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## Fire Fighters Association of Missouri



### ABOUT THE COVER

Lake Ozark Fire Protection District  
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# President's Remarks

Take a moment to enjoy it.



Larry Jennings

Where does time go? I have always heard the saying about time flying when you're having fun or the older you get. If age is a factor then I, like many of you, must be about 150 years old or we are having a really, really fun time at the speed things are going. It seems like just yesterday it was last year and here we are already almost midway through another year. I hope you are each taking some time to slow things down and enjoy life and the many blessings around each of us. Family and friends are vital parts of our being and should be given the correct attention as we all juggle our hectic schedules. Make time and remember to relax when you can.

I was not able to attend *Firefighter's Day at the Capitol* this year, but all reports indicate it was one of the best and was definitely one of, if not the highest attended event so far. Those in attendance had the opportunity to visit with legislators to discuss the needs of the fire service across the state. Attendees at the ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda had the opportunity to hear from several government officials along with representatives of Missouri Women of Fire who were the featured attendees. This is always a great opportunity to influence how our state legislators view the fire service and to let them know what our ongoing needs may be. If you didn't make it this year we hope you can attend next spring at the annual event.

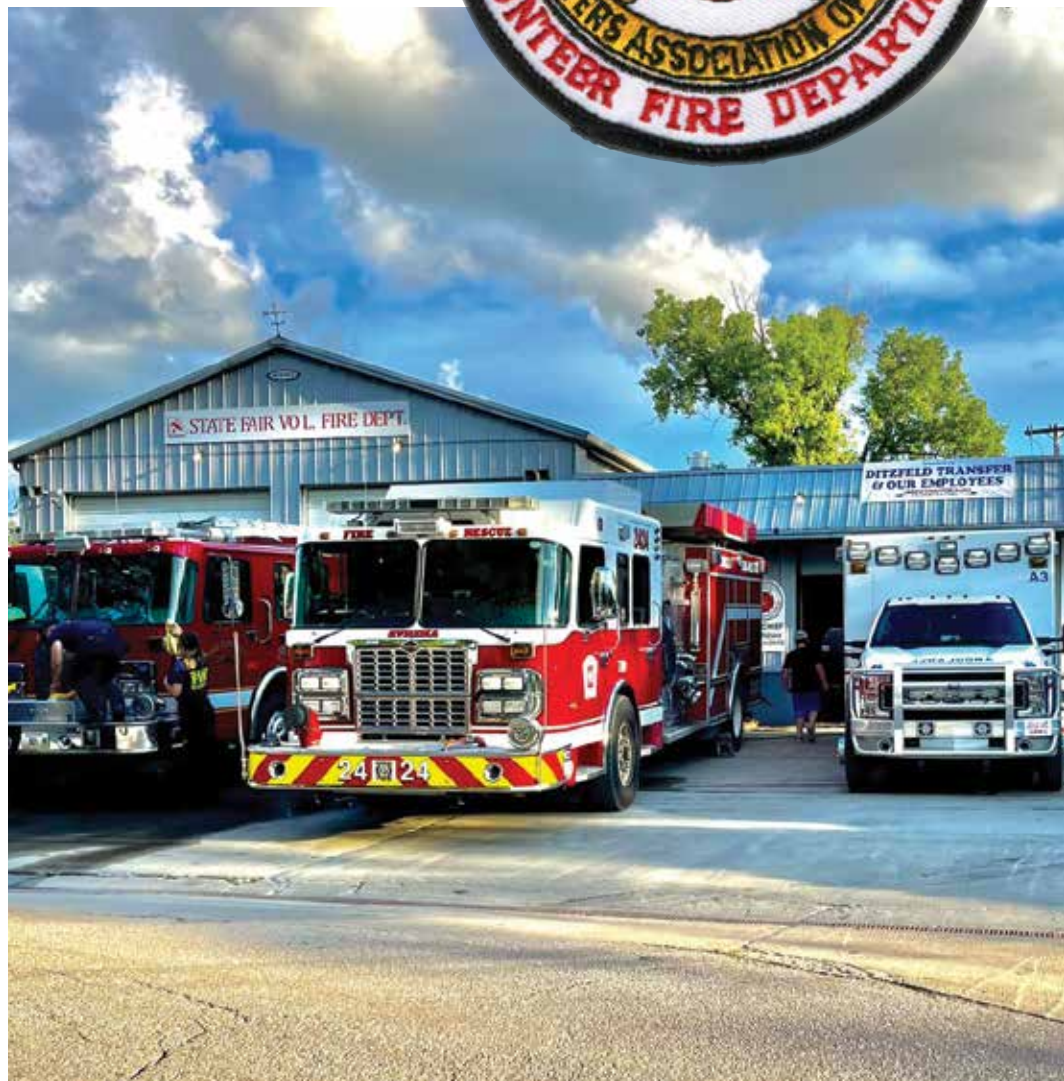
Depending on your timing in reading this edition of the magazine, there may still be time to submit your application to work at the Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department this coming August. Applications are due by June 1 and are available under the "State Fair Committee" tab on the FFAM website. Educational opportunities await those who work, along with an outstanding opportunity to serve several hundred thousand visitors to the fair and the opportunity to make new friendships and rekindle old ones that can last a lifetime. I hope to see you working at the Fair, but if you aren't there to work at least take a few minutes and stop by the fire station and have a cold water and visit with those on duty.

It is still several months away, but please mark your calendars for the *Annual Firefighter's Memorial Services* in Kingdom City on October 5 and 6. The candlelight ceremony will be on the evening of the 5th and the memorial service will be on the morning of the 6th. Please plan to attend and help support the families and departments of those who have served their communities and have passed away. The ceremonies are a moving tribute and are administered by the Memorial Foundation members who always make the weekend come together in fine fashion.

Don't forget there are legislatively funded training classes available across the state so check them out and sign up for one of the available courses on the Acadis portal through the State Fire Marshal's Office. Make sure you request courses for your area so we can make training available in all regions of the state to cut down travel time for our personnel and create more opportunities for everyone to enhance their skills and knowledge base.

Remember as we head into our hot summer months to take extra precautions needed to avoid heat-related ill effects on our personnel. Hydration is key along with adequate rest and reducing core body temperatures while working at incidents. The hot months also take a toll on our apparatus so this is a good time to make sure your apparatus are functioning correctly to meet your needs along with the expectations of the public we serve.

Be Safe!



# Fire Marshal's Update

I will begin my article with an apology. I'm sure you have heard the old saying "Don't count your chickens before they hatch." Well, that would be my case here! I announced in the March-April magazine we had hired a new state fire mutual aid coordinator, well, that did not come to fruition. So, we have put the job back out for application. Until we find that individual, please contact Matt Luetkemeyer @ 573-751-1601 or 573-821-0937, matt.luetkemeyer@dfs.dps.mo.gov with any questions about fire mutual aid, fire department registration, National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), or anything related.

We are in the final few days of the 2024 legislative session. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have been busy massaging out a constitutional balanced budget and will have it on the Governor's desk by May 10th at 6 p.m. Other legislative items are on a slow road. I was excited to see Representative Kyle Marquart file bill HB 2641. Working with Representative Tim Taylor who filed a similar bill last year. This new bill will create a pay formula to

assist our volunteer firefighters in getting fair compensation when injured while in an emergency capacity. I am keeping an eye on this bill.

We have received several requests from across the state for firefighter training. Thank you! Your legislators have added \$750,000 to our/your training budget. Now the ball is in our court to request training classes and spend these additional training dollars! We have never been in a position to have access to this amount of training dollars before! Let's invest in training for our firefighters which makes them better at their jobs. Which is then passed onto our customers "Mr. & Ms. Smith!" If you run across one of your legislators, please thank them for their support with these training dollars!

I potentially see more opportunities coming for our Missouri fire service. Stay tuned!

Again, I will express, "Get to know who is running for public office at your local, county, state, and federal levels," it matters!



Tim Bean



In closing, in the March-April magazine, Keith Smith shared critical information about changes coming to the OSHA rules that affect our Nation's/Missouri's fire service. Please take the time to read and educate yourself on what is being presented by OSHA, it could be a game changer for many of the Missouri fire service! I am concerned!

Thank you each for everything you do across our state. Continue to educate yourselves and respond as the "Best boots on the ground," and leave things better than you found them. Please practice Cancer prevention! It is an honor to serve as your State Fire Marshal. May God continue to watch over and keep you!



## 2024 Winners!

## FFAM SCHOLARSHIPS 2024

By Larry Eggen, Committee Chair

The following have been selected as the winners of the 2024 Fire Fighters Association of Missouri Scholarship.

### JONATHAN THOMAS

Jonathan Thomas, from Madison, Missouri, attended Madison C-3 High School. Jonathan plans to attend Grand River Welding Institute. Jonathan is also a volunteer firefighter/first responder with the Madison-West Monroe Fire Department.

### REAGAN WRIGHT

Reagan Wright, from Mexico, Missouri, attended Mexico High School and MACC. Madison plans to attend the University of Missouri and major in Journalism/Sports Broadcasting.

### FAYETH PRENGER

Fayeth Prenger, from St. Thomas, Missouri, attended Blair Oaks High School. Fayeth plans to attend Lincoln University and study Computer Engineering.

### 2024 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Ed Daugherty, Terry Plumb, Larry Eggen



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, April 7, 2024, at Kingdom City City Hall in Kingdom City, Missouri. The meeting began with the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

## ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OTHER OFFICIALS

### OFFICERS

President Larry Jennings, Johnson County FPD; First Vice President Charlie Peel, Southeastern Randolph FPD; Second Vice President Grant Oetting – Higginsville FPD; Secretary-Treasurer Jaime Miller – Johnson County FPD #2; Sergeant-at-Arms Rex Reynolds – Southern FPD of Holt County.

### DIRECTORS

District 1, Terry Wynne, Galt FPD; District 2, Vernon Cash, Shelbina FPD; District 3, Rob Erdel, Little Dixie FPD; District 4, Joe Vaughn (V), Central Cass Co FPD; District 7, RB Brown, Union FD; District 10, Greg Brown, Eureka FPD; District 11, Billy Smith, North Central Carroll Co FPD; District 14, Rick Dozier (V), Southern FPD of Holt County.

### ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

District 1, Janet Cain, Shoal Creek FPD; District 3, Josh Loyd, Martinsburg Area FPD; District 3, Dale Ransdell, Madison West Monroe FPD; District 4, Jonathan Evans, Lincoln FD; District 5, Dylan Honea, Southern Stone FPD; District 5, Shelby Honea, Southern Stone FPD; District 6, Alan Braun, Cole County FPD; District 10, Harriett Vaucher, Eureka FPD.

### GUESTS

Gail Hagans, Harry Ward, David Hedrick, University of Missouri Extension Fire and Rescue Training Institute; Tim Bean, Missouri Division of Fire Safety; Keith Smith, Warrenton FPD; Chris Thompson, Holts Summit FPD; Greg Wright, Retired; Kenneth Hoover, Little Dixie FPD; Gary Berendzen, Cole County FPD; Todd Gray, Fulton FD; Brian Zinanni, Funeral Team; Larry Jones, Madison West Monroe FPD; Christina Loyd, Martinsburg Area FPD.

\*(V) denotes Virtual Attendance

### AGENDA

President Jennings asked for additions to the agenda. No additions were made.

### MINUTES

President Jennings asked for additions or corrections to the February 11, 2024, meeting minutes. Greg Brown moved to accept the minutes as presented. A vote was held, and the motion was approved.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

President Jennings asked for a review of the January-February 2024 financial report. Discussion was held and the board advised to file the report for the annual compilation.

### REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUEST(S)

Harry Ward with the University of Missouri Extension Fire and Rescue Training Institute reported that they assisted with the propane training held in Sedalia in March. MFA donated the propane and there was a great turnout.

The *Fire Service Enhancement Leadership Program* has finished, and they received very positive feedback from participants.

*Summer Fire School* will be from May 29–June 2. They are bringing back wildland classes.

There are lots of trainings being held all over the state. If your department would like to host a training, contact the Missouri Division of Fire Safety.

Tim Bean with the Missouri Division of Fire Safety thanked all those who attended *Firefighter Day at the Capitol*. It was the largest attended with 102 women.

Bean emphasized the importance of getting to know your local representatives. The fire service is in a great position with our legislative body so get to know them so we can keep firefighter education funded in the state budget. There are 40 days left in the legislative session. The House is passing bills, but they are not moving through the Senate. The budget is in good shape and firefighter education funding is there.

DFS currently has a Mutual Aid Coordinator position open.

Fire department registration is going great. Several departments haven't registered so help share with your neighboring departments about this requirement.

### DISTRICT REPORTS

#### DISTRICT 1

Terry Wynne reported that he recently met with Milan and Milan Rural and has been talking with several other departments. Janet Cain has met with Linn County EMS and 911.

#### DISTRICT 2

Vernon Cash reported that he will be attending the next regional meeting in his area.

#### DISTRICT 3

Rob Erdel reported that Dale Ransdell attended a meeting with several EMS and 911 agencies. He did attend a Region B Chiefs meeting and Randolph County Ambulance has recently joined.

#### DISTRICT 4

Joe Vaughn reported that he has a meeting coming up with Adrian Fire. Jonathan Evans reported that he checked in with several member departments. He also represented FFAM in Atlanta at the United Soybeans Association as they introduced a new fire-fighting foam.

#### DISTRICT 5

Dylan Honea reported that he attended the MO Chiefs Conference with Grant Oetting in February. Twenty-two departments were represented. Terry Plumb has also been in contact with several departments.

#### DISTRICT 6

Alan Bruan reported that he attended the Four River Conference. Thirteen departments were in attendance, and he shared information about FFAM. He is meeting with the Moniteau Chiefs Association later in April.

#### DISTRICT 7

RB Brown reported that he has been in contact with several departments.

#### DISTRICT 9

No report given.

**DISTRICT 10**

Greg Brown reported that George Sheets is retiring leaving an Assistant Director position open. Grant Oetting and Charlie Peel are still working with IAFF.

**DISTRICT 11**

Billy Smith reported that Josh Koepke is working on Kansas City FD, Birmingham and Platte Co. He met with Hardin who has now joined and is working on a couple of other departments.

**DISTRICT 12**

No report given.

