

# The All Hands

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

February 2016

Volume 4, Issue 2



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## Special points of interest:

- Firefighter of the Year
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- Awards Ceremony

## Deputy Chief's Message—A Model for Others to Follow

By Darrel Donatto

Deputy Chief



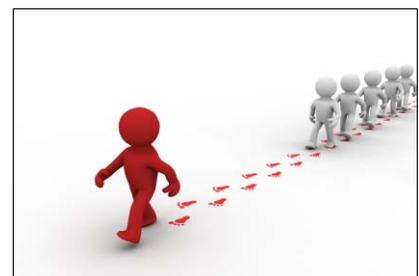
Congratulations to Lieutenant Joseph Sekula who was selected as our Firefighter of the Year for 2015.

Lt. Sekula has demonstrated incredible work ethic, incredible technical skills, incredible professionalism, and great leadership over the past year and years prior. If you want to know what we are looking for in a fire officer here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue – you have to look no further than Lt. Sekula. That is not to say that Joe is perfect – he is not; but I am not perfect and you are not either. What Joe is: He is passionate about the fire service. He works hard – he won't be outworked by the next person, he just won't let that happen. He cares about the people he serves and the people he works with. Lt. Sekula has been a great mentor to many others and I am certain he will be too many more. He understands the importance of maintaining a positive attitude and the impact that that has on those around him. He is quick to volunteer for whatever opportunities he sees to make Palm Beach Fire Rescue a better organization. He is driven to succeed; he has a plan, he has laid out a path, he is following his plan, and he is determined to make himself more valuable to the organization in the future. Lt. Sekula is not just drifting along and by chance getting lucky to end up heading in the right direction. He is disciplined and focused on the direction he wants to go in the fire service and he prioritizes his efforts to get there. He has learned from his experiences – both bad and good.

As you look at your fire service career and think about where you want to be and what it will take to get there – you should consider what others have done to get there and learn from them.

Direction—not intentions, hopes, dreams, prayers, beliefs, intellect, or education—determines destination. No matter how much you want to (intentions) advance within the fire service, you will never get there unless you do the things needed to get there (direction). There is tremendous opportunity ahead here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue. There is no secret formula for success. It takes hard work, a positive attitude, care and concern for others, and an internal drive to succeed. The path is pretty straight forward.

Lt. Sekula is one of the people you should consider following on the path toward success. He is headed in the right direction and seems to know the path to being successful in this great business. The choices are now. The outcomes are later. The decisions you make today have ramifications down the road. You should decide today to make the journey with Lt. Sekula.



## 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:

New LED lighting is currently being installed in the bay at Station 3. The addition of this new lighting will result in much better illumination of the bay. Due to the efficiency of the new lights, only half as many fixtures will be required to light the same area. The new lights are far more durable and maintenance free. Once this installation is complete, similar lighting work will begin in the bay area at Station 1. LED lights previously installed at Station 2 have greatly increased visibility in the bay.

The hose drying rack adjacent to Station 2 was recently rebuilt. This project was coordinated and completed by Lt. Ward who, along with assistance from D/E Mahy, F/P Deckers and F/P Montoya, installed new ledger boards and cross pieces on the rack, returning it to its previous condition. The rack had deteriorated and was removed some time ago due to its condition. Thanks also to Station Commander Sekula for coordinating the ordering and purchase of the materials needed for the project.



The bidding process for additional Opticom Traffic Interruption devices is continuing. A meeting was held with the device supply company and a Scope of Work was drafted. All equipment will be obtained from a state DOT bid and a request for quote will be distributed to companies that perform installation of these systems. Once completed the additional Opticom devices will augment the systems already in place to provide traffic interruption for all major intersections throughout the Town. The Police Department will be purchasing 20 transmitters for their patrol vehicles so that they can also benefit from faster and safer responses.

