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Salisbury Fire Department Newsletter

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1st Quarter - 2015

From the Desk of the Fire Chief

“CAVE People are Alive and Well in the SFD”



This edition of the newsletter is a continuation from the last newsletter article, “It takes all the running you can do, to keep in the same place.” When we last engaged, the process of personal evolution and acceptance of change was proffered as an individual assignment to us all as we decided for ourselves whether we wanted to remain in the great SFD. In this installment I will reference an article penned by Dorothy Burton, printed in the March 2010 issue of Municipal Maryland Magazine, titled “Who Said CAVE People Are Extinct”. I will alter the CAVE acronym slightly to meet my purposes, but the meaning will not change.

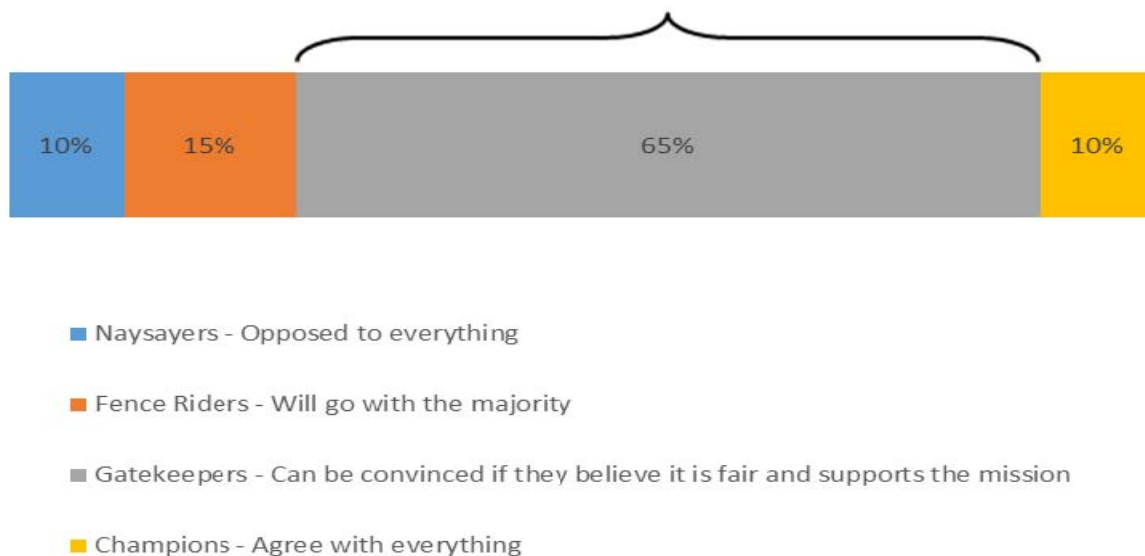
In Burton’s article, she provides the CAVE acronym as standing for Citizens Against Virtually Everything. For our purposes I will present it as Coworkers Against Virtually Everything. To be specific in this meaning, coworkers include all members of the SFD, career or volunteer. What follows is an attempt to discuss the presence of CAVE people and their influence over the organization and how we must manage their perception of the way things are in their world and the reality of the current department positions and change.

In my experience, the existence of CAVE people is often seen as an unwanted headache that must be dealt with in order to have any peace in the organization. We often ask ourselves why are these CAVE people even here...if they are so miserable why do they stick around? The answers to these questions are rooted in the misery created by their constant opposition to all things and the negative impact to the health and well-being of the

From the Desk of the Fire Chief (continued)

organization. CAVE people inevitably garner a huge amount of time and attention from the management of the organization and thus take time away from those that are working hard to move the SFD in the direction we want to go. In this environment the management team often spends a lot of time trying to encourage, coach, and entice the CAVE people to change their attitudes and come over to the bright side of things. This is where the management of the organization fails. The failure is not in trying to persuade CAVE people to change but rather spending too much time fighting a battle that cannot be won without the willing consent of those that do not have desire to change. CAVE people by their very nature chose to be the way they are.

Generally speaking management needs to reverse the trend of spending too much time on those that will never be agreeable to anything that the organization desires to do and focus most of their collective attention on those that want to be led and desire to have a vision of success. In the graph below, there are four categories of members of any organization and I believe it has efficacy in the SFD.



The Naysayers are opposed to everything no matter how much you convince them of the benefit to them or the organization...CAVE people! Fence riders generally can go either down with the Naysayers or join the Gatekeepers and Champions. This group will often vacillate depending on which group they perceive is winning the argument and will often easily devolve to CAVE people status.

From the Desk of the Fire Chief (continued)

The Gatekeepers are those that can be and generally want to be convinced that the cause is just and one they should support. This is the group that are often robbed of time when management spends too much time with the CAVE people. However it is this group that management should spend their time coaching and persuading since they want to do what is right and fair for all and that the mission is supported. Champions are those that will agree with everything and desire to move the organization forward, whatever the effort. Management often asks for their champions to assist in rallying others in favor of change.

