



THE VOLUNTEER



The Official Newsletter of the
ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

July – September 2010

Robert Murry Maples family and all Owens Cross Roads V.F.D.

THANK YOU!!

On behalf of Robert Murry Maples family and all Owens Cross Roads Volunteer Fire Department members, we would like to thank EVERYONE for their help and support in obtaining an impossible dream. Words cannot describe the overwhelming pride knowing the backing that we have. We hope with this addition (E-ONE ENGINE) we will be able to come better equipped to meet the needs of our community and surrounding communities when the call comes.

*With sincere thanks;
Dan Kelly - Chief
Owens Cross Roads
Volunteer Fire Department*



**OWENS CROSS ROAD
VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

FROM THE AAVFD PRESIDENT'S DESK

by

Chauncey Wood



"Never tell your neighbors to wait until tomorrow if you can help them now!" Proverbs 3:28.

We have a unique partnership with the Alabama Forestry Commission (AFC); fact is they are like a good neighbor to us. With that in mind, the Bible verse above instructs us to pay attention to needs and be on the lookout for ways to help others!!

The Alabama Forestry Commission has just experienced the "Perfect Storm"; budget and funding cuts, resulting in personnel reductions, which has forced organization changes. **OUR** Rural Community Fire Protection future is being cut!

Financial challenges for the next couple of years will definitely be problematic. I implore you to continue to work together with **OUR** AFC neighbors by communicating and looking out for each other, especially through the upcoming fire season. I am convinced that by standing by each other, we can get through these difficult times ahead.

Our 33rd Annual Conference was a **HUGE SUCCESS** thanks to District III Association Chairman Billy Doss, Co-Chair Scott Hallman, and their "Assistant-to-the-Assistant" Tuscaloosa County Volunteer Fire Association President Belinda Lancaster. Belinda, "Thank You" for keeping Billy and Scott on the straight and narrow and organizing an **OUTSTANDING CONFERENCE!!!**

Many "Thanks" to the other committee members and District III Fire Fighters who worked so hard to set up this event. A special "Thank You" to Alabama Fire College Executive Director Allan Rice and his entire staff for making the **VOLUNTEERS** feel not only welcome, but that **OUR** members are a **BIG** part of the Fire College.

The participation of all vendors was great, and one even went the extra mile and provided entertainment - **THANKS** Mr. Buddy and "Vintage Gray" - while we enjoyed a cookout provided by another vendor VFIS of Alabama - **THANKS** Roy Adamson!

Many THANKS to Danny Clark, Cliff Cobb, Steve Lamkin and Mike Lanier, AFC Enforcement Officers, and State Forester Linda Casey for providing security during the Conference at **NO COST**.

As always, competition would not be the same with the outstanding work of Joey and Sandy Boyd. **THANKS** for your dedication and a **BIG THANK YOU** goes to your "new"

assistant **Paige Crouch**.

My **THANKS** to an awesome Board of Directors! Welcome aboard new Treasurer Charles Jackson and North Vice President Derrick Gatlin. You all provide much expertise towards the improvement of **OUR** Association and to the fire service as a whole. As you leave the Board this year, **Lawrence Huffman**, we appreciate and are grateful for your previous service to AAVFD and wish you nothing but the best in future endeavors.

Congrats to Honor Guard Commander Daniel Day and Honor Guard members. **THANKS** for all that you do for the fire service families during difficult times in their lives.

Kudos to Staff Photographer Rick Miller! He is responsible for the pictorial history of the Conference that you are enjoying in this publication. Rick does a great job throughout the year.

THANKS to **OUR** own Executive Assistant, Sandra Mott, for going the extra mile in everything she does; i.e. manning the **AAVFD & RCFPI** merchandise tables at Conference, running the day-to-day operation of **OUR** Association and for putting up with me for the past twenty-four months.

To all members of **OUR** Association - I appreciate your confidence in allowing me to serve another term as President! This next year will be tough, I'm sure of it, and only with your continued support and prayers can **WE** be successful. It's indeed an honor and a privilege to represent **OUR** Association of 1,016 volunteer fire departments and 30,000+ volunteers. "*No one can do it better than a Volunteer!*"

Be **SAFE** and may God Bless **OUR** Association!



State Forester Linda Casey & AAVFD President Chauncey Wood at AFC Dispatch Center

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THE PRESIDENT'S AWARDS

It takes many people wearing many hats to make a great organization succeed. At the Annual AAVFD Awards Banquet, President Chauncey Wood was extremely pleased to acknowledge two men who have made his job much more productive with their support.

President Wood honored Alabama Fire College Executive Director Allan Rice and State Fire Marshal Ed Paulk with the President's Award at the Annual Conference in Tuscaloosa.

In presenting the President's Award to Mr. Paulk, President Wood noted, "Ed has provided support by going the extra mile to support the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments and to support me as President. I have ridden many miles with Ed across this state, saving mileage expense for AAVFD during this National economic downturn."

President Wood acknowledged Executive Director Allan Rice with these words, "Allan is providing outstanding professional service through the Alabama Fire College. In the process, he has opened new doors of opportunity to the volunteer fire service and has made volunteer fire fighters feel welcome at the Fire College. We also now have field classes available that enable volunteers to learn at home at night and on week-ends without having to take time off work to travel to Tuscaloosa."



President Wood presents Award to Fire Marshal Ed Paulk



President Wood (Left) and State Forester Linda Casey (Far Right) look on as Representative Richard Laird presents President's Award to Executive Director Allan Rice.

From Here and There

News of the Volunteer Fire Service from across Alabama

Opine-Tallahatta Springs VFD (Clarke County) purchased new personal protection equipment for thirty-five firefighters through a combination of funding that included a USDA Grant, fundraising and contributions. They showed off the new gear at an annual fund-raising Gospel Singing on May 15th.

