



WFPA CHRONICLE

Serving the Walker, Big Bug, and Potato Patch communities

SPRING 2019



It's that time again! Time to get together at the

Annual Membership Meeting of the Walker Fire Protection Association

WHERE: Walker Fire Station, 4980 E. Walker Rd.

WHEN: Saturday May 25th, 2019

STARTING TIME: 9:00 a.m.

At this year's Membership Meeting, we will have five board seats up for vote with three current board members asking for your re-election.

Nominations from the floor are permitted as well, so have your questions and nomination ready.

In the event you can't make it to personally cast your vote, you can get your signed proxy in by May 23, 2019 by mail, email, or deliver it at the Membership Meeting by 9:00AM on the day of the vote.

Instructions and the proxy form are located on page 8 of the Chronicle. You can also download it from the WFPA website at: <https://walkerfire.org/>

POT LUCK

The annual potluck lunch will follow with all the special goodies that make it famous in these corners.

If your last name starts with the letters A through H, please bring a side dish, I through R, a main entrée and S through Z, bring your favorite dessert.

Of course, we all look forward to the jokes and yarns (after the candidate presentations please), and time to catch up with everyone.

We hope to see you there.

- Greg Stava



From The Fire Chief

We are hopeful that our wet and snowy winter will have the effect of shortening the fire season this year which would come as a nice reprieve after the last couple of years, but it is too early for any visibility on that outcome.

Usually in May, the county issues restrictions that prohibit fires, which means no burn piles, no warming fires, no smoking outside and no work outside that generates sparks.

In case it is not clear;
THIS INCLUDES PRIVATE PROPERTY.

We are all stakeholders in this, the way we succeed in preventing fires is by working together to not only watch our own behaviors but also by talking to our neighbors and talking to visitors.

If you rent out your cabin, please take extra time to explain the dangers to your renters.

Please start cleaning your property now, before the fire season starts. It would be far better to have only a couple of hours of cleanup in June if we are threatened by a fire as opposed to several days' worth of cleaning to do.



The department will again post the signs pictured below for the fire season that say Fire Ban! No Burning!



If you live on a relatively busy street, or on the way to some sort of popular destination up here (like the Charcoal Kiln as one example) we're hoping you'd take a sign or two and post them strategically when the fire season starts (we'll notify you as to when to post the sign).

If you're willing to help out with this, please email fire-chief@walkerfire.org.

As has been the case the last couple of summers, your best source for reliable and current information during an incident is the department's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/walkerfiredept/>

This winter we had a lot of problems with people leaving cars at the fire station without permission due to road conditions as well as thinking it's OK to leave cars there for social events.

This is **not OK** to do as indicated by the many signs on the grounds.

Very simply, this impedes department personnel's ability to respond quickly if they



have to spend extra time looking for a place to park.

Further, one person left a pickup and trailer parked in such away as to partially block our way to refill the water tenders.

Thank you,
Roger Nusbaum
Fire Chief

From The President

Creeks are still running after a wonderful year of moisture. But, don't get complacent. As wet as old man winter was-summer is more than a match.

Speaking of matches, don't be careless, remember "Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires". (I just recently saw a Smokey the Bear commercial. You don't see a lot of those anymore!)

Those wonderful storms gave life to beautiful

plant life that could be tinder dry by the time you get this newsletter.

It's our annual dance, and the reason for our existence as the WFPA. The last thing we want to see is a repeat of the early 1900's when this area was basically treeless because of timbering and forest fires.

I would like to take this opportunity to honor Jon Sumner and his wife Sheri who both recently passed away.

As you know, our Fire House is named after Jon, for he had been the face of the WFPA for years and had a tremendous impact on our success. There was a service held for Jon at the Fire House.

Sheri was also very supportive of the WFPA and had managed the trash business for years.

My condolences go out to all the friends and family.

From The President - continued

There have been others along our 50 year long road. Names like Al Powell (some of the old timers refer to the old single bay fire station now used for storage as the Al Powell Building).

