

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Southwest Harbor Fire Department Newsletter

Volume I, Issue 2

November 2011

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Winter Driving Tips

Mother Nature's trick or treat on the Northeast prompted a chilly discussion New England wide of winter driving and preparedness. Eighty percent of drivers either do not put on winter tires or have not done so as of the October 29th record breaking Nor'easter. Southwest Harbor seemed to get more rain than snow but nonetheless the sight of the white stuff falling and sticking before Halloween all gave us a fright.

First thing that comes to mind when winter approaches is tires. Many folks in cold weather areas have winter rims and tires, which involves just a quick change out. For the drivers that do not have that option, you want to be mindful of your tire wear. Follow these simple tips from "Tire Warehouse & www.comingbackalive.com" to help you prepare

for the winter roads and season.

- ✦ Treat yourself to a new snow brush with a good ice scraper and keep it handy in your vehicle.
- ✦ Stock up on windshield washer fluid. You'll go through a couple of gallons or more during the winter.
- ✦ Carry an emergency kit in a bag or box in your trunk, including jumper cables, a bottle of dry gas, a flashlight, flares or reflective traffic triangles, a blanket, and food and water. Inform family and friends of your route and travel plans.
- ✦ Use your headlights, even during the day, so that other motorists can see you.
- ✦ Adjust your speed to the road conditions.
- ✦ Stay alert, drive cautiously, and don't drink and drive.
- ✦ Use a designated driver for holiday parties.

- ✦ A four-wheel drive truck or SUV does not make you invincible. Reduce your speed and use common sense.

Many winter driving tips can be found on-line. One of the most informative websites I have found is



www.comingbackalive.com/winterdriving.html

This page has links to all four seasons and tips on driving in them.



Candy Drop & Spaghetti Dinner Success!

Lynn Brown, The Fire Association President would like to thank everyone involved with the VERY SUCCESSFUL spaghetti dinner and candy drop. The dinner raised \$340.00 dollars toward the Junior's Pumper Project.

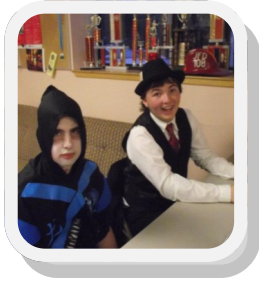
With lots of help and fantastic organization, this event was jam packed with appetites from all ages and goblins! Homemade tomato sauce, to the best Garlic Bread on this side of the Island could only be topped by almost 30lbs of candy falling from the sky. With careful

logistical planning and help from the Harbor House, the Candy Drop participants had a soft gym mat that ensured no candy was lost to the hard pavement.

The 8ft oversized stocking



Candy Drop and Spaghetti Dinner continued



The Zombie Ninja and the Mafia Boss taking donations.

Pictured Right:
8' Tall Stocking &
Assoc. President Lynn
Brown, Jillian Sanner,

was strategically placed in the entrance of the spaghetti dinner. Each ticket cost \$1.00 and by the end of the night, Junior Firefighters Amos Brown & Dillon Patton sold 37 tickets. Each willing member of the Southwest Harbor Fire Department can receive raffle tickets to sell. See Lynn Brown and start selling your tickets today!



Southwest Harbor Fire Department's Newest Addition has an expected delivery of December.

Find out more on our



webpage

www.swhfire.org

Ladder 112 near completion

The updated pictures of Ladder 112 show quite a bit of progress. As most of you know, we can go to the fire department web page www.swhfire.org and look at the production progress of Ladder 112.

Deputy Chief Martel & Captain Chisholm have been super busy

outfitting Ladder 112. Tools that range from hammers, saws, rope, axe, shovels and more. You can see the items displayed in Deputy Chiefs & Captains Chisholm's office. You are urged to take a gander and see if you think the new "Tool Box on Wheels" should have anything else. Assistance with finding placement for all the

tools will need to be discussed as well. This should be a department wide evolution. Remember that this apparatus will respond to most calls and should have just about every tool you can ever need for most fire/rescue applications. Ladder 112 arrival is still scheduled for a December 1st time frame.

Future Training Schedule Provided by Secretary Beth Gaiser



Train like your life depends on it!

The department Secretary was able to provide a wonderful list of future mandatory training sessions. These trainings ensure that we are all up to date with mandated OSHA and NFSTA annual refreshers. If you are an engineer, you are still urged to pack up SCBA or as a

minimum become familiar with the pack. SCBA is not mandatory but it could save your life. All of the dates listed are subject to change, please check your department email often for updates and changes.

