



Spring 2015

Hi All;

It's time for an up-date from your Sunshine Valley Volunteer Fire Department (SVVFD)

**Fire Hall:**

There were a large number of residents who attended the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on January 31, 2015. They were very supportive of the volunteer fire fighters and were excited to hear about the progress on the new Fire Hall. Mr. David Bull of Sunshine Valley Developments was in attendance at the AGM. He reported on the work that was completed to date on the Fire Hall and the equipment generously provided by SVDL and Holiday Trails.

In order to move forward with further completion of the Fire Hall there was a motion made at the AGM for the membership to release some of the reserve funds to complete the Fire Hall to a move in state. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously. Mr. Dave Bull-SVDL gave a commitment that the reserve funds would be paid back at a later date. The board at this time would like to thank SVDL and the residents for your continued support.

More recently, we have received three quotes from construction companies in the area and we have selected the most suited candidate for the job. We have also had a resident electrician step forward and volunteer his time and some materials to complete some of the wiring that was needed. At this time we would like once again to thank him for his time and effort. In addition, the drywall in the upstairs area is near completion. We will be moving in once the Communication system has been installed. It won't be long now for our moving date into our new "house", for those that watch Chicago Fire!

**Sunshine Valley Volunteer FD Society Membership Dues:**

By now you all should have received an invoice for your annual membership dues for 2015 as these were either e-mail or mailed to you in late March. If you have not received your invoice please let us know by sending a note to [svvfdinfo@telus.net](mailto:svvfdinfo@telus.net) . In order to fund the department we apply an invoice to each lot regardless if there is a structure or not, if there is a fire on your bare lot you are still responsible for us to come and

extinguish the fire. For those of you that own multiple lots, we still collect the \$100 for each lot. Every dollar we collect is very valuable to us and is spent wisely.

In Addition, please be advised that if somethings goes seriously wrong while we are on a call that The SVVFD Society carries Liability Insurance for its Directors and Officers, WorkSafe BC coverage for the firefighters (so if someone gets hurt on your properties you are not at risk) and General Liability Insurance for the Department. The BC Society Act under “Liability of Members” also notes the following:

*Sec-5 “A member of a society is not, in the member’s individual capacity, liable for a debt or liability of the society”*

Last year we had 325 out of the 417 residents that were invoiced show their support for the fire department and we greatly appreciate this. We are all volunteers providing help in times of crisis to the residents of the valley. We hope that our services are never needed but we train and practice to be there when you do need us. With the new hall are operating costs will definitely be increasing and it is not fair for those that do support us to pay those that don’t. The extra uncollected dues would go a long way in helping us finish the hall and cover the extra operating costs as well as buy equipment for our second fire truck.

#### **Fund Raising Events:**

We will be holding our annual Music Bingo Night on the Saturday of the “Sunshine Valley Days” long weekend so mark your calendar for the most fun you can have in 4 hours! We haven’t had a pancake breakfast in a while to give our cooks a break; however we will once again be in the kitchen soon. ☺ We are always accepting your cash refundable empties at the old hall. Your donations here usually bring us about \$1,500 per year, thanks. Remember to please remove the caps as this saves a lot of time in sorting the empties and it must be done in order to return them.

#### **Fire Smarting:**

Now that winter has ended so quickly, it is time to clean up all the dead branches that have fallen from the trees on and around our properties. Keeping the ground free of fire fuel would help stop the spread of fire if we have a situation in the valley. When cleaning up the branches please **DO NOT TAKE THEM UP THE LOGGING ROAD AND DUMP THEM**. Not only is this illegal but you just moving the fuel to somewhere else. All yard waste should be taken to the transfer station and dumped into the large pit so it can be disposed of properly. Due to the lack of our regular snow pack in the area, we are expecting a very dry summer which will increase the risk of fire. I also would like to remind you that all camp fires should be extinguished so they are cool to the touch before retiring for the evening. Thank-you for your co-operation on this matter.

Regards

Chief Mark Wilson LAFC