

FFAM

Fire Fighters Association of Missouri

VOL. 60, No. 6
NOV/DEC 2017



NEXT FFAM BOARD MEETING

DECEMBER 3, 2017 • 9:00 A.M. • SEDALIA, MISSOURI

USPS 183-320



PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Greetings Fellow Firefighters

Kenneth Hoover
President



What a beautiful fall season so far. Cool, crisp air in the mornings and the brilliant colors of the fall foliage remind us of the changing of the life cycles of Mother Nature.

I want to thank 1st Vice President Jennings for chairing the October Board meeting in my absence. I appreciate people that have a "can do" attitude when asked to do something for the organization. That is what makes this group so great to work with.

This is a very busy time of the year for many of us, Fire Prevention Week is just ending, deer season is just beginning, hay rides, bon fires, fall get togethers, Halloween is in just a few days, Thanksgiving is quickly arriving, and then the Christmas holiday wrapping up the year. If that does not fill up your calendar, I don't know what would.



I had the honor of attending, on behalf of FFAM, the retirement of the University

of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute's Director, David Hedrick on October 18, 2017. After 10 years at the Institute, David has decided to enjoy some traveling and other desires. I would like to say that I and the FFAM have enjoyed the professional relationship and personal connection over the years. David has always been ready to help our organization and actually being a part of us. His shoes will be difficult to fill but I know that David has prepared his successor. Thank you David and Linda for your commitment to the fire service and to the Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial that I know are near and dear to your heart. Enjoy your new path in retirement my friend.

Also the Buchanan County Fire Chiefs Association is heading up the 2018 Convention Committee that will host the convention in St. Joseph, Missouri, in May. Please become involved in this great work. The convention is only great if all of us work to make it great. I am

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Jaime Miller- Secretary/Treasurer, Warrensburg, MO
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**FIRE FIGHTERS
ASSOCIATION
OF MISSOURI**

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Address correction to: FFAM PO Box 1153, Warrensburg, MO 64093

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FIRE MARSHAL'S UPDATE

Missouri Division of Fire Safety



Tim Bean
State Fire Marshal

Greetings from the thirteenth floor! "Every Second Counts Know 2-Ways Out," just in case anyone in the Missouri Fire service missed Fire Prevention Week, on October 8-14, that is the theme for this year. I posted several pictures promoting fire prevention week in my own way with facebook posts, but kind-a got a scolding from one of my good friends (Cindy), who stated "Chief it's fire prevention all year long!" I agree Cindy! I hope we as the Missouri Fire Service can say we promote fire prevention all year long!

We celebrated the Division of Fire Safety's 45th anniversary on Wednesday October 25, with a noon pot-luck lunch. We discussed it around the office and decided to have a big blow out for the 50th. We were honored to have former Fire Marshal's Bill Farr and Randy Cole join us. I have added some pictures from the 25th anniversary for your entertainment, enjoy! Thanks for everyone across our state that have supported the Division of Fire Safety for the last 45 years!

The following is bittersweet, but we lost a good man to retirement. Director David Hedrick retired from the MU Fire and Rescue Training Institute after 10 years of service. I appreciate Dave's vision and stellar leadership during his tenure with MU FRTI. The collaboration of the institution has enabled safer firefighters, safer citizens, and safer communities in Missouri. Thanks for your devotion and commitment. I wish you many years of good health and you are always welcome to the 13th floor.

I want to congratulate Kevin Zumwalt to his appointment as Interim Director. Kevin has served as Associate Director for a number of years, and we are confident he is able to carry the torch into the future!

Congratulations to one of our own! Fire Investigator Adam Crouch. Adam was awarded the Department of Public Safety Employee of the Month for November. Adam was chosen for his outstanding investigative work and commitment to his community. When Adam is called to a fire scene he goes above and beyond

his ability to ensure the work is complete and is committed in finding the suspect(s) relating to the case. Adam is always willing to assist other agencies anyway he possibly can. This summer, Adam was instrumental in getting medical crews to assist a person on the river in need of immediate medical attention. In Adam's spare time, he helps organize an event between the police officers and firefighters to raise money for the YMCA Back Pack Buddies Program, which helps fund a lunch program for school children. Adam lives in Chillicothe with his wife Lora and their three children. That is what I call "Best Boots on the Ground," and leaving things better than you found them!

The Division of Fire Safety Salutes to Service for October goes to four members of the Lee's Summit Fire Department; Captain Tom Loy, Paramedic Jacob Wiemann, Battalion Chief Arby Todd and Fire Specialist Craig Hill, all of who volunteer their time to the Heartland Honor Flight program.

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Fire Investigator Adam Crouch,
Employee of the Month, MO DPS



From left to right: Captain Tom Loy, Paramedic Jacob Wiemann, Fire Marshal Tim Bean, Battalion Chief Arby Todd, and Fire Specialist Craig Hill. Lee's Summit FD.

BOARD of DIRECTORS Meeting Minutes

FFAM OCTOBER 1, 2017 MEETING • SEDALIA, MO

Draft • Final Approval at Next Meeting

Vice President Larry Jennings called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri to order at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, October 1, 2017, at the Missouri State Fair Fire Department in Sedalia, MO.

ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OTHER OFFICIALS:

OFFICERS

First Vice President Larry Jennings, Johnson County FPD; Second Vice President Grant Oetting, Higginsville FPD; Secretary Treasurer Jaime Miller, Johnson County FPD #2.

DIRECTORS

District 2, Greg Wright, Shelbina FD; District 3, Larry Jones, Madison West Monroe FPD; District 4, Joe Vaughn, Pleasant Hill FPD; District 5, Terry Plumb, Southern Stone FPD; District 11, Monty Thompson, Kearney FPD; District 14.

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

District 1, Janet Cain, Braymer Fire; District 2, Vernon Cash, Shelbina FPD; District 3, Steve Gentry, Rob Erdel, Little Dixie FPD; District 4, Jonathan Evans, Lincoln FD; District 5, Shelby Phifer, Southern Stone FPD; District 10, Greg Brown, Eureka FPD; District 14, Glen Dittmar, South Central Buchanan Co FD.

OTHERS

Past President Keith Smith, Warrenton FPD.

GUESTS

Greg and Brenda Carrell, Missouri Division of Fire Safety; David Hedrick, Gail Hagans, Kevin Zumwalt, MU FRTI; Larry Eggen, Johnson County FPD; Doc Kritzer, Memorial Foundation; Harriett Vaucher, Eureka FPD.

AGENDA

Vice President Jennings asked for additions to the agenda. Grant Oetting moved

to accept the agenda as presented. Monty Thompson seconded the motion and all approved.

MINUTES

Vice President Jennings asked for additions or corrections to the August 6, 2017, meeting minutes. Larry Jones moved to accept the minutes as presented. Terry Plumb seconded the motion and all approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Vice President Jennings asked for a review of the July - August 2017 financial reports. Greg Wright moved to accept the financial reports presented. Monty Thompson seconded the motion and all approved.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUEST(S)

Director David Hedrick with MU FRTI advised that the annual report has been published. So far for this new fiscal year, 239 courses have been scheduled and 39 have been completed.

The Missouri Emergency Services Instructors Conference will be held November 2-5 in Lake Ozark. There are still openings.

On August 24, there was an Advisory Council meeting. Discussion was held on operations and planning for MU FRTI. The group is making great progress.

October 8-14, is Fire Prevention Week and October 7-8, is the 36th annual National Fallen Firefighter Memorial. He encouraged everyone to participate in these two national events.

Hedrick advised he will be retiring this month. There will be a retirement reception on October 18, at MU FRTI and everyone is invited to attend. Kevin Zumwalt will be the interim director.

Assistant State Fire Marshal Greg Carrell with the Division of Fire Safety advised that the memorial stair climb held at DFS was well attended and he thanked everyone who participated and helped with the event. It will become an annual event.

A Live Fire Instructor course will be held at the Instructors Conference. There will also be several inspector courses coming up at College of the Ozarks.

He thanked David Hedrick for his service and the great partnership between MU FRTI and DFS.

All of the investigator positions in the DFS have now been filled and there are two openings remaining for inspector positions.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion was held on the fire service history book being created by Bill Westhoff that was approved at the April business meeting. Gail Hagans advised that MU FRTI is willing to assist with the project by storing the books and shipping them out when ordered. An online store will be created on the FFAM website. Billing/payments will be handled by Secretary Miller and shipping will be handled by MU FRTI. Discussion followed. Monty Thompson moved to partner with MU FRTI to store and ship the books. Glen Dittmar seconded the motion and all approved. The goal is to have the book completed, published and available for Winter Fire School.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice President Jennings advised that the Buchanan County Fire Chief's Association will be assisting St. Joseph Fire Department with the funds for

the 2018 Convention. The Association wanted us to be aware that not all departments that belong to that Association are members of FFAM. Discussion followed on any membership requirements. Greg Brown moved that not all departments in the Buchanan County Fire Chief's Association need to be members of FFAM in order to assist with then 2018 Convention but they are encouraged to join. Monty Thompson seconded the motion and all approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Larry Jennings advised on behalf of Joe Jennings that nominations are due Feb. 28 and can be submitted at any time. Everyone is encouraged to nominate.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Larry Jennings advised that the committee is working on the budget and it will be out prior to the December meeting for review.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

No report was given.

CHAPLAIN COMMITTEE

David Hedrick reported that the Missouri Fire Chaplain Corp annual meeting/training was held on Sept. 18-19 in Arnold, MO. The Corp will be partnering with MU FRTI to provide classes at Winter Fire School. The Federation of Fire Chaplains meeting will be October 22 – 26 in Oklahoma City.

CONTEST COMMITTEE

Rob Erdel advised that he doesn't know the location of the contest yet but he is working on it.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Larry Jones advised that he has not received any updates from St. Joseph Fire Department.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

No report was given.

FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE

Larry Jennings advised on half of RB Brown to please push the poster contest in your local schools. We would like to

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see more participation in departments throughout the state.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Greg Brown advised that the Fire Service Alliance continues to meet. They are working to try and set standards for fire fighter training in Missouri. 9-11 legislation will be on the agenda this year. Fire District Board training is an issue in several areas and continues to be a topic of discussion. A presumptive cancer bill is also in the works relating to cancer in the fire service. He encouraged anyone who has questions or concerns to contact him.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Grant Oetting reported the following membership counts: 457 Directors/Councilman; 270 Retired; 17 Associate; 11 Sustaining; 18 Corporate, 354 Departments; 6556 Active; 10 Educational; 47 Juniors.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

No report was given.

NVFC COMMITTEE

Keith Smith reported that he and Greg Wright attended the fall meeting. In national news, the hurricanes have overshadowed the wild fire situation. \$2 billion has already been spent fighting the fires and that number continues to grow. 300 fire fighters have lost their homes in the Texas hurricane. 25 fire stations and 145 apparatus were also destroyed.