September is National Preparedness Month (NPM), a time to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, business, and communities. The theme for NPM 2010 is "Plan Now. Work Together. Be Ready." Take advantage of this opportunity to make sure your department and community are prepared for all types of emergency situations.

Hollis Crossroads Fire & Rescue, Cleburne County, hosted a training class on school bus extrication in July. Alabama Fire College Instructor Michael Gore taught the class where 33 responders attended. Cleburne County EMA sponsored the class.



Senator Harri Anne Smith presented a check from the Wiregrass RC&D for the renovation of the Coffee Springs Volunteer fire station in Geneva County. The newly-renovated building will preserve the integrity, reliability and security of supplies and equipment and enhance the ability of the department in their efforts to protect property and life in their service area.

Hollis Crossroads Fire & Rescue, Cleburne County, along with Cleburne County Sheriff Joe Jacks and County Fire Investigator Michael Gore, put on a demonstration for the Boy Scouts at the Frank Spain Scout Reservation/Camp Sequoyah.

Many thanks to the fire departments that brought their patch to the Conference! We are adding Appleton, Beulah, Cotaco, Florette, Fulton, Jackson, Keel Mountain, Lacey's Spring, Moundville, Oden Ridge, Perdido, Piney Woods, Rock Creek, Talucah, and West Bend-Bethel VFD, Morgan County Honor Guard and Harley-Davidson Firefighter patches to our Office "Wall of Patches".

August 15-21 is National Firefighter Health Week. We encourage you to focus on your overall wellbeing and start making the healthy lifestyle choices that will keep you strong all year long. Thursday, August 19 was designated "Stand Strong against Cancer". Firefighters and emergency responders may face increased risk of cancer due to environmental and behavior factors. Exposure to carcinogens such as asbestos, soot, and tobacco smoke are linked with

certain types of cancers. Identify your cancer risks and what you can do to minimize these risks

Nicol VFD, Tuscaloosa County, sponsored a fish fry on Aug. 7th to raise money for a new fire station. The department has been operating out of a barn since it was formed, and the purchase and upgrading of equipment has outgrown the building.

Littleville Firefighters and Ladies Auxiliary (Colbert County) hosted a barbecue dinner fund raiser August 27th at the Littleville Senior Citizens Center behind the Fire Department.

Rogersville VFD, Lauderdale County, sponsored a Community Red Cross Blood Drive on September 9th.

Promote pet fire safety in your community National Pet Fire Safety Day is July 15. An estimated 500,000 pets are affected annually by home fires, and a new data analysis by the National Fire Protection Association shows that nearly 1,000 house fires each year are accidentally started by the homeowners' pets. "Not many pet owners realize that their pet can actually be the cause of a devastating fire," said AKC spokesperson Lisa Peterson. "Simple preventative measures, such as flameless candles and removing stove knobs when leaving the house, can mean the difference between life and death for your four-legged friends."

Pike Road VFD, Montgomery County, paid tribute to America's Heroes by "Remembering 9/11". The colors were presented by the County Honor Guard. A wreath was placed by Firefighters BJ Green and Robbie Olesen in honor of the 343 fire fighters who lost their lives on 9/11/01. Life South Community also held a blood drive in memory of those fire fighters who lost their lives on this date.

Fire Fighters Charles Jackson (Escambia County), Charlie Dixon (Clarke County), David Dunn (Choctaw County), Roy Mott (Clarke County), and Chauncey Wood (Barbour County) attended "Operation Propeller Constellation" State Law Enforcement Deployment Exercise sponsored by Alabama Department of Homeland Security on September 15-17, 2010.



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Chauncey with Buddy Gray of "Vintage Gray"

CONFERENCE CONTINUED



The Joy Train



Conference Chairman Billy Doss being interviewed by TV reporter



General Business Session



Ethan Barrett awarded Medal of Service



Greene Co President William Johnson addresses Conference



Julia Ayers sings our National Anthem AFC Dan Jackson addresses Fire Fighters



Board of Directors sworn in by Asst Fire Marshal Scott Pilgreen



Roy Jines, Louie Jines, Hodges Smith, and William Johnson Green County VFD Association share a good laugh with RCFPI President Roy Mott



Honor Guard honors fallen Fire Fighters

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2010 COMPETITION

Joey Boyd, Competition Chairman



Joey Boyd and Jacques Prescott

Well, the 2010 AAVFD Conference has come and gone, but I'm sure it has not been forgotten by anyone who attended. For you who could not make it for some reason, you missed a really good time. The District 3 Association did an outstanding job of putting together the Conference. The Alabama Fire College was a great host and took well care of everyone. I know everyone is already looking forward to next year's Conference.

The Competition Teams did great running the events, but for some reason we are having fewer teams running competition each year it seems. I always look forward to seeing each and every team each year. Just wish we would have more teams show up for all the fun.

We had only five teams this year. They were: Hollis Crossroads VFD, Thomasville VFD, Mayfield VFD, Clements VFD and Fulton VFD. And, of course, the water tub came into play this year. Thank goodness, it wasn't that pond! Thanks to District 3 for having a fishing contest for the kids that kept me out of the pond. Wonder where I may end up next year?

So next year get your VFD members together and come up with a team so you can join in on the fun. See ya' next year.



