



SSA GENERAL MEETING

**Regenerative Agriculture:
Mimicking Nature to Find our Path**

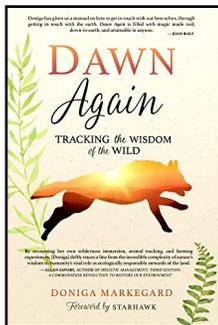
Presented by Doniga Markegard

Friday, January 18, 2019
 7:00 pm - Refreshments
 7:30 pm - Featured presentation
 Saratoga Summit CDF Fire Station - 12900 Skyline Blvd.,
 approximately .6 of a mile from Hwy 9 and Skyline Blvd

*Please bring a sweet or savory dessert to share.
 SSA will provide beverages.*



Doniga Markegard, owner of Markegard Family Grass-Fed of Half Moon Bay, shares her expertise in Holistic Land Management as a pathway for large-scale grassland restoration. Blending principles of nature and permaculture, Doniga weaves a journey of raising healthy livestock while also increasing plant diversity, building soil, and providing nutrient dense foods for thousands of families. By mimicking patterns found in nature, communities can cultivate food with greater nutrition while providing carbon sequestration and returning biodiversity and abundance to the land. Through her direct experience in stewarding 10,000 acres of rangeland in California, Doniga offers real-world stories and lessons in regenerative ranching.



Doniga is also the author of *Dawn Again: Tracking the Wisdom of the Wild*
 Books will be available for purchase.

“With curiosity, tenacity, and a free-fall dive into the ragged business of real live nature, Doniga has given us an instruction booklet on how to get in touch with our best selves, through getting in touch with the earth.”
 – Joan Baez

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SSA January 2019 - Membership Report

It's Time to Celebrate!

Debra Born, Membership Committee Chair

2019 is a reason to celebrate as we reach the 2,000 members mark and the SSA 50th Anniversary. Our Association has proved itself time and again as an effective representative of its members towards public agencies and local authorities responsible for land, infrastructure, and safety within our boundaries.

We also serve as a social network for those who live locally. We effect change on issues affecting everyone who lives in, visits, or just passes thru the South Skyline area. Our members work hard to stay on top of proposed development and promote awareness of environmental and safety concerns. And lest we forget, our grant program generously supports agencies and institutions which serve our local residents.

Everyone who lives in these Santa Cruz mountains has so much to gain by the growth of our association. But to fully benefit you are strongly encouraged to take advantage of our informative and fun general meetings and social events. To do so keep an eye on our website and

quarterly newsletters. And if you want to volunteer with a program or have ideas for speakers or other ways our association can benefit our area, please contact our President at president@southskyline.org.

Last but not least, **January is dues renewal month!** In addition to paying your \$20 dues please consider making a donation to SSA or to one of our supported organizations. You can pay via our website southskyline.org or send a check to *South Skyline Membership, 400 Skyline Blvd., La Honda 94020*.

Your annual dues and donations not only support our Association's operational expenses and programs but generate grants to other local organizations and institutions such as *South Skyline Fire and Rescue, South Skyline FireSafe Council, South Skyline Emergency Preparedness Organization, Mountain Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Lakeside School, etc.* So, if you know anyone who is NOT yet a member of our association, please encourage them to join and direct them to our website or use the **SSA Membership Application on page 7**.

Have a happy and healthy 2019!

SPUG QUARTERLY REPORT

For updated monthly prices go to www.SouthSkyline.org/spug/

Skyline Propane Users Group (SPUG) was formed to benefit SSA members. For information about joining, or for members wishing current information on the agreement, please email propane@southskyline.org Information is also available on our website: www.SouthSkyline.org/spug/

SSA has agreements with Amerigas, Kamps, Suburban Propane Scotts Valley, and FerrellGas. The open market price is more than \$1.00/gallon higher than the SPUG price. Prices are subject to change as frequently as wholesale prices change. The prices SSA posts are for the first of the month. Our SPUG rate is based on a keep-full basis, not will-call service.

You are not required to pay sales tax on propane if you do not have natural gas available where you use propane. If you get your propane from Amerigas, you will need to submit a sales tax exemption form. Contact Amerigas for the form.

Those whose SSA membership has lapsed will be disqualified from receiving the benefit of the

SPUG price for propane. Membership can be renewed online at www.southskyline.org/membership/. If paying by check use the Membership Application on page 7. January is renewal month.

Month/Year	Amerigas	FerrellGas	Kamps	Suburban SV
December 2018	2.750	2.186	2.335	3.470
November	2.650	2.296	2.275	3.250
October	2.650	2.100	2.265	3.250
September	2.650	2.040	2.000	3.250
August	2.650	1.943	2.030	3.250
July	2.650	1.940	1.950	3.250
June	2.650	1.986	1.850	3.240
May	2.650	1.976	2.250	3.240
April	2.650	2.380	2.350	3.240
March	2.600	2.200	2.300	3.240
February	2.600	2.290	2.650	3.240
January	2.500	2.330	2.650	3.190
December 2017	2.500	2.204	2.450	2.899

Events

Upcoming - South Skyline Association 50th Birthday Party

Dick Schwind. SSA Board

At the next summer SSA picnic we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of our South Skyline Association. It will be a festive occasion! We have already started the planning. No date or location has yet been set, but for the last couple decades or so our picnics have been at the Jaqua home on about the first week of August. Plan to come and learn about our REMARKABLE HISTORY and help celebrate!

