



FLASHPOINT

Spring 2018

Maine State Federation of Fire Fighters

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – KEN DESMOND

I would like to share to all what is happening throughout Maine. Starting at the Capital we are going forward with LD-1845, "**An Act To Provide Incentives To Attract Firefighters to Maine and To Retain Trained Firefighters by Expanding the Provision of Live Fire Service Training**" It does look good that this bill will pass. We should all contact our representatives in our areas to support the Bill.

Our family of firefighters in Portland are putting together the Fire Convention this year and the web site will be up soon so we all can plan to attend the events on Sept. 21-22-23, 2018. Don't forget to join the MS-FFF membership by July 1, 2018.

If all members would put together stories from your department and submit them to your VP's we can put them in future newsletters. This newsletter is ours to make. Thank you.

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MEMBERSHIP

Current MSFFF membership expires on June 30th, send your 2018-2019 membership to your County VP as soon as possible!

For detailed information about membership benefits, visit our website at: <http://www.msfff.org/benefits.html>

Join NVFC! Click the following link for more information!

<http://www.nvfc.org/join-nvfc/>

MSFFF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Next meeting will be held on June 9, 2018 at MMA.



**Maine State Federation of Firefighters
2019 Annual Convention**

Hosted by The Western Maine Fire Fighters Association

SAVE THE DATE! Join us in Western Maine for the 56th Annual MSFFF Convention!
More information will be announced in the next few months!

Follow us on FACEBOOK! visit us soon at <http://www.msfff2019.org>

**September 13, 14, & 15, 2019
at the Fryeburg Fairgrounds**

*A weekend full of firefighter activities!
Music, dance, vendors, apparatus & equipment demos, a parade, muster, & much more!
WMFA PO Box 583, Norway ME 04260*



ADVERTISING WITH THE MSFFF:

The Maine State Federation of Firefighters is pleased to offer exclusive annual advertising opportunities to select businesses. If you work with a vendor who would benefit from advertising with us, send them here for all the information they need: http://www.msfff.org/images/PDF/RateMarketingSheet_MSFFF_2014.pdf

COUNTY NEWS

Androscoggin



Durham Fire Rescue

William "Bill" St Michel (front row center) retired as Durham's fire chief serving in that position for the past 25 years. Joining the fire department back in 1973. Bill will still volunteer has a driver.

Joseph Moore stepped into the head fire boots March 1st. Moore has been in the fire service for 22 starting as a EMT in Union. Most recently Moore was working for Life flight of Maine as a medic.



Greene Fire Department

Greene Fire Department responded to 3 different building fires in the month of March alone. They were assisted by Turner, Leeds, Monmouth, Wales and Sabbatus. One off of Sawyer Rd. one week later, one off of North Mountain Rd. one week after that, one off of Patterson Rd.

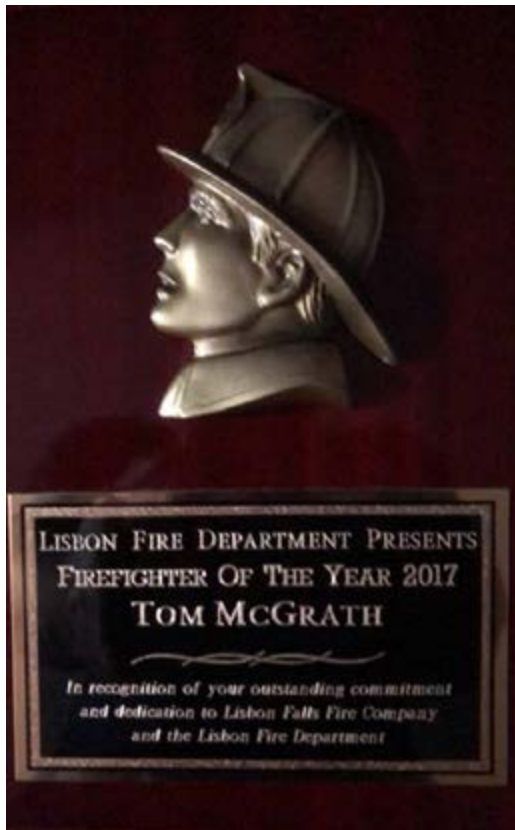
COUNTY NEWS



Leeds Fire Department

Leeds Volunteer Fire Department conducted a live training burning with help from mutual aid departments.

