

THE RURAL HITCH

2019 First Quarter

Published by
Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid

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Laconia, New Hampshire 03246
603.528.9111
www.lrmfa.org

From the desk of...

CHIEF COORDINATOR JON GOLDMAN, RPL

The first quarter of 2019 was busy, and eventful. We wrapped up 2018, dispatching almost 27,000 emergency calls for service. The winter months of the first quarter offered up several storms, which as usual increase daily call volume and activity for everyone across the entire district. The district certainly felt busier in the first quarter, Deputy Steele and I responded to several incidents throughout the district.



At the May 2018 Board of Directors meeting, the Board authorized the expenses needed for an additional simulcast site to be installed at the Warren Fire Station. This is a collaborative project as the Town of Warren installed a building wide generator, the Warren Fireman's Association paid for and worked to install the tower needed for the site, and LRMFA provided the necessary radio equipment. Deputy Steele worked with Consolidated Communications to run an additional Eline from the Warren Fire Station, to the Communications Center. He then worked with our radio vendor to spec out and order the needed equipment. After several trips to Warren, and our vendor making two tower climbs the system is in, and operational. Currently that site provides additional transmit capabilities directly from the Warren Fire Station and provides "talk back" or receive capabilities from Warren. Previously we could only hear Warren and area field units via our Tenney site. On the day the site went live we were able to talk from Warren to LRMFA crystal clear, on a portable radio. This is something we have never been able to do. On behalf of LRMFA, and the Warren Fire Department we would like to thank the board for authorizing this much needed system improvement.

Our radio system in general continues to plague us with intermittent problems. These problems are often associated with antenna issues, timing issues, or the low band portion of our system. Deputy Steele is doing a great job managing a system that is in much need of replacement.

We continue to work towards being able to present a radio system design proposal at the May Board of Directors meeting. Deputy Steele and I have worked with two separate vendors over the course of the last year to refine proposals, quotes, and systems that will not only enhance features and benefits but be cost effective within a price point that is reasonable.

We are looking to eliminate the low band portion of our system, which has caused much angst over the past several years. With the elimination of the low band system, we will be proposing to "transmit" and "receive" to each site via an ELAN system through Consolidated

Continued on Page 4 - From the Chief

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Statistics...

2018 in Review

<i>Month</i>	<i>Admin</i>	<i>Emergency</i>	<i>Incidents</i>
January	1,900	2,886	2,449
February	1,425	2,376	1,977
March	1,310	2,080	1,825
April	1,501	2,360	1,942
May	1,900	2,729	2,210
June	2,076	3,055	2,315
July	2,110	3,122	2,668
August	2,142	3,116	2,663
September	1,934	2,705	2,253
October	1,934	2,691	2,259
November	2,046	2,647	2,360
December	1,726	2,275	2,035
Total	22,004	32,042	26,956
Avg/Day	60.28	87.79	73.85

2019 First Quarter

<i>Month</i>	<i>Admin</i>	<i>Emergency</i>	<i>Incidents</i>
January	1,784	2,679	2,363
February	1,756	2,313	2,045
March	1,409	2,322	1,945
Total	4,949	7,314	6,353
Avg/Day	53.79	79.50	69.05



Danbury appoints Jeremy Martin to Fire Chief following Chief Tom Austin's Retirement



Belmont FF Josh Heustis has been promoted to Lieutenant



David Hall becomes Deputy Fire Chief in Franklin

Who's Who & What's New...



Christopher Yaeger is Sworn in as a Laconia Firefighter



Pat McManus was sworn in as a Laconia Firefighter



Laconia FFs Phil Plummer, Brandon Wright and Mark Fucci



TNFD FF Matt Gilman promoted to Lieutenant

From the Chief – Continued from Page 1

Communications. Deputy Steele is working with the vendors make sure our proposed system is efficient, redundant, and as hardened as possible. One of the issues with our current system is the ability or inability to get to some of our sites due to the mountainous terrain and NH weather. It makes sense to harden these sites and create redundancy as much as we can. As part of the new proposal that many have expressed a desire for, we will also propose to bring back three district wide repeaters. The repeaters will be placed on Blue Job, Tenney, and Belknap and will be available for use within the district for departments that need them for an incident, community event, or other reason. The repeaters will not replace our current dispatch channel, or operational channels, but will add additional interoperability and operational efficiency amongst the member communities.

