



TARHEEL FIREFIGHTER



AND CAROLINA RURAL FIREMAN

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Fire Reports Standardized Statewide

By Stephen Harris
Hickory Record
Staff Writer

HICKORY—On his last official day as Hickory Fire Chief, Larson H. Moore had little time to reflect on his 34 years as a firefighter.

A year after joining the Hickory Fire Department in 1953, Moore became the department's fire prevention specialist, a job he pioneered here and maintained until he became fire chief in 1978.

Moore was one of three Hickory firefighters with almost 97 years of service to the city of Hickory who received their fire helmets and plaques of appreciation at a reception at the Headquarters Fire Station, in December.

About 250 friends of Moore, Assistant Fire Chief Roy O. Wilson and firefighter Roy A. Sigmon attended and congratulated the three.

Moore began as a Hickory fireman on July 3, 1953. Wilson joined the force on July 1, 1955, and Sigmon began his career on New Year's Day 1958.

A Henderson native, Moore came to Hickory reluctantly and without a thought about being a firefighter. His wife, Kathryn, a Hickory na-

tive, was unhappy with a newlywed's life in her husband's hometown and convinced him to relocate.

"She was very persistent," remembered Moore, who said his new wife even blamed her hard biscuits on Henderson.

"Of course, I didn't believe her," Moore said, "but she was proved to be right."

Moore worked for his wife's uncle as a delivery man and later for a local glass company, before getting a job with the fire department.

A year later, he was named the city's first fire prevention officer. As a one-man bureau, Moore initiated many fire prevention measures such as alarm systems for local schools. He said the concept was unique for cities of Hickory's size in the 1950s.

"They had fire training," Moore said, "but fire prevention came later. I think it is most important."

Moore was born March 7, 1923 in Vance County to Larson M. and Nannie Hughes Moore. He was one of a set of

twin brothers. His twin, Carson, remained in Henderson. The Moore family also included another set of twins, Max and Maxine.

Moore entered the Army during World War II and received training in the electrical and radar fields. He left the Army as a sergeant and put his training to work as an electrical contractor in Henderson before moving to Hickory.

"There is no doubt about it, I'll miss the place," Moore said. "I certainly look forward to retirement."

The fire chief said he looks forward to golfing, fishing, spending time at his lake home and with his two grandchildren. "They haven't been spoiled near enough yet," he said.

Moore expressed appreciation to his predecessor, the late Earl G. Moser, for his help and influence.

"I think it is the most rewarding job," Moore said. "It's getting paid to help people. There are a lot of wonderful people in Hickory."

Richard Apple Honored

GRAHAM—A volunteer for 17 years in the Haw River Fire Department was named this year's Firefighter of the

Year. Richard Lee Apple of 108 Circle Drive in Haw River was so honored at the department's annual Christmas party.

Apple, who is 52 years old, was invited by a friend to join the volunteers in June of 1971.

Apple says he has lived in Haw River all his life. He was a football standout at Haw River High School, where he played left guard. He was chosen to the All Mid-State Team in 1955. Apple said Art Claar was the coach his senior year at Haw River.

The fire volunteer is a partner in Burlington Roofing Company on Webb Avenue in Burlington. He also enjoys fishing as a hobby.

The recipient of the firefighter award enjoys driving the fire truck, helping with the lights at night, and operating the pumper.

Apple says he hates to see a house burn and tries to save it if he can. Asked about the largest fire he had worked with, Apple said about 10 years ago, he helped fight the fire at Massey Trailer Park in which two people died in the early morning fire.

Other awards presented

Continued on page 7

Calabash Fire Department Receives Higher Rating

SHALLOTTE—Some Brunswick County residents living within the Calabash Fire District should notice lower fire insurance rates following the recent reclassification of the district.

The fire district reclassification, which was conducted by the state Insurance Service Organization and went into effect Jan. 1, 1988, resulted in an improvement from a class 8/9 rating to class 7/9 rating.

The new class 7 rating applies to any property within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant, as long as it is within five miles of the fire station or within the fire district.

Although the North Carolina Rate Bureau has been notified of the reclassification, the fire department recommends property owners contact their individual insurance companies to make sure they have been advised of the change.

The class 9 fire rating ap-

plies to properties within the fire district or five miles of the fire station, but not within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant. This class 9 rating did not change.

Board of Directors for the fire department for the coming year are Robert Crocker, president; Herbert Kirck, vice president; Gladys Rutter, secretary/treasurer; Jennings Edge; Jim Huckabee; Jimmy Pierce and Lee Miller (alternate).

The 1988 fire department officers are Jerry Prince, chief; David Scott, assistant chief; Ronnie Gore, line captain; Willie Stanley, line lieutenant; Paul Carney, 1st sergeant; T.C. Scott, 2nd sergeant; and Crocker, radio captain.

Anyone over the age of 16 interested in joining the fire department can contact Chief Prince at 579-6322, or attend a weekly meeting held every Tuesday at the fire house at 7 p.m.



