



THE VOLUNTEER



The Official Newsletter of the
ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

April - June 2014

2014 AAVFD Conference Information

The AAVD Annual Conference will be held on Friday and Saturday, August 8-9, 2014, at the Jameson Inn and North Alabama Fairgrounds in Tuscumbia, Alabama and will be hosted by Colbert County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments.

ELECTIONS

At the annual business meeting on Saturday, elections will be held to fill the officer and board member positions. The Nominating Committee made the following recommendations:

President: Mike W. Green (I)

Vice President

South: Wess Etheredge (I)

Central: Dan Hopkins (I)

North: Derrick Gatlin (I)
Jimmy Looney

Secretary: Mary Sells (I)

Treasurer: Joe Golden (I)

Candidate's fire service biographies are provided in this issue.

Nominations from the floor at the annual meeting are permitted by the AAVFD by-laws. All candidates except those presented by the nominating committee, must be present at the annual business meeting. All six officers are elected by majority vote of the members in attendance and those members represented by proxy.

Each District (1 through 10) will elect two individuals to represent their district on the Board of Directors for the coming year. AAVFD by-laws require that those two individuals shall not be from the same member department and, in so far as possible, shall come from different geographical areas within the district. Directors and Alternate Directors shall be elected by a committee consisting of one individual from each dues-paid general member department from within the district (ONE VOTE PER DEPARTMENT PRESENT) at the general meeting.

PRESIDENT'S

DESK BY

Mike Green

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Within this publication you will find several items that are of importance concerning your leadership and our direction in the upcoming year. The Nominating Committee has made their recommendations for the Officers to be elected at our Annual Conference. A short biography was requested from each and can be found within this issue. There have been several recommendations submitted that will, if approved by vote at the general business meeting, make changes to our bylaws. Please review each carefully so you will understand the changes and the need for those changes.

I have again accepted the nomination for President of the association. I have enjoyed serving in this capacity over the past 10 months and hope that the entire membership will again afford me the opportunity to work for YOU! As I promised last year prior to the elections, I have concentrated my efforts in trying to unify this association rather than making changes. I feel that everyone should know by now that I truly desire to see the AAVFD be the **BEST** it can be. With your continued support and willingness to stand together and press forward, WE can obtain that goal. We have continued to monitor our budget and be frugal whereas spending is concerned. Upon the recommendation of Treasurer Joe Golden, the Board of Directors agreed to operate without the assistance of bingo funds during this year. Those funds had been on the decline last year but are slowly starting to inch their way up. I have done my best to be a part of the cost savings by seeking reimbursement for only half my actual mileage traveled when representing you. On numerous occasions I have traveled to meetings on "my own dime", so to speak. To put my travel/expense cost in perspective, to date I have been reimbursed a total of \$394.15. I think you will all agree this is a nominal amount to serve you.

John 15:13 has been used many times to bring light to the actions of firefighters and first responders. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends". Each of you in the volunteer fire service do that day in and day out. And not for friends, but for those you may not even know. For this I commend each of you and say to you that you are the real HERO'S of this service. I would however like for you to think of this passage as it applies to the following.

Has the brotherhood gone in your Department?

Fire Departments are often viewed as a tradition for brotherhood but some do not fully understand what it is really all about and what it means. The world of fire fighting is a brotherhood, brought together by one common thing, *the desire to help!* Everyday firefighters respond to emergency calls without hesitation; selflessly placing their lives on the line in order to protect the lives of others. Brotherhood is about encouraging each other and displaying pride, honor, and praise for those who sacrifice their lives for the community. It's not about being critical of our fellow comrades. It's about being your brother's keeper or as we say in the fire service "*brotherhood*".

I would like for each of us to look at changes within ourselves rather than pointing our fingers at volunteerism or changes in our community. Our members and other resources, whether you like them or not, should come first. We should be able to count on each other not just on the fire ground but in everyday life as well. Our volunteers should not have to ask for assistance but know others are there no matter what is going on. We respond to the communities call for help but often overlook our brothers and sisters need for assistance.

I would like to ask of each of you to think about this question. Is your brotherhood fading? If your answer is yes, you can salvage it. It is as simple as making a phone call to see how someone is doing, a word of praise rather than criticism, a note to let someone know you are thinking of them, etc. You will be amazed at the results. We each should look for the positive rather than the negatives in each other. All of us working together can make your departments and **OUR** fire association the very best in the state!

Please remember safety on every call. May God bless each of you.