Water on the Roof



Hose Lay II



Hose Lay II

Obstacle Course

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Fulton (Clarke) | 108.00 |
| Hollis Crossroads (Cleburne) | 111.69 |
| Thomasville (Clarke) | 118.00 |
| Clements (Limestone) | 140.03 |
| Mayfield (Tuscaloosa) | 259.85 |

Hose Lay II

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Thomasville (Clarke) | 55.09 |
| Fulton VFD (Clarke) | 56.34 |
| Mayfield (Tuscaloosa) | 112.31 |
| Hollis Crossroads (Cleburne) | 116.97 |
| Clements (Limestone) | 124.72 |

Water on the Roof

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Thomasville (Clarke) | 18.00" |
| Fulton (Clarke) | 17.75" |
| Hollis Crossroads (Cleburne) | 10.50" |
| Mayfield (Tuscaloosa) | 10.00" |
| Clements (Limestone) | 8.00" |

Over All

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| First Place - Thomasville | 25 pts |
| Second Place - Fulton | 24 pts |
| Third Place - Hollis Crossroads | 12 pts |



1st Place - Thomasville VFD



2nd Place - Fulton VFD



3rd Place - Hollis Crossroads VFD

JOEY MOFFETT NAMED AAVFD FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Joey Moffett is a firefighter with the Roberts Volunteer Fire Department in Escambia County, also serving the last ten years as the President of its Board of Directors. He is the department training officer. He also volunteers at Brewton Fire Department where he serves as the radio equipment officer.

Joey works for the volunteer fire service on the state level, as well. He is currently the District 7 Alternate Director on the AAVFD Board of Directors. In this capacity, he has chaired many committees, such as the nominating committee, audit committee, budget and finance committee, and many others.

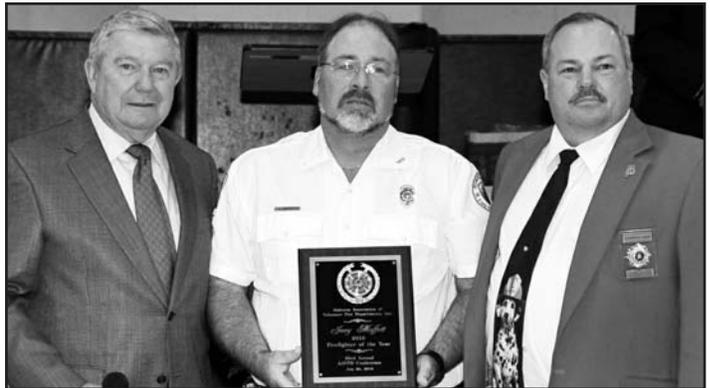
In addition to these responsibilities, Joey still maintains up-to-date training for his responsibility as a volunteer firefighter. In the previous year, he has over 150 hours of continuing education, completing NIMS IS-100, IS-200, IS-700 and IS-800. He is a certified volunteer firefighter, certified Extrication Technician, and Fire Instructor I through the Alabama Fire College. He has been trained by the Alabama Department of Public Health to install smoke alarms in community homes.

Joey works tirelessly to provide Roberts Volunteer Department with grants. In 2003, he successfully secured a Homeland Security Grant (AFG) for the purchase of new turnout gear, SCBA, fire hose and other equipment. In 2006, 2008 and 2009, Roberts VFD received Wildland Fire Prevention Grants for programs

outlined by Joey.

In 2009, Joey's training and dedication paid off for his fellow workers on his job. Along with the responding rescue team, he entered a train car to rescue three people who were overcome by fumes. Joey found one of the men had lost his air mask and was not responsive. He immediately put an air mask on the injured man, getting him out of the tank car to safety, along with the other workers. The workers were taken to the hospital and later released thanks to the quick action of Joey and the rescue team members.

Congratulations to JOEY MOFFETT - 2010 AAVFD FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR!



Representative Richard Laird, Firefighter of the Year Joey Moffett, President Chauncey Wood

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Bennie Joe Alston is a co-founder of Addison VFD in Winston County. After 32 years of service to his community and fire department, he has "stepped aside".

He was active in the founding of Addison VFD when he, at age 18, and a few friends saw a need for fire protection in their community. He served as Chief or Assistant Chief for most of his adult life. After his many years of service, members of the department didn't feel right to let him walk away without a word so they offered his name to AAVFD for recognition at the annual conference.

His nomination stated that Retired Chief Bennie Alston is an outstanding person, going above and beyond the call of duty. Volunteering just comes natural to him. He risked his life and livelihood over the last three decades to protect his neighbors and their property.

Bennie was presented the AAVFD Lifetime Achievement Award for his service to his department and community. As was stated by his friends, "Bennie is what every man should strive to be: strong, dependable, humble, hardworking, loving and respected. Thank you for your years of service and dedication to Addison Fire Department and the community."



Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient Benny Joe Alston.

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1999 E-One Hurricane 75' Quint
Cummins M11 400 HP Diesel
Allison HD4060 Automatic
Hale QSMG 1500 Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank
Foam Educator with 30 Gallon Tank



1998 Pierce Quantum 105' Quint
Detroit Series 60 500 HP Diesel
Allison HD4060P Automatic
Waterous 2000 GPM Pump
200 Gallon Poly Tank
Husky Foam System/20 Gallon Tank



1998 American LaFrance 75' Quint
Caterpillar 300 HP Diesel
Allison Automatic Transmission
ALF ALF150-21 1500 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank



1998 HME/Ferrara 75' Quint
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Allison HD4060 Automatic
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Allison HD4060P Automatic
Hale QSMG200-23 2000 GPM Pump
300 Gallon Poly Tank
FoamPro 2001 A&B System



1989 Pierce Lance 105' Platform
Detroit 8V92 475 HP Diesel
Allison Automatic Transmission
Waterous CMU 1500 GPM Pump
200 Gallon Steel Tank
Onan 7.5 KW Generator



1994 KME 75' Aerial
Detroit 400 HP Diesel
Allison HTB741 Automatic
Hale QSMG150-23 1500 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank



2003 Pierce Rescue/Command Center
Cummins Diesel, Allison Automatic
Onan 40KW PTO Generator
Will-Burt Light Tower
Cascade System
Full-Width Command Desk



