

TARHEEL FIREFIGHTER

AND CAROLINA RURAL FIREMAN

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"AN INDEPENDENT PUBLICATION FOR TARHEEL FIREFIGHTERS"

DECEMBER 1976



the joy of giving—



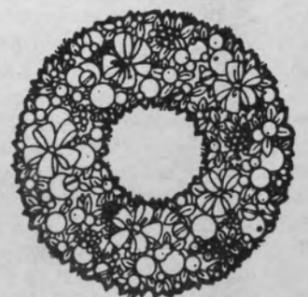
the joy of singing—



*The Joy Of Christmas
Surrounds Us Everywhere*



the joy of peace—



the joy of remembering—

**THE TARHEEL FIREFIGHTER
and Carolina Rural Firemen**

**"An Independent Voice
for Tarheel Firefighters"**

**Published Monthly
EMILY H. KING, Editor**

send all Editorial and Advertising Copy to:

**207 Jackson St.
Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina 27870**

Editorial

During Fire Prevention Week the NFPA gave us many pointers to be particularly stressed that should be stressed not only at that time but every day of the 365. All of us in the Fire Service know the leading causes: 1. Electrical; 2. Smoking and Matches; 3. Heating and Cooking Equipment; 4. Open Flames and Sparks; 5. Children and Matches; 6. Flammable liquids; 7. Lightning; and 8. Chimneys and Flues.

Looking at one of these — Smoking and Matches — I assume that most of the smokers are aware of this danger but they still disregard it. Smoking and drinking is especially dangerous but I have covered a lot of territory in my life and I can't recall ever having known but one person who did not smoke while drinking, this was because the

with a four-year-old who was constantly pulling out drawers and in general getting into everything. The child evidently was accustomed to being allowed to do so. There was a Bic lighter on the coffee table which she lit repeatedly until finally having it taken from her forcible, since she refused to put it down. She was only told she would burn up all the fuel — nothing in regard to the danger, which I mentioned. The reply was that the child did this at home and had never burned anything! So how do you explain to some people that simply because something has never happened doesn't mean it never will, without offense?

Since we have a lot of outdoors people in our state and neighboring states, and also at certain times of the year have quite sudden electrical storms, it might be well to mention the places in which one should take shelter if caught outside during one of them. NFPA suggests: a large building, if one is near; metal-roofed car; dense woods; or a ditch or other low-lying area. If rain accompanies the storm, which it usually does, I would hate to have to select a ditch and sit there in the water. One thing I am not sure of — for woods, how dense is dense? I'm a little wary of this one. I'd be afraid that the very tree I would be under would be the one the lightning would choose to strike! As for cars, is there a metal roof underneath a vinyl one? I have to find out because if I could get to my car, I'm certain that is the place I'd choose to wait out the storm. Since I am afraid of storms, I'm not too likely to get caught out in one if there has been any advance warning on the radio or TV news media!

According to NFPA President Charles S. Morgan, carelessness, disregard for established fire prevention policies, and ignorance account for a large percentage of our nation's 1.3 million building fires each year, which cost an estimated \$3.3 billion annually. We can only keep trying to hammer home to the public at large our hints for helping to bring this total down — some will heed the advice and some will not, but at least we keep trying.

Emily H. King

Emily H. King



EMILY H. KING

person didn't smoke at all. Since a lot of drinkers drink too much, knowing they should not do this, I'm afraid any warnings to these persons would be more or less wasted. A lot of them, as you often see in the papers, pay with their lives for this. Who knows, maybe they are still smoking?

Children and Matches — this is high on the list as a major cause of fire and I would have supposed in this day of enlightenment that parents would have become more aware and careful in regard to this danger. I was somewhat shocked and surprised that almost 69,000 of our fires per year are a result of this one danger alone. Perhaps we are not putting enough emphasis on the "Strike Zone" — from the floor to about waist high. It is in this area that children spend most of their time looking for things to do and are most apt to find things with which to start a fire. Since we have no children, I am guilty of this and it was pointedly brought to my attention recently by a visitor

Robeson County Contended - Never ... Always Improving

ROBESON COUNTY — Robeson is still in its "infancy" as far as Fire Marshall McNeill is concerned but it is improving and growing like "topsy"...taking giant steps!!