Mike W. Green



State Auxiliary Annual Meeting August 8

The State of Alabama Volunteer Firefighters Association Auxiliary will hold their annual business meeting on Friday, August 8 beginning at 5:00pm on the fairgrounds. Please mark your calendar and make plans to connect with us. Following the business meeting, join us for the cookout hosted by Colbert County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments.

The auxiliary booth will be set up Friday (noon until 5:00pm) and Saturday (8:00am until noon) on the fairgrounds along with other vendors. We will be selling hot dogs and homemade baked goods. In addition, we will have a silent auction, drawings for various merchandise and we will be selling a variety of items to include firefighter, breast cancer and other items. Everyone is welcome to stop by and visit us, make a purchase and learn how you can join the State Auxiliary.

The Auxiliary is excited to announce we are donating door prizes to assist Colbert County Association with the annual banquet. We wish everyone luck in winning a door prize on Saturday night.

If we can be of assistance to you, please let us know. Officers are as follows: President - Debbie Green Pike Road VFD (334) 277-2153; Vice-President Doris Jackson Ivalee VFD (256) 613-2120; Treasurer - Della Wade Theodore-Tillman VFD (251) 666-1417 or Secretary Rindy Vaughn Cuba VFD (205) 392-9016.

2014 CONFERENCE COMPETITION EVENTS

Are you ready for competition?

The events for the 2014 AAVFD Conference Competition will be Air Pack Relay, Obstacle Course and Hose Lay II. We look forward to seeing you on the North Alabama Fairgrounds on August 9th at 8:30am.



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CITY OF DADEVILLE
JOB POSTING

POSTED: _____

THE CITY OF DADEVILLE HAS THE FOLLOWING JOB OPENING:

FIRE CHIEF

Summary

The Fire Chief is responsible for the daily management and operations of the Dadeville Fire Department and its services and activities. These services include but are not limited to fire suppression and prevention, vehicle extrication, hazardous material response, building plans review, and community education. The Chief leads the fire department personnel in day to day operations. The nature of the Department requires the Chief to be flexible and have ability to respond after hours.

The City of Dadeville is an Equal Opportunity Employer, ADA requires the City to provide adequate accommodations to qualified persons with disabilities.

Applications can be picked up at the City of Dadeville City Hall located at
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Phone: 256-825-9242
FAX: 256-825-9291
www.cityofdadevilleal.org

**A DETAILED JOB DESCRIPTION IS AVAILABLE AT CITY HALL,
THE CITY OF DADEVILLE WEBSITE, BY E-MAIL, OR FAX**

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS: July 18, 2014

Proposed Amendments of the Bylaws Governing the AAVFD

Proposed Amendments –Life Members

This amendment will replace Section 3-Item (4) of the current bylaws which reads:

(4) Life Members-Life membership may be awarded by the Board of directors in rare instances to individuals who have demonstrated unusual outstanding service to this Association, usually over an extended period of time. Since Life Membership is the highest single non-valor, non-memorial honor this Association can bestow, there shall not be any awards of Honorary Life Membership. Life Members shall pay no dues nor shall their status be dependent upon any organization or group being a member of this Association. Life Members shall be entitled to one full vote at any Board of Directors, annual, general or any other meeting of this Association or of any part of it. (NOTE: Italic and underlined contents will be removed and the following will be added to this section).

a) Number of Members- The number of members awarded Life Membership will be unlimited. Life Members with voting privileges will be capped at a maximum of twelve (12). Eligibility to vote shall be determined by the date inducted as a Life Member, starting with the oldest date of induction. No other shall have, for any reason, voting privileges until the current voting member number drops below twelve (12). All Life Member nominations shall be reviewed by a committee of the twelve (12) voting Life Members. This committee shall report its recommendation to accept/decline the nomination to the President. The President will then present the recommendation to the Board of Directors at the next scheduled meeting for a vote by all voting members present. Vote shall be by secret ballot. The twelve (12) *voting* Life Members shall be entitled to one full vote at any Board of Directors, annual, general or any other meeting of this Association or of any part of it.

b) Eligibility- Nominee must have demonstrated unusual outstanding service to the AAVFD for a minimum of ten (10) years and must be a member of a fire department that has been a member of the AAVFD for a minimum of ten (10) years. Nominating letters from a family member or fire department will not be accepted. Any Life Member (voting or in-waiting) convicted of a felony or ethics violation shall be immediately and automatically removed as a Life Member of the AAVFD.

Section 7: VOTING

(1) Each general member department shall be entitled to one vote on any matter coming before a general or special meeting of the Association. *The twelve (12) voting Life Members shall be entitled to one vote each.* (NOTE: Italic and underlined contents to be ADDED to this section).

