

Historic Belmont Firehouse

Safety Learning Center & Fire Museum News

Issue 23

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The Safety Learning Center & Fire Museum is a cooperative effort between Portland Fire & Rescue and the Jeff Morris Fire & Life Safety Foundation.

For Information or appointments:

Don Porth

Public Education Office

503-823-3615

Belmont Firehouse

900 SE 35th Avenue

(at Belmont Street)

Portland OR 97214

Open the 2nd Saturday
of each month 10 till 3
or by appointment.

No Safety Saturday in
July & August

“Straight Tips”

Spring Cleaning Time!

As the weather improves and the outdoors begin to call to you, thoughts of lawns and hedges begin to grow. Use caution with gasoline.

Fuel your equipment before starting, while the machine is cold. Be cautious with fertilizer and chemicals. Kids and pets can easily be poisoned by them.

Think Safe.

Belmont Firehouse Growth Continues

Programs and activities at the Historic Belmont Firehouse Safety Learning Center & Fire Museum continue to grow. February was a landmark month with the 20,000th visitor coming through the door since operation began.

Another portion of a Fire Act Grant is currently being spent on additional upgrades to the facility and the exhibits. A handicap lift will be added to the “Fire Engine Experience” as well as computerization of the emergency operations status board from the old Fire Alarm Dispatch Office.

Several safety features will also be added to the firehouse. These improvements continue to showcase Portland Fire & Rescue’s history and connection to the community in a positive light.

Scaffolding currently surrounds the building. Recent work to repair the failing cornice found loose bricks behind it. Work is underway to develop the contract to make repairs. We hope to see the face of the firehouse again soon.

As always, volunteers continue to make a tremendous impact on operations. From staffing to banner design, volunteerism has been a valuable asset that truly can’t be measured.

To sign on as a volunteer, to tour the firehouse, or set up a firehouse event, call 503-823-3615.

Think Safe!

Red Robin Donates \$\$\$ to the Belmont Firehouse

February found a new Red Robin restaurant opening near the new Ikea at the airport. Before opening, the management contacted the Belmont Firehouse, wanting to donate a portion of the first week’s proceeds to the Jeff Morris Foundation.

The promotion donated \$.50 of every gourmet burger sold during the first week. After all was said and done, the total donation was \$2,000. What a generous gift from Red Robin.

Funds will support the Safety Learn-

ing Center & Fire Museum at the Historic Belmont Firehouse. Special thanks to all those who dined that first week and supported this cause.

Donations are always accepted to support fire and life safety in the community. Contact the firehouse to find out how you can offer your support.



Safety Learning Center & Fire Museum Event Line 503-823-3616

Remember This???

It's a little known fact that Portland Fire once operated a water ambulance. Pictured is the "Jack H. Luihn." Donated to the city on April 23, 1936, it was named for Jack Luihn, a man known for his "civic enterprises." It was considered a water-going equivalent of the Baker First Aid Car. The 24 foot boat would travel about 30-40 knots. It weighed in at 1,250 pounds. It's not known what ever became of the boat and no information documenting its service has been found.



Do you have a memory to share for future issues? Submit them to Don Porth at the Belmont Firehouse for consideration. Contact can be made at 503-823-3615 or dporth@fire.ci.portland.or.us

Portland Fire History, Safety Learning Center Information, Foundation Background
Find it on the web at www.jeffmorrisfoundation.org

*** FIRE SALE ***



Start your own fire department with a fire engine pedal car available at the Historic Belmont Firehouse. These sturdy vehicles will light up the eyes of any young child. They come complete with wooden ladders, fire bell, and Portland Fire stick-on logo decals. Visit the Belmont Firehouse Gift Shop or shop on-line for the entire selection of clothing and gifts. All proceeds support the Safety Learning Center & Fire Museum.

jeffmorrisfoundation.org

More Portland Fire History To Share

Efforts are currently underway to produce a more comprehensive written history of Portland Fire & Rescue's 155 years of service to the community.

The current pictorial history of PF&R, available at major bookstores or the Belmont Firehouse Gift Shop, shares interesting history through photos. The opportunity for text was very limited and certainly could not do justice to the wealth of history available. Research is underway to pull together a more comprehensive and accurate history than has been seen before. The

end result will be a book containing several hundred pages of written and photographic history. A completion date has not yet been established but it is hoped it will be ready by early 2009.

This project would not be possible without the help of city archivist Brian Johnson and volunteer writer Marie Naughton. It could also not happen without the generous donation of artifacts, scrapbooks, and stories by retirees and their family members. Thank you for the on-going support.

*** [Safety Learning Center & Fire Museum Event Line 503-823-3616](http://www.jeffmorrisfoundation.org) ***