



THE VOLUNTEER



The Official Newsletter of the
ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

January – March 2007

District 6 - Dale County

Alabama Volunteer Firefighters Respond to Dangerous Tornadoes



Tornado bears down on Echo in Dale County

Thirty-six houses were either destroyed or damaged in the Echo community in Dale County by the winds from the March 1 tornado that killed eight in Enterprise (Coffee County) and one in Miller's Ferry (Wilcox County). (See Related Story on Page 7) The Echo Fire Station sustained minor damage compared to other structures in the community.

To fund repairs, Echo Volunteer Firefighters held a fish fry to make money to pay for repairs to the station and some damaged equipment. Firefighters from Clio and Louisville VFD in Barbour County, Abbeville



Firefighters fry fish to raise money for station repairs



Echo Firefighters R to L: Rocky Windham (EMS Chief), Dusty Trawick (Asst EMS Chief), April Windham (EVFD Treasurer), Jimmy Ward (President), Frankie Wilson (EMS Treasurer), Chappy Trawick (Fire Chief), Laura Juno & Kurt McDaniel



*Echo Firefighters help community clean-up
(Photos by Tina Wood)*

VFD in Henry County, Arton, Choctawhatchee, Marley Mill, and Skipperville in Dale County and Dothan Fire Department in Houston County drove to Echo to eat a delicious fish plate and offer their support to the firefighters.

On March 3, the Federal disaster declaration for Coffee County was expanded to include Dale County, where Echo sits, along with Henry, Dallas and Wilcox counties. Anyone wishing to donate to Echo VFD Disaster Relief Fund may mail their check to Echo VFD, 12204 E Hwy 27, Newville, AL 36353

FROM THE AAVFD PRESIDENT'S DESK

by

Johnny Alberson



I guess that by now everyone is about burned out fighting woods fires. The dry conditions with the wind blowing all day every day has most departments working overtime. It should be lessening some now that everything is beginning to become greener.

Our Legislative Committee has been working for the past three weeks, and we feel that the legislation that we have gotten drafted will be good for everyone, if we can get the bills passed. We have six bills that we are getting introduced and working on. They are:

1. One free tag for each volunteer firefighter, the same as Rescue Squads & National Guard.
2. Free tuition for Volunteer Firefighters at two-year colleges, part of the AAVFD Recruiting program.
3. Legislation to require Alabama Public Service Commission to establish a classification for Volunteer Fire Department phone rates. (25% discount from current rate.)
4. Volunteer Firefighter Retirement Bill.
5. Present law: Alabama Police & Firefighters Survivors Educational Assistance Program, Alabama Commission on Higher Education, 100 North Union St., Montgomery, to include Volunteer Firefighters.
6. Clarification of State Law that Volunteer Fire Departments can

District 6 - Pike County

Hamilton Crossroads



Hamilton Crossroads Fire Department receives a \$500 check from the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments Relief Fund. Hamilton Crossroads Fire Department was destroyed by a F2 tornado back in November of 2006. Presenting the check to Chief Dent is District Director 6 Chauncey Wood.

recover the cost of services provided.

The Legislative Committee feels good at the present time about these bills, and we need the help of everyone to get these bills passed. I encourage everyone to talk to your Senator and Representative about these bills, and more important than that, talk to GOD and ask his blessings on all undertakings of OUR association.

It is getting time to be thinking about the 2007 AAVFD Conference. The Conference will be held the first weekend in August, 2007 and will be in Mobile. Information about the 2007 conference can be found elsewhere in this issue of THE VOLUNTEER. I hope everyone that can attend the Conference will make an effort to do so.

2007 Membership Dues

AAVFD annual dues were payable January 1, 2007.

Membership dues for county associations with 100% membership are \$35 per department.

Dues for individual fire departments are \$40 per department.



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Newton VFD

Submitted by: Chauncey Wood, District 6 Director

Newton VFD was incorporated in 1986; the fire building was built in 1987 and guaranteed with monies from the tobacco tax. It was financed for 10 years and the loan was paid off in 1994. The building has 3 fire bays and one bay for office space. It has an upstairs area which is used for storage, drying racks for drying the wet hoses, storage areas for hanging bunker gear, storage areas for storing useable hoses and other areas for maintenance items.

Engine 1 is a 1991 GMC Topkick with a diesel engine with a powerful transmission. We can put out 100 psi at the nozzle with hardly any rpm advance from idle. The pump is rated at 1250 gpm and it carries 1000 gallons of water. Once attached to a hydrant she can produce 3 hand lines as if it were nothing. Only a few times have we ever tested her strength and that was during pump testing. It was observed that she could produce over 1600 gpm for a short period of time with all systems working properly.

Engine 4 is 1972 Pirsch refurbished in 1995. This truck will produce 12 output lines if hooked to a proper water source. We can pressure test about that many lines at one time. She sports an 8V71 Detroit diesel engine along with an automatic transmission which was placed in the truck new in 1980. She carries a load of 1000 gallons of water and is rated at 1250 gpm. It has two 1 3/4" crosslay handlines, two 1 3/4" rear pre-connects, and one rear 2 1/2" pre-connect along with 2 hose reels. It is capable of con-

necting 5 hand lines on the sides of the truck. We carry the ISO recommended load of 1200 feet of 2 1/2 inches supply line.

The Brush truck is a 2002 Ford F350 with dual wheels on the rear. It carries 300 gallons of water and the pump is rated at 300 gpm discharge. It also has foam capabilities, plenty of storage and plenty of hose on the reel. We can even attach a 1 1/2" handline if we are connected to a water source. We have the capability of hooking to a hydrant or drafting from a creek or stream. We carry back packs for brush fire fighting along with rakes and shovels. We also have a chain saw on each of our trucks. We purchased a winch to attach to the front of this truck so we could further our capability.

