



# THE VOLUNTEER



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

April – June 2007

### 2007 State Conference Information

The AAVFD Annual Conference will be held on Friday and Saturday, August 3 and 4, 2007, in Mobile, Alabama and will be hosted by the Mobile County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. The registration headquarters will be at the Best Western Ashbury Hotel & Suites.

#### REGISTRATION

Pre-registration for the Conference will be \$30.00 per person and increases to \$35.00 after July 1st and when you register at the Conference. Included in this fee are the Friday night cookout meal and the Saturday night banquet. (Pre-registration form included in this newsletter.) You must have your registration nametag to eat at the cookout on Friday night and at the banquet on Saturday night.

#### ELECTIONS

At the annual business meeting on Saturday, elections will be held to fill the officer and board member positions.

**Officers:** The nominating committee made the following recommendations:

#### For the Office of:

**President** .....Johnny Albersen (I)

**Vice President**

**Southern Area** .....William Neal (I)

**Central Area** .....Steve Dennis (I)

**Northern Area** .....Lawrence Huffman (I)

**Roger Wilson**

**Secretary** .....Mary Jane Sells (I)

**Kalyn Ray**

**Treasurer** .....Gary Cobb (I)

The Nominating Committee states that Charlie Dixon, Clarke County, declined the nomination for Vice President from the Southern Area because of increased responsibilities limiting his time.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

### Wildland Fire Prevention Grant Available

By: Lou Hyman – Alabama Forestry Commission

Once again the AAVFD, with the help of the Alabama Forestry Commission and the USDA Forest Service, is offering a Wildland Fire Prevention Grant for Volunteer Fire Departments and County Associations. VFD's can ask for up to \$5,000 for Wildland Fire Prevention projects, for things such as pamphlets, newspaper ads, school programs or signs. The primary restriction is that the funds may not be used for food or drink or for structural fire prevention. The focus is on Smokey Bear, not Sparky the Dog.

Applications are now available and need to be turned into the AAVFD office by July 20.

State Forester Linda S. Casey expressed her support for the Wildland Fire prevention Grant program. "With this summer's drought, there is a critical need for wildland fire prevention across our state," Casey stated. She strongly encourages each department to look at this program and try to build a wildland for prevention effort to enhance the safety of our communities.

For more information, Contact the AAVFD Office in Montgomery.

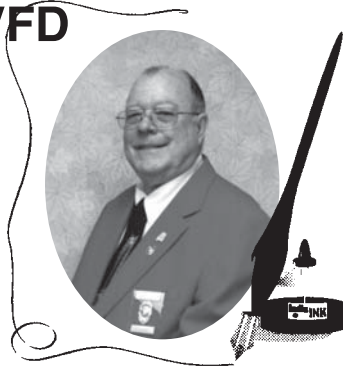


AAVFD President Johnny Albersen accepts Wildland Fire Prevention Grant check from State Forester Linda Casey. In Montgomery for the Fire & EMS Promotion day and looking on are: L-R Chauncey Wood, District 6 Director; Sgt/Engineer Bryant Wisdom, Clio VFD, Barbour County; Captain Ronnie Danner, Arifton VFD, Dale County; Chief Robbie Davidson, McIntosh VFD, Washington.

# FROM THE AAVFD PRESIDENT'S DESK

by

*Johnny Alberson*



*We are fast approaching another AAVFD annual Conference. It doesn't seem that it has been very long since the 2006 Conference, but in reality it has been 10 months. They say that time flies when you are having fun. Well, part has been fun, but some of the days spent in this Legislative session were rather frustrating. But, we'll be back next year, Lord's willing and we are able. We haven't been able to get any firefighter bills passed, and I felt that we had some good bills that we were presenting. Don't let this discourage you, because this isn't the first year that we have made a dry run. Keep on prodding your legislators and use the philosophy, "We may give out, but we won't give up."*

*I am looking forward to our 2007 Conference in Mobile. I hope to see all of you there because there will be plenty to do for everyone. Conference information can be found elsewhere in this issue of **The Volunteer**.*

*I sincerely appreciate the help and support of everyone for the past two years. I haven't asked anyone to do anything that I didn't get full cooperation. And, you can be assured that this is appreciated. I still feel that this is "OUR" association, not "mine" and I can't run it by myself; I need "YOUR" help.*

*We have a good year going with department membership and insurance sales. All insurance certificates have been mailed out, so if you haven't gotten yours, please check with your department to make sure that your 2007 insurance enrollments have been sent in this year. Keep up the good work, and if I can help you, don't hesitate to call me.*

## OOPS!

The Jan-Mar issue on page 24 identified Springhill VFD in Crenshaw County. Although there is a department by that name in the County, the featured Springhill VFD is in Pike County (District 6) and is led by Chief Ray Armstrong.

*(Elections continued from Page 1)*

Floor nominations at the annual meeting may join these. Per AAVFD By-Laws, all candidates, except those presented by the nominating committee, must be nominated from the floor and must be present at the annual business meeting. All six officers are elected by majority vote of the members in attendance and those members represented by proxy.

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

## PROXY VOTES

AAVFD Secretary Mary Sells will accept proxy votes at the Conference on Friday, August 3rd from 12:00 pm until 3:00 pm. On Saturday August 4th, proxy votes will be accepted from 10:00 am until 1:30 pm. Location will be announced.

According to AAVFD By-Laws, all proxy votes shall be called for three times by the presiding officer as the first agenda item following the opening ceremonies of the general meeting. All proxy votes must be turned in to the Secretary before the third and final call for proxy votes. Once the third and final call is given and the presiding officer has officially declared the proxy votes closed, proxy votes cannot be accepted from anyone for any reason.

All proxy holders who will be casting proxy votes at the annual business meeting are reminded that no proxy vote will be honored for a department having one or more members at the meeting. Although a proxy ballot containing a list of all county departments is sent to each county president, a department is not required to give its county president, or anyone, the authority to cast its department's vote. If one person is present at the meeting that person shall vote their department's one vote; whether that person votes or not, the proxy holder shall not be entitled to vote for that department.

In order for the annual meeting to progress in a timely manner, it will be very helpful for the representative from all departments voting to come by and register with the Secretary during the hours set aside to accept proxy votes. However, any person voting for their own department is entitled to a ballot up until the final call for proxy votes has been made.

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# LEGISLATORS PRESENTED PLAQUES OF APPRECIATION

In 2006, the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments had a very successful legislative year. With the guidance of Representative Richard Laird in the House and Senator Tom Butler in the Senate, nine bills that provide new protections and benefits for Alabama's firefighters were signed into law by Governor Bob Riley on April 18, 2006.

