



# TARHEEL FIREFIGHTER



## AND CAROLINA RURAL FIREMAN

VOL. 11 NO. 4

"AN INDEPENDENT PUBLICATION FOR TARHEEL FIREFIGHTERS"

APRIL, 1974

### Congressman Mizell Stops By To Honor Clemmons Retiring Firemen

CLEMMONS — A surprise visit by Fifth District Congressman Wilmer "Vinegar Bend" Mizell was one of the highlights of a banquet honoring three of

Clemmons retiring firemen at the Clemmons Civic Club recently.

Earlier in the evening, Mizell was guest speaker at the Boy Scout of the Year banquet at West

Forsyth High School, and after receiving an invitation to drop in at the fireman's banquet, he stopped by to congratulate the three retiring firemen, Chief Plato

Brewer, Shorty York, and Bill Wall.

Following the meal prepared by the firemen's wives, Joe Lawrence, president of the

Volunteer Fire Department, introduced the guests. Among these were Recce Baugess, Forsyth County fire marshal, and B.W. Atkinson, county fire training officer.

Jack Holder, a member of the Clemmons VFD, introduced the eight Explorer Scouts, who belong to the VFD sponsored post.

Presenting the awards to the firemen being honored was Jack Higgins, assistant fire chief. "No price or award can begin to compensate for the service of these three retiring firemen," Higgins said.

The first plaque went to Shorty York. The plaque read "In recognition of dedicated Service to the Clemmons VFD."

York said, "I am very proud of See CLEMMONS, Page 12



RETIRING FIREMEN -- Jack Higgins, assistant fire chief, congratulates Clemmons retiring volunteer firemen Plato Brewer, chief; Shorty York and Bill Wall. — Clemmons Courier Photo

### Firemen Select Officers

KINSTON — Members of the Southwood Volunteer Fire Department elected a board of directors and new officers at a recent meeting.

Elected to the board of directors were P.K. Wetherington, Clyde Dunham, Stuart Johnson and Bruce Loftin. Clyde Dunham was elected fire chief and Bruce Loftin, assistant fire chief. P.K. Wetherington was selected secretary-treasurer.

The committee for site selection consists of Gerald Simmons, J.D. Parker, Edward Lewis and Earl Kennedy.

The designated meeting times will be the second and fourth Mondays of each month at the Grange Building or the Southwood library.

The Southwood Volunteer Fire Department is soliciting volunteer firemen willing to work in any capacity, who live within four miles of Southwood.

### We've Come A Long Way Baby

Due to a large amount of fires in the community, a group of concerned citizens met for the purpose of forming a volunteer fire department in rural Guilford County. All of this took place in 1952 and is known today as Pinecroft Sedgfield Fire Department.

Since this time we have grown from a one to a four department operation which covers approximately 75 square miles of fire district. Our property value has grown from 35 million dollars to over 250 million dollars. All of our money comes from the tax-payers in our fire district. This money pays for all of our equipment, station, fire gear and the up-keep of the stations and equipment.

We have approximately 80 volunteers and three paid men. These men make it possible for us to keep three of our four stations manned 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This makes our response to emergencies a lot faster plus giving us a good coverage of our fire district. Words can't define the fine job our firemen do along with all the firemen in North Carolina and the USA.

Along with our firemen we have the greatest group of women that any organization would be proud to have as a part of them. We wouldn't be where we are today without the moral and physical backing of these women at Pinecroft Sedgfield Fire Department.

The knowledge that our firemen hold in firefighting is owed mainly to the fine training program at Pinecroft Sedgfield Fire Department along with the special training programs offered through G.T.I. and the North Carolina Department of Insurance throughout the year. We stand proud on the fact that we haven't lost a fireman in the line of duty since the department was organized in 1952, thanks to the good Lord and the training program at Pinecroft Sedgfield Fire Department.

Our department has come along ways in the past 22 years that it has been in operation, thanks to a great group of men and especially our chief, Chief Simon W. Bryant. Chief Bryant has been with the department since it organized in 1952 and has been our paid chief for the past 10 years. Chief Bryant puts forth 100% at all

times and all of our firemen back him at any decision he makes.

When Pinecroft Sedgfield See LONG WAY, Page 3

### Proper Reporting Of Fire Can Save Precious Minutes

RUTHERFORD COUNTY — The Rutherford County Volunteer Fireman's Association issued a reminder recently that precious minutes can be saved if fires are reported correctly.

An association spokesman pointed out that the following steps should be taken when reporting a fire:

1. Do not try to report a fire to your local fire department, always call fire central — 287-5623. The only exceptions being people who live within the City limits of Forest City, Spindale, and Rutherfordton.

In Forest City all 245-5555; in Spindale, 631,3464 and in Rutherfordton, 287-4721.

All other residents of Rutherford County call 287-5623.

2. Give the dispatcher (person who answers) your name and telephone number you are calling from.

3. Give the dispatcher exact directions to the fire, (never See REPORT, Page 12

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NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA 28560

# Students Attack Fire With Robots And Cannons In May Students Against Fires Competition

Robots that fight fires where man can't survive.

Cannons that rescue people trapped in high-rise buildings.

Foolproof home fire detectors that give ample warning to sleeping residents.

These are just some of the innovative firefighting devices teams of college students from across the U.S. and Canada developed for the Students Against Fires competition. Team members were "getting their hands dirty" putting their engineering skills to work building full-size working models which would be tested on actual fires.

Set for a final testing May 1-4, the competition was sponsored by

SCORE, Student Competitions On Relevant Engineering, the student group that developed from 1970's coast-to-coast Clean Air Car Race.

"The U.S. has neglected the problems of fire prevention and control far too long," emphasizes Doug Plunkett, a graduate student in Aerospace Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology and chairman of the Students Against Fires (SAF) Coordinating Committee located there.

"12,000 Americans die yearly from fires and the problem receives virtually no attention. There's a tremendous need for research and development to reduce this \$11 billion annual

drain on our resources.

"This figure represents the highest per capita loss of any industrialized country -- a disgrace to the world's most technologically advanced nation."

The students' projects indicate just how this technology can be put to good use:

Students at the University of Houston had been leaping off their campus buildings to test out a cable-operated chair that lowers them at a safe speed. A similar device at the University of Wisconsin at Madison saves precious seconds by automatically retracting after each rescue.

Without such an escape device,

See STUDENTS, Page 11

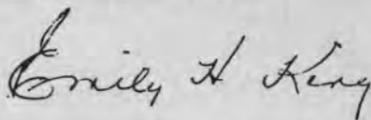
## Editorial

in such a situation.

Firemen definitely have the authority to go on any private property to fight fires that endanger people or property. If any foolish owner who is in the area should happen to give firemen trouble over this, they may safely inform the owner that by state law they have the authority to go on his land to perform their duties as firemen in such fires. Naturally, anyone would hate to have their shrubbery, etc., torn up with unnecessary trampling by having fire hoses dragged through them, but I am sure that trained firemen do their best to be as careful as time permits during an emergency. What price could some shrubbery have in relation to a life or home. A brush fire could spread to woodlands which could also include lives or homes.

