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# THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMAN

VOLUME 40, NO. 1

Organized and Trained for the Protection of Life and Property

FEBRUARY 1991

## DUNKIRK FIRE CONSUMES SEVENTEEN APARTMENTS AND TWO BUSINESSES

It was December 15, 1990. The wind was blowing about 15 to 20 mph out of the southwest. At approximately 5:15 P.M., one of the biggest fires that Dunkirk ever had was reported.

It was a three story building that covered all of 1/2 a city block. The building housed a Hardware Store, Optical Vision Office and seventeen apartments.

When we arrived on the scene, smoke was coming out of the northeast side, in the attic area. We assisted the owner in getting the last of the renters out of the building. Also as soon as we rolled up to the scene, Redkey Dept. was paged out to assist us. Before they arrived we had stretched an 1 1/2" line up to the third floor for our first attack line. (Later part of this line was destroyed in the fire.) We attempted to set up a 2 1/2" attack line. Next we called for Portland's Aerial and Hartford City's too. Albany was dispatched along with Eaton.

Soon after they all arrived, we started to discover that the city's water supply would not keep up with the demand. The whole third story floor was totally involved and we were really concerned with exposures. Hamilton Township and Farmland helped protect the east side and Civil Defense was sent to the houses that were in the path of the flying cinders. Some as big as baseballs were fly-

ing a half a block.

In the course of the fire we had called nineteen departments, those in addition to the ones mentioned above were Union City, Ohio, Daleville, Pennville, White River Township, Salomonia, Liberty Township, Geneva, Muncie, Ridgeville, Montpelier and Ft. Recovery, Ohio.

Since there was a clothing store with an above apartment built right against the burning building, every one of these departments played an important part in containing this massive fire to just the one building. The other building received smoke and water damage.

I don't remember what time it was when we started releasing departments to go back to their stations. But, I do know that several of us stayed on the scene for about 24 hours. Of course that was the first day of the fire. After that the building, or what was left of it, smoldered and occasionally had some pretty good spot fires going. We tried to work in shifts to watch that the spot fires didn't get out of hand. A demolition contractor was called in to knock down the standing walls, but he was hampered in doing his job because of the smoke. The third day he finally got it knocked down and started hauling it out. One week later after the fire started, it was out and hauled away.



News and Sun By Kim Zollman

It was one of the biggest fires that Dunkirk has had next to the Auto Pro which burned at the first of 1990.

With as many departments as we had here at one time there was some confusion. Although, the main objective was containing the fire to one building and that was accomplished.

There are so many small com-

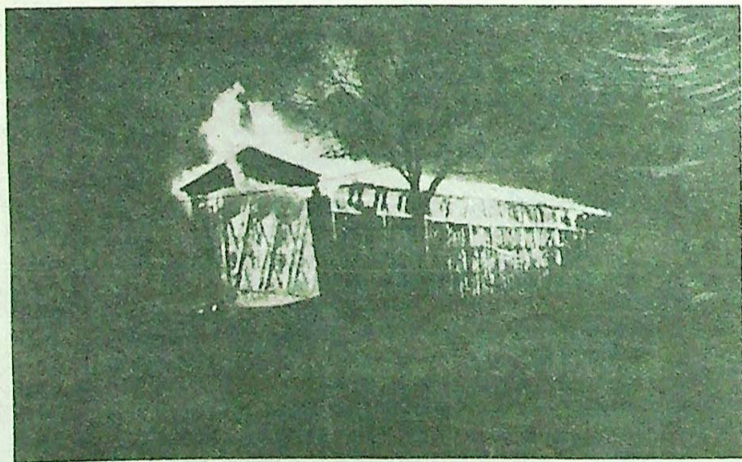
munities that have two and three story buildings that are very old. Since the fire, we have talked about the things we did right and things that were done wrong. You know we must have done something right because there wasn't a fireman hurt. I think we can thank God for that.

Bill Curtis Sec. Captain  
Dunkirk Vol. Fire Dept.

### Tentative Convention Schedule

- June 19, 20, 21, 1991
- Executive Inn
- Holiday Inn
- Wed: P.M. Registration 1-6
- Thurs. 9-6
- Friday 9-12 - Executive Inn
- Wed: 9-5 Open Men & Women
- Bowling - Creole Lanes.
- Thurs. 8 A.M. - Miss Flame Contest, Executive Inn
- 12:00 Noon Miss Flame Luncheon.
- 2:00 P.M. Mens & Aux. Officers meeting, Executive Inn.
- 4-6 - Midwest Beer Bust, Holiday Inn.
- 7:00 P.M. Joint session opening of Men & Aux. Executive Inn
- 9:30 to ? Dance
- Friday 9 to 10:30 Business Meeting Aux. & Men, Holiday Inn
- 11:00 Memorial Service, Executive Inn, Noon lunch your choice.
- 1:30 Continuation of meeting.
- 7:00 Banquet, Executive Inn.
- 10:00 P.M. Dance, Holiday Inn.
- Saturday 8:00 A.M. Games: Waterball, Hose Replacement and Cart Races by Gregg Parks.
- 2 P.M. Parade
- Convention I.V.F.A. '91
- P.O. Box 575
- Vincennes, In 47591
- Displays: Indoor-available at Executive Inn, Outdoor-also at Executive Inn.

## Roann Covered Bridge to be Restored



North end of Bridge looking South

On September 28, 1990 at 7:52 p.m. the Roann Volunteer Fire Department was called upon to extinguish a fire in the Roann Covered Bridge. The fire was started on the south end of the bridge and was vented through the roof upon our arrival.

Mutual aid was called, bringing one tanker and two pumpers. Before their arrival, mutual aid was upgraded to bring in three other neighboring departments. The departments assisting were Urbana, Noble Township, Pleasant Township and Chester Township. Totaling 15 pieces of equipment and about 50 firefighters.

Despite all first attack efforts the north end of the bridge became fully involved. The south end sustained roof and truss damage with very little side wall damage. The farther we entered, the heavier the fire load, due to the burn time. The north end sustained the largest amount of damage. We were unable to get in front of the advancing fire at the roof peak.

The attack from the north was hindered by water supply and



South end of Bridge looking South

lengthy hose lay, due to a guard rail, which was constructed across the north end turnaround.

Water supply and man power was no longer a concern upon arrival of all mutual aid assistance.

If not for the mutual aid agreement between all Wabash County Fire Departments, there would not be a Roann Covered Bridge left to be restored. I would like to thank all agencies and citizens for their fantastic support that night.

There has been a non-profit organization formed to restore the bridge to its original state. If you would like to help, please send donations to Roann Covered Bridge Association, Inc., P.O. Box 272, Roann, IN 46974. The bridge is listed in the National Historical Register. Your donation is tax deductible.

Thank You,  
Chief Larry Rensberger

# Have Fun In '91

## June 19-21, 1991



THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMAN

Published February, May, August, and November. All articles to be published should be in the Editor's office no later than the 20th of the proceeding month.

ROBERT E. LANEY, Publisher and Editor  
(219) 663-0722 or FAX (219) 663-6860

Second Class postage paid at the Post Office in Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1897.

Please send all correspondence and address changes to:  
The Indiana Volunteer Fireman, P.O.Box 437, Crown Point, IN 46307

February 1991

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\$6.00 per column inch in one color - black or red. \$6.90 per column inch in 2-color - black and red.

For any advertiser who contracts for 4 consecutive issues: the advertising rate will be \$4.50 per column inch in one color, black or red. \$5.40 per column inch for 2-color, black or red.

Pictures that must be converted into halftones for use in ads will cost \$5.00 each for small and \$9.00 each for large ones.

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Past Presidents Reports



Lawrence Swartz

As Chairman of the Bridgeport Scholarship Fund, I wish to remind everyone that the deadline for applications is March 1st, in the IVFA Secretary's hands. If you did not get yours in on time then get an early start for next year. The applications are available from any District Chairman or elected officer of the Association. As 1991 appeared on the scene so did the opportunity to purchase an Indiana state license plate that will identify you as a volunteer firefighter and a member of the IVFA. This plate will not be available to volunteers that are not members of the Association. If you hear complaints about this rule, just advise that volunteer person they can overcome the obstacle by paying \$7.50 and joining the Association.

With winter months here and a lot of our extra curricular activities curtailed, it is a great time to get your membership dues in. It is not necessary to wait for the print-out from the secretary's office. Do it now before you forget. Also, please attend your District meetings as there is always information to be gathered. Above all, share this information when you return to your department.

Convention is really just a few weeks away, so start planning and mark your calendars. Vincennes has promised a great time and they need your support. This is one of the times when you have a chance to help guide the Association and give the officers your ideas. Of course involvement could also mean an office for you, and our organization is always looking for those who will get involved and help.

We hope to see you at the next District meeting and also the Convention in June.

A Message From Kelly Dwyer, Miss Flame

Greetings from District #6. Hope your holiday was enjoyable. My school vacation has gone too fast. But I'll be anxious to see friends again. That two week break is one advantage of being a high school junior!!

I'd like to thank the Volunteers from District 9A who asked me to take part in their festival parade. The Corvette was especially nice.

District selections are now being made for 1991 Miss Flame candidates. I'd like to encourage young women to take part. It is such an excellent opportunity to be a part of your community and then possibly a representative of your state. The involvement with new friends from all over our state is fantastic. I'll be in Columbia City in January to crown my district successor.

Please contact me if I can assist in any way in your area. Convention is just around the corner. Best wishes for the New Year and keep up the good work.

Kelly Dwyer  
Miss Flame

From Your Chaplain Duane Lantz



SCRIPTURE: Titus, Chapter 2 Verses 1,2,7,8,13,14  
*But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.*  
*In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,*  
*Sound speech, that cannot be condemned: that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.*  
*Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;*  
*Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.*

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As I start my article for the IVFA paper, outside is a Winter Wonderland. The bird feeder is very busy with finches, cardinals, bluejays, titmice, nuthatches, woodpeckers, juncos, and last but not least, the sparrows. This reminds me of the song, "His Eye Is On The Sparrow, But I Know He Watches Me", my Dad's favorite hymn.

Your Chaplain has been on the move. On December 26, I was at Ferdinand, a memorial for Ralph Hoppenjans, Fire Chief, who was killed in the line of duty at age 42. Our prayers go out to this wife, three children, mother and brothers. One brother is Assistant Chief.

Let's take a moment to remember those who gave of themselves to the Volunteer Fire Service and whose health will not let them be active. I am sure every department has firemen in that category. The Scripture tells about our service years. Let us remember them for their good deeds, the many things they did for their department while they are still alive, rather than at Memorial time.

This past month I have had Memorials for firemen with 50 years, 55 years, 36 years, and 40 years of service. On June 29 I had a Memorial for "Babe" Wade of Wadesville-Center Township. "Babe" lacked 17 days of being 99 years old. His last accomplishment was financing a new station and truck for this town. This was "Babe's" good works.

Robert Burns of Montezuma was 86 years old when he made his last run to a fire and then died of a heart attack right after. He was active and enjoyed good health until the very end, with 64 years on the department.

No doubt you will get your paper after Valentine's Day. To all of you wives and sweethearts, a Happy Valentine's Day from your Chaplain. Here is Valentine poem especially for all of you.

Roses are red, Violets are blue,  
Wives and Sweethearts, we love you.  
Letting us go to training and class work,  
So that at fires our job we'll never shirk.

On your birthday comes an alarm,  
Away we go, leaving you with the farm,  
You hope and pray we will be all right,  
And not have to fight a fire half the night.

You gals are our Valentines this day, and every day,  
We'll be right back from the fire, don't want to stay.  
You really are our shining light,  
We love you all, especially Valentine night.  
D. D. L.

Before we know it Easter will be upon us -- March 31. We have hardly got through the celebration of the Birth of Our Christ, and now the Crucifixion. The American people are again faced with War with Saddam Hussein. Our prayers go out to our boys in the desert.

St. Matthew 24 Verse 6

*And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of war; see that ye be not troubled, for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.*

God who raised Jesus from the dead offers new life to me and you, not just once a year, but every day. Accepting the Grace God reveals in Jesus Christ puts Easter in our eyes, and we begin to see as we never saw before. Here and now, we see God's Love in each other.

Prayer--Heavenly Father, we thank you for the New Life that is ours through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Help us to live the resurrected life now. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

This Sunday go to the church of your choice, and be sure to say a special prayer for our boys in service and for our leaders who have a heavy burden on their shoulders trying to keep God's world a better place for all.

Your Chaplain,



## Firemen Honor

### Harris

By MICHAEL BUCKMASTER  
News-Gazette Reporter

WINCHESTER - The White River Township fire station was alive with sights and sounds of Christmas Friday night. However, the highlight of the evening was paying tribute to retiring Asst. Chief Ralph 'Bud' Harris.

Harris, who is also Randolph County Sheriff and a former Randolph Central High School bus driver, has served with the fire department for 30 years. White River Township Firefighters presented Harris with a plaque commemorating his many years of service commencing in 1960. The plaque read: In appreciation for 30 years service - White River Volunteer Fire Department.

Harris' son, Jay, has been with the department for about 15 years and according to Harris, went with his dad on fire runs since he was "so high". Jay Harris started as a fire cadet at age 18.

Harris was surprised, and maybe a little embarrassed, by all the attention. He said, "I didn't know they were going to do anything like this. They had asked me to stay on until they got someone trained because it takes between 80-100 hours training to be a fireman. I'm not going to be Assistant Chief anymore through."

It was also an evening of reminiscing and the fire stories flew around the station. Harris remembered when Roger Hinkle's parents' house was on fire and Henry Wise asked how far it was to water. Hinkle's father answered, a long way down.

Harris also remembered the Christmas Eve when the building housing one of the papers making up what is now the News-Gazette burned. The paper building was located in what is now a downtown parking area on North Meridian Street and the blaze also involved an appliance store and a sports store. Harris said, "We were out fighting that one for hours and it was very cold-we like to froze to death." The name of that paper was Winchester News and Journal-Herald.

Jay Harris remembers the fire as well because he wasn't allowed to go with his dad like he usually did because of the weather and the magnitude of the blaze.

Gerald Stephen, who is a retired firefighter and one of the founders of the department, said when the department first started they only had one room and one fire truck. Harris and Stephen both agreed the fire department has come a 'long way' since it was founded in 1951.

Stephen said, "Once we got started, we soon found out we needed a water wagon so we got an old truck. We all pitched in to do the necessary work to make it serviceable. I really feel like in the last few years we have been one of the best rural fire departments around."

The evening got underway with a delicious repast prepared by the firemen with a wide selection of desserts being prepared by the firefighters' wives. The entertainment was provided by Winchester's Doug Anderson and friends.

The group is involved in a three segment business located on County Road 100 East, north of the Union City Pike. The three parts of the business include; Barnyard Music, Anderson Studio and Vital Force. Anderson Studio does recording work for musicians while the threesome perform themselves under the name, Vital Force. Barnyard Music does commercial production for radio and has joined forces with Treehouse Productions to do some audio-video production.

The evening ended with a gift exchange.

Larry Detro is the Chief of the White River Volunteer Fire Department.

## Public Relations Northeast



Bill Kinsey

God Bless America & Our  
Armed Forces Fighting For Our  
Country.

This is the time when all true Americans must stand united in support of our country's action in Iraq. All of the freedoms our country stands for are at stake. I do not believe it is an "oil war" but a defense of the standards and freedoms that so many of us take for granted. No one wants war and the heartache that accompanies war, but I do believe that many of the protesters against the war are young people who take for granted the freedom of speech and other freedoms we enjoy, but have not had to earn and pay the price for them as many of our friends and relatives have in the past. Let's all hope and pray for a successful and rapid conclusion.

This is the first opportunity I have had to tell all firefighters in Indiana of my trip to Eastern Europe as a delegate of International Association of Fire Chiefs People to People Ambassador program. Don't worry, I'll not attempt to relate all of my experiences in one article, but it was one of the most enlightening trips that I'll ever take. The trip started the same as most tourist tours that many of you have taken, leaving New York City on KLM Airlines 747. The difference was that our delegation of 21 Fire Chiefs from all over the U.S. would get a first hand exposure

to some of the problems that are involved in the current war in Iraq. After several uneventful hours of flying, action picked up. A young male from one of the far East countries imbibed a little too much and took offense at riding in the same plane as an Arab with a small child and became very vocal, making threats to the Arab. Attendants attempted to calm him down unsuccessfully and finally the First Officer came back and forcibly restrained him by putting him in restraints but no gag. A couple small 6'6" Fire Chiefs from California offered to correct that problem but were not allowed to do so. Then we listened to him threaten to kill the Arab and bomb the plane. Some white knuckle flyers were not to comfortable with their fellow passenger but on landing in Amsterdam, the Dutch police took over and with his mouth starting up again the Dutch police took a dim view of his behavior and rather forcibly convinced him that he had made a mistake. My guess is that he is still a guest of the Netherlands in one of their "free room and board facilities. A great start. We took a tour of Amsterdam and when we were taken thru the "red light" district and saw the "window women" the bus driver and tour guide found it necessary to restrain some of the enthusiastic delegates to prevent them from demonstrating firefighters "Good Neighbor" policy. The next stop was Vienna, Austria which was a beautiful tourist experience but a professional failure as we were treated to a cub scout tour of Vienna Fire Headquarters. We were then scheduled to take a hovercraft to Budapest, Hungary, but had to travel by bus since the hovercraft crashed the night before we were to take it. When the bus arrived at the border check point between Austria and Hungary, the same point hundreds of thousands of Eastern European refugees used to get into Austria from the Eastern block countries, we were exposed to a different world. We travel from state to state without even noticing when we cross state line but we spent an hour with armed guards checking passports and luggage. While we were waiting to cross the border, we could see where the barbed wire border had been removed but the guard towers with armed border guards in them were still there. You could "feel" the change as real as day and night. As we traveled on to Budapest we saw the evidence of Communism and Socialism in the fields with guard towers and bomb shelters built into berm of the road. More next time if you're interested. Have our six hundred pictures.

