



THE VOLUNTEER



The Official Newsletter of the
ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

July - September, 2004

2004 Annual Conference

Months of planning and preparation culminated on June 18th in Dothan when firefighters gathered for the 27th Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments Conference. This annual event began at noon Friday with the vendor show and the AAVFD Board of Directors meeting at 4:00 pm, followed by the Friday night cook out by the motel pool. Everyone enjoyed good music and a square dancing exhibition along with their delicious BBQ meal.

A sunny and hot Saturday morning found many firefighters

preparing for the competition events at Westgate Park. Events were exciting and competition was fierce, but friendly. Congratulations to each team that competed and to the event winners. You all are winners when you compete! The annual business meeting was conducted Saturday afternoon to elect officers and directors for the coming year.

The Annual Awards Banquet was Saturday night with entertainment by comedian David LeFebvre who made everyone laugh. Scholarship winners, competition winners, and the Firefighter of the Year and Sherry Garner Award winners were

announced. The newly elected 2004-2005 Board of Directors was also sworn in.

The Houston County Volunteer Fire Fighters Association would like to thank all of you that attended. It was a pleasure to host the conference, and we hope that your visit was enjoyable. We especially thank the vendors for their support in Dothan and express our gratitude to the volunteer firefighters in our state for their self-sacrificing dedication to the fire service. Remember: "Practice fire safety everyday" and join us in Colbert County for the 2005 conference next year.



Competition Teams

Standing on the left is third place winner, East Limestone VFD, Limestone County; kneeling in center is first place winner Sylvania VFD, DeKalb County; and standing to the right is second place winner Fulton VFD, Clarke County.

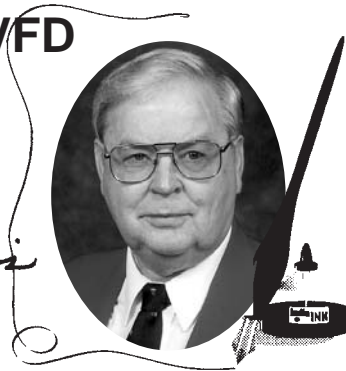
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FROM THE AAVFD PRESIDENT'S DESK

by

Johnny Dennis



The Future of Alabama Volunteer Fire Service

For the past four years, this association has been involved in meeting with other states to find ways to provide some much-needed benefits to our volunteers. Alabama, like many other states, has very little to offer their volunteers for committing themselves to years of service. However, many states have retirement plans, low cost insurance, free college tuitions and other benefits for their volunteers.

With the exception of a low cost insurance policy, which comes with the publication of "THE VOLUNTEER", this association can provide little as we are limited by the income needed to do so. This is a major disadvantage for the volunteers in Alabama. States that provide major benefits are funded primarily by one of three ways: a small percentage of the insurance premiums, individual membership, or benefits passed by state legislation. This allows associations to provide low cost benefits due to membership based on thousands versus hundreds of members. With all the efforts of this association to provide benefits for our volunteers, we are limited by the resources needed to make this happen. Looking for Alabama to provide benefits from our state legislature for our volunteers is wishful thinking, as we seem to be lowest of consideration by our state.

Next year will be the final year of a five-year project in which this association has played a major role. The last meeting of the National Fire Service Benefit Summit will be hosted by the New York State Fireman's Association. This president will be attending as the only official records of these meetings were taped by me. The National Volunteer Fire Council has prepared a list of these benefits by each state, which are listed on the NVFC Web Guide. This project became a reality because this association, working with the associations from North Carolina, California, South Carolina, and next year New York has the leadership in the fire service to make it happen. Next year we hope to review some new states, such as Iowa, Missouri, South Dakota and Alaska. Reviewing all these states will give these associations greater options for our volunteers in Alabama.

In a report from the National Fire Protection Association there has been a nationwide increase of 4.1% in our volunteer fire service since 1995. This marks a reversal in the downward trend since 1983. Other interesting facts and figures from 1980 to 2002, total calls almost doubled and mutual aid calls tripled. With this slight increase in volunteers over the past nine years, the demands for

the volunteer fire service have increased many times over. Many states have implemented a Recruiting and Retention Program to increase the number of volunteers, while others like Alabama, are also trying to provide major benefits.

CORRECTION: The article "From the AAVFD President's Desk" in the previous issue of "The Volunteer" stated that there was a state budget deficit of \$35 million. This should have been \$350 million.

Fire Prevention Week: October 3-9, 2004

For 82 years Fire Prevention Week has given firefighters, safety organizations and educators the opportunity to teach the public about fire safety.

The annual observance began as Fire Prevention Day on October 9, 1911 - the 40th anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. In 1922, it became a weeklong celebration. Take time to thank the brave men and women who serve your community as a firefighter and remember, "Practice fire safety every day!"

A Message from AAVFD First Vice President

To the Firefighters of Alabama:

I would like to take this time to thank all the ones who supported my bid for re-election as vice president of the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments.

The annual meeting was held in Dothan, AL on June 19, 2004. I was successful in my re-election. I was also elected as First Vice President. I am from the southern district, but I serve the entire state of Alabama. I will continue to serve you as long as you let me.

Again, let me say thank you for your vote and trust you have shown in me.

Clayton A. Cobb, Sr.



Thank You From Third Vice President

I would like to thank all those who supported me in the election at the AAVFD Conference in Dothan. I promise you that I will serve to the best of my ability, as I have in past years.

I look forward to serving on the Board again and trying to take care of the concerns of my fellow volunteer fire departments. There are many things that this association needs to step up and take control of. With the help of the member departments and the board of directors, these concerns of the volunteers can be addressed.

Our numbers are strong. Our voices need to be heard, and they shall be heard when this association gets back to working as a group, instead of the few.

Again, let me thank all those for their support. If there is anything that I can do for any of you, let me know. I will do my best.
Joey Boyd, Third Vice President.

By-Law Proposal Results

1. This proposal provides that a department's current membership dues of all members of the AAVFD Board of Directors be paid by the end of February. **This proposal was approved**
2. This proposal would require that proxy ballots be voted only by an individual from that county. **This proposal defeated.**
3. This proposal clarified the requirement that each fire department chief's signature is required in order to vote proxy for

that department. **This proposal was defeated.**

4. This proposal established an alternative means of voting by proxy. **This proposal was defeated.**
5. This proposal provided that by-law amendments be submitted sixty days prior to the annual meeting. **This proposal was approved.**

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2004 Elections

The election of officers for the 2004-2005 year was held at the general membership meeting on Saturday, June 19th, in Dothan. The following candidates were elected:

President — Johnny Dennis
First Vice President — Clayton Cobb, Sr.
Second Vice President — John Wilson
Third Vice President — Joey Boyd
Secretary — Mary Sells
Treasurer — Gary Cobb

Directors and Alternate Directors were elected from each of the 10 districts and are listed below:

- **District 1:** Calhoun, Cherokee, DeKalb, Etowah, Jackson, Madison and Marshall Counties.

Director — Sidney White
Alternate Director — Bobby Abbott

- **District 2:** Blount, Cullman, Jefferson, Shelby, St Clair, Walker and Winston Counties:

Director — Roger Wilson
Alternate Director — Euell Hodge

- **District 3:** Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Pickens, Sumter, and Tuscaloosa Counties.

