



NEWSLETTER – FALL 2025

# SOUTHERN CA ASSOC OF FORESTERS & FIRE WARDENS

## OFFICERS

2025-2026

PRESIDENT	CHRIS FRY	ANF
1ST VICE PRES.	JASON MAHAN	BDU
2ND VICE PRES.	NATHAN ARELLANO	ORC
SECRETARY	TIM CHAVEZ	CDF (R)
TREASURER	PHIL JOHNSON	ORC (R)

## DIRECTORS

BDF	NATHAN LEATHERMAN
CNF	SCOTT GRASMICK
CSR	VACANT
KRN	ANDREW KENNISON
LAC	DREW SMITH
LFD	GUY TOMLINSON
LPF	CHRIS SCOTT
RRU	RYAN DUTTON
SBC	BRENT MANFRED
SCE	TROY WHITMAN
SDU	JOSH BLACK
SLU	DONTE GASH
SQF	VACANT
VNC	TREVOR JOHNSON
VENDOR REP.	TRACY RABE
ARRANGEMENTS CHAIR	DOUG LANNON
SAFETY CHAIR	DON FORSYTH
LIAISON CHAIR	DAN SNOW

Minutes of the Board of Directors  
meeting of the Southern California  
Assoc of Foresters & Fire Wardens

*April 30 & May 2, 2025  
Oak Glen, CA*

AN ASSOCIATION DEDICATED TO THE TRAINING AND SAFETY  
OF SOUTHERN CA WILDLAND FIREFIGHTERS SINCE 1930



**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@gmail.com**

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

## MAILING ADDRESS

**SCAFFW**

c/o Tim Chavez  
25268 Howard Dr.  
Hemet, CA 92544

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93rd Annual  
**Wildland Fire Training & Safety Conference**  
May 1-2, 2025  
Oak Glen, CA









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

APRIL 30, 2025 | OAK GLEN, CA

The meeting of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens was called to order by President Trevor Johnson at 1602 hours at Oak Glen, California on April 30, 2025. A round of introductions were made.

## **Officers and Directors Present:**

Trevor Johnson – President – Ventura County Fire Dept.  
Chris Fry – First Vice-President – Angeles National Forest  
Jason Mahan – Second Vice President – CAL FIRE – San Bernardino Co.  
Phil Johnson – Treasurer – Orange County Fire Authority (Retired)  
Tim Chavez – Secretary – CAL FIRE (Retired)  
Doug Lannon – CAL FIRE San Bernardino (Retired) – Arrangements Chair  
Don Forsyth – Orange County Fire Department (Retired) – Safety Chair  
Dan Snow – San Bernardino National Forest (Retired) – Liaison Chair  
Tracy Rabe – LN Curtis – Vendor Representative  
Troy Whitman – Southern California Edison  
Chris Scott – Los Padres National Forest  
Guy Tomlinson – Los Angeles Fire Dept.  
Dave Fowler – CAL FIRE San Luis Obispo Co.  
Ryan Dutton – CAL FIRE Riverside  
Josh Black – CAL FIRE San Diego  
Ryan Dutton – CAL FIRE Riverside  
VACANT – Sequoia National Forest

## **Officers and Directors Absent:**

Nathan Arellano – Orange County Fire Department  
Drew Smith – Los Angeles County Fire Dept.  
Andrew Kennison – Kern County Fire Dept.  
Brent Manfred – Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.  
Brook Spelman – CAL FIRE – Southern Region  
Scott Grasmick – Cleveland National Forest  
Nathan Leatherman – San Bernardino National Forest

## **Guests:**

Jason Marsh RRU (Retired)  
Matt Sanders LPF  
Larry Kurtz ORC  
Samantha Conn LAC  
Donte Gash

**Minutes:** President Johnson presented the minutes of the April 4, 2025 meeting. A correction was made to the sentence about Raffle costs, adjusted to \$4000. With correction, Motion by Forsyth, seconded by Scott, to approve the minutes. The motion was approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Phil Johnson presented his report covering April 4 to April 30, 2025.

