

# The All Hands

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

April 2019

Volume 7, Issue 4



## In This Issue:

Fire Chief	1
Adm. Update	2
EMS Division	3
Fire Prevention	4
Battalion Chief	5
Training	7
Employee of the Month	12

## Special points of interest:

- Mr. & Mrs. Brandjes
- Letting Gratitude Enrich your Life
- Promotions
- Live Fire Training
- Waterfront Warriors

## Fire Chief's Message—WOW Full Circle

By Darrel Donatto, Fire Chief



We have talked a lot about WOW here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue. We have adopted WOW service as one of our core values; with WOW service being service that so far transcends any expectations people are both delighted and surprised. Every day our members go above and beyond for the people they serve to make a positive impact in their lives. For the past 5 years that I have been writing and talking about WOW service from the context of our members delivering service to others. Today, I have the privilege of talking about how others are doing things that are beyond my expectations, that are exceptionally good for our organization, and that is a wonderful surprise for our organization and our members.

The Town Council and the Town Manager have been working hard to analyze the current situation concerning the pay and benefits for Town employees, and they have recently committed to taking the steps necessary to make our organization competitive in the market. While taking the steps required to make our members competitive in the Fire-Rescue market is not only good, it is great; that is not what WOW'd me. What WOW'd me was the incredible support that Fire-Rescue has received in words from the Town Council, the Town Civic Association, and the Town's residents. So many people took the time to stand up and say to the community how valued Palm Beach Fire Rescue is to them. The Town Council made the time to come meet with our members personally and to seek an understanding of the perspective of our members. All of this has been truly amazing to see and hear.

Our Town Council meetings include comments from the Mayor and Town Council and comments from the public. Almost every meeting, I hear incredible words of praise and thanks for our firefighters and our organization. Sometimes these words came from a citizen who was impacted by the service we delivered on a call, and sometimes they came from a Council Member who was contacted by a citizen who was affected by the service we provided on a call. Other times, it was from someone who simply interacted with one of our firefighters, and they were impressed by the dedication and kindness that our firefighters displayed.

Palm Beach Fire Rescue enjoys tremendous support from the community that we serve. Sometimes, we can overlook the value of that support. While the fire service as a whole is generally viewed as positive, here in the Town of Palm Beach, our Fire-Rescue department is not just seen as positive by our community; the members of our community love their Fire-Rescue department, and there is a straightforward reason for that. It all goes back to the WOW service that our members provide for others; and that WOW service is now coming back full circle to our organization and our members.

This is an incredibly great time here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue. We have an incredibly great group of men and women who provide exceptional service at a level unmatched by any other Fire-Rescue agency. Moreover, we have an incredibly great community that loves what we do for them. I, for one, am thankful for the opportunity to be a part of it all.

## Administrative Update

By Jimmy Duane

Assistant Chief



The annual Palm Beach Daily News Food Drive occurred this month with food and monetary donations being accepted at each fire station. This drive has been very successful in the past with Town residents donating a large amount of non-perishable food items. This year the Fire Rescue Department received 1,080 pounds of donated food, which filled the lobby at the Palm Beach Daily news. In addition, we collected several hundred dollars in monetary donations. The food drive donations will be sent to the CROS Ministries and the Palm Beach County Food Bank, two groups that provide food for families in need throughout Palm Beach County. The Fire Rescue Department is proud to participate in such a worthy cause and is very grateful for the generous donations offered by our residents.

The department is currently conducting the semiannual bunker gear cleaning. The gear cleaning is normally conducted in June; however, the cleaning coincides with the live fire training that was just completed. While we currently have a washer/extractor and gear dryer for cleaning gear, NFPA requires that the gear be professionally inspected once a year by a certified vendor. The outside vendor, Minerva, conducts the inspection as well as washing the gear. Following the cleaning, all necessary repairs are completed for the safety of our personnel. We received and distributed 18 more sets of gear that was purchased, which brings all operations level personnel up to the newest style gear.

