



ELEMENT 11 2014: INTO THE WILD!

FESTIVAL AFTER-BURN REPORT

DECEMBER 2014



Eye of the Vortex Temple, Chatterbox & Jellyroll. Photo Credit: Stan Clawson

ELEMENT 11



Sparky. Photo Credit: Stacy Cluff

The Mission of Element 11 is to ignite a community of creativity and self-expression.

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Lighting Sparky. Photo Credit: Sean Plant



ELEMENT 11

INTRODUCTION

A big shout out to everyone who volunteered & helped us create Element 11 this year. You all rock! Thank you, thank you for the countless hours you all put in to making Element 11 the incredible event that it was.

From the artists, builders, theme camps, medics, rangers, gate crews, greeters, angels, performers, participants, and the BOD – we are a community. Our festival is just one part of what WE as a COMMUNITY do together. They say difficult times help relationships grow stronger. This is true of our community as well.

The amount of love and support each and every person was showing for all those around them on Saturday night at Element 11 was incredible. The way our community bonded together to be with each other during a difficult time goes to show what a wonderful community this is.

In the days following our event, beyond our local community, there was an outpouring of love and support from the world-wide burning man community as a whole for our Utah tribe. We are blessed. Blessed to be part of such a community that isn't just there when the party is fun, but also there through the hard times too.

This report encompasses just a few of the highlights and observations from each of the different functional teams who worked together to organize the festival as well includes feedback received from the community at the Town Hall in August 2014.



Juggalo Bar Lotus Flower. Photo Credit: Kari Larson



ARTS

Derek Dyer, Arts Director

In 2014 the Arts Department oversaw the theme selection process, the Arts Grants process, theme art ticket design, coordinated Main effigy design and building, coordinated pre-burn fire show, managed Elemental Motor Vehicles (art cars) and coordinated art for the Decompression event.

We received 22 theme submissions from the Community and through a process of voting by the first the community second the BOD and finally the community again our theme of “Into the Wild” was selected. This year was probably the smoothest our theme selection has ever gone. We had a lot longer lead-time, which was helpful for determining the theme and giving artists and community more time to work that theme into art and costumes.

We received 20 Art Grant applications 17 of which received funding. A total of \$10,075 went to community art grants. An additional \$1,974 went toward production of the pre-burn fire show and \$1,960 toward the main effigy. Of course art is very subjective but it seemed to be an overwhelming feeling that the level of art this year was elevated and especially that of the main effigy “Sparky” which many (including “older” participants) said was their favorite effigy yet.

Leading up to the festival, a group of volunteer community members working with the BOD created a fabulous educational film series, [Learning the 10 Principles](#).

Going forward, suggestions received imply we should focus and spend even more on art. It would be great to spend a lot less on destructible art and a lot more on sustainable art. Look into outside money (grants) for infrastructure and general expenses, thus being able to use all ticket money for arts. Coordinate more between effigy crews and BOD to ensure precise location; have effigy design submissions. The theme art submission process for WWW & festival sign art worked well, although would like to see more submissions next year. Perhaps next year an art crawl or guided art tour might be nice to get more people out experiencing all the art.



Sunrise Sparky. Photo Credit: John Mendenhall



FINANCE

Anne Simmons, Finance Director

Ticket Sales:

- Full-Price Ticket, 966 @ \$90 = \$86,940
- Volunteer Tickets, 171 @ \$75 = \$12,825
- Elemental Stars*, 9 @ \$45 = \$405
- Elemental Stars*, 25 @ \$30 = \$750
- BOD raffles/ticket art, 10 free = \$0
- **Total Income: 1,181 tickets sold, \$100,920**

*The Elemental Star award was a \$45 discount. Stars who bought their tickets during the volunteer discount sale took advantage of the additional \$15 discount.

