

THE FIREHOUSE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GEYSERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1 NOVEMBER 2007

ON PACE TO RUN OVER 550 CALLS IN '07!

The Geyserville Fire Department is on pace to run over 550 calls in 2007. These calls range from helping somebody who has fallen and needs help up to all types of fires and all types of rescues. The Men and Women of the Geyserville Fire Department put in countless hours of training, maintenance and response to and mitigating



emergencies. Based on National Volunteer Fire Council calculations it is estimated that the Volunteer Firefighters from the Geyserville Fire Department save the local taxpayers an estimated \$5 million

FACTS ABOUT THE GFPD:

- Protects over 200 Square miles
- Responds to over 500 emergencies a year.
- 36 Volunteers
- 3 Stations
- 9 Emergency Vehicles
- 50 Mutual Aid Calls a year
- Thousands of hours of training a year.

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS STILL NEEDED!

Thank you, to those who answered the call for volunteers last time. The GFPD is still in need of volunteer firefighters, especially in Alexander Valley, where we are at a critically low level! No experience is necessary and all required training is provided by the GFPD. Becoming a volunteer firefighter is a great opportunity to become involved with your community. People who are interested in the District are encouraged to contact Station 1 at 857-3535 or visit our web site at geyserville-fire.com for more informa-

tion about becoming a volunteer firefighter. Please help us prevent higher taxes and fire insurance premiums. **Become a Volunteer Firefighter today!**



Volunteers Needed at Station 2 (Pictured Above)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

ANOTHER GRANT	2
A SCHOLARSHIP	2
TOYS FOR TOTS	2
SAFETY TIPS	3
NEW CAPTAINS	3
BURN PERMITS	3
Q & A	4

GEYSERVILLE RECEIVES GRANT

The Geyserville Fire Department received a grant from the “Indian Gaming Mitigation Fund”. This grant is sponsored by all the Indian gaming facilities in the state and Sonoma County agencies are eligible because of River Rock Casino and The Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians. The grant paid \$90,000 to upgrade firefighter safety equipment and bring equipment up to nationally recognized safety standards. These included, upgrades to Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, additional air bottles, new turnout gear for firefighters, Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) pack, and large area search packs. At this time everything is in serve except for the RIT pack and search pack. These will be placed in service after a specialized training in January with an instructor who is nation-



ally know and author of multiple books on RIT and large area searches. The Geyserville Fire Department is extremely thankful to the Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians for recognizing the importance of these safety features. Additional information about this grant is available on the website at geyservillefire.com.

FIREMENS FUND GRANT

The Geyserville Fire Department has received \$40,000 grant from the Firemen’s Fund Heritage Grant. This grant was made possible by Mr. Von Maroevich’s Insurance agency, through the help of Karen Walde the Geyserville Fire Department was selected to receive the funds. The Geyserville Fire Department will use the money to build a drafting pit prop which will allow the Department to do Pump training. We will have more info in the next newsletter.

A SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF CHRISTINA KAMMERER

In September of this year the Geyserville Fire Department established the Christina Kammerer/ Anderson Memorial EMS Scholarship. This Scholarship is dedicated to the memory of Christina Kammerer, a volunteer firefighter with the Geyserville Fire Department. As a member of the Fire Department from November 2003 until her untimely death is September 2005, Christina proudly served the community of Geyserville.



Volunteer firefighting had given Christina a new direction in life, and she had completed an EMT course and was a member if the first graduating EMS Academy through the Santa Rosa Junior College Training Facility. This scholarship has been established to encourage other volunteers from the Geyserville Fire Department to follow in Christina’s footsteps by studying EMS and/or firefighting. We also appreciate the generosity of Dr. and Mrs. David Anderson for funding the scholarship.

