



2002

ANNUAL REPORT

"Volunteer Service With Pride"

Elkhorn
Marion
Mehama
Stayton

Passing The Torch

Mission

Prevention of injury, loss of life and property from fire and its affects

Suppression of destructive fire

Provision of rescue and emergency medical services

Community support through public service activities

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The past year has brought with it many new changes. A significant change in the history of Stayton Fire District occurred when Chief Ronald L. Tegen made the life-changing decision to retire after 34 years with the District. A banquet was held at the Wittenberg Inn in Salem in June to highlight and honor his accomplishments.



He began his career as a volunteer in 1968 working his way up from a firefighter, to an EMT, apparatus operator and training operator among other positions. Realizing how much he enjoyed the fire service, he decided to earn his degree in Fire Protection Technology. He did this while still working full time to support his young family. He filled in for one year as the Volunteer Chief and then became Stayton's first career Chief in 1974. He remained in that position until June 2002.

Chief Tegen enjoyed a remarkable career in the fire service and the communities of Stayton Fire District have reaped the benefits. During his tenure at Stayton, he helped organize a centralized dispatch center in the district, implement a student sleeper program and Length of Service program for the volunteers, and implemented new equipment, technology and training to keep pace with a growing district. He was a mentor and example to many young volunteers who started their careers at Stayton and then continued on to full-time positions either with Stayton FD or with other departments. Included in that list are his own sons and grandson.

Chief Tegen's life revolved around the fire district and he truly gave it his all. After making the decision to retire and begin a new phase of his life, he also faced the job of helping to find his replacement. Not just anyone could fill his shoes. The process of finding a qualified person with a heart for Stayton Fire District would not be an easy task.

Seventeen applications were reviewed and screened. An assessment center was conducted where the applicants were tested and interviewed. The ten applicants that made it past the assessment center moved on to yet another interview by a panel of community members where three finalists were chosen. Background checks were



conducted and the Board of Directors interviewed each candidate. The top candidate was selected, Chief Jack Carriger, and offered the job. So, you can see, it was not an easy job to find the right person to lead the District. A lot of time and energy went into making the decision.

Chief Carriger grew up in Salem. He has served as the Fire Chief at Nestucca for the past six years. Before that he was a Lt. at Marion County Fire District in Salem. He also served as a Marion County Deputy Sheriff and was president for the Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association for two years.

Chief Carriger came through the application process with flying colors and Chief Tegen confidently "passed the torch" knowing the organization is strong and positioned to provide leadership in the years to come.

Major Investigations in 2002

Stayton Fire District suffered its first fire fatality in over thirty years in 2001. Unfortunately, 2002 brought yet another fire fatality and one other victim who was severely burned. These two incidents were our biggest fire investigations of the year.

The first was on February 25th to a structure fire at apartments on 10th Street in Stayton. Investigation concluded that this was an accidental fire with the most probable cause being an ignition source too close to an oxygen supply. The resident, Mr. Gene Newton, was transported to the hospital and later succumbed to smoke and heat related injuries from the fire. This alarm was also the first call for our newly acquired ladder



truck which was used to ventilate the roof.

On March 10th volunteers responded to an address on Riverwood Dr. in Mehama for a structure fire in a shop. Investigation concluded that the cause of the fire could not be determined and it is still considered an open investigation. Mr. James Ruggles was transported with burns on 90% of his body. Fortunately, though, after a long hospital stay, he was able to be released.

There is always a different aspect to an investigation when someone is injured or killed at a fire scene.

Hopefully, this type of incident is behind us for a long time to come.



~ FF/EMT Riley Martinka, Stayton Fire District

Fire Prevention Education



The District received \$1045 from area sponsors for prevention education supplies this year. In addition, the Stayton Volunteer Firefighters Association purchased 2000 fire hats to be used for prevention month (October) and other activities throughout the year.

