



FLASHPOINT

Spring 2014

Maine State Federation of Fire Fighters

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE— RICHARD A. CYR

Greetings Federation Members:

This is the first newsletter of 2014. We have been in the cold and stormy weather long enough, hope the weather changes shortly in Maine! We are lucky that we did not lose any firefighters due to fire-related incidents that some of Maine's towns and cities have had.

Governor LePage signed LD 1122 – which protects firefighters from being reprimanded or fired for attending a fire scene. The LOSAP is still in the works and we will continue to keep you posted on the progress.

Save the date for the 2014 Maine State Federation of Firefighters Convention that will be held in Farmington

September 5-7. There's important fundraising information enclosed in this newsletter as well. We continue to look for ways to keep the Federation financially solvent, and hope that you support the cause and contact your county VP to purchase tickets.

We are moving to 3 newsletters this year – April, July and December, so if you want to submit information, please contact your county VP to submit the information. We are also working on some changes to our website, www.msfff.org. If you haven't been to the website lately, we invite you to do so – there's a lot of good information on it!

WHO TO CONTACT

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MSFFF FUNDRAISING:

\$5000 Gift card raffle

Tickets: \$10 each

How it works: On each ticket are 10 chances to win one of the \$500.00 gift cards. Winners choice of gift card – you choose where you would like the gift card from!

Tickets will be drawn on Sunday, September 7th at the 51st MSFFF Convention in Farmington.

How to Purchase: Contact your County VP or send a check made payable to MSFFF to: Jeannie Conway, 75 East Main Street, Vinalhaven, ME 04863 – she will fill out a ticket for you.

Support your Organization and don't miss out on this great fundraiser!

Questions: Email Jeannie Conway at jnewt10399@aol.com.

MEMBERSHIP:

2014-2105 Membership renewal packets were distributed in February to the county VPs. If you haven't received yours yet, please contact your county VP. Renewals should be submitted no later than June 30, 2014 to avoid disruption to benefits.

Also, if you have a change in contact information – address, phone, email, don't forget to submit that information with your renewal so that we can update your information.

Do you have a change in beneficiary? Ask your county VP for a Change in Beneficiary Form so that your most current beneficiary information is updated.

Current membership count for 2013-2014 (as of 4/14/14): 5,827

Current membership count for 2014-2015 (as of 4/14/14): 317

Did You Know?

As a member of the Maine State Federation of Fire Fighters, there are a variety of benefits available to you for only \$10.00 per year (.83 per month). Some of these benefits include:

- \$500.00 death benefit payable immediately
- E-newsletters
- County Representation on the MSFFF Board of Directors
- Optional participation in a membership listserv which serves to bring important notices to our members
- Website access at www.msfff.org
- Annual Convention
- Fire Prevention Week Fire Fighter Memorial Service
- Insurance discounts available through Liberty Mutual
- Affiliations with other associations for additional benefits

American Income Life

At no additional cost to MSFFF members, American Income Life offers members in good standing of the MSFFF:

- \$3,500.00 accidental death & dismemberment benefit, Child Safe Kits and Health Services Discount Card that offers 20-60% savings on:
- Prescriptions
- Hearing Care
- Vision Care Products
- Chiropractic Care
- Optional Dental Discounts also available
- Availability of additional insurance coverage for interested members

National Volunteer Fire Council

As a member in good standing of the Maine State Federation of Fire Fighters, the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) offers discounted membership. For \$15.00 per year (\$1.25 per month), our members enjoy:

- \$10,000 accidental death & dismemberment benefit
- Extra \$10,000 benefit for Line of Duty deaths
- Complimentary copies of NVFC resources and manuals
- Discounts on NVFC publications and materials
- Subscription to Dispatch, Heart Healthy and Fire Corps e-newsletters
- Discounts on dress uniforms through Lighthouse Uniform Company

We encourage feedback and new ideas. If there is information you would like to share, we encourage you to contact your county Vice President or send us a message via our website at www.msfff.org.

2014 MSFFF CONVENTION – MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



“Like” us on Facebook to stay up-to-date on the latest information! This year’s convention is in Farmington and is packed full of events! Don’t miss it!

Visit the MSFFF website at www.msfff.org to find the link for the Convention Facebook Page.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

The Federation’s Legislative Committee was active during the second regular session of the 126th Legislature. We focused our efforts on two bills: LD 1154 *An Act To Establish the Maine Length of Service Award Program* and LD 1622 *An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Firefighter Absence from Work for Emergency Response*.

