



The Trumpet

A Membership Publication of the Southwestern New Hampshire District
Fire Mutual Aid System, Serving New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts



From the Coordinator's Desk

by Paul Szoc, MAC1

I hope everyone had a great summer! We have been real busy this summer both in the activity in the communication center and several projects that we have been working on to improve the system.

We recently completed the installation of a new computer system, complete with our own server and firewall. It has been a great asset to the staff and allows us to perform additional tasks and at greater speed. A special thanks to the City of Keene for allowing us to continue to use their fiber optic and T-1 lines. A special thanks also goes to the Staff of Ininet and Senior Communication Specialist Tirrell for overseeing this important project.

On July 1st, RCC Consultants began the Radio Engineering Study. This is another important project and when completed will give us some ideas and direction on how we want to proceed as an organization to improve our communications. RCC will be giving a presentation when they have completed the project and I urge everyone to attend; it should be held sometime this fall. The support we have received for this project has been tremendous and I would like to personally thank you. We still have a few towns that have not provided their share, please make every attempt to do so in the very near future. Remember, this project will benefit us all!

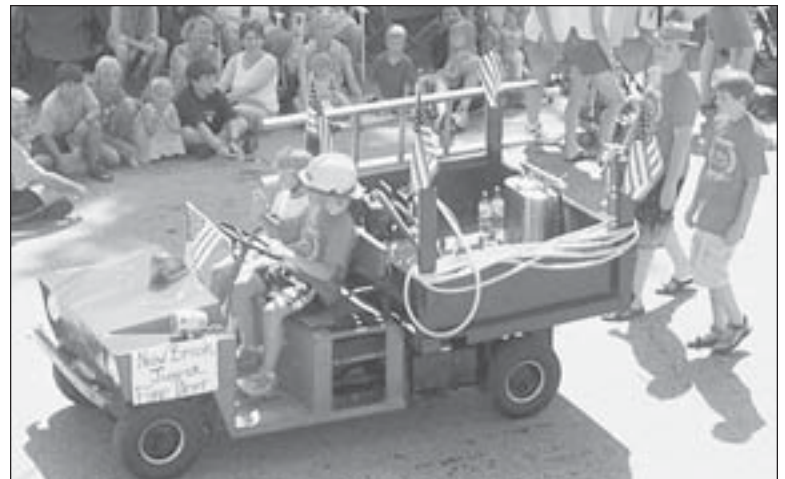
Dale and Lenny have been real busy at the radio shop both doing customer work and special projects for the system. We would like to thank everyone who has supported the radio shop and remind all that, if they need any type of assistance, do not hesitate to call. Some of the projects they have done or are working on are:

- A backup system for the towns in Channel B area.
- Glidden Hill Site in Unity
- Working with site owner for new antenna location on Crotched Mt.
- Extensive work on KEF=980 site in Stratton

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53rd Annual Street Fair & Parade July 4, 2002 — Wardsboro, VT



FRANCESTOWN RESCUES SWNHDFMA



On April 12, Frankestown Fire Department recieved word that a SWNHDFMA radio shop truck was stuck approximately half way up Crotched Mountain. While investigating a potential site for an antenna to allow better communications to the towns in this area, the truck slid off the soft road into a gully. 37 Brush 1, 37 Squad 1 and six firefighters responded and pulled the truck back onto the road with the aid of a winch.



KEENE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S FIREMEN'S BALL

Sponsored by: LOCAL 3265

OCTOBER 4, 2002

8 p.m.-1 a.m.

**BEST WESTERN
SOVEREIGN HOTEL**

401 WINCHESTER ST., KEENE

\$10/Person \$15/Couple

For ticket information or questions regarding the ball contact:

Keene Fire Department Central Station
32 Vernon St. Keene, N.H. 03431
Telephone: 357-9861 or 357-9860

PROPER ID AND DRESS WILL BE REQUIRED

From the Coordinator's Desk continued from p. 1

- Testing new possible site on Fall Mt.
- Working on new site on the Holman Property in Fitzwilliam.
- Working on site design with City of Keene for new location of Radio Shop next year.
- Testing new radio site in West Dover in the Mt. Snow area.

Beginning this fall we will be working with Valor Systems, Director Cheney and his staff from NH E-911, Lakes Region Dispatch, VT E-911 and Grafton County on a new CAD (computer-aided dispatch) system. If this system proves worthwhile we will be installing data into the system. Because of the large amount of towns we serve and the large amount of data this task will take a considerable amount of time. It is very important that all towns make sure their information is updated and we have all the updated 911 street listings. A special thanks goes to NH 911 for funding this system.

A special thanks goes to the staff in the communication center for the excellent job they continue to perform. A large number of the staff have reached another level of certification—that of APCO Certified Communication Specialists. Congratulations to all of them. We recently had a change in personnel, Chris Staples went to work on the other side of the door as a fireman for the City of Keene. We all wish Chris the best in his new career. We were very fortunate to have Penny Curtis join us full time. She is doing a great job for us.

Unfortunately there was some terrible sadness this summer with the passing of West Dummerston Fire Chief Steven Gallup, at a very young age. It was a pleasure working with Steve and he was a great asset to not only his department but the entire system. Our prayers and sympathy go to his family and department.

Remember, this is your system and if you have any questions, concerns or ideas please do not hesitate to contact a board member, member of the staff, or myself. We can continue to grow in a positive direction if we all work as a team.

