

# The All Hands

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



SEPTEMBER 2014

Volume 2, Issue 9

## Deputy Chief's Message

By **DARREL DONATTO**

Motor vehicle crashes are the second leading cause of death for on-duty firefighters.

The safety of our members is incredibly important to us. We are always listening to our members and exploring options for more efficient and safer means of operations. In an effort to protect our members during emergency response and vehicle operations, we have taken a number of steps including:



- requiring Apparatus Operator certification for all future promoted driver engineers,
- establishing a minimum standard for step up apparatus drivers and providing an incentive for achieving that standard,
- requiring drivers to complete mandatory annual NFPA 1002 Driver Proficiency training,
- purchasing new vehicles with the latest safety equipment and standards built in,
- establishing new policies that clearly spell out expected driver safety standards, and
- the installation of Opticom Traffic Pre-emption systems at major intersections.

Recently, we have taken another step aimed at improving safety, both for our members and the people we serve. When we looked at the historical data we have here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue, it clearly showed that our practice of lights and sirens response is overused based upon the risk incurred for the benefit relayed. With that perspective in mind, we have reduced the response priority of our units for automatic fire alarms. With the exception of water flow alarms, all of our units shall now respond Code 1 for automatic fire alarms. We understand that some alarms may be the result of a true emergency and thus we allow for and encourage our officers to use discretion to respond Code 3 based upon available or updated information from dispatch.

The use of lights and sirens certainly has its place in emergency response. Lights and siren responses reduce the total response time and in our business, seconds and minutes may mean the difference between life and death or the difference between a fire being confined to a room or damaging a who structure. However, lights and siren responses pose an increased risk to both the responders and other vehicle operators.

The implementation of Priority Dispatch has provided us with a much more accurate picture of the nature of our calls for service. This picture has allowed us to more closely match the needs and risks at a scene with the resources needed to mitigate those needs or risks; now we are taking this one step further and we are matching urgency with risk.

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### Special points of interest:

- Easing away back-boards
- Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service
- What's in it for me?
- CAFS

## Plano Fire-Rescue easing away from using backboards

MEREDITH SHAMBURGER

The Dallas Morning News

Published: 03 September 2014 11:00 PM

Updated: 03 September 2014 11:07 PM

Backboards have been a central tool for Plano Fire-Rescue over the last 30 years. EMS workers use them to help lift patients off the ground, carry them to ambulances and keep them immobile during the trip to the hospital. But now the department has become one of the first in Texas to adopt new guidelines on backboards that scale back their use, based on a joint statement from two national physicians' organizations. "Sometimes they may cause more harm than good," said Dr. Mark Gamber, the department's EMS medical director.

Beginning in late July, the department implemented a policy limiting backboard use to certain situations when a patient's spine might need to be immobilized, such as blunt trauma or spinal pain. If a patient is walking around or doesn't complain of back pain, he or she will be asked to lie still on a softer cot when being taken to the hospital.

### Changing course

A 2013 joint statement from the American College of Surgeons' committee on trauma and the National Association of EMS Physicians made several recommendations for EMS workers after studies showed that backboards aren't always needed. "There is research that shows that most patients who have been on a board will have some pain in their back after the process," NAEMSP president Ritu Sahni said in an email. "In addition, there is a risk for pressure ulcers after some time on the board. At this time, there is little evidence that proves a benefit for using the board."

Eileen Bulger, chairwoman of the American College of Surgeons' committee on trauma, agreed, noting that sometimes patients would have to remain immobilized on a stiff backboard for long periods if the hospital were far away. "It's really based on an evolution of literature," she said. "We never had good data for the best way to immobilize patients. We felt that [backboards] were probably over-utilized."

Gamber said that in some cases such as gunshot or stabbing wounds, backboards were doing more harm than good. "You're twice as likely to die if you're on a backboard," he said of those situations. Scaling back the use of backboards also helps prevent unnecessary medical procedures, Gamber said. "Anybody, but particularly kids, may be put on a backboard when they just fell



and broke a bone or hit their head," he said. "When you ask them if their back hurts, their back didn't hurt, but now it does hurt." Gamber says that means doctors are more likely to do unnecessary X-rays, which add to medical costs and expose patients to radiation when they don't need it. "You might be creating issues downstream," he said.