Festival Expenses:

- Art Grants = \$10,075
- Art Committee (Theme Art & Sign, Pre-burn Show, Effigy Construction) = \$4,118
- Center Camp (Structure Rebuild, Grants for Sound/Lights, Stage Rental) = \$2,644
- Communications (WWW Guide, Videos, Survival Guide) = \$895
- Elemental Public Works (Porta potties, Dumpster, Equipment Rental, Roads/Layout, Signs) = \$5,918
- Executive (Venue Rent) = \$31,500
- Finance (Tickets, CC Processing Fees, Wristbands) = \$3,941
- Logistics (Generator) = \$1,268
- Operations (Ticket Giveaways, Liability Insurance) = \$2,504
- Security, Medical, Emergency, Ranger Communications (SMERC: Medical Tent/Ranger HQ, Med Supply, Ranger Tickets/Hats, Security Fees) = \$5,337
- Volunteers (Oasis Kitchen, Volunteer Food & Refreshments, Gifts, Schwag, Laminates) = \$5,259
- **Total Expenses: \$73,459**

Please note the above numbers are reflections only of the Element 11 Festival including We Build this City. To see a spreadsheet that details the above summaries [click here for the attachment to the afterburn report](#). Please note that these numbers are not inclusive of other Element 11, Inc. activities year-round such as precompression, volunteer day, burners in the park, decompression, Christmas tree burn, office rent, BOD insurance, POD rental, Town Hall events, website licensing, community donations, community service projects, accounting software, tax preparation, office supplies, and non-profit licensing. Details of year-round expenses will be available once the 2014 books are closed early 2015.

Changes made this year included no gate sales and in-person sales only at retail locations. The benefit to cutting off ticket sales before the event is that it creates a secondary market for ticket buyers that can't attend. We attempted to mail earplugs with the tickets and ran into problems at the Post Office. Next year instead of weekly mailings, I recommend one mailing at the end of June. We may be able to get a non-profit bulk rate for our mailing if we do this.

I also recommend an earlier cut-off so that the person putting together the Will Call list has enough time to be the first one to arrive at the venue. Since all ticket purchase documentation was on site, all problems were resolved at the Gate and no one had to be turned away or pay for another ticket.

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It was wonderful having a Gate/Box Office Lead each day.

Cash flow leading up to the festival was never a problem and we could transfer money to the savings account, but both accounts earn interest. We have the opportunity to switch to a new credit card processor next year and we're in a good position to get good rates or use a delayed payment system. The majority of the festival expenses don't come due until after the event.

Suggestions to update the Volunteer Ticket/Elemental Star discounts (see more in Volunteer Section): eliminate the Volunteer Ticket discount (171 @ \$15) and use those funds to offer more Elemental Star discounts, up to 200 maximum. The option of offering free tickets to theme camps, DJs, conclave, rangers, and other groups who are a vital part of the festival should be carefully considered and formalized. Would discourage any more than two different ticket levels for accounting purposes. When searching for a new processor/ticketing system in 2015, we need a system that will be PCI compliant and will allow optional donations with ticket sales. And finally, include an option when purchasing an online ticket for the ability to donate to art grants.



Tree of Light. Photo Credit: Tyler Smith



VOLUNTEERS/LOUNGE

Micky Baker, Volunteer Director

Volunteer registration was available at Career Day & Training Day as well as online. Had a lead that was indispensable with managing updating the volunteer database and organizing it; perhaps this can be a more automated process in the future for annual volunteer review & updates? Suggests Committee/Departmental leads take a more active role in recruiting for their teams rather than relying solely on the Volunteer Recruitment department. Suggests separating the Volunteer role into two BOD positions – one to focus on recruitment and the other appreciation.

Volunteer orientation & training were decoupled this year into two days. Having two days rather than one was taxing and was not entirely successful. Going forward, would like to see other departments and committees more engaged in organizing this event. Also, getting volunteers more engaged in the production of the Volunteer event is needed. Suggests a day full of useful training sessions that are more hands-on might be more engaging. Also state on Volunteer Sign-up form “Do NOT check the ‘Everything’ box” as it’s difficult for the Recruitment Lead to sort volunteers and get them to the right departments that way. One or two interests would be best.

