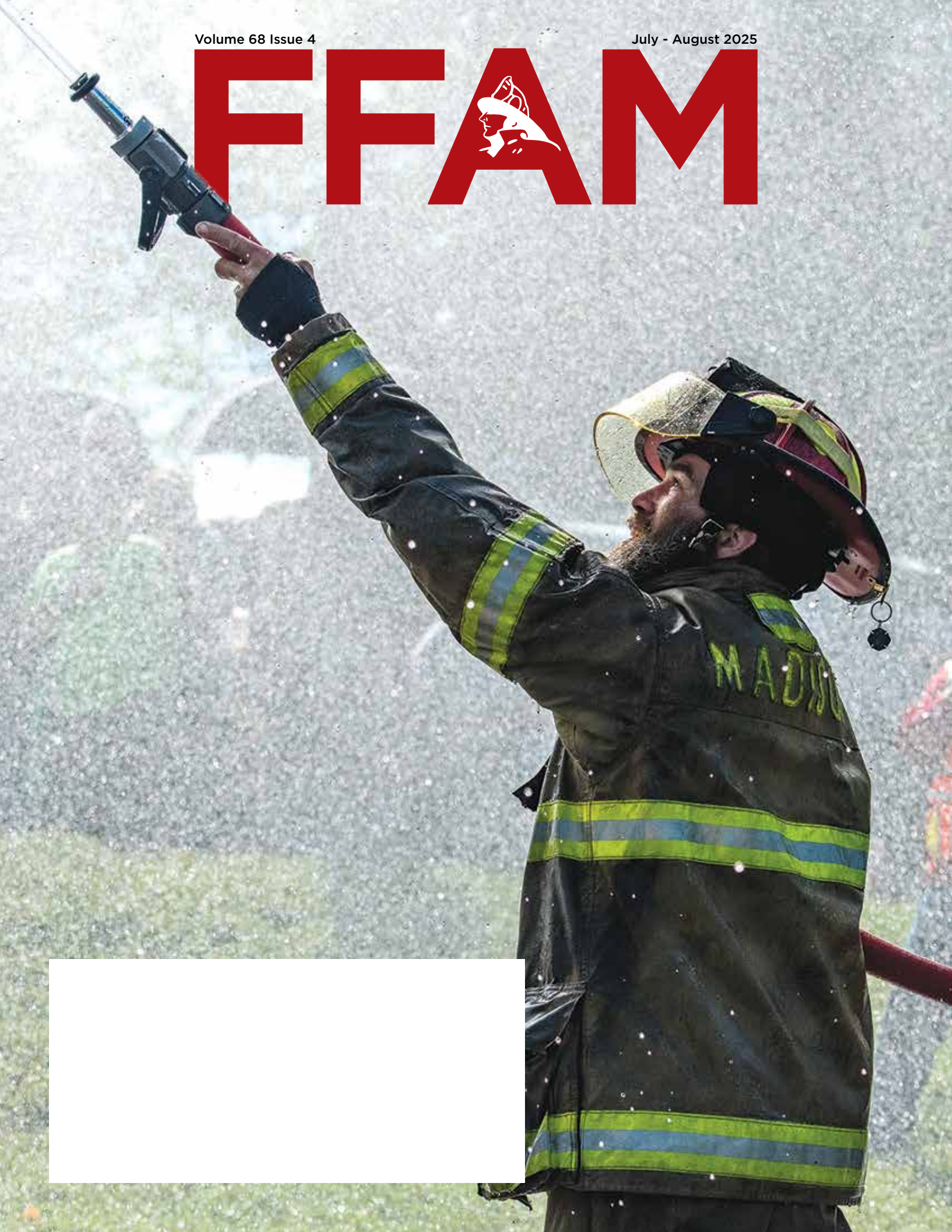


Volume 68 Issue 4

July - August 2025

# FFAM





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## Fire Fighters Association of Missouri



### ABOUT THE COVER

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by Gail Hagans

#### Submit a cover photo:

Send your high resolution image and  
information to [ffam.jmiller@gmail.com](mailto:ffam.jmiller@gmail.com)

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#### CONTENT

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#### SUBMIT ADDRESS CORRECTIONS TO:

FFAM  
PO Box 1153  
Warrensburg, MO 64093

**FFAM.ORG**



**FFAM BOARD MEETING:** 9:00 a.m., August 3 • Sedalia, MO





# President's Remarks

Thanks and Praises



Larry Jennings

**I**t would appear with the rising temperatures and return of the reliable Missouri humidity, summer is upon us. Each year we transition from the cold winter months we have hoped would end soon to the heart of summer when we start talking about how nice cooler weather would be. It does seem to be a bit repetitious, but I can't say there is another state I would rather be a part of and normally getting to have all four seasons is a blessing we Missourians get to enjoy.

As we continue into the summer please be aware of extra steps you may need to take when involved in emergency incidents or training exercises. Heat is not always our friend when we are in fully donned PPE and working extended time in a less than friendly environment. Make sure you are staying hydrated while engaged in these activities, but almost more importantly make sure you are hydrating and eating correctly during your normal daily activities as having your body prepared before an incident can pay out dividends. In addition to your fire related activities keep an eye on your overall condition when engaged in your other pursuits whether it be job related or leisure activities. If we don't care for ourselves and we end up being "out of service" on a scene that is one less person available to provide service to the citizens we have agreed to protect.

With the extra heat and humidity and the likely occasional thunder storm we can rest assured it is almost time for the Missouri State Fair. Again this year the FFAM/Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department will provide fire and emergency medical services to the visitors and workers at the fair. This year the fair will be August 7-17 in Sedalia. The MSFVFD is a unique blend of career and volunteer fire personnel who come together each year to provide the needed services while utilizing donated equipment from various agencies across the state.

This year the MSFVFD will be embarking on a bitter sweet journey. If all things stay on track the existing station is slated for demolition shortly after the close of the fair.

In the old building's space a new building will rise like a phoenix from the ashes. After a lengthy design process and seeking and obtaining support from the legislators, funding was made available to bring this project to fruition hopefully by the 2026 Fair. If you have ever worked at the MSFVFD and want to visit one more time or if you just want to see the old building to have reference to compare against the new, this is your chance. See you there in August.

Many of you were able to join us at the 2025 FFAM Convention in Branson in early May. The Tri-Lakes Fire Chiefs Association were our host agency and put on a great convention. Special thanks to Dylan Honea for spearheading their efforts and making sure everyone attending from the vendors, guests, challenge game participants and members had a good experience and benefitted from the time spent with each other. Details for

the 2026 Convention will be released when finalized, but in the meantime keep an eye out and plan to join us next spring.

The Missouri fire service memorial ceremonies are slated for October 4th and 5th in Kingdom City. The Foundation has been putting in extra hours getting the ceremony planned and preparing the site to provide a fitting tribute to our fallen Missouri fire service personnel. If you are interested in helping the Foundation members prepare or during the weekend please reach out to a Foundation member. We will plan to see each of you in October as we honor those who have passed.

Remember you or your agencies' best asset is your reputation that is supported by your actions and dedication to service. Be a positive part of your community! If there is anything the Board can do for you please let us know. Be Safe!





# Fire Marshal's Update

Happy 249th Anniversary to America. What an excellent place to live, work, and enjoy my freedom. I pray God will continue to bless America and the Great State of Missouri!

The gavel fell on May 16 to close out the 2025 Legislative session. I was pleased with how both chambers worked together to pass several bills. Some passed bills were SB 81, which will update the present fireworks statute. Senate Bill 71 has two items for the Missouri Fire Service and the other public safety first responders. The bill establishes the "Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Act". The snapshot of the Act will allow firefighters to attend college (**when funding is appropriated**) to obtain a higher education. I am very pleased to report that the "Line of Duty Compensation Act" was attached to Senate Bill 71, with an emergency clause. The Line of Duty Compensation Act was scheduled to sunset this year, which would have stopped the Line of Duty Death compensation for our first responders' families. The "Missouri

Emergency Response Commission" (MERC), which sunsetted last year in statute, was also in this bill. The MERC will now be able to get back to its business of providing hazardous material training to our first responders. Governor Kehoe, who strongly supports our first responders, immediately signed this bill into law!

If you are a tax-based agency, I suggest taking time to educate yourself on Senate Bill 3.

These are some examples of work accomplished by your legislators. "Thank you" to each of you who took the time to speak to your local legislators or came to Jefferson City and visited the halls of the Capitol advocating for our Missouri Fire Service.

I have shared that a new federal incident reporting system is coming. Joshua Couture has been working every day to get our state ready for the activation of the new system. NERIS is replacing the old system (NFIRS). If you have questions, please get in touch



Tim Bean



with Joshua at 573-751-1601 or visit the Division of Fire Safety Incident Reporting Information webpage: [dfs.dps.mo.gov/programs/resources/fire-incident-reporting-system.php](https://dfs.dps.mo.gov/programs/resources/fire-incident-reporting-system.php).

I want to take a moment to express my appreciation to our state fire departments and the regional fire mutual aid coordinators for everything you have done across our state in the first six months of the year. I feel the great work and coordination across our state during the large grass and brush fires, six tornadoes, and massive floods have been paramount. Working across district and county lines when requested exemplifies that when the calls come in, we serve and protect our fellow Missourians! Thank you very much, it has not gone unnoticed.

I was reading articles in fire magazines recently. Three articles caught my attention, each dealing with technology becoming available to protect our firefighters and serve our customers and communities more efficiently. The articles were titled "Drones May Become First Responders," "Firefighters Implement Technology for Special Needs Residents," and "Alerting Technology to Help Keep Firefighters Safe on Roadways." I am excited to see these opportunities being explored and tested. It appears drones are being deployed by 9-1-1 communicators at the same time fire/police or EMS receive the call in some areas of our country, transmitting critical information in real-time, back to the first responders to make better decisions on their responses. That is awesome! Look into some of these articles, it's coming!

In closing, I want to remind the Chief officers to ensure your firefighters have a current Public Safety Officer Benefit (PSOB) form on file. I cannot express how crucial this form is for your firefighters and you as a Chief officer.

It is an honor to serve as your state fire marshal. Thank you for all you do day in and day out! If you need anything, feel free to reach out to me, cell: 573-645-2069, email: [tim.bean@dfs.dps.mo.gov](mailto:tim.bean@dfs.dps.mo.gov).





**OPENING SESSION**

President Larry Jennings opened the 68th Annual FFAM Convention by ringing the bell at 7:30 pm on Friday, May 2, 2025, at the Chateau on the Lake hotel in Branson, MO.

The Southern Stone Fire Protection District Honor Guard posted the colors. Members gave the *Pledge of Allegiance*. Deputy Chief Mike Moore gave the invocation. President Jennings recognized the FFAM Officers and Directors and the Tri Lakes Fire Chiefs Association. Chelsea McGraw with the MDA Fill the Boot program gave a presentation. Final announcements were made.

President Jennings closed the opening session at 8:15 pm.

**AWARDS BANQUET**

President Larry Jennings welcomed everyone to the awards banquet on May 3, 2025, at the Chateau on the Lake hotel in Branson, MO.

Fire Chief Chris Berndt gave the invocation followed by the meal.

Keynote speaker Southern Stone Fire Protection District Deputy Chief Mike Moore presented a program.

