



THE VOLUNTEER



The Official Newsletter of the
ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

OCT-DEC 2013

2013 AAVFD CONFERENCE INFORMATION

On August 3, 2013, the annual AAVFD banquet was held at the Bobby Miller Center in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The banquet was hosted by District 3. The annual event celebrated the accomplishments and dedication of the firefighters, their families, friends, surrounding municipalities and mutual aid companies that assist in the fire department's daily operations.



Mark Sims Firefighter of the Year

The evening was filled with great food, engaging conversations and an award ceremony for those who went above and beyond in the year 2013. In addition, the newly elected AAVFD officials were sworn into office.

Representative John Merrill and Senator Gerald Allen were in attendance at the banquet where they had the opportunity to thank the members for their dedicated service to local Departments and communities. Representative John Merrill and Senator Gerald Allen are both strong advocates for first responders, volunteer firefighters and EMT's.



Simone Godwin - Sherry Garner

The 2013 Firefighter of the year award was bestowed upon Mark Sims of Thomasville VFD and the Sherry Garner (Female Firefighter of the Year) Award was presented to Simone Godwin of Appleton VFD. President William Neal presented District III with a special award recognizing their efforts in hosting the annual conference for the past two years.

Thank you to the Alabama Fire College for hosting the Friday night cookout. A special thank you goes to Billy Doss and all the Departments in District III for their hospitality and for hosting this year's event. We appreciate District III's support, commitment, and dedication to the event.

The banquet is held every year to recognize all the hard work and volunteer hours that are put into the departments throughout the state. Fire Departments throughout the state would not be where they are today without the support and dedication of the firefighters, their families and the community.

The 2014 annual banquet will be hosted by the Colbert County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. The date and further details will be announced as they become available.



Swearing in of New Officers

FROM THE AAVFD PRESIDENT'S

DESK BY

Mike Green

Dear Fellow Fighters and Friends,

First and foremost I would like to thank you for your support during our recent elections. Together this Association is one of the largest in the State, second only to the Alabama Education Association. As long as we ALL set our differences aside and put the past in the past, WE will continue to maintain a strong voice for the Volunteer fire service in this State. I would like to again emphasize that I do not have a personal agenda for this Association but want to serve and represent you to the best of my ability. I want each and every member to know that I am just a phone call away if you feel I can assist you or your department in any way.

To be quite honest with you all, my first couple of months in this position was not what I expected nor wanted them to be. On October 12th I traveled to Tuscaloosa to attend the Fallen Firefighters Memorial Ceremony. Unfortunately we had one of our members die in the line of duty this past year and I was asked to call for the "Final Bell" to be rang in memory of Beth Childers. Beth perished in a fire at her home after re-entering the residence to save her grandchild. Her heroic efforts saved the life of a small child. I made a statement that day concerning my involvement in the ceremony. That statement was "I pray I never have to stand before you and do this again". Unfortunately, that statement was very short lived. On the evening of October 17th, just 5 days later, I received a call from State Fire Marshall Ed Paulk who advised me of a firefighter death due to an apparatus rollover in North Alabama. Firefighter Jantzen M. Frazier, Oden Ridge VFD, was responding to a structure fire when the tanker he was driving overturned while enroute to the scene. Frazier was killed instantly. On October 23rd I attended the funeral for yet another of our members who gave the ULTIMATE SACRIFICE.

Instead of giving you AAVFD business details, I have used my space here to briefly cover these two incidents for one reason: I want you ALL to go home to your families after every emergency response you make. I ask that you take a moment to reflect on these circumstances and make a conscious effort to put SAFETY FIRST every day, every time!

May God bless the families of both of these HEROS and may God bless each of you.

Mike W. Green





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Honoring Beth Childers

On October 12th, members of the Alabama Fire Service and supporters gathered with the Beth Childers family to remember the hero who gave her all in service to her community and saving the life of her grandson. Beth's name was inscribed upon the memorial at the Fire College in Tuscaloosa and she joined the ranks of generations of heroes whose names are emblazoned in those obelisks. Beth's last act was to heroically save the life of her grandson by passing the toddler out the window of her burning home to her husband Scott. Both Scott and Beth were members of the nearby Anderson Volunteer Fire Department and Beth had just recently completed her last training class for EMT.

