

October 2008



**OUR VISION:
TO BE
NON-TYPICAL**

**OUR MISSION:
WE SERVE
BECAUSE
WE CARE**

**OUR VALUES:
THEY GUIDE US
TO DO THE
RIGHT THING**

**We will achieve
this through**

**WORKING,
SERVING,
LEARNING,
AND GROWING,
TOGETHER!**

The most historical vote in building code history occurred September 21, 2008 in Minneapolis, Minnesota and the Pleasant View Volunteer Fire Department, along with our Cheatham County delegation and fire service friends from across the country, was part of it. While we recognized the need for fire sprinklers in our homes years ago, many communities and states across the country will now include fire sprinklers. I have been saying we have over 15,000 firefighters on the Pleasant View Volunteer Fire Department; if you don't believe me ask some of our elementary or middle school students, they will tell you they have firefighters in every room.

Does anyone know the significance of October 8th? How about October 8, 1871? Maybe Ms. O'Leary's cow? You're correct, The Great Chicago Fire, which is the most popular fire in American history, but don't forget about the Peshtigo, Wisconsin fire, which occurred the exact same day in 1871 and burned 16 entire communities and killed 1,152 people, making it the deadliest fire in American history. I say all of this because it is National Fire Prevention week, which in Pleasant View we make nearly a month out of it. We have the responsibility to improve the education level of our community in reference to fire safety, which I am proud of the fact that we do all year. Our department works hard on education, enforcement, early suppression, and emergency response all the time, however, we need everyone's help with our focus on elementary schools. Please look for the sign up list at the station and sign up to help out. This program is one that makes a difference, ask the kids, they love the firefighters.

It is fire dues time in Pleasant View. Our annual donation drive is about to move into full swing. We are going to post information up on the internet for the citizen, which includes us. I encourage all our members to look over all the dues information and become familiar with it. There is a good possibility you will have to field some questions over the next few months concerning our department and how we operate. If you don't get anyone that asks you about it, tell someone, tell your neighbors. We are having yard signs made and I would encourage each firefighter to have one so we can start the buzz going that encourages everyone to donate. I Donate! Do You? This is our theme and you will see it around on everything. Promote it, talk it, speak it, sing it, and shout it! Bring in the money.

Let me say thank you for your donation. Each of us should pay our fire dues, our bylaws say it, our founding members intended it, and we should continue to fulfill it. Some may question this practice, if you do, please see me so we can chat about it, most people who will understand in the end and our shared vision is closer to realized as a result. Back to my thank you. A think-tank occurred at the office that started this new theme. It was a happenstance meeting where ideas flowed and concepts were captured. Not only did the theme result from this dialogue session, realization occurred. When we pulled the total hours committed to this department for administration, operating, training, emergency response, fire prevention, etc. and we made the assumption that averaged everyone's time, which assumes we all give equal time, we, as a volunteer firefighter for the Pleasant View Volunteer Fire Department, give over \$21,000 annually worth of our time. This uses a national volunteer time value scale of nearly \$18.00 per hour. I share all of that to say use it freely when someone challenges why they should donate to the fire department. Do not let them be ungrateful for your service, it is one thing not to pay but it's another to put our department down or make excuses of why they don't give. I Donate, Do You? If they say no and want to be mean about it, and then our answer is I'm sorry yet we'll serve you just the same.

I would like to encourage everyone to participate in the upcoming pancake breakfast. Let's use this opportunity to network with the community, educate, promote our annual dues drive, and show the need for our new fire station. What a perfect time to grab those folks you know and take them through the station. Don't be negative, just share our pride in service to the community, but how much nicer it would be if we had an improved fire station where our volunteers could cook and clean, yes, themselves, don't you think we need a shower? You know firefighters love to cook, yet we don't have a kitchen. Just talk to em, they love us. A special thanks to the Explorers and Explorer Advisors for their efforts on the pancake breakfast.

Looking a little out ahead, we are planning an Achievement Awards ceremony to recognize your accomplishments over the year. Mark you calendars for December 13th. Block out the entire afternoon and evening because we are hoping to follow the Awards ceremony with our joint Christmas party with Ashland City. More to come soon.

There are a lot of positives in our organization and let's keep contributing to them. All the good things that happen in the fulfillment of our mission, through the use of our values, in the achievement of our vision, come from our individual contributions to the team.

Remember to visit our website (www.pvvfd.org) and the Cheatham County Firefighters Association website (www.cheathamfire.org), a special thanks to Brian Collins and Dave Brasells for keeping up the sites. Keep up the good work and I'll see you at the station.

With Professional Regards,

Chief Ray

Upcoming Training and More

With Captain Trey Nelms

2007 Tennessee
Firefighter of the year



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PVFD members,

October is always a busy month for us as we commit resources to our Life Safety and Education programs. I encourage each of you to be involved where you can, as it really makes a difference. We have responded to incidents where the information from these programs has truly impacted the end result. A little load sharing by all of us will make things run smoothly.

