


The COMMUNIQUE



MAY-JUNE 2010

A Publication of the Oregon Fire District Directors Association

Oregon OSHA VISITS

**OREGON FIRE SERVICE
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**Oregon State
Fire Marshal
NEWS Release**

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A publication of the Oregon Fire District Directors Association.

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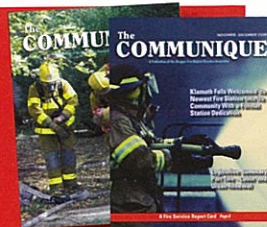


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Spring is Busy Time for Fire Service

By Connie L. Barton

As the Spring rains continue to fall throughout the month of May, bringing hope for a favorable fire suppression season, I am struck by the flurry of activity surrounding the fire service and the spirit and energy that make it all possible.

By the time this edition of the Communiqué is in your hands, the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association's Meritorious Awards Dinner, celebrating those who have given so much, will have passed. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate each recipient for your unselfish commitment to your community.

On May 14 and 15, the Northwest Fire Equipment Dealers Association sponsored another successful NW Fire Expo. I want to thank this group of dedicated individuals for continually giving us the opportunity to view the many innovations that will shape the future of public safety and for the networking and educational opportunities they continue to provide.

The Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association 2010 Conference will be held in Hermiston, June 23-26. OVFA President Scott Mullen promises another year of "high quality, intense, and exciting" courses. The motto this year is "Training for Excellence" and it is my hope that districts will take advantage of this valuable training opportunity. (For more information on this event, visit www.ovfa.org.)

The Primary Election is over and the stage is set for a fierce battle in November. On the legislative and regulatory front, the Association has participated in rulemaking to implement HB 3450, requiring carbon monoxide detectors in sleeping areas in dwellings with a carbon monoxide source. Please take time to become informed on the issue by reading the press release from the Office of State Fire Marshal included in this issue.



OFDDA President Connie L. Barton

OFDDA is also currently participating in the Oregon Sprinkler Coalition, formed with the intent to advocate specifically for fire sprinklers in one- and two-family dwellings in Oregon. Our primary focus in the short term will be the upcoming adoption process for the new Oregon Residential Specialty Code.

Also on the legislative front, our staff has asked me to encourage member districts to forward any proposed legislative concepts to the OFDDA office by the end of June. This will give the Board time to review concepts and determine which should be submitted for drafting and introduction before the 2011 legislature.

Participation in OFDDA's Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) continues to grow, as does our membership. Thank you again for allowing me to serve you as President of OFDDA. I am extremely proud of this organization and its many fire service partners. ♦

Plan on joining us for the
OVFA Conference
June 23-26
Hermiston, Oregon
 "Training for Excellence"

For more information, go to
www.ovfa.org

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The Communiqué Reaches More Than 1300 Fire Service Professionals Including Board Members, Chiefs, and Volunteers.

All advertisements shall be relevant to the fire service and to the needs of our membership.



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News Release From: Oregon State Fire Marshal

Carbon Monoxide Alarm Rules Provide Guidance For Landlords, Home Sellers and Builders

The 2009 Oregon Legislature passed House Bill (HB) 3450, the Lofgren and Zander Memorial Act, requiring properly functioning carbon monoxide (CO) alarms be installed in sleeping areas of dwellings with a CO source. CO sources include, but are not limited to heaters, fireplaces, furnaces, appliances or cooking sources using coal, wood, petroleum products, or other fuels emitting CO as a by-product of combustion.

Petroleum products include kerosene, natural gas, or propane. Attached garages with doors, ductwork or ventilation shafts connected to a living space are also sources of CO.

The temporary rules for existing structures are effective July 1, 2010:

Comments on the temporary rules must be submitted by October 1. The final rules are scheduled to be filed in December 2010.

"We worked with citizen advocates, the Oregon fire service, representatives from health, manufactured housing,

multifamily housing, home builders, sellers, and renters to create rules aimed at successful compliance," advises State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson. "We all want to protect the public from carbon monoxide poisoning."

