



SPRING 2019 ISSUE
March | Volume 3 Issue 1

The *Fire Bell*

* March • June • September • December *

*A Quarterly Publication of the
Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department*

A Message from

GREENSBURG FIRE CHIEF | Thomas M. Bell

The Greensburg Fire Department is made up of six companies | five Engine Companies and one Truck Company consisting of a fleet of 20 Vehicles including the Duty Car.

In 2018, we had six reportable incidents that involved the fire department fleet, three of which were property damage where a fire vehicle hit an object on the property or drove through the property causing damage to the yard or landscaping. One involved another vehicle misjudging a turn, and another resulted from not properly securing a parking jack on a trailer.

This year, 2019, we have already had two “backing up” incidents and one that involved an unsecured trailer hitch. Sadly, just in one-month, we had 50% of last years total number of incidents. There are 11 months to go and at this rate, we will be way over last year when 2019 closes.

The reason I bring this to your attention is simple. We need to make a concerted effort in being more cautious operating the Fire Department Fleet. Please remember, if you don’t make it to the scene, you can’t help. You need to obey the traffic laws - you are not excused from or above the law. You must stop at all stop signs and red lights. You need to keep your head on a swivel. You need to pay attention to the radio, if it is not a life endangered incident, take some extra time and always be aware of the other driver and never assume they are going to give you the Right-of-Way. Your emergency lights are requesting the Right-of-Way. Avoid backing up and if you do, USE A SPOTTER. These points, if you remember them, will make you a better and safer Emergency Response Vehicle Driver.

On AED calls. When you are the first to get there, and the ambulance is already there, slow the others down. We all need to look out for one another in all that we do. We are our brother’s and sister’s keeper. Safety is what this is all about. We want everyone to go home after each and every incident which is my main objective in this Fire Department, to make sure it happens.

~Tom



SAFETY - SAFETY - SAFETY

**Reminder, If Working in Traffic - Wear A Vest
If you are Running A Chain Saw - Wear Chaps
And LASTLY...If you are Responding to an Alarm
WEAR YOUR Bunker Gear!!!!**

Please keep in mind the materials used in a building. The sidewalk that surrounds a burning structure is considered a “HOT ZONE”. Cyanide is used in building materials. You may not see smoke, but studies have determined that high level of toxins are five to twenty feet from the front door of a burning structure. The sidewalk is no place for spectators or firefighters not wearing SCBA.

PLEASE
Do Not Take It
As A Personal Attack
If you are Reminded
To “**BUNKER**” Up
By Command or Safety Officers
WE ONLY CARE ABOUT
YOUR SAFETY

**If you are serious about being involved in the
Volunteer Fire Service - It takes a commitment
.... What is Life without a commitment?**



Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department
Dedicated Unified Teamwork
Six Companies | One Community | One Vision
1891 - 2019



DRIVERS

STAY WITH YOUR VEHICLES

If you are the driver of an ENGINE, RESCUE or Any Other Primary Piece of Apparatus, you must stay with your vehicle while on scene. The ONLY EXECEPTION WOULD BE A LIFE OR DEATH SITUATION - Also, if you are the Driver with only a Junior Member on Board, You will call in service as DRIVER ONLY!

KNOX BOXES

Many of the properties the Greensburg Fire Department is responsible for in the City of Greensburg are outfitted with a KNOXBOX™.

There are 5 Sound Reasons to install a KNOXBOX™

- **RAPID ACCESS** | Eliminate barriers and allow first responders to quickly gain access to secured properties when time matters most.
- **PROTECTION** | Protect property, inventory, and thousands of dollars in investments from fire and water damage by providing rapid emergency access to first responders.
- **COST** | Eliminate costly repair from forced entry with KNOX one-time, low cost investment.
- **LOW MAINTENANCE** | All products are built Knox-Rugged to require little maintenance and retain their operational integrity even under extreme weather conditions.
- **SECURITY** | Only the local fire department has the authority to access the KNOXBOX™.



ALL Asst./Dep. Asst. Chiefs and Captains have been issued a KNOXBOX key. At times during routine calls (AFA) it can mean a delay until a key arrives on scene, but this does not constitute opening up a security risk that could effect our citizens. Keys are issued and signed for by our fire assistants and captains only for security

reasons. A key can never be permitted to hang on the master ring in a fire engine. Those that have a key, must return it to the appropriate fire official in charge of the keys and have his or her name removed from the card associated with the numbered key. If a key were ever to become missing, the Fire Department would be responsible for a tremendous expense associated with the re-keying of over 300 boxes that are located throughout the City of Greensburg. Annually, the fire department does conduct a physical inventory of all issued keys.

Chief's Staff & Appointments

<i>Name</i>	<i>Area of Responsibility</i>
Assistant Chiefs	
Rick Hoyle C-2	Chief Training Officer
Tony Manley C-3	Structures
Lou Battistella C-4	Administration/Teams
Chet Bell C-5	EVOT Officer/Fire Investigator
Kim Houser C-6	Advanced Training Legal
Bill Wright 52	Records
Les Harvey 58	Emergency Management
Deputy Assistant Chiefs	
David Klingler 41	Truck Company Operations
Richard Johnson 42	Hazardous Materials
Bob Baker 43	Rescue Operations
Calvin Kier 45	Firefighter Health
Command Staff Special Officers	
Ken Bacha 46	Dept. Safety Officer
Mark Seighman 748	Incident Safety Officer
Chris Tantlinger 240	Public Information Officer
George McFarland 824	Captain—Dive/Swift Water
Kristi Steele 790	Department Medical Officer
Committee Chairpersons	
Rob Giles 69	Recruitment & Jr. Program
Rick Steele 794	Youth & Community Programs
Justin Calisti 26	PA State Instructor
Bud Mertz 200	Legislative/Public Safety
Jeff Henry 843	SAFER Grant

Chief Bell Makes Appointments to the Command Staff

Jeff Henry (2019)

Jeff will be the Point of Contact interfacing the Greensburg Fire Department with the SAFER Grant Administrator of WESTCOFIRE (Westmoreland County Firefighter Initiative) at Hempfield Township. Last reported by WESTCOFIRE, the SAFER FUNDS remaining for the 4.3 million Federal Grant received in 2017 is almost 3.5 million.

Kristi Steele (2019)

Kristi has been appointed as the GVFD Medical Officer and will organize Fire Department Members' Health records with regards to inoculations and will ensure all members receive their vaccinations when required, working under Asst. Dep. Chief/Health Ofc. Dr. Cal Kier.



Why.....The Fire Bell ?

Communication is paramount for any organization that wants to be successful. Minutes are provided after all department meetings, and *The Fire Bell* simply recaps three months as a reminder and serves as a Department Record of Accomplishment.

Editor For "The Fire Bell" | Lou Battistella

STANDARDS

The Greensburg Fire Department has many standards, but one particular one spells out the standard for Personal Protection Equipment and Colors. Colors are a way to identify fire ground personnel allowing for quick ease of assignments by the Incident Commander and his assigns. All Greensburg Fire Department Personnel shall wear Globe **YELLOW** Bunker Suits. Chief Command & Safety Officer helmets shall be **WHITE**. Helmets worn by 420 Members (12, 13 yr. old) & Junior Members (14-17 yr. old) shall be **BLUE**. All Captain Helmets shall be **RED**. The helmet worn by the Public Information Officer shall be **ORANGE**. These items are purchased by the Department's (Relief Association) Quartermaster and are specification specific. In the Greensburg Fire Department we use Phenix fire helmets exclusively. Those that have older New Yorker Style are permitted to use them until they are deemed unsafe by the Quartermaster and/or Safety Officers. Black Helmets are not permitted at any time.

