



## FREMONT COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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# THE DISTRICT

July-August 2011

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## Our Volunteers Are Our Greatest Asset

### Inside this issue:

District Trainer Oakley	2
Chief's message- continued	3
Our Nation's Capital	4

Hello Everyone, I hope now that summer has finally arrived it is treating you all well. Things in the District are progressing forward as we continue to improve the equipment that is provided to our most valuable resource, you our Volunteers.

Congratulations to Fremont County Fire District Drill Team #1 for placing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state competition hosted by FCFD in Lander June 18<sup>th</sup>. Great job all Drill Team members. They are Bub Parker - All Tourney Team: Charley Carpenter, Zeke Bonella, Rob Heatley, Lance Hamilton, Matt Ogden; Team #2 Terry Cachelin, Joei Sanders, Dalton Sanders, Brady Hamilton, Jared Hamilton, Chad Long.

### Did you Know:

- **Union Wireless offers a discount to our Volunteers. Get more information from HQ.**
- **Our Volunteers can get a break on the cost of propane from AmeriGas. Also get information at HQ.**
- **Check out pictures of our Fire Trucks recently posted on the Fremont County Fire District Facebook page.**

In the past two months we have taken delivery of seven new engines and tankers. These units will be replacing some older, out of date units and also moving others to upgrade another Battalion or to a reserve status in order to help us fulfill the criteria for ISO (Insurance Services Office, Inc.) ratings; to better serve our patrons and lower the insurance rates of those living within the required distance from the fire stations. The lease-purchase of these new units allows us to provide you with this much needed equipment in a timely manner. These units are currently in the shop getting radios and equipment installed as well as having the pump tests done on them.

We have also just received a fit test machine for our SCBA masks and each firefighter will receive their own mask that fits them appropriately. Chief Oakley will talk about this more and we will be visiting each Battalion to conduct the testing.

There exists a fine line between being proud of who you are and what you have done and being prideful and arrogant. I am extremely proud of this District, our Volunteers and who we are.

Continued on page 3

# The District

Page 2

## Notes form District Trainer Oakley

Fit testing and Fire trucks;

The District has received its new Fit Testing Machine; I would recommend starting an exercise program as quickly as possible in order to pass the machine's standards. Just kidding, the fit tester has nothing to do with physical fitness.

The Quantifit machine is a qualitative testing device to insure that the SCBA mask that you are using is correctly sized and that it is providing you with the best protection possible. This is a negative pressure system that connects to the SCBA mask and requires you, the user to perform 5 different tests to ensure that a proper seal is created and maintained. This testing takes about 3 – 5 minutes to complete, provided that you pass each test the first time around.

I tested the system a couple of weeks ago on 17 individuals. The testing took about 2 hours to complete, of the 17 people tested (some of them a couple of times), 14 passed. I will be

coming around to your individual battalions over the next couple of months to provide the required testing. Here is one recommendation that I have; Shave! You can pass with facial hair, just not as easily. The reason for the fit testing is that we will be assigning each individual their own SCBA mask.

The new trucks have all arrived and the shop is working as quickly as possible to get them outfitted and in service. There are some minor training issues with these new trucks and each battalion that is receiving one will be given the necessary instruction on their operation. If you really want to test the trucks capabilities I would recommend an evening trip to the fire academy and using it in a controlled live fire exercise. I will be happy to set up the academy and assist you with any of your needs.

The only district trainings that are scheduled at this time are recruit academies on July 14<sup>th</sup> and August 11. I have also scheduled the S130/S190

### Upcoming

### Training

- July 7, 2011 – There will be a Hazardous Materials Awareness class at Atlantic City Fire Hall 1800 hours.
- September 16, 17 & 18 – There will be S-130/S-190 taught at WFA Contact HQ and sign-up.
- Battalion Chiefs: Remember now might be a good time to schedule a live-fire training while your personnel are being trained on the new equipment.
- We are trying to get a HazMat Operations class scheduled before August.

class for September 16 – 18 at the Wyoming Fire Academy. If your battalion either wants or needs a special training please let me know and I will do what I can to make it happen. Enjoy your summer.

