

# SOUTHERN CA ASSOC OF FORESTERS & FIRE WARDENS

*An Association dedicated to the Training and Safety of  
Southern CA Wildland Firefighters since 1930*

**2022-2023**

**OFFICERS**

President – Curt Schwarm – LPF  
1st Vice President – Dave Fowler – SLU  
2nd Vice President – Trevor Johnson – VNC  
Secretary – Tim Chavez – CDF  
Treasurer – Phil Johnson – ORC (ret)

**DIRECTORS**

ANF – Tim Dunfee  
BDF – Matt Ahearn  
BDU – Rusty McCulley  
CNF – Nathan Judy  
CSR – Brook Spelman  
KRN – Andrew Kennison  
LAC – Drew Smith  
LFD – Vacant  
ORC – Kevin Fetterman  
RRU – Jason McDermott  
SBC – Chris Childers  
SCE – Troy Whitman  
SDU – Josh Black  
SQF – Vacant

Ed Shabro – Vendor Representative  
Doug Lannon – Arrangements Chair  
Don Forsyth – Safety Chair  
Dan Snow – Liaison Chair



***Minutes of the  
Board of Directors  
meeting of the  
Southern California  
Association of  
Foresters and  
Fire Wardens***

***December 1, 2022***

***Camarillo, California***

***We, the members of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens, do band together for the purpose of strengthening interagency cooperation, fire safety coordination, and fellowship.***

# CONTACT US

SCAFFW

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# FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@SCAFFW



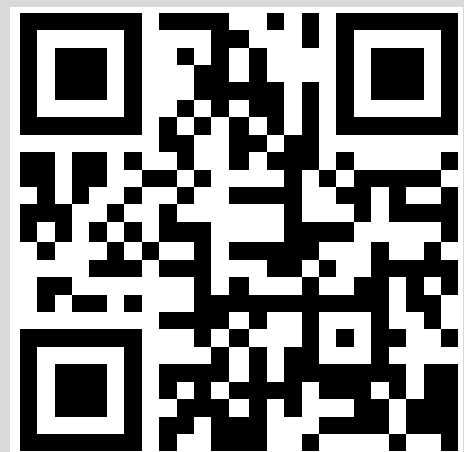
***Did you change  
your email address?***

***Please remember to contact  
us at scaffw@gmail.com and  
let us know, so you don't miss  
any newsletters or other  
important information***



*Photos on cover / pg 1:  
CAL Fire San Diego conducting  
a prescribed burn - Dec. 2022*

**Visit our website at  
scaffw.org**



**91st Annual**

# WILDLAND FIRE TRAINING & SAFETY CONFERENCE

**May 4-5, 2023 in Oak Glen, CA**

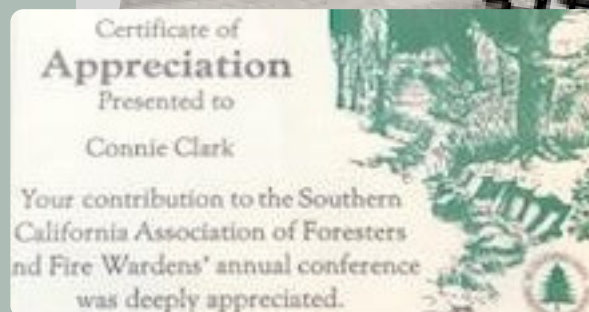


Each year, the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens brings together close to two hundred people from different fire protection agencies for a two-day training and safety conference.

Find more details and register at [www.scaffw.org](http://www.scaffw.org)

SCAFFW presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Connie Clark, outgoing Director of Camp Pilgrim Pines - for her five years of service at and for her unwavering support of our Annual Wildland Fire Training and Safety Conference

She is moving on to a new opportunity, but we will always be grateful for her dedication to making sure our conference was a success each year.



*Pictured above L to R:  
Crew of Oak Glen Engine 339, Connie Clark, Dan Snow, Doug Lannon*

# ALERTCalifornia

ALERTCalifornia provides state-of-the-art technology that supports data-driven decisions to prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters.