There are 687 firemen in the Volunteer, unpaid group, and these men represent an astonishing 15,539 man hours in "special training" classes. 48 special classes (outside regular training programs conducted in each department weekly). 984 students have completed these courses already, in Technical school training, in less than a year. These numbers make up the 20 volunteer departments with only one paid department, which is Lumberton. The Volunteers are also proud of it's 7 "Firemen" who just happen to be women... and fully trained!

Robeson never misses an opportunity to improve!

Numerous firemen have fully accredited E.M.T. Certificates (Emergency Medical Technicians), one department has 2 R.N.s who are always on call when needed. Many of our departments have active Women's Auxiliaries who do all in their power to help the men and departments in which they serve.

Specialized courses held

county-wide for all departments this year were Arson Detection, Bombs and Bomb Threats, Burns Seminar, Compressed Gas Emergencies, Hazardous Material Emergencies, and Officer Training. During the year there were scenes of carefully prearranged disasters. Firemen, law officers, and emergency personnel joined

Continued on page 7

Boone Station VFD Selected For Study

GRANHAM — The Boone Station Volunteer Fire Department has been selected to participate in a nationwide fire study sponsored by the National Fire Prevention and Control Administration.

The Boone Station Fire Department operation and

firefighting activities will be filmed and documented for two months and will be analyzed and evaluated by a group of fire protection experts.

An impact statement, based on factual data, along with a final report and films will be sent to the National Fire Prevention and Control Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

The Boone Station Fire Department is one of 100 fire departments out of a possible 30,000 in the nation selected to participate in this national program.

A Boone Station spokesman said, "We feel we were selected because of our superior leadership and past record for furnishing fire protection to the Boone Station community. Also, the department is not financed by any town or county government, but by funds contributed by those citizens which it serves. This gives the department the flexibility to respond better to the community's needs."

Rhems reactivating fire department

RHEMS — Community residents here are currently in the process of a \$12,000 fund raising drive to reactivate its defunct fire department corporation.

Promoted by the need for faster fire protection service, the Rhems community revived its 1965 corporation charter in October and already during November boasted of having 54 members in the corporation, says county fire marshal Henry Sermons.

For the corporation to become a viable fire department it will take an investment of about \$100,000, most of the money coming from anticipated Federal Housing Administration Loans.

That money will be spent on land acquisition — about an acre — a station house, a pumper and training for at least 21 firefighters, said Sermons.

The department, which should be operational by July 1, 1977, will serve the community whose limits extended into Jones County, in addition to the River Bend area.

Loan goes to Harlowe

HARLOWE — The most eastern community in Craven County was awarded a \$50,000 loan from the Farmer's Home Administration to build a three-day fire station and purchase a Class A, 750 gallon-per-minute pumper.

Approval of the loan to Harlowe Volunteer Fire Department, that serves parts of Craven and Carteret counties, was announced by James T. Johnson, state director for FHA.

Upon completion of the station and on acquiring the pumper, the volunteer group will serve approximately 1,500 families in Township 5.

Altogether the service area will encompass about 20 square miles, said Sermons. The community is presently being served by the West of New Bern Fire Department.

As an added feature, the fire department, said Sermons, will serve as the "focal point" for community activities.

"It will bring the community together," said Sermons, "like schools used to do a few years ago when there were schools in every community."

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 send 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 the name of the newspaper, the town it is located in and the date of the 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.