1998 FL Walk-In Heavy Rescue
Cummins 300 HP Diesel Engine
Allison Automatic Transmission
AMPS 20KW Hydraulic Generator
Cascade System



1989 Oshkosh 6x6 ARFF Vehicle
Detroit 8V92TA 540 HP Diesel
Hale 2000 GPM Pump
3000 Gallon Steel Tank
400 Gallon Steel Foam Tank



2008 Sterling 4 x 4 Brush Truck
Cummins 305 HP Diesel Engine
6-Speed Automatic Transmission
Gas-Powered CAF System
300 Gallon Polypropylene Tank
12 Gallon Foam Tank



1989 Int'l 4x4 Brush Truck
International DT466 Diesel
Hale Auxillary-Powered Pump
500 Gallon Tank
VW Diesel Pump Engine
Winch on Front Bumper



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5000 Gallon Tank



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Gorman Rupp 400 GPM Pump
1800 Gallon Stainless Steel Tank
1500 Gallon Drop Tank



1988 E-One 6x6 Pumper/Tanker
Detroit 8V92 Diesel
Allison Automatic
2000 GPM Side-Mount Pump
2000 Gallon Tank



1989 Mack Foam Tanker
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Allison Automatic Transmission
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 1000 Gallon Poly Tank
 Foam System with A and B Tanks



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 Allison HD4060P Automatic
 Hale 1250 GPM Top-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Poly Tank
 FoamPro System with A&B Foam



1998 Pierce Lance Rescue Pumper
 Cummins M11 450 HP Diesel
 Allison HD4060P Automatic
 Waterous 1500 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Polypropylene Tank
 Feecon ATP Foam System



1997 Spartan Rescue Pumper
 Detroit Series 60 430 HP Diesel
 Allison Automatic Transmission
 Waterous 1500 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Polypropylene Tank
 A & B Foam System



1996 E-One Cyclone Pumper
 Detroit 6V92TA 400 HP Diesel
 Allison Automatic Transmission
 Hale 1250 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 1000 Gallon Poly Tank



1996 Pierce Saber Custom Pumper
 Detroit 320 HP Diesel
 Allison MD3060 Automatic
 Waterous 1250 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Poly Tank
 Akron Foam System



1995 E-One Protector Pumper
 Cummins 8.3L 350 HP Diesel
 Allison 3000EVS Automatic
 Hale 1250 GPM Top-Mount Pump
 1000 Gallon Poly Tank



1993 E-One Cyclone 4x4 Pumper
 Detroit 8V92TA 450 HP Diesel
 Allison HT741 Automatic
 Hale 1500 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 1000 Gallon Poly Tank



1994 E-One Cyclone Rescue Pumper
 Cummins 8.3L 300 HP Diesel
 Allison MD3060 Automatic
 Hale 1500 GPM Top-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Poly Tank



1990 Pierce Lance Rescue Pumper
 Detroit 6V92TA 350 HP Diesel
 Allison HT-740 Automatic
 Waterous 1500 GPM Top-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Poly Tank
 Feecon ATP Foam System



1990 E-One Protector Pumper
 Cummins 8.3L 250 HP Diesel
 Allison MT647 Automatic
 Hale 1000 GPM Top-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Steel Tank



2003 FL/E-One Rescue Pumper
 Caterpillar 300 HP Diesel
 Allison EVS3000 Automatic
 Hale 1250 GPM Top-Mount Pump
 1000 Gallon Poly Tank



2001 FL/ALF Rescue Pumper
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 Allison MD3060 Automatic
 ALF 1250 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 500 Gallon Poly Tank
 FoamPro Foam System



2001 FL/ALF Rescue Pumper
 Caterpillar 3126 300 HP Diesel
 Allison MD3060 Automatic
 Hale 1250 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Poly Tank



2000 Int'l/Pierce 4x4 Rescue Pumper
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 Allison MD3060P Automatic
 Waterous 1250 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 1000 Gallon Poly Tank
 FoamPro 1600 Foam System



1999 FL/SC Rescue Pumper
 Cummins ISC 300 HP Diesel
 Allison MD3060 Automatic
 Hale 1250 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Poly Tank



1997 E-One Ambulance/Attack
 Cummins 300 HP Diesel Engine
 Allison Automatic Transmission
 Hale Side-Mount PTO Pump
 150 Gallon Poly Tank
 Robwen Foam System



1994 International Medium Rescue
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2002 Freightliner Ambulance
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Congratulations Kellyton Fire & Rescue



"When Kellyton Fire was blessed with the opportunity to purchase our first new fire apparatus, we made the decision to purchase a KME pumper from NAFECO. We have never regretted that decision. We were so satisfied that we also purchased our rescue truck and most recently, a new NFPA compliant KME tanker from NAFECO. John Wilson and Brandon Oaks are extremely knowledgeable and have been a pleasure to work with. Kellyton Fire and the Kellyton Community are proud of our relationship with KME and NAFECO."

*Fire Chief Gerald Sewell
Kellyton Fire & Rescue*



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Director Daniel Day
Alternate Director Joey Moffett
- District 8: Baldwin, Choctaw, Clarke, Mobile and Washington Counties
Director Ray Hogans
Alternate Director Robbie Davidson
- District 9: Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Limestone, Lawrence, Marion and Morgan Counties
Director Jimmy Looney
Alternate Michael Moomaw
- District 10: Bullock, Elmore, Lee, Lowndes, Macon, Montgomery and Russell Counties
Director Forrest Gregg
Alternate Director Kalyn Ray

The officers and directors were sworn in by Assistant State Fire Marshal Scott Pilgreen at the Awards Banquet on July 24th. Phone numbers and addresses for the Board members are posted on the AAVFD web site at www.aavfd.org, or you may call the Montgomery office at 334-262-2833 or 1-888-972-2833.

