

The Command Post

Volume 1, Issue 2 - A Quarterly Publication of the Little Rock Fire Department

November 2010

Home Fire Safety Survey

From the Chief's Desk

Every year, hundreds of people are displaced by fire losses in residential areas; many of which are those that could have been prevented with more knowledge of fire and safety hazards in the home, how to detect them and how to correct them.

On Monday, November 8, 2010, the Little Rock Fire Department began offering Home Fire Safety Surveys to the residents of the City of Little Rock. The purpose of the Home Fire Safety Survey is to increase awareness of potential fire hazards in the home, make homeowners and residents more knowledgeable about the possible effects of fire hazards in the home and reduce the number of accidental fires in residential areas. "[There] is a need to be proactive as it relates to fire safety in the home," says Chief Summers, "we currently provide inspections for businesses and the majority of our fires are in the home."

The Home Fire Safety Surveys will be available upon request for single-family residential dwellings. The survey will include a walk-through of the home to check for possible fire and safety hazards as well as a detailed checklist that will assist with inspection and evaluation. A copy of the survey will be left with the home owner to review and reference if professional services are needed after the inspection is completed such as fireplace cleaning and/or electrical services.

Homeowners are encouraged to create a fire escape plan with their family, practice at least twice a year and consider the importance of maintaining safe conditions in the home. For additional information or questions about the survey, you may contact Captain Dennis McCann at 501.918.3710.



"One Department, One Vision, One Direction" is a reflection of the potential I see in this organization. Our vision, protecting life and property through service and education LRFD 24/7, is constantly on display through our actions- every incident, every time. It is important that we display to the citizens of

Little Rock, our commitment not only to public service but to the fire service as well. By nature firefighters are family with a strong sense of camaraderie, unity and a sincere dedication to the fire service. As we evolve into a more professional organization I encourage you to take it upon yourself to continuously strive to make a positive impact upon the LRFD. In the next few months we will embark upon a very intensive, time consuming and participatory endeavor- *accreditation*. The fire service today as we know it is faced with increasing demands and decreasing resources to meet those demands. Therefore planning becomes essential to any fire department in order to make the best use of the resources available. By definition the accreditation process is a comprehensive fire and emergency services evaluation model. Enabling organizations to examine past, current and future service levels and performance and compare them to industry best practices. Your assistance and involvement is paramount in the direction and future of the Little Rock Fire Department- "One Department, One Vision, One Direction"!

Gregory Summers
Fire Chief

LRFD 24/7

News-worthy News



On, Saturday, September 1, 2010, LRFD personnel participated in the historic stitching ceremony to repair the American Flag that was destroyed in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The flag will be taken to all 50 states where various individuals will have the privilege to stitch the flag. For more information on this event, please visit www.National911Flag.org. Left to right: Captain P. Durham stitching the American Flag, an aerial view of FF J. Fuller stitching the American Flag, and FF S. Ellington and FF F. Livingston standing guard.



Left: Airport ARFF trucks provide a water curtain for the Little Rock National Airport's traditional last flight honor of Captain George Cella, a retired Southwest Airlines pilot.



Right: (Left to right) FF P. Pitts, Capt. J. Wolff, Eng. G. Johnson, Capt. G. Sharp and Eng. H. Brown at the Little Rock Airport. FF Pitts has since left to serve our country.



Upper left: Capt. R. Morehead presents Retired Chief R. Frey with his retirement axe.



Lower left: The LRFD Honor Guard/Color Guard.

Upper right: Firefighters T. Wright, B. Butler and B. May of Res2cue, B-Shift fill SCBA bottles after a structure fire.



Lower right: Eng. D. Calaway and FF B. Butler take part in a Swift Water training course in Malvern, AR.



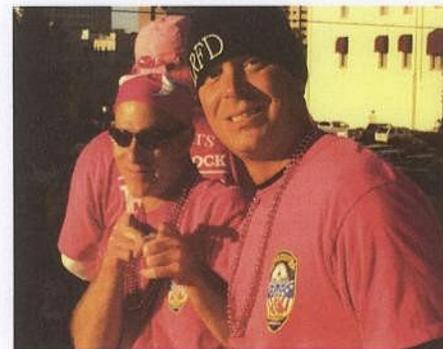
Newsworthy News Continued



The Public Education Division has completed the development of a video concerning home fire safety. Captain Dennis McCann wrote the content and Craft Productions filmed and produced the video. The filming was done "in house" using LRFD personnel, friends and family members. The video is intended to teach home fire safety with an emphasis on having a home escape plan. The DVD will be shown in classroom settings and other venues as a teaching aid. There are five scenes that can be viewed independently. The video was limited to nine minutes for a child's attention span and the dialogue was kept simple to reach a large audience. The photos shown are several snapshots that were taken at one of the locations used to shoot Captain McCann's educational video. Special thanks to all of the personnel and engine companies who participated in making this video production a great success! The photographs were provided by Neil Sommerlatte of Reel Vision Productions.



