



THE VOLUNTEER



The Official Newsletter of the
ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

July – September 2006

2006 Conference Wow!!!

By Roger Wilson

District II Association of Volunteer Fire Departments

Just finished up the 2006 AAVFD conference and what an event it was. It started out on Friday with one of the largest and coolest vendor halls that several could remember. We had 64 tables in the vendor hall with 25 + trucks on display outside. The Bessemer Civic Center was the ideal place to hold this event with attendees and vendors expressing their appreciation for the location and participation.

Friday evening we ended up at the Alabama Adventure Park for our Friday night cookout. After a nice walk to the pavilions (only complaint from some) we had all you could eat hamburgers, hot-dogs, chips, baked beans, ice cream, and soft drinks. This was enjoyed by all because we wanted no one to leave hungry. When we got through with the cookout it was on to the theme park and water park. I made sure to stay off the rides with a lot of movement, didn't want to get sick if you know what I mean. The comments I heard from several that attended the cookout indicated that they enjoyed the cookout and the Alabama Adventure Park.

Saturday morning we started the vendor hall at 8:00 a.m. and the competition was started at 8:30 a.m. in the upper parking lot at the Civic Center. The competition events this year ended up

being real close between first through third place. We did have a competitor go down during the competition, but am glad to say he is fine and was able to attend the banquet Saturday night.

Saturday night the banquet hall was nearly full with attendees and enjoyed by all. Our guest speaker was Jim Walker, Director of Alabama Homeland Security, and I had several comment to me that they really enjoyed his speech. Then after the banquet Elvis Presley rocked the house. For those that didn't stay you missed out on a performance that was truly Elvis. I could not believe the young girls and ladies that ended up on the stage with Elvis; but folks, District II wanted everyone to enjoy the conference and I think we succeeded.

At this time we owe a lot of appreciation to a lot of people. To our SPONSORS (LifeSaver/Omniflight, Cullman County Fire Association, Air Evac Lifeteam, VFIS of Alabama, NAFECO, Cardiac Science, Southern Linc, American Heart Association, Alabama Power Foundation, and Falcon Direct we say THANK YOU for YOUR SUPPORT!!! Without these SPONSORS we

CONFERENCE WOW!!! *continued on page 2*



Pictured L - R are: William Neal, 2nd Vice President, Justin McGhee, Colonel Jim Walker, Johnny Albertson, President AAVFD and Chauncey Wood, District 6 Director.

Medal of Valor Awarded by AAVFD

By District 6 Director Chauncey Wood

Justin "Biscuit" McGhee pulled an elderly man from a burning house despite being shot at by the person he was attempting to rescue. McGhee, 19, who graduated May 2006 from Ariton High School was presented the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Department Medal of Valor at the 29th Conference held August 4 & 5 in Bessemer by

Conference Speaker Colonel Jim Walker of the Alabama Department of Homeland Security.

"It's my job to save his life", McGhee said of K.T. Green, the elderly man he rescued from a burning home. It's an honor to be part of Community Service."

VALOR *continued on page 4*

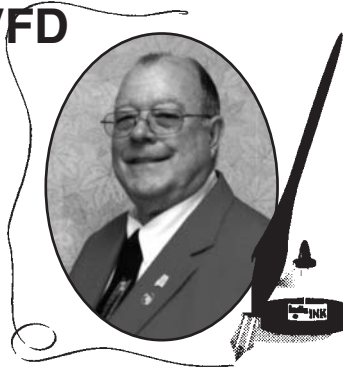
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FROM THE AAVFD PRESIDENT'S DESK

by

Johnny Alberson



I feel that this has been a great year for “our” Association. We had a great Conference in Bessemer on August 4th & 5th. I want to say **THANK YOU** to all the people from District II who worked so hard to make the conference a success, the vendors who were in attendance, the competition teams, the banquet, the speaker, and the entertainment after the

banquet was superb. It was truly one of the better that I have attended.

This has also been a good year for firefighter legislation. We were able to get nine (9) bills passed this year in the legislature that affected the volunteer firefighters. I want to say **THANK YOU** to all the people who worked so hard to get legislation passed, especially Chauncey Wood, Johnny Dennis, and William Neal who spent so much time in the State House with our Senators and Representatives. I wish each of you would contact your Senator and Representative and say thank you.

It has been a great year for membership in “our” association. We have 913 departments that are members in AAVFD. This is an all time high and reflects hard work by many of you.

I want to say a personal THANK YOU for electing me your president of AAVFD for another year. I promise to work as hard as the past year, and I feel that together we can accomplish as much.

2006 Election

The election of officers for the 2006-2007 year was held at the general membership meeting on Saturday, August 5th, in Bessemer. 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 Jimmy Barton

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

Mike Stell

District 7: Butler, Conecuh, Covington, Crenshaw, Escambia and Monroe Counties.

Director Daniel Day

Alternate Director

Butch Cobb

District 8: Baldwin, Choctaw, Clarke, Mobile and Washington Counties.

Director Charlie Dixon

Alternate Director Bill Hamman

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

Director Johnny Dennis

Alternate Director James Wessel

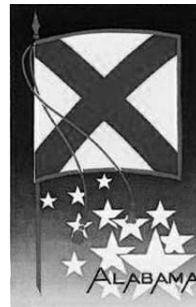
District 10: Bullock, Elmore, Lee, Lowndes, Macon, Montgomery and Russell Counties.

Director Forrest Gregg

Alternate Director Kalyn Ray

The officers and directors were sworn in by State Fire Marshal Ed Paulk at the Awards Banquet on August 5th.

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.



CONFERENCE WOW!!!

continued from page 1

would not have been able to do the Friday night cookout at Alabama Adventure Park.

To the Alabama Forestry Commission we say THANK YOU for your participation with handling security and assisting in other areas with the conference. Personally it made me think back to the days of Mr. Moody and how he wanted forestry and the volunteer fire departments to work together for the betterment of our service to the citizens of Alabama. THANK YOU, forestry personnel, you know who you are.

How can I THANK the District II members that assisted in putting together the 2006 conference? There were times when we didn't think it was going to come together, but we kept plugging away. This event goes to show that WE can do a lot more than I can. THANKS for all your efforts District II.

Finally, but not least, we want to THANK the attendees from all the different fire departments and the vendors that participated in the vendor hall for coming to this conference. You each made this a special conference that will be remembered for a long time to come.

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Crestar

VALOR *continued from page 1*

Justin is a volunteer with The Ariton Fire/Rescue Department. He was passing by Green's home about 8:00 p.m. December 15th when he spotted fire coming from the roof of the residence near the chimney. He called in the fire to Ariton Fire Department while running to the front door of the home to see if anyone was inside.

McGhee began dodging Mr. Green's bullets from the pistol he was firing. Green's home had recently been burglarized

MEDAL OF VALOR

several times and he thought Justin was a burglar. Green was unaware his home was on fire.