The Homeland Security FY 2016 is over and grants are now closed. 8300 users on the Make Me a Firefighter website through Recruitment and Retention didn't get their grants renewed. Regarding the AFG grants – 10% of volunteer fire departments received some funding.

NVFC has a new slogan and logo. It is Stronger You Stronger Crew.

The Share the Load assistance campaign is still a very active program with an average of over 80 calls per month.

NVFC membership is up 28% from a year ago. Training is available online for members. There are several two-hour trainings also available for departments to access.

The recent Benefits Conference discussed big topics including PTSD, PSOB and cancer. The average person stays on a fire department for 5 years so ways to change membership and benefits were discussed.

Technology continues to be a big topic as well. There is now thermal imaging technology that goes through a cell phone. Mapping and GPS technology are also up and coming.

The opioid crisis continues to be a big factor with emergency services. 32 million doses of fentanyl were seized in New York this week and recent exposure case had 7 responders who were affected by the exposure.

34 states are working on presumptive cancer laws. 5 states already have the laws in place. They are also working on a national registry for reporting. NFPA is working on setting standards.

Discussion was held on increasing NVFC membership in Missouri. Greg Wright advised that the goal is 24,500 by the spring of 2018. If Missouri gets 500 individual members to sign up, then the FFAM membership fee is waived.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Larry Eggen advised that he has been approached by an individual who would like to apply for the Continuing Education Scholarship however, the program he would like to attend is only available in Oklahoma. The scholarship rules advise the person has to attend training in Missouri. Discussion followed. The Board advised not to exclude an individual who wishes to pursue specialized training outside of Missouri and that the

Scholarship Committee can make the final determination. Eggen also advised that he would like to have Ed Daugherty from Chillicothe fill the vacant position on the committee.

STATE FAIR COMMITTEE

Monty Thompson advised that they had a very successful year at the State Fair. There were no leaks in the roof. The 2018 fair is August 8-18.

WEBSITE COMMITTEE

No report was given.

NEWSLETTER

The deadline for the next newsletter will be November 1.

HISTORIAN REPORT No report given.

FUNERAL TEAM REPORT

Harriett Vaucher advised that the team is working on quotes for another trailer.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Keith Smith advised that the Museum Foundation will be meeting with builders in a couple of weeks along with an architect. They are making progress on design concepts for the building. The Foundation is also working with Brian Zinanni on several issues including LODD, PSOB and cancer benefits.

Smith encouraged everyone to send him names as soon as possible for those fallen firefighters who need to be recognized at the 2018 memorial services.

Jonathan Evans presented a donation on behalf of the Missouri State Fair Fire Department to the museum project.

Glen Dittmar moved to adjourn the meeting. Jonathan Evans seconded the motion and all approved.

President Hoover adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Jaime Miller

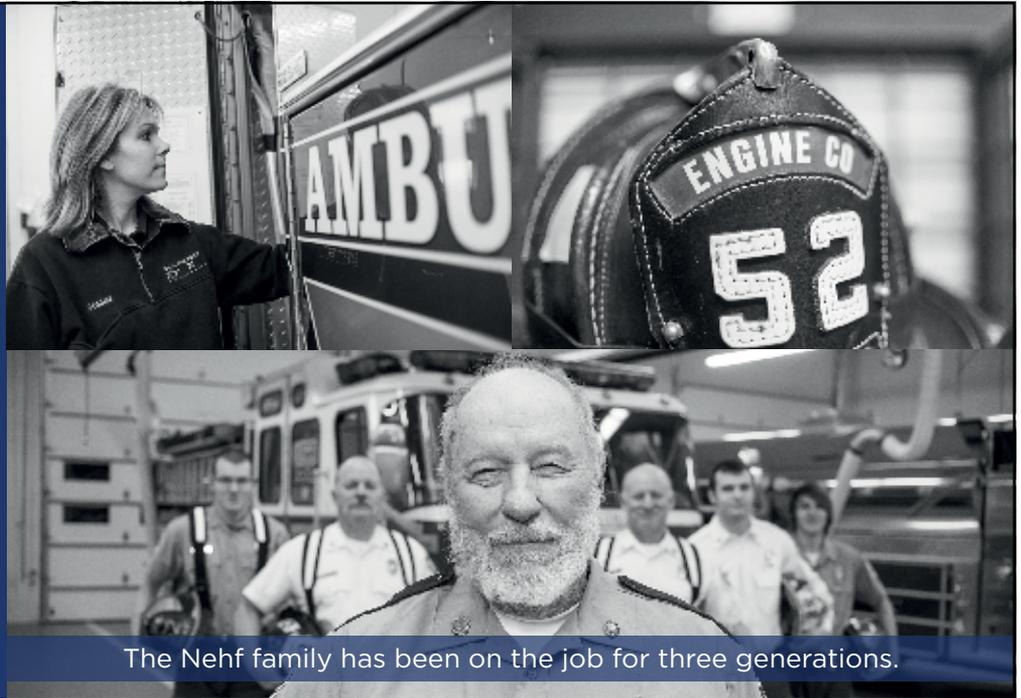
Jaime Miller
Secretary
Fire Fighters Association of Missouri



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NVFC NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL UPDATE



Keith Smith

Greg Wright and I had the privilege to attend the fall meeting of the NVFC in Kearny, NE, on September 27-29. North Dakota will be hosting in 2018, and Georgia in 2019. Greg and I both serve on the Health and Safety Committee. I also serve on the Recruitment and Retention Committee. Committee members are required to attend their assignment but

outside of that Greg and I divided our time over the remaining 14 NVFC committee meetings. All State appointment directors and assistant directors are allowed to set in, ask questions and suggest their opinions on any committee and involved with Q/A, but only committee members vote, it is essentially an open forum to all States through process. Committee decisions can be over turned by the combined council but their hard work on the front end seldom comes to that.

Leading off with recruitment and retention, the *Make Me a Firefighter* (MMAF) campaign is in its third year which replaced the 800-Fire-Line. 25% of the nation's volunteer departments have registered with 8,300 users. Over the past 24 months NVFC can document that MMAF has signed up 2,600 new volunteers. This is a free service which only requires registration on the NVFC website. We all realize the fire service has new demands with fewer and fewer staff to meet demand. This backs up against another reality of being able to recruit but

not retain. This disconnect may not be realized especially, that once the application is turned in; recruitment is over. You are now in retention mode and exit interviews are showing we do not understand this very well, perhaps not all?

What actually recruited the new firefighter and most importantly the ever more precious value of their very little time is missed! They joined to be part of the special group of professionals, not segregated to sub-titles, sub-dress, sub-equipment, sub-treatment, sub-recognition and sub, other things. Studies now reveal if they look different, are treated different, they will think different and find a different activity to spend or volunteer their limited time. The bottom line, it is easier to walk away from something you never really had or experienced versus fully/correctly experienced, tasted and lived only to walk away. There is a difference between having to pay your dues while waiting your turn versus meeting expectations while recognizing excellence in doing so.

WINTER SAFETY ON THE SCENE AND AT THE STATION

By Mark Woodward, Missouri Employers Mutual

Whether you like it or not, winter is headed our way. In an effort to prevent injuries, fire departments across Missouri are encouraged to make preparations at the station, on the trucks and with PPE issued to the firefighters. Slips, trips and falls are one of the most common types of firefighter injury, and are very costly in personnel and finances. With an average lost time injury totaling near \$40,000, fire departments across Missouri are encouraged to prevent slips, trips and falls.

This article is written in checklist format to provide fire departments with strategies for preventing slip, trip and fall injuries during winter months.

AT THE STATION

- Lead off each training meeting with a safety message. Make sure each volunteer hears a cold weather safety message. Review your expectations for safe responses during bad weather.
- Ice melt should be stationed at each door entering the station, as well as at the bay doors. Whenever firefighters discover ice near curb & gutter or on sidewalks, they must take initiative to toss down ice melt.
- Bay floors are usually very slick when water pools from trucks that are drip-drying. Use box fans dry floors and truck steps. Keep “Caution Wet Floor” signs handy and make sure there are plenty of squeegees ready for use.



Wet floors are unsafe when water pools directly in walkways. Dry these surfaces with fans & squeegees, use warning signs.

- Take extra time to remove old, built-up ice in parking lots, near stairs or in curb and gutter. Use plenty of ice melt and have good-quality snow shovels handy.
- Avoid horseplay and running in the bays. Running is necessary when lives must be saved immediately, but running to trucks for routine responses is unsafe.
- Find slip, trip and fall resources at www.worksafecenter.com

ON THE SCENE

- Ice melt containers are cheap when compared to work compensation claims. Purchase ice melt containers for each truck.
- Assign one member to throw down ice melt wherever there is ice or snow on the scene.
- Throw ice melt on porches, steps and sidewalks when on a medical call during bad weather.
- Toss ice melt down in the action zone and around ambulances when on an auto rescue during icy weather.
- Use ice melt around the engine’s pump panel when you’re flowing water during cold temperatures.
- Light it up! Always use plenty of lighting when on night scenes. Many medics and volunteers have tripped over water meter lids, ditches and tree stumps when crossing through property.
- Stay on driveways and sidewalks. Try to avoid crossing through yards when on medical calls. Walk on paved surfaces.



Use plenty of light when on night scenes. Try to stay on paved walking surfaces. When it comes to safety, it’s not overkill to fire up bright generator lights.

- When on EMS runs, try your best to park the ambulance on level pavement. Load the cot on a safe walking / working surface.

PERSONNEL AND PPE

- Verify that each member has the correct personal protective equipment at each fire training night. This can include flash lights, extra pairs of dry gloves, an extra Nomex hood, extra socks & blankets for the trunks of volunteers’ personal vehicles.
- Does each member have a good-quality flashlight in their vehicle or turnout gear? Are there plenty of extra batteries at the station?
- Encourage volunteers to make their home and driveway safe also! We don’t want them to fall in their own driveway when responding to a call!
- Slip-on ice cleats are available for both fire boots and work footwear. Create a written safety rule that requires slip-on ice cleats whenever working in snowy or icy weather.
- Avoid knee, ankle and shoulder injuries on scene by using three-point contact whenever mounting / dismounting ambulances or fire apparatus. Tread plate can be very slick when wet or icy.
- To avoid unnecessary vehicle crashes, consider non-emergency responses during poor visibility or bad driving conditions.



Slip-on ice cleats are a great way to prevent slips & falls on snow and ice. They’re usually around \$20 a pair.

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looking forward to an excellent convention to be held in St. Joe in 2018.

FFAM annual dues will be sent out soon if not already. All membership renewals are due January 1. Secretary/Treasurer Jaime Miller has included in the notices a list of membership benefits. FFAM offers the largest amount of benefits than any other state fire organization, all for \$10 a year of which \$3 of that goes to the Fire Fighters Memorial in Kingdom City. FFAM Board of Directors continues to look for additional benefits for its members. If anyone has any suggestions, please contact your district director.