Director — Scott Hallman
Alternate Director — Clifton Homan

- **District 4:** Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Coosa, Randolph, Talladega, and Tallapoosa Counties.

Director — Willie Wise
Alternate Director — Stan Merrett

- **District 5:** Autauga, Bibb, Chilton, Dallas, Marengo, Perry, and Wilcox Counties.

Director — Mike Carlisle
Alternate Director — Robert Slaughter

- **District 6:** Barbour, Coffee, Dale, Geneva, Henry, Houston, and Pike Counties.

Director — Chauncey Wood
Alternate Director — Lamar Clements

- **District 7:** Butler, Conecuh, Covington, Crenshaw, Escambia, and Monroe Counties.

Director — William Neal
Alternate Director — Daniel Day

- **District 8:** Baldwin, Choctaw, Clarke, Mobile, and Washington Counties.

Director — Charlie Dixon
Alternate Director — Bill Hamman

- **District 9:** Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Limestone, Lawrence, Marion, and Morgan Counties.

Director — Marvin Putman
Alternate Director — Lawrence Huffman

- **District 10:** Bullock, Elmore, Lee, Lowndes, Macon, Montgomery, and Russell Counties.

Director — Kalyn Ray
Alternate Director — Steve Dennis

Acting State Fire Marshal Richard Montgomery swore in the officers, directors and alternate directors at the awards banquet on Saturday night.

Because of space limitations, the phone numbers and addresses for the officers and directors could not be printed. However, if you wish to contact any of them, call the Montgomery office at 334-262-2833 or toll-free at 1-888-972-2833, and we will be glad to provide you with the information. This information is also posted on the AAVFD web at www.aavfd.org.

National Incident Management System

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced a new online course that will help first responders understand the concepts and principles underlying the new National Incident Management System (NIMS) and to begin incorporating NIMS into their own planning and policies.

NIMS establishes standard incident management processes,

protocols and procedures so that all responders - including those at the federal, state, tribal and local level - can coordinate their responses, share a common focus and place full emphasis on resolving the incident.

The training experts at Homeland Security's Emergency Management Institute created the online course, which takes about three hours to complete. The course can be found at: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWEB/IS/is700.asp>

Sherry Garner Memorial Award

Nominated by McCullough VFD in Escambia County, Mary Jane Sells was selected as the recipient of the 2004 Sherry Garner Memorial Award. This is the second time for Mary to receive this honor.

Mary has been a member of McCullough VFD for ten years. She began picking up the slack by driving the truck to fires when other firefighters were working. From the first day, she has been active in the department, starting as a truck driver for about two years, moving to Captain for three years, and has held the position of Assistant Chief for the past five years.

Mary spearheads department fundraisers and training groups, making sure that all McCullough firefighters are certified. She is currently attending a 160-hr firefighter-training course.

In 2002, Mary went to a grant writer asking for help in submitting an application for a FEMA grant for turnout gear. Her efforts were rewarded with \$38,869. She then lined up a fundrais-

er for the 10% matching grant funds. This was just a trial run for Mary. In 2003, she wrote the grant herself. This time the department was awarded \$117,000 to buy a new truck. This is the first new truck that McCullough VFD has ever had since forming in 1989.

Mary has served as the AAVFD Board secretary for two years (and was re-elected for her third term in Dothan). After the 9-11 tragedy, she joined the AAVFD State Honor Guard. She wanted to give something back to the families of fallen firefighters throughout Alabama. She said that it is hard to stand watch over a fellow firefighter, but the hardest is stand watch over one of your best friends, a fellow firefighter, and her child, which is something that she faced in October 2003.

This mother of four works a full time job and has six grandsons with whom she spend a lot of time, but when the pager goes off, she drops everything to respond. If the Honor Guard is



Escambia County President Joey Moffett and Mary Jane Sells

requested for visitation or a funeral, she makes sure that she's able to attend.

Chief Eddie Kirby states, "Mary is a true asset to us in McCullough VFD and throughout the county. If she goes missing from home, you can bet she'll be riding with the Atmore Ambulance crew. That's just another part of the volunteering she does. She says it's just for extra training, but we know better. Anytime she's needed, she's there."

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Firefighter of the Year

The Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments honored Michael Tyler as 2004 Firefighter of the Year. Michael served as treasurer of the Appleton VFD in Escambia County until 2003 when he was elected Chief of the department. He also serves as vice president of District 7 Firefighters Association. Michael has served as chairperson for Escambia County's annual banquet committee for two years running and sits on the finance committee.

After becoming chief, Michael made many changes in the procedures within the department. He discovered that a filing system for the department records was non-existent. He designed an incident report replacing a 20-year-old reporting system. Chief Tyler implemented monthly training and a tracking method for this training for each member. He developed equipment books to track daily and weekly inspections and service records for each department vehicle. Chief Tyler developed and wrote the duties and responsibilities for the safety department representative. He designed a book containing map locators for streets, addresses, fire hydrant locations, firefighter codes, dispatch signals, AED guidelines, incident reports and emergency numbers for each member to carry in the POV.

Michael was solely responsible for acquiring a \$10,000 grant to purchase a 1984 pumper for the department. He also secured \$5,550.00 from other sources. Chief Tyler has completed 36 hours of training through three courses with the Alabama Fire College. He also has completed several classes provided by Escambia County.

Michael is also a volunteer in other areas in the community. At Christmas, he plays Santa Claus and visits patients in the local hospital. He is an active member of the North Brewton Baptist Church.



Left to right: Escambia County President Joey Moffett, Firefighter of the Year Michael Tyler and Johnny Dennis

2004 AAVFD Competition Results

The annual competition events were held at Westgate Park in Dothan. The teams competing were Fulton (Clarke Co), East Limestone (Limestone Co), Johnson Crossing (Cullman Co), Sylvania (DeKalb Co), Semmes (Mobile Co) and Reform (Pickens Co). This was the first competition at the state level for the Reform team that recorded a third-place finish in the Obstacle Course. Congratulations to each team that competed and to the winners! We look forward to seeing each of you in 2005 in Colbert County.

Competition Chairman Joey Boyd presented the trophies, along with the cash awards at the Awards Banquet on Saturday night. The winners in each event are as follows:

AIR PACK RELAY			WATER ON THE ROOF		
TEAM	SCORE	POINTS	TEAM	SCORE	POINTS
East Limestone	1.22.03	10 pts	Sylvania	27 in.	10 pts
Fulton	1.23.19	7 pts	East Limestone	25 in.	7 pts
Sylvania	1.27.10	5 pts	Fulton	22 in.	5 pts
OBSTACLE COURSE			OVERALL		
TEAM	SCORE	POINTS	TEAM	POINTS	
Sylvania	1.20.41	10 pts	Sylvania	First	25 pts
Fulton	1.23.81	7 pts	Fulton	Second	19 pts
Reform	1.32.31	5 pts	East Limestone	Third	17 pts

*Congratulations to each team
and to the winners!*

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From Here and There

News of the Volunteer Fire Service from across Alabama

THE HARD WORK AND DEDICATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS statewide continues to pay off in improved ISO ratings. Listed below are changes in ratings.

