

# The Command Post

Volume 3, Issue 2 - A Publication of the Little Rock Fire Department

August 2012

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## Station 23 Update

Contributed by Paula Patterson,  
Administrative Services Manager  
Photos provided by Paula Patterson and  
FF Ryan Baker, Fire Marshal



Architectural drawing for Station No. 23

The Little Rock Fire Department received an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant in the amount of \$2,017,800 for construction of a new fire station in west Little Rock. The City of Little Rock entered into a contract with Dayco Construction Company on October 28, 2011 for \$2,589,000 to construct the station. Additional funds needed to complete the construction will be provided by the City of Little Rock.

During the second quarter of 2012, there has been tremendous progress on construction of the building. Exterior and interior walls have been erected and insulated, metal roofing has been completed, masonry has been installed, and electrical and plumbing rough-in and the natural gas lines are continuing to be installed. Additionally, installation has been completed on the overhead doors, fire suppression system, truck bay area exhaust system and grease traps. Painting on the structure is ongoing. The generator has also been placed on the generator pad. Construction of the new fire station is on schedule and will be completed well within the established timeframe of December 2012.

## Save the Date

**WHAT:** Project Fresh Start School Supply Drive  
**WHERE:** Dunbar Community Center  
1001 West 16th Street  
**WHEN:** Saturday, August 18, 2012  
**TIME:** 8:30 a.m.-until

**WHAT:** LRFD Citizens Fire Academy  
**WHERE:** LRFD Training Facility  
7000 Murray Street  
**WHEN:** Thursday, August 16th through  
Thursday, October 4, 2012  
**TIME:** 6 p.m.-9 p.m. each Thursday

**WHAT:** 3rd Annual Fire Safety Day  
**WHERE:** Clinton Presidential Center (parking lot)  
1200 President Clinton Ave.  
**WHEN:** Saturday, October 6, 2012  
**TIME:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

LRFD 24/7

# From the Fire Chief

## Leadership Defined



Leadership is an influence process; therefore, leaders are people who, by their actions, encourage a group of people to move toward a common or shared goal. A leader is an individual; leadership is the function that the individual performs. In football, the quarterback is looked upon as the leader of the team; however, in essence, if each member of the offensive line fails at their respective assignment, the quarterback has no chance of being successful, which renders the team as unsuccessful. One of the best ways to demonstrate leadership is to allow others the opportunity to lead. It has been proven that those who lead or have led become more readily acceptable as leaders because of their proven track record. All of our company officers, chief officers and staff members are leaders in their own right. You don't see a lot of it and I don't get the opportunity to see what happens at each station daily, but let me point out a few examples of leadership:

- The work Captain Thacker & Captain J. Robinson and crews did with the landscaping beautification of Station 15.
- The work Captain Hudson & Captain Kurosaki and crews did with the beautification efforts of the landscape at Station 21.
- The work Captain Payne and his crew did in replacing the privacy fence at Station 6.
- The work of BC James Beck and committee members in initiating our partnership with the Arkansas Heart Hospital, establishing our department-wide Heart Saver physicals, whereby we've had several life-saving inter-

ventions to date.

- The work of Training Captain Steve White in diagramming our current Class A burn building.
- The work of Engineer Danny Poe and FF Bo Hagar in creating the fire department's "Storm Response Kit" to assist firefighters in dealing with large scale disasters.
- The work Division Chief Wayne Craft has done within the ARFF program.
- The work Asst. Chief Coney and Paula Patterson have done on managing the construction of Fire Station 23.
- The work Asst. Chief Bradley has done on Information Technology for the department.
- The work David Pettypool has done in reduction of cost for plymovent repairs, by making the repairs himself.
- The work Captain Sharp has done on our MDTs.

This list could go on and on and on, but the message here is simple: organizations achieve their greatest potential when others are allowed to lead; and when others are supported, encouraged and acknowledged for their efforts. As the Fire Chief, if I tried to lead in everything, none of the items listed above would ever get accomplished. Now granted there is a time for me to lead: in times of crises, in times of indecision on direction, in preparing for tomorrow and I hope, least but most important, in times when the department makes a mistake. I wholeheartedly encourage those in leadership positions to allow your subordinates to lead from time to time; this is professional development at its basic premise, that is what a true leader does. I pride myself in not being a micromanager because I believe the ability to lead is a rare gift and, if given the opportunity to lead, true leaders will emerge!