The Alabama Firefighter Memorial Service is held each year in the month of October. The Memorial is housed at the Alabama Fire College and is maintained by the Alabama Joint Fire Council (AAVFD is a member of this group). Every member of the fire service who can should plan to attend this moving service next year. As members of the fire service we should come together to support the families of our fallen brothers and sisters on this day and any other day that they need us. If you have questions about the memorial or the bricks that departments or members can purchase and have inscribed please visit <http://www.alffmemorial.net>



Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service



AAVFD Honor Guard

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Childers Family & Senator Gerald Allen

HOSE OF THE BRAVE



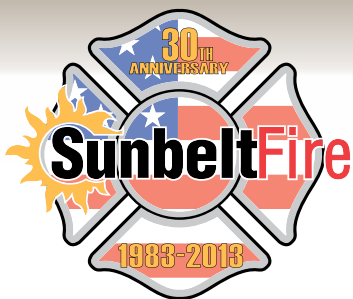
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AUXILIARY MEETING HELD AUGUST 4

The State of Alabama Volunteer Firefighters Association Auxiliary was founded in August 2012. The auxiliary was created to encourage cooperation and protect rights and privileges of auxiliaries by increasing membership, organizing new auxiliaries and supporting those established auxiliaries. The auxiliary was also designed to assist the AAVFD in promoting membership, support programs on fire education and prevention and awareness proposed by the volunteer firefighters of the State of Alabama.

The 2013 annual meeting took place on Saturday, August 4 at the Alabama Fire College. In attendance were officers, members and supporters. Accomplishments of the first year were discussed and 2014 plans and goals were established.



State Auxiliary members hold first fund raiser

In addition to the annual meeting, the auxiliary held their first fund raiser. The event featured homemade items and individuals could donate \$1.00 to receive a chance on several drawings from collegiate tailgate bags to coolers. All prizes were donated by auxiliary members. The event raised over \$300.00. Money raised will be used to benefit the auxiliary and assist with the annual conference.



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Terri Sewell visits Alabama Fire College

ETOWAH COUNTY FIRE ASSOCIATION NEWS

Larry Sitz of Reece City Volunteer Fire Department was presented the Don Ayers Award on Oct 17 by Etowah County Fire Association President Jerry Jackson. The award is presented yearly to a recipient whose contributions to the fire service and community is exemplary. Don Ayers was established in memory of his service and dedication to the fire service. He was a charter member of Mountainboro Volunteer Fire Department.

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.

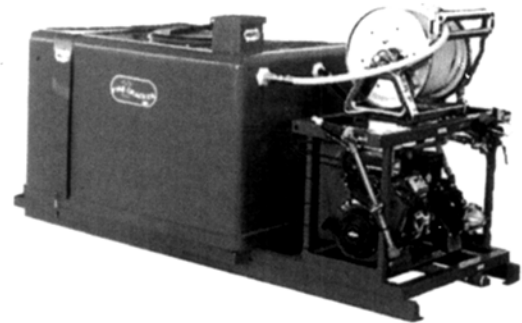
Standard Unit Pricing

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.

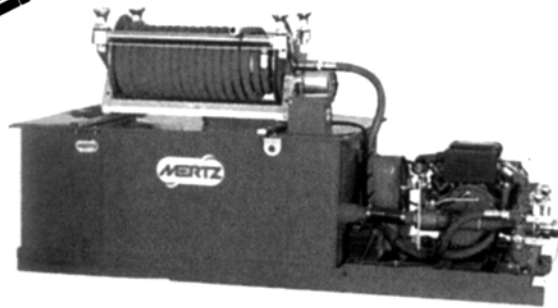
Maximum Pressure: 560 PSI
 Maximum Volume: 26.0 GPM
 Maximum Speed: 550 RPM
 Number of Cylinders: 4

FD-18V-300 L



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Stats	150G	200G	250G	300G	400G
Height	39.5"	44.5"	51.5"	56.5"	52.25"
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SOUTH SUMTER TANKER DRILL

Units from all South Sumter Fire Battalion stations and an adjoining department conducted the quarterly Tanker Drill at the Whitfield Volunteer Fire Department on October 26, 2013. The departments carry out this drill as often as possible to make sure that everyone remains sharp on this critical skill for supplying water in the rural portions of the district. Four tankers ran back and forth from the fill site to keep the pumper supplied so that the various devices that were flowing water would not run out. The water supply effort was successful, and the pumper was only on booster tank water for three minutes at one point of the drill. This was to allow for tanks to be topped and levels adjusted.

