

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2007

TRUMPET

A PUBLICATION OF THE MOBILE FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT - ESTABLISHED 1888

Merry Christmas!

INSIDE FEATURES

School Shooting Exercise

Smart Kids Day

Guns and Hoses 5K Run/Walk

Deep Fried Turkey Safety Tips

A Different Kind of Christmas

"Quality Professional Services Delivered with Compassion"

TRUMPET

An official publication of the Mobile Fire-Rescue Department.
Stephen A. Dean, Fire Chief

Editor & Publisher
Steve Huffman

The Trumpet welcomes your questions and/or comments. To submit photos, articles or comments call (251) 208-2857 or e-mail: huffman@cityofmobile.org

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Our Mission

The Mission of the Mobile Fire - Rescue Department is to identify and respond to community needs in order to deliver an effective and efficient system of service which minimize risk to life, health, and property from fire, trauma, acute illness, and hazardous conditions.



On the Cover

A typical holiday scene in America. Christmas Trees were first introduced in Germany in the 7th Century.

Cover Photo By: Unknown

Visit Our Website:

<http://www.cityofmobile.org/fire/>

School Shooting Drill

On Saturday, September 29 Mobile Fire-Rescue Department participated in a simulated school shooting exercise at Shaw High School. Mobile Police, Mobile County Emergency Management Agency, Metro Transit Authority and other agencies also participated in the exercise.

but all the goals were accomplished at the conclusion.

Thanks goes to all the fire and police recruits, explorers, citizen fire academy members and other volunteers who served as "victims" during the exercise.

Job very well done by all!



Originally, District Chief Melvin Stringfellow approached Captain Odom to plan a multi-company drill for companies in District Three, Shift One. Captain Odom conceived the idea of a school shooting scenario, especially with the rash of recent school shootings. She brought in the Mobile Police Department's Tactical Response Unit, as well as other agencies to plan and participate.

Captain Odom wanted to make the drill as realistic as possible and tax the system. It was obvious that goal was easily accomplished.

The drill took a little over two hours





Photo Provided by **KENT LANDSBERG**

ABOVE: Members of the Mobile Fire-Rescue Explorer Post assist with arranging the prizes for giveaway.

SMART KIDS DAY

On Saturday, September 8, 2007 the Smart Kids Day took place at Colonial Bel Air Mall near J.C Penney. An estimated 400 people participated in the program. Families enjoyed the event which included a trip through the Liberty Mutual Pedestrian Safety Teaching Town. Participants were given safety stickers and an opportunity to win prizes.

Approximately 300 bi-

cycle helmets and 200 child car seats were given away as prizes.

Kent Landsberg coordinated the event and Captain Brian Gilliland, the Fire and Police Department Explorers provided assistance that made the event a success.

Sponsors for the event included Ginger Copeland with Liberty Mutual Insurance, Julie Farmer with Safe Kids, Dr. B with Acupuncture 2, Karen Ivey with Coldwell Banker Real Estate, Cadence 120 Bikes, Bikes of Mobile and the Alabama Department of Education.

Recent Retirements



Firefighter Mike Lovitte
23 Years Service
Retired 08/28/2007
Truck 5

Congratulations upon your retirement and good luck on your future endeavors.

HANUKKAH



Photo by **STEVE HUFFMAN**

TC Cookout

Recently the Staff of the Training, EMS and P.I.E.R. Divisions, along with recruits from Mobile, Saraland, Prichard, Atmore and Daphne Fire Departments, took advantage of the perfect (and cooler) weather to have a cookout at the Training Academy.

Designated cook, Chef Riley a.k.a Captain Walt Riley, cooked up some delicacies on the grill.

Everyone partook in enjoying hamburgers, sausage dogs, assorted cookies and chips as well as sweet tea. Most of all everyone enjoyed the camaraderie and perfect weather.



MFRD Keeps the Trophy

The Guns and Hoses 5 K Run/Walk took place in Downtown Mobile, Saturday, October 13. Mobile Fire-Rescue Department maintained bragging rights once again thanks to members of the department especially Tim Hall, 1st place, Scott Carmichael, 2nd and Brent Becker 3rd place. Congrats!



Photo by **DEBBIE BRYARS**



KUDOS

Firefighter of the Year

Kent Landsberg - Driver, P.I.E.R.

Firefighter of the Month

AUGUST - Mike Tipp - Firefighter, EA02

SEPTEMBER - Kenny Newman - Firefighter, TC05

Employee of the Month

AUGUST - Roshunda Brown Lumpkin - Supply

Public Information Officer Steve Huffman became the first recipient of the *Best Public Information Officer Award of Excellence* presented by the Press Club of Mobile at the organizations 28th Annual Awards Banquet and Ceremonies held at the Gulf Coast Explorium and Imax Theater on August 4. The award is presented to the PIO who best exemplifies the office - working easily with officials and the media to get accurate information to all media outlets in a timely fashion to be relayed to the public.