I was quite happy with the findings of Sheriff Groham, and I feel sure that many of you who have had some of these problems, and possibly have been disturbed over your standing in such matters, will be glad to know that by state law firemen are in the right in such cases. We are rapidly approaching our dry season, so this is a good time to have this information.

According to Sheriff Groham, arsonists in New Hanover County will be fully prosecuted; hopefully this will be true in all of our counties, but this will depend upon your local Sheriff's Department. Perhaps your local department might possibly be uninformed about this and therefore too lenient with violators. It might be a good idea to have a discussion with them on this subject. A few examples would be a good help in discouraging such arson. Our woodlands in North Carolina are very valuable to all of us.



Emily H. King

## Teachey Firemen Say "Thanks"

TEACHEY - Members of the Teachey Volunteer Fire Department have high praise for the Teachey Homemakers Club for their recent contribution to the fire department and for their interest continually shown in the fire department.

Teachey Fire Chief Dan Norris said that the Teachey Homemakers Club from time to

time remember the fire department with a contribution and that their support is much appreciated.

"We wish to thank these ladies for their donation -- and for their continued interest in the betterment of the department," Chief Norris asserted.

Mrs. J.L. Wells is president of the Teachey Homemakers Club and Louise B. Ward is treasurer.

## Sheriff And Firemen Confer

NEW HANOVER COUNTY - New Hanover County Sheriff H.G. Groham met privately with local volunteer fire department officers who are upset about problems encountered while fighting recent fires.

Groham told the firemen they have "the same jurisdiction as law enforcement officers" at the scene of a fire in an unincorporated area of the county.

The meeting resulted from recent wood and brush fires in different sections of the county. Most of the fires are believed to have been intentionally set.

The sheriff met with volunteer firemen also. Groham released a three-page report that provided official responses to questions raised by firemen.

Firemen were particularly concerned over the ability of their departments to maintain order and investigate at fire scenes. They also expressed concern over their ability to go on private property to extinguish fires endangering property.

Groham said the officers related a series of incidents in which volunteer firemen were harassed and in some cases ordered from private property.

In his response, Groham said state statutes provided volunteer firemen with considerable authority at fire scenes.

"In addition to other law enforcement officers, uniformed regular and volunteer firemen may direct traffic and enforce traffic laws and ordinances at the scene of fires in connection with other duties as firemen," said Groham, in the letter.

However, Groham said the full scope of law enforcement duties would probably be handled by sheriff's department and State Highway Patrol officers at the scene.

The sheriff said state statutes gave firemen the authority to fight fires on private land that endangered people or property. He said owners that interfered could be legally indicted.

Groham said the sheriff's

department gave "wholehearted support" to volunteer fireman.

"The meeting was held to bring these problems to my attention," said Groham.

The sheriff has taken a tough stand on wood and brush fires since they developed within recent weeks. He has ordered department units to patrol woodland areas of the county in efforts to halt the arsonists.

He said violators would be fully prosecuted.

## Congressmen Praise Spirit Of Volunteers

JULIAN - Bucket brigades and the pioneer spirit of small towns was recalled recently at a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the fire department of this small town which straddles the Guilford-Randolph County line.

Two U.S. congressmen, Ike Andrews of Bonlee and Richardson Preyer of Greensboro, grabbed the big red ribbon and pulled it down enough for Julian's honorary mayor, Mrs. Eula Mae Priddy, to get her scissors on it.

Preyer said the huge crowd of politicians attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony showed "the high regard we have for volunteer firemen." He paid tribute to the enthusiasm, sacrifice and community spirit of such small towns as Julian where volunteers did so much of the town's work.

COMPARING HIS hometown of Bonlee with Julian, Andrews said he was familiar with the atmosphere of a small town and always enjoyed seeing how volunteers such as firemen helped build community spirit.

Charles Porter, fire marshal for Guilford County, said Julian's fire department started work in 1971 after a survey of community feelings disclosed a desire for a team of firefighters and firefighting equipment to be stationed here.

Porter said the volunteers joined "to serve the people of Julian and the surrounding communities in both Guilford and Randolph counties" by fighting fires and conserving lives and property while promoting safety throughout the area.

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THE CONGRESSMAN representing North Carolina's 6th District said the spirit of volunteer firemen who would be working at the new building was reminiscent of the spirit of getting together and helping each other that fought off such diseases as typhoid fever and smallpox when small towns couldn't get help from hospitals or public health service.

The congressman representing North Carolina's 4th District warned the crowd attending the ceremony that federal aid brought red tape and management from Washington "which you don't want."

PLAQUES PRESENTED during the ribbon-cutting included one which will remain in the office of Winfred Garrett, fire chief, and pays tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Seymour R. Stafford and Mr. and Mrs. J. Mark Deviney, donors of the property where the fire station was built.

Other plaques were given Garrett and G.G. Gilmore, president of the volunteer fire department, for their work in getting the department ready to occupy its new headquarters. - Greensboro Daily News by Harvey Harris



EMILY H. KING

I took a special interest in a recent article published by Star News of Wilmington, N.C. This editorial concerns the article which is printed below.

The article concerns a private meeting held recently between the Sheriff of New Hanover County, H.G. Groham, and the officers of local volunteer units in that county. It seems that firefighting efforts to extinguish recent wood and brush fires in different sections of the county, believed to have been set by arsonists, have been hampered by property owners.

I am sure that all our Volunteer Departments have encountered many of these same problems, so I felt that this discussion would be of interest to all of you in your respective areas. I assume that the findings of a Sheriff of one county in N.C. should also be applicable to the other counties as well since these were official responses, and state statutes were given by Sheriff Groham.

Evidently some private property owners have given the firemen trouble, questioning their authority to fight fires on such property, even if the fire was endangering lives or property. Why any property owner should be this unconcerned over a serious matter like this is beyond my powers of comprehension, but it takes all kinds of people to make a world! In some cases firemen have been harassed and even ordered from private property. In such cases, uninformed regular and volunteer firemen have considerable authority at ANY fire scene. They may direct traffic and also enforce traffic laws and ordinances in connection with their duties as firemen. Owners who interfere with firemen can be legally indicted. This is a state statute, thus it applies to any firefighting group in the state. Hopefully, Sheriff's Dept. Officers and/or Highway (State) Officers could be at such scenes to take these duties over, relieving the firemen to go about their firefighting. Unfortunately this may not be true in many cases of rural fires, so it is best for firemen to know how they stand, legally,

—LONG WAY—

Continued from page 1



Donald E. (Cotton) Smith (left), who was recently named local Fireman of the Year, and Fire Chief Bill Woodruff inspect roster of past recipients of the honor. --Times Photo

**11-Year Veteran With Fire Dept.**

**Smith Gets Honor, "Fireman Of Year"**

MOUNT AIRY -- An 11-year veteran with the Mount Airy Fire Department recently received that unit's annual, coveted honor, "Fireman of the Year."

He is Donald E. (Cotton) Smith, 37, who joined the Mount Airy Fire Department in July, 1962.

The award was presented at a recent, regular meeting of the Mount Airy firemen, held at the fire station on Rockford Street.

The selection was made by a committee within the Fire Department, continuing a practice of the past several years. Both regular and volunteer firemen are

eligible for the honor.

Smith is an assistant fire chief with the local department and is in charge of a 24-hour shift.

