



SMOKE SIGNALS!

NEBCO FIRE-EMS NEWSLETTER

Editor: Don Berndt
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Emergencies: 911 Office: 479-359-3134 www.nbcovfd.org

FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF ROB TAYLOR

The end of the year is here and what a year we have had. As we continue to push forward in providing you, our citizens, a better service, we have replaced our second ambulance with a "Newer" 4 wheel drive vehicle which makes both our ambulances 4 wheel drive equipped. So bring on the winter, we are more prepared than we ever have been. We also replaced the 1977 model Fire Engine at station 2 with a much newer and more efficient Engine which helps us come closer to meeting the requirements needed for a lower ISO rating. We also just recently replaced the Fire Engine at station 5 for the very same reasons.

It is sometimes a constant battle to stay ahead of the curve when we're dealing with old used equipment which can still be "shiny and red" but not safe and efficient when responding to emergency calls. I think common sense tells us that when you call for a Fire Truck or Ambulance, the last thing you need is one that won't perform properly or safely. Again, we continue working to update our equipment to make sure, to the best of our ability, this does not happen. I am also working on some good things to come your way in 2013, so stay in touch.

This past month we received notice that we were the recipient of a grant we applied for from Fire House Subs. This grant has allowed us to purchase a Thermo Imaging Camera which gives us the capabilities to help find victims that might be lost or trapped in a smoke filled environment, and find "hot" spots that



might still be smoldering in walls or ceilings after a fire. The camera will also help in detecting any fire in walls and attic after a flu fire. This camera will even assist in helping to find victims that might have been thrown from a vehicle in an accident by picking up their body heat.

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NEBCO HOLDS FIRST RESPONDER CLASS

By Nick Mason: Special to SMOKE SIGNALS

On September 24th at six in the evening, twenty volunteers came together to gain more knowledge in the area of emergency medical care. These volunteers came from four different departments, some of which were from the surrounding fire departments and others were from the national parks service. We had firefighters from NEBCO, AVOCA and Seligman Fire departments and we had civilians from the Pea Ridge National Military Park. These students realized that there was an opportunity for them to better their careers and help their communities at the same time. They completed a total of 54 hours of total class room instruction as well as countless hours at home studying. The class was every Saturday for six weeks. They were taught by some of the finest instructors that Nebco Fire Department has to offer. The instructors were Program Director Nick Mason, Support instructors were Corey Cannon, Matt Fry, Richard Funk, Tom Scantlin, Justin Hopper and Andrew Schacherbauer. At the end of the class we were able to graduate fourteen of the original twenty. The NEBCO Fire Department is very proud that we are able to be involved with and have an impact on the training of these first responders. We would like to thank the participating Fire Departments and their Fire Chiefs for their continued support and encouragement. We would also like to congratulate all who graduated and we wish you the best in your endeavors.

CALENDAR OF COMING NEBCO EVENTS

**Jan. 18 : Firefighters' Bean
Soup Supper
4pm - 7pm**

**Feb. 16: Chili Cook Off
11am - 2pm**

**Apr. 13: Annual Meeting
10am**

**May 27: Memorial Day
Country Breakfast
7am - 10am**

**Sep. 2: Labor Day Country
Breakfast
7am - 10am**

**[go to www.nebcovfd.org](http://www.nebcovfd.org) for
more information on upcoming
NEBCO FIRE-EMS events**

DID YOU KNOW?

NEBCO firemen annually pressure-test over three miles of fire hose for suitability. Each 50' section of fire hose has to be tested at a static water pressure of between 200 and 300 psi for 5 minutes. All sections of hose failing to meet the National Standards must be replaced. This includes all hoses on the fire trucks and the reserve hoses located at Station #1.

FIRE BOAT TRAINING SCHOOL

NEBCO FIRE-EMS Fire Boat Crew members Grady Allen, Le Osterfeld, Jason and Jon Testut joined some 300 other firefighters (see photo below) from Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas to participate in fire boat training for water emergencies. More than 50 fire boats and their crews, patrol vessels, and instructor fleets participated in exercises on DeGray Lake and the nearby Caddo River. Exercises included a simulated party barge and jet-ski accident, a live wild land fire, an urban flooded scene with interaction from the U.S. Coast Guard, a water-stream operations station, as well as an intense defensive boat driving course.

According to Jon, the large boat/jet-ski accident was most realistic with a full size wave runner imbedded in a party barge pinning a person down with multiple injuries, as well as two bodies with unknown injuries floating in the water. Rescue and medical treatment was augmented by a water transport to a helicopter landing zone where the patients were then transferred for evacuation to a nearby hospital.

The exercise in the flooded urban area was designed to be a realistic replica of a flooded city environment with floating full size roof tops populated with survivors. Some of the rooftops were burning while others had miscellaneous hazards in play. NEBCO Fireboat 872 and her crew was chosen as Incident Command for this scenario and had the responsibility of deploying and managing 9 other fireboats and their crew's assignments as well as actually employment of a US Coast Guard helicopter for recon and rescue. This team building exercise included forced entry, search and rescue, evacuation and fire extinguishment. Pooled resources were definitely the name of the game.

Arkansas Fire Boat School is an effort of the Arkansas Fire Boat Committee that was created ten years ago to help the Arkansas Forestry Commission manage and distribute marine equipment to departments like NEBCO FIRE-EMS in need of fire boat capabilities.



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2012 FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR



Congratulations are the order of the day for NEBCO FIRE-EMS' Corey Cannon. Corey, on the right with Chief Rob Taylor, was named the 2012 NEBCO Firefighter of the year at this years appreciation dinner for all NEBCO Fire and Emergency Medical personnel and their families. To make this annual award even more significant, the honoree each year is selected by a majority vote of his fellow Volunteer Firefighters. And it is not a first for Corey. He also received this award in 2009 and now joins Stanley Williams who received this award in 2002 and 2007. Other NEBCO Firefighters who have received this award are Jim Lindstruth in 2003, Henry Gresham in 2004, Jeff Henry in 2005, Nick Mason in 2006, Tom Scantlin in 2008, Richard Funk in 2010 and Andrew Driggs in 2011. Congratulations to you all. Your service to our community is greatly appreciated!

FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF ROB TAYLOR, continued from page 1

The camera will help us do a much more efficient, safer and in some cases quicker job in taking care of your emergency. This camera cost just over \$9000, so when you get the chance say thanks to Nick Mason. He put in the effort of writing the grant. Great Job Nick! And by the way, when you would like a great sandwich, stop by Fire House Subs and thank them for their help. If it wasn't for the great folks at places like Fire House Subs, small communities like ours would not be able to afford equipment like this.

Well winter is here and time to fire up those heating systems, which I am sure you have already had inspected. If not, please do. We want to see you, but not at 3:00 in the morning with a home full of smoke!! You do your part and we will work very hard at doing our part.

Thank you for your continued support, and helping us have a great year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all, and to all a good night.

Chief Rob Taylor

NEBCO FIRE-EMS

FEBRUARY 16, 2013
11am — 2pm
9th ANNUAL
CHILI COOK-OFF



NEBCO
COMMUNITY CENTER
17823 Marshall St. (Hwy 62),
Garfield, AR
11am to 2pm

ATTENTION
Sponsors / Cooks
There is still time to
call and reserve
your spot in the Cook-Off.
Your favorite chili recipe
could be the big winner!
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359-3134
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