



THE VOLUNTEER



The Official Newsletter of the
ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

July – September 2005

2nd Annual Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service

In October 2004, the fire service of Alabama, with the help of the Alabama Fire College, celebrated the creation of a long overdue memorial. This project, 20 years in the making, pays tribute to firefighters who paid the ultimate price for their community and state. This memorial is also dedicated to the men and women that serve in today's fire service, both paid and volunteer. Alabama, like many other states, now has a location on the grounds of the Alabama Fire College in which to meet each year to pay tribute to our fallen firefighters.

On October 9, 2005, at 2:00 pm, the second memorial service will be presented at the Firefighter Memorial in Tuscaloosa. Family members and friends of those to be honored will come together once again to hear the final roll call of those who are no longer with us. Honor Guard members from the fire service will represent both paid and volunteers at this dedication. We invite the general public and members of each department across our state to attend this special event.

For information regarding the Firefighter Memorial Service, contact the AAVFD Joint Fire Council members Johnny Dennis (256-766-4707), Clayton Cobb (251-578-2855) or Billy Doss (205-247-4996).



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FROM THE AAVFD PRESIDENT'S DESK

by

Johnny Alberson



I would like to thank all my many friends and fellow fire-fighters who voted for and supported me in my campaign for President of AAVFD. I needed your help to be elected but now that I am elected, I need your help and support even more. I consider it an honor to be named President of AAVFD and since I am retired, I promise to put the work and effort into the position of President that is needed. This is "OUR" association, and I feel that if we will all work together, we can make it better. If you have a need, or wish to express your concern or opinion, feel free to call me at home or Mrs. Sandra Mott at the AAVFD office in Montgomery.

I encourage each of you, if contacted to serve on any appointed committee, to seriously consider the appointment and give it your "best". We have lots to work on, and I urge you to contact your Senator or Representative in the Legislature and ask them to support any Legislative Bill that AAVFD is trying to get passed. All bills supported by AAVFD will be for the benefit of all our members and will make AAVFD a stronger and better Association.

Again, I thank ALL of you, and I am looking forward to working with each of you.

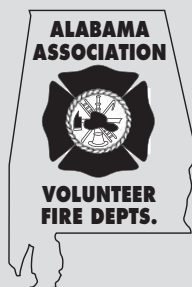
Thank You from the Second Vice President

Dear Fellow Fire Fighters:

I wish to thank each and every one of you for your vote and support at the Annual Convention. I was elected Southern Area Vice President. I pledge to work with the other elected leaders to move the Volunteer Fire Service forward. We must all work together to accomplish any future goals. My phone numbers and e-mail addresses are listed on the AAVFD Web Site.

Thank you again for your support.

Yours truly,
William A. Neal



2005 ELECTIONS

The election of officers for the 2005-2006 year was held at the general membership meeting on Saturday, July 16th, in Sheffield. The following candidates were elected:

President – Johnny Alberson
First Vice President – Steve Dennis
Second Vice President – William A. Neal
Third Vice President – Lawrence Huffman
Secretary – Mary Sells
Treasurer – Gary Cobb

- **District 1:** Calhoun, Cherokee, DeKalb, Etowah, Jackson, Madison and Marshall Counties.
Director – Sidney White
Alternate Director – Bobby Abbott
- **District 2:** Blount, Cullman, Jefferson, Shelby, St Clair, Walker and Winston Counties:
Director – Roger Wilson
Alternate Director – Euell Hodge
- **District 3:** Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Pickens, Sumter and Tuscaloosa Counties.
Director – Billy Doss
Alternate Director – Scott Hallman
- **District 4:** Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Coosa, Randolph, Talladega and Tallapoosa Counties.
Director – Stanley Gillies
Alternate Director – Stan Hopkins
- **District 5:** Autauga, Bibb, Chilton, Dallas, Marengo, Perry and Wilcox Counties.
Director – Mike Carlisle
Alternate Director – Robert Slaughter
- **District 6:** Barbour, Coffee, Dale, Geneva, Henry, Houston and Pike Counties.
Director – Chauncey Wood
Alternate Director – Rusty Yeomans
- **District 7:** Butler, Conecuh, Covington, Crenshaw, Escambia and Monroe Counties.
Director – Daniel Day
Alternate Director – Joey Moffett
- **District 8:** Baldwin, Choctaw, Clarke, Mobile and Washington Counties.
Director – Stan Wood
Alternate Director – Charlie Dixon
- **District 9:** Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Limestone, Lawrence, Marion and Morgan Counties.
Director – Johnny Dennis
Alternate Director – James Wessel
- **District 10:** Bullock, Elmore, Lee, Lowndes, Macon, Montgomery and Russell Counties.
Director – Forrest Gregg
Alternate Director – Buddy Broadway

The officers, directors and alternate directors were sworn in at the awards banquet on Saturday night.

Because of space limitations, the phone numbers and addresses for the officers and directors could not be printed. However, if you wish to contact any of them, call the Montgomery office at 334-262-2833 or toll-free at 1-888-972-2833, and we will be glad to provide you with the information. This information is also posted on the AAVFD web at www.aavfd.org.

Tuscaloosa Fire Equipment, Inc.

3714 Hargrove Road E. Suite B, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

1-800-406-7149

E-Mail: tfe@networktel.net

We would like to thank the following fire departments for purchasing a new Ferrara Fire Apparatus from us with their 2004 FEMA grants:



Zip City V.F.D.

Toxey V.F.D.

Byrd V.F.D.

Marion V.F.D.

Nauvoo V.F.D.

Livingston V.F.D.

Shiloh V.F.D.

Montgomery V.F.D.

Molloy V.F.D.

Thomaston V.F.D.

Royal V.F.D.

Susan Moore V.F.D.

We look forward to helping the 2005 FEMA grant recipients with their future purchases.



1982 Grumman Custom Pumper

Diesel/Automatic

1000 GPM Pump/750 Gallon Tank

Call for Price



1985 Pirsch Custom Pumper

Diesel/Automatic

1500 GPM Pump/1000 Gallon Tank

Call for Price



1978 Hendrickson/Pierce/LTI Ladder

Diesel/Automatic

300 GPM Pump/300 Booster

Call for Price



1987 Pierce Arrow Custom Pumper

Diesel/Automatic

1500 GPM Pump/500 Gallon Tank

Call for Price

From the Desk of **Third Vice President Lawrence Huffman**

I asked myself, "After being elected vice president from the north district, what do I have to offer the firefighters of this state and to make the fire service better?" Forty-plus years of firefighting knowledge. Forty-plus years of management and supervision experience.

Pondering on how to use this to better the state fire protection, I read the book sent out to all state officers and directors: "A Call to Action, Preserving and Improving the Future of the Volunteer Fire Service". Here are a few facts from this report:

1. 73% of all fire departments are volunteer.
2. Firefighters are extremely dedicated.
3. Volunteer firefighters save American society \$37 billion per year.
4. Despite this contribution, volunteer departments are often under-funded and ill equipped and must raise their own operating funds.
5. The number of volunteers has dropped 10% in the last 20 years.
6. Since 9-11, local responders are clearly each community's First Line of Response, regardless of the event.
7. As county and local communities re-evaluate their ability to respond and handle new threats, the stability of the American volunteer fire service has become a significant issue.
8. Community protection and well-being depends on the experience, expertise, and longevity of local emergency service providers.
9. Local communities and the leadership of those communities will look toward the volunteer fire department for answers to questions of terrorist threats and threat assessment. Enhancing the community's safety is a new responsibility for local responders.

