

Volume 64 Issue 6

November - December 2021

FFAAM



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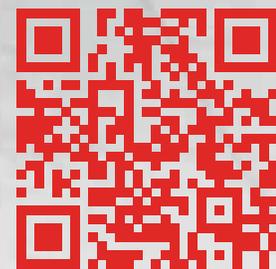
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Fire Fighters Association of Missouri



ABOUT THE COVER

Santa Claus waving from a ladder truck.
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CONTENT

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President's Remarks

We Are Here to Assist You



Larry Jennings

Welcome to Fall! What a great time of the year to get out and enjoy what our great state has to offer. Vibrant colors, abundant wildlife, state parks, local festivals, high school, and college football games, and the unofficial state “holiday” we call deer season are all here to enjoy. Take time to step away from your daily norm and push the reset button on yourself and get ready for the coming winter.

I had the pleasure of attending the Memorial Services for Missouri's fallen firefighters in Kingdom City in October. The evening candlelight and the Sunday morning memorial service were both blessed with outstanding weather, and they were well attended. The support for the survivors and the respect shown for those fallen is always apparent and hopefully helps everyone involved better cope with these losses. Although we will always have death in the fire service, we each need to step up and do all we can to lessen the frequency of our line-of-duty deaths. Congratulations to the Fire Fighter's Memorial Foundation and everyone that contributed in some fashion for another job well done.

Please keep in mind as the year is winding down that the FFAM offers several recognition awards and scholarships presented at the annual meeting and convention. Deadlines to make a nomination or apply for a scholarship are February 28, 2022. So get busy now as the few months between then and now will vanish before you realize. We

have many deserving members who perform outstanding things throughout the year and deserve to be recognized. However, without your nomination, many of these people will go unrecognized. You can find more information on the awards and scholarships at FFAM.org.

Speaking of the annual meeting and convention. Things are moving right along in planning the 2022 event hosted by the Washington Volunteer Fire Company from May 6-8, 2022. If you have never been before or if you are an old pro at attending, please plan now to be with us in May. There will be ample opportunities to learn, network, participate in challenge contests, and conduct the annual business of the Association. You can find information at www.washmofire.org/ffam-convention-2022.html. Get your calendars marked and your reservations made, and come enjoy a weekend with fire service personnel from all across the state.

While you are marking your calendars, do not forget to start planning for MU Fire and Rescue Training Institute's Winter Fire School (WFS). It is February 4-6, 2022, in Columbia. It is an excellent opportunity to attend a diverse array of training courses, visit with vendors from about every possible line of fire or emergency service-related products and learn from your peers, while networking and visiting with others. Watch for updates about WFS and other available training at their site: mufrti.org

The first of the year will be here before we realize it. Please note that all fire departments in the state are required to register annually with the Fire Marshal's Office to comply with RSMo 320.271. The process is fairly simple. If you have any questions they

have folks on staff that can walk you through it with ease. The information gathered through this process is helpful in many ways. It is extremely useful in the time of need should an activation of the State-Wide Mutual Aid system be required in whole or part. It is a painless process, and once you are in the system, the following year's registrations are even easier. Head on over to this page: dfs.dps.mo.gov/programs/resources/mo-fire-dept-form-instructions.php and bookmark the form so you can complete it on time this year and for years to come. Let's make this the best year yet for compliance and get our agencies registered. Do not forget to remind your neighbors also.

As the year is winding down we enter a time that is often difficult for many. The onset of the traditional North American holidays usually comes with fun-filled gatherings, family meals, cheer, and joyful times. Please, keep in mind not everyone in emergency services deal with this time of year the same, and many have struggles coping. There are many resources available to assist, many at no cost to those seeking help. There is no shame in needing assistance, and there should never be any kind of stigma placed by any of us on someone that needs a little extra help. Pay attention to those around you at home and in your agency, and make sure you offer help or get assistance for those in need.

Although we often talk about “everyone goes home” relating to emergency incidents it is also critical that “everyone sees tomorrow.” Do what you can, and don't think someone else will step up to assist someone struggling.

If you need assistance there is help available, and we are all here to support one another. So please reach out.

In closing this time, I hope the best for each of you as we close out this year and move into 2022. We will, no doubt, be faced with many challenges as an organization, state, country, and world. We can each play a small part in making things better than they were when we came along as we work towards improvements in all areas. Make sure you are doing your best in each facet of your lives and take time to enjoy your family and friends. As always, if any of the Board of Directors or I can assist you, please do not hesitate to contact us as we truly work for each one of you. Be Safe!



I am kicking off November with a thankful heart. Thankful for my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, my health, a working mind, most days, an awesome wife and family, a great place to work, and a remarkable Division of Fire Safety team to serve each and every one of our fire service and first responder families across this great state. I count it as an honor and I am humbled to be your state fire marshal!

We are coming out of fire prevention month and I appreciate every department that believes in educating your community about fire safety. Every life we touch with the fire safety message and every smoke alarm installed makes a difference and saves lives and property. Keep up the solid work all across our state. It matters!

I have a big shout-out for the FFAM memorial foundation team. They did a great job with this year's 2019-20 Saturday night candlelight and Sunday morning memorial services. The Memorial looked great! Combining two years of recognitions, due to COVID, and collecting all of the information, the logistical and technical coordination to honor our Missouri fire service was remarkable. Thank you to the foundation team. It is an honor to serve alongside each of you. I felt the added 343 flags commemorating the 20th anniversary of 9/11 out front sent a great message, "Never forget!" Thank you, Doc Kritzer and Greg Wright! I highly encourage you to visit or attend the Missouri Fire Fighters Memorial site in Kingdom City. Please, put it on your bucket list. The 2022 FFAM candlelight and memorial services will be on May 14-15. Join us as we remember our firefighters who sacrificed and served our Missouri fire service. It takes several dollars to keep your memorial site maintained and looking good. You can take part in the Missouri Fire Fighters Memorial by supporting it with a financial contribution. Any assistance is always welcome.

Could your volunteer fire department/protection association use free grant money to assist with your worker's compensation insurance? The legislators awarded us \$560,000 to assist slugging volunteer fire departments to pay for their worker's compensation insurance. There is \$2000 now available through the Worker's Compensation Grant for Volunteer Fire Associations. Go to www.dfs.dps.mo.gov

and find the Volunteer Fire Protection Association workers' compensation grant link. Click and fill out the application to apply for up to \$2,000. We want to award the grant to every department eligible. Tell your neighboring departments! If you have questions, email eric.hartman@dfs.dps.mo.gov or call 573-751-1601 or 573-751-1742.

I am pleased to report that the Missouri Firefighter Critical Illness Pool is moving along nicely. Fire Chief Greg Brown along with several other fire officials across our state has established the commission to oversee the pool. The target date to implement the pool for the Missouri service is January 2022. This pool will allow our departments/firefighters to join the network and gain immediate assistance after a firefighter is diagnosed with cancer. Thank you to Governor Parson and state legislators for passing and budgeting financial assistance to support the pool. We will have more information in the weeks to come.

In closing, I attended the National Association of State Fire Marshals conference a few weeks ago. I want to share some of the topics and trends the fire service will be dealing with shortly. These items are addressed in the 2024 International Code Council ICC. It is critical you read or watch YouTube videos and attend fire training to educate yourself. Here is a list of topics: valet trash collection, setting your trash outside your apartment/dorm door for pick-up, mobile food trucks, 3D printers creating homes, temporary spray booths (inflatables), hydrogen mobile fueling, flammable



Tim Bean



refrigerants, Energy Storage Systems ESS (UI 9540 and 9540a), battery storage/manufacture (bad batteries from electric vehicles, etc.), puzzle and escape rooms, sleep pods (in airports, you can pay to sleep in), pallets/totes (large facilities that have plastics storage bins, stacked, narrow rows, (Amazon). There are several others that I may share at a later time.

I highly encourage you as a first responder to get to know the service areas you protect. Solar batteries and electronics are driving our future. How we do business has changed and will continue to change at an alarming rate. I feel that within the next three years our knowledge/training and how we respond to an emergency will be a challenge to our Missouri fire service if we don't start now to meet the needs.

If you have classes you would like to see offered we presently are not holding, please reach out to me! Tim.bean@dfs.dps.mo.gov or 572-751-1742. Judy and I and the Division of Fire Safety team appreciate every one of you! We thank you for all you do to serve and protect our state and anyone who crosses our state lines. Your commitment and dedication do not go unnoticed. We wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas. May God Keep you continue to Bless You!

State Fire Marshal Tim Bean speaks at the Missouri Fire Fighters Memorial



President Larry Jennings called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri to order at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, October 3, 2021, at the Missouri State Fair Fire Department in Sedalia, Missouri. The meeting began with the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

A moment of silence was held to recognize the events occurring at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial on this day.

ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OTHER OFFICIALS

OFFICERS

President Larry Jennings, Johnson County FPD; First Vice President Rob Erdel, Little Dixie FPD; Second Vice President Grant Oetting, Higginsville FPD; Secretary-Treasurer Jaime Miller, Johnson County Fire Protection District #2.

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 7 RB Brown, Union FPD; District 9 Kurt Wilbanks, West Plains FD; District 10 Greg Brown, Eureka FPD; District 12 Rob Francis, Fruitland Area FPD; District 14 Rick Dozier, Southern FPD of Holt County.

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

District 1 Janet Cain, Shoal Creek FPD; District 3 Charlie Peel, Southeastern Randolph FPD; District 4 Jonathan Evans, Lincoln FD; District 10 Harriett Vaucher, Eureka FPD; District 11 Josh Koepke, Kansas City FD; District 11 Billy Smith, North Central Carroll County FPD; District 14 Glen Dittmar, Dearborn Area FPD. District 14 Emily Sweet, Gower FPD.

OTHERS

Past President Ken Hoover, Little Dixie Fire Protection District.

GUESTS

Tim Bean, Missouri Division of Fire Safety; Gail Hagans, David Hedrick, University of Missouri Extension Fire and Rescue Training Institute; Larry Eggen, Joe Jennings, Kegan Wilson, Johnson County FPD; Chris Thompson, Holts Summit FPD; Matt Frankenberg, Washington FD; Holden

Peel, Southeastern Randolph FPD; Josh Loyd, Little Dixie FPD; Cy Fields, Paris Rural FPD; Keith Smith, Warrenton FPD.

AGENDA

President Jennings asked for additions to the agenda. Gary Berendzen moved to accept the agenda as presented. Rob Erdel seconded the motion and all approved.

MINUTES

President Jennings asked for corrections to the August 8, 2021, meeting minutes. Larry Jones moved to accept the minutes as presented. Greg Wright seconded the motion and all approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

President Jennings asked for a review of the July-August 2021 financial report. Greg Brown moved to accept the financial report presented. Billy Smith seconded the motion and all approved.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUEST(S)

Gail Hagans with the University of Missouri Extension Fire and Rescue Training Institute reported there are over 100 signed up for the Instructors Conference November 5-7. Winter Fire School (WFS) course information should be out by Thanksgiving. WFS will be held February 4-6, 2022. MFA Grants opened October 1 and will be due by November 30. The FFAM Directors will once again be asked to help score.

State Fire Marshal Tim Bean with the Missouri Division of Fire Safety thanked the FFAM team that cooked for Patriots Day and the floor sponsorship for the memorial stair climb. \$28,000 was raised for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Workers' compensation grants are available for volunteer fire departments that are not tax-supported. Contact the Division for more information. There have been several resignations in the fire investigations division so responses might be delayed until those positions are filled.

OLD BUSINESS

Charlie Peel reported that the enclosed trailer for the 1929 engine should be ready in two weeks. He will need to purchase a hitch but doesn't have pricing yet.

Charlie Peel reported that the State Fair BBQ team did cook during the September 11 Patriots Day event in Jefferson City. The venue they were placed in was very nice however, they weren't in the best location, so sales weren't as they had hoped. After expenses, the profit was \$2,182. A donor did pay for all first responder meals. After final totals, a donation of \$2,147.57 will be made to the museum project.

NEW BUSINESS

President Jennings advised that Gail Hagans is unable to chair the Education Committee since she is an Educational Member which can serve on a committee but not a chair. President Jennings has recommended that Kurt Wilbanks serve as the chair and Gail Hagans remain a member of the committee. Gary Berendzen made the motion to approve Kurt Wilbanks as the chair of the Education Committee. Larry Jones seconded the motion and all approved.

President Jennings advised that due to the current state of the State Fair Fire Department building including numerous issues he has formed a steering committee to start addressing the needs and design of a new State Fair Fire Department building. Topics in the review include space allocation and staffing requirements for housing.

President Jennings advised that District 11 Director Monty Thompson has resigned. He recommends Assistant District 11 Director Billy Smith to fill the remainder of the term. Larry Jones moved to appoint Billy Smith to District 11 Director. Greg Wright seconded the motion and all approved.

