

THE BEGINNING

**COLLETON RURAL
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**COLLETON VOLUNTEER
FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
INC.**

**COMPILED BY
ASHTON SYFRETT
2007-2010**

PREFACE

THIS IS TO BE CONSIDERED A DOCUMENTARY IN AN EFFORT TO LET INTERESTED PERSONS KNOW JUST HOW MEAGER THE BEGINNING OF RURAL FIRE PROTECTION IN COLLETON COUNTY REALLY WAS.

IT HAS BEEN COMPILED FOR THIS PURPOSE ONLY AND NOT FOR FAME OR PERSONAL GAIN AND CAN BE COPIED OR USED IN ANY WAY DESIRED.

THERE IS NO CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER INTENDED AS RECORDS FROM SOME FORTY YEARS AGO WERE HARD TO LOCATE AND EVENTS WERE RECORDED AS THEY CAME TO MIND OR INFORMATION WAS GIVEN TO ME.

IN 1994 COLLETON COUNTY TOOK OVER THE RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND LATER THE EMS BECAME A PART OF WHAT IS NOW COLLETON COUNTY FIRE-RESCUE.

COLLETON COUNTY FIRE-RESCUE NOW HAS AN ISO RATING OF CLASS 4, 32 FIRE STATIONS, 250 VOLUNTEERS, 70 CROSS-TRAINED CAREER PERSONNEL, 105 VEHICLES AND PROVIDES FIRE, RESCUE AND EMS SERVICES FOR SOME 1054 SQUARE MILES IN COLLETON COUNTY.

ONE OF MY FEW REGRETS IS THAT SO MANY THAT WORKED SO HARD TO PROVIDE A BARE MINIMUM OF FIRE PROTECTION FOR COLLETON COUNTY ARE NOW DECEASED AND ARE NOT HERE TO SEE WHAT MATERIALIZED FROM THEIR EFFORTS MANY YEARS AGO.

JANUARY 7, 2011
ASHTON SYFRETT

THE BEGINNING
COLLETON RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT
COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

THE RESIDENTS OF RURAL COLLETON COUNTY HAD NO FIRE PROTECTION PRIOR TO OUR ORGANIZATION EXCEPT WHEN CALLS FOR ASSISTANCE WOULD BE ANSWERED BY A NEIGHBORING FIRE DEPARTMENT. THE ONLY ORGANIZED FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN COLLETON COUNTY WERE THE WALTERBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE TOWN OF WILLIAMS AND THE WILLIAMS FIRE DEPARTMENT COULD RESPOND ONLY WITHIN THE TOWN LIMITS.

THE CITY OF WALTERBORO WAS PROVIDING A BARE MINIMUM OF FIRE PROTECTION OUTSIDE OF THE CITY UNTIL OCTOBER 1, 1966 WHEN CITY COUNCIL LIMITED FIRE DEPARTMEN RESPONSE TO THE CITY LIMITS. UNTIL THIS TIME THE FIRE DEPARTMENT COULD ANSWER CALLS OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS OF WALTERBORO IF PERMISSION WAS GIVEN BY THE "MAYOR, THE MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE, THE RANKING MEMBER OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE, THE FIRE CHIEF, OR THE ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF; AND, THAT REQUESTS FOR SUCH ASSISTANCE WILL BE MADE OF THE ABOVE OFFICIALS IN THE ORDER NAMED" (SEE MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL DATED APRIL 15, 1958). NEEDLESS TO SAY, MUCH VALUABLE PROPERTY WAS LOST TO FIRE BECAUSE OF THE TIME WASTED TO CONTACT THE PROPER OFFICIALS FOR AUTHORITY TO RESPOND TO OUT-OF-TOWN CALLS.

ALTHOUGH I PERSONALLY REGRETED THE DECISION TO LIMIT THE RESPONSE OF THE WALTERBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT TO THE CITY LIMITS, I COULD WELL UNDERSTAND THE REASONING BECAUSE IT HAD BECOME A GREAT LIABILITY FOR THE CITY, WITH MANPOWER AS WELL AS FINANCIALLY.

Walterboro Wildcats and Wade
ing stopped by Jimmy Hines (22),
clinchier. Wade Hampton won 13
(SP by Harkey)

Contest izes

els To riday PM

physical condition.

During this week's practice a few changes were instituted. Coach Strock would not publicly disclose these changes, but would only comment that he hoped they would improve the situation.

Heinsohn Stadium is located in North Charleston across from the North Charleston High School. Kickoff time is 8 p.m.

ly the gain, and then Williamson got the first down with a six yard scamper. Cave passed to end Bubba Ross for 19; Williamson got five at right tackle; Hines added two more, and then Williamson got four at left guard. Cave then unleashed a 14 yard pass to end Ross for the first Wildcat score of the night. Ross' attempt to kick the extra point was stopped by a bad center pass which was eventually recovered by Wade Hampton.

Hazel took charge of the Wade Hampton drive to score. With his passing and rollouts he moved the team from his 32 to the Wildcat nine in six plays. He passed for two, lost one, then five as Levern Jerkins got through, and then he scampered around left end for the final score, after an offside penalty against the Wildcats put the ball on the four. Warren kicked the all important extra point to make it 13 to 6.

Williamson sparked the next drive of the Wildcats with runs of 24, 20, 7, 4 and 1 yards. He capped the drive, which started on his 31, when he went over center from the five to score. Again a bad center snap kept Ross from attempting to kick the

four, a 15 yard illegal use of the hands penalty cost them 15, season when they travel to Chiora to play.

NOTICE!

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 1966

The Walterboro Fire Dept.
**WILL NO LONGER
ANSWER CALLS
Outside The Corporate
Limits Of Walterboro**

COMPARE

NOTICE IN PRESS & STANDARD SEPT. 15, 1966

MINUTES OF COUNCIL

April 15, 1958

Councilman Dean made a report for the Fire Department Committee regarding need for some regulations governing requests for assistance in "out of Town" fire calls, submitting the following recommendations:

1. That calls for fire assistance outside the corporate limits of the Town of Walterboro will be answered only upon the order of the Mayor, the Mayor Pro-Tempore, the ranking member of the Fire Department Committee, the Fire Chief or the Assistant Fire chief; and, that requests for such assistance will be made of the above officials in the order named;
2. That a radio be installed in the newest fire truck, thereby giving the department two (2) radio equipped trucks at all times;
3. That when answering "out of town" calls for fire assistance one (1) radio equipped truck, the Fireman-Caretaker and two (2) volunteer firemen will remain on call at the fire station until all fire fighting equipment has been returned to the station;
4. That the rate of pay for volunteer firemen shall be as follows:

WFD PROCEDURE FOR RURAL CALLS BEFORE 10/1/66

ON JUNE 20, 1967 THE SOUTHEASTERN UNDERWRITERS ASSOCIATION (THE ORGANIZATION THAT HELPED REGULATE INSURANCE PREMIUMS) RECOMMENDED TO THE CITY THAT A NEW PUMPER BE PURCHASED. EARLY IN 1968 THE CITY AGREED TO PURCHASE THIS NEW PUMPER AND THE FIRE CHIEF (MY FATHER, THEO SYFRETT) AND MYSELF WERE GIVEN THE TASK OF PROVIDING THE SPECIFICATIONS. IN DISCUSSING THE MANY OPTIONS AVAILABLE WITH FIRE TRUCK MANUFACTURERS, I WAS INFORMED THAT CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIALS HAD MET TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF RURAL FIRE PROTECTION FOR COLLETON COUNTY. THIS MEETING WAS HELD FEBRUARY 29, 1968 AT THE SOUTHLAND RESTAURANT WITH THE STATE FIRE MARSHALL, JESSIE C. JOHNSON AND RONALD C. SELF OF THE SOUTHEASTERN UNDERWRITERS (ISO) AS QUEST SPEAKERS.

EVEN THOUGH NO ONE FROM THE WALTERBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN INVITED TO THIS MEETING, I WANTED TO BE INVOLVED IN HELPING TO ORGANIZE A COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT. ALTHOUGH I HAD BEEN A LIFETIME RESIDENT OF COLLETON COUNTY I DID NOT REALIZE JUST HOW LARGE OUR COUNTY WAS, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT CAME TO PROVIDING COUNTY-WIDE FIRE PROTECTION.

IN NOVEMBER OF 1967 THE SEVEN-UP BOTTLING COMPANY ON HWY 15N WHERE PALMETTO MEDICAL SERVICES IS NOW LOCATED, LOST A LARGE STORAGE BUILDING AND COOLER VENDER ROOM (SEE PRESS & STANDARD ARTICLE DATED 11/07/67) TO FIRE WHEN THE WALTERBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT WAS PROHIBITED FROM SENDING HELP. NEEDLESS TO SAY THERE WERE MANY SPECTATORS AT THIS DAY-TIME FIRE, AND EVEN THOUGH MANY THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS WERE LOST TO FIRE, THIS INCIDENT LET MANY RESIDENTS OF THE RURAL AREAS REALIZE THE NEED FOR FIRE PROTECTION.

ON APRIL 3, 1968, THE CARTER'S FORD CHURCH WAS LOST TO FIRE BECAUSE THERE WAS NO FIREFIGHTING FACILITIES AVAILABLE WITHIN A REASONABLE DISTANCE. THE CITY WAS AGAIN PROHIBITED FROM SENDING MEN AND EQUIPMENT. SOON AFTER THIS FIRE, THE WALTERBORO CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZED RESPONSE TO ANY CHURCH OR SCHOOL COUNTY-WIDE. THIS REMPHASIZED THE FACT THAT RURAL FIRE PROTECTION WAS NEEDED IN COLLETON COUNTY.

I HAVE ALWAYS SAID THAT THE FIRE AT CARTER'S FORD CHURCH LED TO THE ORGANIZATION OF RURAL FIRE PROTECTION IN COLLETON COUNTY AS MANY CHURCH MEMBERS AND RESIDENTS OF COLLETON COUNTY FELT THAT WITH A BARE MINIMUM OF FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT MUCH PROPERTY COULD HAVE BEEN SAVED.

IN MARCH OF 1968 I CONTACTED MR. J. P. HARRELSON, OUR COUNTY SENATOR AT THAT TIME, AND INFORMED HIM THAT I HAD HEARD THERE WAS INTEREST IN PROVIDING RURAL FIRE PROTECTION AND THAT I WOULD LIKE TO BE A PART OF ITS ORGANIZATION. I RECEIVED A REPLY FROM MR. HARRELSON (SEE HIS LETTER TO ME DATED MARCH 15, 1968) STATING THAT THEY HAD BEEN INVESTIGATING THE POSSIBILITY OF RURAL FIRE PROTECTION AND THAT THEY INTENDED TO APPOINT A STUDY COMMITTEE.

THIS COMMITTEE WAS APPOINTED AND NAMED THE COLLETON COUNTY RURAL FIRE PROTECTION STUDY COMMITTEE. THE FIRST MEETING OF THIS COMMITTEE WAS HELD IN THE OFFICE OF SENATOR J. P. HARRELSON ON DECEMBER 16, 1968. MR. F. B. THOMAS OF COTTAGEVILLE WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN, MR. RYAN WHITE, VICE-CHAIRMAN, MR. MURRY WOOD, SECRETARY. OTHER MEMBERS WERE MR. C. P. FISHBURNE, MR. GILBERT BROWN, MR. LAURIE SMOAK, AND MR. TOMMY GODWIN.

ON JANUARY 16, 1969 THIS COMMITTEE HELD ITS FIRST OFFICIAL MEETING IN THE AGRICULTURAL BUILDING WITH MR. RONALD SELF OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHALL'S OFFICE IN ATTENDANCE. MR. SELF MADE AVAILABLE THE INFORMATION HIS OFFICE HAD WORKED UP FOR COLLETON COUNTY AND SEVERAL SUCCESSFUL FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS IN THE STATE. AT THIS MEETING IT BECAME EVIDENT THAT IMMEDIATE COUNTY-WIDE FIRE PROTECTION WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE. MR. SELF INFORMED US THAT IT WOULD TAKE A MINIMUM OF TEN DISTRICTS (TEN FIRE DEPARTMENTS) TO SERVE THE ENTIRE COUNTY AND EVEN THEN THERE WOULD BE A FEW PLACES THAT WOULD NOT HAVE FIRE PROTECTION ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD RECEIVE A LOWER INSURANCE RATING IF ALL THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS WERE RATED. THESE WERE: WALTERBORO, JACKSONBORO, LODGE, SMOAKS, CANADYS, RUFFIN,

RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT MEETING

COLLETON COUNTY

February 29, 1968

Southland Restaurant - 6:30 p.m.

Tommy Godwin, Chairman RC&D Group, Presiding

WELCOME

Tommy Godwin

**INTRODUCTION OF OUT OF TOWN
GUESTS (SCS)**

Murray Wood

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERS

Senator J. P. Harrelson

Jesse C. Johnson, State Fire Marshal, Columbia, S. C.

Ronald C. Self, Engineer, South-Eastern Underwriters Asso., Columbia

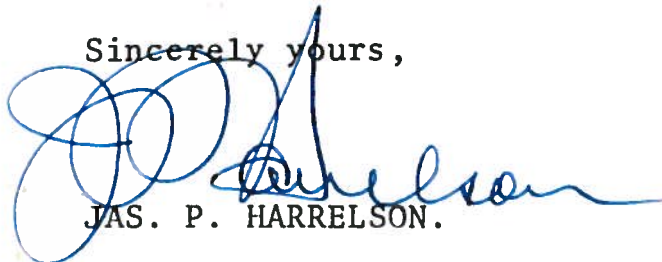
FIRST EFFORT TO ORGANIZE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION

Mr. Ashton Syfrett
Woodland Terrace
Walterboro, S. C.

Dear Ashton:

We have been investigating the possibilities of a suburban and rural fire department. Mr. Tommy Godwin and Mr. Murray Wood of the R C & D at the District Soil Conservation Office are working on this and we intend to appoint a study committee on this in the near future. You might contact them and if you need any further information please advise.

Sincerely yours,



JAS. P. HARRELSON.

SENATOR HARRELSON'S REPLY TO MY REQUEST 3/15/68

HENDERSONVILLE, COTTAGEVILLE, GREENPOND, AND ISLANDTON. TO ORGANIZE AND EQUIP THIS MANY FIRE DEPARTMENTS WITH TAX MONIES WOULD REQUIRE AN INCREASE IN COUNTY TAXES AND NATURALLY THE POLITICIANS WOULD NOT EVEN CONSIDER THAT.

IN JULY OF 1969 THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED A VOLUNTEER MEMBERSHIP PLAN BE USED TO FINANCE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION. THIS WOULD MEAN THAT ONLY PAID MEMBERS WOULD HAVE FIRE PROTECTION. IT IS NO WAY I CAN DESCRIBE OUR FEELINGS WHEN WE RECEIVED A CALL AND WERE UNABLE TO ASSIST BECAUSE WE HAD NOT RECEIVED A MEMBERSHIP (THE FIRST MEMBERSHIP WAS TEN DOLLARS PER YEAR FOR A RESIDENCE). THANKS TO OUR MANY SUPPORTERS THIS PLAN WORKED FOR SEVERAL YEARS, BUT NOT WITHOUT PROBLEMS (SOME OF THESE WILL BE MENTIONED LATER).

IN SEPTEMBER OF 1968 I RECEIVED WORD THAT THE COUNTY HAD SECURED AN OLD SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCK TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION AT THE AIRPORT. AS THIS TRUCK HAD BEEN AT THE AIRPORT FOR MANY MONTHS AND HAD NOT BEEN UTILIZED, I REQUESTED THIS UNIT TO BE TURNED OVER TO ME IN AN EFFORT TO PROVIDE SOME FIRE PROTECTION IN THE RURAL AREAS. THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF THE COUNTY AIRPORT COMMISSION, SENATOR J. P. HARRELSON, AND ROGER ODUM OF THE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT BOARD, I RECEIVED PERMISSION TO USE THIS UNIT IN OCTOBER OF 1968.

ON OCTOBER 11, 1968, MYSELF AND NEIL CROSBY SECURED THIS OLD TANK TRUCK FROM THE AIRPORT. WE HAD ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA WHAT TO DO NEXT AS WE WERE ALREADY TWO DOLLARS IN DEBT. WE HAD PUT TWO DOLLARS WORTH OF GAS (5.9 GALLONS) IN THIS TRUCK AND CHARGED IT TO MY CREDIT CARD.

IT WAS VERY ENCOURAGING WHEN WE ASKED FOR HELP IN GETTING THIS OLD TRUCK READY TO FIGHT FIRE. THIS TRUCK WAS YELLOW AND NOBODY WANTED A YELLOW FIRE TRUCK. THEREFORE, OUR FIRST PRIORITY WAS TO PAINT IT RED. THIS UNIT WAS OLD BUT IN REAL GOOD MECHANICAL SHAPE AND WE SPENT THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS GETTING IT READY FOR PAINT. MR. PETE SMOAK, AN EMPLOYEE OF WALTERBORO MOTOR SALES, SPRAYED IT

RURAL FIRE STUDY COMMITTEE REPORT
FOR
COLLETON COUNTY
TO
THE DELEGATION

The Colleton County Rural Fire Protection Study Committee held its first meeting in the office of Senator J. P. Harrelson, December 16, 1968 for the purpose of organizing and hearing from the County Delegation our duties and responsibilities. The committee was informed that its responsibilities were to make a study on the feasibility of a rural fire protection plan best suited for the county and present a report to the Delegation as soon as the study was completed. F. B. Thomas was elected Chairman, Ryan White, Vice Chairman, Murray Wood, Secretary. Other members of the committee were C. P. Fishburne, Gilbert Brown, Laurie Smoak, and Tommy Godwin.

The committee held its first official meeting January 16, 1969 in the County Agricultural Bldg., with Mr. Ronald Self from the State Fire Marshall's office in Columbia, in attendance. Mr. Self made available to the committee the information that his office had worked up for Colleton County. He also pointed out the successful fire protection systems presently operating in the state. It was decided at this meeting that a committee would visit several of these counties for the purpose of studying their organization and operational procedures.

For the next several weeks, the following counties were visited by a member or members of the Colleton County Rural Fire Study Committee: Newberry, Oconee, York, Sumter, and Marion.

We found these systems operating as a result of our study in the counties visited: (1) County-wide coverage - with county financing entire set up by taxation. (2) County-wide fire districts - with county paying part and each individual district paying part. County's part financed by taxation and community's part from individual contributions from citizens in the fire district. (3) Volunteer fire departments - County-wide - organized on a membership basis with a working relationship with the municipalities in the county. This plan is financed by membership and donations. It is operated by a board of directors elected by the membership and the board acts as the rural fire protection committee for the county.

Several meetings were held with the study committee to discuss the various plans being used by other counties to decide in our opinion which was the best, if any, for Colleton County. No other plan was introduced other than the three previously mentioned.

Plan 1 and 2 probably could be grouped together since the primary source of revenue would require a vote from the people either county-wide or each fire district and a bond issue to be repaid by taxation. If it were financed by county, it would cost approximately \$350,000 for an initial investment to cover 10 fire districts with maintenance cost of approximately \$10,000 per year. If county was to adopt fire district plan, the cost would be approximately \$25,000 per district to the county and \$10,000 to the individual fire department. The maintenance cost would remain about the same.

Because of the tremendous cost of Plan No. 1 and 2, the committee felt that the people of the county would not approve a bond issue for the county in a referendum, and for this reason, Plan No. 1 and 2 were unfavorable in our recommendation to the Delegation.

Plan No. 3 is being recommended to the Delegation from the Rural Fire Protection Study Committee as feasible plan to follow in Colleton County. This would not require a vote from the people, a bond issue, or additional property taxation on the county. Several agricultural organizations, along with a number of our rural citizens were consulted in regard to their opinion about the membership fire department, versus the taxation plan. All who expressed an opinion were in favor of the membership fire department.

The committee, therefore, further recommends that a county-wide non-profit organization be established for the purpose of rural fire protection and that Colleton County make a loan to this organization in the amount of \$_____ for the purchase of one fire truck with appropriate equipment. This loan to be repaid from membership dues and

RURAL FIRE STUDY COMM. REPORT

RURAL FIRE STUDY COMM. REPORT

contributions to the association and satisfactory arrangements for repayment of loan to be worked out between Colleton County and the non-profit association.

Respectfully submitted,

F. B. Thomas, Chairman

Murray Wood, Secretary

RURAL FIRE STUDY COMM. REPORT

REVOLVING CHARGE ACCOUNT AGREEMENT

CARD NO. **492 375 929 6** 41 **00200**

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ASHTON SYPRETT


GOOD THROUGH **11** MO. **69** YEAR

ORIGINAL INVOICE **931072**

LICENSE NO. STAT

SOLD BY **T VEACH**
JEFFERIES BLVD
1649

DATE **10 11 - 7**



Notice To Buyer: (1) Do not sign this agreement before you read it (over) or if it contains blank spaces. (2) You are entitled to an exact copy of this agreement at the time you sign it; save it to protect your rights. (3) You have the right to pay in advance the full amount due. Buyer hereby acknowledges receipt of a true executed copy of this agreement.

PRODUCTS	QUANTITY	PRICE	AMOUNT
AMOCO Super Premium	AMERICAN Regular		2.00
<input type="checkbox"/> LDO <input type="checkbox"/> PERMALUBE	<input type="checkbox"/> AMOLUBE		
<input type="checkbox"/> Super <input type="checkbox"/> QUAKER STATE			
TAX			2.00
FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL TAXES, WHEN APPLICABLE, ARE INCLUDED IN PRICE AND AMOUNT, UNLESS SEPARATELY STATED.		TOTAL CHARGE \$	4.00


BUYER'S SIGNATURE *Ashton Syrett*

CRFD'S FIRST GAS PURCHASE

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

P O BOX 1137
WALTERBORO S C 29488

**DUE AND PAYABLE WHEN RENDERED
PAST DUE TEN DAYS THEREAFTER**



FOR EXPLANATION OF CODES SEE REVERSE SIDE

pd 1/20
#A 51

PLEASE REFER TO YOUR ACCOUNT NO. WHEN MAKING INQUIRIES

SERVICE LOCATION				SERVICE TO		
419 HAMPTON ST				MO	DAY	YR.
				C1	C2	70
METER READINGS PREVIOUS	METER READINGS PRESENT	CONSUMPTION KWH 100 CU FT	CODE	AMOUNT		
	89	89	E	4.63		
S. C. SALES TAX INCLUDED WHERE APPLICABLE						
CYC	05	80	5035	0395	3	
ACCOUNT NUMBER						PAY THIS AMOUNT
						\$ 4.63

PLEASE DEDUCT ANY RECENT PAYMENTS NOT REFLECTED ABOVE

CRFD'S FIRST BILL FOR ELECTRICITY

FOR US USING THE PAINT BOOTH AT WALTERBORO MOTOR SALES AND WALTERBORO AUTO PARTS (NAPA) DONATED TWO GALLONS OF RED PAINT. MR. ALBERT LUCAS WITH THE CITY WATER DEPARTMENT WAS THEN CONTACTED CONCERNING A PUMP. HE TOLD ME WITHOUT HESITATION THAT HE HAD A PUMP POWERED BY A 10 HP ELECTRIC MOTOR THAT WE COULD POSSIBLY USE WITH A POWER TAKE-OFF. OF COURSE WE STILL HAD NO MONEY AND NO POWER TAKE-OFF. MR. NOLAN BAILEY, SR. CALLED ME AND TOLD ME THAT HE HAD AN OLD CITY GARBAGE TRUCK IN HIS JUNK YARD THAT HAD A POWER TAKE-OFF AND THAT WE WERE WELCOME TO IT. NOW WE HAD TO GET ALL OF THIS INSTALLED TO SEE IF ANY OF IT WOULD WORK. AGAIN A FRIEND CAME TO OUR RESCUE, MR. LESLIE MCGRAW, A FORMER EMPLOYEE OF WALTERBORO MOTOR SALES, AND MYSELF WORKED FOR MANY HOURS INSTALLING THIS PUMP WITH PULLEYS AND A CHAIN DRIVE. WE NEEDED SOME FITTINGS MADE AND SOME WELDING DONE AND STILL NO MONEY TO PAY FOR ANYTHING. THIS IS WHEN MR. HARRY FRALIN (FRALIN'S WELDING SERVICE) AND HIS SON STEVE GOT INVOLVED. HIS SHOP WAS LOCATED ON SOUTH JEFFERIES WHERE GLASSPRO IS NOW. MR. FRALIN SPENT MANY HOURS HELPING US GET THIS TRUCK WHERE IT COULD PUMP WATER AND BE READY TO RESPOND TO A FIRE CALL. THIS TRUCK WAS ACTUALLY HOUSED AT THIS LOCATION FOR SEVERAL MONTHS AND WE RESPONDED TO OUR FIRST CALL FROM THERE. WE NOW FINALLY HAD A TRUCK THAT WOULD PUMP WATER, NOT MUCH WATER, BUT IT WAS RED AND WE CALLED IT A FIRE TRUCK.

THE FIRST CALL ANSWERED WAS TO THE RESIDENCE OF HENRY CROSBY NEAR ASHEPOO ON JANUARY 17, 1969. VERY LITTLE DAMAGE WAS DONE AND MR. CROSBY GAVE US A \$20.00 DONATION (OUR FIRST DONATION). TWENTY DOLLARS DOES NOT SEEM MUCH TODAY, BUT IN 1969 IT WOULD BUY A LOT OF GASOLINE.

