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OFDDA Fundraiser

Redgate Vineyard

SDIS Safety & Security Grant

Pre-Loss Legal

Attendance at Board Meetings & the Oath of Office

The COMMUNIQUÉ

A Publication of the Oregon Fire District Directors Association

Oregon Fire Service Center 1284 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301 Toll-Free: 800-223-9708 Phone: 503-378-0896 Fax: 503-364-9919 www.ofdda.com

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MISSION

To serve and strengthen through the provision and coordination of timely information, education, and legislation.

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IN THIS EDITION

| President's Message | 3 |
|--------------------------------|------|
| New OVFA President | 4 |
| Fire Museum Update | 5 |
| OFSOA Conference Information | 5 |
| Pre-Loss Legal | 6 |
| OFDDA Fundraiser | 8 |
| Oregon Fire Service Conference | 9-15 |
| | |

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Be on the lookout out for an end of session report on www.ofdda.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Dunn OFDDA President



On September 22, OFDDA will hold our first fundraiser to benefit the **OFDDA Bruce Williams Scholarship Fund**. All proceeds will help OFDDA provide tuition and financial assistance for training fire district elected officials who are

OFDDA members, in rural communities where funding is a challenge.

Thank you to everyone who is helping us make this event a success and thank you for your support of the Oregon fire service.

Special thanks to: Steve and Charlene Dunn, owners of Redgate Vineyard Winery for providing the event location; *Ric Trauernicht* for the live music; *Loustic Catering* for the delicious hors d'oeuvres; everyone who contributed items for the silent auction; and especially all of the staff at OFDDA who are working so hard to make this event happen. Together we are making a difference for Oregon fire service.

The next Communiqué will have an update on the funds raised and who won the eight-night vacation at a WorldMark resort.

Looking ahead to the Oregon Fire Service Conference, I want to point out that OFDDA, in conjunction with SDAO, is putting out an application for the new *Innovative Safety Award*. This is a special award to recognize districts whose inspiring safety innovations led to ground-breaking achievements. Fire district directors, chiefs, personnel, and volunteers all look to those trailblazers who solve problems, remove obstacles, and lead others to success. Let's recognize them.

"Fire district directors, chiefs, personnel, and volunteers all look to those trailblazers who solve problems, remove obstacles, and lead others to success. Let's recognize them."

We are also working to develop a new program for district directors: *The Directors Institute Accreditation Program*. Watch for more information about this program at a later date.

I hope to see you all at the Oregon Fire Service Conference, November 7-9, in Seaside, OR.

NEW PRESIDENT FOR OVFA

Lieutenant Zack Wilson, *Umatilla Rural Fire Protection District*, was elected President of the Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association during OVFA's June Training Conference at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds in Redmond. Zack listed his priorities for the upcoming year as follows:

- Decrease the cost of the OVFA Training Conference;
- Increase benefits, not only to our members, but for all volunteer firefighters across the State;
- Increase membership of OVFA;
- Increase attendance at Conference;
- Seek input from members and non-members alike to learn how OVFA can better meet their needs.





Zack follows **former President Jason Servatius**, Firefighter/ EMT with *Evans Valley Fire District #6*. **Lieutenant/EMT Frank Day** of *Crooked River Ranch Fire and Rescue* was also elected to the OVFA Board of Directors.

Sam Flaherty, *Coquille Fire and Rescue*, was selected 2019 Volunteer of the Year and Leroy Smith of *Corbett Fire District* was honored with the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Captain Mike Gagliano, *Seattle Fire Department* (retired) was the Keynote Speaker. Thank you to DPSST for providing many of the instructors for the training courses.

Next year's OVFA Training Conference will be held June 2-6 in Eugene.



OREGON FIRE SERVICE MUSEUM *UPDATE*

Construction continues on the Oregon Fire Service Museum, Memorial & Learning Center building at Powerland Heritage Park near Salem. Interior framing is nearly complete and electrical work will begin soon. Grant applications have been submitted for funding the apron and sidewalks and for completion of the restrooms. Additional grant applications are being prepared to fund exhibit construction.

Summer has been very busy with thousands of visitors attending summer events at Powerland Heritage Park, and board members and volunteers are on hand to greet them, introduce them to the museum, and to provide educational and fun activities for all ages.