**DISTRICT 14**

Rick Dozier reported that Kyler Oliver attended the Buchanan County Chiefs Association meeting. He has also been in contact with several departments.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Secretary Miller advised that a thank-you card was received from the Division of Fire Safety about *Firefighters Day at the Capitol*.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Discussion was held on the district boundary proposal that was presented in February. Charlie Peel advised that after discussion, a couple of counties in District 5 and the proposed District 8 would be switched around. The proposal will be presented at the convention.

**NEW BUSINESS**

President Jennings advised that Vernon Cash has submitted a request for Brad Neff with Adair County Fire for District 2 Assistant Director. Billy Smith moved to appoint Brad Neff as District 2 Assistant Director. Terry Wynne seconded and all approved.

President Jennings advised that Shawn Ritchie has agreed to fill the unexpired term of the District 6 Director. RB Brown moved to appoint Shawn Ritchie as the District 6 Director. Rob Erdel seconded the motion and all approved.

President Jennings advised that George Sheets is retiring. Greg Brown moved to remove George Sheets as a District 10 Assistant Director. Vernon Cash seconded the motion and all approved.



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President Jennings advised that Rob Erdel has agreed to chair the Contest Committee. Greg Brown moved to appoint Rob Erdel as the Contest Committee chairman. Billy Smith seconded the motion and all approved.

President Jennings advised that Rob Erdel has presented two names to be appointed to the Contest Committee. Discussion followed. Greg Brown moved to appoint Alan Braun and Dylan Honea to the Contest Committee. Vernon Cash seconded the motion and all approved.

President Jennings advised that there are still two open positions on the memorial foundation board. Contact him if you are interested.

Todd Gray with the Fulton Fire Department presented information about a new firefighter recruitment program they are starting in coordination with their local high school. He is requesting financial donations for the program as they are trying to raise \$15k.

Stephen McLane with the Missouri Emergency Response Commission presented information about the hazmat training provided in Missouri. They have hosted 42 classes so far this year. Funding for MERC is done through federal funding and a collection of Tier II fees. 25% of their funding goes for salaries and operations and 10% goes to DFS for training. The remaining 65% goes to local communities for hazmat training planning and preparedness. The program is in jeopardy due to the sunset of SB 1356. The bill has passed the House but has not passed the Senate. He encouraged everyone to reach out to their local Senators to support passing the bill. If the bill doesn't pass in this session, there will be no funding to continue free hazmat training and no money for local LEPCs.

Chris Thompson advised that the Missouri *Fire Service Charity BBQ* is on September 14 at the Firefighters Memorial in Kingdom City. If you would like to participate in or sponsor the event, let him know.

*Continued on page 30.*

# THE FIRE OFFICER SPEAKING TRUMPET

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

Beginning in the early days of the volunteer fire companies in Colonial America, there was a simple but effective tool used by the fire officer (Foreman, Engineer) to direct his assigned command. Though that tool is no longer used in active service, it is still symbolically present on every fire scene in the insignia of the modern-day chief fire officer. That tool that is now configured in the insignia of rank is the speaking trumpet.

Coming into use in the fire service in the mid-1700s, the speaking trumpet soon spread throughout the American Colonies and on into the early development of the United States Fire Service. Eventually being replaced by technology, the speaking trumpet still holds an important place as a symbol and tradition of the fire service. Besides being used as rank insignia for officers, in many fire departments, the trumpet is still used today as a symbolic presentation gift in ceremonies to honor members or supporters of the fire service. In other situations, it stands in honored places like fire museums, cemeteries, or memorials representing the past valor and sacrifices of the American Fire Service. This chapter of *A Part of Fire Service History* will focus on the fire service speaking trumpet and its significant role as part of the customs and traditions of the fire service.

## FIRE SPEAKING TRUMPET DEFINED

In defining the historical term of the speaking trumpet, it would be best to refer to a respected and knowledgeable reference source of the time. *The Century Dictionary: An Encyclopedic Lexicon of the English Language*, edited by William Dwight Whitney, PhD, LL.D. and first published in 1895, defines the “speaking trumpet” as:

A trumpet-shaped instrument by which the sound of the human voice is reinforced so that it may be heard at a great distance or above other sounds, as in hailing ships at sea or giving orders at a fire.<sup>1</sup>

Though the 1980 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) book *Fire Terms* does not list the term speaking trumpet, it does delineate the word “trumpet.” It defines trumpet in a fire service context as: “A symbol of rank in the fire service dating from the time speaking trumpets were used to give voice commands at fires.”<sup>2</sup> The definition then goes on to describe the trumpet as used in the insignia of fire officer ranks (more on this later). The *Merriam-Webster Dictionary* gives a little more descriptive use by defining it as “a trumpet-shaped instrument for intensifying and directing the sound of the human voice.”<sup>3</sup>

So based on the guidance of these reference sources, in this chapter we will define the historic *Fire Service Speaking Trumpet* as:

An elongated cone shaped acoustic device expanding in diameter from a mouth piece to an enlarged open bell end, historically used to amplify the fire officer’s voice in giving tactical commands to communicate over the noise or distances encountered on the fire ground. In the late 1800’s it began to be used as a symbol of rank on fire officer uniforms. The Trumpet continues to be used today as a traditional rank insignia, especially for chief fire officers.<sup>4</sup>

As can be seen the speaking trumpet as a communication tool used by a historic fire officer to issue commands has transitioned over time to become a symbol of command rank in the fire service. The more trumpets



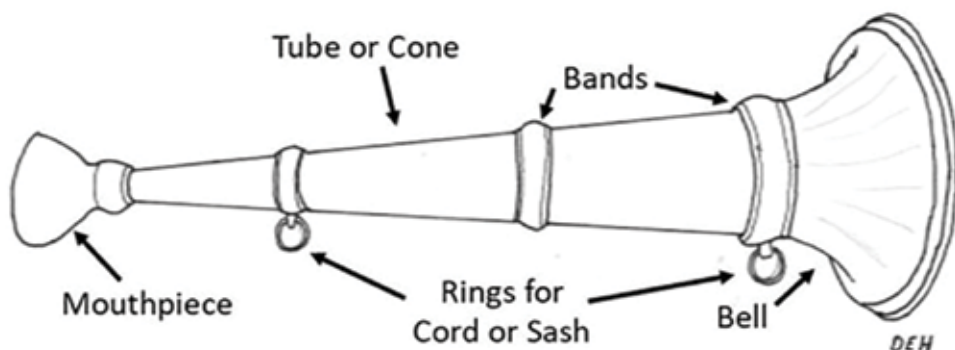
Example of various speaking trumpets. Note various sash cords and tassels.

on a collar insignia or badge, the higher the level of command rank.

The trumpet insignia identifying officer rank is sometimes referred to as a “bugle” by a layperson, the novice firefighter, or the uneducated professional. However, this term is incorrect. Fire service rank is not a symbol of “a musical instrument like a simple [bugle] trumpet,”<sup>5</sup> It should be noted that one blows air into a bugle to make a musical sound, one speaks words into a speaking trumpet to amplify verbal communication, in other words give commands. Therefore, the term “bugle” is not interchangeable with the fire term “trumpet” or “speaking trumpet.”

Despite clear historical evidence to the contrary, many fire service publications and websites still refer to the speaking trumpet as a bugle. This chapter on speaking trumpets will provide the history of this device and thus enlighten and educate on the correct terminology. Now that the terminology has been defined we will examine the development and history of this important tool.

## FIRE OFFICER SPEAKING TRUMPET



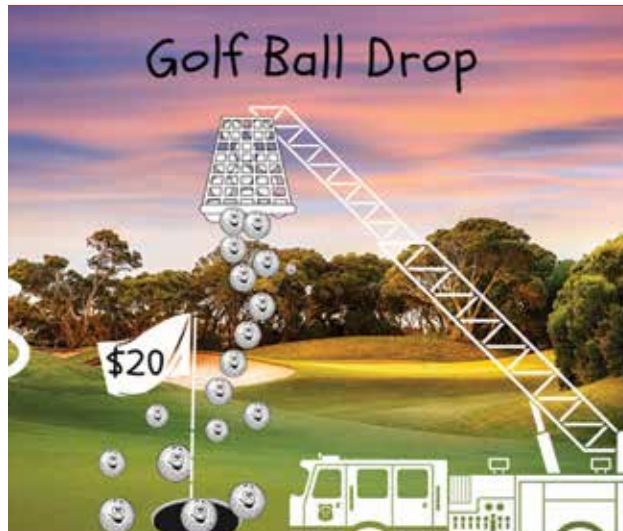




Author's collection.

### HOW A SPEAKING TRUMPET WORKS

In researching the physics of how a historic speaking trumpet worked to manually amplify the human voice, there was minimal information available. It was necessary to examine a similar device but with a different name. The acoustic megaphone is an unpowered cone or horn-shaped device “used to increase the audibility of the human voice.”<sup>6</sup> Most people today have seen these devices used by cheerleaders at sporting events or lifeguards at the beach to direct and amplify their voice to communicate. This device is another version of a speaking trumpet (without the fancy trim) and helps explain how these types of devices work. They work by using the acoustics principles of directivity and acoustic impedance. The directivity of the cone-shaped device “acts like a funnel to channel sound energy in the direction it is pointed.”<sup>7</sup> Thus concentrating the energy of the sound. Acoustic impedance at its simplest is defined as “the opposition of a medium to a longitudinal wave motion.”<sup>8</sup> Regarding the megaphone or speaking trumpet, this is the transition of the waveform “from the geometry of



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your mouth to the geometry of the air more gradually, which allows more sound power to transfer to the air.”<sup>9</sup>

In traditional use, the fire officer holds the trumpet in their hand and points the bell end in the direction one wishes to project their voice. Placing the mouthpiece over their lips, the officer speaks loudly into the trumpet. It helps to speak slowly and properly enunciate one’s words to be better understood.

Several reference sources describe the speaking trumpet as making a “stentorian” sound. An example of this is Ernest Earnest’s book *The Volunteer Fire Company* in which he describes the fire scene where “the fire trumpets roar out stentorian orders.”<sup>10</sup> The word “stentorian” is defined as “extremely loud” or “marked by intensity or volume of sound.”<sup>11</sup>

### HISTORY OF SOUND AMPLIFICATION

Even though early man did not understand the physics of it, at some point, somewhere, people learned that if they cupped their hands around their mouth when shouting their voice could be heard farther away.

This concept must have become a common practice for early distance communication.

The bases of sound – Our vocal cords vibrate as air passes over them producing sound waves that travel up and out the mouth and disperse in the air around us. As this occurs, “the energy per unit area or intensity of sound decreases.”<sup>12</sup> By cupping one’s hands around the mouth when speaking the sound waves are directed more in one direction causing the wave to travel further. This served early man for a long time.

The first scientific study of acoustics is attributed to Aristotle in the 4th Century BC.<sup>13</sup> However, who invented the modern megaphone or loud hailer is somewhat controversial. Some references note that Samuel Morland and Athanasius Kircher invented “megaphones around the same time in the 17th century.”<sup>14</sup>

Some careful research reveals important information on Morland and the speaking trumpet. Sir Samuel Morland, an English diplomat and mathematician, published in 1671 his acoustic research on the physical design and uses of the “*Tuba stentoro-phonica*”



Ship Captain Trumpet, "Loud Hailer", Charles M. Bartleson, brass maritime trumpet, 19th century, Smithsonian Institute, National Museum of American History. Considered Public Domain.

(speaking trumpet or loud voice trumpet).<sup>15</sup> He relates that this instrument is "of excellent use, as well at sea, as at land."<sup>16</sup> In Moreland's summation of the uses of his invention, he explains its use in giving commands at a fire.

V. In case of great Fires, where usually all people are in a hurry, the Officers and Commanders may by this Instrument so govern the assistants, as to prevent disorder and confusion, and consequently may save a Town or City from perishing.<sup>17</sup>

It appears that various manual devices to amplify one's voice may have been developed independently and utilized by diverse groups in the past. A historical account by Louis Nicolas in the *Codex Canadensis* shows an illustration of "a Native American chief named Iscouakité using a megaphone made of birch bark."<sup>18</sup> The first use of the actual term "megaphone" does not appear until 1878 when it is credited as an invention of Thomas Edison.<sup>19</sup>

With the continuing development and manufacturing of the speaking trumpet,

loud hailer, or megaphone, the use of this communication device soon spread to various occupations. The maritime industry was quick to embrace its use, with ship captains using it to issue orders to crew, as well as pass information back and forth with other ships they came across in their voyages. They were used both by merchant ships, as well as Navy warships, including the USS Constitution launched in 1797.<sup>20</sup>

As a side note, the speaking trumpet should not be confused with the "speaking tube" or "voicepipe" used in the Navy and maritime industry aboard ships using fixed piping to speak from one compartment to another. The speaking tube is defined as: "A tube used to convey the voice over a short distance, as from one part of the ship to another."<sup>21</sup>

On land, other military units and commanders also picked up the practice of using speaking trumpets to give commands over the noise of battle. Eventually, we see the speaking trumpet either crossing over from maritime use or the direct adoption of Morland's *Tuba stentoro-phonica* by the early Colonial/American Fire Service.

Fire historian Donald L. Collins writes about the evolution of the speaking trumpet in his historical novel *The Volunteers, A Historical Novel of New York City's Firemen 1830-1865*. He describes the ship captain's speaking horn being first adopted by the Firemen of Philadelphia<sup>22</sup>, being obtained from local ship chandlers (maritime supply business).<sup>23</sup>

### EARLY FIRE SERVICE USE

Arnold Merkitch, fire historian and preservationist, conducted extensive research of early New York fire company records, including the constitution and bylaws of the Fire Department of the City of New York, and relates that the "earliest Trumpet on record is dated 1750, a work Horn made of brass."<sup>24</sup>

However, fire historian Dunshee in his book, *Engine!-Engine!*, relates that speaking trumpets were first used in 1752 in New York's fire service. Foremen Jacob Turck was given approval "to purchase six small speaking-trumpets."<sup>25</sup> Dunshee identifies the first speaking trumpets being made of tin, and were used by the fire company foreman, assistant foremen, or other fire officials.<sup>26</sup> As a historical note, Foreman Turck was the same one credited with "inventing the first specific hat for firefighting use."<sup>27</sup>

As has been explained in previous chapters of the series *A Part of Fire Service History*, the town of New Amsterdam that would become the City of New York was a leading entity in establishing many of the norms and customs of the American Fire Service. Being a major seaport and an early leader in American politics, along with a forward approach to fire protection, made New York a recognized guide for American firefighters.<sup>28</sup> Some of these developments included: the iconic leather fire helmet, Maltese-cross badges, and the red shirt of early fire service uniforms.