Fifteen volunteer firefighters assisted with 8 station tours and visited 33 classrooms during fire prevention month. Teacher surveys were completed on the class presentations and many realized that even the adults need education in this area.

Our theme for fire prevention month was "Hunt for Home

Hazards". Most of our time was focused on home safety and hunting for home hazards in and around the home. We talked about escape routes and how to get out of the house in case of fire. In addition, we covered smoke detector safety, which included cleaning, placement and battery changes.

Overall we impacted 979 kids this year: 328 Preschool and Kindergarten, 307 First and Second Graders, and 344 Third and Fourth Graders.

The culmination of Fire Prevention Month was a Fire Safety Open House on October 31. Volunteers coordinated the event which saw more than 779 children and parents in attendance.

~ Deborah Gregson, Fire Prevention Officer, Stayton Fire District



Recruitment 2002

Another year is officially on the books and several changes have come about in the recruitment process for Stayton Fire District.

First, modifications were made in the selection process of new members. A Board of Review was implemented. This Board consists of a panel of staff and volunteers that interview the new applicants and make a recommendation to the Fire Chief. This gives current volunteers the opportunity to be involved in the selection process and it gives the applicants a chance to meet them and ask questions. The District also employed a drug testing policy, established new minimum requirements to become a volunteer, and implemented a support volunteer program. We plan to continue to build on these changes, which will only strengthen our recruiting for this District.



The goal for this coming year is to increase the number of volunteers in our Marion, Mehama and Elkhorn stations. Everyone helps in the process. Our current volunteers are the best representatives to help in recruiting new members. Their pride in the organization, excitement in learning new skills and the satisfaction they receive when they've helped someone in need can be contagious.



The District offers other ways to volunteer besides firefighting. There are many opportunities for people to volunteer as support personnel. These volunteers help with a variety of projects that can include office work, photography and scrap booking, child care, assisting with fire prevention programs and activities, planning events, fundraising, preparing food for volunteers who are responding on large incidents, helping burn victims and trauma victims just to name a few.



This is the community's fire department and we encourage people to use their talents, get involved and become a part of a great team of neighbors helping

Juvenile Fire Setter Report

Juvenile fire setting interventions totaled 14 this year. The majority being male ranging from six to fourteen years of age.

Ignition sources included matches, lighters, and candles. In eleven of the reported juvenile set fires, the source was obtained from the home. Incidents happened at schools, dumpsters, fields, yards out buildings and at home. The materials ignited included hay bales, trash, fireworks, paper, clothing, glue, bedding, bark dust and furniture.

The screening tool provided by the State Fire Marshal's office is used for the intake process. Depending on the results, some juveniles are referred to Marion County Health Department for further evaluation. All juveniles and their families receive fire education. They are given pre-tests, homework assignments, community service (depending on age), and interviews to perform, (with someone related to the incident such as a school official or insurance agent) so the juvenile can learn the financial effects and workload involved with the fire. Finally, they are given a post test to determine the knowledge they have attained.

Our success rate with the juveniles this year has been wonderful. Only one child was referred to MCHD and no child was a repeat offender.

Training Tower

In 2002, a 40 foot tall training tower was added to the training facility. The hard work of several dedicated individuals and support of local businesses made the tower possible.



The tower is constructed from 5 shipping containers, 20 feet long, stacked together and connected with an internal stairwell.

The tower will be used for laddering, which includes utilizing the 85 foot ladder truck, and training by the rope rescue team.

The training facility is used monthly by the district

to train our own people and regularly by neighboring districts.

The facility currently has a burn room, search building, car fire prop and now the tower. Future plans include propane fired props (tanker trailer, 250 gallon propane tank), a classroom and a park.

The support of local businesses, the dedication of volunteers and the commitment by the District has made the project very successful. The continued partnership will be essential for the completion of the training facility.

~ Jay Alley, Assistant Chief/Training Officer



"A Vision To Save Lives"

In June of 2002, the Stayton and Sublimity Fire Districts partnered together to raise funds to purchase 2 thermal imaging cameras, one for each district.



