

# ASHLAND FIRE & RESCUE



*2011*

# ANNUAL REPORT



## **Ashland Fire & Rescue Mission Statement**

Ashland Fire & Rescue is dedicated to protecting lives, property, and the environment. By delivering fire suppression, emergency medical, disaster management, fire prevention and public education services by professionally trained, dedicated personnel, we strive to achieve the highest quality of public service to our customers.

## **Ashland Fire & Rescue Values and Expectations**

### **PROFESSIONALISM**

Dependability- Reliability to duty and responsibility to others  
Excellence- Continually improving job skills and knowledge base  
Presentation- Displaying a high level of fitness and positive attitude

### **COMPASSION**

Empathy- Understands and values how others feel  
Service to Others- Giving of one's time and energy to meet the needs of others

### **INTEGRITY**

Honesty- Being truthful and straightforward  
Accountable- Responsible for one's own actions  
Ethical- Doing the right thing even when no one else is watching

### **TEAMWORK**

Respect- Shows high regard for others  
Cooperation- Contributes to the team  
Loyalty- Shows devotion to the improvement of the department

### **COMMUNITY**

Involvement- Participates in Department and Community events  
Family- Supports coworkers, their families, and the community



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## INTRODUCTION

Ashland Fire & Rescue is pleased to present our annual report for 2011. This report is a summary of the activities and accomplishments of Ashland Fire & Rescue in 2011 as well as the goals and challenges that we see on the horizon. The year of 2011 has seen a great deal of activity in all divisions of our department.

Emergency responses increased 12% in 2011 to over 3500. While the entire Rogue Valley is experiencing a higher call volume in general, this increase outpaced our neighboring departments. Response time for EMS calls increased from 4.7 minutes to 5.3. The department was awarded a five year contract for our 650 square mile Ambulance Service Area.

The second year of our company level building inspection program concentrated on multi-family residential structures. Line personnel conducted 180 inspections. The department has implemented a target hazard component to its training schedule. A target hazard is a building that presents a higher than normal life and/or property loss potential such as schools and the hospital. This program requires each company to familiarize its members with assigned target hazards each month.

A new ambulance was placed into service replacing a unit that was at the end of its service life. A new command vehicle was purchased that will dramatically improve the incident commander's command and control ability at large or complex events. New fire hose to replace the department's inventory was purchased with funds acquired from FEMA's Assistance to Firefighter's Grant. This will make Ashland's fire hose and coupling system consistent with other Rogue Valley fire departments and improve operations during mutual aid emergencies.

In 2011 CPR trained 80 students in nine classes. CERT established an SOU team. The SOU team is the second largest CERT team. CERT celebrated its 500th trained volunteer in 2011. CERT volunteers contributed over 1600 hours of volunteer time. CERT conducted two preparedness classes at OLLI. Twelve Map Your Neighborhood meetings were held in 2011. CERT was able to purchase radios for all CERT bases with grant funds.

Ashland continues to experience a strong compliance level for the municipal code dealing with the restriction of fireworks. We hope to continue this trend with consistent public education and awareness of the hazards of fireworks to Ashland. A great deal of work has been performed to redefine Ashland's wildfire hazard zone. The Oregon Department of Forestry, SOU, and the City's GIS group have all contributed to this effort. A proposal is expected in the first half of 2012.

The bond measure for Fire Station 2 passed and that project is progressing. The department is currently evaluating the final facility specifications from the architect. The bids are expected to go out in February. Fire Station 2's resources will be located at the cemetery offices while the construction of the new station is underway.

The Ashland Forest Resiliency (AFR) project moved into the implementation phase of this stewardship agreement. Over 400 acres were thinned and 200 acres of piles burned. Extensive public outreach efforts continue including six public watershed tours and a well received video explaining the process used in AFR. All project plans are reviewed by a technical review committee and a robust multi-party monitoring effort is in place. Ashland's Firewise Communities program has become the premier program in Oregon. Seven communities in Ashland have received national Firewise recognition. Over 200 wildfire safety assessments were conducted and 150 grants awarded for hazardous fuels removal. A Firewise Communities Commission was formed in 2011. Ashland Fire & Rescue took over management of the trail system on City owned lands.

