

The All Hands

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

August 2016

Volume 4, Issue 8



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Deputy Chief's Message—Making Other People Better

By Darrel Donatto
Deputy Chief



So, I am going to let you in on a little secret: leadership is not about you. It's about making other people better. John Maxwell, one of the world's most popular leadership experts, says, "leadership is influence, nothing more and nothing less." Coach Urban Meyer says "Leadership is influence based on trust that you have earned."

We have a strong focus on leadership development here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue. We are doing everything we can to help develop and grow our future leaders. We have a leadership coach for our department. We bring in leadership experts to teach the principles of leadership to our members. And, we send people to leadership development courses and training programs.

What I love seeing most is not the results of our formal efforts to grow and expand leadership, it is the work being done in the stations by some of our first line leaders. Just one example of this work is the impact that Lieutenant Richard Ward is having on the members of his crew. Lieutenant Ward is an experienced and senior member of Palm Beach Fire Rescue. He has exceptional technical competence, which has earned him technical trust with his crew. But he also understands that leadership is about making other people better, and he has committed himself to doing just that.

Lt. Ward developed trust with Driver Engineer Mahy. Ward took it upon himself to help Mahy grow and develop as a future Lieutenant. He spent a tremendous amount of time with Mahy, teaching him what is required to be a Lieutenant, both in terms of technical competence and attitude. He let Mahy run the calls, while he stood back and made sure everything was done the Palm Beach way. After several months, Ward's efforts bore fruit and Mahy was approved to serve as a fill-in Lieutenant. But Lt. Ward didn't stop there. While he still pours into Mahy and mentors him, helping Mahy grow better and better each shift; Ward is now working closely with Firefighter Montoya in an effort to prepare him to be a future Lieutenant. Other firefighters have watched what he is doing and now they are asking for an opportunity to be stationed with Lt. Ward so he can do the same for them. That is the kind of leadership development I truly love seeing.

Ward's efforts are a great example of leadership development on the front lines. Lt. Ward has developed not only technical trust with his crew, but most importantly he has earned personal trust with them; built through the repeated experience of caring, listening and fully engaging with the people on his team.

Developing the ability to lead a team of firefighters both during emergency calls and in the

LEADERSHIP
IS ABOUT MAKING OTHERS
BETTER AS A
RESULT OF YOUR PRESENCE
AND MAKING **SURE**
THAT IMPACT LASTS IN YOUR
ABSENCE.

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Administrative Update

By Jimmy Duane

Assistant Chief

For several months, the department has been utilizing Operative IQ for morning vehicle checks. The program created a standardized method for our vehicle inspections all while increasing the efficiency of the work day. Through the recommendations from employees and the Fleet Maintenance Division at PBCFR, improvements have been made to the program. The latest change was the addition of the Town asset number of the vehicle being placed next to the Fire Department ID number, which was added to assist employees when filling out service requests in Asset Works.

The Fire Rescue Department is constantly searching for new and improved approaches for performing our jobs. Starting on August 22nd, all vehicle work requests will no longer be submitted via Track-It; rather they will be submitted directly to PBCFR Fleet Maintenance utilizing Asset Works. Procedure 238 (Electronic Work Order System) has been revised reflecting the changes. Officers shall be responsible for all work requests entered. This approach will streamline the process of initiating repairs, helping to alleviate undue down time of the units. Personnel are encouraged to repair the units within their capability, and research solutions before filling out a new work request. In the near future the Town will be changing its email service, leaving Lotus Notes and utilizing Microsoft Outlook. Because of this change, the Fire Rescue Department will soon stop using Track-It for building maintenance repairs, and instead use Cartegraph, which is currently used by Public Works.

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Fleet Maintenance spent time last week in the stations reviewing each of units, performing several minor repairs and ordering parts for those units that needed additional repairs. Following the upcoming Driver Engineer exam, Truck 97 will be sent in for its annual preventative maintenance. During this time, the Harrison generator will be removed and rebuilt. During the recent A/C repair on Rescue 99, it was discovered that the unit had developed an exhaust leak that was related to the blower. The unit was quickly repaired at Cummins and returned to service. Our new Rescue will be arriving during the last week in September. The vehicle will be immediately sent to PBCFR for the initial inspection prior to being placed in service as Rescue 99.