Sanford Fire Department's New Addition

Woman Wins Fireman Title For First Time

By Terri Jamieson
West Craven Highlights
Staff Writer

VANCEBORO—When Essie Mae Whitford of Ernul was announced as the Outstanding Fireman of the Year, it marked a historic moment in the history of the Craven County Firemen's Association.

Mrs. Whitford is the first woman to be selected as a recipient of the Outstanding Fireman of the Year Award.

The award is the second one given to the Whitford family. In 1981, Mrs. Whitford's husband, Gilbert, was named the outstanding Fireman for that year. Mrs. Whitford is also the first fireman to win the award who is not a fire chief.

Mrs. Whitford has been a volunteer firefighter with the Little Swift Creek Volunteer Fire Department since 1980. She is treasurer of the department, having started the post in 1980. She has served as president and vice president of the Craven County Firemen's Association. She is on the association's Board of Directors and is a trustee for the Firemen's Relief Fund.

She is a voting delegate to the association and is a member of the North Carolina Firemen's Association and the Eastern North Carolina Firemen's Association.

When asked about the award Mrs. Whitford said, "I wasn't looking for it. I feel great . . . I feel real honored to have been given it." Mrs. Whitford added that she devoted 36 hours a year to firefighting training and she spends at least one day a week handling fire department business or attending

department-related activities.

There are 15 fire departments in Craven County, but only three have women firefighters. The three are Little Swift Creek, Dover and Havelock. There are about 10 women firefighters in Craven County.

Asked how it has been to be a woman firefighter in what in the past has traditionally been "a man's world" Mrs. Whitford said, "I'm one of the guys. We all get along very well. They accept me. Since the beginning I've just been one of them. I'm treated very nicely."

She pointed out, however, the women firefighters perform the same duties as male firefighters.

Mrs. Whitford said her chief said he would like to see more women join the department. "The chief would like to have women because they are home more and are available during the daytime hours. Women have allowed Little Swift Creek speedier response time to fire calls," she said.

Gilbert Whitford said women in the fire department are a big boost to morale.

The Whitfords make firefighting a family affair as not only do Gilbert and Essie Mae fight fires, but so do their daughter, son and son-in-law.

"We love fighting fires. It's something we all do together. It's something we can all do to benefit the community. I love it," said Mrs. Whitford.

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ITEMS OF INTEREST

Submitted By:
Alan M. De Simone
Mount Vernon, N.Y.

Nomex III

The fabric, "Nomex III", manufactured by the DuPont Company of Wilmington, Delaware, provides superior protection against fires. Below are some reasons why it protects the firefighter. Inherent Flame Resistance—The flame resistance of Nomex results from the molecular structure of the Nomex fiber. There are no flame retardants additives that can wash or wear out. High Temperature Resis-

tance—Fabrics of Nomex show almost no loss of strength after exposure in a 500° F oven for 5 minutes. Nomex does not melt & drip, garments of Nomex will provide protection against intense heat of long periods of time. Chemical Resistance—Fabrics of Nomex resist chemical attack such as battery acid & other chemicals. When turnout clothing of Nomex is wet, it will dry by itself. It is rot & mildew resistant. Tough & Durable—Nomex fabrics exhibit exceptional strength and abrasion resistance.

Nomex is used as a fabric in the shells of turnout coats & pants, vapor barriers and lightweight quilted liners. Regular station uniforms of Nomex are also being used around the country. These uniforms require the same care as standard polyester/cotton blends. This material is known as "Nomex Plus". The advantages of Nomex Plus over standard station uniform materials are: easy care; two to three year wear life; comfortable fit; does not melt/drip; inherent flame resistance; low fabric shrinkage; nontoxic when heated; meets NFPA 1975 standard for station/work uniforms.

Cairns & Brother, located in Clifton, New Jersey, has developed a new helmet called the "Commando Series", it is intended for rescue & paramedic personnel. It is an adaptation of the Metro Helmet, used by firefighting personnel. The rear brim extension is eliminated for additional mobility.

The outer shell is lightweight & is a fiberglass composite shell. It will offer superior resistance to chemicals & solvents. Total weight is 29 ounces. Standard colors for the Commandos are: black, red, yellow, & white. A specially designed chin strap is available for heavy duty or the standard chin strap can be purchased.

Other features include: cushioned edgebead (protects helmet edge against chipping, cracking); removable impact cap; six-way suspension system; adjustable sweat liner; universal sizing (adjustable to fit all sizes from 6¾ to 8).

Cairns advertises that these helmets are ideal for fire marshals, arson investigators, fire officers, & paramedics who need a high level of protection but not the broader brim of the Metro Fire Helmet.

NFPA

The NFPA is developing a new standard to encourage significant changes in breathing apparatus. Eight performance tests (described below) are included. Manufacturers will have to verify through random sampling if the SCBA passes the tests. If it does, the SCBA can be labeled as being compliant with the new standard. The standard is currently undergoing public comments. After review, it will be presented at the 1987 NFPA annual meeting for approval by the membership.

The performance tests are: —Flame & Heat Resistance—will ensure all fabric materials are flame & heat resistant. —Thermal Shock—will determine if the SCBA will function properly when exposed to temperature ex-

tremes.