The department is in the process of ordering new life safety rope for Ladder 97, Tactical 97 and Truck 99. The Current rope has reached the end of its useful ten year life as safety rope and will now be utilized as utility rope. We have experienced several issues with our air-pack flashlights failing. All front line packs will soon be outfitted with the same light, however they will be halogen. We received the new thermal imaging cameras, and they have been placed on Rescue 98 and 99. All front line apparatus are now equipped with this vital piece of equipment.

All of the Fire Rescue vehicles are equipped with the Opticom Traffic Preemption System. This provides emergency vehicles with a faster and safer response to incidents by changing the traffic light from red to green as the emergency vehicles approach the intersections. In order to save money on the installs, the department was waiting until the new vehicles arrived and the install could be completed at one time. During the second week of May, Engine and Rescue 98, Truck 99 and Battalion 97 will have the new devices installed.

There are several repairs in the works with the vehicles. Rescue 97 is still out for body work and is expected to be completed around May 10<sup>th</sup>. Both reserve rescues are currently utilizing the portable drug coolers. The Mermaid units on board are being shipped to manufacturer to be repaired. Following pump testing, the reserve engine experienced an issue with a leak in the pump. The unit was sent to PBC for service. Once this returns, Ladder 97 will be sent out to repair a small hydraulic leak. The remaining repairs to the vehicles are minor in nature and are being handled by mobile service technician.

The department recently implemented digital dashboards in each of the fire stations. The program, First Arriving is designed to keep station personnel informed with real time incident information, mapping and street view imaging of the location through Google Maps. In addition, we utilize this to announce upcoming training, department news, EMS update, and vehicle status and repairs. In coming days, a new page will be placed on the system, which will display response time data. While our response times are the fastest among the surrounding communities, improving them is what we should constantly strive for. The best method for improving performance is to measure it and continuously communicate the results to everyone. Several times a day, a report will be automatically generated and placed on the dashboard. The report will display all of the calls from the previous twelve hours and display, the call type, address and response time achieved. Being in the business where seconds count, we strive for doing our best and always looking for methods to improve.



## EMS Division

By Sean Baker  
Division Chief

The Town of Palm Beach is especially vulnerable to a disaster in the form of a major hurricane because we are on a barrier island. Although we have been fortunate to avoid a major catastrophe like our neighbors in the Florida Panhandle in 2018, we are urging our residents to have a plan just in case. Many lessons can be learned from the storms of the past, and the lessons learned from Hurricane Michael is no exception.

The time to prepare for the 2019 Hurricane season is now. The Atlantic Hurricane season runs from June 1, 2019 through November 30, 2019. Palm Beach Fire Rescue begins our preparations on May 1 by exercising our response plans, ensuring our buildings are prepared, and ensuring all of our firefighters are up to date on the Town Storm Emergency Response Plan (SERP). The Town of Palm Beach SERP clearly delineates all of the responsibilities of Town employees, including fire rescue, and provides a clear policy on managing a storm from pre-season preparation through recovery after a storm.

The Town has a well-constructed plan to handle a storm, but a major part of hurricane preparation includes educating the public on their role and responsibilities. Our annual hurricane seminar is an excellent way to ensure you are up to date on the latest information for the upcoming hurricane season. Town Emergency Management officials share lessons learned during previous hurricane seasons and unveil plans for the upcoming season, while attendees receive information from Palm Beach's emergency response and recovery experts.

### Hurricane Preparation for Older Adults

People who are elderly, frail, or disabled (either mentally or physically) may need special assistance from family members, friends or social service agencies during a hurricane. The planning process should be started early for this special population as finding the appropriate care for someone with a disability cannot be made at the last minute.

Palm Beach County has established a Special Needs Shelter Program to provide for citizens with certain medical conditions during a major emergency. The Special Needs Shelter is a facility with physicians and nurses on staff. It has auxiliary electrical power, is wind resistant, and not flood-prone. The shelter is not a medical facility and provides limited services. The shelter does not provide medication, dialysis, oxygen or oxygen concentrators. This shelter should be a last resort, as it may not have the amenities and comfort that you are accustomed. Alternate plans should be established immediately.