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At Lisbon Fire Department's annual banquet, the following awards were given out.

2017 Firefighter of the Year award for E T Smith: DJ Judd

2017 Firefighter of the year award for Lisbon Falls: Tom McGrath

2017 Fire Officer of the year award for E T Smith: Capt Jim Beal

2017 Fire Officer of the year award for Lisbon Falls: Capt Eric Watson



Livermore Falls Fire Department

After a study was done, the fire station was deemed unsafe for use. Livermore Falls Fire placed two trucks in Jay's fire station, until their station remodel is completed.



Lisbon Fire Department

(E T Smith Hose Company & Lisbon Falls Fire Company):

COUNTY NEWS



Mechanic Falls Fire Department

This past fall, members of the Mechanic Falls Fire Department conducted night time ladder operation training.



Minot Fire Department

Central Fire Station on Woodman Hill Rd



Sabattus Fire Department

Thanks to the Board of Selectman and the voters, both stations are getting equipped with a diesel exhaust removal system that will remove harmful diesel particulates when the trucks start and stop which will keep the carcinogens out of firefighters gear and out of the air we all breathe, while at the station. One less cancer causing item that our members have to worry

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about. This system has been 12 years in the making as we have made various attempts to get a system via grants.



On February 13th firefighter Steve Coffey was appointed to the position of Assistant Chief (SFD 202) for the Sabattus Fire Department.



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Turner Fire Department

After many years of service to Turner Fire Department, John Arsenault retired from the fire service. Not only was John a hard working member of Turner Fire Department, he held positions local, county, and state level. At his retirement, he was Turner's safety officer, Androscoggin County Firefighter Association treasurer, and served on the Maine Fire Protection Service Commission.



Wales Fire Department

Firefighter's at Wales Fire, putting gear back into service after a string of building fires in neighboring Greene. It's very import to keep your PPE clean as the smoke and gases cause cancer.

Aroostook North



Maine State Federation of Firefighter's Aroostook County North VP Travis Powers submitted his resignation as in part of a new career move. He has accepted a new position with Irving Woodlands, working out of New York. Travis has been the Vice President for Aroostook county north for the past few years, and has worked diligently in the needs of the fire service in the state of Maine. Thank you for your hard work, and your dedication to the firefighters not only in your part of the county, but across the state of Maine, we wish you the best of luck in your new endeavor.

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Caribou Fire Department

Fire at a potato storage facility which was empty at the time Presque Isle, North Lakes, Limestone and Fort Fairfield provide mutual aid.



Aroostook South



Turbine Fire

Presque Isle Fire Department responded to University of Maine at Presque Isle, late April 1st for a Turbine on fire. Fire was brought under control in a short amount of time.

This was in fort Fairfield this winter which is Aroostook North BoB's service center. A four bay garage with an apartment building within five feet which had some damage. Mutual aid from Presque Isle, Caribou, Easton and Limestone. Building was a total loss.



Presque Isle Fire Departments first year under their belts in the ambulance service. This is one of three that was purchased to start up this venture, which has been going really well for the city.

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Kennebec

VP – Scott Holst

Live in Winslow and have been a firefighter since 1982. I have been serving with the Waterville Fire Department now for 24 years and I am a Lieutenant on C-Shift. Married since 1981, have two married daughters and three grandchildren.



