

# GATED WYE

March 2007 . Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal . 4760 Portland Road NE . Salem Oregon 97305-1760 . No. 278

## Cooperative disposal of Illegal fireworks continues

In a collaborative effort between Oregon State Police (OSP), Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R), Portland Metro Explosive Disposal and the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM), hundreds of pounds of fireworks were destroyed during two controlled burns in February at the TVF&R training facility in Sherwood, Oregon.

Fire departments and public safety officials storing confiscated fireworks are encouraged to contact the OSFM to arrange for transportation, storage and demolition of the items. Contact License and Permit Services Manager Anita Phillips at 503-1540, ext. 264 or email [anita.phillips@state.or.us](mailto:anita.phillips@state.or.us).



From left: Steve Sigurdson from OSP, Steve Forster from TVF&R and Derik Gulsvig from the Portland Police Bureau discuss the correct type of fireworks appropriate for burning.

"This is an excellent effort between all organizations involved," states OSP Arson and Explosives Section Manager Steve Sigurdson. "The professionalism demonstrated by everyone makes the whole process work very smoothly."

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue Assistant Fire Marshal Steve Forster agrees, "The cooperation has been everything we expected and more. When all burns are complete we'll have disposed of several thousand pounds of fireworks."

Burns will continue until the current stock of confiscated fireworks is destroyed.

Loading fireworks into the high-temp carbon steel burn bin.



Steve Sigurdson and Mike Blank (right) from the OSP Bomb Squad assemble the remote igniter.

Illegal fireworks go up in smoke.



## From the desk of the State Fire Marshal



**“Our first goal is to protect the funds from being diverted to cover \$738,384 in un-reimbursed mobilization costs from 2005-06 fire seasons.”**

### Fire service statewide will benefit from FIPT revenue

**W**hen I had to draft a staff layoff list for our fire program five years ago, I never imagined we'd be projecting a \$6 million Fire Insurance Premium Tax (FIPT) ending balance for the 2005-07 biennium. Now, with support from insurers and the Oregon fire service, we are working on the best ways to invest the increased revenues.

Our first goal is to protect the funds from being diverted to cover \$738,384 in un-reimbursed mobilization costs from the 2005-06 fire seasons. Although the Legislative Fiscal Office proposes to pay this balance from FIPT revenues, the Governor, fire service and insurers all oppose this use of the funds.

Our second goal is to invest FIPT revenues to continue to reduce fire losses. At OSFM, we have increased our resources to reduce residential fire losses through effective public education. The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST), has bolstered resources supporting regional and local training for rural communities.

With advice from the Governor's Fire Service Policy Council, DPSST Fire Policy Committee and fire service leaders, an investment package to enhance fire protection training and certification will go before the Legislature. Included for the first time are funds for DPSST to deliver training for fire prevention professionals.

Also included in the investment package are funds for part-time fire district liaison officers to help rural departments obtain and maintain certification and for part-time trainers serving rural volunteer departments. Funds are also targeted for leadership development and ethics training for fire officers and elected fire officials and training for Type 2 and 3 all-risk incident command.

Please support this investment in your communities' fire protection by contacting your associations and members of the Ways and Means Committee, particularly members of the Public Safety Subcommittee.



**State Fire Marshal  
Nancy Orr**

**Office of  
State Fire Marshal**

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The *Gated Wye* is published monthly by the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal. For submissions or suggestions contact Rich Hoover at 503-373-1540 ext. 217 or email [richard.hoover@state.or.us](mailto:richard.hoover@state.or.us). In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, alternative formats of this publication are available, contact 503-373-1540 ext. 228 or email [colleen.olson@state.or.us](mailto:colleen.olson@state.or.us).

# Safer-cigarette bill passes Oregon House

The Oregon House of Representatives voted February 22 to unanimously approve House Bill 2163A, requiring only fire-safe cigarettes be sold in Oregon.

Representatives Diane Rosenbaum (D-Portland) and Patti Smith (R-Corbett) carried the bill to the House floor in a gesture of bipartisan support from the House Business and Labor committee after a unanimous 'do pass' recommendation from the Committee on February 14. Rosenbaum spoke of the 28-year history of the fire-safe cigarette issue in Oregon and Smith noted it was "a great honor to carry this bill."

