What a busy time for all of us in the fire service. The spring weather has been beautiful and we have been receiving rain on a timely manner. As far as the weather goes, everyone at the FFAM Annual Convention in Sedalia, Missouri, in April told me it was one of the best that they can remember in many years. It rained during the night on Friday but by Saturday morning the rain had stopped and the sky was overcast which provided an ideal condition for the competitions. I want to thank Gail Hagans-Reynolds for all of the photographs. She did an outstanding job of recording the history of the 2017 FFAM Convention. I have yet to go through all of the photographs.

The opening ceremony on Friday night went well and I appreciate everyone that attended. The contests were well attended and a crowd of around 300 was in attendance at the Saturday night banquet. All of these things I mentioned did not just happen by chance, but was because of a well planned and executed effort by the State Fair Fire Department Convention Committee led by Chief Larry Jennings of the Johnson County Fire Protection District.

Congratulations also to all of the award winners and contest winners. I will let the committee chairpersons write about this in their articles. The speaker at the banquet was outstanding and I heard many positive compliments.

It was a great convention and I thank everyone that had a part in its presentation. There is no way I could even begin to name everyone that helped. Again, awesome job.

Chillicothe Fire Department was awarded the 2018 Convention and Chief Darrel Wright is working very hard to present a great convention. I know he is up to the challenge. Make plans now to attend next May 4-6, 2018.

Missouri Funeral Team Leader Brian Zinanni and Missouri Fire Fighters Foundation member will be our Sunday morning speaker at our annual Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial on May 21, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. in Kingdom City, Missouri. I am sure Chairman Keith Smith will write more about that event.

Our Candlelight Service will be May 20, 2017, at 9:00 p.m. and Firefighter Kurt Ploch from the Boles Fire Protection District will be the speaker. Kurt will encourage each of us as we remember those that have gone before us.

Honor Guard Commander this year will be Chief James Ludden, Bolivar City Fire Department. We invite all honor guards and pipes and drums to come and participate on Sunday morning and you may contact Commander Ludden at 417-770-4312 or by e-mail at jludden@bolivar.mo.us.

We also had an election of officers at convention and that brings me to congratulate everyone that was elected to office. I appreciate all of the officers, directors, and assistant directors that invest many hours serving FFAM in many different ways, attending meetings, promoting FFAM in their districts, serving on various committees, and having a can do attitude when I ask for a special task to be accepted. As president, I could not ask for a better group of individuals to serve with.

I also want to give a special thanks to my past 1st Vice-President Tim Bean, who served many years with FFAM and has recently been confirmed as the Missouri State Fire Marshal. Also to Charlie...
I’d like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the support and confidence you have shown since my initial appointment as State Fire Marshal on February 8, 2017. The list of compliments, texts, along with phone calls is as long as the ride to the thirteenth floor. I truly am humbled and appreciative for each and every one of them. I will do my best and try and be the best boots on the ground each and every day as your state fire marshal.

We at the Division want to say “thank you” to each and every one who attended Firefighter’s Day at the Capitol on April 5. Governor Eric Greitens attended and assured the Missouri fire service that he has our backs, along with state senators and representatives who also attended and showed their appreciation and support, it all made for a good day. We appreciate our training partners MU FRTI and Three Rivers College for displaying their training props. An additional thank you to the following fire service entities: Holt Summit FPD, Cole County FPD, Air Force Fire Department, U.S. Forestry Service, Missouri Conservation (Fire Division), Jefferson City Fire, and West Plains Fire for bringing your trucks and equipment for displays in front of the Capitol. Also thank you to Jefferson City Fire for the color guard, and flag posting, and Boone County Bag-Pipe and Drums for serenading us. Lastly I want to brag on the staff of the Division for all of the behind the scenes work that made this event a great success. I appreciate your dedication and devotion to the Missouri Fire Service day in and day out. You’re the best team ever.

The following categories are available, Medal of Valor, Public Safety Medal of Merit, Governor’s Medal, Director’s Leadership Medal, Hall of Fame Award Medal, and Public Safety Civilian Partnership Medal. Please get the word out in your communities, we would like any and everyone who has gone beyond the call of duty to be selected and awarded. Go to dps.mo.gov and nominate someone.

The legislative session for 2017 is in the homestretch. The budget is one of the main topics in the final days. The Division’s budget is looking fairly good at the moment. The training funds have been established at around the $900,000 mark. We are excited with that. Although the legislation passed last year, we are still working on funding for the Worker’s Compensation grants for Volunteer Fire Protection Associations. If funded, non-tax supported fire associations may apply for up to $2,000 in grants to be applied toward worker’s compensation insurance premium. This is a new program and we will have to try and get our arms around all of the working parts, but are really excited about bringing this benefit to Volunteer Fire Protection Associations.

As the state fire marshal I would like to share one of our missions looking forward this year. We are going to be coming to you for your support to establish minimum firefighter training standards. We will put a template out as to what this looks like sometime this summer for your input. We will push this out through an online survey. I would ask your sincere input with this topic. We as the Missouri fire service can do this. Thousands of Missouri firefighters already meet this standard, and it will be your job to help us to reach our fellow firefighters to get them trained to the standard. If the police, emergency medical technicians, and paramedics all have a state and national standard, why can’t we? A barber has to have over 1,000 hours certified training to be recognized and certified in our state! We as the Missouri Fire Service are better than this. Please join us and let’s make this happen!

In closing we have had several retirements here on the thirteenth floor. Deputy Chief Zieres, Regional Chiefs, Dennis Kleyh and Rodger Windle, and Office Executive Michelle Malone have ridden off into the sunset. Between the four of them there is over 100 years of experience with the Fire Marshal’s Office. We wish them all a great and healthy retirement. Thanks for your dedication to the Division and the firefighters of Missouri, God bless you and may he smile upon you!

Come visit us on the thirteenth floor, and remember we work for you! Join us on Facebook.

J. Tim Bean
State Fire Marshal
Missouri Division of Fire Safety
Department of Public Safety
tim.bean@dfs.dps.mo.gov
573-751-1742

The Department of Public Safety is presently accepting nominations for the Missouri Public Safety Medals Awards.
OPENING SESSION

President Kenneth Hoover opened the 63rd Annual FFAM Convention by ringing the bell on Friday, April 21, 2017, at the Mathewson Exhibition Center in Sedalia, Missouri.

The Honor Guard posted the colors and President Hoover led the Pledge of Allegiance.

District 2 Director Greg Wright gave the invocation.

Convention Chairman Larry Jennings welcomed attendees to the convention.

President Hoover introduced Sedalia Mayor Steven Galligher who thanked everyone for attending the convention and for their service to their communities.

President Hoover welcomed all attendees to the convention and recognized the dignitaries in attendance.

Past President Keith Smith presented the Nominating Committee slate for the 2017 FFAM officer elections. Positions for election are President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Sergeant-At-Arms, District 1 Director, District 3 Director, District 7 Director, District 11 Director and District 14 Director.

The following individuals are seeking election for those respective positions: Kenneth Hoover, President; Larry Jennings, 1st Vice President; Grant Oetting, 2nd Vice President; Jaime Miller, Secretary-Treasurer; Rex Reynolds, Sergeant-At-Arms; Terry Wynne, District 1 Director; Larry Jones, District 3 Director; Robert Brown, District 7 Director; Monty Thompson, District 11 Director; Rick Dozier, District 14 Director.

Convention Chairman Larry Jennings conducted the raffle drawing for those who participated in the 50/50 raffle.

President Hoover made final announcements.

President Hoover closed the opening session at 7:35 p.m.

AWARDS BANQUET

Welcome to all in attendance to the 63rd Annual FFAM Convention by Convention Chairman Larry Jennings

District 2 Director Greg Wright gave the invocation followed by the meal.

Keynote Speaker Dan Meers, KC Wolf, gave a motivational speech about faith, family and friends and challenged all to live a life to be proud of.

Contest Committee Chair Rob Erdel announced the 2017 convention contest winners.

JUNIOR DIVISION CHALLENGE
2 Person Hose Coupling: 1st Galt #1; 2nd Galt #2; 3rd Little Dixie #1. Extending a Line: 1st Galt #1; 2nd Galt #2; 3rd Little Dixie #1. Water Barrel Fight: 1st Galt #1; 2nd Little Dixie #1; 3rd Galt #2. Overall: Galt #1

FEMALE DIVISION CHALLENGE
2 Person Hose Coupling: 1st Little Dixie #2; 2nd Little Dixie #1; 3rd Southern Stone #2. Extending a Line: 1st Little Dixie #1; 2nd Southern Stone #2; 3rd Southern Stone #1. Replace a Section of Hose: 1st Southern Stone #2; 2nd Southern Stone #1; 3rd Little Dixie #2. Water Barrel Fight: 1st Little Dixie #2; 2nd Little Dixie #1; 3rd Southern Stone #1. Bucket Brigade: 1st Little Dixie #1; 2nd Southern Stone #1. Overall: Little Dixie #1

Scholarship Committee Chair Grant Oetting along with committee member Terry Plumb presented the 2017 scholarship recipients. Continuing Education: Shelby Phifer, Southern Stone FPD. High School: Cameron Lauber, Johnson County FPD #2; Madison Breid, Madison West Monroe FPD; Kayla Littrell, Duenweg Volunteer FD; Cole Allen, Duenweg Volunteer FD.

Fire Prevention Committee Chair RB Brown announced the 2017 poster contest award winners.

1ST AND 2ND GRADE DIVISION
1st Place: Jayla Thomas, Union FPD
2nd Place: Lilly Green, Union FPD
3rd Place: Tucker Jones, Iberia FD

3RD AND 4TH GRADE DIVISION
1st Place: Eli Schmieder, Union FPD
2nd Place: Calvin Brune, Union FPD
3rd Place: Macy Shatzer, Paris Rural FD
5TH AND 6TH GRADE DIVISION
1st Place: Skylar Bennett, Galt FPD
2nd Place: Trenton Bailey, Union FPD
3rd Place: Bridgette Hammeken, Union FPD

Award Committee Chair Larry Jennings along with committee members Joe Vaughn and Shelby Phifer presented several awards as follows:

Meritorious Award: Captain Shannon Breid and Cadet Austin Thornton, Madison West Monroe FPD

Life Saving Award: Firefighter Jonathan Thomas, Palmyra FD

Life Saving Award: Captain Robert Hardy, Lieutenant Roy Holtcamp, Firefighter Evan Brendel and Firefighter Nicholas Richards, Moberly FD

Firefighter of the Year: Firefighter Shawn D. Bice, West Plains FD

Chief Officer of the Year: Chief Robert Looper, Holt Community FPD

Phil Sayer Lifetime Achievement Award: Retired Chief Larry Pratt, Kearney Fire and Rescue Protection District

President Hoover gave closing remarks. The banquet was followed by the dance.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

President Kenneth Hoover called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri to order at 9:00 a.m. Sunday, April 23, 2017, at the Lowell Mohler Assembly Hall, Sedalia, Missouri.

ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OTHER OFFICIALS:

OFFICERS
President Kenneth Hoover, Little Dixie FPD; First Vice President Tim Bean, West Plains FD; Second Vice President Charlie Neubert, Highlandville Rural FPD; Secretary Treasurer Jaime Miller, Johnson County FPD; Sergeant-at-Arms Rex Reynolds, Southern FPD of Holt Co.

DIRECTORS
District 1 Terry Wynne, Galt FPD; District 2 Greg Wright, Shelbina FD; District 4 Joe Vaughn, Pleasant Hill FPD; District 5 Terry Plumb, Southern Stone FPD; District 6 Gary Berendzen, Cole County FPD; District 7 RB Brown, Eureka FD; District 9 Roy Sims, West Plains FD; District 11 Monty Thompson, Kearney FPD; District 14 Rick Dozier, Southern FPD of Holt Co.

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS
District 1 Janet Cain, Braymer FR; District 3 Rob Erdel, Little Dixie FPD; District 3 Steve Gentry, Little Dixie FPD; District 4 Jonathan Evans, Lincoln FD; District 5 Shelby Phifer, Southern Stone FPD; District 9 Kurt Wilbanks, West Plains FD; District 10 Greg Brown, Eureka FPD; District 11 Ryan Miller, Norborne FPD; District 11 Roger Meyers, Concordia FPD; District 14 Glenn Dittmar, South Central Buchanan County FD.

OTHERS
Past President Keith Smith, Warrenton FPD; Historian Kay Asher, Wentzville FPD.

GUESTS
Tim Bean, Missouri Division of Fire Safety; David Hedrick, Gail Hagans, MU FRTI; Joe Jennings, Larry Jennings, Dee Bennett, Johnson County FPD; Donald Vaucher, Harriett Vaucher, Eureka FPD; Duane Miller, Versailles FD; Brian Zinanni, Clayton FD; Donnie Braun, Gary Smith, Cole County FPD; Don Hahne, Washington FD; Ronnie Fields, Cy Fields, Paris Rural FPD; Kurt Ploch, Andrew Caldwell, Jim Casey, Sidney Casey, Boles FPD; Charlie Peel, SE Randolph FPD; Billy Smith, North Central Carroll FPD; Doc Kritzer, Firefighters Memorial Board; Brayden Miller, Jonny Miller, Norborne FD; Grant Oetting, Higginsville FPD; Chris Thompson, Logan McRubbin, Holts Summit FPD; Gordon Ekedahl, Anthony Koonte, Chase Barnes, Madison West Monroe FPD; Rob Schrage, Jefferson R-7 FPD; Josh Koepke, Nicole Sohr, Kansas
Program class also just finished. Fire Service leadership Enhancement would like to schedule a training. The 15th scheduled by the fiscal year end. A grant was 500 classes have been taught or scheduled to all award winners.

State Fair Fire Department and the FFAM expressed appreciation to the Missouri State Fire Marshal Tim Bean with the Division of Fire Safety expressed his thanks to the FFAM for allowing him to serve many years in the Association and on the Board. He spoke to the attendees that we have a large voice in the legislation right now with the current administration and we as firefighters and emergency responders need to continue to do great work in the field. He encouraged everyone to take time to meet with your area representatives as they are your voice when it comes to legislation. He also thanked everyone who attended Firefighter Day at the Capitol.

It is budget time for the state and the institute. MU FRTI will have some cuts out of the general operations funding however, the training funds through the state still look good so far in the legislation.

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A state-wide training survey was sent out on behalf of the advisory council. Half of the departments in the state participated. The council is reviewing the data to establish a list of what the training needs are throughout the state.

Summer Fire School will be held June 7-11, in Jefferson City. Registrations now being accepted and everyone is encouraged to attend and show their support for the program.

Firefighter Day at the Capitol was April 5, in Jefferson City. There were many attendees and good participation in the day’s events.

It is budget time for the state and the institute. MU FRTI will have some cuts out of the general operations funding however, the training funds through the state still look good so far in the legislation.
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Spreading Force: 29,674 lbf
Operating Pressure: 10,500 PSI
Power Source: 28V Milwaukee Battery

C236 Cutter
Lightweight: 52.7 lbs.
Max Cutting Force: 236,250 lbf
Operating Pressure: 10,300 PSI
Power Source: 28V Milwaukee Battery

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the funding to come from the reserve funds. Greg Brown seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Terry Wynne then moved to amend his original motion by adding to make the publication available in an e-book format. Greg Brown seconded the motion and all approved.

Sergeant-at-Arms Reynolds conducted a roll call of the delegates. There were 62 delegates present.

Secretary Miller presented a dues increase proposal that was approved by the Board of Directors in January for presentation to the delegates at the convention business meeting. The proposal would increase active member dues to $10 with $3 going to the museum foundation, increase the department only dues to $150 and increase the department with individual members’ dues to $50. The proposal also included additional benefits to members including an equipment grant, MU FRTI Winter Fire School scholarship and fire loss benefits. Discussion followed. A closed ballot count was taken. Sergeant-at-Arms Reynolds advised that the proposal needed a 2/3 majority to pass. There were 58 yes votes and 4 no votes. The dues increase proposal passed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Kevin Dusheke, District Sales Coordinator with Aflac, presented a proposal to offer Aflac benefits to FFAM members which would allow members the group discounted rate. The benefits would be of no cost to FFAM and all plan premiums would be handled on an individual basis by the members who elect to purchase the plans. Discussion followed. The Board advised they would table the topic until the next meeting to allow them time to review the proposal.

Keith Smith reported that ten positions are up for election. The nominations are Kenneth Hoover, President; Larry Jennings, 1st Vice President; Grant Oetting, 2nd Vice President; Jaime Miller, Secretary-Treasurer; Rex Reynolds, Sergeant-At-Arms; Terry Wynne, District 1 Director; Larry Jones, District 3 Director; Robert Brown, District 7 Director; Monty Thompson, District 11 Director; Rick Dozier, District 14 Director. Jeff Misel moved to elect by acclamation Kenneth Hoover, President; Larry Jennings, 1st Vice President; Grant Oetting, 2nd Vice President; Jaime Miller, Secretary-Treasurer; Rex Reynolds, Sergeant-At-Arms. Joe Vaughn seconded the motion. The motion was approved with no opposing votes. Cy Fields moved to elect by acclamation Terry Wynne, District 1 Director; Larry Jones, District 3 Director; Robert Brown, District 7 Director; Monty Thompson, District 11 Director; Rick Dozier, District 14 Director. Roger Meyers seconded the motion. The motion was approved with no opposing votes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**AWARDS COMMITTEE**

Larry Jennings advised that nominations are due by February 28, 2018, and can be submitted at any time throughout the year.

**BUDGET COMMITTEE**

No report was given.

**BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

No report was given.

**CHAPLAIN COMMITTEE**

David Hedrick reported that Missouri Fire Chaplain Corp annual meeting/training will be on May 1-2, 2017 in Arnold, Missouri.

**CONTEST COMMITTEE**

Rob Erdel extended thanks to everyone who assisted with setting up and judging the contest. Everything went very well.

**CONVENTION COMMITTEE**

Chillicothe Fire Department Chief Darrel Wright and a representative from the Chillicothe Visitors Bureau presented a proposal to the delegates to host the 2018 convention in Chillicothe. Discussion followed. Charlie Neubert moved that the 2018 FFAM Convention be held in Chillicothe. Tim Bean seconded the motion and all approved. 2017 Convention Chairman Larry Jennings thanked the committee for their work and time on the convention. More than 300 attended the banquet. Three training opportunities scheduled for Friday were cancelled due to low enrollment so he encouraged everyone to attend in the future to help make those opportunities more successful.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Rick Dozier reported that 32 attended the Certified Fire and Ambulance District Board of Directors training held on Friday. Get any class proposal ideas to him.

**FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE**

RB Brown thanked everyone who participated in the poster contest.

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Greg Brown reported that the state budget is being finalized. Firefighter training funding is still approximately $900,000. The Senate Committee approved the full $1M needed in the workers compensation line for volunteer firefighters. Prescription drug monitoring legislation is in the works which is likely to pass after several amendments. HB334 is also moving through legislation which deals with PSAP reduction and 9-1-1 programs for counties without basic 9-1-1. There has been clean-up language for SB66 regarding LODD. See his weekly legislative reports for more detailed information.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Charlie Neubert reported the following membership counts: 422 Directors/Councilman; 262 Retired; 12 Associate; 10 Sustaining; 16 Corporate, 328 Departments; 6087 Active; 10 Educational; 42 Juniors.

**NOMINATION COMMITTEE**

No report was given.

**NVFC COMMITTEE**

Keith Smith reported that due to several other issues going on in the legislation that would most likely overshadow firefighter issues and lack of representatives available for contact, he elected not attend the spring NVFC conference in Washington DC.

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Grant Oetting thanked those who submitted applications.
ANNUAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
May 20 • 9:00 p.m.

MEMORIAL SERVICE
May 21 • 10:30 a.m.

Kingdom City, Missouri
STATE FAIR COMMITTEE
Monty Thompson reported that the fair will be August 10-20, 2017. Applications are due by May 1, 2017.

WEBSITE COMMITTEE
No report was given.

NEWSLETTER
The deadline for the next newsletter will be April 28, 2017. All convention articles and pictures are due that day. Secretary Miller emphasized the need to get articles in by the deadline as there is a quick turnaround time for the production of the upcoming issue. Bill Westhoff thanked those who work on the newsletter. He receives several newsletters from surrounding states and the FFAM newsletter is top notch compared to our neighbors.

HISTORIAN REPORT
No report was given.

FUNERAL TEAM REPORT
Harriett Vaucher advised there would be a golf tournament fund raiser for the team and the NFFF on June 26 at Old Hickory in St. Peters. Brian Zinanni thanked everyone for their continued support of the team. The team has now also gone to Iowa twice for assistance as they don’t have their own.

