



THE VOLUNTEER



The Official Newsletter of the
ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

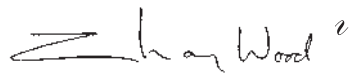
October - December 2008

Merry Christmas *Happy New Year*



FROM THE AAVFD PRESIDENT'S DESK

by





“Greater love hath no man than this; that a man lay down his life for his friend.” John 15:13

Volunteerism is just about a thing of the past. When one does happen along, he or she is given a 2-way radio or pager, turnout gear, a map of the area where the VFD responds, and Wham! They are a full-fledged fire fighter. Some departments have 90 day and 6 month probationary periods. Some are so thankful to get the help, it's “Welcome aboard and be careful out there!”

Some departments have SOP's, most do not. Therefore, with little or no training, the new volunteer is on his own, responding to all types of emergency incidents that place their lives on the line each time the tone goes off.

Training is important! Fire emergencies don't care if you are a “paid” or “volunteer” fire fighter. The risks and hazards are the same for each. The 160-hour Certified Volunteer Firefighter course is available through the Alabama Fire College or in the field at your department.

Our association is looking hard at an entry-level minimum number of hours of training during the first year. We are considering a 40-hour First Responder course and 24-hour Firemanship I that will teach the new volunteer CPR and AED, emergency medical treatment, SCBA, EVOC, pump operations, hose, ladder, and building structure basics.


Our volunteers give freely of themselves to their communities to help improve the quality of life in and around their surroundings. I am committed, as I believe you are, to continue to improve “our” fire service training and education. I am also dedicated to

“our” Association and to each one of you. I want you to call me at home, 334-397-4032, with any suggestions or concerns. As always, I appreciate your ideas and comments and look forward to working with you this year.

This issue of “The Volunteer” is being dedicated to the memory of Steven F. Bouchard, age 19, of Snowdoun VFD (Montgomery County) and Adam Cody Renfro, age 24, of Crossville VFD (DeKalb County). Both of these young men lost their lives in the line of duty. This was such a tragic loss to the fire service. Steven was only a few weeks away from graduating EMT school and Cody had been called to come to Irondale as a fire fighter.

Please take time to read “In Honor” elsewhere in the issue which was read at Cody's funeral service.




May “God Bless” our Association and you and your family have a happy and safe holiday season.




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RIBBON CUTTING AT NEW PERDIDO VFD

Written by: Sherry Digmon Atmore News

The new Perdido Volunteer Fire Department was officially opened Saturday. A short ceremony including a ribbon cutting was held at 11 a.m., with lunch served to the public afterward.

Mary Sells and Hugh Harris, members of the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments, were on hand for the flag presentation.

Perdido VFD Chief Web Bush said the new facility is a great improvement over the old one which housed only two trucks. It is large enough to serve as a community center as well. Chief Bush said the facility is available for community and private events - with the understanding that alcoholic beverages are not allowed on the premises.

The department has 22 volunteer firefighters, with 12 active. Other officers are Assistant Chief Bubba Bossard, Captain Steve White, and Lieutenant C.P. Hall.



Pictured above, Chief Web Bush, center, cut the ribbon on the new facility Saturday morning. On hand were Mary Jane Sells, left, and Hugh Harris with the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments.



2009 DUES AND AD&D INSURANCE RENEWALS

The fire department membership dues for the year 2009 and the 2009 AD&D insurance renewal/application notices were mailed the first week in October. If your department joins through the county association, the notice was sent to the county president. Insurance notices were sent to the chief of each department.

The AD&D insurance policy remains one of the least expensive policies that can be purchased for volunteer firefighters. In the event a firefighter is disabled or dies in the line of duty, this policy would provide some financial assistance to the family in paying bills. As an extra bene-

fit, each policy holder will receive a quarterly issue of "The Volunteer" to keep abreast on the latest fire service news in the state, as well as national events.

Annual membership dues are payable January 1, 2009. If you did not receive your dues notice or if you are not a member and wish to join, contact the Montgomery office at 334-262-2833 or 1-888-972-2833, and we will send you information on the benefits associated with AAVFD membership, such as eligibility for the insurance coverage, student scholarships and the Wildland Fire Prevention grant.

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From Here and There

News of the Volunteer Fire Service from across Alabama

Lauderdale County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments sponsored their annual Life and Safety Day in Florence on October 11, featuring Fire Fighter Competition, truck displays, Children's Fire Safety House, Kid's Fire Challenge, free giveaways, food and fun.

Marley Mill VFD, Dale County, conducted an EVOC 16-hr class. EVOC Instructor Chauncey Wood taught the class attended by 15 fire fighters. He was assisted by Clio fire fighter & EVOC Driver Freddie Childs.

Clio VFD, Barbour County, hosted the course "Service Testing: Pumps, Hydrants, Hose" on December 13th. "Service testing is an integral part of fire service equipment operation and maintenance", said Course Coordinator Chauncey Wood. Head Instructor Wayne Stell emphasized that fire ground operations will at times require fire apparatus pumps, fire hose and fire hydrants to operate at the maximum performance level. Therefore, it is imperative that the fire suppression forces know the actual operational conditions and limitations of the fire fighting equipment within their arsenal.

The service testing course provided students from Baker Hill, Blue Springs, Clio, Cowikee, Green's Crossroads and Texasville VFD in Barbour County and Arifton and Marley Mill VFD in Dale County with a working knowledge of service testing requirements and procedures. The course further surveys testing principles, examines and demonstrates various pieces of test equipment and reviews and illustrates the test records required in each equipment category.

Marley Mill VFD, Dale County, hosted a Safety Smoke House Class on October 30th.

