

The All Hands

It takes all of us working together, to get the job done!

September 2015 Volume 3, Issue 9



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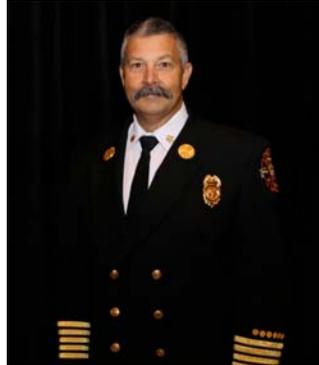
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Deputy Chief's Message—Firefighter Culture of Safety

By Darrel Donatto



I try and live life by the Golden Rule, to do to others what I would have them do to me. And thus, your health and safety is important to me and I take this responsibility very seriously.

I joined the fire service in 1981, and I've witnessed great strides in firefighter health and safety initiatives. The fire service has benefited from technological advances in protective clothing, breathing apparatus, thermal imaging and apparatus design. A formalized system for incident command and personnel accountability is relatively new to the fire service. A planned system for rescuing firefighters who get in trouble during a fire is also a new advent for the fire service. Firefighting is becoming a science and there has been a tremendous amount of new research on the flow path of heat and fire and the need to quickly slow the combustion process before it reaches the critical point at which fire rapidly and uncontrollably spreads. And most recently, the conversations include a focus on decontamination of bunker gear and protection from the health hazards of smoke and its particulate makeup.

Palm Beach Fire Rescue has implemented a number of new programs, policies, and new equipment to ensure that our employees are operating in a safe work environment. Some of our recent accomplishments include:

- Bunker gear – We recently purchased new bunker gear which is being delivered now. This new gear is specially designed to reduce restriction and increase range of motion. It includes a built in class 2 bailout harnesses.
- Washer / extractor. We recently purchased and installed a new washing machine at the South Fire Station so we can ensure that our bunker gear is laundered regularly, including after each fire. Clean and decontaminated personal protective clothing is an important firefighter health and safety issue.
- Bunker gear dryer. We recently received a grant for and purchased a new bunker gear dryer that will allow us to quickly dry bunker gear after it is washed.
- Exhaust Removal System. We recently contracted to modify and repair the vehicle exhaust removal systems in our fire stations capture and eliminate dangerous exhaust emissions in our fire stations.
- Exercise equipment. Through the leadership of Lt. Richard Ward, we recently upgraded the exercise equipment at our stations so our members can maintain top physical condition.

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Administrative Update

By Brodie Atwater

Assistant Chief



It's been another busy month or so here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue. The following information has been compiled in an effort to keep everyone up to date on what's been happening in the Department:

- Rescue 4 was damaged in a fire while in the bay at the south station. The department has worked with the Risk Manager to provide an estimated cost for all items damaged on the rescue truck. We have received the final settlement figure from the insurance company and all salvageable items have been removed from the unit. We expect that the damaged vehicle will be removed from the rear of the station by a salvage company in the next few days. The task of evaluating and specifying requirements for a new rescue truck have already begun.



- The lobby area at Station 3 has been updated with the addition of a small table and two chairs. This area will be used as the entry/ waiting area for the station as well as for blood pressure screenings and minor walk in medical calls. The addition of this furniture is part of the ongoing update to the station which will enhance its overall appeal. Thanks to Lt. Ward for his work on this project.

- Purchasing is currently requesting quotes from vendors for fire gear cleaning and inspection services. The department has used Gloves Inc. for the past several years for these services and Purchasing has requested an updated bid. While we currently have a washer/extractor and gear dryer for cleaning gear, NFPA requires that the gear be professionally inspected once a year. The outside vendor will conduct this inspection as well as washing the gear while they have it in their possession.



- The department is in the process of purchasing new mattresses for Station 1. Lt. Marx has obtained quotes for the new mattresses and a purchase order has been entered with Purchasing. New mattresses should be delivered within the next two weeks.

- The first part of the vehicle exhaust system upgrade has been completed. Magne Grip components have been added to the existing rails systems and rails have been repositioned so that exhaust removal drops are available for each apparatus. The system is not currently operational as transmitters still need to be mounted on each apparatus and programmed to operate the automatic start function at each station.
- The AEV rescue trucks are currently having adapters added to the vertical stacks to allow for the connection of the exhaust hose. The Horton will have its exhaust re-routed to the Officer's side to match all other units. Both the transmitter installation and rescue truck exhaust modifications will be handled by a local contractor in the coming week. The system is not considered to be operational until the transmitters are installed and exhaust modifications are complete.
- The magnegrip company will be providing instructional and maintenance information for the system when we are closer to full operation. They will also have technicians on hand in the coming weeks to address any issues with the system.



