



3386 OLD WESTFIELD RD.
WESTFIELD, NC 27053

(336)351-2576

Chief:
Jonathan Sutphin

Board President & Captain:
Jordan Smith

Deputy & Rescue Chief:
Matt Martin

Assistant Chief:
Lee Edwards

2nd Lieutenant & Safety Officer:
Glenn Lamb

1st Lieutenant:
Kevin Nunn

First Responder Captain:
Kamron Nunn

Check Out Our Website
<https://westfieldvfd.com/>
or follow us on Facebook
at Westfield Volunteer Fire
Dept, Inc.



Westfield Volunteer Fire Department Newsletter

Newsletter 2

2024

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**We are always looking
for new members!**

**Stop by on Sundays or
contact a member for
more information!**



News from the Station

2024 ISO Classification



Westfield Volunteer Fire Department is happy to announce a reduction in our state ISO Insurance rating from a "5" to a "4" effective August 1, 2024. This means that if your business or church structure is within our 5-mile response district (5 road-miles from our station), you should see a reduction in your fire insurance costs effective August 1st. Businesses and churches may need to contact their insurance agent to ensure your insurance company has the latest rating information (actual savings depend on your insurance company).

If you see Chief Jonathan Sutphin or any of your local firefighters, please thank them for their hard work and dedication to ensure your insurance premiums are as low as possible. We thank each homeowner, business, and church in our response district for their support.





Call Statistics

	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Surry County:				
Fire Calls:	6	5	3	14
Medical Calls:	8	4	9	21
Stokes County:				
Fire Calls:	7	6	4	17
Medical Calls:	8	8	6	22
Total Overall:				74

New Members

April:

Jeremy Yerkes - Recruit Status

May:

No new members this month

June:

No new members this month



Awards and Achievements

1. **Westfield VFD** is proud to announce that we are now a **Certified Medium Rescue Squad**. We have 15 members that are state certified in Technical Rescue and 16 members that have a state medical certification.
2. **Landon Martin** completed his Technical Rescue Certification. Congratulations!!!
3. **Landon Martin** graduated from the Winston-Salem Fire Academy. Congratulations!!!



Westfield Rescue Chief Matt Martin pinning his son's Winston-Salem Fire Rescue badge at Landon's graduation ceremony from Winston-Salem Fire Academy.



Awards and Achievements (Continued...)

4. **Zac Edwards** completed his training to become a Fire Investigator Technician for the Surry County Fire Marshal's Office. Congratulations!!!



5. **Zac Edwards** has also been awarded the NC Firefighters Association Scholarship to continue his training. Congratulations!!!
6. **Royce Clodfelter** completed his Medical Responder Certification. Congratulations!!!
7. **Matthew Hutchens** obtained his Advanced EMT Certification. Congratulations!!!

Latest Grants Awarded

Grants help us add vital equipment. Here are a few examples of the grants received and how implemented. (By the way, when we are awarded grants, then the taxpayers save money.)



Latest Grants Awarded (Continued....)

2024 Volunteer Fire Department Fund Grant: \$29,930.50

- This grant will be used to purchase the following items:
 - Wildland Gear like coats and pants
 - Fire Hoses
 - Turnout Gear like boots, gloves, helmets, pants, and hoods
 - Flashlights
 - Class A Foam
 - Valves, Adapters and Couplings as needed

Public Education and Outreach efforts

The Westfield Volunteer Fire Department still has several smoke detectors available on a first-come, first-served basis. Call the station (336-351-2576) or reach out through Facebook and request a smoke detector and someone from the station will come out and install the smoke detector for you.

Please check to see if your address is visible from the road. In an emergency, your physical address being visible from the road is crucial in getting help to you immediately. If you are not sure, then you can call the station and have someone come out and check. They can also check your home to ensure proper smoke detectors are installed and working.



Public Education and Outreach efforts (Continued...)

The Westfield Volunteer Fire Department would like to educate the community about the online NC Burn Permit Process.



Step 1: Go to [ncforestsservice.gov /burn_permits_main.htm](http://ncforestsservice.gov/burn_permits_main.htm)

Step 2: Review the “Fire Safety Outdoors” page.

Step 3: Become familiar with the regulations for Open Fires

Step 4: Apply for an online NC Burn Permit by choosing your county in the dropdown menu.

Step 5: Review instructions and responsibilities.

Step 6: Complete application and Submit.



Thank you to....

Westfield VFD would like to thank Rescue Chief Matt Martin along with those certified in Technical Rescue for their time and training to upgrade our certification from Light Rescue to Medium Rescue.

We want to thank Albion Baptist Church in Westfield for hosting a First Responder Day on Sunday, May 5th. The first responders that attended were recognized and given a gift and a meal. Thank you for the appreciation that you showed that day.

We want to thank the Westfield Baptist Church WMU for providing a wonderful meal at the station on Sunday, June 9th. Your kindness is appreciated.