CAVE people generally do not prevail in their attempts to stop change or initiatives that they are against. However, they are an extremely vocal, animated, and persistent group. Their rules of engagement are to boldly and loudly state their opposition to try and convince as many as will listen that the organization or its leaders are going to treat them disparately. CAVE people generally base their opposition on their vast knowledge, experience, and their desire to go back to their Utopian world of yesteryear. Their mission is simple; convince the fence riders and as many of the gatekeepers as they can to agree with their cause by loud proclamation or by subtle coercion. They will use whatever means necessary to convince as many people as possible that theirs is a righteous cause; which includes using their positions in the organization as a means of coercion.

Generally CAVE people view the world through the prism of being a victim of their environment. They subordinate their lives to be acted upon by everything and everybody instead of being an agent of action that controls their environment by choosing to engage in solutions to their problems or seeing all things as opportunities to succeed rather than just another opportunity to be a victim of life. This is the genesis of their misery. They cannot see it, but their choices bring set consequences of misery or joy. Misery is the easy road and requires little to no effort to achieve. Joy comes after choosing to take action over those things that surely beset each of us in this thing we call life. Choosing to not be a victim of circumstances that come as trials or tribulations, but rather choosing to take action to remove yourself from the misery by changing direction and altering the conditions in which you find yourself, will ultimately bring happiness.

From the Desk of the Fire Chief (continued)

There are CAVE people that have absolutely no interest in changing or evolving and find their joy in surrounding themselves with other CAVE dwellers and in trying to convert as many to their cause as they can. In the SFD, we have our CAVE people!! We spend a lot of time managing them and not enough time engaging our gatekeepers. This will need to change for the SFD to move forward. While contemplating this article and after several moments of internal reflection and counseling with the leadership of this great organization, I have come to realize one very important thing...

I have served under five (5) Fire Chiefs and am currently serving as number six (6) in my tenure with the department. What I have come to know is this...for as long as I have been a part of this organization, CAVE people have existed and opposed every Fire Chief on the methods, vision, and progress of evolution of the SFD into what is now a different department than when I first joined so many years ago. So what I have come to know is this one fact; no matter who the Fire Chief is, no matter what direction the department is trying to move, no matter what the vision is, no matter what the benefit, no matter the cost, there will always be CAVE people to stand in opposition in all things. In this I find solace knowing that every Chief in my tenure has faced the same opposition against change or evolution, and I now know that ALL six (6) Fire Chiefs cannot be wrong!!!

So...the department will continue to evolve and it is my responsibility and challenge to lead the change necessary to take us to where we are going, so at the end of my career we can say we left it better than we found it. It is still my desire for all members to make the decision to be here and to be a part of this great organization. However, it has to be because you want to be a part of the organization as it is today and what it will surely become tomorrow as we strive to achieve our vision of arriving at "Combinationville, U.S.A." and taking our rightful place as the very best in class, truly combination, fully integrated fire and EMS department in the country. I hope you enjoy and embrace the journey there as much as I will. Stay safe!!!

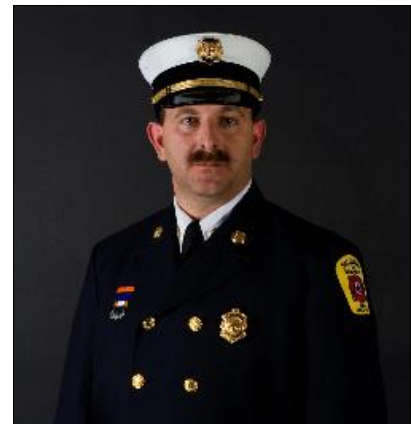
Respectfully Yours in Service,

Richard A. Hoppes, BS

Chief of the Department

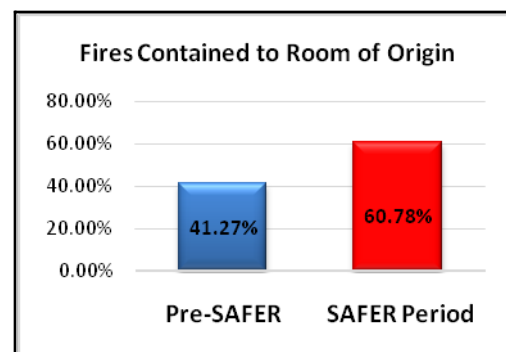
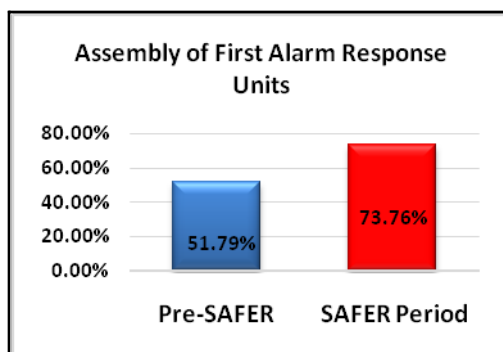
A Word from the Deputy Chief of Operations

It's hard to believe that summer is over and fall is upon us. The hot summer days are quickly being replaced with cool autumn mornings. Before we know it, the holiday season will be upon us. With this quarter, the Department transitioned into Fiscal Year 2015. During this past quarter, the department responded to 739 Fire calls and 2166 Emergency Medical calls for services. The membership continues to provide the highest level of service it can to the community and citizens we are charged to protect. The breakdown of calls per month is identified in the below chart.



