# 2016

# SEASIDE FIRE & RESCUE



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

# 2016 Chief's Summary

2016 was another record setting year for call response with 1329 calls for service, an increase of 73% since 2008 and an increase of 15% since 2015. The department averaged 33 volunteers throughout the year. We were also very active with prevention, inspections, investigations, trainings, meetings, and the lifeguard program. In 2014 we implemented three new software programs- Active 911, Emergency Reporting, and Enroute Pro. Throughout 2015 and 2016, we continued to expand the use of these programs, allowing us to be more efficient and accounting for better tracking of personnel, equipment, engine maintenance, statistics and day to day operations. In the latter part of 2016, we introduced Active 911 and Emergency Reporting to other interested Clatsop County Fire Departments and assisted them with implementation and training.

In July 2016, Seaside Fire and Rescue implemented a part time program. This program was opened to Seaside Fire & Rescue Volunteers, providing station coverage all 7 days each week. The intent was multi-fold: to provide faster service for Medical, Fire and Rescue calls; to provide additional training opportunities for Volunteers and to increase familiarization of equipment, apparatus and Medical gear. The program has been a huge success and has resulted in increased efficiency and faster call response.

At our Annual Banquet, we celebrated milestone events for Years of Service for Matt Keefer (5 years) and Mike Smith (25 years). Additionally, we celebrated the retirement of Colin Houston with 25 years of service. The Fire Officer of the Year, which is voted on by all the firefighters, was Division Chief Chris Dugan. The Firefighter of the year, voted on by all the fire officers was Firefighter Cesar Alcala. The Emergency Medical Provider of the year was Firefighter Doug Roberts.

It is a privilege as the Fire Chief to be able to work with career and volunteer staff that are highly devoted to their community. Without these dedicated Men and Women of Seaside Fire & Rescue we would be unable to provide the exceptional 24 hour a day level of service to both our citizens and tourists.

On behalf of Seaside Fire & Rescue, I would like to thank the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, City Staff, and the citizens for your continued support, and for allowing us to present this report to you.

Joey Daniels Fire Chief

# **ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**

#### **Fire Chief**

Daniels - 3101

**Division Chief/Prevention** 

**Division Chief/Operations** 

Dugan - 3102

Rankin - 3103

Captain Smith - 3104

Captain Houston, G - 3105

Captain Vacant - 3106

Lieutenant

Lieutenant

Lieutenant

Lieutenant

Keefer - 3107

Houston, J - 3108 Johnson - 3109

Mullery - 3110

Lieutenant

Lieutenant

Edwards - 3111

**Dennis - 3112** 

#### **Firefighters**

Alcala Bulletset Bergeson Dague Collins Hecox Hanshew McCarthy Jackson Parker Mergel, S Schafer Roberts Talamantez Whisler Spivey

Burke

French Hutchinson Mergel, K Plummer

Schermerhorn Watts

Weiler

Chaplain

**Medical Director** 

**Pastor Sachs** 

Dr. Barret

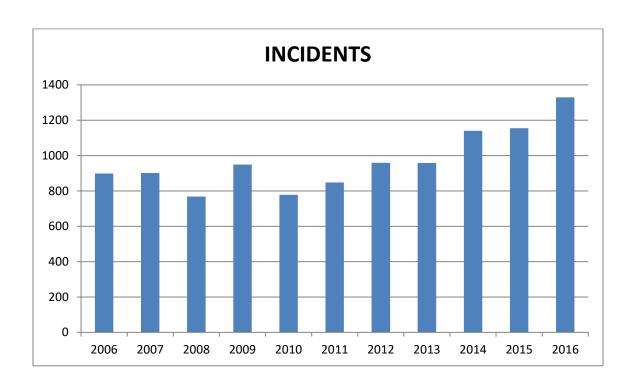
# ANNUAL REPORT 2016

# **Response Statistics:**

INCIDENT COUNT								
INCIDENT T	YPE	# INCIDENTS						
EMS		969						
FIRE			360					
TOTAL		1329						
MUTUAL AID								
Aid Type	e	Total						
Aid Give	n		14					
Aid Receiv	ved	14						
	OVERLAPP	ING CALLS						
# OVERLAPI	PING	% OVERLAPPING						
316		23.78						
AV	ERAGE RESPONSE TII	ME (Dispatch to Arriv	al)					
Station	EN	FIRE						
3100	0:08	0:07:05						
AVER	AVERAGE FOR ALL CALLS 0:07							
AVERAGE TURNOUT TIME (Dispatch to Enroute)								
Station	EN	FIRE						
3100	0:04	0:03:16						
AVER	AGE FOR ALL CALLS		0:04:18					
AVERAGE PERSONNEL	. PER INCIDENT	AVERAGE TIME ON SCENE						
6.7		23:20 (MM:SS)						

