

THE SIREN



Presented By

Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD

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CHIEF'S CORNER

-Chief Robertson

Welcome to the June 2006 edition of the Siren!

The encouraging precipitation we experienced the last few months has not taken care of our long term drought conditions in Central Oregon. I just received the current 1000 hour fuel measurement for the middle of May: we are currently at mid-July levels. This means our fuels are very dry and we can expect the possibility of significant wildfire events very soon.

We have been very busy this past month with work on the new station design. We have begun the discussion with the board of directors regarding funding options. The price-tag is much higher than we originally expected due to the increase in building costs and the design requirements we have addressed. The board will possibly make a decision at the June board meeting regarding whether they wish to pursue a levy in November along with the capitol we currently have on hand, or another combination of funding options we have presented. Stay tuned on this one. We will provide as much information as possible regarding the funding issue and details on the building project. In the mean time, stop by station 701 and check out the latest draft floor plan and design drawings.

We were notified this week that we received a federal matching grant for \$7,296.00 for a total of \$14,592.00 for wildland safety equipment and PPE. The grant also includes funds for mobile wildland hose rollers for some apparatus which will enable us to quickly roll hose with a mechanical roller.

We finished the 2006-2007 draft budget last week and the budget committee reviewed and approved the budget with a few minor changes. The board of directors will consider final approval at the June meeting.

The budget includes a new type 6 engine, and the equipment committee has been asked to start the specification process. If you have any suggestions, I am sure they would like to hear from you.

After a busy end of June (our son, Taylor is getting married in Sisters on June 24th), I will be floating the Grand Canyon, leaving June 29 and returning around July 24. Chief Enoch will be Acting Chief in my absence. I look forward to seeing you all on my return and sharing experiences.

As always, my office door is open and I look forward to seeing you.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

-Captain May

This will be my last communication to you as your president. Your new leadership will take over July 1st to guide our organization through new adventures and accomplishments. I ask you support them wholeheartedly. This will assist to maintain a cohesive working relationship allowing for the successful task completion ya'all decided to do.

Reflecting upon the last two years, it has been interesting, frustrating at times, and rewarding. We have grown to become better. We are looking for ways to accomplish tasks that benefit the association, the District, and the community. Even though we have a variety of opinions and mindsets, it has brought forth beneficial change creating a more positive environment. We are a stronger group for it and now are looking to the future.

It was thought an incorporation separation would be the best avenue to advance our desires and goals. We discovered this was not in our best interest. We successfully dissolved returning to the umbrella of our Fire District. This evolution from incorporation back to what we had prior has created a better working relationship. We are more cohesive and positively focused to accomplishing our goals as a team. Several true leaders came forth by tirelessly contributing and persevering through even the rockiest of times. Congratulations and thank you to those leaders! They gave and gave and gave and.... does anybody see that pink bunny rabbit anywhere?

We have many community beneficial services that we can be proud of completing. There are more to accomplish that your new leadership will be able to guide you forth towards. As my gud friend Larry the Cable Guy says "Git-R-Dun"!!!!

We have increased our family involvement and camaraderie with Family Fun Nights. We have played crochet, volleyball, softball, or watched movies together while breaking bread. This has allowed family members to met and bond with other spouses and our kids developing friendships. A long time tradition of spouses and kids riding in our apparatus during the parades has been reestablished.

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FIRE & EMS EQUIPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

-Captain Jeremy Ast

With June upon us, I hope that the Memorial Day holiday was a safe one for you and your families. As the fiscal year comes to an end this month, I have purchased some new equipment that has been arriving over the last month and will continue through the month of June. The equipment that I have purchased comes from the prioritized list established by the equipment committee and is highlighted below.

Two battery powered reciprocating saws have been added to 760, which will be primarily used for vehicle extrication emergencies. The extrication class that is currently in progress has used the new saws during their training exercise and found them to be an efficient way to cut the roof off a car. The saws proved to be a valuable addition to the equipment compliment and more effective than the hydraulic cutters for roof removal.

Other equipment pieces for extrication, which are also new to our department, are stabilization struts. These stabilization struts, also known as Rescue 42's (their brand name), should be arriving during the first week of June. They are telescoping composite struts that allow rescuers to stabilize a vehicle that is on its top or side, thus making extrication operations safer for both the rescuer and patient. Two sets of these struts have been purchased and will be added to 760 & 744.

Another addition to our equipment will be more airbag covers. These covers are placed over the steering wheels of vehicles equipped with airbags and are designed to contain the airbag in the event of deployment during extrication operations. We currently have one in service on 760. Four additional covers have been ordered and will be placed on 770, 772, 744 and 760. The covers should arrive during the first week of June.

