



2013 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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WPFD In Planning Stages For A Station In Pinnacle Valley

Residents in the northeastern part of our fire district are generating grass roots support with hopes to develop a new WPFD fire station in the Pinnacle Valley Road area. Many folks in this area have seen insurance costs increases or have trouble getting insurance coverage since WPFD's Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluation in 2012. The ISO classification improved for most property owners but restricted rates to properties within 5 miles from their closest fire station. Adding a new fire station is a long-term commitment for WPFD and we are looking for ways to establish the proper location, erect a suitable building, equip it with fire apparatus, acquire protective and communications gear, and then develop volunteers to respond from this station area. A recent commitment from a local property owner has helped get the ball rolling with a planned donation of 1 acre of land near Pinnacle Valley & Beck Roads. We are also pleased to see early interest in volunteering as firefighters and first responders. Building design and cost estimates are being developed while discussions with planning authorities have begun. If you would like more information about how you will be affected by this planned station or would like to contribute, please contact West Pulaski Fire Department's Business Office at 501-821-9320.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED— LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP

Would you like to help your local volunteer fire department but you don't know how or where to begin? If you bring the effort and a positive attitude, we will provide the equipment, the training, and know-how to become a volunteer member of the West Pulaski Fire Department (WPFD).

If you would like to help out but can't be a firefighter, we can always use help with building/grounds maintenance, office/administration, medical personnel, fundraising, community outreach and more. No prior experience needed. Please give us a call at (501) 821-9320, send us an email to wpfd@sbcglobal.net or just stop by any of our WPFD Fire Stations.



MEET SOME OF WEST PULASKI FIRE DEPARTMENT'S VOLUNTEERS

LIEUTENANT—SHON RANGLES, EMT



Lt. Shon Randles
Station #2

Home Station Area: Station #2—Ferndale

How long have you been a volunteer firefighter? 2 1/2 Years

What motivated you to join the volunteer fire department? Being a full-time firefighter, I wanted to help out in my home community as well.

What type of training or specialties do you enjoy that you have acquired as a volunteer firefighter? I enjoy training with water tankers, we depend on these during a fire for water supply in most of our rural areas where no hydrants are available.

What do you like most about being a volunteer firefighter? Being able to use my years of experience and training in my community to help keep my friends, family, and neighbors safe.

What is your current profession/job when you are not a volunteer I am a professional firefighter serving with the Conway Fire Department for the past 18 years.

How do you spend your free time when not working/volunteering with WPFD? Spending time with my wife Sydney, and playing the bass drum for the Conway Firefighters Bagpipes & Drums Band.

LIEUTENANT—JOEL DEWITT, CFF

Home Station Area: Station #3—Hwy 10

How long have you been a volunteer firefighter?: A little over 2 years

What motivated you to join the volunteer fire department?: While growing up, I was around a volunteer department all the time. My father was the chief of the local volunteer fire department for 25 years (50+ years of service) and my mother has been an EMT for 45+ years. I always envisioned myself helping out a community by joining a volunteer department, but I didn't have the opportunity until I moved to the Little Rock area.

What type of training or specialties do you enjoy that you have acquired as a volunteer firefighter?: I'd have to say basic CPR – it's something I feel I could (hopefully not though) use any day of my life.

What do you like most about being a volunteer firefighter?: I love the ability to serve the community, and work alongside with other individuals that share the same goals.

What is your current profession/job when you are not a volunteer Systems Engineer at Avastone Technologies

How do you spend your free time when not working/volunteering with WPFD?: My wife Stacia and I spend our free time attending our children's activities. My son Austin is a freshman at Arkansas State where he participates in cross country/track. My daughter Emma is in 7th grade at Little Rock Christian where she is active in soccer and volleyball.



Lt. Joel Dewitt
Station #3

MEET SOME OF WEST PULASKI FIRE DEPARTMENT'S VOLUNTEERS

FIREFIGHTER—SCOTT JOBLIN



**FF Scott Joblin
Station #1**

Home Station Area: Station #1—Col. Glenn Area

How long have you been a volunteer firefighter? 20 Years with West Chester Fire Dept. (Pennsylvania) and 1 year with West Pulaski Fire Department

What motivated you to join the volunteer fire department? My dad was a volunteer firefighter so I grew up in the firehouse. It was only natural for me to follow in his footsteps.

What type of training or specialties do you enjoy that you have acquired as a volunteer firefighter? Over the years, I have acquired many skills, but I enjoy the tactical aspect of structural firefighting to coordinate the actions of the various teams on the fire ground.

What do you like most about being a volunteer firefighter? Being part of another family and helping people.

What is your current profession/job when you are not a volunteer? Claim Team Manager with State Farm Insurance

How do you spend your free time when not working or volunteering with WPFD? Being outdoors - working around the house, hiking, and hunting.

FIREFIGHTER—BYRON SHAYNE PIERCE



**FF Shayne Pierce
Station #1**

Home Station Area: Station #1—Col. Glenn Area

How long have you been a volunteer firefighter? Almost 1 year

What motivated you to join the volunteer fire department? My family and I were new to Arkansas and I wanted make some local connections and help my community

What type of training or specialties do you enjoy that you have acquired as a volunteer firefighter? I have been interested most of all by the emergency medical training.

What do you like most about being a volunteer firefighter? The opportunity to help when people are in need, and riding in a fire trucks is great.

What is your current profession/job when you are not a volunteer? Maintenance specialist at Youth Home Inc.

How do you spend your free time when not working or volunteering with WPFD? Being married for twenty years with two kids in junior high, four dogs, four goats, two cats, working at Youth Home Inc. and going to school to become an Emergency Medical Technician.