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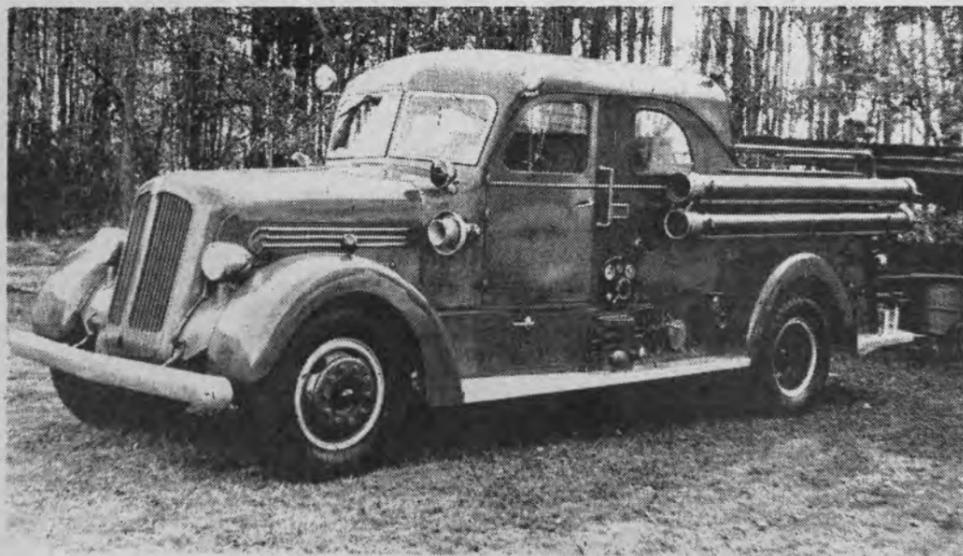
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Weeksville Adds Tanker That Holds 1,250 Gallons



THEN AND NOW — Weeksville Volunteer Fire Department's Chief Eugene Markham explains the workings of the department's new pumper-tanker to Secretary Francis Danaher while the department's now-retired original truck, a 1942 Seagrave, sits on the sidelines. The department is starting a fund-raising drive to pay for the \$25,000 vehicle.

Elizabeth City Daily Advance Photo

From The Elizabeth City Daily Advance
By JOHN FLOARS

WEEKSVILLE — The Weeksville Volunteer Fire Department has come a long way since it began back in 1966 with a 1942 Seagrave fire truck.

The newest addition to the department's equipment is a combination tanker-pumper just acquired at a cost of \$25,000. The tanker has a 1,250-gallon capacity and can pump 450 gallons per minute at 150 pounds pressure, and also has a quick-dump jet which can unload its entire capacity in 75 seconds, a feature useful when water must be quickly transported to the scene of a large fire.

The department so far has paid \$5,000 of the cost and is initiating a drive to raise the remainder, mainly through efforts by the 28-man department and its women's auxiliary of 10.

Markham explained that basic operating expenses are furnished by Pasquotank County, while the department itself is responsible for the acquisition of new equipment.

The addition of the new vehicle brings the department's operational total to three, not counting the stately Seagrave which has been retired by the department and is being sold.

Submitted by D.H. Hughes, Pres. Albemarle Fireman's Ass'n.

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Milkman Detects Fire

FRANKLINTON — A passing milkman noticed smoke, turned in an alarm and a fire at Henry Kearney's house was contained in the kitchen by the Franklinton Fire Department. Firemen responded to the call to Hawkins Street at 9:30 a.m. They found the rear of the house already blazing. The fire had apparently started when a gas water heater exploded. The kitchen of the house was completely destroyed by the fire and the rest of the house received smoke damage. Damage to the wood frame building was estimated at \$6,000 to \$10,000.

Louisburg Franklin Times Photo



Fire Destroys House

NEWTON — A two-story frame house located next to the Big Red Ball Park on the St. Pauls Church Road near Newton was completely destroyed by fire recently. Owned by Lamar Bost, the house was occupied by Lillian Hendrix and family. Newton firemen were on the scene about five hours after receiving the alarm at 4:46 p.m. When units arrived the house was totally engulfed in flames according to a spokesman at the fire department. Newton had about 21 volunteers on the scene and about twelve firemen and units from Fairbrook assisted.

Newton Observer - News-Enterprise Photo

Fire Hits Glenn Darst Residence

DURHAM — Fire early on a recent morning destroyed the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn A. Darst of 6926 Windover Drive, Durham fire officials said.

No one was reported injured. The Durham Fire Department and Lebanon Volunteer Fire Department fought the

fire, left, and had to return almost two hours later when the fire broke out again.

Durham firemen received the first fire call about 11:50 p.m. and stayed on the scene until about 1:50 a.m.

Mrs. Darst told fire officials she awoke and smelled smoke.

She said she then woke up her husband and their three children.

Firemen said the first blaze caused heavy fire damage to the den and another room and heat damage to the entire house. Most of the furniture was destroyed, they reported.

