

BERGHEIM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

"Protecting Our Homes in the Hills"

FALL 2010 NEWSLETTER

Visit our website at bergheimvfd.org for the latest BVFD news!

To volunteer or donate call (830) 336-3241 or email board@bergheimvfd.org

ANNUAL ANHALT FUNDRAISER ON SEPT 25!

Come join us at the fourth annual **BVFD Barbeque Dinner, Dance & Auction Fundraiser** on Saturday evening, September 25, 5 to 11 pm, at the Anhalt Hall to support your local fire fighters. Buy tickets early using the enclosed card, at the Bergheim General Store, O'Brien's Restaurant or the Bergheim Valero Station for \$15 per person, or buy at the door the day of the event for \$20 per person. A limited number of reserved tables will be available for \$100 above ticket costs; contact Nalga Mebane (npmebane@gvvc.com or 830-336-4485) to reserve one.

This year's event will be the best yet! Our catering friend, Caritas Ranch BBQ, will once again provide barbeque with fixings that are finger lickin' good. Be sure to bring your appetite with room for desert - our bake sale will have a wide selection of sweets for the most discriminating taste. We will have iced tea available, with beer, wine coolers, bottled water, and soft drinks at extra cost. The raffle, silent and live auction committees are gathering more items than ever before, with items for everyone from hunters to adventure vacation seekers. The live auction will offer several one-of-a-kind items, such as a guitar signed by our friend, George Strait.

Our special entertainment for the night will be Hill Country native **Jeff Griffith**. He and his band are one of the best dance bands around, and for this we have extended the evening until 11 pm. So wear your boot scooters, as you're in for a great time dancing to this excellent musician!

If you can't attend, please donate as all proceeds benefit your Bergheim VFD.

AUCTION & BAKE SALE DONATIONS SOUGHT

We do need your help by donating new items for our raffle, silent or live auctions or to the bake sale. Items could be: crafts, jewelry, art work, gift baskets, hunting or fishing trips, golf days, sport's items, vacation homes for a few days, gift certificates from your favorite merchants or restaurants, or other items of interest to the community; and for the bake sale: pies, cakes or cookies. All donations are tax deductible. For a donation form or more information, contact Nalga Mebane (npmebane@gvvc.com or 830-336-4485) for the auctions or Melanie Edmondson (medmonson@gvvc.com or 830-336-2088) for the bake sale.

Please drop off your auction items for donation by Wednesday, Sept 22, to either:

- Kendall Woods Dental Clinic, 25 FM 3351 (just south of Hwy 46), phone 830-229-5582
- The Mebanes, 3316 Rio Cordillera (near the Cordillera FM 3351 gate), phone 830-336-4481
- Bergheim General Store (in downtown Bergheim)

NEEDED: JAWS OF LIFE!

The Bergheim VFD needs your help in purchasing a complete set of "Jaws of Life" to assist vehicle extrication of crash victims, as well as other rescues from small spaces. The "Jaws of Life" tools include hydraulic powered cutters, spreaders and rams as well as a hydraulic pump to power the tools. Our firemen have been partially trained using borrowed equipment, but that equipment is no longer available. Should a wreck occur that involves a trapped passenger(s), our firemen currently have no equipment to extract them and would have to wait for neighboring assistance, which could result in an unnecessary fatality.

Volunteer Fire Department are working hard to “protect our homes in the hills”. Thank you for everything you do to make our community a safer place to live.

FIRE SALE THANK YOU

The first annual Bergheim VFD Market Days Fire Sale held last April was a tremendous success! A special thanks to Susan & Pat Bullinger, owners of the Valero Shopping Center, for donating the use of their building. Also, thank you to the community for donating sale items, to the vendors who supported us and to those who came out in the rain to buy items. Time to start saving items for the 2011 Spring Sale, at a date and location to be announced.

BERGHIEM HISTORY: ANDREAS & EVA BECHOLD ENGEL

The 1903 Bergheim General store is such a dramatic fixture on Hwy. 46 that envisioning Andreas Engel, its original proprietor and Bergheim postmaster, prior to this era is difficult. Yet, after arriving in Texas from Austria in 1885, he lived a full 18 years in the area before building the store. Of all his experiences during this window of time, his courtship and marriage of Eva Bechtold stands out. From Andreas’s son, Alfred, we learn: *“Andreas missed going to church...they brought him to the Honey Creek log cabin church (originally St. Joseph Honey Creek, 3 miles north of today’s location) ...Then one day at the log cabin church he met Mr. Bechtold who ... had a large family and the three ... girls nearly the same age as Andreas. Mr. Bechtold invited him to dinner ... It so happened that this Sunday there was a dance at Anhalt and Mr. Bechtold asked Andreas to take the three girls to the dance. The oldest two girls...had boyfriends. This left Eva, who was quite young. ... after a few more visits Eva and Andreas decided to get married.”* Eva and Andreas were married in 1891 and stayed married for 55 years.



MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD PRESIDENT

Greetings to everyone in the fine Hill Country community of Bergheim! I hope you all enjoyed the first half of the summer with its rain and comfortable temperatures. What a difference from last year when we were praying for clouds and temperatures less than 100 degrees.

As you have read, we are busy making preparations for our fourth annual fundraiser event. Our committees have been working diligently to bring you the best of everything we can offer. At the event, be sure to say hello to our fire chief, Jeff Hoffstadt, and the volunteer firefighters. They spend a good part of their time training and improving their skills so we can be the best with our available resources. Get to know your board members, and let them know how you feel about the department; we welcome your comments and hope to improve our ability to serve the Bergheim community.

Your participation in this fundraiser is the major financial support of our firefighters. The fire department services a community; it takes a community to financially support the department. Your participation is very much appreciated. A special thanks to all the volunteers whose time and efforts have made this fundraiser a successful annual event. See you on September 25th!

Thank you for your support,

Tom Laurin, Board President

And from your Board:

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|----------|
| Ken West | Vice-President | Stanley Jones | Director |
| J.W. Pieper | Treasurer | Nalga Mebane | Director |
| Dave Kibler | Secretary | Bryden Moon | Director |



Support your
local firefighters!

BERGHEIM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT **FOURTH ANNUAL FIRE DEPT FUNDRAISER**

Saturday, September 25, 2010
5 - 11 pm, Anhalt Hall
(Off Hwy 46, 6 miles east of FM 3351 intersection)

Admission & Dinner: **\$15/person** (early purchase)
\$20/person (at the door)

Buy early by mail, from Bergheim General Store, Valero Gas Station or O'Brien's Restaurant

Barbecue, All the Fixin's & Iced Tea
Served 5:30 - 7:00

Beer and Soft Drinks Available for Purchase
Bake Sale for Dessert

Listen and dance to **Jeff Griffith & His Band**

Raffle, Live & Silent Auctions
Raffle tickets available at the event, \$5 each or 5 for \$20

Live Auction by: **Forres Meadows, TexasBid.com**

All proceeds benefit the Bergheim VFD

Buy early tickets or make a donation using enclosed card