

9/20/06

A great big thank you to the North Trinity Lakes Lions Club who voted almost unanimously to pick up the expense (\$1,325) for all of the textbooks for the first responder class. In addition the club voted to fund half of the required grant match to get new SCBAs (self-contained breathing apparatus) for Trinity Center VFD. That is another \$950. Thank you Lions for supporting your fire departments. And, thank you North Forty residences and beyond for supporting our North Trinity Lake Lions Club. Without your support they could not do all that they do. . . . See how this community thing works?

Bernie Berkowitz, owner of the Jaktri Market in Trinity Center, deserves a pat on the back and a thank you. Bernie was in a thrift shop a while back and noticed a plaque with the fireman's prayer on it. He bought it to donate to the Trinity Center VFD. On the bottom of the plaque was a brass plate inscribed "In appreciation to Palo Cedro's first fire chief, Bill Ware, 1974-1976". Roger Chatterton said, "I looked at this brass plate and thought that Palo Cedro VFD would want to have this piece of their history to put in their station. With Bernie's permission I had some friends in Palo Cedro contact their fire department and the response was that they would very much like to have the plaque. On our next Redding trip we will take the plaque back to Palo Cedro VFD. Thank you Bernie for your generosity purchasing the plaque and your thoughtfulness in letting it be returned to its rightful place".

Roger Chatterton also said, "A major "atta boy/girl" to FEAT (Fire Emergency Assistance Team). On Sunday we handled a solo traffic collision, vehicle over the side, on S/R 3 on Scott Mt. FEAT responded to handle traffic control as well as any other of the functions in which they have been trained. As it turned out this was a old collision that had not been reported, so other than checking the area over the cliff below the vehicle and standing by for CHP, we did not have to do a lot. But during the time we were working the scene we had a critical need for traffic control as we were on a very narrow portion of roadway at the apex of a blind turn such that traffic coming from the two directions would not be able to see oncoming vehicles. FEAT had a great turnout in a very timely manner with their required equipment, and immediately assumed the traffic control duties so we could handle the scene. Great turnout, great attitudes, great job! FEAT is still in its infancy, but it is already proving its worth to both fire departments".

Chatterton said, "These are three more reasons why this is such a great community to live in and serve". I am going to tell you about one more reason.

The two schools in our district are small but mighty, and the student's get an over the top education, not only in academics, but real life lessons teaching them how things are done in the "real world".

Coffee Creek School is blessed with the presence of a "Super Mom" named Dorien Peck. I met Dorien at the school when I visited it last week, and it tired me out just listening to all that she does. She barely looks old enough to have a 2 year old son, Cadin, (who goes to school with her and attends the pre-school sessions) let alone a 10 year old daughter, Dakota, and a 14 year old son, Shawn. Now take a big breath while I tell you what Dorien does.

She prepares a hot lunch each day for the CC students, leads after school programs such as the Homework Club, Cooking and Baking Club, puts on Friday Night Movies twice a month (which she prepares popcorn for), prepares snacks for the Volley Ball games, is a volunteer at the CCVFD, and has begun the First Responder Class that meets each Thursday at the CCVFD hall.

She does all of this and is still a fantastic wife, mother and friend. Whew! Okay, let your breath out.

For her lunch program, Dorien selects one student a week to work with her as she teaches them how to plan and prepare great tasting, healthy, low fat, and low cost meals. She often selects menus to coincide with subjects the students are currently studying. The day that I was there, they had Pot Stickers and Stir Fry. The student "Chef's" enjoys seeing how well the students love their lunch. And by the way, Dorien goes to Redding twice a month to shop for the ingredients.

You may have noticed Trinity Lake is receding. It has gone down 36.22 feet since June 1. In place of water, it has left a masterpiece in the landscape around the edges of the lake with the almost layered soil caused by the waves boats produce. If you look closely, you can see all the different colors of the soil as each layer dries. Add to this the changing of the tree leaves, and you have beauty that holds you spellbound. I love this place.

And now the CCVFD and TCVFD Call Log for August

8/2/06: Training/meeting. Station clean-up, re-equip apparatus.

8/8/06: Medical –Report of patient in Coffee Creek with possible allergic reaction to food. AMA'd, canceled on-scene.

8/9/06: Training – Joint w/CCVFD & FEAT @ TCVFD. Pumping/booster pumping, traffic control, communications.

8/12/06: Medical – Report of patient with chest pains, difficulty breathing. Treat/transport.

8/12/06: Medical/traffic collision - Dispatched on solo m/c crash on S/R 3 @ Stuarts Fork bridge. Canceled enroute

8/14/06: Medical - Report of unresponsive patient. Deceased.

8/16/06: Medical –Report of patient with possible fx arm. Treat/POV transport.

8/16/06: Training – medical, joint w/CCVFD @ CCVFD. Skills: gurney, spider, trauma pt assessment.

8/19/06: Medical - Report of patient with chest pains. Treat/transport.

8/19/06: Medical - TCSD reports male patient prone on side of S/R 3. Treat/transport.

8/21/06: Medical - Patient with laceration advising he was victim of a 245 PC which occurred in Weaverville. Treat/transport.

8/22/06: Medical - Report of patient with possible broken ankle. Treat/transport.

8/27/06: Medical - Report of solo traffic collision patient at Coffee Creek Ranch. Assess/no treat/no transport.