

SMOKE SIGNALS

Our Community Newsletter

Sublimity Fire District

A Word From Your Local Fire Chief

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Brandon Hamilton, and I am the new fire chief for Sublimity Fire District. I have been a member of the fire district as a volunteer for more than 16 years and accepted the full-time fire chief position on May 15, 2008. As the third paid fire chief, I follow chiefs Alan McMahan and Tim Frost. The last six months have flown by as I have been getting situated.

I don't know if you already know this, but we are an all VOLUNTEER organization, with the exception of me and the office administrator. So when you see our rigs out and about, the people you see are volunteers. Please take a moment and thank them for their dedicated service. These volun-

teers save the community nearly \$2 million a year in taxes that would be needed to fund a career fire department.

A major need facing the district is VOLUNTEERS! If you're interested in volunteering, please stop by or call us and we'll send you some information.

We are looking for volunteer firefighters AND support members. Volunteer firefighters respond to fires, motor vehicle crashes, medical calls or any other call for assistance. This is the backbone of our organization, but we also need members who want to work behind the scenes to support these activities.

We need a person to oversee the support team and

people to help out with all sorts of tasks, ranging from maintaining anything that may need batteries to shutting vehicles if needed. If you have a specialty, come in and let us know. We would be happy to utilize your talents!! If you have something you'd like to offer, even if it is simply some time, please don't hesitate to call us at (503) 769-3282. You can also visit our Web site at www.sublimityfire.com and download an application.

My ear is always open. I serve you, the citizens, as YOUR fire chief. If you have any comments, concerns or just want to visit, please don't hesitate to call or stop by any time during business hours and I will be happy to talk with you.

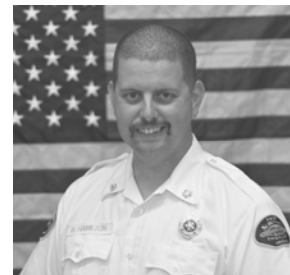
Thank you in advance!

Holiday 2008 Issue

4th Edition

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Chief Hamilton

Volunteer Opportunities for Non-FFs

Do you have skills that don't relate to firefighting but still want to help out the fire department? You don't have to be a firefighter to be a member of the Sublimity Fire District.

We have a need for community members who want to help, but may not have the physical strength or desire to combat fires or move patients. You can become a member of the Fire Corps:

-Promote fire safety and community education

- Help write grant applications
- Provide backup support during events
- Assist with public relations
- Organize fundraising initiatives
- Assist with informational newsletters
- Assist with community food drives, Christmas baskets, toy collections, pancake breakfasts, etc.

If you have a skill or interest, we have a position for you. Return the enclosed form to the fire district, indicating your area(s) of interest and we'll contact you.

Fire Safety Tips

- ◆ Keep candles, matches and lighters out of the reach of children.
- ◆ Make sure you have working smoke alarms on every level of your home, outside each sleeping area and in each bedroom.
- ◆ Make a family home fire escape plan and practice it with the whole family.
- ◆ Keep escape routes clear of clutter so you can escape quickly in case of fire.

State Fire Marshal and OR Dept of Energy Urge Heating Safety

State Fire Marshal Nancy Orr and officials at the Oregon Department of Energy are urging Oregonians to think fire safety and use caution when heating homes this winter.

“We are likely to see record high heating costs this winter, and many Oregonians may be considering alternative sources to heat their homes,” said Mike Grainey, Director of the Oregon Department of Energy. “More homeowners may be using woodstoves, fireplaces and portable heaters and we want to remind them to be fire safe.”

“Homeowners need to have the chimneys and flues on their fireplaces and woodstoves cleaned and inspected regularly,” said State Fire Marshal Nancy Orr. “Also be sure to give heaters their space, keeping them away from combustible materials.”

Grainey is also reminding Oregonians that financial help is available for low income customers paying utility bills and for low income weatherization to reduce heating costs. A list of utilities, state and local social service agencies and community and charitable organizations and other resources is on the Department of Energy’s Web site at <http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/> or you can call 1-800-221-8035.

According to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, there were 1,227 fireplace or woodstove caused fires in Oregon from 2003 through 2007, resulting in four deaths and nine injuries. Dur-

ing this same period, there were 1,368 electrical caused fires, many related to portable heaters and other home heating equipment.

Oregonians can keep themselves safe by following these tips:

- ◆ Have chimney and woodstove flues inspected and cleaned each year by a qualified chimney sweep. Ask them to check for creosote deposits, soot buildup, and physical damage.
- ◆ Always use a fireplace screen. Make sure the screen is made of sturdy metal or heat-tempered glass to prevent sparks from escaping.
- ◆ Keep a clutter free environment. Store kindling, fire logs and wood at least three feet from any heat source.
- ◆ Dispose of ashes in a metal container and place the container outdoors at least three feet from anything flammable. Ashes may retain heat for days after they appear out.
- ◆ When using portable electric heaters, make sure they have an automatic tip-over switch and a high temperature limit switch. The tip-over switch turns the heater off if it gets knocked over. The high temperature limit switch prevents the heater from getting too hot.
- ◆ Give heaters space. Put at least 36 inches of space between the heater and combustibles, such as furniture,

curtains, papers and people.

