

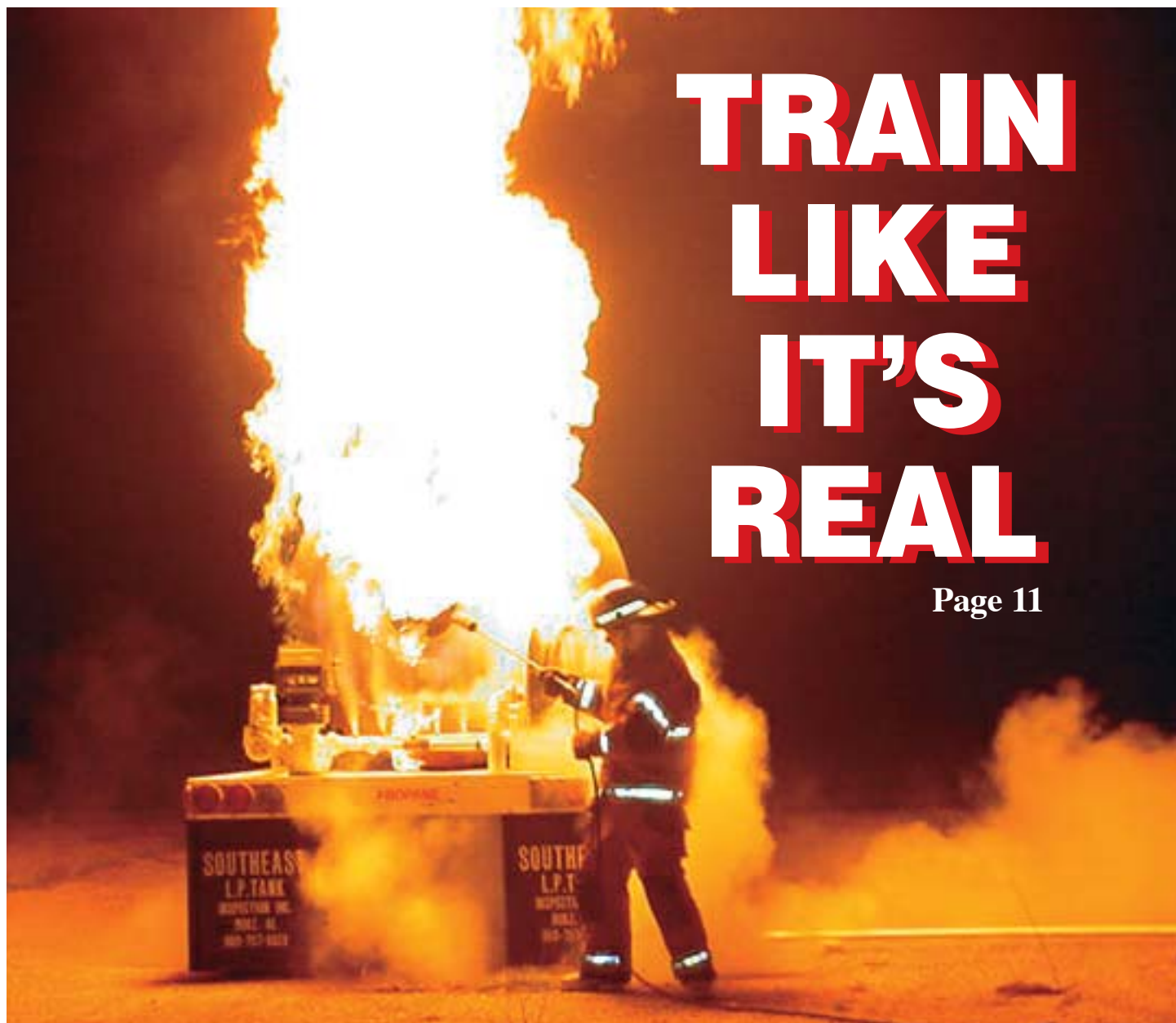


THE VOLUNTEER



The Official Newsletter of the
ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

July – September 2007



TRAIN LIKE IT'S REAL

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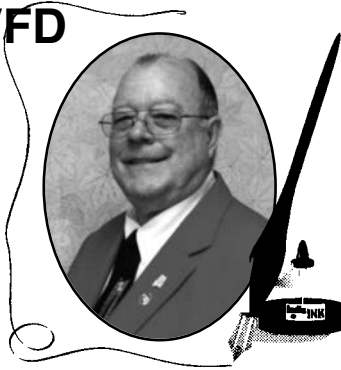
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FROM THE AAVFD PRESIDENT'S DESK

by

Johnny Alberson



We have finished another great year in "our" association, but the job doesn't end here. We have already begun another year. I appreciate your confidence in me by electing me to another term as president of AAVFD. Words cannot truly express the humbling feeling this election has on me. I promise to continue to work as hard as ever for the betterment of AAVFD, and I feel that you will continue to help me. I feel that the other officers and directors and alternate directors feel the same way. I think we have a great "Board of Directors".

I would like to thank everyone who worked on our annual conference to make it the success that it was. I won't call names, because I would surely leave out someone that had a part that maybe I don't know about. I feel that the conference was great and all the people (attendees, workers and vendors) were so cordial and went out of their way to make the conference enjoyable. **THANK YOU ELAINE DEARMON AND ALL HER WORKERS.**

We did not have a real successful legislative year this year, but, as I promised the senators and representatives, "We will be back next year". Our plans are to continue with the same bills that we worked on in 2007, and if you have an idea or another need that needs legislative attention, bring it on down and join us. I would like to thank all of you who supported our legislative committee in 2007, but most especially CHAUNCEY WOOD. He was present each and every week that the legislature was in session, and if you know Chauncey, you know that everyone knew he was around. **THANK YOU, CHAUNCEY!**

As we go into "our" 2007-08 year, may we all commit to work together for the betterment of AAVFD. Again, I thank you for your help and support in the past, and I humbly ask for it again in the upcoming year.

2007 Election

The election of officers for the 2007-2008 year was held at the general membership meeting on Saturday, August 4th, in Mobile. The following candidates were elected:

President - Johnny Alberson
First Vice President - Steve Dennis
Second Vice President - William 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 Mary Jo Chandler

• 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 Dan Hopkins

Alternate Director Carl Smith

• District 5: Autauga, Bibb, Chilton, Dallas, Marengo, Perry and Wilcox Counties.