Section 11: Responsibilities of Officers and Committees

f. (1) The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, the three Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the twenty (20) District and Alternate District Directors, the twelve (12) voting Life Members and one member appointed by the Alabama Forestry Commission. (NOTE: Italic and underlined contents will be added to this sub-paragraph).

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DELINQUENT DATE FOR OFFICER DUES

This amendment will change the date that dues are considered delinquent for persons holding office in the association. This amendment will change the delinquent date to the end of the month of November, in accordance with the proposed amendment to change the due date for association dues.

Paragraph (6) (a) of Section 5 currently reads as follows:

SECTION 5. OFFICERS.

(6)(a) Anyone holding office in this Association, whether elected or appointed, whose membership dues have not been paid as described in Section 4: Dues, that are not paid by the end of the month of February, shall remove themselves from office and a replacement will be appointed as described in Section 5: Officers (3) and Section 5 (6).

The amended paragraph shall read as follows:

SECTION 5. OFFICERS.

(6)(a) Anyone holding office in this Association, whether elected or appointed, whose membership dues have not been paid as described in Section 4. Dues, that are not paid by the end of the month of November, shall remove themselves from office and a replacement will be appointed as described in Section 5: Officers (3) and Section 5 (6).

DUES DATE CHANGE AMENDMENT

Proposed Amendment to change the due date for dues of the Association

This amendment will change the due date from January 1 to October 1. The Officers and Board of Directors feel this change is necessary to allow time for membership to be confirmed so as not to interfere with or delay individual insurance policy effective dates.

The opening paragraph of Section 4 currently reads as follows:

SECTION 4. DUES.

As a condition for membership, all general and associate members shall be required to pay dues in the amount set below, said dues being due and payable the first day of January each calendar year, and shall be delinquent after January 31st. No dues shall be required of a Life Member.

The amended opening shall read as follows:

SECTION 4. DUES.

As a condition for membership, all general and associate members shall be required to pay dues in the amount set below, said dues being due and payable the first day of October each calendar year, and shall be delinquent after October 31st. No dues shall be required of a Life Member.

DOGTOWN VFD WINS COMPETITION

(DEKALB COUNTY)

The Dogtown Volunteer Fire Department recently won first place in the DeKalb County fire competition.

Pictured above are members left to right: FF Jeffery Wagner, FF Tasha Wagner, Sgt. Michael Martin, FF Zack Wills, FF Robbie Hairel, Chief Darvin Hurtt, FF Shawn Pence, Asst. Chief Jon Burt and FF Rufus Daniel. Congratulations Dogtown VFD!



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CULLMAN COUNTY VFD RECEIVES AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Congratulations to the Cullman County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments for being selected to receive the CFSI/Medic Alert Foundation Excellence in Fire Service-Based EMS Award. This prestigious award was presented at the Congressional Fire Service Institute's Annual Emergency Services Dinner in Washington, DC held on May 1st.

This award symbolizes the dedication that Cullman County's volunteer firefighters exhibit in serving their communities. The AAVFD and first responders throughout the state can be proud of this accomplishment.

HOSE OF THE BRAVE



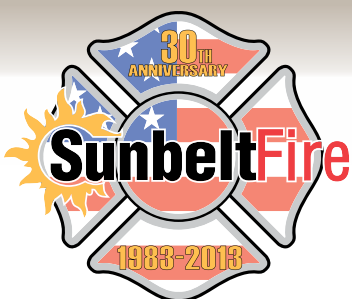
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DAN HOPKINS CANDIDATE FOR CENTRAL VICE-PRESIDENT

My name is Dan Hopkins and I am a candidate for central vice-president. I reside in Cleburne County. I currently serve as the fire chief for Hollis Crossroads VFD. I have served as the chief for twelve years and have been a member of the Department for fifteen years.

I am married and we have four children and seven grandchildren.

In 2011, I was elected as central vice-president of the AAVFD. In addition to serving in this position, I am currently serving on the Cleburne Hospital Board. In the past, I served five years as district 4 director.

I am here to serve all of the fire departments throughout the state. Our fire service is changing rapidly and we are facing challenges like never before. I am committed to continuing to serve and believe we need to create new models and a different way of thinking about the delivery of fire and emergency services. My numerous years in the fire service, leadership skills and ability to work with all people will continue to assist in moving the AAVFD ahead.

My sincere appreciation to all of you for your support and encouragement during this election. I appreciate your past support and would like to ask for your support again in this election.



WESS ETHEREDGE CANDIDATE FOR SOUTH VICE-PRESIDENT

My firefighter career started forty-five years ago when I began volunteering with the Daleville VFD in Dale County. I am a life time member with the Department. Currently I serve as president of the Dale County Fire Association and have served in this capacity for twenty-three years. For the past eighteen years, I have served as the president of District 6 firefighter association. In addition, I am currently serving as chairman of South Alabama EMS Board and the State EMS Advisory Committee.