Green's Crossroads VFD, Barbour County, hosted Propane Emergency Training on Nov 7-8. Attending were fire fighters from Louisville, Clayton, White Oak, Baker Hill, Texasville, Clio, Cowikee, Springhill VFD and Green's Crossroads.

Forest Home VFD, Butler County, sponsored a Wildland Fire Prevention and Awareness program October 18th with Smokey Bear products for kids, brochures and other items for adults. This event was made possible by the Wildland Fire Prevention Grant awarded by AAVFD, in partnership with the Alabama Forestry Commission.



James Whitley, son of former Sweet Water Councilman T. J. Whitley, donated a building in memory of his father to the Sweet Water VFD, Marengo County.

"SMOKEY BEAR GOES BACK TO SCHOOL" Green's Crossroads and Clio Volunteer Fire Departments got Smokey Bear to come and speak with Bridget Carter, Shelie Rotton, Doris Harbuck, Judith Bonam, Tera Hall and Shirley Smith's 2nd grade class October 23, 2008. Wayne Stell of Green's Crossroads taught the Wildland Fire Prevention Class. Assisting Smokey was Fireman Freddie Childs of Clio VFD, David and Scarlett Abercombie, Butch and Joanne LeCompte, and Ella Caraway of Green' Crossroads. The teachers and children received a Smokey Bear Fire Prevention goody bag.



LYNN VFD HONORS FORMER CHIEF

Written By: Dianne Dodd

Donny Cagle passed away August 19, 2007 at the age of 55. He had been a member of the Lynn Volunteer fire Department in Winston County for approximately 28 years. Donny was better known as Motor. He served in many positions during that time, including Fire Chief for numerous years.

Donny was the type of person who never sent you into a dangerous situation, "He would lead you in". If you weren't trained for the situation, you stayed away from it. Safety for everyone was first. If didn't matter if we were toned out for someone who only needed a few minutes or for 12 hours, Donny was always there and glad to help. He always found ways to improve the department in every aspect.

Donny retired for a short time, but remained as the department advisor. He came out of retirement at the request of other LVFD members. When Donny arrived on scenes after his short retirement, he would always ask the person in charge where he was needed. The reply would always be the same, "You need to take charge." He would just smile and say, "You're doing a great job!"

He remained an active member until his death. Motor will continue forever be in the hearts and memories of everyone that knew him.

In October 2007, Lynn's new station was finished and dedicated in memory of Donny Cagle. One year after his death, Donny's family started a "Firefighter of the Year" program. They placed a large plaque with Motor's picture on it at the station. Each year, the fam-

ily presents a personal plaque to the Firefighter of the Year and adds their name to the plaque. This year's Firefighter of the Year award went to LVFD Fire Chief Derreck Cagle.



*Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments
President Chauncey Wood (right) Presents AAVFD Flag to
Theo Cagle, Mother of Donny Cagle*



*Lynn VFD flag raising of AAVFD flag in memory of
Donny Cagle*



*Chief Derreck Cagle,
Lynn VFD, Terry Wayne
Cagle, Brother of Donny,
Theo Cagle, Donny's
Mother, Ralph Cagle,
Donny's Brother, Leah
McGraw, Captain Lynn
VFD. Not shown Gaylon
and Ronny Cagle and
Phylis Norris, Sister*

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Fires R Us—Eureka, Montana
Fort Morgan VFD—Fort Morgan, AL
Josephine VFD—Elberta, AL
Leroy VFD—Leroy, AL
Lovetown VFD—Ashford, AL
Lower Currituck VFD—North Carolina
McIntosh VFD—McIntosh, AL
Mt Vernon VFD—Mt Vernon, AL
Northeast Fire & Rescue—Ashville, AL
Orange Beach—Orange Beach, AL
Owens Crossroads VFD—Alabama
Perdido Beach VFD—Elberta
Rabun VFD—Bay Minette, AL
Red Oak VFD—Andalusia, AL
River Oaks VFD—Orville, AL
Stapleton VFD—Stapleton, AL
St Elmo VFD—Irvington, AL
ThyssenKrupp Steel—Mobile, AL
Tibbie VFD—Tibbie, AL
West Bend Bethel—Coffeeville, AL
Willow Point VFD—Alexander City, AL

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LANDMARK DESTROYED

Written By: Tina Wood

Flames engulf the historic childhood home of former Governor George C. Wallace in Clio in Barbour County on September 7th.

Firefighter's fought hard to keep the fire from spreading to surrounding properties. There was a huge turn out to try and save the historic landmark home, but to no avail. The home that was built in the 1900's out of fat lightwood couldn't be extinguished.

The house was a total loss with firefighter's being called back several times during the next week due to the house sparking back up. Some of the elderly people said it was due to Governor Wallace being called the "fighting little Judge" in his earlier years.

The house was privately owned and had been renovat-

ed some 20 years ago. The home was listed on the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage in 1975 and a designated site on the Barbour County Governor's Trail Scenic Byway.



Former Gov. George C. Wallace's Childhood Home

THANK YOU FROM FIRST VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAM NEAL



I want to thank you for re-electing me your First Vice President. The past three years have been quite successful. We have had some good successes in the legislature, but we have had some heart-breaking defeats. I have also seen a change in attitude towards better relations with the legislators. The process of passing meaningful legislation is quite difficult. But we must press on and never quit. I look forward to working with new president Chauncey Wood and the rest of the newly-elected officers.

I feel a sense of a new direction for the volunteer fire service. The positive changes at the Alabama Fire College have sparked more interest in training. This is especially true among younger volunteer fire fighters. They are our future.

Please feel free to contact me at any time. I can be reached at 334-335-3643. Please leave a message if I am unavailable, and I will call you back.