I'll be happy to share this experience if you or your de-

partment are interested. The one overwhelming result of this trip was to re-inforce my belief that no matter how tough we have it fighting the battle of the budget, surviving the ever increasing responsibilities and mandates of today's fire service in Indiana, we are so fortunate and blessed that it is difficult, if not impossible, to put in words. The trials and tribulations of Indiana's small rural fire department using a 30 year old pumper are really minor compared to a Hungarian village fire brigade who are still fighting fires by hand pumpers with little or no protection gear, no training and little support. They have learned one important thing. They build their building of masonry materials that don't burn.

My opportunity to take this trip and share knowledge and experiences with these Eastern European fire services would never have been possible without the support and assistance from Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services in their continuing effort to provide the right kind of support to America's Finest, our firefighters and possibly assist these emerging Eastern block fire services.

The Northeast P. R. area District Chairmen continue to work hard to increase the membership of the I.V.F.A.. Congratulations to Dick Glant, District 5 Chairman, who recently re-enrolled Pierceton Volunteer Fire Dept. after several years absence. Dick, Dick Mackin, John Ferro and Mort Sorg are winners. Use them to assist your department.

We finally will have the chance to show our colors with a personalized I.V.F.A. license plate on our cars. Thanks, Gene Stofer.

Many changes continue to keep us on our toes. The word is that before you receive the paper, the Department of Fire and Building Safety, State Fire Marshal's Office and Building department will be absorbed into the bureaucracy under the EMS and Civil Defense Department. I hope this is a positive move because even though the fire service wasn't consulted, it is apparent that it will happen.

Welcome to Gene Goddard, new Indiana State Fire Marshal. I have had the chance to meet with Gene at the Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards & Education meetings and shared Saturday evening with him and his fine wife at Monroeville's recognition banquet for Allen County's 1st Class certification class. The overall response from firefighters who have met and talked with him is good. Gene will need our support to achieve his goals of bettering the fire service in Indiana. I believe Gene is sincere and deserves our support. Good Luck, Gene.

See you at the next big one.

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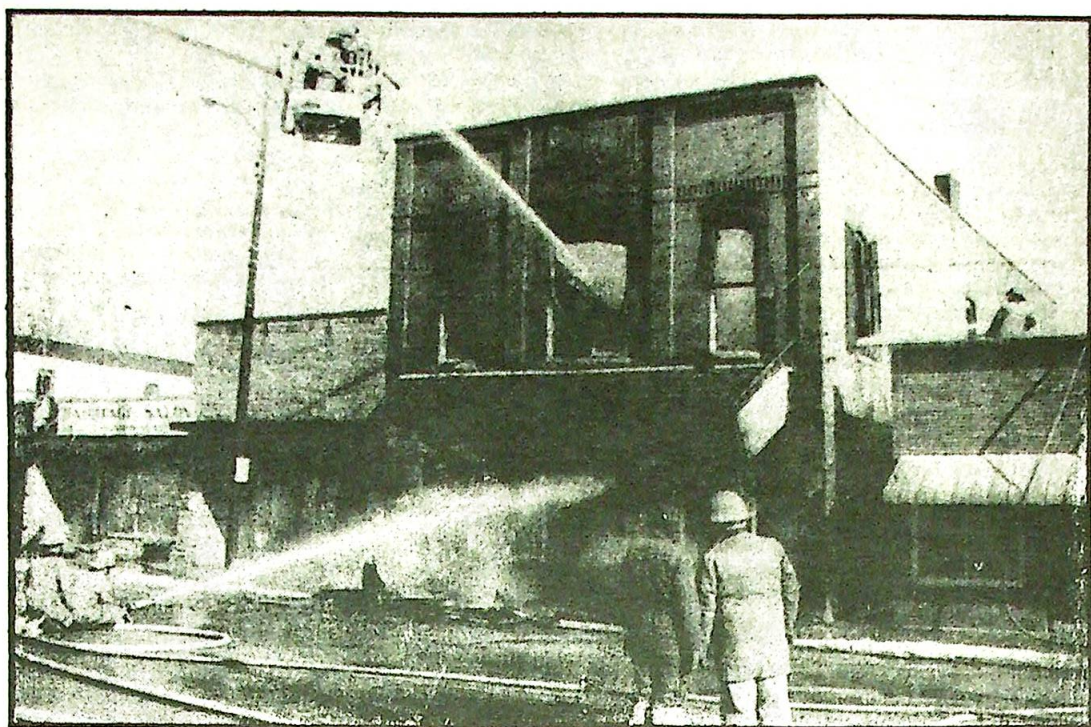
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## FIRE GUTS BUILDING IN HEBRON



Harley Tomlinson

Firemen worked Monday to contain a blaze that gutted a building in Hebron.

By HARLEY TOMLINSON  
Post-News staff writer

HEBRON - Fire gutted a two-story building in downtown Hebron Monday morning, putting one store owner momentarily out of business and destroying six upstairs apartments.

According to Fire Chief Dave Wilson of the Hebron Fire Department, the blaze started at approximately 11:15 a.m. Monday morning in the Osby Water Conditioning building on U.S. 231 and 113 Main Street.

The fire is believed to have started in one of the upstairs apartments, which were occupied at the time of the blaze. Wilson said no one was injured, however, as the tenants noticed smoke and escaped unharmed.

Fire Departments from Hebron, Valparaiso, Boone Grove, Lake Eliza, Lake of Four Seasons, Crown Point and DeMotte were

able to contain the blaze to the Osby building only, Wilson said.

Wilson added that a few nearby stores were evacuated and escaped with some smoke damage despite a heavy north wind creating panic early.

"The wind wasn't in a bad direction," he said. "It didn't hamper us too bad, but whenever you have a fire uptown like that, you'd like it better if there was no wind at all."

One of the buildings to the south escaped damage because of the sidewalk alley between the buildings. A video store to the north, however, was a major concern, Wilson said.

"If that alley wasn't there, we would've had quite a catastrophe up here," he said.

The Valparaiso Fire Department was especially important in containing the fire with the use of a Snorkel or a crane which enable firefighters to pound water in

to second floor of the building.

Wilson said the departments "were still hitting hot spots" until 6 p.m. before it was completely extinguished.

An official from the State Fire Marshal's office investigated the site Monday night. No determination as to the cause of the fire was known Tuesday, nor was a damage estimate available.

Wilson said the building was initially constructed in 1905 by the Knights of Pythias as a lodge hall.

The bottom section of the building was later converted into a barber shop on one side and a post office on the other before Earl Osby of Hebron purchased the building. The building most recently housed the Osby Water Conditioning business, the Osby Auction Co., a church and apartments.

## Officers Meeting

November 3, 1990, Holiday Inn, Shelbyville. The meeting was called to order by President Lockhart with the Pledge to the flag led by the Secretary Kissel. The Invocation was given by Chaplain Lantz. The roll call was taken by Secretary Lee Kissell with a quorum present.

### DISTRICT CHAIRMAN REPORTS

D21 Martin announced that he had attended several meetings within his district.

D20 Palmiero reported that he had attended several meetings.

D19 Covington reported that the attendance at the last district meeting was down which was on earthquake preparedness. He also had attended several memorial services within his district.

D18 Heneisen announced that he had attended several meetings and that there had been one death in his district.

D17B Zeeks reported attending a few meetings in the district.

D17A Engle announced the upcoming activity dates within the district.

D16 Adkins was absent.

D15 Seitz announced he was trying to get a department in his district to join the association.

D14 Woodfill reported there had been two deaths in the district and that he has three departments to join the association.

D13B Cox announced there had been one death in his district, he also reported on the activities within the district.

D13A Nulliner was absent.

D12 Johnson was absent.

D11B Osborne reported there had been three deaths in his district.

D11A Meyers reported that his September meeting had a good attendance and that there had been one death in the district.

D10 Neal reported one death in the district and spoke on the upcoming district meeting.

D9B Parish spoke on his district meeting and activities including the fire school held in Lafayette. He stated that he is trying to a department within his district to join the IVFA.

D9A Sutton spoke on the activities within his district.

D8B Petro reported the attendance at his meeting had been down and that there had been one death in the district.

D8A Fleenor spoke on his district activities, past, present and future.

D7 Sorg reported that he had attended several department activities within his district.

D6 Mackin spoke on the activities within his district. He reported that he had given out one gold card and that there is a department within his district ready to rejoin the IVFA.

D5 Glant reported one death in the district and that he is working on those departments who have not yet joined the association.

D4 Ferro was absent.

D3 Bentley reported on the district meeting activities.

D2 Stott announced the attendance at the district meeting had been good. He had some comments concerning funding problems in several departments within the district.

D1 Allen reported one death in the district.

Bill Engle, District Chairman, Dist. 17A had an addition to his report that representatives of Downey Ins were down in his area and delivered a \$75,000.00 check to the widow of his ex-chief of his department. He also gave his report on the fire school held in his area.

### PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTORS

NW Howe reported that he had attended all of the district meetings in his area.

NE Kinsey spoke on the district meetings that he had attended.

WC Michl reported that he attended the district meetings and gave some of the department activities in the area.

EC Jackson announced that activities in his area are slow and that he had attended some of the district meetings.

SE Hildebrand spoke on the district activities within the area.

SW Kent Davis setting in for Carl Davis, reported that Carl had undergone two surgeries on his knees at the Mayo Clinic.

### OFFICER'S REPORT

Sgt-at-Arms Bush announced that he has several items that the association might use in its historical update. He also stated that he has plenty of supplies available to those who need them.

Recording Secretary Davies reported that he had attended several district meetings and department fund raisers.

Chaplain Lantz reported that he had attended three dances, three breakfast functions, a dedication of a new fire truck and a new firehouse and had performed seven memorial services. He also had gone to Indianapolis to kick off Fire Prevention Week and attended the Fire Inspectors' Assoc. meeting. He then read a letter that he had received from Thelma Lester.

Treasurer Stofer gave his financial report as of 10-31-90. He read a letter from the Indiana Fire Instructor's Ass'n written by Charles Baker concerning our co-sponsorship agreement for future fire schools. He presented a draft of the new IVFA license plate, and stated how they will be controlled for distribution. He stated they will go on sale January 1, 1991 at a cost of \$10.00 extra. A letter indicating that the person applying for the plate is a member of the IVFA will be shown to the bureau representative along with the IVFA membership card at the time of purchase.

President Lockhart called for the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. A motion was made by Virgil Heneisen and seconded by Jack Cox to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the paper. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Secretary Kissell reported that there had been 620 departments paid on time and that there were 52 departments that had paid their dues late. His report showed that there were 15,541 members paid on time, 947 members paid late. The total membership in the IVFA is now 16,488. Sec. Kissell brought to the meeting three new printouts current as of November 3, 1990. He reported that he still is having incorrect mailing address problems.

Treasurer Stofer reported an existing problem that he is having with the previous AT&T cards that were mailed. The latest mailing is the card that should be used. He stated that all the others are not valid and should be destroyed.

Vice President Nevil thanked those in attendance for the letters sent to the Governor nominating him for the position of Fire Marshal.

Continued on Page 15

## DISTRICT 8A

Report from District 8A in this month of Feb.

The last regular meeting of 8A was held at Center Township in Grant County on Jan. 9. There were 33 members present, representing 11 departments.

Ivan Nevil, the Vice President, was present and answered several concerns from the membership. Some concerns were about rescue van certification, budget shortages, and 1991 legislation.

Nominations were accepted for the Midwest award to District 8A. The names must be submitted to state officers at the Feb. meeting.

The Ollie Sandberg award nomination, must be submitted to Ivan Nevil by May 1.

The nomination for the Mr. I.V.F.A. award must be submitted to Ivan Nevil by April 1.

Center Township department has selected a Miss Flame contestant to represent District 8A at the 1991 I.V.F.A. convention. This will be the first time District 8A has been represented by a Miss Flame contestant.

The next 8A meeting will be in Chesterfield, North East of Anderson in Madison County, at 7:30 p.m. on March 13.

See you there.  
Robert E. Fleener  
8A Chairman

## Ray Bentley Remembered



Photo by Bruce Neal  
Pictured left to right: David Israel, Burney-Clay Township Fire Chief and Decatur County Firefighters Association President, John Tumilty, 1991 recipient of the Ray Bentley Fire Service Award, Paulette Bentley, widow of Ray Bentley and Indiana State Fire Marshall, Gene Goddard.

Long time Letts Fire Chief, Decatur County Firefighters Association President and Decatur County Fire Academy co-founder, Sheridan Ray Bentley passed away in November 1989 but the Decatur firefighters remember Ray with the Ray Bentley Fire Service Award, given annually to someone who has made a contribution to the fire service in Decatur County.

John Tumilty, Greensburg Fire Department Assistant Chief, co-founder of the Decatur County Fire Academy with Bentley, a member of the Indiana Fire Service Education Standards Commission and Decatur County Civil Defense Director and an I.V.F.A. member received the first annual award given at the January Decatur County Firefighters meeting on the 30th at the Burney-Clay Township Fire Department. Honored guests were Ray Bentley's widow, Paulette and Indiana Fire Marshall, Gene Goddard.



## Two and one-half story house almost destroyed

Quick actions by two local fire departments were credited in keeping damage to a minimum when a fire broke out in rural Union Township home on Monday, January 14, 1991.

At approximately 8:25 p.m., a passer-by stopped at the residence of Mrs. Janet Bode of 197 North County Road 500 West to report smoke coming from the building next door. The building, which is a two and one-half story wood frame dwelling, is owned by the Bode family and was in the process of being remodeled by Mrs. Bode's son Stephen at the time of the fire. After walking outside to investigate the source of the smoke, Mrs. Bode noted that the smoke was coming from the second floor kitchen window and called the Union Volunteer Fire Department.

At 8:27 p.m., the Porter County Sheriff's department (who answer and dispatch the volunteer departments in the county) dispatched the Union Department. As most members of the department were involved in a meeting at Station #2 (located just over one mile away), units were responding within one minute. The members of the Lake Eliza Volunteer Fire Department were also conducting a meeting at their station three miles away from the fire when the alarm sounded.

Fire Chief Darrell Lawless was the first to arrive on the fire ground, and his initial size-up reported a working fire on the second floor of the building. Units from Lake Eliza were requested by Chief Lawless while the Union apparatus was still responding. Attack crews from the first Union engine and rescue companies to arrive advanced lines to the second floor by an outside stairway. Entry was forced into the second floor living area and crews proceeded with their attack of the fire. The first-in Union tanker began to supply the attack engine, and the second in rescue company began ventilation of the structure.

On arrival of the Lake Eliza Department, their personnel were deployed to provide additional lighting and begin salvage and overhaul operations. The contents of the first floor rooms were either removed or tarped to prevent further damage. Chief Lawless, who had assumed command of the incident, declared the fire under control after approximately 23 minutes. The second in Union engine and tanker, along with the Lake Eliza tanker were not needed for their water during the incident.

A post fire investigation was conducted by Lt. William Stowers with assistance of Capt. Kephshire of the Union Department. The second floor kitchen of the residence was totally destroyed by the blaze. Heat and smoke damage was noted to the entire second floor and slight smoke damage was noted in the attic, as was slight water damage to the first floor. Evidence suggests that the fire began in a over-the-stove ventilation hood when a short circuit in the older wiring of this unit occurred. As the fire continued to burn unchecked, the cabinets above the stove hood began burning. At some point, all or part of the burning cabinet dropped off the wall. As it dropped, part of the flaming debris landed on the counter top sink area, where the owner had left bottles of cleaning solvents from the remodeling project. These burst into flames, increasing both the size and the spread of the fire. It was at this point that the fire was first reported.

### DISTRICT 19

Regular meeting was held at the Milan V.F.D. on November 15, 1990.

Meeting was called to order by President Paul Convington. The Pledge and Prayer were led by Bill Klusman.

There were 47 men present from 18 fire departments. Reported 36 fires.

