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Fire Fighters Association of Missouri



ABOUT THE COVER

Firefighters spraying water on an inflatable duck at the Missouri State Fair.

By Brooke Herrin

Submit a cover photo:

Send your high resolution image and information to ffam.jmiller@gmail.com

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CONTENT

FFAM Newsletter (ISSN 0199-8633) is published every two months by the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri. Office of Publications is PO Box 1153, Warrensburg, MO 64093. Subscription price is \$1.00 per year and is paid by membership with their annual dues. Periodicals Postage is paid at Warrensburg, MO and additional offices.

SUBMIT ADDRESS CORRECTIONS TO:

FFAM PO Box 1153 Warrensburg, MO 64093

FFAM.ORG

President's Remarks





Larry Jennings

an you believe we are already this close to fall? The weather has certainly been a bit fickle, with more than adequate rain at times with comfortable temperatures, and then a slap back to reality with hot, humid and dry conditions. Apparently, we really are living in Missouri, the state of many seasons.

With the return to hot, humid, and the occasional rain storm, we no doubt were right in the middle of the Missouri State Fair. It seems like it wouldn't be a normal fair without those varying conditions, making visiting and working at the fair somewhat of a challenge. The Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department came together for eleven days again this year with equipment and personnel loaned from member departments across the state to provide fire and emergency medical services to those visiting and working at the fair.

I had the privilege of spending some time at the fair and watching these dedicated men and women do what they do best. It is an uplifting thing to see this wide mixture of people come together and perform almost like they worked together every day. The work done at the fair is appreciated by those in charge and by legislators and other elected state officials who make a point to stop in the station for a visit. With any luck, we will see the new station up and functioning by next year's fair. My thanks to all involved in the planning for the new station and the move out from the current station. After so many years in that building, I am sure it was a somewhat bittersweet closeout to the fair.

I hope you have been planning your fire prevention/education activities all year



and are ready for our "busy" season of PR events. Each October seems to bring an onslaught of requests to visit local schools, youth groups and civic groups to talk about fire safety in conjunction with "Fire Prevention Week/Month." This is a great platform to get a safety message out to your community and, of course, make them aware you are available all year to come and visit about fire and other safety related matters. Remember, the more you interact with your citizens on a normal day, the less intrusive your interaction is on what could be the worst day of their lives during an emergency.

For the second year in a row, people affiliated with FFAM received the *Friends of the Fair* award given to those who have gone above and beyond in service to the Fair. PIO Larry Eggen and Joni Fields were both recognized this year for their contributions. Great job, both of you, and keep up the good work!

The Memorial Foundation has been busy planning the 2025 event honoring those members of the Missouri Fire Service who we have lost. This year will again have a large group being recognized at the Candlelight Ceremony on October 4th and the Memorial Service on October 5th. If you can join us to help honor the men and women who have passed, I believe you will

find the event well planned and a fitting way of remembering these dedicated personnel.

As schools go back into session, fall sports begin, school programs start up, department activities kick into high gear and life gets a bit more hectic, don't forget to carve out some "me" time. Some people would say taking some "me" time is selfish and doesn't address the needs of those around you very well. I would offer the counter argument that taking care of yourself makes you a better asset to your family, department and community. Your involvement in the fire service signifies, at least in part, your desire to want to help others and help them through unfortunate situations, but who is there to help you? You need time away, you need time to care for yourself, and you need time to seek out assistance if you need. There is no shame in needing "me" time and taking even short breaks from the normal routine to make sure you are being the best you possible. Remember, there are many resources available to help you through the tough times. All you have to do is reach out and ask. Be good to yourself and be good to those you serve.

Be safe in all you do and if any of the Board can be of assistance, please contact one of us.



Greetings from the 13th Floor

Here we go into the final quarter of 2025, "WOW"! My Daddy instructed me while I was developing into an adult, "Son, a change will do you good". I say that to say this, it was a bitter/sweet state fair this year. The time I was able to spend around the Missouri State Fair fire department, watching the awesome firefighters and EMS perform their duties for the last time in the present firehouse. Emotions were high with those who have dedicated years to make sure the fire department continues at the level expected in that building until the end. A lot of friendships and crazy stories were forged within the building and will live on even with a new firehouse in 2026. Thank you, old firehouse! Again, a big shoutout to everyone who came and assisted with the fire department operations for 2025, job well done!

AFFF FOAM

We, along with DNR, have been working on a solution to resolve all of the PFAB foam that we have set around our firehouses. We have found a solution! DNR has received funding that will allow us to establish collection stations across the state to collect your PFAB foam. We have sent a survey through our fire department registration on August 26th to gather how much foam you have. Please take the survey, which allows us to get an approximate amount within our state.

Fire Marshal's Update

Once this is captured, DNR will set the collection sites around the state. Help us help you get this PFAB off your hands.

Volunteer Fire Protection Association Workers' Compensation Insurance Grant Program (Free Grant Free Grant Free Grant)

Several years ago, we were able to get the legislators to give us \$200,000 for Volunteer Fire Protection Associations, i.e., departments that collect dues or membership fees, are eligible to apply for this grant. You can receive up to \$2000 to put towards your work comp insurance. Our data shows we have 139 departments that are eligible for this grant. Sadly, we only had 29 departments to apply for the free grant! If you are a volunteer fire department and have not applied for this, please copy and paste this website and get started! I hope we spend every penny of the \$200,000. dfs.dps. mo.gov/programs/other/vfpa-wc-insurance-grant-program.php

MO DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION "EXCESS PROPERTY PROGRAM"

Exciting news about a new program MDC will be rolling out. I had a conversation with Ben Webster, and below is the information he shared with me to share with our Missouri Fire Service.







In mid-FY25, the MDC administration got together to discuss the possibility of putting a number of our agency's excess trucks into the Excess Property Program for distribution to our partnering fire departments. Through this discussion and some follow-up conversations, it was determined that MDC would provide 10 3/4 ton pickup trucks per year to the Excess Property Program. These trucks will be assigned to our partnering fire departments through the same process we utilize to assign equipment through the Fire Fighter Property (FFP) program. To be eligible for a truck, fire departments must have a current Mutual Aid Agreement with MDC and must have submitted a request for a brush truck through their local MDC field representative. Once a truck is assigned to a fire department, there is no requirement to paint the truck, but the truck must be made response-ready within 6 months of receipt, and then the truck must be operated for one year. At this one-year mark, the fire department will receive the title to the truck.

In FY 25, MDC provided 7 agency excess trucks, which will be put into service as brush trucks. Again, our goal moving through FY 26 is to make 10 trucks available for issue. The phone number to contact the Lebanon office is (417-532-7904 ext:6342 Kent Bassett) to apply.

PUBLIC SAFETY RECRUITMENT & RETENTION ACT SCHOLARSHIP

I have received several calls about the newly passed SN71. Thank you to Heather Dolce (Heather.Dolce@dhewd.mo.gov) with the Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development, who recently sent this information. Hopefully, it will help answer your questions or at least give you a point of contact.

The following is regarding the Public Safety Recruitment & Retention Act Scholarship; the law takes effect on August 28. General updates include:



Continued on page 60.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

August 3, 2025 • MO State Fair Volunteer Fire Department, Sedalia MO • Secretary/Treasurer Jaime Miller

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, August 3, 2025, at the Missouri State Fair Fire Department, Sedalia, MO. The meeting began with the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OTHER OFFICIALS

OFFICERS

President Larry Jennings, Johnson County FPD; Second Vice President Grant Oetting, Higginsville FD; Sergeant-at-Arms Jonathan Evans, Lincoln Comm FD (V).

DIRECTORS

District 2 Vernon Cash, Shelbina FPD; District 3 Rob Erdel, Little Dixie FPD (V); District 5 Terry Plumb, Southern Stone FPD; District 6 Shawn Ritchie, Gravois FPD; District 7 RB Brown, Union FD; District 8 Bob Floyd, El Dorado Springs FD; District 9 Mark Arnold, Thayer Rural FD; District 11 Billy Smith, North Central Carroll Co FPD; District 12 Rob Francis; District 14 Rick Dozier, Southern FPD of Holt County.

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

District 1 Janet Cain, Shoal Creek FPD; District 1 Blake Callen, Grundy County FPD; District 3 Dale Ransdell, Madison West Monroe FPD; District 3 Josh Loyd, Martinsburg Area FPD (V); District 5 Dylan Honea, Southern Stone FPD; District 6 Mike McNeill, Moreau FPD; District 11 Josh Koepke, Kansas City FD; District 11 Jason Deitch, Brunswick FD; District 14 Kyler Oliver, Rosendale FPD.

GUESTS

David Hedrick, Gail Hagans, University of Missouri Extension Fire and Rescue Training Institute (V); Tim Bean, Missouri Division of Fire Safety (V); Keith Smith, Warrenton FPD; Larry Eggen, Kegan Wilson, Tim Caudill, Johnson County FPD; Gary Berendzen, Cole County FPD; Greg Wright, MO EMS Funeral Team; Romona Kaminski, Fenton FPD; David Frost; KJ Spurlock; Victoria Horn, Beaufort Leslie FPD; Tim Frankenberg, Washington FD (V).

*(V) denotes Virtual Attendance

AGENDA

President Jennings asked for additions to the agenda. New business was amended to say IAFC endorsement, not IAFF. RB Brown moved to accept the agenda as amended. Rick Dozier seconded the motion and all approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

President Jennings asked for a review of the April - June 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)

Gail Hagans with the University of Missouri Extension Fire and Rescue Training Institute reported that they started their new fiscal year July 1. ARFF Specialist Mike Lloyd retired this week. Lance Seacore will be taking over the program.

Missouri Emergency Services Instructor Conference will be held November 7-9 in Lake of the Ozarks. Registration should be out within the next two weeks.

Tim Bean with the Missouri Division of Fire Safety reported that this has been a busy legislative year at the Capitol. LODD benefits were reinstated and also included an increase from \$25k to \$100k through SB 71. Fireworks legislation needed to be updated, along with a new fee structure. After working on it for three years through the industry, it did pass. SB 71 also created tuition support for first responders, allowing career personnel to expand their education. Volunteers were not included in the bill. The volunteer piece will be addressed in the future. SB 3 is focused on taxation for fire districts. There are town hall meetings being held across the state to reference information on this bill and the effects to special districts. Funding for training is still good. There are some concerns due to the economy for next year, so there may be budget cuts moving forward.

President Jennings got feedback on our presence at Firefighters Day at the Capital. The legislators did listen and extended the LODD benefit and also provided the increase, so it is important to talk to your local legislators. In reference to SB 3, in order to pass the KC stadium package, a lot

of additions were made regarding property taxes. If you are a fire protection district, you need to become familiar with this bill, as it will affect your taxation. Tim Frankenberg reported that SB 3 has a provision that it has to go in the April 2026 election for those affected counties. A lawsuit was filed three days ago questioning the constitutionality of the bill. School districts will also be greatly affected. Legislators want to hear how this will affect your department.

DISTRICT REPORTS

DISTRICT 2

Vernon Cash attended a Region B fire chiefs meeting.

DISTRICT 3

Josh Loyd reported that Farber and Van Far are merging, and they are having conversations about how to move forward with FFAM. Dale Ransdell is still working with Howard County.

DISTRICT 6

Shawn Ritchie reported that the Lake Area Fools Ball will be October 25 at Margaritaville. Information is in the magazine.

DISTRICT 7

RB Brown reported that Andrew Caldwell attended the Gerald Rosebud safety day and met the new chief.

DISTRICT 8

Bob Floyd reported that he met with Milo FD, Sheldon FD and Cedar Co Ambulance regarding signing up. He has received very positive feedback on the video

DISTRICT 11

Billy Smith reported that Hardin has rejoined. Josh Koepke reported that there are three educational agencies interested in joining.

DISTRICT 12

Rob Francis reported that he attended the Region E meeting. The SEMO district fair is coming up in September, and they will have a booth there to recruit firefighters.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

Draft • Approval at Next Meeting

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

2nd Vice President Grant Oetting reported that while he was attending the MAFD Conference, Retired Chief Greg Brown asked if FFAM would endorse Lee's Summit FD Mike Snider for the International Association of Fire Chief's (IAFC) 2nd Vice President. Discussion followed. RB Brown moved that FFAM endorse Mike Snider as IAFC 2nd Vice President. Billy Smith seconded the motion and all approved.

President Jennings advised that the remaining 2025 and part of 2026 meetings will be held in the Youth Building on the Missouri State Fairgrounds.

RB Brown reported the need for additional funds for the purchase storage/shipping containers for the storage of items in the fire station prior to its demolition. Two individuals have also expressed interest in purchasing those containers after they are no longer needed. The shipping containers are 40' units and will cost \$7,000. They are also requesting funds to purchase new bunk beds and mattresses to replace the existing beds, which were acquired around 2006, at a cost of approximately \$30,000. Charlie Peel was approached about the beds and mattresses by a supporter of the FFAM. The individual may be interested in purchasing the beds, mattresses and wall lockers for the new station. Discussion followed. Mark Arnold moved to allow a one-time expense from the reserve funds up to \$40,000 for the purchase of storage/shipping containers, new beds and new mattresses for the new fire station. Terry Plumb seconded the motion and all approved.

President Jennings is recommending Chief Romona Kaminski of the Fenton Fire Department as District 10 Director. Rick Dozier moved to appoint Romona Kaminski as the District 10 Director. RB Brown seconded the motion and all approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AWARDS COMMITTEE

No report was given.



BUDGET COMMITTEE

Charlie Peel reported that budget requests are due by October 1.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

No report was given.

CHAPLAIN COMMITTEE

Dave Hedrick reported that the Missouri Fire Chaplains Corp (MFCC) will conduct its annual Conference and Training session on September 8 & 9, 2025, at the Jefferson City Police Department Training Room. Registration is \$120 per person, lunch included. For more information, contact MFCC Chaplain Ed Hatcher at edhat@earthlink.net.

The Federation of Fire Chaplains (FFC) will be conducting its annual Conference on October 17–23, 2025, in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. More information is available on the FFC website at ffc.wildapricot.org.

CONTEST COMMITTEE

No report was given.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Josh Loyd reported that Maryville FD is still on hold due to hotel issues. Discussion followed. If Maryville FD isn't able to host, it will fall to the Board.

Dylan Honea reported that for the 2025 convention, there were 286 attendees and 40 vendors. Dylan Honea presented a check for \$1,000 to Keith Smith for the Fire Fighters Memorial Foundation.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Josh Koepke reported that the board class was well attended. The Committee will be sponsoring a vehicle fire class at the state fair.

FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE

President Jennings reported on behalf of Andrew Caldwell, 6 out of 10 winners for the poster contest will be attending the fair. Fire Prevention Week will be October 5-11, and the theme is "Charge into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home".

Continued on page 58.

By David E. Hedrick, Fire Service Director (RET)

In this series, A Part of Fire Service History, a variety of historic fire service apparatus and equipment have been discussed. One item of equipment that has not been covered at any length concerns the ways American Firefighters illuminated fire apparatus or fire scenes at night in the era before electric lights. Examples of the lighting equipment covered in this chapter include: torches, lanterns, and apparatus lamps. Originally, the author titled this chapter the Illumination of Firefighting. Though it is hoped the chapter provides valuable knowledge (illumination) on early American firefighting lighting, the second common definition of illumination, that of providing a means of visible light, is also appropriate.