I've found the receipts for the building the WFPA built on the Shelton Mine Tailings as a 2nd firehouse built by my father Jess and others, Rocky Flegal from the Potato Patch, Tom and May Russell (Tom ran a small grocery store at what is now Hummingbird Hill before the first fire Station was built).

The WFPA has been clicking along pretty nicely these past few years.

Your Board has been busy managing this business and watching the bottom line grow for which we thank you for your continued support.

We are currently working on the 2019-20 budget. Besides the basic operational needs of our business, there are a few items at

the top of our list that we are discussing a plan for; the maintenance and age of our fleet/equipment and the maintenance of our buildings.

(\$1500.00 for a set of tires that age out is on the low side of costs for some of these trucks.)

We're looking for a utility truck to replace one of the older trucks we just sold.

We are also establishing a maintenance schedule for the buildings. The Powell Building (referenced before) is in need of some work to keep it safe from the runoff that flows down the hill from Good Hope and Champion Roads.

Water flowing by in Lynx Creek behind the firehouse has been quite entertaining for many Walker Kids (and adults) hanging out at events at the fire house.

We are also moving forward with the plans for the building in Potato Patch.



Our Fire Chief Roger Nusbaum has been doing a fantastic job and has a good group of dedicated Volunteers that continue to train and prepare for all sorts of situations that come with a community like ours.

Roger and his crew have just undergone an ISO inspection (needed in order for us to keep our 8b rating).

The Fire Fighters continue their physical training and have to pass the arduous “Pack Test” in order to keep on the front line fighting fires.

Remember they are all volunteers -
Thank You!

We’re in the middle of the next Chip & Haul coordinated by Loren Bykerk and his Firewise efforts. There should be additional information for you within this newsletter.

Thank you Loren for taking the lead and continuing to work with the WFPA on this effort.

With each Spring, there are always new people moving into our Community. If the opportunity comes up please tell them about all the events we hold at the Fire House, that the WFPA is a communal effort, and all are welcome.

Sometimes it’s hard to for newcomers to grasp that we are not supported by tax dollars in any way.

Your contributions can come in many ways. It’s not only financial. We need Volunteers for things like working around the station for clean up and fund raising events like Walker Day, the Pancake Breakfasts, Bingo, Kids Day and Fire Fighter Appreciation Day.

I would like to thank Greg and Lani Stava

who, after many publications of our WFPA newsletter, have handed it off to Conrad and Victoria Walton. Thank you both for your time and energy that goes into producing this publication. It is truly appreciated.



Spring also brings the Annual Meeting which will be held on May 25th at the fire house. There are candidates for the Board of Directors listed in this issue as there are every April.

Three of our current Board Members are running again. We will fill 5 positions.

Four are for two years and one is to fill the last year of a Member whose job took him out of state.

It’s important for you to help choose Board Members who will further the success of the WFPA.

If you don’t know these names ask someone who does.

If you can’t attend the Annual Meeting in person please send your Proxy.

You, the Community Members have always managed to keep us ahead of the game.

Thank you for that. Your generosity and support are responsible for everything you see at the Fire Station.

Bill Loughrige
President
Walker Fire Protection Association

Walker Day Is June 15th

Mark your calendars for this year's Walker Day community celebration on June 15th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

As always, we will start the day with our traditional, HUGE community donated yard sale from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

This has become soooo BIG that we usually need to start on Friday morning to make room for last minute donations.

Please continue to save your items to donate until May 1st, when the storage building becomes available. I will let you know when we are ready.

I am still piecing Walker Day all together, but you can expect live music, the cake walk, a great cheap lunch, free kids games and face painting, and who knows what else.

Last year we had rain that started one hour before and ended one hour after Walker Day.

It was still a fun, memorable time for all who attended, but we missed the big crowd.

This year, I am asking all of you to help make up for last year by sending out a link to our walkerday.org website to all your friends on your social media outlets.

There will be a flyer they can print out as a reminder.

Check out www.walkerday.org after May 1st for all the details.

I hope to see you all there...yes...rain or shine.

Johnny O





From The Secretary

Hello everyone! I am sure looking forward to some nice weather this summer and trust you all are as well.