Suggests updating the Volunteer Policy next year with a section requiring people to be “functional” when wearing a laminate & when on duty. Dismissing & rescheduling volunteers from a shift when they are not functional could enforce that. Having people sign their laminates that they agree to the policy gives us leverage if we need to take action against a volunteer for a policy violation.

Volunteer shift sign-ups went much better this year with the online service. Also having the Big Book of Shifts available at the Info Booth was quite helpful in getting volunteers where needed; printed schedules were great – perhaps a service that works on a mobile platform should be considered.

Getting the Angels more plugged into other events to organize food at Town Halls might be helpful going forward as well, they could play a more active role in supporting the BOD.

The Mobile Angel Unit (MAU) continues to work well. Having dedicated pink equipment might help further with branding. Dedicated cooler and misters are needed. Shade might be helpful to install on the MAU. Need a dedicated MAU MOOP bucket. Perhaps angels could perform random acts of kindness during times when there is nothing for them to do. The pink shirts were helpful in locating angels across festival grounds. Suggests have art cars take Angel shifts – coordinate with the Arts Committee.

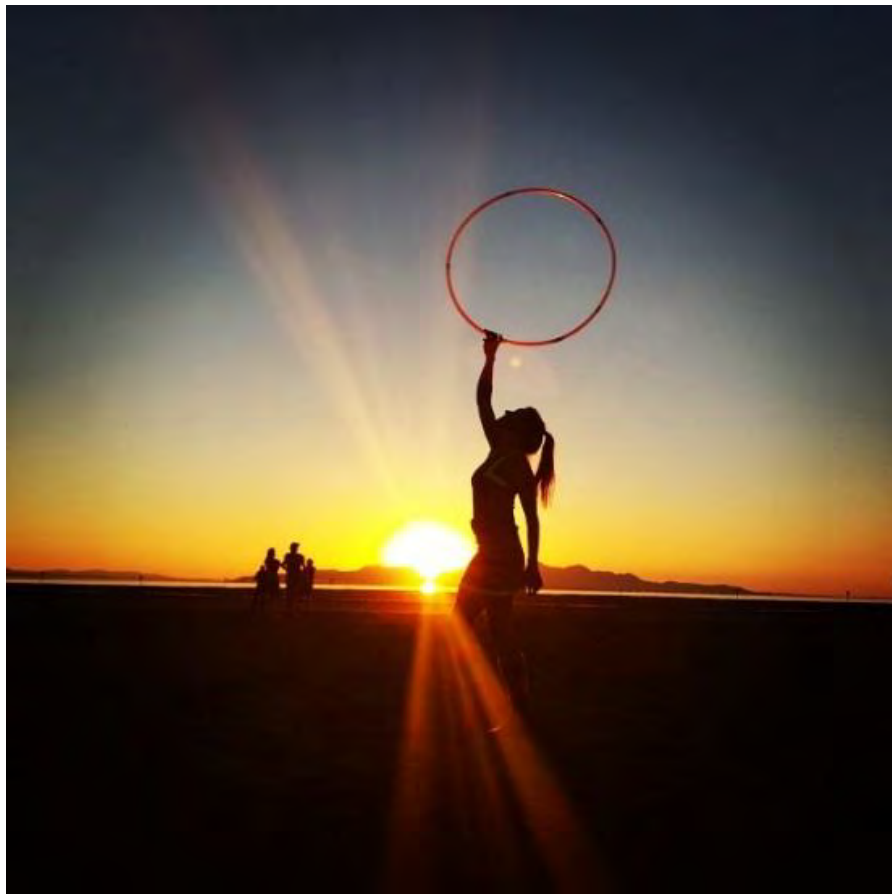
The 9th Circle Lounge & Oasis Kitchen was debuted this year and was an absolute delight! The kitchen was self-reliant and set a fantastic tone when volunteers arrived at the kitchen for a visit or to check-in for their shift. Should have clearer shift directives for angels – possibly consider cleaning/maintenance shifts as well as cooking shifts. The Ranger/Med pancake breakfast was an absolute delight to do. Suggests other departments organize events in the Oasis kitchen. Food provided by the kitchen for WBTC was great & volunteers really appreciated all the food. Otter Pops were awesome! Rangers really appreciated the water provided by angels. Suggests having written poster of instructions – how to make coffee, etc – as early morning kitchen hours were not staffed. Suggests having angels assigned to sanitation duty (as kitchen can be inspected at any time), need food handler’s permits, & a food donation center would be helpful for onsite collection.

