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# THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMAN

VOLUME 49 NO. 1

Organized and Trained for the Protection of Life and Property

FEBRUARY 2000

## Robert E. Laney, Editor 1934 - 2000

On January 9, 2000, Robert E. Laney, 65, Editor and Publisher of the Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Newspaper, passed away at his home. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Gloria, one son, Allen (Cheryl) Laney of Rice Lake, Wisconsin; one daughter, Sheri Laney, three grandsons, Allen "A. J." Laney, Zach and Cody Nelson; special friend, Cyndy Jeffers of Crown Point; sister Pat (Gary) Fox of Missouri; one niece Beth (Richard) Walter and nephew, David (Jana) Fox; 2 great nieces and 2 great nephews.

Bob Laney was born in Crown Point and graduated from Crown Point High School in 1952. He attended Hanover College and graduated in 1956 with a BA degree in Business Administration and was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity.

Upon graduation, he went to work for his father, L.E. Laney, who owned a printing business. Soon after, Bob and his father formed a partnership which lasted until Bob bought the business upon his father's retirement in 1968.

Bob joined the Crown Point Fire Department in 1956 and retired



Bob (second from right) and his staff in 1965 when he was appointed Editor of the Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Newspaper. Emil Zula (on left) was Bob's newspaper assistant for years.

## 165 Years of Service in Monroe Twp. VFD



(L-r) Bill Hughs, Bob Masters, Harry Sullivan and Jay Cleveland. Not pictured Willie Staffregen.

The Monroe Township Volunteer Fire Department held its annual Christmas party at the Moose Lodge on December 11, 1999.

There were five firefighters that were presented with plaques for their years of service to the

department and community. They were Bob Masters, 48 years; Bill Hughs, 39 years; Willie Staffregen, 30 years; Jay Cleveland, 28 years; and Harry Sullivan, 20 years.

The total years of service - 165 years! Congratulations.



Bob in recent years.

after twenty-five years of service.

He served as Lieutenant and Captain during his years on the department.

Roland "Bub" Wise, former Crown Point Fire Chief, praised the work Bob did for the department.

"Bob did an excellent job. He was usually the first firefighter on the scene. His dedication to the department was remarkable, especially when you consider that he was handling day and night fire calls while running his print shop business," Wise said.

Current Fire Chief John Gettler said, "He taught me fire-fighting and how to use the old pump trucks. Bob defined what a volunteer firefighter should be. He was a heck of a firefighter."

In 1971, Bob served as Convention Chairman of the 25th Anniversary Convention of the Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association held in Crown Point.

It was also that year that IVFA President Bill Goodwin presented Bob with the Paul Becker Award.

He was appointed Editor of this newspaper in February, 1965 by IVFA President James Glaub.

In June, 1974 Governor Otis Brown appointed him to the Fire Prevention Commission and in June 1977 was re-appointed for another four-year term.

A very special honor, Sagamore of the Wabash, given for exemplary community service, was presented to Bob on February 17, 1983 by Governor Robert Orr.

Bob was also active in his home town as well and was presented the Distinguished Service Award by the Crown Point Junior Chamber of Commerce in 1968.

Bob was a member of the Lake Lodge #157 F&AM Crown Point, Orak Temple, Lincoln Chapter; Shriners of Lake County. He also belonged to the Moose #260 and the Eagles #2659 both of Crown Point.



Bob served on the Crown Point Fire Department for 25 years, serving as Lieutenant and Captain during that time.

### A NOTE OF THANKS

Gloria Laney and family would like to say thank you for the out pouring of sympathy from the IVFA members. It was greatly appreciated and will long be remembered.

The staff would like to thank everyone who has contributed information during our 35 years, especially those individuals & departments who did so on a regular basis.

Our very special thanks to Mitch Parish, Bill Howe, Sr., Lawrence Swartz, Duane Lantz, Bill Goodwin, John Ford and anyone else we may have overlooked, for all their assistance over the years.

### MOVING?

Send old address  
along with new  
address to:

IVFA Central  
Office  
P.O. Box 4797  
Evansville, IN  
47724

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"Come and Play in Y2K"

Michigan City - June 14-17, 2000

**THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMAN**

(USPS 262-480) Published February, May, August, and November. All articles to be published should be in the Editor's office no later than the 10th of the proceeding month.

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

Periodicals postage paid at the Post Office in Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1897. Subscription part of dues. Please send all correspondence to:

The Indiana Volunteer Fireman, P.O. Box 437, Crown Point, IN 46308

**FEBRUARY 2000**

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For any advertiser who contracts for 4 consecutive issues: the advertising rate will be \$6.00 per column inch in one color, black or red. \$6.90 per column inch for 2-color, black and red.

Pictures that must be converted into halftones for use in ads will cost \$6.90 each for small and \$9.00 each for large ones.

PLEASE SEE PAGE 26 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON RATES.

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**Chaplain's Corner**



**Charles J. Baker**

**Prayer For Today**

*Holy Father God,*

*Source of our strength and wisdom, we pray this prayer for those who mourn and are grieved by the loss of a loved one. Give them comfort in this time of loss. Help them as they heal their hurt. Ease the pain of sorrow that afflicts them and start them back on the road to recovery. In the name of Your precious Son, we pray.*

*Amen*

**In Memoriam**

The Indiana Fire Service lost a true friend. Robert E. Laney, known to all of us as Bob, departed this life to enter life eternal recently.

Bob had been Editor and Publisher of the Indiana Volunteer Fireman for thirty-five of his sixty years and was retired from the Crown Point Volunteer Fire Department after twenty-five years of service.

Well known and highly respected, Bob was well liked both within and outside of the fire service community.

Our condolences go out to wife Gloria, children Allen and Sheri, and the rest of the family.

*We shall miss him immensely.*

**Minute Message**

I happened upon this piece not long ago and it needed to be shared. Written by the respected author, teacher, preacher and Christian evangelist Charles Swindoll, it has a powerful message to all who read it.

**Attitude**

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company... a church... a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play the one string we have, and that is our attitude... I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you... we are in charge of our Attitudes."

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# BRIDGEPORT SCHOLARSHIPS

**MARCH 1, 2000 DEADLINE**

Don't miss the March 1st deadline for the Bridgeport Scholarship applications!

Applications sent by Certified Mail **MUST** have a postmark no later than March 1, 2000.

Applications are available from all district chairmen, elected officer of the IVFA, or the Scholarship Chairman.

Please send all applications to:  
**Carl Bruns, Scholarship Chairman**  
 501 Eastern Avenue  
 Sunman, IN 47041  
 812-623-2274

## From Your Treasurer

Thank you for your patience and understanding. As many of you have discovered, a decision to close the Indianapolis office was made by the President and his advisors. That office was closed on October 31 and all mail forwarded to me. Since all data was downloaded from the Association office computer, in anticipation of the move, only the few matters that could be done manually have been processed since then.

The Board of Directors awarded a contract to Barb Kerney, VP Kerney's wife, to operate a central office from Evansville, effective 1/1/00.

Since it was my opinion that I could not drive from Ft. Wayne to Evansville weekly or more often as Secretary, therefore it was necessary for me to resign as secretary effective 11/13/99. Charles "Red" Morris was appointed Secretary. (see page 2)

The new address and phone for the IVFA Central Office can be found on page 2.

The members of the IVFA elected Secretary and Treasurer, but I chose not to drive 600 miles each time I needed to go to the Central Office and I resigned. I am still Treasurer and will serve my elected term, unless some new complication prevents it.

The IVFA wants and needs

your membership, so I ask for your understanding. The computer in Evansville will be up and running soon, so Barb can learn the program and start processing the backlog from November 31.

I'm doing everything I can to assist in this move. You should call the Central Office if you have problems, or contact your district chair or PR director. You know you can contact me also.

The IVFA remains 17,000 members strong, providing lobbying and many other benefits promoting Indiana's volunteer fire & emergency services. I hope to see you at a district meeting soon.

Bill Kinsey, Treasurer

number you may use to contact the office.

With the resignation of Bill Kinsey as Secretary, the Board of Directors has appointed Red Morris to fill the remaining term of Secretary. The members will have the opportunity to elect a secretary at the Annual Meeting in June, 2000. Red will serve the term thru December, 2000. The new elected Secretary shall serve the term at the start of 2001.

Mr. Kinsey has not resigned his elected position of Treasurer and will continue to serve in this capacity thru December, 2000.

The mailing address for the IVFA Central Office is:  
 P.O. Box 4797  
 Evansville, IN 47724

I sincerely hope that the confusion and delays have not caused problems for the membership. We made every effort possible to continue to operate the business of the Association as proficient as possible. I would like to thank the officers and members for their work and input during this transition. Without the help of everyone, this task would have been very difficult.

I wish to thank Barb Kerney for taking the Central Office manager's position and wish her well. Please extend your usual cooperation and assistance to Barb. I am confident that she can get the office running smoothly in a short period of time.

Please contact your district chairperson if you have any concerns or questions about the new Central Office. If you cannot contact your chairperson, you can contact your PR Director or any other officer of the Association. I encourage you to discuss the concerns with your district chairperson if at all possible. All officers are listed on page 2 of this paper.

Nancy and I had a very enjoyable Holiday and we hope you were pleased with yours as well.

Until next time, have a fire safe year 2000.

## From the President



Jack Cox

Fellow Firefighters,

The new year has arrived with no unusual problems as of this writing. The Y2K hype was all we heard for several months. The work involved to keep all systems running was worth the effort.

The Central Office is up and running with a considerable amount of work left to do. All records are being updated and license plate forms are being processed as quickly as possible.

Unfortunately the 800 phone number had to be changed. The new number for the Central Office is 1-877-606-4832. This is the

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# District Meetings

## DISTRICTS 1&2

October 20, 1999  
Crown Point VFD

Meeting called to order at 7:40 p.m. by District 2 Chairman Larry Stott. Pledge of Allegiance led by PRNW Buz Koehler.

Guests included PRNW Buz Koehler; IVFAA District 1 & 2 Chairwomen Martha Thomas and Ann Moss; 50-year member Julius Demek; Dale Hensley from 5-Alarm Equipment; State Representative Bob Kuzman; Mayor James Metros and his wife, Jessica; and the Center Township Advisory Board consisting of John Enswiler, Eldon Strong and Bub Wise.

Chief John Gettler gave a history of the department and introduced his firefighters.

Auxiliary President Lorie Tobias introduced her members and thanked them for their help in setting up for the meal.

State Representative Bob Kuzman reported how \$500,000 in Build Indiana Funds was distributed to the departments in his district.

District Chairman Larry Stott then presented Mr. Kuzman with a plaque in honor of his ongoing support of the fire service in his district.

Mayor Metros welcomed us to his city and thanked the fire department for a job well done.

Motion made by Ed McCoy, seconded by Clarence Moss, to dispense with the reading of minutes of previous meeting. Motion carried.

Roll Call answered by 31 members, District 1 and 52 members, District 2. Attendance trophies won by Independence Hill, District 1 and Lake Eliza, District 2.

PRNW Buz Koehler gave a short legislative report.

Larry Stott gave an EMS report.

Treasurer's report given by Clarence Moss. He then reported that Chairman Stott had paid for the plaque for Representative Kuzman out of his own pocket. Clarence made a motion, seconded by Paul Watland, to re-imburse Larry for the plaque. Motion carried.

One death reported in District 1 since last meeting, Paul Miller, Liberty Township. A minute of silence was held in his honor.

Chairman Howe reminded everyone to let the district chairmen know of any deaths that occur.

Bill Howe reported the Blue Chip Casino Hotel is now accepting reservations for next year's convention. Hotel reservation number is 1-888-879-7711, ext. 2414.

Lake Hills is having a golf outing and raffle to benefit one of their firefighters.

Letters are needed for the Mr. IVFA and Ollie Sandburg awards for next year's convention.

District 1 Auxiliary Chairwoman Martha Thomas reported there are 3 Miss Flame contestants from District 1 and 2 from District 2. District winners will be chosen at the meeting November 4 at Lake Station.

50/50 drawing won by Bob Szot, Crown Point. Cups & cap donated by 5-Alarm won by Tim Tulley & Gerard Abraham, Crown Point and Walt Starrick, Lake Eliza.

Drawing held for fire truck model to benefit the Merrillville Fire Department Cadets. Won by Joe Chapala. Fire extinguishers won by Kevin Roach & Eli Sekulski.

Next meeting hosted by Schererville VFD on November 17, 1999 at the St. John Township Community Center.

Motion made by Paul Watland, seconded by Clarence Moss, to adjourn. Motion carried.

November 17, 1999  
Schererville VFD

Meeting called to order by District 1 Chairman Bill Howe, Sr. Pledge of Allegiance led by PRNW Buz Koehler.

Guests included PRNW Buz Koehler, John & Ginger Shanks from the Hoosier Burn Camp, District 2 Chairman Larry Stott, District 1 Auxiliary Chairwoman Martha Thomas, District 1 Miss Flame Brenda Rosendaul, District 2 Auxiliary Chairwoman Ann Moss, and Past IVFAA President Phyllis Vargo.

Chief Bo Kaeser gave a history of the department and introduced his firefighters.

John and Ginger Shanks gave a program on the Hoosier Burn Camp. They showed video clips of this year's camp and stated they will need volunteers again next year. Camp depends wholly on donations.

Chief Kaeser presented them with a check for \$100 from the Schererville Fire Department. Motion made by Wally Cook, seconded by Bill Howe to donate \$100 from each district. Motion carried. We then passed a boot around and collected \$136.07.

John shanks then reported that due to a glitch in the law, Build Indiana funds that are received by a department are being added to the gross receipts for the year. Problem should be corrected next year.

John also gave a short legislative report.

Roll Call was answered by 38 members from District 1 and 23 members from District 2. Attendance trophies won by New Chicago, District 1 and Lake Eliza, District 2.

Treasurer's report was given. Motion made by Wally Cook, seconded by Eli Sekulski, to accept report. Motion carried.

District 1 & 2 Auxiliary Chairwomen Martha Thomas and Ann Moss reported the winners of the Miss Flame contest are Brenda Rosendaul, District 1 and Nikki Luebck, District 2. Martha introduced Brenda Rosendaul.

Buz Koehler, Larry Stott and Jim Bradford reported on the State Officer's meeting.

Central office will be relocated and Barbara Kerney will run it. She'll be paid \$28,000

plus office expenses. We'll let you know when everything is set up.

Bill Kinsey resigned as State Secretary and Red Morris was then elected to fill out his term.

The Association donated \$1000 to Hoosier Burn Camp.

January 10th is the deadline for articles in the next newspaper.

Bill Howe, Sr. reported Munster will not be able to host the meeting in January. New Chicago volunteered to host it.

Two deaths reported, in District 1 since last meeting, Jim Scott from Merrillville and John Wilson from Independence Hill. A moment of silence was observed in their honor.

Motion made by Dennis Wilkening, seconded by Ike Rench, to send two people to the Fire Institute Dinner. Motion carried.

Motion made by Wally Cook, seconded by Jake Thomas, to draw one ticket tonight and the other at the meeting in January. Motion carried. Bill Howe, Jr. won the ticket tonight.

Read proposed By-Law change to raise district secretary's pay from \$15 a year to \$50. Motion by Ike Rench, seconded by Bob Szot, to support it. Motion carried.

Next meeting is January 19, 2000, hosted by New Chicago.

50/50 drawing won by Dan Spiller, New Chicago VFD.

Martha Thomas thanked everyone on behalf of the Jim Scott family and Eli Sekulski thanked everyone on behalf of the John Wilson family.

Motion made by Jim Rosendaul, seconded by Ron Rogers, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by, Jim Bradford, Secretary

## DISTRICT 3

Lincoln Twp. Fire Department  
November 18, 1999

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Tim Sandy. Pledge to the Flag was led by Chief Dave Kaufman. Chairman Sandy asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of fallen firefighter Captain Robert Ulrich of Scipio Township.

There were 13 members representing 8 departments in attendance, along with 2 guests.

Guests present were PRNW Buz Koehler and district Miss Flame Kristen Pawlick.

The minutes of the September meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's report was given. Motion made and seconded to accept the report. Motion carried.

Communications - Chairman Sandy read a letter from Noble

Twp. Fire Chief Mick Hunsly advising the Convention Committee that his department is willing to help whenever requested. However, due to availability problems, his members are unable to attend the committee meetings.

Chairman Sandy brought to everyone's attention the problems that Physio-Control is having with the non-chargeable lithium batteries used in the Lifepak 500s. He also had a copy of a letter from the President of Physio-Control stating the problems encountered were isolated incidents and if anyone experiences problems to contact the company representative.

The newly selected district Miss Flame, Kristen Pawlick, introduced herself. Kristen is a Junior at Michigan City High School and the daughter of Patty and Mick Pawlick of Coolspring Twp. Fire Department. Kristen asked that any fire department requesting her services, please feel free to contact her.

Comments from PRNW Buz Koehler:

Announced as of October 28, 1999, the Central Office is no longer in Indianapolis. The State Officers felt the fee was being raised too much and didn't feel the Association could afford to continue with the present company.

The State Officers have met a couple of times and decided to contract with Barb Kerney of Evansville. She is the wife of the Association Vice-President and is familiar with our operations. They are contracting with her for a minimum of one year and a maximum of three years. Her yearly salary will be \$28,000. The Association will be purchasing any equipment (computer, desk, office supplies, etc.) to start up the office.

Hopefully the office will be operational within a couple of weeks. The phone number should be the same. Until the office is operational, all the programs/data are being stored in Fort Wayne.

The State Officers also have redefined the duties of the office and the new office will be expected to follow their guidelines. Any department having problems with the new Central Office is asked to contact Chairman Sandy or PRNW Buz Koehler.

Announced that Bill Kinsey resigned as Association Secretary, but will stay on as Treasurer. Red Morris of Terre Haute was elected Secretary.

Announced there is not much going on with the Legislature. There are some new bills being introduced and some old bills that will be re-introduced. Will have more information as things progress with the bills.

Reminded everyone that the

Fire Caucus Dinner will be January 24, 2000. There will be a silent auction and the proceeds will go to the Burn Camp.

Articles for the next edition of the paper need to be submitted by January 10, 2000.

Announced that the State Officers have come up with the 2000 budget, which will be approved in February.

Reminded everyone that applications for the Bridgeport Scholarship must be postmarked by March 1, 2000.

Announced the Association made a \$1000 donation to the Hoosier Burn Camp.

Midwest Award nominations must be turned into district chairman by February 1, 2000.

Nominations for the Ollie Sandberg Award must be in by May 1, 2000 and nominations for Mr. IVFA must be in by April 4, 2000.

Chairman's report - Reminded everyone to make sure they make contact with himself or Buz Koehler if anyone has any problems with the new Central Office.

Announced that the proposed 2000 operating budget for the Association is \$294,900.

Announced that the State Officers have proposed a change to Article 11 (Expenses and Allowance) to change the \$15 yearly allowance for the district secretary/treasurer to \$50. A vote will be taken at the February meeting of the State Officers. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to allow Chairman Sandy to vote in favor of the change.

Discussed some of the federal legislative firefighting bills that have been proposed. Chairman Sandy will enclose copies in a mailing to each department chief sometime in the near future.

Announced he will also enclose copies of a ~~nanavut~~ <sup>nanavut</sup> or the Indiana Fire Code in the mailing to the chiefs.

Announced that NFPA 1720 is the proposed standard for volunteer fire departments and will be presented next year.

Convention Committee report by Dave Kaufman, Co-Chairman:

Announced that things are finally coming together. The committee drew up a working schedule of events at the last meeting.

Announced that the registration will be extended into the evening of the first night of the convention to give those arriving late a chance to register.

Announced that the entertainment for Thursday and Friday night has been contracted. The female entertaining Thursday night has also agreed to sing at the Memorial Service.

The Blue Chip Hotel is sold out. All additional registrants are being forwarded to Holiday Inn.

Continued on Page 5

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### District 3

Continued from Page 4

The Blue Chip Hotel construction is now ahead of schedule and the projected completion date is January 24, 2000.

Registration fees for convention are: District 3, prior to 1/1/2000 \$35, after 1/1/2000 \$40, and after 6/1/2000 and at convention \$50.

Tricia Garwood of LaCrosse VFD showed the membership a beautiful cross-stitched project she had completed and said she would be willing to raffle it at the convention with the proceeds being split between the District and the Auxiliary. There was some discussion and the members present agreed to it with a cost of \$1.00. Tricia will take care of getting tickets printed.

Next Convention Committee meeting December 9, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. Pleasant Township. Unfinished Business - none. New Business - none. Good of the Order: Chairman Sandy discussed the steps that must be taken in the event of a line-of-duty death of a firefighter.

Chairman Sandy made a suggestion that we give our new Miss Flame \$50 to get her started. Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried. Kristen was presented with a \$50 bill by the Chairman.

Tom Thode of Kankakee Township VFD announced there is a grant writing seminar in Indianapolis December 10, 1999.

Training - Chief Kaufman showed an enlightening video on emergency vehicle driving and the controversy about running with red lights and sirens.

Meeting adjourned by a motion at 8:50 p.m.

The 50/50 drawing won by Kenny Fath of Westville VFD. A flashlight donated by Tom Thode of 5-Alarm was won by Buz Koehler and an equipment bag donated by Dave Kaufman of Boone Fire Equipment was won by Jim Hall of Westville VFD.

Next meeting January 20, 2000, 7:30 p.m. Kankakee Twp. Fire Department, Rolling Prairie. Refreshments served at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by, Pam Kaufman, Sec./Treas.

### DISTRICT 4

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 5

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 6

Hello district members, I'm writing this just after the new millennium. I hope no one had any Y2K problems.

Congratulations are in order for two members of New Haven Adams Township for 40 years of service, George D. Mason and Richard Mackin.

Our last district meeting was held at the Woodburn Fire Department with only seven members present. I will be trying to contact your departments for meeting dates.

Anyone with ideas on how to get more involvement from the district, please feel free to call me!

Respectfully submitted by, Mike Mason, Chairman

### DISTRICT 7

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 8A

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 8B

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 9A

Meeting called to order by Chairman Charlie Cline at 7:30 p.m. on November 18 at Clinton Twp. Fire Department in Clymers. Roll Call answered by 26 members from 11 departments. They responded to 146 alarms since the last meeting.

Guests included Rev. Frank Kilcline, Charlie Baker, Mitch Parish, and Wm. C. Nicholson.

Old Business - There will be a 25-year (or more) pin awarded to firefighters still active. Chiefs please let Chairman Cline know who they are.

New Business - The Central Office has been moved and should be in operation by the end of November.

The IFS dinner is January 24, 2000 at the Indiana Roof Ballroom. There will be fire service displays inside and outside at noon. This event helps educate legislators on the needs of the fire service. The dinner is \$100 a plate.

The Indiana Weekend will be January 29 & 30, 2000 in Kokomo. Your fire chiefs will receive a packet of information on this to pass along to you.

The 2000 Burn Camp will be May 28 through June 2.

Charlie Baker reported on new turnout gear regulations coming with NFPA 1972. This will be a dual compliant standard with EMS and fire. Such features as the passage of sweat out of the gear and no infiltration of blood-borne pathogens are a couple of new advances.

Charlie also mentioned that the new State Secretary is Red Morris of District 11A.

Chairman Cline asked for a vote on proposal from the State Officer's meeting to raise the Secretary's allowance to \$50. Proposal passed.

Ballots passed out for nominations for 2000 Midwest Award.

At next meeting, please submit any changes of chief or address.

Mitch Parish reminded us the deadline for the Bridgeport Scholarship is March 1, 2000.

He is now the Ad Solicitor for the Indiana Volunteer Fireman newspaper and can use any information on prospective advertisers.

Mitch also told of the wildland fire "train the trainer" seminar in Georgia. There will be three people attending from Indiana.

Twelve Mile Fire Department announced they are building a new fire station with help from a grant.

Democrat Township Fire Department in Cutler, Indiana is purchasing a new pumper with help from a grant secured for them by Senator Katie Wolf.

Steve Williams of Logansport was chosen the Eagle Lodge Fireman of the Year, reported Ward Lesch.

Ken Dietrich won the 50/50.

Bill Nicholson, General Counsel for the state EMA, EMS, Fire & Building Services and PSTI, presented his program on the Incident Management System and

written mutual aid agreements.

He said there are 773 volunteer fire departments in the state. The ratio is 151:1 volunteers to paid, making us the backbone of the fire protection in Indiana.

He reminded us the courts require the IMS be used. SOP's must be observed in order to prevent endangering the lives of the firefighters and the public.

