



2008 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

WEST PULASKI FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #23



News:

New Equipment:

WPFDF is excited to announce two additional vehicles are planned to replace older service trucks

- **New Tanker #1** -A new water tanker has been ordered to replace our oldest water delivery truck (tender). New Tanker #1 will ensure we bring enough water to the fire in areas where water hydrants are not in place. This truck is being purchased with a Federal FEMA Grant to replace an older converted military 6x6 tanker vehicle (Tanker #6).
- **New Rescue #1** – Our current rescue truck at Station #1 will soon be replaced later this year with a new multi-purpose vehicle capable of not only rescue and medical calls, but will be able to serve as a fire support vehicle. Carrying more equipment, this vehicle will bring additional air-bottles and refill supplies for our use in structure/vehicle fires. Now, with the ability to carry more equipment to our calls, we can be even more prepared.
- **New Thermal Imaging Camera's** were installed in each of our Fire Engines at Station's 1, 2, &3. (See story next page)
- **Do you have a private gate or use a restricted entryway to your residence?** West Pulaski now offers fire access padlocks for your entry/security gates & fencing on your property. A fire department padlock will allow the fire department to gain faster access to protect lives and property when dispatched to your address. Cost is a one-time charge of \$5.00 per lock. Please call **501-821-9320** for info.

2008 Fundraising Goal- Wild-land Fire Protective Clothing Needed

A wild-land fire is any type of fire where natural vegetation like grass, brush, timber or trees burn uncontrolled and threaten acreage and surrounding structures.

Wild-land / brush fires can happen year round in Arkansas and are fought most actively when local temperatures are warm, humidity is low, and winds are strong. A small fire from a campfire or weather related lightning strike could grow out of control very quickly in the right conditions creating a storm of flame and smoke.

If you watched TV coverage of the West Coast wildfires this year, you probably saw where thousands of acres and hundreds of homes were threatened or burned by wildfire.

What you might not have seen in the national and local news was that West Pulaski Fire Department fought many wildfires too that occurred within the 160 square miles of our fire district.

Equipped with customized off-road wild-land fire trucks, water-packs and hand tools, WPFDF fire-fighters fought grass and woods fires with rakes and shovels in front yards, back yards, on roadsides, in back wooded areas, mountain valleys and peaks, and fields where traditional fire trucks cannot travel.

Fighting a fire with limited water resources in remote locations can often be the only way to stop the spread of large fires to surrounding structures and adjoining property. Working with the Arkansas Forestry Commission, crews use manpower, hand tools, and heavy equipment to stop the spread of wildfire as quickly as possible.

Now that you have an idea of how a wild-land fire is fought, we ask you to now consider the people that are

fighting the fire and the need for equipment to keep the firefighter safe from injury should the fire shift unexpectedly due to high winds or dangerous conditions.

The people fighting the fires, your friends and neighbors, currently don't have any special protective clothing for wild-land fire conditions.

Our firefighters current do have some protective clothing that is made for fighting structure fires, bunker gear as it is known, but this is too large, bulky, and hot to wear in wildfire conditions.

WPFDF would like to acquire a full set of protective clothing for wild-land fire attack that would prevent personnel from being burned should one of our people fall into a burn area or suffer from flames and burning debris when the wind suddenly shifts.

A wild-land fire suit is made of fire retardant materials that do not burn, is relatively light weight (when compared to traditional structure fire clothing), and can save a volunteer caught in a fire from suffering life altering burns for the rest of their life.

We at WPFDF have continually worked to achieve the equipment that does the most good, the tools that get the job done, and the gear to bring us home safely to our families once the fires are out. We ask that you consider helping us purchase the right tools to help us protect our personnel better in these fire situations

A single fire fighter requires safety pants, jacket, and gloves made from 'Nomex' material, a safety helmet and fire rated work gloves. To outfit a single person can cost in the range of \$350-\$400. To raise enough money to outfit the majority of our personnel could cost over \$20,000. Money raised at this years fish fry fundraiser will help us work toward this worthwhile cause to protect us as we protect you.

Learn more about West Pulaski Fire Department online at www.wpfirerescue.org

2007 Fish Fry Results- Thank you! Thank you! 3 New Thermal Cameras!

At last years Fish Fry, we told you about our desire to acquire new technology called Thermal Imaging Cameras to help provide "super-powers" in our fight to protect you and your property. With an overwhelming response from those that attended our fundraising dinner and generous donations from the community, we raised enough funds to help us acquire, not ONE, not TWO, but THREE thermal imaging cameras!!!!!!

With adequate funds, volume purchasing and smart pricing negotiations, WPFDD was able to acquire three MSA 5600 cameras to help us save lives and property. This vital tool is carried on three of our primary fire engines that go directly to the fire. We can't thank you enough for helping us make such a vital investment in saving lives and property.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



**MSA Model 5600
Thermal Imaging Camera**

PERSONNEL NEWS: VENTURE CREW

The West Pulaski Fire Department Venture Crew is a youth organization (ages 16-18) that is sponsored by the West Pulaski Fire Department and chartered by the Boy Scouts of America, to train teens about the fire service. Venture members learn and serve their community with adult Fire Department supervision and learn the many skills used by the fire service. Upon their 18th birthday, Venture members can apply to become can become fully trained firefighters with WPFDD If you are interested in a future in fire fighting or just want to have a great time serving your community, **contact Joseph Reeves at 821-9320 for more information.**

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

WPFDD is continually updating information on our website at

www.wpfirerescue.org

Learn more about your local fire department and find answers to your questions and how our response services affect you and our community.

- Locate a fire station local your home address
- Get contact information to reach our business office
- Find out ISO Insurance Fire Ratings for our department and for the area you live within
- See fire department news and current events
- Get local weather and recommendations that impact/restrict outdoor burning
- See a small collection of photos of the many incidents we work in our community
- Find out how you can volunteer and/or support your local fire department
 - Be a firefighter
 - Help with community events
 - Donate time
 - Donate goods
 - Donate money
 - Donate your experience in some way to maintain and grow our fire dept.

ANNUAL MEETING:

West Pulaski Fire Department will host its annual meeting on October 24, 2008 at 7pm. It will be held at the Ferndale Community Extension building located at 27015 Kanis Road near the intersection of Kanis & Ferndale Cut-Off. This meeting is open to the public and we welcome your attendance.

FIRE DEPT. INFO

West Pulaski Fire Protection District #23 volunteer fire department that is subscription based and proudly protects 9000+ people living in an area of 160+ square miles. We operate out of four stations that protect primarily rural areas around/near non-incorporated areas of Pulaski, Saline and Perry Counties west of Little Rock, Arkansas. Our service is a public department whose members are volunteers with fire, rescue/extrication and medical training.

WPFDD is classified as a public charity under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to the department are tax deductible.

WPFDD is also eligible to receive tax-deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code.

WPFDD Board of Commissioners:

Chairman: Greg Brewer
Treasurer: Ronnie Wheeler (Fire Chief)
Commissioner: Chris Smith
Commissioner: Clay Gilliland
Commissioner: Steve Brown
Dept. Secretary: Deb Crow

CONTACT INFO:

Send Mail Correspondence to:
**2810 Whispering Pines Rd
Little Rock, AR. 72210**

**Non-Emergency Phone:
(501) 821-9320**

**For Emergencies:
Dial 911**

Email: wpfd@sbcglobal.net
Newsletter: wpfdnewsletter@sbcglobal.net