



# THE VOLUNTEER



The Official Newsletter of the  
**ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS**

March 2002

## AAVFD CONFERENCE 2002

Mobile, Alabama

28, 29 June 2002

As we journey to the 25th AAVFD Annual Conference in June, the city of Mobile will be in the midst of its year-long Tricentennial Celebration. The three hundred-year-old city is steeped in Southern tradition. Residents are fiercely proud of their football, Mardi Gras, seafood, and sweet tea, as well as their fine arts and varied culture.

The Saturday night Awards Banquet will be held at Mobile's Battleship Memorial Park. Free passes will be given to attendees for a tour of the mighty USS ALABAMA, the Submarine USS DRUM and 22 combat aircraft.

The recipient of nine WWII Battle Stars, the Battleship USS ALABAMA and her crew of 2,500 saw action in the Atlantic for a year before joining the Pacific Fleet in mid-1943. There she fought at such key locations as Leyte, the Gilbert Islands and Okinawa. After the signing of the war-ending surrender documents in September 1945, USS Alabama led the American Fleet into Tokyo Bay.



**BATTLESHIP USS ALABAMA**

There's so much to see at Battleship Park, in addition to enjoying the delicious seafood on the menu for the Awards Banquet to be held in the Battleship Pavilion. Along with the Battleship and Submarine, you can tour the award winning memorial rose garden, browse through the gift shop, and experience the thrill of flight without leaving the ground in their flight simulator.

Come see old friends, make new friends and celebrate Mobile's Tricentennial! Use the conference reservation form in this newsletter. Make copies

and pass them along to ALL members of your fire department. Pre-registration is a cost savings, so don't wait. See you in Mobile!



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## FROM THE AAVFD PRESIDENT'S DESK

by

*John D. Miller, Jr.*



On March 9th, I had the opportunity to attend the Morgan County Association of Volunteer Fire Department's annual awards banquet. In attendance was a member of the New York Fire Department, Firefighter James (Jim) Carney. Jim is a twenty-three year veteran of NYFD and serves with Engine Company 69, Ladder 28, Battalion 16 in Harlem. He shared with those of us present the experiences of September the 11th and the ongoing events. He believes that the site will be finished with the cleanup in the next thirty to forty-five days. He expressed his sincere thanks to fire and ems personnel throughout the State of Alabama for their support following the events of 9-11.

As this article is being written, fire service leaders from twenty-five states are meeting in Gulf Shores, at the second annual Benefits Conference. This conference provides a forum for exchange of ideas to improve the benefits to firefighters both in Alabama and throughout the nation. At the conclusion of the conference, we hope to have additional ideas for both retention and recruitment of personnel for our departments across the state.

As most of you are aware, our legislation is not progressing as well as I had hoped this year. It seems the question of constitutional reform is at the center of activity this year. If you have the opportunity to speak with your representatives, please let them know the fire service needs their help.

This month AAVFD was notified that the governor did approve \$300,000 for the purchase of additional automatic external defibrillators. When purchased, these units will be made available to departments across the state.

Plan now to attend the annual AAVFD meeting 28 and 29 June in Mobile. This is an important meeting, and if possible, a representative from each department should attend. Mobile is a great place for a family vacation, and I encourage you and your family to attend. As a reminder, this is the meeting that the officers for the association are elected for the upcoming year.

I want to express my sincere thanks to each of you for letting me serve as your president this year. You are truly Alabama's bravest!

## Alabama Farmers Federation Presents Special Service Award

*by Federation President Jerry Newby*

Farmers, by the very nature of our business, often live miles apart from our nearest neighbor or the city limit sign. When an emergency occurs, we rely on volunteers from within our community to help. When a fire rages in rural Alabama, highly-trained volunteer firefighters leave the sanctity of their home and family to help their neighbors. They may be battling a house fire one minute and a brush fire the next. But their service not only saves lives and property, it helps homeowners by lowering insurance costs and gives us all a peace of mind we wouldn't have otherwise.

Many of these volunteers also are highly trained emergency medical technicians who can administer life-saving maneuvers until you arrive at a hospital.

There are more than 1,000 volunteer fire departments in Alabama with an estimated 25,000 volunteers who save Alabama taxpayers more than \$900 million annually. Many of you are probably among those volunteers. If you're not, then you or someone you know probably has relied on the services of these brave people at one time or another. Today we

honor them for the tremendous services they have provided and for what they no doubt will be called upon to do in the future.



**Chief Bill Hunter, president of the Mobile County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments (right), accepted this special service to Agriculture Award on behalf of all volunteer firefighters and other emergency volunteers who serve rural Alabama.**

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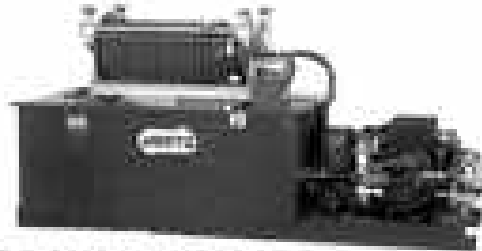
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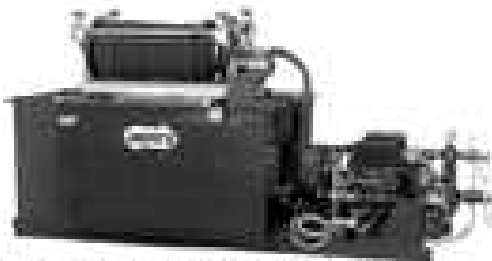
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# From Here and There

*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
<b>Effective January, 2002</b>				<b>Effective February, 2002</b>			
Almeria	Bullock	9/9	8/9	Gravel Hill	Franklin	9/9	5/9
Aroney	DeKalb	-	9	Highland Home	Crenshaw	9/9	7/9
Beat 8	Conecuh	9/9	8/9	Pintlala	Montgomery	9/9	7/9
Vina	Franklin	8/9	6/9	Seminole	Baldwin	9/10	5/9
Wakefield	Marshall	9/9	6/9				

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!