# OF MEETINGS
10
10
10
51
81

# Call Volume 2006-2016



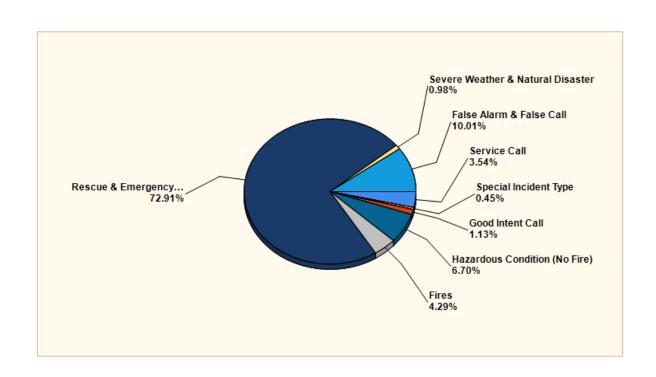
# **Volume Percentages Over 10 Years**

YEARS	# INCIDENTS	% CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR
2006	899	45%
2007	901	0%
2008	768	-14%
2009	949	19%
2010	778	-18%
2011	848	8%
2012	959	11%
2013	958	-0.10%
2014	1140	18%
2015	1155	1.30%
2016	1329	15%

# **2016 Incident Types**

MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL		
Fires	57	4.29%		
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	969	72.91%		
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	89	6.70%		
Service Call	47	3.54%		
Good Intent Call	15	1.13%		
False Alarm & False Call	133	10.01%		
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	13	0.98%		
Special Incident Type	6	0.45%		
TOTAL	1329	100.00%		

# **2016 Annual Call Ratio**



# **Training Report**

Seaside Firefighters continued to maintain and build on their skills during 2016 and we kept our regular Wednesday night trainings scheduled as "Single Company drills". Often 3 to 5 different drills during a training event allow more "hands on" training for our personnel.

Our training was divided into themed trimesters in 2016.

- The first trimester is focused on mobile water supply (smoothly moving large amounts of water to a fire scene in areas without the protection of fire hydrants), preparing for wildland season, vehicle extrication and spending time working as a team and individual companies.
- The second trimester is for Engine Operations. This is basically putting the wet stuff on the red stuff. Engine Operators work on supplying water, taking hydrants, and drafting. Firefighters practice skills like advancing hose effectively, fire attack, utilizing ropes, conservation of property, and overhaul. We also take advantage of more daylight to practice scenarios.
- Lastly, the third quarter was set aside for truck operations. In this quarter Aerial Operators practice their placement and maneuvers. Firefighters practice skills like working off the aerial, ground ladder placement, search & rescue, and ventilation.

The following will help you distinguish the chain of command on the fire ground:

Black Helmet: Firefighter-in-Training. All of our personnel complete the required NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) and OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) training before they can respond to incidents. These probationary firefighters are still lacking in experience however.

Yellow Helmet: The line firefighter is the backbone of the department. They are competent personnel who show strength at the individual level, and especially at the group level.

Red Helmet: Company Level Officer. May lead a team, provides direction and turns tactics into tasks.

White Helmet: Chief Officer. Few are found on a scene, usually at the command post or acting as a safety officer.

#### LIST OF CERTIFICATIONS OBTAINED IN 2016

Certification	Department Total	<u>2016</u>
Firefighter 1	24	2
Firefighter 2	8	
Fire Instructor 1	13	
<b>Hazmat Operations</b>	20	3
Hazmat IC	3	1
Apparatus Driver	20	
Pumper Operator	16	
Aerial Operator	16	5
MobileWater Operator	10	
Wildland Interface 2	28	3
Wildland Interface 1	12	
Wildland Engine Boss	4	
Fire Officer	4	
Fireground Leader	3	1
EMR	13	
EMT	7	
Advanced EMT	1	1
EMT Intermediate	5	
Paramedic	3	



**Firefighter1**. Firefighters are the task oriented backbone of our Fire Department. Any and every person with the designation of firefighter is expected to carry out all minimum functions involved in the fire service.