Significant improvements in the volunteer fire service will be necessary to improve retention and create an atmosphere of stability, allowing local volunteer fire departments to meet the expectations and challenges of the 21st Century.

To meet the needs and expectations of the communities we serve, there are two (2) compelling issues that most volunteer fire departments face: (1) lack of financial resources, and (2) lack of volunteers.

Lack of resources must be addressed on multiple levels. We must work with other states to insure that Federal dollars are spent wisely and address the need of the volunteer services. The AAVFD must work with other fire associations and the state legislature to increase the funding to volunteer fire services on a state level.

The local fire departments, county associations, and local elected officials must find ways to insure the safety and preparedness of the volunteer services are adequate. They must educate community leaders (Federal, state and local) on the cost of not having quality volunteer services. These costs would include higher insurance premiums, no fire service, slower EMS response, and no front line response to threats or any community hazards.

Lack of volunteers has two facets. It stems from both retaining current volunteers, as well as recruiting new volunteers.

Of the two facets, retention is the best and less costly alternative. The national average to equip, train and orientate is approximately \$4,000.00, while the average cost to retain a volunteer is approximately \$250.00 per year.

Some suggestions on recruiting and retaining volunteers – The most important is good management. The ability of a fire department to retain its people is directly related to its ability to manage its people. The lack of quality leadership is the most critical issue con-

fronting volunteer fire services.

We must develop and fund comprehensive benefits and incentives that protect the firefighter and their family in the event of significant injury or death. Recognize personal achievements and motivate them to improve their skills.

Set up training and work schedules to decrease the time demand on volunteers. Supply quality training that volunteers can use in their private lives to improve their employability and supply this training at no cost to the volunteer.

Supply life insurance and worker compensation with weekly pay provisions. Offer college tuition reimbursement and book costs.

Setup minimum training standards and requirements.

All great ideas, but how do we fund it? First, we must find sources of funding. Then we must follow through with the proper procedure to acquire the funds. There are grants available, but we have to look and follow the directions.

Some examples are the CEPAC Grant for Equipment with no matching funds. There is the SAFER Grant, where you build a Recruitment and Retention Program for each department, local association and state association.

I will work to insure that any grant available to state associations is pursued, and any grant available to fire departments or associations are made known to all concerned.

Thank you for your time and allowing me to serve YOU.

2005 Scholarship Winners

This year's AAVFD Scholarship winners were announced at the Annual Awards banquet on July 16th. Four \$500 scholarships are awarded each year, and the 2005 recipients were Justin Vance Donaldson, Tri-Communities VFD, Coffee County; Robert Lee Patterson, Jr., Grant Fire & Rescue, Marshall County; Lydia Sophia Henderson, Camden VFD, Wilcox County; and Christopher James Morris, Wedowee VFD, Randolph County. AAVFD scholarships are awarded on a one-year basis and must be applied for each year, regardless of previous applications.

Mr. Donaldson has been a member of Tri-Communities VFD for 4-1/2 years. He plans to attend Troy University with a planned major in Accounting.

Mr. Patterson's father has been a member of the Grant Fire & Rescue for 23 years. Robert plans to attend Wallace State Community College with a planned major in A.A.S. Fire Science/EMT Paramedic.

Ms. Henderson's father has been a member of the Camden VFD for 4 years. Lydia is currently attending Auburn University with a planned major in Elementary Education.

Mr. Morris' father has been a member of Wedowee VFD for 25 years. Christopher plans to attend Auburn University with a planned major in Horticulture.



STAR FIRE EQUIPMENT

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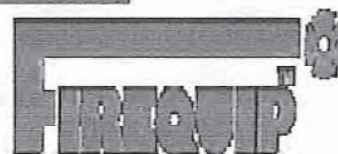
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To check out our competitive prices
for all of your fire equipment needs!!!!



FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Charlie Dixon



One of Clarke County's firefighters was honored as the Firefighter of the Year at the annual conference of the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. Charlie Dixon, long-time firefighter with the Thomasville VFD, was named Firefighter of the Year at the Saturday night Awards Banquet.

A native of Thomasville, Charlie became a volunteer firefighter in 1992 and was named the department's fire-

man of the year in 1993. He serves as TFD's public relations and education officer.

Ms. Le Ann Moore, Media Specialist at Thomasville Middle School and TES Teachers, Ms. Sydney Smith and Ms. Kim Clardy nominated Charlie for his outstanding achievements in the fire service and the local community. First, he worked hard to get funding to purchase a safety-training house that simulates house-fire and severe weather situations for use in teaching children how to react in case of a fire or during severe weather. He handles the scheduling for school visits and all community functions, such as Youth Day and Relay for Life. Ms. Moore states, "This real-world training could very possi-

bly save a child's life one day, and Mr. Dixon's labor of love would prove worth his on-going investment of time and energy!"

The second service investment Mr. Dixon coordinates is called Project Eagle. This is a project with Thomasville Elementary School third-graders. Thomasville VFD firefighters visit the school and speak to the third-graders about fire safety, but this project entails more than simple school visits. He coordinates a field trip to visit historical sites. This field trip includes T-shirts for the students and chaperones, travel on a chartered bus, and a meal at a nice restaurant. Visiting Mobile fire stations, and other interesting sites, and eating at a nice restaurant are wonderful experiences for the students and teachers.

Following the events of September 11, 2001, the Thomasville VFD, at Charlie's request, donated funds to the TMS library to purchase books related to fire safety, fire fighting, terrorism and national security.

Charlie is a member of the Alabama Forestry Commission RCFP Steering Committee, the Rural Community Fire Protection Institute, and currently serves as the District 8 Alternate Director on the AAVFD Board.

He is currently spearheading the TFD fundraising drive to purchase new turnout gear. To date, \$10,000 has been raised, but the goal is more than \$50,000 to purchase the gear for all the department's personnel.

Ms. Smith and Ms. Clardy stated, "Charlie Dixon is a man that has not only provided outstanding fire service for his community, but who is also, and continues to be, a positive role model for our students."

Sherry Garner Memorial Award

Selected as the recipient of the 2005 Sherry Garner Memorial Award, Ginny Tyler was honored for the second time at the annual AAVFD awards ceremony. Nominated by Escambia County, Ginny was also the recipient of this honor in 2002.

Ginny currently serves Appleton VFD as treasurer and has been appointed as one of the department's two lieutenants. She responded to 89 of the 125 calls the department received during 2004 for a 71% average, the second highest in the department. She worked tirelessly in the recovery effort following Hurricane Ivan's devastation in the area.

Ginny was one of the two department members to complete all of the hose tests for the year and the pre-fire plans for the department, as well as completing the hydrants test for the entire district. She serves on the banquet committee, finance committee and nominating committee for Escambia County's Association. She has always coordinated, planned and executed the fundraisers for Appleton VFD. She is the "go-to" person for these occasions.

In addition to the demanding schedule these accomplishments require, Ginny still takes time to train and continue her firefight-

ing education. She completed the Essentials of Fire Fighting 160 Hour course through the Alabama Fire College. She has attended the Fire Fighter II class and is waiting to take the exam. She completed an additional 63 hours of training through various other courses for a total of 223 hours during 2004.

Ginny and her family are members of North Brewton Baptist Church where she serves on the hospitality committee, flower and décor committee, and teaches during Vacation Bible School.



On Duty Firefighter Notification Information

Notifications for current year on-duty firefighter fatalities can now be made to the United States Fire Administration (USFA) online by using the notification form on the newly redesigned USFA Web site:

(<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/applications/ffmem/notification.jsp>).

