

October 15, 2008

Special points of interest:

- Pat Collins Honored
- Daylight Savings
- Training Dates
- Message from Chief
- Training News
- Statistics Jan – Sept
- New Lieutenant at Station 1
- Wellness Information
- 1986 Newsletter info

Phone Extensions:

Chief Pat Parker 1235
 Asst Chief Flynn 1228
 Asst Chief Schnaidt 1226

Brian Belcher 1232
 Robert Casey 1233
 Mike Lince 1238
 Kathy Fordyce 1236

Robin Ehardt 1227
 Mary Griggs 1222
 Marcia Schwind 1221
 Troy Holliday 1231

Dave Lather 1229
 Randy Agruda vm 1240
 Mike Vaughn 1225

Brian Bloom vm 1241
 Tony Posey vm 1242
 Tom Henkel vm 1243

Admin Fire Office 3000
 Station One 3814
 Station Eight ****
 Station Nine 0299
 Station Eleven 7682

Beth Pryde 1244
 Jude Younker 1245

The Metro Insider...



STATE OF MICHIGAN SPECIAL TRIBUTE



*Honoring the Retirement of
 Patrick Collins*

LET IT BE KNOWN, That it is a great pleasure to join with his colleagues, family, and the people of Traverse City in saluting Patrick Collins in recognition of his exemplary career as a member of the Acme Volunteer Fire Department and the Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department. As one of the recent retirees from the department, he has earned the respect of the entire city as a professional who has contributed greatly to the community's safety over the years.

Of all the services offered in our communities, none are more important than those provided by fire fighting professionals. In protecting our homes, places of business, and very lives, fire fighters cope with on-the-job challenges that are truly unique. As Patrick can attest, the tasks facing a fire department require not only courage and hard work, but also preparation and knowledge. Indeed, in the years since Patrick joined the department, many changes have been made in technology and in the types of fires that must be faced.

In his 59 years with the department, Patrick certainly contributed a great deal to safeguarding the people of Grand Traverse County and enhancing the fine reputation of the fire department. During his career, he came to know firsthand the great dangers of fighting a fire in sub-zero temperatures and the heartbreak of individuals and families face with the loss of life. Through all these difficult times, Patrick has proven himself to be a professional of the highest caliber. Clearly, his dedication has served the people of the community in many ways.

IN SPECIAL TRIBUTE, Therefore, This document is signed and dedicated to commend and thank Patrick Collins for his many years of steadfast commitment as a member of the Acme Volunteer Fire Department and the Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department. We extend to him best wishes for a long and well-deserved retirement.

Signed and sealed on July 26th, 2008 by: Jason Allen, State Senator; Howard Walker, State Representative; and Jennifer Granholm, Governor.

The Metro Insider...

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Change Your Clocks, Change Your Smoke Detector Battery ...

November 2nd, 2008 is Daylight Savings where we get an extra hour of sleep! Before you go to bed on November 1st, change your clocks and most importantly, change the battery in ALL of your smoke detectors in your home, campers, hunting cabins, etc. This is a good time to also practice your Home Escape Plan with your friends and family members.



Helpful Hints: Smoke in your house, **STAY LOW** and **GO!**

Get outside and meet at your **SAFE MEETING PLACE!**

Practice fire drills on the same day each month.

Let's all be fire safe so *Everyone Goes Home!*



Message from Chief Parker ...

Hello All! Fall is in the air and it is so beautiful out. I hope you all get out and enjoy the weather we have been having!

Oct – Nov Training Topics

Oct 16th – Medical (TCFD)

Geriatrics (1L/1P Spec Consideration)

Oct 22nd – Medical (Sta. 9)

Bleeding/Soft Tissue Injury (1L Trauma)

Oct 23rd – Pre-Incident Survey

REQ: *Sam's Club*

Oct 29th – Fire Training (Sta. 1)

REQ: *Apparatus Pumping*

Nov 5th – Medical (Sta. 11)

Shock (1L/1P Trauma)

Nov 10th – Medical (Sta. 8)

Shock (1L/1P Trauma)

Nov 13th – Fire Training (Sta. 11)

REQ: *Hazardous Materials Refresher Gas Detector and its uses along with gas leak responses and ammonia leaks.*

You will be reading in this issue a tribute to Pat Collins from Station 8. Governor Granholm, Senator Allen, and Representative Walker all paid their respects to this man who put in nearly 60 years of service to the fire service and Metro. Pat was one of the pioneers of our department and this legislative proclamation was fitting for a man who did so much. Thank you Pat for all of your years of service and dedication to this department.