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TWO VERY “SPECIAL LADIES” – BARBARA DUKE AND ANGEL JANAЕ CAGLE

Written By: Diane Dodd

Barbara Duke has been working with Lynn Volunteer Fire Department since it began in the early 1970's. At that time her husband, James Duke, was Mayor of Lynn. Barbara began working with the woman's auxiliary raising money for equipment. The first new truck bought was a 1972 Ford. Then, the need arose for the women to train on the equipment in case the men were at work.

Barbara took care of her family, stayed active in church, continued in the woman's auxiliary, opened up a Family Barber shop, and became the only woman Mayor of Lynn.

She also served in the capacity of Fire Chief. During a fire run, she fell and broke her back, but continued to help because they needed her, not telling them she was hurt.

She continues to help this community. She remains active in her business, woman's auxiliary, church organizations, prepares and delivers food, WMU, Civitan Club and all other areas where she can help others.

There are not enough words to express our love and appreciation for Barbara. She's a very “Special Lady”.

Angel Janae Cagle is 9 years old. She hasn't accomplished everything Barbara has yet, but she is off to a good start. She's one of Lynn VFDs youngest fund raisers. Her grandfather helps her with one of the best lemonade stands around. They are also known for homemade fudge and peanut brittle.

Angel has been taught to give. She has six family members in the department: her parents, both sisters, a brother-in-law, and her brother is a Captain, or L-3. She calls him “Bubba”. Angel needed a number for fund raisers, so she was “unofficially” given L-3 and 1/2, which she loves.

On the day Angel was Barbara's special customer, she wanted her hair cut, but not because of a new style. She had finally talked her parents into letting her donate her hair (that had never been cut before) to help other kids. Barbara cut 21” off Angel's hair to send to “Locks of Love”.

Angel left Barbara's just as beautiful and full of love as she went in.



REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

On October 11th, the Alabama Fire Service gathered for the 5th annual memorial service honoring Alabama Fire Fighters who died in the line of duty. The service of four fire fighters was honored at the Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial on the campus of the Alabama Fire College.

Honored for their service and sacrifice were Steven Allan Sullivan-Nichol VFD (Tuscaloosa County), Billy A. Gafford, Jr.-Birmingham FD (Jefferson County), Mark Harbison-Pleasant Grove FD (Jefferson County), and James E. Wells-Pelham FD (Shelby County).



The families of the deceased were presented an American flag by Honor Guard members.

District 6 - Barbour County

Clio Fire Chief David Grice is sworn in as new Mayor of Clio November 3, 2008.



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In Loving Memory

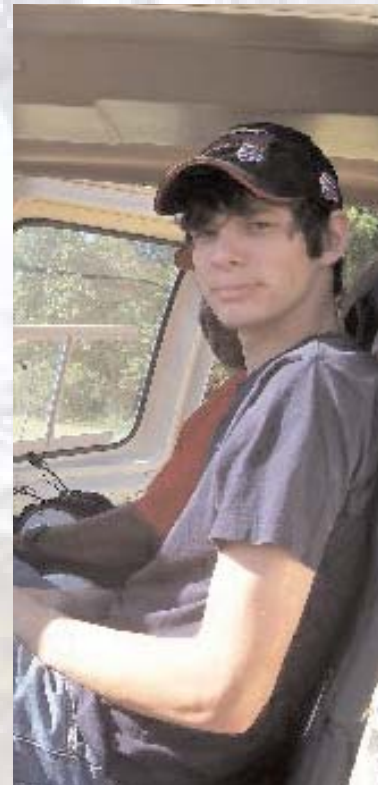
IN HONOR

Author Unknown

*Brother when you weep for me
 Remember that it was meant to be
 Lay me down and when you leave
 Remember I'll be at your sleeve
 In every dark and choking hall
 I'll be there as you slowly crawl
 On every roof in driving snow
 I'll hold your coat and you will know
 In cellars hot with searing heat
 At windows where a gate you meet
 In closets where young children hide
 You know I'll be there at your side
 The house from which I now respond
 Is overstaffed with heroes gone
 Men who answered one last bell
 Did the job and did it well
 As firemen we understand
 That death's a card dealt in our hand
 A card we hope we never play
 But one we hold there anyway
 That card is something we ignore
 As we crawl across a weakened floor
 For we know that we're the only prayer
 For anyone that might be there
 So remember as you wipe your tears
 The joy I knew throughout the years
 As I did the job I loved to do
 I pray that thought will see you through*



Adam Cody Renfroe
Crossville VFD
1984-2008



Steven F. Bouchard
Snowdown VFD
1989-2008



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1998 E-One Heavy Rescue
Cummins 8.3L 325 HP Diesel
Allison MD 3060P Automatic
20KW PTO Generator
12,000# Winch on Front



1992 Pierce Lance Heavy Rescue
Cummins 350 HP Diesel Engine
Allison HT740 Automatic
Light Tower, PTO Generator
12,000Lb Winch



1997 Freightliner/Westex Rescue
Cummins 8.3L Diesel
Allison Automatic
Hale AP50-20 500 GPM Pump
350 Gallon Aluminum Tank



1989 Hackney Heavy Rescue/Hazmat
Interior Command Center in Rear
Ford Diesel, Allison Automatic
Onan 7.5KW Hydraulic Generator
Light Tower with 2 - 1500W Lights



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Allison EVS 3000 Automatic
Onan 10KW PTO Generator
12,000# Bumper-Mounted Winch
Will-Burt 6,000 Watt Light Tower



1993 International Heavy Rescue
Int'l Diesel, Allison Automatic
Winco 20KW PTO Generator
Amkus Simo Pump
Super Vac Command Light
6000psi DOT 8-Bottle Cascade



1994 Hummer 4x4 Brush Truck
General Motors 6.5L Diesel
Automatic Transmission
Darley 2BE1A Independent Pump
200 Gallon Poly Tank