This chapter will cover the types of lighting equipment and its use by American Firefighters before the development of electric lights. Not only is it a fascinating history, but some of the images of this lighting equipment still has meaning and carries forward on some of the symbols used in fire service "Scrambles" on badges and emblems seen today. This symbol is an often misunderstood and misrepresented historic device in the fire service today.

As in previous chapters, this one draws on extensive archival research from the past. When quoting original documents or referring to "Firefighters" in a historical context, the term "Firemen" is used. The term fireman, or firemen for plural, first came into relevance in regard to people putting out fires in 1714, being traditionally used generally between the 1820s to the 1980s. The traditional definition of the term "Fireman" is referenced in an 1841 dictionary as: "A man whose business is to extinguish fires." 2 In addition, in early American history, local community fire organizations were called a fire company, such as an engine company or hose company. These individual fire companies would come together to fight fire, being the predecessor of what would later become a town's fire department. Also, the term company in the past and now is used to denote a commercial business, such as a manufacturer of fire equipment. This chapter continues the practice of using antiquated terms when their use is historically appropriate.

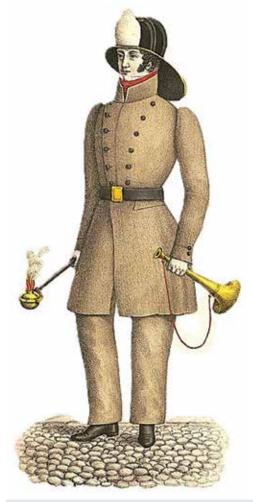
TORCHES, LANTERNS AND APPARATUS LAMPS

Fire or its flame is not always the firefighters' enemy; it can also be a tool. As was presented in the chapter The Age of Steam Fire Engines, fire heated a water-filled boiler, producing steam that provided the first totally mechanical-powered fire engine pumps. Fire and explosives were also used in situations where buildings were destroyed to make fire breaks to control major conflagrations in the past. Today, wildland firefighters use a technique of fire breaks and backfires to stop or control the expansion of wildland fires. However, a simpler use of fire by early firemen was to produce illumination (light) for nighttime operations or interior search and rescue. In early American settlements, there was no public lighting to light the streets at night. It would not be until around the 1750's that oil (whale oil) street lights came in to use for public lighting in some towns.3 Gas (coal oil) fueled street lights first came into use in Baltimore in 1817.4 Still, many towns and cities for centuries were poorly illuminated during the night until electric lighting became common in the mid-1900s.

Before the development of automotive (internal combustion engine) powered fire apparatus with electric-generated lights, lanterns or simple torches provided firemen with light to see by at night. In the earliest days of the bucket brigade or handtubs (hand-pump engines), a torch was commonly used and carried by a runner to show the way to the fire. The torchbearer position would become an honored position in fire companies, leading the way for the fire-fighting forces.

FIREMEN TORCHES

Early torches were cylindrical or round tin containers containing tallow and a twisted waxed wick extending from the container. Tallow is rendered animal fat used in cooking or for early candles. Sometimes the containers were painted with markings, the fire company's name, or stippled with a fire company number. Early open flame torches were sometimes called "Flambeaux." Later torches were made of brass containers that contained coal oil or later kerosene fuel and had a screw on or slip-fit lid. A protruding wick was ignited to provide an open flame for light. Torch containers were usually mounted on a pole that was carried by



Hand colored lithograph of a Fireman, 1843 by Prosper Desobry, New York. Library of Congress, picture in public domain. Firemen Torch in right hand.

a torch boy, a fleet young boy of the fire company.6 The term "Torch Bearer" was used when an honored member of the fire company was assigned to carry the torch and lead the way to the fire, or in parades.⁷ Continued adaptations to the pole mounts consisted of a pivoting hoop and yoke on the end of the pole to allow the container to swing upright when carried at various angles. The pole was usually three to four feet long. Some poles were sharpened on the butt end to enable them to be stuck into the ground at the fire scene. Later versions were more ornate with decorations. Some fire apparatus had loop brackets to slide the torch pole in when carried on the apparatus.

As time passed, fire torches became more stylized and embellished in design. Sometimes, the finely decorated fire service torches were confused with political or election campaign torches of the period. On occasion, they were one in the same. The early firemen used to love to parade their



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"Leaving the Firehouse", H.A. Thomas & Wylie Lithographic Co., Smithsonian National Museum of American History picture in the public domain. (Note Torch Bearer at Left.)

new hand-pump fire apparatus. Sometimes at night, they paraded, drawing a crowd with ringing bells and lighted hand torches. Besides the torch boy, many of the members of the engine company "carried hand-held torches over their shoulders."8 In addition, because of the great number of volunteer firemen needed to work the brakes (pump hand levers) on the apparatus, these volunteers composed a large political voting block of citizens. They represented their political interest with parades for candidates and other public appearances. Other political groups saw the effect of the bright torches at night and soon had their own torches made or bought them from catalogs, an example being the G. F. Foster, Son & Company in their Campaign Uniforms, Torches and Equipments Catalog from 1896.9 Many of these campaign torches were highly ornate to compete with fire department torches. Thus, the confusion between the two types of antique torches found today.

In some cities, when the fire alarm was sounded during the night, the citizens were required to light candles and place them in their windows to help illuminate the street in order to light the way for the firemen. This aided the volunteer firemen in the dark to make their way to the firehouse, as well as light the streets for the response of the fire company/engine. ¹⁰

UNIQUE FIRE TORCHES

Early torches were like other early firefighting equipment, such as fire buckets; they were made initially by artisans in the local community. Later, as torches became more specialized for the fire service, fire equipment manufacturers would make and sell them throughout the country.

Besides the more standard fireman hand torches, fire equipment manufacturers came up with some unique adaptations and options. One was the "Improved Hat Torch" by Cairns & Brothers, c. 1890s. The small open torch assembly was designed to be clamped to the top "comb" of the fire helmet or to a parade hat. On the fire helmet, it could be used for both night parades or on the fire scene to identify the location of people working around the apparatus or hose men.¹¹

A unique hand torch was designed to be used for night parades. It was called the "Shaler's Patented Flash Torch" and was sold by *Fred Miller's Fire Apparatus and Fire*

Department Supplies, c. 1870s.

The hand torch carried upright had a hollow tube in the handle that the fireman could blow through

to force air and fuel up through the torch, sending flame supposedly three-feet into the air. ¹² Thus creating a quite noticeable effect during a night parade. However, one must wonder about the potential fire hazards of this remarkable eye eye-catching spectacle with its spouting flame. An ironic twist of Firemen parading to promote fire protection while creating a potential fire hazard.

Though the "Helmet Torch" might have had some possible use on the fire ground at night, the use for parades, along with the "flash torch," seems more for showmanship than practical use. But that did not stop the fire equipment manufacturers from coming up with new ideas to cater to the proud firemen and make money.

As many fires in early America occurred at night, the ability of firemen to safely respond to the engine company was dependent on some means of artificial lighting. That light was first provided by simple torches. However, these simple torches came to be viewed as one of the essential tools of the trade of firemen. The respect of the firemen for this simple tool can be seen by its inclusion in the fire tool grouping on early fire service scrambles depicted in insignia and emblems still seen today. A further illumination of the importance of the torch and Fire Scrambles will be discussed later in this chapter.

HAND LANTERNS AND POLE LANTERNS

Oil lamps or lanterns became popular in the late 1700s for use in the home, in time replacing candles. The firemen took notice and soon replaced their tallow torches with various types of lanterns. The pole lantern was similar to the torch poles. Replacing the open torch configuration with an oil lamp or lantern hanging from the pole and carried by the torch boy or torch bearer.

So what is the difference between a lamp and a lantern? A lantern is defined as: "a usually portable protective case for a light with transparent openings." The word lantern comes from the Latin word "lanterna," meaning lamp, so early

"lanterna," meaning lamp, so early on, perhaps an interchangeable

Firemen Pole Torch, "Engine 9" made of copper and brass with swivel mount. Manufacturer unknown. Author's collection.



Join us this fall for a Pipeline Safety and Coordinated Response Exercise!

Experience a unique opportunity to discuss and implement emergency planning activities. Meet and interact with your local operators in planning a coordinated pipeline safety response.

- · Speak with your local pipeline operators
- · Discussion-based tabletop exercise
- Designed using HSEEP protocols
- · Training and meal provided by local pipeline operators at no cost
- Attending agencies will be registered to win one of nine regional \$500 attendance drawings



Pipeline Association of Missouri

2025 Meeting Schedule

#	City	Date	Time
1	Buffalo	09/22/25	6:00 PM
2	Nixa	09/23/25	11:30 AM
3	Monett	09/24/25	6:00 PM
4	Joplin	09/25/25	11:30 AM
5	West Plains	09/29/25	6:00 PM
6	Poplar Bluff	09/30/25	6:00 PM
7	Sikeston	10/01/25	6:00 PM
8	Jackson	10/02/25	6:00 PM
9	Troy	10/14/25	6:00 PM
10	Farmington	10/15/25	11:30 AM
11	Chesterfield	10/16/25	11:30 AM
12	Gerald	10/20/25	6:00 PM
13	Cuba	10/21/25	6:00 PM
14	Saint Robert	10/22/25	6:00 PM
15	Camdenton	10/23/25	11:30 AM

#	City	Date	Time
16	Nevada	10/27/25	11:30 AM
17	Warrensburg	10/28/25	6:00 PM
18	Kansas City	10/29/25	11:30 AM
19	Marshall	10/30/25	6:00 PM
20	Boonville	11/03/25	6:00 PM
21	Jefferson City	11/04/25	11:30 AM
22	Mexico	11/05/25	6:00 PM
23	Hannibal	11/06/25	6:00 PM
24	Canton	11/10/25	6:00 PM
25	Macon	11/12/25	6:00 PM
26	Kirksville	11/13/25	6:00 PM
27	Trenton	11/17/25	6:00 PM
28	Cameron	11/18/25	6:00 PM
29	Maryville	11/19/25	6:00 PM
30	Saint Joseph	11/20/25	11:30 AM



To learn more about our pipeline safety programs, visit www.showmepipeline. com. Meeting registration is now live.



Training Center is a self-paced online training available 24/7 for those unable to attend in-person meetings, or as an enhancement to annual programs. Register for access at trainingcenter.pdigm.com and use code: CORE



term. ¹⁴ However, for our discussion, a lantern is specifically designed to be used outdoors, is portable, and has the flame protected from the elements by various protective enclosures. The term lamp in this chapter generally refers to fixed apparatus-mounted lighting that will be covered in the next section.

Whale oil lanterns became popular in America around the late 1700s and were quickly adopted for fire brigades. Usually called a hand lantern, they were made of tin, copper, or brass and constructed with a protective cover or cage surrounding the mica panels or glass globe containing the flame and a metal bale or stiff wire loop as a carrying handle. Lanterns specific for fire department use sometimes had attachment points for temporary mounting to the apparatus for light during the response and then could be removed for use at the fire scene.

To improve the appearance of the fire lantern, the lantern body was often painted or plated with silver or nickel.

Special details were also found on some lanterns with engraving of

personal names on the globe or lantern body. The lantern globe, normally clear, could also be colored. From listings in an antique Cairns and Brother Catalog of fire equipment, the glass protective globe could be specified for lanterns at an extra cost in various colors. including: white, blue, green, red, or

but could have a practical use as well. Some

split colors, half clear

with: red, green, or

blue.15 The coloring

just for aesthetics,

on the globe was not

fire companies used the coloring of the lantern globe as a means of identifying various companies or officers on the fire ground. Traditionally, red was used for a hose company, blue for an engine company, and green for a hook & ladder company. ¹⁶ Split colors were used by officers, such as red and clear for the chief engineer (fire chief). On split colors, the bottom of the globe was clear to shine on the ground, enabling the fire officer to see their way.

There were numerous manufacturers of fire lanterns in the early days of the American Fire Service, with some specific lantern styles patented. A larger officer's lantern of stylish design made of brass or brass with nickel plating was called the "Eclipse". This lantern was made in the late 1800s to early 1900s by the Fire Extinguisher Manufacturing Company, with some bearing the notation made for American LaFrance. Cairns' listed it as a tubular style lantern and noted it as a "superior article." It was a popular lantern for engraved retirement gifts.

A popular working lantern for firemen of the day and now fire collectors is the Dietz "King" Fire Department Lantern, manufactured in tin, copper, or brass. 18 This lantern design features "air tubes" coming off the chimney and flowing back down the sides to the burner assembly to preheat and feed air to the combustion process, increasing efficiency. It has a distinctive "wind or water guard" (shield), an approximately two-inch wide band that surrounds the top of the globe and chimney assembly to protect the lantern's flame from being blown out by wind or water during response or fire ground operations.¹⁹ The lantern is stamped with "Fire Dep't" and "Dietz King" circling the top of the fuel container base. The lantern stands 14.5 inches tall and with carrying handle extends 19 inches. The lantern carrying handle assembly has a small folding hanger wire that is used to help secure the lantern in an apparatus mounting bracket. The Dietz lantern survived past the steam era, and was equipment provided on motorized apparatus for dependable scene lighting up to the 1930s.²⁰ The lantern today can be found in either a natural finish, polished, or painted with clear or colored globes. The Dietz Fire King is a highly prized item by fire museums and fire buff collectors as a representative of a true working lantern of the American Fire Service's past.

A number of commercial manufacturers made a small ornate shiny brass lantern with a round glass globe and a surrounding wire cage that had a small loop bale on top to fit over the wrist or arm for carrying by fire officers. It is sometimes referred to as a "chief's lantern," and some examples that are found today with engraving that were originally presented as gifts to recognize service accomplishments, awards, or retirements.

The acquisition and use of the hand-engine quickly proliferated throughout the American Colonies and created the era of the volunteer firemen and the first fire "enjine" (engine) companies. Camaraderie and Esprit de Corp of the community's volunteer firemen was high and competition to be first on a fire was a major goal. Many firemen started sleeping or "bunking" at the firehouse, at least several nights a week.²¹ A fire call at night would begin with fire watch or rattle watch men sounding the alarm or ringing bells. Firemen bunking at the firehouse would open the doors, light torches and lanterns, and begin to haul the apparatus. As other members responded, they could see the torch boy leading the lighted apparatus and quickly took their place hauling the engine on the run. This practice of lighting the apparatus would transition into the days of the horse-drawn steamer and the first career firemen.

Later, lanterns would also be used as part of the fire watch signaling system. To improve the quickness with which fires could be spotted, some cities installed fire watch towers with bells to watch for fires day and night. When a fire or suspicious smoke was spotted, the fire watch would sound the alarm by ringing the bell. In New York, the watchman would either lean out the window and point in the direction of the fire or hang a flag on that side of the tower to help guide firemen in the correct direction. At night, they would light a lantern and hang it on a pole pointing in the direction of the fire.²² In other cities, a lantern with a colored globe would be hung in the tower or belfry, with various colors used to indicate the direction of the fire. The color code used for the lantern's globe to indicate direction, north, east, south, and west, varied from town to town.23

Continued on page 42.