Before retirement, I worked as a police officer for thirty years serving as police chief for twelve of those years. I served as mayor and also Superintendent of the Daleville Water & Sewer Board from 1996-2012.

My wife and I have four sons, Andy, Scott, Chris and Brian. One of which (Chris) is a Battalion Chief with Dothan Fire & Rescue.

For the last two terms, I have served as the south-vice president. I have assisted in expanding the network of contacts throughout the state with respect to Fire/EMS communications. We have a team of good people working together and I would like to continue to see the AAVFD move forward in a positive manner and would appreciate your support on August 9.

My broad background brings a unique perspective to the association. My experience as a firefighter, board member and southern vice-president serves as an asset to the AAVFD. I hope you find my qualifications, past dedication and commitment to the AAVFD office acceptable and meaningful and support my candidacy for the office again.



JIMMY LOONEY CANDIDATE FOR NORTH VICE-PRESIDENT

My name is Jimmy Looney and I am a candidate for North-Vice-President for the AAVFD.

I have been in the Volunteer Fire Service for approximately 28 years and have served as Fire Chief for 25 years. I am currently the Fire Chief of the LaGrange VFD in Colbert County and am past-President of Colbert County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. I previously served four years as the District Nine Director on the AAVFD Board. During this time, I served on numerous committees. In the past, I was active in state fire service legislation as a member of the AAVFD Executive Board.

I am retired and have time to dedicate to the AAVFD. My numerous years in the volunteer fire service demonstrate my commitment to the volunteers in this great state. Without this fine group of men and women many communities would not have anyone to answer the call in their time of need.

I am asking for your vote and pledge my dedication to serving throughout the state. Thank you in advance for your support and consideration of me during the election process.



DERRICK GATLIN CANDIDATE FOR NORTH VICE-PRESIDENT

As you are aware our Annual AAVFD Conference will be held August 8th & 9th in Colbert County. I've lived all my life in Limestone County so it's my honor to say WELCOME TO NORTH ALABAMA. If you have not made plans to attend I certainly hope you do so.

I have served as your AAVFD Northern Vice President for the past four years and presently serve as 1st Vice President. I appreciate all the support you've shown me over the last four years. On August 9th during our Annual Business Meeting we will elect officers for the 2015 year. I'm asking for your continued support and would like to thank you in advance.

I also would like to thank you for what you do for the fire service and the citizens of Alabama and look forward to seeing you at the AAVFD Conference.



MARY SELLS

CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY

My name is Mary Sells, I currently serve as the AAVFD Board Secretary and I am running for re-election this year.

For those of you I have not had the pleasure of meeting, I would like to share a little information about myself. Listed below are a few of my accomplishments.

- Asst. Chief of the McCullough VFD. I have served in the position for the past 18 years.
- Current member of the AAVFD Honor Guard. I am honored and privileged to have served since 2001.
- 3 time recipient of the Sherry Gardner Memorial Award.
- AAVFD Board Secretary since 2001 to the present.

Over the past 13 years I have met a lot of people across the state, made a lot of FRIENDS and had a lot of GOOD Fun with all of you. My number one priority is doing my job; NOT about taking sides or being involved in drama, that just is not me. I have learned a lot over the years serving as your secretary. My Friend, Clayton Cobb, taught me to always look at all four sides of the box; NEVER just two. He also taught me a lot about the Honor Guard. We served together during several funerals and banquets. GOD, I sure do miss that man. He always had a minute for you. I truly believe he made me the person I am today when it comes to the AAVFD.

I am pleased to have served as your secretary and would appreciate your vote on Election Day. Thank you in advance.



JOE GOLDEN

CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER

My name is Joe Golden and I am a candidate for the office of Treasurer for AAVFD. My wife and I have two daughters, Tara Goggins and Cari Golden. Tara is a Meteorologist with the National Weather Service at the Shelby County Airport office. Cari is a math teacher at West Point High School. My wife is a book keeper for the Cullman County Board of Education at Parkside Elementary School.

I worked for Nicholson File in Cullman, Alabama for over 34 years in accounting. The last 12 years I held the Executive Staff Controller position. I was responsible for all accounting activities at the Nicholson File Plant. The company closed its US operations and moved to Mexico, Colombia and Brazil in late 2011. I am currently retired.