Guests Jim and Barb Parker. Jim is a former I.V.F.A. President and Barb is Chairperson of Miss Flame.

Old Business: License plates will be available in January/February time frame. Need nominations for awards as soon as possible. Deadline for applications for scholarship is March 1. History of I.V.F.A. is being put together. Anyone with information please give it to Paul Convington. Credit card with part of dividends going to I.V.F.A.

State Officers meeting discussed a possible increase in dues to \$10.00 from \$7.50 within the next 3 years. Get in touch with Paul Convington if in need of Memorial Service for firemen.

Trying to clear up Blue Light Law.

New Business: Stated we need to take a more active part in what the legislature has going on. Fire department not responsible for clean up of hazardous materials.

Miss Flame contestants were introduced and judging was completed. The winner is Cammi Scheele from Morris Fire Department.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Secretary  
Mark Wirth  
District 19

### DISTRICT 9-B

The regular meeting of District 9-B of the Indiana Volunteer Fireman's Association Inc., was called to order by Chairman Mitch Parish at 8:00 P.M. at the Fowler V.F.W. in Fowler, IN.

There were 7 guests present. Total firefighters present numbered 44 with 58 alarms among the 12 departments answering roll call.

Items discussed were: News for the paper needs to be in by Jan. 20, keeping retired firemen on as inactive members to qualify for I.V.F.A. benefits, license plates for the I.V.F.A. members, still need Miss Flame contestant, Wildland firefighting course in Martinsville by DNR, Charlie Baker's Haz./Mat. book, legislation to clarify the Blue Light Law, legislation to include volunteer firemen in the public service sector, legislation to move the rescue service certification from the E.M.S. to the Fire Service, Safety Officer Seminar in Hobart, Feb. 9-10 by Stan Gibson, Indiana Fire Conference Feb. 23-24 at Lawrence North High School, State Fire School at Indianapolis, April 13,14,20,21, Fire School at Valparaiso on May 4-5, Chief's and Officer's Seminar by State Fire Marshal's Office.

Program on Electrical Safety was presented by Mike Norris of N.I.P.S.C.O.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M. Next meeting is at Francesville Volunteer Fire Department on March 14, 1991 at 6:30 P.M. slow time/7:30 P.M. fast time.

Sec./Treas.  
Dennis J. Risner, District 9B

### DISTRICT 9-A

Burlington Volunteer Fire Department losing members to military service.

Chief John Bogue, with about 18 yrs of fire service, left January 25, 1991 for Fort Benning, GA. Bogue will serve as instructor in hazardous materials. With all his training we know he will do a great job.

Address:  
ISG John G. Bogue  
303-46-7253  
Co. A. 2/423/38  
BDE 70th Div. (TNG)  
INF. TNG Center  
Fort Benning, GA 31905

Star Oyler, member about 6 yrs in fire service, also a few years as Jr. Fireman, left January 25, 1991 for military service at Fort Benning GA. Oyler hopes to attend leadership school.

Address - not available.

Star's Father, Joe Oyler (former member of BVFD) is already serving overseas in military.

January 31, 1991 Burlington Hosted District meeting.

Carroll Co. Sheriff Lee Hoard & Dep. Dennis Randle gave our program. (Randle is also a member of Delphi Fire Dept.)

We are always pleased when we have our P.R. man Bill Howe attend. He is by far the best we have ever had. He not only comes but brings "Mitch" Parish - Lawrence Swartz - Bruce Yonkers and others with him. Really makes it great.

Next 9-A meeting Mar. 28, 1991 at New Waverly, Ind. These fellows tell me it will be great.

During trip delivering license forms, we ran across some interesting facts.

New Fire Chief at 12 mile has the oldest Ford Auto Agency in Cass Co. (He is also a former Chief of this dept.)

We made it to Clymers (Clinton Twp.) Dec. 17 & they were having food at this meeting. These fellows eat great. They served fish, probably some of the best I ever ate (ate too much).

Was there some years ago & the chili was great. These fellows know how to eat.

Charlie "Tug" Sutton

### DISTRICT 20

District 20 meeting was held at Advance Vol. Fire Department in Advance, IN. There was eleven members present representing five fire departments. Information was given to the District concerning the November State Officers meeting. Under business of the District 20 meeting a training committee was formed. Information was presented pertaining to the State Fire Marshal's re-certification of firefighters. There was discussion about the IVFA special license plates and how to obtain the plates. Also a plea went out to the departments for IVFA newspaper articles. All articles can be sent to Dist. 20 Chairman or sent directly to the IVFA Paper Editor.

Andrew K. Hook the Boone County Civil Defense Director presented information on Earthquakes, precautions and recommendations.

Dist. 20 also wishes to state that we are proudly supporting our military personnel. We wish you a speedy return home.

Sincerely,  
Tony Palmiero, Dist. 20  
Chairman  
Jerry Liston, Secretary

### DISTRICT 12

Mooresville Volunteer Fire Department (Morgan Co.)  
November 19, 1990

Meeting called to order by Chairman Don Johnson at 7:00 P.M., with 8 departments represented by 26 members and guest present.

Opening prayer led by our Chaplain James Bruner. Pledge to the flag led by Rosie Johnson.

Introduction of guests who were Public Relations West Central Toddy & Helen Michl and Bob & JoAnn Hayes.

Meeting was temporarily suspended at 7:10 PM for refreshments to be served by the Host department - meeting called back to order at 7:45 PM.

1st Roll Call  
Minutes of previous meeting were read and accepted.

Treasurers report - was given and was approved.

Unfinished business - None.

New Business - Chairman Johnson read several pieces of correspondence, especially laws regarding firefighters coming up at our next General Assembly. Read our paper for more details.

Chairman Johnson read several notes regarding training school and seminar's. They are as follows:

Indiana weekend at the National Fire Academy March 9 & 10, 1991. Total cost for the package including transportation and meals for both days will be \$132.00.

Chesterton Volunteer Fire Department is sponsoring a one day seminar at the Chesterton High School, Feb. 16, 1991, time 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Program will be Fire Department Safety and NFPA 1500. Cost will be \$25.00.

There will be a Prosecutor's Arson Seminar November 26th & 27th, 1990, at the Radisson Plaza Hotel (8787 Keystone Crossing) Indianapolis. Cost \$75.00, includes the Seminar, lunch and Continental breakfast for both days.

Chairman Johnson read a letter from the Fire Marshal's office regarding the new billing criteria to calculate billing value of assistance provided when responding to vehicular fires, chemical or fuel spills on State or Interstate Highways.

Applications regarding hours must be turned in by Dec. 31st for

certification.

P.R.W.C. Toddy Michl gave a report regarding the last officer's meeting. He stated the subject of Blue Light law was brought up for more clarification. He stated that our membership is 17, 411. Also he suggested to turn in the names for the Ollie Sandberg & Mr I.V.F.A awards.

Chairman Johnson stated that the name for the District 12 Midwest award should be turned in as soon as possible.

Miss Flame Contest for 12th district will be held Feb. 10th at Wayne Township Co. # 2. Bring a covered dish. Meat and drinks will be furnished. Dinner will be at 1:00 PM. All applications must be turned in to Rosie Johnson as soon as possible. Bob Hayes was our 50/50 winner.

Motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM  
Respectfully Submitted  
Charles Bogden  
District 12 Secretary

### DISTRICT 11A

District 11-A held its November meeting at the Otter Creek Volunteer Fire Department. This department has some members that enjoy cooking so they prepared a fine chicken-noodle dinner. Our January meeting will soon be held at the Indiana Theater in Terre Haute. Our thanks again go to Bill Decker for the use of the theater.

Many of our local departments were recently called out on weather related problems, from sand bagging to protect homes from flood waters to rescuing stranded motorists who for one reason or another drove into the flooded road ways.

I am sure there were some tense moments for the Honey Creek firemen when they were recently called to a train derailment involving loaded tank cars. Incidents such as this certainly proves the need for Haz-Mat training. I suggest that if any department has not had at least the eight hours awareness training, that they do so very soon not merely to comply with regulations but for your own safety.

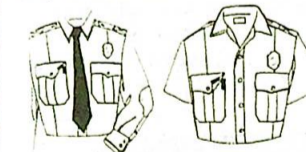
Don't forget to get your letters in to the committees for the awards given at convention.

Best Regards,  
Bob Meyers,  
Chairman, Dist. 11-A

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LAKE STATION, IN 46405  
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EMT KIT \$49.99 complete

M-F 9 am - 5 pm  
SAT. 9 am - 1 pm  
Closed Sunday



# District Meetings

## DISTRICT 3

Wednesday, November 14, 1990. Lincoln Township Fire Station Joint Men's and Women's Meeting.

The meeting was bought to order at 7:46 PM by Chairman Bob Bentley. There were 13 members representing 7 departments in attendance along with 3 guests. The Pledge was led by host Chief Dave Kaufman.

Guests present were: Bill Howe - PR Northwest, Bruce Yonkers - Secretary I.A.A.I., John Young - Miss Flame Judge.

The minutes of the October meeting were read and approved.

Communications: IVFA license plates are to be available by February 2 for pick up only. They can not honor mail in request forms. The numbers start at V1000.

Washington Township in Starke County has again joined the association and Chairman Benrley advises that we have one member at San Piere.

The Franklin Commemorative Coin Bill passed.

There will be alot of Convention news in the next issue of the paper.

Committee Reports: Prevention, Gary Ekart - absent.

Promotion, Tim Sandy - absent.

Edith House, Pete Sass - nothing new.

Old Business: None  
New Business: None

Guests: Bill Howe, PR Northwest, Extrication certification is still mandatory. IVFA will sponsor a bill to attempt to put rescue/extrication back in the fire service.

State Training for spring 1991 will cover C.I.S.D.

Requests for Bridgeport Scholarship Fund applications should go to the State Secretary's office.

Convention awards: Ollie Sandberg, Mr. IVFA, Midwest, etc. need to be to the proper people soon. Contact your chairman if you have questions.

Bruce Yonkers - passed.

John Young - Stated it was hard to pick the District 3 Miss Flame as they were all excellent candidates. He announced the winner during the women's part of the meeting.

For the Good of the Order:

There were no deaths or injuries to report.

The next meeting will be held at the Hanna Twp. Fire Station on Thursday, January 17, 1991, and will begin at 7:30 PM.

The men's meeting was ad-

joined on a motion at 7:54 PM to the women's meeting. There was no educational program due to the joint business meetings and presentation of Miss Flame.

The women conducted the 50/50.

Respectfully submitted,  
David G. Kaufman, Secretary

## DISTRICT 12

Wayne Township Volunteer Fire Department #2 (Marion County)

January 21st 1991

Meeting called to order by Chairman Johnson at 7:00 PM, with 9 departments represented by 21 members and guests present.

Opening prayer was given by Louise Bogden. Pledge to the flag led by our Chairman Johnson.

No guest introduction - weather was nasty

1st Roll call

Meeting was temporarily suspended for refreshments being served by the host department Ladies Auxiliary. Meeting called back to order at 7:30 PM.

Minutes of previous meeting read and were accepted.

Treasurers report given and approved.

Report of Committees - Chairman Johnson asked for names for the Midwest award tonight.

Unfinished business - None.

New Business - Chairman Johnson read a few pieces of legislation that will become law effective July 1, 1991.

HB 1240 - Township Fire Department Service to Municipalities.

HB 1188 - Smoke detectors in all residences.

HB 1224 - Burning of bushes to maintain open drainage ditch.

HB 1204 - E.M.S. Chaffeurs licenses. Allows a person who is at least 18 years of age, who is certified emergency medical technician, to receive a Chaffeurs license.

S.B. 251 - Bill of rights for law enforcement officers.

It was announced that our annual Convention will be held at Vincennes. Also Don stated that our new license plate will cost an extra \$10.00.

2nd Roll call.

Chairman Johnson asked Al Mendert, Convention Game Chairman, what kind of games there will be and the location of such events. Al stated that as soon as he has this information, he would pass this on to interested departments.

Chairman Johnson asked

members present which department would like to host our meetings.

March 18, Hazelwood Volunteer Fire Department.

May 20 th, open.

July 15th - Decatur Township.

Host department Ladies Auxiliary was introduced.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted  
Charles Bogden  
District 12 Secretary

## DISTRICT 3

Regular Meeting - District 3

Thursday - January 24, 1991

Hanna Township Fire Station

The meeting was brought to order at 7:45 PM by Chairman Bob Bentley. There were 18 members representing 10 departments in attendance along with 3 guests. The Pledge was led by host Chief John Rosebaum.

Guests present were: Bruce Yonkers - Secretary I.A.A.I. & Duane Lantz - State Chaplin.

The minutes of the November meeting were read and approved.

Treasurers report shows \$3,282.38 in the Convention Fund, \$1,640.51 in the E.D.I.T.H. Fund, and \$2. in the savings account.

Communications: Bob has

new meeting schedules and passed them out.

IVFA license plates application forms are available. You must go to the license branch as they can not honor mail-in requests. Cost is \$10.00 over your regular fee. Cars and lightweight trucks may use them.

Rob has sent out many Bridgeport Scholarship applications forms. He and Duane advised to take time to fill these out and be neat about it.

Committee Reports: Prevention, Gary Ekart - absent.

Promotion, Tim Sandy - absent.

Edith House, Pete Sass - will start working on it at Kankakee Township Station in February or March.

Old Business: None

New Business: New Chief at Kingsford-Union is Bob Bentley. Congratulations Bob!

Guests: Duane Lantz, State Chaplin, has been very busy. He has had 10 memorials since the last State Officers Meeting. A Chief was killed while directing traffic at age 42 and an 86 year old firefighter died of a heart attack after a fire call. The gentleman had put in 64 years of service.

Duane complimented Hanna for their recent building addition.

Bruce Yonkers - passed.

For the Good of the Order:

There were no deaths or injuries to report.

2nd Class training at Center Township on 4th Wednesday, 7 to 10 PM.

2nd Class training at Hanna Township Tues. & Thurs., 7 PM.

Reminder to pay dues for all members including inactive and associate. Bible and grave markers cannot be given if the dues are not paid. (Remember your retired members!)

A one time fee for retirees has been proposed to pay for these. We will see how far it goes.

Mike Przybylinski did a mini-program on the upcoming Duneland Area Fire School. Will be in or around Valpo on May 4 & 5. He went over the tentative schedule and advised they would be mailed as soon as they are all confirmed.

Dave Kaufman advised that the protocols for the new E-911 dispatch center will be gone over at next weeks Fire Chief's Meeting.

Master Fire Service Management at County Complex in late spring.

Duane believes the new State Fire Marshal will be good for us.

Coming events: Chili Supper at Lincoln Township on February 23, 4:00 PM.

St. Patrick's Day dance at North Judson on March 9.

Fish Fry at San Piere on March 23.

Fish Fry at Lincoln Township on March 23, 4:00 P.M.

The next meeting will be held at the Long Beach Fire Station on Thursday, February 21, 1991, and will begin at 7:30 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion at 8:21 PM. to a meal of pizza. There was no educational program.

The 50/50 was won by Pam Combs of Bass Lake.

Respectfully submitted,  
Davis G. Kaufman, Secretary

### 1991 IVFA CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

For June 19 - 22, 1991

VINCENNES TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT., VINCENNES, IN

Pre-Registration Fee: \$25.00 Per Person with Banquet  
\$15.00 Per Person without Banquet (Deadline is May 31, 1991)  
On-Site Registration Fee: \$45.00 Per Person with Banquet  
\$25.00 Per Person without Banquet

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRE DEPARTMENT OR COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

IVFA DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME (if registering): \_\_\_\_\_

#### TYPE OF REGISTRATION

	YOURS	SPOUSE
STATE OFFICER:	_____	_____
STATE OFFICER AUX:	_____	_____
DELEGATE:	_____	_____
IVFA MEMBER:	_____	_____
IVFA AUX. MEMBER:	_____	_____
GUEST:	_____	_____
GAMES:	_____	_____

TOTAL OF PRE-REGISTRATION FEE(S) ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash or Checks only please.

