



THE EMERGENCY RESPONDER

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE FIRE SCIENCE, PARAMEDIC, AND EMT PROGRAMS

AUGUST 28, 2006

COS BUILDING PROJECTS

What has happened?

Following the initial community meeting, the staff at College of the Siskiyous met with an architect and Darin Quigley to develop the parameters for a preliminary first drawing of the new facility. The drawings were reviewed and revised just recently by the COS staff to make them true to the comments made in both the public forum and the small group meeting.

After careful review and study, it has been determined that the programs involved will be best served by having two buildings -- a **Fire Tower Resource Building** (located at the Fire Tower) and an **Emergency Response Training Center** (classroom building located nearer the center of campus).

The **Fire Tower Resource Building** will be built first to meet the immediate needs for the ongoing fire academies and continuing education for volunteer fire departments (e.g., bathrooms, meeting space, laundry facilities, and storage). It is anticipated that

the Resource Building will be completed by **October 2007**, barring any major delays.

The building of the Emergency Response Training Center is a much more involved process but will provide state-of-the-art classroom facilities as well as offices and resource rooms. We are anticipating the drafting process for the classroom building to take place in winter 2007.

The next step...

We would like to invite anyone who is interested in providing feedback on the current draft of the building specifications to meet at the Weed campus in the Board Room on September 14 at 6:00 PM.

The next advisory committee meeting is scheduled for November the 8th at 6 p.m. on the Weed Campus. At this meeting, we hope to show you final plans for the Resource Building, as well as a general draft of the Classroom Building. Please mark your calendars to attend this very important meeting.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Tony Osa is the new Fire Science Instructor and Program Director at COS*
- *First Fall Fire Academy enrolls 28*
- *New Dean of CTE, Jeff Cummings, begins new semester*
- *EMT classes in Weed and Yreka began August 22 with approximately 30 students enrolled*
- *The paramedic classes begin October 30th—35 students are enrolled—there is still room for three students—call Debbie Dutcher at 938-5578 for more information*
- *On campus housing is available*



Contact Information:

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New Air Packs Purchased for the COS Fire Academy

Preparing for the new Fire Tower Resource Building and the first-ever fall Fire Academy, COS is purchasing 40 new air packs to replace 20-year old packs that can no longer be certified. The new equipment will provide a safer environment for those training in the COS Fire Academy. Other equipment and supplies will be purchased as needed for the two buildings.

NWCG Course Offerings

The College of the Siskiyou Fire Technology program is in discussions with the California Department of Forestry (CDF) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to determine the training needs of these agencies. CDF has adopted the Wildland Fire Qualification System (PMS 310-1) of the National Interagency Incident Management System. Their existing training process cannot accommodate the increased training load, in addition to handling their present backlog of training needs. The USFS is also in need of additional courses to help alleviate some of the training backlog that their present system is unable to fulfill. COS is considering the possibility of dramatically increasing the NWCG course offerings in order to accommodate the needs of both agencies. These courses would be made available to other agencies as well.

THANKS TO ALL!!!

First of all, I would like to provide a big "Thank You" to everyone who participated in the open community forum regarding construction of new facilities on the Weed campus of College of the Siskiyou. These new facilities will provide a great future for our Fire Science program, EMT/Paramedic program,

and other Emergency Response Training programs. We are going to start publishing a newsletter that will provide you with an update on the various projects connected with these facilities. If you need further information, please contact me at 530.938.5201 or russell@siskiyous.edu.



A hero is no braver than an ordinary man, but he is braver five minutes longer.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

**Save the
dates**

September 14, 6:00 PM

Fire Industry and Community meeting to provide input for building construction in the Board Room at the Weed campus. A sandwich dinner will be served.

November 8 at 6:00 PM

Advisory Committee meeting will be in the Board Room at the Weed Campus. A pizza dinner will be provided.