March 11 04:04 am - It was cold this morning, and the snow deep; access to the scene a long walk for Monmouth's responders, most bearing the weight of their gear while carrying tools and air packs. It was dark and it was icy; it was early and it was an intense and exhausting start to a day already earmarked for a scheduled department training burn, and the logistics/time commitment that required. But it didn't stop MFD, nor Wales, nor Sabattus, nor Leeds, nor Turner, nor any other mutual aid departments I might have apologetically overlooked here from answering the call, and providing Greene the support they so reciprocally provide Monmouth and her geographical neighbors in the reassuringly connected safety net that is mutual aid. It's a beautiful thing to see, helping balance the deep sadness of scenes like this with a linked response of strength and commitment that is comforting in its presence, tireless in its tasks.



We would like to congratulate Firefighter/Paramedic Rich Beaudoin who graduated from the Fire Officer I & II program last Saturday. Firefighter Beaudoin has been with the department for five years and continually works on further training, education and certifications. Rich is a registered nurse and Wildland Firefighter who annually responds to wildfires out west with the Maine delegation of forest firefighters. Great work Rich we are proud of you. Thanks to Deputy Chief Dave Groder, Lt/Paramedic Brian Chamberlin and Senior Firefighter/Paramedic John Robertson who attended the graduation ceremony.



Augusta Firefighter/Paramedic Christopher McLaughlin has accepted the position of Fire Chief for the Town of Topsham Maine. Chris has been a professional and dedicated firefighter for the Augusta Fire Department

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for the last 9-years. We hate to see him go but wish him all the best in his new position. Good Luck Chris and thank you for your service.

Knox

Clarence (cap) Conway has retired from the Vinalhaven Fire Department. After over 60 years of service he started his service November 1953 and retired march 2017. Jean Conway has also retired she was a former V.P. for Knox county.

Lincoln

Clarence L. Campbell
AKA - Scott
Joined the Boothbay Fire Department in 1980 after being discharged from the Navy Rose in the rank from Firefighter to Lieutenant, Captain, Training Officer, EMA Director for Boothbay, then Regional Director for Boothbay, Boothbay Harbor, and Southport, and V.P. for Lincoln County

Oxford

My name is Richard Jones and I am the Oxford County VP for the Maine State Federation of Firefighters. A little history about me, my firefighter career started back October 12, 1976 when I joined the Mexico Fire Department. Throughout my career with Mexico Fire I have held the positions of Firefighter, Captain, and Deputy Chief and now as Fire Chief. 41 years serving with the Mexico Fire Department to date. I am also a member of the Maine State Federation of Firefighters, The Maine Fire Chief's Association, New England Association of Fire Chiefs, National Volunteer Fire Council and Western Maine Firefighters Association where I am a Past President. Currently President of NOMA (Northern Oxford Mutual Aid)

And lastly I have been serving as your Oxford County VP for 16 years.

Long, emotional and busy day, but we were fortunate enough to start our day with this beautiful family and having the chance to remember and honor our beloved friend Robert Riley Jr. with the dedication of a Brass Fire Bell engraved in his memory that now hangs proudly on the front of the Dixfield Fire Company!



Family members of Robert Riley Jr.



Chief Scott Dennett, Barry Prescott, David Hodgson



Theresa Riley wife of Robert Riley Jr.



Fourth photo – The bell in memory of Robert Riley Jr.

From Lovell

Once again it is a pleasure to report to you the activity of the fire department for the past year. The fantastic news is that we have experienced no major fires or incidents, which is truly a tribute to all of you for your safe practices and situational awareness.

With that said the emergency service providers for our community is in need of your assistance to help

responders locate you during our response. Please consider posting your property number with large reflective lettering in a most conspicuous location so that we may arrive without a delay.

The fire company would also like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the support which we have received from our community so that you continue to receive a level of emergency response that's above ordinary. Thank you!

2017 has proven to be a busy year for the department with 100 incident responses to all types of summons for assistance. We experienced very few fires whether structure or wild land and those that did occur were quickly managed and kept to a minimum with little damage to property. There were a lot of weather related incidents that did occur mostly involving trees and electrical power lines. I'd also like remind the public, never come in contact with a power line or any item entangled in one as the risk to your life may be tragic.