LD 1154, also known as the LOSAP bill has been the Federation’s number one priority for the past decade. As everyone connected to the fire service knows, recruitment and retention of volunteer and call firefighters is a major problem in the fire service in Maine. It is an issue in all parts of the state with large and small departments alike. For several years we have worked to create a statewide program that would be a modest retirement program for volunteer and call firefighters. Although legislators all seem to recognize the recruitment and retention issues, we have never been able to get a LOSAP bill out of committee before. This year though the Legislative Committee decided to focus all of its efforts on the LOSAP effort. With that focus and with the unflinching efforts of Rep. Joyce Maker who sponsored the bill for us and then bird-dogged it through the legislative process, the bill passed finally on April 17 and was sent to the governor for signature. As of the date of publication we do not know what the governor will do with the bill.

As with every bill, we did not get everything we wanted. The original bill would have been funded by doubling the sales tax on fireworks and then using half of the revenue to fund the program. The Labor Commerce Research and Economic Development Committee amended the bill to eliminate the tax increase but to provide that one half of the existing revenue from fireworks sales be used to fund the program. The Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee amended the bill further to eliminate the state funding altogether. While this is a disappointment in the short term, it may make the bill palatable to the governor. If so, LOSAP will be on the books and we will work to get funding next year in the 127th legislature.

Regardless of what the governor does with the bill though, we will not lose sight of the fact that we took this bill farther than we ever have in the past. The votes are there and we know we can do it again. If he vetoes it, we will be right back with a new bill next year.

LD 1622 was a bill designed to clarify an existing law. In 2005 the legislature enacted 26 MRS which makes it illegal for employers to discipline employees for arriving at work late if the reason the employee was late was that he or she was engaged in an emergency response. The law as written only covered true “volunteer” firefighters. As such it really did not cover very many in the fire service. This bill amended the existing law to cover all emergency responders. The legislature passed the bill and the governor signed in on March 16.

As many of you know, the legislative process is often frustrating and difficult. Thanks again to Representative Maker for her efforts on the LOSAP bill. Thanks also to all of you who took time from your lives to come to Augusta for hearings and workshops or to contact your legislators to make them aware of these important issues. It all mattered.

–Submitted by Bill Vickerson

RIPPED FROM THE HEADLINES.....

This section contains links to news articles related to fire service in Maine. To access the full article, just click on the link and it will take you right to the article online. Enjoy!

December 2013

- [Fire Crews Put Out Blaze at Tremont Restaurant \(Tremont, December 4, 2013, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Firefighters from 10 Towns Battling House Fire in Charleston \(Charleston, December 5, 2013, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire in Bucksport Likely Caused by Battery Charger Malfunction \(Bucksport, December 7, 2013, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [No Injuries After Morning Fire in Belfast \(Belfast, December 8, 2013, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Destroys Jonesport Boat Shop \(Jonesport, December 19, 2013, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Heater Suspected Cause of Fire in Newport Apartment Building \(Newport, December 21, 2013, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Destroys Freeport Home \(Freeport, December 24, 2013, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Destroys Part of Waterville Home, Barn, on Christmas Afternoon \(Waterville, December 25, 2013, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Family's Pet Dog Dies in Orland House Fire \(Orland, December 28, 2013, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Electrical Malfunction Blamed for Bradford Mobile Home Fire \(Bradford, December 30, 2013, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Destroys Blue Hill Home \(Blue Hill, December 30, 2013, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Crews Douse Electrical Fire at Hampden Industrial Building \(Hampden, December 31, 2013, Bangor Daily News\):](#)

