

♥♥♥ February 2009 ♥♥♥

(Written 1-20-09)

A non-typical start to another year. As I sit here and observe the Inaugural Parade, after hearing President Obama give his Inaugural Speech, I can't help but think change is required. Whether you support President Obama or not, our country has had enough, it is time for change. We have experienced enough war, enough segregation, enough money mongrels, enough corruption, enough distrust, enough is enough. Well, I draw a parallel to the fire service.

We have experienced enough members dying not wearing their seatbelts. Better yet, how about we avoid the crash anyway, then seatbelts become like fire sprinklers, only there in case all else fails. We have experienced enough members dying searching structures with no probability of occupants surviving, enough members dying fighting fires in vacant structures without chance for flame spread. We have experienced enough members dying being struck by motorists while operating in roadways we probably shouldn't have been exposed to in the first place. We have experienced enough members dying from medical emergencies because we don't conduct health screenings and physicals for our members.

Having said all that, I want our department to change. I want us to focus on safety for all. I want us to fulfill the vision in doing this. If you have something that concerns you about safety, our own safety or the citizen's safety, I want you to speak up; I want you to make a difference. I want you to realize that there is enough holding back, enough allowing our department to exist with consternation. Enough personality conflicts that hold us back, enough voids that allow safety to be sacrificed. Let us come together and make a difference, to our community, our department and each other.

We must make change to make our members successful, we must make change to improve the quality of life in our community, and we must speak out that enough is enough. We can only speak out if we speak united. When we have issues internal, it makes it challenging to expose ourselves externally. The opportunity is before us in the Pleasant View community, just as in the country to make change. We can and should change the fire service and we should change to focus on service to our citizens. As I see this parade and think about why we do what we do, I come back to it is because people depend on us and people expect us to do our best and provide them the best. We must also do this with what they provide us to do it with. When the President gets out of the car and walks down Pennsylvania Avenue he is vulnerable, while we might think the Presidential Limousine may be the best money can buy, it is not really the best that could be afforded, because we could build a bullet and bomb proof structure that encapsulated the President so he could have walked the entire route and even been warm. Why was he vulnerable even with the Presidential Limousine and why didn't he have the protective ensemble walking down Pennsylvania Avenue, it is because even though it was possible, it wasn't tax tolerable. We must provide our citizens with the best for what they pay for. I think when you look at our history, our budget, and the service we provide, I think we provide the citizens with all they pay for and more. Therefore, our change must become internal.

Look at yourself and how you serve, look at why you serve, look at the means in which you serve and what you appear to others. I hope we get to a state where we focus on safety and look to change the way in which we operate. I so desire to improve the fire service and doing this in a sincere effort to improve the quality of life for our citizens. It takes us all and a united department can make the difference, a divided fire department without a shared vision is typical and will fail to live up to its true potential. I hope we can reach our true potential and not hide behind poor excuses and personalities.

Respectfully, *Chief Ray* 

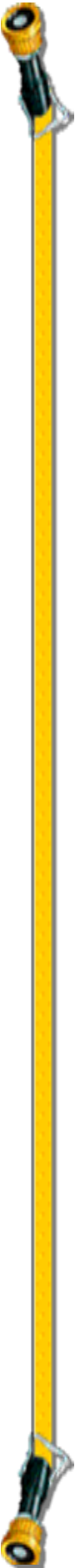


**Pleasant View
Volunteer Fire
Department
strives to provide
our communities
the best Life
Safety
Prevention,
Education, and
Response
possible.
We will achieve
this through
WORKING,
SERVING,
LEARNING, AND
GROWING,
TOGETHER!**

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**Do not forget Valentines
February 14th
Be good to your Valentine
those department bunk
beds do get uncomfortable**





Pride & Ownership

The 2Crew, Martin Hollow and Engine Co. 4ZERO5 are terms used to show pride and ownership in a station or apparatus, is it correct then to assume that they own either one?

HIS, HERS, THIERS, MINE.