A total of 61 sets of decommissioned bunker gear has been donated to two different entities. This equipment previously served as backup gear which has recently been replaced. Ten sets of gear were donated to the Palm Beach County School Board for use by the Fire Academy program at Wellington High School. The department has developed a beneficial connection with this group through the Fire Prevention Division and they have helped out at our annual Open House for the past two years. Fifty One sets of gear have been donated to the City of Monticello for use by their volunteer fire department. This gear will replace the current protective equipment used by this department which is in poor condition.

Due to the ongoing beach re-nourishment at Phipp's Ocean Park, the beach area now extends several hundred feet farther out than it did before the work started. To assist Lifeguards in maintaining a clear view of the shoreline, a portable lifeguard tower will be moved to the park. Bids are currently being accepted from outside vendors to accomplish the tower move.



## EMS Division

By Jimmy Duane

For those that were able to attend this year's award ceremony, I think it was found to be a great success. Many of you were honored for a variety of commendations. For myself, I was proud to be the one that read the life save awards this year. Since the inception of the awards ceremony, this year produced the highest number of medals for the category "Life Save", which is classified as a patient who arrives at the hospital and leaves the hospital following a cardiac arrest. I had mentioned at the ceremony that our return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC) rate for 2015 was 29%. This number is just under double of the Florida state standard, which is currently between 16% – 17%. I encourage everyone to train everyday as a crew and practice the "pit crew" method so that each of you is well versed on your responsibilities during a cardiac arrest. Good quality aggressive CPR is the key to a successful patient outcome...push hard, push fast, and don't stop until the Autopulse is applied.



The term "Zika" is probably the most common word we hear over the last several weeks. As stated by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Zika is a disease caused by Zika virus that is spread to people primarily through the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito. The most common symptoms of Zika are fever, rash, joint pain, and conjunctivitis (red eyes). The illness is usually mild with symptoms lasting for several days to a week. People usually don't get sick enough to go to the hospital, and they very rarely die of Zika. There is currently no vaccine to prevent or medications to treat the virus; therefore, in the event that a patient is treated for Zika like symptoms, treat the symptom as you would normally treat and transport the patient to the hospital for further testing and treatment. A link has been placed on the dashboard of Target Solutions titled "CDC Zika Virus Knowledge Center". All personnel are encouraged to read the site often to stay up-to-date on the current information as it becomes available.

During this month's Council meeting, the Fire Rescue Department presented 2 items on the agenda for approval, which both passed. The first and largest of the two was the approval for the purchase of the new Rescue. Battalion Chief Baker and Lieutenant Marx will be traveling to Demers Ambulance Manufacture in upstate New York during the first week in March for the pre-construction meeting. After the final design is confirmed, our place will be set in the schedule for manufacturing. The estimated date for completion is in late June to early July.

The second item approved was the upgrade of the Knox Key Secure and Medvault system. All of the devices located within every emergency vehicle will be upgraded to the newest version vaults, which will be controlled remotely. Rather than having to connect to each individual device separately, changes to the entire system can be accomplished from 1 computer. Once the system arrives, the installation will be rapid and the old devices will be returned to Knox as a trade-in.

The tablet training was stalled for a couple of weeks, however is set to be finished around February 22nd. We have experienced some issues with connecting to the printers at each hospital, however most have been resolved. Printers have been purchased and will be installed on each Rescue. In the event that the hospital printer fails, the report can printed in the Rescue. Full implementation of the tablets will occur on February 29th.



## Lt Joseph Sekula - Firefighter of the Year



Palm Beach Fire Rescue proudly announces that Lieutenant Joseph Sekula has been selected as the Firefighter of The Year for 2015

Lieutenant Sekula has achieved incredible goals and completed impressive tasks during this past year. Lieutenant Sekula pledged to do his part in improving this organization through leadership, passion and training – and he has delivered.

Lieutenant Sekula was hired at Palm Beach Fire Rescue on November 2, 2002. He promoted through the ranks from Firefighter/Paramedic to Lieutenant, the position which he has held for the past five years. Additionally, Lt. Sekula serves as the Station Commander for the North Fire Station. In the past, he served in the assignments of Field Training Officer and Public Information Officer.