January 2014

- [New Year's Eve Fire Destroys Fairfield House \(Fairfield, January 2, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Orrington Fire Caused by Spark From Fireplace Used for Heat, Fire Marshal Says \(Orrington, January 2, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Firefighters Battle Blaze on Airport Road in Dexter \(Dexter, January 3, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Destroys Storage Building on Mount Desert Island \(MDI, January 3, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Houlton Fire Leaves Family Homeless \(Houlton, January 3, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Couple in Their Late 70s Killed in Blaze at Home in Ellitsville Plantation \(Ellitsville Plantation, January 4, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Orrington Fire Destroys Garage, Damages Home on Kent Drive \(Orrington, January 4, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Lisbon Homeowner Ignites Blaze While Thawing Pipes With Blowtorch \(Lisbon, January 9, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Heavily Damages Caribou Florist Shop \(Caribou, January 10, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Destroys Garage, Damages House \(Embden, January 14, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Blaze Damages Dillingham Street Home; Woman Hospitalized After Trying to Save Dogs \(Bangor, January 17, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Damages Cherryfield Home \(Cherryfield, January 20, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Officials Investigating Fire That Destroyed Freeport Home Monday Because of Sunday Fire Next Door \(Freeport, January 20, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Reports: House Fire in Yarmouth Spread to Propane Tank \(Yarmouth, January 22, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Destroys 16 Rooms at Milbridge Hotel \(Milbridge, January 24, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Damages Camden Home \(Camden, January 24, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Sullivan Family Loses Home to Fire for Second Time in Six Years \(Sullivan, January 24, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Firefighters Still Battling Hot Spots, Trying to Determine Cause of Warehouse Blaze in Fort Kent \(Fort Kent, January 24, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Destroys Freeport Garage and Camper, Causing \\$90,000 Damage \(Freeport, January 27, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Plymouth Farmhouse Destroyed in Early Morning Fire \(Plymouth, January 28, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)

February 2014

- [Fire Damages Another Home in Sullivan \(Sullivan, February 4, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Bucksport Trailer Damaged in Friday Morning Fire \(Bucksport, February 7, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)

RIPPED FROM THE HEADLINES.....(CONT'D)

- [Fire in Gray Drives 7, Including 5 Children, From Home \(Gray, February 10, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Two Bodies Found in Rubble After Fire Destroys Sumner Home \(Sumner, February 12, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Unoccupied Clifton Home Destroyed by Fire \(Clifton, February 26, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Pellet Stove Caused Fire That Destroyed Hollis Farmhouse \(Hollis, February 27, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Crews Battle Blaze at Corinna Residence \(Corinna, February 28, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)

March 2014

- [Firefighters Battle Flames at Ellsworth Wildlife Sanctuary \(Ellsworth, March 2, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Arson Suspected in Fire at Ellsworth Bird Sanctuary \(Ellsworth, March 4, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Heavily Damages Cutler Garage Where Man Lived \(Cutler, March 4, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Firefighters Battle Chip Mill Blaze in Baileyville \(Baileyville, March 4, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Mother, Two Children Escape House Fire in Houlton \(Houlton, March 5, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Levels House, Barn in East Madison \(East Madison, March 7, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Saturday Night Fire Guts Greene Home \(Greene, March 9, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Sparked by Overheated Coal Stove Damages York Home \(York, March 10, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Levels Turner Barn That Housed Dog Breeding Business, Claims Life of Three Puppies \(Turner, March 11, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Crews Fight Fire at East Boothbay Shipyard \(East Boothbay, March 17, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Carmel House With Multiple Apartment Units Guttled by 'Stubborn' Fire \(Carmel, March 18, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Two Escape Injury in Presque Isle Propane Tank Fire \(Presque Isle, March 18, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire Investigators Probe Machias Restaurant Shed Blaze \(Machias, March 20, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Police: 5-Month-Old Child Dies in Danforth; Fire at Family's Home Believe to be Unrelated \(Danforth, March 21, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Five Towns Respond to Carmel Fire \(Carmel, March 24, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Randolph Business Levelled by Fire \(Randolph, March 26, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Fire at Corinth Redemption Center Destroys Business, Second-Floor Apartment \(Corinth, March 27, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Spring Fountain Motel Damaged by Fire Friday Morning \(Bucksport, March 28, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Man Severely Burned, Home 'a total loss' in Cooper Fire \(Cooper, March 29, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)

April 2014

- [Fire Destroys Farmhouse in Monson \(Monson, April 1, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)
- [Police: Hartford Man Set House on Fire, Committed Suicide \(Hartford, April 3, 2014, Bangor Daily News\):](#)

NEWS FROM MEMBERS:

Androscoggin County: 2/24/14 – Fire crews from multiple communities responded to a working fire at 681 Sawyer Road in Greene. Upon arrival, Sabattus Fire Chief Mark Veilleux confirmed fully involved working structure fire. Fortunately the building was unoccupied at the time. Fire crews from Greene, Sabattus, Wales, Monmouth Leeds and Turner all sent tankers and other apparatus to the scene forming a water shuttle. By the time firefighters arrived, the house had already collapsed. Photo below:



