

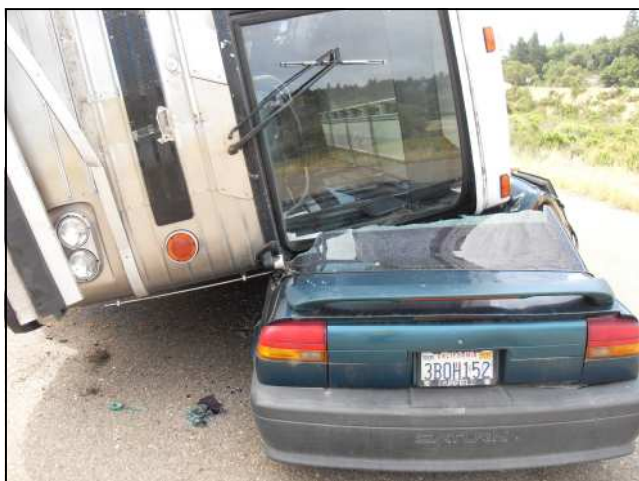
THE FIREHOUSE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GEYSERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

VOLUME VI, ISSUE II

DECEMBER 2010

OPEN HOUSE AT THE FIRE HOUSE



On June 4th, 5th, and 6th 2010 the Geyserville Fire Department hosted one of the largest bus extrication classes in Northern California. The class had speakers from the CHP, County Emergency Medical Services and Hazmat, the Fire Chief from the city of Williams, and auto extrication experts from throughout California. The class concentrated on multi-casualty incidents involving large tour buses like the one shown here. The training included an in-depth look at new extrication tools and techniques. Training was provided for Paratech rescue struts, high pressure lifting air bags, low pressure lifting bags, Holmatro extri-

cation tools and other miscellaneous tools. The training was made possible by a grant from California's Indian Gaming Special Distribution Fund sponsored by the Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians. "These types of trainings are rare because of the cost involved. It is hard to find busses in such good shape



that we can cut them up," commented Chief Pignoni. "We really got our money's worth," he added. As part of the training, the two buses had their sides, seats and windows removed, as well as the doors taken off and roof cut up. The buses were put over embankments and on top of other cars and simulated victims. "We did almost everything we could think of with these buses," according to Steve Carpenter, the lead instructor for FS3, a company that sells extrication equipment and supplied four instructors for the class. "This was a rare opportunity, you guys are lucky- something like this doesn't come along very often," added Carpenter.

FACTS ABOUT THE GFPD:

- Protects over 200 Square miles
- Responds to over 500 emergencies a year.
- 29 Volunteers
- 3 Stations
- 9 Emergency Vehicles
- 50 Mutual Aid Calls a year
- Thousands of hours of training a year.

