



December 2009

# BOCA FIRE RESCUE NET

<http://www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us/fire/newsletters.shtm>

## Seasons Greetings



**Fire Chief Report**  
By:  
Thomas R. Wood,  
CFO

### EMS Competition Team Wins 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Nebraska

Firefighters Shea Miller, Jeff Lazzeri and Robert Parks took the First Place trophy at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Creighton University EMS Competition in Omaha, Nebraska, on November 21<sup>st</sup>. As our out-of-state travel budget is extremely limited, the team paid their own way to this event. Congratulations!

### Citizen Courage Award Mr. Steve Fields

On November 21, 2009, two of our units responded to the Mobil gasoline station at 1990 North Dixie Highway (Alarm # 2009-13180) for a possible child birth. Mr. Fields was identified as the "Good Samaritan" that assisted with the child's birth prior to our arrival. Mr. Fields assisted the mother with the final stage of delivery, held the baby face down, patted its back, and verified that the child was breathing. Both the baby and the mother were transported to Boca Raton Community Hospital and they are doing fine.

For Mr. Fields "willingness to get involved", he was awarded the Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services "Citizen Courage Award", which is inscribed with the C.S. Lewis quote:

*"Courage is not simply one of the virtues, but the form of every virtue at the testing point."* Congratulations! The award was presented at our Department Staff Meeting on Monday, December 7, 2009. The happy mother and her baby were also present. [See photo on page 9.]

### Excellence Awards Cardiac Call

#### **FFD John Elliot, FF Rhett Martin and Aquatics Lt Mia Turner**

Rhett Martin and John Elliot were off duty and swimming in the pool at the Boca Raton Swim Center on November 2, 2009, when someone became unconscious and unresponsive at the Tennis Center. They noticed Aquatics Lieutenant Mia Turner grab an AED and head next door. They jumped out of the pool and followed her to the patient, where the three of them initiated care. When the Med Unit arrived, Rhett, John and Mia had completed an assessment and gathered all the patient information. The patient was conscious, lying in the Trendelenberg position and in an accessible area for treatment. Due to their actions, this patient was able to get expedient treatment and transport. He was taken to the Cath lab at BRCH, where they discovered he had a 90% occlusion of the left anterior descending coronary artery that kept him in atrial tachycardia. During this instance, time was even more critical due to the combination of a heart attack and atrial tachycardia. Despite our best ef-

forts, the atrial tachycardia could not be converted by medications until the blockage was opened by the Cardiologist in the Cath lab. At last report, the patient was doing well and had converted back into normal sinus rhythm.

Rhett, John and Mia are being awarded Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services Excellence Awards for their fast action, which most likely lead to a very positive outcome for the patient. Congratulations! The awards will be presented at a date and time to be determined.

### Excellence Awards Pre-Mature Childbirth

#### **Capt. Dave Covert, FFD Bryan Walton, FF Kurt Holoboff, Lt. Jay Sumner, FF Val Polistena, FF Tomas Martin, Acting Lt. Irena Elmstrom, FF Ryan Cole, FF Scott Cannarozzi, and EMS Capt. Patrick Bayne.**

On November 16<sup>th</sup> 2009, at 10:22 am, Truck 4 and Medic 25 were dispatched to a medical call on Sweetwater Lane. Truck 4 was on a move to cover at Station 3 and they were the first arriving unit to what turned out to be a pre-mature childbirth. The mother had delivered the baby on the bathroom floor stating she "didn't even know she was pregnant." What was also unusual about this call is the baby was delivered still inside the amniotic sac. Firefighter/Driver Bryan Walton immediately began giving care to the infant. He opened the amniotic sack,



*Photo by Jay Bell*

### ***Promotions & Excellence Awards Program***

On November 13th the recently promoted firefighters and the firefighters who received Excellence Awards were honored at a ceremony.