MSFFF BOARD OF DIRECTORS –

2014 MEETING DATES:

- Saturday, June 14, 2014 – Maine Municipal Association, Augusta, 10:00am
- Friday, September 5, 2014 – Farmington, 51st MSFFF Convention, location TBA, 1:00pm
- Saturday, October 4, 2014 – Memorial Dedication, State House Memorial, 9:00am, Meeting to follow at 10:30 at Maine Municipal Association, Augusta

ADVERTISING WITH THE MSFFF:

Calling all members! To defray the cost of this newsletter, our website and other communications, we are looking for advertisers for our newsletter and website. If you work with a business that you think would like to know about advertising opportunities, please send the name of the company, contact person's name, phone number, address and email address/website address to: Denise Kolreg at dkolreg@memun.org.

MSFFF SEEKS TREASURER:

The Federation is seeking an individual to fill the position of Treasurer.

The Treasurer is an officer of the Federation and a member of the Board of Directors. Therefore any candidate for the position must be an active member of the Federation.

The position requires a basic understanding of bookkeeping and accounting principles as well as familiarity and experience with accounting software such as QuickBooks.

Time commitment: Between 10 and 25 hours per month.

Travel: The Treasurer is expected to attend the Federation's four board meetings currently held in October, February, June and September as well as the annual meeting held at the convention in September. Mileage will be reimbursed at the rate of .35 per mile and lodging will be provided at the convention and as needed for other meetings.

Equipment: The Federation provides a laptop and any required software. Although not a specific requirement of the position, our current treasurer suggests that having an office space at home or at work will make the work easier.

Anyone interested in the position should contact President Richard Cyr at 207-316-3205; neifireext@gmail.com or Executive Vic President Ken Desmond at 207-504-1949 kdesmond49@comcast.net.

YEARBOOK SALESPERSON NEEDED:

Yearbook Committee: We had a few people interested in being the sales rep for yearbook ads. Sent them a copy of the contract and only had 2 respond that they were interested. Set up a meeting for 1 of them and it didn't work out. We are still in the search for someone to fill this position. If anyone out there is interested or knows someone that is, please have them contact me ASAP. We want to get this yearbook back, but we need a sales person. All of my contact info is listed in the www.msfff.org web site

Mark Gay, Yearbook Chairman

CLASSIFIEDS

Biddeford Fire - Jim Howard is looking for information on Biddeford Fire's old Engine 2 1972 Mack. It was sold after the 1998 Waterville Convention to a department north of Waterville. If this sounds familiar to you, please contact Jim at jimhoward132@yahoo.com. Picture below:



COUNTY NEWS

Hancock

Castine – The Castine Volunteer Firefighters' Association held its annual volunteer recognition dinner and awards ceremony at Danny Murphy's Pub on 12/13/13. Newly elected CVFA President Stephen "Jack" Spratt, Vice President Midshipman 2/C Christopher Carter and Treasurer Lisa Burton were welcomed to office. Awards were presented to Assistant Chief Stephen "Jack" Spratt for Firefighter of the Year, AEMT Carolyn Brouillard for First Responder of the Year, and Midshipman 2/C Andrew Tarte for Probationary Firefighter of the Year. Also recognized were the efforts of former CVFA President Tom Gutow and Treasurer Paul Fallow for their 14 years of service in those positions. As part of the event, CVFA Treasurer Lisa Burton presented special guests Tessa Hastings and Myles Block of Team Tessa a check for \$800. This money had been raised by CVFA members through sales of pink "Castine Firefighters for the Cure" t-shirts. Team Tessa is a local a non-profit organization that distributes funds to help the families of those battling cancer.

CVFA is currently conducting its annual fund raising campaign to support its mission. Contributions may be made directly to The Castine Volunteer Firefighter's Association, P.O. Box 602, Castine, ME 04421.



Castine Firefighter of the Year Jack Spratt, First Responder of the Year Carolyn Brouillard and Probationary Firefighter of the Year Andrew Tarte. Photo: Lisa Burton



CVFA Treasurer Lisa Burton and President Jack Spratt present Tessa Hastings and Myles Block of Team Tessa with a check for \$800. Photo: Lisa Burton



Castine – CVFA and the Castine Fire Rescue Department are planning to celebrate Assistant Fire Chief Peter F. Vogell's 50+ years of dedicated service to the Town of Castine and Hancock County at a departmental awards ceremony. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, May 7th from 5-7 PM in the upstairs auditorium of Emerson Hall, the Castine Town Office located at 67 Court Street.

