

# TRADITIONS



NIXA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

“SERVICE THROUGH COMMITMENT”

3rd Quarter 2010

Volume 1, Issue 3

## Special points of interest:

Chief Notes

Training review

Behind the mask

Operations

Prevention

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## *Notes from Chief Sebree*

Welcome, I hope this addition finds you and your family well. As we reach the halfway point of the year (yes, already) there have been several organizational changes. The largest change being an organizational restructure. The District has added several ranks allowing for promotional opportunities. To date the following promotions have taken place;

- ◆ Assistant Chief Jon Trent to Deputy Chief
- ◆ Battalion Chief Lloyd Walles to Assistant Chief
- ◆ Battalion Chief Whitney Weaver to Assistant Chief
- ◆ Captain Adam Neff to Battalion Chief
- ◆ Captain Aaron Stephens to Battalion Chief
- ◆ Firefighter Aaron Flagg to Lieutenant
- ◆ Firefighter Garrick Zoeller to Lieutenant

In conjunction to a few departures the District hired three new employees;

- ◆ Firefighter John Heap
- ◆ Firefighter Gary Josephsen
- ◆ Administrative Assistant Athena Fitts

To complete the promotional process the District will promote three driver operator positions. The driver operator promotions should be complete by the July board of directors meeting. Other projects in the works or completed are;



- ◆ A new patch and logo design developed by the branding committee
- ◆ New command vehicle in service
- ◆ New service/utility vehicle in service
- ◆ Received a fire act grant to purchase new rescue equipment
- ◆ Sold the Kabota tractor to purchase a second lawn mower and snow blade
- ◆ Installed new garage door openers at station one
- ◆ Installed floor drains at station two
- ◆ In the next couple of months a small kitchen remodel at station two

Over the remainder of the year the District will be planning and budgeting for 2011.

Congratulations to all who were promoted, best wishes in your new position. To our new employees, welcome aboard. Thank you for choosing the Nixa Fire Protection District.

## **Our Vision Statement:**

**The Nixa Fire Protection District is committed to honor the rich heritage of the fire service and be recognized as a model of excellence in providing service through commitment**

## *Behind the Mask*



### Steven Sharp Firefighter C-Shift

**1. What is the one thing most people don't know about you?**

- ◆ Most people don't know that I was once terrified of clowns. As a kid, they gave me nightmares and now, as an adult, I think they are just plain creepy.

**2. What is the one thing you have always wanted to do?**

- ◆ I have always been a New York Yankees fan. I would love to experience the Yankee / Red Sox rivalry from both Yankee Stadium and Fenway Park.

**3. Name one person you would like to meet:**

- ◆ I would like to meet myself from the future. I think we would have a lot to talk about.

**4. Where do you see yourself in the next 5 years?**

- ◆ I see myself, still in the Springfield area, raising my family and enjoying life. I will hopefully be moving up through the ranks with Nixa Fire and possibly taking classes to complete my bachelors degree.

**5. What was your best fire service experience?**

- ◆ My best fire experience would have to be when both my younger brother and brother-in-law began to ask questions about getting into the fire service. This is an incredible profession and I was excited to possibly open the door, or at least lead the way for someone else to be able to experience what this career has to offer.

**6. What would you like to see at NFPD in next few years?**

- ◆ I would like to see a third, manned station and a training facility where we can offer training for ourselves and our neighboring districts.

## *Training Review* *with Deputy Chief Trent*

As the new fiscal year rolls in for State government we received more bad news concerning firefighter training funding. There is no money budgeted for House Bill classes for the FY 2010-2011 from general revenue. This means that the only state level funding will be from the licensing of fireworks distributors/manufacturers, and that is projected to be \$70,000.00 for the entire State. I received information a few days ago that Region D is anticipating \$7,000.00 for the entire region for the next twelve months. To give you an example of costs associated with classes, if we were to pay for full funding of the Trench Awareness and Operations class which is scheduled for the Regional School; it would cost \$3,600.00 just for that one delivery.

