



CHIEF'S CORNER

MD-1 Rolls Out

Hello everyone and welcome to the September edition of the "Chief's Corner." I hope you and yours are doing well and enjoying the great weather we have been having over the last several weeks. It looks like fall might come early and I know I am ready for it.

In this month's corner, I want to introduce the new response vehicle for the Regional Medical Director, Dr. Marilyn McLeod. The vehicle is called MD-1 and is ready to roll out. So, here is the story...



Several months ago, Dr. McLeod began to discuss the idea of a response vehicle. This vehicle would be used by her to respond to the scene of incidents when additional, advanced level skills are required. The Medical Director could also respond to selected incidents to ensure quality patient care is being delivered. This unit will not be sent on initial dispatch, but will respond upon request if the Operational Medical Director (OMD) is available. As the idea took shape, a plan was formulated about how we could do this with existing resources. It just so happened that the BREMS office had a vehicle that would meet the need and it would be fairly inexpensive to "outfit." This idea made perfect sense because the intent is to provide this service to the entire region and the BREMS office covers all of the surrounding counties, Bedford City and Lynchburg. Once the decision was made to use the BREMS SUV, the transformation began.

First, the vehicle went to McBride Signs for some photos and mock-ups of the striping and lettering scheme. Dr. McLeod approved the design and the project was underway. After the SUV was striped and the graphics applied, it went to the Fire Department shop for phase two of the transformation. Using parts scavenged from old EMS 2 and the "used parts" bin at the shop, the vehicle was equipped with warning lights and a siren. Harris Corporation donated a multi-band radio which the LFD shop personnel also installed. Once all the work was completed and the truck was buttoned up, it was ready to roll. Dr. McLeod visited the shop to collect the vehicle and receive some instructions on the use of the radio and lights. Within a few short weeks the vehicle went from its humble beginning as a family "grocery getter" to the response vehicle for the regional medical director, MD-1.

So, the logical question to ask is: how will this vehicle be used and how does a provider request assistance? In her position as the Operational Medical Director for the BREMS region and the OMD for the Fire Department, Dr. McLeod wants

to be available to provide assistance when it is beneficial and necessary. She also wants to do some on-scene quality assurance with providers. In order to do this she needs to be on the scene when treatment is provided to patients and observe. That way she will have first hand knowledge of the situation and can assist when necessary. Both of these will help to improve our system and be beneficial to our patients. MD-1 will not be dispatched to calls for assistance with the initial units, but may be requested through Lyn-Comm if the situation dictates. Dr. McLeod will also monitor the radio when she can and may respond if she is available. She may also sign-on the air as MD-1 and can be reached on the dispatch channel.

This is an exciting development for the Fire Department and the BREMS region. We have never had physician involvement at this level and the benefits are numerous. Advanced skills under the direct supervision of the OMD, improved patient care and quality assurance, are just a few.

The final part of this equation is when will this "program" start and when will Dr. McLeod be available. The answer is...in the very near future. The BREMS office is already working on a procedure for requesting this assistance and the Fire Department has a draft as well. We will probably establish a protocol and lay out some guidelines for initiating MD-1. It's a work in progress but we are almost ready to "pull the trigger."

The last comment that I would like to make about this is how fortunate we are to have a Medical Director that is this passionate about her role in pre-hospital emergency care. This program will benefit our patients and it will make the Fire Department providers better medics. This is not intended to be a "looking over your shoulder" program, but a true team approach to better patient care. As with anything new, it might take a little getting used to, but I believe it will grow on everyone and when that really bad or unusual call occurs, we will be glad to have the resource.

That about wraps it up for this month's Chief's Corner. I hope you have a great Labor Day holiday and get to spend some time with family and friends.

Take care and keep up the great work. 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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SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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

33 Years

Mark Britton

31 Years

Miles Tranks

28 Years

Tom Swisher

27 Years

Kris Bhalla

23 Years

Charlie Cox

18 Years

Greg Wormser
Moe Bruce

17 Years

Kenny Turner
Tom McCrickard

15 Years

Brian Jones

11 Years

Ryan Lee

7 Years

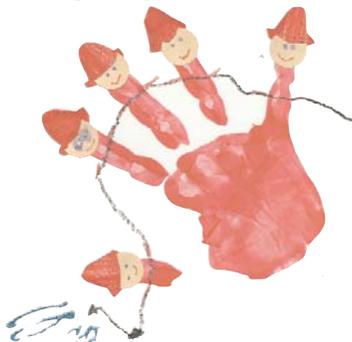
Nathan Sheppard

3 Years

Toby Bouyea
Zack Foster
Travis Guthrie
Keturah Lewis
Steve Mattingley
Josh Phillips
Holly Shackelford

THANKS!

The picture below was received from a preschool class at Timberlake United Methodist Church following a public education event that was provided by Lynchburg firefighters.



