

TWAIN HARTE AREA



SERVING TUOLUMNE COUNTY

MONTHLY UPDATE

December 2022

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Contents:

Notes From The Program Manager	Page 1
Decorating Can Be Fun!	Page 2
Parading around Twain Harte	Page 3
2022 Retrospective	Pages 4 to 7
CERT & Fire Training	Page 8
It's Nice To Be Recognized	Page 9
Where Does the Time Go?	Page 10
What's Next?	Page 10

NOTES FROM THE PROGRAM MANAGER



It is the last month of the year which is a great time to look back and remember the good, the bad and forget about the ugly. I am an optimist and tend to look just at the good but then I am blessed enough to have lots of good in my life.

When I look back at 2022 first and foremost I wonder how did it become 2022? Where did the time go? Someone asked me the other day if I remembered the "70's". Even though that was a lifetime ago, yes I do! My grandson one day asked me if I was born in the 1900's...again the answer is yes but that was not pioneer days, although it was all in the same century.

Let me get back on track. I look at the Twain Harte Area CERT volunteers and realize no matter what century it is the work they do for the community will long be remembered. I am so proud to be a part of this wonderful group of people. For me to be the Program Manager for this group fills my heart with joy and love.

This month I have asked the staff to share their feelings about 2022. I know that you will enjoy reading their comments. You will also get to know them a bit better which will give you some insight into why my job is so rewarding.

*Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year*

We hope you enjoy this month's issue. Our goal is to provide information to the community, focusing on safety and health.

If you have a suggestion for future articles, please contact twainhartecert@gmail.com for consideration of the topic by the board.

DECORATING CAN BE FUN!

by Mike Mandell, Team Leader

They asked me to drive the Firefighter Rehab Vehicle through the parade and somehow that turned into "you are also in charge of decorating it". I don't really mind because we always have creative people to join and put on the lights.



This year it was Carol & Dave Hallett, Margaret Lawrence, Maria Benech, and I. We have a lot of Christmas lights and each year it is a new idea of how to hang them (mainly because we cannot remember what we did last year). Our theme this year was "less is more".



Carol got busy directing traffic while trying to tell us what to do. We pretty much ignored her and *hung the lights by the gutter with care in hopes they will stay...is that a Christmas song?*

It was cold out but that did not slow us down from putting lights up, down and all around the vehicle. Maria was a great help and once she realized she had full rein to do whatever she wanted, there was not stopping her.

Margaret, who is tall and has long arms, was able to hang the lights easily from the gutters. We plugged it all into the jackery that was loaned to us by Lise Lemonnier. The finishing touch was a wreath that Carol and I hung on the grill.

As you can see from the pictures, Mother Nature was our friend. Even though we got snow on Thursday night, it was crystal clear on Friday for the parade.

It was hard to tell if we got enough lights on the vehicle in the day light. We will just have to wait and see what happens when the parade begins.



PARADING AROUND TWAIN HARTE

by Margaret Lawrence, Traffic Control Unit Leader



*It was a cold and blustery day & night;
All of Santa's elves were in sight.
To all the children's delight;
The parade was on time tonight.*



The lighting of the downtown tree was the kick off of the parade. The new lights glowed brightly.

There were lots of boy scouts helping out the Christmas Parade Committee. It is great to see our youth participating in our small town traditions.



It's always great to have law enforcement joining in the parade.

In the middle of the parade there was a fire emergency call. Both CalFire and Twain Harte Fire had to leave the parade route. Carol Hallett ran up the street making a path for the emergency vehicles. She can run pretty fast!



Every year the school bus is one of the favorites in the parade.



THA-CERT was the number one participant in the Parade; it was exciting to see it come around the corner with all the colorful lights.

The marching band was simply amazing. The drummer boy was in all his glory and seemed to love playing the drums for us.



It was fun to see the Dodge Power Wagon in the parade....driven by Captain Grant with his children along side him. There was also a 1961 Power Wagon from Columbia that was beautifully restored as well.



The scouts were everywhere, helping with barricades, and walking along the Santa sleigh. It was an amazing night.

2022 RETROSPECTIVE



Editor's note: We asked our staff members to look back on 2022 and give us their thoughts.

2022 was about figuring out who I want to be in this post-pandemic environment and for me that means spreading more kindness and compassion in a world that is full of chaos.