Call Volume per Month		
	Fire	EMS
July	259	739
August	241	721
September	239	706

One major accomplishment of the Department was the ground breaking ceremony for the new Fire Station #2. After many years of planning, this project is finally a reality with a projected completion date in the fall of 2015. As this quarter comes to a close, the Department's Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (S.A.F.E.R) grant is set to expire on October 17, 2014. Many improvements have been seen over the last two years as a result of the S.A.F.E.R grant. We have seen an enhanced or restored staffing levels that has improved the safety of firefighters by ensuring first-arriving apparatus are staffed with a minimum of four qualified personnel who are capable of initiating the suppression response. In addition to improving firefighter safety, the Department has seen an improvement in our ability to assemble an effective workforce on the scene of structure fires within 10 minutes.



A Word from the Deputy Chief of Operations (continued)

Having this effective workforce on the scene increases the ability of the Department to contain the fires to the room of origin thus preventing further damage and property loss. Keeping in mind that the S.A.F.E.R grant performance period is set to end, the Department has continued to look at ways to extend the performance period for these 12 positions. We will continue to monitor our performance and the Senior Staff members will develop staffing alternatives to ensure that the Department can continue to provide an effective and efficient delivery of services to the citizens we are sworn to protect.

Highlights of some of the activities occurring around the department:

- The FY15 budget provided funding to fill the two (2) frozen Firefighter/Paramedic positions.
- The department held an Open House event to celebrate our 142nd Anniversary on August 16, 2014. Special thanks for all those that made this open house a success!!
- The Department participated in the Annual Red, White & Boom firework celebration and the National Night-out event.
- Our Remember Everyone Deployed.....RED Shirt Friday has been a huge success. Several members of the Department journeyed to our nation's capital and presented the Wounded Warrior Project with a check from the proceeds of shirt sales.
- Countless community service events, public education presentations and our annual "Rope Rappelling" demonstration for several 3rd Grade classes.
- Captain Rob Frampton received the national designation of "Fire Officer" (FO) from the Commission on Professional Credentialing (CPC). He is one of 199 FOs world-wide.

If you'd like to comment on or inquire about any of the services that we provide please feel free to contact me at 410.548.3120 or by e-mail at jtull@ci.salisbury.md.us.

Quote of the Quarter: "Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."
~Vince Lombardi

Respectfully Yours in Service,

John W. Tull

Deputy Fire Chief of Operations

Emergency Medical Services

Acting Lieutenant Chris Truitt

What To Expect When You Call For An Ambulance

When you call 911 the operator will ask you a series of questions to establish the severity of the call, so they can dispatch the appropriate crew(s) to you. Depending on the nature of the call, you will get an ambulance at minimum, and Salisbury is fortunate in that 99% of the time the responding ambulance will have at least 1 paramedic or medic on board. Salisbury will also send a fire unit to an EMS call if the potential for serious injury/illness is predicted, as all of our members are cross trained in EMS. This allows delivery of medical care prior to transport, which can make the difference in patient outcome.

Once the crew arrives at the patient's side, they will begin a detailed assessment of the patient and the events that led up to the 911 call. It is always beneficial to have the patient's medications, allergies, and medical history ready for the crew. At times, the crew will remain on scene for approximately 10 minutes to begin emergency interventions (such as IV's, medications, full ECG's, etc) prior to transport. During the transport, the crew will monitor the patient's condition, and relay any pertinent findings to the hospital, especially if the patient is having a stroke or heart attack, as the hospital will fast track these patients for improved outcome.

This is a very brief look at the extensive work that goes into the roughly 20 calls for EMS that the Salisbury Fire Department responds to every day.



Station 1 Volunteers

Lieutenant Ben Waples

The volunteers of Station 1 had a busy July, August, and September. We completed another season of assisting the Delmarva Shorebirds with their firework displays. We would especially like to thank the following people for attending the majority of the standbys: Justin Elliott, Ken Vickers, David Cooper, Eric Foskey, and Chuck Foskey.

The station welcomed in five (5) new members who are currently enrolled in the Department's Academy Firefighter 1 program.

We would also like to recognize the following officers on their promotions: Joel Dixon to Lieutenant; Ronald Montgomery to Acting Captain, and Cory Polidore to Assistant Chief.

Training continues to be one of our top priorities at Station 1, and personnel are continuing to take classes and qualify for additional roles in the department. On top of the firework displays and training, the members have also been busy responding on calls for service. Recently, the department responded to a structure fire on S. Division Street and mutual aid with the Engine-Tanker to Princess Anne for a structure fire. The leadership of Station 1 would like to thank the members for their hard work this past quarter. They have kept the mission of the department in mind by providing quality service to the citizens and guests of the Salisbury fire district. Keep up the good work!

Cory Polidore
Assistant Chief 116

Ronald Montgomery
Acting Captain 120

Ben Waples
Lieutenant 121

Joel Dixon
Lieutenant 122



Prevention & Inspections

Lieutenant Eric Cramer



Candle safety tips

Candles may be pretty to look at, but they are a cause of home fires — and home fire deaths. Remember, a candle is an open flame, which means that it can easily ignite anything that can burn.

- Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn.
- Think about using flameless candles in your home. (They look and smell like real candles.)

If you do burn candles, make sure to:

- Use candle holders that are sturdy, and won't tip over easily.
- Put candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface.
- Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.
- Don't burn a candle all the way down — put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.
- Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
- Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.