The first fire reportedly began in a fireplace in the den.

Firemen received the second call about 3:37 a.m. When they arrived, the fire was being fought by the Lebanon Fire Department and the whole house was engulfed by flames.

The fire trucks remained at the scene until about 5:39 a.m. The house was destroyed, they said.

Officials are investigating the causes of both fires.

Three separate incidents claim six lives

KINSTON — Firefighters from the Kinston Fire Department experienced an unusual number of fire deaths during a recent eleven day period. Six people lost their lives in three separate incidents.

The first incident occurred at 7:24 p.m. on Nov. 21 at 1006 East Macon St. where a Mrs. Mae Nixon, age 80, died from smoke inhalation. The call was answered by 2 pumpers and the Rescue Unit. As soon as the fire was out, the body of Mrs. Nixon was located. C.P.R. and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation were given, but to no avail. This death occurred in a "shotgun" type house and the fire was believed to have started from a tin wood heater.

The second tragedy occurred at 12:18 a.m. on Nov. 29 at the home of Hubert Smith, Jr. located on R.P.R. No. 1548, known as the Cricket Farm Road. A fire claimed the life of 14 year old Steve Smith. The family awoke and discovered fire in the front living room. Mrs. Smith and two of her children, Alicia and Jeff, escaped. When firefighters from Kinston Lenoir County unites arrived, the house was totally involved in flame. Kin-

ston was joined in the operation by equipment and men from North Lenoir Volunteer Fire Department. Lack of convenient water supply and winds up to approximately 30 knots hampered efforts at this blaze.

The third and most tragic fire occurred at 8:16 p.m. on Dec. 2 when four unattended children died when their "shotgun" type house was destroyed by fire caused by a tin wood heater. This location was at 503 Sampson Street. The mother, Mrs. Carol McKnight, had left the four children (Angela, age 4; Albert, age 1½; Sue Carol, age 8 months; and Roselyn, age 2½ years) to go to the food market. Witnesses stated that they tried to reach the children before firefighters arrived, but were driven back by the intense flames. Two pumpers and one rescue unit responded to this call which resulted in four deaths and the total loss of the dwelling, plus damage to houses on either side of the death house. At this time the Kinston Police Department has filed charges against the mother, Carol McKnight.

Submitted by
Tony Kelly
Assistant Fire Chief
Kinston Fire Dept.

Blowing Rock VFD Member Dies, 56

BLOWING ROCK — Claude Andrews, 56, of 3019 Clarke St., Blowing Rock, died Thursday morning, Oct. 21, in Blowing Rock Hospital after a period of declining health.

A native of Watauga County, Andrews was a veteran of World War II and a member of the American Legion Post No. 256 in Blowing Rock.

He was a member of the Blowing Rock Volunteer Fire Department, and a founder and treasurer of the Blowing Rock Rescue Squad. He was a self-employed heating and plumbing contractor.

Andrews had formerly lived in Statesville for 21 years and for many years was a counselor with the Iredell County Juvenile Court System.

He was chosen for Who's Who in North Carolina in 1973 for the Plumbing and Heating Association.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Louise Foster Andrews of

Blowing Rock; two daughters, Mrs. Paul (Jeannie) Lewis of Hudson, Miss Mary Sue Andrews of the home; the parents, Ralph and Ellie Hatten Andrews of Blowing Rock; and one granddaughter, Miss Mary Ruth Lewis of Hudson.

Graveside rites were conducted at the Woodlawn Cemetery in Blowing Rock. Officiating were the Rev. Frank Collier and Dr. Robert Newton. Military rites were conducted by the Blowing Rock American Legion Post.



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Firemen's Gala Draws a Crowd



WINNERS IN THE FIREFIGHTERS CONTEST. Here are some of the proud winners of events at the Harnett County Firemen Day held in Buies Creek. From left to right are Crew Chief Jammie Matthews of Angier; Ralph B. Jones Jr., Larry Hickman and Robert J. Wilson, all of the Anderson Creek Fire Department. Angier won the race in full fire-fighting equipment and also won the ladder climb. Anderson Creek took control of the "fire ring" contest. Winners of the barrel race were the Buies Creek team, not shown.
Dunn Record Photo

Hunters pitch in to help firemen extinguish large woods fire

FRANKLINTON — About 25 Franklinton area deer hunters turned fire-fighters and kept a woods fire near the Granville County line, where they were hunting, from getting out of hand and perhaps causing major property damage.

