



DRY CREEK-LOKOYA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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(707) 738-7132

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<http://www.drycreek.org>

A 501(c)3 Non-Profit Corporation Tax ID #68-0383597

VOLUNTEER FIRE CHIEF'S CORNER

Welcome the the return of the May newsletter and thanks to the firefighters electing me fire chief after a five hiatus.

As always, our newsletter allows us to bring you important fire safe information as the fire season approaches. So, please read the entire newsletter and make note of the important information and events to help you survive this year's Fire Season.

I would first like to clarify our two, seemingly different "fire departments." The Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Department is the 501c3 corporation that handles all income and expenses through the Dry Creek Board of Directors. This organization also maintains the firehouse and organizes other supporting committees of the board such as the Home Winemakers Classic (the only fund raiser of the board) and the Mt. Veeder Fire Safe Council (MVFSC). The MVFSC committee was organized to help manage fire prevention programs in our fire response area.

The Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Company are the men and women who respond to the medical and fire emergencies in the big, red apparatus. The Fire Company is part of the Napa County Fire Department and we are Station 16 as part of Napa County.

In the beginning, there were nine volunteer "fire departments" in Napa County. In the early 1970's, Napa County Board of Supervisors realized that the volunteer departments had to hold fund raisers for equipment (and, thus might not be the best quality) and that the training of personnel could be improved. That is when the nine "fire departments" joined together as Napa County Fire Department. Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Department never registered as a "fire department" and is legally a volunteer fire company. We kept the "Volunteer Fire Department" for the board to keep part of our history.

Thought I'd clear up a few questions that have come my way.

Some other good, short-term fire news is that we have had lots of rain! A bit too much for our local roads. The rains this year will definitely put off the beginning of this year's fire season. That is the good news. The bad news is that the grass heights will be even greater which means the flame lengths and fire intensity will be worse when fire season does arrive. It is extremely important that you cut back your weeds NOW, before the hot, dry weather arrives. To help keep your house "Fire Safe" I encourage you to read all of the enclosed information in the newsletter.

Remember to have a 100 foot minimum clearance around your house, remove debris from your roof tops and gutters, clear dead, overhanging limbs

above your house, provide clear and proper addressing of your property, have proper clearance of your driveway, trimming all trees and brush so that we can come to your aide with our fire engines if necessary.

Thanks again for supporting you local, volunteer fire company and volunteer fire department. Please contact us if you wish to become a Volunteer Firefighter or work on the Home Winemakers Classic fundraiser or the Mt. Veeder Fire Safe Council. Please visit any of the following websites:

www.drycreek.org

www.homewinemakersclassic.org

www.mtveederfiresafe.org

Chief Green

chief16@drycreek.org



**COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE
BREAKFAST MEETING
SATURDAY, MAY 6 8:00-10:30**

As a reminder, please join us for this neighborhood meeting where you can meet your neighbors, have a great pancake breakfast, hear important information from guest speakers, and plan for a Safe Fire Season! The Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Department and the Mt. Veeder Fire Safe Council will serve pancakes from 8:00-9:00. Shortly following there will be presentations by other organizations including:

*Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Company
Mt. Veeder Fire Safe Council
Napa County Sheriff's Department
CalFire/Napa County Fire Department
Home Winemakers Classic*

Bring the entire family for pictures with the fire engines, the firefighters, and free fire hats for the kids! Literature and other important information will be available during the event for you to take home and put to good use. So, please join us at anytime between 8:00 and 10:30 at the main Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Department Firehouse located at 5900 Dry Creek Rd.



BURN PERMIT INFORMATION

Starting May 1, a CAL FIRE burn permit is required for all burning within Napa County. This permit is free of charge and is required in conjunction with any Bay Area Air Quality Permits (go online to <http://www.baaqmd.gov/permits> for the BAAQ permits).

Contact the closest CAL FIRE station to request a site inspection by one of the engine companies and they will then issue the permit, if the proposed burn is deemed safe. This is no different than any other year.