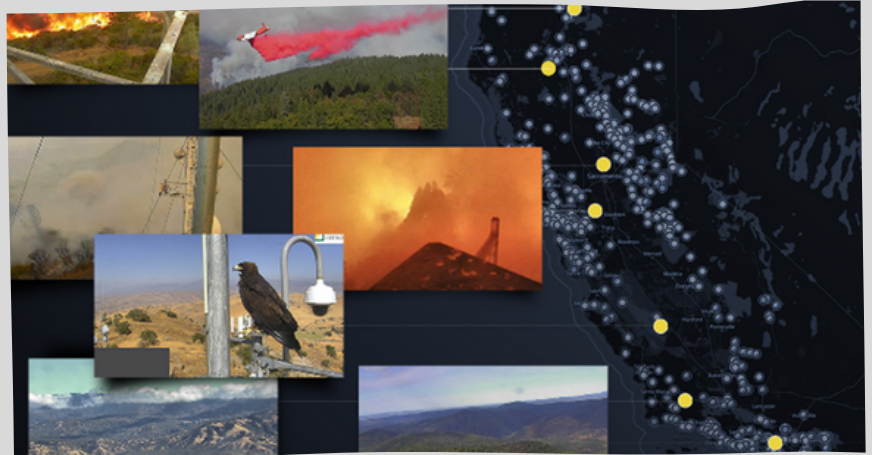
Based at the University of California San Diego, ALERTCalifornia is a public safety program working to understand wildfires and other natural hazards and determine short and long-term impacts on people and the environment to inform management decisions.

The state-focused program manages a network of more than 1,000 monitoring cameras and sensor arrays, and collects data that provides actionable, real-time information to inform public safety. In addition to the camera network, and in response to increasingly frequent and severe climate-driven disasters, ALERTCalifornia is prioritizing novel data collection and research. These data are open-source and are shared with fellow institutions and partners.

Advanced technology offers fresh insight into the cascading disasters associated with wildfires, such as post-fire debris flows, floods, and erosion. These data will lead to a greater understanding of natural disasters and their long-term impacts on air, water, and soil quality as well as human health in California.

The multidisciplinary team is based at UC San Diego's Jacobs School of Engineering, Qualcomm Institute, and Scripps Institution of Oceanography - they also work closely with partners across the state.

ALERTCalifornia is the third generation of UC San Diego's wireless network.



Learn more at: [alertcalifornia.org](http://alertcalifornia.org)

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING of the SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF FORESTERS & FIRE WARDENS



**Camarillo, CA**  
**December 1, 2022**

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOTES

The meeting of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens was called to order by President Schwarm at 0900 hours at Camarillo, California on December 1, 2022. A round of introductions were made. President thanked 2nd VP Trevor Johnson for making the arrangements for the meeting and dinner. Ventura County Fire Chief Dustin Gardner greeted the group and gave some opening remarks.

## **Officers and Directors Present:**

Curt Schwarm – President- Los Padres National Forest  
Dave Fowler – First Vice President- CAL FIRE – San Luis Obispo Co.  
Trevor Johnson – Second Vice President- Ventura County Fire Department  
Phil Johnson – Treasurer – Orange County Fire Authority Retired  
Tim Chavez – Secretary- CAL FIRE – Sacramento HQ  
Doug Lannon – CAL FIRE San Bernardino Retired- Arrangements Chair (attended virtually)  
Kevin Fetterman – Orange County Fire Department  
Chris Childers – Santa Barbara County Fire Department  
Drew Smith – Los Angeles County Fire Dept.  
Troy Whitman – Southern California Edison  
Tim Dunfee (represented by Chris Fry) – Angeles National Forest  
Brook Spelman – CAL FIRE – Southern Region  
Garrett Huff – Member – Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.  
Matt Ahearn – San Bernardino National Forest (attended virtually)  
Don Forsyth – Orange County Fire Department Retired -Safety Chair  
Andrew Kennison – Kern County Fire Department  
Josh Black – CAL FIRE – San Diego County (attended virtually)  
Nathan Judy – Cleveland National Forest

## **Officers and Directors Absent:**

Vacant – Los Angeles Fire Dept.  
Vacant – Sequoia National Forest  
Jason McDermott – CAL FIRE Riverside County  
Ed Shabro – Vendor Representative  
Dan Snow – San Bernardino National Forest Retired- Liaison Chair  
Rusty McCulley – CAL FIRE – San Bernardino Co.

