



# FIRE DISTRICT #10

*Serving the West Plains*

# TELEGRAPH

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Equipment Update
- Annexation Update
- Firefighter Appreciation Banquet
- Fire District #10 Receives Grant Money
- Open Houses

## VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS/ EMTs NEEDED!

Find out more on Page 3, or drop by one of our **OPEN HOUSES** in July to talk to our dedicated volunteers and staff.



## FIRE DISTRICT #10 HEADQUARTERS & TRAINING CENTER

929 S. Garfield Road  
Airway Heights, WA 99001  
(509) 244-2425  
www.scfd10.org

Visitors Welcome!

## A Message From The Chief

First of all, a big thank you for your support of the Fire District #10 EMS (Emergency Medical Service) Levy which passed with an amazing 69.1% in 2010. With your support we are able to provide the continual training for members and upgrades to our equipment that allow us to respond to your emergencies in a timely manner and with reliable equipment. Thank you.

In 2010 we began replacing some aging equipment that was unreliable and whose replacement parts were next to impossible to locate. We purchased some new and slightly used equipment, with the dual goals of getting the most out of your tax dollar and at the same time keeping firefighter safety at the forefront. The equipment updates are as follows:

- **EMS /Wildland fire trucks** - The District is just completing and putting into service three new trucks. Their main use is for wildland fire fighting during the summer months but we also use these trucks year round to respond to EMS calls. The new trucks will be placed in service at Station(s) 10-3, 10-4 and 10-5. This update will allow us to have one truck available at each station at any given time and to keep one 1988 model in reserve in case one truck is down for service. In order to save taxpayers' money, a great deal of the fabrication and installation work of these trucks was done in-house, allowing us to purchase three vital trucks for about the same cost as two.

- **Support Unit** - Fire District #10 purchased a used truck and added capabilities that meet our current needs at the lowest possible cost. This truck (photo page 3) is designed to provide support at any emergency incident. On board is a 40 kilowatt generator which provides enough electricity to power its two light towers and other lighting used for nighttime incidents. The generator also provides electricity for an on-board high pressure air compressor (6000 psi) which is used to fill the small bottles that firefighters use to breath clean air when working in a contaminated air environment. Each small air bottle allows a firefighter to work from between 20 and 40 minutes, depending on level of strenuous exercise and each individual firefighter's intake. For example, if a firefighter is under duress and is experiencing a high level of strenuous activity, he/she will intake more air. Dozens of bottles are typically used up at each incident. The mobile compressor upgrade allows us to fill the small bottles rapidly without interruption at any incident or location. These upgrades were completed from our General Operating and EMS funds without going to voters requesting more money in a time of recession.

We have discussed in previous issues the possibilities and impact of portions of Fire District #10 being annexed into either the City of Spokane or City of Airway Heights. The process can take some time to complete, however, annexation is expected to take effect on January 1, 2012, if all legalities are satisfactorily met. For either possibility, there are operational plans in place for the delivery of Fire/EMS services to potential newly annexed areas. For the remaining property served by Fire District #10 you should see little, if any, change in the excellent service you are accustomed to. We will still provide public protection from our existing five stations using the equipment housed in each.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer,

Nick Scharff  
Fire Chief,  
Fire District #10



*One of three new Wildland/EMS Vehicles*

## Fire District #10 Firefighter Appreciation Dinner

On January 29, 2011, we held our annual Recognition Banquet to honor our firefighters and EMTs. The great majority of our membership is made up of volunteers and we rely on these dedicated and hard-working individuals to help protect our citizens. The Recognition Banquet is a small token of our appreciation and recognizes those who are going above and beyond expectations.

For their exemplary actions and continuous dedication through 2010, the following awards were given:

### Rookie of the Year – Scott Hare

Scott was nominated by several members and cited as what all new members should be: dedicated, eager to learn and serve, and always performing above and beyond expectations.



### Resident of the Year – Keith Jordan

Keith has been among the most active volunteer members of the District. He worked hard last year to improve his training and skills in order to take on a greater level of responsibility and leadership. Keith also was elected President of the



Sunset Volunteer Firefighters Association.

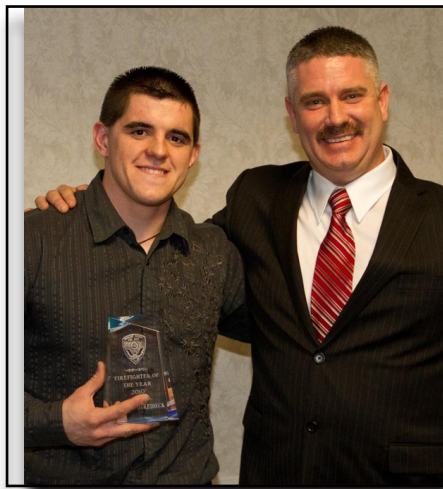
### EMS Provider of the Year – Shawn Bro

Shawn is a career lieutenant for the District and provides excellent medical care throughout the year. He is a consistent patient advocate and has been an EMT instructor for several years, with one of the highest success rates for his class members.



