

The Only Volunteer Firemen's Association  
In Indiana  
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(USPS 262-480)

Sponsored By The Indiana Volunteer  
Firemen's Association To Create And  
Promote Good-Will Among Its Members

# THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMAN

VOLUME 46 NO. 2

Organized and Trained for the Protection of Life and Property

May 1997

## Baptism Of Fire

Volunteer firefighter  
battles back from  
injuries suffered in  
October blaze

By Michelle Falardeau  
Journal and Courier

When Brian Alkire saw flames  
licking out from the garage eaves,  
he rushed in to warn seven fellow  
firefighters to flee the fire break-  
ing out in the attic above.

"Fire above. You've got to get  
out." Sheffield Fire Chief Perry  
Martin heard Alkire yell just  
before the garage ceiling at the  
Clarks Hill home collapsed,  
knocking Alkire and Louis  
Lawson to the floor.

Both volunteer firefighters  
were injured, Alkire more serious-  
ly, in the October 24, 1997, blaze  
that destroyed businessman Paul  
Diener's \$400,000 home.

Alkire says the worst part of  
his fiery trial were the fifteen sec-  
onds after the 2,000-3,000  
degree heat swooped down on  
him.

"I thought I was going to die,"  
Alkire 25, says. "I saw what I  
was going to lose - Ellen, my par-  
ents, the entire rest of my life.  
You don't think you've got it so  
good until then."

He says those interminable  
moments were worse than the  
burns that disfigured his face,  
head, shoulders and hands.  
Worse than the six surgeries to  
rebuild his eyelids, his nose, his  
mouth.

Worse than having the skin cut  
from his legs with something like  
a cheese slicer for grafting else-  
where.

Worse than looking in the mir-  
ror for someone he knows.

During those seconds, Alkire's  
helmet was torn off by the falling  
ceiling. The searing heat ate  
through the fireproof hood he  
wore next to his skin. He gulped  
air near the garage floor and  
looked around for Lawson, but  
couldn't find him.

Alkire had entered the fire to  
help seven others. He was on his  
own to escape.

He was a ball of fire as he  
fought his way through the insula-  
tion and chunks of flaming ceil-  
ing.

"I think the Lord was with me,  
" he says. "It was unbelievable  
the stuff we had to throw out of  
the way."

A few of the sixty firefighters  
working the fire knocked him to  
the ground to put out the flames.  
He then jumped into a tank of

## Firefighters Battle Blaze



Banner photo by Joe Persinger

Volunteer firefighters attempt to knock down a blaze at the John and Kathy McCrary residence on County Road 310 South in Vallonia shortly after 11:00 a.m. Monday, March 3, 1997. Driftwood Township Fire Chief Robert Hounshel said his department responded to the blaze and called for assistance from the Brownstown Volunteer Fire Department.

"Mutual aid from Brownstown made a big difference," he said. "We probably could have done it without them, but it would have taken longer and I'm sure there would have been more damage."

Still, the fire, which apparently started around a furnace in the center of the house after family members had left for the day, had a good head start before a passerby saw the smoke and called 911.

Hounshel said the family lost 75 per cent of their personal belongings, and the house was "right on the borderline of being a total loss", with the damage to the home and contents estimated at \$100,000.

Reprinted from The Jackson County Banner - Brownstown, Indiana  
Thursday, March 6, 1997

water to finish the cooling.

Sue Alkire says the firefighters  
who were there swear her grand-  
son wasn't alone as he ran from  
the building.

"They say a guardian angel  
carried him from the flames," she  
said. "There is no way he could  
have gotten out by himself."

The cause of the house fire is  
still under investigation by state  
fire marshals.

Diener's Colfax fertilizer plant  
also burned to the ground in  
1994. The cause of that fire was  
ruled undetermined, according to  
Detective David DeLion of the  
Tippecanoe Sheriff's  
Department.

So far, Alkire has spent six  
weeks in the burn unit at Wishard

Memorial Hospital, recovering  
from second- and third-degree  
burns to his shoulder, hands, face  
and head. The worst burns  
destroyed the skin and underlying  
tissues on more than twenty per  
cent of his body.

Even so, Alkire counts his  
blessings.

"I just got lucky, Alkire says,  
"My ears and fingers came close  
to getting burnt. I see myself  
thanking God every day for being  
alive. He does a lot of things we  
don't understand."

Alkire has retained a positive  
attitude with the help of his par-  
ents, Fran and Michael, family,  
friends, fellow firefighters, and

Continued on Page 13

### IN THIS ISSUE

Convention News Reservation & Registration forms	Pages 10 & 11
District News	Pages 4, 5 & 6
Aux. District News	Page 7
Convention Minutes '96	Pages 21, 25, 30-31
Miss Flame Candidates	Page 22
Miss Flame Information	Page 23
Classified Ads	Page 26

"IT WILL BE LIKE HEAVEN IN '97"

Wayne Twp. Marion Co. - June 18 - 21, 1997

**THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMAN**

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

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May 1997

**ADVERTISING RATES**

\$7.50 per column inch in one color - black or red. \$8.40 per column inch in 2-color - black and red.

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.

SEE PAGE 20 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON RATES.

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Geneva, 46740  
(219) 368-7432
- Willie M. "Mitch" Parish**  
P.O. Box 15  
Francesville, 47946  
(219) 567-2639
- Richard "Dick" Glant**  
619 S. East  
Bremen 46506  
(219) 546-3509 or 546-4465

**Chaplain's Corner**



**Charles J. Baker**

**Prayer For Today**

*Gracious God,  
We thank you Lord for the gift of peace which reminds us that we have been created to live in peace in an oftentimes troublesome world.*

*Show us the way to eternal life. Help us as we walk the walk of life. Thank You for all the many blessings You have granted.*

Amen

**One More Time**

Next month will bring the arrival of another convention to our Association. This time it will be held at Wayne Township, Indianapolis and the Adams Mark Hotel near the airport will serve as Convention headquarters. Be sure to register early and bring along your friends and family to join in the celebration.

**Minute Message**

It was Mark Twain who said; "From his cradle to his grave a man never does a single thing which has any first and foremost object, save one...to secure peace of mind, spiritual comfort, for himself."

Indeed, human beings spend an inordinate amount of time and energy chasing the wind and following rainbows with the ultimate goal of achieving peace. It is the human condition which causes us to strive so mightily to build a comfortable place for ourselves. But, in so doing, it seems that this thing called peace is sacrificed.

But Jesus gave us a better way. Following His last meal with the disciples, He entered into a rather lengthy dissertation which is found in the last few chapters of the book of John. We read in 14:25-27 these words: "All this I have spoken while still with you. But, the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all these things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Still later (16:33) these words are spoken: "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

The Lord told us what to expect; trouble. We have to live in the world so it follows that we cannot be insulated from it.

But it doesn't follow that we be of the world. As followers of Christ, we are commissioned to do His work, which dictates that we leave a lot of worldly cares and concerns to those caught up in them.

Peace is still attainable, albeit for brief periods during the day and on other very special occasions. Take time; make time to escape the troubles of the world and commune with Him and others to find real peace.

\* \* \*

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

(Phil 4:6-7)

**IVFA  
Central  
Office**

**1 N. Capitol Ave.  
Suite B2  
Indianapolis 46204  
1-800-692-9458  
1-317-692-9458  
Fax 317-692-9651**

**State  
Secretary**

**Thomas C. Hinkle  
314 Linnwood Ave.  
Sellersburg 47172  
812-246-6569  
Pager: 800-589-6030-  
50535**

Please make a note of these.

## Helping Hearts goes national

The Prudential Helping Hearts program, which has been generating considerable goodwill and publicity for Prudential and its sales representative in thirteen states over the past three years, is expanding into a national program.

Beginning February 14, 1997, Helping Hearts matching grants will be available to help volunteer EMS squads in any state acquire portable heart defibrillators. As a result, we expect to significantly broaden the

### MOVING?

Please, don't forget to let us know.

Send your name & new address along with your old one to:

IVFA Central Office  
1 N. Capitol Ave. - Suite B2  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

## BRIDGEPORT SCHOLARSHIPS

Thank you members for a job well done. We received forty-two applications this year for the scholarship awards.

We will be selecting the recipients at the May Officer's Meeting in Indianapolis. The awards will be made known at the Convention Banquet on June 20. Be sure to register for the convention to enjoy the festivities and the brotherhood of our great fire service.

Keep in mind that now is also the time to consider an application for next year if you or your children are graduating from high school next year or perhaps are already enrolled in college and need a fiscal helping hand. If your applicant is not selected this year, and the need is still sought, do not hesitate to apply again next year.

Applications are available from all district chairmen or any of the elected officers shown on page 2 of this newspaper.

Lawrence Swartz, Chairman  
Bridgeport Scholarships  
2665 W. Bunkum Road  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
219 866-7769

impact of this lifesaving program and enable many more of our sales representatives to benefit from the positive impressions it creates in local communities.

Helping Hearts began in New Jersey three years ago, and due to its success, was subsequently introduced in California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin. So far, we have helped nearly 1,000 EMS squads in these states buy defibrillators, and we already know of many people who have been saved by these machines.

More than 250,000 Americans die from sudden heart failure each year, but studies show that most of them could be saved if treated promptly with a defibrillator, which "shocks" the heart back into a normal rhythm. Unfortunately, many EMS squads - especially volunteer squads - can't afford them.

By providing a little financial assistance, we can make a big difference in their ability to save lives. And in doing so, we can give our representatives an opportunity to promote a much-appreciated program in their communities, and deliver the grants in local ceremonies typically attended by elected officials and news media.

To become eligible for a grant, a squad must submit a complete application with documentation verifying that:

1. It is a non-profit organization.

2. It meets state technical requirements. EMS volunteers must have undergone - or be eligible for - training in the use of a defibrillator.

All eligible volunteer squads applying will be considered. Complete applications will be reviewed in the order in which they are received. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Grants will be awarded on an ongoing basis until available grant funds are depleted. Prudential reserves the right of final selection.

Once a volunteer EMS squad applies and is accepted into the program, it receives a "fundraising kit" from Prudential and then has six months to raise its share (1/2) of the funds.

When fundraising is complete, the squad orders a defibrillator from the manufacturer of its choice and provides Prudential with a copy of an itemized purchase order.

Prudential then matches the squad's contribution (up to \$2000), sending its check directly to the manufacturer.

More information about the program is available on Office Vision (type "Doc Hearts" on the command line) and on

Prudential's internet web site.

If you are involved with a volunteer EMS unit in your area, or if you simply would like to make sure that a local volunteer squad has a chance for one of our matching grants, you can obtain an application at any Prudential insurance offices or by calling Helping Hearts Hotline at (201) 802-8888.

They may even be downloaded from Prudential's World Wide Web site at

<http://www.prudential.com/community>

Bob Fallon, Vice President  
Prudential Communications Group

## From the President



Jack Zeeks

Hello Firefighters and Friends, Spring has finally sprung. I've been fairly busy the past couple of months trying to attend different fire functions and district meetings.

The convention will be here before we know it. If you haven't sent in your pre-registration and room reservations, please do it now. Our friends at Wayne Township Fire Department I know are really working hard to make this convention the best yet.

I hope everyone sent their letters in for the following awards: Mr. IVFA, Ollie Sandberg, Lois Boaz and The Bridgeport Scholarships. The Midwest Awards have already been sent in. If you didn't get a name in, be sure to next year.

I attended the Indiana Fire Services Institute's sixth annual Fire & Emergency Services Dinner & Training Seminars in March. Attendance was down from last year. The dinner, seminars and the guest speaker were excellent.

The last part of April I attended the Congressional Fire Services Institute's ninth annual National Fire & Emergency Services Dinner in Washington, D.C. While there, we visited with some of our legislators in Congress on Capital Hill.

My job has kept me out of state lately, so if you need to get in touch with me, leave a message with Carolyn or my daughter Tracy and I will return your call on the weekend.

If it's an emergency, Carolyn knows how to get in touch with me and I will call you in the evening. I don't know what I would do without those two.

In closing, Carolyn and I wish everyone health and happiness. Until we meet again, have a great summer.

## NVFC annual Firefighter of the Year Award application criteria

The National Volunteer Fire Council awards those individuals whose outstanding achievements in the fire service and community provide examples of exemplary performance. This prestigious award is one of only two awards which the Council bestows. Nominated by their peers, the recipients are awarded a plaque and a place in history with the NVFC.

The following conditions should be considered when submitting a candidate's nomination. Individuals selected must have given outstanding service to his or her state or state association in the fire service.

This award is not an award for heroism.

Candidate information should include:

1. Name
2. Address
3. City, State, Zip, Phone
4. Fire Service History
  - a. Department, City, State
  - b. Date Joined
  - c. Elected Positions Held
  - d. Appointed Positions Held
  - e. Other Pertinent Department Information
5. Association History
  - a. State Level Service
  - b. Local/County Level Service
  - c. Other pertinent information
6. Family History
  - a. Wife/Husband
  - b. Children
7. Other Service to Community/State Government
  - a. Council/Board/Commissions/Legislative Service
  - b. Religious Positions
8. Past Honorary Awards Received

The NVFC Firefighter of the Year Award will be presented at the National Volunteer Fire Council's Fall meeting in Charleston, West Virginia in October 1997.

Mail eight (8) Copies of Submissions To:

NVFC  
Firefighter of the Year Award  
1050 17th Street, NW,  
Suite 1212  
Washington, DC 20036

DEADLINE IS JUNE 1, 1997

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# District Meetings

## DISTRICTS 1&2

Lake of the Four Seasons  
Wednesday, January 15, 1997  
Meeting was opened at 8:20 p.m. by District 2 Chairman Larry Stott. Pledge to the Flag was led by PRNW Bill Howe.

Guest introduced was Bill Howe, Sr., PRNW.

Four Seasons Fire Chief Vern Pahl gave the department's history and introduced his officers and firefighters that were present.

No program was given due to the presenter not able to get to meeting because of snow storm.

Information given of Four Seasons Cadet program by Clarence Moss.

No Roll Call due to no district secretaries at meeting, also no minutes of last meeting available.

Communications - Bill Howe reported on the instructor update held in Rensselaer. A letter regarding legislation pertaining to fire chiefs not being allowed to run for Town Council or Township Trustee.

Anyone wanting a 50 year IVFA history book should contact Mitch Parish. Cost will be in the area of \$15.

1997 Convention at Indianapolis hosted by Wayne Township on June 18-21.

District 1 Miss Flame is from Schererville. District 2 Miss Flame is from Crown Point.

Fire Caucus dinner postponed until March 2.

Treasurer's report was given.

Old Business - a motion was made to send two people from each district to the Fire Caucus Dinner in March. Drawing to be held at next district meeting at Burns Harbor. Motion by Ron Rogers and seconded by Ron Bishop. Motion carried.

New Business - Independence Hill firefighter Harry Yaros passed away. No memorial service was held. Had a moment of silence.

Good of the Order - New Chicago has a pancake breakfast the last Sunday of each month for \$3.00 per person.

Chicago Fire Department and surrounding communities have set up a satellite tracking device to monitor all hazardous materials traveling through the area.

Attendance trophy winners were New Chicago, District 1 and Lake Eliza, District 2.

Next meeting in Burns Harbor on Wednesday, Feb. 19, 1997.

50/50 was won by Jason Gikas of Four Seasons.

Meeting was adjourned.  
Respectfully submitted by,  
Don Anderson  
Acting Secretary

Burns Harbor Volunteer Fire Department  
February 19, 1997

Our meeting was called to order by District 1 Chairman Bill A. Howe at 7:30 p.m.

Guests included PRNW Bill Howe, Sr., District 2 Chairman Larry Stott and 50 year member Julius Demec.

Bethlehem Steel Fire Chief Kurt Kalseer gave a presentation on fires at the mill and talked about the hazards you can run into if called to assist the Bethlehem Steel Fire Department.

Motion was made by Tom Raber and Seconded by Tim McCoy to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting. Motion carried.

Roll Call was answered by

sixty-six members from District 1 and sixteen members from District 2. Attendance trophies won by New Chicago, District 1 and Lake Eliza, District 2.

PRNW Bill Howe, Sr. report - dues notice coming out May 1. Dues must be paid by July 31, or you will lose your Bridgeport Fund Benefit.

Indiana Fire Services Institute Caucus and Dinner is March 2. Tickets are \$100.

There is a law in place to allow an increase in the tax levy of 20% for the fire service.

Firefighter 1 & 2 test out good until 1999. After that you must go through the entire program.

Discussion held on certificates for firefighter 1 & 2 having computer problems. Will be sent out as soon as problem is fixed.

District 2 Chairman Larry Stott reported on proposed changes within NFPA Standard 1200. Have to send proposed changes or comments in by April. He also read proposed legislation pertaining to the fire service. He and Bill will send out cover letters for all bills.

Drawing for four tickets for the Fire Caucus Dinner that Districts 1 & 2 will pay for. District 1: Tom Raber and Tim Hunt with Ryan Schafer as alternate. District 2: John Cermak and Nancy Webb with Bub Wise as alternate.

Treasurer's report given. Mention made that District 1 & 2 Treasurer Clarence Moss had bypass surgery and is recovering.

New Business - Read proposed By-Law change to increase mileage reimbursement from 20¢ to 25¢ for officers and delegates. Lodging increase from \$40 to \$50 and food from \$20 to \$25 per day for officers meetings. Motion carried to vote yes for increases.

Good of the Order - Washington Township having a Harley Davidson Motorcycle Raffle. Tickets \$25 each.

Lake Station having Harley Davidson Motorcycle Raffle. Tickets are \$20. each.

New Chicago having a pancake breakfast March 23.

Free fire and arson course at Schererville Fire Department March 8 & 9. Twelve hour course, register through PSTI.

Bill Howe, Sr. and Bill A. Howe are trying to set up local testing for firefighter 1 & 2. You can take the test every 90 days.

1996 Convention Balance \$2100.

50/50 was won by Doug Tripold from New Chicago. He won \$63.50.

Next meeting will be in District 2 at Keener DeMotte Volunteer Fire Department on March 19, 1997. Meeting will be at the American Legion Post.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Jim Bradford, District 1 Sec.

## DISTRICT 5

March 13, 1997  
Bremen Fire Department, Bremen, Indiana.

The meeting was called to order at 1935 hours by Chairman Don Kissinger. The Pledge to the flag followed.

Roll Call was answered by twenty-three members representing ten departments.

Guests included Richard Glant, Northeast Public Relations Director and Tina Capron, the District 5 Miss Flame contestant.

Communications - Chairman Kissinger reported on the NFPA Committee review of the 1200

series regulation and the adverse effects it may have on the fire service if enacted as it is being presented.

Reviewed active bills still in the legislature which affect the fire service.

Reminded those present about the IVFA convention coming up in June.

Took up a collection from those present to help defray the expenses for Tina Capron, Miss Flame Candidate.

We held a general discussion on attendance at district meetings and the annual convention.

Our meeting was adjourned at 20:40 hours, with refreshments being served by the host department.

The next meeting will be held on May 8, 1997 at the Tippecanoe Township Fire Department in Tippecanoe, Indiana.

## DISTRICT 8A

The March meeting was called to order at the LaFontaine-Liberty Township Fire Station on March 12, 1997 with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Twenty-two (22) members representing nine departments answered Roll Call.

Visitors and State Officers in attendance and participating in the meeting were: Jack Zeeks, IVFA President, representing the leadership of our organization; Ivan Nevil, representative from the State Fire Marshal's office and Indiana Fire Education, was a surprise visitor; and Don Cushman, PREC.

April Joann Marshall, the Miss Flame contestant from our district was present along with her father, David Marshall, from Center Township Fire Department.

A memo from the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) was distributed to the membership and a discussion followed on the memo and NFPA 1200, which has proposed some additions to the recommendations on firefighter safety which many firefighters feel are not needed and are unnecessary.

The NVFC has listed some comments for sending to NFPA.

The comments are typed on the required forms and with the required style for mailing to the Fire Council and will be relayed to the NFPA council meeting. Each member was given a copy of each suggested comment and was asked to fill out the heading (name, address, etc.) sign their name and mail the cards to the address on the forms. The comments to the committee on changes to NFPA 1200 have an April 11, 1997 deadline. There were blank forms for anyone who prefers to draft their own comments and mail them.

Jack Zeeks and Don Cushman added their comments and encouragement to fill out, sign and mail the provided forms.

Ivan Nevil was introduced and spoke to the members on the State of Indiana Fire Training, and mentioned the fire chief training being presented by the Fire Marshal's office. Ivan offered to give a crash course to attendees who were not going to the regular fire chief training at Plymouth, March 15. The body voted the time was getting too late and the Chairman suggested more time would be arranged at the next meeting at Lapel, on May 14, 1997.

Ivan asked if there were any questions. The questions asked were mostly about the Indiana certification program and the need for change over to the IFSTA based program. No one will ever lose the certification they have attained, and the only change or additional training will be required of instructors who wish to continue to teach Firefighter I, Firefighter II, etc. Indiana firefighters may upgrade if they desire.

Wherever Ivan appears, the question "Why change to IFSTA certification?" also appears. To eliminate that question is like putting out a stubborn grass fire. Thanks for trying, Ivan.

The second Roll Call always brings up some interesting situations. The host department provided refreshments which were welcomed with open mouths.

See everyone at Lapel, May 14th.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Robert Fleener, Chairman

## DISTRICT 9A

The March 27, 1997, meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Charlie Cline at the Harrison Township-Alto Fire

Department. A chili supper served by the department Boosters preceded the meeting. The Pledge to the flag was led by Charlie Baker. Mark Ancil gave the Invocation.

Guests were Charlie and Linda Baker, Mitch Parish, Bill Howe, Buz Koehler and Lawrence Swartz.

Thirty-nine members answered the roll call reporting responses to 101 alarms.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Old Business - A 50 Year Gold Card was accepted by Burlington Fire Chief Don Smith, for Richard Davis.

Mike Stanley and Mark Ancil reported that the legislative seminars and dinner on March 2nd were very informative and if you have an idea or problem regarding the emergency services, get in contact with your legislator and let them know.

Letters for nominations for Mr. IVFA need to be in by April 1st. Letters for the Ollie Sandburg award go to Jack Cox by May 1st.

New Business - Chairman Cline said that the Howard County Fire Chiefs' Association is working on a method to get addresses well-marked. He asked how other departments do this and what government agency enforces this. Carroll County went through their County Commissioner to make this mandatory.

The next legislative dinner will be February 8, 1998.

Mitch Parish reported that the Appreciation Picnic will be July 13 at Wayne Township with free food and drink, flea market, games, etc. The annual convention is in June at Wayne Township. He went through the events they will have.

Charlie Baker discussed the proposed NFPA 1200 Standard. He had a document from the National Volunteer Fire Council with comments addressing troubling portions of this Standard as it would affect the Emergency services. He asked all of us to sign these comments and mail them to the Standards Council. Those present did so.

Mitch Parish is taking orders for the 50 year Historical book on the IVFA.

Jason Smith and Keith Fallon brought House Bill 1412 and Senate Bill 538 to the attention of the membership regarding

Continued on Page 5

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### District 9A

Continued from Page 4

putting some limits on municipalities wanting to annex adjacent areas unopposed. They asked that vol. firefighters back the legislators proposing these bills as they are to our advantage and write to them with your concerns.

Mitch Parish said there is a Senate Bill 306 which would extend from 60 to 120 days the amount of time residents have to respond to publication of annexation actions.

Bill Howe said that 65 bills were originally introduced that would affect the voluntary emergency services, but that number is now down to several bills.

Anyone needing recertification in EMT modules can come to Harrison-Alto on Thursday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. until the end of June.

Royal Center will have a pork chop dinner on April 26.

Burlington will have their breakfast on April 12.

Doug Obenchain presented an explanation of the Farmedic Program that provided training to combine fire, rescue and EMS personnel into one operation on farm rescues. This is a 16 hour course that comes out of the training center in Utah or New York. The course is hands-on at a farm. It can also be done with models and simulated farm equipment. Additional special courses for First Responder on the scene for farm families, silo rescue and agricultural chemicals are also offered. Agriculture has the highest death rate of its workers of all occupations and leads in injuries, also. In age groups, the 14 and under and 65 and over have the greatest number of victims.

The next meeting will be May 22 at Lucerne.

Respectfully submitted by  
Dee Mauntel, Secretary

### DISTRICT 9B

January 9, 1997

Boswell Fire Station, Boswell, Indiana.

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Koehler at 8:30 p.m. Dave Lape gave the Invocation and Chairman Koehler opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Refreshments were served prior to the meeting.

Roll Call was answered by the following departments: Boswell,

1; Fowler, 5; Remington, 3; Rensselaer, 2; and Wolcott, 2. Thirteen firefighters were present with six visitors for a total of nineteen in attendance. Total numbers of alarms was 55 with five departments answering Roll Call.

The minutes were read and approved.

The guests introduced included Marvin Jordan, Farm Bureau Co-op and five members of the Ambia Fire Department.

Communications - Items of discussion that opened up the meeting covered airbag booklets and IVFA handouts. In addition, the cross over class for instructors will be at St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer on January 11, 1997. Also, please ensure all Bridgeport Scholarship applications and Miss Flame applications are turned in on time.

New Business - A State Fire Marshal's memo was received to inform each of us to ensure we use the new certification forms for 24-hour training, state fire school, etc. and it was emphasized that they be filled out correctly. These should have been received in the Christmas mailing.

The Fire Caucus will be March 2, 1997 in downtown Indianapolis. Kenny Burns made a motion to send one individual from our district. Chris made a second on the motion and the motion passed. The price will be \$100.00.

