



Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS



www.tnfd.org

Week of 6/19/2009

Phone: 286-4781

Vision

SAFETY

PROFESSIONALISM

**CUSTOMER
SERVICE**

Mission

DELIVER:

EFFICIENT,

PROFESSIONAL,

HIGH QUALITY,

COST EFFECTIVE,

AND TIMELY

**FIRE
SUPPRESSION,**

RESCUE,

**EMERGENCY
MEDICAL
SERVICES,**

FIRE PREVENTION,

**PUBLIC SAFETY
EDUCATION, AND**

**CODE
ENFORCEMENT.**

Chief Carrier's e-mail:
21C1@metrocast.net

OLD HOME DAY

June 27, 2009

Parade at 9

**We still need people to help in the
food booth beginning at 1000 hrs.**

**Remember, this is the Relief Associa-
tion's big fundraiser each year!**

**I'm leaving this as our front page be-
cause the sign up sheets are looking
pretty thin!!!**

**Call Lt Harris if you are available:
783-6736**

Chief's Message

School's Out

It is definitely a time of excitement for school aged children. Summer is here and another year is behind them. It is definitely neat hearing from the kids about how well they did during the last year and the awards and accolades they received!

For kids it is always looking forward to school being out. I know it was the same for me (all of us, probably)! And, for some, when they graduate, that is the last schooling they may ever experience.

For us, though, being in the fire and ems service means that we are never out of school for very long. It could be as extensive as a certification class or as simple as spending a half hour at the coffee table. In all cases, we are always learning.

It may be easy from time to time to say "I've already had that training." But, for the most part, I think our people and the people that choose this work, in general, have the ability to attend a training session that may be repetitive and still take something away from it (sometimes referred to as nuggets). The more experience you have, the more likely you will be picking up nuggets. A younger or less experienced firefighter or EMT will be a sponge for knowledge and will be hanging on every word of a certification class, for example.

An interesting point comes

up whenever we discuss firefighter certifications: Why is it that we don't require recertification? Another way to put it is, "What is the value of a FF II certification if it was taken 20 years ago?" If you think of it in terms of EMS, at least we have training and recertification requirements. There is none of that on the fire side. Once you obtain it—you've got it.

That philosophy can turn troublesome as new techniques and technologies are introduced into the profession. Someone like myself that does not "do the job" every day he's at work can find the simplest tasks difficult due to lack of familiarity and/or lack of knowledge. It then becomes an individual's responsibility to him/herself to keep current and to keep their skill sets in tact.

Being on the Fire Standards and Training Commission, I know this is a hurdle that the "Live Free or Die" State does not want to tackle. But, will that be where we end up? Firefighters dying? Patients and victims dying? It is as interesting a topic as it is controversial. Just ask someone their opinion and you'll find out!

The floor under engine 3 at Center Street is being removed as I write this. If you haven't noticed, it has been sinking for years around the old floor drain. But, recently, it has gotten much worse, sinking as much as a foot and a half under the driver's side

pump panel. We were faced with the prospect that we could end up with a significant sink hole in the floor and the possibility that the next time we drove out or backed in, we could sink the engine into it. I imagined the rear wheels in the hole and the front end off the ground and realized that we needed to fix the floor as soon as possible!

While the floor is being fixed, E3 will be housed outside of Center Street in a fenced in area. We are thinking this might be for a week or so.

It is a shame that we have to put any money at all into this building. But, the prospect of potentially damaging the engine and no known solution to our future building needs has forced our hand.

E1 has a significant problem with it's pump and pump shaft. It is now leaking pump oil onto the floor. We are in the process of securing a company to do the work for us. In the mean time, we may be forced to put it out of service. We'll keep you posted.

We've had a few MVA's today. As I'm finishing up—just got back from 1 at Exit 20. Traffic is already a nightmare. Be careful.

Don't forget to congratulate the C2F2 graduates!!!!

Know the vision,
Chief Carrier

UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

June 22, 2009	0900	Can't We All Just Get Along... Chief Carrier Center Street
June 22, 2009	1800	EMS Con Ed David Rivers Center Street
June 23, 2009	0900	Can't We All Just Get Along... Chief Carrier Center Street
June 24, 2009	0900	Can't We All Just Get Along... Chief Carrier Center Street
June 27, 2009	0800	Old Home Day Parade / Cooking Park Street / Pines Association
June 29, 2009	0900	Captain Boomer...Company of Y's Chief Carrier Center Street
June 29, 2009	1800	Class A Burn Trailer Captain Michaud Park Street
June 30, 2009	0900	Captain Boomer...Company of Y's Chief Carrier Center Street
July 1, 2009	0900	Captain Boomer...Company of Y's Chief Carrier Center Street
Sept 18-19-20, 2009	Varies	EMT Refresher David Rivers

Turnout Gear Maintenance

This week we are taking a little change of pace in our equipment maintenance News Letter section. We are taking a break in talking about some of the heavier iron to something a little closer to each firefighter your turnout gear. Attached is the basic cleaning recommendations taken from Globe Fire Suits web site.

*Detachable liners should be removed from the shell and laundered separately.

*All closures should be fastened: Velcro™ hook tape covering Velcro™ loop tape, hooks and dees fastened, zippers zipped and snap's closed. It is imperative that you cover the hook portion of all hook and loop to prevent snagging during laundering.

*We recommend a front loading washing machine, which does not have an agitator, and preferably one that is designated specifically for cleaning turnouts. A stainless steel tub should be utilized if available.