McGhee ran for cover, approached the front door again to attempt the rescue of the homeowner. Finally, after several attempts, he was able to pull Green to safety, only the elderly man was overcome with smoke. Green was transported to Dale Medical Center by Ariton Rescue for treatment and has since recovered.

"Biscuit" is the future of the volunteer fire service. His extraordinary courageous act of risking his life and limb is a true example of community service, said Walker, especially when he was being fired upon by the person whom he was attempting to rescue.

The Medal of Valor is the highest Honor that The Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments Awards.

Sherry Garner Memorial Award



Belinda Lancaster, Duncanville VFD in Tuscaloosa County, was honored with the 2006 Sherry Garner Award by the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments at the August 5th Awards Banquet.

Belinda has been with the Duncanville VFD for the last two and one half years. Before she moved to the area, she served with the Brookwood VFD for over twelve years. She served as treasurer, secretary and vice president of the Tuscaloosa County Fire Protection Association. During this time, she attended numerous training sessions and competed in several competitions.

Belinda was nominated by her daughters, Lesley Williams and Ashley Hand. They emphasize, "Although we make her sound as if she lives and breathes to help others, we would also like to recognize the fact that she has never let us down in any way. We have always come first with her, no matter how busy she has been with volunteering. It is because of her that we have such a high respect for all of the men and women who participate in volunteer firefighting. We know just how much you all give, and we know how much our mother gives each and every day."

Firefighter of the Year Award

Paul E. Shoenight, Jr. was honored as the 2006 Firefighter of the Year at the annual Awards Banquet in Bessemer on August 5th.

Paul has been with Bon Secour VFD in Baldwin County for over twelve years. In this time, he has held several positions within the department, starting as a firefighter and continuing as safety/training officer, Lieutenant, and currently serving as Assistant Chief. He also serves on the Board of Directors. He is also a basic EMT.

Paul has always gone above and beyond with all that he is involved with. He strongly believes in leading by example. Paul sees that not only he, but any and all members, take classes and training when it is offered to improve their abilities as firefighters. He doesn't just "see" that things are accomplished; he actively takes part in all areas of the fire department, from clean up at the station to being a major part of the department being awarded a Assistance to Firefighters grant.



Paul also led the effort to gather and deliver equipment to Belleville VFD in Conecuh County after it was wiped out by a tornado. In his job as a journey lineman with Riviera Utilities, Paul is always among the first volunteers who go into other areas that have suffered storm damage.

A dedicated family man, Paul has been married for thirteen years. He is active in his community where he, his wife and son attend St John

Catholic Church. He also helps coach his son's little league baseball team.

Nominated by Baldwin County Fire Chiefs' Association and Elsanor Volunteer Fire/Rescue firefighter Mary Williams, Mary states, "While I know there are many deserving individuals in our "family" of firefighters, Paul has selflessly dedicated so much of himself; his time, knowledge, and willingness to continue learning and efforts for many years." Baldwin County Association President Roger Few concurred stating that "Paul is most deserving of the recognition."



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2006 AAVFD



2006 AAVFD Scholarship Winners



The 2006 AAVFD Scholarship winners were announced at the Annual Awards banquet on August 5th in Bessemer. In partnership with VFIS of Alabama, AAVFD awards four \$500 scholarships each year. The 2006 recipients were Whitney Rose Clingan, Hodges VFD, Franklin County; Jeremy Wayne Albright, Haleyville VFD, Winston County; Randy Taylor Stults, Haleyville VFD, Winston County and Jacob Gee Nawlin, Onycha VFD, Covington County.



Whitney Clingan

Ms. Clingan's father has been a member of Hodges VFD for 5 years. Whitney plans to attend Northwest Shoals Community College in Phil Campbell with a planned major in Psychiatry.



Jeremy Albright

Mr. Albright's father has been a member of Haleyville Fire/Rescue for 27 years. Jeremy plans to attend Auburn University with a planned major in Law/Political Science.

Mr. Stults has been an active volunteer of Haleyville Fire/Rescue for 6 years. His father has been a member of the department for 24-1/2 years. Taylor plans to attend Beville Community College with a planned major in Nursing.



Randy Stults

Mr. Nawlin's father has been a member of Onycha VFD for 8 years. Jacob plans to attend Troy University with a planned major in Pre-Veterinary Medicine or Biology Program.



Jacob Nawlin

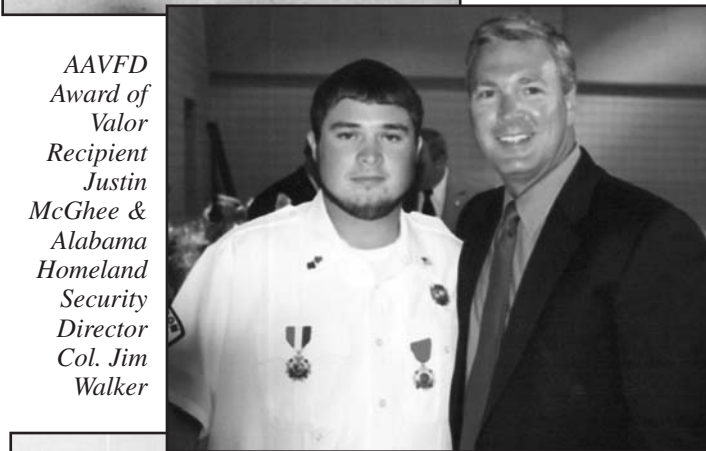
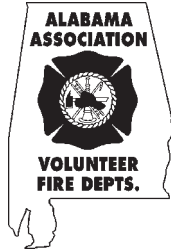
Best Wishes to All!

Conference Highlights



Alabama Forestry Commission Personnel provided security for the Conference Grounds in Bessemer

New Life Members Clayton Cobb, Sr. & Johnny Dennis



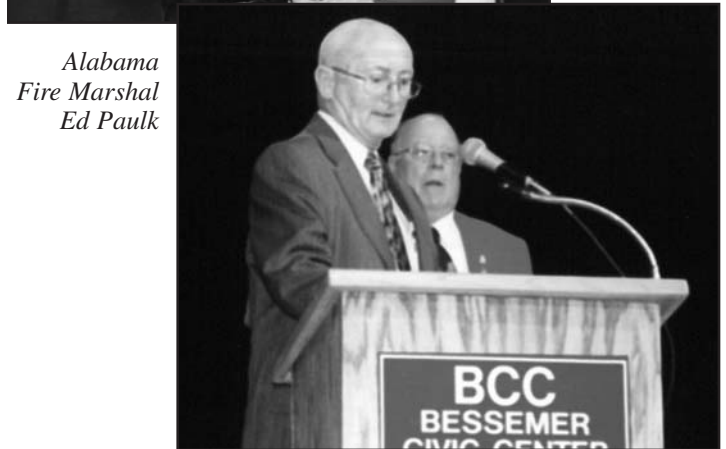
AAVFD Award of Valor Recipient Justin McGhee & Alabama Homeland Security Director Col. Jim Walker



AAVFD Honor Guard Ceremony honoring Alabama Fallen Fighters



President Johnny Alberson Awards Banquet Guest Speaker Col. Jim Walker, Director Alabama Homeland Security



Alabama Fire Marshal Ed Paulk



SPAAMFAA displayed vintage fire apparatus



Chief Ronnie Jackson & members of Poarch Creek VFD, Escambia Co., Accepted the Sunbelt Fire Award from Thomas & Slade McLendon



William Neal

Dear Association Members:

I want to thank each and every one of you for re-electing me to a second term as Southern Area Vice President of the AAVFD. I felt different sitting at the head table. I have attended over 20 AAVFD and RCFPI Banquets over the past 16 years. While I sat at the head table I looked in the audience at previous Volunteer Fire Service Leaders. I am honored to be following in their footsteps. I can easily remember the Banquets when I was in the audience and watched these former

leaders at the head table.