Good of The Order - A question was brought up as to whether the ban was lifted on free burning. Chairman Koehler stated a permit was still required, with the exception that there are certain things that farmers can still burn without a permit. Chairman Koehler will check with the State Fire Marshal to clarify the question of free burning.

The host department introduced their membership age as being new members stretching to members with 19 years of service.

The IVFA book entitled 50 Years of History has been set at a price of \$50.00, with 150 books being made. Please ensure to get yours ordered.

The program for the evening was Natural Gas and L.P. and the associated hazards at the scene and how to deal with the releases. The program was presented by Marvin Jordan, Farm Bureau Co-op.

The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Dave Lape and a second by Kenny Burns.

The next meeting will be held

at the Brook Fire Department on March 13, 1997 at 6:30 p.m. slow time and 7:30 p.m. fast time.

March 13, 1997

The regular meeting of District 9B was called to order by Chairman Koehler at 8:05 p.m., at the Brook Fire Station in Brook, Indiana. Dave Lape gave the Invocation and Chairman Koehler opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Refreshments were served prior to the meeting.

Roll Call was answered by 34 firefighters from nine departments as follows: Brook, 13; Brookston, 1; Earl Park, 3; Goodland, 1; Kentland, 4; Monon, 2; Remington, 4; Rensselaer, 4; and Wolcott 2. They reported a total of forty-eight alarms. There were also eight guests present for a total attendance of forty-two.

The minutes were read and approved.

Guests introduced were: Brad Sandberg, Office of the State Fire Marshal; Lee Theesfield, Mid America Truck and Equipment Company; Dwayne Gettler, President, Lake County Fire Chiefs Association; Ray Chambers, President, Newton County Fire Association; Ralph Knapp, First Assistant Chief, Lincoln Township Fire Department; Jan Risley, Iroquois Township Trustee; Bill Howe, NW Public Relations Director; and Bruce Yonker.

Communications - Items of discussion that opened up the meeting cover the Fire Chiefs Orientation dates which will be Monroe Fire Department, March 1, 1997; Greenfield Fire Department, March 8, 1997; and Sullivan Fire Department, March 15, 1997.

There will be a public auction at the Charleston Fire Department on March 22, 1997 at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Koehler also discussed surplus government fire apparatus and if there are any questions on this equipment, please contact him.

Old Business - Chairman Koehler didn't get a chance to check on burning laws, but Kyle Conrad stated there weren't any changes.

The State Fire Caucus was represented by six members from District 9B.

Also, be sure to make your reservation for Convention '97 as soon as possible.

New Business - NFPA 1200

needs to be commented on in 42 different areas. Chairman Koehler stated how we all need to have comment sheets sent in so we can voice a strong opinion on this subject and if we don't act on this subject, it will pass and we will be regulated by it.

At the Officer's Meeting on February 3, 1997, it was noted that there are now 16,748 members and 720 departments.

Larry Petro, District 8, brought up some recommended changes to the standard operating procedures. Kyle Conrad made a motion to support the change and Mark Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Good of the Order - Rensselaer Volunteer Fire Department will be having a pancake breakfast on May 4, 1997, from 6:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

Comments - Bill Howe stated that of the 65 bills affecting the fire service in the legislature, 25 are still active.

The award nominations for the Mr. IVFA and Ollie Sandberg Awards need to be turned in as soon as possible.

Program - The program for the evening was held prior to the meeting and was presented by Brad Sandberg from the State Fire Marshal's Office. It covered how to contact the State Fire Marshal's Office, Fire Chief's responsibilities, State Fire Marshal's Arson Reward Program, Accelerant Detection Dog Mischief (on video demonstration).

The second part of the program was presented by Lee Theesfield, Mid America Truck and Equipment Company and he showed new fire products that are out on the market.

Meeting was adjourned with a motion by Bernard McGraw and seconded by Tim Sanders.

The next meeting will be held at the Brookston Fire Department on May 8, 1997, at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Donald E. Skinner

### DISTRICT 11A

We would like to thank Helen and Toddy Michl for joining Carolyn and me at Seelyville on the 12th of January to help them dedicate their new firehouse and present them with the clock. We thank the Seelyville Department for the hospitality afforded us and congratulate them for their accomplishments.

The district meeting at Lewis Township/Coalmont was what I

consider to have been a great success. We had three candidates for Miss Flame and I certainly am glad someone else was doing the judging. Congratulations Tiffany Lingenfelter, we know you will do a terrific job of representing the district. A big thank you to each one who attended and a tip of the fire helmet to the departments that worked together so well to plan the day.

We have had two more Convention Committee meetings since we wrote the last article for the paper. Bob Meyers and Bill Bush are trying to steer us in the right direction, but they are still in need of a few people with ideas and a willingness to help. Please consider the possibility of lending your support to the cause.

Saturday, February 15, 1997 turned out to be a busy day. We enjoyed breakfast with Van Buren in the morning, were welcomed at Sugar Creek Township for the grand opening of the combined department in the afternoon and then joined forces with several other district members at the District 11B Miss flame contest and dance that evening.

Our last district meeting, hosted by Sandford, was well attended and we got to see the sister trucks of Fayette Township. Rex and Larry have reason to be proud of their departments and the new equipment. The ladies are to be commended for their ability to cook up a good pot of stew and homemade biscuits.

While on the subjects of district meetings, our May 18th gathering will be at Sullivan. We hope that some more of the Sullivan County departments will find it close enough to home to grace us with their presence. I'm not going to name names, but please come out and join us. Meeting time will be 1:00 p.m. and I have been assured we won't go hungry.

Also, just as a reminder, we'll be at Prairie Creek in July for our election meeting and September will be the picnic with District 11B on the 14th, which is a change to the second Sunday for us... TAKE NOTE!

In November, it appears we will be heading for Jasonville on the 16th.

Posey Township/Staunton celebrated 40 years of serving their community with a breakfast on the 5th of April.

Perry Twp./Cory says they will have some members at the Sullivan meeting and we're looking forward to welcoming them.

Carolyn gets a week of vacation (5/25-31/97) from the bank and we are planning to do some fishing that week in the north woods. If you have need of an IVFA representative during that time, please contact Don Vermillion (812-533-3748). We expect to be back and on the job Tuesday, June 3, 1997.

Please take a look at your calendars and see if you could find time to attend the convention in Wayne Township. I'm sure you will find forms elsewhere in this paper for your use but, if not, call and I have some for you.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Red Morris, Chairman

### DISTRICT 11B

The March meeting was held at Madison Township Fire Department, west of Greencastle. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by District Chairman Larry Bartlow. Prayer was offered by District Chaplain Con Mankin. The Pledge was led by our Sgt.-at-Arms Brent Bush.

Guests included PRWC Don Johnson and District 11A Chairman Red Morris.

Continued on Page 6

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Scripture -  
1 Corinthians 13:13

*But now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love.*

It's spring, going into summer. When I think of spring and all of it's glory, one word always comes to mind and that word is love.

Some years ago 750 married couples were asked, "What, in your judgment, is the most important factor making for happiness in home life?" The single answer which was given by the largest number was "Religion lived daily in the home."

Love is at the heart of our Christian faith. Throughout both the Old Testament and the New Testament we are told that love of God and love of our fellow man are the genuine expressions of spiritual religion. To be genuinely Christian is to live by the principle of love day by day within the home. In an atmosphere created by love, each member of the family can find the stimulation and creative encouragement which makes for true fulfillment.

While romantic love is one of the essential ingredients for happiness in marriage, it should be recognized that the home which is built on this kind of love alone has its foundation resting upon sand rather than upon a solid rock.

It would appear that if one law were to be selected as a guideline for constant use in the home, love, genuine Christian love, would be the best.

Where there is love, the heart is light.

Where there is love, the day is bright.

Where there is love, there is a song.

To help when things are going wrong . . .

Where there is love, there is a smile.

To make all things seem more worthwhile.

Where there is love, there's quiet peace.

A tranquil place where turmoils cease . . .

Love changes darkness into light.

And makes the heart take "wingless flight" . . .

Oh, blest are they who walk in love,

They also walk with God above. . .

And when you walk with God each day,

And kneel together when you pray,

Your marriage will be truly blest,

And God will be your daily "Guest" . . .

And love that once seemed yours alone,

God gently blends with His own.

Prayer -

Dear Father,

*Help us to see the importance of love and faith as we go about our daily lives. Help us to share with others each day and let them know that they are truly loved by You.*

This Sunday go to the church of your choice - you'll like it.

## DISTRICT 11B

Continued from Page 5

Lunch was served by the host department. After lunch we held our business meeting.

Roll Call was answered by seventeen members from six departments.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as was the Treasurer's report.

The Fire Caucus Dinner was discussed. Also held some discussion on legislative action that had taken place.

Most of the meeting was devoted to talking about the proposed changes in the NFPA 1200 pamphlet and how it could affect our operations. Everyone was urged to send their complaints to the NFPA Committee before the April 11th deadline.

A discussion on the change to the Standard Operating Guidelines was explained and a vote was taken by the members.

The 1997 Convention was talked about and registration forms are available to those that need them. Also talked on the 1998 Convention at Terre Haute hosted by Districts 11A & 11B.

Our next meeting will be May 14, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will be the election of officers for the next year.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Larry Bartlow, Chairman

## DISTRICT 12

March 17, 1997

Our meeting was called to order at Eel River Fire Department at 7:12 p.m. by Al Mendel, in the absence of Chairman John Ross.

The Pledge to the Flag was given, followed by a prayer led by Chaplain Jim Bruner.

Roll Call was answered by twelve members representing six departments.

We recessed for refreshments and reconvened at 7:43 p.m.

Al introduced Gary Teeple from the State Fire Marshal's Office.

The minutes were approved as read and the Treasurer's report was filed for audit.

Our district candidate for Miss Flame will be at the next meeting at Danville.

Al also noted that the Mr. IVFA, Lois Boaz, and Ollie Sandburg letters must be in the proper hands by April 1.

Don Johnson, WCPR spoke on the NFPA 1200 regulations that they want passed and noted there were several that the NVFC are opposed to and asked the different departments to let it be known that they are unreasonable in the eyes of the volunteers.

Bills in legislature were discussed.

Also discussed a monetary change in what the officers and delegates would receive for meetings and convention. Motion was made by Jack Jones and seconded by Carl Stagner for the increase. Motion carried.

Gary Teeple announced that Indiana Weekend at the Fire Academy is June 28 & 29. They have several new programs, so

get your applications in early. They are about 3,000 certificates behind on the transitional classes, but hope to have computers ready in two weeks.

The new certification program was discussed at great length and if you don't understand it, call the Fire Marshal's Office and they will be glad to explain it to you. You have only until August, 1999 to participate. So, start now.

Next meeting is May 19, 1997 at Danville, at 17:30 hours. Let's have a big crowd.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rosie Johnson  
Secretary/Treasurer

NOTE:

We would like for District 12 to have the biggest district attendance at the convention this year, since we are at home.

There will be a lot of things to do and we will have a good time at the '97 convention.

John Ross, Chairman

## DISTRICT 13A

Since the last publication, we have had two regular meetings.

February's meeting was at Shirley Volunteer Fire Department in Henry County. It was a joint meeting with the 13A Ladies Auxiliary. Dinner was first, then we had our meeting.

Legislation was discussed, along with DNR grants by PREC, Don Cushman.

The March meeting was at Green Township Fire Department in Hancock County.

Legislation was discussed. Also DNR grants and DNR reports.

License plate forms for next year were discussed along with some problems on plate forms for this year at a local license branch.

Please have your department represent at the district meetings. There is a lot of information to be presented at the meetings and the best way to get this info to your department will be to have one or two members there.

Up coming events: Spiceland Freedom Days, July 12, 1997. Waterball contest, food, good time! Hope to see you there!

Respectfully submitted by,  
Tim Martin, Chairman

## DISTRICT 15

The January 21, 1997 meeting was held at Perry Township Fire Department.

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Kerney at 1900 hours in the absence of a district chairman. Secretary Kerney stated that Chairman Wargel had resigned for personal reasons and that we would be electing a new chairman tonight.

Chairman Kerney led the Pledge to the Flag and Chaplain Barbara Kerney gave a spiritual message to the group.

Roll Call was answered by thirty-three members and five departments.

Minutes of the November meeting in Chandler were distributed. A motion was made by Harry Logan to accept the minutes as printed. Seconded by Harlan Zillak.

The Treasurer's report was distributed and there being no corrections, a motion was made by Donna Thompson to accept the report as presented. Seconded by Harlan Zillak.

Secretary Kerney asked for nominations from the floor for district chairman. The name of John Barr was entered. John Barr accepted. The name of Steve Anderson was entered. Steve Anderson declined. A motion was made by Harlan Zillak

to close the nominations. Seconded by John Spear. John Barr will be the new district chairman.

He was informed the next state meeting will be February 1 & 2, 1997. John stated he was already committed to the Arson Class that weekend. Secretary Kerney will give the District 15 report.

John stated that he has heard that past chairman Tim Wargel did an excellent job and asked that members try to attend the meetings. Secretary asked John if he would like to conduct the meeting. John declined and stated he would wait until the March meeting.

Secretary stated he had some Bridgeport Scholarship forms and that they must be in the hands of the State Secretary by March 1, 1997. Mr. IVFA is due before April 1, 1997, and Ollie Sandberg award is due before May 1, 1997.

The convention will be at Wayne Township on June 19-21, 1997.

The Fire Department Instructors Conference in Indianapolis is April 15 thru 20, 1997.

Miss Flame Chairman Barbara Kerney thanked the judges Jennifer & Todd Mosby and Michelle Winterheimer. The judges presented the last question to the Miss Flame contestants, Chrissy Roos, from Perry Township and Ellen Biehler from McCutchanville, which they answered in front of the membership. Secretary Kerney thanked both girls for participating in the Miss Flame Contest and wished them the best of luck. The judges went into conference for their final decision.

Secretary Kerney stated the IVFA has applied for a \$10,000.00 grant from the American Tobacco Company. The money can only be used for recruitment and retention of membership, training, memorials and public education.

A brief legislative report was given. This will be a long session of the Legislature. Kerney requested everyone write their legislators in support of these bills.

The Miss Flame judges stated they had made their selection, Ellen Biehler. Barbara Kerney presented both girls a charm for participating. Ellen was given her District 15 ribbon and will be escorted by Chairman John Barr at the convention.

The next meeting will be at Mt. Vernon Fire and Rescue on March 18, 1997.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Harlan Zillak to adjourn. Seconded by John Barr.

Perry Township provided a ham and turkey buffet.

The March 18, 1997 meeting was held at Mt. Vernon Fire and Rescue.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Barr at 1945 hours, followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

Chaplain Barbara Kerney gave a spiritual reading on "Expect the Best."

Roll Call was answered by six departments and thirteen members.

Secretary Kerney distributed the minutes of the January meeting at Perry Township. A motion was made by Don Sutton to accept the minutes as distributed and seconded by Paul Werry.

Treasurer Kerney distributed the Treasurer's report and a motion was made by Barbara Kerney to accept the report as distributed and seconded by Jerry Healy.

District 15 Miss Flame

Chairman Barbara Kerney introduced Ellen Biehler, the new district Miss Flame. Ellen will compete in the State competition in June at the IVFA Convention.

Chairman Barr asked if there was any correspondence. Secretary Kerney announced the Jasper Fire School on March 22 & 23; the Fire Instructor Cross Over Class at Vincennes on March 29, at 9:00 a.m.; FDIC April 14 thru 20; the Indianapolis Fire School April 12, 13 and 26, 27; and the IVFA Convention June 18 thru 22, 1997.

Kerney gave a report on the new proposed NFPA 1200 Standard. He encouraged everyone to mail in the NFPA response forms. They must be received by April 11. Chairman Barr handed out copies of the comment documents.

Kerney stated that he had received a safety gram at his office stating that irritant smoke may no longer be used for respirator fit testing.

A report was given on the Permanent Health Care Benefit For Firefighters and how it could affect all departments.

Kerney stated he had picked up off the Internet the fact that the Prudential Insurance Company has \$2000 grants available, through their Helping Hearts Program (see page 3), for the purchase of automatic defibrillators. If anyone is interested, they can contact Prudential Insurance Company.

The proposed changes to the IVFA Standard Operating Guidelines were read. A vote was taken by those present to accept the proposed changes. The vote was unanimous to accept the changes. Chairman Barr will cast his vote accordingly at the next state meeting.

The next district meeting will be at Scott Township on May 20, 1997.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Paul Werry and seconded by Tammy Hungate to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Jack Kerney, Secretary

## DISTRICT 17A

March 20, 1997 - 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was held at the Oaktown-Busseron Fire Department. District Chairman Jack Harker called the meeting to order by leading the group in the Pledge to the Flag.

Roll Call was answered by twenty-six firefighters present, representing eight departments.

Chairman Harker introduced our guests, Bill Tracy from M & S Fire and Safety, Inc.; and Jerry Mooney, Knox County Sheriff.

Sheriff Mooney gave a brief history of the Knox County Sheriff's Department, which was the first sheriff's department formed in the State of Indiana.

A long discussion was held about the NFPA 1200. Harker has contacted each one of his departments about this.

We were given a list of all the up-coming schools and meeting dates.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Refreshments were served after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Jack Harker, Chairman



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District #19 Beth Caudill

PAST PRESIDENTS

- Phyllis Vargo 7756 Durbin Street, Schererville 46375
Maxine Davies 5 Brookside Street, Fillmore 46128
Nancy Neal 749 Walnut Street, Hope 47246
Toni Sorg 14430 Comer Road, Fort Wayne 46819
Loretta Nulliner 2169 E. 1200 N., Morristown 46161
Nickie Sunday R.R. #1, Box 109, Farmland 47340
Barbara Parker 9006 Shelbyville Road, Acton 46259
Barbara Surber 205 Painted Hills, Martinsville 46151
Lucy Stofer 718 So. Ingomar Street, Indianapolis 46241
Mary Boyd 1633 E. Rudder Road, Salem 47167
Joan Shanabarger 401 Line Street, Churubusco 46723
Carolyn Mc Carty P.O. Box 57, Union Mills 46382
Rosella Bousman R.R. 4, Box 201, Winchester 47394
Mary Stafford P.O. Box 222, Waldron 46182
Ruth Fairfield 5128 N. Bend Drive, Fort Wayne 46804
Catherine Mason 7533 Beaty Avenue, Fort Wayne 46809
Ruth Ford 0640 N. 50 W., Albion 46701

COMMITTEES FOR 1996 - 97

- AUDITING Phyllis Vargo, Dorothy Reiter, Faye Sallee, Marjorie Brames
MISS FLAME Eula Bush, Ch. Miriam Schaeckel, Barbara Kerney, Barbara Ketchem
NOMINATING Beth Caudill, Leona Uryga, JoAnn Hays

- INSTALLATION Barbara Parker, Lucy Stofer
LUCKY DOE DOLL Faye Sallee, Vivian Woodfill, Ann Moss
PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY Barbara Parker, Maxine Davies, Lucy Stofer, Toni Sorg

- FINANCIAL STUDY Phyllis Vargo, Dorothy Reiter, Nancy Cushman
BY-LAWS Dolle Komoscar, Ch. Diana Gray, Jane Ferro
LOIS BOAZ Miriam Schaeckel, Eva Gotteche, Phyllis Vargo

- 1996 MISS FLAME Nicole Barden (D5)
JEWELRY Mary Mackin, Ch. Grace Lantz, Wanda Johnson, Helen Michl
PARLIAMENTARIAN Maxine Davies

IVFAA President



Lou Bartlow

Hi Ladies,
As I write this, it is Easter Sunday and a time of renewal and a time for things to come alive and blossom beautifully.

By the time you read this, it will be too late for you to get nominations in for the Lois Boaz, Mr. IVFA and Ollie Sandberg Awards, but I hope you all did that.

Convention '97 is fast approaching and we hope you have your reservations and registrations sent in. I'm sure when we go to our next State Officer's Meeting, the committee will have about everything completed for a great convention. I know they have worked hard to make it special for all of us.

This has been a good year and we have accomplished a few goals that we thought would improve the organization and make it better for all the members.

We hope you agree and can talk it up and get more of our auxiliaries involved. It is a great group of people and all interested in the same thing, which is, promoting the volunteer fire service and keeping our men up-to-date and safe.

Until next time, take care and we'll see you at convention.

DISTRICT 3

Our Auxiliary met at the Coolspring Township Volunteer Fire Department on January 23, 1997, rescheduled from January 16. (meeting cancelled, weather related).

Departments present were Coolspring, Michiana Shores, Noble, Scipio and Springfield.

Registrations are due for the 1997 IVFA Convention which will be held in Indianapolis on June 18-21.

The second reading of the proposed State Membership Rules change passed.

The Springfield Township Auxiliary reported that Lucille Cohen was chosen their Woman of The Year.

Michiana Shores plans a Chili Dinner in February.

Attendance award was won by Scipio Department.

Margaret Gaw, Springfield and Charlotte Sly, Noble, were award winners.

Next meeting will be on March 19, 1997 at 7:30 p.m. at Springfield Township.

District 3 Auxiliary met at the Springfield Volunteer Fire Department on March 19, 1997. Members of the Coolspring, Michiana, Noble, Scipio, and Springfield Township Fire Department Auxiliaries were present.

Individual member, Shirley Hall, LaCrosse, presented our district Miss Flame, Heather Garwood, who is available for department events and meetings.

Perry F. Stump, LaPorte Attorney, spoke on the importance of Living and Trust Wills, answering many audience ques-

tions, stressing the importance of having your legal affairs in proper order.

Coming events reported: Coolspring, Empress bus trip, April 19; Michiana Shores, Chili Dinner, March 22; Noble, Pancake Breakfast, April 30; Springfield, Bingo, March 22; LaCrosse, Pancake Breakfast in April.

Joyce Dean, Coolspring and Linda Jaske, Springfield, were award winners. Scipio won the attendance award.

The next meeting will be at Noble Township Fire Department on May 21, 1997, at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by, Lucille Cohen

accomplished. A good way to advertise your activities and fund raisers is attend the district meetings. You will be surprised how fast news travels through our fire service family.

Looking forward to seeing our "annual friends" at the convention in June

Respectfully submitted by, Eula Bush, Chairman

Message from the Lois Boaz Committee

The Lois Boaz Committee would like to thank everyone for all the beautiful letters that were written. If your special lady wasn't chosen this year, we encourage you to please submit her name again next year. We wish everyone submitted could win.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate this year's winner and wish her a great year.

Miriam Schaeckel
Eva Gottsche
Phyllis Vargo

DISTRICT 11B

It's hard to believe that as I write this, it is only two months until convention. Time passes so quickly anymore. I hope you have sent in your reservations and registrations. Remember, to take advantage of the lower registration fee, it must be in by June 1, 1997.

I hope there is a good attendance at the convention. The Wayne Township Committee is working really hard to plan a good time for us. Another reason to attend is to support your Miss Flame contestants. We have sixteen girls competing and I hope everyone will attend the final judging and crowning on Thursday. Let them know you are really behind them and give them your encouragement and support.

Our district candidate is Olivia Jennifer Hess, representing the Dana Volunteer Fire Department. She is 16 years of age and the daughter of Phillip & Catherine Hess. We wish Olivia best of luck, but most of all, we hope she has a great time participating in the contest.

The area fire departments and auxiliaries are busy working on fund raisers. Already there have been several fish fries, hog roasts, chicken noodle dinners and even grocery auctions. I am sure there are lots more to come during the spring and summer. We must remember that as we plan, work and travel to these activities, safety must be in mind. Let's not take any risks that will compromise our safety and that of our family and friends.

Please keep in mind the district firemen and auxiliaries meet on the second Sunday of January, March, September and November at 1:00 p.m. In May and July, the meetings are in the evening at 7:00 p.m.

Following is the schedule for the remainder of the year:

- May 7 - Fairview
July 9 - Lyford
September 14 - Annual Picnic at Raccoon Lake
November 9 - Reelsville.

We would sure like the attendance at these meetings to increase. We are always open to suggestions as to how this can be

YOU CAN SEND INFORMATION DIRECTLY TO THE IVFA NEWSPAPER

Our Mailing Address: P.O. Box 437 Crown Point, IN 46307

Our Shipping Address: 1027 E. Summit Street Crown Point, IN 46307

Our Phone: (219) 663-0722

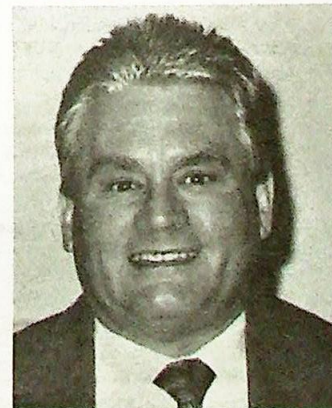
Our Fax: (219) 663-6860

Deadline for the August Issue is July 10, 1997.

Please get all your information to us on or before the deadline.

Thank you.