The "stair chair" has arrived and has been placed in service on 770. For those of you who were not

able to attend the May EMS drill, the stair chair is a device that assists in the moving of patients that are not able to walk from areas of narrow passage and/or from upper floors. The patient is strapped into the chair (which works like a wheelchair on the flat ground); wheeled to the stairway, at which time the chair's handles and innovative stair tread are extended, allowing personnel to guide the patient down the stairway with minimal effort compared to the soft stretcher or gurney. The stair chair will be a valuable addition to the equipment on the ambulance and will make moving patients safer for the patient, while reducing the chance for rescuer back injuries.

With the receipt of a \$1,800 grant from the state health division, I have purchased two new AED's. They are manufactured by the Zoll Corporation, which also manufactured the defibrillator currently carried on 770. The pads that these AED's use are compatible with the defibrillator carried on 770. This feature will make the transfer of patient care from the AED user to the ambulance monitor/defibrillator smoother, as the pads will not have to be replaced as must occur with the AED's currently in service.

We have also received notification that we received a grant from the Oregon Department of Forestry. The grant is a 50% grant that will match our funds spent on certain equipment and PPE within an allocated dollar amount. We will be purchasing these items in the upcoming fiscal year. Equipment and PPE items included in the grant are: wildland shirts, pants, gloves, boots, helmets and manual hose rollers.

There will be more equipment arriving than I have listed above, so stay tuned to the highlights in the upcoming editions of *The Siren*. As always, if you have any suggestions for equipment or PPE that you would like to see purchased, please contact me or any of the other equipment committee members.

Have a safe month of June and Happy Father's Day to all of you fathers!

CHAPLAINS CHAT

-Chaplain Hayes

Fun for summer

Summertime generally finds us with so many outdoor activities that we're not giving any thought to sitting inside watching a movie. I've come across a movie club that is just too good not to mention. You can check out the Spiritual Cinema Circle at www.spiritualcinemacircle.com

This idea was the brainchild of director Stephen Simon, whom you might know from *What Dreams May Come* or *Somewhere In Time*. The difference from other movie clubs is that you KEEP the DVD each month which contains 1-2 full-length feature films and 3-4 shorts. The cost is \$21 per month. Especially if you have kids home being bored over the summer, these high quality, thought-provoking and inspirational movies are just the ticket!

FIRE PREVENTION

-Fire Marshal Wheeler

I would like to thank everybody who helped team teach at the grade schools. I had the opportunity to help with Redmond's team teaching and after the presentation; one of the kids approached Smokey and gave him a box of matches he found on the playground. The kids learned a lot, enjoyed themselves, and as always enjoyed seeing Smokey the Bear.

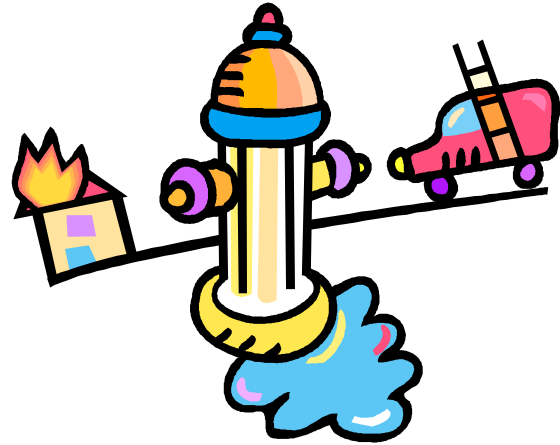
The department plans to be involved in several different events in Sisters this year. We will have the tent out to distribute fire prevention and safety brochures as well as take blood pressures. If you are interested in helping out, please come see me.

This year during Fire Free, a new record was set for number of loads of vegetation brought in: almost 300 loads. This is almost 50 more loads than we've had in the past. Tollgate homeowners brought in the most loads for the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District.

As you drive around the District, you will see all the new development. There are at least 5 new developments that have broken ground in Sisters alone. This does not include all the homes that are going in the rural area. If you're looking for something to do, take a drive

around and familiarize yourself with all the subdivisions with new homes going in. You will be amazed at all the new construction.

That's it from the fire prevention arena; if you have questions please call or stop by.



TRAINING

-Assistant Chief Enoch

In the month of June we will continue to train on wildland firefighting by working with small hand tools and reviewing wildland fire behavior. The Central Oregon Operations group is working on a standard operation guideline on MVA scene safety. June 19th, for our combined department training we will be reviewing this operation standard and apply it in a field situation. On June 26, for our EMS

drill we have invited Deschutes County Health Department to give us an update on the bird flu and what our department needs to do to prepare for it. Please mark your calendar for these important training events this month. You won't want to miss them.

Oregon Volunteer Firefighter Conference is this month. Please see Chief Enoch if you wish to attend.

APPARATUS NEWS

-Captain Lovegren

I have replaced the emergency brake lining on 749 (military 6X6). The truck was driven with the brake left on either this spring or last fall. The brake lining was completely fried and was falling off the brake shoes in pieces. The new lining will hold the truck in place but because the engine has so much low end torque you can drive away with the park brake still on. I have posted a reminder on the driver's window in the lower right hand corner to remind everyone to release the parking brake. The parking brake release lever is next to the driver's seat on the left hand side. When it is on, the handle is in the upright position and will "goose you" if you are not careful when you climb into the cab. If you're an apparatus operator, feel free to come down and drive the truck for practice in order to familiarize yourself with the equipment on the truck and run

the pump. Wild land season is here and we will need operators who know the equipment.