With the upcoming construction of the memorial courtyard, brick orders have picked up. Please consider purchasing an engraved brick to help fund the completion of the courtyard. Bricks may recognize a fire department, an individual member, LOD deaths, fire service organizations, and related individuals or businesses. Bricks are also available for purchase by commercial businesses. These bricks will be placed in the building entry walk. Brick order forms are available at www.oregonfiremuseum.org/get-involved

We are also still soliciting donated surplus apparatus and equipment for resale, which continues to be a great funding source for the construction.

There is currently a vacancy in a director position on the museum board. If you or someone you know would be interested in serving, please let us know. Fire service experience is not required.



Visit our website at oregonfiremuseum.org or follow us on Facebook.



Oregon Fire Service Office Administrators By Julie Spor, OFSOA President

The 2019 Fall OFSOA Conference registration is now open! The event will be held at The Grand Hotel at Bridgeport in Tigard, from October 16-18, 2019. The Theme for the event, hosted by TVF&R, is Filling Your Tool Box For Success.

Classes will include:

- ✓ Networking and New Member Orientation.
- ✓ Public Safety Officer Benefit Chaplain Steve Brodehl, OFCA.
- ✓ Advanced Public Meetings/Executive Session Eileen Eakins, SDAO.
- ✓ Data Helps Me Sleep at Night Retired Fire Chief Mike Duyck.
- ✓ Perception Fire Chief Deric Weiss, TVF&R.
- ✓ Emergency Preparedness Kits Diane Nave, TVF&R.
- ✓ PERS Update CFO Tim Collier, TVF&R.
- ✓ Changing Workforce Training Division Chief Patrick Fale, TVF&R.
- ✓ GEMT Update and Q&A Blake Jamison, OHA.
- Diversity & Inclusion Miguel Valenciano.

Online registration is now open at <u>www.ofsoa.com</u> and scholarships are available.

PRE-LOSS LEGAL

Fire District Update: Attendance at Board Meetings and the Oath of Office

By Dan Lawler Local Government Law Group, PC



Fire districts in Oregon function at their best when directors are interested and engaged with their duties and when they understand their obligations to the district and the public. However, districts sometimes experience issues with director attendance at board meetings and with the

execution of directors' statutory duties. Recently, two questions regarding directors' duties have become more frequent: 1) how can fire districts encourage directors to attend board meetings; and 2) must a notary public administer a director's oath of office? This article aims to answer these questions by providing strategies available to encourage attendance and by discussing the statutory language of the oath of office requirement.

Encouraging Director Attendance at Board Meetings

ORS 478.210 requires each fire district in Oregon to exercise its authority through a board of *five* directors. Though the statute is clear, the strict five-member requirement prohibits fire districts from increasing the number of directors that sit on their boards. This can be problematic for districts with directors that frequently miss board meetings and prevent the board from reaching a quorum. For these districts, the inability to add new directors can mean more wasted time and resources. Because a legislative change would be necessary to increase the number of directors, fire districts are looking for alternative strategies to encourage director attendance at board meetings. The following list describes some of these strategies. Adopt Board Working Rules: District boards can adopt working rules to encourage director attendance at board meetings. Board working rules can encourage attendance by:

- Limiting the number of unexcused absences from meetings;
- ✓ Instituting penalties for unexcused absences;
- Establishing a minimum notice period for planned absences (i.e., two week's notification)
- ✓ Formalizing any of the other strategies in this list.

Adopt a Resolution to Censure: District boards can adopt resolutions to censure, or formally reprimand, directors who are repeatedly absent from board meetings. Though censures do not carry penalties, the possibility of formal and public reprimand can improve attendance.

Allow Attendance Via Telephone: Allowing directors who are physically absent to call in to board meetings can help improve attendance for directors with busy schedules or travel plans.

Public Acknowledgement of Absences: The Board Chair or President can make a public statement acknowledging repeated absences. Alternatively, the Board can publish statements acknowledging unapproved absences in the local paper. Though not as formal as a resolution to censure, drawing the public's attention to absences can help improve attendance.