For several months the Mobile Training Tower was set-up at the South station. Utilized daily by the Firefighters, It provides onsite training opportunities while keeping personnel available to respond to incidents when they occur. The self-contained tower is moved in and out of the bay and raised into position in less than

15 minutes. Typically this training device is utilized for short periods of time and stored in the bay when not in use. Because of an issue with the electric motor, the trailer did not have the ability to lower. Driver Engineer McCracken was able to remove the motor and replace it with a new one, repairing the issue. In addition, a new dedicated cord reel was put in place to assist powering the unit. Thanks to Scott for his initiative!



Training on the Mobile Training tower

Public Works is beginning several projects in the stations. They have obtained a painting contractor, who will start painting the South Fire station in all the public areas, back in to the kitchen. They recently finished the training room which is utilized weekly by the community. In addition; the patio will be landscaped for beautification as well as to create shade. The old stationary oil drum and retaining wall will be removed in preparation of a hurricane glass breaching prop, which is being built by the firefighters. After station 3, painters will look to finish station 2 on the first and second floors. Last year, LED lighting was installed in the vehicle bays, which reduced the number of lights, however increased the visibility when backing the apparatus in. Electricians are currently installing the same lighting at Stations 1 and 3 and will be completed next week. The fire stations are like a second home for us and I am proud to say that our personnel treat them as such every day. Our Public Works Department is a tremendous asset to us, helping to keep the stations in top running condition. Take the time and thank them for what they do.

EMS Division

By Dave Burke

Division Chief

Medical Protocols

Palm Beach Fire Rescue is privileged to have access and direction from one of the most innovative and forward thinkers in Emergency Medicine today. Our Medical Director, Dr. Kenneth Scheppke has greatly improved pre-hospital medicine for the residents and visitors of Palm Beach by collaborating, researching, and taking action on trends, devices, and emerging medical science. Dr. Scheppke will be speaking and teaching at the 2016 EMS World Expo, sharing his ideas, thirst for knowledge, and patient compassion. During this event hosting pre-hospital stakeholders of every level, Dr. Scheppke will explain changes resulting in proven successful outcomes. Some of these success stories have come from right here in the Town of Palm Beach!



With Dr. Scheppke's direction during the last several months, EMS Coordinators from most Fire Rescue agencies in Palm Beach County have been diligently working to create new medical protocols. Designed as patient care guidelines, Palm Beach Fire Rescue will be among the first agencies to receive a partially vetted copy at our provider meeting next week. Written copies will be distributed to the Field Training Officers for coordination and input from the crews. The final copies will then be distributed after final approval from the Medical Director.

New Rescue Unit

Palm Beach Fire Rescue is pleased to announce the addition of a new apparatus to our fleet. This new rescue unit, manufactured by Demers Ambulance of Plattsburgh, NY, will be construction complete in early September. Members of our apparatus committee team will be conducting an acceptance inspection in Mid-September. The innovative design is built on a Ford F-450 chassis, different from our larger Freightliner rescue trucks. Today's Type 1 trucks allow greater maneuverability, while not sacrificing space or comfort from the patient compartment. All of these design improvements will enhance our ability to provide fast, effective, quality care to patients in need, and at a significant cost savings to residents. The innovative new truck should enter into service during the first week of October.



911 Remembrance Ceremony



The Fire Rescue Departments throughout Palm Beach County will be gathering to share in the remembrance of the families, first responders, police, firefighters and emergency medical personnel who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. Everyone is invited, citizens, firefighters, family friends, so...please **join us** as we memorialize the 15 year anniversary of this tragic event in American History. Palm Beach Fire Rescue uniformed personnel will be participating in the Remembrance Ceremony. The ceremony will be held in the auditorium at Palm Beach Gardens High School, 4245 Holly Drive, Palm Beach Gardens on Sunday, September 11, 2016, beginning at 4pm—the event will last approximately one hour.

We are expecting a large turnout from our department as a sign of solidarity to show support for our fallen public safety brothers and sisters. Your participation is very important so that we may show the families and the community that the sacrifices made by these individuals was not in vain and that we will truly never forget.

