



# THE RURAL HITCH

SECOND QUARTER 2014

**A publication of  
Lakes Region  
Mutual Fire Aid  
Association**

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[www.lrmfa.org](http://www.lrmfa.org)

## NH Fire Academy Graduates LRMFA Firefighter II Program

By Deputy Chief John Beland, LRMFA



Congratulations to the graduates of the Spring NHFA/LRMFA Firefighter II program hosted by the New Hampton Fire Department. Graduates include (not in order), Nicholas Haskell, Nashua NH; Thomas Moore, Noel Normandin, Bridgewater Fire FD; Stephen McMullen, New Durham FD; Daniel Medaglia, Rumney FD; Christine Hallock, Samuel Norford, Alton FD; Jake Poulin, Zachary Whitney, Gilmanton FD; Sole Basil, Hollie Greene, Moultonborough FD; Darcy Crisp, Christine Archibald, Adam Cote, Gilford FD; Tracee Wellington, Tilton-Northfield FD; Zachary Thomas, Stephen Bates, Emmett Plourde, Stephen Finn, Plymouth FD.

Jason Nichols, Plymouth FD and Raymond Welch of the Wentworth VFD graduated from the Rescue Skills Module of this program.

Congratulations to all on a job well done!

The NHFA and LRMFA would like to give special thanks to Captain Nick Antonnucci, NHFA who served as the program coordinator, all of the dedicated and professional instructors who taught in the program, Chief Michael Drake and the New Hampton Fire Department, who hosted the program, all of the departments who contributed resources to make this a successful program, and the students who gave of their time and worked hard together to make their communities a better place to live! 🚒



PHOTOS BY SARAH THOMPSON, NEW HAMPTON FIRE DEPT.

Above: Live-in students at Gilmanton Fire Department Jake Poulin and Zach Whitney.

### SCENES FROM THE FFII CLASS



At right: Zach Whitney.



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## From the Chief...

By Chief James R. Hayes

The Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association is continuing to operate well and serve residents and visitors to its member communities with high-quality fire and emergency medical services. The cooperative nature of the mutual aid system is what allows all our member communities to receive such high levels of service — one that, individually, communities could not afford to provide. With this in mind, the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and Staff continue to work to improve the services provided by this organization.

Staff members continue to develop the behind-the-scenes capabilities of the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system. Now that the system has been in place for more than six months, more capabilities are being realized and utilized in processing incidents. Most of these features have little impact on the first responder in the field other than the data provided by the dispatcher, but all of that works to support incident management.

The Simulcast System went on line in May. While there are still issues to be identified and corrected, overall the system is working pretty well. It is important everyone understand that the radio transmissions are likely to have more static type noise in them than previously. Some of that can be reduced as the system is fine tuned, but there will always be some background noise on the carrier. We are also experiencing a problem with the microwave control circuit that controls the low band transmitter on Mt. Belknap. We are working with the NH State Police Communications unit to get this corrected. The most important thing for people to pay attention to is: did your pager activate and could you understand the message? There are numerous things influencing transmissions on a simulcast system and many are variable; signal strength and clarity can change from day to day and place to place. One thing to remember is that simulcast does not impact the Communications Center's ability to receive transmissions from the field. If you call and the dispatcher doesn't answer you, it is because they cannot hear you.

In May at the Association meeting, a serious discussion was held regarding the current status and future of the non-dispatch portion of the association. Attendance at meetings and interest in the association have been diminishing for several years and this, along with some potential conflicts in the by-laws, was the reason for this discussion. It was decided to form a committee to review the purpose of the "club" side of the association and report back with an alternative format along with a revision of the by-laws. That report is expected to be presented in the fall.

The Strategic Planning team continues to work on implementing items identified in the Strategic Plan adopted by the Board of Directors at the May meeting. Deputy Chief Brad Ober, Gilford, is the chairman of that group and is keeping the project moving forward. An Open House with the goal of educating elected officials and the general public from our member communities about the purpose and services provided by Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid is scheduled for September 13th. More information will be provided soon. Keep checking the LRMFA.org website and Facebook pages for information about what is happening in the LRMFA system.

