

# FFAM

Fire Fighters Association of Missouri

VOL. 63, No. 6  
NOV/DEC 2020



## NEXT FFAM BOARD MEETING

DECEMBER 6, 2020 • 9:00 A.M. • SEDALIA, MISSOURI

USPS 183-320



# PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

## Greetings Fellow Firefighters

**Kenneth Hoover**  
President



What a beautiful fall season so far. The colors of the fall foliage remind us of the changing of the life cycles of Mother Nature.

I have attended several recent activities. The Memorial Foundation, for the first time, created a virtual memorial service this year, honoring our fallen brothers and sisters. It was a challenge, but with everyone working together, a truly beautiful memorial service was created and distributed. Thanks to everyone who participated.

I had the honor of representing FFAM at the October annual EMS Banquet. Congratulations to the award winners. Their speaker was from Arizona and spoke about the loss of her husband, one of the nineteen Prescott, Arizona Hot Shots that perished in the wildland fires

several years ago. Her presentation was very emotional but delivered from her heart. Great job, Julianne Ashcraft.

I attended the funeral services of our very dear Historian Kay Asher. I cannot even begin to put into words describing Kay. She and Jack did so much for FFAM that the list is too long to explain here. I will say that if each one of us displayed the joy and excitement that Kay and Jack had for our organization, we would be busting at the seams with members. Thank you, Kay, for all of your good and kind deeds you expressed to me and FFAM.

Even with COVID-19, this is a busy time of the year for many of us. Fire Prevention Week just ending, deer season just beginning, hayrides, bonfires, fall get-togethers, Halloween in just a few days, Thanksgiving quickly arriving, and

then the Christmas holidays wrapping up the year. If that does not keep everyone busy, I don't know what would.

Also, the Kearney Fire Protection District is heading up the 2021 convention committee that will be hosting in Kearney, Missouri, in April 2021. Please become involved in this great work. The convention is only great if we all work to make it great. I look forward to an excellent convention in Kearney in 2021, and Chief David Pratt and the committee are working diligently on this project. COVID-19 stay away.

The exterior of the museum in Kingdom City is complete except for the underground drains. Terry Wynne is working on this task. It is looking great, and the inside will be just as nice when completed. Please donate if you are able. Chairman Keith Smith of the memorial foundation will speak more about this in his article.

FFAM annual dues will be sent soon, if not already. All membership renewals are due by January 1, 2021. Secretary/Treasurer Jaime Miller has included in the notices a list of membership benefits. FFAM offers the largest amount of benefits compared to other state fire organizations. All for \$10 a year, of which \$3 goes to the Fire Fighters Memorial in Kingdom City. The FFAM Board of Directors continues to look for additional benefits for its members. If anyone has any suggestions, please contact your district director.

The FFAM directors are currently working on the 2021 budget, and I want to remind all directors and committees that your funding request is due to the 1st Vice-President, Chief Larry Jennings, Johnson

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**Kenneth Hoover - President, Mexico, MO**  
**Jaime Miller- Secretary/Treasurer, Warrensburg, MO**

### FFAM NEWSLETTER STAFF

**Jaime Miller - Editor, Warrensburg, MO**  
**Gail J. Hagans-Reynolds - Coordinator, Columbia, MO**  
**Travis Johnson - Graphic Designer, Columbia, MO**

**FIRE FIGHTERS  
ASSOCIATION  
OF MISSOURI**

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**Address correction to: FFAM PO Box 1153, Warrensburg, MO 64093**



# FIRE MARSHAL'S UPDATE



**Tim Bean**  
State Fire Marshal

## Missouri Division of Fire Safety

**G**reetings from the thirteenth floor. It's November 4th, and I would like to begin with congratulations to Governor Parson and Lt. Governor Kehoe on being elected to serve as our State's top leaders for the next four years. At this present time, I don't know who to congratulate on being President. I'm glad to be an American and have the opportunity to vote, and whoever is my commander in chief, I will support for the good of America. I will continue to wake up and be the best boots on the ground and try to leave things better than I found them!

I commend and give a big shout out to the FFAM Memorial Foundation. They put together a virtual memorial service for the families of our state's three firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty last year. As well as the 70 plus who passed away and served across our state over the years. Hopefully, we will gather next year in Kingdom City, in person, to honor those who have gone before us.

The 2020 State Fire Marshal/Supporting Heroes Stair Climb was a success last month. We appreciate the 122 participants who signed up to climb, and the following sponsors: FFAM, FFAM Ladies Auxiliary, State Fair Fire Department, Missouri Association of Fire Chiefs, Pipeline Association of Missouri (PAM) (4 floors), Professional Fire and Fraud Investigators Association (PFFIA), Wiley's Insurance, Survival Flight, Fire Marshal Association of Missouri (FMAM), Missouri Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators (MOIAAI), Missouri Association of Career Fire Districts (MACFD), Cowgill Fire Department, Sentinel Emergency Solutions, Elliot Data, KW Luetkemeyer Painting and Wallcovering, MU FRTI, Lincoln University, Cole County Ambulance,

Jefferson City Fire and Police Departments, Mike O'Connell, Gail Hagans, and the Division of Fire Safety team. Next year the 2021 Missouri State Fire Marshal/Supporting Heroes Stair Climb will be on September 11th at the Jefferson building. Stay tuned for more details and sign up.

We have been receiving several phone calls from fire chiefs about large marijuana dispensaries coming into their communities. Two conversations I have had were regarding 60,000 square foot facilities. In both conversations, the local community had no local fire codes in place. The chiefs were asking questions about fire codes, sprinkler systems, Knox boxes, fire suppression units, floor plans, exits, fire alarms, and numerous other topics. The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) "Marijuana Division" is the authority with oversight. Their number is 866-219-0165. I strongly encourage each fire department and your mutual aid departments to get educated on how you can best protect and service these companies in your communities. It will be to your

advantage! If we can be of any assistance or help direct you, please call me at my desk phone at 573-751-1742.

In closing, we are moving into the Thanksgiving season. First, I am thankful for Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, my parents, Joe and Juanita Bean, first fire lady Judy, my sons Nathanael and Martin, stepchildren Jolene, Dacus, Beau, Del, and our three grandchildren, Cheyanne, Daisy, Colter. I am blessed and thankful to be able to serve every one of the 25,000 firefighters in our state, and thankful for your dedication and commitment to answer the call, day in and day out! May God bless and continue to protect each of you!

Stay Safe,

J. Tim Bean  
State Fire Marshal  
Division of Fire Safety



# BOARD of DIRECTORS Meeting Minutes

FFAM OCTOBER 4, 2020 MEETING • SEDALIA, MO

Draft • Final Approval at Next Meeting

President Ken Hoover called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri to order at 9:00 a.m. Sunday, October 4, 2020 at the Missouri State Fair Fire Department in Sedalia, MO.

A moment of silence was held to recognize Historian Kay Asher who passed the week prior.

The meeting began with the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

## ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OTHER OFFICIALS

### OFFICERS

President Ken Hoover, Little Dixie FPD; First Vice President Larry Jennings, Johnson County FPD; Second Vice President Grant Oetting, Higginsville FPD; Secretary Treasurer Jaime Miller, Johnson County FPD #2; Sergeant-at-Arms Rex Reynolds, Southern FPD of Holt County.

### DIRECTORS

District 2, Greg Wright, Shelbina FD; District 3, Larry Jones, Madison/West Monroe FPD; District 4, Joe Vaughn, Pleasant Hill FPD; District 5, Terry Plumb, Southern Stone FPD; District 10, Greg Brown, Eureka FPD; District 11, Monty Thompson, Kearney FPD.

### ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

District 7, Andrew Caldwell, Boles FPD; District 9, Kurt Wilbanks, West Plains FD; District 10, Harriett Vaucher, Eureka FPD; District 11, Billy Smith, North Central Carroll Co FPD; District 14, Glen Dittmar, Dearborn Area FPD.

### OTHERS

Past President Keith Smith, Warrenton Fire Protection District.

### GUESTS

Matt Luetkemeyer, Missouri Division of Fire Safety; Gail Hagans, University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute; Larry Eggen, Joe Jennings, Johnson County FPD; Chris Thompson, Holts Summit FPD; Ed Daugherty, Chillicothe FD.

### AGENDA

President Hoover asked for additions to the agenda. Grant Oetting moved to accept the agenda as presented. Greg Wright seconded the motion and all approved.

### MINUTES

President Hoover asked for corrections to the August 9, 2020 meeting minutes. Andrew Caldwell moved to accept the minutes as presented. Larry Jones seconded the motion and all approved.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

President Hoover asked for a review of the August 2020 financial report. Greg Brown moved to accept the financial report presented. Terry Plumb seconded the motion and all approved.

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

Gail Hagans with the University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute reported that classes are continuing with higher than average attendance. The Missouri Emergency Services Instructor Conference will be held November 6 – 8. Winter Fire School is also still scheduled at this time in February. There is a hiring freeze so there is no progress on hiring a new director.

The MFA grant period will be open October 1 through the end of November.

Assistant State Fire Marshal Matt Luetkemeyer with the Missouri Division of Fire Safety thanked the Missouri State

Fair FD for allowing them to participate during the fair with a burn trailer demonstration.

The training unit was awarded an AFG grant for records management software along with computer-based testing.