I love being part of CERT, a group that cares and gives back to the community on a regular basis. I find when you give you often get so much more back, new friends & community.

I'm excited about my new role as Traffic and Crowd Control Leader, but even more exciting that the Parade is now over-LOL!



Margaret Lawrence, Traffic Control Unit Leader



2022 was a challenging year for me. I was diagnosed with a rare chronic illness in March and finding the strength to participate in our CERT activities has been difficult at times. The care and support I received from my fellow CERT members reminded me of why I love being active with this organization. When I was ill, team members swooped in and made sure the newsletter got out without my having to worry about a thing, and did such a great job of it that I threatened to let them take it over indefinitely.



That's the kind of energy you find with everything we do. There are always people ready to jump in and make sure that what needs doing gets done.

I'm looking forward to our Basic CERT Training Academy, which will be our first big activity in 2023, and the first in-person Basic training since the pandemic began. And I look forward to a year full of great CERT activities.

Mary Schreiner, Public Information Officer



2022 RETROSPECTIVE, cont'd

I'm proud to be a member of CERT, helping our community to be safe, healthy, and prepared for any emergency! It's a great team of volunteers who work together seamlessly with a positive attitude!!



John Buckingham, Safety Officer



Goodbye, 2022! We did a lot of good things, one of them being the merger of THA-CERT with the Fire Association. We did projects that benefited the community and I'm looking forward to keeping that going in 2023. I'm looking forward to all of the great things CERT will be doing.



Mike Mandell, Team Leader



It was great to feel like a team again in 2022, we got back to having live meetings and training sessions and got to interact with our fellow CERT members, not just work, work, work all the time. It's great helping the community but it's nice to be able to meet with our members outside of deployments, too.



I'm looking forward to new projects next year.

Bob Schreiner, Logistics Officer

2022 RETROSPECTIVE, cont'd

Looking back at 2022, it seems the biggest take-away for me is that small changes can improve your world and that a great team makes all the difference.



Our UAS Unit was successfully deployed to incidents and participated in a couple large trainings. The successes and failures have been used as learning opportunities and the lessons learned have been incorporated into our standard operating procedures. We also had the opportunity to participate in a number of public outreach events, which provided opportunities to foster relationships with our amazing community. And on top of that, we utilized available grant monies to upgrade our equipment making us more response-ready.

Our team provided solid service to our community and accomplished so much this year. Nothing truly significant in the world is accomplished alone and I am grateful to have had such amazing people by my side.

Michelle Wagner, UAS Unit Leader



Newly Outfitted UAS Command Vehicle

2022 RETROSPECTIVE, cont'd

Hello CERT friends!

We have had a busy year. I would like personally to thank all of you who raised your hand to volunteer every time I asked for your help.



In 2022, we started having our regular monthly training meetings. It was nice to see everyone again. We did a light search-and-rescue training, a memorable first aid training, and other wonderful trainings. We were also very busy with Firefighter Rehab by helping with the Columbia College live burns. This is an event that really helps the fire academy, and it is a great opportunity for us to do training for ourselves.

For the 4th of July, Memorial Day, and Veteran's Day, we put up over 40 flags all around Twain Harte. A small crew of us walked around town with our ladders and flags putting them up to honor our country.

Our fun activities included two fund raisers. At the Twain Harte Open Air markets, we sold beer, wine, margaritas, and goodies from the Twain Harte Fire Department. A first for us this year was the Fire Department Pancake Breakfast. For being green to this event, I am proud of the great volunteers who made it happen. The community came out to support it, enjoy each other's company, and meet with our Chief and firefighters.

Next year, we will be doing all of these things and more. January 27, 28, and 29th will be our basic training. We are getting ready for a busy weekend. We plan on training in first aid and in radio communications. Keep your eyes open for dates and times for other trainings -- it's always the last Saturday of each month.

Our THA-CERT is a wonderful group. We try to help our community. Sometimes it's something small, sometimes it's something difficult, but we give it our best and walk away fulfilled.

Happy New Year!

Lise Lemonnier, Planning Section Chief

I haven't had too much experience with CERT other than posting the books and some meetings. I did work the TH Christmas parade. Went mostly well. Probably the best part for me was the "de-briefing" after. It's a small thing, but the last couple places I worked, we didn't review. As soon as we could place blame, we were done. It wasn't "how can we do better?" It was "who messed up?"



The fact that we support each other to learn and improve is so cool from my experience.