The men were hunting on the

Bragg farm when one hunter smelled smoke. The fire was soon located in a cornfield and the edge of some woods. The hunters contacted each other on their CB radios, left their dogs and a buck they were running, called the Fire Department and began fighting the blaze with pine branches.

Franklinton firemen soon arrived at the scene and, after about an hour of fighting, the fire was out, although it had burned about two acres of trees and corn. Chief H.W. Chappell had nothing but praise for the hunters.

"They were really fighting fire when we arrived and almost had it under control," he said. "It could have been a real

bad fire and burned for hours if they hadn't been there. They did an excellent job."

Chappell said the fire possibly started from a corn picker.

Franklinton firemen also answered two other calls that day. A small grass fire later on in the afternoon was extinguished at Rustic Ridge after about 30 minutes of fighting.

The other mishap was minor smoke damage on Ramey's Circle caused by a washing machine shortage.

Fire destroys Sewall home

SILVER VALLEY — The Silver Valley Fire Department answered a fire call about 7 p.m. recently to the home of Jerry S. Sewall, just off Cid Road in the Silver Valley community. According to Chief Carl Hunt the house was engulfed in flames when the fire trucks arrived and the frame structure burned to the ground.

"The family lost everything they had," says Hunt. "They just had time to get out with the clothing on their backs."

When the fire broke out, Hunt said, Mrs. Sewall and two of her four children were on the first floor when she noticed flames coming from a second-story window. The cause of the fire had not been determined.

Fire Guts Vacant Dwelling

LINCOLNTON — Fire gutted a frame dwelling east of Lincolnton recently, resulting in damages estimated at \$8,000.

The Boger City Volunteer Fire Department was called to a Stamey residence just off the Mount Vernon Church Road about 2:31.

Fire chief Ken Saine said the house was extensively damaged by the fire, which apparently started in a bedroom.

The cause of the blaze is not known, he said.

No one was in the house at the time of the fire. Firemen battled the blaze about 2½ hours.

Flames damage house

DURHAM — A fire recently damaged the floor and the wall of a room at a house on Club Boulevard, according to the Durham Fire Department.

Firemen answered a call about 6:57 a.m. to a house occupied by Wayne Weaver at 206 E. Club Blvd. Firemen said the fire started from an open fireplace and spread to the floor. From there it spread to the wall.

Firemen were on the scene about two hours. No one was injured.

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Exhibit Honors Fire Volunteers

By **SUSAN SPENCE MOE**
Staff Writer

WARRENTON — A small band of gutsy volunteers with hand-passed buckets didn't stand a chance against the fire that burned downtown Warrenton to the ground in 1881.

But the Warrenton volunteer firemen aren't the kind to give up without a fight.

Organized in 1868, the unit is the state's oldest continuously operating volunteer fire department and is now being honored in an exhibit at the N.C. Museum of History here.

The town's antique fire wagon, which was built in the 1890's, is the centerpiece of a new display on early American firefighting techniques. Fire chief McCarroll Alston, members of the ladies auxiliary and

Warrenton Mayor W.A. Miles were among a small group which visited the museum one day for lunch and a private showing of the newly opened permanent exhibit.

The wagon is surrounded by photographs which show early firefighting equipment and how it was used. There is also a large photo of the first chief, John Plummer, and an old fireman's hat.

The Warrenton company, originally called the Plummer Hook and Ladder Company after its first chief, has been an almost all-black unit since it's founding. All early firefighters

were black, Alston explained, because the plantation owners considered the job beneath their dignity.

The department has been a source of pride for the town. "It was an honor to be a member of the fire department because you had to have training, you had to go to meetings, there were certain responsibilities," Alston said. The small town of 1,200 has worked hard to keep its equipment updated.

Alston, a retired school teacher and principal, has been a principal backer of this effort. His ties to firefighting date back to his grandfather and father

who were both Warrenton volunteers. Alston began attending firefighters' meeting with them in 1911 when he was only two years old.