**Firefighter 2.** Senior Firefighters traditionally have years of experience, additional training, and may have degrees in fire science. Firefighter 2's often lead crews and can be relied on for their experience and knowledge.



The Apparatus Driver/Operator class is a 16 hour classroom and hands-on training on how to properly and safely inspect, drive, and operate the large and complicated apparatus that fire departments use to conduct operations. Prospective driver/operators must then complete numerous hours of driver's training to get certified. All drivers in the department must complete yearly refresher training.

A Pumper Operator is a specialty certification that Drivers receive after an additional 32 hour classroom/hands-on training learning how to properly run engines to supply fire firefighters with the correct amount of water pressure and gallons per minute to safely and effectively put out a fire. This is one of the hardest certifications to truly master, requiring knowledge on such things as theories, pump mechanics, friction loss and gain, operating nozzles at the correct pressure, and running multiple attack and supply lines.

Aerial Operators are an elite group of Apparatus Operators who can effectively run the ladder truck at fires and place it allowing firefighters to work off of the ladder or rescue victims in a building where our ground ladders may not reach. The Aerial operator class is an additional 24 hours of classroom and hands on training after a firefighter has been a certified Driver and Pumper Operator.



# Hazardous Materials Training

All Seaside Firefighters are trained to the level of Hazardous Materials Responder. HazMat Responders are trained in the proper response to hazardous materials incidents. Like always, the protection of life is the top priority, however the environment now requires deeper consideration. The Responder often sets up the initial perimeter, identifies the suspect chemical, and initiates the response of the HazMat Team. The HazMat Responder, if requested, will then assist with establishing a decontamination area for the HazMat Team (As seen below).



# Wildland Firefighting

Seaside Firefighters have spent the last three years putting a major emphasis on wildland training and equipment. In 2015 we responded to two major wildland incidents in Oregon; the Cornet Fire in Baker City and the Grizzly Bear Complex in Troy. We provided overhead staff, initial attack, mop-up, and structural protection to these communities. We would not have been able to provide this service without the continuing education and training of our personnel. The 2016 fire year did not provide any opportunities for Seaside Fire and Rescue to assist outside agencies although we did keep busy responding to numerous fires in our local area.





# Medical

With the number of medical calls increasing every year, more volunteers are finding themselves joining to fight fires, and end up caring for the sick and injured. There are four levels of medical care professionals, first is the Emergency Medical Responders (EMR's), this is a minimum 60 hour class. Second Level is Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's), 160 hours of class is required before being eligible to take the national test and receive their certification. Third Level is Emergency Medical Technician Intermediate; this is an additional 160 hours of training above being an EMT. Intermediates have advanced knowledge of cardiac and pain drugs, are able to start IV's, and interpret cardiac rhythms on the heart monitor. The fourth and highest level are Paramedics, their courses are over 1000 hours, and are incredibly wide in scope. Seaside Fire & Rescue was privileged in 2016 to have a compliment of 13 EMRs, 8 EMTs, 4 Intermediates, and 3 Paramedics providing care.



# **JOINT TRAINING**

Seaside Fire and & Rescue continued to actively participate with other Clatsop County Fire agencies in groups such as the Clatsop County Fire Training Committee, Clatsop Fire Investigation Team, Clatsop County High Angel Team, Hazmat 11, Clatsop County Firefighters Association, and the Clatsop County Fire Defense Board. These groups allow the different departments to get together to standardize how we work together, purchasing of equipment, funding training, prevention programs, and allow firefighters from different agencies to familiarize themselves with each other.



Our joint Training Association with Gearhart Fire Department continues to grow and facilitate more realistic training for our firefighters in such areas as Rescue, Firefighting, and Classroom Knowledge. We have developed a number of training props that we are able to rent out for use at the training facility by other departments. At times other departments have taken these props to their own station for training.

# **Prevention Report**

#### Remember: Initial Attack Starts With Fire Prevention

The Prevention Division of Seaside Fire & Rescue is committed to providing our citizens and visitors a safer place to live, work, and visit. To accomplish this mission, the Prevention Division is involved in a variety of activities such as an inspection program for businesses, a juvenile fire setter intervention program, fire investigation of all department fires, pre-fire planning of target high risk commercial structures, fire extinguisher education for the community, fire safety education for children, and general safety programs for adults.

#### **Fire Investigations**

Seaside Fire & Rescue investigates all fires to determine cause and origin, and may be assisted by members of the Clatsop County Fire Investigation Team.