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Chair Larry Eggen announced the scholarship winners and presented certificates to those in attendance. Continuing Education – Morgan McGhee, Belton Fire Department. High School – Jonathon Hasty, Holts Summit Fire Protection District; Annabelle Wolfe, Madison West Monroe Fire Protection District; Abigail White, Mayview Fire Protection District; Dylan Weffelmeyer, Eureka Fire Protection District.

**FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE**

Chair Andrew Caldwell announced the 2024 poster contest award winners.

**SPECIAL NEEDS DIVISION**

1st Place, Andrew Deimeke, Little Dixie FPD.

**1ST AND 2ND GRADE DIVISION**

1st Place, Caroline Conner, New Haven-Berger FPD; 2nd Place, Walter Barxolotta,

Beaufort Leslie FD; 3rd Place, Jamie Campbell, Little Dixie FPD

**3RD AND 4TH GRADE DIVISION**

1st Place, Nora Holdmeyer, Washington FD; 2nd Place, Coen Kaufman, Beaufort Leslie FD; 3rd Place, Bailey Buck, Little Dixie FPD

**5TH AND 6TH GRADE DIVISION**

1st Place, Violet VanBoening, Paris Rural FPD; 2nd Place, Meirani Williams, Madison West Monroe FPD; 3rd Place, Regan Molitor, New Haven-Berger FPD

The Fire Fighters Association of Missouri Auxiliary announced the winner of the raffle.

Charlie Peel with Missouri 811 announced the winner of the banner promotion.

**CONTEST COMMITTEE**

Chair Rob Erdel announced the 2025 convention contest winners.

**FIREFIGHTER DIVISION CHALLENGE**

2 Person Hose Coupling: 1st Southern Stone #2; 2nd Southern Stone #1; 3rd Little Dixie #2.

**REPLACE A SECTION OF HOSE**

1st Madison #1; 2nd Southern Stone #2; 3rd Little Dixie #1.

**EXTENDING A LINE**

1st Madison #2; 2nd Little Dixie #2; 3rd Little Dixie #1.

**WATER BARREL FIGHT**

1st Little Dixie #2; 2nd Southern Stone #2; 3rd Madison #1.

**BUCKET BRIGADE**

1st Madison #1; 2nd Little Dixie #2; 3rd Little Dixie #1.

**OVERALL**

Little Dixie #2.

**FEMALE DIVISION CHALLENGE**

2 Person Hose Coupling: 1st Southern Stone #1; 2nd Southern Stone #2.

**REPLACE A SECTION OF HOSE**

1st Southern Stone #2; 2nd Southern Stone #1.

**EXTENDING A LINE**

1st Southern Stone #2; 2nd Southern Stone #1.

**WATER BARREL FIGHT**

1st Southern Stone #1; 2nd Southern Stone #2.

**BUCKET BRIGADE**

1st Southern Stone #1.

**OVERALL**

Southern Stone #1.

**JUNIOR DIVISION CHALLENGE**

2 Person Hose Coupling: 1st Southern Stone #2; 2nd Southern Stone #1; 3rd Little Dixie #1.

**EXTENDING A LINE**

1st Southern Stone #1; 2nd Southern Stone #2.

**WATER BARREL FIGHT**

1st Southern Stone #2; 2nd Southern Stone #1; Little Dixie #1.

**OVERALL**

Southern Stone #1.

**AWARD COMMITTEE**

Chairman Joe Vaughn announced the 2025 award winners:

**LIFE SAVING AWARD**

Tanner Crawford, Jordan Murray, Kaleb Nierman, Ryan Kirchhoff, Brett Woods and Clint Stuenkel – Concordia FPD.

**LIFE SAVING AWARD**

Firefighters Cope, Lovelace, Schafer and Wieberg – Martinsburg FPD.

**CHIEF OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

Randy Amor – Higginsville FPD.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE YEAR**

Higginsville FPD.

**PHIL SAYER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Bill Farr, Cole County Fire Protection District.

President Jennings gave closing remarks. The banquet was followed by the dance.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

President Larry Jennings called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri to order at 9:00 am Sunday, May 4, 2025, at the Chateau on the Lake hotel in Branson, MO.



## ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OTHER OFFICIALS:

### OFFICERS

President Larry Jennings, Johnson County FPD; First Vice President Charlie Peel, Southeastern Randolph Co FPD; Second Vice President Grant Oetting, Higginsville FPD; Secretary Treasurer Jaime Miller, Johnson County FPD #2; Sergeant-at-Arms Jonathan Evans, Lincoln Community FD.

### DIRECTORS

District 1, Terry Wynne, Galt FPD; District 2, Vernon Cash, Shelbina FD; District 3, Rob Erdel, Little Dixie FPD; District 4, Joe Vaughn, Central Cass Co FPD; District 5, Terry Plumb, Southern Stone FPD; District 6, Shawn Ritchie, Holts Summit FPD; District 7, RB Brown, Union FPD; District 8, Bob Floyd, El Dorado Springs FD; District 11, Billy Smith, North Central Carroll Co FPD; District 14, Rick Dozier, Southern FPD of Holt County.

### ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

District 1, Janet Cain, Shoal Creek FPD; District 3, Dale Ransdell, Madison West Monroe FPD; District 5, Shelby Honea, Southern Stone FPD; District 5, Dylan Honea, Southern Stone FPD; District 6, Alan Braun, Cole County FPD; District 6, Mike McNeill, Moreau FPD; District 7, Andrew Caldwell, Boles FPD; District 9, Chris Sterner, West Plains FD; District 11, Josh Koepke, Kansas City FD; District 11, Jason Deitch, Brunswick FD; District 14, Kyler Oliver, Rosendale FPD.

*\*(V) denotes Virtual Attendance*

### GUESTS

Matt Luetkemeyer, Missouri Division of Fire Safety; Gail Hagans, Harry Ward, David Hedrick (V), University of Missouri Extension Fire and Rescue Training Institute; Rob Schrage, Jefferson R7 FPD; Kurt Ploch, Boles FPD; Chad Wolfe, Madison West Monroe FPD; Gary Berendzen, Bill Farr, Cole County FPD; Keith Smith, Warrenton FPD; Larry Eggen, Cameron Lauber, Benjamin Burd, Johnson County FPD; Brian Smiley, Galt FD; Lynn Morgan; Kimberly Campbell, Polk FPD; Jace Pine, Maryville FD; Susan Malone, Jim Casey, Sidney Casey, Boles FPD; Eric Hartman, Little Dixie FPD; George Wright, Missouri EMS Funeral Team.



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### AGENDA

President Jennings asked for additions to the agenda. Rick Dozier moved to accept the agenda as presented. Terry Plumb seconded the motion and all approved.

### MINUTES

President Jennings asked for corrections or additions to the April 6, 2025, board meeting minutes. Grant Oetting moved to accept the minutes as presented. RB Brown seconded the motion and all approved. President Jennings asked for corrections or additions to the 2024 convention meeting minutes. Terry Wynne moved to accept the minutes as presented. Terry Plumb seconded the motion and all approved.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

President Jennings asked for a review of the March 2025 financial report. A discussion was held and the board was advised to file the report for the annual compilation.

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

Harry Ward with the University of Missouri Extension Fire and Rescue Training Institute

reported that they just finished the FSLEP program and it went very well.

Summer Fire School starts tomorrow and will continue through June 1 with a new format with the classes going all month long. There are 250 enrolled students.

Senator Fitzwater has introduced a proposition to allocate \$750k to FRTI for the purchase of a structural fire training trailer. Reach out to your local representatives and ask them to support the measure.

The Instructors' Conference will be on the first weekend in November. DFS has allotted several classes to FRTI at no cost as well as an Instructor 3 class at no cost.

Assistant State Fire Marshal Matt Luetkemeyer with the Division of Fire Safety reported that there is \$3 million through the legislation coming through DFS for the Critical Illness Pool.

*Continued on page 18.*



# CONGRATULATIONS BILL FARR!

Phil Sayer Lifetime Achievement Award

## By Cole County Fire Protection District

The Cole County Fire Protection District is proud to announce that Board of Directors member Bill Farr is the 2025 recipient of the Phil Sayer award from the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri (FFAM).

The award is given yearly by the Phil Sayer family through the FFAM to an individual who has shown outstanding service and dedication to the fire service.

Bill has spent the past fifty years of professional experience in the areas of the fire service, law enforcement and Emergency Management. Bill has provided exemplary leadership qualities and professionalism, backed by a consistent record of achievement. Bill has proven to successfully work and plan with the fire service, both career and volunteer, law enforcement, Cities, Counties, State, Federal and local communities.

Over the years, Bill has served in many aspects of public service;

Bill served in the United States Army, Volunteer Fire Fighter in several fire departments, Fire Chief of two different fire departments, Police Officer, Emergency Management and the Missouri State Fire Marshal's office.

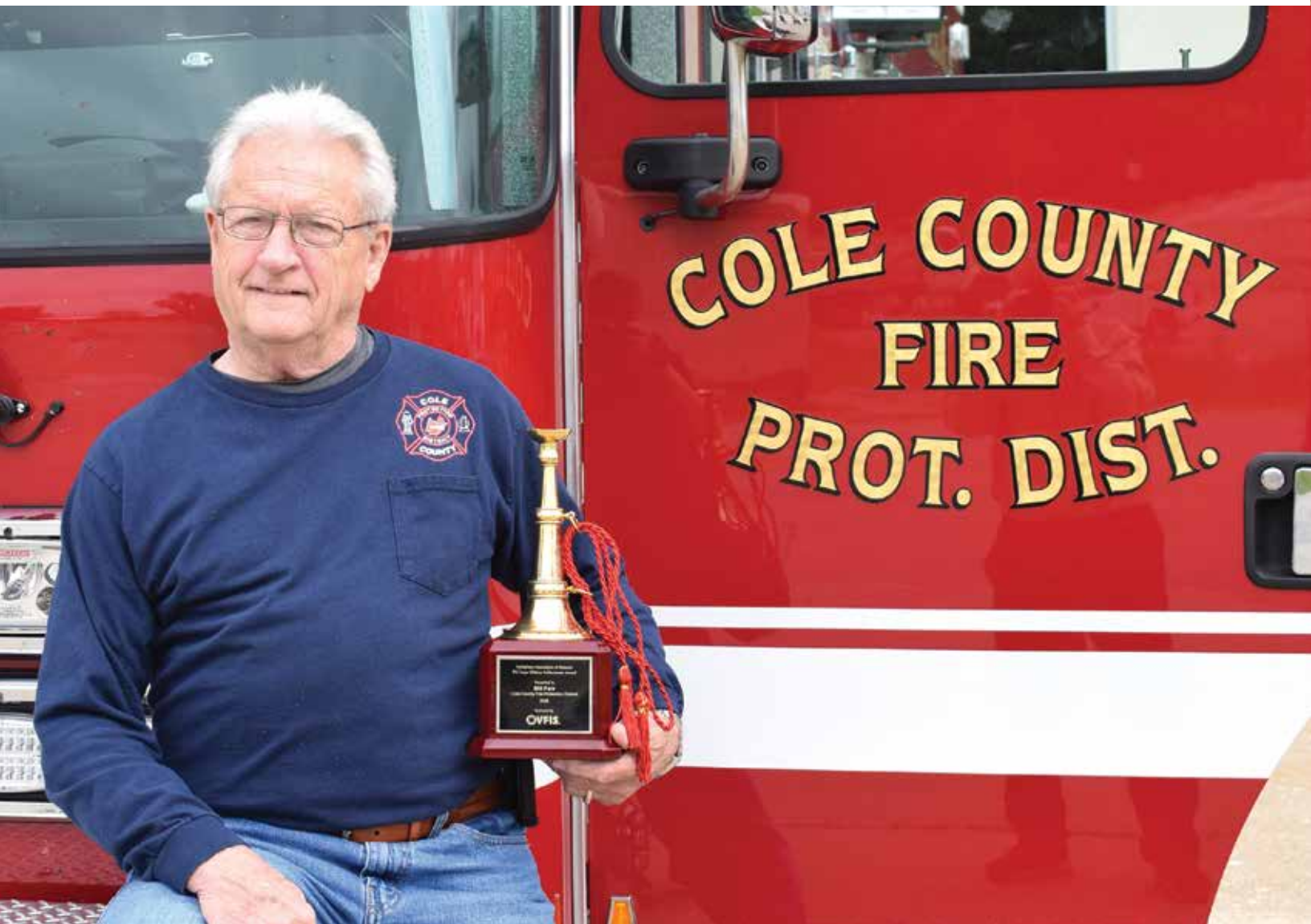
Bill was also an instructor in many facets of his career in the United States Army, the Missouri State Fire Marshal's office, Missouri State Highway Patrol and Fire Training for many fire departments.