In Alston's grandfather's days, firefighters were alerted by the clanging of a huge bell in the courthouse square. The bell was replaced by a siren in his father's days, and Alston is getting ready to install a modern communications system that will replace the siren.

The antique fire wagon has been a part of the department since the 1890's when it was built by James Ranson and Sons, a Warrenton carriage

maker and member of the fire company. In 1917, the company traded its horses for horsepower and bought a Ford Model T. The old Ford had a mind of its own, however, and wasn't always ready to head out to a blaze as the firemen. It took some furious cranking to get it going. Alston said, and had to be parked on an incline.

The Model T retired in 1938 when Warrenton got its first fire truck. It still serves as a backup to a new truck purchased in 1964.

Submitted by
McCarroll Alston, Chief
Warrenton Fire Dept.

Firemen Complete Radiology Course



William R. Davie, Center and Sheffield-CalahaIn firemen completed the 16 hour course on radium. First row: W.A. Beck, Carroll Hanes, Edward Gaither, Donnie Chaffin, Ronnie Swain, Wayne Beck, Burley Renegar, Joe Chaffin and Roger Beck. Second row: Mark William, Norman Forrest, Frankie Allen, Larry Moore, Clarence Elmore, Richard Elmore, Bruce Beck, Edwin Walker, Dale Blackwelder and Gene Brannon instructor. Third row: Everette Glascock, Clay Tutterdow, Jim Ratledge, W.H. Lumley, Paul Hendricks, Philip Dyson, Robert Beck and Jack Trivett.

Mocksville Davie Co. Enterprise — Record Photo

Fire hits garage

DURHAM — Fire destroyed a garage behind a house at 3009 Mossdale Ave., but firemen prevented the fire from spreading further.

The fire began shortly after 9 p.m. and had completely engulfed the garage when firemen arrived.

Occupant of the adjacent house is Lloyd LeCouter. No injuries were reported.

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DAVIDSON COUNTY — The Center, Sheffield-CalahaIn and William R. Davie Volunteer Fire Departments have successfully completed a five week study in Radiological Monitoring provided by the Davidson County Community College.

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Classes were held each Thursday night beginning on October 7 with classes alternating between the William R. Davie Fire Department and the Center Fire Department.

Davidson County Community College is delivering this program to assist the local com-

Fire destroys \$150,000 home

CLINTON — The antique-furnished home of Clinton businessman Hugh Barwick, estimated to have been worth \$150,000, was destroyed by fire Clinton fire officials said.

No one was at home when the fire broke out about 7:30 p.m. in Barwick's Fox Lake subdivision home, according to Clinton Fire Chief Max Price.

Price said the cause of the

munities in dealing with radioactive materials during either peace time or war. Similar training will be made available to other fire departments in the county.

blaze had not yet been determined, but that an investigation will be conducted.

"I have no idea what started it, but I'll tell you one thing though — I wouldn't want a house with wood shingles," Price said.

"That's the first fire I've been to with wooden shingles," he said, adding, "It was just like having a paper roof."

According to Price, Barwick's home was furnished with antique woodwork and lighting. "He had a hell of a nice house, really," Price said in setting the loss at \$150,000.

Barwick is the developer of Fox Fire subdivision and his father H.B. (Beaver) Barwick, owns Barwick Appliance Co. in Clinton.

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Robeson County Contended — Never

Continued from page 2

hands in handling the simulated disasters that would normally panic a community.

There were other courses for individuals, such as housewives and rest home employees. These included courses in Home Fire Safety, Rest Home Fire Safety, School Bus Evacuation and Fire Brigade along with classes held in several Manufacturing plants.

Each of the past 4 years, Robeson has entered and won the top award, either as a "group" or an individual basis in the N.C. Rural Safety Awards Council contest sponsored in Raleigh. Also this year Robeson County Firemen had a booth, which won a prize at the Jay Cee Fair, showing antique equipment and giving out fire hats, candy and materials to the children. Also there was a department standing by with a pumper, each, day in case of an emergency, which did occur.

A very active Firemen's Association holds monthly dinner meetings where knowledge and fellowship are exchanged, promoting "togetherness" among the 21 departments. The one paid department attends these meetings as members and assists the volunteers in every way possible. The Fire Chief's hold regular meetings to keep them abreast of the changes in law and how it effects their departments.