Seaside Fire & Rescue had a total of 57 fires in 2016 with a total dollar loss of approximately \$218,900. Of the properties with dollar loss, there was approximately \$4,683,000 in pre-incident value.

The most noteworthy losses were at 381 S Edgewood on July 29, 2016. The 2 alarm apartment fire displaced at least 13 people and caused over \$110,000 loss. Additionally over fifteen cats were saved, while five cats perished. Cause of the fire was determined to have come from a base board heater that was accidently turned on when power was disconnected.

A 2 alarm fire was reported on the early morning of July 18, 2016 at 981 Avenue F. The fire started in a vacant garage and rapidly spread to a neighboring house. There was also damage to another home and 2 recreational vehicles. Total loss was close to \$90,000. The cause of the fire was undetermined, but suspected to be transient related.





981 Avenue F Fire

The information discovered from investigations may be forwarded to police agencies for criminal investigation. Information discovered may also aid fire prevention efforts by discovering problem areas; these may require corrective educational efforts or enforcement in order to prevent similar incidents from occurring in the future.

#### **Inspection Program**

In 2016, the Prevention Division conducted an estimated 233 fire and life-safety inspections in businesses, schools, daycares, churches and assisted care facilities. From those inspections 103 violations were noted, resulting in 32 re-inspections, bringing the total of inspections to 135. Seaside City Ordinances, Oregon Fire Code, and the National Fire Code are used as standards in conducting inspections. Inspections allow Seaside Fire & Rescue to ensure compliance to local and national standards, as well as increase our familiarity with pertinent information such as building construction, utility shutoff locations and potential hazards associated with a particular occupancy.





#### **Building Familiarization**

Fire officers meet once a month to tour high risk businesses and occupancies. These visits assist our officers first arriving at a scene to become accustomed to access locations, building construction, alarm systems, sprinkler locations, and utility shutoffs. The information found in these tours greatly helps our officers with addressing issues in a swift and timely manner. In 2016 Seaside Fire & Rescue continued to develop and enhance an electronic data base program on commercial and high risk buildings in our response area.



#### **Public Fire and Life Safety Education**

Public education is viewed as an ongoing process that occurs informally as well as formally. All staff and volunteers stress the importance of living, working, and playing safely as we interact with the community in day to day operations. Walk-in tours of the fire department sets an excellent stage for department personnel to emphasize good safe practices for all ages. Seaside Fire & Rescue schedules appearances and presentations at schools, churches, community centers, assisted living facilities, as well as private businesses.

Seaside Fire & Rescue participated in the Seaside Safety Fair, held in May hosted by North Coast Safe Kids, Seaside Police Department, United States Coast Guard, Clatsop County Sheriff's Office, Oregon State Police, Northwest Natural Gas and Medix Ambulance Service. Car seat technicians inspected and installed many car seats. Numerous families from the Seaside area participated in everything from crosswalk safety, bike safety, and fire safety in the home.

In August, Seaside Fire & Rescue personnel were on hand at the National Night Out celebration to answer any questions about fire safety. Personnel were represented at both Quatat Park and Broadway Park, handing out fire prevention literature and giving tours of fire apparatus to adults and children. Our appearance was enjoyed by many citizens and tourists.