GRANT RECEIVED

Submitted by Chief George Lang

Champion Fire Co. #5 received a grant from the Stratton Foundation to purchase a five-way manifold valve. Barbara McCarty, executive director of the Stratton Foundation, present the award to Chief George Lang at the May 8th monthly business meeting of Champion Fire Co. #5. With the rising costs of operating expenses, the company appreciates the help from the foundation to purchase this appliance, a versatile valve used for supply or attack. Thank you Stratton Foundation

*Members of Champion Fire Co. #5
South Londonderry, VT
George H. Lang, Fire Chief*

MEADOWOOD PERSONNEL COMPLETE SWIFT WATER TRAINING

Submitted by Chief Robert Crowell

On May 3rd, 4th, and 5th, 20 members of the Meadowood Underwater Rescue Team and the Meadowood County Area Fire Department completed an extensive 24-hour course in Swift Water Rescue. The instructor for the class was Matt Knierim of Dive Rescue International of Fort Collins, Colorado.

All 20 members completed the course and are now Swift Water Rescue Specialists. Members spent eight hours in the classroom learning the dynamics of water, proper swift water rescue equipment, knots and rigging techniques, and safety. Sixteen hours were spent on the Ashuelot River in Surry, New Hampshire, where members practiced self-rescue and contact rescues—where members go directly into the water to effect a rescue or stabilize a patient for a boat rescue. Members also practiced rigging the inflatable boat using two- and four-point shore-controlled techniques, and high- and low-flow static lines with mechanical advantage systems. These systems were used to maneuver the rescue boat to reach patients in the river. Class members took a written test and were tested in an actual rescue of team members from the river.



Meadowood members who completed the course are: Chief Robert Crowell, Asst. Chief Winn Wright, Asst. Chief Bruce Tatro, Capt. Andy Fisher, Lt. Dean Ferranti, Lt. Scott Robinson, Lt. Bruce Crowell, Lt. Jim Pearsall, Ted Aldrich, Deb Bergeron, Bob Christopher, Bill Deyo, Matt Goodwin, Rob Jackson, Brooks Mitchell, Eric Richards, Annette Spaulding and Danielle Terry.

The Meadowood Swift Water Rescue Team can respond as a resource for swift water rescues.



Cinders & Sparks Make Fire Safety Fun for Kids

Cinders the Clown (a.k.a. Les Thomas of Alstead, NH) is a member of the Concord, NH, Bektash Shriners Clown Unit who helps educate schoolchildren about fire safety. His sidekick, "Sparks," travels with him to all parades and visits. Cinders says, "The children really relate to Sparks." His fire safety programs are not intended to replace fire department programs, but to enhance them.

Les has 28 active years experience (25 as a line officer) with the Granby Center Volunteer Fire Department in Granby, NY, and also has experience as a New York state instructor for rescue, EMS and fire.

Cinders presently has five costumes and each costume holds 100 patches. He is always looking for new patches. Globe, Quaker and Quest have donated new turnout gear for Cinders. Cinders also has a 1957 Maxim pumper. Numerous companies have donated time and materials to bring the Maxim back to near-original condition. It will be used at parades, fire safety programs, hospitals, malls (for both Shriner's and fire safety education), and for the final alarm ride. Cinders needs only a few more items to complete restoration of the truck, and would appreciate donations of any of the following items that departments may no longer need: 2 1/2" nozzles, 1 1/2" equipment (no hose needed), siren light, halagan tool, old turn-out gear, helmets, 24-28' ladder (wood or aluminum—for show only), etc.

Currently, Les is working to raise \$5,400 for Pluggie, an educational remote control fire hydrant which has received national attention for children who have saved younger brothers or sisters in fires. Pluggie will be available for use by fire, police and other community groups, for free.

Cinders may be reached: by mail at 8 Porter Road, Alstead, NH 03602; by phone at 603-835-6497; or by e-mail at lsemt@aol.com.



Presently the Shriners give twenty dollars per second for the free health care they offer to children and research.

Jaffrey Police Announces Packet Cluster Software in Cruisers

Retired Chief Robert Pelio was very pleased to announce the recent installation of the "Packet Cluster" computer system in cruisers. This Packet Cluster system is a computer software package that is installed in cruisers. The system allows officers out on patrol to communicate with their patrol partners via computer, instead of using the radio. The system also allows the officers to communicate with the office staff in the department via computer. With this system, the officers now have the capability of running all their traffic inquiries, registrations, motor vehicle record histories, warrant checks, etc., via computer, using the State Police On-line Telecommunications System (SPOTS). With this capability, the officers are able to get a response directly to the computer in the cruiser, which decreases the amount of radio traffic. The elimination of constant radio traffic is beneficial for officer safety so that the radio airways are clear in the event of an emergency.

This system was made possible due to a grant we received through the federal government. This technology is very beneficial to the department and our officers.

If anyone is interested in a demonstration, please feel free to contact the Jaffrey Police Department at 532-7865.

Retiring Chief Lindy Joseph Honored by Hancock Fire Department

by Chief Nevan Cassidy

Lindy Joseph was honored at the Hancock Fire Department Annual Dinner held at Sargent Camp this spring. Lindy's work with Bound Tree Medical, Inc. has forced him to relocate to Ohio and therefore to resign as the Hancock fire chief.