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By Mick Fischer, Fire Chief

n August 18th, Fire Chief Mick Fischer led a swearing-in and pinning ceremony to celebrate the recent promotions within the Cedar Hill Fire District. Four dedicated men were recognized for their advancements to the rank of Captain: Jeremy Lenhart, Charles Malson, Michael Wittu, and Shawn Hahl.

These newly appointed Captains are poised to play a vital role assisting in the Fire Prevention Division, where they will help enhance the district's efforts in community safety, fire inspections, and fire investigation. In addition to their departmental duties, each Captain will undertake a variety of individually assigned responsibilities, contributing their unique skills and expertise to serve the community more effectively.

Chief Mick Fischer expressed his confidence in these leaders, stating, "All four of these men bring many different talents to our Fire District, which makes them each a valuable asset as they use those talents to our benefit." Their promotions reflect the district's commitment to fostering leadership and advancing fire safety initiatives, ensuring Cedar Hill and the surrounding areas remain a safe and prepared community.

This important ceremony not only marks a significant milestone in the careers of these men but also underscores the Cedar Hill Fire District's ongoing dedication to professional growth, community service, and excellence in fire protection.



Captain Shawn Hahl

Captain Charles Malson



Captain Jeremy Lenhart

Captain Michael Wittu





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MFFCIP provides support for the mental and emotional well-being of Missouri's first responders. Program benefits include resources, training, and best practice guidance for emergency response agencies and peer support teams, as well as a network of trained peers and culturally competent clinicians who are ready to provide assistance. Financial resources are also available to member peer support teams and clinicians, as well as individuals with out of pocket costs associated with inpatient treatment.

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\$300,000	\$165

Eligibility Requirements

- o FFAM Membership
- o Signed Required Actions Agreement
- o Roster with verification of years of service
- o Retirees up to the age of 70





By Adam Fox, Board Chair

The Osage Valley Fire Protection District announces the retirement of Fire Chief Ron Taddiken after a distinguished career of dedicated service to the department and the community. Chief Taddiken retired on July 14, 2025, marking the end of an era defined by leadership, commitment, and countless contributions to fire and emergency services.

Chief Taddiken began his service with the Osage Valley Fire Protection District in 2008, and has held multiple leadership roles over the years. Under his direction, the department experienced substantial progress in training, equipment modernization, and community safety programs. His legacy includes; his unwavering commitment to safety and Fire protection in our district! Being the most knowledgeable fireman as well as the most well known Fire Chief in the county. He is a strong staple in this community and will leave a very big hole for us to fill.

"Serving the Osage Valley community has been one of the greatest privileges of my life," said Chief Taddiken. "I am incredibly proud of our department and thankful to have worked alongside such dedicated professionals. I know the future of the district is in excellent hands."

On behalf of the Board and Fire Department, We would personally like to thank Ron for his Commitment and Dedication for all these years.

The Osage Valley Fire Protection District is proud to announce the appointment of Fred Evans as the incoming Fire Chief, effective July 14, 2025. Chief Evans, a long-time member of the department, brings 5 years of experience in fire service and has most recently served as Assistant Chief.

"Chief Evans has proven himself as a strong leader and a passionate advocate for firefighter safety and community engagement," said Adam Fox, Board Chair. "We're confident he will continue to lead the department with integrity, innovation, and a deep sense of duty."

A public celebration honoring Chief Ron Taddiken's retirement and welcoming Chief Fred Evans took place on Aug 16th at 4:00 at Sheila's BB Restaurant. Community members and local officials attended and showed their appreciation for Chief Taddiken's years of service and support of Chief Evans in his new role.





Retiring Fire Chief Ron Taddiken



New Fire Chief Fred Evans

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\$55 per person \$100 per couple By Matt Privett, Fire Chief

The Monett Rural Fire District is proud to announce the introduction of a new apparatus to its fleet. In September 2024, the Board of Directors authorized the purchase of a new tanker-pumper from Firemaster. This April, the District took delivery of the new truck, a 2025 Freightliner/Firemaster tanker-pumper. Equipped with a 1250gpm pump and a 3000-gallon tank, this vehicle will be stationed at Station 1, designated as T-1213, and will replace a 1992 tanker that has provided long-standing service to the District. We are thankful to the Board of Directors and, above all, the citizens who have made this possible.

NEW BRUSH UNIT

Monett Rural Fire deployed a new 2025 Ford F-350 brush unit, Brush 1217, which joins its twin, Brush 1216, at Station 1. This vehicle replaces an early 80s Chevrolet that served the District for over 40 years.

PROMOTIONS

We are pleased to announce the new Chief Officer leadership of the MRFD, comprising Fire Chief Matt Privett and Deputy Chief William Gilliam.

Chief Privett, with 18 years of experience, was appointed Fire Chief by the Board of Directors in February 2025. He commenced his fire service career in 2007 at Central Crossing Fire Protection District, Shell Knob, Mo, and continued his service with Monett Rural upon relocating in 2017. Prior to his appointment, Chief Privett served as Deputy Chief under Chief Pennington.

Deputy Chief Gilliam, who has been with Monett Rural since 2017, was appointed



Fire Chief Matt Privett



Deputy Chief Gilliam

by Chief Privett in March. He previously held the rank of Captain. Gilliam is also a firefighter for the City of Monett. Both Chief Privett and Deputy Chief Gilliam strive to continue improving the district, prioritizing equipment, infrastructure, and training enhancements to deliver exceptional service to citizens and visitors.



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By Kevin R. East, Captain

n July 17, 2025, members of the La Plata Community Fire Protection
District picked up the department's new mini pumper from Fouts Fire in
Milledgeville, GA. In April, the department started looking for a new fire engine. We had decided a mini pumper is what we wanted, so we looked at new and used models that met our wants and needs and keep the cost as low as possible.

In June, at our business and training meetings, firefighters looked at quotes and pictures of the trucks we had found. We were in agreement that the one from Fouts Fire was what we wanted. On June 16, 2025, we took it to the district board meeting. Captain Aaron Pippin made the proposal for the firefighters, showed we had done our due diligence to find the best truck for the best price. By the end of the night, the board approved the purchase from Fouts Fire.

On July 17, 2025, we flew to Georgia to receive our new engine and a little pump training before driving it back to LaPlata. For the next 4 weeks, we were busy with driver training, pump training, and loading and mounting equipment. On August 15, 2025, engine 703 was put in service, replacing a 40-year-old pumper and on the 16th, ran its first call.

The truck is a 2024 Ford F-550 with a 4-man cab chasey and 2 air pak seats. It has a 6.7 diesel engine with an automatic transmission and a 1500 gpm Hale pump with a 300-gallon water tank and a 15-gallon foam tank. There is a custom-built box with roll-up compartment doors, two 1³/₄ inch



pre-connect cross lays, one $2^{1/2}$ inch pre-connect in the hose bed, a 12-foot extension ladder, two 8-foot hard suction hoses, and a 600-foot 4-inch supply line.

Sunday, August 17, 2025, from 1400 hours to 1600 hours, we held a Housing Ceremony for our new Engine 703 and an Open House for patrons of the district and surrounding communities we serve to join us.

We would like to thank some special guests for joining us: Representative from Senator Cindy O'Laughlin's office, Lois Bragg, State Fire Marshal Tim Bean, University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Institute Director Harry Ward (who started his career path with the LaPlata Volunteer Fire Department), and the City of LaPlata Mayor Dusty Sawyer.









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YEAR DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHED:CHIEF	<u>:</u>	
NUMBER OF ENGINES:NUMBER OF ENGINES.	BER OF TANKERS:	
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Grand Welcome of Branson and the Ozarks: Where Memories are Made.

By Leadwood Fire Protection District

his November marks a remarkable milestone in the Leadwood community—one defined not by accolades or monetary reward, but by decades of selfless service, quiet leadership, and a deep sense of purpose and love for community. Charles "Charlie" Lewis is celebrating 40 years of volunteer service with the Leadwood Fire Protection District, a journey that began in November 1985 when a 16-year-old boy answered the call to serve.

For Charlie, the firehouse was never just a place to volunteer—it was a second home. He was raised within its walls, watching his father serve with pride and purpose. His father, a respected firefighter and former chief himself, instilled in young Charlie not only the technical knowledge of the job, but the heart behind the badge.

That early exposure laid the foundation for a lifetime of commitment. Over the last four decades, Charlie has grown from eager recruit to respected leader, embodying the values of courage, humility, and integrity. His calm presence under pressure and unmatched work ethic have made him a cornerstone of the department—and a trusted figure across the entire community.

In 1997, Charlie played a critical role during one of the department's most transformative moments: the transition from the Leadwood Fire Association to the Leadwood Fire Protection District. It was a significant evolution, one that brought more stability, funding, and resources to better protect local residents. His vision, guidance, and understanding of the community helped shape what the department has become today.

That impact continued in tangible ways. Chief Lewis was instrumental in helping secure key grants that fueled the



symbol of Charlie's lasting imprint.

But perhaps what makes Charlie's contributions most extraordinary is that he's done it all without ever taking a paycheck. Every hour spent responding to calls, mentoring new recruits, attending meetings, and leading his department has been purely voluntary. His reward has never been financial—it's been the knowledge that he's kept his neighbors safe and strengthened the community he's always called home.

For 21 of his 40 years, Charlie has served as Fire Chief. Under his leadership, the department has advanced in technology, training, and safety—all while preserving the tight-knit, family atmosphere that first drew him in. He's led by example, never asking for recognition, but always earning it.

His legacy is written not just in policy changes or facility upgrades, but in the people he's mentored. His leadership style —firm but fair, humble but strong—has inspired many firefighters who have grown up under his leadership, learning far more than just emergency response skills.

"When I joined the fire department as a young teen, Charlie was my fire chief-the head guy, the boss, and the voice of calm in pure chaos," shares Captain Brandon

"I've been one of Charlie's guys for nearly 17 years now, and in that time, he's been far more than just a chief to me. He's been a mentor, a role model, a father figure, a friend, and a shoulder to lean on when I was at my breaking point. I couldn't begin to list all the life lessons he's taught me. He was there as I grew into adulthood, became a husband and a father, always guiding me—especially when I felt like giving up. I started as a junior firefighter with Charlie as my chief, and today, I'm a captain... and he's still my chief. I can say without a doubt: I wouldn't be the man I am or where I am today without Charlie."





Lieutenant Dylan Miner, who also shared a heartfelt reflection on Charlie's influence:

"Charlie Lewis has been a symbol of the fire service in our community for my entire life. I have memories of being a kid in school, seeing him come for Fire Safety Day and thinking how awesome it must be to help people. I was later given the opportunity to join the very organization I looked up to, and Chief Lewis has given me a true example of sacrifice and dedication. Without his help, guiding me in my career in the fire service, I could not be where I am today, doing the job I love. All I can say is thank you, Chief! Thank you for all the sacrifices you have made over these four decades for THEM—the people who have called on you throughout your career on their worst days and whom you have selflessly answered the call for."

Chief Lewis has become a living bridge between generations—carrying the stories, values, and traditions of the department's past into its future. He honors those who came before him and inspires those who follow, sharing lessons not just about firefighting, but about responsibility, compassion, and service to others.

And this legacy isn't his alone. Just as Charlie once followed in his father's footsteps, his own children have grown up within the firehouse walls, surrounded by the same sense of duty, loyalty, and community. The Lewis family's connection to Leadwood's fire service runs deep—spanning decades, generations, and hundreds of lives touched.

As the Leadwood Fire Protection District honors this rare and inspiring milestone, one truth is clear: Chief Charlie Lewis has not only served his community—he has shaped it. His story is proof that the greatest leaders are often the quietest, the most powerful legacies are built over time, and the highest form of service asks for nothing in return.

To Chief Charlie Lewis—40 years of volunteer dedication, 21 years of steady leadership, and a legacy not measured in titles, but in lives impacted. He may have served without monetary compensation, but his reward is far greater: the enduring respect of his peers, the love of his community, and a legacy that will inspire generations to come.



A Message From The 2nd VP Fall is coming up, which means the farmers Training for



Grant Oetting

Wow, where has the year gone? The Missouri State Fair is complete. It was a busy year for the fire department this year as they ran around, I believe 240 calls.... Speaking with the staff, it seems like the weekends were the busiest as they had many heat-related calls and even had to use the station as a cooling station for the fair.

Speaking of the station, the state fair committee and numerous volunteers have been cleaning out the station and putting our items into storage as the state is tearing down the station and building us a new one. This is supposed to be ready by next year's fair. Thanks go to the committee and Chief Wilson for a job well done this year.

Fall is coming up, which means the farmers will be in the fields and the harvest season will begin. So my article for this magazine, we will speak about grain bin rescues.

Grain bin rescue calls are a challenge to firefighters, no matter what the situation. Many think that these types of incidents only happen in rural settings, but that is not the case. This type of rescue has happened in large cities as well as small rural communities. Anywhere there is a grain facility, there is a chance that such an incident can occur. Many factors are involved in an incident such as this: the condition of the grain, the location of the facility, the reasons for a person to be inside, how long the individual has been trapped, the air quality in the bin, access to the entry point, and the type of grain involved. Remember, grain bins are a confined space and should be treated as you would a confined space.

Training for this type of incident covers many disciplines: ropes, confined space operations, patient care and packaging; understanding how a grain bin, silo, or grain elevator operates; safety shut-offs and lockout/tagout; air monitoring; grain rescue tubes and removal; and the like.

Each year about 55 grain bin entrapment events happen around the United States. Many of these events happen in the Midwest

Fire departments need to do preplans on grain facilities. Family farms and co-ops are getting larger, not smaller.

If your department responds to a report of a person trapped in a grain bin, you need to ask yourself a few questions.

- Where is the access to the bin?
- What is the number and conditions of the patient or patients?
- Do we need mutual aid?
- Is this going to be a rescue or a recovery?
- How tall is the bin?
- How much grain is in the bin?

Sizing up an event like this is unlike a call where most things are visible. Doing a 360 walk around the structure will not be much help due to not being able to see inside. When approaching these scenarios, I like to think of them in terms of offensive or defensive attack: do we have a rescue situation, or will this be a recovery?

Establish a perimeter and stabilize the scene, the machinery, and the patients. Set your staging area so that not all the vehicles are crowded around the bin. Talk to the family and find out where to lock and tag out the power. If you do not have an aerial apparatus, figure out where you can get one or will you need a crane to get equipment up to the entry point and to get the patient out.

As far as air quality testing, monitor from the top down. Your conditions can change in a matter of minutes.

Next, form a rescue team; you will need an entry team and a rope team. Secure a high-point anchor. This can be an overhead auger, aerial, crane, multipurpose folding ladder, or a quad pod. Remember, getting your equipment to the top of the bin will be a challenge.





Funds raised will be used to fund the Firefighters Outreach, helping the community with countless needs around the City of St Charles like wheelchair rams, School wishlists, window units, and more.