We had a good amount of snow this winter that our wells and lakes in the area are going to like.

One thing I really appreciated this winter was how we did not have power outages like over the past few years. APS have done a great job working in our area to upgrade the equipment.

It is also great to see how the community comes together when things get bad. When we had the big snow this winter, there were a lot of people who reached out to help one another – getting stuck vehicles out, putting cinders on the roads and plowing driveways and more.

We have been working on improving things in our community. We recently installed new cameras around the Fire Station and the open area surrounding the dumpsters.

This has helped with monitoring activities and to reduce the amount of illegal dumping.

Anyone caught illegally dumping will be turned over to legal authorizes and will be fined as well as banned indefinitely from further use of the trash disposal.

The board meetings have been going well and it is nice seeing some of the community show up for meetings every so often.

If you would like to keep up to date on the board activities, residents are able to find the monthly WFFA Board Meeting Minutes on our website at <http://walkerfire.org/board-minutes-and-reports/>

Please make sure you visit the WFFA website to stay up to date on upcoming activities at <https://www.walkerfire.org>

For those of you who follow social media, the Walker Fire Facebook page can be accessed at <https://www.facebook.com/walkerfiredept/>

Another good social media secret/private group is the one Shelley and I set up - Walker and Potato Patch, AZ Bulletin Board.

If you are a homeowner and would like to join this group, please connect me directly. It is by invitation only which is done to protect homeowners privacy.

Thank you all and looking forward to seeing you at upcoming events at our Fire Station.

Clyde McKay
Secretary
Walker Fire Protection Association
secretary@walkerfire.org

Meet The Candidates

The board has seven positions. Each has a two year term. Four are elected one year and three are elected the next.

This year, there are six candidates to fill five positions on the board. Four of the five positions are for two years.

One position is to fill the second year of the term of a member whose job took him out of state. This one is based on number of votes.

Three of our current Board Members are running for re-election.

Dan Dougherty

For re-election

Hello Folks. My name is Dan Dougherty and my wife Irene and I have been part of this community since 2004 on a part time basis, and have lived here full time since 2014.

We have 3 adult children and 3 grandchildren and we thought we were empty nesters until a few years ago I started watching the grandkids every week to help my daughter's family.

As an avid hiker we are blessed to live right in the heart of one of the most beautiful forests our state has to offer with a great community of people.

As a USCG Veteran and retired Phoenix Police Officer of 31 years....I've been honored to serve our fire department over the past 5 years.

During my career I've worn many different hats, having worked in many capacities from a D.A.R.E instructor, to a SWAT officer, as well as several different investigative units.

I also served as a union representative for WFPA Spring 2019 Chronicle

our department's police union where I was a liaison with our membership and the police department management.

I've volunteered with the fire department for the past 5 years, and as a station boss for a few of those years overseeing building maintenance and implementing the installation of our back up generator system as well as the installation of our new roof and other projects.

I've served 2 terms now on the board of directors, with the past year as your treasurer and I look forward to serving another term.

As with my family and my career I have always worked hard for the folks around me to get them what they need to be safe and do their jobs effectively.

Under the current leadership of this Board of Directors and especially the leadership of our Fire Chief, this department has continued to grow and thrive.

God Bless.

Rudy Erdmann

For re-election

Board Member for 4 years. I accept that not everybody has the same opinions as I do and I get along, work at my responsibilities and care about Walker.

Lance Gilbert

New candidate

Retired, husband, father, grandpa. Fell in love with Walker since my first visit and enjoy caring for it's forest and community.

Shawn Murphy

New candidate

Member of the 2011 By-Laws Committee

Retired Phoenix PD - 23 years
Assisted in maintenance of Big Bug Mesa Road for 12 years. Donated over 100 hours of time with heavy equipment, and materials. Assisted with the excavation and construction of the Big Bug Sub Station.

Owned and operated a small excavation and construction business for 40 years. I would consider it an honor to represent the fine people of Walker. Thank you.

Johnny Ohanesian

For re-election

Janet and I have lived in Walker full time for over 11 years. I have been on the board for almost 10 of them.

