



FLASHPOINT

Summer 2014

Maine State Federation of Fire Fighters

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE— RICHARD A. CYR

Another session of our newsletter is on the roll, and if officers that have anything of interest, consider having it published in our newsletter! We changed the format for the third newsletter. Hopefully it will work better for you. The Federation newsletter and the website is a benefit for all firefighters in the State of Maine.

We've had quite a bit of structural fires in the past six months, when the Federation paid out 15 death benefits for this year, compared to 37 last year.

We are also involved with the NVFC, the benefits are great and you can access it on our website.

Our Memorial service will be held on Saturday, October 4 at 10:A.M. on the Capitol grounds.

Don't miss this year's Convention which will be held in Farmington on September 5-7, 2014. Make plans to attend and support this department.

We also have a fundraiser happening right now. \$10 a ticket gives you 10 chances to win a gift card of \$500. Tickets are still available through your County VPs and the drawing will be held at the convention.

Stay safe, drive safe and see you at the Convention!

WHO TO CONTACT

PRESIDENT:

Richard Cyr
Phone: 728-7727
E-mail: neifireext@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE VP:

Ken Desmond
Phone: 443-6889
E-mail: kdesmond49@comcast.net

SECRETARY:

Stanley Saucier
Phone: 435-8242
E-mail: sec_msfff@hotmail.com

TREASURER:

Jeff Maker
Phone: 454-2327
E-mail: msffttreasurer@gmail.com

LEGAL REP:

Bill Vickerson
Phone: 775-5200
E-mail: billy@maine.rr.com

MEMBERSHIP (MMA):

- Jennifer Stiles

Phone: 1-800-452-8786 ext. 2212
E-mail: jstiles@memun.org

MMA SUPPORT STAFF:

- Denise Kolreg, ext. 2296
- Margaret Noel, ext. 2304
- Jennifer Stiles, ext. 2212

E-mail: dkolreg@memun.org
E-mail: mnoel@memun.org
E-mail: jstiles@memun.org

ANDROSCOGGIN: Jared Blake

Phone: 329-2273
E-mail: ffemtjblake@yahoo.com

AROOSTOOK NO: Kirk Ward

Phone: 896-5299 E-mail: kirkward1@yahoo.com

AROOSTOOK SO: Dale Morrison

Phone: 764-5466
E-mail: firepi57@hotmail.com

CUMBERLAND EAST: Richard O. Sylvain

Phone: 865-1950
E-mail: richowensy@aol.com

CUMBERLAND WEST: Timothy Nickels

Phone: 699-9165
E-mail: timothynickels@hotmail.com

FRANKLIN: Jeff Brackett

Phone: 778-3652
E-mail: jeffbrackett@yahoo.com

HANCOCK: Albert "Bim" Snow

Phone: 326-4252
E-mail: bimsnow41@yahoo.com

KENNEBEC: Scott Holst

Phone: 873-7334
E-mail: scott.holst@yahoo.com

KNOX: Jeannie Conway

Phone: 863-9946
E-mail: jnewt10399@aol.com

LINCOLN: Clarence Campbell

Phone: 409-1510
E-mail: bbyema1@roadrunner.com

OXFORD: Richard Jones

Phone: 364-8426
E-mail: jonesy192@gwi.net

PENOBSCOT NO: David E. Manzo

Phone: 723-9695
E-mail: manzodbe@myfairpoint.net

PENOBSCOT SO: Robert DiBona

Phone: 848-5106
E-mail: dibonab@hermon.net

PISCATAQUIS: Joseph Guyotte

Phone: 564-2187
E-mail: dffdfire1@yahoo.com

SAGadahoc: Dickey Brigrance

Phone: 443-6726
E-mail: dickeylb@comcast.net

SOMERSET: VACANT

WALDO: Richard Libby

Phone: 223-8897
E-mail: wfd17@roadrunner.com

WASHINGTON: Wayne Seeley

Phone: 726-4674
E-mail: wseeley@myfairpoint.net

YORK NO: James T. Howard

Phone: 468-1003
E-mail: jimhoward132@yahoo.com

YORK SO: Mark Gay

Phone: 337-2124
E-mail: cappy-241@hotmail.com

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 2014-2015 (as of 8/27/14): 4,933