This high tech device reads infrared radiation and creates an image on the screen giving firefighters the advantage of "seeing" in an otherwise blacked-out environment due to the products of combustion in a fire situation. Victims and/or downed firefighters can be located in a smoke-filled structure allowing for a quicker rescue. Size-up of a structure fire can be greatly enhanced using the thermal imaging technology. Hot spots and even the "seat" of the fire can be located from outside the structure. Even hazardous materials can be traced since everything has a thermal "signature."

Firefighters using thermal imagers have regained their vision and can now quickly navigate and identify victims based on sight. The cameras can also be used for search and rescues as well as

other fire department operations.

In November, the reality of purchasing the cameras came true. Proceeds from ATV and boat raffles, swim party donations, community support and donations from local businesses provided the funding that was not otherwise available in the district's budgets.

The cameras have been used several times already on calls this past year proving their value. Some of the uses include a bedroom fire, mobile home fire, fire alarms, chimney fires, motor vehicle accidents and car fires. On every call we find another use for the cameras.

The success of the fundraiser is not only measured by the purchase of the cameras, but the support of the communities for the Volunteer Firefighters.



ATV Winner, Dan Baldwin

Remembering

Stayton Volunteer Firefighters Represented in Washington D.C. Memorial March

Dan Houston, Troy Gulstrom, Brad McKenzie and Ken Rowling joined hundreds of firefighters from around the country in Washington D.C. last October to participate in the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial March honoring our nation's fallen firefighters. Over 100 honor guards marched in memory of their comrades. Firefighters saluted or placed a hand over their heart as families of those who died passed by in coaches.



Training in 2002

Every year, Stayton Fire District joins with neighboring fire districts to put on two fire academies where new recruits learn the skills that are needed to fight fire. Stayton had four new recruits that completed Academy this year: Jim Potter, Les Peterson III, Kevin McFadden and Dan Overman. Each academy culminates with a live-fire training.

Live-fire training provides Volunteers with the realistic conditions of fire, but in a controlled environment. These exercises are a win/win situation for the District and the building owner. The building owner can have the building demolished for minimal cost while firefighters receive valuable experience utilizing the structure for training.

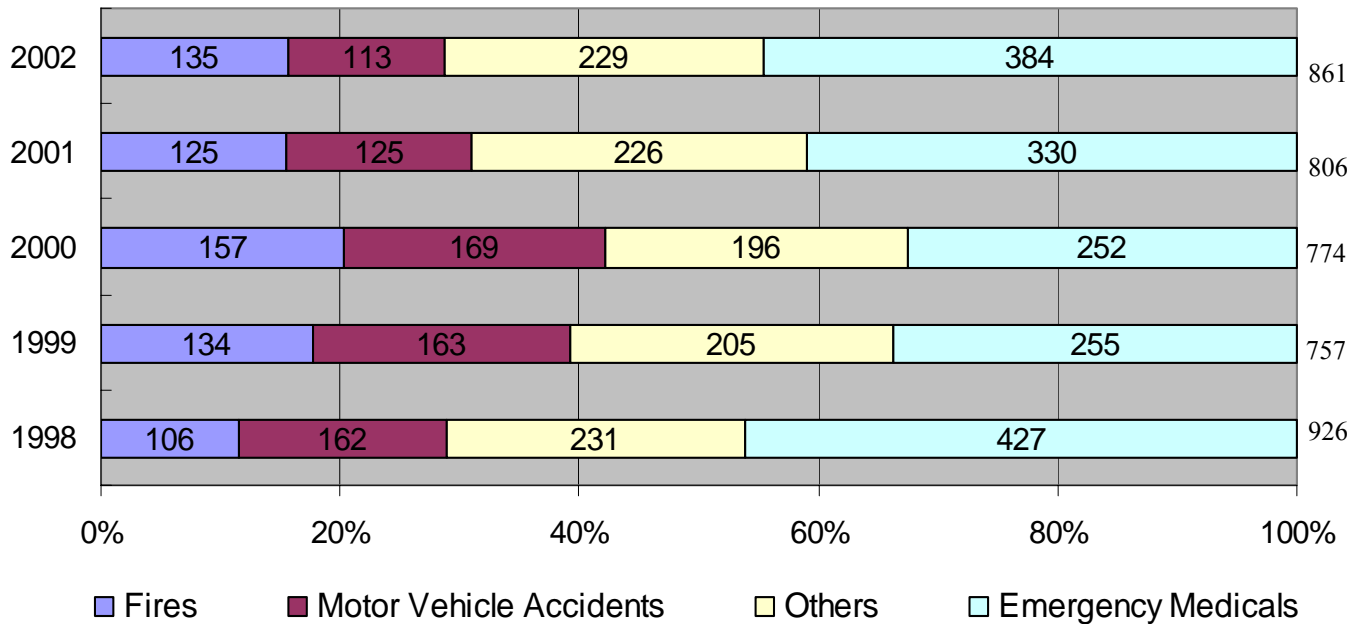
Stayton Fire District has been instrumental in coordinating, providing and participating in joint training in the Santiam Canyon. Cooperative training in the Santiam Canyon provides affordable and quality training to everyone.