Fire Chief Bill Joe Woodruff said, "Smith has been an outstanding member of the Mount Airy Fire Department. He has always shown a lot of interest in the department."

The son of Mrs. Maggie Smith, Banner Street, Mount Airy, and the late Roscoe Smith, he is married to the former Miss Betty Huff, a teacher at South Main Street School. They live at 335 E. Poplar Street with their two children, Renee, 11, and Timmy, 10.

organized in 1952, it had one truck which was kept in a small truck-along with a handful of men. The period from 1952 to 1974 has seen a lot of changes in the fire service in North Carolina and the country and we are proud to be a small part of this organization called the FIRE SERVICE.

We moved into our new fire stations the latter part of 1973 and feel this will greatly improve our operation tremendously. It is a big jump from a small truck-stop to a modern department such as this, but what good is a modern department without equipment to put into it? We all know that the equipment along with the men are the nucleus of the fire service. The following will be a list of the equipment at Pincroft Sedgfield Fire Department: 1972 American LaFrance, Custom Pumper, 1250 G.P.M. Deisel; 1964 Ford, 750 G.P.M. Pumper; 1968 American LaFrance Custom Pumper, 1000 G.P.M.; 1956 Ford, 500 G.P.M. Pumper; 1969 Howe Tanker on a Ford chassis, 750 G.P.M., Quick-Dump System; 1965 Chevrolet Tanker, 500 G.P.M.; 1962 Chevrolet Tanker, gravity flow; 1956 Ford Tanker, gravity flow; 1964 Squad and Rescue Truck; and a 1970 Plymouth Chief's Car. We have two Howe Tankers ordered which should be delivered this year.

The Board of Directors and Chief Bryant would like to thank each fireman and their wives who help make us what we are today and also take this opportunity to extend our personal appreciation to each fireman and fire department in rural Guilford County that have worked with us or that we have worked with.

This is wishing the best of luck to each fireman and fire department in North Carolina and challenge each one to out-do themselves each and every day that comes. Remember this: It's not how large or how small you are that counts but the job you are doing - keep up the good work!

Submitted by-  
Gene Carter, P.S.F.D.



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**NEW FIRE SIRENS** — Cora Sutton (top) and Karla Griffin, students at Southern Wayne High School, were recently voted into the 30-man Seven Springs Volunteer Fire Department. The girls are training to operate the equipment and drive the trucks. — Kinston Daily News Photo

## 2 Are Promoted In Fire Dept.



**JERRY ALLSBROOK** --Goldsboro News-Argus Photos



**ARLEY McCARTER** -- Goldsboro News-Argus Photos

**GOLDSBORO** -- Goldsboro Fire Chief Willard Herring recently announced the promotion of one city fire officer and also named a new training officer for the Goldsboro Fire Department.

Fire Lt. Jerry R. Allsbrook has been promoted to captain and Fire Capt. Arley McCarter was named training officer.

McCarter replaces James Allen, who was recently promoted to assistant chief and Allsbrook will fill the slot vacated by McCarter as a shift captain.

Allsbrook joined the department here in September, 1953. He was promoted to lieutenant in August, 1959.

Herring said Allsbrook has attended "many different fire schools since he became a firefighter and was selected for promotion to captain from a group of firemen after all had taken a written test and appeared before a review board.

Allsbrook is married to the former Dorothy Morse. They have two children, Bonnie Jean and Jerry, Jr., and reside at 1003 S. Best St.

McCarter has been with the department since August, 1963. He was promoted to lieutenant in 1969 and to captain in January, 1973.

Herring said McCarter also has attended "many fire schools and was the third officer of the Goldsboro department to attend a

four - week fire administration school at the Institute of Government, Chapel Hill.

McCarter is married to the former Dorothy Morgan and resides at 404 Dove Place.

## Firemen Complete Course

**RALEIGH** -- Thirty-nine Raleigh firemen graduated recently from the second annual Municipal Fire Administration Course conducted by the Institute of Government at Chapel Hill.

The course is intended to help train officers to administer programs and planning for the city's fire protection needs.

"It won't do us any good when we have a call if somebody five years ago did not budget for the piece of equipment we need to handle the situation today, Clarence E. Lightner said in a prepared statement.

"Nor would it serve us any better to have the equipment and not enough crew to man it."

The captain graduates are James L. Atkinson, Ronnie C. Atkinson, Reginald E. Barnette, Ellis H. Beasley, Wilbur K. Beasley, F.L. Blake Jr., Ollie L. Blacke, Joe A. Bowling and Clyde R. Carter.

## Fire Belles On The Job

**SEVEN SPRINGS** — The Seven Springs Volunteer Fire Department has two new fire belles.

Karla Griffin and Cora Sutton, students at Southern Wayne High School, say they have been helping around the fire station

and directing traffic, along with answering fire calls. So they decided to join the 30-man fire team.

But the idea is not as liberated as it may seem. "Every time there is a fire down here, everybody goes, anyway," Ms. Sutton said, "We haven't really had an opportunity to work the equipment itself."

They are now training for that aspect of the job, they agreed. And both feel their experience at driving school buses and operating farm equipment, as well as working around the fire trucks, is helpful in becoming polished firewomen.

Recently the girls were voted

into the department. Since then, they have been learning to operate the equipment and drive the trucks.

Ms. Griffin said she has a lot of experience from working on the farm. She plans to attend the North Carolina State University School of Agriculture after she is graduated from high school. Ms. Sutton, a junior in school, said she has no definite plans for the future.

Both girls are daughters of town commissioners of Seven Springs. Ms. Sutton's mother Mrs. Keith Sutton also seemingly liberated, is the Mayor of Seven Springs, and Ms. Griffin's father McKinley Griffin is on the town board.

The Seven Springs Fire Department held a fish fry recently to raise money for equipment. The department must meet standards in order to request funds from the Wayne County Board of Commissioners. — Kinston Daily News by Keith Mills



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RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

## Fire Interrupts Concert

WINSTON-SALEM -- A fire in a wagonload of hay scorched the back of the grandstand at the Dixie Classic Fairgrounds recently and spoiled an afternoon of music.

The fire took place during a rock and bluegrass concert at the fairgrounds, and J.L. Parham, assistant fire chief, said after firemen put it out that he thinks it was set intentionally.

He said witnesses, whom he would not identify, said they saw a group of four people set fire to the hay bales stacked on a wagon at the entrance to the grandstand.

Firemen got to the blaze before it had eaten far into the building, but Parham estimated damage at up to \$3,500. The fire interrupted what had earlier been a peaceful afternoon of music for some 750 people.

Most of the people were sitting on the grass in the infield of the racetrack. Few people were in the grandstand when the fire broke out and no one was injured. The concert continued after the interruption.

Announcers warned the concert goers to stay in the infield during the fire. Bill Rhodes, a Journal employe who was at the concert, said heat was so intense that it could be felt on the other side of the grandstand from the fire.

The heat melted a section of metal siding on the back of the building, leaving a hole about 30 feet wide, and burned paint off the siding up to the second-story level.

It charred a wooden staircase inside the building, but did not reach a wooden storage shed, filled with fireground equipment, which is just inside the entrance to the grandstand. "That's where I thought it was when the call came," Parham said.