Preventative maintenance is the key to success. Our trucks are properly maintained and looked after. We have very conscientious maintenance minded members who do a remarkable job with the equipment.

In September of 2006 we were awarded Assistance to Firefighters grant and with this we are now in contract with American Lafrance for a 4 door Custom cab 1,250 gpm pump and 1,000 gallon tank to replace our Engine 4. It will have 2 speedlays, 1 trashline in front bumper, and ladders inside the body, with a top mount pump. It will have seating for 6 with 5 SCBA seats. We are purchasing through Bay Fire Products and Mr. Dewayne Dewberry. Engine 2 is supposed to be delivered mid summer. We will then be selling Engine 4, if anyone is interested in looking at Engine 4 Contact JeffBostwick @ (334) 237-3389 or e-mail at nvfd44@yahoo.com or Charles Zeigler at frosty-morn(g)Juno.com.

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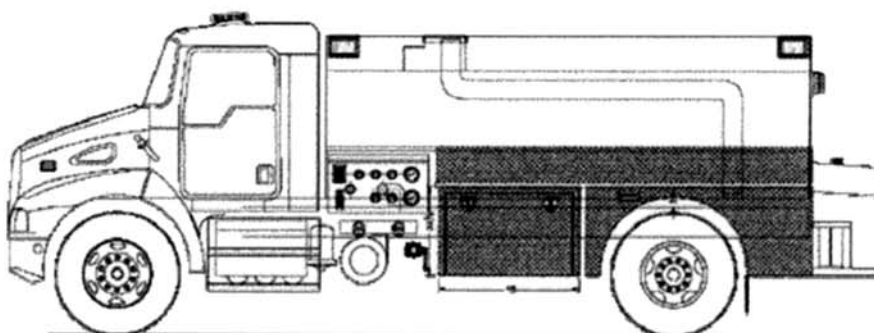
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Baldwin County Firefighters donate to Miller's Ferry VFD

After devastating winds from recent storms blew through the Wilcox County area of Alabama, a neighboring county's generosity provided a windfall for a fledgling volunteer fire department.

Upon hearing of the area's lack of resources, Chief Roger Few of the Spanish Fort Volunteer Fire Department and also president of the Baldwin County Fire Chiefs Association, took on the task of providing equipment for the recently formed Millers Ferry Volunteer Fire Department.

For the department that had almost no equipment and no funds to purchase any, the response was overwhelming. The Baldwin County Fire Chiefs Association was able to gather an array of surplus but still serviceable equipment donated by various fire departments throughout Baldwin County.

Members of the Millers Ferry department, led by Chief Scott Armstrong, arrived at the Spanish Fort fire station Saturday, March 17, 2007 to take possession of three pumpers equipped with hose, nozzles, breathing apparatus and many other firefighting tools and gear.

Submitted by: Baldwin County Fire Chiefs President, Roger Few



Chief Scott Armstrong and Spanish Fort Chief Roger Few survey donated equipment.



Chief Armstrong and Chief Few discuss damage in front of donated fire trucks.

FLOMATON VFD DEDICATES NEW STATION

William Neal, AAVFD Second Vice President

The Flomaton Volunteer Fire Department (FVFD) dedicated their new fire station on September 11, 2006. The station is located on US Highway 31, near the AL 113 exit. This is a primary Hurricane Evacuation Route to I-65. AL Highway 113 was recently scheduled to be four laned from Flomaton to I-65. This will put the new station in a perfect location for FVFD to respond into the town of Flomaton, AL Hwy 113 or I-65.

The station is built to withstand Hurricane force winds up to a Category 3 storm. The station is wired for an installed generator. The generator is capable of supplying the needs of the station for extended periods of power outages. This was excellent planning since Flomaton was nearly in the direct path of Hurricanes Ivan and Dennis.

A special dedication for the flag raising was performed by AAVFD and Naval Air Station Whiting Field Honor Guard members. The flag was donated by Gail Williams. Ms. Williams is the mother of Marine Lance Cpl. Christopher Winchester. Cpl. Winchester was killed in Iraq.

The station is a culmination of several years of planning by both, the Town of Flomaton and the Flomaton VFD. Several past Chiefs, going back to the fifties and sixties, were present for the dedication.



Escambia County Association President Joey Moffett addresses group at Station Dedication.



AAVFD Honor Guard members Sue Starr, Daniel Day and member of the Naval Air Station Whiting Field Fire Department Honor Guard raise American Flag.

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From Here and There

News of the Volunteer Fire Service from across Alabama

The Conecuh County Volunteer Fire Control Association held its annual Awards Banquet on January 13th, with the AAVFD South Honor Guard presenting the colors. Billy Mims, Sr. and Clayton Cobb, Sr. were honored as Life Members of AAVFD and Conecuh County Fire Association. Matthew Davis was honored as a Life Member of Conecuh County Fire Association.

Congratulations to Oakman VFD Chief Sammy Garrett on being honored with the Walker County Raymond Gilder Keller Memorial Firefighter of the Year Award.

One-fourth of Millers Ferry in Wilcox County was destroyed when a tornado ripped through the community on February 28th. The newly-formed Millers Ferry VFD was assisted by Camden VFD, Pine Hill VFD, and Lower Peach Tree VFD in Wilcox County, Fulton VFD, Thomasville VFD, Jackson VFD, and Tallahatta Springs-Opine VFD from Clarke County, Marengo County Fire & Rescue and South Marengo Fire & Rescue from Marengo County. It is estimated a total of 75 homes were damaged or destroyed, with one fatality.