WE HAD BEEN PROMISED MANY DONATIONS BUT MANY OF THE DONORS DESIRED THEIR DONATION TO BE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. WE WERE ADVISED THAT THE ONLY WAY THIS COULD BE WAS TO FORM AN ORGANIZATION FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION WAS THEN CHARTERED AS AN ELEEMOSYNARY CORPORATION. ASHTON SYFRETT WAS TO BE PRESIDENT, ALFRED ANDREWS, VICE-PRESIDENT, WILLIAM V. CAMPBELL,



FIRST COLLETON RURAL FIRE DEPT. TRUCK



FIRST COLLETON RURAL FIRE DEPT. TANKER



CHARTER MEMBERS JANUARY 14, 1969

The State of South Carolina } CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WHEREAS, Ashton Syfrett, Stork Drive, Walterboro, S.C. Alfred W. Andrews, Walterboro, S.C. and William V. Campbell, Walterboro, S.C.

two or more of the officers or agents appointed to supervise or manage the affairs of

COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

January, A.D. 1969, which has been duly and regularly organized, did on the 14th day of January, A.D. 1969, file with the Secretary of State a written declaration setting forth:

That, at a meeting of the aforesaid organization held pursuant to the by-laws or regulations of the said organization, they were authorized and directed to apply for incorporation.

That, the said organization holds, or desires to hold, property in common for Religious, Educational, Social, Fraternal, Charitable or other eleemosynary purpose, or any two or more of said purposes, and is not organized for the purpose of profit or gain to the members, otherwise than is above stated, nor for the insurance of life, health, accident or property; and that three days' notice in the Press and Standard Colleton, has been given that the aforesaid Declaration would be filed.

AND WHEREAS, Said Declarants and Petitioners further declared and affirmed:

FIRST: Their names and residences are as above given.

SECOND: The name of the proposed Corporation is

COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

THIRD: The place at which it proposes to have its headquarters or be located is

Stork Drive, Walterboro, S.C.

FOURTH: The purpose of the said proposed Corporation is to render fire protection and to prevent fire hazards in suburban areas of Walterboro and surrounding areas for educational, and other eleemosynary purposes

FIFTH: The names and residences of all Managers, Trustees, Directors or other officers are as follows:

Ashton Syfrett, Stork Drive, Walterboro, S.C. - Director
Alfred W. Andrews, 319 Hill St., Walterboro, S.C. - Director
William V. Campbell, 204 Bay Street, Walterboro, S.C. - Director

CHARTER-COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOC. INC.

TREASURER, AND ROBERT P. MCLAINE, SECRETARY. WHEN THE CHARTER WAS RECEIVED, (JANUARY 14, 1969) ROBERT MCLAINE'S NAME HAD BEEN LEFT OFF AND I HAVE ALWAYS REGRETTED THAT.

WE NOW HAD TO SECURE ENOUGH PERSONNEL TO VOLUNTEER THEIR SERVICES AS FIREMEN IN ORDER TO ADEQUATELY FIRE FIRES. SINCE OUR FIRST FIRE CALL WE HAD MANY PERSONS OFFER TO BE VOLUNTEERS, AND THIS WAS GOOD BUT WE KNEW MOST OF THEM HAD NO FIREFIGHTING EXPERIENCE. WE FELT THE TIME HAD COME TO ELECT OFFICERS AND OFFICIALLY BECOME A FIRE DEPARTMENT. WE ELECTED OUR FIRST OFFICERS WITH ASHTON SYFRETT, CHIEF, ALFRED ANDREWS, ASST. CHIEF, ROBERT P. MCLAINE, TRAINING OFFICER, AND WILLIAM CAMPBELL, SECRETARY-TREASURER. THE OTHER CHARTER MEMBERS WERE: NEIL CROSBY, TROY HUDSON, TOMMY FULTON, ERROL STYNCHCOMB, STEVE FRALIN, JAMES WARREN, JIMMY CROSBY, MICHAEL BRELAND, MOYE PADGETT. JR., HARRIS CARTER, AND HERMAN L. (JACK) MOCK.

HAVING RECEIVED OUR CHARTER ON JANUARY 14, 1969 AND HAVING THE OLD SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCK CONVERTED FOR FIREFIGHTING, WE KNEW WE HAD TO FIND A WAY FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY TO CONTACT US AT THE TIME OF FIRE, AND SOME PLACE TO HOUSE THIS TRUCK. WE CONTACTED THE STUDY COMMITTEE THAT HAD BEEN APPOINTED TO HELP ESTABLISH RURAL FIRE PROTECTION AND MR. MURRAY WOOD, THE SECRETARY FOR THIS COMMITTEE CONTACTED THE CITY OF WALTERBORO BY LETTER DATED JANUARY 21, 1969 AND REQUESTED THE FOLLOWING:

1. ALLOW US TO ADVERTISE THE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT'S PHONE NUMBER FOR RURAL CALLS AND THE CITY IN TURN NOTIFY THE PERSONNEL RESPONSIBLE FOR ANSWERING RURAL ALARMS.
2. HOUSE THE TRUCK FOR RURAL USE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT IT MAY BE USED BY THE CITY WHENEVER NEEDED.
3. PERMIT THE MEMBERS FROM THE RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT TO TRAIN WITH THE CITY DEPARTMENT UNTIL A SEPARATE PROGRAM CAN BE ESTABLISHED. THIS WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE CITY FIRE CHIEF AND THE CITY FIRE PERSONNEL.

The South Carolina State Firemen's Association

In Cooperation With

The State Committee for Technical Education

Certifies that the

COLLETON RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Has Completed A Course of Instruction In Firefighting Technology.

SUBJECT	HOURS	MEN	DATE	INSTRUCTOR
Firemen Training Phase I	42	10	4/1/72	Errol L. Stynchcomb



B. R. Stynchcomb

PRESIDENT

Errol L. Stynchcomb

DIRECTOR



FIRST CRFD "OFFICIAL" TRAINING COURSE



FIREMEN ATTENDING FIRST SCSFA TRAINING

THESE REQUESTS WERE GRANTED BY CITY COUNCIL AND THE CITY HOUSED THE CONVERTED TANK TRUCK FOR MANY MONTHS AND RECEIVED AND DISPATCHED CALLS FOR MANY YEARS.

AS TIME WENT ON AND THE VOLUME OF CALLS INCREASED, WE REALIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF TRAINING. WHEN MR. ROBERT P. MCLAINE, JR. BECAME OUR FIRST TRAINING OFFICER HE WAS THE ASSISTANT CHIEF AT THE MARINE CORPS AIR STATION AND HE WAS NOT ONLY ABLE TO ASSIST WITH TRAINING BUT WITH THE GENERAL OPERATION OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS FIREFIGHTING ITSELF. MR. MCLAINE DID A LOT OF WORK BEHIND THE SCENES THAT NOBODY APPRECIATED MORE THAN ME AND I ALWAYS REGRETTED IT WHEN HE RESIGNED FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

THE FIRST TRAINING CLASSES IN COLLETON COUNTY THAT WERE SPONSORED BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION WERE IN COOPERATION WITH THE STATE COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION. MR.ERROL LEE STYNCHCOMB (MY BROTHER-IN-LAW) WAS THE INSTRUCTOR. MR. STYNCHCOMB BECAME INTERESTED IN FIREFIGHTING AS A VOLUNTEER WITH US AND BECAME A FIREMAN WITH THE NAVY YARD IN CHARLESTON AND WAS FIRE CHIEF WHEN THE YARD CLOSED. THE FIRST CLASS WAS COMPLETED APRIL 1, 1972 AND CONSISTED OF SOME TEN MEN FROM COLLETON COUNTY. THEY WERE AS FOLLOWS: HERMAN L. (JACK) MOCK, STEVE FRALIN, W. P. LLOYD, JACK BEVERLY, K. L. BENTON, LANDIS CARTER, J. C. SINEATH, JR., CLYDE FENDER, ALFRED W. (ANDY) ANDREWS, AND MYSELF. THIS WAS THE FIRST "OFFICIAL" TRAINING CLASS FOR COLLETON COUNTY WHERE THE S. C. STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION WAS CONCERNED.

THE COUNTY HAD AGREED TO FURNISH THE LIABILITY INSURANCE ON THIS TRUCK SO WE FELT WE AT LEAST HAD A START WHERE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION WAS CONCERNED. BUT, ON MARCH 20, 1969, MRS. MYRTIS FRIPP, THE COUNTY SUPERVISOR AT THAT TIME, CALLED ME INTO HER OFFICE AT THE COURTHOUSE AND INFORMED ME THAT THE COUNTY WOULD NO LONGER INSURE THIS TRUCK AND WE HAD A CHOICE TO "OWN IT OR PARK IT". NEEDLESS TO SAY, I REQUESTED THE TITLE, WHICH I STILL HAVE.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Certificate of Title

MOTOR VEHICLE

THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT HEREBY CERTIFIES THAT ON APPLICATION DULY MADE, THE PERSON HEREIN IS REGISTERED BY THIS DEPARTMENT AS THE LAWFUL OWNER OF THE VEHICLE DESCRIBED SUBJECT TO THE LIENS, IF ANY, HEREIN SET FORTH.

THIS CERTIFICATE OF TITLE IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 3, TITLE 46, 1962 SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS AS AMENDED AND IS SUBJECT TO ALL OF THE PROVISIONS THEREOF.

NAME OF VEHICLE/VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION (SERIAL) NUMBER		4802216	
MAKE	MODEL	YEAR	MAKE
CHEVROLET	6858B114076	1958	USED
TRUCK	6463	1958	USED
PREVIOUS TITLE NUMBER		182774 A	
STATE		S.C.	
STREET ADDRESS OR ROUTE			
COURTHOUSE			
CITY	COUNTY	ZIP CODE	COUNTY 15
WATERBORO	S.C.	29488	Colleton
VEHICLE IS SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING LIENS			
1ST LBN	DATE	AMOUNT	
STREET OR BOX			
CITY			
2ND LBN	DATE	AMOUNT	
ADDRESS			
3RD LBN	DATE	AMOUNT	
ADDRESS			

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT THIS December 18, 1968

R.O. Anderson, Jr.

DIRECTOR MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION
ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE
TO DIRECTOR
MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION
STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
COLUMBIA, S. C.

James A. Baxton

SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
CHIEF HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER

TITLE FOR CRFD'S FIRST TRUCK (FRONT)

ASSIGNMENT OF TITLE

To be filled in by Seller and delivered with vehicle to the Purchaser. Application for new certificate of title must be made by Purchaser on Form 400 and immediately filed with the Motor Vehicle Division, State Highway Department, Columbia, South Carolina.

Date of Sale March 20 19 69

For value received, I/we hereby assign, transfer and convey unto
Colleton Volunteer Firemen's Association

Street No. City Walterboro State S. C.
The motor vehicle described on the reverse side of this certificate and I/we hereby warrant the title to said Motor Vehicle and that same is free of all liens and encumbrances except as noted on the face of the title, and except None

(List here any mortgages, liens or encumbrances not noted on face of certificate)
I/we to and subscribed before me
at Walterboro, S. C.
this, the 20 day of March 19 69

James A. Baxton
Notary Public
Signature of Seller
Supervisor, Colleton County

RELEASE OF FIRST LIEN

The undersigned, holder of first lien on the motor vehicle described on the reverse side of the certificate does hereby state that the first lien and encumbrance described in said certificate of title is released and discharged.

Date of release Name of Lienholder Authorized Agent

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County of

I/we to and subscribed before me this day of , 19

NOTE: Section 46-150.48, Code of Laws, 1962, as amended, requires that upon satisfaction and release of lien, this title should be mailed promptly to the State Highway Department, Motor Vehicle Division, Columbia, South Carolina. The Department will then note the satisfaction on its records and mail the title to the second lienholder or, if none, to the registered owner.

CERTIFICATION BY REGISTERED DEALER

The undersigned registered dealer hereby certifies that title to the motor vehicle described on the face of the Certificate of Title was transferred to on the day of , 19 and that the vehicle described is subject to the following Lien

Dealers License No. Name of Lienholder Date Amount
Signature Registered Dealer

TITLE FOR CRFD'S FIRST TRUCK (BACK)



EDISTO LUMBER CO.-MANY FIRES, MANY DONATIONS

P. O. Box 493
Walterboro, South Carolina 29488

January 21, 1969

Members of City Council
City of Walterboro
242 Hampton Street
Walterboro, South Carolina

Attention: Mayor Wallace Dean

Dear Mr. Dean:

Colleton County Delegation has appointed a committee to study the feasibility of establishing a rural fire protection system. The committee is active at this time seeking information on rural fire departments, fire districts, and opportunities for a protection system.

It appears at this time that some equipment may be obtained that would make fire protection a reality in the near future. Therefore, we will need the cooperation and assistance from the City of Walterboro. The committee would like to know that, as a temporary measure, if the City would permit us to:

1. Allow us to advertise the City Fire Department's phone number for rural calls and the City in turn notify the personnel responsible for answering rural alarms.
2. House the truck for rural use with the understanding that it may be used by the City whenever needed.
3. Permit the members from the rural fire department to train with the City Department until a separate program can be established. This will be subject to the approval of the City Fire Chief and the City personnel.

The committee will appreciate your attention to this request.

Yours very truly,

Murray Wood
Murray Wood, Secretary
Study Committee for Rural Fire Protection

cc: Ashton Syfrett
F. B. Thomas

FIRST REQUEST FOR HELP FROM CITY

AS WE HAD NO FUNDS TO PURCHASE INSURANCE, THIS TRUCK WAS PARKED MUCH TO THE DISMAY OF THE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN. HOWEVER, SOME SIX DAYS LATER ON MARCH 26, 1969 (5:10 PM) WE RECEIVED A CALL FROM EDISTO LUMBER ON THE BELLS HIGHWAY FOR A WOODS FIRE THAT WAS THREATENING THE MILL. T & M HANDLE COMPANY MANUFACTURED HANDLES (FOR MOPS, BROOMS, ETC.) AND WAS LOCATED BEHIND EDISTO LUMBER COMPANY AND THIS WOODS FIRE WAS ALSO A THREAT TO THEIR PROPERTY. I CALLED MR. WILLIAM (BILL) CAMPBELL AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WHERE HE WAS MINISTER OF MUSIC AND ASKED HIS ADVICE. WITHOUT HESITATION HE SAID HE WOULD DRIVE THE TRUCK AND FOR ME TO MEET HIM AT THE SCENE. WE DID A GOOD JOB FOR EDISTO LUMBER COMPANY THAT DAY AND THAT HELPED OUR MORALE VERY MUCH.

THE PRESS & STANDARD HAD AGREED TO AN ARTICLE ASKING FOR HELP FOR OUR ORGANIZATION AND IT WAS DISTRIBUTED THE SAME DAY OF THE FIRE. THE NEXT MORNING MR. BILL CAMPBELL CALLED ME TO LET ME KNOW THAT MR. MERIC WILLIAMS, THE OWNER OF EDISTO LUMBER COMPANY, HAD PAID THE INSURANCE FOR A YEAR STATING THAT "THERE WAS NO WAY THE LACK OF INSURANCE WAS GOING TO STAND IN OUR WAY". WE ALSO RECEIVED A DONATION FROM MR. R. C. THOMPSON AT T & M HANDLE COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25.00. THIS LET US KNOW WE HAD AT LEAST TWO SUPPORTERS. MR. R. C. THOMPSON, JR. WOULD LATER BECOME AN ACTIVE FIREMAN AND FOR MANY YEARS HE SPENT MANY HOURS OF HIS TIME WORKING WITH THE RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN THE COUNTY.

FOR MANY YEARS THE DUST HOUSE AT EDISTO LUMBER COMPANY WOULD REQUIRE OUR RESPONSE ON A REGULAR BASIS. WE BECAME QUITE FAMILIAR WITH THIS LOCATION AND EXTINGUISHING THESE FIRES BECAME QUITE ROUTINE. WE WOULD ALWAYS SEEM TO HAVE A FIRE CALL THERE (AND RECEIVE A DONATION) JUST WHEN IT WAS NEEDED THE MOST.

THE FIRST BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION WAS OPENED WITH THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK ON N. LUCAS STREET ON FEBRUARY 26, 1969, WITH THE TWENTY-DOLLAR DONATION FROM MR. HENRY CROSBY (OUR FIRST CALL) AS OUR FIRST



FIRST NATIONAL BANK

WALTERBORO, S.C.

COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION
204 Bay Street
By: William Campbell or Ashton Syfrett
Walterboro, S. C. 29488



THE LAST AMOUNT
IN THIS COLUMN IS
YOUR BALANCE

PLEASE EXAMINE AT ONCE. IF NO ERROR IS REPORTED IN TEN DAYS THE ACCOUNT WILL BE CONSIDERED CORRECT.

OLD BALANCE	CHECKS	DEPOSITS	DATE	NO. OF CHECKS	BALANCE
	BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD <i>29</i>				
		20.00 +	FEB 26 '69		20.00 *
20.00 +		20.00 +	MAR 10 '69		40.00 *
40.00 +	+ 10.62 -		MAR 19 '69	1	29.38 *
29.38 +		106.00 +	MAR 27 '69	1	135.38 *
135.38 +	+ 81.00 -	10.00 +	MAR 31 '69	2	64.38 *

RURAL FIRE DEPT. (CVFA) FIRST BANK STATEMENT

See **1ST NATIONAL** First

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

No. **A 1 0**

WALTERBORO, S.C., *Mar 17* 19 *69*

67-112
513

Pay to THE ORDER OF *Walterboro Auto Parts* \$ *1062*

Ten and 62/100 DOLLARS

COLLECTIBLE AT PAR THROUGH FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

FOR *Ashton Syfrett*

Wm. Campbell

for *Colleton Vol. Fireman's Assn.*

0513001120

COLLETON RURAL FIRE DEPT. (CVFA) FIRST CHECK

DEPOSIT. THE NEXT DEPOSIT WAS AGAIN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20.00 THAT WAS A DONATION FROM MR. W. C. WALKER.

THE FIRST CHECK WRITTEN WAS TO WALTERBORO AUTO PARTS FOR A MASTER CYLINDER FOR THE TRUCK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10.62. THE SECOND CHECK WRITTEN WAS FOR THE INSURANCE ON THE TRUCK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$81.00. THIS WAS A DONATION FROM EDISTO LUMBER COMPANY IN APPRECIATION FOR OUR RESPONSE ON MARCH 26, 1969. THIS REPLACED THE INSURANCE THAT HAD BEEN CANCELLED BY THE COUNTY. ON APRIL 10, 1969 WE HAD A GROWING BANK ACCOUNT AND WE THEN DECIDED IT WAS TIME TO BUY SOME EQUIPMENT (OUR BALANCE ON THAT DATE WAS THE GRAND TOTAL OF \$117.23). WE THEN PURCHASED A LADDER FROM CORBETT BUILDING SUPPLY ON APRIL 10, 1969 FOR \$26.86. THIS WAS OUR FIRST EQUIPMENT PURCHASE.

AT THIS TIME INSURANCE COMPANIES CONSIDERED FIRE TRUCKS A BAD RISK AND IT WAS VERY HARD TO FIND A COMPANY THAT WOULD INSURE US. FINALLY ON APRIL 9, 1969, THE FIREMAN'S FUND INSURANCE COMPANY AGREED TO INSURE US THANKS TO MR. EDWIN F. (EDDIE) SAUNDERS OF THE SAUNDERS AGENCY HERE IN WALTERBORO. I WAS LISTED AS THE PRINCIPAL DRIVER FOR THIS VEHICLE AND YOU WILL NOTE THE EXTRA CHARGE OF \$26.00 BECAUSE I HAD RECEIVED A SPEEDING TICKET ON DECEMBER 6, 1966 (THIS WAS IN RAVENEL).

IN SEPTEMBER OF 1969, THANKS TO THE SUPPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN COLUMBIA, WE WERE ABLE TO SECURE ANOTHER SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCK. THIS WAS THE TRUCK LATER DESTROYED BY FIRE IN THE HENDERSONVILLE DISTRICT.

AS SOON AS THE RURAL FIRE STUDY COMMITTEE MADE ITS RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCING RURAL FIRE PROTECTION BY MEMBERSHIP WE STARTED OUR DRIVE TO PURCHASE A PUMPER. THE FIRST MEMBERSHIP WAS PAID TO FIREMAN STEVE FRALIN BY MR. JACOB PELLUM OF PELLUM'S EXXON ON SOUTH JEFFERIES BLVD.

IN OCTOBER OF 1969 WE DECIDED THAT THE TIME HAD COME TO PURCHASE OUR FIRST NEW



FIRST NATIONAL BANK

No. 16

67-112
513

WALTERBORO, S.C., Apr 10 1969

Pay to
THE ORDER OF

Corbett Bldg & Supply
Twenty Six ⁸⁶ 100

26 86

DOLLARS

FOR

Laden



W. M. Kaban
Colleton Volunteer Firemans Assn. Inc.
P. O. Box 667
Walterboro, S. C. 29488

⑈0513⑈0112⑈

CRFD'S FIRST EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

(Continued from the Reverse Side)

and-run Automobile. The term "hit-and-run automobile" means an automobile which causes bodily injury to an insured or property arising out of physical contact of such automobile (whether or not the insured is the driver) with another automobile, provided that the insured is not the operator of the vehicle at the time of the accident, and the insured is not the owner of the vehicle at the time of the accident.

1 FIREMAN'S FUND INSURANCE COMPANY
2 THE AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY
3 ASSOCIATED INSURANCE COMPANY

4 SURING COMPANY (SEE ABOVE)
5 NAMED INSURED AND ADDRESS
6 NUMBER, STREET, TOWN, COUNTY, STATE

POLICY
NUMBER
AR-233 84 29
COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMAN'S ASSN., INC.
O W. V. CAMPBELL-SEC/TREAS.
4 BAY ST.
LTERBORO, S.C.

ITEM 24. THE AUTOMOBILE WILL BE PRINCIPALLY GARAGED IN THE TOWN, COUNTY AND STATE INDICATED IN DIVISION 2. IF THE AUTOMOBILE IS GARAGED IN OTHER THAN THE TOWN, COUNTY AND STATE INDICATED HEREIN, THE AUTOMOBILE WILL BE PRINCIPALLY GARAGED IN THE TOWN, COUNTY AND STATE INDICATED HEREIN.

ITEM 25. IF NO AUTOMOBILE IS DESCRIBED HEREIN, THE AUTOMOBILE WILL BE PRINCIPALLY GARAGED IN THE TOWN, COUNTY AND STATE INDICATED HEREIN. IF A RESIDENT INSURED, THE AUTOMOBILE WILL BE PRINCIPALLY GARAGED IN THE TOWN, COUNTY AND STATE INDICATED HEREIN. IF A RESIDENT INSURED, THE AUTOMOBILE WILL BE PRINCIPALLY GARAGED IN THE TOWN, COUNTY AND STATE INDICATED HEREIN.

ITEM 26. DESIGNATION OF INSURED FOR PURPOSE OF DIVISION 2. OF COVERAGE C. IF REQUIRED BY INSURANCE AGREEMENT III.

ITEM 27. OCCUPATION OF THE NAMED INSURED IS (IF MARRIED WOMAN, INCLUDE HUSBAND'S OCCUPATION)

AUTO SALES PARTS MGR.

DESCRIPTION OF THE AUTOMOBILE AND FACTS RESPECTING ITS PURCHASE BY THE NAMED INSURED:

PLATE
RATE
TRADE NAME AND BODY TYPE
TRUCK SIZE OR TANK GALLONAGE
MODEL
SERIES
MOTOR NUMBER
OR IDENTIFICATION NUMBER
DATE PURCHASED
ACTUAL COST
N

CHEV. 2 T. TANK TRUCK
68588114076
\$
\$

THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE AUTOMOBILE IS TO BE USED ARE "PLEASURE AND BUSINESS," UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

EXCEPT WITH RESPECT TO "BUSINESS," LEASE, CONVEYANCE, SALE, PURCHASE, AGREEMENT, INTEREST, OR OTHER ENCUMBRANCE, THE NAMED INSURED IS THE SOLE OWNER OF THE AUTOMOBILE, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED HEREIN.

7. THE AUTOMOBILE IS UNENCUMBERED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED HEREIN.

ENCUMBRANCE \$

NUMBER OF INSTALLMENTS \$

AMOUNT OF EACH \$

FINAL INSTALLMENT \$

NAME \$

ADDRESS \$

COVERS

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE

COVERAGE



FIRST MEMBERSHIP-JACOB PELLUM TO STEVE FRALIN



CRFD'S FIRST PUMPER ARRIVES OCT. 26, 1969

PUMPER. WE HAD READ WHERE THERE WAS A COMPANY THAT HAD STOCK PUMPERS THAT COULD BE DELIVERED IN TEN DAYS. THIS WAS THE W. S. DARLEY COMPANY IN MELROSE PARK, ILLINOIS. WE JUST KNEW THIS WAS NOT POSSIBLE AS MOST OF THE TIME IT TOOK SIX OR EIGHT MONTHS FOR THE DELIVERY OF A NEW PUMPER. I ALSO JUST KNEW THAT WITH US BEING A NEW ORGANIZATION AND HAVING NO GUARANTEE THAT WE WOULD BE IN BUSINESS THE NEXT YEAR, FINANCING WOULD BE HARD FOR US. HOWEVER, I MADE A CALL TO W. S. DARLEY & COMPANY AND HAD THE PLEASURE OF SPEAKING WITH MR. BILL DARLEY. I INFORMED HIM OF OUR SITUATION AND I TOLD HIM IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS THAT WE JUST MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE THE FIRST PAYMENT BUT THAT AS LONG AS I WAS IN CHARGE, THE UNIT WOULD BE TAKEN CARE OF. WITHOUT ANY HESITATION MR. DARLEY TOLD ME FINANCING WOULD BE NO PROBLEM AND THAT W. S. DARLEY & COMPANY WOULD DO THE FINANCING. THEIR DEALER IN OUR AREA WAS NORTON FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT IN WEST COLUMBIA, SC. I WAS CONTACTED IMMEDIATELY AND THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED. AFTER ABOUT A WEEK MR. BILL DARLEY CALLED AND I WAS SURE WE HAD BEEN REJECTED WHEN HE STARTED EXPLAINING THAT THERE WAS A PROBLEM WITH THE DELIVERY. HOWEVER, THE PROBLEM WAS THAT W. S. DARLEY & COMPANY HAD OUR PUMPER SCHEDULED TO SHOW AT A CONVENTION IN CHICAGO AND THAT OUR PUMPER WAS THE ONLY ONE AVAILABLE TO THEM. OF COURSE ANOTHER WEEK WAS A SMALL PROBLEM FOR US AND WE FELT IF THEY WERE GOING TO SHOW THIS PUMPER AT A CONVENTION IT HAD TO BE OKAY.

