This newsletter article brings me to the annual Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Services held on May 20-21, 2017, in Kingdom City. I believe this is the most important activity I am involved in every year and will commit a large portion of my article to.

As they have done for many years, I thank Chief Greg Lubbert of the Central Callaway Fire Protection District and Chief Lana Karhoff of the North Callaway Fire Protection District that spent many hours cleaning all of the granite walls and other tasks the Thursday night prior to the services. Chief Lubbert and Chief Karhoff have faithfully overseen this task year after year.

A special thank you to Lieutenant Steve Nichols from the Little Dixie Fire Protection District for overseeing the maintenance on the memorial again this year. Lieutenant Nichols always has everything looking good for the annual services. There are many people that helped Steve with this task, including many of the foundation board members. Thanks to everyone.

Many hours were also given for the Candlelight Service and the Sunday morning services. Keith Smith, Warrenton Fire Protection District; Bill Albus, Little Dixie Fire Protection District/Missouri State Fire Marshal office; and Linda Coleberd, Hannibal, all worked many hours gathering information and developing the programs for both services. I thank each of you!

The candlelight honor guard was provided by the Little Dixie Fire Protection District. Assistant Chief Kurt Ploch of the Boles Fire Protection District did an excellent job with the message to over 200 attendees at the Candlelight Service. Thanks goes to Blue Ice Productions and Chairman Keith Smith from Warrenton, Missouri, who provided all of the recording and video services for the entire memorial, as they have done for many years at no charge to the Memorial Foundation. Many, many thanks to Greg and Rose Rosebrook!

Our history this year was documented by Gail Hagans and Don Vaucher. Gail and Don are usually at every event and photograph all the activities and provide FFAM with prints and CD’s and never ask for recognition or payment for their services. Thank you Gail and Don.

This year we were honored to have Mr. J. Tim Bean the Fire Marshal of the State of Missouri attend and present proclamations to the 2016 Line of Duty Death family members assisted by his wife Judy and Chairman Keith Smith.

Brian Zinanni was our keynote speaker at the Sunday morning memorial service. I heard many compliments and you really had to be there to hear his message and get it. Thank you!

David Hedrick, Director of the University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute gave our opening invocation and as always did an excellent job. David always accepts my request to help and I appreciate his involvement, and yes I will help with whatever it takes.

Our honor guard commander this year was Chief James Ludden from the Bolivar City Fire Department. Commander Ludden did an outstanding job coordinating honor and color guard and pipe and drum members from many fire departments throughout Missouri. Thank you to Chief Ludden and members of the many honor guards and pipe and drum members for your service.

CONTENTS

Meeting Minutes ....................... 4
Museum Project ....................... 10
1st Vice President ................. 14-15
Memorial ............................. 18-19
Obituaries ............................ 20-21

History’s Corner ..................... 22-25
Auxiliary Minutes ................. 31
From Around the State ......... 32-33
Director’s Comments .......... 36-37
Classified Ads ............ 38

Kenneth Hoover - President, Mexico, MO
Jaime Miller - Secretary/Treasurer, Warrensburg, MO
FFAM NEWSLETTER STAFF
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Address correction to: FFAM PO Box 1153, Warrensburg, MO 64093
Happy Summer, Missouri Fire Service. When we use that word, Summer, as a first responder there are some things we need to remember: stay hydrated, take frequent breaks, stay out of the sun when possible, wear sunscreen, and use common sense while working in the sun.

It is with a heavy heart that I continue the next portion of my article.

On Monday, May 29, we had our first line of duty death in Missouri. Firefighter Jesse W. Ketchum of the Memphis City Fire Department was responding on a mutual aid fire call. Firefighter Ketchum was driving a pumper truck en route to the fire when it overturned killing Jesse. We at the Division of Fire Safety and the Missouri fire service extend our continued support to his wife Jenna and their four children, Zada, Cora, Rhet, and Kruz. Let’s keep them in our thoughts and prayers please.

I was very proud to see all the support from the area fire department’s that rallied around the Memphis Fire Department. Fire Chief Jimmy Winn expressed how grateful and appreciative for all the phone calls, cards, along with the show of support the day of the funeral. There were two neighboring states that attended, law enforcement, EMT’s, and a very strong showing of community support. Let’s keep this department in your prayers going forward.

On Monday, June 19, a second line of duty death struck our state. Firefighter Jeffery M. Sanders and Firefighter Joseph Hayward from the Mayview Fire Protection District responded to a downed power-line emergency. They had the response vehicle sitting in the roadway to keep traffic stopped. While working the incident, a private vehicle crashed into the rear of another private vehicle that was stopped behind the response vehicle. This caused the response vehicle to strike the two firefighters who were nearby, trapping them underneath, as it went down an embankment and finally stopped. Firefighter Sanders was pronounced dead at the scene, while Firefighter Hayward was air lifted to Research Medical Center in Kansas City.

Jeffery is survived by his wife Connie, Daughter Samantha “Sammi” Burroughs, and Son Tyler Sanders. Let’s continue to keep this family in our prayers, along with Firefighter Hayward.

Fire Chief Kris White along with the entire Mayview Fire Protection District wanted to thank the Missouri fire service for all the words of encouragement, the attendance at visitation, and the strong showing at the funeral. Please keep Chief White and the Mayview FPD in your prayers in the weeks to come.

I want to thank the Missouri Fire Service Funeral Assistance Team for doing an outstanding job working behind the scenes during these two tragedies. Your many hours of service were much appreciated. If you are interested in becoming a member of this great team go to: www.mofirefuneral.org or call 888-491-4357.

The training division published an online survey, with over 1,426 participating. We are working on collecting the data from the survey which will be used to understand what direction we need to go to develop a firefighter standard.

I am encouraged by what I am hearing across our state from you on establishing a definition of what a Missouri firefighter might look like. I don’t want to get into the weeds with this, but... if you google the definition of what a “Missouri Firefighter” is, you will found the following, ___________ nothing!

Let me ask a question? If we have an event within our state, and you call us through the fire mutual aid system and ask for 100 firefighters what do you get? Do you get someone with twenty years of experience or two days of experience? The answer is yes, to both. Wouldn’t it make sense if we set a firefighter standard, so when you have that situation you would know what level of training that individual brings to you? We can do this as the Missouri fire service. Please help us get this right, your input is very valuable to us. Please contact us by email, phone, text, or come by the thirteenth floor.

To keep you informed about the Worker’s Compensation Grants Program, which is available to Volunteer Fire Departments that do not receive any tax base funding, it is still on hold. The new FY2018 budget has now been signed, but unfortunately this issue did not get funded. We will keep aggressively pursuing this for you.

The Fire Education Commission met in June. They spent two days listening to the state training partners solicit for the $650,000 dollars appropriated for state training. We are excited to say that the training education money was funded in the signed budget. Watch for upcoming training across our state.

I had the opportunity to visit MU FRTI’s 85th Annual Summer Fire School here in Jefferson City. Congratulations to MU FRTI for your vision to educate and train

— continued on page 6
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, June 4, 2017, at the Missouri State Fair Fire Department in Sedalia, Missouri.

ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OTHER OFFICIALS:

OFFICERS
President Kenneth Hoover, Little Dixie FPD; First Vice President Larry Jennings, Johnson County FPD; Second Vice President Grant Oetting, Higginsville FPD; Secretary Treasurer Jaime Miller, Johnson County FPD.

DIRECTORS
District 1, Terry Wynne, Galt FPD; District 2, Greg Wright, Shelbina FD; District 3, Larry Jones, Madison West Monroe FPD; District 6, Gary Berendzen, Cole County FPD; District 11, Monty Thompson, Kearney FPD; District 14, Rick Dozier, Southern FPD of Holt Co.

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS
District 3, Steve Gentry, Little Dixie FPD; District 10, Greg Brown, Eureka FPD.

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

GUESTS
Tim Bean, Missouri Division of Fire Safety; David Hedrick, MU FRTI; Joe Jennings, Larry Eggen, Blake Rasmussen, Johnson County FPD; Harriett Vaucher, Eureka FPD; Timothy Mattox, North Central Carroll FPD; Doc Kritzer, Memorial Foundation.

AGENDA
President Hoover asked for additions to the agenda. Rick Dozier moved to accept the agenda as presented. Terry Wynne seconded the motion and all approved.

MINUTES
President Hoover advised that the 2017 convention meeting minutes are set for approval at the 2018 convention.

FINANCIAL REPORT
President Hoover asked for a review of the April 2017 financial reports. Rick Dozier moved to accept the financial reports as presented. Larry Jones seconded the motion and all approved.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUEST(S)
Director David Hedrick with MU FRTI advised that there are 270 enrolled for Summer Fire School June 7-11. There are still spots open for anyone wanting to still register. The courses will be held at Lincoln University campus in Jefferson City. There will also be rescue boat operations on the river.

Hedrick advised he enjoyed the memorial services this year and thanks to everyone who assisted in making the event a success. He also expressed sympathy to the family of Jesse Ketchum and the Memphis Scotland Co. Fire Department.

MU FRTI fiscal year ends June 30. There have been 541 classes taught and there are 68 more scheduled before the fiscal year end. University funding cuts will affect MU FRTI with a 12% cut in general operations.

A state-wide training survey was sent out on behalf of the advisory council. They are finalizing the results and will have them out by the end of June.

A state-wide training survey was sent out on behalf of the advisory council. They are finalizing the results and will have them out by the end of June.

State Fire Marshal Tim Bean with the Division of Fire Safety expressed his thanks to the 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents for taking on their new roles. He expressed thanks to the Missouri Fire Service Funeral Assistance Team for a great job on assisting in Memphis on the recent LODD.

Work comp legislation was passed and is waiting on a signature from Governor Greitens. A $1 million grant will be used to assist non-tax funded departments with obtaining funds for work comp insurance.

There have been a few promotions within the Division. Steve Grass is the new Deputy Chief of Investigations and Jason Dunn is now the Regional Chief of Investigations. Dennis Kleigh has retired and Scott Stoneberger is now the Fire Investigation Supervisor.

The Division is still working on a firefighter standard/certification and they would like to see legislation on setting standards for a fire fighters in Missouri. A survey was sent out to gather standards and opinions across the state. They are still working on ways to present this across the state.

CORRESPONDENCE
No correspondence was received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Kevin Dusheke, District Sales Coordinator with Aflac, was present to again discuss offering Aflac benefits to FFAM members which would allow members the group discounted rate. Discussion followed. Rick Dozier moved to offer Aflac as a member benefit. Greg Wright seconded the motion and all approved.

President Hoover advised that work is proceeding on replacing the roof at the State Fair Fire Department building and any mold will be remediated once the roof is replaced after a mold study is conducted.

Discussion was held on the fire service history book being created by Bill Westhoff that was approved at the April business meeting. Discussion was held on the storing, packing and shipping of the books once they become available for sale. The Board advised the creation of
the book will need to be placed on hold for now until the logistics of storage and sales can be worked out.