Las Cumbres Holiday Bazaar

Vicki Perkins

Thank you to all our vendors, volunteers and everyone who attended the Las Cumbres Holiday Bazaar on November 11th. There was a wonderful selection of handcrafted gifts and gourmet food, plus wine tasting and kids craft activities. We raised over \$2,500 for our local volunteer emergency services teams - South Skyline Firefighters, South Skyline Fire Safe Council and the Las Cumbres Disaster and Emergency Preparedness Committee. In addition, several individual vendors donated their proceeds to these organizations, or other local non-profits. This is an annual event. We hope to see you in November 2019.



Lace Museum & Guild: Semi-Annual Vintage Lace Sale

Beth Miller (Skyline resident & Retail Manager at the museum)

Our community is cordially invited . . .

What: Vintage Lace & Linen Sale

When: Thursday, March 21, Members Only
Presale, 5:30pm - 8:30pm
Friday/Saturday, March 22/23,
Public Sale, 9:30am – 4:00pm

Where: The Lace Museum & Guild,
552 South Murphy Avenue, Sunnyvale

A year ago, we shared with you about a hidden gem right here, on a short side street off El Camino in Sunnyvale. Since that time, many have visited this small, but significant museum and now ask, “why didn’t I ever know about this?”

It is The Lace Museum & Guild, the only lace museum of its kind in the country!

It’s mission:

*To preserve lace and the art of lace making,
To exhibit lace and its historical use,
To offer instruction in all facets of lace making.*

The museum, staffed entirely by volunteers, is a teaching museum for adults and children, with stunning exhibits that change four times a year. It houses a breathtaking collection of vintage laces and lace styles from all over the globe. Most of the collection was donated by families wanting to share their heirlooms. Our sales provide critical financial resources to keep the museum doors open. As a 501 (c) 3, lace and monetary donations are tax deductible and always graciously accepted. *The museum is actively seeking donors and real estate assistance in relocating to a more substantial and visible home.*

The Lace Museum holds semi annual sales the fourth weekend of every March and September. A tax-deductible membership of \$10 or \$20 entitles you to attend the Thursday evening Pre-Sale. Sheer bliss to collectors, sewers or crafters, and dealers, the sale is also an opportunity to see and touch pieces of lace only on those days that you’d otherwise likely never have the opportunity to experience. Take home pieces at prices that you’ll ever find except at the museum sale! For more information call The Lace Museum at www.thelacemuseum.org 408 730-4695.

Come volunteer, even if it’s only for a special event!

SSA Board Elections at January General Meeting

Those board members who are up for election at the general meeting on January 18 are: Dave Anderson, Patti Begley, Debra Born, Jerry Parsons, and Guy LaLonde.

What is Your SSA Board Doing?

Michael Rowe, SSA President

Welcome to 2019 (even though I write this in the closing weeks of 2018). On behalf of the SSA Board, I hope you enjoyed the Holiday Season and are looking forward to the upcoming year. I'd like to take a few moments to review 2018 SSA Highlights before letting you know about our plans for 2019. However before doing that, I'd like to give you a "heads-up" on this newsletter column. Going forward, the SSA Board members will take turns writing this column so that our membership gets to hear from all of us.

In no particular order, here are the SSA highlights for 2018:

- Stayed within our 2018 fiscal goals;
- Made significant grants to local community organizations, including South Skyline Emergency Preparedness Organization (SSEPO), La Honda Fire Brigade, South Skyline Fire Safe Council, Jikoji Zen Center, Lakeside Joint School District, Santa Cruz Mountain Environmental Protection Alliance, and South Skyline Fire & Rescue.
- Welcomed Guy Lalonde, Rich Lee, and Dick Schwind to the SSA board;
- Collected and distributed over \$15,000 to local agencies on behalf of our generous community members;
- Grew SSA membership to almost 2,000 members;
- Continued the modernization of the SSA website;
- Hosted a great series of speakers at our quarterly General Meetings that helped promote community engagement and knowledge of regional topics;
- Created a sub-committee to help SMEPA (Santa Cruz Mountain Environmental Protection Alliance) successfully defeat the plans to create a bicycle park in the Sanborn Park.
- Formed a social committee to host fun events in our community (we had one line-dancing event in 2018 but are planning more events in 2019).