—Corrosion—will determine the SCBA's effectiveness against corrosion.

—Facepiece Communication—determines that the facepiece does not significantly reduce a firefighter's normal voice communication.

—Vibration & Impact—determines the effectiveness of the apparatus for compromise due to day-to-day vibration & impact.

—Air Flow Performance & Facepiece Lens Abrasion are two other tests.

Pierce Mfg.

Pierce Manufacturing Inc. provides a wide variety of apparatus for the fire service. Some of their models with specific features are listed below:

Tele-Squirt—Basic pumper on custom or commercial chassis with a 50' or 75' elevated masterstream. The unit can deliver 1000 GPM at the nozzle. Combines pumper with an aerial ladder. Can be used for rescues also.

Pierce Aerial Ladders—Three lengths available — 55', 75', 105'. Four hundred pound tip load at full extension is possible and 1000 GPM can be flowed at any elevation.

Pierce Aerial Platform—Available in 95' or 110' models. Load capacity of 800 lbs. on the 110' model or 1,000 lbs. on the 95' model fully extended. Ladder is three sections, high strength steel. Can be purchased with pumps on board.

Initial Attack Pumper—A mini-pumper with a lightweight aluminum body, installed on either a 4x2 or 4x4 chassis. Available with 250 or 400 GPM PTO driven pump. Can be used as a roll & pump unit. Foam or dry chemical systems available.

Minuteman—A larger attack pumper than the Initial Attack Pumper. Can be fitted with 500 gallon water tank & pumps up to 1250 GPM. All aluminum body, either a 4x2 or 4x4 chassis available.

Suburban 1000—Features tilt cab chassis, reducing overall length & turning radius. Available with 1000 GPM pumps. Different models available.

Lance—Newest model offered by Pierce, tilt cab available. Six firefighters can be seated in standard model. Optional enclosed cab will seat ten people with four doors. A raised roof version can be used as a mobile command post. Top mount control panel is available.

Other models available by Pierce are the Dash Series Pumper. Crash Rescue Vehi-

cles and Utility Rescue Vehicles.

New Pig

"Haz-Mat Pig", manufactured by New Pig Corporation in Pennsylvania, is a hazardous material absorbent material. It can be the first line of defense in a hazardous spill. When a spill occurs, the first task is to contain it & keep it from spreading. After containment, it should be absorbed & disposed of. The "Haz-Mat Pig" allows you to do this.

It will eliminate the guess work of what material should be used. The "Haz-Mat Pig" absorbs acids, caustics & flammable solvents. It involves less work than using clay or other absorbents. You just surround the spill with a "Pig" and it stops the spills right away. Brooms, mops or shovels are not required. Exposure to the worker or emergency crew is reduced.

The "Haz-Mat Pig" will mold to any shape and works indoors or out. It works fast, becomes fully saturated in less than 5 minutes and will soak up over ¾ gallon with each one. The "Haz-Mat Pig" can be disposed of in a variety of ways including neutralization & incineration. The "Haz-Mat Pig" is extremely effective & fast. It will absorb, block, contain and divert the chemicals involved.

The New Pig Corporation also manufactures other "Pig" products for absorbing a variety of materials. Each "Pig" is designed for the same principle, stop spills. The absorbent material is contained in a "sock", varying in length, diameter & weight. The "Pigs" are designed to work alone. Other absorbent materials such as clay will inhibit the effectiveness of the "Pigs". It has to be in direct contact with the leaking fluid.

The "Pigs" are designed with a specific amount of material to allow for maximum absorbency, maximum wicking action & molding ability. More than one "Pig" can be used together because each can be molded to the other's shape. Fluids will easily pass through a "dam" of clay because it has practically no wicking action. "Pigs" draw fluids from bottom to top.

"Pigs" are currently being used by a wide variety of manufacturers—food, textile & apparel, wood, paper, petroleum, minerals, chemicals, rubber, plastics, metals, electric & gas utilities, machinery & transportation.



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Family Has A Long History In Firefighting

By Paul Collins
Winston-Salem
Journal Surry County
Bureau

MOUNT AIRY—In 1962 an accident left Ben Brannock disabled and prevented him from taking a paid firefighter's job with the Mount Airy department about a week before he was to start.

But it didn't lessen his spirit—or his dedication to firefighting.

His left thumb was burned off in the accident, and his right hand and part of his right forearm had to amputated because of burns and subsequent blood poisoning.

After he recuperated, however, he continued to be a volunteer firefighter, and he still is today.

To hear Brannock, 52, of Mount Airy tell it, he didn't have much choice, because he came from a family of dedicated firefighters. "It's kind of born in you," he said.

Brannock's father and grandfather were firefighters in Mount Airy, and his son, Benny, 27, is now a paid firefighter in the department. Brannock said he hopes that his 2½-year-old grandson, Samuel, will become a firefighter one day, too.

Brannock was a lineman for the Pike Electric Co. of Mount Airy when he was injured. He was 25 feet off the ground working on a utility pole when he started falling and grabbed a 7,200-volt power line.