We had some additional staffing changes amongst our Per-Diem Dispatchers during the first quarter of 2019. Many of our department members, remember Dispatcher Chris Harris as a former full-time dispatcher. He has come back as a Per-Diem, has completed training and is currently working shifts. He has been a great help. We also brought Per-Diem Dispatcher Nicholas Bridle on board, he is a Full Time Dispatcher with the Derry Fire Department and is the Vice-President of the NH Emergency

Dispatchers Association. Nick will be completing his training very soon, and then will be available to work shifts for us when needed. Per-Diem Dispatcher Jeff Sheltry remains on our roster, but we want to congratulate him on his recent hiring as a Fire Alarm Dispatcher for the Nashua Fire Department. Jeff has always done well at LRMFA, and we are sure he will be a valuable part of the team in Nashua. Jeff will remain on our roster and fill in when his schedule allows.

As we move into the second quarter of 2019, we are excited about the direction of Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid and cannot wait for summer season to be upon us. As always, if there is anything, we can do for you, please don't hesitate to reach out and speak with myself, or Deputy Chief Steele. 🍷

MISSION STATEMENT:

“To deliver the highest quality telecommunications, training and education, and emergency services coordination for our community partners and the public we serve.”

VISION STATEMENT:

“We strive to develop and promote exemplary, nationally recognized, regional emergency communication and mutual aid services resulting in a culture of safety for our communities.”

NH Fire Explorer Training Academy

For the past 25 years the New Hampshire Fire Explorer Training Academy, in coordination with the Daniel Webster Council, has provided an exceptional opportunity for local youth with an interest in firefighting. This academy is an intense physical and educational week long residential program for young males and females to experience life as a firefighting recruit. Cadets will participate in the same fire-fighter classes any adult recruit would be required to complete for certification. This years academy will be held at the NHFA from June 23-28.

Tuition is \$375. For more information or to sign up visit the NHFETA website. www.nfeta.org



LRMFA is celebrating the second full week of April (April 14-20) as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. This week, sponsored by the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International and celebrated annually, honors the men and women who respond to emergency calls, dispatch emergency professionals and equipment, and render life-saving assistance to those in need.

National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week is an opportunity for LRMFA and NH Enhanced 9-1-1 to celebrate the work and dedication of our employees. LRMFA processed 26,138 emergency incidents in 2017. These incidents translated to almost 300,000 individual radio transmissions, 31,754 telephone phone calls on our emergency lines, and 20,699 phone calls through our non-emergency phone lines. Continuing to deliver such a high-quality level of service would not be possible without our dedicated and committed staff.

LRMFA Dispatchers and NH9-1-1 Telecommunicators are some of the most professional, highly trained, and highly educated Dispatchers in their industry. Their skill and dedication are critical to the success and safety of our area's public safety-first responders and the citizens we serve.

As LRMFA and NH9-1-1 celebrate National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week we would like to invite the public to an open house on April 20th, 2019 from 11AM until 2PM. This is an opportunity to meet the staff, and see what we do, where we do it and how we do it. There will also be static displays of some of our equipment including our command vehicles, and NH Enhanced 9-1-1 mobile incident command post. The Strafford County Sheriff's Office will attend with static displays and demonstration flights of their drone program equipment. The NH Bureau of Emergency Communications will also be offering tours of their Enhanced 9-1-1 Call Center which is co-located in the same building. The Communications Center and Enhanced 9-1-1 Call Center is located at 50 and 62 Communications Drive, in Laconia, NH.