Situational Awareness

The Ability to perceive what is happening around you & the understanding of what is happening around you.

KNOX BOX KEYS

Assistant & Deputy Assist. Chiefs, and Captains are issued a Key for the City Knox Box System. Those who are issued keys are personally responsible for their key and the key must be carried by only the person who signed for the key. At no time, due to liability to the Fire Department & the City of Greensburg, shall a Knox Box key be placed on City Fire Apparatus. Missing keys shall be investigated.

Remember to be Professional on the Radio
Speaks Volumes for
OUR Department's INTEGRITY.



CodeRED is a FREE emergency notification service provided to Westmoreland County residents to notify them of emergency information through phone calls, text messages, emails, social media, and CodeRED Mobile Alert App. CodeRED is a web-based critical communication solution that enables local public Safety personnel to notify residents and businesses through the aforementioned. To sign up, visit the Westmoreland County's CodeRED enrollment website: (key into your browser) <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/BF19575C3477> and enter the required information online (address, phone number (s)). This is the quickest way to sign up because the information you supply is immediately registered in the system.

LEADERSHIP QUIZ

KIM HOUSER | Featured Test Questions

Question 1.

Effective Risk management includes good leadership. The best leadership practices are:

- A. Provide a good example at all times by your actions and your attitude.
- B. Have thought through a vision for your organization and a long term plan to achieve that vision
- C. Provide an atmosphere of inclusiveness and openness.
- D. Generate a consensus on issues through indirect processes as well as direct processes.
- E. Provide glory and positive reinforcement to those without taking self-credit.
- F. All the above.

Question 2.

In order to be protected from termination from employment under the Pennsylvania Statutes which of the following statements are NOT TRUE:

- A. A Fireman needs to advise the employer that he was late due to a fire call.
- B. A Fireman must supply the employer with a written statement from the Chief.
- C. Any written documents provided must indicate the beginning time and the end time of the call and be signed by the Chief.
- D. None of the Above.

REMEMBER.... WE cannot work together efficiently if WE don't train together. This past year's effort in Department Training has been **OUTSTANDING**. The Citizens of our City should be proud of the dedication you have all exhibited!



Some Dates to Remember

Wednesday Nights - Bingo

Station 7 at 6:30 PM

Saturday, March 9

Station 8 Purse Bash 12 noon - Marion Hall

Saturday, March 23

Station 6 & 7 Cash Bash - 5 PM - Station 7

Station 8 Burger Sales

Sat Apr 13 • 11am | Fri May 10 • 4pm | Fri Jun 7 • 4pm | Fri Jul 12 • 4pm | Fri Aug 9 • 4pm
Sat Sept 7 • 11 am | Sat Oct 5 • 11am

Greensburg Community Days

May 23, 24, & 25

Saturday, June 1

Station 7 & 8 Golf Outing

Saturday, June 8 | 9 am to 2 pm

2nd Annual J.Edward Hutchinson Jr. Emergency Services Day

Lynch Field

Saturday, June 22

Department Picnic - 3pm to 9pm

Mt. Odin

*For a Complete Listing Check the WEBSITE
www.gbgfire.com*

PARADE UNIFORMS • PARADE UNIFORMS

Commander Tony Manley is requesting, if you are not going to parade any longer, to please turn in your uniform so others may use it. There are many that want to parade, but do not have a uniform. According to the list, it is apparent there are many that have uniforms that have not paraded for a long time.

Your Cooperation would be Greatly Appreciated.



The Greensburg Bloodhound Team got some more nice air time courtesy of WPXI-TV and Melanie Marselko featuring on a short segment over New Years on the Hounds and what they do. The team assisted the PA State Police in Kittanning the day after Christmas searching for a dementia person. He has yet to be located. Then on Jan. 17, the team was called to Latrobe to assist the State Police on a bank robbery. Bloodhound Darcy, led handler Elysia and team to a parking lot. Darcy indicated a vehicle pickup. Surveillance footage was obtained showing a vehicle prior when Darcy indicated. The police were able to match the vehicle with another location video and were able to obtain a license number leading to an apprehension 6 hours following the robbery. Just what we want to hear!

The Importance of the 360° Size Up

Ken Bacha | February 14th is Valentines Day and sticks firmly in my memory as the day three Firefighters from the City of Pittsburgh died in the line of duty at the Bricelyn Street Fire. The LODD involved Capt. Thomas A. Brooks, FF Patricia A. Conroy and FF Mark R. Kolenda.

Although the final report indicated several items that contributed to the fatalities, one item in particular stands out to me. The structure was a 1 ½ story single family frame building as it appears from the street. Entry was made into the structure on the alpha side, division 1. The team advanced the hand line down the stairs to the basement (sub-division 1). Fire erupted behind the Firefighters burning through the hose line and collapsing the stairs. Attempts to break out windows with hand tools and their helmets were unsuccessful due to heavy plastic added to each window.

Calls for help on the radio indicated that they were in the basement. Unknown to the trapped Firefighters, there was an additional level below sub-division 1. Firefighters on the outside acted as expected and entered the basement (sub-division 2) from the “C” side of the structure to attempt a rescue. Unfortunately, the attempted rescue was conducted on sub-division 2, the true basement, and the three trapped Firefighters were on sub-division 1 one floor up. During this operation, another Firefighter was trapped and rescued leaving the rescuers falsely believing that everyone was rescued and accounted for.

Lessons learned: An initial 360 survey would have quickly identified the structure as having 1 ½ stories up from the front of the building and two additional floors below street level. Accountability would have helped identify those missing and facilitated additional search and rescue.

All three Firefighters died as a result of smoke inhalation due to running out of breathing air in the SCBA.

This is written not to find fault but to “Live and Learn”.

Rest in peace Tom, Patty and Mark.