### Researching the issue

Gamber says he began researching the use of backboards as fire departments in Wichita, Kan., and Albuquerque, N.M., adopted new guidelines in April. The new change is definitely a "big, everyday operational change," he said. Plano EMS providers have been trained on the new policy. Gamber has also worked with local hospitals so they can coordinate medical efforts with the department. Backboards will still be used to help move patients to an ambulance and when they're needed to protect a person's spine, Gamber said. Several other Dallas-Fort Worth area fire departments are looking at the recommendations.

Fort Worth Fire Department public information officer Timothy Hardeman said his department still follows current protocols from the Emergency Physicians Advisory Board, though staff will be discussing the issue with its medical director at its next meeting. Jason Evans, a public information officer with Dallas Fire-Rescue, says the department is aware of the issues surrounding backboard use and is considering some changes to its policies. The McKinney Fire Department is revising its policies to the new guidelines, public information officer Stacie Durham said.

Sahni says backboard policies rest with local EMS medical directors. "For years, backboards were considered the 'standard of care,' but now the [physicians' joint statement] allows local EMS medical directors to make an informed decision — along with local trauma providers," he said.

## Station Updates

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:

- The red Mechanic's pickup truck has been delivered to the Knapheide dealer in Miami for the installation of a truck topper. Once this topper is mounted on the unit, lights and graphics will be added to enable the truck to be used as a Battalion Chief's response vehicle.
- Pump testing is ongoing. This testing has been coordinated and conducted by D/E Dunnam with help from other Department personnel. Despite some logistical problems, nearly every unit has been tested with good results. Future annual testing will be conducted by trained shift personnel.
- The external GPS antennas were tested and were found to improve connectivity for the onboard computers. Eleven antennas have been purchased and will be installed on all apparatus in the coming weeks.
- A total of 5 large insect control devices (bug zappers) have been installed in the bays of the stations. These devices work in conjunction with insect bait to remove insects from the area. The use of these devices should help deal with the issue of mosquitos and other insect problems in the bays during certain times of the year.
- The Department is very close to being added to the Asset Works apparatus repair order system currently in use by Palm Beach County. A laptop will be provided to the Assistant Chief for system access and order entry. A new work order system will be implemented by the county in the coming months. Once on the new system, work orders will be able to be generated by several different approved personnel and the progress of these orders can be tracked within the system.
- Vertical bay doors were under consideration by Public Works for all stations. These doors typically have fewer maintenance and repair issues due to their construction and method of operation. These doors are also very expensive to purchase and install. A feasibility study was conducted by Public Works. This study found that, currently, it is far more economical to continue to repair any issue with the current bay doors.
- After a few warm days and nights, the central air conditioning system was replaced at Station 1. After the failure of the main system, Public Works installed temporary coolers and then performed temporary repairs to the system to keep it partially operational. The funding that had been previously budget for the replacement of the system had to be used on other emergency repairs, so emergency funding had to be obtained for the job.
- Scope of work requirements have been drafted for the replacement/refurbishment of the vehicle exhaust systems at each station. The project will now be sent out to bid by Purchasing in preparation for the work to be completed in early FY15.
- SCBA regulator bench testing was coordinated by Lt. Weber through an outside vendor. All units were tested at the south station in one day. Lt. Weber also evaluated the Department's radiation monitoring equipment.
- Announcements for the position of Field Training Officer and Station Commander were sent out via Bulletin. All qualified personnel are encouraged to apply for one of these important positions.
- The bid has been awarded for temporary repairs to the roof at Station 3. These repairs will ensure that the roof is kept in adequate condition until it's replacement in the future. The original roof replacement contract award is in the process of being re-bid due to the chosen contractor being unable to complete the work within Town guidelines. The contractor who will be making temporary repairs at Station 3 will also be addressing bubbles in the roofing membrane at Station 1. 🏠

## Battalion Chief's Update

By **DAVID BURKE**

Battalion Chief

As most of you know, October 1st will commence the vacation selections for the period of February 1, 2015 to January 31, 2016. Vacations are selected on a seniority basis. The Battalion Chief is responsible for soliciting and obtaining selections from the members of each respective shift. Please have your selection ready when the Battalion Chief makes contact, as this speeds the process and makes things fair for other Firefighters on the shift. Remember, the longer you delay the process, the shorter amount of time the next person has to determine their wanted dates. Please refer to PBFR Rules & Regulations, Chapter IX.