During a recent regional testing, there was an incident of COVID-19 exposure. Due to this, they have tightened down on testing requirements and stricter safety precautions.

The memorial stair climb will be October 10 at Lincoln University Stadium, outside. FFAM is a floor sponsor. This will be the 4th stair climb in conjunction with Supporting Heroes.

The thirteenth floor offices are moving around in November so be aware if you come to the office.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### AWARDS COMMITTEE

Larry Jennings advised that the committee has submitted a budget request to increase the department grant budget. Discussion was held on proceeding with an increase in the department grant to further fund the large number of requests received each year. The board advised to proceed with funding the budget request if able to.

Joe Jennings reported that the committee is working on cleaning up the language on the award nominations. If you have any suggestions, let him know.

#### BUDGET COMMITTEE

Larry Jennings advised that he has most of the committee budget requests in.

#### BYLAWS COMMITTEE

No report was given.

## CHAPLAIN COMMITTEE

Jaime Miller reported on behalf of David Hedrick that the Missouri Fire Chaplains Corp's will be holding its annual meeting and officer elections via the web based application Zoom on October 5, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. A meeting link and other information will be going out to MFCC members concerning the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact MFCC Secretary Ed Hatcher at edhat@earthlink.net.

Dr. Ed Hatcher will be teaching *Theodicy and Trauma* twice in October via Zoom. One is a 2-day class, two 8-hour sessions, and one is a 5-day class, five 3-hour sessions. If you are interested, go to our Federation of Fire Chaplains website at [www.firechaplans.org](http://www.firechaplans.org) for more information and to register.

Today, October 4, 2020, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation will premiere an *America's Tribute to Fallen Firefighters* over the web at 10:00 a.m. EDT. This 45-minute special will be available to watch on [www.firehero.org](http://www.firehero.org) and through the NFFF's social media platforms. The tribute ceremony will honor 82 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2019, along with 21 firefighters who died in the line of duty from previous years. Please remember the firefighter families of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, and the firefighters and their families that continue to serve each day.

## CONTEST COMMITTEE

No report was given.

## CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Monty Thompson advised that Kearney is proceeding with planning. The 2021 dates are April 30 – May 2.

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

No report was given.

## FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE

No report was given.

## LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Greg Brown encouraged everyone to reach out to your legislators and help



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promote those that support the fire service.

The legislative session is coming up. Two big topics include a cancer program and PTSD. They are working with the insurance industry to create a voluntary trust to cover types of cancer that firefighters are more at risk for.

The training budget might be difficult to get funding due to the financial situation of the state budget.

If you have anything you would like to be addressed by the legislative committee, contact Greg Brown.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Grant Oetting reported the following membership counts: 492 directors/councilman; 354 retired; 21 associate; 15 sustaining; 24 corporate, 360 fire departments; 6452 active; 10 educational; 122 juniors; 6 EMS department, 97 EMS individuals. If you have any conferences for next year that you would like FFAM

to represent, let him know.

Jaime Miller advised 2021 membership packets will be going out this month.

Ken Hoover recommended that David Hedrick be named as an honorary member due to his years of service to MU FRTI and support of FFAM. Grant Oetting moved to make David Hedrick an honorary member. Andrew Caldwell seconded the motion and all approved.

## NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Keith Smith advised that he will be contacting those who are up for re-election in 2021.

## NVFC COMMITTEE

Keith Smith advised that there was no spring meeting. The fall meeting is being held virtually right now. An FFAM member department has reached out to NVFC for assistance through the volunteer advocacy program.

– continued on page 17

## HOUSTON FD TRUCK & EQUIPMENT



The Houston Fire Department has purchased a new engine from MacQueen Emergency, in Eureka, Missouri. The assistance of a \$435,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development and \$145,000 from our one-cent sales tax made it possible. On Monday, October 5th, the City of Houston Mayor, council members, and city administrator approved the purchase of Holmatro Pentheon Rescue Tools. The one-cent sales tax approved by voters last year benefits the city police, fire, and parks, and recreation departments, and made these purchases possible.

From  
Around  
the  
STATE



## KNOB NOSTER FD 19TH ANNUAL 911 REMEMBRANCE



The Knob Noster Fire Department (KNFD) put their best foot forward at the 19th Annual 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony despite COVID-19's best effort to postpone events around the area. A lighter than normal crowd braved the mist and cool temps to pay their respects to those that gave their all and continue to give their all because of the hazardous conditions fire responders encountered on that incident scene. KNFD would also like to thank Pastor Jim Richards, our local Triad-AFJROTC Cadets, Whiteman Air Force Base Fire Department, Johnson County Ambulance District, and Johnson County Fire Protection District Station 4, for their support of our annual ceremony. KNFD would also like to thank our community for their continued support every day.



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# NEWS FROM DISTRICT



# 7

**Robert B. Brown**  
Director

**G**reetings and salutations from District 7. I hope this note finds you well. As I put the final touches on this article, the temperature is a little chilly, so that will help me introduce my topic. With us turning back the clocks on November 1st and changing the batteries in our smoke detectors, old man winter will be on his way. According to Chief Billy Smith's persimmon forecast, it's going to be very cold and it could cut you like a knife.

## WINTER FIRE SAFETY

Heating is the second leading cause of U.S. home fires, deaths, and injuries. December, January, and February are the peak months for heating fires. Space heaters are the type of equipment most often involved in home heating equipment fires, figuring in two of every five fires (40%). Here is everything you need to know about keeping your family and home safe from fire this winter season!

## FACTS ABOUT HOME HEATING FIRES

From 2013-2015, an average of 45,900 home heating fires occurred in the United States each year. Heating was the second leading cause of home fires after cooking. Home heating fires peaked in the early evening hours between 5 and 9 p.m. The highest peak between 6 and 8 p.m. Home heating fires peaked in January at 21% and declined to the lowest point from June to August. Confined fires accounted for 75 percent of home heating fires. Twenty-nine percent of the non-confined home heating fires happened because the heat source, like a space heater or fireplaces, was too close to things that can burn.

Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heaters. Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters. Never use your oven to heat your home. Always use the right kind of fuel for fuel-burning space heaters. Test smoke alarms at least once a month. Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed. Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room.

## WINTER FIRE SAFETY TIPS

The weather outside is frightful, and the fire is so delightful. As long as the fire is contained in your fireplace! Fire safety may be the most wonderful time of the year for a lot of people, but the cold weather brings some concerns with it. Unexpected events that require the aid of a restoration company in the winter are often related to ice damage and flooded basements. In reality, house fires could be the highest risk facing your home this winter. Winter is the season when house fires are most common. As the temperature drops, your desire to stay toasty, cozy, and safe inside with your family increases, and your next focus should be on winter fire safety. Here are our best winter fire safety tips that will help you avoid the stress of dealing with fire damage or smoke removal.

## TIPS TO AVOID WINTER HOUSE FIRES

House fires are more common in the winter than any other season. Most people don't realize how their day-to-day decisions increase the chances of a disaster happening in their home. We have laid out some causes of home fires and how you can take action to improve your winter fire safety.

## ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

**Common Threat:** About half of all electrical home fires involve electrical failures or malfunctions in appliances. Cords of appliances that are frayed and old can easily cause fires.

**Prevention Tips:** Replace appliances with damaged cords immediately and do not run cords under furniture or rugs.

## COOKING

**Common Threat:** Cooking left unattended is one of the most common causes of house fires.

**Prevention Tips:** Always stay in the kitchen while you're cooking and even if you leave the room for a short period, turn off the stove. If you are using a barbecue grill outside, position the grill at least ten feet away from the siding of your home and deck railings.

## CARBON MONOXIDE

**Common Threat:** Carbon monoxide is a non-fire incident, but it is popular during winter months. Carbon monoxide is an invisible killer caused when fuels from gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, and propane, oil, and methane burn incompletely.

**Prevention Tips:** Heating and cooking appliances that burn fuel are potential sources of carbon monoxide. The poisoning is difficult to recognize, so install carbon monoxide alarms in your home to avoid this silent killer.

## FIREPLACES

**Common Threat:** You are probably using your fireplace more frequently in the winter months to help keep you and your family warm. Fireplaces produce creosote, which can easily ignite and cause more fire and smoke and lead to a potential disaster in your home.

**Prevention Tips:** Before you start using it more regularly check for any damages to your fireplace and make sure it is clean. Always make sure the fire is completely out before leaving the room or your home.

## SMOKE

**Common Threat:** It may seem obvious to have working smoke alarms in your home, but 62 percent of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with inoperable smoke alarms or no smoke alarms at all.

**Prevention Tips:** Test your smoke alarms and make sure the batteries are fresh and working properly.

– continued on page 28



Congratulations to **Desloge Volunteer Fire Department** on the delivery of a Danko 3,000 Gallon Pumper Tanker on a Freightliner M2 106 Chassis.



**STEVE BORTS**  
Sales Professional  
Jamestown, MO

Steve@danko.net  
(660) 730-2145



Congratulations to the **Little Dixie Fire Protection District - Mexico, MO** on the delivery of an HME Ahrens-Fox Pumper on an HME SFO MFDxl custom cab.

**DANKO EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT**

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT



**11**  
**Josh Koepke**  
**Director**

**G**reetings from District 11. Hopefully, everyone has had a wonderful year thus far, even though we all have been dealing with the current events and new ways to respond to our citizens we serve.

