

TARHEEL FIREFIGHTER

AND CAROLINA RURAL FIREMAN

VOL. 12 NO. 2

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FEBRUARY 1975

Welcome FD Elects Officers

Welcome — The Welcome Fire Department elected new officers at its annual meeting recently.

Following the presentation of the financial statement and a run-down of last year's fire calls, members were elected to the board of directors, officers of the corporation were elected and officers of the department were chosen.

New board members elected were Jack Craver, Grady Hartman and Johnny Leonard. The board elected Norman Hart chairman and Don Broadway secretary-treasurer of the corporation. George A. Thomason was elected department chief.

Firemen elected Carlton Sowers assistant chief, Reggie Lyle, Charlie Nifong, Tony Leonard and Jerry Everhart captains, Dale Byars first lieutenant, Craig Setffe second lieutenant, Jimmy Sowers and Don Broadway traffic patrol and Jerry Everhart secretary-treasurer.

New Pumper for Garner VFD

Garner — The Garner Volunteer Fire Department recently received a new 1000 g.p.m. pumper from the Howe Fire Apparatus Co. That brings the total number of vehicles owned by the department to ten.

The new red engine, carried by a 1974 International Harvester chassis with a 225 Caterpillar diesel engine, features a 1000 g.p.m. Waterous pump with top mount controls for the operator. Some additional specifications on the unit include a 700 gallon booster tank, flowmeters for each 2½ outlet, and a 7 — man cab with breathing apparatus mounted in rear of cab.

This unit was purchased to replace a 1957 Chevrolet as a front line pumper. Two rear suction inlets make it practical as a city or rural truck.

The fifty members of the totally volunteer department operate five pumpers (each with a specified responsibility),



three 1200 gallon tankers, one utility van, and one chief's car. The department, now in its 23rd year of service to the Garner community, protects a city population of approximately 7000, a rural district with a radius of up to twelve miles,

and two major thoroughfares. Fire calls will average approximately 300 per year, making the G.V.F.D. the most active of the twenty Wake County volunteer departments.

Howe representative, David Lee, plans to have Garner's new engine on display at the N.C. State Firemen's Convention in New Bern this summer. Please plan to attend.

Promotions Announced In Rocky Mount



FIRE CHIEF MAKES PROMOTIONS—Rocky Mount Fire Chief John P. Sykes, far right, pins a new badge on Capt. W. B. Hawkins, who has been promoted to assistant fire chief. Looking on from left to right are department members: A. L. Herrington; H. L. Pierce; and N. D. Matthews, who have been promoted from firefighters to fire captains. Killebrew Studio Photo

Rocky Mount — Rocky Mount Fire Chief John P. Skyes recently announced the promotions of four members of the department's fire suppression division.

Promoted were: W. B. Hawkins, captain to assistant fire chief; A. L. Herrington, firefighter to fire captain; N. D. Matthews, firefighter to captain; and H. L. Pierce, Jr., firefighter to fire captain.

"It's really a pleasure for me to announce the promotions of these experienced and hard working men," stated Sykes. "Together they represent almost 45 years of service to the department and the City. We appreciate their past efforts and look forward their continued service."

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Fire Service Training In NC Second To None, Lions Told

Sylva — Fire Departments were termed "protectors of the communities" by a speaker at the Sylva Lions Club meeting recently.

Mark Jones of Enka, secretary of the WNC Firemen's Association, noted that the primary task of the fire department is to protect lives and property, but they also serve communities in other ways.

Tracing a brief history of the organization of fire departments, beginning with bucket brigades and water hoses made

of leather, to steam engine pumpers and modern diesel pumpers, Jones pointed out that there are over 22,000 firemen in some 600 fire departments in North Carolina.

And he also noted progress made by the Sylva Fire Department. "We can be proud of the Sylva Department because of the progress it has made," he declared.

Jones displayed, as an example, a cigarette-pack-size tone alert used by the Sylva Fire Department, explaining its use in communicating to

firemen when a fire is reported, and the improved efficiency of firemen arriving at a fire scene.

He also discussed the fire service training program offered through the NC Department of Community Colleges. "North Carolina's fire service training program is second to none in the country," Jones concluded.