There are several other things going on as well. Some of you have chosen to take advantage of some outside training opportunities. We are sending 3 members this weekend (Sept. 27-28) to Dover and a few are going to Cookeville in October. These were posted for a while, but not many took advantage of things.

I encourage you to check out the Cheathamfire.org website. A ton of work has been done to bring it up to date. There are some opportunities listed under events as well as items for your improvement under training. If you have any questions about any of these, just give me a call.

An upcoming event that has special significance to me is the **Lt. Brad Hutcherson Memorial Fire School** in mid November. I have left some flyers at Station 1 and the brochure is downloadable at Cheathamfire.org. WHCVFD Station 52 runs mutual aid with us and I am glad we can help them during a time of healing. The event will honor Brad, help with the healing process, and get some great training to some folks that really need it. All proceeds are going to a Memorial Fund set up in Brad's honor. These funds will be used to provide training to area firefighters in fire, rescue, EMS, etc. We have been working really hard and things are coming together nicely. Please check out the brochure for classes, raffles and door prizes, schedule, etc. If that can't answer your questions, get with me. We hope to make this an annual event, but we have to get year one in the books first. Chief Ray is dedicating resources as well as showing support for this event, which I am very thankful for. The PVFD impact is felt in many places, and this is just another example of how we make a difference.

State Testing opportunities are coming to our area, and I want to participate.

Ashland City is hosting a FF I/FF II practical on November 1st (Sat.) beginning at 9am. This is the hands-on practical portion. I know who needs what, but it would be nice if YOU would contact ME about taking a test. Some of you are long overdue.

We (PVFD) are hosting a State written on November 17th (Mon.) at Station 5 at 1830 hrs. Those interested see me ASAP as the application process takes a little time and some work for several people. We can have preparation sessions during duty crew shifts.

Speaking of duty crews, thanks to those that have been signing up to cover the shifts. Those interest in training, feel free to come to Station 1 on my duty night to do a little extra. In recent weeks we have conducted hoseline drills, a RIT scenario, and a "From the Officer's Seat" night. I encourage all Officers and D.O.'s to do something with your crew on these nights to better yourselves. Robbie and "Big Jimmy" are both planning to teach a class for their Fire Instructor I practical, a NIMS night is in the works, and plenty of hands on drills since the weather is getting cooler. Take advantage when you can.

Our monthly department training for the month consists of S.C.B.A. and RIT drills.

October 6th (Mon.) will be SCBA training. Class will be at PVFD Station 1 beginning at 1830 hrs. Bring full PPE and be prepared to be in SCBA. Our Saturday training will be held on

October 18th. Meet at Station 1 at 0800 hrs for a day of RIT drills. I might utilize the trailers but I guarantee the storage container at the CFFA Training Center will factor into the equation. Time to raise the bar and prepare you for the "worst possible situation" on the fireground. This will be an all day event and lunch will be provided.

We still haven't been able to locate the generator for Tanker 415, which is a problem. When things are used, they need to be returned. It is our responsibility to take care of our belongings. Please help protect our assets and insure they are there when we need them.

The jumpsuits for our Affiliate members that were fitted a few months ago have just arrived. They are being inventoried, marked, and will be issued soon. I will need to order some small gloves and boots for members like Jamie Hodges and Mrs. Smith, but we are in pretty good shape PPE wise. We have several sets in stock and a few are getting refurbished. We are getting things lined up for the 2009 training schedule. I hope to have it our by the end of October so you can plan in advance to attend. We have a few unique opportunities I think you will find interesting for the New Year. Watch for updates in the near future. Thanks for your time and what you do. Have a great Fire Prevention month and stay safe.

Captain Nelms



PLEASANT VIEW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT **EXPLORER POST 233**

By Alex Hayes and Allen Nicholson

On September 13, 2008 the Pleasant View Volunteer Fire Department's Explorers and Explorer advisors conducted a brushfire training. Two brush piles at local citizen's residents we used. This not only provided valuable training for our department but also safely help rid the homeowners of the unwanted brush. The explorers learned about all the equipment and their uses. Each explorer got to use tools including backpack sprayers, blowers, and booster lines.

The explorers were taught the different terminology used in brush fires. The explorers finished out the day checking off apparatus at Station one.