NEW BUSINESS
Secretary Miller advised that the year one grant audit has been completed. FEMA only found one deficiency regarding the FFAM not having an official purchasing resolution. Miller advised that she and 1st Vice President Jennings had worked on a resolution, which was presented, and discussed. Terry Wynne moved to accept the purchasing resolution. Monty Thompson seconded the motion and all approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AWARDS COMMITTEE
No report was given.

BUDGET COMMITTEE
Larry Jennings advised that committee budget requests are due by the August meeting.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE
No report was given.

CHAPLAIN COMMITTEE
David Hedrick reported that Missouri Fire Chaplain Corp annual meeting/training will be on Sept. 18-19 in Arnold, MO. This was rescheduled from May due to flooding.

CONTEST COMMITTEE
No report was given.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE
No report was received from Chillicothe. Monty Thompson advised that they are pursing Branson as a possible location for a future convention. Southern Stone FPD is not interested in hosting however Terry Plumb is working with the local departments regarding the topic. 2017 committee chairman Larry Jennings advised that the committee has re-paid the $2,000 initial loan back to FFAM and is currently working on the final numbers.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
No report was given.

FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE
No report was given.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
Greg Brown reported that the regular legislative session has concluded and there has been one extra session so far. Firefighter training funding is still approximately $900,000. A $45 base increase on ambulance transport has passed.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
Grant Oetting reported the following membership counts: 437 Directors/Councilman; 267 Retired; 16 Associate; 11 Sustaining; 18 Corporate, 340 Departments; 6306 Active; 10 Educational; 42 Juniors.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE
No report was given.

NVFC COMMITTEE
Keith Smith reported the National Cancer Symposium will be in Phoenix in September. He also reminded everyone to get a detailed health check-up.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
President Hoover advised that Grant Oetting has been removed from the committee and Larry Eggen is now the chairman of the committee.

STATE FAIR COMMITTEE
Monty Thompson reported that work weekends will be July 8 and July 22 pending the roof completion.

WEBSITE COMMITTEE
No report was given.

NEWSLETTER
The deadline for the next newsletter will be July 1.

HISTORIAN REPORT
Kay Asher reported that they are working on packing things in her basement and getting them moved to Kingdom City.

FUNERAL TEAM REPORT
Harriett Vaucher reported that 12 members of the team assisted with the LODD in Memphis. There will be a golf
tournament fundraiser for the team and the NFFF on June 26 at Old Hickory in St. Peters.

FOUNDATION REPORT
Keith Smith reported that the Foundation has now revised the plans and design of the Museum. Discussion was held on the FFAM pledge of $100,000. Terry Wynne moved that the Foundation must spend down their existing funds to $25,000 prior to utilizing FFAM funds. Installments for the funds will be made up to $100,000, in the event that the full amount isn’t needed. Larry Jones seconded the motion and all approved.

The annual memorial service was held May 20-21 Kingdom City. Over 300 were in attendance on Sunday. 4 LODD were recognized and 38 non-LODD. They will go back 3 years to recognized those lost as there needs to be a set time limit. Bricks however can be purchased by anyone at any time. He also has order forms for DVD’s for anyone interested.

Grant Oetting moved to adjourn the meeting. Monty Thompson seconded the motion and all approved.

President Hoover adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Jaime Miller, Secretary
Fire Fighters Association of Missouri

Jaime Miller, Secretary
Fire Fighters Association of Missouri

– continued from page 3

firefighters for all these years. You have set the bar high and continued to bring a great product across our state year in and year out! We look forward to 85 more!

We have established a date for our 45th anniversary celebration of the Division of Fire Safety. Mark October 25, at 1:00 p.m., here on the thirteenth floor on your calendar. Our plans are to have as many of the previous employees attend, with snacks, and good fellowship.

Another date you need to put on your calendar is September 10, 2017. This will be our first annual Missouri State Fire Marshal Stair Climb. Kim Fitzsimmons, the event organizer, and the division are working hard on making this a special event. There will be several door prizes, and drawings. Governor Greitens has tentatively committed to attending and climbing. This climb is to ensure the fallen firefighters from September 11 are never forgotten. The proceeds from the event go to support the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation. This organization is who supports us during a line of duty death. Go to http://events.firehero.org/jefferson-city and register. I will be climbing along with other division members.

We will be working on legislative issues the month of July. If you have any legislative issues you would like for us to work on for you, please call or drop us an email. I would strongly encourage you to get to know your local representative and senator. They work for you and take great value in hearing from you, while they represent you here in Jefferson City.

Beginning July 1, 2017, Steve Grass will become the Deputy Chief of the Arson Investigative Unit. Steve retired from the Missouri State Highway Patrol. He comes with over thirty years of experience in the police and fire service. We are excited for him to be joining our team. We also promoted Scott Stoneberger and Jason Dunn as Regional Chiefs. They began their duties the first of June, and have hit the ground running. Robin Reynolds was also recently promoted to Executive One over the administrative duties for the investigative unit. Congratulations to each of you.

I would like to take a moment to recognize a recent retirement. In 1961 the Missouri fire service had a young man arrive on scene, and 56 years later he retires. This man joined the Bell City Volunteer Fire Department, as a junior in high school. He headed to college and formed a College Fire and Rescue Squad at Central Methodist College in Fayette, Missouri, and was chief until he graduated in 1966. While in college he also put in time at the State Fair Fire Department and ultimately became a captain. He worked as a captain on a 21’ jet fire boat at the Lake of the Ozarks. He entered the Navy flight program and put in five years of active duty, in which he was engaged in firefighter training which was required of aviation personnel. He served on the Waynesville Fire Department, for 3½ years as assistant chief and briefly served as chief until he moved to his final destination of Marble Hill. He joined Marble Hill Fire Department in 1975 and became chief in 1976. He has served on the Fire Safety Advisory Board, as an adjunct instructor for MU FRTI, as an EMT, the Bollinger County Emergency Management Director, and also taught for Southeast Missouri University Law Enforcement Academy. In his “spare time” he served thirty-six years as a State Farm agent. Throughout his career, he not only trained people, but trained side by side with firefighters throughout this state and beyond. Jim Bollinger, you are an amazing force in this state and we thank you for everything you have done for the Missouri Fire Service. They just don’t make them like you anymore. God bless you and happy trails my friend. Enjoy your much deserved retirement!

In closing thanks for all your support to the Division of Fire Safety. Remember we are here to service you. Come visit us on the thirteenth Floor, and join us on Facebook.

J. Tim Bean, State Fire Marshal
As first responders, taking care of our health is one of the most important things we can do to help the community and our crew. We need to be strong and healthy so the public and our own can count on us when called.

That’s why the NVFC provides proven wellness programs and resources that help firefighters prevent cancer, reduce heart attack risk, and cope with the stress that can come with the job.

NVFC.org/ServeStrong
I appreciate all of the memorial board members that helped in so many ways throughout both services by, reading of names, bell ringing, and the placing of wreaths and turnout gear.

A special thank you goes to Gary and Sheri Berendzen for hauling the chairs from and to Jefferson City, and to the other individuals that helped set up the chairs for use at both services. And again, a special thanks to Glenn Dittmer and Janet Cain that come every year to help with anything asked of them. True volunteers, what more can I say. Also to Don Hahne and Steve Paulsell who faithfully for many years have performed Taps flawlessly to close our services.

Ladder trucks were provided by Chief Jason Turner of the Holts Summit Fire Protection District and Chief Mark Schofield of the Jefferson City Fire Department to fly the US Flag at the entrance to the memorial walkway. Thanks to Pat Placke of the Washington Volunteer Fire Company and Charles Staats who provided their antique trucks again. Thanks to all.

We also appreciate Christopher Benne and Air Methods Helicopter and the flight crew for the last minute fly-over and salute to our fallen comrades.

I also need to thank everyone else that helped in any way that made our Annual Memorial Services special to everyone, especially to the families being honored.

Thank you to the FFAM Auxiliary for providing and distributing the ribbons and to Harriett Vauher and the FFAM Auxiliary for having statues and souvenirs available to all attendees and to Dr. Baker and his wife for the Field of Flags. The Baker’s represent us all over the state, and I appreciate their support. A special thanks to Rick Wilson and his wife for all of the cookies and special treats Saturday night for all that attended. They have done this for years and are great friends and supporters of the fire service.

There were many more that helped in some way, and I thank each one of you. I apologize if I have forgotten anyone, as I surely have, because it takes so many to get ready for such an event. To those that I did not mention by name, I appreciate your faithfulness every year.

I understand another excellent Summer Fire School was presented in Jefferson City by the University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute. Congratulations to David Hedrick and the MU FRTI staff.

The FFAM State Fair Fire Department Committee has been working many hours preparing for the 2017 State Fair. A work weekend is scheduled on July 8 and 22.

Everything is shaping up for another great time at the 2017 Missouri State Fair. A full staff of FFAM members from throughout the state have been selected to work and I am looking forward to another great time seeing old friends and making new ones. Chief Donnie Rogers invested many hours selecting and preparing his staff to lead and provide the professional fire and rescue/medical services the patrons of the Missouri State Fair have become accustomed to.

I am very thankful to have all of the FFAM officers, directors and assistant directors, committees, and many others serving the needs of the fire service of Missouri.

As always, I am available in the event you have any questions or comments. You may contact me at 573-581-6235 or chiefhoover@sbcglobal.net

Kenneth Hoover
President
Fire Fighters Association of Missouri
V-FORCE® GEAR: MAKING SURE THAT YOU’RE ALWAYS READY FOR ACTION.
As the old saying goes, “There’s been a lot of water under the bridge,” since you’ve heard from me. No pun intended. As in many other areas of our great state, we were very much impacted by the recent rains and flash flooding. West Plains received several million dollars in damages that consisted of 300 residences and 100 businesses receiving damages. We, along with the help of the Region H Swiftwater Rescue Team from St. Joseph and Bethany, Missouri, were successful in rescuing over one hundred people from their homes, vehicles, and off of rooftops, etc. Most importantly, with the help of the good Lord above we had no fatalities or major injuries.

I also want to thank Missouri Division of Fire Safety Statewide Mutual Aid Coordinator Matt Luukemeyer for his assistance in getting the help here and other areas that assistance was needed. Also SEMA Director Ernie Rhoads was very instrumental in having the rescue teams ready and in some cases already deployed for the disaster. We hosted twenty-eight members of Missouri Task Force 1 along with their equipment. They were deployed to another location before all the fun started here but in talking to them afterwards they had a lot going on themselves. Folks if you haven’t seen them in action, our resources in Missouri are very impressive when called upon in the time of need.

If there has ever been a time that we should be able to move forward in the fire service it is now with all the leadership we have represented in State Emergency Management Agency, Division of Public Safety, and Division of Fire Safety.