Five little firefighters sleeping in a row
Ring goes the bell, down the pole they go.
They jump on the engine and put out the fire
Now they're back home, but they sure are tired.

THE FIRE FIGHTERS' BALL IS BACK!

By: Firefighter Allen Marston



The Lynchburg Fire Fighters Association (Local 1146) is holding its annual Fire Fighters' Ball on October 12, 2013, from 6:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. The event will be held at The Kirkley Hotel.* The theme for this year's ball is "Old School Masquerade." Attendees are urged, but not required, to wear an old school era styled masquerade mask for the first 30-60 minutes of the ball. After that, it's all masks off! There will be a "best mask" prize given in both male and female categories.

This will be an event filled night. Entertainment will be provided by a local band, "Out-of-Spite," as well as a DJ. In addition, a silent auction is planned where items donated from local businesses will be "auctioned off" throughout the night. Photography will be provided, along with a sit down meal (buffet style), and two cash bars.

Tickets are \$60 (single) or \$100 (couple) and can be purchased online at <https://lynchburgfirefighterassociation.ticketbud.com/local-1146-masquerade-ball>.

If you have any questions, contact Allen Marston at 660-0244 or fireman03707@aol.com, or Abbey Johnston at 444-4422 or ffmaam@hotmail.com.

Attire for the ball is "black tie" (suit for males and a nice dress for females).

*The Kirkley has set aside a block of rooms for this event at a special rate. If you plan on drinking and don't have a designated driver, we strongly urge you take advantage of this. Please contact The Kirkley ASAP to reserve your room as there are a limited number of rooms available at this discounted rate. **

CONGRATULATIONS

- Congratulations to Candace Brown on the birth of her daughter, Kennadie Rainne Parrish. She was born August 11th and weighed 6 lbs 10 oz.
- Best wishes to Tom Swisher who will retire from the department effective October 1, 2013, after 28 years of service to the department. Congratulations Tom!
- Congratulations and farewell to Adam Helwig whose last day with the Fire Department will be September 11, 2013. We wish him well in his endeavor to pursue a career with the military (Marines).

CERTIFICATIONS

EMT Intermediate
Beau Arnn

Fire Officer I
Matt Smith



SUPPORT THE TROOPS COLLECTION A SUCCESS!



The Lynchburg Fire Department and the Lynchburg Fire Fighters Association recently partnered with the American Red Cross – Historic Virginia Chapter to collect supplies to send to U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan and Kuwait. The collection drive was a great success, and three pick up truck loads were collected!

A Note of Thanks...

I just wanted to thank you and the members of the Lynchburg Fire Fighters Association for taking on your "July Push" for our Support Our Troops program. I certainly appreciate the collaboration with our local firefighters to collect so much product for us to send to our troops in Afghanistan and Kuwait.

These products will be boxed and shipped to the American Red Cross Station managers in these two theatres, where they will be distributed through the offices there 24 hours a day/365 days a year, as well as to the base hospitals and to our boots on the ground in the Forward Operating Bases. On behalf of our staff serving there, and particularly the troops that we serve in the field, I assure you that your efforts will be well received.

Respectfully,
Douglas Eggleston
American Red Cross

ANNUAL FALLEN FIRE FIGHTER MEMORIAL SERVICE

By: Firefighter Jeremy Pillow

In the Fall of each year, I am reminded of an expected duty that I have as a sworn firefighter, and also as an adopted brother within the Lynchburg Fire Department family. This duty is to remember those who have served before me and to recognize those members of my adopted family, who paid the ultimate sacrifice and did not return home to their own families.



Lynchburg Fire Department's Annual Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, October 13, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. at the Fire Fighters Fountain in Miller Park. This year the wreath will be placed by Lynchburg Fire Department members, retired Firefighter Roy "Bud" Martin and his son, Firefighter Trey Martin.

This event is held annually to honor 22 Lynchburg firefighters who have died in the line of duty. Also remembered are three members of area volunteer departments who died in the line of duty, two of which were members of the Lynchburg Fire Department. All fire department members and their families are invited to attend. Fire Department members are encouraged to wear "Class A" dress uniform.

I hope that you will make plans to attend this ceremony and take part in the department's tradition of remembering the surviving family of these brethren and pay tribute to the lives that were given while performing sworn duties.

STATION 3 UPDATE

By: Captain Jonathan Wright

Renovation efforts at Station 3 are well underway and appear to be moving along close to schedule. Items included in this renovation project are: freshly painted walls, new floor covering, upgrades to the HVAC systems, new lighting and drop ceiling grid, additional parking space and connector from the parking area to the front apron. In addition, an electrical disconnect has been added in the bay area in preparation for a new breathing air compressor arriving at a later date.

As this project moves forward, a separate contract is being finalized to put a new roof on the station. At this point, it is likely both projects will be complete in late October.



