



Okanogan County Fire District 6
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What if YOU have a Chimney Fire?



- 1. Evacuate everyone to safety**
- 2. Call 911**
- 3. If safe, damper down vents and/or discharge DRY extinguisher into stove or chimney**

Proposition 1 - Winthrop Annexation to the Fire District

Currently, the town of Winthrop contracts Okanogan Fire Dist #6 for fire protection and suppression within the city limits. Proposition 1 will not change our protection or response, but rather change how it is funded. A vote to annex the town of Winthrop will be held February 14th, 2017. The issue has many details, but in general, here are a couple basic points:

Prop 1 will shift the cost burden from the Town of Winthrop, to the county.

It will remove the need for contract negotiations/re-negotiations for fire protection within the city limits.

And, it will allow town residents to vote in fire district elections and also serve as Fire Commissioners. Currently, those living within the town limits do not have a voice in fire suppression issues, as services are provided/paid for by the Town of Winthrop.

Watch for an informational letter, coming soon to your mailbox.



District 6 DISPATCH

Serving the upper Methow Valley from Gold Creek to Lost River - WINTER 2017

Meet your Mazama Volunteers!

Our most remote station, the Mazama fire hall, lies directly to the south of the junction of Highway 20 and Lost River Road. It currently has a crew of 8 volunteers.

Capt. Josh Jankowski moved to Mazama in 2008 and joined the Fire District in 2012. He works remotely for a California-

based company and can often be spotted in coffee shops around the Methow Valley area with his laptop. One of his favorite parts of being a volunteer is assisting the training of newer firefighters: "District personnel really invested in my development as a firefighter early on and I want to return the favor."

Firefighter Dave Crosby "retired" and moved to Mazama with his wife Cheryl in 2012. Wanting to volunteer in the community, and with no previous firefighting experience, he joined District 6 in the spring of 2013. "The decision has opened the door to a tremendous learning opportunity, which has been challenging, yet fun and rewarding."

From the Chief



It has been a year of challenge and change. And, our members stepped up without missing a beat. They again, gave countless hours on over 280 responses for 2016 and untold hours of additional service washing rigs, station chores and community service. A special thanks to all the family, friends and employers who made it possible for our volunteers to give those hours. My first year as interim Chief would not have been possible without the excellent support of our volunteer firefighters.

Int. Chief Cody Accord



Firefighter Alan Fahnestock moved to the Methow permanently in 2007. He is "a refugee from both the wireless telecommunications industry and the former Soviet Union, where he worked for a lot of years bringing cellphones to the benighted." Alan joined the fire department in 2012 and helps train new firefighters.

Firefighter Stan Munger joined the Mazama Station in 2015 after moving to Mazama full-time that year. He and his wife, Lisa Tabbut, were part-timers in the valley from 2006 to 2015. Stan retired twice - the first time in 2006 as a Longview (WA) Police Captain; the second time in 2015 as a Private Investigator in Cowlitz County. He joined primarily "because of the devastating wildland fires of 2014 and 2015 - and the valley's need for trained people."

Firefighter Steve Ralph moved to Mazama in 2013, narrowly escaping the clutches of the big city of Seattle, where he worked as a consultant on salmon habitat analysis and river ecology. He volunteered for the fire department in 2014 because wanted to give something tangible back to the community.

Firefighter Tim Shapley grew up in the Okanogan Valley and moved with his Wife and two children to the Methow Valley in 2006. He works seasonally out of Dutch Harbor, Alaska as a Mate on a Freezer Longliner. Tim joined in 2014 with a desire to contribute to his community and a longing for adventure.

Firefighter Randy Picklesheimer is the longest serving active volunteer out of the Mazama station. In an area where fire hydrants are a scarce commodity, the Mazama station benefits from Randy's long history as a professional driver in his ability to operate the station's water tender which has a 3,000 gallon capacity.

Fire Recruit Brandon Richison joined the Mazama Station in mid-2016. During the summer months, he patrolled the upper Methow Valley as part of a DNR crew. In the winter, Brandon can be found behind the wheel of the Zamboni at the Winthrop Ice Rink. Brandon takes full advantage of every training opportunity available to him with the goal of advancing his firefighting skills as quickly as possible.