



## PECOS CANYON FIRE AND RESCUE

### Training Never Stops for Your Pecos Canyon Volunteers!

- Nine of our firefighters participated in and passed the annual Wildland pack test. Participants must cover a three-mile course carrying a 45-pound pack in 45 minutes or less. Those who passed were Huie Ley, Bob Ingersoll, Eric Roybal, Laurie Vigil, Eric Lucero, Paul Gonzales, Josh Ingersoll, Lou Romero, and Gene Romero. Two others will be taking the pack test in the near future.
- Chief Roybal and Assistant Chief Randy Varela along with newly appointed Training Captain Eric Lucero, EMS Captain Laurie Vigil and Treasurer Huie Ley recently attended a "Table Top" training held at the Sheriff's Posse building in Pecos. This kind of training is designed to teach firefighters and other participating agencies how to best communicate among the various agencies who could be involved in a large or complicated emergency. Also attending were representatives from NM State Forestry, US Forest Service, Mora San Miguel Electric Coop, Pecos FD, Rowe FD, Ilfeld FD, Glorieta FD and Santa Fe and San Miguel County. PCFR initiated this first cooperative training of this type. We plan to continue this as an annual event and it is hoped that this training will lead to greater cooperation among all agencies involved.
- Three of our newest volunteers, Gene Romero, Troy George and Joe Romero, have already completed a very important intensive basic Wildland fire-fighting course called 130/190. These young men and three others are also busy working on their Cadet Task Books which involves spending a lot of time training and "interning" with current firefighters who volunteer to mentor these new cadets.
- Most members have completed training and refresher training on CEVO (Coaching Emergency Vehicle Operator).



### Pecos Canyon Fire and Rescue Extinguishes Vehicle Caused Fire

During the early morning hours of February 2, 2015, Pecos Canyon Fire & Rescue was dispatched to a motor vehicle accident involving a fire. On arrival, the vehicle was completely destroyed and the driver, who had some serious injuries, was airlifted to UNM hospital in Albuquerque. Fortunately, because of the moisture level and cool temperatures, there was no fire spread.

### New Rescue Vehicle to Be Acquired

A new rescue vehicle will replace our 1982 Mini-pumper. It will be capable of responding to structure fires, wildland fires, medical calls, hazardous materials calls in addition to carrying our vehicle extrication tools. This new apparatus is being purchased with a combination of grant money and Capitol Outlay and will be a very versatile apparatus.

### Canyon Emergency Phones to be Installed in the Near Future

Three 911 Emergency telephones will be installed in the Pecos Canyon in the coming months. These phones are being made available because of a grant which was used to purchase the equipment for three sites: Cowles, Tererro and the PCF&R station. Installation will be provided by your PCF&R volunteers. It is hoped that access to emergency phones by campers, visitors and residents will decrease response time in case of fire, accidents or other emergencies.

## Meet a PCFR Volunteer: Continuing a Family Tradition



Randy Varela decided to start volunteering with Pecos Village Fire Department after his father passed away when Randy was just 14 years old. His father had volunteered with Pecos Ambulance Service and Randy wanted to keep that tradition alive. He volunteered with Pecos Ambulance Service until 1998 and with the Pecos Fire Department until 2000.

In 1980, Randy joined the New Mexico National Guard and completed basic training at Fort Leonard Wood. After basic training, he came home to Pecos to finish his senior year of high school before heading to Fort Dix, New Jersey, to complete his training.

In 1985, he received his New Mexico State Registry for Emergency Medical Technicians, while also working at Glorieta Conference Center and working construction. In 1986, he was hired by Mora San Miguel Electric as a lineman and continued to move up to line foreman, where he oversaw the day-to-day operations of the Pecos District until 2003. In January of

2004, he was hired as a manager at Ferrellgas and worked there until he decided to go back to fire in 2006. He started his own gas business (Northern Advantage Gas Services) which is still operational today. He became a fire investigator for the NM State Fire Marshal's Office in Santa Fe in 2006, and moved up to his current position at the Fire Support Bureau where his job is to inspect fire departments throughout New Mexico and help them prepare for their ISO surveys.