All notifications are also sent to the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Foundation for separate Line of Duty Death (LODD) criteria evaluation:

(<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fatalities/memorial/criteria.shtm>).

The fatality notices posted at the grounds of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial and on the USFA Web site immediately after a firefighter's death are for notification purposes only.

For on-duty deaths reported to USFA immediately following the fatal incident, a notice will be posted and the flags flown at half-staff at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial. The name will also be added to the Firefighter Memorial Database (<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fatalities/>).

For deaths reported some time after the incident, a file will be created for later investigation. A notice will not be posted at the Memorial or on the Firefighter Memorial Database.

The appearance of a firefighter's name on the Firefighter Memorial Database or the Memorial grounds does not necessarily reflect his/her eligibility for permanent placement on the Memorial or inclusion in the annual USFA report on fatalities. Only after information concerning the fatal incident is collected and reviewed are firefighters deemed eligible/ineligible for either the annual analysis report on firefighter fatalities or for permanent placement on the Memorial. Initial reports are often incomplete. Notices are meant simply as a way to inform the fire service community and the general public of the death. Posted deaths need only be linked to on-duty incidents. No immediate determination of eligibility is made.

Who is a Firefighter?

For the purpose of the USFA study, the term "firefighter" covers all members of organized fire departments in all States, the District of Columbia, and the Territories of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam. It includes career and volunteer firefighters; full-time public safety officers acting as firefighters; State, Territory, and Federal government fire service personnel, including wildland firefighters; and privately employed firefighters, including employees of contract fire departments and trained members of industrial fire brigades, whether full- or part-time. It also includes contract personnel working as firefighters or assigned to work in direct support of fire service organizations.

Under this definition, the study includes not only local and municipal firefighters but also seasonal and full-time employees of the United States Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Fish and Wildlife, the National Park Service, and State wildland agencies. The definition also includes prison inmates serving on firefighting crews; firefighters employed by other governmental agencies, such as the United States Department of Energy; military personnel performing assigned fire suppression activities; and civilian firefighters working at military installations.

What Constitutes an On-Duty Fatality?

On-duty fatalities include any injury or illness sustained while on-duty that proves fatal. The term on-duty refers to being involved in operations at the scene of an emergency, whether it is a fire or non fire incident; responding to or returning from an incident; performing other officially assigned duties such as training, maintenance, public education, inspection, investigations, court testimony, and fundraising; and being on-call, under orders, or on standby duty except at the individual's home or place of business. An individual who experiences a heart attack or other fatal injury at home as he or she prepares to respond to an emergency is considered on duty when the response begins. A firefighter who becomes ill while performing fire department duties and suffers a heart attack shortly after arriving home or at another location may be considered on-duty since the inception of the heart attack occurred while the firefighter was on-duty.

There is no established mechanism for identifying fatalities that result from illnesses such as cancer that develop over long periods of time, which may be related to occupational exposure to hazardous materials or products of combustion. It has proved to be very difficult over the years to provide a complete evaluation of an occupational illness as a causal factor in firefighter deaths due to the following limitations: insufficient tracking of the exposure of firefighters to toxic hazards, the often delayed long-term effects of such toxic hazard exposures, and the exposures firefighters may receive while off-duty.

On December 15, 2003, the President of the United States signed into law the Hometown Heroes Survivors Benefit Act of 2003. After being signed by the President, the Act became Public Law 108-182. The law presumes that a heart attack or stroke are in the line-of-duty if the firefighter was engaged in non-routine stressful or strenuous physical activity while on-duty and the firefighter becomes ill while on-duty or within 24 hours after engaging in such activity. The full text of the law is available at

http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=108_cong_public_laws&docid=f:publ182.108.pdf.

The inclusion criteria for the USFA study will be affected by this change in the law. Previous to December 15, 2003, firefighters who became ill as the result of a heart attack or stroke after going off-duty needed to register some complaint of not feeling well while still on-duty in order to be included in the study. For firefighter fatalities after December 15, 2003, firefighters will be included in the study if they become ill as the result of a heart attack or stroke within 24 hours of a training activity or emergency response. Firefighters who become ill after going off-duty where the activities while on-duty were limited to non-stressful tasks that did not involve physical exertion such as clerical, administrative, or non-manual in nature, will not be included in the USFA study.

A fatality may be caused directly by an accidental or intentional injury in either emergency or non-emergency circumstances, or it may be attributed to an occupationally-related fatal illness. A common example of a fatal illness incurred on duty is a heart attack. Fatalities attributed to occupational illnesses also would

FIREFIGHTER NOTIFICATION *continued on next page*

include a communicable disease contracted while on duty that proved fatal when the disease could be attributed to a documented occupational exposure.

Injuries and illnesses are included even when death is considerably delayed after the original incident. When the incident and the death occur in different years, the USFA analysis counts the fatality as having occurred in the year in which the incident took place.

Background

For 27 years, the United States Fire Administration (USFA) has tracked the number of firefighter fatalities and conducted an annual analysis. Through the collection of information on the causes of firefighter deaths, the USFA is able to focus on specific problems and direct efforts toward finding solutions to reduce the number of firefighter fatalities in the future. This information also is used to measure the effectiveness of current programs directed toward firefighter health and safety.

One of the USFA's main program goals is a 25-percent reduction in firefighter fatalities in 5 years, and a 50-percent reduction within 10 years. The emphasis placed on these goals by the USFA is underscored by the fact that these goals represent one of the five major objectives that guide the actions of the USFA.

In addition to the analysis, the USFA provides a list of firefighter fatalities to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. If Memorial criteria are met, the fallen firefighter's next of kin, as well as members of the individual fire department, are invited to the annual Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service. The service is held at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland, during Fire Prevention Week. Additional information regarding the Memorial Service can be found at www.firehero.org or by calling the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation at (301) 447-1365.

Other resources and information regarding firefighter fatalities, including current fatality notices, the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial database, and links to the Public Safety Officer's Benefit (PSOB) program and NIOSH firefighter fatality reports can be found at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fatalities/>

"ICE" – In Case of Emergency



Following the attacks in London, the East Anglian Ambulance Service has launched a national "In Case of Emergency (ICE)" campaign. The idea is that you store the word "ICE" in your mobile phone address book, and against it enter the number of the person you would want to be contacted "In Case of Emergency".

In an emergency situation ambulance and hospital staff will then be able to quickly find out who your next of kin are and be able to contact them. It's so simple that everyone can do it.

If you find this to be useful, please consider e-mailing this to the people in your address book. It won't take too many 'forwards' before everybody will know about this. It really could help the emergency services in doing their job. For more than one contact name use: ICE-1, ICE-2, ICE-3 etc.

Thanks For Your Support



For all those who have supported me over the eighteen years I have been involved with the Association, I Thank You. For those who supported me in the election this year for the office of President, I am sorry things didn't turn out the way we had hoped, but that's the way things go. I ask all of you who supported me to support our new President. With our support this still can be the best Fire Association in the State, but it will take all of us working together as one.

Even though I am no longer on the Board, I will still be around, I assure you. I will attend as many Board meetings that I can, just as I did in the past when I was not on the Board. The new President has asked I

continue with the Fire fighter competition so I will be looking forward to seeing all you at the upcoming competitions across the state. If any of you would like to have competition in your county and would like me to attend, all you have to do is call or email me. I'll do my best to be there.

Last but not least, I ask all of you to get involved with the AAVFD. Attend the Board meetings, and by all means, attend the Annual Conference or send someone from your county. The Board meetings are open to guests and the AAVFD usually meets quarterly in Clanton, AL.