Using the burgeoning fire service of New York as an example, we will track some of the early history of speaking trumpets based on the research conducted by fire historian Arnold Merkitch.<sup>29</sup> As was previously mentioned, the first account of a trumpet in New York's early records was a brass

*Continued on page 22.*



Work Trumpet, "Assistant Foreman", painted tin, 1800's trumpet, Smithsonian Institute, National Museum of American History. Considered Public Domain.



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By Keith Smith

The most immediate and important comment in this edition of your FFAM magazine is to PLEASE READ THE PROPOSED OSHA's New "Emergency Response Rule" Update.

A close second in importance if you have more time is the reauthorization of AFG & SAFER which is a statutory set to sunset on September 30th. The Senate signed off on reauthorization to 2030 by a vote of 95-2 (nearly unanimously, but Ron Paul from Kentucky who heads Homeland did not, and that complicated some procedural things. It is now required for the process in the House and... crickets! NVFC Regulatory Affairs Chief Ryan Woodward is working on this, and the Directors are put on notice to be watching for possible take-action notices if things are stalled.

NVFC is working on this in between the heavy load taken on by the proposed OSHA rule. With regard to proposed funding, we took a hard slap in the face with a 10% cut in both AFG and SAFER. It is not too late to get some of this restored, but that is the current standing. Full disclosure there was a 10% cut of all FEMA Grants with the

footnote, "There is only so much money and we have to pay for some wars." Given the unrest and potential domestic terrorist exposures, they should be significantly increasing both, not cutting them. The AFG application ask was \$2.5 billion vs. \$360 million previously appropriated and this has been cut to \$324 million. We were asking for \$405 million. Similar to SAFER having an ask of \$2.8 billion and the previous funding number was cut by 10%.

Since SAFER was initially funded, in 2011 it has been cut by \$81 million and AFG has dropped from \$565 million in 2009.

Due to the increase of the AD&D Life Insurance Policy for each NVFC member, the individual dues will be raised from \$21 to \$24 in 2025. For 2024, each member cost \$21.96. The good news is individual membership currently stands at 37,494 but at 96 cents, that was a net loss of \$36,000 which NVFC absorbed. Deficient spending cannot be sustained, so dues went up.

The National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS) representative provided an update. They are on time, on



target, and on budget. NERIS is replacing the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). The launch will be in November 2024. They have an informational website that offers training at <https://fsri.org/programs/neris>.

I will have a more detailed summary of the Spring Meeting from April 25-27 in the July-August Magazine. If you are not an NVFC Member and want more information on the many benefits or are ready to join for just \$21 (which goes up to \$24 on January 1, 2025) go to [www.nvfc.org/join-nvfc/](http://www.nvfc.org/join-nvfc/).

Please review the Proposed Emergency Response Rule Update

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





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By Captain Cindy Gladden, Public Information Officer, Marthasville Fire Protection District

The Marthasville Fire Protection District (MFPD) was recently awarded a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant in the amount of \$150,000 for the purpose of replacing all hoses for each apparatus at all three of its stations. The MFPD will pay five percent of the cost.

Chief Sean Johnson said the MFPD is very grateful to receive the grant. He also wondered if it would be possible to help other rural Missouri fire departments by providing the department's used equipment to their communities.

"I reached out on social media and immediately got responses," said Johnson. "Holding on to this equipment would be wasteful. We felt like giving back to these communities would show the hospitality of the Marthasville people."

On Saturday, April 20, personnel from rural fire departments traveled from southern and western Missouri communities to see what might be available to serve their districts.

Fire departments represented were from the communities of Bakersfield, Calhoun, Caulfield, Gainesville, Grandin, Licking, Moody, Pottersville and Tecumseh.

Members, spouses and kids from the visiting departments helped roll hoses, gather equipment and pack them into the back of trucks.

Fire Chief Greg Watts of the Bakersfield Fire Department quickly reached back to Chief Johnson after transporting the donated hose.

"Just passing on to you that your gracious donation that we hauled back has helped six fire departments," said Watts. "We all thank you and your department."

The FEMA grant allowed the MFPD to purchase supply lines, attack lines, nozzles, large-diameter intakes and ground monitors. Other grants received in the past year include one from Warren County for a new pickup truck with a snowplow, and from Walmart for Stop the Bleed packs and an iPad for one of the trucks.

Tragedy made way for another generous gift. Calhoun Fire Department recently lost one of its fire trucks in a fire. However, they were able to donate 3,000 feet of three-inch hose to the Licking Fire Department.



Members of the MFPD work on new hoses provided by an Assistance to Firefighters Grant from FEMA. They donated used equipment to rural departments. Cindy Gladden Photo.

"I feel like our grants have a state-wide impact, benefitting multiple communities," said Johnson. "When it gets down to it, it's about neighbors helping neighbors."

The MFPD serves 168 square miles in southern Warren County. It is a volunteer fire department with 40 members and an active auxiliary. Marthasville is one hour west of the St. Louis area. It responds to nearly 500 calls per year.

It's all in the family. Bakersfield Fire Department Chief Greg Watts daughters Tera, 9, left, and Kacy, 7, help load up a donated leaf blower. Cindy Gladden Photo.

The Marthasville Fire Protection District (MFPD) hosted rural fire departments on Saturday, April 20, donating used hoses to nine departments. Personnel of the MFPD are pictured with personnel from the Bakersfield, Calhoun, Gainesville, Grandin and Tecumseh fire departments. Cindy Gladden Photo.





# Hazmat Training

Provided by the Missouri Emergency Response Commission

<b>Date</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Location</b>
May 18	<i>Hazmat Rapid Sizeup for the First Due</i>	Bourbon
May 22	<i>Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist</i>	Joplin
June 1	<i>Handling Propane Gas Emergencies</i>	Ste Genevieve
June 1	<i>Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist</i>	Palmyra
June 8	<i>Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist</i>	Shelbina
June 15	<i>Hazmat Rapid Sizeup for the First Due</i>	Rosebud
June 15	<i>Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist</i>	Kahoka
June 22	<i>Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist</i>	Clinton
July 8/9	<i>Ignitable Liquids Ethanol Blended Fuels</i>	Butler
July 17/18	<i>Handling Propane Gas Emergencies</i>	Ava
Aug 5/6	<i>Handling Propane Gas Emergencies</i>	Lancaster
Aug 14/15	<i>Handling Propane Gas Emergencies</i>	Mansfield
Aug 17	<i>Handling Propane Gas Emergencies</i>	Pineville
Aug 20	<i>Air Monitoring for Fire Department Operations</i>	New Haven
Aug 27	<i>Hazardous Materials Technician Refresher Training</i>	Blue Springs
Aug 28	<i>Hazardous Materials Technician Refresher Training</i>	Blue Springs
Aug 29	<i>Hazardous Materials Technician Refresher Training</i>	Blue Springs
Sep 21	<i>Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist</i>	Warrensburg
Sep 28	<i>Handling Propane Gas Emergencies</i>	Hermitage

Please register on the SEMA Training Webpage: <https://sematraining.com>  
Contact us: 573-526-9241 - [Lisa.jobes@sema.dps.mo.gov](mailto:Lisa.jobes@sema.dps.mo.gov)

Please note: It is important to pre-register for courses. Each course must have 10 registered students 2 weeks prior to class start date or it will be cancelled. Class cancellation notices will be sent via email to registered students with valid email addresses.



# A Message From The 2nd VP



Grant Oetting

Spring has arrived, school is about out, and people want to start planning vacations, it's a crazy time of the year. My article this month is about firefighter training and the challenges we face in the fire service.

The training of firefighters is a constant challenge. With expanding department missions, decreasing time available, and limited budgets and resources, it can seem impossible for firefighters to get all of the training they need. We must remember how essential training is. All firefighters need to be ready when the call comes in. The public doesn't ask if you are paid or volunteer when they dial 911. They expect someone to respond quickly, take care of their problem, professionally and competently, and BE NICE.

Developing a training program that meets the needs of the community and the individual firefighter requires planning, commitment, and time. The person in charge of training should be enthusiastic about the job. However, the job of training doesn't just fall to one person. Everyone plays a part. There are so many teachable moments before and after emergency responses. These teachable moments can't be overlooked. Anyone who was on the scene can point them out and enhance the knowledge and awareness of the crew. Or bring them back to the debrief or a station meeting to constructively highlight areas done well. Areas that can be improved, and areas that would benefit from additional training.

Training officers are responsible for organizing the training of firefighters with different skill sets. They identify individual and company training needs through needs and capability assessments and meetings with superiors and subordinates. A set of performance objectives can be developed based on these assessments and department priorities, and from those objectives, the training schedule can be formulated. All training programs should include an evaluation component to gauge the student's ability to perform to the stated objectives. It is through this formal evaluation that the capability of firefighters to perform basic

skills on the fireground is known, which will assist incident commanders in selecting strategies and tactics.

Training should be relevant, pertinent, interesting, and fun. Yes, training is serious business, but one of the motivational factors for firefighters is that they enjoy what they are doing and the people they are with. It is what keeps them active and engaged in the department and helps make the time and training demands placed on them more manageable.

In my article in the next magazine, I will touch on more training and how to develop a training calendar for your department to meet your goals.

In closing I attended the open house for Lees Summit Fire Station 4 . Congratulations to Chief Mike Snider and the members of the Lees Summit Fire Department on your new addition.

If the FFAM can be of any assistance to you or your department, please contact us. I can be reached at [grant\\_oetting@yahoo.com](mailto:grant_oetting@yahoo.com) or 660-229-4525. If I don't answer please leave me a voicemail or feel free to text as well. Until next time....Stay safe my brothers and sisters.





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By Robert (R.B.) Brown, State Fair Committee Chairman

Hello from the desk of the Missouri State Fair Fire Department Chairman. I hope that everyone is doing well. As I'm writing this article it is the last day of the propane emergency conference. I have the coffee made and am enjoying a cup. For the ones that signed up, we had approximately 37 departments and 76 students plus instructors. And for students who didn't attend, you missed out on an excellent class. The practical exercise was held on the midway. When the instructors lit the bobtail and residential tank, the ones who had never seen or felt the heat like that had priceless expressions followed by high fives and fist bumps after mitigating the situation. It was an awesome experience.

I would like to thank Missouri State Fair Director Jason Moore for the use of the midway, sponsor MOPERC Steve Ahrens, Chief Larry Eggen for taking the reins and getting an awesome conference for the Missouri Fire Service, and thanks to Gail Hagans Reynolds, and MU FRTI for the props and the field instructors. Also thanks to the local emergency services for providing their equipment and manpower to make sure we were good to go before the burns. Pettis County Ambulance District Chief Roy Pennington for the crew doing our vitals before and after the burns and having an ambulance on the scene. Pettis County Fire Protection District Chief Mike Harding for the use of their engine and air truck, and Sedalia Fire Department Chief Matthew Irwin for the use of their engine and ladder. This shows that mutual aid works and works very well.

Mutual aid is an agreement between fire departments to help each other across jurisdictional boundaries. It could occur only when local emergencies exceed local resources, or there may be a more formal agreement to send the resources automatically. The more formal agreement would be known as "Automatic Aid." You might be thinking this would be an obvious and easy thing to do. The truth is that there are still many areas across America where mutual aid agreements do not exist.

Politics, liability, and cost concerns may be in play. For example, there are areas where communities have decided not to respond to emergencies outside their boundaries. Historically this was usually due to concern

about who was paying to fund the fire department, and who was not. Mutual aid companies should train together and not wait until an incident occurs to attempt to integrate the participating departments into a functional team. There will also be some differences in equipment and procedures which are best identified in meetings and solutions identified to overcome these differences. Then conduct a multi-company training, where additional differences in equipment and procedures will further be discovered.

However, discovering these challenges during meetings, and while conducting practical drills is where the problems should be discovered, not in an emergency incident when human life and property are at risk! We all have mutual aid companies, both in the career and volunteer service and that mutual aid comes from our neighbors. Now rivalries aside, there usually is a little bit of bravado about which company's tactics are better, who is more effective, or who gets more firefighters at a scene.

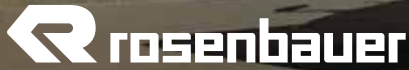
Instead of just running calls with your mutual aid companies, or being at their hall for one drill, put aside the feelings and invite them over the border to train with your department. We spend large volumes of time training our firefighters to become efficient at the tasks we need to be done on the fireground. Why not spend time with our mutual aid companies so we can become familiar with their operations, and them with ours? For many volunteer fire departments, mutual aid assistance is very important, especially with the dwindling number of volunteers available to answer the call today. Most departments are relying on mutual aid more than ever before.

When this article is published the convention will be in the history books. Now that the convention is over the next big event is the Missouri State Fair so if you want to make history get your applications in and be part of the best team and family in the state. But before

we can make history the applications have to be in before June 1. The fire station needs some T.L.C. and to make that care happen we have some work details to get it looking as good as we can and do some repairs. For the new people, it will be a great time to meet the family, get some orientation, and have some fun. The scheduled work details are June 21-23, July 26-28, and August 2-4. Also, keep an eye on our Facebook page for more information. Without you, there would not be a Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department, the only 11-day fire department in the nation. Also, follow the Missouri State Fair Facebook page for more information on concert listings and events. I know Chief Wilson is having meetings with his chief staff and command staff and the equipment is ready for our 62 years of service.

So, I hope to see you at the work details because the more we work together as a team the faster we can get the firehouse looking as good as we can then get other things covered that have to be done. Hopefully shortly. We all need to keep a positive attitude and think that we will have a better-looking or new firehouse. Take care and be safe until then.





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2024 Training

## PROPANE INDUSTRY RESPONDERS' CONFERENCE

By Larry Eggen, Public Information Officer, Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department

The Fire Fighters Association of Missouri and Missouri Propane Education and Research Council partnered to host a training with the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia on March 23 and 24. The University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute (MU FRTI) arranged for the instructors for the live fire drill and supplied the fire prop for a 500-gallon propane tank and a bobtail propane truck. Mark Arnold, MU FRTI Instructor, updated the attendees on alternative fuel vehicle incidents. Mike Booth, MU FRTI Instructor, updated the attendees on tactical considerations for firefighters handling propane. Bruce Bjorge, MU FRTI Instructor, updated attendees on the NFPA 1403 standards for the live fire participants. Dennis Cruise, President of Propane Training Services LLC Lynchburg VA, spoke on propane emergencies and basic industry practices. Derek Poe, Executive Director of the Missouri Propane Safety Commission, updated the attendees on food truck safety, Missouri propane laws and regulations, and safety features of propane bulk plants and vehicles. Jennifer

Daggett, MFA Oil Company District Manager arranged for two bobtails for the exercise and donated the propane for the night's training.