Director Robert Slaughter

Alternate Director Mike Carlisle

• District 6: Barbour, Coffee, Dale, Geneva, Henry, Houston and Pike Counties.

Director Chauncey Wood

Alternate Director John Register

• 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 Charlie Dixon

Alternate Director Michael J. Holmes, Sr.

• District 9: Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Limestone, Lawrence, Marion and Morgan Counties.

Director Johnny Dennis

Alternate Director Joey Boyd

• District 10: Bullock, Elmore, Lee, Lowndes, Macon, Montgomery and Russell Counties.

Director Forrest Gregg

Alternate Director James H. Broadway, Jr.

The officers and directors were sworn in by State Fire Marshal Ed Paulk at the Awards Banquet on August 4th.

Due to space limitations, the phone numbers and addresses for the officers and directors are not listed. However, if you wish to contact any one of them, call the Montgomery office at 334-262-2833 or toll-free at 1-888-972-2833. This information is also posted on the AAVFD web site at www.aavfd.org.

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Sherry Garner Memorial Award

Candy Reeves has been a volunteer with the Johnson's Crossing Volunteer Fire Department in Cullman County for going on 21 years. She and her husband both have been a very committed part of their community.

Candy joined the fire department in February of 1987, along with her husband who presently serves as chief, and on an annual basis runs 95-98 percent of all calls the department receives. Candy is presently secretary and treasurer of the department, Emergency Medical Technician Captain, a Captain in the fire department, and pretty much is what the firefighters call our "Ms. Chief." She has served in the past on the Board of Trustees.

She is a certified firefighter and is presently working on becoming a certified fire instructor. Candy oversees a lot of the training for the department, as well. Candy not only keeps the department finances running smoothly, but she deals with all of the department's problems. She keeps the department going, and that is why they call her "Ms. Chief".

There is nothing on the fire grounds that this lady will not do or has not done. She packs out to go in a burning residence, just like the rest of the firefighters. She grabs the end of the nozzle, attacks the fire and will be the last one to sit down to take a break while there is something that needs to be done or taken care of on the fire scene or wreck scene or medical call. Whatever the need is, Candy is there to lend her helping hand and to guide and direct the department as a whole in the direction that the department needs to go.

Johnson's Crossing had 3 house fires in a 2-year time span that

consisted of burn fatalities. Candy has been at all 3 of those fires, and she has had to not only deal with the burden of a fatality on a scene, but be there to deal with those families who just lost their loved ones. After all is said and done, Candy will then make sure that all of her personnel are cared for. She makes sure that they are able to deal with everything they have just seen or dealt with, whether it be that burn fatality or a severely injured person in a wreck. Her patients are very dear to her, as well as their families.

There have been a lot of family meals that she and her husband have left to go and help someone else that was in need. She donates so much time to keeping the department running smoothly. You can go to her for anything, and she can either give you the answer or she will work until she can give you an answer.

So much that she does is behind the scenes that many never know that she is doing it and taking care of situations. This includes all those trips to the bank, the post office, and the job of taking care of the department finances, and the problem-solving before the issues become problems.

Johnson's Crossing firefighters call Candy Reeves "Our Hero", the "Ms. Chief". "Candy is special to us, and we are proud to have her taking care of all the things that she does for us."



Firefighter of the Year Award

Lt. John A. Register has been both a volunteer and career firefighter for over 20 years. He has been with Banks Volunteer Fire Department in Pike County for 5 years, Troy Fire Department for 17 years and Pike County Fire & Rescue Unit for over 20 years.

John's firefighting career began when his cousin's mobile home burned. As a result of this loss, John and his cousin, Fred Davis, Ronald Dawkins and many others in the Meeksville community formed the Meeksville Volunteer Fire Department.

He was very active in organizing the Pike County Firefighter Association and getting state funding for the department.

In 1985, John became a volunteer with the City of Troy. By this time, he realized that he wanted to be a career firefighter, so this became his goal. On May 16, 1991, John started his career with the Troy Fire Department. One of his dreams had come true at the age of 35. Seventeen years later, he is a Lieutenant.

In 1993, a call was received for a person trapped in a corn combine. When John got there, he saw that it was an 18-year-old boy whose leg was trapped in the combine. John stayed with him until he got to the hospital. Sadly, his leg was so damaged that it had to be removed. If you ask him what is the hardest



thing about being a firefighter, he will say, "Those calls can be really tough, especially when children or teenage people are involved. Being a father and grandfather, it can really hit home fast."

Since John is a father and grandfather, he makes sure that his children and granddaughter know about fire safety. In 2004, his granddaughter, at the age of 4, saved the life of her father, mother and sister from a house fire. She remembered what she had learned about fire safety from her Paw-Paw and saved them all!

In 2004, John was nominated for the "Ronald W. Dawkins Memorial Firefighter of the Year". As he received the award, he stated "This is a great honor because Dawkins was the one who first encouraged me to get involved in volunteer firefighting. From then on, firefighting just got in my blood, and it's been there ever since."

In 2006, John was named the Firefighter of the Year by the American Legion at their convention in Mobile.

John was nominated by his son, who says, "John is a loving husband and father. He has three children and one grandchild. He is also my father and that is why I know so much about him."

Alabama Fire College and Personnel Standards Commission Appoint New Executive Director



The Personnel Standards and Education Commission has selected Allan Rice as the new Executive Director of the Commission/Alabama Fire College. Allan was previously employed as a captain with Hoover Fire Department, Hoover, Alabama, and as the program coordinator for Fire Science and Emergency Medical Services at Jefferson State Community College in Birmingham. He also served as a consultant to the U.S. Department of Homeland

Security, in Anniston, Alabama, teaching training courses both on campus and throughout the United States.

During his fifteen years of service with Hoover Fire

Department, Allan held assignments as a firefighter/paramedic, lieutenant, fire inspector/investigator, and public educator/public information officer. He was assigned to the high angle and hazardous materials teams and worked extensively with law enforcement as a medical support officer. He holds ProBoard certifications for Fire Officer IV, Fire Instructor III, Fire Inspector III, Safety Officer, and Rescue Technician: Rope, Confined Space, Structural Collapse, Trench, and Surface Water. Allan has taught numerous courses pertaining to firefighting, emergency medicine and hazardous materials and has previous experience as a trauma and flight nurse.