*Gregory Summers, Fire Chief*

# Promotions



**Battalion Chief**  
**James Beck**  
Promoted to Battalion Chief on April 10, 2012



**Battalion Chief**  
**Alan Earnhart**  
Promoted to Battalion Chief on May 11, 2012



**Battalion Chief**  
**Andrew Shelby**  
Promoted to Battalion Chief on May 11, 2012



**Captain**  
**Gavin Wright**  
Promoted to Captain On February 14, 2012



**Captain**  
**Michael Doan**  
Promoted to Captain on May 11, 2012



**Captain**  
**Doug Coffman**  
Promoted to Captain on February 14, 2012



**Captain**  
**Jonathan Engelkes**  
Promoted to Captain on July 2, 2012



**Captain**  
**Kevin Murphy**  
Promoted to Captain on April 10, 2012



**FAE**  
**Brickley Owen**  
Promoted to Engineer on February 29, 2012



**FAE**  
**Roy Wert**  
Promoted to Engineer on February 14, 2012



**FAE**  
**Frederick Chapple**  
Promoted to Engineer on May 2, 2012



**FAE**  
**Brent Bufford**  
Promoted to Engineer on May 11, 2012



**FAE**  
**Shannon Towns**  
Promoted to Engineer on July 2, 2012

# New Recruits



**PFF Benjamin Hammond III**  
Sheridan, AR



**PFF Anthony Natali**  
Little Rock, AR



**PFF Willie White**  
Maumelle, AR



**PFF Stuart Swearingen**  
Mountain Home, AR



**PFF Zachary Williams**  
Little Rock, AR



**PFF Darrell Moore**  
Little Rock, AR



**PFF Emily Kennedy**  
Woodson, AR



**PFF Kenneth Rappold**  
Bigelow, AR



**PFF Brandon Glover**  
Little Rock, AR



**PFF Ashley Coleman**  
Little Rock, AR



**PFF Joey Baldwin**  
Little Rock, AR



**PFF Brennan Duke**  
N. Little Rock, AR



**PFF Edwin Harris**  
Little Rock, AR



**PFF Andrew Jordan**  
Maumelle, AR



**PFF Dwight Stegall, Jr.**  
Little Rock, AR



**PFF James Joy**  
Heber Springs, AR



**PFF Jesse Shelton**  
Searcy, AR

\*\*12 of the 17 recruits shown were hired as a result of the 1% tax increase passed in September 2011 to staff the new West Little Rock Fire Station

# Retirements



**Battalion Chief  
Sam Snowden**  
Retired on May 10, 2012  
after 39 years of service



**Battalion Chief  
David Wilson, Sr.**  
Retired on April 10, 2012  
after 38 years of service



**Captain  
Randall McBride**  
Retired on February 14, 2012  
after 38 years of service



**Captain  
Don Ply**  
Retired on July 1, 2012  
after 34 years of service

# Station 23 Photos



Progress as of March 5, 2012



Progress as of March 22, 2012



Progress as of March 27, 2012



Progress as of April 16, 2012



Progress as of May 14, 2012



Progress as of June 1, 2012



Progress as of June 7, 2012



Progress as of July 19, 2012

## *Accreditation Process*

Contributed by FF Bo Hagar

A fire department is a constantly evolving organization rooted in tradition. New programs and services are being created in the fire service everyday, and with these additions comes the daunting task of implementing and maintaining, often with limited resources. As new fire department programs are introduced, keeping track of organizational goals, needs, and departmental unity becomes more complicated. Accreditation is the process of collecting, analyzing and reviewing our organization's past and present information to create a clear path for the future direction of the Little Rock Fire Department.

The Accreditation Division, consisting of Chief Joseph Gray, Captain Joseph Adams, and Firefighter Bo Hagar, serves as the central nervous system of the Department. However, becoming accredited takes the dedication of the Department as a whole. Every detail of the Little Rock Fire Department, from the governing of the Department, to goals, programs, resources, training, and relationships with outside agencies, will be recorded and maintained. Every function of this organization will be analyzed and appraised. Through this process, we will be able to determine the weaknesses and strengths of our department, and which direction we need to focus more resources.

As of now, the Accreditation Division is in the process of writing out every function of our department, creating a Standard of Cover, creating a filing system and locating department documents. The Division is also working with the City's Information Technology Department to create a monthly and annual appraisal system based on data compiled of various reports, incident types, and response times.

Becoming accredited is a long and tedious process requiring countless hours of devotion, but the payoff is tremendous for the operation of our department. Once accredited, the Little Rock Fire Department will be comparable to other accredited agencies

## *Accreditation Process Contd.*

to promote a better fire service and will prove to the men and women of this organization and the citizens they serve, that the Little Rock Fire Department stands behind its mission of "Protecting life and Property Through Service and Education, LRFD 24/7" and its vision of "Serving with Pride, Excellence, and National Recognition."

## *Citizens Fire Academy-2012*

The Little Rock Fire Department (LRFD) will be holding its annual Citizens Fire Academy with classes scheduled from August 16 - October 4, 2012. The Fire Department would like to provide the citizens of Little Rock with a vivid picture of the services provided by the men and women of LRFD. Our goal is to increase fire and life safety awareness and promote the Department's commitment to customer service. Participants will garner a greater knowledge of our core job functions with classroom instruction, hands-on participation and live demonstrations.

