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# THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMAN

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SPONSORED BY THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER  
FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION TO CREATE AND  
PROMOTE GOOD-WILL AMONG ITS MEMBERS

VOLUME 25

FEBRUARY, 1977

NO. 1

## I.V.F.A. And E.R.A. Both Go In Legislature

### Prez Sez . . . .



Jim Baker

Another quarter has rolled around and it is time for the paper again.

We have probably the finest paper of any State Organization in the whole country. At least, I have not seen any that is comparable. There have been several copies distributed at the quarterly meetings of National Volunteer Fire Council and I have had many comments from people belonging to other State Groups. They just do not understand how we can publish this kind of paper four times a year.

I'm sending some copies of different things that have happened on the national scene. They will be printed elsewhere, please read them and understand what is taking place over the nation. I'm sure that everyone will be interested in the \$50,000 death benefit to all public servants.

Boy! Hasn't this been some winter? I really feel sorry for you fellows that have had to fight fires

in it. We in Greenfield have been pretty lucky and have not had any large fires or too many, while the weather was so terrible.

Now that spring is just around the corner the PR men and the District Chairmen are about ready to start their fire schools. I hope that we have more people

attend the schools this year than any year in the past.

Fellows the Board of Directors voted to spend more money for the schools this year than ever before. Let's all get out and attend them.

They are for your benefit and there is a lot to learn from them. We are trying to bring to you what you want. I do not believe that you ever learn enough or too much. There are also many other schools scheduled besides the ones that we have scheduled. Surely most of the departments can spare a few men to attend these schools and learn something worth taking back to your departments and teaching the ones who could not attend.

We are now in the thick of Legislation and we are trying to get some bills passed for the betterment of the Volunteer Fire Service. The Legislative Committee is working very hard to get the job done to the best interests of all of you in the state. Talk to your Senate and House members in your area and let them know how you feel and tell them what you want.

Now that we have a national organization, also talk to your Congressman and let them know what you would like to happen on the National Scene. If you cannot contact your State or Federal representatives personally, take your beliefs to your district meeting and let your district chairmen know what you want then they can bring it to the officers meeting and it can be put into the proper hands to follow through.

Last year was the first time that we reached a membership of over 15,000 members. This is a great feeling to all the officers. It shows that the organization is still growing and getting larger and better all the time. As long as we are going down the pike in this manner we can do nothing but get to be a better and stronger organization. It is an organization that I am proud to be a part of and I'm sure every member is proud to be a part of it. Let's all get behind it and keep it going as it has in the past.

### Secretary's Report



Jack Ford  
I.V.F.A. Secretary

#### Members of IVFA

The magic number for membership has now advanced to 16,000. Just imagine, from a lowly start in 1946 from nothing to just about 15,500 right now. This sure does speak well for all the officers and members in getting the word out to the volunteers and telling them what we are doing for his benefit. To do all this by word of mouth and personal contacts has taken a vast amount of hours and work by all and to see it pay off in such great numbers is very gratifying to all concerned.

Remembering items for past IVFA Papers one can note the progress of all the volunteer departments in the state. Look at the number of pumpers, tankers, etc., purchased; the number of trucks built by the departments, ambulances, grass rigs, fire stations and the list could go on and on. Look at the things that are made available to the manpower, as training, some comes to you and some you have to go get, schools, seminars, tech., the list again goes on and on. We can even get college credits for schooling done now. No one person can say I did this or even think they had a big part in doing it. It is the strength of the 15,000 plus that has made it possible. Yes, each and everyone of us has made our wants known and have made someone listen and now we are

(Continued on Page 14)

### Legislators Favor I.V.F.A. Bills

The E.R.A. in the legislature received considerable publicity in its' hearings and passage. While this was taking place, the legislation for the I.V.F.A. was progressing through the legislature but with less publicity and fanfare.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 17 recommended the development of a fire prevention and safety instruction program for grades kindergarten through six, by the Commission on General Education and the State Fire Marshal. It also recommends that all elementary schools adopt the program. The resolution passed both the House and the Senate by unanimous voice votes. The resolution was sponsored by Representatives: Gary Butler, Lawrenceburg; Howard Keeler, Marion County; Cliff Arnold, Michigan City; Jerome Reppa, Munster.

Senators: Herman Fanning, Terre Haute; Joe Harrison, Attica.

House Bill 1440 authorized municipalities to procure insurance for the benefit of auxiliary groups assisting volunteer firefighters. This bill passed the House by a 96-0 vote and is now ready to be heard by a Senate committee. No problems are anticipated in getting this bill passed in the Senate. Sponsors of this bill are:

Representatives: Gary Butler, Lawrenceburg; Howard Keeler, Marion County; Cliff Arnold, Michigan City; Danny Burton, Marion County.

Senators: Herman Fanning, Terre Haute; Keith McCormick, Lebanon.

House Bill 1441 expands the authority of the Commission of Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education and authorizes them to certify all firefighting personnel in Indiana. This bill passed the house 95-0 and is now ready to be heard by a Senate committee.

Sponsors of this bill are:

Representatives: Gary Butler, Lawrenceburg; William Soards, Indianapolis; Ray Richardson, Greenfield; Ed Cook, Plymouth.  
Senators: James Lewis, Charlestown; Ernie Niemeyer, Lowell.

House Bill 1086 exempted emergency medical service drivers from the provisions requiring a public passenger chauffeur's license. This bill was not pursued because another bill was introduced that covered this subject and many more so we decided to back the new bill and testify in favor of it. The new bill was House Bill 1481 sponsored by Representatives: Steve Moberly, Marion County; Ed Cook, Plymouth; Greg Sewer, Evansville; Ed Goble, Batesville.



Charlie Jones  
Vice Pres. and Legislative Chrm.

This bill passed the House 95-0 and is now in the Senate. It has not been assigned to a committee at the time of the writing of this report.

Our legislation at this time is progressing very well and no problems are anticipated but if we do run into difficulties we will be contacting all firemen for them to talk to their legislators. Thanks to all of you for your help so far.

Charlie Jones  
Legislative Chairman

# "Buzzin' With 11 In '77"

Terre Haute, Indiana - June 9, 10, 11, 1977

THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMAN

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ROBERT E. LANEY, Publisher and Editor

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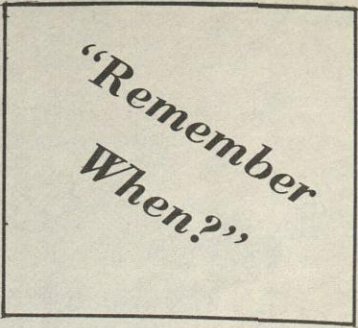
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VERNE KONOPASEK  
GRIFFITH, INDIANA  
PAST TREASURER - HISTORIAN

Purpose — To present some interesting past events of the Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association.



CHAPTER NO. 7 SINCE 1971 HISTORY

In our last 6 issues we have attempted to bring our history up to the NEW HAVEN convention of June 20, 21 & 22, 1974. The city of Ft. Wayne Township Departments or the Allen County Fire Fighters co-operates and NEW HAVEN always gives a good account of themselves. I say this at the outset of this chapter because we have been to NEW HAVEN in convention before 1974. In particular we want to take you back some 21 years when we met at NEW HAVEN in convention on June 1st & 2nd 1956. In this connection we have reviewed some of the minutes of the 1956 meeting there and want to reproduce some of those recordings here where perhaps 50 or more names will be mentioned and very few of these names — who helped pioneer — are NOT with us anymore. Please note that BERT MOSER was President in 1956 and Secretary JACK FORD was then our Chairman of the Board.

CHAPLAIN LaFOLLETTE: Fellow Firemen, this a surprise to me to be asked to say a few words. I will have a memorial service and I expect most of you will think I will say too much then. Thanks a lot, fellows, it has been a swell year. I have enjoyed the association with our fellow officers. They have been very cooperative. In the opening prayer this morning, I prayed for harmony and we have had it. Whoever your new Chaplain is, I hope he will continue to pray for these meetings to be conducted in harmony. Thank you.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: The next person I would like to introduce is Glenn Bare, our Sergeant-At-Arms. Glenn has been a busy man.

(Applause)

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS BARE: Thank you, fellows, I haven't any report to make. I am glad to see you all here. I hope you all have a good time. We are all set for the contests. We will start them at eight o'clock sharp tomorrow morning right down here on main street. Thank you.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: I will introduce Floyd Jackman, our State Organizer.

(Applause)

MR. FLOYD JACKMAN, STATE ORGANIZER:

Thank you Bert.

Folks, all I have to say is, it is certainly a pleasure to be here again. Each and every district chairman worked this year, and they have certainly done a wonderful job. Three or four really bent over backward to do their job and I appreciate it very much. I want to thank each and every one of you.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: The man with the money forgot his report, but we will get a statement from him a little later on.

As I call the names of the District Chairmen, I would like for them to stand, and if they have got a word or so to say, they can do so.

First District, Bernie Jostes.

MR. BERNIE JOSTES, CHAIRMAN, FIRST DISTRICT: I appreciate

(Continued on Page 6)

## Elkhart County To Host Instructors Class

This year the Elkhart County Education Committee will offer the Fire Instructors class which will be credited through IVY Tech. This class will also make the fireman a certified instructor if he passes the class and receives the commission's approval.

The class will cost \$36.75 for registration plus the book at about \$4.70. This will be a 36 hour course with three credits for the course. Class will start the first week in March, and will end May 18, 1977.

The classes will be held at the Concord Twp. Fire Station on County Road 13 between the railroad and U.S. 33 in Dunlap.

To register call Doug Bechtel at home at 875-6471 or at work at 875-5920 at the Concord Fire Station. Registration forms will be available at the Concord Fire Station or at Ivy Tech.

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# In Memoriam

- Clifford Edwards — Center Township
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- Keith Pollard — Upland
- Kenneth Maples — Spencer Township
- Frank Harkless — Roe
- John Cage — Ellettsville
- Luther Jarvis — Rosedale
- William Hose — Kendallville
- George Cole — Noble Township
- Lowell Craig — Springfield Township
- Benjamin Houseknecht — Kankakee Township
- Avery McAdams — Modoc
- Lawrence Scrvies — Waveland
- Sam Inman — Wolcott
- Timothy Stevens — Perry Township
- Samuel Moore — Yorktown
- Joseph Welch Sr. — Union City
- Harry Barnhart — Churubusco
- Michael R. Martin — St. John
- Charles Schaffer — Knightstown
- Charlton Rattray — Cedar Lake
- George Liming — Harrison Township
- John Hoffman — McColloch



## WORDS OF COMFORT

Revelation 21 - 1-4

THEN I SAW a new earth (with no oceans!) and a new sky, for the present earth and sky had disappeared. And I, John, saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven. It was a glorious sight, beautiful as a bride at her wedding.

I heard a loud shout from the throne saying, "Look, the home of God is now among men, and he will live with them and they will be his people; yes, God himself will be among them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, nor pain. All of that has gone forever."

HE IS ALIVE AGAIN!

- Matthew 28

EARLY ON SUNDAY morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to the tomb.

Suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and rolled aside the stone and sat on it. His face shone like lightning and his clothing was a brilliant white. The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and fell into a dead faint.

Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be frightened!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified, but he isn't here! For he has come back to life again, just as he said he would. Come in and see where his body was lying . . . And now, go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and that he is going to Galilee to meet them there. That is my message to them."

The women ran from the tomb, badly frightened, but also filled with joy, and rushed to find the disciples to give them the angel's message. And as they were running, suddenly Jesus was there in front of them!

"Good morning!" he said. And they fell to the ground before him, holding his feet and worshipping him.

Then Jesus said to them, "Don't be frightened! Go tell my brothers to leave at once for Galilee, to meet me there."

As the women were on the way into the city, some of the Temple police who had been guarding the tomb went to the chief priests and told them what had happened.

A meeting of all the Jewish leaders was called, and it was decided to bribe the police to say they had all been asleep when Jesus' disciples came during the night and stole his body.

"If the governor hears about it," the Council promised, "we'll stand up for you and everything will be all right."

So the police accepted the bribe and said what they were told to. Their story spread widely among the Jews, and is still believed by them to this very day.

Then the eleven disciples left for Galilee, going to the mountain where Jesus had said they would find him. There they met him and worshiped him - but some of them weren't sure it really was Jesus!

He told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and earth. Therefore go and make disciples in all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and then teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you; and be sure of this - that I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

## IN TIME OF TROUBLE

... It is in times of calamity . . . in days and nights of sorrow and trouble, that the presence, the sufficiency, and the sympathy of God grow very sure and very wonderful. Then we find out that the grace of God is sufficient for all our needs, for every problem, and for every difficulty, for every broken heart, and for every human sorrow . . .

## RECOVERY — IN TIMES OF SORROW

Every person, at some time in life, must meet sorrow or bereavement. Some folk are rendered ineffective for days, weeks or months . . . some even for years, because they do not face the fact that life must go on and that the past cannot be changed.

"When we leave the cemetery leaving our loved one behind, life is a new ball game. We return to the duties of the day; there are children to be cared for, business to be conducted, plans to be made and carried out . . . life must go on." You will find yourself striking out on occasion, and find it not easy to do, but great benefits are realized when recovery time is shortened.

Life will be more relaxed and more rewarding if we can keep our values straight and if we can avoid extending the wrong kind of grief, resentment about material losses or self defeat through embarrassments. Let's not take ourselves so seriously that we live "up tight" too often. Have a good laugh and learn when and how to say . . . "phooey". Learning to recover quickly will help us to be healthier and happier.

Our prayers have been with the ROBERT LANEY FAMILY in Bob's recent heart attack. Keep up the good job of recovering, Bob!

PRAYER: Our Father, help us to experience anew this Easter season the glorious realization that ours is a risen Lord whose kingdom is forever. Amen.

GO TO THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE . . . (YOU'LL LIKE IT) . . .

YOUR CHAPLAIN,  
Duane Lantz

## Auxiliary In Twenty-Fifth Year

I've always heard the older you get, the more you like to reminisce. I also enjoy history and some of our younger members have never known how small we were at the beginning. So pull up a chair and sit down. I'd like to share some of my remembrances with you. Not being a charter member, I looked over the earlier records and also enjoyed hearing events our organizers would relate of former meetings and conventions.

In the beginning there were two state organizations for the men, which at that time were departments mostly all in the northern half of the state. Departments in the Lake and Porter Counties met in 1945 and incorporated in 1946 as the Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc. The other organization was known as Indiana Industrial and Volunteer Firemen's Association.

The former organization did not have a women's auxiliary but a few of the women did accompany their husbands to their periodic business meetings which met on a Sunday at Hobart and other towns. A carry-in dinner was enjoyed by all and the whole family would attend. While the men held their meetings in the morning and afternoon, the women became acquainted with each other. Games also would be played.

The Indiana Industrial and Volunteer Firemen's Association asked their women to form a state auxiliary. In 1950 at Decatur the women organized and elected Mrs. Charles Ridgeway of Hartford City as president; Vice-President, Mrs. Harold Moore from Hartford City; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Howard Tucker from Washington Township, Fort Wayne; and the Board of Directors, who also made the by-laws were Mrs. Cedric Fischer and Mrs. Vernon Hill both from Decatur and Mrs. Geels from Bluffton. The women joining to form a state auxiliary were twenty-three active members and two honorary members from Hartford City; twenty members from Washington Township, Fort Wayne; eighteen members from Montpelier; ten members from

Centre Township, South Bend; and one member from Bremen.