The FFAM Directors are currently working on the 2018 budget and I want to remind all directors and committees that your request for funding is currently due to 1st Vice-President, Chief Larry Jennings of the Johnson County Fire

Protection District. We will be voting on the 2018 proposed budget at the December 3, 2017, board meeting in Sedalia at 9:00 a.m. at the fire station.

Other items that are due for submission soon are the nominations for awards and scholarships. You can find the applications on the FFAM website or in an upcoming newsletters. Please take the time to nominate deserving individuals for these important awards. These are just a few of the excellent benefits I was talking about earlier.

I would like to remind all committee chairpersons, to please meet and discuss your assignments and forward me the results of your meetings. I encourage all FFAM members, if you have input, please contact the appropriate committees or director with your thoughts, and opinions. This will insure statewide participation and fairness to all our members. If you

experience any difficulties, please contact me. FFAM's success depends on the efficiency of the committees.

Being that this edition of the newsletter will be the holiday edition, I wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas. All of us have so many things to be thankful for. May joy and happiness follow you all the days of your life!

If there is anything you need from FFAM, please do not hesitate to contact one of the officers or directors. We are here to serve.

God Speed,

Kenneth Hoover
President
Fire Fighters Association of Missouri

NEWS FROM DISTRICT



7
Robert B. Brown
Director

The holiday season is one of great joy as we look forward to spending time with family and friends. And while the winter holidays are a time for great celebration, we must also be mindful of some of the hazards this time of year can bring. As you prepare for the holidays, whether trimming the tree, setting up decorations, shopping or traveling; here are some helpful tips to keep you and your family safe.

When trimming the tree, make sure that the lights you are using are in good condition with no frayed cords or loose wires. It is also important that you not connect too many light stands or extension cords together, or have too many connections into one socket. Be sure to turn the tree lights off when you are not at home or are going to sleep. If the tree is fresh, make sure that it is properly watered so that the branches do not dry out and become a potential fire hazard.

When hanging outdoor lights, make sure that the extension cords are marked for outdoor use, and if you are using a ladder, make sure that it is on solid ground.

As you get ready to visit relatives, it is important to keep your vehicle well-stocked and maintained. One way to do this is by checking your tires, oil, anti-freeze and windshield wiper fluid before taking a long trip. You should also keep your gas tank at fuller levels to prevent ice from building up in the tank or fuel lines. Be mindful of wet or icy roadways when traveling, and make sure that your cell phone is with you and charged in case you need roadside assistance.

UPDATES ON FIREFIGHTER CANCER

By Jeff Strawn, Firefighter Cancer Support Network

Current research demonstrates an increased risk for a number of types of cancer among firefighters. Although most fire departments are responding to fewer fires than in the past, the amount of exposure time has increased due to the limited number of available firefighters, either due to budget cuts, staffing reductions or the availability of volunteers.

Today's fires grow at a much more rapid rate than yesterday's fires while exposing firefighters to significantly increased concentrations of highly carcinogenic agents. Today's residential fires have more in common with hazardous materials events than old-fashioned house fires due to the materials now common in homes such as plastics and synthetics. Commercial and vehicle fires have highly concentrated toxicants and dumpster fires contain completely unknown substances and toxicants.

Many researchers believe that cancer rates among firefighters would be even higher if it was not for the "healthy-worker effect." Firefighters are expected to have a lower rate of cancer than the general population because the job tends to attract people who are healthy and in better shape, at least when they start their careers. It is also believed that cancer rates are potentially under reported among firefighters because many firefighters do not discover they have cancer until after retiring and are subsequently then considered to be a part of the general population comparison group. Volunteers were not, and are not, included in any of the previous or on-going U.S. studies. For these three reasons, and others, we believe the number of firefighters battling cancer diagnoses is much, much higher.



As cold weather approaches, If you are using space heaters, make sure they are at least three or four feet away from furniture or drapes and that they are out of the reach of children. Also, make sure that all your fire and carbon monoxide alarms are working and have fresh batteries.

I hope that you and your family have a safe winter season. I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.



Congratulations!

To the Little Dixie Fire Protection District and Chief Hoover on the recent delivery of a

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A MESSAGE FROM THE



2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Grant Oetting

Greetings, I hope this article finds you, your family, and your department doing well. The season of fall is upon us, temperatures are cooler and if your in an agriculture community, many of the farmers are finishing up with harvest.

The FFAM is busy this time of year as the committees have been preparing their budgets for the budget committee to be approved by the board at the December meeting. If you have any questions about the budget please contact your director for your area.

In September we saw another LODD Death. Dr. Christopher Bosche with the Missouri Task Force 1 died after a long battle with 9/11 related illness contracted during his response to the World Trade Center. Please continue to keep the Bosche family and members of Missouri Task Force 1 in your thoughts and prayers.

Missouri was represented very well at the National Firefighters Memorial Service in Emmitsburg, MD, in October. Captain Brian Schowengerdt of the South Metro Fire Protection District, Chief Gordon Fowlston of the Riverside Fire Department, and Firefighter Zach Jones of the Salsbury Fire Protection District served as escorts for the weekend for some of the families that lost loved ones in the line of duty. Brian Zinanni who is the state coordinator for the Missouri Firefighter Funeral Assistance Team played bag pipes throughout the whole weekend. Thank you gentleman for your service and thank you for representing Missouri at the national service.

In the last couple of weeks there was a firefighter reunion of the Missouri State Fair Fire Department personnel in Paris Missouri. Personnel enjoyed a great weekend of great food, each other's company, and even going to visit the Amish country in the area. I heard there was also a sighting of a mouse during the weekend. Rumor has it that they are planning another reunion next year. Thank you to the Fields family for hosting this event.

The last part of October the Missouri EMS Funeral Team had their annual training and convention in Fulton. At the training the EMS personnel trained on planning for a funeral for a line of duty death for an agency, flag folding, and standing guard at the casket. This conference is also the awards ceremony for the organization. Congratulations to Brain Zinanni on receiving the *Board of Directors Special Award* for his work with PSOB benefits and with Supporting Heroes and to Brenda Wright, wife of Director Greg Wright for receiving the *Member of the Year Award*. Congratulations to you both on your awards. Well deserved.

Before we know it the holidays will be upon us. We will be spending time with family, friends, and coworkers, especially around the Christmas season. Make sure to follow these tips as we approach Christmas.

Don't let Christmas ever heat up too much, with fire that is. Did you know that Christmas trees alone result in 13 million dollars, annually, in property damage? More importantly, these fires present real risk towards family and friends. When showcasing a live tree in your home, the combination of tree dryness, electrical malfunction with lights and poorly located heating sources can make for a deadly combination.

But if your holiday is just not complete without a live tree, follow these safety precautions to keep threats at bay:

- Fresh trees are less likely to catch fire, so look for a tree with vibrant green needles that are hard to pluck and don't

break easily from its branches. The tree shouldn't be shedding its needles readily.

- Always place your tree away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights, and keep the tree base filled with water to avoid a dry out.
- Make sure all your indoor and outdoor Christmas lights have been tested in a lab by the UL or ETL/ITSNA for safety, and throw out any damaged lights.
- Any lights you use outdoors must be labeled suitable for exterior placement, and be sure to plug them into a ground-fault circuit interrupter protected receptacle.
- Keep all your holiday candles away from your Christmas tree, surrounding furniture and décor.
- Bedtime means lights off! Don't forget to turn your Christmas tree lights off each night.

When your tree begins to drop its needles, it's time to say goodbye to your evergreen foliage until next year. So this year, follow these guidelines to avoid being another statistic in the National Fire Protection Association or United States Fire Administration report during the upcoming holiday season..

I will leave this article by saying its not too early to start thinking about Convention. The 2018 Convention will be held on May 4-6, in St. Joseph. The host hotel is the Stoney Creek Inn . They can be reached at 816-901-9600. Hope to see at the convention .

If you would like for me to attend one of your fundraisers, dinners or events, I will be glad to attend. I can be reached at grant_oetting@yahoo.com. Feel free to email if you would like to Invite me or if you have any questions about the FFAM

Hope you and your family have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



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WHAT IS A LINE OF DUTY DEATH?

By Brian Zinanni

This year has been exceptionally busy for our funeral assistance team. As of October 1, we have handled four line of duty deaths in our state, and assisted Iowa with two. This is in addition to the numerous calls to honor our public safety officers who have also died, but not in the line of duty.

We feel it is very important to appropriately honor those who serve. You have seen me write about appropriateness of honors, and insuring we honor in a consistent and appropriate manner. In this article, I want to discuss some of the nuances regarding line of duty deaths. While it may seem very simple, it truly is a very difficult topic, and one that is greatly misunderstood.

Ask yourself: “What is a Line of Duty Death?” We routinely get calls asking, “Is this line of duty?” When this question is posed, we truly must answer a series of individual question to define an answer.

- Do the circumstances surrounding the death meet the definition of line of duty by the Federal Public Safety Officer Benefits process?
- Do the circumstances surrounding the death meet the definition of the State of Missouri Line of Duty Death Benefit process?
- Do the circumstances surrounding the death meet the criteria for inclusion at the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Emmitsburg, MD?
- Do the circumstances surrounding the death meet the criteria for inclusion on the Ultimate Sacrifice Wall, at the State of Missouri Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Kingdom City?
- Do the circumstance surrounding the death meet the criteria for inclusion at the International Association of Fire Fighters Memorial in Colorado Springs, CO?
- Do the circumstances surrounding the death meet the criteria of any other entity that provide aid or assistance to families of fallen public safety officers?

We must answer each of these questions independently, because each of these organizations have their own guidelines that defines a *Line of Duty Death*. There is not a common or universal definition that is used by any of these groups.

Some cases are very obvious, and will meet the criteria for each entity, but many are not. This past September, I was fortunate to be able to attend the *Fire Service Occupational Cancer Symposium* in Phoenix, AZ, which highlighted the horrors of this disease within the fire-fighting community. Cancer is one of those “not-so-obvious” cases.

There are wide variances when applying the circumstances of a cancer related death, against each of the questions that must be individually asked.

For the Federal Public Safety Officer benefits, their law uses terminology such as “direct and proximate result.” In essence, you must be able to draw a direct parallel to the call the cancer was contracted from. Obviously, this is nearly impossible without a sentinel event such as the events of 9/11 in New York City.

The State of Missouri has presumptive cancer laws that apply to paid firefighters. There are criteria within those laws that presume certain cancers are duty related as long as the criteria regarding medical physicals are met and that the condition did not result from nor contributed to, by the voluntary use of tobacco. While not common, I do know that there have been successful claims made within our state.

The National Fallen Firefighter Foundation generally recognizes the findings of the Federal Public Safety Officer Benefit program, for cases that are not immediately identifiable, in order to be included at the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial.