Representatives Smith and Rosenbaum also recognized the significant work of retired firefighters Tom Whelan and Tim Birr along with the Office of State Fire Marshal and members of the Oregon fire service in collaborating with the tobacco industry to develop a bill unifying previously different viewpoints.

Representatives speaking on behalf of the bill included Mike Schaufler, Suzanne Bonamici, Debbie Boone, Bob Jenson, Mitch Greenlick, Brian Boquist and Bill Garrard.

To view a complete list of Senate and House bills concerning the fire service, visit the OSFM website at [http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/2007\\_Legislative\\_bills.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/2007_Legislative_bills.shtml). Bills are listed in numerical order and by OSFM priority. Each bill is accompanied by a brief narrative and a link to the complete text of the bill. For more information, contact Donna Disch at [donna.disch@state.or.us](mailto:donna.disch@state.or.us) or 503-373-1540, ext. 275.

# Invitation for annual Sparky awards nominations

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is accepting nominations for the 2006 Golden and Silver Sparky awards. Nomination forms are available online at [http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Administration/Sparky\\_2006\\_Nom.doc](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Administration/Sparky_2006_Nom.doc) or by calling Laura Drager at 503-373-1540, ext. 211 or email [laura.drager@state.or.us](mailto:laura.drager@state.or.us). The nomination deadline is March 30, 2007.

Submit completed forms with an explanation and examples of your nominee's achievements and contributions to preventing fires and fire losses in Oregon.

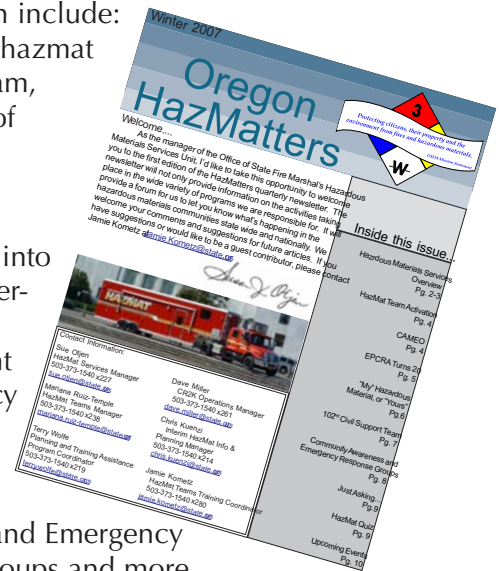
Send forms to Chief Deputy Randy Simpson by mail to OSFM or email [randy.simpson@state.or.us](mailto:randy.simpson@state.or.us). Awards will be presented May 18, 2007 at the Oregon Fire Service Meritorious Awards banquet.

# New hazardous materials newsletter available from OSFM

The Office of State Fire Marshal Hazardous Material Services unit (HazMat) has published the first edition of *Oregon HazMatters*, a quarterly newsletter providing information on programs, training and other activities available from the HazMat unit. The newsletter also serves as a forum for hazardous materials activities in communities statewide and nationally.

Topics in the winter 2007 edition include: activating a hazmat response team, integration of Hazardous Substance Information Survey data into the Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations software, Community Awareness and Emergency Response groups and more.

Register to receive the newsletter via email by sending an email with *Oregon HazMatters* in the subject line to [sfm.cr2k@state.or.us](mailto:sfm.cr2k@state.or.us). Please include your name, title and organization. For more information contact Jamie Kometz at 503-373-1540, ext. 280 or email [jamie.kometz@state.or.us](mailto:jamie.kometz@state.or.us).



## OSFM new employee

**Jackie Sparks**  
**Survey Processor**

Sparks worked in retail for five years before beginning her state service in 2001 at the Department of Motor Vehicles Driver Suspensions and Driver Records units.



As a Survey Processor in the Office of State Fire Marshal's Community Right to Know unit she is responsible for processing, reviewing and data entry of hazardous substance information surveys.

A Salem native, Sparks enjoys all types of outdoor activities.