Allan received his paramedic certificate and undergraduate degree in nursing from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and holds a Master's degree in Public and Private Management from Birmingham-Southern College. He is a member of the International Association of Firefighters, Professional Firefighters of Alabama, Alabama Firefighters Association, and Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs. He and his wife Kelly live in Hoover with their two sons.

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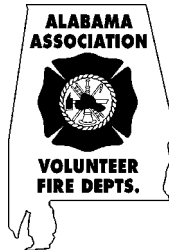
Baldwin County Fire Chief Association President Roger Few accepts the "Tom McClendon Memorial Award" on behalf of the departments in Baldwin County from Thomas and Slade McClendon of Sunbelt Fire. The Volunteer fire departments were recognized for their aid to tornado-damaged Miller's Ferry VFD in Wilcox County.



Conference Highlights



Mobile County Honor Guard with Fire Marshal Ed Paulk.



AAVFD Honor Guard with Fire Marshal Ed Paulk.



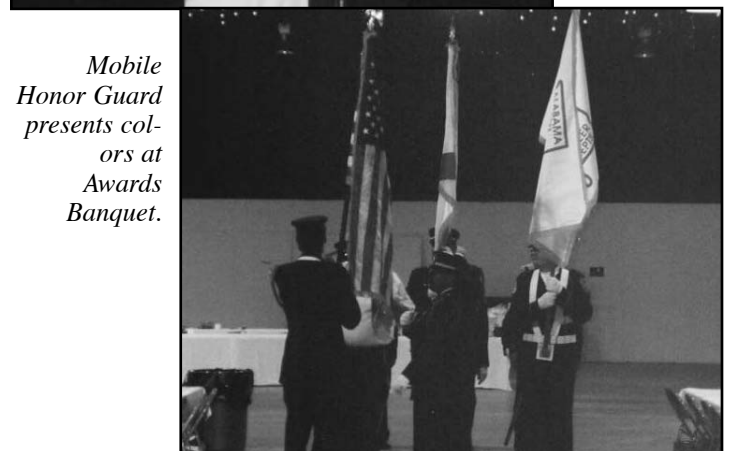
Life Members look on as Joey Boyd becomes newest Life Member



Life Member David Davis presents Life Membership to Joey Boyd



AAVFD Board of Directors Swearing in Ceremony



Mobile Honor Guard presents colors at Awards Banquet.

AAVFD Honor Guard conducts memorial for Fallen Fighters



The AAVFD Board of Directors recognized Executive Assistant Sandra Mott for her years of loyal and dedicated service to AAVFD.

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From Here and There

News of the Volunteer Fire Service from across Alabama

Congratulations to Stan Lawley who was honored as Firefighter of the Year by Lawley VFD in Bibb County.

the difference between life and death. That's what escape planning is all about.

Fire Prevention Week is October 7- 13, 2007. Fire can happen in any home. Most people think it won't happen to them - and even if it does, they underestimate fire's incredible speed and power. This year's message is "It's Fire Prevention Week - Practice your Escape Plan!" When fire strikes, every second counts! Knowing how to react quickly and correctly can mean



EUELL HODGE HONORED BY HOME COUNTY

By Karen Williamson, *The Cullman Times*

The Cullman County Firefighter Training Center has been dedicated to President Euell Hodge.

Gold Ridge Fire Chief Joe Golden presented the dedication plaque to Hodge on Saturday on behalf of the Cullman County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. Hodge is president of the association.

Golden said Hodge spent many hours in the planning, designing, funding and building of the training center.

The plaque says association members express their sincere appreciation to Hodge for his dedication to the volunteer firefighters.

"His initiative in working with the Cullman County Commission resulted in securing the funding and location to make these facilities become a reality. Through these efforts, firefighters are and will for many years be better trained to meet the needs of the citizens of Cullman County," the plaque reads.

Before they become firefighters, individuals train for 160 hours at the center. They typically train four days a week for four hours a day and even come from surrounding counties, said Hodge.

The center is also a practice center for firefighters from Cullman County and neighboring counties.

"We probably have the best one," in the area said Hodge.

Cullman Fire Fighter Deputy Chief Edward "Junior" Reinhardt Jr. said Hodge played a key role in getting the training center established.

"I love him. I think he's a great guy. He does a lot of work for the community," said Reinhardt. "We do work with them. We do use their training facility."

The training center is used for a variety of exercises, according to Reinhardt.

"There is a burn room where you can build a live fire for exercises," he said.

Reinhardt said search and rescue exercises were held at the site. Firefighters put on a self-contained breathing apparatus or air pack and go into a smoke-filled room. They locate the dummy and pull it out.

City firefighters drive their ladder truck to the center and set it up for an exercise. The ladder reaches 102 feet or nine to 10 stories high.

High angle rope rescues are also practiced at the center, according to Reinhardt. Firefighters practice repelling off of a wall by using a tower at the facility.

The annual physical fitness evaluation program is conducted at the center every year as well. Critical training and testing also take place at the center.

Hazardous materials training is conducted, and fire truck pumps are tested at the facility as well.



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NFPA approved Scotchlite™ Triple Trim in lime-yellow/silver



FIREFIGHTERS USE PROPANE FIRE SIMULATOR IN TRAINING

The Clio and Brundidge Volunteer Fire Departments sponsored a 12-hour Alabama Fire College Accredited Propane Emergency Class for firefighters from the area on July 20-21.

The purpose of the training was to prepare volunteer firefighters to safely handle propane gas fires. The Alabama Propane Gas Association donated a propane simulator to aid in the training of emergency responders in propane emergencies. "The simulator allows the firefighters to train on a tank that is actually on fire," said Mike McGough, Safety and Education Director of the Alabama Propane Gas Association. "They learn how to safely approach a propane fire, how to extinguish it or when to evacuate the area."

Chauncey Wood, AAVFD District 6 Director said that the training exercise required about 600 gallons of propane gas at a cost of more than \$1,200, which was provided by Brundidge Cooperative Propane, along with the manpower for the two-day event.