Stayton Fire District Volunteers completed 7586 hours of training in 2002.



Alarms by Type



Don Dotter Retires~Over 40 Years Of Service



Don Dotter was honored at the District's Annual Awards Banquet for over 40 years of service to the District. Don served as the Captain of the Marion Station for the past ten years. Retired Chief Tegen thanked Don for his leadership through the many changes the District has gone through as he presented him with a replica fire alarm box with his badges, picture and district patch.

Representative Jeff Kropf presented Don with a framed letter of thanks from Governor Kulongoski. Dotter's service was also honored by the President of the Oregon Volunteer Firefighter's Association, Dave Lapof, the National Volunteer Firefighter's Association representative, Chief Jack Carriger and Captain George Crosiar and members of the Marion Station.

Don's wife, Margaret, was recognized and presented with flowers in appreciation for all her support over the years.

Resident Volunteer Program

The Resident Volunteer Program for the Stayton Fire District is to enhance the fire and medical response in the district with trained and available personnel.

The program requires an individual to retain the fire station as his/her principal place of residence. In turn, the District receives a volunteer that will be available for shifts to respond to emergency calls as well as assist in maintaining the station(s).

Currently the District has 3 Resident Volunteers at the Stayton station. They are all attending Chemeketa Community College in the Fire Science Program.

This program has been very valuable to the District at an affordable cost. The District benefits by having the personnel at the station and the Resident Volunteer benefits from the firefighting experience.

Apparatus

Unit #	YEAR	TYPE	STATION
C1	1992	Staff/Support	Stayton
C80	1995	Command	Stayton
E80	1991	1500 Pumper	Stayton
E81	1981	Telesquirt	Stayton
E82	1989	1250 Pumper	Mehama
E83	1980	Pumper	Marion
E85	1992	CAFS Pumper	Elkhorn
G80	1988	Grass	Stayton
G81	1994	Grass PU	Stayton
L80	1960	Ladder	Stayton
R80	1993	Rescue	Stayton
R82	1994	Rescue	Mehama
S80	1989	Squad	Stayton
S81	1989	Squad	Stayton
SOLD	1970	3000 Tender	Stayton
T80	1995	3000 Tender	Stayton
T81	1994	RATender	Stayton
T82	1994	RATender	Mehama
T83	1994	RATender	Marion
T85	1976	1500 Tender	Elkhorn

Personnel

Fire Chief.....	Jack R. Carriger
Assistant Chief / Training Officer.....	Jay Alley
Administrative Secretary	Rhonda Grant
Information Manager	Laura Houston
Maintenance Officer	Ken Smith
FF/EMT	Riley Martinka
Volunteers (FF and Support).....	75

Area Served

Stayton Fire District serves an area of 107 square miles and includes the communities of Mehama, Mt. Pleasant, Elkhorn and Marion with a total population of approximately 13,500.