EMS Division

By Jimmy Duane

Division Chief

Several months ago Paramedics were issued the Paramedic Evaluation and Signoff Program in Target Solutions. Juan Reyes, being the first to complete the manual, tested off with Dr. Schepcke, our Medical Director this month. Juan spent several weeks preparing for this evaluation, persistence and hard work paid off as he completed his testing with confidence. Congratulations Juan!

The majority of the Fire Rescue agencies in Palm Beach County are now working under the medical direction of Dr. Schepcke. Of those agencies, most are also utilizing Target Solutions as their primary training program. Our agency, through the persistence of Lieutenant Marx acquired all of the lectures that Dr. Schepcke has recorded through Palm Beach County Fire Rescue's video department. There are over two dozen short 10-15 minute videos in the file center located under the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue folder. As videos are created, they will be added to the collection for personnel to view. Each of them is both informative and relevant to every day calls we see in the fire service.

Periodically, all Fire Rescue agencies within Palm Beach County are inspected by the Palm Beach County Health Department. During this inspection, each of the Fire Rescue units will be evaluated for items such as medical supplies and equipment, as well as licenses carried by each Firefighter on shift. Palm Beach Fire Rescue has been inspected numerous times over the many years and has always passed the process with flying colors.



All of the station supplies have now been adjusted to the new Operative IQ medical supply standards. The reduction in unnecessary inventory will result in a greater streamline process with little to no waste. The ipads currently utilize the TOPB Public Wi-Fi network, which causes each ipad to lose the signal after a period of time without use. Because of the issues this has caused while documenting narcotics checks each morning, the devices are being moved to the TOPB private network. The devices will be automatically connected to the internet at all times, therefore reports will be sent successfully each time.

The EMS Division is currently working with the Purchasing Department in order to go to bid with all of the medical supplies we currently carry. When bidding out the large amount of supplies we carry, the benefits far exceed purchasing on separate bids each month. As we put this bid together, we will also be evaluating all of the supplies we carry to see if we can purchase a comparable or better product for a cheaper price. Bidding once a year will reduce the duplication of work each month, speeding up the process for receiving supplies.

The new Stryker Stretchers that were set to arrive in mid- September have been moved back to the second week in October. With the introduction of the new XPS (which we purchased) the demand for the product increased dramatically, slowing down their delivery dates. Once received, they will be in service within 3 days. Lieutenant Reyes updated Procedure 324, Stryker Power Pro Stretchers to reflect all of the new changes. The procedure will be distributed prior to the arrival of the new units.



Juan Reyes during Paramedic Testing



Training and Safety Division

By Dave Burke

Division Chief

The island community we have sworn to protect is readily supplied with natural gas and limited amounts of liquefied petroleum gas. In August of 2014, PBFR developed and adopted a gas leak emergencies standard operating procedure. Our proactive approach to these types of emergencies has improved the safety of residents and responders. Recent infrastructure upgrades to the buried natural gas pipelines in our community has brought new materials that require modern tactics with regard to emergency mitigation. Battalion Chief Dudley developed and implemented gas leak kits for all of our apparatus and has updated these kits by adding a safety spray used to reduce the risk of a static energy release or spark. He recently enlisted the assistance of Station 3 A-shift to build a nearly no cost gas leak prop. The prop will allow crews to train using realistic, real-time tools. Additionally, we brought the vendor to us partnering in best practices through classroom training. Florida Public Utilities instructed training for all three PBFR shifts. Our organization received a better understanding of what to expect on every gas leak from the vendor; and FPU gained a perspective of our capabilities.

During the last month we kicked off our module approach to continuing education in EMS. Patient assessment was the focus of module #1, instructed by Health Career Institute. The module series will continue over the next year. Taught through a lecture, testing, and hands-on approach, the concept will incorporate our exciting new EMS simulation lab designed by Division Chief Duane and implemented through the help of many.

In the coming weeks, we are excited to welcome two new employees, practice and learn new techniques through live fire training at Palm Beach State College, and continue with EMS module training and NFPA 1410 drills.