But the realization of the importance of my position hit me when the young volunteer fire fighters of the competition teams came up to accept their trophies. These young men are the future of the volunteer fire service. It is my desire and goal to try and make these fine young men and women's future safe, rewarding and satisfying as possible.

Thank you again.

William Neal

Ashford VFD

Ashford firefighters battle a blaze at Summerwood Pallet Co., Inc. in Ashford, Houston County.



Goodway VFD



Chief Fred Brake and the Goodway VFD firemen, Monroe County, receive their new pumper. The truck is an E-One Tradition sold by Bob Wray of Sunbelt Fire.

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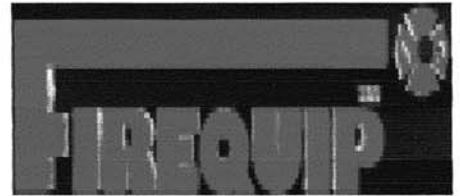
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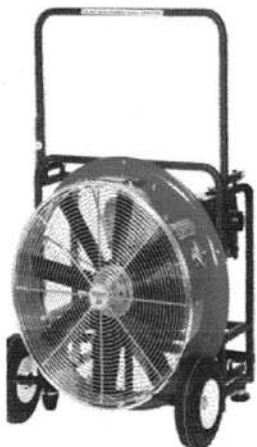
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The AAVFD Honor Guard

By Honor Guard Commander Johnny Dennis



Photo by Tina Wood

When you think about a firefighter benefit, most would not realize there is one available to our volunteer firefighters. Although honorable, it is not one that we like to brag about because when we serve, this means we have lost one of our own. The primary purpose of the AAVFD Honor Guard is to provide our firefighter's families the respect they deserve during the darkest days of their lives. When the honor guard is requested they serve as silent guards at the visitation service or present the flag at the funeral service. When we are called to service for the volunteers it is an honor for the members to pay the states' respect to the firefighter and family.

To be a volunteer firefighter and a member of the AAVFD Honor Guard requires a great commitment. At anytime you may be called to provide your service as an Honor Guard member.

Most attending the conference in Bessemer had no clue members of the Honor Guard were called away for a visitation service in Cullman while firefighters and their families enjoyed the afternoon at the cookout at Alabama Adventure. Four members of the state Honor Guard traveled to Cullman to honor a firefighter who was a member of the Falkville Fire Department killed on his job. Honor Guard members Tim Williams from Rogersville and Billy Shaddix from Union Grove also traveled to Cullman for this service. Due to the large number paying their respect attending the visitation service members of the Honor Guard returned approximately at 1:00 a.m. Sunday morning. This was the third weekend for the Northern Honor Guard members to be called for a visitation or funeral service.

Included in our conference this year, as in previous years, was a final tribute to those that are no longer with us. Placing a red rose by the Honor Guard was in memory of each firefighter whose service we will forever miss. As part of this year's tribute Bagpipers Jim Golden and Eric Stanford, firefighters with the Alabaster Fire Department, ended our service by playing Amazing Grace. Jim was a former member of the AAVFD Honor Guard before becoming a paid firefighter with Alabaster. Very special thanks to Jim and Eric for being part of the AAVFD Honor Guard at the 2006 Conference in Bessemer.

If you wish to become a member of the AAVFD Honor Guard contact the AAVFD office at 1-888-972-2833 and request an application. You may also contact your Vice President or email jden42@comcast.net or call 256-766-4707.



Red Level Firefighter Tony Holley received a \$300 Relief Fund check from AAVFD Second Vice President William Neal. (See story on page 12.)



Trish Busbee received a Relief Fund check for \$1,000 from AAVFD. Busbee's husband, Wawbeek VFD Chief Johnny Busbee, died of a heart attack last October. Chief Busbee had responded to a medical emergency involving a SIDS death of an infant less than 24 hours prior to his death. Photo (L-R): AAVFD Southern Area VP William Neal, Escambia County Association President Joey Moffett, Trish Busbee, AAVFD Secretary Mary Jane Sells.

Assisted by Moulton firefighter Lt. Dwight Vanderford, AAVFD Third Vice President Lawrence Huffman delivered a \$1,000 check from the AAVFD Relief Fund to Gail, the widow of fallen firefighter Lloyd McCulloch.



BUDGET FRIENDLY

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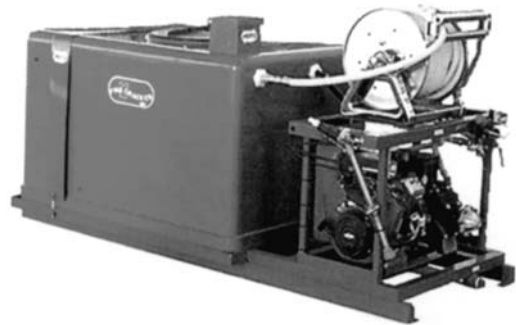
Standard Unit Pricing

FD 18V 300 L

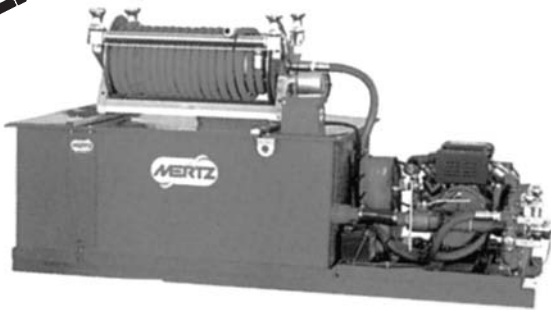
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ACETYLENE TANK BLEVE INJURES VOLUNTEERS FIREFIGHTER

by AAVFD Second Vice President William Neal

Wednesday night, June 28th, 2006, will be a night many persons in the Town of Red Level, Alabama will not forget for some time. The residents of a house located near the center of town beside the railroad track left for church around 6:30 pm. People out walking reported a fire at the residence about 8:45 pm.