Once the rescue teams are set and a plan is in place, the team can enter with safety lines attached and while monitored outside of the bin. Rescuers can start assessing the patient, administer any EMS needed, get a rope or a grab strap around the patient to prevent the individual from going any deeper, and request equipment that they will need to have a successful rescue.

The rope team will need to get the safety lines on the rescuers, rig the haul line, and make sure to coordinate with the rope team on the ground when to haul. This system can also be used to get equipment to the top much easier than trying to carry up the bin ladder — unless it has a staircase.

Using the rescue tube to build a circle around your patient is a process of sliding

panels together, then pushing them down. Once the panels are pushed in around the patient, insert the rescue auger and start removing the grain from inside the tube. When the patient is free, help them out by using the steps or by taking a panel out and sliding it on to the grain surface for packaging.

Once the patient has been removed from the entrapment, you must package the patient/victim for removal from the bin. The patient will be lowered to the ground on/in a Sked board on the rope system and transferred to EMS. I highly recommend never letting the patient crawl out on their own. If the patient happens to fall or have a medical emergency, it would not end well. Training and the necessary tools are a major factor in grain bin rescues. If you do not have the training,

equipment, and personnel to complete the job and have grain bins in your response area, then you are doing your community and residents a disservice. These incidents are low-frequency and high-risk. The knowledge and training of the first on-scene firefighters will determine, to a great extent, how the rescue goes.

If the FFAM can be of any assistance to you or your department or if you would like us to attend your event, please reach out to us. I can be reached by email at grant_oetting@yahoo.com or by cell phone at 660-229-4525. If I don't answer, please leave me a voicemail or feel free to text me as well. Until next time, be safe, my brothers and sisters...

By RB Brown, Chairman

The 2025 Missouri State Fair marked a significant milestone for the Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department (MSFVFD), celebrating 64 years of unwavering commitment to public safety through fire prevention, emergency medical services (E.M.S.), public relations, and first aid. This year's fair was particularly unique, characterized by intense heat during both weekends, which heightened the demand for our services. Our department demonstrated remarkable resilience and dedication, ensuring the safety and well-being of all fair attendees.

Throughout the fair, the MSFVFD responded to a total of 224 calls, comprising 143 E.M.S. incidents, five fire emergencies, 13 standby situations, and assistance through our courtesy cart service. Notably, during periods of high demand, we received mutual aid support from neighboring departments, underscoring our collaborative spirit. As one officer aptly stated during an active multi-casualty incident (MCI), "This is why we are here—to lend a helping hand."

FIRE PREVENTION AND INSPECTION EFFORTS

In addition to emergency response operations, our team engaged in extensive fire prevention and inspection activities. These efforts included:

REPLACING BATTERIES

Ensuring that carbon monoxide (CO) and smoke detectors were functioning properly by replacing batteries and installing new units where necessary.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

Hanging fire extinguishers and their boxes throughout the fairgrounds to enhance safety protocols.

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) INSTALLATION Installing AED boxes in various buildings to

Installing AED boxes in various buildings to ensure rapid access to lifesaving equipment.

VENDOR SAFETY CHECKS

Conducting thorough inspections of food vendors for safety compliance and mapping out the midway for optimal safety management.

These initiatives reflect our commitment to maintaining a safe environment for all visitors. This year, we proudly acknowledged members of our organization who exemplified outstanding service and dedication to the Missouri State Fair. The Friends of the Fair Award, initiated last year with only 11 recipients each year, recognized two exemplary individuals: Larry Eggen and Joni Fields. Their contributions have significantly enriched our community. Additionally, the MSFVFD Committee and Command staff expressed gratitude to members who consistently go above and beyond in their duties. The following individuals were recognized:

DISPATCHER

Brody Neff (Adair County Rural Fire Department)

FIREFIGHTER

Dustin Fields (Lakeview Heights Fire Protection District)

OFFICER

Shawn (Duck) Ritchie (Gravois Fire Protection District)

OUTSTANDING SERVICE

Tim Caudill (Johnson County Fire Protection District)

OUTSTANDING SERVICE

Jason Deitch (Brunswick Fire Department)

E.M.S. PROVIDER

Trish Fields (Richmond Fire Department) We extend our heartfelt thanks to these dedicated professionals for their exceptional contributions.

This year also saw a remarkable influx of over 40 new members joining our ranks—a potential record for our department. We hope that each newcomer found their experience enriching, fostering friendships that will encourage their return next year. As senior members prepare to step back in the coming years, we must nurture this growth within our organization.

As we conclude this year's fair, it is essential to acknowledge the emotional weight of this closing chapter. Our firehouse has been a cornerstone of our operations, but is now scheduled for demolition as part of plans for a new facility. This transition symbolizes both an ending and a new beginning; while we cherish the memories made in the old firehouse, we eagerly anticipate what lies

ahead. I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed their time and effort during the fair, whether by assisting with operations or helping pack up after the event. Your dedication is invaluable; without your support, we could not maintain the standard of service expected at the Missouri State Fair.

the Missouri State Fair. **LOOKING AHEAD** Mark your calendars! The next Missouri State Fair will take place from August 13-23, 2026. We look forward to welcoming you back to experience both the fair and our new firehouse. In conclusion, thank you once again for your unwavering commitment to making the Missouri State Fair a safe and enjoyable experience for all. Together, we continue a proud tradition of service that spans over six decades.

THE FIREHOUSE'S FINAL CALL

By Larry Eggen, Public Information Officer

ur Department went into service on Wednesday evening at 6:00 p.m. The fairgrounds were busy with all the final touches being completed for opening day. This year, we had 115 applicants for duty from 74 departments and agencies that are current members of the FFAM. Opening day ceremonies kicked off the day at 11:00 am with Governor Kehoe and State Fair Director Jason Moore giving remarks to the crowd. I had the privilege of giving former Missouri State Fair Commissioner Lowell Mohler a tour of the fairgrounds and opening ceremonies. He was very involved in getting the commission to make the fair self-supporting and improve facilities. He

has been a great supporter of our department for years and it is nice to be able to catch up with him to visit.

Saturday, August 9th, brought a big crowd to the fair, and with the high temperatures and humidity, we became super busy with calls around 3:00 pm. We responded to 45 calls for service that day, and several were multiple patients who needed assistance in cooling off and getting fluids into their system. I think that was a record for our department for calls that anyone could remember. The Mid Missouri Pipe Band comes to the station to play a few tunes for us around dinner time. It is always amazing to hear the bagpipes and drums play and they cap off their performance with us and join us for dinner. Their members are from Jefferson City, Columbia, Fulton, Sedalia and Bevier, Missouri. They play each year for the Military flag retreat ceremony in front of the historic Administration Building. That is a very moving ceremony to recognize a veteran each evening.

The National Fire Sprinkler Association sent two of its coordinators to speak during our annual fire sprinkler trailer burn demonstration in front of the grandstands. We had a good crowd show up to listen and learn about sprinkler safety in the home and see the benefits of sprinklers in the home with the live fire demonstration of a room and contents with sprinklers and one non-sprinklers. They said a home burns 80 times faster than just 40 years ago with the synthetics and plastics in furniture.

Sunday and Monday brought rain showers that cancelled fan favorite tractor pulls both days. The relief from the heat was welcomed, but we missed the pulls. We did standbys for the concerts each evening and assisted with electrical safety training demonstrations with the MEC group at their building on Friday.

Saturday brought a big crowd for the final concert with Jon Pardi. The heat and high humidity brought more calls for service that afternoon, for 50+ calls for service to set another record for us. Sunday began our last day in our station, as the State of Missouri is building a new firehouse for next year. We started the process of tear down and packing all our equipment, cleaning out the station, and returning our borrowed equipment back to the departments it came from. It will be our 65th year of service to the fair as its Fire Department, the 25th anniversary of 9/11, and the 250th anniversary of the United States of America. There will be a lot to celebrate at the 2026 Missouri State Fair, August 13th to the 23rd. We want to invite all who have served to plan to attend and check out the new firehouse and make new memories.





2025 MISSOURI STATE FAIR













VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT















2025 MISSOURI STATE FAIR













VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT







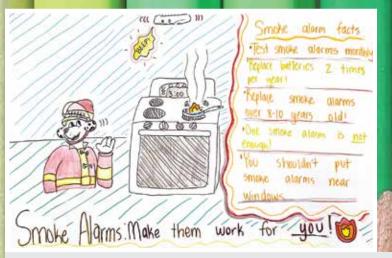








2025 POSTER CO



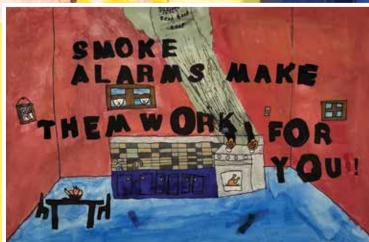
1st Place • Fifth and Sixth Grades: Violet VanBoening • Paris Rural Fire Protection District



2nd Place • Fifth and Sixth Grades: Meirani Williams • Madison West Monroe Fire Protection District



1st Place • Third and Fourth Grades: Nora Holdmeyer • Washington Fire Department



2nd Place • Third and Fourth Grades: Coen Kaufman • Beaufort Leslie Fire Protection District



1st Place • First and Second Grades: Caroline Conner • New Haven Berger Fire Department



2nd Place • First and Second Grades: Walter Bartolotta • Beaufort Leslie Fire Protection District

NTEST WINNERS



3rd Place • Fifth and Sixth Grades: Regan Molitor • New Haven Berger Fire Department

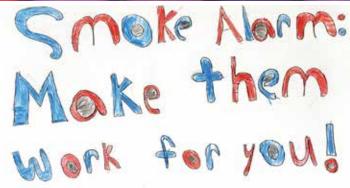


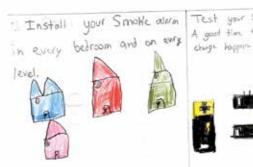
3rd Place • Third and Fourth Grades: Bailey Buck • Little Dixie Fire Protection District



3rd Place • First and Second Grades: Jamie Campbell • Little Dixie Fire Protection District











Replace Smoke alarms
around ten years.
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1st Place • Special Needs: Andrew Deimeke • Little Dixie Fire Protection District

MO DMAT-1 AT THE MISSOURI STATE FAIR

By Missouri State Emergency Management Agency

The Missouri State Emergency Management Agency's Disaster Medical Assistance Team (MO DMAT-1) has deployed for numerous missions and disasters throughout its existence. Since 2010, this has included providing onsite assistance at the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia.

"The Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department responds to all emergency calls on the fairgrounds each year," State Fair Fire Department Public Information Officer Larry Eggen said. "We staff 5 ALS ambulances and 4 engines at our station, and we average 74 personnel daily during the fair. Without the assistance of DMAT, we would not have been able to process all the incoming calls during peak hours with our preferred level of speed. We handled more than 25 calls during a 4-hour period on Saturday, August 9, with the assistance of this team. The deployment of the mobile hospital on the fairgrounds allows us the ability to handle the call volume and not strain the local hospital and ambulance district. We had representatives from 75 FFAM member departments volunteer working throughout the duration of the 2025 fair and we appreciate their direct support of this mission."

MO DMAT-1 staffs the 7-bed mobile medical unit all 11 days to help ease the strain on local response partners, including the Missouri State Fair Fire Department, by providing logistical and medical support on the fairgrounds near the Missouri State Highway Patrol office.

"We appreciate the important partnership from MO DMAT-1 during Missouri's largest agriculture showcase," Missouri Department of Agriculture Director Chris Chinn said. "Extreme heat conditions on several days of the Missouri State Fair led to medical issues for a number of fairgoers. The DMAT was critical during these times and we thank them for their efforts to keep people safe."

This year, MO DMAT-1 also partnered with the Missouri Department of Mental Health, embedding a Behavioral Health Strike Team (BHST). This team was available to provide psychological first aid for fairgoers who may need medical attention or have behavioral health care needs.

"The BHST is often the first to interact with individuals in need of medical attention," Missouri Department of Mental Health Director Valerie Huhn said. "The BHST team does an exceptional job of keeping everyone calm and focused while the medical team steps in to address the physical issues. The BHST and MO DMAT-1 collaboration provides outstanding care for individuals during times of stress and concern. The BHST looks forward to its continued partnership with MO DMAT-1."

The BHST can be requested to deploy in response to natural and human-made disasters as well as other mass casualty events. You can find more BHST information on the DMH website under Disaster Services: dmh.mo.gov/disaster-services/behavioral-health-strike-team.

"Having MO DMAT-1 onsite during fair operations is a huge benefit, not only to EMS but to fairgoers as well," EMS Division Battalion Chief Roy Pennington said. "Tending to patients in the medical tent is typically much easier on those who are being treated. It also results in quicker EMS turnaround times, which was especially beneficial when we were busy. Having the BHST onsite was also a key component to our success, not only to assist with metal health issues, but to help comfort the families of patients that were brought to the tent. Overall, I give MO DMAT-1 and the BHST a 10/10."

A total of more than 150 patients were treated by MO DMAT-1, with the most common time-sensitive needs including wound care, IV fluids, and X-ray. Both Saturdays of the State Fair saw the highest influxes of patients, with the high heat and humidity exacerbating chronic conditions in those who were seen by the team. Because of the long hours spent outdoors, limited shade, and large crowds throughout this 11-day event, the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) also handed out iced-down cooling towels to help attendees combat the extreme heat and reduce the risk of heat-related illnesses by providing quick relief.

"Establishing robust healthcare capabilities in the field isn't only about readiness but also about responsibility," SEMA Director Jim Remillard said. "Especially if someone is experiencing a heat-related illness or serious injury – immediate medical attention is critical, and a rapid response can be lifesaving. Our goal is to ensure that regardless of the environment or conditions, MO DMAT-1 is equipped to meet evolving needs and serve citizens with the highest levels of care and compassion during times of crisis."

For four days of the State Fair, MO DMAT-1 also assisted with onsite response at Washington Town & Country Fair by utilizing a separate deployable 6-bed mobile medical unit. Logistics staffing and setup, especially when it involves multiple locations and unrelated events, is a crucial component of any mobile hospital setting, due to the critical need of medical services outside a standard healthcare environment.

"Consistent teamwork and our ability to operate as a well-synced team during these annual events keep us mission-ready for when disaster strikes," MO DMAT-1 Commander Kevin Tweedy said. "From triage to transport, and even in the most challenging conditions – we're able to maximize speed and efficiency."



MO DMAT-1's capacity to provide this type of adaptable, highly specialized medical support is due in large part to the agency's transformation over the past five years to become a more nimble and rapidly deployable emergency response team capable of meeting a multitude of needs across Missouri - both medical and logistical.

Beginning in 2020 as part of the COVID-19 pandemic response, a multi-agency coordination effort to expand MO DMAT-1's response capacity resulted in an increase from 148 reserve team members to nearly 300 reserve team members today. Since the pandemic, MO DMAT-1 has completed hundreds of missions in service to Missourians.