DEPARTMENT	COUNTY	PRIOR RATING	CURRENT RATING	DEPARTMENT	COUNTY	PRIOR RATING	CURRENT RATING
Effective April 1, 2004				Effective April 1, 2004 (continued)			
Fulton	Clarke	7/10	6/9	Lovetown	Houston	9/9	6/9
Lanette (Associate)	Chambers	6/9	4/9	Sumiton	Walker	6/9	4/9

Congratulations to these departments and their hard working members! Improved ISO ratings are what we are often measured by and it's obvious that Alabama Volunteer Fire Departments measure up!

Conecuh Co. Fire Association conducted a Life Flight class at the Conecuh County Airport on May 10th.

Conecuh Rescue & Fire, Conecuh County, hosted a Jaws Extrication class on May 22nd.

Escambia Co held their 5th annual Firefighter Banquet on April 17th. Congratulations to the following award winning firefighters: A C Cook Memorial Award, Eddie Kirby, McCullough VFD; Career Fire Fighter of the Year, Michael Steele, Brewton FD; EMS Person of the Year Ronnie Thompson, Brewton FD; Female Volunteer Fire Fighter of the Year, Theresa Cox, Poarch VFD; Male Volunteer Fire Fighter of the Year, Michael Tyler, Appleton VFD.

Frisco City VFD, Monroe Co, conducted live burn training on May 1st.

Moulton VFD, Lawrence County, began a 40-hr Firefighter II class June 7th.

Hale County held its annual Awards Banquet on May 15, 2004.

Spanish Fort Fire Rescue, Baldwin County, held its annual Awards Dinner in May. Congratulations to Firefighter of the Year B. L. Sheppard, Rookie of the Year Gian Bell, and Top Responder of the Year Brad Jernigan. Leo Hingley was honored with the Service Award. Bruno's was named Business Supporter of the Year and Marvin and Laura Wilson were honored as Citizens of the Year. Spanish Fort Fire Auxiliary member Judy Farmer received a special award for her dedication to the department.

Roy Waite, Thomasville VFD, Clarke County, received the Distinguished Member of the Year award for outstanding performance of duty with the National Disaster Medical Services as a member of the Alabama 3 Disaster Medical Assistance Team. He is a founding member of the United States Department of Homeland Security.

Springville VFD, St Clair County, hosted an EVOC Refresher Course on June 15th.

Volunteer firefighters from Marbury, Pentecost and Pine Level, along with emergency personnel from Prattville FD, Autauga

County Rescue Squad, Autauga County EMA and the Autauga County Sheriff's Department conducted a disaster training exercise on May 29th at Marbury School. The scenario was an explosion occurring at the school during a severe thunderstorm causing mass casualties.

Lacey's Spring VFD, Morgan County, hosted MED Flight training on June 7th.

Congratulations to Larry Wade who was honored by Straight Mountain VFD, Blount County, as 2003 Firefighter of the Year.

Congratulations to Secretary/Treasurer Gail Bellew, Straight Mountain VFD, Blount County, who was honored by the department trustees and firefighters with the 2003 Appreciation Award.

Congratulations to Chief Tim Moore, Holly Springs VFD, Blount County, who was honored as the 2003 Blount County Fire and EMS Association Fireman of the Year.

The 2004 National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend will be held October 1-3, 2004. Each year, a growing number of survivors return to remember their loved ones, catch up with one another, and offer support to families attending for the first time.

Helwestern VFD, Antioch VFD, Salitpa VFD and Grove Hill VFD, Clarke County, purchased Jaws of Life extrication tools.

Coffeeville VFD, Clarke County, took delivery of a 2004 International KME 1000-gal pumper on May 7th. The truck was purchased from NAFECO and replaced a 1974 model Ford pumper. Coffeeville has two pumpers and one tanker and 25 active members.



2004 Wildland Fire Prevention Grants

The 2004 Wildland Fire Prevention Grants were awarded June 11th. We extend congratulations to the following departments and associations that were successful in securing funding for their projects:

Pine Level VFD	Autauga Co	\$3,660.00
Spanish Fort F/R	Baldwin Co	\$3,000.00
Blount Co Fire Assn		\$2,000.00
Butler Co Fire Assn		\$3,000.00
Coffeeville VFD	Clarke Co	\$1,000.00
Thomasville VFD	Clarke Co	\$5,000.00
Covington Co Fire Assn		\$3,757.00
Shannon VFD	Jefferson Co	\$5,000.00
Lamar Co Fire Assn		\$5,000.00
Lauderdale Co Fire Assn		\$2,899.00
Oakland VFD	Lauderdale Co	\$4,500.00
Rogersville VFD	Lauderdale Co	\$5,000.00
Friendship VFD	Lee Co	\$2,500.00
Little Texas VFD	Macon Co	\$3,000.00
Linden VFD	Marengo Co	\$1,500.00
Marengo Co Fire Assn		\$2,000.00
Alder Springs VFD	Marshall Co	\$3,295.20
Four C VFD	Marshall Co	\$1,500.00
Frisco City VFD	Monroe Co	\$2,500.00
Uriah VFD	Monroe Co	\$ 500.00
Uniontown VFD	Perry Co	\$ 500.00
Pleasant Hill VFD	St Clair Co	\$1,597.00
Walker Co Fire Assn		\$5,481.80
Wilcox Co Fire Assn		\$ 400.00



2004 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

This year's AAVFD Scholarship winners were announced at the annual banquet in Dothan on June 19th. Four \$500 scholarships are awarded each year, and the 2004 recipients were Zachary Danyl Albright, Gurley Volunteer Fire/Rescue, Madison County; Jonathan Robert Jordan, Highland Home Volunteer Fire/Rescue, Crenshaw County; Courtney Jean McCord, Morrison Crossroads VFD, Randolph County; and Rebecca McFarlen Jones, New Market VFD, Madison County. AAVFD scholarships are awarded on a one-year basis and must be applied for each year, regardless of previous applications.

Mr. Albright has been a member of Gurley's department for 3 1/2 years. He plans to attend Calhoun Community College with a planned major in Emergency Services/Fire Science.

Mr. Jordan's father has been a member of the Highland Home department for 32 years. Jonathan is currently enrolled at Auburn University in Montgomery majoring in Elementary Education with a minor in History.

Ms. McCord's father has been a member of the Morrison Crossroads department for 18 years. Courtney plans to attend Southern Union State Junior College with a planned major in Nursing.

Ms. Jones has been a member of New Market department for 20 years. She will attend Athens State University and major in Elementary Education.

2004 AAVFD Membership - TOTAL 872

One of the problems this association has encountered over the years is department membership being submitted to the AAVFD office. Many county associations include the state association dues in their county membership. This makes it convenient for the departments and the state association as well. However, this has created a major problem for both the departments and the state association if the counties fail to forward the dues to the AAVFD office. One simple way to correct this problem is to publish the AAVFD membership in the state association newsletter. I suggest if your county membership is not listed in the membership list, contact your county treasurer to confirm if your dues were submitted to the state office. If they were, have your treasurer or county president to call the state AAVFD office to find out why your membership is not listed. I also suggest each county association provide an up to date mailing list to the state office on January 1st each year, including the names of each fire chief, chief's address, phone number, and the names of your county association officers. Please include the addresses and phone numbers of each regardless if they are new members or presently serving on your county board. This will help us to get information to you with out unnecessary delays due to incorrect mailing address.