*From left to right: Chief Tom Wood, newly promoted Division Chief Joe Majhess, newly promoted Captain Donnie Horn, newly promoted Lieutenants Shane Duffy and Matt Smith (not pictured: Lt. John McClain), Council Member Constance Scott, Council Member Susan Haynie, recently promoted Firefighter/Drivers Nate Nichols and Ben Fredericks, Awards winner Bill Swoope (from November newsletter), and Union President John Luca.*

suctioned the child with a bulb syringe and attempted to ventilate him with a bag valve mask. Walton determined that the neonate mask was not making a good seal on the infant's face due to the infant's very small size, so he began giving mouth-to-mouth ventilations. Medic 25 arrived a few minutes later and took over care of the infant. Truck 4 continued treating the mother and an additional medic unit was requested (Medic 5) for the mother. Soon thereafter, EMS 1 arrived. Lt. Sumner estimated the baby to be at approximately 30 weeks. The baby was breathing at approximately 4 times a minute and his pulse was at 40. The crew continued CPR and attempted to intubate this small and

very fragile infant. The crew monitored the baby's status utilizing SAO2 sensor, EKG, and continued with CPR. While traveling to the emergency room, Captain Bayne and Lt. Sumner were able to successfully intubate the child. The baby's status improved with the heart rate increasing to 108 and the color turning from pale to pink. Medic 5 transported the mother.

This was a very challenging call, reminiscent of a ClinCon scenario. Everyone involved acted quickly and professionally to help achieve a positive outcome for both patients. It was because of this group effort and teamwork that this baby and mother are alive today. And it is

work that is being recognized with the issuance of Department Excellence Awards to all involved. Congratulations! The date and time of the award presentation is to be determined.

### **2010 Payroll Deduction Charitable Giving Campaign**

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!! Despite these tough economic times, our Department total donations increased three fold, from \$3,899 in 2009 to \$12,453 (so far) for 2010. You dug deep and were very generous. I am certain all the non-profit agencies appreciate your support.

***Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.***



**Administration**  
By:  
Glenn Joseph  
Deputy Chief

Happy Holidays Everyone! Although this holiday season comes at what most economists believe is the trough of a very difficult economic downturn, it is always productive to take time to be thankful and reflect on our many blessings.

In this calendar year, the Fire Department placed five new medic units in service; completed construction and moved into the new Station 5; completed extensive development at the Banyan Trail Training Facility; we promoted 18 people, hired 4 employees and had 3 employees retire. It has been a very busy year.

In the last month, Chief Wood promoted four new Lieutenants: Shane Leon, Matt Smith, Jessie Duffy and John McClain. Congratulations to all of our new officers. As new officers, you will face many challenges in making the transition from being a buddy to becoming a boss, but we have confidence in your ability to successfully navigate the change and become a competent, professional fire officer.

**Let's do the numbers  
for October, 2009:**

<b>Total EMS Alarms</b>	<b>826</b>
Average Resp. Time	5.26 Min
EMS Unit (most alarms)	Med5 - 180
<b>Total Fire Alarms</b>	<b>168</b>
Average Resp. Time	6.05 Min
Fire Company (most alarms)	Trk1 - 159
Station 5 (most alarms)	432
<b>Other Incidents</b>	<b>238</b>
Total Alarms	1,232

*As always, Be Safe,  
Be Competent, Be Professional.*



**Operations**  
By:  
John Johnson  
Deputy Chief

As the New Year approaches, there are several projects that the Operations Division has, and will be, working on. The first was the balancing of each shift's personnel with all the different step-up classifications. All the moves will be completed by mid-January 2010. Next, vacation picks will have been conducted and the first three rounds will be completed by mid-December. Following the personnel moves and vacation picks, the station bidding process will be conducted towards the latter part of January.

In addition, the Department is currently conducting a hiring process. At this time, there are 222 applicants that will be competing for the vacant positions. Additionally, the current lieutenants list will expire May 31, 2010, and the Department is preparing to post for the promotional examination. The posting will be in mid-January with an expected test date of late April.

The Operations Division would like to congratulate Division Chief Kelly for being nominated for Fire Service Instructor of the Year Award through the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association. Please congratulate and thank Pat for all of his hard work.

The Operations Division would like to wish everyone a happy and joyous Holiday Season along with a healthy and prosperous New Year!



**Planning & Emergency Management**  
By:  
Raul Travieso  
Assistant Chief

It gives me great pleasure to announce the approved expansion of the Planning and Emergency Management Section, which has acquired the management of Communications and Public Information.