During the current Legislative session, AAVFD President Johnny Alberson, Legislative Committee member Chauncey Wood, and 2006 Legislative Committee member Johnny Dennis presented Appreciation Plaques to sponsors of our legislation.

Due to the erratic schedule of both chambers, plaques for Representatives Oliver Robinson, Lynn Greer, Jeff McLaughlin, and Spencer Collier and Senators Jabo Waggoner, Phil Poole, Tom Butler and Pat Lindsey will be presented at a later date. Former Senator Gerald Dial was presented his plaque earlier.

AAVFD is indeed grateful for the vision of the legislators who supported the passage of the complete legislative package and look forward to the 2008 Legislative session.



**Rep. Allen Layson**  
**HB207 - TAG BILL** - Any member of a volunteer fire department may obtain a fire department tag by presenting to the probate judge or license commissioner a form prescribed by the Alabama Forestry Commission and signed by the chief officer of their department.



**Rep. Frank McDaniel**  
**HB437 - EMPLOYEE TERMINATION** - A volunteer firefighter may not be terminated from his/her employment for work if he/she has been on a call that is not completed making him/her late for work. However, the time may be deducted from their wages.



**Rep. Richard Laird**  
Coordinated and steered the passage of the complete package of AAVFD Bills through the House of Representatives



**Sen. Ted Little**  
**SB224 - TAG BILL** - Companion to HB207  
**SB221 - OBSTRUCTION OF VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS** - Authorizes volunteer firefighters to have the same powers as paid firemen in deterring interference or hindrance in fire control or firefighting activities.



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**Rep. Sue Schmidt**  
**HB247 - OBSTRUCTION OF VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS** - Companion to SB221



**Rep. Terry Spicer**  
**HB409 - HEART ATTACK AND STROKE BILL** - Extends the benefit of eligibility time for a firefighter who has a stroke or heart attack while answering a call to 24-hours after the call if determined to be related to the call.



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## **SOMETIMES GOOD THINGS CAN COME OUT OF A DISASTER!**

**Article by: EMT Debbie Andrews, Louisville VFD • Pictures by: Tina Wood**

In 2002, a fire burned the Louisville Hardware Store to the ground. The Bob Whigham family, who owned the lot, generously offered it to the Louisville Fire & Rescue to construct a much-needed new building for housing their new fire trucks and equipment.

Some 80 years (1927) after the Louisville Fire Department was founded, the next generation of Louisville Fire & Rescue look forward to continuing to care for the community's needs.



Members and friends of the Fire & Rescue team began to apply for grants and raise money to build the new station. Four years later, December 2006, the construction began on a new three-bay brick Fire & Rescue Building.



In May 2007, the building was completed and three new fire trucks and one ambulance rolled into their new home. To top things off, plans are being worked up to add a training/classroom and kitchen.



Kneeling L-R: Chief Lance Clark, EMT/Firefighter; Jordan Andrews, firefighter; Rustin Clark, firefighter/driver; Wayne Stell, firefighter/EMT; Derek Sasser, firefighter  
Back Row L-R: Heath Clark, Firefighter/driver; Lance Williamson, firefighter/driver; Tarlton Beaty, firefighter/driver; Michael Tillman, firefighter; Captain Johnny Clark, firefighter/EMT; Debbie Andrews, EMT







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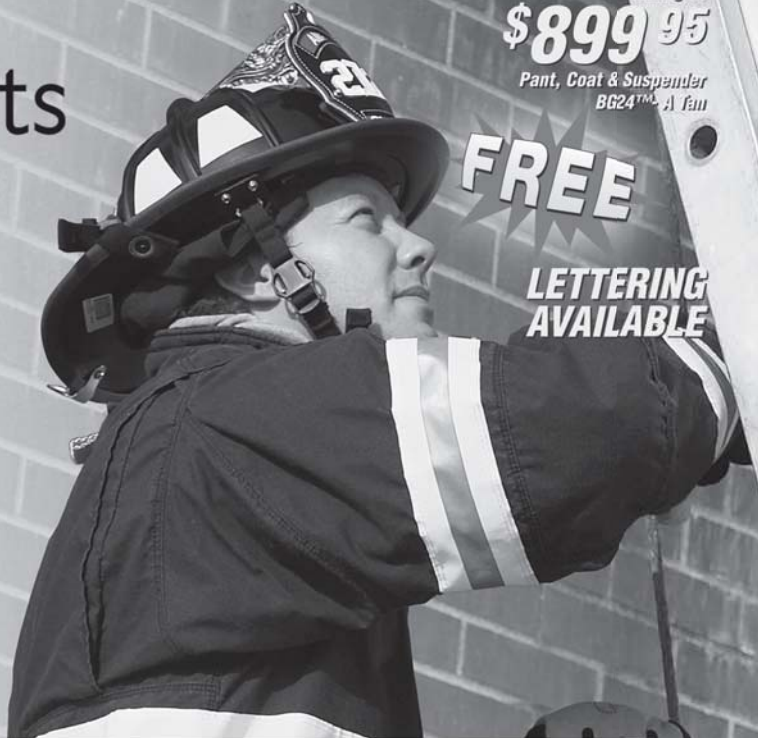


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# From Here and There

*News of the Volunteer Fire Service from across Alabama*



May 20-26 was celebrated as National EMS Week. Alabama Fire and EMS personnel gathered in Montgomery on May 22nd to show support for the Fire & Emergency Service Bills before the Legislature. Emergency Medical and Fire Equipment was on display on the south lawn of the Capitol. First Responders from across Alabama visited the State House during the day to talk with their Senator and Representative about the needs of Emergency Service Providers and thank them for their support.



Congratulations to Melissa Skelton who was honored as Firefighter of the Year by Butler VFD in Choctaw County.

Pine Hill VFD, Wilcox County, hosted a Disaster Preparedness Workshop, with the main focus on Hurricane preparedness, on May 17th.

Escambia County Fire Association held its 8th annual banquet on May 12th at Flomaton VFD. The colors were presented by South Honor Guard members Hugh Harris, Sue Starr and Daniel Day. Congratulations to the firefighter/EMS honored with the following awards: A C Cook Memorial Award - Retired Chief John Martin, Brewton FD; Career Firefighter of the Year - Greg Tucker; EMS Person of the Year - Chastity Peebles, Brewton FD; Female Firefighter of the Year - Anna Barlow, Appleton VFD; and Male Firefighter of the Year - Phillip Collins, Appleton VFD.