Lieutenant Sekula was an employee of the month recipient in 2009, 2013, 2014, and most recently in November 2015.

Lieutenant Sekula is being recognized for his consistent exemplary job performance, his accomplishments, his technical competence, his initiative, his resourcefulness, and his leadership.

Lt. Sekula has been highly engaged in providing community education. He has taught dozens of classes and delivered numerous talks to residents in their homes, businesses within the community, and for local civic groups including classes at the Breakers Hotel on fire extinguisher operation, CPR and the operation of an AED, hurricane safety, and classes to children on fire safety.

Lt. Sekula is very committed to training and the education our firefighters. He led the effort to construct an SCBA confidence course and entanglement prop and has trained all of our members on SCBA confidence, RIC drills, search and rescue, and mayday drills. Through Lt. Sekula's efforts, our firefighters are better prepared to handle situations they may encounter where their survival depends upon their ability to recall the training he provided. He also serves as the Department's Emergency Vehicle Operations Course instructor and has trained all of our new personnel in emergency vehicle driving techniques.

Lt. Sekula strives to make our organization better and he has been involved in multiple committees. He served as the department's liaison for radio issues, where he was responsible for all radio repairs, batteries, and lapel microphones. He served as the lead person for the maintenance and cleaning of our bunker gear. He served as a member of the Apparatus Committee where he helped develop the specifications and coordinate the purchase of the Quint. After the delivery of this new apparatus, Lt. Sekula assumed responsibility for leading the efforts to install all of the bracket and equipment on this unit. He serves on the Employee Recognition Committee. And – he serves as a mentor to newly promoted Lieutenants to help them transition from buddy to boss.

Beyond making the organization better, Lt. Sekula strives to make himself better. He serves as an Acting Battalion Chief, taking on additional responsibility and preparing himself for future opportunities. He has obtained his Associate of Science degree in Emergency Medical Services and he is currently enrolled at Columbia Southern University to continue his education and work towards a bachelor's degree in Fire Administration.

While these recent accomplishments are significant and clearly demonstrate his work ethic, what is not as obvious from this list is Lt. Sekula's love and passion for the job – which shows in everything he does.

We highly commend Lieutenant Sekula for his dedication and devotion to the Palm Beach Fire-Rescue Department. His work ethic and high standards makes him a great asset to the Fire Rescue Department and the Town of Palm Beach and have resulted in him being named our 2015 Firefighter of the Year.

## Carolina Tellez - Telecommunicator of the Year

Palm Beach Fire Rescue proudly announces that Telecommunicator Carolina Tellez has been selected as the Telecommunicator of The Year for 2015

Carolina Tellez has been with the Town of Palm Beach Communications Unit for just over one year. In her short time with the department she has taken a training class to become a training officer to teach others. She has assisted in training communicators within the unit.

On July 3rd, 2015 at approximately 1307 hours, Telecommunicator Tellez received a call from a caller who advised that her mother was in need of an emergency blood transfusion. TC Tellez immediately began entering a call for fire rescue response and initiated the Priority Dispatch ProQa software. She accurately completed all portions of this call in accordance to Emergency Medical Dispatch protocols set forth by the National Academies of Emergency Dispatch (NAED). This allowed an immediate response by medical personnel who were armed with up-to-date and accurate patient information due to TC Tellez's strict adherence to protocol.

Due to the efforts of Carolina, the patient was quickly transported to a local hospital facility.

While the professionalism displayed by TC Tellez assisted in quick response and treatment by fire rescue responders, it was found that she scored a perfect one hundred percent on this call when later evaluated by supervisory staff. This call was the first "perfect call" scored by the agency since the establishment of a Quality Assurance and Improvement Plan specific to emergency medical and fire calls.

