Firefighter Fair

June 7, 2014 8:00 - 2:00
Southwest Oregon, Illinois Valley Airport (3S4)

The Apollo 14 moon landing (1971) and its connection to firefighting will be commemorated at the historic Siskiyou Smokejumper Base Museum in southwest Oregon with more than 20 nonprofit organizations and agencies participating. Activities, displays, and historic smokejumper base tours are all adjacent to the tarmac. The volunteer firefighter breakfast-from-scratch starts at 8:00. Early arrival recommended to avoid congestion (this airfield has no taxiway). Camping OK. Free showers available. 100LL fuel available. Check NOTAMs for updates. Airport and event info. www.highway199.org. IMPORTANT NOTE: Unicom frequency for this airport: 122.9.

Event participants include:

The Apollo 14 Moon Tree Story

A firefighter who worked at the Siskiyou Smokejumper Base in 1953 went on to become an astronaut on the Apollo 14 mission to the moon. His experiences as a firefighter played a role in his decision to carry about 500 tree seeds with him to the moon. When the astronauts returned, these seeds were planted and the trees that grew from them became known as “moon trees”. The Apollo 14 moon trees were distributed nationwide during the Nation’s bicentennial in 1976 to commemorate NASA’s accomplishments in space exploration. Siskiyou Smokejumper Base is regarded as the place where the moon tree story begins. Moon trees are the living legacy of America’s missions to the moon.

Golfing on the moon

The Apollo 14 mission to the moon is best remembered for Alan Shepard’s historic “golfing on the moon” stunt that involved hitting golf balls with a make-shift club. Alan Shepard became America’s first astronaut when he was launched into space in 1961. He was selected to go into space again on the Apollo 14 mission and became the oldest astronaut to land on the moon.