Nine volunteer fire departments in Greene County Association of Firefighters have signed contracts to purchase new trucks in 2002.

Congratulations to Chief John Treat, Rolling Hills Lakes VFD, Montgomery County, who was honored with the "Protect and Serve Award" given by WAKA TV in Montgomery.

Limestone County Association Annual Firefighter Banquet was held on February 1st.

Belk VFD, Fayette County, recently took delivery of a Toyne fire truck with a 1250 GPM pump, top mount pump panel, deck gun, roll up doors and slide-in ladder compartments on an all-aluminum body.

Morgan County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments held its annual banquet on March 9th. Special tribute was given to FDNY and to Alabama's Firefighters who died the previous year. New York Firefighter Jim Carney, a 23-year veteran, spoke to the firefighters and guests regarding the 9-11 events at the World Trade Center.

Limestone County thanks Senator Tom Butler for 11 new AED's in their county. The county also received \$30,000 from the Limestone County Legislative delegation to purchase a Child's Safety House.

Pine Level and Marbury VFD, Autauga County, conducted a live burn on March 23rd in preparation for improving ISO rating.

Cotaco VFD is hosting a Basic EMT Course for Morgan County firefighters. The course, with 26 participants, is being taught by John Miller.

The Thomasville Chamber of Commerce recognized members of the Thomasville VFD and the Thomasville PD, Clarke County, for their service with a banquet in their honor on March 12th.

Lauderdale County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments held its 24th Annual Awards Banquet on January 19th.

Limestone County Female Firefighter of the Year – Angela Pendergrass, Owens VFD  
 Limestone County Male Firefighter of the Year – Larry Keenum, South Limestone VFD  
 Limestone County Bernard Clark Memorial Award – Joey Boyd, East Limestone VFD  
 Limestone County Fire Department of the Year – East Limestone VFD  
 Limestone County Sarah Hurd Memorial Award – Jerry R. Davis, South Limestone VFD  
 Lori Prince, East Limestone VFD  
 Limestone County J. B. Rose Memorial Award – Lori Prince, East Limestone VFD  
 Limestone County Training Officer of the Year – Jason Patterson, Owens VFD  
 Limestone County Rickey Moore Memorial Award – Angela Pendergrass, Owens VFD; Jason Pendergrass, Owens VFD; Andy Pylant, Owens VFD; and Scott Jackson, Owens VFD  
 Lauderdale County Fire Chief of the Year – Tim Anerton, Green Hill VFD  
 Lauderdale County Rookie Firefighter of the Year – Terry Bevis, Waterloo VFD  
 Lauderdale County Ladies Auxiliary Individual of the Year – Melanie Bevis, Center Star VFD  
 Lauderdale County Fire Prevention Award – Central VFD  
 Lauderdale County People's Choice Award – Underwood-Petersville VFD  
 Lauderdale County Smokey Bear Award – Center Star VFD  
 Lauderdale County Small Business Supporter of the Year – Framing by Bonnie  
 Lauderdale County Large Business Supporter of the Year – Air Evac Lifeteam  
 Lauderdale County awarded Special Recognition to Greg Angus for Providing fire prevention education through the use of Children's Fire Safety House.  
 Lauderdale County Firefighter of the Year – Keith Holder, Mid-Lauderdale VFD  
 Morgan County Departments of the Year – Cotaco VFD and Tri-County VFD  
 Morgan County Firefighter of the Year – Tommy Lawrence, Lacey's Spring VFD  
 Morgan County Rookie of the Year – Terry Daniels, Lacey's Spring VFD  
 Morgan County female Firefighter of the Year – Colleen Edmonson, Cotaco VFD  
 Morgan County Male EMT of the Year – Charles Potter, Lacey's Spring VFD  
 Morgan County Female EMT of the Year – Mary Gibson, Mud Tavern VFD  
 Morgan County Robert Miller Youth Leadership Award – Josh Gist, S.A.V.E.S

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WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANKS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE YOU AND ALSO TO REMIND YOU THAT OUR INVENTORY CHANGES RAPIDLY AND MANY TRUCKS ARE SOLD BEFORE THEY ARE EVER ADVERTISED, SO PLEASE CALL TO SEE WHAT IS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE WHEN CONSIDERING A PURCHASE FOR YOUR DEPARTMENT. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR ALLOWING US TO SERVE ALABAMA'S FINEST.

**"He hath showed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee,  
but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"  
Micah 6:8**

## 2002 Insurance Coverage for Firefighters

Accidental Death & Disability insurance coverage for the year 2002 is still available and is a bargain. Policy cost is \$12.00 per year for \$10,000 coverage or \$20.00 per year for coverage of \$20,000. Coverage began on January 1, 2002, but it is not too late to send your renewals/applications to the Montgomery office. If you need further information, contact the office at 334-262-2833 or 1-888-972-2833.

## Board of Directors Meeting

The AAVFD Board of Directors will meet Saturday, April 20, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. at Helen's Place in Clanton. Helen's Place is located at the 208 Exit off I-65. Go toward downtown Clanton for 2 miles, and Helen's Place is a big white house on the left at the corner of 2nd Avenue, South and Fifth Street. A big sign in the front yard announces "Helen's Place".

## Firefighter of the Year and Sherry Garner Memorial Awards Due by June 20, 2002

Each year the Association presents an award for Firefighter of the Year and the Sherry Garner Memorial Award. The Sherry Garner Memorial Award honors Alabama's first lady firefighter lost in the line of duty.

The nominated individual must be a member of a volunteer fire department that is a current member of AAVFD. No form is necessary. Recommend the firefighter and tell why you think he or she should be recognized. Attach statements by others if you wish.