He was introduced by Boyd Sossamon, program chairman. Hugh Moon, Lions Club president, presided at the meeting held at Parkway Restaurant.

Fire Prevention Bureau Launched

Kannapolis — Kannapolis now has a fire prevention

bureau, according to Gary Moss. Moss and William B. Ward, a member of the Kannapolis Fire Department, will head the bureau.

Also serving on it will be a member from each of the five local fire departments.

Members of the board of directors will be Chief Roy Deyton of the Kannapolis Fire

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Aquadale VFD Names Officers

Albemarle — Aquadale VFD elected J. G. Carpenter as chief and Max Hudson as chairman of the annual meeting held recently.

Other officers are: Earl Simpson and Jerry Almond, assistant chiefs; Jesse Hayes, secretary-treasurer; Cleo Burleson, business manager; Jerry Almond and Cleo Burleson, trainers.

Other directors will be: Rembert Blalock, one-year; Richard Swaringen, two-year; John Bost and Jerry Almond, three-year.

Bonlee Approves Fire District 5-1

Bonlee — The Bonlee Volunteer Fire Dept. easily won itself a fire district recently.

Voters in a designated area around Bonlee chose the fire district in their special election by a stunning 5 to 1 margin. The final unofficial vote count was 249 for and 48 against.

Two hundred ninety-seven voters came out for the election, out of an approximate 650 who were eligible to vote. That represents a 48.7 per cent turnout which is considered high for special elections.

A few weeks before the election, firemen had been worried that the district might be defeated.

The Bonlee Fire Dept. is several thousand dollars in debt and the fire district will provide them with a special property tax from property owners in the district. Levied by the county, the tax will be set by the County Board, based on a budget for the Bonlee Fire Department. The Department has said they will ask for only: 0.05 on the \$100 valuation.

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NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION CALENDAR

Dates	Events
May 12-16, 1975	NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION 79th Annual Meeting, Palmer House, Chicago, Ill.
June 2-6, 1975	NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION-Technical Committee Week, Parker House, Boston, Mass.
Oct. 5-11, 1975	Fire Prevention Week, internationally sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association
Nov. 18-20, 1975	NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION Fall Meeting, Hilton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa.



EMILY H. KING

Editorial

In my opinion this is a time for retrospect — to analyze the errors we may have made, review economic events and in general, form a Personal Clearing House within our own lives — our desires and ambitions, plans for the future (uncertain though it appears at the moment) and making ourselves better people.

Just as Thanksgiving Day was to be a day of thankfulness for the many blessings that helped our forefathers through the Wilderness and provided so abundantly for them, perhaps in 1975 we should also live our lives with thankfulness for what we do have rather than bemoaning the fact that we do not have more. However, in our planning, I strongly urge everyone to give some thought to what is happening within our own country, mainly I'm afraid because we have not tried hard enough to make the peoples' voices heard. The men, not man, are apparently gaining more and more power in operating the country as they see fit, instead of always what is to the best advantage of the real power in our country — WE, THE PEOPLE. If we would only stop complaining and do something about the situation ourselves, like our forefathers did, rather than going along with everything that is handed out to us. The only voice we use is that of useless, idle complaining.

I am not advocating the overthrow of our government, but perhaps almost as drastic a change. There are entirely too many men in high office today that have been there too long, some of whom should never have been there in the first place. Some are actually working, I am told, against our democratic way of life as hard as they can, innocently or with coercion, getting others who do not really advocate these changes to work with them to gain this means to an end, that I am sure none of us want. I know that all of us are concerned very much with simply making ends meet for now, but it could get worse. I'm very much afraid it is going to get worse, unless we rise to our own defense, en masse so to speak.

If things go much further, we face a return to living without the comforts we have calmly accepted as our way of life, and possibly much, much worse. I wonder how many American citizens are left with enough of the pioneering spirit of our ancestors to really do something about the way the country is being run? Are there to be no Paul Revere's left to awaken us to the very real peril we are facing, not only economically but politically? Are we going to sit still and wait for the threat the man overseas made some years ago of "taking our country without firing a shot," to come true? Like it or not, we are being told (by some people who should know far more about it than we) that some of our leaders are aiding and abetting in this far-sighted plan.