## **Guests:**

Dustin Gardner – VNC Chief  
Joseph Sound – VNC IT and FFW Webmaster  
Megan Currier – LAC / FFW Social Media  
John Hawkins – RRU Retired – Life Member (virtually)

**Minutes:** President Schwarm presented the minutes of the May 4 and 6, 2022 meetings. Motion by Director Whitman seconded by Chairman Forsyth, to approve the minutes. The motion was approved.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer Phil Johnson presented his report covering April 1, 2022 to December 1, 2022

### **RECEIPTS**

Square Acct \$125.30  
Dues and Conference Registration/Paypal Balance \$13,556.16  
Vendor Registration Check/LN Curtis \$150.00  
SCE Grant \$5,000.00  
Bingo \$1,293.00  
Raffle \$3,696.00  
**TOTAL \$23,820.46**

### **DISBURSEMENTS**

Tumblers/Gemplers \$1,713.28  
T-Shirts/B's Tees \$2,000.00  
Tent Rental/Titan Tent \$783.80  
Food Truck/Nana's Tacos/Deposit \$1,276.67  
Food Truck/Nana's Tacos/Final Payment 5-7-22 \$2,546.57  
Event Insurance/CALGARD Associates \$176.00  
Raffle Prize Purchase/Trevor Johnson \$2,500.00  
Director Reimbursement/Dan Snow/Supplies \$21.74  
Donation-WFF/Charlie Morton \$257.53  
Social Media/Facebook \$170.00  
Event Venue/ Paid balance plus online fee 3.5% \$176.39  
Speaker Fee/ Gordon Graham \$4,000.00  
Speaker Fee/ Bob Freytag \$4,945.49  
Director Reimbursement/Dave Fowler 5-8-22 \$237.02  
Director Reimbursement/Tim Ernst 5-10-22 \$161.70  
Directors Dinner \$3,496.49  
Guitar Center/Microphone Rental \$400.00  
ABC License \$50.00  
ABC License Registered Mail \$8.36  
Electric Slide Screen \$339.40  
Electric Slide Screen Mounting Hardware \$18.31  
Camp Luther Glen/ 2 Nights \$150.00  
Camp Pilgrim Pines/ 1 Night Cottage \$120.00  
Director Reimbursement/Doug Lannon  
(Director's dinner meals not used, cabin fees,  
Luther Glen Parking, microphones, balance at Pilgrim Pines) \$4582.56  
**TOTAL \$25,548.75**

Balance as of (last meeting) Apr 1, 2022: \$44,382.08

Balance on hand: \$36,730.38

Last year at this time: \$40,653.75

## **TREASURER'S HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS**

IRS Tax filing completed for 2021/retro is normal

Obtained BofA credit card/ 6000.00 limit

Discontinued handwritten checks/Switched to Billpayer through BofA

SCE Grant/filed application/5000.00/PENDING

**Motion by Director T. Johnson, second by Director Spelman to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. The motion was approved.**

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Arrangements:**

The Pilgrim Pines Camp and Conference Center is owned by the United Church of Christ (UCC) and has been for more than 50 years. Up until twelve years ago, the UCC had maintained the responsibility of the management and operations for the camp. About twelve years ago, the UCC began contracting the responsibility of the management and operations of the Pilgrim Pines Camp and Conference Center to a separate private company; United Camps, Conferences, and Retreats (UCCR). Last July, the UCC made the decision to terminate their long standing contract with UCCR and to begin the transition of reassuming the responsibilities of the management and operations for the camp. Currently, UCCR will maintain the management and operations of Camp Pilgrim Pines through December 31, 2022 at midnight. On January 1, 2023 at 0001 hours, the UCC will reassume the responsibilities for the management and operations of the Camp.

