Hello to the 92 of you receiving this newsletter!

It is time to give you an update of the status of our campaign, with notice of an important meeting for all of you to attend at the end of this message! First, here are some quick facts:

1. Our list of <u>Supporters</u> has grown since Newsletter #1 (August 4) from 54 then to 77 now. Take a look and if you do not see your name listed, contact us and we'll add it.

2. The list of residents wanting to receive updates has also grown since Newsletter #2, from 73 to 92.

3. Our <u>Facebook page</u> is catching on! Please take a look and "like" and "share" it! We have also made contact with the Sentinel reporter who will be receiving our press releases and arranging for an interview about our campaign.

4. On August 18, six of us stood at the podium at oral communications in front of the County Board of Supervisors (BOS) and introduced our Freedom From Fireworks (FFF) campaign. You can read our <u>statement to them HERE</u>. We were well received and even had some applause from the meeting audience. Within a week we had contact from three Supervisors (Coonerty, Friend and Leopold), all appreciative of our work and anxious to see what recommendations we would be making to them in the months ahead.

5. Our FFF <u>web site</u> is growing also. One may learn a lot about this issue by treating the web site as a library. One can find a lot of information on <u>Existing Ordinances</u> and how they establish the prohibition of all fireworks in Santa Cruz County and City.

6. We have a core Working Group (10 of us) who do a lot of daily email communication, sharing the results of individual research, exchanging ideas and keeping this campaign rolling! If anyone else would like to be <u>actively engaged</u> in this vital work, *reply to this email* and we'll get you subscribed to the FFF Working Group e-list.

7. We spent some time with the County Clerk of the Board and the County Fire Marshal and learned the history of the prohibition of fireworks in the County. We now know more than any of us thought we would ever know about fireworks codes! Being informed is crucial to making our case before the Board of Supervisors.

8. Several of us will be meeting with the Commander of the VFW Post 7263 on September 28, to discuss concerns of veterans with PTSD. We'll also meet with Post 5888 (downtown) in a couple of weeks.

Important Meeting With Sheriff

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend a meeting with County Sheriff personnel on October 1 (a Thursday). We do not know yet which officers will be meeting with us, but we have requested that Sheriff Hart be there also. We have submitted a list of questions ahead of time and look forward to answers. Our Working Group has done a lot of homework to prepare for this meeting. Still, it would be very good to have as many of you as possible with us at the

meeting! The more residents the Sheriff sees turn out for this meeting, the more he will know we're not just a few disgruntled folks. So please try to attend. <u>Details</u>: October 1 at 6:30 pm at the new Live Oak/Soquel Sheriff Center's community meeting room, located at 5200 Soquel Avenue (frontage road at Chanticleer). Please let us know (by reply to this email) if you can attend. We'll want to have a ballpark figure for the Sheriff.

Thanks for reading through this far. Look for a separate FFF Call to Action email in another day or so. We've learned something extremely important that will help us get control of fireworks in the County and we'll want as many as possible acting on it and spreading the word! Stay tuned...

Jean, on behalf of the FFF Working Group http://freedomfromfireworks.weebly.com/