



□ *Editor's note: This is one in a series of feature stories concerning organizations that benefit the Imperial area. Volunteering in a community, through organizations, is a way to pay back for the benefits that the community offers an individual.*

By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

Although the membership of the Imperial Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary is limited to the wives and girlfriends of the firemen, their purpose encompasses a variety of support.

The Auxiliary was formed after a fire destroyed Imperial Auction Market in 1997. Norma Dannatt said she and another member approached then Fire Chief Tom Elder to offer their support to the firemen during fires.

One fireman became very ill during the sale barn fire, Dannatt said, due to a lack of food and water.

The Auxiliary now provides food, water and coffee to the firemen whenever they're called to the scene of a multiple-hour fire, to the fire hall and during training events.

Dannatt explained that when the women are seen at the fire, the firemen know they have food and water available.

The Auxiliary also helps with the Fourth of July Fun Day and "anything special that comes up," Dannatt said.

Officers are Dannatt as president, Anne Kelley as vice president, Terri Dillan as secretary and Rachell Richman as treasurer.