



WFPA CHRONICLE



Winter is here and so is your Walker Chronicle. We hope you enjoy the articles, updates, and photos this edition contains.

We would like to thank all our volunteers and community that help support Walker Fire Protection Association and appreciate all the funds donated in 2023 that are critical to keeping the operations running as well as help with the upkeep of necessary equipment.

If you would like to donate, please visit our website at www.walkerfire.org or use the donation form on page 10 of the Chronicle.

Last but not least, we would like to welcome new property owners to our wonderful community and we look forward to meeting you at one of our events.



From The Fire Chief:

Fortunately, the 2023 fire season was much quieter than 2022. On the heels of The Crooks Fire last year, we had no wildfires in our service area during the 2023 fire season.

Last fall's newsletter was devoted to our efforts to raise funds for Engine 83. We took delivery of the new truck last spring. Compared to some of our older vehicles, Engine 83 practically pumps itself. We've been thrilled with it so far. One secondary benefit we thought would come from the truck was that it would attract new recruits. Whether it was the new truck or not, the last year has been our best year for recruiting new firefighters in the 20 years I've been with the department. We've had ten new firefighters join and get certified (the jargon is *red carded*) as wildland firefighters for the first time or recertify through Walker Fire with several other new recruits in the process to also get their red cards.



We wanted to reiterate the message from the last few fall newsletters regarding winter preparedness. Related to structure fires, please get your chimney swept, leave interior doors closed because that limits a fire's ability to move through your house, make sure smoke detectors work or if they are more than ten years old they should be replaced and make sure everyone knows where your fire extinguisher is. When we respond to a call for a structure fire, we do a quick assessment of the situation that has several steps including turning off the electricity and the propane. You could change the outcome for the better by turning off the electricity and propane BUT ONLY IF IT IS SAFE TO DO SO.

Also, we would request that you do all you can to get your road/driveway plowed after any snowstorms as well as make use of the cinders left by the county in various places in our area including behind the firehouse. The community Facebook pages are great resources to see who might be available for snow removal. The Fire Department cannot set the expectation of being able to drive through a foot or two of unplowed snow in trying to get to your house. We'd get out and walk if we had to but marching for a half mile in a foot of snow would take a while.

When the snow starts and begins to accumulate, the roads become surprisingly treacherous. Please drive slower than you think you need to and please consider chains for your tires. Also, be on the lookout for people coming up from town or even Phoenix to play in the snow. These sorts of visitors have been the cause of many winter accidents in our area.

One last suggestion is to have crampons or some other type of cleat to put on your shoes. When snow has been driven on here and gets compacted it is very easy to slip and fall. That sort of ground level fall can be very serious.

Thank you,

Roger Nusbaum
Fire Chief
Walker Fire Protection Association

From The President:

Welcome to the fall 2023 newsletter for the WFPA. What a year! Last year we were flooded this year we can't get a thimble full of water even if we ask for it.

But as always, our community continues to show its true colors by helping us buy a half million-dollar fire truck. We've held fundraisers in the past which at the time seemed large. Those efforts were nothing like your generosity this year. That truck does so much for our community, thank you again.



We will be doing some cleaning projects, like clearing out some of the old stuff in these cupboards that hasn't been seen for several years. We've found some interesting things of course. One of the things they found was the original signed letter of the first president of the WFPA resigning because of health reasons. That was Robert Potter, my grandfather. (The original incorporation papers for the WFPA were filed on September 11, 1967).

The WFPA was incorporated as a purely communal all volunteer effort. We are still alive today with that Philosophy.

After renting for a year, my grandparents had purchased the Stuckey place which is the Pine Mountain north mining claim in 1947. My grandfather was nervous about fire and he put a 250 gallon tank on the back of the 1948 Willys pick-up truck that's still on the property with a gas powered pump and a 2" red hose line on a reel. Other neighbors who liked the setup, got together, and the idea of the Walker Fire Protection Association was formed.

We will figure out a way to get this kind of historical information on the website. All of you can help with that.

Walker was and remains a close community. You still find that communal effort is alive and well. Neighbors helping neighbors, social gatherings, and a group effort to keep the WFPA going.