Bill holds many training and certifications through the Missouri State Highway, Missouri Division of Fire Safety and law enforcement.

Bill held many positions within the Missouri Division of Fire Safety eventually becoming Missouri State Fire Marshal from 1996 to 2005.



Bill Farr has truly given his life to public service. The Cole County Fire Protection District is proud to be associated with Bill and all the knowledge that he provides to the district.





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By RB Brown, Director

Okay, let's break this down. You've got a few different types of fire departments out there:

## UNION FIRE DEPARTMENTS

These are the ones where firefighters are part of a union, like the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF). So, what's the big deal? Well, union members usually have better wages and benefits because they've negotiated them collectively. Plus, unions fight for their folks when it comes to safety and job security.

## NON-UNION FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Now, these guys operate without a union. Sure, firefighters might still get decent pay and benefits, but they miss out on that collective bargaining power – no union protections here.

## VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

These individuals volunteer their time to serve their communities without compensation. They undergo training comparable to career firefighters; however, they may lack equivalent resources or funding.

## TENSIONS BETWEEN PAID AND VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

Here's the thing: a lot of career firefighters got their start as volunteers. But sometimes, there's a bit of tension between the two. Why is that?

Well, here are a few reasons:

- **Perceived Skill Differences:** Some career firefighters think volunteers don't have the same level of training or experience. But let's be real – many volunteers are extremely capable!
- **Job Security Concerns:** Unions can get anxious that volunteers might replace paid positions, which obviously doesn't sit well with career firefighters looking to secure their jobs.
- **Cultural Divide:** In departments where both paid and volunteer firefighters work together, there can be a bit of a divide in how they see their roles, responsibilities, and attitudes.

## LEADERSHIP AND "DO AS I SAY, NOT AS I DO"

Now, let's talk about leadership. Sometimes,

those in charge can get a little too focused on the administrative side of things — you know, policies and commands. They might forget about the hands-on aspects, like rolling hoses or cleaning trucks. It's frustrating for the firefighters on the ground who feel like their leaders have lost touch with the real work.

## UNION VIEWS ON OTHER FIREFIGHTING ORGANIZATIONS

Unions are all about looking out for their members, which sometimes leads to tension with non-union firefighters or volunteer groups. For instance, some unions have strict rules against their members volunteering when they're off duty. Why? They worry it might undermine the career firefighting jobs. But at the end of the day, most firefighters, whether they're union or not, are all about the same goal: protecting lives and property.

## SUPPORT FOR FIREFIGHTERS AT DIFFERENT LEVELS

Firefighters need a solid support system from various levels:

- **Local Government:** This is where funding, equipment, and staffing decisions usually go down. So, local support is crucial for bond issues, tax increases merging departments.

- **County & State:** Mutual aid agreements are a big deal, allowing different departments to help each other out during major incidents. Look at the last few months and what happened in May. Being from the east side of the state, the mutual aid system works and works well.
- **Federal Government:** Grants, training programs, and disaster response coordination are all part of the federal support that helps firefighters across the country.

## CAN CARRIER AND VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS WORK TOGETHER?

Absolutely, yes! Many departments have found a way to blend both groups, but it doesn't just happen on their own. It takes mutual respect, clear expectations, and strong leadership. When both sides understand they're working toward the same mission, they can really come together effectively.

I get these dynamics can be complicated, and folks have been debating them for ages. The real key is to foster collaboration and make sure every firefighter, whether union, non-union, or volunteers, value what they bring to the table. What's your experience with these dynamics?





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By Rob Francis, Director

## GORDONVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Gordonville Fire Protection District dedicates their new EMS/Rescue apparatus. The new apparatus is equipped with advanced life support equipment as well as battery powered extrication equipment. This new apparatus replaces a truck that was obtained from Missouri Department of Conservation.

The new 3616 has a four-door cab that can safely accommodate four personnel. There are many features that enhance the mission of the Gordonville Fire Protection District which includes scene lighting as well as a winch system.

Congratulations Gordonville on this life saving apparatus.



## JACKSON FIRE DEPARTMENT

On June 5 Jackson Fire Department was dispatched to the uptown area for a commercial fire. Before the night was over a 3rd Alarm was called. Mutual Aid from Cape Girardeau Fire Department, Cape Girardeau County Fire Protection Districts, Scott City and Perryville were on scene. The fire was held to the business occupancy of origin. The common wall businesses did have smoke damage. Working together and cooperation kept fire extension from doing more damage.

We have already experienced unusually warm weather this year. So far 2025 has thrown a lot of weather extremes at us so it isn't a surprise that summer isn't what we are accustomed to this early in the season. The heat and humidity can zap us quickly. Just a reminder to stay hydrated and listen to what your body is telling you when working incidents.

Until next time, thank you for what you do for your communities and stay safe out there.





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25th**



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Cody Mettler 573-284-5546

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# Fire Fighter's Association of Missouri | Member Benefits

## ANNUAL DUES

Low-cost membership dues.

## FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL

\$3.00 of the active member dues goes to the Fire Fighters Memorial in Kingdom City. \$7.00 remains with the FFAM.

## FFAM MAGAZINE

A bi-monthly magazine detailing a large variety of fire service issues, training schedule of regional and state opportunities, featured articles, equipment sales postings and status of political issues.

## INSURANCE

A low-cost Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance is available to individual members up to \$50,000. through VFIS.

VFIS Accident & Sickness policy discounts available to departments.

Missouri Firefighter Critical Illness Pool benefits available for individual members

## LODD BENEFIT

\$1,000 LODD benefit to the member's beneficiary.

## DEPARTMENT GRANT

Department grant is available each year for the purchase of equipment.



## REPRESENTATION/LIAISON

Representation with the National Volunteer Fire Council.

Liaison between members and the Missouri State Fire Marshal, the political front and other state agencies.

The FFAM serves as an organized voice on important annual fire service legislation.

## TRAINING

Training classes available including certified board member training and other various topics.

## IFSTA MATERIALS DISCOUNT

10% discount on all IFSTA training materials.

## JONES & BARTLETT LEARNING MATERIALS DISCOUNT

10% discount on all JBL fire/EMS training materials.

## BLUE LIGHT PERMIT CARDS

Available at no cost to the department.

## LEARNING PARTNERS

Tuition and textbook discounts through our learning partners' agreement with Columbia Southern University and Waldorf University's online programs.

## FIRE LOSS ASSISTANCE

Any member who sustains a minimum of \$10k fire loss in their primary residence will be given \$500 to help with expenses.



## ANNUAL CONVENTION

Includes a vendor expo, competitive firefighter contest, awards banquet, dance and a business meeting.

## MISSOURI STATE FAIR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Members can volunteer to work at the MSFFD which provides fire, EMS, and first aid to fairgoers each year. It is the only fully operational fire department in the United States that operates for only 11 days a year.

## EYEGLASSES

Assistance with the repair of broken or lost eyeglasses while at a scene—up to \$200.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Members and relatives of members have access to scholarships up to \$1,000 for both high school seniors and those pursuing continuing education.

## FACEBOOK

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Check out our website for more exclusive member benefits!



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For \$35 each, you can designate a flag to be flown in memory, honor, or appreciation of an individual you choose. If you would like to have your flag mailed to you, please add \$5 per flag for postage. Flags will be raised in mid September and be flown at the Firefighters Memorial in Kingdom City, Missouri. All proceeds will benefit the Firefighter Museum Project and are tax-deductible.

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Name On Flag #1: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> In Honor of <input type="checkbox"/> In Memory Of <input type="checkbox"/> In Appreciation					
Name On Flag #2: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> In Honor of <input type="checkbox"/> In Memory Of <input type="checkbox"/> In Appreciation					
Name On Flag #3: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> In Honor of <input type="checkbox"/> In Memory Of <input type="checkbox"/> In Appreciation					
<input type="checkbox"/> Firefighter <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran <input type="checkbox"/> Active Duty <input type="checkbox"/> Army <input type="checkbox"/> Navy <input type="checkbox"/> Air Force <input type="checkbox"/> Marines <input type="checkbox"/> Coast Guard <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____							

**Mail to:** Firefighters Memorial  
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**Email questions to:**  
ffammuseum@gmail.com

**Deadline to order: September 15, 2025!**

**ORDER ONLINE AT: MOFIREMEMORIAL-MUSEUM.ORG/PRODUCT/FIELD-OF-FLAGS-MEMORIAL/**





# A Message From The 2nd VP

Volunteer Firefighters



Grant Oetting

Summer is definitely upon us, the heat advisories have begun, our agencies are starting to run the heat exhaustion or sometimes stroke calls and everyone is in vacation mode. Spending time at the lake or with family and friends.

In this article, I am going to talk about the fire chief or company officer toolbox, and what I feel they need to be successful in their role with their department, either volunteer or career.

The toolbox can extend beyond just physical equipment, It can also include tools for effective leadership, firefighter development, communication, and overall department success. Here are some of the ideas I have come up with.

Encourage experienced officers to mentor newer firefighters, fostering skill development and knowledge transfer.

Allow firefighters to pursue training in areas like technical rescue, hazardous materials, or

medical specialties based on departmental needs and individual interests.

Promote cross-training between different roles and shifts to enhance versatility and teamwork.

Foster an environment where employees feel comfortable raising issues, asking questions, and seeking support.

Conduct regular meetings to ensure everyone is informed about departmental news, policies, and ongoing initiatives.

Implement a system for providing regular, constructive feedback on performance and job expectations.

Consider involving employees in evaluating leaders and peers, fostering a sense of shared responsibility and continuous improvement.

Actively observe and acknowledge positive behavior and performance in the moment.

Utilize formal awards, certificates, and promotions alongside simple gestures like handwritten notes or personalized emails.

Share employee accomplishments with the public through press releases, social media, and internal communications.

Organize events to celebrate milestones, successful operations, or departmental achievements.

Offer programs addressing physical, mental, and emotional well-being, including fitness, nutrition, and behavioral health resources.