Johnny Dennis, President

DISTRICT 1 MEMBERSHIP

CALHOUN		7 of 13
CHEROKEE		0 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		21 of 33
SHELBY		9 of 22
ST CLAIR		19 of 22
WALKER	100%	25 of 25
WINSTON	100%	11 of 11

DISTRICT 3 MEMBERSHIP

FAYETTE		0 of 13
GREENE		12 of 13
HALE	100%	9 of 9
LAMAR		9 of 10
PICKENS	100%	17 of 17
SUMTER		17 of 18
TUSCALOOSA	100%	19 of 19

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%	18 of 18
TALLADEGA		3 of 15
TALLAPOOSA	100%	13 of 13

DISTRICT 5 MEMBERSHIP

AUTAUGA	100%	10 of 10
BIBB	100%	9 of 9
CHILTON	100%	15 of 15
DALLAS	100%	15 of 15
MARENGO	100%	11 of 11
PERRY	100%	11 of 11
WILCOX		9 of 11

DISTRICT 6 MEMBERSHIP

BARBOUR		2 of 12
COFFEE	100%	9 of 9
DALE	100%	13 of 13
GENEVA		0 of 11
HENRY		0 of 6
HOUSTON	100%	17 of 17
PIKE		0 of 9

DISTRICT 7 MEMBERSHIP

BUTLER	100%	16 of 16
CONECUH	100%	21 of 21
COVINGTON	100%	21 of 21
CRENSHAW	100%	11 of 11
ESCAMBIA	100%	22 of 22
MONROE	100%	15 of 15

DISTRICT 8 MEMBERSHIP

BALDWIN		18 of 33
CHOCTAW	100%	13 of 13
CLARKE	100%	13 of 13
MOBILE	100%	18 of 18
WASHINGTON	100%	19 of 19

DISTRICT 9 MEMBERSHIP

COLBERT	100%	13 of 13
FRANKLIN	100%	12 of 12
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%	6 of 6
ELMORE	100%	20 of 20
LEE	100%	7 of 7
LOWNDES		1 of 8
MACON		1 of 10
MONTGOMERY	100%	8 of 8
RUSSELL	100%	11 of 11

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27th Annual Alabama Association of



AAVFD Honor Guard presents colors at Annual Awards Banquet



2004 Competition Trophies



Acting Fire Marshall Richard Montgomery



*Guest Speaker
Comedian David
LeFebre*



*Sylvania VFD, Dekalb County, First Place Overall
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*Acting Fire Marshall Richard Montgomery installed the 2004-2005
AAVFD Board of Directors*



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IDEA TO REALITY OLD JAIL BECOMES FIRE DEPT TRAINING FACILITY

BY LUVERNE ASST. FIRE CHIEF WILLIAM NEAL, DISTRICT SEVEN AAVFD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBER.

This story begins nearly a decade ago. During 1994 three groups decided to place a tax proposal before the voters in order to move Crenshaw County forward. Those groups were the Crenshaw County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments, Crenshaw County Board of Education, and the Crenshaw County Commission. The Plan, called the Crenshaw County First Plan, proposed



A view of jail property, hose drying rack

both a tobacco tax and one cent sales tax. The sales tax would be divided evenly between the Commission and the Board of Education. Sales tax would be earmarked for capital improvements. The tobacco tax would go entirely to the Crenshaw County's eleven VFDs, three Rescue Squads, and the Crenshaw Association of VFDs.

The Plan went before voters in the November General Election of 1996. The Plan was approved by a mere 47 votes. The County Commission immediately started planning for a new jail. It would take the next four years for the County Commission to complete the planning and break ground on a new jail. During this time the Luverne Fire Dept (LFD) started looking for a location for a new fire station. The LFD and Luverne Rescue Squad (LRS) both occupy the same building. LRS went full time in 1997. The two units operate out of a building built for four vehicles. Both LRS and LFD have a combined total of ten vehicles in service. The old jail property is nearly directly behind the existing station. This writer



Training class 04-17-04 SCBA Training

approached the newly elected commissioners in 1998 with the idea of transferring the property to the City or the LFD for a new station. All of the commissioners verbally committed to the project. It was at this time that a fireman made an off the cuff remark: "That old jail would sure make a good training building."

The County Commission broke ground for a new jail in the summer of 2000. The members of both the LFD and LRS approached the Commission on 09-25-2000. The LFD and LRS asked that the property be transferred upon completion of the new jail. The Commission voted unanimously to transfer the old jail location to the City of Luverne with the stipulation that the LFD have exclusive use of the property. The new jail was opened on August 1, 2002. Once certain political issues were resolved, the jail, an old house, and property were transferred on March 1, 2003. The only cost involved was the clean up and removal of an underground gas tank on the jail property. The LFD incurred this cost.

The LFD immediately started utilizing the property. Several pieces of used discarded furniture and appliances were used to furnish the apartment. A 3.0 water line to the jail was disconnected by the City's Water Dept and a 1.5 inch water line with cutoff valve stubbed out. A male 1.5 NST connection was added for refilling LFD pumps. This connection works perfect for supplying a 1.5 or 1.75 hose line for use during a fire attack or SCBA entry drill. An overhead electric line on the rear was disconnected from electric service but the line left in place. Firemen could practice ladder placement around a de-energized but real electric power line. LFD built a hose drying rack in the front. LFD moved their rescue boats to a shed by the old jail. LFD firefighters built a rope rescue rigging thru one of the old jail cell windows.

LFD received a FEMA Fire Act Grant in 2002 for new SCBA and an Air Compressor. LFD committed in the Grant to providing a County wide training facility at the old jail. LFD adopted strict policies for training and provided all of Crenshaw County's VFDS with the policy.

The LFD made the facility available in October 2003.

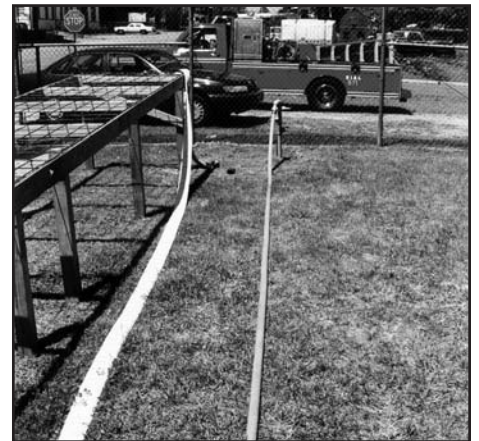
The idea of a jail training facility was a reality for LFD. It became a county wide reality in March of 2004. A Firemanship I Class was taught by Greenville FD Lt. Leslie Lillier. The class was attended by nearly 30 new fire fighters from nine different VFDS within Crenshaw County. The



Two Brantley VFD firefighters using spare LFD SCBA during white out mask drill.

building was used four times for the Firemanship I class. The photos show a white out SCBA drill on 04-17-04. LFD has conducted seven drills since the transfer of the jail on March 01, 2003. Drills can now take place at the convenience of firemen and their respective departments.

The LFD provided equipment support for the Firemanship I class. The class was coordinated thru Crenshaw EMA and the County Association of VFD. The class members got an extra training benefit when the Class burned down an old house on the rear of the jail property. LFD is hoping to obtain funding in the near future to start construction of a new station on the



A 1.5 riser for filling pumps and charging attack lines for use in training.

property where the old house stood.

