

# THE SIREN



Presented By

## Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD

Volume 1 Issue 24 January 2006

### CHIEF'S CORNER

-Chief Robertson

Welcome to the January 2006 edition of the Siren!

With the New Year upon us, I am looking forward to working with everyone as we move the department forward on many fronts. Equipment additions including the new type 6 at Camp Sherman, a new ambulance, and a new staff vehicle are on the agenda for calendar year 2006. Of course we are still moving forward with the design of the new station 701, and the architects and building committee have been busy beginning to collect information and your input on the new facility. The renumbering of station 901 and 900 equipment will take place early this year, and we are reviewing all equipment numbering in the district fleet to ensure standardization. On the administrative front, we will be working on an update to the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, finishing the response time analysis project, updating the department's strategic plan, implementing new budget, payroll and accounting software, and updating our local community emergency plan.

I am pleased to announce that we have a new Assistant Chaplain who has joined the department. Her name is Sana Hayes (volunteer Bill Hayes' wife) and we are very fortunate to have her services. Sana will assist Chaplain Gerke and provide coverage in his absence. She has already assisted with a difficult call with a death in the family in December. We are very excited to have Sana with us. Please take time to read her column in this edition of the Siren and please make her feel welcome.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the children's Christmas gift project as well as the Christmas dinner on December 25. We served 85 people, many of them elderly with no holiday meal or family available for Christmas. A particular thanks to Fire Marshal Wheeler for his untiring efforts to provide toys to needy kids.

District shift personnel are now able to attend Monday night drills off duty. You may recall that because of the change in their work week, overtime is incurred any time shift personnel are doing department related work. We have created a sign-up system which allows up to 2 off-duty personnel to attend drill. This change will allow off-duty shift personnel to work and train with the volunteers and will help everyone be more familiar with one another. This will also allow off-duty career staff to keep drills and training going when the on-duty crew is dispatched to ambulance calls, etc.

As always, my office door is open and I look forward to seeing you. Have a happy New Year and I look forward to working together in 2006.

### ASSOCIATION NEWS

-Captain May

2006 has leaped right into our laps. It brings time to reflect on what is important to us and set our priorities. Many of you have made, set and hopefully keep resolutions, goals and dreams to strive for this year. Dream BIG and accomplish much for as the great philosopher and thinker Larry the Cable Guy says, "Nothing ventured, nothing gained", sooooo.... "*GIT-R-DUN!*"

To all of Santa's helpers who helped to organize, sort, shop and cook we extend a **VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU** to you. To all our community members, businesses, and Kiwanis who supported this year's festivities with cash, toys, clothing, time and donations, a **VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU** to you too. Your thoughtfulness of giving brings forth so many smiles coupled with laughter. That alone is a special gift that words cannot do justice to. We had almost 100% department involvement from all members including entire families during this Christmas season.

A special thanks to Santa's shoppers this year. We will keep you on our shopping list for next year and ask others to join you to help out. A BIG double **THUMBS UP** to you. You are **SPECIAL!!!!**

The Award's Banquet is **February 18<sup>th</sup> at 1800 hrs at the Sisters Community Church**. It will be catered allowing all to enjoy the festivities and socialize. We still need assistance to set up and tear down, decorations and obtain door prizes. See me ASAP!

**Award nominations are lacking so far!** Only three sheets have been placed into the 701-nomination box. Please have your nominations into the box prior to the January meeting! This will allow me to correlate them and have the ballots ready, prior to the meeting, so we can vote.

Returning to the things we, **as a group** need to accomplish this year, for it takes a team of players not just a few people to maintain an organization: fundraisers. Our working funds are starting to seriously be depleted towards a zero balance. Start thinking of ways and activities we, **as a group**, can create and do to be able to raise funds.

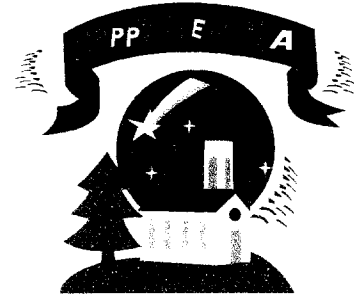
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## ASSOCIATION NEWS CONT.