Ocean Rescue

By Craig Pollock

Lifeguard Supervisor

Beach attendance started to subside as local public schools started back up in mid-August, with weekends staying fairly busy. On August 10 lifeguards had to hoist up the Purple Flag (condition flag that notes the presence of jellyfish) as the return of the Moon Jellyfish (*Aurelia Aurita*) made its way back to Palm Beach waters. The medusa or the bell of the Moon Jellyfish can range 5 to 40 cm in size in size. The four horseshoe shaped markings of the Moon Jelly fish are easily visible through its translucent bell and offer the simplest way to identify a Moon Jellyfish. The sting of the Moon jellyfish is not fatal or dangerous to humans. In severe cases, the victim may experience some stinging on the surface of the skin where he /she have been stung.

Congratulations go out to Lifeguard Dennis Wytrykush who retired from The Town of Palm Beach Ocean Rescue unit on August 08, 2015 after 30 years of employment. Throughout the years Dennis has received numerous letters of appreciation letters and Town of Palm Beach residents and visitors. Dennis has received Employee of the month for Palm Beach Police Department and Fire Rescue during his career. Good luck to you in the future.



New Rescue

By Jimmy Duane

Division Chief

As Firefighters, responding to fires is a normal part of our job. However, when the fire occurs in your own fire station the event becomes far from normal. On June 26, 2015, the crews at Station 3 were going about their normal business within the station when a glow in the window of the door leading to the bay caught one of the firefighter's eyes. Upon entering the bay, firefighters encountered a large amount of smoke and flames were coming out of the windshield of the spare rescue vehicle. Firefighters immediately went into action in order to contain the fire to only the vehicle involved. Firefighters were able to remove the surrounding apparatus in order to avoid further damage to the fleet and quickly extinguish the fire. Fortunately the fire was discovered early enough as to avoid any damage to the structure of the station.

The fire was investigated by the State Fire Marshal's Office and the Town's contracted insurance adjuster. Though there has been no determination of a cause at this point, the fire appeared to be an electrical short in the area of the chassis AC system. The damage to the vehicle was severe enough that the insurance company considered it a total loss, including the equipment carried in the cab and patient compartment.

The purchase of a new vehicle can be a lengthy process. A committee has been established to begin evaluating what the requirements of the organization are and what would fit best for our customer's needs. Since the last Rescue purchase, there have been many changes in technology and equipment availability, as well as new standards that dictate particular equipment placed on the units. The safety and design standards for ambulances, which are regulated by the Federal Specification: Star-Of-Life Ambulance made a significant change to vehicles purchased after July 1, 2015. The stretcher mounting system we currently use, known as an antler style mount will be replaced by either a power load system or a track system, both of which will increase the security of the patient in the event of an accident. This new standard comes at a considerable price increase, which will need to be absorbed within the current budget of the vehicle.

Rescue design within the patient compartment has seen minimal changes over the last 20 years. The emphasis on securing the patient and equipment during a vehicle accident is a high priority. During a low speed accident, unsecured equipment in the patient compartment can be sent throughout the area causing serious harm. An emphasis will be placed on the design of the vehicle so that it is efficient and safe for both the patient and the crew.



A Refresher on Ground Ladder Skills

By Homer Robertson

Fire Rescue, May 2008 Issue

Most fire service folks don't get too excited when you start talking about ground ladder training. But there shouldn't be any doubt about the importance of ground ladders. Just look at the time we set aside for ladder training during basic recruit school and the amount of space dedicated to ground ladders in every fire service training manual.

Ground ladder training in recruit school provides the foundation. We teach the basics, such as ladder construction and the types of raises, through hours of repetitive drills, by raising and lowering ladders until we can do it with our eyes closed.

If you watch fire departments that really take pride in their ground ladder work, it's a thing of beauty. Those departments don't get that way by just having a great recruit school. They constantly reinforce ground ladder skills at the company level.

If you're a company officer or just the member chosen to conduct this week's drill, a ladder evolution is an excellent topic.

Where to Start:

Before taking the ground ladder skills sheet out of the training manual, think about your target group.

Remember: Most drills are designed to reinforce a task already learned. As trainers, we should always work to add some new information or tricks of the trade to help make every drill interesting.

If you're conducting a company-level drill, everyone involved has completed Ladders 101, so don't spend much time or effort re-viewing ladder parts or how a ladder is built. Focus instead on the skills needed to place and raise a ladder to perform a rescue.