Know your neighboring fire departments SOP's.

Make sure of your training.

Safe driving must be stressed.

Give an orientation and safety briefing when going to an incident.

Meeting adjourned, followed by a cold buffet.

Respectfully submitted by, Dee Mauntel, Sec/Treas.

### DISTRICT 9B

September 8, 1999 Remington VFD

Guests included Bill Howe, District 1 Chairman; Mitch Parish, Past President; Bruce Yonkers; and Paul Westmoreland, Town Marshal of Remington.

Announced September 18 the Brookston Apple Festival would be held. Also on September 12 the Rensselaer VFD would hold a pancake breakfast. This is the same weekend as the Little Cousin Jasper Festival.

After introducing the host department, training was given on Terrorism.

November 11, 1999

Rensselaer VFD

There were 31 firefighters present and answering 155 fire calls since last meeting.

Guests included Ray Chambers, Newton County EMS; Ralph Knapp, Lincoln Township Volunteer Fire Department; Buz Koehler, PRNW; Heather Lyons, district Miss Flame representative; and Gary Stewart, Truckline Gas Company.

Announcements: December 4, Remington's chili supper; December 1 Francesville's computer raffle; and December 27, Rensselaer's Firemen's Ball.

Chief of Fowler VFD was recuperating from bypass surgery and cards would be appreciated.

Buz Koehler spoke on the deadline for awards. It was also requested that since IVFA newspaper would be out soon, for everyone to check their names against the mailing list.

Chairman Denton advised there were new patches coming out for firefighters, EMTs, and paramedics.

The Fire Caucus Dinner was discussed and decided that two tickets would be purchased.

Volunteers needed for Hoosier Burn Camp May 28-June 2.

Registration forms for new license plates will be in the IVFA newspaper (see page 10).

Host department introduced and afterwards a presentation on gas trucklines was given.

Respectfully submitted by, Larry Bartley, Secretary

### DISTRICT 10

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 11A

Hello Firefighters, Hope everyone had a great holiday season. Now it's back to the old grindstone.

A special thank you to our November host Coal City VFD. They did a terrific job!

A special thank you to Worthington Chief Jeff Stahl, who spoke to us about a death in the line of duty, and also touched on insurance - what you should have and stated everyone needs to check their policies to make

sure you have the right coverage.

He also spoke about OSHA - when they come in what they will do, can do, and what they will want from you.

Gary Robison from the State Fire Marshal's Office spoke on the new NIFERS system. For more information or to sign up for the computer program, call Gary Robison at 1-800-423-0765 or e-mail grobison@sema.state.in.us.

Jeff Stainfield was also present and spoke a little on insurance and offered to come again and go more in length of what we need.

Southwestern Fire & Safety was featured vendor for this meeting. They can be reached at 1-800-552-FIRE or 812-665-9172.

A training committee was appointed to work on an extrication class and check into other types of training. John Fagg, Sr. and Paul Salb are on the committee. We have met a few times and there are some great ideas. Come out to the district meetings and find out what is going on.

By the time you read this article, this will be old news. We are having a Miss Flame Dance January 22 at the American Legion to honor our State Miss Flame Carol Temple and to crown our 2000 Miss Flame. Shelly Watson, Glenda Fagg, Debbie Morgan are on this committee. IVFAA committee consists of Jo Ann Hays, Bev Taylor and Nancy Wells. They will take care of the Miss Flame contest.

Our January meeting is at Cory VFD and the March meeting will be held at Patricksburg VFD.

Departments having fund raisers mail them to me so we can make a flyer and get your events out to all the departments.

Respectfully submitted by, Diane Harrison, Chairperson

### DISTRICT 11B

Washington Twp. - Reelsville

November 14, 1999

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bartowl. Pledge to the Flag led by Sgt.-at-Arms Brent Bush. Opening prayer given by Chaplain Con Mankin.

Reelsville's Chief, Brian Urton introduced the guest speaker Al Williams, the Dry Hydrant Coordinator for Putnam County, who gave a very interesting lecture on dry hydrants.

Roll Call taken with 24 members from 6 departments present.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report read and approved.

Audit Committee report given and approved.

Chairman Bartlow reported on new action taken by the Association. The Central Office is now officially closed as of October 29 and the phone has been disconnected. Tim Downing is no longer part of the Association. Barb Kerney is head of the office in Evansville.

Bill Kinsey resigned as the Association Secretary, but will continue as the Treasurer.

Chairman Bartlow stated that new updated information is needed for all department listings. There are copies of the National Volunteer Fire Council note available to anyone who wants them. A document to be used by any department willing to donate used equipment is also available.

Don Johnson spoke on the hiring of an executive director by the Association. No decision has been reached yet, it's still on the table for action. The cost for this office has not been established yet, and too many questions need to be answered.

Diane Harrison, District 11A Chairman, invited all in atten-

Continued on Page 6

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# From the Vice President



Jack Kerney

I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. Barb and I spent Christmas with our families and New Years, like most other volunteer firefighters, we spent manning our fire stations in anticipation of the Y2K bug striking. We survived, as I'm sure the rest of the departments did.

I hope everyone will send letters for our various awards. The Mr. IVFA award must be received by the committee, Robert Meyers, Lawrence Swartz and myself, by April 1.

The Ollie Sandburg award nominations must be received by the Vice President by May 1.

All Midwest award winners must be in the hands of the Vice President at the February Officer's Meeting.

As I have traveled throughout the state and have seen praise given to many individuals, we should have a lot of letters for these awards.

Please write your letters and let's recognize these firefighters.

The IVFA Central Office has moved to Evansville. Barb will be your contact person in the office.

The address and phone are: P.O. Box 4794 Evansville, IN 47724. 1-877-606-4832 Toll Free 812-867-3471 Fax

We are working on a web page and will have an e-mail address soon. If you have not given me your e-mail address, you can send it to me at mcfchief@aol.com or kerneyj@ferro.com, and I will put you on my list for e-mail information.

This is the beginning of the 2000 fire school year, and as in the past, if you are a paid up member of the IVFA, you are entitled to a \$5 discount for the classes you attend.

This is one way you can increase your knowledge and reimburse yourself for your IVFA dues. See you at the fire schools.

A last note. I have just been informed of the passing away of our newspaper editor, Robert Laney. Barb and I extend our sympathy to his family. The IVFA just lost another strong supporter of the fire service.

Please be patient with this issue of the newspaper.

## District 11B

Continued From Page 5

dance at our meeting to come to her meeting next Sunday at 1:00 p.m. in Coal City.

Chairman Bartlow announced a change in the Standard Operating Procedures - Article #11, Section #8 - has been recommended by the district. It will change the current salary of the district secretary from \$15 to \$50. Motion made to accept this proposal and unanimously accepted by those present.

Chairman Bartlow announced that the host hotel for the 2000 convention was full.

State Sgt.-at-Arms Bill Bush commented on the structure of

our Association and the current direction it is going under the present procedures.

Auxiliary Chairman Eula Bush announced the Miss Flame Dance will be on February 12 at the Half Century Club in Clinton. Letters and applications forthcoming.

March 12, 2000 district meeting to be held at Perrysville at 1:00 p.m. May 10, 2000 meeting will be held at Dana at 7:00 p.m.

Following several announcements, Chairman Bartlow presented Chief Urton with the host certificate and check, then dismissed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by, John Davies, Secretary

## DISTRICT 12

Here we go again with a new year. Sure have trouble remembering to write 2000 after the date. After writing 19 something all my life, my brain will just not process the change.

Hope this year is a better one to us. Last year really took its toll on deaths of our fellow firefighters. Know the holidays had to be rough ones for their wives, children, families and friends. I'm sure Santa couldn't bring to them what they wished for the most.

Sure makes us humble to realize how lucky we are, but to also realize how quickly it can happen. Hope their deaths are not in vain, and make each one of us a little more cautious and the general public a little more aware of the risks and dangers of our jobs.

Sometimes takes tragedy to bring us closer together, strengthen our faith and make us more careful. I somehow doubt that gives much comfort to those who mourn the loss of their loved one. But as you always hear someone say, we knew the risks when we took the job. And if we don't do it, who will?

Last district meeting of 1999 was held at the Advance Fire Department. It had been about 15 years since Advance hosted this meeting and gracious hosts they were. Good people, good food and a warm atmosphere greeted the few in attendance.

Again, I find it greatly disappointing to know there are 40+ departments in our district and at each meeting only a very few of those are represented. Seldom is the information we pass along at these meetings earth shattering, or information that will not sooner or later be heard by all, one way or another, but I think that misses the point.

I think many of you believe the 'volunteer firefighter' will always exist and that 'strength in numbers' is just a fluke. I'm here to tell you, in my opinion, that if things don't change drastically and we don't join together and prove our worth to our communities, as volunteers, that in the next 10-15 years the 'volunteer firefighter' will no longer exist.

This past year we saw the largest volunteer fire department in the U.S. (Wayne Township) fall to full time. When I say, 'fall', I certainly don't mean in any way shape or form that full-time firefighters are somehow below us volunteers. Most of them were volunteers before they became full-timers and the difference may only be in the paycheck and, quite honestly, they put their lives on the line a great deal more often than we do. That, as a brotherhood, should only make us respect them more.

But I also hope they remember where they started and as volunteers we do the job after and in between our 40-60 hour week, and for a little or no paycheck or perks. I hope that those facts allow them to respect us. For truly we must learn to respect

each other and work together.

I know of no fire department that does not need all the manpower they can get, full-time or volunteers, during a large fire or other type of disaster. If this was not the case, you wouldn't see departments constantly asking for assistance of equipment and manpower from other stations and departments.

In other words, we need each other!

Besides, John Q. Public may smile when they find having full-time people shortens the response time to their emergency, but when they're handed the tax bill to support that quicker response, their smile may disappear very quickly.

And if the smaller, all-volunteer departments disappear, and the bigger, full-time departments take on larger fire districts, the response time will again suffer and the tax bill will become even higher.

If we bill the individuals calling for emergency assistance, to off set the taxes, then many people will avoid calling for help because they just can't afford it. What price do you place on human life?

If money wasn't a factor, we wouldn't still have people dying in our own country of starvation, malnutrition, lack of medical care and exposure due to sleeping in the streets. Let's get real!!!

Well, I'll step down from my podium now, but boy do I feel better! I guess I should state that the opinions expressed in this article are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of the people or organizations I, hereto, represent.

But I hope you'll think about what I said and maybe send representatives from your department to the district meetings, that you'll do the PR and community service things necessary to prove your worth as a volunteer firefighter and most important, that you'll keep getting up in the middle of the night and make those runs. If you don't show up for work, you can't expect to keep the job!

I've used so much space to 'vent', I'll quickly conclude with the following information:

Congratulations to Amo and the dedication of their new station. Should have two others in the district to dedicate in the next few months.

District meetings for this year: Amo - January 17; Brooklyn - March 20; Brown Twp. - May 15; Clayton - July 17; Coatesville - September 18; North Salem -

November 20. All meetings start at 7:00 p.m.

Up-coming events include Danville Fire Department pancake breakfast on Saturday, February 19, 7-10 a.m. Free will offering. You all come!

Happy New Year!  
Respectfully submitted by, John Ross, Chairman

## DISTRICT 13A

NO REPORT

## DISTRICT 13B

NO REPORT

## DISTRICT 14

Well, I'm back on the road again, after the last district meeting on October 20, 1999 at North Madison #5. I'd like to thank the state officer for helping out at the meeting. Sorry, I didn't get to the meeting - I had an accident.

Beginning the first of the 2000, we are asking for all the fire departments to check their records and see how many firefighters you have that have been in the fire service and a member of the IVFA for 25 years or longer. We will be giving out the 25-year service pin in early 2000.

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and hope that the year 2000 will be a better one.

Please come on out to your district meetings and let us know what we, as state officers, can do to help with your department.

Thank you and have a good 2000.

Respectfully submitted by, Roy Richardson, Chairman

## DISTRICT 15

November 16, 1999  
Paradise, Ohio Township Fire Department.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Steve Anderson at 19:25 hours, who then led the Pledge to the Flag.

Chaplain Barb Kerney gave a Spiritual Reading.

Roll Call answered by 12 departments and 39 members.

Guest included Tim Wargel, M&S Fire And Safety; Jack Harker, PRSW; and Jeff Steinfeld, Jones and Associates.

Secretary Kerney distributed minutes of the August 10 meeting at Smith Township Fire Department. Motion made by Harry Logan, seconded by Ken

Gorbet, to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report distributed. Motion made by Ken Gorbet, seconded by John Barr, to accept report as presented. Motion passed by a voice vote.

Old Business - None.  
New Business - A legislative up-date given by Chairman Anderson.

Secretary Kerney reported next fire school at Jasper in March.

Chaplain Barbara Kerney reported she will be the new IVFA Central Office contact person. Office is being moved from Indianapolis to Evansville. (see page 2 for address & phone)

Bridgeport Scholarship applications due in March. Anyone needing an application contact the Central Office (see page 2).

It was reported that Gene Snodgrass, Chief of Yankeetown Fire Department, passed away.

Vincennes sausage supper will be January 15th.

Barbara Kerney reported the Miss Flame judging will be held at the next meeting on January 18, at Somerville Fire Department.

Jeff Steinfeld made a presentation of Firefighter Liability. A question and answer session followed.

Chairman Anderson thanked the Paradise Fire Department for the chicken dinner.

Next district meeting will be at Somerville Fire Department, January 18, 2000.

Door prizes provided by M&S Fire and Safety.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 21:00 hours.

Respectfully submitted by, Jack Kerney, Secretary

## DISTRICT 16

NO REPORT

## DISTRICT 17A

November 20, 1999  
Odon/Madison Twp. Volunteer Fire Department held its turkey BBQ supper and district meeting. IVFAA Chaplain Joann Hays gave the blessing before the meal.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Ronald Bell. Pledge to the Flag led by Auxiliary Chaplain Joann Hays' granddaughter, Jennifer, and State Representative Dave Crooks.

Chairman Bell asked Rep. Dave Crooks, Vice President Jack

Continued on Page 10

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- District #19 ..... Beth Caudill  
15120 Lucas Road, Brookville 47012 (765) 647-3483  
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- Mary Stafford 2601 Covington Commons Drive Apt. 64 Fort Wayne 46804 (219) 432-2365
- Ruth Fairfield 7533 Beaty Avenue, Fort Wayne 46809 (219) 747-6423
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- Ruth Ford

### COMMITTEES FOR 1999 - 2000

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>AUDITING</b><br>Lou Bartlow<br>Dorothy Reiter<br>Barbara Kerney<br>Jean Daunhauer | <b>MISS FLAME</b><br>Eula Bush<br>Miriam Schaeckel<br>Barbara Ketchem             | <b>NOMINATING</b><br>Tammy Hungate<br>Susie Stout<br>Debbie Freed           |
| <b>INSTALLATION</b><br>Barbara Parker<br>Lucy Stofor                                 | <b>V. PRES. PROJECT</b><br>Mary Mackin<br>Ann Moss<br>Nancy Wells                 | <b>PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY</b><br>Lou Bartlow<br>Barbara Parker<br>Lucy Stofor |
| <b>FINANCIAL STUDY</b><br>Lou Bartlow<br>Dorothy Reiter<br>Diana Griffin             | <b>BY-LAWS</b><br>Martha Thomas<br>Barbara Parker<br>Beth Caudill<br>Melinda Bell | <b>LOIS BOAZ</b><br>Mary Mackin<br>Ann Moss<br>Toni Sorg                    |
| <b>HISTORIAN</b><br>Wanda Johnson  | <b>JEWELRY</b><br>E.J. Smith<br>Mary Mackin                                       | <b>PARLIAMENTARIAN</b><br>Phyllis Vargo                                     |
| <b>CHINESE AUCTION</b><br>Martha Thomas<br>Barbara Parker                            | <b>Leona Uryga<br/>Rowena Scott</b>   | <b>GAMES</b><br>Appointed as needed   |

## IVFAA President



Faye Sallee

### DISTRICTS 1,2

November 4, 1999  
Meeting called to order by District 1 Chairman Martha Thomas at 7:20 p.m. Prayer given by Suzy Barnhart, Merrillville. Pledge to the Flag led by Karen Holliday.  
Dinner served by host department, Lake Station.  
Roll Call taken.  
Guests included parents of our Miss Flame contestants from Dist. 1 Kari Fravel, Independence Hill; Melissa Ballard, New Chicago; Brenda Rosendaul, Lake Station and Dist. 2 Krystal Lowe, Lake Hills; and Nikki Luebcke of Crown Point. Also present were Clarence Moss and Jake Thomas, husbands of our district chairmen.

Minutes read by District 2 Secretary Marge Baumgardner and stood as read.

Auxiliary update read by Brenda Rosendaul.

New Business - Chinese auction items for convention. Marge made a motion, seconded by Carol Elais, to have two items. Motion carried.

A reminder that the Lois Boaz award nominations to be turned in to Anne Moss, Toni Sorg, or Mary Mackin by February 1st.

Also contact Ann or Martha when you have activities in your auxiliary and we will try to attend whenever possible.

A break from meeting to check out the silent auction, while Miss Flame judging is being done.

Judges were Keith Soderquist, Councilman-at-Large; Linda Anderson, Mayor's Secretary; and Phyllis Vargo, IVFAA Past President.

Ann Moss gave Treasurer's report.

After a hard judging, winners were District 1 - Brenda Rosendaul, Lake Station and District 2 - Nikki Luebcke of Lake Hills. Martha and Ann thanked the judges for their time.

Debi Fravel won 50/50.

Attendance trophies went to Merrillville, District 1 and Lake Dale, District 2.

Lowell Ladies Auxiliary passed out invitations for the March 2, 2000 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m. Respectfully submitted by, Kim Gronik, Dist. 1 Secretary Martha Thomas, Dist. 1 Chair. Ann Moss, Dist. 2 Chair.

### DISTRICT 3

September 15, 1999  
Meeting called to order by Chairman Leona Uryga at 7:30 p.m. at Michiana Shores VFD. Chairman Uryga led the Pledge to the Flag and Rose Stanz led prayer.

In attendance was Springfield, 4; Coolspring, 4; Michiana Shores, 7; LaCrosse, 1, and 1 individual.

Minutes will stand approved as read. There were no bills turned in and there was no correspondence.

Illnesses to report - Pat Wozniak, LaCrosse Department.

Chairman Uryga will try to contact Carolyn McCarty to ask if she still wants to be Chaplain.

Chairman Uryga showed the convention shirts that are now being sold for \$10. There are a lot of shirts left, and we need to get rid of them. Two shirts will be given away tonight in a drawing.

Until January 1, anyone who pre-registers can register for \$35 from our district; otherwise, it will be \$40.

The meetings will be held at the Blue Chip Casino Hotel and the banquet is still being worked on. The trolley from the Prime Outlet Mall will be able to run back and forth for people to go and shop.

Tentative right now Wednesday night will be Karoke night along with a picnic. Thursday night Mary McCoy and picnic. Friday night is the banquet with the band New Odyssey. Chairman Uryga has sample of the charms and tie tacks for convention. Kingsford Union is now out getting prizes. Each auxiliary asked to donate 25 gifts for the meeting.

Chairman asked for someone to be in charge for departments to report to. Lee Uryga volunteered to take on that task.

Letters are going out to each auxiliary and fire department to ask for participants for the Miss Flame contest. The young ladies should be between the ages of 15-18 by convention and be a daughter or sister of a fireman or auxiliary member. Or can be an IVFAA member herself. We need to know about the young ladies as soon as possible because Lincoln will have to get judges.

Next meeting November 17 at Lincoln VFD. If they cannot have the meeting, the next auxiliary down the line will have it, which will be LaCrosse.

Next convention meeting October 14. Mike Malchow won 50/50 of \$488.50.

Audit of Treasurer's books was perfect.

Coolspring presented the pictures and a program for Marie Moore from the Memorial Service at the last convention.

Your dues should have been sent out already.

Round table: Coolspring - nothing; Michiana Shores - Pancake Breakfast, October 24; Springfield - Haunted House & Fish Fry September 18; LaCrosse - nothing.

Ladies remember you need to get out and start getting things for the ditty bags. We need things for the Miss Flame bags (17), women's meeting bags (300-400), door awards (25), and arriving bags (1000).

This year we are holding a door-decorating contest for the Miss Flames. Tricia Garwood donated the gifts. Our convention will be the one and only at Blue Chip. Anyone wanting to volunteer, please contact someone on the committee.

Motion to dismiss made by Rose Stanz, seconded by Ruth Deutcher. Motion passed.

Ruth Deutcher and Marge

Wozniak won 50/50. Linda Jaske and Fran Shultz won shirts. Michiana Shores Auxiliary served a selection of delicious desserts and distributed door prizes.

November 17, 1999

Meeting called to order by Chairman Leona Uryga at 7:08 p.m. at Lincoln VFD. The Chairman then led the Pledge to the Flag and Rose Stanz led prayer.

Chairman Uryga asked Ms. Stanz to be Assistant Chaplain to help Chaplain McCarty. She accepted.

Roll Call was answered by Coolspring, 2; LaCrosse, 3; Lincoln, 3; Michiana Shores, 2; and Springfield, 4.

Secretary's report given and will stand approved.

Treasurer's report given and will stand approved until time of audit.

No bills or correspondence to turn in.

Old Business - Don't forget ladies that each auxiliary is asked to donate 25 door awards for convention. These gifts are needed by May. Blue Chip is now full and Holiday Inn is taking the overflow. We will also need ladies to help with the Koffee Klatch on Friday morning. Mike Szczepaniak is taking pictures, so if you or your department want pictures taken for the convention book, please contact him at his home 872-2449.

An update from the Convention Committee was given with almost everything being held at Blue Chip; every event will be in the January newspaper. (see page 21) Don't forget to pick up a registration form before you leave tonight to register.

February 1 is the deadline for the Lois Boaz award. Please nominate someone from our district. Just write a short paragraph about that individual and send in to the committee of Mary Mackin, Ann Moss and Phyllis Vargo.

Tricia Garwood donated a picture to District 3 men and the Auxiliary to be raffled off, with proceeds to be divided between the two organizations.

Kristin Pawlik from Coolspring VFD will be our district Miss Flame. Congratulations and Good Luck, Kristin.

A Memorial Service was held

Continued on Page 9

**NOTICE:**  
See page 2 for information on **NEW** IVFA Central Office



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

Pierce Fire Apparatus  
(Northern Indiana)

MIDWEST FIRE & SAFETY EQUIPMENT 1-800-382-9788



Thanks to Franklin Twp. Fire Department



Thanks to South Bend Fire Department

Refurbishing your fire fighting apparatus makes good business sense. At RPI we strive to rebuild each truck in a manner which will provide another 15 years of useful life at a reasonable cost. We are also capable of replacing bodies or adding new features such as high side compartments or a cross lay compartment to upgrade your apparatus.

Our 27 employees are dedicated to quality workmanship and we are all confident, given the opportunity, we will both be proud of the results of the work you bring to Renewed Performance, Inc.



**SERVICES**

**REBUILD** - Cab and body to original specifications or update with new features. Also can repair wrecked units.

**REPAIR** - Overhaul pumps, plumbing, valves, electrical, body and drive train. Engine and transmission repair or replacement.

**REPAINT** - New painting facilities to provide total paint, lettering and stripping services.

**REFURBISH** - With new bodies in galvaneel steel, stainless steel or aluminum.

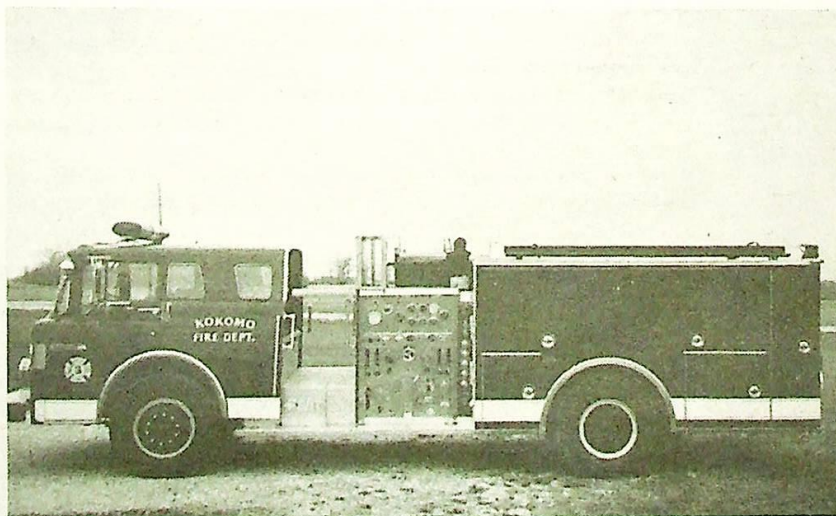
**CAB ENCLOSURES** - Convert present cab into a four door enclosed cab or replace with new cab.

