



CHIEF'S CORNER



Happy New (Budget) Year!

Greetings everyone and welcome to the August edition of the Chief's Corner. Hope you and yours are doing well and enjoying the season. I hope August is a little drier than the last several months and we get some pretty weather before fall begins. This month I want to spend some time talking about the new budget and some of the things that will be coming now that we have finished FY13.

Everyone knows that FY13 was a real challenge, with regard to the budget, and we were doing all we could to finish the year and not "blow" the budget big time! Well, I am happy to report that we were successful and closed the year with a few dollars to spare. Now to be honest, we were over in our non-personnel codes, but were able to balance this with monies from the personnel side. While this is not something you like to do, it is certainly better than going over in all areas. Anyway, the FY13 budget is history so let's move on to the plans for this year.

As we enter the "new year," things will begin to move forward on a number of fronts. By the end of August, we will announce the start of the promotional processes for Captain and Master Firefighter. A time-line has been developed and the materials for the written tests have been sent to the Fields Consulting Group. The processes will move quickly and a certified list for both positions will be established by the fall. Once these lists are established, I will be conducting a process to fill the vacancies for the Battalion Chiefs and Deputy Chief openings. So, unless there is some unforeseen problem, all of the vacant officer positions will be filled by this fall.

Another area of interest where we are moving forward is in the purchase of new vehicles. The Apparatus Committee has been working to develop specifications for the ladder truck and the engines we will be ordering this month. The committee has just finished the specifications and we have submitted them to Fleet Services. I hope to be reviewing bids or a contract in the near future. We will be buying two new engines and an aerial device. These vehicles will be obtained with monies from Fleet that became available in this new FY14 budget. Captain Adams is also completing work on the specifications for a new medic unit we will be ordering as well. Production times vary on these types of vehicles, but we hope to take delivery some time next spring or early summer.

Also this month, the department will complete the transition of all of the part-time employees to a full-time status. We will be fully staffed for the first time in quite a while. We have also filled the SAFER positions and I am hopeful that these additional positions will provide a greater relief factor and allow more on-duty training. I want to use these additional positions to improve the daily staffing and keep all equipment in service as much as possible.

While I am on this topic, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their hard work and perseverance over the last six months. The department has been "working short" since the mass retirements in January and I am grateful to all for your dedication. We never missed a call and assisted the citizens in a professional and caring way. Great job!

The last thing I want to discuss this month are the renovations taking place in several stations. In mid-July, the renovations at Station 3 began and, so far, everything is on schedule. Some of the walls have been removed and all of the ceiling tiles and grids have been taken down. The windows are going to be replaced and the entire station will be painted and "redone." The initial time frame for the project was 60 to 90 days and I hope we will be finished on time.

As soon as the work on Station 3 is completed, we will move forward with the renovations to Station 6. The scope of this project is much more extensive than Station 3 and will involve a complete makeover of the living area. This project will take a minimum of six months and the engine and medic unit will have to be displaced for the entire time. When completed, the station will be much more "modern" in appearance on the inside and should have more creature comforts for those assigned there. Hopefully, once the work is completed, "The Park" will be ready to go for years to come!

Well, that wraps it up for a look into the new budget year and some of the projects we are working on. Let me know if you would like any additional information or have any questions. If not, keep up the good work and get out there and enjoy the rest of the summer. The cold weather and fire season will be here before you know it. Until next time, be safe and never forget the most important rule: "Everyone goes home safe at the end of the shift"!

Chief

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AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following members who celebrate anniversaries with the department in August:

25 Years

Frankie Campbell
Mike Thomas
Peggy Coleman
Robert Hamilton

24 Years

Ricky Ring

17 Years

Heather Childress

13 Years

Cary Word
Earl Copes
Phillip Meeks

7 Years

Steven Evans
Derik Hudson
Allen Marston

6 Years

Dakota Blanks
Natalie Darling
Todd Glass
Adam Helwig
Eric Maschal
Jamie Maxwell
Marty Misjuns
Mary Phillips
Jeremy Pillow
Charlie Shealy
Natasha Williams
Brian Younger

FILL THE BOOT

CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF

By: Master Fire Fighter Abbey Johnston



The 2013 Fill the Boot Campaign is just around the corner! Everyone is encouraged to attend one of the kick off meetings listed below and help

make this year's campaign a success!