These awards are not for valor. Information about a heroic act may be included in some recommendations, but these acts are not necessary to be eligible for one of these awards. There are many far-above-average personnel around this state who have not yet been singled out for their volunteer service to their communities. This is an opportunity to recognize that person for the many noteworthy contributions that they have made.

Nominations must be mailed to the AAVFD office no later than June 30th. The awards will be presented at the annual conference in Mobile.

## Annual Dues Reminder

Annual dues to AAVFD were due on January 1, 2002 and should be sent to the Montgomery office. At the annual conference in August, the general membership voted to raise membership dues to \$35.00 per department for county associations with 100% membership, and dues for individual fire departments were raised to \$40.00 per department.

If you have not sent in your dues, please take a moment to do this now. If you are not a member and wish to be, contact the Montgomery office at 334-262-2833 or 1-888-972-2833, and we will be glad to provide you with membership information.

### Notice from NFPA 1670 Technical Committee

*Don English Chair*

You may be interested to know that a standard exists called "NFPA 1670, Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents". Given that most of us are now far more aware of rescue safety, equipment and operations, readers may want to participate in the revision of this important document. You may already know that the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) develops international standards that generally relate to fire and fire-related issues. The technical rescue standard is currently up for revision, and you can make suggestions for revisions by writing the committee that manages the standard. The deadline for change proposals is 6/28/02, so if the safety, equipment or operations or training procedures in this standard are of interest to you, please visit the association's web site ([www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)) to submit a proposal, or call the NFPA for further assistance, or contact me at ([denglish@tds.net](mailto:denglish@tds.net)) or 251-275-8433.

For only \$6.00, you can now subscribe to **THE VOLUNTEER** for the year 2002. THE VOLUNTEER is issued in January, March, May, July, September and November.

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# The 911 Marker



**Save Lives, Protect Property, And Earn Needed Money!**

## We Have A Great Fundraiser for Your Volunteer Organization

In a medical emergency every minute counts. After a two minute delay in treatment, only 92 of 100 cardiac arrest victims will recover. After 5 minutes, the chances of recovery drops to only 25 out of 100.

100,000 people die needlessly each year because emergency medical help did not arrive in time, according to the National Safety Council. **Thousands of lives are lost each year due to poorly marked residences.** Taxpayers have spent billions of dollars instituting 911 systems only to have emergency personnel waste precious minutes searching for a specific house. Most paramedics, firemen, and police are quick to point out that a well addressed property is the key to a faster response time.

**Make \$10.00 to \$12.00 profit on each Marker that you sell!**

Community-wide fundraisers can involve hundreds of orders. Each 911 Marker sold through your organization for the suggested \$25 - \$35 will earn your organization a commission of \$10 - \$12.

**Example:** 50 markers = \$ 600 profit  
 100 markers = \$ 1,200 profit  
 200 markers = \$ 2,400 profit  
 500 markers = \$ 6,000 profit

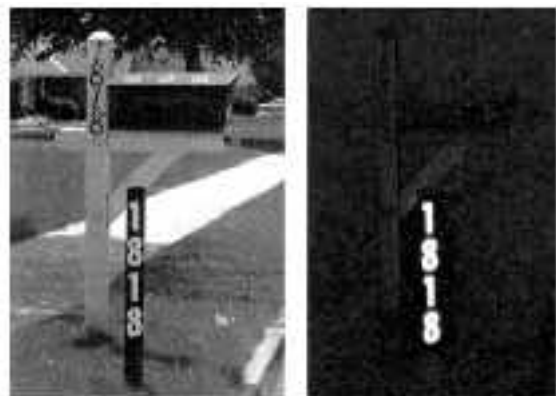
During this fundraiser, your organization will make having uniform, highly reflective address markers a community issue.

Inform and Educate your community. **Education is the key.** As you educate your community about the importance of having their access driveway or mailboxes clearly identified in a highly visible, reflective manner, these markers will sell themselves. Your community will begin to understand that emergency services needs to be able to find your home when every second counts. As the markers are distributed throughout the community, more and more people will see them, and want one for themselves.

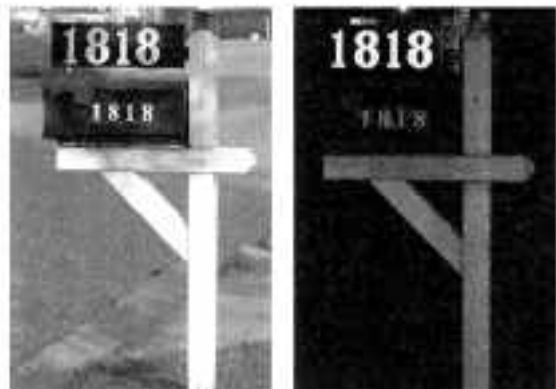
## No Out Of Pocket Expense For Your Organization and We Provide FREE Color Sales Kits

The photos below illustrates the difference between day & night with the stand-alone 911 Marker or The 911 Mailbox Marker.

The 911 Marker stand-alone unit



The 911 Mailbox Marker



The 911 Marker stand-alone unit show above is primarily used for rural areas while The 911 Mailbox Marker with its universal installation kit is ideal for city conditions. Both markers offer the best form of highly visible reflective address identification for the members of your community.

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# New Firefighter Heroes Postage Stamp Coming in Spring

Washington, D.C. - President George W. Bush and Postmaster General John E. Potter unveiled a new "semipostal" stamp that will raise funds to provide assistance to families of emergency relief personnel killed or permanently disabled in connection with the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The price of the Heroes of 2001 semipostal stamp will be 45 cents. The 11-cent difference between the sales price of the stamp and the underlying postage in effect at the time of purchase consists of a contribution. Funds raised in connection with sales of the stamp, net of the Postal Service's reasonable costs, are to be transferred to the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The stamp is expected to be available in post offices nationwide starting in late spring.