Jimmy Conner, Alabama Fire College, said any time there is a propane gas cylinder in close proximity to a fire, it must be watered down and kept cool to keep the gas from expanding and possibly exploding. "That is called a bleve, boiling liquid and expanding vapor explosion," he said. "Those are very rare, but they do happen and firefighters need to know how to safely handle that kind of situation."

Conner said all propane gas cylinders and bob-tail (delivery tanks) are equipped with a safety valve that allows the pressure to escape. "When a firefighter hears that hissing sound, he knows that the tank is doing what it is suppose to do," he said. "However, when a firefighter hears a scrapping metal sound, it's time to run."

"We've recently had two propane fires in Clio so that is some indication of how important this training is," Wood said. "We learned a lot in the classroom, and then we were able to put what we learned into practice."



Morgan County – District 9

Eva VFD (Morgan County) has taken delivery of a 2007 KME/International commercial Pumper/Tanker, consisting of an International 7600 Chassis, Cummins 410 hp engine w/ Allison Automatic transmission, 1000 gpm Hale midship

pack pump, 3,000 gallon poly tank, 3,000 gallon drop tank with Zico tank storage, 3-Newton 10" dump valves (1-each side, 1-rear), two 1-1/2" crosslays & one 2-1/2" crosslay, two 3" Fireman's Friend tank fill valves and roll up doors.



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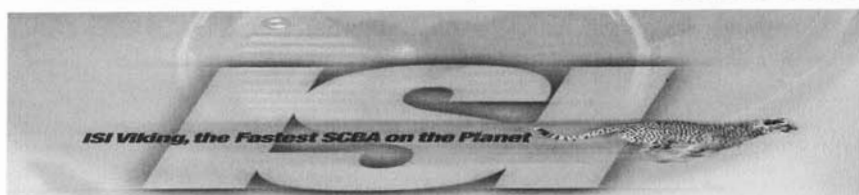
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NAPIER FIELD VFD

by Mark Jackson and Tina Wood

The Napier Field VFD was established in 1974 and has a coverage area of approximately 28 square miles in southeast Dale County, which includes the communities of Napier Field and Grimes.

The 6 certified firefighters, one with EMT certification also, and 9 non-certified members run a 1991 E-One pumper, a 2006 GMC brush truck, and, a 1973 Chevrolet P30 van as a support vehicle. The fire department has an ISO rating of 6/8 and responded to 30 calls last year.

After many years of holding several fundraisers per year, the department has a small reserve, which allows them to operate on funds received through tobacco taxes and modest donations, either from individuals or from the community.



Briefly noted

This article is reprinted with the permission of The California State Firefighters Association.

Fires don't kill American firefighters as much as heart attacks

A government study has found that sudden cardiac death is the leading cause of death in the line of duty for firefighters.

Traumatic injuries from motor vehicle crashes while responding to an emergency were a close second for volunteers, said the report, which appeared in the April 28 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, a publication of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The real message, though, is that these causes are preventable and that things can be done to reduce the risk.

An earlier study had reported that, for the past 25 years, heart attacks have typically caused the most deaths among firefighters. However, as awareness of heart disease and prevention has increased, the number of deaths attributed to heart attacks has dropped by more than one-third, the report found.

There are 800,000 volunteer firefighters in the United States and 300,000 career firefighters. For the new study, researchers analyzed data from the U.S. Fire Administration, which keeps a database of all on-duty firefighter deaths based on death certificates and fire department interviews. On-duty firefighter deaths include all those that occur within 24 hours after a response to a call.

From 1994 to 2004, 610 volunteer and 368 career firefighters died while on duty, 97 percent of them male. The median age was 47 years for volunteers and 44 years for career firefighters.

Among career firefighters, 39 percent of deaths were caused by heart attacks; 29 percent from other causes, such as burns, cerebral vascular

accident or drowning; and 20 percent by asphyxiation (mostly from being caught or trapped).

Half of the deaths among volunteer firefighters were from heart attacks and 26 percent from motor vehicle-related trauma. Almost three-quarters (73 percent) of motor vehicle-related deaths were caused by crashes, 30 percent of which involved private vehicles. Eighty percent of the crashes occurred en route to calls, while 5 percent occurred during returns.

In both categories of firefighters, most heart attacks occurred among people aged 45 to 54. The majority were attributed to stress and overexertion for both volunteers (98 percent) and career (97 percent).

The study also provided details of two particular fatalities, one of a volunteer and one of a career firefighter.

On July 28, 2003, two volunteer firefighters responding to a trailer fire sped down a two-lane road at about 80 miles per hour in a privately owned vehicle with emergency lights on. The speed limit was 55. The driver lost control when the vehicle drifted off the pavement. He was killed, and the passenger sustained serious injuries. The fire department required that firefighters obey local traffic laws.

In the second case, a 51-year-old career captain collapsed while responding to a fire in the attic of a two-story dwelling. An autopsy revealed that the man had cardiovascular disease. He had also suffered a heart attack 13 years prior and had undergone angioplasty of his right coronary artery. According to the article, under these circumstances, the captain should have been issued work restrictions. 🐼

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300 Gallon Poly Tank



2002 E-One 95' Platform
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic
Hale 1000 GPM Pump
200 Gallon Poly Tank
1000 GPM Monitor at Tip



1991 Sutphen 75' Quint
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic
Hale 1500 GPM Side Mount Pump
400 Gallon Fiberglass Tank
Rockwell Foam System



1991 E-One 75' Quint
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic
1500 GPM AG/Hale Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank
1000 GPM Remote Waterway



1988 E-One 95' Platform
Detroit 8V92TA 475HP Diesel
Allison HT740 Automatic
Hale 1500 GPM Side Mount Pump
300 Gallon Aluminum Tank



1989 Hush 50' Telesquirt
Detroit 6V92TA Diesel Engine
Allison Automatic Transmission
Hale 1250 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank



1973 Mack 75' Baker Aerialscope
Retired FDNY Ladder 79
Thermodyne 260 HP Diesel
Allison MT 647 Automatic



1995 E-One Commercial Tanker
Cummins 250 HP Diesel Engine
Allison Automatic Transmission
Hale 500 GPM Side Mount Pump
1800 Gallon Poly Tank