Grove Hill VFD, Clarke County, and Leroy VFD, Washington County, were among the fire departments who responded to the tornado at Miller's Ferry in Wilcox County. Several of the firefighters had family living in the area hardest hit. It was only after being at the site for some time that they learned no loved ones had been harmed.

Dale County Volunteer Fire Departments that did not receive FEMA grants for equipment damage and public

assistance during the March 1 tornado received a check from Governor Bob Riley. Governor Riley appropriated \$1,000 to Choctawhatchee VFD, \$2,600 to Echo VFD, \$650 to Skipperville, and \$750 to Ewell VFD and Marley Mill VFD. Since these departments didn't meet the threshold for public assistance, the Governor appropriated \$5,000 from a contingency fund to help with out-of-pocket necessities like fuel. One of the department's trucks broke down during relief efforts.

West Jefferson VFD, Jefferson County, hosted Community Day on May 12th. Among the activities were a bike, car and old fire engine show, along with delicious BBQ for sale.

A Watrous Pump class was held May 1st at Remlap VFD in Blount County.

Friends of Frisco City Fire Rescue, Monroe County, sponsored a Fun Day at the Park with food, music, free blood pressure check, child identification kits, fire department mascots and games with prizes on April 21st.

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# HOT SHOTS!



Taylor Volunteer Firemen Craig Marsh and Jimmy Blackmon work to control a training fire in an abandoned building donated to Taylor VFD (Houston Co) for training.



Cowarts Volunteer Firefighter Jonathan Nall (Houston Co) talks with Department firefighters as they battle woods fire for 90 minutes as it threatens nearby homes.



Cottonwood Volunteer Firefighters (Houston Co) work to extinguish fire at Dollar General store.



Firefighters from Pinckard, Newton, Midland City & Napier Field (Dale Co) douse roof with water at house fire in Pinckard.



The mock train derailment hosted by Thomasville VFD, Clarke County was designed to simulate a train hitting a school bus, killing at least one person and releasing toxic chlorine gas. But before the practice train accident on May 10th could begin, a real train accident in adjoining Marengo County that same morning forced its postponement for about an hour. A train carrying rocket booster motors for NASA's space shuttle derailed, injuring several people. Choctaw County's hazardous materials response team was scheduled to come to the drill, but the real accident pulled them away, so the hazmat team from Saraland came up to participate.





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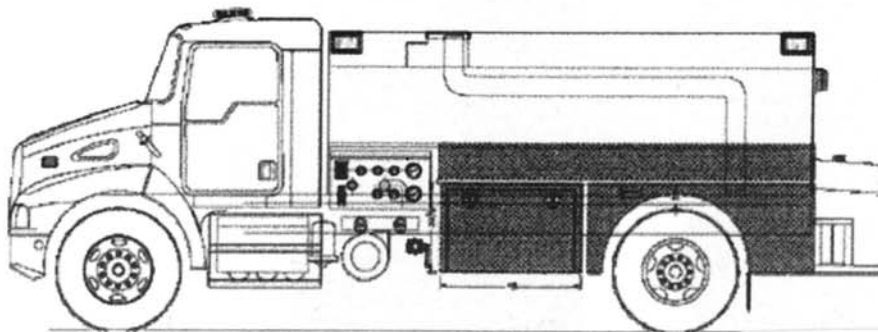
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## **VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS SAVE EIGHTY YEAR OLD CHURCH**

**By: William Neal, Luverne Asst. Fire Chief, AAVFD Second Vice President**

The Luverne United Methodist Church (LUMC) was built in 1926. The original church has a large sanctuary and basement. There was a three-story Sunday School building built on the rear at time of construction. The church roof was damaged by a tornado in 1943. The members of LUMC added a kitchen and fellowship hall during the 1960's. The Fellowship Hall was attached to the original church by a hallway with two swinging doors. Many of the original families who settled in Luverne have roots in the LUMC. In 1991, the LUMC installed a pipe organ system that costs in excess of \$150,000.

When ISO inspected Luverne in 2004, the LUMC was one of six structure locations where fire hydrant flows were conducted. The LUMC has over 20,000 square feet of floor space. The church is brick with heavy timber construction.

The Luverne Volunteer Fire Department (LVFD) had extensively pre-planned the church. The last pre-plan drill was February 8, 2005.

A lady passing by the church on January 29, 2007 saw heavy smoke coming from the structure. The lady called "911" and stopped at the Minister's Parsonage next to the church. The church is located only six blocks from the LVFD station. The time of the call was 9:52 pm. LVFD responded with two pumpers and three support vehicles. LVFD Chief Bill McManigle called for additional assistance from Brantley, Rutledge, Glenwood and Fullers Cross Roads VFD's.

Flames were visible in the kitchen area. LVFD did an interior attack into kitchen with 1.75 lines. Smoke had spread into the entire structure. The doors leading to the main building from the Fellowship Hall were closed. LVFD succeeded in knocking down the main fire before it had time to spread to the entire structure. The kitchen was destroyed. There was heavy fire, smoke and water damage to the remaining Fellowship Hall. Smoke went all the way to the third floor of the Sunday School Building.

Firemen began ventilating the structure by placing a positive-pressure fan in the front of the church at the basement door. The eighty-year-old windows had been painted so many times that firemen could not open upstairs windows. Firemen broke one glass pane out of the old six pane wooden windows to ventilate the smoke from the upper floors. The entire structure, built in 1926, was saved. It will take about a month for the smoke cleanup to be completed.

Fire Marshall Chuck Gorey determined the fire originated in the kitchen pantry. The point of origin was in the ceiling next to a light fixture.

LUMC members were immediately invited to the next door First Baptist Church. Many LUMC members attended services on Sunday, February 4th, at First Baptist. The LUMC Pastor Ken Jackson summed it up when he said, "The most important thing was no one was hurt or killed". All the firefighters said, "Amen"!