Lindy joined the department in 1981 and rose through the ranks to captain and then assistant chief before being elected chief in 1996. During his tenure, the department took delivery of a new pumper as well as Hancock's first 10-wheel tanker. Also during that time the entire department was outfitted with new turnout gear and SCBAs. As president of Bound Tree, Lindy provided the fire department with a great deal of rescue and medical supplies. Lindy was the last of the five Joseph brothers to serve the department; Chip, Chris, Brooke and Todd Joseph have all been members at one time.

The Hancock Fire Department wishes Lindy and his family all the best in their new Ohio home!



WESTMORELAND, NH

WESTMORELAND FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT recently had their 1992 rescue truck refurbished. The work was done by Valley Fire Equipment of Bradford, NH. Features of the rescue truck include a walk-in polypropylene body with heat, six roll-up doors, roll-out trays for rescue tool and generator, electric cord reel, two 500-watt lights mounted on the rear of the truck, 5000-watt Honda generator, cascade system, SCBA storage, Code 3 LED light package, 8000-lb. Warn winch on the front, and many other extras.



CHESTERFIELD, NH

CHESTERFIELD FIRE & RESCUE took delivery, in May 2002, of a 2002 Central States pumper/tanker. It is powered by a 430-hp Caterpillar engine mated to a World 5-speed automatic transmission in a Freightliner FL112 chassis. It encompasses a Darley 1500-gpm pump with 2000 gallons of water that can be "quick-dumped" out the rear through a 10-inch-square telescoping dump valve. At this time it carries seven SCBAs, 1000 feet of 4" hose, an 8-kw generator and numerous other 1³/₄ and 2¹/₂ preconnects. It will be housed at the Chesterfield Central Station.



KEENE, NH

KEENE FIRE DEPARTMENT recently took delivery of a 2002 Ford E-450 Type III Road Rescue Ambulance.



FRANCESTOWN, NH

FRANCESTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT has fabricated its 1983 rescue truck to 37 Squad 1, a utility class 6 forestry engine.

NEW DELIVERIES



WINCHENDON, MA

WINCHENDON FIRE DEPARTMENT took delivery on a new truck from Greenwood Fire Apparatus, Inc., of North Attleboro, MA, in May. It is a 2002 F-550 4-WD, with 320-gal. poly water tank, 20-gal. poly foam tank, Foam Pro foam system, Lombardi diesel pump system, extruded aluminum body with high angle departure, 10-year paint, and a body and plumbing warranty.

Lifesaving Resources Completes Its 4th Season of Ice Rescue Technician Courses

By Gerry Dworkin, Consultant

Lifesaving Resources (<http://www.lifesaving.com>) has just completed its Winter 2002 series of Ice Rescue Technician (IRT) Courses with 89 IRT candidates representing public safety and rescue agencies from New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Washington, DC.

Lifesaving Resources is dedicated to drowning and aquatic injury prevention and emergency management. The company sponsors a large award-winning web site, and conducts Aquatics Safety, Water Rescue and Ice Rescue training programs throughout the United States, as well as internationally.

The Lifesaving Resources' Ice Rescue Technician Course is a nine-hour, one-day training program which includes four hours of classroom sessions, and five hours of intensive on-the-ice/in-the-water practical sessions. During the two two-and-a-half-hour practical sessions, the IRT candidate participates in 18 different practical evolutions as a victim, as a primary rescuer and as a line tender. Candidates are divided into four- or five-person engine companies and participate in all course activities as independent engine companies during their rotation through the 18 practical evolutions.

The focus of the course is on the prevention, recognition and emergency management of cold water and ice incidents. The practical evolutions include every conceivable type of rescue device and skill including: self rescue, solo rescues without buoyant devices, solo rescues with buoyant devices, extension rescues, ladder rescues, throwing rescues, boogie board rescues, rescue sled rescues, flat bottom boat rescues, inflatable boat and kayak rescues, backboard rescues, basket stretcher rescues, etc.



IRT candidates are issued a course guidebook/workbook for use during the classroom sessions of the course and must successfully complete a written examination at the conclusion of the course. Upon successful completion of all classroom requirements and practical sessions, candidates are awarded a course completion certificate and Ice Rescue Technician sew-on and stick-on insignia.

For more information on Ice Rescue Technician and/or Water Rescue Technician courses, please access the Educational Programs section of Lifesaving Resources' web site (www.lifesaving.com).

The 2003 dates are already scheduled, including a Train-the-Trainer course. Prerequisites to participate in the Train-the-Trainer program include: (a) certification as an IRT; (b) endorsement from the department's chief officer; and (c) assist in the conduct of an IRT course.

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PLANE CRASH IN SWANZEY, NH

*This incident claimed seven lives
on September 2, 2002 at 10:15.*



Westminster Celebrates New Station

On July 14th, Westminster, VT celebrated the opening of its new fire station with a parade, open house and dedication. It is a beautiful station and is well designed. Congratulations to Chief Bazin and his department for a job well done.

LIFESAVING RESOURCES

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Lifesaving Resources would like to congratulate the following area individuals and departments who successfully completed these intensive training programs:

Antrim (NH) Fire Department

- Jay Blanchette
- John Towne
- Ted Brown

Brookline (NH) Fire Department

- Brian Fessenden

Franklin Pierce College (NH) Fire Dept.

