



TURTLE CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
 290 Upper Turtle Creek Rd. • Kerrville, Texas 78028 • 830-257-3550 • www.tcvfdkerrco.org



Dear Neighbor,

We are a group of your neighbors who have been trained to help you in case of an emergency. The fire safety needs of our community are increasing daily – a growing population and uncertain weather conditions are key factors in this increase. We need your help today.

During the last calendar year we responded to 29 calls (as of 9-22-10):

- **10 Wildland Fires**
- **2 Structure Fires**
- **1 Trash Fires**
- **8 Mutual Aid**
- **8 Other Incidents**

Our total annual operating expenses were approximately \$25,000 which averages out to \$500 per emergency response. We receive funds from the county for \$15,000. This allotment will not even cover expenses for all the Wildland and Structure Fires your Volunteer Fire Department handled for the past year. We rely exclusively upon your generous donations to make up the shortfall.

Our current membership consists of eighteen (18) Active firefighters, four (4) reserves and two (2) non-firefighter members. This is not near enough firefighters for our area. We need your help in the form of volunteers and money to keep up with the growing needs of your fire department to be able to protect your life, your property and your family.

It takes a very special person to be a volunteer firefighter, and these dedicated individuals need your help and support to safely fight your fires. Please help us keep your department in operation with your generous donation today. A self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Or, you can visit our new website, www.tcvfdkerrco.org, to make a donation.

Sincerely,

Wes Gordon, Chief

Eddie Doyle, Treasurer

P.S. To make locating your residence easier and faster during an emergency, please use 2" reflective letters on your mailbox/driveway. Also remove any old address numbers (pre-911).

**If you are not in the Turtle Creek Volunteer Fire Department area-
 Please support *your* local Volunteer Fire Department**

PLEASE SEND YOUR DONATIONS TO:

TURTLE CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

290 Upper Turtle Creek Rd. • Kerrville, Texas 78028

OR GO ONLINE TO WWW.TCVFDKERRCO.ORG!



If you would prefer to designate your contribution to apply only for certain items, please designate your preference(s) below.

- _____
- General Funds**

If you would like a receipt for tax purposes, please fill out & return. (For donations of \$100 or more only, please.)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

A Little History...

the neighbors together and the Turtle Creek Fire Dept. was born. He had no money, equipment or know how, but he called the Forestry Service and got a small brush truck which was kept under a tarp at Frank Jones' house. We had meetings and training at the schoolhouse and David haunted the County Commissioners meetings trying to get help. We gradually got bunker gear, helmets and boots, but no fire house. David found out the property on the creek belonged to John Sandidge, and approached him about donating it. He said if we had a firehouse built in three years, we could have it...then the work started.

In 1977, a neighbor's house burned to the ground before KFD could get here...all we could do is take care of the grass around it so it wouldn't spread. David decided we needed a fire department so he called the Forestry Service and got a small brush truck which was kept under a tarp at Frank Jones' house. We had meetings and training at the schoolhouse and David haunted the County Commissioners meetings trying to get help. We gradually got bunker gear, helmets and boots, but no fire house. David found out the property on the creek belonged to John Sandidge, and approached him about donating it. He said if we had a firehouse built in three years, we could have it...then the work started.

The land was even with the creek so he talked the county into dumping dirt (a lot of dirt) so he could build it up. All the firefighters learned to lay rock as a large wall was put up. We had fairs and Bar-B-Q's to raise money for the building. The women's auxiliary put out a cookbook which paid for the doors. Before it was completely finished, David bought a bingo and popcorn machine...we had bingo twice a month with the ladies selling baked goods, popcorn and drinks...more money for the building.

In 1980 the building was completed and Mr. Sandidge turned over the deed. A neighbor gave him an old 1939 Buick which he traded for an old ambulance. The county helped equip it and two

firefighters attended school and became certified EMT's.

Then he started fussing for airpacks which the county was reluctant to finance...but finally gave in. Twice a month, there were training sessions from learning how to deliver babies to high water rescue. He then decided the firehouse should be manned 24 hours a day for a quicker response. Retired folks and women manned during the day, working people stayed the night. With bathrooms, kitchen, and rec room with TV, pulling night duty was no problem.

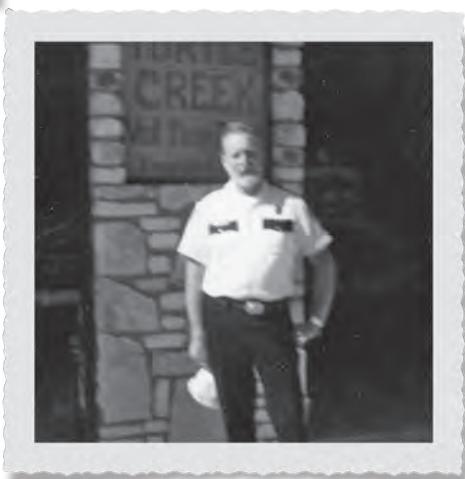
He was the first to have an all woman crew...a driver, Lt. and two firefighters...they received the same training as the men, including attending A&M Fire School.

Just before he retired, there was a terrible accident on Lower Turtle Creek Rd., in which three teenagers were joy riding, missed a curve and ended

up partially in a creek. We were the first ones there. The driver was dead but we had to get the other two out as we could smell gas. Couldn't get the doors open but David knocked out the windshield with a crowbar and one of our skinny firefighters was able to get in there to assist getting them out. David decided then and there we needed a Jaws of Life but retired before that was accomplished. I know the Commissioners Court breathed a sigh of relief when he retired.

- Vivian Davis

**In Loving Memory
Dave Davis 1925 - 2010**



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