The fire started about 5:20 p.m. Up to then, people had lolled on the infield grass listening to the bands, and sheriff's deputies had little to do but join in the listening. "It's a real orderly crowd," said one deputy.

Bobby Locke, one of the organizers of the recent celebration, said one thought in scheduling the concert at the racetrack is that the grounds are used only by stunt drivers during fair week.

Locke and employes of Rittenhouse Square, a nightspot to open here soon, had spent several days painting and cleaning up at the fairgrounds before the concert.

# Oliver Rankin Gets

# Gold Star For Attendance

ASHEVILLE — Oliver J. Rankin reported for work recently as a lieutenant with the Asheville Fire Department assigned to the Biltmore station.

Nothing unusual about that. Rankin has been reporting every working day for the past 27 years without missing a day.

"I like it, I really do," Rankin said.

How he got into fire fighting is almost as usual as his perfect attendance record.

A native of North Union County Pennsylvania, Rankin graduated from high school in 1936 and worked at several odd jobs through the late depression years, most of them around his birthplace.

"I was in sheet metal work. Then, you were just glad to have a job," Rankin said.

World War II broke out and in April of 1942 Rankin enlisted in the Army Air Corps where he became good friends with a young Asheville man named Raymond Merrell.

Not too long before they got out of the service in December of 1945. Merrell decided to get married. He and Rankin were stationed at Topeka, Kansas then.

"I was the best man and he had his sister come out from Asheville to be one of the bridesmaids. That's how I met her," he said.

The bridesmaid was Ruby Merrell.

Rankin went back to Pennsylvania after being discharged from the service and got his old job back at a sheet metal firm. Then in the spring of 1946, the workers went on strike.

"While they were on strike, I came down here. We just hit it off right away. I knew she was the one for me. Then too, I was old enough to know what I was doing," he said.

So, at the age of 27 Rankin married Ruby Merrell.

The next step was a job. Rankin's new father-in-law was on the Asheville Fire Department then. And so were several other members of the family, including Raymond.

"Her father had been working for the department for 18 years steady and I thought, well now, that's for me," he recalls.

Rankin went to work for the department and just kept coming



RANKIN

BALL

PERFECT ATTENDANCE -- Lt. Oliver J. Rankin of the Asheville Fire Department has been on the job for 27 years without missing a day, except for vacations and regular off-days. The feat was noted this week in a letter of commendation from Fire Chief Powell N. Ball. Rankin laid the good attendance record to good health and "just liking the job." -- Times Photo

back every working day.

"The good Lord just gave me the good health to do it," Rankin said of his attendance.

And he adds that other important factors are probably the fact that he neither drinks nor smokes and he loves the job.

It also runs in the family.

Ruby Rankin has only missed about two days work since 1955. She is secretary to the administrator of St. Joseph's Hospital.

Rankin enjoys working with his ham radio set as a hobby and he and his wife have bicycles which they ride together.

"We've also got a spring wound clock and a radio to make sure we get up," he adds. - Times by Mike Boyd

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**MEETS WITH FIREMEN** -- North Carolina Deputy Insurance Commissioner Elwood Inscoe, center, talks with Wayne County Firemen's Association President Dwight Rose, left, and Wayne County Fire Marshal Carl Ray Coley, of Mount Olive at the association's meeting in Goldsboro. Inscoe spoke on the state firemen's association. Mt. Olive Tribune Photo.

# Insurance Deputy Talks To Firemen

**WAYNE COUNTY** -- Elwood Inscoe, deputy N.C. Insurance commissioner, was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Wayne County Firemen's Association at Wilbur's barbecue restaurant in

## Firemen Learn Techniques

**MAYODAN** -- Firemen from Mayodan, Northwest Rockingham and Stoneville participated in an eight-hour Rockingham Community College course when they burned a house at Mayodan recently.

The house located north of Elliott Duncan School was given to the town of Mayodan by the M-MBoard, when no adequate bid was made on the property advertised in the late winter.

Carl Cardwell, Mayodan chief, said 30 men took part in a structural fire fighting course, for which certificates were awarded by the college.

Firemen began working on the house in the morning and continued burning and putting out for eight hours as a various techniques were demonstrated.

Goldsboro recently.

He told the firemen that because of participation and continued interest of the people here Wayne county "has the best county-wide fire protection in the state." He said Wayne county fire fighters "stand ready to help others who can't help themselves."

Inscoe spoke to various fire departments about the New \$25,000 death benefits and firemen's relief fund they could be eligible for by joining the state firemen's association.

He said the relief fund and death benefits "keep firemen and their dependents from becoming objects of charity." Inscoe said the year-old \$25,000 benefit has already been paid several times.

Inscoe said he recently delivered a \$1,200 check to "a chief on crutches." He said the injured chief didn't know of the relief fund until he (Inscoe) informed him about it while on a visit there.

"And this is available to any fireman whose department is rated and belongs to the state association," he said. The deputy insurance commissioner said the fund helps firemen "who are sick, down and out."

To be eligible for the fund, a department must belong to the

state association. Inscoe said it costs \$5 for the department to join the association, and \$3.50 annually for chiefs and assistant chiefs, and \$3 for each fireman per year.

He said that of the 28 fire departments in Wayne county only seven belong to the state association.

"If your department doesn't participate," he explained, "you're selling your own services short." He told firemen they have the most hazardous job of any.

Inscoe said there is "in excess of" 1,000 fire departments in North Carolina, 450 of which belong to the state association. He told firemen he has never known a "justified claim" from any of the member fire departments "to be turned down."

There are only two requirements needed for a department to be eligible for the fund, Inscoe said. According to him, the department must be rated and approved by the N.C. Fire Insurance Rating Bureau, and must be a member of the N.C. State Firemen's Association.

"There are more rated fire departments in Wayne county than any other county in the state," he said.

Inscoe urged the departments to join the state association.



**RIEGELWOOD** -- The Acme-Delco-Riegelwood Fire Department and Rescue Squad completed an addition of 4 bays several years ago and now is faced with the problem of growing pains which is resulting in another expansion of 2 bays 30' x 70'. They presently have 8 vehicles plus a boat in a 6-bay building with another fire truck due in several months. The picture on top left shows the chairman of the building committee, H.L. James, operating level machinery setting the corners for the foundation. The top right picture is of H.L. James climbing a tree which had to be removed. The bottom picture shows (L-R) H.L. James, D.E. Moore and David Phillips doing foundation work.



**DUPLIN COUNTY FIRE OFFICERS** -- New officers of the Duplin County Firemen's Association conducted their first meeting when the organization met at the Oak Wolfe Fire department for their quarterly session recently. New officers are, l-r; Seated, President John A. Johnson of Warsaw, vice-president John Simmons of Beulaville and Secretary-Treasurer R.P. Wood of Warsaw. Outgoing officers are, standing, Willis Batts of Northeast (Wallace), outgoing president; Robert Frank Boone of Wallace, outgoing vice president; and Robert Hanchey of Northeast, outgoing secretary-treasurer. -- Tribune Photo

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# First Salaried Chief Begins Carrboro Duties



Carrboro Fire Chief Swiger, His Wife And Mayor Wells--Durham Herald Photo.