- Eric Colantonio
- Michael Jusseaume

Harrisville (NH) Fire Department

- Joe Breidt
- Bruce Wentworth

Keene (NH) Fire Department

- Aaron Cooper
- Mike Abbott

North Walpole (NH) Fire & Rescue

- Andrew Atkin

Washington (NH) Rescue

- John Pasieka
- Cynthia Turner

- Donald Turner

Something's Bruin

in New Hampshire

<http://www.WILDLIFE.STATE.NH.US/Somethings%20bruin.htm>

TIPS ON AVOIDING UNBEARABLE CONFLICTS



Although black bears are generally shy and usually avoid humans, they are opportunistic and will search for human food supplies when natural foods are not available. Maintaining a sustainable bear population in New Hampshire depends on minimizing human-bear conflicts. The majority of conflicts can be avoided. Here are some tips on prevent-

RESIDENTIAL PREVENTION

- Take down, clean and put away bird feeders by April 1. Store the bird feeder until late fall. (Birds will do just fine with the natural foods available.) Bear damage to bird feeders is a common and growing spring complaint.
- Clean up spilled seed below feeder stations.
- Keep garbage in airtight containers inside your garage or storage area. Double bagging and the use of ammonia will reduce odors that attract bears.
- Garbage for pickup should be put outside the morning of collection and not the night before.
- Do not place meat or sweet food scraps in your compost pile.
- Do not leave pet food or dishes outdoors at night.
- Clean up and/or store outdoor grills after use.
- Use a bear-proof dumpster.
- Never intentionally feed bears to attract them to your yard for viewing.

CAMPING PREVENTION

- Maintain a clean campsite.
- Put food scraps and fat drippings in closed containers, not in the campfire.
- Do not cook or eat in your tent.
- Keep food and cooking gear separate from your sleeping area.
- Keep food in a closed-up vehicle or hang food at least 10 feet off the ground and five feet out on a limb that will not support a bear.

A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR!

When black bears are fed, they quickly learn unbearlike behaviors. Sadly, this may lead to serious, often deadly, results for the bear. You can prevent this by following the simple guidelines above.



DON'T FEED THE HABIT

As snow disappears in the early spring hungry bears leave their winter dens. Early spring offers the promise of abundant bear foods, but yields no such benefit until grasses grow, bulbs sprout and flowers bloom. Hungry bears lack the option to wait for spring growth. Although bears are generally shy and usually avoid humans, their need for food and their fondness for sunflower seeds often draw them to New Hampshire bird feeders. Here are some suggestions to prevent your bird feeder from becoming a bear feeder:

- Complete your bird feeding activities by April 1 each year. Don't feed the birds until late fall (the birds will do just fine).
- Bears are clever. This, coupled with their strength and agility, make it very difficult to establish bearproof bird feeders.
- Purposeful feeding can result in the bears getting accustomed to humans. This "habituation" of bears may cause a variety of conflicts with humans. The end result may be the removal (most often with lethal consequences) of the offending bear.
- Encourage your bird-feeding friends and neighbors to adhere to these guidelines. Be reminded that many people have an irrational fear of bears. A black bear's presence in a residential area may create fear among neighbors and lead to negative consequences for the bear.

TAKE PROPER CARE OF YOUR GARBAGE

Black bears are one of New Hampshire's most magnificent big mammals. Although bears are shy and usually avoid humans, they are also opportunistic and will search for human food supplies when there's little natural food available. Their keen sense of smell can lead them to trouble—both for themselves and humans. Maintaining a sustainable bear population in New Hampshire depends on minimizing human-bear conflicts. Take proper care of your garbage to help avoid these conflicts.

DON'T TRASH OUR BEARS

- Keep dumpsters and trash containers secured at night. Lock and bolt both tops and sliding side doors, if necessary. Use metal trash cans, including lids.
- Choose adequate sized dumpsters. Don't let dumpster garbage overflow.
- Stabilize smaller dumpsters to prevent bears from tipping them over.
- Rinse out dumpsters with a hose, and deodorize with ammonia if necessary.
- Pick up loose or spilled garbage.
- Erect portable electric fences around dumpsters to reduce bear activity, when necessary.
- Double-bag garbage and place it in air-tight containers to reduce food odors that may attract bears.
- If you keep garbage in a shed, keep the doors closed



tightly to prevent bears from forcing them open. If bears get into sheds, move garbage to a more secure location and leave shed doors open after removing attractants.

Deodorize with ammonia as necessary

- Further discourage bears from approaching dumpsters by using loud noise-making devices.
- Never intentionally feed bears to attract them to your yard for viewing. Remember... a fed bear is a dead bear!

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BLACK BEAR:

- Normal trail noise should alert bears to your presence and prompt them to move without being noticed. However, if you see a bear, keep your distance. Make it aware of your presence by clapping, talking or making other sounds.
- If a bear does not immediately leave after seeing you, the presence or aroma of food may be encouraging it to stay. Remove any sight or smell of foods. Place food items inside a vehicle or building. Occupy a vehicle or building until the bear wanders away.
- Black bears will sometimes "bluff charge" when cornered, threatened or attempting to steal food. Stand your ground and slowly back away.
- Enjoy watching black bears and other wildlife from a distance. Respect them and their right to live in wild New Hampshire.
- Black bears do not typically exhibit aggressive behavior, even when confronted. Their first response is to flee. Black bears rarely attack or defend themselves against humans.