A lifelong resident of Castine, Assistant Chief Vogell was born in the small Castine Hospital and attended both the Adams and later the Abbott Schools in Castine before graduating from Bucksport High School. Upon graduation, he entered the Navy and served in numerous combat operations during the Vietnam War onboard a Patrol Boat, River (PBR) in the capacities of engineer, engineman, runner and Boat Captain. Upon completion of his combat tour, he returned to the United States and worked as a mechanic in Bangor and later for the Town of Castine before taking a job in the boiler house at the Bucksport paper mill, where he worked until retirement. Today, Vogell continues to fish for shellfish and lobsters in Penobscot Bay as he has done since the age of 14.

Assistant Chief Vogell began his earnest involvement with the Castine Fire Department in 1962 at the age of 16. And, with the exception of his time in Vietnam, he has remained an active member of the Department since that time. He has filled many positions of responsibility within the Department over the years, and was first promoted to the rank of Assistant Fire Chief in 1972. He later served as the Fire Chief from 1973-1979. He then served as Assistant Fire Chief from 1983 to 1995, and again from 1999 to the present time. He spearheaded Castine's transition to the 911 system and incorporation into the Hancock County Regional Communications Center, to include all of the necessary mapping and road/house numbering/labeling. Most recently he managed the successful transition of all the Department's communications systems through the FCC mandated public safety narrow-banding process. Through the years, Vogell has served in many additional roles as a board member, project

COUNTY NEWS

manager and chairman of numerous committees. I respectfully request your assistance in celebrating his many achievements by providing a letter of recognition or an appropriate award or citation. All correspondence should be sent to Castine Volunteer Firefighter's Association, ATTN: 50 Years, PO Box 602, Castine, ME 04421. Should you desire to attend the event and make a presentation, please let us know in advance so that we can include you in the program. Sincerely,
Stephen E. "Jack" Spratt

President, Castine Volunteer Firefighter's Association

Trenton – A DOWNEAST SUMMER TRADITION

Trenton Volunteer Fire Department hosts

ALL YOU CAN EAT Maine Blueberry Pancake & French Toast Breakfasts

to raise money for new and up-to-date safety and rescue equipment

- Maine Blueberry or plain pancakes
 - French toast
 - Bacon and/or sausage
 - coffee, tea and/or juice

Cost: Adults \$7/Children ages 5 and up \$3/Children under 5 FREE

6 – 10 a.m. – Saturdays

June 7, July 26, August 9, September 27 and November 1 (Hunter's Breakfast).

LOCATION:

Trenton Volunteer Fire Department

59 OAK POINT ROAD/ROUTE 230 (Just off RT 3/Bar Harbor Road) , Trenton, Maine 04605

Est. 1958

The town of Trenton named Steve Corson their new fire chief effective January 1, 2014. Chief Corson grew up in Trenton and followed in his father and grandfather's footsteps in joining the ranks of Trenton Vol. Fire Department. He has been on the fire department for 24 ½ years and previous served as Assistant Chief or Deputy Chief since 2002. Congratulations to Chief Corson on his new appointment.

The Hancock County Fireman's Association meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at a different direct department in Hancock County each time. Officers for 2014 are: President, Edward Farnsworth; Vice President, David Carter; Sgt at Arms, Jack Martel; Secretary and Treasurer, Pam Pason; Board of Directors, Kelton Muise, Bim Snow, Skip Smith; RCC Advisory Committee, Sam Friend.

Knox

Rockland – Congratulations to Rockland Fire chief Charles Jordan, Jr. on his retirement from the Rockland Fire Department. Click here to read the news article in the Bangor Daily News, January 16, 2014.

South Thomaston – Town meeting voters approved the town buying a new fire truck at the South Thomaston Town Meeting. Click here to read the news article in the Bangor Daily News, March 25, 2014.

Lamoine – Lamoine's Volunteer Fire Department is getting ready to put its brand new tanker truck into service. The truck holds 1,800 gallons of water and is equipped with a 1,000 GPM pump, giving it potential flexibility as an attack vehicle. The Town of Lamoine voted to borrow \$194,000 and the fire department agreed to donate \$25,000 raised over several years through auctions, dinners, and a letter writing campaign to help fund the truck. Another \$9,000 came from a fire truck reserve fund. The body was constructed by K&T Environmental Equipment in Island Falls and is mounted on a 2014 International chassis. It was delivered in mid-March and once it's lettered it will be in service. The addition gives the department two tankers, each holding the same amount of water. The other tanker is the fleet's oldest truck at 25-years old which will remain in service for now. The department also runs two class "A" pumpers, a fast attack/brush truck and a small rigid hull rescue boat.