At their convention meeting in Bremen on June 8, 1951, there were twenty-one members present.

The firemen of both organizations met together in 1951 and became interested in combining as one organization.

A board meeting was held February 3, 1952 at the home of Mrs. Ridgeway in Hartford City. Mrs. Tucker, Mrs. Fischer and Mrs. Hill along with Mrs. Ridgeway were present. Mrs. Moore could not attend due to illness. A letter of resignation was read from Mrs. Geels of the by-laws committee. A letter from Loretta Kustron of Independence Hill was read offering her services if needed. Secretary Mrs. Tucker was advised to write Mrs. Kustron a letter for her services to fill the

(Continued on Page 5)

## Fire Fighting Most Hazardous Occupation

Fire fighting is the most hazardous occupation in the nation, according to a 1976 study done by the International Association of Fire Fighters. Most of the deaths and injuries are caused by heart attacks, buildings collapsing, burns, and smoke inhalation. But fire fighters face many other less obvious dangers.

For example, a case in Olmos Park, Texas, where a volunteer fire fighter was killed when a soda acid extinguisher he was testing exploded. "The extinguisher had just been flushed and cleaned, and pre-measured units of sodium bicarbonate and sulfuric acid had been added. The volunteer inverted the unit and cradled it under his arm while applying the stream to a practice pan fire. In less than 15 seconds, the unit burst, and a portion of the extinguisher shell shot from under his arm and hit him in the head.

In another case, a husband-and-wife fire fighting team in Connecticut suffered severe leg injuries while riding the back step of an engine on the way to a routine drill. The engine's universal joint and brakes failed causing the vehicle to roll backwards down a steep hill into a second engine. Both fire fighters were pinned between the two vehicles, and the woman, a mother of six, had one of her legs amputated.

Even when fire fighters take precautions during training exercises, the results of an accident can be tragic. "Fire fighters in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, were practicing water rescue from around a dam where turbulence and water pressure made conditions extremely dangerous. Although the men had practiced the rescue technique more than 30 times before, an unexplained accident occurred and the boat plunged over the dam taking two fire fighters with it. Despite the fact that the men were wearing life vests, both drowned in the accident."

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## Wayne Twp. Fire Chief Escapes Injury

I had a personal experience on a trailer fire that I would like to share with you, and also some advice.

I responded to an alarm at Ponderosa Trailer Park on a working fire. I was the first to arrive and drove past the fire so the street would not be blocked for the incoming equipment. When I got out of the car, a lady was standing in the street crying, "Jackie and the baby is in there". Upon looking the trailer over at that point, the front hall was totally involved. The back half was heavy with smoke around the windows and doors. Assuming the bedrooms were in the rear, I thought I'd make the rear door to see if I could find Jackie and the baby. Chances were very slim if any of anyone being alive at this point. I had my bunker pants on already, put my coat on and the new Ziamatic Zero hood, made of nomex, helmet and gloves. I took the Hooligan Tool from the trunk and started to the rear door. I had to pass the front of the trailer. I saw out of the corner of my eye a propane tank and it looked to be safe. I saw the aluminum siding on both sides of the tank. I was about 20 feet from the tank. As I reached the front of the trailer, the propane tank started to whistle. At that point, I dropped the Hooligan Tool and turned to the right, put my hands over my face and the next thing I remember, two (2) men were helping me up out of the snow some 30 feet away. Fortunately, I got no burns. Why, because of good turn out gear, also the Ziamatic Zero hood protected my neck, ears, hair, and part of my face. Also, the hands were concealed with gloves and the gloves covered the remaining open part on the face, and my chin strap was in place on the helmet. I honestly thought the time had come. I have always respected propane, however, this time I was careless. I didn't look close enough. I was too close to the tank. I was wrong. I didn't engage the brain, the adrenalin was way too high. I learned a hard lesson. Please, don't you make the same mistake I just made. The tank is at the Academy for review.

## District Eleven Auxiliary News

Our last District Meeting was held on a cold Sunday the 16th of January. We were very proud of the turnout in spite of the bitter weather. Our thanks for a good dinner provided by the ladies of the Perrysville Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary. They formed an Auxiliary that Sunday and held their first meeting on February 3, joining the State Auxiliary at that time. We'd like to welcome Perrysville along with another new Auxiliary, Mecca.

Many departments and Auxiliaries in the District are planning fund raising activities, so try and support them.

Good Luck to all of you!!

Gloria Laney will be publishing a column composed of the activities of the Auxiliaries throughout the state. It will be called appropriately enough "Auxiliary Antics," so get in your news to her by the deadline published here in the paper. It will only work with your participation. Tell of your upcoming money making projects, community aid, etc. We'll look forward to reading what the different Auxiliaries are doing and all sharing ideas.

Some of the ladies in the Pimento Auxiliary have joined our men to form a rescue squad.

(Continued on Page 8)

## PROPANE BLAST HURLS WAYNE TWP. CHIEF 30 FEET



Richard Lamb, the Chief of the Wayne Township Volunteer Fire Department, escaped injury when a propane tank exploded near him and hurled him 25 to 30 feet.

Assistant Chief Steve Ritter said Chief Lamb was about 30 feet from the tank, located in front of a burning house trailer, when the explosion occurred. "The blast sent him rolling like a ball," Ritter said, "but deep snow prevented injuries."

Eighteen firemen and three units from Company 3 and 14 spent 90 minutes at the scene in sub-zero weather. No one was in the trailer and no firemen were injured. The fire occurred at 2:36 a.m.

Ritter said Lamb was the first one at the scene. A neighbor told him someone was in the burning trailer but just as Lamb headed for the door, the propane gas tank exploded.

(Photo by Clyde Bristow)

## Fountaintown Volunteer Firemen's Auxiliary News

Because of so much snow and ice, no meetings of the Fountaintown Volunteer Firemen's Auxiliary were held in January and February.

Wednesday March 2, at 7:30 p.m. the group met at the home of Ruth Slifer where the president, Phyllis Cochran appointed committees for a membership drive and one for the Bean Supper planned for April 23, to be held at the Fire Station, serving starting at 5 p.m. with the profits going toward payment of the new ambulance, the department has purchased.

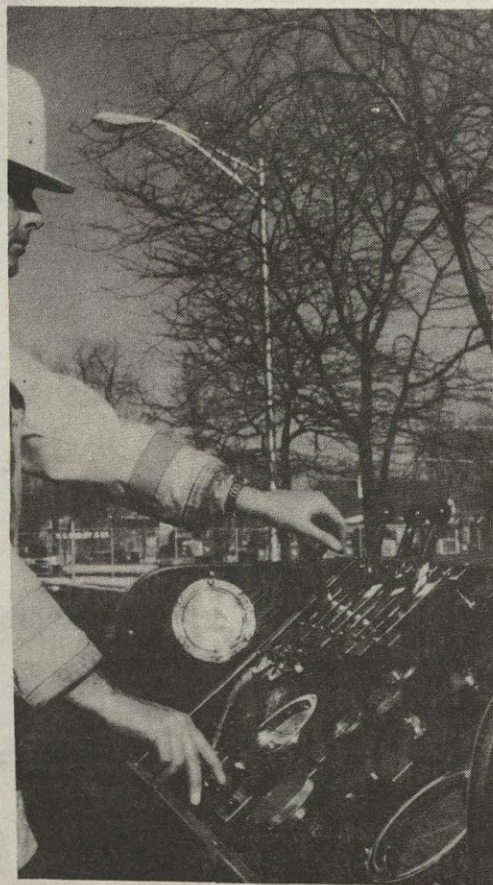
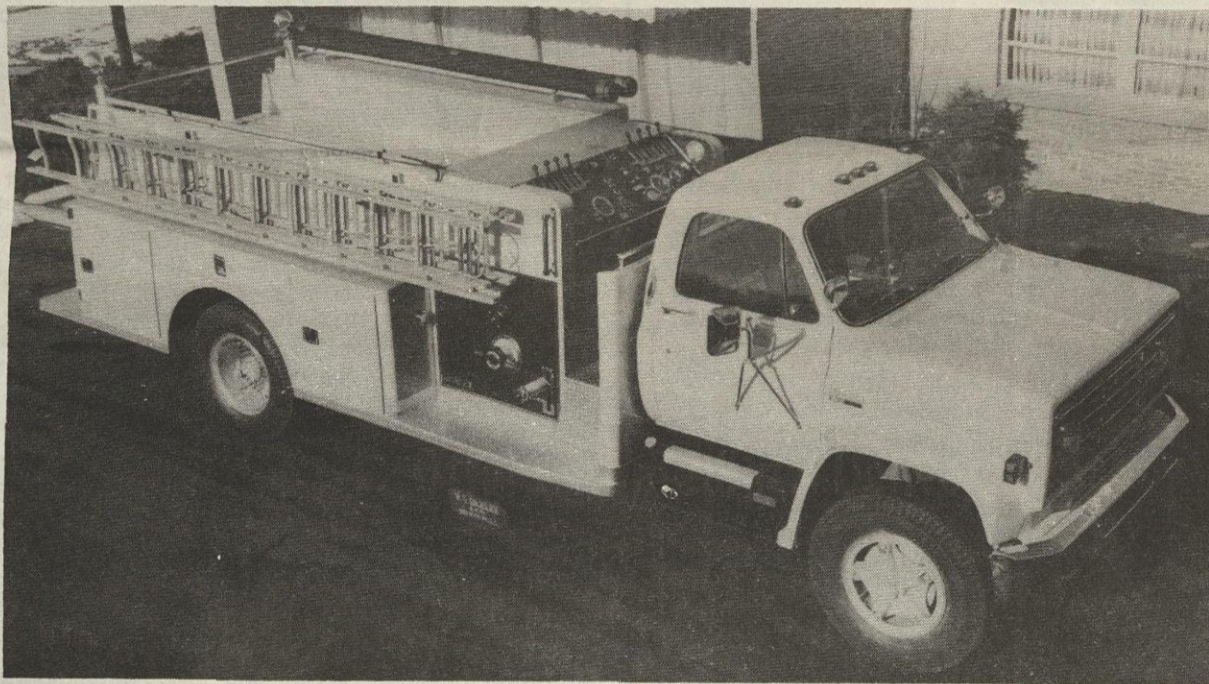
It was decided the group would tour the Factory Glass Outlet Store at Dunkirk, Indiana, Sunday, April 17. Stopping for lunch at Newcastle. Louise Tracy reported on the district auxiliary meeting held at the Marietta Fire Station February 21.

Inventory of the kitchen is to be taken in the very near future.

The group was dismissed by the chaplain, Inez Jeffries.

The next meeting to be held at the Fire Station April 6 at 7:30 p.m.

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# National Volunteer Fire Council

LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER  
BY National Volunteer Fire Council

Apparently, the Legislature at the Federal level is back in session too, and it seems appropriate that we of the National Volunteer Fire Council advise our membership of just what's happening in Washington. This will be the first of what undoubtedly will be many newsletters this year. As most of you are aware, the National Volunteer Fire Council is committed to a course of action to keep our members abreast of what's happening in our nation's Capitol that affects the volunteer fire service of our country.

The following bills have been introduced in this session of Congress and in some way affect the volunteer fire service — some to a minute degree, some could have a large effect. It's only appropriate that you have a basic knowledge of what is happening that affects you in Washington. Consider, then, the following bills which have been introduced in recent months:

HR 158 (Ashbrook) to make it a federal crime to kill or assault firemen or law enforcement officers engaged in performance of duty when the offender travels in interstate commerce or uses any facility of interstate commerce in the assault. 1-6-77 — Judiciary (HR 1029 - Murphy, NY).

HR 246 (Chappell) to exclude from gross income amounts received by volunteer firefighting and rescue units. 1-6-77 - Ways and Means.

HR 359 (Eilberg) to remove dollar limitations on exclusion for disability payments and allow such exclusion for public safety officers, including volunteer firemen, disabled from injuries received in the line of duty. 1-6-77 - Ways and Means.

HR 362 (Eilberg) to provide grants to port authorities under the Ports and Waterways safety Act of 1972 for protecting public ports and land areas from fires or other casualties. 1-6-77 - Merchant Marine.

HR 565 (Minish) to permit a state, under Section 218 agreements (Social Security Act) to terminate state or local police or fireman's coverage without affecting coverage of other comparable public employee coverage groups. 1-6-77 - Ways and Means (HR 1295 - Roe, HR 1740 - Thompson).

HR 600 (Quillen) to exempt nonprofit volunteer firefighting or rescue organizations from federal excise taxes on gas, diesel fuel and other articles and services. 1-6-77 - Ways and Means (HR 2790 - Dodd, HR 2807 - Duncan, Tenn).

HR 602 (Quillen) to allow a deduction for payments made for dependent care services to permit the performance of volunteer services. 1-6-77 Ways and Means.

HR 773 (Biaggi) to provide scholarships for dependent children of public safety officers who are victims of homicide while in performance of duty. 1-6-77 - Education and Labor.

HR 1061 (Murphy, NY) to provide financial aid to local fire departments for purchase of advanced firefighting equipment. 1-6-77 - Science and Technology (HR 1252, HR 1281 - Roe).

HR 1062 (Murphy, NY) to provide financial aid to local fire departments for purchase of firefighting suits and self-contained breathing apparatus. 1-6-77 - Science and Technology.

HR 1071 (Murphy, NY) to exempt the first \$5,000 of law enforcement officers' compensation from income tax. 1-6-77 - Ways and Means.

HR 1095 (Gary A. Myers) to allow fire departments to transmit non-emergency communications relating to official business over fire department radio frequencies. 1-6-77 - Commerce.

HR 1191 (Roe) to authorize the National Fire Protection and Control Administration to make grants to volunteer fire departments unable to purchase firefighting equipment because of increased costs due to inflation. 1-6-77 - Banking.

HR 1202 (Roe) to provide emergency financial assistance to assure adequate levels of police and fire personnel for public safety in areas which have been forced to layoff public safety officers. 1-6-77 - Education and Labor.

HR 1217 (Roe) to assist construction and operation of burn facilities. 1-6-77 - Commerce (HR 1737 - Thompson).

HR 1226 (Roe) to provide a penalty for unlawful assault upon policemen, firemen and other law enforcement personnel. 1-6-77 - Judiciary.

HR 1278 (Roe) to provide that pensions to retired policemen or firemen, their dependents, widows or other survivors, be exempt from income tax. 1-6-77 - Ways and Means.

HR 1279 (Roe) to exclude from gross income amounts received by members of volunteer firefighting and rescue units. 1-6-77 - Ways and Means (HR 1280).

HR 1282 (Roe) to provide an additional \$250 personal exemption for volunteer firemen. 1-6-77 - Ways and Means.

HR 1283 (Roe) to allow a deduction for clothing purchased and used by volunteer firefighting organizations. 1-6-77 - Ways and Means.