Southern Boulevard Bridge

By Jimmy Duane

Assistant Chief

On August 10th, representatives from the Town of Palm Beach along with several outside agencies took part in the Southern Boulevard pre-construction kick-off meeting discussing the construction of the new bridges spanning the Intracoastal Waterway from West Palm to Palm Beach and the tide relief bridge east of the Southern Boulevard Bridge.

Starting on April 1st 2017, contractors will begin constructing a temporary bridge, which will be located along the North side of the existing bridge; construction lasting approximately nine months. Once completed, all traffic will be moved to the temporary bridge, and the existing bridge will be demolished. The new bridge will be placed in the same location as the old; however, the height will more than double resulting in less bridge openings. Upon completion of the new span bridge, lane widths will be reduced on the eastern bridge and demolition and construction will begin in phases; keeping traffic flowing throughout the project.



For Fire Rescue, some of the issues addressed during the meeting were the impact of traffic during construction, which could hamper mutual aid units responding to the Town; the ability to maintain the Bath and Tennis field west of the parking lot as a medivac landing zone; the ability to have vehicle access to the site in the event of a construction accident, and maintaining a clear path to the service entrance of Mar-a-Lago in the event of an emergency. Our concerns were well received and recorded for future consideration.

Deputy Chief's Message (con't)

From page 1

station house is a skill and like all skills it takes time and effort to develop. We have to be intentional about mentoring our future leaders. We have to train and develop them well because under pressure, we do not rise to the occasion. We rise or fall to the level of our training. When the alarm goes off, it is too late to train and build skill.

Lt. Ward saw the potential in others and made a choice to help make them better, and in doing so, he is making the organization better. I know for certain, Lt. Ward has made a profound difference in the lives of Mahy and Montoya and that impact will last long after they are working with him. This is just one example of this front line work to build future leaders. Lt. Caudell is doing the same with Firefighter Cadet and so are many others.

You don't have to be a promoted officer to impact others. You may be the one year firefighter who makes it their mission to help the person just hired. The choices you make and how you enlist your relationships with others can make a difference in your own life and in the lives of others as well. If you want to expand your leadership – it's simple – make a choice to make someone else better.

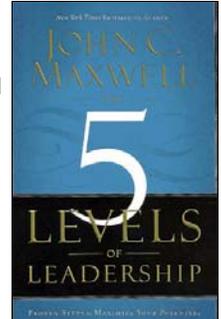


Training

By Sean Baker

Division Chief

Palm Beach Fire Rescue is ramping up its Leadership training with the addition of Dr. Bill Eickhoff of the John Maxwell Group. The department is looking to create individuals that will mentor and move the department forward. These leaders will in turn serve the community with humility, skill, and integrity. This training was conducted at the Society of the Four Arts and was a joint exercise with Palm Beach Fire and Palm Beach Police. There were 31 members in attendance and the class was comprised of firefighters up to Deputy Chief Donatto on the fire department side. We covered the "5 Levels of Leadership" which taught techniques to effectively lead people with empathy and passion for the job. This was the second class in a series of leadership training that we have offered to the leaders of our departments. We will continue to expand these opportunities as we strengthen our commitment to our community and ourselves.



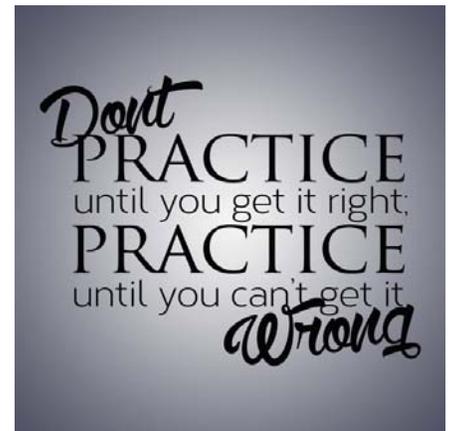
The Driver/Engineer promotional exam is rapidly approaching and I have seen many of our members stepping up to give the candidates all the extra attention they could ask for. I applaud you all for making us better by training and developing our future drivers. I am sure that on test day your efforts will pay off. To the candidates, continue to keep up your hard work and realize that this competition only makes you better. The department appreciates and recognizes your hard work as you prepare for this promotional process. The rank of Driver/Engineer is one of the most important positions in any fire rescue agency. They are the informal leaders that step up to take charge before the company officer needs to. The Driver/Engineer has the responsibility of delivering rescuers to the scene safely and operating autonomously at very hectic emergency scenes. Finally, a good Driver/Engineer's job is never finished as there is always something more to do to contribute to the success of the operation and make a difference. I implore you all to not take this position lightly.