On October 26, 2020, Director Thompson, Assistant Director Smith, and myself were honored to present Chief White and the Mayview Fire Department with the Fire Department of the Year award. This award goes to a fire department/district that best exemplifies leadership in the fire service through commitment to excellence, progressive-ness, and service to their community. The

Mayview Fire Department has shown the following values used to determine the winner. Dedication. The department has demonstrated the highest degree of dedication and participation to the citizens they serve and the fire service in general. Including progressive fire suppression practices. Loyalty. The department has demonstrated allegiance to its community and its personnel through improvements in the working environment, equipment, facilities, and training. Productivity. The department members have gone beyond normal expectations to make visible improvements that have enhanced the department's ability to reduce fire losses. To better serve the community, including public fire prevention programs, inspections, and other public relations activities. Professionalism. The department performs its fire service duties in a manner that exemplifies the competency that reflects the highest standards of the fire service and regularly demonstrates a high level of professionalism to the public. Commitment. The department has made the commitment to its citizens and the neighboring departments to better their working relationships and function well under all circumstances.

It is that time a year again. Time to renew your membership with the FFAM and continue to get the benefits, and be eligible for FFAM grants and perks. Unfortunately, the COVID of 2020 has hindered several member's abilities to attend conferences and other recruitment drive opportunities. I ask, which is mirrored from every director and their assistants from across the state, please help us serve you. If you or your department have any questions, or have a neighboring department that has questions, please reach out to one of us as we want to be involved. Help every Missouri department/district remember that everyone is invited and encouraged to come to Sedalia for the bi-monthly meetings. We would love to see departments come to interact and become involved. The December meeting is at 9:00 a.m. on the 6th, located at the fire-house on the state fairgrounds. I hope all of you have a safe and wonderful holiday season. If anybody needs anything, please reach out to one of us, and we will be glad to help or answer any questions you or your department may have.



**Fire Department of the Year awarded to the Mayview Fire Department.**

# CONGRATULATIONS

## CITY OF PERRYVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT 2020 WINNER



\$500 Cash Prize Winner

We would like to thank everyone who participated for their efforts in educating the public about the importance of preventing damages to underground facilities.



# MISSOURI STATE FAIR FIRE DEPARTMENT APPLICATION

## AUGUST 12-22, 2021

**APPLICATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JUNE 1, 2021.**

*All applicants must be members of FFAM before application deadline.  
Applications must be completed in full and readable or will not be accepted.*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a member of the \_\_\_\_\_ department do hereby apply for the opportunity to participate in the operation of the Missouri State Fair Fire Department.  
My home Chief is \_\_\_\_\_ His/Her phone # is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Please indicate dates you are available and what position/duty you wish to be assigned.  
Shifts begin at 8:00 a.m. daily except for Wednesday, August 11, which begins at 6:00 p.m.**

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 11	THURSDAY AUGUST 12	FRIDAY AUGUST 13	SATURDAY AUGUST 14	SUNDAY AUGUST 15	MONDAY AUGUST 16
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
TUESDAY AUGUST 17	WEDNESDAY AUGUST 18	THURSDAY AUGUST 19	FRIDAY AUGUST 20	SATURDAY AUGUST 21	SUNDAY AUGUST 22
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Positions available are as follows:

**ADULTS:** Engine Co., EMS, First Aid, Dispatch, Inspection, Kitchen, Fire Safety Education.     **JUNIORS:** Dispatch ONLY.

- You will be expected to accept assignments willingly. Other duties may be assigned.
- If the dates you request are full, you will be contacted for alternate dates to attend.
- **If your availability changes after the application is submitted, contact Monty Thompson ASAP.**
- The State Fair Committee reserves the right to refuse any application.
- The minimum age for Junior Fire Fighters is 16 years of age. No more than 2 juniors from the same department may work at the same time.
- Parents signature for Junior Fire Fighters under 18 years of age: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ EMERGENCY CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any food allergies (for meal planning): \_\_\_\_\_

Each member will be issued one duty shirt and one duty hat at no charge and may order extra shirts at \$10 each (\$2 extra for 2x and larger).

SHIRT SIZE (Check One):  S    M    L    XL    2XL    3XL    4XL   EXTRA SHIRTS \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10 EACH (\$2 extra for 2XL and larger)

DUTY HAT SIZE (Check One):  S/M    L/XL

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION - READ BEFORE YOU SEND

- A copy of your current drivers license or non driver photo ID is required.
- If applying for EMS, a copy of your EMS license is required.
- Application and other required documents MUST be sent directly to Monty Thompson.
- If your availability changes after the application is submitted, contact Monty Thompson ASAP at 816-365-7187.

Mail the completed application and other required documents to:

**MONTY THOMPSON**  
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# A MESSAGE FROM THE



**1<sup>ST</sup>  
VICE  
PRESIDENT**

**Larry Jennings**

**W**ell, the one thing I can be sure about this interesting and complex year is, it's almost over! I hope everyone has made the best of what we have been dealt, and have found ways to conquer the crazy and make some sense out of those things around you daily.

Let's talk a bit about challenge in this edition. I know that I generally start with a one-word topic and then switch and go in some strange abstract way that makes you shake your head a bit, but hopefully, it does make you think a bit also and evaluate things around you that you can control.

I think without a doubt, everyone has some concept of what a challenge is, and almost everyone has faced a challenge or several during their lifetime. A challenge comes in so many forms it can boggle the mind. They can range from that childhood challenge of not stepping on a crack so you could avoid breaking your mother's back, to serious things like health issues. That one rings a bell for us all at this point in 2020. Some of us face the challenge with a smile and at about three steps past warp speed. Others that we all know face challenges with a dismal attitude of



gloom and doom and look at a challenge as another opportunity to fail.

I hope most of you have had the opportunity to kick off that gloom and doom approach and face a challenge for what it is, just a challenge. When you look around and see the many amazing things that have been accomplished by people who grabbed a challenge by the proverbial horns and made the best out of the situation. Can you even begin to imagine where your life would be if those before you or even you when your challenge arrives, had simply cowered and accepted defeat from the challenge?

So what might you face as an emergency services worker that could be a challenge? Oh, I would say just about everything that happens during your day. If that is even partially accurate, don't look now, but you have been taking on the challenge. By your presence, you have been doing pretty well at putting a little whooping on them. I think one of the biggest moments of challenge you will face in this industry takes place every single day, and that is simply making things better than when you first joined. We all know if we stay stagnant and don't work through the challenge of change, then our industry will eventually shrivel, and fade away. We all like to think no one can do without certain emergency service personnel, but the fact is if we don't keep making things better, someone will take that as a challenge and will set out to prove there are alternatives.

Perhaps we should take a long look at this challenge and make sure we don't give anyone else a reason to take on the challenge of replacing what we do with that alternative.

How do we face the challenge of our changing industry? We have many options, including participating in worthwhile training that can benefit you, your department, and your community. The more we can do to make ourselves and our agency better than the better off our communities will be. It is a pretty simple jump to realize what we do to meet the challenge of change will have lasting effects not only on the industry but on our community.

When a challenge arises in this industry, will you be a leader or a follower? If you say you will be a leader, then be aware you are accepting a challenge bigger than just the original issue. When you step up to lead in a challenge, you are shaping where things go and how they affect those around you. You can lead with efficiency and professionalism, or you can attempt to lead with intimidation, misdirection, and generally poor management. If you want to lead, then make sure you lead, not dictate. If you said you might just be a follower, that is not necessarily a bad thing. If there were no followers, then there would be way too many leaders, too many cooks in the kitchen. We all know how that turns out, and it doesn't seem like it ends well very many times. What are you teaching those around you by the way you tackle a challenge? Are you presenting a good image for new members in the emergency service to follow when faced with a challenge? If your answer to either of these was less than an immediate positive reflection on how you handle things, I believe you may want to examine where you are. One of the things we have discussed in the past was about being a mentor. Can you imagine a better way to help mentor than to set a positive example when faced with a challenge? How you perform in addressing any challenge will often start a sort of ripple effect that just might be felt throughout your agency, community, or industry.

## **Let's get it right!**

One of the regular challenges we will face is how to get along better with our fellow humans.

It may be internal in your agency, internal in your industry, or many times external through the people we encounter or the places you go to. It is a challenge that is paramount in our existence as an industry.

If we can't get along internally, then we will not fare well when "attacked" by outside sources. If we don't meet the challenge of being nearly excellent in all we do, then we will not fare well in the long-term aspects of budgets and community



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support. If we do not accept and face the challenge of making ourselves and our agency better, then the outcome could be very tragic and perhaps deadly. If we don't accept the challenge of a changing industry and make the necessary adjustments to meet the challenge, we may be condemning ourselves.

Do your part! Step up to the challenge when it arrives and face it head-on. Do what you can to conquer the challenge and keep yourself, your agency, your community, and our industry vibrant! Now is our opportunity to make all challenges simply a learning experience and building block for our futures.

As always, if I can be of any assistance to your or your agency, please contact me. Be Safe!

*– President's Remarks  
continued from page 2*

County Fire Protection District. We will be voting on the 2021 proposed budget at the December 6, 2020 board meeting in Sedalia at 9:00 a.m. at the fire station.