Missouri Propane Education and Research Council (MOPERC) funded the training so all attendees could participate for no cost. MOPERC provided the funding for the meals and refreshments for the conference and provided each registered department with two attendees a combustible gas detector. This is the third conference Steve Ahrens, Executive Director of MOPERC has sponsored in cooperation with the FFAM here in Sedalia and our biggest yet. We appreciate all Steve has done to help train the fire departments in the safety of propane. Including instructors we had 36 departments represented and 76 students participate in the conference live burn with 107 attending the live fire event on Saturday evening.

We would like to recognize our partners who provided the equipment and personnel to make this conference a success. Pettis County Fire Protection District provided an engine and air supply apparatus with personnel, Sedalia Fire Department provided an engine and personnel and Pettis County Ambulance District provided personnel for the baseline vitals before the exercise and an ambulance for standby during the live fire drills. The Missouri State Fair provided the parking lot for the live fire drills and the Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department (MSFVFD) provided the lodging and facilities to host the conference. Special thanks to Gail Hagans-Reynolds and Harry Ward with MU FRTI for the help with setup and making the conference run efficiently. RB Brown with FFAM and MSFVFD for cleaning and setup help during and after the conference.



## WARRENSBURG FIRE PARTNERS WITH U OF CENTRAL MO

The City of Warrensburg has partnered with the University of Central Missouri (UCM) to provide potentially lifesaving medication throughout the campus community. Naloxone, commonly referred to as Narcan, is a life-saving medication that can be administered to a person experiencing a drug overdose. The City of Warrensburg began receiving funding in 2022 following a national settlement with opioid manufacturers and distributors. Settlement funding received by the city may only be used for specific programs defined in the final settlement to prevent and reduce the impact of opioid addiction and overdoses.

While UCM and the surrounding area have not witnessed the widespread impacts of opioid use that many other communities have experienced, opioid addiction continues to impact many lives. CDC data shows that Missouri experienced 2098 overdose deaths from September 2022 to September 2023, nearly double the number of deaths reported in 2015. Overdose injuries and deaths have become more common as those suffering from



**Left to right:** Dr. Amy Kiger, Kourtney Dutton, Dr. Crissy Hall (UCM), City Manager Danielle Dulin, Fire Chief Ken Jennings, Captain Dan Othic (UCM), and City Clerk Jodi Schneider.

addiction seek more powerful doses of medications or illegal alternatives that in many cases contain lethal amounts of narcotics. To combat overdose deaths, naloxone has been deployed throughout communities to provide immediate help for overdose victims. This partnership allows the City of Warrensburg to provide

naloxone at no cost to UCM to distribute throughout campus facilities for use during an emergency while emergency personnel respond to provide aid. Additional information about the national opioid settlement can be found at [moopioidsettlements.dmh.mo.gov/Settlement](https://moopioidsettlements.dmh.mo.gov/Settlement).

## ASBURY FPD RECEIVES FFAM GRANT

Asbury Fire Protection District receives a 2023 FFAM Department Grant. Tools purchased will assist in completing their grain bin rescue system. Pictured are Firefighter Floyd Reeves, Battalion Chief Don Polen II, Assistant Chief Joe Lair, and Dave Wunderland.



Assistant Chief David Price (right) presents retirement plaque and certificate of appreciation on...

# RETIREMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

Captain Randy Hebensperger retired from the Warrensburg Fire Department on March 22, 2024, after serving the Citizens of Warrensburg for 32 years. Captain Hebensperger joined the department in 1992 as a part-time



Captain Randy Hebensperger

firefighter, transitioning to full-time in 1996. Promoting to Lieutenant in 2002 and Captain in 2004, he helped shape countless firefighters for 20 years. The City of Warrensburg is thankful for the dedication and loyalty Captain Hebensperger displayed throughout his career and wishes him the very best in his retirement.

Steven Mueller was promoted to the rank of Firefighter Specialist in March. Specialist Mueller holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of



Firefighter Specialist Steven Mueller

## Around the State

Central Missouri and certifications as Fire Officer I and Fire Service Instructor I.

Tyler Brown was promoted to the rank of Firefighter Specialist in March. Specialist Brown holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Central Missouri and certifications as Fire Officer I and Fire Service Instructor I.



Firefighter Specialist Tyler Brown



Iconium Fire Chief Von Schmidt April 12, 2024. (photo by Gene Hartley)

## ICONIUM CHIEF VON SCHMIDT RETIRES

Longtime Iconium Fire Chief Von Schmidt received a plaque, a certificate, and a \$200 gift from the Board of Directors on April 9 as he retired from his positions as chief and board member. Schmidt has been with the department since 2008. He became fire chief in 2010 and an elected board member in 2012, serving two six-year terms. He plans to continue to be a firefighter and a department trainer. Schmidt served on the Lowry City Fire Department before he moved into the Iconium District.

The board chose David Price, a board member and longtime assistant fire chief, to be the new fire chief. The board also chose Joab Smart to be the assistant fire chief.

The Iconium Fire Department is a property tax-supported district with three stations. The district covers northeastern St. Clair County and southwestern Benton County. In 2023, it responded to 89 calls, including 50 medical assists, 34 fires, 4 motor vehicle crashes, and 1 rescue of a cat in a tree. It followed 69 answered calls in 2022 and 41 answered calls in 2021.



Iconium Fire Chief David Price, Firefighter Michael Gammon and Assistant Fire Chief Joan Smart training in Sedalia on March 23, 2024. (photo provided by David Price)

work “horn” in 1750.<sup>30</sup> Fire Wardens in 1793 were required to “carry a speaking trumpet painted white” as part of their symbol of authority to direct firefighting efforts.<sup>31</sup> Perhaps the first use of a trumpet and the color white as a symbol or insignia of command. In 1805 fire engineers were assigned to carry trumpets that were painted black, changing in 1817 to black trumpets “with the word ‘Engineer’ painted in white.” Fire Wardens had the word “Warden” painted in black and added to their white trumpets at the same time.<sup>32</sup>

Later in the transition of the New York Fire Service from volunteer companies to a career fire department, the “carrying of speaking trumpets [was] abolished, except on parades.”<sup>33</sup> This apparently because of the confusion of the remaining volunteer companies clashing with the career department, and using the trumpet as a symbol of their authority to command the fire scene.

During this time of the working or duty trumpet, fire companies began a practice of presenting speaking trumpets to retiring foremen (fire company officers). At first, the duty trumpet they might have used, and then gradually more elaborately designed trumpets. This would spawn a new tradition in the fire service, that of the gifting or awarding of “presentation” speaking trumpets. A study of historical accounts and digital copies of the original *Fire and Water* newspaper of the late 1800s (the vintage predecessor to *Fire Engineering Magazine*) revealed numerous items of presentation trumpets being presented for promotions, retirements, to key supporters of a fire company, or as



awards at fire competitions, conventions, and musters. NFPA's book *Fire Terms* defines muster as: “a gathering of firefighters to compete in various events such as hose coupling and hand pumping engine contests.”<sup>34</sup>

The *Fire and Water* newspaper publication also carried advertising for various businesses selling fire equipment and supplies. Included in numerous advertisements was a mention of speaking trumpets available for sale. Cairns and Brother, founded in 1836, was a major manufacturer and sales supplier of fire equipment. Originally founded in New York, they moved to Clifton New Jersey in 1948. This company has been mentioned in previous chapters of this series, especially related to the iconic “New Yorker” style fire helmet. Henry Gratacap the original inventor and manufacturer of this style of helmet sold helmets through Cairns, eventually selling out his business to them in 1869.

In response to the demand for unique and fancy style presentation and parade trumpets so the fire companies could one-up their contemporaries, Cairns produced a variety of trumpets in various sizes and styles. Their

“Fancy Trumpet” could be triple silver plated and have a gold-lined mouthpiece and bell ends.<sup>35</sup> One of the more unique styles made by Cairns was a 16” tall brass octagonal trumpet with three bands and two mounted rings for attaching cords or tassels. Cairns held a patent for this trumpet dated September 11, 1877.<sup>36</sup>

In addition to the decorated presentation trumpets, a similar style came on the scene used in parades. The “Parade” speaking trumpet ranged from a brass to silver plate in construction with usually some engraving of the fire company name and other decoration.

### **DESIGN AND TYPES OF TRUMPETS**

Fire historians and fire memorabilia collectors usually divide the types of speaking trumpets into three general categories: duty or work, parade, and presentation. However, the National Museum of American History lists “two trumpet variants” in their collection as either “working” or “presentation.”<sup>37</sup> This review of historical speaking trumpets will discuss them based on the three categories of duty, parade, and presentation trumpets.



1890 Maryville Fire Dept., note the Speaking Trumpet in the Fire Chief's hand. Personnel (L to R) J.B. Johnson, J. Henry Struck, Charles Lippman (kneeling), Fire Chief W.D. Cross, Doc W. Cast (seated), William Critchfield, Amos Richolson and Charles B. Ford (kneeling). Photo courtesy Chief (Ret.) Phillip Rickabaugh.

Presentation Trumpet, “Thomas Baird”, silver plated brass trumpet, late 19th century, Smithsonian Institute, National Museum of American History. Considered to be in the Public Domain.

## DUTY TRUMPETS

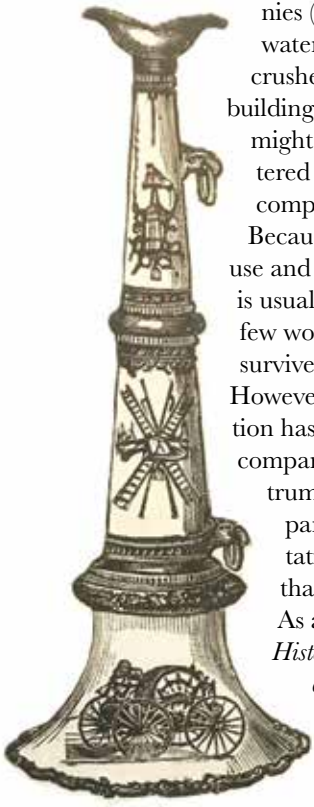
Duty or work trumpets were the first version of the speaking trumpet used in the fire service. As previously mentioned they were originally maritime megaphones or loud hailers. These trumpets were plain and most commonly were “made of brass, pewter, or tole [tin].”<sup>38</sup> Some fire companies or cities had the duty trumpet (usually a tin trumpet) painted and lettered to identify the user’s position, i.e. Warden, Foremen, or Engineer. Over time, to make the duty trumpet more serviceable, metal rings were added “for the purpose of attaching a short piece or rope or cord.”<sup>39</sup> This enabled the foreman or company officer to sling the trumpet from his shoulder to free up their hands when not giving commands.

Duty trumpets were generally smaller in size than parade and presentation trumpets. Perhaps this smaller size was to enable easier carrying of the trumpet at fires. Though duty trumpets could be any size, a random sample comparison of the dimensions of these trumpets provided an average size of 16 inches tall and a bell end of 6 inches in diameter.<sup>40</sup>

The early work of duty trumpets saw hard service and could be dented in brawls

between fire companies (territorial or water disputes) or crushed from falls or building collapses that might be encountered by the engine company foreman.<sup>41</sup> Because of the hard use and damage, it is usually said that few work trumpets survived the period.<sup>42</sup>

However, little information has been gathered comparing working trumpets and parade or presentation trumpets that survive today. As an example, the *Historical Collection of the Insurance Company of North America* in 1945,



Example of designs on a Presentation or Parade Trumpet, 1872 Fred J. Miller Fire Catalog, New York. Assumed to be in the public domain.

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listed 126 “Firemen’s Horns” (speaking trumpets) in their collection.<sup>43</sup> Of these over 50% were cataloged as “work horns” (trumpets). Because the duty trumpet is usually plain looking, shows damage, and lacks provenance, they are not as highly valued today by collectors as the other types of trumpets.

## PARADE TRUMPETS

It was probably not long after the acceptance and use of duty trumpets came into the fire service that the parade trumpet came into being. Firemen took pride in their fire apparatus and the fire company to which they belonged. As part of this pride, they would paint and embellish their fire apparatus to make it stand out. The trumpet also got a makeover. These trumpets were usually made of high polished brass and some were nickel or silver plated. Though they were fairly plain in design, they were “more elaborate than the working trumpet and would usually have the name of the fire company” engraved on them.<sup>44</sup>

The rings added to the duty trumpet to aid in carrying them would be a feature on parade and presentation trumpets. In

this case, the rings provided for the attachment of a gold or other color sash cord with tassel ends as a decoration. The rings could be either fixed position or on swivel attachments.<sup>45</sup>

These trumpets were carried by the company foreman, officer, or chief engineer in parades as they walked in front of or with their company. Parades or musters were a major event of the time and fire companies would turn out with their fire apparatus polished and decorated for the occasion. The firemen would also be in their best, usually the red double-breasted shirt and decorated fire hat or later the iconic leather fire helmet. To add to the festive occasion, sometimes the fire officer would invert or turn the parade trumpet upside down and cradle it in his arm as he carried a bouquet of flowers arranged in the bell end of the trumpet like a vase.<sup>46</sup>

Parade trumpet’s size and diameter were similar to work trumpets. Parade speaking trumpets are a valued piece of fire service memorabilia and are sought after by museums and collectors, especially those trumpets with engraved names and notations

that provide specific provenance to the historic nature of the item. Over time missing parts such as mouthpieces, carrying rings, or flaking silverplate may have occurred due to use or improper storage and affect the value.

### PRESENTATION TRUMPETS

Presentation trumpets probably were an off-shoot of the parade trumpet. The presentation trumpets were “presented as gifts or awards” to honor an individual, as well as a fire company.<sup>47</sup> It became a tradition of the period that a retiring chief was presented one of these prominently decorated trumpets. Also, records and news items of the day indicate that presentation trumpets might be given for officer promotions, thank-you gifts for assistance provided by other fire companies in major fires, or for hosting firemen conventions, musters, or competitions.

The presentation trumpets were highly decorated with engraved scrollwork and designs of fire equipment and symbols. They were commonly made of brass with nickel or silver plate, “although some were made of solid silver, gold plating was also available.”<sup>48</sup> The metal rings used to hold a cord of a working trumpet also were embellished with ring holders fashioned to resemble fire helmets, lions’ heads, or Greek mythological creatures.<sup>49</sup> Usually a gold or other color cord was braided and adorned with tassel ends and attached to the rings as a decoration.