Robert Laney, Editor



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

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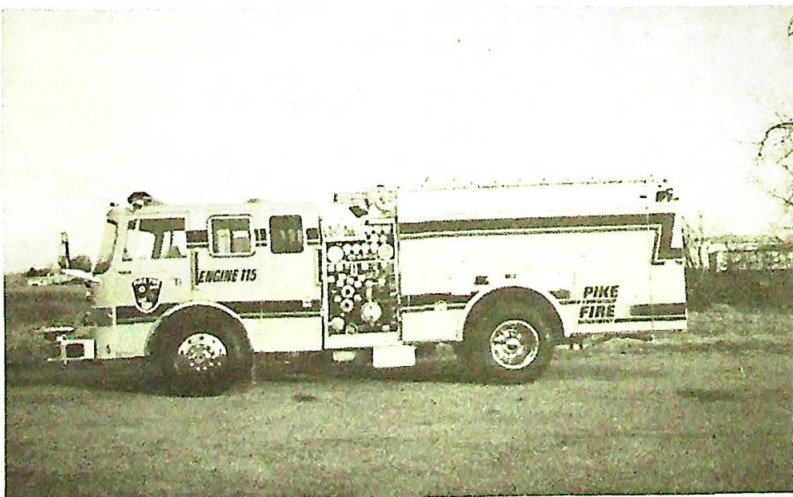
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Thanks to Nappanee Fire Department

# IVFAA STATE OFFICERS MEETING

Ramada Inn, Indianapolis, Indiana  
February 2, 1997

President, Lou Bartlow opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. by asking Chaplain Joann Hays to lead us in prayer. Joann read a poem, then had prayer.

Sergeant-At-Arms Miriam Schaeckel then led the group in the Pledge to the Flag.

Recording Secretary Barbara Kerney gave the roll call, which was answered by 22 officers and 7 guests.

Lou broke in to tell us that Maxine Davies resigned as Parliamentarian, because of work related problems. She said that Jean Parish graciously accepted the position.

Barbara read the minutes of the last meeting and they were approved as read. Miriam Schaeckel made a motion not to read the district reports and it was seconded by Carolyn McCarty. Motion carried.

Lou thanked District 11A for the Saturday evening social. They sang "Happy Birthday" to Phyllis Vargo who turned the B-I-G "50". Congratulations!!! Carolyn took charge of the social in the absence of Joann. She done a good job!

Treasurer Dorothy Reiter gave her report.

Corresponding Secretary, Diana Gray, read a thank you note from Phyllis Vargo, concerning the death of her daughter-in-law and grandchildren. Joann had a note from Ann Moss, as she had foot surgery.

Membership, Barbara Kerney reported 87 auxiliaries, 57 individuals, 18 life members, 1025 members with a total of 1178. We are up 81 members since last meeting. That is great! Keep up the good work.

Chaplain, Joann Hays said she has sent 6 get well and 4 sympathy cards, and had one Memorial service since last meeting. She reported that Leona Uryga's husband is out of intensive care but still in the hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery, and our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family.

We had some guests enter and they are from the IVFA. Lawrence came in to tell us about the convention program book. If you need your picture taken you may do so. Deadline is April 15th.

Mitch said they were putting together a Historical Book. It is about 30 days from going to print. If you are interested, give him a call. The cost will be in the \$15-\$20 range, depending on the size of the order.

Gene Stofer, from the Convention Committee, said there were a few brochures containing information about the convention, and there are more available. Just give him a call! He said the Adams Mark Hotel will have the Koffee Klutch and he thought they might pick up the tab also. That will be great!!! The tentative schedule is in the brochure and will become more definite soon.

If you want the Miss Flames all in the same block of the Hotel, when you send in their reservations, please note on there, that they are a Miss Flame. Otherwise the committee has no way of knowing.

Lou said she hopes there will be better communication between the IVFA and the IVFAA. She has talked with Jack Zeeks and they have agreed to contact each other with information. This is important when two organizations should be working together.

Financial Study, Phyllis Vargo said everything was O.K.

Miss Flame, Eula Bush, said all Miss Flames should be in by March 10th. She doesn't have anyone to furnish the ditty bags for the girls yet, so if a District or Auxiliary would like to donate, she would be more than glad to hear from you.

Doe Doll, Faye Saltee has her here today. She is very pretty. She has blonde hair which is pulled up in the back with curls. She also is wearing a blue/white dress and she is holding a pink angel bear. You must sell a lot of tickets!!! She is worth spending a few dollars on!!

Speaking of tickets— Dolly was unable to get them before the meeting. They are printed, and so it was decided to have you turn in your names and how many tickets you want and they will be sent to you. We want you to get busy and sell them and want more at the next meeting. REMEMBER— This is our only money making project!!!

By-laws, Phyllis Vargo said they had a Board of Directors meeting this morning and they decided to follow the S.O.P. guidelines. If there are any changes, they will have to put them before the members at convention as a By-Law change, to be voted on. There were 11 Chairman present. Lou said, that she had suggested the new By-Laws be put into book form again as we used to have, instead of the folder type. They are not as bulky and easier to carry with you. Dolly will check on prices for the books. We will have to have 1200 books.

Jewelry, Mary Mackin, said she has the charms and tacks with her today. They sell for \$5.00 each. The district chairmen can sign out however many they want and then make sure you bring the unsold ones back at the May meeting, so she knows how many she will have to sell for Convention.

She also said the new metal Gold Cards are in, for the Past Presidents that are interested.

Lou said she received a letter from Nancy Cushman, District 13A Chairman, stating that she had resigned her post as chairman. It seems to stem from a misunderstanding, but Lou said she did what she was asked to do. Lou apologized for the mishap, but said it could not be helped.

Vivian Woodfill said she will be staying as District Chairman until after convention and then she will probably give it up because she is engaged to be married and they plan on traveling the United States. This is great!! The lucky man is Raymond Stone. Congratulations & Best Wishes!!

Historian, Phyllis Vargo thinks she may know where the lost book #1 is. She'll check it out.

Presidents Advisory. Toni Sorg said Lou was doing fine.

Lois Boaz, Miriam Schaeckel said to get those letters in. There are plenty of deserving women out there. We would like them handwritten so that they are not duplicated in print. Deadline is April 1. Make their job real hard. The decision will be on them!

Lou suggested that on the next Saturday evening of our meeting in May, that ALL committees meet with their helpers and make sure you are prepared for convention.

District Reports: Toni Sorg made a motion not to read them and Wanda Johnson seconded it. Motion carried.

Mary Ann Martin told about the benefit Hog Roast they held for the firemen. She said they raised \$22,000, which is great and that it helped pay expenses. She reported one of the firemen is back to work, and the other is home, but needs more surgery.

Ann Moss made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mary Mackin. Motion carried. Joann closed with a word of prayer.  
Respectfully Submitted,  
Diana Gray, Cor. Sec.

## DISTRICT REPORTS:

### District 3:

We met at Coolspring Volunteer Fire Dept. on January 23rd. There were fifteen present, representing five departments.

Minutes were read and Treasurer's report given.

The next meeting will be at Springfield Township Volunteer Fire Department on March 19th.

We were reminded of convention dates. The second reading of the By-Law change was read.

Lucille Cohen was awarded the Springfield Auxiliary Woman Of the Year Award.

Roll call for upcoming department events was held and then the meeting adjourned.

Refreshments were served by Coolsprings hostesses.

### District 7:

We met at Bippus Volunteer Fire Department on Jan. 20th.

There were four ladies from four departments present.

We talked about the District Bake Sale, which will be held at next meeting in Bluffton, Mar. 17. We also discussed convention.

Our Miss Flame was chosen at our November 1996 meeting, which was held in Berne. Joni DeKovinch is our representative for state. We wish her well!!

### District 11A:

The Miss Flame contest was held at Lewis Twp. Fire Dept. We had a wonderful dinner. The judges were from the Sheriff's Department & Brazil Fire Dept. Chief. The Miss Flame is Tiffany Lingenfelter. A dance followed.

Next meeting is March 16 at Sanford.

### District 11B:

Our regular meeting was held at Dana Fire Station on Jan. 12th.

The majority of the business revolved around the upcoming Miss Flame Dance on Feb. 15th.

The next meeting will be at Madison Township on March 9th.

### District 12:

The meeting was held Nov. 26 at Ryan's Steak House. It was hosted by Lawrence Auxiliary.

There were twelve members and three guests present.

Miss Flame judging will be held at 2:00 p.m. on February 9th at Wayne Township Headquarters. Three judges were picked and the committee to purchase flowers & crown were selected.

Discussed By-Law changes. Meeting was closed and a gift exchange was held.

Next meeting hosted by Wayne Twp. Aux., March 24 at 6:30 p.m.

## IVFAA Chaplain



Joann Hays

The earth is full of the  
Goodness of the Lord.

Psalm 33:5

Hello,  
Well, spring has finally  
arrived. What a wonderful  
change. I think this has been a

real rough winter, especially with the snow and floods.

We really need to be in prayer for those who have lost their homes, property and maybe a love one. Pray that somewhere or somehow God has touched those families and sustained them through such a tragedy, whatever it may have been.

It's hard to start over again. But maybe someday they can pull themselves together, with friends & families to see them through it.

For all of you volunteer fire departments who were involved in the evacuation, saving of lives, helping with clean up, or whatever else you had to do to help, you'll all have a reward in heaven, because God does know all and I'm sure He was there looking after all of you.

### Prayer For Starting Over

Dear God,  
Give me the courage  
to begin again,  
to overlook the difficulties,  
to overcome the obstacles  
and to stay open to the  
moment as best I can.  
Help me to be patient  
enough to know  
it takes time to start over,  
and wise enough to ask  
for help from friends  
and family when I need it.  
As I look to the future,  
may I reflect on the past  
and remember the lessons  
it's taught me.  
And, God, may I always  
look to you for strength  
and guidance.

Amen

For all of you who have lost a neighbor who moved and you really miss them.

We were such good friends  
when we were neighbors.  
It was so easy to just drop by.  
And it seems like we were  
always running into each  
other at one place or another.

But now that we're not neighbors,  
we don't bump into each other  
anymore.

And it's harder to just drop by.

I'd like to catch up on the  
time we've missed,  
because I miss you very much.

Hope to see you all at convention  
in Indianapolis, in June.

Don't forget to attend the  
Memorial Service at 11:00 a.m.  
on Friday.

I will praise Thee, O Lord, my  
God, with all my heart.

Psalm 86:12

Love and prayers

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# 51st ANNUAL CONVENTION - 1997

## A message from your convention host

Wayne Township Fire Department is honored to have the opportunity to host the Fifty-First (51st) Annual IVFA Convention on June 18-22, 1997. As hosts to this year's convention, it is our (WTFD) desire to provide ALL attendees the following:

A convention that is conducive to conducting the business affairs of the IVFA & IVFAA as well as providing an opportunity for education, information, camaraderie and pleasure...

It is the Convention Committee's task to see that this convention will have an opportunity to serve the needs of everyone who chooses to attend. Therefore, we have laid out the following schedule of events so as to provide that occurrence.

On Wednesday, June 18, we will offer registration on site at the Adam's Mark Hotel, as well as conduct scheduled tours of shopping areas, Wayne Township fire stations, headquarters, communications, training complex and local attractions, such as Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Children's Museum and many more for anyone that desires to participate.

We will offer on Wednesday evening a host sponsored western style cook-out, along with all other activities that have been scheduled throughout the day.

Thursday will be a day of meetings, judging, visiting, touring and an Opening Ceremony that you will not want to miss.

On Friday, the schedule is pretty much pre-set by IVFA schedule, and on Saturday we will host the games, a parade, and for those that have time to spend the evening hours with us, we will host a pool party.

For activities that require off site attendance, transportation will be offered. On Saturday, we will provide transportation to the games venue and return on an hourly basis. While attending the games, we will serve refreshments, offer plenty of seating and a spot in the shade if it should be too hot in the sun.

We will provide baby sitting service during the banquet on Friday evening, (at a nominal cost) in your hotel room, as well as hosting parties for those of ages 3-6, 7-12, and a teen event off site (with transportation and adult supervision provided) for those 13-18 years of age.

If your attendance will include a younger (future member) that will be attending one of the parties, please note that on your registration form, including the number and age.

It is our hope that everyone that attends will have something of interest to occupy their time, be it member, spouse, or family member.

It is my pledge as Chief of The Wayne Township Fire Department and Chairman of the 51st IVFA Convention, to offer you a visit to our township that is hassle free, fun filled and opportunity based.

We invite and encourage all members of the IVFA to attend and be a part of the greatest volunteer fire service conference in the state, YOUR IVFA CONVENTION.

### CONVENTION SCHEDULE

#### WEDNESDAY JUNE 18

- Convention & Game Registration 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Convention Command Center  
(Adams Mark Hotel)
- Host Sponsored Tours & Activities 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Sign-up for both in Command Center  
(Adams Mark Hotel)
- Luncheon Meeting 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.  
Convention Committee, IVFA &  
IVFAA Executive Officers
- Host Department Reception (Cookout) 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.  
Wayne Twp. F.D. Training Complex  
(Transportation Provided)
- Host Department Hospitality Room 9:00 - 11:00 p.m.  
Room To Be Announced  
(Adams Mark Hotel)

#### THURSDAY, JUNE 19

- Sunrise Breakfast 7:00 - 9:30 a.m.  
Location To Be Announced
- Miss Flame Breakfast 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.  
Location To Be Announced
- Sunrise Seminar(s) 7:00 - 8:00 a.m.  
Suggested topics not confirmed  
8:15 - 9:15 a.m.  
NFPA 1901 Update..Does It Matter?  
OSHA (Is It For You)  
Fire Instructors (Changes Are Here)  
Firefighters, Do You Count Any More?
- Convention & Game Registration 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Convention Command Center  
(Adams Mark Hotel)
- Miss Flame Judging 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.  
Location To Be Announced
- Miss Flame Luncheon 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Location To Be Announced  
Sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Harold Stofer  
and Mr. Bill Engle
- IVFA & IVFAA Officers Meeting 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.
- Educational Seminars 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
Classes To Be Determined  
Classes To Be Repeated
- Appreciation Luncheon 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Invited Guest Only  
(Former Mr. IVFA & Lois Boaz Recipients)
- Trip(s) to Local Attractions 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Zoo, Circle Centre Mall,  
Indy 500 Track, WTFD Stations  
& Headquarters, Pool Party (On Site)
- Southwestern Fire Equip. Social Hour 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
Location To Be Announced
- Opening Ceremony 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Location To Be Announced
- Host Department Hospitality Room 9:00 p.m. - 12 Mid.  
Room To Be Announced

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 20

- Convention & Game Registration 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Hotel Lobby
- Koffee Klutch 6:30 - 8:00 a.m.  
Location To Be Announced  
(Sponsored by Adams Mark Hotel)
- Men's Business Symposium 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
Location To Be Announced
- Women's Business Symposium 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
Location To Be Announced
- IVFA & IVFAA Memorial Service 11:00 a.m. - 12 Noon  
Location To Be Announced
- Lunch (On Your Own) 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.  
Location of Your Choice
- Women's Business Symposium 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
Location To Be Announced
- Vendors Display Open 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
Inside & Outside
- Convention Banquet 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.  
Room to Be Announced

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 20 Continued

- Small World Feast 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.  
Evening of food, fun and entertainment for the small ones in our world. One event for the 3-6 year olds and one event for the 7-12 year olds.  
Location To Be Announced (Adams Mark Hotel)
- Babysitting Service Offered For A Fee 6:00 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.  
Sitters will be 14 years of age or older. All sitters must be relieved by 1:30 a.m. All sitters will be paid in advance for a minimum of three (3) hours @ \$4.00 per hour. Each sitter shall only have one (1) room with one (1) family per room. (No more than three (3) children.)
- Teens Night Out 6:00 - 11:00 p.m.  
An evening of Party, Party, Party with plenty of adult supervision. Location off site, transportation provided, non-alcohol and non-smoking function. Great teen function with food and fun furnished. All you add is the Party Animals.

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 21

- Breakfast on Your Own 7:30 - 10:00 a.m.  
Breakfast items will be served at the games site.  
Rolls, Egg/Sausage/Biscuit, Coffee, Juice, Milk
- Let The Games Begin 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Waterball, Hose Replacement, Cart Races  
Prior Team Registration A MUST...
- Lunch On Your Own 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Lunch items will be sold at the game venue  
Hot Dogs, Corn Dogs, Sloppy Joes, French Fries, Soft Drinks
- Convention Parade 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.  
Location To Be Announced
- Games Continued (If Needed) 3:30 p.m. - completion  
All games will continue at game venue
- Presentation of Trophies After Games Completed  
All trophies for games & parade will be presented
- Pool Party 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
After Convention Wind Down  
Everyone Invited  
Registration Requested, Attendance Free  
Food Sold - Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, Soft Drinks

All IVFA & IVFAA Officers are encouraged to attend all meeting sessions, banquet, games and parade.

Schedule Subject to modification

**HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM**  
ADAM'S MARK HOTEL  
2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis, Indiana

**RESERVATION REQUEST**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ Room(s) for \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Person \_\_\_\_\_ 2 Persons

\$74.00 Single/Double

Smoking \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Smoking \_\_\_\_\_

Name room will be assigned to:

Rm. 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Rm. 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Rm. King \_\_\_\_\_ Double \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Rm. King \_\_\_\_\_ Double \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Arrival \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Checkout \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE GUARANTEED BY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: M/C A/E DIS DIN VISA CHECK (FIRST NIGHT'S DEPOSIT)**

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Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of card holder \_\_\_\_\_

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Night phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**CAMPING NOTE: IF CAMPING IS DESIRED, CALL 317 241-4191 AND ASK FOR LYNN McWHIRTER. CAMPING WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE CLERMONT LYONS CLUB PARK.**

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:  
CONVENTION HOTEL RESERVATION COMMITTEE  
WAYNE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE HAROLD STOFER  
5401 W. WASHINGTON STREET  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46241**

**PARADE APPLICATION**

The parade will be Saturday June 21, at 2 p.m. in Indianapolis. (Exact route announcement pending permit approval.) Prizes will be awarded in several categories. All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation. There is no fee. Applications must be postmarked by May 10. Space may be limited. The Parade Committee may reject any application. If you have any questions or do not receive registration confirmation by May 30, call John Garino 317 247-8501, e-mail to garino@indy.tce.com or write to address below.

Tell us about the unit to be place in the parade

Tell us about the organization which owns the unit

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us about the organizations contact person for the parade

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Send Applications to: John Garino, District Chief, Wayne Twp. FD  
700 N. High School Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46214

**1997 IVFA PRE-REGISTRATION FORM**

PRE-REGISTRATION FEE: \$40.00/PERSON (DEADLINE JUNE 1, 1997)  
LATE AND ON SITE REGISTRATION FEE \$50.00/PERSON

\*\*\*REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES ALL CONVENTION ACTIVITIES EXCEPT\*\*\*  
BOWLING, FISHING, GOLFING

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

FIRE DEPT./CO. \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ TOWNSHIP \_\_\_\_\_ IVFA DIST. \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME (If registering) \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF REGISTRATION	MEMBER	SPOUSE	TITLE
STATE OFFICIER	_____	_____	_____
AUXILIARY MEMBER	_____	_____	_____
DISTRICT CHAIRMAN	_____	_____	_____
DELEGATE	_____	_____	_____
IVFA MEMBER	_____	_____	_____
IVFA AUX. MEMBER	_____	_____	_____
GUEST	_____	_____	_____

IF YOU WILL BE BRINGING THE FUTURE GENERATION AND WISH FOR THEM TO ATTEND ONE OF THE SPECIAL PARTY'S, PLEASE INDICATE AGE(S) \_\_\_\_\_

IF BABYSITTING SERVICE IS DESIRED, PLEASE INDICATE BY MARKING YES HERE

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

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR MASTERCARD/VISA.

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

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

SIMPLY FILL OUT FORM, ENCLOSE METHOD OF PAYMENT AND MAIL TO:

WAYNE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE  
5401 W. WASHINGTON STREET  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46241  
C/O CONVENTION RESERVATIONS COMMITTEE

**IVFA OFFICER  
NOMINATION SLATE  
FOR 1998**

PRESIDENT:  
JACK ZEEKS

VICE PRESIDENT:  
JACK COX

SECRETARY:  
THOMAS HINKLE

TREASURER:  
WILLIAM KINSEY

SERGEANT AT ARMS:  
BILL BUSH

CHAPLAIN:  
CHARLES BAKER

PR NORTHWEST:  
LEMOYNE (BUZ) KOEHLER

PR NORTHEAST:  
RICHARD GLANT

PR EAST CENTRAL:  
DON CUSHMAN

PR WEST CENTRAL:  
DON JOHNSON

PR SOUTH WEST:  
JACK KERNEY SR.

PR SOUTH EAST:  
JOSEPH A. CAUDILL

OTHER NOMINATIONS MAY BE MADE FROM THE CONVENTION FLOOR AT THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING DURING THE ELECTION PERIOD.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:  
LAWRENCE SWARTZ, WILLIE PARISH,  
IVAN NEVIL, BILL HOWE, SR., GENE STOFER

**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  
Indianapolis, Indiana on Saturday, June 21, 1997

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, 1997 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.  
Plainfield, IN 46168  
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 19, after 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.

**Have a Great Convention!**

*"The Firefighter's Handbook  
of  
Hazardous Materials"*

Charlie and Linda Baker

# Firefighters trust others in emergencies

By Chris Bowman  
(Chris, a former reporter for The Tribune, serves as a volunteer firefighter in Centre Township. Monday, March 17, 1997, he and another firefighter fell through the floor of a burning house and were rescued from a potentially deadly situation. Here is his personal account of the incident.)

South Bend - The flames have dimmed from Monday's fire on Miami Road. Along with them, the drama.

David Waltman and I are quickly getting our lives back to normal, thanks to the support and love of our families, friends, coworkers and our brothers and sisters in the fire and emergency medical services.

Monday's fire was a test of skill, faith, trust, and in the days since, a test of family. I believe everyone of us out there passed each test with flying colors.

More than thirty volunteer firefighters from townships throughout St. Joseph County came to each other's aid that day. Some left their work, others left their families to be there. No doubt all of us had things we would rather have been doing, but we all did what had to be done at the time.

That's the life of a volunteer firefighter. It's a constant balancing act between careers, family and the many hours of training we put into our chosen course of service to our community.

We all volunteer for pretty much the same reason. For the most part, we want to give back to our community in a way that is meaningful to us. For my part, I knew that if my little boy or girl were injured or our house caught fire, I'd want to know there are thirty people willing to drop everything to help me. I would want to be one of those people someone else could count on.

I was fortunate to move to Centre Township, where I found a professional group of firefighters, EMTs and fire responders that I am proud to call my friends and whom I trust with my life.

Anyone who looked upon that scene afterward and wondered what went wrong was looking in the wrong direction. It's what went right that saved firefighters' lives, and the life of the individual who was still in the house when the first fire engine arrived.

Firefighters knew what to do. They didn't panic. O.K., maybe one of them did.

When the floor collapsed underneath my feet, I screamed like a kid on a roller coaster for the first time, trusting that my partners would get to me soon, but scared breathless until the ride was over.

David fell through only a few seconds after I was pulled out as he attempted to retrieve a hose he knew we'd need for our defensive attack. He spent several minutes in the basement surrounded by flames and intense heat before he could be pulled up, breathing smoke after his air bottle ran out, halfway thru the rescue.

It sounds tragic. And it's definitely frightening. But in talking with Dave later on, he remained relatively calm during most of his ordeal. He was confident the firefighters above wouldn't give up on him. After all, he trusted them with his life.

Since Monday, neighbors and friends have called our house with messages of concern for us and support for all the volunteers who help keep their families safe. It's a great feeling to know we're appreciated, and sometimes it

takes an event like this to know just how much.

Of course, volunteer departments appreciate community support any time of the year. Mostly, we appreciate every effort you make to prevent fires from ever starting.

Learn fire safety. Teach your children fire safety and plan escape routes. Learn CPR and basic first aid. I became an EMT as much to serve my community as I did to make sure I knew what to do if my own children ever needed emergency aid.

Learn not to burn. Now that spring is here, please don't burn outside. Dead grass burns quickly, and the fire spreads, well like wild fire, putting lives and property needlessly in danger.

You might even consider joining your local volunteer fire department or asking what you can do to help.

Volunteerism nationally is on the decline and the trend has reached Indiana. When there aren't enough volunteers to go around, lives and property are put at even greater risk. It's something you might not think about until you're like the one who needs help.

Volunteer departments also appreciate financial support, whether in the form of donations or of reasonable tax increase to purchase needed equipment that makes our work safer and more effective.

David and I have many people to thank, from the men who rescued us, to the EMS crews and hospital staff who cared for us.

And all the volunteers give our thanks to our families and

employers who understand and respect our desire to serve our community.

Dave and I are fine. We have the same passion for living we always had, and an acute confi-

dence in the skills and commitment of our fellow volunteers, the unpaid professionals.

Reprinted from the South Bend Tribune March 22, 1997

**CUT OUT THIS AD AND SAVE \$\$\$**

\*\*\*\*\*

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(800) 382-8837

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# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PREPARED FOR  
 INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.  
 718 SOUTH INGOMAR STREET INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46241  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1996  
 AND DECEMBER 31, 1995

PREPARED BY  
 ROBERT L. STEWART  
 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT  
 721 SUNDOWN DRIVE PLAINFIELD, INDIANA 46168  
 FEBRUARY 7, 1997

## AUDITORS' REPORT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
 INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.  
 718 SOUTH INGOMAR STREET  
 INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46241

WE HAVE AUDITED THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (MODIFIED CASH BASIS) OF THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC. (A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION) AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1996 AND DECEMBER 31, 1995 AND THE RELATED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR THEN ENDED. THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. OUR RESPONSIBILITY IS TO EXPRESS AN OPINION ON THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BASED ON OUR AUDITS.