Fire Prevention & Public Education

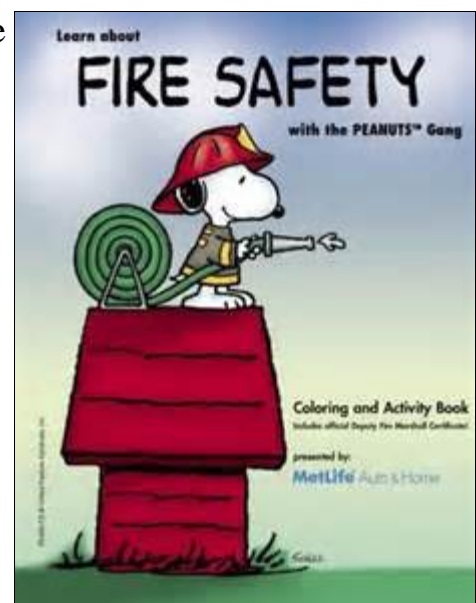
Assistant Chief James Gladwell

The department continues to grow its fire prevention and public education program. Traditionally “slower” times have evolved into busier periods, and this past summer has been no exception. From neighborhood smoke detector sweeps, to city sponsored events such as National Night Out, the department’s interaction with its city and county residents continues to provide proof-positive that the Salisbury Fire Department is an integral part of the community.

National Night Out continues to evolve into one of the biggest and best events taking place in the city. What traditionally began as an event designed to provide police/civilian interaction, has become an extremely important event to the Salisbury Fire Department. This year, the department was more involved than ever. The SFD provided tables, chairs, ice, and signage space to the NNO committee. Members of Station 2 were heavily involved in an engine apparatus display and fire prevention information table. This year’s event provided a very special addition. Willards Volunteer Fire Department loaned the SFD their safety trailer and SFD members provided interactive tours relating to exit drills, kitchen safety, smoke detectors, lighter/matches safety, and how to properly utilize 9-1-1. Over 300 adults and children took advantage of this important resource and the line to participate in the trailer extended for quite a distance the entire duration of the event.

For the quarter (1 July 2014 – 30 September 2014), Firehouse Software indicates the department participated in eight (8) After the Fire programs, 49 community service events, one (1) home safety inspection, and seven (7) other public education events. 53 smoke detectors were installed. 726 staff hours were expended with the department interacting with 1,992 children and 1,398 adults.

These numbers are phenomenal and represent all the hard work and effort each member involved puts forth to ensure the SFD remains one of the best entities within the city. Please ensure that all events are documented in FH properly, and THANK YOU to each of you who help to make the SFD so successful. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.



Salisbury Firefighter I Program

Acting Lieutenant David Haines

For the past several weeks, new members of the Salisbury Fire Department and other regional fire departments have been attending a Firefighter I Class at Salisbury Station 16. This class is a Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI) program with some additional practical sessions added to help make it better fit the needs of the department. This program is 129 hours long and runs from July 24th through November 25th. The class typically includes one weeknight and one weekend day of training each week until completion.

There are several Firefighter I classes that are taught every year in this region, and several have been hosted by Salisbury. This current class is being run as an Academy Program of the Salisbury Fire Department and is the gateway for new volunteer members of the department to complete their required entry level fire training. Making it a MFRI Class allows members of other regional fire departments to attend this program and complete their necessary training as well. This also allows for MFRI Instructors from around the region to teach and give the students a broader perspective of the fire service as they learn new skills.

This current Academy Class started with 23 students, seven of which were from departments other than Salisbury. The class members were from all three SFD Stations, Hebron Fire Company, Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company, Pittsville Volunteer Fire Company, and Federalsburg Fire Company. This group of students has been one of the more diverse groups of students that we have had in recent years. The members include 6 Females, 7 African Americans and 1 Hispanic member. There are members from several age groups including 1 cadet (younger than 18), and one member over 40 years of age. These students come from a variety of backgrounds and careers and include several military veterans.

This class has proven to be a demanding program and has pushed the students as they learn new skills. Of the 23 students, 16 remain in the class as they approach their midterm exam. Attending a program such as this is difficult and comes in addition to existing work and family commitments. Members attending this program have weeknight sessions from 7-10 pm and weekend sessions from 8am until 3 or 4 pm. These sessions are a mix of classroom and practical sessions which require time beyond the classroom for studying and homework. Students are expected to take the knowledge and skills they learn in this program and apply it at their stations.

The instructors that teach this program are a mix of career and volunteer firefighters from around the region. The Lead Instructor is a career Acting Lieutenant with the Salisbury Fire Department. The support instructors are from the Salisbury, Ocean City, Pocomoke, Cambridge, Mt Vernon, Nasa-Wallops, Berlin, Parsonsburg and Pittsville Fire Departments. They teach for MFRI and the Salisbury Academy. Their diverse backgrounds and experiences give the students a wealth of knowledge to draw from as they learn to become firefighters.