Balance as of 4/3/25	\$44850.82
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Receipts

Dues & Conference Registration	\$15609.00
Total Receipts:	\$13913.00

Disbursements

Total Disbursements:	\$13913.00
Balance on hand:	\$52258.03
Last year at this time:	\$54982.06

Motion by Director Whitman, second by VP Fry to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. The motion was approved.

**Committee Reports**

**Arrangements:** Arrangements Chair Lannon advised the camp is ready. Fans in the lodge are new, health center has been completely refurbished. Need the attendee count by 1100. Meals are scheduled 0700, 1200-1230, 1800. Thursday Breakfast and lunch planning numbers are 150, Friday breakfast 125, Friday Lunch 100. Directors awards dinner tonight at 1800 at the Oak Glen Steakhouse. 2 Cabins will be reserved, Dartmouth for female attendees, Providence for Crews. Don and Doug have keys. Thanks to Pilot Rock Fire Crew for firewood that is ready to burn tonight. Type 3 engine from Yucaipa FFS will be medical coverage. Luther Glen available for parking again. VNC busses will shuttle. Upper parking lot coned off for displays. Craft is ready if needed for vendors. Fowler has radios. Ember Defense will set up in Field.

**Exhibits and Demonstrations:** VP Mahan and Vendor Rep Rabe advised 12 vendors expected. Have Power cords for power if needed.

**Registration and Membership:** Larry Kurtz advised they have 4 laptops and 3 printers ready.

**Entertainment and Raffle:** Jason Marsh will run the raffle. Costco buys were done and Mystery Ranch donated again. Tickets, cash and tumbler are ready.

**Publicity:** No report



**Historian:** Director Whitman advised pictures from the conference will be ready next week in the Google Drive. And a Director's picture will be taken immediately after the Friday Board meeting.

**Safety:** Safety Chair Forsyth advised Bears and snakes warning will be given, 2 cases of water will be placed in the Lodge and on the upper deck. 4 large hand sanitizer dispensers will be placed around the camp. EMTs will be here. Sheriff will give the noon talk.

**Newsletter:** No report

**Program:** VP Fry advised all is ready. Honor guard will be 6 person detail with piper. Tripp is ready to go as MC. He will deal with Raffle breaks and time management. Try to keep conversations near the back door of the lodge moved away from the door. Old Business: Phil will be single point of contact for payment for Directors Dinner. We will reserve the dates for 2026 on Friday.

**Life Membership Recommendations:** None

**Gary Helming Award Nominations:** None

**New Business:** None

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens will be held Friday May 2, here after the conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 1650

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Chavez  
Association Secretary



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

**MAY 2, 2025 | OAK GLEN, CA**

The meeting of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens was called to order by President Fry at 1245 hours at Oak Glen, California on May 2, 2025. A round of introductions were made. President Fry thanked for making the arrangements for the meeting and dinner.

## **Officers and Directors Present:**

Jason Mahan – First Vice President – CAL FIRE – San Bernardino Co.  
Nathan Arellano – Second Vice President Orange County Fire Department  
Phil Johnson – Treasurer – Orange County Fire Authority (Retired)  
Tim Chavez – Secretary – CAL FIRE (Retired)  
Doug Lannon – CAL FIRE San Bernardino (Retired) – Arrangements Chair  
Don Forsyth – Orange County Fire Department (Retired) – Safety Chair  
Dan Snow – San Bernardino National Forest (Retired) – Liaison Chair  
Tracy Rabe – LN Curtis – Vendor Representative  
Drew Smith – Los Angeles County Fire Dept.  
Troy Whitman – Southern California Edison  
Andrew Kennison – Kern County Fire Dept.  
Chris Scott – Los Padres National Forest  
Guy Tomlinson – Los Angeles Fire Dept.  
Dave Fowler – CAL FIRE San Luis Obispo Co.  
Brent Manfred – Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.  
VACANT – CAL FIRE – Southern Region  
Ryan Dutton – CAL FIRE Riverside  
Josh Black – CAL FIRE San Diego  
Trevor Johnson – Past President – Ventura County Fire Dept.  
VACANT – Sequoia National Forest

## **Officers and Directors Absent:**

Chris Fry – President – Angeles National Forest  
Scott Grasmick – Cleveland National Forest  
Nathan Leatherman – San Bernardino National Forest

## **Guests:**

Samantha Conn LAC  
Megan Currier LAC  
Jason Marsh RRU (Retired)  
Larry Kurtz ORC



Past President Trevor Johnson presided due to President Fry needed to attend to a family issue.