The new truck is an example of that. Roger has done an amazing job improving our fleet and recruiting and maintaining a professional volunteer force. We are the envy of small fire departments, even some who depend on government money. Your board works hard for you, making sure we spend your money wisely and have a business-like atmosphere open to everybody. Having said all that, don't quit volunteering, we can always use help.

If you'd like to help with pancake day. Let us know. You can just show up if you want, we'll put you to work. It does help us if we know who's coming. Same with bingo. Certainly with Walker day and firefighter appreciation day can always use extra hands.

Thank you all for your continued support,

Thanks
Bill Loughrige
President

From The Vice President:

Hello to all the Walker and surrounding area residents. First, I would like to send a heartfelt “welcome” to all of the new residents and there are quite a few of you this year! As we close out 2023 I want to say how very nice it was this year getting to see many of you at local events at the Fire Station. These events are fun and help to support the local fire association financially. If you have not been to any of our events, I encourage you to come to a few as it is a great way to meet other people in the community and have a lot of fun. In this newsletter you will find the 2024 WFPA Calendar of Events on page 9 - this is a great page to hang on the fridge so you know what is coming up at the station.



One of the main things we do as a Board is look for ways to improve our overall systems and functions. One recent improvement was upgrading the water supply equipment so responding crews can fill the water tenders quicker. This improves efficiency in saving time at the tender and also scene responses. Another item the Board is always looking for improvement with is our ISO rating. This ISO rating helps everyone in being able to obtain insurance coverage for their property. We ask what do we need to change? How can we invest in equipment, education or training for our volunteers to serve the community even better? It is something that we strive to always be improving upon!

That spirit of improving extends to all of our community as well not just the WFPA Board. We should ALL look to find ways we can help improve our community and ways to help each other out. One idea that came to mind: helping one another with things like property cleaning and clearing when it comes to driveways and roads which are many times overlooked when we talk about fire wise and safety. Take a walk or even better a drive with a larger truck down your driveway and your road (especially those that are private roads) and give it a good once over thinking to yourself is it clear? Are there things or obstacles? Could Walker Fire or other agencies equipment access my road/driveway? With my job as a Realtor I get to travel all over the area every day. I see areas where privately maintained roads are well kept while there are other areas I struggle to get to in my Tacoma and I think to myself "how would WFPA/responding agency get an ambulance or one of the fire trucks here?" I understand how some people don't want to improve their roads because they believe it cuts down on overall traffic from car/truck/UTV's but I see response accessibility as priority over all else. It is important to make sure that if you need emergency response or your neighbor needs it and you share a road/driveway that those vehicles can get to your property. The last thing anyone wants is to need help but they haven't made their properties accessible for larger trucks and equipment.

Education is key to knowing how and what to do living in the mountains. If you are new you may start noticing the term Fire Wise and wonder what does that mean. Fire Wise is about lowering wildfire risk using strategies like creating defensible space. Their direct wording is: "*Defensible space is the buffer you create between a building on your property and the grass, trees, shrubs, or any wildland area that surround it. This space is needed to slow or stop the spread of wildfire and it helps protect your home from catching fire—either from embers, direct flame contact or radiant heat. Proper defensible space also provides firefighters a safe area to work in, to defend your home.*" (www.readyforwildfire.org) I would encourage new residents and long time ones too to use this website as a great educational resource for information, videos and more.

My thanks for your support this year and I look forward to 2024.

Clyde McKay
480-329-8443
Vice-president@walkerfire.org

From The Secretary:

Greetings Community ! And welcome to all our new Walker Residents!

I want to encourage the residents, old and new, to look at the many ways to stay updated and in touch with the Walker Community upcoming events, the Fire Dept news and community news You can Sign up for newsletters and emails thru www.walkerfire.org. This site also provides information on the Calendar of events, a link/ location to send WFPA donations, information on signing up for the trash collection service, and options to purchase Walker Merchandise. You can also connect to the Facebook page 'Walker and Potato Patch, AZ' Bulletin Board . This page provides a helpful guides section, allows you to connect with neighbors, find info on WFPA upcoming events, list items you want to offer for sale, and any fire news updates occurring.



We encourage you to check out the WFPA varied events that occur from April thru September every year at the Fire Station. These are open to the community and there is something for every age. The Event calendar is on the Walkerfire online page and notifications are updated on the FB page.