From the start of class through midterm, students have spent many hours in the classroom and more hours on the training ground in hands on training evolutions. The first half of the class teaches them the basic history, traditions and elements of the fire service. It then moves into individual topics the

Salisbury Firefighter I Program

Continued

students need to learn and develop basic skills with. These include Personal Protective Equipment, Tools and Equipment, Ropes and Knots, Fire Extinguishers, Ladders, Fire Hose, Nozzles and Appliances, Fire Behavior and Ventilation. As the students progress, they develop newer skills which add to their existing skills, each one building on the other.

After midterm, the students will continue learning new skills and techniques and then start putting things together. They will learn how to perform forcible entry, salvage, overhaul, search and rescue and fire attack. They will then move into the final phase of the program which includes Combined Evolutions. In these sessions, the students are given a basic live fire scenario and must work together to mitigate the incident. They must complete the necessary tasks to safely extinguish the fire, ventilate the building, search for victims and make any rescues that may be needed.

During this program, students will take two written exams and one practical exam. One written exam is at the midterm, while the other is at the end of the program. These written tests are 50 and 100 questions respectively and test the student's basic knowledge of firefighting. Students must pass these exams with a minimum score of 70 in order to be successful. The practical exam tests the students in a set number of skills picked at random. These skills must be demonstrated successfully for the students to complete the program.

Some of these skills and evolutions have provided a challenge to the students which they have to overcome in order to become firefighters. The two most challenging are typically Self Contained Breathing Apparatus and Ladders. Students have to master these skills and conquer their fears in order to succeed in the program. Students who are unable to do this will not pass the program.

The SCBA is the air-pack and mask worn by firefighters as they work in fire and smoke conditions. The challenge this presents to most students is the fact that the mask restricts their vision and the pack restricts their movement. The mask can provide a claustrophobic effect for some students and cause anxiety. Wearing the pack over their firefighter turnout gear (heavy coat and pants) can prove to be more than some can tolerate. Students must learn to work comfortably with the heavy gear on while wearing the SCBA. Without being able to wear this protective equipment and competently function, they will never be able to do the basic tasks required of a firefighter.

Ladders are a necessary part of the fire service for obvious reasons. Firefighters must be able to physically carry, move and place ladders on a building in order to safely access upper levels to work. They must also be able to climb ladders and perform the work that is required. This could be fire suppression, ventilation, search and rescue or victim removal. Many students are challenged by the physical aspect of moving and placing ladders that can be heavy, all while wearing their heavy personal protective equipment. Other students have fears of heights and fears of climbing which they must overcome in order to succeed. Students who are unable to overcome these fears will not become firefighters.

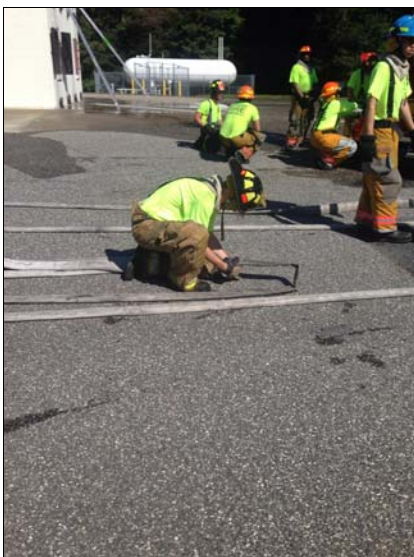
Salisbury Firefighter I Program

Continued

Another challenging aspect of this program comes from the fire itself. Students will face live fire at the regional training center in different controlled training scenarios. The first will be the stand up, sit down evolution where the students are shown basic fire behavior in a large burn room. They see what fire does in a compartment, such as a room in a house, and learn to trust their personal protective equipment. They see why the gear is designed the way it is and what level of protection it will give them in a fire. They develop confidence in their gear and learn to safely work in this environment. The other scenarios will show them basic fires which they extinguish in their combined training evolutions.

Students will also learn basic RIT, Mayday and firefighter safety techniques. The Rapid Intervention Team is a team of firefighters solely used to rescue other firefighters in danger, while the Mayday is the distress call to summon help by a firefighter. The students learn that firefighting is inherently dangerous work and can place them in situations where they may have to act to avoid danger or rescue other firefighters in danger. These basic skills and techniques help them prepare for the dangers they may face.

Students in this program have had to dig deep when they have been challenged by these new skills and tasks and work hard to meet the standard. They have learned that the rigorous fire training will make them reach physical and mental limits they didn't know they had. They learned that when they put forth the effort and kept going when they didn't think they could, they were successful. The instructors have been there every step of the way providing the encouragement and guidance to get them through it. The students that complete this program will have met the many challenges presented by this training and move on to serve Salisbury and the neighboring communities as firefighters.



History & Heritage

Assistant Chief Bryan Records



Rock

Over the years, the Salisbury Fire Department has had its share of unique characters among the ranks. One of those characters has lived on many years after his death in both mind and spirit. The mere mention of the name “Rock” over the years has invoked an array of emotions from fear to skepticism. Legend has it that the old Headquarters station had a friendly spirit that was responsible for some unusual noises and occurrences. They ranged from pool balls clacking on the pool table to creaking doors when no one was anywhere around. Old Timers would simply say “It’s Just Rock” and go on about their business. More than one person has claimed to have seen a ghostly image pass before them during their career at Headquarters. A few years ago a group of ghost hunters spent the night at the vacant station to conduct their research. There were no physical encounters with spirits, but they did record spiritual activity with their meters.