Look for the Everyday Moments

Good company officers are always looking for opportunities to reinforce skills and enhance learning through daily activities. Ladders are a great example. During apparatus maintenance and clean up, instruct the crew to pull the ladders off and give them a good once-over. Every ladder should be visibly inspected daily and tested for functionality at least once a month—a great chance to get in a little training. These small efforts will pay big dividends on the fireground.

Similarly, when you're returning from an incident or performing pre-fire plans, take time to talk about ladder placement and needs at different buildings. During preplanning, raise ladders as you would during an incident to look for dead loads on roofs. Quiz your crew by selecting buildings in your response area and asking which ladder(s) would best be used.

We use a lot more scenario-based training these days. Be sure to look for ways to tie some ground ladders into your training in context. This type of training allows your crews to put all the pieces together using PPE, SCBAs and ladders.

Ladder Sizes

Most engine companies will carry 24' or 28' extension ladders with some type of shorter attic ladder. Know the buildings in your area—especially those with life-hazard issues, such as three- or four-story apartment buildings—where your complement of ladders isn't enough. In addition, know what size ladders your mutual-aid companies carry.

When selecting the right size ladder for the job, provide your crew with the following rule of thumb: Take the first digit of the ladder length as a guide. For example, a 14' ladder will reach the first floor, a 24' ladder will reach the second floor and a 35' ladder will reach the third floor.

This rule of thumb also serves as an easy reminder on how many firefighters a ladder will carry safely: two on a 24', three on a 35', etc.

Continued on next page

A Refresher on Ground Ladder Skills (con't)

RIT Training

In the last 15 years, the fire service has spent a lot of effort working on rapid intervention team (RIT) operations. Ground ladders are a key component in any RIT operation, especially the pre-deployment of ladders around the structure covering every level on each side. Be sure to take time to discuss ladder deployment and placement during your RIT training.

Many of the techniques used in RIT operations, such as the emergency ladder bailout, must be drilled on regularly. RIT training also provides another opportunity to reinforce basic ground ladder operations.

A Final Word about Safety

Last but certainly not least, don't overlook safety while working with ground ladders, especially when working around or close to electrical lines. Also, use caution when asked by members of the community to provide ladders at non-emergency service calls. Always perform a risk assessment before committing to such operation.

Train on ground ladders often, and hone your crew's ladder skills by tying them into your daily activities.

Drill 1: Rules & Policies:

Step 1: Cover the basics of fire service ground ladders. Remember: This is a drill, not basic recruit school.

Step 2: Cover the rules of thumb for selecting the proper length ladder.

Step 3: Discuss your department's policy concerning placement of ground ladders.

Step 4: Identify buildings in your area that would require larger ladders than are carried on the first-due apparatus. Ask crewmembers to determine how they should respond in such situations.

Drill 2: Preplanning

Step 1: While out preplanning, select a building that will require the deployment of a ground ladder.

Step 2: Ask the crew to place the correct size ladder to the roof and look at dead loads that may be present. Always note location of overhead wires.

Steps 3: Discuss where your company would place ground ladders if it was operating as the RIT.



The Dawning of the Age of Enlightenment for the Fire Service

By Robert Avsec, Executive Fire Officer

August 11, 2015

First a quick review of western European history. What was the Age of Enlightenment?

The 18th Century proudly referred to itself as the “Age of Enlightenment” and rightfully so, for Europe had dwelled in the dim glow of the Middle Ages when suddenly the lights began to come on in men’s minds and humankind moved forward (Lewis, H. The European Dream of Progress and Enlightenment. 1992)



Digging into the details of that statement, Enlightenment was a wide-ranging intellectual movement of scientists, philosophers, artists, mathematicians, theologians and other “heavy duty” thinkers who sought to better understand the natural world and humankind’s place in it solely on the basis of reason and without turning to religious belief. The movement claimed the allegiance of a majority of thinkers during the 17th and 18th centuries, a period that Thomas Paine called the Age of Reason. At its heart it became a conflict between religion and the inquiring minds that wanted to know and understand through reason based on evidence and proof.



