



MULDOON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

FEBRUARY 12, 2009



CHIEF'S 2008 SUMMARY REPORT

Chief Johnny McCoy, Jr. reports that MVFD firefighters had a very busy 2008, logging 44 response calls, averaging 6 firefighters per call, to generate a MVFD total of 618 volunteer man-hours in providing emergency services for our community.

The 44 calls represented a wide range of emergency circumstances: 26 fires, 2 searches, and 16 medical-related events. Medical responses were further broken down into three categories: 4 support calls for clearing helicopter landing zones to transport patients, 6 vehicle wrecks, and 6 first responder medical calls to private residences. Many of these events were multi-agency calls, with MVFD serving as incident command, or providing early response support for EMS and/or law enforcement. One firefighter, **Fred Hernandez**, led all others by responding to 35 out of the 44 incidents processed during 2008.

Asst. Chief Douglas Iannelli led the monthly firefighter training program in 2008. Training focused on preparing members for external, live-fire training events planned for 2009. Subjects included the use of self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), hose handling, search & rescue, ventilation, basic 1st responder and CPR recertification, and ground ladder practices. Much of this training was conducted at the donated Cherry house, which will continue to be used until it is destroyed by the owner to clear the property. Martin Cherry has provided an invaluable service to the firefighters by donating this structure for hands-on training.

The MVFD is currently served by sixteen dedicated, trained volunteer firefighters:

Chief Johnny McCoy, Jr.	James Ivy
Asst. Chief Douglas Iannelli	Carlos Martinez
Captain Stephen Kelly	Chris McCoy
Lt. Shay Iannelli	Mark Miles
Lt. Melody McCoy	Paul Splawn
Jerry Haddox	Martin Spoelstra
Herbert Hart	Terry Vaughan
Fred Hernandez	Charles Vinklarek

Whenever you see these firefighters, thank them for their continued dedication!

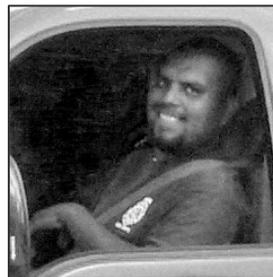
MEET THE FIREFIGHTERS

Each future newsletter will feature a few of the dedicated volunteers who are serving our community. These profiles will also be available on the Muldoon VFD website at: <http://www.muldoonfiredept.org>



Chief Johnny McCoy, Jr., 32 yrs. old, has lived in this area since he was 9 yrs. old. He lives in West Point with his wife Melody (also a MVFD firefighter) and their two children: Blaine, 12 yrs old, and Tristen, 11 yrs old. McCoy is employed by Hunter Industries as a surveyor and production foreman. He has

been a member of MVFD since inception of the Dept. in 2000, serving as its Chief since 2004. His calm demeanor and savvy leadership skills have helped to stabilize the program and to gain the respect of the firefighters under his command, as well as members of other area fire departments and emergency agencies.



Fred Hernandez, 26 years old, has been a firefighter since 2006. Fred is single, and is employed by the Flatonia ISD maintenance dept. He is a lifetime resident of the Muldoon area. As a dedicated firefighter, he not only led all other firefighters by responding to 35 of 44 response calls, but he has

also tirelessly served our community during neighborhood events, including participation in annual 4th of July parades and park festivities. Fred says that his favorite part of his firefighter job is fighting brush fires. He is a friend to all, and can be counted upon to help MVFD in every way possible. When you see Fred, tell him how much you appreciate him, and congratulate him on being chosen as **Muldoon VFD's 2008 Firefighter of the Year!**

Do YOU want to become a firefighter? MVFD is always seeking more persons who are interested in serving this community. Training is ongoing, so new recruits can join at any time. If you are interested, contact any person listed in the directory (see outer cover) for information.



BURN BAN IN EFFECT!

NO OUTDOOR BURNING ALLOWED

Burn Ban flags are displayed at Muldoon VFD, the Cistern sub-station, and the Muldoon Community Park. If you wish to be added to our MVFD e-mail burn ban notification list, send an e-mail request to: muldoon.vfd@gmail.com.