HR 1456 (Anderson, Calif.) to establish a national marine firefighting program. 1-10-77 - Merchant Marine.

HR Res 123 (Carney) to proclaim November 6-12, 1977 as "National Volunteer Fireman Week." 1-10-77 - Post Office and Civil Service.

S 12 (Dole) to extend the rural community fire protection program. 1-10-77 - Agriculture.

S 262 (Kennedy) to authorize group insurance programs for public safety officers. 1-14-77 - Judiciary.

You'll note that I'm giving you a brief resume of the bills with HR indicating House of Representatives and then, of course, the number of the bill. The name behind the bill is the name of the introducing Congressman. Should you desire copies of these bills or more information on them, please address your inquiries to the office of the Vice Chairman of the National Volunteer Fire Council at P.O. Box 4302, Madison, Wisconsin 53711. We'll attempt to help you wherever possible and to clarify issues.

It goes without saying that since these bills do affect the fire service, the board of directors and officers of the National Volunteer Fire Council will be taking very definite stands on some bills and having our voice heard in the Congress of the United States. It's only through an organization of our size and magnitude that we can impact properly upon legislation. Needless to say, in our short tenure on the hill we have

(Continued on Page 9)

## PUBLIC RELATIONS

Northwest



Bob Esserman

With the cold weather most departments have been busy with more than the usual number of home fires. Overheated fireplaces, heat tapes on water lines, thawing water lines with torches and electric welders, the welders causing many by back feeding thru the electrical services.

Incendiary fires were numerous, such as Portage experienced in mid January when two — 24 unit apartment buildings were torched within a half hour. Both of these buildings were under construction and totally destroyed in a few minutes. The first fire was in south Portage and they were assisted by the South Haven Volunteers who had just returned from a home fire. The second was in north Portage and Ogden Dunes and East Gary responded to that one. That one also ignited an adjoining apartment building plus destroying a dozen autos belonging to the residents of adjoining building.

Valparaiso lost a \$100,000 plus home belonging to a bank executive and developer. Other area departments have also had fires involving buildings of people connected with the building industry.

The city of East Gary has recently taken on a new name and is now known as LAKE STATION.

All rural Porter County is changing to a new address system, instead of the Rural Route all addresses will be the actual location which will be a big help to the emergency services. All Porter County Departments please send to Secretary John Ford a copy of all members listing their old address and their new address so the Editor of the Indiana Volunteer Fireman can change his address machine so you will receive the newspaper.

The Fire Instructor's Training classes were held in Chesterton the first two weekends in February. Twenty one attended from 5 counties. Indiana Fire Instructors Association President Larry Bosell and I.F.I.A. Secretary-Treasurer Curtis Gilmore did an excellent job of making these men better instructors. I will try to get another one of these classes sometime this fall for those that were unable to attend this one.

As of this writing I have only ONE nomination for the MR. IVFA AWARD for 1977. Please get your letters in to one of the 3 committee members, Ivan Bousman, RR 4, Box 201 Winchester, 47394, Gilmer Boaz, Greenville 47124, or myself. There are many individuals deserving of the award so PLEASE get your letter to us by April 1st.

District 1 & 2 has the Leadership & Command program with Cooney Tucker on now and March 1st and 8th the Fire Investigation

II at the Lake Station Fire Department. Every Dept. in 1 & 2 send at least 2 men to these classes, this is a must for all Depts.

Attendance at the district meetings, has your department been represented? Why not? These meetings are for your benefit to help make our Association one of the best in the U.S. and to make us better informed and better trained. Let's have 100 per cent representation at your next district meeting.

### Aux. 25 Year

(Continued from Page 3)  
vacancy of Mrs. Geels on the Board of Directors.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Ridgeway, who had been president of the Indiana Industrial and Volunteer Firemen's Association Auxiliary, since their beginning in 1950, presided over the meeting held in Hartford City at the convention June 6 and 7, 1952. Since the firemen of both organizations merged as one organization at this convention, under the name of Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association, Incorporated, the women voted to accept the name of Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association Auxiliary. There were forty-two women, who became charter members, present from six departments.

The purpose was to entertain all visiting ladies in convention city; to try in some small way to be of help and encouragement to the men's organization; to promote unity and harmony among the Volunteer Auxiliaries throughout the state; and a nominal membership dues of fifty-cents a year.

Discussion of By-Laws was held  
(Continued on Page 10)

### Mr. I.V.F.A. Contestants Needed

How about thinking now of the Mr. IVFA contest for '77 and get the information in to the committee for your favorite nominee. Although the deadline for entries is not until April 1, 1977, it is suggested that you do not wait until the deadline to forward your favorite contestant to the committee. The deadline date must be observed.

Throughout this state there are many deserving Volunteer Firemen worthy of this high award, so please get those entries on the way.

Basic rules and guidelines upon which final decisions depend, include the following:

All nominees for this award must be, first and foremost, a Volunteer Fireman who is an active member of the Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association.

It is suggested and rather essential that you tell in your letter, why you think your nominee is qualified for the award. Tell just what this particular Fireman has done for the good of the Association. What

part did he play in his own Department. How well has he served his Community, School, Church, and other Organizations in which he has been a member.

The above qualifications are all things that are considered and weighed when the final decision is made. Please keep that in mind, and give these facts when you send your nominations.

If you know such a Volunteer Fireman, please get your letter in to the members of the committee. Let's get an entry from each and every District.

It is certain that there is that type of volunteer fireman there.

Send those letters to any member of the committee so that your entry may be considered.

Committee members for 1977 contest are as follows.

Gilmer G. Boaz, Chairman  
Greenville, Ind. 47124

Ivan Bousman  
RR 4 Box 201  
Winchester, Ind. 47394

Robert Esserman  
RR 1 Box 354  
Chesterton, Ind.  
46304.

### Fire Schools - 1977

The following are the upcoming schools at the Wayne Township Training Facilities. They are open to anyone in the state. Write to: Dick Lamb, Chief; Wayne Township Fire Department, 6448 W. Ohio, Indianapolis, Ind.

March 24 and 25, one class. March 26 and 27, 2nd class. Fried & Clark - Advanced Fire Fighting Tactics. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$40.00 per person. Meals not included.

April 14 and 15, one class. April 16 and 17, 2nd class. Steve Martin and Gene McCann. Politics Related to the Fire Service. Firefighters only. Family Life in the Fire Service. This is for you and your wife, bring her both days. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cost \$40.00 per couple, or \$40.00 each. Meals included.

June 23, 24, 25, and 26 - O.B. Streeper & Company. Hi-Rise Rescue - Advanced Heavy Rescue. This is a working class - Full gear required. \$40.00 per person - no meals - limit 75 per class.

July 28, 29, 30 and 31, O. B. Streeper & Company. Underwater rescue and Standard auto rescue and extraction. \$40.00 per person - no meals - limit 75 per class.

August 11, 12, and 13, Exop 77. Large Fire Apparatus and Emergency Equipment Display and Demonstration. Cost \$2.00 per day - no meals.

Sept. - Dates not confirmed - Handling of hazardous material, put on by the National Transportation Div. of US Government.

November 3, 4, 5 and 6. William Clark - David Gratz - John O' Haggon. Hi-Rise Fires - Attack - Water Movement. Cost \$60.00 per person - no meals - Limit 50 people.

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Hammond, Indiana  
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Dyer, Indiana  
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**"Remember When"** (Continued from Page 2)

being here. Have a good Convention. I hope you fellows will do what you think is right when it comes to the election. Thank you.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: Bob Rose, District Two.

MR. ROBERT ROSE, CHAIRMAN, SECOND DISTRICT:

Well I see a lot of sober boys down here. I hope they are going to be in that condition tonight. I hope we have a good convention.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: Norman Carpenter, District Three.

MR. NORMAN CARPENTER, CHAIRMAN, THIRD DISTRICT: It is good to see all you fellows here. It would be nice if we had a few more. I hope you fellows enjoy yourselves, we always have in the past, but, perhaps, some of you new fellows haven't been to a convention before.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: Walter Steiger, District Four.

(Walter Steiger, Chairman District Four Stood)

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: David Burns, District Five.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: John T. Ford, District Six.

(John T. Ford, Chairman Sixth District Stood)

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: Russell Baumgartner, District Seven.

(Russell Baumgartner, Chairman Seventh District Stood)

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: Charles Ridgeway, District Eight.

(Charles Ridgeway, Chairman Eighth District stood)

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: Pete Denton, District Nine. (Pete Denton,

Chairman Ninth District Stood)

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: Ralph Israel, District Ten. (Ralph Israel,

Chairman Tenth District Stood)

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: Eugene Davis, District Eleven. (Eugene Davis,

Chairman Eleventh District Stood)

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: Cecil Bryant, District Twelve. (Cecil Bryant,

Chairman Twelfth District Stood)

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: Walter Rihm, District Thirteen. (Walter S.

Rihm, Chairman Thirteenth District Stood)

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: Brother Firemen, our tasks, our problems were great in the last year. We have overcome a lot of those problems through the cooperation of all the officers working in harmony together. I sincerely believe that the officers, not including myself, should have a big hand of applause for what they have done this past year.

(Applause)

Secretary Fries will read the list of the committees.

(Secretary Fries read the list of committees as follows:)

List of Committees and members, 1956 Convention.

Mileage Committee — Lester McCullom, Pete Denton, E.W. Menyea.

Resolutions Committee — M.M. Gahimer, Everett Shinn, Joe

McBride.

By-Laws Committee — Garland Kiefer, Sam Ordean, Russell Snyder.

Convention Committee — George Malo, Albert Henderson, Jim Glaub.

Election Committee — Ray Sheely, Estel Easterday, Harold King

(District I)

Credentials Committee — John Norris, Harold King (District 3),

Robert Hutson.

PRESIDENT MOSER: You men know what committees you are on.

We are going to have to take action immediately after lunch.

You know, I was afraid that the association had gone bankrupt

because the Treasurer had left, but I think we have got him back in the

auditorium now.

TREASURER VERNE KONOPASEK: Mr. President and delegates: I

believe copies of the printed report have been pretty well distributed and

I don't believe it will be necessary for me to read the report.

Nine years ago when I became Treasurer, we had less than three

hundred members and we had less than \$300 nine years ago. Presently

we have almost 4,000 members and approximately \$17,000. So, in the

span of nine years, I think the association has made great strides and,

with your help in the coming year, I am sure that we will continue to

grow.

I submit my report to you in printed form and I trust that you will

return a copy to your fire department. We had 300 copies made. We are

in hopes that every delegate will be provided with a copy of this report.

In event there is any delegate that comes in late, they can obtain the report at the office tomorrow morning.

Now, the per diem will be paid beginning at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning in the Police Chief's Office. That is right next to the fire station down town.

It has been a pleasure to be your servant. Thanks a lot.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT MOSER: Thank you, Verne. That is a very good report.

MR. BERNIE JOSTES, CHAIRMAN FIRST DISTRICT: I believe it would be in order that we move to accept the Treasurer's Report. Although it is a printed report, I would like to move that we accept the Treasurer's Report.

MR. SAM ORDEAN: (Black Oak, First District) I second that.

... The motion was put to vote and carried.

PRESIDENT MOSER: I am going to ask Jack Ford, Chairman of the Board of Directors, to give you a report.

MR. JACK FORD, CHAIRMAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS: I will report for the Auditing Committee who went over the books yesterday. This says — To the Officers and Delegates of the 1956 Convention, New Haven, Indiana. Gentlemen: We, the undersigned, hereby certify that we have audited the books of Mr. Verne Konopasek, Treasurer of the Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association, for the period of May 17, 1955 to May 10, 1956. This audit covers both the General Fund and Funeral Fund. Income was verified by records of Harry Fries, Secretary. Disbursements were checked with official vouchers approved by Officers. Closing balances were verified by official letters of verification from the depositories where association funds are deposited. All records were found to be neat, well kept, and correct.

Signed: Herb Melcher, Clarence E. Wiebke, Frank T. Till, John T. Ford, Chairman of the Board.

(Applause)

MR. ROBERT ROSE (Cedar Lake): I move the report be accepted.

... Motion Seconded and Carried.

Our thinking here in reproducing this portion would provide some interesting reading to many of our old-timers of OVER 50 and at the same time let our younger members who are UNDER 50 (you will never know until later HOW WE ENVY YOU) how we operated in 1956 when our membership was only approx. 4000. The following is a reproduction of the Convention Schedule at NEW HAVEN in 1974 at which time the members of Allen County again sparkled in their performance to entertain our IVFA delegation and our visiting friends when our paid up membership count had increased by over 14,500 actual count being almost 4 times more than we had in 1956.

"You say you want a job in this office. What can you do?"

"Nothing"

"You should have applied sooner. All those high-salaried positions were taken long ago".

May the roads rise up to meet you

May the wind be always at your back

May the sunshine warm upon your face

And may God hold you in the hollow of his hand.

Verne Konopasek, Historian

## PUBLIC RELATIONS

## WEST CENTRAL



Steve Ritter

This year will be a very busy one for the West Central area with Convention this year at Honey Creek and plans being made for Wayne in '78'. Let's hope that spring is just around the corner

## NOTICE

AUXILIARY  
DUES FOR THE

'76 - '77 YEAR

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R.R. 15, Box 367P

Acton, Indiana 46259

and the snow has left. I know that each and every department has had many problems trying to get to their fires with below 0 weather. I know it is very upsetting to see a fire burning and not be able to get to it because the road is blocked by a snow drift. The only thing you can do is keep trying. So fire fighters keep up the good work.

Plans are being made for West Central Fire School at this time. The dates will be July 9th and 10th at Greencastle. More on this in the next issue. I am planning to attend an instructors course in the near future so that the school can be certified toward your training hours.

I know there are many new pieces of equipment in the area. How about sending some pictures and articles to myself or Bob Laney so you can show it off to the rest of the state?

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THREE YEAR OLD CHILD  
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AT OSGOOD

A tragic house fire in February, in Osgood, took the life of a three-year-old child and injured a young couple plagued by trouble as they jumped from a second story window through double glass to save their lives.

The child was Casey Neil Fuqua, 3, son of Mr. and Mrs. Neil Fuqua.

According to Troopers John Mann and Ed Lewis, the fire started in the two story frame home at 6:15 a.m. in the area of a furnace and hot water heater on the first floor.

Ripley County Coroner David Akers said the child died of smoke inhalation and was taken to the Fallis-Nead Funeral Home in Osgood.

The parents both suffered injuries when they jumped from the second story window and were taken to the Margaret Mary Community Hospital in Batesville.

According to information available, the parents were awakened by the fire and in escaping, each thought the other had the child.

After the parents jumped from the window, the child's grandfather, James Fuqua, owner of the home, tried to enter the second story by ladder but was stopped by smoke and intense heat.

Trooper Mann said the house was not completely destroyed and that it had recently been remodeled. Loss will not be known until firemen can survey the damage.

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# District Meetings

## Districts 1 and 2

Districts 1 and 2 had their first meeting of the new year at Munster with a good turnout despite the weather conditions. The speaker for the evening was Dave Cramer. Dave is an insurance investigator, he spoke on suspected arson and how to detect same.