I will be ably assisted by "Administrative" Division Chief Joseph Majhess and Public Information Officer Frank Correggio in this new undertaking. Gail Jordan will be supporting our team with clerical assistance.

The purpose of this section's expansion is to place the responsibilities of Emergency Management, Communications, Research, Planning, Strategies, Records Management, Public Education, Public Information, and our CPR Program all under one umbrella.

We are also pleased to announce that our new "Zetron" Fire Station Alerting System is completely operational at all eight stations. The system is activated by the Fire Dispatcher at the 9-1-1 Center and immediately opens the public address system in the appropriate station to broadcast the emergency alarm information throughout the fire station. The new system is IP based and resides on the City's computer network system; the old system operated on dedicated phone lines. This new version of the IP based "Zetron" Fire Station Alerting System was procured utilizing FEMA "Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program" funds and provides a cost saving to the City of over \$3000 a



month recurring charges on the telephone lines that are longer required.

We want to take this opportunity to report that a backup fire station alerting system was also installed last month to complement the new "Zetron" system. This back up system is required by NFPA 1221 and maximizes our Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating, which grades the fire department on how well it receives fire alarms and dispatches its fire-fighting resources. In the event our new "Zetron" system is inoperable, this radio based back-up system will alert station personnel of the pending emergency they need to respond to.

In closing, I would like to wish you all a healthy, happy, and peaceful Holiday Season.



**Records Management & Planning**

By:  
Joe Majhess  
Division Chief

*Seasons greetings to all.* I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and well wishes. I have been busy getting acclimated in my new surroundings and learning my new roles and responsibilities. My duties include handling Communication issues such as radio, phone, and accessory related repairs and replacements in conjunction with Dispatch and other city personnel. I will also be overseeing the Department CPR program, and Gail Jordan will be assisting me as she transitions to the CPR Training Center Coordinator role

previously held by Amy Ross. Additionally, I will be responsible for the Building Survey program in conjunction with Captain Todd Stewart, as well as creating a NFIRS training and QA process to be implemented in the future.

In summary, I look forward to the opportunity to serve the Department in my new role of Administrative Division Chief. I wish you all a happy and safe holiday season.

**P.S.**

*NO* – I have not ridden my bicycle to Administration yet.

*YES* – I do occasionally have to don the winter jacket/shawl in the office.



**Fire & Life Safety**

By:  
David Woodside  
Assistant Chief

Now that Thanksgiving is behind us, we are in full holiday mode. The Christmas lights are up all around and that means Christmas tree stands are set up and hosting a flurry of activity. The weather is cooler (thank goodness), the mall is busier, and there are more vehicles traveling the roadways. This time of year brings increase risk of fires in residential structures (homes). According to NFPA, an average of 250 Christmas tree fires are reported each year from 2003 -2007, with sixty one percent of these occurring during the month of December. NFPA further stated that these fires caused 14 civilian deaths, 26 civilian injuries, and \$13.8 million dollars in

property damage per year. Additionally, decorative lighting with line voltage was involved in an estimated average of 170 home structure fires per year. These fires caused an average of seven civilian deaths, 17 civilian injuries, and \$7.9 million in direct property damage per year.

Christmas trees can become a fire hazard if not properly maintained. The Fire and Life Safety Division has again supplied Christmas tree tags to be distributed to everyone purchasing a Christmas tree in the City of Boca Raton.

The following information is supplied to assist in helping all to stay safe from fire and related accidents during the holiday season:

1. Water the tree daily and check for excessive dryness frequently.
2. Use decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
3. Use only decorations listed by an approved testing laboratory ex. UL, FM, ETL.
4. DON'T place extension cords under rugs, carpets or decorations.
5. Supervise small children closely around candles, trees, and decorations.
6. Keep the tree in the coolest section of the house. This will retard drying.
7. Always disconnect all decorations when leaving the house and before retiring for the evening.
8. Use clips not nails to hang lights. This will minimize the damage



to the cord.