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SHERRY GARNER MEMORIAL AWARD

Shannon Davidson was honored with the Sherry Garner Memorial Award for the 2010 Female Firefighter of the Year.

Shannon has been a member of McIntosh VFD in Washington County for 10 years serving as the department safety officer. She works the night shift at Mobile Infirmary Medical Center and is also a paramedic with McIntosh Rescue, where she serves as Second Lieutenant. In addition to this full schedule, Shannon is the mother of two daughters, also members of the department, and wife of the fire chief.

When Shannon's husband, Robbie, was approached in 2000 by the Town of McIntosh to take a leadership roll in turning the defunct department around, he asked for Shannon's help and support. Shannon readily agreed, and help she did!

There were three main goals: recruiting members, training, and improving equipment. Shannon was involved in all these endeavors, additionally applying for and securing grants, not only for McIntosh VFD, but Fairford VFD, Yarbo VFD and McIntosh Rescue. These grants totaled over \$300,000.00.

McIntosh VFD hosted several training classes paid for by grant funds with Shannon also serving as one of the instructors. New PPE, SCBA, positive-pressure fans, hose, needed ISO equipment and two new fire apparatus were secured.

Shannon continues to serve the department that she helped transform from a non-productive department to one of the best. The ISO rating went from 8/9 to 6/8-B, which is the best in Washington County.

All of these things are important in the life of this award winner, but Shannon also has gone a step farther closer to home. She is a person that you can count on and gets the job done. Her husband, McIntosh Chief Robbie Davidson, recently underwent open heart surgery receiving 3 by passes. He says, "If not for her, it is most likely I would not be here today. I owe her my life; she is my hero!"

Congratulations, Shannon L. Davidson!



Representative Richard Laird, Sherry Garner Award Winner Shannon Davidson, President Chauncey Wood

AAVFD HONORS MRS. WILLIE JOHNSON AT ANNUAL AAVFD BANQUET



Kenya Turner, Mrs. Willie Johnson - Widow of Tishbee Fire Chief (Perry Johnson) Mrs. Mollie Gaines and William Johnson from Greene County VFD Association

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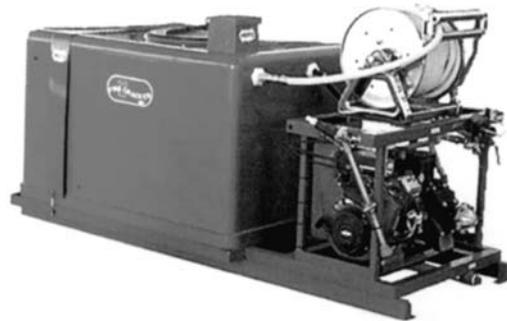
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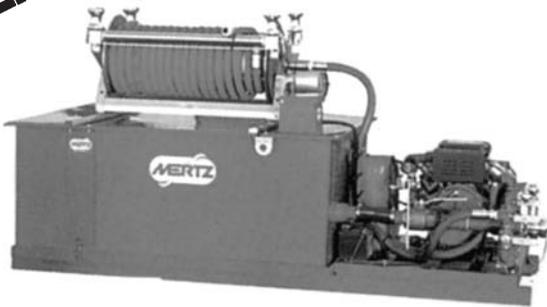
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FORESTRY LAW ENFORCEMENT NEWS

BY CRAIG HILL, CHIEF LAW ENFORCEMENT SECTION



Dear AAVFD Members:

On behalf of the Alabama Forestry Commission I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for the great job you do providing fire protection for the citizens of this state. Your service saves lives and property.

Over the last three years arson has been responsible for approximately 40% of all wildland fires. In an effort to reduce this rate we need your help identifying current areas of arson activity. Please notify me or the local AFC Ranger if you respond to a wild fire in which arson is suspected. Your help in this effort is very important

because if the AFC does not respond we most often have no knowledge of the fire in your service area. You can reach me at 334-240-9366 or you can call the Arson Timber Theft Hotline 1-800-222-2927.

It is very important during an arson investigation that the suspected origin area of the fire be protected. This area must be protected so physical evidence is not destroyed and it also allows us to utilize Blaze. We offer a free training program on crime scene protection. If your county fire association has not had this course contact me and we will schedule a date and time.

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION DISPATCH CENTER

BY BALSIE BUTLER, FIRE OPERATIONS CHIEF, ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

The Alabama Forestry Commission (AFC) has stepped to the forefront among state forestry agencies throughout the nation with the use of 21st century technology in performing its everyday operations. In the summer of 2009, the new Central Dispatch Center in Montgomery was constructed to handle all statewide communications and radio traffic of the AFC, making the agency a leader in fire communications.

Although the Montgomery dispatch center was already in use, with outlying dispatch sites around the state switching their communications and radio transmissions to Montgomery each day after 5:30 p.m., improvements were needed for the centralization of dispatch operations. In the development of the new center, a drop-down ceiling was added, interior border walls constructed, a grounding system installed, fiber optic line added, and an overhead projection system installed.

The specific design of the Dispatch Center features six pods to handle all radio transmissions, one designated for each region of the state. In addition, an upgraded automated call center manages all incoming telephone calls by providing callers with three options: 1) report fire emergencies, 2) request burn permits, or 3) choose "other" if the individual is uncertain of his or her need.

Further progress occurred at the Dispatch Center when the AFC narrow-banded its radio system in December 2009, thus meeting the FCC deadline, while providing improved clarity to communications. The finished product is vital to Alabama's firefighters and citizens, and is operating 24 hours a day to keep our state safe.