Here are some tips to help you, your B/C and your shift with regard to Telestaff and scheduling:

- Ask your BC to schedule personal leave and floating holiday leave early in the year so you aren't scrambling at the end of the year to not lose them.
- When requesting annual leave outside of the V1 and V2 selections, look at the roster for the day you desire to ensure you are requesting the right type of leave, A/L or A/L#3. Use filters when searching in Telestaff. Ask any Officer to help you.
- Many people request an exchange and then place an A/L request, or an A/L#3 request. When placing the A/L#3 request, contact your B/C to ensure your request is clear.
- Keep an eye on acting pay. The Battalion Chief can sometimes miss placing the acting code when making complex staffing changes. If you see yours or someone else's code is incorrect, contact the B/C.
- Most importantly, always place yourself unavailable in Telestaff if you do not wish to be contacted for overtime. It only takes a minute, yet it saves dozens of hours in needless phone calls and interruptions during off time.

Telestaff is a great tool, but as with any software program, the results are only as good as the input. Please begin consulting your family and friends to form your tentative dates for annual leave. 🍁

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## EMS Division

By **BRIAN FULLER**

Division Chief

The new Zoll manual monitor/defibrillators have been received well and the in-service training was a success for those who were able to attend. Subsequently a new assignment has been placed into Target Solutions for all personnel to view the Zoll online training resource. This training link can be used as often as you would like to learn more, explore advanced options, and keep up your skills regarding this advanced technology. This device, can easily be the focal point of scene management when you use the simple features on the display and input patient data.

The department has already begun receiving EMT and Paramedic renewal postcards in the mail, please ensure you are aware of your log in information, (username and password) as we will soon begin to batch recertify those certifications. If you have completed the first semester of Paramedic program during this two year cycle, your EMT certification will be renewed for the next cycle. If you have successfully passed the Paramedic certification exam during the current certification cycle, your Paramedic certification will be renewed for the next cycle. It is very important that each employee reviews their training files to ensure you have received credit for attending required courses such as CPR, ACLS (if applicable) etc.

Employees are encouraged to review Procedure #301 EMT and Paramedic Certification Renewal for further information and responsibilities. \*

## Training Division

By JIM DUANE

Division Chief

Last week aired a special on the Discovery channel about September 11th, more specifically about FDNY "Ten House", Ladder 10 and Engine 10. This firehouse, located on Liberty Street, which is directly across from what used to be the World Trade Center, was the first truck to respond to the attack on September 11, 2001. Though everything about the special was incredible to watch, one particular thing was said by a Firefighter who was at the station during the attacks that I found fitting for Palm Beach. He mentioned how Ten House did not fight many fires because of their location; however, they trained hard because the day would come when they would get the "Big One". In fact, one of the buildings they often trained in was the World Trade Center complex.

Though Palm Beach doesn't get as many fires as New York, we do get several incidents throughout the year that have the potential to become something bigger if not for what we do. The importance of training for what could happen carries so much significance on so many levels. Life safety, our number priority becomes simply that, "safer" when we train. The Safety of the residents and visitors to the town as well as the safety of our own comes into play when we train. The better we are, the more efficient we will be.

Last week we completed our yearly marine/dock firefighting drill. This year, different from the past focused on fighting fires off a dock that had limited access. We see the large yachts located at the Town facilities and clubs everyday, it's the docks located behind the residences that will have access issues requiring different strategies and tactics. Battalion Chief Burke and Lieutenant Dudley conducted drills that were specific to the locations that will have access problems. Each and every crew arrived enthusiastically, trained very hard and left the evening with lessons learned. Though the approach varied from company to company, the end result was the same and the time it took to have water flowing on the fire was very similar each night.