If you ask Mr. Martin, Wayne or anyone else behind the wheel of an apparatus, it does not matter what station or unit number they will tell you it is theirs. Because they know that they are responsible for the safe response of personnel and apparatus to and from the scene. So does the apparatus belong to them?

YOURS, OURS, MINE

It is EVERYONES responsibility to make sure that all the apparatus and the equipment on them are in good working order. It will take all of us to get the job done.



Check all fluids on level ground to insure they are at the proper level .

Apparatus News

There will be an Apparatus check off training in the near future that will have all the apparatus in one location. Weather will be a factor, so it may be a week or month away. Station 1 will be trying a new daily apparatus check sheet program.

THE NEW ENGINE COMPANY 405 IS ALMOST READY TO BE PUT IN SERVICE!

Weekly Apparatus Check offs

Looking back in the files I reviewed how we went from daily check offs to weekly check offs and was amazed how many rain forest we used to cut down in order to have a piece of paper that said we cared enough to check off our apparatus.

We then went to weekly check offs and said that was good, when it was done.

We all should make sure this simple task is done to the best of our abilities and if you're not sure ask someone that does. DON'T just check a box and call it good someone's life may depend on it.

When and Where to Turn in The Check Sheets?

As of January 1, 2009 all check sheets should be turned in the 1st week of every month at station 1, to be filed. If there is a problem do not wait till the first of the month to let an officer know a problem was found, so it can get corrected immediately.

There should be 4 sheets per month per apparatus at each station.

I would like to thank those that do, ask those who should and encourage the ones that would to step up and get it done

If we all do our part we can make this program work.

THANK YOU, James "Big Jimmy" Parks

UPCOMING TRAINING AND MORE

With Captain **Trey Nelms**

**2007 TENNESSEE FIREFIGHTER
OF THE YEAR**

PVVFD members,

Already a month into the New Year. Time seems to get away from me and I'm sure some of you feel the same way. I appreciate your participation in January's training. Our guests from Kentucky were very impressed with your professionalism and the way the PVVFD takes care of business. The amount of calls we cover with a volunteer staff, our progressive nature on tiered levels of response, your appearance, and the skill you showed while in the Driving Simulator were just a few of the comments they passed on. You showed the same commitment with your attendance and participation in the PPE class at Station 5. Let's keep this level of participation throughout the year.

Some of February's opportunities:

Feb. 3rd (Tues.) - BOOTER Apparatus/Equipment Familiarization- 1800 hours- PVVFD Station 1

This class is primarily for our BOOTERS, but anyone can attend. We will go over all our apparatus and the equipment carried on them. The location, uses, and operations of all our tools and equipment will be reviewed and demonstrated. Please feel free to come if you'd like. We can all use a review from time to time.

Feb. 7th (Sat.) - Engine Co. Operations- 0800 hours- PVVFD Station 1

This is one of our monthly departmental training sessions. We will meet at Station 1 for a classroom portion. We will then perform hands on skills in water supply, hose line selection, placement, and movement, hose loads, needed fire flow, etc. We will be in turnout gear for the majority of the day. Lunch will be provided.

Feb. 12th (Thurs.) - BOOTER Medical Familiarization- 1800 hours- PVVFD Station 5

Again, another BOOTER class that all members are welcome to attend. This class is designed to familiarize our personnel with our involvement at medical calls. Basic First Aid, spinal immobilization procedures, operating a stretcher while assisting EMS, etc. Participants will also be given a tour of a Medic Unit by EMS personnel.

Feb. 16th (Mon.) - CPR- 1800 hours- PVVFD Station 5

A department wide training for all personnel. All BOOTERS must attend and any personnel whose certification will expire prior to December should attend. We have another class scheduled for December, but you should ensure you have no lapse in your CPR certification. Attend which ever class you need.

