

# FREMONT COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



The District

July-August 2016

## District Chief

Happy Independence Day!

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July brings many thoughts of patriotism and independence. The battles fought, the lessons learned, and the freedoms enjoyed. The great sacrifices of men in women in uniform so we can enjoy the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. We all take time to enjoy this time of year in many different ways. Some choose to work so that others may enjoy a safe and enjoyable Independence Day. And so it began over 200 years ago as our founding fathers came to this nation for a better way of life and to enjoy the freedoms that it offered. I will not delve into the socio-political debates surrounding the founding of this great nation. I will say that there are plenty of opportunities and ideologies to celebrate. Of course there will always be those who will find something to complain about.

I for one am exceptionally thankful for the opportunity that I have to live where I do and enjoy the freedoms that have been granted to me by so many things that have taken place in my lifetime, in the past, and hopefully in the future. We must not dwell on the past or mourn the things that have not gone exactly as we have planned, but we need to look to the future with a brightness in hope and find the positive.

Our founding fathers understood the need for freedom but also understood that there had to be rules in order to maintain control and prevent chaos. They established rules that afforded there to be opportunities to build a society based on rules and regulations that would allow freedoms and yet protect the rights of all. They allowed everyone to live as they saw fit as long as it did not infringe on the rights of others to do the same.

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1924 Antique Fire Truck

## Mission Statement

Dedicated to providing  
the highest  
quality fire,  
emergency and  
other  
related  
services to the  
patrons of this  
District.

**SPEAFAW**  
(on fire truck below)  
Society for Preserva-  
tion and Exhibition of  
Antique Fire  
Apparatus in  
Wyoming

## In This Issue

- Craig's Message  
continued
- Dan's Message

# District Chief

continued

Somewhere some people have lost sight of that principle, not the discussion that I wish to have today because that is a very hot topic and not for what we as Fremont County Fire Protection District should delve into. It is sufficient to say that we of all people should understand that we need rules to govern us, to keep us safe, and to protect our interests.

Rules, regulations, and S.O.P.s are used for our protection. They are not put into place to hinder our performance, but to guide us so that we are all playing on the same field. We know what to expect from each other, and hopefully what keeps us safe. To know and understand the rules that we live by as a fire department, or as citizens of a society, is what will keep us safe and flourishing. It is the deviants that can wreak havoc in an organization that relies on its membership to maintain order and safety. As firefighters, we walk the razors edge at times performing a balancing act between what keeps us safe and what we need to do to get the job done. And our job is and has always been protection of lives and property.

We are part of a very small group of people that are willing to put the lives of others ahead of ourselves in order to preserve lives and property. However, we are all part of an organization that came together for the betterment of the fire service in Fremont County. An organization that was established to better enhance our capabilities and strengthen our abilities. I think it is very evident with the new firehalls, new apparatus, new equipment that the District has done everything in its power to get our firefighters maybe not the best that money can buy, but dang good equipment and facilities. We are today better and safer equipped than we have ever been even before the District was formed. And yet like our great country, some still complain and whine that it isn't enough or the rules are too stringent. In addition, the most upsetting to me is that they refuse to acknowledge the District and scoff at the rules as if they are better than the rest of us and do not want to be part of the team. I have begged and pleaded for people to come and be part of the process and build a better program, but alas it is easier to poke and prod from the shadows and be part of the problem instead of the solution.

But enough of that it is time to celebrate our country and we should also celebrate Fremont County Fire Protection District. Hats off to the firefighters who are making a difference. Those who want to be part of the team and are building something that we can all be proud of. We have some of the finest firefighters that I know, firefighters that have dedicated a great deal of their lives to training and improving themselves for the benefit of others. People who have made the choice to ride for the brand and play by the rules.

I salute the men and women of Fremont County Fire Protection District and the pride and dedication that you have as Firefighters. During this time of year when I am feeling a little extra patriotic and emotional I THANK YOU for all that you do. Not only do I appreciate it but I know that the people that we have touched in one way or another appreciate it also. Remember always that we have a trust built within our communities that has been earned because of the dedication and commitments that you have made. A commitment not born out of egos, but of humility and honor.