August 14

Battalion 1	10:00 a.m.	Fire Admin.
Battalion 2	1:00 p.m.	Station 7

August 15

Battalion 1	10:00 a.m.	Fire Admin.
Battalion 2	1:00 p.m.	Station 7

August 16

Battalion 1	10:00 a.m.	Fire Admin.
Battalion 2	1:00 p.m.	Station 7

CERTIFICATIONS

Fire Instructor II Certification Course

Earl Copes	Travis Guthrie
Chad Reeves	Charles Schrader
Kenny Turner	

LPFA ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

By: Darryl DuBose

The Lynchburg Progressive Firefighters Association recently held elections for officers. Below are the 2013 Officers:

President:	Quincy Scott
Vice President:	Mike Thomas
Secretary:	Darryl DuBose
Treasurer:	Kenny Bunch
Sergeant-at-Arms:	Thomas Goode



RETIREE RECONNECT

The purpose of this segment is to allow department members to "reconnect" with our retired members and find out what they've been up to! It also introduces new department members to our retirees who served for many years and share some of their valuable knowledge.

William H. Powers (Bill)

(July 1967 to July 1992)

This month's "Retiree Reconnect" highlights retired Commander William "Bill" Powers.



Bill & Elaine Powers

Below are Bill's responses to the questions we pose each month to each "Retiree Reconnect."

Share a fond memory or experience that you were a part of during your service with the department.

Some of Bill's fond memories included being hired by the Fire Department and his promotion to the rank of Commander I. Bill also shared that began his career at Station 1 and later went to Station 4 where he drove the old 1946 seagrave and the 1950 American LaFrance (both apparatus ran out of Station #4 at the same time). He also worked at Station #5 right after it was built.

What do you miss the most about the department, and what advice would you give to someone just starting their career with the department?

I miss the people that I worked with and the excitement of a working fire! You will not find a better or more rewarding career.

Bill now enjoys retirement in sunny Florida. You can contact him via email at boatinboy1@aol.com.

If you would like to be featured in the "Retiree Reconnect" segment of this newsletter, contact Rod Smith at 455-7241 or rod.smith@lynchburgva.gov

MASTER FIRE FIGHTER PROMOTIONAL PROCESS ANNOUNCED

By: Deputy Chief Anthony Smith

The Master Fire Fighter Promotional Process will soon be underway! A representative from the Fields Consulting Group will conduct an orientation session on Wednesday, August 21, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. in the Fire Administration Training Room. Anyone interested in participating in the Master Fire Fighter Promotional Process should attend this orientation.

The tentative dates to sign up for the process are August 26—September 6, 2013. The test is tentatively scheduled to be administered September 23-24 by the Fields Consulting Group. More information will be distributed/confirmed as it is available.

LOCAL IAFF MEMBERS ASSIST WITH MDA CAMP

On July 23, 2013, members of Local 1146 and their families assisted participants at the MDA Camp while they fished at Smith Mountain Lake.

Every year, these young folks who have been diagnosed with some form of muscular dystrophy attend camp and look forward to fishing with the firefighters as one of the main highlights. Those attending this year from Lynchburg were Jody, Jennie, and Jordan Mayberry, Mary Phillips, Chad Reeves, Donnie Smith & family, and Trey Stillman & family.

REMINDERS

Communications Meetings

Dates: August 1 & September 5, 2013
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Place: Fire Admin. Training Room

Guns 'N Hoses

Date: August 11, 2013
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Place: Hillcats Stadium
Cost: \$10 per ticket
Contact: Jennie Mayberry at 455-6342



City Observes Labor Day Holiday

City offices will be closed on Sept. 2, 2013 in observance of Labor Day.

EMSAT

Date: August 21, 2013
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Topic: Dealing With A Mentally Ill Patient
The following CE will be awarded:
(ALS—Category 1 Area 89; BLS—Category 1 Area 05)