TC Tellez is being recognized for her consistent exemplary job performance, accomplishments, technical competence, and her positive attitude. Another example of her excellent performance was recently documented, when Carolina assisted PABPD in solving a significant criminal case.

We highly commend Telecommunicator Carolina Tellez for her dedication and devotion to the Town of Palm Beach. Her work ethic and high standards makes her a great asset to the Fire Rescue Department and the Town of Palm Beach and have resulted in her being named our 2015 Telecommunicator of the Year.



## Promotion –Lt. Michael Messner



Congratulations to Mike Messner on his promotion to Lieutenant

Mike has served dutifully for more than 10 years for the Town of Palm Beach. Mike the Father of 2 Boys Grady and Gavin and married to his wife Hallie for over 9 years. Mike is a licensed Nurse and coaches basketball and baseball in his sparetime.

Mike has demonstrated the attitude, behaviors and leadership necessary for this most prestigious promotion

Congratulations Lt Messner.



## Pediatric Advanced Life Support Training

Every year, the Fire Rescue Department conducts pediatric medical training with the use of the department's simulation lab, company based training and video based training through Target Solutions. This past week, each department member attended Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) training as a 2 year recertification. PALS is a classroom, video-based, Instructor-led course that uses a series of simulated pediatric emergencies to reinforce the important concepts of a systematic approach to pediatric assessment, basic life support, PALS treatment algorithms, effective resuscitation and team dynamics. The goal of the PALS Course is to improve the quality of care provided to seriously ill or injured children



## B/C Update-Know your Apparatus

**By Sean Baker**

Battalion Chief

We have recently moved aerial apparatus between Stations 1 and 3 presenting some excellent training opportunities. First and foremost all personnel should familiarize themselves with the nuances of the units in their new homes and work to know the inventories forward and backward. That means knowing where that little-used piece of equipment is on the apparatus. Work on perfecting the ability to maintain and do quick fixes on the equipment on the apparatus. We should ensure that all equipment is properly placed in the appropriate compartment in a constant state of readiness.

Know your apparatus beyond the basics of fluids, gallons in the water tank, hose loads and lengths. A good apparatus operator knows how long they can operate on a tank of water flowing various lines. The water gauge should be viewed as a countdown clock and proper apparatus placement should be second nature.

Ladder 99 has the ability to use its onboard Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) and members should reacquaint themselves with its use. Here are some advantages to using CAFS:

The increased reach of the stream enhances firefighter safety.

Foam provides a quicker knockdown with less water use due to the increased surface area of the foam solution and the resulting increased ability to absorb heat.

There's a reduced chance of rekindle because the foam solution is much more effective in penetrating and wetting fuels.

The lightweight compressed air foam (CAF) hose line is more maneuverable and, therefore, particularly helpful if you find yourself with limited personnel.

Truck 97 is fully equipped to operate as a dedicated truck company. Those assigned to Station 1 should keep the following tactical assignments in mind when training and responding to emergencies:

- Perform a truck company size-up
- Force entry for search and engine operations
- Perform any immediate rescues (simultaneous with the interior operations if possible)
- Search
- Ventilate for the engine company and for the search
- Ladder for access, egress and ventilation
- Open up and overhaul for the engine company (including salvage work)
- Cover the utilities based on need



## Training and Safety Division

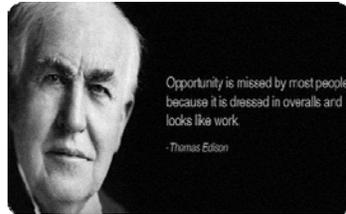
By **Dave Burke**

Division Chief

I recently had a conversation with a friend of mine from high school who now lives in the Phoenix area. He was complaining about how he had no career path options and felt pigeon-holed as an employee in a large manufacturing company. I felt his frustration, but thankfully could not relate. I couldn't relate because I see opportunity in every aspect of this organization. Admittedly, since entering the fire service I've seen ebb and flow of hiring and promotions in areas all around the country. However, current fire service job market conditions have created opportunities and they have never been as good as they are right now, right here. I like the following equation:

**Desire** + **Education** = **Preparedness**

It has been said that opportunity only knocks for the prepared. I feel fortunate that the fire service is not one of career stalling boredom. There are so many opportunities, prepare so you can seize yours. Training is the cornerstone of our business, the one thing upon which all goals are achieved. The Town's generous tuition reimbursement policy, Palm Beach Fire Rescue's commitment to training it's members to be the best, and open promotional processes should give you the hope...all you have to do is turn it into desire and start doing the



math in the equation above.