And again, thank you for all you have done for me over the years. Joey Boyd

2005 Wildland Fire Prevention Grants

On June 8th, the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments Grant Committee, with the cooperation of the Alabama Forestry Commission, awarded \$65,805.00 for Wildland Fire Prevention projects. Committee members included Chairman Johnny Dennis, Lou Hyman of the Alabama Forestry Commission, AAVFD Second Vice President William Neal, John Robison of Robison Consulting, LLC, Jason Crutchfield of AUM and Stan Merrett, owner of ETT, L.L.C. We extend congratulations to the following departments and associations that were successful in securing funding for their project:

Jones VFD	Autauga	\$ 500.00
P & MP VFD	Butler	\$ 2,400.00
Starlington VFD	Butler	\$ 2,400.00
Choctaw Co Assn		\$ 2,775.00
Lusk VFD	Choctaw	\$ 3,230.00
Clarke Co Assn		\$ 2,775.00
Scyrene-Chance VFD	Clarke	\$ 3,000.00
Ranburne VFD	Cleburne	\$ 4,000.00
Elmore Co Assn		\$ 9,000.00
Friendship VFD	Elmore	\$ 2,300.00
Appleton VFD	Escambia	\$ 900.00
Bradley VFD	Escambia	\$ 900.00
Dixie VFD	Escambia	\$ 1,900.00
Escambia Co Assn		\$ 2,775.00
Rocky Ridge Fire District	Jefferson	\$ 2,000.00
Alder Springs VFD	Marshall	\$ 2,500.00
Four C VFD	Marshall	\$ 1,000.00
Frisco City VFD	Monroe	\$ 1,300.00
Uriah VFD	Monroe	\$ 500.00
Marion VFD	Perry	\$ 1,000.00
Uniontown VFD	Perry	\$ 1,000.00
Davis Lake VFD	St Clair	\$ 2,775.00
Pace's Point VFD	Tallapoosa	\$ 5,000.00
Samantha VFD	Tuscaloosa	\$ 2,775.00
Walker Co Assn		\$ 4,300.00
Wilcox Co Assn		\$ 2,800.00

2005 AAVFD Membership – Total 892

DISTRICT 1 MEMBERSHIP

CALHOUN		7 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		21 of 34
SHELBY		12 of 22
ST CLAIR		16 of 22
WALKER	100%	25 of 25
WINSTON	100%	11 of 11

DISTRICT 3 MEMBERSHIP

FAYETTE		0 of 13
GREENE		12 of 13
HALE	100%	9 of 9
LAMAR	100%	10 of 10
PICKENS	100%	17 of 17
SUMTER		17 of 18
TUSCALOOSA	100%	20 of 20

DISTRICT 4 MEMBERSHIP

CHAMBERS	100%	13 of 13
CLAY	100%	18 of 18
CLEBURNE	100%	12 of 12
COOSA		0 of 10
RANDOLPH	100%	17 of 17
TALLADEGA		3 of 15
TALLAPOOSA	100%	13 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%	11 of 11
PERRY	100%	11 of 11
WILCOX	100%	9 of 9

DISTRICT 6 MEMBERSHIP

BARBOUR		5 of 12
COFFEE	100%	9 of 9
DALE	100%	13 of 13
GENEVA		10 of 11
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%	13 of 13
CLARKE	100%	13 of 13
MOBILE	100%	19 of 19
WASHINGTON	100%	19 of 19

DISTRICT 9 MEMBERSHIP

COLBERT	100%	13 of 13
FRANKLIN	100%	12 of 12
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		1 of 8
MACON		1 of 10
MONTGOMERY	100%	8 of 8
RUSSELL	100%	11 of 11

Competition Results

Joey Boyd, Competition Chairman

Well, another year has come and gone. This year's competition was fun for all. We did miss some of our teams from the past that did not compete this year, but we welcomed a new team that had never competed, and they did very well for their first time. Tanner VFD of Limestone County, it was great having you there this year, and we hope to see you again next year.

We had a total of seven teams this year, and we finished in record time with the events. All the teams did a great job and ran well in all the events. For those who did not attend, I hope to see all of you at next year's Conference. You don't know what you are missing!

The Competition site couldn't have been any better, and it was great to have the vendors at the same location of the competition. We had a good crowd watching and even some of the vendors got to come out to watch. This doesn't happen very often.

The tub claimed more than one victim this year. I had a feeling that the ole saying, "I had rather not" would run out of luck one day, and it did this year. And yes, more than one person will fit in the tub!

Thanks to all from Colbert County who helped with the competition this year. The ones who judged and the departments whose apparatus we used. You made things a lot easier. Thank you all.

Here are the times and how teams finished.

AIR PACK RELAY

Team	Score	Points
Sylvania (DeKalb Co)	1:13.41	10 pts
East Limestone (Limestone Co)	1:15.38	7 pts
Fulton (Clarke Co)	1:17.69	5 pts

OBSTACLE COURSE

Team	Score	Points
Sylvania (DeKalb Co)	1:09.19	10 pts
Fulton (Clarke Co)	1/21/84	7 pts
East Limestone (Limestone Co)	1/22.38	5 pts

WATER ON THE ROOF

Team	Score	Points
Sylvania (DeKalb Co)	24.5"	10 pts
Fulton (Clarke Co)	18.0"	7 pts
East Limestone (Limestone Co)	17.25"	5 pts

OVERALL

Team	Points
Sylvania	30 pts
Fulton	19 pts
East Limestone	17 pts



Competition Teams

Standing on the left is third place winner, East Limestone VFD, Limestone County; kneeling in center is first place winner Sylvania VFD, DeKalb County; and standing to the right is second place winner Fulton VFD, Clarke County.

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From Here and There

News of the Volunteer Fire Service from across Alabama

Congratulations to Level Plains VFD, Dale County, for achieving a class 6/9 from a prior 7/9 rating, effective August 1, 2005.

Fire Prevention Week is October 9-15, 2005. This year's campaign theme is a real lifesaver! Over the last decade, candle fires have more than tripled – from 5,500 reported in 1990 to an estimated 18,000 during 2001. "Use Candles with Care, When you go out, blow out!" as the 2005 theme encourages people to observe simple safety precautions when using candles.

"Attention all Fire Departments, Smokey Bear now lives in Lamar County." The arrival of the new Smokey Bear robot was announced to all Lamar County Fire Departments over the fire net radios in October 2004 and since has been making appearances at public events across the county, posing for photos and teaching fire safety.

Monroe County held the annual Awards Banquet on May 28, 2005. Congratulations to Monroe County Fire Chiefs of the Year Eddie Everette, Monroeville VFD and Buddy Enzor, Frisco City VFD; Firefighter of the Year Larry Seals, Excel VFD; Rookie of the Year Josh Wasden, Frisco City VFD; and EMTs of the Year Shannon Sawyer and Vincent Ferraro, both of Frisco City VFD. A special Award was presented to Linda Stacey, Beat 1 VFD, acknowledging her hard work as Monroe County Fire Association secretary/treasurer.

Uriah VFD, Monroe County, hosted a 24-hr Haz Mat Awareness and Operations class beginning June 25th and completing July 7, 2005, just before Hurricane Dennis hit the area. Alabama Fire College instructor Chris McGhee taught the class to Uriah and Frisco City firefighters of Monroe County and Nokomis and McCullough firefighters of Escambia County.

Frisco City VFD, Monroe County, held a 4-hr Basic Arson class taught by Ed Paulk of the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Firefighters attending were from Mexia, Monroeville, and Frisco City VFD from Monroe County, Nokomis VFD from Escambia County and Range VFD from Conecuh County.