9. Keep trees away from open windows. A gust of wind may upset a tree and could cause a fire.
10. Remove the tree and all Christmas wrappings promptly after the holidays.
11. Never use electric lights on a metal tree.
12. Don't use lights with worn, frayed, or broken cords or loose bulb connections.
13. Connect no more than three strands of push-in bulbs or a maximum of 50 screw-in bulbs.
14. Never use lit candles on a decorated tree.
15. DON'T use candles or open flames around any Christmas decorations.
16. IN THE EVENT OF FIRE, EVACUATE YOUR HOME IMMEDIATELY AND THEN CALL FIRE RESCUE SERVICES. (911)

Please be aware of the safety tips listed and be ready to share this information with our customers, friends, and family members.

From everyone in the Fire and Life Safety Division, *"Merry Christmas!"*



**Congratulations to Nora and Loyd Putnam on the birth of their baby boy, Joshua Nathaniel. He arrived on November 23 at 4:21 p.m., and was 14 1/4" long.**



**Logistics & Support**  
By:  
Mike Gergora  
Assistant Chief

Happy Holidays and wishing you All a very Happy and Healthy New Year from the Logistics and Support Staff!

Before reporting on the issues related to the Logistics and Support Division I want to complete the review of our Organizational Values. The four values we covered so far were: Communication *"We communicate with ownership in what we say, compassion in how we say it, and respect for all. The components of active listening and timely feedback are vitally important to successful communications"*. Compassion: *"Genuine compassion is applied to everything we do. Each encounter should leave a lasting positive impression. Care and concern is used in our treatment of those we serve, as well as each other."* Ownership: *"This Organization takes ownership of its members, and in turn we ask that our members take ownership in the Organization. We are proud of our personnel and their accomplishments. We are accountable for our weaknesses and see them as an opportunity for growth and innovation."* Respect: *"It is through mutual respect, acknowledgement of our diversity, and a caring attitude that the Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services Department succeeds in accomplishing its overall mission of excellence. It is a privilege to be recognized as leaders in delivering quality emergency and non-emergency services to the com-*

*munity."* The final value to be discussed is Service.

Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services defines this value as follows. Service: *"We recognize that providing outstanding service in a positive, professional, and safe manner produces superior results. The service provided is more than the essentials to the Public, to the Organization, and to our personnel. Service responsibilities include investing in the members of our Department."*

This value is a tall order to be filled. The definition clearly directs each of us to apply the highest quality standard in the performance of our duties and that the Department values our personnel for providing this service. I have mentioned in previous articles that this is why we entered into this profession in the first place, which is, to provide service to others or as the Rotarians say, "Service before Self." I hope that you will embrace and model Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services' Organizational Values: Communication, Compassion, Ownership, Respect, and Service in all that you do. I believe that this is a great way to end this year and provide a positive approach to entering the New Year.

Other outstanding Fire Rescue issues:

**Apparatus:**

We will be making a site inspection at Sutphen Towers in Columbus, Ohio, on December 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> to inspect our new ladder truck. The truck is scheduled for delivery during the first week of January. Our staff has been gearing up for its' arrival. We have ordered the equipment, mounting brackets, and other accessories in order to have new Truck 5 placed in service during the last week of January 2010. Let's



not forget we have two new pumpers following just a few weeks behind the ladder truck. Here are a few sneak preview pictures during the assembly process.



### ***Special Operations:***

Division Chief Scott Johnston is working hard at writing the bid specifications for our new Special Operations tractor and trailer. They should be completed by the middle of December, and then sent to the Purchasing Department for review and posting. I want to thank all the members of the Department that contributed to this process. This is a great example of taking "ownership" in providing "service" to the public and our members.

### ***Equipment:***

The new bunker gear is starting to trickle in to the Support Building. We anticipate distributing the gear to you during the month of January. The Uniform Bid should be awarded this month and then off to the City Council for approval due to the large amount of the bid. Please email and only email Brunna Ward with any of your clothing size changes from last year's order by January 15<sup>th</sup> (phone calls will not be accepted as an official form notification). Otherwise, you may find your uniforms not fitting properly.

### ***Facilities:***

**Station 1:** The Battalion Chief's Office at Fire Station 1 is having the locks re-keyed to match the office lock at Station 5. The station key will no longer unlock this office. We are also addressing the privacy issue with the windows in the day room.