Rescue, Inc. Congratulates Program Graduates

Submitted by Mark Considine, Chief of EMS

Calendar year 2002 has already been a busy training schedule for Rescue Inc. Recently the agency upgraded certifications profiles on several providers.

The prestigious National Registry EMT Intermediate certification was obtained by Connie Faulkner, Todd Faulkner, Michael Ball, John Boothroyd, Larry Smith, Lisa Barry, Elizabeth Garvie, and Mark Gagne. This is quite an accomplishment since the enrolled students had to satisfy program requirements in both Vermont and New Hampshire.

Dale Merritt, Sally Brunton, and Ken Harrison, as well as the above listed providers, recently completed indoctrination in the Combitude research project. The upgrade continues to strengthen Rescue Inc.'s ability to provide contiguous EMT Intermediate and Paramedic coverage to the nine communities that it serves. On a second noteworthy point, the following providers recently obtained clinical clearance at the: (a) EMT Basic level—Dawn Manch, Mark McKinley, Cindy Lou Foley, Jamie Brownell, Richard Sprague, Ron Nichols; and (b) EMT Paramedic level—Wayne Lauden, Jim Nicholson, Sean Sanderson. Congratulations to each on a job well done.

TRAINING

MEADOWOOD

September 21-22, 2002

Fall Fire School

LIFESAVING RESOURCES

September 21, 2002 **Water Rescue Technician Course**
Greenfield, NH, 08:00-17:30 hrs

November 2, 2002 **Water Rescue Technician Course**
Greenfield, NH, 08:00-17:30 hrs

January 11, 2003 **Ice Rescue Technician Course**
Harrisville, NH, 08:00-17:30 hrs

February 1, 2003 **Ice Rescue Technician Course**
Harrisville, NH, 08:00-17:30 hrs

February 22, 2003 **Ice Rescue Technician Course**
Harrisville, NH, 08:00-17:30 hrs

March 15, 2003 **Ice Rescue Technician Course**
Harrisville, NH, 08:00-17:30 hrs

March 7-9, 2003 **Ice Rescue Train-the Trainer Course**
Hancock, NH

For more information and/or registration, access the Educational Programs section of the Lifesaving Resources' web site at www.lifesaving.com, or call 603-827-4139.



Communications Tips

Submitted by Chief Paul Szoc

The following basic techniques will help to improve communications on the scene:

BE SHORT, SPECIFIC & CLEAR — Know what you are going to say before you key the mic. Choose precise, short words, and avoid unusual words. Common language and standard operational terms are best understood. Operational orders should be tactical and specific.

LISTEN CRITICALLY — Use intense listening skills to focus on current action status. Eliminate distractions that reduce listening capability. Listen particularly for situations/conditions that create safety issues. A sector or officer's tone of voice can say a lot about what is happening.

MAINTAIN SELF CONTROL — Stay under control emotionally, maintain a calm voice tone. Avoid sarcasm, impatience and negative actions. Don't beat up the troops.

AVOID DISTRACTING MANNERISMS — Use a natural tone, avoid whispering or shouting. Speak in a clear, supportive tone, at a normal rate.

PRIORITIZE MESSAGES — Send critical messages first. Maintain radio discipline, and do not interrupt unless you have emergency traffic. Listen before you transmit!

KEEP MESSAGES TASK ORIENTED — Indicate a specific assignment or task—don't micromanage. Outline what to do, not how to do it, unless there are special or unusual conditions. Those receiving the message need to know where to go, to whom to report, what to do, what resources they will have, and the desired results.

BE SUPPORTIVE — Always attempt to communicate in a way that supports and assists the team—connect to the right time/place/action. Use positive, encouraging and courteous language. Communicate to assist anyone who is having problems.

FOLLOW THE ORDER MODEL — Be certain that the receiver is ready to receive before transmitting the assignment and make sure the message is acknowledged. A brief restatement of the message is far more effective and insures complete understanding of the message.

These guidelines came from "Fire Command" *The Essentials of Local IMS*, by Chief Alan Brunacini. A book I highly recommend for all personnel.

Southwestern N.H. District Fire Mutual Aid System Annual Meeting May 22, 2002



Lenny Goodnow and Director Robert Johnson sharing some ideas.

The meeting was held at the Best Western Motel in Keene on May 22nd. President Hannum welcomed all the fire, police, EMS personnel and guests in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Hannum, followed by a moment of silence for our departed members. A video and music presentation was presented to remember the victims of Sept. 11th. A special thanks to Phil Tirrell for an excellent job. Roll call was taken by Secretary Black for all member towns. Chief Szoc introduced the communication specialists and radio staff in attendance. Minutes of the 2001 Annual Meeting and 2002 Treasurer's Reports were accepted as read.

Awards were presented to:

- President David Hannum
- Retired Director Larry Daley
- Retired Director Dean Tasker
- Commissioner Peter Davis
- Communication Specialist David Whipple for 15 years of outstanding service.

Senior Communication Specialist Phil Tirrell and Comm. Spec. Thomas Redin received Outstanding Attendance Certificates. A special recognition to Zachary Tirrell for his outstanding work on the web site.