Talk to Frequently Absent Directors: Having a conversation with a frequently absent director about the importance of attendance at board meetings could push that director to improve his or her attendance. Other directors can also offer to help the frequently absent director to find a replacement.



Notaries and the Oath of Office

ORS 478.210(3) requires fire district directors to take an oath of office before beginning their duties. However, district boards have expressed confusion about whether a notary public must be present to administer the oath of office. Although the statute requires directors to *take an oath of office*, nothing in the statutory language requires directors to *take an action under oath*. This is the key difference. Taking an oath of office is a ceremonial act to show the public that the director will fulfill the duties of office. Taking action under oath, on the other hand, is a statement that subjects the director to the laws of perjury. Thus, a district board *can* engage a notary public to administer oaths of office if it desires, but no law *requires* the board to do so.

Apply Now for an SDIS Safety & Security Grant

Applications are now being accepted for the 2019-20 SDIS Safety and Security Grant Program! SDIS members are eligible to apply for a matching grant (maximum of \$5,000) to help fund new safety and security-related projects. Grants available have increased from \$300,000 to \$450,000.

WHAT PROJECTS WILL QUALIFY FOR THE MATCHING GRANT?

Your district may apply for any new safety or security project you choose. Examples include but are not limited to video surveillance equipment, security systems, enhanced parking lot lighting, and safe shop equipment. Routine maintenance to existing facilities and normal business expenses will not be considered.

WHAT DOES "MATCHING GRANT" MEAN?

This is a 50/50 matching grant program, which means the cost of the project will be split equally between your district and SDIS, up to a maximum of \$5,000.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "A MAXIMUM OF \$5,000"?

If your district is planning a \$10,000 project, you can apply to receive a maximum of \$5,000 from SDIS.

WHO DECIDES IF OUR GRANT REQUEST IS ACCEPTED OR DENIED?

The SDIS Safety Grant Committee will review each application to determine which applications are eligible to receive funding. The committee will use two priority levels in determining grant recipients:

- First Priority: Grant applicants who have never received an SDIS Safety & Security Grant.
- Second Priority: Grant applicants who did not receive an SDIS Safety & Security Grant in the 2018/2019 fiscal year (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019).

Matching grants will be awarded to applicants that meet the eligibility requirements by order of priority. After the first priority level has been funded, grants will be awarded to applicants in the second priority level. After all qualifying applicants in the top two priority levels have been funded, matching grants will be awarded to applicants that meet the eligibility requirements in the order the application is received until funds have been exhausted.

WHEN IS THE APPLICATION DEADLINE?

Fill out and return the application for your district by mail to SDAO, PO Box 12613, Salem, Oregon 97309 or email to Sandy Galaway at <u>sgalaway@sdao.com</u> by noon on Friday, November 13, 2019.

Applications received after noon on Friday, November 13, 2019, will not be considered.

For more information and a copy of the application, please visit our website at www.sdao.com/s4/programs/grant_program.aspx

SPECIAL DISTRICTS INSURANCE SERVICES Administered by SDAO

Join us in the Vineyard Sunday, September 22, 1-5pm



Purchase an event pass to spend a delightful afternoon with friends and family at Redgate Vineyard Fieldhouse in Independence, Oregon. Those who join us for this fun event will enjoy delicious

fare from Loustic Catering, live music by local talent Ric Trauernicht, plus have an opportunity to bid on silent auction items and participate in two 50/50 raffles. Those age 21+ can also enjoy one complimentary glass of Redgate Valley wine. This family-friendly venue allows people of all ages but does not allow pets.

One raffle ticket holder will win the GRAND-PRIZE and get to select an eight-night stay at one of the following WorldMark Resorts in Oregon: Running Y — June 20-28, 2020; Depoe Bay — July 11-19, 2020; or Eagle Crest — August 1-9, 2020.



Redgate Vineyar

All proceeds benefit the Bruce Williams Scholarship Fund.

Event passes and raffle tickets are available online at www.ofdda.com and at the venue.