**Congratulations**

*Adriana and Jacob*

## Fire Prevention

By Martin DeLoach  
Fire Marshal

The importance of our fire hydrants when the heat is on. Can we depend on our hydrants? A continuous water supply is a key component of the operational plan and incident safety at a structure fire. In a forward-lay scenario, the firefighter at the hydrant is one of the most important parts of the water supply puzzle. Their job has to be done right—and quickly—to properly support fire ground operations.

Whatever the reasons for out-of-service hydrants, there are some things you can do to be prepared. First, think about the reasons why this can happen; the below-ground valve might be closed or the stem broken. Take some time to think through each possible situation and be ready to defeat it or work around it.

If you are setting up for a forward-lay, slow down just a little at the hydrant before you forward-lay into the fire. This gives the firefighter at the hydrant time to quickly dismount the apparatus, remove the cap, and open the hydrant valve a little to make sure the hydrant isn't broken. This prevents you from laying out hundreds of feet of hose and *then* finding you have tapped a broken hydrant. If you've ever done this, you know the feeling when you open the hydrant and nothing but air comes out. It's nearly impossible for you to recover from and may require another company to get water to the fire. Checking the operational readiness of the hydrant before you lay out will be a time-saver later.

Another issue you may face is a rounded stem. Hydrant stems are made of brass, which is a very soft metal. Even if you don't have a lot of fires, hydrants can get a lot of use from local construction contractors or other groups that may need to use large amounts of water. All these groups use big pipe wrenches to access the hydrant, which can quickly damage the brass stem by rounding the corners. Most fire service hydrant wrenches, in contrast, are square or five-point, which makes a good fit and doesn't damage the hydrant stem.

There are a lot of different reasons for a hydrant to cause problems when they are needed most. Firefighters have to fully understand the use and operation of a fire hydrant to be successful in firefighting. We check our hydrants twice a year in partnership with West Palm Beach water utilities.

Hydrants should not be taken OUT OF SERVICE if you can get water from them. If the stem is rounded we need the hydrant repaired, but we could still use the hydrant in an emergency. If a hydrant is hit by a car and is crooked, will the valve still work? We will still seek a repair, but we can still use the hydrant to fight a fire.

Our hydrants are suffering from exposure to salt air and a lot of them are experiencing corrosion on the barrel and bonnet. Many of these hydrants look bad, and we have been receiving complaints from our residents about the appearance. We have even had some residents ask to paint them and have done so. We have some hydrants that have been painted without our knowledge. We recently discovered two hydrants that were painted black.

These will be difficult to see after the sun sets if the reflector is damaged or in need of replacement. The fire prevention division and our engineers in public works are working with the City of West Palm Beach to identify the best way to correct our hydrant problems. Unsightly rusted hydrants will work for fire extinguishment, but not all our resident are accepting of a rusty fire hydrant in their yard. We have the ability to identify the out of service hydrants as well as the ones that need painting in the GIS system. We are working to input the information into the GIS system. Once we are finished, this can be a great tool for suppression to use when responding to a fire, to help avoid committing to an out of service hydrant that will not provide a water supply.

## Battalion Chief

By Michael Marx  
Battalion Chief

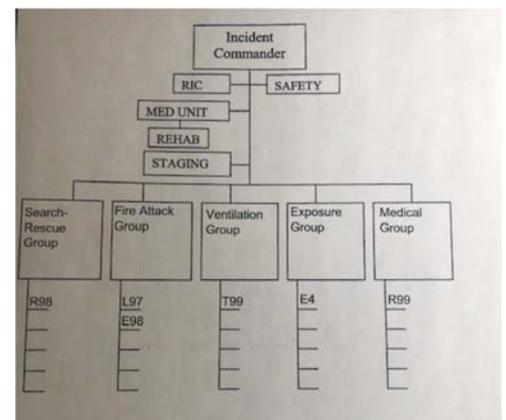
This month's article will focus on the Incident Command System in relation to the fire service industry. It is a discussion of the basic concepts of the system used by fire department and other agencies throughout the country. We should start from the beginning and discuss the Incident Command System. Years ago, there was no formalized system for managing or handling an emergency. Different agencies such as Fire, Police and others had their own policies and procedures for handling emergency events. This often caused conflict, confusion and lack of coordination between different agencies when addressing emergency events. Therefore, it was recognized that a need for a more organized system was necessary. That being said, the Incident Command System was created. By definition, The Incident Command System (ICS) is a management system designed to enable effective and efficient domestic incident management by integrating a combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure. It is a fundamental form of management, with the purpose of enabling incident managers to identify the key concerns associated with the incident—often under urgent conditions—without sacrificing attention to any component of the command system. The system was designed to expand as incidents escalate in nature. The objectives of the system were created to save lives and protect property threatened by hazards, reduce duplication of efforts and resources, increase jurisdictional flexibility to handle potential hazards and to integrate the Federal Emergency Management Administrations support and objective's with state and local operational requirements. Our focus for this article will be on the basics of using the Incident Command System. There are many different types of incidents that would require the establishment of command and the use of the Incident Command System. For example, vehicle accidents, mass casualty incidents, hazardous materials incidents and structure fires to name a few. For this article, we will use an example of a small residential structure fire.