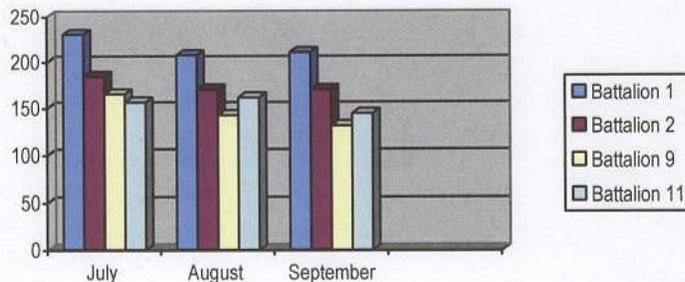
It is safe to say that no other group of real men can wear pink as well as the Little Rock Firefighters! Here are several photos that were taken at the Race for the Cure which was held on Saturday, October 16th. These people sure do know how to draw in a crowd! For more information and to view more photos of the "Dancing Firefighters" check them out on www.facebook.com.



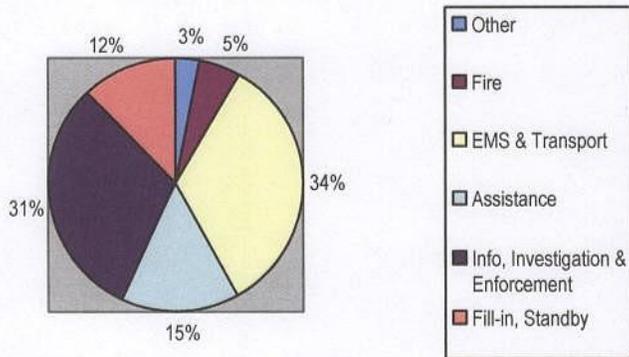
Quarterly Statistical Reports

Battalion Chief Responses

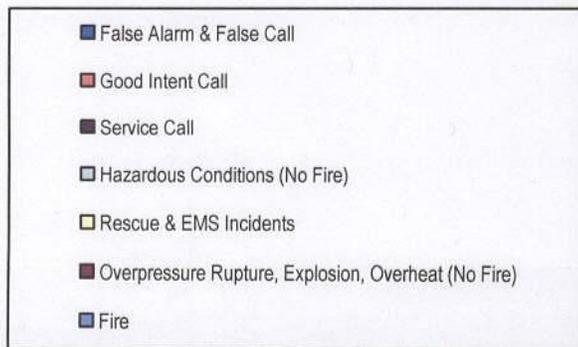
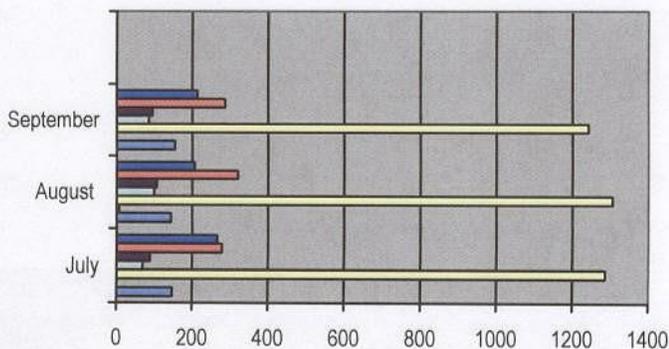
JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER	
Engine 8	273	Engine 1	273	Engine 8	267
Engine 15	244	Engine 15	246	Engine 3	237
Engine 7	232	Engine 7	244	Engine 15	236
Engine 2	228	Engine 3	203	Engine 9	195
Engine 9	228	Engine 9	201	Engine 7	193
Engine 3	219	Engine 6	181	Engine 17	177
Engine 6	192	Engine 2	179	Engine 6	174
Engine 11	182	Engine 11	177	Engine 1	171
Truck 7	180	Engine 17	174	Engine 19	165
Engine 1	172	Engine 14	174	Engine 2	164
Engine 17	168	Engine 19	167	Truck 7	151
Engine 19	162	Truck 7	155	Engine 14	149
Rescue 2	156	Engine 8	153	Engine 11	145
Engine 14	155	Engine 20	135	Engine 13	129
Truck 1	145	Engine 18	130	Engine 12	126
Engine 12	140	Engine 16	127	Engine 18	126
Engine 18	137	Rescue 2	126	Truck 1	125
Engine 20	134	Truck 1	117	Engine 20	108
Engine 13	129	Engine 12	115	Rescue 2	105
Engine 16	125	Engine 13	114	Engine 16	102
Truck 15	113	Engine 21	83	Engine 10	88
Engine 10	98	Truck 15	82	Truck 15	81
Truck 9	88	Truck 9	79	Engine 21	78
Engine 21	81	Engine 10	79	Truck 9	73
Engine 4	63	Truck 11	73	Truck 11	65
Truck 11	57	Engine 4	53	Truck 18	42
Truck 18	48	Truck 18	51	Engine 4	40
Truck 4	25	Truck 21	31	Truck 21	32
Truck 21	25	HazMat 11	27	HazMat 11	26
HazMat 11	15	Truck 4	19	Truck 4	20



