

Volunteers needed for Oceana County Fair

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there have been problems with people committing on helping but not showing up. Please pass the message along that if you are going to sign up to help, Neal is counting on your help unless he is otherwise notified!

Volunteers are expected to wear respectable fire department attire (t-shirts are ok, but nothing inappropriate)! Please speak to your department members and fax Neal with information on who & when people can help. His fax is 231-861-0249.

OCFA is creating a special flyer for information on volunteer firefighting and how to become a firefighter in Oceana County. The flyer explains the commitments involved in becoming and staying a firefighter. It will also provide contact information for all departments in the county.

Generic application forms will also be on hand in the event that someone wishes to immediately complete an application in light of training approaching fast. Applications will be forwarded on to the appropriate department Fire Chief.

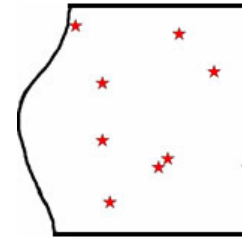
Countywide Events

- **Saturday, August 13, 1PM** PFD open house & Homecoming Parade for all county departments. Free hot dogs, chips, and drinks for all. Open house begins at 1 PM, parade lineup begins at 3:15 PM
- **Saturday, August 20** Ferry Fire Department's 50 year anniversary Pig Roast. Time TBA.
- **Wednesday, August 24** West Michigan Fire Chief meeting in Ludington. Contact Jerry Frick for details.
- **Wednesday, August 24-Saturday August 28** Oceana County Fair in Hart. Volunteer needed to help man the firefighter booth. See the front page story for more info.
- **Saturday, September 10** 800 MHz radio training at Mason-Oceana 911. Instructed by Ray Hasil and will last 2-3 hours. Bring your radios to class if possible.
- **Tuesday, September 13** HAZMAT mass disaster exercise continuation
- **Wednesday, September 14** Oceana County Fire Chief's meeting at 7 PM at SFD.
- **Tuesday, September 20** Regular OCFA meeting at 7 PM at the DNR Field Office.
- **Saturday, October 8** PFD's 'Firefighters Brawl' at Pentwater VFW at 7 PM. Contact your Fire Chief for a free ticket (firefighters only may enter for free).
- **10/16-10/20** PFD will have 'Scotty's Firehouse', a smoke trailer for children, on site. If your department would like to bus in kids to use the trailer one of the days, contact Chief Cluchey for more info.
- **11/1-11/15** Flashover trailer in Oceana County. Contact Jack White for details.

OCEANA COUNTY FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION



July 20, 2005
Issue 4



OCEANA FIRE BUGLE



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Block System Going Live September 1

A rough draft of the proposed Oceana County block system was provided to Fire Chiefs at the July 13 Fire Chief's meeting. Changes requested by Chiefs will be complete by mid August, allowing 2 weeks for the final draft and submission to Mason-Oceana 911. The system is scheduled to go live September 1, 2005.

The block system will automatically tone out a full response from two departments on any structure fire call. The two departments are the department having the primary area of jurisdiction, and a second department based on the location of the fire. If additional assistance is desired, the IC may initiate a second alarm, which will automatically tone two additional departments for water tenders, and a third to set up a fill site. The system is a basic way to pre-plan for incidents throughout Oceana County.

We're on the Web!
www.oceanacountyfa.org

Home Delivery

Don't wait for your next department meeting to receive your copy of the Bugle...get the Bugle delivered to your house hot off the press (FREE OF CHARGE!). If you would like to receive home delivery, contact us either by phone or e-mail: 231-869-2360 rhasil@oceanacountyfa.org

Volunteers Needed for Oceana County Fair

The Oceana County Fair is right around the corner and volunteers are needed to help man the firefighter booth. OCFA met with Grant Assistant Chief Neal Collins to see how Oceana County firefighters could help out. Neal is looking for firefighters from Wednesday 8/24 through Saturday 8/27 from 1pm-9pm. Ideally, he needs 3-4 people to help out at the booth at all times. He is looking for volunteers in 2 hour blocks. In the past,

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ISO Ratings Lowered for Area Departments

Several Oceana County townships received lowered ISO ratings. The ratings are significant because they impact the cost of things like homeowners insurance. Among the seemingly endless list of ratings are factors like apparatus, equipment, and training. The lower rating is an excellent opportunity for departments to demonstrate a positive impact on the community!