CalFire Station 12 Yountville (707) 944-8887

7401 Solano Ave, Yountville, CA 94599

lnu.yountvillestn@fire.ca.gov

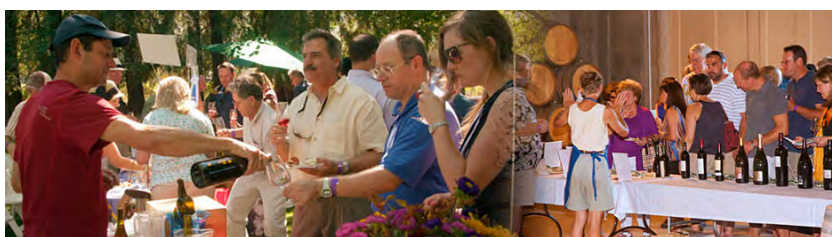
CalFire Station 25 Napa (707) 253-4940

1820 Monticello Rd, Napa, CA 94558

lnu.napastn@fire.ca.gov



Home Winemakers CLASSIC



HOME WINEMAKERS CLASSIC JULY 15, 2017

"THE ULTIMATE CULT WINE EVENT"

Our annual fundraiser, "The Home Winemakers Classic," is taking shape. This year we will be celebrating our 34th anniversary!! The event will take place on Saturday, July 15 at Charles Krug Winery, St. Helena Hwy. in St. Helena. Please come and have a GREAT time, drink some fantastic wines, eat delicious food, and bid on fantastic silent auction items while supporting your local volunteer fire department. This event has become, without a doubt, the best party for home wine-makers in all of California!

However, without this fund rais-ing event, the Dry Creek-Lokoya Vol-unteers would not be able to support our community as we have. This source of funding is used to maintain our main firehouse and the substation, purchase equipment, provide station meals, cover station uniforms, and provide the best training possible through the Napa County Firefighter Academy as well as other college fire courses and conferences.

Can't come to the event you say?!! Well, help support us by pur-chasing raffle tickets and have the

chance to win some great prizes! **YOU NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.** This year the prizes are: \$500.00 cash, Clif Family Winery Bruschetta & Wine tasting for 4, 4-750mL bottles Gamble Heritage Sights Zinfandel Blend, and the grand prize, the Gourmet BBQ dinner at the fire chief's log home! A book of 5 tickets costs a tax-deductible \$20 or \$5 for one ticket. It costs so little but can do so much!! Look for the letter and raffle tickets that will be mailed soon to your house.

You can also make your tax-deductible donation to your local volunteer fire department by purchasing raffle tickets either that day at the event or make a donation at our website. Just point your computer to:

<http://www.drycreek.org>

The Dry Creek-Lokoya Fire Department's website also sells admission tickets to the Home Winemakers Classic for \$40 (pre-sale price) or \$45 at the door with a link on our website to the Home Winemakers Classic website or go directly there by clicking the Home Winemakers website on page one.

This is our primary fundraiser, so please be sure to help us get the word out, and let your friends know about the electronic store.

The website is hosted on a secure server and your online transactions are protected by 128-bit encryption with a Secure Site Certificate, so you can use your Visa or MasterCard with confidence that your data is safe. Also, our Privacy Policy is very simple: we respect your privacy and we do not sell or share the information you provide, period.

See you there:

**Charles Krug Winery
St. Helena
Saturday, July 15th
4:00 - 6:30**



MVFSC – better to be busy than bored

by Joseph Nordlinger, MVFSC Chair

Well if it isn't one thing it's another for the residents of the residents of the Mount Veeder/Dry Creek/Redwood/Wall Road areas. One year we fret about the lack of precipitation and the risks of wildland fire and the very next year we contend with higher than average rain fall and the resultant landslides that come with super saturated soils and erosion. Imagine if we had a winter like we had just experienced after a large wildfire had occurred. We can only begin to imagine the erosion that would result in far more significant landslides, and road closures.

Rain increases vegetation and more vegetation dries out. No matter what the climate brings for our area the Mt. Veeder Fire Safe Council maintains its focus on reducing the risk of wildland fire in our community and we aren't slowing down. The MVFSC has been pushing an ambitious agenda of fundraising and outreach to mobilize the necessary resources to help reduce the risk of a devastating fire in our area. Here are a few highlights of some of our recent success. In 2017 we were awarded 10K from the Napa Community Firewise Foundation and \$117K from Cal Fire to finish the shaded fuel break along Wall Road. We were also awarded \$35K to create a significant shaded fuel break along the Limited Access road that services residents on Redwood road.