FOUNDATION REPORT
Keith Smith reported the annual memorial service is May 20, at 9:00 p.m. and May 21, at 10:30 a.m., in Kingdom City. The guest speaker on Sunday is Brian Zinanni. There are 36 non-LODD and 4 LODD to be recognized. The Foundation is also moving forward with a new proposal for the museum. He will have more information available at the next meeting.

1st Vice President Tim Bean read and presented Larry Jennings and Missouri State Fair Fire Department with a resolution on behalf of the FFAM for hosting the annual convention.

Tim Bean moved to adjourn the meeting. Charlie Neubert seconded the motion and all approved.

President Hoover adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

Jaime Miller, Secretary
Fire Fighters Association of Missouri
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With the lack of progress in fund raising toward the original concept, the foundation is moving in a different direction and revised concept. A construction steering committee within the foundation was formed and a small phased project is now underway with what we will for now call Phase I. If money and the need present itself in the future, then Phase II or even Phase III will be considered. The much smaller footprint has essentially required us to triage the most important elements from the original concept into available space of a revised budget. This revised concept is well underway and a preliminary summary for builder proposals is nearing finalization and release for bid.

The smaller facility concept did allow a design consideration which was a limiting option with the full size facility. The smaller size allows for an "old fire station" look and that is being requested in the design proposal to the builders. Nine of the foundation members were able to meet in Sedalia during the FFAM Convention regarding this project. Numerous details were reviewed and a working project outline pushed forward to the next phase. We are planning on another review May 6, during work day, and then wrap things up for a bid package. If we can get our needs met within a revised budget number a contract can be quickly signed and work started this summer. More details to follow in the next newsletter due out in July.

Kenneth Hoover
President
Fire Fighters Association of Missouri

FIRE FIGHTERS’ FIELD OF FLAGS • A FIRE FIGHTER MUSEUM FUND RAISER

For only $35 each you can designate a flag to be flown in memory, honor, or appreciation of an individual you choose. Flags will be raised in early May and be flown until June 14, 2017 at the Firefighters Memorial in Kingdom City, Missouri. All proceeds will benefit the Firefighter Museum Project. Proceeds benefit Fire Fighters’ Museum Fund and are tax deductible.

If you would like to have your flag mailed to you, please add $5 per flag for postage. Deadline for ordering flags is May 8, 2017!

Name _________________________________________________________
Address _________________________________________________________
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Phone ___________________________ Email ___________________________

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If you have multiple names for flags, please use a separate page if necessary for the requested information.
A MESSAGE FROM THE 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Larry Jennings

Thank you! I know we normally say thank you at the end of many of our conversations, but I feel it is correct in this context to say it up front. It was humbling to have received encouragement from many of you for me to fill the vacant 1st Vice President position. It is an honor to be selected to fill the position and although I was the only candidate, I would like to think at least some of you thought I would be the best candidate.

Unlike many in today’s politics I don’t have an “agenda” that I want to push through, but I do have a thought or two about our organization and the fire service. My thought to share today is, I believe we must continue to define, refine and showcase the FFAM as the premier organization representing the entire Missouri fire service. By entire I mean each and every one of us including all full-time, part-time, paid, volunteer, union, non-union, and new or veteran members. We have instilled so many descriptive terms for the members of our profession that we have at times drawn dividing lines where there should not be any, after all aren’t we all just “firefighters” trying to make our communities better? There are many organizations that represent certain pieces of us and they each have their respective purpose and goals. In my belief, the FFAM should be the one single clearing house that serves every member of the fire service with no judgment, bias, discrimination, hard feelings or division.

If we can create an entire unified front of the tens of thousands of Missouri Fire Service members representing every inch of this state can you imagine the influence that we can have on our future as a profession? There is no reason why we shouldn’t believe that the work done by this organization representing the entire Missouri fire service will not benefit each of the other organizations representing parts, pieces or segments of us in other ways. Unity in numbers has a way of bringing about results providing there is in fact deep seated unity.

To help with this thought pattern it is imperative that we get all agencies and all fire service personnel involved in the FFAM. When I think of involvement in the organization I look at something more than just paying a membership, actually taking part. There are always things that need someone’s attention and often the same group ends up with the responsibility of making something happen. With a more diverse membership base we would have numerous willing and capable partners to achieve success.

When you look at the member benefits we currently have weighed against the cost of membership it truly is a bargain. Although membership costs may rise a modest amount from time to time, the payoff still outweighs the expense. When you actively engage as a member you get to exercise your ability to effect change not only within the organization, but within the Missouri fire service as a whole.

So now is the time to get out and make some noise and get your agency more involved or perhaps influence your neighbors to join and become active members. We cannot effectively represent the entire Missouri fire service if we don’t have the membership’s assistance to guide the organization’s efforts. Get involved or stay involved!

Again I say thank you for this opportunity to serve each of you. Should you need any assistance or wish to discuss the organization, never hesitate to contact me.

Be Safe!

Larry Jennings

CRISIS & DISASTER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

EMERGENCY SERVICES MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE

REQUIRED COURSES:

CDM 3000 — INTRO TO CRISIS and DISASTER MANAGEMENT
CDM 4515 — SAFETY and HEALTH FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS
CDM 4535 — EMERGENCY SERVICES MANAGEMENT
CDM 4575 — EMERGENCY SERVICES PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

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Recently I was able to be a firefighter for a day. Well, not really a full-blown firefighter, but I did have the opportunity to participate in Fire Operations 101, which is basically a slightly more timid, highly controlled training day for people who realistically have never even operated a fire extinguisher.

This particular Fire Operations 101 was a joint effort between the Lee’s Summit IAFF Local 2195 and the City of Lee’s Summit Fire Department. According to the International Association of Firefighters website, “Fire Operations 101 is an event that exposes participants to the smoke, the adrenaline rush, and the physical stress and strain firefighters and emergency medical personnel face while protecting communities...” Let me tell you, this is an accurate description. Here are some of the things I took away from this awesome experience.

**YOU HAVE TO MOVE QUICKLY, ALL THE TIME**

I wouldn’t describe the entire day as a full-blown sprint, but it did seem as if I was participating in seven hours of interval training. Short periods of moderate to intense physical activity followed by short periods of rest, but we were always moving quickly. Frankly, we had to in order to keep up with the real firefighters. Just walking between the training stations was a small workout because I wasn’t used to wearing the gear.

The first thing I noticed about the gear was the weight. The firefighter responsible for our team told us that by the end of the day our shoulders and necks would be sore just from the weight of the jacket and helmet. Yep, he was right. So if just walking around at a quick pace is difficult for a newbie in all this gear, moving at a quick pace through the training evolutions was much harder.

**FIREFIGHTERS TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER**

The firefighter that was leading my team constantly had his head on a swivel. He was always checking and double-checking to make sure his team was whole. Even when we were just standing around drinking water, he made sure we were all together. Once, one of our teammates was separated from us for a few seconds after a water break. Our leader noticed immediately, while the rest of us simply continued to the next training evolution. “Wait, hold up,” he said. “We’re missing someone.” After the tardy teammate rejoined the group, I asked our leader about his protective mentality. I wanted to know if this was just something he was doing for that day or if there was something deeper at play, which I suspected was the case.

“As firefighters, we are never alone, like never,” he said. “It’s not safe to be alone. Even at the fire house if we’re in a room by ourselves it’s a little weird because it never happens. We’re trained to do everything at least in tandem to keep each other safe.”

**PHYSICAL STRENGTH AND STAMINA ARE KEY**

I consider myself a reasonably fit guy but I soon found out during fire operations that my workouts had nothing on the functional strength and stamina required to do the job of a firefighter. One thing the firefighters continually stressed throughout the day was that there was no fire, we didn’t need to push ourselves as hard as they would because we were not dealing with a life or death situation. But I wasn’t there to play dress-up, I was there to just get a little taste of their world. I was first to volunteer for everything and I pushed as hard as possible. I really wanted the full experience.

But it was hard. The tools are heavy, the boots are heavy, the helmet is heavy, and the air pack is very heavy. And, let’s be honest, I was just playing dress up. There was no fire. There were no consequences if I didn’t move fast enough or if I was too rough dragging the “victim” (a 150 lb. dummy) from the smoking building. I had no mental stress worrying about what would happen if I placed my foot in the wrong spot causing the floor to give way below me. But for the firefighters, there are real consequences if things go wrong. They have to be physically and mentally prepared to minimize the risk of mistakes that could get someone killed.

Possibly the greatest thing I took away from Fire Operations 101 was an admiration for how much pride these men and women have in serving their community. They truly have a calling and are acting on it every day. These firefighters really care about the citizens they serve and they take their responsibilities very seriously. They train hard so they can be ready to answer the call, to save lives, to keep us safe. I have always had a great respect for the firefighter profession, now I have a much deeper appreciation for what they do for us.
As I am sure most of you know, I have decided not to run for office for the FFAM. I have been a member of the association for the last 44 years and have had the honor of serving as a board member or officer for about 30 years. I have enjoyed every minute, month, and year, serving you the members, my friends, very dear friends, for all this time. I appreciate so much the support I have had with my fellow officers and directors over the years. I also wish to thank every member for the years of voting me into office and allowing me to work for you to make the fire service in Missouri and the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri the finest in the USA.

This is not good-bye, I am just moving aside to allow new ideas to come into play to help keep the organization growing and moving forward. I am and will continue to remain a member of this association as an active member, and will continue to support the leaders of the organization.

Please don’t forget the Fallen Firefighters Memorial, May 20 and 21, and of course the State Fair is coming up fast in August! Chief Rogers command staff has already been working on lining up equipment for this year. If any departments are wishing to donate any equipment please contact Chief Donnie Rogers or myself at 636-262-2408.

I also want to take this time and thank all the members of the State Fair Fire Department Committee for the awesome convention this year, it was remarkable and I believe everyone had a very good time. Great job gang!

Greetings to the FFAM membership. First of all I would like to thank the membership in the election as your Second Vice President. I would like to hear from the membership on ideas how the FFAM can better serve you. I want ideas like what can we do as an organization to bring more members in, what is the FFAM doing well and what changes would you like to see, etc.? I want to hear from you, our members!

If you would like for me to attend an event or even attend a benefit of your department I will make every attempt to attend. Please feel free to email me your ideas and your events. Please contact me by email at grant_oetting@yahoo.com.

I look forward to hearing from you and serving you as your Second Vice President of the FFAM.