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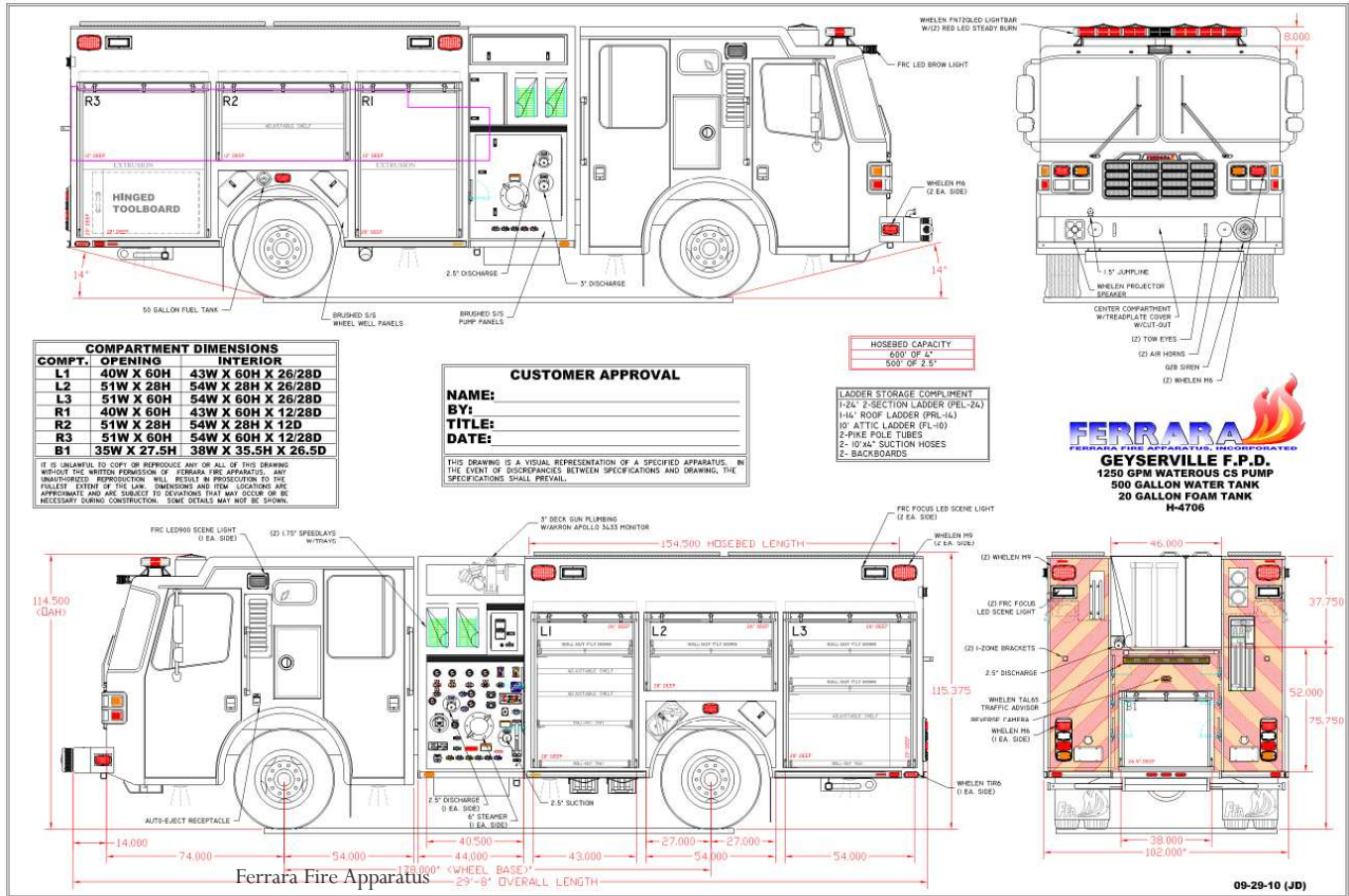
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NEW RESCUE ENGINE ON ORDER



The Geyserville Fire Department has placed an order with The Ferrara Fire Apparatus company from Louisiana. The new engine will replace 6182, a 1971 Van Pelt that has served us many years but is in dire need of replacement. The new engine will be similar to 6181, carrying an array of fire-fighting, rescue, and EMS equipment. "The Geyserville Fire Department is an

all-risk organization that responds to all types of emergencies; we need apparatus that can support that mission," states Battalion Chief Chris Colgan. Chief Colgan worked together with Chief Paul Pigoni and the staff of Ferrara to design an engine that fits the needs of our unique District. The engine is scheduled to be delivered some-time in the early spring, after an ap-

pearance at Firehouse World in San Diego, the largest fire trade show on the west coast. The engine is expected to be in service by May 1st and will be the featured attraction at our open house on May 8, 2011 at Station 1. Updates on the engine will be posted on our website when they are available.

