

FERNDALE FIRE



2009
Annual Drive

Why an Annual Fund Drive?

The Ferndale Volunteer Fire Department is entirely made up of volunteers from the community and we would like to thank you for your continued support. We conduct an annual fund raising drive starting in April every year to help fund our training, equipment, and fire department meetings and activities. We go door to door for several reasons. First, it allows us to make personal contact with the families in the our fire district to answer questions, check smoke detectors, or talk about fire safety. It also gives us an opportunity to review the access to properties and note hazards that might effect an emergency response. If you have any concerns regarding fire safety, please leave a message at the Dept. We will respond ASAP.



Who are we?

The FVFD has been an integral part of the community for over 110 years and with such a long history there are literally hundreds of past members and thousands of family members that have provided support. THANKS TO ALL! Some folks have just moved to town and some have had generations of families involved for decades. In fact, there are members who are 4th generation members.

We are people that you see around our community every day. You may notice us when the fire siren blows—we're the one who jump up from a meal at the restaurant, or run from the local business and drive down main street with our hazard lights flashing and respond to any emergency in the fire and rescue vehicles. We may be gone ten minutes for a public assist or for many hours at a structure fire. THANKS again to all our friends and families who support our absence while we respond to calls! And a special thanks to our retired members who continue to help with guidance, fire calls and support!



What do we do?

We respond to all of our community's emergencies, 24/7. It could be a medical call, a traffic accident, or a downed power line. Following a call we make sure that the equipment is ready to roll and go back to our regular lives. We hold monthly meetings and training drills to improve our skills, maintain our equipment, and keep the department running smoothly. We teach fire safety to our youth at the Children's Center, Ferndale Elementary and the High School. We host blood drives and maintain a blood bank account for the community. We also really enjoy giving kids of all ages rides on the fire trucks on the Fourth of July!!

NEWS:

This year we have lowered the membership age to 18 and subsequently drawn our largest recruiting group in over a decade. This decision was thoroughly reasoned and clearly has two advantages, the obvious, it broadens our recruiting group and far more importantly it involves our youth in helping our community. We are very proud to have the opportunity to serve.

Below is our new Water Tender 6 in action!



FIRE SAFETY:

HAVE A PLAN: Discuss an emergency plan to get out of the structure and a meeting place outside. Maintain fire extinguishers in kitchen, garage, bathroom, etc. Talk about matches and fire danger. As we are extraordinarily sad for the damage done to the Candystick Building it can be used as a reference for discussion with kids.

SMOKE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES! Install smoke detectors and change the batteries every six months! If you would like help installing, replacing batteries or cannot afford a smoke detector please call the FVFD and we will be happy to assist you.

CLEAR INTERIOR OF YOUR HOME: Keep hallways, doors, and thoroughfares clear of cardboard/storage boxes and debris. In the event of a fire, it could make the difference between protecting life and/or property!

CLEAR EXTERIOR: Do not store firewood or other fuel sources against your home or on porches. Keep gates and access clear of debris.

CLEAN CHIMNEYS: Have your chimney cleaned annually. This is very important. If a fire gets into the attic it is very difficult to knock down without excessive water damage.

Fire responses for last year, 2008. - 149 calls.

83 medical calls

4 PG&E related calls

12 traffic accidents

3 Debris / Refuse fires

2 vehicle fires

14 vegetation fires

7 of these were out of the District for Mutual Aid calls

9 public service calls

4 Control burns

2 false alarms

1 steam mistaken for smoke

15 structure or chimney fires

Hours Volunteered by FVFD last year 2008.

In 2008 we had 149 fire calls:

2,251 individual responses x 38 members.

Average 1.5 hours per call = 3,376.5 hours.

34 training sessions (12 monthly drills plus 22 others)

465 records of attendance X 38 members X 2.5 hours = 1,162.5 hours.

12 Dept. meetings X 291 records of attendance = 582 hrs

12 Officers meetings X 1.5 hours X 10 = 180 hrs.

Chiefs meet once a week for 1.5 hour x 3 times 1.5 times 50 = 225 hours.

Add it all up, meetings, training and calls and you get 5,526 hours

Divide that by 366 days = 15 hours each and every day of the year!



Current Members

Chief Tom Grinsell

Asst Chief Mike Thomas

Asst Chief Dennis Del Biaggio

Co. 1

Don Bowen - Capt

Matt Knowles - Lt

John Snyder

Randy Lorenzo

Brian Renner

Andy Titus

Blake Nilsen

Ryan Griggs

Co. 2

Leo Basler- Capt

Travis Grinsell - Lt

Jack Smith

Daniel Del Biaggio

Tim Cooney

Jerry Lema

Jason Queen

Josh Smith

Daniel DelBiaggio Jr.

Co. 3

Byran McWaters - Capt

Doug Brown - Lt

Tom Ford

Brian Morrison

John Miller

Terry O'Reilly

Brett Boynton

Jif D'Aguanno

Travis O'Connell

Co. 4

Troy Land - Capt

Manuel Enos - Lt

Tyson Boynton

Nick Twilight

Aaron Paine

Justin Moranda

Rick Nicholson

Robert McIaroy