The unveiling on March 11th marked both the six-month anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and the start date for the production of 205 million Heroes of 2001 stamps.



"The Postal Service is proud to honor the men and women who gave their all in the rescue efforts following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11," said Potter. "Sadly, many of these true American heroes paid the ultimate sacrifice. We hope this stamp will be a lasting tribute to them and a testimony to the spirit and resolve of our great country."

Also participating in the unveiling ceremony were firefighters William Eisengrein, George Johnson and Daniel McWilliams and photographer Thomas E. Franklin. Eisengrein, Johnson and McWilliams participated in rescue efforts in New York City. Franklin, a staff photographer for The Record in Bergen County, N.J., took the now famous photograph of the three firefighters as they raised the U.S. flag at "ground zero."

Designed by Derry Noyes of Washington, D.C., the Heroes of 2001 stamp image features a detail of the photograph by Franklin, the word "heroes" and acronym "USA" in capital letters stacked in the upper right-hand corner of the vertically formatted design and the year "2001" in the lower right-hand corner. Running at a ninety-degree angle along the upper left-hand edge of the design are the words "First-Class" in capital letters.

Adjacent to that is a plus sign (+) denoting that the price of the stamp is higher than the First-Class rate.

The self-adhesive, non-denominated heroes 2001 stamp is a semipostal, which means it will be valid for postage at the First-Class first-ounce letter rate in effect at the time of purchase (currently 34 cents). The remainder is a tax-deductible contribution and may not be used to pay postage.

The Heroes of 2001 stamp is the second semipostal in U.S. history. The first was the Breast Cancer Research stamp, which is still available at post offices across the country, by toll-free phone order at 1 800 STAMP-24 and online at the Postal Store at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com). To date, the Breast Cancer Research stamp has raised about \$24 million for breast cancer research. To view the new stamp, go to:

[http://www.usps.com/news/2002/philatelic/sr02\\_017.htm](http://www.usps.com/news/2002/philatelic/sr02_017.htm).

## Lauderdale Co. Assoc. Honors 20-year Fire Service Veteran

Lauderdale County Association honored Steve McEachron of the Alabama Forestry Commission for 20 years of dedication and assistance to the fire service. His efforts helped establish the 14 departments in Lauderdale County. He assisted in forming the 911-dispatch center, securing the Children's Fire Safety House and developing the funding bill for Lauderdale County. On behalf of the Lauderdale County firefighters, Oakland Fire Chief Robert Smith praised Steve as a true friend and fellow firefighter who epitomized the term "public servant".



## Fulton Volunteer Fire Department

With a population of around 400 people, Fulton may not be the biggest town in Clarke County, but it sports a well-trained and dedicated volunteer fire department that works to help the residents in and around the Fulton area escape the ravages of fires, wrecks, and natural disasters.

Fulton VFD has 34 active members, many of whom have more than 20 years experience in firefighting. Chief Larry Hicks said that the department has three trained, certified hazardous materials technicians, firefighters who are certified in bomb search, extrication of wreck victims and also EMTs.

All the firefighters are dedicated to training for any emergency that may come Fulton's way. The town is located on the railroad tracks with a major sawmill located in the middle of town. Highway 43 also runs through the city limits, so Fulton firefighters are prepared for major fires, wrecks, train

derailments, hazardous waste spills and natural disasters. The department also works closely with surrounding departments, providing mutual aid and working on county-wide training.



**The Volunteer focuses on our members. To feature your VFD in one of our issues, please contact our office. Submit articles to AAVFD, State Office.**

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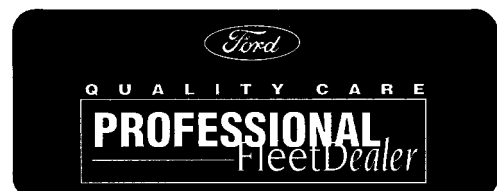
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## Curriculum Division

# Service Testing Fire Hose

Reprinted from UPDATE  
Courtesy Alabama Fire College

**I**t is normally this time of year when most departments begin service testing the hydrants, hoses and apparatus pumps. This article will briefly describe the safety precautions and testing procedures for service testing the fire hose. Prior to actually conducting the service test, all personnel involved with the test should be briefed on every aspect of the test, especially concerning safety issues.

In accordance with NFPA 1962 (1998 Edition), *Standard for the Care, Use and Service Testing of Fire Hose Including Couplings and Nozzles*, the couplings shall be kept in serviceable condition. After each use, and during each hose service test, they shall be visually inspected for damaged threads, corrosion, slippage on the hose, out-of-round, swivel not rotating freely, missing lugs, loose external collar, internal gasket in accordance with Section 4-3, and other defects that impair operation.

The following is the recommended test procedures for fire service hose as outline by the NFPA 1962 when the hose is being service-tested using a stationary pump or a pump on a fire department apparatus. The test gauge that is used to read the test pressure shall have been calibrated within 30 days prior to the testing (NFPA 1962, Section 5-6.1).

**Step 1:** To begin with, visually examine the gaskets on each section of the hose to be tested.

Connect a number of hose sections into test lengths of no more than 300 feet. Tighten the connections between the sections with spanners.

**Step 2:** Connect an open test gate valve\* to each discharge valve. Tighten each connection with spanners.

**Step 3:** Connect a test length to each test gate valve and tighten each connection with a spanner.

**Step 4:** Tie a rope, hose rope tool or hose strap to each test length of hose 10 to 15 inches from the test gate valve connections. Secure the other end of this to the discharge pipe or other nearby anchor.

**Step 5:** Connect a nozzle (or device that allows both water and air to drain from the hose) to the open end of each test length of hose.

