

FIRE GROUND

SOUTH DAKOTA WILDLAND FIRE



Volume 2, Issue 1

January 2013

Christmas Party!!!



The WFS Christmas Party was held Dec 15th at Minerva's. Jim Burk took home the honor as Firefighter of the Year and Ray Black as Seasonal Firefighter of the Year. Congratulations to all the other nominees: Cassie Christy, Mike Martin, Bryan Graff, Brenda Even, Cindy Hansen and Casey Glines. Thanks to all who came out for a fun night!!



Division Birthdays

- Chip Redmond - 3rd
- Robert Nordlee - 4th
- Brenda Even - 9th
- Christopher Bontje - 14th
- Kevin Fees - 17th
- Cody Griffiee - 17th
- Timothy Tillman - 19th
- Nathaniel Livermont - 21st

- Tyler Eissler - 21st
- Ryan Wiley - 21st
- Brian Johnson - 23rd
- David Steen - 23rd
- Adam Fritz - 25th
- Paul Reiter - 27th
- Nicholas Hemen - 31st

Years of Service

- Cheryl Greenfield - 6 years

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Leaders Intent - Take Every Opportunity to Build Confidence

Seventh of an eight part series on Leadership

A great leader will believe firmly in the group and will share that belief with every member.

That's a lesson that can be put into action in any group setting, it applies in the factory, boardroom, or on the fire line. Try to build spirit within the organization. Inspire the group that they are the best, and that they won't want to disappoint each other – one for all and all for one – have standards that are set, reviewed, and continuously reinforce through the year. Everyone should understand these standards. Confident groups aren't intimidated by them. They just strive to live up to these standards because they work towards success. Who doesn't want to feel as if they're part of a successful group? When they get compliments from others, they can begin to see the progress they are making and changes in themselves. A confident group who strives to be the best they can be will be a productive group.

SD Wildland Fire will be hosting a **Training Academy March 21 - 24 in Ft. Pierre**. Many local co-operators will be helping to put the classes on. Classes will be at the Ft. Pierre Schools and Holiday Inn Express. Many classes will be offered and students will have the opportunity to attend more than one class. Nominations are due January 31 and registration is \$20. Rooms are available at the Holiday Inn Express for \$89.99 if reservations are made by 3/1 - mention the Wildfire Academy. Online registration and more information is available at <http://sdda.sd.gov/wildfire-suppression/training/>

We honored **Ken Wesche** for his years of service with the State as a dispatcher at Great Plains Dispatch at our December All Division Meeting. Ken was our main aircraft dispatcher and Lead State Dispatcher. Ken will be missed but we know he will keep busy in his retirement!



Jay was "locked up" for Muscular Dystrophy in November. He raised \$700.00! Way to go Jay!!!



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Prevent CO Poisoning - Winter Safety Tips

When power outages occur after severe weather (such as hurricanes or tornadoes), using alternative sources of power can cause carbon monoxide (CO) to build up in a home and poison the people and animals inside.

Every year, nearly 450 people die in the U. S. from accidental CO poisoning. Change the batteries in your CO detector every six months. If you don't have a battery-powered or battery back-up CO detector, buy one soon.

CO is found in fumes produced by portable generators, stoves, lanterns, and gas ranges, or by burning charcoal and wood. CO from these sources can build up in enclosed or partially enclosed spaces. People and animals in these spaces can be poisoned and can die from breathing CO.

How to Recognize CO Poisoning

The most common symptoms of CO poisoning are headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. People who are sleeping or who have been drinking alcohol can die from CO poisoning before ever having symptoms.

- Never use a gas range or oven to heat a home.
- Never leave the motor running in a vehicle parked in an enclosed or partially enclosed space, such as a garage.
- Never run a generator, pressure washer, or any gasoline-powered engine inside a basement, garage, or other enclosed structure, even if the doors or windows are open, unless the equipment is professionally installed and vented. Keep vents and flues free of debris, especially if winds are high. Flying debris can block ventilation lines.
- Never run a motor vehicle, generator, pressure washer, or any gasoline-powered engine less than 20 feet from an open window, door, or vent where exhaust can vent into an enclosed area.
- Never use a charcoal grill, hibachi, lantern, or portable camping stove inside a home, tent, or camper.
- If conditions are too hot or too cold, seek shelter with friends or at a community shelter.



- If CO poisoning is suspected, consult a health care professional right away.

CO poisoning is entirely preventable. You can protect yourself and your family by acting wisely in case of a power outage and learning the symptoms of CO poisoning.

For more information, please visit www.cdc.gov/co.

2012 SD Fires

Year to Date totals for fires on State and Private lands.

Human - 1241 fires for 125,258 acres

Lightning - 135 fires for 16,496 acres

Trivia

- ♦ What five countries claim ice hockey as an official national sport?
- ♦ Name the "Original Six" NHL hockey teams.

December Trivia Answers

- ♦ 'Twas the Night Before Christmas was written in 1823 by Clement Clarke Moore.
- ♦ The National Christmas Tree is located in Kings Canyon National Park in California. The Giant Sequoia is also called the General Lee Tree.

Our mission is to protect South Dakota from the ravages of wildfire.



SOUTH DAKOTA WILDLAND FIRE SUPPRESSION

With questions or to have something added to the newsletter contact Megan Jaros

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Happy Retirement to LaVerne Hermanson!
LaVerne has worked as the Division Aviation Officer. He will be missed but I am sure we will see him flying around somewhere next season!

Hot Chocolate Social!!!!

The Hot Chocolate Social in CSP was a great success and fun was had by all. We had hot chocolate, tea and cider with s'mores! There was a silent auction and horse carriage rides in the Park. The photo booth was a lot of fun!! To see all the photos check out our Facebook group - WFS Employee Association. If you would like to join the association just let Brandy or Megan know. Our next meeting will be in January!