Today Brannock, who is a safety inspector for Pike Electric, has a hook on his right hand and has limited use of his left hand. But Brannock said that he can do almost everything any other volunteer firefighter can do.

Brannock has been a volunteer firefighter in the

Mount Airy department for 31 years.

"I don't care how old you are, when you hear the alarm go off or the pagers go off, your blood starts running faster than normal," he said. "You want to go."

He was 21 when he joined the department. He was injured in the accident five years later.

Brannock's grandfather, Bud Brannock, was in the department for about 50 years, including 10 to 15 years as assistant chief.

Brannock's father, J. Ed Brannock, 84, of Mount Airy was in the department for 48 years and was the fire chief from 1951 to 1969.

In all, four generations of Brannocks have been in the Mount Airy Fire Department. There has been at least one Brannock in the department at all times since it was formed in 1904.

Bud Brannock and two of his brothers were members of the department when it was formed.

J. Ed Brannock said that his father was Mount Airy's first paid firefighter—and the only paid firefighter from 1913 to the late 1920s.

Bud Brannock stayed at the fire station on City Hall Street 365 days a year during those years. The only time he went home was for meals each day. His family lived on Junction Street, which was about a 7-minute walk from the fire station.

J. Ed Brannock's recollections of firefighting date

back to about 1910 when he was 7 years old. That's when he first remembers his father talking about his firefighting experiences.

Three hundred feet of fire hose was wound around a reel on 5-foot high wheels, and it took four to six firefighters to pull the reel to a fire, Brannock said. They would hook the hose to a fire hydrant when they got there.

In about 1913, Mount Airy bought a horse, Rubin, for about \$325 to pull a fire wagon. When Rubin wasn't pulling the fire wagon, Bud Brannock would hitch him to a garbage wagon and pick up boxes of trash from businesses on Main Street, one of his other duties as a paid firefighter. The town got its first fire truck in about 1917. J. Ed Brannock said.

When J. Ed Brannock was 11 or 12 years old (about 1914 or 1915), he started spending some nights at the fire station with his father. He would go to fires with his father and help out.

He became a volunteer firefighter when he was about 18 and became a paid firefighter when he was 31 or 32. Several years later he became the assistant chief, a position he held for 10 to 12 years before becoming chief.

Before the Flat Rock School burned in 1954, there were no rural fire departments in Surry County, so the Mount Airy department had to respond to fires in rural areas throughout the county, Brannock said.

One teacher and a student died in the fire at the school, and several students were injured, he said.

Another bad fire was in the 1940s, when the Planters Tobacco Warehouse on Oak Street in Mount Airy was destroyed, Brannock said. About 15 mules inside the warehouse burned to death.

A five-story brick building that adjoined the warehouse also was destroyed.

In the late 1920s, a building on Main Street that housed Brannock & Midkiff hardware store and Belton's

grocery store was destroyed by a fire that caused dynamite to explode in the hardware store.

"It blew tricycles, knives and watches across the street," Brannock said.

Brannock's son Ben can recall going to some fires when he was as young as 2 or 3 years old.

"When I got old enough to behave myself, Daddy would always wake me up" when he was going to a fire at night. "But you had to be ready to go when he was. Daddy wouldn't wait."

Firemen Of The Year

NEWLAND—The Newland Volunteer Fire Department held their annual Christmas Dinner, Saturday December 5, 1987 at the Shadylawn Restaurant. Forty-three firemen, wives and friends enjoyed the evening together.

Julain F. "Jay" Greene, Jr. was selected Firemen of the Year by his fellow firemen. Jay has been a member of the Newland Fire Department since 1975. His support of the department has earned him the respect of his fellow members. Jay is the one that is always there when you need him.

Service awards were presented to the following: Robert E. Taylor, 5 years; Jake Owens, 10 years; Jerry Calhoun, 15 years and A.E. Sluder, Jr., 25 years.

GOLDSBORO—Richard Daniels was presented a plaque by Fremont Fire Chief Frank Sasser honoring him as Fireman of the Year. A fireman for less than two years, Daniels was selected for the honor by fellow firemen. Chaplain of the Fremont Fire Department, he also received an award at the department's Christmas party at the fire station for having the most hours of training, more than 100, for 1987.

MOCKSVILLE—Doug Potts, chief of Cornatzer-Dulin Volunteer Fire Department, presented plaques to the department's fireman of the year, David Smith. Smith has been a fireman with the

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Retired Tramway Fire Chief Takes Look Back

**By Helene Hinson
The Sanford Herald
Staff Writer**

SANFORD—Pressley Foushee, who retired August 1987 from the Tramway Rural Fire Department as fire chief after 30 years of volunteer service, has seen a lot of fires and changes.

The 66-year-old Foushee started out as a fireman in 1953 and later worked as an assistant fire chief from 1954 to 1956, after which he became the department's fire chief. He remembers the times when a Tramway Fire Station did not exist, and the area's only means of fighting fires was one fire truck, which was parked at a gas-line station on US1.

The fire department, which was organized in 1953, received daytime fire calls from an outside phone connected to a Tramway hardware store, he said. During the evening hours, people who had a fire to report notified the barber, who in turn contacted the firemen.

