



Nye County Emergency Services

Volume 4, Issue 3

October 2009

Special points of interest:

- All of the cooperation and working together to achieve a common goal is a wonderful thing to witness, this issue will show a glimpse of this.

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Trout Canyon Fire



Emergency Services brush truck assisting with the fire. A Helicopter is refilling water for a fly over.

BLM—Emergency Services cooperation

EXCITING NEWS!!

This summer, Nye County Emergency Services (NCES) entered into a Cooperative fire protection agreement with the US Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Within days of our agreement, NCES Station 51's personnel and equipment were called into action after a major lightning storm occurred over the Spring Mountain range/Mt Charleston. The cooperation between the two agencies was amazing and laid the groundwork for a long lasting relationship between BLM and NCES. We hope to expand our wildland fire program countywide with "red card members" in all stations. To become a red card member, firefighters must attend the N.W.C.G Wildland Firefighter training in early spring. Members must also pass the work capacity test (pack test) which includes walking 3 miles in 45 minutes with a pack weighing 45 pounds. I am very proud of the members who became the first red card firefighters of the program and look forward to our Wildland Firefighter Red card program's future success.

Kevin Kleinworth

Logistic/Abatement Officer—Deputy Chief

Live fire simulator on the road

Greetings and Salutations to All,

This article comes to you all after a great trip, so I wanted to start out with explaining how this trip “fell in our laps”. During a conversation that I had on August 11 with the Nevada State Fire Marshal (NVFSM) Training officer Dennis Pinkerton regarding the difficulty of locating suitable live fire training opportunities, he asked if we -Nye County Emergency Services (NCES)- would like to utilize the West Wendover live fire simulator. I replied with an unequivocal “YES”. The trailer was available for the remainder of August and half of September. A few days later Fred Jones and I were on the road to West Wendover. With a few pit-stops “here and there” the trip lasted 10 hrs and since we had made it to West Wendover before dark we decided to check out the “Main street”. About a mile from our hotel, we found the station; and parked in front was this 54’ long piece of training equipment. Fred and I started to doubt that we actually were going to use the trailer “they do not even know us.” I had plans to leave Fred as a deposit, if they wouldn’t let us drive away with it, after getting to know us. Well, the rest is history. Chief Jeff Knudson, was a gracious host, he gave us the keys and a training briefing and we were on our way back. When we got back we set it up immediately. I didn’t sleep for two days in anticipation of our



first “training night”. What a great learning tool!!! Versatile, safe, easy to operate, hard to break and can adjust to the firefighters needs. This tool allowed us to simulate multiple fires, forcible entry, horizontal and vertical ventilation, multiple story offensive attack and rescue.

For 30 days NCES had responsibility for the trailer and four rural frontier counties worked together to provide 10 training opportunities to help the experience and inexperienced alike practice our voluntary trade. We sent a total of 104 Firefighters through the trailer making 87 evolutions. There was 296 student entries and 98 Safety Officer Entries.

Keith Young, Captain Levy, Fred Jones, Deputy Chief Kleinworth and myself with the help of the Station 51 Crew, Tonopah VFD, Beatty VFD, Amargosa VFD, Goldfield VFD, Round Mtn. VFD, Station 91 in Duckwater, Lund VFD, White Pine County Fire District and the VFD in Lincoln County, Alamo, Panaca and Pioche utilized the trailer to train new as well as experienced firefighters throughout the center of the State of Nevada.



On the road continued...

A huge THANK YOU to the NVSFM training bureau Chief Dennis Pinkerton and NVSFM Chief Wright for allowing us the opportunity to utilize this superb training opportunity. I look forward to bringing this tool around the County again in the fall of 2010, utilizing its many opportunities for valuable live fire training. So, that is the story of our adventure through Central NV and we hope that those who took advantage of the training were as pleased as I was. Thank you to all who volunteered their valuable time and expertise to participate. A special "Thank You" goes out to Fred Jones, Keith Young, Captain Larry Levy, Ed Booss, and Grant Roberts. Without their help this would not have been possible.



And a huge THANK YOU to NCES Director Brent Jones for allowing me to accept this large commitment to our department while he was on vacation.

I hope all of you who attended had fun— I know I did.