A windstorm prevented the Volunteer Appreciation Bar Crawl this year. Perhaps next year organize the party at the Oasis kitchen to have a set spot to gather even in a wind storm.



Playa Info needs more defined roles. A lost & found notice should be at the Greeter Station as well as in the WWW Guide. Would also be helpful to have a banner with a list of festival layout & activities.

Regarding volunteer tickets & Elemental Stars, a set and written policy should be created so everyone understands the requirements of getting these perks. Perhaps combine the two into one so that next year's discount depends on this year's participation? Empower leads to watch their departments & recommend Elemental Stars.



Sunrise Dancer. Photo Credit: Sarah Berry

GATE

Erika Hummel, Gate Lead

This year the gate ran beautifully and early entry worked well! Having a gate lead for each day of the festival, to check in at shift changes and ensure the gate was staffed with trained volunteers, made this year a success. This eliminated the possibility of volunteers being stuck up at the gate for several hours if relief didn't show up. Also, having the Volunteer Lounge right across the pond from the gate made it easy to find floating volunteers or ask



questions, if needed. However if the gate had their own radio that would be easiest for getting help from BODOD when needed.

Not selling tickets at the gate this year helped to cut down on confusion and stress by not having to handle any money. Set up went smoothly, creating three lanes of traffic with survey sprays and traffic cones; more cones may be helpful next year. Seabase employees at the gate were somewhat helpful; but volunteers did the bulk of the work. Combining box office and gate in one location helped limit the number of stops each vehicle had to make upon entry.

The bulk of entries were on Thursday and Friday with very few entries on Saturday; which differed from last year when we still had people buying tickets at the gate on Saturday. The \$5 re-entry that Element 11 collected worked well and seemed to be reasonable to festival participants.

Suggestions include to stick to announced gate times, better communication with Security about gate operating procedures, and ensure the physical gate is closed once the gate is closed. Additionally, there needs to be a designated lane at all times for emergency vehicles.

GREETERS

Scott Peterson & Trieste Palmer, Greeter Leads

The discussion on paddle consent was a positive thing for the community. It really brought to light the importance of consent and now consent is a standard topic of discussion within the community rather than something sort of foreign. Whether it is paddling consent or sexual consent – it's good the topic is being talked about.

The new location for greeters worked well, although some people did get by without being greeted. Some participants felt like they were over-greeted & others not enough. The carport should be staked down as it almost blew away in Thursday's wind-storm. Most greeter shifts were staffed by theme camps which worked out awesome! Greeter volunteers all showed up, only one shift was understaffed, but they were successful too.

Suggested is that greeter shifts be posted in the WWW Guide so people can come by to be greeted by those they want to be greeted by & greeters should be out in the festival greeting as well as at the Greeter station. Beyond paddling, continue to discuss 10 principles with participants during the greeting process.

CENTER CAMP

Stevo le Diable, Center Camp Director

The Center Camp team provided stage management for the festival. There were about a dozen volunteers working 5-6 hour shifts. The crew camped right behind Center Camp which worked great. Their main responsibilities were helping DJs with their gear setup and managing interactions with festival participants. A more simple structure was used this year and it was very simple for set-up and tear-down. It's been suggested use the same set-up for next year, just create a little bit better system for keeping it standing in high winds by possibly using some of the old Center Camp structure.

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Décor was string lighting. Stage was rented from Salvage Company; it was a good value and should be used again next year. Center Camp provided both music entertainment as well as workshops. There was not much response from the community for workshops (recruitment was primarily done via Facebook) and next year brainstorming should be done to get more community involvement for workshops and the like. Center Camp did collaborate with the Ascension Temple which was a good idea. The info provided to the WWW guide was too censored to fit into the guide; next year maybe a separate music and entertainment guide would be beneficial. Perhaps a focus next year on daytime parties (less rave, more art) with a coffee and OJ sunrise party.