The fire service is, in my opinion, entering into a similar Age of Enlightenment as long-held truths, strategies and tactics are falling by reason based on proof and evidence. The technology available today to fire behavior researchers like those at NIST and UL gives them an unprecedented ability to measure all aspects of a fire’s behavior including temperature at various levels in a space, air flows within a space, infra-red imaging within a space, and video recording and editing capabilities that “brings all the data together”. Fire based research has given us empirical evidence that proves:

The long-accepted—and taught—concept that fire streams “push” fire is a myth; and

The long-accepted—and taught—concept that fire streams “push” fire is a myth; proper application of a fire stream in the ceiling area above the fire from the exterior of the structure quickly reduces heat, prevents the ignition of unburned hydrocarbons, and reduces interior room temperatures.

The fuel loads in residential structures have changed. Today’s homes are constructed and furnished with synthetic materials—materials that burn faster, deplete the available oxygen in a space more quickly, and generate more unburned hydrocarbons.

The way that homes are constructed and the materials used in that construction have changed. The engineered lumber and light-weight building construction techniques, e.g., wood trusses, used in today’s construction do not maintain their structural integrity when exposed to fire like the “old” dimensional lumber used prior to the 1970’s.

The structural fires that we encounter today—that occur in more tightly closed spaces and involve synthetic fuels—are most likely in a ventilation-limited state rather than a fuel-limited state when we arrive.

Ventilation does not have a cooling effect on a ventilation-limited fire, but instead can greatly enhance the fire by providing a flow path that brings oxygen to the fire.

Exterior fire attack is not strictly a defensive tactic, especially when properly applied to cool the hostile atmosphere and improve the interior conditions for civilians and firefighters.

Exterior fire attack will not harm victims; cooling the superheated gaseous hydrocarbons in the ceiling area near the fire dramatically reduces interior room temperatures from the floor to the ceiling and improves victim viability.

Continued on page 10

Fire Prevention

By **TIMOTHY POMPOS**

Division Chief

In the month of August, the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Division completed 188 fire prevention activities with the assistance of Fire Operations shift personnel. We are pleased to announce that the City of West Palm Beach Public Utilities / Water Distribution Department has added a new fire hydrant at 1296 South Ocean Boulevard to help reduce long fire hydrant hose lays in the area. I would like to commend the City of West Palm for their dedication and team work on this project.

Fire Prevention Division would like to remind fire operations personnel to conduct pre-fire planning on the Town's docks.

It was only 11 and half years ago, on April 15, 2004, that our department battled a boat fire at the Sailfish Club. As we know from experience, marina dock fires are violent and devastating events. They are difficult and dangerous fires to fight. Marina fires can progress so rapidly that we can only hope to limit their spread and protect exposures. Rapid extinguishment of a fire of this nature is usually not likely. The real opportunity to save lives and boats lies in excellent pre fire planning. It is important that we take the time to prepare for marine fire responses. We encourage all company officers and their crews to take time to pre fire plan and develop emergency action plans involving our marine docks areas.

Here is a list of public docks throughout the Town:

The Sailfish Club – 1338 North Lake Way

Lake Towers – 250 Bradley Place

Parc Regent – 184 Bradley Place

Biltmore Condo – 150 Bradley Place

IL Lugano Condo – 300 Seminole Avenue

Town Docks – 500 Australian Avenue

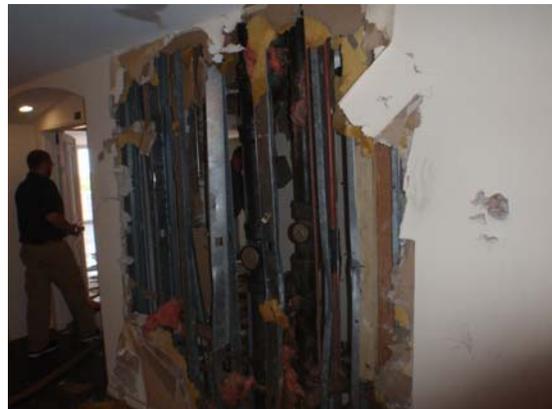
The President Condo – 2505 South Ocean Blvd.

The Royal Saxon Condo – 2784 South Ocean Blvd.

3120 South Ocean Blvd – across the street, on the west side.



Fire—130 Sunrise Avenue



Young Leader: Climbing the Ladder Shouldn't Be Your Goal, Here's Why

By Johnathan Pearson
February 2, 2015

Every leader wants more.

It's part of what makes us a leader in the first place. The same thing that gives us the drive to dream dreams, cast vision, and go further is the same thing that makes us want more... want bigger.

It's not a bad thing. The pursuit of more. It's just a bad thing when it becomes the main thing. One of the things that I've been learning as a leader who's beginning to get a little older and wiser...