The Red Level Volunteer Fire Dept (RLVFD) Station was approximately one tenth of a mile from the reported structure fire. RLVFD fireman Tony Holley lives a short distance from the Fire Station. Holley and two other firefighters responded. Two firefighters responded with one pumper to one side of the burning structure. Holley responded with a 1000 GPM pumper with a 1000 Gallon tank to the front of the structure. Firefighter Holley observed the fire had already burned through the roof. Holley pulled a 1.5 inch attack line to the front of the structure. Holley has been a volunteer firefighter for 23 years. Holley and the other firefighters did not attempt

tank BLEVED within minutes of the fire unit's arrival. Firefighter Holley remembers being blown through the air and looking up. Holley observed a fire ball going up into the sky and he went through the air, landing on his back. The explosion blew Holley about 10 feet through the air. One of the other firefighters was knocked down by the blast. Holley's helmet was knocked off when he impacted the ground. Holley managed to keep control of his charged 1.5 inch attack line.



Residence was destroyed by Fire and BLEVE.



The BLEVE nearly tore acetylene tank in two.

an interior attack due to the lack of sufficient personnel. Holley was in full turnout gear but did not don a SCBA. The firefighters attempted an exterior attack using booster tank water while waiting for additional firemen to arrive.

None of the first on-scene firefighters knew the residents had an acetylene cutting torch system stored underneath the carport. The acetylene and oxygen tanks were by the carport wall. The tanks were obscured by fire and smoke. The acetylene

Holley knew he had been injured but kept on fighting the fire. When other firefighters arrived, Holley relinquished his hose line. Firefighters from River Falls, Loango and Buck Creek VFDs responded to assist RLVFD.

Holley was taken to Andalusia Hospital where he discovered his back had been injured. Holley had surgery four weeks later. This firefighter has not been able to return to work since the incident. Holley thought a gasoline tank on one of the vehicles under the driveway had exploded. It was only later on that the firefighters learned that the acetylene cutting torch tanks had exploded.

There were three lessons learned and reinforced from this incident. First, this incident clearly demonstrates the need for full protective clothing to be worn when attacking a structure fire. Second, while interviewing Holley for this article, the need for even small VFDs to have some type of Disability Insurance for its members became quite evident. Third, ALWAYS expect the UNEXPECTED. You never know what may be in or around the next fire that could cause an explosion.

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DISTRICT 6

Departments Featured

Compiled by District 6 Director Chauncey Wood, Photos by Tina Wood

BARBOUR COUNTY

Green's Crossroads VFD

In early spring 2000, three house fires occurred on the west side of Barbour County in the area known as Green's Crossroads or Beat 8. At this time the closest fire department was 9-1/2 miles away, with the best response time being over 18 minutes. Needless to say all three homes were total losses. These fires and others that had occurred in our area were a cause for concern for local resident Mike Stell. Mr. Stell then started trying to determine how to establish a volunteer fire department in this area. This proved to be quite a challenge since there had not been a new fire department started in over 14 years in Barbour County and none of the local forestry commission employees had any knowledge of how to precede with this task. This did not stop the efforts of Mr. Stell and local forester David Gullede. They went straight to the Alabama Forestry Commission headquarters in Montgomery to get the necessary information, guidelines, forms and other items needed.



These men found out that the first step was to determine if there was enough interest in starting a fire department in the area to make it worthwhile to go through all of the trouble and time that it would take. They were advised that letters would need to be sent to all residents that live within a five mile range of where the proposed station would be built, advising residents of plans and setting time for an organization meeting. Based on the current 911 address books, it was determined that they would have to mail out 126 letters to residents of the community. The director of the Alabama Forestry Commission advised that if there were at least a 30% turn out or approximately 40 people to show up for the meeting, this would be a great turnout. The night of the meeting 84 people showed up, and Green's Crossroad Volunteer Fire Department was born.

Since that time the fire department has steadily grown thanks to the hard work of the community. The department started out with a 1966 Army duce and half tanker, which was converted into a pumper. The department was able to meet the Alabama Forestry Commission standards within the first four months of existence, which according to Director Roy Mott, was a record for any fire department.

In 2001, the department was able to secure an ADECA grant that was used to build their current fire station, purchase a custom-built engine, firefighting equipment and personal protective equipment necessary to bring the department into compliance with NFPA and ISO standards. After this time the department was able to lower the ISO rating for their department from a 10 to a 6/9, which was the lowest ISO rating in the county outside of the

City of Eufaula. The community has continued to back the department, helping to raise the necessary matching funds to meet a FEMA grant for additional PPE and FFE in 2003, for a second pumper-tanker in 2004.

The largest problem that the department faced after this time was the lack of a water supply to aggressively attack fires. Even though there was a community water system in the area, there were only three fire hydrants on the system. Again the community went to work, they were able to secure through ADECA a \$144,000 grant to place fire hydrants on this water system lines in areas that would protect the most homes. Again the community showed their support by raising the necessary \$14,000 matching funds.

At this time the department is again growing. The department has secured through USDA Community Facility program another grant to build a satellite station to increase their coverage area. The ground breaking was held in the month of April, with construction hoping to get started in late May or early June.

The most important fact that has yet to be mentioned is the location of Green's Crossroad VFD. It is located in the northwest section of Barbour County, in an area that is sparsely populated, no industry of any kind, not even a store of any kind within 10 miles, no municipality for support, and according to the 2000 U.S. census, over 59% of the residents of this area are at poverty level or below. None of this stopped the citizens of the community; they have just shown that no matter what your financial status is or where you live, that hard work and working together as a team for the same goal, you will always prosper.

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And numerous Skid Units!**

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have chosen Bay Fire for their Grant
purchases and their equipment needs! We'd
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to all of YOU they're too numerous to print!

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Pine Grove Volunteer Fire Department,
Weogufka Volunteer Fire Department, and
Fulton Volunteer Fire Department**



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1985 Hahn

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Hale 1500 Gallon Side-Mount Pump
1000 GPM Nozzle at Tip
400 Gallon Tank
Call for Pricing



1994 E-One 75' Quint
Cummins Diesel, Allison Automatic
Hale 2000 GPM Pump
400 Gallon Poly Tank
6000 Watt Generator
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1985 Hahn/LTI 75' Quint
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic
Waterous 1500 GPM Pump
400 Gallon Tank
Quartz Scene Lights
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All ALuminum Cab, Body, and Aerial
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic
Hale 1500 GPM Pump
200 Gallon Aluminum Tank
\$165,000



1993 Sutphen 75' Quint
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic
Hale 1500 GPM Pump
500 Gallon Booster Tank
Akron In-Line Foam Eductor
\$199,000