If our legislators could spend all those months investigating an affair that probably has happened before (and worse) only it simply was not made public, why do they not investigate some of the reports they must get concerning some of the other activities of other people or parties who are actually working within our government, against our government? I keep wondering how many men we have in office, helping to run our country, who could stand the searching investigation Mr. Nixon and his aides were put through? I am afraid I am no longer a Democrat or a Republican, since neither party has produced much more than scandal for us to look at, apparently so we would overlook the situation the country was getting into. Either that or they are showing their ineptitude at being able to do anything about it. In either case, they should not be now holding office themselves. Instead of a strong President, like we once had to represent our country, we now have a group of men working steadily to gain more of the power that once was left to the President. How many of the countries that oppose us and work against us are led by as many men? They all have a strong leader, and this we have allowed our officials to strip from us. We ask for justice and sit idly by while our government crucifies a man — right or wrong. This is not the understanding and mercy our Principles of government were founded on. The guilty should be punished, but the severity of punishment given to this man, breaking him completely (not only financially, but physically and morally) goes beyond the realm of my understanding. Too little is left of tempering wisdom with judgment. There is also too little forgiveness for particular cases. Our high courts uphold loopholes in the laws for murderers, rapists, etc. They tie the hands of our police so that crime is now rising steadily. Our military power is weaker than it has been in several generations. All this happening while we are offered a bone to chew on, instead of meat, to keep us quietly waiting a little longer for a miracle to clear the situation up. How foolish have we allowed ourselves to become?

About a year ago I mentioned the fact that the Federal Government was talking of taking a hand in the Fire Service. I was opposed to this legislation very much. I have received notice of a new Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974, and will write for more information to pass along to you. All I can tell you at present is that this new legislation would greatly expand Federal efforts in fire prevention and control and will bring about a new era of fire protection in the United States. To me this sounds ominous, if I understand it correctly, hopefully I do not. I will inform you further as soon as I have more details.

I didn't intend to make this a political editorial, but people have to start somewhere to take a stand. The men and families in the fire service have been helping in one area to protect our country so much more than some of our officials. I wonder if we just might not have a pretty loud voice if we should all get together and make ourselves heard, instead of just quietly lending our services in just the matter of fire? Instead of the old cry of years gone by that "Rome is burning" I'm afraid while a lot of people are unaware of it, America is burning. Quietly the conflagration is spreading, unseen, and may soon burst into an open flame. As a matter of fact, it is already very, very much later than we think.

Yours for a free country again—
 and I don't mean handouts by taxpayers,

Emily H. King

Davie Firemen Had 59 Alarms In 1974

Roanoke Rapids — Davie Fire Department reports a total of 59 alarms answered during the past year.

Of the 59 calls, four were mobile home fires; 15 house fires; 22 bush and grass fires; four auto fires and one mutual aid call; seven false alarms; one industrial fire; four storage shed fires and one business fire.

The total estimated damage amounted to \$56,640.00. Estimated value of property protected amounted to

\$587,450.00.

One death by fire was reported for the year.

Davie Volunteer Firemen spent a total of 360 man hours fighting fires and a total of 8 man hours in training.

A new pumper-tanker is no on order and will be delivered soon. The new truck will update the department with two fire line trucks for better fire protection within the community that the Davie VF serves.

Firemen Honor Elwood Baker



FIREMEN'S CHOICE—Elwood Baker, center, was chosen by fellow firemen as North Raeford's Firemen of the Year. With him are Steve Hedgepeth, secretary, and George Baker, North Raeford chief. Raeford News-Journal Photo

Raeford — Elwood Baker was chosen Fireman of the Year for the North Raeford department at the annual

**Firefighters
 win promotions**

Thomasville — Four members of the Thomasville Fire Department recently were

Cont. page 3

department dinner recently Baker has served as mail

**Jay White
 Awarded**

Fayetteville — Fireman First Grade Jay White Fayetteville was named "Fireman of the Year" 1974. He received the trophy

Cont. page 3

Let Us Hear From You

Please feel free to submit any story or pictures to us for publication in this paper. We may not receive information on your department that you feel would be of interest to others, so we ask that you submit items of interest to us.