If elected this will be my third term as treasurer. I have previously held the positions of Alternate Director, and Director for District 2. I am currently the chief of the Baileyton Volunteer Fire Dept, Inc., Co-Commander of the Cullman County Haz Mat Team, and President of the Cullman County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. I hold several certifications through the Alabama Fire College.

I would appreciate your continued support for the office of Treasurer.



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MONTGOMERY COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER APPRECIATION DAY

The Montgomery County Commission held their annual Montgomery County Volunteer Firefighter Appreciation Day on April 19th at Garrett Coliseum. The eight Montgomery volunteer fire departments were honored for their dedication, service and commitment to serving the citizens of Montgomery County.

Fire departments participating in the event included: **Snowdown VFD, Rolling Hills VFD, South Montgomery VFD, North Montgomery VFD, Pike Road VFD and Waugh- Mt Meigs VFD.**

A firefighter challenge took place during the event. Firefighters tested their skills against other departments while being timed.

Haynes Ambulance sponsored a Montgomery County Firefighter of the Year award. Kirk Barrett, Manager of Haynes Ambulance, presented the award to Jamie Bowman of South Montgomery VFD. Bowman has been volunteering with South Montgomery for several years. He was recognized not only for his allegiance and loyalty but Bowman recently risk his own life in an attempt to save a small autistic child's life.



**Jamie Bowman receives award for
firefighter of the year**



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500 Gallon Tank



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300 GPM Pump
1800 Gallon Tank
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1992 3D Int'l 55' Firestix
International 250 HP Diesel
Hale 1250 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Steel Tank



2002 PL Custom / GMC Walk-In Heavy Rescue
Caterpillar 300 Horsepower Diesel Engine
Wil-Burt Nightscan Light Tower
25,000 Watt PTO-Driven Generator



1999 Pierce Lance 100' Platform
12.7L 470HP Detroit Diesel
1500 GPM Pump
200 Gallon Tank



2003 American LaFrance Eagle Custom Pumper
Detroit 430 HP Diesel
Automatic Transmission
1500 GPM Pump, 500 Gallon Poly Tank
New Paint! All LED Warning Lights



2006 Sutphen Custom Rescue Pumper with CAFS
Cummins 450 HP Diesel, Auto Transmission
1750 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank
CAFS Unit, 8KW Generator



2004 Pierce Saber Custom Pumper
330 HP Diesel, Auto Transmission
1250 GPM Pump
1000 Gallon Poly Tank
Foam System, 7 KW Generator



2005 GMC C5500 4x4 Rescue Truck
325 HP Diesel
Automatic Transmission
10 KW Generator
1-Electric Reel, 51,889 Miles



2003 Toyne/Spartan Custom Rescue Pumper
Cummins 300 HP Diesel, Auto Transmission
1250 GPM Pump, 1000 Gallon Poly Tank,
Foam System, Harrison Hydraulic Generator



1994 KME Firefox Custom Pumper
Detroit 350 HP Diesel Engine
Hale 1500 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Fiberglass Tank



2009 Smeal Spartan Custom Rescue Pumper
Caterpillar 485 Horsepower Diesel Engine
Waterous 1500 GPM Pump
Hydraulic Hosebed Storage Bed



1992 Grumman Firecat Pumper
Detroit 350 HP Diesel Engine
Waterous 1500 GPM Pump
650 Gallon Steel Tank



1997 Central States Freightliner Pumper
Cummins 325 HP Diesel
Allison Automatic Transmission
Waterous 1500 GPM Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank



2000 Pierce Dash Custom Pumper
350 HP Detroit Diesel
1500GPM Pump
1000 Gallon Tank
30 Gallon Foam



1997 Ford Walk-In Rescue
7.3L Diesel Engine
Automatic Transmission
6,849 Miles
7.3KW Diesel Generator



1997 Saulsbury 65' Telesqurt
Hale 1500 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank
Mileage: 49,865
Front Bumper Preconnects



1991 E-One Custom Pumper
Cummins 330 HP Diesel
Hale 1250 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Tank



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GARLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT (BUTLER COUNTY)



Garland VFD in Butler County discontinued responding to emergency calls in March 2014. The Department relied on mutual aid to assist on calls. Firefighters lacked the equipment and no longer had a working fire truck. However, in May, Garland VFD received a donation of a fire truck from fellow firefighters at Ship Bottom Volunteer Fire Department in New Jersey. The department is still challenged to provide adequate emergency services due to lack of funding and other resources; however, this truck will be instrumental in helping the department in serving the community.

The Ship Bottom Volunteer Fire Department received a new fire truck through the Terry Farrell Foundation. Ship Bottom 'retired' Engine One and donated the truck to Garland VFD.