Each year during Fire Prevention week we have an annual Ladies Night. This year on the 7th of October 364 persons attended this event. Door prizes amounted to over \$2,200.00, including everything from small gifts to \$25.00 cashier checks. All gifts were donated by manufacturing plants, banks, savings and loans and merchants of our county. In addition to door prizes for individuals there were three \$50.00 checks given to the fire departments who held the winning tickets.

Each department has made a great deal of progress in fire service, equipment, building and fire prevention programs. ALL the departments are 9-A rated with the North Carolina Rating Bureau. The invaluable assistance, encouragement, and cooperation of the Department of Insurance, Fire and Rescue Division, under the direction of Elwood Inscoc and his staff cannot be commended enough for their untiring efforts given to our County..they are "true friends" to the Fire Service. Six of our departments were rated 9-A in the very same day by Mr. Jim Roberson of the Rating Bureau.

Communications over the county has been a tremendous help in the constant struggle to improve and we can justly boast of 253 radios and a number of scanners, CBs and pagers. Each department has a limited number of pages but this too is on the steady increase. Starting with zero to 253 radios...some change! Being the largest county in miles, in the state, with a population in excess of 90,600, radios are indispensable.

There are insurance companies writing insurance today in rural areas of our county that would not write three years ago.

This has contributed to the betterment of fire service rendered in rural Areas. Records show a decrease each year in property valuation losses, for the past 6 years.

At least 16 new pumpers have been purchased during the past year or so. 8 new departments have been organized in less than 6 years and two more are very near completion. We are now organizing tax districts, however in the past they were financed "the hard way!!"...by hard work of the individual department.

The Fire Marshal's staff has increased also, to three. Great strides have been made over the days when the Fire Marshal did all the work alone. An adequate library is available to all the departments, in the Marshal's office, with up-to-date information on latest techniques in fire fighting. A nicely equipped "emergency truck" is in use over the county to give specialized aid to all county departments and is used as a "training device" for the departments.

The picture shows a truck bought by Easthowellsville Fire Dept. that started with just the chassis and the rest being completed by the Fire Department themselves. At this time they are in the process of building another truck using the same method. Other departments have assisted in the construction of their buildings and do well in other constructive projects.

Every school in the area has a deep well and coupling so that the departments can obtain water in rural areas, or ponds are designated for this emergency use. Also there are hydrants in areas of the county and more are now being installed.

Are we proud of our fast growing Fire Departments in Robeson? You bet !! Has it come easy...not ever...all hard work but it's beautiful to see the progress and "still we're not satisfied...still trying harder." We contribute the great progress made in Robeson County to the interest and support we receive from the County Commissioners, the County Manager, the firemen, the ladies auxiliaries and the general public. The outstanding cooperation we receive from the previously mentioned groups is absolutely insurmountable.



Firemen Receive Certificates

RANDOLPH COUNTY — Recently several firemen from various fire departments throughout Randolph County received certificates from Randolph Technical Institute for completing 9 hours in Forest Fire Control. This comprehensive course was made possible through the cooperation of Randolph Technical Institute, the Randolph County Volunteer Fireman's Association and the N.C. Forest Service.

Instructors for the course were Randolph County Forest Rangers Roy Edmonds and Bobby Helms. The course included demonstrations, lectures, discussions and films. Much knowledge was gained by the firemen along with establishing a closer liaison

between the fire departments and the forest service.

The efficiency of the N.C. Forest Service was demonstrated in the film "Project Fire" which was shown during the course. The film dealt with the way the forest service would handle a large fire.

Overall, the course was a success and was enjoyed by all who attended.

Submitted by
Billy Leach, Jr., EMT

Dudley VFD Officers For Coming Year

DUDLEY — Members of the Dudley Volunteer Fire Department have elected new officers for the coming year. They are:

Herman Holland, chief; Bobby Outlaw, assistant chief; Kolby Baker, captain; Doug Fisher; captain; Joe Beaman, lieutenant.

Also, Thomas Smith, President; Selby Beaman, vice-president; Larry Mazingo, treasurer; Jesse Stanley, secretary.

