



NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2024

SOUTHERN CA ASSOC OF FORESTERS & FIRE WARDENS

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2023-2024

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SBC	BRENT MANFRED
SCE	TROY WHITMAN
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VENDOR REP.	VACANT
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 and Fire Wardens***

***April 5, 2024
Santa Barbara, 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.

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

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92ND ANNUAL WILDLAND FIRE TRAINING & SAFETY CONFERENCE



MAY 2-3, 2024
OAK GLEN, CA

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Brian Billick (former NFL Head Coach)

PRESENTATIONS INCLUDE

A review of the 2023 Canadian wildfires, lessons learned from Lahaina, and many more



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SOUTHERN CA ASSOCIATION OF FORESTERS & FIRE WARDENS
PROTECTING CALIFORNIA SINCE 1930

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024

0900	Opening of the 92nd Annual Conference Welcome: President Dave Fowler, Battalion Chief, CAL FIRE SLU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of Colors – CAL FIRE Honor Guard • Pledge of Allegiance – Director Troy Whitman, So Cal Edison • Invocation – Jim Cook, CAL FIRE (ret.) • Bell Ceremony – CAL FIRE Honor Guard • Safety – Director Don Forsyth, OCFA (ret.) • Gary Helming Scholarship Award – President Dave Fowler • Vendor Introduction Introduction of Program - Master of Ceremonies John Tripp, Deputy Chief, Los Angeles County Fire Dept. (ret.)
0930	Keynote Address Brian Billick (former NFL head coach, Super Bowl champion)
1030	Break
1040	Partnerships & Cohesion Assistant Region Chief Jackie Williams, CAL FIRE CSR
1100	2023 Lahaina Wildfires Michael Walker, State Protection Forester Hawaii Division of Forestry & Wildlife
1145	Alert California Cameras/AI Deputy Chief Zack Wells, Kern County Fire Dept.
1215	Lunch
1300	Raffle
1315	“Snowmageddon” San Bernardino County Winter Storms BC Steve Tracy & Erin Opliger, San Bernardino County Fire Dept.
1400	BEU Model 34 Engine Burnover Mike Shater FEM1 & Dustin Chrisinger CAL FIRE BDU
1500	Break
1515	Inaja Fire Review Carlton Joseph, US Forest Service (ret.)
1600	Vendor Area / Raffle / Social Hour
1800	Dinner
1900	Entertainment & Networking

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024

0700	Breakfast
0800	2024 Fire Season Outlook Drew Smith, Asst. Chief/FBAN, Los Angeles County Fire Dept Dave Gomberg, National Weather Service LOX
0830	Firefighter Tracking Systems Marcus Hernandez, Assistant Chief, CAL FIRE
0910	75 Years Mann Gulch Fire Ken Kremensky & Jim Cook
1005	Break
1015	2023 Canadian Wildfires Dustin Mueller, USFS, Incident Commander CIIMT 5
1100	Raffle
1115	Tustin Hangar Fire Review Battalion Chief Mike Morganstern, Orange County Fire Authority
1145	Closing Business Knothead Award Introduction of 2023/2024 SCAFFW President Presentation to Outgoing President
1200	End of Conference / Lunch

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

APRIL 5, 2024 | SANTA BARBARA, CA

The meeting of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens was called to order by President Fowler at 0903 hours in Santa Barbara, California on April 5, 2024. A round of introductions were made. President Fowler thanked Director Manfred for making the arrangements for the meeting and dinner.

Officers and Directors Present:

Dave Fowler – President – CAL FIRE – San Luis Obispo Co.
Trevor Johnson – First Vice President – Ventura County Fire Dept.
Nathan Judy – Second Vice President – San Bernardino National Forest
Phil Johnson – Treasurer – Orange County Fire Authority (Retired)
Tim Chavez – Secretary – CAL FIRE (Retired)
Doug Lannon – CAL FIRE San Bernardino (Retired) – Arrangements Chair
Nathan Arellano – Orange County Fire Department
Drew Smith – Los Angeles County Fire Department
Chris Fry – Angeles National Forest
Don Forsyth – Orange County Fire Department (Retired) – Safety Chair
Guy Tomlinson - Los Angeles Fire Department
Vacant – Sequoia National Forest
Brent Manfred – Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Jason Mahan – CAL FIRE – San Bernardino Co.