For those who were not able to attend the FFAM meeting in Sedalia this past June the board of directors re-approved their pledge of $100,000 toward construction of a museum. This pledge plus foundation funds as of that meeting put our price point at $415,000 plus any additional donations received between now and final construction bills are paid. We are now moving forward with project development to see how far $415,000 will take us. I do not believe this is enough to fully finish and open the museum but should get all site work completed and a fully secured building shell up, while we finish raising the required balance. One never knows for sure until the bids are in. We will be requesting bids on two phases plus a couple of options. Phase I is described as a shell only for now, and Phase II being fully finished. Phase III involves being fully furnished and ready to open.

Greg Wright has been doing miles and miles of preliminary work while Doc Kritzer has arranged for a couple of meetings with an architect for possible professional services. We have contacted and are communicating with four builders that would be interested in this project and working within our various restrictions. We have a construction group within the foundation that is ready to move forward with final planning and development once we have some final details established, which I am projecting to be completed by end of July. Allowing two months for project refinement, final documents, final review and bidding, it is possible we could be moving dirt by mid to late October. This is likely the very earliest and as these things go, it could be a later start. The key is that unlike the past five years we are now actually moving forward versus being on hold. Revising the vision and original plan, downsizing for now, recent cost savings in construction technology, and the willingness to move forward in a phased process, has finally moved this project forward.

The “Foot in the Door” campaign is now stepping forward but we may find ourselves needing that other foot to finish what we are about to finally get started.

MissouriFireFightersMuseum.org

In closing, if anyone in my region, District 9 has any questions or concerns about the FFAM please feel free to notify me at roy.sims@westplainsfd.org. Thanks, stay safe!
Aflac for Fire Fighters Association of Missouri employees

Fire Fighters Association of Missouri is now making the following Aflac insurance policies available to its members:

1. **Accident**
   For a covered accident, Aflac policyholders receive cash benefits for use as they see fit. This plan helps provide a financial cushion if an accident occurs.

2. **Cancer/Specified-Disease**
   Aflac’s cancer/specification-disease insurance policies are designed to pay cash benefits that can be used to help offset cancer-related expenses and to help with a variety of daily living expenses.

3. **Critical Care and Recovery (Specified Health Event)**
   Helps with the medical expenses related to a covered serious health event.

4. **Life**
   Provides term or whole life insurance.

For more information about policy benefits, limitations, and exclusions, please call your Aflac insurance agent/producer, Kevin Dusheke, at (573) 690-5718 or email kevin_dusheke@us.aflac.com. This is a brief product overview only. Plans may not be available in all states. Benefits are determined by situs state and plan level selected.

Aflac for Fire Fighters Association of Missouri Employees:
- Aflac is different from major medical insurance; it’s insurance for daily living.
- Aflac pays you cash benefits, unless assigned, to use as you see fit.
- Aflac benefits can help with unexpected expenses.
- Aflac insurance policies belong to you—not your company.
- Aflac offers competitive rates.
- Aflac processes claims quickly—usually within four days.¹
- Thanks to the Aflac Duck, nine out of ten people in the United States know the Aflac name.²

¹Company statistics, December 31, 2011.
²Aflac 2011 Year in Review.

Coverage is underwritten by American Family Life Assurance Company of Columbus. In New York, coverage is underwritten by American Family Life Assurance Company of New York.
$5,000 “CHOOSE YOUR TOOLS” SWEEPSTAKES

By California Casualty

You work hard keeping our communities safe. That’s why California Casualty, provider of the FFAM Auto and Home Insurance Program, is giving back with a chance to win $5,000 of quality DeWALT® tools.

If you like to head out to the shop and blow off steam by hammering out something useful or artistic after a long shift, this is the contest for you.

The winner of the latest Work Hard/Play Hard Sweepstakes from California Casualty will choose from an impressive catalogue of DeWALT guaranteed tough tools that includes: generators, compressors, tool storage units, and all the power saws, wrenches, drills, and accessories anyone could ever need or use.

The Work Hard/Play Hard “Choose Your Tools” drawing is open to peace officers, EMTs and firefighters; American heroes who work hard and risk their lives daily. Entries are being taken now through November 13, 2017 at www.policefiregiveaway.com.

“We know the pressure and stress first responders face every day,” said California Casualty Sr. Vice President Mike McCormick. “This is our chance to show appreciation and provide a useful and fun way to say thanks.”

Forget having to borrow tools again. You can join other first responders who have benefitted from California Casualty’s Work Hard/Play Hard contests by entering the “Choose Your Tools” Sweepstakes. The entry form and rules can be found at www.policefiregiveaway.com. The deadline is November 13, 2017, with a winner announced in December.

Missouri First responders can learn more about California Casualty and how it appreciates all they do at https://mycalcas.com.

Headquartered in San Mateo, California with Service Centers in Arizona, Colorado and Kansas, California Casualty has partnered with the FFAM to provide auto and home insurance to firefighters in the state of Missouri since 1995. Founded in 1914, California Casualty has been led by four generations of the Brown family. To learn more about California Casualty, or to request an auto insurance quote, please visit www.calcas.com/FFAM or call 1.800.800.9410.

*DeWALT® is a registered trademark of Stanley Black & Decker. All rights reserved. DeWALT® and its parent companies are not participating partners in or sponsors of this contest.
So far this year, 83 Fire Stations across the state have received and displayed banners promoting safe digging practices.

We would like to thank everyone who participated for their efforts in educating the public about the importance of preventing damages to underground facilities.

Save Your Banners! We’ll Do This Again Next Year with a BIGGER and BETTER Prize!
Greetings all! I hope your summer has been going well and you are finding time to enjoy the great outdoors and the many activities our state offers. The Missouri State Fair is upon us and will proudly be representing the FFAM to all fair visitors. My thought for the FFAM and the fire service this time is actually a question: What is the image we are portraying?

By “we” I mean the collective whole and the individual members. The members of the fire service, whether just in the state of Missouri or across the entire nation have an obligation to each other. That obligation is to exhibit a strong image, gain respect through our image and protect the image of the fire service. There was once a time in our history that all members of the service were revered not only in their local community, but all across our nation. Through the actions of some, but certainly not the majority, our sterling image and the respect it commanded has waned a bit.

Headlines citing internal theft, in and out of the station, substance abuse, sexual misconduct in and out of the station, harassment and other similar actions puts an immediate smear on the entire fire service. For whatever reason if a firefighter is involved in misconduct the headlines always read: Firefighter charged. Take the same misconduct and have a ditch digger, nothing against a ditch digger, I did that for a job myself, be involved and rarely do the headlines include their occupation. The reason why this happens is the image and revere that we have had for hundreds of years.

These actions shock the general public that someone they trusted without question could be involved. For the rest of the members of the fire service we get lumped in with those few that decide to violate the public trust, but above all violate the trust of their fellow firefighters.

What can you do? Each one of us can individually make choices that lead us in a path not subject to scrutiny. We can each work to assist every other member to stay on track with actions aimed at staying within the accepted image of our profession. We can each seek out training to make ourselves the very best at what we do. We can each assist those struggling with training or work to identify areas our agencies or the service as a whole are lacking in preparing our members for the challenges of the job. We will talk more about training in a future column.

What is the image we are projecting for the FFAM? Are we each doing everything we can to promote the organization in a positive fashion? If you have never given this any thought, it might be time to step back and take a look. When we talk about the need to increase our membership or if you agreed with my thought in the last newsletter that we should be the single representative of a unified front of all of the Missouri fire service, are we doing anything that would make someone want to join or be active? Some fire service members may view our organization based on a single encounter or maybe just from hearing some random information, whether that information is factual or not. Everything we do must be aimed at making this organization the one people flock towards to become a member of. When we do things like exhibit poor public behavior or have infighting in the organization it does nothing to “invite” others to either join or become more active.

Each of us can pay close attention to our behavior in public whether it be on an incident or just shopping at the local store. We become linked to our profession not just through facial recognition, but through the clothes we wear and the conversations we have. So even if you think no one “knows” who you are it is likely that someone observing your actions will make the link and of course that affects our image. Your decision is, if that affect is a positive or negative one. There is always a right time and place for most actions and of course the wrong place and time also. Is it acceptable if a member of the fire service wishes to enjoy an adult libation from time to time? Most would answer, yes if they are of age and so choose. However is it still acceptable for a member to enjoy that libation and then respond to the scene of an incident? I think most of us would agree this is not acceptable behavior and without doubt most members of the public would not find this within the fire service’s acceptable image.

That tee shirt you wear, you know the one that has a really catchy phrase that we all laugh about and rarely see much wrong with. How do you think the general public views that same shirt? Many people, and particularly in our now overly politically correct society, may not see the same humor you saw and this can work to not only tarnish your image locally, but the image of the fire service as a whole. Improper actions, loud and abusive language in a restaurant bring attention to you and potentially to the service.
How many of us really want a mother stopping by our table and “thanking” us for teaching their impressionable child sitting at the next table who idolized firefighters a few new offensive words?

Now don’t get the impression that I am saying we cannot be human, that we can’t have fun, that we will not make missteps, that we can’t be individuals or anything even close to that. I agree that sometimes people just need to get over themselves and figure out that life goes on around them. What I am saying is those things you do affect the image we portray for the fire service and the FFAM. I can assure you on an individual level I have not always exercised the most intelligent decision making, but I have always made an effort to not let my less than wise moments become a public viewed spectacle and be linked to the fire service.

So our image, good or bad, really does rest with each of us as we constitute the collective whole of the fire service. Take a few seconds next time right before you do something that could be questionable and ask yourself, “Would this make my grandmother proud?” If not, it is probably not something that will shed a positive light on the image of the fire service. Do what you can to protect the image because once it is tarnished it is extremely hard to get it polished back to that shining condition you once enjoyed. Just a thought for us all to consider.

Be Safe!

Sponsor a Brick!
The Firefighter Memorial Foundation of Missouri

Add your name or a loved ones 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
Hello from District 2. Everyone in our area has been busy these last couple months. I hope you got to attend the 2017 Missouri Firefighter Memorial Services May 20-21, in Kingdom City. It was a very special event, honoring four line of duty deaths and many firefighters that have since past away. It was also special that seventeen firefighters from Germany also attended. Thanks to everyone that made it possible. Mark your calendar for May 19-20, 2018, for the 2018 Missouri Firefighter Memorial.

Also mark your calendar for Saturday, August 12, 2017, as the state fair will be doing a “Salute to our Heroes” on opening weekend. That Saturday law enforcement, firefighters, EMT’s and paramedics, with identification will receive free gate admission to the Missouri State Fair. Make sure you stop by the fire station and say hello. Military will be honored on Sunday.

We extend to the Scotland Missouri Rural Fire Department and Memphis Fire Department our deepest sympathies for the loss of one of their own, 33 year old Firefighter Jesse Ketchum who lost his life while responding to a fire in Scotland County. Our deepest condolence to his wife and family. Please keep them in your prayers. I know I will miss a department, so I am just going to say thank you to all the area fire departments that came or offered to cover the area while the fire department attended the visitations and funeral.

