

THE SIREN



Presented By

Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD

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CHIEF'S CORNER

-Chief Robertson

Welcome to the May 2007 edition of the Siren.

With the return of spring, it is time to turn our attention to the upcoming wildland fire season. Please ensure your equipment and training are up to speed. If you need anything, please don't hesitate to contact your Shift Commander.

We have received one proposal from an interested party who would like to move the historic sleeper house. We hope to have the house removed by June 15, and Captain Brown is working on the temporary sleeping quarters.

Stuart Honeyman and I just returned from a meeting in Portland with the architects for our project. We are anticipating the building going out to bid the first to second week of May. We spent plenty of time going through the draft plans and a 2" thick specification book which outlines every detail of the project. I received word that Crooked River Ranch has just completed their bid process for a 2 million dollar main station, and the bidding environment is good from a consumer standpoint. Let's hope that our bid process comes in under budget.

I want to thank the building committee (Director Chuck Newport, Chief Enoch, Captain Brown, Captain May, and firefighters Stuart Honeyman and Dave Parman) for all their work and diligence as they have reviewed every detail of the building plans and specifications. Many have donated countless hours to ensure that every aspect of the building is accurately and completely reviewed. If you have any last minute concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact anyone on the committee.

We have also decided to add as a bid option the ability for the department to remove the designated trees from the property. Acting Captain Jay Crawford is putting together a plan to fall and remove the trees at a considerable savings to the district. Additionally, Stuart Honeyman has proposed that he utilize his heavy equipment to help remove the gas house and old shop buildings. Both of these proposals will certainly save money which can be utilized to ensure the project is affordable and savings may also be used for furniture and other needed items.

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TRAINING

-Captain Karjala

We have some great training coming up during the month of May. On May 7th we have a representative from a local propane company coming in to discuss propane emergencies. On May 21st the state elevator inspector will visit and give us information on basic elevator safety and what to do if we have an elevator emergency.

If you have not visited our web site recently we have updated the training portion to reflect both the volunteer and career training for the remainder of the year. We are also going to post pertinent Power Point presentations that have been developed for training/drills for our firefighters and EMT's to reference or review if you missed a drill. I want to thank Ben Bruegeman and Julie Spor for all of the great work on the web site and specifically the training page.

The Oregon Volunteer Firefighter Association's annual conference is June 20-23 in Coos Bay/North Bend. If you are interested in attending the conference please fill out a request for training and get it in to me as soon as possible so I can get you registered. If you would like further information please go to the OVFA website at OVFA.org. There is also a command weekend for company officers at the Oregon Public Safety Academy on June 8th and 9th. This seminar is going to offer strategy and tactics, building collapse, building and floor construction and dangers of operating on peaked roofs. This seminar is being instructed by retired FDNY Chief Vincent Dunn. I encourage all company officers that would like to attend to come in and see me. As always there are many other classes that are being offered statewide on a regular basis that are available as well.

We will be conducting student testing on May 9th for 2 new students. The test will include a written exam, physical agility and an oral interview. If you are interested in assisting with this process please contact me by May 7th.

Just a reminder- you need to complete your EMT recertification form and return it to Chief Enoch immediately for processing if you have questions on recertification hours please come in and see me.

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

FIRE & EMS EQUIPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

-Captain Ast

The couplings for the new 5" hose have been replaced and appear to operate smoothly. 721 has been re-equipped with LDH. Since it's been several months since the 5" was last used, please stop by and refresh your memory on the procedures for deployment and the various appliances associated with its use.

The new ambulance has been in service for about a month and appears to be working well. There are a few minor bugs that remain to be worked out, but none that affect emergency operations. If you notice any problems with the ambulance, please notify the shift commander.

Construction on the new Type 6 engine is expected to be wrapped up by the first week of May, which leaves the installation of the two-way radio, emergency lighting and siren packages that will be installed in-house. This leaves the Ward No-Smoke diesel filter system that will be installed towards the end of the month.

I received some synthetic (plastic) cribbing to demo for use in auto extrication, etc. It has been placed on 760 with the other cribbing. There are two different styles of the cribbing, so please experiment with both. Let me

know your opinion of the product for future purchase consideration by the equipment committee.

The National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) has identified a potential problem that exists with the clear plastic case for the new generation fire shelters manufactured prior to June 2005, which includes all of the ones owned by the district, with the exception of the large size shelters. There have been instances where the webbing pull handle has torn away from the case during an attempted deployment, which would obviously increase the time and stress associated with a deployment in the field. I am currently retrofitting our fire shelter cases as recommended by NIFC and will be exchanging your shelter with one that has been retrofitted.