THIS COST OF THIS UNIT WITH NO EQUIPMENT WAS \$20,025 AND WE HAD ON HAND THE GRAND TOTAL OF \$5476.32. THE DOWN PAYMENT WAS \$4770.20 WITH NO HOSE, NOZZLES, AXES, ETC. AND OF COURSE NO INSURANCE. THIS LEFT US WITH THE BALANCE OF 706.12 FOR INSURANCE AND EQUIPMENT. WE ONLY COLLECTED THE TOTAL OF \$6901.79 FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR OF 1969 AND HOW WE OPERATED THE NEXT YEAR, I'LL NEVER KNOW, BUT SOMEHOW WE MADE IT. IT WAS A GREAT DAY WHEN ON OCTOBER 26, 1969, ALFRED ANDREWS, JIMMY SYFRETT (MY SON), AND MYSELF WENT TO COLUMBIA AND RETURNED WITH OUR NEW PUMPER.

FIRE — POLICE
WATER — STREET
TRAFFIC — SEWER
DEPARTMENTS

WORLD WIDE SERVICE

W.S. Darley & Co.

2000 ANSON DRIVE
MELROSE PARK, ILLINOIS 60160
(SUBURB OF CHICAGO)



SOLD TO Colleton Vol. Firemen's Assoc., Inc. Colleton Vol. Firemen's Assoc., Inc.
Walterboro, South Carolina 29488 SHIP TO Walterboro, South Carolina 29488

Your Order No.	Terms: SPECIAL	Invoice Date	Shipped	Insured Parcel Post <input type="checkbox"/>	Express <input type="checkbox"/>	Freight <input type="checkbox"/>	INVOICE NUMBER G 3187
QUANTITY	CATALOG NO.	DESCRIPTION				PRICE	AMOUNT
1	SH750	Midship Pumper mounted on 1969 C750 Ford chassis and equipment per Conditional Sales Agreement - FOB Colleton - Walterboro, S.C.				\$19,255.0	
		+ 4% SOUTH CAROLINA SALES TAX				770.2	
						\$20,025.2	
NOTE: \$4000.00 down at time of delivery. Plus \$770.20 S.C. Sales Tax = Total \$4770.20.							

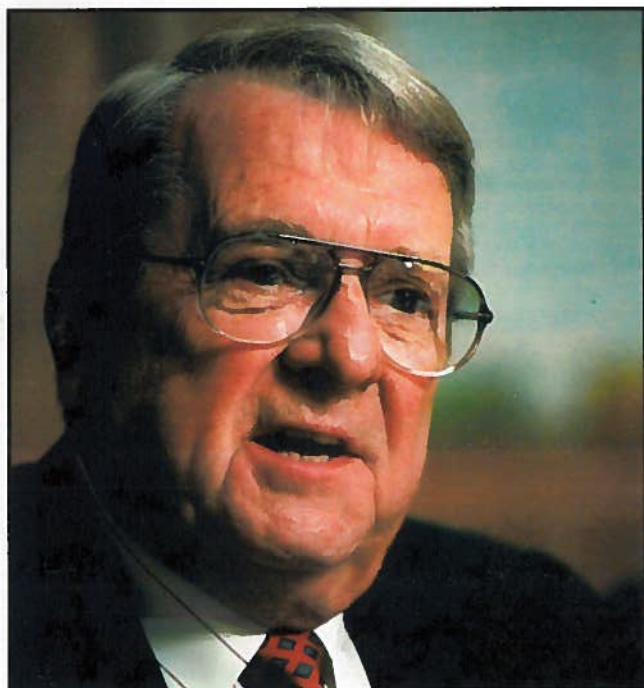
COLLETON RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT'S FIRST PUMPER

itage that binds the company together, and is perhaps one of the company's greatest strengths, would be overlooking the obvious.

W.S. Darley.....page 60

The third generation of the Darley family is preparing to assume leadership roles in the 90-year-old business. Eight members of the family work at the company headquarters. From left, Krina Darley, the human resource manager; Paul Darley, on the bumper of the truck, the vice president of the pump division; Steve Darley, cus-

tomor service representative; James Long, the assistant vice president of the pump and equipment division; President Bill Darley; Thomas Darley, assistant vice president of sales; Peter Darley, vice president of the apparatus division; and Jim Darley, pump sales representative.
Fire Apparatus Photo by Chris Lee



A Conversation With Legendary Bill Darley

By Ed Ballam

MELROSE PARK, Ill. — Bill Darley walks into the room and begins to greet people, even strangers, with a warm hand shake and a smile that makes you feel like you've known him for years.

"Welcome to Darley," he said, gripping a visitor's hand, welcoming him into the vast enterprise where he has been the benevolent ruler for 46 years.

Bill Darley has been in the fire truck and fire pump manufacturing for most of those as president of the W.S. Darley & Co., a municipal equipment business his father founded 90 years ago.

An icon in the fire apparatus business — just about everybody who has any-

thing to do with fire equipment knows Bill Darley and those who don't quickly become at ease with the man who likes to tell humorous stories and reminisce about days gone by.

The business card he hands out has a four-color picture of himself next to a fire truck parked outside the plant just so people won't forget who he is and what he does.

But it's not necessary; nobody forgets Bill Darley.

Even though he'll be stepping down as president on his 70th birthday on July 17, he still speaks enthusiastically about

Bill Darley.....page 3

Fire Apparatus Magazine
234 Monarch Hill Road
Tunbridge, VT 05077
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Beaver Dam, WI
Permit No. 379

*****3-DIGIT 294
Ashton Syfrett
213 CARN ST

8

MR. BILL DARLEY (W. S. DARLEY & CO.) MADE IT POSSIBLE



FIREMEN IN ATTENDANCE AT MORTGAGE BURNING

STATEMENT FROM		December 11, 1973	
W.S. Darley & Co.			
Municipal Supplies			
Colleton Vol. Firemens Assoo. P. O. Box 795 Walterboro, South Carolina			
TO			
To Invoice Rendered	1 Pumper	\$20,025.20	
Balance on Conditional Sales Contract at October 31, 1973			\$3,813.75

COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.		180	
FIRST NATIONAL BANK WALTERBORO, SOUTH CAROLINA		67-112 532	
TO THE ORDER OF <i>W.S. Darley & Co.</i>		<i>10/29 73</i>	
<i>Three thousand five hundred and 75/100</i>		<i>\$3,813.75</i>	
Final Payment		<i>Ashton Dyghett</i>	
:0532001121: 189000 0 0 26		:0000381375:	

COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.		181	
FIRST NATIONAL BANK WALTERBORO, SOUTH CAROLINA		67-112 532	
TO THE ORDER OF <i>W.S. Darley & Co.</i>		<i>10/29 73</i>	
<i>Three hundred five and 10/100</i>		<i>\$303.10</i>	
Final Interest		<i>Ashton Dyghett</i>	
:0532001121: 189000 0 0 26		:000030310:	

FINAL PAYMENT FIRST PUMPER OCTOBER 29, 1973

WITH THE TOTAL COST OF THE NEW PUMPER BEING \$20,025.20 AND THE DOWN PAYMENT OF \$4770.20 DEDUCTED THAT LEFT A BALANCE OF \$15,255.00 TO BE PAID IN YEARLY INSTALLMENTS OF \$3813.75 PLUS INTEREST. WE MADE THE FINAL PAYMENT OCTOBER 29, 1973 AND THAT WAS A GOOD FEELING. WE HAD A SUPPER AT THE COLONIAL RESTURANT (LOCATED WHERE HARDEE'S IS NOW) AND TOOK GREAT PLEASURE IN BURNING THE MORTGAGE.

WHEN WE SIGNED THE CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF OUR NEW PUMPER WE FELT VERY THANKFUL AS WE NOW HAD A PLACE TO HOUSE OUR EQUIPMENT AND THE CITY WOULD BENEFIT AS IT WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR CITY FIRES. WE WERE SIMPLY GOING TO HOUSE THE OLD TANK TRUCK AT A LOCAL GARAGE AND HOUSE THE NEW PUMPER AT THE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT. HOWEVER, SOME THINGS ARE NOT MEANT TO BE AS UPON OUR RETURN TO WALTER- OCTOBER 26, 1969, WITH OUR NEW PUMPER WE FOUND THAT IT WAS TOO LARGE FOR THE BAY AT THE CITY. WE THEN HAD OUR FIRST MAJOR OBSTACLE. WE HAD THIS BRAND NEW PUMPER WITH NO WAY TO KEEP IT OUT OF THE WEATHER.

MR. GLEN STRICKLAND AND MR. RAYMOND GROOMS, THE OWNERS OF THE STRICKLAND DIXIE CLEANERS ON HAMPTON STREET HAD PURCHASED A BUILDING TO THE REAR OF THE CLEANERS FOR FUTURE EXPANSION. THIS BUILDING HAD HOUSED THE RESCUE SQUAD TRUCK FOR MANY MONTHS AND THE RESCUE SQUAD HAD MOVED ONLY A FEW DAYS BEFORE. MYSELF AND ALFRED (ANDY) ANDREWS WENT TO MR. STRICKLAND'S HOME AND TOLD HIM OUR PROBLEM. EVEN THOUGH IT HAS BEEN OVER THIRTY YEARS AGO, I CAN REMEMBER HOW MR. STRICKLAND, WITHOUT A MOMENTS HESITATION, REACHED INTO HIS POCKET AND GAVE US THE KEY. WE NEVER GAVE THIS KEY BACK TO HIM AND NEEDLESS TO SAY, THIS IS WHERE THE DISTRICT 1 STATION (STATION 27 IN 2004) IS NOW LOCATED.

MR. STRICKLAND AND MR. GROOMS WERE USING THIS BUILDING FOR STORAGE AND AFTER A FEW WEEKS WE ASKED THEM IF WE COULD MOVE THINGS AROUND AND MAYBE MAKE ROOM FOR OUR OTHER TRUCK (THE OLD CONVERTED SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCK). PERMISSION WAS GRANTED AND WE MOVED IT FROM THE CITY.

OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS WE ANSWERED MANY CALLS AND OUR ORGANIZATION GREW AS MORE AND MORE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS BECAME AWARE OF OUR EXISTENCE. MR. JOHNNY RHODES (RHODES OIL COMPANY) HAD CONNECTIONS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN COLUMBIA AND HAD HEARD OF HOW WE WERE UTILIZING THE OLD SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCK TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION IN THE RURAL AREAS OF COLLETON COUNTY. MR. RHODES INFORMED ME THAT HE (RHODES OIL COMPANY) HAD TWO OLD TRUCKS THAT HE WOULD DONATE TO OUR ORGANIZATION AND THAT HE HAD CONTACTED THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THERE WERE GOING TO BE SEVERAL MORE OF THE SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCKS AVAILABLE TO US IN THE NEAR FUTURE IF WE WOULD USE THEM FOR RURAL FIRE PROTECTION. WE FELT THAT THIS WAS JUST TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE AND WE HAD ALREADY BEEN CONTACTED IN REGARD TO ORGANIZING FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTY. OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS, SOME TEN UNITS WERE MADE AVAILABLE TO US THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF MR. JOHNNY RHODES, MANY AT NO COST TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

AS STATED BEFORE WE SECURED ANOTHER SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCK IN SEPTEMBER OF 1969. IT WAS AT THAT TIME THAT WE ASKED MR. STRICKLAND AND MR. GROOMS TO MOVE THEIR BOAT AND GIVE US THE OTHER BAY. THIS WAS ALSO DONE WITHOUT HESITATION AND WE USED THIS BUILDING RENT FREE FOR SOME TEN YEARS.

MR. OSCAR FISK (SOUTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT) WAS A GREAT HELP TO THE RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND VERY FEW PEOPLE REALIZE THAT. WHEN WE WOULD RECEIVE THE OLD SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCKS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, MOST OF THEM NEEDED SOME REPAIRS BEFORE WE COULD USE THEM FOR FIREFIGHTING PURPOSES. I CONTACTED MR. FISK IN AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN A TIRE FOR ONE OF THESE TANKERS. I KNEW THAT MANY TIMES WHERE DUAL WHEELS WERE CONCERNED, THE SCHD WOULD REPLACE BOTH TIRES EVEN IF ONLY ONE WAS DEFECTIVE. THIS WOULD LEAVE A TIRE THAT WOULD RUN FOR MANY YEARS ON ONE OF OUR TRUCKS. MR. FISK STATED THAT HE HAD TO RETURN ALL TIRES TO COLUMBIA AS THEY HAD TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR. I OFFERED TO GIVE HIM AN OLD

TIRE BUT HE SAID THAT THEY HAD TO HAVE THE "SCHD" STAMP. WE NEVER HAD TO WORRY ABOUT TIRES AGAIN AS ALL OF THE OLD SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCKS HAD TIRES WITH THE "SCHD" STAMP. AS THE SCHD ACQUIRED NEW VEHICLES, MANY OF THE PARTS IN THEIR INVENTORY WOULD NOT FIT THE NEW VEHICLES AND HAD TO BE DISPOSED OF. WHEN HE WAS ALLOWED, MR. FISK WOULD GIVE US THESE OBSOLETE PARTS AND ANYTHING ELSE HE FELT WOULD BE OF USE TO US. THANKS TO MR. OSCAR FISK THE RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS OF COLLETON COUNTY SAVED MANY DOLLARS BY USING ITEMS THAT OTHERWISE WOULD HAVE BEEN DISCARDED.

WE NOW HAD A NEW PUMPER, TWO TANKERS, A FIRE STATION CENTRALLY LOCATED IN OUR DISTRICT AND WE WANTED THE PUBLIC TO KNOW IT. WE RECEIVED WORD THAT AN OLD DEPUTY SHERIFF'S CAR (WITH NO ENGINE) WAS TO BE AUCTIONED OFF BY THE COUNTY. WE FELT THAT IF WE COULD SECURE THIS VEHICLE, PAINT IT RED AND HAVE OUR ORGANIZATION'S NAME IN LARGE LETTERS IT COULD ONLY HELP PROMOTE OUR ORGANIZATION. WE THEN CONTACTED MR. HAROLD ROBERTSON (ROBERTSON ELECTRIC) AND ASKED HIM TO USE HIS INFLUENCE WITH SENATOR J. P. HARRELSON TO GET THIS VEHICLE FOR US. THE SAME NIGHT MR. ROBERTSON CONTACTED ME AND INFORMED ME THAT THE COUNTY COULD NOT GIVE US THIS VEHICLE BUT I WOULD BE GIVEN THE TITLE FOR FIFTY DOLLARS. THIS BECAME COLLETON COUNTY'S FIRST FIRE CHIEF'S CAR. SOON AFTER THIS ANOTHER CHIEF'S CAR WAS ACQUIRED FOR THE RUFFIN DISTRICT WHERE MR. JACK BEVERLY WAS CHIEF. BOTH OF THESE UNITS DID A GREAT JOB IN PROMOTING OUR ORGANIZATION. THE SECOND CHIEF'S CAR FOR DISTRICT 1 WAS RECEIVED IN 1974 AND THIS UNIT ALSO SERVED US WELL.

AT THIS TIME, FIRE PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN COLLETON COUNTY WERE NOT ORGANIZED. OF COURSE THERE WERE CHILDREN THAT WOULD VISIT THE WALTERBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT AND MEN FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS, SUCH AS THE PARRIS ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT, WOULD HOLD A FEW CLASSES EACH YEAR BUT THERE WERE JUST SO MANY CHILDREN THAT HAD NO CONTACT WITH FIREMEN OR FIRE DEPARTMENTS. WE MADE IT OUR PERSONAL ENDEAVOR TO MAKE CONTACT WITH JUST AS MANY CHILDREN AS POSSIBLE EVEN THOUGH



COLLETON COUNTY'S FIRST FIRE CHIEF'S CAR



DIST. 1'S (WALTERBORO) SECOND FIRE CHIEF'S CAR



EARLY FIRE PREVENTION CLASS AT FIRST BAPTIST



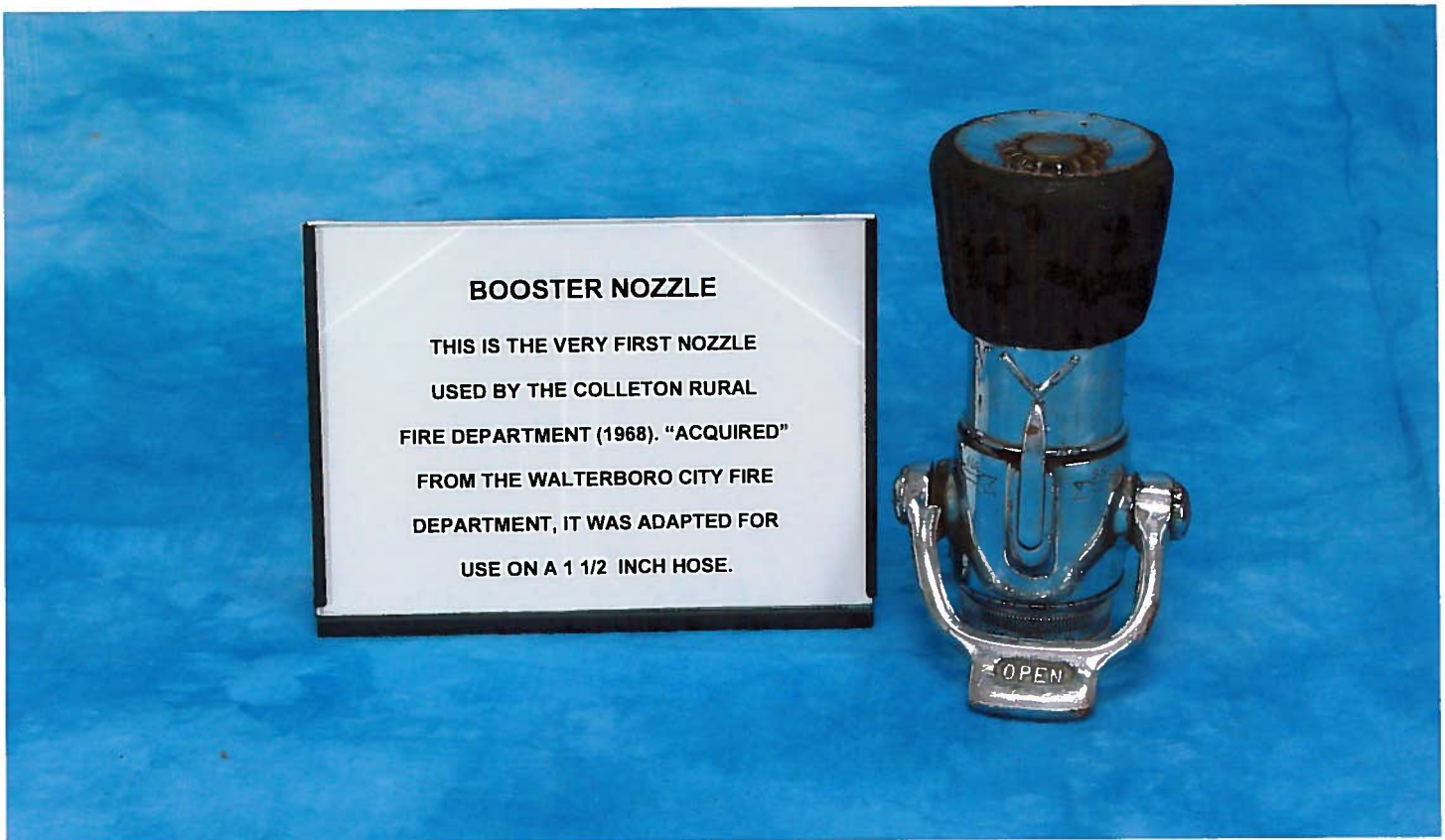
MOCK & SYFRETT-FIRE PREVENTION CLASS AT JCCA

MOST OF US HAD FULL-TIME JOBS. WE THOUGHT THAT IF WE DID SOMETHING FOR THE CHILDREN, THE CHILDREN WOULD TELL THEIR PARENTS (WHO HAD MONEY FOR MEMBERSHIPS). IT DID NOT TAKE LONG FOR US TO REALIZE THAT THERE WAS A LOT OF INTEREST IN FIRE PREVENTION AND WE BEGAN TO SEE THE RESULTS OF OUR EFFORTS. WE SOON BEGAN TO LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING WITH THE NEXT GROUP. WE ESPECIALLY ENJOYED GOING TO JOHN C. CALHOUN ACADEMY BECAUSE WE KNEW WE WOULD RECEIVE A CAKE OR PIE FROM MRS. ESTER HIERS AS HER WAY OF EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR OUR COMING.

WE KNEW THAT IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FIRE PROTECTION TO OUR MEMBERS WE WOULD HAVE TO ACQUIRE MORE EQUIPMENT AND WITH OUR LIMITED FUNDS THIS WAS GOING TO BE QUITE A PROBLEM. I THEN CONTACTED EVERYONE I KNEW THAT COULD POSSIBLY HELP US IN SECURING ANY KIND OF FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT. THESE CONTACTS PAID OFF AS I STARTED GETTING CALLS FROM PEOPLE I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW.

ONE OF THE FIRST CALLS CAME FROM MR. F. C. WALKER (I DID KNOW HIM) WHO HAD BEEN A FIREMAN AT THE WALTERBORO ARMY AIRBASE FIRE DEPARTMENT DURING WORLD WAR II. HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAD A BOX OF NOZZLES AND FITTING THAT CAME FROM THE AIRBASE AND MAYBE WE COULD USE THEM. IN THIS BOX WERE TWO 2 1/2 "STRAIGHT STREAM NOZZLES THAT WE NEEDED ON OUR NEW PUMPER. THESE NOZZLES WOULD HAVE BEEN EXPENSIVE EVEN AT 1969 PRICES AND THIS WAS MONEY THAT WE JUST DID NOT HAVE. THESE NOZZLES WERE BRASS AND THE HANDLES WERE DETERIOATED BUT WE SURE WERE PROUD TO GET THEM AS WE HAD A FRIEND, MR. JACKIE GALLOWAY, THAT HAD CONNECTIONS WHERE CHROME PLATING WAS CONCERNED. SOON THESE NOZZLES LOOKED LIKE NEW WITH THE NEW CHROME PLATING AND HANDLES MADE FROM ELECTRICAL CONDUIT AND AUTOMOTIVE HEATER HOSE. WE USED THESE NOZZLES FOR SOME THIRTY YEARS AND AS OF THIS DATE THEY ARE ON DISPLAY AT STATION 19 IN THE INDUSTRIAL AREA.