**Station 2:** A new under-the-counter ice machine was installed on December 2<sup>nd</sup> in the kitchen. Thanks to the Crew on C-Platoon for their patience during the installation.

**Station 3:** New light fixtures are being installed this month on the apparatus bay. The elevator has been out of service on several occasions and we are working with the City on addressing the multiple repairs in such a short period of time. Hint -You might want to use the stairs until then.

**Station 4:** We have notified the City about the recent roof leak, and hope to have this resolved shortly.

**Station 5:** The gym has received some additional dumbbells and now has a full compliment of weights.

Wall mounted light fixtures for the bunk rooms should be installed by the end of the year.

**Station 6:** The lettering for the Station has been mounted on the monument sign and the City seals are to be installed within the next two weeks. "Thank you" to Captain Santa Maria, FFD Flashner, FF Grunke, and FFD Lucas for their assistance with the landscaping. I hope that the crews are enjoying the new window treatments. The City is also aware of the continued leaks in the roof.

**Station 7:** A monitoring well for the generator fuel storage will be installed within the next 60 days. This is being required due to the proximity to possible future well fields.

**Station 8:** Thanks for the suggestion about the shoreline for the spare Medic Unit. We have had a cord reel installed on the wall to keep the line from creating a trip hazard. Please let me know how this works out for you.

**Support Facility:** The Explorers have taken residency in Classroom #2 in the west modular building. They have done a wonderful job painting and setting the place up. They are certain to make good future firefighters. The Fleet Management printer, infrastructure, and software have been installed. This will allow the shop to bar code inventory, generate work orders, and provide reports that are necessary for us to more effectively manage our resources.

**Miscellaneous:** All fire stations (except Station 3) and Support will be receiving new dumpsters before the end of the year. Please be sure



to feed them on a regular basis. All of the fire station generators have been topped off with fuel as part of our post-hurricane season activities.

**ISO:**

We are making the final preparations for the ISO re-inspection that is anticipated for late January 2010. You may see me doing cartwheels down the street when this project is over.

Thank you for your suggestions and concerns in an effort to help the Department and me serve your needs in an effective manner. Hopefully, I will be able to visit with you during my station visits this month. Please stop in my office anytime that you are at Fire Administration.

*Until Then - Stay Safe and Professional!*



**EMS Operations**  
By:  
Michael Barker  
Assistant Chief

**Reigning Midwest ALS Champions** – Boca Raton Fire Rescue: Firefighter/Paramedics Shea Miller, Jeff Lazzeri, and Robert Parks **competed and won** the ALS Competition at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, on November 19 & 20, 2009. They were the only team from Boca Raton to make the trip. They competed against teams from New York, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Iowa (hurrah!), and two other teams from Florida. Second Place went to Flagler County Fire Rescue from Deland, and Third Place went

to St. John’s County Fire Rescue from St. Augustine. Please take a



*ALS Champs: Jeff Lazzeri, Shea Miller, and Bob Parks*

moment to congratulate them on their victory. It takes a lot of time, hard work, and dedication to prepare for these competitions. In January our ALS Teams will be participating in Daytona Beach at the 2010 Fire Rescue East ALS Competition.

**Power Stretchers:** The process to purchase 14 new Stryker Power Stretchers is nearly completed. If everything goes according to schedule, we should receive the new stretchers by the end of January. Within two weeks of delivery, the Department will be trained in their use and the stretchers will be placed in service. Power stretchers have been proven to reduce workman’s comp-related injuries incurred from handling conventional stretchers by over 50%. These stretchers significantly reduce the incident of back injuries, shoulders injuries, and hernias. Also, the stretchers can be raised to accommodate the loading height of new Medic trucks.

**First In, Last Out Seminar:** On February 18 & 19, 2010, we will be hosting a seminar presented by FDNY Battalion Chief, John Salka. As with the seminars we’ve conducted in the past, it is a one day seminar that will be presented on two consecutive days to allow all of

our personnel the opportunity to attend. Chief Salka is a well-known Fire Service speaker and author of the book, “*First In, Last Out, Leadership Lessons From The New York Fire Department*”. Registration for this seminar is open, **free to all City employees**, and can be done online at [www.bocacares.org](http://www.bocacares.org). You will be asked for payment after filling out the information and clicking on “Register”, ignore the request and close the website. You’re registered.