THE MISSOURI FIREFIGHTER HISTORIC AND PRESERVATION CENTER - MUSEUM
As you know the Memorial Foundation has been working toward building a historic and education preservation museum along side the existing memorial for several years. And now that day is fast approaching. Let me explain.

If you were at the Firefighter Memorial Service in May, you may have seen a lot of different color survey flags just West of the memorial. A design has been drawn up, reviewed and fine tuned. It will have a training center, administration offices, lots of storage, and a huge area to display our fire history, including but not limited to old fire trucks, historic papers, equipment, and hopefully at a later date, interactive things for all to do. Now, we need your help!

To help get this project completed we are asking all fire departments and firefighters to jump on board and help make this project happen. There are several ways you can help. I would however like to talk about three ways that you can help, all on www.ffam.org under memorial.

One way that you can help is to write a check for your donation for any amount to the Missouri Firefighter Memorial Foundation and mail it to the address on the website or give it to any memorial or FFAM board member. $10, $50, $1,000, no amount is too small, or to large.

Another way, I did this not too long ago. You can enter anytime the museum is open, at no charge by becoming a “Foot in the Door” member. For $100 you can sponsor a square foot of the museum and have a lifetime admission to the museum at no cost during regular business hours. But best of all, be a part of helping preserve our Missouri fire service heritage. Don’t think for a minute that you can only sponsor one square foot. You can sponsor as many square feet as you wish. $200 sponsors two square feet, $500 donation sponsors five square feet, you get the idea.

The other way I wish to share is that you can “Sponsor a Brick”. You can add your name or a loved one’s name to the Walk of Honor. There are two sizes of bricks to choose from. These sponsorships can be done on the website and takes just a minute of your time.

So, I am asking all fire departments and firefighters, “Let’s make this happen.” With your help we can. That way your kids, your grandkids, and people near and far for years to come can learn and enjoy our Missouri fire heritage.

Thanks for your time. Until next time be safe.

Kenneth Hoover
President
Fire Fighters Association of Missouri

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

The 2018 FFAM Convention WILL NOT be held in Chillicothe, Missouri, due to circumstances beyond our control.

We will announce the new location as soon as one is secured.

Kenneth Hoover
President
Fire Fighters Association of Missouri
It is with profound sadness that I must open my article with not one but two line of duty death (LODD) announcements. Since the last newsletter our state finds itself having honored two LODD’s and both very shortly after our May 21, services in Kingdom City. Firefighter Jesse Ketchum with the Memphis Fire Department passed on May 29, and Firefighter Jeffrey M. Sanders with the Mayview Fire Protection District passed on June 19. I also wish his partner a speedy recovery. Your foundation now sets about the task of honoring their sacrifice in the May 2018 services. Several of you reading this article assisted with arrangements and honoring department/family in one or both community services. Thank you for doing so.

The DVD’s from the 2017 services will be available for sale by the time you are reading this article. It has the candlelight and Sunday morning service on one DVD. If you were not able to attend and need one or attended and forgot to sign up for a copy please contact me. Cost is $10 or $12 each if mailed.

The foundation remains very much aware of the discussions on cancer in the fire service and the national conversation on cancer presumption. For those of you which follow NVFC on Facebook you have seen the Don’t be a Drag illustration as part of the Serve Strong campaign. It makes some very good points with getting tested. As previously indicated the foundation is attempting to follow with national on LODD but open for other information plus questions surrounding the possible medical links and what may be asked of the foundation. I previously discussed this but it is worth repeating there are five key representation positions that are 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.

Finally, it has been a long time in coming but thanks in large part to Bill Farr and his family business the foundation finally has an official uniform shirt. This is the short sleeve version and the three colors do have a symbolism. Red is for sacrifice and that is what the foundation honors both as LODD and regular service regardless of time. White is for purity and the purist of ideals we try to put forward in our service to each family, extended family, friends and those having an interest in the fire service. Gold is for the standard we try to follow in process and best practice. A long sleeve is in the works but that reveal will follow when it is time to wear long sleeves.

We Need Your Support

Fire Fighters Historical Preservation Foundation of Missouri

Find more details on how to Sponsor a Brick or Donate Visit FFAM.org
2017 MEMORIAL
Kingdom City, MO
Jeffery Mason Sanders, 55, of Mayview, Missouri passed away June 19, 2017, in Mayview, while answering a call as a firefighter with the Mayview Fire Protection District.

Funeral services were Monday, June 26, 2017, at the Odessa High School with visitation, also at the school on Sunday, June 25, 2017. There was a procession of firemen paying their respects to Jeff and his family. Burial was in Zion Cemetery, Mayview. Memorials may be made to the Mayview Lions Club or the Mayview Fire Protection District.

Jeff was born March 31, 1962, in Lexington, Missouri, to Samuel John and Ella Mae Mason Sanders. He married Connie Joyce Howerton in Mayview on August 5, 1984. Jeff and Connie were life-long farmers. Jeff has been involved with the Mayview Lions Club, the Odessa FFA Advisory Board, the Mayview Special Road District, and the Mayview Fire Protection District. Jeff was also treasurer of the Mayview Zion Cemetery Board.

Jeff is survived by his wife Connie, of the home; his daughter and son in law, Samantha JoAnn “Sammi” and David Burroughs of Odessa, Missouri; his son, Tyler RaeAllen Sanders, of Mayview; one brother, John Sanders and wife Nancy of Buckner, Missouri; one sister, Eleanor Lockhart and husband Bob of Springfield, Missouri; and one grandson, Samuel Mason Burroughs, of Odessa. Also surviving are several nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

In 2007, Jesse married his high-school sweet-heart Jenna Rae (Dial) Ketchum. To this union, 4 children were born, Zada Rae, 8, Cora Kay, 6, Rhet William, 5, and Kruz Roy, 2. Jesse was a loving, supportive husband and very proud to be called “Daddy”.

Jesse had a true passion for figuring out how things worked and ran. He enjoyed working and doing what was right for people. He enjoyed many friends, helping people, and always learning.

Jesse started farming during high school and bought his farm and the age of 17. He enjoyed working with cattle. These passions originated as a small child when he would drive his tractors in the sandbox.

As a child, Jesse was very active in 4-H, Boy Scouts, and FFA. Currently he was a member of the Memphs Fire/Scotland County Rural Fire Departments and the VFW Post #4958 of Memphis.

Jesse was a wonderful loving husband, father, son, brother, grandson and friend. He was a great family man who truly believed in keeping traditions. Jesse will always be missed.

He was preceded in death by his father, Bill Ketchum, grandparents Leland Ketchum, Denver and Jody McClamroch, Kenneth Eggleston, Madge and Bud Daggs, and father-in-law Bob Dial.

Survivors include his wife Jenna Ketchum of the home, four children; Zada Rae, Cora Kay, Rhet William, Kruz Roy, his mother Kelley Ketchum and Dan Short, one brother Jason and Stephanie Ketchum, grandparents: Grandma Kay Eggleston and Mary Ketchum, mother-in-law Marcia Dial. Several nieces and nephews including Claire Grace Ketchum. Many other family member and a whole host of friends and patrons. Aunts and uncles: Mark and Patty McClamroch, Wyatt McClamroch, Kristy Eggleston-Wood, Mark Eggleston, Clifford and Linda Ketchum, Jane and Jack Thompson, Arron and Kim Ketchum. Brothers and sisters-in-laws: Scott and Audra Anderson, Shannon and Rob Quillin.

In 1971 Jack began working at the Emporia Fire Department, eventually earning the position of Fire Marshall before he departed the Department in 1990 to become Fire Chief and EMS Director in Concordia KS. He left that position in 1996 to be Fire Chief and the EMS Director in Iola KS, then finally retiring in 1999.

Not one to sit idle, Jack began working again for Hays Fire Equipment and then moved on to Max Fire Equipment for a few more years before finally calling it quits and buying a motorcycle, going on to become a member of the notorious motorcycle club “ROMEO” (Retired Old Motorcyclists Eating Out) that kept him busy and helped him avoid his “Honey Do” list at least 3 days a week.

Bob began his career as a volunteer firefighter in Shawnee and Overland Park, Kansas. This experience would usher him into a 35-year career with the National Fire Safety Council. His passion was bringing fire safety education to children. “Stop, drop, and roll!” He was an avid Chiefs fan! Bob also loved taking his grandsons fishing, entertaining family at home, but most of all just spending time with the love of his life, Helen.

Bob was preceded in death by: his parents; a son, Robert Mullin; and two brothers. He is survived by: his wife of 31 years, Helen (Noone) Mullin; daughter, Raquel Mullin-Davis; daughter, Cynthia (John) Mincher; son, Kevin Stadler; son, Greg (Linda) Stadler; and daughter, Lisa (John) Dixon; many grandchildren and great grandchildren; brother, Dennis (Rhonda) Mullin.

Jack enjoyed every minute of life, loved his family and friends with his whole heart. Always in our hearts and memories he will be missed forever.

He is survived by wife Vickie, Children: Anita and husband Greg Barker, Stacie and husband Massaoud Fattah and Jack Graves. A sister Jane Martinez and brother Alan Graves, many nieces and nephews and the pride and joy of his life, his grandchildren Johnathon Graves and Naima Fattah.

In Lieu of flowers Memorial contributions can be made to ACARF (Allen County Animal Rescue Facility) 305 US-54, La Harpe, KS 66751 Or Emporia Friends of the Zoo 75 Soden Road Emporia KS. 66801
THE NATIONAL URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE RESPONSE SYSTEM

FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces are teams of individuals specializing in urban search and rescue, disaster recovery, and emergency triage and medicine. The teams are deployed to emergency and disaster sites within six hours of notification. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) created the task force concept in 1989 to provide support for large-scale disasters.

There are twenty-eight task forces in the country, each sponsored by a local agency. In the event of a major incident in the United States, the nearest three task forces will be activated and sent to the site of the disaster. If the situation warrants, additional teams will be activated.

MISSOURI URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TASK FORCE 1

The Boone County Fire Protection District manages Missouri Task Force 1 (MO-TF1). The Task Force is designed to assist local emergency agencies facing disaster responses both in and outside the state. The task force supplements local response agencies and does not command or control the incident. When it deploys, the team consists of eighty people. To insure eighty individuals can deploy at any given time, federal requirements mandate that each position be staffed three deep. In total, 210 people are necessary to properly staff MO-TF1. These people fill eighteen separate and distinct job functions ranging from canine search specialists, to physicians, to rescue specialist, and heavy equipment operators. Nationally, over 2,000 individuals are involved in the FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Force System.

MO-TF1 has more than 17,000 separate equipment items that are maintained in inventory and sent when the task force is deployed. The total equipment cache weight is in excess of 40,000 pounds. The unit must carry everything necessary to be self-sufficient for up to 72 hours.