President Jennings advised that when Rob Erdel was appointed as the 1st Vice President, his District 3 Assistant Director position was vacated. Larry Jones has recommended Josh Loyd with Little Dixie FPD be appointed as the new District 3 Assistant Director. Rob Francis moved to appoint Josh Loyd as the District 3 Assistant Director. Rob Erdel seconded the motion and all approved.

President Jennings advised that FFAM will have a representation on the Missouri Firefighter Critical Illness Trust Steering Committee. He recommends appointing Greg Brown to serve as the FFAM's representative. Greg Wright moved to appoint



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Greg Brown as the FFAM's representative on the Missouri Firefighter Critical Illness Trust Steering Committee. Gary Berendzen seconded the motion and all approved.

Larry Eggen reported that he has been contacted by a representative from DMAT. They are looking for storage of a truck, trailer, and generator trailer and have requested to store the equipment in the State Fair Fire Department. Discussion followed. The topic was tabled so a DMAT representative could be present at the December meeting to discuss further.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Joe Jennings reported that the deadline for awards submissions is February 28 but encouraged everyone to start submitting now.

After approval of the 2022 budget, the committee would like to publish the number of department grants available and the amounts of each grant. This will hopefully streamline the application process.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Rob Erdel reported that the committee will begin working on the budget and submit it at the December meeting. Committee budget requests are due today.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

No report was given.

CHAPLAIN COMMITTEE

David Hedrick reported that the National Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Service takes place this morning at 10:00 a.m. ET at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD. They will honor 215 Fire Fighters for their sacrifice at this year's memorial.

The Missouri Fire Chaplains Corps held its Annual Meeting and Training Conference September 13-14, 2021, at the Southview Christian Church in Grandview, Missouri. Three classes were offered, *Assisting Individuals in Crisis*, *Essentials of Fire Chaplaincy*, and *Chaplains Tool Kit*. There were 18 in attendance. MFCC President Charles Schultz conducted the business meeting of the organization and elections held for positions that were up. Elected were Vice President Nick Farrell, Southwest Region



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Representative Todd Anderson, and North Region Representative Jeff Fairlie. For more information on the MFCC email Secretary Ed Hatcher at edhat@earthlink.net.

We look forward to being with the Missouri Fire Service Families next weekend at the Missouri Fire Fighter Memorial Services, and the opportunity to honor ten firefighters who died in the line-of-duty of which five are from 2020, and 64 other firefighters who passed after dedicated years of service.

CONTEST COMMITTEE

No report was given.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Matt Frankenberg reported that convention registration will open soon. They are waiting on the training class's finalization. Registrations will be done through Event Bright. They plan to have additional games outside, a lady's program, and a parade. More information to follow.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Gail Hagans reported they have met. Their budget request has been submitted and they have been discussing external training.

FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE

RB Brown requested that those submitting posters for the contest, please review the rules. Patches and Pumper are needing repairs which will be reflected in their budget request.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Greg Brown reported that the Missouri Fire Service Alliance is putting its agenda together for the upcoming legislative year. If you have any requests, please contact him ASAP. They will be looking at firefighter training funds, homegrown marijuana, and fire department responses, and the lack of legislation for reporting to fire departments.

He advised that the Missouri Firefighter Critical Illness Trust Steering Committee has hired Carl Scarborough as their attorney for the trust. The committee will have three at-large members and several set positions from different organizations. They want to be running by January 1 for agencies to join. They are still working on the premiums matrix on types of cancer versus payouts.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Grant Oetting reported the following membership counts: 518 Directors/



Councilman;
369 Retired; 20
Associate; 11

Sustaining; 24 Corporate, 369 Fire
Departments; 6556 Active; 1 Educational
Entity; 6 Educational Active; 124 Juniors; 7
EMS Department, 99 EMS individuals; 1
911 Entity; 10 911 individuals. RB Brown
and Andrew Caldwell attended the Jeffco
Engine Rally. FFAM received the heritage
apparatus award.

He thanked Fire Marshal Bean for helping
get FFAM into the Regional Chiefs Meetings
throughout the state. Oetting advised he is
always open to ideas for the Directors on
how to promote membership.

President Jennings advised that the no-cost
membership department submissions are
due to Secretary Miller today.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Ken Hoover reported that the District
Director positions up for election in 2022
will be 2, 6, 8, and 12.

NVFC COMMITTEE

Keith Smith reported that NVFC has
received additional grants including a grant
from GM for electrical vehicle safety. The
second edition of the Lavender Report will
be coming out soon. He and Rob Erdel will
be attending the fall meeting on October
13-15 in Wyoming. The 2022 fall meeting
will be in North Carolina.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Larry Eggen reported that their budget
request has been submitted. They only had
six applications in 2021 so he encouraged
everyone eligible to apply for the scholar-
ships. The deadline is February 28.

STATE FAIR COMMITTEE

RB Brown reported that they ran 212 calls
during the 2021 fair which include 16,416
man-hours. The 1929 engine was recently
driven in the Jeffco Engine Rally, Governor's
Bicentennial parade, and Patriots Day. It
does need brakes. Charlie Peel is working on
getting estimates.

WEBSITE COMMITTEE

No report was given.

MAGAZINE

Jaime Miller reported that the next
magazine deadline will be November 1.

HISTORIAN REPORT

No report was given.

FIRE FUNERAL TEAM REPORT

Harriett Vaucher reported that the new
trailer has arrived and is being stored in
Kingdom City. They have assisted in two
LODD in the last two months.

EMS FUNERAL TEAM REPORT

Greg Wright reported they have had four
call-outs since the last meeting for a total
of twelve in 2021. The annual conference
scheduled for October 22-23 is still a go.
Registrations are due today. The raffle
drawing is postponed until October 23.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Keith Smith reported that the annual
memorial services will be on October 9 and
10. They will be recognizing 10 LODD and
64 other names. The keynote speaker will be
Dwayne Murphy. The Auxvasse Elementary
School will be the backup location should
the weather be an issue. The museum will be
open for viewing. Masks will be required.
Smith presented a work product of an inside
museum design. An architect is providing
their services for free and is currently
working on a prospectus to send to donors.

Jonathan Evans presented Keith Smith with
a donation for the museum project on behalf
of the State Fair Fire Department. Janet
Cain presented Keith Smith with a donation
for the museum project on behalf of herself.

President Jennings adjourned the meeting at
11:15 a.m.

The Fire Fighters Museum Project received two donations on October 3, during the FFAM business meeting.



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



Janet Cain presented Keith Smith with a donation from her personal
afghan and quilt work sales.



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Rob Erdel

1st VP Comments

Using Drones in the Fire Service



It's that time of year to look back and take stock in all our accomplishments for the year. Did you get everything done that you wanted, or did the end of the year slip up on you as it did to me? Oh well, there is always next year to get it done, or at least plan to.

In October, I had the opportunity to travel to Wyoming to represent FFAM at the National Volunteer Fire Council fall meeting. There were three days of council meetings and some training classes hosted by NVFC. The NVFC is like most organizations and just getting back to meeting in person. It was a welcome change from Zoom meetings. Getting together with old friends is better when in person.

Some takeaways from the meetings and an important topic for almost all volunteer departments is recruitment. The NVFC has promotions and programs to use. The "Make Me a Firefighter" is one. It originally

started as Fireline but has been revamped into the "Make Me a Firefighter" campaign. Departments can use this to advertise volunteer opportunities, customize recruitment materials, plan recruitment events, and keep in touch with prospective volunteers. To get started, go to portal NVFC.org. Through this program, NVFC has tracked 13,600 users in 7714 departments.

Also, the NVFC hosted an R&R Experience Summit training program over the summer. It was started as a one-time event but was so popular that they are trying to do it yearly. The idea of this is to aid the smaller departments that may not have the resources to recruit solely on their own. According to NFPA, 48% of "all-volunteer" departments serve a population of fewer than 2500 people. 35% of the attendees at the summit fell into those parameters. The target audience was served well.

The wildland committee also met at the fall meeting, and their topic of discussion was, from a legislative point of view, what can be done to change the wildfire situation happening in the West. The answer is forest management. The Environmental Protection Act prohibits a lot of this management, and

if that gets changed, it could take up to 20 years to see a significant change in the fires they are experiencing.

Additional discussion was about funding and how it is allocated. There are concerns that smaller departments do not get enough. It seems the funds are used by larger full-time departments. Also discussed was training and how it is typically done on large-scale type fires. The committee would like to incorporate training for the midwest and plains type natural cover fires. It would be more relative to what most of us here in Missouri encounter.

As a breakout session of training, we learned the newest rising technology for the fire service is using drones. It was a quick overview with some general instructions for departments that are looking to or already incorporating. The advantages are evident. Cover more area for size up faster and with less personnel. Be able to see areas without going to them, such as rooftops. The ability to use visual as well as thermal imaging for size up. Some of the downfalls may be the public perception of the drones flying around or why they are there. This must be approached with a very open to the public program. Your program must have documentation on certified users. The drones fall under the guidelines of the FAA. All pilots must be trained and licensed to fly the drones.

Drones, as we found out, come in very different price ranges and manufacturers. Depending on your primary use, it will determine what might be best for you. It seems there would be no end to the cost or options for a drone. Some are free-flying, and others are tethered and can remain in flight for unlimited time. Pierce fire trucks are now offering a roof-mounted tethered drone as an optional piece of equipment on their trucks. As far as I can see, the key to a successful drone program will start with a lot of research. Nonetheless, it will be another tool in the toolbox. Our department has used drones for training, not that we owned but citizens have, and they brought them to film for us. That may be your first step if you are interested in adding drones for your department. Find those that have them and work with them to see if it seems feasible or not. Another source for information is droneresponders.org. Thanks for what you do for your communities and be safe.



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A Message From The 2nd VP

How We Can Help



Grant Oetting

I am going to do something different this month. I usually tell you about events that the FFAM is doing in the future. This month I want to touch on something near and dear to my heart, firefighter mental health. I have seen lots of my coworkers suffer from PTSD, have suicidal intentions, or even worse committed suicide. It is an ongoing problem in the fire service, and we need to help our brothers and sisters in their time of need.

I am going to tell you about one of my friends named Liz. Liz and I had been coworkers and friends for ten years. She came in on time, was loved by all, had a smile that would light everyone up, and was a dedicated employee. Then the day we all regret came. We worked on a serious motorcycle accident with an ejection. Liz started having nightmares of the accident, started drinking heavily, was not sleeping, and started to get distant from her friends and coworkers. Over time she would eventually lose her job, drink more heavily, up to 15 beers a day, and have suicidal intentions over some time.

Liz realized she had a problem when she woke up one morning from being passed out from a night of drinking in her vomit on the kitchen floor. She went to seek professional

help, and today after a year and half of therapy, she is sober and handling her PTSD better, and getting back into the public, enjoying life.

We, as first responders, need to stick together and look out for our brothers and sisters. These are some of the points that my instructor told me in a recent per support team class.

LISTEN

One of the most helpful things you can do for someone struggling with a mental health issue is to listen. It is important to do if someone is not struggling.

DON'T JUDGE

No one was struggling more than Liz. The last thing she needed was to be judged by someone who was supposed to be her friend. If you judge, you can't listen with a pure intention.

DON'T TAKE IT PERSONALLY

Easier said than done, but it's essential to remove your ego from the situation. If you personalize it, you cannot be fair. You are likely to make it more about you than finding a solution.

HAVE A NEEDS AGREEMENT

Not as easy as it sounds, but if you can establish a "needs agreement" ahead of time, it works wonders. How? When there is no tension and communication is flowing well, let the other person know what you

need from them and ask what they need from you during incidents like this. You can always remind them, "Hey, we have an agreement." When/if things go south, this is easy to draw on. Most people will respect that if it goes both ways.

WHEN TO SEEK OUTSIDE HELP

If you see a behavior that can place the person or others at harm, seek outside qualified help as soon as possible. If the situation isn't critical, it's best to play the role of listener, encouraging your friend or colleague to get help and providing resources to help them do so.

DO NOT JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS

It is easy to assess others with our perceptions. We may "think" we're qualified or know what's going on., However, I've found many times my assumptions were totally off base. Leave it to the professionals! Would you want a psychologist with no firefighter training backing you up on a fire scene? I don't think a psychologist wants fire service personnel meddling in their profession.

MAKE IT A SAFE ZONE

Ensure their sharing is confidential, and you are safe, and they are safe, as well as your personnel. No one is better than setting up perimeters and safety zones than first responders. If they continue to come to you for advice, establish a boundary. Let them know you appreciate them trusting in you, but you can't solve their problems for them.

These points are very important, especially at this time of year. The holidays are coming up, and we all know what that means. People suffering from depression, having suicidal intentions, or even worse committing suicide. We need to take care of ourselves and our coworkers. It is very important!

I would like to wish you, your department, and your families a Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas.

I will end this article by saying if the FFAM can be of any assistance to you or your department, please don't hesitate to reach out. you can find me at grant_oetting@yahoo.com or 660-229-4525. If I don't answer, please leave me a message.

