



MULDOON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

January 31, 2008



MESSAGE FROM FIRE CHIEF JOHNNY McCOY, Jr.

On behalf of all Muldoon Volunteer Fire Department firefighters, I am sending a huge thanks to you, our neighbors and supporters, for your tremendous support during 2007. We wish you all the best for a safe and happy year ahead. The year 2007 was one of great growth in our Department, founded in late 2001, slightly more than six years ago.

2007 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

FISCAL GROWTH: Your generous contributions and proceeds from successful grant applications have made it possible for us to develop an annual budget to sustain and support us, and ensure future growth and stability. After our March fundraiser, we expect to retire our last fire truck loan, owning *all* of our current fire apparatus.

TRAINING: We implemented a formal training program that brings our firefighters together monthly to improve their knowledge and skills, leading to a Department-wide level of certification in both fire suppression and emergency medical first response.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: In cooperation with the Muldoon Community Park Association, we have extended the community park pavilion to better serve our needs as a local fundraising location and an area community center.

SAFETY ISSUES: We initiated a smoke alarm installation program in the homes of local residents who are unable to do this for themselves, on a request basis.

RECOGNITION: [See first page for First Responder Award.]

CALL RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

The call volume for 2007, while on par with previous years, included some benchmark incidents that I feel reflect our professional and financial growth:

FIREFIGHTING SKILLS: Using our newest fire apparatus, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), and more advanced training, we successfully stopped a fully involved bedroom fire in a mobile home.

SEARCH-RESCUE: Capitalizing on our past experiences with successful overland search and rescue operations, our growing competence in incident management techniques, and improved cooperative relations with surrounding fire departments and allied emergency response agencies, we spearheaded the successful search and rescue of a lost citizen that involved no fewer than six separate fire, law enforcement, and emergency medical service entities.

ACCOUNTABILITY/LEADERSHIP: Our training standards in the use of formal Incident Management System (IMS) techniques and participation in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) is now spreading countywide because of the observable benefits they have brought us in such a short period of time.

There is much to do in 2008....

FIRE PREVENTION: News stories have demonstrated the dangers of a wet, abundant growing season followed by a dry, windy winter. The ground remains too wet for fire apparatus to drive safely while fighting fires in rural areas. Implementing the techniques and recommendations contained in the defensible space literature in this newsletter can help us ensure that this dangerous mix of conditions doesn't result in costly damage to your property and risk to your family.

FISCAL PLANNING: We will continue our efforts toward responsible fiscal management by developing and implementing a two-, five-, and ten-year projected growth plan to better ensure equitable improvements in protection throughout our 136 square-mile response area. These plans will require the continued financial support of our community, the continued success of grant applications and, most importantly, the continued growth in our roster of trained and ready firefighters and emergency medical first responders.

FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT: Our small core of firefighters, centered predominantly in the Muldoon and West Point areas, protects the entirety of the response area. The Cistern area remains dangerously short of personnel. Our large response area requires strategically placed equipment and personnel throughout, but any plans to improve facilities and equipment in outlying areas depends upon having firefighters in those areas who are able and willing to put the equipment to good use. If you, or someone you know, has the time, physical ability, and level of commitment we're looking for, please join us in protecting our homes and property.

Thank you again for your support. I pledge to you that I, along with my Command Staff, will continue moving our Department forward in a positive direction, and will maintain it as an organization worthy of your continued trust and support.

Be safe! Chief Johnny McCoy, Jr.

FROM THE PRESIDENT – Ron Wunsch

Greetings and best wishes for a prosperous and healthy 2008 from the Muldoon VFD! As you can see in the message from Chief Johnny McCoy, 2007 was a very busy year for our firefighters and Community Service members. All of these people have dedicated a tremendous amount of time and effort to help keep our community safe. The financial and physical support from you, our friends and neighbors, has also been critical to our Department's success.

The year ahead will present new challenges to our fledgling Department, and we will continue to need your help. Please consider this my personal invitation to join us at our regular monthly meetings whenever you can during this new year.

Thanks again for your support!Ron Wunsch

NOTE: E-mail to muldoonvfd@gmail.com to join our online network for local information, activities, and needs.