Author *KEN BACHA* | *GVFD DEPARTMENT SAFETY OFFICER*



Handler Mike Baker & Delphie in Armstrong Co. 12-26-18



The Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department

Is Governed by the

The Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department Board of Control

2019

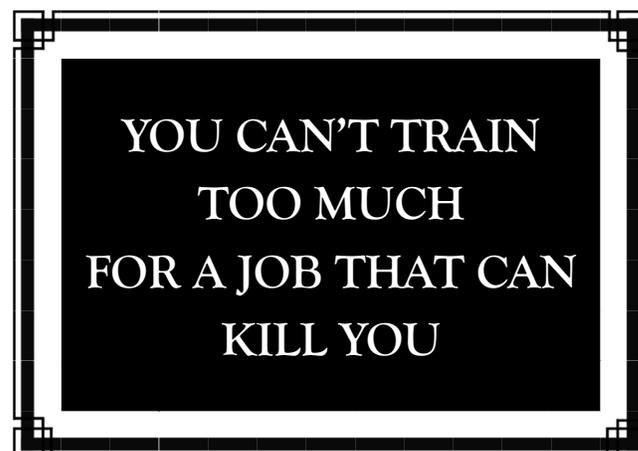
President - Rick Steele • Vice President - Jimmy Fontana • Secretary - Justin Calisti • Treasurer Tony Manley
Financial Secretary - Ken Bacha



Sitting: Jimmy Fontana, Ken Bacha, Bill Wright, Glenn Thomas, Rev. Robert McKie, Mike Korba, Rick Hoyle
1st Row Standing: Rick Steele, Rich Baur, Tony Manley, Dale Hutchinson, LeRoy Atkinson, Jim Buscaglia
2nd Row Standing: Mike Sheffler, Dave Klingler, Tom Bell, Rob Giles, Rich Fry

The Board of Control is comprised of Three Elected Members from Each Station & The Fire Chief

- Station 1** Jim Buscaglio, Rich Bauer, Mike Korba
- Station 2** Bill Wright, Dave Klingler, Justin Calisti
- Station 3** Glenn Thomas, Dale Hutchinson, Leroy Atkinson
- Station 6** Rob Giles, Mike Sheffler, Angelo Rosetti
- Station 7** Rich Fry, Jimmy Fontana, Rick Steele
- Station 8** Tony Manley, Rick Hoyle, Ken Bacha
- Fire Chief** Thomas M. Bell





The Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department Relief Association

Back in 1736 in Philadelphia, Ben Franklin encouraged the formation of the Union Fire Company and since then, Volunteer Emergency Service Organizations have been providing much-needed fire protection and lifesaving services to communities across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Relief Association of the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department is a complete separate entity of the Fire Department. It serves as an Association to handle proceeds generated from distributed PA State Funds from a 2% tax on property insurance premiums from Insurance Companies that are not Pennsylvania Insurance Companies. Funds are annually distributed to municipalities based on formula of size and population. Use of the Foreign Fire Insurance premium tax monies generated is restricted and can only be spent by the Commonwealth Fire Departments for health, safety, member death benefits and training. Relief Associations in the Commonwealth are subject to the Rules of the Pennsylvania State Auditor General, and must adhere to rigorous accounting and inventory controls or face the consequences of being disqualified to receive annual allocated state funds. The Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department Relief Association is comprised of three elected members by and from each station, the Fire Chief, and three Fire Chief Appointed representatives. In addition, the GVFD Relief Association Board is supplemented with a Quartermaster, charged with inventory and purchasing, and a Fire Department Attorney. RA Officers are elected by the Relief Association Board.



2019

Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department Relief Association

Sitting

Bill Wright, Larry Weimer, Clyde Snyder, Rick Hoyle, Kim Houser, Doc Kier, Tony Manley

Standing

Jim Buscaglio, Rich Bauer, Les Harvey, Mike Sheffler, Tom Bell, Don Kundrick, Bud Mertz
Mike Answine, Rob Giles, Lou Battistella, Jon Hillwig, Vince Fontana

Missing From Photo - Jeremy Danko, Frank Blatney, Denny Blank, Keith Hutchinson, & Kevin Hutchinson

2019 GVFD Relief Association Officers

President	Dr. Calvin Kier
Vice President	Clyde Snyder
Secretary	Lou Battistella
Treasurer	Larry Weimer
Financial Secretary	Jon Hillwig
Membership Secretary	Vince Fontana

Board Members

Station 1	Jim Buscaglio, Rich Bauer, Mike Answine
Station 2	Bill Wright, Don Kundrick, Bud Mertz
Station 3	Denny Blank, Keith Hutchinson, Kevin
Station 6	Mike Sheffler, Rob Giles, Jeremy Danko
Station 7	Frank Blatney, Vince Fontana, Larry Weimer
Station 8	Tony Manley, Jon Hillwig, Clyde Snyder
Fire Chief	Thomas M. Bell
Chief's	Doc Kier, Les Harvey, Lou Battistella
Quartermaster	Rick Hoyle
Attorney	Kim Houser

BEING CLEAN • IS BEING SAFE

January each year from now on will begin our annual campaign on Bunker Suit Cleaning. Interior Firefighters must take their suits after each exposure, however there are members that don't necessarily go inside regularly and there are some suits that never see fire. But we require each and every bunker suit be cleaned at least once a year. We designate Jan thru Jun and give each company a monthly assignment which is as follows:

**Jan • Station 1 | Feb • Station 2 | Mar • Station 3
Apr • Station 6 | May • Station 7 | Jun • Station 8**

When your Station Month Comes Up, if you have not had your suit cleaned within the last 12 months, get it to NU-WAY

KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

If an interior firefighter's PASS device goes off and is not quickly reset, if a Line-Officer with a crew or assigned on the division must physically face-to-face PAR-check out the firefighter's condition; and if the firefighter is unable to manage his PASS device or SCBA, then he/she shall be told to leave the structure

True or False?



2019 Station Line Officers		
Station 1 Engine/Rescue	Bob Rhody	Captain
	Rob Mattes	1st Lieutenant
	Tony Rendulich	2nd Lieutenant
	J.P. Moroney	2nd Lieutenant
	Dave Dorko	Sergeant
	Christian Koury	Sergeant
Station 2 Truck Co Air & Foam Truck	Perre DeFelice	Captain
	Bill Miller	1st Lieutenant
	Jeff Guidy	2nd Lieutenant
	Justin Calisti	2nd Lieutenant
	Ron Spisso	Sergeant
	Bob Price	Sergeant
	Bill Krulac	Safety Officer
Station 3 Engine/Hvy Rescue	Jeff Swartz	Captain
	Ken McFadden	1st Lieutenant
	Andrew Stezo	2nd Lieutenant
Station 6 Engine	Rob Giles	Captain
	Nat Winter	1st Lieutenant
	Mike Sheffler	2nd Lieutenant
	Mike Rosensteel	2nd Lieutenant
	Jeremy Danko	Sergeant
Station 7 Engine/Rescue	Duane Spencer	Captain
	Rob Baker	1st Lieutenant
	Jim Fontana	2nd Lieutenant
Station 8 Engine/Salvage	David Jackson	Captain
	Jeff Peterinelli	1st Lieutenant
	Rob Cameron	2nd Lieutenant
	Mike Hartung	Sergeant
	Mike Baker	Sergeant

2019 Teams		
Bloodhound Team	Lou Battistella	Commander
	Bud Mertz	1st Lieutenant
	Dave Klingler	2nd Lieutenant
	Rob Cameron	2nd Lieutenant
	Elysia Battistella	Training Coordinator & Handler
	Dave Jackson	Handler
	Dave Burnfield	Handler
	Doug Fordyce	Handler
	Greg Saunders	Handler
	Greg Saunders II	Handler
Dive & Swift Water Team	George McFarland	Captain/Diver
	Duane Spencer	Lieutenant/Swift Water
	Jim Rule	Lieutenant/Swift Water/Sonar
	Jeff Guidy	Lieutenant/Diver
	John Welsh	Lieutenant/Diver
	Rob Baker	Diver
	Duane Spencer	Diver
	Kyle Joseph	Diver
	Joe Mangini	Diver
	Marcus Wisneski	Diver
Roman Lamberski	Diver	
Bob Wright	Sonar	

In addition to the listed members of the Bloodhound Team are support members who respond with the team on deployments. For training, there are firefighter probationary team members and Juniors who do not respond on calls. These individuals play a very important part in the training of the team. Firefighters (probationary) may be cleared for Response at some point in the future as demands dictates.