There were plenty of political obstacles, bumps and problems that had to be resolved for the idea of a county wide training facility to become a reality. This story shows the smallest IDEAS can become REALITY if you keep working as a group for the best interest of your organization and NEVER GIVE UP.

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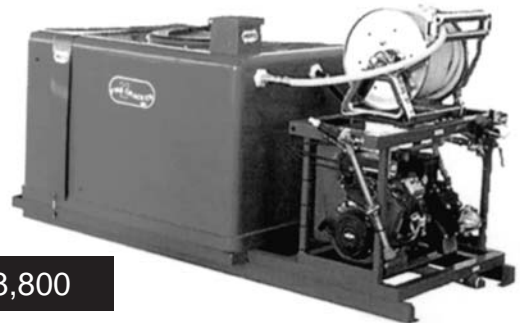
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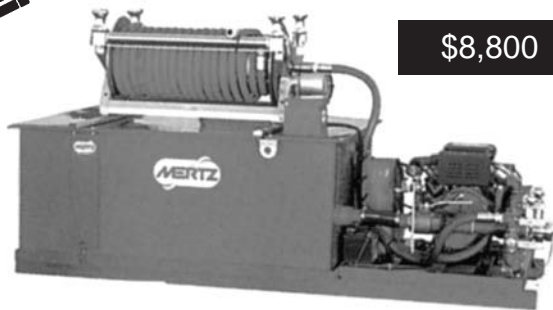
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Notice from RCFPI

This note is to advise all fire service organizations that the Rural Community Fire Protection Institute as most of you are aware took a tremendous hit from state supported grants this past year and probably for some years to come. The Institute Board of Directors has agreed to let's say "moth ball" assets and provide very limited services to the fire services of Alabama. After Fifteen years of providing training and one the largest emergency service vendor shows in Alabama each year, this



is without a doubt one of the hardest board decisions in the history of the Institute.

The board members want to thank each volunteer department and county associations for their valued support throughout the last fifteen years. Yes, we also would not want to be remiss in thanking our vendors for their dedication and support of the Alabama Volunteer Fire service.

RCFPI, President
Don Shield

AAVFD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The AAVFD Board of Directors will meet Saturday, August 21, 2004 at 10:00 am at the Alabama Power Conference Center in Clanton AL.

The Conference Center is located at the 205 Exit off I-65. Go north on Hwy 31 for 1/2 mile, and the Center is on your right.

Insurance a Necessity

Volunteer fire departments grow every year some faster than others but all are acquiring assets either by adding/deleting vehicles, equipment or personnel. Your department leaders are the stewards of the property belonging to the department, your public entity through fund raising events, taxes or government grants makes the decision of proper insurance coverage a must or a good business management practice. Every year before insurance coverage renewal, make a current update inventory listing of your assets, before finalizing your insurance coverage as something may have changed. After a tragic event of losing major pieces of equipment, vehicles, station or God forbid personnel, is not the time to try understand what your department coverage's are for the year. Be a proactive department, not a reactive one.



Improving Firefighter Safety in the Wildland-Urban Intermix

Introduction

Each year, the incursion of private residences in wildland, increases the chance that wildland and structural firefighters will battle an uncontrolled fire in the "Wildland-Urban Intermix", where homes and naturally occurring vegetation are the fuels at risk.

While the natural fuel types of these fires may differ based on geographic and climatic conditions, one factor remains constant: the risk to firefighters.

Four distinct groups are key players in the Wildland-Urban Intermix. Their relationship to firefighter safety - before an ignition and once a fire is burning - is critical. These groups include the community, the home owners, the fire agency, and individual firefighters.

Defining the Players

The Community

For this paper the 'community' is defined as the level of government that is responsible for laws, regulations, statutes, and ordinances that control developments, planning, and law enforcement in areas defined as intermix.

Perhaps the most important function the community can play to ensure firefighter safety is through planning. By requiring developers and builder to adhere to strict standards for building materials, clearing limits, and fire resistant plant species for landscaping, the community can help ensure that firefighters have a reasonable chance to safely fight a fire.

Access is a critical component of suppressing any fire, and becomes even more critical in wildland-urban intermix fires. Road width, traffic flow, curve radius, and bridge weight limits all impact on the timeliness and ability of fire apparatus to reach a fire, or to gain access to protect a structure.

The Homeowner

The homeowner who chooses to live in the intermix has an important role. The choice of the construction design and building materials can significantly affect a residence's fire safety. Maintaining the defensible space, reducing naturally occurring hazards, and preventing unwanted fires are all responsibilities of the homeowner.

The Fire Agency

The overall responsibility for ensuring the safety of firefighters lies with the agency having jurisdiction for the area.

Once a fire ignition occurs, it is too late to take steps that are essential to ensure a safe and efficient fire suppression operation.

Communications have always been identified as a critical component in firefighter safety. In the wildland-urban intermix environment the capability of a communications system to function across jurisdictional boundaries is even more critical. These fires nearly always involve numerous fire agencies, often operating under a unified command structure. Agencies must provide their firefighters with communication systems capable of functioning in these environments. Failure to do so threatens firefighter safety and limits their ability to perform effectively. Communications failures or overload have been identified as a serious problem on both the Oakland Hills fire (California) and the Spokane, Washington Firestorm fires in 1991, and as a causal factor of the 1993 Glenallen Fire fatalities in Los Angeles County.

Physical fitness, the physical ability to do the job at hand, is another key area where fire agencies can have a positive influence on firefighter safety. Heart attacks were among the leading causes of firefighter fatalities (21%) on both wildfires and structural fires in the USA during the 1990's.

Another area where fire agencies have a major role in fire fighter safety is in developing policies and standard operating procedures (SOP's) specific to the wildland-urban intermix fire operations.

The Firefighter

Firefighters are the most critical players in affecting their own safety on wildland-urban intermix fires. Shakespeare said : "To thine own self be true." This is especially applicable to the individual firefighter. Although many actions of the community, homeowner, and fire agency can help ensure firefighters' safety, firefighters as individuals, or as members of a team, are ultimately responsible for their own safety.

Firefighters have the responsibility to ensure they are physically fit for the job. They also have an individual responsibility to use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

The best training is wasted if the individual involved is unable to apply that training and respond appropriately. Situational awareness - knowing what is happening around you - is important if they are to safely and efficiently perform their job.

All firefighters, regardless of their position in the fire organisation, must do all they can to foster communications with

other individuals above and below them.

Maintaining constant communications is a cornerstone of fire safety.

During the Fire

Up to this point, we have discussed firefighter safety before a wildland-urban intermix incident occurs. Once such a fire starts, a whole new group of factors come into play.

Access

Access can quickly become a critical factor once a fire occurs. If the civilian population is attempting to leave an area on the same roads that firefighters are using to enter the area, the result can be traffic jams, unsafe driving practices, and ultimately, gridlock for both civilian vehicles and the fire appliances. When this occurs during active fire behaviour, firefighters may become trapped in dangerous locations, as they were in the Calabasas Incident in Los Angeles County during the 1996 fire season. On that incident, firefighters trying to cross a mid-slope road were prevented from leaving a "chimney" by a civilian vehicle attempting to leave the area. When the fire made a strong uphill run through the chimney, the firefighters were burned over.

Local firefighters may need to be assigned with firefighters from other areas to help them move throughout the fire area.