The Lauderdale County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments held its annual Awards Banquet on January 20, 2007. Congratulations to the following firefighters, auxiliary and organizations who were honored: Small Business Supporter of Year: Haunted Plantation.com, Liz McIntyre, Owner; Business Supporter of Year: Cox Towing, Jim Cox, Owner; North Alabama State Fair Parking Attendant of the Year: Jason Clemmons; Special Appreciation Plaque for North Alabama State Fair Parking: Robert & Lynn Smith, Oakland VFD; Alabama Forestry Commission Smokey Bear Award: Zip City VFD; Individual Fire Prevention Award: Dwayne Posey, Zip City VFD; Ladies Auxiliary Individual of the Year: Sue Woodward, Mid-Lauderdale VFD; EMS Star of Life: Morris Lentz, Rogersville VFD; Fire Chief of the Year: Steve Bevis, Center Star VFD; People's Choice Award: Killen VFD; Rookie of the Year: Jason Clemmons, Oakland VFD; Lauderdale County Firefighter of the Year: Mike Woodward, Mid-Lauderdale VFD. Mike's wife, Sue, was also honored with a plaque. Also recognized were Rep. Lynn Greer and Sen. Bobby Denton for their role in passage of an increase in the county fire protection fee and the application of that fee to businesses and commercial buildings. Firefighter Stan Wallace and his family were recognized for their support of the legislation throughout the complete process.

"Working together to Protect Our Communities" was the theme of the 19th Annual National Fire & Emergency

Services Dinner and Seminars held in Washington, D.C. on March 28-29.

A six-week joint training session by firefighters from Marbury, Pine Level, White City and Old Kingston VFDs in Autauga County ended with a structure fire training exercise in March. Marbury Chief Kenny Barber stated, "This training will help the firefighters prepare for that one time when someone's home or life is in danger. It's through realistic training that our firefighters prepare themselves for the ultimate test."



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Opine - Tallahatta Springs VFD

Tim Kelley, O-TS VFD Board President

The quaint little rural communities of Opine and Tallahatta Springs are nestled closely against each other in the piney woods of northwest Clarke County. They are so closely connected that many people just refer to the area as "Opine-Tallahatta" as if it was just one community.

The people of this area have always been community-minded folks who would spring into unified action whenever there was a weather disaster, family crises or any situation that adversely affected part or all of the people there.

It was this camaraderie spirit and determination that led to the creation of one of the newest fire departments in the state. In fact, all of this "heart" was all the people had when they began to pursue the dream of forming a department early in 2005.

These communities tried to operate a fire department from the mid 70's to the mid 80's. However, without county funding in those days, the department was forced to become inactive. With the prospect of county and state funding for supporting a fire department, the goal of creating and operating a department looked more feasible.

A community meeting was held in February 2005 to gauge the consent of the community. The community revealed it was highly in favor of having its own fire department. A subsequent meeting was held the next month and a fire department board was elected.

The board went to work right away. The first year was spent discovering the legal matters of forming a department and exploring grant opportunities. The board also had to convince local authorities of the need for a fire department in the area. Initially, there was some resistance from the county fire-fighters association and the county commissioners. However, by early 2006, the board was able to convince both groups that a fire department in the area would be a valuable asset for the county. Their reasoning was that a fire department in the area would diminish other fire departments' coverage areas, allowing improved concentration to their respective local areas.

In the spring of 2006, with the new support of the county fire-fighters association and the county commission, things began to "look-up" for the formation of a fire department. At that time, though, the communities still had nothing to visibly connect to a fire department. There were no equipment, no trucks and no station. There was not even any land secured for a station.

Less than a year later, however, the Opine-Tallahatta Springs VFD has three fully equipped trucks - a 1988 1000 gal. K.M.E. pumper, a 1974 750 gal. G.M.C. pumper and a 1990 1-ton 300 gal. Ford brush truck. These trucks are housed in a 60' X 40' heated fire station. The building also contains restroom facilities, storage areas and a small kitchen/meeting area. The department owns the 2-acre parcel that the station sets on. The parcel is centrally located in

the area and also serves the department well as training and meeting location.

As one might think, the department had to have a lot of outside and inside support to accomplish so much so quickly. For instance, funds for the land for the station were donated by a couple of benevolent individuals who had property in the area. The parcel purchased was actually in a long-term lease to the communities prior to the purchase and had a community building on it. The property had previously been used as a community center. The department has discussed renovating the old building in the future for department and community activities.

Also, in April of 2006 the Alabama Port VFD in south Mobile County heard of the endeavor and graciously donated the new department's first truck - the 1974 GMC pumper. This truck has recently been refurbished and outfitted with emergency lights, siren and other appropriate gear. This department also along with several others donated turnout gear and other necessary equipment for fire fighting.

The list of individuals, organizations and businesses that have contributed equipment, materials and services in the formation of the department are too numerous to list but each one is greatly appreciated by the people of Opine and Tallahatta Springs.

The department brush truck was obtained as a loan from the Alabama Forestry Commission and a rural development grant was procured from the USDA to purchase the 1988 KME pumper. The department secured a bank loan to purchase the station building and community volunteers erected it.

Chief Rusty Bishop has been holding regular training sessions and he is confident in his peoples' competence and ability.

The Opine-Tallahatta Springs Volunteer Fire Department now proudly stands along with thousands of other fire fighters in the state, ready and able to protect the great resources and people of Alabama.



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NOT YOUR EVERY DAY RESCUE

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

After nearly 40 years in the volunteer fire service, I have seen a lot of different rescues. Firemen are called upon to rescue cats and even scared children from trees. But on Saturday, December 9, 2006, Rutledge and Luverne VFD were dispatched to rescue two deer hunters from an unusual "hang up".