- ◆ Check the cord on portable electric heaters. If the cord gets hot, frayed or cracked, have the heater serviced.
- ◆ Never use extension cords with portable electric heaters. It can overload the circuit and cause a fire.
- ◆ Unplug heaters when not in use or before going to bed.
- ◆ Be aware of electric baseboard or wall heaters. These heaters are thermostatically controlled and turn on without warning when temperatures drop. Keep combustibles at least three feet from these heaters.
- ◆ If using a propane-fueled heater, or other appliance, make sure it is designed for indoor use. Follow all manufacturer’s instructions and make sure it is properly vented.
- ◆ Do not use any barbecue indoors.
- ◆ If you smell gas, do not operate any switches, appliances or thermostats. A spark from one of these could ignite the gas. Get everyone outside and away from the building. Shut off the gas supply. Call your propane supplier from a neighbor’s phone.
- ◆ Only use kerosene heaters outdoors as they may emit poisonous fumes.

For more home fire safety tips, visit http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/FPW_2008.shtml

Cadet Program Looks for a Fresh Start

If you are 16 or 17 and interested in the fire service, **THIS PROGRAM IS FOR YOU!!!**

The Sublimity Fire District is looking into implementing a cadet program. During your time as a cadet, you will go through basic firefighter training

and be able to respond on certain calls for service to provide on-scene assistance.

This will ready you for a firefighter position with our district when you turn 18 and take your basic firefighter competencies.

If you are interested, please come to the fire station or give us a call at (503) 769-3282. You can also visit our Web site at www.sublimityfire.com and download an application.

71st Annual Sublimity Volunteer Firefighters Turkey Shoot

The seasons are changing and fall is here, which means it's time for the Sublimity Volunteer Firefighters 71st Annual Turkey Shoot.

So, what is a turkey shoot exactly? For those who haven't been to one, it is a great afternoon of BINGO fun. Our Volunteer Association puts it on every year.

We will have over 100 turkeys to be won, along with some other fun prizes. The Thursday Painters will be donating several original paintings that will be up for auction.

This year we will also have two blackout bingos, worth \$50 each. Every year our bingo tradition is growing and we're trying to add new

things for everyone to enjoy.

As always, we will have three cash drawings. Everyone in Sublimity should have received raffle tickets in

the mail. The cost is \$1/ticket or \$5 for six tickets. If you need additional tickets, they are available at the fire station during business hours (8-5), up to and including the day of

the event. The prizes are \$25, \$50 and \$100. You do not need to be present to win.

We will also be accepting donations for the "Gift of Christmas Dinner" program, to help bring some cheer to local families during the holidays. Those bringing donations of cash or non-perishable food items

will be entered into a special drawing.

**Suggested items: boxes of stuffing mix and mashed potatoes; cans of yams/sweet potatoes, cranberries, green beans, corn, fruit cocktail and peaches; and bags of mini marshmallows.*

The Sublimity Volunteer Firefighters would like to invite everyone to come down and play bingo with us on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Meet your local volunteer firefighters and let us entertain you for a few hours. The money we raise will go to help support the community tree lighting (an event sponsored by the Volunteer Firefighters Association).

We hope to see you down there, and remember, your turkey is just a bingo call away.

Lt. Angela Hargin
Chairperson

71st Annual Turkey Shoot

71st Annual Turkey Shoot

Sunday, November 23rd

**Sublimity Fire Station,
115 NW Parker St.**

1:00-5:00 p.m.

BINGO - 25¢/card

Upcoming Holiday Events

◆ 71st Annual Turkey Shoot

Play Bingo at the fire station for a chance to win a turkey. Over 100 turkeys to be won. Auction of local original paintings. Play two blackout games for cash prizes. Sunday, November 23, 1-5 p.m.

◆ Sublimity X-Mas Tree Lighting

Come to the fire station for the community tree lighting. The tree will be located in the parking lot next to the station. Marian Estates is providing cookies. There will also be cocoa, cider and coffee at the fire station. Santa will make an appearance to light the tree. Saturday, December 6, 7:30 p.m.

◆ Stayton/Sublimity Chamber of Commerce Forum Lunch

For the third year in a row, Sublimity Fire District will be hosting the December Chamber Forum Lunch. There will be a presentation on holiday fire safety, as well as fresh, homemade food, all brought to you by Sublimity and Stayton firefighters. The event will take place in the Training Room at the Sublimity Fire District main station. If you want to attend, contact the Chamber of Commerce at (503) 769-3464 to make a reservation. Space is limited. Monday, December 1, noon.

◆ Gift of Christmas Dinner Baskets

Last year, Stayton and Sublimity firefighters sponsored 40 local families through the Gift of Christmas Dinner program. We would like to do at least as many this year. We welcome donations of cash, boxed stuffing mix and potatoes, canned fruits/vegetables, canned yams and mini marshmallows.

◆ Toys for Joy

Sublimity Fire District is a drop site for new, unwrapped toys for the local Toys for Joy Program. Drop off toys through December 18th at the main fire station.

SUBLIMITY FIRE DISTRICT

Volunteer Interest Form

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: () - _____ Alternate/message phone: () - _____

E-mail address: _____

Are you over the age of 18? ___ yes ___ no

Visit us on the Web!
www.sublimityfire.com

Best time to contact: _____

Please indicate your interest: ___ Volunteer Firefighter ___ Fire Corps (area of interest: _____)

* If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or would like more information, please fill out this form and return it to the Sublimity Fire District, 115 NW Parker St., or mail it to P.O. Box 911, Sublimity, OR 97385.

Sublimity Fire District

115 NW Parker St.
P.O. Box 911
Sublimity, OR 97385-0911



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sublimityfire@sublimityfire.com

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