Pancake Breakfast is one of the greatest ways to meet and connect with your neighbors. A delicious breakfast is provided including pancakes, bacon, sausage, fruit and coffee, tea, juice. There is no charge for the breakfast, but donations are always appreciated and all proceeds go to the WFPA. Walker Merchandise is sold at each pancake breakfast as well.... Shirts, hoodies, hats, kids shirts and kid craft items, knives, miscellaneous home items, stickers. This monthly event is a big turn out every time and it happens come rain or shine. Residents, family, friends and visitors are welcome!

Bingo Nights are another way to meet neighbors, enjoy some good laughs and heckling the callers. This is a potluck event. Bring your good luck charms and a dish to share, buy as many cards as you want to play. The monies raised go towards WFPA with half of the money raised going to the cash prizes offered per game to the winners in each round. Cost Example – buy 3 cards / \$10, and you play for that all night long. We are always grateful that many of the winners donate back their prize money to the WFPA funds. Bill Loughrige our WFPA President is one our main callers as well as Clyde McKay. Good (or bad) jokes are thrown out there and heckling the callers is a sign of good interaction!

Walker Day – this is our biggest and best fundraiser day every year. Held on June 15th with a rummage / garage sale starting that morning. Rummage sale Donations are accepted the 30 days prior to the event. PLEASE NOTE - NO LARGE ITEMS (furniture, couches, appliances) are to be left for donation.

It's a full day with lunch purchase for burger or hot dog, chips and a drink ; a cake walk (Cakes to be dropped off on the day of event); Walker Merchandise tables set up with something for everyone and all ages; music; classic car show; 50/50 raffle; and a raffle prize drawing. All proceeds go to WFPA fund for continued support for our Fire Dept.

Fire Fighter Appreciation Day – Our second big event each year is designed to give thanks and show support for our fire dept Chief Roger Nusbaum and the many volunteer firefighters. This is on Labor Day weekend. Our Chief Roger Nusbaum will provide information and reports on our firefighters, the needs for the dept and the

community, and the ways donations have been utilized for equipment, maintenance and trucks. Our new truck in 2022 was a sign of the generous donations received by our community, friends and grants. This is a time to meet and thank the firefighters that go above and beyond to keep our community safe. A BBQ dinner is provided and residents potluck all of the sides. Last year we had carnitas dinner as well as a Salsa Competition. Watch for updates next year coming on menu !

We give a BIG THANK YOU shout out for men and women that volunteer their time to plan, organize and work at these events. They assist in setting up, serving food and all of the clean up. We cannot do what we do without this group of people. If you are interested and available in helping at one of these events, please reach out to myself or any of the board members.

Thanks
Marti Mahoney
secretary@walkerfire.org

From The Treasurer:

Hello again fellow Walkerites, another summer season here on the mountain is coming to an end! Our fundraising season is winding down but there is still plenty of great weather left before we go hunting for the snow shovels!

This summer's events had great success and participation. It was good to see the community come together to ensure the support of our fire department. Thank God we had a mildly quite summer for fire activity. Our Wildland program did have a few rolls and as always and represented Walker Fire as a first-rate department.



The person who handled our accounting, Inek Contreras left the firm this summer. He had done a tremendous job working with us and helping our growth. These duties are now being taken over by Rachel Smith and the transition has been very smooth. We have of course used this time to reevaluate and take as an opportunity to continue improving our operation.

Work here continues, after 20 plus years the old lighting at the station was becoming a maintenance issue and thanks to board member Rudy Erdmann, we now have new LED lighting. Rudy also worked to upgrade the pumping system we use to fill the trucks. Both projects were fairly costly but much needed.

Many of our old and new volunteers had stepped up to do much needed work on some of the equipment which is huge in easing the strain on the budget. We owe a big thanks to them for that.

Our merchandise team continues to hit home runs with new items that show off our Walker Fire spirit. Again, all this is due to the continued support of you, the Walker community!

Thanks,
Lance Gilbert
Treasurer

Walker Trash Collection Services:

The subscription runs January to December for the 12 months. Six-month subscriptions and month to month subscriptions are available. The rates are \$200.00 for 12 months for the calendar year, \$150.00 for 6 months or \$50.00 for a month. We change the lock combination January 01st.