The situation began when Steve Smith of Rutledge was deer hunting and started down a large pine tree with his climbing tree stand. Smith came down too fast and went by the bottom portion of the stand. The bottom portion pulled upward and sideways because of the cord. Smith's foot became wedged between the stand and the tree to keep from falling. Smith was hung up.

Smith used a cell phone and called his business partner and friend, Mark Richards, to come and help him. Richards grabbed his own tree stand and went to aid his friend.

When Richards arrived, he (Richards) used his own tree stand to climb up to try and get his friend down. Mark Richards tried to get Smith's foot off his (Smith's) stand and onto Richard's stand. Each man had one foot in and one foot out of the stand. The two men tried to get Smith's stand to bite into the tree at this point, but could not. Both pieces of Richard's stand slipped because of the weight of both men in the climber.

Richard was trying to get the cord around the tree at the foot piece (to tie off) when the top collapsed. This sent Smith's climber, with Steve Smith still in it, on top of Richard. This collapse pinned Mark Richards against the tree, with Steve Smith in his broken climber on top of Richards. Neither man could move. Richards and Smith were literally hung up on top of each other.

The hunters used cell phones to call for assistance. Rutledge Mayor Joe Flynn's number was in their cell phones. The hung-up hunters contacted Flynn, who in turn, contacted Rutledge and Luverne VFD. Rutledge Fireman Bo Mount climbed the tree and tied off the hunters with some rope.



LVFD and RVFD members carried rope rescue and ladders to the scene, loaded into four-wheel drive pickups. A call was made for the South Alabama Electric Coop for assistance from a bucket truck. A four-wheel drive bucket truck was near by and responded.



Firemen placed a 35-foot ladder up on the tree and tied it off. The 35-foot ladder barely reached the lower level of the hunters. Firemen formulated a rope rescue by tying off above the hunters. Firemen were fixing to try to raise Smith off of Richards when the four-wheel drive South Alabama Electric Coop truck managed to make it to the scene.



The electric workers used the pole rope winch to assist Smith in getting off of Richards. Smith made it around the tree to the 35-foot ladder and simply came down the ladder. Richards then managed to use his tree climber and climb down.

Neither hunter was injured in anyway. The Electric Coop truck removed Smith's bent tree climber. The hunters were hung up for over two hours.

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Linda Casey Sworn In as Alabama's New State Forester

By Coleen Vansant, Public Information Manager, Alabama Forestry Commission

Linda S. Casey was sworn in on January 12, 2007 by Governor Bob C. Riley as Alabama's new state forester. Her first official day at the Alabama Forestry Commission was February 1.

Casey was one of 26 applicants that applied for the position of state forester. Following an extensive interview process, a seven-member search committee voted unanimously to recommend to the Alabama Forestry Commission that she be offered the position. The final vote of the Board of Commissioners came in November and Casey was offered the position, pending her becoming a registered forester in the State of Alabama and approval by the Governor and State Personnel Board. She successfully completed registered forester oral exams in late December and was approved by Governor Riley.

"I am very excited and honored to be the State Forester of Alabama," Casey says. "I'm looking forward to being a member of the Alabama Forestry Commission team and working to shape the future direction of the Commission." Previously, Casey worked as manager of fiber supply for the east region of International Paper in Georgetown, S.C. She was responsible for fiber procurement business operations to eight paper mills located in New York, Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Georgia. Casey joined International Paper in 1973 as an associate forester in the Bay Minette

area. She served in various leadership roles with responsibility in both fiber procurement and land management. The new state forester holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry and Wildlife Management from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. She and her husband John have recently moved to the Montgomery area.



Linda Casey Sworn In as Alabama's New State Forester

COMPETITION EVENTS FOR 2007 CONFERENCE

Joey Boyd, Competition Chairman

OK, gang. Here's what a lot of you have been waiting on, so let's get busy! The events that will be run this year in Mobile will be drawn from a hat before the Competition starts. Boy, I bet that's got some heads turning!

OK, here's the truth. We will be running the Obstacle Course, Air Pack Relay and Hose Lay II. It's been a while since we ran competition on this site in Mobile, but if I remember right, everything will be run on grass.

Good luck to all and hope to see a lot of teams this year. If you need rules, go to the AAVFD web site, click on Administration page, and you will find the rules there. If you don't have access to a computer, call the AAVFD office at 888-972-2833.

On the Lighter Side...

Look Out Below



I volunteered recently to perform a parachute jump for charity. On our first day of training, the instructor made an important point about preparing for landing at 300 feet.

"How do you know when you're at 300 feet?" asked one woman.

"A good question," replied the instructor. "At 300 feet you can recognize the faces of people on the ground."

The woman thought about this for a while before saying, "What happens if there's no one there I know?"

2007 AD&D INSURANCE ENROLLMENT REMINDER

The new year for AD&D insurance enrollments began on January 1, 2007, but it's not too late to send your renewals/applications to the Montgomery office. Policy cost remains the same: \$12 per year for \$10,000 coverage or \$20 per year for coverage of \$20,000.



Coverage begins at the time your enrollments reach the office. If you need additional applications, contact the office at 334-262-2833 or 1-888-972-2833.

2007 ANNUAL AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Each year the Association presents the Male Firefighter of the Year Award and the Sherry Garner Memorial Award, honoring a female firefighter, for exemplifying outstanding achievements in the volunteer fire service and their local community.



The nominated individual must be a member of a volunteer fire department that is a current member of AAVFD. No form is required. Simply recommend the firefighter and tell why you think that individual should be recognized. Letters from others recognizing the individual's accomplishments can also be included.