Civilian Population

It is likely that the majority of residents threatened by a wildland-urban intermix fire will be grossly unprepared for evacuation. Some will be unwilling to leave their property. Their chaotic exodus, or their refusal to leave, may pose a serious risk to firefighter safety.

Special Hazards

Firefighters entering the wildland-urban intermix area for fire suppression activities face a variety of hazards that differ from the typical hazards in either wildfires or structural fires. Although intermix fires appear to be simply wildfires that threaten to burn residences, such fires represent unique, high-risk hazards that require special attention to prevent injury or death.

- Powerlines
- Propane, LPG, and Natural Gas lines
- Abandoned vehicles
- Hazardous materials.

Continued on page 25

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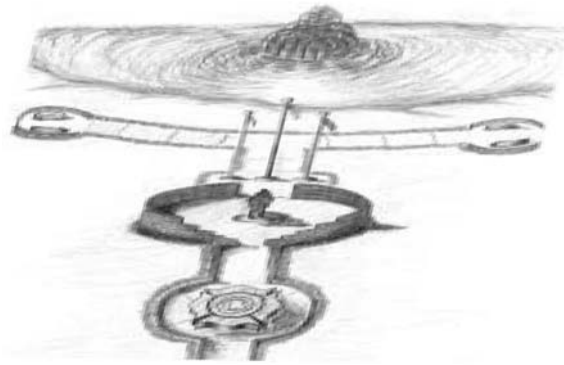
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Alabama Firefighter Memorial

Honoring Alabama's Fallen Heroes



The memorial is now in the construction phase with the dedication scheduled on the 19th of October 2004 (Tuesday) at 2 pm. The memorial is being built on a beautiful site at the Alabama Fire College. One Area that the Alabama Joint Fire Council could use help is making a best effort in obtaining all names of these who served and where classified as LINE OF DUTY DEATHS. I have forwarded to the AAVFD office the list as it stands today. If each County Association can, please verify within the respective county departments the individual's full name, fire department, county and date of occurrence and call the AAVFD office 888-97-AAVFD. The listing below is of volunteers only.

Year	First Name	Int	Last Name	Department	County
1978	Claude	Ezell	Tuck	Harvest	Madison
1978	Joe		Giles	Central	Madison
1981	Sherry	K.	Garner	Indian Ford	Jefferson
1986	Randy	E.	Patrick	Pine Hill	Wilcox
1987	Virginia	Faye	Bolton	Gap of the Mountain	Chilton
1987	David	A.	Damron	Woodville	Jackson
1987	Dock		Bragg	Five Star	Coffee
1988	Steve		Pardue	Lakeview	Tuscaloosa
1989	Milton	W.	Keammerar	Weaver	Calhoun
1989	J. B.		Rose	Clements	Limestone
1989	Warren	Allen	Williford, Jr.	Hackleburg	Marion
1989	Carrol	D.	Marvel	Valley	Jackson
1991	John	R.	Cochran	Mt Vera	DeKalb
1992	James	J.	Cothran	Pine Level	Autauga
1994	Joseph	Jay	Boothe	Pea Ridge	Shelby
1994	Herbert	T.	Smith	Shelby	Shelby
1995	Travis		McCormick	New Union	Etowah
1995	Lathan	Grant	Smith, Jr.	East Providence	Talladega
1996	Martha	Ann	Bice	West Etowah	Etowah
1997	Ricky		Moore	Oak Grove-Thach	Limestone
1998	Tulon	Lee	Goodwin	AL Forestry Comm	Bibb
1998	J. W.		Cain	Pleasant Grove	Jackson
1999	Roger	B.	McEwen	Hanover	Coosa
2001	Johnny		McKinley	Pine Hill	Wilcox
2001	James	T.	Smith	Flomaton	Escambia
2002	Edna	Faye	Bishop	Bon Secour	Baldwin
2002	Rex		Butts	Marble Valley	Coosa
2002	Robert	Samuel	Nichols	Loretto	Cullman
2003	Matthew	K.	Brimer	Weaver	Calhoun
2003	Billy	John	Tucker	Broomtown	Cherokee
2004	Robert	Lee	Smith	West Shelby	Shelby

NVFC Testifies on Legislation to Promote the Donation of Fire Equipment

WASHINGTON, DC On July 20, NVFC Chairman Philip C. Stittleburg testified before the House Committee on the Judiciary in support of legislation which would limit the liability of companies and fire departments that donate surplus equipment to volunteer fire departments. This legislation, H.R. 1787, the Good Samaritan Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Act, was introduced on April 11, 2003 by Rep. Michael Castle (R-DE).

"Well equipped fire departments have made it a tradition to give used equipment to those departments that are less fortunate or in dire need of equipment," said Stittleburg. "However, in recent years, the fear of litigation if the gear later turns out to be faulty has made these donors think twice about giving."

Every year, quality fire equipment, including hoses, fire trucks, protective clothing and breathing apparatus, with an estimated worth in the millions of dollars, are destroyed instead of being donated to

volunteer fire departments in order to avoid civil liability lawsuits. The fear of litigation has forced heavy industry and wealthier fire departments to waste surplus equipment, which in many cases has years of use still left in it.

Many volunteer fire departments struggle financially to provide their members with the equipment they need to protect their communities. In fact, local taxpayers spend millions of dollars for operating expenses and for purchasing replacement equipment for their volunteer fire companies. By removing liability barriers that keep volunteer firefighters from receiving completely safe equipment, it would not only save taxpayers millions of dollars, it too would save perfectly good equipment.

"Unfortunately, the threat of civil liability has stood in the way of companies donating fire equipment to volunteer, rural and other financially-strapped departments, putting our brave men and women at risk," Rep. Castle stated. "This legisla-

tion will remove this barrier and enable surplus, state of the art equipment to be donated to volunteer fire companies who will inspect the equipment for safety concerns and then once approved, use it in the field."

H.R. 1787 is modeled after state law that has been passed in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, South Carolina and Texas. In fact, since this bill was signed into law in Texas in 1997, donations in excess of \$10 million worth of equipment for volunteer fire departments has been distributed.

Stittleburg added, "It is unfortunate that the fire service of our country is forced to search for serviceable used equipment to enable it to carry out its vital mission. However, until the day dawns when society accepts its role in providing proper support to those who protect them, legislation such as this will be necessary."

Firefighters & Dehydration

by Charles E. Truthan, D.O., F.A.C.O.F.P., President & Medical Director, F.D. Doc®

HYPERLINK "<http://www/fd-doc.com>" www.FD-Doc.com



In 1996, a firefighter died in the line of duty from dehydration at the scene of a fire. This Line of Duty Death, unlike the other several hundred that have occurred since then, and unlike that of the Worcester 6 or

Keokuk 3, was completely preventable. All that was required was proper on-scene Rehab and for the firefighter to admit (he) required Rehab. Rehab as simple as a drink of water might have saved his life.

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) has an excellent guide "Emergency Incident Rehabilitation" FA-114/July 1992 that not only provides detailed information on why Rehab is necessary, it also provides a model program for Rehab. It includes easy to use tables for heat index and wind chill factors, forms for

tracking the Rehab of firefighters and other practical, useful information. This can be ordered from the USFA: "Customers can use our online catalog to order from over 200 publications. In addition to ordering through the online catalog, publications may be ordered by calling USFA's 24-hour publications line at (301) 447-1660 or the Publications Center at (301) 447-1189 between 8:30a - 5:00p EST/EDT.