Other items that are due for submission soon are the nominations for awards and scholarships. You can find the applications on the FFAM website or in upcoming newsletters. Please take the time to nominate deserving individuals for these important awards. These are just a few of the excellent benefits I was talking about earlier.

I would like to remind all committee chairpersons to please be meeting and discussing your assignments and to forward to me the results of your meetings. I encourage all FFAM members, if you have input, please contact the appropriate committees or director with your thoughts and opinions. It ensures statewide participation and fairness to all our members.

If you experience any difficulties, please contact me. FFAM's success depends on the efficiency of the committees. I am currently considering a few changes to some of the committees. Be watching for these announcements.

Being this edition of the newsletter will be the holiday edition, I wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas. All of us have so many reasons to be thankful. May joy and happiness follow you all the days of your life!

If there is anything you need from FFAM, please do not hesitate to contact one of the officers or directors. We are here to serve.

God Speed,

Kenneth Hoover  
President  
Fire Fighters Association of Missouri

# PREPARING FOR WINTER OPERATIONS

By Mark A. Woodward, Senior Safety and Risk Trainer, Missouri Employers Mutual

Slips, trips, and falls are the top type of employee injuries. These incidents occur at the station and on the scene throughout the year. But increase substantially through the winter months. Slips, trips, and falls are costly for fire departments as well, with the average lost workday claim reaching \$60,000 in costs. Awareness, policy, equipment, and tactics combine to help reduce your exposure to injuries.

Fire departments are encouraged to review their winter weather policies and regularly communicate safety messages to firefighters. Take a few moments and review these safety tips with all members of your fire department.

## WINTER SAFETY TIPS

- Discuss how your dispatch, texts, social media, websites, and phone apps can distribute safety messages in your fire department.
- Give advanced warning to members and help them get prepared when a winter storm is approaching.
- Check personal vehicles and apparatus regularly. Make sure tires are safe and lighting systems are function properly.
- Volunteers and apparatus operators should discuss how to safely drive and park apparatus in rain downpours, heavy snow, and icy conditions.
- Keep containers of ice melt available on every truck.
- When on the scene, assign a member to spread ice melt.



Slow down and wear seat belts any time you're driving to incidents.

- Make sure automatic chain systems, tire chains, etc. are in proper operable condition.
- Provide and require slip-on ice cleats for use in snowy, icy conditions.
- Review safe driving procedures for personally owned vehicles and fire apparatus. Discuss which responses require “non-emergency” driving.
- Use extreme caution when responding to traffic incidents. Due to precipitation, motorists may not see an incident. Drivers could act incorrectly when approaching or driving past the scene and collide with crewmembers or apparatus.
- Set up the work zones correctly, use plenty of signage, high visibility garments, and provide advanced warning to oncoming motorists.
- At your home and the station, keep sidewalks, entrances, and ramps clear of ice and snow.
- Minimize running at the station or scene unless life is in immediate danger. Minimize horseplay at the station.
- Work to keep fire station floors dry. Use squeegees and fans to dry up dripping water from wet trucks.
- Use three points of contact when mounting and dismounting fire apparatus and ambulances. Truck steps can freeze with ice and snow. Beware stepping down onto a slick spot. Use extreme caution when pulling tools, ladders attack, or supply lines from the truck in icy conditions.
- Inspect all ladders and use three points of contact when doing elevated work. Use ropes to lift and lower tools.
- Beware ice and snow during rooftop operations.

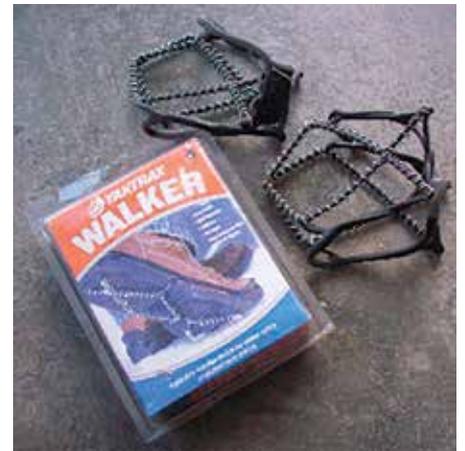


Keep personally owned vehicles safe and ready for response

- Review mutual aid contracts and discuss the use of aerial ladder trucks for any elevated or rooftop work.
- Use plenty of help when lifting and moving patients in icy conditions. Use ropes to help move patients up or down highway embankments.



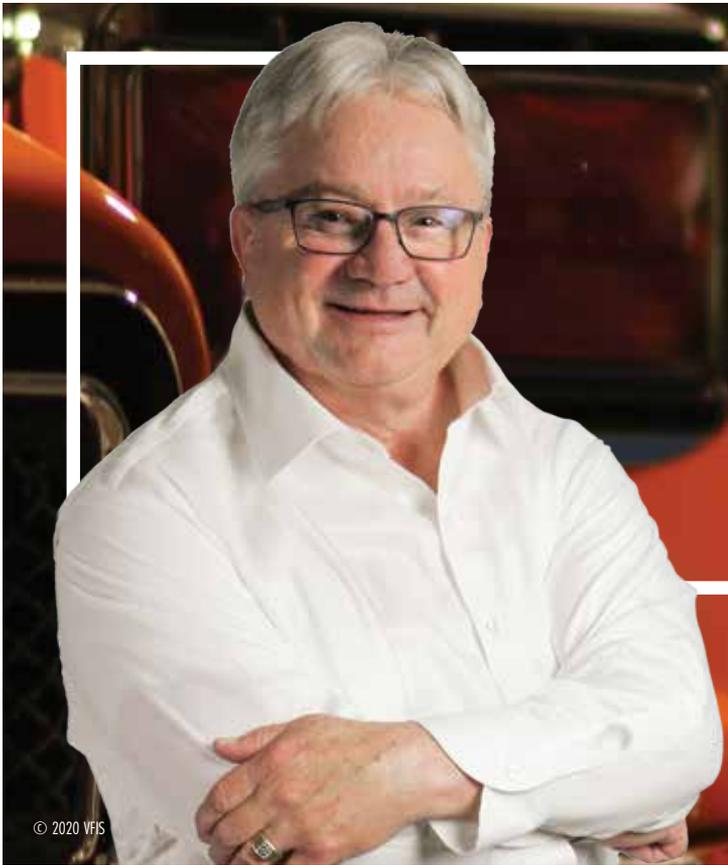
Keep containers of ice melt handy on each truck.



Use slip-over ice cleats when working in icy weather.



Tanker fill and dump sites become slick quickly. Use plenty of ice melt.



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– *Meeting Minutes*  
*continued from page 5*

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Larry Eggen reported that the committee met during the livestock show and made some changes to their SOG’s. They would also like to see an increase in scholarship funding for 2021.

**STATE FAIR COMMITTEE**

Monty Thompson advised that the department responded to 14 total calls during the livestock show. Thanks to those that helped.

**WEBSITE COMMITTEE**

No report was given.

**NEWSLETTER**

The deadline for the next newsletter will be November 1.

**HISTORIAN REPORT**

Ken Hoover advised he would be working on appointing a new chairperson.

**FIRE FUNERAL TEAM REPORT**

Harriett Vaucher reported they are not working on anything at this time.

**EMS FUNERAL TEAM REPORT**

Greg Wright reported that the team assisted in three non-LODD services. The October 23-24 conference in Lake Ozark will still be held. Tickets for the event and banquet are still available.

**FOUNDATION REPORT**

Keith Smith reported that the virtual service video for October 11 has been pre-recorded. Mike O’Conner with the Department of Public Safety recorded the service. Gail Hagans took pictures. The video will be released via YouTube on October 11 at 10:30 a.m. The services will be advertised by several avenues. There were a lot of people who helped make the services possible. 3 LODD and 59 non-LODD will be recognized.

The Foundation also received two \$2,000 grants from Callaway County.

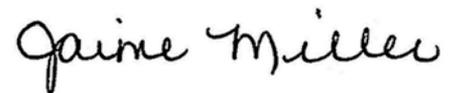
The 2021 services will be held the 3rd weekend in May.

The picnic shelter is going in today. They are ready to start working on the inside of the museum however, more funding is needed.

Jaime Miller reminded all the committees to get their revised SOG’s to her for updating.

Glen Dittmar moved to adjourn the meeting. Terry Plumb seconded the motion and all approved.

President Hoover adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.



Jaime Miller  
Secretary  
Fire Fighters Association of Missouri

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT



# 2

**Greg Wright**  
Director

**H**ello, from District 2. The 2020 annual fire and EMS funeral team conference were on October 23-24 in Lake Ozark, Missouri. Instructors from four states with the National Honor Guard Academy made us realize we had muscles that we did not use very often. From rifles to axes, color guard procedures to folding the flag. It was a great two days of honor guard training, with nearly forty in attendance. I wish to thank all that attended and the FFAM newsletter for supporting the event by sharing the information with everyone. Also to Brian Zinanni and the Missouri Fire Service Funeral Assistance Team for sponsoring our keynote speaker as she traveled many miles to share her story.

The speaker was Ms. Juliann Ashcraft, wife of Andrew Ashcraft. Andrew lost his life along with nineteen fellow firefighters in the Yarnall Hill fires in Prescott, Arizona, in 2013. He was 27 years old. The fire funeral team here in Missouri

loaded up their trailers and responded to Arizona to honor and assist with the visitations and funerals in 2013. At just 29 years old, she lost her high school sweetheart. In an instant, she was alone with four children.