Garland VFD Fire Chief Clint Godwin and other department members have a commitment to a safe and healthy community. They are very proud of their donation which gives emergency response support by providing security and peace of mind in the small community. Garland has a population of about 1000 residents. The volunteer fire department struggles to maintain its operation and financially struggles to keep its door open to serve their citizens. Garland VFD does not answer house fire calls but answers medical calls including accidents on Interstate 65.

From one volunteer fire department to another several states away, this was a gift made possible by a New York City firefighter, Terry Farrell, who lost his life on 9-11. Thank you Ship Bottom VFD. You made a valuable donation that will save lives and protect property for many years to come.

FROM THE DESK OF ALLAN RICE ALABAMA FIRE COLLEGE

Things continue to happen at a rapid pace for the Alabama Fire College and Personnel Standards Commission. Due to the generosity of Smiths Station VFD, we have received a third Mobile Burn Trainer that has been placed into service. Smiths Station received this unit through a FIRE Act grant several years ago, but they realized that by donating it to AFC it would benefit firefighters statewide. We appreciate them being willing to help out so many other fire departments, and we will be able to reach more volunteer firefighters with much-needed live fire training through the use of this unit.

We are very excited about the building project that is underway on campus. When completed, we will have a new 320-seat auditorium plus an additional 19,000 square foot building that will house apparatus, three additional classrooms, and support and storage areas. This entire project is being paid for with cash on hand and will require no new financing or debt. We believe that it will meet our needs for many years into the future, and we appreciate the leadership of our Commissioners for approving this much-needed project. Come visit your Alabama Fire College to see these improvements!

Lastly, the Commission has approved a change in the Mobile Water Supply certification class. It will no longer be necessary to be a certified Firefighter I in order to become a certified MWS operator. This change will take effect in August of this year and will give many more volunteer firefighters the chance to be certified to operate a tanker in a safe manner.

Yours in service,

Allan Rice



SOUTH MARENGO COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SQUAD

August 1975 a few concerned residents of south Marengo County meet together in the cafeteria of the Sweet Water High School due to concerns about the lack of fire and medical protection in the area. From this meeting the South Marengo Rescue Squad was formed (later the name was changed to South Marengo Fire and Rescue Squad). Over the years the organization has grown and adapted to the community that we serve.

Locally known as "South Marengo", the department has expanded when there was a need to provide fire and EMS coverage to the southern third of the county. And as new fire and EMS departments started up in the area our department consolidated to its core territory. Today, South Marengo provides primary fire protection to the area west of Sweet Water and rescue and EMS first response, extrication, and rescue coverage to a much larger area of south Marengo County.

South Marengo first started providing fire protection from Army surplus vehicles and converted trucks with locally made water tanks. Through the years the Army trucks were retired and homemade tankers dominated our department. In 1994 we obtained our first ISO grade of 9. A few years later we were able to upgrade to a used pumper and it remained as our primary apparatus until we were successful with the 2011 AFG grant. With this grant we purchased a 2013 Pierce commercial pumper. We now have this new pumper along with two older tankers, a brush truck, and a service/rescue truck. December 6, 2013 we were inspected by ISO for the second time. May 31st we were notified that our new score is a 6/9. As expected we were super excited about our new pumper and upgraded ISO class. We are awaiting word on our 2013 AFG grant and already working on seeing where we can improve our score in our next ISO inspection.

The current officers of the department are; President, Richard Rogers; Vice President, John Sommer, Fire Chief, Greg Harrington; Board of Trustee, Curtis Stephens Jr, Greg Rogers, Willie Eirby, Dunk Steele, and Joe Easley; Secretary, Jackie Williams; and Treasure, Michelle Sommer. We currently have about 40 active and support members in our department.



EAGLE CREEK VFD (Tallapoosa County)

Chief Jason Moran and the Eagle Creek Volunteer Fire Department recently took delivery of a new KME/International 3000 gallon wet side tanker. The apparatus has a 750 GPM Hale, front 2.5" discharge, electric swivel dump on the rear, electric dump tank rack, rear back up camera, hose storage well in rear tail board, and all LED emergency and scene lighting. This apparatus was purchased with Assistance to Firefighters Grant through FEMA. The tanker joins a

KME Pumper that was purchased with the same grant program a few years back. The apparatus was sold by John Wilson with NAFECO.



RIVER OAKS VFD RECEIVES PUMPER (DALLAS COUNTY)

Chief Richard Boozer and the River Oaks VFD of Dallas County recently took delivery of a 2014 E-One Pumper. The apparatus has a 1500 GMP pump and one thousand gallon water tank. The apparatus was sold by Dwight Callaway (pictured on Left) with Sunbelt Fire.