Until next time, stay safe brothers and sisters.



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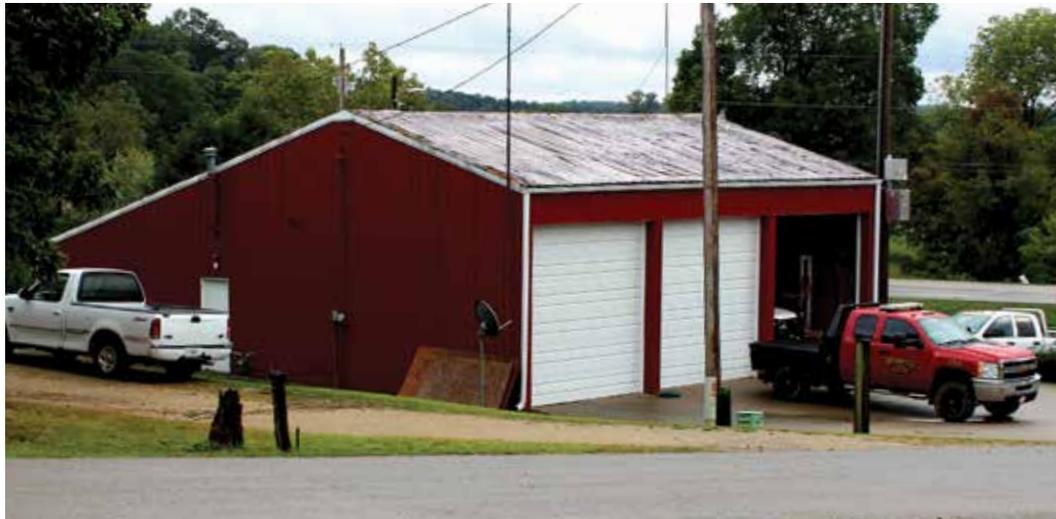
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By Rob Francis, Director

Congratulations to the East County Fire Protection District on 40 years of service. On September 5, 2021, East County Fire Protection District hosted an open house to celebrate their first 40 years. Over 250 people from the community and surrounding area attended Station 1 on State Highway 177. Activities included a bounce house, Cape County Firefighters Association “Smoke House,” face painting, refreshments, a petting zoo of small animals, and district apparatus on display.

Millersville Rural Fire Protection District held an open house and ribbon cutting for their new Station 1 on October 2, 2021. The new station has office space, a larger training room, bunk rooms, a board meeting room, a large kitchen and dayroom, and three large apparatus bays. The firefighters and officers conducted tours of the new station, provided refreshments, brought in a bounce house for the children, and utilized the Cape County Firefighters Association Smoke House to teach fire safety. The Millersville Rural Fire Protection District operated out of its original Station 1 since 1977.

Fruitland Area Fire Protection District ended Fire Prevention Week with an open house at Station 1. With limited parking at Station 1, a shuttle service was provided from the Livestock Auction parking lot next



The original 1977 Millersville Rural Fire Protection District Station #1.

door to the station. A bounce house and a remote-control ride-in fire truck were available to the children, along with the Cape County Firefighters Association Smoke House to teach fire safety. Refreshments and music were provided along with tours of the station and apparatus housed at Station 1. There was a special visit from Marshal from Paw Patrol.

At the time of this report, Gordonville Fire Protection District is putting the final touches on their annual Halloween event located at their Station 1. The Cape County

Firefighters Association Smoke House, a hay maze, bounce house, and lots of candy for trick or treaters will be there for the public on October 31.

There have been many events throughout the District 12 area. It would take a book to list them all. To everyone that has stepped up, volunteered their time, held prevention programs, and answered the calls to make their communities safer, thank you for all you do!

Millersville Rural Fire Protection District held an open house and ribbon cutting for their new Station 1 on October 2, 2021.





FINDING VOLUNTEERS

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Recruiting and keeping volunteers is a challenge, but the National Volunteer Fire Council is here to help with the Make Me A Firefighter campaign. Use the FREE online department portal to help recruit and retain fire service volunteers.

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Remember to add your department's volunteer opportunities to the national Make Me A Firefighter database so that potential recruits can find you!

By David E. Hedrick, Fire Service Director (RET)

In the book, *Bucket Brigade to Flying Squadron: Fire Fighting Past and Present*, Herbert Jenness related that early American colonists understood that a major conflagration could be prevented “in a few seconds by the earnest and well-directed work of one cool-headed man with a single pail of water.”¹ Thus the concept of fire buckets and bucket brigades for community fire protection was conceived.

In the early days of colonial America, a fire bucket was one of the first pieces of fire-fighting equipment. American communities and towns experienced the constant hazard of the spread of unrestrained fires. Because of this, they passed laws requiring each home and business to have fire buckets to quickly extinguish a fire. One of the first fire ordinances in America was adopted in New Amsterdam, New York, in 1648 that instituted certain building codes and provided for leather fire buckets and other equipment.² Fire buckets were traditionally made from leather and were painted with a base coat to keep them waterproof along with the insides being coated with tallow and/or wax. They had a rope or leather-covered rope handle to aid in carrying the bucket. The handle was generally secured to “D” shaped iron rings that were attached to leather lugs on opposite sides of the rim.

LEATHER FIRE BUCKETS

Fire buckets were constructed by resident leather artisans as required to support the

needs of the local community. Though the basic design was similar during colonial times, each artisan formed and sewed the buckets they produced in their own way. The general size of leather fire buckets was approximately 13 inches tall by 8.5 inches wide at the rim, and depending on size and design the capacity ranged from one and a half to three gallons of water. A collection of antique fire buckets at the George Washington Mount Vernon museum included buckets from 1797 that were 13 inches high with an overall diameter at the rim of 8 inches.³

Portsmouth Federal Fire Society historian, Peter Lamb, provided a basic description of how the leather fire bucket was made. He said fire buckets:

Were typically made from heavy “vegetable tanned” cowhide taken from the animal’s shoulder where hides are the most consistent and free of blemishes. Each piece is then soaked and stretched around a tapered wooden mold. Once dry it is hand-stitched in the two-needle “whip stitch” method. The top rim gets folded down over a flat wooden hoop and stitched to give the bucket strength and form. The handle, with a rope core, is attached by two wrought-iron rings that allow the bucket to pivot and swing when being filled and emptied with water.⁴

Interestingly, the local leather artisans or merchant craftsmen for the most part did not mark or stamp their buckets with their name or makers mark, so usually, when an antique bucket is found, the bucket maker is unknown. An example exception to this occurred in Boston with buckets made by John Fenno, Jr. Mr. Fenno was a leather craftsman in Boston who operated a business making and selling leather goods, including boots, shoes, leather buckets and eventually leather fire hose. His fire buckets were marked with “a rectangular stamp reading ‘J. FENNO’ on the back of his buckets near the stitched seam.”⁵ He even advertised in the *Massachusetts Centinel* in April 1785, saying, “John Fenno, jun. Hereby gives notice to those gentlemen who are so well disposed as to enter into Fire Societies, and all others, that he continues to make Leather Buckets, strong and neat, of a large size, and handsome shape.”⁶ There is some indication that other artisans may have attached

a printed paper label to their buckets when sold, but few of these labels have survived the years.

Individually owned fire buckets generally had the owner’s last name painted somewhere on the bucket to identify it. If residents were required to have more than one bucket then each bucket was also numbered. In some cases, fire buckets were highly decorated with a coat of arms, patriotic scenes, or a fire society’s emblem to help identify them. Organized fire societies were often well-recognized civic groups made up of the community’s leading citizens for the purposes of fire protection. It was an honor to be selected as a member of these societies and therefore the members proudly displayed their membership through specially painted fire buckets. The historic folk art found on fire buckets adds to its provenance and the collectors’ value in modern times.

THE FIRE BUCKET IN USE

To combat a fire, “bucket brigades” were commonly organized and consisted of two lines of people stretching from the town well or water source to the fire. They passed buckets of water to the fire, where the water was literally thrown from the bucket onto the flames. The empty buckets were passed back by an adjacent line of people to the well to be refilled. Even though this means of fighting fire was rudimentary at best, it was at least a minimal level of fire protection. A fire could quickly spread completely devastating a community, burning out homes and businesses alike. In the early days before fire companies were formed, a fire event was an all citizens emergency. In many cases, women and children filled in on the bucket brigade line helping pass the empty buckets back to the water source.

With the development of hand-pumped fire engines to squirt water on fires, the fire bucket was still needed. The early hand pumper was mounted above a box or container that held water to be siphoned up by the pump. To keep the pump box filled, the bucket brigade was employed to transfer water from the water source to the fire engine, and there to be pumped on the fire. Bucket brigades remained a crucial component until the invention of pressurized fire mains and leather fire hoses. With these new developments, a fire hose could be run from

Example of an antique Fire Bucket.





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the fire main or pumper at the water source to supply water to the front line fire engine.

Fire or bucket brigade members were required to respond quickly when the alarm bell rang and had to bring their bucket(s)

E Pluribus Unum Eagle Fire Bucket
(Historic reproduction)



with them. After the fire, buckets marked with the owner's names were collected and returned to their owners or dropped off at a central point like a church for the owner to collect. As more formal "fire brigades" were formed, fire companies would stockpile buckets and transport them to the fire. The fire company's buckets had the name or symbol/emblem of the fire protection society painted on the bucket for identification.

Many communities instituted ordinances or laws regarding the number of fire buckets homes and businesses should have and use. Penalty fines were established to ensure compliance. As an example, the City of Hartford, Connecticut, instituted "a fine of \$1.00 per violation, for any person failing to convey their buckets to the scene of a nearby fire."⁷ A pretty hefty sum for 1815.

RUBBER BUCKETS

During the mid-1800s a new option for the construction of fire buckets came about with the development of the rubber vulcanization process by Charles Goodyear. The process allowed for the production of durable, long-lasting rubber products. Though leather

fire buckets were quite durable over time, they were subject to rot. Goodyear used his process to make rubberized canvas buckets for fire and other uses and was sold by the Goodyear Rubber Company.⁸ Relics that survive show that these buckets were sometimes also painted or personalized by the owners.

METAL BUCKETS

Despite the institution of organized fire-fighting companies and the introduction of more modern equipment, fire buckets continued to be a dependable low tech first response solution for firefighting available to the public and business and industry. As metal became used for more items, the industrialization of manufacturing processes resulted in the development of metal fire buckets. Similar in design and function to the leather fire bucket, the metal fire bucket was made of metal, tin, or galvanized metal, with a wire hoop handle. The bucket part is generally tapered from the top toward the bottom so they could be stacked together for storage. Gone were the ornately painted scenes, coats of arms, or individual identifying marks, and replaced with a red painted bucket and generally the word "FIRE"

painted or stenciled on them in black letters. Some galvanized buckets were left natural finish and the word "FIRE" painted in red to identify them as a firefighting device.

As in the history of the fire service and antique firefighting equipment, there is almost always some controversy. Here is one of the controversial items concerning fire buckets. With the introduction of metal buckets, more design options were available. In some cases, additional handles were added to the side or bottom of the bucket to facilitate the throwing of water on the fire. A major change was a number of buckets were produced with rounded bottoms. The question is why was this feature introduced? There are various internet sites, and articles that give competing versions of the answer. One version is that though the buckets were massed produced by this time and fairly cheap, they were also a really nice handy bucket that could be used for other tasks, especially on the farm. So the story goes that the rounded bottom was added so that the bucket would not sit upright on the ground but fall over. Making it ineffective for common chores, and thus less likely to be stolen. Another reason given was that there was actually some thought put into the actual design of fire buckets. The rounded bottom was added to make the bucket easier to tip over when dunked into a barrel or water source and therefore more quickly fill. A variation of this was that the design allowed the water in the bucket to be more efficiently directed at the fire when thrown

from the bucket. As far as I can find there is not a definitive answer to the reason for the rounded bottom being designed into the bucket. Based on throwing some water from both types of buckets, I would say that they both throw water about the same. So, the concept of a round bottom bucket for discouraging theft seems more realistic. Or maybe it was just a marketing ploy to sell new buckets?