**Officers for 2025-26 nominated:** Chris Fry President, Jason Mahan First VP, Nathan Arellano Second VP. Secretary- Chavez, Treasurer Phil Johnson shadowed by Whitman, Megan Currier Publicity Chair, Dan Snow Liaison Chair, Don Forsyth Safety Chair, Larry Kurtz Registration Chair shadowed by Kennison. Director Dutton Entertainment Raffle Chair shadow by Director Manfred. Motion by Director Whitman, Second Director Snow, motion passed.

**Minutes:** Minutes will be approved at the December meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Phil Johnson advised that a detailed treasurer's report will be prepared for the December meeting. There were 171 paid attendees. 29 crew members. Wednesdays lodging is covered for the board. The Edison grant application is pending.

### **Committee Reports**

**Arrangements:** Chairman Lannon advised everything went very well. Camp staff very helpful and good to work with. Meals mostly good. Radios returned to SLU cache. Kudos to Samantha Conn for managing all the IT/PA in the lodge, all went well.

**Exhibits and Demonstrations:** Director Mahan advised all went well. There was a problem with the Electric Engine getting stuck in the road but otherwise all good.

**Registration and Membership:** Director Kennison advised all went well, but we Need a new laptop for registration. Requesting up to \$1800. Motion by Director Trevor Johnson, seconded by

### **Entertainment and Raffle:**

**Publicity:** No report

**Historian:** No report

**Safety:** Chairman Forsyth advised there was one minor medical aid, all else good.

**Newsletter:** No report

**Program:** Program very well received. More to report at December meeting.

**Old Business:** Life Membership Recommendations: None / Gary Helming Award Nominations: None

**New Business:** Web page needs photos and dates updated. There are broken links.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens will be held December 5, 2025 location and details to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 1400

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Chavez  
Association Secretary





# VIRTUAL MEETING | OCTOBER 31, 2025

## Called to order at 1100

### In attendance

President Chris Fry ANF  
First VP Jason Mahan BDU  
Second VP Nathan Arellano ORC  
Secretary Tim Chavez CDF  
Historian Troy Whitman SCE  
Director Drew Smith LAC  
Liaison Chair Dan Snow BDF Ret  
Safety Chair Don Forsyth ORU Ret  
Arrangements Chair Doug Lannon BDU ret  
Director Scott Grasmick CNF  
Past President Trevor Johnson VNC

President Fry advised that he wanted to have a call to discuss a field trip that some directors made to King Gillette Ranch in the Santa Monica Mountains as a potential conference location and board meeting location.

Report from Lannon on Oak Glen and Pilgrim Pines, which survived recent debris flows in the area. Oak Glen Road is good, and the Steakhouse is also open for business. Chris the director of the camp received \$5 million for improvements to the camp, including roofs, asphalt, and moving the pool.

### King Gillette Ranch

Field trip attendees (Smith, Fry, Lannon, Forsyth, Snow) reported the layout of the camp is more spread out than Pilgrim Pines. Lots more walking between venue and mess hall etc. Camp will sleep 180 persons. Accommodations are less rustic but smaller. Common bathroom on each floor. Stairs are marble and look slippery. Leadership quarters are separate. Large presentation/theatre area, including padded Theatre seats. Projector and PA are all built in. Power is available outside for vendors.

Some drawbacks are the stairwell (no elevator), the long walks, potentially higher cost, kitchen requires the hiring of a vendor/caterer, trash removal is the responsibility of the user. Director Smith advised the County could assist with most of the logistical issues. The venue will probably work with the association as far as cost.

Questions will have to be solved before further discussion about using it for a conference venue. A discussion was had about having the December Board of Directors meeting there, but it was determined that the December meeting is too important to have a tour of the facility as a distraction. More discussion at the December Board meeting. Director Kennison will send out details later for Bakersfield.

Call ended at 1200.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Chavez  
Association Secretary