Bucksport – Bucksport fire has replaced its Engine 4, which was a 1984 Pierce with a 1000 GPM waterous pump with a new Engine 3, which is a 2013 Rosenbauer pumper-tanker. 1250 GPM with inline foam system and an 1800 gal tank. This is all mounted on an International chassis. This will be our first due vehicle for mutual aid calls. See photo of both trucks together.



COUNTY NEWS

Lincoln

Boothbay – Congratulations to Captain Dave Pratt of the Boothbay Fire Department, who was recognized as the Maine Fire Instructor of the Year on March 29, 2014. The award was presented by MFSI Director Bill Guindon as part of the MFSI Spring Instructor Workshop. To read the full article, click here: <http://www.boothbayregister.com/article/boothbay-firefighter-receives-statewide-award/30944>

Oxford

Lovell – It has been a very busy past few months for us at the Lovell Volunteer Fire Department this past fall we finished a Basic Firefighter School graduating 12 from the course. The course was held in Lovell and was open to our neighbors of which 3 firefighters attended from two of the neighboring department. It was a tough schedule of classes to get through and it asked a lot from the students and instructors who participated. Our new firefighter will be a terrific boost to the department's personnel and the community. MFSI was great to work with and was a tremendous help with props and instructors, Thank you Maine Fire Service Institute.

With the completion of fire school we found that some of the guys were in the need for new turnout gear of which we were able to tap into a Safety Enhancement Grant and purchase two sets of gear, Thank you Maine Municipal Association. Last year Lovell Fire was successful with a Homeland Security Grant for a Thermal Imaging camera and we have just learned that we've been awarded a grant for a laptop computer. We were also very lucky to have received assistance from the Maine Forest Service being awarded a Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant that will help us boost our rural water supply equipment with some much needed adapters and fittings, Thank you Maine Forest Service.

Here in Lovell we have the very popular Lake Kezar of which we provide fire protection for with a marine response however, our 40 year boat would no longer answer the call due to its age and repairs were far too expensive to put money towards a 40 year old boat. So we started a boat campaign to raise money for a new boat to fit our needs, this campaign was a huge success and the citizens of our community far exceed our exceptions and a just a few months we raised enough money to order a new boat. The boat that the department chose is a Rescue One Connector Boat made of aluminum it has a rescue platform at the bow, a center console, a light bar tower with LED lights and is powered by a 40HP Mercury outboard Jet Drive. This boat is a great addition to assist with our water response and will be outfitted with a pump and hose for response to boat, island or shoreline fires. Our thanks to the citizens of Lovell!

Tommie C McKenzie, Fire Chief
Lovell Volunteer Fire Department

Meeting Dates for the Western Maine Firefighter's Association (WMFA):

Meetings are held the Second Monday of Each Month @ 1830hrs.

January 13th @ Rumford

February 10th @ Paris

March 10th @ Norway

April 14th @ Andover

May 12th @ Harrison

June 9th @ Fryeburg

July 14th @ Lovell

August 11th @ Greenwood

September 8th @ Bethel

October 13th @ Mexico

November 10th @ Hebron

December- No Meeting / MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW-YEAR!!!

Sagadahoc

Bath – Congratulations to Bath Fire Chief Stephen Hinds on his retirement. The Chief plans to retire in April after serving 12 years as Chief and a city firefighter since 1971. Prior to Bath, Chief Hinds was a firefighter in Lewiston since 1976.

York South

York – York County Fire Fighters Assn meeting. May 14 @ Lebanon Fire Dept. Spaghetti Supper at 6:30pm. Annual meeting with election of officers and the awarding of Fire Fighter of the Year Award at 7:30pm.

Eliot – Eliot Fire Departments 100th Anniversary- Aug 17, Open House at Fire Station 1323 State Rd 10:00 - 14:00

Aug 23, parade at 10:00 & Muster at 12:00

Fireman's Ball 18:00 - 23:00 at the Regatta Banquet & Conference Center, 28 Levesque Dr., Eliot.