CONE SHAPED FIRE BUCKETS

If you are a true fire service collector or historian, you have probably come across the odd-shaped conical fire bucket. Though they may have been plentiful at one time they are not commonly seen anymore. They were made of galvanized steel, to prevent rust, and shaped like a wide-mouthed cone tapered to a pointed end. They had a metal bale or handle at the wide circular end of the cone. The cone was approximately 14 inches tall and 15 inches wide at the rim. They were usually natural galvanized metal finish with the word "FIRE" painted in red or black by the use of a stencil. Some were painted red and the word "FIRE" stenciled in black or white. The bale folded down to the rim and they could be stacked inside each other for compact storage. Though they may have been found in the manufacturing industry, they were primarily used by the railroads as a low-tech means of fire protection. They could be used to contain either water or sand. One story is that the cone design comes from ships that sewed canvas cone-shaped buckets for use

on the ship for fires. Though the reason for their shape is also not well documented, it is assumed the design allowed for easy construction, they readily stacked together for space savings, and the design prevented excess "sloshing" of water or sand when hung on brackets in railcars or cabooses. Some accounts relate that the pointed end of the cone allowed easier gripping as the water from the bucket was thrown on the fire. Also, the pointed end prevented people from turning the bucket upside down, dumping its contents, and sitting on it. The use by railroads is documented in Rock Island Railroad Rules that says when shipping cotton bales the railroad station should have "a sufficient number of barrels filled with water, each equipped with two cone-shaped fire buckets." Each station and caboose was to be equipped with "two cone-shaped fire buckets to be used in fighting fire."⁹

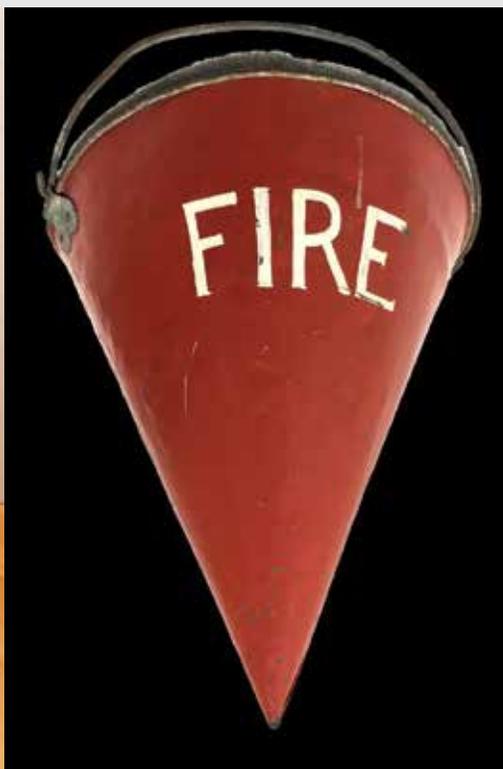
THE LEGACY OF THE FIRE BUCKET

So what happened to bucket brigades and the fire bucket? With the coming of modern fire protection components to local communities like water systems, fire hoses, steam-operated fire engines, and organized fire departments, the need for bucket brigades came to an end by the mid to late 1800s. Fire buckets for first response and individual fire protection were replaced by more efficient and affordable fire extinguishers, such as soda acid, individual hand pump cans, or dry chemical extinguishers. Metal buckets can still be found occasionally in some areas as a low-tech means of first

Metal round bottom Fire Bucket



Cone-shaped Fire Bucket



½ Scale reproduction MU FRTI Fire Bucket





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response fire protection. However, they are usually filled with sand and there to extinguish incendiaries (smoking materials).

Antique leather fire buckets are greatly prized as display items by fire service buffs and collectors. They are also prized by historians and collectors of colonial history because of the graphic folk art or insignia of historic colonial volunteer fire companies painted on them. Because of this, it has become increasingly difficult for the fire

service historian to find reasonably priced original antique fire buckets. Though there are several current leather companies and traditional artisans that produce reproduction fire buckets, the reproductions are still relatively expensive when made out of real leather and accurately constructed.

Fire buckets are a unique part of fire service history. They are an essential part of fire equipment collections or fire museum displays in that they effectively highlight the

transition from the early days of manual fire protection to more modern fire equipment. The image of the iconic fire bucket recalls the days of derring-do when local citizens came to the aid of their neighbors to fight a fire and save lives. This concept of service above one's self would lay the foundation of what would become the awe-inspiring American Fire Service.

ENDNOTES

- 1 Herbert Theodore Jenness, *Bucket Brigade to Flying Squadron: Fire Fighting Past and Present*, Cambridge, Mass, 1909, p 5.
- 2 Ibid, p 2.
- 3 George Washington Mount Vernon Museum, website page accessed Oct. 2021, emuseum.mountvernon.org/objects/686/fire-bucket;jsessionid=70559805E4C18E-99B549A21001C28EB8?ctx=2d-12bac45b0f21829a2f0bb5781b02843e-089aa5&idx=2

- 4 J. Dennis Robinson, *Federal Fire Society Adds to Its Bucket List* (web article), Robinson's history column, Portsmouth Herald, 2012, www.seacoastnh.com/federal-fire-society-adds-to-its-bucket-list/
- 5 Christopher D. Fox, "Fire Buckets in 18th Century Boston", Internet post May 7, 2020, Skinner Inc. Auctions, website: www.skinnerinc.com/news/blog/fire-buckets-in-18th-century-boston/ .
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- 7 Alex Dubois, "Inside the Collections – Fighting Fires in Early America, Story 2 Town Planning", My Country Blog – Litchfield Historical Society, April 1, 2020, website article: blog.litchfieldhistoricalsociety.org/?p=989 .
- 8 "Fire Bucket, Goodyear 13" online article, Smithsonian Institute, National Museum of American History, american-history.si.edu/collections/search/object/nmah_1340622.
- 9 Rock Island Employee's' Magazine, Volume 6, No. 4, October 1912, Rule 1, page 13, (Multiple issues compiled in book form).

IMAGES: Photos were taken by the author from his personal collection with exception of the cone-shaped bucket sourced from the internet with no copyright stated.



7

Robert Brown
Director

With the nip in the air, that means that fall has arrived, and the leaves are changing and falling. Time has flown. As I'm crossing T's and dotting I's, let's say a prayer for all those impacted by the recent tornados. Here are some safety tips for the season of being thankful for what we have.

Thanksgiving is a time for family and holiday traditions including taste-tested, Thanksgiving recipes. A time where family members may want to join in the food preparation and fire safety is important. With the speed of deep-frying a turkey, the irresistible flavor, and juicy results, turkey frying has become a Thanksgiving tradition for some. But turkey fryers can potentially cause fires and serious injuries. This is why organizations like Underwriters Laboratories and the National Fire Protection Association advise against using them. If you plan to deep-fry your holiday bird, be sure you know how to safely use the fryer. Take these precautions to protect yourself, your guests, and your home.

TIPS TO HELP PREVENT DEEP-FRIED TURKEY ACCIDENTS

Keep outdoor fryers off decks, out of garages, and a safe distance away from trees and other structures. Make sure the turkey is thawed and dry before cooking. Ice or water that mixes into the hot oil can cause flare-ups. Watch the weather. Never operate a fryer outdoors in the rain or snow. Place the fryer on a level surface, and avoid moving it once it's in use. Leave 2 feet between the tank and the burner when using a propane-powered fryer. Follow the manufacturer's instructions to avoid overfilling. Oil can ignite when it makes contact with the burner. Choose a smaller turkey for frying. A bird that's 8 to 10 pounds is best; pass on turkeys over 12 pounds. Never leave fryers unattended. Purchase a fryer with temperature controls, and watch the oil temperature carefully. Cooking oil that is heated beyond its smoke point can catch fire. If you notice the oil is smoking, turn the fryer off. Turn off the burner before lowering the turkey into the oil. Once the turkey is submerged, turn the burner on. Wear goggles to shield your

eyes, use oven mitts to protect your hands and arms, and keep an "ABC" or grease-rated fire extinguisher close by. Do not use water or a garden hose on a turkey fryer fire. Skip the stuffing when frying turkey, and avoid water-based marinades. Keep children and pets away from the fryer at all times. Once finished, carefully remove the pot from the burner, place it on a level surface, and cover to let the oil cool overnight before disposing of it.

Christmas is just days away. Please take steps toward Christmas tree safety, preventing candle fires, and fireplace safety. Every year there are thousands of reports of falls from ladders while stringing lights and hanging decorations, incidents of lacerations from broken glass ornaments, and other holiday-related injuries. The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) reminds consumers emergency rooms treated an estimated 14,700 holiday-decorating related injuries in 2016. An average of about 240 injuries per day in November and December! Between 2012 and 2014, there was an average of 10 deaths and \$15.7 million in property loss related to Christmas tree fires. During that same period, an average of 10 deaths and \$42.2 million in property loss occurred due to fires related to candles. Make sure your live Christmas tree has plenty of water, keep lit candles away from flammable items, and use caution when standing on a ladder or a chair to hang decorations. Have a fantastic holiday season by following some simple holiday fire safety tips.

HOW TO PREVENT CHRISTMAS TREE FIRE HAZARDS

Ensure that your live tree is fresh, nobody likes a burning Christmas tree! The needles should be hard to pull from the branches and don't break when bent between your fingers. The bottom of the trunk should be sticky with resin. If you tap the tree on the ground, a few needles should fall off.

Keep the tree away from heat sources such as fireplaces, vents, and radiators. Be sure to check the water level daily and make sure the stand is filled with water. Heated rooms will quickly dry out the tree. Practice Christmas tree safety by placing the tree out of traffic and making sure it's not blocking doorways. If you buy an artificial tree, be sure to look for the "Fire Resistant" label. The label doesn't guarantee the tree won't

catch on fire, but it does indicate the tree is more resistant to catching on fire.

HOW TO AVOID CANDLE FIRES

Only burn candles where you can keep an eye on them. When you go to bed, leave the room or leave the house, extinguish all candles. Ensure candles are placed on heat-resistant, stable surfaces and where kids and pets can't reach them or knock them over. Candles should always be placed far away from items that could catch fire and burn easily, such as trees, decorations, curtains, and furniture.

HOW DO YOU AVOID ELECTRICAL FIRES?

Practice Christmas light safety by buying your lights from reputable retailers. Check that your lights are approved by a nationally recognized testing lab such as UL, Intertek, or CSA. UL identifies products meeting safety requirements for indoor and outdoor use with a red holographic label. For indoor-only usage, the product will have a green holographic label.

Be sure to check all lights and throw out any that have broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or any loose connections. Never use electric lights on metallic trees. Make sure to use extension cords for their intended use - indoors, outdoors, or both. Be sure to plug outdoor Christmas lights into circuits that are protected by Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs). Fasten outdoor lights securely to the house, trees, or other supports to keep them from pulling away with the wind. But don't damage the cord with fasteners. Take care not to puncture roofing shingles when fastening lights to the home. Watch for water and snow and keep both extension cords and lights clear of them. Make sure cords and light strands are not pinched in doors, windows, or under furniture. This can damage the cord and its insulation. When you leave home or go to bed, be sure to turn off all indoor and outdoor Christmas lights and electrical decorations. Be very careful around power lines, keep yourself and your equipment at least 10 feet away from them. Don't overload electrical outlets with too many decorations or other electrical devices - they could overheat and cause a fire.

Is your fireplace ready for the holidays? Has your fireplace been inspected to see if it needs

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cleaning before using it through the holidays? Be sure to keep a screen on the fireplace to prevent embers from popping out and landing on the floor or carpet. Don't burn wrapping paper in the fireplace. The paper ignites quickly and burns intensely and could result in a flash fire. Only used seasoned wood. Fires are just one area of safety to think about during the holiday season.

Decorating can also be something that can cause injuries. If there are small children in the home, take special care to avoid heavy, sharp, or breakable decorations. And be sure children can't reach decorations with small removable parts that can be swallowed or inhaled. Don't tempt children with decorations that resemble candy or food that they might try to eat.

I hope everyone that reads this has the most amazing holiday season filled with happiness and joy with family and friends. Cherish the time times we have because you never know so make every day the best. Have the greatest Thanksgiving and the merriest of Christmas and that 2022 will be 1000 times better than the last. Be safe until we meet again.

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JEFFCO FIRE ENGINE RALLY RETURNS AFTER YEAR HIATUS

By JeffCo Fire Engine Rally

After a one-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual Jeffco Fire Engine Rally returned. The 27th annual rally was Saturday, September 25, at the Herculaneum City Park and sponsored by the Jefferson County Firefighters Association. The fall weather was perfect for the event. The annual event attracted firefighters, children, and festivalgoers from across the state.

As in the past, this year's rally kicked off with a parade of 30-plus emergency apparatus traveling from Crystal City to the city park in Herculaneum, where the apparatus remained on static display throughout the day.

Following the parade, an opening ceremony and memorial were held and included the remembrance of the men and women associated with the Jefferson County fire service who passed away during the previous two years. The fallen were honored by having their names read aloud, their date of death, and their department, followed by a single ring of the memorial bell. Individuals remembered this year included: Delmas E. "Bud" Becker, Herculaneum Fire Department; Charles F. Bieser, Hillsboro Fire Protection District; Roy R. Bohle, Cedar Hill Fire Protection District; David A. Brewer, Mapaville Fire Protection District; Imogene Brust, Dunklin Fire Protection District; Charles "Jerry" DeClue, DeSoto Fire Department; Keith A. DeClue, Joachim-Plattin Ambulance District; Donnell E. Hayes, Jefferson R-7 Fire Protection

President Bill Haggard reads the names of the men and women in remembrance of their service to the Jefferson County fire service. Secretary Rob Schrage rings the memorial bell after each name is read.

