

THE FIRE LINE

Fire District #4 News

By, Irv Schick

LAST ALARM

In December, two retired Fire District 4 members passed away. Hal Howard and David Wayson. They both contributed to our community and they will be missed.

FYI

For the year 2017, the District responded to four hundred and eight requests for service.

15 structure fires, 20 wildland fires, 5 vehicle fires, 10 misc. fires, 205 emergency medical calls, 61 vehicle accidents, 8 rescue/extrications, 2 search and rescue incidents, 7 electrical/powerline incidents, 1 other hazardous situation, 31 personal service calls, 5 unauthorized burning calls, 1 miscellaneous service call, 4 authorized burning calls, 5 dispatched and cancelled calls, 7 wrong location/nothing found calls, 10 steam/clouds mistaken for smoke calls, 4 false alarms and 7 system false alarms.

For the year, members contributed two thousand four hundred and thirty-three hours of their time for incident responses and training.

THANK YOU

The members of Fire District 4 would like to thank our mutual aid partners for their assistance at two recent incidents.

Chewelah Fire Department and Fire District 5 for their assistance at a structure fire on highway 395 north of Chewelah.

Fire District 1 and Chewelah Fire Department for their assistance at a structure fire on E. Jumpoff Rd.

Mutual Aid assistance is greatly appreciated and is another example of neighbors helping neighbors.

FOR THE RECORD

In December, Fire District 4 responded to forty requests for assistance. One flammable/combustible liquid spill, one

controlled burning call, two electrical wiring/equipment problems, twenty-two emergency medical calls, four vehicle accidents, one vehicle fire, four personal service calls, one steam or clouds mistaken for smoke, three structure fires and one ice/water rescue.

For the month, our volunteer members gave two hundred and thirty-four hours of their time for incident responses and training.

HELP US HELP YOU

Over the last few weeks, the District has responded to fires in chimneys that needed cleaning and inspection. One incident resulted in thousands of dollars of damage to the structure. It is understandable that owners might be reluctant to have a professional chimney expert remove a fireplace insert, clean and inspect a chimney, but the cost may be small in comparison to the cost and inconvenience of a structure fire.

Private roads and driveways that are unplowed or otherwise inaccessible to large vehicles can delay or make impossible getting a fire truck or ambulance to you. If the UPS driver cannot get up your driveway, the ambulance or fire truck probably cannot get in. Do your best to keep your drive plowed.

REMEMBER: Volunteer firefighters and EMT's are **your** neighbors helping **their** neighbors!