WE CONDUCTED OUR AUDITS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED AUDITING STANDARDS. THESE STANDARDS REQUIRE THAT WE PLAN AND PERFORM THE AUDIT TO OBTAIN REASONABLE ASSURANCE ABOUT WHETHER THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE FREE OF MATERIAL MISSTATEMENT. AN AUDIT INCLUDES EXAMINING, ON A TEST BASIS, EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE AMOUNTS AND DISCLOSURES IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. AN AUDIT ALSO INCLUDES ASSESSING THE ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES USED AND SIGNIFICANT ESTIMATES MADE BY MANAGEMENT, AS WELL AS EVALUATING THE OVERALL FINANCIAL PRESENTATION. WE BELIEVE THAT OUR AUDITS PROVIDE A REASONABLE BASIS FOR OUR OPINION.

AS DESCRIBED IN NOTE 1, THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WERE PREPARED ON THE BASIS OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, WHICH IS A COMPREHENSIVE BASIS OF ACCOUNTING OTHER THAN GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES.

IN OUR OPINION, THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REFERRED TO ABOVE PRESENT FAIRLY, IN ALL MATERIAL RESPECTS, THE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ARISING FROM CASH TRANSACTIONS OF INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC. AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1996 AND DECEMBER 31, 1995, AND ITS STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR THEN ENDED, ON THE BASIS OF ACCOUNTING DESCRIBED IN NOTE 1.

### INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1996

	<u>ASSETS</u>	
	12/31/96	12/31/95
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>		
CASH in Bank-General Operating Checking	\$288,106.49	\$240,597.31
CASH in Savings-Certificate of Deposit-Bank One	50,000.00	50,000.00
CASH in Savings-Certificate of Deposit-NBD	75,000.00	75,000.00
CASH in Bank - Bridgeport Scholarship Fund	30,917.93	33,681.33
CASH in Savings - Bridgeport Scholarship Fund	50,000.00	50,000.00
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS:</b>	<u>\$494,024.42</u>	<u>\$449,278.64</u>
<b>FIXED ASSETS:</b>		
FURNITURE	\$ 9,813.21	\$ 9,813.21
EQUIPMENT	13,710.43	13,710.43
<b>LESS: ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION</b>	<u>(23,523.64)</u>	<u>(23,523.64)</u>
<b>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS:</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS:</b>	\$494,024.42	\$449,278.64
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>		
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>		
PAYROLL TAXES PAYABLE	\$372.69	\$537.47
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES:</b>	\$372.69	\$537.47
<b>NET ASSETS:</b>		
UNRESTRICTED FUND	412,733.80	365,059.84
RESTRICTED FUND BALANCE	80,917.93	83,681.33
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS:</b>	<u>493,651.73</u>	<u>448,741.17</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	\$494,024.42	\$449,278.64

### INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC. STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1996

#### CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS:

	1996	1995
<b>REVENUES AND GAINS:</b>		
DUES	\$204,752.75	\$216,478.25
PROGRAM BOOK	0.00	0.00
CLOTHING	6,944.50	5,884.00
PAPER ADVERTISING	17,857.25	22,136.55
OTHER INCOME	9,294.10	7,684.68
INSURANCE	33,854.56	30,303.32
BANK INTEREST	11,360.32	10,103.94
CONVENTION	4,560.00	222.39
<b>TOTAL UNRESTRICTED REVENUES AND GAINS</b>	<u>\$288,623.48</u>	<u>\$292,813.13</u>
<b>NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS</b>	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL UNRESTRICTED REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT</b>	\$288,623.48	\$292,813.13

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

## Harrison Township VFD purchases new pumper



The Harrison Township Volunteer Fire Department of Howard County purchased a new 1997 Freightliner Emergency One pumper, which will seat five personnel.

The truck is equipped with a 1000 gallon poly tank with a Hale 1500 gpm pump.

The truck also has Class A and Class B foam capabilities.

The truck was purchased with all new equipment such as ladders, hose nozzles, SCBAs, etc.

## Baptism Of Fire

Continued from  
 Front Page

Ellen Miller.

"I think it would have been a lot harder for Brian if we hadn't been surrounded with people who are so positive," Miller says.

Miller and Alkire are not engaged. "But after all we've been thought, 'girlfriend' seems kind of petty," she says. "We are best friends."

Miller helps Alkire "laugh and have a good time."

The ordeal has brought them closer, she says. "We share an awful lot."

Chief Martin has known Alkire since he was a youngster. He credits much of Alkire's positive attitude to Miller's support.

"She's been a big part of his recovery," Martin said. "We are thankful she is around."

Miller smooths lotion over Alkire's scarred flesh. For months she bandaged his head, which finally received grafted skin last week. Surgeons also operated on a lower eyelid so that it will better protect the eye. They also operated on his mouth so it will work better.

Alkire will need additional surgeries for two years or more, but he says he will not be permanently disabled. He could be on leave from Wabash National, where he is a foreman, for as long as a year.

A hog roast fund raiser brought \$20,000 for both Lawson and Alkire's medical expenses, some of which might not be covered by insurance.

Alkire's goal is to again fight the fire that almost killed him, and his name remains on the hire list at Lafayette Fire Department.

And he plans to be back on active duty as a volunteer fireman with eighteen months.

"I would live if they told I couldn't go back, but there would be a big void in my life," he says. "After I started, I said I didn't know what I did with my time before. Now I kind of know - I wasn't doing a whole lot."

Miller, 25, says she is not about to dissuade him.

"I know what it means to him,"

she says. "I know the passion he has for it. I know Brian won't be happy otherwise."

Sue Alkire also supports her grandson's desire to return to fighting fires.

"If that's what he wants to do; that was his life before and he really loves it," she says. "He has two other brothers who go every time the fire department goes out. Why should he stay back?"

These days, Alkire visits other fire departments around Indiana with Perry Martin to share his story and talk about equipment safety.

Martin urges officials not to skimp on quality, telling them: "You can't put a price on firefighters' lives."

"We say the best is not too good," Martin says. "That's all the protection they have."

Brian talks about what to do if they do get burned.

"I tell them if something happens, make sure they stand behind their firemen and don't let them think they are going through it alone," he says. "I tell them to get a hold of me if they want to."

What would he say to another seriously burned firefighter?

"It's not the end of the world," he says. "Looks aren't everything. Hopefully, the fire won't change you on the inside."

Sue Alkire says her grandson hasn't changed.

One of nine grandchildren, he lives three houses from her home in Clarks Hill.

When a snowplow knocked down her mailbox this winter, Alkire was there to fix it.

"He is one special kid," she says.

She says she doesn't consider the burns and the scars he bears.

"We are thrilled to death to see him alive," she says. "He is the same Brian with the same personality."

Reprinted from the Journal and Courier

Life Today Section  
 Sunday, March 23, 1997

NOTE: A trust fund has been established to help Alkire during his recovery. Donations may be sent to:

The Brian Alkire Trust Fund  
 Huntington Bank  
 101 North Fourth Street  
 P.O. Box 1310  
 Lafayette, Indiana 47902

# Fire guts 28 condos near Lake Monroe

By Terri Jo Cooper  
Times-Mail Staff Writer

Bloomington - Residents in The Pointe condos in LaSalle Woods watched in horror as their homes went up in flames Tues., March 7, 1997. Wind, cold temperatures and lack of water hampered firefighters' efforts.

This is the fourth fire at The Pointe since 1984, raising the issue of safety of the buildings.

"There were a lot problems with water supply," said Steve Nolan, Assistant Chief of Lawrence County's Pleasant Run VFD, which was among those responding to the fire. "We were shuttling water in on tankers and had a pumping operation set up at Lake Monroe. We drained all of the water towers in the area. We would make headway and then the hoses would go limp."

Families got out of their homes with nothing but the clothes on their backs and their pets. Fire consumed 28 units.

Firefighters said no residents were injured, but 4 firefighters were taken to the hospital.

Van Buren VFD firefighter Delbert Hayes was being treated early this morning at Bloomington Hospital for a possible fractured ankle. He was injured when an 8-pound weight fell on him.

Emergency Department Coordinator Linda Hunter said two other Perry-Clear Creek firefighters and an Ellettsville firefighter were treated for minor injuries, including smoke inhalation, abrasions and minor burns.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation. Officials from the State Fire Marshal's Office were on the scene this morning.

The first call reporting the fire was just after 8:00 p.m.

LaSalle Woods resident Joe Meyers said he heard crackling behind his fireplace just before flames began engulfing the apartment complex.

When he realized the building was on fire, he started yelling at other tenants to get out.

"We lost everything," he said. "I got my dog."

Resident Amanda Johnson said she smelled smoke. "Then I opened my patio doors, and everything was orange," she said.

Nolan said firefighters had a difficult time fighting the fire because the condos were located in a wooded area.

"The construction of the buildings hampered our efforts because they were all wood structures and there wasn't much fire protection between buildings," Nolan said. "It was a mess."

Perry-Clear Creek VFD Assistant Fire Chief Milan Pece said, "There's no fire wall, no sprinkler. They're difficult to access, and the construction of them - they're just built to burn."

Nolan said the cold temperatures caused the water to freeze.

"The ice was horrible," Nolan said. "Everything iced up. Anything that water was sprayed on froze."

Nolan said when he took his gear off, "it stood up in the corner."

Firefighters had to watch their footing because ice covered everything.

Firefighters from all Monroe County fire departments, Ellettsville to Bloomington Township and 15-20 firefighters from Marshall, Pleasant Run and Perry Townships in Lawrence County assisted.

Monroe Co. Red Cross and Lawrence Co.'s Salvation Army

Assist I responded to the scene.

"We all worked together," Nolan said. "It was fantastic how we pulled together. The only thing that could have helped was if we all had radios with each other's frequencies in them."

Nolan said his department left the scene around 1:30 a.m.

In January 1995, Rod and Robin Crowe were arrested after a fire on South Point Ridge Road. James Barber, a friend of the Crowes, died in the flames.

Investigators said that fire started when Rod Crowe and Barber were manufacturing the drug methcathinone or "cat". Chemicals were too close to a stove and ignited.

In 1989, a fire at LaSalle Woods destroyed 14 units, causing \$1 million in damage. There were no fatalities.

A fire in May 1984 destroyed two condominium units.

County Building Inspector Don Wagner said at the 1995 fire that he questioned the safety of the buildings' construction.

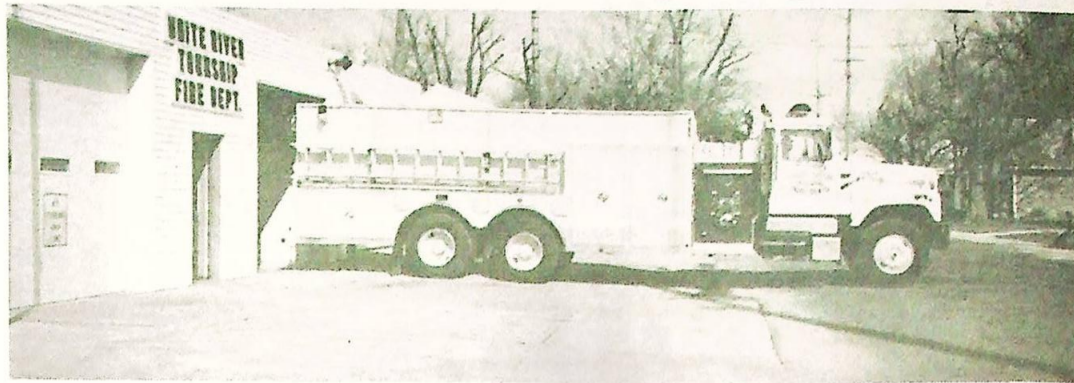
Wagner said the older units don't have adequate safeguards and "are powder kegs ready to blow up."

Units built after 1988 do meet the county building inspections.

Some information for this story was gathered by the Associated Press.

Reprinted from the Times-Mail Bedford, IN April 9, 1997

# White River Twp. Fire Department dedicates new pumper



The White River Township Fire Department, which is located in Winchester, Randolph County, Indiana, recently took delivery of a new pumper. The unit was purchased from W.S. Darley Company through the Fireman's Store in Gary, Indiana. This unit was put in service in February, 1997.

The new truck is a 1996 International chassis, equipped with a 3,000 gallon poly tank, a 1500 gpm Darley Champion pump, Allison automatic transmission and numerous compartments for gear storage, including quick mount SCBA compartments.

There are three crosslays, two

rear mounted preconnects and a 10 inch rear mounted quick dump valve and 6 inch inlet.

This unit replaced a 1975 Ford with a 750 gallon tank and 750 gpm John Bean FMC pump.

The old unit is now for sale.

The large capacity water tank is very useful for the rural areas that are protected by the department.

White River now has more water available with this one truck than they could have had in the past with the 1975 Ford and one of the two 2000 gallon tankers in their station.

In addition to the new pumper and two tankers, the White River department has a 1979 Chevrolet

rescue unit; a 1967 Jeep grass rig, carrying 125 gallons of water; and a 1963 Chevrolet reserve pumper with a front bumper mounted 500 gpm pump and 1000 gallon tank.

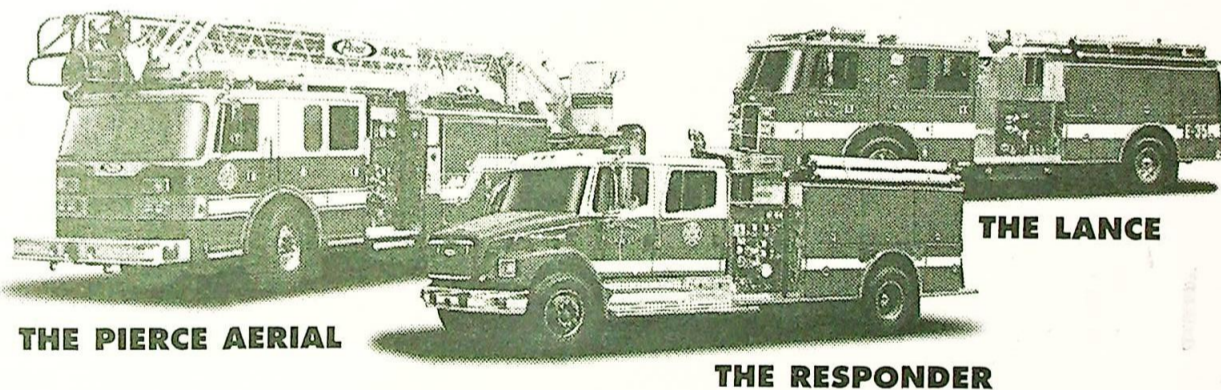
Active in designing and procuring this truck were: Gail G. (Bud) Sears, former chief; Randy Painter; Max Jennings and Stacey B. Lewis, current chief.

Township Trustee, Elaine Love also assisted in a very large way.

The truck has been dedicated to Guy Fisher, a long time Randolph County resident and friend of the department.

Guy's trust fund helped to defray a large portion of the cost of this fine piece of equipment.

# DECISIONS, DECISIONS.



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\*Truck shown with optional equipment.

# Board of Firefighter Standards and Education Appointment

Jack Kerney, Fire Chief of the McCutchanville Fire Department, has been appointed by Governor Frank O'Bannon to the Board of Firefighter Standards and Education.

Chief Kerney is a thirty year member of his department. He is Southwest Public Relation Director for the Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association, Secretary of the IVFA District 15, Secretary of the Vanderburgh County Fire Chief's Association, Secretary of the Evansville Area Fire Investigators Association, and is a member of the Indiana Fire Instructors Association.

# Liberty Township Volunteer Fire Department

In the top picture Liberty Twp. Volunteer firefighters and paramedics from Porter Memorial Hospital EMS prepare to extricate the driver of the car as firefighters from South Haven VFD pull hand lines for protection.

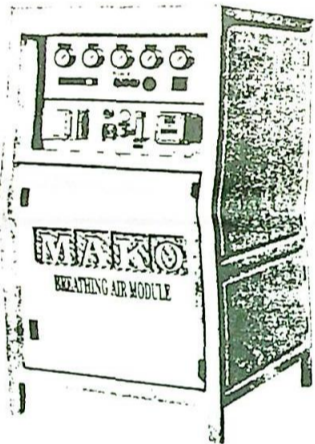
The accident occurred when the semi went through a red light at U.S. 6 and S.R. 49 and hit the car broadside. Firefighters used the Homotro spreader to open the driver's door and the rams to push away the dashboard. The driver of the car received a fractured pelvis. The driver of the semi was not injured.

The bottom picture shows Liberty Twp. VFD during a recent training session on school bus extrication. Firefighters removed patients thru emergency access windows & doors, learned how to access the passenger compartment thru the sides, top or even the bottom of the bus and learned the importance of scene control and how to handle anxious parents that come to the scene.



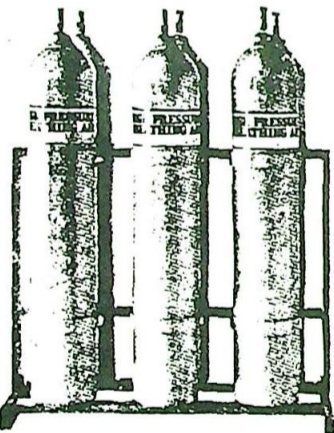
The Duneland School Corporation loaned Liberty Twp. VFD a bus for this training session.

## PROFESSIONAL BREATHING AIR SYSTEMS



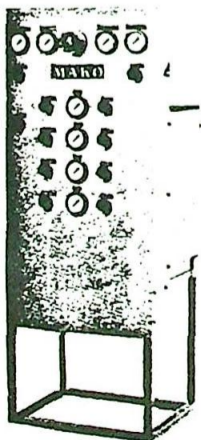
### COMPRESSORS

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Electric, gasoline or diesel  
On-site training included  
Systems meet "Buy American Act"  
Service Contracts Available



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# Few Heed Volunteer Fire Call

By Bob Burns  
Correspondent

New Chicago - Vol. firefighter Dan Spiller stood in the doorway of the fire station recently, waiting for help on a mid-day call.

A call came in for a malfunctioning carbon monoxide detector. It was not life-threatening, but there was a report of someone being sick.

But no other volunteer arrived. "So I hit the button (to activate the big siren on the station's roof)," Spiller said later. "That's supposed to be only for a structure fire. But they said someone was sick at the house."

Spiller waited a bit longer then roared off in the fire truck. Five minutes later, a volunteer responded in the dept's rescue van.

New Chicago VFD has a manpower problem, admits Larry Barnville, a six-year member and chief since the first of 1997.

"Right now, we have just 9 volunteers," he said. "Two others are to take the hepatitis-B test Sunday, then I will have them."

Out of this handful of firefighters, most work days so very few are available for day-time calls. About 1/2 of the volunteers live outside New Chicago, mostly in neighboring Lake Station. Barnville lives in Hobart.

To protect the town's residents, they have worked out an arrangement with the full-time Hobart FD to respond to all structure fires in New Chicago. Hobart also provides ambulance service.

It's difficult to recruit and keep members said Councilman Everett Cleveland, New Chicago liaison to the fire department, because of a lack of funds for equipment and pay.

"Recruits come in, take a look at the equipment and go somewhere else," he said.

The town allots \$4,000 a year in semi-annual draws to pay the firefighters the new chief said. Pay-per-call depends on how many calls are answered. "Every 6 months, I figure the number of calls, the number of training sessions and the number of men and divide it up," Barnville said. "You divide \$2,000 among ten men, that's \$200 each for six months. It's not much."

The state was supposed to give New Chicago 2 fire trucks, but that didn't happen, both Barnville and Cleveland said. Now they have pinned hopes on a \$50,000 state grant in a proposal that has yet to pass the Senate.

A residential town of 2,000 with one industry and a handful of business buildings, New Chicago has little tax base. It also is a small population from which to draw a crew of smoke eaters.

But Barnville is hopeful of getting the number back up to 15 or so, where it was not long ago. "You could say we are looking for a few good men or women"

Reprinted from the Post-Tribune  
Sunday, March 9, 1997

# One hurt in Schererville apartment fire

By Maureen Hegarty  
Times Correspondent

Schererville - An early morning fire in an apartment complex on Friday, March 28, 1997, led to the rescue of 5-6 people stuck on second and third floor balconies.

The fire broke out just before 6 a.m. in a 1st-floor apartment at Sherwood Lakes Apartments possibly because of an electrical mal-

function, fire officials said.

When firefighters arrived, smoke filled the hallway of the 12-unit building. The apartment where the fire broke out was engulfed in flames.

"One good thing is these buildings are constructed so the fire didn't spread," apartment mgr. Rhonda Lackey said. "The fire was contained to one apartment and nobody was hurt really bad."

The resident whose apartment caught on fire was taken to St. Margaret Mercy in Dyer for treatment of smoke inhalation and a small burn on his hand. He was released about an hour later.

"They did have to break in one apartment to get an elderly resident out," Lackey said.

Police said that once residents were safe, it only took firefighters 3-4 minutes to extinguish the blaze, which had been contained to the bedroom of the apartment.

"Everybody's fine," Lackey said. "We've already hired somebody to clean up." Contractors were expected to begin work Friday.

Lackey said that even with more than 1,000 residents in the 576-unit complex, fires such as this one are unusual.

Firefighters from Dyer, Lake Hills and St. John VFD also helped put out the blaze.

Reprinted from The Times  
Saturday March 29, 1997

# "Like Father - Like Son"

By Cheryl Thomas  
Volunteer firefighter Tim Burton recalls when he first became interested in joining the fire department. "Like the other guys on staff my age, I grew up hanging around the firehouse. I got to go in whenever dad got called."

By law, Starke County doesn't allow anyone on site until age twenty-one. At that time most interested sons join their fathers.

Al Berndt, veteran volunteer for twenty-two years, said he joined at that age and has enjoyed it ever since. Four father-son sets exist at Knox Fire Department: Bob and R.D. Sims; Al and Steve Berndt; Floyd and Tim Burton; plus Fred and Brian Baker.

"One of the greatest highlights of my career was when my son Brian joined," stated Fred Baker. "It was a high point in my life."

How is it that one can already work a full-time job and still be willing to get out of a warm bed at 2 in the morning?

"Sometimes temperatures dip to -20'," stated Steve Berndt. "However, the most memorable moment for me was in 1990. Two trains collided head-on. We worked nineteen hours straight."



Photo provided by Gary Elart

Pictured are: Front row (L-R) R.D. Sims, Steve Berndt, Tim Burton and Brian Baker. Back row Bob Sims, Al Berndt, Floyd Burton and Fred Baker.

"There is definite excitement to the job," stated Bob Sims, firefighter for twenty-three years. "Some people need more excitement than others. Coming out of the service, I came home wanting action."

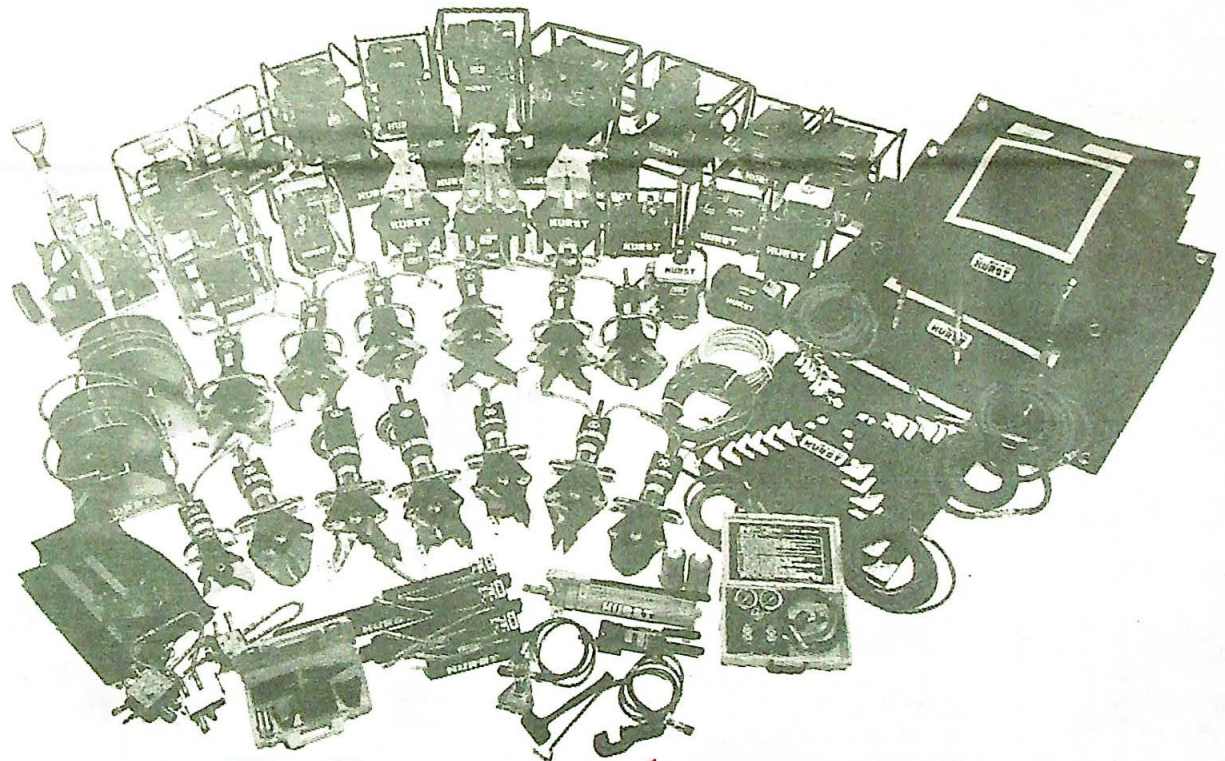
Sims also stated camaraderie counts on the job. Working side by side has established solid bonds. "We help each other, as

well as the community," he said.