Continue to serve your citizens well and be safe!! 🚒



**THE  
RURAL HITCH**

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Lakes Region  
Mutual Fire Aid Association

*Chief*  
James R. Hayes

*Editor*  
Debbie Kardaseski

**Email all submissions to:**  
debbiek@lrmfa.org



# Featured department...

## Hebron Fire Department



**Chief John Fischer**  
**Hebron Fire Department**

**Address:** PO Box 37  
Hebron, NH 03241  
603-744-5584

**Officers:** Assistant Chief/EMS  
Chief Linda Fischer  
Capt. Tony Albert  
Capt. Bill Robertie  
Chief Engineer  
Maynard Young  
EMS Lt. Patty Oakley  
Lt. Roger Comeau

**Apparatus:** 3 Engines  
2 Forestry Units  
1 Ambulance  
1 ATV with tracks and  
wheels/rescue sled  
1 Boat

When you think of small-town New Hampshire, you picture a village green surrounded by a general store, a church, and quaint white-clapboard homes. Hebron is a town that represents all this. Located at the north end of Newfound Lake and containing one-third of the lake in its boundaries, it's a beautiful place to live and is home to about 600 year-round residents. Of course, the population swells in the summer as Hebron is home to six large summer camps. These camps have been here for many years and multiple generations of families have attended them. Each year Hebron's EMS Chief Linda Fischer is responsible for refresher training for the nurses and staff of these camps as well as several in the surrounding area. She also offers a lifeguard course and CPR training outside the camp setting.

In addition to covering Hebron, the fire department is also responsible for fire coverage of the southern end of Groton and all of Groton for EMS coverage. Groton is another small town, population 594. It covers nearly 41 square miles, most of which is wildland. Hebron is small, covering only about 19 square miles, 2.2 of which are lake.



Groton is home to a large wind farm located on remote ridges throughout the area. The Hebron department is responsible for any EMS calls on the wind farm. There are a number of naysayers regarding the wind farm but Chief Fischer reminds folks that these remote areas are now much more accessible to fight wildland fires, winter rescues, etc., due to the many roads the wind farm has built.

Sculptured Rocks is a natural gorge, similar to a mini Flume, located in Groton. It is a very popular spot, especially

**Hebron Fire Station, built in 2004.**



on hot summer days. The Department is kept busy here mainly with slips and fall, frequently requiring technical rescue skills.

## DEPARTMENT HISTORY

The Hebron Fire Department was founded in 1948-49 after a fire destroyed the store and church in 1945. Bristol arrived at the fire first but their fire streams could not reach the roof. It was not until the Franklin Fire Department arrived that there was enough pressure. By then it was really too late.

The Rev. Walter Brockway arrived to rebuild the church and took it upon himself to found the fire department. He was its first chief. The trucks were homemade with various tanks and portable pumps added to used chassis. An Army 6x6 had a tank and front mount pump installed and served for many years, going to a number of mutual aid fires. In 1977-78, the first "store bought" truck appeared: a Middlesex built in Vermont for \$32,000. Because it was a "real" fire truck, residents saw their fire insurance rates drop. In 1988, the department added an American Eagle engine, sold to them by Ed Warfield, a name familiar to many in the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid system. That truck is still in use today. A Central States truck on an HME chassis was added in 2002 at a cost of \$250,000.

Until 2004, the department was housed in a building on the corner near the general store. It was small and the water froze in the winter. At that time the police department functioned out of a closet-sized room in the Town Clerk's office. The town wholeheartedly supported a new Public Safety building, which was built down the street and occupied in 2004. All emergency services are now housed in that building.

In 1994 Hebron Fire Department went into the ambulance business. The money to purchase their first ambulance was raised through a letter sent to residents. They needed \$16,000 and received almost \$20,000! With that money, the department bought a used ambulance from Waterville Valley Fire Department. In 2000, the department bought a new ambulance, which was sold to Rumney in 2010 when the department purchased their current



**A granite bench outside Hebron's Fire Station honors long-time member Ron Bissonette.**

ambulance. Hebron and neighboring Bridgewater are probably the smallest towns in the state with their own EMS and ambulance service.

## CURRENT MEMBERS

Chief Fischer said that Hebron is jokingly referred to as an "ungated senior community!" The average age of residents is mid-fifties. This makes it difficult to recruit new department members; many people are unaware of what it takes to be a firefighter or EMT and discover they aren't qualified due to age or the time commitment necessary. Many of the department's 23 active members are from out of town, which can make for interesting scenarios at mutual aid incidents! If you live in Alexandria, you're on both departments, there's a fire in Hebron but you arrive on Alexandria apparatus — who are you

working for during a fire?! Hebron is a call department meaning members are paid when they are responding to emergencies.

