

Administrative Services Bulletin: Thursday, February 4, 2010

By Edith Curry, Fire Chief, University Fire Department

### **What's New?**

During the Christmas break, we ran a winter recruit academy and brought on 5 more student firefighters. We anticipate losing a number of them this spring due to graduation and completion of their degrees. The Fire Department received Engine # 10, which was purchased by the University Fire Service Area, just prior to Christmas. It is a Quint with a 75' ladder on it and will replace the 1988 Quint that has over 160,000 miles on it. We hope to have it in service by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Outfitting the apparatus and completing the driver's training for everyone is very time consuming.

### **What is next?**

The department is continuing to work towards lowering the ISO (Insurance Services Organization) rating in the non hydranted portions of the fire service area and ensuring we maintain our ISO 2 in the hydranted portions. There is a lot of documentation that goes with the process as well as numerous requirements for training, manning on shift and responding to calls, water supply and dispatch.

The department will be sending two individuals to Seattle in April, to meet with Fire Explorers from the Seattle Fire Department and area high schools. We are also looking at a late start for our summer recruit academy as many of the schools in the Lower 48 will not get out as early as Alaska. We have always started the first week of June, which prohibited those individuals who had not yet graduated, from attending. Hopefully starting after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July will help solve that problem and allow us to bring more students up to attend UAF.