There will be light refreshments, give aways, tours, and of course the ability to meet and thank those who provide critical lifesaving services from "behind the headset" every day. We hope you and your families will join us.



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New England Fire/Rescue/EMS 2019



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FIRE/RESCUE/EMS EXPO

June 20-23, 2019

Foxwoods Resort & Casino

www.newenglandfirechiefs.org



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

ALL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS INCLUDE AN EXPO DAY PASS FOR FRIDAY

Date: June 20, 2019 Thursday 09:00-16:00

Location: Foxwood Resort and Casino

Educational Program: Developing Critical Incident Decision-Making Skills

Instructor: Chief John Sullivan, Brookline Fire Department, MA

June 20, 2019 Thursday 08:30-16:30

Educational Program: Forcible Entry for Line Officers and Firefighters

Location: Foxwood Resort Fire Station

Presented by; Paul J. De Bartolomeo and Daniel Gordon

CT Custom Fire Training LLC. & Flash Fire Industries

June 20, 2019 Thursday 08:30-16:30 Fire Station

Educational Program: Machinery Rescue by Take the Door Training

Presented By: Auggie Matt

REGISTRATION ONLINE AT NEWENGLANDFIRECHIEFS.ORG

Plymouth Fire Chief Casino Clogston Retires

On March 29th many well wishers gathered at the Plymouth Fire station to wish longtime Plymouth Fire Department member, and Chief, Casino Clogston farewell as he retires after 29 years of service. Chief Clogston started as a full-time firefighter in Plymouth in 1990, eventually rising to the ranks of Fire Chief, a position he held for 18 years, and a post his grandfather had previously held. Chief Clogston has no immediate plans, but to spend time with his family, and enjoy retirement. With Chief Clogstons retirement, Deputy Chief Tom Morrison has been promoted to Fire Chief, and Captain Jeremy Bonan has been promoted to Deputy Chief. Congratulations to all. 🎉



LRMFA would like to welcome Per-Diem Dispatcher Nicholas Bridle to the team. He began his training several weeks ago. Dispatcher Bridle currently serves full time at another NH Fire Dispatch Center, and the Vice-President of the NH Emergency Dispatchers Association.

The fire service runs in the Bridle family, his dad is a retired Captain, from a seacoast fire department, and his sister currently serves as a Fire Alarm Dispatcher on the seacoast as well. Nick, welcome to the Team. 🎉



Gilford Fire-Rescue

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Live-In Students Wanted

Gilford Fire Rescue is a full-time Department responding to approximately 1700 calls per year. We provide both Fire and Ems services.

Our program will prepare you through hands on training with real life experiences.

We pride ourselves on the high quality training we provide our students.

Many of our former students are current Officers and Chiefs around New Hampshire. Our program is limited to two students, to ensure they get the most out of the program.

We provide an intensive two-year program designed to complement and re-inforce material utilized within the Fire Science Program at Lakes Region Community College.

Our program is extremely competitive and we are seeking highly motivated students ready for a fast paced learning hands on environment.

In exchange for work provided to the department students are provided a place to live, with a short commute to Lakes Region Community College.

Prior experience / certification is not required but preferred.

Students go through an interview process. Top candidates will be invited to ride-along before a final selection is made.

For consideration in our program a completed application, resume, and cover letter are required.

Application available by email or at Gilford Fire Station.



Send application, resume & cover letter

Nate Hanson

Gilford Fire Rescue

39 Cherry Valley Rd Gilford, NH 03249

603.527.4758

Or

Email: nhanson@gilfordnh.org



Photo by Bob Fitz Jr. www.firenews.org

Bristol Fire Department

Student Program

APPLICATIONS DUE May 10th

INTERVIEWS ON MAY 18TH

About the Program

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS:

The Bristol Fire Department, Resident Student Internship, is an independent educational program that operates in cooperation with the Lakes Region Community College in Laconia New Hampshire. The purpose of the program is to provide a two-year field experience that prepares students for careers in the Fire Service by exposing them to the principals of Firefighting, EMS, Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

The Program is designed for mature, motivated students who seek to augment their academic commitment by participating in a supervised program that provides actual job experience. The internship goes well beyond observation and job shadowing and requires active participation as a Firefighter/EMT in a working combination Fire Department.

