

GREER RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

Community Newsletter, Vol 4, Issue 3

Notes from the Chief:

Thanks for your efforts to build a safe and strong community. That's the essence of what our people and organization strive for. We have come a long way since we picked up the red deuce in early July. To date, 11 operating engineers have logged over 30 hours of training on the truck. We responded to two OFD call outs and many of you probably saw the truck on patrol during the MM49 fire. The truck is ready to go now parked in my shed on a battery charger and with sufficient heat to keep her operational through winter. Operating engineers are free to retrieve the truck as needed.

With the end of 2020 near, it's time to think of the future, and we have lots going on. We are in process of obtaining land for a new fire station on Gold Wagon Road - right where we parked our truck this summer. It's a great site that will meet the needs of the entire community. Building plans are being developed now and we may even have a way to get a portable structure in place to help in our construction efforts very soon. Call outs for volunteers to help in its assembly will be coming.

The last bit on news is that we have obtained a 1985 OshKosh Crash Rescue Fire Truck. It may be chartreuse but with 1000 gallons of water, a water cannon, 2 hose reels and purpose built water distribution systems, the truck is a great improvement to our capabilities. Training on the new truck will start in the spring.



Thanks for all your efforts,
the Chief

**Fundraising for
our Fire Station
on Greer Grade.**

Hot Priorities:
Build our Fire Station!
PPE for Volunteers!

"Every Little Bit Counts!"

About Greer Rural Fire District:

Commissioners:

District 3 & Chairperson:
Linda Beard (208) 660-6261

District 2: Joe Chamberlayne
(208)

District 1: Bill Miller
(208) 816-1041

Fire Chief:

* Matt Turner
(208) 512-3753

Secretary:

* Connie Miller
(208) 553-0484

Treasurer:

* Christine Betts
(208) 553-7365

Call any of us with your questions
or concerns.

Next Commissioners Meeting:
January 2021 at 10 a.m., Orofino Fire
Station Meeting Room.

Welcome new District 2 Commissioner, Joe Chamberlayne

Treasurer Report

This is a great revival time for Greer Rural Fire District. Not only did we get a new truck, but we ran our first bake sale since 2006. Our bakers and crafters did us proud! We sold all manner of baked goods, jams, jellies, knitted, crocheted, and sewn products. The sale was timed to coincide with the first day of hunting season. Located in Greer park, with the help of some energetic sale supporters, we caught the attention of hunters headed up and down Greer Grade, and a number of interested passers-by as well. One family saw the sign from Highway 11 and came in to see what it was all about. They happily took purchases home to xxxxx. (Might need to ask Linda for the details)

We netted **\$807.61** after advertising and expenses! Over \$200 of that was in generous cash donations. Thank you to all our donors of sale goods and cash. Thank you to Orofino Fire Dept who provided a wonderful canopy that was all the more welcome in the rainy conditions on the day. We could not have done this without all of you.

This was just the start of our fundraising drive to help build a fire station on Greer Grade. We need much, much more before we can fully realize that dream, although we have enough to get us started this year, putting a roof over the truck. We will need a lot more bake sales, raffles, and donations, especially donations of time, labor, and materials for the building. If you have ideas or want to participate, please call Susan Turner at 208-512-3753, or email at sxtturner80@gmail.com. See the back page of this newsletter for details of our on-going raffle.



**Clearwater Valley
Fire Districts Auxiliary
is open for membership!**

Meetings are the first Thursday of every month at the Mexican Restaurant beginning at noon.

They are looking for new members with lots of positions yet to fill. By becoming an active member you can help GVFD become eligible for auxiliary funding that come available.

Contact Pam White for more information at 208-435-4612

Winter Fire Safety

Cold weather fire prevention tips for your home

Although many of these things seem like common sense you automatically do, it's easy to get complacent. A quick run through BEFORE each heating season is always a good idea.



Furnace: Each year you should have your unit checked and clean your unit and controls. Keep flue pipes clean, hole-free and well supported.

Be sure trash, papers, paint, etc are kept away from the furnace area. Use metal contain for ashes.

Chimney Cleaning: Before and after each heating season, have the chimney cleaned and checked for crumbling bricks, loose mortar, obstructions (ie bird nests) and creosote build up. Use only dry, well seasoned wood.

Fireplace and Woodstoves: should have a minimum clearance of 36" between stove, combustible walls and ceiling. Stove should be positioned on base of non combustible material (metal, brick, etc) extending at least 18 inches beyond the stove in all directions.

Portable space heaters: Be sure heater shuts off by itself when tipped over. Avoid using a space heater in a garage or area where explosive fumes or materials may be present.

Make sure curtains and blankets are not touching baseboard heaters. Never leave a vaporizer to run dry. Check that the cord at the plug is not too hot.

Never fold or roll electric blankets. The heat will build up in the wires. Unplug and smooth flat when not in use.

Smoke Detectors: Install a smoke detector on each level of your home, especially outside of bedrooms. Smoke is responsible for 3 out of 4 fire deaths. Keep smoke detectors dust free and change batteries at least once a year. Test them frequently.

Escape Plan: Establish a fire escape plan. Every room should have 2 means of escape. Make sure all windows can open and are not painted shut. An exit route out of the house without opening a bedroom door is important. Decide on a meeting place for all family members away from the house. If you suspect fire, get out and call the fire department from your neighbors. NEVER RE-ENTER A BURNING HOME, it could cost you your life.

Greer Volunteer Fire District RAFFLE

Just in time for the holidays!

\$5 buys you one chance, \$20 buys you five chances to win one of three great items!



2 YETI insulated mugs



- OR -



Holiday basket from Auntie M's:
includes Holiday table topper, apron, pot holders;
microwave bowl holders with bowls and more...

- OR -

Big Foot 7' Cut out Silhouette
donated by Jim and Pam White



*All proceeds go toward funding
the Greer Volunteer Fire Department Station.*

* Items can be viewed in the Lobby of Banner Bank.
* Tickets may be purchased at Banner Bank, the VFW
or contact Susan Turner at 208-512-3753

Drawing will be done Friday, December 4

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Mailing Label Here