**Step 6:** Fill each hoseline with water at a pump pressure of 50 psi or with hydrant pressure.

**Step 7:** Open the nozzles as the hoselines are filling.

**Step 8:** Hold the nozzles above the level of the pump discharge in order to allow all of the air in the hose to discharge. Discharge the water away from the test area.

**Step 9:** Close the nozzles after all air has been purged from each test length.

**Step 10:** Mark the hose jacket against each coupling with either chalk or a pencil mark.

**Step 11:** Make sure no couplings are leaking and that all of the kinks and twists are removed from the hose. **NOTE:** Any length of hose found to be leaking from **BEHIND** the coupling should be taken out of service and repaired before being tested.

**Step 12:** Retighten any couplings that are leaking at the connections. **NOTE:** If the leak cannot be stopped by tightening the couplings, depressurize, disconnect the couplings, replace the gasket and start again beginning with Step 6.

**Step 13:** Close each hose test gate valve.

**Step 14:** Increase the pump pressure to the required test pressure outlined in NFPA 1962. Closely observe the connections for leakage as the pressure increases.

**Step 15:** Maintain the test pressure for five (5) minutes.

**Step 16:** Inspect all couplings to check for leakage (weeping) at the point of attachment.

**Step 17:** Slowly reduce the pump pressure after five (5) minutes. Close each discharge valve.

**Step 18:** Disengage the pump.

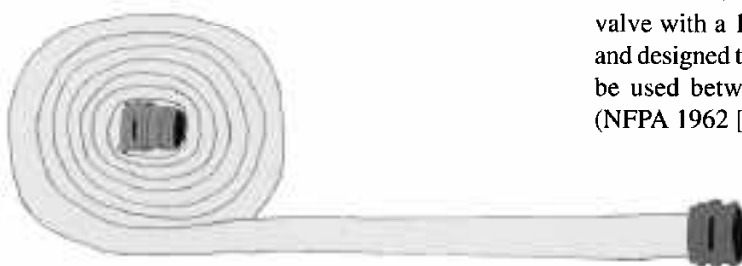
**Step 19:** Open each nozzle slowly to bleed off pressure in the test lengths.

**Step 20:** Disconnect each section of hose and drain the water from the test area.

**Step 21:** Observe the marks made on the hose at the couplings.

**Step 22:** Record the test results for each section of hose.

\*A hose test valve consisting of a fire department gate valve with a 1/4-inch opening drilled through the gate and designed to withstand the service test pressures shall be used between the pump and the hose test layout (NFPA 1962 [1998 Edition], Section 5-6.2).





# BAY FIRE PRODUCTS, INC

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- Stainless steel body with a 15 year warranty
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## **1983 Ford Grumman Reduced**

3208 CAT Allison Automatic, 1250 GPM Waterous Pump,  
 1000 Gallon Tank, Top Mount Pump Panel,  
 Deluge Gun, High Side Compartments.



## **1984 Pierce Reduced**

Chevrolet, 350 V8, 300 GPM Waterous Pump,  
 250 Gallon Poly Tank, Booster Reel With Hose,  
 Winco 4500 Watt Generator & Foam System



## **2001 Luverne Demo**

2001 Spartan-Luverne Demo. 10" Raised Roof, 6-man Cab,  
 315 Cummins, Allison Automatic, Stainless Steel Body, roll-up  
 doors, 1250 Waterous Pump, 1000 Gallon Poly Tank  
**\$165,000**

## **Bay Fire is a Dealer for the Following Companies:**

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	Grace Ind-Pass Devices		

**And Many More:**

## **Thank You!**

To all of our valued Customers who have  
 supported **Bay Fire Products**  
 for the past 11 Years!

**"THE BITTERNESS OF POOR QUALITY REMAINS LONG AFTER THE SWEETNESS OF  
 LOW PRICING IS FORGOTTEN."**

**NEW, USED AND REFURBISHED FIRE APPARATUS**

# Rural Community Fire

## 13th Annual Dinner a Great Success!!

*Scenes from the 13th Annual  
Dinner & Vendor Show*



Alabama Forestry Commission State Forester Timothy C. Boyce presents the State Forester's Fire Prevention Award to James "Moto" Williams, Forest Ranger, Chambers County.



AAFVD Honor Guard stands at attention as Jessica Tullis sings the National Anthem.



# Protection Institute



*Photos by:  
Jerry Dakins*

Mark Mosley and John Wilson demonstrate the Holmatro Extrication tool.



Senator Tom Butler presents award to Steven Hall, North Alabama EMS Region/Director (left photo); and Johnny Dennis (right photo) in appreciation for their assistance with the statewide AED program.



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## Brownville Volunteer Fire Department

The Brownville/ Owassa VFD, rated a class 9 by ISO, recently upgraded their department by adding to their equipment inventory, another pumper, more personnel, and testing existing equipment, also equipped each firefighter with turnout gear. Previously rated by ISO

as a class 9, they are proud to say they are now a class 6/9 as they were recently audited by ISO. Brownville is a small rural department located approximately 6 miles north of Evergreen AL in Conecuh County.



*The Volunteer* focuses on our members. To feature your VFD in one of our issues, please contact our office. Submit articles to AAVFD, State Office.

# Save 10% on all Syndistar products!

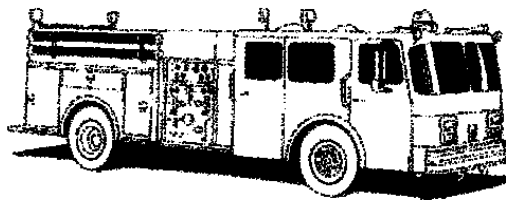
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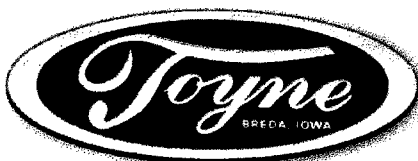
Syndistar Inc. 5801 River Road New Orleans, LA 70123 [www.syndistar.com](http://www.syndistar.com)



# *Deep South Truck and Equipment Sales, Inc.*

Highland Volunteer Fire Department Gadsden area recently took delivery of their new “Toyne” fire truck. Some of the features of this Apparatus is a 1250 GPM pump, top mount pump panel, deck gun, roll up doors, front bumper extension with hose tray and preconnect slide in latter compartments, and all aluminum body.