BUDGET FRIENDLY

NEW SKID PUMP UNITS

Mertz Fire Apparatus has built skid units up to 1,500 gallons, with pumps from all Fire Pump Manufacturers, which includes Hale, Waterous, and W.S. Darley. Mertz Fire Apparatus also provides pumps by Hypro and Udor. Vanguard electric start engines are featured on all pumps and Honda engines are available. The Mertz 16V1550 Series pump system will pump up to 170 gpm at 170 psi and will pump in excess of 50 gpm @150 psi.

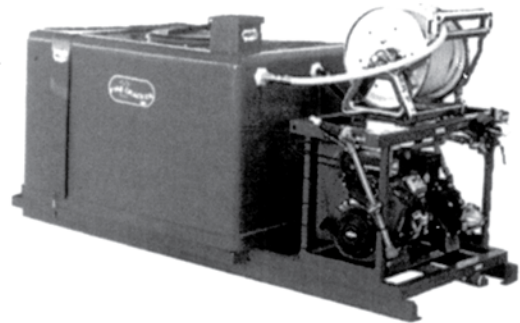
Standard Unit Pricing

FD 18V 300 L

This is the 18 hp version of the famous "FireCracker." With pressures of over 500 psi this is the top of the line "Wildland" firefighter. Standard tanks up to 300 gallon, but larger optional tanks are available. Engines from various engine manufacturers are also available. Optional foam systems can be installed.

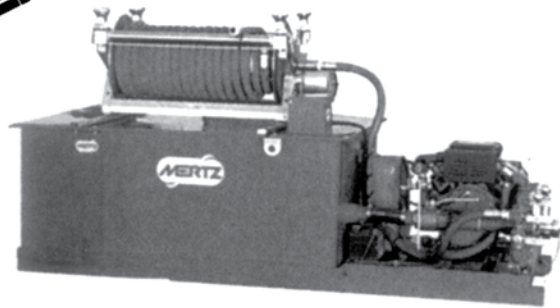
Maximum Pressure: 560 PSI
 Maximum Volume: 26.0 GPM
 Maximum Speed: 550 RPM
 Number of Cylinders: 4

FD-18V-300 L



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FC 16V1550 200 LFT

The standard series of the Mertz 16V1550 standard pump systems are available with 150 to 400 gallon booster tanks. Standard features include hose, hose reel, outriggers, primer, fuel tank, plumbing and battery. The tanks are 20 years limited warranty fiberglass tanks.

Stats	150G	200G	250G	300G	400G
Height	39.5"	44.5"	51.5"	56.5"	52.25"
Length	91"	91"	91"	91"	98.5"
Width	43"	43"	43"	43"	64"
Wt. Dry	800#	850#	875#	900#	925#
Wt. Wet	2075#	2550#	3000#	3985#	4325#

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VALLEY HEAD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTED WITH REPLACEMENT TRUCK

Valley Head Mayor Pro Tem Adele Phillips and Valley Head Fire Chief Will Blackburn, and Valley Head Town Clerk Debra Rhodes were on hand Friday, June 13, to accept delivery of a KMC 5-ton pumper/tanker truck from the Alabama Forestry Commission (AFC). This emergency vehicle replaces one destroyed by flooding that occurred on April 29. The Valley Head Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) in DeKalb County lost several pieces of essential firefighting equipment during the flood, including a tanker truck. According to Fire Chief Will Blackburn, "Neighboring VFDs from Hammondville and Mentone have been currently handling all of Valley Head's fire calls. This equipment will go a long way toward helping us get back to normal operations."

The replacement truck was acquired by the AFC through the Firefighter Property Program (FFP), created in 2005 by an agreement between the US Forest Service and the US Department of Defense (DoD). This program provides excess DoD military property to emergency service providers, with ownership of the equipment being passed from the federal government to the local organization.

Greg Wood, AFC's Volunteer Fire Assistance Coordinator, commented, "The Alabama Forestry Commission obtains surplus property from surrounding military installations that can be converted to fire suppression and emergency response vehicles, making it available to volunteer fire departments across the state to assist with community fire protection. There is a priority waiting list, but an emergency exception was made in this instance."

The mission of the Alabama Forestry Commission is to protect and sustain Alabama's forest resources using professionally applied stewardship principals and education, ensuring that the state's forests contribute to abundant timber and wildlife, clean air and water, and a healthy economy.



ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS MEMBERS CAN RECEIVE DISCOUNTED KIDDE PRODUCTS

The Kidde Fire Safety on-line store offers fire departments exclusive access to a variety of Kidde products at a discounted price. Other benefits of utilizing the store include faster checkout, access to special promotions such as free shipping on your first order, the ability to store multiple shipping addresses, the ability to view and track orders, access to educational and safety tips, and much more.