IF YOU ACCIDENTALLY START A FIRE . . .

Call 9-1-1 immediately! Firefighters would rather arrive and *not* be needed, than for you to try to handle it yourself and lose control.

Flag the entrance route to fire site.

Unlock and open any gates in or near the location
Remove vehicles and other equipment from fire vicinity.



MULDOON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

FEBRUARY 12, 2009



7th ANNUAL GENERAL FUNDRAISER Saturday, March 28, 2009 (See enclosed flyer)

MULDOON VFD CISTERN SUB-STATION - UPDATE Jeddo Road @ Hwy 95, Cistern



[Scenes from March 2008 Fundraiser]

Please join us for another day of fun, friendship, and celebration. Muldoon VFD has continued to grow and strengthen in service to our community because of your generous support.

This year's fundraiser will follow the same format as last year's event (see enclosed flyer). If you can spare some time during the day to help us keep things running smoothly, just tap a MVFD representative on the shoulder and ask where you can help. This is a fun way to get to know your neighbors, so join us!

You may contact one of the following members to sign up in advance for:

- ★ Set-up & clean-up -- Ron Wunsch 979-702-0960
- ★ Auction donations/mgt. – Tim Seubert 979-247-4280
- ★ Cashier's table – Gaye Wunsch 979-702-0700
- ★ Cakes for Cake Walk--Virginia Boehnke 830-839-4527

We DEFINITELY need everyone's help in rounding up auction items for the event. Please ask your favorite merchants for **auction items or gift certificates** (just show them the enclosed flyer), or you may have "like-new" unused items in your own home to share. Handmade items or specialty baked/canned foods are also a hit. ALL contributions are appreciated. Please call Tim Seubert with auction items you have, so that he can include them in our advance auction list for processing.

MULDOON VFD MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR BOARD 333 N 3rd, near Hwy 154 @ FM 2237

Since January, 2008, Muldoon VFD has received the following donations of \$500 or more, as shown on the Contributor Board at the Muldoon VFD station:

Bronze (\$500-\$999)
Sterling Bank, Houston
Silver (\$1000 - \$2,499)
In Memory of Jerry Alexander

Gold (\$2,500 - \$4,999)
Fayette Truck & Auto
Bar Nothing Ranch



Jeddo Road @ Hwy 95 is location for proposed Cistern sub-station, with entrance facing Jeddo Road.

MVFD will host a Cistern area "Town Hall Meeting" at the Sts. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church in Cistern, on **Monday, February 23rd at 7:00 pm**, to review current status and answer questions about this project. Please join us!

The Cistern facilities committee has met several times, working out details for this project. Committee members are: Chief John McCoy, Jr., Asst. Chief Douglas Iannelli, Raymond Harbich, Michael Harbich, David Charba, and Richard Ogden, with Ron Wunsch serving as moderator.

Written and/or verbal approvals for proposed construction have been received from Judge Ed Janecka, Pct. 3 Commissioner James Kubecka, Asst. County Attorney Harold M. Streicher, District Judge Dan Beck, and Bobby Vinklerek, President of the Cistern Water Well Company, to proceed with plans at the proposed site. Construction will comply with all laws and regulations of the State of Texas and Fayette County pertinent to the construction and operation of this structure at this location.

Fayette Electric Company, a local licensed plumbing company, and a local engineering company, as well as the State environmental website have been consulted for advice and guidelines to assure complete compliance with all regulations.

MVFD has set aside an additional \$2,000, increasing total cash reserves to \$8,000 to begin construction, with plans to raise additional funds during the coming months. After reviewing bids from local contractors, it is estimated that the total cost for this basic facility will be approximately \$20,000. Suggestions for fundraising are needed, to raise the additional funds for this project. A Major Contributor Board is planned for the Cistern sub-station to recognize contributions specifically designated for the new facility. Contact Gaye Wunsch, Treasurer, to make your donation.