Ashland Fire & Rescue continued with its effort to improve the level of emergency preparedness in Ashland. An emergency preparedness workshop was conducted for all City employees and 72-hour kits were provided to all full time employees. The department is participating with local business and the Chamber to hold business continuity planning workshops in January.

The department conducted an entry level recruitment process and hired two firefighters filling two of the three firefighter vacancies. One Battalion Chief retired after 30 years of service. There were three promotions, one Engineer, one Captain and one Battalion Chief. The Operations Chief position and one firefighter position remains unfunded.

The department conducted a management retreat in August. All of the department's Chief Officers and Administrative Staff attended. Ashland Fire & Rescue continues to strive for excellence in every aspect of our operation. We appreciate being an integral component of Ashland's public safety effort. I would like to thank the Mayor, City Council, and City Administrator for their continued support.





**FIRE AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS**

Ashland Fire & Rescue responds to a wide variety of calls within the City of Ashland and our Ambulance Service Area (ASA #3). The department also responds to and receives aid from neighboring jurisdictions under mutual and automatic aid agreements as well. Ashland Fire & Rescue participates in some level of mutual aid response over 100 times annually.

Ashland is divided into two fire response districts with one station serving each district. The administration staff are assigned to Fire Station One.

Ashland Fire & Rescue responds to a variety of fires, fire alarms, vehicle accidents, hazardous conditions including material spills, weather related incidents, emergency medical events, and service calls. The proximity of Ashland to a main transportation corridor, a critical watershed, and regional tourist centers requires a wide variety of skills and equipment inventory to deliver the many disciplines needed.

The current organizational structure for Ashland Fire & Rescue calls for a Fire Chief and three Division Chiefs. There is a Division Chief for EMS, one for Fire and Life Safety, and an unfunded position for Operations. Each of the three shifts has nine members. One shift has a vacancy due to lack of funding. The daily staffing level is at seven, two-thirds of the time. All line personnel are trained as paramedics. The department performs over 60 firefighter call-backs each month due to our staffing level and the increase in our call volume. This is a significant increase over 2010.

The requests for service increased 12% in 2011. This required a greater reliance on our mutual aid partners and longer response times



**OCTOBER GRASS FIRE**

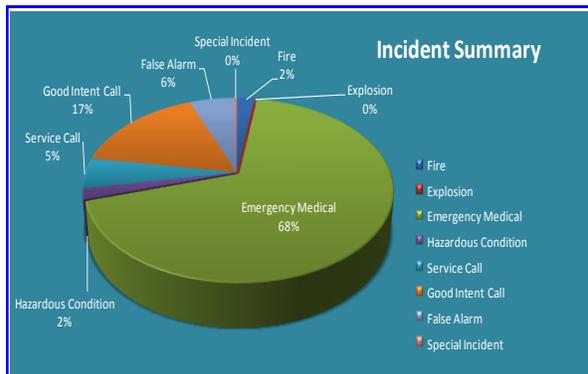
overall.

There is a strong effort by Ashland Fire & Rescue and the other area departments to further partner in service delivery and coordinate training and operational procedures. There are also discussions to better coordinate the four departments' command and control resources. This is a trend in the fire service and is of particular importance in southern Oregon due to resource levels of the area fire departments. The advantage to Ashland will be multiple Chief Officers on scene of large events. Mutual and automatic aid requests will be able to have closest unit response.

Unusually high precipitation late in the season limited the number of vegetation fires in our area. Ashland Fire & Rescue did respond and assist on two mutual aid vegetation fires including the North River Road fire near the community of Rogue River.