The marine drill had a vast amount of components and equipment tied to it. There were large diameter hose-lines for supply and discharge, high-rise packs, master stream appliances for both supply and discharge and numerous hand tools to work with. For some, the conditions were met with limited lighting because of the evening hours, just another challenge we encounter. For everyone, the cleanup was the same, something that carries as much importance as when you deploy the hose-lines.

Packing up the rig after a drill and making sure it is correct every morning at truck check will mean the difference of equipment being deployed correctly or incorrectly. The high-rise packs on every unit should be packed the same, no matter what unit you are on. Is the hose loaded correctly, are the straps tight so it will carry correctly, are the nozzles free of debris and operating smoothly? These are just a few of the many questions you should ask yourself everyday. Your equipment is your lifeline, take care of it, clean it and maintain it and it will last many years to come.

Starting next week is the Company Officer Inspector class, which is being taught by Palm Beach State College and Assistant Fire Marshal Curcio. The class, which consists of a 3 part series, will give the students a greater understanding of the fire inspection process, the codes that apply to our town and the procedure for conducting company inspections and pre-incident profiles. For those seeking to promote to Lieutenant, this will satisfy the Fire Inspector component of the requirements.

I would like to leave you with some thoughts. We have experienced the highest number of new employees than any other time in my career. Because of this, training is more important than ever. Officers carry the burden of making sure everyone goes home safe each day, take the time everyday and train. When planning your schedules, review your firefighters probation manual and see what is needed. Plan a class or drill that will teach the whole crew. Though it may be basic for an experienced person, every time the task is performed, the muscle memory becomes greater and the outcome will improve. Prepare for what can happen because it can happen on any given day. On September 11, 2001 the World Trade Center collapsed...who would of thought that could of ever happened.

"Train because you want to, not because you have to👊"

## Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service

**October 3, 2014,  
8:30 a.m.  
At the  
Florida State Fire  
College  
11655 N.W. Gainesville Rd  
Ocala, FL 34482**



CFO/State Fire Marshal Jeff Atwater and the Florida Joint Council of Fire and Emergency Service Organizations will again host the annual Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service at the Florida State Fire College, remembering those who died in the performance of their duty.

There can be no greater sacrifice than for one to give their life in the line of duty, and the Florida fire service family will always remember our fallen brothers and sisters. We sincerely hope that you will be able to attend the ceremony and join us in remembrance of those who gave so much.

All members and friends of the Florida fire service family are invited, and we look forward to having you join us as we remember our own.

If you are planning to spend the night in Ocala, there are several hotels in the area, which offer very reasonable rates. If you would like further information, please contact Mary Ann Benson at the Florida State Fire College (352-369-2815), and she will be able to answer any questions you may have.

All department honor guard sections are invited to participate in the memorial service representing Florida's fire service. If your agency intends to send Honor Guard members, make sure RSVP to

[MaryAnn.Benson@myfloridacfo.com](mailto:MaryAnn.Benson@myfloridacfo.com)

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## Congratulations Paramedic Sronce

Angel Sronce has been with Palm Beach Fire Rescue for 8 months and has become the department's newest paramedic. She recently completed her paramedic studies at Broward College and is currently working towards her EMS Degree. Angel looks forward to utilizing her new found skills to grow and learn. We wish her much success!!



## Fire Prevention

By **TIMOTHY POMPOS**

Division Chief

In the month of August, the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Division completed 141 fire prevention activities with the assistance of Fire Operations shift personnel. The Fire Prevention Division's permit applications will be merging with the Planning/Zoning/Building Department EDEN system in an effort to increase efficiency and improve customer service. All Fire Rescue Permits associated with mechanical, plumbing, electrical, and temporary structures will be filed with the P/Z/B Department's Construction Permit application.

On August 5th, our department participated in the Palm Beach Police Department's National Night Out Against Crime event at St. Edward's Catholic Church. Station 2 crews with Acting Lieutenant Willie Bonfante leading the way, along with FF Oscar Geerken, FF Eric Legore, and D/E Cole James provided Automatic External Defibrillator demonstrations along with handing out fire safety information to Town residents and guests.