**RECHASSIS** - New commercial or custom chassis and glider kits.

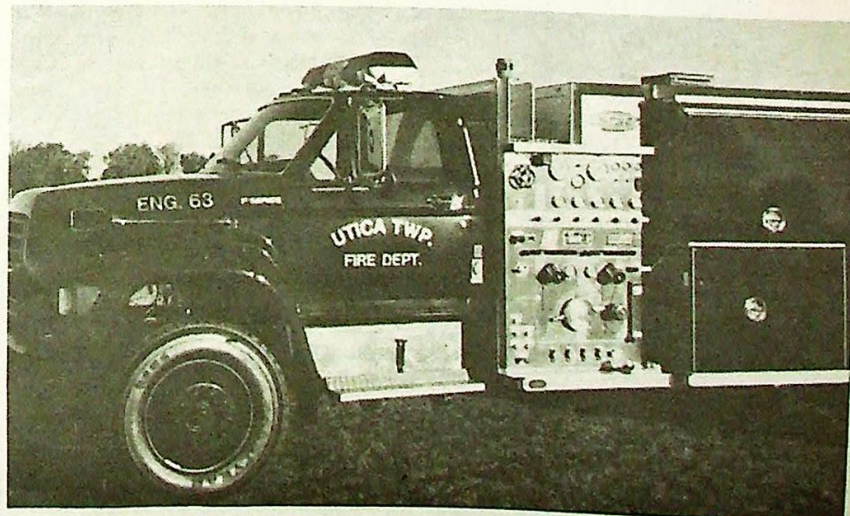
**RECERTIFICATION** - Pump and aerial testing services available.

**BOOSTER TANK REPLACEMENT** - Hot dipped galvanized steel or UPF Poly tank II.

**RPI is your alternative to buying new fire apparatus. Call 765-675-7586 or write RPI - P.O. Box 196, Tipton, Ind. 46072**

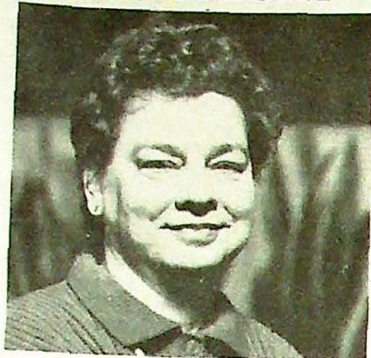


Thanks to Kokomo Fire Department



Thanks to Utica Twp. Volunteer Fire Department

## IVFAA Vice President



Mary Mackin

### District 3

Continued From Page 7

in remembrance of Frieda Kroenig at the Southwind Memorial Church.

Round table: Coolspring - Craft & Bake Sale December 4, Irene Childress and Dorothy Moffitt have raffle tickets if anyone wants one; LaCrosse - nothing; Michiana Shores - nothing; Lincoln - nothing; Springfield - Turkey Shoot still going on and the monthly rifleman's dinner.

Next meeting on January 19, 2000 at LaCrosse Fire Station. Ladies please watch the weather and let Chairman Uryga know what's going on in your area. Shirley Hamilton and Gert Peterson won 50/50.

Motion made by Dorothy Moffitt, seconded by Gert Peterson, to adjourn. Motion carried.

The Lincoln Auxiliary served a variety of delicious breads and then handed out door awards.

### DISTRICT 4

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 6

The district met at Woodburn Fire Station, Allen County, on November 18, 1999. We had an enjoyable meeting, but would like to see more members present.

We would like to congratulate Kimberly Smith for winning the right to represent our district as Miss Flame at convention.

Next meeting will be on January 20, 2000 at Washington Township Fire Station, Whitley County.

At State Officer's Meeting we were urged to stress that the Friday morning meeting at the convention would be the main meeting. If business is all con-

## Attention:

## IVFAA Auxiliary Members

You may purchase  
IVFAA  
Shoulder Patches  
from District 11B  
@ \$1.50 each.

Contact:  
Maxine Davies  
5 Brookside Street  
Fillmore, IN 46128  
(765) 246-6220

cluded in the morning, there will not be an afternoon meeting.

Make plans for Michigan City now, as the Blue Chip Casino Hotel is filling up fast.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Marilyn Dever, Chairman

### DISTRICT 7

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 10

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 11A

The new year came in with a lot of celebration, hopefully none of you were bitten by the Y2K bug.

Our January 16th meeting will be hosted by Cory VFD at 1:00 p.m. A BIG thanks to them.

Our district will host a dance on January 22 in Terre Haute to honor and thank our State Miss Flame Carol Tempel and to crown or new district Miss Flame. She will then participate at State Convention, to be held in Michigan City. Please come out and support these girls. Everyone is welcome.

Our March 19th meeting will be held at Patricksburg VFD at 1:00 p.m. Look forward to seeing you there.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Carolyn Morris, Chairman

### DISTRICT 11B

Here it is January 2000 already. We managed to get through New Years without incident and the weather this winter has been very mild here. Only just a little snow for a white Christmas.

I hope all auxiliaries have paid their 1999-2000 dues and are making plans to attend the convention in Michigan City in June. While you are sitting by the fire watching the 'tube', fill out the registration form and send it in before you forget it. Then pick up the phone and call the Blue Chip Casino Hotel in Michigan City (219 879-7711) to reserve a place to lay your head down.

Then one more thing, compose those letters recommending someone for the Lois Boaz, Mr. IVFA and Ollie Sandburg Awards.

This district is busy planning our annual Miss Flame dance to be held Saturday, February 12, at the One Half Century Club in Clinton, Indiana. The 'Road Rambler Band' will provide the music from 9:00 until midnight. Proceeds from the dance will help to defray the cost of our representative at convention. Put on those dancing shoes and come on down.

If there is anyone reading this article that belongs to a firemen's auxiliary that doesn't belong to the IVFAA, or anyone who doesn't belong to the firemen's auxiliary but would like to, give me a call. I would like to tell you how to form an auxiliary and belong to the IVFAA. Even though you think you are doing fine without it, let's talk about it. My address and phone number are:

Eula Bush  
1419 W. 850 S.  
Dana, IN 47847  
765 665-3213

If you get that 'darned answering machine', don't hang up. Please leave a message and I will call you back on my nickel.

Please attend your district meetings. This year's meeting schedule is as follows:

March 12, Perrysville, 1 p.m.  
May 10, Dana, 7 p.m.  
July 14, TBA, 7 p.m

September 17, joint picnic, District 11A hosting, 1 p.m.

November 12, Reelsville, 1 p.m.

Well once more I'm tired of thinking (I use the term loosely) and writing and pretty sure you are tired of reading. Check in the next issue for more to come.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Eula Bush, Chairman

### DISTRICT 12

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 13A

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 13B

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 14

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 15

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 17A

NO REPORT

### DISTRICT 19

The Blooming Grove Firemen's Auxiliary hosted the November 9, 1999 meeting at the firehouse in Blooming Grove.

The attendance was small, but the meeting proceeded nevertheless. The Pledge to the Flag was given and Rosie Weisenbach led us in prayer.

Roll Call was taken with eight people present.

The minutes were read and one correction was noted. The minutes stated the meeting was the same day as elections, but that was inaccurate, as the elections were held the previous Tuesday. They have been amended.

The treasurer's report was given.

Sick members were mentioned and the names will be passed along to Marilyn Smith so cards can be sent.

It is a possibility that Kelly Higham will run for Miss Flame from the Morris Fire Department. Beth reported there might be another girl from Blooming Grove. The contest will be at Delaware on November 18th.

The report of the nominating committee and subsequent elections were postponed until the next meeting, owing to the fact that only two departments were represented.

Beth reported all the fire departments in her area have sent their dues to state and she commended them for their promptness.

It was strongly urged that the Lois Boaz letters be sent by February 1, 2000. Send letters to each of the committee members.

The 2000 Convention is June 14th - 17th at Michigan City.

Upcoming events included a breakfast at Morris in November and Christmas party for the ladies in December.

Next meeting will be at Manchester on February 8th.

Elvira Wissel won the 50/50. Games were then enjoyed by all and a dessert selection also.

Karen Merkel motioned the meeting to adjournment and Pat Moser seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Pam Scheele

## IVFAA STATE OFFICERS MEETING

MARTEN HOUSE - INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA  
NOVEMBER 7, 1999

President Faye Sallee opened the meeting by having Chaplain Joann Hays lead us in a word of prayer. This was followed by Sgt.-At-Arms Miriam Schaeckel leading us in the Pledge to the Flag.

Recording Secretary Barbara Kerney gave Roll Call with 26 officers and 5 guests present.

Barbara then read the minutes from the last meeting and there were two corrections...one being that E.J. Smith had asked to purchase Past President pins, and not Vice President pins, as was stated. Second being that Leona Uryga made the suggestion that the Miss Flames decorate their doors for convention, and not Eula Bush as stated. They were then approved as read.

Treasurer Dorothy Reiter gave her statement as follows:

Balance on hand August 12, 1999		\$8382.24
INCOME:		
Dues	1781.00	
Interest	12.62	
V.P. Project	467.00	
Unrelated In.	98.19	
TOTAL INCOME		+ 2358.78
DISBURSEMENTS:		
Operating Exp.	61.55	
Mileage	538.00	
Phone & Postage	123.71	
Overpaid Dues	48.00	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		- 771.26

Balance on hand November 5, 1999 \$9969.76

\*Subject to audit

Membership - Barbara Kerney said we have 47 Departments, 21 Individuals, 629 Members, for a total of 672.

Chaplain Joann Hays said there have been 5 deaths since last meeting. She gave Bibles to each. Lou Bartlow asked her how the flower fund was. Joann said it was empty, but wanted someone to go over who we buy flowers for, because she feels she misunderstood and that's why we have no money. It was explained our fund is for the Line Officers and District Chairmen in case of illness, hospitalization, etc. The flowers sent to officers and IVFA officers and their spouses, or Auxiliary and spouse, comes from the Treasurer. This is for death or illness. So the bag was passed around for donations.

Auditing - Lou Bartlow said everything is fine, all set until next year. Installations - Barbara Parker said hopefully we don't get everything done in the morning, because several thought there would be an afternoon meeting. Faye said there was no reason to have an afternoon meeting, since all business had been taken care of in the morning. She said we'd just have to play it by ear and see how much business we have this year. They will have to understand that the main meeting will be in the morning, then if need be, there will be an afternoon meeting. We can start the meeting earlier, maybe 8 a.m. and that would give us more time. It's kind of nice to have the afternoon free to unwind a bit. So, we'll wait and see what we have to do.

By-Laws - Martha Thomas has not heard of any yet.

Sharon Brey, a guest, asked to speak in regard to the By-Laws and the SOP's. She was speaking for the members of her auxiliary and said they feel the officers are here to enforce and administer the rules, not make them up without input from members. This was mainly to establish the need to raise the dues. There didn't seem to be a significant reason to raise them.

Faye read a letter that was sent to Sharon in reply to hers written to us. Phyllis Vargo said that we did present this over a 2-year period. We asked the district chairmen to take information to their respective districts and get the input from the members, then bring the vote back to the officer's meetings.

Lou Bartlow said nothing was done without the chairmen discussing and voting on the decision to raise the dues. It was done because having to go from June to June was making it impossible to disburse money when it was needed.

The By-Laws themselves should not have a financial statement in them, this is where the SOP's are taking over. This way when a need arises, we can do this at the officer's quarterly meetings. The By-Laws themselves are not changed.

The district chairmen each have a financial statement showing where the money goes, and it is available to the members.

After quite a lengthy discussion, Sharon said she understood and we had answered her questions.

Jewelry - E.J. Smith said Leona had brought her a design for the charm and tack. She'll see what they can do with it. They want something a little different, anything but round.

Historian - Wanda Johnson said that Books 2, 3, & 4 are going to be great, but we still need items for Book 1, since it cannot be located. If you have things you do not want to part with, she is willing to photocopy them for the book, just to say there is something in it.

President's Advisory - Lou Bartlow said "Hang in there", you are doing fine.

Lois Boaz - Mary Mackin said they have not received any letters yet, so get them in. You only have until February 1st and there are a lot of deserving women out there.

Faye passed out the list of committees for 2000.

Parliamentarian - Phyllis Vargo said everything is fine.

### OLD BUSINESS

Leona has not heard anything from TY about the beanie. She has e-mailed Beansprouts and is waiting on a reply. If we can find someone to supply a Dalmatian, that would be great. Faye will check a company near her.

Continued on Page 11

# NEW LICENSE PLATE INFORMATION

## 2000 Important Instructions! Please Take Note

The State of Indiana provides Special Recognition License Plates to qualified members of organizations such as the IVFA. This program is administered through the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

The IVFA Central Office coordinates the program for members of the Association.

You will not be able to obtain plate request forms unless you complete the following instructions.

### PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

#### To obtain your license plate(s) you must:

1. Be a paid-up member of the IVFA when your license plate(s) are due for renewal.
2. Return your *Individual Plate Request Application* to the IVFA Central Office **NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS BEFORE THE MONTH YOU WISH TO RECEIVE YOUR PLATES.** This form should contain the number of plates you are requesting for the year 2000, along with \$5 for each plate.

#### Renewal months by first letter of your last name

January-Corporations February-A, B, Rental, Bus  
 March-C, D April- E,F,G, Personal May-H, I  
 June-J, K, L July-M, N, O August-P, Q  
 September-S, T October- U, V, W, X, Y, Z

3. Purchase the actual quantity of plates you requested from the IVFA Central Office.
  - a. **DO NOT** request more forms than you plan to use!
  - b. The BMV may charge the IVFA for leftover plates you do not pay for!
4. The application contains a space to write the number of plates requested, making it necessary to fill out only **ONE APPLICATION PER PERSON NOT PER PLATE.**

5. The license plate form will be sent to each individual at their home address.
6. It is important that the individual or department keep a copy of all forms for their records.
7. This application form can be copied and kept in a file for further use throughout the year!
8. See additional instructions for BMV procedures. (Below)

## BMV Procedures

After you have completed and mailed in your license plate form application you will receive the number of license plate forms you ordered. At that time, it is necessary to submit the form(s) to the BMV.

1. Submit or mail one (1) plate request form to the BMV for each license plate requested.
2. Must be an original form (with the raised seal on the bottom right hand corner).
3. Forms are computer printed; copies are not acceptable.
4. Pay a fee of \$12 for each plate requested in addition to all other registration fees and taxes.
5. Follow all directions supplied to you by the BMV.

This is a general outline of the steps needed to renew Special Recognition License Plates. The IVFA only supplies the necessary authorization form(s) to obtain the IVFA Special Recognition License Plates.

Upon receiving the form(s), members must follow and complete all BMV regulations in order to receive the plates.

Please, do not send vehicle registrations to the Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association, only to the BMV.

## District 17A

Continued From Page 6

Kerney, Past President Jack Zeeks, PRSW Jack Harker, Sgt.-at-Arms Bill Bush, Past President Mitch Parish, district 1999 Miss Flame Heather Cliff, district Miss Flame 2000 contestant Stephanie Conger, to come forward. They then assisted the chairman in presenting Jack Ketcham his Life Membership Gold Card.

This came as quite a surprise to Jack, as he had no idea this was going to happen. Also helping to assure Jack got to the meeting was his brother Larry, Chief of Dana Fire Department, Larry's wife Barbara, and Jack's sister Trudy Phillips and her husband Joe. We understand Jack almost didn't attend, but in my article in the last issue of this newspaper it stated he was getting some albums together of past BBQ turkey suppers, so he decided not to let us down. Thanks, Jack! Also thanks to everyone who kept this a secret.

There were also five former Mr. IVFA recipients in attendance.

Other guest speakers included Gary Robison, NFIRS Program Manager, Indiana Dept. of Fire & Building Services Office of the State Fire Marshal's office and Al Scarpellini, Vincennes University Fire Science & Safety Dept, who gave a brief outline of what he will be speaking about at the March district meeting.

There were representatives from 21 fire departments and about 80 people in attendance.

Also in attendance was Past PRSW Carl Davies' wife and daughter. We are always glad to have them attend.

November 21, 1999

Attended District 11A's dinner and meeting at Coal City Fire Department. Their district chairman Diane did a wonderful job. Proud to have you as a district chairman.

December 4, 1999

Our fire department had its bean supper and Christmas Auction with a large crowd in attendance. It was a huge success. Proceeds go toward the purchase of a new fire truck that Ron and Trustee Paul Shafer have been working toward.

December 7, 1999

At our monthly department meeting, Donnie Malone was presented the Firefighter of the Year award by Ron Bell, with the help of Fire Chief Joe Knepp. Donnie is well deserving of this award, as he's a dedicated firefighter who takes the position very seriously.

December 29, 1999

Attended Elnora/Elmore VFD Christmas supper. Enjoyed the meal and good fellowship. Was asked to present the Fireman's Award to Chief Brian Wesner and Assistant Chief Wayne Ellis.

Next district meeting will be March 8, 2000 at the Daviess County Fair Grounds, Elnora. Host department Elnora/Elmore VFD. Guest speaker is Vincennes University Al Scarpellini. Any districts or departments who would like to come, please do. We will appreciate you attending.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Ron Bell, Chairman

**DISTRICT 17B**

NO REPORT

**DISTRICT 18**

NO REPORT

**DISTRICT 19**

NO REPORT

**DISTRICT 21**

NO REPORT

## PLEASE NOTE

The form below should be filled out and mailed, along with your money, to:  
**IVFA CENTRAL OFFICE - BARBARA KERNEY**  
**P.O. BOX 4797 EVANSVILLE, IN 47724**

INDICATE ON THE ENVELOPE YOUR PLATE RENEWAL MONTH

Please do not send the application to this newspaper.

That will only delay your application and you may miss out on getting your special plates.

Thank you for your cooperation.

STAPLE CHECK HERE

### 2000 IVFA Individual License Plate Request Form Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ IVFA Membership# \_\_\_\_\_

Department Name \_\_\_\_\_ Department # \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Month Your Plates Renew \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ # Plates Requested \_\_\_\_\_

County of Residence \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

## IVFAA STATE OFFICERS MEETING

Continued from Page 9

Corresponding Secretary - Diana Gray read several thank you notes. She was inadvertently missed when we were in the business meeting.

Convention - Leona Uryga said she would answer any questions that she could. The Blue Chip Hotel was full. If you do not have your reservations in, you'll have to go to the Holiday Inn. Registration forms are in the IVFA paper. There will also be a tentative schedule in the paper. (see page 21)

Barbara Parker asked a question on the \$250 we give toward the Koffee Klutch. If the Klutch is donated, can this money be used for something else, such as decorations, etc?

It's to be used ONLY for the Klutch. Since theirs was donated last year, Barbara's returning the \$250. That's very nice of her, and thanks for being so honest. But she questioned other districts, because she knew some had been donated.

Miss Flame - Eula Bush said she was given two applications today and she wants 23 more. Leona's daughter is handling them for convention and you may contact her at 219-879-7711, ext. 2414.

Barbara Kerney said the girls will have entertainment this year at convention. You'll have something great to look forward to. Barb does a great job with them. It's a lot of work, but beneficial.

### NEW BUSINESS

Diana Gray requested a new tape recorder to tape the minutes. This one doesn't pick up the voices and the handle is broken. Not sure how old it is, but would like approval to purchase a new one. Barbara made a motion to purchase a new recorder at her

discretion. Martha Thomas seconded it. Motion carried.

The question was asked if we have to change the name of our Auxiliary, since the men have changed the name of their organization.

Lou said it would be very costly to do so. First, you have to send the By-Laws in and we are incorporated and so we really do not have to.

With no further business, Faye asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Lou Bartlow and seconded by Ann Moss. Motion carried.

Faye reminded us to make our reservations and secure them with a credit card.

Next meeting will be on February 5 & 6, here at the Marten House.

Joann closed with a word of prayer.

Happy Holidays To All And See You In The Year 2000!

Respectfully submitted by,  
Diana Gray, Corres. Secretary

## IVFAA Chaplain



Joann Hays

## Letter from State Miss Flame 1st Runner-up

Hello!

I hope everyone had a safe Y2K and a very nice Christmas. It kind of worried me when everything was okay. No one tried to test the fire alarm. Turns out it was okay.

Many of you are getting ready for another convention. I'm ready for another one. Only for me it will be a lot different. I do not have to go through the stress that I did for the past two years, but I will miss it.

I have many great memories. I hope everyone gives a Miss Flame a memory. Members of the IVFA and IVFAA are the reason girls get to have those memories.

When I was asked to write something for the paper again, it shocked me. I missed the last paper and just found out when this one was due. Since they wanted me to talk about something, I thought I should.

I want to share one of my best memories with you. Last year, the day of the judging for the State pageant in Columbus, I was so relaxed. That morning I was put in a room with a group of girls who really did not know a thing about what was to happen. Some of us had an idea. The room had chairs along the wall. I had to move mine to the middle of the room. Later, I drew a picture of Eula Bush with green hair. That was a sight, because I cannot draw a picture of a person.

As the day went by, the stress

was building. It was exciting though. Many memories stick with me from that day. When I went into the room to be judged, the judges took me by surprise. They were great. They made me feel at home.

That evening I was so nervous. When Eula announced my name, I was so excited. I also felt upset though for the other girls, because I remember what it was like to stand in their shoes one year before that.

The one thing I could not stress enough is that everyone of those girls were winners.

Thank you for the memories that night. I appreciate all the girls that night that said congrats!

All you firefighters that have a girl eligible to run for Miss Flame, encourage them to do so. They could have many similiar memories of their own.

On February 12th, I have to give up my Miss Flame reign to a very lucky girl. I will hold all of the memories with me and no one will take them away from me.

Thank you to everyone who has ever talked to me or encouraged me these last two years. You have had an influence on me and I will remember them so much.

Love, Brandy Miller  
1999 District 11B Miss Flame  
State 1st Runner-Up  
e-mail: misflm99@aol.com

## Woman dies in car crash

Witness: "Van just didn't slow down"

By Angie Quick  
Ledger staff writer

Clarksville - Priscilla Floyd and her husband were just passing through Hamilton County Tuesday, October 12, 1999, when they witnessed something that happened in the blink of an eye, but will stay with them forever.

As they drove west on Indiana 38 about 12:15 p.m., a van charged through a stop sign on Cyntheanne Road in front of them and smashed into an oncoming car.

"He hit that little car and it just exploded," Floyd said.

The impact ripped the car in half, killing Roberta Forkner, 54, of Morristown, Indiana.

She was pronounced dead at the scene from multiple head injuries, said Hamilton County Coroner Mark Roberts.

The van driven by James M. Milligan, was headed north on Cyntheanne Road when it ran the stop sign at Indiana 38 and plowed into the passenger side of the eastbound car driven by Forkner's husband, 52-year-old David M. Forkner, said Hamilton County Sheriff's Sgt. Eddie Moore.

"He just didn't slow down," Floyd said, shaking her head.

Milligan was taken by Life Line helicopter to Methodist Hospital. David Forkner was taken by ambulance to Riverview Hospital. Both men were listed in fair condition this morning.

The rear end of the Forkners' car came to rest about 25 yards from the front of the car in a field north of Indiana 38.

After the crash, Milligan was

conscious and trying to get up from the ground, while David Forkner was trying to get out of his car, Floyd said.

Passersby stopped, called 911 and tried to keep the men still until medics arrived, Floyd said.

No one knew what to do to help Roberta Forkner because she was hurt so badly, Floyd said.

"I've never seen anything like it, and I hope I don't ever again," she said.

Forkner is the ninth person to die this year in traffic accidents in Hamilton County.

Reprinted from the Noblesville Ledger, October 12, 1999.

## Chesterfield firefighters battle field blaze

Chesterfield - Chesterfield firefighters, assisted by Daleville contingents, fought a stubborn field fire in the 2600 block of South 300 East, Sunday afternoon, November 14, 1999.

Chief Gary Hutton said the fire that consumed mostly timber may have been ignited by a campfire.

"Neighborhood kids tend to go back there," Hutton said. "Luckily, this was out in the field and not close to any structure."