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



"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:

In the April newsletter I said that we were cautiously optimistic that LD 1154 *An Act To Establish the Maine Length of Service Award Program* would be signed by the governor. Unfortunately, that did not happen. Governor LePage vetoed the bill. We made a tremendous effort to get the legislature to override the veto. After a decisive win in the House, we fell two votes short in the Senate. Thanks to everyone who took the time to call or email your elected representatives. Your efforts made it close.

While we were disappointed about the veto, we were encouraged by the progress we were able to make. We have never before gotten a LOSAP bill out of committee. This time we passed it and nearly overrode a veto. Because recruitment and retention are such important issues, we will continue the fight to establish and fund a LOSAP program in Maine. We will be refile the bill when the 127th Legislature convenes in December.

–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!

March 2014

- [UPDATE: Family says heater not the cause of North Yarmouth barn fire](#)

July 2014

- [Three-Alarm Blaze Damages Home on Balsam Lane in Freeport](#)
- [Apartment Complex Fire in Westbrook Displaces More Than 40 Residents](#)
- [Firefighters stopped fire from damaging wood grinding machine in Mattawamkeag](#)
- [Augusta fire displaces 10 tenants](#)
- [Investigators say two young boys set fire Monday in basement of Bath home](#)
- [Box fan blamed for Brownville house fire](#)
- [Report: Freight train caused 47 fires in 4 southern Maine towns, resulting in 'hundreds of thousands' in property damage](#)
- [Sparks created while mowing touch off second grass fire in two weeks at Aroostook County farm](#)
- [Belfast grocery store gutted in Tuesday night fire](#)
- [Roy's Marine Services garage in Dedham damaged by fire](#)
- [Landmark Machias restaurant Helen's destroyed in fire](#)

August 2014

- [FEMA Issues Grants to Three Maine Towns for First-Responder Gear](#)

- [Firefighters Battling Blaze on Rutland Road in Newport](#)

September 2014

- [Fire burns Portside Grill in Bar Harbor](#)

MSFFF BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2014 MEETING DATES:

- 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

UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- MSFFF Convention, September 5-7, 2014, Farmington
- Annual Firefighter Memorial Services, Saturday, October 4, 2014, 10am, at the Firefighter Memorial at the State Capitol in 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.



Insurance for the way you live today with protection for what matters most.



Auto and Home Insurance for Maine State Federation of Fire Fighters Members

- Auto, Home, Condo, Renters and Motorcycle coverage
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- 2,100 sales agents in 360 local offices
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¹ Figure reflects average national savings for customers who switched to Liberty Mutual's group auto and home program. Based on data collected between 9/1/12 and 8/31/13. Individual premiums and savings will vary.

² Discounts and savings are available where state laws and regulations allow, and may vary by state. To the extent permitted by law, applicants are individually underwritten; not all applicants may qualify.

³ Applies to a covered total loss. Your car must be less than one year old, have fewer than 15,000 miles and have had no previous owner. Does not apply to leased vehicles or motorcycles. Subject to applicable deductible. Not available in NC or WY.

⁴ Accident Forgiveness coverage is subject to terms and conditions of Liberty Mutual's underwriting guidelines. Not available in CA and may vary by state.

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International Fire, Police & Military Winter Games

5th Anniversary Charity Hockey Tournament

Come out and cheer for your favorite team by wearing red, blue, or camouflage.