1989 International 4x4 Tanker
Diesel Engine
Automatic Transmission
750 GPM Front-Mount Pump
1500 Gallon Tank



2001 Chevy 4X4 Brush Truck
Gas Engine, Automatic Transmission
Stainless Skid Unit w/150 Gallon Tank
8HP Honda Engine with 14 GPM High-Pressure Pump



1977 Ford/E-One Mini-Pumper
Ford 400 Gasoline Engine
Ford 4-Speed Manual Transmission
Hale Side-Mount Pump
250 Gallon Aluminum Tank



1995 Chevrolet Rescue Truck
Gasoline Engine
Automatic Transmission



2001 ALF Rescue Pumper
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic
ALF 2000 GPM Side-Mount Pump
Elkhart 125 GPM Foam System
750 Gallon Poly Tank



1996 Pierce Rescue Pumper
Detroit Series 60 330 HP Diesel
Allison Automatic Transmission
Waterous 1250 GPM Top Mount Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank



1995 E-One Glider Rescue Pumper
NEW Detroit 8V92TA 400 HP Diesel
Allison Automatic Transmission
Hale 1500 GPM Side Mount Pump
950 Gallon Poly Tank



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Interior Command Desk
Hale 1500 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Tank



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Cummins Diesel, Allison Automatic
Hale 1250 GPM Rear Mount Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank



1990 E-One Rescue Pumper
Detroit 8V92 Diesel Engine
Allison HT 740 Transmission
1500 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank



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



1997 Pierce Saber Rescue Pumper
Detroit Series 40 Diesel Engine
Allison Automatic Transmission
Waterous 1250 GPM Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank

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1996 Pierce Saber Rescue Pumper
Detroit Series 40 Diesel Engine
Allison Automatic Transmission
Waterous 1250 GPM Pump
1000 Gallon Poly Tank



1997 Pierce Saber Rescue Pumper
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic
Waterous 1500 GPM Top Mount Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank
60 Gallon Poly Foam Tank



1995 Pierce Saber Rescue Pumper
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic
Waterous 1500 GPM Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank
40 Gallon Poly Foam Tank



2005 ALF/FL Rescue Pumper
Mercedes-Benz 7.2L 330 HP Diesel
Allison 3000 EVS-P Automatic
ALF 1500 GPM Side-Mount Pump
1000 Gallon Polypropylene Tank



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



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



1990 E-One Hurricane Pumper
Detroit 8V92 450 HP Diesel
Allison HT741 Automatic
Hale 1500 GPM Top Mount Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank



1990 E-One Cyclone Pumper
Cummins 350 HP Diesel Engine
Allison HT740 Automatic
Hale 1500 GPM Side Mount Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank



1997 E-One Cyclone II Pumper
Detroit 330 HP Diesel Engine
Allison Automatic Transmission
Hale 1250 GPM Side Mount Pump
500 Gallon Polypropylene Tank



1993 Ferrara Silent Knight Pumper
Cummins 320 HP Diesel Engine
Allison Automatic Transmission
Hale 1250 GPM Side Mount Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank



1987 KME Custom Pumper
Detroit 6V92TA 300 HP Diesel
Allison HT740 Automatic
Darley 1250 GPM Top-Mount Pump
500 Gallon Steel Tank



1995 E-One Commercial Pumper
Cummins 250 HP Diesel Engine
Allison Automatic Transmission
Waterous 1250 GPM Pump
1000 Gallon Poly Tank



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



1993 Pierce/FL Pumper
Cummins 8.3L Diesel Engine
Allison Automatic Transmission
Waterous 1250 GPM Pump
1000 Gallon Steel Tank



1996 KME Commercial Pumper
International Diesel Engine
Allison Automatic Transmission
Hale 1250 GPM Side-Mount Pump
500 Gallon Poly Tank



1997 E-One Commercial Pumper
Cummins 250 HP Diesel
Allison Automatic Transmission
1250 GPM Side-Mount Pump
1000 Gallon Poly Tank



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



2001 Medic Master Ambulance
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3/1/2 configuration
Cummins 5.9L 245HP Diesel
Allison MD3060 Automatic



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Ford Power Stroke Diesel Engine
Automatic Transmission



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Automatic Transmission

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2007 WILDLAND FIRE PREVENTION GRANTS

High Wildland fire activity is common in our state. In an effort to promote pre-fire activities that educate our community members in ways to live more safely in this environment, the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments, in partnership with the Alabama Forestry Commission, offered a Wildland Fire Prevention Grant to Alabama volunteer fire departments. This year's grant was \$95,000.

The first round of applications was reviewed on August 9th. Fifty-two Fire Departments and three County Associations submitted project applications. The submitted projects of eighteen fire departments did not meet the requirements for the grant and were not funded. We extend congratulations to the following departments and associations that were successful in securing funding for their projects:

NE REGION

Dept/Assn	County	Amt Received
Alder Springs	Marshall	\$4,400
Camp Hill	Tallapoosa	\$4,000
Nectar	Blount	\$1,500
Springville	St Clair	\$1,100

Searcy	Butler	\$3,500
Shackleville	Butler	\$1,800
Slocomb	Geneva	\$3,603
Tallassee	Elmore	\$3,500

SW REGION

Dept/Assn	County	Amt Received
Appleton	Escambia	\$2,300
Dixonville	Escambia	\$3,000
Flomaton	Escambia	\$2,500
Frisco City	Monroe	\$3,500
Leroy	Washington	\$2,000
Mexia	Monroe	\$ 700
Needham Land	Choctaw	\$1,355
New Hope	Choctaw	\$1,300
Packer's Bend	Wilcox	\$ 500
Red Oak Area	Covington	\$1,850
Roberts	Escambia	\$3,500
Stewart-Havana	Hale	\$2,500
Stockton	Baldwin	\$2,000
Uriah	Monroe	\$ 700
Wagarville	Washington	\$ 500
West Perry East Hale	Perry	\$1,500
Wilcox Co Assn		\$1,592

NW REGION

Dept/Assn	County	Amt Received
Double Springs	Winston	\$3,300
Kellyton	Coosa	\$3,565
Lynn	Winston	\$2,500
Red Bank	Lawrence	\$1,650
Rocky Ridge	Jefferson	\$3,885
Walker Co Assn		\$5,000

SE REGION

Dept/Assn	County	Amt Received
Baker Hill	Barbour	\$4,000
Crenshaw Co Assn		\$5,000
Green's Crossroads	Barbour	\$4,000
Holtville-Slapout	Elmore	\$3,500
P & M P	Butler	\$ 400
Pinckard	Dale	\$3,500

2007 AAVFD Scholarship Winners



The 2007 AAVFD Scholarship winners were announced at the Annual Awards banquet on August 4th in Mobile. In partnership with VFIS of Alabama, AAVFD awards four \$500 scholarships each year. The 2007 recipients were Keith Charles Battle, Jr., Fowl Rive VFD, Mobile County; Matthew Nolen Johnson, Pine Grove VFD, Clay County; William H. King, White Oak VFD, Colbert County; and Jarrell Blake Whitman, Union Hill VFD, Chambers County.

for 22 years. William plans to attend University of Alabama Birmingham with a planned major in Nursing.