Mail This Form To: IVFA CONVENTION '91, P.O. Box 575, Vincennes, IN 47591, Attn.: B. J. Engle

#### 1991 - VTFD - REQUEST FOR HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Persons \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Rooms \_\_\_\_\_ Group Name \_\_\_\_\_

Names \_\_\_\_\_

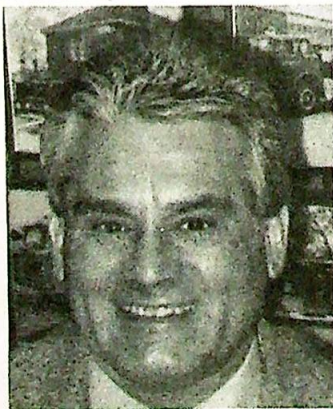
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Room Type Requested: Single/ Double  Triple/Quad  Cabana  Double Queen

Exec. King  King with Sofa Bed  Special Requests \_\_\_\_\_

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50956 Lincolnshire  
Granger, IN 46530  
Phone (219) 277-1415

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# Auxiliary Officers

1990-1991

President.....	Nancy Neal	(812) 546-5391
749 Walnut Street, Hope 47246		
Vice President.....	Betsy Howe	(219) 322-4158
1912 Edison Street, Griffith 46319		
Recording Secretary.....	Maxine Davies	(317) 246-6220
R.R. #1, Box 3L, Fillmore 46128		
Corresponding Secretary.....	Lou Bartlow	(317) 245-2125
Box 12 Montezuma 47862		
Treasurer.....	Dorothy Reiter	(219) 724-7666
RR5 Decatur, In 46733		
Chaplain.....	Judy Hildebrand	(812) 689-6024
R.R. 1A Box 43, Versailles 47042		
Sgt. at Arms.....	Miriam Schaeckel	(317) 894-7252
5789 W. 300 N, Greenfield 46140		
Immediate Past President.....	Toni Sorg	(219) 639-3969
14430 Comer Rd., Fort Wayne 46819		

## DISTRICT CHAIRMEN

District #1.....	Phyllis Vargo	(219) 322-4286
7756 Durbin Drive, Merrillville 46410		
Sec. Dollie Komoscar 4321 King Ct. Gary 46408		
District #2.....	Ann Moss	(219) 988-2834
1755 Broad Acre Road, Crown Point 46307		
Sec. Elsie Rapley 14 S. 540 West, Valparaiso 46383		
District #3.....	Leona Uryga	(219)
402 El Portal Dr., Michigan City 46360		
Sec. Denise West		
District #4.....	Jane Ferro	(219) 295-3134
59247 Hoover Ave., Elkhart 46517		
Sec. Mary Hahn, 1005 Ohio St., Walkerton 46574		
District #6.....	Mary Mackin	(219) 749-2866
831 Chamberlin Court, New Haven 46774		
Sec. Marilyn Dever, 1116 Jones St., Ft. Wayne 46802		
District #7.....	Virginia Wilson	(219) 639-3670
15909 Taylor Road, Ft. Wayne 46819		
Sec. Judy Sheets, 133 Westlawn Dr., Decatur 46733		
District #8.....	Sec.	
District #9A.....	Faye Salee	(219) 699-6545
P.O.Box 374, Galveston 46932		
Sec. Brenda Carver, 125 Washington Street, Galveston 46932		
District #10.....	Barbara Parker	(317) 862-4650
9006 Shelbyville Road, Acton 46259		
Sec. Peggy Israel, R.R. 4 Box 231, Greensburg 47240		
District #11A.....	Janet Meyers	(812) 466-2826
3200 Hollywood Ave., Terre Haute 47805		
Sec. Eva Goetsche, R.R. 15, Box 162, Brazil 47834		
District #11B.....	Barbara Ketchum	
P.O.Box 6, Montezuma 47862		
Sec. Lou Bartlow, P.O. Box 12, Montezuma 47862		
District #12.....	Wanda Johnson	(317) 856-3531
5535 Old Mill Court, Indianapolis 46241		
Sec. Barbara Webb, 560 E. 27th St., Indianapolis 46218-3336		
District #13.....	Virginia Wilson	(317) 894-0659
17 Avalon Lane, Apt. 9, Greenfield 46140		
Sec. Marg Hamilton, 2131 E 900 N, Greenfield 46140		
District #14.....	Bette Selmer	(812) 945-6272
1311 Longfellow Drive, Clarksville 47129		
Sec. Vivian Woodfill, R.R. 3 Box 484, Madison 47250		
District #16.....	Dottie Striegel	(812) 948-8199
1723 Grant Line Road, Apt. 13, New Albany 47150		
Sec. Lois Graham, 715 Mark Elrod Towers, New Albany 47150		
District #17.....	Carolyn Wedgewood	(812) 849-2484
R.R. #2, Box 316, Mitchell 47446		
Sec. Beverly Trester, R.R. #3, Box 252, Osgoog 47460		
District #19.....	Mary Kissell	(812) 537-2111
8 Meyerfield Place, Lawrenceburg 47025		
Sec. Pam Scheele, 1124 Lovers Road, Batesville 47006		

## PAST PRESIDENTS

Toni Sorg	14430 Comer Rd, Fort Wayne 46819	(219) 639-3969
Loretta Nulliner	R.R. #1, Box 289B, Morristown 46161	(317) 763-7130
Nickie Sunday	R.R. #1, Box 109, Farmland 47340	(317) 468-6412
Barbara Parker	9006 Shelbyville Road, Acton 46259	(317) 862-4650
Barbara Surber	11053 McGregor Road, Acton 46259	(317) 862-6527
Lucy Stofer	718 So. Ingomar Street, Indianapolis 46241	(317) 241-1946
Vica McGill	Box 167, Dana 47847	(317) 665-3046
Mary Boyd	138 Rader St., Rolling Hills Estate Lewisburg, W. VA 24901	(304) 645-3438
Joan Shanabarger	401 Line Street, Churubusco 46723	(219) 693-3645
Carolyn Mc Carty	P.O.Box 57, Union Mills 46382	(219) 767-2549
Rosella Bousman	R.R.4, Box 201, Winchester 47394	(317) 584-6883
Mary Stafford	P.O.Box 222, Waldron 46182	(317) 525-9757
Ruth Fairfield	5128 N. Bend Drive, Fort Wayne 46804	(219) 432-2365
Catherine Mason	7533 Beaty Avenue, Fort Wayne 46809	(219) 747-6423
Ruth Ford	3005 Lincolndale, Fort Wayne 46808	(219) 483-5655
Vida Bare	1230 E. Fairington, Apt. 204, South Bend 46614	

## COMMITTEES FOR 1990-91

<b>AUDITING</b>	<b>MISS FLAME</b>	<b>NOMINATING</b>
Toni Sorg Chrm.	Barbara Parker Chrm	Barbara Ketchum Chrm.
Lucy Stofer	Eula Brush	Rosie Johnson
Faye Salee	Judy Hildebrand	Dist. Chrm 17B
Virginia Wilson	Miriam Schaeckel	
<b>GAMES</b>	<b>LUCKY DOE DOLL -</b>	<b>HISTORIAN</b>
Debbie Nulliner Chrm.	Betsy Howe Chrm.	Carolyn McCarty
Celine Boisvent	Ann Moss	Joan Shanabarger
Dist #7 Chrm.	Lou Bartlow	
	Dist. # 19 Chrm.	
<b>INSTALLATION</b>	<b>BY-LAWS</b>	<b>PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY</b>
Ruth Fairfield Chrm.	Phyllis Vargo Chrm.	Barbara Surber Chrm.
Katie Mason	Bette Sellmer	Nickie Sunday
Barbara Surber	Mary Mackin	Mary Stafford
	Janet Meyers	Carolyn Mc Carty
<b>FINANCIAL STUDY</b>	<b>JEWELRY</b>	<b>LOIS BOAZ</b>
Toni Sorg Chrm.	Jane Ferro Chrm.	Vi Bruns Chrm.
Loretta Nulliner	Maxine Davies	Maxine Davies
Dorothy Reiter	Helen Michls	Betsy Howe
Mary Kissell	Dottie Striegel	

## DISTRICT 11-A

District 11-A met at Otter Creek #1 Volunteer Fire Department for our November 18, 1990, meeting.

Dinner was served and then we had our business meetings.

We would have liked to had more members present but we were glad to see those who did come. Thank you.

Miss Flame contest plans were made. The ladies made snow dolls copied from those made at State Officers meeting. Everyone enjoyed making them.

It's time to get your Lois Boaz Award letters in. The deadline is April 1, 1991.

Before we know it, convention time will once again be here. Bob and I hope to see everyone at Vincennes.

Sincerely,  
Janet Meyers  
Auxiliary Chairman

## DISTRICT 3

November 14, 1990

The I.V.F.A.A. Dist. 3 Auxiliary held their meeting at Lincoln Twp. on November 14, 1990.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Leona Uryga. Minutes were read and approved. Treasurers report showed a balance of \$404.24.

Due to the Miss Flame judging, a joint meeting was held. Betsy Howe, I.V.F.A.A. State Vice President, also attended the meeting.

Miss Flame candidates were Kimberly Morris from Kingsford Union and Ann Grott from Noble Twp. Judges for Miss Flame were Francis Tinner, John Young and Jim Arney.

The men agreed to spend \$100 to \$150 for Miss Flame from their treasury. They will also contact the papers and put in a picture of both candidates.

Coming events: Noble, 2 yr planners - \$2.00/ea.; Springfield, Turkey shoots every Sun. in Nov.; Coolspring, Craft Show/Bake Sale 12/1.

Dist. of Doe Doll Tickets: Mich. Shores, 25, 1577-1600; Noble Twp., 25, 1551-1576; Lincoln Twp., 25, 1601-1625; Scipio, 25, 1636-1650; Springfield, 75, 1701-1750/1826-50; Kingsford Union, 75, 1751-99/1801-25 and Coolspring, 50, 1657-1700.

Michiana Shores won attendance plaque. Fifty/Fifty drawing took in \$40.00. \$20.00 to Auxiliary and \$10.00 each to Theresa Grott and Helen Froling.

New Miss Flame for 1991 will be Kimberly Morris of Kingsford Union.

Sherrie Donahoe made a motion to adjourn. Toni Grammals 2nd. Meeting adjourned.

Denise West  
Secretary/Treasurer

# IVFAA Chaplin Judy Hildebrand

Happy New Year to All!

I do hope that 1991 will be a happy, safe, eventful year for everyone. As of February 2, 1991 we have been very fortunate in that we have had only one death reported in the Auxiliary since Convention. If there have been others, I have not been notified of them. If there is a death in your District please notify me or your District Chairman so we can make arrangements to conduct a Memorial Service if the family would like to have one.

I would like to give you a little background on some of the things which the Association has to assist me in fulfilling my obligations as your Chaplin. First of all we have a Revised Standard Version of the Bible. This was donated by Ruby Probst on June 1, 1956. We also have an American Flag and the IVFAA Flag. These are used at Memorial Services and occasionally at State Officers meetings. These flags were donated to the Auxiliary by Thelma Lester. We have a large assortment of prayers, poems and readings which have been gathered and collected by Thelma Lester and myself. The biggest asset I have in this position is my trust in Our Lord God. Some days that trust can wear thin, but the Lord will strengthen it if you ask and allow Him to.

Until next time remember, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13.

## Help prevent fires in nursing homes

As the elderly population increases in number, more seniors are living in nursing homes. The Fire Division says that thousands of nursing home fires happen every year in this country. Evacuation is extremely difficult due to patient immobility or unconsciousness. Nursing staffs and firefighters are highly trained to deal with such situations, but you could assist by encouraging fire prevention practices when you visit nursing homes.

Personnel and visitors should be aware of fire safety rules and evacuation plans. Know where fire extinguishers are and how to use them. If a fire starts, calm self-assurance and deliberate action can prevent panic and save lives.

Careless smoking is the more frequent cause of fires in nursing homes. While visiting, residing or servicing a home, observe smoking regulations. Remind the patient you are visiting that smoking is not allowed in bed and in certain areas of the home. Do not smoke in rooms where oxygen is in use.

Dispose of cigarettes in metal containers provided for that use. Do not empty ashtrays into plastic trash cans or paper bags.

Protect against electrical fires. Check cords on lamps and appliances for worn or frayed areas. Replace damaged cords. Do not repair, unless done by an electrician.

Keep newspapers and packages away from hot appliances, like reading lamps. Use only the recommended size light bulb in lamps. Too large a bulb can set the lamp on fire.

## DISTRICT 3

January 16, 1991

The I.V.F.A.A. Dist. 3 Auxiliary held their meeting at Kingsford Union Fire Department.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Leona Uryga. A memorial, led by Chaplain Carolyn McCarty, was given for Helen Babovac from Coolspring Township Aux.

Coolspring turned in 43 Doe Doll tickets. All Doe Doll tickets should be turned in at, or before, the May meeting.

Coolspring opened a discussion on having grave markers with an Aux. symbol, or flags to put on the graves of members of the Aux. Leona will bring this up at the next state meeting.

A motion was made by Diana Rudynski to hold a white elephant at our next meeting profits going to Miss Flame. Motion was seconded by Ruth Deutscher. Bake sale will be held March 20th at Michiana Shores Fire Dept.

50/50 drawing took in \$20.00. \$5.00 each to Ruth Deutscher and Denise West. Treasury took \$10.00.

Coming events: Michiana Shores - Chili Supper in February, Noble Twp. - Chili Supper on January 19th, Kingsford Union - Lake Perch dinner on March 29th from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Attendance plaque was won by Kingsford and Noble.

Dorothy Moffit made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Ruth Deutscher. Meeting adjourned.

Denise West  
Secretary/Treasurer

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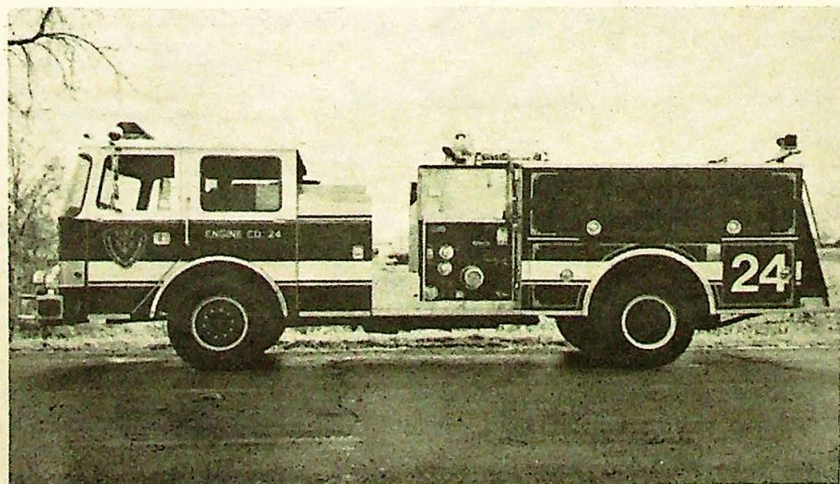


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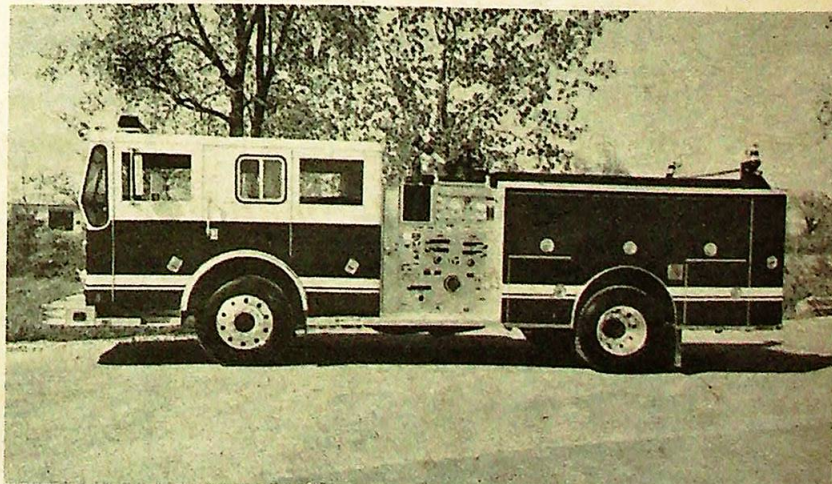
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Thanks to Washington Twp. Fire Department.



Thanks to Barrington Fire Department.



## Pershing volunteer fire department seeks help on funding the department

Volunteers with Pershing Township Fire Department are busy people. As usual, they are responding to fire and rescue emergencies, attending training, doing vehicle and equipment maintenance, public education, and fundraising. In addition to these activities, firefighters are canvassing the township seeking signatures on a petition to form a fire protection district. If they are successful, Pershing Township will be the first such district in Jackson County.

"Fire Protection Districts are common in other areas of Indiana", said Fire Chief Richard Blaker. "From our research I believe it is our only way to get the funding to stay in operation."

A fire protection district would provide tax revenues which would be administered by a fire board comprised of local residents appointed by the Jackson County Commissioners. To form the district, Pershing firefighters must collect signatures from the majority of property owners. After the signatures are obtained, they will be submitted to the Commissioners for review and study. The proposal then would be sent to the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

"We are looking at a minimum of two years before any actual money would be in the district," explained Pershing Deputy Chief Denver Edwards, Jr. "If we can see that day coming - the light at the end of the tunnel, - we'll try to find a way to hang on until then."

Fire Department Trustee, Steve Bevers. "If the district is not formed, we will have no choice but to close the doors."

Due to recent action of the Indiana State Legislature, volunteer fire departments are now required to meet OSHA and IOSHA Standards. At present the department does not have the funds to comply.

Firefighters are required by the State of Indiana to have a minimum of 24 hours training before reponding to an emergency.

"The majority of our people are certified as Master Firefighters which is the highest level of training," said Chief Blaker. "The others are certified as either 2nd or 1st Class firefighters. We have three firefighters who are still in Second Class training."