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Allison MT 647 Automatic



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5 Quartz Lights, 2 Scene Lights



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Cummins Diesel, Allison Automatic  
Light Tower, Awning on Officer's Side



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Berkeley 200 GPM Pump  
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**2001 Chevy 4X4 Brush Truck**  
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Automatic Transmission  
Berkley 250 GPM Skid Unit  
300 Gallon Poly Tank



**1997 Pierce/FL Rescue Pumper**  
Cummins 8.3L Diesel  
Allison Automatic Transmission  
Waterous 1500 GPM Pump  
1000 Gallon Poly Tank



**1997 E-One Cyclone Hush Pumper**  
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic  
Interior Command Desk  
Hale 1500 GPM Pump  
500 Gallon Tank



**1997 E-One Hush Rescue Pumper/EMSTransport Unit**  
Cummins Diesel, Allison Automatic  
Hale 1250 GPM Rear Mount Pump  
500 Gallon Poly Tank



**1990 E-One Rescue Pumper**  
Detroit 8V92 Diesel Engine  
Allison HT740 Automatic  
1500 GPM Side Mount Pump  
500 Gallon Poly Tank



**1989 Pierce Arrow Rescue Pumper**  
Detroit 8V92TA 475 HP Diesel  
Allison HT740 Automatic  
Waterous 2-Stage 1500 GPM Pump  
500 Gallon Poly Tank

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Rescue Pumper**  
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic  
Waterous 1250 GPM Pump  
750 Gallon Poly Tank



**1991 Spartan Rescue Pumper**  
Diesel Engine, Automatic Transmission  
Top Mount Enclosed Pump  
750 Gallon Poly Tank



**1988 American Eagle/  
Spartan Pumper**  
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic  
Hale 1750 GPM Pump  
750 Gallon Poly Tank



**1983 E-One Custom Pumper**  
Detroit 8V92TA 370 HP Diesel  
Allison Automatic Transmission  
Hale 1250 GPM Side Mount Pump  
1000 Gallon Aluminum Tank



**1993 Ferrara Silent Knight  
Custom Pumper**  
Cummins Diesel, Allison Automatic  
Hale 1250 GPM Pump  
500 Gallon Poly Tank



**1989 E-One Cyclone Pumper**  
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic  
Hale 1500 GPM Side Mount Pump  
750 Gallon Poly Tank  
Akron 95 GPM Eductor



**1991 Southern Coach Pumper**  
Cummins 300 HP Diesel  
Allison HT740 Automatic  
American Godiva 1500 GPM Pump  
750 Gallon Poly Tank



**1989 E-One Hurricane Pumper**  
Detroit 6V92TA Diesel  
Allison HT740 Automatic  
Hale 1250 GPM Side Mount Pump  
1000 Gallon Poly Tank



**1997 E-One Cyclone II Pumper**  
Detroit Series 40 330 HP Diesel  
Allison Automatic Transmission  
Hale 1250 GPM Side Mount Pump  
500 Gallon Poly Tank



**1994 E-One/Spartan Pumper**  
Cummins 300 HP Diesel Engine  
Allison MD3060P Automatic  
Hale 1250 GPM Side Mount Pump  
500 Gallon Poly Tank



**1989 E-One Hush Pumper**  
Detroit 6V92TA Diesel  
Allison HTD741 Automatic  
Hale 1500 GPM Pump  
750 Gallon Aluminum Tank



**1992 Beck/Volvo Pumper Tanker**  
Detroit 60 Series 350 HP Diesel  
Allison HT740 Automatic  
Hale QSG 1500 GPM Pump  
1500 Gallon Poly Tank



**1994 Ferrara/FL80 Pumper**  
Cummins 8.3L Diesel Engine  
Allison Automatic Transmission  
1250 GPM Side Mount Pump  
1000 Gallon Poly Tank



**1999 KME FL80 Pumper**  
Cummins 330 HP Diesel  
Allison Automatic Transmission  
Hale 1500 GPM Pump  
1000 Gallon Poly Tank



**1996 Ferrara Rescue Pumper**  
Cummins 300 HP Diesel Engine  
Allison Automatic Transmission  
Hale 1250 GPM Side Mount Pump  
750 Gallon Poly Tank



**1996 Southern Coach Pumper**  
Cummins 300HP Diesel Engine  
Allison MD3060P Automatic  
Hale 1000 GPM Side Mount Pump  
1000 Gallon Poly Tank



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Allison MT643 Automatic  
Hale 250 GPM Side-Mount Pump  
1500 Gallon Steel Tank



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Ambulance**  
Ford E-350 Chassis  
Ford 7.3L Diesel Engine  
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# Officer Candidate Focus

On the following pages, you will find information on the candidates recommended by the nominating committee to fill the officer and board member positions shown. The AAVFD hopes this information to assist you in selecting the best qualified applicants for each position. Each candidate provided his/her own information.



**Johnny Alberson**  
**Candidate for President**

- Member of Butler Volunteer Fire Department since 1971
  - Assistant Chief of Butler VFD for 27 years, currently serving
  - Organizing member of Choctaw County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments
  - President of Choctaw County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments for 20 years
  - Initiated and worked for successful passage a fire protection tax in Choctaw County
  - Served four terms on the Board of Directors of the Alabama Fire Protection Institute, one year as vice president and one year as president
  - Butler VFD Firefighter of the Year twice
  - Choctaw County Citizen of the Year
  - Received Governor's Volunteer Award for Volunteer Service
  - Chairman of Choctaw County E-911 Board for three years
  - Served one term Choctaw County Board of Education
  - Retired from Choctaw County School System as Transportation Supervisor
  - Served two terms as President of Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments.
- I thank you for your support my last two years as President and earnestly solicit your vote and continued support in working for the volunteer fire service.



**Steve Dennis**  
**Candidate for Vice President,  
Central Region**

- Chief of Friendship VFD – 1980 to present
- Chief of Tallassee VFD – 1986 - 2000
- Served as AAVFD District 10 Director or Alternate Director
- Vice President, Central Region – 1999 thru 2007
- President of Friendship Water Works
- Member of Elmore County E911 Board
- Certified Firefighter Instructor, EMT, Hazardous Materials, Extrication, plus numerous certificates through the Alabama Fire College.
- Farmer for 42 years
- Member of Alabama National Guard, Chief Warrant Officer 5, for 37 years.