Hutton said the dry conditions, combined with the leaves that have fallen from the trees, and downed timber made for a fire that continuously had firefighters battling 'hot spots.'

"This situation is very difficult," he said of the field fire. "We can't get the trucks back in there, and we ended up having to take the hoses in with the firefighters. We had over 250 feet of hose out before we were done."

Firefighters were at the scene long after dark, about three hours total effort put into dousing the blaze.

There were no injuries, Hutton said.

Reprinted from the Herald Bulletin, November 15, 1999.

**NOTICE:**

See page 2  
for  
information  
on  
**NEW**  
**IVFA**  
**CENTRAL**  
**OFFICE**  
and  
**NEW**  
**SECRETARY**

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# IVFA STATE OFFICERS MEETING

NOVEMBER 6 & 7, 1999

President Jack Cox called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Chaplain Baker gave the Invocation. Vice President Jack Kerney led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from last meeting not available to be read, tracer will be put on them.

## OFFICERS REPORTS

President - Jack Cox reported that he was busy with the Central Office situation. He attended some meetings and had to cancel a few.

Vice President - Jack Kerney attended two Board of Firefighters Personal Standard & Education meetings. Attended two fire schools, three chief meetings, was a guest speaker on two occasions, and attended three district meetings.

Chaplain - Charlie Baker reported he was busy early in the quarter. Reported the first female fatality in the line of duty.

Secretary/Treasurer - Bill Kinsey reported he had the original minutes from the last meeting and they were mailed. He will follow up on their location and make sure they get in the mail. Gave Treasurer's report. The General Fund checking & savings has a balance of \$376,912.56. CD & Market Index amounts total current assets balance is \$502,323.09. Total fixed assets \$12,025.00. Total assets and liabilities \$514,358.09. Budget comparison on income of \$267,561.45. Total expenses during that period \$271,349.51, for a deficit of \$3788.00. Bridgeport Fund balance sheet total current assets \$86,673.37. Income statement \$2515.00 interest income, \$6848.59 donations collected at the 1999 convention. Gain of \$6344.15.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTORS REPORT

PRNW - Buz Koehler could not attend meetings, nothing to report.

PRNE - Richard Glant, nothing to report.

PRWC - Don Johnson made every meeting except EMS meeting in Terre Haute.

PREC - Don Cushman, nothing to report.

PRSW - Jack Harker attended all district meetings and open houses.

PRSE - Nelson Elhers absent.

## PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

All Past Presidents passed

## DISTRICT CHAIRMEN'S REPORT

District 1 - William Howe absent.

District 2 - Larry Stott reported program cancelled.

District 3 - Tim Sandy reported two firefighter deaths and one injury. Changed district meeting to every other month. Requested more information be given to departments about training programs. Meeting attendance up. Stark County paid their dues.

District 4 - Greg Freed reported no deaths, attendance good. Next meeting at Harris Township on December 2.

District 5 - Don Kissinger did not attend last month's meeting. Reported several deaths. Next meeting on November 11.

District 6 - Michael Mackin, absent.

District 7 - Maurice Sorg reported no deaths. Did not attend last month's meeting. Next meeting in Roanoke.

District 8A - Robert Fleener, absent (sick).

District 8B - Larry Petro reported good attendance. Next meeting Wednesday, November 10 at Yorktown.

District 9A - Charlie Cline reported good attendance. Next meeting Clinton Township.

District 9B - Randy Denton reported no deaths. Did not attend last meeting, attendance low. Next meeting November 11 at Rensler.

District 10 - David Israel reported good attendance. One death. Problem on dues, one month late. Needs two clocks and has one clothing claim. Next meeting November 17 at Warren Township.

District 11A - Diane Harrison reported no deaths. Has one clothing claim. Next meeting November 21 at Coal City. There will be a speaker.

District 11B - Larry Bartlow reported next meeting at Reelsville, Washington Township.

District 12 - John Ross reported attendance low. Had one dedication and will have two more after the first of the year.

District 13A - Tim Martin reported attendance low. Next meeting November 18 in Knightstown.

District 13B - Dennis Spears reported next meeting November 18 at Everton Fire Department at 7:30 p.m.

District 14 - Roy Richardson thanked everyone for help with the fire truck accident. He could not attend last meeting. Jack Kerney went in his place.

District 15 - Steve Anderson attended three parades, an open house, one training exercise, one brush fire, and visited 15 out of 20 departments. Next meeting November 16. Presentation on liability issues.

District 16 - Dale Scott reported no deaths. Had some questions on cards and dues.

District 17A - Ron Bell attended two open houses and reported 35 members attending last meeting. November 20 turkey dinner, Gold Cards will be issued. Next meeting at Vincennes January 15.

District 17B - Luke Kluender reported annual supper will be at Perry Clark Creek December 15.

District 18 - Charles Parker attended Anderson meeting and the district parade. Next meeting at Altwell Jefferson.

District 19A - Paul Covington, Jr. missed last meeting and reported big brush fire that lasted 3 days. Next meeting November 18 at Delaware.

District 19B - Terry Martin absent.

Sergeant-at-Arms Bill Bush reported call on plaques for new fire houses. Reported that he only got orders from one person.

## PRESENTATIONS FOR NEW CENTRAL OFFICE

President Cox apologized that he did not have time to inform everyone that the Central Office had closed. Reported that the only change to the list that the presenters knew about was the date change.

Jack Kerney presented Barb Kerney's proposal. She will work eight hours a day to provide services for \$28,000 a year.

Charles Parker discussed what equipment will need to be purchased. Discussion on whether or not the computer software that was purchased will be compatible with any computers bought in the future.

Maynard and Dorothy Master (Emer. Books & Train.) contract proposal for Central Office administration. Questions and discussion on whether Maynard and Dorothy will have the computer capacity to facilitate them. They will be able to provide extra help in the busy season

with no additional cost. They could not provide an exact rate on copying. Assured total confidentiality. Lowered fee by \$1 per member.

Jeff Stainfield proposal for administrative services. Questions and discussion on whether or not the computers could handle the capacity. Jeff reported that the system was updated within the last six months. Assured that security measures would be taken. The IVFA office would be separated from his insurance company within the same building and will be kept locked. He will need to see the software to determine the security on-line. Can provide one person for the staff if it is successful. He has insured fire departments for eight years and can handle the clerical duties. The 800 number will be an additional cost, all office supplies included. Can handle quarterly printing capabilities with 4 printers.

Scott Garrett, VP Instructors Association IFIA proposal for one year contract with the option to renew. Questions and discussion on the computer and printing capacity. Scott assured that he has the equipment to handle it. No longer has any financial problems. Bookstore is maintaining office sales, a few schools had not paid freight. There will be a meeting to confront issue. He will go to court to collect dues if necessary. He is responsible for the extra help in the busy season and copying costs will stay the same at around \$3,000. IVFA responsible for incidentals.

Chaplain Charlie Baker reported that Lee Kissell was no longer interested. Will need decision at board meeting Sunday.

District 17B Luke Kluender reported that office moved October 28. Discussion on whether 800 number will remain the same. Decided that it would not, because it has already been disconnected.

## DISTRICT CHAIRMEN REPORTS CONTINUED

District 21 Perry Martin reported poor attendance at meetings. Next meeting November 29 at Darlington.

## RECESS

President Cox reconvened meeting at 5:00 p.m.

LeMoyné "Buz" Koehler questioned the time frame given for time to decide on presentations for new office. Decided there will be a meeting to decide. Turned to James Parker. James Parker had no comment.

Paul Covington will submit a request on burn law exemptions.

Roy Richardson reported concern on subdivisions with no fire protection in Clark County. There is a municipal water source. Wants to know if they are up to local code.

Bill Goodwin passed.

Mitch Parish reported advertising going well. There were ads in last paper. Mr. Laney reported many pictures. There was an article from a district regarding young lady killed.

Current outstanding advertisers: Plymouth \$216, Indiana F.I.R.E. Equipment \$282, Stoops Freightliner owes for August, May has been paid. Questioned whether there will be supporters for Tim Downey's ad and if he should be billed.

Bill Kinsey stated there will still be support and endorsements for Downey. They have accepted other company's advertisements in the past under the same circumstances.

Mitch Parish reported National Fire Council waiting for president's signature for 911. There is a safety officers training course coming out. NFFPA emergency personnel training; Kim Nipper and Carolyn Mitchell. FCC wireless informed SCC they are not sending renewals, everyone needs to look for expiration date in license and get their renewal going.

North Carolina was hit with flood and they donated half of their fund along with donations from Georgia and Massachusetts.

1583 Standard discussion. NY cannot report fitness. Council pro-

posed 1583 turnout gear be breathable up to 160' by 2000.

Charlie Baker reported 1971 Standard will be effective February. Soiled gear will be washed every six months in a front load washer. Cleaners cannot certify gear without destroying it. Questioned if it was the decision that there will be two standards.

Paul Covington, Jr. doesn't favor 2 standards. Thinks it will have an effect on the firefighters.

By-Law Amendments - Jim Parker reported proposed amendment on operating guidelines. District 11, Section 8. Allowance for district secretary. Proposal to change allowance from \$15 to \$50 monthly.

Warning given to firefighters who have physio-control lite pack 500. There was an explosion and all who own one need to see response for direction.

Need motion to accept proposed amendment on secretary allowance.

Don Johnson reported that he'll have something on EMS next time.

Carl Bruns - Membership.

Bridgeport Deadline March 1.

Jack Kerney reported on fire school and training. IFIA finished session. Total \$5725. EBT attendance unknown, \$2500 paid.

Mitch Parish said Historical Committee has 71 books left.

Insurance Commission Chairman Bill Kinsey had nothing to report.

Jack Kerney said one trophy left for Mr. IVFA. Would like to purchase 3 more at \$55 each. Needed number on how many applicants were nominated for awards last year. Need Midwest Awards winners by Feb. Deadline for Ollie Sandburg Award May 1. Deadline for Mr. IVFA is April 1.

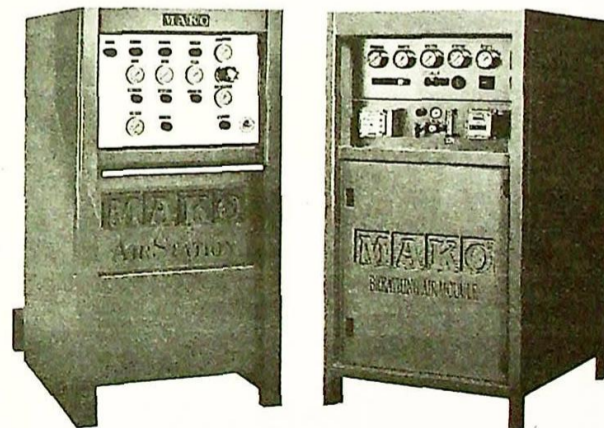
Paul Covington requested that essentials 4th & 5th editions be used.

Don Kissinger reported pictures will be needed by next quarterly meeting. A tie is recommended.

Continued on Page 20

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# Aboite Township VFD



Members of the Aboite Township Volunteer Fire Department in Fort Wayne, designed a new piece of equipment, so they could better serve the people of their township. Their main concern was that they needed more and better coverage for rescue work. Their heavy rescue is used at structure fires, which leaves the department short on rescue capabilities.

They designed a rescue (type) equipped apparatus, which also has pump capabilities.

The Rescue/Pumper has 4-wheel drive, a 5-man crew (with SCBA), 1250 gpm single stage pump (rear mount), 750 gallon UPF poly tank, and Foampro, a 1600 Class A foam system with 20 gallon Class A foam tank.

It also has a Akron sidewinder turret on front and roll-up doors.

This rig is only 25 feet long,

which helps to maneuver in traffic.

The equipment for rescue revolves around a set of jaws with a portable power unit.

This rig is also equipped with a 6500 kw Honda generator, reciprocating saws, and two reels (phuenmaric and electric).

The end result of their efforts is an extremely versatile rig to give better coverage, in several different areas, to their public.

# No quiet Sunday at Pendleton

By Anita Munson  
Staff Reporter

Pendleton - It was a little too exciting for neighbors in the vicinity of Indiana 67 and County Road 600 S. Sunday afternoon, November 14, 1999.

Within the space of a couple of hours, an automobile accident and a residential fire sent 3 people to area emergency rooms for treatment.

Pendleton emergency personnel first were called around 3:35 p.m. to an accident involving Pendleton residents Connie Juliot, 39; Allen Inman, 52, and Darlene Inman, 48.

Police said witnesses told responding officers that Juliot had been northbound on Ind. 67 in the far right lane, when the vehicle slowed to make a left turn into the driveway of a residence near the intersection with 600 S. Juliot's 1989 Ford Taurus, witnesses said, crossed three lanes of traffic and was struck by the late-model gold Chevrolet

Cavalier driven by Allen Inman. The impact left the Juliot vehicle sideways on Ind. 67, pointing at the sign for Woode Ridge Apts, and sent the Inman vehicle up into the yard of a residence there. The car struck a tree head-on and the driver side door was creased from impact with a utility pole.

The Inmans were transported to St. John's Medical Center, where they were treated for minor injuries and released.

Pendleton emergency personnel cleaned up the spilled fluids from the crash, assisted by Madison County Sheriff's Dept. personnel who guided traffic around the accident scene.

About three hours later, shortly after 6 p.m., neighbors in the same area called Pendleton firefighters to report seeing smoke coming from a home at 5956 Cedar Lane, less than a city block away from where the auto accident had taken place.

The young daughter of homeowner Mike Prenett sustained burns to her legs when an unidentified plastic item fell on her, Pendleton Fire Chief Kurt Kahl said. She was transported to St. John's emergency room for treatment. The girl, believed to be 12 or 13, was alone at the time of the fire.

The blaze did about \$40,000 to \$50,000 damage to the home, Kahl said. The cause is still being investigated.

The fire was confined to the girl's bedroom, which was completely gutted by the blaze. The rest of the home sustained heavy smoke and heat damage.

Reprinted from the Herald Bulletin, November 15, 1999.

# Lapel, area firefighters battle 2 field fires at once

By Anita Munson  
Staff Reporter

Lapel - Lapel firefighters had their hands full when two field fires broke out about the same time within two miles of each other around 1:45 p.m. Monday, November 16, 1999.

Firefighters battled fires sparked in the corn-stubbed fields at County Roads 200 S and 400 W and then at 600 W and 200 S, assisted by personnel and equipment from Edgewood, Frankton, Pendleton and Wayne Township in Hamilton County.

Units from Lapel and Wayne Twp. worked the fire at 200 S and 400 W, while units from Lapel, Pendleton, Frankton & Edgewood fought the other at 600 W and 200 S, which threatened to engulf an adjacent woods for a while.

Lapel Fire Chief Gary Flowers said aid from area farmers helped firefighters get the blazes under control around 4:30 p.m.

"If it hadn't been for them, we'd still be out there," Flowers said. Jim Anderson and volunteers from Bay's Farms, he said, took to the plows to turn over the earth to help extinguish the stubborn fires that were fanned by Monday's gusty winds.

"It's awful dry, and people shouldn't be burning anything at all right now," Flowers reminded county residents.

Earlier this week, Chesterfield firefighters spent about 3 hours extinguishing a field fire and numerous grass fires have been reported throughout Madison and neighboring counties.

Reprinted from the Herald Bulletin, November 16, 1999.

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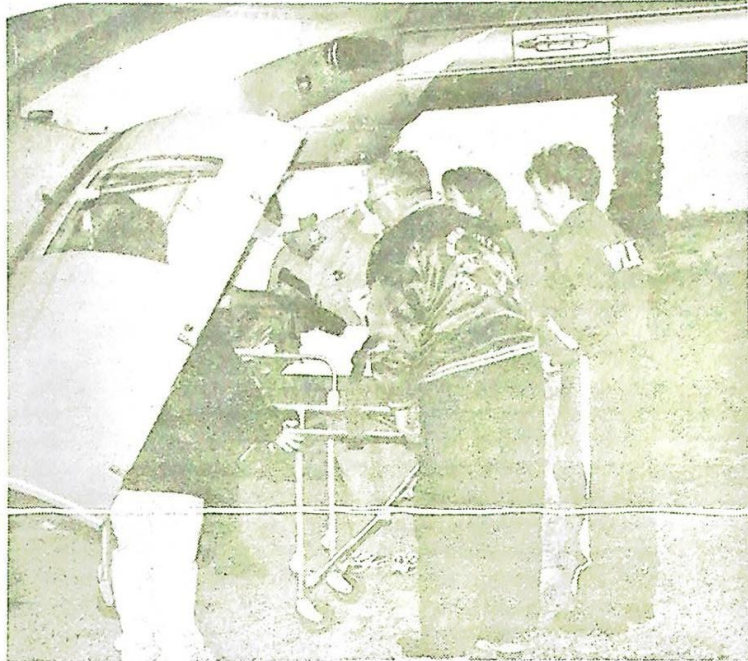
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# Blountsville VFD hosts Lifeline

Henry County, Indiana - Blountsville VFD recently hosted a training seminar with Lifeline from Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. The purpose was to update training in landing and loading procedures.

Chief Michael Lykens feels that the annual training with Lifeline is vital in keeping fire department members current in procedures and "offers a chance for new members to have 'hands-on' training with this vital link in providing emergency medical care."

One new firefighter, Ty Goodpaster, from Gaston VFD said, "You never know what the response will call for until you arrive. This type of training helps prepare you."



Photos courtesy of David P. LePortis

Chief Michael Lykens (center) and other volunteers practice a "cold" load. Over 25 people attended the seminar at Blountsville VFD.



Lifeline lifts off after completing the training seminar at Blountsville. Departments represented were Blountsville, Daleville, Gaston, Liberty Township, Mooreland and West Union.

## Fire engulfs 70 acres of farm land

By Jon Reiter  
Staff Reporter

Summitville - A fire that burned about 70 acres of recently plowed farm land on Road 400 West, north of Road 1650 North, Thursday, October 21, 1999, luckily didn't claim any homes, and according to Fire Chief Randy Sizelove, proved to be just a minor menace.

The fire began at a residence in the 1600 block of 400 West after a trash fire, buoyed by 20 mile-an-hour winds gusting from the northeast, got out of control and spread through fields laced with plowed corn stalks and bean residue about 1:30 p.m.

It also burned through an abandoned fence, but Sizelove

said the damage turned out to be minor.

The fire was brought under control by about 3:15 p.m. and Sizelove said whoever was responsible for it failed to recognize that conditions are still dry because of the summer drought.

No one was home at the time, so he couldn't identify the homeowner Thursday night.

"It wasn't deliberate, just an act of carelessness," Sizelove said.

"People don't realize that out on these country roads that the winds whip around and things can go up quick."

Sizelove said he couldn't put a dollar amount on the damage caused by the fire because the fields had been plowed. He said that a report on the fire will be filed with the Department of Natural Resources, however.

Pipe Creek and Duck Creek Volunteer Fire Departments assisted in battling the blaze.

Reprinted from the Herald Bulletin, October 22, 1999.

## FIREFIGHTERS DON'T HAVE A CHANCE

When the fire trucks are delayed 40 seconds in traffic, people say: "It took them 20 minutes to get here."

When the truck races at 40 mph, it's: "Look at those reckless fools."

When four men struggle with an eight-man ladder: "They don't even know how to raise a ladder."

When firefighters open windows for ventilation to reduce heat in fighting a fire: "Look at the wrecking crew."

When they open the floor to get at the blaze: "There goes the axe squad."

If the chief stands back where he can see and direct his men, people say: "He's afraid to go where he sends his men."

If they lose a building: "It's a lousy department."

If they make a good "stop", the folks say: "The fire didn't amount to much."

If lots of water is necessary: "They are doing more damage with water than the flames."

If a firefighter gets hurt: "He was a careless guy."

If a citizen gets hurt: "It's a crazy department."

If a firefighter inspects a citizen's property: "He's meddling in somebody's business."

If he wants a fire hazard corrected: "I'll see the mayor."

If he gets killed and leaves a family destitute: "That's the chance he took when he joined the fire department."

From Chicago Fire Fighter Magazine

## Public Relations West Central



Don Johnson

The year of 1999 was not a very good year for the fire service. We lost a very good friend, Pat Babbs.

Pat was a member for years of the Perry Township VFD and worked for years at the State Fire Marshal's Office, where she was very helpful to everyone in the fire service. She was an exceptional person and things have not been the same there after she retired.

She will be extremely hard to replace and all the firefighters will miss her.

Wayne Township Fire Department, Marion County, went to a combination department the first day of the new year.

Most of the firefighters hired were volunteers for the Wayne Township department. Things seem to be working out all right. I hope it continues.

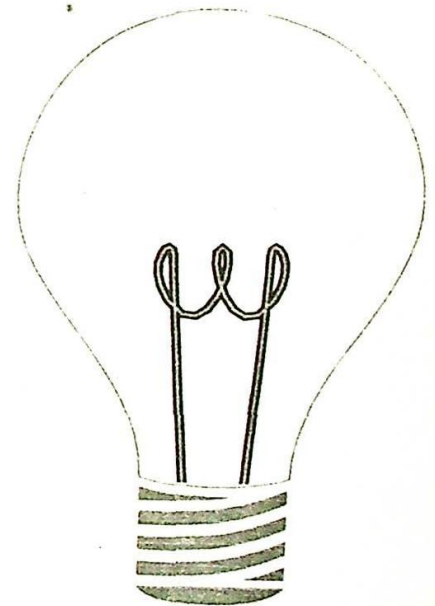
I have attended all of my meetings and everything seems to be going well.

I'm sure now that the new office is up and running, things will go a little smoother.



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Thomas A. Edison, INVENTOR



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# Union Volunteer Fire Department



(l-r) Lt. John Kepshire, Union VFD; Deputy Trustee Larry Kueck; Trustee Tammy Kueck; Chief Kurt Keiser, Bethlehem Steel Fire Department; and Lt. Tim Beach, Union VFD.

The citizens of Union Township will soon be able to rest a little easier thanks to a cooperative effort between the Union Township Advisory Board, the Union Volunteer Fire Department and Bethlehem Steel Corporation.

Earlier in the year, Bethlehem Steel's Burns Harbor facility took delivery of a new aerial ladder. Since the ladder truck the new apparatus replaced was not traded in when the new truck was delivered, a question arose as to what would happen to the used vehicle.

When approached on the subject, Bethlehem's Chief of Fire Protection Kurt Keiser stated that if the vehicle could not be used at any of the other Bethlehem facilities, the vehicle would probably be given away to a local area fire department.

Concerned with the safety of not only the residents of her township, but that of the firefighters who volunteer their services with the department, Trustee Tammy Kueck made a formal request to acquire the used aerial truck. After months of waiting, word was finally received that Bethlehem Steel would donate the used 1972 vehicle to Union Twp.

On Friday, October 29, 1999, ownership of the vehicle was officially turned over to Trustee Kueck in a small ceremony taking place at the Burns Harbor steel-making facility.

Mr. Keiser said, "Several years ago I had both of my engines break down at the same time. The Union Department came to Bethlehem's rescue by loaning us a pumper truck until we could get one of ours repaired. This is the least the mill could do to express our thanks."

Trustee Kueck stated, "Union Township is growing every year and I have been told by our firefighters that we already have several buildings so tall that they can't be reached with our current equipment. As Trustee, I have to think about these things and would feel horrible if a fire broke out and our firefighters couldn't reach it. With the cost of a new ladder truck estimated between \$350,000 and \$600,000, a new ladder truck for our township is currently out of the question."

Plans call for the apparatus to go in for a complete servicing before being placed into service, which hopefully will be around the first of the new year.

Stated Trustee Kueck, "Through the most generous

donation of this vehicle by Bethlehem Steel, we are not only able to save our taxpayers money, but are now also able to offer more protection for their lives and property, which in turn may eventually lead to reduced insurance premiums in Union Township."