I am probably the only remaining person in our ranks who actually ever knew the person known as

Rock. As a child I spent many hours at the Headquarters station with my father. I can remember the living quarters on the second floor where several of the older members lived. The room scared me to death and I usually ran by it to avoid any encounter with those inside. It was dark, scary, and had a dark screened door that made it hard to see inside.

So just who was Rock? Rock was actually Marion Slemmons Taylor, born November 4, 1883. He was a World War I veteran who served the department from 1918 until his death on December 4, 1967. Rock served as the Chief of department from 1937 to 1938. A painter by trade, he became one of the first paid firemen from 1948 to 1953. He was given the name Rock because of the way he rocked side to side when he walked. Two of his other nicknames were Pappy, because of his seniority and Whistler, because he always whistled. Rock was a great lover of animals and had several dogs as companions over the years. Over his career he helped fight some of the biggest fires in the department’s history: the Peninsula Hotel fire in January 1929, the Bounds Mill fire in May 1941, and the fire that destroyed Pocomoke in 1922 to name a few.

History & Heritage Continued



Rock was a great historian and probably never knew it. Much of my historical research each year is pulled from the stack of scrap books left behind by Rock. Each day he would paste photos and articles from the newspapers in old sample books from Shockley's wall paper located next door. The historical events that he captured was amazing: major fires, hurricanes, blizzards, presidential assassinations, floods, and anything dealing with fire departments across the country and locally.

I had the pleasure of serving 29 years of my career at the old Headquarters station and I have a theory on this mystical legend. The building itself was as drafty as a barn due to its age and the open bell tower. Any wind travelled throughout the building from the bell tower to the basement as if it were breathing. This could easily account for any bumps in the night and slamming or creaking doors. Add the fact that Marion Slemons Taylor passed away in the living quarters of the old Headquarters station and you have all the makings of an Urban Legend. If he were alive today, he would laugh and tell you he was just a faithful servant of what he knew as his family, The Salisbury Fire Department.



Statistics - July through September 2014

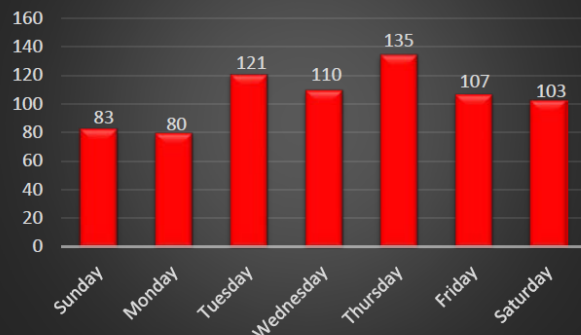
Fire Incidents by Fire Station	1st Qtr.	FY15 YTD	% of Quarter
Station 1	183	183	25%
Station 2	178	178	24%
Station 16	376	376	51%

Fire Incident Type	1st Qtr.	FY15 YTD	% of Quarter
Structure Fires	15	15	2%
Cooking fire	7	7	1%
Vehicle Fires	9	9	1%
Natural Cover/Brush	16	16	2%
Trash/Dumpster	10	10	1%
Fire, Other	5	5	1%
Medical	296	296	40%
Vehicle Accidents	117	117	16%
Rescue Calls	4	4	1%
Hazardous Conditions	32	32	4%
Service Calls	33	33	4%
Good Intent Calls	75	75	10%
False Alarms	113	113	15%
Other Incident Type	7	7	1%
Totals	739	739	

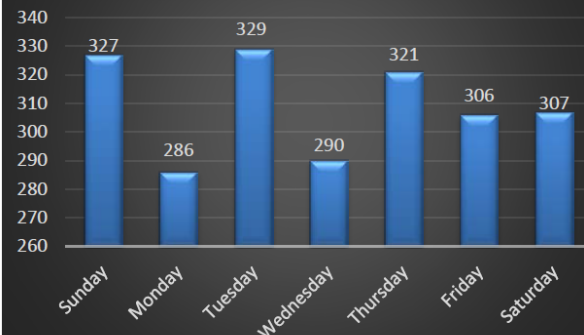
Fire Loss Data	1st Qtr.	FY15 YTD	% of Quarter
Property Value	\$6,068,285	\$6,068,285	N/A
Property Destroyed	\$1,457,836	\$1,457,836	24%
Property Saved	\$4,610,449	\$4,610,449	76%