Save the date and watch for registration opportunities soon at www.ofma.net



November 7 – 9 Seaside Convention Center - Seaside, Oregon

Charting the Course Together for 70 Years

Conference details, registration, and scholarship information available at www.ofdda.com

The 2019 Oregon Fire Service Conference will be held November 7-9 at The Seaside Convention Center in Seaside, Oregon. Sessions this year aim to provide valuable information for districts big and small as well as directors newly elected and those longstanding. The OFDDA wants to make sure that the trainings provided encompass a broad range of topics as to be worthwhile to every district in Oregon. This includes being particularly mindful to include pertinent information for smaller, rural districts.

The conference schedule includes two OFDDA Annual Business Meetings. Nominations and elections for open OFDDA Board Member positions will be conducted at these business meetings. If you are interested in serving on the Board, visit the OFDDA website to download an application and fax your completed form to 503-364-9919, then contact OFDDA Nominating Committee Chair Don Thompson at djthompy56@gmail.com to be considered.



Remember to bring a donation for the Silent Auction! Proceeds from the Silent Auction help fund the scholarship program.

The Communiqué / Fall 2019



2019 OREGON FIRE SERVICE CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The 2019 Oregon Fire Service Conference scholarship covers one conference registration fee for conference events, two breakfasts, two lunches, vendor night refreshments, and conference breaks. Lodging is the responsibility of the attendee. Up to five scholarships may be awarded.

Submit your completed scholarship application to the OFDDA office by **September 29, 2019**. MAIL: OFDDA, 1284 Court St. NE, Salem, OR 97301 FAX: 503-364-9919 EMAIL: laureal@ofdda.com

Scholarship awards will be made by October 7, 2019. Scholarship applicants will be notified via phone or email of their application status.

APPLICANT NAME:

DISTRICT/DEPARTMENT:

APPLICANT'S POSITION WITHIN THE DISTRICT/DEPARTMENT (e.g. board member, chief, etc.):

MAILING ADDRESS:

| PHONE: EMAIL: |
|--|
| Is your district currently an OFDDA member? Yes No Unknown |
| Have you or a member of your district previously attended the Oregon Fire Service Conference? |
| Yes No Don't Know |
| Are any other representatives from your district/department planning to attend this year's Oregon Fire Service Conference? Yes (# attending) No Don't Know Number of career staff positions in your district/department Number of volunteer staff positions in your district/department District/Department budget for current fiscal year |
| If you have any questions about this application, please contact Kate Trauernicht at kate@ofdda.com or 800-223-9708 . |



2019 OREGON FIRE SERVICE CONFERENCE OFDDA BRUCE WILLIAMS SCHOLARSHIP FUND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

W. Bruce Williams Scholarship Fund Assists Small Districts

Submit your completed scholarship application to the OFDDA office by **September 29, 2019**. MAIL: OFDDA, 1284 Court St. NE, Salem, OR 97301 FAX: 503-364-9919 EMAIL: laureal@ofdda.com

On February 26, 2006, the fire service lost a valued and trusted servant with the passing of Bruce Williams, member of the SDAO Legislative Committee and former OFDDA Board Member. He was 73.

In his memory, Bruce's family and OFDDA established the "W. Bruce Williams Scholarship Fund, Honoring our Fire Service Volunteers in Rural Communities." The purpose of the Fund is to provide tuition and expenses for fire district personnel in Oregon to attend conferences and receive training.



Bruce Williams

"Bruce was very dedicated to the fire services and he knew how important every

fire district was to its community," said Bev Williams, Bruce's wife of 53 years. "He had the opportunity to travel the state of Oregon and meet with several volunteer departments. He knew these districts would benefit if they were able to attend conferences and training sessions, taking back to the departments current information and regulations. Working together in the state makes the fire districts stronger. Bruce would be very pleased to know that under the present guidelines, those districts can and will be represented as their needs arise. Firefighters are special people and this fund will be a lifelong vision that will be put into place to help those who desire to better their departments."

Priority for the award shall include but not be limited to the following criteria:

- Economic needs of the district.
- District unable to attend previous conferences or training.
- · Commitment of the district to use the award.

To be eligible, districts must have a total annual assessed valuation in the lower 25-percent of fire districts as determined by the Oregon Department of Revenue.