On October 8th, Woodville VFD, Jackson County, will hold its First Annual Poker Run/Fall Festival benefiting the station.



Thomasville VFD, Clarke County, has acquired a Patches robot. The fully animated Dalmatian is an exciting new teaching tool for teaching fire prevention and safety in the community.

Congratulations to Aimee Voisin and Judi Lee, Lillian VFD, Baldwin Co., who passed the exam to receive national certification as EMT's.

2005 Annual Dues Reminder

AAVFD annual dues were payable January 1, 2005.

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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 Folding Dump Tank Rack
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Hale 4KW Generator
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300 Gallon Tank
Allison Automatic
Detroit Diesel



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1988 E-One 95' Hurricane
1500 Hale Side Mount Pump
200 Gallon Aluminum Tank
Diesel Engine
Currently Being Painted White/ Red



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1986 Seagraves
1500 Waterous Pump
Automatic Transmission
Detroit Diesel



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1991 Grumman Pumper
1000 Waterous Side Mount Pump
500 Gallon Tank
Hale 4KW Generator
Ford Engine



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1990 GMC Walk-In Rescue
10KW Power Inverter
Allison Automatic
GM Diesel



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1990 E-One Heavy Rescue
Enclosed Seating for 8
20KW # Hydraulic Rear Winch
12KW # Electric Front Winch
Harrison 25KW Generator



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1993 Spartan Ferrara
1250 Hale Side Mount Pump
750 Gallon Tank
Silent Knight (Rear Engine)
Backup Camera



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1985 E-One Walk-In Rescue
GMC 4x4 Chassis
Enclosed Seating for 7
GMC Automatic
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1500 Hale Side Mount Pump
1250 Gallon Poly Tank
100 Gallon Foam Tank
Detroit Diesel



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1989 E-One Hush Pumper
1500 Hale Side Mount Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank
50 Gallon Foam Tank
Detroit Diesel



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1994 E-One Midi-Pumper
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300 Gallon Aluminum Tank
9KW Gas Generator
8K # Ramsey Winch



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1993 KME Pumper
1500 Hale Side Mount Pump
1000 Gallon Poly Tank
Akron Foam System
30 Gallon Foam Tank



\$99,000
1999 Rescue
Automatic Transmission
Diesel Engine



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1994 Spartan Ferrara
1250 Hale Side Mount Pump
1000 Gallon Poly Tank
Allison Automatic
Cat Diesel



\$79,000
1989 Ward/ Mack Pumper
1500 Waterous Side Mount Pump
750 Gallon Tank
Enclosed Seating for 9
Mack Diesel



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1990 Pierce Pumper
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Hydraulic Ladder Rack
Cummins Diesel



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1985 Sutphen Pumper
1500 Hale Top Mount Pump
750 Gallon Steel Tank
Allison Automatic
Detroit Diesel



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750 Gallon Poly Tank
Honda 5KW Generator
Cummins Diesel



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1999 Horton Ambulance
Automatic Transmission
Diesel Engine



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1986 Pierce Arrow Pumper
1500 Waterous Side Mount Pump
500 Gallon Steel Tank
Diesel Engine
Tank Size Can Be Increased



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1991 E-One Cyclone Custom Pumper
1500 Hale Side Mount Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank
On-Board Foam System
Detroit Diesel



\$110,000

1990 E-One Protector Pumper/ Tanker
1000 Hale Top Mount Pump
1500 Gallon Poly Tank
Cummins Diesel



\$49,000

1985 E-One Hurricane Pumper
1250 Hale Side Mount Pump
500 Gallon Aluminum Tank
Onan 6KW Generator
Detroit Diesel



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1988 E-One Hurricane Custom Pumper
1500 Hale Top Mount Pump
500 Gallon Aluminum Tank
40 Gallon Foam Tank
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5K PSI Air Compressor
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International Diesel



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500 Gallon Poly Tank
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1675 Gallon Poly Tank
Rescue Style Compartments
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1996 KME Custom Pumper
1250 Hale Side Mount Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank
Honda 5KW Generator
Detroit Diesel



\$69,000

1988 Pierce Dash Pumper
1250 Hale Side Mount Pump
1000 Gallon Steel Tank
Class B Foam System
Diesel Engine



\$89,000

1995 Freightliner/ Luverne Pumper
1250 Hale Side Mount Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank
Honda 5KW Generator
Cummins Diesel



\$49,000

1988 E-One Walk-In Rescue
Ford F-800 Chassis
Walk-In Box w/ Seating for 4
12K # Winch
Ford Diesel



\$89,000

1998 E-One Hurricane Pumper
1500 Hale Side Mount Pump
750 Gallon Aluminum Tank
Enclosed Seating for 5
Detroit Diesel



\$49,000

1987 Quality Pumper
1250 Waterous Top Mount Pump
750 Gallon Steel Tank
Detroit Diesel
Allison Automatic



\$69,000

1989 Pierce Dash Pumper
1250 Waterous Top Mount Pump
1000 Gallon Tank
Allison Automatic
Cat Diesel



\$59,000

1991/1975 Seagraves 100' Ladder
Spartan Monarch Cab
1997 Aerial Retrofit w/ Nylon Slide Block Kit
20KW Diesel Generator
Detroit Diesel



Call for Pricing

1998 E-One 75' Quint
1500 Hale Side Mount Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank
30 Gallon Akron Foam Tank
Detroit Diesel



Call for Pricing

1996 E-One Heavy Rescue
Simon Duplex Chassis
Enclosed Seating for 5
PTO 35KW Generator
12K # Rear Winch

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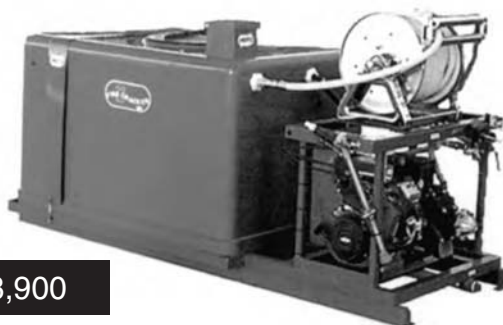
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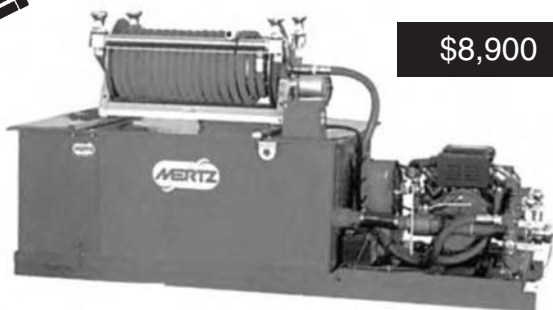
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TECHNOLOGY GRANT FOR RURAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Through a cooperative agreement between the Alabama Forestry Commission and the Alabama Department of Insurance, State Fire Marshal's Office, limited funding is available for a Volunteer Fire Department that serves a population base of less than 10,000 people, to purchase computer equipment for the purpose of reporting to the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). Grant requests will be considered up to \$1,000.00.

Departments wishing to apply for funds to purchase computer equipment must agree to the following criteria:

The department will purchase new computer and related equipment from a reputable dealer which meets the minimum standards as established in this grant.

The department must agree to establish and maintain internet access.

The department will provide to the State Fire Marshals Office copies of all receipts for equipment purchased through this program.

The department must agree to maintain accountability of equipment purchased.