• Mr. Whitman is a member of Union Hill VFD. His mother, Susan Harmon, has been a member of the department for 26 years. Jarrell plans to attend Southern State Community College with a planned major in Forestry-Wildlife Management.



William H. King



Matt Johnson



Blake Whitman



Keith Battle

*Best
Wishes
to All!*

• Mr. Battle's father, Keith C. Battle, Sr., has been a member of Fowl River Volunteer Fire District for 6 years. Keith plans to attend University of South Alabama in Mobile with a planned major in Interdisciplinary Studies.

• Mr. Johnson has been a member of Pine Grove VFD for 3 years. His father, Chief Terry Johnson, has been a member of the department for 12 years. Matthew is attending Southern Union State Community College with a planned major in Nursing.

• Mr. King is a member of the White Oak VFD. His father, Chief Lawrence King, has been a member of the department

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.

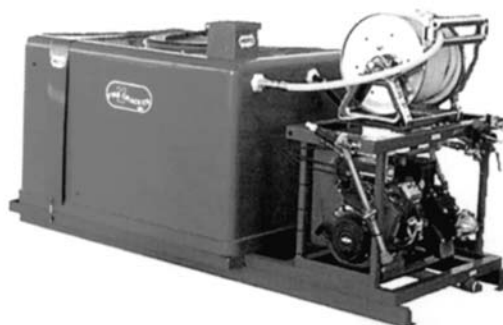
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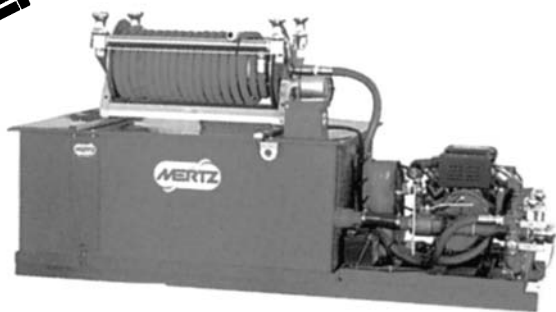
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McIntosh VFD

By: Shannon Davidson, Paramedic/Safety Training Officer

McIntosh VFD was formed in 1972 under the leadership of Chief John D. Ross. Since the department's formation, we have continued the original vision of our founding members and expanded upon their dream. After Chief Ross stepped down, our department has been led by Chief Kym Pittman, Chief Wayne Gartman, and our current Chief Robert "Robbie" Davidson.

The department started in 1972 with a 1962 GMC fuel tanker and a 1957 military 2 1/4 ton truck, with both being converted into fire apparatus. Now thirty five years later, our department hosts a fleet of equipment that would make our founding fathers proud. Our front line engine is a 2000 Freightliner with a Darley 1250 gpm pump, our second engine a 1977 Ford with 750 gpm Barton American pump, a 2005 F550 Brush truck with a 350 gpm pump, a 1975 Mack tanker / pumper with a 750 gpm Hale pump, that was refurbished in 1995 with a 4,200 gallon stainless steel tank, a 1978 Dodge Brush truck with a 180 gpm pump, a 1979 International tanker that we are currently refurbishing, a 1979 Pierce 50 foot TeleSquirt with a 1250 gpm Hale pump, and a 2001 Ford Crown Victoria.

Our department responds to over 230 calls per year.



Junior Firefighters Program

Covington County – District 7



On Sunday May 20, 2007 a volunteer firefighter with the Red Oak Volunteer Fire Dept. was killed in the line of duty. Fire Fighter Dennis Cheshire, 48, was killed instantly when the tractor tanker he was driving overturned. Cheshire was responding to a structure fire. Red Oak VFD is located on AL. 55 about ten miles south of Andalusia. The AAVFD Relief Fund check for \$1,000.00 was presented to Dennis Cheshire's Wife Kay on June 19th

Photo Left to Right: Red Oak VFD Chief Dudley Maddox, AAVFD Vice President William Neal, Kay Cheshire, son Jeremiah Cheshire, daughter Jessica Cobb, Mother Katy Cheshire, Grand Daughter Bella Cobb, Father Hiram Cheshire.

Currently our membership is proud to boast that we have an ISO rating of 6 / 8B, and we are looking for ways to improve upon that. We have 32 members, with nine of those being junior members. In 2004 we had 8 members that were certified in the 160 Firefighter Class, we have 7 EMT Basics and 3 Paramedics. As with most fire departments, we are family, we have husbands, wives, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, nieces, and cousins. Willard "Pawpaw" Law is our oldest member at the age of 65 and has the most years of service with 28 years, our youngest members are 14 and in the "junior" program.

The members of McIntosh VFD have worked hard throughout the years to accomplish our continued growth. Each member has worked long and hard to see each aspect of our department flourish. They are dedicated to their fellow-man, their community, and to our Lord and Savior.

"Without the dedication of our membership our department would not have grown into the outstanding organization that serves our community. I hope that each and every one of our members knows how much that I and the community appreciate them" said Chief Davidson. The members of the McIntosh VFD exemplify the idealism of being "my brother's keeper".



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REHOBETH VFD DEDICATES NEW STATION

By: John Parrish, Building Project Coordinator (Equipment/ISO Officer)

A Dedication Ceremony marked the end of a half a million dollar project and the beginning of a new facility to better serve Rehobeth residents and Houston County citizens in the surrounding area.

