



TELLICO VILLAGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

2020: a year of planning and training



Jerry Dougherty, Fire Chief

We were busy ... we were also very productive. Here is a sketch of the activities we initiated ...all with your safety in mind.

Realizing that exposure to COVID-19 within the fire house could greatly reduce the responders available for 911 calls the TVVFD developed protocols to reduce the exposure of our members to the virus. Our protocols worked as no members contacted COVID-19. All were on duty and now have received both vaccinations.

To allow for quicker access to 911 callers in distress we implemented the KNOXBOX security system. This secure, but simple system, allows the property owner to place all the needed keys for access to their property in a secured KnoxBox on the outside of the building. Master keys to access the building key can only be retrieved after proper identification is entered and recorded. The Community Church, Baptist Church, The Neighborhood Assisted Living Facility, The Premier Residences of Tellico Village, and all POA buildings have implemented the system. We are inviting all village businesses and residential property owners to participate.

Improving our firefighting, search and rescue skills is of paramount importance. To supplement our training we participated in mutual aid calls within the County and continue to participate in training exercises with the other local fire departments. Through real time first-hand experience the firefighting skills of the department has grown dramatically as have our reputation.

The TVVFD leadership team working with input from department's membership and other key resources implemented an analysis of the department's - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. The outcome was to reorganize and realign the department by specialties. We now have two divisions – Fire and EMS and sub-groups within those divisions. All will accrue to the benefits of those who call 911.

We responded to 866 calls (657 medical and 209 Fire, Rescue and other) in 2020. Whew... that is an all time record.

All members of your Fire/Rescue Team are grateful for your generous support throughout 2020.

Stay safe and please know that we have your back.

COVID-19 Vaccinations: Volunteers Step Up

The Village Fire/Rescue Team has recently partnered with the Tennessee Reserve Medical Corps, a qualified group of doctors, nurses and EMTs who volunteer to assist the Loudon County Health Department with medical situations. These volunteers are available to assist in the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine.

We will keep you informed of future developments.

"Help the life of one person and you can help the community."
Steven Sawalich

Neighbors Helping Neighbors 2021 Campaign

Yes, I want to join the 100% Club. Enclosed is my donation.

_____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$125 _____ \$150 _____ Other

Name _____ Address _____

Please make checks payable to: TVVFD, 210 Chota Rd. Loudon, TN 37774

Thank you!

Neighbors Supporting Fire/Rescue Committee: Jo Davis, Jim Nelson, Cap Purvis, Rich Herbst

The newly enacted CARES ACT allows taxpayers who take the standard deduction to deduct donations to charities of up to \$300 on their 2020 Federal Tax Return.

Thank you for your generous moral and financial support.

Meet the Volunteers

Steve Hay



Steve and Susan relocated from Lenore City to the Tanasi Hills neighborhood in 2019. He served in the U.S. Navy for seven years and 10 years in the Air Force Reserve. Retired from the Postal service he joined the Village Fire /Rescue Team in 2020 and serves as an EMR/Firefighter. His dedication is to "God, Family and Community."

Mike Kemper



Mike and wife Pam are transplants from Las Vegas, settling into the Tanasi neighborhood in 2017. A New Mexico State Police Officer, a middle school teacher and a school administrator, he holds degrees in Education and School Administration.

A member of the Fire/Rescue Team since 2020 he serves you as an EMR/Firefighter says "I can think of no better way to serve the community than to be a member of TVVFD."

Mike Braaten



Mike and wife Rosette move here from Vancouver Canada and are residents of the Chatuga Cove neighborhood. He is a retired police officer.

"Giving back and serving the community" has been his life's work. He now serves the Tellico Community as an EMR /Firefighter.

Robert (Bobby) Ramsey



Bobby and Cathy moved from Evans, Georgia to Chatuga Coves in 2020. He holds a master degree in Engineering Technology and is retired from John Deere where he specialized in Quality Control and Logistics.

Having previously served 27 years as volunteer Firefighter, First Responder and Officer, he is looking forward to "again joining the brotherhood of those serving their neighbors."

Bill Ballinger



Bill and Linda relocated from Illinois to the Tanasi community in 2020. He is retired from Allstate insurance where he was the Chief Underwriting Officer. He joined the Fire/Rescue Team in 2021 and is a EMR/Firefighter in training.

Bill started as a volunteer Firefighter/EMT roughly 40 years ago and strongly believes that "neighbors helping neighbors, is how we sustain a safe and healthy community."

Thanks to the New Villager's Club



Citing the Villager's high regard for the dedication and expertise of the Fire/Rescue Team and noting that the TVVFD canceled their annual fund raising May open house for public safety reasons the New Villager's Club Board of Directors unanimously approved a donation of \$4,000. Chief Jerry Dougherty said

"The Fire/Rescue Team is greatly appreciative of this recognition and donation from the New Villager's Club."

Veteran Fire/Rescue Team Member Phil Nelson Retires

by Rick Papke, Deputy Chief

Phil was involved in emergency medicine most of his adult life. He was a Navy Corpsman, developed protocols for EMS operations and was an Advanced EMT (A-EMT) working in the ER at two hospitals. He served the Village as an A-EMT and as a CPR and Emergency Medical Responder instructor for 16 years.

Thank you Phil. You will be missed.



"It is the service we are not obliged to give that people value the most"

James Cash Penny

Here's what your neighbors are saying.

An extra special THANK YOU to the Tellico Village Fire Department. The First Responders and ambulance crews have made so many visits to our home over the past several years that I can't begin to thank them enough. Tellico Village is very fortunate to have such dedicated men and women in our community.

- Lorene

Just a big thank you to Chuck, David and Dennis - volunteers of the TV Fire Department. I called 911 this morning... they arrived shortly after and provided much needed assistance to lift my husband. I just want those three guys to know their efforts were greatly appreciated!

- Barbara

I was helped last week as well. What would we do without the Tellico Village Fire Department and their EMT's. Thank you very much to the first responders!

- Bill