District; Harold E. Hurtgen, Hillsboro Fire Protection District and Hematite Fire Protection District; Richard "Dick" King, Hillsboro Fire Protection District; Kenneth E. Marler, Herculaneum Fire Department; William F. McCabe, Cedar Hill Fire Protection District; Richard A. Miller, North Jefferson County Ambulance District; Robert Oberle, Festus Fire Department; Gary L. Peterein, Mapaville Fire Protection District; A. Eugene Rolfe, Dunklin Fire Protection District; Brian K. Rudy, Hillsboro and Goldman Fire Protection District and Valle Ambulance District; Ronald Siebert, Jefferson R-7 Fire Protection District; Eldon "Bud" Smith, DeSoto Fire Department; Eric Smooth, Hillsboro Fire Protection District; David L. Wiehland, Cedar Hill Fire Protection District; James C. Voss, Goldman Fire Protection District; Ronald W. Wehlage, Jr., DeSoto Rural Fire Protection District; Walter D. Wolk, Mapaville Fire Protection District; and Jules C. Zimmerman, Rock Community Fire Protection District.

A moment of silence in remembrance of the 20th anniversary of September 11, 2001, was included. Members of the Jefferson County Firefighters Association Color Guard presented the flags before the Opening Ceremony.

As part of the opening ceremony, the annual Jefferson County Awards were presented to individuals and departments selected by an awards committee from the submitted nominations. The annual Jefferson County



Secretary Rob Schrage presents the Grand Marshal plaque to Jim Goebel, Retired Fire Inspector for the Rock Community Fire Protection District.

Firefighter and EMS awards were as follows: *Chief Fire Officer of the Year* Assistant Chief Jay Wolk of the Mapaville Fire Protection District; *Paramedic of the Year* James Shoffstall, Joachim-Plattin Ambulance District; and *EMS Life Saving Award*, T. J. Phillips and Spencer Portell of the Joachim-Plattin Ambulance District.

The opening ceremony also included the introduction and presentation of plaques to the Rally grand marshal and junior grand marshal. Retired Fire Inspector James Goebel of the Rock Community Fire Protection District was honored as grand marshal. Landon Wilson of Hillsboro, MO, represented the Midwest Children's Burn Camp and Burns Recovered Support Group of St. Louis as the junior grand marshal. The O'Fallon Fire Protection District provided transportation for the grand marshal, and Todd Mahn of DeSoto transported the junior grand marshal during the parade.

State Fire Marshal Tim Bean presented an award and two challenge coins to Austin Hill of Herculaneum. He was honored and recognized for his efforts in saving a woman from a Herculaneum residential fire that occurred in July of 2021.

Other awards presented at the rally included the following apparatus winners:





State Fire Marshal Tim Bean presents an award to Austin Hill of Herculaneum for his efforts in rescuing a woman from a residential fire in Herculaneum.

- *Best Overall Antique:* Todd Mahn of DeSoto
- *Newest Apparatus in Service:* Jefferson R-7 Fire Protection District
- *Oldest Apparatus in Service:* Irondale Fire Protection District
- *Best Overall - Current Apparatus:* Hematite Fire Protection District
- *Best Aerial Apparatus:* Crystal City Fire Department
- *Best Pumper Apparatus:* Dunklin Fire Protection District
- *Best Overall Ground Cover Apparatus:* Hematite Fire Protection District
- *Best Rescue Apparatus:* Midway (IL) Fire Protection District
- *Best Tanker Apparatus:* Goldman Fire Protection District
- *Best Lettering and Detailing:* Joachim-Plattin Ambulance District
- *Best Overall EMS Vehicle:* Joachim-Plattin Ambulance District
- *Heritage Apparatus Award:* Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department
- *Farthest Traveled:* Doe Run Fire Department
- *Judge's Award:* Tobin Nott of Barnhart

The annual rally features fire-rescue demonstrations each year, and the 27th rally was no different. The Crystal City Fire Department and St. Louis Fire Sprinkler Alliance presented a side-by-side demonstration comparing fire suppression with and without a sprinkler system. Sentinel Emergency Solutions demonstrated a vehicle extrication.

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There were three firefighter competitions at the rally, an ax-throwing contest, donning PPE relay, and a firefighter challenge. Two firefighter teams participated in each. Members of the Crystal City Fire Department took first place in all three and the overall competition award.

For the third year in a row, there was a dalmatian contest. Seven entries participated in six categories. Medals went to first and second place in the following categories: Most Spots, Fewest Spots, Largest Dalmatian, Smallest Dalmatian, Best Dressed Dalmatian, and Best Dalmatian Trick. Dalmatian participants included: Daisy, Molly, and Ember, owned by Gary Moore; Chief and Demi, owned by Ashley Gravitt; and Axe and Ember, owned by Anna and James Whittley.

As in the past, this year's rally included numerous activities for children, including a bounce house and an inflatable slide, a photo booth,

face-painting, balloon artist, firefighter-themed games, a fire safety house, and a scavenger hunt. The Shekinah Masonic Lodge 256 and the Joachim Masonic Lodge 164 held their MoChip child identification program. The Jefferson County Health Department distributed and fitted bicycle helmets for the children in attendance.

The Missouri State Highway Patrol had their roll-over/seat belt demonstrator available for those in attendance to view.

The Jefferson County Firefighters Association would like to thank all the vendors, equipment sales, and food vendors for participating in this year's rally. A big thank you goes out to the sponsors of the event and to those who attended.

Mark your calendars!
The Twenty-Eighth JeffCo Fire Engine Rally will be on Saturday, September 24, 2022, in Herculaneum.





District 11

Billy Smith
Director

Summer is over, fall is here, and winter is coming. I love this time of year when the leaves are changing and fall festivities are in full swing. It's a great time to sit back and reflect on all the things we've done throughout the year. All the changes made, good or bad, and contemplate how to make them better.

Speaking of making things better, the Carrollton Fire Department, which I volunteer for, just upgraded a piece of apparatus. Early this summer, Chief Lonnie Sensenich decided to upgrade our 1988 Pierce Arrow 75' stick that we've had for nearly 20 years. After a long search, Chief Sensenich found what he'd been looking for, so he and Firefighter John Goedeke made the trip to Starkville, Mississippi, to check it out. They were impressed with what they found and made the request to the City Council for the purchase. It was approved, and Chief Sensenich and John went back to the South and drove the 2006 Pierce 100' Platform back to Missouri. When they arrived at the station, we all crossed our fingers in hopes that it would even fit into the station. As they backed it into the bay, we held our breath, and to our relief, it fit, barely. The door closed with inches to spare. Whew! So, at the end of July, after having all systems checked, we loaded it up with all the necessary equipment and put it into service. We now have a nice truck with a 2000 GPM pump and a 100' reach for our taller and bigger buildings in our business district, hospital, and industrial park.

Chief Sensenich stated that this truck is the second-out pumper on in-town calls and will, of course, be used per mutual aid



Carrollton Fire Department's new 2006 Pierce 100' Platform

request by surrounding departments. He also noted the increased pumping capacity this truck provides will help with our ISO rating. "It really just comes down to safety. It will be much safer working from a platform with a longer reach," Chief Sensenich emphasized.

So, what happened to our old '88 Pierce? Well, just like us, another department had an itch to scratch, so to speak. Its new home is in Tontitown, Arkansas.

If any department has something I can help you with, whether it is attending a function to represent the FFAM, or whatever your needs are, I would love to help if I can. I think great things are happening in District 11 that I would love to showcase to the rest of our great state. Feel free to call, text, or email. Have yourselves a great fall. Enjoy all the festivities, and as always, stay safe!





District 3

Josh Loyd
Assistant Director

Let me introduce myself to those who may not know me. My name is Josh Loyd, your new District 3 Assistant Director. To tell you a little about myself, I was born and raised in Mexico, Missouri. I started my career in the fire service in April of 2001 as a cadet with Little Dixie Fire Protection District. At that moment, I knew the fire service was where I was supposed to be. I found a passion I never knew existed, and this passion led me to graduate from high school and become a firefighter/paramedic. I have never been one to let another pave my path, but putting in the work and having others guide you is an unbelievable feeling.

We have been fortunate to have excellent leaders lay the groundwork for us to build on. For me, those leaders started with my parents, my cadet coordinators, officers in our department, teachers, my father-in-law, who is also in the fire service, and my wife. Everyone was being watched. I wanted to make an impact in the fire service and felt I could help myself help others by joining such a wonderful thing as the fire service.

As I got older, I wanted to make an impact on myself, but I started to figure out I could not do everything myself. I paid attention to new people in the service, asking them questions about what they wished they had when they started. Or what is one thing they wish they could pass on to another new person? My focus grew to improve what the fire service was doing for new members. I quickly discovered that most were not looking for a monetary kickback or were not here for the lights and sirens ride. They also wanted to make a difference but didn't know where or how to start. I heard things like, "I feel like everyone thinks I should know these things because I'm now a firefighter," or "how am I ever supposed to know where everything is on the truck? I just walked through the door and was given gear and a pager."

I can say, we as a fire service, have greatly improved at guiding new firefighters by helping them understand the who, what, when, where, and why. It is easy for experienced firefighters to believe that someone

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will catch on or learn as they go, but our experience gives us a responsibility to help them learn before they must know. I want to thank all of you for making your department better by passing on your experiences and guiding the new.

As my tenure in the fire service grew, I learned we had little preparation for trauma or experiences that would leave a lasting impression on us, whether it be good or bad. I ask you to make yourself available. Ask the hard questions! When is the last time someone asked you:

- With what you just experienced what are your thoughts?
- Can you handle going on another call right now?
- What state is your mental health in?

I have been fortunate enough to have been asked some of these questions. At first, I did not want to answer them. Then I realized I needed to let these demons out. I started talking about them, learning from them, and allowing for a better tomorrow. You will find someone that is truly ok with their phone ringing at two in the morning for you to simply express your feelings. You will also find you are not the only one who needs

this. I ask you to try something new. Make yourself available and allow yourself to be expressive. Reach out to someone you know who has had a rough day in the business. Lending an ear may save a life.

It has become my passion. I have not forgotten what my passion was when I started the fire service. I gained a new passion along the way.

By the time you read this, my wife and I will have moved to Martinsburg, Missouri, and I will have joined the Martinsburg Area Fire Protection District. My passion for the fire service is still very much alive, and I look forward to what is next for us, and you.

Share your story with others. Break out of your zone and do something positively uncomfortable. You may be surprised as to what you can accomplish or do for someone.

"Step outside of your comfort zone and go beyond the boundaries that you and others have set for yourself" – Julius Veal

I hope the holidays bring you joy, and that you can spend much-needed time with your families and friends. Stay safe!

JOHNSON COUNTY REPRESENTED IN MO STATE FAIR FD

By Sara Lawson, Warrensburg Star Journal

Annually, firefighters from Johnson County join firefighters from across the state to volunteer their time at the Missouri State Fair.

Two first-time fair firefighters from Johnson County were awarded EMS Personnel of the Year for 2021. Firefighter Emma Smith, Johnson County Fire Protection District - Station 10, and Firefighter Kylie Frerking, Warrensburg Fire Department - Station 2, were co-recipients of the award for their work as EMTs during the fair.

Smith said she is grateful for the award.

“We just did our best,” Smith said.

Smith said she volunteered for the fair because she loves everything about working EMS.

“For me, it’s not about the money,” Smith said. “It’s about being able to help people.”

Smith just finished school, earning her EMS license, in May.

“I feel happy to get it,” Frerking said. “We ran a lot of calls down there and I loved every second of it.”

Frerking said she had excellent partners throughout the fair.

“I heard about it from a couple people and I’m like ‘well, I’ll try it out,’ just to try it out ... I was a little nervous,” Frerking said. “I didn’t know too many people down there but by the end of it they’re like family now.” Firefighters Association of Missouri coordinates the emergency response personnel and equipment for the fair. A firefighter must be a member of the FFAM to serve in the Missouri State Fair Fire Department (MSFFD).

“We have a lot of applications,” Larry Eggen said. “I think we had 150, this year, apply. Our biggest day we take 75 (personnel).”

Eggen serves as a battalion chief for the Johnson County Fire Protection District (JCFPD), working with the captains, lieutenants and firefighters of Station 1 and 6.

At the fair, Eggen serves as the public information officer, safety officer and is the captain of public relations for the Missouri State Fair Fire Department.

Eggen said, in total, about 125 firefighters work in the course of the fair.

The MSFFD operates only 11 days out of the year and the fair serves as an opportunity for additional training.

Eggen said the different departments across the state train differently because they face different circumstances, such as city fire departments may be more accustomed to using fire hydrants where more rural departments rely on tankers transporting water to the scene.

The MSFFD does not have its own equipment and relies on FFAM member fire departments to loan equipment to the fair.

“Our fire department, we have no equipment,” Eggen said. “So, we’re the only known 11-day fire department that forms only for the state fair. We have no apparatus, no equipment, no ambulances, no supplies. So different member organizations donate the equipment.”