Our apparatus is in top shape and ready to respond. As with any piece of equipment there is continuous maintenance and the engines and aerial require annual certification. This year we had to replace the large military truck that serves a dual role of forestry truck and a water tanker. The old one, a 1961 gasoline powered truck, which is a loaner from the Maine State Forestry Department lost its transfer case and it was found too expensive to repair not to mention we don't own it. The replacement is a 1991 military truck of the same size and style with air brakes, diesel engine and fully refurbished. This truck shall also serve dual roles of forestry and tanker and shall be a great asset to the department and community.

We were also able to replace a 40 year old Jaws of Life rescue tool with two new state-of-the-art Amkus rescue tools. These are both battery powered and consist of a spreader and a cutter. This combination of tools shall provide a tremendous asset to the department and community should the need arise.

The interior qualified firefighter "our air pack guys" also receive an annual medical/respirator evaluation to ensure that they too are fit for their duties. The members are aging and we truly have a need for some fresh firefighters to come and fill in the ranks. Lovell Fire is experiencing the same stress that all the communities across the nation are currently experiencing, which is the lack of volunteers/firefighters. So, if you'd like to be involved in your community and serve please consider the fire department.

This year the members recognized Jeff Fox as "Volunteer of the Year" for all that he does through-out the year. Jeff is always there willing to help any way that he can no matter what the task may be it gets done. Thank you Jeff Fox! Charles Lusky was recognized as the "Most Improved Firefighter of the Year" Charles

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has really upped his game and developed into a well-skilled firefighter. Congratulations Charles!

We also recognized our "Top Responder Firefighter" the one who was able to respond to the most calls for the year; Firefighter Evan Armington. Congratulations to Evan!

The fire department is continuously looking to improve ourselves through training, education and equipment. We recently completed a review from ISO, (Insurance Service Office) this is an agency that evaluates and rates the ability of a fire department to perform its duties. Through this review we were able to improve Lovell Fire's rating to a split rate of 6/9. Six for areas closes to the firehouse or a hydrant located in a certified water source and nine for those other areas. Not all insurance companies use ISO but for those that do you could realize a savings on fire insurance.

This leads to the Mill Pond a certified water source for fire protection, connected to this pond are two hydrants. There is now a debate in progress on the Mill Pond, the question is do we preserve the pond by repairing or replacing the dam or do we drain it and loose the critical water needed for fire protection. This is a critical source of water for our community's fire suppression and our ISO rating.

Closing, on behalf of all our Members, we thank you for your confidence and support and look forward to visiting with you, your family and friends at the annual Chicken BBQ on the 3rd Saturday in August.

Stay safe!

Respectfully submitted, Tommie C. McKenzie, Fire Chief, Lovell Volunteer Fire Co.

Statistic:

Building fire: 4, Chimney fire: 1, Vehicle fire: 1, Forest, woods, wildland fire: 2

Medical assist: 2, Motor vehicle crash w/injuries: 5, Motor vehicle crash w/no injuries: 13

Carry-outs off Hiking Trail: 6, Carbon monoxide incidents: 7, Power line down: 26

Person in distress: 1 Water problem: 1 Public service assistance: 1 Assist to police: 3

Fire alarm: 22, Mutual Aid given: 19, Mutual Aid received: 6

Total Time of all Calls: approximately 96 hours, Overall average time: 59 minutes

Notable longevity: Steve Craig 50 years, Bob Drew 40 years, Jeff Fox 45 years, Ron McAllister 62 years, Roger Woodward 39 years



Firefighter Mike Chartier of the Mexico fire department receiving the George Downs Memorial Firefighter of The Year Award from Chief Jones.

Penobscot North



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In late 2017 the East Millinocket Fire Department received a grant to purchase a new ATV with EMS rescue skid and all-season tracks. It was put into service with the tracks installed for the winter months for snowmobile/cold weather rescues. The unit is a hold-over 2016 Can-Am Defender HD-1000 and the EMS skid is a Kimtek Medlite Transport skid. The ATV with the tracks installed will update the department's old snowmobile for winter rescues and also add to its fleet in the ATV capacity as ATV clubs/trails are gaining popularity in our area rapidly.