AndroscogginBank

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PEDRO O'DARA'S



Promos & Events
by Brenda



January 16-18, 2015

All ticket monies raised will benefit the Shriners Hospital for Children —Boston
Tickets: \$10.00 per day or \$15.00 tournament pass at the Androscoggin Bank Colisee Box Office, or at our booth each day. Children 12 years and younger are free.

Special Hotel rates are available at the

Hilton Garden Inn. Call direct with code IFPMWG 207-284-4433

Check our web-site schedule for updated tournament events and parties!

www.ifpwg.com

info@ifpwg.com

207-357-5687

COUNTY NEWS

Androscoggin

TURNER: Turner fire department along with mutual aid communities responded to Auburn Road, for a mobile home in garage on fire. This call was during the day, therefore it was very difficult for finding manpower to extinguish the blaze.



WALES: In early June, Wales Fire department, along with Sabattus, Greene and Monmouth fire department responded to Bull Run Road in Wales for a chicken coop on fire. Fortunately, the chickens were saved.



COUNTY NEWS

LIVERMORE FALLS: Logging truck collides with train in Livermore Falls July 2014. Driver was not seriously injured, however he was transported to Franklin Memorial Hospital the Norstar ambulance. According to Livermore Falls Police Department, the driver was cited for failure to obey a train signal.

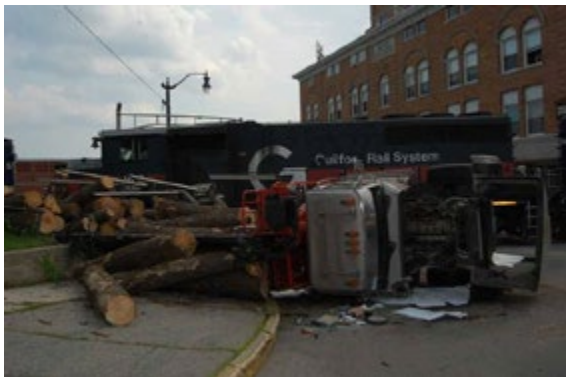


Photo credit: Lewiston Sun Journal

POLAND: Poland Fire Rescue is very proud to announce that we have taken delivery of an Amphibious Ice Rescue Responder. It is the first of its kind in the state of Maine. The Poland Fire Rescue Department Benevolent Association has worked hard hosting many fund raisers to raise the funds to purchase this vehicle. Grants were also applied for and so far we have been successful with two of those grants.

Each year Poland Fire Rescue responds to at least three (3) ice and ice water rescues. Two years ago we had an incident with the victim being 1,500 feet off shore and the ice conditions were very dangerous with the responders breaking through as they made their way out to the victim. This vehicle is vital for the safety of the fire and rescue personnel during these incidents. It will dramatically decrease the time of exposure to the victim and rescue personnel and enable fire rescue personnel to quickly get the patient into a warm ambulance, to the emergency care needed and increase the chance of a positive outcome.

It is the intention of Poland Fire Rescue that this vehicle be used for mutual aid to our neighboring communities. 3,890 square miles and an estimated 450,000 people will benefit from the purchase of this vehicle



Hancock

SORRENTO: The Sorrento Fire Department is pleased by the announcement that it has received a Federal Emergency Management (FEMA) Assistance to Fire-fighter Grant (AFG). Ninety-five percent of the requested \$245,000.00 will come from FEMA and the AFG. Five percent of the requested amount will be funded by the Town of Sorrento. The grant will be used to purchase a new National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) compliant 3,000 gallon tanker truck with a 750 gallon per minute pump. This new tanker will replace the department's old non-compliant homemade tanker.

The Sorrento Fire Department feels very fortunate to have received this grant that will provide a state-of-the-art fire apparatus. This new truck will enable the

COUNTY NEWS

department to further its mission to protect and serve the residents of Sorrento as well as the Schoodic Region.

SULLIVAN: Sullivan Fire Department received a grand for \$61,560.

Oxford

NORWAY: Bonnie Seames, emergency management director for Norway, has been recognized by Oxford County commissioners and the county's Emergency Management Agency for her work over the past year.