Present Online:

Chris Scott – Los Padres National Forest
Andrew Kennison – Kern County Fire Department
Josh Black – CAL FIRE – San Diego County Fire Department
Brook Spelman – CAL FIRE – Southern Region

Officers and Directors Absent:

Troy Whitman – Southern California Edison
Dan Snow – San Bernardino National Forest Retired – Liaison Chair
Vacant – Vendor Representative
Jason McDermott – CAL FIRE Riverside County

Guests:

John Hawkins – Lifetime Member – online

Minutes:

President Fowler presented the minutes of the February 2024 meeting. Director Forsyth indicated one correction of the proper title of Orange County Fire Authority. With this correction, Motion by Forsyth seconded by Lannon, to approve the minutes. The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Phil Johnson presented his report covering February to April 2024.

Balance as of (last meeting):	\$52059.68
Total Receipts:	\$5061.63
Total Disbursements:	\$9501.24

Balance on hand:	\$47620.67
Last year at this time:	\$48010.72

Housekeeping items:
Insurance payment completed
2023 Taxes filed
Grant application to SCE ongoing

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

Committee Reports**Arrangements:**

Arrangements Chairman Lannon reported he is in regular contact with Pilgrim Pines. They have several projects underway with construction of an ADA ramp to the Health Center, Stairs to the Craft Room are being rebuilt but the Cabins are all ready including heat. Meals are lined out for the conference, Breakfast Thursday 30-35, Lunch and Dinner on Thursday 135, Breakfast and Lunch Friday 90.

Lannon made a motion to have the Directors Dinner be an Awards Dinner and the Board to cover part of the cost. The motion was seconded by Director Smith. Passed Unanimously.

The Directors dinner Wednesday Night will be an awards dinner and the Board will cover part of the cost. Menu will be Prime Rib, BBQ Chicken and Fettuccine Alfredo w/chicken. Cost will be \$50 per person.

The ABC paperwork has been filed, Chairman Lannon will be submitting request for \$50 for the license and \$9 for postage. The Responsible Beverage Server card will be good for another year.

Pilgrim Pines has improved their sound system. Luther Glen Camp is available for parking only. Medic or BLS coverage will be provided by Yucaipa CAL FIRE. Radio Cache will be brought by President Fowler from SLU. Signs are ready at Oak Glen. LA County and Kern County will bring a crew module, VNC will bring an extra buggy.

Exhibits and Demonstrations:

Director Judy reported that the following exhibits will be at the conference: Command Vehicle, Drone, NG Scout, 2 Type 6 engines, Ember Defense, Type 3 Engine, MRE Fire Equipment. 6 Vendors have confirmed. The vendors will need tables and chairs and power. Still looking for a Vendor Representative for the Board.

Registration and Membership:

Director Kennison reported there have been 38 registered so far. Larry Kurtz and Abby Forrest will be there to assist.

Entertainment and Raffle:

Director Spelman reported that he will be getting the Raffle prizes soon. Director Forsyth made a motion to increase the raffle fund from \$2500 to \$3000. Seconded by Spelman. Passed unanimously. Several donations for raffle prizes are pending.

Publicity:

Director Judy reported the Poster is out, needs to be distributed to your departments. Social Media ads are being pushed now.

Historian:

Director Whitman was absent but sent that he had nothing to report.

Safety:

Sheriff/CHP will be there for their talk. Bottled water and hand sanitizer will be provided again.

Golf:

Director Spelman reported that we will try for Top Golf for next year's conference.

Newsletter:

Nothing to report.

Program:

Just minor changes to the program. LA County will be printing 175 copies.

Old Business:

No old business

Life Membership Recommendations:

None

Gary Helming Award Nominations:

Bischof and Rodrigues families nominated. More to follow.

New Business:

Get bell ceremony names to Secretary Chavez soon. So far just Bischof and Rodriguez.

Director Tomlinson offered a presentation on the CNG explosion incident if there is a last-minute cancellation.

Name tags for new members are on order. Please get your shirt/jacket money to Lannon for Dan Snow this meeting.

A lengthy discussion of a tent vendor was concluded with several vendors being queried for availability.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens will be held at Pilgrim Pines Camp on May 2 at 1600.

The meeting was adjourned at 1136.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Chavez,
Association Secretary





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