Utah Fire Tribe. Photo Credit: Rudy van Bree

EPW

Joe Russo, EPW Director

The placement map team was excellent in coordination with the Art's & Communications departments. Regarding placement of burns, EPW would like to see this decision handled by EPW & Dangerous Arts rather than Arts with safety being a primary concern with this placement. Theme camps were a bit difficult because many did not follow application directions when asked for amount of space needed. Placement is one of the most important tasks of EPW; when done properly it really is essential to keeping people happy as people really care about placement.

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EPW chose street names & found a fun way to get signs made that really got everyone involved by having the materials at the volunteer training day.

Porta potties for the event were 34 regular units and 4 ADA units. Medical appreciates having an ADA unit near the medical station.

Infrastructure transportation was done by community members with trucks & trailers. However, EWP recommends that Element 11 invest in a decent trailer in the event that a community trailer is not available. Trucks are easy to come by, trailers are not. Suggests doing away with the current and past center camp structures and simply renting a sound stage instead as done at Equinox; however the shade in the current design is nice to have.

Infrastructure & center camp set-ups went smoothly at WBTC. Heavy equipment was coordinated by EPW for the effigy. Going forward, EPW would like to forgo this responsibility; if an art project requires heavy machinery, they should be responsible for securing that machinery as part of their project plan and budget.

Tear-down of the event included about 30 people. Tasks were cleaning up the burn scars, putting infrastructure back into the pod, MOOP sweeps, coordinating porta potties & dumpster pickup. We did have a dumpster fire this year due to hot coals being placed in it. Care should be taken to ensure that doesn't happen again.

MOOP sweeps during and after E11 are pretty easy & lots of people are interested in doing these & getting involved on an entry-level with E11. It's a little harder to find the same enthusiasm after some of the other events. Education is key for LNT & overall we do a pretty good job. The after-festival MOOP map is below.





Areas in pink were found with MOOP by the after-festival crew. Comments from the MOOP crew of MOOP found include: food waste, banana peels, nutshells, apple cores etc. Educate that food is still MOOP, wrappers, & cigarette butts. Open playa was pretty clean with a lot of people MOOPing Sunday morning. All of the art installations were clean and MOOPed excellently. However, the road to the Temple was pretty MOOPy. The crew would like to remind everyone that if you look down & see MOOP, it's your MOOP now. Please help us keep the festival clean by continually picking-up any MOOP you see.

EPW plans to have pod inventoried & excess materials removed by Spring 2015. Going forward, EPW would like to see more volunteers working clean-up during other events as well as continuing to get people involved in set-up/clean-up of E11.

LOGISTICS

Cassie Plant, Logistics Director

With the BOD reorg, many of the tasks previously in Logistics responsibility were assumed by other roles. Logistics was responsible for getting the generator for Center Camp, however going forward that should be moved to be part of Center Camp responsibilities. Logistics was also responsible for setting up an interactive community project. This year it was to be a Massive Key Wind Chime. Lots of keys were donated to the project however there was not a good spot for it at Element 11 thus it didn't get created. Rethinking the idea, it first needs a metal triangle stand built to support it. Would be great to proceed with this project and bring it to various events to continue work on it as well as display it.



Coontie Pod, Utah CORE. Photo Credit: Karen Taylor Johnson



THEME CAMPS

Cassie Plant, Theme Camp Director

The registration process and form was good for theme camps. Contacting theme camp leads was fairly easy. However, getting activities for WWW guide was the hardest part. Camps have a hard time planning activities that far in advance. Further, information provided to WWW was in the wrong format. Perhaps next year WWW lead should pull data from the spreadsheet in the format they need. Also the WWW lead/team should coordinate with the camp lead for edits, questions on WWW activities. This role could be combined with another such as logistics and would still be manageable.

