

SMOKE SIGNALS



APRIL 2015

Introduction to Our New Leadership By Daniel L. Ingram, Treasurer

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UPDATES

RETIREMENT

Glenn Morgan

- 34 yrs. Firefighter
- 28 yrs. Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS

David Moore
Jim Binns
Mark Draper
David Perrault
Mike Hillian
Kent Odom
Pete Melnicki
Linda Morgan
Daniel Ingram

As we enter 2015, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our previous Fire Chief, John Luther, for his tireless service on the Board of Directors, and as Fire Chief over the past three years. Through his leadership, and that of his officers, the fire department is in a great position to succeed this year and into the future. We would also like to take a moment to introduce our newest Fire Chief, Ryan Lewis, and his Assistant Chief, Jerry Peters, who were chosen to lead our department over the next three years. Their training and experience are second to none and the department is fortunate that they have agreed to devote their time and energy to the protection and betterment of our community.

Chief Ryan Lewis grew up in Farmington, Arkansas and has been a lifelong resident of Washington County. He is currently engaged to Amanda Burnett and they have a beautiful daughter named Abigail. Chief Lewis has volunteered with the Wedington Fire Department for 18 years now, and has worked in various leadership roles during that tenure. He was a Captain for approximately six years before becoming Assistant Fire Chief in 2012. He held that

position until January 2015, when he was elected Fire Chief.

Chief Lewis has been a full-time firefighter with the Fayetteville Fire Department for over nine years. His emergency response training includes IFSAC Firefighter 1 and 2, Officer 1, Instructor 1, Swift Water Rescue, Structural Collapse Rescue, Wide Area Search, Core Rescue, Driver-Operator, Incident Command Systems, Red Card for Forestry, and he is an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). As an EMT, Chief Lewis has worked part-time for Central EMS for 13 years. He also represents the Wedington Volunteer Fire Department on the Washington County Urban Search and Rescue Team, and was part of the rescue operation back in October 2014 when two Arkansas & Missouri Railroad trains collided, injuring 44 passengers.



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Chief Lewis' first order of business was appointing an Assistant

Chief, and he chose Wedington's most experienced firefighter, Jerry Peters, to be his second-in-command. Asst. Chief

Peters has dedicated over 37 years of his life to the Wedington Volunteer Fire Department, and has been employed at Washington Regional Medical Center for over 30 years. He is married to his extraordinary and dedicated wife of 27 years, Barb Peters, who has volunteered as a firefighter and EMT at Wedington, and is currently a member of the Fire Department Auxiliary. In addition to his unwavering support and commitment, Asst. Chief Peters has also made three major contributions to the Northwest Arkansas area, those being his three children: Mitchell, Martin and Leslie. Martin has been a firefighter at Wedington for the past eight years, and Mitchell and Leslie have both volunteered at Spaghetti Dinners, Pancake Breakfasts, and other Fire Department functions since they were kids.

Asst. Chief Peters has extensive training and experience, all of which he shares with our firefighters at least bi-monthly while conducting training. For many years, Asst. Chief Peters spread his knowledge across the State of Arkansas while he was a trainer for the Arkansas Fire Academy. He is also particularly knowledgeable about wildland firefighting, and has presented at several national seminars on the issue. Currently, Asst. Chief Peters is preparing an examination for firefighters wishing to enter their names as candidates for the open Captain positions, which he hopes to have filled in the very near future.

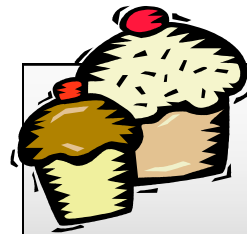
On behalf of Fire Chief Ryan Lewis, Assistant Chief Jerry Peters, and the entire Wedington Volunteer Fire Department, we appreciate your continued support and look forward to serving you for the next



three years and beyond. We hope to see you and your family at the Spaghetti Dinner on April 18th, and Safety Awareness Day on May 30th.