Provide access to resources and support for managing stress and trauma.

Encourage and support employees in making healthy decisions related to fitness, nutrition, and substance use.

Engage in activities designed to enhance teamwork and communication.

Encourage firefighters to acknowledge and appreciate each other's contributions.

Create opportunities for camaraderie and connection outside of emergency operations.

Ensure clearly defined procedures for various scenarios to enhance efficiency and safety.

Utilize technology for efficient incident management, access to critical information, and record keeping.

Employ systems for managing and distributing policies and requiring sign-offs to ensure adherence.

By implementing these tools, fire chiefs and company officers can create a supportive and thriving environment and foster firefighter growth, improve departmental efficiency, and ultimately enhance the safety and well-being of the community they serve.

I hope these ideas help you with your department and give you the tools you need to be a successful officer and also as a department.

If the FFAM can be of any assistance to you please reach out. I can be contacted by email a [grant\\_oetting@yahoo.com](mailto:grant_oetting@yahoo.com) or feel free to call my cell at 660-229-4525. If I don't answer please leave me a message or feel free to send me a text. Thank you for what you do for your agencies and your communities, it is greatly appreciated. Stay safe my brothers and sisters, until next time.





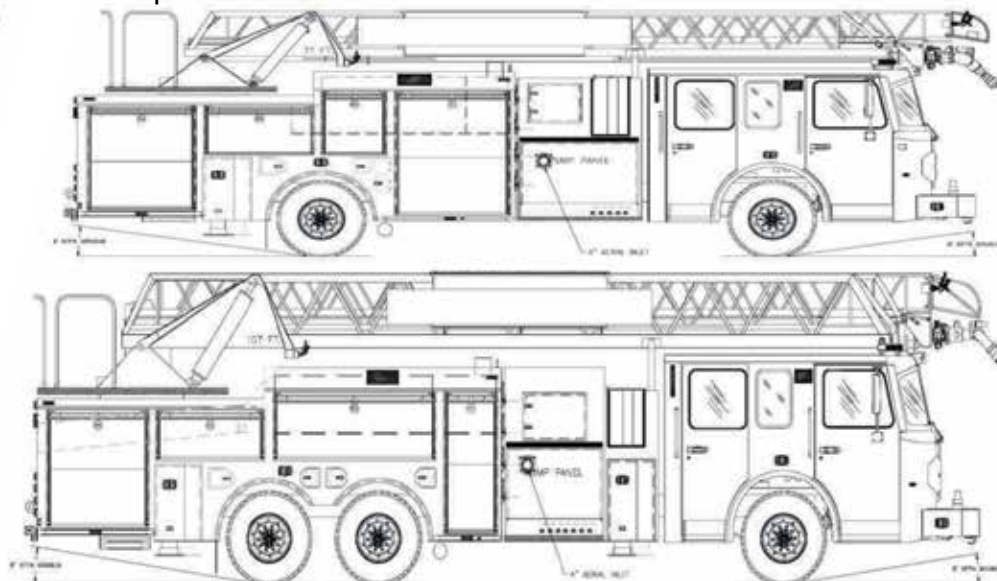


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## 911 OLD COMMANDER HEROES TRIBUTE LAMP FUNDRAISER

### Benefits the MO Firefighters Memorial and Museum Project

This project was inspired and created by Douglas P. Short of Warrensburg, MO. Douglas was inspired by the secure feeling of being able to call 911 and know that dedicated men and women, that silently walk among us ready, willing and able to be there would be coming as quickly as possible to make a difference. Having used 911 on two occasions, Douglas wanted to give back and created the Heroes Tribute Lamp for raffle and directed the proceeds to the Missouri Firefighters Memorial and Museum Project in Kingdom City, MO.

**\$1 per ticket • Drawing July 4, 2026**

On the 250th anniversary of our country and the 25th year in remembrance of September 11th (911).

**The inside of the Museum must be built.  
 Help us finish it up so we can open up!**

#### TO PURCHASE TICKETS

Mail a check with phone number to:  
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**QUESTIONS:** Larry Eggen • 660-909-7882 • Leggen@JCFPD.net





There will be \$5 million allotted to DFS for a volunteer fire department grant program, however, they don't know yet what it will be for. More information to come.

Luetkemeyer thanked those who attended Firefighters Day at the Capitol. It was well attended.

In the last 6-8 weeks there have been lots of wildfires. March 14 saw a 1000+ acre fire followed by tornadoes. Those affected were very appreciative of the support and mutual aid to their communities.

DFS currently has one elevator chief vacancy.

They are transitioning to the new NERIS system this year, replacing NFIRS. NFIRS will be shut down in February 2026.

Luetkemeyer requested a stair climb sponsorship for the October stair climb. The Board advised they would take it under advisement.

## **DISTRICT REPORTS**

### **DISTRICT 1**

No report given.

### **DISTRICT 2**

No report given.

### **DISTRICT 3**

Dale Ransdell reported that he is working with Howard County to increase their membership

### **DISTRICT 4**

Joe Vaughn reported he has been in contact with several departments. Kylie Frerking is moving and has resigned as Assistant Director so he is looking for a replacement.

### **DISTRICT 5**

Shelby Honea reported that she met with Highlandville and they have joined.

### **DISTRICT 6**

No report was given.

### **DISTRICT 7**

RB Brown reported that he is looking for Assistant Directors.

### **DISTRICT 8**

Bob Floyd reported that he and his two Assistant Directors are still making contact

with departments in the district and updating contact information.

### **DISTRICT 9**

No report given.

### **DISTRICT 10**

Janet Cain reported she attended the Women of Fire conference in St. Louis last weekend and received good feedback.

### **DISTRICT 11**

Billy Smith reported he is still working on Hardin and Malta Bend for membership.

### **DISTRICT 12**

No report given.

### **DISTRICT 14**

No report given.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Secretary Miller reported that the Missouri Soybean Association will be holding a Safety Day on grain bin safety and a soy foam demo in Columbia on June 4. She will email the information to all departments.

President Jennings gave an update on the Lagers volunteer firefighter retirement programs. At this time, Lagers is unable to continue pursuing the program.

President Jennings reported that there is now mental health training available on the Critical Illness Pool website. There will also be a 1st Responder Mental Wellness Symposium in October. More information to follow.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A discussion was held on where to house the Phil Sayer traveling award, which is now complete. Matt Luetkemeyer advised that Tim Bean as offered to display the award at the DFS. Terry Wynne moved to display the Phil Sayer traveling award at the DFS. Rick Dozier seconded the motion and all approved. A case for the trophy has been donated by Boles FPD.

Sergeant-at-Arms Jonathan Evans conducted a delegate roll call. There are 38 delegates present.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **ELECTION**

Keith Smith advised that the following positions were slated for election with no opponents challenging.

President – Larry Jennings  
2nd Vice President – Grant Oetting  
Sergeant at Arms – Jonathan Evans  
District 2 – Vernon Cash  
District 6 – Shawn Ritchie  
District 8 – Bob Floyd  
District 12 – Rob Francis  
District 9 unexpired term – Mark Arnold

Joe Vaughn moved to approve all by acclamation. Vernon Cash seconded the motion and all approved.

Maryville Fire Department has presented a request to host the 2026 convention. Chief Jace Pine answered questions and a discussion was held. Vernon Cash moved to approve the Maryville Fire Department to host the 2026 convention on April 17-19 pending an adequate facility. Terry Wynne seconded the motion and all approved.

President Jennings reported he has received a request to appoint Kris White to the Bylaws Committee. Billy Smith moved to appoint Kris White to the Bylaws Committee. Rob Erdel seconded the motion and all approved.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **AWARDS COMMITTEE**

Joe Vaughn advised that several awards were presented at the banquet and thanked those who submitted nominations. Seven nominations were received and five were awarded.

### **BUDGET COMMITTEE**

No report was given.

### **BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

No report was given.

### **CHAPLAIN COMMITTEE**

David Hedrick reported that he has no official report, however, we want to mention the following:

Today is the celebration day of St Florian the Patron Saint of Firefighters and International Firefighters Day. Also, this morning is the annual Memorial Service of the National Fallen Fire Fighters Foundation in Emmitsburg, Maryland. This year there are 140 United States Firefighters honored as fallen in the Line of Duty (70 firefighters who died in 2024 and 70 who died in previous years). Please remember the Fire Departments and Families that have lost loved ones and keep them in your thoughts and prayers.



# WINNER



## CONGRATULATIONS TO WEST PLAINS FIRE DEPT.!

Each year, fire stations throughout Missouri can submit a photo of a safe digging banner displayed at their location which enters them into a giveaway for a 65" TV. Fire Chief Chris Sterner represented this year's winner, the West Plains Fire Dept., at the Fire Fighters Association Convention held in Branson on May 3rd. The prize was awarded to him by Charlie Peel, Damage Prevention Manager for Missouri 811.



# THANK YOU

to all who participated!

Also, we wish everyone at the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri's 2025 Annual Convention a safe journey home.

#### **CONTEST COMMITTEE**

Rob Erdel thanked those who helped get the contest set up and everything went well.

#### **CONVENTION COMMITTEE**

Dylan Honea reported he would work on final numbers and report at the next meeting.

#### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Josh Koepke reported that 44 people attended the Certified Fire and Ambulance Board class on Friday.

#### **FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE**

Andrew Caldwell thanked those departments that submitted posters.

#### **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Charlie Peel reported that \$1.35 million in firefighter training has been funded. \$15 million has been funded for Next Gen 911.

The LODD benefit which is set to expire is attached to several bills. Call your local representatives and urge them to pass legislation for this benefit along with an emergency clause so there is no lapse in coverage. There is no further movement on HB 1190. SB 107 is under peer review.

#### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Grant Oetting reported the following membership numbers: 340 departments; 6672 active; 21 associate; 21 sustaining; 440 retired; 146 juniors; 481 directors; 4 EMS departments; 52 EMS individuals; 2 educational institutions; 16 educational individuals, 14 corporate.

Oetting reported he attended the Women of Fire Conference and presented on behalf of FFAM. He will be attending the Missouri Association of Fire Districts conference in June.

#### **NOMINATION COMMITTEE**

Ken Hoover reported that Districts 1, 3, 7, 11 and 14 will be up for election in 2026.

#### **PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Jaime Miller advised that the next magazine deadline is June 27.

#### **NVFC COMMITTEE**

Keith Smith reported that Anheuser-Busch started its Emergency Drinking Water

program in 1988 with the American Red Cross and expanded to NVFC in 2019. It just produced its 100 millionth can with more than 10% of that (more than 10 million cans) going directly to volunteer fire departments. Missouri has and continues to be a recipient of that annual program.

There is a Facebook posting from Edward Kelly, General President of IAFF and his conversation with Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. one week ago. This was regarding staffing reductions in the elimination of critical NIOSH programs, including the Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program, the National Firefighter Cancer Registry and the World Trade Center Health Program. 30 other organizations including NVFC have also made contact and focused on this. Secretary Kennedy assured President Kelly that those programs were critical and would continue plus meaningful ways to improve the programs. We hope that is true but it remains to be seen. As of this Friday (1 week later), it was announced that the Firefighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program will have some staff return through June 2 to continue to work on their remaining reports but nothing on the other departments. While many of the NIOSH staff were called back to finish some work, they still have termination dates set for June 2nd. It remains a wait-and-see.