"Love for the community does drive us," stated Al Berndt. Fred Baker, firefighter for eighteen years agreed. "It's the satisfaction of community service. It gets in your blood. Helping others is what counts," Baker concluded.

Reprinted from the Starke County Leader

# Rescue Line.



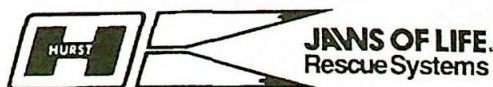
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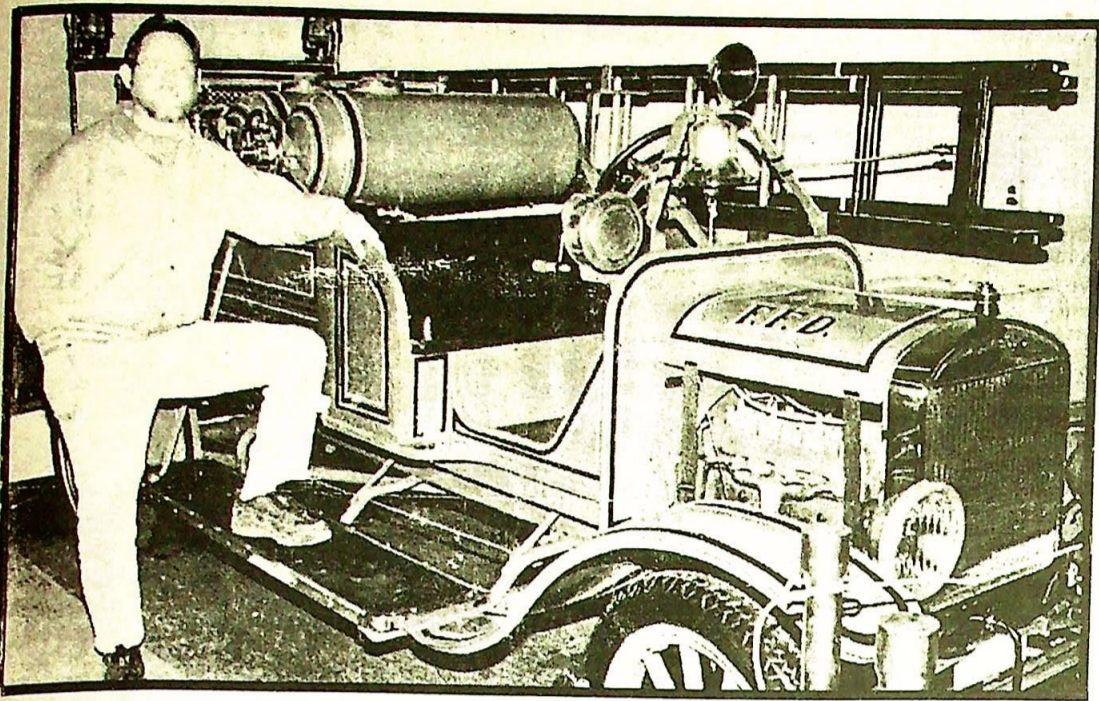
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# Farmland Chief retires after 26 years



Farmland Chief Troy Williamson, along side the town's 1922 Model T Ford, retired after 26 years as a firefighter

### Blazing a trail!

Farmland - Troy Williamson was sitting in the living room of his father-in-law, Ed Huddleston, 26 years ago when a call came in

### reporting a fire.

Huddleston was not only the police chief, but a member of the town's fire department.

"You want to come along?"

### Huddleston asked.

Williamson went with his father-in-law and when he saw the town's volunteer firemen battling a blaze, he knew he was

where he belonged.

"I sat in the police car and watched and I knew I wanted to be out there," recalls Williamson. "It really gets into your heart and blood."

Shortly thereafter, Williamson became a town firefighter and over the course of the next twenty-six years held positions of lieutenant, captain, secretary, assistant fire chief and fire chief.

In February he announced his retirement from the department as fire chief, a position he has held for the past six years.

"We've got a lot of young guys coming up who deserve a chance," Williamson explained. "I feel like it's time for me to turn over the reigns to someone else."

The hardest part of his retirement will be the camaraderie of working with a group of men and auxiliary women he feels are deeply devoted to their firefighting mission.

"We really are like a family. We really get along well and care about each other," says Williamson.

But being a firefighter on a volunteer basis can be grueling to the lifestyle. In addition to Williamson's full-time job, he is on

call 24 hours a day.

Some nights firemen get little or no sleep, working all day and fighting a fire or responding first to the scene of an accident during the night.

"If you really do the job right, it really consumes a lot of your time and a lot of your life," explained Williamson. "It's not too far off being a full-time position."

"You can come to the station almost any time and there will be someone here. The guys are really dedicated and have a lot of pride in our department," he said.

Last year alone, Farmland had 75 fire runs and were on the scene as first responders almost 100 times. Those incidents range from car wrecks, to structure fires, to grass fires.

Many volunteer man hours are also spent educating the community about fire prevention and on fund raising projects to raise money for fire equipment.

Farmland's annual Fire Prevention Week has become one of the town's most popular events. It includes a parade, fire truck rides, prizes and a dance which attracted almost 300 students last year.

During the week firefighters conduct educational classes to the students, explaining planned escaped tactics and teaching them not to fear a man wearing a mask.

Williamson said none of it could be possible without the strong support of the community.

Considered one of the county's finest departments, Farmland currently has thirty firefighters, who are all volunteers.

None of them were on the department when it was started more than a century ago because of an explosion at the site of the current Pizza King, on the corner of Main and Henry Streets.

Reports of a gas leak in the building caused the town marshal to investigate. When he went to the basement and lit a match to see, the results were predictable. The marshal did not survive the blast.

The explosion caused several men in town to organize a fire department. Their only equipment at the time was a large fire extinguisher.

By 1898, the town had purchased a hand pumper and installed cisterns all over town.

The hand pumper was stored in the first fire building, a small "lean-to" located next to the grain elevator. The cisterns still exist today and could be used, if necessary, as water supply.

Water systems and hydrants were added in 1923 and the first fire truck was purchased, a 1919 Stutz fire truck.

A 1954 Ford fire truck was used until 1976 and could pump 250 gallons a minute. Today's truck, a new KME pumper, can disburse 1250 gallons a minute.

The fire building was built in 1970, the year Williamson came onto the department.

During the past twenty-six years, Farmland's fire department has become one of the backbones of a strong and growing community.

Troy Williamson has been one of the men who has made it possible, blazing a trail for the firefighters who follow.

Reprinted from the Winchester New-Gazette Monday, March 3, 1997

Troy has accomplished a great deal during his years as chief.

Continued on Page 27



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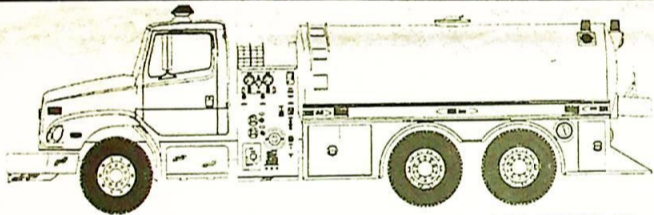
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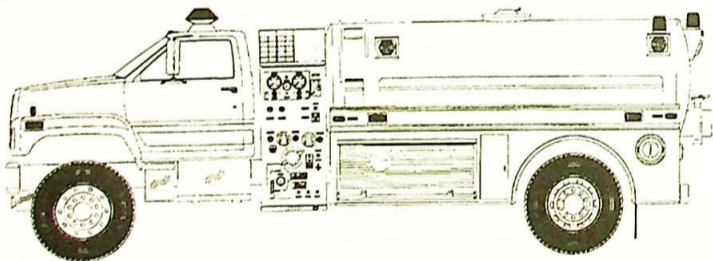
## The New Twin Steer Plus - Turns Around in 56 Feet



### The most talked about new product at the '97 FDIC Show

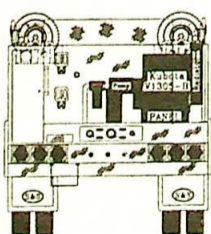
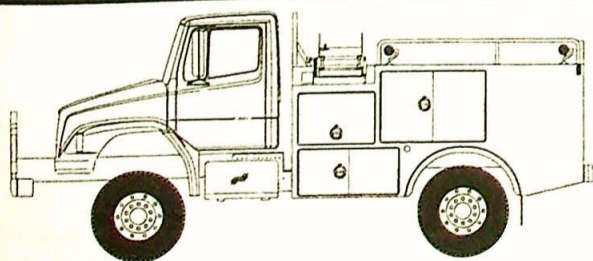
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## Pershing Township VFD presents Gold Patron Plaque



Pershing Township VFD President Greg Sutton presents a Gold Patron Plaque to Doyle and Barbara Lyon for their financial support in 1996. Barbara is owner of Lyon Haircare in Freetown, Indiana

## Pershing Twp. VFD Firefighter of the Year



1996 Firefighter of the Year, Marvin Fleenor, receives a plaque from Pershing Township Fire Chief, Richard Blaker.

Marvin Fleenor has been named Pershing Township Firefighter of the Year for 1996.

The announcement was made by department President Greg Sutton and Fire Chief Richard Blaker at the group's annual holiday dinner on December 28.

The award is presented to a firefighter who has exhibited outstanding service and commitment to the department and community. The winner is chosen by the membership.

Marvin has really gone the extra mile for us," commented President Sutton. "He has worked hard with the July 4th Committee and is usually one of the first guys around when a job needs done."

Fleenor joined the all volunteer fire department in April 1995. He has completed mandatory 24-hour fire training, is attending departmental training programs, and is enrolled in the winter session of the Jackson County Fire Academy.

"Marvin is so willing to learn all that he can," said Pershing Chief Blaker. "He is regular at training sessions and special programs."

Fleenor is a graduate of Brownstown Central High School and is employed as a Technician with Matrix Packaging in Seymour.

Marvin lives in Freetown with his wife Karen. They are parents of two daughters Angela Fleenor and Melissa McKinney.

Firefighting is a family affair in the Fleenor household. Chief Richard Blaker is the couples brother-in-law, son-in-law Doug McKinney is a rookie firefighter, daughter Angela is a fire department cadet, and Karen and

Melissa are active with the department's Auxiliary.

"We are grateful for Marvin and his family," said Deputy Chief Rebecca Scott. "He has given his time and talent as an artist for the department even before he became an active member. He is quite accomplished and we are expecting good things in his career."

Fleenor received a plaque in recognition of his achievement.

## Toddler dies in fire

Three others rescued from mobile home blaze

By Lori Caldwell  
Staff Writer

Calumet Township - A toddler died in a trailer fire Monday morning, February 10, 1997, despite dramatic rescue efforts by neighbors and Lake County Police officers who were able to pull the baby's unconscious mother to safety.

Salvador Compton, twenty-one months, was dead when Lake Ridge Firefighter Louis Donsbach found the child's body on the floor in a bedroom of the mobile home where he lived with his mother, Bambi Compton, 22, his aunt, Jackie Evans, and her six-month-old daughter, Amber.

"There were people inside, and everyone was trying to help

them get out," said Lake County Patrolman Brian Marsh, who helped rescue Bambi Compton from the burning trailer in the mobile home park at 45th Avenue and Ross Road after she had been overcome by smoke.

Compton was taken to Community Hospital in Munster, where she was listed in good condition Monday afternoon, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Evans and her infant daughter escaped the mobile home before it became engulfed in flames. Witnesses credited Evans' boyfriend, Tony Ferris, with assisting them in their quick escape.

Evans and her daughter were treated at the scene and released.

Lake Ridge fire officials said the fire was probably caused by careless cigarette smoking.

They also said they do not believe the mobile home was equipped with smoke detectors.

When the volunteer firefighters arrived about 8:30 a.m., they saw flames were at both ends of the

house.

Two other neighboring trailers were also on fire and sustained light damage, said Lake Ridge Fire Chief Tim Kuiper.

State Fire Marshals and members of the Lake Ridge Volunteer Fire Department inspected the gutted trailer after the fire was extinguished.

Kuiper estimated the financial loss at \$10,000 for the trailer and up to \$5,000 for the contents.

It was the second fire death in Lake County in the past three days.

On Saturday night, February 8, 1997, William Storm, 4138 Kentucky Street, was found on the floor in the kitchen by the back door of his home after firefighters contained the blaze about 8:00 p.m. Saturday night, police said.

Reprinted from the Post Tribune

February 11, 1997

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## New Bass Lake Fire Station

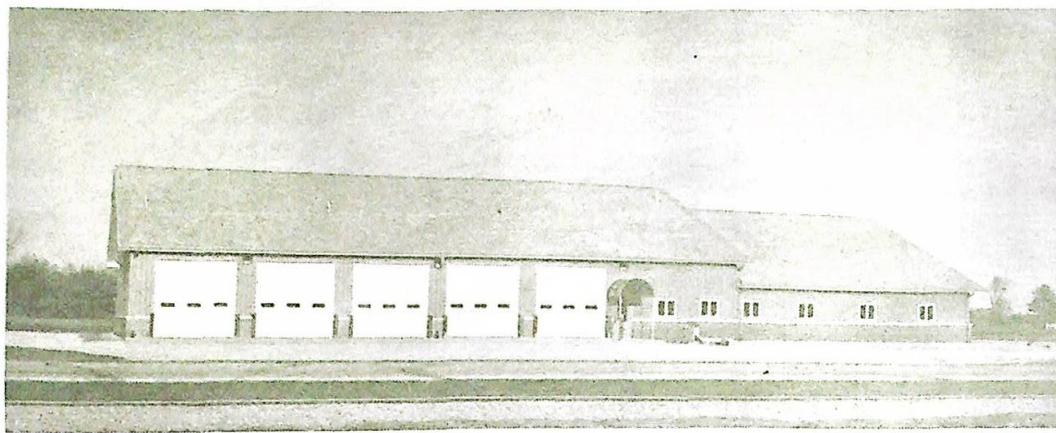
The Bass Lake Fire Department was founded during the 1930's and was owned and operated by the Bass Lake Property Owners, serving the Bass Lake, California Township and North Bend Township areas in the Starke County, Indiana.

This arrangement remained in effect until the early 1980's when it became difficult for the Bass Lake Property Owners to maintain the fire department, and they decided to no longer support the department.

The firefighters organized the Bass Lake Fire Department, Incorporated. Having no fire house and little equipment, they continued to operate with borrowed equipment, which was in surrounding farmer's sheds.

In 1985, the California Township Advisory Board took over the funding of the fire department and signed a lease to use the old fire house. In 1986, with the help of a new trustee, the Advisory Board started to buy fire equipment and save for a new fire house.

In 1995, it was felt that it was time to start planning for a new building. A three-man committee of firefighters began to visit other



The new Bass Lake fire station will be dedicated on May 17, 1997.

fire houses to come up with a building plan.

In 1996, a site for the new building was purchased and an architect hired.

The bid was awarded to a local firm and construction began in July of 1996.

The building was completed the second week of March 1997. The building is approximately 74 feet wide and 146 feet long.

The bay area has ten overhead doors, five in front and five in back.

The building also has a large

meeting room, offices, commercial kitchen and several storage areas.

It is located approximately 1/2 mile south of Bass Lake on Highway U.S. 35.

Many private citizens, as well as firefighters, donated equipment and labor to help keep the cost of the project down.

The Bass Lake firefighters would like to thank all those people who made this much-needed building become a reality.

Without the help of our Trustee, Judy Ahlenius, her fami-

ly, the past and present Advisory Board, the firefighters and many others, this building could not have been built.

The California Township Community Building and Fire House will be a great asset to the community for generations to come.

On Saturday, May 17, 1997, we will dedicate our new building to the people of California and North Bend Townships, to which we, the Bass Lake Firefighters, take great pleasure in serving.

## Two killed in ice fishing hut fire

Monday, February 17, 1997  
By Suzanne Eovaldi  
Correspondent

Lake Dalecarlia - Two men fishing on Lake Dalecarlia died early Sun., Feb. 16, 1997, when their ice fishing hut caught fire.

Bryan Crisan, 20, a former Lake Dalecarlia volunteer firefighter, and Mark Onstott, 33, also of Lake Dale, were fishing about 3/4 of a mile out on the 380-acre private lake in a wooden 8x8 ft, homemade hut on wheels.

"It's all speculation at this point," Lake Dale Fire Chief Bob Carr said as he attempted to reconstruct the tragedy in the unincorporated community of 6,000 in southern Lake County.

"It's a total mystery," added Lake Dale FD Public Information Officer Mike Haviland. "There was a kerosene heater (in the ice hut) so they could have been overcome by fumes and been dead before the fire started. We just don't know. They were burned beyond recognition."

The fire was first spotted around 4:30 a.m. by Lake Dale firefighters returning from a five-hour house fire, Carr said.

"One of the firefighters looked out over the lake, saw the fire, and by the time he got to the structure, the sides and roof were gone," said Carr.

By the time other firefighters walked out to the scene, the wooden walls and roof of the homemade ice hut had burned, leaving only the floor exposed.

"It could be a combination of the wood burning stove and kerosene heater causing a spontaneous combustion," Carr said. "Inside the hut was a wood-burning stove, a Coleman lantern, a white 2,500 BTU kerosene heater and a 500 watt quartz light.

"An electric cord was plugged into a small gas-operated generator, which was outside of the hut," he said.

"We've had fires, but never on the ice like this before," said the 34-year-old chief, who has been with the department for fourteen years. "This is probably one of the worst things I've seen since I've been a fireman."

He said the ice hut that the victims were in was "the only hut I've ever known of out here."

The 25-inch-thick ice at Clay Point had not broken through. The lake reaches a depth of six feet at Clay Point, which is at the head of the five fingers of Lake Dalecarlia.

As Carr made the long walk back over the ice to the marina, he said of Crisan, "He was one of my firefighters."

Crisan was a Lake Dale firefighter for 10 months last year. He was also "fairly experienced" as an ice fisherman, Haviland said. "He grew up around the lake and yes, he was very lake wise," he said.

Saturday, February 22, 1997

Crown Point - Bryan Crisan and Mark Onstott died of extensive burns and smoke inhalation, the Lake County Coroner's Office said Friday, February 21, 1997.

Lake County Police Detective John Peters said the autopsy indicated there was some carbon monoxide present in the victims.

"It didn't seem like enough to overcome them," Peters said. "It is a borderline kind of thing."

The coroner's office would not comment on the levels of carbon monoxide found. The wooden ice hut was destroyed.

Continued on page 24

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CLOTHING REPLACEMENT FOR FIREFIGHTER'S	727.26	577.78
COMMITTEE EXPENSE	2,535.80	2,790.48
CONVENTION EXPENSE	4,976.42	3,346.26
DELEGATES EXPENSE	4,534.40	7,331.20
DISTRICT EXPENSE	7,015.64	9,928.22
DISTRICT SECRETARY EXPENSE	300.00	300.00
FIRE SCHOOL EXPENSE	8,482.50	7,862.50
FUNERAL FUND	6,555.68	5,811.50
INSURANCE-GENERAL	9,584.00	9,418.00
LEGAL EXPENSE	6,040.83	2,200.00
LEGISLATURE EXPENSE	54,515.00	55,658.94
OTHER EXPENSE	1,659.15	1,739.88
OFFICERS ALLOWANCE	4,216.40	12,555.71
OFFICERS EXPENSES-REIMBURSED	4,657.38	4,941.42
OFFICERS MEETING EXPENSE	23,699.51	24,299.42
PAPER EXPENSE	23,361.68	21,796.90
POSTAGE	11,406.34	11,890.90
HISTORICAL COMMITTEE	2,764.86	246.40
PRINTING	4,736.69	514.02
PUBLIC EDUCATION	9,495.05	9,885.12
PUBLIC RELATIONS	2,896.80	2,881.59
SECRETARY'S OFFICE EXPENSE	1,891.52	6,036.34
NSF CHECK CHARGE	39.00	261.00
FICA TAX EXPENSE	1,469.91	2,123.24
LICENSE PLATE COST	1,564.87	2,882.85
OFFICE POSTAGE	2,243.51	0.00
LEASE EXPENSE	36,000.00	0.00
DEPRECIATION EXPENSE	0.00	600.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>240,949.52</b>	<b>212,280.28</b>

(DECREASE) INCREASE IN UNRESTRICTED ASSETS: 47,673.96 80,532.85

CHANGES IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS:

(DECREASE) INCREASE IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS 0.00 0.00

**INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.  
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1996**

**CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATIONS:**

DUES	\$204,752.75	\$216,478.25
PROGRAM BOOK	0.00	0.00
CLOTHING	6,944.50	5,884.00
PAPER ADVERTISING	17,857.25	22,136.55
OTHER INCOME	9,294.10	7,684.68
INSURANCE	33,854.56	30,303.32
BANK INTEREST	11,360.32	10,103.94
CONVENTION	4,560.00	222.39
BANK INTEREST	2,465.60	2,939.74
CONTRIBUTIONS	771.00	0.00
RETURN OF SERVICE CHARGES	0.00	0.00

**CASH PAID FOR:**

OPERATING EXPENSES	247,114.30	223,142.81
<b>NET CASH (USED) PROVIDED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>\$44,745.78</b>	<b>72,610.06</b>

**CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:**

NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES: 0.00 0.00

NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH 44,745.78 72,610.06

CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF YEAR 449,278.64 376,668.58

CASH AT THE END OF YEAR \$494,024.42 \$449,278.64

RECONCILIATION OF INCREASE IN NET ASSETS TO NET CASH (USED) PROVIDED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

INCREASE IN NET ASSETS \$44,910.56 \$71,472.59

ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE INCREASE IN NET ASSETS TO CASH (USED) PROVIDED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

DEPRECIATION 0.00 600.00

NET CASH (USED) PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES: \$44,910.56 \$72,072.59

**SUPPLEMENTAL DATA FOR NONCASH INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES:**

TOTAL INTEREST EARNED \$13,825.92

**INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1996**

# 1996 IVFA Convention Minutes

50TH ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING  
FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 1996  
MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA

President Glant: "I call this meeting to order. May we have the Invocation by Chaplain Baker?"

Chaplain Baker: "Let us pray. Father God, we approach You this morning with thankfulness. We give our gratitude for the opportunity to gather here for the 50th session of the Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association. We thank You for all that You have given us. All that You have done for us. We thank You for the pleasure of Your company along with Jesus Christ. We ask Your blessing on this association. That You give us guidance, wisdom, and understanding. We further ask that You give us direction, health and strength as we go about our duties. Watch over us all. Thank You for Your blessings. In Jesus name we pray. Amen."

President Glant: "Thank you, Charlie. Jack Zeeks. Will you lead us in the Pledge?"

President Glant: It has been a pleasure to be your president for the past two years. It has been a great learning experience. I appreciate it. I am glad to find someone that can go on. I thank you for the opportunity for the past two years. I am going to give all the officers a chance to speak but due to the time frame, I am not going to run down through the list. If there are any officers who have something to say. Please step to a mike and say something.

President Glant: "Chaplain Baker."

Chaplain Baker: "Good Morning. Thank You. It has been a pleasure to have served you for another year. I am grateful for all that. I am very grateful for the help from folks such as Father Lantz who has assisted me on several occasions. Thank you, Father. I would like to invite you to the memorial service at eleven this morning at the East Lake Baptist Church. We hope to have a memorial service that you are all familiar with. I would like to also ask your help and support in the Second Hoosier Firefighter & EMT appreciation day family picnic. The one thing that I want to leave with you, this is a freebie.

There is a lot of fun and enjoyment along with a lot of displays planned. There have been a lot of vendors so far, who are providing the funds to make this picnic possible. I have a two fold offer. One is the combat challenge and if you really want to be challenged get into that one, but if you do not want to be tested that severely then volunteer to help us manage those games. We had a large number of volunteers last year. We need more in the games area. I would like to thank all of you and looking forward in seeing you at the picnic.

President Glant: "Tommy, do you want to give your report?"

Tom Hinkle: "Good Morning, I would like to take this opportunity to say that the first six months as your state secretary has been very rewarding. There have been many adjustments that I have had to make, myself, my family and the organization, for the betterment of the organization. We will accept calls telling us that you like the direction we are going. We now have two 800 numbers, the first is the executive office, Tammy over there works in the executive office. My 800 number at the house is 1-800-465-6050. We will take calls just about any hour of the night. Last year, we finished up with a total of 17,573 paid members in the association. 15,294 of those were paid on time. We had 2,279 that were paid late. At this time, we have 1,600 paid members and 85 department that have paid on time. I would like to comment at this time on a few things that are happening that I want you to look forward to. One of the things that we are doing, is a E-Mail address. I have been sending E-mail updates such as current events, fire caucus picnics. These are updated once a week. One of the things that I would like to do is go to home page through the computer and show off your department on the internet. At this time, I have some roll call sheets that need to be handed out to the delegates and so forth. I would like the roll call committee to come forward. Larry Stott, Perry Martin, Tim Wargel, Mort Sorg, Paul Covington, Doug Baker, Don Cushman and Dennis Spears. Thank you."

President Glant: "Thank you, Tom. Larry Curl, do you want to address the group at this time?"

Larry Curl: "Everybody wearing shirts like me, please stand up.

There's the host for the 1997 IVFA convention. They are ready, willing and eager. While they are passing out the information on the 1997 IVFA convention. Let me give you a few facts. After celebrating fifty years of the IVFA pride. It has been decided that it will be like heaven in '97 in Wayne Township. We look forward to hosting the 51st convention of the IVFA. All the information is included in the brochure that is being passed out with the exception of the camping information. We have a committee working on the campers. We will be putting out some additional information. At the 51st conference, we invite you to park it, walk it and let Wayne Township do the driving. Everything that is not on sight at the host hotel, we'll transport you to them. The tokens that are being passed out right now, the wooden nickels, bring those back for free gifts when you attend. Thanks and we'll see you in '97.