In all the MVFSC has identified nearly 20 projects that range from shaded fuel breaks along county roads to fuels reduction efforts along Limited Access Roads and improvement of legacy fire breaks from previous fire events. We are currently assisting a group of neighbors in pursuing a multi-parcel fuels reduction project with CalFire and the USDA that will access local and federal money to do fuels reduction on 127 acres. If that Pilot Program works, we will attempt to identify other multi-parcel areas and assist them with a similar effort.

On May 6th we will be educating our community about a broad range of resources available to help improve fire safety in our area. Come join us at the Dry Creek-Lokoya Fire Station for a pancake breakfast and more updates about the valuable work we are doing for our neighborhood.



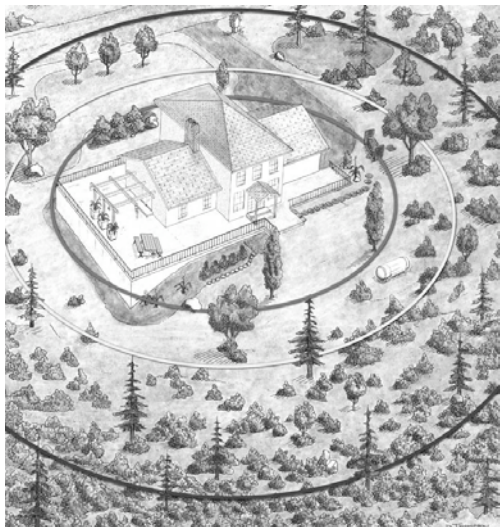
Neighbors in Need Program

The most vulnerable in our community should be one of our highest priorities. The Mt. Veeder area is home to about 450 residents; many of whom have been here since the early days. At the MVFSC we recognize that offering resources to these individuals is an important part of helping to improve not only their safety but the safety of others. In addition to our fuels reduction projects on roads and driveways we are also beginning to target individual residents who may need our assistance.

Mt Veeder Fire Safe Council has developed a program called Neighbors in Need to assist qualifying residents in the Mt. Veeder area with fire safety and fuels reduction. With a generous donation from Napa Community Projects and several wineries in our area the MVFSC has established a fund that will provide grants of up to \$5000 to needy residents to help them with improving defensible space and fuels reduction around their homes.

Please feel free to complete an application of interest or encourage anyone who you think may qualify to do so or alternately, you can reach out to us to nominate a potential applicant who we can directly reach out to. Click on the MVFSC website link on page one to download the application or see the application later in this newsletter.





WHAT IS DEFENSIBLE SPACE?

Defensible space, sometimes referred to as survival space, is a 100 foot radius around a home and outbuildings where dead or dying vegetation and other high-risk, fire-prone materials have been removed or reduced, so that fire has a difficult time spreading, and firefighters can safely defend the structure. State law requires this 100 foot safety zone and also states that driveways must incorporate 10 feet of defensible space on each side of the driveway, plus be cleared of low-hanging brush 15 feet above the roadway. All roads must have 20 feet of defensible space on each side with low-hanging brush cleared 15 feet above the roadway.

On a different topic, do you have a water source on your property and is it accessible to our fire engines? We are able to hook up to either a wet or dry standpipe that has a 4 1/2" male, National Hose Thread adapter. The standpipe should be located within 5 feet of a paved surface. Often, there is water on a property but it is not accessible to fire engines.

Is there a bridge leading to your property and house? Can it hold the weight of a fire engine? The Napa County code calls for bridges capable

of holding 40,000 pounds of weight (E16, our Type 1 fire engine is 40,000 pounds). All bridges should be labeled with the weight limit. In an emergency, if we do not believe the bridge will hold the fire apparatus, we will not cross the bridge with that apparatus. We will need to carry and walk to your house with whatever equipment we might need. If your house is on fire, we will need to hand-jack all hose to your house. This will take valuable time away from trying to save your house.

And, do you have a locked gate leading to your house? If so, does it have a Knox box lock so that we may, again, easily access your property? Valuable time would be lost again if we come to a locked gate and we need to find a way to open it.

We will have more information regarding all of the above at the Community Open House Pancake Breakfast held on Sunday, May 6 at the main Dry Creek-Lokoya VFD firehouse.