Target Solutions continues to be an invaluable resource for our department as we continue to increase our ability to record and capture training data. We are now capturing all state level 40 hour training classes that most of you are taking and are activating a feature called Career Tracker. The Career Tracker credential provides a real time snapshot of where our members are as they work to advance up the ranks. Want to know how many classes you have towards acting Lieutenant or how far you have to go to obtain your Fire Officer 1? Career tracker performs this query at the push of button. Our next step is to transfer all of the training data that resides inside Laserfiche to make our records even more current and accurate. Please do all that you can to scan and enter your own certificates into Target Solutions as this will greatly increase the efficiency and accuracy of the program.

Finally please take note around the stations over the next several weeks. We will be posting materials related to firefighter health and safety for the general wellbeing of our members. Information related to cancer prevention, physical fitness, mental health issues and suicide prevention will be made readily available for sharing. The goal of Palm Beach Fire Rescue is to create a culture where we are responsible for each other's health and wellbeing by being actively involved in health and wellness issues.

Thank you to all of the members that are making our department great. Many of you are taking it upon yourselves to lead training for the department and we are all better because of your efforts. Remember many hands make light work. Together we are making a difference for our community and ourselves.



Water Rescue Training—Diver Down

By Frank Mavigliano
Driver Engineer



This summer the annual water rescue training for Palm Beach Fire Rescue was conducted from July 18th through July 29th at The Bath and Tennis Club in Palm Beach. First and foremost thank you to Gene Paul, General Manager of the Bath & Tennis Club, for his generosity in allowing Palm Beach Fire Rescue to utilize the facilities of the club for the water rescue training. The crews felt very welcomed by the staff.

Instructors James Weber and Frank Mavigliano, were able to train almost the entire department in water rescue skills. Three hours of hands on water training coupled with a 3 hour water rescue training DVD to supplement additional skills and information were used for training this year.

The “Diver Down” water rescue started with a 135 yard swim. After the swim, firefighters discussed the challenges and dynamics of water related incidents that have occurred in Palm Beach over the past 25 years.

The mechanics and issues of dealing with RIP Currents was then thoroughly discussed. Pictures for visual impact were provided to the crews for a better understanding of how to mitigate this hazard during a water rescue event.

Instructor Weber then demonstrated how SCUBA equipment works on a diver. A demonstration on how to retrieve a SCUBA diver from 10 1/2 feet of water was performed. Firefighters then completed this skill.

The final skills consisted of rescue tube and rescue board passive and active rescue skills with evolutions at the beach. Once completed, crews were sent back to the pool area to rehydrate and presented with a realistic water rescue scenario in the ocean. Rip current warnings due to strong winds during the training week made evolutions “very real”, strenuous, and challenging.

Three victims were placed at the sand bar about 100 yards off shore. Officers were able to assume their command role and assign roles for crew members. Step up and new officers in some cases were placed with seasoned lieutenants and given the opportunity to lead the mock scenario. Afterwards, a debriefing on all aspects of the scenario took place with each crew. From the challenges of an incident commander in charge of a water incident to a rescue swimmer being aware of their limitations.

Overall the SCUBA diver and the realistic scenarios were the highlights of the training. Great job to all the crews with this year’s water rescue training.



Instructor James Weber demonstrates how to control a diver in distress.



Firefighter Abigail Farrell retrieves a diver from 10 1/2 feet.

Fire Prevention

By **Marty DeLoach**, Fire Marshal



The fire service is deeply rooted in tradition and a lot of what we do in Fire Prevention is based on previous tragedies. The United States Forest Service was established in 1905. The agency received one of their most challenging fire events known as the “Big Blowup” in August 1910. This fire burned more than 3 million acres of private and federal land, consumed 7.5 BILLION board feet of timber and killed at least 85 people. The smoke from the fire reached New England and traveled all the way to Greenland. This fire involved the services of three future Forest Fire Service Chiefs as well as other men who would exert influence over the agency and how their future policies would be developed and written. This fire pushed forest fire issues into the public discourse, and led to the fire suppression policies that still influence fire management around the world today.