ESSENTIALS CLASS

JUSTIN CALISTI | On February 2 Module 3 began at the Pleasant Unity Fire Department. The class will end in April with two burn sessions at WCCC Public Safety Training Center. All members who complete this class will be eligible at the end to take FireFighter I.



WELCOME New Members

- Chris Gaia Station 8
- Derek Manley Station 8
- Tracy Miller Dept. Photographer

Course Schedule

<u>Title</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u># Days/ Hours</u>	<u>Min Age</u>
Exterior Firefighting	2/4/19	11/52hrs	14
Haz. Mat. Operations	3/16/19	3/24hrs	16
Interior Firefighter	3/26/19	9/44hrs	18
First Aid/CPR	1/5/19	1/8hrs	14
Radio Protocol	1/21/19	1/4hrs	14
Live Burn	4/18/19	3/16hrs	18

“We Are Proud of Our Essential Class Now in Progress”

PRESENT GVFD ENROLLMENT

Dave Ross • Roman Lamberski • Sara Schall
Colten Houser

GVFD JUSTIN CALISTI | PA STATE INSTRUCTOR

Essentials/FF-1 & FF-2 Coordinator (724) 875-2393

Email: justincalisti@yahoo.com



**The
Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department
Museum Committee**
Has been putting a lot of effort in
Museum Improvements

**The Committee Has Stepped Forward
Established Scheduled Open Times**

**Every Second Tuesday • 6pm - 8pm
Every Fourth Saturday • 9am - 12 Noon**

Recent Museum Committee Meeting



Visit *Greensburg*
**VOLUNTEER FIRE
DEPARTMENT MUSEUM**

NOW OPEN
To the Public Every Month
Second Tuesday 6 pm to 8 pm
Fourth Saturday 9 am to 12 Noon
Starting March 2019

Other times by Appointment
(724) 832-7904
www.gbfire.org



Goodwill 1825



Pat Lyons 1865

GREENSBURG VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT MUSEUM

The Museum houses artifacts from the long history of fire fighting in Western Pennsylvania.

Displays Include:
Photos of major fires in Greensburg and surrounding areas, antique fire trucks, equipment, alarms and fire extinguishers, plus parade uniforms, as well as uniform patches from around the country. We also have a large toy and model fire truck collection as well as other memorabilia.



Located
BEHIND
CITY HALL
416 S. MAIN STREET

Chief J. Edward Hutchinson
DVD's for Sale
Photos & Memorial Program
Only \$ 5.00

To be a Department....
we must look like a Department

Class A	White Parade Uniform consisting of White Pants, Jacket, & Hat; White Uniform Shirt; Black Tie, White Socks, Black Shoes
Class B	White Uniform with Badge; Black Tie; Black Dress Pants (no cargos); Black Socks & Black Shoes
Class C	Blue Dept. Issued T-Shirt; Blue Cargo Pants; Black Shoes or Boots
Class C - ALT	Command Staff may wear Issued Blue Polo Embroidered Polo Shirt - Discretionary

GVFD CHALLENGE COINS AVAILABLE



\$10.00
(See Website for Details)



CNG VEHICLE FIRES – PLANNING IS A MUST

Article Contributed by Asst. Deputy Richard Johnson | The article described a fire that occurred in a CNG powered garbage truck. The fire began in the compactor refuse area and quickly grew with such intensity that it impinged upon the CNG fuel tanks atop the truck’s cab. This caused catastrophic failure of the tank, resulting in an explosion and fire that injured one firefighter.

Since then, there have been at least 15 other CNG truck fires all across the country. While the vast majority of those reported were in garbage or refuse trucks, don’t be fooled, CNG can now be found powering many over-the-road trucks as well as heavy construction equipment and automobiles.

In garbage trucks, it has been found the leading type of fires included engine and cab fires, compactor fires, and tire or brake fires. Given enough time, all three of these can spread sufficiently to impinge the CNG tanks that normally sit in a steel cage atop the cab or in a vault-type metal case immediately behind the cab. Both configurations have a red shut-off button or valve normally close to the driver-side door.

In many cases, drivers are instructed to find a relatively remote area when a fire is detected, call the fire department, dump the refuse, and if possible, drive the truck a safe distance away from the burning refuse before shutting down the vehicle. In doing so, the driver is removing the majority of the Class A combustible material that can both spread the fire and increase both heat and pressure in the truck’s CNG tanks.

A 360° size-up many times places a fire officer in the danger zone should the CNG tank fail. Providing a pair of good binoculars on the apparatus or in the chief’s vehicle can provide a safe distance for a 360-size-up.

As CNG powered vehicles grow in popularity, the more we need to learn as much as we can as to enable us to be as safe as possible should we encounter a fire involving a CNG powered vehicle.

NEW DEPARTMENT PHOTOGRAPHER

We would like to welcome Tracy Miller to the VFD as our new department photographer. Tracy is a photographer who lives in Greensburg and has a studio located in Jeannette.



Tracy came to us after attending the benefit concert held for us at Seton Hill recently. She explains: “I wasn’t even planning to be there that night, but a friend asked me to go with her at the last minute. I wasn’t really feeling like going out, but something told me to get dressed and go. So I did. Towards the end of the concert, Chief Bell and Rick Steele were on stage talking about how they really need people to volunteer to help out in any way they could. Then they explained that volunteers didn’t necessarily need to be a firefighter, and they were looking for a photographer to document what the department does on a regular basis in an effort to make the community aware of the need for more volunteers. I knew in that minute why I ended up at that concert.” Tracy has already attended a handful of our training events and local fire calls in the past month, and you can expect to see more of her in the future. She states, “I am thrilled to have joined the department and to help in making the community more aware of the sacrifice and dedication that you all have to keep the rest of us safe. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of the team.”

CODE OF CONDUCT

All members of the GREENSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, shall lead by example for all. Each member shall demonstrate self-restraint and be constantly mindful of their demeanor when speaking. When representing the GVFD, members shall avoid bringing discredit to the department by speaking poorly about one another or the department. All members are expected to be professional, courteous, and respectful at all times including conversations in a public setting and/or on social media.

The Greensburg Fire Department
Has a **Zero-Tolerance Policy**
When It Comes To
Human Relations

The Greensburg Fire Bell



Rang This Many
Times
In
2018

Jan	202	July	158
Feb	166	Aug	202
Mar	129	Sept	225
Apr	145	Oct	217
May	140	Nov	172
June	181	Dec	179

2,116 INCIDENTS | 2018



GVFD NEXT GENERATION

Just having our Juniors in Station is actually giving some much needed drive to renew our commitment and jump start our training routines again, giving purpose to hang out together. You may say that we inspire our Juniors and the Juniors inspire us! We are no longer acting like six separate companies, we are NOW one Department. We are ...