Wells – Wells Fire Department secured two new trucks:

Engine 2

2013, E-One Typhoon, 1250 Gallon Tank, Hale QMax 1500 GPM Pump, 30 gallons of Class A Foam, 4 Person Cab



COUNTY NEWS

Engine 4

2013, E-One Typhoon, 750 Gallon Tank, Hale QMax
1500 GPM Pump, 30 gallons of Class A Foam, 4 Person
Cab



Berwick – Congratulations to Crew Chief Dave Reynolds on his recent retirement from the Berwick Fire Department after serving 20 years of dedicated service. Dave started his career as a volunteer while employed by Prime Tanning Co in 1994 and worked his way up to Crew Chief position before retiring.

From all of your Brothers and Sisters, Happy Retirement!!!!



Wells – The Wells Fire Department began a new tradition with a ceremony honoring Jeff Nawfel and James Moore, who have been promoted to the rank of Captain. Board Chairman Karl Ekstedt pinned the Fire Captain pin on Nawfel and Moore's uniform and their families placed a pin on their collars. Fire Chief Dan Moore said "a strong tradition in the fire service is involving the families in recognizing the hard work and dedication that the members have put into their fire department." The entire Wells Fire Department was at the ceremony to honor the new Captains. Captain Nawfel and Captain Moore received a standing ovation from the packed meeting room in what was a moving ceremony and a wonderful new tradition.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Maine Fire Service Institute is the place to get local and state training announcements. Go to www.MaineFSI.org to get this year's full schedule. Training Program Managers are Peter Rines, Frank Hammond, Jr. and Walter Morris they can be reached by calling 207-844-2070. To request props or equipment, please call the number above and ask for Randall Hamilton. You can also get on the email list for future announcements. Here are some upcoming training dates for your information.

- April 22-23, 2014- Maine Prepares Annual Conference in Augusta. Go to <http://www.regonline.com/Registrar/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1163166> for details and registration information.
- April 26, 2014- Live Fire Training Workshop at Ellsworth Fire Department. Go to www.MaineFSI.org for registration information.
- April 26, 2014- Firefighter I & II State Skills Testing in Auburn. Contact Peter Rines at 207-844-2074 or email: prines@smccME.edu at least two weeks prior to testing.
- April 28, 2014- State Certification Written Examinations in South Portland at SMCC. Contact Peter Rines at 207-844-2074 or email: prines@smccME.edu at least two weeks prior to testing.
- May 17 & 18, 2014 – 8th Annual Western Maine Fire Attack School
- May 12, 2014- State Certification Written Examinations in Bangor at EMCC. Contact Peter Rines at 207-844-2074 or email: prines@smccME.edu at least two weeks prior to testing.
- May 19, 2014- State Certification Written Examinations in South Portland at SMCC. Contact Peter Rines at 207-844-2074 or email: prines@smccME.edu at least two weeks prior to testing.
- May 31, 2014- Firefighter I & II State Skills Testing in Ellsworth. Contact Peter Rines at 207-844-2074 or email: prines@smccME.edu at least two weeks prior to testing.
- June 18-22, 2014 – New England Fire/Rescue/EMS 2014
- June 7 and 8, 2014- Firefighter I & II State Skills Testing in Hollis. Contact Peter Rines at 207-844-2074 or email: prines@smccME.edu at least two weeks prior to testing.
- June 9, 2014- State Certification Written Examinations in Brunswick at MFSI office at SMCC Midcoast Campus. Contact Peter Rines at 207-844-2074 or email: prines@smccME.edu at least two weeks prior to testing.
- June 23, 2014- State Certification Written Examinations in South Portland at SMCC. Contact Peter Rines at 207-844-2074 or email: prines@smccME.edu at least two weeks prior to testing.
- July 14, 2014- State Certification Written Examinations in Bangor at EMCC. Contact Peter Rines at 207-844-2074 or email: prines@smccME.edu at least two weeks prior to testing.
- July 17, 2014- Maine Fire Chief's Association Annual Membership Meeting and Networking Luncheon in Camden/Hope. Go to www.mainfirechiefs.com for registration details and information.
- July 21, 2014- State Certification Written Examinations in Brunswick at MFSI office at SMCC Midcoast Campus. Contact Peter Rines at 207-844-2074 or email: prines@smccME.edu at least two weeks prior to testing.
- July 28, 2014- State Certification Written Examinations in South Portland at SMCC. Contact Peter Rines at 207-844-2074 or email: prines@smccME.edu at least two weeks prior to testing.