I am currently the fund raising chairman, handle our insurance services, run Walker Day, act as liaison between the WCAA and the WFPA...what else...I guess whatever needs to be done.

I retired, (a long time ago), from the Prudential after 15 years as an agent. I recently started my own small business from home and am active at my Church.

I have the time and I'm good at juggling different hats. I'm pretty level headed and get along with most everyone.

I am happy to stay on as senior BOD member for the WFPA.

John Ohanesian, (AKA Johnny O)

Carl Petersen

New candidate

Carl F. "Clef" Petersen was born and raised in Copenhagen, Denmark.

With two American grandparents, Clef has

always had strong ties to America, and first moved to USA in '85 – not counting two years in Kentucky as a child.

Clef, who has almost 40-years of money management experience, started designing quantitative and technical strategies back in the early 1980's.

He started working in banking, was transferred overseas as the youngest bank employee in Danish history, and had worked in Copenhagen, London, and Luxembourg by the time he was 23; utilizing his aptitude with math, technical analysis, and, in particular, behavioral economics – as it related to investing and trading in Equities, Fixed Income, and especially Forex.

He has a Master's of International Management from Thunderbird School of Global Management, he served on the Thunderbird Global Council.

He serves on the Thunderbird Executive Leadership Council, is a Past President of Phoenix Rotary 100, Past Chairman and Board member of Phoenix Rotary Club Charities, a graduate of the FBI Citizen Academy.

He is a Past President of 944th Fighter Wing Booster Club of Luke Air Force Base, and is an Honorary Commander and member of the Blue Blazer Squadron at Luke Air Force Base.

Clef is the President and Chief Investment Officer of Carl F. Petersen, Inc., an Investment Advisory Firm, and focuses almost solely on money management for clients worldwide.

He lives in Glendale with his wife Annette who is also an Investment Advisor. They have three children: Natacha, Carl F. VI (JJ), and Pierre.

Clef is passionate about family, reading, studying economic and geopolitical events, developing quantitative investment strategies, skiing, and last, but certainly not least, Rotary.

Proxy and Instructions

As provided for in the bylaws of the Walker Fire Protection Association, Inc. (“WFPA”), proxy voting is permitted for the Annual Meeting which will be held at the WFPA Fire Station located at 4980 E. Walker Road, Prescott, AZ 86303, at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, May 25, 2019.

Proxies are available upon request by email at secretary@walkerfire.org, or by phone request at 480-223-8034 or available for download on the WFPA website at www.walkerfire.org.

The proxy must be correctly completed, signed and returned by mail to WFPA, PO Box 10174, Prescott, Arizona 86304 or emailed to secretary@walkerfire.org, attention WFPA Secretary no later than Friday, May 24, 2018, or can be physically delivered to the WFPA Secretary at the Annual Meeting by 9:00 a.m., the day of the vote.

WFPA Member eligibility to vote is defined by the WFPA bylaws, Article III “Members” and

summarized as; 1) owning or participating in the ownership of property within a three mile radius of the Fire Station, property included in the Potato Patch Area Association or otherwise accepted as a Member under guidelines/criteria adopted, from time to time, by the WFPA Board of Directors and 2) consent by State Statute as defined in section 3.1.1.2 through 3.1.1.2.2.6.

The number of total votes eligible by members shall not exceed one vote per member and no more than two votes for property ownership held in “joint” ownership interest as defined in Section 3.4 through 3.4.6 of the WFPA bylaws. The total votes eligible are limited as defined, regardless of the number of parcels owned or ownership participation as defined in section 3.9 of the WFPA bylaws.

Proxy will be verified for eligibility and against a Member roster with a record date of April 18th, 2019. Proxy qualification will be reviewed and verified with final eligibility determined by the WFPA Secretary.

Any proxies not signed, not in proper order or not matching the Member roster will be set aside and considered invalid.

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Cut here

A proxy form is needed for each person voting. Joint owners may use one form.