She did a round table on Saturday afternoon with a good group attending. She shared information on how teams could assist families before, during, and after the visitation and funeral. At the annual banquet, she gave a very inspiring talk about her life during and after Andrew's death. We had tears in our eyes one minute and laughing and smiling the next. I wish to thank the FFAM Board President Chief Hoover, and District 14 Assistant Director Glenn Dittmar for assisting in presenting Ms. Ashcraft with a replica of our Missouri kneeling firefighter.

Sometimes we do not realize what impact we can have on supporting our fellow firefighters and EMS families in their time of need. She made us realize the funeral is not the last thing a family may need. She stated she had a "village" that helped her with whatever she needed after the funeral. An incredibly special lady. You can hear her speak if you go to youtube and pull up the 2019 National Fallen firefighter Christmas tree lighting.

It was a very special weekend of fellowship as the fire and EMS worked together to honor our fire and EMS individuals with respect, honor, and dignity. Next



year the weekend will be October 22-23, 2021, in Lake Ozark Missouri. More information will be coming soon when everything is in place, as several things are planned. All are welcome.

Have you stopped by the memorial lately? Something else is going up in the parking lot at the museum. It is dedicated to one person that had the passion to believe in the memorial and the education museum. More to come!

I hope that you have checked out ways that you can help in getting this education center/museum completed. If every firefighter in Missouri gave just \$25, we could open the doors to the museum, sharing our fire history with all those that wish to learn and stop by.



I have been mowing the museum/education center yard for part of the summer, and I cannot believe how many people stop there, even during the week. Many times, they come over, and I stop mowing or weed eating, and we talk. I wish to share one thing. One day when I was pulling weeds out of the bricks, a mini-van stopped with Ohio plates. They saw the kneeling firefighter going down I-70 and pulled in. He was a firefighter, and before they left, three of the folks were kneeling or laying on the bricks, helping me pull weeds.

Our memorial is an incredibly special place. I hope that you mark your calendar for May 15-16, 2021, for the Missouri fallen firefighter memorial weekend. We hope that very shortly, the doors will open, and we can share our Missouri history and honor those that have made that history.

Till next time be safe, and always remember, strive for perfection and expect excellence.



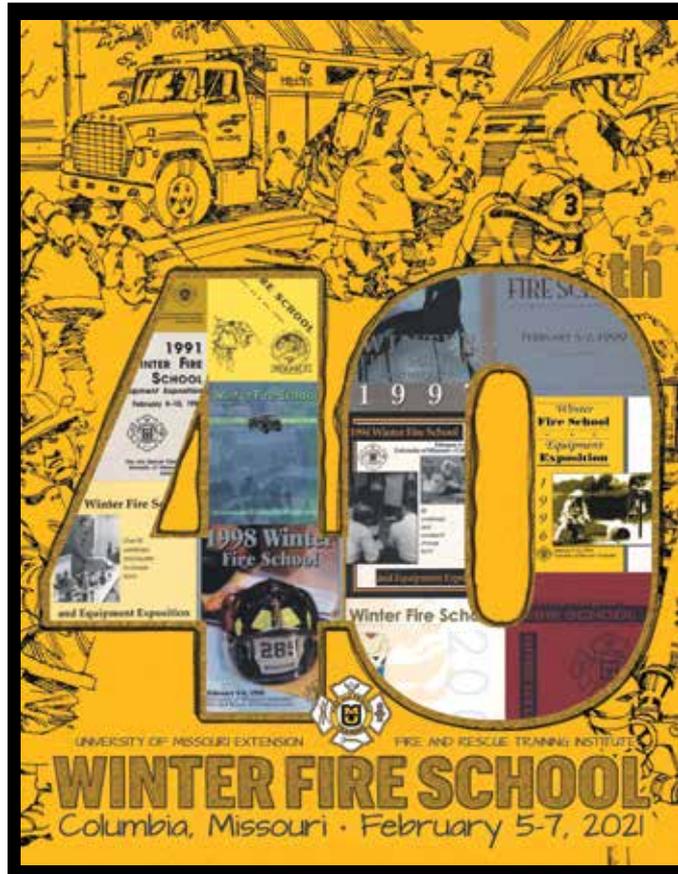
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DATE	COURSE	LOCATION
11/20	Vehicle Rescue: Technician	Halltown
11/21	Vehicle Fire Fighting	Lebanon
11/21	Vehicle Rescue: Technician	Savannah
12/1	Certified Fire & Ambulance District Board Training - Virtual	Jefferson City
12/3	Leadership in Supervision: Frameworks to Success	Nixa
12/3	Vehicle Fire Fighting	Advance
12/4	Emergency Vehicle Driver Training	Ellington
12/4	Emergency Vehicle Driver Training	Savannah
12/4	Fire Department Medical First Responder	Millersville
12/4	Vehicle Rescue: Technician	Union
12/5	Exterior Live Fire Skills	Piedmont
12/5	Certified Fire and Ambulance District Board Training	Millersville
12/5	Emergency Vehicle Driver Training	Goodman
12/11	Preparing for Initial Company Operations	Warrensburg
12/11	Emergency Vehicle Driver Training	Bolivar
12/11	Vehicle Rescue: Technician	Ava
12/12	Vehicle Fire Fighting	Canton
12/12	Vehicle Rescue: Technician	Dexter
1/7	Leadership in Supervision: Perspectives in Thinking	Nixa
1/8	Essentials of Firefighting: Ventilation	Bonne Terre

# FFAM HISTORIAN PASSES, KAY F. ASHER

By Gail J. Hagans

**K**ay Asher, the much-loved historian of the FFAM, left us on September 21, 2020. If you did not know Kay in some way through her work with the FFAM, it would surprise me. Kay was involved with the FFAM and the FFAM Auxiliary since 1968. Her late husband, Delmon “Jack” Asher, was the historian of the organization for over 25 years. Kay and Jack worked side-by-side to preserve the history of this organization. Not only did they collect our history. But they graciously provided space in their home to store the artifacts. After Jack passed in 2010, Kay continued to collect, preserve and keep the history of the FFAM. She was a major supporter of the firefighter’s museum being built in Kingdom City so that we would have a place for our history. Kay was honored many times and many ways by the FFAM, achieving Spouse of the Year in the Auxiliary in 1995, and she received the Phil Sayer Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016.

On a personal level, I became friends with Kay early on in my involvement with the FFAM. No one could NOT be friends with Kay. Her sparkling and bubbling personality reached across space and couldn’t be ignored. I remember when I first met Jack and Kay. I was mesmerized by this giant of a man that towered over this tiny little short woman. She held his hand as they went thru the room, and I might add, kept him in line. Once she got around to me, she grabbed my hand and said, “Now, I’m Kay, who are you?” A force to be reckoned with was my first thought of this precious lady. Her smile was infectious, and her laughter, oh my! If you got her giggling before you knew it, everyone was giggling too. Even the boys! She was feisty, ornery as could be, funny as they come, quick with a hug and a kiss, and if she ever got mad... You’d better watch out! But most of all, she was the dearest of friends, and I’m glad she became one of mine.

We are all saddened at the loss of Kay. We will all miss her greatly at our



meetings and conventions. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Asher family. God speed Miss Kay.

## OBITUARY

Kay Frances Asher was called home on Monday, September 21, 2020, at the age of 84. She was born July 13, 1936, in St. Louis, Missouri. She was the beloved wife of the late Delmon (Jack) Cecil Asher

Jr. for 55 years of Wentzville, Missouri. They were married on June 25, 1955, and from their union, four children were born. Theresa Cox (Kenneth), Delmon Asher III (Pam), Catherine Ohmes (Mark), Jacqueline Asher, deceased.

She is survived by 8 of her 13 brothers and sisters. Kay was a loving and devoted grandmother to 7 grandchildren and 23

great-grandchildren. They truly were her pride and joy and she loved sharing stories about them to anyone who would listen.

Kay was very active with 4-H, Girl Scouts, The Extension Club, and Choir. She volunteered as a Probation officer and in the gift shop at St. Joseph Hospital West for many years. She was very active in the Wentzville Fire Department Auxiliary and with the Fire Fighter Association of Missouri.

Kay retired from the Frances Howell School District after about 30 years of service. Earlier on in her life, she worked as a waitress, worked in a flower shop, sold Avon and Fuller Brush.

She loved all types of crafts from painting, jewelry making, fixing broken and creating unique items, and more. Crocheting and embroidering was something she enjoyed as a hobby a young woman, but after retiring, she always carried her sewing bag and crossword puzzles with her where ever she went. Kay loved making flower arrangements, she made her daughter's wedding flowers, made centerpieces for the FFAM conventions, was asked to make arrangements for many events, and shared her passion by showing her friends at the Senior Living Boulevard how to make their masterpieces.

As a young woman, she made contact with three of her unknown brothers who were all in the service, and from there formed one of the strongest bonds a family could have. Being the oldest Kay made sure she was always there for her siblings. The family had a special meaning for her. She was the core of a very huge family.

Kay will be greatly missed by her family and friends and she leaves so many treasured memories with the lives she has touched.

