



NEWS RELEASE

Date: January 8, 2009
Release Date: Immediately
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(Firefighters Battle Pole Barn Fire; Save Vehicles)

Last night at 12:58 am, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue was called to a reported barn fire at 22170 S.W. Stafford Road. When crews arrived they found a fully engulfed, 40 x 60 ft. metal pole barn. The owner's adult son was on scene and told firefighters that the building had no animals inside and was used for storing equipment, vehicles, and hay – all of which likely contributed to fueling the fire.

The building contained a motor home and a 1959 restored MG sports vehicle. Although the pole barn and vehicles inside were beyond saving when crews arrived, firefighters waged an aggressive fire attack and protected several exposures threatened by the fiery building including a camping trailer, several personal vehicles, and a large fuel storage tank. For almost an hour firefighters battled hostile fire and protected exposures due to the collapsed metal roof and walls that were an impediment to firefighting water. Due to the property being located in an area not served by fire hydrants, water tenders were utilized to provide a continuous water shuttle throughout the firefighting operation. Firefighters remained on scene overnight battling hot spots and ensuring the fire did not spread outside the pole barn.

The fire remains under investigation at this hour. TVF&R's fire investigator plans to go back out to the scene later today.

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