The State of Missouri Fallen Firefighter Memorial generally recognizes the

findings of the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial, for cases that are not immediately identifiable, in order to be included on the Ultimate Sacrifice Wall.

The International Association of Fire Fighters has been extremely progressive in recognizing occupational cancers. They routinely recognize and honor specific cancer deaths as Line of Duty.

As you can see, cancer cases are extremely difficult due to the wide variance in how they are handled. But, cancer is not the only outlier. Deaths resulting from heart attack, stroke, vascular rupture, and PTSD may also be handled differently, depending on the reviewing entity.

In prior articles, I have written about the importance of having a funeral protocol in place within your own organization. One of the most important reasons you should do this, is so you make decisions at a time when things are not emotional to guide you through the emotional rollercoaster of a death within your organization. Many times emotion equates to “honoring up”, and providing honors outside of established standards. Another important reason for establishing the protocol is to create equality amongst the honors. How will your organization handle a cancer death? How will it handle it if you do not have paid firefighters, or if some of your firefighters are paid and some are not (remember the Missouri presumptive law pertains to paid firefighters)? How will you handle honors if a segment of your organization is a member of a labor organization (that recognizes certain cancer related deaths as in the line of duty), but another segment of your organization is not?

As you can see, “Is this line of duty?” can be very difficult to answer. Organizational leaders must educate themselves. Lack of organizational planning in addressing these issues, answering these questions, and implementing fair, equitable, and justifiable funeral protocol before they are needed, can be very destructive to an organization and impactful to the family of your firefighter. If your region or organization would like a class that covers this topic, please let us know.

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MO DIVISION SPOTLIGHT



Shane & Vicki Bullock

Shane and Vicki Bullock have been married 17 years and share a love for God, family, friends, hobbies and church.

Shane has been in some aspect of the fire service for over 28 years. He began as a Junior Firefighter in High School and successfully climbed the ranks from “go-for” gopher to Lieutenant, from Training Officer to Chief. In the beginning, he served in many capacities for the Belle Volunteer Fire Department with over 274 square miles as his responsibility when he also became one of the youngest Fire Chiefs in the State of Missouri.

He has served as the Safety Manager for the Missouri Department of Corrections and for the last 9½ years, Shane has served as an Inspector with the Missouri Division of Fire Safety, State Fire Marshal’s Office.

Vicki and Shane have a passion for preserving the history of firefighting and have a vast collection of fire memorabilia including a fire hose cart from the mid 1800’s, which has 7 foot tall wheels. They have everything from leather fire buckets to hydrants, from helmets and proximity suits to fire grenades. They recently acquired a 1948 American LeFrance Open Top Pumper Truck they are working on to make “Parade-Ready” so they may share its great history with others.

When it comes to history, it doesn’t stop with firefighting. Vicki and Shane also love the history of the old West. They participate in a cowboy reenactment group called the South Fork Regulators and perform historical gunfight skits at area festivals, including the, *Walk Back in Time*, historical event in Mexico, Missouri. This is a three day event where their group sets up an entire town complete with a jail, saloon, telegraph office, corral, shower house and a mercantile/general store. Vicki and Shane play the part of Miss Annie and Seth.

They sell their handcrafted leather and jewelry items in “Bullock’s Mercantile” and share the history of what a cowboy could purchase in the store from the 1860’s to approximately 1899 that we can also purchase today. Shane and Vicki also entertain the crowd between gunfights with bullwhip skits and tricks. Talk about trust in your partner! Vicki holds a balloon for Shane to bust with the bullwhip!

Shane makes all of Vicki’s costume wear and most of his, while Vicki makes all of her period jewelry. Shane also makes his holsters and other leather cowboy items.

Vicki and Shane share their fondness for leather crafting and make the items they sell in their Mercantile and at local craft shows. Vicki’s father taught her at a very young age about the art of leather crafting, and then shared the craft with Shane about 16 years ago. They have also taken their love for the art and are passing it on to a group of students at a local Christian School to children ages 9 to 16.

Carrington Baptist Church is where you’ll also find Shane and Vicki much of the time as Shane serves as a Trustee and Sound Technician and Vicki is the Music Director. They are in charge of the 9/11 Memorial Service and serve on many committees. Vicki also shares her music talents by sharing in the special music for many services.

Vicki spends many of her days helping others through the faith-based non-profit she founded in 2010. The Redeem Project Ministry is a social service agency that helps others who sometimes just need a second chance. “Because every life counts and no life is beyond redemption,” is their motto and they never turn anyone away. Vicki is proud of the fact The Redeem Project Ministry allows 100% of all donations to go to the program the donor wants their donation to go to help.



Not one cent goes to administrative or operational costs. How many charities can say that?

Two of the larger programs they run are the *Family Self-Sufficiency* program in collaboration with the Housing Authority of the City of Jefferson where they work with those in section eight housing and work with them to become self-sufficient and get completely off government aid. This program has been very successful!

The other big program is called, *Hope for Christmas*. In this program, they help families that “fall between the cracks” at Christmas, that wouldn’t qualify for help from other agencies because they are like you and I. They work every day, but because of some traumatic event in the last few months, they are unable to provide Christmas for their family. These families are referred by their doctor, churches, funeral homes, etc., because they are dealing with death of a parent or child, cancer, etc. They are helped only one year and the entire family is taken care of, not just the children. Each family is given a family Bible and each child is given an age-appropriate Bible as well

MEMORIAL UPDATE & NEWS

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Keith Smith



Your memorial foundation has not been able to meet since the last article was presented in the September-October newsletter. We do not have a mounting list of things to do, but we are faced with some process questions which have been hanging for a time in hopes of a greater understanding being revealed to assist in current and future process management. A lot of this has been routed to Brian Zinanni for additional research and guidance including the time to do so. We should have a way forward on some of this by the next newsletter.

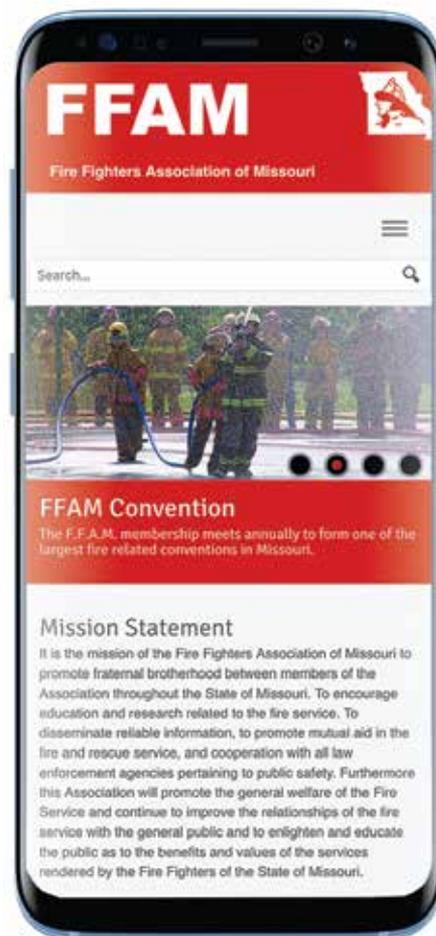
Next is the ongoing theme of cancer presumption. While becoming better recognized as the most serious challenge to the fire service in generations, it continues revealing new previously unknown issues while adding numerous political challenges in charting a logical and at times compassionate management process. The old saying, “you can not put a price on human life,” seems void with most politicians, and questions requiring

how much it is going to cost occur before acknowledgement that there is a problem. This is followed by, “we need more scientific data.” More has been accomplished in the past two years on this topic and awareness than any single thing in the history of the fire service. Yet we also have to acknowledge, if only we had known 20-30 years ago. Leaving us with, should have, could have, would have. That said we must move forward and curve the trend. The NVFC has set up a cancer focus within the Health and Safety Committee. Remember to always indicate you are a firefighter when you visit your healthcare professional.

The 2017 Memorial Services DVD are for sale on a single disc which has the Saturday night candlelight and Sunday morning programs. If you are not able to attend a FFAM event where we can hand you a copy for \$10, please contact me and I can mail a copy for \$12. Keith Smith, 20309 Cedar Court, Warrenton, MO, 63383 or call 314-709-0760.

as many gifts from families, individuals, offices, and others that adopt them through this program. These are people that work in the next cubicle to you, sit next to you in church or may those that attend the same ballgames as you. They are you and I, and our neighbors, and through this program, they receive hope for Christmas.

This is Vicki and Shane Bullock in a nutshell. They stay very busy and enjoy serving others in every opportunity placed before them. They don't do it for accolades or to be noticed, they do it because, “...much has been given to them...,” and they want to give back and pay it forward.



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A MESSAGE FROM THE



1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Larry Jennings

Greetings! It would appear that this year is getting close to going in the books so to speak. It is hard to believe how fast time passes by with our busy lives. I hope you are making plans to spend time with family and friends during the upcoming holidays. If you have a friend or maybe somebody at the fire station who has no one to share this time of year with, you might think about including them in your plans. A little bit of kindness surely couldn't be a bad thing. Keep in mind the holidays are a stressful time with many extra issues added to not only our lives, but those we serve. Suicide attempts or contemplations have traditionally been thought this time of the year so take that extra minute and make sure those around you are coping well and don't need a little extra help or understanding.

Let's talk about service this time. It is safe to say that because you are involved in our line of work you have at least some basic desire to serve, but the question that may arise is just how do we really serve and who is it that we are serving? I think most of us can provide the easy answer, "we serve the public," without hesitation. Of course this is a very true statement and should remain the focus of what we do, since after all if they see no benefit in our service will it continue to be funded.

Whether you belong to a paid or volunteer agency the fact is we work for the public and we need to consider if they are getting what they deserve or expect? With the thought in mind that maybe other service providers could be sought out, it might behoove us to make sure what we do is what the all important public is expecting or needs. No we can't

meet all of their needs all of the time, but we should make an effort to at least show them we are trying to meet them. For some in our profession, service is thought of as responding to our customer's (the public) calls for emergency assistance and then retreating to our fortress to prepare for the next response. That belief is not totally incorrect, but is it really meeting the expectations of those customers?

It is often the little, almost casual things we do that enhances our image (we discussed image an issue or two ago) in the community for the service we provide. With the changing times some of the things we used to do are no longer viable options. Things like filling a private swimming pool with the department apparatus used to be common in some areas. Today water usage is so closely monitored and the potential for causing damage resulting in a claim or lawsuit has risen to a point this is not generally an acceptable practice. So how have we overcome the void in service left by deleting services similar to this? Perhaps something as simple as knowing who the local water haulers are or which entity controls the water so that information can be shared will leave a better impression instead of the blank, "we don't do that," and then hang up the telephone.