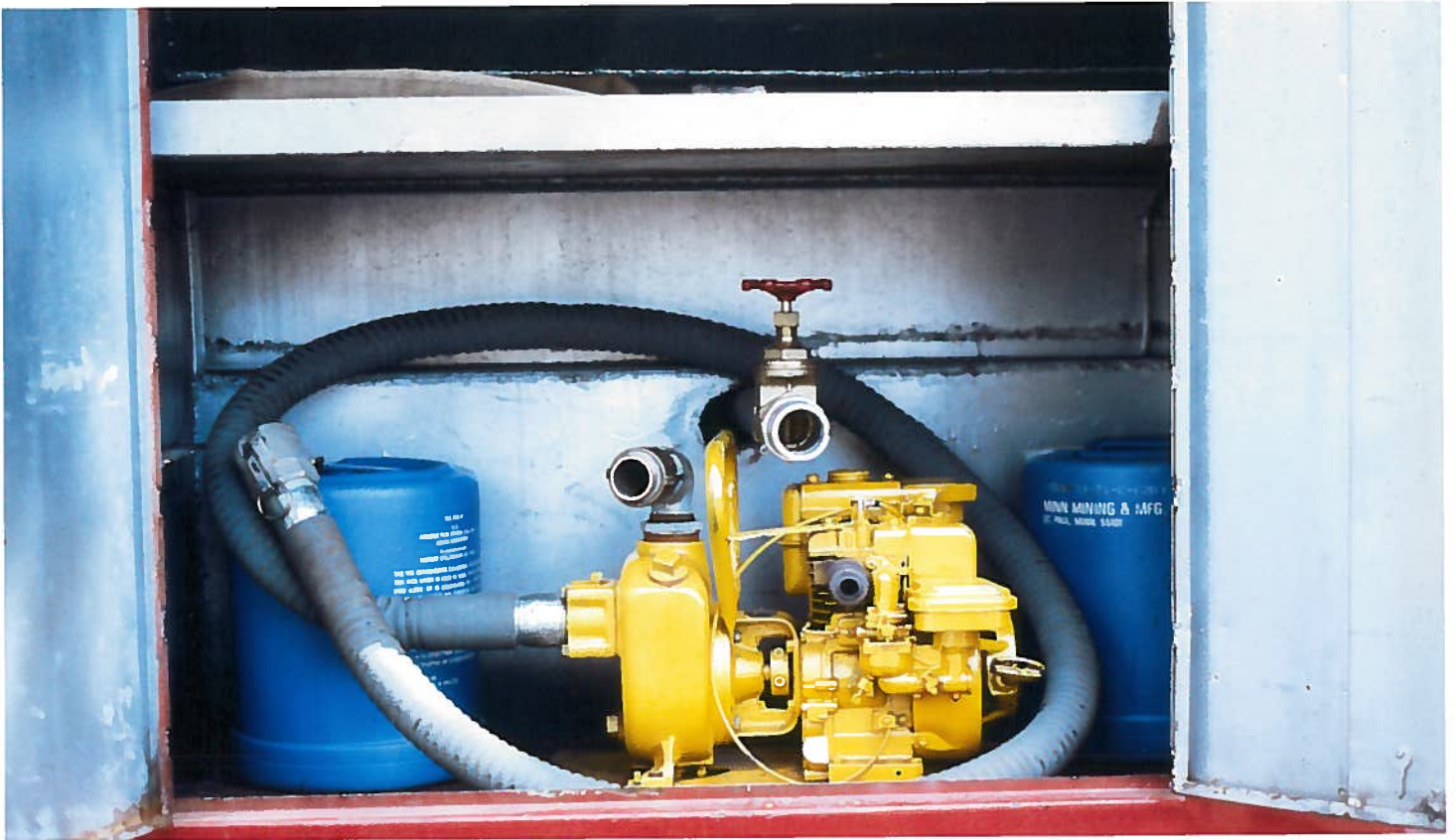
A PIECE OF EQUIPMENT THAT WE FELT WOULD BE AN ASSET TO OUR ORGANIZATION WAS A PUMP THAT WOULD DRAFT FROM A CREEK OR POND TO REFILL OUR TANKERS, MR. GEORGE ACKERMAN (ACKERMAN WELL COMPANY) HAD OFFERED TO SELL US ONE AT HIS COST OF



FIRST CRFD NOZZLE "ACQUIRED" FROM CITY



WORLD WAR II NOZZLES DONATED BY F. C. WALKER



REFILL PUMP FUNDED BY WOMEN'S AUXILIARY



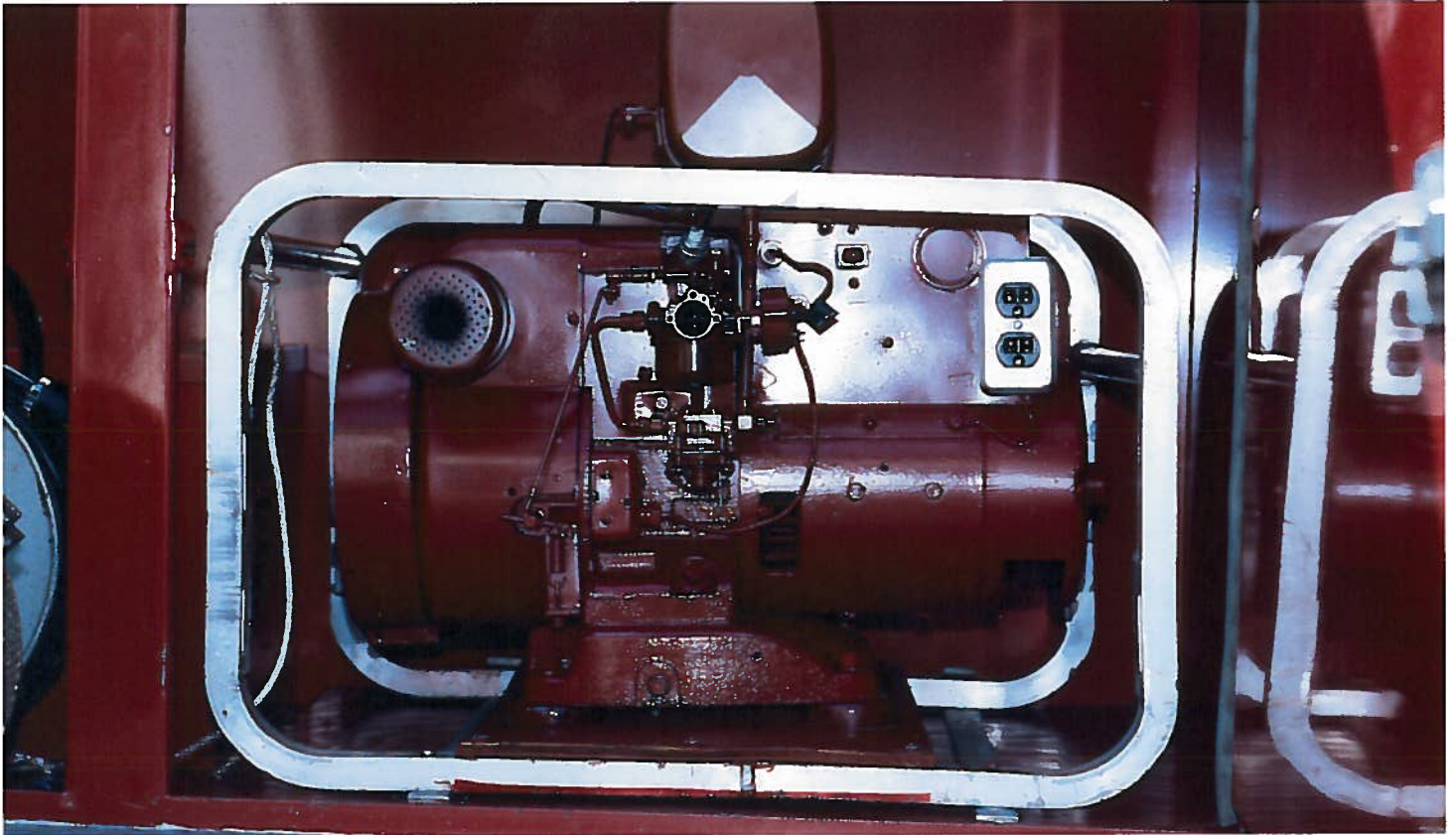
CRFD'S FIRST WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

ABOUT A HUNDRED DOLLARS. THE FIRST WOMEN'S AUXILIARY HAD BEEN ORGANIZED AND THEY TOOK IT AS THEIR FIRST PROJECT TO RAISE ENOUGH MONEY TO MAKE THIS PURCHASE. NEEDLESS TO SAY, THEY ACCOMPLISHED THEIR GOAL BY SELLING CAKES, PIES, ETC., AT OUR FIRST OPEN \ HOUSE.

WE HELD OUR FIRST OPEN HOUSE JUNE 13, 1970 AND HAD A HUGE TURN-OUT OF INTERESTED PERSONS. WE SOLD MANY MEMBERSHIPS AND RECEIVED SEVERAL DONATIONS. THIS WAS GOOD BECAUSE THEN WE ALL KNEW OUR EFFORTS WERE APPRECIATED.

AT THIS OPEN HOUSE I KNEW WE HAD A FRIEND IN CHIEF J. C. TILLMAN, THE CHIEF OF THE CHARLESTON AIR FORCE BASE FIRE DEPARTMENT. ANDY ANDREWS (OUR ASSISTANT CHIEF) WAS ONE OF CHIEF TILLMAN'S FIREMEN AND I KNEW HE HAD "BUGGED" CHIEF TILLMAN FOR EVERYTHING IMAGINABLE. CHIEF TILLMAN CAME TO OUR OPEN HOUSE AND PURCHASED A CAKE. THE FUN BEGAN WHEN HE ASKED TO GO LOOK AT OUR EQUIPMENT. I TOLD HIM POINT BLANK THAT HE COULD NOT. HE THEN LAUGHED AND SAID "LOOK, I KNOW ANDY ANDREWS IS STEALING EVERYTHING HE CAN GET HIS HANDS ON." I TOLD HIM THAT AS LONG AS HE KNEW IT, WE WOULD GO LOOK BUT THAT IF HE "REPOSSESSED" EVERYTHING THAT CAME FROM THE CHARLESTON AIR FORCE BASE FIRE DEPARTMENT, WE WOULD HAVE TO CLOSE DOWN. AT THAT TIME WE REALLY DIDN'T HAVE MUCH FROM THE CHARLESTON AIRBASE, BUT I SURE DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE ANY CHANCES.

THIS RELATIONSHIP WENT ON FOR MANY YEARS AND I BECAME A FRIEND OF CHIEF TILLMAN AND EVERY TIME THERE WAS A PIECE OF EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE AS SURPLUS, WE GOT A CALL. IT WAS UNREAL JUST HOW MUCH USABLE EQUIPMENT CHIEF TILLMAN ACQUIRED FOR US, NOT JUST FOR DISTRICT 1, BUT FOR ALL OF COLLETON COUNTY. MUCH OF THIS DID NOT COME FROM THE CHARLESTON AIRBASE BUT CHIEF TILLMAN WOULD HEAR OF SOMETHING THAT WE COULD USE AND HE WOULD GO OUT OF HIS WAY TO SEE THAT IT WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO US. I WOULD LIKE TO TELL OF SOME OF OUR TRIPS TO ACQUIRE SOME OF THIS EQUIPMENT BUT IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE "INNOCENT" SOME THINGS JUST CANNOT BE PRINTED.



FIRST GENERATOR DONATED BY HOWARD HINES



CRFD'S FIRST SCBA COST \$20 FROM STATE SURPLUS



ROTATING BEACON
THIS IS THE VERY FIRST BEACON
USED BY THE COLLETON RURAL
FIRE DEPARTMENT. IT WAS
6 VOLT CONVERTED TO 12 VOLT
FOR USE ON THE FIRST RURAL
FIRE DEPARTMENT TRUCK (1968)

BEACON FROM FIRST CRFD TRUCK



PISTOL GRIP BOOSTER NOZZLE
STANDARD EQUIPMENT ON THE FIRST
COLLETON RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT
PUMPER (1969). THIS NOZZLE WITH 350 PSI
FROM THE W. S. DARLEY THREE STAGE
PUMP DID AN EXCELLENT JOB WITH OUR
LIMITED WATER SUPPLY.

PISTOL GRIP NOZZLE FROM FIRST CRFD PUMPER

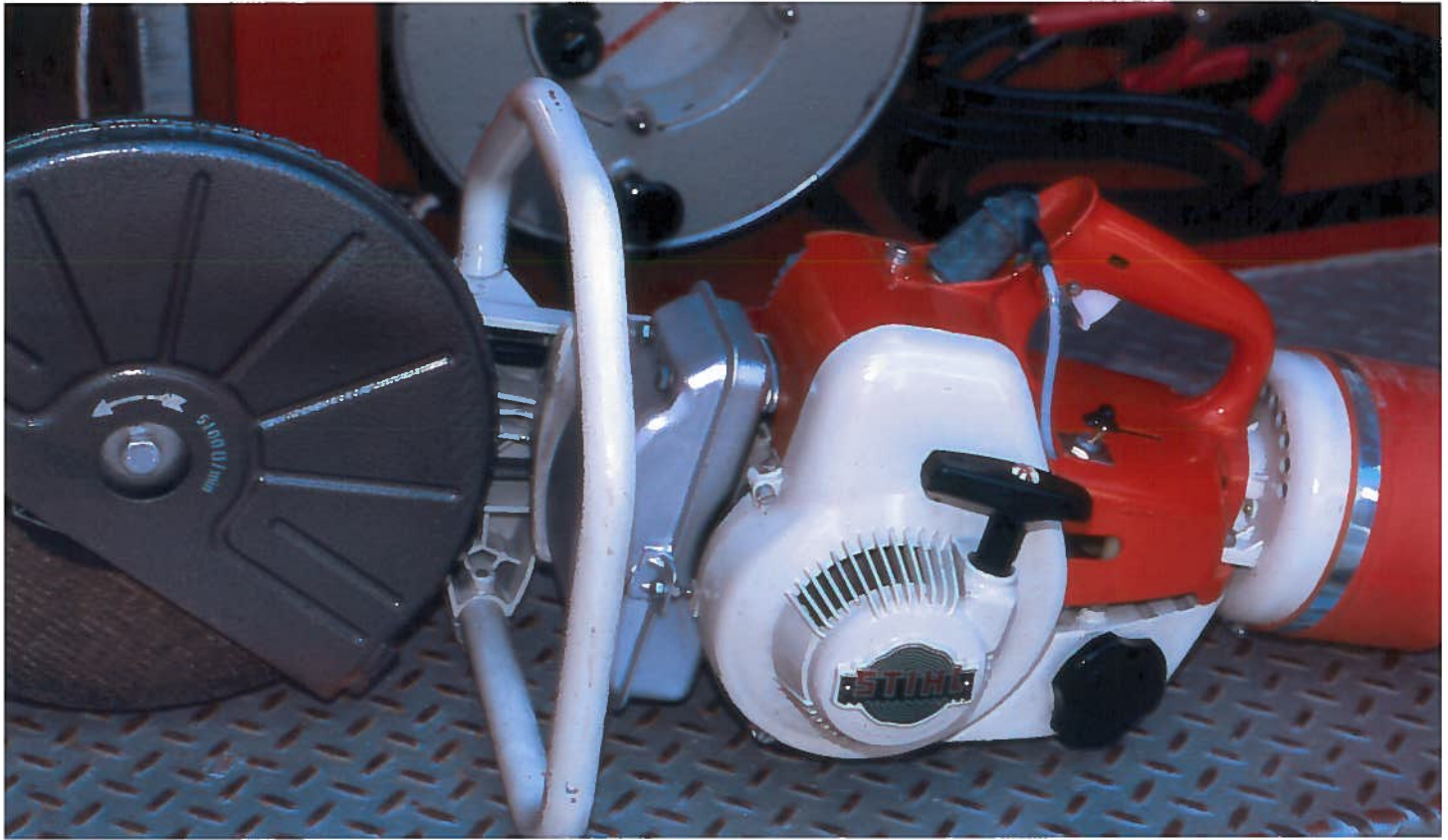
CHIEF TILLMAN WAS A MAN THAT I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER, NOT ONLY AS A FRIEND, BUT AS A COLLETON COUNTY RESIDENT THAT WAS SINCERELY INTERESTED IN THE COLLETON COUNTY FIRE SERVICE AND DID EVERYTHING IN HIS POWER TO HELP.

ANOTHER PIECE OF EQUIPMENT THAT CAME AVAILABLE BY JUST LETTING PEOPLE KNOW OF OUR NEEDS WAS OUR FIRST GENERATOR. MR. HOWARD HINES CALLED STEVE FRALIN (ONE OF OUR FIREMEN) AND TOLD HIM THAT HE HAD A SMALL GENERATOR AT HIS FARM THAT HAD BEEN "ACQUIRED" AND WE WERE WELCOME TO IT. STEVE AND MYSELF WENT AND PICKED UP THIS GENERATOR, PAINTED IT RED, AND IT POWERED OUR LIGHTS AND SMOKE EJECTOR FOR YEARS. THIS WAS ANOTHER PIECE OF USABLE EQUIPMENT THAT WE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PURCHASE BECAUSE OF LIMITED FUNDS.

MR. JOE HICKMAN SOON BECAME THE CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR AND WE BECAME FRIENDS AND THAT IS ANOTHER PERSON THAT DID EVERYTHING IN HIS POWER TO PROMOTE THE FIRE SERVICE IN COLLETON COUNTY. NOT LONG AFTER BECOMING CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR, MR. HICKMAN HAD TO ATTEND A MEETING IN COLUMBIA AND ASKED IF I WOULD LIKE TO RIDE WITH HIM AND VISIT THE STATE SURPLUS WAREHOUSE. THIS IS WHEN WE PURCHASED OUR FIRST SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS. WHEN WE WALKED IN THE DOOR OF THE WAREHOUSE I SPOTTED TWO SCBA'S THAT HAD JUST BEEN PUT OUT FOR SALE FOR \$20.00 EACH. I WAS VERY GLAD TO BRING THESE BACK TO WALTERBORO. OUR FIRST NEW SCBA WAS PURCHASED APRIL 19, 1971 FROM CARL R. DICKERT COMPANY FOR \$242.75.

EARLY IN 1973 THERE WAS A VEHICLE ACCIDENT WHERE WE COULD HAVE USED A CUT-OFF SAW (ZIP SAW) TO EVERYONE'S ADVANTAGE. WE IMMEDIATELY PUT ACQUIRING THIS SAW A PRIORITY. WE RECEIVED SEVERAL DONATIONS AND PURCHASED OUR FIRST ZIP SAW MARCH 29, 1973 FROM READE EQUIPMENT FOR \$275.24. THE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT PURCHASED THEIR FIRST ZIP SAW VERY SOON AFTER.

OUR FIRST REAL SMOKE EJECTOR WAS PURCHASED BY MR. & MR. CLYDE O. ACKERMAN. MRS. ACKERMAN HAD LEFT A POT ON THE STOVE AND IT FILLED THE HOUSE WITH SMOKE (8/22/73).



FIRST CUT-OFF SAW-PURCHASED 3/29/73

READE **No. 7831**
ELECTRIC EQUIPMENT CO., INC.
INDUSTRIAL PARK
WALTERBORO, SC 29488
Phone (AC803) 538-2240

al Fire Department
S. C. 29488
P. O. NO. _____

TERMS	DATE SHIPD	S. MAN NO.	CUST NO.
DESCRIPTION <td>B. O.<td>QTY. SHIPD.<td>PRICE</td></td></td>	B. O. <td>QTY. SHIPD.<td>PRICE</td></td>	QTY. SHIPD. <td>PRICE</td>	PRICE
Cutquik SS#7128083			243 00
Carbide blade			27 00
Masonry blade		6 55	5 24
			\$ 275 24
PAID 3-29-73 Check #111			

111
ELECTRIC EQUIPMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 785
WALTERBORO, S. C. 29488
3/29 1973 \$275.24
First National Bank
Walterboro, South Carolina
\$275.24
DOLLARS
Cash on hand

111 21: 189000 00246 21 CUPB00027524

EXTENDED BY _____ SHIP CHARGES _____ INCS. _____

SE PAY BY THIS INVOICE AS NO STATEMENT WILL BE MAILED.
PER MONTH SERVICE CHARGE AFTER 30 DAYS ON UNPAID BALANCE, AN ANNUAL RATE OF 12%

INVOICE FOR PURCHASE OF FIRST CUT-OFF SAW

WE HAD A FAN THAT HAD BEEN DONATED AND WE WERE USING IT FOR A SMOKE EJECTOR AND IT WAS DEFINITELY BETTER THAN NONE AT ALL BUT IT DID LEAVE A LOT TO BE DESIRED. I MENTIONED TO ONE OF THE FIREMEN THAT SOMEDAY WE WOULD HAVE A REAL SMOKE EJECTOR AND MR. ACKERMAN OVERHEARD MY COMMENT. HE IMMEDIATELY CALLED MRS. ACKERMAN AND TOLD HER TO GIVE ME A CHECK FOR "WHATEVER IT WAS THAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT". I DID CALL MRS. ACKERMAN THE NEXT DAY JUST TO BE SURE IT WAS OKAY AS IT WAS NO WAY WE COULD PAY FOR IT. THIS CALL NOT ONLY GOT US A SMOKE EJECTOR BUT HELPED OUR MORALE QUITE A BIT AS WE AGAIN KNEW OUR EFFORTS WERE APPRECIATED.

MANY OTHERS HELPED US WITH MORALE (JUST GIVING US SUPPORT) WHEN THINGS GOT A LITTLE ROUGH. ONE OF THESE WAS MR. ROY GIBSON THE OWNER OF THE WALTERBORO DRIVE-IN THEATRE. BACK IN 1973 THE DRIVE-IN THEATRE WAS ONE OF THE FEW PLACES THE YOUNG FIREMEN (AND THEIR FAMILIES) COULD GO FOR ENTERTAINMENT. MR. GIBSON TOLD US THAT HE WOULD LET ALL OF THE FIREMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE DRIVE-IN FOR FREE IF THEY HAD IDENTIFICATION. THIS IS WHEN WE KNEW THE TIME HAD COME FOR US TO SECURE OUR FIRST RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT BADGES AND WE KNEW WE HAD TO FIND A WAY TO MAKE THIS PURCHASE WITHOUT SPENDING MEMBERSHIP FUNDS. ONE OF OUR SUPPORTERS HAD MADE A DONATION OF \$50.00 FOR A SUPPER FOR THE FIREMEN AND WE USED THAT MONEY AND PAID THE BALANCE PERSONALLY. THESE BADGES WERE PURCHASED FROM PEARLMAN'S IN CHARLESTON AND SURE WERE SMALL COMPARED TO THOSE WORN TODAY, BUT THE DRIVE-IN THEATRE WAS ENJOYED BY ALL.

THE COLONIAL RESTURANT WAS LOCATED WHERE HARDEE'S IS NOW AND THEY OFFERED TO PROVIDE A STEAK SUPPER FOR US (AT A VERY REASONABLE PRICE). WE PLANNED THIS SUPPER FOR JANUARY 9, 1973 TO CELEBRATE THE END OF ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR. AT THIS SUPPER I RECEIVED ONE OF MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSIONS. THE FIREMEN PRESENTED ME WITH A PLAQUE RECONIZING ME AS THE FOUNDER OF THE COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC., WHICH BECAME THE COLLETON RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT AND IS NOW THE COLLETON COUNTY FIRE RESCUE. THIS HONOR WAS APPRECIATED MORE

349 KING STREET
CHARLESTON, S. C. 29401
PHONE: (803) 723-4842

CIRCLE
C. 29609

NOVICE

PHONE - (803) 244-6170

Carl R. Dickert Company
FIRE & SAFETY EQUIPMENT




Order #486
Date: 4/19/71

CUSTOMER'S ORDER NO.	DATE	9/26
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Mrv Errol L: Stynchcomb

Route 4 Box 183E

Walterboro S.C:

SOLD BY	CASH	C.O.D.	CHARGE	ON ACCT	ADSE. RET'D.	PAID OUT
QUAN.	DESCRIPTION			PRICE	AMOUNT	
I	Gold Chief Badge				14:30	
10	Rhodium Silver Badges @			10:70	107:00	
	Sales Tax				121:30 4:85 *****	
	Cash on Acct				126:15 50:00 *****	
	Bal				76:15	
	 THANKS 				 168 10/10/73	
REC'D. BY						

ALL CLAIMS AND RETURNED GOODS
MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THIS BILL

PAID TO ORDER OF
WALTERBORO BANK

PAY TO THE ORDER OF
WALTERBORO BANK

10/10 1973 \$76 15⁰⁰

67-112
532

168 DOLLARS

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

ROSLTON VOLUNTEER FISHERIES ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 793
WALTERBORO, R.I. 02948

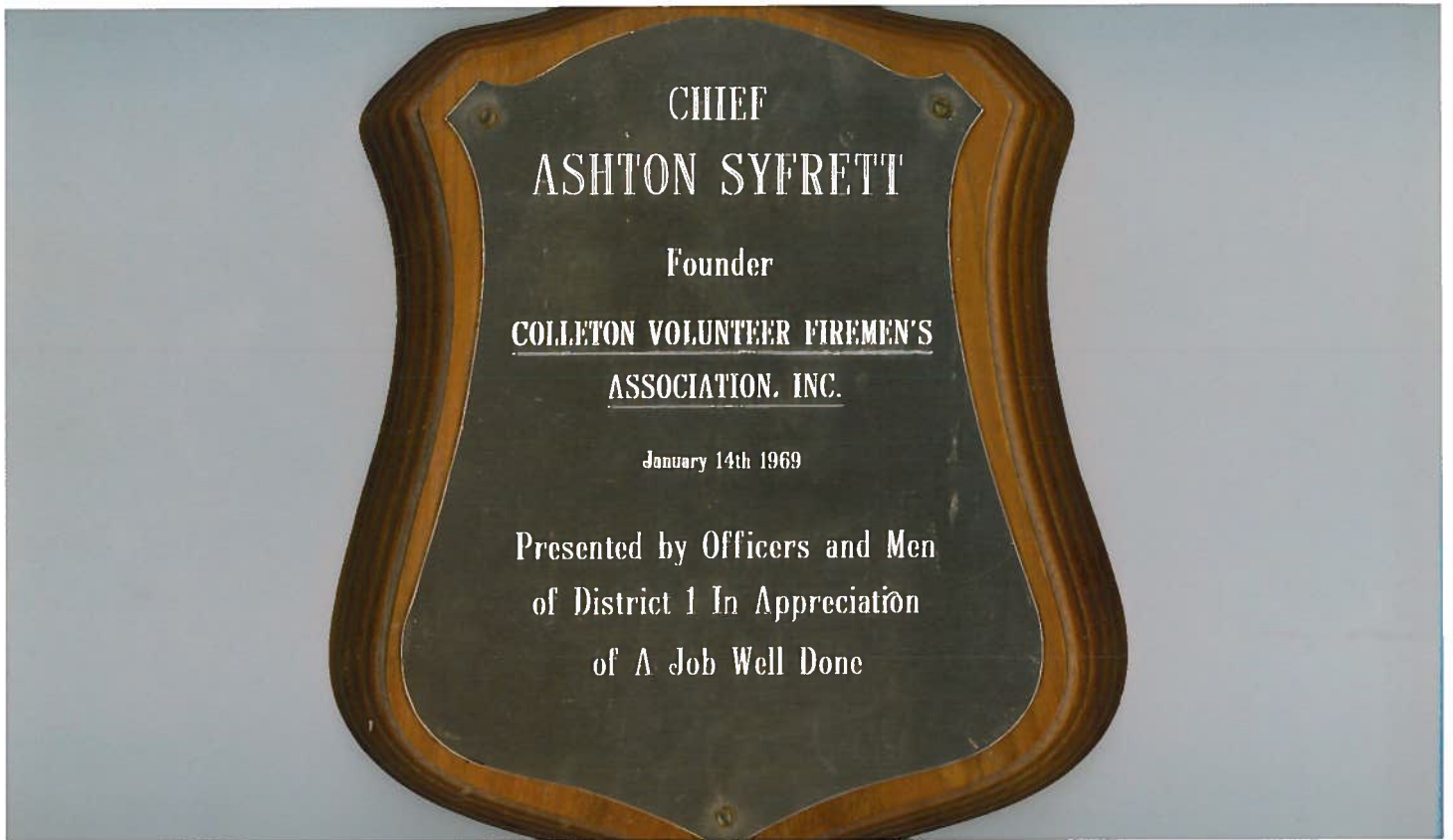
Parlman & Son
Twenty six and 15/100

FIRST NEW SCBA PURCHASE

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
1	MSA Model 401 Air-Pak Complete with case and cylinder.		\$230.00
	S. C. Sales Tax		9.20
	Freight		\$239.20
			4.55
			\$243.75

Thank you very much.