The first step in the process of an emergency incident is the Initial Size Up. When an officer or the first unit arrives at an incident, the first and most important function is to initiate a size-up. A good, thorough, and methodical size-up sets the tone for the incident. In its simplest form paints a concise picture of the event that is unfolding. In the case of a structure fire, certain questions should be addressed. For example, what type of construction is the structure comprised of, Concrete, Wood, Steel etc... What kind of occupancy is this, residential, commercial, mixed? Is there an immediate life hazard and where is our best source of water supply for the incident. We must ask ourselves, do we need more apparatus or personnel to accomplish our objectives. What are the street conditions, weather and direct exposures to the structure that is on fire? Are there appliances such as automatic sprinklers or stand pipes that can be used for mitigation. Do we know the location of the fire and the extent of fire involvement? What time of day is it, giving us clues as to whether there are occupants currently within the structure and are there hazards present that could risk the safety of crews working at the scene. These questions help initiate the ball rolling in the right direction. It helps us build a solid foundation to hopefully have a positive end result to the incident at hand. After we have determined the answers to these questions, command should be established for the emergency event. From this point, the Incident Commander will have the responsibility of coordinating efforts between personnel and resources available. The Incident Commander needs to establish an Action Plan with specific objectives which must be accomplished.

In our example of a single family residence that is under the attack of fire, the following could be considered objectives that must be addressed and accomplished:

- Provide for the safety and wellbeing of responders throughout the incident.
- Provide for the removal of occupants within the first few minutes.
- Locate, confine and extinguish the origin of fire within the first 5 minutes.
- Remove smoke from the structure within 15 minutes.
- Protect exposures from the fire involved structure.
- Provide for medical needs for incident responders and occupants of the incident.

These objectives should be specific, measurable, action attainable, reasonable and time oriented to have value in obtaining a positive outcome.



*(Continued on the next page)*

## Battalion Chief (con't)

(From page 5)

The Incident Commander must build an Action Plan to accomplish these objectives. Below is a representation of a written plan for this event. It depicts the necessary means of meeting our objectives for the incident.

Incident Command - Person in charge of overseeing entire incident.

RIC - A designated team used for the purpose of immediate rescue of personnel working at the incident.

Medical Rehab Unit - Used for the rehabilitation of Personnel working on scene.

Staging - A designated area for the staging of additional resources.

Safety Officer - Person in charge of the overall safety and wellbeing of the entire incident.

Search/Rescue Group - In charge of searching and rescuing occupants within the structure.

Fire Attack Group - Responsible for locating, confining and extinguishing the fire.

Ventilation Group: - Responsible for removing smoke from the structure.

Exposure Group - Responsible for protecting exposures.

Medical Group - Responsible for the medical treatment and transport of personnel located at the incident.

One must understand that this example is to being used in its simplest form.

The Incident Command System is designed to expand to meet the needs of any size emergency incident.

The purpose of this article is to display the Incident Command System and how it is used to build a solid foundation during emergency incidents. The more Fire department personnel practice with the system, the better the outcome will be during an actual emergency incident. Palm Beach Fire Rescue uses Fire Simulation Software to bring personnel up to accepted industry standards. So until next time, lets continue to train on the Incident Command System in order to provide our residents with the best possible outcome during an emergency incident.