In 2013 Boone Electric Cooperative featured the task force in an article in their publication. The following reprint of that article features an interview with long time Task Force Leader, Assistant Chief Doug Westhoff and illustrates the real concept of the task force system and the dedication required to make the system work.

LEADING A TEAM OF HEROES - A BOONE ELECTRIC COOP ARTICLE

It takes a unique type of person to run into a burning building or race to the scene of an accident. They’re often described as heroes. But there is a particular group of these men and women who seek a different challenge. They make up the 210 person team of Missouri Task Force 1, and urban search and rescue team of volunteers.

Established in 1997 following two years of training, Missouri Task Force 1 has responded to several regional events and 11 federal events. Their most significant deployment was the 9-11 terrorist attack, the unit’s first federal deployment. The Task Force volunteers would be tested like never before, as would leader of only 14 months, Boone Electric Cooperative member Doug Westhoff.

Westhoff faced the challenge of a lifetime at ground zero in New York City. Traveling via military cargo plane within minutes of the first attack, Westhoff had no visual evidence of what had actually taken place at the World Trade Center until he arrived early the next morning.

The Task Force’s first assignment of the eleven day deployment to New York City was to search a 29 story Marriott hotel that had been leveled to the height of only five floors.

“It was just 16 acres of nothing but nastiness,” He describes how they never was one desk or computer. Everything was crushed into this dusty, gray substance.

He recalls seeing people walking around with photographs and names of their loved ones around their necks, pleading with members of his team to help them “We’ve got a task. We’re on a mission,” says Westhoff. “Some people are able to shield that out. For others that’s a stark exposure to the human life.”
Westhoff explains how he and his team must remain focused on the task at hand. Emotions cannot interfere while engaged in a search and rescue operation. The team’s efforts do not always include finding survivors. During this operation, the team had the unfortunate task of also recovering the bodies of fellow rescue workers.

The New York City deployment came with many new challenges for the team. “There were a lot of firsts,” says Westhoff. Gaining the trust of the New York fire and police departments took a little time. “We came in there with these yellow shirts and yellow helmets,” he recalls. “They must have thought we were cavers from the Midwest.” Task Force 1 team members were “thrown off the pile” on more than one occasion. The local emergency services workers shared a brotherhood, like family. They were insistent on recovering the bodies of their fallen comrades. Soon they became interested in the work of Task Force 1. “Once they figured out their guys could spray paint symbols on the side of a building and it meant something,” says Westhoff, “well, they thought that was pretty cool.” Before long, Task Force 1 was allowed to make some of those sensitive recoveries.

Several friendships were formed while in New York. Many are still strong today. Task Force 1 members have returned to New York for funerals, memorials and training events since 9-11.

The long trip home following a deployment like New York is when it can be difficult for some team members. He points out that it affects everyone differently based on their life experiences. This is where you see internal supportive efforts take place.

“IT’s a very unique bond that’s formed within one of these groups,” Westhoff says. “We look out for one another. We’re a big family.”

Missouri Task Force 1 consists of three people for every position. The Red, White and Blue teams are each made up of 70 members, totaling 210 Missouri Task Force 1 volunteer members. These volunteers are not limited to emergency service personnel. Structural engineers, dog handlers and others from the business community bring unique assets to the team. All members must be able to deploy from Columbia within three hours.

The three teams of volunteers share one set of equipment valued at several millions of dollars. The 12 vehicle package, including charter buses, flatbed trucks, trailers, SUVs and 15 passenger vans, is an impressive site while in transit.

Another one of Westhoff’s most memorable deployments was to Louisiana following Hurricane Katrina, their longest mission to date. Although there may have been a lot of talk about the lack of federal resources, “We were actually there before the storm came on shore,” he explains. “We were pre-positioned in Shreveport, LA.”

The team waited on the west side of the storm for the chance to slide into the region from the southwest. “We’re an asset of the federal government,” he says. “We have to wait to be invited in.” He goes on to explain how they were finally invited into Jefferson Parish by the local Sheriff. Eventually moving into the New Orleans area, the team worked 14 days in the region, returned home for three and then completed the mission with an additional 14 days in Louisiana. The area they returned to was the same area they had previously searched by boat. This time, however, they were on foot in the mess the water left behind.

Family and employer support is critical to the success of Missouri Task Force 1. Most often the team has time to prepare for a mission. But in cases like 9-11, they are sometimes requested to deploy with no notice. Either way, a burden is placed on families of the Task Force volunteers. An internal support network provides assistance to the families.

Training is another vital aspect to Westhoff’s team. A training facility located just north of Columbia is where Task Force volunteers prepare for urban searches and rescues. Team members must complete 80-100 hours of training before their first deployment. Additional training is required each year to remain certified.

Missourians are fortunate to have this skilled unit of professionals nearby. Their expertise and equipment have been more than helpful on several occasions over the years. Rest assured that when these individuals, like Westhoff, who most value “God, country and family” – in that order – are called upon, they will be ready to go at a moment’s notice.
If MO-TF1 is deployed and air transportation is required, the entire cache of equipment, all sixty thousand pounds of it, along with personnel is transported to Whiteman A.F.B by ground from its base at Boone County Fire District Headquarters in Columbia, MO to be airlifted to the incident. The deployment to New York on 9/11 was one such deployment. There are over 16,000 pieces of equipment needed to support the task force rescue and recovery efforts. The nearly one and a half million dollars worth of equipment, along with nearly one hundred task force members, will completely fill a military C-141 aircraft or two C-130’s.

In the majority of instances when MO-TF1 is required, ground transportation is the most logical approach to reaching the scene. The entire cache of equipment is stored in “transportation ready” containers in the task force warehouse at the Boone County Fire District Headquarters in Columbia. Logistics specialists load tractor-trailer units to make task force members make their way from their home bases to Columbia for deployment. To ensure rapid and effective response, the task force cache must be a construction site, communications center, high-tech engineering firm, mobile emergency room and camp rolled into one.

**FIRST FEDERAL DEPLOYMENT**

Missouri Task Force 1 was formed after several years of discussion and political maneuvering to convince FEMA officials that Boone County Fire Protection District in Columbia, Missouri, was the best destination for a federal task force of this magnitude. According to retired Boone County Fire Chief Steve Pausell, who was the driving force behind the effort, U.S. Senator Christopher Kit Bond played an important role in Washington to ensure that FEMA officials knew the importance of the task force being centrally located in the State. He also assured FEMA Director James Lee Whitt that the district and its staff were up to the challenge. It was also imperative that the district demonstrates to FEMA that a serious search and rescue capability existed in the district before final approval could be granted. Missouri Senator Roger Wilson acquired a rather large appropriation from the Missouri legislature to ensure that Boone County could provide the basic format required to satisfy FEMA Requirements.

After FEMA approval there was a couple of year span of intense training and organization to bring Missouri Task Force 1 to an operational status. Assistant Chief Doug Westhoff was appointed by Chief Pausell to be the task force leader and he and other staff members trained with other task forces around the country to insure operational readiness. Members of the task force were recruited from not only the Boone County Fire District but also from fire departments throughout the State of Missouri.

It was on September 11, 2001, when all the training and efforts put forth by all the hundreds of task force members would be put to the test. The attack on the morning of 9/11 triggered the most significant response in history of the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Urban Search and Rescue National Response System. The attacks prompted a Presidential Disaster Declaration under the Stafford Act and the activation of the Federal Response Plan.

Of the eight initial task force’s activated by FEMA, four responded by ground transportation Pennsylvania (PA-TF1), Massachusetts (MA-TF1), Ohio (OH-TF1) and Indiana (IN-TF1). The other four teams activated responded by military airlift California (CA-TF1) (CA-TF6) (CA-TF7) and Missouri (MO-TF1).
By the middle of the afternoon on September 11, MO-TF1 was on its way to Whiteman A.F.B to be air lifted to McGuire A.F.B. and its first and most challenging deployment of many to come in the following years.

DEPLOYMENTS
Over the last two decades, MO-TF1 has deployed to Federal deployments outside Missouri and a number on in state emergencies. A deployment requires swift and efficient loading and transportation of equipment and personnel, both human and canine, in busses, tractor trailers, and a parade of other vehicle that travel in an emergency response convoy. On each of the trailer units is a list of deployments executed by MO-TF1 over the years.

Federal Deployments
World Trade Center New York, 2001
Space Shuttle Columbia, Texas, 2003
Hurricane Isabel, Virginia, 2003
Hurricane Dennis, Mississippi, 2005
Hurricane Katrina, Louisiana, 2005
Hurricane Ernesto, Atlanta, 2006
Hurricane Dean, Texas, 2007
Hurricane Dolly, Texas, 2008
N.S.S.E., R.N.C., Minnesota, 2008
Hurricane Ike, Louisiana, 2008
Hurricane Sandy, New York, 2012
Colorado Floods, Colorado, 2013
Hurricane Matthew, North Carolina, 2016

State Deployments
St. Louis, 1998
Centralia, 2003
Clinton, 2006
Piedmont, 2008
Ft. Leonard Wood, 2010
Joplin, 2011
St. Louis Floods, 2016

HURRICANE MATTHEW
DEPLOYMENT, OCTOBER 2016,
LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA
One of the most current MO-TF1 out state Federal deployments was a result of the massive flooding in the Southeast United States as a result of hurricane Matthew. The best way to get an idea of the massive activities of the task force is to review some of the official FEMA photos taken during that activity when MO-TF1 members were assisting families affected by flooding in Lumberton, NC.

Photo Credit: FEMA Jocelyn Augustino

Task forces are assigned locations of operation by FEMA and upon arrival establish a base of operation (BOO) so that coordination can take place with local emergency officials. Each member is assigned to a twelve hour shift and rescue and recovery operations normally take on a twenty-four hour a day format, depending on the area and need.

These dedicated task force members come from throughout the state and spend countless hours in regularly scheduled training at the Task Force/BCFPD training center North of Columbia, as well as deployments. We are indeed fortunate to have such an organization in our state. Thank you to all that serve and have served with the FEMA Missouri Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 1.

Editors Note: A special thanks to Boone Electric Cooperative for allowing us to use their article Leading a Team of Heroes and to FEMA Photographer Jocelyn Augustina for the exceptional photos. Our thanks and gratitude also goes out to Fire Chief Scott Olsen and the Board of Directors of the Boone County Fire Protection District for the continued sponsorship of this important state asset. Last but certainly not least, the full time staff at the fire district, including my epic Son, who lives and breathes the task force and the fire district and has for forty years, and all the other folks that “keep the wheels on” the task force!
Hello to all from the East side of the state. Summer is here and on this side we have had some hot days with high humidity, so before the dog days of August hit us, here is a friendly reminder about hyperthermia.

Hyperthermia is actually an umbrella term. It refers to several conditions that can occur when your body’s heat-regulation system can’t handle the heat in your environment.

Hyperthermia comes in many stages. Heat exhaustion, for example, is a common condition. But others, such as heat syncope, may be less familiar to you.