Have we taken the extra steps to make our customers know we are available for them for other than emergency responses? Essentially, do our customers even know we are around, other than when the incredibly loud siren and overly bright lights pass them on the street? If you look at your agency and see no interaction other than emergencies then you may not be delivering the things your customers may be looking for. Many areas of service you can provide has little cost involved, but the "worth" you can gain in your customer's eyes could be immeasurable.

When local events take place like parades, carnivals, fund raisers, community based school events and other similar activities do you make the effort to go out and participate or do you sit back in your fortress and wait for a tragedy to require

your response? Taking the time to get out and be involved in your community can foster great respect from those you serve and will let them know you are engaged in the community, you are willing to help and above all you are available to them. If your agency is asked to do a non-committed standby for a local event do you proudly engage in the event or do you lay out a fee structure for each minute you will be there? Although this can be a tricky area, if you go to some events and not others, it can be accomplished by having a basic "criteria" of what types of events you cannot be present for and those you can. Keep in mind it is likely that most of those taking part in the event are the same citizens that paid for your equipment, through taxes or donations, so is it really a bad thing to give them some "free" service in return for supporting you?

Most of those we serve know if they can punch in the numbers 9-1-1 we will come do what we can for them. Although this is admirable, we should be out in the community making them aware we do more than just emergencies. Perhaps you have a program to assist with smoke or CO alarm installations, but are you sure the public knows that is a service you provide? Do you make a regular attempt to get to do public presentations or speak to local groups about your agency and share the knowledge you have? If not, what better way at no cost can you find to reach those you serve. I know most civic groups struggle to find "programs" to present to their members at meetings so why not make yourself a regular visitor and touch on a different fire safety related topic each time. Most of these presentations don't have to be long, they just need to be well organized and provide some value to those in the group.

Several years ago the fire service and for that matter most public service agencies took a step back and closed ranks a bit as we collectively became the targets of groups that sought out ways to harm our country. The call went out to secure the apparatus at all costs, lock up the stations, secure all loose equipment and generally scrutinize everyone you came in to contact with. This action wasn't all a bad

thing considering the climate of change taking place at that time and actually was probably much needed. The question is, have we recovered from those days and re-connected with those we serve.

A department I was familiar with took the stance during that time, and still operate in that mind set today, that the bay doors could not be open unless someone was directly monitoring the area. By doing this they also took away a little connection to those they serve as passing motorist no longer saw the “friendly” firefighters working around the inside of the station who were normally willing to wave or even stop what they were doing for a quick chat on the ramp with some of the locals or give an impromptu tour to some children. Another agency I have passed by numerous times has taken a different approach. The bay doors are up most of the time and often firefighters are easily seen hanging out near the front of the station friendly waving at all passing motorist. I haven’t stopped to check to see if they may have installed surveillance cameras in the bay, which allow them the opportunity to monitor foot traffic into the building or some other system, but the feeling I get each time is, “hey, you are welcome to stop by and see your building and equipment anytime,” and I don’t even live in or near their community.

No matter what your agency does beyond emergency calls, just keep in mind our job is to serve. With that in mind, please remember I am here to serve you as members of the FFAM and I hope you never hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Be Safe!



NEWS FROM DISTRICT



2

**Greg Wright
Director**

Hello from District 2. Lots going on around the district. Many fire departments held their annual dinners and fundraisers in the last few months. Atlanta fire department first responders held their very first fundraiser and went way over what they had hoped for. Congratulations. Numerous fire departments are holding something for Halloween coming up at the end of October.

I hope everyone got to watch the National Fallen Firefighter Candlelight and Memorial Service in Emmitsburg in October. Two Missouri firefighters were honored this year as they gave the ultimate sacrifice.

It was an honor to travel to Kearney, Nebraska, the last week in September to attend the National Volunteer Fire council board of director’s conference. I have the privilege of serving on two committees. Along with Keith Smith, we were able to attend almost every committee meeting and all the general sessions. It was a busy two days.

One of the general sessions was the senior director for the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT). Mark Terry was on hand to present a program on the NREMT, and on testing and how it worked. The NREMT works on national and state licensing. It assist in setting guidelines and National

Education standards for first responders, EMT’s Medics, etc. It also sets testing standards and is National Commission of Certifying Agencies (NCCA) accredited. They work very hard to validate cognitive testing development. That program validates three parts: psychometrics, content, and security.

They shared information on their exam experience and competency. He stated that each test is custom build for the student. It tests up to 95% competency of a student. Once the computer gets a read on the student’s competency level, either passing or failing, it will end the exam. The national average from 2015 to 2017 has risen from 65% to 72% for EMT testing, with the medics rising from 72% to 76%. This is a first time pass rate only. 43 states use the national registry for certification and licensing.

One of the committees that I do serve on is Health, Safety and Training. One of the items that the fire service is really looking at is cancer among firefighters. Being on the fire funeral team we see this a lot. I will not go into detail on everything that was talked about, but there are some things that fire departments and firefighters can do, and it costs nothing and I wish to share them with you. One is do not carry your gear in the passage compartment of your vehicle. Why? The residue from a fire can easily linger for as much as 72 hours. Your breathing that, and if your family rides in your vehicle, you infect your family, as they breath it, as well. Other items include, clean the gear, rinsing it off before getting back in the fire truck to return to quarters. Never roll dirty hose with your bare hands. Never put gear by the exhaust of an apparatus. Always wear your SCBA when overhauling. These are just a few things. There were several items that cost very little, like a second hood and gloves. Many other things were talked about, in hopes to cut down on the risk of cancer in our firefighters. Take a look at yourself and your department. What can you do to help fight this problem in your organization?

Till next time, be safe!

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Reserve Your Place in History at Missouri’s Fire Fighters Memorial



History's CORNER

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE PEOPLE

By Bill Westhoff

Over the last fifty or so years that I have been blessed with the opportunity to interact with fire service people, I have encountered some really awesome folks. In the 1960's and 70's, my position with the University of Missouri allowed me to travel to literally hundreds of fire department's in the state and teach classes in remote, small communities as well as the metro area's.

Since it is a beautiful Fall day here in Branson and I am on my back deck writing this article, I am reminded of another Fall day in the late 60's when my travels took me to the small community of Doniphan for a class we called "Basic Firemanship." This was a futile attempt to cram everything a community needed to know about firefighting into four classes that took three hours to complete on four consecutive evenings.

This training effort was part of a circuit class that lasted a month. One class was taught in each community for four weeks, completing twelve hours of instruction per town. A couple of other towns that were involved in this circuit were Thayer and Alton. I wrote an article in the January/February 2013 newsletter about circuit classes.

The first night of class covered the history of the fire service and the concept of water fog application. This class required a 35 mm slide projector and a 16 mm movie projector, which I am sure I put up and took down thousands of times in my teaching career. Since this was the only evening the students were subjected to a "sit down" lecture, short breaks had to be taken frequently or the entire room would be asleep! The remaining classes were mostly practical stuff outside like, hose evolutions, pumping operations, and practicing with ladders. These were great

fun things to do on the square in a small town. We would always draw a crowd of interested citizens and kids.

The fire station was a small single bay native rock building that sat a block off the square. I think it may have been built by the WPA and housed a single engine.

The morning after this first class, I was to meet the fire chief downtown for coffee. His full time job was being a mechanic at the Ford garage, so we had to wait until ten so he could take his coffee break.

Since Doniphan is the County Seat of Ripley County, the square included an epic historic two story red brick Courthouse built in 1899. Around the courthouse lawn there were concrete picnic style tables with checkerboards painted on the table surface. Old men playing checkers occupied several of the tables that morning. Old Glory was flying proudly over the Courthouse and was being moved gently by a fall breeze.

This is what I have called for years, my "Norman Rockwell" experience. As the chief and I crossed the square to the coffee shop, we could hear band music in the distance, so we sat down at one of the concrete tables and watched as the high school band marched into the square to do a concert and show off their new band uniforms. This was true America in the 1960's. All the shop keepers around the square came out of their places of business to watch the concert. I do not think a single door was locked or even closed.

My point to this story, if there is one, is that most of those shop keepers and citizens that gathered were also at the fire class the night before. The bank president, the county sheriff, local

Ace Hardware owner, the truck driver from the local lumberyard were all the people that made up the Doniphan Fire Department. Community minded folks who were willing to jump up from their Thanksgiving dinner table when the town siren started to sound to go to their neighbors house fire or their pasture burning.

AND WHAT ABOUT PEOPLE TODAY?

Fortunately, all across Missouri and our Nation, these same type of people still stand ready to do the same thing the folks in Doniphan did in the 1960's. Most of them are volunteers or paid on call. In more populated municipal and urban sections, career firefighters provide emergency services and we all stand together a brotherhood called the American Fire Service. I wanted to feature a few of these folks in this article.

My epic source at the Fire Marshals office tells me there are estimated 25,000 firefighters in the State of Missouri and almost nine hundred organized fire and rescue agencies. Of that 25,000 number, 80 % are volunteer's.

The reason these numbers are approximated is because not all fire departments elect to follow the law and register with the State Fire Marshal's office as required by RSMo 320.277. This statute requires annual registration. My thought is that all departments should stand up and be counted. There is power in numbers.

SOME OF THE AWESOME FOLKS I KNOW AND HAVE KNOWN

In the September/October 2016 issue of the newsletter my article featured Dr. Jim Coleberd. In the article I pointed out that he was unique in that his title was "Doctor" because he served for decades



Dr. James Coleberd

as an emergency room physician. He was also known as “Chief” because of his fire career as the Fire Chief of the Clinton Fire Department.

At the time, it did not register with me that I have another life long friend who can also use the title “Doctor/Chief”.

CHIEF/DOCTOR BILL JONES AND CAROL OF THE VERSAILLES RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

Bill and Carol Jones have spent what most people would consider a lifetime together and have shared the passion for the fire service that many couples do in our state. Carol recently told me that one of her greatest joys in life come from teaching fire and life safety classes for Cub Scouts in her community. She has also served as the President of the Ladies

Auxiliary of the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri in 1979.

Bill and Carol started on their fire adventure when Bill became a member of the Boone County Fire District while attending Vet school at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Carol was also a member of their ladies group when their bright yellow uniforms were all the rage!

Bill has served as the Fire Chief of the Versailles Rural Fire District while also operating one of the most successful Vet Clinics in the state. Since the inception of MO Task Force 1, Chief/Doctor Bill has deployed with the task force to care for the many canine members that are used in search and rescue operations. Versailles is one of the only departments in the state that actually has a large animal rescue unit as part of their equipment. And if that’s not enough stuff to do, he also serves as the Morgan County Coroner. This is the kind of dedication that keeps the wheels turning in communities across Missouri.

CHIEF STEVE PAULSELL AND SHARON OF THE BOONE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Chief Steve Paulsell started his career in the fire industry as a Volunteer with the Boone County Fire Protection District in Columbia in the early seventies. He was a local and had graduated from Hickman High School when he became a member.