Hebron Fire Department is fortunate in that 14 of its members are EMTs/FFs. Of the approximately 160 calls each year, 100 are usually medical calls.

## TWO MAJOR FIRES

When asked what was the worst fire/accident that he remembered, Chief Fischer mentioned a fire on Route 3A two years ago. It was a small house that burned, resulting in one fatality. In a small town it is particularly difficult to experience a fatality, as most people know one another.

A more recent incident was a fire on George Road. The building was a large 1800s colonial with an attached barn. The department knew the owner had a

**HEBRON FIRE DEPARTMENT — CONT. ON PAGE 6**

**A blast from the past: This appeared in a local paper on April 1, 1982. Left to right: Ken Brown, Bristol Fire Chief; Fran Butler, Alexandria Fire Chief; John Matthews, president of Bristol Insurance Agency; and John Fischer, Hebron Fire Chief. The Chiefs were recognizing the insurance agency with their ongoing support of fire prevention education.**





large gun and ammunition collection, which made for a very exciting fire! At one point during the blaze there were departments on both ends of the structure. There was a large bang and a 10'x10'x15' beam was launched across the street into the woods. Chief Fischer was thankful no one was in the center of the building when this happened. He still doesn't know what caused this timber to go flying.

## CURRENT CHIEF ALSO A PASTOR!

Like the founding chief, Chief John Fischer is a pastor at the local church. He arrived in Hebron in 1972 as pastor of both the Alexandria and Hebron Churches and began his life with the fire department in 1973 when he responded to a local barn fire started by someone burning wasp nests inside the barn.

He grew up in Yonkers, NY where his Dad was a member of the Yonkers Volunteer Fire Department in the 1920s. At that time, men did not receive any formal training and things were pretty primitive.

Fischer became chief in 1975 and has seen many changes during his tenure as chief. He recalls actually being able to "turn wrenches" but now he finds most of his time is used up by the computer and a filing cabinet! In 2012 he semi retired, filling pastoral duties only at the Hebron Church.

He and his wife, Linda, have three adult children. Their son, Peter, is married and on both the Hebron and Alexandria Fire Departments. Their other son, Gregory is married and living in Penacook, and their daughter lives in Derry.

Chief Fischer is thinking about retirement these days. He would like to stay on as the town's emergency management director. He'd like to keep his EMT certification and help the department with some of the administrative work. He knows the department won't always have enough people available as more and more people work outside the area.

In the future he'd like to see the department hire people on a per diem basis in order to provide the needed coverage. He also envisions departments throughout the state working more regionally. Chief Fischer thinks the next piece of apparatus the Hebron Fire Department should purchase will be in the \$450,000 range and would be an engine with large water hauling capacity. Even though Newfound Lake is nearby, water supply is always an issue at remote fires.

The Department meets on Wednesdays. The first Wednesday is an officers meeting with the others being training meetings of some sort. Sunday afternoons are spent doing maintenance.

The Department will be selling fritters, coffee, and fruit at the Hebron Fair on the Common on July 26.

The department will serve up a BBQ, which will be followed by music and fireworks, on August 16 at the Hebron Family Fun Day. Music will be provided by *The Kid Jazz Band* and *Annie and the Orphans*.

Each year in April, the Hebron Fire Department sponsors a successful rabies clinic. Over 50 cats and dogs are vaccinated in about an hour. 🚒



Ammunition picked from the remains of a fire in an 1880s colonial owned by a gun collector



Chief Fischer poses with "fire dog" Shanti, his companion at the station.

## SCBA Respirator Fit Testing Service Available From LRMFA For Member Agencies!

To SCHEDULE FIT TESTING AT YOUR DEPARTMENT, PLEASE CONTACT DEPUTY CHIEF BELAND AT 528-9111 OR [JBELAND@LRMFA.ORG](mailto:JBELAND@LRMFA.ORG).

## "Rural Hitch" Available Electronically

If you would like to receive the *Rural Hitch* electronically (and save trees and postage!), please send your email to [debbie@debbiekgraphics.com](mailto:debbie@debbiekgraphics.com).

Feel free to share your electronic copy with others. We'll add anyone to the email list who is interested in receiving the *Rural Hitch*.