By: Mrs. Carl E. Dickbard



PRESENTED TO ASHTON SYFRETT 1/9/73



HERMAN L.(JACK) MOCK & ASHTON SYFRETT

THAN THEY WILL EVER KNOW BUT I FELT THAT AS THERE WERE SO MANY OTHERS THAT HELPED MAKE FIRE PROTECTION A REALITY IN COLLETON COUNTY, JUST SOMEHOW THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN RECONIZED ALSO.

SOON AFTER OUR ORGAINIZATION WE HAD SEVERAL OFFERS OF LAND ON WHICH TO BUILD A STATION WE COULD CALL OUR OWN. THE CITY HAD SOME PROPERTY OUTSIDE THE CITY THAT WAS OFFERED, MR. SIMMS GLOVER AGREED TO DONATE LAND ON HIGHWAY 15 N, MR. CLYDE ACKERMAN OFFERED TO HELP BUILD A STATION NEAR HIGHWAY 17A AND HIGHWAY 63, AND JOHN A (BUBBA) LUCAS, LEITH LUCAS, AND TOMMY JO NETTLES OF LUCAS REALTY DONATED A PARCEL OF PROPERTY TO THE COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC. ON HIGHWAY 15N ACROSS FROM ASTEN MANUFACTURING COMPANY. THIS PROPERTY ACROSS FROM ASTEN MANUFACTURING COMPANY WAS THE BEST IN OUR OPINION AS WE KNEW ROBERTSON BLVD. WAS IN THE FUTURE PLANS AND WE FELT WE WOULD BE LOCATED WHERE WE COULD RESPOND ANYWHERE IN OUR DISTRICT WITHOUT GOING THROUGH THE CITY. WE SPENT MANY HOURS CLEANING THIS PROPERTY AND HAD GREAT PLANS FOR THIS LITTLE PIECE OF LAND THAT WAS DEEDED TO US DECEMBER 31, 1971.

HOWEVER, MRS. A. B. (EDITH) BROWN OWNED THE PROPERTY BEHIND US AND SHE OBJECTED TO OUR CLOSING AN OLD DIRT ROAD THAT WAS INCLUDED IN OUR DEED AND LOCATED BEHIND OUR PROPERTY. ON JANUARY 9, 1974 I RECEIVED A SUMMONS TO APPEAR BEFORE JUDGE W. L. RHODES, JR. IN HAMPTON AS OF JANUARY 19, 1974. MRS. BROWN WAS ASKING FOR AN INJUNCTION FOR NOT CLOSING THIS OLD DIRT ROAD AND FOR DAMAGES OF \$50,000.00 WITH THE LAW OFFICES OF SMOAK, HOWELL, BRIDGE, AND MOODY LAW FIRM INVOLVED. THIS WAS QUITE INTERESTING AS MR. WILLIAM T. HOWELL WAS REPRESENTING MRS. BROWN, MR. AUBURN BRIDGE WAS THE ATTORNEY FOR OUR ORGANIZATION AND MR. LEE RAY MOODY HANDLED THE DEED FROM LUCAS REALTY AND ALL WERE IN THE SAME LAW FIRM. I DID NOT HAVE TO APPEAR BEFORE JUDGE RHODES IN HAMPTON (I WAS TOLD HE HAD A HUNTING TRIP PLANNED THAT DAY) BUT WE HAD TO FORFEIT OUR RIGHTS TO THIS PROPERTY.

LAND DONATED BY LUCAS REALTY ON HWY 15N

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF COLLETON)
IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Mrs. A. B. Brown,
Plaintiff,

-vs-

Lucas Realty Corporation,
Colleton Volunteer Fire-
men's Association and
The First National Bank in
Orangeburg - Walterboro,
South Carolina,
Defendants.

RULE TO SHOW CAUSE

This matter comes before me on the verified Complaint of the Plaintiff, dated December 18, 1973; and it is, therefore, on motion of William T. Howell of Smoak, Howell, Bridge & Moody, attorneys for the Plaintiff,

ORDERED that the Defendants, Lucas Realty Corporation, Colleton Volunteer Firemen's Association and The First National Bank in Orangeburg - Walterboro, South Carolina, do show cause before me at Hampton, South Carolina, on the 19th day of January 1974, at 10:00 AM or as soon thereafter as they can be heard, why the temporary injunction asked for in the attached Complaint should not be issued.

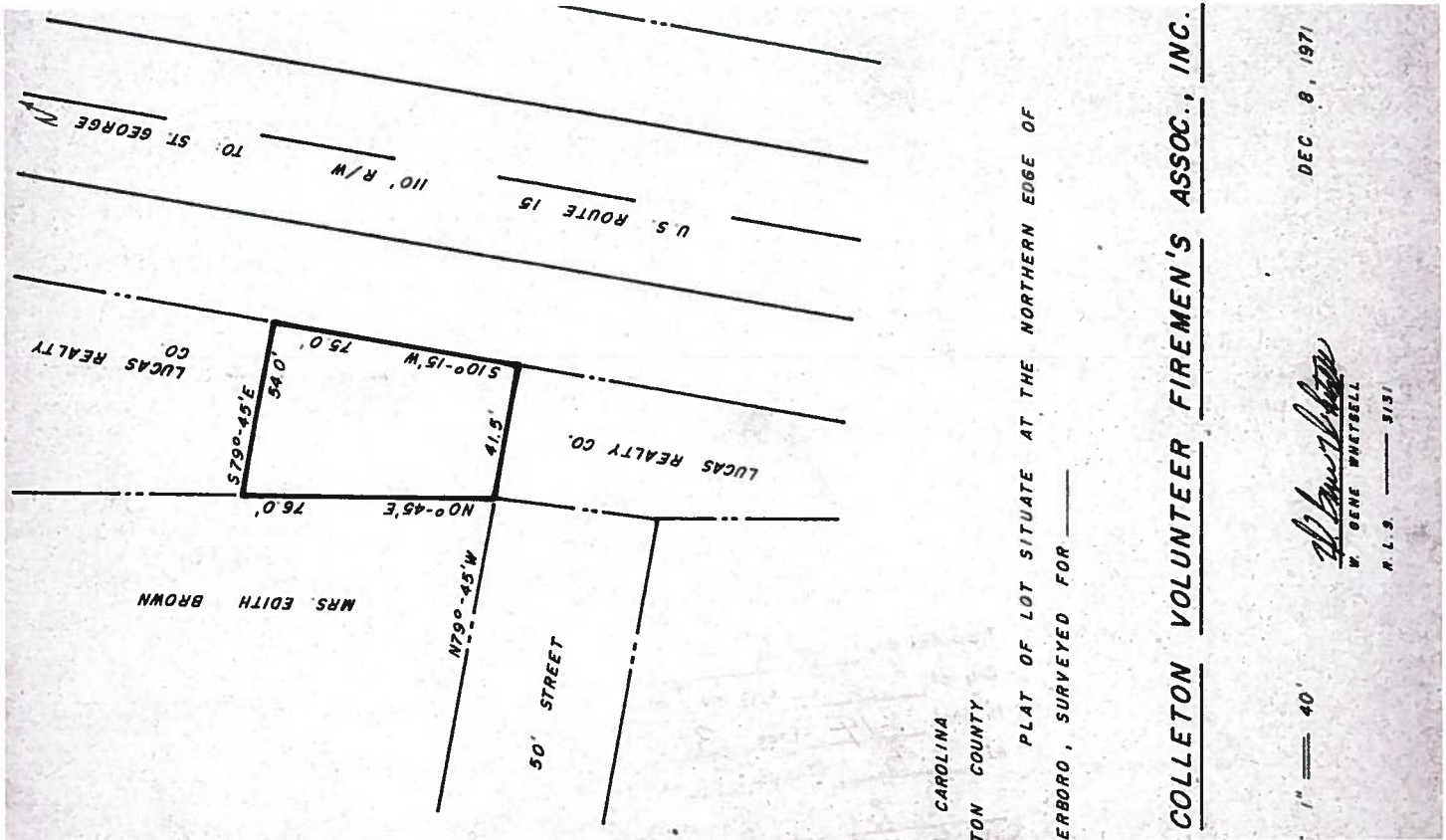
W. L. Rhodes, Jr.,
W. L. Rhodes, Jr., Resident Judge
14th Judicial Circuit

Hampton, South Carolina
January 30th, 1974

ON MOTION OF:

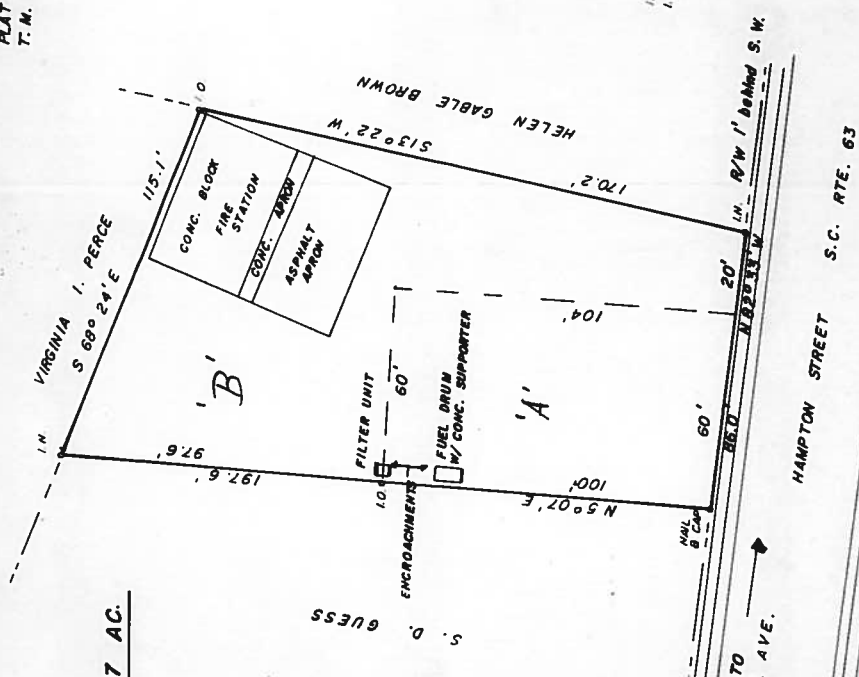
SMOAK, HOWELL, BRIDGE & MOODY

By: William T. Howell
William T. Howell
Attorney for Plaintiff



MRS. A. B. BROWN MADE US GIVE IT BACK

REF:
DEED BOOK 306, PG
PLAT BOOK 11, PG 154
T.M. 4/63 - 12-00-16



CAROLINA
ON COUNTY

PLAT OF A LOT SITUATED IN THE
CITY OF WALTERBORO. SURVEYED FOR -

COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

JANUARY 19
NO ENCROA
EASEMENTS
THAN SHOWN

90' (D.M.D.)
40' 60' 60'

Robert L. Hiers
ROBERT L. HIERS
R.L.S. - 4551

PLAT OF PROPERTY AT 421 HAMPTON STREET

I. NAME OF BORROWER:
Colleton Rural Fire Department
By: Wayne Walker-Fire Chief &
Ashton Syfrett-Assn. Head

E. NAME OF SELLER:
Glen Strickland and
Ray Crooks

F. NAME (First, Middle, Last):
First, Middle, Last

H. SETTLEMENT AGENT:
A.A. Zipperer, III
PLACE OF SETTLEMENT:
Walterboro, S.C.

J. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION:		K. SUMMARY OF SETTLER'S TRANSACTION:	
100. GROSS AMOUNT DUE FROM BORROWER		400. GROSS AMOUNT DUE TO	
101. Contract sales price	55,000.00	401. Contract sales price	
102. Personal property		402. Personal property	
103. Settlement charges to borrower (line 1400)	120.00	403.	
104.		404.	
105.		405.	

106. Adjustments for items paid by seller in advance		406. City/town taxes	
107. City/town taxes to		407. County taxes	
108. County taxes to		408. Assessments	
109. Assessments to		409.	
110.		410.	
111.		411.	
112.		412.	

120. GROSS AMOUNT DUE FROM BORROWER	55,120.00	420. GROSS AMOUNT DUE TO	
200. AMOUNTS PAID BY OR IN BEHALF OF BORROWER		500. REDUCTIONS IN AMOUNT	
201. Deposit or earnest money		501. Excess deposit (see Instru	
202. Principal amount of new loan(s)	40,000.00	502. Settlement charges to settle	
203. Existing loan(s) taken subject to		503. Existing loan(s) taken sub	
204.		504. Payoff of first mortgage loa	
205.		505. Payoff of second mortgage	
206. 30 day note	27,500.00	506.	
207.		507.	
208.		508.	
209.		509.	

210. Adjustments for items unpaid by seller		510. City/town taxes	
211. City/town taxes to		511. County taxes	
212. County taxes to		512. Assessments	
213. Assessments to		513.	
214.		514.	
215.		515.	
216.		516.	
217.		517.	
218.		518.	
219.		519.	

220. TOTAL PAID BY/FOR BORROWER	67,500.00	520. TOTAL REDUCTION AMO	
300. CASH AT SETTLEMENT FROM OR TO BORROWER		600. CASH AT SETTLEMENT TO	
301. Gross amount due from borrower (line 120)	55,120.00	601. Gross amount due to seller	
302. Less amounts paid by/for borrower (line 220)	(67,500.00)	602. Less reduction amount due	
303. CASH () FROM () TO BORROWER	12,380.00	603. CASH () TO () FROM	

LOAN TO PURCHASE 421 HAMPTON ST. 12/14/84

MANY YEARS PASSED AND WE REALIZED THAT OUR PRESENT LOCATION (ON HAMPTON ST) WORKED PRETTY WELL. ON DECEMBER 14, 1984, WE PURCHASED THIS PROPERTY FROM MR. GLEN STRICKLAND AND MR. JAMES R. GROOMS FOR \$55,000 AND RECIEVED A LOAN FROM FIRST FEDERAL OF WALTERBORO FOR \$40,000 AT THIRTEEN PERCENT INTEREST (13%).

THE FIRST FEW YEARS WERE VERY HARD FOR US FINANCIALLY AS WE REQUESTED ONLY A TEN DOLLAR MEMBERSHIP FOR A RESIDENCE AND VERY LITTLE MORE FOR A BUSINESS. OUR INCOME FOR THE FIRST FOUR YEARS FOLLOWS:

1969	MEMBERSHIPS	5566.00
	DONATIONS	<u>1335.79</u>
		6901.79
1970	MEMBERSHIPS	6251.00
	DONATIONS	<u>213.50</u>
		6464.50
1971	MEMBERSHIPS	6801.50
	DONATIONS	<u>735.00</u>
		7536.50
1972	MEMBERSHIPS	7864.00
	DONATIONS	<u>230.00</u>
		8094.00
TOTAL INCOME 1969-1972		28,996.79
	EXPENSES	26,746.53
	BALANCE 1/1/73	2,250.26

OF COURSE FINANCES WERE NOT THE ONLY PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY OUR ORGANIZATION. THE CITY OF WALTERBORO CONTINUED TO TAKE FIRE CALLS BUT MADE IT HARD FOR US IN OTHER WAYS. THE FIRST INSTANCE WAS IN THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 18, 1969 WHERE FIREMEN BELONGING TO OTHER FIRE DEPARTMENTS WAS DISCUSSED AND IT WAS "DECIDED" THAT FIREMEN COULD BE MEMBERS OF ONLY ONE DEPARTMENT (SEE THE PRESS AND STANDARD ARTICLE)

IT WAS HARD FOR ME TO UNDERSTAND HOW CITY COUNCIL COULD PASS (OCTOBER 1, 1966) A RULING THAT THE CITY WOULD NOT RESPOND OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS AND THEN MAKE IT



DRS. CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH-FIRST MAJOR CRFD SAVE 3/30/70



DAMAGE TO DRS. CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH 3/30/70



PRESIDENT
WELL, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

INSURANCE COMPANY

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

ESTABLISHED 1928

July 2, 1971

The Colleton Volunteer Fireman's Association
c/o Mr. Ashton Syfrett
207 Stark Drive
Walterboro, S. C. 29488

Re: Fire at the Doctor's Creek
Baptist Church, April, 1970

Dear Mr. Syfrett:

We are enclosing a check for \$100.00 as a contribution
for the fine manner in which the Colleton Volunteer Fire
Department handled the above situation.

Many thanks for people like you and other men connected
with the volunteer fire brigades throughout this country
who contribute to the communities where you live with this
fine service.

Sincerely,

SOUTHERN MUTUAL CHURCH INSURANCE COMPANY

Arthur L. Gross, Jr.
Arthur L. Gross, Jr.
President

ALG:rmh

Enclosure



P. O. Box 905 COLUMBIA, S. C. 29202 PHONE 253-6408

MY REPLY TO CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF 2/18/69

Stork Drive
Walterboro, S. C.
February 19, 1969

Members of City Council
242 Hampton Street
Walterboro, S. C.

Gentlemen:

It has been brought to my attention that there has been
a misunderstanding concerning the members of the City Fire
Department responding to calls outside the city limits of
Walterboro. As this was discussed at your regular meeting
February 18, I feel that an explanation may be in order.

At the time I was given the opportunity to assist in
organizing a rural or suburban fire department I informed
the parties involved that the members of the City Department
would be requested to help with training only.

At the present time there are eleven men authorized to
answer rural alarms and only two of those are members of the
City Department. These two City Department members are to
answer rural calls only until a sufficient number of men can
be trained. However, you must realize that there is no way
a City Department member can be restricted from answering a
rural call strictly as a citizen of Colleton County.

At the time a County Fire Department is duly organized
a list of authorized persons will be furnished to the Mayor,
Chief of Police, and City Fire Chief.

I hope this will help clear up a point well taken and
if a like situation would arise, it would be appreciated if
you would let me know.

Yours truly,

Col. Vol. Firemen's Assoc., Inc.

Ashton Syfrett
Ashton Syfrett
President

COPY 1/23/07

THANKS FROM DR'S CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH INS. CO.

HARD FOR DEDICATED VOLUNTEER FIREMEN THAT WERE MAKING AN EFFORT TO HELP THEIR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS. HOWEVER, AT THAT TIME I WAS COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF THE JEALOUSLY THAT EXISTED WITHIN THE CITY ADMINISTRATION. THINGS DO SOMEHOW WORK OUT AS WE CONTINUED TO WORK TOGETHER AND PROVIDE MUTUAL AID WHEN NECESSARY.

OUR FIRST MAJOR FIRE CALL CAME ABOUT 10 AM ON THE MORNING OF MARCH 30, 1970, ONLY A FEW MONTHS AFTER WE HAD RECEIVED OUR NEW PUMPER (OCTOBER 26, 1969). THIS CALL STATED THAT LIGHTNING HAD STRUCK DOCTORS'S CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH AND THAT IT WAS ON FIRE BIG TIME. WE RESPONDED WITH OUR PUMPER, TWO TANKERS, AND REQUESTED HELP FROM THE CITY. WHEN WE WERE ABOUT A MILE ON BELLS HIGHWAY, WE COULD SEE SMOKE AND WE JUST KNEW THIS CHURCH WAS LOST.

HOWEVER, WITHIN ABOUT FIVE MINUTES AFTER WE MADE OUR ATTACK, ONE OF THE FIREMEN CAME TO ME (I WAS OPERATING THE PUMPER) AND STATED THAT THE FIRE WAS OUT. IT IS NO WAY I COULD EVER EXPRESS MY FEELINGS AT THAT TIME. THIS ONE FIRE WAS WORTH ALL OF THE HARD WORK THAT HAD GONE INTO ORGANIZING AND RAISING FUNDS TO PURCHASE OUR PUMPER. THERE WAS SOME SMOKE DAMAGE, VERY LITTLE WATER DAMAGE, AND THE FIRE DAMAGE WAS CONFINED TO ONE ROOM. THE TOTAL DAMAGE WAS LATER ESTIMATED AT SOME \$6000.00.

FOR MANY MONTHS THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF DOCTOR'S CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH WOULD EXPRESS THEIR APPRECIATION AND THAT WAS EVIDENT WHEN ONE OF THEIR MEMBERS FOUND OUT THAT THEIR INSURANCE COMPANY (SOUTHERN MUTURAL CHURCH) HAD NOT EVEN RECOGNIZED OUR EFFORTS. I WAS SOON CONTACTED BY THIS INSURANCE COMPANY AND ON JULY 2, 1971, SOME FIFTEEN MONTHS AFTER THE FIRE, WE RECEIVED A CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100.00.

THE FIRST MUTUAL AID CALL FROM THE CITY FOR OUR HELP CAME ON THE NIGHT OF DECEMBER 7, 1971 (DECEMBER 8, 1971 12:02 AM) AT THE STRIPE STORE ON EAST WASHINGTON STREET WHERE THE WATERFALL IS NOW. WE RESPONDED WITH OUR PUMPER AND TWELVE



OUR FIRST MUTUAL AID TO THE CITY 12/08/71



ACADEMY ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH 1/21/74

FIREMEN AND WERE VERY GLAD TO HAVE BEEN OF ASSISTANCE TO THE CITY.

ONE FIRE LOSS THAT WE ALL DEEPLY REGRETTED WAS THE ACADEMY ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH. ON MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 1974 AT ABOUT 7:30 PM WE RECEIVED A CALL THAT THIS CHURCH WAS BURNING. WE RESPONDED WITH OUR PUMPER, AND TWO TANKERS, AND THE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONDED WITH A PUMPER. HOWEVER, UPON OUR ARRIVAL THIS BUILDING WAS FULLY INVOLVED AND ALREADY A COMPLETE LOSS. THIS BUILDING HAD BEEN CONSTRUCTED AROUND 1912 AND HAD SERVED AS THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN WALTERBORO AND HAD BEEN MOVED FROM HAMPTON STREET SOME EIGHT YEARS BEFORE. SERVICES HAD BEEN HELD ON SUNDAY AND NO ONE SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN THE CHURCH ON MONDAY (SEE ARTICLE FROM THE PRESS & STANDARD 1/24/74).

WE PARTICULARLY REGRETTED THIS LOSS AS WE WERE TOLD THAT THEIR TOTAL MEMBERSHIP WAS ONLY ABOUT A HUNDRED AND THEY HAD JUST PURCHASED AN ORGAN, A NEW PIANO, AND SOME NEW PEWS AND PROBABLY DID NOT ENOUGH INSURANCE TO COVER THEIR LOSS. WE NEVER DETERMINED THE CAUSE OF THIS FIRE OR WHY THERE WAS A FIVE GALLON CAN INSIDE THE BUILDING.

AS WE NOW HAD A WORKING ORGANIZATION WITH WHAT WAS AT THAT TIME ADEQUATE EQUIPMENT WE FELT WE SHOULD SOMEHOW IMPROVE OUR RESPONSE TIME BY BEING ABLE TO CONTACT THE FIREMEN IN A MORE TIMELY WAY. AT THIS TIME THE CITY HAD A LIST OF FIREMEN FROM THE RURAL DEPARTMENT AND WHEN A CALL WAS RECEIVED, THE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT ON DUTY PERSONNEL WOULD CONTACT THE FIRST AVAILABLE PERSON ON THE LIST AND IT WOULD THEN BECOME THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THAT PERSON (RURAL FIREMAN) TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE REST OF THE RURAL FIREMEN. WITH TIME LOST IN RESPONDING TO CALLS IN THIS MANNER I STILL DO NOT UNDERSTAND HOW WE WERE SAVING THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF PROPERTY EVERY MONTH.

EARLY IN 1975 WE RECEIVED WORD THAT THERE WOULD BE SOME FUNDS AVAILABLE UNDER THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1972, ADMINISTERED BY THE S. C. STATE COMMISSION OF

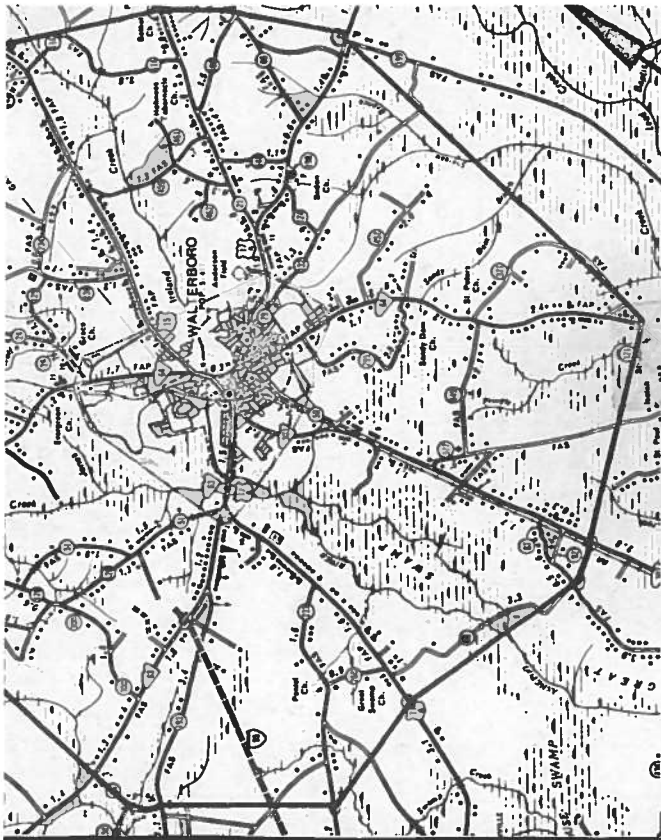
COLLETON
FIRE DEPARTMENT
DISTRICT 1

HOME

549- 7293 ASHTON SYFRETT 5
549- 1207 JACK WRIGHT 5
549- 7096 R.C. THOMPSON 5
549- 2617 JACK MOCK 5
549- 2888 WAYNE KUBIK 5
549- 5317 JAMES WARREN 5
893- 2885 EDDIE ROBINSON 8
549- 1329 DOUG BAZZLE 5
549- 7410 ANDY ANDREWS 5
538- 8529 RICKY LANGDALE 5
538- 8750 C.D. NETTLES 5
549- 1046 STEVE BAZZLE 5
893- 3244 JIMMY WADDEL 5
538- 8248 CLAUDE GIBSON 5
538- 5383 SAM HIOTT 5

NOTE:
SOME OF THE PHONE NUMBERS LISTED ABOVE
ARE PRIVATE, UNLISTED NUMBERS. DO NOT
GIVE ANY NUMBER TO UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL,
WITHOUT PERMISSION.