LRFD Incident Listings where action was taken July, August and September 2010



Top Incident Listings by Incident Type



Operationally Speaking *by Chief Doug Coney*

Welcome Aboard

We have recently added four members to the LRFD family: Jordan Fulmer, Peter Ferguson, John Oxford and Matthew Bradford. Peter Ferguson and Matthew Bradford were former Firefighters and have been assigned to a company. Jordan Fulmer and John Oxford have attended Firefighter 1 & 2 courses at the Arkansas Fire Academy and graduated on Friday, October 22nd. They have recently been assigned to company. Welcome Aboard!!

Currently the Operations Division is nine positions short and plans are to hire for these and any other vacancies created by the end of 2010 in January 2011.

New Hire Testing

Human Resources and the Fire Department have recruited and tested for new hires. There were 812 applications received, more than 500 took the written exam and 381 of those applicants passed with a cutoff score of 75%. Currently there is no active certified list and the process should be completed by the end of December.

Parade/Funeral Apparatus



On Monday, September 20, 2010, members of the Training Division, Honor Guard/Color Guard, Fleet Services and Public Works loaded the 1953 American LaFrance Foamite Engine onto a Public Works lowboy for transport to Pulaski Technical College's Work Center in Bauxite, Arkansas for the start of its restoration

process. The department hopes to have this unit brought back to its original beauty with the help of department members, Pulaski Tech students and our very own Fleet Services staff within a year.

Special thanks to Darryl Syler (Fleet Services), Mark Jacobi (Public Works), and their staff for making the transportation and restoration process possible and to Dr. Dove, Paul Ames, Joey Bowman and Matt Magby (Pulaski Tech Instructor Staff) for agreeing to help the department with the project.

A special thanks to Captain Ricky Bone for being persistent and passionate in getting the project started.

Promotion/Transfer List

There have been some recent questions regarding the transfer and promotional list regarding the asterisk (*) that has been included. The asterisk is to assist the Battalion 9 Chiefs in following the language in the MOU and knowing who has bid or asked for a transfer.

Holiday Season

As we approach the Holiday Season I want to wish each of you & your families a Happy Thanksgiving and a Very Merry Christmas!

Thank You

As the Operations Chief I would like to personally thank each and every one of you for the professional job you provide our citizens every day. I understand that you all do not hear that enough from the Administration but your work does not go unnoticed and it is certainly appreciated! As I visit your stations I want you to feel free to let me know what you need and how we can make things better as we all work to make the LRFD the best.

Sincerely,
Chief D.R. Coney

Fire Safety Day

In numerous cities all across the country, local area fire departments conduct fire safety events in recognition of National Fire Prevention Week, which is held annually the first week of October. On Monday, October 4, 2010, the Little Rock Fire Department held its First Annual Fire Safety Day in the parking lot of War Memorial Stadium. Fire Safety Day is one of many fire safety events held during National Fire Prevention Week.

