

Fall 2023

**Message from
SVVFD President
Rick Smith**

SVVFD has taken advantage of our mild weather and quiet (so far) 2023 fire season to train, upgrade and maintain our vehicles and equipment, and add new capabilities.



Professionally staffed by
volunteers serving the north-
eastern foothills above San Jose
and Milpitas since 1978

SVVFD priority: protection of our hillside residents & property

all-hazards emergency response
fire suppression
large animal rescue

emergency medical services
accident response
community service

for all residents, recreational enthusiasts and
property throughout a 200 square mile response
area in the foothills above Milpitas and San Jose.

Emergencies

SVVFD has responded to
an increasing number of
medical calls and vehicle
accidents this year.



Milpitas Chamber of Commerce
awarded 2023 Non-profit of the
Year to SVVFD

Thanks again, for all of your support both
verbally and monetarily, and in just a few
short words



Rick Smith

Please Continue To DONATE!

*Donations are
tax-deductible.*

Mail to: SVVFD
P.O. Box 360211
Milpitas, CA 95036



SVVFD Drone Program

SVVFD recognizes the advantages of the use of unmanned aerial vehicles, and is an early adopter of drone technologies

In September, a big rig loaded with liquid chemical slid off a hairpin section of Calaveras Road above the reservoir. SVVFD used our drone to explore details of the back end of the trailer. Close-up camera zoom showed liquids leaking out.

SVVFD averted an ecological disaster, with this discovery, and authorities ordered the tank pumped out rather than just lifting the fully loaded trailer .



Much of the 200 sq mi SVVFD Service Area is steep mountainous terrain. Drones enable us to investigate areas quickly. This was taken at the 16 August Rock Fire. We have used drones to aid injured hikers.





Communication

Protective Gear

Training

Procedures

Fire Fighting & Prevention



Medical Emergencies



Accidents



Personnel



Community Service



Recognition



SVVFD Fire Station



Large Animal Rescue



Upgrade Equipment



Training Center



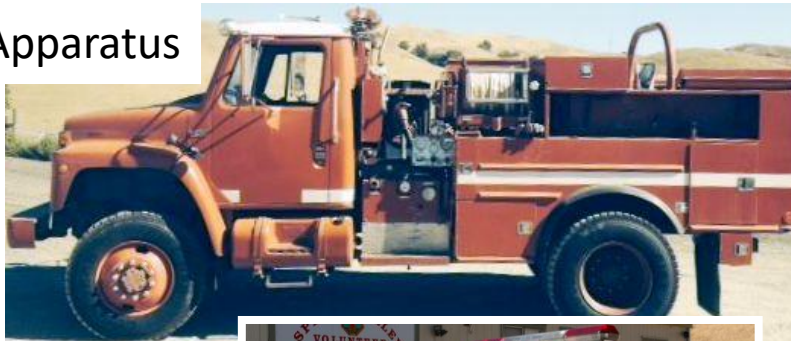
SVVFD- Past 7 Years

Better equipment enables better service to hillside residents

2015

2023

Apparatus



examples



PPE Turnouts

Most PPE was surplus
Began gradual purchase of new PPE

Most PPE is new (less than 5 years old)
thanks to 50/50 grant and SAFER grant

Radios

Old VHF radios

New radios purchased to interface with
demands for changing technology & security
– CalFire (Bendix KNG) and SVRCS

Medical Supplies

Many supplies past expiration date
- - no standard medical “kit”

New AEDs SCBA - - current
Mask Fit-test machine
Current medical supplies organized in nice bags

Training

Ed Levin Park & Milpitas Station 1

MUCH IMPROVED
Training Center at Air Point School
Since Nov. 2017

Relationship
with CalFire

GOOD

EXCELLENT

Communications
and
Relationship
with Hillside
Residents

GOOD

Favorable reaction
-- Residents email
-- Newsletter
EVEN BETTER --- Rapid SVVFD response
to emergencies

Vehicles

GOOD

MUCH BETTER

SVVFD’s investment in these improvements have directly improved our ability to protect service area residents

I am very pleased with the continuing accomplishments and progress of our SVVFD. Fire Chief Mike Hacke, Asst. Chief Jerry Serpa, and command staff do an outstanding job with the time-consuming and tough job of operations and the running of the department. We Board of Directors have high expectations, and sometimes forget that we are all volunteers.....and that to run the department right takes a lot of time and work. SVVFD has:

strong experienced command staff
(chief, asst chiefs, captains)

solid team of volunteer firefighters
who act professionally

training center and training staff
(closely aligned with Cal Fire)
who conduct a complete curriculum

Protective equipment in good shape

Apparatus (fire engines) well maintained
and **ready for service**



NOMINATIONS are open for new BOD Members

SVVFD Board of Directors

The SVVFD Board of Directors (BOD) manage business affairs & finances, oversee Operations, and make decisions to ensure SVVFD is responsive to needs of our service area residents. The SVVFD By-Laws state a preference for BOD members to be hillside residents to maintain these priorities.

NOMINATIONS are open for new BOD Members

2023 SVVFD Board of Directors

<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>Term</u>	
President	2023-24	Rick Smith
Treasurer	2023-24	Phil Park
Vice Pres	2022-23	David San Jose
Secretary	2022-23	Lee Amaya
Fire Chief	Permanent	Mike Hacke

BOARD MEMBERS

Divya Rathore	Howard Hall
EJ Mickael	Terri DeOrnellas
Wade Hitchcock	

BOD officer positions are for two-year terms, elected by vote of the hillside residents if contested. There are no limits on how many terms a Board Member can serve. From a practical perspective, the offices of President & Treasurer should have a cohesive understanding of SVVFD business affairs, so we like to fill these openings with experienced board members .

If you would like to serve as a Board Member, please discuss your interest with one of our current members, or send email to leeamaya@ymail.com

DONATE NOW !!

Give your check to Board member, or send to:

SVVFD
P.O. Box 360211
Milpitas, CA 95036

If you have made your donation for 2023 to SVVFD, **THANK YOU VERY MUCH !!!**
Your donation made possible purchase of our new equipment.

SVVFD is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. You will receive a letter recognizing your donation for tax purposes.



Donations needed to pay operating costs so we are ready to serve you

Tires, Batteries, Repair Costs for vehicles, pumps, hose, radios, emergency medical supplies, personal protection equipment, flashlights and lighting, and fuel