FREE CHIPPING BEGINS!

The Napa Communities Firewise Foundation, in cooperation with the Napa County Fire Department, provides a free chipping service to County residents who are working to maintain the State mandated 100 feet of Defensible Space around their homes.

Chipping Basics:

- Maximum individual pile size is 20 feet long by 6 feet high by 10 feet wide.
- There is no limit to the number of piles you can prepare for chipping during the season.
- Chipping is to occur along road/driveway or where our crews can **safely** access the pile.

- All material to be chipped (**PLEASE no Poson Oak!**) is to be placed along the edge of the road or driveway with the cut ends pointing in one direction -ideally toward the road. Stem diameters must be 6 inches and less. *No dozer or tractor piles please.*

Call 707-967-1426 or go to <http://www.napafirewise.org> to fill out your request.

911 ADDRESS SIGNS!

Remember, during a major fire we will be forced to pick and choose which houses we think we have safe access to and which houses we can save that have the proper clearance and defensible space. If you give us an address, will we be able to quickly locate that address in the thick smoke? Is your address LARGE and on a contrasting background and is it visible from BOTH directions from the street? As I drive up and down the roads of the Dry Creek-Lokoya response area, I still see addresses that will be impossible to read in smoky conditions. Is that you!!? All of this helps us to help you.

You may still purchase the green, 911 address signs on the Mt. Veeder website (<http://mtveederfiresafe.org/>).



MEET YOUR FIREFIGHTERS!



Dry Creek-Lokoya's Firefighter of the Year

Davis Pratt

Davis Pratt is 22 years old and is a full time EMT with AMR (Napa County's ambulance service), a Reserve Firefighter with the City of Napa Fire Department, a Volunteer Firefighter with Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Company, and a full time big brother. He was raised in Napa California and graduated Vintage High School in 2012. He completed EMT school at Napa Valley College in 2013. In High School he was fortunate to become involved in the Napa County Fire Explorer program where he was a member for four years. Once he "aged out" of the program he was fortunate enough to join the Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Company where he has been a Firefighter for 1 and 1/2 years.

He loves to do anything outdoors and sport related, just so long as it's summer! He loves serving his community through Emergency Medical Services and feels it is truly incredible being apart of people's lives through his job. His goal is to become a career Firefighter, and he get to work towards that goal everyday. He loves everyday he goes to work because he found a career path that really doesn't feel like work.

The Firefighter of the Year represents a person that takes the initiative to start and complete projects as well as showing excellent work habits in the field. Davis was one of the many firefighters that were at the Creek Fire in October of last year. He climbed the hills, brought hose to the hose lay, and fought fire. The plaque Davis holds has all of the former Firefighters of the Year as well.



Dry Creek-Lokoya's Bob Haggard Mentor Award Nick D'Adamo

Nick D'Adamo was born and raised in Napa and graduated from Napa High School in 2015. When he was in high school he started volunteering at the Boys and Girls Club. He started his fire service career while in high school. Napa high at the time had a fire science program where Nick took classes. During high he joined the Napa County Fire Explorer Post at the Napa County Fire Station in Yountville, Station 12. Before graduation of high school he completed his EMT course work. He joined the Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Company, Station 16 in December of 2015. He finished the Napa County Fire Academy in May of 2016. He currently works full-time for AMR, Napa County's ambulance service. He has been with AMR for over a year.

Volunteer Fire Chief Bob Haggard was my first chief when I joined the DCL family in 1978. Bob was a wonderful person who exemplified all the best attributes of a great man. The Bob Haggard Award and plaque was developed after the passing of Bob after a long illness. The Chief Robert Haggard Mentor Award plaque states:

"In recognition of the contributions that Chief Robert Haggard has made to the Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Department. This award is presented annually to those members that exemplify the attributes of Chief Haggard."

"Honor - Leadership - Community Service"

Need I say more regarding Nick D'Adamo?

**Another of our local
Firefighters is Ken Van
Oeveren.**

Captain Van Oeveren has held many positions within both the Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Department and the Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Company. Thanks to Ken's hard work, intelligence, and as chair of the board, the Dry Creek Board of Directors was able to develop badly needed guidelines for how to operate as a corporation.