*We suggest using a laundry bag to protect the inside of the washing machine from the hardware (and to protect the hardware from the agitator of a washing machine when using a top load model).

Machine Washing: The special fabrics that make up your Globe FR protective clothing contain inherent flame and heat resistance properties, which cannot be washed off or worn out. However, given the nature of the contaminants to which fire fighters are exposed, we recommend that you never, never, use the same machine that you do your home laundry in. When machine washing, always prepare the clothing as directed, by fastening all closure systems. Use warm water, a normal cycle, and a machine setting of 100 g-force or less. Following each complete wash cycle, thoroughly rinse your garments; we recommend a double rinse with clear water.

Protective clothing should always be washed separately in a laundry bag; do not overload the washing machine, do not use softeners, and NEVER use chlorine bleach. it is important that the water temperature not exceed 105° F. We do not suggest machine drying; our recommendation is to hang in a shaded area that receives good cross ventilation or hang on a line and use a fan to circulate the air.

Cleaning Agents: Cleansers generally fall into two categories, detergents and soaps. Of the two, detergents make the best cleansers because they are formulated to contain special agents that help prevent redeposition of soil. Soil redeposition is soil which is first removed from a laundered article, but later in the

same wash cycle is redeposited as a thin soil film on the entire surface of the article. All cleaning agents are clearly labeled as being either detergents or soaps; and we recommend using liquid detergents, since they are less likely to leave any residue on the clothing. One example of a well known liquid detergent would be Tide™. Finally, it is important that the cleaning solution have a pH range of not less than 6.0 pH and not greater than 10.5 pH.

Spot Cleaning and Pretreating: Precleaners can be used to clean light spots and stains on protective clothing. Squirt the precleaner onto the soiled area and gently rub fabric together until a light foam appears on the surface; this foam should be completely rinsed off with cool water prior to washing. A soft bristle brush, such as a toothbrush, may be used to gently scrub the soiled area for approximately one to one and a half minutes. An alternative method would be to pretreat the garment by applying liquid detergent directly from the bottle onto the soiled area and proceed as with precleaners. Any spot cleaning or pretreating should be followed by machine washing prior to field use.

Special Cleaning Compounds: Since Globe is in the business of producing protective clothing and not cleaning agents, we are not able to "endorse" any of the special compounds that are being advertised for the fire service, such as Winsol or Smoke Out. However, we would recommend that each department interested in these specific cleaning agents contact the manufacturers directly and make your own determination as to suitability.

Dry Cleaning: the protective qualities of your Globe turnout clothing will not be adversely affected by dry cleaning. However, some dry cleaning methods can cause deterioration to the trim and is therefore not recommended.

Removing Oil or Tar: Oil based soils such as motor oil and tar can be removed with solvents such as Varsol™ prior to washing, according to DuPont, producers of the NOMEX™ fibers. However, they do add the cautionary statement that the garment must be thoroughly washed and rinsed to insure that all residual solvent is completely removed. they also point out that coated material should never be dry cleaned. You must always avoid using solvents on the leather or reflective trim.

Bleach: One of the most often asked questions concerns the decontamination of a turnout system, especially with chlorine bleach. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES should chlorine bleach be used on fire fighters' clothing; most systems contain KEVLAR™ fiber, which is completely destroyed by exposure to bleach. if it is absolutely essential that a bleach be used, we recommend 1/2 cup of liquid oxygenated bleach to one cup of detergent.

Trim: 3M, the manufacturer of SCOTCHLITE™, recommends that the following guidelines be used for their product: (1) Damp wipe, using warm water and mild detergent. rinse thoroughly, dry with a soft cloth, or allow to air dry. (2) if you choose to machine wash, use warm water. (3) Do not dry clean. they also warn that many common fire ground contaminants can attack the silver stripe of their triple trim product, causing it to fade, either immediately or over time. they recommend that whenever any type of trim contamination is suspected, the trim should be thoroughly rinsed at the scene as soon as possible, followed by normal laundering.

Decontamination: For extreme contamination with products of combustion, fire debris or body fluids, removal of the contaminants by flushing with water as soon as possible is necessary, followed by appropriate cleaning. in the case of blood born pathogens, recommended decontamination procedures include using a .5 to 1% concentration of LYSOL™, or a 3-6% concentration of stabilized hydrogen peroxide. liquid glutaraldehyde, available through commercial sources, will also provide high to intermediate levels of disinfectant activity. Decontamination may not be possible when protective clothing is contaminated with chemical or biological agents. When decontamination is not possible, the garments should be discarded in accordance with local, state and federal regulations. Garments that are discarded should be destroyed.

Hand Washing: Hand washing was once thought to be the least abrasive method of laundering, and allowed the user to pay special attention to those areas that required it. the industry now recognizes that hand washing is generally not able to remove the ground-in soil embedded in the material fibers and usually only serves to remove surface dirt. However, in the event that you do not have access to a washing machine and must hand wash your garment, remove your liner system and lay the outer shell on a nonabrasive hard surface. Using a soft bristle scrub brush and a detergent (not soap), clean your garment by making circular motions with the brush, forming progressively larger circles until the entire surface has been washed. You must then rinse the shell, using clear water, to insure that all of the detergent has been removed. We recommend that you rinse the entire garment several times to avoid any possibility of soil detergent residue.

Safely Home, Everyone ,Everyday
Mike Robinson Deputy Chief