Don't seek to climb the ladder.

Why? Shouldn't you want to do your best and stretch yourself? Absolutely.

- Let those be your goal.

- Let your goal be the other people that you lead.
- Let your goal be the mission of the organization or business that you work for.
- Let your goal be helping others.
- Let your goal be maximum impact for the people around you.

You see, young leader, it's not about us.

The second leading and life becomes about us is the second we become ineffective leaders.

- Work hard.
- Show up.
- Be consistent.

- Be humble.
- Be effective.
- Be loving.
- Be hard on yourself.
- Demand the best of others.

but,

Don't seek your gain.

Let the gain find you through your hard work!



The Age of Enlightenment (con't)

From page 08

The best tactic for combating basement fires is not using a top-down approach; if the flow path is not properly controlled, e.g., a door or window in the basement is opened, the interior basement stairs become the primary flow path and personnel in that flow path will be subjected to intense heat, smoke and fire gases.

Venting the structure, entering and searching (VES) before suppressing the fire is not the best way to aid entrapped victims and improve their survivability; a more effective tactical approach should be IVES (Isolate the fire, ventilate so as to control the flow path, enter, and search).

Why do I characterize our current day as the Age of Enlightenment for the fire service? Because after decades of firefighting strategy and tactics that are based upon the "I think, feel or believe" method of decision-making we've entered into an era where technologies and applied research are yielding the information we need to truly move toward becoming a data driven decision-making profession.

For those of us with Advance Life Support medical training and certifications, we observed this change happen in earnest in EMS beginning around the turn of the century (the most recent one!). EMS agencies, hospitals, allied health organizations and federal agencies started evaluating the effectiveness of long-accepted pre-hospital treatments, e.g., IV therapy for trauma patients, administration of sodium bicarbonate during cardiac arrest resuscitation efforts, etc. With that examination, many long held "truths" about patient care and outcomes have become obsolete and discontinued.

As we continue to move into our Age of Enlightenment, we are seeing the same manner of conflict between "religion" (That's the way we've always done it!) and the inquiring minds that want to know and understand through reason based on evidence and proof (Look at what the NIST and UL videos are showing about "hitting it hard from the yard!"). So which "camp" are you in?

Deputy Chief's Message (con't)

From page 1

- Fire pump service testing. Through Lt. Danny Dunnam's leadership, we recently implemented a new program to service test our fire pumps on an annual basis.
- Traffic Preemption. We have implemented a traffic preemption system at the major intersections throughout the town to make responses safer and quicker.
- Live fire training. To ensure that our members have the training and experience needed to safely and effectively fight structural fires, we have increased the frequency of live fire training.
- Simulated fire training. Decision making during high risk, time compressed situations is best guided by past experience. To expand the experience level of our members and thus improve their fire scene decision making, we are implementing a computer based fire simulation training program.

In addition to what we have accomplished so far, there are a number of other initiatives that we are actively working on, including:

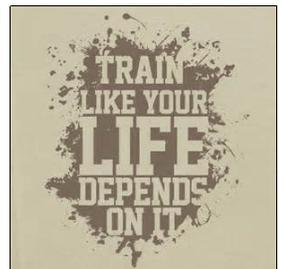
- Developing a written procedure that provides for cleaning and inspection of firefighting PPE, Helmets, and Hoods. We are working on a process to exchange dirty hoods for clean hoods after each fire.
- Developing a new written infection control policy that provides for disinfecting and cleaning of facilities, apparatus, and equipment.
- Developing a Respiratory Protection Program that ensures our members safety when using self-contained breathing apparatus.
- Developing a written policy that provides a schedule for the maintenance, inspection and testing of fire apparatus. This policy will include requirements that fire pumps on apparatus shall be service tested at least annually, aerial devices shall be inspected and service tested annually, and apparatus equipped with a compressed air foam system (CAFS) shall be tested annually.
- Developing a written safety plan policy based upon NFPA 1500: Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program.
- Expanding the traffic preemption system to additional intersections within the Town.

But beyond everything that the department is doing to ensure our members health and safety, the most important thing that can be done is for each of you to develop a Culture of Safety. That is for each of you to take an active role in creating a safe and healthy work environment and to step up and take action when it is needed. If you see something that is not safe – say or do something immediately.

Training is an important component of safety. I urge you to train hard, train often, and train as if your life depends upon it – because it does. Whether you are participating at a drill or simply doing an online training course, you must maintain a keen awareness of why you are training – it is because lives depend upon it.