On the OSHA Emergency Response Rule for the 29 OSHA States (Missouri is not), US Secretary of Labor Lori Chavez-DeRemer has applied a temporary pause to review all things to date. NVFC will continue to advocate for firefighter safety on a scale to the existing budget reality. Labor continues to advocate for all parts of the standard as first proposed.

Some of you may have seen the news that President Trump has released his FY2026 Budget Blueprint. The President's budget request is a proposal for Congress to evaluate as they establish the levels each federal program will be funded at via the appropriations process. Non-Disaster Federal Emergency

Management Agency (FEMA) Grant Programs requesting \$646 million decrease from 2025. This is not a good sign for AFG and SAFER. On a positive note, Rail Safety and Infrastructure Grants receive \$400 million increase from 2025. East Palestine, Ohio opened some eyes with many things.

He advised that he will be attending the Spring Meeting, May 8-10, in Alexandria, VA.

#### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Larry Eggen reported that five scholarships were awarded.

#### **STATE FAIR COMMITTEE**

RB Brown reported that the State Fair is August 7-17. Work weekends are June 20-22, July 18-20, and August 1-3. As soon as the fair is over, they will need to pack up everything in the building and move it to storage. This will take place August 22-24, August 29-31, September 5-7, and September 12-14. Lots of help will be needed so please consider volunteering. The building is going out for bid in June.

#### **HISTORIAN REPORT**

Theresa Cox advised that if you have anything you would like to donate, please reach out to her.

#### **FIRE FUNERAL TEAM REPORT**

No report was given.





### EMS FUNERAL TEAM REPORT

Greg Wright reported they have had 3 non-LODD responses since the February meeting. They have three Losing One of Our Own classes currently scheduled. Please reach out to him if you would like the training in your area.

Their conference will be October 17-19 in Lake Ozark. It is open to everyone.

### FOUNDATION REPORT

Report on behalf of Keith Smith:

If you pass by the memorial this week or next week you will see it in a shade of Red. We are participating in "Light the Night" in honor of the NFFF Memorial Weekend.

We have taken delivery of 500 new chairs. For those of you who have suffered through the tiny, framed plastic rentals, come back and enjoy a better experience on your backside. Besides an annual savings of over \$1,000 in rental, this will allow other activities on site that were previously problematic due to seating logistics. We now have new opportunities.

We have been blessed in the past 6 months with 3 major donations to the museum project. FFAM contributed the remaining \$50,000 of your pledge. A private individual has given \$45,000 and a private couple has given \$50,000. We have bids on a truckload of framing lumber to build out the walls and mezzanine in the north half of the future museum. We are also looking at the electrical components in this same area.

As mentioned in the April board meeting, we are reviewing candidates to take over the Treasurer position. That process continues.

Planning for the October 4 and 5 services continues. Two months ago, we had the Department of Justice (DOJ) approval of two LODD names for formal honors in the 2025 services. We now have a 3rd and by the end of May could add two more. Their finalization could be on hold due to the sharp reduction of Federal Employees in the DOJ which reviews these claims. Brian Zinanni reported that many of the senior staff he has worked with on a regular basis in the past have either taken their retirement, accepted the early buy-out, or received a termination notice. It is currently a hot mess and only remains to be seen how bad the delays grow from here.



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Approaching due dates are July 1 for all engraving, August 15 to pre-order 2025 memorial service shirts and September 12 to pre-order flags. All of this can be ordered and paid for online. If you prefer, you can also download the forms, complete those, including your check (no cash please), and mail them to our Kingdom City address, but please do so at least 10 days before these due dates if using the mail.

Non-Line of Duty names passing this year in 2025, will be honored in 2026, and any names we may have missed in 2024 or 2023. Line of Duty has a moving timeline that Brian Zinanni coordinates once approved and talks with the family, but usually not past June 1st, prior to the October services.

We need people to assist with the October 4 and 5 services. If you can just come in for either service, Saturday night Candlelight or Sunday morning service, it would be greatly appreciated.

The Foundation has met in January, February, March and April. Our next meeting will be June 11. If you have any

comments or ideas concerning either service or our work involving the museum project.

1st Vice President Charlie Peel presented a resolution to the Tri Lakes Fire Chiefs Association thanking them for hosting the convention.

Members of the Southern Stone Fire Protection District Honor Guard retired the colors.

President Jennings adjourned the meeting at 10:50 am.





# THANK YOU!

FFAM Convention

## By Tri-Lakes Fire Chiefs Association

On behalf of the Tri-Lakes Fire Chiefs Association, we wanted to take this opportunity to say, "THANK YOU for attending the 68th Annual FFAM Convention hosted at the Chateau on the Lake Resort in Branson, Missouri."

This year's convention drew a record number of firefighters and their families where they enjoyed spending time with vendors, some friendly competition, and the annual banquet. Hopefully, you were able to spend some time in the Branson / Ozark Mountain Area to enjoy the lakes, theme parks, attractions, shopping, golf, and so much more!

Serving as the host agency, we know this takes a lot of commitment to planning a successful convention for the Missouri Fire Service. We would like to give a huge Shout Out and Thank You to Deputy Chief / Fire Marshal Dylan Honea from the Southern Stone County Fire Protection District for his leadership and work in planning the 2025 FFAM Convention!

Stay tuned for details about the 69th Annual FFAM Convention in 2026. We hope to see you there!

Chris Berndt, President, Fire Chief, WTCFPD; Ted Martin, Vice-President, Fire Chief, Branson Fire Rescue; Keith Wolven, Treasurer, Fire Chief, SSCFPD, Nathan Bower, Secretary, Fire Chief, Forsyth Fire Rescue.

## TRI-LAKES FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Bradleyville Fire Department, Branson Airport Fire Department, Branson Fire Rescue, Cedar Creek Fire Department, Forsyth Fire Rescue, Highlandville Fire Protection District, Southern Stone County Fire Protection District, Western Taney County Fire Protection District.

Southern Stone County Fire Protection District Deputy Chief / Fire Marshal Dylan Honea shares certificate presented to the Tri-Lakes Fire Chiefs Association for hosting the 68th Annual FFAM Convention in Branson, Missouri. Fire Marshal Honea served as the chairman for the planning committee.



68<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL





By Dylan Honea



The 2025 FFAM Convention was held at the Chateau on the Lake in Branson, MO, May 2-4. The theme for this year's convention was "Continuing a Culture of Camaraderie". MISSION COMPLETED! The convention was hosted by the Tri-Lakes Fire Chiefs Association. The funding for the convention was provided by sponsorships from a variety of local, state, and national sponsors. The convention boasted an attendance of 286 attendees from across the State. The attendees were provided ample opportunities to reconnect, network, and make new comrades in the fire service.

Convention weekend kicked off with offering the Certified Fire & Ambulance Board Training provided by MU FRTL. The training was a great success with over 40 attendees and was hosted at Southern Stone County Fire Protection District (SSCFPD). While the class was in session, a lot of behind-the-scenes logistics were taking place over at the Chateau. We utilized apparatus from Branson Fire Rescue and Southern Stone County Fire Protection District to set up the contest site. Starting around 4 pm, we opened the doors for registration and the vendor expo. The vendor expo was made up of 40 vendors from a wide variety of businesses and entities. Starting at 7:30 pm, we held the Opening ceremony for the convention with the posting of the colors by the SSCFPD Honor Guard and a Bagpiper. We finished off Friday night with a social mixer and live music.

Day 2 of the convention started off with the firefighter contest with the singing of the National Anthem provided by Andy Hughes of the Hughes Brothers Theater. Once the contest was completed, the vendor expo was opened. Throughout the day the availability was given to the attendees to Explore Branson. Starting around 5 pm we held the Banquet and Awards Ceremony. During the ceremony, firefighters were awarded numerous achievements and scholarships. The guest speaker Deputy Chief Mike Moore provided us with an excellent speech titled "The Legend of Sisyphus". We finished off Saturday night with a Dance.

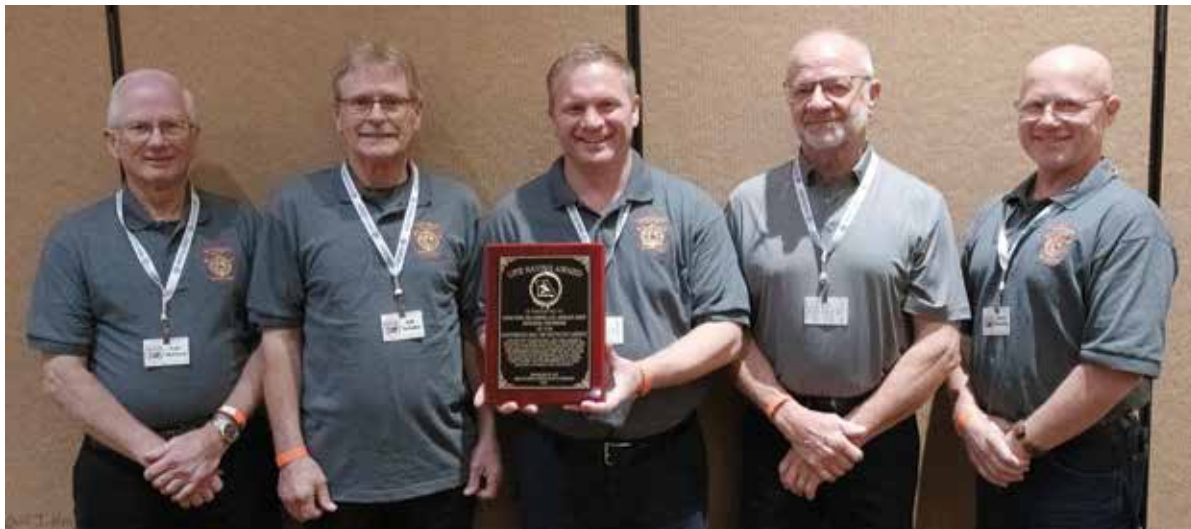
Day 3 of the convention we hosted the Annual business meeting for the Firefighter Association of Missouri and FFAM Auxiliary. During this meeting, the convention was closed with the retiring of the colors by the SSCFPD Honor Guard.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended the convention and hope that everyone Continues the Culture of Camaraderie at the home departments. We plan to see everyone next year!

## CONVENTION







**68<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**







## CONVENTION





## FIRE FIGHTERS DIVISION (MALE)

Event	3rd Place	2nd Place	1st Place	
2 Person Hose Coupling	Little Dixie 2	Southern Stone 1	Southern Stone 2	11.96
Extending a Line	Little Dixie 1	Little Dixie 2	Madison 2	35.25
Replace Section of Hose	Little Dixie 1	Southern Stone 1	Madison 1	24.90
Water Fight	Madison 1	Southern Stone 2	Little Dixie 2	
Bucket Bridade	Little Dixie 1	Little Dixie 2	Madison 1	1.44.69
<b>Overall</b>			Little Dixie 2	

Event	2nd Place
2 Person Hose Coupling	Southern Stone 2
Extending a Line	Southern Stone 1
Replace Section of Hose	Southern Stone 1
Water Fight	Southern Stone 2
Bucket Bridade	
<b>Overall</b>	





## FIRE FIGHTERS DIVISION (FEMALE)

### 1st Place

Southern Stone 1	19.87
Southern Stone 2	55.85
Southern Stone 2	50.97
Southern Stone 1	
Southern Stone 1	3.36.10
Southern Stone 1	

### Event

2 Person Hose Coupling
Extending a Line
Water Fight

### Overall

### 3rd Place

Little Dixie 1
Little Dixie 1

### 2nd Place

Southern Stone 1
Southern Stone 1

## JUNIOR DIVISION

### 1st Place

Southern Stone 2	16.97
Southern Stone 1	1.23.81
Southern Stone 2	
Southern Stone 1	

# 2025 FIREFIGHTER CONTEST

Thank you to Gail Hagans for taking photos of the contest.