SSA Grant Applications 2019 - Round II

Do you need financial assistance for a program or project that supports our Skyline community? If you missed the December deadline, the SSA is offering a second opportunity to submit a grant application. Individuals, students, teachers, groups, and organizations are eligible for grant funding from \$500 to \$5,000. The deadline is March 31, 2019. Click [here](#) for more information and the application, or check our website under "Events".

<http://southskyline.org/events/>

Kristen Anderson, SSA Treasurer

- Skyline residents continue to keep the boulevard free of litter through the Adopt-A-Highway program. Volunteer crews are led by Jerry Peters. To get on the volunteer list contact Jerry at JPontheridge@gmail.com

In 2019, our humble group of do-gooders hopes to achieve goals including, but not limited to, the following:

- Celebrate the 50th anniversary of the SSA at our summer general meeting;
- Increase the use of SSA community grants while staying within budget plan;
- Host more community social events;
- Restart the stalled community outreach program to businesses and other non-profit organizations within SSA borders;
- Continue to organize and host SSA General meetings that feature interesting speakers;
- Continue to work with State Parks and local authorities to help police our neighborhood (in regard to safe and legal use of our roads and parks).

On related topics, the SSA board will have a January meeting to set the budget for 2019 and review grant applications we've received. We are also hosting a General Meeting for all members at the Saratoga Summit Fire Station (see details elsewhere in this newsletter). This meeting will not only provide members with an interesting speaker lecture, but also allow members to vote on board member positions that are up for renewal as well as new candidates that are volunteering for the board.

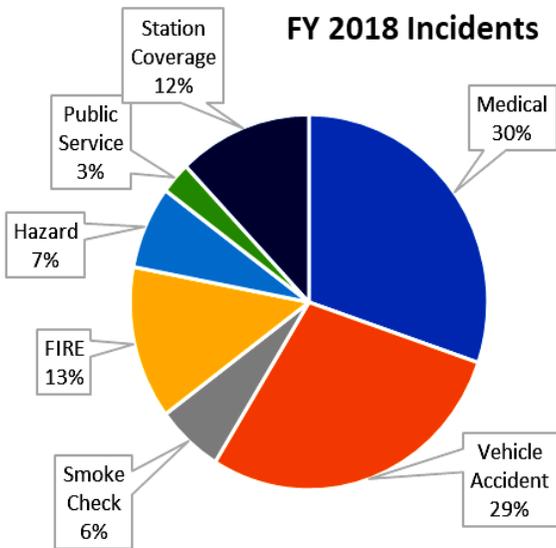
South Skyline Fire & Rescue News

by Andy Seigel, Captain, SSF&R

As we near the end of the year, it's a good time to look back at 2018.

Incidents

For the one-year period ending October 31, we were requested for service 190 times. We hit 95% of these calls, although it's really 98% if you exclude the calls missed due to construction blockage on Skyline last November. We also assisted with the Ranch Fire in Lake County in July/August - the first out-of-county assignment for Company 29 in a long time.



Injury

In August, while working on some fire equipment, an unfortunate accident caused me to break my right elbow. I've been on the sidelines ever since. The team has been doing a great job picking up the slack during my recovery. I'm looking forward to getting back to the fire business in the coming months.

Recruiting

We expect to have **three** candidates in the 2019 volunteer fire academy! This is the most since 2012. We are looking forward to bringing back the "Firefighter Spotlight" next summer!

Happy New Year!

Visit us at <http://southskylinefire.org>

Sanborn Park Draft Master Plan Disapproves Bike Park Development Near Skyline Blvd. and Black Road

Ruth Van Sciver

On December 5, the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department presented its Sanborn Park Draft Master Plan to the Parks and Recreation Commission. The plan specifically rules out the development of a mountain bike park near Skyline Blvd. and Black Road among other recommendations regarding future park management. The plan states that there will be "no recreational uses, including bike park, trails, public parking and access" at the site of the "Former Christmas Tree Farm Area."

The proposed bike park was opposed by the local chapters of national environmental organizations, the Lakeside School Board, and hundreds of mountain residents. The project posed serious problems regarding increased traffic in the area and consequent road maintenance issues; heightened fire risk; insufficient emergency management response and the need for increased law enforcement; and numerous negative impacts on flora and fauna including interfering in animal migration corridors. The next steps in the Master Planning Process are the following:

Circulation of Mitigated Negative Declaration for public review – January 2019

1. Board of Supervisors sub-committee (HLUET) public meeting – March 2019
2. Board of Supervisors public meeting (Approval of Master Plan and CEQA document) – April 2019

Thanks to support from the South Skyline Association, concerned citizens established the Santa Cruz Mountains Environmental Protection Alliance (SCMEPA) which led the opposition to the proposed facility. SCMEPA will continue to remain vigilant, monitoring future implementation of the Sanborn Park Master Plan making certain that the community continues to maintain communication with Parks Department decision makers. For further information please contact Ruth Van Sciver, ruth.vansciver@scmepa.org or Leah Walling, leah.walling@scmepa.org.