Proxy Form

Your Name(s): _____

Walker Address: _____

Parcel Number (if known): _____

I hereby constitute and appoint: _____

Leave blank to allow secretary to vote for you.

as proxy with powers of substitution for and in my name, and in my place, to appear, represent, and cast votes before the Walker Fire Protection Association, Inc. Annual Meeting to be held on May 25, 2019 at 9:00am at the Walker Fire Station located at 4980 E. Walker Road, Prescott, AZ 86303.

The undersigned does ratify and confirm any and all acts that this proxy may do or cause to be done in the premises, whether at the meeting referred to above or at any change, adjournment, or continuation and revoke all prior proxies previously executed.

Signature

Date Signed

Signature

Date Signed

About the WFPA and How You Fund Our Services

We are a Member funded/driven, not for profit, section 501(c)(3) volunteer organization formed 50+ years ago by Walker Members like you.

The WFPA provides the first line of defense between hazard and safety for the Walker community.

The WFPA receives minimal to no funding from the government and has historically had to rely on 35% to 40% of the Walker Membership to donate 100% of it's annual operating budget.

Fire department volunteers and your Board are extremely frugal and have managed the department's finances prudently in both good and bad times and through several challenging recessions.

The department has no debt and a reasonable

cash reserve to insulate it from any unforeseen events.

However, without increasing the financial participation of our Members, equipment upgrades or additions will be out of reach and added services out of the question.

We need your help.

Participating Walker Members that have already made their 2019 donations reward our hard working volunteers with funds to provide insurance protection, safe equipment and continuous training in order to serve you better... a handsome return of your investment dollars.

Any one of the many calls each year could have become a much more serious incident to a Member's well being or property.

Please review the following donation information and consider the significant community benefits provided by your volunteers at the WFPA... and contribute!

DONATION PAYMENT METHODS:

1. Check - Make checks payable to the WFPA, complete the donation slip and return to:

Walker Fire Protection Association P.O. Box 10174, Prescott, AZ 86304

2. PayPal - Use the PayPal link on our website at www.walkerfire.org. If you use PayPal, you do not need to send in the donation slip. Keep a copy of your receipt because your donation to the WFPA is tax deductible.

You can also update your personal information on our website by selecting the "Contact Us" form.

.....
Please note any changes below. Insert form and donation in the enclosed envelope.

Walker Fire Protection Association - 2019 Annual Donation Drive

Name:

Donation Amount \$300.00 Other: _____

Mailing Address:

Check enclosed

Walker Address:

Visa: Master Card:

Phone:

Card #: _____ Exp: _____

Email:

Signature: _____ CVV # _____

- Please include me in all WFPA emails and news
 No change in any of my contact information



Walker Firewise

Are You Ready For The Upcoming Wildfire Season?

We have been blessed with a wet winter this year. This is good news since the increased moisture may slow bark beetle infestation.

However, historically, wet years tend to foreshadow busier fire seasons. This, on the surface seems counter intuitive, but maybe it is due to taller grasses and more weeds?

Whatever the reasons, we must remain ready by taking personal responsibility to prepare long before the threat of a wildland fire.

Create defensible space; space around your home where firefighters can effectively defend your home from fire without endangering themselves.

Do this by using fire-resistant landscaping and harden your home with fire-safe construction measures.

Consider something as simple as a 5-10 foot border of gravel surrounding your home to break up the fuel path to flammable surfaces.

Assemble emergency supplies and belongings in a safe place. Plan escape routes and a meeting place, and make sure all those residing within your home know the plan of action. Practice it.

Stay aware of the latest news and information from local media, online media sources and public safety.

When instructed to evacuate, leave early and do not jeopardize your or your family's safety by staying to defend or waiting until the last minute.

To obtain additional information on preparedness, plan to attend a Firewise Day and/or a Preparedness Day.

Watch for announcements regarding upcoming event times and places.

Loren Bykerk
Walker Community Action Alliance
Firewise Representative



Treasurer's Report

After a long rough winter with record breaking snows and rain we are finally headed into Spring.

As we store away our snow plows, snowblowers and our favorite snow shovel, the fire department's financial stability remains strong.