I would like to make a few comments about personal expression. Today there are so many forms of communication both formal and informal. We communicate by the things we say, what we write, what we do, or what we wear. Remember that we are on this department to serve the people of our three townships. These citizens pay for our wages, equipment, and stations. There is a level of expectation of professionalism and customer services.

Many of us have My Space or Facebook pages. Many of you are proud of this department and have used pictures of this department and have made comments that you do serve. This department has never intervened in our members doing so. I would ask that anytime you use pictures of Metro equipment, stations, etc. or mention this department, that you do so in good taste. You are never allowed to use pictures taken at a scene. This is due to confidentiality issues. Remember your pages are part of the public domain. Would you be proud to show your page to your chief, mother, neighbor or citizen?

Piercings, tattoos, jewelry, clothing are all forms of personal expression. When that personal expression interferes with the professional image of this department it becomes an issue. Our citizens have come to expect that responders look the part of a professional. We must look and dress for success. The next time you report for duty or respond on a call, do a little introspection on how you would want a firefighter or first responder to look if they were to respond to your family member or better yet you.

Remember that you represent this department at all times whether on duty or not. I would ask that you all police yourselves and ask the question how would our citizens think if you were to show up on a scene expressing yourself the way you do. Please don't make this department have to create new policies on personal expression. I don't want to legislate common sense. As our Code of Ethics state: Ethics are the essence of your self worth and a measure of your character. It affects how you present yourself; how you are perceived; and how you are respected.

Thanks for your consideration.

Pat

We are getting to the end of the year. Station Captains will be contacting you regarding any required trainings that you may still need. Do not wait until last minute to get them in.

Check website for additional trainings.

Training News from Asst Chief Flynn...

Upcoming Training: See schedule on page 2.

Dispatch Changes/Updates: I am proposing changes in the current dispatch procedures for our department which should clear up some confusion in dispatching Metro units in emergency situations.

1. Station One units will only be dispatched to incidents inside the Station One response area. This station is manned 24/7 and has procedures to respond anywhere in the Metro area depending on the type of emergency.
2. The Metro All-Call shall be used by Central Dispatch in the following situations. a) When a call is received that is reporting a structure fire within the Metro Fire District. (The dispatch information will consist of the address and the station whose area it may fall.) b) By request of a Metro member.

Pre-Incident Survey: A training was held at the Williamsburg Center Dinner Theatre and Wimsatt Building Materials in Acme Twp during September. Certain items of interest were found in these facilities.

Special Notes: (1) Fit-testing will be finished up in the month of November. Get with HSO Mike Vaughn to get this done. (2) Arctic Ice on Rice St. has closed and has removed all ammonia from the facility. (3) Hose testing is done for the year. Hope everyone was able to help out. Station Captain's will be talking with you on your trainings attendance.

Training Calendar: Sara Lee and Metro Fire will be holding a Hazardous Materials training on December 6th with a tentative time of 0800 hrs. for those members still needing a Hazardous Materials training.



Call Statistics for 2008

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Total	Percentage
Station 1	2	57	66	57	61	53	65	66	62	489	18.56%
Station 8	24	27	35	42	29	42	29	36	23	287	10.89%
Station 9	46	23	22	29	30	34	22	20	18	245	9.30%
Station 11	197	173	163	180	164	166	190	187	193	1420	60.76%
Total Incidents Jan–Sept:						2634	September =		296		
	<u>January–September</u>						<u>Total</u>	<u>Percentage</u>			
	Acme Township Incidents						248	9.73%			
	East Bay Township Incidents						503	19.74%			
	Garfield Township Incidents						1797	70.52%			



**Remember to e-mail
schedule@gtmetrofire.org
for Duty Shift requests.**



New Station 1 Lieutenant...

Station 1 has been open for 8 months now. With the growth of calls and new membership, Captain Draper has requested another Lieutenant be placed in service. Adam Drewery has been appointed to Station 1 Lieutenant. He has 5 years experience with GT Metro Fire Dept through Station 11. Prior to coming to Metro, he served other positions such as Training Officer and Battalion Chief on a fire department in Wisconsin. Adam is a Firefighter I & II, EMT-Basic, Station Safety Officer, and is currently enrolled in Fire Officer courses. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his wife Stephanie, and step-children Makenna and Shianna.