Whitfield VFD is located at the Southeastern tip of Sumter County and serves a rural area. Chief Isaiah Steele and his firefighters serve an isolated area that has only one way in and one way out. The department is provided with automatic aid from Ward and Siloam Fire Departments, who are also members of the South Sumter Fire Battalion. The Whitfield, Ward, and Siloam tankers have a lift capacity of 7,200 gallons and each can use the dry hydrant in an area. Recently, Whitfield Fire has placed two new dry hydrants in its area and has plans to expand the number even further.



Siloam Asst. Chief Harry Hughes provides direction for tankers that are arriving and preparing to drop their load of water in the drop tanks.



Siloam Tanker delivering a load of water to the Drop Site.

BELLAMY FIRE RECEIVES PUMPER

The National Chapter of the Terry Farrell Firefighters Fund and the Alabama Chapter joined forces with the Bowmansville Fire Company of Bowmansville, New York to donate their 1987 Young pumper to a department in Sumter County, Alabama that was operating out of a 1968 model pumper. The truck was presented to the Bellamy Fire Department at the October meeting of the Sumter County Firefighters Association. The Alabama Chapter representatives and Chief Elmer Stallings had been in contact regarding the truck for several months to work out details, before the truck actually arrived. However, to the pleasant surprise of Chief Stallings the truck arrived and was presented October 12th.

The Bellamy Volunteer Fire Department protects the Southeastern corner of Sumter County, Alabama. The department financially functioned from its inception until 2000 on the small annual grant from the Alabama Forestry Commission and the donations of community members. The department's truck was housed in a barn, and during the winter the department had to drain the truck as there was no way to heat the building. In 2000 the department began receiving tax money from a newly passed referendum in the county that gave the department operating revenue. Chief Stallings and his leadership team were faced with a tough decision regarding a truck or a building to house it in. The department decided to build a station to house their truck and hoped that the older engine they had could hold together long enough to pay for the building and to purchase a truck. Thanks to the Bowmansville Fire Company the department will now be able to save the money that it had been spending to keep the old truck running and devote that money to an apparatus replacement fund.



On the night of October 12, 2013, Chief Elmer Stallings drove the pumper to his station and placed it into service. The department has been busy ever since, and the pumper has been on the road providing a safe and reliable unit for the department.

The National and Alabama Chapters of the Terry Farrell Fund have placed thousands of dollars of equipment and trucks with departments in Alabama that desperately need it. The National chapter responded to Alabama in a big way after the April 2011 tornadoes destroyed or damaged many departments in the area. If you are interested in assisting with this organization or have equipment that you think would benefit another department please contact the Alabama Chapter www.alabamaterrylfund.org

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY HONORS FIREFIGHTERS

Tuscaloosa County Volunteer Fire Association held their thirty-first annual awards banquet on October 12, 2013 at the G.G. Hardin Community Center in Brookwood. Among those in attendance was Representative John Merrill, Senator Gerald Allen, Tuscaloosa County Commissioner Stan Acker and AAVFD president Mike Green.

Firefighters and guest were welcomed by association president Billy Doss. Doss thanked each member for their time, dedication and service to the citizens of Tuscaloosa County. This event is a great opportunity for our departments to come together and share in our accomplishments.

AAVFD president Mike Green addressed attendees. Green thanked firefighters for their interest in the fire service and for serving their communities. He said "the fire service has some of the most dedicated and committed men and women who perform acts of heroism every day. Each of you is to be commended for serving your community."