If you had photos taken at the FFAM Convention they can be viewed and you can purchase your photos at susanlopez.smugmug.com.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at grant_oetting@yahoo.com
The Awards Committee was honored again this year to process, evaluate and assist in the selection of awards for many of our deserving members. We had several nominations for the award categories we recognize, but there is always room for more. The awards given this year were:

**MERITORIOUS ACTION**
Captain Shannon Breid and Cadet Austin Thornton of the Madison Fire Department.

**LIFESAVING AWARD**
Firefighter Jonathan Thomas of the Palmyra Fire Department.

**LIFESAVING AWARD**
Captain Robert Hardy, Lieutenant Roy Holtkamp, Firefighter Evan Brendel and Firefighter Nicholas Richards of the Moberly Fire Department.

**FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR**
Firefighter Shawn D. Bice of the West Plains Fire Department.

**CHIEF OFFICER OF THE YEAR**
Chief Robert Looper of the Holt Community Fire Protection District.

**PHIL SAYER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT**
Retired Chief Larry Pratt of the Kearney Fire and Rescue Protection District.

The selection process is always difficult as several qualified candidates are normally nominated for each of the award categories. We feel each of these individuals were well qualified to receive their awards and hopefully if you could not attend convention you will take the earliest opportunity to extend your congratulations to them.

We are currently accepting nominations for awards for next year’s convention. The deadline to submit your nomination is February 28, 2018.
Hello FFAM members. I hope all is well with you and your departments.

At our annual convention the committee had the privilege of awarding five scholarships to our members and the winners are as follows: Cameron Lauber, Johnson County District 2; Maddison Breid, Madison West Monroe Fire Protection District; Kayla Littrell, Duenweg Volunteer Fire Department; Cole Allen, Duenweg Volunteer Fire Department.

CONTINUING EDUCATION
Shelby Phifer, Southern Stone Fire Protection District.

Please congratulate these members and wish them the best in their future.
## 2017 FFAM CONVENTION CONTEST WINNERS

### 2017 FIREFIGHTER DIVISION CHALLENGE RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Person Hose Coupling</td>
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<td>Madison 1 — 9.50</td>
<td>Southern Stone 1 — 9.62</td>
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<td>Cole County 1 — 32.53</td>
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<td>Water Barrel Fight</td>
<td>Little Dixie 1</td>
<td>Cole County 2</td>
<td>Galt 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bucket Brigade</td>
<td>Madison 1 — 1.33.94</td>
<td>Cole County 1 — 1.49.66</td>
<td>Little Dixie 1 — 1.53.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OVERALL WINNER**

Little Dixie 1

### 2017 FEMALE DIVISION CHALLENGE RESULTS

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<td>Little Dixie 1 — 13.16</td>
<td>Southern Stone 2 — 13.81</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Barrel Fight</td>
<td>Little Dixie 2</td>
<td>Little Dixie 1</td>
<td>Southern Stone 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bucket Brigade</td>
<td>Little Dixie 1 — 2.15.43</td>
<td>Southern Stone 1 — 2.54.22</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OVERALL WINNER**

Little Dixie 1

### 2017 JUNIOR DIVISION CHALLENGE RESULTS

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<td>Galt 2 — 13.12</td>
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<td>Water Barrel Fight</td>
<td>Galt 1</td>
<td>Little Dixie 1</td>
<td>Galt 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OVERALL WINNER**

Galt 1
Why is it that you anticipate, plan, scheme, prepare and generally run yourself about half-way past crazy to make sure an event is ready and then before you know it, the event is over? On behalf of the planning committee who worked to make this year’s convention successful we say, thank you for your patience and attendance. For those of you that have hosted in the past, you know how frustrating and rewarding the process can be, but in the end the good times we have far outweigh any of the perceived “concerns” we had in the planning stages. Many of you pitched in and assisted the committee at various times during the convention and even if we didn’t thank you at the time, your assistance was appreciated and you helped us provide a successful event.

This year was no exception to the fine tradition of conventions with fun had by those attending, competitive battles won and lost, notable awards being presented, scholarships awarded and maybe the best part, reconnecting with old friends and making new ones. Sedalia and the Missouri State Fairgrounds were again a fitting setting to host the event as the FFAM has deep roots planted from the many years of service to the fair and has forged lasting relationships across the Sedalia area.

We hope those of you that were not able to join us this year will mark your calendars and make the effort to join the group in Chillicothe in 2018. I know next year’s host is already working hard to put together a worthwhile convention for all. To those of you that were able to join us this year please help spread the word about the event and encourage other members of your agency or perhaps your neighboring agencies to take part next year.
FIRE PREVENTION POSTER WINNERS

Don’t Wait Check the Date

1. **Smoke detectors save lives!**
   - Check the date!
   - Replace smoke detectors every 10 years!

2. **Don’t Wait Check The Date**
   - Tips:
     - Check your smoke alarm every year.
     - Replace your smoke alarm every 10 years.
     - Make sure you are not in a closed room when you check your smoke alarm.
     - LIFE

3. **Don’t Wait Check The Date**
   - Don’t ask it, if you have a fire you will be warned by your smoke detector. Get as far away from your house as you can. DO NOT go back. If you need to get out, stay close to the ground. That’s how your smoke alarm can save your life.

4. **Don’t Wait, Check The Date**
   - Replace smoke alarms every 10 years.
   - Beep

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FFAM Newsletter • May/June 2017
Congratulations To This Year’s Poster Contest Winners!

FIRST AND SECOND GRADE
1. Jayla Thomas - Union FPD
2. Lilly Green - Union FPD
3. Tucker Jones - Iberia Rural FPD

THIRD AND FORTH GRADE
1. Eli Schmieder - Union FPD
2. Calvin Brune - Union FPD
3. Macey Shatzer - Paris Rural FPD

FIFTH GRADE
1. Skylar Bennett - Galt FPD
2. Trenten Bailey - Union FPD
3. Bridgette Hammeken - Union FPD

FFAM Would Like To Thank Everyone Who Participated
Plans were put into place with an approved budget in 2016 to attend the Spring Meeting of the National Volunteer Fire Council in Washington, DC, April 6-8. This included a day on Capital Hill on April 5. This was a six day commitment with travel but planned to be completed. In week six leading up to finalizing all plans and reservations it became clear that Washington could be totally occupied with affordable care, hacking, finalizing appointments, immigration, and global relationships. We held off until week four and a firm deadline of proceeding with or cancelling the trip. A key focus was to spend a day on the hill plus the NVFC meeting. On conferring with President Hoover I expressed my concern that access to key congressional staff could be very limited if not at all. An office aid versus a government affairs staffer would likely be my only available contact and depending on the day, I could be left talking only with the receptionist? I had also just discovered no rooms were left within the NVFC rate block of $265 and the host hotel was full. The next option was another hotel one mile away at $350 per night plus 16% tax. President Hoover and I agreed to cancel the trip due to probable lack of impactful access and conversation with the congressional offices at this time. The added hotel cost was not in budget either and sealed the decision.

We will try again next year providing we have a good chance of impactful access and at least conversation potential with a government affairs staffer. The NVFC fall meeting for 2017 is the last week of September and being hosted by Nebraska in Kearney. At this time Greg and I are planning to attend this meeting.

General news from NVFC is firefighter cancer with a heavy emphasis on early health screenings, training for prevention and awareness, grants for extractor laundry equipment to wash gear and new gear, preparation for the National Cancer Symposium in early September, AFG, SAFER, and special project grants which NVFC execute and manage. Chairman Quinn has been active with the flagship programs of the NVFC such as Heart Healthy, BEST Practices, Fire Corps, National Junior Firefighter, Serve Strong, Find the Fighter in YOU (recruiting), and Sharing the Load (mental/physical health assistance). He is also getting word out how an invitation extended to him by another board member to travel out of state nearly a year ago, to attend a department health screen identified an issue and likely saved his life.

I recently completed my basic health screening and specifically asked for a cancer screening based on my history as a firefighter. For the active and retired volunteers reading this article, be sure your doctor is made aware that you are, or have been a firefighter. Career and volunteer firefighters are both asked the same question, “What is your occupation?” Career folks will say, “firefighter.” Volunteers likely respond with something other than firefighter. Do not be silent on this!

Keith Smith

Missouri Fire Service Funeral Assistance Team

716 N Elm Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63119
mofirefuneral.org
1-888-4911HELP
For Emergent or Immediate Assistance
For Non-Urgent or Routine Assistance email info@mofirefuneral.org or phone 314-973-0685

UPDATE

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The Jefferson County Firefighters Association

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL

Jeffco Fire Engine Rally

Saturday - September 30, 2017
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Herculaneum City Park
Joachim Avenue and Highway 61-67
Herculaneum, Missouri

APPARATUS PARADE - 9:00 AM

ANTIQUE & MODERN FIRE APPARATUS • EMS VEHICLES
AIR RESCUE HELICOPTERS • MEMORIAL SERVICE • SAFETY HOUSE
FIREFIGHTER COMPETITIONS • EQUIPMENT DISPLAYS
DEMONSTRATIONS • PARADE • VENDOR BOOTHS • PATCH SWAP AREA
FOOD & CONCESSIONS • CHILDREN’S ACTIVITIES • FACE PAINTINGS
PHOTO BOOTH • BOUNCE HOUSE & SLIDE • SCAVENGER HUNT
AND MUCH MORE!

FOR INFORMATION: 314-852-4964 • 636-475-3080
billh@hotmail.com • Jeffco Fire Engine Rally on Facebook
2017 FFAM CONVENTION MEETING  
SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2017

Meeting called to order by President Diane Hanes at 9:03 a.m. Colors were posted by Warrenton FD Auxiliary. Joyce Thompson, Kearney Fire and Rescue, read invocation *A Fireman’s Life* by Daniel Driscoll.

**INTRODUCTION OF OFFICERS**  
President Diane Hanes, Galt FD; 1st Vice President Jessica Miller, Norborne FPD; 2nd Vise President Theresa Cox, Wentzville FPD; Secretary/Treasurer Sheri Berendzen, Cole County FPD; Historian Chris Slaughter, Warrenton FD; Sergeant at Arms Ann Jones, Madison West Monroe FD, absent (Joyce Thomson, Kearney Fire and Rescue, filling in for Ann for the meeting).

Past Presidents were invited to stand and introduce themselves, Janet Smith, Cole County FPD, Kin Voss, Beaufort-Leslie FD and Chris Slaughter, Warrenton FD.

Delegate voting procedures were tabled.

**MINUTES**  
Sheri Berendzen read the 2016 Friday night and Sunday morning 2016 Convention minutes. Diane asked for any corrections, additions or any discussions. Missy Erdel, Little Dixie FPD, made a motion to accept the minutes as read, second by Jessica Miller, Norborne FPD. Diane asked all in favor, no opposed, motion passed.