HEAT STRESS
If your body temperature starts to climb and you’re unable to cool yourself through sweating, you’re experiencing heat stress. Heat stress can lead to serious complications, such as heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

In addition to feeling uncomfortably hot, you may also experience:

- dizziness
- weakness
- nausea
- thirst
- headache

If you’re feeling signs of heat stress, get to a cooler area and rest. Start drinking water or other fluids with electrolytes that will help restore hydration. Electrolytes are substances in the body, such as calcium, sodium, and potassium that keep you hydrated. They help regulate your heart rate, nerve function, and muscle health.

HEAT CRAMPS
Heat cramps usually follow intense exertion or exercise in the heat. They’re usually the result of an electrolyte imbalance and are typically felt in the abdomen, leg, or arm muscles.

To help relieve heat cramps, rest in a cool place, and be sure to replenish the fluids and electrolytes that are lost when you sweat.

HEAT EXHAUSTION
This is one of the most serious stages of hyperthermia. In addition to sweating profusely, you may experience:

- dizziness
- weakness
- thirst
- coordination issues
- skin that’s cool and clammy
- rapid pulse

This is the last stage before heat stroke occurs, so it’s important that you rest and rehydrate as soon as you feel symptoms developing.

Heat stroke can occur when your body temperature reaches above 104°F (40°C). Fainting is often the first sign.

Other signs and symptoms include:

- irritability
- confusion
- coordination issues
- flushed skin
- reduced sweating
- weak or rapid pulse

When these signs start to emerge, you should:

- Try to get to a cool location, preferably one with air conditioning.
- Drink water or electrolyte-filled sports drinks.
- Take a cool bath or shower to help speed up your recovery.
- Place ice bags under your arms and around your groin area.

PREVENTION
Drinking water is a must in order to prevent heat injury. Depending on the heat and activity level, a firefighter may need to drink between a pint and three quarts of water per hour. In hot, dry climates this can total as much as three gallons per day.

Many years ago I read a study conducted by the Israeli Defense Forces to determine the most effective liquid for their soldiers to consume to prevent dehydration and to treat cases of heat cramps or exhaustion if they occurred.

The results showed that a tepid liquid (cool, not cold) consisting of one part fruit juice and nine parts water was the best combination for rehydration because soldiers would keep drinking. Ice-cold beverages stimulate nerve endings in the back of the throat and tell the brain that thirst has been quenched, albeit prematurely.
TREATMENTS
When prevention fails and heat-related illnesses set in, it is important to quickly recognize the signs and apply the proper treatment. Here’s a look at how to approach each level of illness.

To treat heat cramps:
• Stop all activity, remove all items of the protective ensemble, particularly the protective hood, and sit quietly in a cool place.
• Drink cool water, a sports drink, or other drinks with no caffeine or alcohol.
• Do not resume activity for a few hours after the cramps go away, since heat cramps can lead to heat exhaustion or heat stroke.
• Get medical help if the cramps do not go away in one hour.

To treat heat exhaustion:
• Perform the first two bulleted items above.
• Sit in front of a cooling fan or mister to help promote sweat evaporation and cool the body.

Heat stroke is a time-critical medical emergency. Get the firefighter to a shady or cool area and call for emergency medical assistance immediately. Until they arrive, do the following:
• Cool the victim as quickly as possible with a cool bath or shower, a spray of cool water from hose, or by wrapping the victim in a cool, wet sheet.
• Check body temperature often and continue cooling efforts until temperature drops to 102°F.
• Do not give any fluids to drink until their body temperature has been lowered.

Let’s talk about this year’s fire prevention theme which will be here before we know it, and the cooler days and nights. Please read up on the rules and regulations for paper size and fill out the poster contest label which can be found under the fire prevention drop down on the FFAM website. Have a great safe summer. See ya at the Missouri State Fair.

BLACK FIRE IS CLEARLY A DANGER
By Scott Barthelmass

We have grown up thinking that fire is red. In my early years of firefighting, I was told by some “salty old dogs” at my rural, volunteer fire department to always “put the wet stuff on the red stuff.”

Black fire is a term used for smoke that is highly turbulent, has high volume output and is ultra dark. You can think of it as a form of fire, because in many ways it is.

Black fire is hot. Temperatures often reach almost 1,000 degrees. It produces as much destruction as flames do. Black fire can cause charring and heat damage to structures and contents.

Black fire is often just seconds away from becoming a deadly environment, even for firefighters wearing full PPE. Because it is so dangerous to firefighters in full PPE, it is definitely dangerous for the unprotected occupants of a building. When black fire occurs, there are usually no lives to be saved.

The presence of black indicate impending auto-ignition and flashover.

Flashover is the stage of a fire when the area become heated to the point that flames engulf an entire area. Flashover is the transition between the growth and fully developed fire stages.

A flashover is the near simultaneous ignition of most of the combustible materials in an enclosed are or room. In other words, it is as if the entire room erupts into flames within seconds.

These flames are not limited to the contents of the room. Because of the heat generated by the fire, combustible contents in the room vaporize. The process of these contents vaporizing produce vapor fuels. When super heated, highly flammable gasses suddenly ignite there has been a flashover.

Recent studies show temperature in a room can rise to over 1,000 degrees in less than three minutes. When this occurs, there is no way to escape a structure quickly enough to avoid injury or death. The temperature in a flashover is not survivable, even for a firefighter in full PPE.

Black fire is clearly an indicator of a pending flashover and is clearly a danger.

SCOTT BARTHELMASS
Scott Barthelmass is a 27 year public safety veteran. For the past 20 years, he has served with the Eureka Fire Protection District in suburban St. Louis County (Missouri) holding various positions. He currently serves as the district’s Public Information Officer and Community Service Supervisor. Scott is a well known public safety instructor who has taught for the St. Louis County and Municipal Police Academy, Missouri Safety Center, Missouri Police Chiefs Association, and Missouri Sheriffs Association. He currently instructs for the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency, the Emergency Management Institute and the National Fire Academy. Scott Barthelmass can be reached at 314-565-2480 or via email at sbarthelmass@yahoo.com
Responding to Utility Emergencies (RTUE) is a free training program in Missouri sponsored by the Missouri Association of Natural Gas Operators (MANGO). RTUE is an effective, interactive online training application on how to safely handle a natural gas emergency.

The online program, developed in 2009 by Mike Callan of RTUEOnline LLC, is designed for fire/rescue officials, law enforcement, public officials and contractors. It provides emergency/first responders with technical background information and provides a balanced view of the hazards and risks associated with emergency response for the natural gas pipeline industry, encouraging safe operating procedures and response.

RTUE is designed to help first responders and the personnel of local natural gas operations speak the same language, share ideas and prepare for the unexpected. While this program should not replace face-to-face interaction with officials, it supplements a robust program.

The online training is trackable and allows first responders to take a short quiz and receive a certificate upon completion.

While everyone responding to natural gas emergencies is dedicated to protecting life and property, emergencies do occur. This online program and its related website are designed to help all responders understand and respond to gas emergencies more effectively and safely.

Local gas utility companies must ensure the integrity of their natural gas distribution systems through a comprehensive safety program that involves surveying, monitoring, maintaining, testing and educating the public. Often, community emergency responders arrive on scene before the utility company and will begin to secure the area. A basic knowledge of natural gas and how to eliminate or control hazards can streamline emergency operations and, more importantly, ensure the safety of all personnel on scene and within the community served. Coordination, communication, and cooperation among all responders best supports a safer response to protect the public.

The single most important piece of knowledge that any first responder can possess is an understanding of what they are responding to and how to respond. This training course can assist and allow them to act in the safest, most prudent manner possible to ensure the safety of their crew, the public and themselves. The number one priority is that “Everyone Goes Home!”

While textbooks for RTUE have been made available by a number of utilities since 2003 and distributed to their local community emergency/first responders, the 2009 online website development of RTUE has proven to be far reaching. RTUE online has had more than 14,000 participants login nationally. Additionally, because RTUE online is also used in a classroom setting, not all participants login but rather learn from it in a face-to-face training session with an instructor. This has made its reach greater than 14,000 logins. The consistency of the online information provided also helps utilities and sponsors of RTUE deliver the same information across vast miles and that also serves to make a safer response.

As of spring of 2017, RTUEonline has been adopted by several natural gas industry state associations including Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Washington, plus it is made available by a number of individual gas utility companies in their service areas. Further, it is resource offered by the Pipeline Association for Public Awareness (PAPA) to support PAPA members and their emergency responders across the majority of the United States. In addition, RTUE also provides electric utility emergency response knowledge making it a valuable resource for combined gas and electric utilities. The Vermont and Idaho fire officials use it for training on electric emergency response. The University of Missouri Fire and
A MESSAGE FROM THE

Grant Oetting

Grant Oetting

Greetings FFAM membership. Since our last newsletter Missouri has been a busy state with record amount of rainfall weather related calls, water rescues, and even tornados keeping our fire departments, EMS agencies and 911 dispatchers very busy. Thank you for all your hard work and the agencies involved you did a great job and represented your state well.

Unfortunately also since our last newsletter Missouri had two line of duty deaths. The first was with the Memphis Fire Department. Firefighter Jesse Ketchum died Monday, May 29, 2017, as a result of an apparatus accident while responding to a call. Firefighter Ketchum served the City of Memphis Fire Department for four years. He also served with the Scotland County Fire Association.

The second was with the Mayview Fire Protection District. Firefighter Jeffery Sanders died on June 19. Jeff has been involved with the Mayview Lions Club, the Odessa FFA Advisory Board, the Mayview Special Road District, and the Mayview Fire Protection District. Jeff was also treasurer of the Mayview Zion Cemetery Board.

Also injured in this accident was Firefighter Jacob Hayward with the Mayview Fire Protection District. Jacob is recovering in a Kansas City area hospital. Let’s continue to keep the Memphis Fire Department, Mayview Fire Protection District and also the Jacobs family in our prayers and hope for a speedy recovery.

Many thanks to Brian Zinanni and the Missouri Fire Funeral Assistance team that assisted in both services.

On May 16, I traveled to Bates City, Missouri to see the opening of Sni Valley Station 2. This is a great addition for this department as it will better serve the citizens of Eastern Jackson County and the Citizens of Western Lafayette Country. Congratulations to Chief Carl Scarborough on your addition.

On Memorial Day I traveled to Cowgill, Missouri, to support the department there with their annual hog roast. This fund-raiser helps the department with equipment and also repairs to their trucks. Thanks Chief Jeff Misel for the great meal and your hospitality.

On June 10, I traveled to West Plains, Missouri. To the Howell County Rural Fire District 1. While in West Plains I attended a training program on Traffic Incident Management hosted by the department. This class was very excellent. Thanks to Chief Joe Auffert and his staff for a great training class and hospitality.

