

IN CLOSING

These past two years have been a fascinating journey for me, but our group is now coming to an end. For the first nine months after the fire, we ran solely on volunteer effort of people already tasked with the heavy burden of recovery. Without the grant through Community Partners from the California Foundation, we would've burnt out so much earlier and lost many recovery opportunities.

I also can not forget the efforts of George and Pat Kehrer of Community Assisting Recovery (CARE, Inc). They supported us through the volunteer months and took an entire year out of their life to help us through a process which they had been through after the 1991 Oakland Hills Fire and which I'm sure, at the time of their disaster, they wished never to repeat. I hate to even think where we would've been without them.

I look forward to working with these and other groups using the knowledge I have gained to help future disaster survivors.



OLD FIRE SECOND ANNIVERSARY IN CLOSING

The Old Fire Recovery Group was created by survivors of the 2003 Old Fire with the purpose of finding the best recovery information available and provide it at no cost to other fire survivors.

This tour will be the final event for our organization.



Old Fire Recovery Group

A Project of Community Partners

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OCTOBER 23, 2005

2:00 PM

SPECIAL THANKS TO

We'd like to take the time to thank the following people. Without their help, our group would not have been such a success.

Amelia and Jim Herrmann	Old Fire Survivor and volunteer
Bill McKinney	Old Fire Survivor and volunteer
Brandie DeDoes	Old Fire Survivor and volunteer
Charlotte Crandall	Old Fire Survivor and volunteer
Claudia Oakes	Old Fire Survivor and volunteer
Gary Stephens	1993 Eaton Canyon Fire Survivor and CARE, Inc volunteer
George Kehrer	CARE Inc.
Jennie Hendrickson	Old Fire Survivor and volunteer
Lila Hayes	Old Fire Recovery Group Coordinator
Marcey Stanton	Old Fire Survivor and volunteer
Paul Vandeventer	Community Partners
Ramona Payan	Old Fire Survivor and volunteer interpreter
Scott Turnbull	Old Fire Survivor and volunteer



TODAY'S EVENTS

Today is a day to celebrate the accomplishments of fire survivors during a time which can bring back strong memories. Our emphasis is on visiting fire survivors, then thank those involved in the group.

2:00-3:30

Crandall Residence
3968 Modesto Drive

Tour the following homes.

Wessmann Residence
3964 Modesto Drive

**Refreshments will be served at the home of Jill Willoughby:
1258 Sonora**

Blanton Residence
3984 Modesto Drive

Willoughby Residence
1258 Sonora

3:30-4:00

Thank the participants and volunteers of our group. Certificate Ceremony.

TODAY AND THE FUTURE

Although today is a day of reflection it is also a day to look forward. We are touring homes which are under construction or complete, but not everyone has made it this far.

TODAY

We realize that many people have not even begun to rebuild. In fact, as of September 1, 2005, only 177 (32%) of the 548 total losses in the San Bernardino Valley have completed rebuilding. An additional 181 (33%) have applied for or been approved for a permit. This leaves a full 35% which have not even begun the permit process.

Although we can only guess why most of these people have not started, it was not at all unexpected for people attending our meetings. One of the first things we learned

from prior disaster survivors was that the recovery process is more like a 3-5 year process instead of a 1-2 year process like we first expected.

THE FUTURE

For these people, and any others interested in disaster recovery, we will continue updating our website and our email based newsletter as well as our voicemail number.

Many of us are also interested in helping future disaster survivors and are looking forward to... "pay it forward".