GEYSERVILLE FIRE STATION 1 IS A TOYS FOR TOTS DROP OFF



The Toys should be new, unwrapped and dropped off by December

BLOOD DRIVE JANUARY 4TH

What: Blood Drive

Where: Geyserville Fire Station 1

When: Friday January 4th 4pm-7pm

What Else: All donors receive a free dinner



HOLLIDAY SAFETY

- ◆ When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness. A fresh tree is green, needles are hard to pull from branches and when bent between your fingers, needles do not break. The trunk butt of a fresh tree is sticky with resin, and when tapped on the ground, the tree should not lose many needles.
- ◆ Before using lights outdoors, check labels to be sure they have been certified for outdoor use. To hold lights in place, we recommend purchasing plastic holders designed for this purpose. As an alternative, string them through hooks or insulated staples. Never use nails or tacks. Never pull or tug lights to remove them.
- ◆ Keep candles at least one foot away from anything that can burn including curtains, blinds, wallpaper, clothing, Christmas trees or any other material that can catch fire.
- ◆ In homes with small children, take special care to avoid decorations that are sharp or breakable, keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children to avoid the child swallowing or inhaling small pieces, and avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food that may tempt a young child to eat them.

For Additional Holiday Safety Information please visit our website:
<http://www.geyservillefire.com/safety.htm>

GEYSERVILLE PROMOTES 2 NEW CAPTAINS

Marshall Turbeville (6107) has been with the Geyserville Fire Department since 1995. He is a career firefighter and a Captain with Cal Fire. His current responsibilities include heading up our GIS/Mapping projects and in the past he had been the Department's training officer.



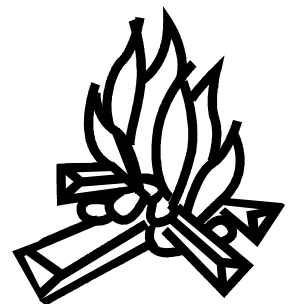
Chris Colgan (6106) has been with the Geyserville Fire Department since 2003. He is a career firefighter/paramedic with Oakland Fire Department. His current responsibilities include being the Training Officer as well as the Medical Officer.

BURN PERMIT INFORMATION

Now that summertime has come and gone and fire season is over, burn permits are starting to be issued. The Geyserville Fire Department does not issue burn permits. All burn permits are issued through other agencies, most through the Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District. The

NSCAPCD's phone number is (707)433-5911. Their office is located 150 Matheson Street in Healdsburg. While there are many different types of permits, too numerous to talk about here, the NSCAPCD will be able to answer all of your questions or point you in the right direction. Remem-

ber that you must have a current burn permit, it must be a permissible burn day and you must call in to report your control burn. Both the burn hotline and the burn reporting line are on your burn permit. Always have clearance around your burn pile and don't leave the fire unattended.



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WE'RE ON THE WEB:
GEYSERVILLEFIRE.COM

WE ARE YOUR FIRE
DEPARTMENT!

This newsletter is a collaboration between the Geyserville Fire Protection District and the Geyserville Volunteer Firefighters' Association. It is published bi-annually in November and May. It is intended to provide information to the community about news and events as it relates to the Geyserville Fire Department. If you are receiving this newsletter then our records show one of the following: You live within the Fire District boundaries, you own property with the District boundaries or you have donated money to the GVFA. If you think that you have received this newsletter in error or would like to be removed from our mailing list please contact the Headquarters Station at 857-3535.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: Why is it that if I have a Healdsburg address does the Geyserville Fire Department respond.

A: Fire agencies don't always follow postal districts. The Healdsburg City Fire Department primary responsibilities are to the Citizens of the City, they are the primary responders to the lower (South) end of Dry Creek Valley. Everything north of the City limits is protected by the Geyserville Fire Department.

Q: Why Doesn't CAL-FIRE respond emergencies year round?

A: CAL-FIRE is a great resource in the summer, state budgets only provide for staffing during the fire season months. The Geyserville Fire Department could pay CAL-FIRE to keep them staffed and available to respond but it would cost us over \$100,000 a year.

Q: How often does the Geyserville Fire Department respond to assist Healdsburg Fire.

A: The Geyserville Fire Department responds to about 50 mutual aid calls a year, that includes Healdsburg, Cloverdale and other adjoining agencies. The Geyserville Fire Department also receives mutual aid about 25 times a year.