720 was sent to Myrmo's for engine and fuel injector pump adjustments. It was having trouble moving while in pump-and-roll mode. After several attempts with the adjustments, the truck now seems to be working great. You will notice we now have about 100 psi or more while flowing water from the auxiliary pump.

760 now has two cordless Dewalt reciprocating saws for vehicle extrication. They are located in the passenger's side rear compartment. I have also installed shore power to their location for keeping the batteries fully charged. You may leave the batteries in the chargers as they are also battery conditioners as well. The team of volunteers who are taking the extrication class are going to help with some new organization of the tools and equipment. You should start to see some changes soon. We will keep you posted on drill nights and in the siren.

FACILITIES

-Captain Thornton Brown

The district buildings are in pretty good shape after last winter. I believe mostly due to the care taken by all in assisting in the maintenance and repairs as they came up. Thanks to everyone and keep up the good work. There will continue to be improvements and sprucing up of the buildings when the summer help comes on board. If you have any time to help with the various projects or ideas that may

help, contact me and we'll see what can be done.

The latest drawings for the proposed addition/remodel to Station 701 are posted at that station. If you haven't already seen them, be sure and stop by and take a look. We are still in the early stages, so I am sure that the layout will change some. Overall, it is headed in the right direction and when completed will serve the needs of the district for some time in the future. Remember, we value your ideas and will gladly answer any questions you may have.

RESPONSE INFORMATION

-Captain Thornton Brown

There has been and continues to be a steady growth in our district which is reflected in our increase in total calls. It seems to have slowed down for this last month, but will increase as the summer recreation begins. There is always some event going on (sometimes more than one) each weekend which will draw people to our area. Each year there are more people at these events which has the potential for increased calls, either EMS or fire related. Everyone's response is critical when the call goes out, be prepared with your equipment and skills at all times. We have great personnel in this department and all are willing to help out where they can. Our call times are good, but can always be improved on. Remember, you are always welcome to come to the station and "hang" with the

on duty personnel, train with them, and maybe get a run or two in.

Response is not only for emergency calls. We have plenty of opportunity for other responses for needs within the department. Events we are involved with (rodeo, parades, MDA drives, Quilt Show, fairs and informational events) need you to "respond" to assist. Almost all of these events are fun and show our commitment to the community. We have a great rapport with the residents and they have positive comments on your involvement with the high profile events we have each year. Let's keep this up and have everyone as involved as possible.

Check out the run information that is posted at each station to get a feel for the type and number of calls we have and to check out everyone's response totals for the current year!

SCBA INFORMATION

-Captain Thornton Brown

We have had some recent repairs on our SCBA equipment. Nothing major or serious, just wear and tear. The repairs were made easy by the fact they were caught early and written up with a good explanation of the problem. Check out your issued face piece and if you have a question, contact myself or another Shift Captain. Be sure and practice the donning of the SCBA unit to remain profi-

cient in its use. Most of the needed repairs have been found during practice, which is better than finding them on the fire ground.

We have ordered 5 more air bottles this fiscal year, a regular purchase to maintain equipment and replacement of old items. Our goal is to have all 45 minute "Stealth" bottles as first out and replacement. As for voice amplifiers for everyone, we'll keep you informed as this progresses.

Association News Continued

-Captain Jeff May

We have become a tighter family orientated team due to your efforts and participation.

We provided assistance, at various venues, whether medical or service orientated tasks. Medical coverage at our high school football games assisted them to go onto the State finals. Our cowboys, cowgirls, and visitors enjoyed the rough and tumble of the Rodeos. Our Quilters strolled the sidewalks and businesses as our first aid tent was manned. Throughout the town, ladder commands were heard as personnel put up or took down the many exhibits. CPR and AED courses were taught throughout our community. A remote forest movie location shoot was manned through the various wintry conditions. We covered bike and running events, triathlons, and ski races. We collected for Jerry's Kids donating our biggest sum yet

to date. We hid eggs and provided prizes with kids darting everywhere during our Easter Egg Festival. We helped to offload vehicles and trailers at the Fire Free Weekend. We provided public safety patrolling our neighborhoods on the Fourth of July. We were able to scare the kiddies of all ages at our Halloween Fright Night. We were able to feed many during our Christmas Feast and Celebration. We worked with our Kiwanis who provided food while we supplied Christmas gifts.

You folks were busy living up to our motto "To Protect and Serve through Quality Service". I commend you all and a BIG thank you for your efforts and contributions. Keep it up for ya'all are the best!

See you on the Fire and EMS lines. Be SAFE out there!

POPS