The department must agree to report at least monthly, all runs made by the department for three years, beginning on the first day of the month following receipt of grant funds, to the National Fire Incident Reporting System.

Computer equipment purchased with funding from this grant must meet the following minimum standards:

HARDWARE: 700 MHz Pentium or better
512 MB RAM
1 GB Hard Drive Disk Storage
56k (V.90)bps modem

COTS: TCP/IP Internet Connectivity
OS: WINDOWS 2000, XP

SOFTWARE: Word Processing and Database Software
PRINTER: No Minimum requirements

APPLICATION for Technology Grant on Page 18

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APPLICATION FOR TECHNOLOGY GRANT FUNDING

The _____ Fire Department hereby makes application for \$_____, to purchase computer equipment for the purpose of reporting to the National Fire Incident Reporting System. This equipment is new and is being purchased from a reputable equipment dealer. This equipment will belong to and be maintained by the _____ Fire Department.

Describe in detail the computer equipment to be purchased and price for each piece of equipment to be paid on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to this application. Please make sure that the equipment and software meet these minimum standards:

HARDWARE:	700 MHz Pentium or better 512 MB RAM 1 GB Hard Drive Disk Storage 56k (V.90)bps modem
COTS:	TCP/IP Internet Connectivity
OS:	WINDOWS 2000, XP
SOFTWARE:	Word Processing and Database Software
PRINTER:	No Minimum requirements

I, as Chief Officer of the _____ Fire Department do hereby certify that the department is a volunteer fire department, serving a population of less than 10,000 people. I further certify that the equipment being purchased is for the purpose of maintaining the reports and accounts of the _____ Fire Department, whose physical address is:_____.

I further certify that the department will provide the State Fire Marshal's Office with copies of the receipts for items of equipment purchased. I certify that the department will report monthly to the National Fire Incident Reporting System all runs made by this department for a period of three years beginning with the first month following receipt of the funds. I understand that failure to comply with the grant requirements will result in the forfeiture of a prorated amount of the grant funds. The prorated amount, in the event of forfeiture, will be returned to the State Fire Marshal's Office. I understand that the maximum amount of funds available to any department under this grant is \$1,000.00. I understand that acceptance of this application by the State Fire Marshal's Office and funds issued to my department will constitute a contract between my department and the Alabama Department of Insurance, State Fire Marshal's Office.

Chief Officer

Date

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Lineman Electrocuted

by Joe Thomas, The Tri-City Ledger Editor

An investigation continued Wednesday into the death of a power company employee who was apparently electrocuted while trying to restore electricity to the Flomaton area.

Ronnie Allen Adams Jr., 41, of Winterville, Ga., was pronounced dead at 5:44 p.m. at Jay Hospital, almost an hour after he slumped over in a bucket truck.

The incident occurred on Jackson Street, near the Wilkerson Street intersection, according to Flomaton Police Chief Mike Lambert.

Investigators and power company officials speculated Tuesday afternoon the electrocution may have come from a back feed on power lines from someone who had hooked their house or building up to a generator.

Adams was employed with Pike Electric, Inc., of Mount Airy, N.C., which was in Flomaton helping to restore power due to Hurricane Dennis.

Witnesses said Adams slumped over in the bucket truck and other employees lowered the bucket to the ground and immediately began CPR.

An employee from Pike Electric ran to Highway 29 and flagged down a Tuscaloosa County sheriff's deputy, who summoned emergency personnel to the scene. The original call came in at 4:55 p.m.

Chief Lambert said Adams was unresponsive when officers arrived on the scene.

Paramedics and firefighters from the Flomaton Volunteer Fire Department continued doing CPR on Adams until a LifeFlight helicopter arrived. The emergency helicopter landed in the old Abernethy Memorial Hospital parking lot and transported Adams to Jay Hospital.

Chief Lambert said an autopsy was being conducted Wednesday to determine the exact cause of death. He added the incident is being investigated by the Flomaton Police Department and investigators with Alabama Power Company.

Tuesday afternoon the area was sealed off with crime scene tape while deputies and other law enforcement officials went through the neighborhood checking homes door-to-door in an attempt to

identify the source of the alleged back-feed electrical current. Investigators were back on the scene Wednesday.

In several pre-hurricane meetings, officials warned against hooking homes up to generators due to the risk of causing the back feed.

Bernie Fogerty, public affairs officer for Alabama Power, explained during a back feed when people hook entire homes up to a generator there is a chance of the power reversing and re-energizing an otherwise dead power line.

When power comes through a transformer to the house, the voltage is reduced to 120 or 220 volts, however when there is a back feed, the opposite occurs and the voltage coming out is intensified, sometimes to thousands of volts.

"We will do a safety investigation," Fogerty said. "But right now our real concern is his family, friends and co-workers. We are very saddened and distressed by this."

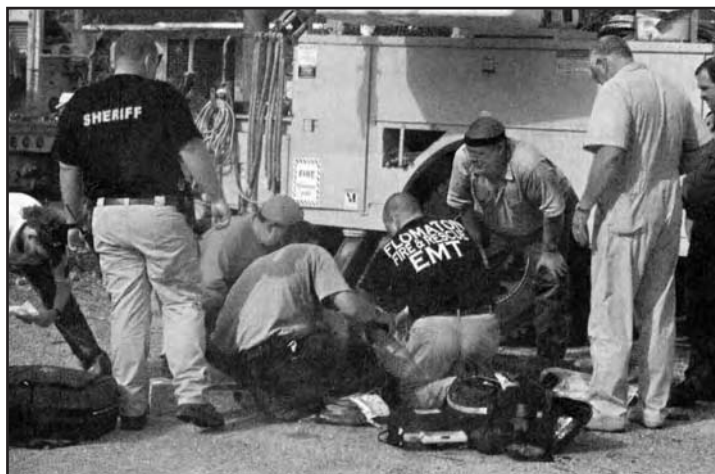
Fogerty said in just about every press release prior to the storm, power company officials warned people against hooking homes up to generators.

"Safety is first and foremost," Fogerty said. "Not only for the electrical workers, but residents walking the streets."

Fogerty said there are correct ways to hook houses and businesses to generators, but added it should be done by a licensed electrician to make sure there is no back feed into the power system.

Barney Ratliff, with Pike Electric in Mount Airy, said Wednesday the accident is still under investigation, but preliminary information points to a back feed. He said the power lines in that area were grounded and tied and effectively dead. He said the apparent back feed energized what had been de-energized.

"We won't know for sure for a couple of days," Ratliff said.



Ratliff said Adams had been back working with Pike for about 6 months, noting he had worked for the power company before.

Pike Electric sent about 1,600 people into Florida and Alabama immediately following Hurricane Dennis to help restore power.

He did say the crew Adams worked with was not working Wednesday, but was helping with the investigation.

Adams was married and the father of one son.

FUND ESTABLISHED

The Tri-City Ledger Newspaper in Flomaton has opened an account at Escambia County Bank to receive donations for the family of Ronnie Allen Adams, Jr.

Adams, 41, of Winterville, GA, died Tuesday, July 12, while working to restore power to the Flomaton area. He is one of about 1,600 employees of Pike Electric, Inc., of Mount Airy, NC, deployed to Alabama and Florida in the aftermath of Hurricane Dennis.

To donate to the fund, make checks payable to the Ronnie Adams Fund. Checks can be mailed to Escambia County Bank, P. O. Box 601, Flomaton, AL 36441 or taken to the bank at 2151 Ringold St., Flomaton. For more information, contact Joe Thomas at (251) 296-3491.