GEYSERVILLE TRIES TO RECLAIM BLOOD DONOR TITLE

Blood Drive January 14th

Blood Bank of the Redwoods collected 1,471 donations during our *4th Annual Bucket Brigade* competition. More than forty fire departments from Sonoma, Lake, and Mendocino counties participated in the friendly contest which takes place each winter, when donations are typically down. This year the Win-

dsor Fire Department took the coveted Bucket Brigade trophy home by recruiting 175 blood donors! The Geyserville Fire Department, which won last year, came in second place with 130 donors, and the Lakeport Fire Department was close behind with 119 donors. Donations were up by 316 pints this year, setting a new Bucket Brigade record. The Gey-

serville Fire Department needs your help to bring the trophy back to Geyserville. Though we are a much smaller community, let's show them what Geyserville is made of.....Blood! To give blood, please stop by Station 1 on Geyserville Avenue on January 14, 2011 between the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

INTERSHIP PROGRAM BRINGS ADDITIONAL STAFFING

The Geyserville Fire Department is proud to announce the completion of our first intern program. The intern program is designed to utilize people with minimal training and experience to work in the fire station while training them to become firefighters. "It's a win-



Michael Hurst



David Murray III

win situation" says Lieutenant Carlos Mendez, who has been put in charge of coordinating the interns. "They help us protect the Geyserville Community and they get a great training program that puts them in a position to get a State Firefighter 1 certificate," Mendez added.

Michael Hurst

from Santa Rosa was the first intern to complete the program, followed shortly by one of our own volunteers, David Murray III. Congratulations to both of them! We wish them luck in their pursuit of a career in the fire service.

The Geyserville Fire Department is now accepting applications for the position of Firefighter Intern. Applications are available online at geyservillefire.com or at Station 1 in Geyserville.

FIRST ELECTION IN 14 YEARS BRINGS NEW BOARD MEMBER

Congratulations to newly elected board member Dane Petersen of the Alexander Valley. Mr. Petersen along with reelected board members Tim Bernard and Robert Stewart will serve a 4 year term on the board. Harry Bosworth and Rick Groff are currently two years

into their four year term to complete the five person board. The Board of Directors meets on the second Wednesday of every month in compliance with the Brown Act. The Geyserville Fire Protection District was established in 1996 and made the Geyserville

Fire Department independent of the County's rule. This allowed the Board of Directors more control over how tax money was spent and ensured that local property taxes were spent on local fire protections rather than funding fire agencies throughout Sonoma County.

GEYSERVILLE FIRE CONTINUES TO RECRUIT VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to those who answered the call for volunteers last time. The GFPD is still in need of volunteer firefighters, especially in Alexander Valley, where we are at a critically low level! No experience is necessary and

all required training is provided by the GFPD. Becoming a volunteer firefighter is a great opportunity to become involved with your community. People who are interested in the District are encouraged to contact Station

1 at 857-3535 or visit our web site at geyservillefire.com for more information about becoming a volunteer firefighter. Please help us prevent higher taxes and fire insurance premiums. **Become a Volunteer Firefighter Today!**

DROP YOUR NEW UNWRAPPED TOY OFF AT STATION 1 BY DECEMBER 15TH AND HELP A CHILD IN NEED!



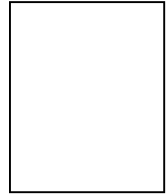
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WE'RE ON THE WEB:
GEYSERVILLEFIRE.COM

WE ARE YOUR FIRE
DEPARTMENT!

This newsletter is a collaboration between the Geyserville Fire Protection District and the Geyserville Volunteer Firefighters' Association. It is published bi-annually in May and November. It is intended to provide information to the community about news and events as it relates to the Geyserville Fire Department. If you are receiving this newsletter then our records show one of the following: You live within the Fire District boundaries, you own property within the District boundaries or you have donated money to the GVFA. If you think that you have received this newsletter in error or would like to be removed from our mailing list please contact the Headquarters Station at 857-3535.

Want to Find our more about the Geyserville Fire Department?
Check us out online at www.geyservillefire.com.

We have also joined the Social Network community and we are on Facebook.
Become a Fan of the Geyserville Fire Protection District

