



HOTSHOTS... for the Gilbert Fire Department Volunteers

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Kim's Corner

By Kim Yonda
GFD Volunteer Coordinator

Summer, one of my favorite times of the year, is approaching. This is a time families and friends gather for barbecues, family vacations, and yes, a little sunshine! So many of us live such a busy life balancing work and family that it is important to incorporate time for you into your schedule! YOU deserve it! This summer kick off your shoes, rub your feet in the sand, jump in the pool, and laugh with your children/grandchildren. Seize the day!

While you are creating magical moments this summer, please remember to keep safety a priority:



- Please remember to watch children around every kind of water.
- Be sure you shut off the gas valve on your barbecue every time.
- When going on a bike ride with your child, be sure everyone is wearing a helmet.
- Before you leave for a road trip, check to see that you have an emergency kit in your car.
- When was the last time you practiced your home evacuation plan?

Thank you for taking the appropriate measures to be prepared for any type of emergency, whether small, or large. I appreciate that you utilize the skills and training you have gained through Volunteering to educate and assist others. Your passion for safety and preparedness saves lives. Thank you for making a difference!

Dare to dream ~

P.S. Remember to take a little time each day for yourself! ☺

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

BY CARMIN BATTISTA

I have been keeping busy with all the weddings I have been doing. (This time of year is a busy time for a wedding officiate). I like doing them because the majority of my couples don't have a pastor to do this for them. This gives me an opportunity to be there to provide them with a service that is a great blessing for all of us. I like being a Volunteer with Gilbert Fire because it gives me a chance to give back to the community, and to the best people on earth; the Gilbert Fire department. If we would all do our parts everyone would come out a whole lot better in life!

Things are going well with my wife and eight-year-old son. I try to spend time with them on the weekends, in between weddings and on call time. I think it is very important to spend time together as a family. Other than God, my family is the most important thing to me. I could not imagine my life without either of them!

The greatest part about being a Volunteer is spending time around Gilbert's Finest. One thing we have in common is that we both spend our time giving our selves to others. And the majority of our time is spent tending to the needs of others. That is what it is about, anyway. We also have a great group of Volunteers. There is something special about being around a group of people who don't get paid, (at least not with money) yet spend their time in the service of others. I know that this is a good thing, and that it greatly pleases God.

Until next time, Carmin Battista.



Facts About Fires

1. Most people don't understand fire
2. More than 4,000 Americans die in fires every year
3. Approximately 25,000 are injured
4. Many fires could have been prevented
5. Nearly 1,000 lives are lost to fires that originate in the bedroom
6. About 100 firefighters are killed in the line of duty each year
7. Fires kill more Americans than all the natural disasters combined
8. Children playing with fire set over 100,000 fires annually
9. Over 30% of children playing with fire are killed by that fire
10. A house fire is reported in the US every 90 seconds
11. 1.9 million fires are reported each year
12. Someone in the USA dies in a house fire every two and a half hours

Reviewing CERT

By Johnna Switzer
GFD Volunteer

It looks as if we have two possible opportunities to participate in statewide Volunteer drills (exercises) in September and October. These would be some of the first "statewide" drills for CERT in Arizona. They should be very educational days for all who attend.

This month I will present some general CERT questions to get you looking ahead if you are planning to attend one of the drills. Be sure to pull out your CERT manuals and CERT bags and do a quick review/supply check so you feel comfortable the day of the drill.

Enjoy your summer and stay safe!

1. Sizeup is a cumulative process and each step builds on previous steps. The first step is to:
 - a. Gather facts.
 - b. Establish priorities.
 - c. Take action.
 - d. Evaluate progress.

2. CERT members should always wear complete safety gear, including:
 - a. Breathing apparatus for smoke-filled rooms or areas.
 - b. Specialized equipment for hazardous materials.
 - c. Helmet, boots, goggles, gloves, and a dust mask.
 - d. Backpack containing a portable fire extinguisher.

3. Before entering a closed room, CERT members should:
 - a. Test door handles, checking for signs of heat.
 - b. Have an extinguisher ready before opening a door that feels hot.
 - c. Feel closed doors with the back of the hand, from the bottom up.
 - d. Cover nose and mouth to keep from inhaling smoke.



A Little Laugh

A man who worked at a fire hydrant factory was always late for work. When confronted by his boss the man explained with a straight face: "You can't find a spot to park anywhere near this goofy place!"