To order publications by mail, write to:

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Include your mailing address, daytime telephone number, date required, title(s) of the publication, and the quantity you need when ordering by phone or mail. (from USFA website).

The knights of old "suited up" in heavy armor to protect him from some of the dangers of battle. Heavy chain and iron where his clothing with lance and sword his weapons. He rode a horse with banner and trumpet to do battle with the mythical dragon. Today's firefighters "suit-up" in

armor made of Nomex ®. Boots, pants, coats, gloves and helmets are his clothing with a deuce-and-a-half nozzle and axe his weapons. He rides into battle with lights and sirens blaring to do battle with the dragon. Technology of old allowed the knight to penetrate deeper into the battle scene with heavier armor. Technology of today allows the firefighter to penetrate deeper into the dragon's lair. Eventually the knight's armor became so heavy and cumbersome, he had to be hoisted onto his steed.

Fortunately, today's technology makes the firefighter's gear lighter. Unfortunately, we take those weight savings and we add more and more PPE to the firefighter, thereby losing the weight savings. We now have cooling vests that can be added to hold body core temperatures down and they also "wick away" perspiration. One of our "alarms" is the production of sweat. If we "wick away" this sweat, we may lose that external reminder that we need to replenish our fluids. Unfortunately, the body has a very small "booster tank" of fluids it can safely lose. These body fluids MUST be replaced. This is only accomplished by on-scene Rehab.



Don's Perspective

by Don Shield
Alabama Firefighter

Some months ago a hot topic evolved on the AAVFD EGroups and rightfully so because the volunteer fire service in Alabama has been hit by state budget funding constraints as has many other organizations. The topic was the escalating costs/school constraints of Emergency Medical training for volunteers, to include

paid fire service. Thought I would bring everyone up to date as this same subject came up at the AAVFD conference in June. Senator Tom Butler has asked for input on the subject to help resolve these circumstances within the Alabama fire service. Senator Butler has agreed to attend a meeting this fall with emergency service leaders

in hopes of coming to some equitable solution to this problem. I will keep everyone informed of the outcome, should you have input to the EMS training issue and have not offered your suggestions/complaints through the Egroups, you can send them directly to my email dshield@hiwaay.net.

PREVENTING FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES

In March, The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation sponsored the Firefighter Life Safety Summit. The Summit was convened to support the United States Fire Administration's goal of reducing firefighter fatalities by 25% within five years and by 50% within ten years.

The participants at the Summit formulated 16 initiatives for reducing firefighter fatalities and injuries. The initiatives target a number of key areas, including training, risk management, accountability, health and wellness, national standards, research and technology, and prevention. Follow-up work is underway to create a plan for putting those initiatives in action.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) is looking for volunteer fire departments that have established health and wellness programs in their departments. The NVFC is conducting a Firefighter Health and Wellness Study to analyze effective model example health and wellness programs. Specifically, we are looking for programs that address fitness and exercise (aerobic, flexibility, strength training, etc.); diet; smoking cessation; and other areas that have a positive impact on the volunteer fire service community and mitigate the loss of life among firefighters from heart attack and stress. If you or your department have such a program please contact Maggie Wilson at [HYPERLINK "mailto:maggie@nvfc.org" maggie@nvfc.org](mailto:maggie@nvfc.org). The NVFC thanks you for your help in this project.

Improving Safety *(Continued from Page 20)*

Mix of Forces

Nearly every wildland-urban intermix fire results in responses from a number of fire agencies, both wildland and structural. Unless properly co-ordinated, the mix of forces that responds to a fire can be a risk to firefighter safety. The variety of equipment, differing levels of training and experience, and the integration of hand crews, mechanized equipment, and air operations all offer opportunities for a breakdown in safe work practices. In that environment, firefighters and fire officers must be especially alert to the co-ordination required in using this mix of forces, and must follow their own agency's safe practices and procedures despite differences with the practices and procedures used by co-operators.

Command and Control

The command and control of intermix fires is often complicated. Factors that can cause confusion and conflicts and increase risk to firefighter safety include: multiple jurisdictions
unified command
structural versus wildfire training and experience
lack of co-ordination with law enforce-

ment agencies

and the sense of urgency that finds multiple dissimilar resources assigned to a common protection objective.

Close and timely co-ordination of responsible agencies is essential as soon as intermix fires occur. Although much of the needed co-ordination can take place during the off season, the critical interchange of information and agreements on operating procedures must occur on the fire ground between the designated fire officers from each involved agency. Especially sensitive areas include:

- areas of responsibility,
- communication links between resources,
- co-ordination of air resources,
- clear definition of boundaries such as division breaks, and emergency medical evacuation procedures.

Failure to adequately plan and execute the steps necessary to ensure firefighter safety in the wildland-urban intermix has resulted in close calls, injuries and fatalities:

On the Dude Fire (1990) in Arizona, six firefighters died when extreme fire behaviour, terrain, and poor command

and control resulted in a burnover.

On the Wasatch Fire (1990) in Utah, two firefighters died while trying to cut a dozer line along a fire threatening a subdivision. Communication was difficult because of the amount of radio traffic on the operating frequency.

On the Sunrise Fire (1995) on Long Island, New York, where numerous firefighters in full structural turnout gear experienced heat stress injuries while attempting to fight a fast-moving intermix fire on a hot August day.

Conclusions

Fires in the wildland-urban intermix will occur more and more frequently. Co-ordinated efforts between the community, homeowners, fire agencies, and firefighters before the fire occurs are essential to ensure firefighter safety. These measures must be reinforced by safety-conscious performance by both firefighters and fire officers once fires are being fought in the wildland-urban intermix.

Dick Mangan
USDA Forest Service
Technology and Development Program
Missoula, Montana.