Jackson County Fire District #5 and Ashland Fire & Rescue collaborated in a Duty Officer program that brings an additional chief officer to the scene of major events in both jurisdictions.

The department started the installation of mobile data terminals (MDT's) in the fleet of emergency apparatus. This program will take several years due to funding but will dramatically improve the information available to responding units as well as allow voiceless communication when appropriate.





**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Ashland Fire & Rescue has been providing high quality ambulance services to the residents of south Jackson County as the primary ambulance service provider since 1996. We consistently meet the standards and requirements of our Ambulance Service Area (ASA #3) agreement. Ashland Fire and Rescue went before the Jackson County Commissioners and was again awarded a five-year contract for ASA #3 starting on January 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. This year Ashland Fire & Res-cue responded to 3523 calls for service, nearly a 12% increase over last year. Paramedics responded to 3080 medical calls and transported nearly 1700 patients to the area’s three hospitals. Ashland Fire & Rescue’s average response time within the city of Ashland was approximately 5.3 minutes.



unit replaces an older unit that was decommissioned as an ambulance and converted to a mobile resource unit for the city CERT program.

Ashland Fire & Rescue personnel logged a total of 1,036 hours of EMS training this year with each person receiving an average of over 38 hours of individual training in addition to fire training, responding

to emergency calls and completing their other assigned departmental duties.

All Ashland Fire & Rescue personnel completed the necessary State requirements of continuing education, training and skills requirements and renewed their State of Oregon Emergency Medical Technician certification at their current level.

Ashland Fire & Rescue’s Fire-Med subscription program offers low cost ground ambulance subscription services with annual sign ups in October of each year. In addition to AF&R’s regular ground Fire-Med membership, Ashland Fire & Rescue negotiated a partnership agreement with Mercy Flights Air Ambulance to provide Air service for our new “ Fire-Med Plus” membership. This past year AF&R renewed it’s contract with Springfield Fire & Life Safety for billing and Fire–Med oversight. This past year the Fire-Med program had 1,588 memberships covering 3,040 members and transported over 350 Fire-Med members.

Ashland Fire & Rescue is seeking to improve its operations by increased efficiency and effectiveness through the use of technology. At the end of 2009, Ashland Fire & Rescue renewed this effort by establishing a department technology committee. Ashland Fire & Rescue has continued to be creative and through the application and awarding of grants are well on the way to completing one of the goals by installing trial Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) in all of the first out vehicles. MDTs provide for quicker incident location and response and more effective transmission of call data from dispatch.

This past year our department continued to face technical changes and challenges for emergency medical services. There were still a number of system wide shortages of necessary medications. Revenues were negatively impacted again by changes in Medicare compensation and the reduction in overall reimbursement levels. On a positive note, Congress again passed a one year renewal of the ambulance relief act that continues the two percent addition to ambulance services reimbursement. Call volume for 2009 and 2010 were down or flat compared to the previous years, but again this year we saw substantial increase of over 10% in call volume which challenged our staffing and response.

The committee has also embarked on developing a mobile EMS patient reporting system to enable paramedics to document treatment, complete their reports and send them to the receiving hospitals from the ambulance rather than waiting to return to the station to write the report. This system builds on the current reporting system and incorporates new, smarter and more efficient technology hardware and software. Implementation of this system has seen many setbacks with changes to the county dispatching CAD system and the manufacturer’s software. Ashland Fire & Rescue and Technology committee along with the city IT department have continued to find creative ways to overcome these obstacles and is planning for completion of this project in the next few months. This project will provide better patient care and increase the efficiency and effectiveness of EMS patient report documentation.

There was also excitement as Ashland Fire & Rescue took delivery and placed in service a new First line Ambulance. The new





**FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY**

The primary duties of this division are plans review, fire code enforcement, weed abatement, fire investigations, public information and public education. The Fire & Life Safety Division was staffed with one person, the Division Chief, during 2011. Other members of the department participate in fire inspections and public education. In addition, the CERT Program Coordinator reports to this division.