Wellness Survey/Incentive

Contributed by: Beth Pryde, GT Metro Wellness Coordinator

Let's see.....A bit more that six months ago you all received a copy of a survey to fill out regarding your interest in participating in a wellness program sponsored by Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department. Out of approximately 70 survey flyers provided, 40 were returned. For those math whizzes out there, that is over a 50 % return. (an awesome survey result.) Out of those 40, only two indicated that they would not be interested in participating in any form. I would like to thank all of you that returned the surveys and gave feedback as to what you would like, and how you would participate. That feedback has had direct impact on what components may be considered in the ongoing development of the Metro Fire Wellness Program.

Wellness Assessment

As some of you may know, and other may not....We began with providing a baseline wellness assessment for those of you who wished to use the Station 1 fitness room equipment, and any others that just wanted to have a starting point to their new fitness program. This included body fat measurements, cardiovascular fitness testing, recommendations for reaching health and fitness goals, and general wellness education on nutrition, exercise and lifestyle choices.

Newsletter

Another component is this newsletter contribution. I hope you are finding the articles helpful, educational and interesting. The articles are meant to briefly address the recent or controversial wellness topics that are affecting our day to day choices. They may be a positive or negative, but the intent is to educate, and clarify topics, and make choices in eating and exercising a less laborious task.

Wellness Benefits

One of the exciting benefits coming from the Wellness Program is discounted rates on memberships and classes at a variety of exercise facilities around the Traverse City area. From Acme to the far west side of Traverse City, many of the Facilities have indicated an interest in working personally with the GT Metro firefighters to help them achieve their wellness goals.

Grant Monies

These Wellness components, as well as the new fitness facility equipment at Station 1, were possible through An Assistance to Firefighters Grant from FEMA to promote Healthy Living amongst Volunteer Firefighters. All of the above components were ones you indicated you wanted in your survey responses as part of your Wellness Program. We read, and responded. Our goal is to motivate healthy living and healthy choices by providing resources and support in the areas that you find interesting and challenging; But at the same time expecting results and feedback on yours' and our progress.

Wellness Incentive Scholarship Fund

With the remaining grant monies, a Wellness Scholarship Fund has been established. It is Metro's goal to encourage healthful living and choices to ALL Metro Partial Paid forces and Carrier staff: To offer incentives that address the challenges that affect the ability to live a healthier life, decrease the risks of heart attack and stroke, and perform the duties as a firefighter in a safe and effective manner. Take this opportunity to jump start your wellness program in the direction you feel most challenged, and use the following guidelines to receive your Wellness Incentive Scholarship.

You will have until November 21st to purchase a Wellness Service and submit your receipt to the administration office for reimbursement. A reimbursement check will be sent to you within the week of your receipt submission. Each member will receive \$75 toward that service chosen from the following menu.

Nutrition Consultation

Smoking Cessation

Weight loss Program (i.e. Weight Watchers, Curves, Etc...)

Gym Membership

Fitness Classes... Martial Arts, Kickboxing, Boot Camp, Yoga, Pilates, Spin, Swim

Remember, the deadline to submit your receipt is November 21st. Please contact Beth Pryde, your Wellness Coordinator, for more information or questions on how to get started with your Wellness Program.

RECEIVED

JAN 14 1986

JANUARY 1986

GRAND TRAVERSE
FIRE DEPARTMENT

Hi People;

I am your fire department newsletter. I have been sleeping for some time now because my editors have been just too fat and lazy. (I think it was all the holiday food.) It is nice to be back again and maybe I might see you more often this year.



WHAT'S NEW!!!!

New bucket seats are in the rescue and engine plus our chargers and high band radios are in the cab of these vehicles. The equipment placement in the cab of the engine has changed as well as the equipment in the side bins passenger side of the engine. All the equipment that was in the cab remains in the cab but in different locations. It is your responsibility to become familiar with the new changes if you haven't seen them as of yet. It is a much cleaner truck and we thank Art Olson, Glen Walters, Pat Parker and Bob Olson for their efforts. There is more changes coming and we will inform you as they arrive. See you at training.

A SPECIAL THANKS!!!!

January is a time of year you send out thank you's to everyone who was thoughtful to you at Christmas time. As a department we received a very special gift in 1985. We have the commitment of East Bay Township to the construction of a new fire station. We thank the township board members for their support and the financial commitment. We thank Ed and Dorothy Olson for the availability of the needed land. East Bay is a great place to live and if you see any of these people say thanks on our behalf.