The New Car Technology Holmatro Cutters have arrived and are now in service on 760. For those that are not familiar with the new cutters, they were designed for cutting the stronger materials & construction found in today's automobiles. The new cutters cut with 208,000 pounds of cutting force in comparison to the 60,000 pounds of cutting force of our older set of cutters.

For those of you that were not in attendance at the April 2 wildland PPE drill, please be sure to inspect your gear as we prepare for the fire season. If you have any PPE requests that need immediate attention, please let me know at your earliest convenience.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

-Jeff Liming, President

I would like to thank the Association members and those of the Cloverdale District who were able to help with our annual Easter egg hunt! We had a great event and the weather cooperated to make a gorgeous day. The public has come to expect a quality event and that is what we provided. Fire Marshal Wheeler estimated we drew 250 to 300 "hunters" and when combined with the adults there was a crowd. We concentrated on fire safety messages for the children this year and they were well received. Next year we will order additional eggs as this year's crop were scooped up in record time!

Please remember that the Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association annual conference will be held on Coos Bay/North Bend June 20th to 23rd. If you would like to attend please review an application form at www.ovfa.org and see Training Officer Karjala regarding department support. There are numerous training classes available at the conference this year.

Thanks are also in order for the Association members that represented us at the Rays Food Market Day event April 28th. Captain Jeff May and crew were available to give engine and ambulance tours to the public as well as educate the children attending with fire safety. This is another great example of Association public relations in action.

The Association fund raiser draft letter will be reviewed and finalized at our next meeting on May 21 at 6

pm. If you have not had an opportunity to take a look at it please email me your request at jeffliming@msn.com and I will send you an electronic copy. After we finalize this letter we can move on with scheduling the remainder of the project.

The Association will be hosting a dinner for the State Fire Marshal's Overhead Red Team on June 2nd here in Sisters. I am looking for volunteer chefs and servers! Please give me a shout if you can help. It is another great opportunity for our Association to shine!

Please also mark your calendars for Rodeo weekend of June 8, 9 and 10. We will need to fill the ambulance with EMT's and drivers for the multi-day event. Please also check your schedules for attending the Rodeo Parade on Saturday, June 9th at 9 am. We need drivers and riders for the apparatus featured in the line-up!

Thanks for your continued support of the Sister – Camp Sherman Fire and Ambulance Association!

FIRE PREVENTION

-Fire Marshal Wheeler

Well it looks like spring is finally coming to Central Oregon. I am still looking for volunteers to help with a couple of shifts on May 6th and 7th for Fire Free Weekend at the Fryrear transfer station. Lunch and drinks will be provided. Please contact me for more information.

Team Teaching this past week went great in Sisters. The 1st graders always enjoy Smokey coming in and teaching fire prevention to them. The Coop still needs volunteers to help team teach at the other fire districts schools around the region. The Bend area alone has 62 first grade

classes. If you are able to help, please contact me to arrange times.

We have an opportunity to participate in a prevention project with Sisters Christian Academy and Black Butte School. We will bring in the escape trailer and coordinate other prevention activities. Please contact me for more information and to sign up.

Have a fire safe month.

CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

-Chaplain Hayes

May the sun shine warmly upon your face.

May grace bestow peace upon your every day.

May you be gifted with a gentleness of spirit.

May your journey be long and pleasurable.

May health and happiness be your companions.

May joy find its way to you repeatedly.

May you trust the grander plan for your life.

May your friends be many.

May gratitude spill from you at the end of each day.

May you find rainbows during stormy times.

May faith be your firm foundation.

May you know love in all its forms.

NEW MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

-Captain Wellington

Guy Selig is our newest volunteer firefighter and a resident of the Squaw Creek area. He has lived in our com-

munity for about 8 months with his wife Valerie and their 12 year old son, Aaron. He moved here from Livermore, California where he retired after a career as a packaging designer. Guy has no previous experience in emergency services but is excited to become involved. Please be sure to welcome Guy the next time you see him.

CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

-Chaplain Gerke

Is there someone in your life who is difficult to deal with? Someone you don't like, perhaps even someone you hate? Is there someone that you just can't see anything about them that you like or approve of? Most of us have had or now have someone like that. My wife used to have a 7th grade student named Tony who was the class bully. He was a chunky kid who would cram smaller kids into trash cans and beat up on kids pretty often. She grew to expect the worse from Tony, and he delivered!