We reserve the right to edit any material submitted to us. Please note that when submitting a newspaper clipping we need to know name of the newspaper, the town it is located in and the date of article. We also need to know who wrote it if it has a byline. If you submit original photographs, please make a note on the back of each photo if you want them returned.

Let us hear from you. We appreciate your support.



FAIR BLUFF—Fair Bluff Rotary President Roy J. Parker (left) presents to Fire Chief E. D. Meares Jr. (right) the Meritorious Service Award. The award was made at a dinner in honor of the fire department recently. Members of the fire department include: E. D. Meares Jr., Chief, Brice Elvington, A. J. Williams, David Small, John C. Rogers Jr., Bobby Wilson, John Cutrell Jr., James Degner, James K. Meares, Winfred Richardson, John Wayne Phillips, Carwell Hughes, Wilton Waddell, Wilbur Cole, Russell Odham, John Bracey, Butch Shepherd, Carlen Cole, Leon Small, Simon Herring Jr., Roy J. Parker, W. C. Ellis and Harold Cribb. In making the presentation to the fire department and the rescue unit, Parker noted the service to Fair Bluff and the surrounding area. In accepting the award, Meares observed that the credit should go to the members of the force and asked for continuing support from Rotary.

Lumberton Robesonian Photo

Promotions Announced In....
from page 1

Hawkins, a Rocky Mount native and attended Nashville High School. He joined the fire department in 1957 as a firefighter and was named a fire captain in 1971. He attends Englewood Baptist Church and is married to the former Sylvia Breedlove of Rocky Mount. They have a daughter, Angela, 12.

Herrington, is also a native of Rocky Mount. A 1960 graduate of Rocky Mount Senior High School, he joined the department as a firefighter in 1966. He is married to the former Susan R. Russ of Rocky Mount. They have two daughters: Melissa, 8; and Heather, 5.

Matthews, another Rocky Mount native, is a 1962 graduate of Rocky Mount Senior High School. He joined the department in 1966 as a firefighter and is married to the former Judith Ann Mason of Rocky Mount. They have a son,

Douglas Wayne, 3.

Pierce is a native of Elm City and is a 1964 graduate of Elm City High School. He joined the department in 1968 as a firefighter and is married to the former Shirley Ann Sawyer of Rocky Mount.

The City's 83-man department is composed of two divisions — administration and fire suppression. The fire suppression division has responsibility for the actual fighting of fires which occur in Rocky Mount.

Hardison Retires

Farmville — J. B. Hardison retired February 1 after 24 years and seven months as an active member of the Farmville Fire Department. He is the second fireman to retire in recent weeks—Joe Flake having retired in November.

Farmville Fire Chief H. P. Norman expressed his appreciation, and that of the town, to Hardison for his faithful and dedicated service over the quarter of a century.

Firefighters Win
from page 2

promoted, Chief Howard Matthews said Wednesday.

Ronald Myers has been promoted from the rank of lieutenant to captain. His job as fire prevention officer will be filled by Raleigh York, Jr., a firefighter. Firefighters Thomas J. Hughes and Steven Smith have been promoted to lieutenants.

The fire prevention officer makes inspections of alarm boxes and fire hazards and captains are in charge of each of the three shifts. Lieutenants take charge in the absence of a captain.

Jay White
from page 2

the annual Fireman's Banquet held recently at a steak supper.

White, who is a volunteer fireman of the Cumberland County Station No. 9, Yadkin Road Fire Department, was selected out of 25 firefighters of Station 9. He has been a member of the department for 15 months.

E5 White is in the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg and is the son of Mr-m Ed White of Lumberton. He is married to

the former Jan Melton of Fairmont.

Firemen Honor
from page 2

tainance lieutenant for North Raeford for the past six years.

Approximately 35 firemen and their wives attended the dinner held at the Southern Restaurant.

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Marshville, North Carolina

Fire Prevention
from page 1

Dept., Chief Cecil Cline of the Sanitary District Fire Dept. and Chief Keister Oakley of the Royal Oaks Fire Dept.

The main purpose of the bureau, according to Moss, will be to educate Cabarrus Countians in fire prevention. Inspections of property for fire dangers will be available on request.