Suggests that a “How to Start a Theme Camp” section on the website would be beneficial. Further, suggests that a designated sober camp Mayor at all times would be beneficial in the event of an incident at their camp and/or with a camp mate.

COMMUNICATIONS

David Born, Communications Director

The Salt Shaker newsletter and Facebook are both avenues that are working for alerting the community of upcoming festival submissions and deadlines. In general, theme nominations, art grant submissions, art car registration, & theme camp registration processes all went well using Contact Database via the website. The most difficulty we had was incomplete information being entered with the submissions that created additional work by volunteers to get the accurate information from the submissions. There was some disconnect between information submitted to the WWW guide in excel and what was published in the guide due to space restrictions; brainstorming should be done on a way to make this process and editing process easier.

The WWW guide looked great this year. However, deadlines for submitting things to get into the WWW were difficult for the community & theme camps. Perhaps the deadlines next year can be closer to the festival; it’s hard for theme camps to plan that far in advance. Would be great to have a music guide outside of the WWW as that generally is very last minute, although that would need a lead dedicated to doing just that.

Suggestion to include a lost & found notice in the WWW so people know where it is located & how to find lost items after the festival. The Playa Info Booth was part of the Oasis Kitchen this year & that makes sense to move it into that committee & house lost & found there.

Going forward, perhaps the DEA (Department of Elemental Awareness) can help increase departmental communication with the community and also help the Volunteer Recruitment committee come up with a solution for volunteers to update their “profile” via the website each year so that we can maintain the most up-to-date and accurate volunteer database for our committees and departments to access.

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Labyrinth Infinitum. Photo Credit: Allen Hovey

SMERC

JP Bernier (Ranger 8-Ball), SMERC Director

As the third year heading up the Medical Team, I saw some areas which were identified in previous years show success. These indicators showed proof of substantial progress both in care provided and efficacy of infrastructure over previous years.

VOLUNTEER STAFFING

Like years past, getting the shift schedules filled up before the very last minute is our largest challenge, however in 2014 I felt as though we had better volunteer participation than ever before. Face-to-face, and direct emails have continued to be most effective over Facebook and other social media efforts.

I was not aware of any situations where volunteers were reprimanded for their behavior, or not showing up for shifts, etc. The pancake breakfast was well attended and, in my opinion, something that should be continued in the future (or something similar). It appeared to be good for ESD morale, as well as public relations with other key participants (such as Chef Daddy's kitchen crew, etc).

TRAINING

Despite an effort being made to provide CPR training/recertification to volunteers and BOD members, the 2014 festival was not preceded by any direct volunteer training, such as was provided in years past. I will continue to pursue this [CPR] training in the 2015 season.



Additional training was done for Element 11 Key Medical Staff in conjunction with AirMed at Ft. Buenaventura directly preceding the Fall Equinox festival. Some minor damage was done to the helicopter stretcher, which I attempted to pay for but was refused by AirMed staff, indicating that it was “already taken care of”. Hopefully this will not affect our relationship with them in the future.

Volunteers need to remember to be safe and calm around a “hot” (actively spinning) rotor blade. In the future, should Element 11 be afforded the luxury to train with AirMed again, every effort should be made to instruct volunteers that sudden, or erratic movement around the helicopter is unwelcomed by the pilots and paramedics, etc.

HEADQUARTERS

Hard-Side Office – This was the second year using hard-sided container offices as the Medical, and Ranger HQ’s. This year, (2) 20-foot containers were used. One for Medical, which faced the venue and a second adjacent, turned away from the venue that was used for Ranger HQ. All feedback indicated that this arrangement was greatly preferred by all parties and should be sought after in the future. There is still some work to be done providing power to the HQ offices. As with 2013, the generator arrived somewhat at the “last minute” so the offices required temporary power prior to the large generator arriving. Some effort should be made to make this a less stressful process – either anticipating temporary power for one or two days preceding the event – or procuring the main festival generator earlier.