This program is for Little Rock residents 21 years of age or older who are interested in learning more about how the LRFD is organized and how it conducts operations as the Department's multi-faceted operations will be explored during the eight-week Citizens Fire Academy. Participants will meet at the Fire Training Academy once a week and learn about various subjects such as Little Rock's hiring and training process, apparatus familiarization, hazardous materials team, USAR (Urban Search and Rescue), fire tactics and strategies, along with other engaging topics.

The application enrollment period is from July 9, 2012 to August 15, 2012. Class begins Thursday, August 16, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. If you would like more information about the LRFD Citizens Fire Academy, contact Fire Administration at 501-918-3700.

## New Changes to ARFF

Contributed by Division Chief Wayne Craft



**Station Rehabilitation Program-** The Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport at Adam's Field has initiated a facility improvement program for the existing 15,300 square foot Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) facility. LRNA will rehabilitate the existing facility to improve its function and to address building issues.

The construction improvements bid has been awarded to Flynco and is in the range of \$2,100,000. The Airport will make the improvements most appropriate to maintaining ARFF operations at the current facility for the next twenty years. The interior of the station will be totally demolished and gutted, then reconfigured. Construction will begin in the early fall.

**ARFF Vehicle Penetrating Nozzle Training Device-** Red Ball 1 is equipped with a High Reach Extendable Turret known in short as HRET. The HRET is mounted on the top of the ARFF vehicle. There is a master stream nozzle as well as a steel penetrating tip on the end of the upper boom. The vehicle has the ability to discharge water, foam, dry chemical or all of the above through the nozzle and the penetrating tip. The penetrating tip is used to pierce the skin of an aircraft and discharge extinguishing agents into the aircraft to control or extinguish a fire. In order to assist the ARFF Engineers in their training with the HRET, the Airport has purchased a training aid known as a Penetrating Aircraft Skin Trainer (PAST). It has aluminum panels mounted to a metal frame. The panels are mounted in the shape of an aircraft fuselage and are replaceable after too many holes are punched into them. This is a very good practical tool that will provide ARFF firefighters with the ability to get the feel of actually penetrating an aluminum panel.

The ARFF program is working hard to provide our personnel with the training and up-to-date information relating to Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting. This will

## New Changes to ARFF Contd.

allow us to fulfill our mission to provide the best service to the citizens of Little Rock and the thousands of people who fly in and out of the Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport.



Above: A photo of the Penetrating Aircraft Skin Trainer (PAST) being tested in a training session.

## Station Projects

Contributed by Assistant Chief Don Bradley

There have been a couple of special projects completed at Stations 6 and 21 which have really improved the look of the stations. These projects were made possible by the willingness of on-duty personnel to provide the labor to complete them. Station 6 had a privacy fence that needed replacement; the department provided the materials and Captain John Payne, Engineer Chris Sanders, and Firefighter Rick Morris provided the labor. At Station 21 the flower beds badly needed to be mulched; with the department providing the materials, Captains Ronnie Hudson and Ryan Kurosaki, Engineers Chris Williams and Glen Johnson, and Firefighters Louis Maness, Marcus Steele, and Kinsey Bradford provided the labor and equipment to complete the project.

As you can see by the pictures below these individuals did a great job.



## Barbecue Grill Use during Burn Ban

Over the past several weeks, the entire state has experienced the repercussions of the hot and dry weather conditions. From small grass fires to large scale forest fires, we have just about seen it all with the hottest temperatures yet to come as the month of August rolls in.

Along with the majority of the state, Pulaski County has been under a burn ban for most of the summer. Although people are not allowed to do any type of outdoor burning, they are still allowed to use barbecue grills.

Both charcoal and gas grills are still permissible to use

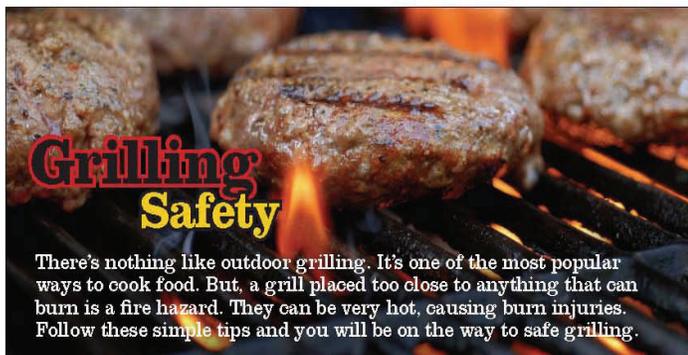
under the burn ban, but it is important to use them with extreme caution as the dry conditions make it much easier for a fire to ignite, spread and easily get out of control. It is suggested that the ground and immediate area surrounding the grill be sprayed with a water hose to avoid the possibility of small sparks or flames creating a fire.