U.S.F.A. Wants YOU! Are you a first level Fire Officer or aspiring to be one? The National Fire Academy's (NFA's) Managing Officer Program may be exactly what you need. It is a multiyear curriculum that introduces emerging emergency services leaders to personal and professional skills in change management, risk reduction and adaptive leadership. Acceptance into the program is the first step in your professional development as a fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) manager, and includes all four elements of professional development: education, training, experience and continuing education. Please visit their website for more info.



Palm Beach Fire Rescue hosted the monthly Fire Training Officers Association of the Palm Beaches meeting on February 12, 2016. A majority of the Training Chiefs/Officers for nearly all fire rescue agencies in Palm Beach County attended. Discussed at the meeting were the important topics of firefighter suicide prevention, veteran integration and support services, and the possibility of a live burn involving houses in the Jupiter/Tequesta area. Flyers for the Jupiter Veterans Center and Firefighters Behavior Health were posted on each stations bulletin board. I encourage every veteran to join their local veteran's center for both support and service.

## Ocean-Rescue

After the first week of January came to a close attendance at Mid-Town Municipal Beach started to decline as Christmas Holiday break came to an end. In mid-January the sand re-nourishment project continued at Phipps Ocean Park and is expected to last until March or April. During the restoration of Phipps Ocean Park sections of the beach will have to be closed to beach patrons. Beach and North parking lot will have heavy construction equipment in use during the project. Lifeguards participated in the Town of Palm Beach open house in January; lifeguard Kyle Vander Plaats did an excellent job in producing a power point presentation of Ocean Rescue and water safety, lifeguards George Klein, Mark Myhre and Brendon Andrews also participated on teaching the importance of water safety to Town of Palm Beach residents and visitors.



## Fire Prevention

By Tim Pompos

Fire Marshal

In the month of January, the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Division completed 229 fire prevention activities with the assistance of Fire Operations shift personnel.

On Sunday, January 31, 2016, we conducted the annual Public Safety Open House in combination with the Town Celebration of the Memorial Fountain and dedication of Town Square. I would like to thank the following people for making this event a success: Lt. Mark Bradshaw, Craig Pollock, members of St. Mary's and Good Samaritan Hospital staff, members of the Society of the Four Arts staff, Gabriel Cadet and the on-duty fire operations personnel and James Marshall and the Firefighter Cadets from Wellington High School.

On Friday, January 15, 2016, the crews of Ladder 99, Lieutenant Willie Bonfante and Engine 99, Lieutenant Scott Symonette conducted a presentation for the residents at 3360 South Ocean Blvd. We received excellent feedback from the residents and they were very impressed by the professionalism of Lt. Bonfante and Lt. Symonette. In addition to the presentation the residents were provided information about our CPR/AED and K-9 CPR classed by the on duty fire crews.

As a reminder to all Operational Personnel, the following Special Assignment Overtime details are available:

Society of the Four Arts Lecture Series, every Tuesday until March 29, 2016

Mar-a-Lago Club Events for the month of March starting March 1, with the last event scheduled for March 27, 2016



Firefighter Daniel Di Rocco providing fire extinguisher training during Town Square Celebration Event



Lt. Mark Bradshaw teaching K-9 CPR during the Town Square Celebration event



Ocean Rescue Team is displaying their latest equipment from Town Square Celebration event



Future PBFR Firefighters



## Become a Better Leader by Consciously Modeling Leadership Behaviors

By Beth Miller, September 5, 2016

Leadership is not something that can be turned off like a TV. Leaders need to be always on because they are on stage constantly being observed.