12-01-2011 Hazard Communications

12-01-2011 MSDS

12-01-2011 Lockout/Tagout

12-03-2011 SCBA for Engineers

12-15-2011 Hearing

12-15-2011 PPE

1-19-2012 Sexual Harassment

1-19-2012 Airborne/
Bloodborne Pathogens

Future Training Schedule Provided by Secretary Beth Gaiser Continued

2-2-2012 SCBA Recert for Interior Qualified

3-15-2012 HazMat Awareness

4-5-2012 Fire Extinguishers, Class room and Hands on

4-19-2012 Traffic Control

The past two months has proved to be very busy in the training department. This past summer Advanced Extrication training was given to, FF Brown, FF Grohs, FF Martel

and Lt. Kelley.

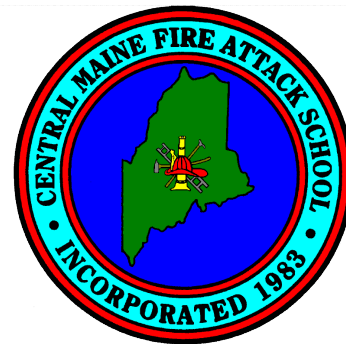
The months that followed Pumps 1 training was provided in Ellsworth with FF Light, FF Sanner, FF Grohs attending. FF Brown attended Train the Trainer "EVOG" in Ellsworth that same weekend.

Most recently FF Summers, FF Sanner, FF Grohs attended Rapid Intervention Training and FF Martel attended Commanding Initial Fire Attack.

Trainings are available to all

members of all levels. If you are interested in attending any trainings contact Deputy Fire Chief Martel. You can find the training schedule at the Central Maine Fire Attack School webpage www.cmfas.com

Reminder to make copies of your training certificates or records and give a copy to Secretary Gaiser



Fire Department Business

- Deputy Chief Martel has ordered 4 new carbon fiber 2.2 Scott Air bottles to add to our equipment.
- Members in need of FD tee shirts, work shirts or other apparel / equipment contact Captain Chisholm
- Engine 113 has BLS EMS equipment containing portable O2, jump bag, AED, cervical collars, rubber gloves etc.. Those who want equipment shown to them can contact Captain Reed or Captain Chisholm
- New fire fighter Ben Hampton has been on a few call now and he will be coming up for department vote.
- Winter weather is here and ensure you dress appropriately before responding.
- Captain Chisholm would like to thank those who helped with the MDI marathon.

From The Desk of the Chief

I have a bucket full of goodies that I need to give away, but before I do that I figured I would make it interesting. I need someone to tell me the significance of 8.34. I want someone to tell me what those numbers represent and how it relates to the fire service.

Respond to me from your fire department email address to schisholm@swhfire.org First correct answer wins the prize!

On another note, I wanted to talk about the reprogramming of the radios to narrowband. Once we have a date set, we will all need to get all our radios

to the fire department for reprogramming.

Additionally, the new driver training program will be starting December 1st. Six people at a time, keep a look out for the signup sheets. Keep up the great work and thank you all. Chief Chisholm Sends



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Southwest Harbor Maine

Phone: (207) 244-7911
 Fax: (207) 244-5552
 E-mail: ggrohs@swhfire.org
 for newsletter ideas or questions.

We're on the web!
www.swhfire.org

*Chiefs Training Quote
 "Back to the Basics"*



**We have answered
 the call**

103 Times This Year
 09 For the Month of
 October 2011
 11 less then last year at
 this time
 114 Total Calls on Oc-
 tober 3rd 2010