## EMS Update

# Trauma Care is Golden at LRGHealthcare

Jillian Rafter, Clinical Coordinator, Emergency Dept., LRGHealthcare

The Emergency Department at LRGHealthcare recently began a new Trauma Team Activation procedure. The goal of the procedure is to provide the most appropriate care to the trauma patient in the most expeditious fashion with a team approach. This procedure, which is in no way new to LRGHealthcare, has simply been updated with consideration given to all disciplines involved in care of the trauma patient. In an effort to provide the best trauma care to the Lakes Region, the involvement of the pre-hospital provider is crucial in success of this new and improved program.

When addressing trauma team members, the pre-hospital provider is viewed as an important member of the team. The pre-hospital providers who transport trauma patients provide crucial information obtained at the scene that can greatly influence the care of patient. Additionally, pre-hospital personnel have the ability to notify the Emergency Department of a potential trauma patient long before they present to the hospital.

The trauma activation criteria are shown below. The criteria are separated into two levels. Patients who meet Level 1 trauma criteria are hemodynamically unstable with severe injuries and require immediate intervention or resuscitation. Patients who meet Level 2 trauma criteria are hemodynamically stable with a high-energy injury or high-risk mechanism of injury. The Level 2 criteria also considers co morbidities, especially pregnancy and pre-existing medical conditions. The Glasgow Coma Scale is a critical assessment in the care of the trauma patient; for this reason, and is considered a vital sign. Upon activation of the Trauma Team, the following staff will prepare for the arrival of the patient: ER nurses, the ER physician, lab, and radiology. Activation of the Trauma Team may be done by pre-hospital personnel upon arrival to the scene or during the patch to the Emergency Department. Emergency Department personnel may activate the Trauma Team based on an EMS patch containing pertinent information regarding the mechanism of injury as well as identified injuries and vital signs.

One may assume that with the Trauma Team activation, the process within the Emergency Department has also been adjusted to ensure timely care. This is very true. The trauma team will be assembled in the designated trauma room and be prepared to care for the patient. In a focus on a team approach in trauma care, it is important that pre-hospital personnel offer report to the entire team. This allows each team member to know the details surrounding the trauma as well as care provided and assessments prior to arrival.

Trauma Team Activation education will be coming to local departments during the late summer and early fall. Please stay tuned for further education on this topic. If you have immediate questions or concerns, please contact the Emergency Department leadership using the email addresses provided.

Has it been a while since you have cared for a trauma patient and are feeling a bit rusty? The Emergency Department is offering education for department staff and any local pre-hospital provider who would like a refresher. This educational offering is designed for those without ATLS and is somewhat of a "crash course" in trauma care. However, all are welcome and the class is free. The classes will be two four-hour sessions, each covering different topics. Classes will be held on July 30, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and August 13, 2014 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the lower level conference rooms at LRGH. Please RSVP to [tsmart@lrgh.org](mailto:tsmart@lrgh.org).

Jillian Rafter began her career in emergency medicine on a small fire department in New Hampshire as an EMT before pursuing a career in nursing. After graduating from nursing school she accepted a position at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in 2006. She spent the last five years working in the DHMC Emergency Department before accepting a position as a Clinical Coordinator in the Emergency Department at LRGHealthcare earlier this year. 🚒

### LRGHealthcare Trauma Team Activation Guidelines Activation criteria

#### Level 1 activation (Multisystem Blunt or Penetrating Trauma with Unstable Vital Signs)

- **Altered Level of consciousness**
  - GCS <9 with mechanism attributed to trauma
  - OR
  - Level of consciousness less than "V" on the AVPU scale
- **Airway**
  - Severe respiratory distress
  - OR airway compromise
  - OR severe facial injuries or burns with airway compromise
  - OR pre-hospital intubation
  - Adult RR <10 or >29
- **Hemodynamic Compromise – Shock**
  - Adult SBP less than 90
  - HR greater than 120 BPM
- **Penetrating wound to the abdomen, neck or chest.**
- **Severe multiple injuries** (two or more systems) or severe single system injury.
- **Unstable pelvis**
- **Cardiac or major vessel injuries.**
- **Transferred patients from other hospitals receiving blood to maintain vital signs.**
- **Physician discretion.**

Child respiratory rate ranges	
Age	RR
≤6	<10 or >30
7-24	<10 or >40
25-49	<10 or >50
50-119	<10 or >60

Child B/P and heart rate ranges		
Age	SBP	HR
≤6	<90	<60 or >160
7-24	<80	<60 or >180
25-49	<75	<70 or >180
50-119	<70	<80 or >180