Sincerely,

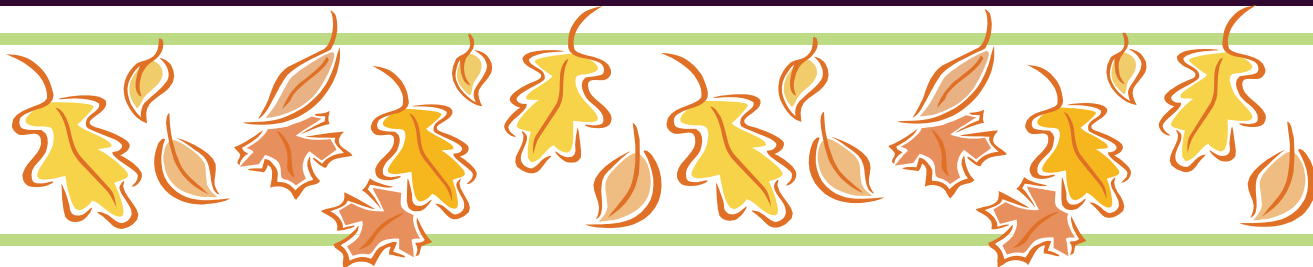
Jim Medici,

Chief, Training Officer/Volunteer FD Coordinator

BE SAFE.... Remember, what took a lifetime to build can be lost in seconds....

Learn from the Past, Live for the future, so everyone goes home....





From Tim McCarty—Animal Control Supervisor

Disaster Preparedness and Your Pets

(Part One)



If you are like millions of animal owners nationwide, your pet is an important member of your household. The likelihood that you and your animals will survive an emergency such as a fire or flood, tornado or terrorist attack depends largely on emergency planning done today. Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, such as assembling an animal emergency supply kit and developing a pet care buddy system, are the same for any emergency. Whether you decide to stay put in an emergency or evacuate to a safer location, you will need to make plans in advance for your pets. Keep in mind that what's best for you is typically what's best for your animals.

If you must evacuate, take your pets with you if possible. However, if you are going to a public shelter, it is important to understand that animals may not be allowed inside. Plan in advance for shelter alternatives that will work for both you and your pets.

Make a back-up emergency plan in case you can't care for your animals yourself. Develop a buddy system with neighbors, friends and relatives to make sure that someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so. Be prepared to improvise and use what you have on hand to make it on your own for at least three days, maybe longer.



Have copies of your pets shot records in your emergency kit!!

Patty Winters—Ambulance Coordinator Reports:

It has been a busy time for EMS. Classes have been held in Smoky Valley, Gabbs, Tonopah, Beatty, and Amargosa. We have new EMT Basics, First Responders, and Intermediates. Congratulations to all! We have also been wearing out the Buildings and Grounds crews. They have just finished some minor renovations to Smoky Valley and will soon begin a large renovation to the Gabbs Ambulance Station. Tonopah and Beatty will see new facilities built in their areas. I can't wait for construction to begin! Changes have also been made to the offices in Tonopah. Marianne, who does our billing, is now a part of the Accounting department. She is still very much a part of our everyday operation, and we wish her well in her new department. My office has moved. I now work out of the Tonopah

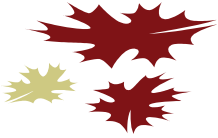
Ambulance Station. The Tonopah Ambulance crew has been great, thanks for putting up with me! Very soon we will welcome a new member of the Tonopah Office staff. We have been approved to hire a part time clerical position, this will provide some much needed help and I am grateful!

This has been a very active quarter, call volume is up, classes are going very well, plans for the future are being set, and our volunteer numbers are increasing. All-in-all a very busy quarter, what a way to end an amazing year! Each and every one has worked very hard. Thanks to everyone!

Patty



Students from Smoky Valley's basic class learn spindboarding.



A Community takes safety into its own hands!!

Today in America, we have a generally accepted notion that we are protected by law enforcement, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and Fire Service personnel. In the urban and suburban environments of our largest cities, this may be true. In the rural environments of America, a different truth exists. Law Enforcement has traditionally been the only constant. As communities grew, EMS and Fire Services were formed as desire or need for these services were identified. These services have more often than not been provided by members of the community who decided to get the required training and serve their community when danger has reared its ugly head. These folks are the Volunteers that comprise over 80 percent of the EMS and Fire Service positions in America. These are the wonderful souls that answer our calls for help at all hours of the day and night. Here in Nye County, I am proud to say that Volunteers are serving their communities valiantly every day.



I would like to share one of these great American stories of commitment.