Forthcoming events are the January Family Night, the Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt, the Memorial Day Softball BBQ Family Night, the Rodeo, and the Quilt Show week. There are numerous District related activities available, so see Dave Wheeler for more information. Sign up sheets are available on the clipboard in the Captain's office.

Also, start thinking of officers you would like to run the association for the next several years. Yes, it is that time, once again, for nominations and elections. This is coming in June with July as the inauguration.

Well, that is it for this month. Be prosperous and safe this year. And, remember... be safe out there and see you on the Fire and EMS lines "GIT-R-DUN"!!!!



## FIRE & EMS EQUIPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

-Captain Lovegren

With 2006 now upon us, I hope that each of you had safe & joyous holiday celebrations.

As a closure to 2005's equipment highlights, I would like to update you with a couple of items that have been added and changed in our equipment lineup.

Utility rope bags have been added to 770, 772 & 920. There was a delay in adding these items until funds for the 2005/2006 fiscal year arrived. In case you aren't familiar with these, they are orange bags with 100' of rope for utility use during fire & EMS activities. Please familiarize yourselves with their placement on the apparatus.

GPS units are now located on the dashboards in 770 & 772. While these aren't new purchases, they are relocated from their prior placement. The GPS models vary somewhat, but they are both the Garmin brand and have similar operating menus. Please feel free to ask any of the duty staff for a demonstration to help familiarize you with their operation.

With the loss of one of our soft stretchers at the hospital, I worked with Rescue Response Gear to create a soft stretcher that is strong, durable & easy to

use. The finished product has surpassed my expectations, as it is more compact and almost half the price of the past stretchers we purchased. The new stretcher does not have the one inch padding that the older stretchers have. This allows it to be stowed in about one quarter of the space as the older style. I am pleased with the product & would like you to provide feedback when you have a chance to use it.

The equipment committee has received drawings and preliminary specs for our new medic unit from Lifeline. We have reviewed them and made some changes in order to make the unit fit better within our budget. We have also changed some wording within the specs to make them less proprietary in order to encourage more ambulance vendors to bid on the unit. As a committee, we believe that this next medic unit will surpass the past units by offering a smoother ride, more built-in equipment for patient comfort and cold weather rehabilitation, more user-friendly and enjoyable for medics to work from.

As a reminder, the equipment committee will be working over the next couple of months to prioritize a list of recommended equipment purchases for the end of the fiscal year (June 2006). If you have any suggestions for equipment you would like to see purchased, please forward them to me and/or any of the other committee members as soon as possible. Happy New Year!

## FIRE PREVENTION

-Fire Marshal Wheeler

Thanks to all who helped in the Christmas Tree of Giving this year. We were able to provide gifts for over 200 kids, an increase of almost 50 kids over last year. We had a good turnout of volunteers, career folks and their families helping to stuff bags with toys. Once again the department members have stepped forward and helped provide for the children of our community.

We had an overwhelming response from the local community in the way of cash donations the last week be-

fore Christmas. We also received donations of clothes and toys from the Sisters High School Key Club, Sisters Middle School, Bright Spot Juice and Java and Sisters Movie House. What a great community we live in.

On the fire prevention side, we need to make sure to get the message out to the community to get Christmas trees out of the house as soon as possible. We've had our share of fires this year and we don't need one involving a Christmas tree. If you need anything, please call or stop by and have a safe and Happy New Year.

## TRAINING

-Assistant Chief Enoch

Happy New Year! Fire training for this month will start on Monday night, January 2 with a refresher class: "Identifying a Hazardous Materials Incident". The following week (January 9) we will apply the refresher class to a real-life scenario in the field. On week three, the stations will come together at Station 701 for a multi-company evolution.

On Saturday, January 21 we will be conducting a joint live-fire training on a single family dwelling at Wash-

ington and Larch Streets in Sisters. Black Butte Ranch Fire Department will be participating in the training burn as well. The drill will start a 0800 hrs at station 701.