Amateur Radio Emergency Services Emergency Drill – October 20, 2018

by Pat O’Coffey

On October 20, ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services) from La Honda and South Skyline conducted their annual Simulated Emergency Test. This year, they teamed up with the following agencies to conduct a disaster drill in 5 neighborhoods along the Skyline corridor:

- Southcoast CERT
- South Skyline CERT
- San Mateo County Large Animal Evacuation
- La Honda Fire Brigade
- Saratoga-Summit Cal Fire

The drill began with the Stanford Life Flight helicopter landing in a new landing zone in Castanea Ridge. This new Landing Zone was built thanks to some very hard work on the part of Castanea Ridge resident, Bryan Osborne, and other community members. Bryan first envisioned creating this Landing Zone while talking to a local resident who flies for Life Flight. They both felt that this location would be ideal. The South Skyline Emergency Preparedness Organization (SSEPO) provided some financial assistance for this project, thanks to your generous donations to SSEPO. It was amazing to watch this big bird land in such a small space – see photo in this issue. The crew gave a great talk about the capabilities of Life Flight.

The scenario for this drill was 3 days after a devastating earthquake. The tasks to be completed were a damage assessment in 4 Skyline corridor neighborhoods and the evacuation of 6 horses. SC4ARES from La Honda brought their mobile HAM radio resource trailer to the incident staging area at Skyline Ridge Preserve. With the support

of the La Honda Fire Brigade and Saratoga-Summit Cal Fire, CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams) were dispatched to 4 Skyline neighborhoods to conduct post-earthquake damage assessments. It was assumed that the massive earthquake had disabled all traditional forms of communication. Therefore, the CERT Teams utilized their GMRS (General Mobile Radio Service) radios for communications within the neighborhoods.

The information gathered within the neighborhood was then transmitted to our new GMRS Repeater, where it was then relayed, via HAM radio, to the HAM operation center at Skyline Ridge. In a real emergency, this information would then be transmitted to the appropriate emergency agencies in Half Moon Bay or Redwood City. From there, needed resources, such as medical support, helicopter

evacuation or fire suppression, could be dispatched to our area.

The drill included radio communications requesting assistance in evacuating 6 horses from 2 Skyline neighborhoods. From the staging area at Skyline Ridge, Large Animal Evac was dispatched to the horses that needed evacuation. This was a great learning experience for both the animal handlers doing the evacuations and the horse owners needing to have their horses prepared for evacuation.

The drill also gave us the opportunity to unveil our new mobile medical response trailer. Thanks to the Red Cross, SSEPO recently received an unused trailer, which Dr. Rich Lee has converted into a mobile medical response unit – see Dr. Lee’s article in this issue. This is a great addition to South Skyline emergency preparedness. The medical trailer can be deployed into the neighborhoods for emergency medical treatment and transportation of victims if necessary. Phase I creating the medical trailer was financed by SSEPO; thanks again to the many generous donations South Skyline members have made to SSEPO. SSEPO is a non-profit 501c3 organization. If you would like to donate to SSEPO, you may do so by logging onto www.ssepo.org and selecting DONATIONS on the Home page or under “Volunteer”.



Stanford Life Flight helicopter landing at new Landing Zone

By all accounts, the drill was a huge success. Each of the participating groups had their own set of objectives, and for the most part, those objectives were met. There were a total of 39 participants: 22 CERT, 9 ARES, 7 LAEG, 1 other.

As with any drill, there are successes and failures. It is the failures that teach us the most valuable lessons. It takes

Continued on Pg. 9 ➡

South Skyline Association Membership Application and Renewal Form

Rev. 1/1/18

First Time Applying? Yes No (circle one)

Today's Date: _____

Contact Information

Name(s)	
Mailing Address	
City ST ZIP Code	
Physical Address	
City ST Zip Code	
Phone(s)	
E-Mail Address(es) (required)	

Propane Supplier

If you wish to participate in the SPUG program, indicate below your current or preferred propane provider. After receipt of your application and payment, we contact the provider directly to inform them of your membership status.

Amerigas Suburban San Jose
 FerrellGas Suburban Scotts Valley
 Kamps Other (indicate which or let us know later after you decide) _____

Volunteer Interests

SSA always needs additional volunteers. Please consider volunteering and in which areas you are interested.

Board Member Skylines Newsletter Mailouts and Deliveries
 Events Planning and Setup Membership Committee
 Website Adopt-a-Highway
 Skylines Newsletter Production

Special Skills or Qualifications

Summarize special skills and qualifications which you feel may be useful to our association.

Our Policies

All contact information is kept confidential. **Dues are payable in January of each year and are not prorated if paid later in the year.** Members must be at least 18 years of age to participate. Anyone is eligible to join regardless of property address. Members who live within the SSA boundaries are considered regular members and are eligible to serve on the board, vote at general meetings, and receive a paper copy of *Skylines*. All members receive an electronic copy *Skylines* newsletter. If you are outside the SSA boundaries and want a paper copy mailed, check here. () As always please consider joining or renewing online at southskyline.org.