President Glant: "Mr. Stofer, would you like to address this group?"

Gene Stofer: "I am not going to talk too long today fellows. You will not hear too much from me after today. We do want to see you in heaven in '97 at Wayne Twp. I hope you are all there. I do have a little problem today, delegates. Our standard operating procedures say that unless you attend the morning meeting and the afternoon meeting, you don't get paid. We will not have any afternoon meeting. So I am going to dismiss my committee and we do not need to pay you today. But I do need something from the floor to say that we are going to disband with our general operation of paying our delegates today so that I can write your checks."

President Glant: "Bob Uryga."

Bob Uryga: "I make a motion that we dispense with the rules."

Max Harrah: "Mr. President, I second the motion."

President Glant: "There is a motion on the floor by Bob Uryga to dispense with the rules for this convention only so that we can pay the mileage since we only have one session this time. Seconded by Max Harrah. All in favor say "aye". Opposed. Motion carried."

Gene Stofer: "Now we can write your checks. The Mileage and Credential Committee, would you please form over here. They are Bob Fleenor, John Ferro, Bob Hays, Larry Petro, Don Kissinger, Frank Daunhauer, Don Jackson, Don Johnson, Luke Kluender and Nelson Ehlers. Please go to the table with Tammy and Lynn. I am not going to give a full financial report. The books have already been audited last

month. As you all know, our year ending is on a calendar year now. I will give you the bank balances as of December 31st 1995. In the General Fund we had \$365,296.51, in the Bridgeport Fund we had \$83,681.33. At the present date, in the General Fund we have \$306,852.10, in the Bridgeport Fund we have \$82,250.65. I am proud to say that I am leaving this association as your treasurer with a hell of a lot more money than I had when I took it over. It is all due to these officers we have had over the past twenty one years that I have been your treasurer. I am really proud of you. I think this association is on the move. I hope the next twenty one years that we do twice as good as we did the last twenty one. I do need the chairman of the Audit Committee to come up and make his report so that I can clear myself for the final time. Mr. Parish are you in the room?"

Mitch Parish: "At the May meeting, the Audit Committee met consisting of Gene Stofer, Tim Wargel, Jack Harker, Buz Koehler and myself. We went over the books and we could not find any irregularities. I would like for this body to accept the financial statement. We need a motion from somebody from the floor to accept them. District 3. Bob Uryga."

Bob Uryga: "I make a motion to accept the auditor's report or the auditing committee's report."

Mitch Parish: "Don Cushman."

Don Cushman: "I second the motion."

Mitch Parish: "We have a motion on the floor and duly seconded to accept the audit committee's report. All in favor say aye."

Body: "Aye."

Mitch Parish: All opposed."

Body: No response.

Mitch Parish: "The motion carried."

President Glant: "Before we get back to the business at hand. I believe there is one more person that wants to speak to us. Gene Goddard, would you come up and speak to us on the joint conference? Also Mitch Parish, Jack Kerney need to be up here."

Gene Goddard: "For some of you who may not be aware we have been working for almost a year on the possibility of having a joint fire conference in 1997. Before the summer is out, we hope to have a commitment from those organizations who are willing to try to get together to have one joint conference. The people who are up here have been representing your organization at those meetings. We have had representatives from all the other fire organizations attending these meetings. We do not have anything in concrete yet. Because until we have, or everybody has their conference this summer, we will not know just exactly where we stand in the numbers. But, it looks pretty much like we are going to have four out of the six or seven fire organizations that do have regular conferences. We will know that in about mid August when the last one has their Convention for 1996. If anybody has any questions about what we are attempting to do.

Larry Curl: "I am sure there are a lot of questions out there as there is with the committee itself. Let me try to address a couple of issues that may be of a major concern to you today. I see a lot of doubts out there, is that because you are not awake or are not sure, you really don't care. The thing that we are looking at having a joint conference is as all of us know and to all of us who participate in the conventions throughout the state. The numbers are dwindling. The ability to draw, today is a good crowd and I believe you need to be applauded for that. Today is truly a good crowd. How many conventions have we attended recently that has been half this size or less? It is getting very difficult to conduct business at our fire emergency services in the State of Indiana with a handful of people. I think that each and every association needs to conduct their business that is truly the business affairs of that association. The IVFA, the Fire Chiefs, the Inspectors, the IFA. Each and every one of these would have time allotted to conduct the business affairs of their association. We want to provide that time. An example only, we would set up say a Friday morning from eight o'clock until noon for the IVFA men's meeting. The afternoon session would be for the fire chiefs. On a Thursday afternoon it could be for the Inspectors. We would have to break it down where everybody would have a meeting time. That would be very important for each and everyone of us that we do have allotted time to conduct the business affairs of that association. Next, site locations. Where are you going to host this conference? Is it always going to be in Indianapolis? Absolutely not. I enjoy my department. I want to stay there and I do not want to go anywhere else. So we are not going to do it every year. I think at the same time it has to be realistically looked at. You can not go to every city in Indiana and host this size of a conference. To the Conference Committee that represents each and every association participating there would have to be a site selection made. Currently we have five or six cities that could hold a conference of that size.

Gene Goddard: "Does anyone have any questions? OK, one of the things that we have been trying to do and the reason we started the Fire Service Institute was to bring all of the fire organizations together. We have all been going our separate ways and there is strength in numbers. We hope by getting the caucus started which has been around for about six years. We might enhance ourselves with the political process by having the numbers that we do have. We have eight thousand people and I have been in conferences with only sixty or seventy people sitting in the audience. I thought last night was very impressive crowd for the political people that were here. I want to complement the districts who had representatives here last night speaking because I think they did their home work. We had people getting up and saying that they would not support any further legislation that mandates you to do something without funding. We have been trying to work on that for about the last five years. It is starting to have an effect because you people are beginning to talk to your legislators and that is who has to do that. Organizations cannot register you, they cannot vote for you, they cannot talk to every individual representative in the legislature on the state and national level. You folks have got to start to do that. I think it is beginning to have an effect, because I saw that last night. There is a lot more respect for the fire service than there has been in the past. I do not think we have even scratched the surface. We hope by getting these things together we will be able to accomplish that. Any more questions? Thank you very much for your time."

President Glant: "At this time can we have the roll call sheets from the district chairmen and the Roll Call Committee come up? We will keep the business going now. Will the Nominating Committee please come forth at this time."

Lawrence Swartz: "I too would like to wish everyone here a good morning. Before we get involved in the slate of officers and nominations for the elections. I would like everyone to stand. We have a slate of officers for the incoming year. There are coming from the Nominating Committee. These people have expressed an interest in running for the individual offices. They also meet the requirements for that office. As we start through the nominations and the elections process. Be aware nominations can be made from the floor. We encourage this to be done. With that, I will turn the list of candidates over to past president Ivan Nevil who will start the election process."

Ivan Nevil: "The committee is made up of Lawrence, Chairman, myself, Bill Howe, Sr. and Willie Parish. That was the Nominating Committee. Let's get under way. The Nominating Committee for the year 1997 places the name of Jack Zeeks for president. Are there any nominations from the floor? Are there any nominations from the floor? Are there any nominations from the floor? Mr. Secretary."

Tom Hinkle: "I cast one unanimous ballot for Jack Zeeks for president for 1997."

Ivan Nevil: "Thank you and congratulations Jack. Any comments Sir?"

Jack Zeeks: "Thanks."

Ivan Nevil: "For the office of vice president. The Nominating Committee has three names. In alphabetical order, Jack Cox, John Davies and LeMoyne "Buz" Koehler. We would invite individually each one to come to the mike. Identify yourself and we will allow thirty seconds for your comments. Jack Cox."

Jack Cox: "My name is Jack Cox. I do not know a lot of the people from the northern part of the state. I am from east central Indiana, from the Richmond area. I have been in the fire service since 1965. I have been involved in the IVFA for eight years. I have been district chairman, and PREC. I would like the opportunity to serve you as your vice president and hopefully go on to be your president and to continue with the efforts that we have strived to accomplish over the past several years. to help you people with the efforts that you have put forward. Thank you."

Ivan Nevil: "John Davies."

John Davies: "Good morning. My name is John Davies. I have served this association for the last six years as your Recording Secretary and for the last year due to a change in the By-Laws, they changed my title to Assistant Secretary. I would like very much to be your vice president for the coming year. There are no 'I's in the word team. It is a team effort, I have always been a team person. I have over 29 years in the fire service. I have held all the offices both line and administrative in my local department, I have served as vice chairman, secretary/treasurer and chairman of the district. I will not take any more of your time, I would just like your support. Thank you very much."

Ivan Nevil: "Buz Koehler."

Buz Koehler: "Hi. My name is Buz Koehler. I am chairman of 9B. I have been there for about five years supporting the firefighters in my district. Some of you know me, I have been to some of your meetings. All of you know that I would support all of the firefighters in the State of Indiana. Last night, we heard

Continued on  
Page 25

# 1997

# MISS FLAME CANDIDATES



**Alisha Vaught**  
Schererville Fire Dept.  
District 1



**Janet Gettler**  
Crown Point Fire Dept.  
District 2



**Heather Garwood**  
LaCrosse Fire Dept.  
District 3



**Kristin Martin**  
German Twp. VFD  
District 4



**Tina Capron**  
Bremen Fire Dept.  
District 5



**Kimberly Smith**  
New Haven VFD  
District 6



**Joni DeKoninck**  
Poe VFD  
District 7

**G  
O  
O  
D**



**April Marshall**  
Center Twp. Fire Dept.  
District 8A



**April Frazee**  
Pennville Fire Dept.  
District 8B

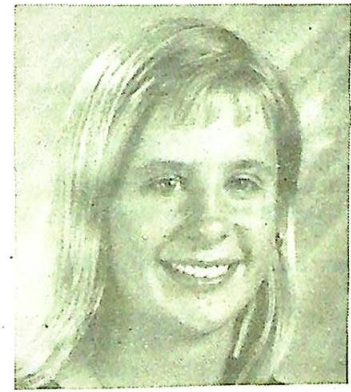


**Tiffany Lingenfelter**  
Otter Creek #1 Fire Dept.  
District 11A



**Olivia Hess**  
Dana VFD  
District 11B

**L  
U  
C  
K**



**Christina Thomas**  
Decatur Twp. VFD  
District 12



**Ellen Biehler**  
McCutchanville VFD  
District 15

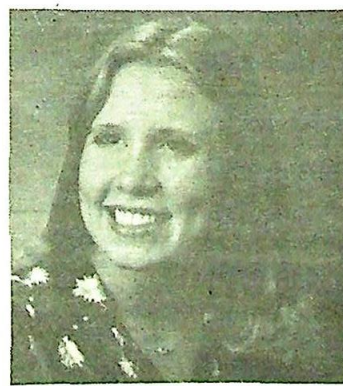
**!**



**Kathryn Smith**  
Holland Fire Dept.  
District 18



**Sheryl Scheele**  
Morris Fire Dept.  
District 19



**Angela Lister**  
Sheffield Fire Dept.  
District 21



**1996 Miss Flame  
Nicole Barden**  
LaPaz-North Twp. VFD  
District 5

# CONGRATULATIONS!

# 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.

## JUDGING REGULATIONS

Judging will be based on fire department and community involvement, appearance, personality, poise, conversational ability, and ability to express ideas. All judging scores will be confidential.

All state contestants will be considered on the following percentage basis for "Miss Flame" state judging. No questions to be asked relative to scholastic ability.

1. 25% on what she thinks are the benefits of a volunteer fire department in her community:

- \* her fire department role in community
- \* her relationship to the volunteer fire service
- \* her involvement with the fire department, and
- \* her family's involvement with the fire department

2. 20% on personality and poise (includes carriage, composure, self-control and self confidence).

3. 10% on ability to carry on a conversation in a personal interview and before a group.

4. 10% on appearance (grooming, neatness).

5. 10% on community involvement (4-H, church, school, etc.).

6. Each state contestant should be familiar with the following topics. The judges will select three of the five (same three for each contestant) and ask each contestant to express her thoughts on them. 5% for each of the three topics.

- \*National Government
- \*Environment
- \*Quality of Education
- \*Inflation
- \*Juvenile Crime

7. 10% on impromptu speech or last minute thoughts.

## IVFA MISS FLAME CONTEST QUALIFICATIONS AND RULES TO ENTER

1. Father, brother, mother or sister must be a member of the I.V.F.A. or the I.V.F.A. 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 I.V.F.A. 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 the discretion of the District.
8. District winner will be entered in the 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. I.V.F.A. Miss Flame will be selected at the State Convention.
13. The Convention host department will provide judges to select the 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. I.V.F.A.A. will furnish appropriate District designation ribbons which will be presented to the District winners prior to the Judging on Thursday at Convention.
16. I.V.F.A.A. will furnish winner I.V.F.A. "MISS FLAME" ribbon, flowers, trophy and a \$100 savings bond.
17. I.V.F.A.A. will furnish I.V.F.A. "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.

## ATTENTION: District Miss Flame Contestants

Contestants and parents, you will be receiving correspondence from me sometime in April and again in May. You must remember, however, that we must 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. Get a reservation form from your district chairman or call me and I will send one to you. Fill it out and across the top in big letters write "MISS FLAME CONTESTANT".

I would also like to remind the parents/chaperones that they are responsible for their own convention registration. The Miss Flames' registration is provided. Remember, you can pre-register until June 1 for \$40.00 each, but after that date the cost is \$50.00 each. You can use the form provided in this paper or get one from your district chairman.

If anyone has any question concerning the Miss Flame Contest at convention, you may call me at 317-665-3213  
Eula Bush, Miss Flame Committee Chairman

## ATTENTION: Convention Delegates

Sixteen young ladies are preparing to participate in the 1997 Miss Flame Contest to be held at the Convention at Wayne Township in Indianapolis. Their photographs appear on Page 22 of this paper. The Miss Flame Committee and the convention hosts are actively planning to make this a very enjoyable time for them.

The contestants and the committee want to encourage convention delegates to attend the final judging to be held in the afternoon on Thursday and the crowning of Miss Flame and First Runner-up in the evening at the opening meeting.

Eula Bush

## Public Relations Southwest



Jack Kerney

I hope everyone has sent in their comments on the NFPA 1200 Standard for Organization, Operation, Development, and Evaluation of Public Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Service. The public comment period closed April 11, 1997.

This proposal may be helpful to your fire department, or it may also be your worst nightmare. Your department needs to review this proposal and understand how this proposal will potentially affect your department.

Areas that could affect your department are the requirements for making a "primary interior attack."

This proposal requires a minimum of eleven (11) firefighters, not including an IC before engaging in a "primary interior attack." The proposal would require that you have the required resources at the scene within ten (10) minutes from the receipt of the alarm.

You would also have to comply with the specific requirements regarding water supply, the number and size of hose lines, water flow and the assigned duties of your eleven (11) firefighters.

If your department provides BLS emergency medical response with an automatic defibrillator, the standard would require you to be on the scene within four (4) minutes of the receipt of the alarm in the alarm office. The ALS service requirement has a ten (10) minute time limit.

The standard is full of proposals, which include community risk management, which evaluates all potential risks to public safety. This information is then used to establish goals, plans, service level objectives, performance indicators and other criteria for providing protective services to the community.

You will also be required to address other areas of responsibility, such as: fire protection; fire investigation; hazardous materials response; fire prevention and life safety; and emergency medical service.

The proposal also includes making the fire departments responsible for fire hydrant testing if no one else is responsible. You would be required to provide financial management, budgeting and purchasing.

As you can see this proposal will affect all departments, large and small, career and volunteer.

This is just a few of the requirements that will affect you and your department.

I suggest you read and understand how this proposal will affect your community and fire department.

Congratulations to Ellen Biehler, the daughter of John and Susan Biehler, for being selected District 15 Miss Flame. Ellen's parents are members of the McCutchanville Fire Department.

Keep me informed of your meeting dates and fund raisers.

**DON'T FORGET**  
Deadline for the August issue  
of the newspaper is  
**July 10, 1997**  
Please, make a note of it.

# Public Relations West Central



Don Johnson

On Sunday, January 12, 1997, I attended the meeting for District 11B at Dana. They had a good turnout and the food was outstanding.

On January 19th, I attended District 11A meeting at Coalmont. They had a good turnout and good food.

On March 9th, I attended District 11B meeting at Madison Township, a well-attended meeting.

March 16th attended the District 11A meeting at Sanford, another one well-attended.

March 17th attended District 12 meeting at Eel River, which was poorly attended.

At all these meetings NFPA 1200 was discussed.

District 21 meeting was well-attended.

I know where District 20 is located, but don't know if anyone is alive up there. I have not heard from anybody there.

I also attended two memorial services for deceased members.

I have learned through public education we need to educate the

parents, as well as the kids on fire safety.

I would like for the IVFA to sponsor a bill that would make the parents more responsible for leaving matches and lighters in

## Fire departments face safety rule citations

By Sally Falk Nancrede  
Staff Writer

The Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration has filed preliminary papers citing the Perry Township Fire Department on five alleged safety violations and the Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD) on three involving an October 12, 1996 fire at a southside metal-finishing plant.

During the 1996 fire at UCR, Inc., 826 E. Summer Avenue, firefighters waded knee-deep in yellow and blue liquids, and an explosion rained a yellow chemical on them, the agency said.

The plant had at least one hundred types of chemicals inside, including butane, cyanide and methanol.

The alleged violations are listed on what are called "closing conference worksheets," which the agency issues before final reports. Those reports and notification of penalties are expected in mid-April.

No fines are expected.

The action supports Perry Township firefighters who have

said for months that they were forced to use contaminated gear and did not get medical attention until nearly a month after the incident.

The were reluctant to discuss the alleged violations publicly.

If the citations are upheld and a firefighter gets sick as a result of alleged safety lapses, Perry Township would be liable, said Thomas Haniford, President of Indianapolis Metropolitan Professional Firefighters Union Local 416.

The IFD was cited for two alleged incidents involving firefighters and one violation, which IFD might contest.

"We want to correct any problems we have," Deputy Chief James Greeson said.

"We don't want to make the same mistakes twice; we want to do the right thing. Firefighter safety is our biggest issue."

Citations against IFD allege:

•Some firefighters who had been decontaminated went back into the hazardous area, but were not decontaminated a second time.

•Some firefighters did not wear proper headgear.

•The decontamination area was not set up before firefighters began putting out the fire.

Greeson said IFD will seek clarification from the safety agency about decontamination rules, specifically whether a full-scale decontamination unit is required before fighting a fire. It takes time to deploy such a unit, he said.

Perry Township's citations allege:

•Employees did not receive medical examinations as soon as possible after developing symptoms.

•Firefighters' gear was not

cleaned or replaced after the firefighters noticed signs of chemical exposure.

•Firefighters were not wearing protective headgear while engaged in an incident with possible inhalation hazards.

•The department did not certify that a workplace hazard assessment was performed.

•The department does not have a written hazard communication policy.

Chief William Click said developing a hazard policy is "the only thing we can do anything with. The rest are all after the fact."

"Several things were where our employees failed to do things like notifying us," he said.

"And they were supposed to have their SCBAs on and apparently did not.

Perry Township Trustee Ed Buckley said any problems will be corrected.

"If we're not following procedure, there's absolutely no question we will do whatever needs to be done to follow those procedures," he said.

"Our firefighters are important."

He said he would discuss the potential violations with the township's lawyers after he receives the official notification.

Of the seventy-eight IFD and Perry Township firefighters who fought the blaze, six were treated for minor chemical burns and one was hospitalized. One firefighter was treated six days later.

Eight Perry Township firefighters alleged they were left with contaminated and damaged gear for weeks; that they experienced headaches, nausea and dermatitis; and that they were denied medical attention until November 6th.

"We're talking about the

health and safety of our members. There's no room for compromise," said Howard T. Stahl, Chairman of the Health and Safety Commission for Local 416.

The union is calling for a county-wide policy to cover hazardous situations.

Reprinted from the Indianapolis Star  
April 5, 1997

## Ice fishing hut fire . . .

Continued from page 19

Peters said the autopsy results likely will close the case for the police dept.

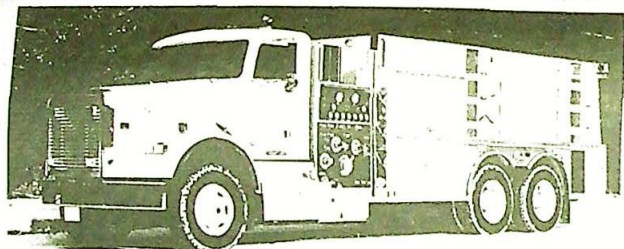
"If that is the cause of death, there is no criminal case for us," Peters said. "I would like to see what determination the fire department got (on the cause)."

Michael Haviland, Lake Dale Fire Department Public Information Officer, said Friday he did not know if a cause was determined.

Chief Robert Carr could not be reached for comment.

The preceding information was condensed and reprinted from:

The Post-Tribune  
Monday, February 17 and  
Saturday, February 22, 1997.



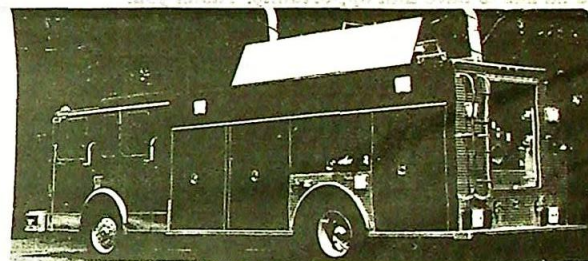
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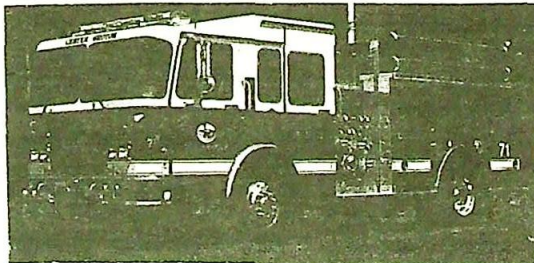
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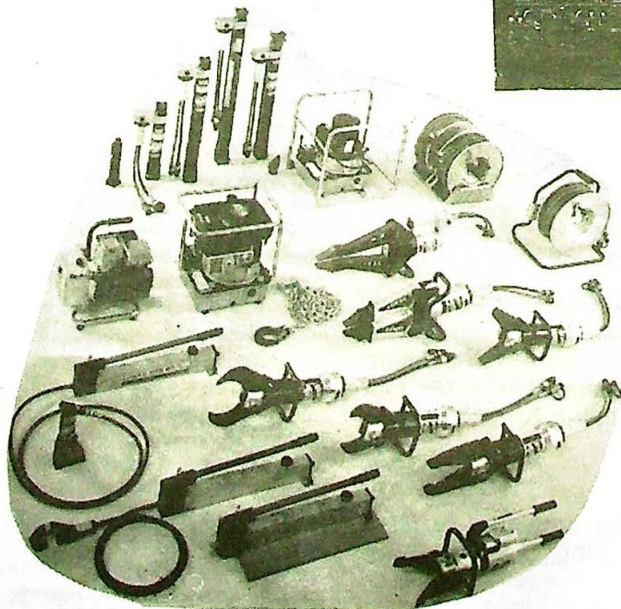
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Here to stay.

Your SCBA. Ready with 1999 required features, today.

Introducing the latest in an incredible list of innovations for the fire fighter that makes PIONEER users the most advanced fire fighters in the business.

### Lifetime Pneumatic Warranty

The best reason yet to give PIONEER a try. The Lifetime Pneumatic Warranty. No quarterly cost. No yearly repair costs. No maintenance costs. No testing!

From Atlanta, GA to Fallon, NV—from Madison, IA to Snowmass, CO, fire departments across the country have happily stepped away from the handicaps inherent in older SCBA designs to the REVOLUTION in fire fighter respiratory protection. PIONEER... (the only one).

All these fire departments have experienced first hand PIONEER'S overall reliability and unique simplicity. They know that CairnsAIR provides direct support in the equipment transition stage and beyond, with thorough on-site training, field backup, weather protection and reduced time to service.



## '96 Convention Minutes

### Continued from page 21

from legislators. I would like to be a part of making sure that the promises they made to us last night come true in the future. I would appreciate your support for vice president. Thank you."

Ivan Nevil: "Are there any nominations from the floor? Are there any nominations from the floor? Are there any nominations from the floor? I declare nominations closed. District chairmen, mark your ballots."

President Glant: "The Election Committee is as follows, Bill Howe, Jack Harker, Bob Uryga, Paul Covington, Mort Sorg, Nelson Ehlers and Perry Martin."

Ivan Nevil: "If all of the ballots have been turned in, we will move on in the selection process while they are being counted. For secretary, we have the name of Tom Hinkle. Are there any further nominations from the floor? Are there any further nominations from the floor? Are there any further nominations from the floor? Mr. President."

President Glant: "I cast one ballot for Tom Hinkle for secretary."

Ivan Nevil: "Tom has no comments right now. We'll call a halt momentarily so the Miss Flame candidates can come into the room."

Eula Bush: "Good morning. Those of you at the opening meeting last night saw that we have a lot of pretty girls and we want to show them to you again. (Introductions of each contestant was done at this time.) We have had a good bunch of girls. The judges were in the room for a long time. You can really be proud of them. Thanks a lot."

