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We look forward to your input!
Deadline for submitting items for the August 24th newsletter is August 14th.



Holloway's Headlines

Hello to everyone and I hope you all are enjoying our new Fire Department newsletter. We are excited about another means of communicating with everyone about Fire Department events and items that affect our brothers and sisters in the Department. In future additions, I will attempt to address items of interest and I encourage all of you to submit items to Deana that you would like to have included in the newsletter. Hope everyone is having a great summer and I look forward to future additions of "Fully Involved".

Best wishes, Randy

15/5 Graduation

Graduation started with an awesome performance of the Concord Pipe & Drum Band. It added so much to the ceremony, great job guys!

Battalion Chief Mike Wilson with Charlotte Fire Department was our keynote speaker. He shared that he was in the 1987 Charlotte Recruit class and was so excited that he did not want to leave the fire station for fear he was going to miss something.

Chief Wilson gave the graduates 3 rules to



Battalion Chief Mike Wilson Speaking at Graduation

remember:

1. Don't Get Killed

Minimize the threat by thinking through what you do.

2. Do The Job Right

Practice the basics continuously.

3. Have Fun

Why? If you are not happy, you will not do the job right.

He also encouraged everyone to volunteer to do things in the department.

Chief Wilson ended his message with these

words:

We wear different patches, but they all include the maltese cross. You represent not only your city and department but also the whole fire service. Conduct yourself with respect 24/7.

Chief Holloway gave his "help get grandpa's big butt up off the floor speech" that we have all heard, but continues to be a point that everyone needs to hear and be reminded of.

Chief Cline and Chief Cress did a great job and the graduates thanked each with a shadow box containing a hand-crafted helmet shield.

Congratulations 15/5!



Fully Involved

Team Concord Caring for our Own

The 1st annual Team Concord—Caring for our Own charity softball tournament was a huge success. This was something that started out as being Concord Fire Dept. vs. Concord Police Dept. but thankfully grew into so much more. This years tournament benefitted Gary Pressley who works for the Electric Dept. A few months ago Gary was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's Disease. He has been going through some rough times, but was able to come to the tournament. Being able to see and talk to Gary was the highlight of the tournament for all that attended.

Eight City teams along with McGill Baptist participated in this event. McGill won the overall tournament. CFD Battalion 2 came in 2nd, with CFD Battalion 1 coming in 3rd. CPD's two teams took 4th and 6th place.

Over the past couple of years, CPD and CFD have come together to help out those in our community who are in need. We have always had a good working relationship with them, but has now grown to a friendly relationship off duty. We have a fun rivalry going with the football and now the softball games.



Gary Pressley

All in all its about coming together and helping out ones less fortunate.

Concord Fire was a part of something special on June 27th. As our department grows, so does our commitment to one another. Let's continue to be the best family in this City.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Gary Pressley and family.

Submitted by Dylan Daquila

Annual Fire Department Fishing Tournament

**No Rules.
No Whining.**

The bigger the fish tale the better.

Lotta cheatin' goin' on!

Started in the 90's by Larry Mason and Bob Sides, the tournament is held around the 1st

week of May at Badin Lake, Old Whitney Landing.

Galen Shumaker & Steve Blackwelder currently organize the event, based on total weight caught, and in '08 added the "Big Fish" category.

Submitted by Galen Shumaker



John Frame with the "Big Fish" 2009

Bragging Board

- Brent Seagraves is going to be a Daddy in November!
- Matt Sellers is going to be a Daddy!
- Chance and Holly had a beautiful baby boy named Cooper Wade Branson, he weighed 6 lbs 8 oz and 20"
- Our Brother / Sister team of James and Amanda Butler are proud Uncle & Aunt to Amelia Beth Miller born July 13, 2009!

Submit your Bragging Board notices via e-mail to Deana. No bragging board notices will be printed without e-mail from bragger.

Hot Topics

New Rescue 7



FD Softball Team



Concord Pipe & Drums

The Concord Pipe & Drum band has now been organized for 2 years. We have 3 playing pipers and 3 drummers. We have been associated with a number of events so far this year; Relay for Life, Biggerstaff Funeral, Memorial Day services and Recruit Graduation.

We are still looking for new members to build the band. Interested members can contact me for further information on starting to learn. Keep us in mind for community events where we may be able to help out.

Also note that we are a 501c3, a Not-for-Profit Incorporation and all donations are tax deductible.

Submitted by Don Ward



Captain Todd Jones, at Lee's Funeral



Jimmy Barrett - Chaplain

Many of you have already met the Reverend Jimmy Barrett (he prefers you call him Jimmy) our Chaplain. He has been the pastor at Poplar Grove Baptist Church since May 1995. Jimmy and his wife Rhonda have been married for 26 years and have 4 children:

David - 24, Senior at Phifer
Caleb - 18, A.L. Brown graduate

Invite Jimmy to supper sometime. He can be reached via e-mail at pastor@poplargrovebaptist.com 704-791-0218 or Direct Connect 150*24*21769

Malia - 14, Freshman at A.L. Brown
Tinzee - 4, Adopted from China

Jimmy is from Kannapolis, is an A.L. Brown graduate and working on his doctorate through Liberty University. He has been a volunteer firefighter with Mt. Mitchell VFD and was on the Board of Directors for Poplar Tent VFD. He has also been an EMT.

He likes to bowl, ride his Harley, fish, read, and likes any sport involving a ball. He also states "I love to be at home".

Fish & Hunting Pic's



Rusty's crew 2009



Allen Smith's daughter Sarah holding a fish caught on Lake Murray this month it weight 28 lbs 3 oz.

FULLY INVOLVED

As you can see our newsletter has a name!

Fully Involved was suggested by Melanie Jordan; Thanks Mel!

Thanks to our Judges:

- Personnel hired before 1985
- Jimmy Barrett, Chaplain

Meet Our Newest Members

Chance Branson

Age: 22

Hometown: Marshall, Oklahoma

Married to Holly Branson

Children: Cooper Wade Branson

Hobbies:

Sports, hunting, fishing, farming, & family.



Brian Cranford

Age 30

Hometown: Concord

Married to Sara-Kathryn Cranford

Hobbies: Muscle cars, fishing



Neil Hart

Nickname: Jersey (compliments of Capt. Williams)

Age: 33

Hometown: Long Branch, NJ

Hobbies: Hunting, fishing, softball



Hunter Meadows

Age: 24

Hometown: Mt. Pleasant

Hobbies: Working out, sports, hunting, fishing, movies, going to the beach, sleep, and having good times.



Chad Parker

Age: 19

Hometown: Concord

Hobbies: Outdoors, sports, going to the lake.

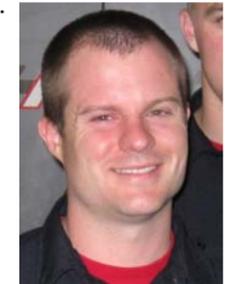


Derek Porter

Age: 27

Hometown: Mt. Pleasant

Hobbies: Sports, outdoors, & wakeboarding.



James Wilson

Nickname: Adds

Age: 20

Hometown: Hebron, OH

Hobbies: Racing, jet skis, & eating



15/5 at Station 1



Picture includes Harrisburg Recruit Class participants:

- Tim Lankford
- Dakota Raborn
- Dustin Sneed and
Voluntary Participant:
- Michael Cooper