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A-D-R Fire and Rescue Respond to Fire

Riegelwood — Acme-Delco-Riegelwood (ADR) Fire and Rescue recently responded to an alarm for fire at the home where Johnnie Robinson resided with his wife and three children. The 3:30 AM alarm was at a location two miles south of Delco, just inside of the Acme-Delco Fire District.

Mrs. Robinson told Chief Alton Edwards that she awoke and smelled smoke. She im-

mediately called the Fire Department and then proceeded to arouse her family. The family escaped from the frame structure with only the clothes they were wearing. Arriving engines found the structure fully involved and with the roof over the western end of the seven-room dwelling about to collapse.

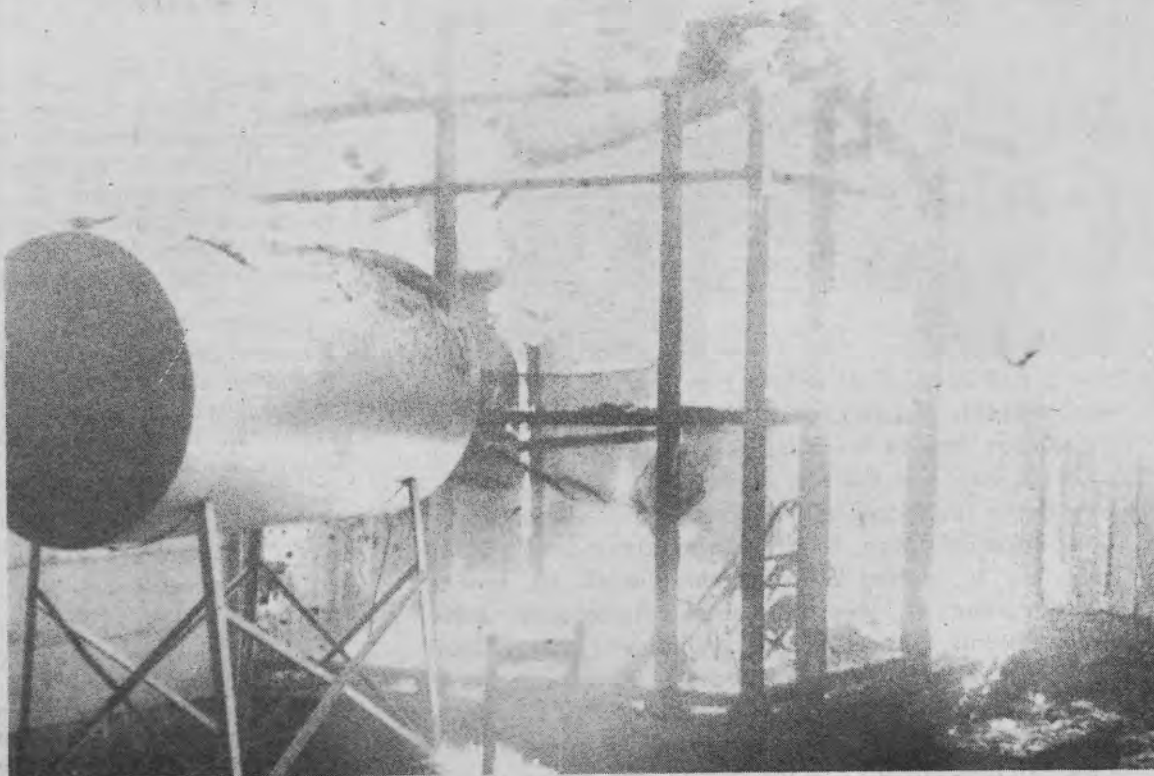
Firefighters were hampered by the cold temperatures (estimated at 28 to 30 degrees F.) and advancing fire damage. At one point Captain R. L. Gainey fell through charred flooring, and later Chief Edwards was struck by parts of a collapsing wall as he was supervising operations outside the structure. Neither man was injured. Firefighters used breathing equipment in order to work in the dense smoke.

The fire apparently started in the kitchen area. Although the entire dwelling and its contents were declared a total loss, the kitchen area suffered the

heaviest structural damage. Fire Chief Edwards would like to remind the public that

one good thing a resident (whose home is on fire) can do while waiting for the arrival of

the fire department is to make sure all outside fuel and propane lines are closed.