With our liquid assets right around \$220,000 and our total assets at \$319,000 (as of February 2019 reports.)

With an aging fleet of fire trucks and necessary equipment upgrades for our awesome firefighters being considered, we need to keep the generous contributions and support coming.

We are closing in on the summer season and this is a time where we not only show our support for our fire department, it's a time to get together and fellowship.

It's a time that our kids and grandkids will remember as some day this will be their fire department.

We continue to thrive because of your support and generosity.

Thank you!

God Bless,

Dan Dougherty
Treasurer
Walker Fire Protection Association

Board Meetings Are Held Monthly

The 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the Fire Station. Everyone is welcome

Potato Patch Building Update

The building project in Potato Patch is in process. We are in the planning, drawing and permitting process.

We are hopeful for construction to begin soon but for those of you familiar with this process, soon is not always defined the same in the County as it is in our dictionary.

Thanks to all those working to get this off the ground.

When we know what the final costs will be we might be reaching out to you for some financial help.

So far it looks like we're going to be alright, but you never know.

It's an important add to our capabilities.

Bill Loughrige

Our Good Bye

By now you an undoubtedly noticed a change in your Chronicle, a fresh look, different pics and a much needed facelift.

The credit goes to Conrad and Victoria Walton who have volunteered to take over the creative content and assembly of your WFPA Chronicles.

Lani and I have truly enjoyed working on the Chronicle along side your Fire Chief and WFPA Board since 2012.

It has been a lot of fun and an honor to volunteer.

Thank you,
Greg and Lani Stava



TRASH COLLECTION SERVICES

The subscription runs January to December for the 12 months. Six month subscriptions are generally April-September or May-October.

The rates are \$180.00 for 12 months, \$120.00 for 6 months or \$30.00 for a month.

We change the lock combination at the end of January.

We operate this service for your convenience and to avoid people burning their garbage, especially during the dry months.

We have struggled with volume issues because there are a few people who continue to leave the locks open and a few people who use the dumpsters to deposit all sorts of things that are not household garbage.

We've had appliances, rolls of carpet, construction debris even a kitchen sink and cabinets.

This service is for household garbage.

Please take other items to the dump yourself. That includes yard trimmings and large boxes.

If the dumpsters are full, don't just put yours on the ground.

The City of Prescott Transfer Station is located at 2800 Sundog Ranch Road, just north of Prescott Lakes Parkway, off Highway 89 and is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

The service comes Monday and Friday to empty the dumpsters. If you can, time your trips to take advantage of that schedule.



I know the weekenders like me need to use them on Sundays and they can be full, especially if they've been left open or when non-household debris has been placed in them.

The Walker Trash Collection Service web site is located at:

<http://walkertrashcollectionservice.com/>

You can find the agreement and more detailed information there.

Send your checks and signed agreement to

The WTCS
P.O. Box 10174
Prescott, AZ 86304.

The accountant keeps the records, Shad Bruce and Linda Emmett (928) 778-2566 handle the mail, locks and any issues with the dumpsters.

Please let me know if you see anyone abusing the service.

Bill Loughrige
President@walkerfire.org
(480) 223-8034

Can You Help The WFPA?

We could use your help for a few hours a month, at a special event, or with a fundraising effort.

The WFPA is a fully donation and volunteer sponsored organization. There are many ways to participate and meet your neighbors and help your community.

Please email president@walkerfire.org and one of our volunteers will reach out to you with a big thank you and make it easy for you to become involved.

WFPA Website

The Website is your source for the latest news and announcement of events concerning our Walker Community.

You can read about upcoming Board meetings, community gatherings and scheduled firefighter training.

The site also contains the community directory, sections for Walker history, forest service issues and more.

To be part of our Community Website Directory and to be included in our e-mail data base, go to www.walkerfire.org and click on the "Create an Account" link on the left side of the home page.

You can also visit the Walker Fire Department Facebook page for pictures, posts, and the latest news at:

www.facebook.com/walkerfiredept/



2019 Calendar of Events

For the latest updates of events, see:
<https://walkerfire.org/calendar-of-events/>

Pancake Breakfast
April 27, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Annual Meeting
May 26, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Walker Day
June 15, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Yard sale opens at 9:00 a.m.