As a leader, you should take this awareness in and remember it daily. You are a constant model for other employees who could be watching and might incorporate your workplace actions (and reactions) into their work habits.

Becoming a purposeful leader will provide you with the proactive thoughts necessary to model behaviors you want to instill in your employees.

Perhaps you want those you lead to be timely? Then you need to arrive early to meetings and begin on time. It's true that actions speak louder than words, so when you tell people one thing and follow the desired practice, employees build trust in you.

"Leaders live in a fishbowl and are always being watched. They should always be conscious of this fact, and take wise advantage of it." — Gene Klann

### Why people emulate leaders

Because of the way our brains work, people imitate others. People of lower status tend to imitate those above them which includes parents, celebrities, leaders.

One scientific finding shows how we take part more actively in things we observe than once thought. An observer of someone or an event vicariously lives the experience internally through the firing of mirror neurons, which have been found in two parts of our brains.

The researchers who discovered mirror neurons told a reporter for The New York Times that, "If a company wants its employees to quickly assimilate 'best practices,' there is no faster conduit to a protege's brain than watching a good role model in action."

So, good leaders will be visible and available to those they lead. They will be willing to show who they are through their actions.

One final thing about mirror neurons is worth pointing out: they are constantly firing in our brains. So if you don't serve as a model for those you lead, they will begin to emulate other people—maybe employees with less desirable attitudes and behaviors.

"The greatness of a leader is measured by the achievements of the led. This is the ultimate test of his effectiveness." — GEN Omar Bradley

### Modeling ethical behavior

Many people talk about how leaders need to model ethical behavior for their employees. And it has been shown that modeling actually is a powerful and effective ethics-teaching tool.

A survey by the Ethics Resource Center found that the modeling of leaders does set an example of desired business behavior. When employees think of leaders as ethical, they:

- Feel less pressure to compromise ethical standards;
- Observe less misconduct on the job;
- Are more satisfied with their organization overall; and,
- Feel more valued as employees.
- Ethical behavior becomes real for employees when they see it practiced by their leaders and managers.

### How to be a leader people seek to model

Employees won't emulate all leaders. They will be more likely to imitate leaders who engage them and engender their loyalty and trust.

If you are a purposeful leader who seeks to build relationships with and develop those you lead, people will begin to model your good behavior. And then you will have become a transformational leader—one who encourages positive change in those they lead. Ultimately, leadership is something that can be learned. You can serve as a model for others and you can seek out models for behaviors and skills you wish to learn.

One way to becoming a better leader is to start each day by reminding yourself that people are watching you; that what you do matters and can have an influence on others. Don't you want to be a good influence?



"Leaders live in a fishbowl and are always being watched. They should always be conscious of this fact, and take wise advantage of it." - Gene Klann

**Photo Ops—Extrication Training with the New Hires**



**Photo Ops—Hose Training with the New Hires**



**Train Like Your Life  
Depends On It...  
Because It Does!**

## Farewell

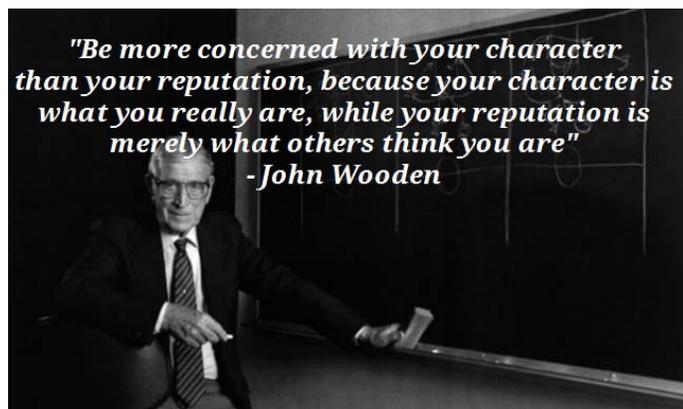
F/F Christopher Lucas has announced his departure from Palm Beach Fire Rescue and worked his last shift on 2/18/2016. Chris was a Firefighter / Paramedic with the town for 23 months and will be sorely missed. He had a contagious attitude and was an asset to every crew he worked with. F/F Lucas obtained all the necessary classes to be a Driver and was an Acting Driver / Engineer. F/F Lucas has accepted a position as a FF / Paramedic with Palm Beach County Fire Rescue. Christopher is a family man and has been married to his wife, Kayla for 3 years. We wish Chris and his wife the very best as he continues his fire service career.