Tuscaloosa County Association is made up of twenty departments. A representative from each department presented their firefighter of the year to their department member. Firefighter of the year awards were presented as follows: Brookwood – Duane Garner; Vance – Mike Martin & Jennifer Rosser; Sipsey Valley-Howie Wedgeworth; Echola- Amy Brown; Samantha-J. B. Simpson; Mt. Olive-David Robertson; Carroll's Creek-Bryan Anders; Yellow Creek-Andy Lynn; Fosters/Ralph-Jerry Sanford; Duncanville-Peter Schwaemmle; Lakeview-Colby Howard; Mayfield-Scott White; Montgomery-Michael Winters; Coaling-Brian Kilgore; Coker-Dodie Morris; Englewood Hulls-Alex Cameron; Romulus-Colby Hamner; and Nicol-Edmond Turner. Female fighter of the year was presented to Alisha Driver and the male firefighter of the year was presented to Donny Driver.

Presidential award was presented to Tuscaloosa County Commissioner Stan Acker for all of his continued support and dedication to the volunteer fire departments.



BRINDLEE MOUNTAIN

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2007 Smeal 100' Mid-Mount Platform
Cat C13 525 HP, Allison 4000EVS
Waterous S100 1250 GPM Pump
300 Gallon Poly Tank, FoamPro System
Onan 10 KW Hydraulic Generator
Breathing Air, LED Lighting



2006 E-One 114' Bronto Platform
Bronto Skylift 114' Articulating Aerial
Detroit Series 60, Allison EVS4500P
Waterous S100 2000 GPM Pump
300 Gallon Poly Tank, Akron Monitor
Onan 10KW Hydraulic Generator



2004 Pierce Dash 100' Platform
Cummins ISM 500 HP, Allison 4000EVS
NEW! Waterous 2000 GPM Pump
NEW! 150 Gallon Poly Tank
Harrison 10 KW Generator



2002 Pierce Lance 75' Quint
Cummins ISM 500 HP, Allison HD 4060P
Waterous CMU 2000 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank
8KW Hydraulic Generator
Automatic Tire Chains



2002 American LaFrance 100' Quint
Detroit Series 60 500 HP Engine
Allison HD4060P Automatic
2000 GPM Pump
300 Gallon Poly Tank
Harrison 10KW Hydraulic Generator



2000 American LaFrance 50' Telesquirt
Detroit Series 60, Allison HD
Waterous CS 1250 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank
Aerial Waterway, Arrowstick
Automatic Tire Chains



2000 Pierce Dash 100' Platform
Detroit Series 60, Allison 4060PR
Waterous 1500 GPM 2-Stage Pump
300 Gallon Poly Tank
2 - 1500 GPM Monitors
10KW Hydraulic PTO Generator



1998 KME Aerial Cat 75' Quint
500 HP Diesel, Allison HD4066
Hale 1500 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Water Tank
9KW PTO-Driven Generator
Mileage: 38,392



1997 E-One Hurricane 50' Telesboom
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic
Hale 1250 GPM Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank
Combination Monitor at Tip
Hydraulic Ladder Rack



1996 3D / Spartan 100' SkyArm Platform
Nova Quintech Articulating Aerial
Detroit Series 60, Allison HD4060
Waterous 1500 GPM Pump
300 Gallon Poly Tank
AMPS 25KW Generator



1989 E-One Hurricane 95' Platform
Cummins NTC 400 HP, Allison HT740
Hale QSMG 1500 GPM Side-Mount Pump
150 Gallon Aluminum Tank
Waterway with Monitor in Platform
Onan 6KW Diesel Generator



2006 EVI / Ford F-550 Light Rescue
International 6.0 Diesel Engine
Automatic Transmission
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Whelen LED Lightbar
Brush Guard with Winch



1999 3D / Int'l 4x4 Interface Pumper
Int'l DT466 Diesel Engine
Allison MT643 Automatic
Darley HE 500 GPM Auxiliary Pump
250 HP Diesel Pump Engine
750 Gallon Poly Tank