## Station 2, C Shift Training



## Training

By Ed Sabol  
Division Chief

Palm Beach Fire Rescue has had a very busy month in regards to training. We started the month off with our medical director Kenneth Scheppke MD, member of Metropolitan Medical Directors Coalition (AKA "Eagles") introducing new research on CPR, explaining the WHY's behind the science and what can be done to improve patient outcomes.

Dr. Scheppke talked about a better way to perform CPR, a way that reduces injury to the brain during resuscitation. CPR as we know it is performed when a patient has no pulse and is not breathing. No pulse and no breathing mean there is no oxygen getting to the tissues to sustain life. This is where CPR comes in to have an outside source provide life sustaining circulation and oxygen. The CPR procedure itself has the patient laying down, head flat, facing upwards where the person performing the maneuver is firmly pressing up and down on the chest and periodically breathing air into the lungs. The downward pressure of the chest compression on the sternum is enough to pump the heart to circulate blood into the brain. Blood circulation is critical because blood carries oxygen and the cells in the body which cannot live without oxygen very long. CPR as we know it (regular CPR) is good at getting blood to the brain and other tissues, the problem is that regular CPR is not good at getting the blood back out of the brain to gather more oxygen for the next round. Consequently, pressure builds in the head, the blood cannot reload itself with oxygen and brain damage can occur. The solution to this problem is to change how CPR is administered by bringing the patient to a head up position, thus allowing the blood that is pumped into the brain with compressions, to flow naturally back down into the heart by using gravity! Once the blood flows down through the veins to the heart, the same blood picks up new oxygen to carry back to the brain via chest compressions. The chart above shows the research results of regular CPR vs. head up CPR showing that Head-up CPR has been proven to:

- Drain venous blood from the brain
- Lower intracranial pressure (ICP) and allow optimal cardiac perfusion of the brain
- Reduce the concussion effect (i.e., injury) to the brain during resuscitation
- Enhance right to left heart circulation

This research is groundbreaking and we are fortunate enough to have a medical director who is on the cutting edge of finding better ways to save lives!

Live Fire is underway at Palm Beach State College and we have changed the way our drills are administered. Our focus was on practical evolutions which included forcible entry and Search/Rescue. Next, we focused on controlling the flow path of fire and hose line management during suppression operations, which is directly in line with the latest science from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). We are continuing the incident command element that will allow our crews, especially our fire officers, to continue functioning at the highest standard.

Live fire training will continue into the next month with joint training with West Palm Beach Fire Rescue. The focus will be on maintaining crew integrity and operations during the first ten minutes on scene along with Training on the Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC) and hose line management.

As the new Division Chief of Training I wanted to thank all that have offered input and suggestions to help make this department better. I take all of your recommendations seriously and will do my best to make them a reality. Our training hours are through the roof and the volume of training requests for outside classes is staggering. Keep up the good work and train as if your life depends on it, because it does! Stay safe.

## Letting Gratitude Enrich your Life

By The John Maxwell Company | November 3, 2014

Posted at: <https://www.johnmaxwell.com/blog/letting-gratitude-enrich-your-life/>

The surest index of your spiritual and emotional well-being is the degree of gratitude in your life. Where does gratitude come from, and how can we grow in gratefulness?

### Grateful people linger over life's blessings

The English word “thank” shares the same root as “think.” Thankfulness is intimately connected to thoughtfulness. We can't be grateful without being mindful of the many benefits we enjoy in life and conscious of the rich blessings we have been given. Grateful people take time to rejoice, which literally means to experience repeated joy through the remembrance of the grace and goodness one has received.

### Grateful people live in the moment

Destination disease causes a person to always search for happiness somewhere in the future. When I graduate, when I meet my soulmate, when I pay off the mortgage, when I get the promotion, when I retire...then I'll be happy! The prime symptom of destination disease is discontentment. Those infected by it postpone joy until some distant occasion that may never even transpire.