"Dedicated Teamwork, Six Companies, One Community, One Vision"

JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER ACTIVITY

Colten Houser | "Junior Night" returned with all new activities! Recently all ready this year, the Juniors did a night shift at Station 7; went to the Latrobe Airport Control Tower, which included a visit to Station 121 (Airport Fire Station) and close look at the "Foam Striker Trucks". The group continued to Latrobe Fire Central. This gave the Juniors another opportunity to get in and explore fire trucks in a surrounding jurisdiction as well as the way they do things. The morning consisted of a trip to Station 3 where Captain Jeff Swartz gave a tour of the trucks and the types of equipment in the station. The Juniors got to hear the history of Hutch and see the painting that is in the reception hall at the Station 3. The Juniors visited Station 1. Both stations presented an orientation on their engines - Engine 1 and Engine 3. Special thanks to Tony Rendulich for having snacks for the group, to the courtesies extended by the Latrobe Airport and Latrobe Central, Rick Steele, Christian Kourey, Ken McFadden and the drivers for the Juniors: Jeff Swartz, Mark Seighman, and Kim Houser. Thank you all, This could not be possible without you!!!



CLEAN DEMONSTRATES PRIDE

Colten Houser | As we all know, it is very important to keep fire trucks and tools clean. But why? Quora.com says, "There are several reasons why we keep our equipment clean. The first is to respect the equipment our tax payers have bestowed upon us. We really do think about this. The second is that it is an outward symbol of our pride and efficacy. A clean truck means it's well maintained, well stocked, and operated by professionals. The third is pride. We firefighters are a proud group. We are proud of our communities, we are proud of the department and we are indeed very proud of our awesome trucks. We like them to look nice."

But what about tools? The answer is simple: Keep them clean too! Because when you need a set of irons or bolt cutters, You can't be cleaning them on the scene of an emergency.



Both Articles Above

Author COLTEN HOUSER|GVFD JUNIOR MEMBER - Staff Writer "The Fire Bell"



ARE YOU PROTECTED?

KRISTI STEELE | *What is Hepatitis B? - Hepatitis B is a liver infection caused by the Hepatitis B virus. Hepatitis B can range from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a serious, lifelong illness.*

How is Hepatitis B spread? - The Hepatitis B virus is spread when blood, semen, or other body fluid infected with the Hepatitis B virus enters the body of a person who is not infected. Hepatitis B virus is not spread through food or water, sharing eating utensils, breastfeeding, hugging, kissing, hand holding, coughing, or sneezing.

Who is at risk for Hepatitis B? - Although anyone can get Hepatitis B, Health care and public safety workers who may be exposed to blood on the job top the list.

How do you prevent Hepatitis B? - Through a series of Hepatitis B vaccinations administered by a healthcare professional.

Over the next few weeks, I will begin going over vaccination records the GVFD has on file. The purpose of this is to see who has, and who has not received the Hepatitis vaccinations (I will also be looking at Tetanus vaccination records) Dr. Keir, Dr. Plundo and myself will then formulate a plan on how to make sure all our members are protected. We may be reaching out on an individual basis to obtain current immunization records. This project is in its infancy and will be a work in progress.

Author KRISTI STEELE | GVFD DEPARTMENT MEDICAL OFFICER

LEARN THE STREETS

All of us that drive fire apparatus in the city, one time or another have drawn a blank on a location when responding to an alarm. Spotted Dog, which is in all the engines and in an application on almost everyone's smartphone device gives turn-by-turn audio directions. When doing driver's training, learn the streets! When driving your personal car around the city, pay attention, especially if you are a fire department driver, and LEARN the streets. There should be absolutely no excuse to end up on the opposite of town when responding to an alarm, if you are a driver. You have a responsibility.

VEHICLE INSPECTIONS

Our fire apparatus are not considered commercial vehicles, but they do fall under commercial vehicle rules when being driven non-emergency, such as a fuel run, driver's training, or picking up equipment. Our fire trucks are exempt from Vehicle Safety Inspections when responding to an emergency. But the moment the truck leaves the station non-emergency, there needs to be a record of a recent vehicle safety inspection. You, as the driver, are responsible for ensuring this procedure is done. Report forms are available from the City Garage.



GOLF OUTING

AUGUST 17, 2019
MT. ODIN GOLF CLUB
8:00 AM - REGISTRATION
9:00 AM - SHOT GUN START
3:00 PM - DINNER
\$65.00 PER GOLFER
\$260.00 FOURSOME

Information

Galen Ross 724-640-5404 or Rob Giles 724-244-6860

REMINDERS FROM THE CHIEF...

- Any accident or injury involving City Equipment and/or general public property, no matter how minor, must have a City PD Incident & Accident Report filed.
- Keep the Jabber on the radio off the airwaves, only transmit what absolutely needs to be communicated especially during an incident.
- Please email Lou any Company Event information so it may be included in the Fire Bell.
- The GVFD does not fill swimming pools
- Please request an incident number each and every time you are out of station for fire department activities. This includes Company Drills. This is for insurance purposes.
- Please remember the Provident Insurance Policy
- Social Media/Press Releases - Do not answer questions pertaining to GVFD Codes/Laws or Programs. Refer to the Chief
- Be Aware of all hazards. Never do "blind-barehanded" searches for keys and the like.



PROFESSIONALISM IS A PRIORITY

RICK STEELE | Our job is providing a service to the public, we don't get paid, but does that mean we should be any less professional? Remember the public is always watching, and listening. With the rise in social media and scanner apps we are constantly being scrutinized by the public.

In today's fire service, every member of our department is expected to operate and behave professionally at all times. The time on calls, during training, or even hanging out at the station, we are public servants. When we accept the honor and privilege to join the fire service, we accept that membership will define our lives, our behavior, and our attitude. We decorate our cars with stickers and license plates that identify us as firefighters, we hang out at our stations during our free time, and we wear fire related T-shirts, job shirts and jackets every day.

As public servants, we must always maintain a good public image. Public image is how you appear or come off to the public. If you come off unkempt, immature, disrespectful, obnoxious, unorganized, rude, arrogant, etc., it reflects on all that you represent in the same negative way. If you look like a bum, people will see you as a bum. If you look or act like a jerk or conduct yourself inappropriately in public it hurts us all. Like it or not, we are judged by our appearance as well as our conduct. Our appearance is the first and sometimes the only thing people have to go by before forming an opinion. For firefighters, the way we look, speak and conduct ourselves in public reflects on not only on the individual, but the entire Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department.

Currently, the GVFD has a fantastic image in the eye of the public. Through our efforts on Facebook, via our website, and all of the positive interactions you have with the members of the community we may be in a better place than we have ever been before; but it only takes one negative action by one individual to ruin it all!

Author RICK STEELE | PRESIDENT - GREENSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

JUNIOR RECRUITMENT PROGRAM

ROB GILES | The Greensburg Fire Department continues to put an emphasis on its 420/Junior Program. We have established a revised training schedule for the first half of 2019.

Jan 10	Station 8 - Salvage Operations J. Henry
Feb 7	Boat House/Dive Team Ops G. McFarland & D. Spencer
Mar 14 Thurs	7pm Station 8 - Bloodhound Team E. Battistella & D. Jackson
Apr 4 Thurs	7pm Station 2 - SCBA Refill P. DeFelice & J. Calisti
May 9 Thurs	7pm Drill Tower J. Calisti • R. Giles • J. Henry Hose Loads, Hydrants, Hose Rolling
Jun 8 Saturday	9am - 2pm J. Edward Hutchinson Jr. Emergency Services Day Camp

For the third straight year, our Juniors have been invited to the Unity Township Junior Day Camp. The dates right now are tentatively June 11 thru June 16. This camp usually runs from 6pm to 9:30pm Monday thru Friday at St. Vincent Fire Station with a banquet at Marguerite Volunteer Fire Department on Saturday night.