NATIONAL FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES

Name/Rank: Firefighter/EMT Dixie Steckelberg, Volunteer Department: Lovilia Fire & Rescue, Hamilton IA Date of Death: 12/18/03 Cause of Death: Collapsed while rendering aid to victims of vehicle accident, was transported to local hospital where she was pronounced dead.	Name/Rank: Firefighter Jean L. Nuckols, Career Department: Navy Regional Fire Rescue, Hampton Roads, Norfolk VA Date of Death: 1/31/04 Cause of Death: Died while on duty at firehouse of cause yet to be determined.
Name/Rank: Fire Specialist Thomas Frank Brown, Career Department: Baltimore County FD, Towson MD Date of Death: 12/18/03 Cause of Death: Found dead in his home after failing to report to work.	Name/Rank: Firefighter Michael Lynch, Volunteer Department: Penrose VFD, Penrose CO Date of Death: 2/3/04 Cause of Death: Died when struck by automobile while directing traffic at accident scene.
Name/Rank: Firefighter Shane Brown, Career Department: DeSoto Fire District 8, Mansfield LA Date of Death: 12/24/03 Cause of Death: Killed when fire truck was hit by a train as he crossed the railroad tracks.	Name/Rank: Firefighter Glenn Galderisi, Volunteer Department: Pompton Falls VFD No. 3, Wayne NJ Date of Death: 2/4/04 Cause of Death: Died from apparent heart attack in Fire Co., 3's firehouse after repacking fire hose that shifted during earlier response to false alarm.
Name/Rank: Firefighter Glyn Allen Taylor, Volunteer Department: Jeff Davis Parish Fire District No. 3/Woodlawn, Iowa, LA Date of Death: 12/29/03 Cause of Death: Died when struck by two automobiles while retrieving a battery cover that fell off fire apparatus.	Name/Rank: Lt. Brenda Cowan, Career Department: Lexington FD, Lexington KY Date of Death: 2/13/04 Cause of Death: Hit and killed by gunfire while responding to emergency medical assistance call.
Name/Rank: Assistant Chief Charles Flowers, Sr., Volunteer Department: New Caney VFD, New Caney TX Date of Death: 12/29/03 Cause of Death: Suffered heart attack while working vehicle accident. He was treated and released from hospital for home recovery where he died.	Name/Rank: Captain/EMT Robert Bobby Heminger, Volunteer Department: Captain Kenny Woitalewicz, Volunteer Date of Death: Wood River Volunteer F/R. Wood River NE Date of Death: 2/15/04 Cause of Death: Died from injuries sustained when roof collapsed trapping them while they were searching burning residence for occupant.
Name/Rank: Firefighter Kenneth "Kenny" Jeffery, Career Department: Submarine Base FD, Groton CT Date of Death: 12/31/03 Cause of Death: Fell ill shortly after returning to station from call and died of cause still to be determined.	Name/Rank: Fire Police Captain Ernest Heatherman, Volunteer Department: Brisben FD, Brisben NY Date of Death: 2/16/04 Cause of Death: Died from heart attack about an hour after returning from a mutual aid fire call.
Name/Rank: Lt. Leslie W. Gant, Jr., Volunteer Department: Winslow Township FD, Sicklerville NJ Date of Death: 1/08/04 Cause of Death: Suffered a stroke after returning to station from working a vehicle accident scene. He passed away four days later.	Name/Rank: Firefighter Steve Fierro, Career Department: Carthage FD, Carthage MO Date of Death: 2/18/04 Cause of Death: Pending autopsy.
Name/Rank: Firefighter/FADO Richard Allen Jones, Volunteer Department: Maryland Line Fire Protective Assn, Maryland Line MD Date of Death: 1/14/04 Cause of Death: Heart attack.	Name/Rank: Fire Commissioner Elliott Davis, Jr., Volunteer Department: Gloster Rural VFD, Gloster MS Date of Death: 2/22/04 Cause of Death: Died from massive head trauma when fire apparatus he was driving overturned partially ejecting him.
Name/Rank: Lt. Derrick T. Harvey, Career Department: Philadelphia FD, Philadelphia PA Date of Death: 1/15/04 Cause of Death: Died from injuries and burns received when he fell through the first floor and was left hanging from joists over basement where the fire originated.	Name/Rank: Deputy Chief Bret Eugene Neff, Career Department: Harford FD, Harford NY Date of Death: 2/23/04 Cause of Death: Died of severe internal trauma injuries received while filling 750-gallon portable water pond from tanker truck that rolled back, collapsing the nearly full water pond and pinning him against another apparatus. The Tanker driver said he accidentally released the emergency brake as he got out of the vehicle.
Name/Rank: Firefighter/Paramedic Charles T. Hatch, Career Department: West Bridgewater FD, West Bridgewater MA Date of Death: 1/22/04 Cause of Death: Died of apparent heart attack after returning from structure fire.	Name/Rank: Protection Unit Supervisor Larry J. Hoffman, Career Department: Oregon Dept of Forestry, Salem OR Date of Death: 6/5/04 Cause of Death: Collapsed and died while taking pack test. Cause to be determined.
Name/Rank: Captain Keith Alan Firment, Volunteer Department: Marguerite VFD, Latrobe PA Date of Death: 1/22/04 Cause of Death: Died of an apparent heart attack after returning from structure fire.	Name/Rank: Assistant Chief Willie Grudzinski, Volunteer Department: Bridger VFD, Bridger MT Date of Death: 6/8/04 Cause of Death: Died of heart attack several hours after completing pack test.
Name/Rank: Firefighter Kevin M. Shea, Volunteer Department: Elsmere FD, Elsmere NW Date of Death: 1/24/04 Cause of Death: Died of apparent heart attack after returning from alarm at local nursing home.	
Name/Rank: Firefighter/Paramedic David Andrew Mackie, Career Department: Orange City FD, Orange City FL Date of Death: 1/27/04 Cause of Death: Died of aortic valve stenosis while in training.	

CLASSIFIED ADS



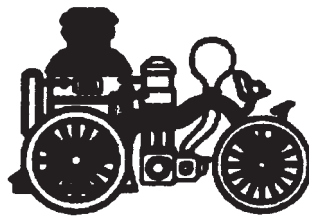
FOR SALE: 1963 Mack C-95, low mileage, 1000 gpm pump, 500 tank, gas engine and 5 speed transmission. \$10,000.00 OBO. Has some equipment on it. Contact: Pine Level Fire Department, Mark Caffey @ 334-358-0202.

FOR SALE: 1963 Ford Pumper, with gasoline engine and 750-gallon main tank. Asking \$2,000 or best offer. Call 205-372-4822 before 9:00 p.m.

FOR SALE: 10 sets of yellow turnout gear. Includes everything (pants, coat, helmet, boots, gloves, etc.). All sets are in good to like-new condition. Would like to sell all in one group, if possible. Asking \$500 per set. Contact Chief Eddie Snow @ 251-862-2704 or e-mail ghsnow@frontiernet.net.

FOR SALE: 1977 FC-600 Ford Heavy-Duty Pumper, 750 GPM Front-Mounted Pump, 750 Gallon Tank. Asking \$18,000. Contact Chief Eddie Siebert, Garden City VFD @ 256-352-5743.

FOR SALE: 1982 2 1/2 ton Chevy tanker fire truck with 1800 gal baffled tank, 250 GPM pump, dump valve, drop tank, booster reel, lights and siren. Asking \$7,000. Contact 334-271-1048.



THE BELL TOLLED

Galen Shelter, Newbern VFD, Hale County, passed away May 12, 2003.

Retired Chief Joe S. Findley, Brooklyn VFD, Conecuh County, passed away 3/28/04. He was a founding member of the department and became "temporary" Chief in March 1988, serving until April 1993. He continued to serve on the Board of Directors and as advisor to the department.

Ms. Tracey Eady, Rabun VFD, Baldwin Co, passed away April 18, 2004.

Chief Eddie Suggs, Green Pond VFD, Bibb County, passed away May 13, 2004.

Chief Jim Mashburn, Bridgeport VFD, Jackson County, passed away June 10, 2004. He has been in the fire service for 52 years.

Hubert "Buddy" Bradley, Jr., Zip City VFD, Lauderdale County, passed away March 25, 2004. He was one of the founders of the department and served as its first chief.

CORRECTION: A program designed to provide data in the AED patient outcome study outlined in the previous issue of "The Volunteer" listed an incorrect phone number. You may contact Mr. Hugh Hollon at 334-206-5383.

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. Johnny Dennis – (256) 766-4707 or Clayton Cobb, Sr. – (251) 578-2855 or John Wilson – (334) 569-3022 or Joey Boyd – (256) 233-1597.

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.

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