1999 Becker / Freightliner Midi-Pumper
Detroit Series 50 320 HP Diesel
Allison HD4060 Automatic
Waterous CPK-2 300 GPM Pump
300 Gallon Poly Tank



2010 Crimson / Spartan Pumper Tanker
Cummins ISL 425 HP, Allison EVS3000
Waterous 1500 GPM Side-Mount Pump
2500 Gallon Poly Tank
3000 Gallon Fold-da-Tank
LED Lightbar and DOT Lighting



2006 Sutphen Rescue Pumper w/ CAFS
Cummins ISM, Allison EVS4000
Hale 1750 GPM Top-Mount Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank, Hale CAF System
Onan 8KW Hydraulic Generator
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2004 Pierce Dash 4x4 Rescue Pumper
Detroit Series 60 515 HP Diesel
Allison 4000EVS Automatic
Waterous 1500 GPM Top-Mount Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank
Harrison 15 KW Hydraulic Generator



2003 Pierce Dash Rescue Pumper
Detroit 475 HP, Allison 4000EVS
Hale QMAX 1250 GPM Side-Mount Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank
Smart Power 8KW Generator
1 - Electric Cord Reel



2003 ALF Eagle Rescue Pumper
Detroit 430 HP Series 60
Allison HD4060 Automatic
Waterous 1500 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank



2003 Pierce Enforcer Rescue Pumper
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 Akron Foam System
 Smart Power 10KW Hydraulic Generator



2002 ALF Eagle Rescue Pumper
 Cummins ISM, Allison HD4060
 Waterous 1500 GPM Top-Mount Pump
 500 Gallon Tank, 2 - Foam Cells
 FoamPro A and B Foam System
 Light Tower, 10KW Generator



2001 Pierce Saber Rescue Pumper
 Detroit Series 40 Diesel Engine
 Allison MD3060 Automatic
 Waterous CSU 1500 GPM Pump
 750 Gallon Poly Tank
 AMPS 6 KW Hydraulic Generator



2001 Pierce Dash Rescue Pumper
 Detroit Series 60, Allison Automatic
 2000 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 730 Gallon Tank
 Foam System w/70 Gallon Cell
 10KW Hydraulic Generator



2000 Central States Rescue Pumper
 Cummins ISM, Allison MD3066
 Hale DSD 1500 Side-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Poly Tank
 Class B ATP Foam System
 FoamPro 1600 Class A Foam System



1998 E-One Custom Pumper
 Diesel, Automatic
 Hale 1250 GPM Top-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Poly Tank
 Mileage: 58,000



1998 HME Rescue Pumper
 Detroit Series 40 Diesel
 Allison WTEC1111 Automatic
 Hale 1250 GPM Pump w/Enclosed Panel
 750 Gallon Poly Tank
 Onan Generator



1997 Luerne / Spartan Rescue Pumper
 Cummins 330 HP, Allison Automatic
 Hale 1750 GPM Pump
 Enclosed Pump Panel
 1000 Gallon Water Tank
 AMPS 6KW Hydraulic Generator



1993 E-One Cyclone Custom Pumper
 Cummins 300 HP Diesel Engine
 Allison Automatic Transmission
 Hale 1500 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Polypropylene Tank



1997 KME Renegade Custom Pumper
 Detroit Series 60 400 HP Diesel
 Allison HD4060 Automatic
 Waterous 1500 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 500 Gallon Polypropylene Tank



1992 Pierce Arrow Rescue Pumper
 Detroit Diesel, Allison MT
 Waterous CMU 1750 GPM Pump
 750 Gallon Steel Tank
 Onan 3 KW Diesel Generator



2008 Kenworth Rescue Pumper
 Paccar PX-8 Diesel, Allison 3000EVS
 Hale 1500 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 500 Gallon Poly Tank
 Hale Foam Logix
 Backup Camera, LED Lighting



2000 ALF / FL 4x4 Pumper
 Cummins 350 HP, Allison MD 3066
 Hale 1250 GPM Top-Mount Pump
 950 Gallon Poly Tank
 Feecon Foam System