Assistant Chief Lyon attributes the lower rating of the area by the Insurance Services Office to the departments training and equipment. "We have been able to lower our fire rating from a 10 to an eight. That results in a significant savings on home owners fire protection policies. The expertise of our firefighters and our ability to mobilize and do a good job has been carefully studied by the inspectors of ISO. We can offer very good service to the community."

"All firefighters at Pershing Township are volunteers," Chief Blaker stresses. "They are not reimbursed for any expenses. The work is very demanding on your personal life because we are on call 365 days a year. We ask a lot of a person when he or she takes the badge. Not only do lives depend upon our ability and our equipment, more and more they depend upon our ability to do the job without money. That produces unbelievable stress."

The 19 member all volunteer department protects Freetown, Pershing Township, and portions of Hamilton, Owen and Brownstown Townships. Founded in 1959 the department has been

funded by an annual membership drive, fundraisers, and contributions. The membership fee was only \$2.00 in 1959 and has risen to the current \$25.00 per household.

"Our annual cost of operation is \$20,000," said Rebecca Scott Fire Department Treasurer. "That figure is bare minimum expenses like gasoline, oil, utilities, and insurance."

Pershing firefighters respond to an estimated 70 emergencies per year. The department maintains five vehicles, some for structure firefighting and others designed for brush fire suppression. Two vehicles have been eliminated from the fire fleet to reduce costs.

"The newest truck we have is 13 years old," said Deputy Chief Edwards. "We have a 1967 unit, a 1956, and a 1952 in service. The possibility of equipment breakdown is scary. There is no money available to repair a fire pump or to fix a tank."

Pershing Township Fire Department mails 900 membership solicitation letters each June. Firefighters can expect approximately one third of those letters will be answered with payment of dues. Scott reports that only one fourth of the homeowners have responded in 1990.

Assistant Fire Chief Doyle Lyon summarizes the situation. "As it is 2/3 of our population is riding on the generosity of the 1/3 or 1/4 who pay the fire dues. If everyone paid dues we wouldn't need tax money as desperately. But we can't make people do the right thing. We are asking our community if they want fire protection."

"We know that the fire district is our only hope." "People have to know up front that bean suppers and chili dinners will not fund the fire department," said Vice-President Jeffrey Ferguson. "Our July 4th Celebration proved that this year; we cleared less than \$300.00 for all five days of work."

"I've been answering fire alarms for 13 years now," Scott commented. "I have seen alot of tragic situations that the victims couldn't believe would ever happen to them. But when it does, those people meet us at the truck begging for us to save their home or rescue their loved one from a car crash. They are eager for us to use our training and equipment and we do. We don't stop and ask if they paid their fire dues, we just do our job. The bottom line is what will fire protection mean to you when it is your family and your home. What will it mean to you if there are no firefighters and no firetrucks to call upon. I think it will mean alot more than the few dollars we are asking. All we are asking for is the money to keep those trucks coming."

Pershing Volunteer Fire Dept.

## Anderson man held on \$500,000 bond arson suspected

GREENFIELD - Bond has been set at \$500,000 for the Anderson man who confessed to burglarizing and burning the offices of gospel singer Sandi Patti last April.

Hancock Superior Court Judge Richard T. Payne set the high bail for Kelvin J. Fuller on Thursday after hearing Fuller described as a one-man crime wave.

Fuller, 24, is being held in the Hancock County Jail on charges of robbing a Lee's Inn Motel and abducting a motel night clerk.

He is a suspect in at least 14 robberies and burglaries in the past year, Greenfield Police Lt. Jack E. Heiden said.

Fuller admitted to Anderson police Wednesday that he set the fire that destroyed Patti's offices.

## SHANABARGER BIDS ADO TO 'BUSCO F.D.



Photo Submitted by Darrel Resler - Churubusco Fire Dept.

The Churubusco Volunteer Fire Department honored Bob Shanabarger recently for 30 years of service to the department. Steve Barcus, left, presented Shanabarger with an engraved solid gold watch and knife. Shanabarger has served as Secretary/Treasurer, Assistant Chief and Chief of the department. He has been active in the Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association and served as 6th. District Chairman. Shanabarger has worked for the General Electric Company in Fort Wayne for 29 years and has been a volunteer fireman for the company for 25 years. The veteran firefighter said, "Fighting fires is for young men and I realized a long time ago that fighting fires is hard work. It takes a lot out of you and the older you get the longer it takes you to recuperate. I'll step down and let my son take over." Being a firefighter is a family tradition. Bob's father, Ralph, was a Churubusco fireman. His son, Gregory ("BOOG") was a member for 5 years until his schooling and work took him out of state. He planned to return to Churubusco and be on the department. He passed away in November, 1989.

Bruce, his second son, is now a member and has been since 1986. Shanabarger said all indications are that young Michael Shanabarger, Bruce's son, will carry on the family tradition and be a fireman like his father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

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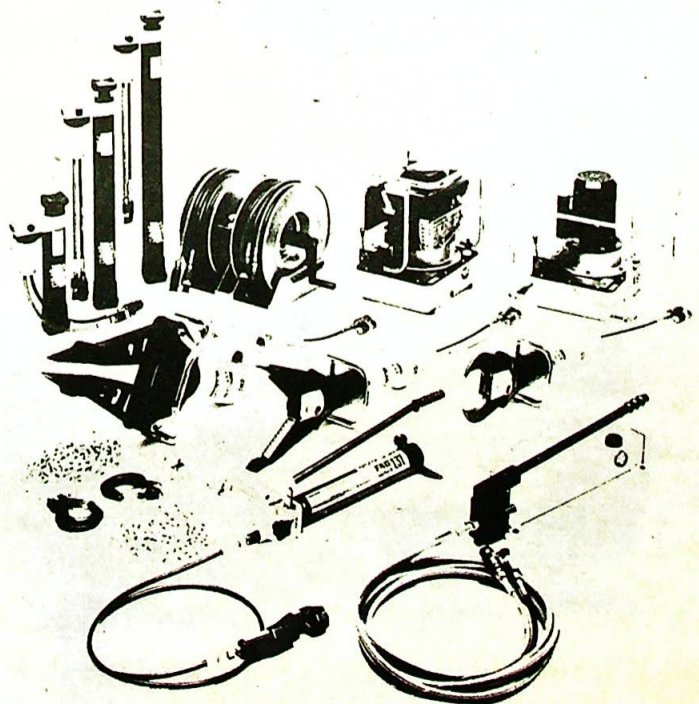
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## Firemen Receive Service Awards



Two Rensselaer Volunteer Firemen received their first check in conjunction with the departments "length of service" awards. Pictured, from left, are: Lawrence Swartz, Volunteer Fire Department Chief; Harold Lakin, recipient of award and 41-year member of the department; William Dunn, 12 year member and recipient; and Rensselaer Mayor Robert Wilcox. Mary Kaye Koch

By MARY KAYE KOCH  
Republican staff writer  
RENSSELAER - Two longtime Rensselaer Volunteer Firefighters officially received their first "length of service" awards since the practice was instated about a year ago.

Harold Lakin, a veteran firefighter for 41 years, and William Dunn, who has been on the department for 12 years received their first checks last evening during Rensselaer Volunteer Firefighter's monthly meeting.

Rensselaer Mayor Robert Wilcox was on hand to "personally deliver" the checks to the firefighters.

After 10 years of service within the RVFD, firefighters over the age of 65 will receive the monthly checks as a token of the city's appreciation and as an incentive for the other firefighters and anyone who may be interested in joining the squad of men dedicated to fighting fires and saving lives.

According to Wilcox, the monetary awards are becoming a trend within volunteer fire departments.

"One of the reasons that we have initiated this is that fire departments throughout the nation

are rewarding their volunteer fire departments. They (the awards) are acting as an incentive and hopefully will renew interest after feeling they have been compensated for their work," said Wilcox. "It is just a type of token for their services."

Rensselaer Volunteer Fire Chief Lawrence Swartz said that many volunteer fire departments are turning to an incentive and compensation plan.

"There are three or four fire departments in the state of Indiana that have them and from what I understand more are working on them. One of them is Fowler. It is a plan that is designated exclusively for volunteer fire departments," Swartz said.

After the idea for the plan was formed it was brought up in front of the Rensselaer Board of Public Works. The board passed the idea and the plan became effective as of this year.

The plan has guidelines which are adhered to in figuring the amount of monthly length of services awards to which the veteran firefighters are entitled.

"The length of service award is adapted to \$5 per month for every year of service with a maxi-

mum amount of \$150 per month for 30 years of service," explained Swartz.

The firefighters will then receive their awards every month after they reach the age of 65. Ten years of service must be maintained before firefighters are eligible for the program.

Thus, the lowest award a firefighter would receive if they only spent 10 years on the force would be \$50.

### Denver Volunteer Fire Department Elects 1991 Officers

During their December meeting, the Denver Fire Dept. had their annual election of Officers for 1991. They are as follows: Fire Chief - Carr Beecher, 1st Asst. Chief - Steve Hagan, 2nd Asst. Chief - Rich Robbins, 3rd Asst Chief - Fred Raider, Safety Officer - Doug McKain, Secretary and Treasurer - Tom Gidley, Asst. Sec. and Treasurer - Jeff Hagan.

After the meeting, all the firemen enjoyed some ham and desserts.

Thank You,  
Chief Beecher

## Greetings to All Auxiliary Members:

Nancy Neal, I.V.F.A.A. President

Well the holidays have come and gone. I hope each of you had a safe and a happy holiday season.

As I set here writing this letter to you, the day is cold and snowy out, but I can hardly wait for spring when the beginning of new things seem so refreshing to all of us. Most auxiliaries start planning for a new year with many projects in mind to help support their fire departments.

The state auxiliary is planning again this year to have the Lucky Doe Doll as our annual fund raiser. The doll this year is a Princess Di Doll donated to the Association by Phyllis Vargo, District 1 Chairman. The printing of new tickets was donated by Dolly and Jo Komoscar, the owners of the Fireman's Store. The generosity of the Komoscars' and Phyllis is greatly appreciated. Your district chairman has the Doe Doll tickets, so please pick some tickets up from your chairman and help this be our greatest year yet in ticket sales. Don't forget that 1st prize is the Doll and \$100.00, 2nd Prize is \$50.00 and the 3rd prize is \$25.00. The District selling the most tickets before the Thursday afternoon meeting at Convention will receive \$25.00 from the State Auxiliary.

The I.V.F.A.A. will again this year sponsor the Miss Flame contest at Convention. Our 1991 Miss Flame is Kelly Dwyer from District 6. Kelly has been very busy this year. Kelly also won the Indiana State Fair Queen contest. We're so proud of Kelly. I know all the districts haven't held their Miss Flame contests, yet. But, I know we will have another group of beautiful young ladies representing your department and district at this year's convention.

Betsy Howe was the 1991 recipient of the Lois Boaz Award and the committee did an excellent job with their selection for this prestigious award. This

year's committee needs letters to select the 1991 recipient. So, let's make their job really hard and send them lots of letters. The committee members are Vi Bruns, Maxine Davies and Betsy Howe. Ladies, send those letters in by April 1st.

Maxine Davies, Recording Secretary, reports the membership for 1990-91 as 112 auxiliaries representing 1239 members and 47 individuals. Our membership is down this year, but with a little effort from all of us hopefully we can bring our membership up for 91-92.

The 1991 Convention is only four months away, but it will be here before we know it. Convention will be at Vincennes, Executive Inn, June 19th-22nd. The convention committee is hard at work to bring you another great convention. Lets get your reservation and registration in early. The forms are in the I.V.F.A.A. paper or contact your District Chairman for more information. Please try to attend your District meetings for the reports and schedules of this year's convention. Ladies, please try to attend Friday's meeting at convention. There will be by-law changes brought upon the floor and the election and installation of your officers. We as officers want your input on the possible changes involving our association. So, I hope to see you at convention and the meetings this year.

If you have a ladies Waterball or Cart Race team have your entry in to the Games Committee with your entry fee by June 1, 1991. Contact Debbie Nulliner, Games Chairman, if you have any questions.

I would like to thank District 1,2,3,4, and Morris Auxiliary in District 19 for their generous donation to the State Auxiliary's treasury. Their donations were greatly appreciated. Thanks, Ladies!

Your officers for 1990-91 are Betsy Howe, Vice President, Maxine Davies, Recording Secretary, Lou Bartlow, Corresponding Secretary, Dorothy Reiter, Treasurer, Judy Hildebrand, Chaplin, Miriam Schaeckel, Sgt. of Arms and Toni Sorg, Immediate Past President.

If I can be of any help to you or your auxiliary, contact me at any time.

I would like to take a moment and ask each and everyone to keep in your prayers, the young men and women in the Middle East, who are there serving and protecting this great country of ours and our freedom. Just like our volunteer firefighters serving and protecting our communities. The young men and women in the Middle East are our valuable resources.

I hope to see you in Vincennes, take care and may God Bless and keep you.

**Information for the May issue of the Newspaper needs to be in our office no later than April 20, 1991.**

**Thank You, Robert Laney, Editor**

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**L.J. "Toddy" Michl**

Hi Everybody,  
I forgot the deadline has changed for getting news into the paper. I've been trying to get all my district meetings but the weather hasn't been cooperating. I'm sorry I missed District 12, they usually have a program of interest to all who attend.

I started out to go to District 21 in West Lebanon, but the roads were so bad north of Clinton, Bob Hays and I turned around and came home.

District 11B had their meeting in Cayuga. They had a pretty good turnout. It's nice seeing new faces.

My District 11B had our meeting at the Indiana Theater. I thought this was our regular meeting, as it turned out, it was a party for me. Sure had a good turnout with Pete Lockhart and wife, Lawrence and Theada Swartz, Father Lantz and Grace, Perry and Mary Ann Martin, District 21, Bill and Eula Bush from Dana, Dist. 11B, several others from Dist. 11B and many from my own Dist. 11A. Thanks to all who made it such a special day, especially Bob and Janet Meyers, our Dist. Chairmen, Bob and Joann Hays, Beverly and Pete Taylor, Clyde and Eva Gotche, Larry and Sue Biggs.

Joann Hays gave a tour of the theater after a short meeting. Her brother, Bill Decker purchased the theater and is going to restore it back to its original beginning, sixty nine years ago. Gene Stofor has sent out copies of some of the bills coming up at the State House. If he needs help calling legislators about how we feel about these bills, I may be calling some or all of you in my Districts. Keep up the good work you do for your community. You are appreciated. See you at your District meetings.

**A Visit With Santa At Pershing Vol. Fire Dept.**



Santa Claus took time out of his busy Christmas schedule to make his annual trek to Freetown Indiana. A breakfast for Mr. Claus and friends was held by the Ladies Auxiliary of Pershing Township Volunteer Fire Department.

Approximately 100 parents, friends, and children crowded into the fire station for a visit with Santa. Juice and donuts were served and candy was abundant.  
Pershing Volunteer Fire Dept.



**Rural Delphi  
blaze destroys  
home**

A rural Delphi family found their home ruined by fire when they returned from a concert in Indianapolis early Sunday.

An overheated wood stove is the suspected cause of the 1:30 a.m. blaze that erupted in the home of Roger Walker. The house was about six miles south of Delphi on County Road 300 South.

William Randall, Assistant Chief of the Delphi Fire Department, said the fire remains under investigation.

There were no injuries. No damage estimates were available.

**If A Firefighter Dies  
In The Line Of Duty,  
Certain Things Must  
Be Done:**

- 1) Call police-need police report notarized
  - 2) Make sure autopsy is done & notarized
  - 3) Make sure toxicity report with co levels in percent is done
  - 4) Fire department statement
  - 5) Death certificate
  - 6) Hospital report
  - 7) Charter of your volunteer fire department
  - 8) Public(elected) official stating department is legally organized
  - 9) Birth certificate of the deceased
  - 10) Marriage license
  - 11) If married before-need death certificate or divorce decrees from both deceased and spouse
  - 12) Children-need birth certificate and if self supporting, need statement saying at time of deceased death that they could support themselves
  - 13) Step children-same as children
  - 14) Statements must be notarized
  - 15) Xerox copies of documents or affidavits-must be certified (Raised seal and signature)
  - 16) Getting all the reports and forms will take time
- Wright twp. Vol. Fire Dept.

**Townships  
negligent - again**

By HARLEY TOMLINSON  
Post-News staff writer  
WHEATFIELD - Wheatfield Town Council members continue to get the runaround by two townships trustees who are again delinquent in fire contract payments.

Fire contracts were mailed to trustees at the end of the year, and according to clerk-treasurer James Martin, only one has been returned signed. The township in agreement is Walker Township and trustee Roberta Hilton.