**Wishing You a Safe and Happy Holiday Season.**



**December Birthdays**

- 12/01 Pat Murray
- 12/01 Mike Davanzo
- 12/02 John Gibson
- 12/04 Joel Narcowich
- 12/04 Jesus Barrera
- 12/06 Tomas Martin
- 12/07 Scott Stinecipher
- 12/07 Phil Strasser
- 12/07 Bill Pazanski
- 12/08 Ed Guinn
- 12/11 Scott Clark
- 12/14 Kim Bunting
- 12/15 Bruce Angier
- 12/20 Jordan Flaschner
- 12/24 Joanne Barnes
- 12/25 Brian Ward**
- 12/25 Bob Parks**
- 12/28 Mike Altamuro
- 12/29 John McClain
- 12/30 Todd Withrow
- 12/31 Aaron Fix
- 01/01 Bill Puchalski
- 01/04 Mike O’Neil
- 01/05 Shaun Fix
- 01/07 Bill Fowler



**Special Operations**

By:  
Scott Johnston  
Division Chief

**Boca and Delray Haz Mat Team Together Earn High Honors for Readiness**

On August 27, 2009, Delray Fire Rescue and Boca Raton Fire Rescue were evaluated by a “third party” vendor hired by the State of Florida in order to determine our readiness to respond as “one team” anywhere in the state. The technical name for this evaluation is Operational Readiness Evaluation or ORE.

There are actually three parts to the ORE: documentation, the knowledge of the responders, and having and maintaining the proper equipment. All three of these categories are very in-depth, and you either have it or you don't.

We recently received the results from the State and I am proud to report that Delray and Boca combined as “one team” earned the highest score in the entire state out of 28 teams!!! Below are the actual words written by the State USAR / Haz Mat Program Coordinator, Scott Chappell:

*“Delray Beach and Boca Raton Fire Rescue Haz Mat Team’s (HM7-C) score of 99.6% is the highest score earned by any team in the state, which is 29.6 points above the 70% minimum that we hoped all of our teams would achieve, and is 8.3 points above the outstanding average score of 91.3%.”*

*“Your team’s near perfect evaluation, highlighted by the fact that the only shortfall of the 282 criteria on which it was evaluated has actually already been met, demonstrates the phenomenal job you all do.”*

*“Thank you for your participation in the 2009 Hazardous Materials Operational Readiness and Monitoring Evaluation. It is through this process that we hope to build upon Florida’s already strong hazardous materials response capabilities.”*

Over the years we have been able to maintain outstanding cooperation and team work between both departments, which is a major act of coordination in itself. Without such hard work and efforts from all involved, we would never be able to maintain such an outstanding Haz Mat Response Team, both county and state-wide.

Congratulations to all who have worked so hard over the years to maintain such a high level of readiness; your efforts are truly recognized and appreciated. A special thanks to the B-Shift crew on duty for this evaluation, Capt. Dan Coine, FFD Scott Brooks, FFD Mike Sklark, and FF Karl Richards.



**Training & Safety**

By:  
Pat Kelly  
Division Chief

**Hello once again.**  
It’s hard to believe that another year is coming to a close. We in Training wish you and yours all the best for

the holidays. The last few weeks have been hectic to say the least. We are in the process of evaluating over 200 applicants for the position of firefighter. While these numbers create greater workload for us in training, they will give us a greater pool to choose from. Anything worthwhile is often difficult!

Jennifer Miller has been functioning as the new “Vacation Pick Goddess”. This is a very time consuming process to which she committed herself. The next time you see her, say “thanks for a job well done.”

**Training**

Please persevere with the Wildland Firefighting courses. The software is not the best and you will see some redundancy in what you already know. Keep in mind, this is now mandatory curriculum for all new firefighters and as such, we should bring all our personnel up to current standards. If you experience difficulty, you may contact either me or Capt. Mitch Greenberg.