“Toyne” has been building top of the line fire apparatus in the same mid-west location since 1942. For all of your fire apparatus needs, from helping complete your desired specifications to design and drawing help, call us. We also have in stock approximately 30 used and refurbished apparatuses, we also custom build tankers per your departments needs and requirements.



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E-mail Address: D4168@aol.com • Tennessee E-mail Address: dpsouth@CCDI.net  
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# 18th Annual Volunteer Firefighter Appreciation Day



*Sponsored by*  
The Alabama Forestry  
Commission Rural  
Community Fire Protection  
Steering Committee

**September 20-21, 2002**

*Hosted by*  
**CHAMBERS COUNTY  
FIRE ASSOCIATION**

*Fully Equipped Brush Truck to  
be given away by the Alabama  
Forestry Commission*



**WINNER OF 2001 BRUSH TRUCK  
TANNER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT,  
LIMESTONE COUNTY**

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
20st	6:00 p.m.	Banquet
21st	7:00 a.m.	Registration
21st	8:05 a.m.	Captain's Meeting
21st	8:30 a.m.	Competition
21st	9:30 a.m.	Cake & Chili Judging
21st	10:00 a.m.	Stew
21st	10:30 a.m.	Brush Truck Competition
21st	11:30 a.m.	Lunch
21st	Final Event	Brush Truck Giveaway

### *Host Motels*

**ECONO LODGE**  
334-768-3500 I-85 Exit 79

**DAYS INN**  
334-644-2181 I-85 Exit 79

**HOLIDAY INN  
EXPRESS**  
334-756-2000 I-85 Exit 77  
VALLEY, ALABAMA

### *Contact:*

**James "Moto" Williams**  
**334-864-9368 - week days**  
**334-863-7560 - nights/weekends**

### *Competition Site:*

**Valley Sportsplex, Exit 77**

### COMPETITION EVENTS:

OBSTACLE COURSE  
WATER ON THE ROOF  
AIRPACK RELAY  
BRUSH TRUCK COMPETITION  
COOKING COMPETITION  
SURPRISE EVENTS

# Conference Competition in Mobile

Joey Boyd, Competition Chairman  
First Vice President, AAVFD

Well folks, it's almost time for all of us to get together and meet on the competition field of battle. I am looking forward to seeing all of the past teams again this year and hoping to see a lot of new ones. This year will be kind of special, I feel, since we will be competing at Battleship Memorial Park. We may have more on lookers this year than every before.

I know all of you would like to know what events we will be running this year. I have given this a lot of thought, and I first started to wait until the day of competition, put all the events in a hat, and draw three out, but I decided not to do this. But I have come up with something new, and I feel it will add to the competition. It will be a new twist to what we know as the hose lay, but will not be the same. Yes, you will still extend hoses, make connections and spray targets. It will also require three team members. This is about all I can explain in this article, but you can rest assured that it will be gone over before the



event is run, and that no one except myself and my wife has ever seen or heard of this event. Now for the other two events. I am not sure we will have a hard surface to run on other than grass, so I don't feel we can run the water on the roof and be fair to everyone. That leaves us the air pack & obstacle course. If I find out that we have a hard surface to run on, one of these events may be changed to the water on the roof, so practice, practice, and practice!!!! If and when I do find out, the information will be posted on the e-groups site and the AAVFD web page. If there are any questions, feel free to email me at [fightsfire@aol.com](mailto:fightsfire@aol.com). I will be glad to answer any questions about competition, other than any thing about the new event. If you don't have email you can always call me at 256-233-1597. If I'm not home, which seems to be quiet often, just leave a message. I'll call you back.

Good luck to all, looking forward to seeing you all in Mobile for a good time.

## Final Round of Fire Prevention Grants Awarded



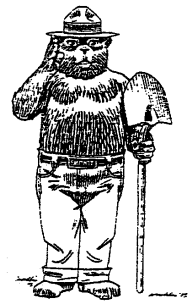
The Fire Prevention Grant Committee reviewed the final round of Fire Prevention Grant applications February 12th. Forty-four out of 50 grant

applications were approved. Although the programs outlined by the Lauderdale County Fire Association, Elgin VFD in Lauderdale County, and

Thomasville VFD in Clarke County met the program requirements, funding was denied due to depletion of funds for this grant period. Three other departments were denied because their program submitted did not meet the requirements set by the Wildland Fire Grant guidelines.

We anticipate the same grant program becoming available for the next grant period beginning in September, and I encourage all departments to participate in this worthwhile program. We are planning a grant workshop at the annual conference in Mobile in June.

All of you who are fighting the recent outbreak of wildland fires realize how valuable fire prevention education can be to your job. I extend my congratulations to each department listed below that received a grant.