1998 Int'l 4x4 Interface Pumper
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500 Gallon Poly Tank
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2000 Spartan Pumper/Tankers
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Waterous 1500 GPM Pump
1250 Gallon Poly Tank
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1000 Gallon Poly Tank
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1993 E-One/Int'l Pumper
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700 Gallon Poly Tank
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Detroit Series 60 430 HP Diesel
Allison HT-740 Automatic
Waterous CSUYBX 1500 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank



2000 Pierce Dash Pumper
Detroit 350 HP Diesel
Allison HD 4060P Automatic
Waterous 2-Stage 1500 GPM Pump
1000 Gallon Poly Tank
Hale Foam Master Foam System



1988 Ford/Quality Pumper
Cat 3208 250 HP Diesel
Allison Automatic
Waterous 1250 GPM Top-Mount Pump
750 Gallon Fiberglass Tank



1991 Ward/Mack Pumper
Diesel Engine
Automatic Transmission
1250 GPM Side Mount Pump
750 Gallon Tank



1997 International/KME Pumper
Navistar 300 HP Diesel
Allison MD 3060 Automatic
Hale QSG 1250 GPM Pump
1000 Gallon Poly Tank
Honda 5000W Diesel Generator



2000 Freightliner/E-One Pumper
Cummins 8.3L 330 HP Diesel
Allison Automatic
Hale 1250 GPM Top-Mount Pump
1000 Gallon Poly Tank



1996 E-One/Freightliner Pumper
Cat 3126 300 HP Diesel
Allison MD 3060 Automatic
Hale 1500 GPM Side-Mount Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank
50 Gallon Foam Tank



1993 E-One/Freightliner Pumper
Cummins 8.3L 300 HP Diesel
Allison MD 3060 Automatic
Hale 1500 GPM Side-Mount Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank
50 Gallon Foam Tank



1994 GMC/Quality Pumper
Cat 3116 275 HP Diesel
Allison Automatic
Hale QSG 1250 GPM Pump
750 Gallon Fiberglass Tank



1992 Ford/Pierce Pumper
Ford 7.8L 220 HP Diesel
Allison HT643 Automatic
Waterous CSYBX 1250 GPM Pump
750 Gallon Steel Tank



1987 E-One Commercial Pumper
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FIRE FIGHTER RULING / ROADWAY VEST

On November 21, 2008, the FHWA issued an interim final rule revising the Worker Visibility rule (23CFR 634) to create an exemption for the firefighting community. This interim Final rule allows firefighters or other emergency responders working within the right-of-way of a Federal-aid highway and engaged in emergency operations that directly expose them to flame, fire, heat, and/or hazardous materials to wear retro-reflective turn-out gear that is specified and regulated by other organizations, such as the National Fire Protection



Association. Firefighters or other emergency responders working within the right-of-way of a Federal-aid highway and engaged in any other types of operations shall wear high-visibility safety apparel as defined in this rule. The FHWA decided to issue this interim final rule to address safety concerns raised by the fire fighting community. The interim final rule was published in the Federal Register today and goes in effect on November 24, 2008.

Please share this information with others that may be interested in this matter.

This rule can be accessed at the following link:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E8-27671.pdf>
<<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E8-27671.pdf>>
<blocked::<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E8-27671.pdf>>

AAVFD SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The deadline for scholarship applications is March 31, 2009. This makes it possible for each of the winners to be recognized at their High School Graduation Ceremony.

In partnership with VFIS of Alabama, AAVFD will award two \$1,000 scholarships this year. Each scholarship is given on a one-year basis and must be applied for each year regardless of previous applications and must be used within one year of award.

Applications may be obtained by contacting the Montgomery office at 334-262-2833 or 1-888-972-2833 or www.aavfd.org. The completed application should be mailed to the Montgomery office to the attention of Scholarship Chairman Roy Adamson and post marked no later than March 31, 2009.

District 2 - Jefferson County

A CALL FOR HELP FROM MULGA VFD

Mulga in Jefferson County is a rural volunteer fire department that is struggling financially. We have one truck that is a 1996 Pierce Saber that needs transmission service because it is sluggish. We have another truck which is a 77 Hahn that needs engine work. We need equipment for both trucks and extra turnout gear. Also, we need VHF radios, mini-pumper, chief vehicle and an engine (1980 or higher). Anything that we need has to be donated. If you can help, please feel free to contact me at 205-306-6341. Thanks, Jamie Pugh, Deputy Chief

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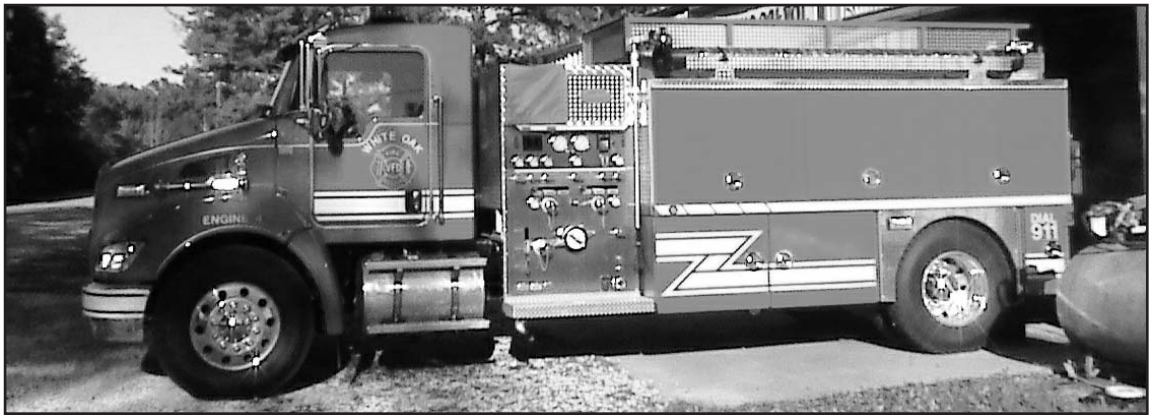
www.deepsouthfiretrucks.com

FEMA GRANTS HELP DEPARTMENTS PURCHASE NEW TRUCKS



Baker Hill VFD received a FEMA grant of \$190,000 to purchase a 2008 Kenworth 1250 GPM pumper tanker built by Southern Fire. The total purchase price of \$223,000, including 4 air packs, was supplemented by additional donations and fund raisers. Carrying 1,200 feet, this is their first truck to carry 5" hose. Fire Chief Brandon Green and his Dalmatian, Mr. Bentley, check out the new truck.