During heavy call volumes, the Dispatch Center has the ability to add more telephones to the system and bring in additional personnel to assist with the overload. During the January through May 2010 fire season, dispatchers answered over 3,000 telephone calls while dis-

patching over 1,343 fires consuming 16,215 acres. Also during that time, they issued 9,495 burn permits to landowners for 686,659 acres across the state. Dispatchers were also tasked with taking other questions and addressing concerns expressed by landowners calling in, thus increasing the amount of time spent on each call.

The AFC is proud of the Central Dispatch Center and the associates that make it work every day. The Center supports firefighting while providing quality communications, recordkeeping, permit issuance, law enforcement support, and infra-communications with volunteer fire departments. Additionally, in establishing the Center, the Commission became authorized to access the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) for law enforcement support.

While there is concern that state budget cuts impacting the AFC may also negatively affect the Central Dispatch Center, safety remains the focus, and the agency has so far avoided layoffs at the center.



L-R: AAVFD President Chauncey Wood, State Forester Linda Casey, Com Tech II Bob Kimbro, Communication Chief Roy Mott and Com Tech II Brent Cord

2010 AAVFD Membership – Total 915

DISTRICT 1 MEMBERSHIP

| | | |
|----------|------|----------|
| CALHOUN | 90% | 9 of 10 |
| CHEROKEE | 100% | 13 of 13 |
| DEKALB | 100% | 25 of 25 |
| ETOWAH | 100% | 23 of 23 |
| JACKSON | 100% | 21 of 21 |
| MADISON | 100% | 17 of 17 |
| MARSHALL | 100% | 18 of 18 |

DISTRICT 2 MEMBERSHIP

| | | |
|-----------|------|----------|
| BLOUNT | 100% | 21 of 21 |
| CULLMAN | 100% | 26 of 26 |
| JEFFERSON | 41% | 13 of 32 |
| SHELBY | 42% | 8 of 19 |
| ST CLAIR | 0% | 0 of 19 |
| WALKER | 100% | 25 of 25 |
| WINSTON | 100% | 11 of 11 |

DISTRICT 3 MEMBERSHIP

| | | |
|------------|------|----------|
| FAYETTE | 38% | 5 of 13 |
| GREENE | 100% | 14 of 14 |
| HALE | 100% | 9 of 9 |
| LAMAR | 100% | 10 of 10 |
| PICKENS | 100% | 17 of 17 |
| SUMTER | 100% | 19 of 19 |
| TUSCALOOSA | 100% | 21 of 21 |

DISTRICT 4 MEMBERSHIP

| | | |
|------------|------|----------|
| CHAMBERS | 100% | 13 of 13 |
| CLAY | 100% | 18 of 18 |
| CLEBURNE | 100% | 12 of 12 |
| COOSA | 100% | 10 of 10 |
| RANDOLPH | 100% | 17 of 17 |
| TALLADEGA | 27% | 43 of 15 |
| TALLAPOOSA | 100% | 13 of 13 |

DISTRICT 5 MEMBERSHIP

| | | |
|---------|------|----------|
| AUTAUGA | 100% | 10 of 10 |
| BIBB | 100% | 9 of 9 |
| CHILTON | 100% | 16 of 16 |
| DALLAS | 100% | 15 of 15 |
| MARENGO | 100% | 12 of 12 |
| PERRY | 100% | 11 of 11 |
| WILCOX | 100% | 10 of 10 |

DISTRICT 6 MEMBERSHIP

| | | |
|---------|------|----------|
| BARBOUR | 100% | 12 of 12 |
| COFFEE | 100% | 9 of 9 |
| DALE | 100% | 13 of 13 |
| GENEVA | 100% | 10 of 10 |
| HENRY | 100% | 6 of 6 |
| HOUSTON | 100% | 17 of 17 |
| PIKE | 100% | 9 of 9 |

DISTRICT 7 MEMBERSHIP

| | | |
|-----------|------|----------|
| BUTLER | 100% | 16 of 16 |
| CONEUH | 100% | 21 of 21 |
| COVINGTON | 100% | 20 of 20 |
| CRENSHAW | 100% | 12 of 12 |
| ESCAMBIA | 100% | 21 of 21 |
| MONROE | 100% | 15 of 15 |

DISTRICT 8 MEMBERSHIP

| | | |
|------------|------|----------|
| BALDWIN | 53% | 17 of 32 |
| CHOCTAW | 93% | 13 of 14 |
| CLARKE | 100% | 14 of 14 |
| MOBILE | 100% | 19 of 19 |
| WASHINGTON | 100% | 19 of 19 |

DISTRICT 9 MEMBERSHIP

| | | |
|------------|------|----------|
| COLBERT | 100% | 14 of 14 |
| FRANKLIN | 100% | 13 of 13 |
| LAUDERDALE | 100% | 14 of 14 |
| LAWRENCE | 100% | 11 of 11 |
| LIMESTONE | 100% | 13 of 13 |
| MARION | 100% | 12 of 12 |
| MORGAN | 100% | 22 of 22 |

DISTRICT 10 MEMBERSHIP

| | | |
|------------|------|----------|
| BULLOCK | 100% | 7 of 7 |
| ELMORE | 100% | 20 of 20 |
| LEE | 100% | 7 of 7 |
| LOWNDES | 25% | 2 of 8 |
| MACON | 30% | 3 of 10 |
| MONTGOMERY | 100% | 8 of 8 |
| RUSSELL | 100% | 11 of 11 |

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NORTH CHILTON FIRE K9 SEARCH AND RESCUE

Sometimes there is a thin line between work and play. The two certified search and rescue dogs with North Chilton Fire Department, Bella and Ramsey, have the time of their lives while training. But that training could help save someone's life.

Bella and Ramsey are Labrador retrievers, which means they are very active dogs. In a search and rescue mission, their natural drive to hunt -- as well as their keen sense of smell -- can make them invaluable tools.

