Sandown Fire-Rescue



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Sandown Fire-Rescue Acquires State of The Art Battery Powered Rescue Tools

The Sandown Fire-Rescue department spent Wednesday Evening (3/16) training on their newly acquired battery powered rescue tools. Sandown Fire-Rescue have a set of hydraulic rescue tools, by Hurst called "The Jaws of Life" that were purchased in 2007. The existing hydraulic tools utilize a gas-powered generator and are limited in distance; they can be used as the hydraulic hoses are attached to the fire engine. Due to the length of the hydraulic hoses, the tools can only be used within 100 feet of the engine. Rescue tools of this sort are often used to extricate patients from vehicles involved in accidents, or commercial/industrial machinery accidents.

The new Hurst Edraulic 2.0 tools are battery operated, and although are mounted in a piece of apparatus, they are unlimited to where they can be used as the cordless, battery-operated tools can be carried by hand to wherever they are needed. The new tools are also able to be used underwater if needed.

The Sandown Fireman's Association raises funds each year by hosting their annual Chicken BBQ, a Rabies Clinic, and receives donations at times. These funds are used to give back to the community.

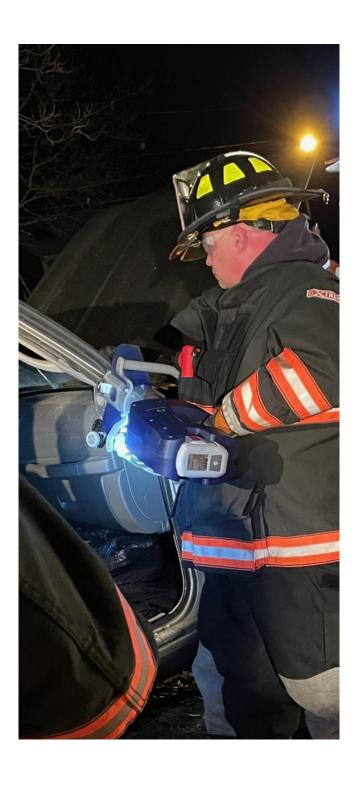
Capt. Dave Farrar presented to the members of the association an opportunity to buy a "combitool" back in October. The Sandown Fireman's Association voted to purchase the combi tool and donate it to the Town for the Fire Departments use. A combi tool works as both a "spreader" and as a "cutter." It allows the user to cut metal and spread metal, but as a combination tool it does not offer as much strength as a purpose-built cutting tool or spreading tool would.

Fire Chief Mike Devine simultaneously made a presentation to the Board of Selectmen to replace much needed portable and mobile radios using ARPA funds. The Board of Selectman agreed to the purchase, which freed up some money in the 2021 budget that had been allocated to buy 3-4 radios. Chief Devine worked with the Fireman's Association, and their order was changed to a purpose-built cutter and the town was able to order a purpose-built spreader, allowing the Fire-Rescue Department to obtain both tools.

Fire Chief Mike Devine said, "by working collaboratively with the Fireman's Association, and the Board of Selectmen, Sandown Fire-Rescue has been able to purchase these tools, train on them, and put them in service in a very cost-effective manner." Sandown Fire-Rescue Captain Dave Farrar said, "I have used both the older generation hydraulic tools, and the newer generation battery operated tools, the difference in speed, efficiency, capability, and maintenance is far superior to the original hydraulic tools."

The total cost of both tools was \$24,680, and this was offset by \$12,700 that the Sandown Fireman's Association donated.

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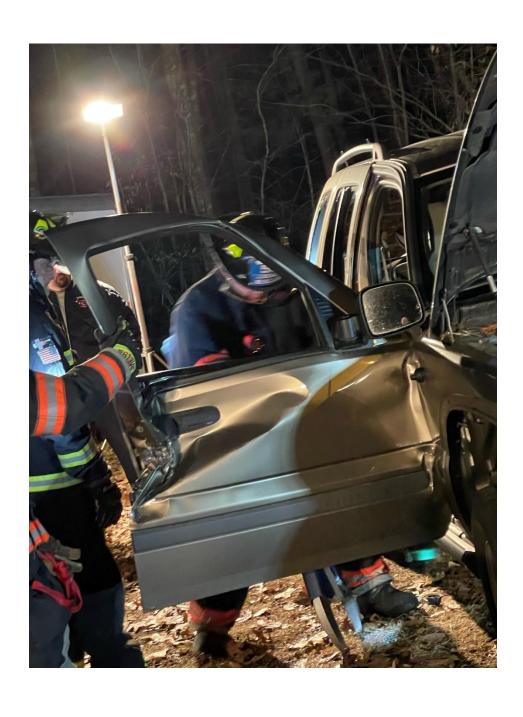


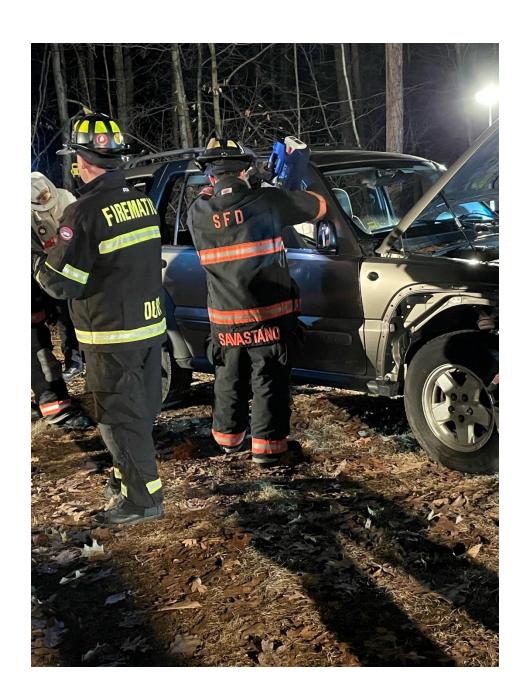
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