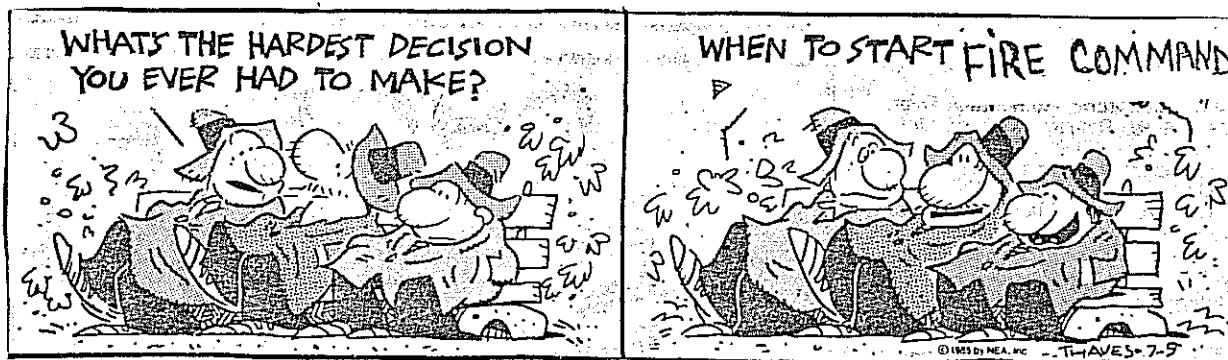
NEW FACES, OLD FACES, PROBATIONARY FACES, HAIRY FACES!!!

New faces are Joe Kiersey and Terry Olson as new members. They have completed their basic training and we welcome them to the department. Old faces goes to Kevin Shutler who has rejoined us after a short stay with Uncle Sam. It is good to have you back. Most people in the Service took leave time to go skiing but Uncle Sam paid him to ski. Probationary faces are new bright young and talented recruits for the fire and ambulance service. They are people who bring in new ideas, and most important, is bringing new enthusiasm to the department.

These probationary members are Mr. Coast Guard John Baker, E.M.S. Paramedic Mark G. Dunham, Hentchel Store Gary Cadwell, Interlochen fireman Mark McIntyre, and Garfield fireman and old County Ambulance Dick Simon. We are very fortunate to have you all! Hairy faces belong to all you guys who do not shave when you get up in the middle of the night to go on a run. You look like heck, but I think most people do not notice. Pat Parker and Dave Hendges are exceptions to this because they cannot grow any hair on their face.

FUN TIME!!!!

Annual Dinner and Dance is April 5, 1986. Hold this date open because this is the time that we might be able to meet "Miss Wonderful" Susan soon to be Meis. Congratulations Roye Meis. Actually the annual dinner is our one night out, when other departments cover for us, and we enjoy our fellowship. This year it will be at the Embers on East Bay. If you have any ideas for presentations contact Pat & Mikie Parker, Mike & Pam Walters, Terry Olson, Val Hendges and Viv Olson. Music will be by Mike's Band so Pam will need a dancing partner. (Nothing new - right Pam!)



JOBS TO DO!!

February 2nd is our first pancake breakfast of 1986. We need lots of adult help this year. If you know of anyone who would like to help outside of our membership, contact Bob Olson. A station clean-up will be held on Feb. 1st at 9:00 A.M. There will be a job for everyone who has a smile and a big heart. See you there!

We have two cross country skiing races in our area soon. The first is Saturday January 18th and then the Vasa Feb 7th. We need medical as well as firemen to handle the rescue stations and our snowmobiles. Contact Chief Art Olson for your assignments as soon as possible.

TRAINING

Next Wednesday Jan. 15th will be the Officers Meeting. Jan. 22nd will be a joint training with Tower Station I. The last Wednesday, the 30th, will also be training. There are a lot of proposed equipment changes that will come about on these nights; so attend and keep current.

We also are most pleased to have Dave Hendges and Pat Parker to be starting their training for Specialists. They need all the encouragement they can get, as this requires quite a lot of time and effort to achieve this. Many hours! Thanks!