New ideas and new innovations are important. Your ideas are just as valuable as or more so than mine. You must be willing to surface these ideas, to research them, to champion them and to help us put them in place if these ideas would make the organization better and safer.

We work in a dangerous occupation that at times requires us to take extreme risks. However, we can mitigate and control those risks with proper training, good equipment, and a personal commitment to safety. If you have an idea on how we can make Palm Beach Fire Rescue a safer place for our members and the community – please let us know. Together we can make Palm Beach Fire Rescue better.



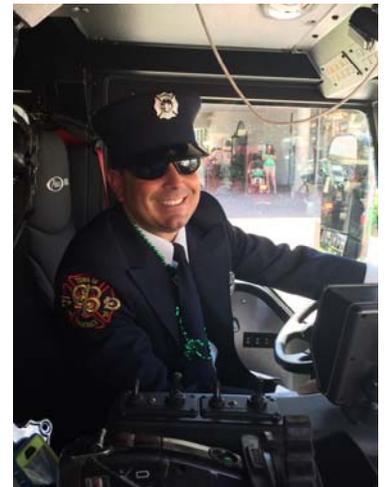
Farewell



F/F Christian Dick was hired with Palm Beach Fire Rescue on 11/10/2014 and in his 10 months at the department has shown himself to be hardworking and enthusiastic. Christian is the definition of the word initiative. He can always be found working hard, seeking out projects to fix, or improve things around the fire house. Christian is eager to learn and train with his crew and is always seen with a smile on his face. His passion and positive attitude for the job will be sorely missed. Christian has accepted a firefighter position with a local Fire Department where I am sure he will continue to be a big asset. Best of luck Christian, we will miss you!



Jason Stern was hired with Palm Beach Fire Rescue on 11/10/14 and was assigned as Engine 98 Firefighter/Paramedic. Soon after being hired as a firefighter, Jason took the initiative to enhance the department's electronic Patient Care Protocols thus allowing users to easily navigate the protocols while providing links to more detailed information and procedures used throughout the department. He spent many hours of his own time to have the program completed prior to the protocols being implemented reflecting his passion for excellence. Jason was recently offered a Firefighter/Paramedic position at another Fire Department. Without a doubt, he will be successful at his new fire department and we wish him the best.



C-Shift Ladder Training



Photo Ops—Mutual Aid Training with Palm Beach County Fire Rescue



Three For Your Safety

By Dave Burke
Division Chief

Active Shooter SOG – We are working with Palm Beach Police to ensure the successful implementation of this SOG, tailoring it to our specific town-wide needs. While these types of emergencies are rare, we must be prepared to ensure the safety of all. We look forward to implementing this SOG during the Public Safety hands on training taking place every Wednesday in October.



Personnel Accountability SOG – This is an update to the existing SOG with significant changes in operations providing better real time tracking of our personnel at emergency incidents. Personnel accountability provides vital information to the incident commander for every firefighter operating in an Immediate Danger to Life and Health (IDLH) atmosphere. Vital information includes who, where, and what they are doing. The changes stress the importance of a county-wide system for use with all of our mutual aid partners.

Rapid Intervention Crew SOG – Also known as RIC, this is also an important update to an existing SOG. The RIC is a crew of 2 or more firefighters dedicated to the rescue of other firefighters who may become in need of assistance themselves. The RIC SOG update coincides with Personnel Accountability SOG update to improve firefighter safety and provide “same page” training and guides for use with other departments during emergency mitigation.

Each of these SOG’s has been designed to maximize our effectiveness in managing incidents allowing our goal of rescuing and protecting the public. It is a known fact that we are more effective and better prepared when we keep ourselves as safe as possible given the circumstances. Responding to emergency incidents can be a dangerous business; these policies are paramount in improving the safety of our own