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

Alabama Fire College

NEW POLICY APPLIES TO VOLUNTEER FF CERTIFICATION

Alabama Fire College and Personnel Standards Commission NEWS, April 2007

A new policy on volunteer fire fighter re-certification initiated last year by the Personnel Standards Commission is now in effect. The new policy changes the responsibility for keeping training records for certified Volunteer Fire Fighter and eliminates the recertification requirement.

Changes were made to 360-X-1.01, General Regulations and Administrative Procedures of the Rules of the Alabama Fire College and Personnel Standards Commission. Specifically at Paragraph 5 (Certification Expiration of Volunteer Fire Fighter), and Paragraph 6 (Recertification Requirements of Volunteer Fire Fighter) the old rules stated that volunteer fire fighter certification expires every three years and described the procedures for re-certification.

The new rules in effect as of January 5, 2007, drop the requirement for re-certification every three years. As a result of the elimination of the re-certification requirement for certified Volunteer Fire Fighter, all previously expired Volunteer Fire Fighter certifications will be immediately and automatically reinstated. No action is required of any volunteer fire fighter.

However, a certified Volunteer Fire Fighter must still maintain 30 hours of training annually, but the new rules transfer responsibility for keeping accurate records of the annual training to the fire chief or training officer of the fire department of which the individual is a member. A Volunteer Fire Fighter certification will still expire one year from the date a volunteer leaves the fire service career or ceases to be a member of a volunteer fire department.

Life Christian Academy from Harvest, Alabama Receives Society of Fire Protection Engineers' Award at the National Engineers Week Future City Competition

Washington, DC - February 21, 2007 - The Life Christian Academy from Harvest, Alabama was awarded for best fire protection engineering that keeps people and property safe from fire. This award was presented by the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) at the 2007 National Engineers Week Future City Competition.

The Future Cities competition gives students the opportunity to apply the math and science they learned in school to a real-world application," said SFPE Engineering Program Manager Chris Jelenewicz. "America needs good engineers and this competition will encourage these exceptional students to become the engineers of the future."

Using computer software, the seventh and eighth grade students designed a city of the future. The students worked as a team with a teacher and volunteer engineer mentor to build a large tabletop scale model of a city and presented their design concepts before a panel of judges at the competition.

"The fire protection engineering award winners were recognized for incorporating lessons learned from 9/11 to make their simulated city safer from fire," said Jelenewicz. "Along with considering how humans behave in fire, the students required enhanced structural fire protection for all tall buildings in their simulated city."

About the Future City Competition

The National Engineers Week Future City Competition is a program developed for seventh and eighth grade students to help them discover and foster interests in math, science and engineering. Future City, celebrating its 15th anniversary, asks middle school students to create cities of the future, first on computer and then in large tabletop models. Working in teams with a teacher and volunteer engineer mentor, students create their cities. They write a city abstract and an essay on using engineering to solve an important social need. Then they present and defend their cities before engineer judges at the competition.

Some 30,000 students from more than 1,000 schools participated in 2006-07.

For more information about Future City visit www.futurecity.org.

About Society of Fire Protection Engineers

Organized in 1950, the Society of Fire Protection Engineers is the professional society for engineers involved in the field of fire protection engineering. Fire protection engineers use science and technology to keep people and property safe from fire. The purposes of SFPE are to advance the science and practice of fire protection engineering, maintain a high ethical standing among its members and foster fire protection engineering education. SFPE's worldwide members include engineers in private practice, in industry and in local, regional and national government. Chapters are located in Canada, France, Italy, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden and the United States.

For more information about SFPE please visit www.sfpe.org



Texasville Volunteer Fire Department



L to R: Chief Brad Snell, Firefighter Brown

Founded in 1982, the Texasville VFD celebrates its 25th year of service this year. It has grown to about 80 members with 12 active firefighters serving not only the community but mutual aid with other VFD in the area. Current trucks include a 1974 Pierce Mustang mini pumper and a 1986 Pierce Arrow Pumper which was purchased in 2000 with a loan from the USDA Rural Development. About half of the cost of operations is from member contributions, Boston Butt sales, pancake suppers, and other fundraisers. The Alabama ATF and Forestry Department also contribute toward operations.

BUDGET FRIENDLY

NEW SKID PUMP UNITS

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

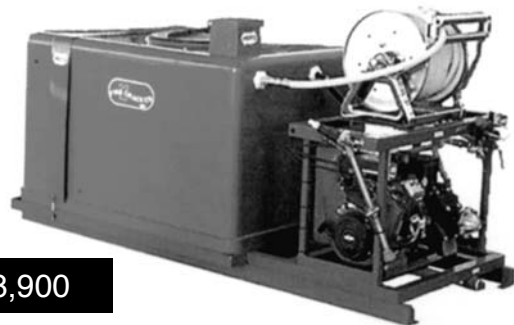
Standard Unit Pricing

FD 18V 300 L

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

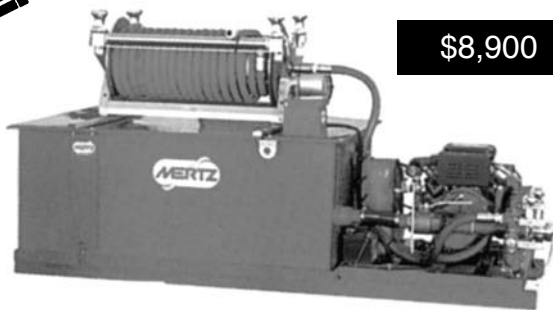
Maximum Pressure: 560 PSI
Maximum Volume: 26.0 GPM
Maximum Speed: 550 RPM
Number of Cylinders: 4

FD-18V-300 L



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Low Cost

FC 16V1550 200 LFT

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

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

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Abbeville VFD

History: Oldest established Department in Henry county

Coverage area: EMS 262 sq miles/ 75 mi. primary fire district

Stations: One
ISO rating: 6/9

Members: 38 (ten certified)

Call volume: 1100 ems/year- 90 fire/year

Attributes: 24/7 on duty ems staff

Officers: Fire Chief Ryan Feggins/Asst. Chief Bruce Starling/ EMS and training Captain Vincent Feggins/Captain Chad Jones/ EMS Sgt. Bob Watford and Barbara Morrison

Trucks: Three pumpers/ Two tankers/ One light rescue/mini-pumper / Two Ambulances.