Dear Ms. Yonda:

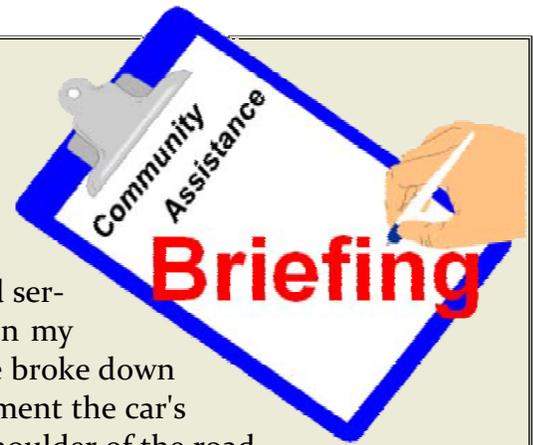
Please accept this letter as a commendation for both of the Gilbert Fire Department Volunteers, Katharine Keller and Dan Zehring. Their dedicated service surprised me yesterday, the 17th of May, when my trusty (well not so "trusty" anymore) Buick LeSabre broke down on Lindsay Road just South of Guadalupe. The moment the car's engine suddenly stopped, I steered the car to the shoulder of the road which was the only plausible solution since there was no more acceleration. Within seconds - and I do mean seconds, through my rear view mirror I noticed a Gilbert Fire pickup pull up behind me.

Both Katharine and Dan explained that once they immediately noticed smoke pouring from the back of the Buick they knew I was in trouble. What was indeed a minor incident could have turned out tragic because there was little room where I could pull the car over, and without signage I was definitely in danger of oblivious drivers hitting me. They placed one of the road hazard signs in the road to alert drivers while offering me water and cool shelter by letting me sit in their truck before the tow truck arrived. I had already called my sister to pick me up, and though she was on her way, Dan mentioned that if I couldn't get a ride home they would take me. As if this wasn't enough, they remained with me until my sister and the tow truck showed up, just to make sure I would be okay.

Now I know many people might not take the time to write to you for such an insignificant event; however, there is way too much negative correspondence when things go wrong. I truly believe that when your team (which reflects on the outstanding training they've had) does above and beyond service, they should be recognized for it.

Please let me know if there is anything I myself can do to assist you in maintaining a great team of excellent volunteers. Keep up the fabulous work!

Dawn Stephens



You've Been Spotted

Thank you for doing something great!



Roman Kucinski
Bob Hoebemann
Susan Squire
Judy Slack
Steve Smith

Justin Dupuy
Jerry Witt
Larry Taggart
Kevin Allen

You are appreciated!

Reviewing Community Assistance

By Dianna Erickson and Ryan Keating, GFD Volunteers

1. What do you do after you read an e-mail in Community Assistance e-mails?
 - A. Erase it
 - B. Erase it
 - C. Erase it
 - D. All of the above

2. What is the new SOP for generating a service call?
 - A. Stay on Channel 1 and just do it
 - B. Create a call through dispatch. Include address, and type of service. Turn radio to channel 3.
 - C. Go out of service

3. What do you need to do with the computer if you are the first shift on Thursday?
 - A. Nothing
 - B. Just turn it on like always
 - C. Re-boot (Log out of I-mobile. Turn computer off. Turn it back on and log back in.)

4. Who do you call when you feel that an adult customer is not able to take care of himself, or is not being cared for correctly by a caregiver?
 - A. CPS
 - B. APS
 - C. Police

Applause! Applause! Applause!

A Round of applause to Dianna Erickson, Jeff East, Katharine Keller and Craig Randolph for the excellent customer service they recently provided on a call in Gilbert. Thank you!

HOTSTUFF

JUNE

7	COM 251 Meeting	4:00 -6:00 PM	Room 6	CA
9	Customer Service	6:00 -10:00 PM	Room 6	CA
12	Logistics Team	8:30 -10:00 AM	Room 1	△
12	CCC CPR	9:00 -10:30 AM	Room 6	Community
12	Specialties Team	10:00 -11:00 AM	Room 1	△
12	Little Caesars Pizza Pick Up	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Room 2	CERT/FC
15	Radio Communications	6:00 -9:00 PM	Room 6	CA
23	CCC CPR	6:00 -7:30 PM	Room 6	Community

JULY

19	Co-Chair Meeting	4:00 -6:00 PM	Room 6	Co-Chairs
19	Operations Team	6:30 -8:00 PM	Room 6	△

△ Supplemental Training classes are open to CERT, FC, and VIPS Volunteers.
Register with Kim Yonda @ 480-503-6325 or kim.yonda-lead@gilbertaz.gov

*An up to the minute CERT/FC training calendar will be found at
<http://www.ci.gilbert.az.us/fire/volunteers.cfm>*

Welcome

New GFD Volunteers

Nicole Hayes

Royd Hayes

Kevin Johansen

Judy Martinez

Kyle Varner