White Oak VFD received a FEMA grant of \$158,000 to purchase a 2008 Kenworth pumper tanker with 200 gallon tank. The total purchase price of \$164,000 was supplemented by the department.



District 5 - Bibb County

BRIERFIELD VFD HOSTS 2ND ANNUAL WATER ON WHEELS PROGRAM

By: Stephanie Patton

One of the many challenges for rural volunteer fire departments is access to adequate water resources to fight fires. Often, if water hydrants are scarce, firefighters must use alternate resources such as creeks, lakes, or rivers. This process of transporting water from non-traditional resources is called water shuttling. Recently, over 50 firefighters from several area volunteer fire departments gathered in Montevallo, Alabama for water shuttle training.

Called Water on Wheels, this program included a day of classroom instruction, followed by a day of live situation training. According to Brierfield Fire Chief Spruce McRee, who led the training exercise, water shuttle is a method that's been used in rural communities for years, but when the fire is extensive, multiple fire departments may be required on the scene. "By training together, we are all better prepared for mutual aid situations."

Last year, Maryland-based instructor Larry Davis, an expert in the water shuttle process, led the training. When Davis passed away earlier this year, the firefighters who took his course wanted to keep the momentum going.

"We are all very appreciative of the knowledge that Larry Davis shared with our firefighters, and will continue to pass that knowledge on to our neighboring volunteer fire departments, so that we are all better prepared to protect our communities," said Chief McRee.



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.

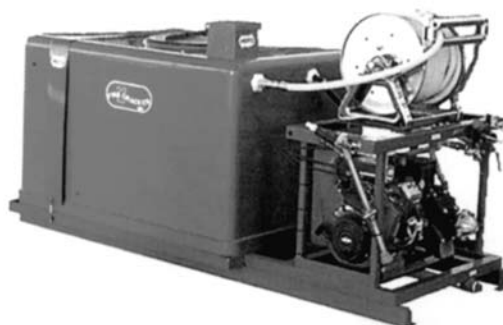
Standard Unit Pricing

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.

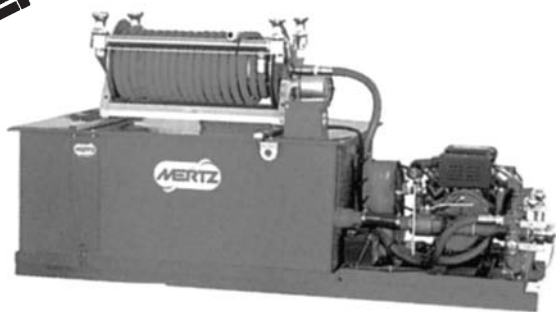
Maximum Pressure: 560 PSI
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Maximum Speed: 550 RPM
Number of Cylinders: 4

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Stats	150G	200G	250G	300G	400G
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Width	43"	43"	43"	43"	64"
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MADISON COUNTY HOLDS FIRST AWARDS DAY

Written By: James Sandmeier

On October 4, 2008 The Madison County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments held their first ever Awards Day "A Day of Honor".

The day started with the Huntsville Fire & Rescue Color Guard's Posting of the Colors followed by the Pledge and invocation given by the County Chaplain Harold Cannon. Opening remarks were offered by Madison County Commission Chairman Mike Gillespie, County Commissioner District 3 Jerry Craig, Senator Lowell Barron and Legislator Butch Taylor.



Lowell Barron & Butch Taylor

Chief James Sandmeier, Chief of Killingsworth Cove and Awards Committee Chairman, served as Master of Ceremonies. Association Vice President Aaron Pierceson pinned and served the awards with the help of Harold Cannon.

Length of Service Awards: 29 members received Citation Bars for their length of service. A total of over 850 years were represented.

The length of service was for over 25 years to as many as 60 years.

Ex-Chief James Sandmeier: Over 60 years Killingsworth Cove F.D.

Ex-Chief James Sandmeier of the Killingsworth Cove Fire Dept. served during WWII in the Armed Guard of the U.S. Navy in the South Pacific on a Merchant Ship. Upon his discharge in 1946 he returned home to NY and joined the Farmingdale Fire Department, Water Witch Co. #1. In 1950 he married and moved to West Babylon, NY where he joined a new start up department, West Babylon Fire Dept. He served as a Captain of Rendezvous Ladder Co. #4 and also served as Captain of the Rescue Squad. He became one of the first EMTs on Long Island and was also in the first class of AEMTs, this was a precursor to the

Paramedic program. He is a Life Member of that dept. In 1988 he retired from Fairchild – Republic Aviation and soon moved to Killingsworth Cove. The first thing he did after moving was to join the Fire Department. He has held the offices of Chief, Training Officer and presently serves as the Safety Officer at the tender age of 82.

We wish to thank Ex-Chief James Sandmeier for his 20 years of service to our County and his total of over 62 years to the Fire Service.