President Hannum gave a report on the Board's Activities during the past year. Chief Szoc followed with the Chief Coordinators Report that included discussion on personnel, improvements to training for personnel and members, quality assurance program, new console, new computer system, new vehicle, radio shop improvements and improved communications. Chief Szoc advised members their input was needed for all aspects of the system including information and pictures for the web site <http://www.firemutualaid.com/> and The Trumpet. Future considerations for the system are a CAD System, improvements to radio system from radio engineering study and a possible new location for communication center.



Chief Szoc giving presentation.

Chief Weston gave a report of the nominating committee and Robert Diluzio Sr. and Harry Boynton were voted in by the membership as new directors.

Chief Szoc gave a report on the process of the Radio Engineering Study. The Board of Directors recently awarded the contract to RCC Consultants, a company with an excellent reputation in work in the communications field. They will begin work on the study very soon and will be giving a final report to the membership later in the year. Chief Szoc advised it is very important that all members send representation to this important meeting, including town officials. This report will give us some idea of the direction we want to proceed in to improve our system. It is also important for the towns that have not funded this project to please do so in the near future. Some of the areas the study will include are a micro-wave system, simulcast dispatch, voting receivers, possible new tower locations, future digital radio system and a budget equipment and cost estimate for different phases of the project.

A motion was made and passed to increase the annual organizational dues to \$150 per member. We look forward to your continued support and thanked everyone for attending. Refreshments were served throughout the evening.



Part of representation attending Annual Meeting

NEXT ISSUE

JANUARY, 2003

THANKS! to all who contributed to this issue of *The Trumpet*. To those of you still thinking about sending something—all we need are some notes and your name and phone number. Just supply us with the basic information—we'll be happy to write and/or edit your articles. Of course, we delightfully accept full articles if you're so inclined. Don't forget the pictures or other artwork. They really brighten up the stories.

NOTE! Please, clearly print people's/manufacturers' names and other unique details so we don't misread your handwriting. Thanks.

Here are some ideas for items/articles/photos to submit for publication:

- Historical stories/photos
- Successful and unusual rescues
- Spectacular or difficult fires/accidents
- Training
- Outstanding personnel
- Fund-raising events
- New equipment and/or facilities
- Reports from conventions, etc.
- Police articles, promotions, pictures, etc.
- Equipment/tools, etc. to sell or swap
- Anything of interest to the EMS/fire/police/rescue community.

We are also looking for people interested in writing regular feature columns. Please volunteer! Or just call and tell us what you'd like to see.

DEADLINE
FOR JANUARY ISSUE
December 13, 2002

**THANKS TO ALL THOSE
WHO HAVE SENT ARTICLES!**

Please SEND ARTICLES & PHOTOS* to:
Sue Newell / Delta Graphics
3 Old Chesterfield Road
Winchester, NH 03470

or call 603-239-6104, or fax 603-239-6215,
or email to [new address deltagraphics@webryders.net](mailto:newaddress.deltagraphics@webryders.net)

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS—PLEASE READ:

Please paste emailed articles into the body of the mail to avoid software compatibility problems. Please send photos in .jpg format at highest camera resolution. Thanks!

*All photos will be treated with utmost care and returned in original condition. If you have photos of historical value, we will gladly arrange for hand-to-hand transfers.

MOVING UP & MOVING ON

Promotions, Appointments, Retirements, etc.

APPOINTMENTS

- Chief Bob Stomski, Jamaica Fire Department
- Chief Martin Dunn, Jaffrey Police Department
- Chief Chris Lyons, Alstead Police Department
- Chief Tom Goddard, Putney Fire Department
- Chief Richard Busick, Swanzey Police Department
- Chief Dan Stoughton, Guilford Fire Department
- Chief Stanley Janovsky, Whitingham Fire Department
- Chief Thomas Vanderbilt, Dublin Fire Department
- FF/EMT-1 Chris Staples, Keene Fire Department
- FF/EMT-1 Dan Nowill, Keene Fire Department

PROMOTIONS

- 1st Assist. Chief Herbert "Chan" Stephens, Winchester Fire Department
- 2nd Assist. Chief Barry Kellom, Winchester Fire Department
- 1st Assist. Chief Russ Ellis, Putney Fire Department
- 1st Assist. Chief Mike Clark, Guilford Fire Department
- 2nd Assist. Chief Fred Cheney, Guilford Fire Department
- 1st Assist. Chief Joel Beckwith, Jamaica Fire Department
- 2nd Assist. Chief Dale West, Jamaica Fire Department

RETIREMENTS

- Chief Robert Pelio, Jaffrey Police Department
- Chief Eric Sargent, Swanzey Police Department
- Lt. Sherman Tedford, Winchester Police Department
- Master Patrolman Jeff Proulx, Jaffrey Police Department
- FF/EMT Michael Driscoll, Keene Fire Department
- FF/EMT Wayne Spofford, Keene Fire Department

Anne Stitches
CUSTOM EMBROIDERY

Your Vermont Supplier of Affordable, High-Quality
Custom Embroidered Garments for:

Schools, Sports Teams, Rescue Squads, Fire Departments
Police Departments, Company Uniforms, Private Organizations

392 Piper Hill Road
Weston, Vermont 05161
802-824-6140

Offering a wide variety of:
Shirts, Sweaters, Jackets, Hats,
Towels, Tote Bags & Specialty Items

USED EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

2216psi SCBA Bottles (2) (ea.) \$100
 Lifeguard II Pass Devices (7) (ea.) \$25
 LIFEGUARD IV Pass Device \$25
 Motorola 100-watt MITREK-PLUS Negotiable
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Contact: Equipment can be viewed at the Bellows Falls Fire Department at 170 Rockingham Street in Bellows Falls, VT.