130 Sunrise Fire—C Shift

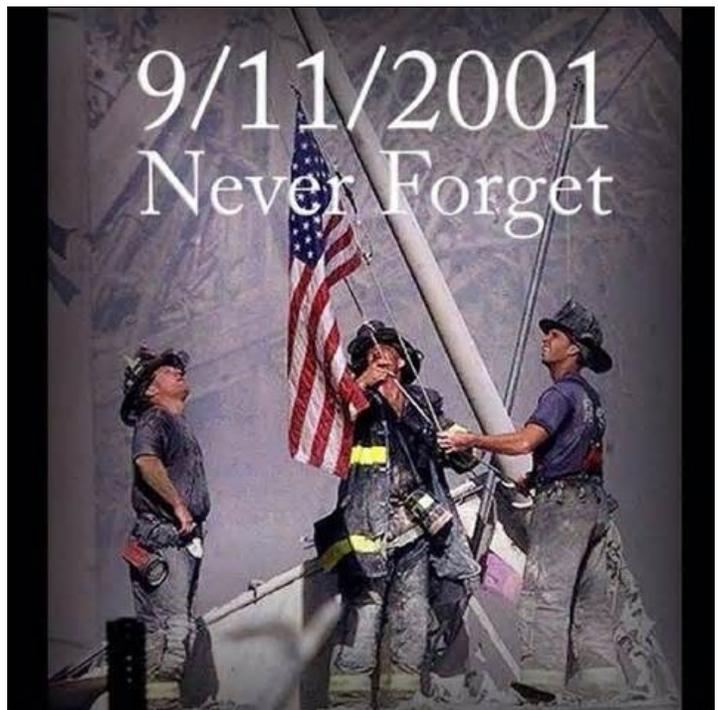


Future paramedics of Palm Beach Fire Rescue practicing through simulation training. (Brian and Michelle Matzen’s children)

9/11 Ceremony—Christ Fellowship Church



Council Member Danielle Moore at the 9/11 Ceremony with members of Palm Beach Fire-Rescue.



AUGUST DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

Training Hours

A Shift	714
B Shift	506
C Shift	812
Total	2032

Fire Prevention Inspections

188

Ocean Rescue

Visitors	17,178
Town Ordinance Enforcements	134
Preventative Actions	71
Minor Jelly Fish Stings	199

FIRE and EMS

FIRE Calls	68
EMS Calls	88
Transports to Hospital	56

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Sean Baker	9/11
Jerry Castillo	9/16
Brian Matzen	9/18
Jeremy Stanley	9/23
Juan Reyes	9/29

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS:

Craig Pollock	9/89	26 years
James Duane	9/92	23 years
Philip Dudley	9/92	23 years
Nancy Roedel	9/06	9 years
Christopher Pommells	9/29	2 years

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH 2015:

January	Oscar Geerken	July	Mark Myhre
February	Mark Bradshaw	August	Frank Mavigliano
March	Don Taylor	September	
April	Tim Pompos	October	
May	Brian Matzen	November	
June	Danny Garguilo	December	

Employee of the Month—Frank Mavigliano



Driver Engineer Mavigliano has proudly served as part of the Palm Beach Fire Rescue organization for nearly fourteen years. He is currently assigned to the South Station on A shift aboard Engine 99. D/E Mavigliano was previously awarded Employee of the month for July of 2013 and January of 2014.

Frank is well respected for his abilities with regard to water rescue and his eagerness to train others. He uses his past eighteen years of experience as an ocean lifeguard to develop and enhance water rescue training for firefighters. This year was no exception, when D/E Mavigliano built a relationship with the Palm Beach Bath & Tennis Club to host the annual water rescue training. He worked long hours, over ten days to deliver the hands-on training. He planned and coordinated training that even seasoned department veterans described as excellent. One firefighter explained, "I feel much more confident in my abilities to identify safety concerns when trying to save a swimmer."

After delivering the water rescue training, D/E Mavigliano went a step further by documenting the training. Frank wrote an article appearing in the department newsletter that explained the importance of the training. Frank has also accomplished many other tasks and been involved in several projects this last year. He worked with others to create new driver operator proficiency forms and built over a dozen pages to add to the developing driver operator handbook. Frank noticed a deficiency in the medical drowning protocol and approached the EMS coordinator with suggestions which ultimately led to changes instituted by the Medical Director. This type of initiative and dedication to the safety of others is the example that Frank sets on a consistent basis.

Frank loves to show others what he does for a living. Besides enthusiastically participating in department generated events, Frank volunteers his time and talent to educate younger citizens. He conducted fire safety training presentations for schools and Girl Scouts teaching the dangers and importance of matches, lighters, extinguishers, and emergency action plans.

Driver Engineer Mavigliano is commended for his passion in helping others and his dedication to the safety and survival of Town residents and their visitors. His incredible passion in training others makes him a great asset to the Town of Palm Beach and the deserving recipient for the August 2015 Employee of the Month Award.