Bob Wagner, Finance Section Chief



TRAINING

Are you ready to help yourself, your family and your neighborhood when a disaster happens?

With the cooperation of the Twain Harte Fire Department we offer an opportunity for you to attend a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) basic training academy. This is a 20-hour training course that will include both classroom instruction and hands-on training.

Training Includes:

- Personal Preparedness
- Organizing Resources
- Fire Safety & Utility Controls
- Basic Medical Operations
- Light Search and Rescue
- Basic Damage Assessment

When?

January 27, 2023
1630-2030 (4:30-8:30 pm)

January 28, 2023
0900-1700 (9 am-5 pm)

January 29, 2023
0900-1700 (9 am-5 pm)

You must attend the entire 20-hour training class to be certified.

Where?

22912 Vantage Point Dr
Twain Harte, CA
(THCSD Office)

Register:

twainhartecert@gmail.com

This training will prepare you for emergencies here in Tuolumne County or where ever you travel.

IT'S NICE TO BE RECOGNIZED

by Mary Schreiner, Public Information Officer

It's always nice to have your hard work appreciated and recognized. Recently, awards were given to our sponsoring agency, THCS, THA-CERT, and THA-CERT Program Manager, Carol Hallett.

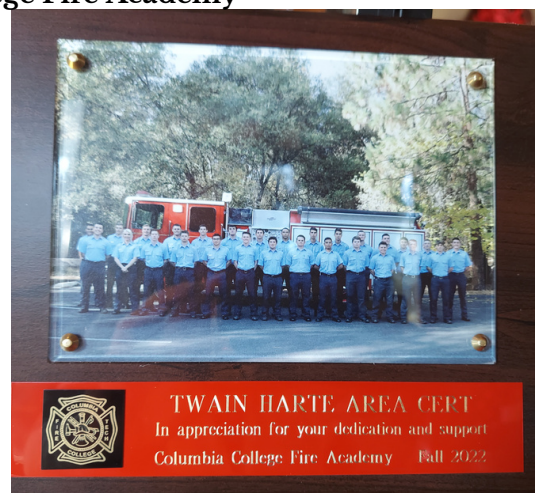
Twain Harte Community Services District Receives District of Distinction Award



Twain Harte Community Services District is proud to have been awarded the "District of Distinction - Gold" accreditation by the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF) for its sound fiscal management, transparency, and responsible operations. SDLF is dedicated to recognizing excellence in special districts that emulate understanding and respect for what it means to govern. Receiving the District of Distinction award is a prestigious honor held by only 2% of special districts in the state.

Twain Harte Area CERT Receives Award From Columbia College Fire Academy

During the commencement ceremony for the 2022 graduating class from Columbia College's Fire Academy, THA-CERT received a commendation from the Fire Academy for their contributions to the students during the Live Burn Exercises held in October 2022. THA-CERT provided Firefighter Rehabilitation and Tank Fill assistance to the students and instructors during the exercises.



And last, but certainly not least,

Carol Hallett Presented With The First Annual Community Excellence Award



Twain Harte Fire Chief, Neil Gamez, created this award to recognize individuals who went above and beyond with their dedication and service to the community. This award was presented to Carol at the December THCS Board meeting.

I can't think of an individual who gives more of themselves to the community. Carol is always looking for ways to help the Twain Harte area and its people.

Congratulations to all on receiving the recognition you most certainly deserve!

WHERE DOES THE TIME GO?

by Lise Lemonnier, Planning Section Chief



THA-CERT volunteer hours for December are:

Administration =	165
Training =	0
Deployment =	32
Total December hours=	197



Total THA-CERT volunteer hours for 2022:

Administration =	2924.5
Training =	829
Deployment =	762
Total 2022 hours=	4386.5



Events

Visit Tuolumne County:

<https://www.visittuolumne.com/events>

Twain Harte Chamber of Commerce:

<https://www.twainhartecc.com/events>

Meetings

Twain Harte CSD Board Meeting

<https://www.twainhartecsd.com/board-meetings>

Wednesday, 11 January 2023, 9:00 am

CERT & Fire Association Board Meeting

Thursday, 12 January 2023, 9:30 am



Training



Basic CERT Training Twain Harte Area

January 27, 28 & 29, 2023

22912 Vantage Pointe Drive,
Twain Harte

Sign up by contacting THA-CERT at:

twainhartecert@gmail.com