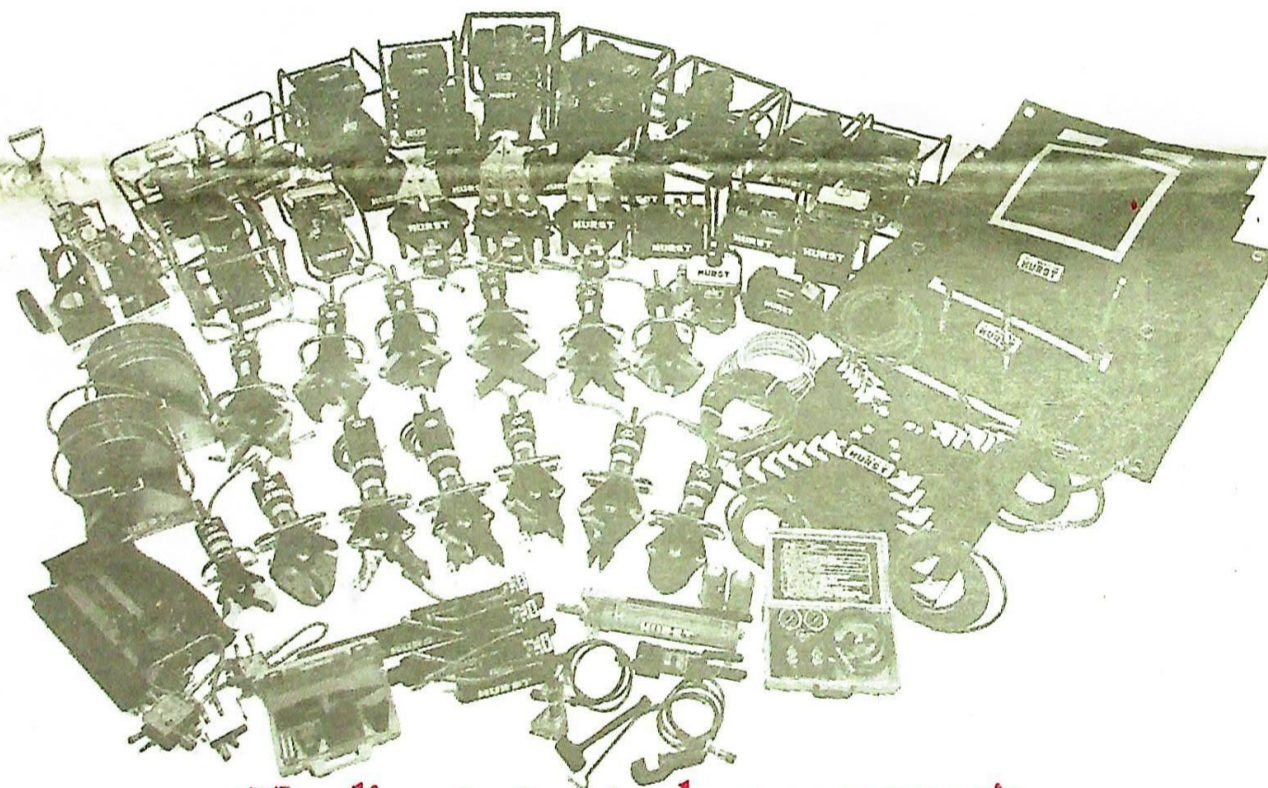
The "new" Union aerial tower was built for Bethlehem Steel by the Sutphen Company, makers of one of the most reliable aerial ladders in the United States. Counting the height of the truck itself, the ladder will extend to almost 85' in height, and the basket at the end of the ladder provides a safe working area for up to three firefighters.

A pair of fixed nozzles on either side of the bucket are capable of flowing over 1,500 gpm, with the 1,000 gpm pump assisting the water up the ladder to the nozzles. This pump is also capable of handling the majority of fires Union firefighters might encounter.

The vehicle will also carry nearly 150' of ground ladders and other equipment to give Union VFD it's first dedicated truck company.

More photos of the new truck and other department apparatus can be seen on the department's web site at: <http://members.tripod.com/~jkp/union.html>

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## Kaeser steps down as Schererville Fire Chief

By Shelley Septol  
Staff Writer

Schererville - After 17 years at the helm, Fire Chief Edward "Bo" Kaeser says it's time to pass the torch.

George Michels, assistant chief for the past 4 years, takes over as chief on December 1, 1999. He also serves as the department's full-time EMT Inspector.

Kaeser has worked as the part-time volunteer chief for 17 of his 22 years on the Schererville Fire Department. Michels has been on the department for 14 years.

The 42-member department has 7 full-time firefighters and 35 volunteers.

While Michels is the firefighters' choice, it's uncertain who'll be chief as of January 1, 2000. This will be the first opportunity for the town's new Fire Commission to choose the chief, with final approval by the Town Council.

In June, the council passed a resolution making the fire chief's position a full-time job effective January 1. A salary has yet to be determined.

Kaeser says it's a good move for a position that easily took 30 hours of his time a week.

Fire Commission members are planning a series of executive sessions to interview fire chief candidates, Commission Vice President Dan Kanelopoulos said.

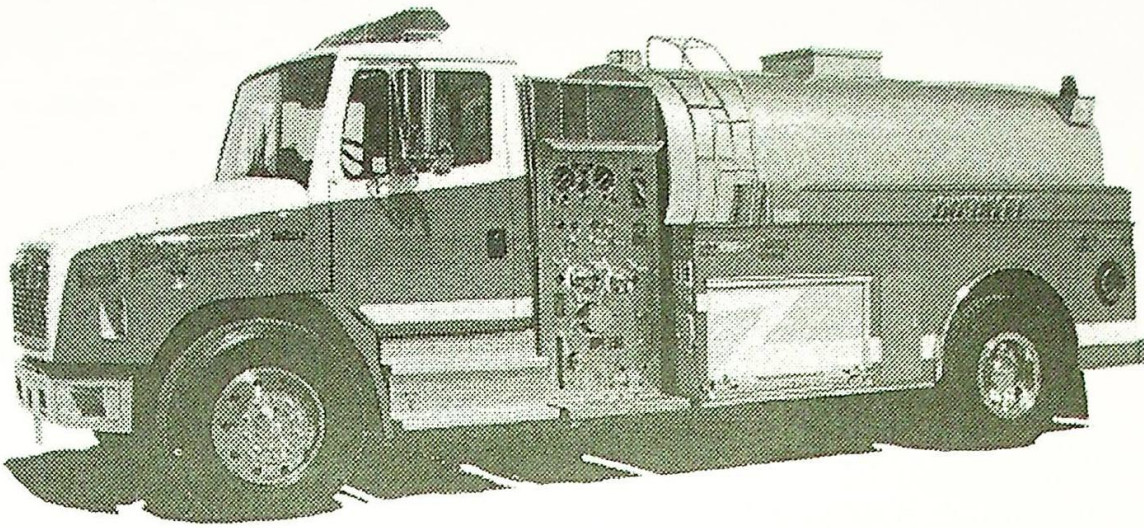
Michels said the support of his fellow firefighters would make his transition an easy one.

Kanelopoulos wouldn't say how many fire chief candidates are being considered, but did confirm that they are all current members of the department.

Kaeser plans to remain on the department as a volunteer, as well as continue his full-time job as Fire Inspector. Giving up his post as chief won't be easy, he said, but he's looking forward to spending more evenings with his young family.

Reprinted from the Post Tribune.

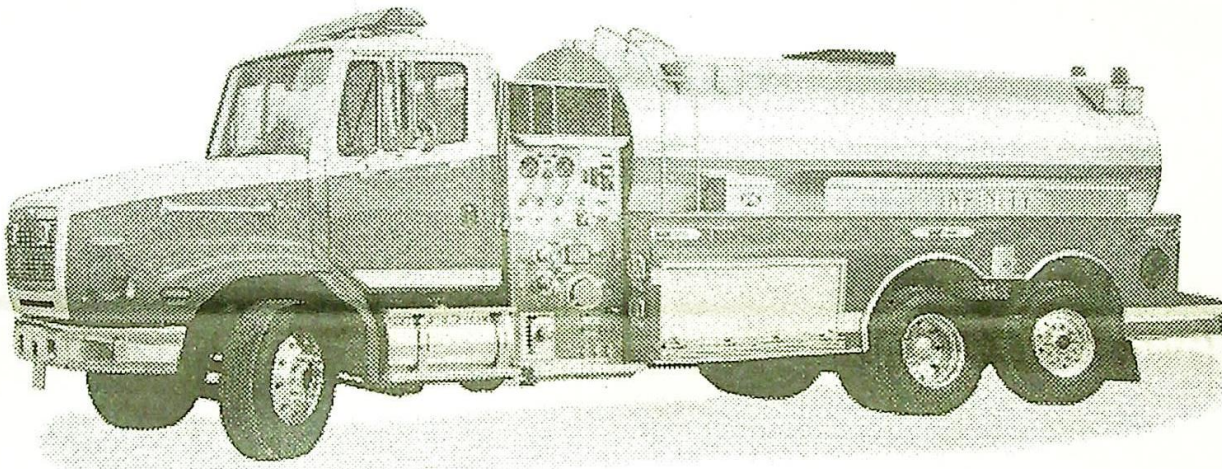
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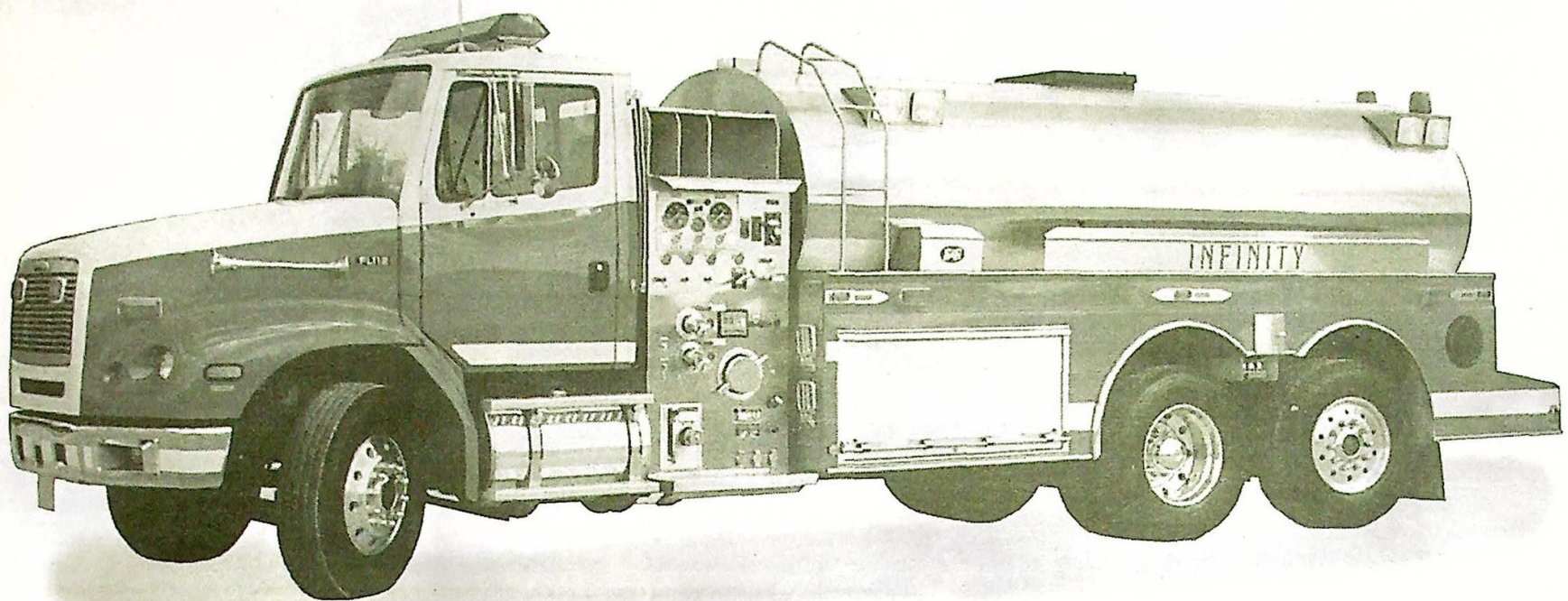
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# Jack Ketcham honored for 50 years of service



Front row: (l-r) District 15 Miss Flame 2000 contestant Stephanie Conger, Jack Ketcham, District 17A's 1999 Miss Flame Heather Cliff. Second Row: Past President Mitch Parish, PRSW Jack Harker, Sgt.-at-Arms Bill Bush, Vice President Jack Kerney and Past President Jack Zeeks.



Guest speaker for the special occasion was State Representative Dave Crooks (second from right).



District 17A Chairman Ron Bell (left) and Gold Card recipient Jack Ketcham

Jack's brother, Larry Ketcham, Fire Chief of Dana FD; Jack; and sister Trudy Phillips of Odon

# Noble Township VFD new truck



Photo by Jim Hale, Staff

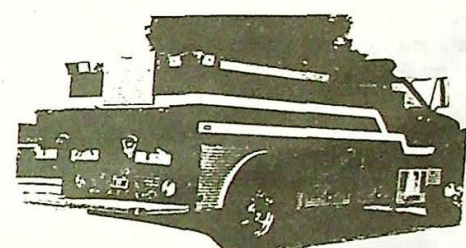
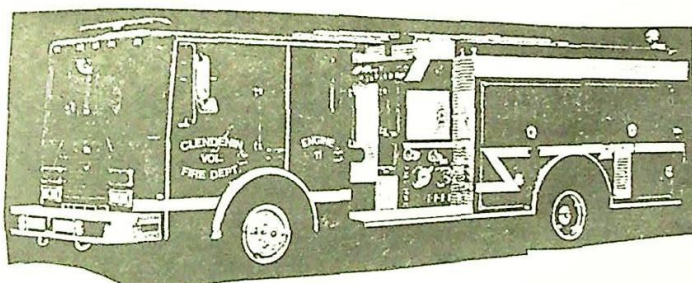
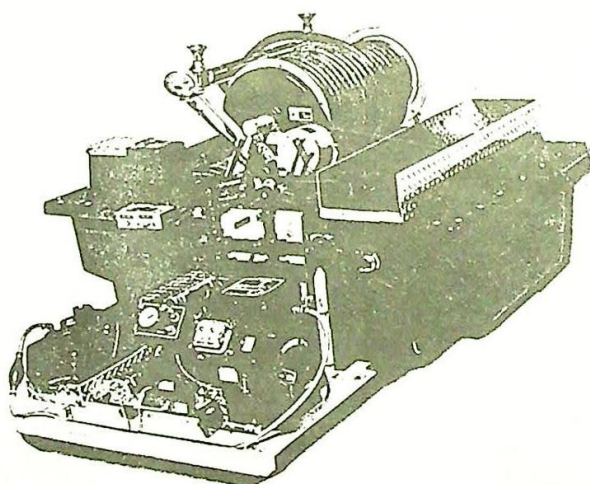
Noble Township Volunteer Fire Department firefighters (from left) Captain Bruce Hess, Lieutenant Richard Grott, Assistant Chief John Homan, Tony Campbell and Chief Mick Hunsley, along with Township Trustee Dave Scarborough, chat in front of the department's newest addition to the fleet, a 1999 Peterbilt Class A pumper. The new pumper was built by Custom Fire Apparatus of Osceola, Wisconsin. It has a 1,250 gallon-per-minute pump and carries 1,000 gallons of water. The truck can transport five firefighters at a time.

## WEB SITES

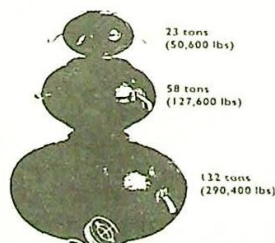
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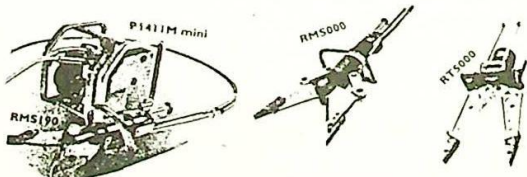
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PROUD SUPPORTER OF THE IVFA

# Letter to the Editor

GET ALL THE FACTS BEFORE STARTING ANY FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES, OR THIS MAY BE YOU.

I recently fell victim to a situation that could happen to any chief or officer of any fire department anywhere. Before you start asking for money from the taxpayers in your fire district, make sure that your town council members and/or your township trustee & advisory board have been totally honest with you. Don't take anything for granted.

Let me start at the beginning of an equipment replacement issue that took several turns, most of them for the worst over a short period of time. The Warren Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD), like so many small volunteer fire departments, operates each year on a small budget. The department covers the southern Huntington County area of Salamonie Township (36 sq miles) which includes the town of Warren. The department also covers about 18 sq. miles of Jackson Township of Wells County. The department consists of 22 members with 2 pumpers, a tanker and grass truck. Its annual budget for the past several years has been between \$28,000 to \$30,000 and is split 50/50 between the town of Warren and Salamonie Township.

Like so many other small volunteer departments, the WVFD has to purchase its firefighting equipment over long periods of time. Larger purchases such as trucks are done as you know through the accumulation of monies in an approved cumulative fire fund. Small purchases such as pagers, turnout gear, radios, etc are normally (for us) made over a period of several years. For the most part this type of purchase plan or as they say today "capital improvement plan" works fine and the needed equipment updates and purchases can be made without a large strain on the taxpayers.

But we all find ourselves in situations where we need to replace some item before any kind of long term plan can be put together. It was this type of equipment replacement situation that led to a few hard feelings, lost respect and a lasting feeling of being cheated.

The WVFD, like many departments, operated in the "old days" with no air packs. But in the early to mid 1960's that changed. Sometime way back then the department purchased 2 air packs for what was at the time an 18 man department. For the most part these air packs never seen the light of day or the smoke of a fire. They stayed hidden where the firemen of that time thought they belonged.

Then as time changed and firefighting changed in the early 1970's the department purchased 2 more air packs. The thing that no one thought about at that time, was that the brand and style purchased in the 70s was not a match to the brand and style purchased in the 60's. This proved over time to only be a small problem as the air packs still for the most part found themselves taking up space in the truck and not seeing much smoke.

When I joined the department in the mid 1980's, this is where we stood with regard to air packs; 4 total for what was now a 20 man department, 2 from the 60's and 2 from the 70's. As several of us "younger" guys began taking our fire school classes, we learned how important it was and would be in the future to have good quality air packs. So as time moved on, we purchased 4 more air packs in the late 80's.

We now had a total of 8 for 20 men and were even beginning to wear them on some runs. We also purchased our own breathing air compressor, which I think at the time was only the second or third one in the county. Again, as in the past, we purchased air packs that did not match the ones we already owned. This was no one's fault, it's just the way things are. As new technology came along, the styles and brands changed. Maybe our favorite salesman who use to sell brand A now sold brand B or because of low bid purchasing, we were forced to purchase a different brand.

Whatever the case, we found ourselves with a mismatch of brands and styles. To make it worse, in the time period when we finally got smart enough to wear them more, we went out in the early 90's and purchased a couple more. For the most part, things always seemed to get mixed up, wrong mask with wrong brand and so forth. As a firefighter it happened to me a couple of times, wrong mask for the pack I was wearing and so forth.

I saw this as a real problem that would someday need to be addressed. This subject for several years was placed in the 'low priority' spot as we were working on the replacement of our main pumper. When that goal was finally reached, we once again started to bring this situation up to our town council/township trustee.

In January 1998, I was given the honor by the 22 members of the WVFD to be their next chief. What an honor it was. I walked around about 6 miles high for a long time as happy as I had just won 100 million dollars. It truly was a dream come true for me to be the Chief of the WVFD. To hold a position that only 4 or 5 men had ever held on this department. What an honor, I made it one of my goals at that time to finally get something done about this air pack "thing".

In my first year ('98) the funding for the year was pretty well set from the year before with the budget and all. Also there was a plan to sell and replace our 30-year-old tanker. We also had begun in 1995 replacing our old nomax turnout gear with PBI gear at the rate of 3 or so sets each year, so some money was earmarked for that.

These things, plus the normal operating expenses left no money available for 1998. So late in '98, I began to talk to the town and township about the air pack situation. I told them about the mismatch of brands and so forth and we left the subject open for further discussion.

As we jointly put together the budget for 1999, it was discussed several times, but the feeling from the town & township was that there just was not much money available until after all of the turnout gear would be replaced in the year 2000. So, if we went with that plan, we would not begin the replacement of the air packs until the year 2001. I just felt that something had to be done sooner for the safety of the department.

As we moved in to the first month or so of 1999, I once again brought up the subject. I would just have informal talks with Town Council members and the Township Advisory Board members. The members of both groups finally agreed that something needed to be done, but that it was just the matter of how to go about it. We had at that time in our inventory a total of 12 air packs. All were chest mounted regulator type in 3 different brands and most were 15 years old and could no longer be repaired. Most of the older ones were in pretty poor condition.

The two groups felt like this purchase should be made the same as in the past, 2 a year until they were all replaced. I told them several times that this was OK and would be a start, but this plan would not get us out of the mismatch problem. So after many more discussions both

sides agreed in late January that I needed to come up with a couple of plans for the replacement of these packs and how to pay for them.

Both sides agreed that they could come up with a small amount of money if I could find the rest. As we moved into early February, the chief of another county department asked me if we had ever considered asking for donations for such a purchase. To the best of my knowledge, this department had never gone out to the public and asked for money for anything. We, as a department, have always had small fundraising activities going on at different times, selling address signs, fish fries, raffles and such, but nothing on a larger scale. So after much thought and several more discussions with the members of the department, I took a plan to both the town and the township.

The plan called for the replacement of 8 air packs if enough money could be collected. The town and the township both agreed at that time to put up \$3600 each and the members of the department agreed to put up \$2800 that we had saved from a couple of other past things. This gave us a total of \$10,000 to start with.

I chose a brand of air packs so that we could keep all of our current cylinders and trade in our old packs. The plan also included getting each member of the department their own mask, so we'd no longer be sharing.

I met in late February with the town and township and gave them the following idea. We would send out a letter to all local business owners asking them for donations. We would also run this letter in the local paper, so that any citizen that wanted to donate could. We would run this fundraiser until the end of March. All donations would go to a local bank. An account would be set up in the name of the town of Warren. The account would be closed on April 1 and we would get together to make the purchase.

I asked the town and the township at this meeting if this was the only way this could be done. Both sides again said that there was no other way at this time. The only other way would be to put off for a couple more years. The township trustee and one of his advisory board members told me that they just did not have any other money. The trustee also said that while he would go along with this plan, he let it known that he did not really like the idea of "asking" for donations. I explained to him that this had never been done here and that I had talked with several business owners and they liked the idea. All of the donations would be tax deductible. He said that he still didn't really like the idea, but that he would agree to go along at this time.

Also as part of this plan, if we could purchase 8 new packs now, the town and township would agree to purchase for us as part of our budget, 2 additional packs each year for the next 2 years to get us back to 12 total units.

So on or about March 1, 1999, I sent out a total of around 80 letters. For the most part it was well received. I received a few calls about this need and most people were very much in favor of helping out. The fundraiser was a success. We received a total of around \$8,000 in donations which is very good for a small community. This gave us a total of \$18,000 in our fund to purchase new packs.

I met at this time with the town and township and we all agreed to purchase 8 new air packs with face mounted regulators and one spare cylinder for each unit. We traded in our old units and now for the first time ever had 8 matching packs and 18 or 20 extra cylinders. Each firefighter on the department also received their own air mask.

After the new packs arrived in late April and each member went through training on their operation, I was happy to have one less thing to worry about.

In the period from 1994 to mid 1999, we purchased a new grass firefighting truck, a new pumper, a used re-built tanker, replaced most of our turnout gear and now the air packs. It seemed that the WVFD had finally dug its way out of the "stone age". All of these larger purchases were made from money accumulated in the cumulative fire fund, with the exception of the turnout gear, which was purchased as a budget line item.

I remember telling the Warren Town Council and the Salamonie Township Board, after thanking them for all their help, how proud I was of them, the people and the department. I told them that I felt that we had one of the best equipped volunteer departments in the state.

It's too bad I didn't get to keep this feeling for long. This is where this story begins to take one of its turns.

While the fund drive was still going on, I received a phone call or two from people wondering why the town and/or township could not give us the needed money. I told them what I had been told, that there was no extra money unless we wanted to wait a year or two.

I also received the same comments from some local citizens sitting around the coffee shop in the afternoons. Several said they remembered seeing the Salamonie Township's annual financial report in the paper and thought that the township had some accumulated money.

This is where I made my first mistake. I did not check the records to see how much money they really had, I trusted their word.

Also at about this same time, a former member of the Township Advisory board jumped my 'rear' saying that he did not understand why we were out 'begging' money when the township had a fairly large amount of money 'saved up'. I told this person what I had been told and he told me that it was my duty to research such things and that he felt that it was my fault that the taxpayers were being 'screwed'.

I then approached the Township Trustee and the Advisory Board member that sat in on all of our meetings about the negative comments that I was beginning to receive. They both told me that people had a right to be unhappy, that the township did in fact have some money saved (\$44,827.49) and some money in the cumulative fire fund (\$17,671.48). The trustee then said that this was why he was not in favor of the idea from the start. He said he knew he would hear negative comments.

