

### 2011 Call Stats

Last year the FVFD responded to 175 calls.

Medical: 125 Public Assist: 13 Misc. Fires: 19 Structure Fires: 10 Vegetation Fires: 5 Hazmat: 3



Every 15 Minutes - Drunk driver awareness program at Ferndale High School



Propane Incident Training in Fortuna



Vehicle Extrication Training in Redding

### CURRENT MEMBERS

Chief Tom Grinsell

Asst. Chief Daniel DelBiaggio

Asst. Chief Jerry Lema

#### COMPANY 1

Matt Knowles, Capt.  
Andy Titus, Lt.

Don Bowen  
Marc Daniels  
Randy Lorenzo  
Bart Overson  
Adam Pillar  
John Snyder

#### COMPANY 2

Daniel DelBiaggio, Capt.  
Shane McKay Lt.

Leo Basler  
Tyson Boynton  
Dustin DelBiaggio  
Travis Grinsell  
Jason Queen  
Jack Smith  
Josh Smith  
Mike Thomas

#### COMPANY 3

Jif D'Aguanno, Capt.  
Josh Adams, Lt.

Doug Brown  
Dennis DelBiaggio  
Mike Ferguson  
Tom Ford  
Byran McWaters  
John Miller  
Brian Morrison  
Terry O'Reilly

#### COMPANY 4

Rick Nicholson, Capt.  
Becca Ackley, Lt.

Sabrina Kinsey  
Troy Land  
Will Scott

### FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Gerald Austin, Kevin Frey, Bill Klatt, Mike Ring, Lee Tomasini

# FERNDALE

## VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



### Why an Annual Fund Drive?

We conduct an annual fund raising drive starting in April every year to supplement our training, Fire Hall equipment, company gear, and fire department activities. We go door-to-door for several reasons: It allows us to make personal contact with occupants/families in our fire district, note any special needs (children, elderly, disabled, etc.), to answer questions, check smoke detectors, and/or discuss fire safety. In addition, it provides an opportunity to familiarize ourselves with access, properties, and note hazards that might effect an emergency response. We will make one attempt to visit your home. If we miss you and you would like us to stop by again, please leave a message at the FVFD phone # - 786-9909. We will respond ASAP.



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P.O. Box 485 • Ferndale, CA 95536

[www.ferndalefire.org](http://www.ferndalefire.org)

### ***Who are we?***

The FVFD has been an integral part of the community since 1897 and with such a long history there are literally hundreds of past members and thousands of family members that have provided support. Some folks have just moved to town and some have had generations of families involved for decades. Several families are represented by multiple members, some going back 4 generations in the FVFD.



FVFD members are on call 24/7 to respond when ever the whistle blows. We're the ones that leave our day jobs, or jump up from meals at local restaurants and drive to the hall with our hazard lights flashing. We may be gone ten minutes for a public assist, several hours or all day for a structure fire, or several days for a mutual aid call during wildfire season. Thank you to all those who support our absence while we respond! And special thanks to our active retired members who continue to help with guidance, radio support, fire scene assistance and good cheer.

### ***What does FVFD do?***

The FVFD is the first responder for all medical, fire, and public safety emergencies in the Ferndale Fire District, which covers the city of Ferndale and the surrounding country areas. When you hear the siren blow five times it could mean we are responding to someone having a heart attack, someone crashed their auto on 211, or someone's home is on fire. After an emergency we return to the hall and prepare the FVFD equipment for the next call.

We have monthly meetings and training drills to improve our skills, maintain our equipment and keep the department running smoothly.

### ***What else do we do?***

In addition to our emergency calls here are some of the other things the department is involved with:

- Fire extinguisher clinics for local businesses
- Putting up and taking down the Christmas lights on the town tree
- Review fire safety with local youth during Fire Prevention Week
- Scholarship for high school grads who intend to go into public service
- Semi-annual blood drives at the Fire Hall (we maintain a blood bank account for the community)
- Fourth of July rides on the fire trucks for the young and the young at heart

### ***Fire Safety***

Help keep yourself, your family, and your home safe by following these important safety tips.

***HAVE A PLAN*** - Discuss an emergency plan to get out of the structure and a meeting place outside. Maintain fire extinguishers in the your kitchen, garage and any other room where there is high fire danger. Talk to your family about matches, candles and other fire dangers.

***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'll be happy to assist.

***CLEAN CHIMNEYS*** - If you're using your stove or fireplace regularly for heating your home, you should have the chimney cleaned on an annual basis. This is very important as chimney fires are the most common structure fire incident we respond to. If a fire gets into the attic it is very difficult to knock down without excessive water damage.

***SAFELY DISCARD ASHES*** - Last year in the news there was a tragic Christmas day fire in Connecticut that claimed the lives of three children and their grandparents. The cause of the fire was embers from their fireplace being improperly discarded. Shortly after that fire, we had a close call on a structure fire here in Ferndale from ashes being improperly discarded. Make sure ALL ashes are placed in a metal container after removing them from your stove or fireplace, and then make sure the container is removed far from any combustible material.

***CLEAR INTERIOR & EXTERIOR OF YOUR HOME*** - Keep hallways, doors, and thoroughfares clear so you can safely exit your home in an emergency. Do not store firewood or other fuel sources against your home or on porches. Keep gates and access clear of debris.

***HAVE YOUR STREET ADDRESS VISIBLE*** - It is a terrible feeling when we are responding to an emergency and we're wasting precious time trying to locate your house. Be sure your address is clearly visible either on the curb or on your house (preferably both!). If you live down a country lane, please make sure your address is visible out on the main road, and at any forks or turnoffs. We can't help you if we can't find you!