Statistics - July through September 2014 Continued

Fire Call Volume Day of Week

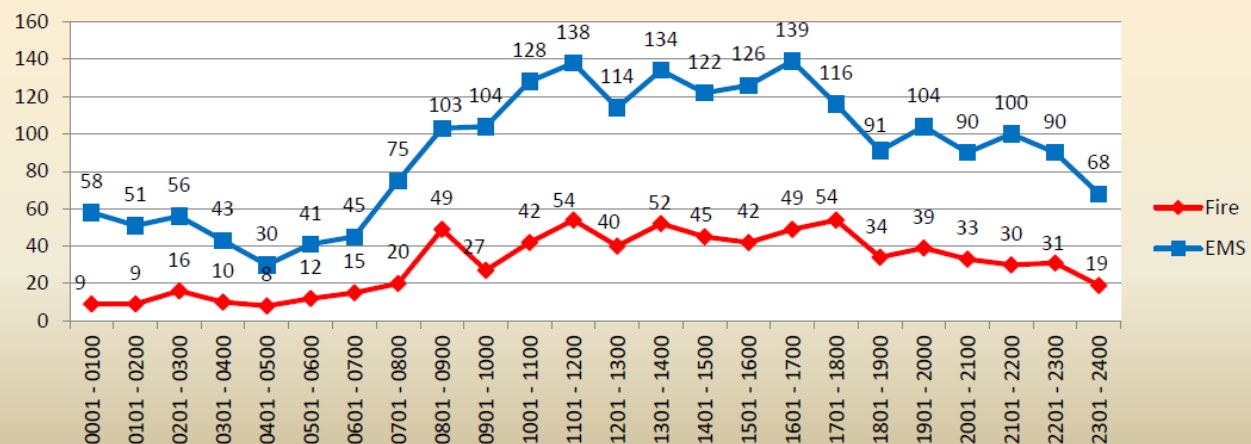


EMS Call Volume by Day of Week



Training	Classes	Attendees	Hours
Administrative	47	153	1133.5
Engine Co. Ops	11	86	139.25
EMS	29	196	384
Driver Operator	92	258	388
General	29	150	170
Incident Command	4	41	71
Rescue Company Ops	14	133	209.5
Special Ops	26	190	344.5
Truck Company Ops	37	227	301
Totals - 1st Quarter	289	1434	3140.75
FY15 YTD Totals	289	1434	3140.75

Fire & EMS Call Volume by Hour



Statistics - July through September 2014 Continued

Medical Chief Complaints	1st Qtr.	FY15 YTD	% of Quarter
Abdominal Pain/GI Problem	131	131	6.05%
Abuse/Neglect	2	2	0.09%
Allergic Reaction/Bites/Stings	13	13	0.60%
Altered Level of Consciousness	64	64	2.95%
Assault/Sexual Assault	0	0	0.00%
Back Pain	51	51	2.35%
Behavioral/Psychiatric	31	31	1.43%
Breathing Problem	37	37	1.71%
Burns/Smoke Inhalation	1	1	0.05%
Cancer	3	3	0.14%
Cardiac/Respiratory Arrest/DOA	29	29	1.34%
Cardiac Problems	161	161	7.43%
Choking/Airway Obstruction	2	2	0.09%
Dehydration	5	5	0.23%
Diabetic Problem	62	62	2.86%
Dizziness/Vertigo	31	31	1.43%
Drug/Alcohol	67	67	3.09%
Headache	28	28	1.29%
Heat/Cold Exposure	6	6	0.28%
Hypertension/Hypotension	21	21	0.97%
Poisoning	4	4	0.18%
Nausea/Vomiting	37	37	1.71%
No Apparent Injury	138	138	6.37%
Not Applicable	12	12	0.55%
OB/GYN/Pregnancy/Childbirth	18	18	0.83%
Other	173	173	7.99%
Pain	248	248	11.45%
Patient Assist	3	3	0.14%
Respiratory Distress	65	65	3.00%
Seizure/Convulsions	64	64	2.95%
Sepsis	10	10	0.46%
Sick Person/Flu-like	75	75	3.46%
Shock	2	2	0.09%
Stroke/CVA/TIA	37	37	1.71%
Syncope/Fainting	48	48	2.22%
Traumatic Injury	92	92	4.25%
Unconscious	18	18	0.83%
Unknown Problem	318	318	14.68%
Weakness	59	59	2.72%
Totals	2166	2166	

Hazmat

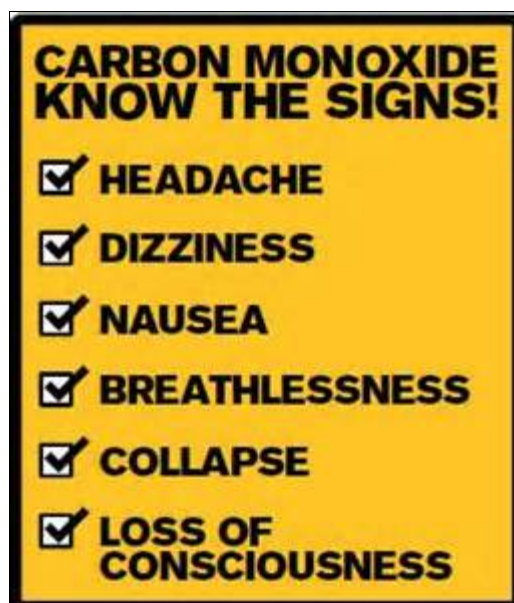
Acting Lieutenant Ron Wismer



Winter is coming, and with winter comes a higher use of Carbon Monoxide generators in the home. Common sources of Carbon Monoxide, or CO, in the home include; gas appliances, wood stoves, leaky chimneys, kerosene heaters, and cars running in attached garages. If you have any of these sources in your home, you should contact to a professional to make sure they are properly maintained. Chimneys should be inspected yearly, making sure to keep the flue cleaned and clear. A blocked flue may cause CO to enter your home. Gas HVAC systems need to be maintained, preventative maintenance once a year can save a lot of heart ache later on.