"They think they're playing, and they have high play drives," said Jason Snipes, paramedic and dog handler with NCFD.

Mission accomplished: Ramsey barks when locating a person to alert the paramedics of the find.

Mission accomplished: Ramsey barks when locating a person to alert the paramedics of the find.

Snipes owns Bella, and fellow paramedic Bryan Avery owns Ramsey. The dogs are sister and brother, and are about 4 1/2 years old. NCFD obtained the animals from a family that couldn't afford to keep the dogs.

There have been numerous cases of missing persons in the North Chilton County area in recent years. Snipes knew the closest rescue dogs would have to come from Bibb County, so he thought it would be a good idea to have Bella and Ramsey certified through NOCSAR (National Organization Certifying Search and Rescue).

"We've taken our own time and money to do this and get these dogs ready," Snipes said.

Recently, NOCSAR evaluators came to Minooka Park for the dogs' official certification tests. The dogs had to find two people located within a 5-acre area of the park within a maximum of 30 minutes.

The dogs passed with flying colors, locating both "victims" within 8 minutes and just under 12 minutes, respectively.

"When they find them, they have to bark, which is their alert, letting us know that they've found them," Snipes explained.

Once a victim is located, the dog's trainer rewards him or her with a toy. Often during training, a toy is placed at the feet of the "victim."

"That's all they're looking for is that toy," Snipes said.

Snipes and Avery also participated in a weeklong seminar conducted by NOCSAR in Perry, Fla. Both dogs also continue to train regularly at Minooka, which Snipes says is vital to their performance in a real search and rescue mission.

In fact, they have already been deployed once to assist West Chilton Fire and Rescue to find a missing 2-year-old. Fortunately, the child was located quickly before the dogs had a chance to work.

But there will be plenty more opportunities for Bella and Ramsey to use their training for good. North Chilton K-9 Search and Rescue has partnered with Southeast Shelby Search and Recovery, which means they will have access to search and rescue dogs, cadaver dogs and tracking dogs.

They also plan to train the Labradors to locate victims covered by debris.

"We're not only going to be dispatched in Chilton County. We can go all over the state and assist with missing person cases and natural disasters," Snipes said.



Photo by Scott Mims, clanton-advertiser.com



Top dogs: North Chilton paramedics and dog-handlers Brian Avery (left) and Jason Snipes are pictured with the department's two new search and rescue dogs, Ramsey (left) and Bella. Both are NOCSAR certified search and rescue dogs.

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RCFP INSTITUTE PRESENTS "ENERGIZER BUNNY" AWARD TO AAVFD PRESIDENT CHAUNCEY WOOD

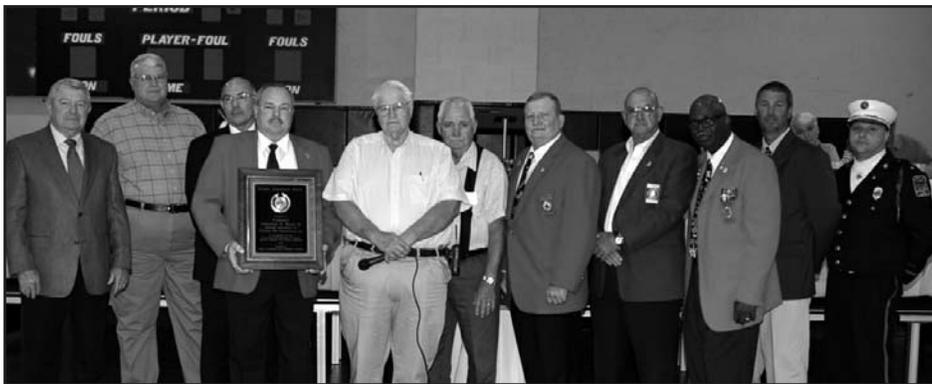
Like the Energizer Bunny, it seems that AAVFD President Chauncey Wood is always going, going, going and going.....

The 2010 Legislative year was very successful under his leadership. Through his untiring and resolute efforts, Chauncey was successful in steering 13 fire service bills through the legislative process to passage.

The Rural Community Fire Protection Institute recognized Chauncey for this accomplishment when they presented him with a giant pink "Energizer Bunny" and the "Lifetime Achievement Award" for his leadership and dedication in passing Alabama Volunteer Fire Service Legislation.



Chauncey with Energizer Bunny



*RCFPI Board of Directors
L-R: House Caucus Co-Chair Representative Richard Laird, Roger Wilson, Billy Doss, Chauncey Wood, Roy Mott, Wess Etheredge, Butch LeCompte, Billy Mims, Charlie Dixon, Derrick Gatlin and Daniel Day*



L-R: President Looney, Senator Bobby Denton, AAVFD President Chauncey Wood

On behalf of the Colbert County Fire Fighters, Colbert County Association President Jimmy Looney presented Senator Bobby Denton with an award recognizing his support of the County Association and the fire service in Alabama.

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WATERLOO FIRE RESCUE JUNIOR PROGRAM

Waterloo Fire has had a junior program starting back in 1991. Our first class consisted of four members and one is still with the department as our assistant chief. Our program is run in conjunction with the Boy Scouts Explorer Program for insurance coverage which is good until their 21st birthday. We begin their training and membership at 16 years old. At their 18th birthday and graduation from high school they become rookie firefighters within the department. Each junior has written permission from their parents and school officials to respond during the day while at school if requested by the chief or assistant chief. We have established a \$500.00 scholarship for one of the high school seniors which is voted on by the officers of the department towards college or trade school. They participate in all our training from extraction to high angle rescue.

We have a confined space and two story apartment complex at our station, one which the juniors enjoy going through in total darkness. They all carry pagers, complete turnouts and respond to all calls with pre designated assignments. At the present time we have 12 juniors in our program. This has helped us maintain our membership in the department since we cover approximately 120 sq miles from three stations.