Firefighter Paramedic Jordan Euliss has worked her last shift with Palm Beach Fire Rescue. Firefighter Euliss started her career with PBFR on October 14th, 2013. During her short time with our department she has accomplished many goals. She took the initiative to complete all of the Driver classes and become a State Certified Pump Operator. She also took the time to complete multiple classes towards a Fire Officer 1 certification. F/F Euliss was able to complete her Associates Degree and is currently working on completing a Bachelors in Nursing. F/F Euliss has been acknowledged by her superiors many times and most recently has received a Commendation and Life-Save Award.

F/F Euliss stated that everyone that she has met here has touched her life in some way and that she will be forever grateful for the relationships she has made. She will miss everyone and is very thankful for the opportunities the Town has provided her.

We would like to thank F/F Euliss for her hard work and dedication and wish her the very best as she has accepted employment with another local Fire Department.



## Gas Leak



Crews responded to a reported gas leak by a construction company. Their initial investigation revealed a 4 inch main line with a 2-3 inch hole in the top of the line emitting an enormous amount of gas. The Scene was isolated by PD and mitigated by FPU and Fire Rescue units. Traffic flow patterns to the plaza and surrounding areas were altered for approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes



### New era in fire truck color

Traditional red fire trucks may one day be a thing of the past as more and more fire departments switch to a lime yellow color. Some researchers believe lime yellow has bet-

ter visibility, especially at night, and these Palm Beach Fire Department trucks point out the difference. Story

Can you guess who is closest to the front of the helicopter?  
(See answer on the last page)

### Photo Ops– B Shift Performing Truck Driver Training



### B Shift Performing Truck Operations Training



TEAMWORK

## 2015 Annual Awards Ceremony

### Award Recipients

#### **New Employees:**

Richard Stolpman, Michael Bennett, Laura Deckers, Cesar Lora, Abigail Farrell, Michael Perez, Michael Gallagher, Charles Colson, Chris McKay, Charles Shinn, Adriana Rodriguez, Michael Madej, Daniel DiRocco

#### **Promotions:**

Lt. Jody Sronce, Lt. Danny Gargiulo, Lt. Michael Messner, D/E Billy Layman, D/E Alejandro Mahy

#### **Award of Appreciation:**

The Beach Club

#### **Employee of the Month:**

|                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Jan: Oscar Geerken  | Jul: Mark Myhre           |
| Feb: Mark Bradshaw  | Aug: Frank Mavigliano     |
| Mar: Donald Taylor  | Sep: Stephanie Mavigliano |
| Apr: Timothy Pompos | Oct: Danny Dunnam         |
| May: Brian Matzen   | Nov: Joseph Sekula        |
| Jun: Danny Gargiulo | Dec: Angel Sronce         |

#### **Commendations:**

Carolina Tellez, Talishia Coleman, Mark Bradshaw, Danny Dunnam, Jerry Castillo, Chris Lucas

**Life Save Awards:** Danny Dunnam, Brennan Santini, Jordan Euliss, Richard Stolpman, Michael Gallagher, Mario Reyes, Michael Marx, Danny Gargiulo, James Weber, Oscar Geerken, Cesar Lora, Keith Golden, Scott McCracken, Abigail Farrell, Jill Bassford, Joseph Sekula, Craig Johnson, Christopher Pommells, Derryl Bucheck, & Mr. Naddy Auguste

#### **Fire Rescue Telecommunicator of the Year**

#### **Firefighter of the Year**



Firefighter of the Year Lt. Joseph Sekula and his family.