Presentation trumpets could also be non-functioning trumpets made out of glass, porcelain, or leather with intricate engraving of floral motifs or fire service symbols such as ladders, steam fire engines, and other details.<sup>50</sup>

Presentation trumpets were generally larger than work and parade trumpets. Perhaps this bigger size was to make a more inspiring gift when being presented as an award. A random sample comparison of the dimensions of presentation trumpets provided an average size of 19 ¾ inches tall and a bell end of 8 ¼ inches in diameter.<sup>51</sup>

These trumpets are generally in good condition since they were never carried on fires. However, improper storage may have caused dents, missing carrying rings, or flaking silverplate which affects the value. Some fire equipment companies of the period sold carrying cases to protect these embellished trumpets when transported for

display at fireman competitions or musters.<sup>52</sup> Presentation speaking trumpets are highly valued by museums and collectors, especially those embellished with intricately engraved designs or those with names and dedications that provide specific provenance to the historic nature of the item.

### CORDS AND TASSELS

As already mentioned, as the speaking trumpet progressed in the fire service carrying rings were added to attach a rope cord to carry the trumpet over the shoulder and free up the hands when not in use. Just as the trumpet itself would become more stylish and embellished, so too would the simple cord go through a transition. An important tool that was a status sign of rank needed something more than a plain twine or rope attached for carrying. Replacing rough twine or rope made of plant fibers such as sisal or jute, fine woven cotton braid ropes of various colors were being used as carrying cords. This was similar to the fine sash cord used with curtains in the home. Just as fancy home curtain sash cord was adorned with fancy tassel ends, so too would the trumpet cord be adorned. The color of the sash cord depended on local customs, but red and gold were popular. On presentation or parade trumpets a longer cord was usually braided together in an intricate design that fit between the rings with tassels attached at the ends. Some trumpets have been found with leather straps.

### OTHER TALES OF THE TRUMPET

There are numerous accounts of speaking trumpets that can be found in books about the early history of the fire service, or newspapers and records of the period. Some accounts are humorous, while others are poignant.

One account that probably gives a true picture of the overzealous fire officer’s use of a speaking trumpet is in a book by Robert and Margaret Hazen. In the historical account of “William Howells’ remembrance of his childhood concerning the Neptune Engine Co (Hamilton, Ohio 1800s) foreman, “he had a patent-leather helmet, and a brass speaking-trumpet, and he gave all his orders through this. It did not make any difference how close he was to the men, he shouted everything through the trumpet.”<sup>53</sup>

A unique and somewhat insensitive use of the honored speaking trumpet was as a drinking vessel. In the days of the handtub or hand-pumped fire engine, the quick strokes of the brakes (pump handles) to keep



Fire Zouaves, 73rd New York Infantry Monument, Gettysburg, PA, Gettysburg National Military Park. Erected 1895. Note: fireman with speaking trumpet and a soldier with his musket.

up the fire stream soon tired the firemen. With the fire successfully extinguished, a custom started where the grateful citizens or the fire company treasurer would supply a cask of rum (alcoholic beverage) to revitalize the strength of the weary members of the company. Some fire companies soon considered refreshments, including alcoholic beverages, as a necessity at every fire.<sup>54</sup> This also carried over to fire company competitions or other celebrations. Many references mention where the foremen would invert the trumpet then remove the mouthpiece and plug the small end with a cork. Thus creating a “formidable, drinking vessel” that would be filled with ale.<sup>55</sup> This ability to remove the mouthpiece on some trumpets may be one reason there are some trumpets found today with missing or replacement mouthpieces.

Besides the gaiety of a parade or celebration of achievement, the trumpet (presentation or duty) could also be used in a solemn occasion, such as funerals. Old newspaper articles of the passing of an honored fire officer, either through the line of duty or natural death, included reports of the formal and reverent ceremony. The chief’s buggy and fire apparatus would be draped in crape or mourning cloth along with “the trumpet of the deceased also draped in crape was



prominently in evidence both in church and in the [funeral] procession.”<sup>56</sup> This illustrates how high in esteem this simple officer’s tool was held both in actual use and symbolically in honor of an officer’s death.

There are many monuments honoring firemen of the 1800s throughout the United States. They can be found at public parks, cemeteries, and even memorial battlefields. A prominent statue of the period is the one dedicated to the Second Fire Zouaves of the 73rd New York Infantry in the Battle of Gettysburg (American Civil War Battle of July 1 - 3, 1863) located at Gettysburg National Military Park in Pennsylvania. The fire Zouave units were volunteer military units made up mostly of volunteer firemen coming from New York City and the surrounding area. The statue that tops the monument depicts “two figures - a fireman with speaking trumpet and a soldier with his musket.”<sup>57</sup> The fireman depicted with the speaking trumpet shows the trumpet’s established recognition as a fire service symbol of the period. Numerous fire service personnel have probably visited this monument at the nearby Gettysburg Military Park while attending a class at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Even as it was being used as a simple but important tool, the speaking trumpet became a symbol of leadership in the early days of the American Fire Service.

### TRANSITION FROM TOOL TO FIRE SERVICE INSIGNIA

Gradually the use of the speaking trumpet on the fire ground was phased out. In the early 1900s, the first electric amplified megaphones or bullhorns came into use for communication. After World War II the two-way radio and then the hand-portable transceiver would provide better communication on scene. Today, modern radio systems, cell phones, and other electronic devices provide for means of good communication between the responders and the incident command structure in an emergency. However, the speaking trumpet would survive through custom and tradition as a symbol of command and leadership.

As covered earlier in this chapter, the fire companies that would later become the Fire Department of New York (FDNY) established many of the customs and traditions that would proliferate throughout the United States Fire Service. These fire companies along with those in Philadelphia

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and other cities were quick to adopt the speaking trumpet. In 1865, at the end of the Civil War, the New York state government enacted laws to create “a Metropolitan Fire District (MFD) and Establish a Fire Department Therein.”<sup>58</sup> This included Brooklyn’s east and west divisions and replaced the problem-plagued volunteer fire departments establishing the M.F.D. Because of the war, the volunteer departments in New York were short on manpower, having trouble turning out on calls, and politically mismanaged. The replacement of volunteers by career service was a transitional step that took until around 1869 to complete.

As part of this new Metropolitan Fire Department (MFD), new rules and regulations were instituted. One of these was a “Bill of Dress” issued in 1868 that established uniforms and rank structure along with corresponding insignia. As a result of this, “New York City was the first fire department in the country to use a trumpet as an insignia of rank.”<sup>59</sup> New York would also be the first to use the “fire axe” symbol in 1890 for “Hook and Ladder company officers.”<sup>60</sup> These initial rank insignia were embroidered on cloth and worn on caps or hats of the period with a standard metal badge on the coat or shirt. The cap device for company

### FIRE SERVICE OFFICER RANK INSIGNIA - TRUMPETS (RANK TITLE AND DESIGN MAY VARY BY FIRE DEPARTMENT)

LIEUTENANT	CAPTAIN	BATT. CHIEF	BATT. CHIEF OR DIST. CHIEF	DEPUTY CHIEF OR ASSIT. CHIEF	FIRE CHIEF
COMPANY OFFICERS RANKS (USUALLY SILVER)			CHIEF OFFICER RANKS (USUALLY GOLD)		



Example of modern epaulette chief rank tab. Photo by author. Photo by author.

officers were “silver colored with one horizontal trumpet of axe for Lieutenant and two vertical trumpets or axes for Captain.”<sup>61</sup> The cap devices for chief officer positions were “gold in color, round in shape, and have crossed trumpets in number increasing with rank.”<sup>62</sup> So here we see the establishment of the custom of silver colored insignia for company officers and gold for chief officers, along with the number of trumpets defining rank.

The company officer ranks of Lieutenant and Captain replaced the titles of Assistant Foreman and Foreman respectively.<sup>63</sup> These military rank titles were first used in the Revolutionary War when the city was placed under martial law and then reverted at the end of the war. The military rank titles for company officers were used again with the MFD in 1868 after the Civil War and remain today.<sup>64</sup> Some fire companies were militarized during the American Civil War under martial law and used military ranks with a Major or Colonel serving as Fire Chief.

### TRUMPETS AS INSIGNIA OF FIRE OFFICER RANK

Earlier in the chapter, we referenced various definitions of the speaking trumpet. In the 1980 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) book *Fire Terms*, the second part of the definition describes the trumpet as used in fire officer rank insignia as follows:

A chief officer wears a gold insignia with crossed trumpets, a junior officer wears a silver insignia with uncrossed trumpets,

the chief of department wears five gold, the deputy or assistant chief wears four gold; lower rank wears three gold, the battalion or district chief wears two gold, the captain wears two silver, and the lieutenant wears one silver.<sup>65</sup>

To help understand this definition, an example graphic depiction of trumpets as fire service rank insignia is provided in this chapter. Fire officer rank insignia are worn in pairs and generally worn on the dress uniform shirt collar points and the collar or lapel of the uniform coat. As always there are exceptions to the standard rule even in the fire service. Some fire departments today use a military rank structure (bars) for lieutenant and captain (usually silver colored), and gold trumpets for chief officers (usually crossed). Other departments may carry the similarity to military rank to chief officer level by using stars (one to five) for chief officer ranks (usually gold colored). Another variant in more recent years is to use shoulder boards or epaulet covers over the uniform shirt epaulets that have embroidered rank insignia on the epaulet board or cover. This harkens back to the first officer ranks that were embroidered on hats with the Metropolitan Fire Department (MFD) that would become FDNY.

So what is the organizational rank structure and officers’ insignia of your fire department and the history that created it? Sometime in the past, a policy was implemented that was based on an interpretation of fire service customs or traditions.

### HISTORIC SPEAKING TRUMPETS TODAY

Because of the number of presentation trumpets that were awarded during the 1800s and early 1900s, along with their historic and family heritage significance, many of these trumpets are preserved in fire departments, museums, and private collections. To the past recipients and their family lineage, a presentation trumpet represented a family history of dedicated service before self in the protection of life and property. A treasured symbol of the history and traditions of the American Fire Service.

Sometimes historic fire trumpets that get lost do find their way home. Maryville (MO) Fire Department was contacted by a collector in 2023 who acquired an original engraved trumpet presented to Fire Chief William Critchfield upon his retirement in 1909. Fire Chief Phillip Rickabaugh was able to

make arrangements to have the trumpet returned to the fire department. This long-lost trumpet is now proudly on display in the training room of the fire station along with an 1890 photograph of Maryville Firemen of the time Chief Rickabaugh (ret.) related that he was proud to have the trumpet back as it represents a significant part of the fire department’s history.<sup>66</sup>

Several companies make or sell reproduction trumpets. They are used for gifts and presentation ceremonies just as the original presentation trumpets of the period were. Continuing the tradition of presentation trumpets, an ornate reproduction trumpet was given to Fire Chief Robert Rennick at his retirement in 2013. The trumpet was similar to one given to former Jefferson City Chief Charlie Palmer back in 1879.<sup>67</sup> This practice of presenting trumpets provides a



Historic speaking trumpet that was presented to Chief William Critchfield in 1909, on display at Maryville Fire Department. Photo courtesy Chief (Ret.) Phillip Rickabaugh.

link to the past and continues the customs and traditions of the fire service. Generally, most reproduction trumpets are usually not as embellished with engraving and generally have a smaller diameter cone and mouth-piece on that end. The trumpets awarded today many times are mounted on a wood base with an accompanying engraved plaque that identifies the recipient, date, and other pertinent information.

Antique parade and presentation trumpets can be found up for sale in antique shops, auctions, or online markets. Unfortunately, there are also instances where reproduction trumpets have been artificially aged with salts or vinegar agents to give them a perceived antique patina. Firefighters and collectors should be careful of reproduction trumpets that may be passed off as historic or vintage artifacts. It is disheartening that

the true historic trumpets being sold have been lost from the lineage of their original family heirs or fire departments that had once been honored for their heroism or accomplishments.

In some cases, even the trumpets that are still in possession of the family lineage or museums can be found packed away or displayed in a tarnished condition. A disservice to the memory of the honor that was historically bestowed. Some antique experts in the modern media relate that antique items should be preserved as is with the aged patina (verdigris) to make it a more valuable antique. One day that patina, rust, and deformation will deteriorate the honored trumpet beyond the point of restoration or worthy display. In the fire department of the past, the brass and finished metal objects were always polished and pristine. They were valued for their beauty and what they represented. Though the rookie firefighter assigned the duty may not have appreciated it at the time, one hopes the firehouse tales and tailboard stories that were told by the officers and veteran firefighters instilled an appreciation for these honored mementos of the past.

### THE LEGACY OF CHANGE AND TRADITIONS

The speaking trumpet was a new acoustic technology in the late 1600s that would improve the ability to communicate over noise and distances. First coming into use on ships, by the 1750's it came into use in the early American Fire Service. Throughout the American Colonies, firemen were quick to incorporate the use of the speaking trumpet for communicating at a fire. Verbal orders by the engine company foreman (officer) could be understood by the firemen over the noise and distance of the fire scene. The speaking trumpet became an indispensable tool to the firefighters of the period. Its effective use in the direction of fire suppression activities soon made the trumpet a symbol of the fire service officer and their leadership. With this, the speaking trumpet took on another role as a sign of authority to command. Over time this would transition to a symbolic insignia or accoutrement on the fire officer's uniform. The trumpet would also become a valued trophy of accomplishment being awarded to individuals and fire companies for acts of heroism or other fire service accomplishments. Replaced by new technology in the early 1900s, it continued to maintain a symbolic role in the insignia worn by chief fire officers. The speaking

trumpet itself is still used today as a traditional presentation gift in ceremonies to honor the accomplishments of fire service members or supporters.