Station 3 renovations

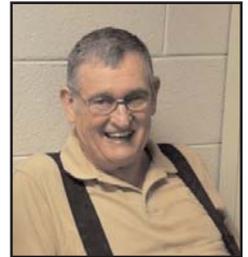
RETIREE RECONNECT

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 will also introduce new department members to our retirees who served for many years and share some of their valuable knowledge.

Leslie "Les" Davidson

35 Years of Service

(July 25, 1960 to December 31, 1995)



This month's "Retiree Reconnect" highlights retiree Les Davidson. Les served as a Firefighter for 16 years, a Commander I for 19+ years, and still serves as the department's Chaplain (for 15+ years). In addition, Les' daughter, Ellen Davidson-Martin, currently works in Fire Administration as the Fire Administrative Manager.

Below are a few questions we posed to Les, along with his responses.

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

Les shared some milestone experiences that he experienced during his 35 year tenure with the department...

- I was witness to the first female being hired.
- I also saw the first African American hired in the department, who later became my Chief.
- I have worked under six Fire Chiefs.
- I experienced the beginning of the ambulance and emergency medical care for the City.
- I saw the department go through annexation in 1976, going from 26 square miles of territory, up to 52 square miles.
- I went through the transition of working two shifts to three shifts (A, B, C).
- The saddest time in my career was in 1975 when the department lost two young men in the line of duty at a fire downtown, Everett Stewart and Ron Stevens. I worked with Everett at Station 2 for three years.
- For the past 15 years, I have served as the Fire Department's Chaplain and have helped perform (or performed) funerals for close friends that I was associated with when I was active in the department. My most recent funeral was for my very first Captain, Royall Williams.

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 togetherness and the support you received as a team member of a wonderful department.

My advice to someone just beginning their career is to look after your fellow firefighters and they will look after you.

FIRE DEPARTMENT CLAIMS ANOTHER GUNS 'N HOSES VICTORY!

By: Battalion Chief Greg Wormser

On August 11, 2013, another fantastic Guns 'N Hoses game went in the record books! This game proved to be one of the most fun outings since the series began. There were many antics, exciting moments, and most importantly, some big winners off the field.

The final score was LFD 13, LPD 5; but the real numbers that count are the final totals in money raised for the MDA and the Special Olympics (all of which stays locally). Although the totals were not available in time for this publication, it is anticipated that approximately \$4,000 was raised for these charities.

Thanks again to all the players, other "behind the scenes folks" who help sell tickets, and all of our family and friends who make this event possible.



2013 Guns 'N Hoses Teams

Upcoming Events

City Observes Labor Day Holiday

All City offices will be closed on Monday, September 2, 2013 in observance of Labor Day.

Communications Meeting

Date: September 5, 2013
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Place: Fire Administration Training Room

BREMS Education Night

Date: September 10, 2013
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Lynchburg General Hospital
(First Colony Training Room)
Topic: Airway Management (This class will be very hands-on/interactive with several skill stations) (CE will be awarded)

Get Downtown!

Date: September 13, 2013
Time: 6:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.
The festival features downtown cultural organizations, merchants, restaurants and retailers, and showcases the very best of Downtown Lynchburg and local colleges and universities.

Day In The Park

Date: September 14, 2013
Time: 10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.
Place: Miller Park

Billy Craft Honda Safety Day

Date: September 14, 2013
Time: 10:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.
Place: Billy Craft Honda (Lakeside Drive)

EMSAT

Date: September 18, 2013
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Topic: Virginia OEMS Rules and Regulations
The following CE will be awarded:
(ALS — Category 2 ; BLS — Category 1 Area 07)
Contact: Matt Millner, Training Division, ext. 6359

Teddy Bear Parade

Date: September 21, 2013
Time: 10:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m.
Place: Miller Park (5th grade and younger event)

Virginia Ten Miler

Date: September 27-28, 2013
Time: 8:00 a.m.

Ducky Derby

Date: October 5, 2013
Time: 9:00 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.
Place: Peakview Park (Ardmore Drive Entrance)

Day at the Point Fall Festival

Date: October 5, 2013
Time: 10:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.
Place: Point of Honor

Fire Safety Day

Date: October 5, 2013
Time: 9:00 a.m. — 12:00 noon
Place: Home Depot

Fire Prevention Week

Dates: October 6-12, 2013

Firefighters' Ball

Date: October 12, 2013
Time: 6:00 p.m. — 1:00 a.m.
Place: The Kirkley Hotel
Cost: \$60 (single); \$100 (couple)
Contact: Abbey Johnston (434) 444-4422, or Allen Marston at (434) 660-0244.

Annual Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial Service

Date: October 13, 2013
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Fireman's Fountain — Miller Park

23rd Annual John A. Stephenson Memorial Youth Run

Date: October 19, 2013
Time: 8:00 a.m. — 10:30 a.m.
Place: Riverside Park