TRAMWAY'S FIRST fire station was built in the late 1950s at the intersection of US 1 and NC 87, but it was

moved to McDaniels Drive in 1980.

"We started out with one truck," Foushee said, adding that the department later added a water wagon (tanker) and another pumping truck.

When the station was moved to its second location, he said, two pumpers, two tankers and a brush truck were purchased.

"We still have the original truck, but it's not in use," Foushee said.

Firemen uniforms have changed since 1953, Foushee said, including the helmets firemen used in the 1950s.

"THE OLD-STYLED helmets were made of plastic with a strap and ear liners to cover the ears for protection," he said. "Now, the helmets resemble hard hats with a shield for the face. They kind of resemble motorcycle helmets. The uniforms have changed from a canvas-rubber type material to Nomex material, which is a fire-retardant material."

Changes are not the only things Foushee remembers. Fires can cause frightening and uncontrollable situations.

"The largest fire I remember was a woods fire that happened sometime in the early 60s near the intersection of Highway 42 and Plank Road," Foushee said. "It took about six hours to put it out."

"I BELIEVE it started

with someone burning trash. No firemen were injured during this fire, thank goodness. But, if I remember correctly, we lost a chicken house and a tobacco barn."

A dangerous part of fighting woods fires is something called "top out," Foushee said.

"Below the trees there may be no fire or very little fire," Foushee said. "That scares you. You could be down in the woods and not know a fire was burning over your head. Once it burns up there, it is going to come down."

FOSHEE SAID that putting this type of fire out involves a lot of hard work, including the use of rakes, shovels and pack pumps, which are metal water tanks firemen carry on their backs.

Another part of a fireman's work involves the locating and removing of people who have been killed due to fires.

"This is something you don't forget," Foushee said, adding that he has assisted in fires on different occasions where five people, ages two to 60, were removed from fires. Some died from actual burns, while others died from breathing too much smoke and not enough oxygen. "You never forget," Foushee said. "It has a sweet, sickening smell. They resembled a piece of charred meat. You never want to look at them."

From 1954 to 1978, the Tramway Rural Fire Depart-

ment answered an average of 100 fire calls a year, Foushee said.

For the record, Foushee of Pressley Foushee Road, Sanford, is a 1947 graduate of Greenwood High School in Lemon Springs. He served three years and four months in the U.S. Navy (1942 to 1946). During his 30 years of volunteer service with the Tramway Rural Fire Department he studied courses in Lee County on fire protection and fire fighting, some of which were taught by representatives of the Department of Insurance Commission of North Carolina.

FOSHEE IS married to Frances Layne Foushee, who is employed at Federal Molding on Lee Avenue Extension. He and his wife have two children, Diane Foushee Davis, 40, and Dennis Moore Foushee, 38.

Foushee has several awards, including a plaque from the fire department for his efforts as assistant chief and chief during his 30 years of service. He also earned a certificate of recognition from the Lee County Board of Commissioners for his dedication to community service.

Among his other awards are "The Order of the Long Leaf Pine" certificate awards, which was presented to him by Gov. James G. Martin earlier this year, and the Billy Ray Faircloth Award (Fireman of the Year

Award), which was presented to him in March 1983 by the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization.

Aside from his career in the fire department, Foushee worked as a mechanic. This included working as a service manager for Holt Truck and Tractor on South Horner Boulevard.

Veteran Bill Athey Remembered

**By Lisa Pullen
Charlotte Observer
Staff Writer**

CHARLOTTE—One mark of a good fire captain is how well he brings along young firefighters, new to the department.

Billy Athey was firm with young firefighters, but patient. He taught them to be aggressive, but safety-conscious.

And when it came time for the stringent promotion examinations, Athey's men were often among those who passed, recalls Charlotte Fire Department Chief Richard Blackwelder.

"He was very close to the folks who worked there," he said. "I just think he enjoyed working with people and he enjoyed the people he worked with."

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Fire Sprinkler Design Course

"Engineering of Fire Sprinkler and Water Supply Systems," a two day short course, is offered by the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) at three convenient locations and dates during 1988. The course will expand upon the basic skills of students and provide an update on cutting edge technology. Locations are: Northern New Jersey, March 29 and 30; Chicago, June 28 and 29; and San Francisco, Sept. 27 and 28.

Topics to be covered are: Fire Growth and Sprinkler Technology (fire dynamics related to water droplet size); Automatic Sprinkler and Water Supply System Features; Constraints Placed upon the System Components; Design Principles; Design Documentation; Testing and Maintenance; and What the Future Holds.

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The course outline includes: Fire Suppression Agent Evaluation; Room Enclosures; Hydraulic Calculations; Carbon Dioxide System Design; Halon Agent System Design; Integration with Fire Alarm System and Other Building Service Equipment; Plans and Specifications; and Acceptance Tests.

CEU will be awarded to successful participants. Registration fees range from \$300 to \$425 depending upon course content. A ten percent discount is offered when there are multiple registrations from the same organization. Further information: Registrar, Fire Protection Engineering Education, SFPE, 60 Batterymarch St., Boston, MA 02110 (617-482-0686).

