



MARTEN RIVER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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JULY 2023 MONTHLY REPORT

TRAINING

- July 4th Trainer/DC Siegner had new recruits watch the Essentials of Firefighting training video on the types and use of portable fire extinguishers. A review training video demonstrating various hose rolls and lays was shown.
- July 18th Using the Essentials of Firefighting video for NFPA 1001 (Ropes and Knots) members practiced their skills. Time was spent organizing members training records.

INCEDENTS

- July 4th Marten River Fire Department responded to a mobile trailer fire on Pozniak Road. On arrival the unit was fully engulfed in flames and fire had entered the near by forested area. The department assessed one occupant for chemical inhalation and using portable pumps, Pumper 4 and Pump3 members were able to extinguish the fire in the unit and the exposure.
- July 24th Members were dispatched to a four vehicle, motor vehicle collision involving a tractor trailer transporting lumber on Highway 11 at Tilden Lake Road. Police and ambulance were on the scene when Fire arrived. The incident occurred near a Highway construction site and their flag people were controlling the traffic. The fire department completed fire prevention tasks and checked for leaking fuel etc., and then were stood down by OPP.
- July 25th Fire fighters were dispatched to a tiered response medical to a residence on Highway #11. A Child with asthma was having difficulty breathing. EMS were on scene when Fire department arrived.
- July 26th The MRFD responded to a utility fire at 3709 Highway 11. A violent windstorm had fallen a tree on powerlines and both were on fire. Hydro One was alerted and the fire was monitored until hydro workers arrived.

FIRE PREVENTION

The Marten River Fire Department hosted two events this month. (Breakfast with Sparky and the 20th Annual Pork Barbecue) Fire prevention materials including the 2023 “Spring into Summer” fire prevention kit and “Summer Smart” magazines.



Smoke alarms were also available for sale at cost to local residents. A big thank you to the Marten River Volunteer Fire Fighting Team Association for facilitating this part of the departments Smoke Alarm Program.

BILL EDWARDS MEMORIAL AWARD

I am pleased to announce that this year’s award was presented to two Marten River Fire Fighters. Congratulations to Captain Cantin and Fire Fighter Devost. Jackie and Rachel joined the Marten River Fire Department in March of 2016 soon after permanently moving into the community.

From the very beginning these two fire fighters have inspired us with their courage ... like Captain Bill they are the first to the hall for most callsTakes Courage They inspire us with their caring, compassion and thoughtfulness... They learned very quickly that fire departments are in the people business. One of their first calls was to a francophone patient who had lost control of their vehicle and landed well off the road in waist deeps snow. Jackie, speaking French, was able to calm the patient and ascertain the extent of the injuries and she continued to provide comfort to the patient until they were boarded and carried to the ambulance.

They inspire us with their willingness and commitment to continued learning.

They inspire us with their willingness to pitch in and help, no matter how menial the task—painting, yard work, garbage, cleaning and putting a shine on the meeting room floor.

As well as taking on a leadership role as Captain in 2019, Rachel has recognized the importance of firefighter mental health and taken charge of recording Traumatic Incidents and Peer Support.



In the Marten River Community Jackie and Rachel have since 2017 been the chairpersons for Marten Rivers Annual Winterfest celebration. They also have served on the Bill Edwards Memorial Awards Committee since its inception and on the Community Yard Sale Committee. As members of the local Sisters by Choice organization they are full participants and their sense of humor and ability to find the silver lining lifts us all up. I would be remiss if I forgot to mention their organization of the Christmas in July “River Regatta”---Rachel cannot get enough Christmas

And as for their love of the Great Outdoors, Captain Bill would have been thrilled to have known them.... All of Marten River’s four seasons are enjoyed by this pair.....snowmobiling, ice fishing, boating, fishing, gardening and hunting

OTHER

- Fire Chief Elliott attended the OFM’s Virtual Fire Chief’s town hall on July 5th. The agenda items included: Skills Development Fund, Mobile Live Fire Training Units, Fire Fighter Certification, Burn Bans, Fire Code Updates, OFM Human Resources updates and Test Your Smoke Alarm Day (Sept. 28,2023).
- Fire Chief Elliott attended the July 13th Municipal Council meeting via zoom.
- Vehicle identification numbers, makes, models and year were all updated on the fleet schedule as per request by C. Davidson.
- Captain Elliott has announced her retirement from the department after twenty three and a half years of dedicated service. We wish her the best in her retirement.
- Gateway signs cleaned and repaired the lighting in the illuminated sign. This looks great and it is wonderful to be able to display our fire prevention messages and have the extra lighting in the yard at night. A new set of letters was ordered and received.
- The Marten River Volunteer Fire Fighting Team Association have purchased three replacement “Welcome to Marten River” billboard signs from Seemore Graphics. The signs are located to the north and south on Highway 11 and to the south on Highway 64. The Marten River Fire Department recruitment initiative is prominent on the signs.



- Thanks to T. Siegner and DC Anne for getting community consensus on the artwork and to T. Siegner and Captain Smetana for erecting the signs.

- A big thanks to the committee chairpersons for the Breakfast with Sparky and the 20th Annual Pork Barbecue and to all the community and student volunteers who are such an essential part of the events' success.
- Plans are underway for a Community Yard Sale on August 6th 7:30am to 12:30pm. The flyer is attached.