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By Keith Smith, NVFC Committee Chairman

I received some feedback regarding the REV Group article in the May-June edition. Their historical memory of timeline equipment costs really put this into perspective. If the price increases for operational equipment in the next 15 years mirror the previous 15, mission readiness for many departments could be in serious trouble. It could even move backward, erasing much or most that was previously accomplished. Those departments still using annual

memberships and fish fries for most of their budget could face some terrible realities.

The rising cost of fire apparatus has resulted in NVFC sending out a call for subject matter experts because the media requests for information and market data have dramatically increased in recent months. There may be a project underway taking the market cost of our equipment just 15 years ago, cost today, and projected cost using

current trending for what it will be 5, 10, and 15 years from now. So many things like gear and SCBAs should be replaced over time for firefighter safety but can that be paid for 10 or 15 years from now and remain open for business? There is the question of Safety & Liability if you do not keep up.

The NFPA Standards development and revision process must shoulder some of this negative financial development. NFPA still fully believes their technical committee makeup is equally balanced. The following is a cut/paste from the NFPA Technical Committee Website – “A Technical Committee serves as the consensus body responsible for developing and updating an NFPA standard. Technical Committees are appointed by the Standards Council, represent a balance of interests, and appointment is based upon factors including technical expertise, professional standing, commitment to public safety, and the ability to bring to the point of view of interested people or groups. Our consensus-based approach ensures that all stakeholders – including users, manufacturers, insurance providers, consumers, government regulatory agencies, enforcers, independent experts and academics – can participate and that no special interest can predominate with no more than one-third of the Committee being of the same interest category”. I will come back to some interesting points that States made to the NFPA representative in attendance next time – especially two parts of the above that state “a balance of interests” and “no special interest can predominate”. I will throw out a tidbit for next time, THEY ALMOST RUN OUT OF ENOUGH AIR CONDITING IN THE ROOM BECAUSE THINGS GOT HEATED!

Some positive news is that a small number of NIOSH staff were recalled reopening the Cancer Registry and taking LODD information. To what extent will future investigations look like remains unknown at this time. On April 3rd, NIOSH notified 900 workers (90% of staff) that their jobs would not be continued. Due to strong pressure from General Labor and Congress, 328 staff were reinstated at least for the moment, and reopening some key programs. Rumors are rampant regarding the long-term outlook in all areas of NIOSH.

NVFC Board of Directors at the annual awards banquet.





By Larry Eggen, Public Information Officer

On June 10, NVFC Missouri Director Keith Smith visited Pleasant Hope Fire Protection District to partner with CHEMTREC in presenting their final 2024 CHEMTREC® HELP Award in person. Pleasant Hope was one of six departments nationwide to receive a \$10,000 grant to support hazardous materials preparedness and response efforts. The 2024 CHEMTREC HELP

Award was made possible through the generous support of CHEMTREC, the American Chemistry Council, Dow, and LyondellBasell. Applications for the six 2025 HELP Awards of \$10,000 each are now open for both Career and Volunteer Departments. You can go to [chemtrec.com/awards/help-award](https://chemtrec.com/awards/help-award).



Pictured behind the check from left to right: Keith Smith, NVFC Director for Missouri; Greg Wood, Fire Chief, Pleasant Hope Fire Protection District; Joe Milazzo, CHEMTREC Director of Standards

The NVFC Board of Directors met May 8-10 in Alexandria, VA, for its annual spring conference. The board is comprised of up to two representatives from 48 state fire associations and meets as a whole twice each year to conduct business, hold committee meetings, and steer the direction of the organization.

For this spring conference, sixty-five directors from 43 state associations were in attendance. 15 of the 19 primary committees were able to meet face-to-face. The other

5 completed their work via ZOOM prior to the conference. My committee position on NVFC is Vice Chair of Nomination. I am sharing the recent election results to give a snap shot of the NVFC Officers and the Executive Committee for the term of 2025-2027:

**Chair:** Steve Hirsch (KS)

**First Vice Chair:** Dallas Renfrew (TX)

**Second Vice Chair:** Reid Vaughan (AL)

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Bob Guthrie (CT)

**Executive Committee:** Quentin Cash

(NC), Steve McClintock (NV), Brian McQueen (NY), Sheri Nickel (OK), Bill Offerman (IL), Pat Thompson (KY) and Eric Quinney (WY).

Thank you for your time plus allowing Rob and I to serve on your behalf with NVFC.





# NEW TANKER FOR COLE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DIST

The Cole County Fire Protection District has received a new 3000 gallon tanker manufacturer by Danko Emergency Equipment. The tanker took 10 months to manufacturer. This is one of many vehicle purchases since the voters in Cole, Miller and Osage counties approved a tax increase for the district. This is the first tax increase since the district was formed in April 1993. As promised, the tanker will replace an older piece of equipment which has been retired. As funds become available the District will continue to replace trucks that are over 10 years old.

The tanker will be stationed at Station 3 in St. Thomas. The tanker will enhance the ability to deliver much needed water to the rural areas with no fire hydrants. The tanker has the ability to dump the full 3000 gallons in two minutes into a 3000 gallon portable tank, which came with the tanker. The new tanker will complement the Districts fleet of tankers to provide much needed water to protect the citizens in the District





## EUREKA FPD AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP



## Around the State

**D**ylan Weffelmeyer (center) is recognized for receiving a FFAM scholarship. He is presented the recognition by Dr. Patrick Feder (Chairman) and Chief Scott Barthelmass of the Eureka Fire Protection District.

Dylan has been a Junior Firefighter at the District for 3 and a half years. He plans to attend Jefferson County Community College's Paramedic Program. Dylan will be the third generation of Weffelmeyers to become a firefighter. He completed Firefighter 1 and 2 and EMT while in high school.

## FAIR GROVE FPD MOURNS LOSS OF PRESIDENT MORRIS

**W**e are deeply saddened at the loss of our board president Phillip "Butch" Morris. Morris passed away on Saturday, June 7, 2025 at the age of 82. Butch had a large impact on the Fair Grove community over his life, which included many people and many organizations. We just want to briefly talk about his impact on our organization.

Butch was a huge pillar of the Fair Grove Fire Protection District. He has been a part of the district since our founding in 1955. As a teenager, his father Warren, was the first Fire Chief and

Butch was right by his father's side in those first days. And, he has been a part of it ever since. Butch continued with his dedication to the district for nearly 70 years. Serving as a volunteer for the first many years. Then he served as a board member for over 20 years on the Board of Directors. He has spent the last decade as the President of the Board. The Fire District is truly only where we are today because of the dedication, support, and love Butch had for the district.

Butch will be deeply missed here and the hole his absence leaves will be a hard one to fill.



## WILLARD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT PROMOTIONS

**T**he Willard Fire Protection District is proud to announce two promotions. Jeremy Bumgarner has been promoted to Battalion Chief. Jeremy has worked for the District since June 2013 and was one of our initial hires when the district became a paid combination department.

Nick Heffington has been promoted to Lieutenant. Nick has worked for the district since July 2020 and has been a tremendous asset for the district. Congratulations BC Bumgarner and Lt. Heffington!



Battalion Chief Jeremy Bumgarner



Lieutenant Nick Heffington



By Keith Smith, Chairman

Just before submitting this article, the Foundation is pleased to announce we have a new treasurer. Her name is Courtney Shiverdecker, she is a mother of two, has a BS in accounting, and an MBA, and resides in Fulton, and a fun fact, she has participated in a stair climb. Her start date will be July 1.

By the time you read this, we should be starting, or nearly so, the framing in the north end of the museum. For those who have been there, that is the section of the building with the restrooms. We have accepted a bid for two truckloads of framing lumber. A group of firefighters who frame in a second job have agreed to complete the work. This prepares the next step, which is electrical, and a major portion of that work is currently under detailed review including material source options. Mechanical follows and we have assistance with that underway.

I am outlining all of this to highlight your Foundation's commitment to the forward progress of your future museum as funding continues that support. This next step will move forward as far as \$150,000 will take us. The last phase completed two years ago included the routing and entry of all utilities into the building including the main electrical panel. This also included fully completed restrooms which was the most expensive per square foot portion of this project, and two service areas. Much more remains to be done, but progress continues with your support.

Preparation for the October 4th and 5th services are underway. We will be honoring 9 Line of Duty Deaths (LODD) and 90 service recognition names this year. The Sunday service will be live-streamed using Facebook and hopefully YouTube platforms. Full details will be in the next magazine edition. The Candlelight Service on Saturday evening will be video recorded and later available for viewing through a link on our webpage. Reminder from our last article that having purchased our own chairs, your seating comfort compared to all previous years will be improved. Service information is available on our website.

The 2025 memorial service shirts are available for purchase on our website. The cutoff date for shirts is August 15th. We are working with a pre-order process to ensure you have a shirt that will be available for pick

up at the memorial on Saturday afternoon October 4th before the service or can be mailed to your home following the services with a shipping and handling fee per shirt. We will not guarantee extra shirt availability on the service weekend or a 2nd printing of the shirt once the small supply of extra inventory is sold.