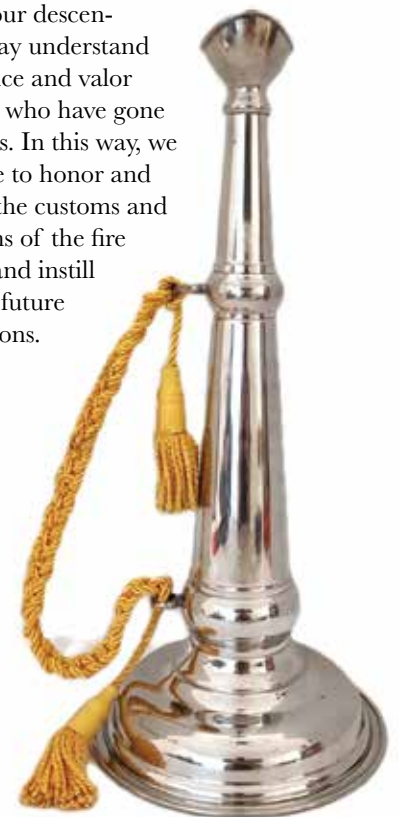
The work or duty trumpet of the time was plain in appearance and saw heavy use. As such not many have survived over the years. The parade or presentation trumpets though were well cherished and generally remained in a place of honor in the fire company or were handed down the family lineage as a part of the ancestral heritage. Many of these trumpets now reside in museums or fire departments and are a symbolic link to the heroic deeds of our fire service forefathers.

This review of the fire service speaking trumpet covered its history, as well as the transition to an iconic symbol of service and leadership represented in the insignia of the fire officer. Now that you have been historically enlightened and educated on the correct terminology, please do not disrespect our fire service heritage by referring to the fire officer's trumpet insignia as bugles.

Through the story of the fire officer speaking trumpet, the history of the fire service is brought to life. The trumpet played a significant role in shaping the current customs and traditions of the fire service and its mission of the protection of life and property. As fire service veterans, let us take steps to preserve our history and artifacts so that our descendants may understand the service and valor of those who have gone before us. In this way, we continue to honor and uphold the customs and traditions of the fire service and instill them in future generations.



Silver Speaking Trumpet presented to Chief (Ret.) Robert Rennick upon his retirement in 2013. The trumpet is reminiscent of one presented to a previous Chief in 1879. Photo courtesy Chief (Ret.) Robert Rennick.



## AUTHORS COMMENTS

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purposes by the author and footnoted in this series. May their work continue to endure the ages and preserve the true history and traditions of the American Fire Service.

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67. From telephone interview with Robert Rennick, Fire Chief (Ret.) Jefferson City Fire Department, MO, by author on April 16, 2024.

By Keith Smith

**S**orry about the missing article in the last edition. I learned a valuable lesson with confirmation (or not) of a sent email. If you just read my first sentence, then learning did take place. I want to give a big shout-out to Greg Wright who submitted his notice to retire from the Foundation on April 1st but then agreed to a 45-day extension. In addition to being one of those “GO TO” people for so many things over the years, Greg also managed the Treasury of the Foundation for the past four years. We wish you and Brenda the best in your semi-retirement and relocation to the Branson area.

The Foundation has entered into a contractual agreement with Melissa Old to take over as our Treasurer. She works in the large grants department for the University of Missouri, resides in Ashland, and just retired from their city council. This will be a 1099 position with the Foundation. The official date of Greg handing over the checkbook is now May 16th. Welcome aboard Melissa!

### **BIG NEWS!**

We are excited to announce that the Foundation has its own website. Travis Johnson, who manages the FFAM website and works with Gail on the FFAM Magazine just completed the construction. It is still being tweaked and more to come but most of the basic framework of the project is in place and working. Please check things out at <https://mofirememorial-museum.org/>.

We also have links set up for you to order and pay for bricks, wall engravings, Foundation merchandise, and special promotional items. There are quick links to other supporting services and organizations.

At the top right of the page are links to the Memorial, Museum, Visit, Contact, Shop, and a search bar. Please check us out and explore the full dropdown options of the entire page.

In our effort to improve and retain a consistent visual look and feel of the memorial grounds in 2024, we have partnered with a contractor that can focus on the green spaces and assist with general grounds maintenance comprising the memorial and museum. The ability to do so solely within the Foundation Board is no longer possible due to additional operational responsibilities and continued limitations with time/distance. This year we have partnered with Truescape, LLC out of Fulton.

To minimize the continued loss of gifting opportunities with Missouri fire service memorabilia ending up in a garage sale or E-bay vs. your future statewide fire museum and education center, we are open for any and all conversations on this topic. The keynote is starting a CONVERSATION. First, it would have to be a donation with no special requirements other than the contributors' name being recognized. We have had to say no to some generous offers that were not yet of a historical classification by age, too common with those items already duplicated in our inventory and second printings of some books versus first editions. We also have limited ability right now to restore trucks to museum quality that have badly declined but hope that changes in the future. At least ask the question regarding the 1930s and older. If you have an inventory of possible interest and are looking for a future second home, we would love to have that conversation.

In the past four months, we have added several additional followers to the museum page on Facebook, and are nearing 650. If you have not seen the landing page, please check us out. In another development, we received over \$1,300 in donations to the memorial from the 2023 CoMoGives Campaign. As with so many expenses, it requires donations from so many sources to keep the bills paid and move forward. Internally, we pledged to give this a three-year commitment, so one more time for sure in 2024 and then evaluate.

### **SAVE TWO DATES**

The first is September 14th. The Missouri Fire Service Charity BBQ is raising money for the Missouri Firefighters Cancer Support Network and the Museum Project. The event will be held at the Museum in Kingdom City (5550 Dunn Drive). In addition to the competition, there will be a variety of great food, children and family activities. For those attending, we hope this presents an opportunity to bring greater awareness to your memorial and the future museum and education center. Plus a greater awareness regarding the annual honors that are provided to our firefighters who have served and passed.

Then three weeks later please join us for the 2024 Memorial Services on Saturday, October 5th at 7:00 p.m. for the Candlelight Services and Sunday morning October 6th service at 10:30 a.m. Going forward, our annual services will be guided by the first Sunday in October with the Candlelight Service occurring the evening before. We will be honoring over 100 names from 2023 plus a few that were previously missed in our last service. If you have any questions about the October services, please contact me at [keith.smith1974@yahoo.com](mailto:keith.smith1974@yahoo.com) or 314-709-0760. For engraving forms and information, you can go to our new website at [mofirememorial-museum.org](https://mofirememorial-museum.org) or contact me directly.

If you were not able to visit us during the fourth quarter of 2023 and your 2024 spring/summer travels bring you anywhere close to Kingdom City, please stop in and check out the improvements from last year. More to follow in 2024.

Thank you for your time and continued support of your memorial and future museum.



## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### AWARDS COMMITTEE

Joe Vaughn reported that eight nominations were received, and they will be awarding six. They are also working on securing a bid for the Phil Sayer award bell.

### BUDGET COMMITTEE

No report was given.

### BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Rex Reynolds reported that the bylaw-proposed changes are on the website and were emailed out.

### CHAPLAIN COMMITTEE

No report was given.

### CONTEST COMMITTEE

Rob Erdel reported that they are working with Lake Ozark on obtaining the needed equipment for the contest. They are also looking at a plaque option instead of trophies. Discussion was held on possible incentives for participating to boost participation.

### CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Josh Loyd reported the block of rooms at Lodge of the Four Seasons will be released on April 16. You can still make reservations but not at the convention rate.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

No report was given.

### FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE

No report was given.

### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Greg Brown reported that *Firefighters Day at the Capitol* was the largest attended. Thank you to the Division of Fire Safety for coordinating.

The budget should get through. There are several items significant to the fire service. Please reach out to DFS if you are interested in hosting training so the allocated training funds in the budget can be used to encourage a continuation of the funding.

The *Firefighter Critical Illness Pool* is working on a behavioral health component as well as a pathway for everyone to join.

Legislation in the works includes federal reimbursement for ambulances, fireworks, EMS training in human trafficking, MERC

bill, and personal property tax elimination. Watch for his weekly updates for more information.

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Grant Oetting reported the following membership counts: 485 Directors/Councilman; 415 Retired; 13 Associate; 7 Sustaining; 15 Corporate, 327 Fire Departments; 6212 Active; 3 Educational Entities; 9 Educational Active; 147 Juniors; 6 EMS Department, 167 EMS individuals; 0 911 Entity; 0 911 individuals.

Oetting reported that he and Dylan Honea attended the MO Chiefs conference in Branson. 22 departments were represented. Dylan and Shelby Honea attended Silver Dollar City's launch of Fire in the Hole. Jonathan Evans represented FFAM at the United Soybean Association meeting. We have been invited to attend the Jeffco Engine Rally and the BBQ team has been asked to prepare food for Revolutionary Fire Tactics in October. He and Josh Koepke are helping coordinate logistics when NVFC has their meeting in Kansas City.

### NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Ken Hoover reported the following district director positions are up for election in May: Districts 4, 5, 6, 9, 10. Contact him if interested.

### NVFC COMMITTEE

Keith Smith reported that NVFC continues to look at the challenges that OSHA is looking to adopt that will have a major impact on everyone. There is a survey on the website, and he encouraged everyone to take a look. Discussion followed. Greg Brown moved to allow the Executive Committee to voice our concerns to OSHA on behalf of FFAM regarding the proposed changes. Vernon Cash seconded the motion and all approved.

### SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Larry Eggen reported that three high school scholarships were awarded. Ten high school and one continuing education scholarship applications were received.

### STATE FAIR COMMITTEE

RB Brown reported there has been a discussion with a project manager and architect regarding the next steps for the station renovation projection.

The fair will be August 8-18. Work dates will be announced shortly.

### WEBSITE COMMITTEE

No report was given.

### MAGAZINE

Jaime Miller reported that the next magazine deadline will be April 26.

### HISTORIAN REPORT

No report was given.

### FIRE FUNERAL TEAM REPORT

Brian Zinanni reported that this is the team's 20th year in operation. There is a golf tournament fundraiser on June 24. DFS is donating \$20k to the team through budgeted funds.

### EMS FUNERAL TEAM REPORT

Greg Wright reported that the team has responded to 5 non-LODD services since the last meeting. The annual funeral teams conference at Camden at the Lake in Osage Beach is set for October 11-13. Registration starts May 1. The *2023 Spirit Award* was presented to Chris Thompson.

### FOUNDATION REPORT

Keith Smith reported that they are wrapping up the new website. He thanked Greg Wright, who is retiring, for his service on the board. September 14 will be the *Missouri Fire Service Charity BBQ* at the memorial with proceeds going to the museum projection. October 5-6 will be the annual memorial services.

President Jennings adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.



# FFAM CELEBRATES 70 YEARS

## \$70 for 70

Thanks to the early leaders of the University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute (MU FRTI) and various fire departments in early 1954 for deciding to form a statewide fire organization in Missouri. Chief Feters and Chief Walden of MU FRTI were instrumental in mailing letters to regional firefighters' associations to get their support for this organization. Waldo Sherman, the Chief of Herman and John Boeman of the Missouri Inspection Bureau met with Joe Feters to discuss how to proceed. They decided to write letters to Missouri fire departments. Meeting notes from October 17, 1954, show that over 100 fire departments throughout Missouri met in Jefferson City to form a statewide association. At that meeting, they elected officers and appointed committee members to get organized. They agreed to continue meeting again on November 14, 1954, to work on the organization's rules and bylaws. The permanent name of the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri (FFAM) was proposed and tabled to make sure the name did not conflict with any other in the state. The emblem was discussed and agreed upon for a design. They also started to discuss issues concerning fire departments and Senate Bill 270 concerning rural fire protection districts.

To honor the early leaders and departments for their efforts as we celebrate our 70th Anniversary of the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri we are asking all members to consider donating \$70 to our campaign to finish the Education and Historical Preservation Center in Kingdom City.



**Please mail your suggested donation of \$70 to:**

FFAM 70 for 70  
PO Box 1153  
Warrensburg MO 64093.

The first 100 donations of \$70.00 will receive a unique commemorative FFAM 70th Anniversary challenge coin.

Thank you for your consideration.

Larry Eggen  
Public Information Officer  
Missouri State Fair Volunteer Department

# OSHA'S NEW "EMERGENCY RESPONSE RULE" UPDATE

By Keith Smith

**ATTENTION! This is a 911 call to action! This is not a drill. If this Emergency Response Rule is passed as currently presented it will eventually impact the Missouri Fire Service either in a very direct way or indirectly for everyone else. PLEASE REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION which will be outlined at the end of this article.**

In my last OSHA article in the March-April Magazine, I started an overview of the December 21 announcement that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) will issue a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to modernize the agency's "Fire Brigades" standard, first published in 1980. This is currently being proposed for the 29 OSHA States which Missouri is not, **BUT I WILL GET BACK TO THAT**. There is zero doubt in the mind of those familiar with OSHA that the remaining 21 non-OSHA States will follow if anything is passed into law within those 29, just at a later date.

If you were not able to review the previous article from March-April that might be helpful before proceeding with this update as I will provide the initial background. I will not be repeating any of those three pages with this update. The 90-day comment period deadline originally set has been extended to 45 days (not the 120 that was requested) with the new date set as June 21. There is an aggressive attempt for more time, but unless their comment portal is "**FLOODED**" with concerns, that will happen short of legal intervention which is also underway by NVFC and perhaps others since they have become aware. I will come back to the "SURVEY and COMMENT PORTAL" later.

First, no one is discounting that there could be room for improved firefighter safety, and NFPA plus other standards are a valuable guide in getting there but not as a club which could and "WILL IN SOME CASES" cripple some departments and potentially close others in low populated areas due to extraordinary budget limitations, keep reading!

Let me give you a few key initial snapshots of what the Missouri Fire Service could be facing if this "Emergency Response Rule" should pass in the OSHA States as currently proposed and then be rolled over into the 21 non-OSHA states. It is worth saying again, "Make no mistake, it will be coming if passed because OSHA has always used the 'meet or exceed' of their standard since 1972 for any State plans and this will simply

apply in reverse." So, what could the future hold as an operating fire department?

There are 22 NFPA Standards and one ANSI that I will list further down later which will be "**By Reference**" (**MANDATORY**) by **Federal Law**. You currently enjoy these by adoption or not, modification or not and have options in crafting adjustments under "Authority Having Jurisdiction" in their applied application/implementation. **That all goes away**. These 22 NFPA Standards will become FEDERAL LAW from page one to page last and OSHA (not you) will be the authority with Federal Jurisdiction to enforce, fine and take to court. This is a MAJOR shift in local authority to the Federal level. These 22 NFPA documents have **over 1,500 "SHALL" or "MUST"** compliance words and those become the checklist by which OSHA will enforce, fine and bring criminal charges if they feel gross negligence has occurred. Their definition of gross negligence is a broad brush and essentially "any willful action in knowingly violating a standard" meets that threshold. So, you will need to be 100% on all of these or face fines/worse? If you just cannot do it, but knowingly proceed any way you could face a court of law. Sad day to stand in the street or stay in the station while Mrs. Smith is trapped in a burning house. We have not talked about the economic impact, that is coming.