I asked these two why if they had the money would they agree to this plan. Both would say nothing more to me.

I then questioned the town about their financial situation in regards to the fire department and they also would say nothing.

They basically told me it was none of my business.

As time passed, the negative comments began to slow down, but I was still left with the feeling of being used. I accused the township of letting me go out and ask for money from the hard working people who payed taxes while they were sitting on money that had been collected for the fire department.

The trustee informed me that he didn't think the air pack purchase was needed and that we could have waited, so therefore he didn't want to give us the money.

I asked him again why he was collecting the money into the township fire fund if he wasn't going to let us have it. He would make no further comment to me. I told both the town and township that I felt like I

should send out another letter to the people of our area telling them that I was sorry for asking them for their money.

I was never given any further comment from either side other than a comment from a town board member who said I should be happy I got what I wanted.

We also set down at this time to work on the budget for the year 2000. Both sides agreed to purchase one air pack. I reminded them that they had agreed a couple of months earlier to purchase 2 in 2000, but both sides said that they did not have to live by the agreement. They again reminded me that I should feel lucky to get anything.

After this meeting, I felt like I had really been 'screwed'. I then informed both sides that I would resign if something could not be worked out. I told them that I felt like they had used me and that they had gone back on their word. Neither side would make any comment.

So I sent them my resignation. Writing that resignation was about the hardest thing I think I've ever done in my life. To go from being honored with the chief's position to being used and lied to in less than two years was more than I could stand. This, and the normal stress that comes with the job, plus the demands of my full time job.

A letter was written to each of the 4 Town of Warren Council members and to the Salamonie Township Trustee and the 3 Advisory Board members telling them how I felt about their way of doing business. That was in August. It is now mid November, and while I see at least two or three of them almost daily, not a single one of them has said a word to me. They will never know how I have been left to feel.

In closing this letter, I would just like to warn all of you. Mara Snyder from the State Fire Marshal's Office told me, that while the towns and townships are obligated by law to provide fire protection, the statute does not specify the level or quality of this service. No part of that law says how good that protection must be and, while they can and do collect tax dollars for firefighting, no one can make them spend that money on us.

Remember that while they say they have no money and you're out working your tail off for something, there may be money in the bank, but no one can make them use it.

And keep this in mind, I'm talking about people serving on the town board and township advisory board that I have known for my whole life. We're not strangers to each other, I've known and trusted these people for a long time. For whatever reason they thought nothing of me in this whole deal.

Don't take things for granted. Before asking hard working people who are already paying taxes for money, be cautious. Ask your city clerks and township trustees for financial reports. These reports are public knowledge. Don't let these people force you to do things that are unsafe with worn out equipment.

Do we need laws that say, if your going to collect the money, then you must use it for what it was collected for? I think we do. Why are towns and townships allowed to collect from the taxpayers year after year and then allowed to sit on the money or spend it something else?

If you have any comments for me, please feel free to write me at: mark@citiznet.com or drop me a note in the mail.

Mark Conner  
472 E. First Street  
Warren, IN 46792-9630

# IVFA STATE OFFICERS MEETING

*Continued from Page 12*

Buz Koehler reported that he made calls to get information on classes and there was much confusion.

Paul Covington requests that all questions be directed to him or someone in his district.

Mitch Parish said Fire Service Institute Dinner is January 24 at 7:00. Need vendors.

accessindianafireservice.org

Needs dates for all meetings to put on calendar.

January 29 & 30 Indiana weekend at Kokomo.

May 28 - June 2 Hoosier Burn Camp.

Wants to donate \$1000 in donations at dinner at the Indiana Roof.

Tim Sandy said larger facility for banquet will be needed.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - President's e-mail: jlcox@infocom.com

Jack Kerney thanked everyone for e-mails.

Jim Parker said Martin House okay for February meeting at \$69 a night. Meeting schedule February 5&6; May 6&7; August 12&13; November 4&5. Any changes will be advised later. May meeting may be held on 13 & 14 instead.

Motion to close under regular business made by Larry Petro, seconded by Ron Bell. Motion to adjourn and resume Sunday morning made by Larry Petro, seconded by Roy Richardson.

SUNDAY

Chairman called for the reading of the minutes. Bill Kinsey reported they were in the mail.

Motion to donate \$1000 to burn camp made by Don Cushman, seconded by Larry Petro. Motion carried.

Larry Petro made motion to purchase one case of meeting cards and envelopes, seconded by Mort Sorg. Motion carried.

Diane Harrison made motion to discuss secretary allowance change from \$15 to \$50 at next meeting, seconded by Larry Bartlow.

Jack Kerney made motion to purchase 3 trophies at \$55 each, seconded by Larry Petro. Motion carried.

Tim Sandy made motion to advertise CDs on fire & safety at \$25 each, seconded by Charlie Cline.

Perry Martin made motion to continue January 4 dinner at \$100 a plate, seconded by Randy Denton. Motion carried.

Larry Petro made motion to bring fax to table at next meeting, seconded by Charlie Cline.

Brief discussion on proposals.

Tim Sandy reported withdrawal from IFIA. Money is tight and the bills are not getting paid. Wants to incorporate school as a non-profit organization. Joined Dorothy and Maynard to administrate school, attendance has risen every year since.

Bill Pape questioned how often Mr. Kinsey has to travel to Indianapolis. Suggested that new headquarters be somewhere reasonable to drive to often. Bill Kinsey drives to Indy about 2 times a week. Gave his resignation from IVFA Secretary.

Buz Koehler wants someone within Association to handle business for IVFA, who is not related to another business.

Jim Bradford suggested that they choose the proposal that covers the most administrative expenses, equipment and facilities.

Jack Kerney expressed concern about Dorothy and Maynard dropping the price in the middle of the presentation.

Paul Covington favors IVFA over Central Office.

Nelson Elhers suggested that they find a director and train them before they take on the expenses of a management company.

Jack Kerney reports that Barbara will not take position if it's only a one year contract.

Bill Kinsey reminded everyone that there were resumes presented earlier in the year for a new director. They need to set a deadline and do some extensive research. Jack Kerney doesn't think executive director is needed before an office is organized. Larry Bartlow said secretary is needed to update paperwork.

Carl Bruns agreed that Barbara could not take a position with no security in the future. Charlie Parker said a clerk in office always going to be needed and Barbara could continue with new office.

Don Cushman wants to elect a secretary first. Suggested they elect one at next meeting.

RECESS

There will be a meeting Saturday, November 13 in Wayne Township regarding the Presidential Advisory Board. At 1:00 everyone will meet to discuss the topic of the central office. Advisory Board will give their recommendation. Dale Scott made motion to table Saturday, November 13, seconded by Mort Sorg. Three nay.

Bill Kinsey announced he will postpone his resignation until a management decision is made.

Roy Richardson read minutes from last meeting regarding 25-year pins. On January 1, the list of people available for pension was received at Central Office. Researching who is eligible is up to the district chairman. Bill Kinsey will need to check and make sure that computers will keep the list of records from Central Office. Need 25 years service in IVFA to be eligible.

Tim Martin concerned about problems with paperwork on firefighters who have switched departments. Buz Koehler made motion that Mr. Downey be charged the same as other advertisers, seconded by Bill Pape.

OLD BUSINESS - Mitch Parish said everyone needs to update addresses for PR papers.

NEW BUSINESS - Charles Parker suggested district chairmen call the presidential Advisory Board and inform them of their plans.

Jack Kerney said a front table will not be needed if an executive director is advised. There was a request for someone to step up for secretary position.

Carl Bruns reported he has much good experience and is impressed by Downey Insurance. Jack Cox will write a letter of thanks to Mr. Downey.

Larry Stott requested he be informed of next meeting's information. Don Kissinger suggested that the next meeting adjourn at 7:30 with a shorter break in between.

Bill Bush reminded everyone Mr. Downey went to bat for his dept. Show of hands to end next meeting early. All but two agreed.

Buz Koehler made motion to adjourn, seconded by Charlie Cline.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Red Morris, Secretary.

# IVFA CONVENTION 2000

## Hotel Registration Information

Below are the phone numbers for various hotels

**Blue Chip Casino/Hotel  
(Convention Headquarters)**

**888-879-7711 Ext. 2414**

**\$84.00 + tax**

**(Reservations accepted after October 18)**

**Holiday Inn**

**219-879-0311**

**81.00 + tax**

### Other Area Hotels

**Hampton Inn**

**219-879-9994**

**Comfort Inn**

**219-879-9190**

**Knights Inn**

**219 874-9500**

**Red Roof Inn**

**219-874-5251**

### Camping

**Michigan City Campground**

**219-872-7600**

## 2000 IVFA PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

BLUE CHIP CASINO, MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA

JUNE 14-17, 2000

PRE-REGISTRATION FEE: \$40.00/PERSON (DEADLINE JUNE 1, 2000)

LATE AND ON SITE REGISTRATION FEE \$50.00/PERSON

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

FIRE DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_ IVFA DIST \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF REGISTRATION	MEMBER	SPOUSE	TITLE
STATE OFFICER	_____	_____	TITLE _____
AUXILIARY OFFICER	_____	_____	TITLE _____
DISTRICT CHAIRMAN	_____	_____	TITLE _____
DELEGATE	_____	_____	TITLE _____
IVFA MEMBER	_____	_____	TITLE _____
IVFA AUX. MEMBER	_____	_____	TITLE _____
SPOUSE/GUEST (NON MEMBER)	_____	_____	TITLE _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (CHECK OR MONEY ORDER)

MAKE PAYABLE TO: IVFA CONVENTION 2000

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR MASTERCARD/VISA.

TYPE OF CARD \_\_\_\_\_ ACCT # \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF CARD HOLDER \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ATTENDING: UNDER 12 YRS. \_\_\_\_\_ OVER 12 YRS. \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEND YOUR REGISTRATION TO:

IVFA CONVENTION 2000  
1532 W. SPRINGVILLE ROAD  
LAPORTE, IN 46350-7848

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE PHONE TIM 219-326-0173 OR DAVE 219-369-1235

**CONVENTION SCHEDULE**

**JUNE 14 - 17, 2000**  
**Michigan City, Indiana**

**"Come and Play in Y2K"**

TIME	EVENT	BLUE CHIP CASINO HOTEL
<b>WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14TH</b>		
Noon to 7:00 p.m.	Registration	Lobby
5:00 p.m. to ?	Picnic	Peninsula
5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.	Beer Wagon	Peninsula
7:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.	Miss Flame Mixer	Meeting 3 & 4
7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.	Entertainment (Karaoke)	Peninsula
<b>THURSDAY, JUNE 15TH</b>		
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Registration	Lobby
8:00 a.m. to Noon	Miss Flame Judging	Meeting 3 & 4
8:00 a.m. to Noon	Women's Shopping Tour	Outlet Mall
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	TFT Tour	
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Seminar "A" Legal Issues	Great Lakes A
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Seminar "B" NIPSCO	Great Lakes B
10:00 a.m. to Noon	Seminar "C" TFT	Great Lakes A
10:00 a.m. to Noon	Seminar "D" PSTI	Great Lakes B
11:00 a.m. to Noon	IVFA Officer's Meeting	Great Lakes C
Noon to 5:00 p.m.	Vendor Displays (in)	Pre-Function Areas
Noon to 5:00 p.m.	Vendor Displays (out)	Peninsula
Noon to 1:00 p.m.	Miss Flame Luncheon	Great Lakes C
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Casino Cruise	Vessel
1:30 p.m. to Close	Miss Flame Judging	Meeting 3 & 4
3:00 p.m. to Close	IVFAA Officer's Meeting	Great Lakes A
5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.	Hot Dog & Beer Bust	Peninsula
7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Joint Opening Meeting	Grand Ballroom
8:00 p.m. to Midnight	Entertainment (Mary McCoy)	Peninsula
8:00 p.m. to Midnight	Beer Wagon	Peninsula
<b>FRIDAY, JUNE 16TH</b>		
6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	Great Lakes A
7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Registration	Lobby
7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.	Men's Business Meeting	Grand Ballroom
8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Women's Business Meeting	Great Lakes A, B, & C
11:00 a.m.	Memorial Service	St. Paul's Lutheran
Noon to 4:00 p.m.	Miss Flame Outing	Flip's
Noon to 4:00 p.m.	Vendor Displays (in)	Pre-Function Area
Noon to 4:00 p.m.	Vendor Displays (out)	Peninsula
Noon to 4:00 p.m.	Beer Wagon	Peninsula
1:30 p.m. to Close	Men's Business Meeting	Grand Ballroom
1:30 p.m. to Close	Women's Business Meeting	Great Lakes A, B, & C
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	Banquet	ORAK
9:00 p.m. to Midnight	Entertainment (New Odyssey)	ORAK
1:00 a.m. to 2:30 a.m.	Casino Cruise	Vessel
<b>SATURDAY, JUNE 17TH</b>		
8:00 a.m. to Close	Games	Parking Lot
Noon	Hotel Check-out	
Noon	Parade Line Up	TBA

## Contestant Entry Blank

Hose Replacing Contest     Waterball Contest     Cart Race

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

**Waterball, Hose Replacement or Cart Race**  
**Michigan City, Indiana on Saturday, June 17, 2000**

An entry fee of \$15.00 in each contest. The \$15.00 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, 2000** to be eligible. All departments that plan to enter should fill out entry blanks along with \$15.00 entry fee for each contest entered.

Send entries to:

**Al Mendel**  
**6608 E. Country Road 151 N.**  
**Avon, IN 46123**  
**317-272-7932**

Please bring your own rain gear for each event. Trophies for Waterball, Hose Replacement and Cart Race. Safety measures to be enforced at contests. Drawing for position Thursday night, June 15, after the opening 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 & regulations shall be disqualified.

## Special Called Officer's Meeting

NOVEMBER 13, 1999

Meeting called specifically for the purpose of making a decision on contracting for a central office for the Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc.

President Cox opened the meeting and read two letters from district chairmen who were unable to attend.

A question from the floor was asked regarding whether the Secretary and Treasurer office had been combined in the By-Laws since Bill Kinsey has resigned as Secretary?

Jim Parker, Past President and Chairman of the By-Laws Committee, responded that the By-Laws had not been amended, thus the two offices could be held by one person or two persons.

Resignation as Secretary does not automatically mean resignation as Treasurer. Bill Kinsey did not resign his office of Treasurer.

Discussion took place regarding the office of Secretary. The office of Secretary has been operating under guidelines furnished by Lee Kissell. Red Morris, Don Cushman, Joe Caudill, Jack Kerney, and Jack Harker were discussed as possible candidates for Secretary.

Jack Harker removed his name for personal reasons.

An assistant secretary for the Central Office was also discussed. Jack Zeeks expressed his opinion that the office should return to the basement of a member as opposed to contracting with an association management office.

Proposals for a Central Office were presented by Emergency Books & Training, the Indiana Fire Instructors Association, Barbara Kerney, Jones Insurance Agency, Don Cushman, and Joe Caudill. Proposals were discussed.

Jim Parker made a motion to award the contract to Barbara Kerney. Jacks Zeeks seconded the motion. The motion required further discussion of terms with Barbara Kerney before the signing of a contract. No action. President Cox closed the meeting so the Board of Directors could meet to take action.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Chairman of the Board Jack Zeeks convened the meeting to consider awarding the contract for the Central Office to Barbara Kerney.

District Chairman Larry Bartlow state he felt the office of Secretary and Central Office should be separate.

Chairman of the Board Zeeks repeated his opinion that office should return to the basement of a member.

Acting District Chairman Jim Bradford questioned the cost of equipping a Central Office in a member's basement. He questioned whether equipment should be leased or purchased since computer technology changes so rapidly.

PRNW Buz Koehler, Don Kissinger, Jack Kerney, Tim Martin, Ron Bell, Jack Harker, and Luke Kluender spoke for returning to a member's basement.

PRNW Buz Koehler made a motion to award the Central Office contract to Barbara Kerney. PRSE Nelson Ehlers seconded the motion. Discussion followed.

Jim Bradford questioned Jack Kerney regarding transfer, set up and fully operational time frame.

Jack Kerney stated the office would be operational in three (3) weeks from November 13, 1999, which would be December 6, 1999.

Nelson Ehlers again raised the question regarding whether to lease or purchase equipment. Decision was left to the Central Office Committee.

A quorum of officers was certified and a roll call vote was taken. There were two (2) No votes. The balance of the officers present voted Yea. The Central Office contract will be awarded to Barbara Kerney.

Treasurer Kinsey presented the year 2000 budget. Tim Sandy made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Don Kissinger seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

Motion to approve President Cox' appointment of Charles "Red" Morris as Secretary was made and passed.

Meeting was closed by Chairman of the Board Jack Zeeks,

Respectfully submitted by,

William Kinsey, Treasurer

## IVFA Central Office Barbara Kerney

The IVFA Central Office has been moved to Evansville. Our new toll-free phone number is 1-877-606-IVFA (4832). If you need to fax us, the fax number is 812-867-3471. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 4797, Evansville, IN 47724.

We are in the process of purchasing computers and having the software installed. This has been quite a chore to do this during the holidays. We now have the card copy files in order and can answer some of your questions, while we are waiting for the software to be loaded.

I have processed all the January license plate forms, and am now processing February's. Try and be patient, as I'm doing these by hand on a typewriter.

I have not been able to process any new memberships or beneficiary changes. This will happen when the computers are up and running.

If you need a license plate form in a hurry, I will try and process them immediately for you.

We have been asked about the processing of license plate forms if the department sends one check for all firefighters. I was told that in the past this was not allowed. I do not see a problem with this, but I will be sending all of the applications to the fire departments at one time. It will be up to the department to distribute them to the individual firefighters.

I am looking forward to helping and serving the IVFA.

# MISS FLAME GUIDELINES

The purpose of the Miss Flame Contest is to select a Miss Flame and First Runner-up to represent the I.V.F.A. and the I.V.F.A.A. The Miss Flame Contest is held annually at the Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association Convention. The girls are judged by a committee of judges who are selected by the Convention Miss Flame Committee. The girls will be judged based on the rules, qualifications, and score sheets dated 8/96.

The State Miss Flame and First Runner-up are selected from District Miss Flame winners (one from each district). The District winners' applications along with two photos (black and white preferred) will be sent to the Miss Flame Committee Chairman by March 10. The girls selected will be representing the state, district and their local department. They will act as public relations representatives all over the state. On a best efforts basis, they will attend as many departmental, district, and state activities as possible. It is the responsibility of the departments, districts, and state to advise and invite them to their activities. The district winners will represent their districts and departments.

The behavior of all Miss Flame candidates and winners will always be becoming and appropriate to such representation.

When attending the convention, motel rooms are set aside for the Miss Flames. They must, however, make their own reservations and advise the Reservation Committee that they are a candidate. Each contestant will have a chaperone (parents or designated person) who will stay in the same room. Miss Flames and their chaperones may camp and again, they must make their own arrangements. They are responsible for paying for their own accommodations.

The itinerary for Miss Flames at the convention will be sent to the candidates by the Miss Flame Committee Chairman. Along with this, they will be advised of the recommended clothing to be worn at each activity. All Miss Flame candidates will attend the mixer on Wednesday evening, the judging and luncheon on Thursday. The judging will consist of personal interviews on Thursday morning and final judging on Thursday afternoon. Winners will be announced and crowning of the Miss Flame will be at the Opening Meeting on Thursday evening.

All girls will be expected to attend the men's and women's meetings, Memorial Service, and banquet on Friday. They will attend the waterball games and ride in the parade on Saturday (if there is one). They will sell doe doll tickets throughout the convention.

District Chairmen (men and women) will be responsible for providing rules and information to Miss Flame candidates. If chairmen need information, they should contact the Miss Flame Chairman, Eula Bush.

## PLEASE NOTE

MISS FLAME APPLICATION FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE MISS FLAME CHAIRMAN:

EULA BUSH  
1419 W. 850 S.  
DANA, IN 47847  
765-665-3213

ONCE THE FORM IS FILLED OUT, IT GOES TO THE DISTRICT CHAIRMAN FOR THE DISTRICT CONTEST AND HE/SHE FORWARDS IT TO THE STATE "MISS FLAME" CHAIRMAN.

ENTRY FORM FOR STATE CONTEST, TWO PHOTOS (PREFERABLY BLACK & WHITE) MUST BE FORWARDED TO EULA BUSH BY THE DISTRICT CHAIRMAN NO LATER THAN MARCH 10.

## DISTRICT CHAIRMEN

### PLEASE NOTE:

The Miss Flame Committee requests each district provide their contestant with a sash with district number on it to wear to the convention competition.

If anyone has questions, please contact Eula Bush at 765-665-3213

# Attention: District Miss Flame Contestants

Miss Flame applications and pictures are due March 10, 2000.

Districts, have you selected your contestant to represent you at the convention in Michigan City in June? If not, you had better hurry.

The Miss Flame Committee is hoping to have a contestant from every district. Wouldn't that be great; it would be a first for sure.

Please send applications and 2 photos (black & white preferred, but not mandatory) to me at the following address:

Eula Bush  
1419 W. 850 S.  
Dana, IN 47847

Contestants and parents, you will be receiving correspondence from me sometime in April and again in May. You will be receiving dress

guidelines and a convention schedule. We must remember, however, that we have to be somewhat flexible since sometimes schedules have to be changed.

One very important thing that Miss Flame contestants must do is to see that their parents/chaperones make hotel (or camping) reservations right away. The contestants will stay in the same room with the parents/chaperones. One room has been set aside at the Blue Chip Casino Hotel for each district Miss Flame.

Call Kathy on Ext. 2414 at 219 879-7711 to make your reservation and be sure to tell them that you are a "Miss Flame Contestant."

I would also like to remind the parents/chaperones that they are responsible for their

own convention registrations. The Miss Flames' registration is provided.

Remember, you can pre-register until June 1 for \$40 each, but after that date the cost is \$50 each. You can use the form provided in this paper (see page 21) or get one from your district chairman.

Something new this year at convention for Miss Flames is that there will be a contest for the best decorated door in the hotel. More information will be included in the letters to the contestants.

If anyone has any questions concerning the Miss Flame Contest at convention, you may call me at 765 665-3213.

Eula Bush  
Miss Flame Chairman

## Feds called on LOFS fire investigation

By Diane Kubiak  
Correspondent

Lakes of The Four Seasons - A fire that destroyed an unoccupied house in the 2000 block of Lakewood Place in Lakes of The Four Seasons (LOFS) remains under investigation LOFS Fire Chief Mike Parks said.

Parks said the Porter County Fire Investigation Strike Team called in the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the federal Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms investigators because of the speed with which the fire had consumed the structure.

"It was fully involved when we arrived. The roof had fallen in," said Parks.

Parks said firefighters arrived minutes after the 3:00 a.m. call.

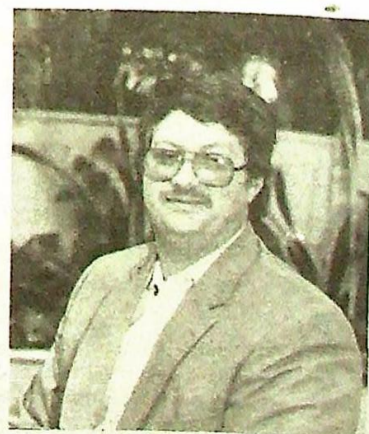
The house contained only construction materials being used in renovations, he said. He estimated the loss at between \$100,00 to \$150,000.

LOFS firefighter Troy Hall suffered a broken wrist in a fall at the scene and was treated at Porter Memorial Hospital and later released, said Parks.

The fire was knocked down within a half-hour with help from Lake Eliza, Crown Point and Boone Grove fire departments, Parks said. Firefighters remained on the scene for nearly 12 hours controlling hot spots and investigating, he said.