I salute you, I honor you, I appreciate all that you do. Thank You for serving your communities and being part of the solution.

Thanks

Chief Haslam



# District Trainer

Hi Ya All

You are absolutely correct, this is not Dan. I made the mistake of sending Dan out on a fire and effectively shot myself in the foot. I seemed to have had a temporary loss of memory and forgot about the S-200 class we were going to teach, the newsletter that was coming out, new firefighter orientation and so on. But that's alright as many of you have heard me say "I don't get mad, I get even" and I will have my opportunity.

To steal and paraphrase a quote from the advertising world Training- get it, got it, GOOD. But we need to add repeat as many times as necessary. Training is something that should never get old. Have you ever watched your favorite movie and picked up on something in it that you didn't before? Well that is why we stress training, it shouldn't be the "Oh man is it that time of the month again? Or I wonder which video we are going to watch this time". Training should be real and relevant. The people providing the training should have at least picked up the manual sometime within the last few months or maybe even one of the many magazines that we get or looked at one of the plethora of websites that offer training videos and maybe presented something that is timely and relevant that will keep everyone's interest.

Training should be fun and you should be getting something out of it. If you're not well get ahold of us and we will help you out.

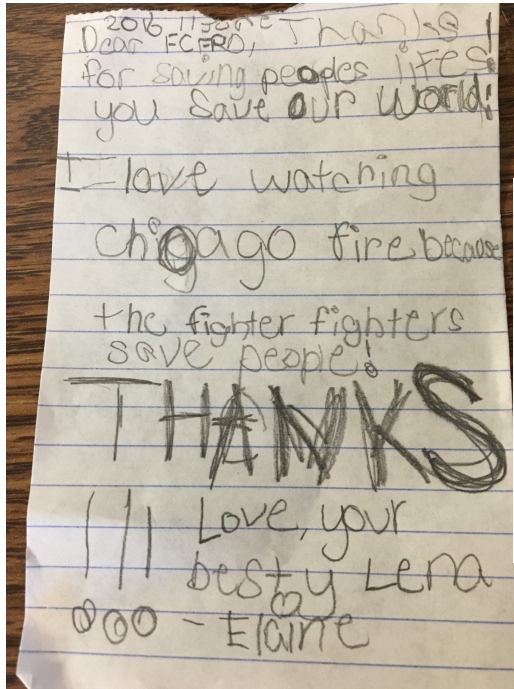
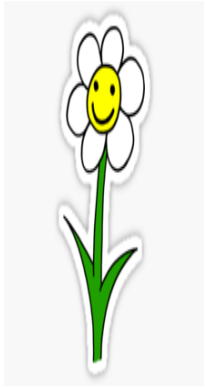
As kind of a caveat to the above, I was recently asked to be part of a review team for a firefighter accident that happened in another county. After three days of meetings, interviews, discussions, and arm chair quarterbacking the accident. (Which by the way the firefighter was very fortunate and walked away with minor burns to his face and ears.) The final conclusion that was determined by the review team was that the firefighter did not follow the recommended procedures, which he stated during his interview, and that he knew what he should do but didn't follow what he had been taught and knew. He did follow his training for his PPE and other safety equipment and the fact that he had his gloves, helmet, safety glasses, and proper PPE on at the time that he was engulfed in flames protected him and kept him out of a burn facility and he got to walk into his home that evening. Think about that.

We don't want to be safety Nazis, but we want everyone to go home. Wear your PPE, and remember **TRAIN** as if your life depends upon it. Help to develop the Safety Culture that you want to be a part of and where everyone goes home.

Remember Kindergarten – Don't play with matches or fireworks. If you are allowed to use them only do it when the adult in charge is around. And if something bad happens call 9 1 1 and tell a responsible adult. Oh Yeah and Stop, Drop, and Roll.

Have a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> !

# You Are Appreciated!



## Contact Us

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The District

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PLACE  
ADDRESS LABEL  
HERE