MULDOON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

FEBRUARY 12, 2009



“9-1-1” Rural Addressing Project

- Sirens are wailing, emergency personnel are driving at top speed, and it's late at night. Will they be able to find YOUR property in time? Are your neighbors' properties properly marked, to provide confirmation that they are headed in the right direction to your place? Are the numbered properties along your road correctly sequenced? What can YOU do to help emergency personnel to find YOU?

Since the 9-1-1 system was established in the United States, all properties are assigned a physical address, in the rural counties as well as within city limits, for location purposes. The assignment of addresses for Fayette County properties began in the early 1990's, and were facilitated by the local fire departments and emergency services. Fire departments were allowed to sell the 9-1-1 signs and keep the proceeds for their department's use.

The Muldoon Volunteer Fire Department was created in 2001, about 10 years after the rural addressing project was introduced in Fayette County. The Muldoon-Cistern area has undergone substantial landowner changes since this project was first introduced. Therefore, our assigned 136 square mile territory is only sparsely identified with the recognizable bright blue & silver “9-1-1” signs at each property entrance. The lack of a clear road addressing system can cause serious delays in emergency services reaching a scene.

MVFD community service volunteers assisted firefighters a few months ago, at a large fire in a remote area of our district, and found serious problems in identifying roads and entrances. Private roads and easements weren't marked, and crews had difficulty navigating the 100+ acre fire scene. This experience motivated your MVFD board members to take action for the protection of your property and personal safety.

Please help us protect YOU and your neighbors by posting the standard blue/silver signs at your entrance, at a visible level (4-5' high) along the road, at headlight level for *day or night* identification of your entrance and/or structure. Remember that ALL emergency services depend upon this form of identification, 24 hrs/day: fire, EMS, and law enforcement use this system.

Also, help us monitor our road signs, as they are also critical for navigation. EVERY INTERSECTION should be marked with the name of the road(s). If you notice any unmarked intersections, or are aware of signs that have been lost or removed, contact your precinct commissioner:



James Kubecka (Pct. 3) 361-865-3524
 John Saunders (Pct. 1) 979-968-3358
 Tom Muras (Pct. 4) 979-968-8621

If you share a private road or easement with other landowners, please consider installation of additional 9-1-1 signs along the common roadway/easements, so that personnel can find YOUR individual location, after exiting the public roads. Remember, every SECOND counts!

At this time, MVFD volunteers are canvassing our assigned territory, encouraging everyone to obtain at least one of the clearly visible blue/silver reflective signs. All proceeds from the sale of signs (\$5.00 each) are retained by MVFD, to be used for firefighters' needs in protecting your property.

To acquire YOUR 9-1-1 sign(s), contact Gaye Wunsch, Treasurer, at 979-247-4684 or 979-702-0700, or e-mail to muldoon.vfd@gmail.com with your property description. Gaye will make your sign and deliver it to the Cistern Country Store in Cistern (at intersection of Jeddo Road and Hwy 95) for pick-up.

Betty Danner, owner, is donating her time to support this worthy cause. You may pick up your signs during store hours, 11:00 am – 9:00 pm, including Sat-Sun.

**Special services available during
 March 28th Fundraiser
 DAWN MOORE
 9-1-1 Addressing Coordinator**



If you have not been assigned a 9-1-1 number for your property entrance, you will need to contact Dawn Moore at the Fayette County Courthouse, 3rd Floor, next to the County Judge's Office. Dawn has volunteered her services during our upcoming March 28th fundraiser in Muldoon, for anyone who needs her assistance. She will have all her mapping resources available to help you ID your property, and assign 9-1-1 numbers as needed, during the fundraiser.



VOLUNTEERS are needed to canvass our roads. Are you willing to drive your road and record the visible 9-1-1 signs? Confirming road data currently visible, would help us to identify residents who may require assistance in installing their signs. Remember, your neighbor's posted numbers help emergency services to find YOU, as well! Contact Gaye Wunsch at 979-247-4684 to volunteer your assistance. We all need to work together on this program.