1217 or 8700@bodegafire.org

The **Bodega Big Event** is August 19th this year and once again my lovely wife has agreed to be the coordinator. She has already begun to get things prepared and as always we could sure use some additional help. Attached to the newsletter you will find a sign-up sheet. Please come and join us, you will meet a lot of nice people and truly enjoy yourselves.

Also this year, as before, we will be a benefactor of the **Seafood Art & Wine Festival** which will be held at the Watts Ranch in Bodega on the weekend of August 25 & 26. Volunteers are also needed for this event.

These are our two biggest Fundraisers and we look forward to another successful year. Please come and support us.

Another pressing issue is the need to fill the position of President of the Board for the Fire Department. This is a great opportunity for someone to become an active member in the Fire Department and help out the community. As the President you will need to attend as many of the monthly business meeting as possible and conduct Fire Department affairs.

It is also **time to renew your yearly membership**. We ask that you pay the minimum dues of \$25.00. Of course, any additional amount is greatly appreciated and is tax deductible. Please use the inclosed form and mail it in. Thanks you.

Have a wonderful Summer!

Sincerely Chief Ron Albini

Fire House Funding

The Bodega Volunteer Fire Department is once again planning for the future of the Bodega community through the construction of a new fire house that will meet our communities emergency service requirements, and will be adequate for years to come.

Our fore fathers provided a great and lasting service to the community leaving their legacy with the formation of the Bodega Volunteer Fire Department and building of McCaughey Hall. Our community members once again have that same opportunity; as this project will take the support of the entire community, so please join in the effort to make this much-needed facility a reality.

The ever-changing needs and requirements of emergency services require that we plan now for tomorrow and the next generation. Our actions today will have a lasting affect on our families, and their families in the same way as when the current fire hall was built nearly 50 years ago. Our proposed new firehouses is designed serve our community for the next 50 years.

The firehouse-funding plan is nearly in place, with funding from loans, direct community support opportunities, grants, corporate, and in-kind donations. We expect to have a preplanning meeting with the Board of Supervisors toward the end of July.

The Bodega Volunteer Fire Department is a 501C-3 non-profit organization where your generosity is tax deductible. (check with your tax advisor) Complete information on how you can support the project will become available soon.

Training Tower

Our training continues to provide our community with highly trained firefighters ready to respond to all calls. We are completing the newly required California Division of Forestry (CDF) requirements for this year's upcoming fire season. We have also been concentrating on vehicle extrication using the Jaws of Life, patient assessment, and pumping operations.

Josh Perucchi has been hired for his first season by CDF for the 2007 season, and has successfully completed their rigorous training requirements. Congratulations Josh, your additional training will be an asset to our dept.

Please also welcome your new Volunteer firefighter Tom Bennett, he is a great addition to the department.

Your department currently has the resources of five career community service personnel, their expertise adds to our department's ability to provide quality services for our community. I would like to thank all our volunteer fire fighters for their commitment to provide our community with its emergency service needs. If you would like to volunteer at any level please contact Gary at:

876-3385 or 8701@bodegafire.org

Be sure to check out our great Web Site, <http://www.bodegafire.org> which Steve Kelley put together and maintains, for additional information . You will find an elevation of the new proposed building, calls BVFD has responded to, calendar of events, photos and much more.

BVFD Events of the Year	
August 19	The Big Event
August 25,26	Sea Food and Wine Festival
October 13	Polenta and Stew Dinner
November 23,24	Christmas Crafts Faire

Big Event 2007

“The Big Event” this year is scheduled for **Sunday, August 19th**. Once again the live entertainment will be the fabulous Spencer Burrows and his band “Frobec”. Spencer has been a real crowd pleaser for the past 3 years and we are happy to have him back again this year.

I would like to schedule some “Big Event” planning meetings starting with Wednesday evening July 11th at 7:30 pm. Now more than ever with the urgent need to raise money for our new fire station we need to come up with some fresh ideas on how to make this the most successful “Big Event” we’ve ever had.

Anyone who has any ideas or suggestions and is willing to carry them through is encouraged to attend the first planning meeting. We will discuss the schedule of the day as well as the different activities and booths.

The “Big Event” will be successful only if we get the community involved for this one day fundraiser. It’s a great way to do your part for your fire department and have a really great time doing it! We count on volunteers to help, especially for the day of the event. Think about your family and friends who may want to come for the event and volunteer their time even if it’s only for an hour or two. The rest of the time is to eat, drink, dance and enjoy the great day!

Contact: **Linda Albini, 874-1217 or at msbini@comcast.net TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP!**

The “BIG EVENT” PLANNING MEETING IS JULY 11th AT 7:30pm at the BODEGA FIRE HALL.

EMERGENCY ONLY CELL PHONE NUMBER

If you can only use a cell phone to report an emergency the following number is better to use than 911 ----- (707) 576-1371.

SUMMER FIRE SAFETY TIPS FOR OUTSIDE YOUR HOME

DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

- Use flame resistant materials
- Build your home away from ridge tops, canyons and areas between high points on a ridge.
- Consider installing roof sprinklers
- Make sure that electric service lines, fuse boxes and circuit breaker panels are installed and maintained as prescribed by code.

ACCESS

- Make sure your driveway address is clearly visible from all directions and especially at night.
- Identify at least two exit routes from your neighborhood
- Clear flammable vegetation at least 10 feet from roads and five feet from driveways.
- Cutback overhanging tree branches above access roads
- Make sure dead end roads and long driveways have turn around areas wide enough for emergency vehicles
- Design bridges to carry heavy emergency vehicles.

ROOF

- Install a fire resistant roof.
- Remove dead leaves and needles from your roof and gutters
- Remove dead branches overhanging your roof and keep branches 10 feet away from your chimney
- Cover your chimney outlet and stovepipe with a nonflammable screen of 1/2” or smaller.

LANDSCAPE

- Create a defensible space of 100 feet around your home. *It is required by law.*
- Create a green zone by removing all flammable vegetation within 30’ around your home.
- Remove branches at least six feet from the ground.
- Use care in clearing vegetation with equipment such as lawnmowers, one small spark can start a fire
- Mow early and Mow often

YARD

- Stack woodpiles at least 30’ from all structures and remove vegetation around woodpile.
- Keep LPG tanks at least 30’ from any structure.

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

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Box Holder
Bodega, CA 94922

**Bodega Volunteer Fire
Department**



**Membership Renewal
Form
2007-2008**

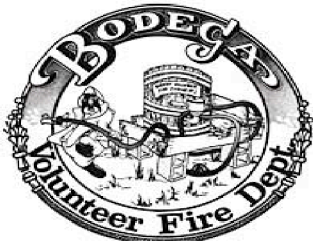
Please renew my membership or enroll me as a new member for \$25
I would also like to contribute to the building fund the sum of _____

Name _____ Total \$ _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

Please mail to: Bodega Volunteer Fire Department e-mail _____
P. O. Box 28
Bodega, CA 94922

**Bodega Volunteer Fire
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