1986 E-One 95' Tower
Detroit 8V92TA 475 HP Diesel
Allison Automatic Transmission
12,000 Watt Diesel Generator
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Detroit Diesel, Automatic Trans.
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Allison Automatic Transmission
Command Desk and Radio Center
6 - 500 Watt Quartz Lights
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Harrison 1500 Watt Generator
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Hale 1750 GPM Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank
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1992 Southern Coach Pumper
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Int'l Diesel, Allison Automatic
American Godiva 1000 GPM Pump
750 Gallon Fiberglass Tank
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1990 E-One Protector Pumper
Cummins Diesel, Allison Automatic
Hale 1250 GPM Pump
1000 Gallon Poly Tank
New Paint!
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Ford 460 Gasoline Engine
Ford Automatic Transmission
Waterous 150 GPM Pump
250 Gallon Polypropylene Tank
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Hale 1000 GPM Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank
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1987 E-One Hush Pumper
Detroit Diesel, Allison Automatic
Hale 1500 GPM Side Mount Pump
500 Gallon Aluminum Tank
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Int'l Diesel, Ford Automatic
90 GPM Gasoline Powered Pump
200 Gallon Polypropylene Tank
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Mack Diesel, Allison Automatic
Waterous CMU 1500 GPM Pump
750 Gallon Steel Tank
\$75,000



1994 E-One Commercial Pumper
Int'l 4900 4-Door Chassis
Int'l Diesel, Allison Automatic
American Godiva 1250 GPM Pump
NEW 1000 Gallon Poly Tank
\$89,000



1995 E-One Commercial Pumper
Cummins Diesel, Allison Automatic
Hale 1250 GPM Pump
1000 Gallon Poly Tank
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Hale 1250 GPM Pump
750 Gallon Poly Tank
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Daleville VFD

Submitted by L. Ray Patterson, Asst. Chief

Daleville VFD, Dale County, is a part of the Daleville Department of Public Safety, which provides Police, Fire, and Rescue to the citizens of Daleville and assistance to its neighbors through mutual aid.

The fire department currently has 40 volunteers.

Current equipment is:

1. Two 1250 GPM (E-1) pumpers. Each carries 1,000 gallons of water and a full complement of hose, nozzles, SCBA, PPV fans and other assorted fire fighting tools and equipment.
2. Two 4-wheel drive brush units. Each carries 250 gallons of water and other Wildland/urban interface firefighting tools.
3. Two tanker units. One carries 1,000 gallons of water and the other carries 2,000 gallons. These units may be used to re-supply the brush units when they are operating outside of a hydrant coverage area and, if the terrain is stable, they may be used in direct Wildland/urban interface fire attack. Each truck is pump quipped and carries a limited supply of other firefighting tools and equipment.
4. We also have a converted bread truck which is our service unit. It carries spare SCBA, generators, light sets,



Photo by Chauncey Wood

shovels and various firefighting equipment.

5. We house and maintain the Dale County Association Breathing Air Unit, which consists of a trailer, high-pressure compressor (4,500 PSI), six storage tanks, a generator, two light sets, and the necessary hoses, regulators and containment devices for filling SCBA. This trailer is deployed (by us) to any association member needing its support.

We also house and maintain the Dale County Fire Association Communications unit. This unit has radios which are compatible with all surrounding agencies. The unit is air-conditioned and has room for two operators. This unit is normally deployed (by us) to any association member needing its support, and we will man the unit as necessary.

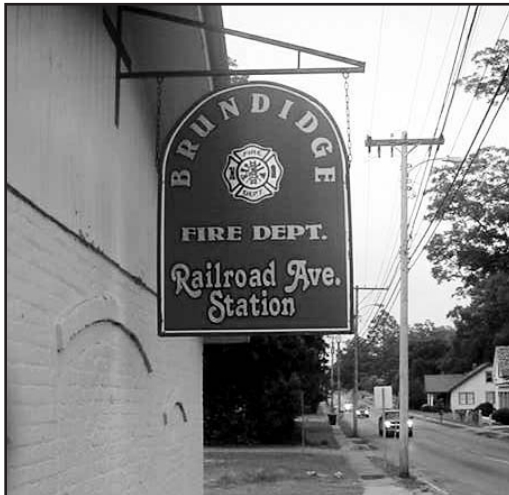
In addition to the Fire Department, we have a Rescue Squad. The squad is equipped with:

1. Three BLS ambulances.
2. One light rescue van with a Power Hawk extrication unit and a good supply of tools and equipment stabilization and extrication.
3. One "John-Boat" with an out-board engine for river rescue.



Photo by Chauncey Wood

Brundidge VFD by Carol Pittman



Brundidge Volunteer Fire Department has recently added a 2004 International tanker pumper to our fleet of trucks. At the present time we have one fully operational station at our disposal. It is located

on East Troy Street in the Watson Building. We have two tankers, 1 brush truck, 2 vans, and three tanker pumper trucks housed for use. We have acquired an additional building that one day will be our 2nd station on the east side of the city. It is located across the railroad tracks, therefore acquiring the name of Railroad Station #2. At the present time we are housing our renovated vehicles in

this building. These vehicles are used mainly for parades and special event displays. At the present time we



have a fifteen person squad. We gladly give mutual aid to any surrounding departments that need our help. We strive to serve our city and community to the best of our ability.

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2006 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.

The first round of applications was reviewed in June, with a second round in August. Forty-two Fire Departments and seven County Associations submitted project applications. The submitted projects of six 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:

SE REGION

<u>Dept/Assn</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amt Received</u>
Butler Co Assn		\$3,000.00
Covington Co Assn		\$1,865.00
Forest Home VFD	Butler	\$5,000.00
Friendship VFD	Elmore	\$4,550.00
Little Texas VFD	Macon	\$2,000.00
Shackleville VFD	Butler	\$4,850.00

NE REGION

<u>Dept/Assn</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amt Received</u>
Alder Springs VFD	Marshall	\$5,000.00
Chambers Co Assn		\$8,000.00
Nectar VFD	Blount	\$5,000.00
Pace's Point VFD	Tallapoosa	\$2,887.00
Remlap VFD	Blount	\$1,500.00
Springville VFD	St Clair	\$2,270.00
Tallapoosa Co Assn		\$5,000.00
Union VFD	Tallapoosa	\$2,000.00
West Blount VFD	Blount	\$1,000.00

NW REGION

<u>Dept/Assn</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amt Received</u>
Brindlee Mountain VFD	Morgan	\$2,500.00
Lauderdale Co Assn		\$6,000.00
Rocky Ridge Fire District	Jefferson	\$2,106.00
Twin VFD	Marion	\$ 800.00
Walker Co Assn		\$4,952.00

SW REGION

<u>Dept/Assn</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amt Received</u>
Appleton VFD	Escambia	\$4,982.00
Frisco City VFD	Monroe	\$3,925.00
Jones VFD	Autauga	\$4,825.00
McCall VFD	Escambia	\$ 600.00
Melvin VFD	Choctaw	\$ 500.00
Mexia VFD	Monroe	\$1,500.00
Needham VFD	Choctaw	\$1,975.00
Old Kingston/Browntown VFD	Autauga	\$3,500.00
Packer's Bend VFD	Monroe	\$ 800.00
Pine Level VFD	Autauga	\$3,000.00
Pineview-Foshee VFD	Escambia	\$1,974.00
Roberts VFD	Escambia	\$ 610.00
Sardis VFD	Dallas	\$4,550.00
Uniontown VFD	Perry	\$ 600.00
Uriah VFD	Monroe	\$1,250.00
Wilcox Assn		\$1,380.00



To find out what classes are coming up at the Alabama Fire College, you may check out the calendar on the web site www.alabmamfirecollege.org. The calendar is in the top bar. Go there and click on "field", and it will give you a list of all the classes scheduled around the state. If you have any questions, you may call Larry Jarvis at 1-800-241-2467.