Recently, Lt. Joe Sekula completed a Hurricane Preparedness class at the Society of the Fours Arts with the assistance of Education Director Molly Charland and Senior Associate Brandyce Stephenson. The program received excellent reviews by the seventeen people who attended the event. Lt. Sekula received praise in his course delivery and professionalism. The audience was very engaged in the discussion by asking several questions which allowed the residents to better understand the importance of being prepared for any future storms in the Town.

Also, we have two remaining classes, which will be taught by fire operations personnel. The classes will be another opportunity for us to engage with Town residents and guests. The programs are scheduled on the following dates and times:

- Kitchen and Cooking Safety with Fire Extinguisher Training will be held on Wednesday, September 24, 2014 from 11 AM – 12:30 PM
- Family Night Out Hands On CPR training will be held on Wednesday, October 8, 2014 from 7 PM – 8:30 PM 🧯



THE SOCIETY OF

*The Four Arts*

## Ocean Rescue

By **CRAIG POLLOCK**

Lifeguard Supervisor

Over the month August the constant afternoon thunderstorms we were receiving along the coast began to taper off a bit compared to the month of July, beach closing due to lightning at Mid-Town Municipal beach were down considerably.

The swimming conditions continued to remain in the low hazard (Green Flag) category all the way up to August 24<sup>th</sup>, then for the rest of the month medium to high hazard conditions were in effect due to the surf picking up as Hurricane Cristobal moved up the Eastern United States Coast.



The weekday beach attendance has started to slow a bit as local Palm Beach County Schools started back up on August 18<sup>th</sup>. As the month came to a close beach attendance pick back up for the Labor Day weekend as Phipps Park and Mid-Town Municipal Beach both saw steady crowds. 🇺🇸

## What's In It For Me?

**By: Hope Boyd, Director of Communications, Strategic Government Resources**

**Posted at:** <http://the16percent.wordpress.com/2014/09/11/whats-in-it-for-me/>



I absolutely love this picture that has been floating around the internet all week.

If you don't know the background of this photo, a retiring U.S. Secret Service agent and his wife came to the White House to meet President Obama. Apparently their son was either bored or unamused because instead of marveling in the presence of the Commander-in-Chief, he face-plants onto the Oval Office's couch.

Every single person in leadership, or wanting to be in leadership, should plaster this image in his or her head because it sums up what you have to do every time you prepare your next message or meeting—convince the audience why they should care.

What's in it for them? Why should they have interest? Why should they "get off the couch" and join your conversation?

Imagine that every one who needs to receive your message is this little boy—buried into the couch, not invested in what you're saying.

What are you going to say to catch his attention? How are you going to keep his attention once you have it? And how are you going to make your message so great that he runs off and shares it with others?

The days of force-feeding your ideas to others are long gone. If you have something to say, you have to be strategic in how you deliver it.

A good teacher, like a good entertainer, first must hold his audience's attention, then he can teach his lesson. — John Henrik

You don't have the audience's attention just because you walked into the room, or joined the conference call, or passed out a handout—you have to earn it.

Practice the art of grabbing someone's attention—through what you write and what you say.

I wouldn't be so sure on solely basing your ability to captivate on your title and how high you are in your organization. You see how well that worked out for the President...

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## Benefit vs. Risk

*From Page 1*

We currently respond to about 500 calls per year for automatic fire alarms. This step will reduce the number of Code 3 responses by 20%.

As we get better at classifying the needs of callers for our service, and we are able to verify that with sound data, we plan on reducing Code 3 responses for minor medical calls where time does not impact outcome. This is still a little ways off, but it will be a reality.

Our goal is to keep you safe and keep the community safe. We encourage you to do everything you can to do the same. I would encourage each of you to go to the Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives website at: <http://www.lifesafetyinitiatives.com/> If there is something we can do better, if there is something we can do safer – please let us know. 🙌

## Safety Committee Update

By **BRODIE ATWATER**

Assistant Chief

The most recent Safety Committee meeting was held on August 13th. On hand for the meeting were Risk Manager Karen Temme, Division Chief Duane, Lieutenant Ward and Driver Engineer Matzen. These quarterly meetings are held to discuss any problems and issues relating to safety and the wellbeing of all Palm Beach Fire Rescue personnel as well as the public.