Signature _____

Enclose this application with your \$20.00 check payable to "South Skyline Association" and send to:

SSA Membership Committee
400 Skyline Boulevard
La Honda, CA 94020

SSA Membership

Membership dues of \$20 can be paid online with a credit card or PayPal, or paid by check through the mail.

If paying online—Go to our membership page at <http://southskyline.org/membership/>

If paying by check— Complete the membership application on the reverse side of this page and mail to the address at the bottom of the application. Additional copies of this form can be printed from the SSA membership page also at <http://southskyline.org/membership/>

Also:

Consider donating to our Skyline community groups through their websites:

- ***South Skyline Fire Safe Council:***

This organization provides a free defensible space chipping program, develops fuel break projects, and sponsors fire education programs.

Website: www.southskylinefiresafe.org

- ***South Skyline Fire and Rescue:***

Volunteer responders for Santa Cruz and Santa Clara counties.

Website: <http://www.southskylinefire.org/>

- ***South Skyline Emergency Preparedness (SSEPO):***

This organization's goal is to promote emergency preparedness and response capability at the neighborhood level in the event of a disaster that overwhelms traditional emergency response resources.

Website: <http://www.SSEPO.org>

SOUTH SKYLINE FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

Is Your Home Protected from Wildfire?

John DeLong

According to the National Interagency Fire Center, 2015 produced a record-breaking numbers with over 10 million acres burned from more than 68 thousand wildfires. Countless communities, homes, and lives have been lost. The number, scale and intensity of wildfires within California continue to grow every year, with heartbreaking and devastating results. The Camp Fire in Butte County set new records in loss of life and property. The Bear Fire in 2017 was too close to home for all of us.

Our community is in the wildland-urban interface, which means YOUR home is more susceptible to wildfire. It's not a question of IF it will happen, but WHEN. Will your home survive when a wildfire strikes? Learn how to make that assessment.

The South Skyline FireSafe Council is offering a FREE home wildfire assessment seminar to train you to perform a step-by-step walk-through of your property and provide guidance, tips, and resources to educate you about areas in and around your home that are more vulnerable to wildfire. Be proactive in protecting your family and property and to make sure our community doesn't become another statistic. This is a free public service brought to you by your South Skyline FireSafe Council. Information and recommendations are based on established mitigation practices and do not enforce any codes or standards.

This half-day training will be on the morning of Saturday, March 16, 2019 in Las Cumbres. Please sign up today to reserve your spot. The class will be limited to 30 people.

Contact **John DeLong** at **408-867-3205** or **jmdelong@aol.com** to reserve your spot for this training!

2018 Fall Free Chipping Program a Great Success

John DeLong

The South Skyline FireSafe Council's twice a year free Chipping Program continues to grow every year. This program was conceived to assist local homeowners with their defensible space clearing. The fall 2018 event was our largest ever with 46 different homes participating, and over 92,000 cubic feet of brush chipped over 5.5 days. The total of both the spring and fall chipping events during 2018 were 83 homes and 190,163 cubic feet of brush chipped.

While this program is free to our residents, it is the largest segment of SSFSC's budget, accounting for over \$18,000 in direct cost to the chipping contractor during 2018. The South Skyline Association has provided a grant that covers a small portion of this program, but we rely on donations to cover the balance. All of our directors and members volunteer our time to plan, organize and manage this and other services to the community. If you have not done so already, please remember to donate to SSFSC so that we can continue to provide this and other valuable services. SSFSC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, so all donations are tax deductible. Visit www.southskylinefiresafe.org to donate today. Or mail a check, made payable to SSFSC, to 324 Skyline Blvd, La Honda, CA 94020.



Emergency Drill (continued from pg. 6)

practice and preparation to be successful in an emergency. Drills such as the October 20th event help us be more successful when the real disaster strikes.

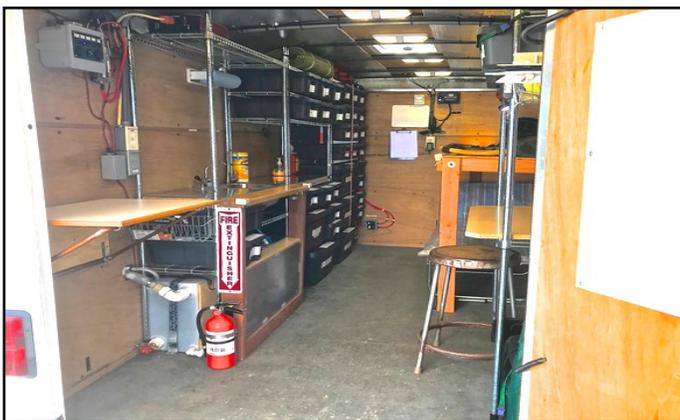
Thank you to the many volunteers who participated and the Castanea Ridge residents who contributed to the development of the Landing Zone. And, thank you to La Honda Fire and CalFire Saratoga-Summit for their assistance in planning the exercise and for preparing the landing zone for the Life Flight helicopter.