One day, Anne was sitting and thinking about Tony when a Bible verse came to mind (Phil. 4:8-9) that commands

us to look for the good in people, even very difficult people. She began looking for something - anything - good in Tony, and she remembered that Tony always showed up for basketball practice and for every game. Since there were just 7 boys in his class and only 6 could play, the team would have to forfeit if a boy had to come out and there was no other player to come in. Tony was not a good player, but he always showed up and never made excuses. That was something good about Tony! Then Anne was able to start finding other good things about him. And, she learned that Tony's dad had died the year before, and Tony hurt inside very deeply. Lines of communication began to be built up. Well, Tony went on to high school, but he would come back to Anne's school on a fairly regular basis to visit with her - just her.

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We have been working hard on the budget for next fiscal year, and we are cautiously optimistic that we will be in good shape financially in 2007-08. Our analysis shows that we may be able to add one more career Fire Medic as well. The current proposal is to bring on this additional employee in October of 2007. This new staff position is in line with our planning to expand our daily shift strength to 3 career staff with a minimum of 2

shift employees on at any time. The decision is dependent on the Board of Directors approval of the proposed budget which will occur in June.

Thanks to all of you for all you do for the department and the citizens of the district, and have a great month of May. Please stop by my office any time.

Chief Robertson

SCBA INFORMATION

-Captain Brown

First, we are still waiting for a determination on the acquisition of the extra SCBA's for training. We have sent a letter outlining our interest and needs for this equipment and are waiting for a response from the department that has the surplus SCBA's. We will keep you informed as we get further information.

We have purchased a radio interface piece for the SCBA face pieces through a grant. There will be in place by the time you read this and training will follow at each station. In short, it replaces the voice amplifier and connects directly to our portable radios. They will be placed on each

first due fire engine and it will be the crew responsibility to attach them to their face pieces. This will allow for clear radio communication when your face piece is on and will provide for crew safety when in the hazard area.

Along with the radio interface, please contact me if you are not currently fitted with a voice amplifier. I need to install the adapter to all the face pieces to work with the radio interface. I have records indicating who has been issued amplifiers, but please contact me if I don't call you. Everyone will have the mounting adapter and as soon as we receive extra amplifiers, all personnel will have them.

RESPONSE INFORMATION

-Captain Brown

This last month I was asked by Chief Enoch to go back a few years to gather information for a grant he is preparing. It was quite tedious gathering the information, and at the same time, it was very interesting seeing the trends over the last three years. I was struck by the significance of the following two areas.

First was the diversification of our responses. We continue to respond to similar situations, but as the area grows, we are seeing more calls for "service". This includes

the calls for assistance at care facilities for people who need basic help such as getting back into a wheelchair or up from a non-injury fall. Also, there have been more calls to the clinics for medical transport to the emergency room. This speaks to the increase in people living in our community, this will only continue as more subdivisions are developed and create more year round residents who need this type of care. Second was the response by volunteers to calls. Everyone knows we rely heavily on your response and help with all emergency calls, and you have answered positively to this need. There are many ways to help, the easiest is the engine response to all calls. Your help in the smallest of ways is always appreciated!

FACILITIES

-Captain Brown

As I write this, things are moving right along on the final stages of the plans and specifications for the addition/remodel at Station 701. We will see the finished documents shortly after the first of May. The committee has worked hard on this project and the attention to detail has been amazing. I believe we will have a station that will not only be very functional and fill our need for many years, but one that our community will appreciate as well. The progress of this project has really accelerated and if it continues you will be able to see some major changes very soon.

There have been no major changes in the arrangement of work space and living quarters, just some of the finish details and discussion of treatments. The plans have gotten quite a bit heavier with attention to the many details that will bring the finished project together. Stop by and take a look, ask questions and get a feel for the end results. Remember, there will be a lot of interruptions with the construction phase; just be prepared and be patient...it will be well worth it!

COMMUNICATIONS

-Captain Brown

As mentioned in SCBA's, we purchased radio interface equipment for the face pieces to improve communications and safety on the fire ground. After several difficulties, we have purchased the necessary software and programming cables for the new mobile radios. I will be installing the new radios in our apparatus over the next couple of weeks and training will begin as each station gets them. I

believe these new radios will make communications easier and as I have stated before, they will prepare our department for the future of wireless communications. All radios will be narrowband capable for communications with state and federal agencies and when we need to go digital in the future, they will be able to support this also. We will also be delivering the new portable radios and chargers to 703 and 704. More radios for firefighters for safety. Once they are in service, please make yourself familiar with their operation.



MAY BIRTHDAYS!

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|-----------------|------|----------------|------|
| • Robert McLean | 5-5 | • Jan Liming | 5-20 |
| • Chuck Newport | 5-11 | • Sana Hayes | 5-22 |
| • Chan Cathcart | 5-15 | • Ryan Karjala | 5-24 |