The fair emergency services receives donations of equipment and supplies, such as adhesive bandages and ambulance cots, from businesses.

Eggen said that because the department is only in operation for 11 days, it would not



Public Information Officer Larry Eggen stands in front of the antique fire engine on display at the Missouri State Fair.



Firefighters Kylie Frerking and Emma Smith are presented with EMS Personnel of the Year awards for the 2021 Missouri State Fair.



be cost-effective to have their own equipment that isn't used the rest of the year.

"It's really unique and we do it by the grace of all the members of the FFAM, they support this organization entirely and all the member departments," Eggen said. "That's what makes this happen."

The MSFFD operates as a fully functional department and has bunk space, a kitchen, command center and training space on the fairgrounds.

Emergency services at the fair operate as their own jurisdiction during the fair and even have their own dispatch center.



The MSFFD is a fully functional fire/EMS service, providing fire safety and prevention services as well as transport to the Missouri Disaster Assistance Team on the fairgrounds.

"We have paramedics on our ambulances ... just like if you would be at home and call 911," Eggen said. "You are getting the same quality of service."

Eggen said the MSFFD provides the same level of care as any city department and is dedicated to the fairgrounds.

"We do a lot of public education here in the front (about) fire safety," Eggen said. "We do some drills. We do have a smoke trailer for sprinkler systems."

Eggen said the fire department does fire safety education out front of the firehouse as well as different demonstrations throughout the week.

"We have a fire extinguisher demo that the kids can actually spray fire extinguishers on live fire; very controlled. The parents love it. We try to do that four or five times through the fair."

Eggen said the department trained about 200 kids the first day of the fair.

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"It's an attraction for the fairgrounds," Eggen said. "Let kids sit in the fire trucks, they all want to do that, so they can be more comfortable if they have to call so they won't be scared of us when we come."

Eggen said a big focus for the department is educating the public.

Eggen said he volunteers at the fair because it is an opportunity to exercise skills he doesn't usually get to use and he gets to interact with firefighters from across the state.

"Everybody does stuff their own ways, so it's an excellent learning opportunity ... we train with people state-wide here so it's a different look on things," Eggen said. "Gives you different ideas and I feel that it helps you grow professionally."

The MSFFD trains throughout the duration of the fair.

Eggen and MSFFD Chief Robert B. Brown from the Eureka and Union fire protection districts said they have both served at the fair since 1995.

"This is my calling," Brown said. "I was put on this earth to help people and how much more can we help than being here at the Missouri State Fair. We have everyone from all over the state come and volunteer their time to do the work that they do at their home departments, representing their home departments, to assist the great citizens of the State of Missouri and the fairgoers."



AUXILIARY MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, October 3, 2021

Sedalia, Missouri

Meeting called to order by President Jessica Weisz at 9:01 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jessica Weisz, Noreborne FPD; Theresa Cox, Wentzville FPD; Sharon Berendzen, Cole County FPD; Carrisa Thompson, Holts Summit FPD; Joni Fields, Paris Rural FPD; Missy Erdel, Little Dixie FPD. Via zoom: Diane Wynn, Galt Fire Department; Christina Loyd, Little Dixie FPD; Kim Peffemann, Washington FPD.

MINUTES

Jessica asked if everyone had reviewed the August meeting minutes and if there were any corrections, addition, or discussions about them. Theresa made a motion to accept the August minutes, seconded by Sheri, motion passed.

FINANCIAL

Sheri made a motion to accept the financial report as reported, seconded by Melissa, motion approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP

Sheri reported we have 107 members and 11 honorary members for a total of 118, representing 20 departments at this time. Sheri wanted to remind everyone "2022" membership dues are due by December 31, 2022. Membership dues are only \$5 per person and mailed to Sheri Berendzen at 2314 Tanner Bridge Rd., Jefferson City 65101. For questions please contact one of our officers. Contact information is listed on ffam.org. Know anyone who wants to join? Reach out to us so we can contact them.

CONTEST

Sheri reported they have purchased a new hose for the games.

HISTORIAN

Carissa reported the first order of tri-fold pamphlets arrived and has been disbursed already. Discussed how many more pamphlets will be needed for future use. Sheri made a motion for Carissa to order 1000 pamphlets, seconded by Joni, motion passed.

CONVENTION

The convention is May 6-8. Washington is having a Silent Auction at the 2022 convention. Their Silent Auction is to help them offset the cost of hosting the convention. So the FFAM Auxiliary will not be asking the members to bring items to support the Silent Auction. More information about the 2022 convention can be found on page 19 in the September/October FFAM Magazine. If you do not have a copy you can go to ffam.org and look up the magazine for the article by Matt Frankenberg on page 19.

POSTER CONTEST

The Poster Contest is October 3-9.

OLD BUSINESS

Charlie Peel and Grant Oetting joined our meeting to let us know Patriot Day went very well. The BBQ did very well this year. Our big challenge was we needed to be closer to the action. Charlie thanked everyone for their dedication and hard work. Plans are already in progress for next year's event.

See the article from Joni Fields for the first reading of proposed changes to the FFAM Auxiliary By-Laws.

Jessica reminded us we still need nominations for Membership of the Year. Nominations can be an individual or a group.

Theresa read the thank you letter to the FFAM Auxiliary from the State Fire Marshal's office, Tim Bean, and staff.

A reminder that next weekend is the Memorial Services, October 9-10 at Kingdom City at 8:00 p.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Members present assisted with putting ribbons together for the Memorial.

Carissa made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joni, motion passed. Jessica adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Theresa Cox
FFAM Secretary/Treasurer

AUXILIARY RENEW

By Sheri Berendzen, 2nd Vice President of the FFAM Auxiliary

As we are coming to the new year, it is time to renew your auxiliary membership again. Our membership consists of spouses, spouses of retirees, parents of FFAM members, children of members, or sponsored by a firefighter from their local department who is in good standing with the FFAM.

Membership is due by January 1, 2022. Membership dues are \$5 per year. Please make checks payable to the FFAM Auxiliary. Fill out the official form on the FFAM website, under membership application. It consists of the following information: department name, name, address, phone number, email address, and who is sponsoring you. You do not need to be a member of your local department auxiliary to be a member of the FFAM Auxiliary. If you are not a member, please consider joining.

We have a great organization and would love for you to join us. I want to say thanks to everyone that is a member of this organization.

If you have any questions, please contact me at gsjeaj@aol.com or 573-680-5551.

FROM THE PEN OF THE CHIEF

By Robert "R.B." Brown, Fire Chief, MO State Fair Volunteer FD

Now that all that attended the Missouri State Fair have rested up, we need to start thinking about the upcoming Missouri State Fair. It is only 289 days away. The 2022 fair will be August 11-21. For those that haven't seen it, a recent post on the State Fair Fire Facebook page suggested holding a work weekend to coincide with the board meeting on December 3-5. The station has a project that needs to be addressed and after the work is completed we can have a social. If your schedule allows, please go to the State Fair Fire Facebook page and let us know. If we have enough people able to help, we can make the work detail happen. I hope to see many and if not I hope you have a very blessed and safe Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas with family and friends and that we see ya next year.

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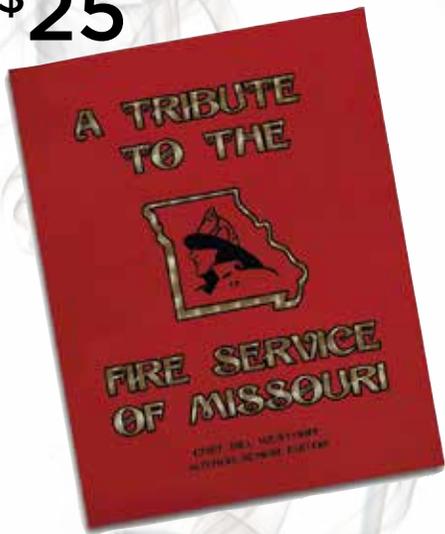
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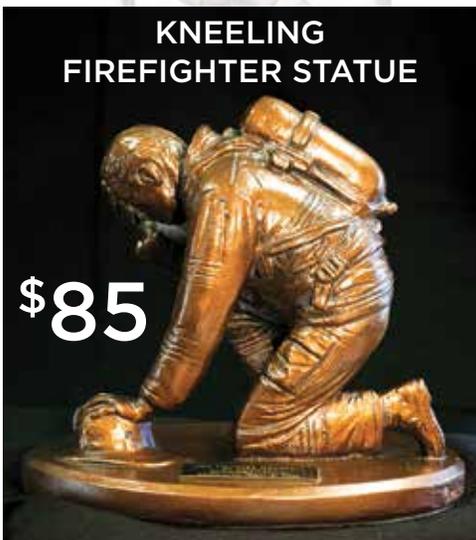
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District

2

Greg Wright
Director

As fall is upon us, furnaces are cranking up. Several fire departments in our area have already responded to house fires. Make sure to check your heating systems regularly.

The Missouri Fallen Firefighter weekend was in Kingdom City in October. A large crowd attended. I wish to thank all the folks for their hard work in making that weekend very special for those families that were honored. The museum was open, and folks got to go inside for the first time. Hopefully, we can continue to move forward in making this project a reality. The pavilion on the grounds is now open as the tables are there. Stop by and take a few minutes, bring your lunch, and enjoy the facility. It was built in memory of Art "Shorty" Smith.

The fire and EMS funeral teams had their conference October 22-23 in Osage Beach. Supporting Heroes were there to train individuals on the "behind the scenes" of setting up visitations, funerals, and helping families prepare. The banquet was held Saturday night with Ms. Juliann Ashcraft as the keynote speaker. Ms. Ashcraft is the widow of Andrew Ashcraft, one of the 19 firefighters that lost their lives in a wildfire in Prescott, Arizona, on June 30, 2013. Some of the fireteams that went to Prescott, Juliann got to meet. I would like to thank Don and Hariett as they shared pictures with Juliann of that time. Juliann cherished those pictures. Thanks again. The banquet attendance was the largest to date. We wish to thank all the fire and EMS funeral team members that attended.

Next year's conference will be the 10th annual, and it will be the biggest conference to date. It will be held October 14-16, 2022, at the Camden on the Lake Resort in Lake Ozark, Missouri. Several different training will be held including the return of the National Honor Guard Academy from Seminole, Florida. On Sunday morning closing out conference will be national known speaker Mr. Barry Young. All are welcome as more information will be coming out after the first of the year. Till next time be safe and have a great holiday season.

COLE COUNTY FPD AWARDS

By Cole County Fire Protection District

The Cole County Fire Protection District (CCFPD) held its 2019-2020 annual service awards banquet. The jointed two years awards banquet was due to COVID-19. The annual event shows appreciation to the firefighters for their years of service and dedication to the CCFPD.

There is another aspect that stands out with the 2019-2020 service awards. The District proudly recognized ten firefighters who have given 165 combined years of service at the end of 2019 and fifteen firefighters who gave 460 combined years of service at the end of 2020. The combined years of service of district personnel are over 1300 years. It shows the commitment to the District by its personnel and their dedication for training, call response, and the rewards of helping others in their time of need.

At the beginning of the awards banquet, we remembered those who passed since our last awards banquet. The District recognized Senior Assistant Chief Galen Hammann, Assistant Chief Robert "Robbie" Hammann, Pam Carsten, Captain Larry Rizner, and Janice Heimericks for their service. Accepting awards for Galen Hammann was his son Jason Hammann. Accepting the awards for Robbie Hammann was his son Chris Hammann.

The following firefighters were recognized for their years of service in 2019.

5 years: Jordy Doerhoff, Aaron Kempker, Mac Kennedy, Zach Rustemeyer

15 years: Blake Bopp, Jason Bittle

20 years: Jason Hammann

25 years: Scott Kempker

30 years: Rich Gordon

40 years: James Call

Fire Fighter of the Year: Dakota Roth

Officer of the Year: Justin Braun

Special Recognition Award: Julie Rademann

Outstanding Community Service Award: Tony Vanderpool

Deputy Chief's "Dirty Dozen": These firefighters responded to the most calls: Justin Braun, Zack Rustemeyer, Mac Kennedy, Galen Hammann, Gary Berendzen, Tony Vanderpool, Jason Hammann, Mike Hart, Robbie Hammann, Dakota Roth, Adam Bashore, and Shawn York.

Perfect Attendance in Training Awards: Gary Braun, Galen Hammann, Robbie Hammann, Jason Hammann, Zach Rustemeyer, Shawn York, Mike Hart, Gary Berendzen, Blake Bopp, Jenny Berendzen and Nathan Luebbering

The following firefighters were recognized for their years of service in 2020.