There are also an additional 14 NFPA Standards that will be applied in part "By Fully Informed" which will have major parts included (Partial Adoption). While these are less than page one to page last, go ahead and add those to the 22 for a running total of 36 plus ANSI. Get your sleep now because you are now approaching 10,000 pages of reading of which you must ensure compliance, implementation, training and records management. Yes, we already do much of this but adjusted to fit local capability, staffing and budgets. Those ARE NOT a consideration in the current OSHA proposal, and you get to check each of those 1,500+ Shall/Must-do points.

A current belief that volunteers are not going to be included in all of this is "WRONG." You will be either directly or

indirectly impacted. In many of the OSHA states, volunteers are considered employees by how their labor/contributions are defined and recognized. The volunteers will be excluded because of the operating belief and working under the radar we seem to embrace in Missouri but most of the OSHA States view the volunteers as employees. Unless OSHA specifically excludes volunteers (which they have not at this time), those in the OSHA States will be included. For Missouri, many could be directly included just by LOSAP programs, stipends, and paid-on-call (others?) because they are forms of compensation for work rendered. Another yet unanswered but possible connection will be responding to a facility that is covered by OSHA. That is a BIG ONE which is massive exposure for volunteer departments. There are other possibilities, but you get the picture. Indirectly, all departments no matter how small could potentially face 3rd party liability at a level never even imagined because those 22 + 14 & ANSI standards are the new law of the land and a new level of legal exposure for any volunteer department which still thinks they are not going to be impacted by this. A little more on that later.

So, let's view the list of 22 NFPA Standards which will be 100% required. All of it:

- 1001, Standard for Structural Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications – 2019
- 1002, Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications – 2020
- 1005, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Marine Fire Fighting for Land-based FF – 2019
- 1006, Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications – 2021
- 1021, Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications – 2020
- 1081, Standard for Facility Fire Brigade Member Professional Qualifications – 2018
- 1140, Standard for Wildland Fire Protection – 2022
- 1407, Standard for Training Fire Service Rapid Intervention Crews – 2020
- 1582, Standard for Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments – 2022



- 1910, Standard for Inspection, Maintenance, Refurbishing, Testing, and Retirement of In-Service Emergency Vehicles and Marine Firefighting Vessels – 2024
- 1951, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Technical Rescue Incidents – 2020
- 1952, Standard on Surface Water Operations Protective Clothing and Equipment – 2021
- 1953, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Contaminated Water Diving – 2021
- 1971, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting – 2018
- 1977, Standard on Protective Clothing and Equip. for Wildland Fire Fighting & Urban Interface – 2022
- 1981, Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for Emergency Services – 2019
- 1982, Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS) – 2018
- 1984, Standard on Respirators for Wildland Fire-Fighting Operations & Wildland Urban Interface Ops – 2022
- 1986, Standard on Respiratory Protection Equip. for Tactical & Technical Operations – 2023
- 1987, Standard on Combination Unit Respirator Systems for Tactical & Tech. Ops – 2023
- 1990, Standard for Protective Ensembles for Hazardous Materials and CBRN Operations – 2022
- 1999, Standard for Protective Clothing and Ensembles for Emergency Medical Operations – 2018
- ANSI/ISEA 207, American National Standard for High-Visibility Public Vests – 2011

Just in case reading to this point has not caught your attention, I will put a few of these pieces together as OSHA has planned in all of this before listing the next 14 “By Reference”. If you want to be a Firefighter, you must be Fire I & II certified which includes all of hazmat. We cannot argue with being trained to Fire-I but this action by OSHA as it stands requires Fire-II (AND MUCH MORE). Those departments with big budgets will have no issues with this one but what about those departments which still have staff without Fire-I or even Fire-II. **THERE ARE NO GRANDFATHER PROVISIONS IN THESE FIRST 22 STANDARDS.** At least not as currently presented. This gets even worse. If you want

to meet the OSHA standard in responding to and extinguishing a natural cover fire you must be Fire-II (OK) AND must be a Driver/Operator (1002) if you are driving the truck. Those fighting the fire must also have 1140, 1977, and 1984. Just in case you are sending a Lieutenant or a Captain on the call they must be Fire Officer-I. For your larger fires, all chiefs except the Department Chief must be Fire Officer-II. Remember that Instructor I (II) is required along the way. The Fire Chief of the department (Paid or Volunteer) must have Officer III.

#### QUESTION?

If you are reading this as a Fire Chief, do you have Fire Officer-III? Fortunately, you live in a State that your Fire Marshal has seen to that being offered (even the 1st Officer IV class completed). Fun fact, when the room was polled of NVFC Directors for OSHA States that offer the Fire Officer-III program there were six who responded as no, just FO-II.

For those of you who have fireboats or some type of marine fire equipment regarding water emergencies, you must fully comply with 1952 and 1953 and hopefully you already do, but if not??

How many want new trucks? When 1910 is applied, anything greater than 15 years old shall be retired. Did you just see \$\$\$\$? In my department of 9 trucks (pumpers tankers, brush and a ladder) we have two that are less than 15 years old. In terms of an unfunded financial mandate, this is emerging as the most significant pain point in terms of \$\$\$\$ of all the groups and there is no new money for this unfunded mandate. Nothing 200+ Billion cannot solve, right? In addition to the citation, fines, and willful violation exposure, this is also a tremendous 3rd party liability exposure to the department, especially those that are already razor thin. This will likely impact the volunteer department the most and another fun fact. You may want to rethink any more home-fabricated truck projects. OH! What was the last projection on new truck deliveries?

The following 14 NFPA Standards are “By Fully Informed” applications and will have major parts included:

- 600, The Facility Fire Brigade Standard
- 1900, Aircraft Rescue

- 1201, Providing Fire and Emergency Services to Public
- 1451, Aircraft
- 1500, Fire Department Safety & Health
- 1521, Safety Officer
- 1561, Incident Management System
- 1581, Infection Control
- 1660, Emergency Preparedness
- 1700, Structural Firefighting Strategy & Tactics
- 1710, Staffing & Deployment
- 1720, Suppression – EMS – Special Ops
- 1851, Selection, Care & Maintenance for Structural FF Gear
- 2500, Operations & Training for Technical Search & Rescue Incidents and Life Safety Rope/Equip.

So now with most of what is happening by standard revealed, I will bring up the next flash point regarding the age of your gear. We should be aware by now of the 10-year rule on gear and the massive heartburn of retiring perfectly good gear based on age versus condition. Under OSHA, this will be an absolute rule. Minnesota is an OSHA State and they reported that compliance officers have entered several fire stations and issued citations for gear greater than 10 years old. An argument is to be made that it was not being used, just stored but the compliance officer’s position, if it is in the station, it can be used so therefore at risk of injury.

#### QUESTION?

How old is ALL your gear and what will be the cost to replace it?

#### AGE CONTINUED

With a question on the age of all equipment now defined by OSHA Standard and now you add SCBA’s, hose, etc., etc. A random thought for me in this was: What do we do with all the items we normally gift to other departments which is much newer than they have or just do not have? Now do we put it in the dumpster? What will be the new reality of liability to the provider in doing this? If we make them sign away any liability, that sets them up for criminal exposure with OSHA because this becomes a willful act. I could go on but hopefully, you start to see the varied exposures with gifting older equipment.

Ever thought about annual firefighter physicals but just could not get it in the budget. Well, now you “SHALL” find a way to do



so. Tons of discussion on this one with costs ranging from as low as \$250 to \$600 but several in the room mentioned rechecking with their provider to meet the NFPA Standard, some were not fully sure, and some said likely no, and would not sign onto that.

### **3RD PARTY LIABILITY**

This is what everyone could be faced with in not being able to meet the proposed update if adopted as is or even in part. This would be applied as the minimum standard that the fire department will be held to in all of its operations. If you fail/miss something, a 3rd Party Liability claim could arise. While such cases could be years off in the making of the actual trial/appeal processes, the overview could look something like this: a department responds to an emergency which results in much less than a planned or hopeful outcome. In this case (pick one of a thousand) a small room and contents house fire that results in a near or total loss of the home although the fire department was on scene and working while the fire was small. Everyone has had one or more of these in their career and we know there are numerous factors that came to bear. Anyway, the owner or more likely the insurance company investigates and discovers the pumper was more than 15 years old or the engineer did not have a driver operator or not everyone working on the fire ground was Fire-II or the Chief running the call was not Officer-III. Any one of these four, especially 2 or 3 would be grounds for setting up a successful operational liability judgment against the department. This is because one or more of those factors could have been the “Proximate Cause” of this negative outcome thanks in no small part to this proposed ruling. Public image takes a hit and operational liability insurance premiums go through the roof.

Surprisingly the League of Cities was not aware of this until NVFC brought it to their attention. They are now VERY interested. If implemented, municipal governments will have to overhaul City/County budgets to comply by cutting other essential services because of the “Federal Mandate”. Fire Protection Districts will have to secure new revenue but what if the voters say no to a tax increase or bond?

OSHA is totally uninformed on nearly all of this, especially the volunteer departments having projected the average annual cost to each volunteer fire department at \$14,551 or 4.99% of the average volunteer department budget. Let's look at the OSHA math and one can quickly conclude that they are clueless! That number projects that the average volunteer fire department takes in \$291,000 per year and 5% of that budget is \$14,551. First, 40% of the nation's volunteer fire departments have budgets less than \$100,000 and after seriously reviewing the required changes, does anyone believe the actual annual cost in all of this will be \$14,500? There is obviously no truck payment in that budget number. There are numerous similar examples regarding this clue-less understanding of the volunteer fire service in their approach to all of this but just to give one more before moving on. They used most of their statistical data from CDC (Centers for Disease Control) vs. NFA (National Fire Administration). What is that saying about starting wrong, and staying wrong?

### **NVFC IS TAKING ACTION**

They have a task force of some of their best on this and no, that is not me. I am just the messenger in this case. They have pulled \$50,000 out of their reserve fund to retain a legal counsel on ways to slow what has already been put into motion. No one in the room

was overly optimistic about putting the genie back in the bottle, but there will be an effort. They are looking at possible State Attorney Generals that might sign on to a class action regarding this. Remember, the State of West Virginia A.G. recently took on the Federal EPA and won. Numerous avenues of quickly sharing this information are underway because June 21st looms large. That includes getting the public involved and to that end, their Congressional Representative. New York is meeting with Senate Chair Chuck Schumer. The Congressional Fire Service Dinner is May 29th and 12 NVFC Directors are attending with a laser focus on getting the word out to anyone willing to listen. Social media is gearing up including serious thought in the free PSAs that Radio Stations must provide to build grassroots support in curtailing this which hopefully will involve reaching out to their reps.

### **WHAT CAN YOU DO? GET INVOLVED!**

The Federal e-Rulmaking Portal can be accessed at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) From there all submissions must include the agency name and Docket No. which is OSHA-2007-0073. You may submit comments and attachments identified by this docket number. The Portal for this docket number closes on June 21, 2024. As of May 25, there were only 760 comments and New York State was half of those. Comments need to be in the tens of thousands. One Director indicated there needs to be 76,000 comments. Now that this is finally revealed, out of the shadows and people are becoming alarmed at the impact, they hope this will quickly increase in numbers.

Your comment needs to be in fact and numbers and especially the \$\$\$ impact. Describe your department to OSHA: How many people are in your department?

By RB Brown, Director

What's your budget? What are the makeup and challenges of your service area? Do you have the funds to comply with any of these proposed standard? Do you have the staffing to comply with this proposed standard? How would your area be negatively impacted if your department had to shut down due to this standard? Does your department rely on fundraising for much of your income? If so, how many pancake breakfasts, raffles, or spaghetti dinners would you need to hold to comply with this proposed rule? Would your municipality be able to assist you in covering the costs of this proposed rule? If not, why? What specific provisions of this proposed rule are the most difficult for your department to comply with? Why are they difficult? What alternatives to this proposed rule should OSHA consider to improve the safety of firefighters? They will not accept leaving things as they are unless Congress sends that message, but this is not the portal for that argument. This is being approached on multiple fronts.

The FFAM webpage is being set up with a link to another page that is being dedicated to **OSHA's New "Emergency Response Rule."**

I will be posting updated information and several documents that will be identified by date first and name second. If possible, we will stack the most recent addition at the top and then work down. NVFC is working hard at trying to concentrate this down into a two-page fact sheet. Keep in mind this all started as 640 pages. Some very smart NVFC Directors worked this down to 22 pages. Getting this concentrated to a two-pager remains to be seen. They hope to have something close by May 6th, Once received, it will be posted with other docs – just in case you may need more information to work on this.

Thank you so very much for having read this sorted mess of things to this point. Again, while the battle is not immediately in the 21 non-OSHA States right now, any addition of this proposal to the other 29 will eventually find its way over here. We need to help those in this struggle at this moment.

If you have questions, I will try to assist or get them answered by one of the Task Force members. You may call at 314 709 0760 or email [keith.smith@warrenton-fire.org](mailto:keith.smith@warrenton-fire.org).

Hello, and greetings from District 7 on the east side of the state. I hope all is well. I had the opportunity to assist with the Gerald-Rosebud Fire Protection District's first *Firefighter 1 & 2* class. Thank you for the opportunity to help, and congratulations to all for passing the state skills and live burn portions. A job done well done and good luck with the written exam. I hope nothing but the best for everyone and for the ones who are going to make it a career. You're just scratching the surface. There will be a lot more training in your future!

Union Fire Protection District is making some changes. Two are going on to fulfill their calling in the fire service by moving to a bigger district with more job responsibilities and two are retiring. Congratulations on your retirement. I wish the best for you and for those that will be replacing them, you have big shoes to fill.

As I'm working on this article, it is F.D.I.C. week and I will have the pleasure to attend. If you have never attended, add it to your bucket list. There are lots of great training opportunities and the expo fills Lucas Stadium with the latest and greatest items meant to make your job safer and not too strenuous. I have been there a few times and you can't see the expo in a day.

When this article is published, the convention held by Lake Ozark Fire Protection District will be in the history books. There may be some changes, if approved, to a few districts including District 7 with the addition of new counties in a district restructure. District 7

will be looking for assistant directors in the annexed counties so if you live in St Francois, Perry, and St Genevieve and you want to help spread the word about the fire organization called the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri then either get in touch with me or Andrew Caldwell and we will set up a meeting with you to become part of the fire family of the state.