2000 E-One / Int'l Rescue Pumper
 International 300 HP Diesel Engine
 Allison MD3060 Automatic Transmission
 Hale QFLO 1250 GPM Top-Mount Pump
 1000 Gallon Poly Tank
 2 - 300W Nightfighter Scene Lights



2000 Pierce / Int'l Rescue Pumper
 Int'l 530E 300HP, Allison MD3060
 Waterous 1000 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 500 Gallon Poly Tank
 AMPS 8KW Hydraulic Generator
 Will-Burt 25' 4000W Light Tower



1997 Central States / FL Pumper
 Cummins 300 HP Diesel
 Allison MD3060 Automatic
 Hale 1250 GPM Top-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Poly Tank



1997 Pierce / FL Rescue Pumper
 Cummins 300 HP, Allison MD3060
 Waterous CS 1250 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 500 Gallon Poly Tank
 10KW Generator, 3000W Light Tower
 12,000# Winch in Front Bumper



1998 E-One / Int'l 4x4 CAFS Pumper
 Int'l 210 HP, Allison Automatic
 Pneumax 120-60 CAF System
 400 Gallon Water Tank
 20 Gallon Foam Tank
 Winch on Front Bumper



1994 Southern Coach / FL Pumper
 Cummins Diesel, Allison MT643
 Darley 1000 GPM Front-Mount Pump
 750 Gallon Poly Tank
 Gas Generator, LED Lightbar



1992 E-One / GMC Pumper
 Cummins 3116 215 HP Diesel
 Allison MT643 Automatic
 Hale QSG 1250 GPM Side-Mount Pump
 1000 Gallon Poly Tank

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TFD Teaches Children about Fire Safety [CLARKE COUNTY – Thomasville VFD]

For more than forty years the Thomasville Fire Department in Clarke County has visited the city schools during Fire Prevention Week in October. During these visits, firefighters lecture students on the dangers of fire and on fire prevention strategies. To visually interest students, the fire trucks as well as the protective turnout gear worn by firefighters are both put on display.

Although these visits are greatly anticipated each year, we had not been able to give school children any hands-on training until a collection of local and state grants assisted the department in acquiring a Children's Fire Safety trailer in 2003. With the acquisition of this trailer firefighters are enabled to demonstrate what a



child should do in case of a fire in their home. They are trained what to do if they see smoke or feel a warm door. Additional safety advice is provided for preparing, planning, and practicing a fire escape plan. In addition, other safety tips on fire prevention in the home are also included.

Since TFD acquired this trailer it has "racked up" hundreds of miles as it has traveled throughout Clarke County and also into parts of both Wilcox and

Marengo Counties teaching children important, life-saving lessons. In October 2013 alone 1,129 children from Jackson, Grove Hill and Thomasville have gone through the trailer and received training. Since its original purchase, the trailer has hosted in excess of 14,500 children. That's 14,500 more people whose home may be saved thanks to the continued support of Thomasville VFD.

Almeria VFD Receives Donation of Pumper

On November 29th, the Josephine VFD, located in Baldwin County, donated a 1986 Chevrolet Kodiak pumper to the Almeria VFD, located in Bullock County. Josephine VFD purchased a new truck. The Kodiak has an 800 gallon tank capacity and the pump is rated at 750 gpm. Josephine VFD also supplied the truck with 15 gallons of foam, 200' of 1 1/2" hose and 200' of 2 1/2". The truck is also equipped with a top mounted hose reel. The truck made two runs in its first week as part of the Almeria VFD.

The Kodiak is now temporarily carrying the Jaws-of-Life. The Bullock County Volunteer Fire Fighter Association has funded the County Rescue truck for the past several years. The underfunded BCVFFA is unable to keep the rescue truck up and running. The rescue truck is presently out-of-service due to engine problems.

The Almeria VFD and surrounding communities would like to say "Thank You" to the Josephine VFD and Mike Green, AAVFD President for making this happen.



PIKE ROAD VFD AND LADIES AUXILIARY ROLL INTO FALL

For many years, the Pike Road VFD, in Montgomery County has initiated and/or been involved in numerous community events and projects. This fall season is no different for the firefighters and ladies auxiliary members.