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

One of the problems we had last year was that home owners were sharing the lock combination short term renters, cleaning companies and contractors. All short-term rental properties are to purchase a subscription for the full term of use. The responsibility for the disposal of the trash from short term rentals is the responsibility of the rental manager. We will also be contacting the rental management companies to make sure they are aware of this.



THIS SERVICE IS FOR HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE ONLY!

We have new and improved video surveillance surrounding the dumpster area to help monitor activities.

If the dumpsters are full, please don't leave yours on the ground.

Please take all other materials to the dump. The City of Prescott Transfer Station is located at 2800 Sundog Ranch Road.

The Walker Trash Collection Services website is located at <https://walkertrashcollectionservice.com> We recently made improvements to the way you can subscribe. Instructions are on the website.

If you see anyone dumping illegally, or issues with the dumpsters, please let me know.

Clyde McKay
Vice-president@walkerfire.org / 480-329-8443

Board Meetings Are Held Monthly:

WFPA Board Meetings take place the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:15 am at the Fire Station. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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.

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 departments 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 2023 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 Members well being or property.

Please review the following donation information and consider the significant community benefits provided by your volunteers at the WFPA... and please 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 86303
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.
3. **Zelle** – You can use Zelle as an option - treasurer@walkerfire.org

You can update your personal info on our website by selecting the “Contact Us” form.

Walker Fire Protection Association – 2024 Annual Donation Drive

Name: _____ . Donation Amount ___ \$ 300.00 or Other: ___ \$ _____

Mailing Address: _____

Walker Address: _____

Check enclosed _____ Visa: _____ Master Card: _____

Card #: _____ Exp: _____ CVV # _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____

___ Please include me in all WFPA email and news. ___ No change in any of my contact information

Calendar of Events:

January 13th – Board meeting – 9:15am to 10:00am

February 10th - Board meeting – 9:15am to 10:00am

March 09th - Board meeting – 9:15am to 10:00am

April 13th - Board meeting – 9:15am to 10:00am

April 27nd – Pancake Breakfast – 8:00am to 10:00am

May 04th – National Preparedness Day and Walker Firewise Day

May 11th - Board meeting – 9:15am to 10:00am

May 18th – BINGO - 4:00pm to 7:00pm

May 25th – Annual Meeting – 9:00am to 11:30am

June 08th - Board meeting – 9:15am to 10:00am

June 15th – Walker Day 11am to 2pm (Yard Sale 9am to 1pm)

June 22nd – BINGO - 4:00pm to 7:00pm

June 29th – Pancake Breakfast – 8:00am to 10:00am

July 06th – Kids Day – 11:00am to 1:00pm

July 13th - Board meeting – 9:15am to 10:00am

July 19st – Chip and Haul begins

July 20th - BINGO – 4:00pm to 7:00pm

July 27th - Pancake Breakfast – 8:00am to 10:00am

August 10th - Board meeting – 9:15am to 10:00am

August 17th - BINGO – 4:00pm to 7:00pm

August 18th – Chip and Haul ends.

August 24th - Pancake Breakfast – 8:00am to 10:00am

August 31st Fire Fighter Appreciation Day – 4:00pm to 6:00pm

September 14th - Board meeting – 9:15am to 10:00am

September 21st - BINGO – 4:00pm to 7:00pm

September 28th - Pancake Breakfast – 8:00am to 10:00am

October 12th - Board meeting – 9:15am to 10:00am

November 09th – Board meeting – 9:15am to 10:00am

December 14th - Board meeting – 9:15am to 10:00am



Walker Merchandise

The Walker Merchandise team would like to take this time to thank the Walker residents for the continued support they show the WFPA (Firefighters) throughout the years by purchasing our Walker merchandise. Last year we offered personalized bricks that you can now see outside the entrance of the Firestation. This year you all helped to fund the new Firetruck by purchasing our special “Support our Firefighters” merchandise. Both of these efforts were a hit and successful because of all of you.

We always try to offer new items to keep our merchandise tables a fun place to look around and to find those items that you just have to have! We are already thinking of next year, so watch for special items for your furry friends and new items for the children. At the last pancake breakfast we introduced some of the new kids craft packages (see attached pictures, only \$3 each or \$2 for \$5).

