

Fire Line



Spring, 2009

New Recruits Graduate



Congratulations to our newest firefighters! Graduates, front row from left to right, Jasper Snead, Latoya Young, Roman Garcia, Darrell Chibas, and Israel Gamez, . Joining them, back row from left to right, Chief Bailey, Fire Chief Parrish, Chief Emerson, Chief Bushman, Chief Blizzard, Chief Duran, and Lt. Maxwell.

We are never OFF-Duty...

This incident was recently brought to our attention.

I would like to take the time to give recognition to Lt. Todd Harrison for his heroic efforts. Lt. Harrison was enjoying a family dinner at the Tiki restaurant when he noticed an elderly man choking, the gentleman was blue in color with his airway completely obstructed. Without hesitation Lt. Harrison quickly acted upon the situation and was able to dislodge the obstruction. When R-15, E-15 and FTO 1 arrived on scene the gentleman was awake and talking. The family members were impressed in our quick response time, but the true hero this day was Lt. Harrison. It is times like this that makes me proud to be part of such a great organization. I would like to thank Lt. Harrison for his quick and valiant efforts.

— Lt. Brian Gonzalez,
FTO 1 (A-Shift)

Quarterly Newsletter

If you have anything you would like covered in any upcoming issues of the newsletters, contact Catherine Chaney, PIO at 621-3333.

News from the Chief & Board

The Fire District is well into the strategic planning process. We have reviewed the mission statement and examined both the external and internal environment.

The process is an opportunity to review our core values. These were identified in 2008 with discussions at every fire station.

Those core values —

Honesty
Customer Service
Integrity
Professionalism
Dedication
Pride
Respect
Dependable
Safety
Teamwork
— have not changed.

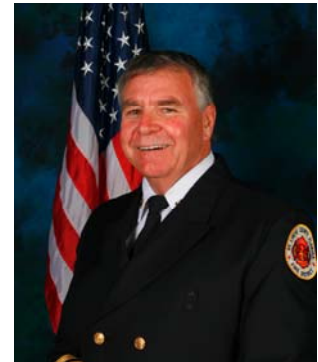
We are completing a SWOT analysis — reviewing our Strengths and Weaknesses of the Fire District, our Opportunities and our Threats.

As I mentioned before, the process is designed to set long-term goals and better focus on the resources of the District.

A list of all the members of the committee is printed to the right. Please feel free to talk to me or any member on the Committee about the process.

Remember, my door is always open to you.

- *Chief Parrish*



Long Range Planning Members Include:

Comm. Doug Coward
Fire Chief Ron Parrish
Chief Carlos Duran
Chief Chris Bushman
Chief Mike Bailey
Chief Brian Blizzard
Chief Buddy Emerson
Chief Kevin Herndon
Attorney Ken Crooks
Clerk-Treas. Gary Perdeu
Chief Nate Spera
Capt. Carl Melzer
FF/Paramedic Tim Munson
Katrina Bridges
Sig Bo
Catherine Chaney
Rick Carreno
Farrell Thomas
Clem Kramer

2008 Fire Board

Doug Coward, Chair
St. Lucie County
Commission
Rufus Alexander,
Vice Chair
Ft. Pierce
City Commission
Christopher Cooper
Port St. Lucie
City Council
Christopher Dzadovsky,
St. Lucie County
Commission
Edward Becht
Ft. Pierce
City Commission
Jack Kelly,
Port St. Lucie
City Council
Frannie Hutchinson,
Governor's Appointee

Welcome to New Volunteers

Barbara Ellsworth
Janet Franco
Tiina Giesler
Andy Grant
Carol Lentz
Mary Noisette
Judy Roberts
And
Mark Bender

Volunteers Join SLCFD

Last month the Fire District began to recruit Volunteers to help out with clerical work at Milner. We have recruited 7 individuals, plus one to help with landscaping. The volunteers are working 3-4 hour shifts and coming in 2-3 times a week. The new volunteer office is located in the Finance area, next to the break room at Milner. Currently they are helping out Ambulance Billing and the reception area. When you come by Milner, drop in and say hello to them. We will continue to recruit new volunteers. Each volunteer needs to go through HIPAA Training, which will be offered once a month. For more information contact Catherine Chaney at 621-3333.