On the Lighter Side...

Boat For Sale...



The guy wanted a boat more than anything. His wife kept refusing, but he bought one anyway. "I'll tell you what," he told her. "In the spirit of compromise, why don't you name the boat?" Being a good sport, she accepted. When her husband went to the dock for the maiden voyage, this is the name he saw painted on the side: "For Sale".

2006 AAVFD Membership – Total 913

DISTRICT 1 MEMBERSHIP

CALHOUN	46%	6 of 13
CHEROKEE	7%	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 4 MEMBERSHIP

CHAMBERS	100%	12 of 12
CLAY	100%	18 of 18
CLEBURNE	100%	12 of 12
COOSA	100%	10 of 10
RANDOLPH	100%	18 of 18
TALLADEGA	20%	3 of 15
TALLAPOOSA	100%	13 of 13

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 2 MEMBERSHIP

BLOUNT	100%	21 of 21
CULLMAN	100%	26 of 26
JEFFERSON	77%	24 of 31
SHELBY	40%	9 of 20
ST CLAIR	75%	15 of 22
WALKER	100%	25 of 25
WINSTON	100%	11 of 11

DISTRICT 5 MEMBERSHIP

AUTAUGA	100%	10 of 10
BIBB	100%	10 of 10
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 8 MEMBERSHIP

BALDWIN	48%	16 of 33
CHOCTAW	100%	14 of 14
CLARKE	100%	13 of 13
MOBILE	100%	19 of 19
WASHINGTON	100%	19 of 19

DISTRICT 9 MEMBERSHIP

COLBERT	100%	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 3 MEMBERSHIP

FAYETTE	7%	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 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 10 MEMBERSHIP

BULLOCK	100%	7 of 7
ELMORE	100%	20 of 20
LEE	100%	7 of 7
LOWNDES	25%	2 of 8
MACON	20%	2 of 10
MONTGOMERY	100%	8 of 8
RUSSELL	100%	11 of 11

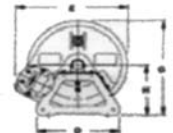
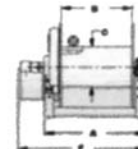
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Competition Results



AIR PACK RELAY

<u>Team</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Points</u>
Sylvania (DeKalb Co)	112.62	10
Thomasville (Clarke Co)	119.31	7
Fulton (Clarke Co)	125.38	5

HOSE LAY II

<u>Team</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Points</u>
Fulton (Clarke Co)	48.82	10
Tanner (Limestone Co)	53.28	7
Sylvania (DeKalb Co)	54.88	5

WATER ON THE ROOF

<u>Team</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Points</u>
Sylvania (DeKalb Co)	21-3/4"	10
Henagar (DeKalb Co)	21-1/2"	7
Thomasville (Clarke Co)	21"	5

OVERALL

<u>Winners Overall</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Points</u>
First Place	Sylvania	25 Pts
Second Place	Fulton	15 Pts
Third Place	Thomasville	12 Pts



Sylvania VFD, DeKalb County, First Place Overall



Fulton VFD, Clarke County, Second Place Overall



Thomasville VFD, Clarke County, Third Place Overall



Crowd watches Firefighter Competition

From Here and There

News of the Volunteer Fire Service from across Alabama

Springville VFD, St Clair County, began a 160 Class on August 21st.

Helwestern VFD, Clarke County, received a computer donated by Boise Paper in Jackson AL. The computer was accepted by Helwestern Firefighter Lem Finney, who works in Boise's Maintenance Department. Boise supports surrounding communities and recognizes the hard work and dedication that these volunteer fire departments demonstrate each day.

Holtville/Slapout VFD, Elmore County, took delivery of a new American LaFrance fire truck in December 2005.

Fulton VFD, Clarke County, held open house on June 17th, displaying their new American LaFrance fire truck.

Pine Hill VFD, Wilcox County, is hosting NFIRS training class on Sept. 18th.

West Blount VFD, Blount County, will host a grant-funded 3-day EMS Operations and Planning for Weapons of Mass Destruction class Sept 22 through Sept. 24. The class will be taught by instructors from the National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Cent/Texas Engineering Extension

Service and Texas A&M University.

Foley VFD, Baldwin County, hosted the VFIS EVOC Instructor Course September 8-9.

Brighton VFD, Jefferson County, has a new fire station on order and site preparation work began in July. The \$584,000 fire station will be built behind City Hall. The building is a pre-fabricated structure that will be finished after it is set up.

Oak Hill VFD, Wilcox County, put into service a 1976 Ford pumper and a 1978 Ford pumper on July 25th. These trucks were purchased from Frisco City VFD in Monroe County.

For over 80 years, Fire Prevention Week has brought attention to the importance of fire safety. It has served as a time to alert and educate the public to their role in fire prevention. Fire Prevention Week will be October 8-14, 2006. Make this week a success in your community and get everyone thinking about safety all year long.

The third annual Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service will be held at the Firefighter Memorial on the campus of the Alabama Fire College in Tuscaloosa on October 22nd.

ALABAMA'S VOLUNTEERS AT WORK

Fire Chief David Grice
Clio VFD
P.O. Box 219
Clio, AL 36017

Dear Chief:

On Sunday, August 13, about 10:00 pm, the hot water heater in my unit caught fire. When I realized something was wrong, I called 911. Between the 911 call, the arrival of Police Officer Craig Bush and members Chauncey Wood, Bryant Wisdom and Tina Wood of the Fire Department – it took, approximately 5-7 minutes. Officer Bush was the first to arrive. He put out the initial flame.

What an excellent job they, collectively, did.

Response time like this made me feel secure and safe. What amazed me was the courteous, caring and respectful way I was treated by each person of the emergency team. Although things were happening rapidly and they were moving about, in a concerted effort, to solve the problem – they were hospitable. Despite the fact that we live in a small rural community, it is such a relief to experience a feeling of "well-being" from people who have passion for helping others.

Sincerely,
Yvonne S. Adair
Clio, AL



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Birds of a Feather

by Dave Murphy

Published in "The Pennsylvania Fireman"

"A successful man is the one who can build a firm foundation with the bricks that others throw at him." – David Brinkley

The United States fire service has a great and colorful history, heavily steeped in tradition. Many fire service practices originated long ago and they are still relevant today. Many others have been eliminated or modified as technology has provided a better way of doing things. The greatest resource has been and will always be the American firefighter.