Shown here is a photo of the fire upon arrival of the first engine company. The view is through the back porch into the kitchen area. Notice the oil tank on the left.



The hose crew put the first water on the fire from the front of the structure. The nozzle is a 1 1/2" turbojet set at 95 G.P.M. and full fog.

Building Damaged By Fire

Fayetteville — Fire of undetermined origin caused extensive damage to a downtown tavern recently.

The blaze apparently started on the street-level floor of the 18-to-20 Club at 113 Person St. shortly before midnight.

Fire Chief Thurman Bishop said flames had already extended from the first floor into the attic portion of the building when an unidentified motorist reported the fire at 11:49 p.m.

The flames also reached the second-floor area of a shoe shop at 115 Person St. before the fire was extinguished.

Bishop said it appears the blaze began against one wall of the tavern, at the floor level. The chief said the cause of the fire is being investigated.

The building is owned by the Ed Fleishman & Brothers firm. No estimate of loss had been made the following morning.

Photos by Steve Gainey

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Wilson Fire Loss Down In 1974

Wilson — A continued decline in the number of fire alarms received by the Wilson Fire Department was noted in the annual report presented recently to City Council.

Chief Ben Williams stated the report shows a slight decrease in the number of alarms, total insured loss and per capita loss from the previous year.

"Considering the rapid expansion of industry and the continual growth of our city, I feel this department has had a very successful year," said the chief.

The chief added "every effort is being made by this department to further reduce the loss of life and property through better fire prevention, training and improved fire suppression methods. I would like to commend our personnel for their wholehearted support and cooperation in fulfilling our obligation to the citizens of our city by providing the best fire protection possible."

The chief also thanked the local newspaper, radio stations, Wilson County Technical Institute and civic clubs "for their interest support and cooperation. The continual support of our citizens has been also encouraging and rewarding.

While it was noted in the chief's report that the decline was small as compared to 1973, a notable decrease was shown during the past three years.

The total number of occupancy fires responded to totaled 811 in 1974, there were 813 in 1973 and 886 in 1972.

The per capita fire loss based on 33,000 persons also declined — from \$5.35 per person to \$4.98 or for a total of \$164,295.30 for 1974 compared to \$176,651.48 in 1973. The highest loss for the past six years came in 1972 and the lowest in 1970.

During last year there was a

slight increase, however, in the number of residential fires — up from 222 in 1973 to 229 while the number for 1972 was 197.

There were a total of 304 false fire alarms, up from 294 in 1973 but considerably lower than the 421 in 1972.

Others last year were public assembly, down nine from 18 in 1973; education and institution, up two from the five the year before; stores, down eight from 28; office, up two from one; industry, up 11 from 23; storage, up five from nine; other buildings, up two from six; brush-rubbish-grass, down 41 from 87; forest, even at nine;

other outdoor, up six from 21; and transportation equipment, Cont. page 6



HOUSE at 308 Monroe St. here where Freeman Morgan, 51, lost his life.
Roanoke Rapids Daily Herald Photo

Fire Kills Resident

Roanoke Rapids — Fire claimed the life of 51-year-old Freeman Lewis Morgan in Roanoke Rapids recently.

Morgan, who lived with his sister, Victoria, and her husband, Robert Powell, at 308 Monroe St., was pronounced dead on arrival at Halifax Memorial Hospital just before 8 o'clock. Cause of death was apparently smoke and heat inhalation.

City firemen were called to the home at 7 p.m. by Mrs. Lloyd Epps of 309 Monroe. Fire Chief James Baggett said smoke and heat was already intense when the trucks arrived.

"It was so hot the firemen couldn't go up the stairwell to get to him. They had to come back and go in the window," Baggett said.

Lt. Lawrence Williams went in a window above the front porch. He found Morgan in the bed in the front bedroom. Morgan was taken to the hospital by the Roanoke Valley Rescue Squad.

Baggett reported the fire began on a downstairs couch and burned up the wall and through the ceiling.

Morgan was the only person in the house at the time. His sister had left shortly after 5 p.m. to return to a babysitting job.