Memorials can be made payable to FFAM Firefighters Museum or Alzheimer's Association in care of Pitman Funeral Home, P.O. Box 248, Wentzville, MO 63385

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# History's CORNER

A UNIQUE AND DEDICATED TEAM

By Bill Westhoff

I am sure that we can all agree that these are strange and difficult times. I have been around for over eighty years, and I cannot remember a year of my life with more trying situations. I have found that reflecting on the past and some of the most fun times and the most epic people I have encountered make the day more meaningful.

In doing this exercise, most of the individuals that come to mind are fire service folks, and their memories make me smile. One of the most interesting couples I have met in the past was from my home county of St. Charles, actually Wentzville. To see Jack and Kay Asher at an FFAM convention was a true Mutt and Jeff experience. Seeing them walk into a room, hand-in-hand would make you smile. For decades, they kept records of almost any activity the FFAM did. Even after Jack passed in 2010, Kay continued the quest for information and kept the historian's role alive until her death. I think that is true dedication to a cause.

One of my many articles that appeared in this newsletter reflected some of that dedication. In the May and June 2012 issue, I wrote an article about the origin of the FFAM, and Jack contributed to it. The

following are some excerpts from that same article, with some of Jack's style of writing included.

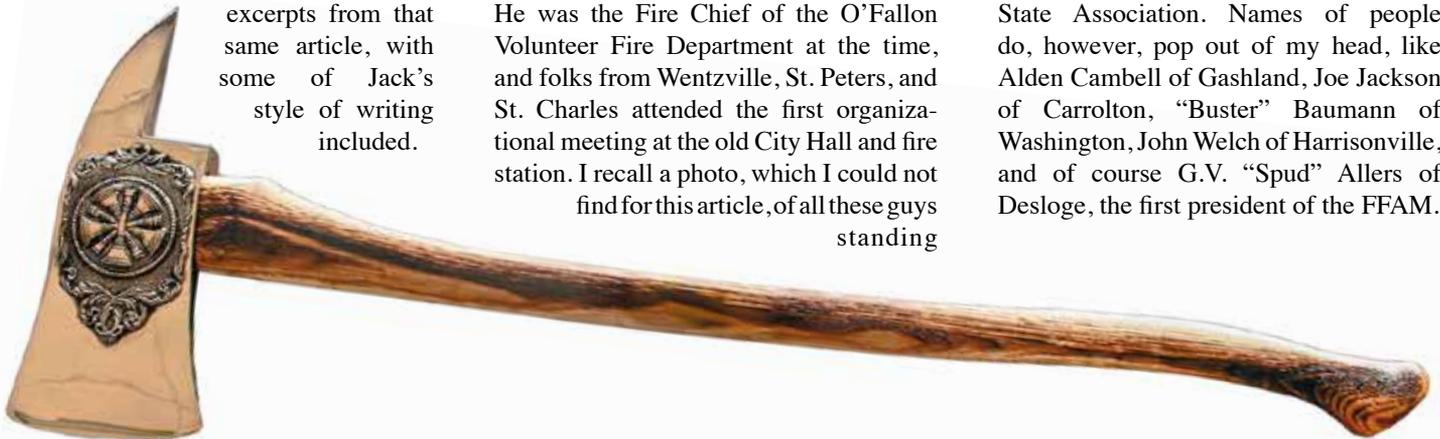


From the 1920s and even before there were several regional fire associations formed, but never a statewide voice of the fire service.

I can remember the meetings my Dad talked about. They were held in O'Fallon during the formation of the St. Charles County Fire Protection Association. He was the Fire Chief of the O'Fallon Volunteer Fire Department at the time, and folks from Wentzville, St. Peters, and St. Charles attended the first organizational meeting at the old City Hall and fire station. I recall a photo, which I could not find for this article, of all these guys standing

in front of O'Fallon's, 1941 GMC Central Pumper, and they all seemed to be toasting with glasses held high. Some sort of drink, likely an adult beverage.

It was all of these organizations, and it would be difficult to name them all from across the state, that came together in Jefferson City in 1954 to form the State Association. Names of people do, however, pop out of my head, like Alden Cambell of Gashland, Joe Jackson of Carrolton, "Buster" Baumann of Washington, John Welch of Harrisonville, and of course G.V. "Spud" Allers of Desloge, the first president of the FFAM.



But who could tell the story better than the best FFAM historian of all, Delmon C. "Jack" Asher? His article pictured is from the 1974 convention booklet.

While Kay worked more in the background to keep the history, she would still remind everyone at the meetings to "not throw anything away, because that might be history!" In the past few years, while she was still at home, she tirelessly went through everything, organizing and packing, for its trip to Kingdom City for storage.

Kay was a huge supporter of the Fire Fighters Historical Preservation Foundation of Missouri. Which is the museum that is currently in progress of being built. She was excited to know that there would finally be a place, besides her house, that would house all the objects that she and Jack collected for these many years.

Jack and Kay are now keeping track of their beloved organization from a much better vantage point than most of us. Remember his closing statement, "Let us not stand by, let us move ahead." They would want us to continue to do just that.





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From the desk of:  
Delmon C. Asher, Jr.,  
F.F.A.M. Historian



Fellow Firemen of the F.F.A.M.:

Formation of this young association had its beginning back in the early 50's.

The earliest letter that I came across that mentions the formation as a State Fire Association is dated November 30, 1953. It is from Mr. J. I. Fetters, Firemanship Training which was addressed to Mr. Herb Burns, Recording Secretary of the Cedar Hill Fire Association, in which the contents of the letter were short, "We had a very fine attendance at the meeting on the 20th and it seemed that the men were very interested. With best wishes for good luck." Signed, J. I. Fetters.

The State Association was started by numerous county Fire Associations wanting to expand from many small Associations to a larger Association.

Referring to a letter dated September 1, 1954, from G. V. "Spud" Allers, Chairman of the Organization Committee to Chief G. M. Allen, President of the Ozark Fire Fighters Association, quoted from part of that letter, "We feel that a united group can accomplish many things for us." Some of the small county Associations that were involved in our beginning were: Ozark Fire Association, representing 13 departments; Cass County Fire

Association; St. Charles County Fire Association representing 13 departments; Franklin Gasconade County Fire Association representing 15 departments; West Central Missouri Fireman's Association, Inc. There were more Associations and Departments that wanted to start up a State Association at that time.

A letter to Chief Allers sent by Alden L. Campbell, Gashland, Missouri stated, "We have a standing committee that will be ready to meet with you." Another letter dated November 23, 1954, from Bob Norton to fellow firemen across the great State of Missouri states in part, "For many years the State of Missouri has been far behind neighboring states in providing certain legislation which is for the benefit of our fire departments and for the general public." In this same letter, dues would be \$5.00 per department and \$1.00 per member.

The officers at this time were as follows: President-"Spud" Allers; 1st Vice-President, Waldo Sherman; 2nd Vice-President, John Murphy; Sec.-Treas., Henry Libbing; Sargent at Arms, Marron Rupp.

Members of the Board: George M. Allen, Marvin Graham, Artie Logan, Al Hiney, Bob Norton, and Arthur Hohenstreet.

So fellow firemen, as we can see in the above letters that over 100 departments met in Jefferson City on October 17 and again in November, 1954 for the purpose of forming a State Association. During these meetings plans were formulated for drawing up a constitution and legislative law, and electing temporary officers for what was to be known as the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri.

The State Conventions were held in the following cities: 1955-Columbia; 1956-Monroe City; 1957-Carrollton; 1958-Saint Charles; 1959-Excelsior Springs; 1960-Kirksville; 1961-Washington; 1962-Carrollton; 1963-O'Fallon; 1964-Festus; 1965-Gladstone; 1966-Excelsior Springs; 1967-Jefferson City; 1968-Jefferson City; 1969-Warrenton; 1970-Excelsior Springs; 1971-Washington; 1972-Harrisonville; 1973-Hermann; 1974-Columbia; 1975-? - may be your town, my town, who knows what lies ahead!

Let us not stand by, let us move ahead and make the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri the largest and the best Fire Fighters Association in the 50 states.

Thank you for the opportunity of being able to serve you as your state historian.

## WELCOME FIREMEN!

to Boone County

James C. Butcher - Presiding Judge

L. R. Hughes - Southern District

Clarence Drew - Northern District



# EIGHT PROMOTED TO FIREFIGHTER

By Southern Stone County Fire Protection District

The Southern Stone County Fire has recently promoted eight of its members to the rank of a firefighter within the district. The promotion ceremonies were during the June, July, and September board meetings. The promotional ceremony introduced a new “green stripe” tradition.

Southern Stone Fire Deputy Chief Mike Moore stated, “It builds off a tradition in the Southern Stone County Fire district started several years ago when a green stripe of duct tape, was placed on the top of an introductory firefighter’s helmet. It was a simple way to identify a new, introductory member on the incident scene. When the introductory training

was finished the green stripe came off.” Since its inception, every introductory firefighter wore that green stripe through his or her training.

Deputy Chief Moore said, “To carry that tradition to the next level, we have come up with a new tradition, with respect to that green stripe.” We will continue to have the newly promoted firefighter remove the green stripe. However, now the firefighter will cut off a piece of that green stripe and stick it on the bottom brim of the promoted firefighter’s new traditional helmet. As a part of the new promotion ceremony, the following is read aloud before the green stripe coming off.