In light of all that is happening I would recommend that you seek every opportunity for training that you can, as there will be very limited deliveries throughout the state. Fortunately, we have invested a great deal of time and energy in helping to build the Greene County Regional Fire Training Association into a very strong presence in the state. Representing 30 member departments from 7 different counties will go a long ways towards getting first opportunities for funding. We will additionally be working very hard to bring registered programs to the area including the NFA Shaping the Future course which we will deliver and host on July 23, 24 and the NFA Managing In A Changing Environment which I will be delivering at Battlefield on August 27, 28.

Congratulations to all, on the hard work you have put into the assigned 1410 drills this year. To date, all crews across all shifts have been well under the times set for these drills by NFPA standards. We begin charting performance with the practice times, which the crews record. When we compare the first practice times to the final evaluation times we have seen significant improvements across all shifts. In fact, there has been several times that as much as a full two minutes have been shaved off of the average completion times. This looks great on an excel sheet, but the more important aspect is the performance when lives and property are on the line, let us not forget, that is the final product of your drill time. We are also working on scheduling some multi-jurisdictional 1410 drills with Battlefield FPD, be looking for that information in the near future.

RESPECT

INTEGRITY

COMPASSION

COURAGE

HONESTY

*Operations with  
Assistant Chief Weaver*

There are many new and exciting changes coming this summer for Nixa Fire including new equipment, adding another paramedic, and beginning our branding change. All of our grant items have been ordered and are on their way. After a great deal of research the district will be staying with our Amkus rescue tools, however the new sets are lighter and more powerful. We will also be able to place a set on each engine and a large set of tools on the Rescue. Our rescue equipment will also be more flexible with the addition of more high pressure airbags and rescue struts. Once we receive all the grant equipment, we will move forward on in-service training and placement on the apparatus.

Our Emergency Medical response capabilities are also improving this summer with the addition of two Lifepak 12 monitor /AED's. These were also purchased with our 2009 Fire Act Grant and are currently in service. Firefighter Corey Bass is finishing up his paramedic training and after some internship hours will be looking forward to testing for his medic license. This will staff four Paramedics across the shifts and will increase the district's ability to offer advanced life support as needed by our citizens and visitors.

After many long hours and approval of our new branding and logo, the actual process has begun. The striping of our new GMC pickup and Expedition will be taking place the first week of July, followed by the new logo changing on our forms and uniforms. This will be a slow process due to financial restraints, but should be complete by the middle of fiscal year 2011. Thank you to all that were involved in the Branding committee and gave input on our rescue equipment. This is going to be a great year for equipment upgrades and changing the image of the Nixa Fire District.

*News from  
Assistant Chief Walle*

Thank You for allowing me the opportunity to contribute to the Newsletter.

AC Weaver and I have recently completed the process of ordering items for the 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grant awarded March 18, 2010. First off, I would like to say "Thanks" to everyone who offered input and advice on the purchases of our new equipment. We chose the ISG Thermal Imagers, Rescue 42 strut systems, Vetter air bags, and Amkus rescue tools. Additionally, we purchased 2-Lifepak 12 AED/cardiac monitors and they are already in service. The new tools and equipment will be delivered over the next few weeks. Watch your calendars for an in-service/demo date coming soon!

We are also nearing the end of a couple of other projects that have been in the works, BC-1 the new command vehicle was placed in service May 1st. The GMC Utility truck has been painted, emergency equipment has arrived, and is getting installed, and both trucks are set for striping the week of July 4th. The striping also brings forth the hard work of the branding committee and will unveil the new district logo recently approved by the board. Thanks to everyone who participated on those projects!

Majority of the annual maintenance has been performed and has been moved to the first half of the year. This will allow us to better monitor and manage maintenance expenses in years to come. This has been no easy task. Dealing with 45-50 regular vendors, and numerous other occasional vendors can be very time consuming. Making things work out for everyone can be a challenge. In the coming months I will be spending a lot of time working on maintenance records, electronic information in our RMS, and other projects I have been putting off due to time constraints. If you see me sitting cross-eyed in front of the computer, this would be why. Thanks for everything you all do and remember, chocks down! Stay safe!