Students are assigned to shifts that will complement the LRCC academic schedule and allow for adequate study time. Students will learn how to balance their classes, homework and internship responsibilities through a process of planning and communications with supervisors.

Resident Students live at the Bristol Fire Station in assigned student quarters. Working alongside career and call firefighters, students are exposed to the fire service culture and the community we serve.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Candidates for the Bristol Resident Student Internship Program shall be eighteen years old on or before September 1st of their freshmen year and enrolled as a full-time student in the LRCC Fire Protection, Science or Investigation Degree Program. Resident Students must maintain a 2.5 average while enrolled in the internship.

APPLICATION SHALL INCLUDE:

A cover letter, resume, Town of Bristol employment application (found at www.townofbristolnh.org) and two personal references.

CANDIDATES WILL BE EVALUATED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- Cover Letter
- Resume
- Town of Bristol Employment Application
- Criminal Background Check
- Motor Vehicle Background Check
- Two personal references
- Physical Exam by a Physician allowing participation as a Fire Fighter
- Fire Fighter One Certification – Strongly Recommended
- National Registry EMT Certification – Strongly Recommend
- CPR Certification - Strongly Recommended
- Experience with Fire – EMS Explorers or Jr. Fire Department
- Experience with Volunteer Fire Department.

Mail applications to:
 Bristol Fire Department
 Att: Student Program
 85 Lake Street
 Bristol NH, 03222



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Technical Rescue...

Alton

On Saturday February 9th 2019, Alton Fire Rescue was called for a head injury at 875 Mt. Major Hwy, the Mount Major trail head. Companies were already in the area due to the previous incident and responded immediately. On arrival, companies could not locate the pt. dispatch was contacted for GPS coordinates and contact info for the caller. It was soon determined that the calling party was well up the mountain on the blue trail in the area of the ledges. At that time the initial crew set in on foot. An additional crew was sent for the UTV w/ tracks to aid in pt. extrication. As crew 1 ascended the mountain they encountered heavy ice conditions on all surfaces, crampon style ice cleats were required for uphill travel. The weather was cold, temps around 18 degrees with winds gusting up to 40 mph. Crew 1 began getting many reports from other hikers that the pt. was down a large cliff. At this time a technical rescue was identified and Crew 2 ascended the mountain with the tech rescue gear. Due to the ice and trail conditions the UTV only made it ½ up to the ledges and crew 2 continued in on foot.

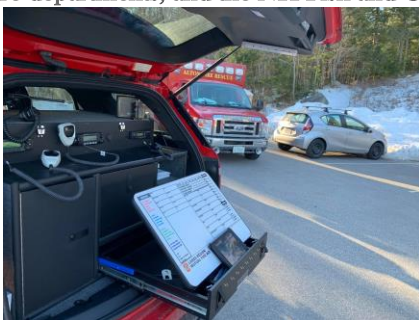


Crew 1 made contact with the pt. a male in his 20's who had slipped and fallen nearly 200' down an extremely steep slope after slipping on the trail. Bystanders worked to get the pt. who had suffered a severe head injury into a sleeping bag to prevent hypothermia. Pt was conscious but confused and showing clear signs of a head injury. Crew 1 utilized a rope line to access the pt. and stabilize. 2 officers of NH fish and game arrived on the scene. Crew 2 arrived on the scene with the rescue equipment and began to setup a lowering system. Rescuers worked together to load the pt. into a stokes-basket. The initial slope was estimated to be 1 to 1 covered with hard pack snow and ice making operations incredibly difficult.

While preparing this pt. for extrication, another female pt. slipped on the trail and suffered a hip/leg injury, fortunately she did not slide down the slope. 2 other officers from NH fish and game tended to the 2nd pt. and assisted her down to the ATV. An additional ambulance from Barnstead was called to the scene. She was assisted to the parking lot without further incident.