Author GVFD CAPTAIN ROB GILES | RECRUITMENT & JR PROGRAM CHAIR

GVFD JUNIOR PROGRAM 2019

420 Members (12-13 age)

Brett Steele • Isaiah Derry • Brennan Leskowski

Junior Members (14-17 age)

Colten Houser • Sara Schall • Zack Long • Darrian Conway
Trevor Swartz • Ryan Heater • Cole Willcox



GAINING ACCESS BY FORCIBLE ENTRY (NON-DESTRUCTIVE METHOD)

This issue of THE FIRE BELL featured gadget is the Firefighter Swipe Tool. This tool was designed by an FDNY Lieutenant with 13 years on the job. It is nothing more than a rolled sheet of heavy duty plastic. This tool falls into the category of work smarter not harder. The Swipe Tool is designed to slip around the door to loid the latch. It works on spring loaded

latches and will not work on deadbolts. It has been used successfully on East Pittsburgh St. to let a man back into his apartment after he had been locked out. For ONLY \$4.00 it is worth having in the glove box of your trucks or in the pocket of your bunker pants. Check it out at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dick1Qrt4vw>



2018 | TRAINING IN REVIEW

RICK HOYLE | NFL Coach Jimmy Johnson was quoted once as saying, “The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little extra.” This can be applied to the many of our GFD members, who by giving a little extra in their attendance at Department training, have elevated themselves to be extraordinary!

Through 2018, there were 24 Department training exercises, with an average attendance of 41 members. This included hand-on drills, classroom training, and building tours. Training which accounted for the highest number of participants was the high-Rise Firefighting class that took place over a 3-day weekend in June. A total of 62 members attended.

The average company member attendance for last year was as follows:

Station 8 - 12

Station 2 - 10

Station 7 - 8

Station 1 - 4

Station 6 - 4

Station 3 - 2

We have started working through the 2019 Training Schedule, and there has already been two (2) Department Drills with an average of 50 members.

The highlighted training for this year will occur on the weekend of March 30/31 and will be Flashover Recognition and Survival. This is being offered by the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy (PSFA). This 8-hour course is designed to give practical knowledge required to recognize and understand the “Flashover”. The location will be at Lynch Field, at the Drill Tower. Information for this class has been passed out. All GFD members who would be directly involved in fighting fire are encouraged to participate in the worthwhile offering.

As we look back on our training from last year, and we move forward in our efforts to become more educated with what is planned this year, let us say that our training is not about being better than someone else, its about being better than we used to be.

Thanks to everyone for the “little extra” you gave last year!

Author RICK HOYLE | GVFD ASSISTANT CHIEF | Director of Training

GVFD BLOOD DRIVE

For MANY years the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department sponsored one of the largest blood drives in the area, but like the smoke divers and the hose laying competition, this tradition also faded away. This year we are resurrecting the Blood Drive! Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. There is a daily shortage of blood and platelets. On an average day in the United States, 36,000 units of red blood cells, 7,000 units of platelets and 10,000 units of plasma are needed. A victim of a serious car accident may require as much as 100 pints of blood to keep them alive.

The reason you see blood drives occurring so frequently is due to the fact that red blood cells must be used within 42 days (or less) and platelets must be used within just 5 days. A common question that is asked “Is giving blood safe”? Yes, donating blood is safe. You can’t get AIDS or any other infectious disease from giving blood because they always use new, sterile needles that are discarded after one use. You’ll even be given a mini-physical at your appointment, to ensure you are healthy enough to donate that day. The Red Cross staff will check your temperature, blood pressure, pulse and hemoglobin. The following are general guidelines for blood donation: be in good general health and feeling well, be at least 18 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, and have not donated blood in the last 56 days. The GVFD Blood Drive will take place on Saturday, April 6, 2019 from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm at Greensburg Hose Company #7.

You can sign up now by logging onto: www.redcrossblood.org and enter **gbg** into the sponsor code. Next select the SEE TIMES button next to Greensburg Hose Company #7. A list of donation time-slots available will appear. If you have a Red Cross account established choose your time and you are finished, if you do not have an account, you will need to create one at this time. Walk-ins are also welcome but may be subject to an unknown wait time. We have a goal set by the Red Cross of 60 viable units. If every person that reads this article donates, we will have no problem reaching our goal! Will you please help?

GVFD COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

Les Harvey | Just wanted to let everyone know that during the past couple of weeks, the updated communications system for the Greensburg Fire Department has been activated and basically completed. All our copper wire links have been changed to modern fiber optic wired links to all our sites. All transmitters and receivers have been replaced to state of the art links. We have also upgraded all of our high band equipment which this would include the police in case of a failure of the 800 system. We also have placed a complete back up system at the 9-1-1 center on high band for both fire and police. Should we lose our fiber links, we will be able to dispatch from our city emergency operations center which can operate as a stand along operation hub. I want to thank everyone for their patience during this project and a give a special thanks to Mayor Robb Bell and City Council for their support to get this project completed. We will continue to do some tweaking over the next few weeks. But again, thanks to all, our system is now “STATE OF THE ART”.

Author LES HARVEY | GVFD ASSISTANT CHIEF | Emergency Management



Cooperative Community Public Safety Program

Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department
Greensburg Police Department
Fire Prevention & Public Safety Education



Selection Form
(Check Your Selection Below)

Your Organization: _____
Contact Information
Name: _____ Phone No: _____
Email: _____ Date Request: _____

- A. Fire Drill Exercise Church/Synagogue Congregation Services
 - Fire Alarm Activation & Evacuation Practice
 - Optional - Pre or Post Exercise Group Briefings
- B. Fire Alarm & Emergency Facility
 - Alarm System Activation (with Fire or Weather Event, EE Action Discussions)
- C. Group Presentation
 - Multiple Shooter—Multiple Victim Briefing
 - Stop the Bleed, CPR and AED Applications
 - Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department | Organization Presentation
 - City of Greensburg Knox Box Program
 - GVFD Fire Museum Tour | 100+ Years of History
 - The 9-1-1 Call - "The Most Important Call of Your Life" - Fire/Police/EMS
 - The Greensburg VFD Dive Team Story - "Search-Rescue-Recovery"
 - The Greensburg VFD Bloodhound Team Story- "Searching for a Lost Person"
- D. Children and Youth Safety Program
 - Car Seat Checks/Installation
 - School Visit - Fire Truck and Firefighter Presentation
 - School or Group Visit - Meet the Greensburg Fire Department Bloodhounds
 - Fire Safety Orientation
 - Youth Fire Safety Summer Camp Program

Please Visit Our Websites

Greensburg Police Department | www.greensburgpa.org & Greensburg Vol. Fire Dept. | www.gbgfire.org