National Volunteer Fire Council News

WASHINGTON—The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) sent telegrams recently to four Congressmen urging their continued support for the joint public/private-sector study authorized under the Cigarette Safety Act of 1984. Telegrams went to U.S. Senators John Heinz (R-PA), Alan Cranston (D-CA) and John Glenn (D-OH) and U.S. Representative Joseph Moakley (D-MA), all of whom have been strong supporters of the study.

The telegrams expressed NVFC's desire that the cooperation achieved by the study group in dealing with the issue of fire safety related to cigarettes continue to be fostered. The Council said that "all those who participated in the study" should play a part in drafting necessary legislation and initiating other programs to address study results.

"The report is worth very little in and of itself," according to E. James Monihan, NVFC chairman. "What's

Garbagemen Avert Fire

By Tim Webb
Kernersville News

KERNERSVILLE—After a town garbage truck nearly caught fire, Kernersville Fire Chief Jim Barrow said residents should exercise caution when disposing of wood stove ashes.

Barrow said ashes should be placed in a metal container and taken outside away from buildings. They should be wither spread in an open plowed field, spread over a driveway or buried in a hole.

The object is to thin out the ashes, he said, because the ashes insulate bits of hot charcoal that can flame up even after a week.

"Wood ash is extremely good insulating material. It beds down the coal," Barrow said.

Once the coal burns its

way out or is exposed to either air or a combustible substance, fire could result.

"We have cases on record, where people have had fires five to seven days after they put the ashes on their back porch in a plastic bucket or paper bag," Barrow said.

He said pouring water on the ashes does not prevent the possibility of fire, because water does not always penetrate the ashes to the coal.

Dave Hamlin of the sanitation department said residents could put ashes in a metal container separate from their other garbage, and workers would pick them up.

He said workers in a garbage truck saw smoke coming from the refuse container of another truck in front of them, recently.

The trucks were dumping loads at the town landfill.

The fire was put out at the landfill, but Barrow said the fire could have destroyed the truck, which has an estimated replacement value of \$50,000.

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Firemen Of The Year All In The Family For Moody

Continued from page 3

department for more than nine years. The plaque was presented Saturday, Dec. 5, at the department's Christmas party. He was chosen by fellow firemen.

SILER CITY—Johnny Rogers was named Siler City Fireman of the Year when the department had its annual Christmas dinner. Rogers was elected by secret ballot.

LEXINGTON—Maurice Hodges 3rd was named Fireman of the Year for the West Lexington Volunteer Fire Department.

Hodges was given the award by Chief Ken Beal during the department's annual Christmas banquet, held at the station's headquarters on West Center Street Extension.

He is an employee of Desco Incorporated, on Talbert Boulevard, and a member of the Davidson County Rescue Squad. Hodges graduated from West Davidson High School in 1986.

The Fireman of the Year award, chosen through secret ballot voting of all the West Lexington volunteer firemen, was based on merits of attendance, faithfulness, attitude, cooperation and willingness to perform as a firefighter.

About 75 firemen and guests attended.

WARSAW—Robert Wall was named as the Calypso Fireman of the Year. Wall has served the department for over five years and has attended many training classes in firefighting. An employee of the Mount Olive Pickle Company, Wall says he loves being involved with the department and the feeling he gets from helping people. Each fireman on the department chooses by secret ballot whom he feels would be the outstanding fireman. Wall was selected unanimously by his fellow firefighters: "Wall is just a darn good fireman, who gives his all to our department," asserted Jimmy Pate, chief of the Calypso Department.

MADISON—In a Christmas award dinner, Huntsville Fire Chief Donald Webster presented Phillip Griffin the Fireman of the Year Award for 1987.

Griffin was chosen for the honor by vote of the firemen in his department.

By Mark Plemmons
Concord Tribune
Staff Writer

CONCORD—Working for the city runs in the Moody family, according to Concord assistant fire chief Don Moody, retired after Christmas.

"My whole family has been pretty much involved in municipal works my whole life. The city has been good to work for," said Moody, who joined the Concord Fire Department in 1954.

The Concord native's father was the caretaker at Lake Fisher before retiring and his son, Jeff, was a city engineer for a while. His other son, Roger, is a civil engineer in Charlotte.

Since joining the department, Moody has seen tremendous growth within the department, growing from one station with 17 people, two engines, a ladder truck and a reserve engine to three stations with 65 people, five engines, two reserve engines and an aerial ladder.

Since 1969, one of Moody's primary objectives has been fire prevention. In that year he was promoted to director of the fire prevention bureau after being an engineer or driver since 1964. He was promoted to captain in 1971 and worked fulltime in prevention. He has been assis-

tant chief since 1975.

A big step was taken to create more awareness about fire prevention in 1974.

"A couple of children were lost in a fire in 1973. Almost as a direct result we started our program with fourth graders in the schools," recalled Moody.

Each year fire prevention officers spent about eight hours with each fourth grade class, teaching fire prevention and home safety.