Another great thing about the fire service is that we are all "birds of a feather". The worst thing about the fire service is that we are all "birds of a feather". Please let me explain. Every firefighter, regardless of locale, understands the demands and rigors associated with the job. With some degree of variation, everyone fights the same types of fire, responds to EMS calls and every once in a while, fights the "big one". We all feel the pain and share the loss when a brother or sister firefighter dies. In other words, we pretty much think alike.

We also speak the same language. Look around you, how many outspoken comrades do you work with? I'm sure that several come to mind. Are they mostly negative or positive in their daily speech and subsequent actions? No fire department is perfect. Firefighters are human, and attitudes are often shaped by and subject to their environment. Individual thought is a good thing and should be encouraged at all departmental levels. Change begins as an idea, usually verbalized in the form of a phrase. However, for the good of all, there are several phrases that we should strive to eliminate from the United States fire service. I will briefly expound on each one.

It will never work here. Remember when NFPA 1500 first surfaced? Did you, like me, say "we'll never be able to comply"? In reality, the majority of fire departments are either fully compliant or well on the way, and we are much safer for it. I was stating my response based on the small amount of information that I had and was influenced by those in my inner circle. I was wrong, and have been many times since. The attitude should be "we can make it work here".

We can't afford it. Can you afford to purchase a new vehicle every year? Probably not. You may not be able to afford it now, but with a little planning and creative budgeting, what about later? It is no different in the fire service. Fire chiefs simply do not have the funding to cover everyone's wish list. Strategic planning is an invaluable tool to pre-estimate need and the subsequent planning necessary to acquire and maintain new apparatus and equipment. Critical items, necessary to sustain service, are usually funded. By eliminating unnecessary requests and taking care of the equipment that we already have, we most likely can afford it.

We've never done it that way before. My first thought when I first heard about the then new-fangled concept of positive ventilation. An impromptu dealer demonstration quickly changed my mind. Modern firefighting procedures now integrate positive pressure ventilation as it is usually the most efficient way to ventilate a structure. We will never know if there is a better way to do it if we never try. Try it – you might just like it.



We're not ready for it. The truth is – we seldom are. As humans, we rarely embrace change. We are usually very comfortable where we are at. Change is seldom easy, but it can be very rewarding. The fire service has seen many changes and will see many more to come. By effectively planning and preparing – you will be ready for it.

It's not our responsibility. Never a cool thing to say when you are in the public emergency services. If it is definitely not your responsibility, you had better find another way to phrase it. Above all, one should make a valid attempt to help locate some one that may help even if you do not have the resources or the authority to honor the request. Make it your responsibility to help those when your help is requested.

We're doing fine without it. How much better would you do with it? Will the addition of new personnel, new equipment or an improved technique improve your efficiency and/or make the task safer? You cannot truly answer if you have not experienced it. Your job may actually be much more efficient and safer with a little innovation.

Do you routinely hear these phrases in your department? Would your fire department be better without ever hearing the aforementioned phrases? Only you can answer that. While it may not be in your power to single-handedly change your fire department – you can change yourself. Be positive. Don't be guilty of using these negative phrases, better yet, turn them around and rephrase each statement in a manner that will not only promote your department, but will enhance your personal image as well. Become the positive bird in your flock. Don't be the one that kills the idea – that very idea just might save your life.

Dave Murphy retired as Assistant Chief of the Richmond (KY) Fire Department. He is currently an Assistant Professor in the Fire & Safety Engineering Technology program located at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He also serves as the Health & Safety Officer for the Harrisburg (NC) Fire Department. An NFPA Certified Fire Protection Specialist; he is also a technical committee member on NFPA 610 which deals with safety at motor sports venues. Dave is also Eastern Director of the Fire Department Safety Officers Association.

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Taylor (Houston County) volunteer fireman Jimmy Blackmon practices firefighting training on an abandoned building during a recent training exercise for the department.

(Reprinted from the Dothan Eagle, July 30, 2006. Photo by Danny Tindell / dtindell@dothaneagle.com.)



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*Bob Taylor
Verbena Volunteer Fire & Rescue*

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NATIONAL FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES

Name/Rank: Lt David R. Packard (41), Volunteer
Department: Swanzey FD, Swanzey NH
Date of Death: 1/11/06
Cause of Death: Felt ill after returning home following a call and was carried to the hospital where he succumbed to a cardiovascular event.

Name/Rank: Forest Technician Mark Allen Stanley (49), Wildland Full-Time
Department: Tennessee Division of Forestry
Date of Death: 4/13/06
Cause of Death: During dozer line construction in preparation for a prescribed burn, Forest Technician Mark Stanley instructed a dozer to push down a dead snag. Upon engaging with dozer blade, a large dead red oak suddenly broke loose at ground level and struck Stanley standing on the ground just within reach of top of tree.

Name/Rank: Firefighter EMT Jose Luis Ramirez (35), Volunteer
Department: Far South VFD, Chaparral NM
Date of Death: 4/15/06
Cause of Death: Died of injuries sustained when he veered off the road hitting a utility pole while responding to a medical call.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Willie Macon Price (58), Volunteer
Department: Jamesville Community VFD, Jamesville NC
Date of Death: 4/16/06
Cause of Death: Suffered an apparent heart attack while on standby at a function where he was serving as driver/operator for a department apparatus.

Name/Rank: Asst Chief Garry Tanner (57), Volunteer
Department: Pleasantville VFD, Pleasantville TN
Date of Death: 4/19/06
Cause of Death: Died when he was ejected from overturned tanker as he was on his way to refill the tanker being used at mobile home fire.

Name/Rank: Chief William L. Robinson III (39), Volunteer
Department: Sarge Creek VFD, Tulsa OK
Date of Death: 4/21/06
Cause of Death: Operating a fire department vehicle in a pasture while assisting with a controlled burn, he was run over by the vehicle shortly after refilling it. He died from injuries sustained.

Name/Rank: Fire Apparatus Operator Russell B. Schwantes (39), Career
Department: City of Atlanta FD, Atlanta GA
Date of Death: 4/25/06
Cause of Death: Collapsed while participating in mandated physical training after an apparatus training exercise on 4/16/06 and passed away on 4/25/06.

Name/Rank: Captain Alan D. Leake (51), Career
Department: City of Fulton FD, Fulton MO
Date of Death: 4/30/06
Cause of Death: Collapsed and died after mitigating his second consecutive MVA while he was preparing to clear the scene.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Joseph Louis Bilka (60), Volunteer
Department: Jamesville Community VFD, Jamesville NC
Date of Death: 5/21/06
Cause of Death: Struck a semi-truck as he drove to fire station while responding to fire alarm on April 22nd. He succumbed to injuries May 21st.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Gerald A. Machajewski (62), Volunteer
Department: Cambria VFD, Lockport NY
Date of Death: 5/21/06
Cause of Death: Collapsed while working at scene of multi-vehicle accident and was pronounced dead at hospital from coronary artery thrombosis.