Green Tent – The green army tent has been abandoned for ESD use, and should be returned to its owner, or some other arrangement made so that Element 11 does not have to store/transport it.

HQ Calendar – The calendar functioned more highly this year than in the past. BODOOD, Ranger and Medic shift changes occurred with a more predictable air and seemed to flow more smoothly with better transfer of intel between shift leads. Posting the respective shift schedules in either container was effective in this process.

RADIOS

Allen Hovey conducted a professional and adequate representation of radio equipment and supplies for the festival. A critical piece of equipment (a power supply cord for the gang-charger) was forgotten, but was resolved without too much difficulty, and thanks to the efforts of Allen and others.

SUPPLIES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

The general equipment needs of Med Tent were met this year with satisfaction.

The proposal for the 2015 festival is to use a shoe organizer storage system attached to the container office walls with magnets which will contain a wide variety of supplies that affords immediate and effective identification – eliminating the need for volunteers to search through boxes for replacement supplies during patient care.

There is a small surplus of unused, Yellow Volunteer shirts. I have not conducted a precise count at this time. The feedback was that the type of shirts purchased this year was more comfortable than those in years past. Some reduction of cost was also seen by single-tone (black) design, in lieu of the previous blue/black artwork.



OPERATIONS

STATISTICS 2014:

- 67 single-line (minor treatment) entries = aprox 40% decrease from 2013*
- 6 MIR (substantial treatment) entries = aprox 30% increase from 2014. At least (1) patient was transported via ambulance
- 1 Death

* The festival was interrupted late Saturday night and most of the participants had left the venue on Sunday which may have contributed to the lower number of overall injuries reported.

STATISTICS 2013:

- 108 Single-line (minor treatment) entries = 20% increase
- 4(*) MIR (substantial treatment) entries = no change

*Note: One MIR included a patient who required an IV for severe dehydration. This led to our discovery that our IV supplies and trained technicians were adequate and prepared. However, it should be noted that if more of this type of patient were served, we would have quickly run out of IV supplies.

**Note: One MIR was transported to a local hospital in a civilian vehicle and accompanied by an EMS volunteer. The logistics of returning the volunteer back to the festival, though ultimately resolved, would have benefitted from a better plan being in place for that issue.

***Note: A change of policy should occur to address festival attendees who leave the event for medical care, and attempt to return against medical recommendation. I propose that these attendees should be required to sign an additional waiver upon re-entry indemnifying Element-11, Inc. in the likely event that they re-injure themselves.

STATISTICS 2012: (first year statistics were recorded)

- 86 Single-line (minor treatment) entries
- 4 MIR (substantial treatment) entries

SITLA land

The proposal of using the SITLA land adjacent to Seabase has been abandoned.

THE INCIDENT

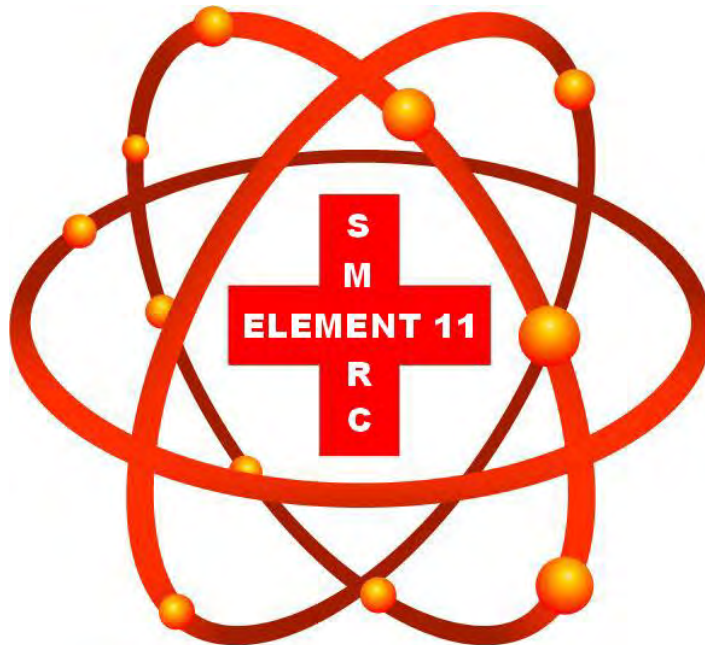
At approximately 2315, Saturday, July 12, 2014 while the general festival population watched the year's main effigy, nicknamed "Sparky", burn, a man later identified as Christopher Wallace approached the fire and was intercepted verbally by Rangers and instructed to "Stop", and "Move Back." But before he could be physically restrained from going forward, he ran directly into the burning effigy. Several rangers and members of the Grantsville Volunteer Fire Department attempted to pursue him, but were overcome by the heat of the fire and could not safely approach further. Emergency medical assistance was radioed for at the Main Effigy. The Grantsville Volunteer Fire Department immediately began efforts to extinguish the fire, and were assisted by the arrival of more trucks and equipment.