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Contact: Londonderry Rescue Squad, Captain Jim Boyle 802-824-5926 or President Pete Cobb 802-824-5037.



Wayne "Freddie Flintstone" Spofford receives the traditional wet send-off following his "last ride" to his home on his day of retirement from the Keene Fire Department, July 23, 2002, after 35 years of service.



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Funeral Assistance Available

There is currently a committee being formed to advise departments of proper procedures and to assist with handling funeral arrangements for Fire and EMS personnel from all Southwestern NH District Fire Mutual Aid member towns/organizations. This committee will assist with providing bunting for stations/apparatus, forming color guards, and official directives pertaining to Fire/EMS funeral and memorial services. This pertains to active and retired members as well.

The committee will also help with arranging color guards for other events, such as dedications of new stations, opening ceremonies for town events, parades, and any other activities that would involve Fire/EMS Service needs.

If you are interested in being on this committee or for further information contact the following: Chief David Emery Brattleboro Fire Dept., 802-254-4831, e-mail djebfd@yahoo.com; Captain Ray Hadley, Keene Fire Dept., 603-313-3243, e-mail rhadley@ci.keene.nh.us; Communications Specialist Tom Redin, SWNHDFMA, 603-352-1291, e-mail tredin@firemutualaid.com

EQUIPMENT NEEDED

Any department that has surplus equipment is asked to please put it to good use by donating it to one of our more needy departments. Your surplus equipment may very well serve as first line equipment to one of your own mutual aid neighbors.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11

On September 11th the Fire Mutual Aid System and the Keene Inter-Faith Clergy Association co-sponsored a community worship service to remember the events of September 11, 2001. All members of the area public safety agencies were invited and encouraged to attend along with residents of the community. The service was held at 1900 hours at the United Church of Christ, 23 Central Square, Keene.



In the last issue we published this photo without being able to credit the creator of the sculpture. It was created by Darlene Racicot for the South Porcupine-Porcupine winter Carnival in Ontario, Canada. See the full story at: http://www.firehouse.com/news/2002/2/26_Pice.html

A Face to Fit The Voice

by Penny Curtis



Originally a "flat-lander" from Illinois, I moved to New Hampshire in August of 1999 after marrying a die-hard New Englander. This was after several attempts at living in and working at customer service jobs in Vermont, New York and Illinois. After graduating with a degree in communications, and as a captain in the Corps of Cadets, from Norwich University it only seemed natural to use the degree in a field in which I was already interested. Besides, who could pass up a chance at a job that pays you to tell people where to go and to tell them make a lot of noise while doing it?

Besides the basic communications background, I have had my EMT license since 1990 and have since become involved in the fire sciences as well. Once I was invited to join the Sullivan Fire Dept., I learned a great deal about what small towns with volunteer services have to deal with and how resourceful they can be. I've also received my EMT-I license, and have received training in FF I, Basic Rescue Systems I, Incident Command for Search and Rescue, arson investigation, operations and forestry fire fighting.

I came to SWNHDFMA part time in December while dispatching for Milford Area Communications. But with an opportunity to work full time here and cut my commute by 40 minutes, I jumped at the chance to work with the departments I was familiar with from training and mutual aid calls.

Since then we have moved to Bellows Falls where my husband is busy renovating rental properties and where we are looking to be able to get back into our hobby of medieval reenactment. Once we get some more boxes unpacked I am looking forward to being able to work with some new departments and meet more people in the Mutual Aid community.



by Bonnie Johnson

Supervisor's Corner

MUTUAL AID: Fire Mutual Aid systems are designed to provide a network to facilitate the “neighbor-helping-neighbor” concept that is so much a part of our lives in the public safety field. No department can do it all alone and it’s nice to know that we can get help when we need it. We are also willing to be available to help our neighbors when they need assistance. Generally speaking, these neighbors are in close proximity. Occasionally, departments are forced to reach further for help. This happened recently in New Hampshire.

On August 20th Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Dispatch in Laconia requested mutual aid assistance, in the form of 50 firefighters and 6 pieces of apparatus, in fighting brush fires in New Durham, New Hampshire. Our dispatchers worked to fill that request and at 2200 hours Lakes Region was notified that their requests had been filled. We requested that crews stage at Diamond Acres in Hillsboro at 0500 the next morning. When all personnel were accounted for in Hillsboro, a briefing was held to let the crews know what was expected of them and where they would be going. Lakes Region had originally asked for 50 firefighters and equipment to go to New Durham for assistance, but changed that request later in the evening, asking that we split our personnel between New Durham and a brush fire in Hebron. Senior Communications Specialist Phil Tirrell coordinated all our resources. A crew of 15 personnel from Nelson, Swanzey Center, Walpole, Sullivan, and Washington were assigned to respond to the Hebron scene where approximately 3.0 acres in a remote area were burning. The remaining 35 personnel, from Lempster, Keene, Goshen, Alstead, North Walpole, Peterborough, Stoddard, Frankestown, Greenfield, and Charlestown, were deployed to work the New Durham fire which covered approximately 20 acres. This fire had been going since Monday and local mutual aid companies were exhausted. All requested fire apparatus was assigned to the New Durham incident. This apparatus included tankers from Greenfield and Lempster, and engine from North Walpole, and brush trucks from Frankestown, Keene, and Stoddard. All Southwest-ern personnel and apparatus were released by 1730 hours.