Little Texas

Honored With Tom McLendon, Jr. Memorial Award



Little Texas VFD, Macon County, was honored with the Tom McLendon, Jr. Memorial Award given by Sunbelt Fire. The award honored Little Texas firefighters for demonstrating excellence in organizing the new department, equipping, and building a new state-of-the-art station in a community with genuine need for its services.

Little Texas is also the newest member of AAVFD.

On hand to give this award and represent the department was: (Left to right: Slade McLendon, Dr. Willie Kirk, Jr. and Chief Mike Griggs of Little Texas VFD, and Thomas McLendon.)

PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENTS

President Johnny Alberson made the following committee appointments:

Scholarship – Roy Adamson
EMS Representative – Gary Cobb
Competition – Joey Boyd
Joint Fire Council – Johnny Dennis,
Clayton Cobb and Billy Doss
RCFPI – Wess Etheredge



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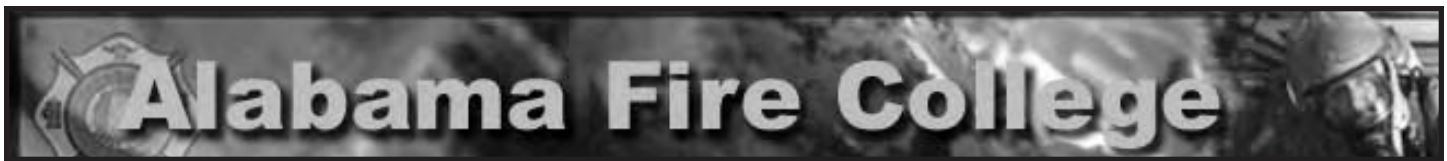
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Notice of One-Time 90-Day Grace Period for Reclaiming Expired Volunteer Fire Fighter Certifications

The Alabama Fire College and Personnel Standards Commission has approved a one-time 90-day opportunity to reclaim certification for certain specified individuals who allowed their Alabama Volunteer Fire Fighter certifications to expire. This one-time grace period has been defined as starting September 1, 2005 and ending with requests postmarked by November 30, 2005.

Under the rules of the Commission, with authority under Code of Alabama 36-32-7, recertification is required every three years for Certified Volunteer Fire Fighter since 1975, with the responsibility for recertification resting with the individual volunteer fire fighter. The requirement for this recertification is described in Policies, Procedures, and Regulations of the Commission at Section III (General Regulations and Administrative procedures), at 360-X-1-.01, Paragraphs 5 and 6. See details at this web address:

www.alabamafirecollege.org/PDFFORMS/ProceduresJuly2003-01.pdf

"5. (a.) Certification Expiration of Volunteer Fire Fighter: The volunteer fire fighter certification expires three (3) years from the date of issue or one (1) year from the date the person leaves the fire service career.

"6. (a.) Recertification Requirements of Volunteer Fire Fighter: During the final year of certification, i.e., the third year of the volunteer fire fighter credential, a fire fighter may be reexamined and recertified by the successful completion of both the practical and written examination. An alternative procedure is provided for certified volunteer fire fighter. During the third year of certification as a volunteer fire fighter, the fire chief and/or training officer will sign a statement attesting to the fact that the individual has participated in thirty (30) hours of recurring training annually and the individual may be recertified for another three-year period. The Commission nor its staff shall have any responsibility to issue notification of impending expiration."

The announced one-time 90-day grace period can be applied in the following circumstances:

- If any certified volunteer fire fighter failed to follow the requirements for taking the written and practical examination during the final third year of any certification period, or
- If the fire chief and training officer failed to sign and forward to the Alabama Fire College, before the end of the three-year certification period, a signed statement attesting to the individual receiving the required minimum number of training hours annually, AND

- If the certified volunteer fire fighter allowed his or her certification to expire on or after **JANUARY 1, 2000**. Earlier expired certifications are not eligible for this special grace period.

Note: A formerly certified volunteer fire fighter is not eligible to reclaim an expired certification if he or she has been out of the fire service for more than one year.

Any individual with an expired volunteer fire fighter certification who wishes to reclaim an expired certification for another three-year period must ask his or her fire chief and/or training officer to sign a statement attesting that the minimum 30 hours of training were conducted annually as required. The signed statement is then forwarded by surface mail to be postmarked between September 1 and November 30, 2005. Address signed statements to "VFF Grace Period Sept. 1 to Nov. 30" at the Alabama Fire College, 2501 Phoenix Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405. Any number of qualified individuals in a single volunteer fire department may be covered by one signed statement; however, it is a violation of state law to make a known false statement to a state official.

Once an individual has become recertified under this temporary grace period, all other higher-level certifications previously on record with the Alabama Fire College will also be reinstated automatically.

Certified individuals taking advantage of this grace period are reminded that it is for one time only and for 90 days only, ending November 30, 2005. Thereafter it remains the responsibility of the individual and his or her fire chief and/or training officer to be aware of the recertification requirement and respond as needed to renew each three-year certification within the time period stated in the law, and no later than the end of the third year of certification. Volunteer Fire Fighter certifications expire on the first day of the fourth year after certification or after the latest recertification. It is not the Fire College's responsibility to notify individuals with expiring certification. Information about the volunteer fire fighter recertification requirement will always be posted on the Alabama Fire College web site, www.alabamafirecollege.org.



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Awards Banquet Highlights



AAVFD Honor Guard with Awards Banquet Guest Speaker Dan Sheridan of New York Fire Department.



Honor Guard practices presentation of colors.



Annual Ceremony honoring fallen firefighters.



NATIONAL FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES

Name/Rank: Firefighter Michael Aunkst, Volunteer
Department: Benedict VFD, Benedict NE
Date of Death: 2/27/05
Cause of Death: Collapsed at the scene of a barn fire from an apparent heart attack and was pronounced dead after being transported to the hospital.

Name/Rank: Fire Police Officer Thomas Mower, Volunteer
Department: Goodwill Fire Company, Glenolden PA
Date of Death: 3/3/05
Cause of Death: Collapsed and died as he was about to enter his POV to respond to a residential fire alarm.

Name/Rank: Deputy Fire Coordinator/Fire Investigator James Mero, Jr., Career
Department: Essex Co Office of Emergency Services, Elizabethtown NY
Date of Death: 3/9/05
Cause of Death: Collapsed from an apparent heart attack while working at the scene of a residential fire and was pronounced dead after being transported to the hospital.

Name/Rank: Fire Base Manager John Greeno, Career
Department: US Forest Service, Sabine Nat'l Forest in Texas
Date of Death: 3/10/05
Cause of Death: Died as a result of a helicopter crash while working a prescribed burn. Cause of crash is still to be determined.

Name/Rank: Pilot Jose Victor Gonzales, Career
Department: US Forest Service, Sabine Nat'l Forest in Texas
Date of Death: 3/10/05
Cause of Death: Died as a result of a helicopter crash while working a prescribed burn. Cause of crash is still to be determined.

Name/Rank: Fire Management Officer Charles Lynn Edgar, Career
Department: US Forest Service, Sabine Nat'l Forest in Texas
Date of Death: 3/10/05
Cause of Death: Died as a result of a helicopter crash while working a prescribed burn. Cause of Crash is still to be determined.

Name/Rank: Chief Jerry Buehne, Career
Department: Affton Fire Protection District, Affton MO
Date of Death: 3/10/05
Cause of Death: Died driving to department meeting when his department vehicle was struck by an on-coming vehicle fleeing from police.