Wheatfield Township trustee John Sumara and Kankakee Township trustee George Allen have not given the council any indication of whether they will pay the contracted fire fee, a common  
Continued on Page 15

**Babysitter,  
5 kids  
escape fire**

**Wea firefighters  
battle afternoon blaze**

By JENNIFER E. SMITH  
Journal and Courier  
A babysitter and five children safely escaped a house fire south of Lafayette on Tuesday afternoon, but a volunteer fireman was slightly burned fighting the blaze.

Firefighter Andy King of the Wea Township Community Fire Department was singed on his ear and hair when debris fell from the ceiling at 4010 Hillside Drive, according to Chief Jim Lahrman.

The fire began about 4:30 p.m., and flames spread rapidly from the rear of the house to the family room. Firefighters contained the blaze within 20 minutes.

The home is occupied by Don and Kathy White and their son, Jeffery. Kathy White was babysitting five children in her home when the blaze began. She and the children went to a house next door, where she called the fire department.

Her husband and son were not home when the fire started.

Investigators believe that the fire began in a box of firewood on the back porch, Lahrman said. The fire apparently melted through the siding of the back wall and set the fuse box afire, Lahrman said, but its cause was not electrical.

The fire damage was contained to the family room and roof. Some of the family's personal items will be salvageable, Lahrman said, but most of the furniture was badly damaged by smoke and water.

The fire caused about \$25,000 damage to the one-story ranch house and its contents, Lahrman said.

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**Public Relations  
Southeast**

**Paul Hildebrand**

This may be old news by the time you receive it, but if you do not already know it, the State Fire Marshal's Office is now under the direction of the Indiana Emergency Services. At this point in time we have to sit back and see how this is going to effect the fire service. I am not sure just how this took place without us knowing it, but it has happened. To the best of my knowledge it was done without legislation.

On to other news. For those of you in the southeast who need to contact me, I am going to have an address change and a change of telephone numbers. At this time I don't have any idea what either one will be. When this takes place I will notify the District Chairmen and Kissell as to where I can be reached. I will apologize ahead of time for any inconvenience this may cause you. I have accepted a position with the State Fire Marshal's Office as an investigator effective 2/11/91. I am not sure how soon I will get moved, but by the next paper I should have the change made.

As you all should know the legislature is in full swing and you may be called upon to help support or fight some of the legislation. If you are called upon, please help us and the fire service by contacting the legislators in your area. We are a large and powerful association, and if we all work together, there is no reason why we shouldn't be able to get the job done.

**National Disaster  
Bill Reintroduced**

Washington - Rep. Curt Weldon (R-PA) reintroduced the National Disaster Preparedness Inventory Act of 1991 (H.R. 237) shortly after being sworn in for his third term. Realizing the importance of getting an early start, Weldon introduced the bill on January 3rd, the opening day of the 102nd Congress.

The bill would require the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to prepare an inventory of all resources available to the federal government for the purpose of responding to major disasters and emergencies within two years of enactment.

The bill also calls for the establishment of a Committee to determine which types of resources should be included in the inventory and requires FEMA to develop a plan within one year of completion of the inventory for the deployment of inventoried resources to the site of a disaster or emergency.

"I believe this bill will be successful in the 102nd Congress - early introduction affords us an entire session of Congress to fully debate and take action on this and other important fire and life safety issues", said Rep. Weldon.

Rep. Weldon's January 3rd floor statement:

**ENSURE MORE EFFECTIVE  
DISASTER RESPONSE  
HON. CURT WELDON**

of Pennsylvania in the House of Representatives

Thursday, January 3, 1991  
MR. WELDON. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce legislation to help protect the

health and safety of all Americans. I was amazed to learn that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), does not possess any listing of the expert personnel and equipment which can be used in responding to natural disasters.

In October 1989, the world waited breathlessly for news about the fate of motorists trapped under the collapsed I-880 freeway in Oakland, CA. At the same time, local emergency responders waited for the equipment necessary to locate any survivors. Valuable time was lost. FEMA explained that because the Mayor of Oakland had not requested any such apparatus, FEMA had fulfilled its mission.

Mr. Speaker, FEMA must provide more assistance than this. In the case of major disasters, the burden should be on FEMA to inform local government officials of the types of specialized assistance available from the Federal Government.

For this reason, I have reintroduced the "National Disaster Preparedness Inventory Bill." The legislation requires FEMA to develop a listing of the specialized equipment and personnel around the Nation. This registry will be made available to appropriate local government officials in the event of a major disaster.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is a simple one. It is a common sense change for FEMA to make. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Congressional Fire Services Institute.  
Tom Bratt

**DISTRICT 6**

The November meeting was held at Jackson Twp., DeKalb County with 10 members from 4 departments. Doe Doll tickets were passed out among those present. Jackson Twp won traveling trophy for the month. A gift exchange was held. 50/50 drawing was won by Mary Mackin. We joined men for refreshments and social hour.

The January meeting was held at Columbia City. Whitley County with 20 members from seven departments. Thorncreek Twp., a new Auxiliary, had three members present.

Kelly Dwyer, our Miss Flame was present and talked to us about her activities.

We have had one death. Wanda Stuerzenberger from New Haven passed away on December 11, 1990.

Get well cards sent to Bob Shanabarger who had surgery on Jan. 18th and Jean Kinsey.

Columbia City took the Traveling Trophy to bring to Grabill on March 21. The 50/50 drawing was won by Bruce Shanabarger from Churubusco. The May meeting will be at Rome City in Noble County.

We were then shown some silk floral center pieces, which were torn apart and put back together to show us how to make our own. We were shown how to make bows, but told bows don't need to be made for a centerpiece. We joined the men for a social hour and refreshments.

Respectfully,  
Mary Mackin, Chairman  
Marilyn Dever, Sec.

**Voluntary Federal  
Fire Data Base  
Exceeds 11 Million  
Entries:  
Information Being  
Used At Local, State  
& National Levels**

Washington, D.C. - Information on more than 11 million fires throughout the U.S. have been logged into a Federal computer data base, according to the top official of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's U.S. Fire Administration (USFA).

"The National Fire Incident Reporting System, or NFIRS, is the largest compilation of fire incident information in the world," said USFA Administrator Olin L. Greene. "What makes the system especially remarkable is that NFIRS is completely voluntary and involves 14,000 fire departments in 40 states. More than a million fire records are added to the data base each year."

NFIRS is maintained in a computerized, user-friendly format and includes an array of descriptive elements on each fire. It was started in 1976 with six participating states. "NFIRS is an excellent example of local-state-federal cooperation. Because of the size and depth of the data, more detailed information can be derived and more findings can be supported than was ever possible previously," Greene said.

Its initial development largely followed the concept of a former Oregon State Fire Marshal, the late Walter Stickney. Greene added, "I am doubly proud of this system, having just come from being the Oregon State Fire Marshal to my current position at the USFA, where it is one of our leading programs."

"NFIRS has many state and local uses such as targeting fire safety programs to a community's specific problems, and that's important in these times of tight budgeting," Greene emphasized. "At the national level, USFA has used NFIRS to determine the extent of the American fire problem, to detect trends and to gauge the effectiveness of fire safety programs."

Other examples of use of NFIRS at the national level include its application to other Federal agencies. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) screen NFIRS data to identify product hazards that necessitate follow-up investigations. Since local officials and even state fire marshals may not recognize these problems when viewing isolated incidents, they often become apparent when nationwide data is taken into consideration. In addition, while state and local authorities may not be able to take effective action against manufacturers, NHTSA and CPSC can mandate recalls.

The Centers for Disease Control U.S. Public Health Service also utilizes NFIRS data to develop strategies for reducing the number and severity of fire-related injuries to high-risk groups such as young children (under five) and senior citizens.

Fire departments that are interested in joining NFIRS should contact their State Fire Marshals' office. The latest report summarizing NFIRS data is "Fire in the United States, 1983-1987," which includes an executive summary for 1988. Copies are available from the Office of Fire Data and Analysis, U.S. Fire Administration, 16825 South Seton Ave., Emmitsburg, MD, 21727.

Federal Emergency Management Agency, Peg Maloy

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**Public Relations  
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**Larry Jackson**

Hi there!

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year. I would like to wish Jack Cox of Centerville Fire Dept. and District Chairman of 13-B a Happy Birthday. We are entering a new year with a lot of House and Senate bills on the floor. We need to contact the Representatives to let them know how we feel. I hope everyone is aware there is a new license plate out. It has the I.V.F.A. logo on it. To get this plate you must be a paid member. You can get your form from your District Chairman or your Public Relations Director. I am looking forward to the Convention this year. I hope you're planning to attend. If you don't, you don't know what your missing. I would like to say hello to Cicero Twp. Fire Dept. and Action & Knightstown Fire Dept. You people are doing a great job. Keep up the good work. Well got to go for now. Please attend your District meetings.

**VOLUNTEERS  
HELP WHOLE  
COMMUNITY**

The Polk Township Volunteer Fire Department, in cooperation with Arrow Head Country RC&D, the Marshall County Dive Team, Jim and Connie Hulse and Tom Lenker, has recently installed a new water supply apparatus for residents in Polk Township. This new apparatus is a dry fire hydrant! That's right a dry fire hydrant, or better put, a water supply pipe that has year round access. Ponds and lakes are often used to supply water to fight fires, states Roger Norris a Polk Township Volunteer Fireman. However, in the spring when it is muddy or in the winter when ponds are frozen, there are times when you can't access those water sources. A dry hydrant is a pipe line that is permanently installed at a water source so the pumper can access it from the road or a permanent drive at any time. Jim and Connie Hulse have a farm pond which has been used by the fire department for years according to Norris. This Spring, Norris and fellow fireman Willard Osborn began working with Arrow Head RC&D on the design and layout for the new hydrant. Although it first appears to be a simple project, it is important that these hydrants are constructed properly and are of adequate size, depth and capacity. Many of our rural residents can benefit from dry hydrants according to Norris. Not only will these hydrants aid in fighting fires in rural areas, they may also lower insurance rates for nearby residents. The economic and safety factors are important to rural areas. Many thanks go to Arrow Head RC&D for the face design and layout, to

Jim and Connie Hulse for the use of their pond and donation of materials, Tom Lenker for donating the equipment for installation and the Marshall County Dive Team for assistance in installing the inlet. If you have a site which you feel could be used as a water source, contact Roger Norris at 219-936-9608, Arrow Head Country RC&D office in Winamac at 219-946-3022 or the Marshall County Soil & Water Conservation District Office at 219-936-2839.

Stacy V. Odom, Coordinator  
Arrow Head Country  
RC&D Area, Inc.

**President**



**Pete Lockhart**

Hello again fellow firefighters, We are once again in the midst of the legislative session with a lot of activity going on. There are once again several surprises coming up in the bills presented and that will make our efforts quite a challenge; we will try our best to keep up. We are once again fast approaching the wildfire season. We should use care in our responses to these fires, remembering our own safety as well as the public, not all wild fires are emergencies. Due to some problems with the plate stamping, our licenses will not be available before March 15 or so it looks right now. We know this has generated a lot of interest and we are hopeful that it does not become too burdensome for our district chairmen or you, the consumer. The state has proposals in again to reorganize the Department of Fire and Building Safety, Fire Marshal's office, etc. We are hopeful this will not have an adverse affect on the operation of any of the departments or on the rule making process. Whatever the outcome it is our hope that the fire service can work to make Indiana a safer and happier place to live. Lets not forget the convention coming up in June. I'm sure we will have a good time in Vincennes.

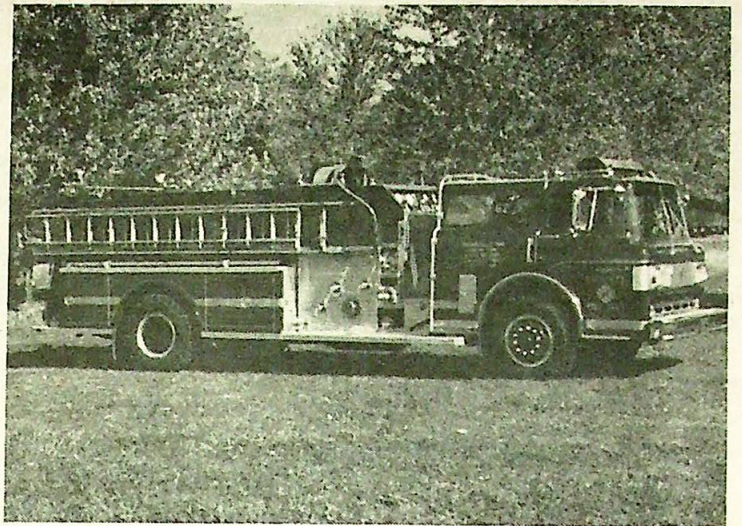
**UTC makes two  
donations**

RENSELAER - The Rensselaer community relations team of United Telephone of Indiana recently donated \$1,000 to local organizations.

The community relations team donated \$100 each to the Rensselaer, Remington, Goodland, Kentland, Brook, Wheatfield and Earl Park Volunteer Fire Departments. The team also donated \$150 each to the Jasper County Food Pantry and the Crisis Center, which shelters, Jasper, Newton and Pulaski county victims of domestic abuse. Team member Kathy Wilcox said "The team thought it would be a good idea to donate around Christmas time, especially to feed and shelter needy families during and after the holidays."

The Rensselaer community relations team is one of United's 13 community relations teams in Indiana. The community relations teams are made up of United employees and retirees who volunteer their time to improve the communities in which they live and work.

**Liberty Fire Dept.  
Puts into Service New Pumper**



The Liberty Fire Dept. put into service in August, 1990, a new pumper built by 3-D Fire apparatus.

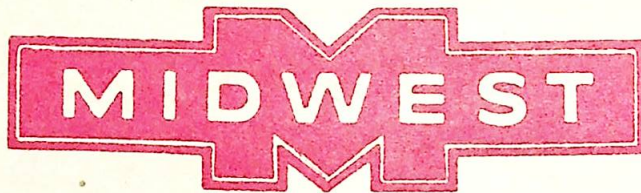
It's built on a 1990 Ford C8000 chassis with a 3208 Turbo charged Catapillar diesel. It has a 185 inch wheel base, 1250 gallon booster tank, 1000 gpm Hale pump and top mount pump panel. The body has a 6-man crew cab and is fully compartmentized. There are 2-500w quartz flood lights mounted on Telescoping poles and run off a separate 110v generator.

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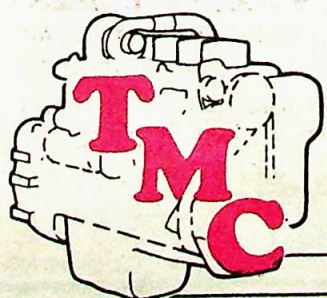
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## Continued From Page 4, Officers Meeting

He reported attending the open house at S&S Tank Co. He attended the EMS Conference in Indianapolis, attended the new Fire Marshal's reception in Indianapolis and had attended several fire department functions around the state. He announced the fire school dates and their locations for the year 1991.

Jim Snyder, Area Code 317 Fire School Chairman, was introduced by Vice President Nevil to those in attendance. Vice President Nevil suggested that the association come up with ideas for a gift to those departments who build new fire houses and have a dedication ceremony. He suggested a seminar for STRESS. An open discussion followed this suggestion and clearly indicated favoring a program of this type. It was recommended that a program for the wives of firefighters be included in the topic.

This recommendation was made by the PR Directors in attendance.

President Lockhart reported that he had attended several district meetings. He reported that he had spoken at the Fallen Firefighter's Memorial Service and at the opening ceremonies for Fire Prevention Week in Indianapolis.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Jim Parker, Public Education, announced that he has an appointment with Channel 20 to go over the TV spots and that the association will use the three TV shows, The Smoke Detectors In The Home, The Edith Drill, and Clean-Up Fix-Up. He asked for suggestions for a new TV program.

The meeting recessed at 9:34 p.m. until the following day at 9:00 a.m.

## SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4, 1990

The meeting was called to order by President Lockhart at 9:07 a.m. with the Invocation given by Chaplain Lantz.

President Lockhart introduced the guests present at this meeting.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED

Mitch Parish, Historical Committee announced that all historical items currently located at Bill Bush's residence will be transferred to John Davies. He also reported that the committee will be meeting in February and asked that anyone having any items of interest to contact him.

President Lockhart commented on the IDEM proposal to charge fire departments \$100.00 for burning a structure. As soon as the decision is received, the word will be made known to everyone.

Lawrence Swartz, MBNA Credit Card Committee, reported that all papers requested by the organization have been duly submitted. He reported that the cards will not be out in time for the holidays, but they will be forthcoming.

Gene Stofer reported on the Ad Solicitor situation. A meeting with several of the officers was held. An agreement has been reached between the Ad Solicitor and the IVFA.

President's Advisory Committee, President Lockhart reported that a dues increase will be necessary in the future. A problem with those who hold inactive membership cards came up. Gene Stofer announced that the IVFA must be thinking of ways to bring in more monies in the near future. He also requested that a program be implemented towards increasing revenue for the association.