APPLICANT NAME:

DISTRICT:

APPLICANT'S POSITION WITHIN THE DISTRICT (e.g. board member, chief, etc.):

| MAILING ADDRESS: | | | | |
|--|------------|-------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| PHONE: | EMAIL: | | | |
| Is your district currently an OFDDA member? | 2 | Yes | No | Unknown |
| Indicate number for your district: Career sto | aff positi | ions | · · | Volunteer staff |
| District budget for current fiscal year: \$ | | | | |
| If you have any questions about this application, plea | use conta | ict Kate Tr | auemicht a | at kate@ofdda.com or 800-223-9 |



OREGON FIRE DISTRICT DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

DISTRICT OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM

The OFDDA District of the Year award is for the following purpose:

- To provide a means of sharing information, innovative ideas and the variety of activities taking place throughout the state of Oregon.
- To give recognition to those in the fire service who have demonstrated progressive achievement.
- To benefit all fire districts, regardless of size, location, budget, or number of personnel.

Districts can be nominated by anyone (even themselves) for this recognition. Examples of activities or accomplishments qualifying for special recognition include, but are not limited to, innovative programs (community outreach or public education campaians), successfully handling challenges (budget crises or personnel losses), successful recruitment/retention/recognition campaigns, etc.

The nominated district must be a member of OFDDA to be eligible to receive the award. Please contact the OFDDA office at 800-223-9708 if you are uncertain about the membership status of the nominee.

NOMINATED DISTRICT:

MAILING ADDRESS:

PHONE: ______ EMAIL: _____

To complete this nomination, please attach a brief description (no more than 200 words) of the program, activity, or other reasons which you believe qualify the district for special recognition.

Contact Information for Person Submitting Nominee

(for contact purposes only-will not be published or announced):

Name:

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please return completed nomination form and supporting documentation to the OFDDA office by October 21, 2019.

MAIL: OFDDA, 1284 Court St. NE, Salem, OR 97301 FAX: 503-364-9919 EMAIL: kate@ofdda.com

If you have any questions about this application, please contact Kate Travernicht at kate@ofdda.com or 800-223-9708.

| OFDDA Since 1950 | OREGON FIRE DISTRICT DIRECTOR FIRE DIRECTOR 20-30-40-50 YEAR SERV | |
|------------------------|--|---|
| years of service as a | rict Association honors fire district director director to their member OFDDA fire dist Conference, eligible directors will be rec ative lapel pin. | rict. During this year's |
| The signature below c | ortifies that | |
| The signature below c | | |
| | (name) | |
| Has served | | |
| | (district name) | |
| as a fire director for | 20 30 40 50 | Other: years. |
| | Must be a period of 20 or more years | |
| | | |
| SIGNED: | | |
| Name | Title | Date |
| who are unable to att | | |
| MAILING ADDRESS: | | |
| | | |
| | of service at this year's conference, please s DDA office by October 21, 2019 . | ubmit your service award |
| MAIL: OFDDA, 1284 Co | ourt St. NE, Salem, OR 97301 FAX: 503-364-991 | 9 EMAIL: kate@ofdda.com |
| lf you | u have any questions about this application, p Kate Trauernicht at kate@ofdda.com or 800- | 2012년 2012년 2012년 - 1993년 1996년 - 1997년 - 1997년 - 1997년 - 1997년 - 1997년 - 1997년 |



2019 Oregon Fire Service Conference

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7

| 8:15 – 9:00 a.m. | Opening Ceremonies/Memorial |
|-------------------------|--|
| 9:00 – 9:45 a.m. | Keynote Address: Mike Myers, Portland Emergency Management Director |
| 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Concurrent Sessions: |
| | Board Member Duties & Responsibilities 101 |
| | Board Member Duties & Responsibilities 201 |
| 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. | Lunch & Fire Service Updates |
| 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. | Concurrent Sessions: |
| | Lessons Learned from Forming Fire Service Partnerships (Panel) |
| | GEMT (Ground Emergency Medical Transportation) Update |
| 3:15 – 4:15 p.m. | OFDDA Business Meeting & Legislative Update |
| 4:15 p.m 4:30 p.m. * | OFDDA Budget Workshop (Proposed Budget on website) *Immediately follows Business Meeting |
| 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. | Streamline Vendor Presentation/Social Hour |
| FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT-A | All are Welcome! |

