



# Nozzle News



Quarterly Newsletter for Department Members

## From the Chief's Desk

By Marty Nelson



This issue of Nozzle News contains several articles with good, practical and sound advice. Please read them and take to heart the information. I want to wish you all a safe and Happy New Year.

## New Years Resolutions:

### - I will remember to:



- ▶ Wear my turnouts on all MVAs, traffic control situations and other related calls.
- ▶ Complete and turn in call-related paperwork in a timely manner.
- ▶ Give frequent praise and support to my fellow firefighters.
- ▶ Keep a constant eye out for equipment and other items in need of repair at my station.
- ▶ Be an additional set of eyes and ears for those driving apparatus and clearly communicate hazards and "watch-outs" to the engineer/driver.
- ▶ Be aware that there may be more than one patient or victim on a call. The emotional state of other members in the household is an important consideration. Remember also that household pets may need care or control.
- ▶ On every call, place my tags on the passport in the apparatus I'm riding on.
- ▶ Take a moment to pick up litter, sweep the floor, etc at all stations.

## Call Readiness Quiz:



1. You're on scene at an MVA and you need to call a tow truck for a disabled or damaged vehicle. Where do you find the phone number?
2. You are in an apparatus heading to a fire call at a church in Veneta. Where do you check to see if there is a fire plan for the building?
3. You arrive at an address that has an electric gate and it is closed. You look in the map book and it says there is a lockbox on the back of the gate post. How do you open the lockbox? What would you find there?
4. You hear on your radio a request for a "PAR." What does this mean and what should you do?

(answers are at the bottom of page two)

## From Cheryl Hunter:



Please, please, please remember . . . when turning in receipts for purchased items write on the receipt specifically what the purchase was for (e.g. "ELF Academy," "Officers' Meeting," "Barn fire," etc.).

I want to wish everyone a joyous holiday season and a very Happy New Year.

## Maintenance:



The cool temperatures of fall and winter have arrived. Please remember to keep the bay doors closed as much as possible to minimize the running time of the heaters at your station.

Road conditions can change rapidly. Drive with extra caution and don't hesitate to use four wheel drive on equipped apparatus.

All engines have tire chains. If you need instructions on how to chain up apparatus, don't hesitate to talk to your station officer to arrange a time for training.

## Association News



New Department jackets have been ordered and should arrive by mid-January or earlier. They will be distributed to members who have completed their probationary period. The jackets will be black, with reflective striping and a zip-in fleece vest. A department patch will be sewn on the left shoulder.

Association members are selling "Support Our Firefighters" ribbons as a fund-raiser for the Adopt-A-Firehouse program. The magnetic ribbons are being sold for \$3.00 each. All proceeds go to the fund. Members who collect money should place it in an envelope with the name of the member and give it to either Cheryl Hunter or Stan Turner.

## A Tip of the Fire Hat:



- ▶ To Heather Hill for organizing LCFD#1's participation in Veneta's second annual **Holiday Light Parade** and to everyone who helped decorate the engines and walked or rode in the parade.

► To Gini Hornbecker for the countless hours she spent organizing the annual **LCFD#1 Holiday Dinner**. Over 150 people attended and they overwhelmingly reported that a good time was had by all!

► To Gini Hornbecker, Steve Johnson, Rhett Powers, Craig Childs, Brian Davis, Fred Scalise, Josh Brown, Mike Prentice, Marty Nelson, Stan Turner, Heather Hill, Tressa Miller, Russ Lowe, Ryan Burks, Thomas Price, Micah Price and Jonah Price for helping collect food for the annual **Community Holiday Food Drive**. Thanks to their combined efforts there will be significantly fewer local people going hungry over the holidays.