10 years: Justin Braun

20 years: Josh Luebbering, Nathan Luebbering, Shawn York

25 years: Dave Luebbering, Doug Luebbering, Myron Luebbering, Norman Otto

35 years: Gary Braun

40 years: Steve Barnes, Dave Berendzen, Mike Hart, Robert "Robbie" Hammann

45 years: Galen Hammann

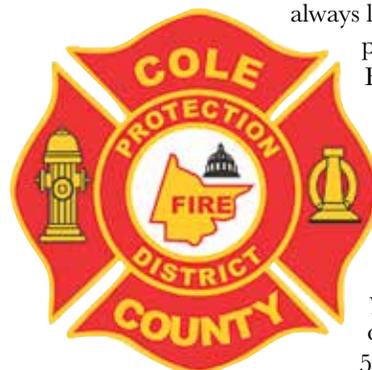
50 years: Gary Smith

Fire Fighter of the Year: Jose Mejia

Officer of the Year: Dave Luebbering

Outstanding Community Service Award: Mel Callahan

The Cole County Fire Protection District is always looking for men and women to proudly serve our community. Firefighting is a rewarding experience helping those in need, whether it be educating children on fire safety, extricating people from vehicle accidents, or extinguishing fires. If you are interested please contact the District office at 573-634-9011.



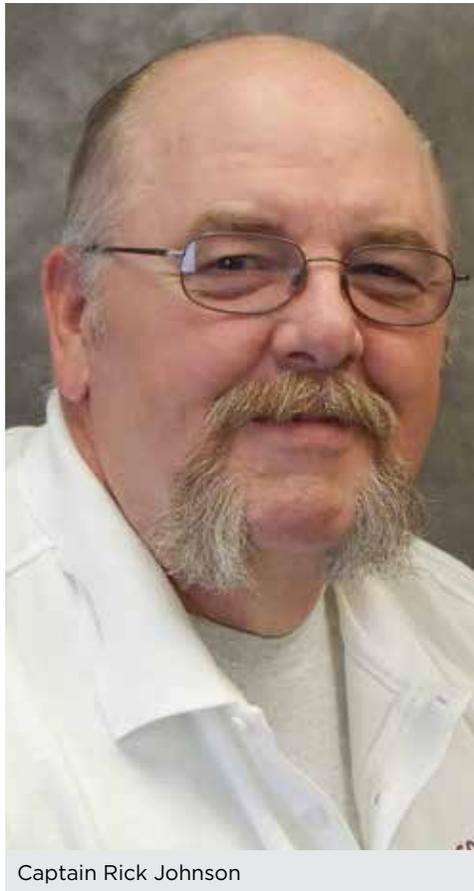
CAPTAIN RICK JOHNSON RETIRES

By Joe Jennings, Johnson County Fire Protection District

Johnson County Fire Protection District (JCFFPD) Station 4 Captain Rick Johnson is hanging up his turnout gear for the final time this week after serving the District for 40 years. Captain Johnson began his service to the District in 1981 and worked his way through the ranks into his current position of Captain in the District's Station 4 which is located just outside of Knob Noster.

"Captain Johnson has had a great influence on numerous members of the fire service throughout his career and has always been a staunch advocate for public service," said District Fire Chief Larry Jennings. "The District appreciates his dedication serving our organization and community over the past four decades."

Captain Johnson's final day with the District is Thursday, September 30, 2021. He will be officially recognized for his service following the December meeting of the JCFFPD Board of Directors.



Captain Rick Johnson



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a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		7,923	8,154
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Rickey Lee Hobbs, 60, of Richland, Missouri passed away surrounded by his loving family Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at Lake Regional Health Center, Osage Beach, Missouri. “Rick” was born in Waynesville, Missouri on December 17, 1960, the son of Francis Junior Hobbs and the late Bonnie June (Boren) Hobbs Fritts. After Rick was born, the family moved to Richland where he attended school, living out his life...and what a full life Rick experienced.

He attended the Church of Christ and accepted Christ at a young age and was later baptized by his uncle James Boren in the Gasconade River.

On June 6, 1980, in Richland, Rick married his soul mate, Robin Lynn Helms. They shared over forty-one years of love, laughter, tears, and joy together while proudly raising their son, Russell, who they dearly loved and adored.

Rick had a wonderful work ethic and began working early in life at such places as, Independent Stave, Ozark Fisheries, and H. E. Builds Gate, he also served as a Sergeant with Richland Police Department later working as a lineman for the City of Richland. He served as an EMT and became a Pulaski County Board Member. In 1980 Rick started doing what he loved most, Fire Service.

Rick became a member of the Fire Fighter Association of Missouri, he was the President and Founding Member of the Pulaski, and Laclede County Fire Chiefs Association, and was the Emergency Management Director for the City of Richland, he was on the Pulaski County Ambulance Board for a term and was involved in the University of Missouri’s Winter Fire School Expo. These are just a few things Rick was involved with, and if truth be known, there are many more that could be listed. Rick always had his finger on the pulse, and made his mark on the world, always looking for ways to help in the communities he loved and served.



Other things Rick enjoyed doing included showing horses, rodeos, working on his golf cart, and 9N Ford Tractors.

Rick greatly loved his family. They were his true treasures in life, especially his beautiful granddaughters Nadia and Alaina, they were Poppy’s pride and joy.

He was pre-deceased by his mother, “Junie,” one infant grandchild, his father-in-law, John R. Helms, three brother-in-law’s, Russell Edward Helms, Aaron Helms, and David Helms, and one Uncle Don Mayhew.

Rick is survived by his loving wife, Robin of their home in Richland, MO; his son: Russell Hobbs (Danielle) of Richland, MO; 2 grandchildren: Nadia and Alaina Hobbs; his father Francis Hobbs of Richland, MO; brothers: Francis Eugene Hobbs (Doris) of Climax, MO, and Tim Farmer (Kelly) of Hendersonville, TN; sisters: Holly Joy Hobbs (Travis), Sue Pentecost, and Dalene McDaniel (Kenneth), all of Richland, MO; mother-in-law: Nancy Helms of Warsaw, MO; sister-in-law: Irene Handley (John) of Avon Park, FL; brother-in-law: John Fluty (Shamane) of Warsaw, MO; one aunt: Dorothy Mayhew of Crocker, MO; one uncle: James Boren (Sue) of Swedeborg, MO; his greatly loved fire family, his brothers and sisters; nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

Our community was greatly blessed to have such a man as Rick who truly did have a servant’s heart. His devotion and dedication were unmatched. Though he may be gone from our sight, Rick Hobbs’s legacy will live on forever, so remember him with a smile.

Services were held at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, September 19, 2021, in the RHS Gymnasium of Richland, Missouri with Dustin Britzman officiating. Speakers, and dear friends, Ed Fowler read the obituary, while Matt Sutcliffe shared his favorite stories about Chief Hobbs. Son, Russell Hobbs gave a touching eulogy about his beloved father, and daughter-in-law, Danielle Hobbs shared several of “Rick’s quotes and thoughts.” Uniformed Personal saluted Rick one last



time before Chief Hobbs was taken on his final ride on the back of a Firetruck to Oaklawn Cemetery where Chief Hobbs was laid to rest. Escorts included Ed Fowler, Doug Yurecko, Jarrod Arnall, Brandon Bradstreet, Michael Campbell, Dustin Britzman, Jacob Gormley and Bob Sperberg. Honorary escorts included Gene Hobbs, Mike Hobbs, Ralph Forester, Bob Williams, Tim Farmer, Rick Grno, Robert Smith, Matt Sutcliffe, Phil Pitts, and Skip Hankins. Dustin Britzman opened the graveside service. The Proclamations and Resolution #2766 were given by State Fire Marshall, Tim Dean. Rick’s first cousin, Representative, Don Mayhew presented the American flag, while Bill Hardwick presented the Missouri flag; both flags had been flown over the state capitol during the week of Rick’s passing and were presented to Rick’s wife, Robin. Two Fireman folded the draped flag from the casket as Taps were being played before it too was presented to Robin before the Ringing of the Bell Ceremony began. A lone helicopter flew over just before Pulaski County 911 operator gave the Last Call for 1301 Chief, and Battalion Chief 109903, Rickey Lee Hobbs was given, his Last Alarm. Bagpipes played “Amazing Grace” at the conclusion of Chief Hobbs’s service.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made in memory of Rick Hobbs and can be left at the Memorial Chapel of Richland.

With the posting of memorial service pictures in this edition of your magazine, I only have a few brief remarks. We honored ten Line-of-Duty-Death (LODD) names and their families in the Saturday night candlelight and Sunday morning services on October 9th and 10th. There were also 64-names honored of those who served and passed for other causes. Special guests Saturday night also included Missouri Lt. Governor, Mike Kehoe, and his wife. Sunday morning included the Deputy Director Missouri Department of Public Safety, Kevin Bond. Keynote Speaker was survivor Dwayne Murphy, Asstiant Fire Chief, Montgomery, IN Fire Department. The May services for 2022 will be Saturday, May 14th, and Sunday, May 15th.

LINE OF DUTY ROLL CALL FOR THE 2021 SERVICES

- Raymond Dydell, West Platte Fire Protection District, February 20, 2021
- Timothy Travis Owens, St. Joseph Fire Department, March 28, 2019
- Christopher R. Moore, Maryland Heights Fire Protection District, June 8, 2019
- Jack Allyn Reding, Duenweg Volunteer Fire Department, July 5, 2019
- Jerry Drew Bayton, Kansas City Fire Department, August 23, 2019
- Charles "CHUCK" McCormick, West Peculiar Fire Protection District, January 5, 2020
- Christopher H. Francis, Mehlville Fire Protection District, April 2, 2020
- Craig Shormas, Monarch Fire Protection District, April 21, 2020
- David F. Jameson, Jr., Independence Fire Department, May 7, 2020
- Robert "BOBBY" Rocha, Kansas City Fire Department, November 21, 2020

Thank you for your time and especially your support. Talk with you again in 60-days.



PREVENTING FIREFIGHTER FALLS

All scenes expose firefighters to many different hazards! Please perform a hazard assessment at each scene and take action to minimize hazards! Falls can be prevented with relatively simple measures like training, housekeeping, proper scene setup and use of equipment like lighting and slip-on ice cleats. Slips, trips and falls are a top cause of employee injury across Missouri. Slips, trips and falls can occur at the fire station and at the scene.

Find more safety information at www.mem-ins.com

CREW SAFETY DISCUSSION POINTS

- When walking/working surfaces are covered with water, ice, snow or a granular or liquid substance, the foot can slip, causing instability.
- Trips occur when the foot stride is stopped by an obstruction like a fire hose, extension cord, rock or seam in concrete. This causes the body to thrust forward out of balance.
- Slips & trips and the associated imbalance in the body can result in a fall. Injuries associated with falls include strains, sprains, bone fractures or head injuries that could be serious.
- Ladders are clearly needed on fire scenes for rescue and access for firefighting. But aerial ladder trucks are more stable and provide better, safer access for rescue, rooftop work or overhaul. A fall from more than 6' can easily be life-threatening and cause multiple injuries. Please provide training on proper ladder setup, use and inspection. Use ropes to lift and lower tools and saws. Discuss how aerial trucks can be used to make elevated surface work safer.
- Ladder safety is important. Use three points of contact and don't carry too much. Make sure your ladder will not slip, kick out or tip over. Do not raise ladders into power lines. Use ropes to lift tools.
- When working in winter weather, use plenty of floodlighting at night, and consider throwing out ice melt near pump panels or on sidewalks & driveways at medical calls.
- At the station, make sure slip, trip and fall hazards are cleaned up. Keep storerooms and floors tidy. Extension cords, garden hoses, leaking trucks and drying hoses are common slip & trip hazards.
- At night, use plenty of floodlighting. Keep generators, extension cords and lighting in operable condition. Light up night scenes.



Wear proper footwear, ice cleats and assign a member to spread ice melt at icy/snowy scenes.



Use three points of contact when entering/exiting truck cabs, top-mount pumps or when using ladders.



Provide, assign & require the use of slip-on ice cleats when working in winter weather.



Leaking trucks and garden hoses are common slip and fall hazards.



Make sure ladders do not tip over, or kick out. Get help to secure ladders.

These advisory materials have been developed from national standards and sources believed to be reliable, however, no guarantee is made as to the sufficiency of the information contained in the material and the Firefighter Association of Missouri assumes no liability for its use. Advice about specific situations should be obtained from a safety professional. 07/16/20 by MW

SUNRISE BEACH - UP AND OVER DRILL



Around the State

Sunrise Beach Fire Protection District personnel perform an up-and-over drill as part of their minimum company skills that members do at a minimum, once a year. Members utilize a roof ladder to access the first deck. Once on that deck, they pull the ladder up to them and use it again to access the roof. After they get on the roof, they again use the roof ladder to climb the roof to the ridge. Then at the ridge, they go down the reverse way back to the ground.



NEW EMPLOYEE - MAPAVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The Mapaville Fire Protection District is pleased to announce the hiring of a new employee. Deputy Chief Smokey Bear has been added to the staff and will be the Division Chief in charge of the Forest Fire Prevention Task Force. Chief Smokey has come to us with a long successful resume of educating youth and adults on fire safety and prevention. His permanent posting will be on the bluff side of the Eastbound lane of State Rd. Highway A adjacent to the Mapaville Fire Protection District's fire station near the intersection of State Rd. Highway Z.