This change in the Camp management and operations responsibilities should not adversely impact our Foresters and Fire Wardens relationship with UCC in any way. Because, along with our excellent relationship with UCCR, we have also maintained an excellent relationship with the parent company, UCC. Some changes that we will see however, is that there will be a new Camp Executive Director along with a few staff changes. The current Executive Director Connie Clark was originally offered the position but, due to her tenure with UCCR, if she changed companies, she would immediately lose all of her seniority, her current salary, her retirement, and her medical benefits, etc. She would have to start completely over with no seniority. So she will be remaining with UCCR. She has been reassigned as the new Executive Camp Director for Camp Loch Leven, which is located about fifteen to twenty minutes East from Pilgrim Pines, just a few miles up State Hwy 38 near Mountain Home Village, North of the Community of Mentone on the Seven Oaks Road.

The UCC appointed a new Camp Executive Director back in September. Her name is Tracey Brown and both F&FW Liaison and three time Past President, Dan Snow and I have met with Tracey and we have already had a good initial conversation with her. We talked about our group and some information about our Annual Wildland Fire Training and Safety Conference and a little bit about our Mission. Dan Snow and myself will plan on another trip to the Camp to visit with Tracey after the first of the year when we can spend a little time with her and her new staff members.



UCC and Camp Pilgrim Pines are continuing to honor our long standing F&FW relationship with the Camp and, being one of their largest annually recurring conference groups, our Training and Safety Conference dates are cast in stone! Our contract is in good standing, with a built in small annual percentage increase in operating costs and meals, which has always been included in past contracts. The only exceptions have been during the COVID years.

With much help from our Association President Curt Schwarm and Association Secretary Tim Chavez, Association Liaison Dan Snow and myself presented Outgoing Camp Director Connie Clark with a Certificate of Appreciation nicely mounted on a decorative wall plaque for her five years of service at Camp Pilgrim Pines and for her unwavering support for our Association and for our Annual Wildland Fire Training and Safety Conference. Also on hand to help with the presentation was the Crew of USFS BDF Engine 339 from the Oak Glen Fire Station next door. Newly appointed Executive Director Tracey Brown and the full Pilgrim Pines Staff also attended the presentation. BDF Engine 339 made for a nice classy back drop for some photo opportunities!

- The new Camp Executive Director, Tracey Brown has shadowed Connie Clark for the past three or four months and is ready to hit the ground running.
- The Camp is fully operational with all facilities up and running now.
- The Leadership Lodge has been repaired.
- All cabins are in good shape.
- A brand spanking new cold storage refrigeration unit has been purchased and installed in the kitchen area of the cafeteria.

Connie and Tracey did mention that there are some hazard trees up behind the Camp near the water tanks, the pool, and the maintenance shed that are dead, due to the El Dorado Fire that need to come down. They will be working with County Flood Control and possibly the Cal Fire Oak Glen Camp to see if they can get some assistance in bringing those trees safely down, as they are much to large and complex for the Pilgrim Pines Maintenance Staff to bring down safely.

### **Exhibits and Demonstrations:**

Second VP Trevor Johnson reported that all went well. We may need to program more time for the vendors, maybe longer breaks on Thursday or move the refreshments? Raffle tickets at each table would force folks to move around to each vendor to check the numbers. Maybe introduce vendors at the beginning of the day on Thursday. Trevor will be leading the vendor outreach to see if we can get more participation. Life Member John Hawkins proposed giving an hour for the vendors after lunch. Director Spelman proposed we advertise fittings available for boots/web gear as a benefit of attendance.

We still need ideas for displays for next conference. Proposal for displaying Common Operating Picture programs.

**Registration and Membership:**

VP Fowler suggested for next year that we purchase a commercial off the shelf registration software. Square has registration software with a small charge per registrant. He will present costs at the next meeting. QR code at the door was helpful in speeding up registrations.

**Entertainment and Raffle:**

Director Spelman will be assisting Trevor with the raffle/bingo. Proposal to have all the raffle ticket numbers consecutive so nobody must search for numbers. Golf will also be explored for next year's conference, maybe a visit to Top Golf? For next conference we need to decide a giveaway item. Also, we will continue the practice of purchasing raffle prizes with \$2500 from treasury. Proposal to maybe have a trivia contest with the bingo.