On September 11, 2013, the Pike Road Fire Ladies Auxiliary held their fourth annual 9/11 ceremony. This was a day of remembering, honoring and pledging to never forget those who died on September 11, 2001, in New York, Washington D. C., and Shanksville, Pa. A crowd of more than 300 hundred attended the sixty- minute ceremony which was filled with symbolism. Remarks were heard from Pike Road Mayor Gordon Stone, Chief Deputy Derrick Cunningham and Pike Road Fire Chief Mike Green. Keynote speaker was Captain Carolos Bersabe, an Air Force member.

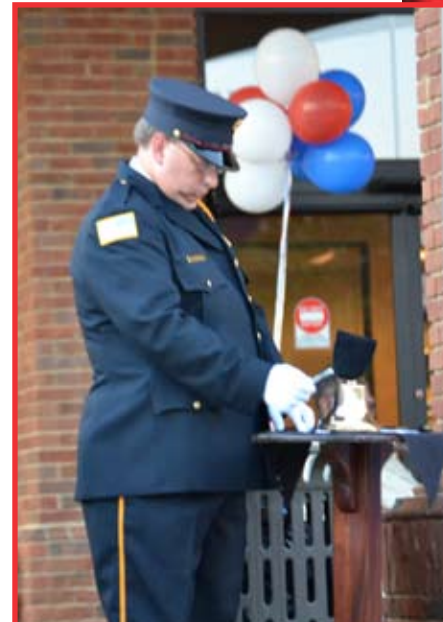
Alabamians from fire departments, military personnel and even civilians spent the day with Pike Road firefighters and ladies auxiliary members on September 15 for the second annual 9/11 stair climb. Firefighters and other participates climbed twenty-two flights of stairs five times (which equaled the World Trade Center 110 stories) at the RSA Tower in downtown Montgomery in honor of those who died in the World Trade Center more than twelve years ago. All money raised was donated to the National Fallen Fighters Foundation.

In October, the ladies auxiliary held their annual breast cancer tee shirt sell in honor and support of breast cancer awareness month. This year's theme was "black out breast cancer." All proceeds raised are donated to the American Cancer Society.

A long standing tradition in the Town of Pike Road is the PRVFD yearly visits to area schools during Fire Prevention in October. Students receive hands on safety lessons. Firefighters use a variety of educational tools to help teach students about fire safety. Firefighters use the Children's Fire Safety House along with fire trucks. The fire safety house is a small replica of a house with a kitchen, living room, and bedroom. Firefighters guide students through the house, showing students how to avoid fire hazards. Light non-toxic smoke is released to simulate fire. Students are taught to get low and crawl to safety on their hands and knees. Firefighters greet students at the door and help them down the steps. Students take away valuable fire safety lessons.

In addition to the Children's Fire Safety House being used at area schools, the fire safety house is also used during local fall festivals, business expos, and the annual arts & crafts fair. Freddie, the fire truck, and Sparky, the fire dog, also travel along to assist.

The ladies auxiliary adopt-a-family program has helped families in the Pike Road area since 2008. The adopt-a-family program aids families in crises – those struggling with illnesses, homelessness or unemployed. Santa, Mrs. Claus accompanies firefighters and auxiliary members in delivering toys, food and other items. Thanks to the efforts of this program several families have benefited and had a wonderful Christmas.



Pike Road Firefighter, Scott Powell, performs bell ceremony



Carolos Bersabe, keynote speaker



PRVFD visits Macon East Academy during fire safety week

The Colbert County Volunteer Fire Association held their annual dinner and awards banquet on September 12 at the First United Methodist Church in Tuscumbia. More than 200 volunteer firefighters, family and guest were in attendance. Among those in attendance were Senator Roger Bedford, Sheriff Ronnie May and AAVFD president Mike Green.

Kelly Aday, Colbert County president, welcomed attendees to the annual appreciation dinner. He thanked each volunteer and their family for their attendance.

Mike Green, president of AAVFD was the guest speaker for the evening. President Green thanked each volunteer for their commitment and dedication to the fire service. "We do more for our community as a volunteer than those individuals who are paid." Green said. "Volunteers work from the heart."