Midland VFD

The Fire Department was established in the late 1920's. At present date the department has 13 volunteer firefighters and 2 junior firefighters. The department has two pumpers, a 1984 Spartan Fire Cat and a 1985 Pierce. The department also has a 1983 Pirsch 100 foot ladder truck. The 1984 Spartan has a 1000 gallon water tank with a 1250 PSI pump. The 1985 Pierce has a 750 gallon tank with a 1250 PSI pump.



Captain Richard Barnes, JR Ronnie Chandler, Sgt. B.J. Shaw, Firefighters Michael Huff, Jonathan Givens, Daryle Hendry, Delbert Chandler, Clay Harris, Sarah Shaw, Joyce Chandler, and Nancy Huff, Asst. Chief Michael Dansby, Chief's son Mixon Chandler, and Chief Bert Chandler

Baker Hill Fire Department

The BAKER HILL FIRE DEPARTMENT was established in 1972 and has a coverage area of approximately 25 square miles. The 9 certified firefighters and 5 certified EMT's run 2 pumpers, 1 tanker, 1 brush truck and 2 ambulances with the third to be delivered soon. The fire department has an ISO rating of 6/9 and responded to 63 calls last year. The rescue squad responded to approximately 1800 calls total. The fire department operates with funds from 4 major fund raisers including a boston butt sale, community yard sale, a cash giveaway, and bingo.



From Left to Right: Chief Brandon Green, Asst. Chief Robert Bryan, Asst. Chief 2 John Leath, Capt. James Register, J.T. Josh Moore, Lt. Tyler Mathis. Firefighters Kency Hartzog, Constable Beat 1 (Served 20 years as Fire Chief of Texasville VFD), Rena Kline, Ryne Ming, Thomas Harbin, Bill Kline, and Ray Bonner

White Oak

White Oak VFD was established in 1982. The department has two pumpers and one brush truck. Cottonwood VFD (Houston County) donated a 1973 Chevrolet pumper to the department and a 1973 Mack pumper and brush truck was purchased with money from donations and funds raised by the department.

There are fourteen active members, two inactive members and a mascot. Chief Henderson stated, "I am proud of all the members and hope to get more. We are proud to contribute to our friends and community."

At this time, White Oak has applied for a grant to purchase a new truck and much-needed equipment.



Top Row: Chaplin Jerry Evans, Chris Hutto. Second Row: Chief Lamar Henderson, Deputy Chief Brian Gainvors, Ann Henderson, Treasurer Lynell Blocker, Wilton Blocker, Kenneth Snapp. Third Row: Ramon Gainvors, Mascot Riley Harris, Joey Ray, Secretary Mona Snapp, Susan Walden. Members not pictured: Crystal Evans and Jerry Evans.



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**HOW DO YOU
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2007 AAVFD Membership – Total 844

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		0 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		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		0 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

AAVFD 2007 CONFERENCE

August 3-4, 2007

Mobile, Alabama

Competition Events
Obstacle Course - Air Pack Relay - Hose Lay II

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. More conference information will follow:

Best Western Ashbury Hotel & Suites
600 West I-65 Service Road South
Mobile Alabama

Call Reservations: 251-344-8030 or 800-752-0398

Room Rates: King & Double Standard - \$67.00 plus tax

King & Double Deluxe - \$77.00 plus tax

King & Double Suite - \$101.00 plus tax

When you call the hotel, specify the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments (AAVFD) group rate. Registration is \$30 per person July 1, 2007. After this date and onsite will be \$35. Make check payable to MCAVFD Conference "07" and mail to Elaine Dearmon, Conference Chairman, PO Box 2102 Semmes AL 36575.

CONFERENCE PRE-REGISTRATION

Please make your check payable to
MCAVFD Conference "07"
Elaine Dearmon, Conference Chairman
P.O. Box 2102
Semmes, AL 36575

\$30 per person. After July 1, 2007 and onsite registration will be \$35

Enclosed is \$_____ for _____ people.

Our Fire Department is _____

Please PRINT name of each individual

Smokey Bear



L to R: Jeremiah "Bull" Rodgers, Smokey Bear James Liptrot, Mac Prince

Smokey Bear teaches children fire safety at Brundidge Elementary School.

Lovetown



Brenda Morgan, widow of longtime Lovetown Volunteer Fire Department Fire Chief, Gerald Morgan, is shown accepting a donation from the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments Officers and Board of Directors. Presenting the check on behalf of AAVFD is Public Relations and District 6 Director Chauncey Wood.

Meeksville



Springhill



Five Star





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NATIONAL FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES

Name/Rank: Firefighter Hector "Sandy" McClune, (76) Volunteer
Department: Millerton FD, Millerton NY
Date of Death: 11/26/06
Cause of Death: Apparent heart attack while working at scene of outdoor fire.