The SSEPO Trailer Project

Rich Lee M.D., SSEPO Medical Director

For years, South Skyline Emergency Preparedness Organization (SSEPO) has maintained a disaster supply container at the MROSD Skyline Ranger office and we have had several disaster drills using equipment from that container. However, we've always been concerned about the size of the South Skyline area and that the same arrangement of medical disaster supplies may be required in large quantities at another location miles away. The ideal solution for this would be some form of medical response/disaster supply trailer and the opportunity finally presented itself.

Last year, we were very lucky to have Pat O'Coffey discover that the American Red Cross was giving away small supply trailers from the Oakland facility and she was able to pick one of these up. Our goal was to have something that could house and support a team 2-4 CERT members providing disaster medical treatment, communications and logistics support for both victims and other CERT team members. Ideally, this trailer would be self-sufficient with respect to providing both medical treatment and potentially housing to team members for at least 3 days.



SSEPO Trailer Interior

To accomplish this, I outfitted the trailer with multiple shelves and storage containers along with steel countertops and a small sink with both a manual pump faucet and pressurized filtered water faucet. Under these is a 21-gallon water tank with a 12-volt pressure pump and massive water filter. There is also an external faucet for pressurized water supply. For both patient care and sleeping there is an adjustable cot as well as a



SSEPO Trailer & Canopy

pull-down bunk bed. Other furnishings include a communications desk outfitted with Ham/GMRS radio, and a separate fold-down table for logistics or propane stove platform. There are also several lighted whiteboards.

The trailer carries a 10'x10' shade canopy, 3'x3' bathroom/shower tent and 13'x9' cabin tent for additional shelter/treatment areas along with extra folding chairs, tables and cots. There is also a 2-burner propane stove, propane heater and lantern as well as extra blankets, pillows and sleeping bag. Extra propane and gasoline are stored in a secure box mounted on the frame behind the hitch.

Electrical power is provided by a 100-watt solar panel, external house current or a 2000-watt Honda generator. Energy storage is by way of a 100-amp hour AGM battery that is charged from either the solar panel or the generator and supplies circuits for all 12 V equipment as well as a 2000-watt inverter. There are multiple 110 V output outlets that are supplied by either the inverter for the generator as well as numerous 12 volt and USB outlets, both inside and outside the trailer. Inside are multiple switched LED ceiling and task lights.

Medical supplies include:

- ⇒ Backboards, spine boards and stretchers for patient transport.
- ⇒ A full CERT kit with Hazmat suit/respirator and extra gloves & Masks.
- ⇒ Manual and electronic monitoring for vital signs including oxygen level.
- ⇒ Airways, suction, intubation and tracheostomy equipment plus portable oxygen.
- ⇒ Dressings, bandages, Quick Clot and tourniquets for bleeding and burns.

Continued on Pg. 11



SSEPO Trailer Project (continued from pg. 10)

- ⇒ Splinting and Casting supplies for orthopedic injuries.
- ⇒ Solutions and supplies for intravenous hydration and wound irrigation.
- ⇒ Medications for most emergency/trauma situations.
- ⇒ Additional medications for victims who may have lost theirs.

All the medical supplies have been included in “Phase-1” of the trailer project. Phase-2 will include doubling the solar power & battery capacity as well as extra heating, cooling and ventilation.

All of this has been made possible through 501C donations to SSEPO.

Common Fiddleneck Plays Its Own Tune

Sarah Schoen

Common fiddleneck both attracts and repels. The bristly plant can be scratchy. Still the tiny yellow orange blossoms can color large areas of grassland and disturbed areas. And they seem to keep blooming. Flowers are on a coiled stalk, called a cyme, that looks like the neck of a violin. As flowers bloom, the coil slowly unwinds, allowing the next in line to blossom. It’s a continuous show from March to June.

Common fiddleneck (*Amsinckia intermedia* formerly *Amsinckia menziesii* ssp. *intermedia*) is an annual herb that grows up to 3 feet high. Stems are erect and branching, with spine-like hairs. Alternate leaves are narrow, linear, and clasp the stem. They grow up to 6” long, with bristles on both sides, but fewer bristles than the stems.



Drawing Thomas 1961

Individual flowers have green sepals, also with bristles. The petals are fused into a narrow tube, up to almost ½”

long and ending in 5 symmetrical lobes. They often have 5 red orange marks on the corolla tube. The style is thread-like with a 2-lobed stigma. The 5 stamens are attached inside and above the middle of the tube. The flowers are conspicuously exerted from coil. Each flower forms 4 fruits called nutlets. They are 2-3.5 mm across, with a rough, bumpy surface and 1 seed per fruit.