At approximately 0000 (midnight), Sunday July 13, 2015, the fire was fully extinguished and more emergency personnel arrived onsite and began to take witness reports. The individual was declared dead at the scene by the Utah Medical Examiner prior to being removed from the debris by members of Grantsville EMS.

Many Element 11 Rangers assisted the Grantsville EMS responders and medical examiner with the respectful removal of the body from the remains of the effigy by forming a “privacy fence” of bed sheets (later referred to as “Sheet Rangers”) held edge to edge, creating a visual barrier around the scene. I assisted the Grantsville EMS and Police throughout the incident by relaying pertinent information between Element 11 board members, staff and the EMS responders and the Mayor. Stephanie Evans (Ranger Messenger) played a critical, and extremely well executed, role of Khaki on the radio during the entire incident.

Immediately following the extinguishing of the effigy fire, the mayor of Grantsville City decreed the termination of the current burn permit, and all remaining scheduled burns which applied to the rest of the festival (the Temple, and Juggalo Bar), also specifically including any burn barrels, fire spinning, etc. The incident was declared “Clear” by Grantsville EMS and Police at approximately 0200, Sunday, July 13, 2015.





OPERATIONS

Kari Larson, General Manager

This year we initiated venue contracting by sending out a “Request for Proposal” (RFP). While this is a beneficial way to begin negotiations, it did delay the process. Venue contracting was not completed until very close to the event. Also we did not start the RFP process until after ground was broke for the effigy and construction was started. This limited our ability to negotiate. In the future, we should strive to start the RFP process in the fall for all venues we are considering and aim to have a contract signed early in the year. This will allow build crews and department leads to be able to plan further in advance, thus have more time to work on creating the event.

We renewed our insurance coverage with our broker and added additional days to our coverage for WBTC and other events not initially included in the coverage price. This did increase our cost for this budget line item, but was deemed necessary by the BOD. We were told that our insurance carrier is not interested in renewing our policy in 2015 and we will be working with our broker to find new coverage next year.

The after-burn report was not completed until November. A Burning Man request is that the after-burn report is completed along with complete financials for the events within 30 days after the event. Going forward this will be the goal.

Regarding overall BOD involvement with the festival & community, the BOD would like to evolve into more of a visionary BOD rather than a working BOD. A focus of the BOD in 2015 will be to empower the community to take on more leadership roles (outside the BOD) and build/recruit crews of their own to create the festival. This worked well this year with Gate & Greeters each having a volunteer lead responsible for those departments.

Looking forward to 2015, we want to return to our roots. We are an ARTS festival, not a drug/drunken festival. Let’s promote a change in our culture to one that is more proactive. Let’s watch out for each other. The BOD cannot do this alone, it needs to happen within our community organically much like the consent discussion. However, we can do more to promote awareness and provide year around training for members of our community on how to handle hard topics – bad drug trips, alcoholism, domestic violence, & addiction. Encourage the idea that moderation even soberness is awesome. As a community, let’s promote a “Let’s keep it classy” mindset. We are totally excited about the opportunities that await us in 2015!



Sunrise at Eye of the Vortex Temple. Photo Credit: David Born