Ivan Nevil: "Thanks ladies. For the office of treasurer. At this time, I would like for the body to rise as one and salute Mr. Stofer for his 21 years of service. For the office of treasurer. The committee selects William Kinsey. Are there any further nominations from the floor?"

Al Mendel: "I would like to nominate Red Morris of the Otter Creek Volunteer Fire Department."

Ivan Nevil: "Are there any further nominations?"

Paul Covington: "Paul Covington, District 19. I would like to nominate Tim Wargel from District 15."

Ivan Nevil: "Are there any further nominations? We are going to have to relax a bit. I declare nominations closed. We will wait, that seems to be the proper thing to do until we have all the ballots counted. At this time, we will hear comments from Bill Kinsey."

Bill Kinsey: "The only comments that I make is that no one will replace Gene Stofer. It is a time when we need to continue in the direction that we are headed using the executive offices in Indianapolis. I would work towards a smooth transition. After twenty one years with the same man operating the helm of the ship it will take some change. I hope the organization will continue in the direction it is going."

Ivan Nevil: "Thanks, Bill. Red Morris."

Red Morris: "Thank you, Ivan. My name is Red Morris. I am a volunteer firefighter. And I say good morning to my fellow firefighters, ladies and gentlemen. I am a member of the Sandcutt Department, which is north of Terre Haute. I was around this organization years ago. I see a chance to serve this organization again in a different capacity. When I say organization, I mean you as firefighters. You are this organization. There is no way that I can fill Gene's shoes. I would not attempt to. The job has to be done. I think I am qualified to do that job. I would like to have that opportunity. Thank you."

Ivan Nevil: "Tim Wargel."

Tim Wargel: "Good Morning, my name is Tim Wargel. I am with the German Township Volunteer Fire Department. This is just north west of Evansville, all the way down to the southern end of the state. I have been active with association since becoming District 15's chairman three years ago. I believe the IVFA is a good organization with a lot of great people. I believe with the proper people in place we can become a stronger, better organization. Stronger than most other state organizations in other states. I believe that at this time, the IVFA would stop talking about doing things and be more active. The committees that we have in place can provide the way that an organization should be that would work for all volunteer fire departments and companies in the State of Indiana. I feel that with my knowledge and my youth I can provide this to make this Indiana Volunteer Firemen's Association and become your state treasurer. Thank you."

Ivan Nevil: "We are waiting on the total number of eligible voters from the committee, when we get that we have the election results. The tally will give us the total number of votes."

President Glant: "While we are waiting for the tally sheets to be counted, I am going to call on John Shanks for the legislative report."

John Shanks: "I am not running for anything. Good morning. It is good to see you all. This was an interesting year in the Indiana General Assembly. This is what they call the short session. The '97 session the traditional short session. It will go for approximately five months. The legislature actually begins in late November, many people are not aware of that. They really do not get going until after the first of the year."

Organizations this year will be quite active because it is an election year. All of the members of the house are up for reelection. Half of the senate is up for re-election. Let me share with you, there were a lot of things in the hopper this year that is going to effect the volunteer fire service. Actually, there were very few that passed. Let me talk about the ones that was least sufficient first, then we will talk about the two bills that impacted the fire service directly.

Senate Bill 45. This Act allows the Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission to adopt rules allowing special egress controlled devices which are exit locking systems providing for a delay in exiting. We have copies of these bills in the office if anyone is interested. There were 948 bills introduced. The House of Representatives introduced 438 bills. The Senate introduced 510 bills. Of the original 948 bills there were 253 bills that were signed by the Governor. A few bills became law without the Governor's signature. This happens when the Governor does not support this particular piece of legislation. He can always say that he did not sign it."

Ivan Nevil: "We have a total of two hundred and sixteen votes possible to be cast. We had two hundred and ten ballots cast. The body has elected Jack Cox your new vice president for the year 1997. Did I have two nominations? The reason that I did not close the nominations for Treasurer was because if one of the individuals did not receive enough votes for Vice President, he desired to be nominated for the office of Treasurer. The opening was there. Is there any further nominations from the floor for the office of Treasurer? If not, I declare the nominations closed. Lock the doors please. We will vote for William Kinsey, Red Morris, Tim Wargel for the office of Treasurer."

John Shanks: "House Bill 1061. This act provides the Department of Transportation must adopt rules specifying criteria for the opening

and closing of public railroad grade crossings. Including in the criteria use of the crossings by emergency vehicles as well as accident history and speed limits. This did get some attention because this is a problem all over the state. The crossings are being without the emergency agencies having any input. There will be opportunities for the emergency services, fire rescue, ambulance, police to have some input into that decision whether or not to close grade crossings. In some parts of the state, when they close a grade crossing, you have to go five or six miles.

House Bill 1236. This act permits the Firefighting Personal Standards and Education Board to require fire service certified instructors to fulfill continuing education in order to maintain the instructor certification. Effective July 1, 1996. Ruling process has begun. The board has followed the recommendations of the fire service. Copies of the proposed rule which has been adopted by the board, contact the executive office in Indianapolis to get your copy.

House Bill 1259. This act exempts from the definition of fireworks indoor pyrotechnics which are chemical material clearly labeled by the manufacture as suitable for indoor use. The act further makes the use of indoor pyrotechnics legal in front of an indoor or outdoor approximate audience. Effective July 1, 1996.

Two bills that have direct impact on the volunteer fire service, the first is House Bill 1235. This actually is a bill that has three parts to it. It was authored in the House by Representative Bishoff from the Lawrenceburg area. Sponsors in the Senate were Wolfe, Landske, Craycraft, Cathy Smith. The first part of the bill came out as a result what has been happening around the state in regards to the death benefit. If you are on a mutual aid run even without a contract, you are in the line of duty. This has been questioned by the Feds. This part of the bill clarifies the volunteer firefighter and their families are entitled same insurance benefits for providing emergency services outside of their usual jurisdiction. Our legislators did not realize that some of our specialized equipment could go from one end of the state to the other when you are called upon. Especially in the area of a HAZMAT emergency. Now they do, it has been sort of an educational process to have members of the volunteer fire service come before some of these committees and educate them. The next part of that was raising the automobile and clothing allowances to a minimum of \$100.00 each per year. These allowances have not been changed since 1967. Now there is a minimum effective July 1. Many departments tried to raise the allowances with the communities that they served. The State Board of Accounts found in some cases, excessive payments to some departments. Now we have a minimum. The third part of the bill raises the medical expense limits under the required health and disability insurance from a minimum of \$25,000 to \$75,000 per firefighter. These benefits are payable generally in excess of medical benefits payable under the units worker's compensation policy, therefore, the increase in cost to the units served by the volunteer fire company should be small. Years ago, there was a change in the law that provides that the firefighter in the line of duty would receive benefits under the worker's compensation statute for medical purposes. Those are the three parts to 1235. That was our most critical bill.

House Bill 1274. The purpose of this bill was to protect the small charitable bingo games from the large out-of-state operators who have moved into Indiana in recent years."

Ivan Nevil: "Thank you, John. The results for the office of Treasurer. William Kinsey has been elected as your Treasurer. Any comments Mr. Kinsey? At this time, the Nominating Committee for Sgt-at-Arms places the name of Bill Bush. Are there any further nominations from the floor? Are there any further nominations from the floor? Are there any further nominations from the floor? I declare nominations closed. Mr. Secretary."

Tom Hinkle: "At this time, I would like to cast one unanimous vote for Sgt-at-Arms to Bill Bush for the year 1997."

Ivan Nevil: "Thank you Bill for your no comments. For Chaplain, we have slated the name of Charles Baker. Are there any further nominations from the floor? Are there any further nominations from the floor? Are there any further nominations from the floor? I declare nominations closed. Mr. Secretary."

Tom Hinkle: "I cast one unanimous vote for the position of Chaplain for Charles Baker for the year 1997."

Ivan Nevil: "Public Relations, Northwest. We place the name of Bill Howe, Sr. Are there any further nominations from the floor? Are there any further nominations from the floor? Are there any further nominations from the floor? I declare nominations closed. Mr. Secretary."

Tom Hinkle: "I cast one unanimous vote for the PR Director, Northwest Bill Howe for the year 1997."

Ivan Nevil: "I want to thank you too for your no comments. Public Relations, Northeast. The committee places the name of Richard Glant for Public Relations, Northeast. Districts 4, 5, 6 and 7. Are there any further nominations from 4, 5, 6 and 7? Any further nominations? Any further nominations for PR Northeast? I declare nominations closed. Mr. Secretary."

Tom Hinkle: "At this time, I would like to cast one unanimous vote for Public Relations, Northeast Richard Glant for 1997."

Richard Glant: "No comment."

Ivan Nevil: "Public Relations, East Central. The Nominating Committee places the name of Don Cushman and Larry Petro. Don Cushman would you care to come to the mike?"

Don Cushman: "I will try to make everybody's meeting."

Ivan Nevil: "Larry Petro. Any comments?"

Larry Petro: "I'll make your meetings and would like your support."

Ivan Nevil: "The five districts effected are, 8A, 8B, 13A, 13B and 10. Where is our committee over here? The Election Committee. We need you to count ballots. Those five districts poll your delegates. While they are doing that, we will move to the Public Relations West Central. We have put the name of Larry Bartlow and Robert Meyers. Larry Bartlow, would you care to say a few words?"

Larry Bartlow: "I have been in the fire service for fifteen years. I have been district chairman for our district. I know what is needed. I think I can help."

Ivan Nevil: "Bob Meyers."

The response from Bob Meyers was not audible to the recorder.

Ivan Nevil: "Sir."

Unknown speaker: "I would like to nominate Don Johnson."

Ivan Nevil: "Ok, just stand there and I will open the nominations from the floor. Are there any further nominations for PR West Central which is 11A, 11B, 12, 2" and 21."

Unknown speaker: "I nominate Don Johnson."

Ivan Nevil: "We have the name of Don Johnson. Are there any further nominations from the floor? Are there any further nominations

from the floor? If not, I declare the nominations closed for Public Relations, West Central."

President Glant: "We have three elections going on momentarily so we will turn it back over to John."

John Shanks: "OK, lets start again. House bill 1274. The purpose of this bill was to protect the small charitable bingo games from the large out-of-state operators who have moved into Indiana in recent years. These big operators reportedly operate on the legal fringe and have been draining resources in the communities in which they operate for the local charitable organizations and volunteer fire companies. The intent of the authors of this bill was to put out of business the big out-of-state bingo parlors in Indiana. Let me give you a little history of this. In order to be a qualified organization, you have to be exempt under the Internal Revenue code 501c. There are two other provisions in the law that allows organizations to be eligible. Basically, those were organizations who were exempt under Indiana Income Tax law. And also were exempt under Indiana property tax law. 501(c) has several sections. Organizations such as churches, hospitals, research foundations all come under section three. You have an educational foundation under 501(c)3. This bill impacts bingo. How many of you have had bingo operations? This is what we were told. For the large bingo organizations including churches, they have messed them up big time. You it will have nominal impact.

Let me highlight for you this new law which goes into effect July 1. A lot of the impact is going to be determined by the rules implemented by the Department of Revenue. They have changed the qualifications for charitable organizations. They are now are called qualified organizations under the Gaming Law. A qualified organization must be exempt from federal income tax under IRC Section 501(c). By its operation, this will eliminate public entities, such as cities, town, schools and townships from conducting charitable gaming events. However, such events may be held on public property. Also, it redefines "worker" to include those who prepare for, assist in conducting, cleaning up after or taking any other action in connection with an allowable event. The impact of this section is somewhat dependent on how the Department of Revenue interprets it in their rules. This provision is significant because the organization cannot pay "workers" to assist with the charitable event. Time out, I will be back."

Ivan Nevil: "Public Relations East Central, Don Cushman. Public Relations Southwest. The committee has the name of Jack Kerney. Are there any further nominations for PRSW? Any further nominations? Any further nominations? Mr. Secretary. I declare nominations closed."

Tom Hinkle: "I would like to cast one unanimous vote for PRSW Jack Kerney for 1997."

Ivan Nevil: "PRSE, Joe Caudill. Are there any further nominations from the floor? Are there any further nominations from the floor? Are there any further nominations from the floor? I declare nominations closed. Mr. Secretary."

Tom Hinkle: "I cast one unanimous vote for PRSE Joe Caudill for 1997."

Ivan Nevil: "Are you about done with the elections? Mr.

Continued on  
Page 28

# Fayette Township's new pumpers



L-R Advisory Board Member Jim Little; Trustee Charlie Goodwin; E-One Sales Representative Ken Boes; Advisory Board Member Joan West; and Advisory Board member Judy Anderson.



Advisory Board members and Trustee with members of the New Goshen Volunteer Fire Department.



Advisory Board members and Trustee with members of the Sandford Volunteer Fire Department.

Fayette Township received two new E-One pumpers. They are 1250 gpm pumpers, with 1,000 gallon tanks on four-door International chassis.

The pumpers are to be used by the New Goshen and Sandford Fire Departments in Vigo County.

These two new trucks replace two early 1960 pumpers.

## From the Office of the Treasurer

The CPA Audit of the treasurer's records has been completed.

Any member department wishing to have a copy of this audit should contact the IVFA Central Office, 1 North Capitol Avenue, Suite B2, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 or call 1-800-692-9458 with your request and we will send your member department a copy. Each officer of the Association shall receive a copy.

The new financial software program has been purchased and installed in the Central Office computer.

As soon as the budget, income, disbursements and assets are entered, we'll be able to furnish any member department an up-to-date report of the financial condition, income and disbursements of the IVFA.

This software is a standard program for financial record keeping with categories specific to Associations transactions compatible with any main frame computer.

The Prudential has announced a matching grant program for volunteer EMS providers in Indiana for the purchase of portable cardiac defibrillators.

The program makes matching grants of up to \$2,000.00 available to volunteer EMS squads to cover approximately one half of the purchase price of a portable defibrillator. The EMS provider

would have to raise the balance of the cost. Please contact the IVFA Central Office for more details for procedures to obtain an application. (See page 3 of this paper for more information).

Yours for a better IVFA,  
Bill Kinsey

## CLASSIFIEDS

Departments are entitled to 1 (one) free ad of 50 (fifty) words or less per issue. One item only. Additional items or words will be billed at current rate.

### RATES:

Twenty-five (25) words or less including name and address is \$6.25.

### TERMS:

CASH with advertising copy. Include name and address in your ads.

Submit legible copy. Publisher is not responsible for errors caused by illegible copy. Type or print all ads.

Your co-operation is appreciated.

### FOR SALE:

1969 American LaFrance 1500 gpm pumper, diesel engine. Runs & pumps good. Last rated 1996. \$3000 or best offer. Valparaiso Fire Department 219-462-4772

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

	12/31/96	12/31/95
CHANGES IN PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS:		
<u>REVENUES AND GAINS:</u>		
BANK INTEREST	\$ 2,465.60	\$ 2,939.74
CONTRIBUTIONS	771.00	0.00
RETURN OF SERVICE CHARGES		0.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUES AND GAINS</b>	<b>3,236.60</b>	<b>2,939.74</b>
<u>EXPENSES:</u>		
BANK SERVICE CHARGES		0.00
SCHOLARSHIPS	3,000.00	3,000.00
DEATH BENEFIT	3,000.00	9,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>6,000.00</b>	<b>12,000.00</b>
(DECREASE) INCREASE IN PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS:	-2,763.40	-9,060.26
<b>INCREASE IN NET ASSETS:</b>	<b>44,910.56</b>	<b>71,472.59</b>
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	448,741.17	377,268.58
<b>NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>493,651.73</b>	<b>448,741.17</b>

### INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1996 AND DECEMBER 31, 1995

#### NOTE 1:

BOOKS OF RECORDS ARE MAINTAINED ON A MODIFIED CASH BASIS USUAL TO THIS TYPE OF OPERATION. THERE IS NO UNUSUAL TREATMENT OF ITEMS CONTAINED IN THE RECORDS. THE ACCOUNTING THEORY OF RECORDING THE TRANSACTIONS ARE CONSISTENT WITH OTHER ASSOCIATIONS OF THIS TYPE. ASSETS ARE PRESENTED AT HISTORICAL COST WITH DEPRECIATION BEING ACCRUED ON A STRAIGHT LINE BASIS ACCORDING TO USEFUL LIFE OF THE ASSET. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES ARE RECOGNIZED AT THE TIME THEY ARE PAID CONSISTENT WITH THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS THEORY.

#### NOTE 2:

THE CORPORATION IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ENTITY AND AS SUCH IS NOT REQUIRED TO PAY FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAXES ON NOT-FOR-PROFIT ACTIVITIES; THEREFORE NO PROVISION FOR TAXES IS REQUIRED.

#### NOTE 3:

THE CORPORATE BANK OF RECORD IS BANK ONE OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, FOR THE GENERAL ACCOUNT. THE ACCOUNT CONSIST OF A GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT EARNING INTEREST AT THE PRESENT RATE OF 1.65%.

#### NOTE 4:

CASH IN SAVINGS-CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT-BANK ONE REPRESENTS UNRESTRICTED FUNDS IN THE FORM OF CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSITS WITH BANK ONE OF INDIANAPOLIS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000.00 EARNING INTEREST AT THE RATE OF 4.6%, WITH A MATURITY DATE OF FEBRUARY 8, 1997.

#### NOTE 5:

CASH IN SAVINGS-CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT-NBD. REPRESENTS UNRESTRICTED FUNDS ON DEPOSIT WITH NATIONAL BANK OF DETROIT. THE ACCOUNT CONSISTED OF TWO CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSITS IN THE AMOUNTS OF \$25,000.00 EARNING 4.6% WITH A MATURITY DATE OF JANUARY 31, 1997 AND ANOTHER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000.00 EARNING 5.40% WITH A MATURITY DATE OF JULY 26, 2000.

#### NOTE 6:

CASH IN SAVINGS-BRIDGEPORT SCHOLARSHIP FUND. REPRESENTS RESTRICTED FUNDS ON DEPOSIT WITH BANK ONE OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA IN THE FORM OF A CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000.00 EARNING 4.6% WITH A MATURITY DATE OF JULY 3, 1997.

#### NOTE 7:

CASH IN BANK-BRIDGEPORT SCHOLARSHIP FUND. REPRESENTS RESTRICTED FUNDS MAINTAINED IN AN INTEREST BEARING CHECKING ACCOUNT WITH BANK ONE OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA EARNING AT PRESENT 1.65%.

#### NOTE 8:

THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC. IS ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE BRIDGEPORT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND. THE FUND IS A RESTRICTIVE FUND FOR EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND VOLUNTEER FIREMEN FUNERAL FUNDS.



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teamed up with  
**CET FIRE PUMP MFG.**

*\*As an Authorized Distributor\**



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Available with: • Honda or Briggs & Stratton Engine  
• Gas or Diesel  
• 9 to 38 HP

**Two Year Unconditional Warranty on All Mechanical Components**

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starting at \$6,500.00

This Unit Is Equipped With: • 200 Gallon Poly-Tank  
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**Specializing in Fire Apparatus Maintenance and Repair**

# Crowd turns out to honor former marshal, firefighter



KT photo by Tim Bath

Russiaville Volunteer Firefighters take Sterling Johnson's body to Russiaville Cemetery.

Folks in Russiaville say Sterling Johnson will be dearly missed.

By Mike Fletcher  
Tribune Staff Writer  
An estimated 150 people gathered Thursday, February 20,

1997, in the Russiaville Cemetery to pay tribute to Sterling Johnson, the former Town Marshal and firefighter who died on Monday, February 17, 1997 of a massive heart attack.

The 71-year-old Johnson served as Russiaville Town

Marshal from 1966 to 1985 and was a member of the Russiaville Volunteer Fire Department since 1949.

At the time of his death, his name was still on the roster of firefighters.

According to fellow firefighter

and friend, Jeff Stout, Johnson will be dearly missed. Stout is the county coroner and also works on the volunteer fire department.

"I've known him ever since I've been a little boy," Stout said. "He was a people person. He loved to be around people and have fun. He was awful dedicated to the town of Russiaville."

Stout also said that before being named Town Marshal, Johnson served six years on the Russiaville Police Department.

Johnson died Monday afternoon in the emergency room at Howard Community Hospital suffering from a massive heart attack he had at home.

Stout said Johnson's body was taken by fire truck from Stout and Son Funeral Home to the Russiaville Cemetery.

The truck stopped briefly in front of the fire station for a firefighters dedication before the ceremony at the cemetery.

Johnson was survived by his four children. His wife was deceased.

Reprinted from  
The Kokomo Tribune  
Friday, February 21, 1997

men in the cab. In those years the department purchased airbags for rescue and a complete set of Amikus tools.

The last year has seen the department upgrade its SCBAs and air compressor system.

Before he left, Troy made sure the department was in capable hands. Mike Osgood was appointed as his replacement.

Troy had the ability of not only selecting the right people as line officers, he was able to use the talents of every man in the department.

Troy was also able to work with the City and County Councils to help the department keep up in the ever changing funding and political climates.

Troy was not only a great leader, but a good friend. The Farmland Fire Department is a family as well as the best group of firefighters a community could ask for.

Troy has been there for families of the department and town in their time of need.

So even though he is retired, if the bell rings more than eight times, Troy will be there.

Submitted by  
Rick Brown  
Farmland firefighter

## Farmland Chief retires...

Continued from page 17

The department purchased a 2,000 gallon tanker in 1991 and a pumper in 1993 that seats eight

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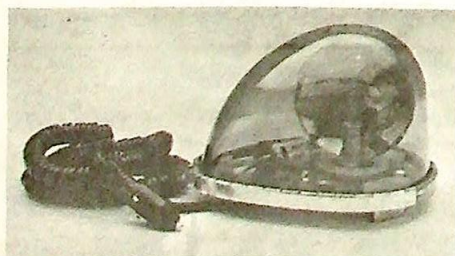
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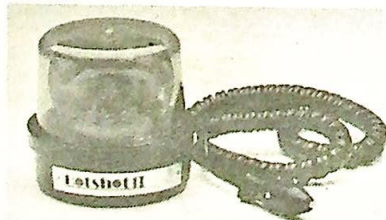
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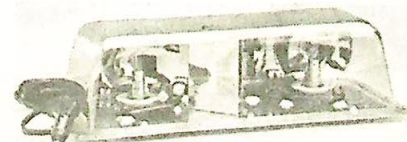
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PRODUCTS

## '96 Convention Minutes Continued from page 25

Shanks."

John Shanks: "OK. Back to work. We were talking about the definition of a worker. Our concern is that the subject is so broad that it could encompass such things as a janitorial staff at a convention. It just depends what the Department of Revenue does with their rules. Another section says that it requires each officer of a qualified organization who signs a bingo application to live in the county where the proposed bingo is to be held. They are trying to curtail cross county bingo operations. Another section allows the commissioner of the Department of Revenue to hold hearings on both new & renewal bingo applications. If the department receives ten or more protest letters, the commissioner must hold a hearing after notice of the application is published in the local newspaper. There are groups in our communities that oppose charitable games, particularly bingo. Now an application is filed. Either new or renewal, there'll be a notice in the local paper announcing that there has been application. If they receive letters of protest, on a new application, or letters from the public saying that they are in violation of the law, then the commissioner must hold a hearing. There's not a time frame for that hearing. However, there's a geographical area where the hearing must be held. I will be back."

Ivan Nevil: "The results are in for Public Relations West Central. Don Johnson was elected PR Director. At this time this completes the nominating of officers and elections. I will turn the meeting back to President Glant. Congratulations to all winners."

President Glant: "I release the Nominating Committee, Election Committee. John Shanks."

John Shanks: "Previously, I was telling you about the hearing process. I have had calls from organizations who have not received their renewal applications from the department. If you are running a bingo operation, watch your renewal process. Anticipate letters of protest which will require a hearing. The fine that was previously applicable to only the organization are now applicable to individuals. There is a \$5,000 maximum civil penalty. If you are running a bingo operation, and one of your workers accept a tip from a very very excited winner. And that does happen often. That is a violation of the law. That person could be subject to a \$5000 maximum civil penalty. You are going to be very cautious in the way you run your event. No only your operators, but your workers as well, could be subject to civil suits.

Another part of this bill requires that a qualified organization which receives 90% or more of its total gross receipts from charitable gaming events must donate at least 60% of its gross gaming receipts (less prize payouts) to another qualified organization that is not an affiliate, parent or subsidiary of the organization. We are going to have to watch the Department of Revenue rules to see what they are going to do there. I am not going to suspect this is going to effect the volunteer fire service. That is the story on this bill. It could impact the volunteer fire service. We are hoping that it will not. One of the problems that we have as your lobbyist is getting feed back from the rank and file departments. We need to know from you what you are doing with the charitable game laws. When we see the committees, they want to know who, when, where, what & why. They want details. It is very difficult to give details when we do not have all of them. Let me give you our toll free number in Indianapolis 800-548-9325. For those of you in the Indianapolis metro calling area our number is 317-6365511. If you have a FAX machine available, our fax number is 317-636-3661.

We just cannot get enough information, believe me. The committees don't want to hurt the volunteer fire service. That's it in a nut shell. The next session of the legislature starts in Nov. We need your legislative committee to give us some direction as to what your concerns are. We know the charitable gaming and we are certainly working on that. We need your input and are proud to represent you. The volunteer fire service is the backbone of our public safety network. Thank you."

Gene Stofer: "John, I hope you don't leave. I need Tim Downey up here. This is not legislation, but it is going to come close to it. All you firefighters should be covered under workmen's comp. As we all know it today, we are running into some problems. We are going to ask for your help. Any time we ask, we get what we ask for. I hope you will be able to desire the Governor what we are going ask you to do."