GVFD is a NON-PROFIT 501 (c) (3)
TO SCHEDULE ONE OF OUR PROGRAMS

Contact Asst. Fire Chief Kim Houser (724) 640-0906 | attyfire@earthlink.net

Or

Police Captain Robert Stafford (724) 834-3800 | rstafford@greensburgpa.org

THESE PROGRAMS ARE OFFERED AT NO CHARGE

GVFD APPAREL FOR SALE

Baseball Hats	\$15.00
Challenge Coins	\$10.00
Window Stickers	\$7.00
Hoodie	\$30.00 - \$32.00
Long Sleeve Shirt	\$25.00 - \$27.00
Tee-Shirt	\$20.00 - \$22.00
Tossle Hat	\$15.00

Visit the GVFD Website at www.gbgfire.org

For Pictures and Complete Details



American Red Cross

GVFD BLOOD DRIVE

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday April 6, 2019



The GVFD will be hosting the RED CROSS at Station 7

From 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

There is Huge Shortage of Blood and the Greensburg Fire

Department always came through as a major

Red Cross Host Sponsor

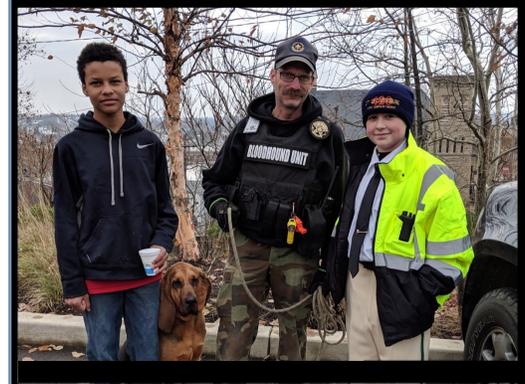
Together We Can Make a Difference—Lets Do It Again!



GVFD NEXT GENERATION

A Dependency to Insure the FUTURE

*We Are So Fortunate for the Boys & Girls who are
dedicating their time and talents
We ask that they grow old with US!*





GVFD IN-THE-FIELD SHOWER

With concern for members conducting the decontamination of being exposed to contaminants, and who were using the garden hose, a better method of conducting the wash-down was explored. A portable shower was developed. This was assembled by using 1/2" piping with a regular shower head, a male garden hose adapter on the inlet of the pipe assembly, a flexible braded steel washing machine hose, and the 1 1/2" garden hose adapter. To attach the shower in-place required mounting a few brackets to the rear of the crew cab of an engine. To employ the shower, the same fitting is used on the pump discharge, then connect the washing machine hose to the inlet of the piping, and secure it to the brackets. The shower is arranged high enough that the water cascades effectively over personnel to completely rinse from the top of the helmet down, thus reducing cross contamination by the member who would have been operating a garden hose. The shower assembly can also be used when hand-held. This may be an alternative when concerns for the water runoff, next to the apparatus, would be an issue such as during weather where temperatures are below freezing and the build up of ice would be present.



NU-WAY LAUNDRY

Remember, Nu-Way must have minimally three sets of bunker gear to process a load. The normal 24/48 hours turn-a-round is predicated that there are three sets of gear. If you want to get your bunker suit cleaned, you are reminded to contact your fellow firefighters to see who would like to go in with you to get your gear cleaned. Otherwise, your gear will be held until additional gear is dropped off. Those that understand this will find the process is quick, easy, and efficient.



? DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ?

If you or a fellow member are NOT getting Email Messages that includes Meeting Minutes, Training Advisories, or *The Fire Bell*, then more than likely WE DO NOT. Please send your email to lbattistella@greensburgpa.org



Quiz Time

1. **When encountering fire in a room during a structural search, firefighters should:**
 - A. Close the Door and report conditions
 - B. Monitor atmosphere and report conditions
 - C. Wedge the Door open and report conditions
 - D. Continue Search and report conditions when done
2. **Once a Search is complete, a firefighter should:**
 - A. Report promptly to RIC/RIT
 - B. Report promptly to Recovery
 - C. Report promptly to the Supervisor
 - D. Report promptly to Decontamination
3. **When is the secondary search performed?**
 - A. During initial fire suppression
 - B. After initial fire suppression is complete
 - C. Immediately after the primary search is complete
 - D. Approximately thirty minutes after the primary Search

Q
U
I
Z

Answers Page 3 #1-F | #2-D • Page 7 True • Page 17 #1-A | #2-C | #3-B

REMINDERS

**When Apparatus is Released from a City Call
It is absolutely unnecessary to transmit that you are returning
to Station**