During 2011, additional occupancy classifications, R1 & R2 residential apartments and hotels and S – mini-storages augmented the Company Level Fire Inspection Program. Because of state certification requirements, this addition included the development of a training program that received certification by the Oregon State Fire Marshal Office. In-house training was then provided to all firefighters. Firefighters were previously certified to inspect businesses and mercantile occupancies, banks, offices, eating establishments with an occupant load under 50, and retail stores. Following the training, each shift was assigned three groups of businesses to inspect. Approximately 170 initial residential inspections were completed within a 10-month period. Residential inspections were found to create more complexity in the delivery of the inspection report since frequently there is no office or management on site. Additional completed inspections include 10 assembly and 7 educational properties. Inspections for the 2011 cal-



**Emergency Exit Blocked**

endar year have resulted in \$13,450 of inspection fees.

The division completed 270 plan reviews, four fire investigations, and one citation for overcrowding. One fire investigation and the citation for overcrowding has required trial preparation.

This was the second year of the fireworks restrictions in the city and the third year that the Weed Abatement Program was managed by the fire department. Public relations campaigns were implemented for both resulting in excellent compliance in both programs. Improvements in the process, technology and dedication of one temporary person to weed abatement resulted in greater efficiency and 100% compliance this year.



**No Fire Apparatus Access**



**FOREST INTERFACE DIVISION**

The Forest Interface Division supported community wildfire preparedness in 2011 through active work in the City’s watershed on federal and City forestlands, as well as around homes through the Firewise Communities program. Forest Interface division staff also supported watershed law enforcement patrol, wildfire prevention and education, wildland fire training, and the City’s Forest Lands and Firewise Commissions.

Under a ten-year Master Stewardship Agreement with the U.S. Forest Service, the City and partners The Nature Conservancy and Lomakatsi Restoration Project made significant progress on the Ashland Forest Resiliency Stewardship Project (AFR). Funded by federal Stimulus funds through 2014, the first phase of AFR is

Controlled burning of brush piles reduces the fuel density and arrangement, leading to more effective fire suppression and greater opportunity to restore fire as a natural process in the ecosystem.

being implemented on all fronts including hazard reduction through forest thinning and controlled burning, community outreach and education, and project monitoring. Workers thinned over 400 acres close to the City limits with the goal of moderating wildfire behavior and effects-ultimately protecting the city and watershed from severe fires. Over 200 acres of piled brush and trees were burned to decrease summer wildfire fuels. Forest Division staff and the City’s forestry contractor coordinated six public field tours of proposed AFR work and implemented marking of trees for eventual thinning on 600 acres in the western watershed area. All project planning is reviewed by an outside technical review team as well as the public. City staff coordinated production of an AFR Project video for public outreach purposes. The video is available at the AFR project website [www.ashlandwatershed.org](http://www.ashlandwatershed.org).

Ashland’s Firewise Communities program experienced widespread growth and popularity in 2011. As part of a comprehensive wildfire education and prevention program, Firewise Communities recognizes neighborhoods that work together to craft wildfire preparedness solutions. Ali True, Firewise Communities Coordinator, also delivers individual wildfire safety home assessments,

Firewise Communities/USA sign in Oak Knoll Meadows, near 2010 Oak Knoll Fire

grant programs for removing hazardous vegetation around homes, and creates and distributes educational materials regarding wildfire prevention and preparedness to City residents in both print and electronic form. Three significant grants assisted in the program’s success. The first, from Jackson County Title III funds, paid for the majority of the Firewise Communities Coordinator position. The second, a \$50,000 grant from the Oregon Department of Forestry, paid for grants to property owners to reimburse the removal of hazardous vegetation up to \$400. This grant was made available to all city residents, for the first time including those outside the Wildfire Hazard Zone. And third, a \$50,000 grant (from ODF, sourced from American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds) was secured to assist organized Firewise Communities in their efforts to remove hazardous fuels at a neighborhood scale. Wildfire prevention and preparedness messages have been coordinated with regional and state partners including the Jackson County Integrated Fire Plan, the Rogue Valley Fire Prevention Co-op, and the Oregon Department of Forestry. Firewise city-wide efforts are supported by the newly created Firewise Commission, a group of dedicated citizens working to inform and prepare Ashland for wildfire preparedness. Their ideas will be implemented in 2012.