Who does what, when? HB 3450 specifies implementation dates:

JULY 1, 2010 - Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Administrative *Rules effective date.*

JULY 1, 2010 - For all new rental agreements, landlords must provide properly functioning CO alarms for rental dwelling units with, or within a structure containing, a CO source.

APRIL 1, 2011 - Landlords must provide properly functioning CO alarms for all rental dwelling units with, or within a structure containing, a CO source.

APRIL 1, 2011 - Home sellers of one- and two family dwellings, manufactured dwellings, or multifamily housing units containing a carbonmonoxide source must have one or more properly functioning

CO alarms before conveying fee title or transferring possession of a dwelling.

APRIL 1, 2011 - All new construction of one- and two family dwellings, manufactured dwellings, or multifamily housing units containing a carbon monoxide source must have one or more properly functioning CO alarms before conveying fee title or transferring possession of a dwelling.

The new rules and information about them may be found at:

www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/CommEd_CO_Program.shtml

Other Resources:

Jonathan Clay, *Legislative Analyst Metro Multifamily Housing Association*

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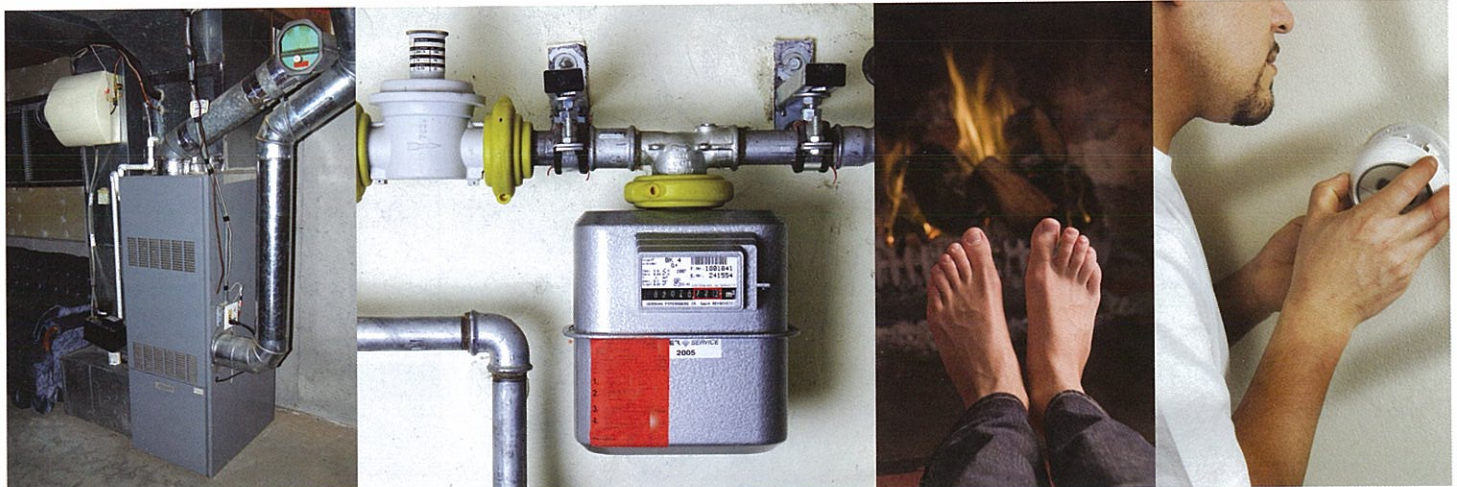
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OREGON OSHA Visits

*By Dave Campbell, Consultant
WHA Insurance Retired*

What if Oregon OSHA knocked on your door today? Would your district be ready if they did?

In January, many Oregon Fire Districts received a letter from OR-OSHA notifying them that they may be subjected to increased compliance inspections due to their respective fire service hazard classification. I don't know how many districts have actually had Compliance inspections since then, but, I know one who took the letter to heart and renewed preparations for such a visit. The Fire District contacted OR-OSHA and requested a consultative visit.

Consultative inspections are designed to help correct issues which could cause life safety issues and/or potential OR-OSHA violations. The inspections are conducted in a manner that is relaxed and very helpful to the district being inspected. I have had the privilege of participating in several consultation visits as a "friend" of the fire district. I have found each of these inspections to be thorough, helpful and very beneficial to the districts involved.