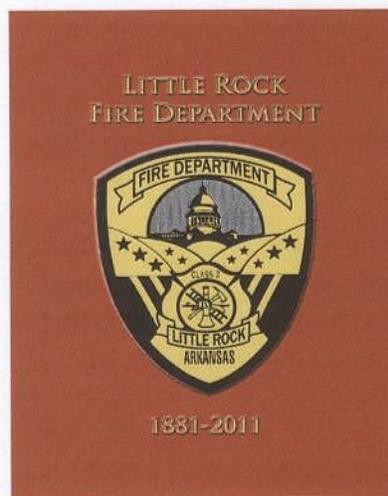
In conjunction with other fire departments, North Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Sylvan Hills, Sweet Home and Benton as well as the Little Rock Police Department, MEMS, Red Cross, AR Children's Hospital, 1-800-BoardUp and Chick-fil-A, Fire Safety Day was a great success. The 2000+ people in attendance were able to engage in various activities such as having photos taken dressed as a firefighter, the AR Children's Hospital Fire Safety House, enjoying live music from various local bands and watching demonstrations given by life safety and fire service personnel.

Fire Safety Day is the first of many more to come. This event gives the Little Rock Fire Department the opportunity to give back to the community once more and bring people of all ages together. It also allows everyone to have fun, unite and educate themselves about fire safety. It is one of many ways to teach fire prevention and life safety education every-day-24/7/365.



Little Rock Fire Department Commemorative History Book

The Little Rock Fire Department has joined forces with Acclaim Press to publish a library quality, full-color, hardbound book that will document the remarkable history of our department, and honor the men and women who serve our community.



A detailed history of the Little Rock Fire Department, exciting historic accounts/stories, and full-color personnel portrait photographs of current firefighters, civilians and retirees will be featured in this upcoming publication. The volume will also include:

- Detailed history of the department from 1881
- Full-color portrait photographs of all personnel— uniform, civilian and retired
- Personal experience stories by firefighters and staff
- Past badges and patches, and past fire chiefs
- In Memoriam Tribute to those who died while serving
- Division, Unit & Station histories
- Historic and contemporary photos
- Outstanding artifacts display, awards and more
- Roster of active and retired personnel
- Plus much more!

Be a part of this historic project and reserve your copy of this limited edition commemorative book. For questions on how to reserve a copy contact Div. Chief Joseph Gray at 501.918.3780 or jgray@little-rock.org. Deadline is Tuesday, November 30, 2010.

Recent Promotions

Vaiden Holmes	Battalion Chief
Steve McGhee	Captain
Kevin Hollins	Captain
Terry P Henson	Captain
Ahmad Salaam	Captain
Chris Sutterfield	Captain
John Hogue	Captain
Duane Smith	FAE
Davbram Flowers	FAE
Chris Muncy	FAE
Scott Wingert	FAE
Jarrold Gray	FAE
Brooks Glover	FAE

Recent Retirements

Chief Walter Frey	Captain Ray Templeton
Captain Jim Mills	Captain Gary Jones
Captain Virgil Hampton	Captain Robert George
Captain Stanley Townsend	

Births

Battalion Chief Vaiden Holmes welcomed a granddaughter, Madelyn D'Shea Guidry, 7lbs. 7oz.

Captains Andrew and Julia Shelby welcomed a daughter, Drew Elaine Shelby, 8lbs. 5oz.

Firefighter Marcus Steele and his wife Bethany welcomed a baby boy, Brison Ray Steele, 8lbs. 1oz.

Paula Patterson, Administrative Services Manager, welcomed twin grandsons, Hudson Hardin Hightower, 6lbs 6oz., and Garrison Stone Hightower, 5lbs 10oz.

In Sympathy

Firefighter Jack Hancock lost the grandmother to his wife, Beulah Archibald.