Robert J. Hastings offers apt advice on making the most of today. “Sooner or later we must realize there is no [ideal destination], no one place to arrive at once and for all. The true joy of life outdistances us. So stop pacing the aisles and counting the miles. Instead, climb more mountains, eat more ice cream, go barefoot more often, swim more rivers, watch more sunsets, laugh more, and cry less. Life must be lived as we go along. ‘Relish the moment’ is a good motto.”

### Grateful people leave fear behind

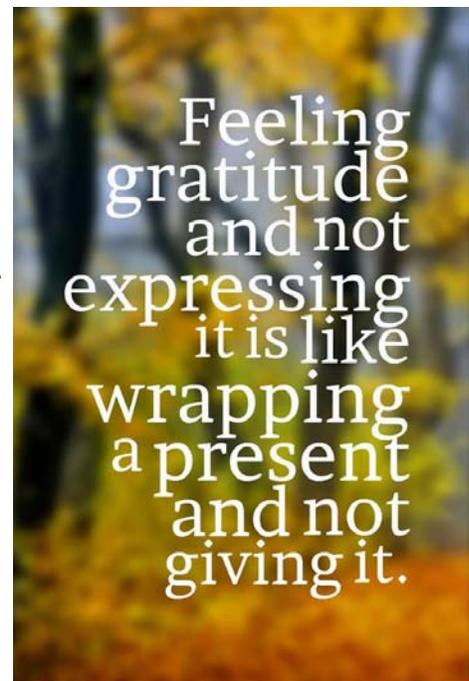
Fear isn't an emotion we can eradicate; it's impossible to eliminate it once and for all. The key is not to repress fear but to cultivate and express positive emotions that outweigh it. To the extent we allow faith, hope, and love into our hearts, we overwhelm fear and overcome its discouraging influence.

### Grateful people live on purpose

Many people spend their lives climbing the ladder only to reach the top and realize that the ladder is leaning against the wrong building! Knowing your purpose enables you to find meaning in the mundane activities of life. A keen sense of purpose also keeps you going during the difficult days by supplying the passion to press forward. Finally, living purposefully allows you to be disciplined with your time by helping you to invest it in relationships and endeavors that have lasting value.

### Grateful people love those beside them

People who say it's lonely at the top have a tragically misguided view of leadership. Sadly, many people do make it to the peak of their profession, but only at the expense of their marriage, family, or friendships. Every definition of success that focuses solely on oneself is a sham. To live for others is to reach the pinnacle of life.



## Promotions

Division Chief Ed Sabol has a passion for teaching and training others with over twelve years of experience teaching fire and EMS at various colleges and he is excited to be a part of the Palm Beach Fire administration's training division. Ed's experience extends over the last 24 years as a volunteer firefighter, firefighter/paramedic, driver/engineer and over ten years as a lieutenant. Ed's passion for helping others started before fire rescue where he served honorably for over four years with the United States Army globally as a paratrooper, with a tour in Iraq during the Gulf War. He holds advanced training within the fire service as a fire officer III and technician level specialist with over ten years in special operations. Ed is honored to serve the firefighters and residents of the Town of Palm Beach.



Marc Bortot started with Palm Beach Fire Rescue in July 2005. During his time at the department, he has worked his way up the ranks from firefighter up to the position of Battalion Chief. During his time at the department, Marc has held many different posts from Station Commander to Quartermaster. He has also been fortunate to be a member of many committees from bunker gear to uniforms. Marc has been assigned to B shift for the last 18 months and was promoted to B shift Battalion Chief after the retirement of his Battalion Chief. Marc is excited to lead his shift here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue and looks forward to many opportunities in the future. Marc holds many state certifications from driver to fire officer 1. Marc spends most of his time off with his wife Kim and their three children, Evan, Madison, and Brandon. They enjoy traveling and seeing new places.