### Old Business

Among the items of old business discussed at this meeting was the updating and renovation of the vehicle exhaust systems at each station. The updating of these systems has been included in the FY2015 budget. A scope of work has been drafted for the project and the Purchasing will be advertising it for bid in preparation for work to start in early FY15. Additional old business included the issue of cracking concrete on the apron at Station 1. A contractor has measured the apron and is currently in the planning process to begin the project. The project will be completed in three phases which will allow units to operate out of the station during the construction process. Also discussed was the ongoing project of improving visibility for Driver's when backing units into the north station. It was recommended that a lighted strip be added to the apparatus bay floor to assist drivers as they back into the bay. D/E Matzen has researched several different options and is continuing his research into the best solution. In past meeting it has been recommended that a washer/extractor be purchased for cleaning dirty bunker gear after use and as part of scheduled cleaning/inspection. This item was included in the FY15 budget and will be purchased after October 1st.

### New Business

An item discussed as new business was the possible replacement of the carpet in all fire station dorm rooms with a material such as tile. This would allow for easier daily cleaning and would help reduce the amount of outside material being tracked into sleeping areas. This replacement will be addressed within the flooring replacement schedule for each station. Additional new business concerned the repair/replacement of the exhaust fan located in the recently enclosed bunker gear room at south station. This issue was recently addressed in a temporary fix by Public Works. Permanent re-wiring and repair is now underway.

### Action Reports

Four recent damage claims involving the Fire Rescue Department were discussed. These claims are reviewed with the goal of finding the root cause of any preventable accidents or damage and determining how these issues can be avoided in the future.

Claim #14-000030 - Hot water heater burst in the evening hours located on the 3rd floor of station 2 which caused water damage to the 2nd floor bathroom areas.

Claim #000043 – While exiting station 1, Truck 3 struck the column of the station. There was no damage caused to the truck, only cosmetic damage caused to the station requiring painting.

Claim #000047 – While backing Truck 1 into the bay at station 1, the door was coming down and the truck backed into the door tearing off the rear pedestal railing.

Claim #0000958 – During an attempted break in at the Phipps Ocean Park lifeguard tower, the door molding and strike plate was damaged.

Personnel are reminded that safe operations are of paramount importance in everything that we do, both the safety of our personnel and the public are a top priority. Anyone who has any safety related concerns or suggestions is encouraged to forward these to D/C Duane through the chain of command. 🧯

## CAFS

By **SEAN BAKER**

Lieutenant

The new Pierce 75' Impel Ladder will be delivered sometime in December and it will bring with it new capabilities that are new to Palm Beach Fire Rescue. The ladder will be equipped with a Hercules Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) that will allow suppression crews greater flexibility when fighting Class A fires. A CAFS system operates on the principle of a small concentrate of Class A foam mixed together with air and water in the proper proportions. This mixture is then pumped through a hand line and operated as if the line was full of plain water. CAF systems have been in use since the 1970's for wild land firefighting operations and the systems have been adapted for structural firefighting since the 1990's.

There are several advantages to using a compressed air foam system compared to conventional water application:

There is a reduction of firefighter fatigue and injuries due to weight reduction in the hand lines. Compressed air foam hand lines are 75 percent full of air allowing the line to be easily maneuvered. Single person operation of a 2.5" hand line is not unheard of.

A CAFS system using a Class A foam concentrate, combined with water, and compressed air to form a fire extinguishing agent that is greater than the sum of its parts. The properties of this solution greatly reduce the surface tension of plain water thus, allow-

ing the product to penetrate burning fuels faster and more efficiently.

The quick extinguishment and exposure protection afforded by class A foam and CAFS should lead to decreased total property damage from fires and from fire suppression activities. Departments using foam have documented saving property with foam that they believe could not have been saved using older, plain water firefighting tactics.