Assistant Chief Robert Maples: 50 years Owens Cross Roads F.D.



Chief Maples

Assistant Chief Robert Maples of Owens Cross Roads Fire Department has served the department since its inception in 1958 and continues to serve as an advisor to the department. He remembers the early years when they held barbecues and softball tournaments to raise money like so many other departments in our county. The late night and early morning phone calls on the Party Line that included the original firemen, the only form of communication back then. Chief Maples has been quoted as wishing he had another 50 years to give.

We wish to thank Chief Maples for his years of dedicated service to Owens Cross Roads Fire Department and Madison County.

CPR Saves: 11 members were recognized for confirmed CPR Saves.

Madison County Fire Marshal Don Hackney was recognized for his 30 years of service. He received a 30 year citation bar and a pocket watch from the County Chiefs as a Thank you for all of the programs that F.M. Hackney has

MADISON COUNTY HOLDS FIRST AWARDS DAY

Continued from Previous Page

brought to our County.

Tammy Steward received the Distinguished Service Medal for Fire service. Tammy was given this award for life time achievement in the Fire Service and for her years as our County Training Director. At one point in the presentation, Chief Sandmeier asked all who had received training from Tammy to please stand. Every member in the audience stood up.

Mike & Dana Messex of Harvest F.D. receive the Distinguished Service Medal for EMS. The father & son were attending the Airshow 2008 at Huntsville Airport when a thunderstorm collapsed resulting in 50 mph straight line winds which hit a tent area. Many of the tents collapsed. The two were able to rescue a small child from the debris. They looked around and saw a police SUV and made for it to protect the child from the wind and rain. They found a first aid bag in the back and started to attend to the child. More walking wounded started to find them. All were treated until HEMS arrived with Huntsville Fire & Rescue. In all more than 12 were injured and treated.



Mike and Dana Messex

Tyler Brewer of Moores Mill F.D. received the Medal of Courage. Captain Brewer arrived on the scene of a structure fire. Before entering he was advised of possible entrapment. Captain Brewer made his first search and was able to locate the victim. He pulled the victim out of the house and administered aid and had him transported to the hospital. He was discharged 2 days later in good health.

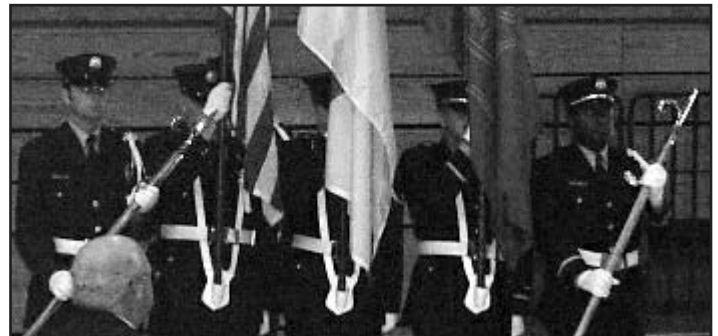
The Association, with the help of the Huntsville Fire & Rescue Color Guard, performed the Last Alarm for 4 fam-

ilies. These families represented members of our service who passed way over the last 2 years. The County Departments wanted to say Thank you to the families for their loved ones service to our county. The members were Ken Corbin of Toney F.D., Mark Lee of Toney F.D. past Vice President of the County Association and a State Association representative, State Rep. Albert Hall member of Killingsworth Cove, Gurley & Central F.D. and Phillip Drake of the Alabama Forestry Commission.

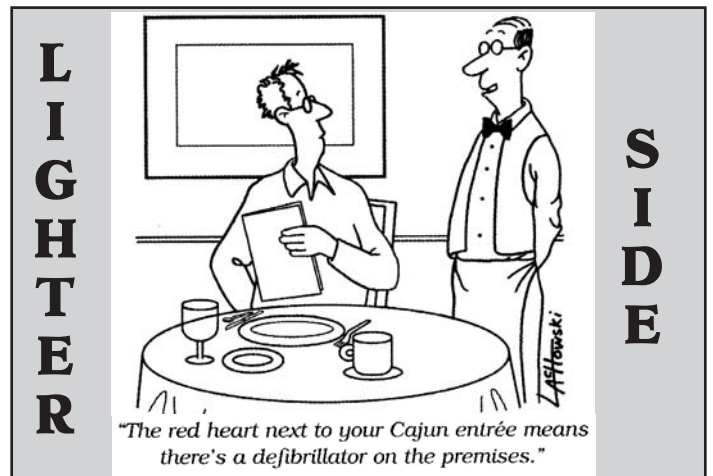


Final Alarm Families

Lunch was served to all the 250 attendees.



Huntsville F&R Color Guard



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CALHOUN		2 of 12
CHEROKEE	100%	13 of 13
DEKALB	100%	25 of 25
ETOWAH	100%	23 of 23
JACKSON		
MADISON		
MARSHALL		