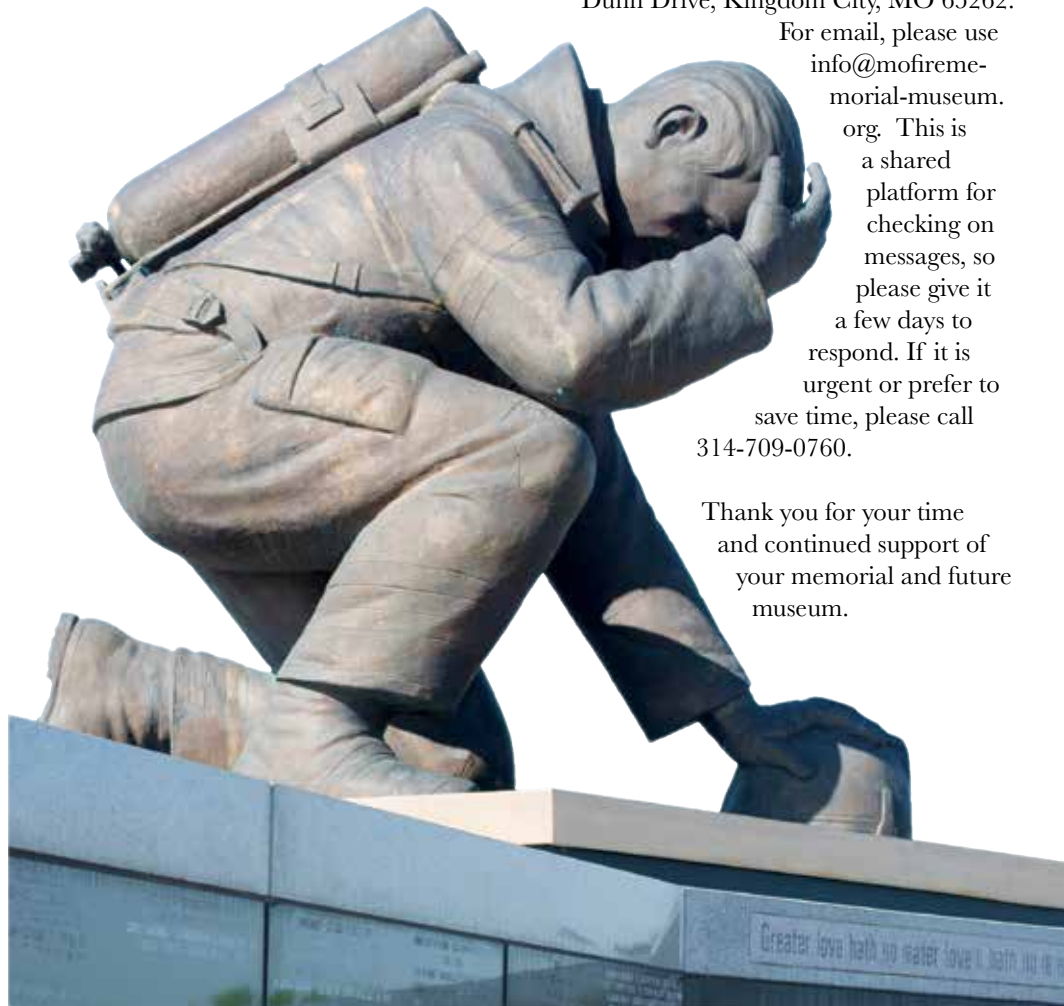
You can also purchase a flag in honor of a name. All flag orders must be received in hand by **September 12th**. A form is provided in this magazine (**mail by September 5th**) or go to our website. The engraving request deadline for the October 2025 services was July 1. We can continue to take engraving orders for the October 2026 services.

Please take the time to review the Firestorm Charities article and flyer in this magazine. They have selected your Foundation as the beneficiary of their September 6th activities this year. You may be interested in participating in the morning ride or just the afternoon programs.

The last two services have provided more delivery of honors and recognition to families and required more logistical support than anything previous. This year is potentially the most challenging in memory with 9 LODD names. That said, we are asking for help in advance of and day(s) of each service. If you have an interest in doing so, please contact us by calling or email. A reminder that our mailing address is 5550 Dunn Drive, Kingdom City, MO 65262.

For email, please use [info@mofirememorial-museum.org](mailto:info@mofirememorial-museum.org). This is a shared platform for checking on messages, so please give it a few days to respond. If it is urgent or prefer to save time, please call 314-709-0760.

Thank you for your time and continued support of your memorial and future museum.



Firestorm Charities is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) and has selected your Foundation to receive proceeds from their September 6th event in Richmond, MO. Many know this as Gail's 9/11 Tribute Ride. Their promotional flyer provides specific details on how to register for the ride or just attend the activities following the ride. Shirts and other merchandise commemorating this event are for sale through their app. The Foundation will be part of their opening ceremonies following the ride. We are also sharing vendor space with FFAM to provide information and advocacy in how both organizations support the Missouri Fire Service. Hope to see you in Richmond on September 6th.





# Gail's 9/11 Tribute Ride

**Honoring the Heroes**  
**Saturday, September 6, 2025**

The journey begins at the scenic Arcadian Moon Winery in  
Higginsville, MO and concludes at the iconic  
Branded Steakhouse in Richmond, MO.  
A TRUE hometown hero destination!

## Saturday

- Registration starts at 8am - \$30.00 Per Person, includes Memorial Shirt
- Bike Blessing at 10:30am - given by Bikers for Christ
- Kick Stands up at 11am

**Memorial Shirts**  
**Available for**  
**Purchase**

Pre-Registration: July 1st - August 15th  
\$25.00 Per Person - Includes Memorial Shirt  
(Picked up at check-in the day of the ride.)

After August 15th: \$30.00 Per Person

**REGISTER HERE**



**VENDORS**  
**BIKINI BIKE WASH**  
**BREAKFAST BUFFET**  
**DYNO RUNS**  
**LIVE MUSIC**  
**BY 346!**



**All Proceeds**  
**Benefit:**





# MUST KNOW DOJ PROGRAMS

By Congressional Fire Services Institute

While the federal government has a limited role in the fire service, most federal departments administer at least one program that provides training, equipment, research or other types of benefits for our nation's first responders. One such department is the U.S. Department of Justice.

Our initial thought is law enforcement when we think of the Department of Justice. According to its mission statement, DOJ's mission is to "uphold the rule of law, to keep our country safe, and to protect civil rights." But the department also administers programs that benefit our nation's fire and emergency services, most notably the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB)

Program and the Public Safety Medal of Valor.

The question is: how many members of the fire service are aware of these programs? Not enough, and it is up to those of us knowledgeable about these programs – and for that matter all federal programs benefiting the fire service – to educate firefighters at the local level. This is my challenge to you and others: to share information about these programs with your colleagues.

Established in 1976, the PSOB program "provides death, disability, and education benefits to eligible PSOs or their families in the event of the officer's death or permanent and total disability in the line of duty." The benefit for eligible deaths and disabilities is currently \$437,503. The process of applying for and receiving the benefit is lengthy, and sometimes the outcome is not favorable. But throughout the years, the program has awarded millions in benefits to family members, helping them rebuild their lives.

Last year, the General Accountability Office issued a report on the PSOB program. One

of its findings was that the program was not reaching potentially eligible beneficiaries. While the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and the Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) are the two primary agencies tasked to work with the DOJ in program outreach, they alone should not be responsible for alerting the public safety community; we should all participate in this effort.

And how many members of the fire service are aware of the Public Safety Medal of Valor Program? The program was established in 2000 to recognize members of the fire service and law enforcement for acts of valor. It is considered the equivalent to the military's Medal of Valor. Each year,

members of a review board appointed by the President and congressional leaders, review nominations and the recipients are presented the award by the President in a White House Ceremony.

This program should be on the radar screen of every local, state and national fire service organization. While

firefighters are humble and selfless, they deserve to be recognized for their valor and sacrifices just as members of the military are honored for their bravery and sacrifice. This award not only honors the bravest of the brave, it raises public awareness of all the men and women who serve and protect our communities against fire and other dangers.

You can learn more about these two programs by clicking these links for the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program and the Public Safety Medal of Valor. I will continue to highlight other federal fire service programs that can have a positive impact for firefighters at the local level – please join CFSI in sharing the message!



What does it truly mean to "buy into" something bigger than yourself? It means investing not just your time, but your heart and soul. It means taking pride and ownership in a project that resonates deeply and dedicating yourself to making it the best it can be. For the members of the Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department (MSFVFD), this concept isn't just a theory – it's a way of life.

The MSFVFD stands alone. As the only 11-day fire department in the nation, it holds a unique place in firefighting history. Year after year, dedicated volunteers converge on the Missouri State Fairgrounds, ready to serve and protect. They are the backbone of the operation, the individuals who ensure the safety of fairgoers and contribute to a tradition that spans generations.





By RB Brown, Chairman

And this year is particularly poignant. After decades of service, the current firehouse is slated for demolition after the fair, making way for a modern facility that will stand for the next 62 years and beyond. This marks a turning point, a bittersweet moment to reflect on the past and embrace the future.

It takes dedicated people like you who have helped out for one day to 30-plus years to make the fire department function. Time has taken its toll on the firehouse. Before this publication was released to the public a work session went by but we have two more coming July 18-20, August 1-3. But this being the last year for the current firehouse we will need the same dedicated people helping to make history. Your help will be needed on August 22-24, 29-31, September 5-7, and 12-14 if days are needed, to be announced soon.

This spirit of camaraderie and commitment is what defines the MSFVFD. It's a team effort, a collective dedication that ensures the legacy of the department continues for generations to come. Whether you've been a long-time member or are considering joining for the first time, your contribution makes a difference.

Now, more than ever, the MSFVFD needs its dedicated members. They need the helping hands that have shaped its history and the enthusiasm of newcomers ready to embrace its future.

The upcoming work sessions are crucial. They offer a chance to prepare the firehouse for its final fair, to ensure it stands strong and provides a safe haven for the volunteers who will call it home for those 11 days.

Consider this a call to action. If you've ever been a part of the MSFVFD family, your help is needed. Your time, your skills, and your shared passion can contribute to a lasting legacy.

Come to the fair. Experience the energy and excitement, and witness firsthand the dedication of the MSFVFD. After the fair, join in the farewell to the old firehouse, a place filled with memories, laughter, and countless acts of service.

The future of the MSFVFD is bright. With a new firehouse on the horizon, the department is poised to continue its vital role for another 62 years and beyond. But it will take the same unwavering dedication, the same passion for service, and the same spirit of teamwork that has defined the department for so long.

Thank you for the memories. Thank you for the fun. And thank you for being a part of the MSFVFD family. The future awaits, and together, we can make it even brighter.



# THANK YOU!

## FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI



**PLAN YOUR VISIT • AUG 7-17 • 2025**  
**🌈 MOSTATEFAIR.COM 🌈**





# Director's Comments

University of Missouri Extension



**Harry Ward**  
Director

It looks like summer has arrived and the lightning bugs are out. My wife who grew up in the West thinks that they are enchanting. I would agree. I have always enjoyed the evenings just sitting outside at dusk watching the lightning bugs and listening to the sound of nature around us. I hope you all can find time to relax and take in the world around you.

The Institute has appointed a new Regional Training Coordinator Kim Campbell. Kim lives and works in Nodaway County

(specifically Maryville MO) and is a Lieutenant with Maryville/Polk Township FPD and a Paramedic with Nodaway County Ambulance District. She has been in the fire service for 12+ years and holds many certifications. Kim will be responsible for coordinating training courses in Missouri State Highway Patrol Region H. We welcome Kim as the Regional Coordinator. You can contact her any time at [kcdnz@umsystem.edu](mailto:kcdnz@umsystem.edu) for your training needs!

As the University of Missouri Extension Fire and Rescue Training Institute (MUFRIT) wraps up fiscal year 2025, we have been working hard to get everything finished. The year-end statistical information will be available in the Institute's annual report in August.

This year we hosted our 93rd Summer Fire School. And this year the format was completely different from years past. Tracy Gray, our Conferences and Special projects asked each major Fire Service organization in Missouri for their input. He got a lot of positive feedback on this new format for Summer Fire School.