Join Us from 5:30-6:30pm for Sponsor Appreciation Night with Trivia!! Light hors d'oeuvres and cash bar available. Network with exhibitors and colleagues while enjoying local food and beverages and an entertaining evening of TRIVIA!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8

| 8:15 - 9:45 a.m. | Concurrent Sessions: |
|---------------------|---|
| | Pay Equity |
| | Budgets |
| 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. | Concurrent Sessions: |
| | Ethics |
| | Sexual Harassment |
| 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m. | Lunch & Industry Updates |
| 3:15 - 4:15 p.m. | Concurrent Sessions: |
| | OFCA Presentation |
| | OFDDA Business Meeting & Legislative Update |

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

| 8:15 - 9:45 a.m. | Concurrent Sessions: |
|------------------|--|
| | Resources and Challenges for Small Districts (Panel) |
| | Your Financial Future - Securing Bonds & Alternative Financing |
| 10:00 a.m 12:00 | Closing Session: Disaster Preparedness (Panel) |
| 12:00 p.m. | Conference Concludes |
| Page 14 | The Communiqué / Fall 2019 |
| | |

| OFDDA 2019 0 | | | ORM CONFERENCE ar completed form | |
|--|--------------------|------------|--|--|
| Name: | | First Time | Attendee? | |
| Agency/District: | | | | |
| Mailing Address: | | | | |
| City: | | | | |
| Phone: Fax | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Email Address: | | | Director? | |
| REGISTRATION FEE | On or before 10/11 | | | |
| Member*: Full-Conference Registration | \$ 314.00 | \$ 364.00 | | |
| Member*: Single-Day Registration | \$ 140.00 | | /(s): | |
| Nonmember: Full-Conference Registration | | \$ 414.00 | | |
| Nonmember: Single-Day Registration *Member price applies to any personnel who serve of OFDDA Office at 800-223-9708 if you need to confil | s 165.00 | | ((s): | |
| Full-conference registration includes Thursday and Friday breakfasts & lunches, daily refreshments and Vendor Night appetizers for one individual. Guest lunch(es) may be purchased separately. CONFERENCE EXPENSES GUEST MEALS I will need guest breakfasts at \$25 each = \$ Guest Meals: I will need guest lunches at \$25 each = \$ TOTAL DUE: | | | | |
| PLEASE LIST ANY DIETARY RESTRICTIONS For Attendee: | | | | |
| For Guest(s): | | | | |
| THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7 - I will be atten | e | — | | |
| 10:00 a.m. Board Member Duties & Respo | | | er Duties & Responsibilities 201 | |
| 1:30 a.m. Lessons Learned from Forming Fire Serv. Partnerships <i>OR</i> GEMT Update | | | | |
| Evening Sponsor Appreciation Night—TRIVIA Game OR Not Attending | | | | |
| FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8—I will be attending: | | | | |
| 8:15 a.m. Pay Equity <i>OR</i> | | | Budgets | |
| 10:00 a.m. Ethics OR | | | Sexual Harassment | |
| 3:15 p.m. OFDDA Business Meeting <i>OR</i> OFCA Presentation | | | | |
| SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9—I will be attending: | | | | |
| 5 a.m. Resources and Challenges for Small Districts <i>OR</i> Your Financial Future | | al Future | | |
| 10:00 a.m. Disaster Preparedness OR Not Attending | | | | |
| All cancellations and refund requests must be made in writing via fax, email, or mail. Cancellations received by October 18, 2019, are fully refundable. Cancellations received on October 19, 2019, or later are non-refundable; however, substitutions are encouraged and incur no additional fees. | | | | |



1284 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301 800-223-9708 www.ofdda.com NONPROFIT ORG U.S. POSTAGE PAID SIPRINT

Has your district:

- Developed original trainings or programs?
- Discovered revolutionary ways to use existing district equipment?
- Created specialty apparatus, equipment, tools, devices, implements, instruments, etc.?
- ✓ Implemented innovative ideas?



2019 Oregon Fire Service Conference November 6-9 • Seaside, OR



Best Western PLUS Ocean View Resort Call 1-800-234-8439 Rivertide Suites Call 1-877-871-8433 Inn at Seaside Call 1-800-699-5070

Ask for the OFDDA rate. Room rates are subject to availability.