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Telephone Directory for Quick Reference

Fire Chief	Johnny McCoy, Jr.	979-966-8805
Asst. Fire Chief	Douglas Iannelli	979-250-1818
President	Ron Wunsch	979-247-4684
Vice-President	Norma Kerr	979-966-8787
Secretary	Timothy Seubert	979-247-4280
Treasurer	Gaye Wunsch	979-702-0700
Chaplain	Pastor Chris Irving	979-966-8703

Non-Emergencies:

Muldoon Fire Station (leave message) 361-865-0176
 *Fayette County Sheriff –Dispatcher 979-968-5856
**to report supervised burning on your property*

ALL EMERGENCIES ----- CALL 911

Monthly General Meeting: 1st Thursday, 7:00 pm
 Feb. 7th – Mar. 6th – Apr. 3rd – May 8th -- June 5th

FIRST RESPONDER OF THE YEAR 2007

Muldoon VFD was recognized by the Fayette County EMS for their outstanding service as First Responders in the County during 2007. MVFD was selected from among all eleven fire and emergency departments operating in Fayette County, This is a very special award, especially for a department that is just over six years old. Congratulations to our firefighters!

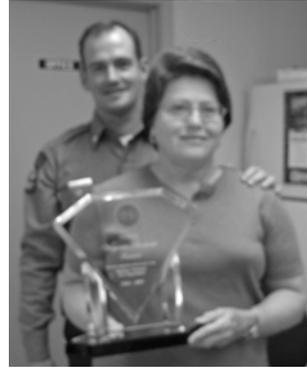
MULDOON VFD 6th Annual Fundraiser

Saturday, March 8, 2008 – 11:00 AM
FLYER ENCLOSED

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We need a few extra helping hands during the upcoming fundraiser to make this day a special time for our community. We need auction items, volunteers for set-up, light kitchen duty, on-site helpers for the auction, and clean-up. Please contact Norma Kerr at 979-966-8787 or Shay Iannelli at 979-242-3108 to volunteer. Every helping hand counts, even if you just come to the event and volunteer your services, for just an hour, to any MVFD worker on that day. Auction items are especially needed to help us meet our financial goals for this event.

WILL YOUR HOME SURVIVE?

The Texas Forest Service provides important public safety training, public service information pamphlets and community programs—all FREE. Please visit their booth during our March 8th fundraiser to gather valuable safety information. In addition to the enclosed pamphlet, *Will your home SURVIVE?* you may visit this website: <http://txforestservice.tamu.edu> and select the link "Protect Your Home" for wildfire safety tips around your home.



Virginia Boehnke recently retired from her position as Treasurer, a position she has held for 4-1/2 years. She and her husband Harold have played a key role in the success of our Department. Asst. Chief Doug Iannelli presented Ms. Boehnke with a special plaque at a Jan 3rd reception held in her honor.

MULDOON VOL. FIRE DEPT. NEEDS YOU!

We need you! Want to be more involved in your community? Want to make a difference? Want your opinion to matter? If so, then you are the perfect person for us. There are two main divisions of service within our Department:

FIREFIGHTER -- If you are willing to submit to an annual background check, and can commit to participation in necessary regular monthly training (usually on Saturdays) to ensure your safety and the safety of your fellow firefighters, please call Chief Johnny McCoy, Jr. (979-966-8805), Asst. Chief Doug Iannelli (979-250-1818), or Lt. Stephen Kelly (512-914-6021) for further information. We need additional firefighters to build a comprehensive program to meet the demands of our 136 sq. mile area of assigned responsibility.

COMMUNITY SERVICE MEMBERSHIP – Are you interested in becoming a member of the Executive Board? Do you want to be eligible to vote in the election of new officers or on constitutional issues? Or would you enjoy offering a helping hand for occasional fundraising and community service activities?

We are building a community of volunteers to support each other, and welcome your involvement for whatever time you can spare. It's a fun way to get to know people nearby, too! Any property owner or resident in our area who files a Contact Information form is welcome to participate in our monthly business meetings and vote on current issues. However, to cast an official vote for new officers or constitutional changes, you are required to attend 2/3 of the regularly scheduled meetings during the preceding six-month period. For further information, you may contact anyone shown in the above officer directory.

Annual election of officers will be held on June 5th, following nominations on May 8th. Begin attending the monthly meetings now, to participate in the election. We want to get to know you, so please join us!



Burning Ban Flags are located at the fire station, the Community Park, and in Cistern at Hwy 95 / Jeddo Road

NOTE: E-mail to muldoonvfd@gmail.com to join our online network for local information, activities, and needs.