In a ceremony, Seames was presented with a plaque from the Oxford County Emergency Management Agency, naming her 2013 Local Emergency Manager.

In a statement accompanying the presentation, county EMA Director Allyson Hill said Seames goes beyond the daily responsibilities of her position and exhibits a "can-do attitude that helps bring together all parties necessary to provide the best service to the community."

Seames' accomplishments in the past year included doing considerable legwork to apply for a federal grant to pay for an electricity generator for the Norway Municipal Complex and helping to facilitate the Norway Dam tabletop exercise this past summer, which brought together first responders, business owners and community organizations.

After accepting her plaque, Seames told commissioners that her accomplishments depended on the support she received from fellow emergency managers and first responders.

"It takes a lot of people to back me up so I can do this," she said.



Photo credit: Peter L. McGuire/Sun Journal

Bonnie Seames of Norway holds a plaque naming her the 2013 Local Emergency Manager for Oxford County. Presenting her with the plaque Tuesday in Paris are county Commissioners Steve Merrill of Norway, Caldwell Jackson of Oxford and David Duguay of Byron

MEXICO: Mexico fire pumper truck dedicated to Wentzell - by Bruce Farrin

MEXICO – Firefighters here surprised Chief Gary Wentzell on Feb. 4 by dedicating the department's recently acquired fire truck pumper to him.



Mexico Fire Chief Gary Wentzell stands beside the recently acquired fire truck pumper that the fire department dedicated to him. (Times photo by Bruce Farrin)

The dedication took place at the annual meeting of the Mexico Fire Department.

Wentzell was recognized for his years of dedicated service, as well as saving money for the town. He was awarded a framed certificate of appreciation from the Town of Mexico by the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager

John Madigan.

Last April, the Board of Selectmen approved a proposal by Wentzell to trade two older fire trucks for a newer one, at a net cost of \$119,000. The cost was \$179,000, less the \$60,000 trade-in value for their pumper and ladder truck.

An article for that was approved by voters in June. A loan agreement for the purchase of the 2002 fire truck was approved on Nov. 13 by selectmen.

Madigan said the initial payment of \$19,000 will be made from the fire department reserve account. Then, from a \$100,000 loan (at 3.9 percent interest) from Franklin Savings Bank, the town will make yearly payments of \$20,000 over each of the next five years.

The 2002 E-One Cyclone Custom Pumper was purchased from from the Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus company in Alabama. Wentzell said he had viewed the same truck online over a year ago, before it became available.

Deputy Chief Richard Jones, who travel down to Alabama with Wentzell to look at Engine 23, noted how excited the chief was about this truck.

Selectman George Byam said this truck was from Texas, so there are not any rusting issues. Further, it only has 43,000 miles and was used as an EMS response vehicle.

On a side note, it was decided to keep the number 23 on the truck, especially when it was learned that num-

ber 23 coincided with the number of years Wentzell has served as Mexico's fire chief. Jones said Wentzell has served a total of 32 years with the Mexico Fire Department.

Wentzell said he didn't have any idea about the relationship of the No. 23 until he was told about it.

Jones said the decals placed on both sides of the truck were supplied by Erik Designs.

Penobscot South

CORINTH: On June 23, 2014 it was announced that The Corinth Fire Department had received an Assistance to Firefighters grant to purchase a new fire truck. The Corinth Fire Department will receive \$150,000.00 including a 5% match from the Town. These funds will be used to purchase a used Telesquirt apparatus that will function as both an engine as well as an aerial. Fire Chief Scott Bragdon started applying for this grant in 2011 and it was not approved in 2011 or 2012. The truck will be a 2004 or newer truck with a 500 gallon tank a minimum of a 1,000 g.p.m pump, foam capable and have an enclosed 4 door cab with seating for at least 4 personnel and a 65' telesquirt type aerial device.