Fellows, the training programs that were mentioned in the last issue of the paper will be held as follows: Leadership and Command on the 17th and 24th of February at St. John and Fire Investigation II will be at East Gary on March 1st and 8th. Both of these classes will start promptly at 7:00 P.M.

At the Munster meeting there was discussion about having Mr. Cooney Tucker bring to this area the "Fire Instructor's Training". At this time confirmation of dates is being worked on. When this becomes final there will be a letter sent to each department, as well as being announced at the district meetings. As training is a very important part of the work of a VOLUNTEER FIREMAN, I hope to see each department represented at the above mentioned training sessions.

Wm. H. Howe

## District 11

We in District 11, again have a new department to welcome. This time it is Prairie Creek. We are happy to see the addition of those departments which have recently joined our ranks, and are looking forward to visiting with you again real soon.

This year has started out quite badly, weather wise, but even though we've had this against us, you — The Volunteer Firemen — have risen to the task. An excellent example of this was the attendance at the District meeting in Perrysville. It was a very bitter cold day, but you were there.

While on the District Meeting subject, we will remind you that our next meeting will be at Pimento, March 20. This is the meeting all us young volunteers won't want to miss. It will be the Miss Flame meeting. This is the time we can really show our daughters we appreciate them. Let's have a good turnout and help show these young ladies we are rooting for them.

Also, make note of the change of date for the May meeting. It will not be the usual 3rd Sunday because the State Officers Meeting will be held at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge in Terre Haute that weekend. At the meeting in Perrysville it was voted to hold our District 11 May Meeting on the first Sunday, May 1 with Honey Creek as host. This meeting on May 1st will be our annual election of District officers.

Another date for all to mark on their calendars is June 9, 1977. I'm sure everyone is aware the Annual Meeting of the statewide Indiana Volunteer Firemans Association will start its activities that day, but mark it down and plan to attend. This is the first time in several years this group has met within our District. We need to get out a good delegation to help Honey Creek welcome all the visiting Volunteers. After all, this is YOUR organization, come out and see some of what it is doing and at the same time enjoy yourselves.

There is another step being taken by the IVFA which is designed to help the individual

departments. We will be changing our statewide accident and health insurance carrier from Nationwide to Volunteer Firemans Insurance Services, on April 1. Naturally, we'll have a transition period where a lot of questions will need answering but we in District 11 had an advantage . . . Red is on the insurance committee.

Now for the hot item. Cooney Tucker has been promising us an instructors school here in our District. Cooney has advised that we will begin in April and run thru November — one night each month. So those of you who have indicated your interest in the past and those of you who now want to take advantage of this opportunity — call your District Chairman ASAP to get your name definitely in the pot. We will be limited to 30 scholars. Hurry.

## District 12

The 12th District Meeting was held at Washington Township Co. 4 (Marion County) November 15, 1976 with 41 members representing 16 departments present.

Meeting called to order by Vice Chairman Darryl Jenkinson at 7:30 P.M. Opening prayer by our Chaplain Jim Bruner, he also gave us a short Thanksgiving message and the pledge to the flag was given.

Introduction of guests, Steve Ritter, Public Relations West Central, Charlie Jones, I.V.F.A. Vice President and Sgt. Poe of the Indiana State Police

Roll call and minutes of previous meeting were read also the financial report was given, both were approved.

Communications — None  
Report from our State Officers, Charlie Jones our state Vice President, gave his report regarding the Indiana Central University Firemen's Institute for Rescue Service and Training. Two of the three courses will be offered in the winter 1977 semester. These will be 2 classes of three hours. Get your application at the University. Classes will begin the week of January 10, 1977.

Steve Ritter, P.R. W.C. stated that Fleming Garden Co. No. 3 has 30 helmets for sale at \$10.00 each. He also reported that Convention "77" is in great shape. He also stated that if the Convention was held tomorrow, every thing would be, go. There will be a pre registration, the cost is \$10.00 and if at the door it will be \$12.00. Get ready for the Honey Creek Convention.

All entry blanks will be in the I.V.F.A. paper and that raffle tickets will be out very shortly.

Donald Lippincott, 12th District Miss Flame Chairman, gave his progress report. He stated that we need door prizes for our raffle to help pay our expenses for the Miss Flame Ball. Don, also stated that advance tickets will be \$2.00 and at the door \$2.50 — Feb. 19th will be the date for the Crowning and dance.

Harry Fish, 12th District Fire Training Chairman gave his report of their recent organizational meeting and gave out copies of 6 district zone with several departments in each zone, there will be several mini schools and that the fee will be \$1.00, also a questionnaire will be sent out asking what type of school you prefer.

Game Committee — No report.  
Unfinished Business — District resolution was read with corrections and then presented to

our Public Relations Man Steve Ritter, resolutions committee.

Robert Ashby, will have another resolution to present at our next district meeting.

New Business — Darryl Jenkinson our vice chairman asked who will be hosting our next district picnic. At the present time, no takers, keep looking fellows.

Bob Ashby, presented to the 12th district fire training committee the Red book and the Fire manual and in turn, it was adopted by the Committee, but it will be up to the members. Cost will be approximately \$5.00 to \$7.00 per book in 100 lots. No action as of this date.

Charlie Jones, Chairman of the legislative committee stated that the General Assembly will be starting and the lobbying is on its way and that each district chairman should be contacting their department and if you know any of the legislators, contact them when asked.

Good of the Order, Steve Ritter, stated that since our next district meeting will be held after the holidays, give public relations regards to safety during the holidays. Also the 911 number is not the number to use, he suggested that the local department try to educate the people with the old number that they have used for years.

Vice Chairman Jenkinson, asked Ben Laurence of Washington Township to come forward, he was presented a host certificate for his department.

Our 50-50 drawing was held and the winner was Diane Beyer of Washington Township.

Sgt. Poe of the Indiana State Police gave a short film presentation regarding fire and safety in the urban area.

Refreshments were served by host auxiliary, a good time was in great order.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 p.m.  
Charles Bogden  
12th Dist. Sec. & Treas.

JAN. 17,

The District 12 I.V.F.A. meeting was held January 17 at Mars Hill Co. 8, Fire Department (Marion County) The meeting was called to order by Chairman Al Mendel, with 33 members and guests present, representing 12 departments.

Opening prayer by our Chaplain Jim Bruner. Pledge to flag by our Vice Chairman Darrell Jenkinson. Guests, were introduced as follows: Howard Keeler, legislator from the 46th district, he gave a few remarks regarding the legislation pertaining to the volunteer firemen.

Steve Ritter, public relation West Central also gave a few remarks regarding the 12th district Miss Flame annual Crowning and Dance being held February 19th in Wayne Township.

State Police Trooper William J. Hilzley gave a presentation.

Minutes of previous meeting was read also the financial report was given, both were approved.

Roll Call  
Report from our Training Committee — Tom Parrish stated that on April 30th at Perry Township No. 1 a training session on R.E.M.C. will be held at 7:00 P.M. Bob Sutton stated that on March 17th at Danville, Indiana in Jaycee Community Building there will be a training session on Basic Truck Duties. Time will be at 7:30 P.M.

Games Committee - if any department that wants to host games please contact Don Johnson of Mars Hill Co. No. 8 or Terry Ferguson of Castleton Fire Department.

Old Business - Al Mendel, stated

that after several meetings with the state officers regarding the election of state officers should they be annual or every 2 years. After a few pro and con motions by Tom Parrish and 2nd by Bob Ashby that we recommend every 2 years. Motion carried.

Chairman Mendel, also stated that if any departments having clothing claims they should bring the forms to him with the articles so they can be examined by him.

White River Township (Johnson County) asked that their March meeting be changed to July 18th. Hazelwood Vol. Fire Dept. agreed to change their date, the changes are for March 21 at Hazelwood Department and White River Township, July 18.

Bob Ashby was asked about his resolution that was to be presented at this meeting he stated that it was not completed for reading but will be in very shortly. Steve Ritter stated that our first resolution is in the hands of the State Secretary, Jack Ford.

New Business — Al Mendel, stated that all Volunteer Firemen are not covered under the certification program if you want legislation to cover Volunteer Firemen, contact the Fire Marshal's office.

Get your recommendations for Mr. I.V.F.A. to the Committee soon as possible, names and addresses of Mr. I.V.F.A. committee is printed in the last issue of firemen's paper. Also get all your materials and articles to our paper, because of news not going to our editor makes a delay in getting a full paper.

Who will host our next annual picnic this August was asked. There were no takers.

Chairman Mendel, stated that U.S. Senator Asphen from Colorado is going to introduce a bill in Congress to allow \$750.00 deduction on Federal Taxes to Volunteer Firemen.

Don Lippincott, Chairman of the 12th District Miss Flame Committee gave his report. Everything is working out, remember February 19 is the Crowning and Dance.

Steve Ritter, P.R.W.C. gave his report regarding Convention "77" at Honey Creek June 9-10-11.

Don Johnson, of Mars Hill Co. No. 8 (Wayne Township) stated that Co. 8 Cadets will be hosting the 12th district hose laying, hose replacement and bucket brigade at South Wayne Jr. High School, April 24th, Time 1:00 p.m. Get your entries to them as soon as possible.

Second Roll Call was given.

Good of the Order - Darrell Jenkinson stated that the annual Co. 4 Perkins Cake and Steak fund raising project will be April 23rd.

Al Mendel gave out several dates of coming events. Then he introduced the officer of Mars Hill Co. 8, also he asked for Captain Jim Ray and President Rick Wagner to come forward and then presented them with a 12th District Host Certificate. Also the ladies auxiliary who cooked the fine meal was introduced.

Darrell Jenkinson introduced our guest speaker of the evening, Trooper William J. Hilzley from the Indiana State Police. He gave short lecture regarding "Time Bombing" and "Explosives" from various incidents in turn he presented 2 films titled "Bomb Threat Plan, Don't Panic" and "Recognizing Explosives".

Refreshments was served consisting of Beer, Chicken, potato salad and bean salad. A great time was had by all. Next district meeting will be at Hazelwood Fire Department March 21.

Charles Bogden  
12th District Secretary

## District 16

After two postponements we finally had the 16th District, January meeting at Jackson Township, Martinsburg. It was well attended, especially since we had the blizzard. Viola Cambron our Ladies Auxiliary District Chairman brought the 76 Convention film. This was shown and enjoyed by everyone. Jackson Township's new mini-attack stole the show and was of much interest. I even heard of a conspiracy to steal it.

Our Miss Flame was selected at Greenville Township's Valentine Dance. The contestants were Debbie Kremp from Georgetown and Nanette Loos from Hardinsburg. The judges included Tom and Betty Selmer, McCulloch; Andy Vanwinkle and Gilbert Boaz, Greenville, and Becky Thompson, Jackson Township. Miss Loos was selected by the judges to represent the 16th District this year.

Nanette was crowned by Angela Cambron, our past years District and State Miss Flame.

Angela is from Fredericksburg and her mother, Viola, is our ladies Auxiliary District Chairman.

Nanette's Parents are Mr. and Mrs. Duane Loos.

Duane is a member of the Hardinsburg Volunteer Fire Department.

Dick Doan  
Chairman District 16

## District 17

The Vincennes Township Fire Department from District 17A had their annual Smoke Sausage Supper on January 22.

Despite the severe winter weather we had a good attendance.

Some of the state officers who were there are Jim Baker, Harold Stofer, Butch McGill and Bill Goodwin. There were also a number of district chairmen and several men from Wayne Township there.

The state police showed a film on "Bull Island".

## SERGEANT-AT-ARMS REPORT

Hi Brother Firemen and Auxiliary. Well, Santa has come and gone but old man winter is still with us. With furnaces overheating and assorted other reasons there seems to have been a lot of bad fires. With families burned out of their homes, nozzles freezing, and firemen looking like ice creatures, this winter will be one remembered for a long time. Our Dana Fire Department has not only had fires but also rescued a family stranded in snow drifts. Another problem is that the water supply in several towns and cities had become critically low. We must all try to conserve on this priceless resource and pray for lots of spring rains.

The Mrs. and I attended the annual sausage supper at Vincennes. It was great as always.

Now is the time to start planning to "Buzz to 11 in June 77". If you mail in your reservation early (before May 1) you will save \$2.00. Also, send in your room reservations. Forms for reservations appear in another part of the paper The firemen and auxiliaries are "buzzing around and working very hard trying to make this the best convention yet.

The Mr. I.V.F.A. award letters must be in by April 1. I'm sure that each one of you know someone deserving of the award, so why don't you recommend him to the committee. I can tell you from experience that it is a tremendous honor to have bestowed upon you.

Chas. "Butch" McGill

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Dear Mr. Laney:

Two Franklin County Rural Firefighters were killed while serving their community as volunteers. They died in a fire engine while returning from an emergency call. I feel some matters need answered pertaining to your coverage in the November, 1976 issue of the Indiana Volunteer Fireman.

1. If we are so concerned with firefighter safety . . .
2. If we want to continue making the general public aware of the ever present risk a fire fighter takes on each and every alarm be it on a paid or volunteer department . . .
3. If we truly are concerned with the tragic loss of two of our brothers and want to show our respect for them and the ultimate sacrifice that they gave to their community . . .

**WHY WAS THIS STORY STUCK INSIDE THE PAPER?**

I am not a newspaper man. Maybe the answer to these questions is so obvious that I shouldn't write this letter, but I cannot see it. I would have thought that at least our paper would have seen fit to announce this tragedy to all who read it on page one rather than where it was noted on page fourteen. Not that it is a matter that I would have sought out for better reading, but the accident did occur and surely it warranted more coverage than what was provided.

If I am wrong, then accept my apology for bringing this untimely and unfortunate accident to the near and loved ones of firemen Ricci Meyer and Robert King, Jr. before them again. I am sure their loss is felt by all of us. Our hope for brighter days go to them. Maybe their loss will remind all concerned to practice the safety of which we talk and review the needs of our loved ones if the next run we go on is our "last alarm."

Sincerely,  
Roger D. Johnson  
Asst. Chief, East Columbus F.D.  
Sec. 10th Dist. I.V.F.A.

Dear Sir:

I am writing you today as an 80 year old volunteer fireman of Aurora, Indiana.

It was back at the turn of the century, 1900, that my father Frank Marion Huffman, drove the fabulous black two horse team to the Steam Fire Engine "AURORA" which is now in the Cincinnati Fire Dept. Museum at Cincinnati, Ohio. He was an active member of the Aurora Volunteer Fire Dept. until 1940 when he retired as an honorary member of the Aurora Dept. He died in 1955.

This writer, was 80 years old November 21, 1976, and was sworn in as a fireman of Aurora in 1916 under Mayor D.B. Teaney. I was first driver of all the Aurora motor apparatus since the first motorized apparatus (a Ford Model "T" ton truck made by Boyer of Logansport, Ind. in 1917.) and until I retired in 1945, as an honorary member. I have traveled extensively and visited many great departments, and have courtesy cards today from Cincinnati; Miami, Fla; San Francisco; and Seattle, Wash. I was also the personal guest of Fire Chief John T. O'Hagan of New York City, who extended me a private car with driver, to see his fireboats, his major Company houses and equipment, and to see, and photograph the great MACK FIRE PUMPER, the largest in the world, which New York City now possesses. I also had his passes to the fire equipment he installed at the Worlds Fair in New York.