Chief Smokey was funded by the Mapaville Fire Association. The purchase was coordinated through the Missouri Department of Conservation. The Association is a separate organization that supports the District's fire prevention and public education efforts. Reflective, high visible Street Address signs are available at the Mapaville Fire Station, 3687 Plass Rd., for purchase.





Director's Comments

MU Fire and Rescue Training Institute



John Worden
Interim Director

Welcome to fall/winter in Missouri. By the time you read this, we will have completed our annual Missouri Emergency Services Instructor Conference. Preliminary numbers look like we will have one of the best-attended conferences in the last few years. Thank you to all those that attended.

I want to take a few minutes to thank the MU FRTI faculty and staff. Our over 160

adjuncts provide some of the best instruction around and work hard to make sure our quality stays at the forefront. I want to thank our full and part-time members here at the home office. Most of you are familiar with the works they do but over the last year with cancellations, rescheduling, or changing to virtual platforms, they have worked harder than ever. I want to give a personal shout-out to Gail, Travis, Mike, Tracy, Jim, Tim, Karen, Alexis and Sage for their great work and passion. Without these dedicated individuals, MU FRTI could simply not provide the quality training that you all deserve!

We are working to complete planning for our annual Winter Fire School (WFS) and are happy that it will be back to its pre-COVID format. The Equipment Expo will once again be featured during WFS. Be on the lookout for information or visit our website at mufrti.org.

We hope you all had a great Thanksgiving. Please take some time to spend with friends, loved ones or take time for yourselves. You all deserve that. Stay safe!



PLANNING FOR FIRE SAVES LIVES AND PROPERTY

The images of destruction from the raging infernos the past few years are almost incomprehensible. Thousands of homes and businesses were reduced to twisted metal and rubble. Families were displaced and communities destroyed. These terrible fires are a reminder that we need to be fire aware.

There are actions you can take to make your home more resistant to fires. The most important thing you can do is create defensible space to blunt the flames and give firefighters room to try and save the structure. That means:

- Creating a 30 to 100 foot fire-resistant space (or up to 200 feet on slopes) around your home
- Keep plants carefully spaced, low-growing and free of easily ignited resins, waxes or oils
- Space conifer trees 30 feet between crowns
- Trim back any limbs that overhang the house
- Prune trees up six to 10 feet from the ground
- Create a fire-free zone within five feet of your home using non-flammable landscaping materials and/or high-moisture annuals and perennials
- Remove dead vegetation from roofs, under decks and within 10 feet of the home
- Consider fire-resistant material for patio furniture, swing sets, etc.
- Relocate firewood stacks and propane tanks 30 feet from the home

Taking the above steps will significantly decrease the danger of it going up in flames. Keep in mind that homes built in canyons and hilltops are at a greater risk of being consumed in major blazes.

While direct flames threaten structures, embers from these firestorms cause most homes and buildings to ignite. That's why construction choices can make a major difference on whether it burns or not.

To add an extra layer of protection, you should use high quality, fire resistant materials and concepts around and on your home that include:

- Brick, stone, stucco or concrete exteriors
- Ember resistant tile, metal or composite roofs and shingles
- Fire resistant treating on wood siding and cedar shakes
- Concrete patio instead of a deck, or decks made of aluminum or fire resistant pressure-treated lumber
- Ember blocking screens on vents and soffits
- Fire resistant windows and fire doors or shutters to cover them
- Metal core doors on all exteriors
- Metal pane garage doors
- Automatic sprinkler heads on roofs, patios and decks
- Fire resistant walls and fences to slow flames and shield against some embers
- Natural barriers such as rock outcroppings and ponds as part of your defensible area
- Driveways and access roads built to accommodate fire engines and equipment

Here are some other important safety preparations you and your family can take before the next fire:

- Teach everyone how to use a fire extinguisher and where they are kept
- Practice evacuation drills and know at least two escape routes
- Don't drive or park vehicles in tall, dry grass when fire warnings are issued
- Avoid using lawn mowers, trimmers, or other yard equipment that can create sparks on dry windy days
- Prepare an emergency kit and have a family communication plan
- Review your homeowners or renters insurance policy to ensure you have adequate coverage for your property and belongings, and make a comprehensive home inventory.

If the worst should happen, and your home is damaged or destroyed by fire, you can find answers to your "what now?" questions from the Insurance Information Institute at <http://www.iii.org/article/frequently-asked-questions-about-wildfires>.

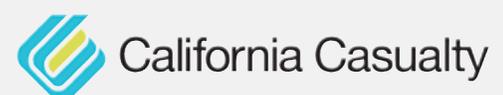
Stay ahead of the flames; now is the time to take action to make your property more fire-safe. Download an instruction guide to make your property more fire proof at https://www.calcas.com/documents/10326/0/wildfire_pamphlet_residential_CA.pdf/4c476835-55f4-4a70-a208-0f7930218e90.

A California Casualty advisor is also ready to help review your policy or give you a free quote today at 833.989.3579, or you can visit www.readyforquote.com/katelyn.

Other valuable fire prevention resources can be found at:

- www.redcross.org/prepare/location/home-family/get-kit
- firewise.org/wildfire-preparedness/be-firewise/home-and-landscape/defensible-space.aspx
- www.nfpa.org/public-education/by-topic/wildfire-and-seasonal-fires/wildland-fires
- www.insureonline.org/home_inventory_checklist.pdf
- www.energy-design-tools.aud.ucla.edu/FIRES.html

This article is furnished by California Casualty, providing auto and home insurance to educators, law enforcement, firefighters and nurses. Get a quote at 833.989.3579 or www.readyforquote.com/katelyn.



By Keith Smith

I will start with an update regarding the 2024 NVFC Fall Meeting in Kansas City. President Jennings and I were on a Zoom call Monday morning November 1 with NVFC Engagement Manager Meg Goldberg and their primary event coordinator for all things NVFC. They have contracted with the Kansas City Marriott Downtown to host this 3-day meeting the last week in September 2024.

While this is still a long way out, it is how NVFC manages its fall meetings. COVID did the same to them as it did for our annual onsite conventions in rolling things back two years, but everything up to KCMO was planned at that time. Jackson, WY was just completed. Next is Wilmington, NC in 2022, Cooperstown, NY in 2023, and Kansas City, MO in 2024.

The Conference Committee just recommended Rapid City, SD for 2025. Normally the State Association requests being the meeting host, but NVFC planned this meeting to determine if a central location having a major airport in a region offering a lot to do but at minimal expense for all services would be appealing, and KCMO was selected. To be clear, NVFC is not requesting assistance but how can we not offer to help to some extent.

Several notes were taken on what NVFC would welcome for assistance. Although it was not a grocery list, there are several areas in which FFAM can provide opportunities while also involving introductions of the Missouri fire service leadership. More to follow in the 34-months between now and the KCMO meeting.

Rob and I just returned from the three-day Fall meeting in Jackson, WY. The theme this year was "Honoring the Past, Plan for Today, Shape the Future." The NVFC Chairman Steve Hirsch (KS) added "Faith, Family and Fire Service." With all of that said, I will defer the various committee reports until the next two magazines when we are in a slower news cycle.

For now, a few comments on a hot topic. The NFPA representative which coordinates all of the various NFPA committee picks, filings, work, and reporting is always in attendance at the Spring and Fall NVFC meetings.

Interestingly over 1/3 of the NVFC Directors are on one or more NFPA Committees and a major line item in the annual NVFC budget for their travel with this work. Not so much the past 18-months, but they are resuming in-person meetings. There was a formal presentation on how NFPA is combining several related standards (3-5) into a group with a new master number. Not exactly new, but they have accelerated the process. Then they introduced NFPA Dash Board which you do NOT have to be an NFPA member to give input. This leads me to the next interesting point.

Tom Miller, Director WV who serves on 3 NFPA Committees has never been reserved with "See Something, Say Something" and brought up some recently verified facts that manufacturers have again been allowed to dominate some of the work with NFPA committees and he offered the following. From 2000 to 2020 protective gear has increased 700%. Apparatus has increased 400%. Radios have increased 600% and he went on with other examples. His specific

point is that on close examination of NFPA Committee membership that manufacturing and their allied interest is dominant.

Tom then pointed out that SCBA in just one revision cycle, the latest cycle, increased 35% or \$2,200 per unit. Hopefully, this shines a light on a serious issue that is wider spread than most realize.

If left unchecked this will reach, and for some has already reached, a point where many departments will not be able to purchase even basic equipment without grant assistance.

In closing, I have arranged for Jaime to receive the just revised 2nd Edition Lavender Ribbon report on Fire Service Cancer. Each renewing FFAM department will receive one booklet with their paid renewal and information/benefits on NVFC Membership.

Thank you for your time and for allowing Rob and me to serve on your behalf with the NVFC.

KEEPING YOU ON YOUR TOES ALL WINTER LONG.

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IN STOCK AT

By Keith Smith

Welcome to *The Museum Report*. We can officially acknowledge some very exciting news that has for the past six months only been a work product known by some. WSKF Architects out of Kansas City, Missouri and Kansas have partnered with the Foundation at no cost in providing interior design planning and working drawings www.wskfarch.com

If you have a chance to visit their website site they detail a few of their recent public safety projects. On October 13th more good news came when WSKF announced they had leveraged their relationship with some engineering companies and two agreed to come on board and work with the Foundation on the museum project at no charge.

Having a detailed architectural design of the interior with key functional elements and finishes was the next step but we also had to (1) Find the right company in understanding what was needed and (2) be able to pay the usual 8% of fair value in professional development costs.

On reading the Foundation had progressed up to an exterior building with an unfinished interior on hold until more funding was secured, WSKF came to us and asked if they could assist and were willing to volunteer their professional services. That was a “Wow” phone call with the first two steps moving forward. They made the full presentation before we formally agreed to accept.

We have a preliminary design that was revealed at the last FFAM Board Meeting and on display during the memorial services on October 9th and 10th. We still have to refine that working drawing to a greater extent which is the next step, determine current cost estimates and dig back into fundraising which WSKF indicated they would also assist in terms of presentation material support and industry contacts.

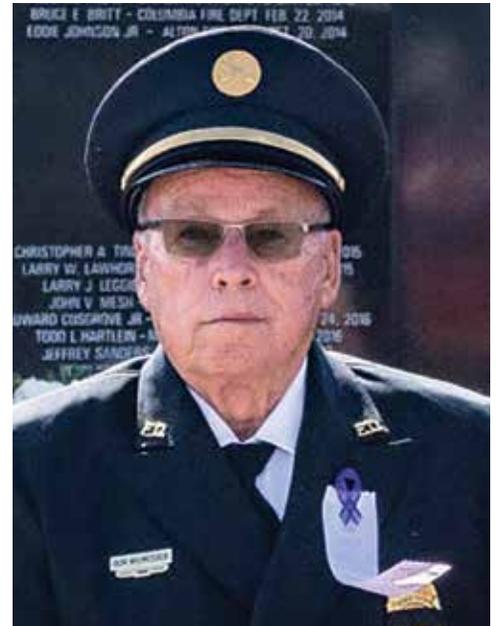


Stephen McLane

In continuing with our introduction of your Foundation Board members, the next two people are Stephen McLane, Foundation Secretary, and Don Wilmesher.

STEPHEN MCLANE

Stephen started his fire service career in 1990 while still in high school with the Boone County Fire Protection District (BCFPD) and moved up through the ranks to Captain/EMT. Stephen served 12-years on MOTF-1 which included deployments to the World Trade Center in 2001 and Hurricane Katarina in 2005. Stephen has been an adjunct instructor with MU FRTI for over 20-years and National Fire Academy Instructor over 8-years with a focus on Responder Safety and Hazardous Materials. His regular job is an Environmental Scientist with DNR in their Emergency Response section with a background in safety management. Stephen has received numerous service and achievement awards with BCFPD and DNR. Stephen is a 2nd term Alderman in the City of Hallsville and joined the Foundation in 2012.



Don Wilmesher

DON WILMESHER

Don Wilmesher started his fire service career with the Union Volunteer Fire Department in 1964, became Fire Chief in 1970, active in creating the Union Fire Protection District (UFPD) in 1970 and the Union Ambulance District. Don stepped down as Fire Chief in 1979 but remains active with the department to this date. Don served as an FFAM District Director for 35-years, over 20-years with the Missouri State Fair Vol Fire Dept., Franklin Gasconade Fire Association President for 20-years, and UFPD membership Treasurer for 25+ years. Don has been a Foundation member for 10-years. His regular job was Don's Auto Repair and Used Cars' for 50-years before selling the business to his son only to semi-retire. Don loves fishing, hunting, and his grandchildren.

If you need to contact me for questions or have ideas to share regarding the museum project please call 314-709-0760 or my email address is keith.smith@warrenton-fire.org.



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