**FUND RAISERS**  
We had a wonderful year with our fund raisers at the convention. We had a booze cart where the auxiliary bought the cart and different people donated bottles of booze, we raised $506 We also sold new auxiliary T-shirts, jewelry and different items and raised $551. Then we had many wonderful items that were donated for a silent auction and with that we raised $2,198.

During the break cash door prizes were drawn.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MEMBERSHIP**  
Theresa Cox spoke on how we have had a couple department return and we also have five new departments. Still trying to find more ways to bring in more auxiliary members. Holt Summit has invited all auxiliary members to attend their *Auxiliary 101* event on June 3, 2017. More information available in the next newsletter.

**CONTEST GAMES**  
Jessica reported games went well. Games ended early because everything ran very smooth and not as many teams played. Asked if there are any new games that would like to be considered to play in the future.

**HISTORIAN**  
Chris Slaughter said has lots of good photos and asked if anyone has any they would like to submit to please let her know. Chris’s contact information is on the FFAM Web site.

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**  
Ann was not able to attend so no report is available at this time.

**AUXILIARY OF THE YEAR**  
This year the award went to Jessica Miller. Jenny Smith spoke about the award and asked for more nominations for next year and when the nominations need to be submitted.

**POSTER**  
Diane Hanes, Galt FD, talked about how the posters need to be received by 7:00 p.m. on Friday night. The size and info on back is what gets posters disqualified mainly, the rules for the contest is on the web site. There were eighty-one posters received from eight districts. Robert Brown (RB), District 7 Director, oversees the poster contest.

**CHECKBOOK AUDIT**  
Was completed by Jessica Miller and Diane Hanes and found the checkbook balanced.

**2017 FIRE FIGHTERS_MEMORIAL SERVICE**  
The Candlelight Service will be Saturday, May 20, at 9:00 p.m. and the Memorial Service will be Sunday, May 21, at 10:30 a.m. These services will be held at the Kingdom City Firefighters Memorial. Diane Hanes spoke how the services are very moving and that are many that attend.

**LONG STANDING AND HONORARY MEMBERS**  
There are twenty-four long standing members reported by Theresa Cox. She read off a list of names for honorary members and asked everyone to report back to her if they have any new names or if someone needs to be removed.

**2018 CONVENTION**  
Larry Jennings talked about next year convention that is going to be held in Chillicothe, Missouri, on May 4-6, 2018.
RESOLUTION
Diane Hanes read the resolution.

It was discussed about doing a T-shirt quilt with auxiliary shirts only. Maybe vote on the auxiliary shirts and the winner T-shirt will be in the center along with the new auxiliary T-shirt and the other T-shirts around those.

Janet Smith, Cole County FPD, made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rebecca Jackson, Galt FD. All in favor, motion passed.

Meeting adored at 10:35 a.m.

Ann Jones created a trivia game about the FFAM Auxiliary. She had fire related prizes for the winners. Everyone enjoyed the game and prizes.

Respectfully Submitted, 
Sheri Berendzen, 
Cole County FPD Secretary/Treasurer 
2016-2017

WE REMEMBER
Third Annual Retreat
Those Left Behind
Gatlinburg, TN
May 17-21, 2017

Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance (FBHA) is committed to always remember our brothers and sisters, in the fire and EMS service who took their lives.

On May 17-21, 2017, FBHA is hosting our third annual weekend retreat, Those Left Behind, in Gatlinburg, TN. This event is for families of firefighters and EMS that have died by completing suicide.

On May 19, 2017, at 9:00 p.m. (your local time zone) in recognition of Mental Health Awareness month, we are asking fire and EMS organizations to place a rig(s) on their driveway and turn on their emergency lights for one minute to express support for all the families that have suffered a loss. Community members are welcome to join at their local participating location or stand in their own driveway and light a candle to remember a loved one.

Show them that “We Remember”.

We ask that you take photos or video and send it to us at info@ffbha.org to show all the families in their own community your support!

Thank you,
Ret. Captain Jeff Dill
FBHA founder
847-209-8208
jdill@ffbha.org
www.ffbha.org

AUXILIARY 101  PLEASE JOIN US

WHEN:  June 3rd

TIME:  10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Holts Summit Fire Protection District
        Training Room
        557 S Summit Dr.
        Holts Summit, MO 65043-1450

AGENDA

• Equipment Tour: What Supplies Are Available
• Guest Speaker: Heat Exposure and ways to Rehydrate
• Safety Tips for Fighters
• Auxiliaries Networking and Sharing Information
• Lunch Provided

Register with Amy Knoll at 573-896-4589 by May 26, 2017 • No Registration Fee
Wow, what a wonderful convention we just attended. Sedalia State Fair Fire Department did a great job of hosting the convention. The weather was not bad, a little chilly but nothing to stop a few firefighters. The contest games were furious again this year. Old friends had a chance to catch up and new friends were made along the way. How about our guest speaker, Dan Meers, “KC Wolf,” the Chiefs’ mascot on Saturday night? He is so inspirational, everyone enjoyed listening to his message.

The Auxiliary would like to thank everyone for the awesome support we had all weekend. Thank you to everyone who brought in items for our silent auction and alcohol for the booze raffle. There were so many great items for this years silent auction. A corn-hole game made and donated by a firefighter from Little Dixie FPD, two tables made and donated by FFA Chaper in Paris, a Branson getaway basket from Southern Stone, a fire truck decorated and donated by Galt, home decor items, and so many other great items the list goes on and on. I last heard we made close to $2,200 from the silent auction. A corn-hole game made and donated by a firefighter from Little Dixie FPD, two tables made and donated by FFA Chaper in Paris, a Branson getaway basket from Southern Stone, a fire truck decorated and donated by Galt, home decor items, and so many other great items the list goes on and on. I last heard we made close to $2,200 from the silent auction. We also made about $550 from the items we had for sale such as the jewelry, auxiliary T-shirts and more. We raised over $500 from the booze tub raffle. Everyone dug deep again this year to help the Auxiliary raise money. Which we will later decide who will receive a donation(s) to assist with fire related services. If you know of a deserving organization please let us know. Again thank you to everyone, we could not do it without each of you.

It is with great pleasure to report we had six new members from five new departments that joined the auxiliary at this years convention. We now have 121 paid auxiliary members from twenty-six departments. Welcome to our newest members and please feel free to call on any of the existing members if you need anything.

We invite you to check out our new Facebook page. It is Firefighter Association of Missouri-Ladies Auxiliary. New posts have been added from the convention. We want to hear from you. We also encourage you to utilize the FFAM website, it offers so much. Check it out to see what is going on and find more information about the Auxiliary.

Holt Summit Auxiliary is hosting an Auxiliary 101 event on June 3, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at 557 South Summit Drive, in Holt Summit. The purpose of the event is to network, educate about auxiliaries, how to assist firefighters, assistance at fires, a guest speaker, and so much more. Please register with Amy Knoll by May 26, at 573-896-4589. Lunch will be provided.

We are so proud of Jessica Miller for winning the Spouse of the Year Award. Jessica has been an active member with the FFAM since 2004 and became an auxiliary member in 2010. She currently holds the office of 1st Vice President, and also served four years as Sargent At Arms. She is the president of her local auxiliary, a licensed medical first responder playing a huge roll in her department, community and county. Jessica is a Sunday school teacher, serves as the secretary for the local road district and is the treasurer of the Band Booster Club. She is happily married to her husband Ryan and has two beautiful sons. Jessica is someone you always count on, she is a great mentor and contributes so much of herself to others. You can watch the video of her receiving her award on the Auxiliary Facebook page. Congratulations Jessica you are so deserving of this award.

Again thank you to everyone who has contributed to our Auxiliary with your time, donations and ideas. We are working hard to be there for you.

A LETTER FROM FFAM AUXILIARY

By Theresa Cox, 2nd Vice President, FFAM Auxiliary

HOUSE BILL 2332

By Amanda Mabey, Division of Senior and Disability Services

During the 2016 legislative session, House Bill 2332 passed that added and defined “First Responder” to the list of professionals required to report abuse and neglect of adults aged 18-59 with mental or physical disability or adults over sixty. These changes impact first responders defined as “any person trained and authorized by law or rule to render emergency medical assistance or treatment. Such persons may include, but shall not be limited to, emergency first responders, police officers, sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, or emergency medical technician-paramedics,” 192.2405.4, RSMo. Effective August 28, 2016, First Responders are included as mandated reporters under sections 192.2400 to 192.2470, RSMo.

Professionals meeting this mandate are required to immediately report or cause a report to be made to the Department of Health and Senior Services when they have “reasonable cause to suspect that the eligible adult has been subjected to abuse or neglect or observes the eligible adult being subjected to conditions or circumstances which would reasonably result in abuse or neglect,” 192.2405.1 (2), RSMo. For assistance in recognizing signs and/or symptoms of adult abuse and neglect, visit Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services website at health.mo.gov/safety/abuse/.

To report a concern, contact the Adult Abuse and Neglect Hotline at 800-392-0210. The hotline is open 7 a.m. to midnight, 7 days a week, including all holidays. An after-hours reporting form is also available on the website that may be faxed when the hotline is not in operation: health.mo.gov/seniors/pdf/MandatedReporterForm.pdf.
Hello from the east side of the state. Can you believe how fast time is going by! Spring has sprung and the 2017 FFAM Convention is in the history books. What I can say about the convention is, wow! What a great time and for the ones that didn’t attend you missed out on great opportunity for training, fellowship, competition and motivation.

A big thank you to the Missouri State Fair Fire Department for hosting such a grand event and a big thanks to the committee with fine leadership by Chair Larry Jennings and Co-chairperson Grant Oetting. Missouri is the Show-Me State and I feel the Missouri State Fair Fire Department showed everyone they knew what to do. It was run like a fine oiled machine; it was a great time, thank you.

Another thank you goes to Chief Jeff Buford for being in command of the shuttle service for the conventioneers providing shuttle service from the hotels to the convention. They did a great job once again in providing a service that allowed fellow firefighters to enjoy the convention without worrying about driving; thank you to all the drivers, a job well done.

This convention we said goodbye to First Vice President Fire Marshal Tim Bean and Second Vice President Charlie Neubert. Both did a fine job as chief finance officer and overseeing recruitment and membership. Thank you for all your time and dedication. As we said goodbye we opened the doors to a new First Vice President Chief Larry Jennings and Second Vice President Grant Oetting, congratulations.