"I'm very happy to be working here and look forward to working with a great team and accomplishing fulfilling work," says Sparks.

## Deputy State Fire Marshal Caul reappointed to regional code action committee

**D**eputy State Fire Marshal John Caul has been reappointed as one of two western region representatives to the Western/Canadian Region Code Action Committee for the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM). Caul is one of eight regional NASFM representatives taking part in the 2007-08 International Code Council cycle.

"This is an honor for me," states Caul. "I am please to serve a second term on the Western/Canadian Region Code Action Committee and represent the National Association of State Fire Marshals."

## Did you know...

The Oregon Burn Center has scheduled class dates for the Advanced Burn Life Support Pre-Hospital course. The six-hour training, developed by the American Burn Association, provides paramedics, transport teams and emergency care personnel with the skills and information to assess and stabilize burn patients at the scene of an emergency. Courses are scheduled throughout 2007 in Portland, Newport and Eugene.

For a list of class dates and locations visit <http://www.legacyhealth.org/body.cfm?id=6&action=list&category=7&subcategory=76>.

To register or for more information, contact Kirsten Balding at 503-413-2398 or [kbalding@lhs.org](mailto:kbalding@lhs.org).



The Department of Energy (DOE) Hydrogen Program has a web-based course titled *Introduction to Hydrogen Safety for First Responders*. The course provides an overview on hydrogen for fire, law enforcement and emergency medical personnel.

The course may be accessed at [www.hydrogen.energy.gov/firstresponders](http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/firstresponders).



Fire departments and districts may download public education material on the hazards of carbon monoxide poisoning from the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission's website.

Items available for download include a poster and doorhangers on the proper use of portable generators and a brochure on charcoal grill safety. Some items are available in English and Spanish. To access these and other publications visit <http://www.cpsc.gov/cgi-bin/pub.aspx> and click on your desired subject.

## SFM Orr records novelty lighter appeal

State Fire Marshal Nancy Orr recently recorded a video public service announcement (PSA) urging fire departments and districts throughout the country to submit data from incidents of juvenile set fires where a novelty lighter was used as the ignition device.

The PSA is underwritten by Richard Lambert, president of The Idea Bank. When complete, the PSA will be available via a link on the Office of State Fire Marshal website. The link address will be provided in the April issue of the *Gated Wye*.

A novelty lighter incident report form is available from the OSFM website at [http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Comm\\_Ed/NoveltyLighterIncidentElectronic.doc](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Comm_Ed/NoveltyLighterIncidentElectronic.doc).



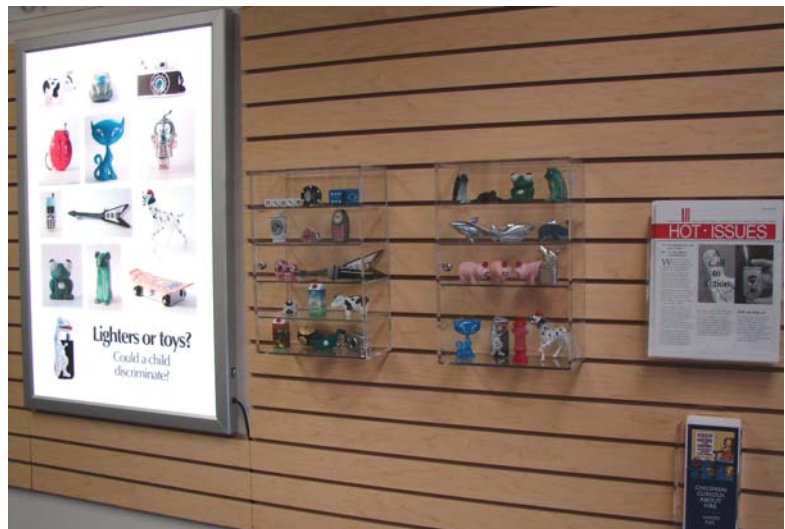
*Richard Lambert (center) from The Idea Bank, interviews State Fire Marshal Nancy Orr.*

## OSFM lobby display features novelty lighters

A new display in the lobby of the Oregon State Fire Marshal building in Salem highlights the dangers of novelty lighters and encourages visitors to participate in the national call to action.

