

VOTE FOR FRED (PRESIDENT) AND MARK (VP)

Just the ticket for the next 2 years

Fred Peterson, current VP is running for President of the SCFDA (Association) and Mark Hemmendinger is on the same ticket seeking the office of Vice President. While many of you are expecting to vote for a Fire Chief as VP, we are suggesting a new direction. The alternative two years terms between chiefs and directors have been tradition, it is not a part of the Association's bylaws. Some of you may see this proposal as a natural way forward while others a break with tradition, but we hope that all of you consider what it means to have directors leading the Association. Simultaneously, we don't suggest that the Fire Chief should not be a crucial part of the association and its discussions. We also are committed that the two groups should work closely together to achieve our shared goals.

We believe it will take more than one person leading the Association over the critical next two years to achieve success for all of the Fire Districts financial and political objectives. Certain to be on the horizon is the fire service sales tax and vegetation management, two issues that the County has demonstrated a desire to control, despite fire service efforts regarding both issues. Other County-wide fire service issues are bound to arise during the same timeframe. We believe it will take the two of us, working in tandem with the active support of fellow directors and Fire Chiefs to achieve the Associations goals. Fred brings many years of experience in the fire service along with vegetation management and long tenure of board service and Mark contributes his board service, willingness to speak truth to power and skill in drafting documents.

We have established a good working rapport, seen most recently with the look back presented at the October meeting. We hold similar views on the need for the fire service to control its own destiny and believe that more action from the Association will be required in order to achieve this goal. We also believe that a close working relationship with the Chief's association and FSWG will be necessary and pledge to do so.

Please vote for Fred and Mark if you want to Fire Districts Association to have an effective and unified voice with Sonoma County officials

SONOMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT



Honesty ♦ Respect ♦ Integrity

December 20, 2022

Sonoma County Fire Districts Association Members,

I am Steve Klick, Director of the Sonoma County Fire District, and am running for President of the Sonoma County Fire Districts Association. I served as a Director of the Windsor Fire Protection District and now serve the Sonoma County Fire District since its formation. Also serving as the President of the Board for SCFD for the past two years.

Our fire districts have struggled for years and as was pointed out in our October meeting our ability to work together is critical for our success. In 2014, I came into being a board member with the understanding the fire service in the way it had been done for decades was no longer adequate for provide for the future. As we all know, that became abundantly clear in 2017.

Since then, consolidations have begun to reform the fire service throughout Sonoma County. Major improvements to our district have been adequate staffing on engines and implementation of provide ALS service on the SCFD engines and EMS transport. Something that could never be achieved if we weren't willing to look to the future. Now we look to help other districts implement such strategies.

In the most recent consolation funding approved by the county, the county would not hear individual cases. They grouped the SCFD/Bodega Bay, Gold Ridge/North Bay and North Sonoma County Fire District into the one funding package. Our negotiations were only successful because we worked together. We all know that most of our districts still do not have adequate funding to provide the services they need to provide. New funding will only be available if we all work together toward one goal.

The county's funds are limited, so we have understood that the most likely way to provide the funding we need is by a fire service tax measure though sales tax. This is a difficult ask as we have seen voters in California repeatedly reject new sales tax measures. To have a chance we must be in lock step with each other. This is also true if we go after any other future funding source.

We have learned that when the Fire Districts Association works together and in unison with the Fire Chiefs association and labor, we are a powerful force.

I am active throughout Sonoma County and regularly attend many events that include Supervisors, city council members, and state government. I have built relationships with many of them. These relationships are essential when our voice needs to be heard.

I look forward to working with each of our member districts to see how the association can further your districts goals. I ask for your support to lead the Sonoma County Fire Districts Association to the future.



Honesty ♦ Respect ♦ Integrity

I am available to answer any questions at sklick@sonomacountyfd.org or my cell phone 707-478-1349.

Thank you,
Steve Klick



GOLD RIDGE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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Phone (707) 823-1084 · Fax (707) 829-1175 · www.goldridgefire.org

*Serving Hessel, Twin Hills, Freestone, & Rural Sebastopol
Fire Chief Shepley Schroth-Cary*

December 22, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to express my interest in the position of Vice President of the Sonoma County Fire Districts Association. I believe my qualifications and experience make me an ideal candidate.

I have been a member of the Gold Ridge Fire Protection District since 1994. During this time, I have gained valuable experience and insight. This includes participation in two successful tax measures, ongoing involvement in countywide fire service initiatives, serving on the Fire Service Working Group, working on an ongoing consolidation project, and response to major local events. Additionally, I worked for CAL FIRE for 17 years, primarily in Sonoma but also in Napa and Mendocino Counties.

There are significant changes happening in the fire service. The Sonoma County Fire Districts Association creates a united voice. That voice, along with close collaboration with Labor and the Fire Chiefs Association is critical to the success of our individual districts and the county fire service as a whole. I believe that my work experience has provided me with a perspective that will help guide the Sonoma County Fire Districts Association through these exciting times and help to navigate the future.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shepley Schroth-Cary", with a long, sweeping underline.

Shepley Schroth-Cary
Fire Chief