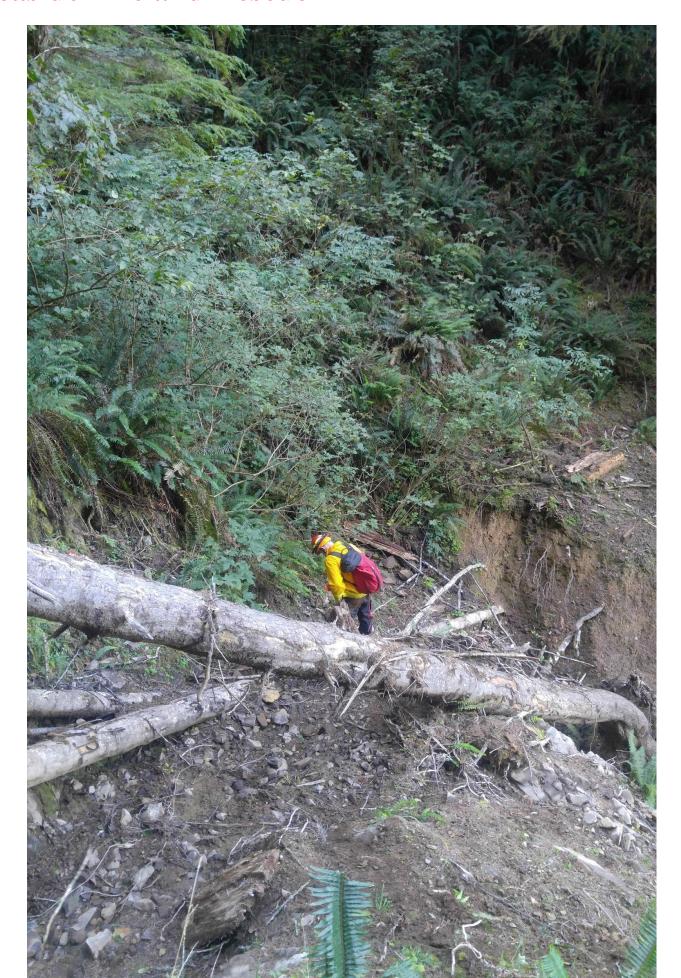


# **Search and Rescue**

The mild winter of 2015 led to a number of rescues involving injured or lost hikers on Saddle Mountain and the Tillamook Head trail. These rescues involved a lot of time (up to 9 hours or more), energy (carrying medical equipment and stokes), technique (rope rescues) and innovation (finding lost hikers using the GPS on their cell phones). Seaside Fire & Rescue has partnered with Cannon Beach Fire and Rescue as well as the Coast Guard for assistance.

2016 seemed to pick up where 2015 left off with more Saddle Mountain and Tillamook Head trail rescues. We were able to partner with the State Forestry Department and Campbell Group to clear a drivable path by the Cell Towers, allowing us to reach the top of the Tillamook Head trail.





# **Mutual Aid**

Seaside Fire & Rescue participates in the Clatsop County Fire Service Mutual Aid Agreement. The purpose of this agreement is to maintain a system of predefined response to large scale incidents within Clatsop County as well as possible mobilization outside Clatsop County.

In 2016, Seaside Fire & Rescue provided aid to outside agencies for 14 incidents and received aid from outside agencies for 14 incidents. These responses included Wildland, Structural and Search and Rescue.



Hamlet Fire February 24, 2015



Seaside Fire and Rescue assisted with search and rescue and clean up after the tornado in Manzanita on October 14, 2016.



Astoria Fire

# **Water Safety Report**

Our lifeguards are highly trained professionals who serve as ambassadors of the City of Seaside to the visitors of our beach. Each one of our Lifeguards maintain high standards in: Ocean rescue skills, prevention, physical fitness, courtesy, training, and professional appearance.



The Beach Lifeguards focus on preventing incidents before they occur through a proactive approach of communicating with water goers early on informing them of potential dangers. In 2016 we increased Rip Current awareness with the addition of signs to warn of dangerous areas.



#### **2016 Lifeguard Statistics:**

Type of Incident	Total for each Incident	1/16	2/16	3/16	4/16	5/16	6/16	7/16	8/16	9/16	10/16	11/ 16	12/ 16
Medical Aid	21	0	0	0	0	0	3	11	5	2	1	0	0
Lost Person	49	0	0	0	1	2	12	17	17	1	0	0	0
Water Rescue	33	1	0	3	6	2	4	5	9	1	2	0	0
Water Assist	20	1	0	2	1	2	3	5	10	0	0	0	0
Information	3928	0	0	0	0	113	349	2068	1149	249	0	0	0
Lost & Found	41	0	1	0	4	4	9	13	12	3	0	0	0
Trash Collection	106	0	0	0	0	6	21	41	33	5	0	0	0
Assist other Agencies	27	0	0	0	0	2	2	11	11	1	0	0	0
RIP Warning	565	0	0	0	0	5	64	227	226	43	0	0	0
Total Incidents	4778	1	1	<mark>5</mark>	<mark>12</mark>	<mark>136</mark>	<mark>467</mark>	<mark>2398</mark>	<mark>1472</mark>	<mark>305</mark>	3	0	0

The Beach Lifeguards promote safety through interaction with the public, recognizing a potential emergency before it occurs and making positive changes, assisting persons with questions about the city, providing help to people with special challenges on navigating the sand from the promenade to the beach, and rescuing persons in imminent danger from the Ocean.

Lifeguards currently have two options to enter the water for a rescue, via 3 of our custom built Rescue Boards, or with fins and a rescue tube.



# PROUDLY SERVING SEASIDE

**SINCE 1904** 

**2015** Seaside Fire and Rescue Annual Report Prepared by Seaside Fire and Rescue Staff

Please direct questions or comments to:
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