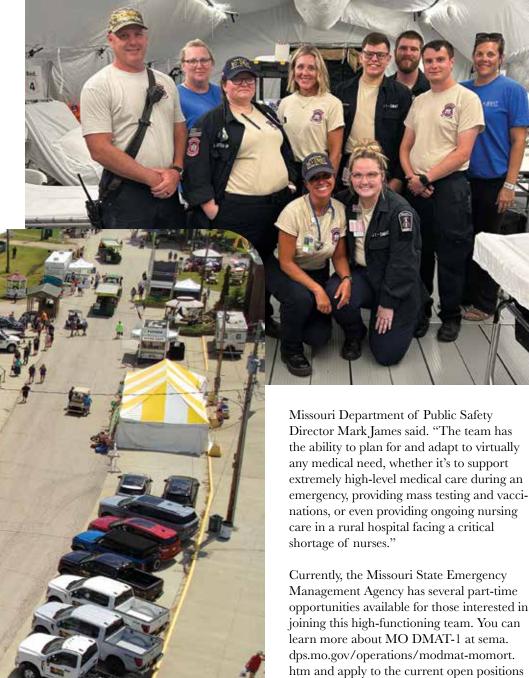
"Our team continues to adapt and expand its operations to best serve local communities during disasters and high-profile special events," MO DMAT-1 Deputy Commander Brendan Bagby said. "Events such as the Missouri State Fair allows our team members to regularly exercise equipment and test operational plans in a real-world environment. We continue to capture lessons

learned and feedback from local partners to strengthen our response."

Earlier this year, MO DMAT-1 was recognized by Governor Mike Kehoe with the Governor's Award of Quality and Productivity in the Customer Service category for its exceptional work treating victims at the KC Chiefs 2024 Super Bowl celebration. When gunshots were fired on the west side of Union Station, DMAT team members worked jointly with Kansas City Fire Department, law enforcement and

local medical personnel to quickly retrieve victims from the crowd and get them to the nearest medical tent where they were triaged, treated and stabilized for transport to the nearest hospital. This mass shooting event is yet another prime example of MO DMAT-1's increased capacity and ability to respond to a myriad of medical and health care needs on an expedited basis when lives were on the line and seconds count.

"Missouri is one of the few states in the nation with a capability like MO DMAT-1,"



at mocareers.mo.gov.

SEAMLESS COMMUNICATION AT SCALE: HOW MSFFD AND MO-1 DMAT USED PULSARA TO SUPPORT THE 2025 MO STATE FAIR

When temperatures soared and call volumes broke records at the 2025 Missouri State Fair, two things remained constant: the dedication of Missouri's emergency responders and the strength of their communication. For the first time, local and state agencies implemented the Pulsara platform to streamline operations across organizations, and the result was a powerful demonstration of teamwork, technology, and resilience in action.

Each year, the event brings with it the activation of a unique emergency response organization: the Missouri State Fair Fire Department (MSFFD). Operated by members of the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri, MSFFD is the only fully operational fire department in the U.S. that runs for just 11 days each year, 115 volunteers—all of whom took unpaid leave or PTO from their full-time jobs—served across ALS ambulances, engine companies, inspections, and training divisions. Without pay, MSFFD's staff work tirelessly to protect thousands of attendees and support local organizations at the event.

This year's high temperatures brought elevated call volumes to the fairgrounds. In order to minimize the risk of heat-related illness, MSFFD opened its firehouse to attendees and coordinated to establish cooling stations across the fairgrounds. As the event's temperature peaked on Saturday, August 9, MSFFD closed the day with 45 total calls—the highest single-day total in the department's history. For 40 minutes, the department reached "Status Zero," with no available ambulances, yet every call was answered. Missouri's Disaster Medical Assistance Team (MO-1 DMAT), also on-site, set their own departmental record with 38 single-day patients.

In order to maintain shared awareness during a surge of patients across an event, the Missouri State Fair Fire Department needed to be connected with other participating agencies on a unified platform. A significant contributor to the success of this year's operations was the implementation of Pulsara. a healthcare communication

platform adopted by the state of Missouri in early 2025. Pulsara's MED OPS and Incident functionality offered an integrated, real-time solution to connect EMS, fire, hospital, emergency management, and law enforcement resources across the fair.

The effort to bring Pulsara to the Missouri State Fair began in June, when MSFFD Command Staff attended a Pulsara MCI Bootcamp and initiated conversations about using the platform during the annual event. MO-1 DMAT leadership quickly came on board, and over the following weeks, both teams worked closely with Pulsara to prepare accounts, workflows, and devices. Pulsara team members were present on-site for several days during the event to provide training and live support. Engagement was high, and adoption was quick.

The Pulsara platform helped streamline communication across the fairgrounds in several key ways. It allowed MSFFD and MO-1 DMAT to manage patient care and track cases from the point of contact through hospital arrival, using real-time communication that included photos, videos, live calls, and secure messaging. State-wide emergency wristbands also allowed responders from any care team to access the patient's Pulsara channel immediately at handoff, maintaining continuity of treatment. Inter-agency collaboration was enhanced through secure information sharing with State Fair Security, MSFFD Dispatch, and the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Notably, Pulsara was set up for rapid distribution of descriptions and photos during missing child and adult incidents to ensure fast, coordinated response across organizations.

Patients transported to regional hospitals were managed more efficiently as well. Hospital teams could receive

detailed, real-time information—including images, vitals, and ETA—well before the patient arrived, allowing them to prepare appropriate resources and reduce delays in care.

Many of the State Fair Fire Department volunteers had already used Pulsara in their year-round emergency service and were excited to leverage it for the event. "I use it on every call," said Blane Bias, MSFFD member from Taney County Ambulance District. "It has increased my efficiency to where I can send the report to the hospital in Pulsara and I don't have to worry about calling a radio report, which takes more time."

Logan Neer, representing MSFFD and the Wellington-Napoleon Fire Protection District, echoed that sentiment. "From my experience in the field, Pulsara is a game changer," Neer said. "It lets EMS and hospital teams communicate in real time, no delays, and no miscommunication. That kind of collaboration cuts down on confusion and speeds up the handoff process to the hospitals. Knowing the hospital is fully prepared before we even arrive makes a huge difference in patient outcomes."

Throughout the 2025 Missouri State Fair, Pulsara helped unify multiple teams and systems under a single, scalable communication platform. From daily EMS transports to large-scale incidents and inter-agency coordination, the platform proved to be a force multiplier for care, safety, and operational efficiency.

Pulsara is honored to have supported the men and women of MSFFD, MO-1 DMAT, and their partner agencies in serving the Missouri State Fair's thousands of attendees. Their dedication and their willingness to innovate ensured that when the fairgrounds were busiest, their teams were at their best.





Thank you to NAFECO for sponsoring the 2025 FFAM Convention!



Thank you to Cashion Fire Equipment Fire Protection for sponsoring the 2025 FFAM Convention!







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APPARATUS LAMPS OR LIGHTS

As time progressed, fire companies began to develop and add apparatus-mounted lights for specific purposes. The mounted lights on the early apparatus are sometimes referred to as either "Signal Lamps" or "Side Lights". Signal lamps were generally brighter, some with reflectors focusing a beam of light forward to light the way and warn others of the on-coming apparatus. They were generally mounted on the front or rear of the apparatus. Side lamps were used to illuminate the apparatus and the area around it for night time operations. They were mounted in a variety of locations around the apparatus. Though these lights started out as simple, rudimentary apparatus lighting, they soon would become an embellished part of the apparatus.

As fire companies took pride in their handpump fire apparatus, the custom to "dress up" the apparatus became prominent. This included painting in bright colors, ornamenting (stripping), and the plating or polishing of brass hardware. For more information on the "ornamentation" or "embellishment" of fire apparatus, see the Chapter: The Color Red in the American Fire Service in the A Part of Fire Service History series.²⁴ The embellishment of a fire engine refers to the added final decoration of the apparatus that may include hand lettering, pin and line stripes (pin Striping), gilding (gold leaf), scroll work, and application of decals, as well as polished and decorated lamps, tools, and equipment.

This ornamentation included adding mounted lighting to illuminate the apparatus for night parades, fire responses, or working around the apparatus at fire scenes. These devices began as simple mounted lanterns or lamps of tin housings with mica panels (translucent silicate a substitute for glass). They soon advanced to brass or copper housings with glass panels. To add to the embellishments, the brass could be silver or nickel plated, and the glass painted and engraved with fire company names or the apparatus company number.²⁵ Apparatus lamp housings were more of a box shape with flat sides for glass, some with four sides and others designed as six-sided housings. Tops or chimneys of the lamp were round metal oval discs of multiple sizes. Some embellished lanterns had finials representing different figures, the most common being an eagle.²⁶ Some of the more highly embellished apparatus lamps were made for

parades only and removed afterwards, with more utilitarian lamps used on the apparatus for responding to fires.²⁷

Lamps used as headlights generally had polished reflectors behind the flame compartment to provide a focused beam of light forward. Some early lamps had candles inside them for light. Later models had fuel containers with regulated wicks to light and control the lamp. There were numerous makers of apparatus lamps, as well as some manufacturers' designs holding patents.

Lamp design and embellishments became true works of art during the days of steam fire engines. However, soon these horsedrawn steamers would be replaced by motorized fire apparatus. With this new era would also come changes in fire apparatus lighting. The electrical bulb powered by the battery/generator on the motorized apparatus would replace oil and kerosene-fueled individual lamps with electrical systems powered lamps. Though these lamps could be embellished with chrome rings and polished housings, they became more utilitarian over time. These new electrical lamps provided more brilliant lighting, less maintenance, and on/off switching. This was a major improvement over the original oil lamps that had to be routinely filled with fuel, have wick and globe maintenance, and then each one had to be hand-lit when responding to fires at night. Though the new electric lights were effective and safer, the new lighting of motorized fire apparatus no longer had the unique splendor of the former days of man or steam-powered fire apparatus.



Pictorial of fire helmet mounted "Improved Hat torch" from Cairns & Brothers Standard Equipments Supplies for Firemen Catalogue, c. 1890s. Image assumed to be in the public domain.

Though the new motorized fire apparatus with electric lights would replace the embellished apparatus lamps, the simple lantern would continue to hold a place in the fire service for the next several decades. The dependable hand lantern would see a service life competing well against the new battery and bulb-operated flashlights for fireground lighting purposes. A well-maintained and fueled lantern would always be ready for service compared to the fragile early bulbs and limited-life batteries of the early flashlights. American LaFrance Fire Engine Company, Inc. continued to provide two Dietz Fire Department lanterns as standard equipment on their various models of motorized fire apparatus through the 1920s.28

SHALER'S PATENT FLASH TORCH.

The handle of Shaler's Flash

Torch is made hollow and a

small tube is inserted below the

oil cup; by blowing through this

tube a column of flame is thrown

three feet in the air, producing

a beautiful and startling effect,

and illuminating a wide area.



Price complete,

With Pole and Wick,

Per hundred\$75 00

Pictorial advertisement of "Shaler's Patent Flash Torch" from Fred Millers Fire Apparatus and Fire Department Supplies, c. 1870s. Image assumed to be in the public domain.

CAUTIONS ON TORCHES, LANTERNS, AND LAMPS

It is fairly common to see antique fire service lighting devices that have been cleaned and restored by museums and collectors. In some instances, the complete and correctly restored lights may be fueled and lighted for unique display purposes. However, one should be knowledgeable in the type and use of the devices and the fuel it was designed to use. Each device was constructed for use with a specific type of wick and fuel. Fuel with too low a flashpoint for the design of the lantern can cause flame runaway and overheat the fuel container, which may cause excess fuel vapor with potential for explosion. Flash point, viscosity, and purity of the type of fuel are all important in matching the proper fuel to the lantern or lamp being used.²⁹ Always remember that the combustion process can generate soot and carbon monoxide and should only be used in properly ventilated areas. In addition flame flame-producing torches, lanterns, and lamps should be kept away from flammable materials and never left unattended when in use.³⁰





Old lanterns like the Dietz Fire King were durable and dependable, but they required proper maintenance and servicing during their service life. After use and over time, moisture could collect in the down tubes and fuel cup and cause corrosion and weak spots. All torches, lanterns, and lamps should be properly inspected before attempted use. This chapter does not provide the necessary knowledge and practical training experience to teach one how to safely repair or operate historic fire service torches, lanterns, or lamps, nor should it be substituted for appropriate instruction and apprenticeship under the supervision of a qualified and experienced equipment historian.

Lanterns and especially ornate apparatus lamps are generally highly valued and somewhat easy to remove from apparatus; they are easy items to disappear from antique apparatus. Because of this, fire museums and departments should take precautions to protect and preserve the loose equipment on restored antique fire apparatus or in displays.

Dietz "King" Fire Department Lantern, c. 1900s, tin painted red. Author's collection.

Historic fire torches, lanterns, and lamps can be found for sale in antique shops, auctions, or online markets. In recent years, reproductions have been made and sold. Unfortunately, these reproductions can be artificially aged with salts or vinegar agents to give them a perceived antique patina. Firefighters and collectors should be careful of reproductions that may be passed off as historic or vintage artifacts.

THE FIRE SCRAMBLE AND THE FIREMAN TORCH

An important historical aspect needs to be recounted about torches and their symbolic imagery seen in the fire service. Because the fireman's torch was considered an essential tool to the early fire brigades and fire companies, a depiction of it was added to early fire service emblems or insignia, giving it a place of prominence. An example of a fire service emblem is the "Firefighter Scramble", which is a pictorial interlocking grouping of fire service tools. The term scramble has a variety of meanings found in dictionaries and references on the internet. To better understand the term scramble as related to the fire service, we need to dig deeper to see how it developed over time.



Torch light, Hunneman Hose Carriage, 1870. Courtesy Curt Peters, Vintage Fire Museum, Jeffersonville, IN.

William Penn Hose Company 18, presentation lamp from Ladies Auxiliary. Photo courtesy Curt Peters, Vintage Fire Museum, Jeffersonville, IN.

Top Lamp, Monnet & Co. Chemical Engine, 1870. Note Eagle Topper. Photo courtesy Curt Peters, Vintage Fire Museum, Jeffersonville, IN.

HERALDIC AND MILITARY EMBLEMS

Arnold Whittick, in his book *Symbols Signs* and *There Meaning*, relates that symbols in many of today's emblems have a historical beginning that can be traced back to symbols used in heraldry.³¹ Heraldic imagery is considered to have influenced the development of military insignia. Though European military insignia may better reflect this, early American military insignia were fairly plain. This is especially true up to the time of the American Civil War.

During the American Civil War, both the Union and Confederate Armies used various emblems to represent what unit or specialization to which they were assigned. An example of specialization or branch emblems might be crossed sabers for cavalry or crossed cannons for artillery. The Infantry wore a hunting horn emblem up until 1875, when they switched to crossed muskets.³² So symbols of tools of the trade were used in some cases to represent the soldier's military assignment.

Though military insignia may have had some impact on firemen's insignia, the first fire scrambles, at least in printed engravings, showed up prior to the Civil War. One part of heraldry symbolism that may have carried over to the fireman scramble was having equipment crossed in the center of the emblem. Chief Ronny Coleman related in his article *The Badge* that according to heraldry, crossed swords on an insignia represented "a person had gone to battle" or "it indicated a performance." This relates to the symbolism of the Fireman scramble in that the pieces of equipment used in firefighting are grouped crossing each other in the center of the emblem showing they are used by the individual to battle fire.