Name/Rank: Lt Richard Montoya (61), Career
Department: Denver FD, Denver CO
Date of Death: 5/21/06
Cause of Death: Critically injured on May 14th while fighting fire on second floor of home where it is believed that he backed into a room accidentally instead of exiting the home, becoming trapped in heavy smoke and heat conditions. He suffered smoke inhalation and went into cardiac arrest. He passed away just 2 months away from retirement.

Name/Rank: Deputy Asst Chief Michael J. Day (49), Career
Department: Providence FD, Providence RI
Date of Death: 6/13/06
Cause of Death: Discovered unresponsive at his office desk after responding to small fire earlier in the evening. He was pronounced dead from a cause still to be determined.

Name/Rank: Firefighter III William L. Craddock (37), Career
Department: DeKalb County Fire Rescue Dept
Date of Death: 6/13/06
Cause of Death: Complained of not feeling well after exiting interior fire attack at heavily involved residential structure on May 4th. He remained hospitalized until his death determined to be of a major heart attack.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Ralph Aguilar (42), Wildland Contract
Department: Mexico Division of State Forestry, Santa Fe NM
Date of Death: 6/14/06
Cause of Death: Ejected and died from injuries received when apparatus he was operating drifted onto shoulder of road where it appears steering overcorrection caused the vehicle to roll.

Name/Rank: Ex-Capt Michael J. Greene (43), Volunteer
Department: West Babylon FD, West Babylon NY
Date of Death: 6/16/06
Cause of Death: Electrocuted while retrieving fire department equipment (tarp covering) at scene of structure fire that occurred several days earlier.

Name/Rank: Firefighter/Rescue Diver Allan Anderson, Jr. (47), Volunteer
Department: Wellington Fire District, Wellington OH
Date of Death: 6/22/06
Cause of Death: While attempting to rescue two teenagers stranded when their SUV became flooded in high water, he was overcome by the current when his boat became entangled in nearby trees.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Robert W. Edwards (45), Volunteer
Department: Tunica FD, Tunica MS
Date of Death: 6/23/06
Cause of Death: Died of apparent heart attack after responding to a call.

Name/Rank: Deputy Chief Steven A. Smith (34), Volunteer
Department: Wea Township VFD, LaFayette IN
Date of Death: 6/25/06
Cause of Death: Died after falling through weakened first floor while fighting a residential fire.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Eric J. Olson (35), Volunteer
Department: Laury's Station Vol Fire Co No 1, Laury's Station PA
Date of Death: 7/5/06
Cause of Death: After responding to a river rescue incident on July 4th, he collapsed while at work the following morning and passed away a short time later from a heart related cause.

Name/Rank: Junior Firefighter Alethea Faye Nixon (17), Volunteer
Department: Asbury VFD, Albertville AL
Date of Death: 7/26/06
Cause of Death: Died from injuries sustained when tanker truck she was riding in en-route to fire went off a narrow one-lane bridge. Two other firefighters were critically injured.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Rose Woodbridge (56), Volunteer
Department: Hanover Township FD, Hamilton OH
Date of Death: 7/28/06
Cause of Death: Died from injuries received when her POV struck a utility pole en-route to station to respond to vehicle accident call.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Jeffrey D. Irwin (43), Volunteer
Department: Eldorado FD, Eldorado IL
Date of Death: 7/29/06
Cause of Death: After complaining of feeling ill on fire ground of working residential fire, he was found later at his residence deceased from a heart attack.

Name/Rank: Firefighter Paul R. Brady (42), Volunteer
Department: Malverne FD, Malverne NY
Date of Death: 7/30/06
Cause of Death: While training, he was caught between a fire apparatus and a ceiling beam of the firehouse and succumbed to his injuries in the hospital.

Name/Rank: Asst Chief Lee Walters (54), Volunteer
Department: Sheldon Fire District, Sheldon SC
Date of Death: 8/2/06
Cause of Death: Collapsed while supervising operations at a working residential fire. Cause of death is still pending.

Name/Rank: Pilot Terry Wayne Jacobs (48), Wildland Contract
Department: Co-Pilot Andrei Pantchenko (38), Wildland Contract
Date of Death: U.S. Forest Service, Klamath National Forest, Yreka CA
Cause of Death: 8/4/06
 Died after a long day battling the Titus Fire portion of the Happy Camp Complex of wildfires when their helicopter suddenly crashed into the Klamath River from a cause still to be determined.

National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend Set for October 7-8, 2006

The National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend on October 7-8 marks the 25th anniversary of a nationwide ceremony honoring firefighters who died in the line of duty. A plaque with the names of 98 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2005 will be added to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial. The names of six firefighters who died in previous years will also be added. The plaques surrounding the Memorial, which was established in 1981, will contain the names of more than 3,000 firefighters.

Of the firefighters being honored this year, 63 were volunteer firefighters, 37 were career and 4 were contract firefighters. New York had the Nation's greatest number of line-of-duty firefighter deaths in 2005 with 17; while California, Pennsylvania, and Texas each had 8 firefighters die in the line of duty.

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THE BELL TOLLED

Asst. Chief Curtis V. Doss, Sr., Hagler VFD, Tuscaloosa County, passed away May 28, 2006. His son, Billy, is AAVFD District 3 Director.

Jerald B. "Jerry" Higgins, Curry F/R, Walker County, passed away on June 14, 2006. He was a charter member and served as an officer for many years.

Crystal Ray Chapman, South Marengo County Fire & Rescue, Marengo County, passed away unexpectedly on June 16, 2006. She and her husband, Chris, were expecting their first child in two months. Crystal became sick, was taken to the hospital where she died and the baby died a few minutes later.

Mack Elmore Downey, Lusk VFD, Choctaw County, passed away June 30, 2006. He was a leader in his department and the county, not only in fighting fire, but also working long hours when storms and hurricanes hit the county. Mack was a true friend and will be missed by his fellow fire fighters in Choctaw County, and most of all, by the Lusk Firefighters.

Jimmy Phillips, Dora F/R, Walker County, passed away of cardiac arrest on July 1, 2006. He was a 20-year member of the department.

Mr. Jene Szymanski, Elamville VFD, Barbour County, passed away July 8, 2006.

Patrick Nelson, Oak Hill VFD, Wilcox County, died in a one-car wreck on July 26, 2006.

Aletha Faye Nixon, Asbury VFD, Marshall County, died July 26, 2006 in the Line of Duty en-route to a structure fire when the tanker overturned, also injuring three other firefighters.

Calvin Sullivan, Wagarville VFD, Washington County, passed away August 9, 2006. Mr. Sullivan was Washington County 2006 Firefighter of the Year.

Barbara J. Smith, River Oaks VFD, Dallas County, died on July 30, 2006 in her home when her house caught fire and she was trapped inside.

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

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

1-888-972-2833 or www.aavfd.org.



About *The Volunteer*: *The Volunteer* is issued 4 times a year: in Jan, April, Jul, and Oct. Articles, information, and advertisements for the newsletter must be in Montgomery no later than the 15th of the month before publication.

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

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

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