The ability of class A foam to cling to most surfaces provides advantages in reducing water run-off, helping to reduce water damage and aiding fire extinguishment. The clinging foam solution also aids in the protection of exposures, particularly vertical surfaces and sloped areas. Foam can be applied to an exposure and left for a period of time before a reapplication is necessary. (Plain water generally requires a constant flow of water to provide exposure protection)

CAFS technology has been proven to provide firefighters with much improved capability to fight fires by increasing the distance of discharge, reducing water requirements and increasing cooling ability of water by causing the foam to adhere to burning or exposed fuels. The implementation of this new piece of equipment will require training that will be provided by Pierce manufacturing upon delivery of the Truck. The Training Division has also procured training foam to allow crews proper access to hands on training. 🔥

## Welcome Back

Welcome back Firefighter/Paramedic Caesar Mustelier.

Caesar joined Palm Beach Fire Rescue 8/08/2008. He came to the fire department as an Army Reservist after joining the Army serving in active duty since July 2000. F/P Mustelier was deployed for 2 yrs and during that time he has become a Black Hawk Helicopter Pilot. F/P Mustelier returns to Palm Beach Fire Rescue with his new found talents, passion and dedication along with his wife ( Lauren) and daughter (Liliana) cheering him on.



Photos and announcements



I want to personally thank each and every one of you who attended the 2014 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. We had 23 people from our organization there - all showing that they have not forgotten. I am incredibly proud of you. - Darrel Donatto, Deputy Fire Rescue Chief

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Recent photos from the nighttime marina firefighting training drill

## AUGUST DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

### Training Hours

A Shift	452
B Shift	741
C Shift	375
Total	1568

### Fire Prevention Inspections

141

### Ocean Rescue

Visitors	14,335
Town Ordinance Enforcements	127
Preventative Actions	118
Rescues	3

### FIRE and EMS

FIRE Calls	75
EMS Calls	89
Transports to Hospital	59

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Sean Baker	9/11
Wayne Dorcas	9/15
Jerry Castillo	9/16
Brian Matzen	9/18
Jeremy Stanley	9/23
Juan Reyes	9/29

## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS:

Peter Codispoti	9/11	25 years
Craig Pollock	9/14	25 years
James Duane	9/14	22 years
Phillip Dudley	9/14	22 years
Nancy Roedel	9/25	08 years
Timothy Martin	8/19	01 year

## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH 2014:

January	Frank Mavigliano	July	Willie Bonfante
February	Michael Marx	August	Deryl Bucheck
March	Joe Sekula	September	Scott McCracken
April	Mark Bradshaw	October	
May	Willie Bonfante	November	
June	Ryan Zabovnick	December	

## Employee of the Month— Scott McCracken



The Palm Beach Fire Rescue Awards Committee has chosen Firefighter Scott McCracken as Employee of the Month for August 2014.

Firefighter McCracken has served in the Palm Beach Fire Rescue organization for almost 2 years. He is assigned to the Central Station on “B” shift, and serves in the capacity as a step-up Driver Engineer.

Scott goes above and beyond what is expected of him on a daily basis. With Scott’s extensive experience in aluminum fabrication, he has built several custom tool brackets which are used on the vehicles today. His level of mechanical skills and vast knowledge in many areas are often called upon for projects around the station and on the vehicles. Recently, the pedestal railing on Truck 1 suffered some damage and was removed from the vehicle. While waiting for the new railing to arrive, Scott was able to perform temporary repairs to the existing railing so that the safety of the crew members could be maintained while working on the ladder.

Though only on the job for a short period of time, Scott has taken advantage of every educational opportunity offered to him. He has completed his Driver Engineer state certification, recently finishing toward the top in the Driver engineer promotional process. He is also well on his way to finishing his Officer classes. His early motivation to become a Driver Engineer has helped the department fill a need, where he serves in the role of acting Driver Engineer on almost a daily basis.

Firefighter McCracken is an individual who always strives for hard work. We highly commend him for his efforts, passion, and dedication to the Palm Beach Fire Rescue and the Town of Palm Beach. Scott consistently performs at a high level, always striving to do his best and make Palm Beach Fire Rescue a better place to work and serve the community. His work ethic and enthusiastic attitude are a great asset to the organization, therefore, making Scott McCracken an outstanding recipient of the August 2014 Employee of the Month award.