**Lawrence Huffman**  
**Candidate for Vice President,  
North Region**

- Retired from Tennessee Valley Authority in September 1995 after 27 years of service.
- Served from 1968 to 1988 as Student Generating, Plant Operator, Assistant Shift Engineer, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor, Plant Support Supervisor, Yard Operation Supervisor, and Quality Manager.
- After retirement served three years as Quality Consultant.
- Served two years as Marketing Manager for Modular Home Manufacturing.
- Serving as Grant Manager for Colbert County EMA.
- Served as Vice President and President of Colbert County Association of Volunteer Fire Department.
- Served as President of District 9 of the Association of Volunteer Fire Departments.
- Served as Alternate and Director of Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments.
- Served as a member of Alabama Forestry Steering Committee.
- Served on Colbert County E-911 Board of Directors.
- Served on Board of Directors for Paradise Federal Credit Union.
- Served on Credit Committee.
- Served as a board member for Colbert-Browns Ferry Credit Union for 15 years and have been a member of the Credit Union for 38 years.
- Currently serving 2nd year as AAVFD Vice President, North Region

# Officer Candidate Focus



**Roger D. Wilson**  
**Candidate for Vice President,**  
**North Region**

Present:

- Director of Walker County 9-1-1 since May 1993 (see below for Board of Directors term).
- Serve on the Cost Recovery Committee of the Alabama Wireless Board
- Serve as President of the Alabama Association of 9-1-1 Districts
- Serve as Vice President of the Alabama Chapter of National

- Emergency Number Association
- Serve as 9-1-1 representative on the State of Alabama Homeland Security Task Force Committee.
- Serve as Chairman of the Legislative Committee for the Alabama Chapter of National Emergency Number Association
- Serve as District II Director for the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments
- Serve as Vice Chairman of the District II Fire Association
- Serve on the Alabama Forestry Steering Committee
- Serve on the LEPC of Walker County
- Serve as Local Point of Contact for Homeland Security
- Volunteer with the Pineywoods Fire Department



**Mary Sells**  
**Candidate for Secretary**

Hello Everyone! Well, as we know, it's getting that time of year again to select your officers of the AAVFD. Each year, the candidates are asked to write something about themselves.

I'm going to be a little different this year. Over the past several years, people have complained about the choices that have been made concerning the Board. I've heard this is a one-man show over & over, but it's not that way at all. Yes, some people do try to influence others, but it's your vote that helps make a difference here. SO if you're not going to be able to attend the Conference, PLEASE send a representative that you TRUST to carry your vote.

Now, just a little about me. I'm the Asst Chief for my small Department, McCullough VFD in Escambia County. This is the tenth year I have held this office.

I am a member of the AAVFD Southern Unit Honor Guard, serving for 6 years.

I was honored with AAVFD Sherry Garner Memorial Award in 2001 and 2004. This award recognizes an outstanding Female Firefighter of the year.

I have served as AAVFD Board Secretary since 2002 and hold this position at the present time.

So in closing this short bio, I ask you in advance for your vote to serve you another year as the Board Secretary. I have an OPEN-DOOR policy. If you ever need anything, please call. If I don't have the answer, I'll be sure to direct you to the right person who will be able to help you.

I look forward to seeing you all in Mobile August 3-4th. Thank you again for your vote



**Kalyn Ray**  
**Candidate for Secretary**

Dear County Presidents and Distinguished Board Members,

As you know the AAVFD conference is quickly approaching and I am nominated this year for the Secretary position.

I would like to tell you a little about myself so you may see that I have the qualifications to become the Secretary of our great Association.

I am married to a wonderful husband who is a career and volunteer firefighter. My son is a paramedic/firefighter, both career and volunteer and my daughter is a junior firefighter.

I have been associated with our volunteer fire department (Lee Chambers) since 1990, where I have been in many roles.

I work for East Alabama Medical Center, where I am the coder and liaison for the Emergency Room physicians. I have

been employed in this role for 8 years. In this position, I have to write memos, proposals and correspondences to other hospitals and physicians and the staff.

My most prideful accomplishment is that I have been the Secretary of the Fire Department Association since it began in 1998, almost 10 years on the fire department level.

I have also been the Secretary of our County Association since 1991, for a total of 16 years.

I have been affiliated with the AAVFD since 1991, and held the roles of director, alternate director and nominating committee chairman.

I sincerely ask you for your supported vote on August 4th and ask you to share this information with your local fire departments.

I thank you for your time and hope you consider me.

Again, Thank you and God bless all my Brothers and Sisters.

Sincerely,  
Kalyn Ray



# Officer Candidate Focus



## William Neal – Candidate for Vice President, South Region

I wish to announce my candidacy of Southern Area Vice President of the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. I wish to work with the other officers of the Association to find some means of enhancing benefits for future and current volunteer firefighters. WE ARE LOOSING THE BATTLE to recruit and retain young men and women into the volunteer fire service. I feel qualified to serve in this position. My experience, education, training, will

enable me to best serve the interests of the volunteer fire service for the ENTIRE STATE. I would appreciate your vote and support.

My career in the fire service began when I was sixteen years old. I was a member of the Flomaton, AL Volunteer Fire Department. I was a member for four years.

I joined the Luverne Volunteer Fire Department in January 1973. I am still a active member 30 years later. I have served as training officer, Lieutenant, Captain and currently serve as Assistant Fire Chief. I have been Assistant Chief since 1995. I have taken countless Alabama Fire College Training Classes.

I served as Secretary Treasurer of the Crenshaw County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments for two years 1986-1988. I was elected President in 1988 and served for 15 consecutive years until January 2001. As President, I coordinated countless activities involving both firemen and policemen. I operated in a Joint Command Post on countless occasions. The most memorable were the floods of 1990 and Hurricane Opal in 1995. I assisted in the design of the counties Fire Control Radio Network and the E-911 system organization.

I have served on committees for the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments (AAVFD) and the Rural Community Fire Protection Institute. I served four terms as District Seven delegate to the Board of Directors to the AAVFD. I have served on the AAVFD legislative committee during the past two years. The AAVFD had its most successful legislative agenda passed in 2006. I will continue to be a voice in the legislature for all firefighters statewide. I also speak up on the Governor's Homeland Security Taskforce on first responder issues. I was reappointed to a second four year term by House Speaker Seth Hammett in February 2007. I look to listen to all firefighters. I personally visited nearly every county or District Association in the past two years. I currently serve as Second Vice President.

I have attended eight courses at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. These 48-hour courses were part of the Volunteer Incentive Program. Those courses are as follows:

Fire Service Planning Concepts for 21st Century	Fire Command
February 1998	February 1999
Operations	



## Gary Cobb Candidate for Treasurer

I received my B.S., M.S., and Ed. S degrees from Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville AL

I spent 2 years in the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, including 1 year in Vietnam.

I taught science and biology on the middle school, high school, and college levels during my 30 years as a teacher. I retired from teaching about 9 years ago.