Piscataquis



Libra Foundation donates \$20,000 to improve emergency communications in Dover-Foxcroft and Monson

Stuart Hedstrom • March 27, 2018

DOVER-FOXCROFT

The Libra Foundation investment in Piscataquis County, which includes revitalizing downtown Monson and the planned construction of an ice arena on West Main Street in Dover-Foxcroft, is continuing as the Portland-based organization is donating \$20,000 to fund equip-

ment to improve emergency communications for the Monson and Dover-Foxcroft fire departments.

Piscataquis County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Sgt. Gary Grant told the county commissioners during a March 20 meeting that officials from the Libra Foundation have been talking with the sheriff's department over the course of the projects and they wanted to be able to assist emergency services in the region. Grant said he spoke with the two fire departments about the existing needs for improved communication capabilities and asked about the types of equipment that would help.

"They have agreed to donate \$20,000 to the Piscataquis Sheriff's Office," Grant said. He said a new repeater and antenna will benefit the Dover-Foxcroft area, being located on Charleston Hill.

Grant said in Monson the fire department communications apparatus will be moved from the station downtown to a higher elevation location on the North Guilford Road. "We are going to put a 70-foot tower there," Grant said. He mentioned a crew from the Charleston Correctional Facility may build a shed to house the equipment on site.

"That will eliminate hundreds of dead spots in those two towns so we are very, very appreciative of that," Grant said.

"We are very fortunate for this \$20,000 gift from the Libra Foundation," Sheriff John Goggin said. "They wanted to do something for the Monson area and branch down into the Dover area."

"The \$20,000 is more than enough to cover both towers and the funds that are not used for the two towers will be set aside to be used for training," Goggin said.

In other business, the commissioners met with District Attorney Chris Almy. Almy thanked the county officials for including funding in the current budget to continue a full-time investigative position in his office. At full-time the position had been funded by a STOP Violence Against Women grant in previous years.

Almy said last month he received a call from the Greenville Police Department, as the school-age daughter of a member of the department was the potential victim of harassment and threats. To complicate matters, the girl's boyfriend was related to a sheriff's deputy.

To avoid conflicts of interest on both sides, the case was handed to District Attorney's Office Investigator Scott Arno.

With the incident in Greenville taking place soon after the school shooting in Parkland, Fla., Almy said "that just ramps up the anxiety and fear in the community."

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"The situation is still an active and ongoing investigation," Arnos said, mentioning he will present his findings to Almy. Arno said he has spoken with both parents and school officials.

"It is very nice to have a resource outside the department to take away conflicts of interest," he said.

"This is the perfect example of a need for an investigator who is impartial," Commissioner Jim Annis said.

"What they have said is very true and it's the ideal situation for why this position was created," Piscataquis County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Bob Young said.

"I think this is a perfect example of the investigator position working out," Commissioners Chair James White said.

"And Chris thank for all those years of service," White said to Almy.

The district attorney recently announced that he would not be seeking reelection in Piscataquis and Penobscot counties after having served in the position since 1985. He withdrew his nomination papers two days before the filing deadline upon learning that Assistant District Attorney Marianne Lynch was interested in succeeding him.

Almy said he hopes the new district attorney will keep him on as an assistant district attorney.

The commissioners signed a contract with Pavement Management Services, LLC to oversee this season's work in Blanchard and Moosehead Junction townships.

County Manager Tom Lizotte said the paving will be .8 miles in Blanchard from Piscataquis River bridge to where the asphalt ends. Less than half a mile on

both Depot Street and the Green Tower Hill Road in Moosehead Junction will be paved. He said the estimated \$134,000 for all the resurfacing is included in the current budget.

"What he does is scope out the projects and oversee the work," Lizotte said about the consultant. "We pay him per ton on the project."

Lizotte said the bids for the paving will probably be brought to the commissioners in late April or early May. He said he would be talking about related ditching work with Road Agent Carl Henderson.