All this is now MEMORIES, but I am proud to say I was SECRETARY of the Ohio-Indiana Fire Fighters Assn. for 25 years, and received a beautiful plaque from this body for my service.

I have written an historical column for the Aurora Newspapers since 1936 without skipping one week! I have written all major fires, floods, changes of districts, etc. since 1936.

Today I am fully retired except for making some advertising tapes on the Aurora radio station WSCH, and write my column mentioned above.

For over 40 years I was the announcer of great County fairs, including Dayton, Montgomery Co. fair; Cincinnati Carthage Fair; and other great fairs in FIVE STATES, including Michigan, Illinois, Indiana; Ohio; and Kentucky.

I had my own band which played dances in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. Thus . . . an old fireman. . . I thought you might like to know. . . 80 years old but still active in local affairs.

My mother died in 1957 . . . I was born Nov. 21, 1896, in Aurora, and remained a BATCHELOR through the years!

So in closing I say HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Please keep sending your fine Volunteer Firemen paper.

Sincerely,  
Earl Huffman  
P.O. Box 233,  
Aurora, Indiana 47001

P.S. I have lectured to many Ohio and Indiana departments on the great New York Mack Pumper. Also I am an Honor Member of all 3 Lawrenceburg departments and Dillsboro, Ind.

**Dist. 11 Aux.**

(Continued from Page 4)  
They've completed the Standard First aid and working on the CPR course. Good work Girls!

Many small communities are faced with the problem of limited man power in the day time and like Pimento are utilizing the women. We love it don't we girls!

We are beginning to get contestants for our District Miss Flame contest to be held at the March 20 District meeting. The Pimento Department has asked for this meeting and are doing their best to make it a nice one. Our thanks go to all the

Departments hosting the 11th District meetings. They have all doing a great job. Red and I really appreciate it.

Girls don't forget to keep selling those Doe Doll Tickets. Money and tickets should be turned in by the May 1st District meeting at Honey Creek.

Speaking of Honey Creek that "Hive of Bees" have really been buzzin. They are a super group and getting it all together for your enjoyment the 9, 10, and 11 of June at your Annual Meeting (Convention)

If you haven't obtained your reservation at a motel in the area. Jim and Nancy Notter are still waiting to accommodate your reservations.

There many deserving women in this state who should be recognized for their years of service to our organization, so please take a minute to write that letter to Vica McGill, Mary Boyd and Thelma Lester. The Lois Boaz award has only one entrant in the state at this time.

Red and I have visited several departments and auxiliaries in the past few months and loved every minute. Till next time.

Bless you all  
Sincerely  
Jo

**Report On Princeton Refinery Fire**

On February 7 at 7 p.m. the Vincennes Township Fire Department received an alarm for an aid run to Princeton to help extinguish a refinery fire.

We were at the fire station getting ready for an election that night. Due to this fire alarm our meeting was postponed until the next regular monthly meeting.

I stayed at the station as stand-by while our chief, Bill Engle 8 men and 2 fire trucks made the run.

The subject of the fire was a storage tank with a capacity of 10,000 barrels with 6000 barrels of fuel oil in the tank.

There were approximately 10 fire departments and 80 to 100 firemen with about 20 to 25 pieces of equipment at the fire. They had used what little foam they had available and were using water. Our chief, Bill Engle made a phone call to Texaco Refinery at

**Ronald Rice Retires After 25 Years**



Kendallville Fire Chief, Larry McGahen (R) presents plaque to Ronald Rice (L) for his 25 years service to the Kendallville Fire Dept.

Ronald Rice a twenty-five year veteran of the Kendallville Fire Department retired effective January first. He received his first training at the International Harvester plant in East Moline, Illinois and came to Kendallville in 1936 and started a fire department at McCroy Refrigerator Company the following year.

Ronald joined the Kendallville Fire Department on November 8, 1952 and has been active until his recent retirement. He has served as Captain on the department before becoming Assistant Chief, a post he held for 15 years. Another position he has held is Noble Co. Civil Defense Director for 17 years.

Lawrenceville, Illinois which is about 40 miles from the fire. He obtained 200 - 5 gallon pails of foam, a foam generator and a foam tower to reach the top of the tank.

Within one hour after the arrival of the foam material, the fire was out. The roof had fallen in and about 1000 barrels of fuel had burned. The tank had ice on the outside due to 10 degrees above zero temperature.

There were 10 tankers hauling water from 2 to 6 miles away while they were putting foam on the fire.

We are proud of our Chief and his knowledge of handling refinery fire.

Bub Holscher  
District 17A Chairman

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**National Vol. Fire Council** (Continued from Page 5)

already found ourselves more than welcome by the nation's Congress. They respect the fact already that we are in fact organized and representative of the largest segment of the nation's fire service. The fact that we're basically in the volunteer fire service, of course, doesn't hurt this effort.

Needless to say, you, our state members, can do much to aid this process by making comments either to our office or directly to your congressman regarding these bills. Remember, the "squeaky wheel gets the grease."

**PASS THE WORD**

Needless to say, if we have a national organization that's one thing, but how do we get the information out. Most of you have newsletters and magazines or some mechanism of communication to your membership. It's up to you, our state organization members, to see that this information doesn't hit the deep six, for without dissemination of the information we're attempting to pass on to you, we will have accomplished nothing. It's important that the rank and file membership of the nation's volunteer fire service be made aware of what's happening and how they can help. We're already sure that the National Volunteer Fire Council can help membership in your state. It can solidify your members for a direct action impact on the National Legislature. We can do it. We've already proved it. We've got nothing to lose, and we've already proven that we've got a lot we can gain.

**THE NEW SECRETARY OF COMMERCE**

In answer to the following questions, Secretary, Juanita Kreps, responded to questions regarding fire prevention and control as follows:

**Q:** In establishing the National Academy for Fire Prevention and Control, the National Fire Prevention and Control Administration is planning to create a program which emphasized the development of model curricula and correspondence courses, the utilization of state and local training and education programs, and the development of a small but sophisticated curriculum at a federal academy site. Do you believe this is the appropriate thrust for such an Academy?

**A:** Yes. There are approximately 2 million firefighters in over 25 thousand fire departments across the country, plus architects, engineers, code officials and others who have influence over fire losses. To provide the needed upgrading and education and training for these people, the Fire Academy program must emphasize outreach education and training programs. The Academy should stress the development of model curricula using the latest technology to serve as a standard for courses to be delivered at the state and local level. We plan to develop and test course materials designed to be delivered in three ways: first, at the National Academy, second, at state and local facilities, and finally through self-taught courses. After experience is gained with all three approaches, we will be able to determine where the greatest emphasis should be placed.

I agree with the Report of the National Commission on Fire Prevention and Control that the Academy program should educate and train the future leaders and trainers of the fire community rather than attempting to replace current state and local fire training efforts.

**Q:** Section 10 of the Fire Prevention and Control Act authorized the Administrator of the NFPCA to encourage and assist the states in the establishment of master plans for fire prevention and control. Do you believe that master planning is a program area which the NFPCA should emphasize?

**A:** Yes. In the past, guideline for fire protection have focused on insurance costs and property losses. Life safety and fire risk analyses often were left out of planning programs.

For the first time a community now can develop comprehensive fire risk cost-benefit alternatives using the master planning guidelines and techniques developed and tested by the NFPCA. These guidelines recognize that fire protection is only one of the many community services and provide a means for proper integration with related functions. The guidelines also lead to evaluation of the prevention aspects for community fire planning, and to circulation of the burden of fire protection to be borne by both the public and the private sectors.

**EXTINGUISHER RECALL**

You should be aware that a recall notice is out on a fire extinguisher. The following should aid you in reacting:

On January 3, 1977, the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the Bernzomatic Corporation, Rochester, N.Y. renewed a recall notice to alert consumers of potential hazards associated with outdated fire extinguishers. Involved in the recall are the 1970 model FE18UL disposable foam fire extinguisher. Consumers were advised to discharge the extinguisher and return it to Bernzomatic for a free replacement.

**FOR THOSE**

**THAT LIKE TO READ**

The following relate to some reading material on recent publications which you might be interested in. The reports are available at the prices listed on the reference numbers cited from NTIS, Department of Commerce, Springfield, Virginia 22150.

"Reducing Electrostatic Hazard of CO2 Fire Extinguishers," (PAT-App1-691-122-GA), Department of the Navy, Washington, D.C., 6 pp., paperback - \$3.50, microfiche - \$3.00.

"Early Warning Fire Detection," (PB-256 888-9GA), National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C., 17 pp., paperback - \$3.50, microfiche - \$3.00.

"Estimating Smoke Production During Building Fires," (PB-257 006-7GA), National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C., 17 pp., paperback - \$3.50, microfiche - \$3.00.

"Fire Spread Along a Mobile Home Corridor," (PB-257 101-6GA), National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C., 56 pp, paperback - \$4.50, microfiche \$3.00.

**SURVEYS**

The National Volunteer Fire Council is working closely with the NFPCA in the hopes that we'll be able to work out a plan whereby the National Volunteer Fire Council can conduct a survey in conjunction with the NFPCA to determine several things regarding the ages, characteristics and quantity of firefighters in this country. Let's face it. We really don't have this answer, but we've got some educated guesses. We're working on this and you'll hear more about it later.

(Continued on Page 10)

**Waldron Boys Courageous Fight Ends**

For well over half of his young life, little Michael Todd Gahimer waged a courageous battle against a dreaded killer disease, acute myelogenous leukemia.

The long fight ended in a hospital room at Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis.

The 7-year-old, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Gahimer of near Waldron, was rushed to Riley Hospital Sunday evening, the day after Christmas, for emergency treatment. His family remained nearby to the end.

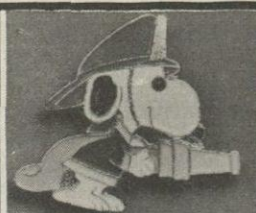
The Waldron School second-grader fought the disease that he probably didn't understand for four years, far longer than any person had survived with AML held in remission.

Michael spent most of his life in the Waldron community.

Mike Gahimer's plight received widespread publicity during the past year when doctors at Riley Hospital who had attended the youth believed that a rare bone marrow transplant could further hold the AML in remission.

The transplant cost \$60,000 and extensive fund-raising projects were conducted in the area to raise money for the operation. The Mike Gahimer Fund, spearheaded by the Waldron Community Club, was established and \$25,000 was raised and donated to the fund.

The Gahimer family expressed its sincerest thanks to the hundreds of people who donated money to the Mike Gahimer Fund. Many of the Volunteer Firemen and wives gave to this fund at last year's firemen's convention.



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**LADIES WATERBALL NEWS**

Hi Ladies,

We will soon be "Buzzin with 11 in '77" in June. I hope all the departments are thinking "Waterball". If any department needs rules, please write to me.

Please remember! Entry fees are \$5.00 and must be in by June 1st.

International rules will prevail. One member from each team must attend the all-day meeting on Friday.

One girl cannot be entered on two teams in the same event.

Each team member must register.

Each team member must belong to state auxiliary.

Hope to see you all in Honey Creek Township, Terre Haute.

Sincerely  
 Janet Yoder  
 R1, Box 6  
 Grabill, Indiana 46741



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the hose leads you to expect it you have a "leaker," and the hose has to be replaced.

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manufacturing process which leaves the hose lining completely unattached to the jacket at the crease points. When the hose is flattened for truck storage, the rubber lining is free to seek its most relaxed position, a comfortable curve rather than a sharp crease. This simple and easily understood principle lengthens the life of the rubber lining to two or three times that which could be expected from ordinary hose.

Another pleasant surprise...Bi-Lateral construction allows hose to pack flatter than ordinary construction, so the fire-fighter can arrive at the fire with more sections of hose at his command.

## Public Relations Southwest



Carl O. Davis

**SNOW — COLD — SNOW — AND MORE COLD.** This sure has been a very trying time on everyone. More so on your fire departments. They have to fight the roads before getting to the fire and then find their hose and nozzles frozen and having to be heated before they can fight the fire.

I read in the paper where one department was nearly two hours just getting to the fire due to snow blocked roads. Some of the men were following and they ran into the drifts and never made it.

The 17A District Annual Sausage Supper was held at the Vincennes Twp. Dept. on Jan. 22. Had a very good attendance but many more would have been there with a little cooperation from the weather man. Bub, Bill and your department, a job well done. Sure looks funny that the State Fire Marshal always wins any gifts that are given at this meeting. Even brings his gift giving department. Thanks Wayne Township for seeing that he didn't go home empty handed.

We are going to get our Fire School Program together and will try to have more on this at the district meetings.

Have some new departments forming in our area and will be meeting with them in the near future. Hope they will soon be members of our IVFA.

Fellows it's time to write your letters on Mr. IVFA and the Midwest Award. This must be done now so the committees can make their selections by our annual meeting in June.

Any district wanting a Miss Flame for this year should be making their selections and getting ready for the state in June.

Fellows that is it for this cold and snowy January "77".

### Aux. 25 Year

(Continued from Page 5)

and it was decided that each department send in one good by-law to the secretary so a list could be made.

Election of officers were held with Mrs. Charles Ridgeway of Hartford City as president; Mrs. Harold Moore also from Hartford City as Vice-President; Mrs. Loretta Kustron from Independence Hill as secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Carl (Wanza) Harbit of Independence Hill (now living in New York), Mrs. Cedric Fischer and Mrs. Vernon Hill both from Decatur were elected on the Board of Directors.

This was the beginning and first convention of our great organization, Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association Auxiliary.

My thanks for the help of some brief minutes and letters from Loretta (Kustron) Fisher now living in Chicago Heights, Illinois and Mrs. Glen (Vida) Bare now living in South Bend again.

I shall recall other memories in future issues of the paper.

Thelma Lester

## National Vol. Fire Council (Continued from Page 9)

### NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

I know we've already received two mailings on this but it's important enough that we mention it again. Enclosed is a one page flyer describing the next annual meeting of the National Volunteer Fire Council. Only with attendance can we hope to have input from throughout the nation's fire forces. This is an opportunity to become involved and to literally get with it. It does you no good at all to sit home and read these newsletters if you aren't in on the decision-making process. The scope and plans for the Council are such that we can't help but win. It's your chance and your opportunity to participate. Don't complain if you don't participate.

### NFPCA TRAINING AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

As a member of the Training and Education Committee, our Vice Chairman, James W. Morgan attended the first meeting of the Committee in Washington on January 31st and February 1st. It was indeed a fruitful meeting for all. A good cross section of the nation's fire defenses is represented on the Training Committee, and, of course, the key word will be "accreditation" I am not so sure that everybody means the same thing when they talk about accreditation, but I can assure you on behalf of the volunteers this will have to mean more than a two year or four year college degree. Accreditation can extend to the lowest level of a Firemanship I training course put on by a local college or vocational training center. True, it won't have the same impact and it shouldn't, but recognition for all levels of the fire service will be an important part of carrying forward the charge of the National Fire Prevention and Control Administration to reduce the loss of life and property from the ravages of fire. Education will be a fine turning point for the Academy and the NFPCA. We'll work with them to make it a workable thing for all of us.