Though research found that generally all the references referred to this Fire Service insignia being discussed as a "scramble", Coleman used the term "Firefighter's Cluster" when speaking about the unique emblem.³⁴

DEFINING THE TERM SCRAMBLE

The general term scramble first came into use in the late 1500s and may have derived from the word "scramb" meaning to "pull together with the hands."³⁵ Overtime it has had various definitions, but one that relates to firefighters is "to move with urgency."³⁶ Back in the early days of the American Fire Service, firemen would be said to scramble when alerted by a fire alarm, gathering their tools and responding with haste to the fire.

Also, a more regrettable aspect of the days of the early American Volunteer Firemen was the competition to be first on the fire, creating a rivalry between various independent fire companies. The firemen from a different fire company might scramble to control the nearest fire hydrant or "plug" for their engine company, actually fighting over it.

Unfortunately, fire service terminology dictionaries and other references do not contain an actual definition for the term fire scramble. In theory, all firefighters know what a fire scramble looks like, but do not know how to define it, nor its historic development. The author will use a working definition for the term as: "an illustrated interlocking grouping, usually in a circular display, that depicts various tools of the trade (historical or current) used by firefighters."³⁷

When the term was first used to represent the pictorial image or emblem of a fire-fighter scramble is difficult to pin down. Images of scrambles appeared in the 1700's probably first as engravings used to print illustrated images on fire service ephemera such as firemen's certificates or fire company social invitations. Later, the scramble would show up on metal insignia or be used in the center of badges. An example of ephemera

with a scramble including a torch was found on a printed certificate for "Firemen of the City of New York" dated 1847, during the volunteer era. 38 When the New York State Legislature enacted legislation creating the Metropolitan Fire Department (MFD) for the City of New York in 1865, both the Seal of the MFD and their first badges contained a fire scramble at the center. 39 However, both were different in appearance and neither one contained a torch image in the scramble.

As has been shown in previous chapters, the volunteer fire companies of New York and the surrounding communities implemented and popularized many fire service traditions that would spread throughout what would become the United States. Examples are the iconic New Yorker style (Gratacap) fire helmet, speaking trumpets, and Maltese Cross emblems and badges. With the Fire Department of New York (FDNY) leading the way in 1870, smaller city departments around New York City incorporated scrambles in the center of their badges that contained torch images, such as Bay Ridge FD and Coney Island FD in the 1880s. 40

So, when did the actual term "scramble" come to be a common word applied to the image firefighters know today? The scramble back in the beginning might have been called a fireman's emblem, insignia, or illustrated grouping of tools. Various artist renditions of the scramble during this period were commonly found on paper documents such as firemen's certificates or fire insurance policies. Today, artists might call it an illustration or graphic depiction of firefighting tools. According to the internet (artificial intelligence), these composite images or types of illustrations of implements representing a business or profession were common during the 19th Century, but give no name to the graphic display. Over time, it has become known as the fire or firefighter scramble as related in the above treatise. The name at some point stuck, becoming part of the fire service lexicon and tradition, and its remains so today.

TOOLS IN THE SCRAMBLE

Early fire scrambles used in collar emblems or centered on badges contained a collage of various fire tools and equipment found in the fire service at the time. A traditional scramble might contain a side depiction of a traditional fire helmet centered over an upright ladder. Other various tools, such as a straight bore nozzle (play pipe) and a speaking trumpet, crossing each other. In



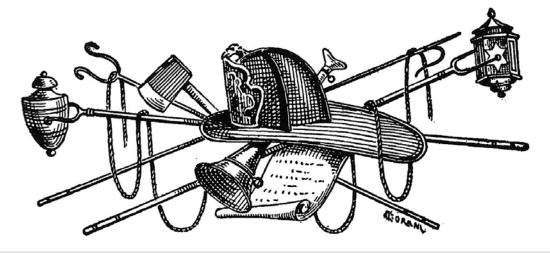
Example of various Fire Service Lanterns in museum display. Courtesy Curt Peters, Vintage Fire Museum, Jeffersonville, IN.

addition, a pike pole and a torch pole were commonly crossed in the center as well. Finally working our way back around to early lighting and their symbols in the fire service. Later versions would add axes and other tools, with some removing the fire torch.

Each tool, besides its normal use as a firefighting implement, has been given a symbolic meaning by various people and generations of firefighters. From rescue to forcible entry, or preparedness to leadership, various symbolic definitions have been put forth over the centuries. The author leaves it up to the reader to research the historic

symbolism of each, except for the firemen's torch. That will be covered in the next section.

Various styles or revisions of the firefighter scramble continue to be used today as a fire service emblem. The historic scramble was found in paper ephemera (books, documents and certificates), banners, flags, collar buttons, and at the center of badges. Usually, on modern badge centers, the fire scramble represents the rank, Firefighter, though it can be used as a general fire service emblem representing all fire service ranks.





Example of a 19th Century Firemen's Emblem (Scramble) illustration from Our Firemen A History of the New York Fire Departments by Augustine Costello, 1887. Assumed to be in the public domain.

Early Metropolitan Fire Department (FDNY) "Maltese cross" style badge with center Fire "Scramble" image. Photo courtesy of the New York Fire Museum.

GETTING IT RIGHT

So why are we discussing scrambles in this chapter on early fire service lighting? In the historic fire scramble, one of the pieces of fire service equipment that was depicted was the torch. On drawings or engraved printing, the torch image (torch pole, or pole lantern) is well depicted and easy to see what the image represents. On metal badges or small cloth patches, the equipment images are reduced and more stylized to fit. In this instance, the torch is usually depicted as a circular (ball) container supported by a "Y" bracket on a pole (sometimes described as resembling a ball and crutch). A few images (usually from an older period) actually have stylized flames depicted coming from the torch (ball) container.

Sadly, a significant number of firefighters have been poorly educated on fire service history and traditions. It is absurd that a number of firefighter's forums or blogs on the internet relate the belief that the torch symbol in the scramble is not a torch but some sort of battering ram, window breaker, or command symbol.⁴¹ Others have related that they thought it was a religious incense container related back to the origins of the Fire Service Maltese Cross. The actual name for a religious incense burner is a thurible or censor.⁴² However, as has been shown in these treaties, the symbol in the firefighter scramble actually represents a torch used to light the way in the early history of the fire service. Some later scrambles found in historic drawings and banners may depict the pole lantern instead of the simple open torch.

It is a sign of the times that the iconic fire torch has been dropped from most of the modern fire scrambles, apparently because it is assumed to have no relevance to today's fire service. However, back in the early days of the American Fire Service, the fireman's torch was an essential tool used for warnings and night responses. Used to light the way for the fire company, it has become an iconic symbol of the beginnings of the American Fire Service. Today, the fire torch symbolizes the era of the volunteer firemen and illuminates their prominent place in the history and traditions of the American Fire Service.

Now you know the true story of the fireman's torch and the torch symbol when depicted in firefighter scrambles. So please take pride in our profession's history and share the true facts concerning the past origins of fire service equipment, symbols, and traditions.

THE LEGACY OF HISTORY AND TRADITIONS

The introduction of lighting devices in colonial America and their continuing advancements were a major leap forward in firefighting technology. It initiated safer responses in the night streets and provided operational lighting on-scene. Firemen adapted current technology to their needs for firefighting purposes, enabling a way to control hazards using the flame of fire that provided the necessary light for aggressive response and extinguishment at night fires, better protecting lives and property night and day.



Firefighter Scramble that contains a stylized fire torch depicted as "Crutch and Ball" symbol (top left). Silver collar pin, Blackinton manufacturer, Author's collection.



Firefighter Scramble that contains a stylized fire torch with projecting flame (right side). Gold collar pin, unknown manufacturer. Author's collection.

NEW TRUCK - HANNIBAL RURAL FPD

Transibal Rural Fire Protection

Tannibal Rural Fire Protection Hannibal Kurai Fire Frence.

District placed a new brush truck into service in July. The truck, a 2025 Ford F350, was assembled by Upfit Ranch UR in Kirksville, MO, and is the first brush truck in the immediate area to feature a remote-controlled turret package that enables the front turret nozzle to be operated by a firefighter inside the truck. They can start the pump and control the nozzle directions and spray patterns within the cab of the truck. The CET Manufactured drop-in skid unit has a 300-gallon water tank and a 10-gallon foam cell and is equipped with 100 feet of 1 inch rubber hose on an electric booster reel. The rig also carries 400 feet of forestry hose. The skid unit has a 11/2 discharge and a 21/2 inch fill. The district was able to use the Missouri Department of Conservation Matching Grant Program and was awarded \$10,000 to help cover the cost of the skid unit.



HEART SQUAD TEACHES CPR AT MO STATE FAIR

Hi, my name is Morgan Hendrich, and I'm the Lead Trainer for Heart Squad. The Heart Squad has been an incredible part of my journey, allowing me to combine my passion for medicine with community outreach. I'm excited to share what we accomplished as guests of the Missouri State Fair Fire Department.

We had the opportunity to teach hands-only CPR to parents and families, many of whom had never been exposed to it before. People practiced compressions on infant, child, and adult manikins, and we also guided them through how to recognize and use an AED. Watching participants leave with more confidence to act in an emergency was truly rewarding.

We also raised awareness about a critical issue: women are significantly less likely to receive bystander CPR. In Missouri, the rate is only about 13%. A major reason for this disparity is hesitation to perform chest compressions on women because of their anatomy. Unfortunately, due to the higher costs of female manikins, most CPR programs aren't able to address this issue in training.

Thanks to the Heart to Heart Grant from the Alpha Phi Foundation, we've been able to bring anatomically correct female manikins into the community. Training with these manikins helps people become more comfortable performing CPR on women, breaking down barriers and ultimately saving more lives.

Being at the state fair reminded me why this mission matters so much. Equipping everyday people with the skills and confidence to respond can make the difference between life and death."



These lighting devices, specifically the torch and later the lantern, would be seen as essential tools of the firefighting occupation. The torch bearer for the early American fire companies would become an iconic image of the volunteer firemen leading the way to protect life and property. As such, they would become symbols that would define the tasks and mission of the American Fire Service. They remain part of the ongoing customs as seen in some of the fire service scramble emblems that are proudly displayed on badges, banners, and throughout our history and traditions.

Historian David McCullough related in a speech at Wesleyan University in 1984 that History is who we are and why we are the way we are. 43 Though McCullough's remarks were not made specific to the fire service, they eloquently state why the history of the fire service defines us and establishes our living traditions. It is this history and tradition foundation that guides us into the future and the continuing fulfillment of the Fire Service mission.

AUTHORS COMMENTS

The author wishes to recognize and thank the fire service personnel and organizations for their assistance in the development of this article. In particular, the author expresses his appreciation to:

Curtis Peters, Board Chair, Vintage Fire Museum, Jeffersonville, IN; and the

University of Missouri Ellis Library/ Lending Library for assisting the author in obtaining the inter-library loan of various research documents and archival materials.

The author also wishes to recognize all the various Historians and Authors for their extensive and invaluable work in Fire Service History through artifact notes, articles, and books that have been used for research purposes by the author and footnoted in this series. May their work continue to endure the ages and preserve the true history and traditions of the American Fire Service.

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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: MO FF Memorial & Museum Project PO Box 1153, Warrensburg, MO. 64093

QUESTIONS: Larry Eggen • 660-909-7882 • Leggen@JCFPD.net



National Volunteer Fire Council Update

SUPPORTING FIREFIGHTERS

By Keith Smith, Chairman

his will be a short update. The NVFC ▲ Fall Meeting is September 22-24. I will have several updates involving ongoing work products and new topics following this meeting. Much more to follow in the November/December issue of the magazine.



The OSHA topic continues with another step. The International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), and the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) have worked on a jointly developed letter of recommended revisions to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's proposed Emergency Response Standard to the Secretary of Labor. They combined the letterhead of all three organizations in the submission. More to follow in the fall meeting.

NVFC is working with business partners in contracting with CDC/NIOSH to help increase the number of volunteers registered with the National Firefighter Cancer Registry. As this moves forward, one of the next steps is connecting with all state associations trying to have a presence at conferences/events/fire schools and other group gatherings.

The State Farm Firefighter Good Neighbor Safety Program Grants were just released. There were 150 grants given in 44 States for \$10,000 each. Congratulations to the three Missouri departments that received a Grant: Seneca Fire Department, Terre DuLac Volunteer Fire Department and Martinsburg Area Fire Protection District. This program has generated much more interest than first expected, gathered a lot of TV special interest story attention and could be offered again. More information to come at the Fall Meeting.

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



PREPARE TO ATTEND THE MISSOURI FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL SERVICES

LOCATION & WEATHER

PRIMARY SITE

Missouri Firefighters Memorial 5550 Dunn Drive, Kingdom City, MO

ALTERNATE SITE (BAD WEATHER)

Auxvasse Middle School Gvm 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 availabazle 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

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 MILES)

Baymont Inn, Amerihost

MEXICO, MO (15 MILES)

Country Hearth, Best Western, Davs Inn

COLUMBIA (20 MILES)

30+ hotels (note Mizzou football weekends)

QUESTIONS?

info@mofirememorial-museum.org Keith Smith: 314-709-0760

CAN'T MAKE IT IN PERSON? WATCH ONLINE

LIVE STREAM INFORMATION

Services start at 10:30 Sunday morning October 5th. The livestream should go live about 2-3 minutes before.

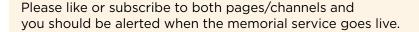
YOUTUBE ACCESS

Watch the livestream on Youtube at the following URL: youtube.com/@firefightersmemorialfounda5090/featured



FACEBOOK ACCESS

Watch the livestream on Facebook at the following URL: facebook.com/MoFireMemorial/





HELP US HONOR THE FALLEN

Firefighter Memorial in Kingdom City

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

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

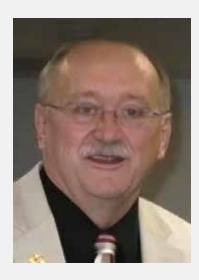
More details available at mofirememorial-museum.org

JOHN CLIFTON

June 12, 1944 • August 11, 2025

John Clifton, 81, a lifelong resident of Cape Girardeau County, passed away peacefully at his home on August 11, 2025, after an 8½-year battle with post-stroke complications.

Born in Jackson, Missouri, to the late Elsie and Roscoe Clifton, John graduated from Jackson High School in 1962. He made his home in Jackson until 1994, when he and his beloved wife, Deborah (Kamp) Clifton, moved to Cape Girardeau. The couple were married on February 10, 1968, and shared 57 years of devoted partnership.