This truck will replace a 1980 American Lafrance Snorkel truck and 1985 Grumman Pumper. The new vehicle will have the capabilities of both of these trucks, but on a modern chassis with an upgrade in safety devices such as 3 point safety restraints, ABS brakes, auxiliary braking system and enclosed riding positions for all assigned personnel. Modern Hydraulics as well as shorter wheelbase and 1 set of outriggers should aid in placement on tight side streets as well as quicker set up time. With maintenance costs of both of the old vehicles accounting for 40% of our annual maintenance costs this grant will allow us to better maintain the rest of our fleet. Another important factor is that both American Lafrance and Snorkel have gone out of business.

The new truck will respond first due to most incidents in the Town of Corinth such as; MVAs, Chimney Fires, Medical assists, Rescues and Carbon Monoxide Calls. This will lessen the call volume on our current Engine 3 which is a 2003 Kenworth/EVM pumper. The Corinth Fire Department runs about 800 calls per year with 3 fulltime personnel and 35 call firefighters and we believe this truck will be a great asset to the entire area. Currently Corinth Operates 2 Engines, 1 Tanker, 1 Aerial, 1 Brush Truck, 1 Medium Duty Rescue and 2 Ambulances.

CLASSIFIEDS

- Fire Truck for Sale. Tested. Annually. Asking price:\$30,000 or best offer. Tel. 207 338-3362 contact: Jim Richards



- Biddeford fire department is looking for information on this 1972C series Mac. It was sold after a Waterville convention to a department in northern Maine.

Anyone with information contact VP Jim Howard York County north at Jimhoward132@yahoo.com





- York Beach Fire Dept is having their 125th Anniversary July 17 & 18, 2015. On Saturday, July 18 there will be a parade and muster. More information coming over the winter and next spring. – Mark Gay, VP York South.
- The MSFFF 2016 Convention will be held in York Village.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Lifesaving Resources, in cooperation with the York County Fire Chiefs Association, will be conducting a series of Water Rescue training programs, September 27 - 28, in Kennebunkport, Maine. These courses meet/exceed NFPA 1670 Standard for Technical Rescue and graduates are certified for 5 years upon successful completion of the training. The following courses are available for registration at this time. Space is limited, so we encourage early registration. Water Rescue Awareness (September 27) 08:00 - 12:30 hrs. Water Rescue Technician (September 27) 08:00 - 18:00 hrs. Swiftwater Rescue Technician (September 27 - 28) 08:00 - 18:00 hrs. The classroom session on Saturday, September 27, from 08:00 - 12:30 hrs., will be conducted at the Kennebunkport Village Fire Station in Kennebunkport. The practical session on Saturday, September 27, as part of the Water Rescue and Swiftwater Rescue Technician course curriculums, will be conducted in the Ocean in Kennebunkport, Maine. The practical session conducted on September 28, from 08:00 - 18:00 hrs., will be conducted on the Saco River in Saco, Maine. For information and/or registration, please access the Lifesaving Resources' website at www.lifesaving.com, or call 207/967-8614.

	<p>SAVE THE DATE! Our 9th Annual Western Maine Fire Attack School and Fire Services Trade Show May 16th, & 17th, 2015 Bethel Fire Department, Bethel, Maine Follow us on Facebook! Frاندford Mutual Aid Fire Training Association Email: info@frاندford.org website: http://www.frاندford.org Frاندford MAFTA PO Box 111 Dixfield ME 04224 phone: 207-562-4245</p>	
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<p>York County Chiefs Association</p> 	<p>41st ANNUAL FIRE & EMS TRAINING SCHOOL</p>	<p>September 27 & 28, 2014</p> 
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**The York County Chiefs' Association is proud to present the
41st Annual Fire & EMS Training School on September 27 & 28, 2014
Classes To Be Held At York County Community College
112 College Drive, Wells, Maine**

For details and to register, visit us at www.yorkcountychiefs.org.