CARRBORO -- Robert Swiger assumed his duties recently as Carrboro's first paid fire chief and inspector.

The eight-year member of the Kinston Fire Department was sworn in by Mayor Robert J. Wells at a dinner meeting of the Carrboro volunteer firemen.

Swiger told the volunteers, of whom 34 are now active, "I am not here to take one thing away from you. I'm here to work with you." He said he had been on two calls with the Carrboro volunteers that week and was pleased with their work.

"If and when we go to a paid department, the volunteers will be considered first for the job," Swiger said.

He said he will meet with each man individually to get recommendations on training and equipment needed and to discuss changes in procedure.

The new chief said the volunteers will continue to elect their officers.

The aldermen's decision to hire a professional chief was praised by Jake Hardee, the present volunteer chief, and his predecessor, June Merritt. Hardee told the volunteers, "I've been asking for it, and I think we have the right man for it."

The new chief announced a training session on the new 1,000-gallon-per-minute pumper engine, which was delivered to the department only recently. The \$40,000 truck, Carrboro's third pumper, was ordered one year ago.

Swiger said he has a fire code almost ready to present to the board of aldermen for adoption. He said he will be vigorous but fair to all in his fire inspection.

Swiger, 32, has served as fire fighter, engineer, acting officer and fire inspector in his eight years with the Kinston department. He has attended 20 fire schools and is a first aid instructor and fire training inspector for the state community colleges.

He was project chairman for a three-county area on a fund-raising campaign for the North Carolina Burn Center.

Swiger served in the Navy from September 1961 to August 1965. He is originally from LaGrange and his wife, Judy, is from Deep Run. They have three children.

His salary in Carrboro is \$9,168.



PLANNING NEW FIRE STATION -- Dick Sauer, left, assistant chief of the Parkwood Volunteer Fire Department, goes over plans for a new fire station with Oliver Alphin, standing, counsel for Key Homes, of Durham, and Pascal Renn, manager of the firm. Key Homes, developer of Parkwood, donated the land for the station. -- Morning Herald Photo

## Safety Program

YOUNGSVILLE -- Youngsville school students completed a course in a Youth Fire Safety Program recently. They had met for four Tuesday nights at the Fire Station for classes which were sponsored by the Franklin County Extension Service in cooperation with the Youngsville Fire Department. County agent L.D. Baldwin was in attendance and presented certificates of appreciation to local fire department instructors, Kenneth Pearce and Dave Gilbert. Mr. Baldwin presented a plaque of appreciation to the local Fire Department which was accepted by Fire Chief James T. Allen who was in attendance for all classes.

Students who received certificates, though some were not present when the above picture was made, were: John Allen Burnette, Andy Woodlief, Tim Finch, Isiah Eaton, Jr., Danny Glenn Cannady, Joy Nowell, Scott White, Larry Turner, David Weatherford, Tammy Perry, Pam Faulkner, Rhonda Edwards, and Karen Sanders. Adults who attended classes and received certificates were Mrs. Kenneth Pearce, Mrs. R. E. Cheatham and Fireman Cleo Nowell. Fireman Corbie Perry assisted at some of the meetings.

## Parkwood Developer Gives Site For Station

DURHAM -- Key Homes of Durham, the developer of Parkwood, has given the Parkwood Volunteer Fire Department land for a new, larger fire station.

"We recognize the need for a larger and more complete station in a growing community and we feel it will be a very valuable addition," said Pascal Renn, manager of Key Homes. "It will cost about \$80,000."

Assistant Fire Chief Dick Sauer of Parkwood said, "We gladly accept this fine offer, and we expect construction on the project to begin in the very near future."

Sauer said Key Homes, which is based in Greensboro, originally donated a smaller site for a temporary fire station in a tin building.

"Our department has been established five years, and we serve a four-mile radius, including about one-half of Triangle Park," Sauer said. "We now have four vehicles and two of them have had to sit outside the building."

"We plan on constructing a four-bay station on the 120-by-180-foot lot, with training

quarters," he said. "We've had a rescue unit for some time and during 1973 we had 138 fire and rescue calls." Calls are received through the Durham police-fire communications system.

Renn said, "The new station is the first project in our Parkwood expansion plan. Parkwood now has about 725 homes and 46 apartments, with an over-all population of about 3,000 persons. Our over-all tract involves approximately 900 acres."

He said Parkwood will become a much larger community and plans are going ahead to expand its shopping center soon. Upon completion of additions, the number of homes and apartments will be almost doubled as will the population.



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## Unit Located At Badin Lake

# New Fire Department Formed

MONTGOMERY COUNTY -- Montgomery County has a new fire department.

The Badin Lake Volunteer Fire Department has been organized and is ready for service after receiving a truck recently from the county.

The truck is a high pressure pumper which carries a tank of 600 gallons of water. The equipment previously saw service at Candor, and then went to Wadeville for use. When Wadeville obtained a later model county truck from Mt. Gilead, the truck was held at Troy until sent to Badin.

The county buys such equipment about every two years and places it where the Montgomery Fire Commission says it is most needed. The Commission is made up of local fire department chiefs.

Badin is the second strictly rural fire department in the county. The other is Wadeville.

There are combination municipal - rural departments at Troy, which has been serving the Badin Lake area, Star, Biscoe, Candor, and Mt. Gilead.

The Badin department headquarters is a new building on East Pinehaven Drive at Sixth Street in Pinehaven Village on the lake.

The sponsoring organization, which raised some \$15,000 in cash and pledges for the building during the past year, is the Pinehaven Village Council.

J. Herman Cass of Greensboro is Village mayor, and A. W. Greeson, Jr., also of Greensboro, is mayor pro - tem. Other Council members include John A. Payne and C. Weldon Fields of Greensboro; Harvey H. Stimpson, Jr., of Winston - Salem; C.D. Sheppard of Pinehaven Village, William Caviness of Asheboro; and Theron K. Biles of New London.

Sheppard is chief of the fire department, and Larry Fee is assistant chief. They live in Pinehaven, and other members living there include D.A. Talley, H.C. Tharpe, V.E. Rary, C.E. Hartman, Sr., C.E. Hartman, Jr. The departments has "signed up" a total of 24 members. Half of them are permanent residents on the lake, and seven of the others live within three minutes of the fire house.

A spokesman said that contributions for constructing the fire house, contracted by C.D. Sheppard, came from property owners in Pinehaven, Lake Shores, Shamrock Valley, Lake Forest, Dixie Shores and other areas in the vicinity of the lake.



NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT -- The Badin Lake Volunteer Fire Department received a truck from Montgomery County at its "open house" recently for inspection of a building just completed. --Troy Montgomery Herald Photo



SPONSORS -- Sponsoring the Badin Lake Volunteer Fire Departments is the Pinehaven Village Council shown with Chairman John C. Wallace of Troy (third from left) of the Montgomery Fire Commission. They are (left to right) John A. Payne, Greensboro; Pinehaven Mayor J. Herman Cass, Greensboro; Mayor Pro - tem A.W. Greeson, Jr., Greensboro; Harvey H. Stimpson, Jr., Winston - Salem; C.D. Sheppard, Pinehaven Village; and C. Weldon Fields, Greensboro. Troy Montgomery Herald Photo

## Weldon To Purchase Fire Truck

WELDON -- The Weldon Board of Commissioners in a special meeting recently approved the purchase of a new rural fire truck.