Damage to the house and contents was estimated at \$3,000. Total value was estimated at \$10,000.

Eight regulars and 11 Call Company firemen answered the alarm with two pumpers.

Fire Destroys Pet Store In Somers Area

Somers Township — Two fires destroyed the Blue Ridge Pet Supplies Store in Somers Township recently.

The first fire occurred on a Monday morning at 4:40 a.m., when Union Grove firemen answered a call and put out the

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**Fire Destroys Pet Store
from page 5**

fire. The flames had destroyed the roof of the store building and had done extensive damage to the interior.

Fire in the damaged building and store broke out again two days later and the store and merchandise were a total loss.

Union Grove, Hamptonville and Broadway Fire Departments answered the call. The fire spread into woodland.

The store, which carried a substantial stock of pet supplies was owned by Terry Welborn and associates, with Mr. Welborn as manager.

The building, a block structure 50 by 100, was the property of Cashion Oil Co. of North Wilkesboro and had a replacement value of about \$25,000. There was no insurance on the building, Paul Cashion, proprietor of Cashion Oil Co., said.

Origin of the fire was not determined.

The store building was the former Charlie Somers property and was located on the Somers Road.

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NEW MINI-PUMPER

NEWTON—Four members of the St. Timothy Fire Department, from left, W. Max Sigmon, James Propst, Charles Sigmon and Ray Hildebran, pose beside the department's new mini-pumper. The Pierce-Mustang fire apparatus is mounted on a 1975 four-wheel drive truck and was manufactured in Appleton, Wis. It has an all-aluminum body for light weight and durability and can be used on all types of fire calls of a small nature. Newton Observer-News-Enterprise Photo

Gibson Home Razed

Gibson — The Gibson Fire Department was called to the home of Bobby G. Stricklin recently at 6 a.m. The home was razed.

The family including a two year old boy and a two month old girl is staying with parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Henry Stricklin, at Mason Cross.

A plea has been made for community aid to provide furniture or appliances to the dislocated family.

Items including clothing may be donated by calling 268-4993

or by contacting Mrs. Lottie Carpenter at the local Red Cross Center, 276-0600. The Red Cross helps families whose

homes have been burned but does not donate furniture until after the family is relocated into another home.

Fire damages county school

Greensboro — A fire of undetermined origin damaged a small room and telephone wires at Southeast Junior High School recently, county firemen reported.

school after the blaze was reported by a custodian at 7:19 a.m.

Firemen said the fire was "smoldering" in a small room behind the principal's offices and less than five gallons of water was used to extinguish it.

Pupils reportedly went on to their classes as usual and firemen used exhaust fans to remove smoke from the school.

Firefighters from the Alamance, Pleasant Garden, Station 14 and Pincroft-Sedgefield volunteer fire departments rushed to the

**Wilson Fire Loss Down....
from page 5**

up 14 from 90. The largest decrease came in the number of brush-rubbish-grass fires.

The report revealed that smoking and matches resulted in 54 of those fires and 46

caused by children and matches. There also were 104 motor vehicle fires. Defective or overheated equipment resulted in 75 alarms while there were 23 smoke scares or needless alarms.

In the total fire loss amount of \$164,295.30, there were 192 dwelling fires resulting in \$104,268.14 in losses, \$35,500 for restaurants-taverns (four); \$4,058.17 in 21 apartment blazes; \$13,800 in mobile home-related fires; \$4,844 in five store fires, \$1,250 in one garage-residential parking blaze; \$500 in other industrial buildings; \$50 in the category of laundries; and \$25 for one hotel blaze. There was a total of some 70 fire calls where no damage was reported.

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MAIDEN—Earnest V. Carter of Maiden was recognized by the town board during a regular meeting recently and presented a plaque for his 28 years of service with the Maiden Fire Department. Mayor W. H. Adams presented the plaque to Carter, left, and read a resolution of commendation.
Newton Observer-News-Enterprise Photo



ROCKY MOUNT—STONY CREEK DONATION—The Benvenue Ruritan Club recently presented a contribution of \$200 to the Stony Creek Fire Department's building fund for construction of a new fire and rescue station. Club president Donnie Perry (right) presents the check to Stony Creek Chief Bud Rimel (left) and department president Winnis Serratt.
Rocky Mount Telegram Photo

Fire Chief's Yard Not Fire Proof

From the Clemmons Courier
By David H. Hauser

Clemmons — A fire in the fire chief's backyard less than 200 yards from the Clemmons fire house destroyed two out-buildings at the home of Clemmons fire chief Jack Cumby on Clemmons Road recently.