DUES REMINDER

Wedington Fire Department annual dues have been set at \$65 for 2015. Dues will be billed on your Washington County Tax Statement which you should receive in April. The Tax Collector will collect the dues along with your property taxes and then remit them to the Fire Department.



*Want to
know how
you can help with the
Spaghetti Dinner?*

When was the last time you baked your favorite pie, cake or other mouth watering dessert? Don't have time to bake a cake or pie, but you know where to find a good one? The Fire Department needs your help providing desserts for the Spaghetti Dinner on [April 18th](#). If you would like to help by bringing a dessert for the Spaghetti Dinner - please email the Fire Department at firedept@wedington.org or call and leave a message on our business phone at 479-443-7802 so we will know how many to expect. Thank you in advance for your help!



HELP US FIND YOU

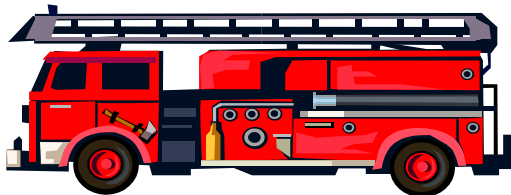


Get a reflective address sign today and help us find your house during an emergency. Email your order to firedept@wedington.org, or call us at 479-443-7802. The signs are only \$10 per sign and can be hung horizontally or vertically.

Check out our new and improved website

www.wedington.org

Safety Awareness Day



May 30th
2pm - 4pm

Wedington Fire Department
Hwy 16 West

Bring your kids out for a fun day with local departments, including fire trucks, police cars, ambulances, and other community heroes. This event is free for everyone!



Come enjoy an ice cream sundae too!!

Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, April 18th

5 pm to 8 pm

Highway 16 West



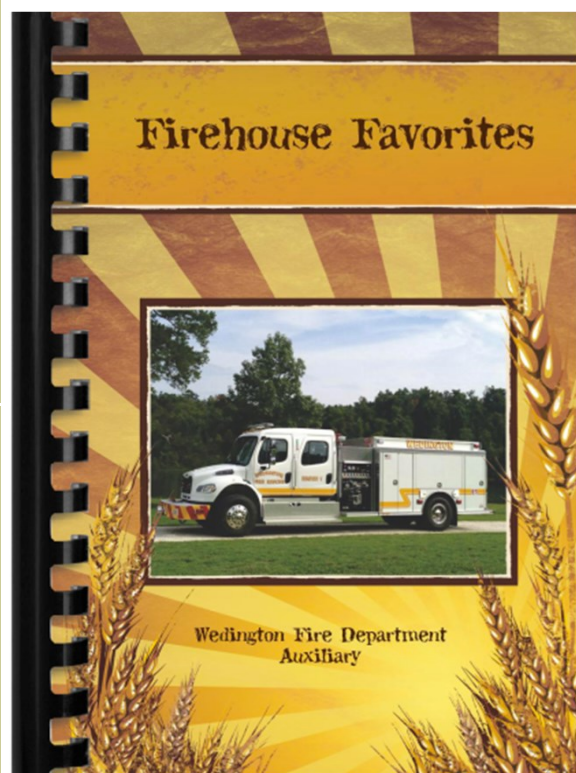
(Spaghetti, salad, bread, dessert, and drinks)

Adults \$6.00 / Children 6-12 \$2.00 / Under 6 Free

\$10 PER COOKBOOK

The Wedington Auxiliary Cookbook will be available for sale for \$10 each or 2 for \$16 at the Spaghetti Dinner on April 18th and Safety Awareness Day on May 30th.

If you can't come to the Spaghetti Dinner or Safety Awareness Day, you can place your order by sending an e-mail to fire-dept@wedington.org with the subject "cookbook" or by calling the fire station at 479-443-7802 and leaving your phone number so we can call you back. Someone from the Auxiliary will let you know when and where you can purchase the new cookbook.



OR 2 FOR \$16