The commissioners approved the low bid of Howe Fire Apparatus Company by David L. Lee for equipment on the truck at a cost of \$16,409.40 and the purchase of the basic truck from White Motors, Inc. of Roanoke Rapids at a cost of \$8,600.

Fire Commissioner Johnny Draper reported the delivery of the new rural fire truck should be approximately 14 to 16 months from the signing of the contracts.

Commissioner Draper appeared before the Halifax County Commissioners requesting \$5,000 towards the purchase of the unit with the county fathers stating favorable consideration would be given in the upcoming financial budget.

## Plans Under Way

DENTON -- Plans are under way to establish a volunteer fire department in the section of Davidson County between Denton and Silver Valley.

During past weeks, Denton Fire Chief Don Peacock has been informally discussing the idea with area residents. Peacock hopes to hold some type of organizational meeting as soon as enough persons express an interest.

"It's a dead spot in fire protection in the southern end of

the county. For example, we had a house fire on Yates Road recently which completely destroyed the residence. A volunteer fire department in that area could have helped," Peacock said.

"There are some places in the area between Denton and Silver Valley which are five miles away from either the Denton Volunteer Fire Department or the Silver Valley Volunteer Fire Department," he said.

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# Eden Panel Picks Fire Station Site

EDEN -- A special committee of city councilmen appointed by Mayor Jones Norman has chosen the location of fire station No. 1 as the site for a new station house, Fire Chief Larry Rhodes said recently.

He said the committee spent a day touring fire stations in Winston - Salem and Madison, and came to its decision later that evening.

Tearing down the present structure and re - building at its site was the second recommendation offered in January by Sherman Pickard of the N.C. League of Municipalities, who presented the city with a "Fire Defense Study." His first choice was a location along Kings Highway.

Pickard substantiated this recommendation by noting a location in that area would put the hospital and shopping centers in a one - mile range. At the present time, the fire station is located in a downtown area in the western portion of the city, within a two - mile range of those facilities.

However, Rhodes said there were several reasons for the committee's decision not to locate elsewhere.

"For one thing, there was no suitable land available to be bought," he said. "Plus, we decided it would be much more economical to tear down our present facility and rebuild there, rather than spending money for more land."

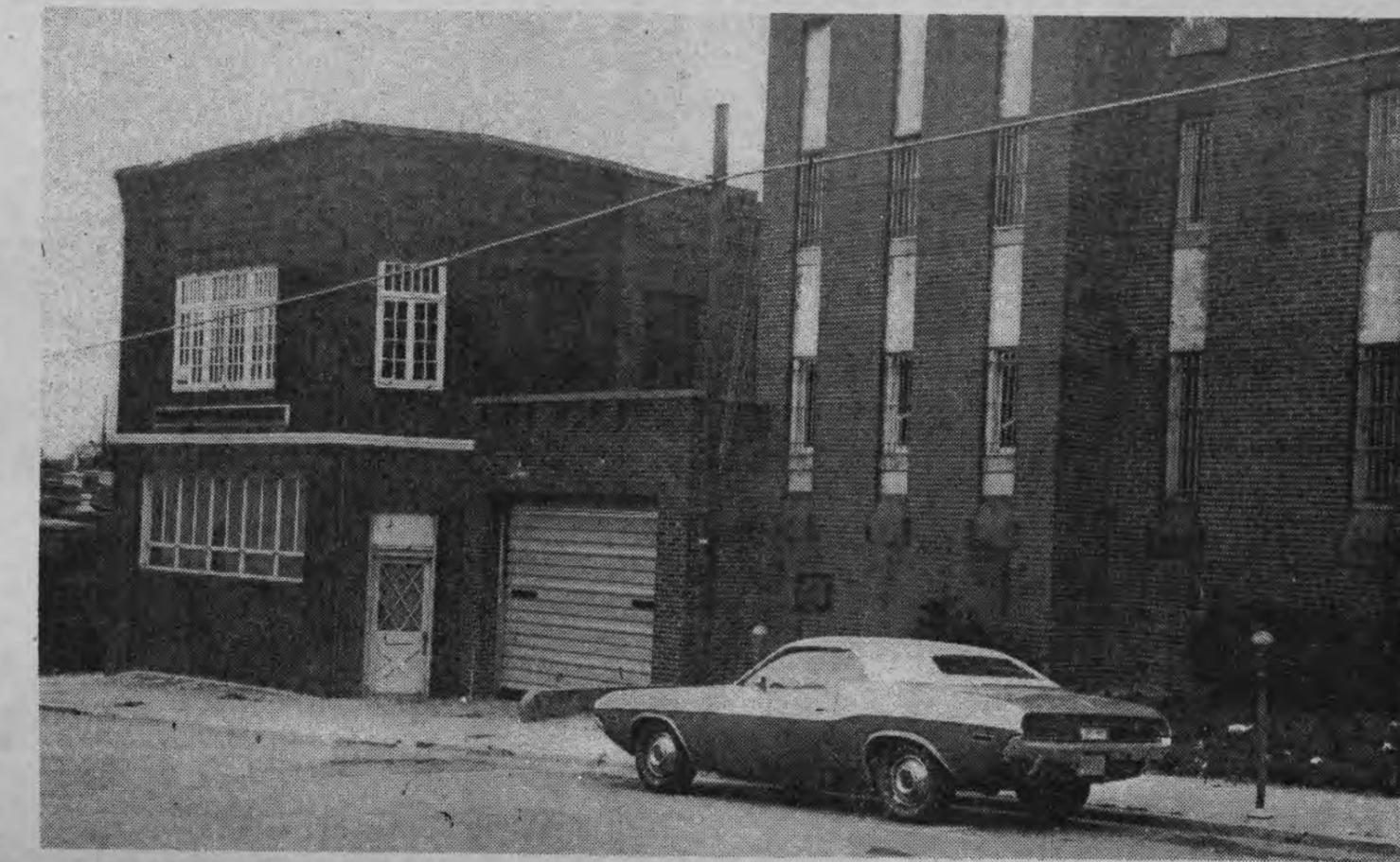
He added, "And there were other factors as well. For instance, we didn't want to move completely out of the business section of the former Leaksville township. There is a lot of property in that immediate area which needs fire protection."

Councilman John Dyer, who along with councilmen A.G. Singleton and Jim Robertson, composed the committee, echoed Rhodes' sentiments.

"I didn't feel it would be a good idea to move away from the western party of the city," he said. "The city is growing rapidly in that direction, and there needs to be a fire department available."

He also pointed out, "Eight out of every 10 fires answered are in that area."

The other possibility the committee was studying was a



Eden Fire House No. 1 (Left) Located Adjacent To Armory. --Rockingham Edition - Greensboro Daily News Photo

suggestion by Dyer that the fire station be located in the Old Leaksville Graded School, which the city bought last year from the school board.

At a council meeting several weeks ago, he said placing the fire department at the school would put it in a better position to answer calls to the hospital and central area of the city.

"After studying it closer, we found the Leaksville school was a bit out of range," Dyer said.

He still contended it would have been a good location on other points, such as floor space, street access.