The knowledge of how we approach fires as well as how we extinguish them is always evolving. You may be surprised to know that prior to August 1865, New York City did not have a career fire department. The P.T. Barnum Museum and Zoo experienced a major fire totally destroying everything, in August 1865. This fire was the event that changed the minds of the city to move forward with a career department and away from relying on a volunteer fire service.

We find ourselves reviewing old fires that changed people’s attitudes toward the risks associated with fires and how buildings are constructed. We are thankful that today building fires are down across the United States. Historically, the fire death rate in the United States has been higher than most of the industrialized world. This fact has been true in all of the reports and studies that I have read since the late seventies, in fact the United States also leads in dollar loss rates.

These statistics are changing, in 2011 Finland was the nation with the highest death rate, 18.0 deaths per million while we had 12.4 deaths per million. The numbers are getting better however the United States was still double the rates for eight of the major countries we are often compared to, Switzerland, Singapore, Austria, Italy, the Netherlands, Australia, Spain and Germany.

If you look historically at the start of many of the large city fire departments in the United States, they occurred after a major conflagration. In 1871 the City of Philadelphia created their fire department the same year as the Great Chicago Fire. In 1872 Boston suffered a conflagration burning nearly 800 buildings.

Our own fire department, originally called the Flagler Alerts, was based out of West Palm Beach and changed locations and names due to the concerns about possible delayed response times and fire insurance rates. In December of 1921, the town fathers created the Palm Beach Fire Department. In 1926 the town had three fires in one single day, increasing the interest in an expanded fire department. The expansion of our department consisted of a full time chief, two firefighters and a brigade of volunteers consisting of prominent winter residents and local business men. The residents of the Town of Palm Beach have been known for stepping up for a good cause and dedicating time to major civic activities.

While the United States has been enjoying the benefits of the fire prevention campaigns that started in the seventies we must understand that fires are devastating and move faster than you can imagine. Our goal in fire prevention is to work with all of our home owners and businesses to help prevent fires. One of the best tools we have to help is to study and know about historic fires so we can prevent the same circumstances from happening here. The fires that we review are not always termed historical, in 2003 a tragic nightclub fire occurred in Warwick Rhode Island. This fire enacted new code provisions for fire sprinklers and crowd management in nightclub-type venues.



We look at buildings and interior decorating different than most departments. We feel the responsibility to inform individuals of things that can endanger people. Our goal in fire prevention is to help everyone stay safe and we look to the past to help protect people in the future. We are always looking to find ways to allow a function or special activity that our businesses want to try or to

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Seven Secrets First Time Leaders Want to Know

By: Lollydaskal, <http://www.lollydaskal.com/leadership/7-things-first-time-leaders-wish-knew/>

The art of leadership can be defined in many ways. There are probably as many definitions of leadership as there are leaders, and each person brings their style of leadership, which is part of what makes it such a dynamic and interesting field. But at some point, most of them say, “I had no idea it would be this way.”

Some even complain that they came unprepared for their roles because schools of management and leadership did not give them the skills they needed to succeed as leaders.

So here are some lessons in Leadership 101:

1. Your character is more important than your competency. More than anything else, you want to be known as a leader who is ethical, honest and trustworthy. It's important for leaders to be competent and skilled, but that's not the source of great leadership. It's your character as a leader that matters most—not only to your team, organization, or venture but also to the world. Without trust, all the competency in the world is meaningless.

2. Your insistence on excellence will be measured daily. As a leader, your standard of leading and doing and acting will be measured daily. Part of the calling of leadership is a commitment to live your life with the highest standards. Excellence matters. It's a question you have to ask yourself every day: *Did I deliver excellence or did I cut corners?* Excellence is ultimate measure of success, especially in leadership.

3. Your communication will be welcomed and scrutinized. The finest expression of respect is not praise or status but the willingness to communicate candidly and honestly. It is important to share information, and it will be welcomed when you do. But you'll also be scrutinized—on how you speak and how you listen. Make sure you communicate in a way that leaves people feeling valued and understood.