History by Phil....

Finding a Treasure

By Phil Sutphin

In September of 2022, I received a message on the department's Facebook page from a Mitch Dawkins. He asked if we had owned a 1949 Ward-LaFrance pumper - possibly from 1963-1993. From the truck's title, he said that John Kuhl - the department's Treasurer at the time - had signed the title to a private owner in Pinnacle. He then asked if we had any information about the pumper - old pictures, a history, anything. I messaged him back that our only living charter member at that time - Tommy Johnson - was chief at the time and had worked many hours on the truck. I also wrote a quick history of the truck as I remembered being told from the charter members of the department then sent him the only two pictures we had in the department's archives of the pumper. Since I'm the only member around who actually remembers the pumper while working on it and fighting fire with it, I told him I'd be glad to attempt to answer any questions.

Thus began a friendship and a correspondence about the pumper. Mitch told me he was a career firefighter at Pinecroft Sedgefield FD in Guilford County. A friend of his acquired the pumper in 2005 from the person in Pinnacle. The truck had sat in a pasture from 1993 to 2005 when they moved it to Guilford County. The truck had deteriorated while sitting in the pasture in Pinnacle then deteriorated further while in Greensboro. However, while in Greensboro, it was covered. Remarkably, there is very little rust on the apparatus. However, the wiring, brake lines, and other vital parts had deteriorated - as well as the beautiful red paint. Mitch acquired the truck and moved it to his home in Randleman. His goal is to restore the truck to its original working condition in 1963.





History by Phil....continued...

Mitch is a firefighter and understands modern truck and pump operations. He grew up in a rural environment and was familiar with “older” farm vehicles including the use of a clutch and a non-synchronized transmission. He also has mechanical skills and skills in electrical wiring. However, Mitch is only 30 years old so many of the older features on the pumper were totally new to him.



© DawkinsCreekPhotography



© DawkinsCreekPhotography

I explained to him that the truck originally had an exhaust primer that was converted to a rotary gear primer in the pumper's early years. In my recap of the history of the truck, I relayed to him the story about its first response to a structure fire - after our eager members knocked down the fire, unfortunately the truck's engine threw a rod and seized. The disappointed new firefighters stood there and watch the fire rekindle, and the structure burn to the ground. I told him that Chief Tommy Johnson along with Rayford Taylor led a team of firefighters who removed and rebuilt the engine in the original station at the Old Westfield School.



DawkinsCreekPhotography



History by Phil....continued...

I also explained that the truck had a dual electrical system that ran off both a battery and an internal magneto. The flat-head 6-cylinder engine had two separate spark plugs for each cylinder - one for the battery system and one for the magneto system.



Since the pumper was originally built for the U.S. Marine Corps, the pump contained brass impellers to allow it to pump directly from the ocean. When the Marine Corp considered the truck as surplus in 1963, then our department paid \$500 for it at an auction in Raleigh.

Another mystery to Mitch was the lever on the dashboard that was labeled “Vacuum Clutch Control.” He had never seen anything such as this. It had tubing connecting the control to the engine manifold and then to a canister that connected to the clutch. I explained that when the pump was placed in gear, not only did engine power transfer from the rear wheels to the pump, but if you held in the clutch, pulled and turned the Vacuum Clutch Control knob, the clutch stayed engaged until you revved up the engine with the outside throttle on the pump panel. Using the manifold vacuum, it sensed when the RPMs increased and automatically allowed the clutch to release and turn the pump. When the RPMs were dropped to a certain level, the clutch automatically re-engaged, thus saving wear and tear on the pump and engine.

Since early October in 2022, Mitch has licensed the truck, rebuilt the brake system, replace any essential wiring and has the truck again running. He also has the pump working. Because he doesn't have any hard suction hose, he hasn't tried to draft with it. But he's well on his way to restoring the pumper to its original condition.



History by Phil....continued...

Westfield VFD is grateful to Mitch for reaching out to us about the history and the operations of the pumper. He plans to paint it and letter it with the original Westfield VFD lettering and keep us involved with the restoration.





JULY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5 Bible Study 6am	6
7 Group 4	8	9 Surry County Chiefs Meeting 6:30pm	10	11	12 Bible Study 6am	13
14 Monthly Business Meeting 3pm Group 5	15	16	17	18 Training 6pm	19 Bible Study 6am	20
21 Group 1	22	23	24	25	26 Bible Study 6am	27
28 Group 2	29	30 Stokes County Association Meeting 7pm	31			



AUGUST 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Bible Study 6am	3
4 Group 3	5	6	7	8	9 Bible Study 6am	10
11 Monthly Business Meeting 3pm Group 4	12	13 Surry County Chiefs Meeting 6:30pm	14	15 Training 6pm	16 Bible Study 6am	17
18 Group 5	19	20	21	22	23 Bible Study 6am	24
25 Group 1	26	27	28	29	30 Bible Study 6am	31