From an early age, John demonstrated a deep commitment to serving his community. He began working for Cracraft—Miller Furniture & Funeral Home (now Ford & Son Funeral Home), where he obtained his Funeral Director's license, a credential he maintained for 35 years. Over the decades, John's career spanned law enforcement, fire service, investigations, and public office. His professional and volunteer service included:

- 32 years as a volunteer with the Jackson Fire Department
- Officer with the Jackson Police Department
- Volunteer for Cape Girardeau County Civil Defense (then the county fire department)
- Member of the Cape Girardeau County Sheriff's Patrol and Royal Oak Juvenile Program
- Past Chairman of the Region 8 Council on Criminal Justice
- Past President of the MCMEA
- Councilman for the City of Jackson
- Deputy Coroner for Coroners George Rouse and John Carpenter
- Investigator for the Cape Girardeau County Sheriff's Department and member of the

MAJOR CASE SQUAD

- Peace Officer of the Year recipient
- District Supervisor for the Missouri Division of Liquor Control, overseeing 19 counties
- Federal Court Security Officer for the U.S. Marshal Service
- Cape Girardeau County Coroner for 16 years, a role many believe he most cherished

In addition to public service, John was a dedicated entrepreneur. He owned and operated a convenience store in Jackson for several years, co-founded Investigative Associates, Inc. with his wife (specializing in fire investigations in Missouri and Arkansas), and most recently owned Midwest Mortuary Transport, LLC, which he established in 2004.

John was a proud member of Cape Girardeau Elks Lodge 639, served on the Salvation Army advisory board, and enjoyed volunteering for Cape Girardeau airshows. While his career was his

DALE WALTER ROWE

Aprli 24, 1953 • July 11, 2025

ale Walter Rowe, son of the late Walter James Rowe and Dorothy Francois Rowe was born on April 24, 1953, in East St. Louis, Illinois and departed this life on July 11, 2025, in Poplar Bluff, Missouri at the age of 72.

Mr. Rowe was the owner and operator of Dale's Kitchen Repair. Dale served the Dexter and surrounding communities as a fireman for the Dexter Fire Department for fifty-three years and attained the rank of Assistant Chief. He was a



member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Dexter, and he also enjoyed fishing.

On July 28, 1972, he was united in marriage to Sharon Fortner in Dexter, Missouri. Mrs. Rowe survives of their home in Dexter.

Along with his wife he is survived by his son, Tommy Rowe of Dexter, Missouri; by his daughter, Tammy Caldwell and husband Jason of Bloomfield, Missouri; by his brother David Rowe and wife Kay of Dexter, Missouri; by his sisters, Margie Daniel and husband Bill of Collinsville, Illinois, Carol Schmidt and husband Larry of O'Fallon, Missouri, Eileen Robins of Advance, Missouri, and Kathy Cato and husband Verl of Dexter, Missouri; by his grandchildren, Hailey Ray and husband Christopher of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, Dylan Caldwell and wife Andy of Dexter, Missouri, Natalie Caldwell of Dexter, Missouri, Justin Caldwell of Bloomfield, Missouri, Codie Caldwell of Bloomfield, Missouri; by his great-granddaughter, Adaline Ray of Poplar Bluff, Missouri; and one great-grandson on the way, Henry Ray; and by his special nephew, and close friend, Eugene McConnell and wife Susan of Dexter, Missouri.

Other than by his parents he was preceded in death by his brother, Bob Rowe.

passion, John also enjoyed the occasional round of golf, fishing trips, traveling with Deborah, and visiting Gulf Shores, Alabama, where they formed lasting friendships. Time with family, friends, and beloved pets—Tiger, Charlie Brown, Trixie, Hunter, Blackie, and Daisy—was always treasured.

The family would like to extend their countless thank you's and appreciation to their special friends, Janet Berendzen and VNA AIM and Hospice for everything they have done.

John Clifton lived a life of tireless service, integrity, and dedication to others. His legacy will endure in the countless lives he touched through his work, his volunteerism, and his kindness.

REMEMBRANCE, SERVICE, AND GROWTH

By Keith Smith, Chairman

his summary is likely arriving 7-10 days before our October 4th and 5th services. At the time of this writing, pre-orders for the 2025 memorial shirts still have a week to go and already far surpassed the previous year. Engraving orders for this service totaled 125 vs. 100 last year. The 10 line of duty names we will be honoring are the largest since the memorial was dedicated, and I most sincerely hope that number never ever comes close again. Volunteer support to assist with both services and their willingness to pay their own way for the weekend is up 50% over last year and greatly appreciated. As previously mentioned, you will have a much more comfortable chair to sit in this year and going forward.

Information regarding the streaming service planned for Sunday morning is detailed in a separate section of this magazine. The Candlelight Service on Saturday evening will be video recorded and loaded to our webpage for viewing for 30 days following the service. The same goes for the Sunday service.

The logistical operations for these two services (what you don't see or at least we hope not) are being improved. Informational support is expanding to improve the service experience. Two golf carts will be available to shuttle people from the adjacent parking areas (streets and private businesses) to the memorial. For the first time, one detailed printed program will be used for both services. The program you are given Saturday night should be brought back and used again on Sunday. Our keynote speaker on Sunday morning is the surviving son and firefighter of a line of duty we honored two years ago.

The interior framing project, at least as far as we can go prior to the October services, should be completed, providing a much better visual representation of what your future State Fire Service Museum and Educational Center will begin to look like and how it will function. We are still working through some electrical and mechanical projects. Progress is being made, but much more remains to be done and the required funding to complete everything.

The intersection of Interstate 70 and State Highway 54 is very different from last year, and they are only getting started. The full transformation of this new interchange will not be completed until 2027, so we will likely have one more service in 2026 adjacent to this construction zone. Consider some additional time if traveling to Kingdom City from Columbia. Most of that section of I-70 is also under construction. Reminder, we will be holding services regardless of the weather. If it is raining, we will be moving either inside the museum or most likely to the Auxvasse Middle School, 5 miles North on highway 54. Please check the weather for Saturday and Sunday before coming to Kingdom City, as it can be both hot and cold during these two days.

If you need to contact us, we have several options. For general information, engraving and shopping, our website is mofirememorial-museum.org/ Our mailing address is 5550 Dunn Drive, Kingdom City, MO 65262. For email, please use info@mofirememorial-museum.org. This is a shared platform in checking on messages, so please give it a few days to respond. If it is urgent or you prefer to save time, please call 314 709 0760.

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



Hale Volunteer Firefighter Fund

SHARVEST FESTIVAL



Come Celebrate the Season with us

LIVE MUSIC All NIGHT - FOOD STAND POP SHACK - BAKE SALE - BOUNCE HOUSE GAMES - LEMONADE STAND - RAFFLE - 50/50 AND MANY MORE

EVENTS

STATE FARM® AND THE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL SUPPORT LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS WITH \$1.5 MILLION IN GRANTS

150 volunteer fire departments will each receive a \$10,000 grant through the Good Neighbor Firefighter Safety Program

State Farm® and the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) have teamed up for the second year to support local volunteer fire departments with funding to secure needed equipment to help keep their responders safe and protect their communities. Through this year's Good Neighbor Firefighter Safety Program, 150 departments in 44 states received a \$10,000 grant, for a total of \$1.5 million donated.

The announcement was made on August 18, a date many celebrate as Volunteer Firefighters Recognition Day. Volunteer firefighters make up 65% of the U.S. fire service, and communities across the country rely on volunteers to respond to emergencies of all kinds – from structure and wildland fires, to vehicle crashes and medical emergencies, to natural disasters and hazmat incidents.

Many of these small-town and rural fire departments operate with limited budgets, making it difficult to meet the rising costs of the equipment and gear they need to best serve their community. These grants are a lifeline for local departments to obtain equipment that will increase safety, efficiency and effectiveness. Grants will be used to purchase a wide variety of department necessities, including personal protective equipment, EMS and rescue tools, communication devices and much more.

State Farm and the NVFC will also join 10 of the fire department recipients at a community engagement event this fall, which may include an open house, fire prevention event, parade or other local gathering.

"The NVFC is proud to team up with State Farm to continue the Good Neighbor Firefighter Safety Program and provide critical assistance to volunteer fire departments," said NVFC Chair Steve Hirsch. "Firefighting and rescue equipment is expensive, and many departments struggle to find the funding they need. These grants from State Farm enable small departments to secure the equipment they need to be better prepared to serve their communities and protect their responders."

"We are proud to support volunteer firefighters - the ultimate good neighbors who risk their lives daily," said Rasheed Merritt, State Farm corporate responsibility assistant vice president. "At State Farm, we're committed to helping people manage everyday risks and building safer, stronger communities."

In addition to the 150 grants, State Farm provided complimentary NVFC memberships to the first 2,000 eligible applicants to provide more responders with access to an array of benefits, including free training, support services and more. The NVFC is the leading national nonprofit association serving the volunteer fire, emergency medical, and rescue services.

Since the Good Neighbor Firefighter Safety Program launched in 2024, \$2.5 million has been awarded to 250 local fire departments. Find information about the grant program, including a list of departments receiving the grants, on the NVFC website at www.nvfc. org/statefarm.

About State Farm

For over 100 years, the mission of State Farm has been to help people manage the risks of everyday life, recover from the unexpected and realize their dreams. State Farm and its affiliates are the largest providers of auto and home insurance in the United States. Its more than 19.000 agents and 67,000 employees serve over 91 million policies and accounts - including auto, fire, life, health, commercial policies and financial services accounts. Commercial auto insurance, along with coverage for renters, business owners, boats and motorcycles, is also available. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company is the parent of the State Farm family of companies. State Farm is ranked No. 39 on the 2024 Fortune 500 list of largest companies. For more information, please visit http://www. statefarm.com.

About the National Volunteer Fire Council

The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) is the leading nonprofit membership association representing the interests of the volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue services. The NVFC serves as the voice of the volunteer in the national arena and provides critical resources, programs, education, and advocacy for first responders across the nation. Learn more at www.nvfc.org.

Congratulations to FFAM Members Terre Du Lac Volunteer Fire Department and Martinsburg Area Fire Protection District on receiving this grant.







A night of comedy to benefit

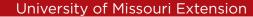
Gerald-Rosebud Fire Protection District





Hayden at the number below 573-201-9415

Director's Comments







It looks like summer is moving into fall, but I am sure there will be several warm days left in the year.

We had the opportunity to show off our virtual reality system at the Missouri State

Fair in "MIZZOU Central". We had the opportunity to show off how we can train firefighters and fire officers to make better decisions on the fireground. Had several firefighters asking about the program.

The University of Missouri Extension Fire and Rescue Training Institute (MU FRTI) staff attended the Governor's Ham Breakfast and were able to visit with several legislators, members of MU Extension. I want to thank the Missouri State Fair Volunteer Fire Department for their hospitality while we

were at the fire station. It is always a good time talking to legislators.



Find the Full Training Schedule at MUFRTI.org

09/19 Truck Company Operations Without a Truck Republic Jerod Youb (417) 771-8180 09/19 Emergency Vehicle Driver Training Lancaster Kevin Buckallew (641) 242-0766 09/20 Responding to Chlorine Emergencies Eldon sematraining.com 09/21 Emergency Vehicle Driver Training Gerald Rudy Via (636) 388-1285 09/23 The Lithium-lon Revolution Monett John Velten (417) 489-4266 09/24 Virtual Reality Simulation for First Arriving Units and Officers Columbia Zac Grace (573) 680-6199 09/25 School Bus Rescue Ozark Rob Crawford (417) 861-1110 09/26 Multi-Family Fire Tactics: Garden and Stand-Alone Apartment Buildings St. Louis David Neighbors (314) 289-1934 09/27 Gasoline Tank Truck Specialist Hartville sematraining.com 09/27 The Lithium-lon Revolution Marshfield sematraining.com 09/27 Emergency Services UTV/ATV Safety Lawson David Peters (636) 697-5861 09/27 Elettric Vehicle Safety for First Responders <td< th=""><th>DATE</th><th colspan="2">COURSE</th><th>CITY</th><th>CONTACT</th><th>PHONE</th></td<>	DATE	COURSE		CITY	CONTACT	PHONE
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	10/25	Structural Fire Fighting Techniques		Leadwood	Charlie lewis	(573) 562-7511
11/13 Elevator Operations Lee's summit Doug Wheeldon (816) 525-4200	11/07	Emergency Vehicle Driver Training		Marionville	Kris Bowling	(417) 229-5013
	11/13	Elevator Operations		Lee's summit	Doug Wheeldon	(816) 525-4200

Fire and Rescue Training Institute

It is also time to start to enroll now for the Missouri Emergency Services Instructor Conference. The conference starts with our preconference on Friday, November 7th. The preconference consists of Fire & Emergency Instructor I, Fire & Emergency Service Instructor II, and Fire & Emergency & Fire Services Instructor III.

Our train-the-trainers are *Introduction to the* Fire Service and The Lithium-Ion Revolution

On November 8th, our keynote speaker will be Brian P. Kazmierzak, EFO, CTO, Deputy Director of Public Safety / Fire Chief, Benton Harbor (MI) Department of Public Safety. He will also be presenting Commanding the mayday: A Fire Instructors Approach to Mayday Training.

Our other presenters at the conference are Jesse Marcotte, Deputy Chief, Northville Township Fire Department. Presenting a probationary firefighter training program: *Setting and Raising the Bar.*

Rick Best, Chief Training Officer, Eastland Fairfield Career and Technologies Center

Lea Wandling, Assistant Chief, Eastland Fairfield Career and Technologies Center. Integrating Mental Resilience in Your Training Program.

Look at our website to see more details about the Missouri Emergency Services instructor Conference. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our FY25 annual report is done and will be out soon.

We appreciate the continued support of our state partners and agencies in the delivery of fire and emergency service training. 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 mufrit.org.





LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Tim Frankenberg reported that in addition to SB 3, MERC was reinstated in the budget. There is a firefighter's bill of rights that has had multiple language changes that is trying to get pushed through. They are working to get volunteers out of it, but they are watching it.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Grant Oetting reported the following membership counts: 482 Directors/ Councilmen; 441 Retired; 26 Associate; 26 Sustaining; 14 Corporate, 345 Fire Departments; 6751 Active; 2 Educational Entity; 16 Educational Active; 150 Juniors; 4 EMS Department, 52 EMS individuals; 0 911 Entity; 0 911 individuals.

Grant Oetting reported that he attended the MAFD conference. He has been asked to attend again next year. The JeffCo Engine Rally will be on September. September 6 is the Gail Harley Davidson tribute ride from Higginsville to Richmond. All proceeds will go to the Fire Fighters Memorial Foundation.

NVFC COMMITTEE

Keith Smith reported that NVFC continues building international relations, connections and mutual friendships. Past President Kevin Quinn has been able to travel to many countries on behalf of NVFC creating long standing relationships. That was recently detailed in a letter from the Japan Firefighters Association regarding the Flash Flooding in Texas.

Greater awareness regarding the rising cost of Fire Apparatus is taking hold. A recent request from the Executive Director of NVFC, Sarah Lee – "Do we have any subject matter experts on the board (or that you know) that could talk about the rising costs of apparatus? We've seen an increasing number of media inquiries regarding this topic."

NVFC continues to look into logical and creative ways to support the volunteer family. They recently presented a Webinar entitled "Challenges of a Firefighter Marriage". When someone becomes a volunteer firefighter, it impacts the whole family. Spouses, in particular. These are recorded and can be accessed through the NVFC Webinar Library. They have also just released the 2nd Edition of their Family Guide.