Before I go any further I need to express my apologizes to the Beaufort-Leslie Fire Protection District. I over looked my notes and failed mentioning them as a district that entered the poster contest, I am sorry.

We had eighty-one posters for the ladies auxiliary to judge, thank you to the ladies for your time, a job well done. And none of this could have happened if the following fire districts, department or fire companies didn’t contact the schools. Thank you, Beaufort-Leslie, Washington, Paris, Union, Southern Stone, Iberia, Little Dixie, Galt and New Haven. And let’s not forget about the artists that submitted the master pieces and the fine job each and everyone did, I wish everyone could be a winner.

The last few years the poster contest winners and the immediate family members have been the guests of the Missouri State Fair Fire Department in Sedalia which has been a hit so this year will be the same. The first through third place winners will be the guests of the Missouri State Fair by the State Fair Fire Department, the winners will receive the prize money, get passes for the mile long midway and have fun at the state fair. This year’s fire prevention theme was Don’t Wait – Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years.

This year’s winners are first and second grade: First place Jayla Thomas, Union Fire Protection District; Second place Lilly Green, Union Fire District; Third place Tucker Jones, Iberia Fire.

Third-Fourth grade: First place Eli Schmieder, Union Fire Protection District; Second place Calvin Brune, Union Fire Protection District; Third Place Macy Shatzer, Paris Fire Protection District.

Fifth grade: First place Skylar Bennett, Galt Fire Protection District; Second place Trenton Bailey, Union Fire Protection District; Third place Bridgeatte Hammeken, Union Fire Protection District. A big shout out to all the artist great job well done hope to see at the fair. If the winning department and district would help making notifications to the winners it would be very much appreciated.

The 2017 fire prevention theme has not been released. NFPA states that the theme will be released the first of June so watch the newsletter. One fine note to all departments, districts and fire companies, please read the rules and regulations and fill out the information sheet so everyone is on the same page. Thank you for your time have a great safe summer and remember fire prevention is a daily thing spread the word.
The most unique fire department in the state is a part of the College of the Ozarks (C of O) in Southwest Missouri. Based on their motto “Hard Work U”, the College of the Ozarks is also one of the most unique educational institutions in our nation.

Founded as the faith-based School of the Ozarks in 1906, the institution was formed to provide primary and secondary education to children in the hill country of the Ozarks without sufficient means to procure such training. The school was the dream of a young Presbyterian Minister by the name of Reverend James Forsythe. His dream continued to grow over the years and in 1956, a two-year Junior College was added. In 1990 the Board of Trustees voted to change the name of the institution to “College of the Ozarks” and since then the programs and facilities have grown to become one of the leading educational institutions in the nation.

HARD WORK U
The term, “Hard Work U” is not just a saying thrown around the campus lightly. The school is unique in that every student has a work assignment that pays his or her tuition for their education. Grounds keeping; tending the college’s massive dairy herd, including milking cows; house-keeping and running kitchens/waiting tables and any number of jobs you can think of are all done by students. The College operates a tourist attraction called the Keeter Center, which is recognized as the #1 small hotel in the nation. Every worker in that facility that you interact with as a customer will be a student.

Some of the officers of the fire department have their positions on the department as their work assignment but the majority of the thirty members have other work assignments on campus, which makes them true volunteer firefighters.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
Sometime in the early forties the school determined that there should be better fire protection for their growing investment than local organizations could provide. Point Lookout is actually in or very near the town of Hollister and the volunteer fire department consisted of one engine and a handful of volunteer firefighters. Branson is the next community near the campus with about the same capability as Hollister.

My first experiences with the fire department at the College of the Ozarks was in the early to mid-sixties when I was a traveling field instructor for the University of Missouri Fire Training program. I was impressed with the quality of students and the warm welcome of the entire campus. As a representative of the university, I was provided lodging in the guesthouse on campus, with its beautiful view on the bluff overlooking Lake Taneycomo. The best memory of all was an invitation to breakfast with the then President of the school, Dr. M. Graham Clark.

By Bill Westhoff

The present fire station for the College of the Ozarks Fire Department is located on the campus. Ten of the thirty members of the department reside in the station and available for emergency responses. Two engines and a new squad unit are housed here.
As time passed, one of the first firefighter one certification classes taught in the state was conducted at School of the Ozarks in the early seventies. By that time, we were using field instructors from local fire departments and Captain Bob Hasbrook from the Neosho Fire Department was the lead instructor. Bob later became the Chief of the Western Taney County Fire District and recently retired as the Chief of the Bartlesville, Oklahoma Fire Department. In my book, he was one of the best instructors in the business and I will always consider him a close associate and friend.

School officials through the years have always been willing to allow the fire department to respond to emergencies on and off campus. Prior to the formation of tax supported fire districts in Stone and Taney counties many areas had limited protection from community fire departments and in many instances relied on assistance from student firefighters and their apparatus provided by the school.

AND THE TREND OF EXCELLENCE CONTINUES

The current fire department staff and the leadership provided from on and off the campus are allowing fire protection and safety to become a high priority. College of the Ozarks has recently announced the development of a fire science major as part of their department of public safety education. See the individual article later in this newsletter with more details of this program.

Doctor John Russo, associate professor of fire science heads the program and is the faculty advisor to the fire department. Russo is dual certified as a firefighter and police officer and brings thirty-one years of experience to the campus. His experiences as both a volunteer and career firefighter, EMT, rescue diver, fire marshal and police officer, as well as an instructor at various technical colleges, makes him an asset to the program.

The Fire Chief of the College of the Ozarks Fire Department, Dalton Pennington and Captain Ryan Wood are both enrolled in the new program and plan to continue a career in the fire service upon graduation. Dalton is from Springfield and was originally enrolled in the law enforcement program but changed majors when the fire degree became available. Ryan is a natural for the program, having grown up in a fire family. His Dad, John Wood retired from the Columbia, MO Fire Department. John and I worked together there and I have the greatest respect for him as a firefighter and a father.
CURRENT FIRE DEPARTMENTS INTERACTION

Recently, I visited with Chief Chris Berndt of the Western Taney County Fire Protection district concerning their interaction and involvement with the fire department at College of the Ozarks. The Western Taney Fire District completely surrounds the campus and covers 212 square miles of the western portion of Taney County. It also completely surrounds the City of Branson.

Western County Fire provides dispatch services for the C of O and also considers them an important part of their district. The C of O equipment and personnel are routinely dispatched to calls in the district. The newly acquired C of O squad vehicle shown in the article is equipped with safe seating for a total of six personnel and is dispatched as a manpower squad (or flying squad) when additional personnel are required in the district. The members of this elite unit were known as “squad men” and were paid $80 a year more than engine and truck men.

The Winsor Fire Department, across the river from Detroit followed in 1930 with a unit nick named “The Bug” because it always seemed to be everywhere. Winsor kept their flying manpower squad concept for more thirty years. It may just be me and my concern for things history related, but I think a really good name for that new squad at the C of O would be “The Bug”.

CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY ON CAMPUS

On my last visit to the campus, I was treated to a demonstration that illustrates the forward thinking of our young fire personnel who are rapidly replacing the old dogs.

Behind the fire station Chief Pennington and Captain Wood gave me a quick demonstration of the Chief’s personal drone. The applications for this innovative tool for search and rescue, as well as fire scene use are endless.

This June Dr. Russo, Chief Pennington and Captain Wood have been invited to the National Fire Academy to present a program illustrating the drone use in emergency services.

How is that for the most unique fire department in the State of Missouri?
The fire science program at College of the Ozarks achieved the first step in accreditation after its conception last semester. The program is now recognized by the National Fire Academy and has been approved to teach the fire science program curriculum.

John Russo, associate professor of fire science, said C of O is currently the only four-year college in Missouri that has received this recognition. The National Fire Academy provides training and education programs for fire departments and emergency service organizations.

“They develop curriculum for the fire service, for associates degrees, bachelor’s degrees, and they’re currently working on curriculum for masters and Ph.D. programs,” Russo said. “In developing their curriculum, they developed a professional development model for higher education in the fire service that they felt could be reproduced and copied throughout the United States.”

While developing the fire science program, the College adopted the curriculum and mirrored the certification process of the National Fire Academy, Russo said. The developed curriculum also meets the requirements of the state fire marshal.

Class syllabi were turned into the National Fire Academy and approved, Russo said.

“Since we’re an approved instructor,” Russo said, “what will happen is when our students take one of those classes, they’ll get their credit for the class, but at the end of the class, I turn their names into the National Fire Academy, and in addition to getting their college credits, they’ll receive a certificate from the National Fire Academy saying they have completed this class through the National Fire Academy.”

Dalton Pennington, a junior fire science major and fire chief for the Point Lookout Fire Department, said being recognized by the National Fire Academy places C of O fire science graduates at a higher level.

The additional training also allows the fire department to better aid the student body, Pennington said.

“Whenever the students have an emergency, whenever their dorm catches on fire or they have a medical (emergency) that we have to respond to, they should be more comfortable knowing that the best is coming to them,” Pennington said. “We have high training, and that’s what we’re bringing to them whenever we come to their aid.”

Aaron Bellcock, a sophomore fire science major, said this recognition sets C of O above other schools in the area.

“It’s a wonderful experience to be in this first group graduating through this, even though we’re kind of the guinea pigs,” Bellcock said. “It’s a wonderful opportunity to be able to help build this program and look back and be able to say, ‘Hey, I was one of the first graduates out of that program.”

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**JOHN RUSSO | ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF FIRE SCIENCE**

**Describe your job in one sentence.**
I teach fire science, firefighting, management and administration classes and (I) mentor fire department members.

**How long have you worked at C of O?**
Since June 1, 2016.

**What is the best part about your job?**
To teach and demonstrate subjects that I am passionate about.

**Where are you from?**
I was born in New York, but I moved with my family to Florida, where I grew up. We relocated to Missouri about 20 years ago.

**What is your favorite book?**
Besides the Bible? “Rainbow Six” by Tom Clancy.

**Movie?** “Big Jake” with John Wayne.

**Song?** “In Christ Alone” and “Counting Stars.”

**Whom do you admire and why?**
Jesus: he died for my sins. He bore all of the sins of those alive during his life on Earth and all the sins of those yet to be born. To endure the crucifixion for all of mankind defines courage in an unbelievable way. Apostle Paul: he went from being a persecutor of Christians to becoming one of the greatest. He lived his life spreading the Gospel. Ben Carson: he is a professional, well educated man that is not afraid to share his faith in Jesus.