EARLY FIREMAN CALL LIST (NO PAGERS OR 911 DISPATCH)



NOTICE

Effective November 1,
1969 Fire Protection will
only be available to paid
members of the Colle-
ton Firemen's Associa-
tion, Inc., and only with-
in the area indicated on
the map.

Don't leave your
home unprotected -
join now. Send your
check for \$10 along
with this application

Application For Fire Protection

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____
MAIL TO: _____

Colleton Volunteer Firemen's Association
P. O. Box 795
Walterboro, S. C. 29488

FORESTRY THAT POSSIBLY WOULD HELP US PURCHASE SOME COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT. THIS WOULD BE A MATCHING FUND GRANT (WE WOULD HAVE TO PROVIDE ONE-HALF OF THE FUNDS). THERE WAS NO WAY THAT WE COULD EVEN AFFORD THAT BUT WE APPLIED FOR A GRANT OF \$3000.00 ON MAY 22, 1975, AND WERE NOTIFIED THAT THIS GRANT HAD BEEN APPROVED ON JULY 15, 1975. (SEE LETTER FROM S. C. COMM. OF FORESTRY) WE THEN KNEW WE HAD TO WORK FAST OR WE WOULD LOSE THIS MONEY. I CONTACTED MR. E. R. "TUCK" MCCONNELL, THE CITY MANAGER OF WALTERBORO AT THAT TIME AND WE CAME TO AN AGREEMENT THAT WOULD HELP THE CITY AND THE RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

THE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT WAS ALERTED AT THE TIME OF FIRE BY A SIREN THAT WAS MOUNTED ABOVE THE ROOF OF CITY HALL AND SOME FORTY TELEPHONES THAT RANG SIMULTANEOUSLY AT THE HOME AND BUSINESS OF THE FIREMEN. IF YOU WERE AWAY FROM THE TELEPHONE AND DID NOT HEAR THE SIREN, YOU MISSED THE FIRE.

THE AGREEMENT REACHED BY MYSELF AND MR. MCCONNEL WAS AS FOLLOWS:

1. PAGERS WERE TO BE PURCHASED, 15 FOR CITY USE AND 1 FOR RURAL USE.
2. AN ENCODER (THE EQUIPMENT THAT ACTIVATED THE PAGERS) WOULD BE PURCHASED AND INSTALLED ON THE CITY BASE RADIO AT CITY HALL FOR USE BY BOTH DEPARTMENTS.

THE TOTAL COST OF THIS WOULD BE \$5780.15 WITH THE CITY RECEIVING USE OF \$5454.64 WORTH OF EQUIPMENT FOR \$3000.00. THE DIFFERENCE BEING THE ONE PAGER (\$325.51) TO BE USED BY THE RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT. EVEN THOUGH THE CITY ACTUALLY RECEIVED THE AMOUNT OF \$2454.64 OF OUR GRANT FUNDS, THIS GAVE USE THE USE OF A BASE RADIO AND TONE-OUT CAPABILITY FOR OUR PAGERS. IT WAS A GREAT IMPROVEMENT FOR BOTH DEPARTMENTS WHEN ON JANUARY 13, 1976, THESE PAGERS WERE PUT IN SERVICE.

FOR SOME FIVE YEARS THE RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS GOT ABSOLUTELY NO FUNDS FROM COLLETON COUNTY BUT WERE EXPECTED TO RESPOND TO ANY COUNTY PROPERTY SUCH AS SCHOOLS, MAINTENANCE BUILDINGS, DUMPSTERS, ETC. THIS SOON BECAME A PROBLEM WITH THE VOLUNTEERS WHO WERE ANSWERING THESE CALLS. IN 1973 WE MADE CONTACT



South Carolina State Commission of Forestry

JOHN R. TILLER, STATE FORESTER

P. O. BOX 21767, COLUMBIA, S. C. 29221

July 15, 1975

Mr. Ashton Syfrett
Colleton Volunteer Fireman's Association
Box 795
Walterboro, South Carolina 29488

Dear Mr. Syfrett:

Your application for matching funds under Title IV of the Rural Development Act of 1972 has been received and reviewed by this office. We have indicated in the space below the amount of Federal Funding approved for your department(s). This means that the Federal share amount indicated will have to be matched by the same amount of money by your department(s).

We have attached a list of equipment that has been approved for you to purchase. You should take this list of equipment, find the best purchase price for the items you need and order these items. We have enclosed a list of dealers who supply fire apparatus and supplies. There may be other dealers you know about, and you certainly may order from them.

We will send you an advance payment. Therefore, you should fill out two copies of the enclosed A.D. Form 628 and send one copy to this office along with a copy of your equipment order. An example showing how this form should be completed is enclosed for your information. You should keep one copy of the A.D. Form 62 for your files. Please try and mail these items to us by July 25, 1975.

In accordance with Federal Guidelines regarding expenditures of Title IV Funds, items you purchase utilizing Federal Funds are not to be sold, traded, disposed of until their value has depreciated to scrap. You should also keep a copy of all forms, orders, correspondence, bills, etc. in your files.

We are happy that this program could be of assistance to you. If you have any questions concerning the program or any problem with completing the Form A.D. 628, please feel free to contact me or J. T. Hance here at our Columbia Office and we will be happy to assist you. Our phone number here at this office is 758-2261.

Federal Share approved

\$ 3000.00

Communication Equipment

Very truly yours,

William B. Lawrence, Jr.
William B. Lawrence, Jr.

Fire Control Assistant

WBL:mds



Voice Alert Pager



Charger/Amplifier

CITY & RURAL PAGERS PUT IN SERVICE 1/13/76

GRANT THAT MADE CITY & RURAL PAGERS POSSIBLE

WITH SENATOR J. P. HARRELSON AND MADE HIM AWARE THAT WE MAY HAVE TO STOP ANSWERING THESE CALLS AS THE COUNTY DID NOT PAY A MEMBERSHIP AND WOULD NOT HELP US IN ANY WAY (SUCH AS BRINGING US A LOAD OF DIRT TO FILL HOLES IN FRONT OF OUR STATION). IN JUST A FEW DAYS SENATOR HARRELSON CONTACTED ME AND STATED THAT HE WOULD REQUEST SOME REVENUE SHARING FUNDS FOR US BUT WE WOULD HAVE TO ELECT A COMMITTEE FROM ALL FIRE DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED AND WOULD HAVE TO ANSWER ALL CALLS TO COUNTY PROPERTY AND GIVE CONSIDERATION TO ANSWERING CALLS TO HIGHWAY ACCIDENTS (THIS WE WERE DOING ANYWAY). ON SEPTEMBER 20, 1973, A MEETING WAS HELD AT C & S AUTO PARTS (MY BUSINESS) AND THE FOLLOWING WERE ELECTED AS MEMBERS OF THIS FUNDS COMMITTEE:

WALTERBORO DISTRICT-ASHTON SYFRETT

ALFRED ANDREWS

HERMAN (JACK) MOCK

RUFFIN DISTRICT--

JACK BEVERLY

LANDIS CARTER

THESE WERE TO ASSESS THE NEEDS OF EACH FIRE DEPARTMENT AND DECIDE JUST HOW THESE FUNDS WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED. WE DID NOT HAVE TO DISTRIBUTE THEM EQUALLY AS SOME DEPARTMENTS WERE JUST GETTING STARTED AND NEEDED HELP MORE THAN OTHERS. WE RECEIVED \$5000.00 IN 1974 AND AGAIN IN 1975. IT WAS UNREAL HOW MUCH THESE FUNDS HELPED THESE DEPARTMENTS WITH INSURANCE REPAIRS, EQUIPMENT, ETC. WE RECEIVED NO MORE FUNDS FROM COLLETON COUNTY UNTIL ELECTION TIME IN MAY, 1979 WHEN PEDON B. MCLEOD AUTHORIZED ANOTHER \$5000.00 FOR OUR USE. THESE FUNDS (1979) WERE DIVIDED AND CHECKS WERE SENT TO THE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS TO BE USED AS NEEDED.

IT WOULD BE VERY UNFAIR TO LEAVE OUT THE OFFICE OF CIVIL DEFENSE (NOW THE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AGENCY) FOR THEIR HELP IN SECURING SEVERAL GOOD PIECES OF EQUIPMENT. IN MY OPINION, THE MOST UTILIZED PIECE OF EQUIPMENT



"BERTHA" CIVIL DEFENSE TANKER 1974



CIVIL DEFENSE TANKER (JOE HICKMAN, DIRECTOR)

THAT WAS SECURED BY THEM FOR OUR USE WAS "BERTHA". OF COURSE WATER SUPPLY IS ALWAYS A MAJOR CONCERN IN THE RURAL AREAS WHERE THERE ARE NO FIRE HYDRANTS. ONE SUNDAY AFTERNOON IN JUNE OF 1972 I RODE DOWN TO THE CITY OF COOSAWHATCHIE AND STOPPED BY THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. I NOTICED A LARGE TANKER PARKED IN A FIELD AND IT LOOKED ABANDONED. STEVE FRALIN (ONE OF THE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN), HIS WIFE, AND MY SON JIMMY, WERE WITH ME AND WE FELT WE SHOULD CHECK AND SEE IF MAYBE WE COULD SECURE THIS PIECE OF EQUIPMENT FOR OUR USE. I MADE SEVERAL CONTACTS AND FOUND THAT IT WAS ACTUALLY OWNED BY THE CIVIL DEFENSE AND LOANED TO THE COOSAWHATCHIE FIRE DEPARTMENT MANY MONTHS BEFORE. I IMMEDIATELY MADE CONTACT WITH MR. JOE HICKMAN, THE COLLETON COUNTY CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR, AND REQUESTED HIS HELP. AFTER SEVERAL WEEKS OF PHONE CONTACTS, THIS TANKER WAS IN WALTERBORO.

ALL EQUIPMENT OWNED BY CIVIL DEFENSE HAD TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR AND AS I HAD THIS TANKER THE AUDITOR CONTACTED ME IN OCTOBER OF 1973 AND I MET WITH HIM TO VERIFY THAT THIS UNIT WAS BEING USED AS INTENDED. HE (I SURE WISH I KNEW HIS NAME) HAD A GREAT INTEREST IN FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND SPENT A LOT OF TIME WITH US. HE MADE ONE STATEMENT THAT REALLY PAID OFF. "IF I CAN EVER BE OF HELP TO YOU FOLKS, JUST LET ME KNOW". I IMMEDIATELY TOLD HIM WE NEEDED A TRACTOR TO PULL THIS TANKER AND WE WANTED ONE IN GOOD CONDITION. HE SAID THAT HE KNEW OF ONE THAT WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS AND THAT HE WOULD TRY TO SECURE IT FOR US. OF COURSE, I NEVER EXPECTED TO HEAR FROM HIM AGAIN UNTIL THE NEXT EQUIPMENT AUDIT. BUT TO MY SURPRISE, JOE HICKMAN CALLED AND INFORMED ME THAT WE A HAD A TRACTOR BUT IT WAS IN ATLANTA. IN JUNE OF 1974, (I SIGNED FOR IT JUNE 10, 1974) MYSELF, JOE HICKMAN, AND ALFRED ANDREWS LEFT WALTERBORO AT MIDNIGHT AND ARRIVED IN ATLANTA JUST AS THE SURPLUS COMPOUND OPENED. THE ATTENDANT TOLD US THAT THIS WAS A GOOD TRUCK BUT SOMEONE HAD ROBBED THE DISTRIBUTOR CAP. I JUST HAPPENED TO HAVE ONE WITH ME AND WE DROVE THIS TRACTOR BACK TO WALTERBORO. THIS UNIT SERVED THIS COUNTY WELL AND WAS TAKEN OUT OF SERVICE JUST A FEW YEARS AGO.

IN 1974 MR. E. R. "TUCK" MCCONNEL, THE WALTERBORO CITY MANAGER, INFORMED ME THAT ORANGEBURG WAS IN THE PROCESS OF PURCHASING A NEW FIRE ENGINE AND THAT IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS A USED TRUCK MAY BE FOR SALE. MR. HERMAN L. (JACK) MOCK AND MYSELF DROVE TO ORANGEBURG AND WHEN WE SAW THIS PUMPER WE FELT IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR RURAL USE BECAUSE IT HAD A FRONT MOUNTED PUMP THAT WOULD BE GREAT FOR DRAFTING. THIS TRUCK BECAME AVAILABLE TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER ONLY A FEW MONTHS LATER AND WE DID NOT THINK WE HAD A CHANCE OF GETTING IT AS WE ONLY HAD TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS TO SPARE. ANYWAY, WE MADE THEM AN OFFER OF TWO THOUSAND AND TEN DOLLARS AND WE PURCHASED THIS UNIT ON DECEMBER 20, 1974. THE TEN DOLLARS MADE US THE HIGH BIDDER. THIS UNIT SERVED DISTRICT I FOR MANY YEARS AND WAS LATER SOLD TO THE CANADYS DISTRICT. THE PURCHASE OF THIS UNIT MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO TRANSFER A TRUCK (THE FIRST TANKER) TO THE HENDERSONVILLE DISTRICT.

OUR CALLS TO WOODS AND GRASS FIRES, DUMPSTER FIRES, WRECKS, ETC. WERE INCREASING DRASTICALLY AND THE PUMPER THAT HAD BEEN PURCHASED IN OCTOBER OF 1969 WAS BECOMING OVERWORKED. WE NOW HAD EVERYTHING PAID FOR AND HAD A FEW DOLLARS IN THE BANK THAT WAS NOT OBLATED. WE KNEW THAT WE NEEDED ANOTHER PUMPER BUT WE ALSO FELT WE COULD NOT AFFORD IT. ON JANUARY 13, 1976 THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM CARL R. DICKERT CO. OF PIEDMONT, S. C. STOPPED BY MY PLACE OF BUSINESS DRIVING A EMERGENCY ONE MINI-PUMPER AND OFFERED TO GIVE US A DEMONSTRATION THAT NIGHT AS WE HAD A MEETING SCHEDULED. WE FELT THE PURCHASE OF THIS UNIT WOULD SERVE OUR PURPOSE WHERE WOODS FIRES, VEHICLE FIRES, ETC. WERE CONCERNED AND HELP TO KEEP MILES OFF OUR FULL SIZE PUMPER. WE MADE A DOWN PAYMENT OF \$5000.00 AND SECURED A LOAN FOR \$11320.00 AND GAVE THE SALES REPRESENTATIVE FROM CARL R. DICKERT CO. A RIDE HOME THE NEXT DAY. THAT WAS PROBABLY HIS EASIEST SALE OF THE YEAR BUT THAT MINI-PUMPER SERVED OUR NEEDS FOR MANY YEAR AND WAS LATER SOLD TO THE RUFFIN DISTRICT. THIS PURCHASE ALLOWED US TO TRANSFER ANOTHER TANKER TO THE HENDERSONVILLE DISTRICT.



DIST. 1'S (WALTERBORO) SECOND PUMPER



DIST. 1'S (WALTERBORO) MINI-PUMPER

AT THE VERY BEGINNING ONE OF OUR GOALS WAS TO GET A LOWER INSURANCE RATING FOR ALL PROPERTY SERVED BY OUR DISTRICT. THIS WAS VERY DIFICULT AS WE HAD TO AGREE TO ANSWER ALL CALLS IN OUR COVERAGE AREA IN ORDER TO QUALIFY. WE HAD APPROXIMATELY ONE-HALF OF THE PROPERTY COVERED WITH OUR MEMBERSHIP PLAN IN 1975, AND HAD A GOOD WORKING ORGANIZATION. IT WAS A VERY DIFFICULT DECISION BUT WE AGREED TO ANSWER ALL CALLS IN ORDER TO SECURE LOWER INSURANCE PREMIUMS FOR OUR MEMBERS AND FELT THAT MAYBE THIS WOULD GET OTHER PROPERTY OWNERS TO JOIN WITH US. WE THEREFORE, JULY 8, 1975, CONTACTED MR. RONALD C. SELF WITH THE INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE (ISO) IN COLUMBIA AND INFORMED HIM THAT WE WERE NOW RESPONDING TO ALL CALLS WITHIN OUR DISTRICT. IN A LETTER TO ME DATED AUGUST 15, 1975, STATED THAT WE HAD RECIEVED OUR CLASSIFICATION. THIS WAS GREAT, WE KNEW WE COULD NOW SAVE THE PROPERTY OWNERS MUCH MORE THAN THE MEMBERSHIP CHARGES WITH THE DECREASE IN INSURANCE PREMIUMS. WE WERE TO HAVE A PROTECTION CLASS 8 WITHIN THREE MILES OF OUR STATION AND 1000 FEET OF A FIRE HYDRANT. PROTECTION CLASS 9 WOULD APPLY WITHIN THREE MILES OF THE STATION WITHOUT A FIRE HYDRANT AND OVER THREE MILES WITH OR WITHOUT A HYDRANT WOULD BE CLASS 9A. INSURANCE AGENTS STRONGLY OBJECTED TO THIS AS LOWERING THE INSURANCE RATES LOWERED THEIR COMMISSIONS. IN A SHORT TIME WE REALIZED THAT MANY AGENTS WERE WRITING LOWER PREMIUMS TO PROPERTY OWNERS THAT DID NOT HAVE OUR COVERAGE. AS THE WORD REACHED OUR RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS THAT YOU WOULD GET THE INSURANCE PREMIUM REDUCTION EVEN IF THEY HAD NOT PAID DUES TO OUR ORGANIZATION, OUR CASH FLOW BEGAN TO DECREASE AND WE LOST MANY OF OUR LONG TIME MEMBERS. INFLATION ALSO WAS HURTING OUR ORGANIZATION AND WE DID NOT WISH TO INCREASE THE MEMBERSHIP DUES. WE WERE ANSWERING MORE CALLS EVERY YEAR AND EVERYTHING THAT WE PURCHASED WAS COSTING US MORE AND MORE EACH YEAR. WE KNEW WE HAD TO DO SOMETHING TO STAY IN BUSINESS, BUT WE HAD FEW OPTIONS.

THE CITY OF WALTERBOR OBJECTED TO US RECEIVING THE CLASS 8 RATING BY USING FIRE HYDRANTS OWNED BY THE CITY AND AGAIN THE DISPATCHING THE CITY WAS DOING FOR US



INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

P. O. BOX 202
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29202
TELEPHONE (803) 776-8370

August 15, 1975

HARLES E. KOON, CPCU
MANAGER

Honorable Ashton Syfrett, Chief, District 1
Colleton County Rural Fire Department
P. O. Box 795
Walterboro, South Carolina 29488

Fire Protection Classification
Colleton County Rural Fire Department, Inc.
District 1 - Walterboro Station
Colleton County, South Carolina

Greetings Chief Syfrett:

The inspection report on recent inspection of your facilities has been reviewed and the results are favorable.

Based upon data received and our engineering report, we are glad to announce assignment of Protection Class 8 to District 1 for the three (3) mile response area and Class 9A for the five (5) mile response area. No change is made in District 3 - Lodge, which remains Class 9A. The other departments must comply with further recommendations; hence, Class 10 continues for that area.

Enclosed with our letter is a copy of bulletin and map announcing the classification change. Congratulations to your district in successfully concluding organization of these facilities. We share with you this pride and express appreciation given to our personnel.

Sincerely yours,

INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

Charles E. Koon

Charles E. Koon, CPCU
Manager

cek:vb
encl.

CRFD RECEIVES FIRST INSURANCE CLASSIFICATION

April 21, 1976

Mr. I. E. Reeves, Jr.
Supervisor, Pricing Services
Insurance Services Office
P. O. Box 202
Columbia, S. C. 29202

Dear Mr. Reeves:

At a recent meeting, City Council reaffirmed its policy regarding fire hydrants located outside the city limits. That policy is that fire hydrants outside of the corporate limits may be used by the Water Department for flushing lines and by the Colleton Rural Fire Department for filling the water tanks on their trucks. No other use may be made of these hydrants. This precludes the possibility of connecting a pumper truck to one of the hydrants to fight a fire.

It is also City policy that our Fire Department does not answer calls outside of the city limits even though the call may be within a thousand (1000') feet of a hydrant. Therefore, any property located outside of the city limits should in no way benefit from being within a thousand (1000') feet of a hydrant. Only when requested by the Colleton Rural Fire Department under our mutual aid agreement will the City of Walterboro Fire Department cross the city limit lines.

We have ceased installing hydrants outside of the city limits and will gradually remove the existing hydrants as the need for them occurs within the city.

Some property owners have received a Class Eight rating because they were within a thousand (1000') feet of a hydrant. This has caused problems for both the Colleton Rural Fire Department and the City of Walterboro Fire Department. By this letter, we are requesting that you change the rate structure to reflect the above stated policies of City Council.

If you need further information or if we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to call me.

Yours truly,

E. R. "Tuck" McConnell
E. R. "Tuck" McConnell
City Manager

W. Harry Cone
Chief Harry Cone
Walterboro Fire Dept.

Ashton Syfrett
Chief Ashton Syfrett
Colleton Rural Fire Dept.

CITY--NO USE OF HYDRANTS FOR FIREFIGHTING

CITY OF WALTERBORO

CITY HALL

MEMO

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: Colleton County Rural Fire District No. 1's Request

Ashton Syfrett, who is responsible for all rural fire protection for Colleton County, has requested that the City take over the responsibility for the Rural Fire Department District No. 1 area in name only. Chief Cook, Ken Davis, and I have discussed this at length and have talked with the Insurance Service Office (Rating Bureau) and provide to you the following information:

PROBLEM: In order to obtain a Class 9 rating for those people living outside the city limits of Walterboro, the Rural Fire Department had to agree in writing that they would answer all calls in the District regardless if the property owner was a member of District 1 or not. This means that everyone in the District gets the same fire rating whether or not they contribute to the support of the Rural Fire Department. Additionally, those houses located within 1,000 feet of one of our fire hydrants gets an additional break on their fire insurance to a Class 8. Because the people in the area realize that they will get a reduced rating whether or not they pay an annual fee to the District, the District is having difficulty obtaining members. The current charge is \$12.00 per year. Any increase in this fee might further decrease the number of people who will pay the fee and could result in a net loss. In order to increase membership and to give a reduced rating to those county residents who pay the annual fee, some type of contract system must be utilized and this can only be done by a recognized governmental body which offers fire protection such as the City of Walterboro.

SOLUTION AS PROPOSED BY THE RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT: According to the I.R.O.'s rating schedule, the only way to provide a fire insurance rate reduction to only those persons contributing to the Rural Fire Department is for the City of Walterboro to extend its fire protection to encompass the entire district. This district extends out from the city limits approximately five (5) miles. It has been proposed that the City accept the responsibility in name only. As proposed, the Rural Fire Department would continue to operate just as it does now, however, they would have to sell all of their equipment to the City for a nominal fee. The rural volunteers would continue to answer all the calls outside of the City. Those county residents who purchased a contract from the City would be given a Class 7 rating if they are within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant or a Class 9 if located elsewhere. Commercial establishments would get no break whatsoever. The Rural Fire Department would answer all calls in the area as they do now even though the home owners might not have purchased a contract. However, only those with a contract would receive the reduced fire rating.

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PROBLEMS THIS COULD CAUSE THE CITY OF WALTERBORO:

1. Even though we would have it understood between the City Fire Department and the Rural Fire Department that this was only a paper transaction, legally the City of Walterboro would be responsible for anything that might come up as a result of a fire in this district.
2. While this is done in other areas, it would make the City of Walterboro a party to subterfuge in that we would, in effect, be telling the insurance companies that we are providing municipal volunteer fire protection to this area when in fact, we would not be doing this.
3. The City would be cutting its throat in regard to annexation. Many of the houses in these areas most likely to be annexed would be located within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant and would be receiving a Class 7 rating. This is the same rating that the City residents enjoyed up until the spring of 1977 when our rating was reduced to a Class 5. The City would be subsidizing the home owners in these areas who would find it less attractive to join the City.
4. In order for the City to maintain its Class 5 rating and to agree, even on paper, to provide suburban protection, the City would have to add another engine company with six (6) men on duty to service it. The engine company requirements could be fulfilled by utilizing the trucks the Rural Fire Department now owns. However, the requirement to have six (6) men on duty can only be filled by having eighteen (18) active volunteers or six (6) full-time firemen, or any combination thereof. Additionally, the burden of proof would be on the City to keep sufficient records to prove to I.R.O. that between nine (9) and twelve (12) firemen actually answered every fire call outside the city limits.
5. Should the City actually take over the Fire District, we have estimated that it would require an expenditure of between \$50,000.00 to \$75,000.00 to service this area in the same manner as we operate the City Fire Department.
6. There are approximately 1,500 homes in this area. If you estimate that half of these would purchase a contract, the contract would have to cost more than \$69.00 per year in order to break even. Even if you consider the lowest minimum, the contract would have to cost in excess of \$30.00 per year in order to raise \$25,000.00 to operate the department. If this was done, I would anticipate a great negative reaction on the part of those people who are not getting fire protection for \$12.00 per year or, in some cases, for nothing. A typical reaction might be, "That's just like the gas tax." When the volunteers did it, it cost \$12.00 a year. Now that the City has it the rates have tripled."