For the initial incident, it was decided due to trail conditions, location, and manpower that crews would head down the slope and intercept the orange trail. The rescue system was utilized in lowering the pt. down nearly 600' of steep and slippery terrain. The pt. continued to show signs of a severe head injury and air medical transport was requested from the scene. Through experience and GPS guidance the pt was brought exactly where crews planned to intercept the orange trail. Crews followed the orange trail to the trail head and the pt. was immediately loaded in the ambulance for treatment of his injuries. The DHART helicopter arrived on scene a short time later and transported the pt. to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center where he could be best treated for his injuries.

Most of the factors around this incident were worst case scenario; mountain trail conditions, weather, and a second alarm fire in a neighboring community limiting available manpower. Due to the dedication and highly trained professionals of the Alton and Gilford fire departments, and the NH Fish and Game officers, this rescue was successful. Due to another critical call earlier in the day, and a simultaneous building fire out of district in a neighboring town, LRMFA C1 responded to the area to assist, and evaluate the impact of these simultaneous incidents on the district as a whole.



Due to the potential duration of this incident, LRMFA was asked to provide a Manpower Task Force to assist in carryout, should the operation extend into the evening hours after dark. Resources were pulled from as far away as the Ossipee's to fulfill this request. Fortunately, the patient was extricated from the mountain prior to dark, and the Task Force members were put back in service prior to most of them arriving. A special thank you to Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid for providing command assistance and all of the departments who responded to assist with incident operations off of the mountain. The Alton Fire Department is very thankful for all of our mutual aid partners. 🇺🇸



MAY 17, 2019 ANNUAL MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS & COMMAND POST RALLY

**New Hampshire Telecommunications Emergency
Response Taskforce (NHTERT)**

The Annual NHTERT Rally is on May 17th 2019 at Loon Mountain
in Lincoln, NH. Registration is required.

- Register at
<https://tinyurl.com/y2n3e44v>

*** Any Questions about registration or Sponsorship
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Moultonborough NH., Fire Rescue Dept, takes delivery of new equipment in first quarter of 2019

Congratulations to the members of the Moultonborough NH, Fire Rescue Dept., on the recent delivery of this HME Ahrens-Fox 1871-SFO Custom Chassis Pumper/Tanker. This “Big Water”, Single Axle, apparatus was designed to meet the needs of the town of Moultonborough with their small and narrow roads specifically in the Moultonborough Neck area of town around Lake Winnepesaukee.

Moultonborough Fire Department also took delivery in February of their Hovercraft. The hovercraft was donated to Moultonborough Fire Rescue by The Mark O’Connell Foundation for Lake Winnepesaukee Safety. Visitors to the Center Harbor Skate Fest were able to see the hovercraft in action during a simulated ice rescue by Moultonborough and Center Harbor Fire Departments.

Moultonborough Fire Rescue is a combination department that provides fire and emergency services using call and career firefighters.

The Town of Moultonborough first looked into fire protection about 1928. By 1930, the town had purchased a portable pump and a 1927 Chevrolet fire truck. Fire protection at that time was under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.

In 1932, a group of concerned citizens formed the Moultonborough Volunteer Fire Department. The first meeting was held at the Town Library.

The mission of the Department shall be to provide for life safety, incident stabilization and property conservation in the community of Moultonborough and its mutual aid communities. 🇺🇸





We're honored to introduce the fifth HME Ahrens-Fox apparatus to Moultonborough NH Fire Rescue. Designed to navigate the narrow roads in the Moultonborough Neck area around Lake Winnepesaukee, Engine-3 is a Custom Pumper/Tanker ...



HME Ahrens-Fox 1871-SFO Custom Chassis Pumper/Tanker.

