
THE BLAZE

Volume 12, Issue 1

January – March 2004

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT



Comments from the Desk of Chief Charles Gladman:

Congratulations to Reese Miller who retired in December with over 25 years of service with the fire department.

By time you receive this, a new class will begin on December 29th at the Training Academy. Best of luck to all of you.

I want to wish everyone a nice holiday and a Happy New Year.

Summit County Firefighters Association

Submitted by: David Clopton,
Vice - President

Meetings are held every 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. at a different fire department every month. There is an information session after every meeting. Food is served every meeting. The meetings last 1 ½ hour and they are very informative. Please plan on attending. The meetings are worth attending. The Akron meeting will be held in March 2004.

Every member of the Akron Fire Department is a member of the Summit County Firefighters Association.

Public Education

Submitted by: Lt. Al Bragg

OHIO FIRE FACTS

There is a fire in someone's home every 30 minutes.

There were 60,260 reported fires – one every 9 minutes.

143 Ohio citizens lost their lives in fires.

The direct fire loss was over \$800M - \$91,500 every hour.

3 people were killed in fires caused by candles - \$7.2M in reported fire losses.

The number ONE cause of fires in residences – cooking related – resulted in 9 fire deaths and \$14M in fire losses.

Children playing with fire resulted in 4 fire deaths and \$6M in losses.

The number ONE cause of residential fire deaths is *smoking related* fires.

No one has died in a home protected by a working residential sprinkler system.

More people die in fires each year than all natural disasters combined.

Remember: sleep with your doors closed!



Credit Union News

Submitted by: Karen Blasdel

Starting the first Saturday of February 2004, the Credit Union will be open from 9 to 1 instead of 8 to 12.

Be sure to remember the new hours starting February 7, 2004.

Home Banking & E-Statements

Interested? Call the credit union for more information...

Editor'N Chief

Chief Charles Gladman

% Sue Holler

Fire Prevention Bureau

Our next Newsletter will cover the months of April, May & June 2004.



FIRE REPORTING UPDATE

Submitted by: Brenda Wasson

There is still no word when NFIRS 5.0 will be in place and operational. It is being worked on as you read this. Hopefully, in early 2004, we will be able to start training.

The 2004 Activity Books will be distributed soon. Remember to forward all training paperwork to Judi.

Keep your eyes open for pictures for the 2003 Annual Report.

REMINDER: If you are ever in doubt, contact me at #2215, or Deputy Chief Ross at #2411, and we will be glad to assist you in completing the report.

NOTE:

Until next newsletter.....keep up the fabulous job all you **Hardworking Firefighters.** Enjoy the holidays!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



EMS NEWS

Submitted by: Captain Dale Evans
RE: Privacy Notices (HIPAA)

Privacy Notices were given out to **ALL** patients as of Wednesday, December 17, 2003. This is required due to HIPAA regulations. If you do a med report on a patient with medical information on the report, you give a copy of the **privacy notices (white pad)** to them. The **acknowledgment of receipt of the notice (yellow pad)** has to be signed by patient. If the patient is unable to sign, the bottom part of the acknowledgement has to be filled out by the medic. The receipt of notice should be attached to med report and sent downtown to the EMS Administration office. The 2 pads should be kept along with the med reports on the med unit and will be available at the Fire Stockroom.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Submitted by: Lt. John Walker

Fire reports by companies have been pretty good overall. However, for the sake of consistency here are a few suggestions:

1. Inspection Number Box – put in your company number and shift.
2. ‘Use As & ‘Use Group’ – refer to the listing that was recently sent out to all stations.
3. Inspection District – Put your station number.

4. Violations/Remarks – Put the number of ‘corrective actions ordered’ in column 1 and the number of ‘areas of violation’ in column 2.
5. If your signature is hard to decipher, please print your name beside your written name. Also put your identification number.
6. The white copy of the report is sent to the Fire Prevention Bureau. The pink copy is given to the business. The yellow copy is kept by the company, it is used to keep a record of scheduled recalls. When all violations are corrected, it is then sent to the bureau.

COMPUTER TIP

Submitted by: Linda Sollberger



A Little Excel Tidbit

If you work in Excel much you’ve noticed that if you start typing a word that you typed before in the column, Excel completes the word for you after you’ve typed in the first few letters. This is very handy if you’re repeating entries often.

Another way of repeating an entry is to right click the cell, and then click **Pick from the List** on the shortcut menu. A list will display with all the entries you’ve entered before in that column and you can

choose an entry from the list, and it will be inserted in the cell. This reduces your typing and helps keep your entries consistent, which is sometimes helpful.

Be safe....

Submitted by: Captain Jim Case

Automakers are packing new cars and trucks with devices to increase safety. However, that same equipment poses danger to us.

1. Air bags that fire off twice, or are located in doors and roofs.
2. Pre-tensioning seat belts use an explosive charge that is located inside the side posts.
3. A retractable roll bar that springs up behind the seats in some convertibles.
4. Metal detonators tucked into rooftops to inflate side-curtain air bags can go off like missiles if cut into.
5. The new gas-electric hybrid vehicle (Toyota Prius, Honda) uses battery power at low speeds, these batteries have more than 500 volts and with the engine off can still move on you with electric power.