Reprinted from the Post Tribune, January 3, 2000

## Public Relations East Central



Don Cushman

## IVFA MISS FLAME CONTEST QUALIFICATIONS AND RULES TO ENTER

1. Father, brother, mother or sister must be a member of the IVFA or the IVFA Auxiliary or be a member herself.
2. Entrant must be single and a non-parent.
3. Entrant must be 15 years old but not more than 18 at the time of the IVFA State Convention. She must be a resident of the state of Indiana.
4. There may be only one entry from each department in the District Contest.
5. The department winner will be decided at the discretion of the department.
6. Winner of a department will be entered in the District contest.
7. District winner will be decided at discretion of the District.
8. District winner will be entered in State Miss Flame Contest.
9. District winner must have transportation to the State Convention and have a chaperone.
10. District winner should be decided by March 1; application and two photos (black and white preferred) will be sent to the State Miss Flame Chairman no later than March 10.
11. Department and District may have an alternate in the event the winner is unable to fulfill the title.
12. IVFA Miss Flame will be selected at the State Convention.
13. Convention host department will provide judges to select state winner prior to the opening meeting on Thursday evening.
14. The Winner and Runner-up will be announced at the ceremonies of opening meeting on Thursday evening.
15. Each District will furnish appropriate District designation ribbons to District winners prior to Judging on Thursday at Convention. (see below)
16. IVFAA will furnish winner IVFA "MISS FLAME" ribbon, flowers, trophy and a \$100 savings bond.
17. IVFAA will furnish IVFA "MISS FLAME RUNNER-UP" with flowers, trophy and a \$50 savings bond.
18. Formal attire will be worn at the State Judging.
19. Judging will be based on fire department and community involvement, appearance, personality, poise, conversational ability and ability to express ideas.
20. It will be the responsibility of the parent or chaperone to pay their hotel/motel expenses.

# Dedicated and true

Teri Bockstahler  
Assistant Editor

Sunman - When he first joined the Sunman Rural Volunteer Fire Department (SRVFD) in 1949, Carl Bruns said it was because of connections with his father-in-law, as well as his drive to serve the citizens of the town of Sunman and Ripley County.

Still a member today, that same dedication and love for the community has kept him motivated to be an active member of the department.

Bruns was honored for his 50 years of service Friday, December 3, 1999, during SRVFD's annual Christmas celebration and awards banquet in the town hall.

"I knew something was coming, but I didn't expect this," he said of the emotional evening with his friends and family present. "They had been talking about it. I thought they'd get me up there and give me a pen and pencil set and that would be the end of it."

Before the evening had ended, Bruns had received recognition from his fellow firefighters, the IVFA, and the Indiana General Assembly.

"This is a House resolution honoring Carl Bruns for his many years of leadership, hard work and service to the town of Sunman and Ripley County," guest speaker and State Rep. Cleo Duncan (R-Greensburg) read from the resolution that then was handed to Bruns.

The resolution was sponsored by Duncan & Rep. Bob Bischoff.

"One man cannot assume all of these awards unless you have a lot of people with you and helping you," the father of two and grandfather of four said. "There had to be a lot of people to make this thing go and we (fire department) have been very successful. The citizens of this community have been very wonderful to the SRVFD in every way, including financially."

The 1985 recipient of the Sagamore of the Wabash award said that, while this same community drive and dedication have been the greatest assets to the department, times have seen great changes.

"Training (of firefighters) has accelerated a lot and we have gotten more into assisting the emergency medical services EMS at automobile accidents and things like that," he said. "But the dangers of firefighting are still there, just like they were years ago."

When he first joined the SRVFD, which was organized in the late 1800s, emergency calls for the fire department were made to the home of the fire chief. The chief then would initiate an outside siren on top of the



Carl Bruns received a copy of the resolution passed by the Indiana General Assembly in his honor. State Rep. Cleo Duncan made the presentation.

department building that would bring firefighters from the area to head to the blaze.

"We didn't have any radio equipment like we do today," he noted. "Then along comes the radio equipment and much better communications to aid the firefighters."

Also, early volunteers did what no firefighter would do today. That is because no firefighter today has to.

"When I started, we didn't have any wearing apparel," he said. "We went pretty much in the clothes we had on our backs."

Times changed and so did the push for better safety equipment.

Eventually firefighters began wearing black rubber raincoats when they went to the scene of a fire, he said.

"It wasn't what you really needed, but it was good in those days. Now you have more sophisticated equipment and up-to-date wearing apparel," he continued.

A big plus in the advancement in safety for firefighters that has been incorporated during his service on the department is the development and use of breathing apparatuses.

"Back then whoever could eat the most smoke was probably the best firefighter... we thought so. Now we realize that isn't the way to go either," he said.

Another big change for the department that Bruns was a part of was the incorporation of the town waterworks in early 1950s.

At that time, mandates prohibited the fire trucks and equipment from being taken outside the town limits, which meant the equipment to fight rural fires was not available.

The community pulled through with requests for donations to purchase a truck to use for rural fires and a truck was purchased. The community again pulled through in 1968 with a solicita-

tion for money for another truck.

"We (firefighters) work hard trying to give good service, but I can't say enough about the community support (that has remained a constant over the years)," he added.

Fire Chief Dan Smith spoke Friday of the dedication and commitment that Bruns also has shown in getting involved with the government at the state and local levels to benefit the department and the community.

"When you go to school, you learn that government is for the people and by the people. If you don't tell the government what you are wanting to be done, they have no idea what's going on," Smith said.

"Carl took those steps and he got involved...we've benefited from what Carl has learned about politics."

As far as the future of firefighting in Sunman and Ripley Co., Bruns said the installation of satellite fire stations in some of the more rural areas wouldn't surprise him.

The SRVFD currently covers the town of Sunman and seven neighboring townships - 16 square miles. It services 2,100 homes. "Some of the areas that we have to go to are really too far, I think," he continued.

Being an all-volunteer department and the time that is involved for some members, Bruns believes there will come a time in Sunman when they will have to pay some of the members, the fire chief & treasurer, for example.

"The time that our present chief and others spend in the fire station is too much for a volunteer service... they are not going to do it (their volunteer jobs with the department) halfway. They are going to do it right," he said.

Are there plans for retirement in his future?

"I'm going to have to give it up one of these days, but I don't have any plans to right now," he said.

Before closing, Bruns added that firefighting has given him many opportunities that he would not have had otherwise, including speaking engagements and travel.

"Everyone should participate in something in this life to help our nation - to help our community. The greatest treasure that the state of Indiana has is the volunteer fire service," he concluded.

During his 50 years on the dept., Carl has held the positions of president, secretary, ass't chief and chief (25 years). He has been district chairman, vice president, and president of the IVFA. He also received the Mr. IVFA award.

Reprinted from the Herald Tribune, December 8, 1999

## District 17A Firemen of the Year Awards



At the regular meeting of the Madison Volunteer Fire Department on December 7, 1999, Donnie Malone (middle) was named 'Fireman of the Year'. Presenting the award was District 17A Chairman Ron Bell (right) and Fire Chief Joe Knepp.



Elnora/Elmore Fire Chief Brian Wesner (left) and Assistant Chief Wayne Ellis (middle) were presented the 'Firemen of the Year' Award by Ron Bell, District 17A Chairman.

## Water bombs to target Calumet Township fire

By Lori Caldwell  
Staff Writer

Calumet Township - The heavy rainfall in recent days (December 3-5, 1999) wasn't enough to completely douse the peat bog fire that has been smoldering here since Halloween.

But National Guard helicopters will come to the rescue this morning December 8, dropping 600 gallons of water at a time on what's left of the fire.

"It's in the most inaccessible area, there are trees blown down. We'll never get in there," Lake Ridge Volunteer Fire Chief John Bonham said Tuesday.

Two checks of the area south of 41st Avenue and west of Whitcomb Street - one last week by Indiana State Police and another Tuesday, December 7, by NIPSCO employees with heat-seeking equipment - helped target the "hot spots," Bonham said.

There are 14 areas that need attention.

"We worked out there in the rain, pulling out the vegetation and chopping up the ground," Bonham said.

Lake County Commissioners last week declared an emergency that allowed the volunteer fire department to obtain the help it

was seeking.

The peat burns underground, as deep as three feet, he said. Tree roots have been burned, causing the trees to fall over, creating the area that needs help from the water bombs, Bonham explained.

He estimated more than seven million gallons of water have been poured on the 130-acre bog since the fire started October 31, 1999.

The two helicopters are scheduled to begin the mission from the Griffith Airport about 8:30 a.m.

"Hopefully, these spots will be quick," Bonham said. "The number of runs will be based on how well it goes. It's a new fire to me and most of the people involved."

Reprinted from The Post-Tribune, Wednesday, December 8, 1999



Sunman Rural Volunteer Fire Department members presented plaques and trophies during their annual awards dinner and Christmas party on Friday, December 3, 1999. Recipients and their awards (from left) are: Dave Smith, 20-Year Service Award; Henry Eckstein, 20-Year Service Award and Inactive Service Award; Brian Noble, 5-Year Service Award; and Dan Eckstein, Firefighter of the Year.

Not pictured is Tim Miles, who also received a 5-Year Service Award.

**IVFA  
ROUND  
SHOULDER  
PATCHES**

**CONTACT:**

**DISTRICT 18  
CHAIRMAN  
FRANK  
DAUNHAUER**

**P. O. BOX 96  
DALE, IN 47523**

**(812) 937-2493**

# Madison Twp. VFD



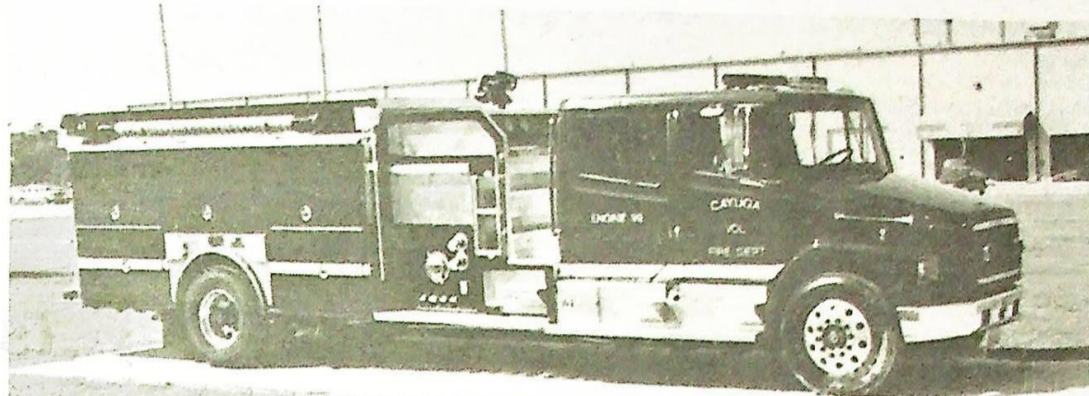
Madison Township Volunteer Fire Department held a Bean Supper and Christmas Auction on December 4, 1999. This event was a fund raiser to help purchase a new fire truck.

At 68, he still works about ten hours a week - fighting fires and working alongside the other firefighters, most of whom are half his age, to clean the stations and trucks.

He says the benefits are getting to work alongside the rest of the staff, and meeting people all over the city and township. "I made out all right," he said. "Or I wouldn't be in it today."

We're here to save lives and property. "If you're not on the ball, you're not going to do that." Reprinted from the Journal-Gazette, December 14, 1999.

# Cayuga receives new fire truck



On September 23, 1999 Michael Morgan and Chad Hennis had a dream come true. They flew to Holden, Louisiana to pick up the new fire truck Cayuga had purchased.

The apparatus is a Ferrara built to our specifications with a waterous 1500 gpm pump, 1000 gallon poly tank, 2-2 1/2" preconnects on rear, 2-1 3/4" speedlays, a 3" Appollo hirise deck gun, ladder through the tank option, top mount control panel, and all aluminum construction.

This is all mounted on a 2000 Freightliner F180 Chassis with a

300 hp Cummins diesel, a 5-speed Allison Automatic and a 5-man cab, with 4 E911 jump seats with Scott air packs.

The new fire truck is 34 feet long, which is about nine feet longer than any of the fire trucks now being used.

The truck was purchased from FASI of Gary, Indiana and we would like to thank our sales rep. Tim Kuiper.

The five-man Truck Committee, which consisted of Michael Morgan, Chad Starkey, Roger Lewis, Chad Hennis, and Troy Haworth, worked on the

appropriations for over two years.

In 1998, the fire department received a \$200,000 grant from Lilly Endowments giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow Initiative through the Vermillion County Community Foundation (VCCF).

Cayuga Town Board President Albert Clark is an original board member of the VCCF.

The fire department will place a 1973 truck up for sale in the near future.

This will still leave three pumpers for protection.

# Ageless firefighters' zest burns bright

40-Year New Haven veterans embrace new technology

By Meghan Hoyer  
The Journal Gazette  
New Haven - When New Haven-Adams Township firefighters Richard Mackin and Fire Chief Dave Mason started with the fire department 40 years ago, they were driving a 1935 pump truck and wearing rubber boots and gloves over their civilian clothes to go out and fight fires.

Times certainly have changed. Mackin, 68, who started as a volunteer with the department in 1959, most recently was trained on heat-detecting sensors and the new portable defibrillators that are now outfitted on some trucks.

Mason, 61, who will celebrate his 40th anniversary with the department in February, says the many changes within the department are why he has stayed with the job so long.

Mackin agrees. "It's just like going to school," Mason said.

"You learn something new every day. And if you don't learn, you have to get out of the way."

"So you learn the computers and technology."

The two sexagenarians have worked for the mostly volunteer department about fifteen years longer than anyone else currently there.

And both say they don't plan to retire anytime soon.

They've watched the Adams Township department grow from about twenty people to the current staff of ten paid and about 65 volunteer firefighters.

Currently, the department handles about 1,000 medical and fire runs each year.

And each has served as chief - Mackin for seven years in the late 1960s and early 1970s, Mason for the last ten years.

When asked their ages, Mackin jokingly calls Mason, seven years his junior, a kid.

But when talking about firefighting, the pair are all business - remembering past battles and explaining procedures and equipment used now.

Mackin received his training in the Navy. When he left military service, he joined as a volunteer.

Mason joined the department in 1960 when a friend urged him to try it out.

He moved up the ranks to take paid positions for the last twenty-two years.

In 1990, Mason as chief oversaw the merger between the Adams Township and New Haven Fire Departments.

At the time, Adams Township paid its top-ranked firefighters for their work and New Haven's department consisted entirely of volunteers.

The merger, the first in the state between city and township fire departments, had its tense moments as the new combined staff worked out a pecking order.

"It was a really unique situation," Mason said.

"But it was really the best for both departments. New Haven got a paid department and the township got to keep a paid department."

Both have seen miraculous saves and horrible tragedies.

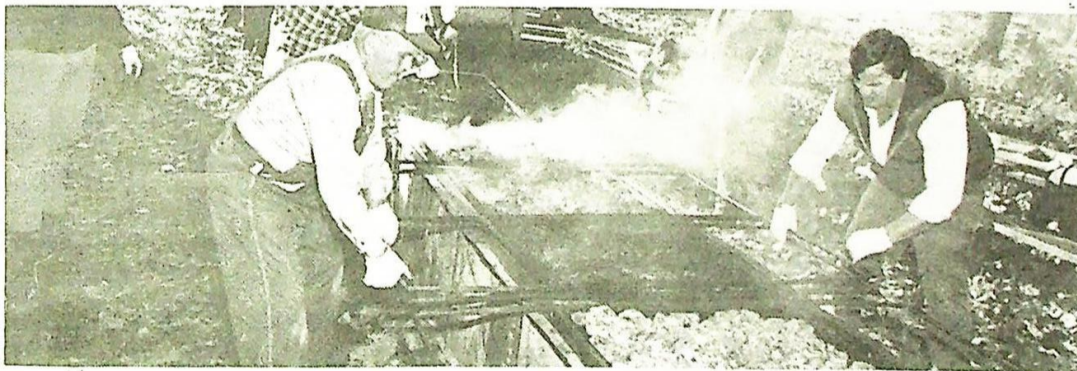
Mackin still remembers as his most harrowing moment the first time he had to carry a dead infant from the remains of a trailer fire, more than thirty years ago.

"That makes you think twice, when things like that happen. It might work on you for weeks at a time."

# Those were the days!



Picture of past District 17A BBQ Turkey Supper at the Lake at Odon, IN, year unknown. Some of the members are deceased now, but this is the way the BBQ turkey was cooked. It didn't matter if it was raining, snowing, or very cold winds were blowing, the meat was cooked. Much fellowship and good feasting was done. ....Those were the days!!!.....



Ron Bell and his dad Jake Bell turning the BBQ turkey.



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# Support Hoosier Burn Camp

# Pershing Twp. FD Firefighter of The Year



(L-R) Joe McDermid, President; Jason Wynn, Firefighter of The Year; and Fire Chief Richard Blaker.

Jason Wynn has been named 1999 Firefighter of The Year by Pershing Township Fire Department.

The award was presented during the department's annual dinner on Saturday, January 8, 2000 in Freetown.

Wynn joined the all-volunteer department in May, 1996. Since that time he has participated in all facets of the department's activities.

He completed the departments basic firefighter program and now assists in the training of new recruits.

Wynn has participated in the group fund raising efforts, work projects, and building and vehicle maintenance.

Wynn became an Indiana Certified Emergency Medical Technician in June, 1997 and is certified as a Search & Rescue Technician II.

He is trained in wildland firefighting and holds a DNR red card.

"We are very proud of Jason," said Pershing Fire Chief, Richard Blaker, Sr.

"This award is voted on by the firefighters themselves and is the highest compliment we can offer. Jason's hard work, level thinking, dedication and willingness to get involved have set him apart as the best of the best."

Wynn is the son of Brenda Wynn of Freetown and Donald

Wynn of Flowery Branch, Georgia. He is employed with Seymour City Police Department and is a graduate of Vincennes University with an Associates Degree in law enforcement.

In May, 1999 he graduated from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy in Plainfield.

He is engaged to be married to Amy Michelle Brackin on February 12, 2000.

Others honored at the dinner included 40-year firefighting veteran Lyle Ault, who was applauded for his long commitment to the group.

Ault was unable to attend because he was being honored at ceremonies conducted by the Sons of the American Revolution.

Also singled out for their assistance and dedication to the protection of Pershing Twp. were:

- Wilma Wessel - Jackson County Red Cross
- Gary Ellerman - Jackson County 911
- Joey Gallion - Indiana DNR
- Rhea Ault - Pershing Fire District Board
- Karen Fleenor - Pershing Fire District Board
- Mike Hall - Pershing Fire District Board

"We certainly can't say enough about these folks," said Pershing Deputy Chief Rebecca Scott.

"They have come through for

us every time we've called. "The Red Cross Disaster Services have been our lifeline many times. They make our lives much easier in really bad situations."

"Gary Ellerman spent many hours helping work out the radio details for our new tornado siren," Scott continued.

"Our community will be much safer because of his kindness."

"Joey Gallion has been a wonderful asset this year," said Blaker.

"The DNR has helped us in the heat of battle in fire fights, helped train our forces and advised us about equipment.

"What we owe them and the U.S. Forest Service can't be over estimated."

"The fire board members give countless hours to the protection of the area," Blaker explained.

"They are unpaid, unseen and too often unrecognized for all they do."

The fire department's history was presented in written form for the gathering.

"This year is Freetown's Sesquicentennial celebration," Scott said.

"So we collected the history with the help of some of our veterans and retired firefighters.

"It's really good to look back

because it lets us see how much we have to be grateful for."

Indiana State Fire Marshal M. Tracy Boatwright and his wife, Jenny, were special guests.

Marshal Boatwright briefly addressed the firefighters and Audliary members and praised their families for all their support and dedication to the community.

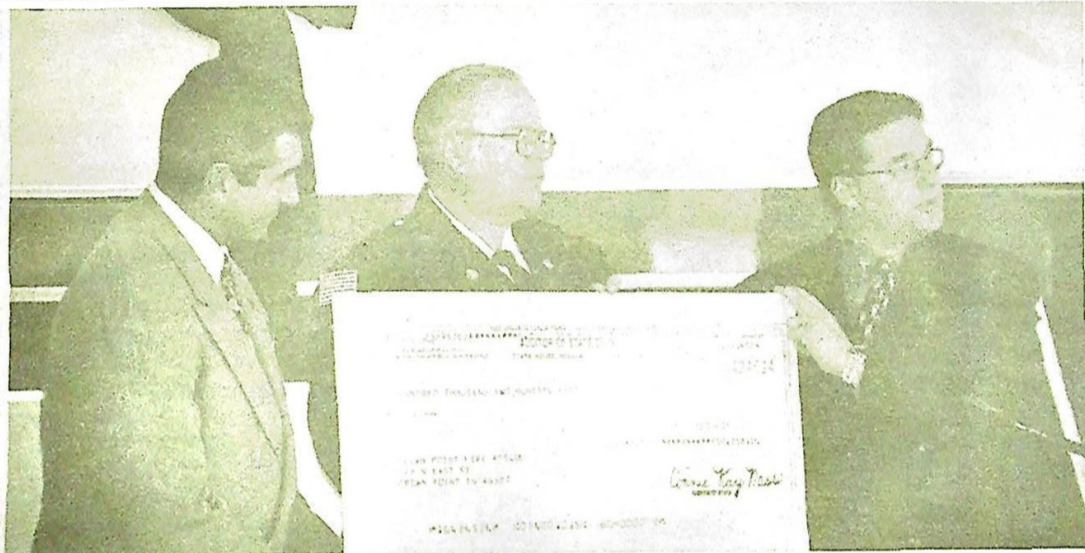
Pershing firefighters also celebrated the recent remodeling of the department's training room.

"Of course, we are thankful for our firefighters and Audliary," said President Joe McDermid.

"We ask a lot from our people, and this is a time when we acknowledge their sacrifices.

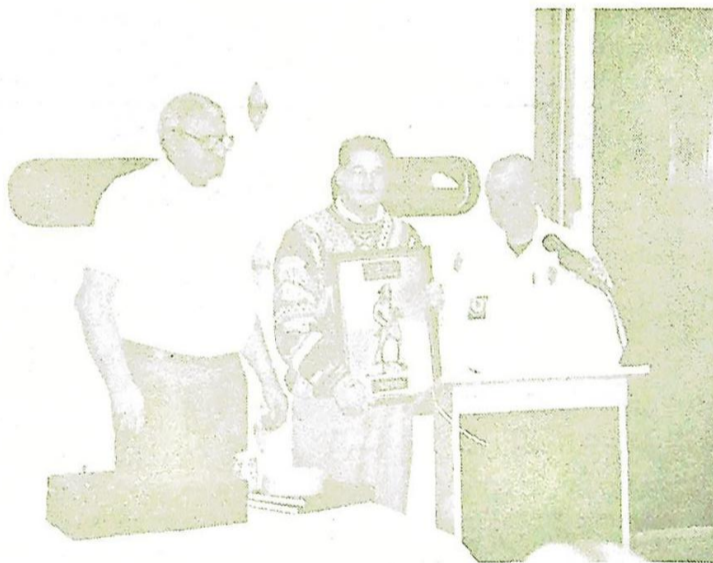
## Crown Point Fire and Rescue gets new ambulance

Crown Point Fire and Rescue recently purchased a new ambulance with the aid of the Build Indiana Fund. State Representative Robert Kuzman was very instrumental in helping the department obtain funds from Build Indiana.



(L-R) Mayor James Metros, and Fire Chief John Gettler receiving check from State Representative Robert Kuzman.

### Practice Home Fire Drills



During the Districts 1 & 2 meeting at Crown Point, State Representative Robert Kuzman was honored with a plaque for all his help in getting funds for fire departments in the district.

Pictured (l-r) District 1 Chairman Bill Howe, Sr.; State Rep. Robert Kuzman; and District 2 Chairman Larry Stott.

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# EPA called to Alfordsville fire

By Linda Perry  
Staff Writer

Alfordsville - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is bringing in a team and equipment to control a fire which started late Thursday, November 11, 1999 at a seven-acre tire dump about one mile north of Alfordsville.

Late this morning, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's (IDEM) emergency response team contacted the EPA which agreed to federalize the site, meaning that agency will start to try to get the situation under control within 48 hours, said State Rep. Dave Crooks, (D-Wash).

"The best case scenario they are shooting for is two days to get that accomplished," Crooks said.

The fire, of unknown origin, started late Thursday night. It is estimated close to a half million tires are stored at the site. The fire has been deemed suspicious and the State Fire Marshal is expected to arrive on the scene today.

The site, an abandoned coal mine area, is owned by James M. Osborne who paid a \$10,000 fine to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management this summer. IDEM has been working with Osborne over the past few years, trying to work out a way to get the tire dump cleaned up.

The fire was first reported to the Daviess County Sheriff's

Department at 12:26 a.m. today.

Osborne, whose voice was hoarse and rasp this morning, said he had been on the scene of the fire until about 6 a.m. He believes the fire may have started from someone having a wiener roast nearby.

The fire had at one time during the night spread to a nearby wooded area, but the Southeast Fire Department moved quickly to contain that blaze, said Crooks, who was at the scene.

