



Sub-Fire Newsletter

Since 2003

January 2004 Calendar

- Jan. 1—New Year's Day (*office closed, no drill*)
- Jan. 8—Association business Meeting 7pm; EMS Drill (directly following business mtg.)
- Jan. 11—Cullen Whisenhunt's Birthday
- Jan. 14—Board Meeting 7pm
- Jan. 15—Drill Night (*Ladders*) 7pm; Officers Meeting 7pm
- Jan. 19—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (*office OPEN*)
- Jan. 22—Drill Night (*BURN TO LEARN*) 7pm
- Jan. 24—Amy Thomas' Birthday
- Jan. 25—Chief McMahan's Birthday
- Jan. 28—Brandon Hamilton's Birthday
- Jan. 29—Drill Night (*CPR/AED Refresher—REQUIRED*)

Training Message

While I am at my desk preparing the training schedule for the following month, I prefer to listen to music. Ambrosia is my most popular choice of late. You remember—that

cheesy band from long ago. There is a song I love called "Biggest Part of Me." As I write this and ponder my job as training officer, I can't help but think of the first line: *There's a new sun rising. I can see a new horizon that keeps me realizing that you're the biggest part of me.* That line perfectly describes the relationship between the paid staff and the volunteer staff here at the Sublimity Fire District.

For the paid staff, you, the volunteers, are our "new horizon." You are not here for us—we are here for you. It is our job to ensure that you are looking forward to responding to alarms and attending drills, extra training, and district events. After all, what makes you come to these things? I know the answer—dedication. Every volunteer in this District has it. You should be proud of yourselves for the great things you accomplished the past year.

Every one of you has been directly responsible for saving lives in our community. It's easy to get caught up in the notion that so many of our alarms

are routine diabetic issues, chest pains, or fall injuries. Try thinking about it another way. When we go to a diabetic and administer a simple aid like oral glucose, we have possibly just saved this patient's life. If his or her blood sugar had continued to drop, the patient could have gone unconscious and never woken up.

Our EMT Basics go and take vitals on routine chest pain calls, or they administer oxygen or aspirin—all to prevent cardiac arrest, or at least to slow down the process until the patient can be seen at a hospital. You may have just saved another life. Isn't that rewarding?

We often get calls where elderly people have fallen and can't get up. What can we, as firefighters, do to save their lives? It's relatively easy. If they are uninjured, we can help them up. If there is a fracture, we can take them to the hospital. The most important thing we've done, by keeping them from being in the same position for a long period of time with a fracture, is to prevent the (*continued on the following page*)

(cont'd.) formation of a potentially fatal blood clot.

What a challenge you face as firefighters: training, responding, and upholding a positive image in the community. I am so proud to be part of an organization of such a high caliber. It is the volunteers that make this organization what it is. The citizens of this community should feel fortunate that you are here serving them at all hours of the day. I know I feel fortunate that it is my job to serve all of you.

Joshua Williams
Training Captain

Well Done!

Many generous community members came together and donated a total of 85 toys for a holiday toy drive at Station 51. This was very impressive, especially considering that the Toy Drive was put together on short notice.

The toys were originally going to be donated to the Union Gospel Mission, but the deadline was too early. To keep collecting as long as possible, the toys were donated through Vannatta Public Relations in Salem to the House of Zion.

The House of Zion is an emergency shelter located in Woodburn for battered women and was desperately in need of toys for over 1000 families. A

big thanks to all of those who contributed! Your donations were greatly appreciated.

Congratulations!

Brandon and Carrie Hamilton welcomed a new baby boy into their family on Monday, December 15, 2003, at 12:45pm. Riley Norman Hamilton weighed in at 10 lbs, 13 oz. and was 22 1/2 inches long.



Auxiliary Corner

A new year is upon us and with that comes new insight and ideas for the Auxiliary. We will start the year with our new officers: President, Shannon Tallman; Vice President, Karen Lienemann; Activities Manager, Joan Merrell; Secretary, Kim Zuber; Treasurer, Denise Brant. As a group, we plan to make some great improvements.

In the past we were often asked, "What is your purpose?" And with lots of thought, we had no real answers. This year we plan to improve our purpose, increase communication, make some great ideas a reality, and fine tune our job description. We also wanted all members of the Fire District to know that we welcome you to sit in on our meetings and give

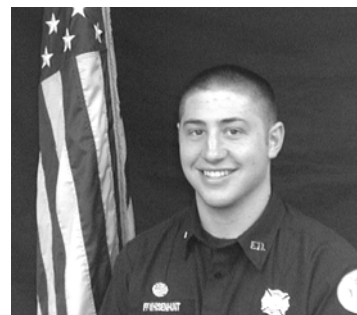
us a good flow of ideas throughout the year. So, here's to a *new year* and a *new start!*

Shannon Tallman
Auxiliary President

Alarm Totals (as of 12/29/03)

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| EMA | 447 |
| Fires | 73 |
| False Call | 51 |
| MVA | 47 |
| Service Call | 41 |
| Good Intent | 39 |
| Hazardous Cond. | 7 |
| Other | 1 |
| TOTAL | 706 |

Volunteer Spotlight



Cullen Whisenhunt

This month, Resident Volunteer Cullen Whisenhunt will celebrate his 20th birthday. Cullen has been with the Sublimity Fire District since July of 2002. He is currently completing his second year in the fire program at Chemeketa. Cullen graduated from Stayton High School, but spent most of his life in Belle Plaine, Iowa. (continued on next page)

(cont'd) Cullen joined the fire service because it's been his lifelong goal to become a firefighter. In his time here, he hopes to obtain valuable on the job experience which will help him land a job as a paid firefighter. His dream job would be for Butte County Fire & Rescue in Butte County, California.

In his experience here, Cullen has learned how to work with people from all walks of life. His advice to an incoming Resident Volunteer? It's ok to make mistakes. They can even be beneficial if you learn from them.

Record Breaking YEAR

For the first time in the history of the Sublimity Fire District, the alarm total for the year has surpassed the 700 mark.

There were several record breaking months this year, including March, May, June, July, August, September, November, and December. Great job to everyone on handling the high call volume without a very large staff.

**The
Sublimity
Fire
District
would like
to wish you
all a Safe
and Happy
New
Year!**
