



A COMMUNITY SERVICE PUBLICATION OF CLAYTON FIRE RESCUE

Clayton Fire Rescue News

January 2016

The Pursuit of....

(A letter from the editor- Alissa Olson)

As we begin a new year most of the population makes an effort to set goals. Webster's Dictionary defines a goal as "the object of a person's ambition or effort; an aim or desired result". The goals can be vast, anything from weight loss, debt reduction, travel plans, etc. As, I read a news article today I learned that sadly, only 8% of people who make "New Year Resolutions" meet their goal. Even more depressing was the fact that most people give up on their goal within 3 weeks. This got me to thinking that maybe we are simply doing ourselves a disservice by setting our goals too high. What if this year we all simply made it our goal to be happy? After all, Happiness is letting go of what you think your life is supposed to look like and celebrating it for everything that it is. Even on my worst days I would be hard pressed to not find at least one thing to be happy about. So this year I'm leaving the hard to achieve goals on the shelf and I'm going to keep it simple...I will spend my year in the Pursuit of Happiness and I don't plan to settle for anything less. Have a wonderful year. -Alissa

A New Beginning

(From the desk of Chief Scott Rieckmann)

2016 brings about a wonderful opportunity for our community. We are fortunate to have a team of dedicated firefighters and EMS personnel in place and ready to serve the Town of Clayton with the utmost in professionalism and effective response. The qualifications and experience among our members are unmatched in our history. We are looking forward to further developing our relationship with all of the community members and our neighboring departments. It is an honor to be given the opportunity to lead such an amazing group of men and women as we start the New Year off as Clayton Fire Rescue. Today is not just another day...It's a new beginning...Let's Embrace it. - Chief Rieckmann

Important Dates

Business Meeting - January 5th 6:30 PM
First Responder Meeting - January 12th 6:30 PM
Fire Department Training - January 19th 6:30 PM
Officers Meeting - January 26th

Birthdays

Josh Schmidt- January 1
Eric Linsmeier - January 7
Jim Austad- January 26
Alissa Olson- January 31

Business Meeting Information

It is important that all members of Clayton Fire Rescue make every effort possible to attend the January Business meeting on Tuesday the 5th. Take note that the meeting now starts at 6:30PM. We will meet in the training room at Station 43 to conduct our regular business and then a meal will follow. We hope to see everyone there.

Keeping Pets Safe This Winter

(From Morton Salt)

Winter can be hazardous for people living in cold-weather regions - and for our four-legged friends. Low awareness of household hazards and prevention measures drive too many pet injuries and fatalities each year. Some quick guidelines for winter pet safety include:

Protect Those Paws: Salted sidewalks and streets can be hard on pets' paws. For the safest melting around our four-legged friends, look for melters that are salt AND chloride free. You should also try to avoid ice melt products that are jagged, or irregular in shape, which may cut or get stuck in paw pads.

Avoid Toxic Temptations: The sweet taste of antifreeze solution is attractive to pets, but is highly toxic even in the smallest amounts. Be sure to keep all chemicals sealed on a high shelf, away from your furry friends, and clean up spills as soon as they happen.

Winter Weight: Just like humans, animals are less active in the winter and don't burn as many calories. Keep your pets healthy by reducing their diet to avoid winter weight gain. Speak with your veterinarian about proper diets during "hibernation" season.

The Expert In Anything Was Once A Beginner

Getting To Know...

Each Month we will be spotlighting one of our members so that you can become more familiar with the members of Clayton Fire Rescue.

Chief Scott Rieckmann – Fire Chief, First Responder, Fire Inspector

Tell us about yourself- I'm 53 years old and am a life-long resident of the Town of Clayton. I've been married to my wonderful wife, Amy, for 30 years, come this April. I've been in the fire service since April of 1983. I have two grown daughters who I'm proud to say are also on the department. In 2002, Amy and I started Pioneer Rescue and Outfitters LLC, a business through which we teach technical rescue to public safety officials. I am also an adjunct instructor at Fox Valley Technical College.



Chief Rieckmann (middle) with his daughters Kaylin (left) and Abby (right)

What is your favorite part of being a firefighter? - I like being able to help others in their time of need.

How has the fire service changed you? - I appreciate how fragile life is and how quickly things can change.

What is your favorite quote or saying? - "Let no one's ghost return to say their training let them down."

January Truck Inspections

Thursday January 7th - 6:00PM

Tony Seelow

Sarah Zeinert

Alissa Olson

Rick Zeinert

Jerry Mavroff

Mike Anderson

"The beginning is the most important part of the work"

Clayton Fire Rescue Officer Information

Fire Chief – Scott Rieckmann

Assistant Chief – Al Kuenzi

Captain- Todd Weber

Captain- Nick Seelow

Lieutenant- Tony Seelow

Lieutenant – Jeremy Jesse

Division Chief of EMS – Cindy Pfankuch

Division Chief of Training- Chris Fischer