



PECOS CANYON FIRE AND RESCUE

OCTOBER 2015

Emergency Phones Installed and Ready

As most of you know, there is no cell phone service north of mile marker eleven in the Pecos Canyon. As a result, if there is an emergency in the canyon, visitors and others who don't have a

landline must drive back down the canyon to call 911. To try to mitigate this, Pecos Canyon Fire & Rescue, with a generous grant from the Philip R. Jonsson Foundation has installed 3 emergency call boxes in the canyon. One call box is at our fire station, one is at the Terrero Store and the third is at the Cowles ponds parking lot. We have been working on this project for over a year, and we are proud to say that as of today, all three phones are in full service! This was a lot of work on the part of our members who donated their time to help with this project. We would like to thank everyone who helped make this project possible!



Meet Our Members, Raphael D'Amato

One of the reasons that Raphael D'Amato joined the Pecos Canyon Fire and Rescue is because the district is his home. Raphael grew up in Pleasantville, New York, about an hour north of New York City. He initially wanted to be part of the solution when the Canyon faced the Tres Lagunas Fire. He was also influenced by his sister who is an EMT and his brother-in-law who is a Firefighter back in New York where he is from. Additionally, he believes in neighbors helping neighbors. He laughs when he says that if he'd known how much work it would be, he might not have made the choice to join the department. Raphael's list of qualifications and certifications is long and includes Firefighter I, Haz Mat, Live-burn training, Search and Rescue, Engine Boss trainee, Crew Boss trainee, Extrication, First Aid and CPR (which, by the way, he was able to use in helping save a patient's life during a medical call), Portable Pumps, Propane Fires, Swift Water Rescue, and Incident Command. According to Raphael, Firefighter 1 training was amazingly intense, but knowing that help was nearby in the form of expert trainers to help in situations which were pretty scary and where your mind can play tricks on you was reassuring. In that same training Raphael learned how important communication among partner firefighters is and that such communication must be quick and forceful to be effective. He added that experience from actual participation in incidents is invaluable, and also helpful in learning how to cooperate with other emergency agencies. Raphael contributes a lot of time to the department and we appreciate his participation. He is always ready to respond to an emergency at a moment's notice.



Raphael D'Amato represented the Department in October at the Las Vegas, New Mexico, LPEC Expo, a gathering of regional emergency agencies, for a public presentation of information about the services various agencies offer.

A Year in the Life of the Department

At a meeting of the HOA membership at Tres Lagunas in July, 2015, Huie Ley shared a summary of the Department's highlights for the past year:

WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT:

A junior member program was established.
A new member program was established.
Certification for instructors in CEVO and First Aid within the Department were added.

PUBLIC EVENTS:

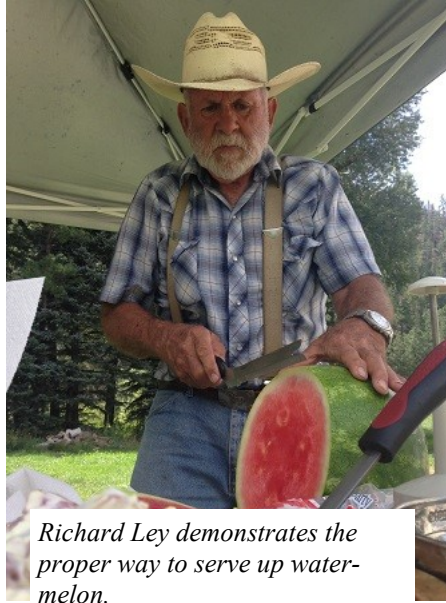
Department was represented at the Tres Lagunas HOA annual meeting.
Members met with Winsor summer-home residences HOA, State Fire and the Forest Service regarding defensible space in June.
Members were also present at Pecos Canyon Estates annual HOA meeting.
Members helped with kids' Halloween event in Pecos.
The PCFandR station was visited by 35 Pecos Elementary students.
Members participated in the annual Mandy's Ranch event at the King's residence.
The Department was represented in the Pecos High School Homecoming parade.
Members participated in the Pecos Cowboy Church Rodeo parade.