Piscataquis County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director Tom Capraro said the agency now has a flood watch page on Facebook under "Piscataquis County Flood Watch." He said the page is modeled after one in Aroostook County, and residents can submit localized flooding pictures to go along with information provided by the EMA.

"It's eyes on the ground if you like," Capraro said.

Sagadahoc

Somerset

Sunday 4/8/18, 23:59, Somerset Ave, Fairfield, fully evolved structure fire, Fairfield down 2 trucks, Second alarm sounded, Winslow, Clinton, Oakland, Waterville, Albion station coverage, Fire Marshal investigating Monday, no cause as of now.

Fairfield down 2 trucks, Rescue 3 and Engine 2, both truck are pumpers, both are uninspectable, both are OOS, new pumper, which is a demo, we will be purchasing, will be at the station Tuesday, hopefully in service very soon

IN MEMORY OF:

George E. Gorman

9/11/1942-10/7/2017

South Berwick Fire Chief

1970-2017

Chief George Gorman served the Town Of South Berwick Fire Department for over 50 years with 47 of them as the Fire Chief. He originally began his training with the Air Force stationed in Alaska and later as a firefighter with the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard before his long and admirable career with the Town.

As the South Berwick grew so did the Fire Department under his commendable leadership. When he took charge there were only three breathing units for 40 firefighters. By the time he retired in September of 2017 every firefighter was outfitted with turnout gear.

George not only made great strides in keeping up with safety but also in the management of his team and in the maintenance of all the equipment. The pride he took in his profession reflects magnificently on the town where his diligence is recognized statewide for the aptitude and professionalism of our firefighters, the quality and upkeep of the station and the trucks, and the quality reputation that he helped to found and build upon.

The respect he gained was really evident by the grand turnout for his retirement party held in September 2017 as a great many residents lined up waiting to greet him. During his many years he trained generations of firefighters in Town including his own son and grandson who are proudly walking in his footsteps.

Joe Rousselle who has been with the department for 45 years and has taken on the role of Fire Chief said it best when he said "Chief Gorman set the standard for the department and his legacy will live on for many years."



Left: Retirement Plaque

Center: Chief Gorman
(Photos Courtesy of the SBF D Facebook Page)

Right: Retirement Award

MSFFF FUNDRAISING

If you have any ideas or suggestions for fundraising for the Federation, please contact President Ken Desmond.



Maine State Federation of Firefighters Night at Hadlock Field

Saturday, July 21st 2018

The Portland Sea Dogs and the Maine State Federation of Firefighters are teaming up for an MSFFF group outing at Hadlock Field, on Saturday July 21st, 2018. Firefighters and their families can take advantage of this opportunity to come out to a game at Hadlock Field, come down to the field at around 5:00 PM to walk around the warning track and have a group photo taken in front of the Maine Monster in left field. After the game is over, be sure to stick around for our post-game Fireworks show.

In addition to receiving a ticket to the game, a portion of all tickets sold through this link will be donated to the Maine State Federation of Firefighters.

If you have any questions, please email Alan Barker at ABarker@Seadogs.com

For orders or 10 tickets or more, please call The Sea Dogs Ticket Office at 207-879-9500 and ask for Alan.



LD1845 An Act To Provide Incentives To Attract Trained Firefighters to Maine and To Retain Trained Firefighters by Expanding the Provision of Live Fire Service Training

Maine Fire Protection Services Commission LD1845



Firefighters in Maine are required by the Maine Bureau of Labor Standards to train, maintain, and be proficient in tasks before performing those tasks on the fire ground. No fire training facility in Maine meets standards relevant to all of today's fire-fighting needs. Not only are our current training facilities lacking structurally, they are lacking in geographic location with Maine's rural firefighters severely underserved. Additionally, no facility provides certified training for advanced operations.

LD1845 will enable grant funding to provide and support compliant fire training facilities within an hours travel time for over 90% of Maine's Firefighters.

Reverse the Decline for your Firefighters Training— support LD1845