

September 2nd Social Hour Program

If you missed the George Reel and fireman's presentation at Social Hour on Sept 2nd, you really did miss something important. There were 25 that didn't. We learned about life saving information while enjoying some goodies.



This fireman is from Roseburg as the Sutherlin regulars have been sent to fight fires elsewhere. He told us what to do in the event a fire starts while cooking. **What would do if a fire starts while cooking?** If you just said you would put the flaming pan in the sink and turn on the water. WRONG!! It is a good bet the handle could be hot, fiery fat could burn your hand and arm, the water would serve to spread the fire and you would be in real trouble. The correct answer is "Put a lid on it"!! or cover it to prevent oxygen from enhancing the flame. There are now fire blankets available which can be located in your rig readily available to cover a fire. In addition, do not wear loose flowing clothing while cooking.

How do you know your smoke alarm is operational? If you answer, "I had it replaced this year". WRONG again!! The expiration date is from the date it was manufactured. Some have a shorter life than 6 months. In addition it should be tested by pushing the button to assure it is actually sensing.

Where Is Your Carbon Monoxide Sensor located? If you say, "It is midway up on the wall toward the ceiling where the rig manufacturer put it". You could be watching TV in your recliner and be overcome before the alarm would function. The correct place is low to the floor. The sensor also should be checked periodically by pushing the alarm button.

Is your fire extinguisher operational? If you answer, "Probably". That means maybe yes and maybe no. You should check to see if the button is up and you can see the green stem, it is most likely OK. Every so often it is a good idea to turn it upside down, hit it with something to agitate the powder that settles to the bottom.

Should a fire happen preventing you from leaving out the door, how would you get out? Surely you got this one right. Out the emergency window. You know the ones with the red closures. Climb out feet first. You might break a leg but that would heal. Burning up is really final and the firemen hate that.



Our own George Reel was a fireman for 17 years and never wanted to again carry out a person who had perished in a fire. George gave us information to pass on to our children about how to prepare to escape from a fire. His plan includes installing a panel in the wall between closets that usually join each other through a wall. By using the panel, you can go between rooms without opening a door which will add oxygen and increase the intensity of the fire. He also proposes installing alarming doors not only to escape through but to frighten away an intruder, preventing theft and physical harm. George has had a passage installed, in his rig through he can escape in the event he cannot use the door to escape a fire. To install escape doors with fire doors can be

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expensive and George suggests that helping children to pay for them would be a wonderful gift at Christmas.