NVFC membership is now up to 42,700 individual members, an increase of 14% from 2024 and 56% over a 5-year period. While this is a positive development, it also recognizes a lot of room for growth with over 675,000 volunteers in the United States. There is another takeaway from this NVFC summary comment. They referenced over 675,000 volunteers. Keep that in mind when considering that in the 1970's they estimated there were 1.4 million volunteers in the US Fire Service.

The 2025 issue of Firefighter Strong is now available. This annual publication is mailed to all volunteer and combination fire departments in the U.S. and is also available digitally.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Ken Hoover reported that the District 10 Director position is now filled.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Gail Hagans advised that the next magazine deadline is August 29.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Larry Eggen reported that the continuing education recipient recently received his EMT license.

STATE FAIR COMMITTEE

RB Brown reported that the fair is August 7-17. The building will be torn down after the fair in preparation for the new building. Help will be needed to pack up the contents of the building if anyone is available to help the weekend after the fair. Larry Eggen reported that they have been using the Kansas State Association sprinkler trailer for demonstration. This year, the National Sprinkler Association Representative KJ Spurlock, will be at the fair volunteering as needed and helping with the sprinkler demonstrations.

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

No report was given.

FIRE FUNERAL TEAM REPORT

No report was given.

EMS FUNERAL TEAM REPORT

Greg Wright reported the team has responded to 3 non-LODD responses as well as attending the National EMS weekend of honor in Arlington, VA. The EMS and Fire Funeral Teams attended the Supporting Heroes Gala in Kentucky last week. They are still working on a permanent Missouri

EMS Memorial. The conference will be October 17-19 at Lake of the Ozarks. Everyone is invited to attend. 117 fire, law and EMS will be honored at the banquet. They have voted to make FFAM a corporate partner for their support of the team.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Keith Smith reported that the next phase of the museum project is underway. Interior walls are going up in the Northend, including the mechanical and storage mezzanine. We are going to hold off on the classroom/theater for now. Also, in the process of securing electrical supplies for a partial build-out of power and lighting, following the framing.

All things related to the October 2025 memorial services are underway. Your Foundation has been meeting monthly since the 1st of the year and that pace has increased into a 3-week interval. We will be honoring 10 LODD and 94 non-LODD names on October 4 and 5. This is the largest number of LODD names since the memorial was dedicated in 2002. In the 2023 service, we had 8 names, largely involving COVID.

Our keynote speaker on Sunday morning will be Russell Hobbs. He is a firefighter and the surviving Son of Rickey Hobbs, who passed in the line of duty on Sept. 14, 2021.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) approved the first PSOB firefighter suicide on June 22. Upon review, the NFFF approved the name as LODD and will be honored in their 2026 service. This will be their first firefighter suicide to be honored. As this was a Missouri name, Supporting Hero's reviewed and approved it. His name and family were honored in their 2025 Hero's Gala. It then came to the Memorial Foundation for our



administrative determination if the name would be accepted for honors as a LODD in the Missouri Memorial. It was not an automatic decision. It was discussed over the course of a week before the roll-call vote on June 30. Matthew Shafer of the Lawson Fire & Rescue Protection District has been accepted as a line of duty in the Missouri Memorial and will be honored this October. It took the DOJ 4 years to render the PSOB determination. Matthew Shafer passed on June 4, 2021.

Wall and brick engravings closed 4 weeks ago, but our website is taking orders for 2026. We are currently behind where we wanted to be with the memorial shirt process. At this time, we do not have a 2025 shirt proof on our website, but the screen printer has our information. We will obviously have to extend the shirt order deadline to the first of September. The cut-off for flag orders is September 12. The Sunday Service will be live-streamed either YouTube, Facebook or both. Full details in the next FFAM Magazine.

We still need people to assist with the October 4 and 5 services. A few of you have responded, but we need several to optimally manage the expected numbers over two services. If you can just come in for one of the two services, it would be greatly appreciated.

We have a new Treasurer for the Foundation, effective July 1. Her name is Courtney Shiverdecker and she lives in Fulton. She has a bachelor's in accounting and an MBA. She is an accounting specialist with Ameren Missouri, Central Electric Division.

President Jennings adjourned the meeting at 11:00 am.





AUXILIARY OF THE YEAR

Do you know an auxiliary that provides excellent service to the community?

Do you know an auxiliary member who goes above and beyond for the fire service?

Show your appreciation, nominate them today!



PDF Application
Available at:
ffam.org/auxiliary/

Scan For Code Online Application



Nomination Deadline February 1st

Questions and Completed Applications E-Mail to: auxiliaryffam@gmail.com

Award to be given at the 2026 FFAM Convention

INTER-CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT IS NOW HIRING!

Are you ready to serve your community?!

Now is your chance to join our team!

We are currently seeking:

1 Full-Time EMT/Paramedic/ Firefighter

3 Part-Time EMTs (Paid Per Hour)

Paid Per Call EMTs & Paramedics

Why Join Us?

Access to the most advanced EMS equipment in the Metro

Opportunities to serve in a professional, motivated team environment

Flexible scheduling options for part-time and per-call positions

Competitive pay and a chance to make a real difference in your community

Qualifications:

EMT or Paramedic certification required (Firefighter certification for full-time role)

Apply today and become part of the Inter-City Fire Department family!

To apply or learn more, contact us at: (816-918-3082)



Fire Marshal's Update continued from page 5.

- The application is not yet available, but our team is working closely with ITSD to ensure it is operational and ready as soon as possible. We will make a formal announcement once the application is accessible, including detailed instructions for interested users.
- We have a webpage dedicated to providing the most current information about the scholarship: Public Safety Recruitment & Retention Act Scholarship | dhewd. mo.gov
- Right now, it's informational, but more details on how to apply will be added once the application is available. When constituents contact us with general questions or ask for more information about the scholarship, we direct them to this website and let them know it will be updated with new information, including the application, as soon as it becomes available.
- The website also features Frequently Asked Questions to help clarify the requirements and definitions within the bill.
- We are also developing a promotional flyer as a resource for those interested in sharing information about the scholarship, as well as a toolkit to assist institutions that may receive questions about it. These items will be finalized once we clarify certain application details and set any important deadlines. If you know of any partners on your end who could benefit from this information, please let me know, and I'll be happy to share it once completed.

MISSOURI FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION/ ADVISORY COMMISSION

We presently have two open positions for the Fire Education Commission. One is for a Full-Time Firefighter employed by a recognized fire department, along with the Chief-Recognized Paid Fire Department position. You can visit https://boards. mo.gov/ and click on Apply. We hope to fill these two positions soon.

MISSOURI 9/11 MEMORIAL STAIRCLIMB

The Missouri 9/11 Memorial Stairclimb is coming up. By the time this article is published, several stairclimbs will have taken place. Each one honors and commemorates September 11, 2001, with the phrase "Never Forget." I have done, and will continue to do, what I can to keep that historic day alive in our hearts. Join us and others on Saturday, October 18th, here at the Jefferson

Building as we climb in honor of those from 9/11, along with those from across our state who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. To register, go to www.mo91lstairclimb.org and follow the instructions. Funds raised from our stairclimb go to Supporting Heroes. Supporting Heroes supports our entire state, helping families immediately after a tragic line-of-duty death. Most surviving families need financial help until things settle down; Supporting Heroes provides that help. Come join us or just donate to the climb — it will make a difference.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY REPORTING INCIDENT SYSTEM (NERIS)

The NERIS system went "live" for Missouri on August 04, 2025. This enabled all fire departments to begin the onboarding process. All fire departments are able to begin the process of setting up and confirming their agency "nodes" in NERIS. 51% of Missouri fire departments are now able to begin or are in the process of onboarding into the NERIS system.

All Authorization Letters received after July 30, 2025, are being processed as they arrive. This information will be regularly sent to the NERIS team to support the ongoing account creation and onboarding for Missouri fire departments.

Outreach continues with RMS vendors to coordinate the transition of their clients in as orderly a fashion as possible.

We need all fire departments to participate in this new incident reporting system. The old system will be shut down after the first of the year. Please reach out to Joshua Couture at 573-751-1601 or email Joshua.couture@dfs.dps.mo.gov

In closing, it has been a very busy summer. I am thankful for the rain we have received over the past months, which has given us a little reprieve after how the beginning of the year started. I hope the rain pattern continues for the rest of the year. I truly appreciate how you serve and protect our state day in and day out, many of you volunteering your time, gas, and vehicle to help others. My heart holds a special place for you. May God continue to bless and keep you! If there is anything I can do for you, feel free to contact me at Tim.bean@dfs.dps. mo.gov or Cell: 573-645-2069. Stay safe.



FFAM AUXILIARY

Application
Due
Feburary 1st

GET YOU STARTED SCHOLARSHIP 2025

If you want something you have never had, you have to do something you have never done!

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION:

- Provide education fund assistance to an individual who is an outstand citizen wishing to seek further education in any career path.
- Awarded at the Annual FFAM Convention, Date and Location TBD
- Scholorship will be sent directly to the institution of choice upon proof of enrollment

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must have direct relationship or be a member of the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri and/or Auxiliary
- Provide 3 letters of reference
- Complete a 3-5 paragraph eassy answering the provided prompt on application.

PDF APPLICATION
VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.FFAM.ORG/AUXILIARY/



SCAN ME
ONLINE APPLICATION

SUBMIT YOUR REGISTRATION TO:



auxiliaryffam@gmail.com

MORE INFORMATION:



auxiliaryffam@gmail.com

AUXILIARY MEETING MINUTES

August 3, 2025

MO State Fair Volunteer Fire Station, Sedalia, MO

The August 3, 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 Dozier, South Holt FD; Lachrissa Smith, North Central Carroll FPD; Carissa Thompson, Holts Summit FPD; Kathy Eggen, Johnson County; and Deidre Batliner, Gravois FPD.

MINUTES

The minutes of the May 4, 2025, meeting held at Chateau on the Lake, Branson, MO, were read. Rosanna Dozier made a motion that was seconded by Joni Fields to approve the minutes. The motion carried

FINANCIAL REPORT

The FFAM currently has \$9,626.63 in its account. Rosanna Dozier made a motion that was seconded by Carissa Thompson to approve the financial report. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POSTER CONTEST

No reports this month

MEMBERSHIP

90 active members, 12 honorary and 16 departments

MEMORIAL

The memorial will be on October 4-5 at 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. There will be a OR code

OLD BUSINESS

STAIR CLIMB

Carissa Thompson made a motion seconded by Rosanna Dozier to donate \$250 to the stair climb to sponsor one floor, with the offer of sponsoring a second floor if needed. The motion carried.

SCHOLARSHIP

A motion was made by Joni Fields and seconded by Carissa Thompson to establish a \$500 scholarship sponsored by the Auxiliary. A lot of discussion was had on what this will look like. A committee will be established. Joni will work on an application and get it to Jaimie for the website. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

MEMORIAL

Janet asked for help with the memorial. If you are able to help either on October 4 or 5, both days, please reach out to her.

Larry Jennings informed the group that the Missouri State Fair Fire Department will be demolished prior to our October meeting. The meetings will take place in the Youth Building until the new station is built.

Keagan Wilson had questions about the *Auxiliary of the Year*.

State Fire Marshal Tim Bean was not in attendance but sent his report about the stair climb.

The next meeting will take place on October 12, 2025, at the Missouri State Fair Youth Building at 9:00 am.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Joni Fields and seconded by Carissa Thompson to adjourn the meeting at 10:41 am. The motion carried.

GET INVOLVED!

By Carissa Thompson, FFAM Auxiliary 2nd VP

FAM Auxiliary is excited to announce some new and updated information for our members and members' families.

This year, we are developing an FFAM Auxiliary Scholarship program. The Get You Started Scholarship is designed to assist any individual who wishes to seek any level of post-secondary education in any career path. This year it will be a \$500 scholarship and there is potential for growth in the future. Applications due February 1st. For more information and how to apply, visit the FFAM Auxiliary Website or see the flyer.

Do you know an Auxiliary or Individual who goes above and beyond for their local community and department? Why not recognize them for their commitment to service! The FFAM Auxiliary Member of the Year applications are open! Applications are due February 1st!

The FFAM Auxiliary officers would like to thank everyone for the commitment they provide to the communities they serve. Remember to become an FFAM Auxiliary Member is more than just a name on a list! You can be a member if you have a home auxiliary or as an individual with a home sponsor from your department! Dues are \$5. Visit our website for more membership information. Any questions or concerns? Please email us auxiliaryffam@gmail.com.

We would love to see you at our next meeting!



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

DANKO EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT





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.

ALEXIS

Stock Truck List

AFE Demo 2608 Spartan Metro Star 450 HP L9 Engine

SIS Map Body Side Control Lacours in Hose

AFE Demo 2634 Spartan Metro St.

55 Priarcom Body Side Control Labours III Hose Sed Richton Park Unisses

AFE Demo 2635 Kenworth T480 450 HP L9 Engine

2000 Gaton Tarter Intermediate Mod-Lectors Right Side For-De-Tank Left Side

AFE Demo 2643 Spartan Metro Star 450 HP LS Engine

SS Pruntom Body Side Control Laggers on Right Side AFE DEMO 2645 Spartan Motro Star

SS PHANTOM Side Commission LOW HOSE

AFE Demo 2648 Intoti HV607 4-Dr 360

55 Equation Top Mount Loobers in Pear Control

AFE Demo 2659 Intnti HV607 2-Dr 450 HP L9 Engine

Virtex Pumper Side Control Ladders Right Side

AFE Demo 2676 Frtinr M2 112 2-Dr 450 HP L9 Engine

2000 Gallon Tarrier intermediane Mod For-De-Tenk Right Section Hose Left AFE Demo 2676 Frithe M2 106 2-Dr 360

2000 Gallot Tarver Informediate Mod For-Day Turn Greek Surface Union Left

AFE Demo 2678 Frtler 114SD 2-Or 450 HP LS Engine

HP LS Engine 1000 Gaton Turker Stormedate Mod Pol-

De-Tem Right Suction House Left

AFE Demo 2679 Frither 1145D 2-Dr 460

3000 Gaton Tarrier Intermediate Mod Pul-

AFE Dento 2697 From 1145D 2-Dr 45 HP L9 Engine

3000 Gator Tanear Intermediate Mo De-Tania Rotte Suction Hose Left AFE Demo 2705 FC 84 0233 380 HP L9

MAP Pumper Side Control Australian Body



https://danko.net/stock-demo-units



Danko Wildland Unit P-0660

Watertown Fire and Rescue, Watertown, SD

2024 Ford F-550 4x4, Gas Powered Engine, Backup Camera, Fab-Fours Bumper Replacement, Warn Winch, Kussmaul Battery Tender/Charger, Kussmaul Auto Shoreline Plug, Grip Step Running Boards, Aluminum Flatbed, Aluminum Cabinets, Headache Rack, LED Emergency Lighting Package, Custom Center Console, LED Ground Lighting, Waterous 2515 Pump, Briggs & Straton Motor, TFT Front Monitor, Booster Reel, 400 Gallons of Water, Scotty Foam System and more....



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