While most inspections focus on general health and safety issues; there are specialized free consultative services which your district can request in addition to the inspection. Other services include:

- Industrial hygiene services – such as air sampling and noise monitoring
- Ergonomic assessments



- Recommendations for eliminating hazards
- Program evaluation, along with Safety and health program assistance
- Training materials, publications and videos for subjects including technical rescue, confined spaces etc.

Please keep in mind; however, the Consultative officer was previously a compliance officer before being assigned to consult. What does this mean to the employer? It means that if there is a discovery of a life safety issue, this would shut down operations until the life safety hazard has been remedied. The Consultation officer has the authority to order such shut down. I am not aware of any shut down actions being taken by Consultation or Compliance officers of Or-OSHA in the Oregon Fire Service in the last 15 years.

We encourage you to consider using the OR-OSHA consultative service in addition to current practices if an inspection has not been accomplished in the last two years or more. Per OR-OSHA policy, the Enforcement Section will not conduct inspections for 60 days after the final report is issued back to your district. This will not only ensure your district time to correct any issues that might have been found during the inspection, but it will also create a safer work environment for your firefighters. After all, the safety of our firefighters is our number one goal! ♦

OVFA Goals

By Scott Mullen

The OVFA has been hard at work since the start of the New Year. It is in our by-laws that our budget be drafted and accepted by January every year as our fiscal budget in done by calendar year not fiscal year. I am glad to say that



Scott Mullen,
OVFA President

our budget was drafted and accepted but I am also sad to say that due to lack of funding there were several cuts to programs that had to be made. I will make this information available in my state of the association address that I make at conference and then we will publish there after.

One of the other goals we set this year was to re-do our strategic plan. In March the Board, several past presidents, staff and "OVFA" influential members met at the Silver Falls Convention center to map out our future. We started this process by first sending out a survey asking our members what they thought about the different services and benefits that OVFA has to offer. We worked from this survey and our past experience all weekend long to develop our new plan. There is a lot of new information in this plan like a new mission, vision and values statement so I encourage everyone to go to the web site and take a look at it. We truly believe that this plan will help guide our organization to better places in the future and the more people know about it, the more help we can receive in getting there.

I leave you with the message that I have been giving since becoming president and that is to please help us with our recruitment campaign to get more departments to sign up as OVFA member, we need these departments to help us spread our message. Also if you have firefighters that want to attend conference please try to find money in the budget to send them, we always have top notch classes with top notch instructors to provide that education. ♦



Date: February 8, 2010

From: Phil Burks, *State Commander, Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard*



On behalf of the Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard, I would like to request help from the members of your organization with an **annual donation**. This will greatly help us establish a stable budget to operate with from year to year.

The Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard provides ceremonial and funeral support to all Oregon Firefighters. Currently the Honor Guard uses gathered donations to purchases flags and equipment for posting of the colors and casket flags for funeral and memorial services. Our services are provided by members who voluntarily respond to requests, purchase their own uniforms and travel at their own expense.

The Honor Guard is also charged with funding the Oregon Fallen Firefighters Memorial at DPSST and with conducting the annual Oregon Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service held on the third Thursday each September. Again, both the Honor Guard and Memorial are funded **solely through donations**. Without raising additional funds we may no longer be able to provide funeral service support that Oregon's Fire Service has become accustomed to and to honor our fallen at the annual Memorial.

The role of honor for Oregon is now at 161.

These sacrifices have already been forgotten by the news media and the general public. The loss will always remain for their families, friends and co-workers. It is so import that every year the Memorial Observance in Oregon shows the families of the fallen that they are never forgotten and that their loved one's sacrifice will always be remembered.

Your donations to the Honor Guard and Memorial are tax deductible, and a donation form has been included.

On behalf of your Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard and the Oregon Fallen Firefighters Memorial, thank you for your support.