Steve and Sharon Paulsell on an Honor Flight

It didn’t take long for the fire service bug to bite him and he was hooked for life.

After Boone County made the radical change from a membership funded fire department to a fire protection district in July of 1970, things began to change rapidly. We were developing stations in the small towns of Harrisburg, Hallsville and Sturgeon and the need for at least one full time employee became obvious. Steve became that full time employee and functioned in the capacity of vehicle and facilities maintenance supervisor and anything else that was needed doing for a number of years. Since I was the fire chief and on the road for the University a lot of the time, Steve was promoted to the title of deputy chief and served in that capacity until he was appointed the fire chief in 1977. His devotion to the organization over nearly forty years is legendary.

The formation of nationally recognized wildland firefighting teams as well as the MO-TF1 federal Urban Search and Rescue Team based at Boone County are only a few of the many accomplishments of the district under Chief Paulsell’s leadership. Both he and Sharon made a positive mark on the organization, which should and is recognized by every citizen of Boone County. Steve retired from the district in November of 2008. Both he and Sharon have proven since then that when



Versailles Rural Fire District Chief, Dr. Bill Jones and his wife Carol Jones.

you have a drive to care for your fellow man, you keep doing it your entire life.

They are both now involved in their new passion of transporting America's veterans to Washington D.C. to visit memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices.

The Central Missouri Honor Flight organization completed their 49th flight October 2, and is making all the arrangements for their 50th soon. Since it's inception in 2009, they have transported over 2,800 veterans to Washington D.C. Top priority is given to senior veterans from World War II survivors, along with other veterans of Korea and Vietnam. This is truly a labor of love for Steve, Sharon and all the other volunteers who make these flights possible.

FIRE CHIEF KENNY HOOVER OF THE LITTLE DIXIE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

For over forty years Ken Hoover has been the driving force behind the Little Dixie Fire Protection District in the Mexico, Missouri, area. Little Dixie Fire District was formed by a vote of the taxpayers in Audrain County in 1974. Prior to the formation of the district, the Mexico Rural Fire Association provided fire protection. By 1978 the district had



FFAM President and Fire Chief Kenny Hoover of the Little Dixie FPD

constructed its headquarters station, with station two following in 1993 and station three in 2001.

Over fifty volunteers staff the district along with a very active group of cadets. Chief Hoover is very proud of aggressive training program and considers all his members to be part of his extended family.

Along with his responsibilities as Fire Chief, he is an ordained minister and serves as the President of the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri. He spends an exceptional amount of time, traveling to all corners of the state, attending fire functions and promoting the association. Dedication should really be his middle name.

AND REMEMBERING THE PAST

CHIEF JOE JACKSON OF THE CARROLTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

When anyone has a conversation about the Firefighters Association of Missouri, it does not take long for Joe Jackson's name to come up. He spent most of his adult life dedicating time and money to the organization. Joe was the second President of the association, being elected for three terms between 1961 and 1967.

He was a regular at the State Fair Fire Department as the crew chief of the



Chief Joe Jackson of the Carrolton Fire Department

racetrack. Since Joe was also in the fire equipment business, he would show up with his pickup loaded with his own fire extinguishers to use for the racetrack fire protection.

In 1961 the fair activity the association operated was a fire prevention tent, not a fire department. Chief Jackson and Chief Bill Steiner from O'Fallon were the ramrods of this early public fire education effort.

Joe and Phil Sayer represented the FFAM at the National Volunteer Fire Council for years and traveled to locations all over the US for meetings. Neither Joe or Phil would ever request or accept any association funding for any of the travel to these meetings, they were both outstanding individuals in my book of friends,

CHIEF PHIL SAYER OF THE GALT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Most people in the FFAM believed as I did, that Joe Jackson and Phil Sayer were joined at the hip. Joe and Phil traveled together to hundreds of fire meetings around the country, as well as working the racetrack fire and rescue detail at the Missouri State Fair.

Another very close associate of Phil's was John Wilson from Houston, Missouri.



Chief Phil Sayer of the Galt Fire Protection District

The two of them were known around the state as the true experts in farm equipment and bus rescue/extrication. Jointly, they put together the entire training program for the University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute on these subjects and delivered most of the training programs.

Phil was no stranger to heavy equipment since he and his family operated one of the largest farming operations in Northwest Missouri. Previous articles in the newsletter feature additional information about both of these outstanding individuals. One of my greatest joys in life is to be able to call both of them “friends” and I miss them daily.

CHIEF JOHN WILSON OF THE HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

John was a dedicated instructor and worked for us full time as a vehicle extrication instructor at MU FRTI after his retirement as a federal firefighter at Fort Leonard Wood. He and his wife, Velma were active in the FFAM. The work related stories as well as fishing trip tales I could tell about him and our relationship could fill an entire book. The November/December 2015 issue of the newsletter has an article about both these incredible guys. Read it to find out more.



Chief John Wilson of the Houston Fire Department

ASSISTANT CHIEF LOUIE GRAY OF THE HERMANN FIRE DEPARTMENT

One of the first times I had an opportunity to work with Louie was in the evening circuit fire training class I was teaching for Fire Service Training in the historic fire station that sits on top of one of the many hills after you cross the river bridge into Hermann. It seems to me now that the class was a half century ago but I do not care to do the math!

The second floor meeting room was sort of ‘stuffy’ so we went out to the shoe factory parking lot and did some hose evolutions and pumped some water. Hands-on stuff was always a better class than being inside anyway. And yes, there were actually factories that employed people in small towns in Missouri then and they actually made shoes!

Later in life, I had the joy of working with Louie at the MU Fire and Rescue Training Institute and he could normally be found, as he is in the above photo, dressed in a pair of gold colored coveralls with the words “Missouri State Fire School” stitched across the back. He did everything for us, including delivering props to sites for regional fire schools to maintaining equipment and of course teaching.



Assistant Chief Louie Gray of the Hermann Fire Department

Another of his passions was fire investigation and he was employed in the early days of the State Fire Marshal’s office as a fire investigator. He was an all round good guy and a great friend.

ASSISTANT CHIEF ART SMITH OF THE LEWISTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT AND LITTLE DIXIE FIRE DISTRICT

One of the first times I can recall visiting with Art Smith at any length was at a Regional Fire School in Lewistown. We had this bright idea that State Training agencies from adjoining states could co-sponsor regional fire schools. At the time both state training directors in Illinois and Iowa were good friends of mine so we gave it a shot. The concept was sound because we could use resources and instructors from all three states and draw students from all three. As I recall we overdid it slightly and ended up with more staff than students.

Art was a huge supporter of training and equally excited about the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri. He was also in the fire equipment business at the time and was at the school with a booth.

After being in North Missouri for years his family moved to Audrain County and he became involved in the Little Dixie Fire District where Chief Hoover enlisted



Assistant Chief Art Smith of the Lewistown Fire Department and Little Dixie Fire District

him into the ranks of the group of people responsible for the Firefighters Memorial. Art was never known as a person who would do stuff half way and he put his heart and sole into this project.

Chief Smith was the President of the FFAM in the late 1970's and assisted with fire schools and training every chance he could. He was another one of the good guys!

His son Keith continues that family tradition as a member of the Wright City Fire Protection District and an active member of the FFAM. Keith was the President of the FFAM during the Golden anniversary year of the organization in 2004.

CHIEF ROBERT MORRISON OF THE LEES SUMMIT FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Bob Morrison provided leadership in the Lees Summit Fire Department for a number of years before being appointed as the very first State Fire Marshal for the State of Missouri. The Fire Marshal's office was established in 1972 by the 76th General Assembly following extensive advocacy efforts by the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri and other organizations.

Senate bill 487 provided for the hiring of a fire marshal, a deputy, four investigators and a secretary.



Chief Robert Morrison of the Lees Summit Fire Department

Fire Marshal Morrison employed Richard "Smokey" Dyer as the Deputy and Louie Gray was one of the field investigators. The other three were Tom Behrandsen from the Liberty Fire Department; Jack Caparoon from the Kansas City Fire Department and Richard Lehmann from the Independence Fire Department.

Chief Morrison also provided leadership to the FFAM. He served as President of the organization in 1977 and 78.

Bob was another one of the originators of the Missouri State Fair Fire Department, serving as a Commissioner and spending a number of years working for it's improvement.

This is just a hand full of individuals that I think all represent the masses of folks in our state that have had and will continue to have a positive impact on the protection of the citizens of Missouri.

A TRIBUTE TO MY FRIEND AND CLASSMATE

Yesterday, Sunday, October 15, was a shocking day for me and for hundreds of fire service associates across our country. The news started to surface on social media late afternoon that retired Phoenix Fire Chief Alan Brunacini had answered his final alarm.

Chief Brunacini started his career as a firefighter at age 21 for the City of Phoenix and spent his entire life dedicated to that community and the improvement of the fire service nationally. He was a well-known lecturer and speaker for fire schools and seminars nation wide after his retirement. His fire department management style was described in the Phoenix motto of "Prevent harm, survive, be nice."

Our friendship started when we were both students in the School of Fire Protection at Oklahoma State University in the early 1960's. I was a not quite dry behind the ears kid from O'Fallon, Missouri, and he was a Lieutenant from a large metro fire department on leave from Phoenix to receive a degree. Even then just having a conversation with him was a learning experience.

One of my favorite "Bruno" stories resulted from a fire call the Stillwater Fire Department made to a "downtown" alarm one summer afternoon. Keep in mind that this is 1960. Equipment from the campus fire station was Engine 37 and Ladder 38.

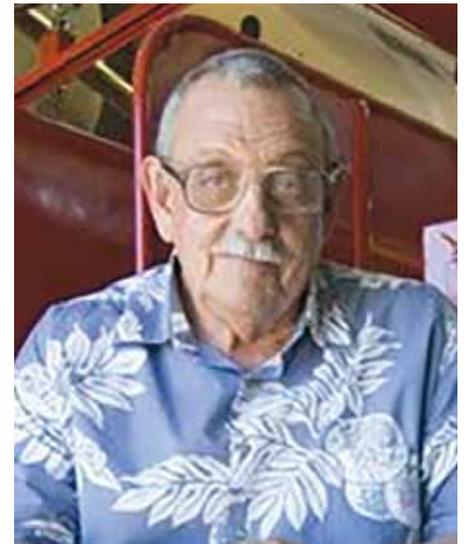
Alan and his friend Jim Lett were in the station working out and lifting weights. I was on duty and assigned to the ladder. Since we were always short of help in the summer, Jim and Alan, "caught the back step" of Engine 37, with gear thrown onto the canvas hose load cover. Ladder 38 followed Engine 37 to the alarm so I had a clear view of the back of Engine 37.

About a block from the station, the drawstring on Bruno's sweat pants failed and he rode the remainder of the call thru Stillwater with his sweat pants down around the tops of his pull up boots.