The explorer advisors committee has met several times recently to revise and fine tune explorer's guidelines. These should be completed and to each department member early in October. These guidelines will cover: Overnight stays, response, when the explorers are allowed at the fire stations and other questions that have come up. There will be posted a question and answer sheet at all the stations to help answer any of your questions concerning the explorer's

Upcoming Explorer Events

Thursday, October 2, 2008
Pancake Breakfast Planning Meeting
6:30 p.m. Station 1

Friday, October 10, 2008
Sycamore Homecoming Parade
3:00 p.m. Station 1

Saturday, October 11, 2008
Pancake Breakfast
7:00 a.m. Station 1

Friday, October 31, 2008
Halloween
6:00 p.m. Station 1



Pictured from left to right:
Nick Hodges, Jesse Newman, Alex Hayes, Tyler Hayle, Tanner Pritchett



Pictured from left to right:
Alex Hayes, Tanner Pritchett, Tyler Hayle

PVVFD EXPLORERS
Learning Today
Serving Tomorrow



CHAPLAIN'S

Mark Smith graciously serves as our departments
Chaplain and is ready to help with any spiritual needs
569-4115

Powerful Pro-Marriage Film "Fireproof" Opens in Theatres September 26

At a time when the majority of marriages end in divorce, the makers of the popular "Facing the Giants" movie are bringing to select theatres a film that has already inspired numerous couples to strengthen, and, in many cases, to rescue, their marriages

Opening this Friday in 850 theatres across America, "Fireproof" is the inspiring story of a devoted and heroic firefighter whose marriage is on the brink of eruption, and who, in response to a challenge from his father, begrudgingly sets out on a 40 day quest to salvage his relationship with his wife.

The film stars Kirk Cameron, the one time teen-star of the popular TV show "Growing Pains," who has for many years devoted himself to using his talents for wholesome projects

The film has already been met with widespread acclaim, particularly amongst the evangelical base that forms the film's target audience. However, "Fireproof" has also been embraced many of no faith, who have responded to the movie's message about the power of selfless love and its practical, realistic portrayal of how to go about rescuing a marriage that seems beyond the point of no return.

In particular, many have commented on the movie's website that "Fireproof's" portrayal of the fragmentation of a marriage is remarkably similar to their own painful experiences and that they immediately connected with the predicament of Capt. Caleb Holt and his wife Catherine.

The film is notable for its impressive quality of filmmaking. Writing recently in The Tablet, the weekly newspaper of the diocese of Brooklyn, Fr. Robert Lauder related, "I did not feel like viewing the film because I suspected it would be a poor film, made with the best of intentions, but amateurish and overly sentimental."

But, he said, he was surprised to find that "'Fireproof' is an exceptionally good film. The story is good, the acting is good, the direction is good, the music is good and the editing is exceptionally good."

Fireproof centers around an intriguing concept: the notion that by pursuing a simple, 40 day program, in which a spouse daily puts into practice a new marriage "dare", a marriage can be completely turned around. Much like the wild success of the pro-life 40-Days-for-Life campaign, the success of the "dare" method is its emphasis on a practical, realistic and relatively short program.

Besides the film itself, the producers have set up a website with resources to help couples get their marriages back on track. Most notably, they have published the book "The Love Dare," that in the movie outlines the 40 day program by which the protagonist tries to give his marriage one last go.

In the end "Fireproof" is a story of the need for grace. Capt. Caleb Holt's attempts to recapture the heart of his wife, Catherine, are initially rebuffed. But then Holt's father tells the young man "you cannot give what you don't have" and shows him that in order to love with the selflessness that is requisite in a marriage, a relationship with Love Itself - God - is indispensable. With God's grace one learns to love, even when love is not returned. In this way Holt learns to anchor his own life in love, through prayer, which allows him to provide his wife with the love that she needed from him.

Those who are interested in the film are being encouraged to attend during its opening weekend, which could help to put "Fireproof" in even more theatres in coming weeks.

Cheatham County Firefighters Association

First Annual Golf Tournament

The Cheatham County Firefighter Association first annual golf tournament was held September 26th at the Sycamore Country Club. All of this years proceed are to benefit the fund to construct the fallen fire fighters memorial. Thanks to everyone who made this very successful event possible.



Chief Shane Ray and Vickie Pritchett present the \$9,000 check to Chief Jerry Crawford and Chief Daryl Blair. The golf tournament grossed over \$11,000, with \$9,000 net profits going to the Tennessee Fallen Firefighters Memorial Fund.



Fire Team USA golf team placed 3rd! Pleasant View Volunteer Fire Department members Allen Nicholson, John Russ and Todd Duncan were joined by Ashland City Chief Derek Noe to complete the team, sponsored by Vickie Pritchett & Fire Team USA. Way to go team!



PLEASANT VIEW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT ACTIVE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Below are the dates we will be in our community's schools. As Captain Nelms mention in his article, this has been proven successful. Please if you can help sign the sheets at station one or let Chief Duncan or Allen Nicholson know. Your help is appreciated and very much needed.

Thursday, October 2nd Friday, October 3rd
Pleasant View Christian School

**Monday, October 6th, Thursday, October 9th,
Friday, October 10th**
Pleasant View Elementary School

**Wednesday, October 22nd, Thursday, October
23rd, Friday, October 24th**
Coopertown Elementary School

**Tuesday, October 28th, Wednesday, October
29th, Thursday, October 30th**
East Cheatham Elementary School

Sycamore Middle School and Coopertown Middle are targeted for
**Monday October 27th (SMS) and Monday
October 20th (CMS)**