In 2013, he started to volunteer with Pecos Canyon Fire and Rescue and currently holds the rank of Assistant Fire Chief. Since joining, Randy has brought a new professionalism to the department by bringing and providing extensive training opportunities not only to PCFR but to all surrounding departments. Randy brings with him an extensive amount of knowledge, leadership skills and certifications. Randy's skills in the electricity and gas industries provide our department with an important technical advantage. His knowledge of protocol, apparatus and equipment are invaluable to the department.

His wife, Cindy, and daughter, Maria, are also avid volunteers. They have been volunteering with Special Olympics Santa Fe for the past 13 years. Cindy is the Area Coordinator for Santa Fe, as well as a coach, and Maria is a unified partner.

## Pecos Canyon Fire and Rescue Stays Involved with the Community



On May 22, 2015, Chief Roybal welcomed 40 kindergarten students from the Pecos Elementary School to the PCFR station. The stop was part of a "Canyon Tour" designed to encourage awareness and appreciation of the beautiful canyon that is their backyard. The Chief shared fire and safety awareness tips and answered the children's questions. The students also received crayons and coloring books as well as Junior Fire Marshal badges and safety whistles. According to one of the

youngsters, the most exciting part of the visit was "when the Chief pulled the fire engine into the road to stop traffic so we could cross."

On June 12, 2015, PCFR volunteers entertained and informed an Albuquerque group of special needs teens and adults from Mandy's Farm at a picnic held at the Jim King property north of the station. The young folks enjoyed exploring the vehicles and watching the deck gun demonstration.



*PCFR volunteers are often called on to assist other agencies with medical emergencies as at this scene on I-25 in early June.*

### Contact Pecos Canyon Fire and Rescue

Website: [www.pecoscanyonfire.org](http://www.pecoscanyonfire.org) Facebook: [www.Facebook.com/PecosCanyonFireAndRescue](http://www.Facebook.com/PecosCanyonFireAndRescue)

Station phone: 505-757-2591 Email: [info@PecosCanyonFire.org](mailto:info@PecosCanyonFire.org)

If you need to update your contact information or provide your e-mail, please go to [www.pecoscanyonfire.org](http://www.pecoscanyonfire.org). Click on

**Register to Receive Emergency Alerts** and then click on **Register for E-mail Alerts from Pecos Canyon Fire and Rescue.**



## Training (continued from first page)

In addition to the previously described recent training, the following PCFR members were involved in other special training activities:

- Eric Roybal, Laurie Vigil, Paul Gonzales, Huie Ley, Lou Romero and Eric Lucero completed S-212 Wildland Chainsaws.
- Eric Roybal, Laurie Vigil, Huie Ley, Raphael D'Amato and Eric Lucero completed S-215 Wildland Urban Interface.
- Huie Ley and Raphael D'Amato completed Fire Ignition Operations.
- Eric Roybal and Laurie Vigil completed L-280 Leadership.
- Eric Roybal, Laurie Vigil, Huie Ley and Raphael D'Amato completed Initial Attack Incident Commander.
- Laurie Vigil and Eric Roybal completed S-270 Air Operations.
- Eric Roybal, Laurie Vigil, Randy Varela, Lou Romero, Richard Ley, Eric Lucero, Huie Ley, Paul Gonzales and Raphael D'Amato completed RT-130 Fireline Safety Refresher.
- Troy George and Joe Romero will be taking their pack tests in the near future.

More Photos from Mandy's Farm Picnic



*In the driver's seat*



*Trying on the gear*



*Observing the vehicles*

## Update on Accused Arsonist

According to PCFR Public Information Officer Bobb Barnes, Michael Winsor is still incarcerated and most likely still undergoing psychiatric evaluation. Winsor was arrested and charged on multiple counts in the burning of a cabin at Cowles last summer. PCFR and other local departments succeeded in extinguishing that fire before it had a chance to spread to neighboring forest land. However, the main cabin on the site was completely destroyed. It is expected that Winsor will be tried in the fall.