A few years ago, fire services were lost in Duckwater/Currant Creek. The difficult and tedious training requirements coupled with an aging and diminishing population proved to be greater than the community could bear. In 2008, Emergency Services was contacted by the new Emergency Manager, Debbie O'Neil, of the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe. The Duckwater Shoshone are located within Railroad Valley where Currant Creek is as well. Debbie communicated a desire to develop a fire response team for their community. They had identified a great need to protect themselves and their neighbors and asked for Nye County's help. After developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Nye County and the Tribe, an achievable training curriculum and time-table was developed for them by Chief Jim Medici, Station 51. In concert with the Tribe and a host of instructors from Emergency Services, the training of Duckwater's new "volunteers" began in the winter of 2009. These dedicated men and women followed a rigorous training regimen that was completed in the spring. They continue to receive in-service training such as wildland firefighting and tactical decision-making. They train on a regular basis, which reinforces the skills they have learned.



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They had been using equipment located at the Currant Creek fire station and have now been issued a multi-purpose type of equipment that is being housed in a building located in the Duckwater community and responds to all of Railroad Valley.

The pride in the faces of these dedicated volunteers was inspiring as they received the equipment and t-shirts proclaiming them as the firefighters of "Duckwater/Currant Creek Station 91".

This group of individuals chose to unite and become a team for the sole purpose of protecting the community they love. This spirit of camaraderie and purpose exemplifies the same spirit that is found in the communities of Nye County. A town is just a collection of individuals until they choose a collective purpose. The collective purpose for Duckwater/Currant Creek mirrors that of our other towns. People that desire a quality and safe place to live!

Congratulations to the men and women of Station 91. Volunteerism is alive and well in Nye County! Thank you, to all who serve their communities throughout our County!

By: Vance Payne, Workplace Safety & Training Officer





EMERGENCY SERVICES

Office:

1510 E. Siri Lane, Ste 1
Pahrump, NV 89060
Phone: (775) 751-4279
Fax: (775) 751-4280

We're on the web.
Nyecounty.net



Fire & HAZMAT

trainings:

(775) 751-6311

Jim Medici

jmedici@co.nye.nv.us



Mosquito Abatement

(775) 751-4279

Kevin Kleinworth

kkleinworth@co.nye.nv.us



Newsletter:

Phone (775) 751-6316

Fax (775) 751-4280

E-mail:

clandsberry@co.nye.nv.us

EMS Trainings:

(775) 482-5135

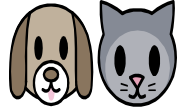
Patty Winters

pwinters@co.nye.nv.us



Animal Control:

(775) 751-6315



Workplace Safety

(775) 751-6324

Vance Payne

vpayne@co.nye.nv.us



A Word from Brent Jones, Director



It is an exciting time in Nye County. The first Community Emergency Response Team was rolled out in Belmont at their Town meeting October 10, 2009. At that time representatives from the Emergency Services staff presented the first training session for the program and the CERT equipment will be issued to all interested residents at a later date. Nye County Emergency Services is patterning the training programs to address the hazards and circumstances that arise within a rural county. The Emergency Services staff and the residents of Belmont are excited about this new program and all it has to offer to the community.

As the summer ends and fall / winter are about to set in I want to continue to show our appreciation to all of the dedicated volunteers who serve within Nye County. For those of you who read this newsletter that are not involved in a volun-

teer effort you are really missing the boat.

A friend of mine told me one time that you need to be a part of something that is bigger than yourself, you need to be a part of something that is making a difference, and most of all you need to make a difference and surround yourself with quality friends and family. Being a part of a volunteer organization is an extension of your immediate family. I have made lifelong friends through the volunteer efforts that I have been involved in throughout my life, and I invite you to do the same. Get involved and make a difference.

In closing I wanted to truly thank all of those individuals who are involved with the Nye County Infection Prevention Program. The response and support that we have received from the Board of County Commissioners, State Frontier

and Rural Health Division (Maureen Budahl and her staff!), Dr. Roberts, Dale Norton, Cameron McCrae, Pam Petersen and the rest of the dedicated staff of the Nye County School District who are actively embracing this program and creating a culture of infection prevention, and the Nye County employees and staff; a heart filled thank you for making a difference goes out to all of you.

As we all keep progressing and doing the little things that make a big difference, tremendous results will be seen for all of the effort being put forth. Nye County is a great place to live, the people care about their communities and it is a pleasure to work with each and every one of you. Enjoy the cooler weather and stay safe!

Brent