Tim Downey: "This is really the highlight of your life to have an insurance man walk up in front of you. In 1968, the statues in Indiana changed. It brought Indiana fire companies under workmen compensation coverage. The up shot of that is, the medical payments for injuries received in the fire service, are unlimited. There is no dollar amounts. An example is that tragic auto accident that occurred in Wayne Township where we have a quadriplegic. The medical expenses on the young man is now over four hundred thousand dollars. He is still young and relatively healthy man who has a life expectancy of seventy, eighty years what ever. The projected medical cost to sustain this fellow for the injuries sustained in the accident will be three million dollars. That is a lot of money. The system has worked quite well for benefits. The problems that are occurring right now is the way it is administered. The long and the short of it is, the Indiana Rating Bureau, the name of the organization, assigned an insurance company to handle the worker's compensation on a lottery basis. There were twelve companies that did this for a fee. This year, Continental Insurance Company

had withdrawn from that organization. Every firefighter that they had insured has received a cancellation notice. They have been forced to reapply to another carrier. When you get that paper work. Pay attention. Don't throw it away or ignore it. Do something. What we are going to do in the next issue of the IVFA paper, there will be an explanatory article in there. Also the address's of the insurance commissioner and the worker's compensation board. We ask you and all the fire companies in your area to write to these people and express your concerns over the problems that you are having. If you have not had any problems, throw it away. The majority of you have had problems with this administrative system. What we are asking the state to do is assign one workers comp carrier. It has been an administrative nightmare for the last few years. When the paper comes out, read the article, if you feel that you have had a problem. Please write to these people on your departmental stationery. Please do not make it a form letter. You can call John on his 800 number, I would remind you in his prior life, John was worker's comp commissioner in Indiana for seven and one half years. We do have the ability to assist you, but you have to ask.

I would like to make one other comment, in October 1994, there was a fellow named Roy Stevenson in Greene Township in Hancock County who died in the fire service. As of last week his wife still has not been paid. The fire company had no accident or health coverage. The trustee did not run for reelection. Everyone agrees that the township owes the lady the one hundred and fifty thousand. But as of a week ago she still has not been paid. This is a on going fight. It is tragic. Do any of you out there know of any outstanding debts that have not been paid? We do ask your assistance. If something goes wrong, start yelling. Thank you very much."

President Glant: "Thank you, Tim. Ivan, do you have some more words of wisdom for us?"

Ivan Nevil: "Thanks, Dick. I am going back to the place what I draw my check from which is the state. I want to congratulate Districts 1 & 2 for putting an excellent convention. At this time, there are two people in the room, Paul from the Board of Firefighters and Personnel Standards and Education. He was the immediate president of the board last year, Scott Garrett. Will you guys please stand up. These guys have spent a tremendous amount of time working on these new rules and regulations. I have attended every meeting that they have. I have travelled throughout the state. This is still a voluntary program. The twenty-four hour is the only mandated training with the exception of this training that the legislators have put on there. Everything else from that point on is voluntary. The clean up rules we spoke of from last year. We only had one public hearing down in Evansville. To legally certify everybody in the fire service. From 1977 through 1989, the certifications were not legally done. They are done now so we are all legal children. There are new rules and regulations. There was a public hearing meeting held on the 24th of May. Everything was passed and copies made of all background material and reference material. It is in the Attorney General's office now.

Looking forward to September/October time frame for the new rules to be put in place and signed by the Governor. When the board is going to implement it? They have not stated yet; I do not know if they are going to wait until January to implement the program. You will have to talk to them at a board meeting. The Indiana Weekend will be next weekend. My bags are packed. We have a hundred and thirty going this year. The attendance is down. It might be due to the time of the year. 1997 is not going to be any better, it still is in June. We had one date in 1997 but it was the same as FDIC we were tied up with that. The dates for 1997 are June 27-29. I hope this does not conflict with the convention for 1997. Last night, Marshal Boatwright spoke on the

video. We are going to show the video tonight on the screen. We also have two other videos that are going to be available to you. One is free; the other one is \$9.95.

The one that is free is a new fire prevention video for schools about fire safety put out by the National Fire Academy. If you have not seen it. It is a very well prepared video. We are going to reproduce that and provide one copy to every fire department in the state. The Marshal says we can do that and it is not a problem. The other one is NFPA about the one that came out two or three years ago on Sparky. It is a ten or twelve minute video and we are going to make it available to any fire department for a cost of 9.95. The information will be in the July mailing. The videos will be available in September.

The North America Emergency Guidebooks are in. I have received a lot of response from the district chairmen and officers of the association. I appreciate that. I have a lot of departments that did not know the books were available in the past. The fire service knows the books are available we will make every effort we can to supply you. The distribution date will be the first full week in July. For manpower reasons, we felt that the first full week in July was the best. Paul, do you or Scotty have any comments at this time?"

Paul Covington: "I don't. I do not know if Scotty does or not. Scotty and I did have a short session. It was advertised and we went ahead and had about fifteen or twenty people there. We had a good exchange of the Q and A and we appreciate those who were there. Thank you very much for all of your support."

Ivan Nevil: "Any questions on training that I can take care of? I'll be around the rest of today and part of tomorrow. Thank you."

Gene Stofer: "What Dick and I

Continued on  
Page 31

### LOGO COMMITTEE

The following districts have been appointed to the Logo Committee.

District 2	1996-1998	Term Expires Jan. 1, 1999
District 6	1996-1998	Term Expires Jan. 1, 1999
District 18	1996-1998	Term Expires Jan. 1, 1999
District 21	1996-1997	Term Expires Jan. 1, 1998
District 13A	1996-1997	Term Expires Jan. 1, 1998

Anyone interested in using the IVFA Logo should contact one of the above District Chairmen for more information.

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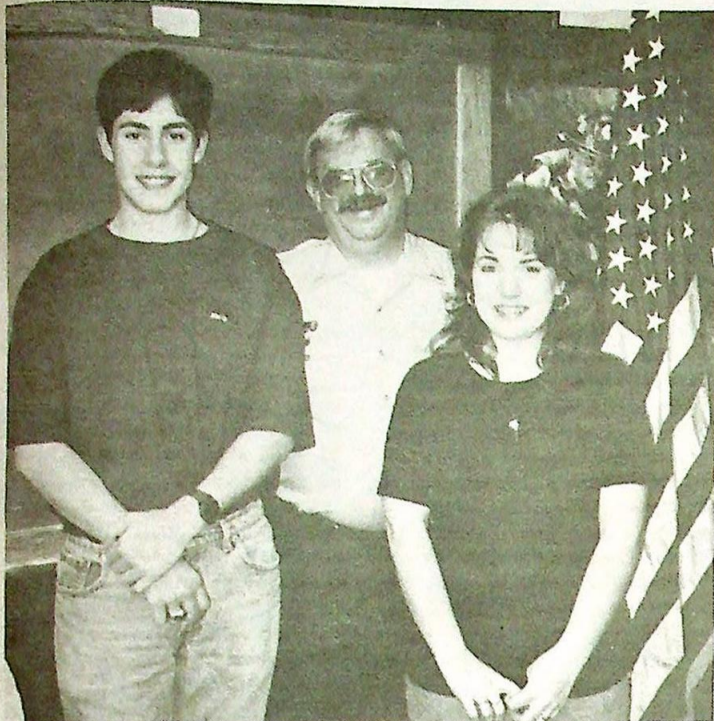
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## The next generation at Pershing Twp.



Pershing Township Chief Richard Blaker poses with Cadet Firefighters Clint Rudolph and Stephanie Mellenbruch. Not pictured, Cadet Angela Fleenor

Pershing Township Fire Department welcomed the next generation of firefighters with the addition of cadet recruits.

Clinton Rudolph, Stephanie Mellenbruch, & Angela Fleenor have joined the cadet program with full firefighter status in view.

Clint is the son of firefighter Mike Rudolph & auxiliary member Kathy Rudolph. Mike will celebrate his 30th year as a firefighter on the department that was started by his father Carvan and other Freetown businessmen in 1959.

Stephanie is the daughter of Pershing Assistant Fire Chief Doyle Lyon and his wife Barbara. She is the step-granddaughter of a department charter member the late James M. Francis.

Angela, daughter of firefighter Marvin Fleenor & auxiliary member Karen Fleenor, is the niece of Chief Richard Blaker.

"These kids are our future," said Blaker. "They are dedicated and working hard to make a difference. Of course, we are very proud of them."

Pershing Township Fire Department's cadet program has been in place for a decade. Several current firefighters are graduates of the project.

## Munster unveils Mobile Fire Safety House

Unit stimulates house fire to educate children.

By Amy Souwan  
Times Correspondent  
Munster - The Munster Fire Department and Ronald McDonald House Charities came together to improve fire safety and education with the unveiling of a new Mobile Fire Safety House.

On hand for the dedication were Sparkey the Fire Dog, Ronald McDonald and about twenty area school children.

Todd Apato, Fire Prevention Director for the Munster Fire Department, said the Safety House was possible because of a \$23,540 grant given to the Munster Fire Department from Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana.

The unit will travel throughout

Northwest Indiana educating young children about fire safety.

Apato said the two-level, thirty foot long unit has the ability to simulate a house fire to allow hands-on experience. The house includes a bedroom, family room and kitchen.

The kitchen features a microwave, stove and a sink so that children can learn about kitchen safety. The bedroom contains a small bed, an inside door that becomes hot during the simulation and a sliding glass door that leads out to a balcony. Off the balcony, there is a fire escape ladder.

During the tour, the mobile house fills with machine-generated smoke as the simulated fire begins. The unit has three doors - a front door, a back door, and a balcony door - that children can use as exits.

The unit also contains a telephone inside and outside the house where children are taught how to pick up the phone and dial 911. When children are waiting for their tour, they can watch a fire safety video outside.

Munster Fire Chief Robert Nowaczyk said the house will provide children hands-on experience that they can't get in a classroom.

"(The younger children) are the ones that get confused during fire," he said. "The house gives them a sense of what smoke and fire are like and how to deal with it."

Apato said the mobile house will remain at the Munster Fire Department until weather permits the unit to travel to different locations.

About 150 children have already toured the house at the fire station, and he expects between 5,000 and 10,000 children to see it each year.

Principals from area schools who attended the Thursday dedication will have an opportunity to take information on the mobile house back to their schools and set up times for it to come to their schools.

"The house will travel around to different schools, will be at different McDonald locations in Lake County over the summer and will travel to local Munster parks on the weekends," Apato said.

Bob Mazzaro, Munster McDonald's owner/operator, said fire education for children is important because of the danger of fire.

"There are about 6,000 American fatalities a year due to fire," Mazzaro said. "Almost one-half of these are children."

Apato said it is crucial to teach children fire safety.

"We believe it's important in catching a child at a young age when children are impressionable and remember more," he said.

Reprinted from The Times

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County \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

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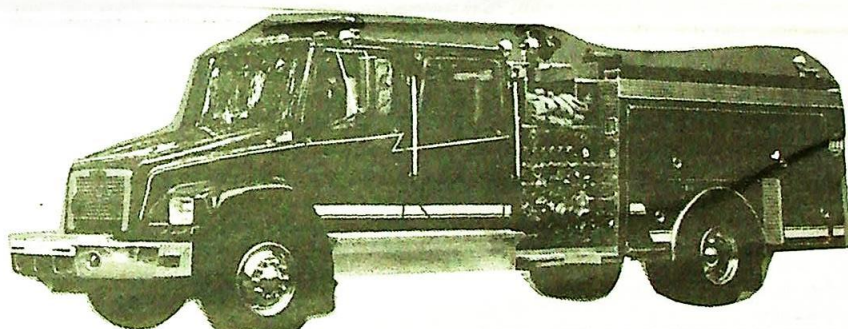
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## '96 Convention Minutes Continued from page 30

were conferring about was at the last officer's meeting. I thought there was going to be a resolution from the floor regarding annexation. I understand that no resolution has been turned in. I think it could be and we probably should have our attorney here. I think that the gentlemen from District 4 would like to explain it and lets see how the people setting in here feel about annexation."

John Hardy: "There was a resolution made from District 4. It was mailed out and I do not know what happened to it. The resolution as written states that if a municipality desires to annex a territory. If that territory which remonstrates with greater than fifty percent of the property owners or the owners of seventy five percent of the assessed valuation against that annexation a court within that county shall state that it will not take place. The catch to it is the areas to be annexed must not be covered by police, fire or highway services from the municipality desiring to do the annexation. The reasoning for this type of legislation is if you look around the state, and I will use my township as a classic example. Most municipalities are trying to annex those areas where there high assessed valuation, the industrial commercial rates. My township had a square mile area they were trying to annex. This was in Cleveland Township. That would have been pretty close to twenty-five to thirty percent of my assessed valuation in the township. Figure what that does to your budget. You still have to have the same equipment, the same manpower to cover the rest of the area. It'll kill your budget.

This legislation was proposed by Dean Mock. It went through the house last year. It went into a committee in the Senate and it was killed in the committee because it would not get past out of the Senate. One of the senators was from our district, he did not push the issue to get it out. He just let it set there and die. He is now our U. S. Representative. This part of legislation will be presented at the next session by Dean Mock. He will present it for our county. I would like to see it state wide. The biggest help that everyone here can do is to pass a resolution today to get this on record for our organization to push for this type of legislation. It is not anti annexation legislation, it is property rights legislation. At the current time, the majority of the states. If a municipality desires to annex a territory, and they do their homework properly, they cross all their t's and dot all of their i's and one hundred percent of the property owners from the area to be annexed would partition against it they cannot stop it. That is a cold fact. The area that I am referring to in Cleveland Twp. that we did stop. We lost at the trial clerk stage in the appeals court and the found error was in the annexation. The appeals court went to a three to one decision or a three to nothing decision in our favor. The City of Elkhart now has turned it around and if we want to go to the Supreme Court if they want that decision over turned. I feel pretty confident that we are still going to prevail in our situation. We need to get the annexation legislation changed. All this will do is force municipalities to sell themselves to us who live outside of those municipalities.

This legislation will mean that if you and the municipalities desire to annex you and take you in and you do nothing. You are in. This legislation does not mean that it is automatic to stop it. You have do something. It is a lot more favorable for the municipalities if the people don't get up and do something about it. You can fight city hall, we have, we won. We are going to continue to win on it. I would appreciate your support."

President Glant: "Any questions for John? I think what we need to do as a body is someone come forward and be recognized that the Board of Directors at our August meeting adopt a resolution. We will forward it to John and he will push it through the legislature."

Gene Stofer: "Gentlemen, what John and I are asking. Do you support the proposition that has been presented to you. I do not think that we need a resolution. I just do not want to go out and work for the chief in District 4 and then have all the other districts say what are you doing, they did not know anything about it. All I want is to know, do you want us to go ahead with this? Or do you not want us to go on? I would like somebody to make a motion to be for it or not to be for it what ever you want to do."

Bill Howe, Sr.: "I make a motion that this organization supports this resolution for Elkhart Co. and statewide, if possible."

John Ferro: "John Ferro, District 4. I seconded that motion."

President Glant: "Does everyone understand the motion? All those

in favor say "Aye". Opposed. Motion carried.

Is there any one prepared for a 1998 convention? OK, 11A and 11B Terre Haute for '98 and I think they should go with the understanding, Tom Hinkle."

Tom Hinkle: "The joint Convention Committee met this morning and what we like to suggest is that go ahead bid for the 1998 convention with the understanding that the committee will work with them. That location could change and so forth. Gene, do you have anything to add."

Gene Goddard: "I think that is pretty well what was said this morning. Go ahead and make and in August, we will review what has been done."

Bill Bush: "Am I correct that if we bid for Terre Haute you could come along and change that to another area?"

President Glant: "Mr. Parker." Jim Parker: "I make a motion that we accept Districts 11A and 11B's proposal to have the convention in Terre Haute, maybe."

President Glant: "We have a motion on the floor to accept 11A and 11B's bid for the convention in Terre Haute for 1998."

Max Harrah: "Max Harrah, Dist. 11A. I second the motion."

President Glant: "We have a motion and a second. All in favor say "Aye". Opposed. Motion carried. Is there any new business to come before this body at this time? Is there anyone who wants to address the group at this time? Are there any officers who have anything to say? Bill Howe."

Bill Howe: "I want to thank you people, you are getting this done. We have done what we had to do. It can be done. I hope you have a good time this afternoon. The vendors are downstairs and they have made a good portion to this convention. Thank them for being there."

President Glant: "We have a motion and a second that we adjourn. All those in favor say "Aye". Opposed. Motion carried.

Ass't Chaplain Lantz: "Our Heavenly Father, how great it is to gather here together as individuals and to wrap up this convention as one. We have had our problems over the years and we continue to grow. We thank You our Heavenly Father. Now as we leave here, we are going to the church to pay our respects to those who have given their lives for this association and for the fire departments to which they belonged. We thank You for the dedication and concerns of our

memorial service. In Christ sake, we pray, Amen."

Transcribed by: John Davies

### ADDENDUM:

Award Winners  
Mr. IVFA - Charles Baker  
Lois Boaz - Phyllis Vargo  
President's Award - Sue Glant  
Ollie Sandberg - Diane Harrison

Bridgeport Scholarship Fund - Mycal Mansfield and Jennifer Israel

## Home catches fire twice

By Bob Burns, Correspondent  
Merrillville - Fire, which struck twice, extensively damaged a resident Tuesday, Feb. 11, 1997.

Firemen were called to Dan Vanderheof's residence at 6161 Glen Drive about 10:30 a.m. because of fire in a partial basement, said Ass't Chief Jeff Bunell of the Ross Twp. Fire Services.

Firefighters left the scene about 1:30 p.m., he said, but a second call was received at 2:23 p.m. when Vanderheof saw heavy smoke coming from the chimney and windows.

A State Fire Marshal came to help local investigators on Wednesday, to try to determine the cause of the fire.

Bunell said he could not estimate the damage Tuesday night. "There was extensive smoke damage, and we had to cut into the floor and a wall to get at the flames," he said.

Vanderheof had gone to 61st Ave. to pick up his son, Eric, 10, when he spotted the smoke.

A neighbor, Lynn Pitman, saw the fire and also called police.

Watching the home being boarded up, Cheryl Vanderheof commented on the quick response of friends and neighbors.

"When Lindsey got off the bus, the other kids saw the fire truck and what was happening, and it seemed like their parents came out of the woodwork, seeing if we needed any help."

She said the family has good insurance and friends who have opened their home to them.

The family had lived in the home, a frame structure with a partial second floor, for 5 years.

Reprinted from the  
Post-Tribune  
Wednesday, Feb. 12, 1997

### Arson Suspected

By Bob Burns, Correspondent  
Merrillville - Police have launched an arson investigation into what caused the second of two fires at a Merrillville home February 11, 1997.

Investigators determined the fire "was of an incendiary nature," Joe Putnam, Chief of Special Services for the Ross Township Fire Service said Wednesday, February 12, 1997.

"We have just gotten the information this afternoon and have nothing to report at this time. There will be an investigation," Detective Sgt. Tim Wardrip said.

Samples of possible accelerants were sent to the state police laboratory for testing.

Investigators found possible accelerants in the second fire, he said.

"We took some samples and they have been sent to the State Police lab," Putnam said.

Efforts to reach the Vanderheofs were unsuccessful. They were reportedly staying with friends.

While damage from the fire was not extensive, firefighters had to chop through some walls and the floor, officials said.

## Dog in drain in Dunreith

By Janet Helms, Editor  
A lovable gray Schnauzer named Ladygirl is a "lucky girl" after her rescue from a drainage tile by Dunreith VFD last week.

A.C. Smith was walking to the Dunreith Post Office Monday around 7 p.m. when he heard a dog barking. He followed the barking & whining to a metal drainage pipe under the driveway of his son's home next door.

Smith got down on his knees and peered inside. Ladygirl was stuck head first about 6' into one end of the 18-20' long pipe which measured about 12" in diameter. He couldn't retrieve her, she was in it too far.

Not knowing who the owner of the dog was, Smith alerted his wife Kathryn, who called her daughter-in-law Kathy next door. Kathy phoned the Henry Co. Humane Society and Kim Mewbourne responded.

Mewbourne, said because the frightened animal's head was too far into the pipe, she didn't have a snare long enough to get hold of it. She lacked any equipment to get Ladygirl out without harming her. She needed help.

"I called to see if I could get hold of our Ass't Director, James Sons, but I couldn't," she said. I didn't know what else to do. I called Henry County Dispatch."

At About 7:30 p.m., dispatch put in a call to the Dunreith FD, where the volunteer firefighters were holding their monthly meeting. Initially the firemen took the rescue truck to the scene, just a couple blocks from the station.

Ass't Chief Jerry Hartgrove was the officer in charge. By this time it was dark. "We could have dug to the pipe, but we didn't want to tear up this guy's new driveway. We didn't have any shovels long enough for that anyway. The only thing we could do would be to try to back her out, but we didn't have a pole long enough to reach her." He called out a bigger truck which had a lengthy pike pole, which has a tool on one end used to pull down walls & ceilings that may be concealing fire.

"There was still no way we could reach her, and there was dirt built up in the bottom of the pipe," explained Hartgrove, "so I duct taped a garden hoe onto the end of the pole. We've never done anything like this before, but we didn't want to injure her in any way. I could see her head and her blue eyes and she looked well kept, like she was a family pet."

The ploy worked. They pushed on Ladygirl's head and gradually she emerged backwards out of the pipe. Miss Mewbourne was tempted to put a snare on her to keep her from running away, "But she only ran about 5-6' and then stopped," said Hartgrove. "She was more scared and tired than anything. She didn't fight it."

The dog had a collar but no ID tag. Mewbourne took her to the animal shelter for safe keeping.

The next morning Hartgrove called Postmaster Judy Dishman to put up a "found" sign for the dog. She asked if the dog was a Schnauzer and he answered yes. The dog's owner, Pete Kiger, had already put up a "lost" notice.

Kiger, who owns a local printing business, is also a Dunreith volunteer firefighter. He was at the meeting on rescue night, but left early because he had to take care of his elderly father.

When Hartgrove called him, he was overjoyed. "How on earth they delivered her breech I don't know!" he laughed heartily.

When he picked her up at the animal shelter "she wasn't traumatized or frightened at all," he said. "It was great!"

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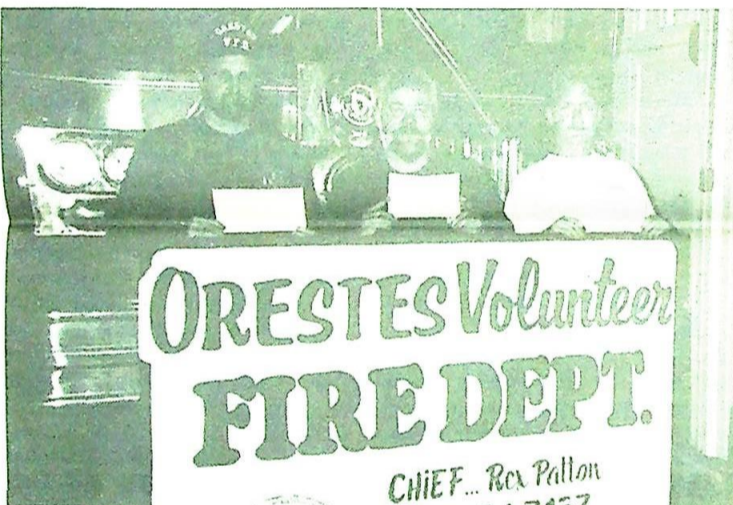
# First Class Firefighters



L-R Terry Idlewine; Scott Crull, Chief; Roger Carey.



L-R Jeff Boyland; Steve Scott, Chief; Terry Corbett; and Sam Tyner. Not pictured Melvin Wittkamper and Mark A. Hardebeck.



L-R Mark A. Pratt; Rex A. Patton, Chief; and Branden Behr.



L-R Scott E. Poore; Bill Kessinger, Chief; Brent Floyd, Shawn Pierce; and Tim Walker

On December 7, 1994, a training class for Second Class firefighters began at the Pipecreek Township Volunteer Fire Department.

Almost two years later, fourteen firefighters from four neighboring departments became Indiana State Certified First Class firefighters.

Jim Boyland and Robert Fleener, with help from the participating departments, led the members through the Second and First Class certification process.

The students were: Terry Idlewine and Roger Carey from Madison Township Fire Department in Tipton County; Mark A. Pratt, Rex Patton and Branden Behr from Orestes Town Fire Department in Madison County; Scott Poore, Brent Floyd, Shawn Pierce, and Tim Walker from Duck Creek Township Fire Department in Madison County; and Jeff Boyland, Terry Corbett, Sam Tyner, Melvin Wittkamper, and Mark Hardebeck from Pipe Creek Township Fire Department in Madison County.

Many thanks to Ivan Nevil, Certification Commission, P.S.T.I., the Fire Marshal, Pipe Creek Department copier, a couple of parking lot owners, and anyone I have overlooked.

Anyone who was connected with the above group or with the fire training in Indiana, give yourself a pat on the back. You deserve it.



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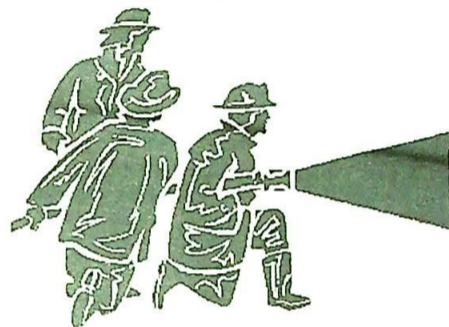
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