### WORD OF PRAISE

Somebody had best say something about the work the three fellows and their staff are doing out in Washington. Messrs. Tipton, McCormick and Lucht deserve a round of applause from the fire service in this country. Their job is indeed a difficult one, and they need a lot of cooperation. Nobody ever said it was going to be easy, but we can make it much easier for them and tell them how we feel about the issues in order for them to do their job better. They'll respond to all segments of the fire service. They have already proven this. It is only hoped that the fire service will not find itself divided in too many areas. It is time that all segments of the fire service start communicating on an equal basis. We of the Council intend to do just that, but again, they are doing a good job out there. Let's help them wherever we can.

### COUNCIL INTERIM FINANCING

As most of you are aware, at the Los Angeles meeting two new classes of membership were created, namely, for individuals and for individual fire departments to show their support for the Council. The formal proceedings to carry out this mechanism will undoubtedly be handled at the annual meeting, but in the meantime, how would you like to help? Can your department spare \$25.00 to the Council for their work on an interim basis or better yet \$1.00 per man? If you can, Secretary Bob Turner would be more than happy to receive it. Just mark it, "Interim Funding" and send it on to the National Volunteer Fire Council, in care of: Robert Turner, 142 West River St., Rockton, IL 61072. You'll hear more on this and undoubtedly you'll hear about certificates available at a later date, but we could use the funding right now so that we can do more to help the volunteer fire service. Why don't you see what you can do in your state? Remember, get the word out to the people in your state.

Until the next newsletter from the legislative front, let us hear from you if you have any questions. Only through communications can we all help each other.

## Car Fire Damages Garage And House



Wayne Township and Avon Fire Department responded to a car fire. When they arrived at the scene they found that the car was in the garage which was attached to the house. The house suffered considerable damage due to lack of water and the intense heat of the fire.

## District Sixteen's Miss Flame



Shown above from left to right are: Angela Cambron, 1976 Miss Flame, Mr. Duane Loos, Nanette Loos, District Sixteen-1977 Miss Flame and Mrs. Duane Loos.

## Editorial

# Firefighters Are County Heroes

(Reprinted from  
Princeton Daily Clarion)

Nearly too often, we, who are in the business of reporting and commenting on the news, tend to be overly critical in the spaces reserved for editorial opinion.

It happens instinctively, probably because there are many functions that happen that justly deserve a critical eye from a publication serving as a representative of the public.

But when there are good times, the public views them with an air of joy, or perhaps thankfulness, as the case may be.

A major fire is nobody's idea of good times, but when a fire, that has the potential of leveling an entire city block in a downtown region is contained to a small section of that area, there are compliments in order — from the public and the publication.

The comradery shown between members of the nine firefighting units on call for a major fire in downtown Princeton is an outstanding example of the type of service that we really do have.

It is indeed tragic that there are damaging fires, but it would be an uglier reality if there were no individuals bred with bravery and armed with a displayed non-tiring ability to put them out.

In Boston, they were known as "America's Heroes," but in this area, they are "Gibson County's Heroes."

The alarm came in to them at 3 a.m. Friday, and firemen for miles around responded immediately. They came from Fort Branch, Francisco, Lawrenceville, Ill., Owensville, Patoka, Evansville and Vincennes, along with the Princeton and Patoka township units.

Not all units responded with a truck, but the firemen were either on the scene or readily available. The result?

A successful effort. While the most of the city was sleeping, they were standing in ankle deep water with a literal inferno raging above their heads, the flames being bellowed by winds up to 50 miles an hour and everything around freezing in a minus-50 wind chill.

Within six hours, it was all over. Only two businesses and one residence were destroyed. Others were damaged, but standing.

Although damage estimates were predicted to be heavy, it was minimal compared with what could have happened. This is an impressive display of not only high quality fire protection but even more so of courage, stamina and endurance.

For this, we, the public, should be truly grateful.

But the efforts were not entirely on the part of the firemen. Many persons, including the Salvation Army, were on the scene serving coffee and doughnuts, and several merchants were opening their doors to the weary workers, offering them warmth and shelter from the winds.

Their efforts were the backbone of the battle, and should not go unmentioned.

Tonight, when you are sleeping, try and remember that there is a group of people in this city and others around us who are also sleeping — only with one eye open, waiting for the bell, buzzer, or horn beckoning them to another fire.

Then be glad they're around.

## Thank You!

I want to thank all my friends in the Indiana Volunteer Firemen Association for their cards, flowers, and thoughtfulness.

Your visits with me while in the hospital were very welcome and helped in my recovery.

Thank you again and I hope to see you soon.

Verne Konopasek

## INSURANCE FACTS

Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services pay the full replacement cost or the agreed amount value on all covered fire apparatus, ambulance or rescue trucks!

In VFIS's plans, the amount you receive in case of a total loss is specified in the policy.

This can be an agreed amount, the original price of the equipment, or its replacement cost, depending on the plan selected. Should an accident occur, that is the amount you will receive less, of course, the applicable deductible.

Under the standard commercial vehicle insurance plans, the original cost of the equipment is used only as a base to determine the insurance premium.

Should the equipment be destroyed, the commercial policy would pay either the (stated amount) or the equipment's (actual cash value) whichever is less.

The stated amount appears on a schedule within the policy.

It establishes the insurable value of the vehicle by deducting depreciation from the original cost on an annual basis.

The depreciation rate is usually around 10 per cent a year.

Actual cash value is the present day value of the vehicle measured in cash.

It is established by taking the replacement cost and deducting for age, physical wear and tear and obsolescence: or by the price of a like piece of used equipment that is on the market.

VFIS's (agreed value) or replacement cost (method of insuring emergency vehicles) returns your original investment for your original investment plus appreciation in value for the first five years for a total loss, or the full cost of repairs for a partial loss.

Since most civic service organizations purchase their equipment with money received from fund raising campaigns, it is important that much of these funds be returned to the organization as rapidly as possible if a loss occurs, and that these funds do not have to be raised twice.

A complete package of insurance protection is available through Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services.

The Indiana Representative for Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services, Inc., is the Timothy R. Downey Insurance Agency, Inc., P.O. Box 1247, Kokomo, Indiana. Telephone number area code 317-457-9161.

**THE  
INDIANA VOLUNTEER  
FIREMEN'S  
ASSOCIATION  
ANNOUNCES THAT  
EFFECTIVE 1 APRIL 1977 WE HAVE  
CHANGED OUR ENDORSEMENT OF THE  
ACCIDENT & HEALTH INSURANCE  
PROGRAM.**

**AT THE OFFICERS MEETING HELD ON THE 20th OF FEBRUARY 1977  
IT WAS DECIDED OUR AFFILIATION BE CHANGED FROM  
"NATIONWIDE INSURANCE COMPANY" TO THE  
"VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S INSURANCE SERVICES" SERVICED BY THE  
TIMOTHY R. DOWNEY AGENCY OF KOKOMO, INDIANA. THIS CHANGE  
RESULTED FROM A YEAR LONG STUDY BY AN INSURANCE  
COMMITTEE WHO RESEARCHED ALL AVAILABLE PROGRAMS AND  
PRESENTED THEM TO THE STATE OFFICERS FOR THEIR  
CONSIDERATION. THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY THE "VOLUNTEER  
FIREMEN'S INSURANCE SERVICES" WAS UNANIMOUSLY SELECTED  
AS THE ONE OFFERING THE MOST COVERAGE FOR THE PREMIUM  
PAID. THOSE DEPARTMENTS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN  
THIS PROGRAM CAN CONTACT THE TIMOTHY R. DOWNEY AGENCY  
KOKOMO, INDIANA TOLL FREE 1-800-382-8837  
FOR AN APPOINTMENT. MORE DETAILS WILL BE FORTHCOMING AT  
THE ANNUAL MEETING. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT  
YOUR DISTRICT CHAIRMAN.**

# Auxiliary News

## IVFA Auxiliary Officers - 1976 - 1977

- President ..... Vica McGill  
317-665-3046 — Box 167, Dana, Indiana 47847
- 1st Vice President ..... Lucy Stofer  
317-241-1946 — 718 South Ingomar Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46241
- 2nd Vice President ..... Barbara Surber  
317-862-6527 — 11053 McGregor Road  
Acton, Indiana 46259
- Recording Secretary ..... Barbara Parker  
317-862-4650 — R.R.15, Box 367P, Acton, Indiana 46259
- Corresponding Secretary ..... Mary Brooks  
317-241-2929 — 2319 Porter Road, Indianapolis, Indiana 46231
- Treasurer ..... Nickie Sunday  
317-468-6412 — Box 21, Farmland, Indiana 47240
- Chaplain ..... Thelma Lester  
317-962-6473 — Lot 14-Hickory Drive-Mobile Manor  
Richmond, Indiana 47374
- Assistant Chaplain ..... Mary Stafford  
317-525-6582 — Box 151, Waldron, Indiana 46182
- Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Jan Jones  
317-873-4848 — R.R. 3, Box 240, Zionsville, Indiana 46077
- Immediate Past President ..... Mary Boyd  
606-928-5468 — R.R. 4, Box 260, Catlettsburg, Kentucky 41129

### DISTRICT CHAIRMEN

- District 1 ..... Betsy Howe  
1912 Edison, Griffith, Indiana 46319 (219-322-4158)
- District 2 ..... Pat Wisniewski  
10606 West 133rd Ave., Cedar Lake, Indiana (219-374-7120)
- District 3 ..... Carolyn McCarty  
Union Mills, Indiana 46382 (219-767-2549)
- District 4 ..... Kris Bechtel  
59086 County Road 13, Elkhart, Ind. 46514 (219-875-6471)
- District 6 ..... Janet Yoder  
R.R. 1, Box 6, Grabill, Indiana 46711 (219-627-5220)
- District 7 ..... Joyce Nevil  
R.R. 2, Box 87, Geneva, Indiana 46740 (219-368-7808)
- District 8A ..... Alberta Crowell  
P.O. Box 154, Frankton, Indiana 46044 (317-754-7349)
- District 8B ..... Almeda Brown  
215 East High Street, Montpelier, Indiana 47359 (317-728-5908)
- District 9A ..... Betty Bunch  
Box 244, Windfall, Indiana 46076 (317-945-7373)
- District 10 ..... Connie Pierce  
1035 Washington Street, Hope, Indiana 47246 (317-546-5687)
- District 11 ..... Jo Morris  
R.R. 1, Box 190, Pimento, Indiana 47866 (812-299-2033)
- District 12 ..... Catherine VanArsdale  
637 South Whitcomb, Indianapolis, Indiana 46241 (317-241-0682)
- District 13 ..... Miriam Schaeckel  
R.R. 2, Greenfield, Indiana 46140 (317-894-7252)
- District 14 ..... Marie Dickey  
25319 Gill Road, Nabb, Indiana 47147 (812-293-3545)
- District 16 ..... Viola Cambron  
P.O. Box 72, Fredericksburg, Indiana 47120 (812-472-3368)

### Past Presidents

- Joan Shanabarger, 401 Line St., Churubusco, Indiana 46723
- Carolyn McCarty, Union Mills, Indiana 46382
- Rosella Bousman, R.R. 4, Box 201, Winchester, Indiana 47394
- Mary Stafford, Box 151, Waldron, Indiana 46182
- Ruth Fairfield, 5128 N. Bend Dr., Ft. Wayne, Indiana 46804
- Inez Jeffries, P.O. Box 85, Fountaintown, Indiana 46130
- Catherine Mason, 2412 Alma Dr., Ft. Wayne, Indiana 46807
- Ruth Ford, 3005 Lincolndale, Ft. Wayne, Indiana 46808

### Committees

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>MISS FLAME COMMITTEE</b><br>Mary Brooks - Chairman<br>Jo Morris<br>Miriam Schaeckel<br>Helen Mickle<br>Kathy Vermillion<br>Marie Dickey | <b>GAMES COMMITTEE</b><br>Janet Yoder - Chairman<br>Joyce Nevil<br>Betsy Howe<br>Connie Pierce<br>Betty Sellmer |
| <b>NOMINATING COMMITTEE</b><br>Carolyn McCarty - Chairman<br>Sue Biggs<br>Barbara Ritter<br>Vi Cambron<br>Genevieve Davis                  | <b>DOE-DOLL COMMITTEE</b><br>Co-Chairmen<br>Lucy Stofer<br>Barbara Surber                                       |
| <b>JEWELRY COMMITTEE</b><br>Co-Chairmen<br>Loretta Nulliner<br>Bernice Esserman  | <b>BY LAWS COMMITTEE</b><br>Verta Engle - Chairman<br>Janet Goodwin<br>Anna Marie Baker<br>Joan Shanabarger     |
| <b>AUDITING COMMITTEE</b><br>Mary Boyd   | <b>INSTALLATION COMMITTEE</b><br>Ruth Fairfield - Chairman<br>Eula Mae Bush<br>Lillian Bower                    |
| <b>PARLIAMENTARIAN</b><br>Mary Stafford  | <b>INSURANCE COMMITTEE</b><br>Ruth Ford   |

## From The Desk of Your President



Vica McGill

The holidays are over and I trust that you all had an enjoyable time.

It seems though that winter is still on the rampage. Because of the severe weather, I have been unable to attend the various district meetings. I am real sorry and will try to attend them in the next few months.

Don't let the weather fool you. The "Buzz'n with 11" Annual Meeting is just around the corner in June. It is time to start selling the Lucky Doe Doll Tickets. Let's help Lucy Stofer and Barbara Surber (co-chairpersons) make this the biggest year yet.

I would like to encourage you to get your letters in for the Lois Boaz award. I'm sure that all of you know someone deserving of it, so why not recommend them to the committee. Direct your letters to Thelma Lester, Mary Boyd or to me before April 1.

Just a reminder, don't forget to send your reservations in for the Annual Meeting. Advance registration (before May 1) will be \$10.00 and after that date or at the convention will be \$12.00. Forms for convention and room reservations are in another part of the paper.

From all indications this will be one of the best conventions yet. I would like to encourage each and everyone to attend.

## Tenth District Auxiliary Meets

Marietta auxiliary hosted the 10th district meeting on February 21, 1977 at their fire station. Grace was said by our district chaplain and then a delicious meal was served. After dinner, we all enjoyed the inspirational music provided by the Singing Hymnals from the Town and Country Church in Shelbyville.

The meeting was opened with devotions and the pledge to the flag. A new auxiliary from Clifford joined the district and they were welcomed and introduced.

Roll call was taken with 69 members and 6 guests present representing 12 departments. The minutes were read and approved. Motion was made and seconded to pay the bills.

Old business was discussions on the Miss Flame contest of our district to be held March 12, 1977 at Hope, Indiana at the high school's cafetorium.

Mary Boyd, past-president of the state, gave a brief talk on the Lois Boaz award. The award was given to Mary last year. It's for an outstanding woman of an auxiliary.

The girls were urged to pick up their lucky doe doll tickets and to sell the most, so our district can win the trophy this year.

Connie Pierce, chairman, presented Mary Huffman of

## In Memoriam

Mary Sills — Montpelier, District 8B



Thelma Lester, Chaplain

And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship.