4. Your leadership style will be emulated and criticized. As much as possible, don't give others cause to condemn or find fault with your life and leadership but make your legacy one that inspires others to live their lives authentically and well. Remember, everything you do as a leader sets an example, so be sure the example you are setting is one you want to see throughout your organization.

5. Accountability and responsibility are an irresistible force. The price of great leadership is accountability and responsibility. Their combined force has the power to change the face of people and circumstances. The remarkable thing is that you have a choice every day about how we conduct yourself. Always make those choices on the basis of what is best for the organization. Let people know they can count on you.

6. Developing others is as important as developing yourself. The most important responsibility of a leader is helping their people develop; your success depends on how well you perform this task. Make employee development an important priority by creating a climate in your organization or team where personal growth is expected and rewarded. Great leadership consists of showing good people how to do the work of great people.

7. You need to bring plenty of confidence and courage. Leadership is not easy. There are many challenges, and you will need to be decisive and confident. But you'll also need to be able to put yourself on the line. The burden of decision making belongs to the leader, and the key to leadership is having the confidence to be decisive. The other essential quality—and the two are closely related—is courage. Successful leaders have the courage to take action where others hesitate.

Especially if you're starting out, these elements will make the difference between being a good leader and a great leader. Take them to heart just as the most successful leaders do.

Lead From Within: The secret for the first time leader, is knowing that nothing will work until they do.



Fire Prevention (con't)

From page 1

meet the needs of our residents. The loss from fire is not always measured in how many people were hurt or injured. I have read reports that suggest anywhere from 25% to 80% of businesses never recover from a fire. Based on the statistics, we can ask how prepared a business is to handle six months with no income? Fires are one of the most devastating events that a person, family or business goes through. Let's work together to keep our residents, businesses and visitors safe.

The firefighters and fire prevention staff have inspected 73 businesses in July. These inspections covered 1,623,080 square feet of building space. Our fire hydrant inspection is almost complete and I hope the process did not inconvenience any of our residents or businesses. The process is critical to our department. In addition to the annual inspections the fire prevention office performs rough and final inspections for the various construction projects throughout the town.

Our fire hydrant inspection process turned up a broken valve that would have only be discovered by flowing the hydrants. The process allows our team to understand the maximum amount of water that can be delivered by the hydrant in case of a fire. We record the flows and compare them from year to year to monitor for differences. These hydrants had a major decrease in available water that could only occur with some type of break in the line of an improperly functioning valve. Our partners from West Palm Beach Water Utilities worked with Inspector Charles Colson to identify and repair the problem. These hydrants served the boat docks and other businesses in the area. It is a good thing that our team members check the hydrants and that the water system is looped for the best water distribution possible, even with closed valves.

Ocean-Rescue

By Craig Pollock

Shift Supervisor

July was an expectedly busy and hot month. With the 4th of July holiday and summer vacation in full swing, visitors from near and far flocked to our beaches. Temperatures topped 90 degrees daily. There wasn't much relief in the water either, as those temps hovered in the mid 80's. While there were local scares about blue green algae, we are happy to report our beaches remained clear. Our competition team followed up last year's strong showing at the U.S.L.A. Regional Competition with a 3rd place finish out of 20 teams. All members contributed with top finishes in many events throughout the 2 day competition. Congrats to these men and women for their continued dedication to training to remain in top physical condition to keep our beaches safe. Pictured below back left to right: Retired Tom Hogan, George Klein, Ryan Zabovnik, Brendon Andrews, Kyle Vander Platt, Mark Myhre, Richard Andrews. Front left and right: Taylor Jantz, associate Sarah Andrews.



Battalion Chief Update—Training for Low Frequency/High Risk Events

By Keith Golden
Battalion Chief

As Firefighters we love to train on patient care, survival tips and equipment handling but as I travel from station to station I am reminded that we need to focus more on the low frequency/ high risk situations. The Technical Rescue Truck also known as “Technical 97” is housed at Station 1 and has rescue equipment that is state of the art and ready to use at a moment’s notice;

Technical 97 is centrally located in the Town and is easily dispatched to all significant events. It contains items like a portable decontamination shower, radiological detectors, air bags, SCBA filling capabilities and even elevator grip hoists.