## Welcome to LCFD#1 2005 Entry Level Firefighter Academy graduates:



Brian Davis, Ray Huff, Tressa Miller, Jason Robbins, Brian Seymour, Dennis Stemple, Ryan Burks, Craig Childs, Nicole Gates, Dan Hogate, Drew Kayser, Emily Kenyon, Marshall Lampkins, Sam Reid, Mike Speiser, Sarah Applebee, Shalysa Gavin, Russ Herbison, Sean Hill, Jon Jasper, Russ Loewe, Sterling Shafer, Don Shipp, Ann Speiser and Ryan Walker.

The next Entry Level Firefighter Academy starts February 11-12.

## Tips on Handling Flue Fires

Just by listening to the calls on your pager, you know that we are in the midst of flue fire season. At your own home, if you burn wood, please remember to clean your flue regularly, avoid burning green (wet) wood, and if at all possible, don't bank down your wood stove (a good, hot fire helps keep creosote from building up in your stovepipe or chimney).



If you are on a call involving an active flue fire, you will need to carefully inspect three key areas: (1) The source (stove, insert, etc.); (2) The attic or upper floors (checking for extension into voids and framing); and (3) The roof. When attempting to extinguish a flue fire try the simplest solutions first.

- Shut down the air intake (watch/listen to what happens).
- If the fire is in a pellet stove, turn off the auger.
- Open the woodstove door or fireplace glass screen carefully – watch & listen to what happens.
- **Stay in radio communication with other teams at all times. Be aware of what everyone is doing. Coordinate your actions.**

► Cool & extinguish the fire – consider trying a glass of water or spray bottle first, then a water can extinguisher applied to the burning contents in the stove. The objective is to generate steam.

► Using the water can extinguisher, you may have to spray some water down the chimney or stovepipe, but do so sparingly. You don't want to crack the masonry by rapidly cooling it.

► In some cases, you may simply have to let the fire burn itself out—particularly if it is contained in a masonry chimney that is only moderately warm and not surrounded by framing.

► Assess the situation. You may have to pull a fireplace insert out to make sure there is no fire behind it or that it has not extended into the walls. If you have to remove burning and smoldering material out of the stove or fireplace, be certain to use a metal bucket that is resting on the hearth (not on the rug). Spread a salvage cover to protect the floor.

► If you have a particularly stubborn flue fire that cannot be allowed to burn itself out, try to gain direct access to the chimney or stove pipe and use a CO2 extinguisher (on the Rescues) to apply bursts of CO2. If possible, seal the stove pipe around the extinguisher nozzle (cone). Be sure to wear gloves when holding the cone!

► Finally, always be aware that flue fires can extend to the structure itself. Thoroughly inspect the attic and voids, feel the walls, and don't be afraid to request the Thermal Imager if you are in doubt.

## Basic Response Guide for LCFD#1 Firefighters:



Please take a moment to review the insert in this month's Nozzle News. The "Basic Response Guide for LCFD#1 Firefighters" is a quick review of the many ways you can be of assistance, both on calls and around your station. If you need familiarization and/or training related to listed items, don't hesitate to contact your station officer or mentor.

### Answers to Quiz:

1. To find the phone number for towing, as well as numbers for LCFD#1 cell phones and stations, FireCom, etc. look in the metal "scribe" box. The box also contains forms for EMS calls, illegal burning, MVAs, fires, etc.
2. Look in the Building Pre-Plan book found on all of our response vehicles.
3. Our Rescues and Engines have a lockbox on the floor on the Officer's side of the vehicle. You open them with a simple combination sequence. If you are unfamiliar with the combination, talk to your station officer. In the lockbox at the resident's gate, you will either find the pass code for an electronic gate or a key to the padlock.
4. "PAR" stands for a Personnel Accountability Report. If a request for a "PAR" is broadcast on the radio, you are to make sure that all members of your team are present and accounted for (e.g. "1111 Attack is PAR three").

Nozzle News is published quarterly by Lane County Fire District #1. Please direct comments and questions to the Editor, Stan Turner, by calling 935-2226 or sending written comments to LCFD#1, P.O. Box 275, Veneta, OR 97487. **Visit our website at [www.lcfd1.org](http://www.lcfd1.org) for more information**