This year Summer Fire School was not just one week but the whole month of May. Each week there was something for everyone. Fire Officer I, Basic Pump Operations,

Find Out More Online:

**MUFRTI.ORG**



## Find the Full Training Schedule at MUFRTI.org

### DATE COURSE CITY CONTACT PHONE

07/15	The Lithium-Ion Revolution	Alton	Sam Barton	(417) 270-1625
07/18	Saving Our Own	North Kansas City	Greg Hook	(816) 412-8008
07/18	Vehicle Rescue: Operations	Nixa	Gary Josephsen	(417) 449-0535
07/19	The Lithium-Ion Revolution	Brumey	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
07/19	Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist	Willard	Kevin Samsel	(417) 987-7323
07/19	Vehicle Fire Fighting	Crocker	Jeff Porter	(573) 512-1856
07/19	The Lithium-Ion Revolution	St. Robert	Jordan Light	(573) 578-6574
07/21	The Lithium-Ion Revolution	Mountain Grove	Clinton Gibbens	(417) 259-0302
07/25	Emergency Vehicle Driver Training	Hurley	Jimmy Phillips	(417) 635-4401
07/26	The Lithium-Ion Revolution	Perryville	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
07/26	Responding to Chlorine Emergencies	Naylor	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
07/26	Vehicle Fire Fighting	Lowry City	Justin Norris	(660) 492-3509
07/26	The Lithium-Ion Revolution	Madison	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
08/02	Responding to Chlorine Emergencies	New Haven	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
08/02	The Lithium-Ion Revolution	New London	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
08/02	The Lithium-Ion Revolution	Brookline	Greg Smith	(417) 861-1696
08/02	Emergency Response to Ammonia Incid	Clarence	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
08/09	The Lithium-Ion Revolution	New Florence	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
08/09	Fire Don't Care	Maryville	Morgan Wheeler	(660) 562-3209
08/09	The Lithium-Ion Revolution	Dexter	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
08/16	Certified Fire and Ambulance District Bc	Richmond	Scott Williams	(816) 470-3030
08/16	Handling LP Gas Emergencies	Palmyra	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
08/19	Avoiding Operational Pitfalls for the First Arriving Officer in Command	Buffalo	Shane Duskin	(417) 733-3977
08/20	Emergency Response to Ammonia Incidents	Jefferson City	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
08/23	Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist	Ava	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
08/23	The Lithium-Ion Revolution	Warrensburg	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
08/23	Basic Grain Engulfment Rescue	Wellington	Grant Oetting	(660) 229-4525
08/23	The Lithium-Ion Revolution	Clarnece	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>
08/25	Surface Water Rescue: Awareness	Lee's Summit	Doug Wheeldon	(816) 518-4675
08/26	Swiftwater and Flood Rescue: Awareness	Lee's Summit	Doug Wheeldon	(816) 518-4675
08/28	Through the Lock	Blue Springs	Bob Little	(816) 988-5460
08/30	Handling LP Gas Emergencies	Owensville	STEMS	<a href="https://sematraining.com/login">sematraining.com/login</a>

SCAN CODE



FOR SCHEDULE



Confined Space Rescue, Live Fire Instructor, Truck Company operation, Fire Dynamics: Flashover, and many more. Our enrollment was 381 representing 58 counties in Missouri and two states (Illinois and Kansas). We even had some students taking classes every week.

We are grateful to the Division of Fire Safety and the Missouri Fire Safety Education/Advisory Commission for providing funding for the 93rd Summer Fire School.

This year we had a lot of partners that helped make this school a success. Thank you!

35 MU FRTI Adjunct Instructors  
Alex Air Apparatus LLC and Bill Hurt  
Boles Fire Protection District  
Boone County Fire Protection District  
City of Columbia Municipal Power Plant  
Cole County Fire Protection District  
Columbia Fire Department  
Cooper County Fire Protection District  
Engine House Training  
I-70 Towing  
Missouri State Parks  
MU Law Enforcement Training Institute  
MU Printing Services  
O'Byrne Fire Ground Training  
Scott's Towing and Recovery  
University of Missouri Extension

MU FRTI's mission remains focused on providing the very best and safest training for the Missouri fire service and emergency first responders. If we can be of any assistance, please contact us at 800-869-3476 or 573-882-4735 or go to [muftri.org](http://muftri.org).



## PREPARE TO ATTEND THE MISSOURI FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL SERVICES

### LOCATION & WEATHER

#### PRIMARY SITE

Missouri Firefighters Memorial  
5550 Dunn Drive, Kingdom City, MO

#### ALTERNATE SITE (WEATHER-DEPENDENT)

Auxvasse Middle School Gym  
598 E. Harrison St., Auxvasse, MO  
(5 miles north)

#### WEATHER TIP

October can be breezy, warm, or chilly. Bring layers, blankets (evening), or sunscreen (morning).

#### NOTE

If location changes due to weather, service times shift by 30 minutes.

### SERVICE TIMES

#### SATURDAY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

7:00–8:15 PM  
(More informal, family-friendly)

#### SUNDAY MORNING CEREMONY

10:30 AM–12:00 PM  
(Formal with full honors program)

### PARKING & AMENITIES

Memorial lot fills quickly — street parking available nearby

Water provided (bottled & fill station)

Restrooms inside museum

Ambulance on standby

### WHAT TO EXPECT

#### SATURDAY NIGHT

Printed program, biographies, candlelight tribute with take-home wax cup

#### SUNDAY MORNING

Flags, honor guards, speakers, bell toll, reading of both line-of-duty and non-line-of-duty names

### FIELD OF FLAGS

Order a flag in memory, in honor, or in appreciation

### DEADLINE

4 weeks before service

### LODGING OPTIONS

#### KINGDOM CITY (5 OPTIONS)

Holiday Inn Express, Quality Inn, Amerihost, Days Inn, Motel 6

#### FULTON (5 MI)

Baymont Inn, Amerihost

#### MEXICO, MO (15 MI)

Country Hearth, Best Western, Days Inn

#### COLUMBIA (20 MI)

30+ hotels (note Mizzou football weekends)

### QUESTIONS?

[info@mofirememorial-museum.org](mailto:info@mofirememorial-museum.org)  
Keith Smith: 314-709-0760

# SAVE THE DATE

## Firefighter Memorial in Kingdom City

October 4 • Candlelight Services at 7:00 p.m.

October 5 • Memorial Services at 10:30 a.m.

More details available at [mofirememorial-museum.org](http://mofirememorial-museum.org)



# AUXILIARY MEETING MINUTES

May 4, 2025

Chateau on the Lake, Branson, MO

The May 4, 2025, FFAM Auxiliary meeting was called to order by President Sheri Berendzen, Cole Co FPD at 9:00 am. In attendance were: Joni Fields, Paris Rural FPD; Rosanna Jorgenson, South Holt FD; Lachrisa Smith, North Central Carroll FPD; Theresa Cox, Wentzville FPD; Bailey Burd, Johnson County Fire; Carissa Thompson, Holts Summit FPD; Diane Wynne, Galt; Cathay Ohmes, Wentzville FPD; Jennifer Sterner, West Plains FD; Robin Schrape, Jefferson R-7 FPD; Nancy Ransdell, Madison West-Monroe; Kathy Eggen, Johnson Co FPD; Reta Smiley, Galt FPD; Missy Erdel, Little Dixie FPD; and Deidre Batliner, Gravois FPD.

## MINUTES

The minutes of the April 6, 2025 meeting held at the MO State Fair Fire Station were read. Jennifer Sterner made a motion seconded by Diane Wynne to approve the minutes. The motion carried

## FINANCIAL REPORT

\$9,625.62 We raised \$1,974 on the silent auction and \$447 on the raffle. A motion was made by Missy Erdel and seconded by Teresa Cox to approve the minutes. The motion carried

## COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

## POSTER CONTEST

Winners were chosen. We would love for more departments to participate.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership has not changed. 11 honorary members and 90 paid members. We have a total of 15 departments with 12 represented today.

## MEMORIAL

October 4 & 5, 2025 in Kingdom City.

## AUXILIARY OF THE YEAR

There have been no nominations for a few years. Joni is working on a new form for the magazine and the website.

## CONVENTION

The convention was amazing and the loot bags were very appreciated. Dylan Honea was praised for all of his work preparing for the convention and throughout the weekend.

## CONTEST

We need more teams

## AUXILIARY MEMBER OF THE YEAR

We did not have any nominations.

## OLD BUSINESS

The website will be updated with photos and all pertinent information. We took photos prior to the meeting today.

Goals: better ourselves. A reminder that you do not need to have a department auxiliary to be a member of the FFAM Auxiliary, you just need a department sponsor.

Tim Bean, Missouri State Fire Marshall presented to the group about legislation and passed out a publication with all of the Missouri State Officials in it. He also shared thoughts regarding the Women's Symposium coming up later this month as well as the number of line-of-duty deaths we have had in Missouri this year.

## IDEAS FOR OUR FUNDS

1. Stair climb
2. Possible scholarships(convention, Fire School, Firefighter 1 & 2, furthering education)

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on August 3, 2025, at the Missouri State Fair Fire Station.

## ADJOURN

A motion was made by Theresa Cox and seconded by Rita Smiley to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 am. The motion carried.



# JOIN THE FFAM

Be a member in the largest  
fire service association in  
the state of Missouri

Support an organized  
voice on important annual  
fire service legislation in  
Jefferson City

National Volunteer Fire  
Council representation

Access to college  
scholarships for yourself,  
dependents or family

Access to low cost  
Accidental Death and  
Dismemberment Insurance

Receive a 10% discount on  
IFSTA (red book) manuals

## BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

For More Information  
Visit Our Website

## FFAM.org



WE SERVE YOU...SO YOU CAN SERVE OTHERS!

## DANKO EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

**FireCraft®** Safety Products

NFPA certified structural firefighting gloves give you longer wear, protection, fit and the superior dexterity you need for the toughest, most dangerous jobs. All FireCraft® Gloves come with a Lifetime Warranty on Workmanship and Materials.

**HME Pumper Demo #24323***Available for immediate purchase and delivery.*

Cummins X12 - 525 HP, 5-Speed Allison 4000EVS Automatic Transmission, Kussmaul - Auto Air 091-9-12 Vdc Compressor, Whelen LED Light Package, Back-Up Camera System, Hale "Q-MAX" 1500 GPM - CORE Pumper/Tanker - Side Control, HME-Ahrens Fox Seat Logos, 100" Wide Body, 1000 Gallons Water Tank, Top Operators Control Panel w/ Speedlays and so much more....

**DANKO Pumper Tanker T-0445***Belton Fire Department - Belton, MO*

3000 Gallon Danko Pumper Tanker, Freightliner M2-106 Chassis, Cummins Engine, Allison Automatic, Hale 1000 GPM Single Stage Fire Pump, Zico PTS-HA Hydraulic Tip Down Folding Tank Carrier, Fol-Da-Tank 3000 Gallon Collapsible Folding Tank, Truck will "Pump and Roll", Whelen Emergency Lighting, Back-Up Camera System, Whelen Scene Lights, Hose Bed with Hose Bed Cover and Lights, Rear Access Ladder and so many more options!

**STEVE BORTS**

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## Rooted in tradition. Designed for the future.

*Built on the proven "wireframe" SCBA backframe and pneumatics platform, the 3M™ Scott™ Air-Pak™ XD SCBA focuses on today's firefighter who requires an extreme duty SCBA, while maintaining cleanability, comfort, and connectivity.*



**Integrated Drag Rescue Loop**  
provides a horizontal pull strength of 1,000 lbs. to assist with rescuing a downed firefighter.



**Low-profile SCBA** designed to help minimize snag points when working in tight spaces.



**Redundant Safety Features** including the dual-redundant pressure reducer are designed to help the SCBA perform, while also providing firefighters peace of mind.



**"Buddy" Lights** help enable a 360° view of the firefighter's air pressure and PASS status.



**Contact Feld Fire for a demo of  
the new 3M Scott Air-Pak XD!**

◀ [FeldFire.com](http://FeldFire.com)