Cummins ISL9 - 370 HP
Allison 3000EVS Automatic Transmission
Hale Qmax 1500 GPM
Foam System, Hale "FoamLogix" 2.1A
Overall Length 27'-6"

Water Tank Capacity, T-Tank, 1675 US Gallons
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Info@lakesfire.com

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The **Alton** Fire Department had an airboat hull donated to them, and after a concerted effort by the Alton Firemans Association, along with \$18,000 in donations they have begun training on the airboat. A joint class was hosted with Alton Fire, Tuftonboro Fire, NH Fish and Game, and Vermont State Police. This will be an invaluable piece of equipment for performing rescues on ice, or remote bodies of water. New, the airboat would have cost approximately \$80,000. 🇺🇸



On the evening of Monday, September 10th **Rumney** received and had our first official training with our new SCBA's. The MSAs are an upgrade which include enhanced communication, thermal imaging are lighter and much more supportive. We look forward to using them to better serve our community. Attached are a few photos from our training. 🇺🇸



'Round the Region...

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'Round the Region continued...



Alton Fire

Campton-Thornton Fire Rescue Responds to...

At 1:08 PM on Saturday March 16, 2019, Campton-Thornton Fire Rescue and Campton PD responded to a reported Snowmobile Accident, at the rear of a residence on US Route 3, adjacent to Corridor 11. A female patient was exiting the trail, to visit friends, when the machine she was riding, struck a storage garage. The patient was transported to Speare Memorial Hospital in Plymouth with Serious Injuries and subsequently transferred to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon. NH Fish and Game also responded and is handling the investigation. CTFR Ambulance 2, Rescue 1, Car 1 and Utility 1 responded to the incident. 🚑



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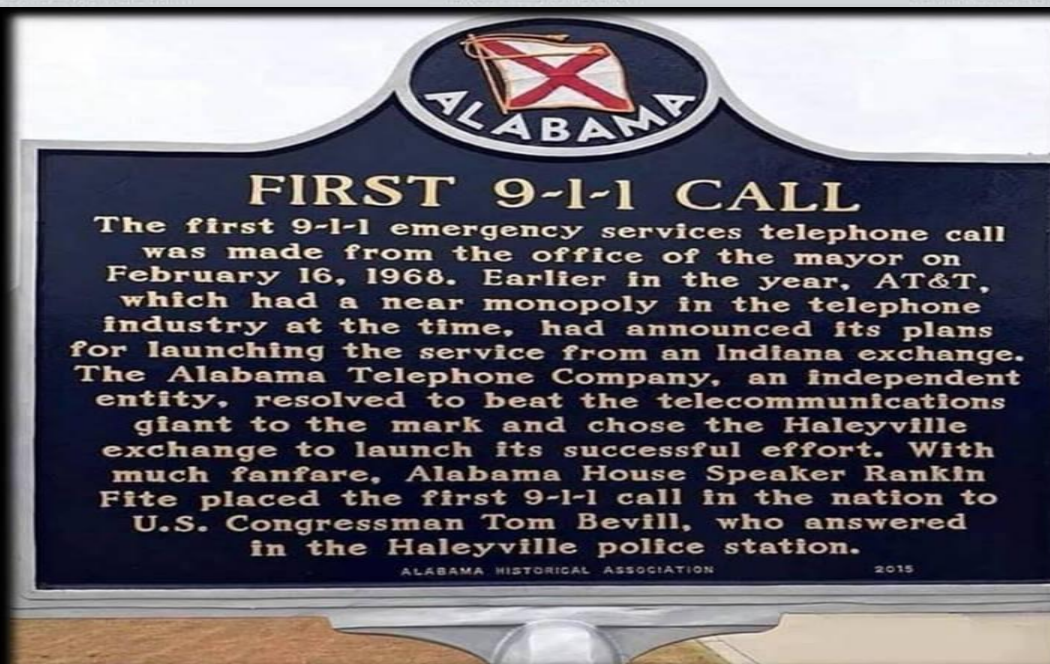
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Rumney Deputy Chief Jim McCart Celebrates Retirement



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