Insurance Rating City & Rural = 5

National Fire Academy

Deborah Gregson attended the National Fire Academy in Maryland this last September for a class on Presenting Effective Public Education Programs. The training covered topics such as: Life Safety Education and the Public Educator, Analysis, Networking, Educational Principles, Evaluation, Effective Presentation Techniques, Understanding Diversity and many hands-on classroom activities. Deb will be able to make good use of her training as the District's Public Education Coordinator and Juvenile Fire Setter Counselor.

2002 Community Outreach

Station Tours.....	8
Public Education Presentations.....	33
Audience	979
October Fire Safety Event Attendance.....	779
Toys For Joy Recipients.....	295
Golf Tournament Proceeds	
To Oregon Burn Center.....	\$2500
Juvenile Fire Setter Counseling	14

2002 Annual Award Recipients



Every year the District holds an Awards Banquet to recognize the achievements of the Volunteers. The recipients for 2002 were (from left to right): Support Person of the Year: Betty Lackner, Rookie of the Year: Barbara Nelson, Medic of the Year: Sherry Bensema, Firefighter of the Year: Troy Gulstrom, and Officer of the Year: Doug Hansen (not shown).

A new perpetual award was recreated this year in honor of Chief Ron Tegen named the "Volunteer Service With Pride" award. The first recipient to receive this award was Captain Ken Rowling. (shown at right)



VOLUNTEER ROSTER

Stayton Station

Alley, Taunie
 Axhelm, Kevin
 Barton, Ken
 Barton, Kevin
 Beaman, Noah
 Becker, Tony
 Cathcart, Doug
 Classen, Brian
 Fery, Eric
 Fitzgerald, Elizabeth
 Gregson, Deborah
 Goodman, William
 Grumbo, Leon
 Hill, Vince
 Houston, Dan
 Jones, Paul
 Kibbe, Allen
 Kintz, Doug
 Lackner, John
 McFadden, Kevin
 McKenzie, Brad
 Nelson, Barbara
 Oliver, Kelly
 Peevy, Greg
 Priddy, Joel
 Riordan, Matt
 Rowling, Ken
 Sisto, Ruben
 Tinney, Jeremy
 Underwood, Evan

Vigil, Scott
 Vaughn, Brad
 Weller, Brad
 Whisenhunt, Cullen
 Williams, Sara

Stayton Support

Clokey, Pat
 Cupp, Gary
 Fuson, Fuzzy
 Miley, Mellissa
 Parker, April
 Tegen, Ron

Chaplains

Berg, Bob
 Fisher, Dick

Mehama Station

Ader, Mark
 Bemrose, Ron
 Bethel, Janice
 Griffith, Craig
 Gulstrom, Troy
 Hansen, Doug
 Lennig, Jereme
 Omstead, Bob
 Pietrok, Matt
 Potter, Jim
 Reid, Bonnie

Weitman, Eric
 Weitman, Terry
 Weld, Kerry

Marion Station

Chrisman, Gary
 Crosiar, George
 Dotter, Don
 Harris, Jeff
 Kimball, Dan
 Kimball, Jim
 Overman, Dan
 Peterson, Leslie
 Wooldridge, Andrew

Elkhorn Station

Bensema, Sherry
 Cole, Tim
 Hazen, Carla
 Johnson, Sandy
 Williams, Thomas

Elkhorn Support

Cole, Dunell
 Williams, Anita

Resident Volunteers

Borchard, Wendy
 Jacob Flick
 Ryan Walker
 Ben Cooper

Board of Directors

L. Jay Myers Michael Odenthal
 Gene Coles Richard Morley
 Ray Porter

*"Volunteer Service
 With Pride"*