Name/Rank: Acting Lt. Thomas VanLiew (52) Career
Department: New Brunswick FD, New Brunswick NJ
Date of Death: 11/28/06
Cause of Death: Suffered heart attack while performing floor watch duties shortly after coming on-duty.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Steen Solomon (33) Career
Department: Atlanta Fire Rescue Dept, Atlanta GA
Date of Death: 11/29/06
Cause of Death: Became disoriented and trapped due to rapid fire progress in residential structure and succumbed to injuries from burns over 30% of his body.

Name/Rank: Deputy Chief Jeffrey Scott Hollingsworth (38) Volunteer
Department: Clement FD, Autryville NC
Date of Death: 11/30/06
Cause of Death: Suffered chest pains responding to early morning structure and woods fire and died that evening.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Leo Soderquist (64) Volunteer
Department: Axtell Fire & Rescue, Axtell NE
Date of Death: 12/1/06
Cause of Death: Died of heart attack at firehouse shortly after working a residential structure fire.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Kent Furman Long (44) Career
Department: Charlotte FD, Charlotte NC
Date of Death: 12/1/06
Cause of Death: Collapsed while exercising at fire station and died from hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Thomas Joseph Hays (25) Volunteer
Department: Lower Merion FD/Narbrth Fire Company, Ardmore PA
Date of Death: 12/8/06
Cause of Death: Responded to alarm on December 7, but failed to respond to two other responses over the course of the next several hours. This prompted fellow firefighters to check on his wellbeing, and they discovered he had died sometime during the night. Cause of death is unknown; autopsy is being performed.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Edward DeWitt Wilburn (64) Volunteer
Department: Deep Creek VFD, McHenry MD
Date of Death: 12/9/06
Cause of Death: Lost control of POV causing it to veer off the roadway into ditch while responding to mobile home fire when he suffered a medical emergency. Despite resuscitative measures, he succumbed to his injuries.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Cecil Tackett, Jr. (28) Volunteer
Department: Flat Gap VFD, Flat Gap KY
Date of Death: 12/28/06
Cause of Death: Died in POV accident while working on a community function sponsored by the fire department.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Stephen L. Jones (56) Volunteer
Department: Barnstead F/R, Barnstead NH
Date of Death: 12/29/06
Cause of Death: Succumbed to fatal heart attack while reporting to station to pick up piece of apparatus to take in to shop for maintenance.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Phillip Townsend (31) Career
Department: Denison FD, Denison TX
Date of Death: 12/30/06
Cause of Death: Died of injuries received when store awning collapsed on top of him and Chief Weger while they were performing fire attack duties on hose line at working commercial structure fire. Chief Weger was treated for injuries and released.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Sidney Hall (52) Volunteer
Department: Upland VFD, Upland IN
Date of Death: 1/5/07
Cause of Death: Succumbed to injuries received when he fell through floor into a well-involved basement at residential fire. Cause of death was determined to be hypoxia and asphyxiation due to his position as first firefighter of a fire suppression crew through the door.

Name/Rank: Fire Chief Jeremy Chris Adams (40) Career
Department: Springfield FD, Springfield FL
Date of Death: 1/16/07
Cause of Death: Died from heart attack caused by blood clot that was dislodged from his lung after responding to the scene of EMS incident.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Kevin Reed (47) Career
Department: Oakland FD, Oakland CA
Date of Death: 1/21/07
Cause of Death: Passed away following heart attack suffered while performing physical fitness training. He had responded to a residential structure fire the evening before while on-shift.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Kenneth Patrick Fahey (35) Wildland Full-Time
Department: US Forest Service - Francis Marion National Forest, Cordesville SC
Date of Death: 1/25/07
Cause of Death: Died when 3/4-ton Forest Service truck returning from a controlled burn he was operating apparently crossed over into oncoming traffic striking a semi-tractor and trailer head-on, catching fire upon impact.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Shane Daughettee (24) Volunteer
Department: Hwy 58 VFD, Harrison TN
Date of Death: 1/26/07
Cause of Death: Died when firefighters were unable to rescue him after the floor collapsed in a residential fire, trapping him in the basement.

Name/Rank: Firefighter-EMT Craig L. Dorsey II (24) Volunteer
Department: Captain Frederick Burroughs (51) Volunteer
Date of Death: Ghent VFD, Ghent WV
Cause of Death: 1/30/07
 Approximately twelve minutes after dispatch in response to a reported odor of gas at a commercial structure, propane that had accumulated in the area was ignited by yet to be determined source causing a massive explosion destroying the structure and apparatus/vehicles. The resultant blast fatally wounded 2 firefighters and 2 civilians. Four civilians and one firefighter were critically injured as well.

Name/Rank: Fire Commissioner & Safety Officer Anthony Catania (76) Volunteer
Department: Middle Island FD, Middle Island NY
Date of Death: 2/2/07
Cause of Death: Suffered stroke while responding to EMS call and died after surgery.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Mike Fox (37) Volunteer
Department: Vergennes FD, Vergennes IL
Date of Death: 2/2/07
Cause of Death: Suffered heart attack while operating fire department ambulance responding to EMS call. Another responder riding with him provided CPR, and Fox was pronounced dead at the hospital.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Shane Todd King (29) Career
Department: Danville FD, Danville KY
Date of Death: 2/3/07
Cause of Death: Died when POV reportedly crossed over center line and struck semi-tractor and trailer when returning home from department mandated EMT training in neighboring county.

Name/Rank: Lt Robert H. Hegney (53) Volunteer
Department: Se-Wy-Co Volunteer Fire Company, Bethlehem PA
Date of Death: 2/3/07
Cause of Death: Went into cardiac arrest and passed away after working a dwelling fire and attending fire drill.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Jeremy C. LaBella (27) Career
Department: Washington FD, Washington PA
Date of Death: 2/4/07
Cause of Death: Passed away from injuries received at working residential structure fire when portion of structure collapsed on LaBella and another firefighter.