Pancake Breakfast
June 29, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Kids Day
July 13, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

BINGO
July 20, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Pancake Breakfast
July 27, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

BINGO
August 17, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Fire Fighter Appreciation Day
September 1, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Pancake Breakfast
September 28, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.



WFPA Spring 2019 Chronicle



The Prescott Area Home Watch

DAN & FRAN RUSSELL
Owners

Ofc 928-233-6101
Dan (M) 303-378-1671
Fran (M) 303-881-1890
prescottahomewatch@outlook.com
www.thepahw.com

Keeping a watchful eye over your most valuable asset!



Marie Hernandez
marieh28@me.com
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(928) 899-4111

WALKER AREA REAL ESTATE UPDATE Courtesy of Sharon Bencze, High Country Realty, LLC

2019 activity as of March 26, 2019 . . .

CABINS/HOMES
SOLD - 2
PENDING - 3
ON THE MARKET - 12

VACANT LAND
SOLD - 1
PENDING - 1
ON THE MARKET - 29

RECAP OF 2018:
CABINS/HOMES SOLD - 41
VACANT LAND SOLD - 12

For additional information or if you have questions,
please call Sharon at 928-308-3338 or 928-778-1491.

Advertise With Us

Advertise your business with us. Contact
conrad@walkercommunity.com for more info.

Ad pricing:
\$200 full page
\$100 half page
\$50 quarter page
\$25 eighth page

Who Is Baby Claude?

When I grew up, I went on a lot of camping trips with my church youth group. Two of my favorite places to visit were Joshua Tree and Death Valley.

Both are filled with old mines, ore mills, and abandoned buildings. We slept in a sleeping bag, on a tarp, in the dirt, or in those old buildings.

That's where I got my appreciation for the outdoors, for dirt roads, and for the history of those places.

The mining history of Walker is one of the factors that really drew me to this place and why I love living here.

As a real estate agent, I was recently asked to look at a vacant lot that the owners were considering selling.



As I rolled up at the location, I saw a small picket fence around a grave. The headstone was faded painted wood, and it said:

Our Darling Baby, Aug. 7, 1910
Claude Miller, son of A.W. & L. Miller

I knew that John Miller, and his two sons, Jacob and Samuel, came here in the original Joseph Walker expedition in 1863. Could they be related?

I asked Loren ByKerk about it and he sent me links to web pages with detailed information about this grave.

(Loren seems to know everything about Walker.)

Kathy Block, the author of the web pages had found the death certificate of baby Claude Miller and she says:

If your property is already listed with a REALTOR®, please disregard this notice as it is not my intention to solicit the business of other REALTORS®

"Claude Miller was born prematurely on August 7, 1910, and according to the physician (who came from the Poland area), death was at 10:15PM from 'inanition'. The baby lived only 17 hours."

"He was buried by his father, Archie Miller, listed as 'undertaker' at 'Walker'. Claude's parents, Archie and Lillian Miller, were both originally from Nebraska."

So, baby Claude was no relation to the original Millers, but his family lived here in Walker, at least in 1910.

I'm sure their heartbreak was as deep as anyone's today would be, if we lost a child.

The people who lived here over 100 years ago were as real then as we are today. They worked hard to scrape out a living. They aren't just stories in a book.

If those people hadn't come here and established those mine claims then, which made this private property, this entire valley would be National Forest today.

We would not have our homes here. We wouldn't live here.

I appreciate being able to live here just a little bit more, knowing something about baby Claude and his parents.

If you search for and find the grave, remember that it's on private property, but it can be seen from the road.

Thanks to Loren for his help.

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Walker Fire Protection Association
PO Box 10174
Prescott, AZ 86304



WFPA Spring Newsletter

Annual Meeting Notice

New Format - Check It Out!



The Walker Fire Protection Association ("WFPA")
is a volunteer fire department and a non profit, 501(c) 3 organization