Many thanks to the members that helped move equipment out of the State Fair Fire Station, so repairs to the roof could be done. Your help was appreciated. The state fair committee, Chief Donnie Rogers and his staff have been busy preparing for the fair. The work weekends for the fair are July 7-9 and July 21-23. Any help would be appreciated as we need to move equipment back into the station and also prepare for the fair.

Thank you to Firefighter EMT Chris Thompson of the Holt Summit Fire Protection District on representing Missouri at the National EMS Memorial Service in Washington DC.

As I finish this article, I would love to hear from the membership what the FFAM is doing well for our members but also hear ideas on how we can increase membership, and also what the FFAM needs to work on. Feel free to email me with your ideas. I am also interested in attending your events as well. I can be reached at grant_oetting@yahoo.com.
N
o matter how large or small your fire department – rural or urban Missouri – a seat belt policy should be required. It’s sad and unacceptable when firefighters are injured or killed simply because seat belts were not used.

What’s your department’s policy?

According to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, motor vehicle crashes are the second-leading cause of firefighter fatalities in the United States. Seat belts provided in a fire apparatus are free of charge, and should be used by everyone whenever the vehicle is in motion.

When at the station, do the following:
• Check all fire apparatus for seat belts that are clearly not used, and are found tucked back into seats.
• Make sure all seat belts function, latch and disconnect properly.
• Identify and make a plan to remove trucks that are too old or that do not provide proper occupant restraints.
• Make sure firefighters can “pack up” while wearing seat belts.

Here’s a list of additional safety questions to ask about your department:
• Do you use “side-by-side” ATV’s without seat belts or helmets as required by the manufacturer?
• Do you ride tailboard or standing up in walk-in type rescue trucks unbelted?
• Do you stand on the back of brush trucks during natural cover fires?
• Do you allow personnel to ride in the rear of ambulances used as make-shift rescue trucks?
• Do you stand in large-cab trucks while donning gear and SCBA?
• Do you allow unbelted riders, like local school groups, ride atop fire trucks during parades?

If you cannot ride seated and belted in a fire truck, consider driving your personally-owned vehicle and wear your seat belt to the scene. If the fire department is part of your local city government, make sure your volunteers are following city safety policy. City hall should provide the fire department with any needed insurance requirements or copies of city safety policies. If you’re an association or fire district, consider developing a written seat belt policy, and require that each member sign-off on the policy each year.

Want to do more? Here’s a list of seat belt and driver safety resources:
• http://www.worksafecenter.com/safety/tutorial/transportation/home.page?
• http://www.firehouse.com/article/10689920/fire-law-seatbelt-laws-for-emergency-vehicles
• https://www.everyonegoeshome.com/seatbelts/
• www.firefighterclosecalls.com
• Missouri State Highway Patrol 2011 Emergency Vehicle Crash Compendium

Good employees and volunteers are hard to find. Wrecked trucks are easy to replace. But dedicated and skilled volunteers are irreplaceable and valuable to your community. Keep them safe by requiring the most basic of safety rules: seat belt use any time the vehicle is in motion.

Questions?
Contact Mark Woodward, Sr. Safety and Risk Trainer, Missouri Employers Mutual (573) 289-5990 Cell mwoodwar@mem-ins.com
Visit us at www.worksafecenter.com
FFAM AUXILIARY MEETING, SEDALIA, MISSOURI, JUNE 4, 2017

Meeting called to order by President Diane Hanes at 8:58 a.m.

INTRODUCTION OF OFFICERS
President Diane Hanes, Galt FPD; Theresa Cox, Wentzville FPD; Sheri Berendzen, Cole County FPD; Ann Jones, Madison West Monroe FD; Angela Fields, Paris FPD; Joyce Thompson, Kearney Fire Rescue; Kerrie Mattox, North Central Carroll FPD; and Chris Slaughter, Warrenton FPD.

MINUTES
Diane asked if there were any changes or comments for the January 2017 meeting minutes. No changes were brought forward. Ann made a motion to accept the meeting notes, seconded by Theresa, motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT
There were deposits of $3,655.00 and expenses of $502.24 and the ending total of $6,479.45. Theresa made a motion to accept the financial report, seconded by Chris, motion passed.

There was a discussion on the missing Maltese Cross vases. It was decided to purchase another vase for the American and auxiliary table flags to be displayed during the meeting. Kerrie made a motion that we purchase another vase and seconded by Joyce, motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP
Theresa said no new dues were received.

AUXILIARY MEMBER OF THE YEAR
Jessica is the winner of this years award. A picture needs to be submitted to be put on the web page.

POSTERS
Diane discussed the process of the posters that are judged on and why so many were disqualified.

CONVENTION
2017 convention was decided to be a success. Next years convention will be held in Chillicothe. Chillicothe does not have an auxiliary so it was discussed about the FFAM auxiliary being host auxiliary again. Joyce made a motion that the FFAM auxiliary be the host auxiliary and seconded by Theresa, motion passed.

CONTEST
Missy was not in attendance to report but the games went smoothly. There were a fewer teams so the games ended early.

HISTORIAN
Chris has received some pictures. Chris was going to talk to Gail to see if we can get some more.

AUDIT
Was completed at the time of the convention and it was declared the checkbook was balanced.

BY-LAWS
Need to go thru the by-laws and rework some of the wording.

OLD BUSINESS
There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS
Worked on some of the wording on the first few pages of the by-laws. Need to work on the remaining pages at the next meeting in August.

Kerrie made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Angela, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. Next meeting is to be August 6 in Sedalia.

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

KNEELING FIREFIGHTER STATUES
The Sales From These Statues Benefits The Firefighters Historical Preservation of Missouri Project

NAME: ______________________________________________________________________
ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________________
CITY: ___________________________ STATE: _________  ZIP: ____________________
PHONE: _________________________ QUANTITY: _____  X  $100 EACH = $ ________

Checks payable to: Fire Fighters Memorial Foundation
Send to:  Doc Kritzer
5055 Pendergras Rd.
Fulton, Missouri 65251

Contact: 573-220-3536 or doc_kritzer@yahoo.com

July/August 2017 • FFAM Newsletter
Recently the Linn Fire Protection District started marking the Osage River with mile markers. They have installed mile markers on the first thirty miles starting at the mouth of the Osage River where it flows into the Missouri River.

This past weekend Cole County and Osage Fire Protection District personnel traveled by boat to install mile markers to mile marker 48 on the Osage River. Both fire districts provide service along a 48 mile section of the Osage River in Cole and Miller County. The last mile marker installed is located near the St. Elizabeth area.

Future visions are for other fire districts along the Osage River to place mile markers all the way to Bagnell Dam in Lake Ozark.

The mile markers are two by two foot square metal construction with black numbers on a white reflective background. The signs were manufactured by the Cole County Public Works. The signs were affixed to trees along the river on what’s termed as the “river left” of the river coming from the mouth of the Osage River heading upstream towards the Bagnell Dam.

The joint effort between the Osage and Cole County Fire Protection Districts is to help boaters recognize their location on the Osage River. The fire districts feel by marking the river, it will be beneficial to travelers who need help when an emergency occurs. The mile markers will also afford first responders a faster response time to provide care to those in need. The signage is similar to the interstate mile markers who help guide first responders to the correct location.

Many events occur on the Osage River including the Three Rivers Run to benefit the Tri-County YMCA from Bagnell Dam to the Gateway Arch, kayak races, fishing, and normal boating activities.

If you have any questions please contact Steve Cearlock, Public Information Officer, Cole County Fire Protection District, 573-635-0966.
WALDORF UNIVERSITY AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP TO MONETT FIRE

Shane Anderson, a fire officer with the Monett Fire Department in Monett, Missouri, was recently awarded the Waldorf University Learning Partner Scholarship.

Waldorf partners with the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri and other associations, companies and organizations to provide a tuition discount and offer a special scholarship program exclusively for partners. Anderson’s scholarship will cover up to $17,100 in one Waldorf online degree program.

For more information about Waldorf scholarships, visit waldof.edu/scholarships.

DOUGLAS COUNTY AWARDED AFG GRANT

The Douglas County Missouri Fire Chief’s Association is pleased to announce that they have been awarded a regional Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) for $230,477 to be used for personal protective equipment (PPE) and training for seven local fire departments. The participating fire departments will only have to pay 5% matching funds towards their purchases.

This grant will allow Ava City VFD, Brixey-Rockbridge VFD, Dora VFD, Eastern Douglas County VFD, Skyline VFD, Squires VFD, and Twin Bridges VFD to collectively purchase 83 complete sets of PPE, by apply through a host department. None of the fire departments could make purchases of this magnitude on their own, considering all but one department is association membership based.

“Some of the turnout gear within the county was over thirty years old” says DCMOFCA President Chris Hammett. “The National Fire Protection Association standard is to replace gear after ten years, but as small rural volunteer departments that rely on association dues and fund raisers, most of our funds go towards insurance, fuel, and vehicle maintenance. Rural departments are small, so it is hard for one department to get an award for PPE, due to the low number of citizens served by each department. By banding together, we were able to apply for a regional grant and had a better chance of an award. One of the reasons the Douglas County Missouri Fire Chief’s Association was formed was to train together and collectively support each other to serve our citizens better. Now we will be serving our citizens better and safer. This grant was a huge blessing to the county and we thank God for it!”
The Warrensburg Fire Department is pleased to announce the recent promotion of three part-time firefighters to full-time firefighter positions. These promotions took place to fill three vacancies.

Firefighter/EMT Cody Reynolds joined the department in 2015 and was assigned to A-Shift.

Firefighter/EMT Zac Oslica joined the department in 2015 and was assigned to C-Shift.

Firefighter/EMT Amanda Byers joined the department in 2016 and was assigned to B-Shift.

The Western Taney County Fire District received two 1,800 gallon tankers for the stations Hollister and Rockaway Beach. The Freightliner chassis have Rosenbauer aluminum bodies with 1,500 GPM Darley midship pumps in addition to carrying 400 GPM Darley portable pumps. They also have three dumps, three cross lays, a deck gun and carry a 1,000 feet of 5” supply hose. They replace two 24 year old Freightliner 1,550 gallon tankers which have been sold.
As Fire Marshal Tim Bean discussed during the Sunday board meeting at convention and again at the June directors meeting there is a conversation underway on a minimum training standard. NVFC is also taking up that issue, having asked some questions and attempting to get a better understanding of this across the nation. This will perhaps start a genuine conversation on this important topic at a national level. I find some comfort in both the local and national process of starting with a minimum that is reasonable and obtainable versus heading straight to the highest mark available. This in no way detracts from the utmost encouragement to pursue Firefighter I and II, plus several allied certifications but there are certain realities that are just going to be what they are. Doing nothing, leaves nothing, but doing something is at least a step in the right direction of, “better than we were.” So within that narrative and as presented, how do we best protect those that are trying their level best to protect their communities? That is the discussion currently underway both in Missouri and other areas. Done correctly this can have a very good outcome.