*Photo James Gonsman

Although they are showy and native flowers, fiddlenecks are also toxic to livestock. Too many in a pasture, or as contaminants in hay can cause liver damage in cattle, horses, and even pigs.

Common fiddleneck is a member of the borage family, Boraginaceae. The genus is named for Wilhelm Amsinck (1752-1831), an early patron of the Hamburg botanical garden. There are many species in this genus, 12 in California. In addition to the flower size, the spiny nutlets are used to tell them apart. Common fiddleneck is found in Western Canada south through the Western U.S. and into Baja California. It is abundant in grasslands, burn sites, and other disturbed areas such as trail and road edges.

*Notes:

- 1 Photo credit James Gonsman calflora.org
- 2 Photo credit George Hartwell calflora.org with permission



*Photo George Hartwell

Fire Hydrants: Will Your Home be Triaged Out in a Large Wildfire?

Dick Schwind

When your home is threatened with an approaching large wildfire a 'mutual aid' fire engine crew (often from a city fire department, as Cal Fire will be fighting the fire) will come to evaluate the pros and cons of trying to save your home. They now mostly use a standard visual card stock sheet indicating ACCESS, WATER SUPPLY and DEFENSIBLE SPACE plus any special notes. This gets posted at the entrance to your driveway for the crew that comes to try to save your home when the fire arrives.

These crews may be more familiar with drawing water from a city fire hydrant but will be aware of the Cal Fire standard of a 4-inch vertical pipe rising up to a 'wharf hydrant' (a valve with a 2 ½-inch fire hose fitting). But what if the first crew to arrive does not see your valve, or his engine can't get close enough to hook up to it with their 20 feet of very stiff 5 or 6 inch diameter suction hose, or it is at night and the fire engine headlights or their flashlight doesn't shine back on the standard 3 inch diameter blue reflector that indicates a water source? Your home will be listed as a 'NO WATER' source! A home without a water source will most likely be triaged out of any attempt to save it, for a home with a fire hydrant. (The South Skyline FireSafe Council will give you one of these blue reflectors if within the SSFSC area, email schwindr@yahoo.com)

All of the SSA area is in the Cal Fire responsibility area, except that covered by the Woodside Fire Dept. The Cal Fire 'Homeowner's Summary of Fire Prevention and Loss Prevention Laws' description for fire hydrant requirements are:

FIRE HYDRANTS SHALL:

- Be at least 18 inches above grade
- Be a minimum of 8- feet from flammable vegetation
- Be installed between 4 and 12- feet from the roadway
- Be located between 50-feet and 1/2 mile* from the building it serves
- Have a 2-1/2 or 4-1/2-inch N.H. (fire hose) male fitting
- Be suitably crash protected if required by a local jurisdiction
- Be identified with a 3-inch reflectorized blue dot on the driveway address sign* or placed on a post within 3-feet of the hydrant

For smaller fires with no mutual aid, the volunteer South Skyline Volunteer Fire and Rescue engines and all Cal Fire engines carry a portable pump with about 16 feet of suction hose (probably all are 2 inch in diameter). If they can find your water tank and can drop their suction hose into it or, much better, find a 1 1/2 or 2 1/2-inch diameter fire hose

fitting on the tank, they can probably make use of your water even though their engine can't get close to that source. While there will be a loss in time and the set-up produces a much lower flow rate than if the engine suction hose can hook to the source, the portable pump may just be adequate for a house fire or a small wildland fire when a water tanker is likely to eventually arrive. City fire engines are unlikely to have a portable pump and their fire crew probably would not be willing to bet their very expensive fire engine (and their lives) to saving your home without a good engine hookup to your fire hydrant.

BE SURE your hydrant location is in an acceptable location for fire trucks! Visit your county Planning Department's Fire Marshall standards for acceptable plumbing and hydrant location. Visit your local fire station for advice if necessary. If the fire engine must back up to your existing hydrant their suction hose, which connects to the side of the engine, will hardly extend beyond the rear of the engine. Large loads can occur from the stiff fire engine suction hose and the 4-inch diameter steel water piping leading to the wharf hydrant. Thus, the hydrant riser must be adequately anchored in concrete. To prevent the buried, rigid, 4-inch pipe from ripping out of a plastic tank in an earthquake, consider using a flexible 4-inch connector between the tank and the pipe. Well pump contractors will generally be able to properly site and install your hydrant to county standards, if you wish.

I have helped many homeowners in our area evaluate their home wildfire defenses including water source. Most have acceptable or very good defensible space. However, I am dismayed how few homes have a properly placed fire hydrant and how few homeowners are simply unwilling to install one. Though wharf hydrants are expensive, don't be one of those homeowners. This winter is a great time to do that fire hydrant upgrade!

The 1/2 mile is inappropriate for our hilly area; 200 feet is a more reasonable upper limit. In our area the much better location for the blue reflector is at the fire hydrant rather than on the address sign.