#### Level 2 activation: (Adult or pediatric trauma patient and presenting with:)

- **GCS less than 14 secondary to trauma.**
- **Severe burns.**
  - Partial thickness burns >20% Body Surface Area (BSA)
  - Full thickness burns >10% BSA
  - Burns involving face, hands, feet, genitalia or respiratory tract
- **Cardiac or respiratory disease.**
- **Co-morbid factors:**
  - Insulin-dependent diabetes.
  - Morbid obesity.
  - COPD
  - Anticoagulation therapy
  - Age <5 or >55 years.
- **Severe orthopedic injuries.**
  - Two or more obvious long bone fractures (i.e. humerus or femur)
- **Traumatic paralysis.**
- **Death in same passenger compartment.**
- **Fall >20 feet (pedi >10 feet).**
- **Ejection from automobile**
- **Prolonged extrication times from automobile crash.**
- **Pregnancy >20 weeks.**
- **Combination trauma with burns.**
- **Physician discretion.**



LRGHealthcare

# AL's Breakfast

Con-Ed for EMS and Nursing

2014 SCHEDULE

Wednesday	May 7th	Stewart's Ambulance
Wednesday	June 4th	New Hampton Fire
Enjoy your	July	Summer
Enjoy your	August	Summer
Wednesday	September 3th	Franklin Fire
Watch for	Paramedic	RTP
Wednesday	November 5th	Gilford Fire
Wednesday	December 3th	Franklin Fire

All Breakfasts will be from 0900-1100hrs

Any Question please contact Shawn Riley 524-6881 or Bruce Goldthwaite 934-2205

## Fall Paramedic RTP 2014

NHBEMS (CREF#) 85-664

### Dates:

ACLS group 1	10/6	Monday
ACLS group 2	10/8	Wednesday
PALS group 1	10/15	Wednesday
PALS group 2	10/20	Monday

Attend only one day of ACLS and one day of PALS or must produce recent ACLS or PALS Certification

RTP Day 3	10/14	Tuesday
RTP Day 4	10/21	Tuesday
RTP Day 5	10/28	Tuesday

Co-requisites online courses: AWR160, IS100, IS200, IS700, NHOODLE-Blood Products, Spinal Restriction Protocol, Therapeutic Hypothermia, Adrenal Insufficiency

### Where:

- ACLS and PALS classes are held at the Healthlink Building at 575 Main Street Laconia. (Please park in City Hall municipal parking lot or parking garage)
- RTP classes are held at the Taylor Community in the Woodside Room 435 Union Ave in Laconia

### Time:

All five class days are from 0800 to 1700hrs

**Cost: \$450**

If you work for an LRGHealthcare MRH service the fee is waived

Seating for ACLS and PALS is limited so please register early.

For questions please contact Shawn Riley at (603)524-6881 or [smriley@lrgh.org](mailto:smriley@lrgh.org)

To sign up please email name, address, DOB, National Registry number, service affiliation, SID number (FEMA number) and ACLS/PALS group preference to [kshastany@lrgh.org](mailto:kshastany@lrgh.org)

## 2014 Rural Hitch Deadlines

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**FOURTH QUARTER (Oct/Nov/Dec):**  
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## Training Division News

### LRMFA TRAINING DIVISION FIRST QUARTER RECAP

The LRMFA Training Division has been quite busy over the past quarter. We are pleased to report successful delivery of



**Class participants flow test a hydrant.**

two “Got Big Water” programs during the month of May. The first class was a Water Supply Officer class dealing with water system design/delivery systems, ISO ratings, and much more.

The second program, *Relay Pumping and LDH*, covered the theory of how to make this type of delivery system effective and efficient. The afternoon of this class, a pumper relay was set up at the Newfound Regional HS, where many lessons were learned on the art of pumping a relay! Thank you to those who gave up a weekend for this valuable training and to the Bristol Fire Department for hosting the program.

The LRMFA Company Officer Development Programs continue to enjoy robust attendance from its members. Second Quarter Programs included the *LRMFA Field Communications Program – Radio Best Practices*, delivered by LRMFA Lt. Kevin Nugent. In May, Chief Carrier delivered a relevant and timely presentation on *Transitional Fire Attack*.