**What is your favorite way to relax?**
I like to fish, hunt, read and spend time with my children and grandchildren. I love to spoil my grandchildren.
College of the Ozarks has provided fire safety to the community for years through the Point Lookout Fire Department, but this fall, the College will go further by offering a fire science major for students interested in pursuing a career in fire safety.

David Vogt, associate professor of criminal justice and chair of the division of language and social sciences, said four-year fire science degrees are rare. According to FireScience.org, only three other colleges in Missouri offer a four-year fire science degree or a similar degree.

“Our advantage and the reason I think why we can do it so easily here was all we had to add was the classroom portion,” Vogt said. “We have a fire station over here. It’s a working station. It’s recognized around the country as a legitimate city fire station.”

Vogt said the major will involve both academic and hands-on learning, and the Point Lookout Fire Department will be involved with the hands-on training portion because the fire science students “have to go out do the stuff that they learned.”

Eric Bolger, dean of the college, stated in an email that the addition of the major required changing the name of the former criminal justice department to the department of public safety.

“With the fire science emphasis,” Bolger stated, “it made sense to (broaden) the department’s name to public safety, since fire science is not an area of criminal justice.

Now, both the criminal justice major and fire science major will be categorized under one public safety department.

Vogt said some of the fire science classes, such as the fire investigator class, will allow students to receive certification that can be used in their field.

To teach some of these classes, Vogt said, the College is bringing on a new teacher, John Russo, who has fire, law enforcement, legal and teaching experience.

“He’s exactly who we needed, and he’s a good strong Christian man, so we’re really excited to have him on board,” Vogt said.

The advantage of receiving a bachelor’s degree in fire science versus going through a two year program or volunteer training is a fire science degree allows for more academic knowledge of fire safety, which is becoming more of a requirement due to modern threats firefighters face, Vogt said.

“They’re having to deal with chemical spills. They’re having to deal with biologic agents,” Vogt said. “They may be responding to terrorist attacks, so all of the things are going to be on the forefront of what they’re going to be tasked to deal with.”

Vogt said fire safety requires extensive technical knowledge, which the fire science classes will cover.

“Believe me, they’re very, very rigorous, especially when you start talking about construction for fire service. There’s a lot to understand about how buildings are built and based on how they’re built, how long can they burn before they col-lapse,” Vogt said. “I mean, that’s the kind of stuff that we’re hopefully going to start being able to teach our students here.”

Vogt said he is thankful for the support the fire science major has received from the College, and he looks forward to seeing the exciting opportunities the major will provide.
The 2017 Candlelight Service is scheduled for Saturday evening May 20, at 9:00 p.m. The Sunday morning services follow May 21, at 10:30 a.m. The keynote speaker this year is Brian Zinanni which is a Foundation Board Member, Coordinator of the Missouri Funeral Assistance Teams and State Representative for Supporting Hero’s. We are honoring two LODD names from 2016 and two LODD names missed from the late sixties. We are also remembering thirty-six names which have served and passed.

Regardless of weather, we will be holding both services. If rain prevents activity at the memorial we will move either or both services to the Auxvasse Elementary School, five miles North of Kingdom City off Highway 54. We have done this before. It is the first overpass going North from the memorial and you can see the school off to the West when taking the exit ramp. Remember to allow for cooler weather during the Candlelight Service. This is more frequently the case than warm weather.

The Foundation is very much aware of the heightened awareness of cancer in the fire service, the increasing questions on cancer presumption and possible links to LODD. At this time the Foundation is attempting to follow the nation but we are aware of the debate, the questions, the possible medical links, and attempting to prepare for what may be asked of the Foundation. There are five key representative positions held by our Foundation Board Members concerning this subject. The Missouri Council is represented by President, Sherwood Smith. FFAM is represented by President, Kenneth Hoover. The State Fire Marshal office is represented by State Fire Marshal Tim Bean. NFFF/Missouri Assistance Teams is being represented by Brian Zinanni. By FFAM appointment I am the NVFC Representative for Missouri. While there are several other organizations having a highly vested interest in this subject, I just wanted to disclose these connections within the foundation and the national conversation on cancer.

I will close out by using a signature line from President Quinn, National Volunteer Fire Council, ‘Know Firefighter Cancer’.

ATTEND THE MEMORIAL SERVICES
By Past President Keith Smith, Warrenton FPD
SULLIVAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NEWS

Effective April 10, 2017, we promoted paid firefighter Nolan Crawford to paid Captain.

Effective April 24, 2017, we hired part-time firefighter Nick White as a paid Firefighter.

We will soon be taking delivery, around May, 1 2017, of our two new Rosenbauer trucks; one is a pumper and the other is a 75’ ladder truck.

STATE FARM PRESENTS GIFT TO MU FRTI

The University of Missouri Extension, on behalf of the University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute, recently received a 2017 State Farm Good Neighbor Citizenship Grant. The State Farm gift to MU FRTI will support specialized training for Missouri emergency responders to highway incidents. Through this training the first responder will gain additional competency in the quick stabilization and removal of accident victims thus improving patient survival, while safely managing the incident scene and preventing additional accidents and injuries. The grant also provides funding for training on vehicle firefighting.

From left to right: State Farm Agency Sales Leader Ryan Kenney and Columbia, MO, State Farm Agents Stephanie Wilmsmeyer, Brian Hazelrigg, Greg Hill, DJ Hinds, Phyllis Nichols, Meera Patel White, Justin Hahn, Cheryl Kelly, Dale Parker, and Lisa Cravens.
We received our newly refurbished truck back in February 2017. Our truck went to Precision Fire Apparatus in October 2016. Holden Volunteer Fire and Rescue would like to give a big thanks to the citizens of Holden for our newly refurbished fire engine and the new life safety equipment purchased by the bond that you all passed back in April 2016.

Thanks again to Precision Fire Apparatus for the truck that was loaned to us during the refurbishment project. During that time we had many things repaired, like the removal of rust, a new paint job and many other safety features we previously were lacking. We were also able to update and replace multiple pieces of life safety equipment and bunker gear keeping our firefighters and loved ones out of harm’s way. In gratitude we had an open house on March 30, were we invited the citizens of Holden to come out and see the new updates on the truck and to meet our Firefighters.

On April 22, our firefighters were part of an Inspire 5K Walk/Run that supports our local youth. Inspire is a school organized group that helps bring awareness about bullying, depression, eating disorders and suicides. What a great cause to be a part of in our local community.
8’ X 12’ ENCLOSED TRAILER

The Firefighters Funeral Team is accepting sealed bids on a 2003 Dual Axle Enclosed 8 X 12 trailer. Built by Play-Mor Trailers and converted by Crash Rescue Equipment Services, this trailer has an electric start 5.5 kilowatt generator, pre-wired for lighting and exterior lighting. Side entry door with single fold down rear door. Carpeted floor with built in office style cabinets, and side awning.

More photos can be found on our funeral team website at www.mofirefuneral.org

All items are believed to be in working order. Trailer is being sold as is, without warranty. Buyer is responsible for picking up the trailer, which is near Plattsburg, MO. Questions should be directed via email to info@mofirefuneral.org.

Sealed bids will be accepted, and must be post marked by June 30, 2017. Bids should be sent to:

Missouri Fire Funeral Team
716 N Elm Ave
St. Louis, MO. 63119

The Fire Fighter’s Memorial Foundation • Sponsor a Brick!

Add your name or a loved one’s name to the Walk Of Honor. Anyone may sponsor a brick. Reserve yours now!

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

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Don’t forget those with 10 years of service can be added to the Distinguished Service Walls

Credit Cards (Visa - ☐ Master Card - ☐)

Exp. ____ / ____ TOTAL $ ________

Send with check to: Doc Kritzer
5055 Pendergras Road
Fulton, MO 65251

Call 573-220-3536 - Email: doc_kritzer@yahoo.com

www.FFAM.org
Ever stop and wonder what your benefits are as an FFAM member?

**ANNUAL DUES**
Low cost membership dues. Dues have not increased since 1977.

**FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL**
$2.50 of the member dues goes to the Fire Fighters Memorial in Kingdom City.

**FFAM NEWSLETTER**
A bi-monthly newsletter detailing a large variety of fire service issues, training schedule of regional and state fire schools, featured articles, equipment sales posts and status of political issues.

**INSURANCE**
A low cost Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance is available to members. Coverage up to $50,000.

California Casualty Auto & Home Insurance offers special rates & unique firefighter benefits.

VFIS Accident & Sickness policy discounts available to departments.

**LODD BENEFIT**
$1,000 LODD benefit to the member’s beneficiary from the FFAM.

**REPRESENTATION/LIAISON**
Representation with the National Volunteer Fire Council

Liaison between members and the Missouri State Fire Marshal, the political front and other state agencies.

The FFAM serves as an organized voice on important annual fire service legislation.

**TRAINING**
Training classes available including certified board member training and other various topics

**IFSTA TRAINING DISCOUNT**
10% discount on all IFSTA training materials.

**JONES & BARTLETT LEARNING TRAINING DISCOUNT**
10% discount on all JBL fire/EMS training materials.

**BLUE LIGHT PERMIT CARDS**
Available at no cost to the department.

**LEARNING PARTNERS**
Tuition and textbook discounts through our learning partners agreement with Columbia Southern University and Waldorf College’s online programs.

**ANNUAL CONVENTION**
Includes a vendor expo, competitive firefighter contest, parade, awards banquet, dance and business meeting.

**MISSOURI STATE FAIR FD**
Members can volunteer to work at the MSFFD which provides fire, EMS and first aid to fairgoers each year. It is the only fully operational fire department in the United States that operates for only 11 days a year.

**EYE GLASSES**
Assistance with the repair of broken or lost eyeglasses while at a scene — up to $200.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**
Members and relatives of members have access to scholarships up to $1,000 for both high school seniors and those pursuing continuing education.

**FFAM AUXILIARY**
Spouses of members may join the FFAM Auxiliary which provides support to the

**FFAM FACEBOOK**
Stay up-to-date with important announcements on our Facebook page.

**MEMBER DISCOUNTS**

**MISSOURI STORM SHELTERS**
Individual and department members received a $250 discount plus other special discounts throughout the year.

**LIFE LINE SCREENINGS**
Individual members receive a discount off selected medical screenings and will be contacted when the services are available in their area.