It's Time to Renew SSA Membership

Annual renewal dues of \$20.00 are payable in January of each year. If you join after January, dues are not prorated and benefits will expire at the end of every year. You must be an SSA member to continue receiving the Skyline Users Group Propane (SPUG) discount.

Pay online at:

<http://southskyline.org/membership/>

If you'd rather pay by check, use the application form on page 7.

Classified Ads

Community

SC4 Amateur Radio Club welcomes those interested in amateur radio for emergency communications and neighborly talk. License is free. Simple exam: No Morse code. We offer classes. Our next class is April 7-8. Please contact Peter Chupity at K16FAO@arrl.net. Visit www.sc4arc.org or write: SC4ARC, PO Box 237, La Honda, CA 94020

Free Fire Fitting for those in the South Skyline Fire & Rescue primary response area. This 2-1/2 inch fitting will allow the connection of a fire hose to your water supply and can be utilized by the fire department to access the water necessary for fire suppression. Please visit <http://southskylinefire.org/> for more information under the "Help us help you" section.

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C.Stille Excavation On the mountain serving South Skyline Rd / Summit Rd areas for over 30 years. We offer Quarry Supply, Hauling, Paving and most forms of Excavation including defensible space for fire and slide debris removal. You can reach us at 408-781-2731 or get more info at www.ifyoucandreamitwecandigit.com

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Hunner Associates General Contractors Local family owned and operated general construction and project management firm specializing in new and remodel residential projects in the San Francisco Mid-Peninsula area. Licensed since 1979, visit our website to learn more: www.hunnerassociates.com or connect by email: info@hunnerassociates.com

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Pineda Tree Service Inc. A local and reliable business that specializes in crown thinning & cleaning, hazardous tree removal, poison oak removal, and property cleanup, 24/7 emergency. Free estimate Insured and bonded. CSL#991767. Phone: 650-208-2734 Email: pinedatreeserviceinc@gmail.com

Portola Valley Farmers' Market Every Thursday, year-round 2-6pm (2-5pm winter) Weekly farmers' market brings local fruits & veggies, eggs, meat, fish, bakery & specialty foods, crafts and ready-to-eats. 765 Portola Road, PV at town center in front of the Historic Schoolhouse. www.pvfarmersmarket.com

Residential Design: Country and urban custom houses, remodel and additions. 20+ years experience in California. See some of my work at: www.tsrvresidential.com - Taruno S. Vega Phone 650-747-0654, email: taruno@coastside.net

Russian Ridge Winery 919 Washington Street, San Carlos. Award winning wines, many Santa Cruz Mountains varietals. Tasting room opens Fridays 5-9 pm and Saturdays/Sundays 12-5 pm.

When placing an ad: Please limit each ad to 45 words.

Due to many requests, we will attempt to keep a list of ads that will run every issue. However, there is no guarantee that an ad won't be missed because of our changes in staff. If you want to be on the list, make a request to "run until canceled". It is best to resubmit ads for each issue. **Next deadline: March 10, 2019**

Classified Ads are free to SSA members. Membership is \$20 per year. The online SSA membership application is at www.southskyline.org.

Email ads to: skylineseditor@yahoo.com

SOUTH SKYLINE ASSOCIATION
 400 Skyline Blvd.
 La Honda, CA 94020

SSA 2017 CALENDAR

SSA General Meeting - Friday January 18, 2019 at
 Saratoga Summit Fire Station • 7:00pm

Board Meetings will be held on:

January 10

February 14

March 14

For locations and more information contact

Michael Rowe rowe517@gmail.com • 408-872-1775

Current SSA Board Members

Dave Anderson	Highway 9 - Santa Cruz County	Website, Public Safety
Kristen Anderson	Highway 9 - Santa Cruz County	Treasurer
Patti Begley	Highway 9 - Santa Cruz County	Skylines, Website Committee
Barbara Bekins	Highway 35 - Rocky Creek	Secretary, Public Safety/Water, Website Committee
Debra Born	Alpine Road	Membership Chair, SSFC, Web Comm.
Evan Dellor	Rosemary Lane	Vice-President
Rich Lee	Portola Heights	SSEPO
Maura McNamara	Waterman Gap	Board Insurance , Chief Fun Officer
Jerry Parsons	Las Cumbres	SSEPO
Michael Rowe	Highway 9 – Santa Cruz County	President
Ruth Van Sciver	South of Black Rd.	SCMEPA
Guy LaLonde	Highway 35 - Rocky Creek	
Dick Schwind	Highway 35—North of Hwy 9	50th Anniversary Event

Skylines Ads and News Articles: The deadline for submitting ads and articles for the next issue is March 10, 2019.
 Skylines is published once a quarter: January/April/July/October
 Skylines invites individuals to submit articles and artwork.
 Policy on Classified Ads: See page 11
 Send all ads and articles to: **SkylinesEditor@yahoo.com**
 We reserve the right to edit all submissions. We assume no responsibility for omissions, incorrect information or personal opinions.