**FOREST INTERFACE DIVISION (cont'd)**



The Firewise effort resulted in:

effort re-

- National recognition of seven Firewise Communities, with two more pending, and at least three more neighborhoods signed up to participate in 2012
- Over 200 wildfire safety assessments of individual properties in Ashland
- Over 150 grants given for supporting removal of hazardous vegetation around homes
- Securing \$100,000 in 2011 grants, as well as an additional grant of \$50,000 for 2012
- Creation of Firewise website, ashland-firewise.org, and creating Facebook and Twitter presence for communications with local and national audience
- Formation of permanent Ashland Firewise Commission in 2011
- Volunteer time from Firewise Commissioners (June-December): 107 hours
- Work by Ashland residents and contractors removing hazardous fuels: 1600 hours
- Estimated expenditures for individual and community Firewise work: \$61,000
- Number of homes protected from 2011 Firewise work: 360

culty in matching funding timelines between the City, Forest Service and Sheriff's Office, a new multi-year agreement was negotiated and signed in 2011. This will allow funding to carry over from year to year and patrols to be implemented during key periods of the year. Forest Resource Specialist Chris Chambers coordinated



Firefighters discuss home protection strategy during wildland training.

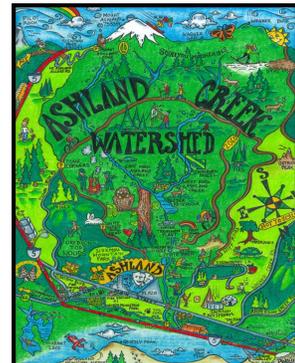
and taught the annual wildland interface training for firefighters from Ashland as well as Jackson County Fire District #5. Training in June of 2011 took place in a neighborhood above SOU. Firefighters rapidly assess homes and create strategies to best protect homes during an approaching wildfire. Cooperation with homeowners was key to a realistic and meaningful exercise this year.



An illegal camp at the base of the watershed in early spring. Consistent patrols are meant to curb the risk of fire near homes and the City's water supply.

Watershed Forest Patrol has been an ongoing activity coordinated by the Fire Department for nearly a decade. Approximately nine thousand dollars is contributed yearly to co-fund law enforcement patrol in Ashland Watershed areas two days a week to discourage activities that increase the risk of wildfire. Due to recent diffi-

The Forest Division coordinates the business of the City Forest Lands Commission including oversight of City Forestlands management. The Forest Lands Commission held an open competition for design of a hand drawn map of the Ashland Watershed. The winning map was selected and refined to meet the vision of the Commission to create awareness of the city's watershed and its multiple values. The map, in poster format, was used as a tool at Rogue Valley Earth Day and the Bear Creek Watershed Festival in 2011. Copies were handed out at local businesses, City offices, and the Chamber of Commerce. The back of the map contains information about the watershed. The commission also produced a black and white version of the map for children to color.





CERT AND CPR

Thanks to the continued dedication of CERT staff and Ashland Fire Department personnel our organization has been hugely successful in providing the community with skilled volunteers through several training opportunities.

Ashland CERT offered three training opportunities in 2011. As a result of collaborative efforts with Southern Oregon University CERT was able to administer two basic trainings on campus open to students, faculty and



staff, and members of the community and surrounding areas.

We had our largest graduating class ever which created a delightful trickle effect; in 2011 we trained a record breaking 62 volunteers resulting in the celebration of over 500 volunteers trained since our inception in 1997.