I have been a member of the Brindlee Mountain Volunteer Fire Department for the past 18 years. I am

Leadership & Administration	February 1999
Challenges for Training Officers	February 2000
Hazardous Materials Incident Management	February 2001
Fire Cause Determination	September 2002
Advanced Safety Operations & Management	February 2003
Leading Community Fire Prevention	Tuscaloosa, AL September 2004
Alabama Fire College Fire Inspectors Course I	
June 2000	Alabama Fire
College Fire Inspectors Course II	April 2004

House Speaker Seth Hammett appointed me to serve a four-year term on the Governor's Task Force for Homeland Security in December 2003. I represent the state's volunteer fire service. I also serve on the AAVFD legislative committee, Wild Land Grants Committee.

I continue Public Safety work as a part time policeman, Assistant Fire Chief, Building and Fire Inspector for the City of Luverne AL. I have served on countless Community, school support group positions. In 1997, the Luverne-Crenshaw Chamber of Commerce awarded William Neal the "Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award" for countless hours of work to the community. In 1999, I wrote an Emergency Operations Plan for the Crenshaw County Public School System.

## Professional Career:

Employed March 1971 as Alabama State Trooper Cadet. Promoted to trooper September 1972. Assigned to Highway patrol division. Served the next 26 years as a state trooper with the Highway Patrol division. Special duties were traffic homicide division as Investigator, accident reconstructions, investigating over 150 fatality accidents.

While in Special Operations Platoon Four, I deployed to four major hurricanes, five tornado touch downs, four floods, two riots, three labor strikes, one school boycott, 13 gubernatorial inaugurations, and one National Governors Conference.

In 1980, was awarded Public Safety Life Saving Award for saving the life of a two-year-old boy, whose face was torn off in a traffic collision.

1996, the Law Enforcement Coordinated Committee of US Attorney's office for the middle district of Alabama selected Trooper W. A. Neal as the outstanding law enforcement of the Year for my work in assisting District Attorneys in criminal prosecutions of DUI, assaults and manslaughter cases in a nine county area of south and middle Alabama.

On September 1, 1998, I retired after 27 years as a state trooper.

## References:

Alabama Department Public Safety Major Cary Sutton  
State Senator Wendell Mitchell  
State Representative Charles Newton  
ADECA Chief and former Luverne Mayor John Harrison  
Alabama Department of Education Director of Finance and for Superintendent of Education Craig Pouncey.

a state certified Firefighter II, Fire Instructor II, and have been a Paramedic for the past 16 years. In our Fire Department, I have served as the Secretary of the Department and as the EMS Captain. Our department has a class 5/9 ISO rating and is a non-transport ALS Service running out of three stations in 2 counties.

I was selected Male EMT of the Year by the Morgan County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments two different years.

I am currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Morgan County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments.

I have served as the AAFD representative to the State EMS Advisory Board, the Cardiac Arrest Survivors Commission, and on other EMS committees over the past several years.

I currently serve and am seeking re-election to the position of AAVFD treasurer.

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# 2007 AAVFD Membership – Total 855

## DISTRICT 1 MEMBERSHIP

CALHOUN		6 of 13
CHEROKEE		1 of 13
DEKALB	100%	25 of 25
ETOWAH	100%	23 of 23
JACKSON	100%	21 of 21
MADISON	100%	17 of 17
MARSHALL	100%	18 of 18

## DISTRICT 2 MEMBERSHIP

BLOUNT	100%	21 of 21
CULLMAN	100%	26 of 26
JEFFERSON		13 of 31
SHELBY		8 of 22
ST CLAIR		1 of 20
WALKER	100%	25 of 25
WINSTON	100%	11 of 11

## DISTRICT 3 MEMBERSHIP

FAYETTE		1 of 13
GREENE	100%	12 of 12
HALE	100%	9 of 9
LAMAR		0 of 10
PICKENS	100%	17 of 17
SUMTER	100%	19 of 19
TUSCALOOSA	100%	20 of 20

## DISTRICT 4 MEMBERSHIP

CHAMBERS	100%	12 of 12
CLAY	100%	18 of 18
CLEBURNE	100%	12 of 12
COOSA	100%	10 of 10
RANDOLPH	100%	17 of 17
TALLADEGA		3 of 15
TALLAPOOSA		0 of 13

## DISTRICT 5 MEMBERSHIP

AUTAUGA	100%	10 of 10
BIBB	100%	9 of 9
CHILTON	100%	15 of 15
DALLAS	100%	15 of 15
MARENGO	100%	12 of 12
PERRY	100%	11 of 11

## WILCOX 100% 10 of 10

DISTRICT 6 MEMBERSHIP		
BARBOUR	100%	11 of 11
COFFEE	100%	9 of 9
DALE	100%	13 of 13
GENEVA		0 of 10
HENRY	100%	6 of 6
HOUSTON	100%	17 of 17
PIKE	100%	9 of 9

## DISTRICT 7 MEMBERSHIP

BUTLER	100%	16 of 16
CONECUH	100%	21 of 21
COVINGTON	100%	20 of 20
CRENSHAW	100%	12 of 12
ESCAMBIA	100%	22 of 22
MONROE	100%	15 of 15

## DISTRICT 8 MEMBERSHIP

BALDWIN		16 of 33
CHOCTAW	100%	14 of 14
CLARKE	100%	13 of 13
MOBILE	100%	19 of 19
WASHINGTON	100%	19 of 19

## DISTRICT 9 MEMBERSHIP

COLBERT	100%	14 of 14
FRANKLIN	100%	13 of 13
LAUDERDALE	100%	14 of 14
LAWRENCE	100%	11 of 11
LIMESTONE	100%	13 of 13
MARION	100%	12 of 12
MORGAN	100%	22 of 22

## DISTRICT 10 MEMBERSHIP

BULLOCK	100%	7 of 7
ELMORE	100%	20 of 20
LEE	100%	7 of 7
LOWNDES		2 of 8
MACON		1 of 10
MONTGOMERY	100%	8 of 8
RUSSELL	100%	11 of 11



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**S660 CCCC Strobe Kit**  
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**\$306.00**

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4 LED Lighthead: **\$187**  
6 LED Lighthead: **\$270**  
8 LED Lighthead: **\$330**

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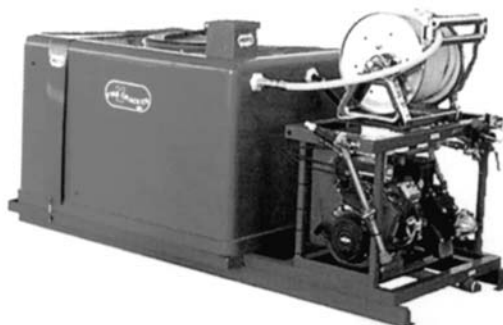
### Standard Unit Pricing