Gene Stofer, Length of Service Award Benefit, reported the cost for this program would be \$27,000 per year. It would give an officer \$150.00 a month retirement payment at the age of 65 and it would provide \$10,000 up to the age of 65. This program is through the Downey Insurance Company.

President Lockhart announced that the Ad Taker, Jack Ford was ill and was unable to attend the meeting.

National Volunteer Fire Council, Gene Stofer, reported that several good bills have been passed. There is hope that the National Fire Academy will be turned over to the fire service and take it away from FEMA. He reported that 41 states now belong to the NVFC. The next meeting will be in April, 1991 at Laurel, Maryland. The election of officers will be held at this meeting. Gene Stofer announced that his name is on the ballot for the position of Treasurer of the organization.

Legislature Representative, Gene Stofer, announced that a clarification will be asked for the "Blue Light Law" during this legislative session. He also announced that a clarification of ten cents on the one hundred dollar break in the tax freeze for major equipment for five years will be asked for in this legislative session. Next was the Indiana Public Safety Officer's Death Benefit. Gene Stofer stated that we deserve to be included and receive our cut of this program. A bill will be introduced at this legislature to include the volunteers in this program.

Indiana Fire Caucus, Gene Stofer, reported that he has been working very strongly toward this goal. He also reported that the officers from the other service groups have been invited to a luncheon funded with monies to preplan a dinner. The luncheon is planned for the early part of December. The plan is to invite three members from each of the other associations and some of the key legislative people to this luncheon.

Editor's Assistant, Bill Howe announced if anyone had news for the paper to get it in as soon as possible.

Membership, Carl Bruns stated that the figures from the secretary's report show just what has been done. He also reminded those in attendance that an effort is needed to try to get those who were former members who have not yet rejoined, back into the association.

Resolutions, President Lockhart appointed Bill Howe Chairman of the Resolutions Committee replacing Carl Davis.

Bridgeport Fund, Lawrence Swartz announced that applications need to be distributed statewide. He also recommended that the association's secretary's new address needs to be on the applications.

Awards, Ivan Nevil reminded everyone that letters need to be sent in by February's meeting for the Midwest award.

Photographer, President Lockhart announced the resignation of the association's photographer and that the pictures for the year book will be taken at the next officer's meeting.

Convention 1991, Chairman Bill Engle announced that the registration forms needed to be sent in. He also reported that by December 1st reservations should be sent out to those who have sent in requests for rooms. The Executive Inn will be the convention headquarters with all meetings being held at the Holiday Inn. Transportation between the two inns will be furnished to those desiring same.

Special Games Day, President Lockhart suggested that the games be held away from the rest of the convention activities. He mentioned that he would entertain comments about this subject for future conventions. President Lockhart also requested that the District Chairman

poll their respective districts about a change in the time of the parade and to bring their comments to the next officers' meeting.

Sgt-at-Arms Bill Bush announced that future requests for supplies be made via mail rather than using the telephone. This would give him more leadway in filling orders.

## NEW BUSINESS

Bill Howe made a motion that the association sponsor legislation concerning the mandatory certification or rescue or try to get it back within the fire service and out of the EMS hands. He recommended this be turned over to the President's Advisory Committee. Seconded by Mitch Parish. Motion carried by a hand vote.

## OLD BUSINESS

Jim Parker spoke on HazMat situations that have occurred in the past and the confusion that has resulted in these situations. He recommended clarification on this subject.

## GOOD OF THE ORDER

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Carl Bruns, seconded by Bill Howe. Motion carried by a voice vote.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Parish. Richard Glant made a motion to suspend the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and to accept them as printed. Seconded by Bill Engle. Motion carried by a hand vote.

## OLD BUSINESS

Bill Howe, Chairman of the committee to study the briefcase situations gave his report. His committee findings showed that the briefcases in question could be purchased at a price of \$47.14 all the way up to \$83.00, with one company giving the association a 20% discount. The committee recommended purchasing the briefcase for a price of \$47.14 each. A motion by Charles Sutton to purchase twelve new briefcases and seconded by Bill Engle at a cost of \$47.14 each. Pete Lockhart recommended an amendment to the motion that the association add Item #37 to the budget and make it officer's supply and that the association add \$1,000.00 to the budget in that category and that the association buy the briefcases out of this category. Seconded by Bill Howe. Motion to the amendment carried by a hand vote.

## Firefighter Honored



Also at the banquet, Master Firefighter Instructor Jerry Marquardt received a beautiful wood Fireman's maltese cross clock from his fellow Monroeville Volunteer Firefighters. It was presented by Past Chief Dean Reidenbach for Jerry's dedication to the department. Jerry, a 20 year member of the department, was a training officer from 1982 to 1990 and most all firefighters attending received their 2nd Class and 1st Class as a direct result. The clock was constructed by 2nd Assistant Chief Steve Luginbill who had help from Chief Jeff Gerardot. Those who know Jerry well say it was the first time they ever saw him speechless.

Continued from Page 11,

Townships neglect-again occurrence with these two townships, council members said.

"What I'm concerned about is that the fire department is in liability every time they respond to a fire call," town attorney Mike O'Neill said. "They are taking a risk by answering a fire call."

Council member James Keiser said Wheatfield homeowners could be hurt in the delay also. He feels that if insurance companies discover that homeowners are not protected under contract, the premiums could skyrocket.

The council agreed to send a certified letter to the two trustees in violation, notifying them of the new contract, and that each township is legally without fire protection.

Members said they will give each trustee until the end of January to act on the town's request of payment. If nothing is received at that time, Keiser said "we will have to do something."

## Lake Village man honored for rescuing children

By John Scheibel  
Morocco Courier editor

KENTLAND - A Lake Village man was honored last week as a hero for rescuing two children from a burning house in Hammond last March.

Allen Miller was presented the Public Safety Award by the Kentland Rotary Club Monday, Jan. 7, 1991 in recognition of his efforts to save the lives of two children who were asleep when their home in Hammond caught on fire.

On March 1, 1990, Miller was driving to work at Calumet Pallet in Hammond. At approximately 5:45 a.m. Allen was driving along a familiar street that leads to the entrance of his workplace.

"I'm not a whole lot with words," Miller said to the Kentland Rotary members as he was about to re-tell his story.

Continued on Page 16

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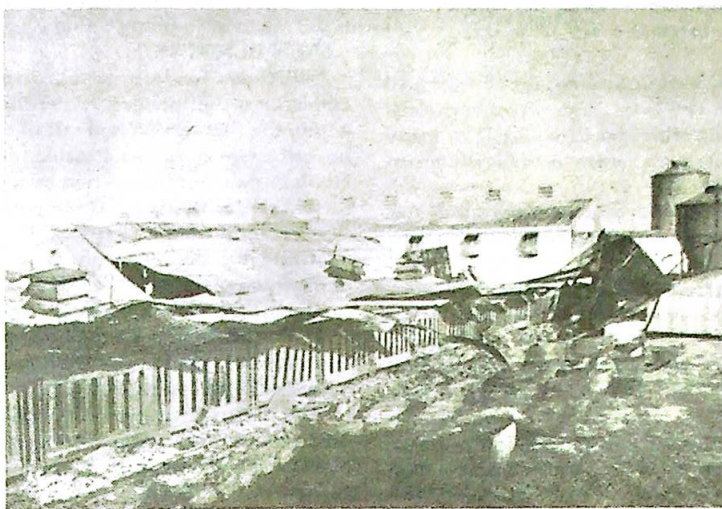
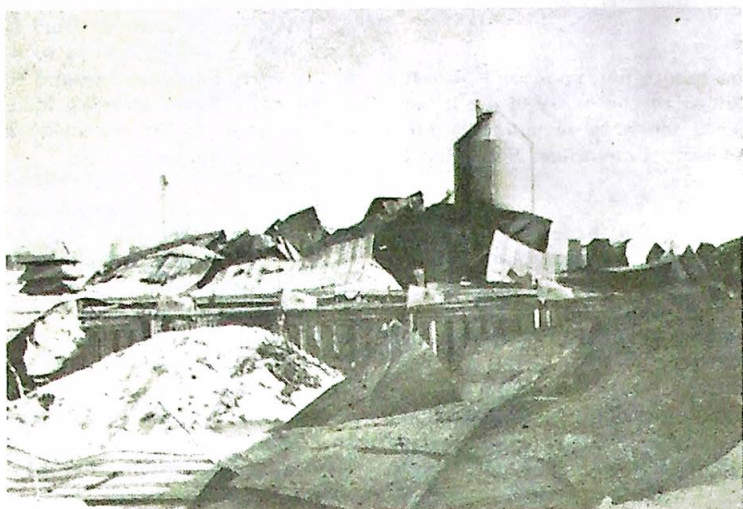
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## 2,500 animals killed in fire



LACROSSE - More than 2,500 pigs were killed in a fire that destroyed four connecting barns at Gorski Brothers Farms in southern LaPorte County Sunday afternoon.

Dale Bucher, farm manager, said today, "Everyone was out to dinner Sunday afternoon. A neighbor was driving by and saw it and reported it."

Bucher said it was impossible to estimate damage, but noted that a lot of equipment inside the barns also was destroyed.

The farm is operated by John Gorski and his three sons, Carey, Jim and Frank, at LaPorte County Roads 2100 South and 600 West in Prairie Twp.

The LaCrosse and Wanatah volunteer fire departments re-

sponded to the call. No injuries were reported.

Bucher said, "We think it started in the grower barn. That's where we keep the pigs from 40-90 pounds. We don't have any idea what started it, just the area it started in."

He said the four barns were on the average of about 38 by 100 feet in length.

Asked about plans for the 2,000 plus acre hog and grain farm Bucher responded, "We'd start rebuilding tomorrow if we could. We'll definitely rebuild it."

Fire officials were to return to the scene today to sift through the debris in an attempt to learn the fire's cause.

Equipment destroyed included augers, feeders and a ventilation

system, Bucher said. He added, "The last count I took we had about 2,550 hogs dead. I don't know their value right off."

Bucher indicated damage probably would be more than \$500,000, but added, "We just can't say at this point."

Continued From Page 15, Lake Village Man honored for rescuing children

"But Marble Street is where the exit from the terminal is and I drove to work that way for years," he said. "I had seen two children playing there (near the house that burned) when I would go home from work.

"That's a poverty area and it's a common thing to see them out playing, a lot of times without any shoes on their feet.

"But on that morning the windows were lit up even though it was early in the morning."

Miller said the sun had not risen yet that day and the glow from the window did not look like light from a lamp. Before he drove past the house he realized the glow was from the flames of the fire.

"I don't know what kicks in or whatever, but I knew the kids were in the house.

"So I parked my car and started along the side of the house beating on the windows.

"A 17-year-old girl finally came out of the house," he said.

Miller determined it was the children's older sister. As thick clouds of black smoke continued to fill the house, she told him that one child was in the basement and one was upstairs.

Miller was able to awaken the girl who had been sleeping in the basement and carried her outside to safety.

The young girl he carried outside told him a boy was still on the second story.

Miller decided to re-enter the house hoping to find the boy he seen playing outside so many times on warm summer days.

When he entered the house, he found his way to the stairwell leading to the second story through the smoke-filled rooms and despite the unfamiliar surroundings.

"I just kept holering as I went up the stairs, but I really couldn't see anything because the smoke was so thick," he said.

"I kept feeling my way up the stairs and then when I thought I was close to the top I reached out to feel what was there and I felt a foot. So I grabbed it and reached up and carried the boy outside. "I was just relieved to get out of there," he said.

Miller then took the two children to his vehicle and let them sit in it to stay warm while their older sister went to call the fire department.

"And then a neighbor came to take the kids and it was time for me to go to work so I told the fire chief all I knew and went on to work," he said.

Miller did not leave his name and it took several months for officials in Hammond to discover who saved the lives of the two children.

From this experience, Miller said he now can only begin to appreciate the kind of work police officers and firefighters perform.

"(Because of) this I've had a lot of respect for the police and fire departments around here," Miller said. "I'm really proud of men we have in these areas here. They put their lives on the line and never get any money for what they do for us. I really do appreciate the local police and fire departments."

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## Poster Contest Held For Elementary Students At Pershing Township Volunteer Fire Department



Pershing Twp. V. F.D.

**Poster Contest Judges**

Standing: Janet Johnson, Hamilton Chief Don Schnitker  
Seated: Lind Ridlen

Pershing Township Volunteer Fire Department, Freetown, IN hosted a Fire Safety Poster Contest for the students of the local elementary school. Participants were asked to create their own fire safety message and art work for the competition. Posters were judged on theme, originality and design. A Grand Champion trophy was awarded to the most outstanding entry from all grade levels. The winning trophy was presented to Kenny Warner, a second grader. Mr. Warner also received a gift from Senator Dan Coats for his participation. First and Second Place ribbons were awarded to all grades.

Judges for the contest were County Clerk Max Pearcey, Hamilton Township Fire Chief Donald Schnitker, Linda Ridlen, and Janet Johnson.

Pershing Volunteer Fire Department.

### Poster Contest Winners



Pershing Twp. V. F.D.

**Poster Contest**

Standing: Judge Max Pearcey, Pershing Chief Richard Blaker  
Kindergarten Winner: Brittany Root  
3rd Grade Winner: Brian Rudolph

## Girl, 3, dies in trailer fire

By The Associated Press  
COLUMBUS, Ind. - A 3-year-old Columbus girl was killed and her father seriously injured after a fire caused by playing with a cigarette lighter swept through their mobile home.

Brandi N. Griffin was pronounced dead at the scene of the fire in Homestead Trailer Park just south of the Columbus airport.

Her father, Steve Griffin, 28, was in fair condition Sunday after being treated for burns and smoke inhalation at Bartholomew County Hospital.

Also injured in Saturday's fire was Griffin's wife, Amy, 25, and Columbus Police Sgt. Kevin Hendericks. They were treated for smoke inhalation and released from the hospital's emergency room.

The Griffins' two other children, Dustin, 5, and Tiffany, 2, escaped uninjured from the trailer after the fire began shortly after 9 a.m.

Bartholomew County Coroner Larry S. Fisher said Dustin had been playing with a cigarette lighter when clothing that had been hanging in the living room caught fire.

Dustin awakened his parents,

who were asleep in a back bedroom, but Griffin's attempt to extinguish the flames was too late as the fire spread quickly, Fisher said.

Brandi's body was found on the floor in another bedroom where she apparently tried to hide from the flames, Fisher said.

Fisher said a smoke detector was found in the debris, but fire officials could not determine if it worked because it was destroyed.

Damage to the trailer and its contents was estimated at \$12,000.

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In just how you're faring,  
It's time to tell that special someone -

Thanks so much for caring!

-Bruce B. Wilmer  
Yes, thank you so much for everything you have been and meant to me and my family these past 20 years. It was because of the great number of you, my fire family members and dear friends, that I now can say I am ready to get on with my future life.

20 years have passed since I became the victim of a home fire, and because of friends like so many of you, I was able to overcome the consequences of the disaster.

As Spring comes to us and signifies the start of a new life, I want to ask you to join me in celebrating my upcoming wedding, as we start a new life together. The wedding will be held on Saturday May 18th, at 5:30 P.M. Southwest Conservation Club, Fort Wayne.

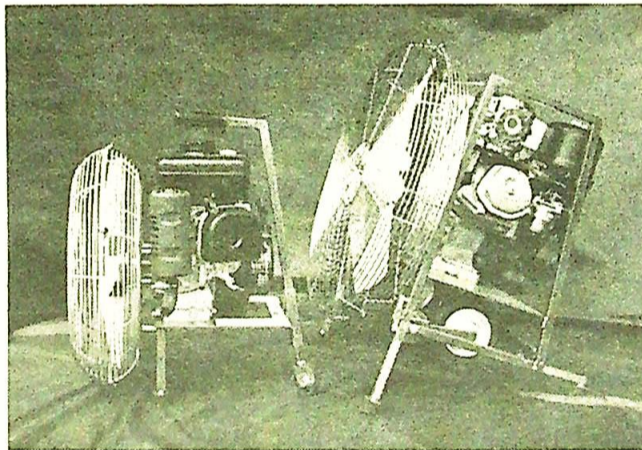
Hoping to see you celebrating with us and our firefighters from the Poe Vol. Fire Department, I thank you for being with me at that time and remain respectfully yours.

Joleen Wilson  
Daughter of Mrs. Virginia Wilson & the late Donald Wilson

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# Acid spill sends 6 to hospital



Trifluoroacetic acid that spilled from a United Parcel Service truck sent six UPS employees to the hospital Friday morning. Lafayette firefighters carry the chemical away.

By Tom Campell/Journal and Courier

By JENNIFER E. SMITH  
Journal and Courier

Six employees of United Parcel Service, 117 N. 36th St., were injured Friday in a chemical spill.

John Lammers was in satisfactory condition Friday at St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center. Five others were treated and released for possible exposure to and inhalation of trifluoroacetic acid. They are Lori Bridges, Christopher Sullivan, Charles Meal, Daniel DeWald and Scott Brandon.