Lieutenant Cesar Lora has 10 years fire service experience beginning with the City of Decatur Fire Department. In 2014 he was promoted to Fire Sergeant responsible for all "B" shift EMS response operations and training. Prior to becoming a Fireman, Lt. Lora dedicated 6 years to the U.S. Coast Guard serving in various Maritime Interdiction operations as a GunnersMate earning the rank of Petty Officer 2nd Class. He has served Palm Beach Fire Rescue for 4 years, 2 as an acting Lieutenant. During this time he completed a BA in Emergency and Disaster Management from American Military University. He is honored and considers it a privilege to serve the Town of Palm Beach and our Fire Department.



## Promotions (con't)

Lieutenant Robert Miraglia joined Palm Beach Fire Rescue in September of 2016. He began his fire service career in 2007. His many years of experience have proven to be very beneficial to Palm Beach Fire Rescue. He used his strong knowledge of the fire service and his exceptional customer service skills to make an impression that allowed him to sit in an Officer position a few months after joining the Department. LT Miraglia comes to shift every day with the intention of making a positive impact on his peers and maintaining a safe work environment. He is constantly involved in company training and passes on his knowledge to his fellow coworkers. LT Miraglia is married and has 3 children that are very proud of him for earning his promotion to Lieutenant.



## Live Fire Training



Photo Ops



The 9th Annual West Palm Beach Waterfront Warriors was held at the Hilton Singer Island on Tuesday, April 23rd. PBSO and WPBPD provided a police escort and local Honor Guard members presented the Colors and agency Flags as the Veterans entered. Firefighter Paramedic Danny DiRocco with the Palm Beach Fire Rescue Honor Guard was proud to represent for the largest group of Veterans and family so far, 24 total.

## MARCH DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

### Training Hours

A Shift	609
B Shift	432
C Shift	436
Total	1477

### Fire Prevention Inspections

106

### Ocean Rescue

Visitors	21,265
T/O enforced	132
Preventative Actions	152

### FIRE and EMS

FIRE Calls	76
EMS Calls	145
Transports to Hospital	127

### MAY BIRTHDAYS:

Marcos McMahon	05/04
Jared Willson	05/23
Craig Pollock	05/28
Anthony Curtis	05/30

### MAY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Jerry Castillo	05/04	15 years
James Weber	05/05	14 years
Houston Park	05/14	05 years
Michael Delrossi	05/17	02 years
Markos McMahon	05/17	02 years

### EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH 2019:

January	Kristen Ruest	July
February	Cesar Lora	August
March	Michael Bennett	September
April		October
May		November
June		December

## Employee of the Month—Michael Bennett



*Driver Engineer Michael Bennett* has served in the Palm Beach Fire Rescue organization for over 3 years, starting his career with the department on July 13, 2015. He is currently assigned as the floating driver on “B” shift. Michael is well respected by his peers and supervisors for his work ethic and always displays a positive attitude. Michael is that ‘go to guy’ when things need to get done and he is always willing to help others regardless of what he is doing.

Besides fulfilling his regular job duties and responsibilities, D/E Bennett goes above and beyond his normal work duties on a daily basis. During this past month Michael worked with the training division where he helped organize extrication training providing the leg work necessary to obtain the vehicles as well as coordinating the in-service. D/E Bennett is also an active member of the Palm Beach Honor Guard where his regular attendance at monthly trainings promotes superior performance at events. His consistency with attendance, his willingness to learn and his commitment to the Honor Guard team is exemplary.

D/E Bennett is well on the way to achieving his next goal as an Officer with Palm Beach Fire Rescue by filling the position as an Acting Lieutenant on a regular basis, doing inspections and controlling emergency scenes like a seasoned veteran. His most recent completion of fire inspector classes will bring him one step closer to completing his goal to become a Lieutenant. He is truly a valuable member of Palm Beach Fire Rescue.

Always maintaining a positive demeanor, D/E Bennett is an example for others; his efforts are making a difference in both the department and in our community by improving the quality of the service that is delivered and boosting morale of the department. We highly commend D/E Bennett for his dedicated service and devotion to Palm Beach Fire Rescue and to the citizens of the Town of Palm Beach. D/E Bennett demonstrates an attitude of service through compassion and excellence. His consistency of high quality work, positive attitude and past months’ extra contributions to the department makes D/E Michael Bennett an outstanding recipient to the March 2019 Employee of the Month Award.