#### FD 18V 300 L

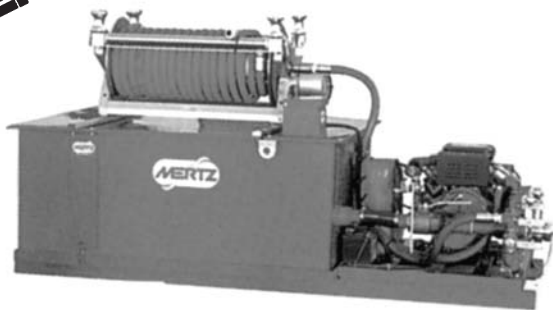
This is the 18 hp version of the famous "FireCracker." With pressures of over 500 psi this is the top of the line "Wildland" firefighter. Standard tanks up to 300 gallon, but larger optional tanks are available. Engines from various engine manufacturers are also available. Optional foam systems can be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

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

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Stats	150G	200G	250G	300G	400G
Height	39.5"	44.5"	51.5"	56.5"	52.25"
Length	91"	91"	91"	91"	98.5"
Width	43"	43"	43"	43"	64"
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## 2007 AAVFD CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 2007

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. . . . . Registration in Lobby at Best Western  
 Noon - 1:00 p.m. . . . . Lunch on your own  
 Noon - 5:00 p.m. . . . . Vendor Room at Best Western  
 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. . . . . Training at Hotel Meeting Room  
   Instructor - Todd Hoffman  
   "The Scene of the Accident"  
 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. . . . . Board of Directors Meeting  
   Hotel Meeting Room  
 6:00 p.m. . . . . Cookout - Hotel Grounds  
   (Bring your name tag)

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 2007

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. . . . . Competition Registration - Abba Temple  
   Shrine 7701 Hitt Rd. Mobile, 36695  
 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. . . . . Competition Captains Meeting - Abba  
   Temple Shrine  
 8:30 a.m. - Noon . . . . . Competition at Abba Temple Shrine  
 8:00 a.m. - until . . . . . Registration in Lobby at Best Western  
   Motel  
 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. . . . . Vendor Room Open  
 Noon - 1:00 p.m. . . . . Lunch on your own  
 2:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. . . . . Annual Business Meeting Abba Temple  
   Shrine  
 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. . . . . Awards Banquet at Abba Temple Shrine  
   (Bring your name tag and ticket)  
 9:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. . . . . Social Time - Best Western Motel and Inn  
   Entertainment - Mike Barns

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Incidents	Responding	Orders Purchasing
Vendors	Inventory	Water Usage

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## AAVFD 2007 CONFERENCE

**August 3-4, 2007 • Mobile, Alabama**

**Competition Events**

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### HOST MOTEL INFORMATION

Mobile County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments is hosting the 2007 Annual AAVFD Conference on August 3-4, 2007 in Mobile Alabama. Listed below is the host hotel.

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# NATIONAL FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES

**Name/Rank:** Chief Eddy G. Ivers (59), Volunteer  
**Department:** Concord-Greene Township VFD, Washington OH  
**Date of Death:** 3/13/07  
**Cause of Death:** After responding to reported fire, he pulled to the side of the road experiencing a medical emergency. Care was initiated, and he was transported to hospital where he later passed away from cause still to be determined.

**Name/Rank:** Captain Lucien Dale Breau (60), Career  
**Department:** Crowley FD, Crowley LA  
**Date of Death:** 3/17/07  
**Cause of Death:** Went into cardiac arrest upon awakening at station. He was resuscitated and transported to hospital where he was pronounced dead.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter William Grant (44), Career  
**Department:** Chicago FD, Chicago IL  
**Date of Death:** 3/23/07  
**Cause of Death:** Died from injuries sustained while responding to alarm when apparatus he was in was struck by a school bus. Three other firefighters and the school bus driver were injured in the accident.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter Brandon Whimple (19), Volunteer  
**Department:** Firefighter Billy Harold Williams (45), Volunteer  
**Department:** Rhodestown VFD, Jacksonville NC  
**Date of Death:** 3/24/07  
**Cause of Death:** Firefighter Whimple died from injuries en-route to structure fire when 1987 Chevrolet tanker, with 1,200 gallons of water, in which he was riding left roadway and rolled. Firefighter Williams was operating the tanker.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter Steve Olinik (65) Volunteer  
**Department:** Rome VFD, Rome OH  
**Date of Death:** 3/30/07  
**Cause of Death:** Called for standby at station during mutual aid call, he greeted other personnel and then collapsed without warning.

**Name/Rank:** Fire Police Captain Edgar Hamlin Scott (75), Volunteer  
**Department:** Menands FD, Menands NY  
**Date of Death:** 4/3/07  
**Cause of Death:** Fire Police Captain Scott and two other fire police officers were responding to a motor vehicle accident when their fire department vehicle, operated by Scott, was involved in collision with propane truck.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter Christopher Jaros (24), Volunteer  
**Department:** Ceredo Volunteer Fire-Rescue Dept, Ceredo WV  
**Date of Death:** 4/7/07  
**Cause of Death:** Died responding to alarm when his POV was involved in a two-car motor vehicle collision. Due to snow/sleet and ice, there were multiple vehicle accidents with three fatalities in a thirty minute period within a three mile radius of Ceredo.

**Name/Rank:** Staff Chief of Operations Bryan Zollner (44), Career  
**Department:** CAL Fire, Sacramento CA  
**Date of Death:** 4/12/07  
**Cause of Death:** Died of injuries sustained in single vehicle traffic accident.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter-Technician One Kyle Robert Wilson (24), Career  
**Department:** Prince William County Dept of Fire & Rescue, Prince William VA  
**Date of Death:** 4/16/07  
**Cause of Death:** While performing search & rescue on second floor of structure fire, he became dis-oriented and separated from officer, activating his Mayday distress alarm. Firefighters were unable to rescue him because of rapid fire progress and partial collapse of the structure. Firefighter Wilson passed away on scene from injuries. Two other firefighters were injured.

**Name/Rank:** Captain/Paramedic Billy A. Gafford (56), Career  
**Department:** Birmingham Fire & Rescue Service, Birmingham AL  
**Date of Death:** 4/25/07  
**Cause of Death:** Collapsed during fitness training exercise and died later in hospital.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter Vernon "Bob" McKenzie (64), Volunteer  
**Department:** Gem County Fire Protection District #2, Sweet ID  
**Date of Death:** 4/28/07  
**Cause of Death:** Complaining of not feeling well immediately after participating in Wildland Pack Test, he passed away after being transported to hospital.