"It's been a tremendous help to us in preventing fires and promoting home safety. There's no telling how many fires have been prevented through this," said Moody.

During his 33 years of service, Moody has seen many fires, but the biggest was at Kerr Bleachery on Jan. 31, 1979. Since then the largest fire was probably at Lakewood Apartments Dec. 4, 1986, Moody pointed out.

Moody said he hopes to travel with his wife Dorothy after retiring and "chase the little white ball" on the golf course. Spending time with his two grandchildren also will take priority.

"I've enjoyed a good relationship with the City and the men in the department. I will miss them," Moody said.

Moody is a member of Ann Street United Methodist Church, where he is currently serving as the treas-

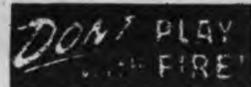
urer. He is also a past president of the Cabarrus County Firemen's Association and past chairman of the Cabarrus County Benevolent Fund. He is a member of several firemen's associations.

Elections Held

HENDERSONVILLE—The Mountain Home Fire and Rescue Department held elections for 1988 officers in Dec.

Elected were the following: Tommie W. McCraw as chief; David Capps as assistant chief; Dean Orr as first captain; Moe McFalls as second captain; Anthony Bailey as third captain; Rodney Smith as first lieutenant; Jimmy Gasperson as second lieutenant; and Tony Corn Jr. as third lieutenant.

Other officers elected include training officers, Randy Plemmons and Brian Barnwell; treasurer, Johnny Sams; secretary, David Johnson; supply sergeants, Lee Davidson and David Gordon; chaplains, Anthony Bailey and Johnny Sams; maintenance officers, David Gordon and Dean Orr; sergeant of arms, Claire Clugh; traffic officers, Jerry Cannon, Jana Painter, Jerry Corn, Grey Rhodes and Norman Pruitt; and EMT coordinator, Claire Clugh.



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Study Group To Be Named On Fire Plans

By D.M. Shore
Jacksonville
Daily News Staff

JACKSONVILLE—The City Council has assigned a 22-member committee the task of studying the future of fire protection needs in Jacksonville.

Council members unanimously passed a resolution calling for a Fire Protection Master Plan Advisory Committee. Committee members will be chosen by the council and area agencies.

The council altered the original membership proposal submitted by City Manager Jerry A. Bittner. It called for the council, which would have two members on the board, to appoint three members from the community at large.

However, a proposal to

have members representing insurance and real estate companies and the county Emergency Management Commission fell through. The three seats those representatives would have taken under the first proposal will go to council-appointed community members.

Other seats will be filled by the city manager and representatives of the city Inspections Division, the Planning Department, the Police Department and the Public Utilities Department; the Chamber of Commerce; Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base; the Jacksonville Volunteer Fire Department; Onslow County and Coastal Carolina Community College.

Bittner proposed the committee during recent discussions about whether the city

should buy a \$350,000-plus snorkel truck.

The city received bids on the truck, but the council decided by a 3-to-1 vote to wait until they completed its study before authorizing the purchase of an aerial truck.

The council set Dec. 6, 1988 as the target date for completion of the study, asking for an interim report to be delivered before Sept. 30.

The committee would study the growth patterns of the city, the organizational structure of the Fire Department, possible fire station locations, personnel and equipment needs, alternative means of preventing fires, mutual aid agreements with the military and other governments, and ways of involving the public in fire protection.

Firefighter Saves Baby From Smoke

By Ted Mellnik
Charlotte Observer
Staff Writer

CHARLOTTE—Warren Hunter kept his three-decade-old fire truck in good running condition.

It was a testament both to his devotion to tinkering with cars and his efforts to help organize the Derita Fire Department in 1950.

The old Ford was the department's first truck. Mr. Hunter, retired as a volunteer firefighter since around 1981, was the Derita fire department's board chairman.

Warren Benton Hunter of 2208 Sugar Creek Rd. W. died Tuesday, Dec. 29, 1987, at home of a heart attack. He was 57.

Mr. Hunter, a Charlotte native, lived all his life in the Derita community and attended Derita School.

He went to work for Blythe Industries in 1953 as a radio dispatcher, later becoming a shop supervisor and then a purchasing agent.

At home, he was known for his tinkering. In the 1950s he was a charter member of the Queen City Model A Ford Club. In his garage were a '30 four-door sedan and '28 roadster.

"I always told him his name was Warren Piddley

Hunter," said his wife, Betty Hunter. "He was always building and doing different things out in his garage. But he was always there when I needed him."

"He was depended on in his church, at his work, and by his friends," said Phyllis Cook, a friend of the family. "Anyone ever asked him to do anything, he was right there. He never said, 'I can't.'"



Richard Apple Honored

Continued from page 1
were as follows:

Bruce Dawson was honored for 15 years of service and Jeff Fogleman was honored for 5 years of service.

Ricky Honeycutt was presented the Rookie of the Year Award. He joined the Fire Department in 1985. He is a lieutenant with the department. He and his wife, Penny, have one daughter and live on Boundary Street.