**Safety**

It took a long time but the traffic light in front of Station 6 has been modified to what should suit our needs. When the light is activated, the light at 1905



Clint Moore now turns red which stops eastbound traffic. The light at Military Trail also turns red except for eastbound from Station 6. These changes should significantly increase safety when responding from Station 6. Thanks to Assistant Chief Barker and the City’s Traffic Light Signal Division in getting this done.







**As Reported By:**  
**Frank Correggio**  
Public Information Officer






***Mastering the Stream***

When fires get too big or out of control, it's time to call in the master to fight the fire. Boca Raton Fire Rescue Service crews are training this week to fight these types of fires at the Fire Training and Support Facility, 800 Banyan Trail. Firefighters will train on positioning the 100 ft. truck and operate the two – 500 gallon per minute fire stream nozzles mounted in the bucket. Firefighters will also practice truck placement for fighting high rise fires, as well as performing a rescue from a window or rooftop. The 1996 Sutphen aerial platform has a 100 ft. ladder and platform, carries approximately 400 gallons of water, and is equipped with a 1,500 gallon per minute pump. Aerial operations, rescue and defensive fire tactics are all part of the on-going training.





**MEMO**

**November  
Service Years**

Joe Ramsey	32
Joe Hauck	28
Pat Kelly	22
Tom Carroll	19
Mike Francis	12
Brian Ward	12
Mike Young	11
Mario Eaton	5
Dave Rosenthal	3
Carlos Vidaurreta	2



*The Tom Gallo Family with Award Winner Steve Fields, and Fire Chief Tom Wood*

**Citizen Courage Award  
Presented to  
Steve Fields  
December 2009**





### Fire Explorers Show Family And Friends How Its Done At Annual Family Day Event

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, Boca Raton Fire Rescue Explores Post # 315 got to show their family members and friends just what they do, at their Explorer Post # 315 Annual Family Day. Twenty Fire Explorers participated in five different events ranging from rolling hose to a live fire demonstration.

Family members and friends received a tour of the Training and Support facility and then watched as Fire Explorers arrived on a Medical Unit and handled a mock call of a victim in cardiac arrest. They viewed the Fire Explorer Competition Team run through three events that they will be doing at the Broward Sheriff Office Explorer Competition on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Family members then got to participate in the rolling hose event coached by the Fire Explorers. The day concluded when four Explorers who have completed their fire training as Stated Certified Firefighters arrived on a fire truck, pulled hose lines and under the direction of live fire training instructor Division Chief Scott Johnston, demonstrated how to put out a fully involved car fire, then demonstrated how to handle a mock gas leak with live fire. Family members saw first hand Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services live fire training simulator in use for these demonstrations.

Fire Explorers meet once a week from 6-9pm. During that time they have a weekly meeting, practice marching drills, have classroom training and do hands on training in firefighting and emergency medicine. Fire Explorers also perform community service for various groups within the City of Boca Raton.

Since the inception of the program in 2004, Boca Raton Fire Rescue has hired four Explorers who have completed EMT, Paramedic and the Fire Academy. These Explorers are all State Certified Firefighters and Paramedics and competed and passed all the requirements in the hiring process for Boca Raton Fire Rescue.



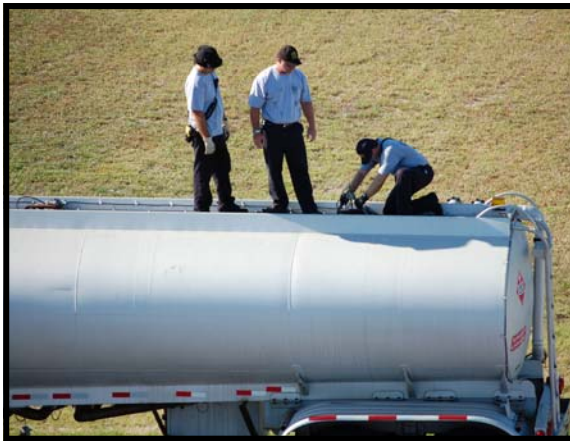


## Haz Mat Technician Train to Stop Leaks

On November 19<sup>th</sup>, Boca Raton Firefighters / Hazardous Material technicians worked to stop a liquid fuel leak. The mock training took place at Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services Support Facility and Training Tower.