SIGNIFICANT CALLS:

Members attended to numerous medical calls within the district and without based on mutual aid.
PCFandR helped to extinguish a structure fire in East Pecos in March.
Also members helped with a patient evacuation from the Pecos Wilderness in June and another in August while also covering other emergencies that coincided with these calls

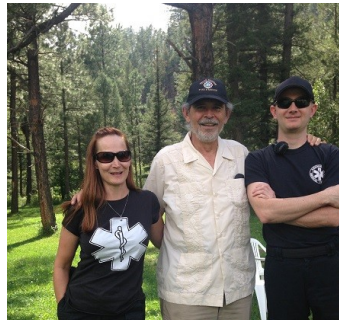
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Department Picnic



The Department held a family picnic in August as an appreciation event for the hard work Pecos Canyon Fire and Rescue members do throughout the year. Thanks to Richard Ley and his family for organizing a delicious menu of brisquet, burgers, hot dogs and all the fixings, and to Laurie Vigil and Cindy Varela for putting together some great snacks. After a

great meal, members of the Department and family members divided into teams to compete in several fire-fighter oriented activities. The winning team took home gift cards to Applebee's. Special appreciation goes to Mr. and Mrs. Jim King for hosting the event at their beautiful home right on the Pecos River.



Seen here to the left with member Bobb Barnes are Shana Rushton and Forrest Tracey, paramedics of Superior Ambulance (and both frequent partners of PCFR in serving the community). PCFR also is grateful to Marie Roybal (right) for the many meals she has prepared for regular meetings.

Contact Pecos Canyon Fire and Rescue

Website: www.pecoscanyonfire.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/PecosCanyonFireAndRescue

Station phone: 505-757-2591 Email: info@PecosCanyonFire.org

If you need to update or provide your email, please go to www.pecoscanyonfire.org, click on

Register to Receive Emergency Alerts and then click on
Register for Email Alerts from Pecos Canyon Fire and Rescue.

A Year in the Life of the Department (continued from page 2)

Advertisement for new truck to replace 1982 Chevy is out. Funding was secured through Capital Outlay and State Fire Marshal Grant.

Two hydrants have been installed at Tres Lagunas.

New bunker gear for all members was purchased.

New tanker was purchased and equipped.

New brush truck was purchased and equipped.

Loan for current fire station was paid off.

New SCBA's were purchased.

Jaws of Life were purchased and are in service.

A Pumpkin Tank, Foto Pump, Mark III pump and BK radios were purchased through a \$25,000 State Forestry grant.

Department members participated in a "table top" exercise involving the US Forest Service, State Forestry and area fire departments.

Newsletters are going out from the department to update and inform summer and year-round residents.

An E-mail blast has been established for emergency notification and newsletter distribution.

Emergency phones in three locations are being installed and activated.

Campground hosts now have our dispatch frequency for emergency use.

Winsor cabin owners have been assisted with defensible space.

Members continue training.

Eric Roybal was chosen as Vice-President of the area Chiefs' Association.

An Automatic Aid agreement was established with Glorieta, Pecos, Rowe and Ilfeld.

The Department's ISO Rating was improved from 10 to 6 which means that residents within seven miles of the station benefit from lower insurance rates.

**BE SURE TO HAVE YOUR
CHIMNEY AND HEATING
SYSTEMS CHECKED AND SERVICED
BY A QUALIFIED COMPANY. THIS
IS THE TIME OF YEAR THAT
NEGLECTING TO HAVE THIS WORK
DONE CAN INCREASE CHANCES OF
HAVING A HOUSE FIRE.**



One of the three new exhaust fans which have been installed in the PCFR station.

Pecos Canyon Fire & Rescue is always looking for volunteers. Anyone, regardless of age and physical condition, can help as long as they have a sense of commitment and can participate in regular department training and activities. Please see our website for more information or contact us today for information on how you can become a member.