I mentioned cancer in the memorial article and the NVFC Facebook page on being screened early and often. Cancer continues to be a high focus with NVFC because so much has been missed. There is continued movement on some legislative priorities to benefit firefighters but nothing finalized before Congress went on break. It is a very slow process in our nation’s capital for most things, especially fire service topics. We have our avid supporters and some detractors but it keeps coming back to money and that is not a favorable topic for us right now. Homeland Security and FEMA are still doing well considering, but the fire service is down the list at least for a while.

NVFC has been successful with some grants and continues to deliver their agreed upon SAFER grant services allied with recruit and retention. Also, just in case you have come across some press release articles from Delaware, the council did remove their NVFC representative which was also serving as the NVFC secretary. Some issues within his department required this action until it is resolved. The highest of standards apply to everyone and there are no exceptions to anyone.

UPDATE

Keith Smith
Missouri State Fire Marshal
Climb, Honor, Assist
To ensure that the fallen firefighters of September 11 are never forgotten.

September 10, 2017
Missouri State Fire Marshal Office
Jefferson Building
Jefferson City, Missouri

Stair Climb Coordinator: Kim Fitzsimmons
Phone: 573-526-5701
Email: Kim.Fitzsimmons@dfs.dps.mo.gov
Website: http://events.firehero.org/jeffersoncity
The University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute (MU FRTI) is in the process of compiling statistics for the 2017 fiscal year (FY17) that ended June 30. Utilizing all programming and funding sources, the Institute trained over 11,000 fire and emergency service responders in FY17. Additional year-end statistical information will be available in the Institute’s annual report in August. MU FRTI was honored to play a significant role in providing needed training across the state; and we look forward to continuing to serve you, the Fire Service of Missouri, in this next fiscal year.

On behalf of MU FRTI, I wish to express the Institute’s appreciation to the various state agencies and entities for providing funding to MU FRTI to subsidize the cost of training during the fiscal year. These various funding sources allow MU FRTI to provide a significant number of tuition free courses to firefighters and other emergency responders through a coordinated statewide outreach.

During the legislative session this spring, we were pleased to learn that the Governor and Missouri Legislature supported funding the General Revenue Firefighter Training Fund in concert with the recommendations from the fire service agencies, organizations, and fire departments throughout the state. At the close of the legislative session in May, this funding was passed as part of the final state budget. We want to express our appreciation to Governor Greitens and the Missouri Legislature for their actions that will provide substantial funding for training opportunities for the state’s fire service for FY18.

I and the MU FRTI staff were saddened to learn of the line of duty death (LODD) of Firefighter Jessie Ketchum, of the Memphis Volunteer Fire Department on May 29, 2017, and the LODD of Firefighter Jeffery Sanders of the Mayview Fire Protection District on June 19, 2017. The families of Firefighter Ketchum and Firefighter Sanders have lost a loved one, firefighters have lost beloved brothers, and their communities have lost dedicated public servants that gave their all in the performance of their sworn duty. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families and fire departments for their loss.

In May 2017, MU FRTI Regional Training Coordinator for Region A, Mike Booth of Kansas City, Missouri, retired. Mike has been an adjunct instructor for the Institute since 1993 and served as the regional training coordinator for the region since 1999. He has been instrumental in coordinating training activities for the Institute in western Missouri and we appreciate his long-standing contribution to the Institute and Missouri’s firefighters. Mike will continue working with the Institute as an adjunct instructor.

With the retirement of Coordinator Booth, the Institute has appointed two new Regional Training Coordinators, Mr. Robert Little of Kansas City, Missouri and Mr. Roger Meyers of Concordia, Missouri. Mr. Little is a Captain with the Central Jackson County Fire Protection District in Blue Springs, Missouri. He has been an adjunct instructor with MU FRTI since 2005. Mr. Little will be responsible for coordinating training courses in Missouri State Highway Patrol Region A, centered around the metro area, and to include the counties of Bates, Cass, Clay, Jackson and Platte. Mr. Meyers is a retired member of the Concordia Fire Protection District, in Concordia, Missouri, still serving as an EMT for the department. He also serves Alma Fire Protection District as a training officer/firefighter. Additionally, he serves as a training coordinator/firefighter for Lincoln Community Fire Protection District. He has been an adjunct instructor with MU FRTI since 2011. Mr. Meyers will also be responsible for coordinating training courses in Missouri State Highway Patrol Region A, to include the counties of Benton, Carroll, Henry, Johnson, Lafayette, Pettis, Ray, and Saline.

Also in June, MU FRTI Regional Training Coordinator for Region B, Robert Creed is retiring from his position. Mr. Creed has been an adjunct instructor for MU FRTI since 2010 and has served as the regional training coordinator for Region B since 2015. Robert has been very active in the Institute’s Grain Bin Rescue Program and we appreciate his contribution to the success of that program. Robert will continue teaching for the Institute as an adjunct instructor.

Filling the Region B position will be Mr. Joseph Schilling of Kirksville, Missouri. Mr. Schilling is a Captain with the Kirksville Fire Department. He has been an adjunct instructor with MU FRTI since 2005. Mr. Schilling will be responsible for coordinating training courses in Missouri State Highway Patrol Region B (Northeast Missouri) which includes the counties of Adair, Chariton, Clark, Knox, Lewis, Linn, Macon, Marion, Monroe, Putnam, Ralls, Randolph, Schuyler, Scotland, Shelby, and Sullivan. The Institute looks forward to working with these new regional training coordinators. We wish our retiring coordinators all the best in their retirement!
On May 20–21, 2017, the Fire Fighters Memorial Foundation of Missouri held the 15th Annual Memorial Service. I was pleased to provide the invocation and participate in the memorial service on Sunday. The services provided a memorable tribute to honor the firefighters that had fallen in the line of duty this past year, as well as a remembrance of the current and former firefighters who had passed away during the year. As always, the Memorial Foundation and all the participating fire service personnel and honor guards did an excellent job on the ceremony; it will be a lasting memory to all those in attendance.

In mid-June, MU Extension administration announced the realignment of Extension programs. Dr. Blake Naughton, Associate Vice Chancellor for Extension instituted a new structure for Extension that aligns programming in four service or outcome areas. They are Agriculture and Environment, Youth and Families, Businesses and Communities, and Health and Safety. The Health and Safety Programmatic area will include MU FRTI along with Law Enforcement Training Institute (LETI), Nursing Continuing Education, and Medical CE. This will allow these program areas to collaborate on addressing health and safety needs of Missouri communities.

In June, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) issued a new Firefighter Fatalities in the United States report for 2016. The report showed that there were a total of 69 on-duty firefighter deaths in the U.S. in 2016. This is the fifth year out of the past six years where the annual total fatalities were below 70 deaths. Firefighter duty deaths on the fireground was the lowest total in the forty years of the study (15 deaths). Sudden cardiac events and internal trauma accounted the largest share of the deaths. There were 19 firefighter fatalities associated with road and vehicle crashes. These include 17 firefighters who died in vehicle crashes and two who were struck by vehicles. The study also reported that in 2016 there were two deaths by suicide while on duty, two firefighters murdered and another firefighter shot unintentionally by another firefighter. While the fire service still has work to do in terms of firefighter health and medical screenings, the statistics suggests the emphasis on safety and cultural change in recent years has made a positive impact on reducing risk and protecting firefighters. Please continue to take every precaution in the performance of your firefighting duties; and work and train to provide the greatest safety possible for yourself, your fellow firefighters, and the citizens you serve.

MU FRTI conducted the 85th Annual Summer Fire School (SFS) in Jefferson City on June 7–11, 2017. There were 266 students participating in this year’s training event that provided over 6,700 instructional hours of training. MU FRTI extends sincere appreciation to Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Jefferson City Fire Department, Missouri Department of Conservation, and the many individuals whose contributions helped provide this training opportunity. We also express our deepest appreciation to you, our students and participants, who continue to support this historic training event.

After Summer Fire School, I had the opportunity to attend the Missouri Association of Fire Protection Districts (MAFPD) 26th Annual Conference in Osage Beach, Missouri. I want to congratulate the MAFPD on a successful and informative conference. We appreciated the opportunity to attend and provide an overview of the Institute and the new curriculum projects being developed.

We appreciate the continued support of the many state organizations and agencies that have graciously worked with us to improve Missouri’s fire and emergency services through training. Our thanks to the fire departments and emergency service entities of the state for your continued support of MU FRTI classes and programs, and finally I would be remiss if I did not praise the dedicated staff of MU FRTI for the long hours devoted to improving our courses and service. The MU FRTI staff and I look forward to continuing to provide quality fire and emergency service training programs to Missouri’s emergency responders. For more information on the MU FRTI, please view our website at www.mufrti.org. If our staff or I can be of assistance, please feel free to contact us at (800) 869-3476 or (573) 882-4735.

David E. Hedrick, Director
Fire and Rescue Training Institute
University of Missouri Extension
Classified Advertisements

**FIREFIGHTER OPENING**

The Sedalia Fire Department is accepting applications for a Full Time Fire Fighter. All applicants must be 21 yrs. of age, have a High School Diploma or GED, Fire Fighter I & II Certifications at the time of application, copies to be submitted with application. A current CPAT certificate will be required at the time of offer of employment in addition to passing a background check and pre-employment physical. You will be required to possess a NREMT license by completion of first year of employment, as a condition of employment. Applicants meeting the minimum qualifications listed above will take a progressive testing procedure to include a written test, Oral Review Board, and background check.

In addition, the City would prefer that applicants complete the National Career Readiness Certificate through the Missouri Career Center.

Applications will be accepted from July 10, 2017, until 4:00 p.m., Monday August 14, 2017. Applicants meeting the requirements will be notified of the written test date and location by email. Please make sure that all required copies of certifications are included with the application.

All applications can be obtained from the Personnel Office or on the City of Sedalia’s website, and should be submitted to: Personnel Office, 200 S. Osage Avenue, Sedalia, MO 65301. NO APPS will be accepted at Sedalia Fire Stations.

This testing will be used to establish an eligibility list for vacancies that will occur over the next 12 months. At this time the Sedalia Fire Department is anticipating a minimum of 5 openings to occur prior to June 1, 2018.

The City of Sedalia is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug-Free Workplace.

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**1984 VOLVO/ WHITE FOUR GUYS WATER TENDER**

1984 Volvo/ White water tender manufactured by Four Guys. 2,200 gallon water tank with a 500 gpm PTO Hale fire pump and 24,523 original miles. A pre-connected hose lay above pump panel. Twin 2 ½ inch fill connections on the rear. Twin tank level gauges, one on the pump panel and one on the rear. Eight inch dump valve with jet dump assist. When unloading with the jet dump assist, the tank will dump in under two minutes. Two 12 volt scene lights as shown in the photos. 2,500 gallon fold-a-tank and twenty feet of hard suction hose. 330 HP Detroit diesel with a nine speed transmission and two speed rear end. The apparatus is in excellent shape with nearly new tires. Asking $22,000.00.

Contact Republic Fire Department at 417-732-3800.
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
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