

LPVFR Profile - Nate Nazaroff

Robert Morrish



Although the camaraderie and support displayed by the members of Loma Prieta Fire & Rescue sometimes makes us feel like we're all part of one big family, there are only two members of the department who can truly make that statement. Brothers Nate and Tim Nazaroff are both recent additions to the department, and this month we'll take an up-close-and-personal look at Nate, the younger of the two.

A resident of Upper Redwood Estates, Nate has lived in the mountains for his entire life. He joined the department in November of 2011, began responding to calls in February of this year, and has already responded to more than 50 calls.

There isn't any one call that stands out to him as being most memorable, at least not yet. "They're all so different," he explains, "and I enjoy the opportunity each call gives me because it's a chance to put to use what I've learned and trained for."

Nate has career aspirations to work as a firefighter with CalFire or Santa Clara County Fire and eventually become a Captain. He joined LPVFR because he wanted to take a step toward fulfilling that dream, as well as to give back to his community.

"Someone once told me," says Nate, "that if you're lucky enough to work doing what you love, you'll never have to work another day in your life. I really enjoy the fire service and hope to have a long, healthy, and rewarding career."

Those close to him actively support his ambitions: "My family and my girlfriend are very supportive of my involvement in the fire service and understanding of the sacrifices we have to make."

Nate's desire for a career in the fire service is no recent development, as he explains: "I've wanted to be a firefighter since I was three years old. The earliest toy I can remember is a remote-control fire truck. I can still recall the feeling of excitement I got when I saw firefighters or a fire engine. Most times, in emergency situations, people are fleeing the scene, but firefighters are moving in the opposite direction, putting themselves right in harm's way to help others and save lives."

Working towards his career goal, Nate graduated from the Monterey Bay Peninsula Fire Academy in June 2011, an experience he describes as "by far the most challenging, but

rewarding, experience of my life. The academy's training and discipline taught me a lot and gave me a lot of confidence."

In his free hours, Nate enjoys fishing, hiking, diving, surfing, and restoring hot rods.