ODDS AND ENDS

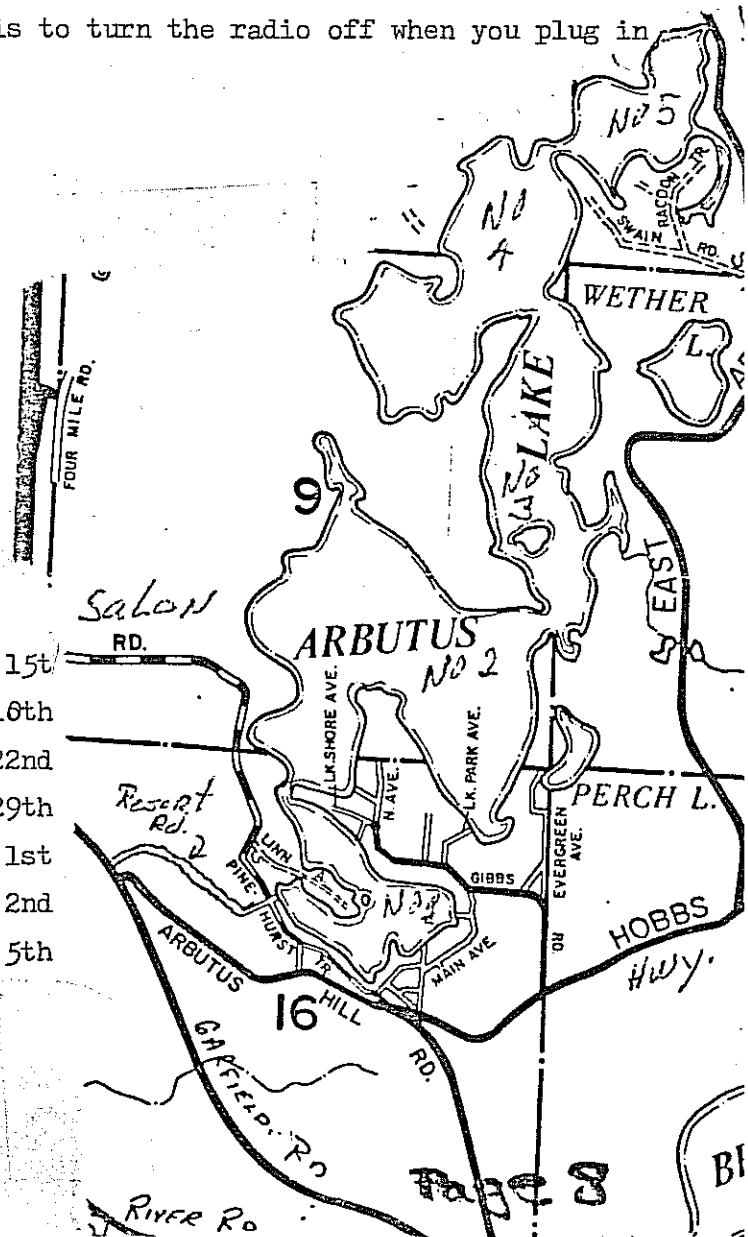
Bob Olson is taking bids on the bench seats that are coming out of the Engine, Rescue, and 9 Water Supply. He is also taking bids on our old coffee maker in the kitchen. Bids will be accepted until Wednesday the 15th at 9:00 P.M.

We have installed a new high band antenna on the snow machines and one soon to be on the Rescue truck. A reminder on these is to turn the radio off when you plug in the antenna.

For training learn these roads

CALENDER OF EVENTS

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Officers Meeting | Jan. 15th |
| Pre Vasa Cross Country Ski Race | Jan 16th |
| Training with Tower 1 | Jan 22nd |
| Training | Jan 29th |
| Station Clean-Up 9:00 a.m. | Feb 1st |
| Pancake Breakfast | Feb 2nd |
| Business Meeting | Feb 5th |



JANUARY 1985



Dear Member:

Did you have a good time at our New Year's Eve Party? If you didn't, it was because you were not there. A great time was the order of the night and a special thank you to Dave Hendges and Roy Meis. Dave did all the work and Roy was very gracious when he lost at cards. Actually the station looked good, the food was plentiful, and we all enjoyed good fellowship.

January 20, 1985 - Sunday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. is the first of two pancake breakfasts. You will all be contacted as to when you can help. Remember, this is one of only two money raisers this year for Station-9. The money from this breakfast is going to purchase a new cold water rescue suit and ropes. We have all seen the need for these suits with the ice rescue on High Lake. Please make yourself available as many hands make light work. I have heard that Dick LaValley can flip two pancakes in the air, be pouring three more, turn one over on the stove, wink at a good looking girl, and sip a cool one before he picks up a skillet to catch the two pancakes behind his back. Dick Wagner is just as good but he does not go for that sipping a cool one, so he shuffles his feet instead!