CITY'S RESPONSE FOR MERGER

CITY'S RESPONSE FOR MERGER

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OPTIONS:

1. The City can accept the proposal of the Rural Fire Department.
2. Because of a lack of funds, the Rural Fire Department can cease to operate.
3. A special taxing district could be set up whereby a millage is applied to all property under the protection of the Rural Fire Department. This would allow them to answer all calls in the area and pay for it through County taxes in the same manner as the City Fire Department is supported. It is estimated that this would require a tax increase of between nine (9) to twenty (20) mills. Politically, this proposal probably hasn't got a chance.
4. The Rural Fire Department can drop its policy whereby it answers all calls in its District. This would mean that the Rural Fire Department would respond only to calls from houses that had paid the annual fee. Those home owners who did not think enough of their property to pay the annual fee would not have their home protected and the department would not respond. Except for the fact that firemen don't like to watch houses burn, this appears to be the best solution at this time.

CONCLUSION: We think the Rural Fire Department is a dedicated group of volunteers which perform necessary services in an excellent manner. As you know, the City has not charged the Rural Fire Department for water use, dispatching services, and related items. We provide back-up for any major fires the Rural Fire Department may have and they do the same for us. However, our responsibility is to the citizens of Walterboro and to its orderly growth. Anything that will inhibit this growth should be avoided. If there is any way we can assist the Rural Fire Department with its problem without hurting our selves, we feel it should be done. However, we would hope you would not agree to this proposal in its present form.

CITY'S RESPONSE FOR MERGER

WAS HELD OVER OUR HEADS. ON APRIL 21, 1976 A LETTER WAS PREPARED BY THE CITY (WHICH I WAS "REQUESTED" TO SIGN) THAT REQUESTED THE CLASS 8 RATING BE TERMINATED. THIS WAS DONE AND ALL PROPERTY RATED CLASS 8 RETURNED TO CLASS 9 OR 9A.

IN SEPTEMBER OF 1977 I MET WITH THE CITY MANAGER OF WALTERBORO, MR. E. R. "TUCK" MCCONNEL AND TOLD HIM OUR PROBLEM WITH FINANCES (A MEMBERSHIP FOR A RESIDENCE WAS TWELVE DOLLARS) AND ASKED IF MAYBE THE CITY COULD HELP US BY INTERGRATING THE TWO DEPARTMENTS (ON PAPER ONLY). I FELT THIS ARRANGEMENT MAY ALSO HELP THE CITY AS IT WOULD GIVE THEM MORE VOLUNTEERS AND EQUIPMENT. HOWEVER, BY MEMO TO THE CITY COUNCIL DATED SEPTEMBER 23, 1977. THIS WAS ALSO REJECTED.

EARLY IN 1977 OUR SENATOR WILLIAM T. HOWELL AND REPRESENTATIVE PEDON B. MCLEOD WERE CONTACTED CONCERNING OUR PROBLEM OF FINANCING RURAL FIRE PROTECTION. THE WALTERBORO (DISTRICT I) WAS STILL IN THE BLACK BUT SOME OF THE OTHER DISTRICTS HAD ALL BUT CEASED TO EXIST AND THIS WAS NOT GOOD. I PERSONALLY MET WITH MR. RONALD SELF AND WENT TO EVERY DISTRICT AND WAS INFORMED OF JUST WHAT IT WOULD TAKE TO GET AN INSURANCE REDUCTION FOR THAT DISTRICT. I FELT THE ONLY WAY FOR THE RURAL FIRE DISTRICTS TO CONTINUE WAS TO BE TAX SUPPORTED AND IF THE PROPERTY OWNERS WERE TO BE TAXED THEY SHOULD GET A REDUCTION IN INSURANCE PREMIUMS.

MR. LEON LANGLEY (WHO TO THIS DAY CONTINUES TO BE ONE OF MY MOST TRUSTED FRIENDS) WAS EMPLOYED BY THE CLEMSON UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE AND WAS ASSIGNED TO THE LOCAL LOWCOUNTRY RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (RC&D). PART OF HIS ASSIGNED DUTIES WAS TO HELP US IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE. THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH WORDS TO EXPRESS MY THANKS TO HIM, NOT ONLY FOR HIS GENUINE INTEREST IN THE FIRE SERVICE BUT FOR BEING MY FRIEND WHEN THINGS GOT ROUGH. WE SPENT UNTOLD HOURS COMPILING INFORMATION FOR THE TEN FIRE DISTRICTS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE TO INSURE ALL PROPERTY OWNERS IN COLLEEN COUNTY WOULD RECEIVE THE BENEFITS OF FIRE PROTECTION AS WELL AS INSURANCE PREMIUM REDUCTIONS. THIS INFORMATION WAS TO BE PRESENTED TO OUR COUNTY DELE-

ESTIMATED 10 YEAR BUDGET FOR RURAL FIRE DISTRICTS IN COLLETON COUNTY

<u>District 1</u> Walterboro	
Building	25,000
Truck	33,000
Maintenance	15,000
Insurance	15,000
	<u>88,000</u>

<u>District 2</u> Jacksonboro	
Building (add.)	5,000
Truck	33,000
Maintenance	10,000
Insurance	7,000
Communications	6,000
	<u>61,000</u>

<u>District 3</u> Lodge	
Building	17,000
Truck	33,000
Maintenance	10,000
Insurance	8,000
Communications	6,000
	<u>74,000</u>

<u>District 4</u> Ruffin	
Building	17,000
Truck	33,000
Maintenance	10,000
Insurance	8,000
Communications	6,000
	<u>74,000</u>

<u>District 5</u> Canadys	
Truck	33,000
Maintenance	10,000
Insurance	8,000
Communications	6,000
	<u>57,000</u>

<u>District 6</u> Green Pond	
Building	17,000
Truck	33,000
Maintenance	10,000
Insurance	7,000
Communications	6,000
	<u>73,000</u>

<u>District 7</u> Smoaks	
Truck	33,000
Maintenance	5,000
Insurance	5,000
Communications	6,000
	<u>49,000</u>

<u>District 8</u> Hendersonville	
Building	17,000
Truck	33,000
Maintenance	10,000
Insurance	8,000
Add sheds	1,000
Communications	6,000
	<u>75,000</u>

<u>District 9</u> Cottageville	
Building	17,000
Truck	33,000
Maintenance	10,000
Insurance	8,000
Communications	6,000
	<u>74,000</u>

<u>District 10</u> Islandton	
Building	17,000
Truck	33,000
Maintenance	10,000
Insurance	8,000
Communications	6,000
	<u>74,000</u>

PUBLIC WORKS ALLOCATIONS DISAPPOINT LOCAL OFFICIALS

Economic Development Administration (EDA) allocations to Lowcountry governments under Round II of the Local Public Works Act have left some municipal and county governments confused, upset and penniless.

According to information from EDA, the city of Beaufort is the only jurisdiction in the Lowcountry which will receive funds under the newly enacted \$4 billion program. That allocation is approximately \$1.2 million. Other governments were apparently hurt by projects which were funded in Round I of Public Works a few months ago.

Still, however, there are amazing discrepancies between the guidelines published earlier by EDA and the manner in which allocations were actually arrived at. The most glaring example involves Jasper County, which received no Round II allocation despite having an unemployment rate greater than 11 per cent. Allocations were to be based both on number of unemployed and percentage of unemployment, with the amount of any project approved in Round I then deducted from the Round II allocation.

Colleton and Hampton Counties received allocations of only \$220,000 and \$72,000 respectively. However, a \$560,000 project approved in Round I knocked Colleton County's allocation down to zero. Hampton County governments, on the other hand, apparently fell victim to a Round II rule that no project under \$75,000 would be allowed. Beaufort County, too, had received a Round II allocation, but that was also erased by a project approved in Round I.

Lowcountry Council of Governments Economic Development Director John Mann will be notifying local governments of more information as it becomes available.

STATE COMMITTEE WRAPS UP TITLE XX FUNDING

The state government has decided its final FY '78 Title XX allocations for social service agencies in the Lowcountry. The allocations were handed down by the State Social Services Advisory Committee following recommendations from the Lowcountry Council of Governments and the S.C. Department of Social Service.

In addition to Title XX funds administered by local DSS offices, other Lowcountry and state agencies will receive more than \$1.7 million to provide social services to citizens of this region. These funds are broken down as follows:

child care	\$744,476	legal services	\$51,000
mental retardation	258,914	speech and hearing	49,549
life skills education	128,967	substance abuse	45,573
transportation	116,667	home health services	37,589
vocational rehab.	67,883	homemaker services	15,000
family planning	64,064	employment services	4,232
mental health	63,727	recreation	1,929
adult day care	63,727		

LOWCOUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BEAUFORT • COLLETON • HAMPTON • JASPER

THIS TOOK MANY HOURS-ALL FOR NOTHING

THIS \$220,000 COULD HAVE BUILT FIRE STATIONS

GATION AND BOARD OF ADMINISTRATORS IN 1977. I MAY LIVE TO BE A HUNDRED BUT I WILL NEVER FORGET SEEING THE BACK OF OUR SENATOR WILLIAM T. HOWELL AS HE WALKED OUT BEFORE WE COULD PRESENT OUR PLAN. EVEN THOUGH WE DID HAVE THE SUPPORT OF SEVERAL OF THE ADMINISTRATORS, OUR HOURS OF HARD WORK WENT FOR NOTHING.

THE NEXT GRANT THAT WAS APPLIED FOR WAS FROM THE LOWCOUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS. THIS MONEY WAS REQUESTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUILDING A FIRE STATION FOR EACH FIRE DISTRICT IN COLLETON COUNTY. MR. LEON LANGLEY OF THE RC&D RC&D AND MYSELF WORKED FOR SEVERAL WEEKS IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS GRANT APPLICATION AND THE AMOUNT OF \$220,000.00 WAS APPROVED FOR COLLETON COUNTY. HOWEVER, THE COUNTY DELEGATION HAD TO REQUEST THESE FUNDS BY LETTER. THE DELEGATION AT THAT TIME WAS SENATOR WILLIAM T. HOWELL, REPRESENTATIVE PEDON B. MCLEOD, AND COUNTY SUPERVISOR THOMAS FENNELL. MR. HOWELL AND MR. MCLEOD REFUSED TO SIGN A SIMPLE LETTER REQUESTING THESE FUNDS AND STATING THAT THEY BE USED TO BUILD FIRE STATIONS. MR. FENNELL HAD JUST BEEN ELECTED AND HAD TO FOLLOW THE DESIRES OF THE REST OF THE DELEGATION. THEREFORE, COLLETON COUNTY LOST A GRANT OF SOME \$220,000.00.

I KNEW THIS MONEY WAS DIVERTED TO THE CITY OF WALTERBORO, BUT IT WAS SEVERAL YEARS LATER THAT I WAS TOLD THESE FUNDS WERE USED TO ERECT THE DEAN WORK CENTER (CITY SHOP) LOCATED ON ROBERTSON BLVD. AND MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SEWER SYSTEM.

NEEDLESS TO SAY, THIS TOOK SOME OF MY ENTHUSIASM AWAY WHERE PROMOTING RURAL FIRE PROTECTION WAS CONCERNED AS I FELT I WAS DONATING EVERY BIT OF MY SPARE TIME AND OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS (COUNTY DELEGATION) WERE NOT CONCERNED.

HOWEVER, DUE TO THE SUCCESS OF DISTRICT 1, THERE WAS A LOT OF INTEREST CREATED IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTY AND EVERY TIME ANY AREA SHOWED A SINCERE INTEREST IN ORGANIZING A FIRE DEPARTMENT, WE DID EVERYTHING WE COULD TO HELP.

JACKSONBORO--DISTRICT 2

THERE HAD BEEN A FIRE IN JACKSONBORO WHERE THERE WERE LIVES LOST AND THIS MADE THE RESIDENTS REALIZE THAT SOME TYPE OF FIRE PROTECTION WAS NEEDED. A GROUP OF INTERESTED CITIZENS FROM THE JACKSONBORO AREA MET IN EARLY 1970 (I DO NOT HAVE THE EXACT DATE) AND THE FOLLOWING WERE ELECTED: JAMES E. BESSINGER, CHAIRMAN, H. B. HUDSON, CO-CHAIRMAN, J. L. MCMILLAN, TREASURER, H. B. HUDSON, SECRETARY, WITH S. G. DREW, MOSES GIBSON, DICKIE GODLEY, BOB HUNTER, FLETCHER MOODY, REV. JAMES RILEY, AND JOE WASHINGTON. THIS WAS THE FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE JACKSONBORO DISTRICT (COLLETON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2).

IN SEPTEMBER OF 1969 WHEN THE WALTERBORO DISTRICT RECEIVED A SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCK FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN COLUMBIA, WE WERE ALSO ABLE TO SECURE A 1962 DODGE TANK FOR USE ANYWHERE IN COLLETON COUNTY. THIS UNIT WAS GIVEN TO JACKSONBORO. I ALWAYS WONDERED IF I DID JACKSONBORO A FAVOR BY SECURING THIS TRUCK FOR THEM AS IT WAS A PIECE OF JUNK IN MY OPINION. THEY INSTALLED A PUMP, HOSE, AND PAINTED IT RED (PAINT SURE COVERED A LOT) AND IT SERVED THE JACKSONBORO AREA FOR MANY YEARS.

MR. JAMES E. BESSENGER BECAME THE FIRST CHIEF AND WORKED UNCEASINGLY FOR MANY YEARS IN AN EFFORT TO HAVE ADEQUATE FIRE PROTECTION FOR JACKSONBORO. AS OF DECEMBER 1, 1975 MR. BESSENGER RESIGNED AND MR. J. L. MCMILLAN BECAME THE CHIEF. IT WAS MANY YEARS BEFORE JACKSONBORO HAD, IN MY OPINION, A GOOD WORKING ORGANIZATION DUE TO LACK OF INTEREST BY MOST OF THE POPULATION AND TO THE LIMITED NUMBER OF RESIDENTS IN THE AREA SERVED. ONLY RECENTLY DID THE INTEREST INCREASE TO THE POINT THAT I FELT THERE WAS ADEQUATE FIRE PROTECTION IN THE JACKSONBORO AREA.

LODGE--DISTRICT 3

WHEN THE WALTERBORO DISTRICT RECEIVED THEIR PUMPER IN OCTOBER OF 1969, WE NEEDED SOME 2 1/2" HOSE AND OF COURSE WE HAD NO MONEY. WE WERE TOLD THAT LODGE HAD BEEN ABLE TO GET SEVERAL HUNDRED FEET OF HOSE DONATED BUT HAD NO USE FOR IT



JACKSONBORO (DIST. 2) FIRST TRUCK



JACKSONBORO'S FIRST FIRE STATION

AS THEY DID NOT HAVE A FIRE TRUCK. I CONTACTED THE MAYOR OF LODGE, MR. W. C. KNOWLES, AND ASKED TO BORROW THIS HOSE UNTIL OUR FINANCES WERE BETTER. PERMISSION WAS GRANTED AND WE USED THIS HOSE FOR SEVERAL YEARS. OF COURSE. WE FELT LODGE WOULD NEVER NEED THIS HOSE BACK AND WE JUST KNEW THIS WAS A PURCHASE WE WOULD NOT NEED TO MAKE. ONE DAY WHEN EVERYTHING SEEMED TO BE GOING JUST RIGHT, I RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM MAYOR KNOWLES STATING THAT LODGE HAD BOUGHT A FIRE TRUCK AND THEY WANTED THEIR HOSE BACK. I SURE HAD MIXED FEELINGS OVER THAT PHONE CALL AS I WAS GLAD LODGE WAS TRYING TO START A FIRE DEPARTMENT BUT I SURE DIDN'T WANT TO GIVE THEM THEIR HOSE. I HONESTLY DO NOT REMEMBER HOW WE HANDLED THIS, BUT I GAINED MANY FRIENDS IN THE LODGE DISTRICT WITHIN THE NEXT FEW YEARS AND MANY OF THEM CONTINUE TO BE MY FRIEND TO THIS DAY.

SOMETIME IN MARCH OF 1971 SOME OF THE LODGE FIREMEN HEARD THAT I HAD ANOTHER SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCK THAT WE WERE NOT USING AND IMMEDIATELY THEY WANTED TO GET THIS UNIT FOR LODGE. THIS WAS A GOOD TRUCK AND I WAS GLAD FOR IT TO BE USED IN LODGE. THEY CAME TO WALTERBORO AND TOOK POSSESSION OF THIS TRUCK ON APRIL 9, 1971.

THIS WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE LODGE FIRE DEPARTMENT (COLLETON RURAL, DIST. 3). THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THAT TIME WAS: CHARLES BISHOP, FRANK JUMPER, A. P. CARTER, RALPH CONNELLY, AND FRANCIS JONES. THE FIREMEN WERE TO BE CHARLES BISHOP, FRANCIS JONES, FRANK JUMPER, ALEX CARTER, LARRY CARTER, MICKEY JONES, WAYNE ACKERMAN, JOE CARTER, AND RICHARD CARTER.

MR. FRANK JUMPER BECAME THE FIRST CHIEF AND WORKED MANY LONG AND HARD HOURS TRYING TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FIRE PROTECTION WITH LIMITED RESOURCES. AS MANY OF THE FIRST FIREMEN ARE STILL MEMBERS OF THIS DEPARTMENT. I FEEL THERE WAS AND STILL IS A LOT OF COMMUNITY INTEREST WHERE THE FIRE SERVICE IS CONCERNED. THIS DEPARTMENT HAD GOOD AND BAD YEARS BUT AS OF THIS DATE THIS DEPARTMENT IS DOING GREAT MAINLY BECAUSE OF A GRANT THAT BUILT A NEW STATION AND PURCHASED A NEW PUMPER.



LODGE'S (DIST. 3) FIRST PUMPER



LODGE'S FIRST TANKER

RUFFIN--DISTRICT 4

A LITTLE REMEMBERED FACT WAS THAT MR. T. H. HYDRICK. SR. WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FIRST MEETING TO DISCUSS FIRE PROTECTION FOR THE RUFFIN AREA. I DO NOT REMEMBER JUST WHAT PROMPTED THIS BUT MR. HYDRICK AND MYSELF HAD BEEN FRIENDS FOR MANY YEARS AND HE HAD BEEN FOLLOWING THE PROGRESS OF THE RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS. WE DECIDED TO ADVERTISE A MEETING IN ORDER TO KNOW IF THERE WAS ENOUGH INTEREST IN THE RUFFIN AREA TO ORGANIZE A FIRE DEPARTMENT. A LARGE AD THAT APPEARED IN THE PRESS & STANDARD ON NOVEMBER 11, 1971, URGING THE CITIZENS IN THE RUFFIN AREA TO ATTEND A MEETING AT THE RUFFIN HIGH SCHOOL ON NOVEMBER 17, 1971. A LARGE GROUP OF CITIZENS ATTENDED AND A BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONSISTING OF J. W. (JACK) BEVERLY, CHAIRMAN, LEON BRYANT, JR., VICE-CHAIRMAN, LANDIS CARTER, SECRETARY & TREASURER, GERALD BRELAND. AND MARSHALL RYAN WERE ELECTED. SOON AFTER. LEON BRYANT. JR.. RESIGNED AND WAS REPLACED BY W. P. LLOYD. ORGANIZATION PROCEDURES AND FUND RAISING BEGAN IMMEDIATELY AND IN MAY OF 1972 A SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCK WAS PURCHASED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN COLUMBIA AND MR. J. W. (JACK) BEVERLY AND MYSELF HAD THE HONOR OF GOING TO COLUMBIA AND BRINGING THIS TRUCK TO COLLETON COUNTY. THIS TRUCK HAD A PUMP INSTALLED IN WALTERBORO ALONG WITH HOSE AND OTHER EQUIPMENT AND ON JULY 1, 1972 THIS TRUCK RECEIVED A HUGE WELCOME IN THE RUFFIN COMMUNITY. (SEE ARTICLE FROM PRESS & STANDARD). THIS TRUCK WAS FIRST HOUSED IN RUFFIN IN A BUILDING OWNED BY A MR. CUMMINGS (SURE WISH I COULD REMEMBER HIS FIRST NAME) AND LATER MOVED TO HERNDON'S SERVICE STATION AT BELLS AND THEN TO JACK BEVERLY'S ON AZALEA PATCH ROAD. MR. JACK BEVERLY WAS ELECTED AS THE FIRST FIRE CHIEF OF THE RUFFIN DISTRICT ON APRIL 25, 1972 AND HE WORKED TIRELESSLY FOR MANY YEARS TRYING TO CREATE ENOUGH INTEREST TO HAVE ADEQUATE FIRE PROTECTION IN THE RUFFIN AREA. AFTER SEVERAL YEARS OF WANING INTEREST AND LACK OF FUNDING, THE RUFFIN FIRE DEPARTMENT ALMOST CEASED TO EXIST. HOWEVER, TODAY WITH A STATION ON AZALEA PATCH ROAD AND ON THE BELLS HIGHWAY, THIS FIRE DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE THE PRIDE OF THE COMMUNITY.



RUFFIN'S (DIST. 4) FIRST TRUCK



RUFFIN'S FIRE STATION-AZALEA PATCH ROAD



RUFFIN'S (DIST. 4) FIRST CHIEF'S CAR



JACK BEVERLY--RUFFIN'S FIRST FIRE CHIEF

CANADYS DISTRICT 5

THIS DISTRICT GOT OFF TO A GREAT START WHEN ON MARCH 8, 1972 MR. CECIL HIOTT HAD A MAJOR FIRE AND DISTRICT 1 RESPONDED. THIS LET PEOPLE IN THE CANADYS AREA KNOW THAT FIRE PROTECTION WAS NEEDED. LATER IN MARCH OF 1972 SOME 40 PERSONS FROM THE CANADYS COMMUNITY GATHERED AT THE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL BUILDING TO DISCUSS ORGANIZING A FIRE DEPARTMENT. THE MEMBERS OF THE WALTERBORO DISTRICT HAD ITS TRUCKS AND EQUIPMENT OUTSIDE TO SHOW FIRST HAND JUST WHAT HAD BEEN ACCOMPLISHED BY THE WALTERBORO DISTRICT. THIS GROUP IMMEDIATELY SELECTED ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STARTED FUND RAISING. THE FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS WAS: VERNON R. ROBINSON, CHAIRMAN, WILLIAM (BILL) FRAZIER, VICE-CHAIRMAN, MISS DORIS E. BAILEY, SECRETARY & TREASURER, WITH JAMES M. WESTBURY AND JAY G. ADAMS AS THE OTHER BOARD MEMBERS. IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS THEY OBTAINED A SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCK, PURCHASED A USED PUMPER FROM CHARLESTON, AND SECURED THE OLD SCHOOL PROPERTY FOR A STATION. BUT SOMEHOW MR. VERNON ROBINSON (THE FIRST CHIEF) JUST COULD NOT DO EVERYTHING THAT WAS EXPECTED AND NEEDED AND SOON THIS DEPARTMENT BEGAN TO FAIL DUE TO LACK OF INTEREST AND FUNDING. TODAY, BEING COUNTY SUPPORTED, THIS DISTRICT SEEMS TO BE DOING GREAT AND THIS PLEASES ME TO NO END.

GREENPOND DISTRICT 6

BEGAN WHEN FOUR RESIDENTS OF THE GREENPOND COMMUNITY DECIDED THAT THE TIME HAD COME FOR SOME TYPE OF FIRE PROTECTION IN THE GREENPOND AREA. THESE MEN, RICHARD WOOD, H. S. MCMILLAN, C. M. DANTZLER, AND ELLIS BROWN HAD LOCATED A USED TEXACO GAS TRUCK IN CHARLESTON, GONE TO THE BANK, BORROWED THE FUNDS TO MAKE THE PURCHASE, AND MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO GET THIS TRUCK TO GREENPOND. ON SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1972 I HAD THE HONOR OF GOING TO CHARLESTON AND DRIVING THIS TRUCK TO RICHARD WOOD'S RESIDENCE IN GREENPOND. SOON AFTER, A LETTER WAS SENT TO THE RESIDENTS OF GREENPOND TO LET THEM KNOW THAT AN EFFORT WAS BEING MADE TO ORGANIZE A FIRE DEPARTMENT.

IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT AFTER THESE FOUR MEN WENT WAY BEYOND THE CALL, THEY



CANADYS (DIST. 5) FIRST USABLE TRUCK



CANADYS FIRST PUMPER



GREENPOND'S (DIST. 6) FIRST TRUCK 6/24/72



PUMP PANEL ON GREENPOND'S FIRST TRUCK



GREENPOND'S FIRST FIRE STATION



MAJOR SAVE-POCO SABO PLANTATION 4/29/75

WERE CRITICIZED "FOR TRYING TO TAKE OVER". HOWEVER, YOU REALLY HAD TO CONSIDER WHO WAS DOING THE CRITICIZING. I ATTENDED ONE OF THE FIRST MEETING AFTER THIS TRUCK HAD BEEN PURCHASED AND BROUGHT TO GREENPOND AND I WAS VERY PLEASED BY JUST HOW MUCH SUPPORT THIS GROUP HAD.