Important Dates

November 2011

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

Members Birthdays

3rd & 17th
 Fire Department Meeting

8th
 Fire Association Meeting

24th
 Thanksgiving

26th FF Shepard

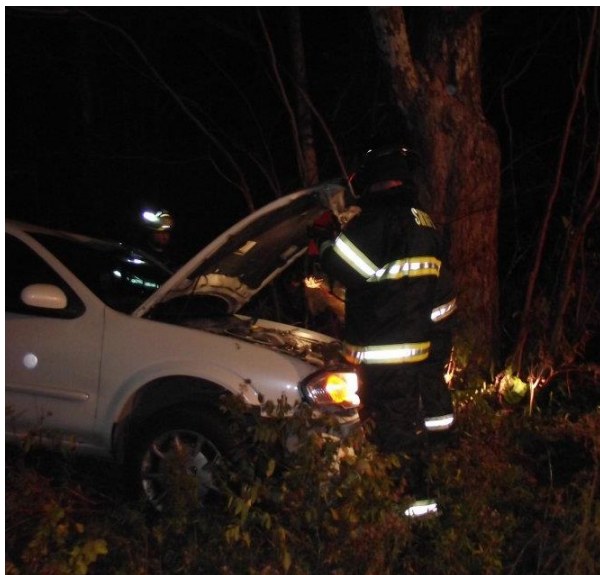
29th Chief Chisholm

29th Vet Bert Willey



Department Photographer pictures of the month

Pictures Provided by Traci Patton



Car vs. Pole
 October 29th, 2011



Full House during the
 Spaghetti Dinner

This column will focus on featuring a number of tips and tricks geared toward improving our efficiency and effectiveness.

Tips and Tricks

12 New Ways To Train

Article By Michael Lee
FireRescue1

As I sat in our most recent officers' meeting, I noticed a paragraph that our division chief of operations had added to the agenda: "Lessons Learned." It encouraged officers to present one incident or situation where they and their crews enacted a training practice separate from the current training schedule.

I know there are not enough hours in the day, much less on the training schedule, to hit every subject we need to. But there are a variety of different methods around — and I was impressed with the "non-standard" methods our officers used to get in as much training as possible.

Here are a few of their ideas (and yes, I asked permission to use them!):

1. Throw the biggest ladder on your apparatus every day. The better you are with the larger ladders, the more practiced you will be with all of them.
 2. When on fire alarms, stretch a dry line in to the structure to the seat of the "fire." Recon to ensure you know where the "fire" started. Make sure to minimize your damage of course, but this drill is great for deploying practice, teamwork and estimating your hose stretch distances.
 3. Use the numerous video resources on the Internet to find clips of fires and then perform a size-up report and initial strategy and tactics. A wide range of clips can be found regularly on FireRescue1 and FlashoverTV, which has hundreds of from-the-scene clips.
 4. When involved with multiple agencies at large events such as county fairs, practice unified command during fireworks displays, etc. Tie together the law enforcement, county agencies and on-site management to work on a drill based on the possible scenarios that exist.
 5. Utilize the ICS forms on non-emergency events to be proficient with them when you need to be.
- When was the last time you filled out an ICS 202 form? Remember, the more practiced you are before you need this tool, the less stressful it will be on a multi-alarm fire.
6. Review a piece of equipment from each of the apparatus in your station, every shift. If you have multiple apparatus, every one has a show-n-tell.
 7. Hold surprise blind cabinet inventories. Everyone should know everything in the cabinet before opening the door. Try to stump the crews with the less used pieces of equipment.
 8. Review significant incidents from events around the country and apply to like occupancies in your district. What would your resources look like and where would you get your help from? How much time would it take to get the same number of resources used in the case you are studying to your local event?
 9. Each crew member is assigned a department SOP each month. Generate five questions from that SOP and if you stump your crew, you get rewarded! (Free lunch, ice cream, etc.)
 10. Learn the art of flexibility. We need to be able to change the direction of our options when taking care of customers — so why can't we be as patient and flexible when our daily schedules are impacted and demand we deviate from the original plan to plan B, C or D?
 11. Use paramedic students as a catalyst to review protocols and in-depth medical knowledge. We rarely get the opportunity to review all the EMS topics we may be faced with. The more practiced we are with our base knowledge and equipment, the better the outcome will be for our patients.
 12. Each cycle, have a paramedic deliver a report on a rare disease or syndrome that they/we could actually have to face such as pheochromocytoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma or other syndromes, especially pediatric challenges.

I was impressed with the ingenuity showed by all our personnel in coming up with these. The officers showed a true desire to ensure members were informed, practiced and capable. I was proud of the initiative taken by them and wondered how I would perform if I faced all of these challenges as well.

How would you or your crew fare? What non-standard practices do your crews utilize to ensure they are as capable as possible? If you don't feel as comfortable as you would like to, introduce one of the above concepts or one of your own to start the ball rolling. Once you do, you can expand to cover more topics when possible. Good luck!