“The purpose of this new tradition is threefold. First, to ensure that the firefighter humbly remembers and never forgets that he or she was once the new person, the green stripe, the newbie, who started with little to no knowledge of the fire district. Second, this tradition reminds



the firefighter that there is a personal responsibility to continue to grow in his/her knowledge of the fire service. Being a student of the craft of firefighting never stops. We all have a little green stripe left to remind and encourage ourselves to pursue personal growth and development. Third, that the firefighter has a responsibility to pass along the knowledge and skills to future introductory firefighters. This simple green piece of tape reminds the firefighter of the obligation to ensure that the next group of green stripes understands the values and responsibilities of our fire district.”

The promoted firefighter is then encouraged to cut off as many pieces of the remainder of the green stripe to give to individuals who have guided, encouraged, mentored, and trained him/her as a symbol of appreciation.

“This new tradition will certainly provide the ties we have to our past and will have to our future,” said Moore, “while also providing a connection to each other as proud members of the Southern Stone Fire Protection District.”



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Promotion Day was a special day for the Hembree Family! Pictured above left to right are son, Joe Hembree who completed his firefighter basic training with Southern Stone County Fire; father, Darryll Hembree who currently serves with Branson Fire Rescue; and son, Jake Hembree who was promoted to firefighter with Southern Stone Fire.

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE



## 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

Grant Oetting

**G**reetings brothers and sisters. I thought this newsletter I would write about something different. I wanted to write about what your membership's benefits are as a member, as it has become time again to renew your membership. The membership packets are mailed or soon will be to your department. Your memberships are due January 1st to Jamie at the office. We use this money to run the organization and provide benefits to its membership. Also, a portion of that money goes to the memorial.

As an FFAM member, you have many benefits. A member of the largest fire service Association in the State of Missouri. Support from an organized voice on important annual fire service legislation in Jefferson City. Having representation in the National Volunteer Fire Council. A line of duty death benevolence program that makes available \$1,000 to your beneficiary. You are eligible to receive assistance with the repair or loss of broken eyeglasses up to \$200. You have access to college scholarships for yourself, dependents, or family members. Department members are eligible to apply for up to \$3,000 in an equipment grant. Receive discounts of up to 25% on select VFIS Volunteer Fire Service Insurance programs. Access to low-cost accidental death

and dismemberment insurance. You can receive a Jones & Bartlett Learning and IFSTA training manual. You have exclusive access to California Casualty Insurance programs for preferred auto and home. Receive discounts on tuition through Columbia Southern University and Waldorf College. Receive discounts from Missouri Storm Shelters. Discount medical screenings from LifeLine Screenings. Air Evac membership discounts Airmedcare membership application. Discount tickets to Worlds of Fun and Oceans of Fun, and Six Flags. Department/member MU FRTI Winter Fire School training scholarship. ID machine available for check-out. Contact RB Brown at 636-692-8500.

Each member receives this bi-monthly newsletter delivered to your home. The newsletter details a large variety of fire service issues on a regional, state, and national level, a training schedule of regional and state fire schools, featured articles, equipment classifieds, political issues, and more.

Each member receives a membership card and window decal. Each department will receive a membership plaque to track each year of membership. Also available to the departments are blue light permit cards at no cost. You and your department have unique training and public service opportunities with the Missouri State Fair Fire Department. Fire, EMS, first aid, fire prevention, and rescue are all operated by the FFAM during the annual Missouri State Fair in Sedalia.

You are encouraged to attend the convention hosted by an FFAM member department. Including competitive contests of skill, an awards banquet, dance, and a Sunday morning business meeting. Convention registration is

conveniently provided in the newsletter or on the website.

The FFAM serves as an organized liaison for bridging and monitoring various agencies and organizations that benefit its membership. It includes the University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute, Division of Fire Safety, the political front, and other state agencies.

You have access to a director that lives in your geographical region for assisting you and your department on issues of local and regional importance. This relationship provides a better understanding of your local problems and challenges.

The auxiliary and its board of directors is for the spouses of members and function concurrently with most meetings and related activities.

As you can see, you have lots of benefits as a member of the FFAM. I encourage you to talk to neighboring departments that you know are not members and encourage them to join. Or if you don't feel comfortable talking to them, don't hesitate to contact me, or your director, and we will be glad to speak to them. If you have a county fire meeting, we will be glad to come to that event as well.

In closing, if there is anything the FFAM can do for you or your department, please reach out to us. We are here for you. I can be reached at cell number 660-229-4525, or by email at [grant\\_oetting@yahoo.com](mailto:grant_oetting@yahoo.com). I want to wish our members a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.

Until next time my Brothers and Sisters, Stay safe.



# Auxiliary Meeting Minutes

OCTOBER 4, 2020

SEDALIA, MISSOURI

The meeting was called to order by President Jessica Miller at 9:00 a.m.

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Jessica Miller, Norborne FPD; Sheri Berendzen, Cole Co FPD; Carrisa Thompson, Holts Summit FPD; Joni Fields, Paris Rural FD; Ann Jones, Madison West Monroe FPD; Joyce Thompson, Kearney Fire and Rescue.

## MINUTES

Jessica Miller asked if there were any changes, comments, or corrections for the August 9, 2020 meeting minutes. Joni Field made a motion to accept the meeting notes as written, seconded by Carrisa Thompson, motion passed.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Sheri Berendzen read the report with a beginning balance of \$4,590.37 in our account at the closing of the August meeting. There was one deposit for a total of \$35.00 and 0 expenses and a new balance of \$4,625.37. Ann Jones made a motion to accept the financial report, seconded by Joyce Thompson, motion passed.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### MEMBERSHIP

There was no membership report available at this time.

### NOMINATION

There was not nomination report at this time because we just had elections.

### CONTEST

Sheri had nothing to report on at this time.

### HISTORIAN

Carrisa is in charge of Facebook and needs to get in touch with Chris Turner to find out what needs to be done.

### SARGENT-AT-ARMS

Ann Jones has nothing to report on.

## AUXILIARY MEMBER OR AUXILIARY OF THE YEAR

Jessica Miller stated that the picked person(s) will be put on hold until next year.

## POSTER CONTEST

The winner was posted in the newsletter.

## CONVENTION

This year convention was canceled because of the coronavirus. Next year it will be held in Kearney dates TBA.

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

The service has been rescheduled to October 11th at 10:30 a.m. and it will be virtual. More information is posted in the newsletter on page 6.

## MEDIA POLICY

Nothing new is available at this time it is still being worked on by the FFAM.

## OLD BUSINESS

It was discussed on doing a raffle for fundraising. Carrisa has some items to be added to the raffle. Carrisa asked for funds to purchase a grill and a few other items. Talked about starting to sell tickets at Winter Fire School and announce winners after the convention. Ann Jones made a motion to give funds for purchasing a grill and print tickets, seconded by Joyce Thompson, motion passed.

## NEW BUSINESS

Carrisa talked about conference call software and the cost. She is going to do more work on it.

Joyce Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Carrisa Thompson. The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on December 6 at 9:24 a.m. in Sedalia, MO.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sheri Berendzen  
Cole County FPD  
FFAM Auxiliary Vice President

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**CRISIS AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT**

Winter causes headaches for all of us but preparing for potential winter disasters will relieve some stress during this time of year. Home fires are preventable, and there is never too much you can do to protect your home and your family. Keep these tips in mind to maintain your winter fire safety. Even in our best efforts to prevent disasters from happening, they still can occur when we least expect it. If you ever have to deal with frightening results from a home fire, call Hays + Sons, our restoration specialists can help secure your home and in many cases restore your belongings. You can trust us to get your household back up and running as quickly as possible. Be Smart

This doesn't just mean to be intelligent and make wise choices, like reading the manufacturer's guidelines instead of just throwing them away. It means using devices like smart smoke detectors and wall outlets. Smart smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors take much of the guessing out of fire safety. They send alerts directly to your phone, can be managed from an app, and monitor their own battery life. Smart wall outlets also bring your home's fire safety into the 21st century. They can automatically turn off devices such as toasters and coffee-makers that are notorious fire starters, so they are a great way to start fireproofing your kitchen, and the rest of your home as well.

#### **SPACE HEATER SAFETY TIPS**

During the coldest time of the year, many people turn to space heaters as a supplement to their heating systems. Space heaters are a portable and easy way to quickly make even the coldest room warm and comfy. However, they do come with some risks and need to be treated with care. Below are a few tips to keep in mind when using a portable heater.

Never use extension cords with a portable heater. While it may be tempting to use an extension cord with your space heater to increase its portability, space heaters require more electricity than extension

cords are designed to handle, so you should never plug your space heater into an extension cord.

Only use heaters that have a tip-over switch. Some space heaters on the market today are built with a switch that automatically turns the heater off if it ever tips over.

Purchase safe heaters that have been approved by Underwriter Laboratories (UL), a global safety consulting and Certification Company. Products with a UL certification have passed very stringent requirements and are proven to be trustworthy, so make sure you look for that when you're shopping for one.

Only use kerosene and propane heaters in ventilated areas. Keep combustible materials at least 24" away from all sides of the heater. Do not leave the heater on when not in the room. Never leave young children unattended near the heater. Always read and follow the manufacturer's guidelines.