Sincerely, Phil Burks, *State Commander Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard*

To contact any of the command staff please go to our web site for contact information www.ofshg.org



OREGON FIRE SERVICE HONOR GUARD DONATION FORM

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Salem, Oregon 97301

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To contact any of the command staff please go to: www.ofshg.org

NAEFO Report

By Mark Kreutzer, President, NAEFO



LEFT TO RIGHT: Mark Kreutzer, President National Association of Elected Fire Officials, Assistant Chief Mike Duyck T.V.F.R., Chief Ted Kunze Candy Fire District, Congressman Kurt Schrader from Oregon, Battalion Chief Mark Prince, Hillsboro Fire and Rescue, Chief Jim Critchley, Tucson Fire Department and Jeff Griffin, Executive Director OFCA. Meeting with Congressman Schrader during the Congressional Fire Service Institute week in Washington D.C.

I am very much honored to have been elected as the President of NAEFO for 2010. I have been associated with the fire service since 1975 when I joined an Explorer program for firefighting. Since that time, I have been involved in the fire service as a volunteer, recently retired after 30 years as a career firefighter, have spent the last 12 years as an elected Director for Columbia River Fire and Rescue in Oregon, currently Vice President of OFDDA and the last three years as a member of NAEFO's Board. As a member of NAEFO, I have seen the importance that all elected fire officials have in the betterment of the fire service. Local, state and national legislative issues have always impacted the fire service. Now is the time for NAEFO to push forward its agenda, but also the needs of our membership and their states' associations. Our states' associations and the individual members fully understand the importance that NAEFO can have in influencing national issues that ultimately impact State and local associations whom NAEFO represent. For NAEFO to continue its influence, we need to increase our membership. Power is in the membership. NAEFO's ability to influence our states' legislators is based on our total individual membership and broad based membership of states' associations. Now is the time for NAEFO to step up and show the solidarity that all elected officials have to influence and impact the safety of the fire service for both the citizens we serve as well as the individuals both career and volunteer, who provide that service.

I highly encourage everyone to renew your memberships to NAEFO for 2010

and to have your fellow Elected Fire Officials in your organization and in your state to also become members. If you have not heard of the Daily Dispatch, I would highly encourage you to go to their website at www.dailydispatch.com. You will be able to see recent news stories that relate to the fire service in all fifty states and national issues as well.

Another benefit that NAEFO members need to utilize is that anytime ESCI (Emergency Services Consulting International) is utilized by your fire district and you advise them that you are a member of NAEFO, a portion of their fee will be donated to NAEFO. This is a win/win for your fire district and NAEFO, so please keep that in mind as you look into future needs where ESCI may be of service.

I would like to thank Burton Weast for his years of service to NAEFO as the Executive Director. Burton was instrumental in organizing NAEFO and putting together last September's successful NAEFO conference in Las Vegas. We will miss Burton, but know he will still be available to help out NAEFO. Thanks Burton for your hard work.

Another member of NAEFO's staff is our Administrative Assistant, Jennifer McDermont. Jennifer is the pleasant voice on the telephone when you call the office. Jennifer keeps all of NAEFO's board and committee members in line and moving forward. Between answering the phone, dealing with emails, updating and managing the budget, meeting minutes and agendas, Jennifer pretty much keeps NAEFO up and running.

NAEFO has five committees that currently help organize and direct the organization: Conference, Membership, Communications, By Laws, and Legislative. I highly encourage you if you are interested in one of these committees to please contact the chairman and offer your expertise.

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monteolsen@inter-city-fpd.org

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VACANT

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By Laws: Bob Skaggs
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And finally, your elected Officers for 2010:

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Vice President: Jim Hill
jimothill@aol.com

Secretary/Treasure: Dick Spring
daspring@comcast.net

Past President: Richard Kistler
rwkistler@comcast.net

I have just returned from Lake Tahoe where I attended the Fire Directors Association of California's annual conference and from Washington D.C. where I attended the Congressional Fire Service Institute dinner. Next Communiqué I will review my trips and relate the experience. NAEFO is very close to announcing the dates of our annual conference in Las Vegas. Stay tune for more details. For up to the minute information, go to www.naefo.org. ♦

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Hermiston, Oregon



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