Name/Rank: Sgt Andre Ellis, Volunteer
Department: Dixie Suburban FD, Louisville KY
Date of Death: 3/16/05
Cause of Death: Collapsed and died after completing set-up and run-through testing of a search and rescue course involving hose evolutions in a building under renovation.

Name/Rank: Chief Al Wright, Volunteer
Department: Hollywood VFD, Hollywood AL
Date of Death: 3/21/05
Cause of Death: Died from apparent heart attack while riding in his POV in response to a vehicle accident.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Trainee Robert G. Brooks, Sr., Volunteer
Department: Montgomery FD, Montgomery NY
Date of Death: 3/28/05
Cause of Death: Collapsed of a brain aneurysm while participating in a live-burn exercise. He was treated on scene; then died two days later.

Name/Rank: Firefighter/Paramedic Brandon Scott Phillips, Career
Department: Keller FD, Keller TX
Date of Death: 3/30/05
Cause of Death: Two hours after completing an overtime shift, he suffered a dissecting aortic aneurysm and died during emergency surgery to repair it.

Name/Rank: Firefighter William Poage, Volunteer
Department: Pintala VFD, Hope Hull AL
Date of Death: 4/2/05
Cause of Death: Collapsed on the scene of a single-vehicle MVA with rollover of a cause still to be determined.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Trainee Justin M. Wisniewski, Volunteer
Department: Southington FD, Southington CT
Date of Death: 4/3/05
Cause of Death: Died from injuries received when he fell approximately 20 feet from a 24-ft ground ladder while participating in a Firefighter 1 training class the previous day.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Richard Allen Fast, Volunteer
Department: Midway VFD, Alum Bridge WV
Date of Death: 4/11/05
Cause of Death: Died of cardiac arrest while operating apparatus to the scene of a MVA.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Dale A. Monica, Volunteer
Department: Burke VFD, Burke NY
Date of Death: 4/16/05
Cause of Death: Collapsed and died of apparent heart attack while operating a pumper at a fire at his own residence.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Alfred Wohrman, Volunteer
Department: Beekman Fire Company, Paughquag NY
Date of Death: 4/17/05
Cause of Death: Died of unknown reasons while operating a rescue truck returning to station from a cancelled emergency call.

Name/Rank: Asst Lt Robert Henderson, Volunteer
Department: Firefighter Jacob Cook, Volunteer
Date of Death: 4/18/05
Cause of Death: Died while performing search and rescue operations inside a working residential fire when the townhouse exploded from a cause still to be determined.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Sally Renee Clark, Volunteer
Department: Pleasant Ridge VFD, Laurel MS
Date of Death: 4/16/05
Cause of Death: Collapsed of apparent heart attack while participating in pump operations training and a fund-raiser at the station on April 16th, and subsequently died on April 18th. Firefighter Clark was the wife of Pleasant Ridge Chief Billy Clark.

Name/Rank: Driver/Operator David Wayne O'Conner, Career
Department: Memphis FD, Memphis TN
Date of Death: 4/20/05
Cause of Death: Collapsed and died from a heart attack while returning from a fire alarm system call (false alarm).

Name/Rank: Captain Tom Lynch, Wildland Contract
Department: Captain Paul Cockrell, Wildland Contract
Date of Death: 4/20/05
Cause of Death: Died when the aircraft, a P-3 Orion air tanker, they were operating crashed of a cause still to be determined while undergoing training/qualification flight checks in preparation for the upcoming fire season.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Christopher Brian Hunton, Career
Department: Amarillo FD, Amarillo TX
Date of Death: 4/25/05
Cause of Death: Died after falling from the passenger compartment of apparatus while responding to incident.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Justin P. Faur, Volunteer
Department: Andover VFD, Andover IA
Date of Death: 4/30/05
Cause of Death: Overcome by toxic fumes while attempting to rescue a fallen victim from a liquid manure pit. He and the victim died as a result of their injuries.

Name/Rank: Safety Officer James Michael Ratcliffe, Volunteer
Department: Metuchen FD, Metuchen NJ
Date of Death: 5/3/05
Cause of Death: Suffered a hemorrhagic stroke while operating Engine 4 in a funeral procession paying last respects to one of his best friends, a Retired Former Chief. He passed away three weeks later.

Name/Rank: Asst Chief Michael T. Childress, Career
Department: Level Cross FD, Randleman NC
Date of Death: 5/7/05
Cause of Death: After responding to emergency medical services calls and working an overtime shift, he complained of not feeling well and went to lie down in the bunkroom. He was discovered later having died in his sleep.

Name/Rank: Lt Dennis J. Bottge, Career
Department: Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue, West Palm Beach FL
Date of Death: 5/22/05
Cause of Death: Suffered significant blood borne exposure while providing emergency medical care to a cardiac patient. When the patient suffered a seizure, Lt Bottge was stuck by a needle contracting Hepatitis C, which he succumbed to after a 10-year battle.

Name/Rank: Lt Frank Kucera, Career
Department: Seminole County Fire Rescue/Sanford FL
Date of Death: 5/27/05
Cause of Death: Died of apparent cardiac incident after returning from training exercise.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Recruit Karl "Kliff" Kramer, Career
Department: Jacksonville F/R Dept, Jacksonville FL
Date of Death: 5/28/05
Cause of Death: Collapsed while undergoing physical training at department's fire academy and died nine days later from a cause to be determined.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Paul A. Carr, Career
Department: Atlantic City FD, Atlantic City NJ
Date of Death: 5/31/05
Cause of Death: Died of heart attack during physical fitness training at the station.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Crew Supervisor III Audie Cross, Career
Department: Nevada Division of Forestry, Carson City, NV
Date of Death: 6/3/05
Cause of Death: Died from injuries received in an ATV rollover while he and his 12-person crew were engaged in a conservation project while statusing as an Initial Attack Wildland fire crew.

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NVFC Reaffirms Legislative Priorities for Congress

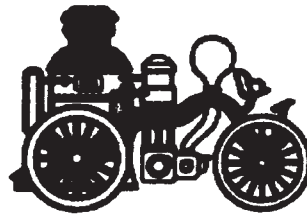
At its spring meeting held in Reno, Nevada from April 28-30, the NVFC Board of Directors voted on its legislative priorities for the 109th Congress. These priorities are:

- Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program Funding
- Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act (H.R. 1131/S. 512)
- U.S. Fire Administration Funding
- Citizens Corps Funding
- Good Samaritan Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Act (H.R. 1088/S. 766)
- Hometown Heroes Survivor Benefits Act Implementation
- Supporting Emergency Responders Volunteer Efforts (SERVE) Act (H.R. 934/S. 625)
- Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Act (H.R. 1405)

The NVFC Board also reiterated its support for the following legislation and programs:

- SAFER Grant Program Funding
- Faster and Smarter Funding for First Responders Act / Homeland Security Grand Enhancement Act (H.R. 1544/S. 21)
- Homeland Emergency Response Operations (HERO) Act (H.R. 1425)
- Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) Program
- Department of Interior Rural Fire Assistance Program
- Cigarette Fire Safety Act (H.R. 1850/S. 389)
- Christopher Kanga Fallen Firefighter Apprentice Act (H.R. 1456/S. 491)

For more detailed information on these issues, visit www.nvfc.org.



THE BELL TOLLED

Doyle Earnest Wiley, Pea Ridge VFD, Shelby County, passed away June 17, 2005. Mr. Wiley, who had served as Fire Chief and on the Board of Directors, was a fireman for over thirty years and was one of the founders of the department.

Charles E. Williamson, Attalla FD, Etowah Co., passed away June 21, 2005.

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

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



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