Feb. 21st (Sat.) - Truck Co. Operations- 0800 hours- PVVFD Station 1

Another monthly department training opportunity. We will review all aspects of "Truck Work" and perform hands on skills evaluations. Ladders, Overhaul, Ventilation, Forcible Entry, Rescue, Salvage, and Utility Control will all be addressed. There will be several skill stations to practice/refresh learned skills.

Feb. 21st/22nd (Sat. /Sun.) Medical First Responder class- 0800 hours each day- Robertson County EMS Station 1

First Responder recert. class for those of you who need it. If you are a First Responder, check your STATE certification card. If your certification expires in 2009, I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. The class is free, but we can only send a certain amount of people. Mr. Tim has already registered and we have room for a few more. Let me know if you need to attend ASAP so we can get you signed up. You must attend both 8 hour days to receive credit.

Feb. 25th (Wed.) - BOOTER Haz-Mat Awareness- 1800 hours- PVVFD Station 5

Haz-Mat awareness class for our BOOTERS, but all members are welcome. We will cover the responsibilities/limits of the HMA level responder. Various PPE, Isolation and Evacuation, use of the NAERG, agency capabilities, etc. will be addressed.

Feb. 27th (Fri.) - FF I/ FF II "Live Fire" Practical- 0900 hours- Franklin FD

The Franklin FD will host a State Fire Commission sanctioned "Live Fire" practical at the FFD Training Center. The event will begin promptly at 0900 hours. If you desire to participate, please let me know ASAP. It takes a little time to fill out your application, get the appropriate signatures, and get it turned in to the state office in Nashville. You will have to take full PPE, SCBA, and a spare cylinder. There is a \$25.00 fee to participate.

Thanks again for a good start. There will be several other things to look forward to as we run through the schedule. Hope to see you involved. Have a good month, stay warm, and stay safe.

Capt. Nelms



National Fire Fighter Near-Miss Reporting System Report of the Month

February 2009

Incident Command

By Thomas Maloney—Maloney, a 24-year veteran of the fire service, currently serves as the fire marshal for Snohomish County, Wash. He is an EFO graduate who holds a bachelor's degree in public administration and will complete his MBA in June 2009.

Case Study: Report #08-243

"While venting the roof, it was noticed that the back part of the roof was falling in and the roof we were on was extremely unsafe. I notified the chief of the main department that if there was an interior attack going on that the roof was falling in. I was told by him that it was fine and nobody was toward the back of the house ... Shortly afterward, that chief and another member climbed to the roof of the front of the house and started to do work while, from a distance, you could see the roof bouncing."

Comments

The safety of all personnel on the fireground depends on clear, concise and timely communication and thorough teamwork. The incident commander (IC) relies on firefighters and incident safety officers to relay feedback on fireground conditions in order to make informed decisions regarding risk vs. gain and offensive vs. defensive operations. The IC develops fireground strategies to support the incident action plan and make assignments based on the availability and expertise of personnel.

Discussion Points

- What are the key factors to evaluate during size-up (life safety, structure type/location, time of day, potential hazards, fire involvement, incident stabilization, etc.)?
- What fireground strategies have been identified by the IC to support the incident action plan and manage the incident?
- What is the importance of continued evaluation of the incident?
- How is your department's accountability system used when operating within mutual aid?
- Does your department survey buildings within your response area?
- What are the structure's construction type and collapse potential?

Tip

The incident command system (ICS) provides a systematic approach to effectively manage emergency incidents. By managing emergency incidents, the IC will ensure firefighter safety, civilian safety, property conservation, unified command structure and effective fireground operations. Using ICS at every incident and training drill will ensure personnel are prepared to use it when it matters most.



The Most Important Meal of the Day

A 2003 Harvard study found that people who ate breakfast every day were one-third less likely to be obese compared with those who skipped breakfast. Researchers theorize that breakfast helps stabilize blood sugar, regulating appetite and energy throughout the day. Skip high-fat, processed meals, and choose a variety of foods that provide complex carbohydrates, protein and a small amount of fat. Choices can include oatmeal, yogurt and fruit, hard-boiled eggs and even leftovers, such as vegetable pizza.