### Firefighter of the Year – Andy Streibeck and John Koberstine

Both Andy and John received multiple nominations and the fire district feel both are well-deserving of this high honor.



Andy far exceeded expectations in the number of shifts a resident is required to take, often two to three a week. He also responded frequently to calls for Station 10-5 when off duty. He is quick to take on additional training and responsibility whenever possible.

*Left to Right: Andy Streibeck  
and John Koberstine*

John is a very active volunteer at Station 10-3 and has also been active at other stations. His hard work has set an example for others. If a need arises, John is quick to fill it.

**THANK YOU** to all the above members and our entire volunteer staff for allowing Fire District #10 to provide such a high level of care to our citizens!

**If you would like to join this group of highly dedicated individuals, please feel free to contact station headquarters, drop by, or come to one of the Open Houses in July. See back page for more information.**

*Below: Mass casualty drill at the airport last June. Join the training! Please consider becoming a volunteer firefighter for Fire District #10.*





## District #10 Receives Grant Dollars

In order to maximize the service and capabilities delivered to our citizens, Fire District #10 is very proactive about applying for grant dollars from a variety of programs.

Some grants are relatively small. This year, the District was awarded just over \$1,700 from the Washington State Department of Health for trauma care. The money will be used to purchase some additional equipment for our medical response apparatus around the District. We also received over \$2,000 from the Department of Natural Resources to go towards the purchase of wildland fire fighting equipment, tools, and fire shelter for the safety of our fire fighting personnel.

Other grants are for larger dollar amounts. As we reported previously, last November the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) awarded Fire District #10 \$38,000 to purchase a stationary system to fill air pack bottles. These air packs allow firefighters to enter burning structures or other dangerous atmospheres.

This spring, we were awarded another FEMA grant, from the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) program. This grant provides \$142,038 towards an additional career firefighter position for three years. This will increase the number of our career firefighters to six during most weekdays to augment volunteer response.

Having six career firefighters puts us in compliance with the National Fire Protection Association standards for staffing of volunteer and combination career/volunteer fire departments for our rural population density during the weekday hours. These standards require that six firefighters report on the scene of a structure fire within fourteen minutes. In the evenings and on weekends Fire District #10 normally has enough volunteer members to respond to meet the standard, but often during the weekdays our career staff are the only personnel available to respond in a timely manner.

The District will continue to look for opportunities to supplement our budget with grants in order to improve the service to our citizens.

*For other past grants awarded you may visit our web site at [scfd10.org](http://scfd10.org) for details.*

## Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment

Fire District #10 provides service to the citizens of the West Plains utilizing a mix of volunteer and career firefighters. The career members work weekdays when it is more difficult to maintain an adequate number of volunteer firefighters and provide for staff and logistic functions such as training, maintenance, and fire prevention. On nights and weekends, we are staffed exclusively by volunteer firefighters!

Some members pull shifts in one or two of our stations, while others respond from their homes or workplaces when paged to an incident. In order to maintain and expand upon this cost-efficient system, Fire District #10 needs additional volunteer firefighters. We have different programs to fit the needs of potential volunteer members and provide all the training, uniforms, and equipment for free. You need not reside within Fire District #10 to participate.

If you or someone you know may be interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter, contact Deputy Chief Ladd at (509) 244-2425 or check out our recruitment packet on our web site at [www.scfd10.org](http://www.scfd10.org). **Our current recruitment drive requires that applications be submitted by Wednesday, August 3rd.**

*"I joined after there was a brush fire between my house and Rob Sayer's house. The District 10 firefighters showed up and worked all day and into the night to make sure the fire was out and our homes were saved. It inspired me that they were willing to come and do what was needed to make sure my home was safe, and I joined the next spring with Rob to do the same thing for my neighbors." - Gordon Hester, Volunteer with FD #10*





## Reflective Signs Available Through Fire District #10

Reflective address signs are available for purchase at Fire District #10. These signs are practical and easy to read, making it easier for firefighters and others to locate your home in time of need. The UPS man may also appreciate the blue reflective material with 4" white reflective numbers. The signs measure 24" x 6" and can be displayed vertically or horizontally with numbers on both sides. These signs are durable aluminum. The cost for each sign is \$15. Contact Fire District #10 headquarters for purchase information.

## OPEN HOUSES

Fire District #10 is holding open houses at two fire stations in July.

### **Saturday July 16 - Station 10-5**

9921 W. Trails Rd

Open to the public from noon until 4 pm

### **Thursday, July 21 - Station 10-4**

1411 Brooks Road

Open to the public from 5-8 pm

Hot dogs, snacks and beverages will be served at both events.

This is a great opportunity to visit your fire stations and meet your firefighters. The Sheriff's office will have some representation as well to give crime prevention and other public safety information. Please join us!



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