And finally in June, Chief Dexter presented on conducting *Employees Evaluations at the Company Officer Level*. The third Quarter programs are published in this issue of the *Rural Hitch* or can be found on Facebook at Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Training Division, or on our web site [www.lrmfa.org](http://www.lrmfa.org). Anyone with program ideas should contact Deputy Beland at LRMFA.

In response to its work with the LRMFA Rapid Intervention Committee, the training division is currently working on curriculum development for a series of “hands on” training drills which will be designed to enhance firefighter basic skills while integrating MAYDAY response and firefighter survival/rescue skills. These programs will be fast-paced, practical skills drills designed to be delivered in approximately 3–4 hour blocks of time. This should facilitate working the drill into department trainings. Much more to come on this in the near future, watch our web and FB pages for more info.

LRMFA has been experimenting with a new program we are calling the LRMFA Chiefs Roundtable. Pilot programs were held in March and May. The March program featured Chief Erickson, Laconia FD, who moderated a program on *Managing the Incident and ICS*. This topic generated a great discussion

amongst the 18 or so chiefs in attendance. The challenge of managing incidents with limited manpower was identified as a major problem, whether you are in Laconia or Hebron! A great discussion ensued about the critical role the Company Officer plays in the successful management of an incident. From this discussion it was decided we need to do more in terms of training and mentoring in support of our company officers. The group decided to work together to develop training classes targeted to company officers and to deliver those throughout the LRMFA system. It is our plan to kick this off in the fall of 2014.

Our second program was moderated by Chief Don DeAngelis, Epping FD and Concord FD (ret.). In this program, attendees participated in a discussion on how to manage critical but difficult discussions with the goal of achieving positive results for both parties involved. Many great “take away nuggets” were offered up and I think we all walked away with some tools to better handle these situations when they arise.

We are also working to schedule these same two programs in the evening at different locations throughout the LRMFA system to give the same opportunity to those unable to attend the first two sessions.

The LRMFA Training Division meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 0930. We move the meetings around, so watch the web and facebook pages for meeting locations. The meetings are open to all, feel free to attend.

New training opportunities within LRMFA, the state of NH, and beyond are continually posted to the web page and facebook page so check in often.



**Bristol members George Clayman and Malorie Harvey work the Jaffery In Line Relay Valve aka “Z” Valve.**

### COMPANY OFFICER DEVELOPMENT SERIES THIRD QUARTER OFFERINGS

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2014**

**Accessing and Responding to Emergencies Involving Hybrid Vehicles**

*Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid*

Topics covered in this program include:

- Brief history of hybrid and EVs (electric vehicles)
- Hybrid Vehicle General Guidelines and Warnings
- Hybrid Vehicle Basics — Full and Mild Hybrids
- Ways to Identify a Hybrid Vehicle
- High Voltage System Components



- Intermediate Voltage System Components
- SRS Shut Down Procedures
- Approach and Handling at Hybrid Collision Scenes
- Discussion of hidden 12-volt battery locations and quick 12V disconnects
- Brief discussion on ignition power on/off push button/smart vehicles systems

**Instructor:** Firefighter Chuck Campbell, Laconia Fire Department, is a 14-year veteran of the fire service. He has served on several area fire departments. He has attended and taught numerous classes on vehicle extrication and has a special interest in alternative fuel vehicles. Campbell is certified as a Level II Firefighter, Level 3 Ropes Technician, Fire Instructor, Rescue Systems 2, and HazMat Operations.

## **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2014** **Modern Ventilation Strategies**

*Franklin Fire Department*

This class focuses on the risks of ventilation. Opening up a burning building without a clear plan of action can have serious consequences. It is not always about knowing when to do something but when *not* to do something. What are the prob-

lems of ventilation? Are you venting to search or suppress? What are the safest and most effective ways to vent? We need to understand that we must limit air supply and control the flow path. What do you do if you don't know where the fire is located? And finally, cut the roof or not?

**Instructor:** Chief Ken Erickson, Laconia Fire Department is a 32-year veteran of the fire service. He has served as a Chief Officer in four departments ranging in size from 24 to 40 firefighters, both combination and career. He has been a Fire Chief since 1994. Chief Erickson holds a BS in Fire Administration and an AS in Fire Science. He is a graduate of the UMASS Chief Fire Officer Management Training Program, UMD Staff and Command School, NFA, and numerous seminars. He has taught numerous classes to firefighters, college students, and at seminars.