Currently the Kidde Fire Safety store is offering all association members 10% off your first order of 10 year smoke and CO alarms by simply using the code 10YEAR. The discount is good through Dec. 31, 2014.

Visit www.KiddeFireStore.com to see the products associated with this special offer or to place an order through a dedicated, secure site. When ordering enter the coupon code 10YEAR at checkout to receive our association's promotional discount.



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ALABAMA: TURN YOUR ATTENTION TO FIRE PREVENTION



**From the
Desk of Ed
Paulk, State
Fire Marshal**

Alabama has had 61 fire fatalities since January 5, 2014. In 2013, we had a total of 81 fire fatalities. One is too many. As you know, the Fire Department is a reactionary force that brings resources to bear on the problem of fire. When the call comes in, someone has had a bad day! In order to make a difference and save lives we need to change some of our focus to prevention. This is the only way to significantly impact fire fatalities without requiring fire sprinklers in our homes. Over 90 percent of our fatalities occur in residential occupancies and the vast majority of those are single family homes. Join our effort to make everyone aware that they have to take responsibility for their safety and practice fire prevention. Help us spread the message throughout the State, "Turn Your Attention to Fire Prevention". Your efforts will be rewarded beyond belief if you help prevent a fire that would have taken a life.

SHOAL CREEK FIRE CHIEF MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN HIS COMMUNITY

Making a difference in the lives of people who live in Shoal Creek Valley is what Vernon White lives for. For the past three years, White is just thankful he is alive. On April 27, 2011, a deadly tornado hit Shoal Creek Valley. White was driving the fire truck that was picked up by the tornado and tossed upside down in the Coosa River. White was able to escape from inside the truck and is alive today to talk about it. During the month of June, White, the fire chief for the volunteer fire department, was surprised at the fire station with a plaque from Birmingham television station WVTM-13 honoring how he makes a difference in his community. White is the 2014 Making a Difference winner for June. "It is such an honor to receive this award," White said. "It means so much to know people think of you that much to honor you like this." White said God was looking over him that day he was tossed into the river. "It is an honor to be in the position where I can help the people who live in our community," White said. "I have to give credit to everyone who serves in the fire department." There are 22 people who make up the Shoal Creek Volunteer Fire Department. They are responsible for 650 to 700 households. The ISO rating is 4-9, which is better than the 9-10 they used to have. "That was a big improvement," White said. "There are very few volunteer fire departments in the state with a 4-9 ISO rating."

THE BELL TOLLED

Mark Reeves passed away June 8, 2014. He fought a courageous battle with cancer. Reeves was a member of the Rogersville VFD. He was a member of the US military serving in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

Fredrick "Freddy" Young passed away May 14, 2014 as the result of a boating accident. Firefighter Young was a member of the Burkeville VFD in Lowndes County.

Norris Dearman passed away April 24, 2014. Chief Dearman was a retired Chief of Semmes VFD in Mobile County.

Charles Raymond Montgomery, age 73, passed away April 10, 2014. Chief Montgomery was the former Chief of Oneonta Fire Department in Blount County. Chief Montgomery retired in 2006 after 22 years of service. He also retired from the Birmingham Fire Department as a Lieutenant Firefighter/Paramedic and was Chief of Police in Riverside, Alabama for five years before moving to Oneonta. Chief Montgomery was one of the five original members who placed the first rescue unit in service with Birmingham Fire Department and was also instrumental in bringing EMS and 911 to Blount County. He taught several years at UAB in the Paramedic Program and with the Alabama Fire College.

James Gates, age 41, passed away unexpectedly on March 30, 2014. He was the current fire chief & longtime member of South Marengo Fire & Rescue in Marengo County. Gates had recently celebrated twenty years with the Department.

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: Mike W. Green (334) 309-5026, Derrick Gatlin (256) 230-3526, Dan Hopkins (256) 225-7230 or Honor Guard Commander Daniel Day (251) 267-2527. 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 three times a year in January, April and July. Articles, information and advertisements for the newsletter must be submitted to the AAVFD office no later than the fifteenth of the month before publication. We reserve the right to edit for length, corrections and font.

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: Mike W. Green

1st VP: Derrick Gatlin

2nd VP: Dan Hopkins

3rd VP: Wess Etheredge

Secretary: Mary Jane Sells

Treasurer: Joe Golden

Newsletter Editor: Debbie Green

Executive Assistant: Wanda Jones

Office hours Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday – 8:00-5:00

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