Robbie Everhart was pre-

sented the Emergency Medical Technician of the Year Award. He joined the department in 1978. He is an assistant chief with the department. He and his wife, Gena, have two sons and live on Rolling Road.

David Ray was presented the Officer of the Year Award. He joined the department in 1970. He is the chief of the department. He and his wife, Betty, live on Rolling Road.

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Process Ok'd For Hiring Fire Chief

By James Drew
Wilmington Star
Staff Writer

WILMINGTON—The Wilmington City Council has selected a four-step process developed by City Manager Bill Farris to hire a new fire chief.

City officials said they have not set a timetable for hiring Lloyd Wolfe's suc-

cessor, but a decision is expected by April.

"There's no fixed timetable," Mayor Don Betz said. "I believe we'll hire someone within 90 days, but I'm not working toward an artificial deadline. It's something we need to be very thorough in when we review the proposed candidates."

The city has received 52 applications for the chief's posi-

tion. The salary range is \$34,597 to \$51,896.

Six of the candidates are employees of the Wilmington Fire Department. City Personnel Director Joe Dixon said he could not reveal the candidates' names.

Wolfe, a 45-year fire department veteran, announced his retirement Sept. 2, nearly one month after a natural gas explosion near the intersection of Market Street and Kerr Avenue injured 18 people and led to the death on Aug. 21 of Assistant Fire Chief Harold Sandlin.

Under the selection process, the council's first task will be to work with Farris to reach a consensus on the "skills, abilities, attitude and experience" necessary to be considered for the job, plus other characteristics, such as specialized training, that would be desirable.

Farris and the council then would narrow the list of candidates to five and prepare a set of questions to ensure that all candidates are treated evenly.

The last step would involve scheduling a second interview with the top candidate and the council acting on the appointment.

Betz said he expects the council will set up an interview committee, which is expected to consist of city officials, fire department experts and possibly officials from other cities.

Assistant Fire Chief, Police Officer Honored

By Deuce Niven
The Tabor City Tribune

TABOR CITY—Don Hughes, a veteran firefighter with almost 40 years experience, was named Firefighter Of The Year by the Tabor City Fire Department in Dec.

Hughes was honored during the department's annual Christmas party. Empie Watts was also named town Police Officer of the Year by the Fire Department for his efforts in assisting firefighting efforts in 1987.

Hughes "has been an asset to the Fire Department and to the town of Tabor City," Fire Chief Jerry Watts said in announcing the award.

"I am shocked," an obviously surprised Don Hughes said. "I hope to continue to be a fireman as long as I think I can make a contribution."

Later, Hughes said he was not sure exactly how long he has been on the local fire department.

"It was 1949 or 1950, I guess, when I joined," Hughes said. "Frank Young was the Fire Chief then."

Hughes, who has been assistant chief since late 1971 when Watts was named chief, also served under the current chief's father Bruck Watts and Lewis Gore. Hughes said he has enjoyed his firefighting service, but said he deserved little credit

for his work.

"I kind of feel like it's a civic responsibility," Hughes said. "It doesn't require a lot of time and effort."

Two fires stand out in Hughes' memory, he said.

"The fire that hurt me the most was the Tabor City Baptist Church fire," Hughes said. "But I guess the worst we had was when the old school house burned (in the early 1950's). We were on top of that fire and we couldn't get the water. That was the most frustrating thing."

The two story school building was destroyed by the fire, Hughes said. The current Tabor City Primary School building stands where the old structure fell victim of fire.

Watts said Hughes' dedication has made the fire department run smoothly.

"Unless you've got a man like Don Hughes it will be terribly hard," Watts said. "A department is made up of people who seek one thing . . . to make a better fire department."

For the first time this year the Fire Department chose to honor a police officer for outstanding service, Watts said. Firefighters voted by secret ballot on the office, but their secret was not kept with 100 percent of the votes going to Officer Empie Watts.

Watts was also surprised with the award.

"This means more to me than about any award I've ever gotten," Watts said. "Because it comes from you guys and you put your life on the line when you do your job. You guys, your job, in my view is more dangerous than mine."

Fire Destroys Arcadia Business

By Pandora Passin
Lexington Dispatch
Staff Reporter

LEXINGTON—A family-owned electrical contracting business in Arcadia was destroyed by fire.

The interior of Spry Electric, located on a dirt road about a half-mile off Friendship Church Road, was completely engulfed in flames when units from the Arcadia Volunteer Fire Department arrived.

Mike Hege, the department's chief, said he believes the blaze originated around a water stove in the building. However, the cause of the fire was still under investigation. Hege said he thinks the fire was an accident.

Due to the toxic nature of the smoke, firefighters had to

wear oxygen masks the whole time they were at the scene, even when the flames were extinguished. The one story metal and frame structure stored electrical supplies.

There also were concerns that the home of Ronald and Peggy Spry, which is located about 70 feet from the business, would catch on fire since a wind was blowing in the house's direction. However, that structure was not damaged and no one was reported hurt.

Hege said the fire was under control in about 30 minutes, but firefighters stayed on the scene until about 12:45 A.M. Units from the Reeds, Welcome, and Wallburg volunteer fire departments also responded to the call.

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