BE SAFE,  
Dan



## Craig's message

## continued from page 1. . .

When the opportunity arises I enjoy telling people who we are, what we do, and what we have. I tell people that we have some of the best firefighters not only in the state, but in the nation. I do not flaunt the District or exaggerate anything about it.

I recently was told that our firefighters are very egotistical and territorial. I explained to the person that as volunteer firefighters we are extremely proud of whom we are and what we do, and yes we believe that we will provide District patrons with the skills and resources needed to mitigate whatever situation arises. I guess, if someone perceives our competency and confidence in ourselves as being egotistical and territorial – well so be it. We know where it comes from and what it takes to retain it. Personally, I see it as being proud of who you are and what you do.

I assured the person who made the territorial comment that the amount of training and dedication that goes into being a firefighter and the sacrifices that a volunteer makes are things that District patrons should be proud of and is something that cannot be disputed. We also talked about what it takes to be a firefighter in a very dangerous profession. I ensured them that we also train to know when a situation requires additional resources and manpower, and that is not a sign of failure but of greater intellect; something that we like to call situational awareness.

I'm not sure this person understood everything that I was trying to tell them, but I made it a point to ensure them that in their crisis we would provide the necessary people and equipment to help them out in their time of need and we will not be bashful about asking for help if we need additional resources.

From time to time I stop by the different fire halls as I am out in the county and look around at the stations, the apparatus, and the equipment. Then I reflect back to when I joined the fire service 30 years ago and think of the strides that we have made as a District. Most of the time when I am at the fire halls it is when there is no one else around, and it is then that I reflect on the greatest asset that we have. It is not the fire halls, the apparatus, or the equipment; it is each and every one of you and your families. It is you that makes the difference, it is your pride in what you do that allows us to provide you with the tools that you need to do your job for your communities. Thanks to every one of you for all that you do.

### Thank-you ConocoPhillips!

The District would like to thank ConocoPhillips for their recent generous donation of \$5,000 to be split between Battalion 2 Lysite, Battalion 4 Missouri Valley, and Battalion 14 Shoshoni. These funds will be directed toward public awareness and new member recruitment activities.

*Fremont County*



*Fire Protection District*

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#### Mission Statement

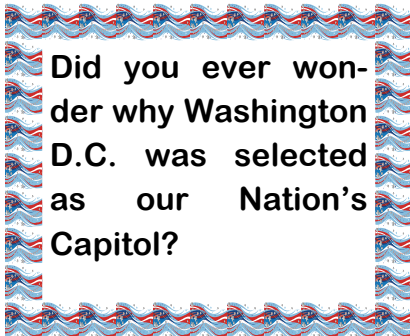
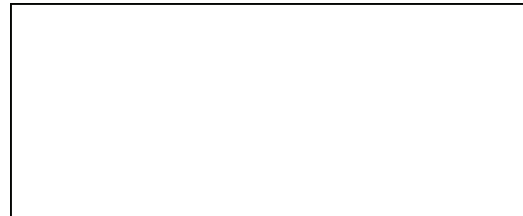
The Fremont County Fire District is dedicated to providing the highest quality of fire, emergency and other community related services to the residents and visitors of the district.

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We're on the Web at

[FremontCountyFireDistrict.com](http://FremontCountyFireDistrict.com)

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Washington D.C. has been the Capital of the United States since 1800 even though in the late 1700's there was little more than a plantation there. Cities such as Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore and even Trenton, New Jersey housed the various functions of the government of the new nation.

## Why Washington D. C.?

By the end of the Revolutionary War many states had accumulated debts and owed money to local and foreign creditors. There was discussion of having the new government assume those debts for the states. Southern States opposed this idea because they had re-paid most of their debts; the Northern States held most of the debt that would be assumed by the new Federal Government.

A secret deal was struck at a private dinner party whereby

James Madison from Virginia agreed to support the debt assumption matter and Secretary of the Treasurer Alexander Hamilton (from New York) would support a bill to locate the nation's capital along the Potomac River.

That is how our nation's capital came to be established as Washington in the District of Columbia in the year 1800.