As first responders we must know and understand the use of every tool at our disposal and understand that when this unit is dispatched we are dealing with compressed time frames, high pressure and major decisions. I have found the way to deal with making these critical decisions is training, repetition and practice.

So continue to get your hands on the tools and encourage your crews to do scenarios utilizing the tools; when I see you training with this equipment, I see an Experienced, Professional highly trained team that is preparing to meet all of our clients’ needs, a team that remains flexible and adaptive while using the industry best equipment

And remember our body is the ultimate fire ground tool and as such; we must train not until you get it right but train until you can’t get it wrong. That includes knowing all of the tools and limitations but also understanding your personal limitations and playing to your strengths.



Mike Palmer, Wade Synder, Roy Griffin and Bryant Culpepper after winning the softball tournament in the early 1980's.

Photo Ops



Firefighter safety conducted at Kids Need More Art during Summer Camp.



B shift training with the rotary saw.



Battalion Chief Marx and Driver Engineer Lebrun loading hose on Engine 97.



C shift conducting Public Education at the Breaker's Hotel



JULY DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

Training Hours	
A Shift	569.32
B Shift	482.06
C Shift	517.29
Total	1568.67
Fire Prevention Inspections	
	73
Ocean Rescue Visitors	
	19,544
Town Ordinance Enforcements	156
Preventative Actions	56
FIRE and EMS	
FIRE Calls	69
EMS Calls	104

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS:

Kyle Vander Plaats	8/02
Lawrence Katz	7/21
Gabriel Cadet	7/22
Adriana Rodriguez	7/23
Willie Bonfante	7/25

AUGUST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS:

Danny Dunnam	8/96	20 years
Caesar Mustelier	8/08	08 years
Timothy Martin	8/13	03 years

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH 2016:

January	Michael Marx	July	Richard Ward
February	Charles Shinn	August	
March	Stephen Montoya	September	
April	Chris McKay	October	
May	Alex Mahy	November	
June	Abigail Farrel	December	

Employee of the Month— Richard Ward



Lt Richard Ward has been with Palm Beach Fire Rescue for more than 20 years and is assigned to “C” shift at Station 2. Lt. Ward is a senior company officer and is a highly respected member of the department that frequently steps up to assume the role of Battalion Chief when the department has a need. Ward is passionate about the job and his crews have always benefited from his extensive knowledge that range from building construction to physical fitness. His presence simply makes the department better.

Lt. Ward has become an expert at personnel development. Starting as our Driver/Engineer mentor, he developed procedures to test upcoming firefighter’s ability to drive department fire apparatus. As the department’s needs changed so did Lieutenant Ward. He saw the need for new company officers and Ward refocused his efforts into developing lieutenants.



Ward volunteered to work with Driver/Engineer Alex Mahy after he showed interest in the company officer position. Ward immediately took Alex under his wing and started to train him to function in a supervisory capacity. Driver/Engineer Mahy integrated the field training offered by Lt. Ward and the Florida State required education to become a certified Fire Officer 1. Mahy is now a step-up company officer and is looking to take the next promotional process for Lieutenant. Ward is now starting to work with other firefighters to mentor and develop them into future leaders within Palm Beach Fire Rescue.

Lt. Ward’s supervisors stated that “Lt Ward has been instrumental in enhancing the career paths of many employees looking to increase their upward mobility and wanting to become an integral part of Palm Beach Fire Rescue. Lt. Ward has been observed as an active participant in Driver Engineer and Lieutenant Career Development, developing timelines for activities, creating and implementing hands on scenarios and helping the department by increasing the knowledge skills and abilities in its employees...”

While assigned to Station 2 Ward led his crew to rebuild the firehose drying rack on the outside of the station. This rack dates back to the early days of our oldest remaining station and its historical significance cannot be ignored. Ward assembled the materials and took on the project to make his new station better and to build crew comradery. Also, Lt. Ward worked hand in hand with Station Commander Sekula to reorganize the apparatus bay of Station 2.

We highly commend Lt. Ward for his dedication and devotion to the Palm Beach Fire Rescue organization. Rich consistently performs at a high level, always striving to do his best and make the department a better place to work. His daily efforts with his co-workers and the community make Rich an outstanding recipient of the July 2016 Employee of the Month Award.