Name/Rank: Firefighter John Broom-Smith (44) Volunteer
Department: Seaside Heights FD, Seaside Heights NJ
Date of Death: 2/4/07
Cause of Death: Passed away from apparent heart attack after investigating false alarm due to a faulty detector.

Name/Rank: Fire Engineer Operator Joseph Torkos (47) Career
Department: City of Detroit FD, Detroit MI
Date of Death: 2/7/07
Cause of Death: Passed away from injuries received when fire apparatus he was operating in response to fire call at vacant residential structure was struck in an intersection by SUV traveling at very high rate of Speed. Three injured firefighters survived the incident.

Name/Rank: Firefighter-Paramedic Apprentice Racheal Wilson (29) Career
Department: Baltimore City FD, Baltimore MA
Date of Death: 2/9/07
Cause of Death: Passed away from injuries sustained during a live fire training exercise in a vacant row house.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Jeff Murray (40) Volunteer
Department: Sharon Township FD, Sharon Center OH
Date of Death: 2/13/07
Cause of Death: Died of heart attack at home after manning the radios for an emergency medical call and also shoveling snow at the station.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Theodore "Ted" Abriel (44) Career
Department: Albany FD, Albany NY
Date of Death: 2/19/07
Cause of Death: Collapsed and died while responding with his rescue squad to a working multi-unit residential fire while searching sixth floor for victims.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Steven Eric Vanderpool, Jr. (28) Volunteer
Department: White Oak VFD, West Liberty KY
Date of Death: 2/24/07
Cause of Death: Passed away from injuries received in motor vehicle accident while he was responding to another motor vehicle accident call. He was ejected from his POV when he failed to yield right of way at intersection and was struck by another vehicle.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Michael D. Sowich (50) Volunteer
Department: New Hartford FD, New Hartford NY
Date of Death: 3/2/07
Cause of Death: Passed away in his dorm room from cause still to be determined while attending training at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg MD

CLASSIFIEDS

Qty	Description	Price
2	10ft. long x 4 1/2" long Flexible Hard Suction Hoses	\$180.00
1	4 1/2" Kolchek Low Water Strainer for Hard Suction	\$75.00
2	10ft. long x 2 1/2" Flexible Hard Suction Hoses with Strainer	\$50.00
20	50' Sections of 1 1/2" Double Jacket Hose	\$20.00 each
24	50' Sections of 2 1/2" Double Jacket Hose	\$35.00 each
1	Electric Booster Reel with 200' of 1" Booster Hose and Nozzle	\$250.00
1	Skull Saver for 24' Ext. Ladder	\$15.00
1	10" Dump Valve for Tanker	\$75.00
1	16" Electric Smoke Ejector Fan	\$200.00
1	Set of Hurst Rescue Tools (Pump, Spreader, Cutter & Hoses)	\$2,500.00

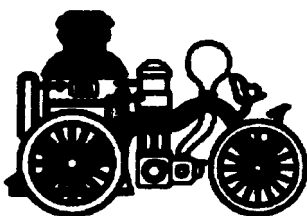
All Items are in good condition, shipping extra, can be picked up
Stewartville Volunteer Fire Department
4754 AL Hwy 21 • Sylacauga, AL 35151
Chief Weathers, 256-245-9214

AAVFD ITEMS AVAILABLE...

The following items can be purchased through the AAVFD office in Montgomery
(660 Adams Avenue, Suite 345, Montgomery, AL 36104;
334-262-2833 or 1-888-972-2833):

Caps	\$6
Pins	\$2
Patches	\$2.50
AAVFD Logo Decals	\$2
Swiss Army Knife with AAVFD Logo	\$15
Prints	\$10
T-shirts (red or blue)	\$8
Golf Shirt with Collar	\$22

Shipping charges will be added. Golf shirts come in burgundy, forest green, navy/white, burgundy/white, straw & stone/black in L, XL, XXL and XXXL.



THE BELL TOLLED

Larry Glover, Oakman VFD, Walker County, passed away October 13, 2006.

Garland Cash, Lawley VFD, Bibb County, passed away December 12, 2006. He served his department and community faithfully for 12 years.

Edwin Jackson, Adamsburg VFD, DeKalb County, passed away December 23, 2006.

Joe Lacey, Neel VFD, Morgan County, passed away December 31, 2006. He had served his department as Assistant Chief.

William T. "Bill" Lowery, Ridge Road VFD, Escambia County, passed away January 11, 2007. He served his department for 20 years.

Ralph Carpenter, Shelby VFD, Shelby County, passed away January 15, 2007. He had 25 years of service to his department.

Bill Cochran, A & M VFD, Randolph County passed away January 30, 2007.

James Daniel "Jim" Strall, Carbon Hill VFD, Walker County, passed away on February 19, 2007. He had been a department member since 1967 and was also a past Vice President of the County Firefighter Association. He was honored in 2003 as Walker County Firefighter of the Year.

Jeannine Findley, Starlington VFD, Butler county passed away February 23, 2007. She had been a member of the department for 13 years.

Gerald Journigan, Clements VFD, Limestone County, passed away March 16, 2007

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: 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.

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 no later than the 15th of the month before publication.

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

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

AAVFD Officers:

President Johnny Alberson
1st VP Steve Dennis
2nd VP William A. Neal
3rd VP Lawrence Huffman
Secretary Mary Jane Sells
Treasurer Gary Cobb

Newsletter Editor:

Sandra Mott
Chauncey Wood
Tina Wood

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