Exodus 31: 3

Another new year has come to us. Are you going to make it a happy new year? Will we make it a profitable, blessed, and greatest new year of our lives? Is there a method, simply stated, that shows how that can happen?

The above scripture is found in King James Version but a newer Revised Standard Version of our Bibles uses the words ability and intelligence instead of wisdom and understanding.

Since God gives us this ability and intelligence, we are grasping to have His Spirit.

Attend your district meetings, question, give your experience, have discussion, and learn from or teach others. From this we also can inherit love and friendship.

So we must stay with God all the way for through His Spirit, we will have and apply these abilities because He frees the mind to be its best in quality and power. When the mind is free to comprehend and handle situations, then you are bound to have a great year.

### ATTITUDE

Each day can be a lovely one  
No matter what the weather  
If you and its Creator  
Are living it together.

By L.J. Stout

Your Chaplain,  
Thelma Lester

## AUXILIARY ANTICS

by Gloria Laney  
Auxiliary Reporter

**FOUNTAIN TOWN AUXILIARY — Bean Supper - April 23 - Fire Station — Profits going Toward purchase of new ambulance.**

Amity with a past chairman pin and thanked her for her job well done as last year's district chairman.

Convention to be held in Terre Haute on June 9th, 10th, and 11th was discussed and urging everyone to register early.

Loretta Nulliner told us about the sale on all jewelry and about the new jewelry coming out.

The nominating committee was appointed they were Barbara Parker, Barbara Surber of Acton and Mary Stafford from Waldron. The committee will meet at our May district meeting for new officers to be elected in August.

A discussion was held on a project for the 10th district auxiliary to help finance the district's Miss Flame Contest and our picnic. Two projects that were discussed are a White Elephant Auction and a Bakeless Bake Sale.

A vote was taken and the majority voted for an auction. Each member will bring at least one thing to the May meeting to be auctioned off.

Mary Stafford reported on the death of young Mike Gahmer and the fund will be kept in the Waldron State Bank as a living memorial.

The chairman thanked Marietta for having us and for the delicious meal. It was reported that this was our largest meeting for several years.

Coming events:  
Acton - Bingo, 1st and 3rd Saturday

Adams - Card Party, 3rd Saturday

Burney - Tractor pull in April  
Clifford - Chili Supper and Euchre party, March 11th  
Coffee break and a raffle - Chicken Supper on April 2nd.

St. Paul - Dance at St. Vincent, March 19th at 8 p.m. until midnight, \$5.00 a couple and they will have the American Way Band.

Taylorville - April fish fry and in May a Firemen's Festival

Waldron - Public dance in May  
Nancy Neal  
10th District Secretary

# ELLETTSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT, PAST — PRESENT

The Ellettsville Volunteer Fire Department has come a long way since its formal inception in January of 1948. Ruby Endwright as fire chief, and Herman Gwinn and Ikey Wright as assistant

chiefs were chosen to organize the volunteer group. At that time the only fire truck in service in the town of Ellettsville was a 1936 Blue Chevrolet hose truck without a pump. Roy McNeely had sold the truck to the town and the Blue became a tradition in all future fire department equipment. This truck, however, was useless outside of town because it depended solely on water pressure from hydrants.

Since 1948, the Ellettsville Volunteer Fire Department has done a tremendous job of creating an efficient, well-equipped fire department - mostly on non-tax dollars raised from donations and various social events. The department currently boasts of two fire stations and nine trucks

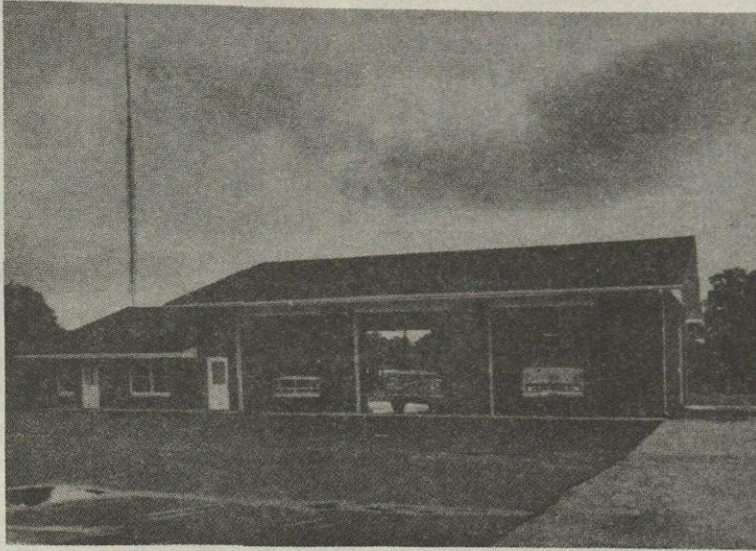
that serve Ellettsville and all of Richland Township and provide mutual aid to adjoining townships. There are eight full time paid drivers. This provides one man on duty 24 hours per day seven days a

week and a second man on duty weekdays at both stations. Forty-five well trained volunteers may be called day or night by radio when they are needed.

Station 1 has two pumpers, a tanker, a grass rig, a jeep, and a support-rescue van. It is located in Ellettsville at the corner of Park and Temperance Streets. Station 2

has a pumper, an industrial pump, a grass rig, and a squirt (a pumper with a 54 ft. hydraulic

boom) and a jeep. It is located at 900 North Curry Pike near the Industrial Park.



Ellettsville Volunteer Fire Department Station No. 2



Ellettsville Volunteer Fire Department Station No. 1

## Safety In Firefighting

Fire fighting will never become a fully safe operation. At no time in our striving for safety should we allow ourselves to lose sight of our primary objective, to save lives and protect property, but we can put them in their proper perspective. Even though we must continue to aggressively attack fire, we should keep in mind that part of the objective is to protect our own lives.

Fire fighters have risked their lives and have been injured or killed to save other lives and many times the severity of their injuries or the risk could have been reduced or eliminated by wearing the correct protective equipment.

Fire coats are not worn just to keep a fireman dry, but also for protection from heat, falls, falling debris and impact. A major part of fire fighting injuries are caused by impact, either something striking the fireman or the fireman falling, so keeping your protective coat on, even in hot

weather makes sense.

Helmets should be worn from the time you mount the apparatus or arrive on the scene (if you go directly to the scene) and until the fire is completely secured and until you are back at the station. Helmets are very important because the head is the most easily injured part of the body.

Hand and foot injuries are also common among fire fighters. Gloves and boots should be worn to prevent these accidents. There are various types of gloves to be used for protection or warmth depending upon your position on the department. Boots should be designed with safety toes and steel or other type puncture proof inner soles. A well-lined boot will protect you from both the heat of the fire and the cold weather.

Firemen should always remember that they must protect themselves so they can protect others.

(Article by Charlie Jones  
Member I.V.F.A. Safety  
Committee)



**SECURITY FEDERAL SAVINGS**

AND LOAN ASSOCIATION OF LAKE COUNTY

MORTGAGES ON HOMES, BUSINESS AND VACANT LOTS

4518 Indianapolis Blvd., East Chicago, Indiana  
3405 Michigan Ave., Indiana Harbor, Indiana  
2600 Highway Ave., Highland, Indiana  
9301 Wicker Ave., St. John, Indiana  
1300 E. Commercial, Lowell, Indiana

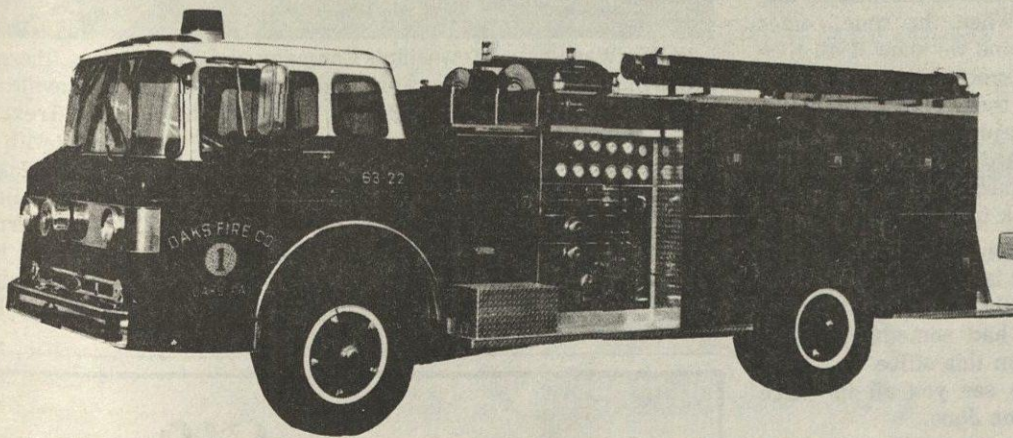
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SINCE 1917

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Never equalled!**

**Offers Immediate Delivery On Mini's & Maxi's**



WHY WAIT - 6 to 12 months for a 1000 GPM pumper, or 3 to 6 months for a Mini??

WHY ACCEPT - a stripped down plain jane stock model when you can step up to PIERCE Custom units??

WHY NOT - contact your PIERCE dealer to find out how you can own a PIERCE like your neighboring department has??

Indianapolis: Jon T. Rademacher  
2312 S. Burke St.  
Bridgeport, IN 46231  
(317) 244-5548

Evansville: Chuck Weisling  
5224 Westlake Drive  
Evansville, IN 47712  
(812) 425-7805

PLAN TO SEE OUR PIERCE DISPLAY AT TERRE HAUTE - June 9, 10, 11

### Fire Instructor's Course For District 1 & 2

COONEY TUCKER, INSTRUCTOR

**DATES:** Either 2nd or 4th Thursday of each month for eight (8) consecutive months beginning in April

**REGISTRATION:** Limit three (3) persons per department. Limited Number will be accepted.

**PLACE:** Sessions will travel with first location being announced after registration.

**NOTE !!!** Send registration to: William H. Howe  
1912 Edison Street  
Griffith, Indiana 46319



### Convention '77' Parade Entry

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: .....

ADDRESS: .....

NUMBER OF UNITS: .....

CLASSIFICATION(S): .....

ACCOMMODATIONS NEEDED: YES ..... NO .....

HOW MANY ..... DATE(S) .....

DESCRIPTION OF ENTRY(S): .....

RETURN TO:  
CONVENTION '77'  
4021 Park Street  
TERRE HAUTE, IND. 47805

### ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!

Those attending the 1977 Convention at Honey Creek-Terre Haute, may pre-register before May 1, 1977 at a fee of \$10.00. Those registering after May 1, 1977 by mail or at the Convention, the registration fee will be \$12.00.

CONVENTION '77  
ADVANCE REGISTRATION — FEE \$10.00  
DEADLINE MAY 1, 1977

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

DEPT. ....

..... STATE OFFICER

..... DELEGATE

..... AUXILIARY

..... GUEST

RETURN TO:

IVFA CONVENTION '77  
HONEY CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT  
6201 Honey Creek Road  
Terre Haute, Indiana 47802  
"BUZZIN' WITH 11 IN '77"

Please remit check or money order

CONVENTION '77' RESERVATIONS  
P.O. Box 25  
Pimento, Indiana 47866

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

DEPT. .... PHONE .....

DATE ARRIVING ..... DATE DEPARTING .....

TIME ..... TIME .....

TYPE OF ROOM ..... CAMPING

..... ONE DBL. BED ..... TENT

..... TWO DBL. BEDS ..... TRAILER

..... NO. OF PERSONS ..... (Specify spec. hookups)

..... STATE OFFICER ..... DELEGATE ..... GUEST

PLEASE BRING YOUR CONFIRMATION COPY WITH YOU

### Secretary's Report

(Continued from Page 1)

getting the benefits of the combined efforts. Good relations has been fostered with the General Assembly and to those of the present as well as the past we owe a debt of gratitude. It is only that we have asked for needs and not frills that we earned the support of the members of the General Assemblies. The State Fire Marshal has also contributed to the learning process for us with educational efforts, as well as other assistance in our behalf. I am sure the attendance to his efforts, and that of his staff, will assure him of the thanks and the need for it by all volunteers.

Yes, we have come a long way and still have a long way to go. I, for one, feel that we will not stand still but progress further with the help and assistance of all mentioned. Each volunteer must also be thanked for his efforts to do the job. They have dedication to the communities - just a few in each one will take on the job for nothing - and give freely of time and effort to get the job done right. We have come a long way and other states would like to have some of the things that we enjoy, but they too have pluses and we would like you to enjoy those also.

I had a visitor from Iowa this past holiday season. The Vice President of the Iowa Assn., Ron Miller. They came to look us over and to get some idea of how we operate. I must say that he went home with some ideas and I stayed home with some that he left with me. The National Volunteer Fire Council besides filling a great need for the volunteer on the national level - as

the \$50,000 death for volunteers on duty - brings together the different states and then the ideas just flow from one to the other, each takes what he wants and then sorts out the best to implement for their own use.

This exchange is very good and nothing but benefit can come from this process. It is only getting these ideas and turning them into our own good that we progress and that is what we have been doing and it makes IVFA strong and healthy. When the time comes that we think we know it all then the fall comes quick and hard. Some one then is going to have to pick up the pieces and that job will be very hard. It is so much easier to take a puzzle apart than it is to put it back together again.

Thanks for letting me bend your ear and it is only because of the busy months of the past that I have not had something in the Paper from this office.

Hope to see you all in Terre Haute come June.

Thanks again for all your efforts.

Jack

### THANK YOU!

I would like to thank all of you who sent flowers and cards while I was in the hospital.

Also, the phone calls were much appreciated — they were really a boost and your kindness and consideration meant a lot.

Your Editor,  
Bob Laney

### Lowell Gets New Pumper



Pictured is the new Diesel Mack 1000 gpm pumper put into service by the Lowell Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. This unit was delivered in late 1976 to the town of Lowell. A fully equipped unit after a brief training session was put into service. The existing pumper owned by the town still remains in service to better protect its community.

Also put into service in 1976 was a tanker with pumping capabilities. A custom built

tanker on a Chevy chassis with a 250 gpm pto midship pump. This tanker carries 1500 gallons of water to a fire. The 1500 gallon tanker owned by the department still remains in service also to help better service out area and assist neighboring departments. The Lowell Volunteer Fire Department is very proud to put these units into service to better protect the people in our fire fighting area.

### Father and Four Sons, Firefighters



Within Washington Township's Company of 65 firefighters; there is a group of 5 men, that consists of a father and his 4 sons. Granville (Ty) Balliet and his sons Craig (29), Gail (27), Keith (25), and Trent (24) currently have a combined total of 50 years of Service with this department.

All of these men are very active within our Department. Mr. Balliet was recently elected President of our Corporation. Craig is a Trustee and is assigned as an Engineer on one of the pumpers. Gail is an Assistant Chief Engineer. Keith is also a Trustee and an EMT assigned to the Rescue Unit. Trent is the Treasurer of the Corporation. Their wives are also active in the Firemen's Auxiliary.

### Gift Special!



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Public Relations

Northeast

# Public Service of Indiana Presents Program



Paul Fairfield

BOY! This has been some winter . . . one definitely to remember. I never thought the snowmobile plus manpower was the only piece of equipment that could get to the fire scene to aid with rescue work. My hat is off to all the firemen in the State for the outstanding job they accomplished during the snow emergency. They are to indeed be commended. I hope that before long, all our firemen can get back to their normal operations.