Cumby was at Thruway Shopping Center when he got a call about a fire at his home.

In less than 10 minutes he along with two units from Clemmons, Lewisville and the county were on the scene battling the blaze to bring it under control.

Cumby's wife had been burning leaves when some of the fire got out her sight and began burning behind one of the outbuildings. It spread before she realized it into the woods behind their home to another building.

Mrs. Cumby called the fire department and when the firemen arrived one building was completely engulfed in flames and another was partially on fire.

Chief Cumby gave no



Two Clemmons firemen, the first to arrive on the scene at the home of Clemmons firechief Jack Cumby, struggle with the fire hose as they attempt to extinguish the blaze which damaged two out-buildings.
Clemmons Courier Photo

estimate of damage to the two outbuildings and their contents.

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Rescue Squad, Fire Departments Receive \$4,700 In Gifts From Farm Chemicals

Moore County — Moore County Rescue Squad No. 4 of Aberdeen has increased

capacity to serve the community, thanks to a gift from Farm Chemicals, Inc.

The gift is a truck and is one of several items donated to local emergency health services by Farm Chemicals recently.

Farm Chemicals presented the gifts in conjunction with the Aberdeen Jaycees as a result of a special marketing program of Dow Chemical U.S.A., Midland, Mich. Dow's program, based on sales performance, provided distributors of its agricultural chemicals with dollars for donations to local charities or

community service organizations.

Farm Chemicals is a manufacturer and distributor of agricultural chemicals in North Carolina and South Carolina with offices in Aberdeen.

Farm Chemicals earned \$4,700 in donations in the program and decided to let the Aberdeen Jaycees choose the direct recipients of the gifts, according to Ken Gilbert, general manager of the company. In addition to the Moore County Rescue Squad gift, the Jaycees ordered a foam maker, airpac and 48 chairs for the Crestline Volunteer Fire Department and a color television set and table and

chairs for the Aberdeen Volunteer Fire Department.

The gifts were presented at a special dinner dance hosted by Farm Chemicals and the Jaycees at the Holiday Inn in Southern Pines. Guests included company representatives, Jaycees, officials of the three emergency health services and their wives. Special guests were town councilmen H. Clifton Blue, Jr. and Lloyd Harris.

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The Dow, JC, Farm Chem, banquet honored from left to right, Curtis Baker of Crestline, Alfred Leach of Farm Chem., Ken Gilbert of Farm Chem., Ben Walraven of Dow, Sid Taylor of the Aberdeen Fire department, Commissioner Harris, Lt. Ron Robertson of unit 4, and Sam Jordan, president of the Aberdeen Jaycees.
Aberdeen Sandhill Citizen Photo

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Fire Damages House Poodle Is Rescued

Statesville — A series of fires swept through the Statesville area during a recent weekend,

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severely damaging several buildings.

Firemen were called to the home of Lucille Wilhelm, 416 Winston Ave., at 10:14 p.m. Saturday to extinguish a fire caused by an overheated stove.

Three rooms and the attic of the six room house, owned by D. R. Cox, Sr., were damaged when the fire swept up from the stove into the attic. The remaining rooms in the house received water and smoke damage.

The 31 firemen required several hours to extinguish the fire and were called back to the house when the blaze flared up again.

No one was injured but a black poodle, a family pet, was treated for smoke inhalation.

A fire caused minor damage to the home of Roosevelt Coffey, 320 Railroad Alley, on Sunday.

Fire reports indicate a faulty chimney ignited timber about the chimney and burned a hole in the roof of the house.

No one was injured in the blaze. The home was owned by Zennia Colvert.

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This digital copy of The Tarheel Firefighter and Carolina Rural Fireman was created by Mike Legeros in January 2020, from copies collected by retired Fire Chief Donald E. Whitaker in Pleasant Garden, NC.