Needless to say, anytime I had an opportunity to introduce him in the following years at speaking engagements, that story would surface. He was a great asset to us here in Missouri. His class would always be filled in recent years when he taught at Winter Fire School.

"When you were born you cried, and the world rejoiced. Live your life in such a manner that when you die the world cries and you rejoice."

- R.I.P my friend.



Chief Alan "Bruno" Brunacini

EASTERN DOUGLAS COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Eastern Douglas County Volunteer Fire Department is blessed to announce that they have been awarded a SAFER grant in the amount of \$182,919 that will be used over a four year period of performance for the recruitment of new firefighters. Chief Chris Hammett commented, “We are extremely blessed to receive this grant. Nationwide volunteering is at an all time low, and rural fire departments all across the state are feeling the effects from it. Most rural departments are barely keeping the doors open, let alone have extra funds to spend on recruiting new members. With this grant award, we can make the community aware of the need and dedicate one person to actively recruit new members, pay for their training, personal protective equipment, and worker’s compensation insurance. We are beyond blessed!”



JAMESTOWN RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TRAINING

Jamestown Rural Fire Protection District held a School Bus Rescue class on October 14, 2017.



TRENTON FIRE DEPARTMENT UNIFORMS

The Trenton Fire Department just accepted delivery of new uniform shirts. The new red shirts have an additional logo on the right sleeve containing the American Flag and the words, “Remember Everyone Deployed.” These new shirts show our support and appreciation to all veterans especially those deployed from our local 548th Transportation Company.



– continued from page 3

Heartland Honor Flight flies approximately 90 veterans of WWII, Korea and Vietnam, to Washington, D.C. twice a year. The day is filled with seeing the war memorials, Arlington National Cemetery, and each branch of the military's memorial. The day begins at 4:30 a.m. and ends at 10 p.m. for the veterans. Being able to give back to the veterans who have made this country what it is today makes the day memorable for all.

Captain Loy has been with the Lee's Summit Fire Department for 30 years, serving 17 of those years as a captain. Captain Loy is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and has flown with Heartland Honor Flight nine times as the staff lead paramedic.

Paramedic Wiemann has been with the Lee's Summit Fire Department for 13 years and currently serves in the U.S. Navy Reserve as a commander. Paramedic Wiemann has flown with Heartland Honor Flight three times as a staff paramedic.

Battalion Chief Todd has been with the Lee's Summit Fire Department for 18

years, serving three of those years as a battalion chief. Battalion Chief Todd is a U.S. Army veteran and has flown with the Heartland Honor Flight three times as a staff paramedic.

Fire Specialist Hill has been with the Lee's Summit Fire Department for 15 years and currently serves in the U.S. Air Force Reserve as a staff sergeant. Specialist Hill has flown with Heartland Honor Flight twice as a guardian/escort for the veterans.

These men continue to go above and beyond in their service to the community and their country and for that reason, we salute them!

On a sad note we lost two members of the Missouri fire service recently. Garrett Angel Paiz from the Noel, Missouri, Fire Department lost his life while fighting the wildland fires ravaging the State of California's Napa Valley. He was a contracted wildland firefighter for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Garrett was 38, he left behind a wife and daughter. Firefighter Paiz had been with the Noel Fire Department for the last year. Our condolences go out to his wife and family.

Richard Geigar Bird, 74, of Clifton City, Missouri, passed away October 21. Chief Bird helped start the Clifton Fire Department over 40 years ago, and was active upon his passing. While attending his visitation I discovered he had a great passion for the department, which he has passed on to his son. Thanks Chief for over 40 loyal years of service to the department and the Clifton community. God bless you and your family!

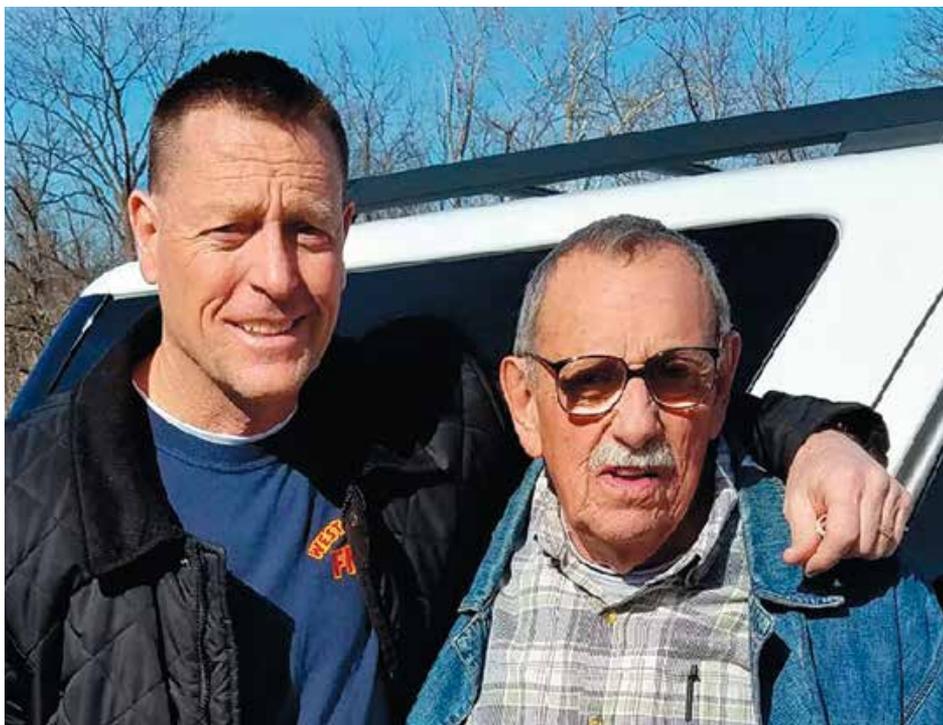
We lost maybe one of the most well-known Fire Chiefs ever. Retired Phoenix Fire Chief Alan Brunacini. Chief Brunacini served as chief for 28 years, joining the Phoenix Fire Department in 1959. Prior to becoming fire chief in 1978, Brunacini held every sworn position in the organization including a firefighter, engineer, captain, battalion chief, according to Fire Chief Kara Kalkbrenner.

Brunacini was the pioneer of the current *National Standard on Firefighter Safety*, NFPA 1500 and had also co-authored nine books pertaining to fire service.

"His relentless focus on firefighter safety and customer service are the hallmarks of the modern day fire service," Kalkbrenner said. "Chief Brunacini's impact on the fire industry is impossible to quantify and our Brothers and Sisters around the world grieve for his family."

We will miss his presentations at MU FRTI Winter Fire School. Thanks for your years of service Chief, we will take it from here!

History was made on the 13th floor Thursday, October 26. The training and certification unit pushed out the first ever NFPA 1403 "Live Fire" training and certification class. We are happy that 52 firefighters/instructors from all across the state converged here on the 13th floor. They worked through the classroom and practical skills portion and finished by taking their state certification examination. I spoke with several of the students and they expressed overwhelming approval of the class. With more certified, NFPA 1403 instructors across the state this should help fire departments,





Members of the Missouri Fire Training Advisory Council are shown at a meeting in Jefferson City on October 26, 1976. The advisory council was organized by the Missouri Department of Public Safety to assist in developing adequate fire education and training opportunities for Missouri fire service agencies and personnel. Council members include, front row, left to right: R. Gene Nichols, Springfield; Bill Westhoff, Jr., Columbia; Robert Morrison, Jefferson City; Robert Rennick, Columbia. Back row, left to right: Robert E. Mertz, Creve Coeur; Richard A. Dyer, Warrensburg; Larry E. Prall, Kearney; Joseph A. Jackson, Carrollton; Francis S. Austin, Kirkwood; Louis Gray, Jefferson City; William Markgraf, Columbia; and Gail L. Chatfield, St. Louis.

training academies, etc., with finishing there Firefighter I and II programs in a timely manner.

We are the second state to offer this class and certification in the nation. I am very proud of Becky and her team along with numerous others across the state that assisted us with this daunting task. Job well done! If you are interested in attending a NFPA 1403 class, contact the training/certification unit.

We are entering the holidays and winter months. I would encourage you to let your communities know about checking there flues, operating space heaters, extension cord uses, candles, holiday decorations, etc.,. Use social media, local radio/television stations, and signs out front of your fire stations to help spread the message. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

The family of the Division of Fire Safety wants to be the best boots on the ground,

day in and day out! In saying this, please feel free to reach out to us if there is something you need; we have top shelf staff here on the 13th floor, along with our field inspectors, arson investigators, boiler, and elevator inspectors who are in the field to help you with questions or issues. Feel free to contact us.

Thanks for your support to the Division of Fire Safety, and providing some of the best fire and first responder services in the nation. I am proud to be one of you. We wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas! God bless each of you! Remember, "Be the boots on the ground," and, "Leave it better than you found it!"

Respectfully,

J. Tim Bean
State Fire Marshal

A NOTE FROM THE FIRE MARSHAL'S WIFE

By Judy Bean

Tis' the season to be thankful and grateful. For some of us we have experienced loss and sadness along side our gains and happiness for 2017. To trust Ecclesiastes 3:1, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven" can be a challenge in times of heartache and disappointment. Some seasons appear all too short, whereas others seem to last way to long.

While life is ever changing, each of us are the constant in our individual seasons. I have realized, over the years, that there are certain constants you can count on in a firefighter's life; plan a meal, you might likely eat it by yourself, host a Christmas party and the pager will go off fast and furious right as guest are arriving, expect your firefighter to come to a school event or the game of a sport you play, then become fully aware that they will not show up because someone else's need is greater.

There are no guarantees that we will get the next moment with our loved ones and friends, so every moment we get is most precious. Being present is the best gift we can give to each other. As a firefighter's family, there are no words that can say thank you enough for sharing your firefighter's passion and purpose-under-the-heaven to heed the alarm, stop what they are doing and race with the siren to save lives for another season.

Blessings, Judy Bean





DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Kevin Zumwalt
Interim Director



University of Missouri Extension Fire and Rescue Training Institute

As I prepare for my first report to FFAM as the Interim Director, I reflect not only the history between MU Fire and Rescue Training Institute, but also the long personal relationship that I have had with the organization.

For those that I have not had the pleasure to get to know, let me give you a brief background. I grew up in the fire service in St. Clair, Missouri. My dad was a chief officer in the department from the time I was small through my high school years. In 1975, after my father retired from the department, I joined as an official member. The St. Clair Fire Protection District was very active in FFAM during my early years, with members in board positions, attending convention and participating in the contests. We held many records in the contests and one that was only recently broken in 2014 by the Cole County Fire Protection District. If you dig into the history of convention contests, you will see my name as well as other members names on records that were retired long ago. We joked often that the contest committee retired the games because no one could beat us!