Several workers were un-

loading packages from a semi-trailer onto a conveyor belt about 8:15 a.m. when they noticed a strange smell and their eyes started to burn, according to Tim Chambers, the Assistant Fire Chief, said.

The package, which was leaking a clear gel, was on its way down the conveyor belt when the broken container was discovered. The chemical was being shipped from a company in Wisconsin, but officials would not say where the package was going. Officials have not determined whether the container was broken during

transport.

"The acid is toxic and harmful to breathe in concentrated forms, affects the mucous membranes and can be absorbed through the skin," Chambers said. Officials have not yet determined whether the chemical was diluted or full strength, Chambers said, but less than two gallons of the acid was spilled.

Heritage Transport, a company that specializes in cleaning up and analyzing chemical spills, was called in from Indianapolis to clean up the chemical.

## USFA OFFERS PHYSICAL FITNESS MANUAL TO FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Washington, DC -- The Federal Emergency Management Agency's U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) today announced the availability of a physical fitness manual for firefighters.

The manual, entitled "Physical Fitness Coordinator's Manual For Fire Departments," is designed to assist fire department physical fitness instructors in developing, implementing and managing such a program.

"Firefighting is known to be one of the most physically and mentally demanding occupations today," said Olin L. Greene, USFA Administrator. "Each year, more than 50% of the firefighters who die in the line of duty succumb to heart failure and other stress-related problems. Physical fitness has been proven to reduce the risk of these deaths, making it a critical aspect of firefighter health and safety."

The manual emphasizes the importance of physical fitness and the essential role it plays in the firefighter's professional life. Subject areas include body composition, nutrition and weight control, injury prevention and management, and age and sex considerations.

To order a free copy, please send your written request for publication #FA-95 to: U.S. Fire Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency, P.O. Box 70274, Washington, DC, 20024.

Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Peg Maloy

With the pumper still operating and the gated suction closed, the tanker crew can attach the hard suction and drop it in the dump tank. The pump operator cracks open the suction gate and begins to close the tank supply always eyeing the pressure gauge. If the pressure begins to drop, the suction gate has been opened too much, letting in a slug of air or the tank supply has been closed off too quickly starving the pump. Readjust your pressure - recover your pressure and start the sequence again.

With the partially opened suction a small amount of air is pulled from the hard suction, but should not be enough to kill your prime. This creates a vacuum in the hard suction bringing dump tank water into the pump. By restricting the tank supply this action is accelerated. This is a juggling act for the pump operator - suction gate, tank supply and gauge - but it can be a very successful juggling act. I have seen this priming operation completed in the thirty seconds or again it may take repeated efforts to be successful. Experience and training helps.

With a side mounted operating panel one man, the pump operator, can easily coordinate these actions. With top mounted console and a side mounted suction gate it becomes a two man operation and coordinating can be a problem. It can be done, however, and you have now primed the pump with dump tank water and closed off your booster tank without a pause in the fire fighting operation.

Cooney Tucker

## Annual Christmas Party and Awards Banquet Held

On Saturday, December 15th, the members of the Union Volunteer Fire Department of Wheeler held their annual Christmas Party and Awards Banquet.

The evening was began with a social hour where current members of the department, past and retired members, and invited guests were allowed to both make new acquaintances and renew old friendships. Snacks and cocktails were served to prepare everyone for the coming feast.

After a prayer by Captain Ron

DeRoos, everyone enjoyed a prime rib dinner with all the trimmings prepared by DeRoos, Safety Officer Bill Stowers, and Firefighter Foe Stowers. With the meal finished, the department's rookies did the dishes.

After the kitchen was squared away, the awards program began. Fire Chief Derrell Lawless, along with Awards Committee members Mike Herzog and Julie Kephshire presented departmental awards. The 1990 Incentive Award received by Lt. John Kephshire for acquiring the most points by attendance at department functions during the year. Lt. Kephshire was voted on by all members of the department, is given to the member that contributed the most to the department during the past year. It was the second year in a row that John has won this award.

The next awards were longevity with the department. Polo type shirts for 5 years service were awarded to Joe Stowers, Ken Hughes, Mike Crosby. Wind-breaker jackets awarded for ten years service were awarded to Derrell Lawless and Dale Larson. Ron DeRoos was also eligible but selected a polo shirt instead. Baseball type jackets for 15 years service were awarded to Bill Stowers, Jack Runion, and Chuck Stowers, who has 22 years of service and choose this award after being awarded the 20 year jacket two years ago. Duane Betz and George Jacobs received gold watches for 25 plus years of service to the department.

The next awards given were presented by Lt. Kephshire, Public Information Officer of the department. Earl Stowers and Don Piske, both retired members of the department, were presented with framed pledges of support to the newly formed department that they signed in 1952 and 1953 respectively. Framed pledges signed 1952 by their fathers (now deceased) were presented to former members Chuck Hardesty and Larry Spencer. Active members Duane Betz and Jack Runion (fathers) along with Mike Mantz (grandfather) also received framed pledge commemoratives.

The next award was the "Cripple of the year" plaque won by Joe Stowers. This plaque is passed from year to year to the member injured most during the year. As there were only two members injured in 1990 and Lt. Kephshire, who devised the award was the other injury, Joe won by default.

Santa then presented each active member of the department with a small gift as a parody of something that had happened to them during the year. The awards all given, the remainder of the evening was spent in fellowship, games, and snacking.

Capt. John Kephshire

## "TRICKS OF THE TRADE": SECONDARY PRIMING

Throughout my career of training firefighters along with my work on the Standards Commission, I have always been convinced that the Second Class Certification, the basics, is the most important to firefighters. One of the programs that I carried through the state when I was with the Fire Marshal's office was one I called "Tricks Of The Trade". It was an attempt, again the basics, to fill in some of the gaps not covered by the manuals.

Following the Ft. Wayne convention and with my article in the last issue of the paper I have received many requests to speak to or train firefighters. Very reluctantly I have had to decline most of these requests because of some personal problems. However these contacts have urged me to resurrect "Tickets Of The Trade" with an article in each issue of the paper. This will be a poor way to teach basics, a hands on subject, but it is the best I can do at this time. So we will see how the substitution will work. Let me hear from you.

Follow this scenario: At the fire ground two life lines are deployed, supplied from the booster tank. The tanker crew sets up the dump tank and fills it. By this time the booster tank is down by three quarters. Now it is necessary to pull the lines out of the fire, shut down the pumper, close the tank suction, attach the hard suction, reprime the pump and recharge the lines: UNLESS you have a gated suction. Either a free action quarter-turn valve or a butter fly valve.

## The Great American Firehouse Exposition And Muster

FIREHOUSE MAGAZINE, a division of PTN Publishing, announces its 8th Annual Firehouse Expo for July 25 to 28, 1991, at the Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, Maryland. There will be a complete display of more than 250 manufacturers exhibiting in excess of \$20 million worth of State-of-the-Art fire apparatus and fire related equipment and services. FIREHOUSE's well know Professional Information Programs will also include expanded sessions on Hazardous Material Handling, Vehicle Specifications and Fire Management Training.

On Sunday, the Baltimore City County Fire Departments will co-host an exciting parade with more than 120 fire apparatus from all over the United States, along with traditional fire muster and fire-matic flea market.

For more information contact: Firehouse Expo, Barbara Schubnel 445 Broad Hollow Road, Melville, NY, 11747. Phone: (516) 845-2700, Fax: (516) 845-7109.

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## Many Dedicated Men Make Up RVFD

By Mary Kaye Koch  
Republican staff writer

**RENSELAER** - Although many times the efforts of the Rensselaer Volunteer Fire Departments are not widely publicized or praised, many dedicated men make up the staff of men who help save not only property, but also lives.

Last evening during monthly meeting of the RVFD, two of those men dedicated to saving lives received their length of service award for their efforts which combined have totaled over half a century.

Harold Lakin, who has been on the RVFD for 41 years and William Dunn who has logged 12 years of service were recognized for their contributions on the force in a monetary manner, but it seemed they get more fulfillment helping save lives than they will signing their names on the back of the check.

Lakin said that through his tenure he has seen many positive changes in the force including equipment and the number of men on the force.

"When I came there was just one truck and we had just purchased our first township truck. When I started there were only 12 men and now there are 23 men," said Lakin.

He said the method of fire-fighting has improved.

"Some of the changes I have noticed is the method of fire-fighting and the types of fires. It used to be that many of the fires were roof fires. People had coal burning stoves and then the wood on the shingles would set the roof on the fire. Yes, I would have to say that practically every fire was a roof fire," he said.

Lakin said long ago people would try to put out their own fires instead of calling for aid from the fire department.

"The number of alarms have really increased. There are a lot of brush fires now, but it used to be that people would try to put them out themselves instead of calling the fire department," he said.

Lakin also acknowledged that the amount of training before becoming a volunteer firefighter has also changed.

Currently, the firefighters must train for 70 to 100 hours to become a "second class firefighter" and must spend 24 hours in training before even being allowed on the trucks.

The fireman also said that fire safety awareness has improved greatly since he started on the force.

"I'd say that it was in the late '50s and early '60s before much talk of fire safety was done and then it has steadily increased since then," he said.

Another change that Lakin has had to deal with and be educated about throughout his stint as a firefighter is dealing with hazardous materials.

"Now we have to watch out for hazardous material. There is a lot of hazardous material even in the construction of the house with its foam insulation," he said.

Dunn also said he has witnessed many positive changes involving the sometime dangerous work.

"Aerial (trucks) was one of the first changes since I came on and as Harold (Lakin) said we are becoming much more involved with hazardous materials," he said.

On of the fires that he remembers well was when he was working at the gas department

and the Iroquois Roller Mill caught on fire, spreading sparks of flame to Long's.

"Every fire is different and every circumstance is different. When the roller mill caught on fire the city had big transformers and the wires that were running over Tom's Supermarket. It was kind of touch and go until we got everything shut off and got the fire under control," Dunn said.

Lakin said that one of the fires he especially remembers was the fire at the Saint Joseph's College Administration Building, but he added that no fire compares to a tragic fire where someone loses their life.

"I believe there has been 13 fatal fires since I have been on the department but no fire is as bad as when someone loses their life. Those are the worst," Lakin said, showing dedication and at the same time sadness in his eyes.

## Firefighters Certified



On January 26, an awards banquet was held to present First Class Certification Certificates to 27 firefighters representing 8 departments including Aboite Twp, Baer Municipal Airport FD, Decatur, Hoagland, Monroeville, New Haven-Adams #2, Poe and St Joe Twp. Each firefighter was photographed as they received their certificate with State Fire Marshal Gene Goddard and Bill Kinsey, Chairman of the Board of Firefighting Personnel, Standards and Education. Mr. Goddard and Mr. Kinsey each spoke providing insight into the ever changing firefighting requirements. The twelve instructors who provided the classes were presented with certificates of appreciation. Master Firefighter Instructor Jerry Marquardt challenged each firefighter to continue their education and to be instrumental within their own departments for seeing that new fire personnel are properly educated. The banquet meal was served at the American Legion Post 420 in Monroeville, IN by its Auxiliary.

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## Union V. F. D. Battle Blaze in Shorewood Forest

A rapidly moving fire took the efforts of two area fire departments to bring under control during the early morning hours of February 9, 1991 in the fashionable Shorewood Forest section of Porter County's Union Township.

The blaze was reported to Porter County Sheriff's Police at 0305 a.m. by the father of Union firefighter Michael Fleming, who lives directly south of the home located at 213 Fox Chapel Ct. The elder Fleming was awakened by an unknown sound and saw a glow before realizing that the home next door was on fire. As his son was responding to the fire station, Mr. Fleming awoke neighbors and advised of the danger. The fire building was unoccupied at the time of the fire.

The first engine company was on the scene at 0311. Upon the arrival of Engine #2, the entire two story home was involved in fire. The flying brands and debris were also threatening homes of the northeast that had wood shake type shingles. Additionally, the home located next door and around the corner on Wexford Road was in danger due to radiant heat on this structure.

Engine #2, commanded by Capt. Mike Herzog dropped and lead in from a hydrant and began a defensive stand to protect exposures. As additional responding units marked on the scene brand patrols were initiated to limit fire spread.

Chief Darrell Lawless arrived and assumed Command of the incident. The crew of Rescue #6 was assigned the duty of protecting the attached garage that was not yet burning. Two vehicles owned by Mr. Nick Oluvic and stored in the garage were saved by aggressive actions by this crew just before the roof of the garage broke into flames.

The arrival of units from Lake Eliza Volunteer Fire Department added additional manpower and a third engine company so that the containment effort could be reinforced by the Incident Commander. As efforts to contain the blaze continued, the top two stories collapsed into the basement of the structure. At this point, the fire contained itself and became "surround and drown" operation.

Firefighters remained on the scene until 1330 that afternoon conducting overhaul operations, cause and origin investigations, and repacking equipment. The firefighters from Lake Eliza were released at about 10:30 to return to their station and their assistance was greatly appreciated.

The home, owned by Mr. Philip Thomas of Arkon, Ohio is considered a total loss of both structure and contents. The Thomas family maintains homes in both Indiana and Ohio due to Mr. Thomas's work. The family was reportedly last in the home just prior to Christmas. The cause of the blaze is still considered under investigation by U.V.F.D. and State Fire Marshal's officials. There were no injuries reported.

Capt. John E. Kephire

### "It's Not Fun Any-more" - Response

I joined the fire service not because it was fun, but to help people who called and needed help. I feel the only way to help people

in an emergency was to know more than they do on how to cope; and the only way to know more than they do is through training. Under stress most generally you perform how you have been trained. If you have had no training, how can you presume to help someone in an emergency?

I get the same statement from my department members about training and their time away from other things they would like to do. After almost 20 years on the department and lots of arm twisting, my fellow members completed 2nd Class training. Most

recently, 1st Class training was held at our department and there were more firefighters from other departments in attendance.

Getting back to fun, I have a different kind of fun; it's fulfillment, I guess. It happens for me when I see a firefighter use what has been learned in training in an emergency situation.

The questions I would ask firefighters is "Why did you join?" - to have fun or to help people in an emergency.

Jerry Marquardt  
Training Officer '80-'90  
Monroeville Vol. Fire Dept.

## Public Relations Southwest



Carl O. Davis

As I write this the sun is shining bright and it's about twenty degrees. That is sure a change from what it has been. We had a lot of ice and fog here at the first of the week.

Had a good turn out for the 17A District meeting. This was the annual sausage supper. Last count was 225. The 17A Turkey Bar-B-Que meeting was down in attendance this year, but all there had a good meal and a good time.

From all the bills that we have in looks like the legislative committee will have a job to do. Lets give the all the help that we can. Go to your District meetings and tell your chairman what you want passed so that they can tell the committee.

From all reports the 1991 Convention is coming together and all will be ready in June. Get your pre-registration and your room request in so that you will save money and save a rush at the last minute.

Now is the time to write your letters for the Mr. IVFA Award and the Ollie Sandberg Award. I am sure that there is someone in your dept. that is worthy of these awards.

Hope to see you all soon.

### Contestant Entry Blank

Hose Replacing Contest  Water Ball Contest  Cart Race

Our Fire Department will have a team to compete in one or more of the following contests:

#### Water Ball, Hose Replacement or Cart Race

Vincennes, Indiana on Saturday, June 22, 1991

An entry fee of \$10.00 in each contest. The \$10.00 entry fee will be kept by the State Association to help defray expenses. Please check in each square the contests entered by your department.

Dept. Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Chief or Secretary

### NOTICE

All contest entry blanks should be in or postmarked on or before June 1, 1991, to be eligible. All departments that plan to enter should fill out entry blanks along with \$10.00 entry fee for each contest entered. Send entries to:

Al Mendel  
2620 S. Bridgeport Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46231  
(317) 241-8794

Please bring your own rain gear for each event. Trophies for Water Ball, Hose Replacement and Cart Race. Safety measures to be enforced at contests. Drawing for position Thursday night, June 20 after the open meeting.

Each Participant in the contests must be registered at the Convention. Those coming on Saturday must also register at a fee of \$5.00 in order to participate. All team captains must be sure that team members are IVFA members. Any team not conforming to the rules and regulations shall be disqualified.

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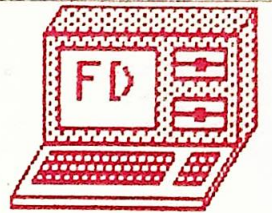
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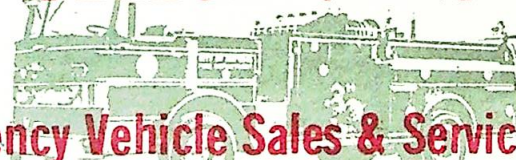
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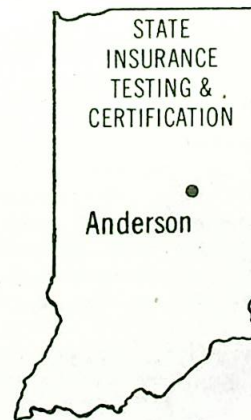
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