Public Educator Kent Landsberg received the *Liberty Mutual Firemark Award* on August 7 presented at the Annual Alabama Association Fire Chief's Conference held in Orange Beach. The Liberty Mutual Firemark Award is presented to locally recognized firefighters throughout the country who best represent their communities through their valor and selfless spirit.

Kent was also the recipient of the *Children's Empowerment Award* on September 22 presented by the Kids Day America program. The award is presented to honor the endless service to empower, enrich and enhance our children's lives.

Dignity consists not in possessing honors, but in the consciousness that we deserve them.

Aristotle - 384 BC- 322 BC

Deep Fried Turkey Safety Tips

Deep frying a turkey is dangerous and proper caution needs to be used.

The turkey fryer needs to be outside on a flat surface. Do not deep fry a turkey in a garage or a covered carport.

- * Always keep a fire extinguisher (rated for grease fires) nearby.
- * Large oven mitts or a fireproof gloves must be worn.
- * Always wear eye protection and full face protection would be even better. A welding mask is probably overkill but it would be entertaining for your guests.
- * When lowering the turkey into the oil, turn off the flame. And turn off when removing the turkey.
- * And do not allow guests, especially children and pets near the turkey cooker.
- * Oil and water don't get along. Be sure your Turkey, inside and out, is completely dry before you lower it in the hot oil.
- * Never attempt to deep fry a frozen turkey. The Turkey must be completely thawed. Towel dry the outside and the inside of the Turkey before submersing it in the hot oil.

Follow these safety tips and use common sense and your turkey frying experience will be safe and successful.

Thank you for helping brother

I would like to offer a special thanks to the firefighters, paramedics and EMTs of Mobile Fire and Rescue for the friendship, support, use of their personal time and donations of their vacation/sick leave time to my brother, Dale Broome, a Mobile firefighter.

It is nice to see people with these morals who stand by their friends and coworkers when they are going through hard times.

My brother Dale, and his wife Sheryl (thank God for her) are good people, and I really appreciate these people being there for them after he was diagnosed in April with malignant throat cancer.

A really special "thanks" for everything they have done. This outpouring of assistance shows me exactly what the true meaning of the firefighters brotherhood is all about.

KIM BROOME
Dadeville

NOTE: This letter was originally sent to the Press-Register Letters to the Editor. It was requested to be reprinted in the Trumpet.



Thank You



August 10, 2007

Thank you so much for your contribution toward our 2007 Back 2 School Bash!

We are pleased to report that, in spite of the heat, over 3000 people were in attendance. We were able to provide food, drinks, school supplies, a parenting session, health information, games, vision and hearing screenings, a gospel stage and much more. We were able to pray with and for our school students and educators. Thirty-eight students gave their heart to the Lord Jesus. It was a great day!!! Your presence truly made the difference.

Thank you,
Joseph F. Johnson
Senior Pastor
Mount Hebron Church Ministries

Chief Brannon,
Thank you for your prompt response to my request for the M.F.D's involvement in the 2007 Special Olympic Sailing Regatta. The athletes were thrilled and I was relieved knowing we were prepared and able to handle any problems that could occur on the water. Thanks for making it happen!

Susan Pounds, RN
Degussa Corp.

Note: Thanks to Captain Bill Shannon and Firefighter Daniel Sprinkle and others for providing coverage during this event



Mobile water rescue craft provided by the Mobile Fire department stands by.

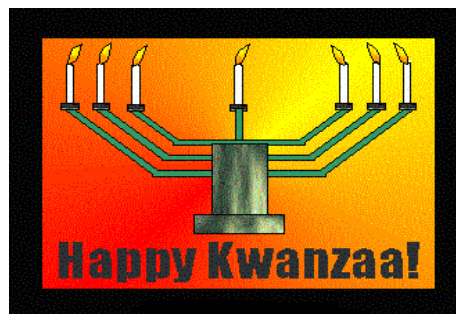
Photo Provided By **DEGUSSA CORPORATION**



ARFF Training
July 30, 2007
Photos By
Captain Joe Owen



Twenty-two personnel from Mobile Fire-Rescue Department attended an ARFF Hot Drill at the Mississippi State Fire Academy. **ABOVE:** Twelve personnel attended on July 30 and participated in the extinguishment of a fuel fire at the aircraft mock-up.



With Appreciation for Our Soldiers and Their Families this Holiday Season "A Different Kind of Christmas"

I had no Christmas spirit when I breathed a weary sigh.
 And looked across the table where the bills were piled too high.
 The laundry wasn't finished and the car I had to fix,
 My stocks were down another point, the dolphins lost by six.
 And so with only minutes till my son got home from school
 I gave up on the drudgery and grabbed a wooden stool.
 The burdens that I carried were about all I could take.
 And so I flipped the TV on to catch a little break.