**This training is open to all ranks and walk in registration is welcome!**

Visit [www.lrmfa.org](http://www.lrmfa.org) for LRMFA happenings and additional training opportunities.

Like us on Facebook: Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Training Division. 🚒

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## Promotions



**Promoted to Captain**  
**Dean Johnston**  
Campton-Thornton  
Fire Department



**Promoted to Lieutenant**  
**Josh Fitz**  
Campton-Thornton  
Fire Department



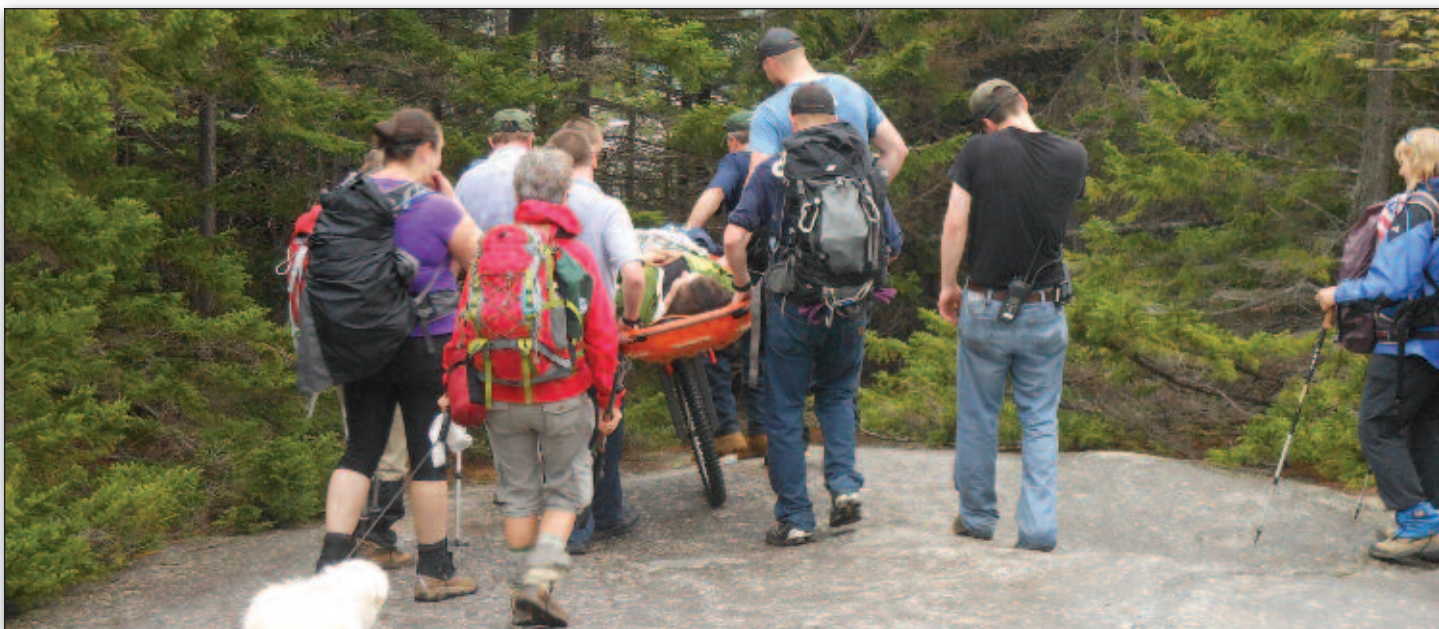
**Promoted to Lieutenant**  
**Ryan Brown**  
**Correction:** Ryan is with the  
Belmont Fire Department — not  
Laconia as reported in the last  
issue of the *Rural Hitch*.

## Department News

Send your Department  
News to  
debbie@  
debbiekgraphics.com.

Include new hires,  
promotions, new  
apparatus,  
department events, open  
training events, etc.

## Campton-Thornton Carryout From Welch-Dickey Trail During Memorial Day Weekend



PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE AND THE NEXT WERE SENT IN BY CHIEF DANIEL DEPOSES, CAMPTON-THORNTON FIRE RESCUE.



