

THE SIREN



Presented By

Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD

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CHIEF'S CORNER

-Chief Robertson

Welcome to the November 2006 edition of the Siren.

We are very excited to welcome our newest member of the Department, Fire Medic Doug Lyda. Doug's first day will be Wednesday, November 1, 2006. Doug was the top candidate during the selection process and placed number one on the Civil Service hiring list for the District. Doug comes to us from Cottage Grove where he has been a volunteer for 3 years and has worked as a Paramedic and Emergency Room Tech at the local hospital. He is married to Heather, a registered nurse who works in the ER. They have a seven year old son and twins on the way. Doug will be staying at station 704 until the entire family moves to the area in December. We are pleased to have Doug as a part of the family. Please be sure to stop by to say hi and welcome Doug aboard.

Our new training officer is busy with an assessment of our training program. Ryan has plenty of ideas on how to make our training program the best it can be. Please take advantage of the upcoming recruit training academy. All personnel are encouraged to attend any of the classes/drills during the six week academy. Please see Training Officer Karjala for details and schedules.

I believe that the work we have done to inform the public about the new fire station and the bond measure has been very effective. We have contacted almost every residence in the fire district, and have received very positive feedback from almost all district residents regarding the project. Thanks to all of you who have pitched in to help with this important project. Now all we can do is wait for the results on November 7. A special thanks to Peter Storton and Dave Wellington for their hard work and organization.

Sharon and I are hosting a thank-you and open house for the entire fire department on Tuesday evening, November 7 from 5 pm to 6:30 pm. Our home is at 889 S. Locust in Sisters (South end of Locust). While we are hopeful that the bond measure passes, this get-together is to thank each and every one of you for your support, hard work and commitment to the fire district. Snacks and beverages will be provided. We hope to see you there.

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

ASSOCIATION NEWS

-Jeff Liming, Association President

The National Volunteer Fire Council enjoyed a catered meal "in the bays" at Station 701 on October 20. The dinner was attended by one hundred twenty Council Members and a dozen members of our department. The meal and after-dinner camaraderie and auction was enjoyed by all. I would like to thank the NVFC for coming to Sisters for their event and for their work in supporting the interests of volunteer firefighters nationally. Thanks also for the help department members were able to provide with set up and cleaning. Your efforts are appreciated.

Halloween is coming and we are getting ready for another District supported event at Station 701 this year. Captain Gary Lovegren is again chairing the event. A sign up sheet is ready for your signature at 701! Please help with the various activities including games in the bays and the haunted house. We expect several hundred guests on that night so come and take part in the activities. We are carving pumpkins and having pizza and ice cream on Monday, October 30 at 701. Bring your knife and appetite and a child or grandchild and carve up a pumpkin that will be displayed on Halloween at the Station.

Denise Wheeler is chairing our annual Christmas Dinner this year and is looking for volunteers. Dinner will be served on Christmas Day to any and all who come to Station 701 and will include turkey, ham and all the trimmings. What a feast! Please see Denise or sign up at 701. Your help is needed and I know from experience that you will enjoy your day. Thank you, Denise, for contributing your time and talents to this important event.

At the September Association meeting, members voted to adopt a garage sale and pancake breakfast as a fund raiser. Several members have volunteered to begin organization of the event and we can use your ideas also. Our initial thought is to plan this winter and be prepared for the event in late spring. Isn't that when we review all of the "treasures" in our homes and wonder how to dispose of them? Well, here is the answer...take 'em to the Association garage sale!

FIRE & EMS EQUIPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

-Captain Ast

First of all, congratulations to Gabrielle Curtis on her recent marriage announcement!

As mentioned in the last edition of *The Siren*, the 5" large diameter hose (LDH), associated adapters and appliances have arrived. The hose and appliances have been loaded onto 721 so that we may begin using the equipment. If you haven't already noticed, November's firefighter training will be focusing on LDH. While it may seem like just another hose, LDH is a "whole different animal" that requires additional training for anyone that uses it. Due to the size and weight of LDH, there is a potential for injury if the proper techniques are not used when handling it. Please do not attempt to use the LDH until you have received proper training to do so. Training Officer Karjala has scheduled training delivery in November. Until that time, please continue to use the 3" hose that you are accustomed to in the hose bed of 721.