To ensure that citizens practice safe grilling, a list of grilling safety tips from the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) Public Education Division has been provided. For more information on fire safety and tips, visit [www.littlerockfire.com](http://www.littlerockfire.com) or [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org).

## Smoke Alarms

The Save-a-Life Smoke Alarm program is still in full effect. The Fire Prevention and Community Outreach Division of the LRFD was awarded a grant that provided 10-year smoke alarms and 500 carbon monoxide detectors to install in resident's homes. Unlike the smoke alarms that have been installed in the past, the new 10-year smoke alarms come with a lithium battery that lasts for 10 years. So, where you would check and change your smoke alarm batteries twice a year, you can now test the smoke alarm as often as needed without having to change your batteries. The LRFD will use the Department's Fire Corps volunteers to take the lead in installing requested smoke alarms and conducting home safety checks. Fire Corps is a national organization that utilizes a volunteer base to assist fire departments with various non-emergency functions.

To request a smoke alarm or have a home safety check conducted on your residence, please call 501.918.3700 or 501.918.3710.



There's nothing like outdoor grilling. It's one of the most popular ways to cook food. But, a grill placed too close to anything that can burn is a fire hazard. They can be very hot, causing burn injuries. Follow these simple tips and you will be on the way to safe grilling.

### SAFETY TIPS

- ❗ Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- ❗ The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- ❗ Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- ❗ Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- ❗ Never leave your grill unattended.
- ❗ Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

### CHARCOAL GRILLS

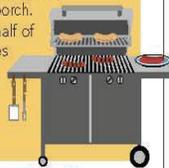
- ❗ There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use. Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- ❗ If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- ❗ Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- ❗ There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- ❗ When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

### PROPANE Grills

Check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department. **If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department.** Do not move the grill.

### FACTS

- ❗ July is the peak month for grill fires.
- ❗ More than half of home grill structure fires begin on either a courtyard terrace or patio, or an exterior balcony or open porch.
- ❗ Roughly half of the injuries involving grills are thermal burns.



# LRFD at Work



On July 26, 2012, the Community Programs interns, along with Chief Joe Gray and Captain Joe Adams, visited the ACH Burn Unit and delivered gift bags to the patients. Left picture-from left to right: Intern Summer Jackson, Intern Byron Miller, Chief Joe Gray and Intern Brianna White. Right picture-from left to right: Intern Byron Miller, Intern Brianna White, Capt. Joe Adams, the mother of an ACH burn victim, Chief Joe Gray and Intern Summer Jackson.

Above: A view of the new Class A burn building at the LRFD Training Center.



Left: Recruits getting hands-on training with Emergency Medical Services training.



Right: FF Nathan Collie talks to the recruits about Emergency Medical Services.



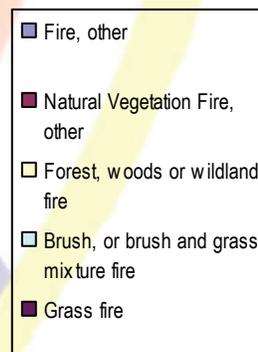
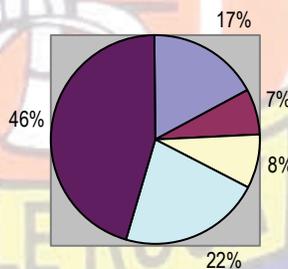
Above: Recruits getting hands-on training with Emergency Medical Services training.

# Statistics

## Company Responses from May-August 2012

Engine 15	734	Engine 20	403
Engine 8	719	Engine 16	389
Engine 7	719	Truck 1	370
Engine 3	689	Truck 15	340
Engine 9	671	Engine 10	313
Engine 2	654	Truck 9	284
Engine 17	619	Engine 21	275
Engine 1	578	Truck 11	242
Engine 6	547	Truck 18	171
Engine 19	533	Engine 4	137
Engine 11	525	Truck 21	129
Engine 14	505	HazMat 11	101
Res2cue	464	Truck 4	73
Engine 18	460	Red Ball 1	34
Truck 7	454	Red Ball 3	12
Engine 12	414	Red Ball 2	6
Engine 13	404	Red Ball 4	3

## LRFD Incident Summary for outdoor drought related fires May-August



### Did You Know?

According to our NFIRS system, we have had more than 90 grass fires in the city of Little Rock since May 1st, averaging about 1-2 grass fires per day.

Did you know that the LRFD Bomb Squad is one of the few bomb squads in the nation affiliated with a fire department?

*"Serving with Pride, Excellence and National Recognition"*

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