Telecommunicator of the Year—Carolina Tellez



## JANUARY DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

### Training Hours

|         |      |
|---------|------|
| A Shift | 587  |
| B Shift | 681  |
| C Shift | 620  |
| Total   | 1888 |

### Fire Prevention Inspections

229

### Ocean Rescue

|                             |        |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Visitors                    | 16.777 |
| Town Ordinance Enforcements | 130    |
| Preventative Actions        | 145    |
| Minor Jelly Fish Stings     | 30     |

### FIRE and EMS

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| FIRE Calls             | 80  |
| EMS Calls              | 147 |
| Transports to Hospital | 96  |

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| Ryan Zabovnik      | 02/03 |
| Angel Sronce       | 02/09 |
| Lacie Nicole Flynn | 02/09 |
| Abigail Farrell    | 02/10 |
| Michael Messner    | 02/12 |
| Richard Ward       | 02/14 |
| Belinda Hardy      | 02/16 |
| Brian LeBrun       | 02/16 |
| Alejandro Mahy     | 02/22 |

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS:

|              |       |          |
|--------------|-------|----------|
| Tim Pompos   | 02/89 | 27 years |
| Chase Davis  | 02/14 | 2 years  |
| Jason Taylor | 02/15 | 1 year   |
| Taylor Jantz | 02/15 | 1 year   |

## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH 2016:

|          |              |           |
|----------|--------------|-----------|
| January  | Michael Marx | July      |
| February |              | August    |
| March    |              | September |
| April    |              | October   |
| May      |              | November  |
| June     |              | December  |

## Employee of the Month—Michael Marx



Lieutenant Marx has served in the Palm Beach Fire Rescue organization for over 11 years. He is currently assigned to the Central Fire Rescue Station on "C" shift in Charge of Engine 97. Additionally, Mike serves as Station Commander and as Acting Battalion Chief. Mike is a past recipient of the Employee of the Month for December 2009, June 2011, September 2012, February 2014, and December 2014, recognizing his consistently excellent work performance. He received the esteemed 2012 Firefighter of The Year Award for his extraordinary performance. He is well respected by his peers and supervisors for his work ethic. Lieutenant Marx always displays a positive attitude and is described by his Battalion Chief as, "Someone who can easily grasp new ideas and technologies, becomes the expert in emerging concepts, and is excited to train others."

Besides fulfilling his regular job duties and responsibilities as a Lieutenant and Station Commander, Mike consistently goes above and beyond what is required of him at work. Lieutenant Marx has become an integral part of revamping the department's medical supply ordering system, saving thousands of dollars annually. To accomplish this savings, the department instituted the software Operative IQ and Mike has become the PBFR subject matter expert. He has logged numerous hours working toward the final phase of software integration ensuring the product is used to full potential.

Lieutenant Marx continues to be a professional on the department's learning management system. He has updated data on the site including probationary training and credential tracking. He also worked with the vendor to ensure the data correctly reflected hours needed for recertification of all personnel. This process was a major contributing factor to the department improving its ISO rating to a Class 1 during the 2015 audit.

Lieutenant Marx consistently puts the needs of others first and exemplifies the characteristics of a service leader. Integrity, energetic, aware and compassionate are words used to describe Mike's behavior. He truly wants to improve the organization, increase efficiency for his co-workers, and is committed to the entire fire service. Mike is a top performer in everything he does and consistently searches for innovative methods to assist the organization deliver the best possible service to the public.

We highly commend Lieutenant Michael Marx for his service of dedication and devotion to the Palm Beach Fire Rescue Department, and the Town of Palm Beach.

Answer from page 15—Danny Dunnam