Members of the Board of Directors are Delmar Weaver, Kolby Baker, Bobby Outlaw, Thomas Kennedy and Gene Bennett.

Installation of officers was held on Dec. 3 at Beeeaters Red Barn.

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Wake gets fire station

WAKE COUNTY — Residents of the Panther Branch area in southern Wake County will soon have local fire protection.

A fire substation, to be equipped by the Garner Volunteer Fire Department and manned by Panther Branch firefighters, will be built on an acre tract on Sauls Road, about a mile off Secondary Road 1010.

Garner Chief B.R. Poole said the substation will mean less distance to travel to fires in the Panther Branch area and wider coverage in less time.

A 40-by-45 foot prefabricated metal building has been ordered, and work is scheduled to begin shortly. The substation should be operating by March 1.

The building will house a pumper and water truck from the Garner department. Community donations paid about half the price of the building, which cost about \$25,000, and for the property.

Poole said 20 firefighters will be trained from the Panther Branch area. A three-month

training program to be conducted by the Garner firemen started recently.

When the substation is completed and the firemen are trained, the area will become eligible for lower fire insurance rates. Poole estimated home owners within a four-mile radius by road of the substation would save about \$15 for every \$30,000 in premiums.

About \$6,000 was raised during groundbreaking ceremonies in November and during a subsequent Sunday community canvass. "People were really good about donating," said Carl Wesley Williams, a member of the substation's board of directors. "Almost everyone in the community gave what they thought they could afford."

The substation will be located about eight miles south of Garner on what was once known as McCullers or Old Apex Road. Williams said about 4,000 people live in the community.



Cold winds whipped the Bluff in Marble as Andrews and Marble volunteers of the V.R.F.D. fought a fire at the Brenda Patterson home. Many of the possessions of Mrs. Patterson, (who was in the hospital at the time) and of her small children were destroyed, though the house itself was saved.

Andrews Journal Photo

House Saved, Some Possessions Lost

MARBLE — A Young Marble mother and her pre-school children had many of their possessions destroyed or ruined.

The home of Mrs. Brenda Sawyer Patterson of Bluff Road, Marble, was badly damaged and many contents ruined when a fire broke out in the house. No one was home at the time, and no one injured.

Mrs. Patterson was reportedly in a Franklin hospital and her pre-school children staying with relatives when the fire struck. Much of the furniture in the house was ruined and most of the children's clothing destroyed or ruined. Extensive damage was done to a bedroom.

The volunteers of the Valletown Rural Fire department, Andrews and Marble

stations, managed to save the structure of the house and some of the contents. "It's a credit to the men in saving the house," said Chief Hugh Rayburn, "Because the flames did start to get through the roof, and once that happens, you usually have to write off the house."

Rayburn said that the cause of the fire was not known, although it was almost certainly accidental. It appeared to have started in the baseboard of one of the bedrooms.

7 Firemen Get Training

LITTLETON — Seven members of the Littleton Fire Department and two boy scouts attended the L.P. Gas School in Darlington and Weldon in November. Three nights of

class room work and one night of fire fighting for a total of 12 hours was attended by five members and the scouts.

J.W. Atkins Jr., chief of the Littleton group, said he was proud of these men who participated in the training since all of it is volunteer. This type of school gives members more confidence in himself in fighting fire when he is trying to protect and serve the community.

Attending were Atkins, James Kearney, Jr., Harold Williams, Lee Myrich, Mac Fowler, firemen and Terry Newsom and Donald Robertson, scouts. Wyatt Pegram attended one of class and Tony Johnston attended the fire fighting demonstration.

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A-D-R Reports

RIEGELWOOD — Acme-Delco-Riegelwood Fire & Rescue, Inc. submitted the following report for the month of October 1976.

The Fire Report includes: structure, 3; and auto, 1. Man-hours totaled 37 and total miles driven came to 47. The total of property lost was \$6,265 and property saved totaled \$38,735.

The Rescue Report includes: house calls, 27; wrecks, 6; transports, 1; and fires, 3. There were 6 public service calls (standby for football and soccer games). Total man-hours was 390 and total miles driven came to 2,100.

Submitted by
Richard Gainey, Fire Chief
James Duncan, Rescue Chief
Lynn Godfrey & Donna Justice,
Publicity

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