The heavy snow and zero temperatures did keep me from attending the District meetings in my area, and I am deeply sorry for not being able to be with you. Please accept my apologies.

Traffic accidents seem to be on the increase again, so please use extreme caution when driving to your stations and on those emergency runs. It is too easy to put your equipment out of commission by fast driving, taking too many chances, and perhaps using some poor judgment on the emergency run. Last year, two of our young firemen lost their lives in a fire truck accident while making an emergency run. Just recently one of our EMS drivers was killed in the line of his duty. The families, the fire departments, and the community suffer greatly in the loss of these men. Just remember, take a little more time, use a little more common sense when running emergency equipment, and we will all benefit in the end.

### NOTICE!

Deadline for all news, pictures and ad copy for the next issue of the paper is May 1, 1977.



Bob Fox (left) and Al Letterman (right) are the Public Service of Indiana representatives that presented the program. Bob is explaining the parts of the transmission live model that was used for their high voltage demonstration. (Photo by Jim Brokaw, Zionsville Fire Dept.)

On Thursday, February 17, 1977 Public Service of Indiana presented several sessions of a program on electrical hazards and emergencies at their Noblesville area office. Members of fire departments and law enforcement agencies in the Noblesville area were invited to attend one of the sessions. Six members of the Zionsville Fire Department took advantage of this well attended program.

The program consisted of a film entitled "Think Hot" and live demonstrations depicting hazards that arise from accidents involving high and low voltage electricity. The program stressed

precautions and procedures firefighters and police should observe when faced with this type of emergency.

Al Letterman and Bob Fox, company representatives assigned to the Northern Division at Kokomo presented this very worthwhile program.

This program is recommended to any firefighter that might have the opportunity to attend.

If the film "Think Hot" is available on a loan basis through your local electric utility, it would be a valuable addition to a training session on electrical emergencies.

### BREAKER, GOOD BUDDY !!

As you 'Buzz with 11 in 77'; why not go to Channel 11. The Convention Committee is going to set up a base monitor on Channel 11 to give our visiting firemen assistance if they need it. We hope this will help you enjoy your visit with us more.

## Noble County Firemen's Assoc.

Noble County, Indiana

Noble County Fire School

May 7 & 8, 1977

School dedicated this year to Ronald Rice  
Kendallville Fire Dept. (retired)  
Noble County Civil Defense Director

#### MAY 7

- 7:30 - 8:30 Registration
- 8:30 - 9:00 Announcements and guest speakers
- 9:00 - 12:00 LP Gas School and Auto Extrication
- 12:00 - 1:00 Lunch
- 1:00 - 4:00 Auto Extrication and LP Gas School
- 4:00 Dismissal

#### MAY 8

- 7:30 - 8:30 Registration
- 8:30 - 9:00 Announcements and Dedication
- 9:00 - 10:30 FCC Rules and Regulations
- 10:30 - 12:00 Aircraft Search and Rescue - Pump Operation
- 12:00 - 1:00 Lunch
- 1:00 - 2:30 Pump Operation - Aircraft Search and Rescue
- 2:30 - 3:30 Rating Bureau Facts
- 3:30 - 4:00 Certificate Presentation

Advance Reservation \$2.75 daily payable in advance  
\$3.00 day of school

Send reservations no later than April 29, 1977 for advance fees.

Send to: Maynard D. Masters  
424 Drake Road  
Kendallville, Indiana 46755  
Ph. 219-347-3569

No return confirmation will be sent.

Name .....

Fire Dept. ....

Rank ..... Amount Enclosed .....

Days requested please circle May 7      May 8

School cost includes meals.

Turn Out Gear Required.

### CONTESTANT ENTRY BLANK

- Hose Replacing Contest       Water Ball Contest   
Bucket Brigade

Fire Department will have a team to compete in one or more of the following contests: Water Ball, Hose Replacement, Bucket Brigade, at Terre Haute, Indiana on Saturday, June 11, 1977. An entry fee of \$8.00 for entry in each contest. The \$8.00 entry fee will be kept by the State Association to help defray expenses. Please check in each square the contests entered by your department.

Signed ..... Chief or Secretary

### NOTICE

All contest entry blanks must be in or postmarked on or before June 1, 1977 to be eligible. All Departments that plan to enter should fill out entry blanks and accompany same with \$8.00 entry fee for each contest entered. Send entries to Robert Surber, 11053 McGregor Rd., Acton, Indiana - (317) 862-6527. Please bring your own rain gear. Trophies for Water Ball, Hose Replacement, and Bucket Brigade. Safety measures to be enforced at contest. Drawing for position Thursday night, June 9 at Officers' meeting.

Each Participant in Games must be registered at the Convention. Those coming on Saturday, must also register at a fee of \$8.00 in order to qualify for participation.

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Friday 9 A.M. to 8 P.M. - Saturday 9 A.M. to 12 Noon

Main Office

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155 North Main Street  
Crown Point—663-4758

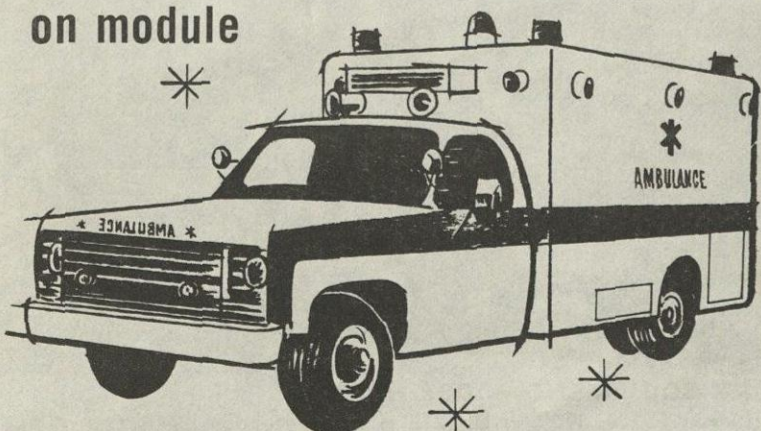
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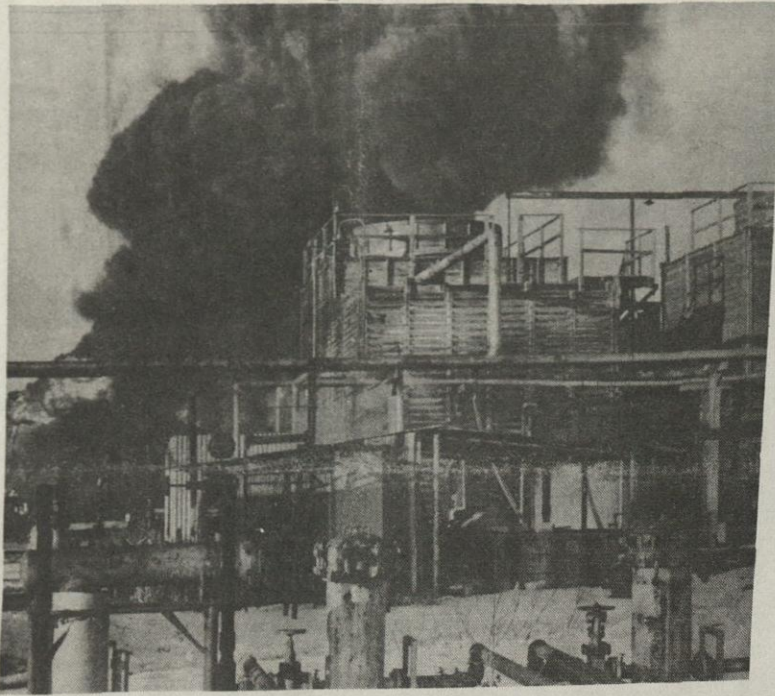


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## EXPLOSION RIPS PRINCETON REFINERY



Minutes after an explosion ripped through a tank at the refinery south of Princeton, firemen poured in to extinguish the blaze. The flames and black smoke billowed from the ruptured tank, sending up a cloud resembling an atomic explosion. The noxious cloud hung over the flames and could be seen for twenty miles.

An electrostatic spark is believed to have caused a massive fire at Princeton Refinery Monday, February 7, that summoned more than 15 fire departments and could be seen for more than 20 miles.

Curt Musgrave, president of the firm which is located approximately two miles south of the city, said the work crews there had filled a 10,000 barrel storage tank half full (21,500 gallons) when a small fire broke out in pipes surrounding the tank.

Workmen at the refinery directed fire extinguishers on the blaze, pushing the fire into the tank, which was approximately half full of "slop," a mixture of naptha, No. 6 fuel oil, and crude oil.

Within minutes, the tank exploded into a raging inferno that burned for approximately six hours before it was extinguished.

The first firefighting unit to respond was the Patoka township fire department, which sent a truck to the scene at 3:45 p.m. The second township unit was summoned to the fire eight minutes later, and one Princeton city unit was called there at 4 p.m.

Within an hour, firemen from as far away as Evansville, Vincennes, and Bridgeport, Ill., were on the scene, directing water onto other tanks near the burning unit. Other fire departments responding to the fire included Lawrenceville and Mount Carmel, Ill., Owensville, Dress Regional Airport, Fort Branch, Somerville, Allendale, Ill., McCutchenville, German township, Scott township and the Lawrence-Allison district fire departments.

The fire was finally extinguished at 1 a.m. by a large foam tower brought to the scene by the Texaco Refinery in Lawrenceville, Ill. Previous efforts by Dress Regional Airport personnel to fight the fire with foam were cut off because the foam was rising with the smoke due to intense heat caused by the blaze.

On the scene, firemen said their main concern was to direct cooling water onto a nearby storage tank filled with naptha, a highly volatile substance that some of them believed served as a potential bomb on the site.

"If that tank had gone up, there could have been multiple deaths," Princeton fire chief Frank Belcher said, adding that the naptha tank was approximately 40 yards away from the blaze.

Nobody was injured in the blaze. Because there were no facilities for the amount of water needed on the scene, several of the responding fire departments served as a caravan of water tanks, delivering the water to the units cooling the surrounding tanks.

The fire broke out on the first day the refinery had been in operation after several days of being shut down.

Problems with a "pinhole leak" in the refinery's pipe system had previously shut down the plant.

No estimates had been made Monday morning of the amount of loss in the blaze.

The fire was the second in the Princeton area within a month that required assistance from neighboring departments.

On January 28, nine departments from the surrounding area were called for assistance in a battle with a downtown fire that destroyed two businesses and a residence and severely damaged several others.

### \$50,000 Survivors Benefits

#### Authorized If Officer

#### Killed In Line Of Duty

The recently enacted Public Safety Officers' Benefits Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-430) authorizes the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) to pay a benefit of \$50,000 to specified survivors of public safety officers serving State, local, and other specified jurisdictions who have died as the direct and proximate result of a personal injury sustained in the line of duty. In signing this law, President Ford commented, "This act demonstrates the esteem of a free society for those whom it entrusts with our public and personal safety." (It is noted that funds supportive of provisions of this act have not yet been appropriated).

In the act, "public safety officer" is defined as "a person serving a public agency in an official capacity, with or without compensation, as a law enforcement officer or as a fireman." Among those for whom coverage is intended are persons active in enforcement of criminal laws or involved in juvenile

delinquency and crime control or reduction endeavors. This includes, but is not limited to, police, corrections, probation, parole, and judicial officers. Regarding firemen, coverage also extends to those who are officially recognized or designated members of a legally organized volunteer fire department.

No benefit is to be paid if death is caused by the intentional misconduct or voluntary intoxication (due to alcohol, drugs, or other substances) of the officer, or by the actions of a potential beneficiary. Deaths resulting from occupational illness or chronic disease are also not covered by this act.

The act applies to deaths occurring from injuries sustained on or after the date of its enactment—September 29, 1976. However, payments can be made only to the extent provided for in advance by appropriated funds. Claims are now being accepted by LEAA; however, no benefits can be paid until an appropriation is made by Congress.

When appropriated funds are available and LEAA approves a

claim, the \$50,000 will be paid as follows.

(1) If there is no surviving child of the deceased officer, to the surviving spouse;

(2) If there is a surviving child or children and a surviving spouse, one-half to the child or children in equal shares and one-half to the surviving spouse;

(3) If there is no surviving spouse, to the child or children of the officer in equal shares;

(4) If none of the above, to the dependent parent or parents of the officer in equal shares.

The Internal Revenue Service has ruled that the \$50,000 benefit is

not subject to Federal taxation. Similarly, the act assures it will not be subject to execution or attachment. The benefit is intended to be in addition to other benefits received by the family of a deceased officer. It would be reduced only by payments authorized by Public Law 90-291 — or certain payments authorized by the District of Columbia Code.

Claims for benefits under the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Act should be submitted to the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, 633 Indiana Avenue NW., Washington, D.C. 20531. Claims forms and additional instructions can be obtained by writing to this address.

### SUB - ZERO HOUSE FIRE



Wayne Township Co. 9 - 4 responded to this house fire in Sub Zero weather. The flames were fed by a natural gas line that had ruptured and the local gas company could not find the shut off valve in the yard for a considerable length of time.

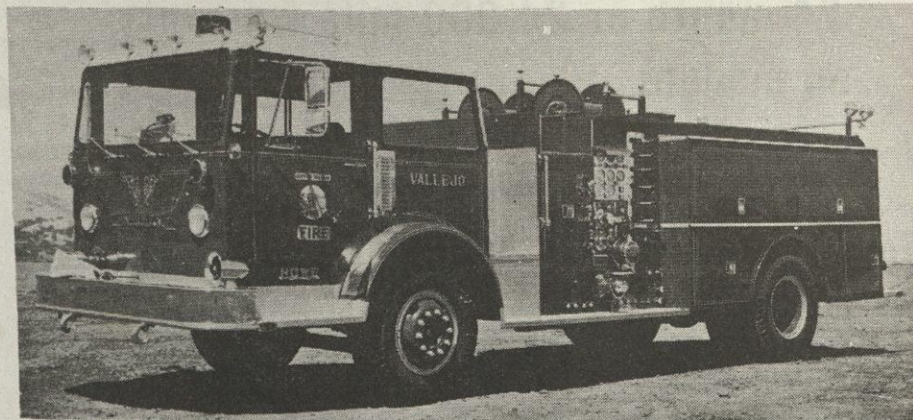
### Oakland City Firemen Recieve New Pumper



Oakland City Volunteer firemen have taken delivery of their new PIERCE pumper; a lime-yellow, and white 1000 GPM on a C-900 Ford chassis, built by Pierce Mfg. Co., and sold by Chuck Weisling. The new pumper has two booster reels, two cross-lay Mattydale preconnect 1½" lines above the transverse compartment, five 2½" discharges, two each side, and one to the rear. The high side compartments will hold four breathing apparatus and four extra cylinders, all in Ziamatic holders. The warning equipment consists of two Unity Spitfire beacons, a recessed Mars 888 light in front, two Whelen strobe lights and two flush mounted alternately flashing lights at the rear.

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