In addition, our cooperation with SOU led to the development and formation of a newly established team; the SOU team. The SOU team is the second largest CERT team despite being the newest and provides a critical need serving the largest employer and resident population density in Ashland.

CERT also conducted its first of two hybrid *Disaster Preparedness for Friends and Family* courses for Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. OLLI offers intellectually stimulating classes and social functions for older adults. Hybrid courses allowed CERT to reach a vulnerable population in a setting that better fit their needs.

Ashland CERT shares the successes of 2011 with member volunteers. Volunteers contributed over 1600 hours of support from basic trainings to Map Your Neighborhood organizational meetings. Twelve neighborhoods completed the MYN processes making those residents

able and ready to provide neighbor support in their neighborhood. Our leadership volunteers contributed over 80 hours each on average in support of CERT functions despite not being mobilized in 2011.

The CERT program acquired radios for all five of the Ashland bases. These radios will serve instrumental in the event of power outages and downed phone lines. CERT's newly acquired vehicle is also fashioned with radios and other communication devices. The CERT vehicle will serve as a mobile base hub during mobilization missions and training events.

Ashland CERT conducted its first joint communications training with Ashland Fire and Rescue in 2011 as well. This exercise was designed to improve basic communications as well as provide interoperability between CERT teams and outside mutual and automatic aid companies that may respond to a large event in Ashland.

Additionally our interface with AF&R resulted in the ability to conduct nine CPR classes training 80 participants, nine of whom were City of Ashland employees saving the city \$580 in total fees. The cost of the city class was a zero sum gain maintaining revenue within the city.





TRAINING

Along with maintaining our EMS training requirements, Ashland Fire and Rescue has been concentrating on increasing the amount and quality of training firefighters receive in an effort to meet the minimum training requirements set forth by NFPA (National Fire Protection Agency), ISO (Insurance Services Office) and DPSST (Department of Public Safety Standards and Training). The new ISO rating schedule puts a higher value on department training. Some of the challenges have been the loss of our Operations Chief, who was the department training officer, a limited training budget, as well

training events held in our city. With Rogue Valley fire agencies having a heavy reliance on mutual-aid agreements, multi-jurisdiction training is highly beneficial. Agencies participating in this training are typically Ashland Fire & Rescue, Medford Fire Department, and Jackson County Fire District 5. Ashland Fire & Rescue also host an annual confined space rescue training event each year that brings in a number of jurisdictions from Southern Oregon and Northern California.

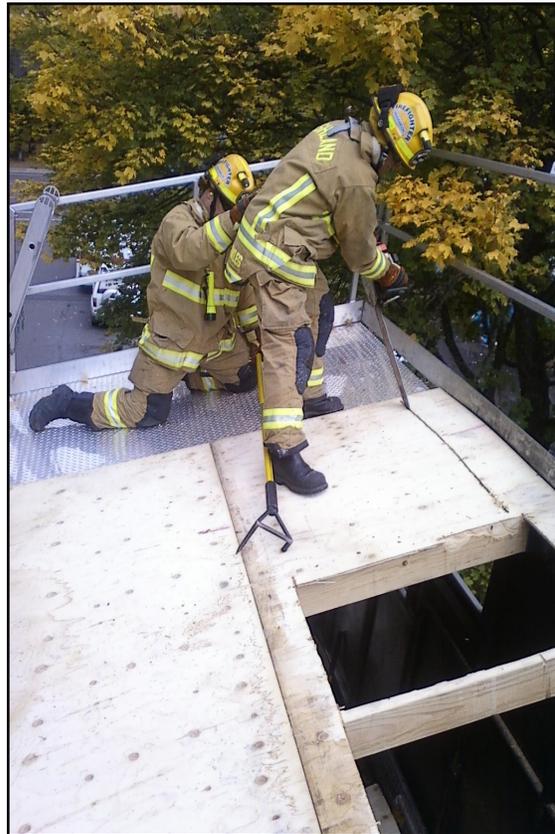
The department publishes a monthly comprehensive training schedule that is administered by the Station 2 Captain. This includes EMS training, structure and wildland fire suppression training, command and control training, fire prevention training, technical rescue training, driver and pump operator training, and various administrative training opportunities.