John Miller

Bolgee (Greene)	\$ 500
Coatopa Belmont (Greene)	\$1,500
Craig (Dallas)	\$1,000
East Perry (Perry)	\$1,000
Forkland (Greene)	\$ 500
Heiberger (Perry)	\$ 500
Little Rock (Escambia)	\$1,000
Mantua-Lewiston (Greene)	\$ 500
McIntosh (Washington)	\$2,000
Panola (Sumter)	\$5,000
Steam Plant Rd (Greene)	\$ 500
Union (Greene)	\$ 500
West Greene (Greene)	\$ 500
Butler Co. Assn.	\$2,000
Elmore Co. Assn.	\$5,300
Four-C (Marshall)	\$ 500
Rock Mills (Randolph)	\$ 500
Turkey Heaven (Cleburne)	\$1,000
Colbert Heights (Colbert)	\$1,000
Dora (Walker)	\$ 500
Liberty (Pickens)	\$1,000
Shannon (Jefferson)	\$ 700

Branch Heights-King's Village (Greene)	\$ 500
Coatopa Dug Hill (Greene)	\$1,500
Dollarhide (Greene)	\$ 500
Fairhope (Baldwin)	\$ 500
Hamburg (Perry)	\$1,000
Knoxville (Greene)	\$ 500
Livingston (Sumter)	\$2,000
Lower Gainesville Rd. (Greene)	\$ 500
North Perry (Perry)	\$1,240
Stapleton (Baldwin)	\$2,000
Tishabee (Greene)	\$ 500
Wagarville (Washington)	\$ 400
York (Sumter)	\$1,500
Butler Co. Assn.	\$3,000
Cleburne Co. Assn.	\$5,000
Geraldine (DeKalb)	\$1,000
Springville (St Clair)	\$2,000
Boldo (Walker)	\$1,000
Curry (Walker)	\$ 500
Kingdom (Shelby)	\$ 900
Shady Grove (Jefferson)	\$4,000
Waterloo (Lauderdale)	\$ 500



# 2002 State Conference Information

The AAVFD Annual Conference will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 28 and 29, 2002, in Mobile, Alabama and will be hosted by the Mobile County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. The host motel will be the Holiday Inn (formerly Ramada Inn, 600 S. Beltline Hwy, Mobile, AL 36608. The cost of the rooms will be \$70.00 plus tax. Reservations can be made by calling 251-334-8030 or 1-800-752-0398. A block of 140 rooms is being held for AAVFD members. Rates are good Wednesday through Sunday.

Pre-registration for the Conference will be \$20.00 per person and registration at the Conference will be \$25.00 per person. This price will include the Friday

night cookout meal and the Saturday night banquet.

This will be a great time to be in Mobile! In 2002, Mobile began a year-long 300-year celebration of the city's heritage with the opening of the Tricentennial Celebration with many events scheduled throughout the year. The Tricentennial Celebration will display Mobile's culture for the world to see!

For questions concerning Conference 2002, please contact:

Elaine Dearmon, Chairman

(H) 251-649-6558

or

(e-mail) semmes07@aol.com

## STAY TUNED FOR MORE IMPORTANT CONFERENCE 2002 INFORMATION IN THE UPCOMING AAVFD NEWSLETTERS

## C O N F E R E N C E 2 0 0 2

The annual conference will be held on Friday and Saturday June 28 and 29, 2002 in Mobile, Alabama and will be hosted by the Mobile County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments.

Host motel will be the Holiday Inn (formerly Ramada Inn) in Mobile. Room rates are \$70.00 plus tax, 251-334-8030 or 1-800-752-0398.

Reservations can be made beginning January 2, 2002. Be sure to state that you are attending the AAVFD Conference. Pre-registration is \$20.00 per person and registration will be \$25.00 per person at the conference. Please complete the pre-registration form below.

## C O N F E R E N C E P R E - R E G I S T R A T I O N

Please make your check payable to "Conference 2002".

Mail check and pre-registration form to:

Elaine Dearmon, Conference 2002, P.O. Box 2102, Semmes, Alabama 36575

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ people.

Our Fire Department is \_\_\_\_\_

Please PRINT name of each individual

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# NATIONAL FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES

Name/Rank: Firefighter Harold Strode, Career  
Department: Tennessee Dept. of Agriculture  
Division of Forestry, Nashville, TN  
Date of Death: 11/10/01  
Cause of Death: Killed while working a wild land fire line when he was overcome by a firestorm in the steep, densely wooded terrain of the Upper Cumberland Region of Tennessee.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Clifford White, Jr., Volunteer  
Department: Cameron VFD, Cameron, WV  
Date of Death: 11/1901  
Cause of Death: Killed while riding as a passenger in a tanker that left the road way and overturned enroute to a woodland fire.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Debra Sinard, Volunteer  
Department: White Pine VFD, White Pine, TN  
Date of Death: 12/12/01  
Cause of Death: Died at home from possible heart attack approximately 45 minutes after an airpack training session.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Ralph Vance, Volunteer  
Department: Elk Creek Fire Protection District, Conifer, CO  
Date of Death: 12/14/01  
Cause of Death: Died from cause to be determined while responding to a chimney fire when water tanker he was operating left the road way and slid down a 100-ft. embankment.

Name/Rank: Assistant Chief Darrell Thomas, Career  
Department: Somerton/Cocopah FD, Somerton, AZ  
Date of Death: 12/15/01  
Cause of Death: Died from apparent heart attack while filling water tank on fire truck.

Name/Rank: Firefighter David Butler, Volunteer  
Department: Spring Branch VFD, Spring Branch, TX  
Date of Death: 12/24/01  
Cause of Death: Died from a heart attack while driving fire apparatus responding to a house fire alarm.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Robert Feeney, Volunteer  
Department: Long Branch FD, Long Branch, NJ  
Date of Death: 1/16/02  
Cause of Death: Collapsed and died from a cause still to be determined while connecting a 5-inch supply line at a house fire.

Name/Rank: Asst. Chief Thomas E. Anderson, Career  
Department: Surfside Beach FD, Surfside Beach, SC  
Date of Death: 1/21/02  
Cause of Death: Collapsed and died from cardiac arrest while fighting a two-story

condominium fire.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Dustin "Dusty" Schwendeman, Volunteer  
Department: Dunham Township VFD, Belpre, OH  
Date of Death: 1/22/01  
Cause of Death: Injured and later died while responding in his private vehicle to a mutual aid call.