SOON AFTER THIS MEETING, THE FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS WAS ELECTED WITH H. S. MCMILLAN, CHAIRMAN, DEWEY JOHNS CO-CHAIRMAN, C. M. DANTZLER, TREASURER, AND RICHARD WOOD, SECRETARY. THE OTHER BOARD MEMBERS WERE BARNEY RITTER, ANDERSON GRANT, ELLIS BROWN, BILLY BALDWIN, ASHLEY PELLUM, ARTHUR STEWART, AND JIMMY POOLE.

IMMEDIATELY WORK BEGAN TO EQUIP THIS TRUCK AND MAKE IT AVAILABLE FOR FIRE CALLS. A PUMP WAS PURCHASED AND I WOULD LOVE TO HAVE A RECORDING OF C. M. DANTZLER AND RICHARD WOOD INSTALLING IT. I WAS TOLD THAT THEY KEPT ARGUING ABOUT WHO WOULD WORK AND WHO WOULD FIGHT THE MOSQUITOES.

EFFORTS OF ALL REALLY PAID OFF APRIL 29, 1975 WHEN A CALL WAS RECEIVED (4.45 PM) FROM POCO SABO PLANTATION THAT THERE WAS A FIRE AT THE MAIN HOUSE. UNITS FROM DISTRICT 1 (WALTERBORO) ALSO RESPONDED AND THE BUILDING WAS SAVED THANKS TO THE GREENPOND FIRE DEPARTMENT. THIS WAS A GREAT MORALE BOOSTER FOR ALL.

RICHARD WOOD BECAME THE FIRST FIRE CHIEF AND SERVED FAITHFULLY FOR MANY YEARS. THE FIRST FIRE STATION (TORN DOWN IN 2006) WAS LOCATED BEHIND THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT WHICH IS NOW A PART OF GREENPOND BAPTIST CHURCH.

SMOAKS-DISTRICT 7

THE TOWN OF SMOAKS HAD BEEN INTERESTED IN FIRE PROTECTION FOR MANY YEARS AS THE TOWN ADMINISTRATION HAD MONIES SET ASIDE FOR THIS PURPOSE. HOWEVER, ON FEBRUARY 8, 1972 MRS. BETTY ROGERS BROWN MOYE DIED WHEN HER HOME BURNED. STEVE FRALIN AND WAYNE KUBIK OF THE COLLETON RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT (DISTRICT 1) RESPONDED WITH A TRUCK AND HER BODY WAS RECOVERED.



SMOAKS (DIST.7) FIRST TRUCK



SMOAKS (DIST 7) FIRST FIRE STATION

VERY SOON AFTER THIS INCIDENT, I RECEIVED A CALL AND WAS ASKED TO MEET WITH SOME OF THE FOLKS IN SMOAKS CONCERNING ORGANIZING A FIRE DEPARTMENT. WE REALLY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT AS THE ONLY ONE IN THIS GROUP THAT WE KNEW WAS MR. PAUL FENDER. HERMAN L. (JACK) MOCK AND MYSELF MET WITH THEM AND FOUND THAT THESE FOLKS WERE DEFINITELY READY FOR FIRE PROTECTION IN THE SMOAKS AREA.

WITHIN A VERY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME MAYOR CLIFFORD ROBERTSON INVITED ME BACK TO SMOAKS TO SEE THEIR NEW STATION AND FIRE TRUCK (LOCATED AT WHAT IS NOW FIREMAN LANE AND SUNRISE ROAD). EVEN THOUGH SMOAKS DID NOT OPERATE UNDER OUR CHARTER (COLLETON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOC.) I DID EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO HELP THEM AND WAS ABLE TO SECURE A TRUCK THROUGH CIVIL DEFENSE ON WHICH THEY MOUNTED A TANK FOR WATERSUPPLY.

THE FIRST CHIEF WAS MR. JAMES CARLISLE AVANT, SR. AND LATER MR. JOHN GRAHAM, (WHO STILL SERVES AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT) BECAME CHIEF AND WAS CHIEF WHEN COLLETON COUNTY ASSUMED JURISDICTION ONLY A FEW YEARS AGO.

HENDERSONVILLE-DISTRICT 8

SEVERAL OF THE RESIDENTS IN THE HENDERSONVILLE AREA WERE VOLUNTEERS WITH DISTRICT 1 AS THEY WORKED AROUND WALTERBORO. THEREFORE, THEY KNEW FIRST HAND THAT A LOT OF GOOD THINGS COULD HAPPEN IF FIRE PROTECTION WAS AVAILABLE IN THE RURAL AREAS. ON JULY 22, 1974, 31 PERSONS ATTENDED A MEETING AT THE HENDERSONVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO DISCUSS THE ORGANIZATION OF A FIRE DEPARTMENT THAT WOULD SERVE THE HENDERSONVILLE AND JONESVILLE COMMUNITIES. A BOARD OF DIRECTORS WAS ELECTED AND ERROL STYNCHCOMB WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN, JAMES FARISH VICE-CHAIRMAN, MRS. MAYME CARTER SECRETARY-TREASURER WITH NATHAN RICHARDS, THOMAS WILLIAMS, AND CARROL CREWS AS OTHER MEMBERS.

ERROL STYNCHCOMB BECAME THE FIRST CHIEF AND SERVED UNTIL 2003 WHEN HEALTH



HENDERSONVILLE'S (DIST. 8) FIRST TRUCK



HENDERSONVILLE'S (DIST. 8) FIRST TANKER



PUMPER DONATED TO DIST. 8 BY JAMES ISLAND



DISTRICT 8'S FIRST STATION (ORCHARD ROAD)

PROBLEMS MADE HIS RETIREMENT A NECESSITY.

ON DECEMBER 20, 1974, DISTRICT 1 HAD PURCHASED A USED PUMPER FROM THE ORANGE-BURG FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE FIRST CONVERTED SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCK USED BY DISTRICT 1 WAS GIVEN TO HENDERSONVILLE AND THIS BECAME HENDERSONVILLE'S FIRST FIRE TRUCK. IN JANUARY OF 1976 A MINI-PUMPER WAS PURCHASED BY DISTRICT 1 AND THAT MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR HENDERSONVILLE TO RECEIVE ANOTHER CONVERTED SCHOOL BUS TANK TRUCK. EQUIPMENT AND A PUMP WAS INSTALLED ON THIS TANKER AND IT SERVED WELL UNTIL DESTROYED BY FIRE. SEVERAL TANKERS WERE ACQUIRED DURING THE YEARS AND IT WAS A GREAT DAY WHEN JAMES ISLAND DONATED A PUMPER.

THE JONESVILLE AREA WAS ORIGINALLY A PART OF THE HENDERSONVILLE DISTRICT BUT DUE TO LACK OF INTEREST IN THE JONESVILLE AREA, THE HENDERSONVILLE DISTRICT REDREW THEIR DISTRICT LINES AND LATER THE JONESVILLE AREA (NOW DISTRICT 13) ORGANIZED.

THE FIRST FIRE STATION FOR HENDERSONVILLE WAS LOCATED ON ORCHARD ROAD ON LAND DONATED BY HASKELL LYONS.

COTTAGEVILLE--DISTRICT 9

FROM THE TIME THE FIRST RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT WAS ORGANIZED IN COLLETON COUNTY (1968) THERE WAS A LOT OF INTEREST IN THE COTTAGEVILLE AREA WHERE ORGANIZING A FIRE DEPARTMENT WAS CONCERNED. HOWEVER, THERE NEVER WAS A CONCENTRATED EFFORT MADE FOR MANY YEARS. THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY THAT I HAD TO MEET WITH THE TOWN COUNCIL AND SOME OF THE CITIZENS OF COTAGEVILLE WAS NOVEMBER 4, 1974. MR. CHARLES GRIFFITH WAS THE MAYOR AT THAT TIME. THERE STILL SEEMED TO BE A LOT OF INTEREST BUT NOTHING MATERIALIZED UNTIL 1979.

SOMETIME IN 1975 MR. MARION BRIDGE (FORESTRY COMMISSION) CALLED ME AND ASKED IF I WOULD MEET WITH HIM TO CHECK OUT A FIRE TRUCK THAT THE FORESTRY HAD ACQUIRED. OF COURSE I JUST KNEW THIS TRUCK WAS FOR COTTAGEVILLE AS MR. BRIDGE WAS A RESIDENT

OF COTTAGEVILLE AND HE KNEW I WAS DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH A FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE COTTAGEVILLE AREA. YOU CAN IMAGINE MY DISAPOINTMENT WHEN HE INFORMED ME THAT IT WAS TO BE TAKEN TO ANOTHER COUNTY.

THIS MEETING DID GIVE ME THE CHANCE TO MEET SOME FOLKS FROM THE FORESTRY IN COLUMBIA AND A FEW WEEKS LATER HERMAN L. (JACK) MOCK AND MYSELF MADE A TRIP TO FORESTRY HEADQUARTERS IN COLUMBIA TO INQUIRE ABOUT TWO TRUCKS (NOT FIRE TRUCKS) THAT WERE OWNED BY THE FORESTRY BUT NOT IN USE. WE WERE TOLD THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR US TO OBTAIN THEM AS THEY WERE PROMISED ELSEWHERE. HOWEVER, I WENT TO MR. BRIDGE AND INFORMED HIM OF OUR CONVERSATION WITH THE FOLKS IN COLUMBIA AND ABOUT TWO WEEKS LATER I SAW THESE TRUCKS BEING DELIVERED TO MR. CHARLES GRIFFITH IN COTTAGEVILLE. EVIDENTLY MR. BRIDGE HAD PULL WITH SOMEBODY IN COLUMBIA. THE TANK FROM ONE OF THESE TRUCK WAS IN USE UNTIL JUST A FEW YEARS AGO.

SEVERAL YEAR WENT BY AND IN 1979 MR. F. B. THOMAS AND MR. CARSON KISER CAME TO MY BUSINESS AND TOLD ME THEY HAD PURCHASED A USED FIRE TRUCK FOR COTTAGEVILLE AND WANTED MY ASSISTANCE TO HELP THEM GET ORGANIZED. OF COURSE THIS PLEASED ME VERY MUCH. THEY THEN STATED THAT THERE WAS OPPOSITION TO OPERATING UNDER THE COUNTY CHARTER BECAUSE THE BY-LAWS STATED THAT IF A DISTRICT CEASED TO EXIST THE EQUIPMENT WOULD GO TO DISTRICT 1 FOR USE ELSEWHERE IN COLLETON COUNTY. HOWEVER, DISTRICT 9 WAS ORGANIZED AND A BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTED. MR. JAMES COBB WAS ELECTED THE FIRST CHIEF AND HE AND I HAD A GOOD RELATIONSHIP UNTIL HE RESIGNED AS CHIEF.

I CAN NOT SAY ENOUGH ABOUT MR. F. B. THOMAS AND HIS SINCERE DESIRE FOR ALL OF THE COUNTY TO HAVE ADEQUATE FIRE PROTECTION. MR. THOMAS WAS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE RURAL FIRE STUDY COMMITTEE FOR COLLETON COUNTY AND A RESIDENT OF COTTAGEVILLE. HE SPENT UNTOLD HOURS OF HIS TIME SEARCHING FOR THE BEST WAY TO FINANCE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION IN COLLETON COUNTY. THIS IS THE COMMITTEE THAT RECOMMENDED



COTTAGEVILLE , FIRST CHIEF AND FIREMEN\BOARD OF DIRECTORS



COTTAGEVILLE (DIST. 9) FIRST FIRE STATION

TO THE COUNTY DELEGATION THAT THE VOLUNTEER MEMBERSHIP PLAN BE USED. FOR ALL THAT DID KNOW MR. THOMAS, KNEW HE WAS VERY "STRONG WILLED", EXPECIALLY WHERE HIS OPINIONS WERE CONCERNED. HOWEVER, AS I GOT TO KNOW MR. THOMAS I REALIZED THAT MOST OF HIS OPINIONS WERE CORRECT AS HE HAD SPENT MANY HOURS RESEARCHING A PROBLEM AND WHEN HE CAME TO STATING HIS OPINION IT WAS AN "EDUCATED" OPINION.

COTTAGEVILLE AS WITH MOST OF THE OTHER DISTRICTS HAD GOOD AND BAD YEARS BUT COTTAGEVILLE SECURED LAND BY THE PRESENT CITY HALL AND BUILT A STATION, HAD A TELEPHONE ALERT SYSTEM INSTALLED, AND IN 1987 PURCHASED A NEW PUMPER FOR SOME SIXTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS.

AT ONE TIME COTTAGEVILLE HAD THREE STATIONS, ONE IN COTTAGEVILLE, ONE AT ROUND O, AND ONE ON HIGHWAY 61 NEXT TO THE TACKLE SHOP. THE TRUCK FROM ROUND O WAS STOLEN BUT SOON RAN OUT OF GAS SO COTTAGEVILLE DID GET THEIR TRUCK BACK.

ORIGINALLY THE MAPLE CANE FIRE DEPARTMENT (DISTRICT 11) WAS A PART OF COTTAGEVILLE BUT IT SEEMS THAT THE LADIES FROM MAPLE CANE HAD RAISED THE FUNDS TO PURCHASE A FIRETRUCK FOR THE MAPLE CANE AREA AND IN 1984 THE FIRE TRUCK IN COTTAGEVILLE HAD PROBLEMS AND SOMEONE TOOK THE TRUCK FROM MAPLE CANE FOR USE IN COTTAGEVILLE. THAT DID NOT GO OVER TOO WELL WITH THE FOLKS IN THE MAPLE CANE AREA AND DISTRICT 11 (MAPLE CANE) WAS ORGANIZED SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

ISLANDTON--DISTRICT 10

THE ISLANDTON FIRE DEPARTMENT WAS THE LAST TO ORGANIZE TO MEET THE ORIGINAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE INSURANCE SERVICE OFFICES THAT REQUIRED TEN FIRE DEPARTMENTS BE ORGANIZED AND EQUIPPED TO ALLOW ALL OF COLLETON COUNTY TO RECEIVE A REDUCTION IN THE COST OF FIRE INSURANCE. THIS RATING WAS TO BE CLASS 9.

THIS DEPARTMENT WAS FIRST ORGANIZED IN 1981 AFTER A DISASTEROUS FIRE ON SINEATH ROAD AT THE HOME OF RUDOLPH MILLS MADE THE NEED FOR FIRE PROTECTION A STRONG REALITY IN THE ISLANDTON AREA.



FUTURE ISLANDTON FIREFIGHTERS?



ISLANDTON'S FIRST FIRE TRUCK

for **DUE DATE** 3-12-82
CONSUMER LOAN NOTE

Loan Purpose

Conditions of Loan

Disclosure of Loan and Finance Charges

Demand Loan

Collateral, if any

Property Insurance

Optional Insurance

Promise to Pay

Late Charges

Prepayment

Whole Balance Due

Attorney's Fees

☐ Consumer Loan ☐ Non-Consumer Loan under provisions of South Carolina Consumer Protection Code.

We, the Hampton County Bank, agree to lend you the Total Amount Financed as shown on the following Disclosure if you sign the Note and comply with any other conditions upon which we may agree.

Amount you receive
Official Fees (Doc Stamps)
Recording, Filing, Title Fees
Property Insurance
Other Charges (Specify)
Optional Credit Life Insurance
Optional Credit Disability Insurance

Total Amount Financed

FINANCE CHARGE

Total of Payments

ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE

\$ 7640.00
\$ 3.08
\$
\$
\$
\$
\$
\$ 7643.08
EST. \$ 647.88
EST. \$ 829.86
17.0 %



If this not is payable on Demand, the interest shall be payable periodically while the loan is outstanding. The FINANCE CHARGE and ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE as set forth above are computed for a six (6) month period as required by Regulation Z and do not indicate a maturity date limitation on the loan.

☒ This loan is secured by a Security Agreement or Mortgage dated 9/11/81, which has been signed, giving us a security interest in the collateral described in that agreement.

If we have required property insurance to cover loss or damage to any collateral for this loan, you may choose the insurance agent and company, or we will try to get this insurance for you.

Credit Life Insurance and Credit Disability Insurance are available through us if you want this coverage, but neither is required to obtain this loan. You may select either kind of insurance by checking the appropriate box and signing below.

☐ Credit Life Insurance at a cost of \$ _____
Borrower _____ Date _____ Comaker _____ Date _____
☐ Credit Disability Insurance at a cost of \$ _____
Borrower _____ Date _____ Comaker _____ Date _____

To repay my loan, I promise to pay you, The Hampton County Bank, in the following manner:

☒ Time Loan — I promise to pay The Hampton County Bank on March 12, 1982 after the date of this loan the sum of \$ 7640.00 and FINANCE CHARGE AT 17.0 % ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE payable from date.

☐ Installment Loan — I promise to pay The Hampton County Bank the sum of \$ _____ in _____ consecutive monthly installments of \$ _____ by the _____ day of each month, beginning _____ 19 _____. If a balloon payment of \$ _____ is scheduled, it will be due _____, 19 _____, which I may refinance upon the same terms as this loan.

If I do not make any payment in full within ten days of the due date, I promise to pay a late charge of 5% of the amount of the installment payment up to \$5.00 or a deferral charge of interest at the ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE in the disclosure to defer the unpaid amount for the period that is delinquent. You may also defer the maturity of this loan and the due dates of installments and charge a Deferral Charge in an amount authorized by law.

If I repay the whole loan at any time before the last payment is due, the Bank will refund the unearned FINANCE CHARGE. If this loan is payable in 61 installments or less, the refund will be computed by the Rule of 78's, a commonly used formula for figuring refunds. For all other loans, the refund will be computed on the Actuarial Method by applying the ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE above to all amounts for the period of time that the loan has been outstanding. I agree that you may keep or charge a minimum Finance Charge of \$15.00.

If I fail to make any payment within 10 days of its due date, you will give me one opportunity to cure the payment default. If I fail to pay the amount required to cure the default, ever default in payment on this loan again, break any promise in any other agreements I have with you (including loans), or if promises made to you in any security agreement required by this loan are not kept, you may demand that this loan and all other loans I have with you be paid in full immediately. If you hire a lawyer to help collect this loan, I also agree to pay up to 15% of the amount to be collected as fees to your lawyer unless prohibited by law.

LOAN FOR PURCHASE OF FIRST TRUCK FROM SUMTER

ISLANDTON'S FIRST FIRE TRUCK WAS PURCHASED FROM SUMTER IN SEPTEMBER OF 1981 WITH A LOAN OF \$8290.96 FROM THE HAMPTON COUNTY BANK. THIS UNIT WAS PAINTED BY WENDELL BISHOP AND SERVED THIS COMMUNITY WELL. IN OCTOBER OF 1984 RHODES OIL AND STONE OIL COMPANY DONATED USED FUEL OIL TRUCKS TO BE USED BY THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. ONLY RECENTLY WERE THESE UNITS REPLACED WITH MORE MODERN EQUIPMENT.

THE FIRST FIRE STATION FOR ISLANDTON WAS LOCATED AT 547 ASHTON ROAD ON LAND DONATED TO THE RICE PATCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH BY WILLIE CECIL GODLEY AND DOROTHY GODLEY ROBERTS. THE RICE PATCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH THEN LEASED THIS LAND TO THE ISLANDTON FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR NINETY-NINE YEARS. A LOAN FROM BERNICE C. SINEATH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00 MADE IT POSSIBLE TO ERECT THE FIRST FIRE STATION. THIS IS NOW STATION 15 WITH STATION 10 BEING LOCATED AT 1985 ADNAH CHURCH ROAD THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF LARRY AND VERNON RAHN.

THE FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS WAS JOHN CHARLES SINEATH, CHAIRMAN, WENDELL BISHOP, VICE CHAIRMAN, W. T. STANFIELD, SECRETARY, AND TRAVIS GODLEY, TREASURER. THE OTHER MEMBERS WERE E. KENNETH GODLEY, WILLIS KINARD, LARRY RAHN, NATHAN STEPHENS, AND ELDRIDGE WILLIAMS.

W. TED STANFIELD, SR. SERVED AS THE FIRST CHIEF FOLLOWED BY TONY DICKS, EVERETTE POLK AND AS OF THIS DATE, MATT WILLIAMS.

EDISTO BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT

FOR MANY YEARS THE TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH HAD BEEN INTERESTED IN FIRE PROTECTION AS EVIDENCED BY THEIR SECURING A PUMPER FROM PARRIS ISLAND THROUGH THE OFFICE OF CIVIL DEFENSE. THIS WAS A 1953 WARD LAFRANCE PUMPER WITH MAJOR PROBLEMS.

SOMETIME IN 1976 (EDISTO BEACH HAD ANNEXED INTO COLLETON COUNTY IN 1975) I WAS ASKED TO COME TO EDISTO BEACH IN AN EFFORT TO ASSIST THEM IN PUTTING THIS PUMPER IN SERVICE. THIS PUMPER DID NOT HAVE ANY WAY TO UTILIZE THE HYDRANTS THAT WERE IN PLACE AT THAT TIME. THIS WAS MY FIRST PRIORITY AND WE FASHIONED A VALVE THAT DID

WORK GREAT. HOWEVER, WE THEN FOUND A HUGE OIL LEAK FROM THE ENGINE OIL PAN THAT WAS MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO OPERATE THIS PUMPER. WITHIN THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS IT BECAME APPARENT THAT THIS PUMPER WAS BEYOND ECONOMICAL REPAIR. I FELT THAT THIS WOULD END THEIR EFFORTS WHERE FIRE PROTECTION WAS CONCERNED BUT I WAS VERY PLEASANTLY SURPRISED

EDISTO BEACH WAS ORIGINALLY CONSIDERED AS DISTRICT 11 BUT THE TOWN COUNCIL SOON DECIDED THAT IT WAS BEST FOR THE TOWN TO OWN AND OPERATE THEIR FIRE DEPARTMENT. IT WAS VERY ENCOURAGING WHEN I RECEIVED A CALL REQUESTING THAT I RECOMMEND TO TOWN COUNCIL THE PUMPER AND EQUIPMENT THAT WOULD GIVE THEM A GOOD START ON PROVIDING FIRE PROTECTION AND RECEIVING A REDUCTION IN FIRE INSURANCE PREMIUMS AS THEY WERE CONSIDERING INSTALLING MORE FIRE HYDRANTS IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE.

I IMMEDIATELY CONTACTED THE INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE AND RECEIVED A LISTING OF WHAT WAS NEEDED FOR THEM TO QUALIFY FOR A REDUCED FIRE INSURANCE RATING. I WAS THEN REQUESTED BY TOWN COUNCIL TO OBTAIN THE APPROXIMATE COST.

I HAD ESTABLISHED A VERY GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH A REPRESENTATIVE THAT SOLD FIRE EQUIPMENT (HE WAS EXTREMELY HONEST) AND I ASKED HIM TO STOP BY MY BUSINESS AND CONTACT ME CONCERNING EDISTO BEACH. WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS HE COMPLETED HIS PROPOSAL AND AGREED TO MEET WITH TOWN COUNCIL AT EDISTO BEACH.

THE NEXT DAY (AFTER MEETING WITH COUNCIL) HE CALLED ME AND STATED THAT THIS GROUP WAS DEFINITELY READY TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION. HE SAID THAT AFTER HE PRESENTED HIS PROPOSAL THEY ASKED HIM TO WAIT OUTSIDE IN CASE THEY NEEDED MORE INFORMATION AND IN ABOUT THIRTY MINUTES THEY ASKED HIM TO COME BACK INSIDE AND LET THEM KNOW WHEN THE PUMPER AND EQUIPMENT WOULD BE DELIVERED. HE STATED THAT THIS WAS ONE SALE HE WAS PROUD OF (PROBABLY ONE OF HIS EASIEST) BECAUSE EVERYONE ON TOWN COUNCIL HAD MADE PROVIDING FIRE PROTECTION A TOP PRIORITY.

THIS PUMER WAS DELIVERED IN FEBRUARY OF 1977 AND WHEN THE REPRESENTATIVE MAKING

THE DELIVERY STOPPED BY MY BUSINESS ON THE WAY TO THE BEACH IT GAVE ME GREAT PLEASURE TO BE ABLE TO INSPECT THIS PUMPER AND TAKE THESE PICTURES SHOWN HERE.

MR. MARION WHALEY WAS THE MAYOR WHEN THIS PUMPER WAS DELIVERED AND MR. HARVEY KIZER (A TOWN COUNCILMAN) WAS TO BE THE FIRE CHIEF. I BECAME FRIENDS WITH BOTH OF THESE MEN AND DID EVERYTHING I COULD TO HELP WHICH REALLY WASN'T MUCH BECAUSE THEY REALLY HAD THEIR ACT TOGETHER

THANKS TO MR. JOE HICKMAN, THE CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR, WE WERE ABLE TO SECURE A LARGE TANKER FOR EDISTO BEACH. THIS TANKER WAS LATER USED BY THE HENDERSONVILLE DISTRICT FOR MANY YEARS. THE 1953 WARD LAFRANCE THAT HAD BEEN SECURED BY CIVIL DEFENSE FROM PARRIS ISLAND WAS RETURNED TO WALTERBORO AND LATER GIVEN TO LODGE. LODGE CAME TO THE SAME CONCLUSION AS EDISTO BEACH (THAT IT WAS BEYOND ECONOMICAL REPAIR) AND THE LAST TIME I SAW IT WAS IN A FIELD ABOUT TWO MILES NORTH OF LODGE.

OF COURSE MANY CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE AT EDISTO BEACH SINCE 1977 BUT I WILL ALWAYS APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT I HAD A PART IN HELPING ORGANIZE THE FIRST "REAL" FIRE DEPARTMENT AT EDISTO BEACH.



EDISTO BEACH'S FIRST USUABLE PUMPER (1977)



EDISTO BEACH'S PUMPER ENROUTE TO BEACH