Retired Assistant Fire Chief Clay Aaron

Retired Captain Ronald Mann



Upcoming Birthdays



November 3	PIPPINS, T.V.
November 4	JOHNSON, R.M.
November 5	PAUL, J.S.
November 6	BAKER, R.S.
November 6	HARMON, Z.W.
November 6	TURNER, K.J.
November 8	ROBY, J.T.
November 8	SIMMONS, W.E.
November 9	RANKIN, J.L.
November 14	FORBUSH, P.L.
November 17	KARRIEM, E
November 18	SALAAM, N.S.
November 19	SHELBY, J.A.
November 19	WEAVER, R.J.
November 20	POOL, R.K.
November 21	EDMONSON, J.S.
November 21	FERGUSON, P.E.
November 22	FULLER, J.G.
November 22	GREGORY, J.W.
November 24	BRADFORD, M.G.
November 24	NEWMAN JR, F.B.
November 25	BROWN JR, H.R.
November 26	STEWART, K.L.
November 26	TEAGUE, S.W.
November 26	WILSON JR, D.O.
November 27	HOWARD, J.L.
November 28	HANCOCK JR, J.L.
November 30	DUDLEY JR, T.O.
November 30	HILDRETH, E.L.

December 1	PHILLIPS, C.W.
December 5	GREEN, S.A.
December 8	HILL, J.R.
December 8	WOODING, J.S.
December 8	WRIGHT, G.L.
December 10	CRAVENS, M.J.
December 10	TRANHAM JR, J.F.
December 14	MOREHEAD, R.J.
December 14	SALAAM, A.K.
December 16	FREEMAN, O.Q.
December 18	WEST, J.S.
December 19	SCHMECKENBECHER II, A.D.
December 20	HILLMAN, M.W.
December 20	MARTIN, F.A.
December 20	SMITH, C.J.
December 20	WERT II, R.L.
December 21	WHITLEY, B.D.
December 23	BROWN, K.E.
December 25	HARRIS, R.S.
December 25	SHERWOOD, B.W.
December 25	WINGERT, S.O.
December 28	CAREY, J.P.
December 28	FORD, H.A.
December 28	LENTZ, J.M.
December 29	WHITTENBURG, J.D.
January 1	WAYNE, A.L.
January 2	HUDSON, R.B.
January 2	PRELLER JR, A.I.
January 5	JONES, O.C.

January 6	DARR, R.V.
January 6	SHARP, G.S.
January 8	LAMPKIN, D.M.
January 9	STING, W.C.
January 10	ARUM, C.C.
January 10	BUFFORD, B.A.
January 11	BENGSTON, T.G.
January 13	GARRIGA, B
January 14	HILLMAN, J.K.
January 14	SOLLOWAY JR, L.E.
January 16	DAVIES, H.G.
January 16	WHITE, Z.A.
January 18	STAGGS, B.R.
January 20	GUNTHER, E.P.
January 21	SNOWDEN, R.D.
January 22	STOLL, G.S.
January 23	JOHNSON, M.W.
January 24	DILLARD, Q.N.
January 24	MARSH, E.S.
January 24	SCOTT, F.D.
January 26	SLATER, A.D.
January 29	BROWN, K.E.
January 29	KRANTZ, P.A.
January 30	FISHER, S.T.
January 30	HENSON, T.L.
January 30	ROBERSON, C.S.
January 31	TAYLOR, J.R.
January 21	GUNTHER, P.A.
January 30	MITCHELL, D.N.

Letter from the Editor

As the editor of The Command Post I am extremely pleased that the newsletter is making progress! Thank you to all who submitted photos, contributed stories, suggestions and thoughts. Keep 'em coming! As I stated in the first newsletter, as time progresses you will see various changes and I am always open to suggestions. Please feel free to send me an email with any information you may have.

I hope that you all have a safe and wonderful holiday season. I will see all of you next year.



"Serving with Pride, Excellence and National Recognition"

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Holiday Safety



As the end of the year nears and the temperature cools, it is important to be mindful of hazards that cause so many accidental fires throughout the holiday season. From candles to Christmas trees; to heating homes with ovens, fire places and space heaters; Christmas lights and excessive wiring; it is important to be ever-ready whenever, if ever, a fire or emergency occurs.

According to nfpa.org, it is a fact that fire departments respond to roughly 200 structure fires caused by Christmas trees annually, two out of five home fires started by Christmas trees were due to electrical problems and one quarter of house fires are caused by excessive heat sources too close to trees.

In terms of space heaters, both portable and fixed, there are thousands of fires associated with these and hundreds of individuals become fire casualties to such incidents where these heating sources are the cause.

As we enjoy family, friends and holiday cheer this season; please include fire safety in your holiday planning. For more information on holiday safety tips and statistics, please visit www.littlerockfire.com and click on the Public Education & Community Outreach link.

*Do you have an interesting story? Helpful information? Suggestion? Please send all communication via chain of command to:
bgyce@littlerock.org*