Mark it on your calendar. March 30, 1985 is Red-9's Annual Dinner and Dance at Garfield Township Hall. If you have any ideas, presentations or awards contact any committee member - Roy Meis, Joel Baillie, Dave Hendges and Bob Olson. There will be more information following when things start coming together.

What does Fire Ground Command mean? Without it, every Fire will burn to the Ground its contents from ineffective Command. So, Fire Ground Command is a means of leading or managing firefighters and equipment to successfully resolve a fire or emergency scene. If you have missed any of our extensive training on this get in touch with any officer. Now for some update on this system.

- 1) The first radio unit in (portable or not) is to size up scene and give a brief statement as to what is there. (Example) "structure fully involved", or "no visible flames."
- 2) This first radio is to establish fire command unless situation indicates otherwise like a rescue.

- 3) Establish staging area with officer if possible and a command post area.
- 4) A sector is one area of responsibility and an officer in charge of a sector has authority of a chief in that area of responsibility. When that sector has completed its task the sector commander and all its firefighters report back to fire command for reassignment.
- 5) For a trial period all water supply, engineers, tankers, etc. remain on Tac-7 and rest of radios are to be on Tac-9.

Fire Command works, try it.

Have you seen the new reflective vest in the ambulance/ You haven't! Well come on down and take a look. There are four of them in 9-A and two more on the way for 9-Rescue. In the dark these vests really work.

While you're down at the station looking at the vest, take a look in the Rescue truck. We received the extension cable for the gas detector. For the time being it is on the seat. To find out how the whole thing works contact any officer.

Training this month could be an awakening experience, that is if we go through the ice. We are having a joint training on January 16th with 101. We ask that everyone meet at the station at 7:15. The main training will be ice and cold water rescue. Dress warm as it could be really cold out there. The second training will be on Thursday the 24th. It will be an oil field orientated training dealing with Hydrogen Sulfide and other dangers. The training will be put on by Glen Gravitt. The training will be at Station 9 at 7:30.

The combination locks on the department doors will be changed at the training on January 16th. At that time the new combinations will be handed out.

Question? Do you know where the winter water points in the township are?

Answer: Roy Strait's
Bass Lake
Coleman Cole, 3 Mile & Hammond
The pond half way between Potter & Smith Road on 3 Mile
Forks of Boardman
Downstream from Brownbridge
2 bridges on River Road
Ranch Rudolph
West of intersection of Sleights & River
Arbutus I

All progress has resulted from people who took unpopular positions!

Physicals were just made available to the members. If you have not had a physical for your ambulance attendants license and would like one, contact Roy Meis. Now that everyone has had a physical it is your duty to make sure the proper paperwork is given to Roy Meis to receive your ambulance attendants license. If you want to work with the ambulance get the proper license.

FIREPERSON OF THE MONTH

January's fireman of the month may not be too handy with a knife, but he is one of the counties best assistant chiefs. Whenever Gerry Payne is approached with a project he is willing to get involved and the end result is always successful and complete. Gerry has spearheaded many projects. Most recently after an OSHA inspection Gerry assumed the responsibility to correct all the things that needed correcting. His expertise in fire equipment and apparatus has time and time again proven to be invaluable resource. As a command officer Gerry is one of the finest with the ability to run any emergency scene. Gerry, we at Red-9 are proud to have you as one of our members and we are secure in knowing you are one of our command officers. Thank you, Gerry.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 16th Training 7:15 with 101 (door locks changed)
- 20 Pancake Breakfast
- 24 Training oil field H2S and hazards (at Station-9)
- 30 Probationary Training
- Feb. 6 Business Meeting (Corporation Meeting following Business Meeting)
- 9 Vasa Ski Race
- 13 Officers Meeting
- 15 } Frozen Cherry Festival
- 16 }
- 17 }
- 20 Training
- March
- 30 Red-9's Annual Dinner & Dance

Birthday Corner for January

- 1-5 Joel Baillie
- 1-7 Bob Olson
- 1-28 Butch Strait

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, GUYS!!



The Fireman's Prayer

When I am called to duty, God
 Wherever flames may rage
 Give me strength to save some
 life,
 Whatever be its age.
 Help me embrace a little child

Before it is too late
 Or save an older person from
 The horror of the fate.
 Enable me to be alert
 And hear the weakest shout.
 And quickly and efficiently,
 To put the fire out.
 I want to fill my calling and
 To give the best in me
 To guard my every neighbor
 and
 Protect his property.
 And if according to Your will
 I have to lose my life,
 Please bless with your prote-
 ting hand
 My children and my wife.