On January 18, the EMS training session will cover Diabetic Emergencies; there will be a video, scenarios and discussion. Monday night's EMS topic will be dealing with difficult airway emergencies such as stoma sites and combitubes.

I hope to see all of you this month at training. If you have topics you'd like to have included in the training schedule, please contact your station captain or myself.



## APPARATUS NEWS

-Captain Lovegren

By the time this is published the equipment committee will have gone to H&W to preview the new Type IV Engine. The truck chassis is on the build floor and the rear compartment box is being built. You can log onto H&W's web site to see pictures as the truck is being built. The web site address is [www.hwev.com](http://www.hwev.com). Once you click on the production tab on the left side of the web page, a logon window will pop up. Our password is *sistersfire*. The photos will show the progress of the build. Please take a look at the truck and keep track of its production progress.

We've run into some problems with the drop-down chains. A rock damaged one on 722 and we are still waiting for parts. 770's driver's side chain wheel lost all the chains on the wheel. It is unknown why this happened;

so please remember to engage the chains while driving slowly and do not exceed more than 30 mph while the chains are down. Fortunately, I had some chain wheels in stock, so 770 has been repaired.

Warmer weather has cleared most of the ice from the roads and driving conditions have improved. Keep in mind that some of the less traveled roads still have icy ruts and ice pot holes which cause the wheels to have a mind of their own. Remember to slow down for these conditions and look ahead so you're not caught off guard.

Please note that the white towels are for cleaning only. The larger towels are for drying the apparatus after washing. Using the white towels to dry the vehicles causes them to become oily and blackened from the grit and road grime. We are going through up to 100 towels a week using them for drying trucks. Thanks for your cooperation.

I wish you all a safe and Happy New Year.

## CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

-Sana Hayes

Happy New Year... Happy New Chaplain!

No, John hasn't left the department. I'm happy to be the new additional chaplain. My name is Sana Hayes and now that Christmas has passed, no more calling me Santa. Yes, I'm related to firefighter (Bill) Hayes. He's my hubby. We moved to our dream home in Sisters in July of this year. We're STILL unpacking...

I'm currently finishing my second year of seminary and will be ordained in June as an interfaith minister. Bring on the weddings!!! (It's not polite to say "bring on the funerals", but I do those too, along with all forms of ceremony.) I began volunteering at age 10 and haven't stopped

since. My spiritual path is heavily grounded in service, contemplative study, and divination in the mystic traditions of ancient wisdom. I teach meditation and dance and facilitate classes, workshops and retreats for personal and spiritual growth. I currently work 3 days per week (W, F & Sat) in the Victorian Tea Room inside Tea & Treasures right here in Sisters. I'm hoping to be accepted into full-time chaplain training at St. Charles next fall and eventually work as a chaplain in the hospital or in hospice.

I look forward to meeting and knowing each of you personally. I'd like you to know that you or your family members can call me any time, day or night, if you'd like to talk with me as a chaplain, a friend or a spiritual companion. My cell phone number is 610-8548. Be well.

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# January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <b>Officers Meeting</b> 1800hrs <b>Drill 701, 703, &amp; 901, 1900hrs</b> Haz/Mat Refresher	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Safety Meeting 1800 Fire Drill 1900 hrs Sta 701, 703, & 901 Haz Mat Practical	10	11 Officers planning meeting for burn to learn 1800 hrs	12	13	14
15	16 Asso. Meeting 1800 Fire Drill 1900 hrs Sta 701 Company Evolutions	17 <b>BOARD MEETING</b> <b>STA 701,</b> <b>1700HRS</b>	18 EMS Breakfast 0800 Coyote Creek 24-7 EMS Diabetic Emergencies 0815 Staff Meeting	19	20	21 <b>BURN TO LEARN</b> <b>0800 STA 701</b>
22	23 Ems Drill 1900 hrs Sta 701 Airway Management Fire Drill Sta 901 Salvage	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 5 <sup>th</sup> Monday Party???	31				

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