

The **BRESNAN DISTRIBUTOR**

ACFD Retiree's Newsletter February/March 2012 -Year #7 Issue #41

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Mailing: Connie Nabonne

Well, I turned 65 and it didn't hurt a bit. Since I was already receiving a small amount of retirement from Social Security, they sent me notice to sign up for Medicare. I filled out some of the forms they sent me, and some that PERS sent me. Then I received my red, white and blue Medical Card. I am still under Blue Shield and Medicare. I have a doctor appointment in March and I will let you know if there is anything different there.

Not much to report this issue. At least nobody died (I think). I filled some space with some photos. I was able to get a photo of Vern Brooks' new RV from Facebook. I Haven't heard much from any of the retirees.

I had a request to put the names of the people that are in the photos. Well, I don't know most of the names either. I have been out 12 years now and everyone looks like a kid to me. I get introduced to many of the new guys, but I can't remember names anymore. I will do my best.

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**Photo Taken by Gene Mumford in the early 1960's
At Redwood & Heyer Ave. Castro Valley Station #2**

Back Row LtoR

Jack Lyons-Tom Chapman-Ted Ferriera-Ray Machado-Kent Wolfe-John Colagross-Com-N. Moore-Com-Jim Alexander-Tom Castro-Tom Moyer-Nolan McDaniels-Carl Nordell-Bill Sullivan



Front Row LtoR

John Azavedo-Rich Henze-Glen Railsback-Robert Waberski-Carl Perata-Com-Chief Buchard
Com-Louie Gabrielli-Omar Paquette-Norm Silva-Robert Jurasek-Rich Cunningham-Dan Fratis



**Here are
some photos
from the
ACFD Kid's
Christmas
Party**



1/12/2012 from Terry Givens:

Rich,

Here is a check for the Bresnan Distributor. I look forward to every month to read about the guys in the fire dept.

Some of the names go way back to when we all volunteered for the Office of Emergency Services (O.E.S.).

Again thanks for allowing me to be a part of this

Terry Givens 197302004

12/26/2011 from Frank Sturgeon:

Hi Rich,

Thank you for mailing us the Bresnan News. It's tough on us since we did not keep up with the computer age (too lazy). If need be, our grandchild helps us. Thank you for all the nice news and the sad ones too. It's our way of being part of ACFD.

Happy New Year to everyone who still remembers us.

Frank Sturgeon

11/30/2011 from Tom Boggs:

Rich,

Just read the latest issue of the Bresnan. Thanks for your dedication to this forum.

As to your upcoming membership in Medicare, WELCOME. As an old guy, I went into that system last year kicking and screaming.

Like you, I had a small Social Security pension. This was not earned through any fire service work. I also did not have the full quarters, so get a reduced amount each month. Then Medicare came into the fray, and took a large chunk from my SS.

I do hope that in the future, those of us who worked for our future can get the full amount we have earned. Because of the PERS retirement, my SS was reduced, then reduced further with Medicare. Contrast that with our politicians getting full medical and retirement pay even with a minimum of years service when elected to office.

Hope it all works out for you. Please keep me posted on this issue.

All the best, and Merry Christmas,

Tom Boggs

Here is a photo of the new Vern Brooks escape package.



11/4/2011 from Mike Bennardo:

Dear Rich:

First I want to thank you for all the work you do and have done for the Bresnan in particular, and for retirees in general.

I was one of the disappointedly smaller than expected group of us at the retirees' awards and dinner in Dublin last Saturday night, and, besides notice taken of more we have to do to keep events like that more popular, two other things came to my notice.

The first, but not most important, is asking if there may be a place on the Bresnan for retirees with motor-cycles to post or announce upcoming rides or events which other bikers may be of interest. Please get back to me on that.

The second is much more important. We retirees have to start attending Union Meetings. I would like to see us get our vote back, but that is down the line somewhere. As you and all retirees know, health costs are skyrocketing. We need to be represented, and to begin the campaign, asking for online personnel to pick up any new increase in cost which will occur to retiree's medical. I thought we would be covered for life, but, as McKenna and Rocha explained to me at Stacy Hartmann's Memorial, nothing is etched in stone. And if the County does not have the money to pay for the Medical Insurance Premiums for an ever increasing number of retirees, then, we will have to pay it ourselves.

It only makes sense to have online personnel pick up the difference, and continue to perpetuity, that one day, the same will be done for them. However, that attitude may not be shared with young twenty-something new hires who were never nailing union signs to posts in the back of Rich Ferguson's garage. I feel it is safe to say that less than 10% of online personnel at ACFD have ever read an MOU, let alone the current one....and of that 10%, probably less than half of them know what last/best offer means. My point is, we need to get more retirees involved in the union, or at least go to the meetings. Can we use the Bresnan as a resource to that end? Your thoughts and replies will be more than appreciated.

Fraternally yours,
Mike B.



Union Website
<http://www.iafflocal55.org>

Calendar



The Nabonne Retirees Luncheon will be held Wednesday, April 18th at 11:30, at Harry's Hofbrau in the bar area.
Floyd 510-886-0708

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Money

Income = \$75.00

Expenses= \$220.06

Current bank balance=\$1886.29

Please remember when sending in a check, make it payable to Rich Ferguson, not Bresnan.
Suggested donation is still \$10 per year.