Winter Heating and Fireplace Safety

Each fall and winter season, WPFD responds to several home emergencies involving fireplaces, chimney fires, or portable home heaters. If you use a gas or wood burning heating source please be sure they are properly maintained before operating. Now is the time to have your home's heat systems inspected and cleaned to prevent potential leaks of fire, smoke, and harmful gases (carbon monoxide) that can vent into to the home or attic. Being prepared now ensures your home is ready for a full season of safe heating!



WPFD MAKING PLANS FOR A FIRE BOAT PROGRAM



West Pulaski Fire Department currently provides fire and rescue coverage to areas along the Arkansas River and Maumelle River like Little Rock Yacht Club, Maumelle Park, Beck Road, County Farm Road, Isbell Lane, and areas near Two Rivers Park. The need for "floating" fire and rescue apparatus in these areas near the Arkansas River valley has continued to grow as housing and traffic continues to increase. WPFD is planning to acquire a Fire Boat and implement a program for our fire district. This will be a large commitment but will be worth the effort to better serve our fire district. WPFD recently made arrangements to receive a very nice fire boat through the Arkansas Forestry's and U.S. Forestry's donation program. The boat is leaving its current service at the Joplin Volunteer Fire Dept. on Lake Ouachita. Some of our volunteers already have the required training and more will get the opportunity to train once we activate this boat for service. Stay tuned for updates at wpfirerescue.org and our Facebook page.

FIND WPFD ON THE INTERNET AND FACEBOOK, ANYTIME:

West Pulaski Fire Department's website has tons of information, news and events at www.wpfirerescue.org. This is a great way to stay informed about your volunteer fire department.

- o Fire department news, information, and timely alerts updated regularly
- o Get fire safety and preparedness at wpfirerescue.org/get-prepared
- o Learn answers to common questions at wpfirerescue.org/about-wpfd



Are Your Address Numbers Visible Enough?

- First responders try to navigate the roads quickly seeking our emergency destination. Seeing YOUR address numbers easily helps confirm we have arrived at our incident scene OR it can keep us from mistaking your address for our intended destination.

- Please take the time to ensure YOUR address markings are the best they can be on your mailbox, driveway, gate, and home so we can get where we are going as quickly as possible in an emergency situation, even if it isn't your home we are headed to.



- If your address numbers are less than 3-inches tall on your address entry point (mailbox or driveway) they usually are not very visible at night or in poor weather.
- Please make sure your address is clearly visible from any direction that we might arrive.
- Check the color and contrast of your numbers to ensure they are clearly visible from no less than 50 feet away, in any weather. 75 feet is better. And make sure there are no weeds or obstructions.

IMPROVING WPFD'S SERVICE FLEET

Tanker #4—Newer Tanker Delivered To Station #4 (Little Italy Area)

WPFD completed an upgrade this year by adding a more modern water supply vehicle to our Station #4 area serving Little Italy on the north side of Lake Maumelle. We acquired a low mileage military truck chassis from the Arkansas Forestry Commission through the government's surplus property program. We sent the military hauler to be refurbished, painted, and enhanced to begin its next chapter as a water tender (that is fire speak for fire tanker). A water tank was constructed to carry 2,500 gallons of water and all painted to match in fire engine red with trim in metallic silver. Our crews then added all of the auxiliary power supply needs, emergency warning lights, radios, siren, identification markings, reflective safety striping, tools and equipment. It is great to see a fine truck like this added to our fleet for lower cost, high value, and should require very low maintenance for the foreseeable future. It will haul water to fire scenes that don't have fire hydrants or anywhere extra water is needed in our fire district.





Smart911 is a free service that allows citizens across Arkansas to create a free Safety Profile for their household that includes any vital information they want responders to have in the event of an emergency. With your safe and secure SMART911 profile, anyone in your household that dials 9-1-1 from a registered phone number, including wireless phones, can have their profile information available for use by 9-1-1 operators handling the emergency call. Critical information, like medical conditions, can be passed to responders headed to your location. At a time when seconds count, responders can now have better information while en-route to your location to better serve you. Visit smart911.com now to learn more and create your free and secure online safety profile for you and your loved ones. Smart911 is a free service provided by the State of Arkansas and your local 911 agencies.

Board of Commissioners:

- Chairman: Greg Brewer**
- Commissioner: Ronnie Wheeler**
- Commissioner: Chris Smith**
- Comm/Treasurer: Clay Gilliland**
- Commissioner: Steve Brown**

Mail us: West Pulaski Fire Department
2810 Whispering Pines Rd
Little Rock, AR. 72210

Call us: (501) 821-9320
(Non-emergency only)

Email : wpfd@sbcglobal.net
Email: wpfdbusinessoffice@yahoo.com

Website: www.wpfirerescue.org

Facebook:
[West Pulaski Fire Department](#)
 (Little Rock, Arkansas)



West Pulaski Fire Department is a public department whose members are dedicated volunteers (unpaid) with fire, rescue and medical response training.

WPFD is classified as a public charity under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Our fire department is also eligible to receive tax-deductible donations, bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to the department are tax deductible.

Do You Know Where Your Local Fire Station Is Located?

Station 1 – 2810 Whispering Pines Road (Near Col. Glenn)

Station 2 – 25911 Kanis Road (Ferndale area)

Station 3 – 22624 Hwy 10 & Ferndale Cut-off

Station 4— 35921 Hwy 300 (Little Italy)

Feel free to come by any of our stations to meet our volunteers, tour our station, look at our fire equipment (bring the kids!) or find out how you can join our department.

Our stations are not staffed at all times, however, we conduct weekly maintenance on most Tuesday nights between 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. We look forward to you dropping by!