I came across upon a desert scene in the shades of tan and rust,
 No snowflakes hung upon the wind, just clouds of swirling dust.
 And where the reindeer should have stood before a laden sleigh, Eight Hummers ran a column right behind an M1A.
 A group of boys walked past the tank, not one was past his teens.
 Their eyes were hard as polished flint, their faces drawn and lean.
 They walked the street in armor with their rifles shouldered tight, Their dearest wish for Christmas, just to have a silent night.



Other soldiers gathered, hunkered down against the wind,
 To share a scrap of mail and dreams of going home again.
 There wasn't much at all to put their lonely hearts at ease,
 They had no Christmas Turkey, just a pack of MREs.

They didn't have a garland or a stocking I could see,
 They didn't need an ornament-- they lacked a Christmas Tree.

They didn't have a present even though it was tradition,
 the only boxes I could see were labeled "ammunition."

I felt a little tug and found my son now by my side.
 He asked me what it was I feared, and why it was I cried.
 I swept him up into my arms and held him oh so near
 And kissed him on the forehead as I whispered in his ear.
 There's nothing wrong with my little son,
 for safe we sleep tonight,
 Our heroes stand on foreign land to give us all the right,

To worry on the things in life that mean nothing at all,
 Instead of wondering if we will be the next one to fall.
 He looked at me as children do and said its always right,
 to thanks the ones who help us and perhaps that we should write.

And so we pushed aside the bills and sat to draft a note,
 to thank the many far from home, and this is what we wrote:

God Bless You all and keep you safe, and speed your way back home. Remember that we love you so, and that you're not alone.



The gift you give you share with all, a present every day,
 You give the gift of liberty and that we can't repay.

Thank you from a grateful America!

Thank you, God for our liberty and may we never take it for granted!

Merry Christmas!



Firefighter Safety

Potentially Violent Personnel Encounters

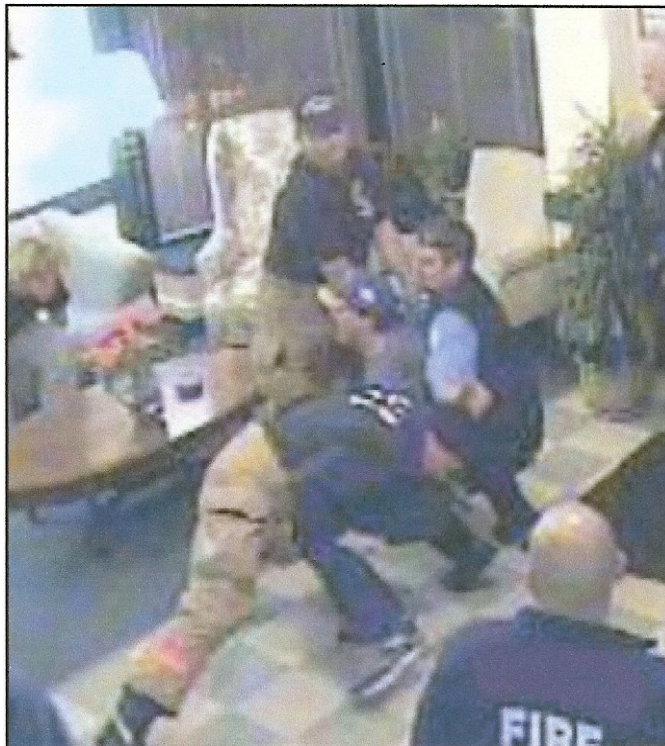
Firefighters need to be aware of the potential for personal violence directed against them while they are engaged in fire operations and be alerted to the warning signs during personal encounters with individuals.

You need to be aware of potential activity, such as illegal dumping on public lands, clandestine drug labs, marijuana cultivation in remote areas. People engaged in such criminal activity can be hostile and violent if discovered. So you should be prepared to leave the area immediately.

If you meet a member of the public who is hostile, you should:

- * Be polite and non-threatening.
- * Not try to reason with potentially violent individuals.
- * Leave the area as soon as possible.
- * Have law enforcement to respond to the scene.

The vast majority of people are courteous and friendly. You should be aware of the fact that there are exceptions to this rule, and should cultivate a situational awareness when you are in the field. Firefighters safety and health are always primary considerations.



Photos in Time...



Photo Courtesy of **CHIEF BUDDY EDWARDS, JR.**

Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs Conference, Capts Buddy Edwards and Regan - Back row, Chief Petery

Submit your old photos to huffman@cityofmobile.org

Report of the Week

www.firefighternearmiss.com



Sign up by e-mailing "ROTW-Web" to nearmiss@iafc.org



DATES TO REMEMBER

November 4 - Daylight Saving Time Ends

November 11 - Veterans Day

November 22 - Thanksgiving

December 4 - Hanukkan Begins

December 7 - Pearl Harbor Day

December 25 - Christmas

December 26 - Kwanzaa Begins

January 1 - New Year's Day

January 21 - Martin Luther King Day



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combscartoons@yahoo.com



Mobile Fire-Rescue Department

701 Saint Francis Street
Mobile, Alabama 36602