**Do Not Bag Wet Bunker Suits and then Let them Sit in the Bag
They will Mildew**

When Talking on the Radio, speak directly into the mike

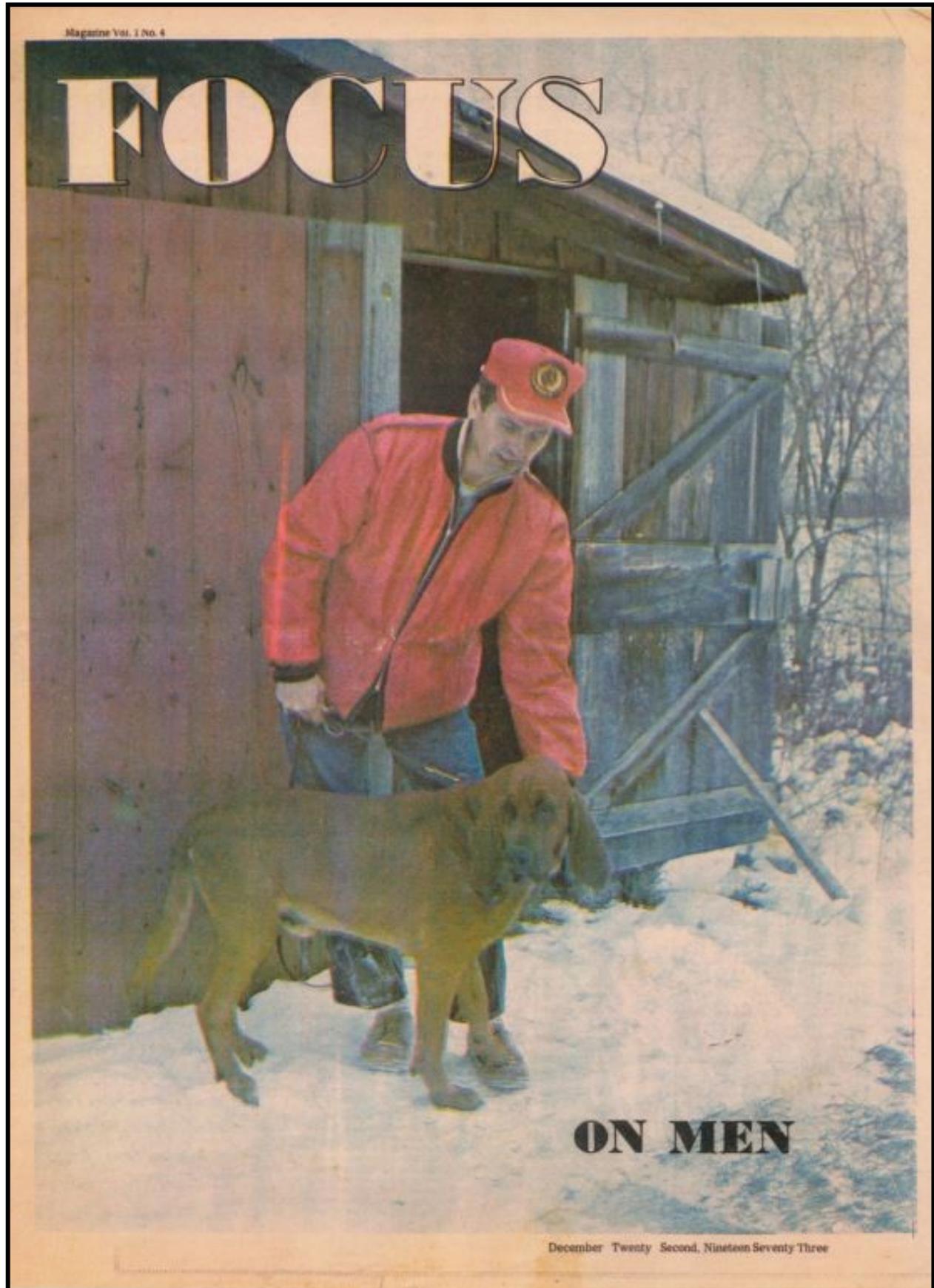


PHOTO GALLERY



WTAE 4







Focus Magazine Page 2

The Tribune-Review — Dec. 22, 1973

Ed Hutchinson--- A Vital Man



"Hutch" And Firemen At Work

Our cover-guy, Fire Chief Ed Hutchinson, deserves a statue in the park. He has devoted his life to helping others.

He has built our fire department into the most efficient one in the area, working with the volunteers on a day and night basis. But, wherever there is trouble, "Hutch" is there. He's on scuba diving calls, bloodhound calls, training and drilling firemen, working on fire prevention, on call for Mutual Aid Ambulance Service.

Prevention

Fire prevention is his special baby. He makes endless rounds through all the stores and businesses in this area, working to make sure all fire precautions have been taken. He is never too busy for you and me.

He's a hard working, tobacco-chewing man's man. He does swear a little bit. But, he's real marshmallow inside when it comes to people and helping others.

Father Image

When it comes to kids, "Hutch" is Father confessor, pal, and counselor. He gives them a kick in the rear when they need it and a pat on the head when they need that, too. He gruffly gives them the love they need. He's the "Father image", not only to his own three children, Keith, Karen, and Kevin, but, to every kid in town who's in trouble and needs a friend.

The men who work with Ed Hutchinson respect his motivations, give him their all. "I would give everything in the world to this man but my family," one of his firemen said. He makes us mad, he makes us do things right, he gets furious with us when we don't. He screams when we don't use our safety masks and helmets. It's

Cover

Ed Hutchinson, fire chief, is pictured on our cover with one of the bloodhounds that are kept "on the ready" to look for lost persons.

The hounds are kept by Dale Eicher, and have saved many lives. "Hutch" is always "on the ready, too, day or night" to help our community to be a better place in which to live. To him, we dedicate this issue of Focus On Men.

"don't do as I do, do as I say", the man continued. He looks out for the safety of us all and when we have personal problems, he is at our beck and call any time of the day or night. He is a wonderful human being."

From personal experience, when our home burned, he was a machine in action, directing the men, evaluating the situation, first man in the building. He never asks his men to do anything he wouldn't do first.

Fearless Leader

When the fumes from the chemical tank threatened our community with disaster, "Hutch" was right on top of the tank, trying to figure out a way to cap it, no matter what the danger was to him.

I'm sure it must be a bit scary to be his wife. She has to be self-sacrificing and understanding. And, Dolores manages.

That guy upstairs is looking out for us ... and "Hutch" is helping him. God Bless him.

The Tribune-Review Focus Magazine

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ALICE LAURICH
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JAMES DOWNS
Staff Photographer

ALICE PEDRAZZOLI
Staff Artist

RON SHANK
Staff Cartoonist



I'm Going To The Dogs

by Popsy Sadock

"When you're at home, you wish you were out having an adventure, and when you are out having an adventure, you wish you were home."

I'm about to have an adventure. And, this adventure is a whopper. I'm going with Ed Hutchinson on a bloodhound call and looking forward to it, as well as being apprehensive.

They send the bloodhounds out to look for lost persons. These may be hunters, murderers that have skipped to the woods looking for cover, or suicides. The hounds are handled and stabled by Dale Eicher. These dogs respond to the commands of the men who train them and no one else.

I've prepared a survival kit, because I'm not too sure I can keep up, and maybe they'll have to look for me. In it, I have some crackers, an emery board in case I break a fingernail, a flask (it's darn cold out and you never can tell when you might need that for snakebite) and, my Home's charge card. After all, as I explained to my son who was incredulous about that one, I may circle back to Greengate Mall and it's best to be prepared.

The dogs have been sent all over the countryside. On a bloodhound call, many people respond, including "Hutch" and Dale Eicher, Trooper Carl Metz, and several policemen and firemen, usually about ten men in all. They've never taken a woman along yet ... so this will be a first for all of us.

Dog Gone It!

The hounds are so friendly and gentle that anyone can come up to them. But, when they are working, they are all business. The best items given to the hounds for a scent are items of underclothing, shoes, or socks. When they get off on "their man" their 110 pounds need a tremendous amount of leverage on the part of the handlers, because they really pull a lot of weight. "They can drag you down," said "Hutch", as he fell on his rear end going over the creek at the kennels when the female took off. And, he's a big, strong, physically fit man.

We've had about 80 per cent success with the hounds," he said, "they've been invaluable to us."

The hounds are purchased and fed by funds from the fire department con-



The call for me to respond may come at any time of the day or night. An officer from City Hall will call me and give me fifteen minutes to get dressed.

"What will the neighbors think, Mom, when the police come to get you?" the kids asked. Well, this will be a real "role reversal" for a law abiding, chicken-hearted citizen.

Now, one thing I didn't tell "Hutch", was that when I am cold, and particularly when I am scared, I need a powder room fast. And wet, stiff leaves aren't exactly "Squeezable Charrmin".

My son's red hunting coat, long johns, ski sweater, two pairs of socks, a yellow face mask, and knit cap don't make me look, necessarily, like Ali MacGraw, but, the dogs won't mind and "Hutch" could care less 'cause his outfit is as colorful as mine and he's too busy to give a darn anyway.

Most Important Job

Now, for the basics, the really important job of the bloodhounds. These animals were purchased by the fire department at a cost of \$750 a pair. The original female was \$400 and the male was \$350. They are beautiful, big dogs, with a powerful neck, a gentle disposition, and eager to do their job. Of course, they have paid for themselves many times over by finding just one hunter who was lost or a child who has strayed.

tributions, so you know your donations are being put to good use.

Some Happy Endings

Just this fall, two hunters were found in the woods, a really happy ending. Not all calls, are as fruitful. Some are calls looking for murderers, some gruesome suicides, a murdered child, a driver whose car had wrecked and who had wandered off in a daze, badly hurt.

I hope the call for me doesn't come on a rainy, cold, nasty night but, you know the old newspaper adage ... anything for a story!

Features

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- Men's Fashion Story Page 6
- Hair Today..... Page 8
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- Chanukah Page 12
- Responsibility..... Page 14