As we transition into the slippery road conditions, remember to don boot chains and look both ways before opening the door and exiting the cab of the appa-

ratus. Also ensure your safety, vests are to be worn on your turnout coats and ready for use. Always be alert on the incident scene and use the above mentioned safety equipment. I hope you have a safe winter season.

I wish you and your families a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday!



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS!!!

- ➔ If you are interested in getting a flu shot, please sign up in the office at Station 701 by November 10. We will order the shots based upon the number signed up.
- ➔ Annual *mandatory* PPD shots are scheduled to begin on Monday, November 6. Please call ahead to ensure that a Captain is available to administer the shot.
- ➔ **VOLUNTEERS:** If you are off probation or nearing the end of your probation and have not signed up for your Fire-Med membership, please contact Susan or Julie and pick up a form at Station 701.

APPARATUS NEWS

-Captain Lovegren

We've added a 14" step in the front passenger compartment of 770 and 772. This step can be utilized to help the elderly or infirmed onto the first step of the ambulance. The first step is too much for some patients to make without difficulty and this is just another way to look out for our patients needs and provide good customer service.

Remember that the snow and ice are just around the corner and we need to reevaluate the speeds we normally use in the summer months. Plan ahead and be prepared for those unexpected slick corners. We have been blessed with an unusually dry and warm Fall. Do not let it lull you into complacency.

As soon as the weather changes or November 1st rolls around, we will begin to change the vehicles over to

studded tires. All department vehicles should be equipped with a set of chains in case we are caught off guard. As you do vehicles checks, make sure each truck has a set and that you know where they are. If any chains are missing, please let me know and we will try to locate them or purchase a new set if they are MIA.

791 has a new look! Fire Marshal Wheeler has a new Chevrolet truck. We have installed the light bar, radio and siren so David will be responding to scenes in his new ride. This truck will be able to tow the prevention supply trailer and is heavy duty enough to tow the EDITH trailer. This truck is a great compliment to the department vehicle inventory.

We are going to surplus the 1995 Ford Explorer for \$2,500.00 minimum bid.

FIRE PREVENTION

-Fire Marshal Wheeler

Thanks to everyone who helped with our recent fire station tours. The feedback from the parents and kids has been positive and everyone enjoyed the movies, and particularly, climbing in the trucks.

We have begun planning for our Christmas program. I need volunteers to pick out a Christmas tree and deliver it to Rays Food Place by November 18. If you are interested in helping with the tree, please contact me as

soon as possible.

The format for the tree ornaments will be a little different this year. As always, the tree will have the Kiwanis ornaments for specific items requested and we will add generic ornaments with requests for toys for different age groups. We will be looking for volunteers to come in and help sort toys as they arrive, so please keep your eyes and ears open for dates.

As always, call if you have questions and have a fire safe month.

TRAINING

-Captain Karjala

This is the first of many Siren articles I will be writing as the new Training Officer. I want to thank everyone for the warm welcome I received when I started my new job on the 2nd of October. When I started, I made a commitment to re-design the training program to meet the needs of the entire career and volunteer staff alike. I have sat down with many of you and have had some great feedback on what you would like the program to look like. The invitation is still out for folks to come in and see me regarding their vision of the training program. I will be putting together a training committee during November to establish the next four quarters of training, if you are interested in being a part of that committee, or interested in

learning more about the committee, please come in and see me.

The next few months are filled with several training classes and conferences throughout Oregon; I encourage everyone to look at the training board/announcements to see if any of the offerings are what you need. We will also be providing an academy for our new hire starting November 1st thru December 15th. This academy will be open to everyone; I again encourage individuals to consider attending these academy classes if you are available.

CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

-Chaplain Hayes

THANKS GIVING TIME

November brings us to the last month of Autumn and offers us a chance to reflect on all that we are thankful for over the course of the year. The abundance of harvest time invites us to become grateful for what is so gently offered to us by nature. Apples of endless variety abound, squash and pumpkins call to us with their bright colors, and a season of festive parties and special dinners await. As the summer cycle of growth and production slows to a crawl, we can join

with the forces that turn quiet, and take a break. Wouldn't it be fun to show up at a family dinner late in November with a list of one gratitude for each day of the month? Wouldn't everyone be surprised? Gratitude is very much a lost art these days. What if, instead of saying "Hi, how are you?" and waiting for someone to say "fine", we simply shared what we were thankful for that day. I imagine it could change the world. So be brave and tell someone today one thing you are thankful for – maybe it's them! Thankful to be here, Sana.

RevSana@juno.com

ASSOCIATION NEWS cont.

-Jeff Liming

Let's involve our families and the community with our Association garage sale and pancake breakfast and generate some funds.

I will be pleased to add any items you might want to discuss to the Association monthly meeting agenda. Please leave a note for me at 701, give me a call (410-7494) or email me (jeffliming@msn.com) with your addition. You will see the meeting agenda posted at 701 a week in advance of scheduled meetings. A copy of the previous month's minutes is also posted.

Thank you for your support of the Sisters – Camp Sherman Fire and Ambulance Association

Please Wish the Following People a Happy November Birthday!!!

- 11-5 Bruce Shaull
- 11-13 Kevin Houser
- 11-15 David K. Moyer
- 11-28 Joel Sheets
- 11-30 Jeremy Storton



SCBA INFORMATION

-Captain Brown

Use of the SCBA compressor is an important piece of continuing education regarding use of our breathing apparatus. If you have been trained in the use of the compressor, please remember the following: The shut off valve for the bottle fills and the cascade tanks are of the design that does not require a lot of pressure to close the valve. As you close the valve during the process of filling bottles, turn them clockwise until they just “touch” the seat (or close). You will not need to tighten them with super human strength to make sure they are closed completely off. This

will only damage the seat area of the valve and make it harder to close off each subsequent time. I have repaired each of these valves due to over-tightening. All the valves have seat damage and two of them have received some stress to the nylon knobs making them seem loose on the valve stems. Thanks to everyone who steps up and helps with returning equipment back to service, especially the SCBA apparatus. Please remember to not be overly aggressive with the closing of the fill valves!

RESPONSE INFORMATION

-Captain Brown

Each person in this department plays an important role in keeping response times to a minimum. Staffing on each call, including backfill, is important in the event of multiple calls. We continue to see the trend towards two or more calls running simultaneously. Granted, most of these instances are medical calls, but as winter approaches we will be experiencing more MVA's and the possibility for a rescue response. Colder temperatures also mean people will be firing up those woodstoves and fireplaces. We will undoubtedly experience more calls that require an engine

to respond, either for actual fire situations, or for investigation purposes. Let's maintain our good image in the community with fast response and good turnout on each call.

Please remember to sign up for a four-hour shift on the ambulance if you are qualified as a driver, driver trainee or EMT. This is a good opportunity not only for calls, but to spend time with the on-duty shift; training or just having some fun. Meal vouchers are available for members who pull a 4-hour shift to show thanks for your time commitment and service to the District.

FACILITIES

-Captain Brown

By the time you receive this edition of the Siren, we will be close to Election Day and the proposed bond measure for the construction project of Station 701. I am hoping for a positive outcome. I appreciate everyone who has helped get the information out to the district residents and

it appears to have been a positive experience for all. I believe that the public appreciates your commitment and all your work in making this a safe place to live as well as your willingness to give back in their time of need. I also know that most everyone I have talked to is pleased and surprised to find that volunteers make up the majority of our ranks. Let's all keep a positive outlook for this election and look forward to the possibility of a new station in the near future.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