Department Updates

Crystal Township Fire Department

600 feet of yellow 4" has been purchased and will be picked up soon. CTFD has been contacted for banking info by FEMA, which is a good sign; they are hopeful that they receive grant money for the turnout gear, SCBA, and wildland gear they applied for. **Submitted by Jack White**

DNR

DNR has worked on 12 grass/woods fires to date. They recently responded to a fire at the dunes and had problems with the Hummer and 6x6 on the sand, specifically, going uphill. Warren is following on acceptable tire pressures for operating on sand. Load will be a special consideration since they store 900 gallons on their 6x6. **Submitted by Warren Herring**

Ferry Fire Department

Ferry is celebrating their 50th anniversary with a pig roast. The event will take place on Saturday, August 20 at a time to be announced. All are invited for the celebration. **Submitted by Brad Fritcher**

Grant Fire Department

No update available.

Hart Fire Department

Hart recently added some new turnout gear to their inventory. Not a whole lot is new as of late! **Submitted by Mike Fillips**

Hesperia Fire Department

No update available

Pentwater Fire Department

18 members were outfitted with new turnout coats and pants manufactured by Morning Pride, replacing much of the aging (20+ years) gear. Pentwater's annual Homecoming parade is on Saturday, August 13. There will be a pre-parade 'polishing party' at 1 PM before the parade with free food and drink. The lineup begins at 3 PM, and the parade starts at 4 PM. Family and friends are welcome. Pentwater's Fireman's Brawl will be on Saturday, October 8 at the Pentwater VFW. Firefighter Ted Hebblewhite moved to the Traverse City area. He has been a Firefighter and Divemaster for PFD for the last 2 years. **Submitted by Ray Hasil**

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Pictures & Stories Wanted

Do you have a digital picture of an event your department was involved in? Maybe you have a story or information that would be beneficial for firefighters. Please send it to us so that we can post on the next newsletter!

Get on our E-Mail List!!!

Get information as it becomes available by signing up on our e-mail list. In addition to quarterly newsletters, receive information on special events and news that takes place in-between mailings. To have your name added to the e-mail list, contact us either by phone or e-mail: 231-869-2360 rhasil@oceanaountyfa.org and let us know you would like to be added to the list.

Department Updates

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Shelby Fire Department

Shelby re-activated one inactive member. They have recently added new tires to their DNR apparatus. They have contracted with a company to paint their fire hydrants for \$100/hydrant. This isn't your typical slop it on hydrant job; they are professionally sandblasted and painted with color coating based on water main size. A hydrant was demo'd two years ago and is still in excellent condition.

Submitted by Curt Trott

Walkerville Fire Department

Walkerville is up to over 100 runs for the year; 30 fire related, and 70 medical. They recently added 1 new member. Recently, a contract was signed for a 1000 GPM pumper/tanker that is scheduled for delivery in early 2006. **Submitted by Jerry Frick**

Fall Training Classes Uncertain

The Firefighter I & II classes that normally begin each October are up for grabs this year. The county is required to have 10-15 students to begin the fall classes, and there may not be enough students wanting to take the class.

If you know of someone that is thinking about becoming a firefighter, tell them that they must act now by letting department Fire Chiefs know. Greg Frick is in need of a headcount to determine if, when, and where the classes may take place this Fall and Winter.

Flashover Simulator Coming to Oceana County

A flashover simulator is scheduled to be in Oceana County 11/1/05-11/15/05. Arrangements are being made by Jack White. The rental of the trailer is only \$1. However, propane, insurance, liability, and transportation will add up to close to \$1000.

The simulator is expected to be in southern Oceana County from 11/1-11/8 for use by southern Oceana County departments, and in northern Oceana County from 11/9-11/13 for northern Oceana County departments. The total cost per department will be about \$100.

Contact Jack White for additional information on the simulator.

Financial

Beg Balance:\$110
1/05 Newsletter:-\$10
4/05 Newsletter:-\$10
7/05 Newsletter:-\$10
End Balance:\$80



Do you know?

NIMS classes are required for Operations Officers by August 15, 2005!!!

OCFA Initiatives

Website: complete, more updates pending

Countywide Training Event: Complete!

Countywide Block System: Goes live 9/1/05!

Oceana County Fair: end of August