Thank you again for all your support.

The Walker Merchandise Team! Karen, Karla, and Marti!

Advertise With Us:

Advertise your business with us. Please contact vice-president@walkerfire.org if you are interested. Ad prices - \$ 220.00 – Full Page / \$ 110.00 – Half Page / \$ 60.00 – Quarter Page / \$ 30.00 – Eighth Page

NEW EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM



Yavapai County residents are encouraged to sign up for **alertYAVAPAI**, which is the Emergency Mass Notification System that enhances their ability to quickly communicate with the public and provide critical and time-sensitive information for emergencies such as wildfires, evacuations, floods and missing persons. By registering for **alertYAVAPAI**, you can receive alerts via cell phone by voice or text, email addresses, home phone, business phone, and more. SIGN UP! It's easy: login to this to sign up. <https://member.everbridge.net/337829242601768/new>

Ready Set Go



Ready, Set, Go! is a nationwide program adopted by the 15 Arizona Sheriffs that educates residents about proactive measures to take before an emergency and actions to follow when communities are threatened. For more information, please visit <https://ein.az.gov/ready-set-go>

Yavapai County Community Health Emergency Preparedness – Functional Needs Evacuation



The purpose of this is to assist emergency response agencies in locating, providing warning to, and if possible, evacuating persons with functional needs in case of emergency. The development of a personal evacuation plan is still highly encouraged. This is not meant to be a primary evacuation plan for any household, as emergency responders can be overwhelmed during an incident and evacuation through emergency services cannot be guaranteed. COMPLETION OF THIS FORM IS VOLUNTARY. To access this form, go to www.yavapaiaz.gov/CHS (Click Health Services, then Click Forms).

WFPA Website:

The Website is a good 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 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 database, go to www.walkerfire.org and click on the "Create and 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/



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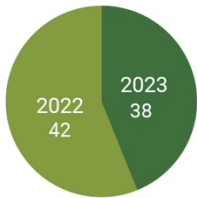
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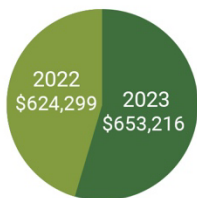
480-329-8443

If you are considering buying or selling your property, please give me a call.

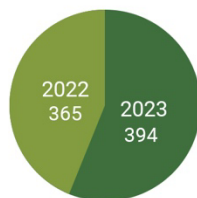
Year Over Year Market Statistics: 2022-2023



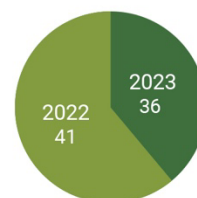
Total Residential Sales



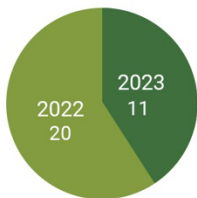
Residential Median Sold Price



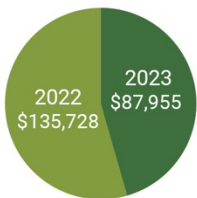
Residential Price Per Sq Ft



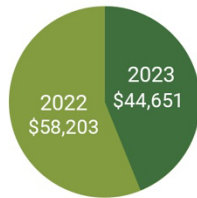
Residential Median Days on Market



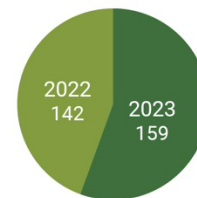
Total Vacant Land Sales



Vacant Land Median Sold Price



Vacant Land Price Per Acre



Vacant Land Median Days on Market

Personal year to date summary

- \$ 10 Million in sales
- 5 Land properties closed
- 17 Active land listings
- 15 Residential properties closed
- 4 Residential properties pending
- 15 Active residential listings

There are currently 28 active residential listings and 26 active land listings in the general Walker area. These statistics are based on a 2.5 mile radius in the Walker area and data provided by the Prescott Area Association of REALTORS® Multiple Listing Service.

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Walker Fire Protection Association
PO Box 10174
Prescott AZ 86304

WFPA Winter 2023 Newsletter

Annual membership meeting details, special dates and updates from your fire chief and board inside.

Enjoy and thank you for your support.

For an electronic copy please visit our website at www.walkerfire.org

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