It started two years ago when a storm felled a pine tree into the roof of the old Rehobeth Fire Station, causing extensive structural damage to the building. With the old facility having outgrown its ability to properly house the equipment and serve as a training facility for the department, the thoughts were to try and build a more modern and structurally sound building.

John Parrish, the department's Equipment and ISO officer teamed up with Phillip Santoro of North Star Engineering to tackle the project. The existing land was not large enough to house the needed facility. One feature that was highly desired was pull-through bays for the equipment. The current facility would only allow backing in the equipment after a run. Parrish pointed out that backing in the vehicles was a major cause of injury and death to fire and rescue personnel.

The Town of Rehobeth supplied the land for the new facility by way of "in kind" services. Houston County provided almost all of the site work, with the exception of material costs, some of which jumped during the two years the project was under way. An example of sky-rocketing costs was asphalt, originally planned at \$17,000. By the time it was needed, costs had

jumped to \$27,000. The structure was funded with a grant from the U.S.D.A. Rural Development Board, with assistance from the local office, the County Commission, and U.S. Representative Terry Everett.

The new 5,600 square foot facility houses 1 Engine Truck, 1 dual-purpose brush and service truck, 1 "wild land" brush truck that can go almost anywhere (and, incidentally, Rehobeth's FIRST fire truck, and still in service!), a large training room, 2 offices (one for Fire Services and one for EMS services), a small conference room, a kitchen, and an equipment room. The unfinished upstairs will later be completed as a fitness and wellness area, funded by a grant.

The building is resistant to severe weather, having block walls reinforced with concrete and steel, and a steel roof fabricated with heavy steel beams and metal.

The new station is being called "Station One". The old facilities will still be used and houses a pumper truck and an ambulance. It is now called "Station Two".

The Rehobeth Volunteer Fire/Rescue department has twenty active members. The Fire Chief is Larry Strickland and Rita Parrish heads up the Emergency Services. Members are cross trained and work in both services, as needed. The ambulances are served by four paramedics and several basic and advanced first responders.



District 6 Director Chauncey Wood and Second Vice President William Neal attended dedication ceremony with Rehobeth Firefighters



New Station with firefighting equipment



John Parrish cuts ribbon at Station Dedication

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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		17 of 31
SHELBY		8 of 22
ST CLAIR		1 of 20
WALKER	100%	25 of 25
WINSTON	100%	11 of 11

DISTRICT 3 MEMBERSHIP

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

DISTRICT 4 MEMBERSHIP

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

DISTRICT 5 MEMBERSHIP

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

WILCOX	100%	10 of 10
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DISTRICT 6 MEMBERSHIP

BARBOUR	100%	11 of 11
COFFEE	100%	9 of 9
DALE	100%	13 of 13
GENEVA	100%	10 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		17 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%	8 of 8
LOWNDES		2 of 8
MACON		1 of 10
MONTGOMERY	100%	8 of 8
RUSSELL	100%	11 of 11



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The Lighter Side...

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Quickly I realized what happened. "I'm fine. My dog must have punched your number."

The voice on the other end inquired, "And how is your dog?"



CONFERENCE COMPETITION RESULTS

Air Pack Relay

Johnson Crossing VFD	121.06
Thomasville VFD	121.16
Fulton VFD	121.63

Obstacle Course

Thomasville VFD	115.06
Fulton VFD	115.37
Johnson Crossing VFD	122.88

Hose Lay II

Thomasville VFD	49.17
Tanner VFD	102.40
Fulton VFD	102.62

Over All

Thomasville VFD	27 pts.
Fulton VFD	17 pts.
Johnson Crossing VFD	15 pts.

Well gang, the AAVFD Conference has come & gone for this year and all I can say if you weren't there you missed a really good time. The competition field was hot with competition as well with the high temperature. We had a new team who had never run before (Clements VFD), as well as a Department who use to rule the competition field with Thomasville, Shinbone VFD was back competing with new team members. It was good to see all 9 teams this year and I hope we have even more next year. And of course even though we didn't run a event which required the tub, it got put to use. I set a new high this year. I have never been lifted so high in the air before being put into the tub. I'm not sure just how many people had me because all I could see was the sky, well till I hit the water. But there was a first this year my daughter made the mistake of saying they ain't putting me in that tub, yup you guessed it she ended up in the tub with me. Hey it's all in the family.

Be watching for competition around your area, I'm sure there will be some somewhere before next years Conference. Some Counties even let other Departments from outside their County compete. I'll be looking for you on a competition field.

Photos by Tina Wood,
Article by Joey Boyd



The Thomasville firefighters pictured above include (back row) Terry Pope, Brandon Stephens, Richard Pugh, Derrick D'Andrea, Derrick Mayo and Jacques Prescott; (front row) Jonas Prescott and Chris Owes. 1st Place Overall



Fulton VFD, Clarke County, 2nd Place Overall



Johnson's Crossing VFD, Cullman County, 3rd Place Overall



Jonas Prescott races down the field in the hose relay competition.

PHOTOS BY AMBER FULLER

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NATIONAL FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES

Name/Rank: Engineer Mark S. Carter (53) Career
Department: Phoenix FD, Phoenix AZ
Date of Death: 6/4/07
Cause of Death: Collapsed as he and other firefighters prepared for lunch after responding to several incidents that morning. He was transported to hospital where he was pronounced dead of cause to be determined.

Name/Rank: Firefighter David Allen Rufer (42) Paid-on-Call
Department: Monroe FD, Monroe WI
Date of Death: 6/12/07
Cause of Death: Collapsed from cause still to be determined while involved in SCBA and hose drills. He was transported to Monroe Clinic where he was pronounced dead.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Melven Champaign (46) Career
 Firefighter Brandon Thompson (27) Career
 Firefighter James Earl Drayton (56) Career
 Assistant Engineer Michael French (27) Career
 Engineer Bradford Baity (37) Career
 Engineer Mark Kelsey (40) Career
 Captain Louis Mulkey (34) Career
 Captain Mike Benke (49) Career
 Captain William Hutchinson (48) Career
Department: Charleston FD, Charleston SC
Date of Death: 6/18/07
Cause of Death: Nine firefighters died while operating in interior of a Sofa Super Store attempting to rescue two employees. Initial reports indicate that rapid fire progress caused the roof of the structure to collapse along with large shelves that held heavy furniture, trapping the firefighters.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Daniel F. Pujdak (23) Career
Department: Fire Dept City of New York, Brooklyn NY
Date of Death: 6/21/07
Cause of Death: Fatally injured when he fell from the roof of a four-story apartment building to the ground while battling an all-hands fire.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Timothy Sanborn (56) Volunteer
Department: Clinton Area Fire & Rescue, St Johns MI
Date of Death: 6/22/07
Cause of Death: Suffered a major heart attack while operating apparatus pump at scene of residential fire and died en-route to hospital.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Edward Summers (69) Volunteer
Department: Patchogue FD, Patchogue NY
Date of Death: 6/28/07
Cause of Death: Collapsed and passed away from cause still to be determined while performing work detail with other firefighters at station.