DISTRICT 2 MEMBERSHIP

BLOUNT	100%	21 of 21
CULLMAN	100%	26 of 26
JEFFERSON		
SHELBY		7 of 19
ST CLAIR		
WALKER		
WINSTON		

DISTRICT 3 MEMBERSHIP

FAYETTE		2 of 13
GREENE		
HALE	100%	9 of 9
LAMAR		
PICKENS		
SUMTER	100%	19 of 19
TUSCALOOSA	100%	20 of 20

DISTRICT 4 MEMBERSHIP

CHAMBERS	100%	13 of 13
CLAY		
CLEBURNE	100%	12 of 12
COOSA	100%	10 of 10
RANDOLPH		
TALLADEGA		3 of 15
TALLAPOOSA		

DISTRICT 5 MEMBERSHIP

AUTAUGA		
BIBB		
CHILTON		
DALLAS	100%	15 of 15
MARENGO		
PERRY		
WILCOX		

DISTRICT 6 MEMBERSHIP

BARBOUR		
COFFEE	100%	9 of 9
DALE		
GENEVA		
HENRY		
HOUSTON		
PIKE		

DISTRICT 7 MEMBERSHIP

BUTLER		
CONECUH	100%	21 of 21
COVINGTON		
CRENSHAW		
ESCAMBIA		
MONROE		

DISTRICT 8 MEMBERSHIP

BALDWIN		14 of 32
CHOCTAW		
CLARKE		
MOBILE		
WASHINGTON		

DISTRICT 9 MEMBERSHIP

COLBERT		
FRANKLIN		
LAUDERDALE		
LAWRENCE		
LIMESTONE		
MARION		
MORGAN		

DISTRICT 10 MEMBERSHIP

BULLOCK		
ELMORE		
LEE		
LOWNDES		
MACON		
MONTGOMERY	100%	8 of 8
RUSSELL		

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Condolences

We send our condolences to Representative Warren H. Beck, 87th District (Geneva and Houston), whose wife, Carolyn, passed away September 12, 2008.

Our condolences go out to Aroney VFD Assistant Chief Paul Saint in Marshall County, whose grandson, Justin Saint, died in October while serving in the Army in Iraq.

Condolences are extended to AAVFD District 9 Alternate Director Jimmy Looney, whose wife Linda, passed away October 23, 2008.

We offer of deepest sympathy to the family of retired State Fire Marshal John S. Robison who passed away on November 22, 2008. He was State Fire Marshal for fifteen years and was active in national and international fire safety and code policy-making organizations. Since his retirement, he was a fire and safety consultant in private practice.

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NATIONAL FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES

Name/Rank: Fire Chief Frank Wichlacz (76) Volunteer
Department: Pulaski Tri-County, Pulaski WI
Date of Death: 7/23/08
Cause of Death: After returning from a mutual aid call, he was inside the station when he was accidentally pinned between a bay door and a fire tanker when a POV being moved by another firefighter reportedly accelerated out of control and crashed through the door. He died from injuries sustained in the incident.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Andrew Palmer (18) Wildland Part-Time
Department: Olympic National Park, Port Angeles WA
Date of Death: 7/25/08
Cause of Death: Died when struck by falling tree while working Eagle Fire in Shasta-Trinity National Forest in California.

Name/Rank: Chief Dan Packer (49) Career
Department: East Pierce F/R, Bonney Lake WA
Date of Death: 7/27/08
Cause of Death: Died while supervising firefighting efforts at Panther fire in Siskiyou Complex fire near Yreka when his position was overrun by wildfire following an unexpected shift in the wind.

Name/Rank: Firefighter First Class Gerald R. Leduc (52) Career
Department: Tiverton FD, Tiverton RI
Date of Death: 8/3/08
Cause of Death: While searching for man overboard as part of a dive team, he suffered difficulty and was rushed to shore where he succumbed to cardiac arrest.

Name/Rank: Pilot Roark Schwanenberg (54) Wildland Contract
 Pilot James Ramage (63) Wildland Full-Time
 Firefighter Steven Renno (21) Wildland Contract
 Firefighter David Steele (19) Wildland Contract
 Firefighter Bryan Rich (29) Wildland Contract
 Firefighter Edrik Gomez (19) Wildland Contract
 Firefighter Matthew Hammer (23) Wildland Contract
 Firefighter Scott Charlson (25) Wildland Contract
 Firefighter Shawn Blazer (30) Wildland Contract
Department: Carson Helicopters, Inc., Grants Pass OR
Date of Death: 8/5/08
Cause of Death: Two pilots and seven firefighters assigned to the Iron Complex fire in California's Trinity Alps Wilderness, perished in crash as they were taking off from helispot in contract Sikorsky S-61N helicopter. Of the 13 people on-board, one other pilot and three firefighters survived the crashed with serious and some critical injuries.

Name/Rank: Captain Sean T. Whiten (47) Volunteer
Department: Roscoe Volunteer Fire Company, Roscoe PA
Date of Death: 8/9/08
Cause of Death: After assisting other instructors at structural burn session, he decided to go to rehab. He sat in front of a cooling fan, then proceeded to area to relax where he was found down, suffering from a medical emergency. He was transported to hospital where he passed away from cause still to be reported.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Tony McGough (44) Volunteer
Department: Amity FD, Amity AR
Date of Death: 8/14/08
Cause of Death: Died in vehicle accident in his POV while responding to a medical call.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Robert A. Hales (40) Volunteer
Department: Scappoose Rural Fire District, Scappoose OR
Date of Death: 8/17/08
Cause of Death: He had returned home from working a 12-hr shift on three outdoor fires caused by lightning when within a couple hours he left his residence again with his 14 year old daughter in their POV. The vehicle left the road and crashed after Hales suffered cardiac arrest and passed away.

Name/Rank: Asst District Forester Curtis Jessen (32) Wildland Full-Time
Department: North Carolina Div of Forest Resources, Region III, Asheville NC
Date of Death: 8/21/08
Cause of Death: Suffered critical injuries after falling at least 50 ft. from Big Bradley Falls while working an outdoor fire.

Name/Rank: Crew Chief-Mechanic Zachary Jake Vander-Griend (25) Wildland Contract
 First Officer-Pilot Gregory Gonsioroski (41) Wildland Contract
 Chief Pilot Calvin Gene Wahlstrom (61) Wildland Contract
Department: Neptune Aviation Services, Missoula MT
Date of Death: 9/1/08
Cause of Death: Died when air tanker under contract to the U. S. Forest Service crashed shortly after take-off killing the crew of three. Witnesses reported that a jet engine fire engulfed one of the tanker's wings in flames moments after take off, sending the plane rolling into the ground.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Greg Northup (55) Volunteer
Department: Gallipolis FD, Gallipolis OH
Date of Death: 9/3/08
Cause of Death: Collapsed and died from apparent heart attack while on fire department special detail.