**Name/Rank:** Captain Joe Ed Ivy (51), Career  
**Department:** Nacogdoches FD, Nacogdoches TX  
**Date of Death:** 4/28/07  
**Cause of Death:** Fell ill at high-rise fire training session and died from a heart attack after being transported to hospital.

**Name/Rank:** Captain William Church (63), Volunteer  
**Department:** Columbus VFD, Columbus PA  
**Date of Death:** 5/3/07  
**Cause of Death:** Suffered apparent heart attack after driving second engine on alarm was returned to available status. He was transported to hospital where he could not be revived.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter Joseph Zumwalt (54), Volunteer  
**Department:** Sheldon District FD, Sheldon IL  
**Date of Death:** 5/6/07  
**Cause of Death:** Collapsed on scene of farm tool shed fire. He was treated and transported to hospital where he could not be revived.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter Ottis Earl Stephenson (61), Volunteer  
**Department:** Angier & Black River FD, Angier NC  
**Date of Death:** 5/6/07  
**Cause of Death:** Died from apparent heart attack within 24 hours of responding to working residential structure fire.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter Peter Beebe-Lawson (50), Volunteer  
**Department:** Springfield FD, Springfield ME  
**Date of Death:** 5/7/07  
**Cause of Death:** Died on scene when tanker truck he was driving overturned after rounding roadway curve en route to fire call.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter-EMT Jeffrey Jeans (46), Volunteer  
**Department:** Eudora FD, Hernando MS  
**Date of Death:** 5/11/07  
**Cause of Death:** Suffered apparent heart attack while working at station preparing vehicles to be used for vehicle extrication training.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter Brandon Daley (19), Volunteer  
**Department:** Butler County Fire District # 3, Rose Hill KS  
**Date of Death:** 5/11/07  
**Cause of Death:** Died when he lost control of POV and was ejected when responding to residential structure fire.

**Name/Rank:** Fire Captain Edward Andrews (53), Career  
**Department:** Redding FD, Redding CA  
**Date of Death:** 5/14/07  
**Cause of Death:** Collapsed in physical fitness training and was carried to hospital where he was pronounced dead.

**Name/Rank:** Deputy Chief & Fire Police Captain Joe Piazzi (76) Volunteer  
**Department:** Briarcliff Manor FD, Briarcliff Manor NY  
**Date of Death:** 5/16/07  
**Cause of Death:** After responding to several incidents of downed power lines and trees due to storms and assisting with cleanup, he was responding to another call when he began to experience chest pains. He contacted 911, was found unresponsive, and transported to hospital where he was pronounced dead.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter Dennis Cheshire (48), Volunteer  
**Department:** Red Oak Area VFD, Andalusia AL  
**Date of Death:** 5/20/07  
**Cause of Death:** Died when tanker he was operating en route to structure fire overturned while making a sharp left turn.

**Name/Rank:** Captain John Keane (37), Career  
**Department:** Waterbury FD, Waterbury CT  
**Date of Death:** 5/22/07  
**Cause of Death:** Captain Keane and Engine 8 were responding to reported kitchen fire when they were struck at intersection by Truck 1. Keane and driver of engine were both ejected upon impact and suffered massive head trauma. A total of 8 firefighters were injured in the event and all transported to various area hospitals. At the time of Captain Keane's passing, all firefighters except for the driver had been released from the hospital.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter David A. Middleton (38), Career  
**Department:** Boston FD, Boston MA  
**Date of Death:** 5/28/07  
**Cause of Death:** After working several incidents through the end of his shift, he complained of not feeling well. He was discovered at home several hours later having passed away from apparent heart attack.

**Name/Rank:** Firefighter II Felix M. Roberts, Career  
**Department:** Fulton County FD, Atlanta GA  
**Date of Death:** 5/28/07  
**Cause of Death:** Died from injuries received at residential structure fire while searching for trapped occupant when he was overcome by rapid fire progress.

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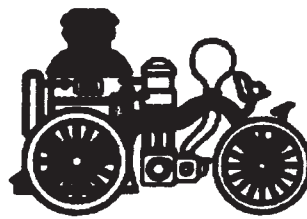
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## THE BELL TOLLED

**Dennis Cheshire, Red Oak Area VFD, Covington County, died while responding in a tanker that overturned en-route to a structure fire on May 20, 2007.**

**Leonard Kevin Malone, past Chief of New Bethel VFD, Colbert County, passed away on May 26, 2007.**

**Roy Harvey Stafford, retired member of Clio VFD, Barbour County, passed away on June 9, 2007.**

### FIREFIGHTER TEDDY GALANTI IS A GREAT AMERICAN!

*My Name is Anjel Ramirez*

*My family and I were at Collinsville, Alabama, March 3, 2007 of our Lord and Savior. Yes we are illegal immigrants from Mexico. My daughter was blue and lifeless, as people walked by laughing and staring. Only one person out of hundreds stopped, he was Teddy Galanti. He said he was a member of Cook Springs Volunteer Fire Department. He showed no discrimination or prejudice toward us. He treated us like Human Beings. It seemed like an eternity but he brought life back in my baby with something he called CPR. I just want to say Thank You and say our baby is O.K. and doing fine. Mr. Teddy Galanti is a great American.*

*Anjel Ramirez and Family  
 Collinsville, Alabama*

### THANKS AGAIN!

*From Brenda Morgan who was given a donation by AAVFD when her husband Lovetown Chief Gerald Morgan passed away October 28, 2006.*

*I want you to know that I appreciate my fire family so very much. My fellow firefighters have went out of their way to help me any way possible. They have been there for me!*

*It means so much to belong to this great group of people! Words can't express how grateful I am. The financial help, the phone calls, the cards, the prayers will never be forgotten.*

*If I can ever help you in any way, let me know. I am proud to be an Alabama Firefighter. I pray for us all every day! Thanks so much!*

**I**f any Volunteer Fire Department (member or not) has a firefighter die in the line of duty or as a result of a line of duty injury (examples: at the scene, going to or from the scene), notify ONE of the following IMMEDIATELY, no matter what day it is or what time of day or night: Johnny Alberson – (205) 459-2688, Steve Dennis – (334) 283-2110, William Neal – (334) 335-3643, or Lawrence Huffman – (256) 446-9813.

**A copy of the booklet "Death In Line Of Duty" may be obtained from the Montgomery office.**

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**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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