**Publicity:**

Megan Currier reported that we spent \$500 for ads last year. We should have a balance with Facebook in our ad account. A motion was made by 2nd VP T. Johnson and seconded by Director Whitman to spend \$1000 on social media ads for next conference. Passed unanimous.

We received a suggestion from our Web Master Joseph Sound to embark on a web page re-design. This might cost a 5-6 thousand dollars. He will get us a proposal next meeting. The redesign might include new landing page, registration page, more content (videos) and overall improvement on experience.

**Historian:**

Director Whitman advised We need to locate the Gavel and the Knot Head award. At the Feb Meeting we will be taking a Board Member picture. Be sure and wear your Nike Green shirt. Dan Snow will order shirts for whoever needs them.

**Safety:**

Director Forsyth had nothing to report. There were questions on the injury from last conference. There was a minor leg abrasion to one member that was treated by the USFS Oak Glen engine.

**Golf:**

Director Spelman will have more to report next meeting on reviving Golf.

**Newsletter:**

Megan Currier has a redesigned Newsletter template that we will roll out for the next issue.

az		Dan Dultz		John Tripp		John Lane			
Keynote		John Hawkins		Steven Pyne					
Color Guard		LA County Fire							
Crews		Orange County		LA County Fire					
LOGS A/V		LA County Fire		Riverside County Fire					
Safety/Policy		Operations		Leadership		Technology			
Name: Rob Rezende		Name: Anthony Stormetta		Name: John Hawkins		Name: Jouquin Ramirez			
Agency: San Diego City		Agency : Santa Barbara Co Fire		Agency: LAC		Agency: Technosylva			
Topic: Battery Safety		Topic: AG Pass/ Large animal removal		Topic:		Topic: Extended Attack Index			
Assigned: Spelman		Assigned: Huff		Assigned:		Assigned: Chavez			
Presentation Length	30	45	60	Presentation Length	30	45	60		
Category	1	2	3	4	Category	1	2	3	4
Safety/Policy		Operations		Leadership		Technology			
Name: Grunbaum, Weston, Jansen		Name: Van Lwaarden		Name: Jocko Willink		Name: TBA			
Agency: TBA		Agency: Orange County Fire		Agency:		Agency: Chula Vista FD/PD			
Topic: Radio Communications		Topic: Handcrew Burnover		Topic: Leadership TBA		Topic: Drone First Responder (DFR) Program			
Assigned: Hawkins		Assigned: Fetterman		Assigned: Dunfee		Assigned: Fetterman			
Presentation Length	30	45	60	Presentation Length	30	45	60		
Category	1	2	3	4	Category	1	2	3	4
Technology		Weather		Other/Misc					
Name: Neil Driscoll/ Graham Kent??		Agency: Alert CA		Topic: Alert CA Cameras		Assigned: Spelman			
Name: Kim Lightley		Agency: USFS		Topic: Stress First Aid		Assigned: Schwarm			
Presentation Length	30	45	60	Presentation Length	30	45	60		
Category	1	2	3	4	Category	1	2	3	4

**Program:**

These are the proposals so far for the 2023 program:

**Old Business:**

There was a motion made at the last meeting to change the name of the Publicity Chair to Marketing Chair. It was determined that this would require a Bylaws change which will require a vote of the full membership. We will form an ad hoc Bylaws committee consisting of the President, VP, 2nd VP, Director Whitman, Director Childers, Chairman Lannon. They will report back at the February meeting.

New Directors nametags will be ordered for May.

**Life Membership Recommendations:**

None

**Gary Helming Award Nominations:**

None

**New Business:**

A new location for the Directors Dinner will have to be arranged. The Oak Glen Steakhouse was heavily damaged in recent mudslides. Giveaways for members and speakers will have to be decided soon. Pilgrim Pines cost per meal is going up to \$30 per meal.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens will be held February 2, 2023.

Location and arrangements to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 1230.

Respectfully submitted,

**Tim Chavez**

Association Secretary