#### **HOLIDAY CANDLE SAFETY TIPS**

Candles may be pretty to look at but they are a cause of home fires, and home fire deaths. Remember, a candle is an open flame, which means that it can easily ignite anything that can burn. Here are some fire prevention tips.

Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep. Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn.

Think about using flameless candles in your home. They look and smell like real candles. If you do burn candles, make sure that you. Use sturdy candle holders, and won't tip over easily. Put candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface. Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame. Don't burn a candle down, put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container. Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT



# 3

Larry Jones  
Director

Where has the year gone? As of March, it seems to have been nothing but change. We certainly didn't have a "normal" FFAM year. With no convention, a virtual memorial service, and a livestock State Fair, it has been a very different year. We'll have to see what happens in 2021. BUT your FFAM will be here. All the directors are open to any questions you may have, and we'll try to do our best to help you with anything. We are spread throughout the state, so if one of us is unable to be there or get you an answer, someone will try to cover it. No one knows what the next few months will be like or even next year, but together we will make it.

Robbie, Charlie, and I all wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. May you and your family be safe during this time.

Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.

From District 7, I want to wish each one the greatest Thanksgiving and Christmas. Enjoy it with family and friends and be thankful for what you have in these trying times. Many don't have what we have so lent a helping hand. Until we meet again be safe.

Source for Content: National Fire Protection Association and U.S. Fire Administration.



### 1999 FREIGHTLINER CUMMINS

The Little Dixie Fire Protection District is accepting bids on a 1999 Freightliner Cummins E-One Engine, 1000 gallon water, 1500 GPM Waterous Pump, Mileage 27,700, Hours 1708. Bids being accepted until January 4, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Bids can be sent to Little Dixie Fire Protection District at 415 N. Agricultural, Mexico, Mo. 65265, Attn: Truck Bid. For questions or viewing contact Chief Bill Albus at 573-581-6235 or 573-473-7300.



### TRAINING OFFICER

The Western Taney County Fire District is recruiting for the position of Training Officer. This position works directly under the Assistant Chief of Training and requires a thorough understanding of modern adult education, fire and EMS training program design and delivery, and the recruitment of additional volunteer firefighters.

### ASSISTANT CHIEF-TRAINING AND EDUCATION

The Western Taney County Fire District is recruiting for the position of Assistant Chief of Training and Education. The ideal candidate should have a passion for educating volunteer firefighters. Developing fire and EMS training program design and delivery, and the recruitment of additional volunteer firefighters. Enhances learning by utilizing modern teaching styles and embracing new technologies. This position also serves as a valuable member of the management team for the District.

### WESTERN TANEY COUNTY FPD EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

For specific position requirements, please contact the Chief Berndt. Only persons committed to working in a system that respects the service of volunteer personnel and embraces its personal and educational growth should apply. Please submit a resume with three work-related references to: Western Taney County Fire District, Attn: Chief Berndt, 221 Jefferson Road, Branson, MO 65616.

## FIRE SCIENCE DEGREE

### North Central Missouri College Trenton, MO

North Central Missouri College conferred our First Fire Science degree to Derek Hert of Trenton, MO. Kristi Cutsinger, Program Coordinator of Health Sciences, said "It is a great accomplishment to develop a program that is beneficial to our surrounding community and across Missouri. Derek was an amazing student and proud to have him be the first to complete."

Brandon Gibler, Fire Chief and Adjunct Instructor, stated, "The Fire Science program works great for traditional students and those already in the fire service. Most of the courses can be completed online making it convenient for firefighters already working a shift."

Derek commented about the program, "I would highly recommend this program through NCMC. The faculty was tremendously helpful throughout the entire program and were very easy to contact for anything pertaining to the curriculum. The knowledge I gained from the program will be highly beneficial for me throughout my career in fire service."

For more information, please review our website [www.ncmissouri.edu/academics/firescience/](http://www.ncmissouri.edu/academics/firescience/) or contact Kristi Cutsinger, Program Coordinator at [kcutsinger@mail.ncmissouri.edu](mailto:kcutsinger@mail.ncmissouri.edu)



# JAMES “JIM” M. WEBER

July 1, 1946 - September 11, 2020

James Milton Weber, former Division Chief of the Liberty, Missouri Fire Department, passed away September 11, 2020.



Jim was born July 1, 1946, in Laredo, MO, the elder of two children of Herman “Micky” and Marjorie “Rose” (Peterie) Weber. He graduated from Laredo High School and soon joined the US Navy. Jim served from 1964 until receiving honorable discharge from active duty in 1968 and reserve duty in 1970. Jim later pursued his Associate’s degree at Penn Valley Community College.

Jim was united in marriage to Mary Susan Stevens. She preceded him in death on June 13, 1984. He was later united in marriage in 1986 to Edythe (Lane) McGuire who survives.

Jim’s father was a volunteer firefighter and mother a volunteer EMT. He carried on their traditions and became a career firefighter. He began work with the Trenton, MO Fire Department before moving to Liberty in 1972. His career with the Liberty Fire Department spanned more than three decades, retiring as a Division Chief. Jim was one of Missouri’s earliest paramedics.

Jim was very active in his community. He served as a leader in Boy Scout Troop 374 in Liberty with his son Brad. He was an Eagle Scout and a Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Jim was active in Clay County 4-H in shooting sports and fishing projects with his step-sons.

Jim was a Past Commander of VFW Post 4043 in Liberty, serving on its funeral honors team. He sent weekly reminders for breakfast at Ma and Pa’s in Claycomo. Jim was a member of American Legion Post 95 in Liberty.

Jim and Edythe were very active in square dancing in Liberty and throughout Missouri. He was Past President of the Heart of America Federation of Square and Round Dance Clubs, Past President and current Insurance Chairman for the Missouri Federation of Square and Round Dance Clubs. Jim was Past President and served every elected office on the Executive Committee of the United Square Dancers of America. He was Editor of the Show Me Doin’s Square Dance Magazine, served as Webmaster for USDA and for the Alliance of Round, Traditional and Square Dance, Inc. He was President of the Ramblers Square Dance Club in Liberty.

# JARET FARMER

November 28, 1976 - October 15, 2020

Jaret Adam Farmer, age 43, passed away Thursday, October 15, 2020 at his home in Sikeston, Missouri.



He was born November 28, 1976 in Sikeston, the son of Elizabeth Jane Farmer-Davis and the late John Paul Vozar.

Jaret was a member of Unity Baptist Church of Benton, Missouri; had been a firefighter for the City of Miner for 20 years and a bus driver for Sikeston Public Schools and before retiring.

On February 27, 1997 at Benton, Missouri he married Karrie Gean Farmer, she survives of the home in Sikeston.

In addition to his wife and mother, he is survived by his step-father, Danny Davis of Benton; grandmother, Violet Farmer of Sikeston; and one brother, Bobby (Tammy) Vozar of Sikeston.

He was preceded in death by his father; grandfather, Walter Farmer; father-in-law, Dalton Gean; and uncle, Jimmy Farmer.

Along with his parents and first wife, Jim was preceded in death by a step-son, Grover McGuire, Jr.

Survivors include his wife, Edythe; children, Shelly Graham (Bob), Bradley Weber (Allyson), Tracy Geier (Dicky) and Tim McGuire; 13 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren; sister, Freida Troester (Richard), two nieces and their families, as well as other family members and countless friends.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to VFW Post 4043, Liberty, United Square Dancers of America Youth Scholarship Fund ([usda.org](http://usda.org)) or Honor Flight ([honorflight.org](http://honorflight.org)).



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# THE PASSING OF FIREFIGHTER GERALD “IKE” TAYLOR

By City of Cameron Fire Department

Isaac Gerald Taylor, 91, of Cameron, Missouri, passed away September 19, 2020, at his home surrounded by his loved ones. Gerald was born September 24, 1929, in St. Joseph, Missouri to Isaac and Ora (Redmond) Taylor. He was a graduate of Maysville High School, class of 1947. Gerald married Phyllis May Lebow on February 27, 1954, in Maysville, Missouri. He worked for the Missouri Department of Transportation until his retirement. Gerald was actively involved in the community. He was a Boy Scout Leader for Troop 175 and Tribe of Mic-o-say and was a member of local chapters, Elmer Ellis Post 33 and VFW Reynolds-Vorris and Pemberton. Gerald was preceded in death by his parents, Isaac and Ora Taylor, great-granddaughter Trinity Roberts, and grandson Jeff Taylor. Survivors include wife Phyllis Taylor of the home, son Steven G. Taylor, daughter Susan (Don) Wiedmaier, two granddaughters, five great-grandsons, and two great grand-daughters.

Last fall, the City of Cameron recognized Taylor for his 52 years of service to the Cameron Fire Department. Along with a proclamation from the residing

Mayor Darlene Breckenridge, he also received a commemorative plaque from then Cameron Assistant Fire Chief Mike Walser. Walser said Taylor played a vital role in not only the fire department but emergency medical services as well. The Cameron Police Department, Cameron EMS, and Cameron Fire Department then gave him a formal escort out of the city hall. Taylor is the longest-serving employee in the history of Cameron.

A month later, Missouri State Fire Marshal J. Tim Bean recognized him during a special ceremony. “The loyalty and commitment you demonstrated throughout your career exemplify the best of the Missouri Fire Service,” Bean said. “Your dedication is appreciated by all. Thank you again. I know what a strain it is on the family. I was raised in it. Thank you, sir.”



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