Part of the display includes several acrylic boxes containing novelty lighters and serves as a dramatic illustration of the similarities between novelty lighters and toys or other items attractive to children.

Also included in the display are samples of the letter from State Fire Marshal Nancy Orr to the chair of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, copies of the novelty lighter incident report form, brochures on children safety with matches and lighters and copies of the Summer 2006 edition of the *Hot Issues* newsletter focusing on the problem of novelty lighters.



*Part of the novelty lighter display located in the lobby of the OSFM building in Salem.*

## Fire service day at the capitol set for May 22

Fire Service Day at the capitol has been set for Tuesday, May 22, 2007. This is an excellent opportunity for the Oregon fire service to highlight the importance of fire safety to citizens and legislators.

Departments may also have the opportunity to showcase their latest life saving equipment and firefighting apparatus in the front of the capitol. There will also be space inside the Capitol Galleria for organizations to set up fire safety displays. For departments interested in participating contact Genoa Ingram at 503-378-0595 or email [genoa@westernadvocates.com](mailto:genoa@westernadvocates.com).

## Workshops scheduled for FY 2007 Assistance to Firefighter Grants

The Assistance to Firefighter Grants (AFG) regional staff are conducting a series of workshops nationwide to provide current grant information to applicants. Workshops are conducted by AFG regional representatives and offer program information to any fire and/or EMS organization desiring to submit a 2007 AFG application. The 2007 workshop schedule may be accessed at <http://www.firegrantsupport.com/Workshop/display/workshops.aspx>. The workshop schedule may be revised at times so potential attendees are encouraged to visit the web site frequently to verify dates, locations and times. The workshops are free.

The schedule link also provides information about the conduct of the workshops, including points of contact. If you are unable to attend a workshop, an electronic copy of the PowerPoint presentation used at the workshops along with an applicant tutorial, FY 2007 AFG Program Guidance and a list of frequently asked questions will be available on their website. Potential applicants are also encouraged to use the AFG help desk at 1-866-274-0960 or email [firegrants@dhs.gov](mailto:firegrants@dhs.gov).

## OFCA Meritorious award nominations now being accepted

The Oregon Fire Chiefs Association (OFCA) is accepting nominations for its Meritorious Awards to be given out at their 6<sup>th</sup> annual banquet May 18, 2007 at the Portland Expo Center.

Nomination forms are available at [http://dailydispatch.com/Assets/dept\\_0/PM/pdf/2007%20Packet%20With%20Cover.pdf](http://dailydispatch.com/Assets/dept_0/PM/pdf/2007%20Packet%20With%20Cover.pdf). Deadline for submitting nominations is Friday, March 30, 2007. For more information, contact the OFCA at 503-587-9427 or email [ofca@ofca.org](mailto:ofca@ofca.org).

### Product recalls

Atmel Corporation recalls to upgrade software in microcontrollers of Honeywell digital cellular communicators used as a means of security communication for a residence or business.

The microcontroller may lockup, failing to transmit an alarm signal in the event of a fire or property invasion. The recall involves the Atmel microcontroller AT91SAM7S256 installed in Honeywell digital cellular communicator model 7845GSM.

Customers should contact Honeywell at 800-573-0154 between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. EDT Monday - Friday or visit <http://www.security.honeywell.com>.

Gamewell-FCI recalls to upgrade software used with fire alarm system control boards by Honeywell. Incoming and outgoing messages from the control board may interfere with each other preventing messages from the command center in the event of a fire.

The software upgrade involves Gamewell-FCI model ILI-MB-E3 and ILI-S-E3 loop control boards, of the Gamewell-FCI E3 series fire alarm system.

Gamewell-FCI is contacting customers directly to provide free firmware and software upgrades. For more information, contact Gamewell-FCI at 800-633-1311 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. EDT Monday - Friday or visit [www.gamewell-fci.com](http://www.gamewell-fci.com).