Heavy black smoke coming from an area described as "two or three football fields wide" was still shooting straight up into the atmosphere at 9 a.m. today. Firefighters were planning to try to smother the smoldering tire fire with foam.

Southeast Fire Chief John Taylor had thought the fire "suspicious" and contacted the State Fire Marshal. IDEM is also sending a crew to take air measurements, Crooks said, adding people should use caution to avoid breathing the smoke, which is expected to continue for at least the next few days.

IDEM will help oversee the clean-up procedure. The tires on the site were piled 10 to 20 feet deep in places, Crooks said, calling it "one of the biggest tire dumps in Indiana."

"There could have been a Commissioners Order issued over

this matter of getting these tires cleaned up a long time ago," Crooks said, "but the commissioners didn't execute it, holding off and trying to give Osborne time to get it done."

"It's going to be an expensive proposition. And if anyone thought they were doing (Osborne) a favor by setting this fire, they were dead wrong. This has only added to the cost of cleaning the mess up. This is going to cost well over an excess of a half million dollars, which as the landowner, he is responsible for."

According to Crooks, a former area resident had made deals with several landowners to store tires on their property for future recycling efforts. After the man collected a lot of money, (estimated at 50¢ to \$1 per tire), he skipped the area, leaving the landowners high and dry. Crooks said Osborne had contacted him after the state had started insisting the tire dump be cleaned up. Negotiations have been ongoing, Crooks said, with cleanup supposed to have been completed by the summer of 2000.

Reprinted from the Washington Times-Herald, November 12, 1999

## Tire 'dump' was to be cleaned by state

By Patricia Morrison  
News Editor

Alfordsville - As the remaining tires from an early Friday morning fire burn at a site north of this small southeast Daviess County town, county officials are beginning to question why the tires were still at the site.

Members of the Daviess County Solid Waste District Board were told early this year that the site, which held close to 500,000 used tires, would be cleaned by this summer.

"Lee (Lee Spaulding director of the Daviess County Landfill) came in saying 'Good news, the state said they were going to clean it up,'" Solid Waste Board President and Washington Mayor Tom Baumert said Friday, "We kept getting put off."

According to Baumert, a former county resident had attempted to store old tires, which he planned to recycle, at a location on Clark Road across from the Perdue Processing Plant.

"We just didn't think something like that belonged in the city," Baumert said. "He located out there and then the state got involved."

The state had reportedly signed a contract with an Ohio

company to come in and shred the tires early in the spring. Spaulding was kept informed of the process with the tire disposal as the landfill would be paid to accept the shredded tire to use as cover.

Solid Waste Board Vice-President and County Commissioner President Jim Truelove said Friday the board had done everything they could to encourage the state to proceed with the clean-up.

"It's been in the process as far as cleaning it up," Truelove said. "There is very little the county could do about it. It would bankrupt the county to pay for the clean-up."

Spaulding told the board this summer that the state had backed out of the original contract with the Ohio company and was renegotiating a new contract. He still expected the clean-up to begin at any time as the summer progressed.

Truelove said that a nearby tire dump is currently being cleaned up as the shredded tires are being taken to the Daviess County Landfill.

"They were working along for the last month or so and then 10 days ago the state came back and wanted prevailing wages paid," Truelove said. "The contractor didn't bid using prevailing wages. That's something the state does. They want to make it to where you can't operate, but the state's exempt from the prevailing wage law."

Ken Rhame, environmental specialist for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, said a dump site near Petersburg may be the site that is being cleaned at this time.

"These sites are sporadic around the state," Rhame, from Spencer County, said Friday. "Clean up often depends on the size of the site and resources that are available."

State Rep. Crooks was at the site Friday and expressed impatience with IDEM Commissioners who have not moved faster on cleaning the site.

the day and into the night Friday.

Barry Tedrow, with the fire department, said flames were shooting over 100 feet into the air when the first fire truck arrived at the scene.

"We called in the Harrison and Cannelburg VFDs for mutual aid," Tedrow said. "There were seven acres of tires burning."

"The woods were on fire when we arrived," local firefighter Nate Lueken said. "We built back-fires and turned the fire back onto itself, fighting an early defense fire."

Tedrow said the firefighters had earlier put a plan in place should the tires ever catch on fire. The containment plan worked, with surrounding farms not endangered by the fire.

"We have three options," Turner said late Friday, "Let it burn, put it out, or help it burn. So far 90% of the tires are burned and the risk factor is reduced to almost nothing. I expect by morning the report will be that 99% of the tires are burned. We'll decide then what to do with the remaining tires."

According to State Fire Marshal Regional Coordinator Enrico Garcia, the federal presence puts EPA in charge of handling the fire.

Garcia said his department was called in to offer support to the local firefighters.

"I'm just here to give advice," Garcia said. "We did air monitoring and there is minimal air pollution, with no heavy particles. When the feds showed up, they took over, so I'm basically done."

Both articles reprinted from the Washington Herald-Times,

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## Rate Schedule For Indiana Volunteer Fireman

Effective: January 1, 1994

The Paper is of tabloid size. Publisher & Editor Robert Laney, P.O. Box 437, Crown Point, Indiana 46308.

Quarterly issues are printed for February, May, August, & November. ALL copy MUST be in the hands of Mitch Parish or the publisher, Mr. Laney, by the 10th of the month preceding the month of issue.

### Rate Schedule Per Single Issue

\$7.50 per column inch for one color - either all red or all black. \$8.40 per column inch for two color - red and black.

EXAMPLE: Your ad is two columns wide and two inches high = 4 column inches, 4 times above rate schedule will give the amount of the ad cost.

Full page ad consists of 80 column inches. Single issue billing would be 80 X rate.

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The Pennsylvania Fire & Emergency Services Institute, through a grant from the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC)

Foundation, has produced a firefighter health and safety program which is available on CD-ROM.

The "Firefighter Safety and Survival" disk, which is run on the Windows-based PowerPoint program, provides fire departments and emergency response units with a framework for creating their own health and safety program.

In 1998, nearly 100 firefighters were killed in the line of duty. "By adopting a health and safety program, fire departments across the country can help reduce the number of firefighter deaths and injuries," said Phil Stittleburg, NVFC Foundation President.

The disk is \$27.95, which includes shipping and handling.

For ordering information, call the NVFC at 1-888-ASK-NVFC (275-6832) or visit [www.nvfc.org](http://www.nvfc.org)

**One killed  
as 3 rigs  
collide**

U.S. 24 crash sends flames 30 feet high

By Meghan Hoyer  
The Journal Gazette  
Woodburn - The fiery crash of 3 tractor-trailer rigs Wednesday night, December 8, 1999, on U.S. 24 killed one driver and closed the debris-strewn highway for almost four hours.

A second truck driver was in critical condition at a Fort Wayne hospital and a third received minor injuries. Several officials called the wreck the worst they had ever seen.

The crash was triggered when a west-bound rig passing Uniroyal Goodrich Tire Company outside Woodburn crossed the centerline just after 7:30 p.m., Allen County Police Corporal Guy Griffith said.

The truck hit the cab and side of an east-bound truck, sending it weaving and jackknifing into the left lane, where it hit a second west-bound truck.

The impact sheared siding off one of the west-bound trucks and crushed the cab, which burst into flames that shot more than 30 feet high. The driver of that truck escaped unharmed from his cab, which was reduced to rubble in the fire.

He helped drag the critically

injured driver of the jackknifed truck out of his vehicle, which had come to a stop nearby, Griffith said.

The injured driver and the driver of the rig that triggered the crash, whose cab also caught fire, were flown to Parkview Hospital in critical condition.

The driver of the jackknifed truck died shortly after, police said.

Names of the drivers involved were not released pending notification of family members.

Police late Wednesday were working to clear the accident scene and figure out what happened. The jackknifed truck and the burned truck rig came to a stop hundreds of yards from the

truck that started the accident.

The road in between was littered with debris, full sheets of truck siding, the drivers' pictures and personal effects, spare tires, metal scrap and an entire truck engine.

Griffith said officers did not know what made the driver cross the center line. Breathalyzer tests had been ordered for the driver.

State troopers blocked off several miles of the road, sending all truck and car traffic through downtown Woodburn.

U.S. 24 had not reopened as of late Wednesday.

Reprinted from the Journal Gazette, December 9, 1999.

**Huntingburg VFD Service Awards**



At the December meeting of the Huntingburg Volunteer Fire Department Fire Chief Glen Kissling presented Years of Service Awards to the following members:

Front row (l-r): Captain Scott Patberg, 15 years; Captain Gary Beadles, 20 years; Training Officer David Kissling, 10 years.

Back row: Safety Officer Marvin Boeglin, 40 years; Firefighter/EMT Steve Wampler, 5 years; and Firefighter/EMT John Beadles, 15 years.

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# Lilly Endowment equips every department in Madison County with thermal imaging cameras

Thermal imaging cameras are revolutionizing the fire industry, quickly becoming standard equipment sought after by every department in the country. These sophisticated devices enable firefighters to see heat rather than light, helping them find unconscious victims in smoke-filled rooms, pinpoint the sources of fires, and detect structural dangers before they cause injuries and deaths.

At the beginning of 1999, the Madison County Fire Chiefs Association set a goal to place one thermal imaging camera in every county fire department.

The organization submitted a grant application to the Madison County Community Foundation

and the South Madison Community Foundation.

With the help of a \$245,000 grant from Indianapolis-based Lilly Endowment, the Madison County Fire Chief's Association recently purchased 17 thermal imaging cameras, making the county among the first in the nation to equip every fire department with the technology.

This grant was part of the Endowment's GIFT IV (Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow) initiative and was one of five community option project grants endorsed by Madison County's Community Foundations and approved by the Endowment's Board of Directors.

Both foundations believed that the association's initiative fit perfectly with the Endowment's intent of supporting broad-based projects that have a positive community impact.

After the Madison County Fire Chiefs Association received notification of the grant approval, they initiated the thermal imager evaluation process. From the beginning, the association aimed to settle on one camera that would be purchased for all fire departments. The primary advantage of choosing one camera is that in the event of a mutual aid incident, all chiefs and assistant chiefs are familiar with the equipment used by other departments in the county.

The first job was to evaluate multiple cameras in a real world firefighting situation. Seven manufacturers were invited to demonstrate their cameras and video capabilities in a "practice

house burn" on 240 North in the Richland Township Fire Department area. Each group of firefighters used each camera in the smoke-filled house.

A lengthy discussion followed, and the field was narrowed to two cameras. The two finalists were then invited to the Lapel Fire Department for classroom presentations of their cameras, with a time for discussion afterward.

After this presentation, the Madison County Fire Chiefs Association selected the Bullard Thermal Imaging Camera. Firefighters found it to be the most practical, durable, easy-to-handle camera on the market.

With the power of Bullard's wireless video transmission system, or "video link," this unit provides the best reception over long distances, even penetrating steel and concrete.

On November 18, all of the fifteen Madison County Fire Departments (and Salem Township VFD) received their thermal imaging cameras.

Following are some quotes from recipients:

- "Our department may never have been able to afford a camera."
- "You can safely search a home knowing if there is a collapse possibility."
- "You can search a whole house in less time than it takes to search one or two rooms."
- "This is a big safety factor for a firefighter to receive eyes in a structure fire."
- "This is something that can affect every person in Madison County."

Many thanks to the Madison County Community Foundation, South Madison County Community Foundation and the Lilly Endowment for their foresight in restoring the sight of

firefighters who work in dark and dangerous environments. A special thanks to all firefighters who participated in the camera selection process. John Walukonis, Fire Chief Richland Township VFD

## 25 Year Service Award



Chuck Bucy (left) was presented with a plaque by Chief John Berry for 25 years of service as a volunteer firefighter and EMT. Chuck also served as Chief and Assistant Chief during these years. He is retiring due to medical reasons.

The community of Eel River Township extends our thanks to Chuck for his expertise and years of service. Chuck has two sons, Greg & Eric, remaining with the department.

**MOVING?**  
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Applicants must be VERY willing to learn or have previous sales experience. Must be self-motivated and willing to devote a minimum of 20 hours per week to developing your area.

Please fax or mail a resumé and cover letter to our office at the above address and telephone number.

# Firefighters honor 'brother' killed on duty

By Stan Maddux  
Correspondent

Michigan City - Firefighters consider themselves brothers and when one dies in the line of duty, the loss is emotionally taxing.

That was evident on Monday, November 8, 1999, when firefighters from throughout Northwest Indiana paid their last respects to LaPorte County firefighter Bob Ulrich.

Ulrich, 57, and Brian Burnett, 23, were critically injured when their Scipio Township VFD truck overturned at a sharp curve on Indiana 2, while responding to assist with a brush fire near Westville on October 28, 1999.

Ulrich died at LaPorte Hospital on Thursday, November 4, 1999.

About 50 fire trucks from throughout LaPorte County and surrounding areas such as Chesterton, Valparaiso, Portage and Hobart led a procession from St. John's United Church of Christ in Michigan City to nearby Greenwood Cemetery.

A casket draped with the American flag was carried to the cemetery on top of a Scipio Township fire engine.

Duane Lantz, the last surviving Charter Member of the Scipio Twp. VFD, and the former IVFA Chaplain, said, "words can't explain your feelings," when a firefighter dies from fulfilling their duties.

Springfield Twp. firefighter

Tim Sandy said firefighters are like a brotherhood and when a death occurs while on the job, "there's just a deep sad feeling."

Center Twp. firefighter Rod Karringer said the death of any firefighter "takes your breath away. You pause for a moment and a lot of times you think about your family."

LaPorte County Sheriff's Department Fire Investigator Mike Kellems said emergency service is an honorable profession, particularly for volunteers. "They're putting their lives on the line and they don't ask for anything in return. No pay," he said.

Karringer said Ulrich's death would have been a little easier to deal with had it occurred while trying to save a life or a house. "There was no return on the investment," he said.

Ulrich was remembered by Lantz as "an individual that loved the job he had to do, but more than that being good to the people he worked with and to his community. I had very touching, deep feelings for 'Pappy.' Prayer goes out to the young man that is still trying to get well."

Reprinted from the Post Tribune, November 9, 1999.

# Second firefighter dies from October crash

By Stan Maddux  
Correspondent

LaPorte - An October fire truck rollover in LaPorte County

has claimed its second life.

Scipio Township firefighter Brian Burnett, 23, died Saturday, January 2, 2000 at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago.

Burnett seemingly was recovering, but his condition took a turn for the worse last week.

He developed complications from the multiple injuries he sustained in the accident, said Scipio Twp. Fire Chief Pete Sass.

The other firefighter on the truck, Robert Ulrich, 57, also seemed to be recovering when he died at LaPorte Hospital on November 4, 1999, Sass said.

Burnett was in a drug induced coma until mid-November.

After he awoke, Burnett could not talk and never regained his ability to speak. He sustained bruises to the left side of the brain which controls speech, his grandmother Beverly Burnett said previously.

He also had multiple fractures and internal injuries.

Burnett was ejected from the fire truck when it rolled over on a sharp curve on Indiana 2, between LaPorte and Westville, while responding to assist at a brush fire.

The 30,000 pound truck landed on Burnett, before coming to rest upside down in a corn field.

Ulrich was pinned inside the wreckage.

Sass said a counselor was brought into the department last Wednesday to help firefighters with grief after Burnett's prognosis turned bleak.

The second death at the 23-man department has been tough on firefighters emotionally, but we're holding together. We're helping each other."

The mood at the department is "kind of up and down. It's very hard to explain. We're at a loss wondering why. A lot of things like that," Sass said.

Sass described Burnett as one

of the most dedicated firemen at the dept. who was a "nice kid" and kind of quiet."

LaPorte County Police said Burnett was driving too fast when entering the curve and the truck

rolled over from the weight of its cargo of 2,000 gallons of water shifting.

Reprinted from the Post Tribune, Tuesday, January 25, 2000.

# Sellersburg VFD

On November 8, 1999, Indiana State Fire Marshal Tracy Boatwright was in Sellersburg to present the Sellersburg Volunteer Fire Department with a community service award for the department's 50th Anniversary.

Mr. Boatwright also presented his office's highest award, the Fire Marshal's Meritorious Service Award, to Fire Chief Mark Ball and Fire Department President Charles Reynolds for 30 years and 24 years, respectively, of dedicated and unselfish service to the Sellersburg Fire Department, the citizens of Clark County and the Great State of Indiana.



Fire Department President Charles Reynolds (left) and State Fire Marshal Tracy Boatwright.



Fire Chief Mark Ball (left) and State Fire Marshal Tracy Boatwright



Chief Ball presents Deputy Chief, David Benson, with his helmet as a token of the department's appreciation for his 20 years of service. David, the son of the late Fire Chief Charles Benson, served his last eight years as the department's Deputy Chief.

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## Midwest Award recipient



John Berry (middle), Chief of Eel River Township VFD in North Salem, is presented the Midwest Award by Midwest representatives Charles and Linda Baker.

Congratulations to John for his outstanding service to his fire department and community.

## Bridgeton VFD two new deliveries

The Bridgeton Volunteer Fire Department recently took delivery of two new trucks.

The first was a Pierce Contender Triple Combination Pumper mounted on a new International 4900 two-door chassis.

Top mount control panel, aluminum body, cross lays, deluge gun, and a 1000 gallon tank and 1250 gpm Darley pump are some of the features.

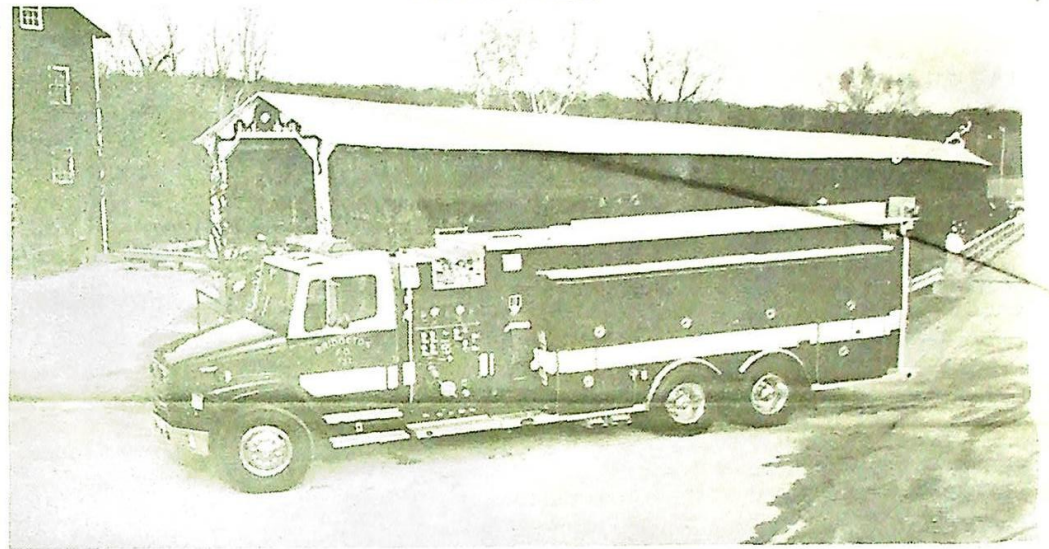
The second truck is a Freightliner FL-80 pumper-tanker with a 3000 gallon tank and

1250 gpm Hale midship pump. The truck has an aluminum body, three cross-lays, deluge gun, scene lights, AuraGen mobile generator, side and rear electric Newton dumps.

The truck was built by Alexis Fire Apparatus in Alexis, Illinois.



Pierce Contender



Freightliner FL-80

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# Jackson County firefighters attend training



Pictured (l-r) Robert Stone (USFS), Joey Gallion (IDNR), Phil Nale (IDNR), and Charlie Keller (IDNR).

Several Jackson County firefighters attended a special program dealing with the current wild fire danger and fire suppression tactics.

The session was held on October 14, 1999 at Dicksons conference facilities in Seymour, Indiana and was conducted by Joey Gallion of the Indiana

Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and Robert J. Stone of the United States Forest Service (USFS).

Both instructors are trained and certified at various levels specializing in wildland fire behavior and attack.

Each are also Jackson County firefighters and have extensive experience in both large and small scale wildland fire suppression operations.

Attending the session were; Richard L. Blaker, Sr; Jason Combs; Greg Wilson, Jr.; David Thompson; Matt Likens; Nick Reedy; Dave Nichter; Anthony Walker; Phil Nale, IDNR Conservation Officer; and Don Benter, Ronald Roy, Rebecca D. Scott, and Charlie Keller, Fire Control Headquarters.

"This program was designed specifically to address the current fire conditions in southern Indiana," said Instructor Gallion.

"We have never experienced

conditions this dry. The moisture content in the light and heavy fuels in the woods is extremely low - a tinderbox waiting for a spark. The recent rains have helped, but in no way have eliminated the threat."

"We have the potential of tremendous flame lengths and rapidity of fire spread," Stone explained.

"Our firefighters may see things we have not seen before and we have to know what to expect and adjust our tactics accordingly.

"The possibility of a disastrous incident is present and our goal is not only to suppress the fire, but to make sure that all our firefighters come home again safe."

The program was sponsored by the Jackson County Fire Chief's Association.

## Volunteer grant program receives boost from Congress

Recognizing the challenges facing the rural fire service, Congress approved \$3.25 million for the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program for Fiscal Year 2000.

The program provides funding to rural fire departments to pay for new equipment, buildings, and training on a matching grant basis.

Sources on Capitol Hill attribute the revived interest in the volunteer program to a combined effort between members of Congress and fire service associations in bringing national awareness to the plight of the rural fire service.

Only two years ago, the future of the program appeared uncertain as funding plummeted to \$1.285 million.

But there is now reason for optimism that the program even-

tually will be fully funded to \$10 million, annually.

Among the advocates in Congress, congressman Greg Walden (OR) issued Dear Colleague letters to key figures on the House Appropriations Committee urging them to support additional funding.

CFSI worked in consultation with other national and state associations, meeting with members of Congress and their staffs, to push for the funding increase.

"We will need to sustain this momentum in order to continue increasing funding for this vital program," said Representative Walden.

"I look forward to working with all of the fire organizations who have a vested interest in this program to ensure the readiness of our rural firefighters. Without them, our rural communities are at great risk."

The funds were included in the FY 2000 Interior Appropriation bill, passed as part of an Omnibus appropriations bill (H.R. 3194).

Reprinted from The Congressional Fire Services Institute Newsletter Washington Watchdog, November/December 1999, Volume 11, Issue 3.

## Public Relations Northeast



Michael Mackin

Winter is here, even though we have not had much snow to speak of as of yet. We have had plenty of cold weather, with a nice warm-up for the new year.

Be careful of not letting the flu-bug get you. Because at the time of writing this newsletter, I am recovering from the bug myself. (Believe me it has not been fun, at all)

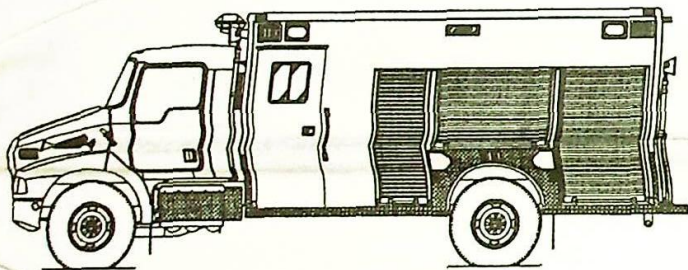
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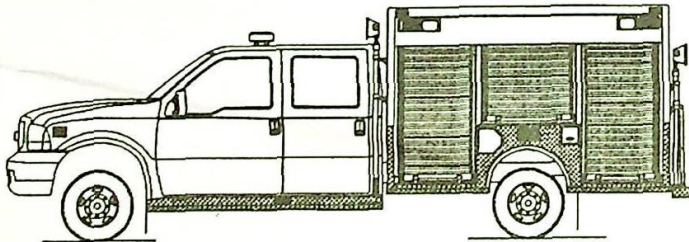
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Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

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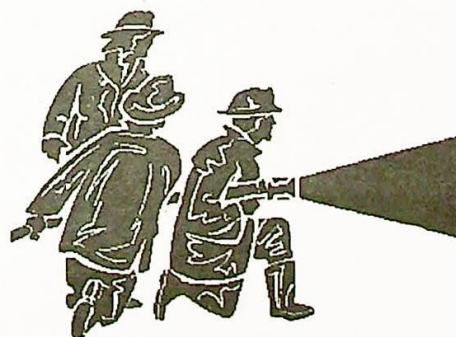
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