I would like to extend a special thank you to the dispatch personnel who lined up and coordinated this effort as well as the department personnel who responded to their call. They just proved that our mutual aid system does work.

Later that evening Lakes Region Dispatch requested additional resources for the following day. Unfortunately, due to the high fire danger in our area and the size of the crew we had sent out for Wednesday, we were unable to fully meet their request although a few firefighters did volunteer to return to New Durham for a second day.

WEB SITE: Make sure to visit the Mutual Aid web site at firemutualaid.com. There are several new features including the posting of the Board of Directors’ meeting minutes, upcoming department events, Swap Shop information (list your surplus equipment or find something you need), and information about a new Funeral Committee which will be available to assist departments in making arrangements for department funeral and other functions. We are still looking for more departments to submit pictures and stories of incidents & events

continued at right



The Last Response

In

Memoriam



Since the last issue, the following members have passed on. May they rest in peace.

STEVEN GALLUP
Chief, West Dummerston Fire Department

WILLIAM R. MATSON
Troy Fire Department
Founder, Troy Emergency Ambulance Service

TERRY A. OUELLETTE
Retired, Jaffrey Fire Department

LAWRENCE “STUB” ROWLEY
Londonderry Fire Department

CORINNE TRUDELLE
Founder, Marl-Harris Ambulance Service

as well as upcoming department functions. Information about how to submit items is on the home page.

TOWN INFORMATION: Hopefully in the next couple of months we will be able to begin the data entry process to make our CAD (computer-aided dispatch) system operational. In order to make this system work for us, we must have up-to-date information from all of our towns, especially regarding street names. Once again, I must ask that all departments make sure that we have the latest list available for your street and road names, including any changes that were made for 911. Also, if any streets are divided into more than one zone for your run cards, we need to know the house number at the dividing lines so ranges can be set up. For instance, if the southern part of Main Street is in Zone 1, we need to know that the buildings in that zone are numbered from 1-459, and that the northern part which is in Zone 2 has buildings numbered from 460-984. This is the only way we will be able to designate the correct equipment responses. If anyone needs assistance or has questions, please contact Supervisor Bonnie Johnson at the Dispatch Center.

Southwestern New Hampshire District Fire Mutual Aid System

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Listed below are the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the Board of Directors as it is now constituted for 2002-2003. Telephone numbers and e-mail addresses are provided to afford member departments a "DIRECT LINK" with your System representatives.

Chief William Weston, President

Bellows Falls Fire Department
170 Rockingham Street • Bellows Falls, VT 05101
802-463-4343 (W)
bweston@sover.net

Captain John Manning, Treasurer

Marlborough Fire Department
PO Box 442 • Marlborough, NH 03455
603-357-6510 (W) 603-876-3904 (H)
manning@webryders.net

Chief Richard Busick

Swanzey Police Department
PO Box 9 • Swanzey, NH 03446
603-352-2869 (W)
swanzeypd@prexer.com

Captain Robert Diluzio, Sr.

Keene Fire Department & DiLuzio Ambulance Service
49 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431
603-352-0341 (W)
bobd194@aol.com

Chief John A. Mulhall

West Dover Fire Department
PO Box 561 • West Dover, VT 05356
802-464-3333, x4390 (W) 802-348-7963 (H) •
jmulhall@mountsnow.com

Representative Edwin O. Smith

PO Box 26 • Hinsdale, NH 03451
603-336-7223 (W) 603-256-6133 (H)
eos@together.net

Sheriff Richard Foote

Cheshire County Sheriff's Department
12 Court Street • Keene, NH 03431
603-352-4238 (W) 603-352-0991 (H)
rfoote@co.cheshire.nh.us

Chief Robert Johnson, Vice President

Hinsdale Fire Department
PO Box 13 • Hinsdale, NH 03451
603-336-5714 (W) 603-336-7461 (H)

Chief Stephen Black, Secretary

Peterborough Fire Department
16 Summer Street • Peterborough, NH 03458
603-924-8090 (W) 603-924-3651 (H)
pfr@prexar.com

Retired Chief Harry Boynton

PO Box 235
Walpole, NH 03608
603-352-4232 (W) 603-756-3297 (H)
hboynton@melanson.com

Chief Lee Dunham

Swanzey Fire Department
119 Sawyers Crossing Road • Swanzey, NH 03446
603-358-6455 (W) 603-352-4184 (H)
cejdunham@monad.net

David Hannum

Putney Fire District
Route 4, Box 1100 • Putney, VT 05346
802-387-4674 (H)
dbhannum@sover.net

Commissioner Peter Davis

County of Cheshire
38 Woodbury Hill Road • Jaffrey, NH 03452
603-532-6233 (H)

~~~~~

**Chief Paul A. Szoc, Coordinator**

32 Vernon Street, PO Box 443 • Keene, NH 03431  
603-352-1291 (W) 603-352-8768 (H)  
E-mail: paulszoc@firemutualaid.com

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