Can you believe how time is going by so quickly? The convention is history and summer fire school is getting close once again with great hands-on training opportunities. After that will be August and the Missouri State Fair. The application will be closed by the time of printing. As you know the Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department is one-of-a-kind and every year we make history. We are the only fire department in the nation that covers a State Fair. In 2023 they ran 190+ calls in eleven days. That is more than some departments see in a year!

The Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department has its own station but the old building is showing some age and needs to be cared for this year. We have work details to do repairs, straighten up, and clean. Your help is wanted and needed. The more help we get the faster we can get the needed chores done and we can do other items needed before the fair starts. I hope to see many at the work detail. For the dates and other news go to the Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department Facebook page for the dates and news. Until then be safe and take care.

## 20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CHALLENGE COIN

**\$20 (shipping included) • ORDER NOW: [www.mofirefuneral.org](http://www.mofirefuneral.org)**





# Director's Comments



**Harry Ward**  
Director

Spring is here, and it has been a wet one so far. MU FRTI has been busy delivering classes around Missouri. We have put a lot of miles on our trucks and trailers. We look forward to continuing training through the summer months. Get your class requests into the Division of Fire Safety. MU FRTI with the support of the Division of Fire Safety and the Education Commission can provide your agency's training.

It was a pleasure to attend the Firefighter's Day at the Capitol on March 26th. State Fire Marshal Tim Bean's program was to honor our state's Women in Fire. Missouri Lt. Governor Mike Kehoe gave remarks on the thirteenth floor before the ceremony at the Capitol. Missouri Governor Mike Parsons provided remarks and read a proclamation at the Capitol. During the event, we had the opportunity to visit several fire service leaders and State legislators.

MU FRTI is getting closer to having two part-time employees to take over the Instructional Support position. We have several

candidates and by the time you read this, we will have hired them. Next month we will introduce those individuals.

Have you ever thought about teaching for the University of Missouri Fire and Rescue

Find Out More Online:  
**MUFRTI.ORG**



## Upcoming MU FRTI Classes • Find the Full Training Schedule at MUFRTI.org

DATE	COURSE	CITY	CONTACT	PHONE
05/10	Fire Department Medical First Responder	Perryville	Robert Cahoon	(573) 513-3353
05/16	Structural Collapse Rescue: Initial Response	Sunrise Beach	Rob Odenwald	(573) 374-4411
05/17	Emergency Vehicle Driver Training	Wheatland	Jordon Graham	(660) 223-6005
05/17	Certified Fire and Ambulance District Board Training	Lake Ozark	MU FRTI	(800) 869-3476
05/17	Vehicle Rescue: Technician	West Plains	Wayne Cormier	(417) 256-2424
05/18	Responding to Utility Emergencies	Sparta	Brian Loula	(417) 234-2136
05/18	Emergency Vehicle Driver Training	Gerald	Jordan Lottmann	(314) 800-8185
05/21	Electric Vehicle Safety for First Responders	Marshfield	Travis Cramer	(417) 839-4020
05/22	Firefighter Friendly Thermal Imaging	Wildwood	Kyle Sanders	(636) 299-8402
05/22	Through the Lock	Wildwood	Kyle Sanders	(636) 299-8402
05/22	Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist	Joplin	John Miles	(417) 624-0820
05/25	Introduction to the Fire Service	Buffalo	Joe Myers	(417) 818-4987
05/28	Elevator Operations (3 Elevators)	Sunrise Beach	Rob Odenwald	(573) 374-4411
05/29	Swiftwater and Flood Rescue: Awareness	Kirksville	Mike Bishop	(660) 665-3734
05/31	Vehicle Rescue: Technician	Pierce City	Dan Alber	(602) 384-1015
05/31	Virtual Reality Simulation for First Arriving Units and Officers	Cosby	Blake Brohler	(816) 344-0858
06/01	Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist	Palmyra	Mark Heidbreder	(573) 406-8737
06/03	Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator: Core	Camdenton	Mark Amsinger	(573) 346-2049
06/04	Street Smart Command	Jefferson City	Greg Landwehr	(573) 522-1625
06/06	Through the Lock	Fulton	Todd Gray	(573) 592-3153
06/08	Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations	Gerald	Jordan Lottmann	(314) 800-8185
06/08	Vehicle Fire Fighting	Cameron	Christian Virts	(816) 288-9665
06/08	Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist	Palmyra	Terry Helmick	(573) 795-5125
06/10	Air Monitoring Techniques for Initial Company Operations	West Plains	Chris Wilbanks	(417) 257-1270
06/10	Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator: Core	Monett	John Velten	(417) 489-4266
06/11	Fire Department Incident Safety Officer (Traditional)	Blue Springs	Nathan Manley	(816) 598-6769
06/14	Emergency Vehicle Driver Training	Van Buren	Curt Majors	(870) 275-5053
06/15	Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator: Mobile Water Supply	Monett	John Velten	(417) 489-4266
06/15	Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist	Kahoka	Larry Saxton	(660) 341-5566
06/15	Handling LP Gas Emergencies	West Plains	Daniel Franks	(417) 293-9518
06/22	Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist	Clinton	Mark Manuel	(660) 885-2560
06/24	Leadership in Supervision: Creating Environments for Professional Growth (First in Series)	Battlefield	Steven Burr	(417) 881-9018
06/27	Electric Vehicle Safety for First Responders	Holts Summit	Russell Sing	(573) 592-3153

SCAN CODE



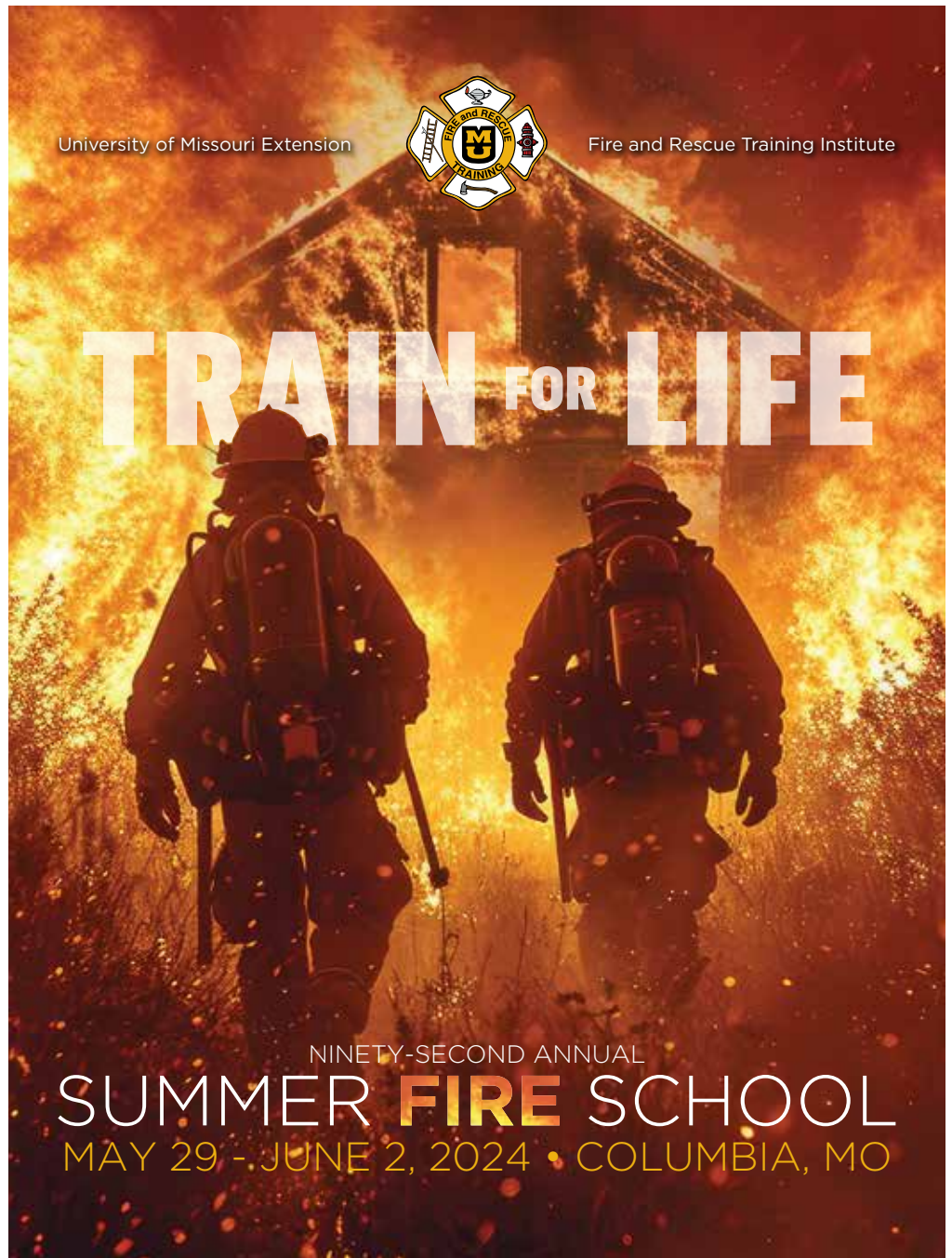
FOR SCHEDULE

Training Institute? If you have you can go to our website. Go to resources then click on “Instructor information.” There you will find the MU FRTI Instructor Criteria (PDF). Read through the document carefully and if you feel like it is something you want to do fill out the application. If you are not sure contact your Regional Coordinator and they can help with the process.

Summer Fire School is May 29th – June 2nd. If you haven’t already signed up look at our online brochure.

Once again, we are coming up on the 2024 Firefighter Safety Stand Down. This year’s theme is Training Back To Basics. The basics are the foundation of everything we do in the fire service. From putting on your protective gear to moving hose from one place to another and everything in between. To do those higher-level skills first you must have the basics. You don’t just do rope work without first starting with tying knots. Sometimes we concentrate more on the sexy stuff in the fire service like tech rescue. Take a little time in your busy training schedule to look at the NFPA training standards as well as get your members combat-ready and build upon the basics. For more information and resources, you can go to [www.safety-standdown.org/resources/](http://www.safety-standdown.org/resources/)

We appreciate the continued support of our state partners and agencies in the delivery of fire and emergency service training. MU FRTI’s mission remains focused on providing the very best and safest training for the Missouri fire service and emergency first responders. If we can be of any assistance, please contact us at 800-869-3476 or 573-882-4735 or go to [mufrti.org](http://mufrti.org).



**REGISTER NOW**

**Certified Fire and Ambulance District Board Training**

This workshop will provide the necessary training and education required for newly appointed ambulance and fire district board members under Missouri state law. The Missouri Association of Fire Protection Districts and Missouri Ambulance Association has developed the curriculum used in this class to assist new board members in understanding legal liabilities and personal obligations of their position. Topics include: authority of the board, responsibilities, rules, laws of elected boards, elections, and how to preside at a meeting.

**May 17, 2024 – 8:00 AM 5:00 PM**

Lodge of the Four Seasons  
315 Four Seasons Drive  
Lake Ozark, MO 65049

**Lead Instructor**  
Monte Lee Olsen

**For additional information contact:**  
MU FRTI | (800) 869-3476 • Email - [firti@missouri.edu](mailto:firti@missouri.edu)

# AUXILIARY MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, April 7, 2024

Kingdom City, Missouri

The meeting was called to order by President Jessica Weise at 9:00 am.

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Jessica Weise, Norborne FPD; Diane Wynne, Galt FPD; Sheri Berendzen, Cole Co FPD; Theresa Cox, Wentzville FPD; Carissa Thompson, Holts Summit FPD; Ann Jones, Madison West Monroe FPD; Kathy Eggen, Jefferson City FPD; Rosanna Jorgenson, South Holt FD; Missy Erdel, Little Dixie FPD; Lachrissa Smith, North Central Carroll Co FPD; Kim Pefferman, Washington Fire; Virginia Peffermann, Washington Fire Department.

## MINUTES

Sheri made a motion to accept the minutes as they were and Ann seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Theresa reported we received a check from Lachrissa for the credit card purchases made at Winter Fire School for our items sold. Lachrissa was kind enough to use her credit reader for us. Missy made a motion to accept the financial report; Carissa made a second, motion passed.

## CONTEST

Discussed: Gary Berendzen is relinquishing his chairperson position and Rob Erdel will now be the new chairperson. The committee is changing from trophies to plaques soon.

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

In discussing the Memorial Service event the date in last month's Meeting Minutes the date was incorrect. The date for the Service is September, not October.

## BY-LAWS

Jessica reviewed the newest by-law change; Article IX Committees and Their Duties; Nominating Committee; The Nomination Committee shall consist of *3 Auxiliary members appointed by the president and when possible should include up to 3 past presidents.*

## CONVENTION

Friday night there will be an Auxiliary meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to introduce the new slate of officers. As you

are checking in at the convention table ask for the times and location of Friday night's Auxiliary meeting for all auxiliary members.

Friday night the Auxiliary's Silent Auction tables will be set up and ready to accept all auction items. Ann donated a metal sign and a picture, and Kim donated a wonderful fire scene lamp along with a few other items. Lacharissa showed us a picture of an afghan she had asked her mother to make. We discussed doing a live auction for it at the banquet. We are looking forward to seeing what wonderful items we receive this year. It was mentioned your silent auction items do not have to be fire-related themed. On Saturday the silent auction tables will be opened a few hours before the banquet for everyone to continue bidding. We do accept checks as payment. We will have a 50/50 raffle again this year.

Ann agreed to do the Invocation this year.

## AUXILIARY MEMBER/DEPARTMENT OF THE YEAR

There is still time to nominate a person(s) or Department for this award this year.

## NEW BUSINESS

Josh Lloyd shared convention information. As discussed you can go online to the FFAM website to register for the convention.

Tim Bean the State Fire Marshall talked about the happenings at the Fire Fighters Day at the Capital. The theme was "Women in Fire" this year. He was very excited about the great turnout for this event. Tim informed us the Women's Symposium will be in Jefferson City in September. We should think about having a representative(s) from the Auxiliary there. He asked that each of us contact our state senator and request they support "MERC" in legislation. This program might not exist if they do not support it.

Theresa made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Diane's second, motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.



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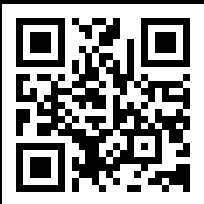
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