OWENS CROSS ROADS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CHOSEN WINNER OF E-ONE'S 'TELL US YOUR STORY' CONTEST

BY JON HUGHES, FIRE RESCUE1 EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

CHICAGO - In what is becoming a meaningful annual tradition within the fire service, E-One again gave away a fire truck to a needy department in a presentation at the IAFC's Fire Rescue International in Chicago today.

Owens Cross Roads, Alabama, Volunteer Fire Department took home the new Tradition ES pumper as the top vote-getter among the seven finalist departments in E-One's 'Tell Us Your Story' contest. The competition - which drew more than 600 entries - asked departments to submit essays explaining why they were the most deserving of the new truck.

Owens Cross Roads Fire Chief Dan Kelly was overcome with emotion as E-One President Peter Guile announced the winner of the \$170,000 truck in front of a large crowd of show attendees and exhibitors. "I'm rarely at a loss for words, but I am now," Kelly said, wiping his eyes before pointing skyward and mouthing "Thank you."

This year, the contest - which ended just hours before the presentation - drew 70,000 online votes.

The competition was hotly contested, with the finalist departments employing tactics ranging from letter writing campaigns to dancing YouTube videos in an effort to drive votes their way.

There was a distinctly common thread running through each of the finalists. All have struggled mightily to raise funds in a down economy, turning to drastic measures in many cases.

Many spoke in their essays about the frustration and

powerlessness of being unable to serve their communities to the best of their abilities because of inferior equipment and resources.

And all of the departments, Guile joked, serve small towns with "a number of stoplights between one and zero."

The other representatives all received prizes to benefit their departments, including several sets of new Globe turnouts for the first and second runners up.

But the man with the biggest smile on his face was Kelly, who was straightforward when asked about how the new pumper will help his 20-person department and his community.

"I mean - there it is," he said, pointing at the truck. "We can do more of everything."



*Photo FireRescue1 Staff
A Tradition ES pumper is on display in E-One's booth at Fire-Rescue International in Chicago. The truck was awarded to Owens Cross Roads, Ala.*

CLASSIFIED ADS

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|---|------|
| Caps: | \$10 |
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| Swiss Army Knife w/ AAVFD Logo | \$15 |
| AAVFD Vehicle Tag | \$5 |
| Golf Shirts w/ Collar | \$12 |
| T-Shirts | \$10 |
| T-Shirts w/Pocket | \$12 |
| AAVFD Vehicle Decals | \$2 |

THE BELL TOLLED

Bobby Jack Heard, East Randolph VFD, Station #7, Randolph County, passed away on April 8, 2010. "BJ" was 76 years old and still active in the department. He was one of the founding members of East Randolph and served in the department as Assistant Chief for over 30 years. "BJ", we will miss you!!

Chief Perry Johnson, Tishabee VFD, Greene County, passed away July 4, 2010.

Perry Lee Gary, Jr., Screamer VFD, Henry County, passed away on July 20, 2010. He was one of the founders of Screamer Fire Department.

Lavon "Shorty" Bonner, New Hope VFD, Choctaw County, passed away July 23, 2010.

Kathy Black, Franklin VFD, Monroe County, died in a motor vehicle accident July 25, 2010. Kathy was the wife of Franklin Chief Larry Black. We extend our sincere condolences to Chief Black and his family.

Rohn Randall Schuette, Screamer VFD, Henry County, passed away August 24, 2010.

Mason Joel Walding, Slocomb VFD, Geneva County, died of injuries sustained in a four-wheeler crash on September 2, 2010.

Administrative Chief Sidney Harold Turner, Millbrook VFD, Elmore County, passed away September 4, 2010. Sid was a member of the department for 55 years. He was also one of the founding members of AAVFD.

Paramedic Sharon Hines, Blountsville Fire & Rescue, Blount County, passed away September 5, 2010.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences to Senator Butler and his wife whose daughter, Jill Kimberly Lares, passed away August 19, 2010 after a nearly seven year battle with brain cancer. She was a third grade teacher whose love for her children earned her a Golden Apple Award. Jill's courageous battle with cancer and her faith in God, which never wavered, were inspirations to many in Alabama and around the world.

If any Volunteer Fire Department (member or not) has a firefighter die in the line of duty or as a result of a line of duty injury (examples: at the scene, going to or from the scene), notify ONE of the following IMMEDIATELY, no matter what day it is or what time of day or night: Chauncey Wood – (334) 403-0301, William Neal – (334) 335-3643, Steve Dennis – (334) 283-2110 or Derrick Gatlin (256) 230-3526.

A copy of the booklet "Death In Line Of Duty" may be obtained from the Montgomery office.

1-888-972-2833 or www.aavfd.org.



About *The Volunteer*: *The Volunteer* is issued 4 times a year: in Jan, April, Jul, and Oct. Articles, information, and advertisements for the newsletter must be in Montgomery not later than the 15th of the month before publication.

Articles & Information: Submissions of articles, letters, and information for inclusion in this newsletter are greatly appreciated and encouraged. All submissions must include the name, address and telephone number of the sender. No libelous or slanderous material will be published. We reserve the right to edit for length, corrections, and style.

Other AAVFD Information: ALL Membership information, Insurance information, changes of address, and inquiries having to do with the AAVFD should be sent directly to the Montgomery office.

AAVFD Officers:
President Chauncey Wood
1st VP William Neal
2nd VP Steve Dennis
3rd VP Derrick Gatlin
Secretary Mary Jane Sells
Treasurer Charles Jackson

Newsletter Editor:
Sandra Mott
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Tina Wood, Photographer
Rick Miller, Photographer
Executive Assistant:
Sandra Mott

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