

**Eastern Madera County
Emergency Preparedness Committee
Meeting Summary
January 11, 2007
Sierra Ambulance Training Headquarters – Oakhurst, CA.**

Meeting Attendees: Tom Burdette, Janet Stanovich, Chris Dragoo, Coni Hintergardt, Mike Vaughn, Lynn Vaughn, Ed Guzman, Larry Ballew, Dave Wolin, Chuck Bump, Jen Ewing, PJ Grant, Monika Lain-Shaw, Steve Parks, Dick Rekart, Roger Simms, Jerry Thompson

Meeting called to order: 0740hrs.

Committee Introductions:

Discussion/Round Table:

Ed Guzman began the discussion by offering the committee members the opportunity to contribute any further information regarding the December, 2006 Disaster Drill Exercise.

Tom Burdette wanted to get information about communications and how the SPCA can obtain radio equipment to develop their communication skills. It was suggested that by studying radio communication, the SPCA member could take a technical exam for radio operators. The exam is scheduled monthly at different locations throughout Madera. Every third month the exam is offered in Oakhurst.

Chuck Bump received an email questioning the SAR personnel at the fire site during the drill. The concerns were expressed by those persons passing by-not aware of the incident being a training session.

Discussion about the next drill - it will probably be a tabletop exercise to be held in the Spring. Scenarios are only at the very early phase of development (“brainstorming”).

Roger Simms reported that they have been conducting control burns on Deadwood; will plan to plant approximately 20,000 ponderosa pines. Station #8 is under construction and Station 12 – dirt work has begun; Rancheria is new and should be completed by the end of the month. Discussion was made about becoming a Volunteer. It would entail basic operations and a hazmat course. Contact Station #12 for Volunteer information.

Larry Bellow is working with the CDF (via Fire Safety Council). They should be closing-off the fuel break today. Deadwood to Hwy 41 to Mudge Ranch Rd should be completed by April 2007. Other firebreaks will occur at Teaford to Goat Mountain to BL Annex; and at Hwy 41 to Batterson to Ahwahnee Regional Park sites.

Jerry Thompson reported about the radio examination. To take the general license exam – there is no longer a requirement to include Morse code. There is a fee to take the test; but no fee attached to receive the license. Course books can be found at Radio Shack. The next examination date to be held in Oakhurst will be March 11, 2007.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 8, 2007 at 0730 hrs. Sierra Ambulance in Oakhurst

Meeting adjourned at: 0845hrs.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Stanovich

Auto Enthusiasts, Racing Fans and Car Buffs Gear Up For Film Festival !!

West coast car enthusiasts, racing fans, hot rodders and racers are gearing up for the 2007 Southern Yosemite Automotive Film Festival, scheduled for March 21st through 25th, 2007 in Oakhurst, California, the southern gateway to Yosemite National Park. This has become such a big deal that the Madera County Board of Supervisors has declared that week in March to be "Official Madera County Film Festival Week".

Featuring automotive related films from the 40's through today, the film festival offers something for everyone, hard to find films such as Mickey Rooney's 1949 "Big Wheel", the original "The Fast and The Furious" from 1955 and more than 20 others.

Film legend James Garner will be the recipient of the "Southern Yosemite Lifetime Achievement Award" for his work in automotive films. Both "Grand Prix" and his documentary "The Racing Scene" will be screened and drivers from his racing team, Scooter Patrick and Davey Jordan, will be on hand to sign autographs and tell stories about their racing careers. One of their original Corvettes, now restored by Jim Herlinger of Santa Clara, will also be displayed.

The Lee Iacocca Foundation for diabetes research has selected the Southern Yosemite Automotive Film Festival as one of the places to present the Lee Iacocca Award, to be given to someone who best epitomizes both the automotive sport and community service.

Of special interest to car enthusiasts will be one of the few screenings of "The Sound of Speed", a short film about Lance Reventlow and his Scarab racing project. Director Bruce Kessler, who premiered this at the Cannes

Film Festival in 1962, will be at the festival to discuss the making of this film and his own racing career.

Pontiac fans will appreciate 2004's "The Last Ride", starring Dennis Hopper and featuring a variety of Pontiacs, and the director, Guy Bee, who will be in attendance, speaking about the making of the film.

John Schneider, of "Dukes of Hazzard" and "Smallville" fame, will be introducing his latest film, Collier & Co. and showing off his latest Dodge Charger.

The critically acclaimed and never before screened in California, "Dirt", a documentary about stock car racing at Devil's Bowl Speedway in Texas and a winner at the Austin Film Festival, will be one of the Friday night featured films. Director Jeff Bowden will introduce the film and describe all that went into making it.

For Corvette buffs, Dick Guldstrand, known as "Mr. Corvette" for his long involvement with the marque and success in racing, will be here to sign autographs, showcase his latest book and show of his special edition Corvette ZO-6.

Automotive authors will be here too. Harold Osmer, best known for his definitive book on long gone race tracks of Southern California, will attend, not only signing books but giving a brief talk about Southern California racetracks and displaying a variety of automotive books from Autobooks-Aerobooks of Burbank. "Landspeed Louise" Noeth will be on hand signing her definitive Bonneville book and more are expected.

From Cannonball Run II, Richard Kiel, who portrayed a Mitsubishi engineer in the film, will be here, again signing autographs and talking to fans.

With so many veterans of racing at the now defunct Riverside International Raceway attending, it's only fitting that a Riverside Raceway Retrospective be presented; with a short film of the 1965 Times Grand Prix and stories of racing at Riverside, from veterans who ran the first event in 1957 to those who ran the last in 1989.

The recent death of Formula One great Clay Regazzoni has prompted a brief remembrance program, with a special showing of the film of the 1974 Grand Prix season, where Clay, driving for Ferrari, finished second in the world championship to Emerson Fittipaldi. Speaking about Clay will be Chuck Jones, former partner in the Ensign Formula One team and Howden Ganley, former BRM Formula One driver.

One of the best things about the film festival is that the proceeds all go to charity. From the Lee Iacocca Foundation to the Children's Miracle Network to worthy causes in the Oakhurst area, everyone benefits from this event. A complete list of charities is on the film festival website, www.southernyosemite.com

The film festival week also includes displays of racing, vintage, antique and exotic cars, automobilia and souvenir vendors, an auction of racing memorabilia, celebrity autograph signings featuring stars and well known racers and more, limited access cocktail parties, wine tasting from local wineries and other auto related events.

And when you can't watch any more movies, tours of Yosemite National Park, ski outings, golf tournaments, train rides on the Yosemite Mountain Sugar Pine Railway, hosted trips to the local Chukchansi Gold Resort and Casino and a variety of family oriented events are available.

Tickets are now available online at the film festival website, www.southernyosemite.com or through the Oakhurst Area Chamber of Commerce at 559.683.7766. Ticket quantities are limited as only a few hundred people can be accommodated. Special accommodation packages with local hotels are also available.

Oakhurst is 4 ½ hours driving time north of Los Angeles and 3 hours east of the San Francisco Bay area. Airline service through Fresno Yosemite International Airport is 45 minutes away.

For complete information visit the Film Festival website, www.southernyosemite.com or contact the Oakhurst Chamber of Commerce, online at www.oakhurstchamber.com or call 559.683.7766.

Media Contact:

Dave Wolin
Dave Wolin Inc.
559.760.1143
ceo@davewolin.com