SCARED STRAIGHT Training at Fire School

SLCFD firefighters recently attended *SCARED STRAIGHT* a presentation by Chief Billy Goldfeder. Chief Goldfeder is Deputy Chief of the Loveland-Symmes, Ohio Fire Department. The presentation took place at the new Public Safety Complex at IRSC. Lunch was provided by Local 1377.



Above, Chief Goldfeder reviews the events of a recent house fire which trapped three firefighters and the lessons learned.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Deputy Chief Buddy Emerson who recently graduated from a four-year Executive Fire Officer Program (EFOP). This program is administered by the US Fire Administration and the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD. The EFOP is designed for senior officers in the fire and emergency services to help them improve leadership and management skills. District Chief Kevin Herndon is just starting in the program.

Congratulations to Battalion Chief Nate Spera and Captain Carl Melzer who just attended the Staff and Command Training in Ocean City, MD. The 7-day training covered leadership skills and management issues facing fire departments. Participants were from around the country.

St. Lucie
County Fair



FF/Paramedic Tim Munson and FF/Engineer Robert Norvell man the SLCFD booth at the County Fair. The booth received a Blue Ribbon.

April Birthdays

AMATO, MATTHEW F
 BURNS, STEVEN L
 CHANEY, CATHERINE E
 CONNOR, THOMAS M
 COOPER, GROVER C
 COOPER, MARTIN W
 CROUSE, ARTHUR W
 CROWE, JUSTIN R
 DEWSON, RODNEY L
 DUPEE, PAULETTE M
 EDMONDSON, JOHN D
 FRENCH, DAVID E
 GALLAGHER, CHAD D
 HARRIS, CHRISTOPHER L
 KAYDA, JOHN A
 LANGEL, PAUL K
 LENTZ, SCOTT T
 MATTHY, MICHAEL H
 MELZER, CARL A
 MOORE, CHRISTOPHER P
 MORLEY, LUCAS A
 NOBLE JR, ARTHUR D
 OWEN, TRAVIS C
 PYM JR, STEPHEN W
 RAMSAY, MATTHEW T
 RIZZELLO, MICHAEL J
 SANTA, ROBERTO
 SOCKOL, TANYA
 STEFANI, DONALD J
 STOKES, CRAIG A
 TEDDER, ROBERT
 TOROK, DAREN D
 WATERS, JOSEPH J
 WILLIAMS, GERALD F

**ST. LUCIE COUNTY
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This publication is for the employees, retirees and friends of the St. Lucie County Fire District. Any distribution of articles from this publication without prior permission is prohibited. If you have any questions, please contact Catherine Chaney at 772-621-3333.



St. Patrick's Day Parade

The SLCFD Honor Guard and Explorers recently participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Port St. Lucie.

**Citizen Hero Award
Program a Success**

Heroes continue to be found in St. Lucie County. There have been fire recipients of the Citizen Hero Award over the past four months. The most recent recipients, helped a woman who found herself under water after the car she was driving ended upside down in a canal. The Citizen Hero Award is given to individuals who go above and beyond to save someone's life. The nominations can come from anyone in the public, but past recipients have some to our attention through firefighters. If you know anyone who has recently saved another person's life, please tell us. Contact Catherine Chaney at 621-3333 or email her at cchaney@slcfd.org

**Pilot Club plans
fundraiser for
April 18**

The Pilot Club of Fort Pierce is planning a Fashion Show at Ocean Village on April 18 at 11:30am. The tickets are \$30. This includes lunch, door prizes, Silent Auction and lots & lots of fun.

The event includes and Easter Bonnet Parade — so join in the fun and decorate a hat for the hat contest- there will be prizes!!

This is a fundraiser for the local charities supported by the Pilot Club. For more information, contact Barb Keck in Ambulance Billing.

**Relay For Life set
for May 8-9**

Relay for Life Fort Pierce is set for May 8-9, at Dan McCarty School, 1201 Mississippi Ave. This is a fund raising event for the American Cancer Society. The Opening Ceremony will be Friday, May 8 at 6p.m. The Luminary Ceremony will be at 8:30 p.m. that same evening.

For more information check out the website www.relayforlife.org/fpfl or call Jeni Brock Steele at the American Cancer Society (1-888-869-2922, ext. 119 or email her at jeni.steel@cancer.org.)

**Challenge Coins
are now for sale
through
Purchasing.
The cost is
\$5.00 per coin.**