Green said his goal is for unity within the AAVFD. "We, as an association, have to put the turmoil of the past behind us. We all need to re-unite and do what this association is supposed to be doing: helping the volunteer fire departments of the state. In order for the organization to be successful, everyone must work together."

The 2012 awards were presented by Kelly Aday. Colbert County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments presented the Fire Department of the Year Award to Spring Valley VFD; Fire Officer of the Year Award to Rodney McAnally of Littleton VFD; and Firefighter of the Year Award to John Sledge of Highway 247 VFD. Memorial presentations were made to the families of Jimmy Clifton, Cherokee VFD and Bradley Linville, Nitrate VFD. A special presentation was made to Emergency Wear for continued support of all the volunteers departments in Colbert County.



Colbert appreciation dinner

LAUDERDALE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS HOSTS ANNUAL FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY DAY

The Lauderdale County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments held its annual Fire and Life Safety Day on Saturday, October 5, 2013 in St. Florian. The day consisted of fire trucks on display, kids combat challenge and fire fighter competitions.

The fire fighters competed in state recognized events with one having prize money at stake. The first competition was the obstacle course with Rogersville finishing in first place, Underwood/Petersville finishing in second place, and Trauma Queens Team finishing in third place. The next competition was the hose lay with Trauma Queens Team winning first, Rogersville winning second, and Underwood/Petersville winning third. Water on the roof was the third event. Rogersville won first, Central came in second, and Underwood/Petersville finished third. The last event was the bucket brigade and the winner of this event also received the MONEY PRIZE. Rogersville finished with the fastest time to take home this prize.

The overall totals for the state recognized events were Rogersville finishing in first, Underwood/Petersville finishing in second, and Trauma Queens Team finishing in third.

There were also 6 other events judged just as a friendly county competition. Best of Show Brush Truck was awarded to Underwood/Petersville. Best of Show Rescue Truck went to Zip City. Best of Show Fire Apparatus was awarded to Mid-Lauderdale. The Best of Show Fire Prevention Display was awarded to Mid-Lauderdale for helping prepare for Fire and Life Safety Day. There were two divisions for the Tug of War with Central Ladies winning the ladies' division and Underwood/Petersville Men winning the men's division. The last event of the day was the Extrication Competition with Central winning this final event of the day.

It was good to get out and have fun with friends, family, and the community. This gave the fire fighters and rescuers an opportunity to enjoy time with each other and the community while not facing any emergency incidents. A great time was enjoyed by all that attended.



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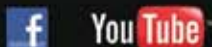
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THE BELL TOLLED

Kenneth Newport Sr., Belforest VFD, Baldwin County, passed away August 5, 2013. Kenneth was one of the original members of the Department and served as board member and president of the board.

Donnie Hill passed away on Aug 15, 2013. She was a member of the Clements VFD for fifteen years. She was secretary and safety officer.

Howard Roper was in good standing with Webster's Chapel VFD upon his death on September 6, 2013. He has been a member since 1982. Roper helped build Webster's Chapel VFD and has been a member since that time.

Radford Hadley passed away on September 11, 2013 at the age of 83. He was the last active founding member of Joppa VFD in Cullman County serving as Captain, Secretary/Treasurer and Board Member during his 35 years of service.

Randy Cofield passed away on September 20, 2013. Cofield was chief of the Mount Olive VFD until early 2012 when his health began failing.

Jantzen Frazier passed away Thursday, October 17, 2013 while responding to a structure fire. Jantzen joined Oden Ridge VFD after returning from Iraq where he received five purple hearts. He leaves behind his wife and four daughters.

Bruce Garrett, Lawley VFD, passed away on November 11, 2013. He was a member of the Department for 20 years. Lawley VFD members served as Honorary Pall Bearers. His smile and willingness to help will be greatly missed by all.

Gerial Smith, ex-chief of Ardmore VFD, passed away. Gerial was a member of Ardmore VFD for thirty-five years and a chief for twenty of those years. AAVFD Honor Guard and Limestone County Honor Guard assisted with the service.

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.

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



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