Name/Rank: Firefighter/Equipment Operator Curtis Ray Hillman, Sr. (77) Wildland Contract
Department: U. S. Forest Service/Shasta-Trinity National Forest, Redding CA
Date of Death: 9/11/08
Cause of Death: Passed away from injuries sustained in accidental fall from piece of heavy equipment while working under contract for Forest Service.

Name/Rank: Fire Police Officer Edward Junginger (82) Volunteer
Department: Levittown FD, Levittown NY
Date of Death: 9/26/08
Cause of Death: Suffered massive heart attack while conducting fire police duties on auto accident scene.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Dale Wayne Grider (36) Volunteer
Department: DeKalb FD, DeKalb TX
Date of Death: 9/29/08
Cause of Death: Suffered probable heart attack (pending autopsy results) while riding in vehicle en route to fire department training exercise.

Name/Rank: Apparatus Operator/Fire Prevention Supervisor Ralph P. Arabie (48) Career
Department: David Crockett Steam Fire Co # 1, Gretna LA
Date of Death: 9/29/08
Cause of Death: Passed away from injuries sustained while conducting inspection of hurricane damage to fire station with one of department's aerial fire apparatus.

Name/Rank: Correctional Office II Douglas Falconer (46) Career
Department: Arizona State Prison-Globe, Globe AZ
Date of Death: 10/1/08
Cause of Death: Became dizzy and collapsed while working on fire line while fighting Sacramento Fire and was transported to hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Name/Rank: Firefighter William Joseph Miller (24) Volunteer
Department: Blue Mound FD, Blue Mound IL
Date of Death: 10/13/08
Cause of Death: Passed away soon after the apparatus he was operating rolled over while participating in area fire department water supply training exercise. In addition to injuries from the vehicle crash, an autopsy revealed Miller died from a pre-existing medical condition.

Name/Rank: Paramedic/Firefighter Brian D. Neville (32) Career
Department: Baltimore County FD, Towson MD
Date of Death: 10/16/08
Cause of Death: Discovered deceased by his relief shift, having passed away during the night while on duty. Cause of death pending.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Adam Cody Renfroe (24) Volunteer
Department: Crossville VFD, Crossville AL
Date of Death: 10/29/08
Cause of Death: Firefighter Renfroe and another Crossville firefighter were searching a burning residential structure for possible victim when the alarm on the other firefighter's air pack sounded. He exited the structure, believing Renfroe was behind him. Only after overcoming fire conditions were firefighters able to get to Renfroe. However, he did not survive.



THE BELL TOLLED

John Henry Harvey, Whitfield VFD, Sumter County, passed away June 26, 2008.

Larry Neil Townzen, Sr., Myrtlewood VFD, Marengo County, passed away August 18, 2008.

Herman E. Akins, Foster Crossroads VFD, Randolph County, passed away September 3, 2008.

Barney Headley, Remlap VFD Board of Trustees, Blount County, passed away September 6, 2008.

Tammy Gail Whittaker, Newton VFD, Dale County, passed away September 15, 2008.

Charles "Buck" Rollins, retired after 25 years of service with Gravel Hill VFD, Franklin County, passed away September 17, 2008. He also served 9 years as an EMT with Phil Campbell Rescue Squad.

Clayton Cobb, Sr., Paul VFD, Conecuh County, passed away September 18, 2008 of a heart attack. Clayton was also a faithful servant of the statewide volunteer fire service serving AAVFD as representative on the Joint Fire Council, Second Vice President and First Vice President. He was made a Life Member in 2006.

Driver/Engineer Willie Ben McCray, Clio VFD, Barbour County, passed away September 24, 2008.

Leon Grimes, Sr., a founding member of St Elmo-Irvington VFD, Mobile County, passed away October 6, 2008.

Matthew Wade Rouse, Munford VFD, Talladega County, was fatally injured when his motorcycle crashed into a pickup on October 11, 2008.

Chief Lee Andrew Pugh, Spring Hill VFD, Barbour County, passed away from a heart attack on October 12, 2008. Chief Pugh, 50 years old, is the second Barbour County Chief to pass away this year.

Howard "Bud" Heaton, Holly Pond VFD, Cullman County, passed away October 14, 2008. He served more than 30 years on the Holly Pond Fire Department as Chief, Assistant Chief, and EMT and was currently serving as Chairman of the Board.

Chief Tim Shirley, Union Springs VFD, Bullock County, passed away October 18, 2008. He had served as Chief since 2001.

Adam Cody Renfro, Crossville VFD, DeKalb County, died in the Line of Duty fighting a house fire on October 29, 2008.

James Johnson, Fulton VFD, Clarke County, passed away October 30, 2008.

Emern Argus "Sherlock" Holmes, Jr., Eva VFD, Morgan County, passed away November 2, 2008. Asst Chief George DeGeer, Snow Hill-Furman VFD, Wilcox County, passed away November 4, 2008.

Steven F. Bouchard, Snowdown VFD, Montgomery County, died in a vehicle crash in his POV responding to a department page out on November 11, 2008.

If any Volunteer Fire Department (member or not) has a firefighter die in the line of duty or as a result of a line of duty injury (examples: at the scene, going to or from the scene), notify ONE of the following IMMEDIATELY, no matter what day it is or what time of day or night: Chauncey Wood – (334) 397-4032, William Neal – (334) 335-3643, Lawrence Huffman – (256) 446-9813, 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 or www.aavfd.org.



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

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

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

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AND SECONDS COUNT**