# Benzene $C_6H_6$

## Description:

- Synonym(s): benzol; carbon oil; cyclohexatriene; phenol hydride
- Colorless to light yellow, mobile, non-polar liquid with aromatic odor
- Hazard Classes: (3.2) flammable liquid with flash point between 0 & 73 deg. F; (6.3) acute health hazard; (6.4) chronic health hazard
- CAS Number: 71-43-2
- UN-NA Number: 1114

## NFPA Information:

- Health – 2
- Flammability – 3
- Reactivity – 0
- Special Notice - None

## Uses and Occurrences:

- As a solvent or a constituent in medicines, dyes artificial leather, linoleum, oil cloth, pesticides, plastics and resins, PCB, aviation fuel, detergents, flavors and perfumes, paints and varnishes, explosives, high octane gasoline and more. Used in veterinary medicine to destroy screwworm larva in wounds

## Reactivity and Fire Risk:

- Flammable; dangerous fire risk
- Flash Point: 12 deg. F
- Vapors are heavier than air and may travel to a source of ignition and flash back. Liquid floats on water and may travel to a source of ignition and spread fire
- Upper Explosive Limit (UEL): 7.1%
- Lower Explosive Limit (LEL): 1.3%
- Stable, hazardous polymerization will not occur
- Reacts with oxidizing materials

## Health Hazards:

- Toxic. Carcinogen
- TLV: 10 ppm in air
- Moderate health hazard. May be harmful if absorbed through skin or inhaled. Irritating to eyes, skin, and respiratory system
- Chronic effects: dermatitis, leukemia, bone marrow damage, reproductive effects

## Personal Protective Equipment:

- Wear appropriate clothing to prevent repeated or prolonged skin contact
- Protective goggles with face shield
- Wear full-faced supplied air respirator or SCBA if concentration is above the TLV

## Inspection and Storage Tips:

- Outside or detached storage is preferred
- Inside storage should be in a standard flammable liquids storage warehouse, room or cabinet
- Separate from any oxidizing materials

## IFC Information:

- Class 1-B Flammable Liquid
- Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) per S occupancy control area:
  - Unprotected by sprinklers or approved storage cabinets: 120 gallons
  - In sprinklered building, not within approved storage cabinets: 240 gallons
  - In unsprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 240 gallons
  - In sprinklered building, within approved storage cabinets: 480 gallons
- For storage of quantities exceeding the MAQ for S occupancies, the storage facility must conform to H-2 or H-3 occupancy requirements

## Incident Reporting and Information:

- There is one facility in Oregon currently reporting benzene in its pure form on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey
- There have been three hazardous materials incidents reported in Oregon since 1986 involving benzene

Bill Brauer is a Community Planning Coordinator in the OSFM Community Right to Know unit. He can be reached at 503-373-1540 ext. 233 or bill.brauer@state.or.us

## In memoriam

**Trueman R. "Duke" Groff**  
1940 - 2006



**G**roff was a volunteer with Charleston Fire District from 1965 to 1980. In 1980, Groff began his tenure as the Charleston Fire District Chief until retiring in 1996. Groff also served in the Air Force, Army, Army Reserves and Oregon National Guard.

Groff was a member of the Southwest Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, Fire Instructors Association and Firefighters Association. He also helped advance the Emergency Medical and Fire Service programs at Southwestern Community College, assisted in developing hazardous materials teams throughout the state and served 12 years on the Intergovernmental Hazards Communication Council for Oregon. After retirement, Groff devoted thousands of hours of volunteer work for Millington Fire District, the Coos County Citizens Emergency Response Teams, the Southwestern

Oregon Public Safety Association and the local chapter of the American Red Cross.

Donations in his honor may be made to Charleston Community Church, South Coast Hospice or any nonprofit public safety organization.

## Retirement

**M**ultnomah County RFPD #14 announces the retirement of volunteer firefighter Douglas A. Quinn who served 47 years as a volunteer firefighter. Quinn joined the department in November 1959 while a senior in high school. He rose through the ranks serving as a firefighter, lieutenant and captain. He also performed as the departmental supply officer for many years. Eventually, Quinn's father, brother and son joined the department, making his family the first of five families to have three generations serve Multnomah County RFPD #14. At his retirement celebration, Quinn expressed his gratitude at participating in the "greatest organization and tradition in the country."



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