## Central NH Haz-Mat Training at Loudon Fire Dept. May 6, 2014



## Bedford Swiftwater Drill Included Pemi and 3-River WET Teams



## Alexandria Two-Alarm Fire, May 20, 2014



# Second Quarter Stats...

From April 1, 2014 through  
June 30, 2014

<b>Incidents Dispatched:</b>	April 2014	1,606
	May 2014	1,690
	June 2014	1,796
	<b>Total</b>	<b>5,092</b>
	<b>YTD Total</b>	<b>10,240</b>

## Resources Available:

Engines	92	Tankers	12
Ladders	5	Rescues	22
Forestry	38	Ambulances	52
Utilities	26	Fire Boats	30
Towers	7	Air Units	5
ATVs	13	Command Vehicles	31

## Statistics:

- 🚒 Began operations in September of 1971. Moved operations to our current facility in June of 2000.
- 🚒 Dispatches Fire and Medical Emergencies for 35 communities and 35 Fire and EMS Agencies.
- 🚒 Serves a population of 115,383 residents.
- 🚒 Is spread over 5 NH Counties, covering a geographical area of 1,494 square miles (16% of the area of the State of NH — 1.5 times the size of the state of Rhode Island).
- 🚒 Protects over \$18.8 billion dollars of property.
- 🚒 Has an operating budget of \$1,165,880 (2014 budget).
- 🚒 Has 8 full-time and 7 part-time employees.
- 🚒 Dispatched 21,570 incidents during 2013 (59.1 calls per day).
- 🚒 Dispatched 21,504 incidents during 2012 (58.92 calls per day).
- 🚒 Dispatched 21,601 incidents during 2011 (59.18 calls per day).

LRMFA HEADQUARTERS, LACONIA, NH



PHOTO COURTESY BILL HEMMEL. LAKESREGIONAERIALS.COM ©2009

## Department News

Send your Department News to  
[debbie@debbiekgraphics.com](mailto:debbie@debbiekgraphics.com).

Include new hires, promotions, new apparatus,  
department events, open training events, etc.

## Second Quarter 2014

Number of incidents = 5,091 (YTD 10,239)  
Radio transmissions = 58,323 (YTD 119,886)  
Emergency phones = 6,635 (YTD 12,993)  
Admin phones = 5,416 (YTD 10,887)

This breaks down on a daily basis to 56 incidents per day and 12 radio transmissions for each incident, or 640 per day on average. Along with the emergency incidents we answered/made 60 calls on the administrative lines per day.

## 2014 LRMFA Executive Board Meetings

• July 15 • Aug. 12 • Sept. 10 • Oct. 14 • Nov. 11 • Dec. 9 •

## 2014 LRMFA Board of Directors Meetings

(7 p.m. in the conference room at LRMFA)

- 3rd Quarter: September 10 •
- 4th Quarter: October 29 •





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**Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association**  
62 Communications Drive  
Laconia, NH 03246

# Department News

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The Holderness Firefighters Association was established in 2014 and is comprised of the many dedicated, on-call firefighters of the Holderness Fire Department. We are reaching out for support while at the same time giving someone a chance to win a 1965 Ford Mustang Fastback. This Mustang was the prized possession of a long-time Holderness resident. The Mustang has a 289 V8 engine with an automatic transmission, with less than 20,000 original miles. The red color scheme matches inside and out.

The Association is looking to upgrade some of the equipment and this fundraiser will give us the ability to do that. The Department is responsible for 30.5 square miles of land and 5.4 square miles of water and responds to approximately 325 calls per year, including both fire and medical.

The 1965 Mustang Fastback will be raffled off on the afternoon of September 1, 2014 at the Holderness Fire Station. There will be a total of 300 tickets sold at a price of \$100 each. The winner does not need to be present to win. The winner is responsible for all taxes, fees, and delivery. Tickets can be purchased at the Holderness Fire Station, through an HFD member or Monday through Friday at the Town Hall. Checks can be made to the Holderness Firefighters Association. Donations will also be accepted. Thank you for your support!

**Win a Mustang! Holderness Firefighters  
Association Fundraiser**

**Classes will be held in conference room  
LL1/2 both days**

**Day One: July 30, 2014  
0800-1200  
Day Two: Aug. 13, 2014  
1500-1900**

Please join us for The Basics of Trauma Care at LRGHealthcare. The purpose of this course is to educate Emergency personnel on common traumatic injuries, assessments, and interventions. Pre-hospital as well as Emergency Department providers are welcome to join us for this two-day course.

**Please RSVP to LRGHealthcare  
Emergency Services**

**Tammy Smart  
Emergency Services Clinical Educator  
603-524-3211 Ext.3331  
tsmart@lrgh.org**

**The Basics of  
Trauma Care**