So what is Carbon Monoxide, CO is a colorless odorless toxic gas. A lower levels of exposure it can cause headaches, dizziness, nausea, fatigue and disorientation. At higher levels it can kill you. CO is slightly heavier than air, so it likes to float near the level of the source. It is hard to distinguish early symptoms of CO exposure from common winter ailments, such as the flu. This is why it is recommended to obtain a CO alarm for your house. Commonly they are sold as a wall plug in version. There are however versions which look like smoke detectors or even are combination smoke/CO detector. Follow all manufacturer recommendations on where and how to install a CO detector. If a CO detector is not properly placed it cannot perform its function.

Once you have your CO detector in the home, what do you do when it begins alarming? Some calls we receive are due solely to the age of the detector. As they age the detector becomes faulty and eventually will need to be replaced. Do not assume this is the case if one alarms in your home. Get out of house, get into a clean air environment. If it's too cold to await emergency crews outside, go to the neighbors or a running car. Do not however sit in a car in the garage idling. Contact 911 and describe the nature of your emergency, including any possible symptoms you or your family may be experiencing. Leave the doors closed to your house. Do not attempt to ventilate the house prior to fire crews getting there. Fire crews are trained in the use of CO meters, so they will be able to enter the house and hopefully determine the source. They will then secure the source and make the home safe for occupancy again. Keep warm, but mostly keep safe this winter.



Hot Shots



Correspondence from the Community

THANK YOU!

The people of St. Paul's,

Tommy Ruffin and Carolyn Ruffin
Paul Ruffin
Shirley Ruffin
Frank Ruffin
Hyatt Ruffin
Lucas & Tommy Ruffin
d family
Pat Ruffin and Leigh Ruffin
Bob Ruffin
Edna Kennedy
James Kennedy
Blanche Ruffin



4453 Eastwicke Drive
Salisbury, Maryland
21804-2099

August 26, 2014

Deputy Chief John W. Tull
Salisbury Fire Department Headquarters
Operations Section
325 Cypress Street,
Salisbury, MD 21801

Dear Deputy Chief Tull;

On August 4, 2014 a paramedic team and engine were dispatched to 1131 South Street, Salisbury, Ste B, Salisbury, MD 21801 (Coldwell Banker Real Estate Office) at approximately Noon to assist my wife who was experiencing an emergency. She was transported to the emergency room at the Peninsula Regional Medical Center for evaluation and treatment. While still under her doctor's care, I am please to report that her situation has improved considerably.

Without reservation the members of your department that attended to her on that occasion are to be complimented for their concern, professionalism and efficiency. They conducted themselves in a way that you, the department and the City of Salisbury should be proud. While this was the first time we have had to call upon your services in over twenty years of living in this area, please know that we are confident that should a call be made in the future, we will be in good hands.

It is requested that you convey my appreciation to each individual noted below. Also, please place a copy of this letter in their personnel record for future reference. Thank you.

Sincerely,

George R. Murray, Jr.
George R. Murray, Jr.

cc: Assistant Chief Michael Donaway
Mayor James Ireton
Salisbury Council President Jacob Day

Paramedic Team 16: Collins Brown, Michael Ozman
Engine 16: Zach Bridges, Tom Moore, Dave Myszk

August 19, 2014

Chief Rick Hoppes
Salisbury Fire Department
325 Cypress Street
Salisbury, MD 21801

Dear Rick,

I want to offer my sincerest thanks to all of your staff members that arrived ready and willing to work at the Playground Beautification Day. Without their help, it would not have been possible to get all of the projects finished in one day. It is volunteers like them that make all the difference! Please let them know how much I, and the City, appreciate them.

With kind regards,

James Ireton, Jr.

James Ireton, Jr.
Mayor

Salisbury Fire Dept.

For everything you've done...

for being the special people
that you are...

thank you so very much.

THANK YOU

Ben Ruffin

Correspondence from the Community Continued

Don Warner and Crew,
I cannot begin to thank
you and your crew for your
kind and thoughtful actions
on Sunday, Sept. 7th. It's
nice to know there are
still people in this world
that care.

Salisbury Fire Department, Station 16:

Thank you for your service in our
community and all of the hard work
you put forth to serve and protect!

Enjoy the pizza in remembrance
of September 11, 2001!

From, Your friends
at ATI Physical
Therapy!

Dear Lt. Parker, & the E Shift:

Just can't say it enough!

On behalf of Allen Memorial Baptist
Church I want to express my deepest
gratitude to the Fire Dept. for
going way above and beyond the
call of duty. I cannot thank you
enough for coming out here with
your HUGE (!) ladder truck and re-
installing the lightning rod on top
of our steeple. You truly saved us
thousands of dollars by us not having
to rent a crane and bucket to do so.

God bless you for everything
you do! Cary Sovere

Fire Dept EMT's,

On August 23, 2014 I had
to call the Ambulance for a
medical emergency at 1098 Robert
St, Salisbury, MD 21804.

I do not know the name of
the two gentlemen who came
and took me to the hospital, but
they were very good at their
jobs and treated me very good.

If there is any way to thank
these two, please do so for me.

This was my first ride in
an Ambulance and I just can't
say enough about these two.

Thanks again

Sincerely,
Shirley Short
(410) 742-4215