Today's cars are designed to protect the occupants, not the rescuers. Take time to look at what you are about to cut or pull on, it may surprise you.

Firehouse.com is running a series of articles on this and other subjects that are difficult to keep up with.

Great Comments.....

"When I die, I want to die like my grandfather who died peacefully in his sleep. Not screaming like all the passengers in his car."

Author Unknown

"Advice for the day: If you have a lot of tension and you get a headache, do what it says on the aspirin bottle: 'Take two aspirin' and 'Keep away from children' "

Author Unknown

"Instead of getting married again, I'm going to find a woman I don't like and just give her a house,"

Lewis Grizzard

"The problem with the designated driver program, it's not a desirable job, but if you ever get sucked into doing it, have fun with it. At the end of the night, drop them off at the wrong house."

Jeff Foxworthy

"My Mom said she learned how to swim when someone took her out in the lake and threw her off the boat. I said, 'Mom, they weren't trying to teach you how to swim.'"

Submitted Anonymously

A well-known speaker started off his seminar by holding up a \$20.00 bill.

In the room of 200, he asked, "Who would like this \$20 bill?" Hands started going up. He said, "I am going to give this \$20 to one of you but first let me do this. He proceeded to crumple the \$20 dollar bill up. He then asked, "Who still wants it?" Still the hands were up in the air.

"Well, he replied, "What if I do this?" And he dropped it on the ground and started to grind it into the floor with his shoe. He picked it up now crumpled and dirty.

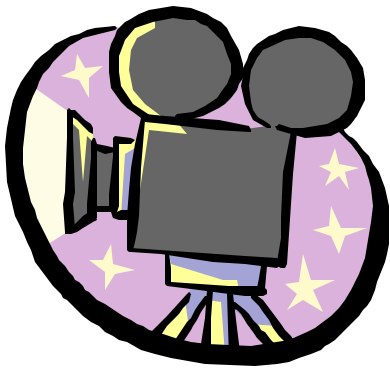
"Now, who still wants it?" Still the hands went into the air.

"My friends, we have all learned a very valuable lesson. No matter what I did to the money, you still wanted it because it did not decrease in value. It was still worth \$20.

Many times in our lives, we are dropped, crumpled and ground into the dirt by the decisions we make and the circumstances that come our way. We feel as though we are worthless. But no matter what has happened or what will happen, you will never lose your value. Dirty or clean, crumpled or finely creased, you are still priceless to those who DO LOVE you.

The worth of our lives comes not in what we do or who we know, but by WHO WE ARE. You are special - Don't EVER forget it."

Count your blessings, not your problems. Never be afraid to try something new. And remember: amateurs built the arkprofessionals built The Titanic.



Movie Reviews

Submitted by: Marilyn Newman

MYSTIC RIVER

Starring: Kevin Bacon, Sean Penn, Tim Robinson & Laurence Fishburne

Director: *Clint Eastwood*

If you're looking for a fun and uplifting film stay well away from this one. This movie starts out depressing, moves on to morose and straight into suicidal. This is actually a good story and it does keep your interest but was way to depressing for me. I will not watch this film again. To me the mark of a good movie is one you want to see over again and again.

That said, Eastwood's direction is supreme. The characters are well crafted and we care about them. But no one ends up happy. They are talking Oscar for Sean Penn but I felt that he was playing himself (I don't really like him though). I thought that Tim Robinson's character was a lot more sympathetic and had more dimension. Kevin Bacon is wonderful as always. The only truly bright spot is Laurence Fishburne who throws in a touch of humor to an otherwise very dark film.

If you're into heavy drama and like being miserable and crying by all means go see this film. The subject matter is very mature. It deals with child molestation and murder. There is a lot of foul language and violence. Do not even consider taking anyone under the age of 17 to this film. It is rated R.

I give this film two alarms.

MASTER & COMMANDER: The Far Side of The World

Starring: Russell Crowe, Paul Bettany & Billy Boyd

Director: *Peter Weir*

This is an excellent film full of high seas adventure. I thoroughly enjoyed this film. But my mother and sister were not excited by it. There is a lot of violence and gory battle scenes, which they did not like. I don't mind the gore and enjoy a good battle scene. They thought that this was a "guy" film and I would have to agree with them. The only women in this film are a group of native girls in a boat off an

island. They are getting fresh supplies and they are on screen for maybe five minutes.

Russell Crowe was exceptional as the Commander in the title. His game of cat and mouse with the French ship's Commander is well worth watching. Also Paul Bettany, who plays the ship's doctor and is a bit of a dandy, is well worth watching. Billy Boyd gets good billing because he's coming off his run as Hobbit Pippin in "The Lord of the Rings" Trilogy but his part is not really a main character. If you're not into costumes or oceanic escapades stay home. You can almost smell the salt air and feel the bracing wind in you at your back. This is not a pirate movie. This is about a battle between a French and English vessel in the South Seas. They are at war. There are not many dull moments. Peter Weir (Lord of the Rings Trilogy) shows that he can direct something that doesn't have hobbits in it.