Ken has been the Assistant Chief of the Fire Company and is currently in charge of Water Tender 16. He is one of the current four driver/operators we have in the Fire Company. Thus, it is extremely important that we can keep Ken healthy and available to staff WT16 or any other apparatus.

He is also one of the only three firefighters that still lives "on the hill" as a local resident. This makes his presence even more important.

So, if you can help Ken or know someone that can, please see the poster and learn more about the process by going to his Facebook or to the fire department's website at drycreek.org. Many thanks in advance for your consideration in this matter. Be a living hero!

Chief Green

WANTED

KIDNEY DONOR NEEDED



THIS

FOR



VOLUNTEER FIREMAN AND EMT KENNETH VAN OEVEREN 5/4/1947
TO LEARN ABOUT KEN GO TO HIS FACEBOOK OR [DRYCREEK.ORG](http://drycreek.org).

I HAVE ABOUT 3.5 YEARS TO LIVE WITHOUT A LIVE KIDNEY TRANSPLANT.

COMPLETE LIVING KIDNEY DONATION INTEREST FORM ONLINE AT:
[HTTPS://LD.UCDMC.UCDAVIS.EDU/DONOR/PAGES/DONOR.FACES](https://ld.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/donor/pages/donor.faces)

FOR DONOR INFORMATION ON LINE SEARCH: "UCDAVIS BE A LIVING DONOR"



Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council

Neighbors in Need

Defensible Space Assistance Program

QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES

1. Applicants must be at least 65 years of age OR disabled
2. Applicants must have an annual gross income of less than \$40,000 for a 1 person household or \$50,000 for a household of 2 or more people
3. Inspection and contract coordination are free of charge to those meeting the age and/or disability requirements
4. If the applicant is not the property owner, the property owner's approval, signature, and possibly financial information will be required before work can be performed on the property
5. Work will not be performed on a neighboring parcel that is located less than 100 feet from the house that is the subject of the application
6. The property must not currently meet the standards of California Public Resource Code 4291, which requires a minimum of 30-foot clearance of all flammable materials (needles, dry grass, brush etc.) around the house and also fuel reduction from 30 out to 100 feet (or to the property line).
7. All non-vegetative human debris must be cleaned up prior to receiving assistance from the Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council
8. All work through the assistance program will be accomplished by a contractor retained by Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council. The work will be completed as close as possible to CA PRC 4291 requirements and at a cost not to exceed \$5,000



Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council Neighbors in Need Defensible Space Assistance Program

APPLICATION

Applicant: _____ Are you the property owner? YES ☐ NO ☐

Property Owner: _____ Qualifications: 65+ years ☐ Disabled ☐
Low income ☐

Property Address: _____ Disability: _____

Parcel number: _____ Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

What assistance do you need in clearing defensible space?

I certify that the information on this form is correct and true. All requirements in this application/contract will be followed if assistance is received from Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council.

I understand that this is only an application for assistance. I understand that the Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council will determine whether to have work performed on my property based on the eligibility criteria for the Neighbors in Need Defensible Space Assistance Program.

Applicant Signature: _____

Owner Signature: _____
(if not owner-occupied)

Submit application via US Mail or email (include Neighbors in Need Program in subject line) to:

Neighbors in Need Defensible Space Assistance Program
Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council
5900 Dry Creek Road
Napa, CA 94558
mtveederfiresafe@gmail.com

REMEBER OCTOBER 10, 2016?



View of burned area from Mt. Veeder Rd.



View of burned area from Clear Creek Rd. and saved house!

Thanks to the hard work of your local volunteer firefighters and the paid staff, we did not lose a single structure!

NAPA, CA — A wildfire that sparked in Napa County Monday afternoon has grown to 60 acres, according to the 8 a.m. Calfire update.

Evacuations for the Campbell Creek and Campbell Flats was given as the fire spread.

Some 180 firefighters were on the fire lines within hours of the fire igniting. From the air, helicopters and fixed-wing planes joined the fight.

There have been no reports of injuries.

The Napa County Office of Emergency Services reports that the fire broke out in the 6000 block of Dry Creek Road. It's burning west of Yountville.

The weather cooperated with firefighting efforts as cool temperatures, relatively high humidity and no significant winds dampened the fire as sundown approached.