Rhodes noted another factor against the Leaksville school site -- a possible overlapping with the Spray station house.

"What we would like to do is widen the length between them," he said. "This would have put them closer together, and made it a further distance to the western portion of town."

Neither Dyer nor Rhodes said exactly what type building they wanted to replace the current

firehouse, but the councilman remarked, "It should be between 5,000 and 6,000 square feet."

The committee, Rhodes, and City Manager James Caldwell have discussed financing the project.

"One of those stations we saw in Winston - Salem was built a year and a half ago, and it cost \$125,000 then," Rhodes said, "I estimate we'll pay about \$25 per square foot."

He said other costs would depend on how it will be furnished.

"If you want to make it a country club setting, it will cost," he remarked. "I think we'll work down quite a bit from that."

It was noted at a recent council meeting the fire department has \$125,000 in revenue - sharing funds earmarked for its use.

Also, if the council gives the project a high priority, monies can be allocated in the 1974-75 budget, which is currently being prepared. --Rockingham Edition - Greensboro Daily News by Rick Neal

## Clark's Chapel Works For Their Department

FRANKLIN -- It can be done, and Clarks Chapel is well on its way to proving it. They have completed the first major step toward getting their own fire department, Jerry Sutton, Clarks Chapel Community Development Association President, reported recently.

The community's application to establish a fire district, submitted to the State Fire Insurance Rating Bureau in Raleigh, has been approved. The next step is for that agency to send a field agent here to investigate, draw up district boundaries, and authorize the community to petition for a tax referendum, Sutton said. He cautioned that he was informed that the agent was "presently covered up with requests," and

could not say when he would be here.

Several Clarks Chapel citizens are now taking a first aid course, and current plans are to extend this into a full, 26-week volunteer firemen's course. "There's a lot of enthusiasm here -- people are excited about it," Sutton said.



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Practice blaze silhouettes firefighters as an instructor looks on. -Wilmington Star Photo

## Volunteer Smoke-Eaters Train Realistically

LELAND -- Drivers on U.S. Highway 74 - 76 have recently had a front row seat to view firefighting efforts.

In recent weeks, local volunteer fire department units had been working on fire drills and exercises at a special Brunswick County firefighting range near Leland.

The training is realistic. The sole missing element is the fact it is training and no people or property are exposed to flames.

Volunteer units from throughout the county use the site. They have both exotic and provincial names. Units that use the site include departments from Bolivia, Leland, Boiling Springs, Tri Beach, Long Beach, Calabash and Yaupon Beach.

Firemen representing the units come from a wide background of age and occupation. The units include some women who perform as regular fire officers.

A recently - initiated unit at Calabash has three woman members.

All the volunteer fire officers are exposed to a uniform and professional quality of firefighting. The training is of the highest quality. Many of the instructors are provided by Cape Fear Technical Institute.

"This is one of the best things we've ever had," said Chief Ervin Caulk, of the Leland Volunteer Fire Department.

Caulk said the fire training serves a double purpose. He said it increased professional competence and was an excellent morale device.

"We are finding that it is an excellent way to train firemen as individuals and as a team," said Caulk. "Training in both areas is critical."

The fire chief said a variety of firefighting techniques were taught at the training site. He said they included practical courses in rescue, arson and first aid.

Caulk said the training has been well received by firemen.

The Leland department is typical in men and equipment when compared with other volunteer units.

There are 27 men in the department. They have the use of four pumper trucks, one tanker and one rescue truck.

The men average two calls a day.

Caulk said the work is divided among all members by a system of volunteer shifts. An average member volunteers 10 - 15 hours a week, according to the chief.

Morale is high and so is the list of applications from people trying to join.

"Right now we have applications right and left," said Caulk. "This unit has never been this active."

Caulk speculated the increased interest is a result of an increase of fires recently and the additional training offered volunteer firemen.

A year ago things were different, according to Caulk. He said applications were nil and membership was a real problem. At that time, squad members appealed for new members.

Caulk said the training area and classes symbolized the new spirit and times associated with



Yaupon Beach's Cheryl Griswold one of three women in training. --Wilmington Star Photo

firefighting by volunteer fire departments in Brunswick County. --Wilmington Star by Marjorie Smith



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---STUDENTS---  
Continued from page 2

trapped occupants could still make use of breathing masks and protective blankets which can be fired up to them from rescue cannons being designed by teams at Clarkson College of Technology and the University of Florida.

Fires don't always occur where conventional fire trucks can reach them. An all-terrain vehicle, Iowa State University's "Fire Cat" can drive across a field or through brush to fight a fire which otherwise might burn out of control.

No one at all is needed to test the University of Kentucky's fire robot. Equipped with fire sensors and extinguishing chemicals, it seeks out and suppresses an underground mine fire by remote control.

For the fireman, a team at the University of Texas at Arlington is replacing the rubber and cotton coat worn for decades with a head-to-toe life-support suit. A special fabric and reinforced construction protects him from flame and injury while a liquid air backpack system provides suit cooling and breathing air without adding excessive bulk.

Six student teams are developing detection systems for the home that promise low cost and high reliability. Features include automatic daily testing, reduced chances of false alarm triggering, and automatic notification of the fire department.

"Too many Americans think 'It can't happen to me'," notes team captain Joel Silverman, a student in Mechanical Engineering at Clarkson College of Technology in Potsdam, New York.

"A recent rash of mobile home fires in our area proved there's a real need for these low cost detectors to save some of the 7000 lives lost annually in fires in the home.

"The fact is that smoke and carbon monoxide can kill long

before the flames might wake one up.

"And early detection leads to quick suppression of the fire rather than having to deal with a major blaze."

The success of the students' efforts was demonstrated at the final testing event which was at the Ansul Company's Fire Technology Center in Marinette, Wisconsin near Green Bay. A leader in the field of high-intensity fire protection, their facilities are unique. Any conditions, from a smoke-filled bedroom to a blazing mine shaft can be created and precisely controlled, while full instrumentation provides a record of each entry's performance.

The Coordinating Committee assembled panels of experts from the fire fighting and research fields who rated the students' efforts. These scores determine the top entries in each of the five categories: prevention, detection, rescue, fire fighting devices, and fire fighting systems.

"Every American has to get involved if we're going to improve our nation's record of fire safety," stresses Plunkett.

"We're hoping SAF will spread this message and make people 'fire alert!'."

"One fire victim fewer will make every entry a winner."

SAF is the latest project of SCORE, Inc., an organization established in 1971 as a direct result of the 1970 Clean Air Car Race, in which student-built low-pollution vehicles raced from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts to the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, California. A non-profit student-run corporation, SCORE identifies and sponsors intercollegiate engineering competitions in socially relevant areas.