The department hopes to be able to soon deliver the required 22 hours per member per month of the required fire training and education.



as the costs for maintaining our live fire training trailer.

Multi company and shift level drills require a hire back to provide consistency of operations by the three shifts. A limited overtime budget has reduced the opportunity for this type of training. Our department has participated in the past year in a number of multi-jurisdiction





## PERSONNEL

2011 brought several changes to the makeup of Ashland Fire & Rescue.

The year started with the retirement of Battalion Chief Walt Anders. After 30 years of service with AF&R, Walt officially retired on January 28, 2011.

The department conducted an internal Battalion Chief examination to establish a hiring list for Walt's open position. Captain Kelly Burns was assigned to the position temporarily and later came out number one in the examination process earning him a spot as Battalion Chief of "A" Shift. Engineer Dave Hanstein was then promoted to Captain and Firefighter David Roselip was promoted to Engineer.

In February, AF&R conducted an entry level firefighter's exam to establish a hiring list. The department received 83 applications. Of those 41 candidates were invited to take the written test. 24 candidates continued to the physical agility test and 16 were then put through an assessment center. The top 8 candidates then went through an oral interview process and were placed on a hiring list. On March 7<sup>th</sup>, AF&R hired Brian Anders and Tim Hegdahl to fill two of our vacant Firefighter/Paramedic positions (third open position remains unfunded). It was a rare moment in AF&R history where retiring Battalion Chief Walt Anders had the honor of welcoming his son Brian Anders onto the department.

Wanting to create a more rigorous probationary period for the new hires, the department initiated a new and improved recruit firefighting training and testing program. The new program began with a two week orientation to acquaint the firefighters with our equipment and day to day operations. After successful completion of their orientation both recruits were assigned to a shift. During their probationary year, each recruit will spend several months with each of the three shifts, ending their year with the shift they started with. Once on shift the recruits are assigned a Field Training Para-

**David Roselip receives congratulations from Chief Karns for his promotion to Engineer.**

medic and a Company Officer. At the end of each tour (2-24 hour shifts) the FTP and Captain meet with the recruit and complete a Daily Observation Report. The DOR rates the recruit on many topics including: Customer Service, Report Writing, Firefighter Skills, Department Policies, Safety Practices, Local Geography, and others. In addition to the DORs, each recruit must complete eight Monthly Drills. Monthly Drills are evaluated by the recruit's Captain and cover a wide range of topics including: Fire Protection Systems, City Government, Emergency Medical Services, Technical Rescue, Fire Suppression, and others. In addition to the DORs and the Monthly Drills, the recruits must pass a comprehensive manipulative and written evaluation after Month 5 and Month 10.

In October, the department brought its automated staffing program, Telestaff, on-line. Telestaff is a workforce management tool that enables the department to know who is working on each shift, who is not working, and why they are not working. Telestaff also automatically fills any vacancies found, contacting off-duty firefighters according to their ranks, specialties, and availability while following contract parameters.

Anne Crispino-Taylor, Ashland Forest Resiliency Project Assistant, moved to Portland and was replaced by Alicia Fitzgerald.

Terri Eubanks, AmeriCorps volunteer for CERT, was replaced by Jessica Bowman.

The Division Chief of Fire Operations as well as one Firefighter position remain unfunded.





## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Fire Chief for Ashland is also the City's Emergency Manager. The Emergency Manager is responsible for the training of employees for response to an emergency as well the City's hazard assessment and preparedness of the citizens for those hazards. The City maintains an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) that serves as a guide for its response to emergencies.