Name/Rank: Master Firefighter Thomas Earl Brooks, Career  
Department: Lumberton FD, Lumberton, NC  
Date of Death: 1/31/02  
Cause of Death: Found dead when the shift awoke the morning after participating in a strenuous physical training activity and 3 calls during his shift the previous day.

Name/Rank: President Lewis A. Rickards, Volunteer  
Department: Lewes FD, Lewes, DE  
Date of Death: 2/3/02  
Cause of Death: Was killed while enroute to a Delmarva Volunteer Fireman's Association Executive meeting then his fire department vehicle was struck broadside by another vehicle.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Steven M. Olander, Career  
Department: Detroit FD, Detroit MI  
Date of Death: 2/8/02  
Cause of Death: Died of complications (aneurysm) stemming from traumatic injuries sustained while working on the fireground of multi-story apartment building fire.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Rex Walter, Volunteer  
Department: Napanoch Fire Company, Napanoch, NY  
Date of Death: 2/10/02  
Cause of Death: Collapsed and died of an apparent heart attack while responding to a chimney fire alarm.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Vincent Davis, Career  
Department: Dallas Fire-Rescue Dept., Dallas, TX  
Date of Death: 2/11/02  
Cause of Death: Died from injuries sustained at the scene of an unoccupied apartment building fire when a wall of the building collapsed on him and another firefighter.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Robert Samuel "Bobby" Nichols, Jr., Volunteer  
Department: Loretto VFD, Cullman, AL  
Date of Death: 2/13/02  
Cause of Death: Collapsed and died of apparent heart attack while working traffic control and other support duties at the scene of a water-main break.

*"Courage is almost a contradiction in terms. It means a strong desire to live taking the form of a readiness to die."*  
- G. K. Chesterton

## CLASSIFIED ADS

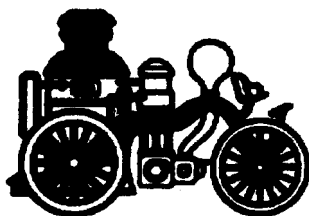
Volunteer fire departments, county associations, and other non-profit, fire-related organizations can advertise in the "Items For Sale" column for free. Businesses and other for-profit organizations may advertise here for \$22.50 per column inch, per issue.

**FOR SALE:** 1976 American LaFrance Fire Engine, 1250 GPM pump, 1000-gal. tank, 14-ft foot ladder, 24-ft extension ladder, two 6-in rubber suction in 10-ft sections, one flat ax, 1 pickhead ax and all lights back and front, including light bar. Price: \$15,000. contact Enterprise Chief Raymond Hudman @ 205-755-2064 or 205-755-4413.

**WANTED:** Used 3,000 to 4,000 gallon tanker truck in good condition. Contact Chief Walt Holland, Lawley VFD @ 205-926-6560.

**FOR SALE:** 1980 One-ton GMC Quick Attack/Rescue Truck (17,000 miles) with 250 GPM pump and 250 gallon tank. Good condition. Price: \$13,500. Contact Underwood-Petersville Chief Gary Jaynes @ 256-764-7740.

**FOR SALE:** 1980 International tanker. 2000 gallon tank. 400 GPM Heil pump. 270 HP Cummins engine. 8-speed Fuller transmission. Whelen light bar. Asking price \$25,000. Contact Mark Caffey @ 334-361-7642.



## THE BELL TOLLED

Chief Leroy Higdon, Paul VFD, Conecuh County, passed away February 10, 2002.

Roberta Clinton, Lillian VFD, Baldwin County, passed away on February 12, 2002. Roberta was the recipient of AAVFD's 1999 Sherry Garner Memorial Award given to the outstanding female Firefighter of the Year.

Robert Samuel "Bobby" Nichols, Jr., Loretto VFD, Cullman County, died on the fire scene February 13, 2002.

Ralph Schumacher, Foley VFD, Baldwin County, passed away March 3, 2002. He was a forty-two year veteran of the department.

Rubin Wade, Shelby VFD, Shelby County, passed away March 3, 2002. He was a founder and forty-two year veteran of the department, and served as department chaplain.

*Let us pause a moment to pay our respect to these firefighters for whom the bell tolled that one last time as we offer our prayers and condolences to their families and friends.*

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. John Miller- (256) 990-8702 or Joey Boyd (256) 233-1597; or Clayton Cobb, Sr. (251) 578-2855; or Steve Dennis (334) 283-2110.

A copy of the booklet "Death In Line Of Duty" may be obtained from the Montgomery office. 1-888-972-2833.

## President Signs Bill Honoring Firefighters Lost in the Line of Duty

In October, President Bush signed legislation to honor firefighters and emergency personnel who courageously sacrificed their lives to save others across the United States.

The legislation (H.R. Res. 42 / S. J.

Res. 18) directs the Federal Government to lower the American flag to half-staff on all federal buildings to coincide with the annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service held each year in Emmitsburg,

Maryland, home of the National Fallen Firefighters' Memorial on the campus of the National Fire Academy. The annual service memorializes fallen firefighters who died in the line of duty the previous year.



**About The Volunteer:** The Volunteer is issued 6 times a year: in Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep and Nov. Articles, information, and advertisements for the newsletter must be in Montgomery not later than the 15th of the month before publication.

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

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

### AAVFD Officers:

President John Miller  
1st VP Joey Boyd  
2nd VP Clayton Cobb, Sr.  
3rd VP Steve Dennis  
Secretary Rita Tullis  
Treasurer Don Shield

### Newsletter Editor:

Staff

### Office Staff:

Sandra Mott

### Mailing Address:

AAVFD, Suite 345  
660 Adams Ave  
Montgomery, AL 36104

Phone number: (334) 262-2833, 1-888-97-AAVFD

Fax number: (334) 262-2834

E-mail: aavfd@mindspring.com

Office hours are Monday - Friday, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.



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