No children under the age of 13. They would be bored to tears. No foul language and no sex (see above, no women) but very mature subject matter.

I've hoisted up the yardarm....

3 alarms for this one.

THE MISSING

Starring: Tommy Lee Jones,
Cate Blanchett & Aaron Echart

Director: Ron Howard

This is a masterfully crafted thriller set in pioneer times. Cate Blanchett is Elizabeth, a tough woman, raising two

girls alone and struggling to keep her cattle ranch going in the middle of no where, with the help of two ranch hands, one of whom she is having an affair with. Tommy Lee Jones is her father, who returns in hopes of mending his relationship with her, even though he abandoned her years before. She promptly sends him packing but Indians kidnap her eldest daughter and she must seek him out for help. The remainder is a mix of action and suspense with a little supernatural Indian magic thrown in for favor. The two of them try to come to grips with each other to save Lilly the daughter. Tommy Lee Jones is wonderful and a bit enigmatic in his role a white man "turned Indian" as Elizabeth puts it. Cate Blanchett is fabulous as Elizabeth, tough yet vulnerable, she shows us many facets to her character. You see her change right before your eyes.

I always love Ron Howard's movies and this is him at his best. You get a real sense for how bad things were for the early pioneers. It makes you wonder how any of them made it. There is no strong language and only implied sex but a lot of violence makes this unsuitable for kids under 13. I am giving this one 3 alarms.

Happy Birthday to you!!

January

Marc Adam	1/15
Thomas Jr. Alexander	1/01
Douglas N. Bierre	1/10
Edward M. Burns	1/22
Daniel L. Courtney	1/03
Jerome K. Crawford	1/07
Arthur Dobbins	1/27
Dale Eberle	1/13
Gelia (Judi) Evans	1/22
James E. Feeman Jr	1/10
Roger W. Fendenheim	1/01
Theodore Fielding	1/14
Leslie E. Gaiser	1/08
Charles R..Gladman Jr	1/06
William A. Howe	1/09
James B. Knafel	1/22
Janice A. McKinnie	1/06
Danielle Michel	1/20
Terry Miller	1/28
Jaclyn L. Osburn	1/14
Scott Pasco	1/30
Thomas J. Peddle	1/23
Melvin Prince	1/29
T. J. Pryor	1/19
Ralph E. Schueller	1/20
Richard L. Small	1/15
David S. Taylor	1/21
Richard M. Vech	1/10
Richard A. Vober	1/10
Troy Zimmer	1/14

February

Gregory S. Aschelman	2/18
Carol Baughman	2/21
Christopher Boccia	2/09
Arthur Dean, II	2/06
Daniel DeLuca	2/22
Steven Dort	2/16
Michael Faqan	2/16
James C. Farina	2/20
Michael Fleser	2/22
Kevin Haqen	2/16
Johnny L. Hullum	2/16
James H. Johnson	2/03
Paul W. Kittle	2/26
Leroy Moss	2/20
Richard Neal Jr.	2/12
Dennis K. Owens	2/29
John A. Poulos	2/27
Douglas Price, II	2/11
Kent A. Schaus	2/03
Daniel J. Shaughnessy	2/19
Linda D. Sollberger	2/26
Michael W. Steele	2/03
Tyrone L. Toles	2/15
Wayne Vinson	2/02
Lowell C. Weir	2/18
Donald E. Winnen	2/14



March

Steven Barker	3/09
Michael J. Belofi	3/13
James M. Carpenter	3/05
Willie D. Cheatham	3/06
Gregory J. Conley	3/13
David M. Cross	3/27
David L. Davis	3/17
Kevin C. Denbow	3/06
Paul M. Devine	3/21
James Diestel	3/11
Timothy Ely	3/03
Bruce E. Fisher	3/19
Jerald W. Gardner Jr.	3/01
John W. Gordon	3/24
Richard T. Jeffries	3/09
Steven Kaut	3/29
James R. Kocsis	3/05
Jeffrey Layne	3/20
Peter G. Marinos	3/07
Raymond L. McCune	3/24
Marcus W. Moore	3/22
Royal V. Morris	3/08
Timothy Morrison	3/13
Robert L. Oldaker II	3/06
Mark S. Oziomek	3/24
Warren L. Russell Jr.	3/19
Deborah Sebastian	3/21
David Shaker	3/19
Dale E. Sharp	3/01
Michael Shaughnessy	3/28
Gregory L. Snyder	3/04
Rex A. Stephen	3/29
James Timoch	3/29
Andrew Tomcsak	3/17
Karl Wodrich	3/22

2004 Holidays

New Year's Day*	01/01/04
Martin Luther King Day	01/19/04
President's Day	02/16/04
Memorial Day*	05/31/04
City Picnic Day	06/16/04
Independence Day*	07/04/04
Labor Day*	09/06/04
Firefighters Memorial	10/07/04
Columbus Day	10/12/04
Veteran's Day	11/11/04
Thanksgiving Day*	11/25/04
Day after Thanksgiving	11/26/04
Christmas Day*	12/25/04

*Denotes Mandatory Holiday

All Fire Department Offices Closed

Line Personnel - Memorial Day
05/30/04