

## **LVHA Emergency Response Committee Report – May 2020**

Board Liaison – TBD

### **Current Committee Members**

Kelby Jones – Chairperson  
Nancy Haugen  
Stan Witherspoon  
Shirley Young  
Mark Yuan

#### Firewise Committee

Kelby Jones  
Katherine Jain  
Pam Witherspoon

#### Communications Team

Stan Witherspoon  
Herb Drake  
Frank LaHorgue  
Nick Strada  
Mark Yuan

### **Goals and Accomplishments for May 2019/2020**

1. Organize a Neighborhood Emergency Team in each Neighborhood Block Area and improve community Emergency Response Team capabilities to support them
  - 22 of our 24 Block Areas have some level of Neighborhood Emergency Team organization – all block areas are in need of more participation
  - Quarterly Neighborhood Emergency Team Block Captains meetings held Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> and Feb. 29<sup>th</sup>, included representatives from the majority of our block areas emphasizing wildfire and earthquake simulations, evacuation practices and radio communication
  - Draft emergency procedures completed for Access to locked facilities; emergency shelter set up and generator deployment at Lucas Valley Clubhouse; evacuation shelter set up, generator deployment and community refuge at Lucas Valley Elementary School; water pump deployment; Ham radio go kit set up; group text set up instructions
2. Maintain Firewise Site certification and execute the action plan to reduce community wildfire risk
  - Provided wildfire safety content for each Vibration edition
  - Secured LVHA Firewise U.S.A. Site certification through 2020, Firewise Community signs erected June 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Chipper day event June 28<sup>th</sup> removed 100 cubic yards of vegetation with 10 participants and funding support from FireSAFE Marin

- Conducted community outreach and education on proposed Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority, provided testimony supporting Measure C before the Marinwood CSD and Marin Co. Board of Supervisors
  - Completed first Miller Creek fuel reduction project in Aug. with Conservation Corps North Bay funded through CSA 13
  - Fire hazardous juniper removed from 2 properties in Oct. through a PG&E grant administered by FireSAFE Marin benefiting Firewise communities
  - Refined Wildfire Protocol to incorporate learnings from wildfire simulation, evacuation practices and red flag warning events
  - Idylberry Rd emergency access/evacuation route improvement proposal partially completed in mid-Nov. with replacement of wood posts and guardrail with metal bollards allowing one way access at Mt. Lassen Dr.
  - Recommended animal grazing alternative for firebreaks along the hills – Aug. 2020 proposal pending LVHA Board action
  - Updated LVHA Wildfire Safety Action Plan
3. Improve community emergency communications capabilities
    - Maintained emergency communications facility at Mt. Lyell (building and yard clean up, disposed of unused furniture/equipment, substantial vegetation removal); improved antenna configuration; added solar for emergency power
    - Maintained monthly HAM and FRS/GMRS radio practice drills with FRS/GMRS averaging 8 participants
    - Initiated red flag warnings to block captains
    - Initiated storm/flash flood warnings to block captains using USGS monitoring on Big Rock Ridge
  4. Increase community interest and participation in emergency preparedness
    - Contributed emergency preparedness/safety information for each Vibration including monthly safety observances (e.g., National Safety Month, the Great California ShakeOut, National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day)
    - Promoted gas line earthquake shut off valves with each Vibration edition
    - Promoted spring and fall clean up days targeting vegetation management
    - Community events: National Night Out Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> included an event on Mt. Susitna Ct.
    - First Aid for Disaster Response training by Marin Medical Reserve Corps held Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> with 15 participants, including 12 LVHA
    - Engaged block captains to communicate neighborhood needs due to pandemic restrictions
  5. Work with Marinwood Fire and neighboring communities to develop mutual aid capabilities
    - Promoted First Aid for Disaster Response events training and the proposed Marin Wildfire Authority with Marinwood and Mont Marin/San Rafael Park
    - Reviewed community needs with San Rafael Fire Dept. vegetation management staff and promoted its March 23<sup>rd</sup> chipper day
    - Maintained contact with Rotary Valley Senior Village, encouraging formalization of draft emergency plan and inviting participation in emergency simulations, without success
    - Maintained mutual aid relationship with Lucas Valley Elementary School

- Members contributed to Marin Firewise Leaders, Marin Amateur Radio Society and San Rafael CERT organizations
6. Maintain emergency supplies and improve First Aid Resources
    - Acquired additional FRS/GMRS radios to support Neighborhood Emergency Teams
    - Replaced perishable supplies
  7. Update and expand LVHA.org emergency response content
    - Published 2020 LVHA Community Safety Calendar, maintained current event content
    - Added Landslide, Mud and Debris Flow document with explanation and link to USGS soil monitoring site on Big Rock Ridge
    - Added home hardening information

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