The City is currently in a program to improve not only its ability to manage an emergency, but also increase the level of emergency preparedness of its citizens, business, and employees. The City presented emergency preparedness information to all employees as well as issued 72-hour kits to all full-time employees. This effort was designed to create a better level of preparedness among our employees so they would be better positioned to return or stay at work to facilitate Ashland's recovery from a disaster or large scale emergency.

Ashland Fire & Rescue also partnered with the Ashland Chamber of Commerce and SOU to conduct business emergency preparedness training for local businesses. These workshops covered local hazard assessment, basic emergency preparedness, records retention as well as providing templates for business continuity plan development.

Our department also completed the update of both our Smoke and Wildfire Hotline and the 1700 AM Emergency Radio. The Smoke and Wildfire Hotline can now be updated during use as well as handle up to 100 simultaneous phone calls. While the intent of the system is to inform citizens about smoke intrusion or the status of local wildfires, it is often used by citizens during general emergencies.

The department's 1700 AM Emergency Radio is now streamed on the City's website as well as being

broadcast. This allows residences in the canyon areas that don't normally have radio reception to receive that information.

The *Citizen Alert* mass notification system was rolled out this past year. This system allows for the notification of residents in Jackson County of emergencies or other significant events. This is accomplished through



existing phone numbers or other user defined means. This state-of-the-art system allows for notification to out of area individuals as well as notifications for multiple locations. The City of Ashland partnered with Jackson County and the City of Medford for this system and is grant funded for the first two years.

Our department has established the Ashland Response Team (ART). This group was developed to address a need for trained staff operating in an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) environment. The team is made up of local volunteers who have some emergency management experience. The team receives training on the City of Ashland Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and the specific needs of managing emergencies in Ashland. These members would be called in to assist City staff in the EOC or at the command post of an emergency.

The City received a grant to rewrite our Emergency Operations Plan. This document guides the emergency management policies of the City and defines the roles of the various department within the City. This rewrite of our EOP will be presented in the same format as that adopted by the State of Oregon and all Oregon Counties. It is expected that this document will be approved and moved for adoption sometime in 2012.



**THE ASHLAND FIRE & RESCUE TEAM**

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

John Karns, Fire Chief  
*Unfunded* Division Chief/Operations  
 Greg Case, Division Chief-EMS  
 Margueritte Hickman, Division Chief –FLS  
 Chris Chambers, Forest Resource Specialist  
 Kimberley Summers, Administrative Assistant  
 Ali True, Firewise Communities Coordinator  
 Alicia Fitzgerald, AFR Project Assistant  
 Richard Randleman, Cert Coordinator  
 Terry Eubanks, Interim CERT Coordinator  
 Jessica Bowman, AmeriCorps Volunteer  
 Mark Anderson, Department Chaplin

**LINE PERSONNEL**

A SHIFT	B SHIFT	C SHIFT
Battalion Chief Kelly Burns	Batt. Chief Scott Hollingsworth	Battalion Chief David Shepherd
Captain Steve Boyersmith	Captain Curt Formolo	Captain Dana Sallee
Captain Todd Stubbs	Captain Matt Freiheit	Captain Dave Hanstein
Engineer Rod LaCoste	Engineer Robert Stephens	Engineer Justin Foss
Engineer Lance Menold	Engineer Todd Beck	Engineer Dave Roselip
Firefighter Derek Rosenlund	Firefighter Jennifer Hadden	Firefighter Trent Stoy
Firefighter Marshall Rasor	Firefighter Ron Garfas-Knowles	Firefighter Shannon Turner
Firefighter Brent Knutson	Firefighter Ashley Manning	Firefighter Robert Trask
Firefighter Brian Anders	<i>Unfunded Position</i>	Firefighter Tim Hegdahl



# **ASHLAND FIRE & RESCUE**

## **DEDICATED TO....**



**SERVING ASHLAND AND THE  
ROGUE VALLEY  
SINCE 1887**