Name/Rank: Captain Samuel W. Downing (45) Career
Department: Mobile Fire-Rescue Dept, Mobile AL
Date of Death: 6/30/07
Cause of Death: Suffered heart attack shortly after completing his tour of duty during which he had made multiple runs.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Dennise M. Leslie (37) Volunteer
Department: Coal City Community VFD, Coal City IN
Date of Death: 7/2/07
Cause of Death: Died in wreck en-route to brush fire when she swerved to avoid collision with oncoming vehicle, causing loss of control of her POV.

Name/Rank: Chief Michael James Penovich (38) Career
Department: Saratoga Springs FD, Saratoga Springs UT
Date of Death: 7/5/07
Cause of Death: Died when fire department pickup truck he was operating left the roadway and crashed over steep embankment into Deer Creek Reservoir. Cause of accident is still under investigation.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Eric Lyons (38) Career
Department: Kennewick FD, Kennewick WA
Date of Death: 7/5/07
Cause of Death: After responding to brush fire during evening, he collapsed in bunk area of station shortly after midnight & died of cause still to be determined.

Name/Rank: Fire Technician James J. McRae (34) Career
Department: District of Columbia Fire/EMS Dept, Washington, DC
Date of Death: 7/7/07
Cause of Death: Collapsed from cause to be determined after working several alarms during his shift.

Name/Rank: Driver/Engineer Michael Douthitt (48) Career
Department: Broward Sheriff's Office Dept of Fire/Rescue, Fort Lauderdale FL
Date of Death: 7/13/07
Cause of Death: Suffered heart attack after working several fires during his shift. After several days of hospital care; while recuperating at home, he went into cardiac arrest. Attempts to revive him were unsuccessful.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Stephen Dembski (41) Volunteer
Department: Ridgefield Park FD, Ridgefield Park NJ
Date of Death: 7/15/07
Cause of Death: Died of apparent heart attack after responding to mutual aid call for fully-involved residential structure fire.

Name/Rank: Fire Engineer Scott P. Desmond (37) Career
 Captain Matt C. Burton (34) Career
Department: Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, Pleasant Hill CA
Date of Death: 7/21/07
Cause of Death: After finding and assisting in one rescue, they continued searching for second victim in structure fire. During this rescue effort they became trapped and were overcome by rapid fire progress. The occupant of the residence also perished in the fire.

Name/Rank: Pilot Dennis Luster Davis (61) Wildland Contract
Department: US Fire Service, Yreka CA
Date of Death: 7/23/07
Cause of Death: Died when helicopter went down in remote and heavily wooded country while transporting fresh drinking water to firefighters working on ground fighting Elk Complex of fires.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Jon Trainer (38) Volunteer
Department: Mechanicsburg FD, Mechanicsburg OH
Date of Death: 7/24/07
Cause of Death: Passed away from head injury suffered after he slipped and fell, hitting his head on station's concrete floor while he was laying hose in place on top of fire apparatus.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Cornelius Noltan (37) Career
Department: Newark FD, Newark NJ
Date of Death: 7/25/07
Cause of Death: Complained of back pain after setting up two ladders at working residential structure fire and passed away in hospital two days later from cause still to be determined.

Name/Rank: Firefighter/Fire Equipment Operator Nemeth F. Sanders (43) Wildland Part-Time
Department: Sesser Fire Protection District, Sesser IL
Date of Death: 7/27/07
Cause of Death: Struck and killed by Greyhound bus on I-57 while putting hose back into apparatus after extinguishing fire in semi-trailer truck.

In Remembrance of 9-11 and 403 Fallen First Responders

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

DESCRIPTION:

1967 FORD C-850 5 MAN CAB
GAS ENG. MANUAL TRANS.
500 GAL TANK, 750 GAL. PUMP
PASSED LAST PUMP TEST
RUNS GOOD, BODY GOOD,
TIRES OK

ONLY VERY BASIC EQUIP
NO DECK GUN.

\$3500.00 OBO CALL 926-6560



THE BELL TOLLED

Chief Jim Pearce, Kinterbish-Brunson VFD, Sumter County, passed away January 25, 2007. Chief Pearce was 80 years old and still serving his department and community.

Chief James L. Hall, Sapps-Union Chapel VFD, Pickens County, died in a one-vehicle (POV) accident on July 26, 2007.

Donnie Cagle, Lynn VFD, Winston County, passed away from a heart attack after fighting a fire on August 19, 2007.

STATISTICS OF MULTIPLE FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES:

- In 2006, five firefighters died in the Esperanza Wildland Fire in California when the winds shifted and blew the fire over them.
- In 2006, four firefighters perished in a helicopter crash at a fire near McCall, Idaho.
- In 2003, eight firefighters lost their lives in a vehicle accident while returning from fighting wildland fires.
- In 2001 in New York, 343 firefighters perished in the Twin Towers in the 9/11 attack.
- In 2001, a crew chief and three rookies died when they were overrun by the Thirty Mile Fire in Washington State.
- In 1999, six firefighters died in a Worcester, Mass., warehouse blaze.
- In 1994, 14 firefighters died fighting a fire at Storm King Mountain, Colo., when they were overrun by a wildland fire.

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
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Treasurer Gary Cobb

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VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS**
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For additional help, please contact:



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cschoen@sunbeltfire.com
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Fax: 251-928-9933



**WHEN LIVES ARE IN THE BALANCE
AND SECONDS COUNT**