SCORE's first project was the

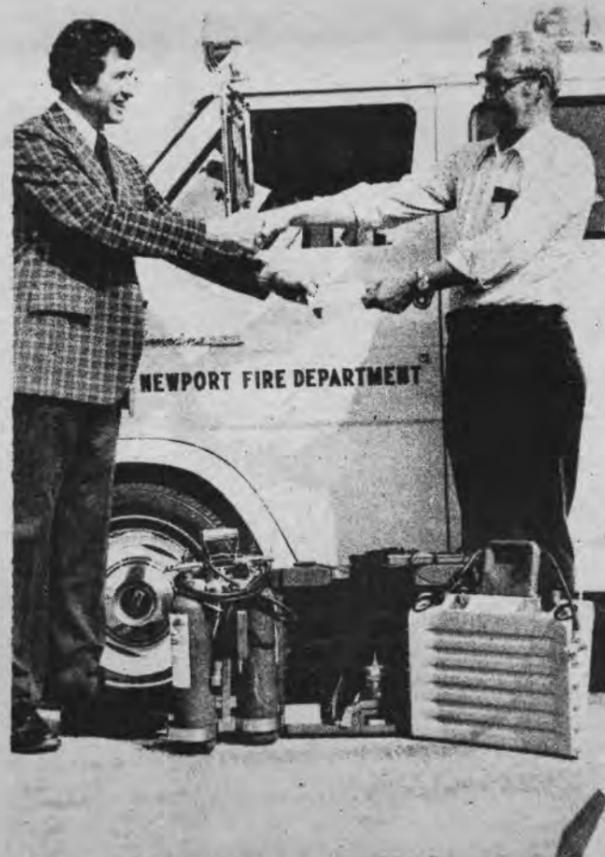
1971-72 Urban Vehicle Design Competition (UVDC). Here the goal was to design and build small, low polluting, safety-oriented cars suited to an urban environment. The competition's final testing saw student teams from 66 universities compete at the General Motors Proving Grounds in Milford, Michigan. The winner of the UVDC was the entry from the University of British Columbia.

## Five Firemen Commended

CHARLOTTE -- Five Charlotte firemen were given letters of commendation by the Mecklenburg Kiwanis Club recently for their actions in reviving two youngsters.

Deirde Lowe, 7, and her brother Wilbur 2, of 3433 N. Sharon Amity Rd. were overcome by smoke from a kitchen fire in their parent's apartment and were given mouth-to-mouth resuscitation by the firemen. They are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Lowe.

District Chief H. L. Wilson, Lt. R.J. Green, A.B. Garmon, D.R. King and J.W. Keziah were commended for their actions at the 12:30 p.m. club luncheon at Honey's Restaurant at 1014 S. Tryon St. The men are all members of Engine Company Three at Station 14, 114 N. Sharon Amity Rd.



Doug Henderson of H&H Electric Co., Newport, presents Newport Fire Chief Milton Gould with a \$100 check toward the purchase of the new heart-lung resuscitator shown in the picture. Morehead City Carteret Co. - News-Times Photo.

## Resuscitator Added

NEWPORT -- The Newport Fire Department rescue ambulance is now equipped with a new heart-lung resuscitator, Chief Milton Gould reports. The \$2,065 piece of equipment was acquired a few weeks ago.

Numerous businesses, civic clubs and individuals donated or pledged money for the resuscitator. Most of the \$2,065 has already been raised. One of the latest contributions was a \$100 gift from H&H Electric Co., Newport.

The heart-lung resuscitator includes a heart monitor, which has the capability of sending a basic EKG over telephone or radio. When Carteret General Hospital gets receiving equipment and compatible scopes and recorders, then heart patients can be monitored by doctors or hospital personnel when en route to the hospital.

Chief Gould reports that rescue squad operators throughout the county started a 60-hour advanced training program recently at Carteret Technical Institute. The additional training, plus new equipment, will mean better emergency medical care for residents of the county, the chief added.



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---CLEMMONS---  
Continued from page 1

this award. We have had some rough times and good times to remember in our years with the department."

The next award was presented to Bill Wall. Wall who served the fire department from 1952 to 1974 was assistant fire chief since 1957 to his retirement.

Upon receiving the plaque award, Wall said, "I want to thank everyone for this honor. It has been a pleasure to work with all the firemen over the years. There are many promising young firemen in the department that will adequately and effectively fill our shoes."

The last plaque was presented to retiring fire chief Plato "Pete" Brewer, who completed 23 years' service with the fire department.

"Receiving this honor is more than words can express," Brewer said, "I am filled with gratitude and appreciation to all the firemen for all their help over the past years."

He continued, "I want to especially thank the wives of all these firemen who have worked behind the scenes and supported their husbands in their volunteer work."

Brewer complimented the Resque Squad on their active service to the fire department and for the many hours that they have spent in training in order to make the service available to residents of Clemmons and the surrounding area on numerous occasions.

He challenged the new Explorer Scouts by telling them, "There are many jobs in which you can help in along the way and hopefully you all will grow into future firemen."



Jack Cumby - new chief

Brewer had one regret concerning his retirement, "I certainly am going to miss working and being with all of you," he added.

Brewer offered his congratulations to the new fire chief Jack Cumby and encouraged all the firemen to give him their support. "I wish for Jack and all the department continued success," he said.

Following Brewer's comments, Jack Higgins displayed a portrait of Brewer which he explained would be hung in the fire department, "to inspire future firemen to follow Brewer's example of long and dedicated service to the community."

Congressman Mizell who visited the banquet near the conclusion congratulated the three retirees and spoke to the approximately

65 people attending.

Mizell said, "I think the time taken here tonight to honor these men is an example of their fine record in this community."

He added that when local people honor local men, it is indeed an important occasion. He shook hands with several firemen and their wives, after which he left to catch a plane back to Washington.

---REPORT---

Continued from page 1

assume that the dispatcher of the firemen answering the call will know where you live by only giving your name.) Also, tell the dispatcher what is on fire, house? car? grass? By telling the dispatcher what is on fire, the Fire Department that responds to your call can bring the proper equipment.

By following the steps outlined above, precious minutes can be saved.

"If you have any questions concerning the above steps, any fireman in Rutherford County will be glad to answer them," a spokesman said. "We appreciate the support that you have shown us in the past, and ask that you continue to support us in the future."



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**Appreciation Dinner For Fireman**

FUQUAY-VARINA -- An appreciation dinner was given to various members of the Volunteer Fire Departments by the North State Tobacco Company recently, at the Fuquay - Varina Fire Station.

Douglas Knott, vice president and his associates of the tobacco company, gave the dinner as a means of thanking the Fuquay - Varina Volunteer Fire Dept. as well as the Holly Springs, Fairview and Angier departments for the men and equipment used in fighting the recent fire which destroyed the building on Railroad St.

Fire Chief James Mauldin greeted the more than 100 firemen and visitors.

Guest speaker for the evening was Keith Phillippe of the Fire Service Training, Department of Community Colleges of North Carolina.

The North State Tobacco Company fire was one of the largest to occur in Fuquay -

Varina for several years. The fire was discovered around 4:00 A.M. and Firemen stayed on the scene for more than six hours.

Submitted by,  
Larry Senter  
Fuquay-Varina Fire Dept.

**Top Honor**

DURHAM -- Sidney E. Levy of 401 Tampa Ave. was named instructor of the year recently by the N.C. Fire Service Instructors Society.

The award was one of two received by Levy at the society's annual meeting in Winston - Salem. He also was named best training aide in the state.

Levy has been a member of the Durham Fire Department for 5 years. He is a driver and serves as a fire service instructor for the Durham Technical Institute and the Technical Institute of Alamance.

He is assigned to Durham's Fire Station No. 2

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