My MU FRTI career began in the early 1980's. I taught at the 50th Anniversary Summer Fire School in 1983. In 1986 was asked to coordinate the Winter and Summer Fire Schools. During this time, I also served for five years with the Mehlville Fire Protection District before taking a full-time position with MU FRTI in 1994 as Technical Rescue and Conference Programs Specialist. I was the Assistant Director from 2008 to 2013, and Associate Director from 2013 to 2017. So, here I am 31 years later with the distinct honor and privilege to lead the Institute as the Interim Director with a rich, 85 year history.

The Institute is coming off of our annual *Missouri Emergency Services Instructor Conference*, November 2-5, 2017. The conference was very successful with 430 student enrollments and over 3,000 student instructional hours. Participants were able to select to attend Train-the-Trainer classes during the preconference, and instructor professional development workshops through the weekend. Two very special opportunities were also available: *Live Fire Instructor*, a partnership with the Division of Fire Safety, that provided students the training and education to qualify for a new certification level that meets the NFPA 1403 standard; and, an eLearning opportunity for *Fire Service Instructor I*. Both were well attended and a special thank you to DFS for the partnering opportunity in the *Live Fire Instructor* class.

Each year the Institute recognizes adjunct instructors for outstanding performance at the conference. The first category of awards is for those instructors who have exemplified the goal of excellence in instruction by achieving a 4.0 rating through our course evaluation process. The following instructors received this award: Mike Arnhart, Mark Briscoe, Les Crews, Chad Dailey, Richard Kuhn, Byron Long, Brian Main, Roger J. Meyer, Olan Morelan, Mike Noonan, Joe Schilling, and Ron Walters.

This year a new award, the *Fireball Award*, was created to recognize any individual for their outstanding performance, superior dedication and positive attitude to assist MU FRTI achieve its mission. Two recipients were chosen this year for their outstanding performance in not only teaching far above the average number of classes, but also assisting with curriculum development and other projects to

support the Institute. Congratulations to Mike Arnhart and Bruce Bjorge for the first recipients of this prestigious award!

The coveted award of the *Instructor of the Year* was again a tight race. This award is determined through a statistical process that takes into account the number of classes taught, instructor performance ratings, and overall course evaluation ratings. The Institute recognized the following instructors: Second runner up, Brian Main, Captain with the Southern Platte Fire Protection District; First Runner up, Ron Walters, Captain with the Winfield-Foley Fire Protection District; and, the *Instructor of the Year* for 2016-2017 is Mike Noonan, Captain with the Lincoln County Fire Protection District 1. Congratulations to all of our award recipients for your dedication and service to firefighter training.

During the conference, participants were able to learn about what's new at MU FRTI, so let me also share this with you...

The first exciting item I would like to share is that we have launched a new website. The site has a clean, sharp look with reorganized data, redesigned for ease of use and navigation. It incorporates a responsive web design for use on multiple devices and screen sizes, which is great for viewing on tablets and smart phones. Aesthetics aside, the site is up-to-date with content. It boasts a new training schedule, our most visited page, that can be viewed in three ways: class list, agenda, or the popular calendar view. Also new, our website is now a secure site to meet recent changes in browsers to assist users from landing on non-secure, fraudulent sites. Please take your next opportunity to visit our new site at mufrti.org.



DATE	COURSE	LOCATION	CONTACT	PHONE
11/17	Basic Pump Operations	Vienna	Mike Smith	573-201-3487
11/17	Water Supply Operations for Suburban and Rural Firefighting	Smithville	Dave Cline	816-813-3280
11/18	Vehicle Fire Fighting	Maryville	Jerry Lager	660-562-8963
11/19	Killer in the Attic	Kansas City	Jeramie Waters	816-606-9333
11/21	Basic Vehicle Extrication	St. Robert	Donavon Cope	573-842-9779
11/25	Strategies of Leadership: Recruiting Emergency Service Volunteers	Doe Run	Jean Usher	573-466-9996
11/25	Strategies of Leadership: Retaining Emergency Service Volunteers	Doe Run	Jean Usher	573-466-9996
11/29	Leadership II for Fire and EMS: Strategies for Personal Success	Barnhart	Scott nengel	636-948-4433
11/30	Basic Fire Fighter Skills	Grandin	Ted McGavock	573-660-2996
12/01	Water Supply Operations for Suburban and Rural Firefighting	Crane	Bob McCullough	417-229-1512
12/01	Lost Person Search and Rescue	Malden	Charlie Cooper	573-276-8950
12/01	Basic Fire Fighter Skills	Puxico	Rusty Parker	573-624-0996
12/01	Basic Fire Fighter Skills	Memphis	Jason Ketcham	660-216-9155
12/01	Fire Service Instructor I (Blended)	Blue Springs	MUFRTI	573-882-4735
12/02	Responding to Utility Emergencies	Hermitage	Brenda Vaugh	417-207-1235
12/02	Handling LP Gas Emergencies	Montgomery City	Mike Roesner	573-544-4108
12/02	Vehicle Fire Fighting	Kirksville	Jon Cook	660-665-3734
12/09	Rail Safety for Emergency Responders	La Plata	Bob Couch	660-216-6752
12/09	Basic Spanish Expressions for Fire and EMS Personnel	Lake Ozark	David Woodward	573-723-2039
12/09	Basic Grain Engulfment Rescue	Greenfield	Gary Banta	417-224-7253
12/09	Killer in the Attic	Rutledge	Kenneth Hoover	660-216-9643
12/09	Vehicle Rescue: Technician	Leadwood	Kevin Lewis	573-4562-7511
12/11	Leadership III for Fire and EMS: Strategies for Supervisory Success	Barnhart	Scott nengel	636-948-4433
12/12	Vehicle Rescue: Technician	Buffalo	Greg Cunningham	417-345-7800
12/14	Vehicle Fire Fighting	Ste. Genevieve	Ken Steiger	573-883-0615
12/15	Emergency Vehicle Driver Training	Climax Springs	Annette Sharp	573-723-4374
01/05	Basic Fire Fighter Skills	Senath	Kent Montgomery	573-344-1955
01/05	Basic Fire Fighter Skills	Rolla	Roger Hays	417-274-1113
01/06	Emergency Response to Ammonia Incidents	Republic	Lynn Morgan	417-872-6512
01/06	Responding to Utility Emergencies	Kirbyville	Jeff Romines	417-337-8311
01/08	Basic Fire Fighter Skills	Fayette	Bryan Kunze	660-728-2241
01/13	Introduction to Fire Inspection Principles and Practices	Fenton	Bob Dunn	636-575-9572
01/19	Basic Fire Fighter Skills	Doe Run	Jean Usher	573-466-9996
01/19	Incident Safety Officer	St. James	Bruce Parton	573-263-1911

While not newly established, we have recently expanded our social media exposure. You can follow the Institute on Facebook at @MUFRTI. We have recently created a Facebook presence for

each Region. If you would like to follow and interact with activities in your region, search in Facebook for Region (your region letter) Fire Training; or, go to our website under Regional Coordinators

and a link is provided. We can also be followed on Twitter at @mufrti; YouTube at MUFRTI; and, on Instagram at mu_frti.

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– continued from page 29

Please join us and follow activities and classes that MU FRTI is involved in.

The most exciting item I would like to share with you is the update to our *Fire Officer Certificate Program* (FOC). Our certificate program has not changed drastically since the beginning of the program in 2002, designed as a program to provide essential skills and knowledge to prepare firefighters to become company officers; or, provide current company officers with continuing education. The program boasts 248 graduates to date, with 63 active participants.

In 2004, MU FRTI announced a partnership with Columbia College for an *Associate in Science Degree in Fire Administration* (A.S.). Curriculum in our certificate program would have academic recognition and transferrable to the college toward the degree. This met a national best practice for providing portability of training in the fire service to an Academic degree to elevate the education of the fire service.

So, what's new? While we still have a few more approvals to work through, the proposed *Fire Officer Certificate Program* will provide greater accessibility with majority of classes offered in eLearning format; less courses to graduate; NIMS prerequisite; and, reduced completion time. Coursework in the certificate program will still be transferrable to Columbia College for the full 18 credit hours required in the Fire Core requirements. In addition, the new curriculum meets the Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) objectives for an Associate Degree.

Coming Soon! As mentioned, we still have a few approvals left before we are able to implement the new program. We are targeting the first quarter of 2018 and will work with all active FOC students to insure they will meet graduating requirements. Stand by for further announcements.

One last item I would like to share with you is our commitment and investment

into eLearning. At MU FRTI we will offer three types of eLearning. *Blended – Instructor Led* is where there will be a specified start and end date with weekly assignments led by an assigned instructor, and a single date that students will meet in the classroom. *Blended – Instructor Monitored*, is where pre-course study is required before more skilled traditional classroom delivery is required. Students will be allowed more flexibility to complete at their pace with an instructor to monitor progress and respond to student questions. Also offered is *Self-Study*, where the student will still have a pre-determined time to complete the course, however all of the course is online.

All new classes offered in the eLearning format from MU FRTI will be on our new campus platform. With a departure from the publishers LMS, our system will provide improved: functionality; progress tracking; instructor/student communication; course organization; integrated file storage; and, rich media integration. With recent statewide survey results affirming that students want access to training close to home, at times convenient to them, and at an affordable cost, we believe that our commitment and investment to eLearning will hit the mark with our audience.

In conclusion, I just want to reiterate what an honor and privilege it is to serve as the Institute's Interim Director and accept the challenge to continue its mission — To plan, develop, deliver and administer state-of-the-art continuing professional education courses which meet the comprehensive training needs of fire and rescue personnel and other emergency managers and responders utilizing the most efficient and effective means possible, thereby enabling them to better protect lives and property within their communities.

Train safe, be safe, until next time!



Kevin D. Zumwalt
Interim Director
Fire and Rescue Training Institute
University of Missouri Extension



AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

HELLO LADIES

January 1, 2018, FFAM Auxiliary membership dues need to be paid. Dues are still \$5 per person. Honorary members do not pay dues. Membership shall consist of a spouse, spouse of a retiree, parents of a FFAM member, children of a FFAM member, and or be sponsored by a firefighter from their local department who is in good standing with the FFAM.

On the FFAM website is an Auxiliary Membership application. Please provide each members' name, address, phone number, email, and who is sponsoring them. Send the completed application and dues to;

Theresa Cox
101 Timber Trace Crossing
Wentzville, MO 63385

Make check payable to FFAM Auxiliary. Please be patient, your check make take a few weeks to get cashed. Let me know who I need to contact via email or phone informing you I have received your dues.

If you know of a department or individual(s) that would like to know more information about joining the Auxiliary, please reach out to myself or one of the Auxiliary officers. We would like to make contact with them for a personal invitation and information about our mission. New members are very welcome.

If you have questions about membership or the Auxiliary please let me know.

Theresa Cox
2nd Vice President
cox.theresa@att.net
636-357-0903



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