**AIR EVAC LIFETEAM**
Individual members receive a $10 discount off annual membership with Air Evac Lifeteam.

**WORLDS OF FUN/OCEANS OF FUN**
Discounted tickets available.

**SIX FLAGS**
Discounted tickets available.

**KANSAS CITY CHIEFS**
Discounted individual and season tickets.

**ADDITIONAL BENEFITS & DISCOUNTS**
The Board of Directors is always working for the membership and trying to find great benefits to pass on to the individuals and departments.

**CORPORATE MEMBERS**
Say, “Thank You” to our Corporate Members by visiting them for your specialty needs!

Contact Secretary Jaime Miller at ffam.jmiller@gmail.com for more information
The coordination and delivery of training programs by the University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute (MU FRTI) is in high gear as we approach the end of the fiscal year. MU FRTI is projecting that by June 30 we will have conducted over 500 courses providing important training for the state’s fire and emergency services. We look forward to continuing to be your department’s resource in meeting your training needs.

The Firefighter’s Day at the Capitol on April 5, 2017, was well attended by fire service representatives. MU FRTI exhibited the Grain Rescue and Vehicle Firefighting Props at the capitol in conjunction with various fire department apparatus. Governor Greitens provided opening remarks for the day along with DPS Director Drew Juden and State Fire Marshal Tim Bean. During the event, we had the opportunity to visit a number of legislators.

Thank you to all the Fire Departments that participated in the MU FRTI web-based statewide training needs survey. The survey was implemented to assist MU FRTI in planning and developing training initiatives designed to meet identified training needs. The survey closed in April and the Institute is in the process of analyzing the data. Additional information will be forth coming after the results are finalized.

The University, MU Extension, and MU FRTI budget planning process for fiscal year 2018 (FY18) is currently underway. The Institute continues to work to make sure our training courses remain cost accessible while addressing rising operational costs. In June, MU FRTI will be making its annual presentation to the Division of Fire Safety and Missouri Fire Safety Education/Advisory Commission for state fire training funds. These funds provide for subsidized “no-cost” training opportunities to the state’s fire service through the Institute. We appreciate the continuing partnership with our state agencies and the support and assistance provided by Missouri’s fire service for the Institute’s training programs.

Last month I had the opportunity to attend the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri’s (FFAM) 63rd Annual Convention hosted at the State Fair in Sedalia, MO, by the State Fair Fire Department. I want to congratulate the State Fair Fire Department and the Convention Committee on a successful and enjoyable convention. In addition to the many contest awards given out at the annual convention, the FFAM presented Chief Robert Looper of the Holt Community Fire Protection District the Chief Fire Officer of the Year Award, and Shawn Bice of West Plains Fire Department the Firefighter of the Year Award. This year’s recipient of the Phil Sayer Lifetime Achievement Award was retired Chief Larry Pratt of Kearney Fire and Rescue Protection District. This was certainly well deserved recognition for Chief Pratt for his many years of dedicated service. MU FRTI congratulates the award and contest winners at this year’s convention.

At the FFAM Annual Convention, the organization held officer elections. We wish to congratulate FFAM President Kenneth Hoover on his re-election as President of the association. Congratulations to Larry Jennings as First Vice President, Grant Oetting as Second Vice President, and to the other Board members and District Directors that were re-elected. We look forward to continuing to work with President Hoover and the FFAM officers and directors on fire service issues and training in the state.

Coming up this month on May 20 and 21, the Fire Fighters Memorial Foundation of Missouri will hold the Annual Memorial Service at the Missouri Fire Fighters Memorial in Kingdom City, Missouri. On Saturday evening, May 20, a Candlelight Service will be held beginning at dusk to honor members of the Firefighters Association of Missouri who passed away during the previous year. The service on Sunday morning, May 21, will honor four Missouri firefighters who died in the line of duty. I would encourage all of you to attend this memorial tribute to honor our state’s fire service.

As a reminder, the 85th Annual Summer Fire School (SFS) is scheduled for June 7-11, 2017, in Jefferson City. There is still time to get your registrations in and attend this important historic training event. SFS has both classroom and live fire and rescue courses scheduled for the event, along with the specialized technical fire and rescue training. MU FRTI continues to review the educational opportunities and cost effectiveness of fire school programs. This year we have reduced the number of courses to concentrate on delivering the most requested courses, while continuing to provide new and innovative training opportunities. New this year are blended learning courses that combine classroom orientation sessions with interactive online learning and remote instructor support. This learning format will provide students greater opportunity to participate and complete the program. There will also be some limited wildland fire courses as well. Come be a part of the commemoration of Missouri’s historic Summer Fire School.
Firefighter suicide is a growing concern in the United States. In 2016, an estimated 134 firefighters nationally took their own lives. Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance (FFBHA), a non-profit organization founded to directly educate firefighters/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel and their families about behavioral health issues such as depression, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), anxiety and addictions, as well as firefighter suicides. In recognition of Mental Health Awareness month, the Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance is asking Fire and EMS organizations around the country to place a rig on their front ramp and turn on their emergency lights for one minute, to express support for all the families that have suffered a loss, on May 19, 2017, at 9:00 p.m. More information is available at: www.ffbha.org/ or by phone at 847-209-8208.

The major national fire service organizations will promote firefighter safety and wellness initiatives again this year by supporting the 2017 Safety Stand Down. The Safety Stand Down is the unification of the IAFC’s Fire/EMS Safety, Health and Survival Week with the NVFC’s National Firefighter Health Week. This initiative focuses on the critical importance of responders taking care of themselves both on and off the emergency incident scene. The week is designed to increase awareness and action so that safety and health become a priority in all fire departments. The event will be held June 18-24, 2017, and the theme this year is “MAYDAY, Self-Rescue, and Rapid Intervention.” More information on the 2017 Safety Stand Down is available at www.safetystanddown.org.

We appreciate the continued support of our state partners and agencies in the delivery of fire and emergency service training. The Institute’s mission remains focused on providing the very best and safest training for our students, Missouri’s fire and emergency service first responders. If the MU FRITI staff or I can be of assistance, please contact us at 800-869-3476 or 573-882-4735 or for more information regarding the Institute go to our website at www.mufrti.org.

David E. Hedrick, Director
Fire and Rescue Training Institute
University of Missouri Extension
Membership Terms and Conditions

AirMedCare Network is an alliance of affiliated air ambulance providers* (each a “Company”). An AirMedCare Network membership automatically enrolls you as a member in each Company's membership program. Membership ensures the patient will have no out-of-pocket flight expenses if flown by a Company by providing prepaid protection against a Company's air ambulance costs that are not covered by a member’s insurance or other benefits or third party responsibility, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Patient transport will be to the closest appropriate medical facility for medical conditions that are deemed by AMCN Provider attending medical professionals to be life- or limb-threatening, or that could lead to permanent disability, and which require emergency air ambulance transport. A patient's medical condition, not membership status, will dictate whether or not air transportation is appropriate and required. Under all circumstances, an AMCN Provider retains the sole right and responsibility to determine whether or not a patient is flown.

2. AMCN Provider air ambulance services may not be available when requested due to factors beyond its control, such as use of the appropriate aircraft by another patient or other circumstances governed by operational requirements or restrictions including, but not limited to, equipment manufacturer limitations, governmental regulations, maintenance requirements, patient condition, age or size, or weather conditions. FAA restrictions prohibit most AMCN Provider aircraft from flying in inclement weather conditions. The primary determinant of whether to accept a flight is always the safety of the patient and medical flight crews. Emergent ground ambulance transport of a member by an AMCN Provider will be covered under the same terms and conditions.

3. Members who have insurance or other benefits, or third party responsibility claims, that cover the cost of ambulance services are financially liable for the cost of AMCN Provider services up to the limit of any such available coverage. In return for payment of the membership fee, the AMCN Provider will consider its air ambulance costs that are not covered by any insurance, benefits or third party responsibility available to the member to have been fully prepaid. The AMCN Provider reserves the right to bill directly any appropriate insurance, benefits provider or third party for services rendered, and members agree to remit to the AMCN Provider any payment received from insurance or benefits provider or any third party for air medical services provided by the AMCN Provider, not to exceed regular charges. Neither the Company nor AirMedCare Network is an insurance company. Membership is not an insurance policy and cannot be considered as a secondary insurance coverage or a supplement to any insurance coverage. Neither the Company nor AirMedCare Network will be responsible for payment for services provided by another ambulance service.

4. Membership starts 15 days after the Company receives payment for services provided by another ambulance service.

5. Some state laws prohibit Medicaid beneficiaries from being offered membership or being accepted into membership programs. By applying, members certify to the Company that they are not Medicaid beneficiaries.

6. These terms and conditions supersede all previous terms and conditions between a member and the Company or AirMedCare Network, including any other writings, or verbal representations, relating to the terms and conditions of membership.

*Air Evac EMS, Inc. / Med-Trans Corporation / REACH Air Medical Services, LLC — These terms and conditions apply to all AirMedCare Network participating provider membership programs, regardless of which participating provider transports you.

Questions? Call Membership Sales Manager or visit www.amcnrep.com
Roy Woolsey • 636-358-8475 • Roy.Woolsey@AirMedCareNetwork.com
Dear Fire Fighters Association of Missouri Members

FFAM has partnered with Air Evac Lifeteam to offer you, as an FFAM member, the opportunity to join Air Evac Lifeteam’s Membership Program at a special rate!

**Annual Membership Fees for FFAM Members**

$55- Annually for a Household  
(a $10 Savings! Multi Year Savings Also Available)

As your local air ambulance, serving area residents from our surrounding bases, Air Evac Lifeteam understands the critical aspect of time in treating medical emergencies. For those of us living in rural America, our recovery can depend on how much time it takes to be transported to emergency medical treatment. *Air Evac Lifeteam can cut that transportation time in half.*

Air Evac Lifeteam is a member of the AirMedCare Network, the largest Air Ambulance Network in the United States. An Air Evac Lifeteam Membership automatically enrolls you in all provider membership programs, (Air Evac Lifeteam, Med-Trans Air Medical Transport, and REACH Air Medical Services) giving you and your household membership coverage in over 260 locations across 32 states. All AirMedCare Network service providers work cooperatively to provide the highest levels of care for you, your family and your community.

We care about you and your loved ones. Our mission is to make it possible for people living in rural areas to get the life-saving emergency care they need, when they need it. Thanks to the support of over 2.6 million members, AirMedCare Network providers can provide financial peace of mind for you and your family... while providing this vital service to our community.

Please contact me should you have questions.

Sincerely,

Roy Woolsey  
Membership Sales Manager  
636-358-8475  
Roy.Woolsey@AirMedCareNetwork.com
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