This type of training helps to keep firefighters familiar with the anatomy of fuel tanker trucks or rail cars, so that they can stop leaks which may occur due to accidents or tank malfunction. During this training, various types of clamps and equipment were used to help control different types of fuel leaks.

With a large amount of fuel tankers and rail tanker cars running through our city, this type of training is essential for firefighters. This training is part of the ongoing training program for Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services hazardous material technicians' annual re-certification. Boca Raton Fire Rescue is part of the Regional Hazardous Material Response Team for Palm Beach County.



Asst. Chief Daryl Scott helping Deputy Chief John Johnson into the HazMat suit.



*Division Chief in Charge of HazMat Operations keeps a sharp eye on the activities.*



*Assistant Chief Daryl Scott ponders what to do with the hazardous waste.*





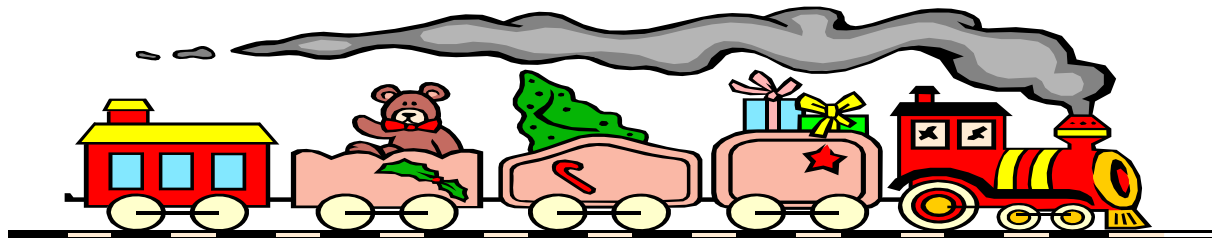
Frank Correggio

*From left to right: Fire Captain Phil Santa Maria, FF/P Donnie Mullens, Driver/Engineer Scot Brooks, AND THE MEMBERS OF BROWNIE TROOP 20297*

### *The Spirit Of Giving*

Brownie Troop 20297 understands the spirit of giving. Troop leaders Valerie Bishop and Fran Glick asked their troop to help the firefighters of Boca Raton with their 2009 Toy Drive. Troop members brought their new toys to their girl scout meeting and were given a special treat when a fire truck arrived at Calusa Elementary School to pick them up. The firefighters gave Troop 20297 a talk about fire safety and safety during the holidays. After the talk, the troop took a tour of Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services Engine 6 which is stationed near the school.

Firefighters are collecting new, unwrapped toys to help make Christmas brighter for families in need. Anyone wishing to help, can drop their new toys at any of the eight City of Boca Raton fire rescue stations.





**Vehicle Crashes Through Office**

**Wall In Boca Raton**

On November 30th, at approximately 10:00 am, Boca Raton firefighters responded to a call for a vehicle accident at 951 NW 13 Street. Firefighters arrived to find a Lexus RX 330 had crashed through the wall of a doctor’s office waiting area. A woman waiting to be seen by the doctor apparently was struck by debris from the crash and was transported in stable condition to Boca Raton Community Hospital for further evaluation. The driver of the vehicle was not injured.



**Vehicle Roll Over on I-95**

On November 30<sup>th</sup> at approximately 2:00 pm, Boca Raton firefighters responded to a call for a vehicle roll over accident at I-95 south of Palmetto Park Road. Firefighters arrived to find three vehicles, a Toyota, a pick up truck, and a semi tractor trailer involved. The blue Toyota Camry was found upside down on its roof in the grassy area on the west side of I-95 southbound. No one was injured but traffic was backed up beyond Glades Road.



*Photo by Jay Bell*

**CERT NEWS**

On December 2nd at the Semi-Annual CERT meeting Chief Tom Wood presented five awards for CERT Member of the Year and one Life Time Achievement Award.

Picture at right: CERT Coordinator Frank Correggio, and Members of the Year Pat Bidwell (2009), Susan Sosin (2007), Dana Galloway (2009), Nicola Zordan (2008), and Fire Chief Tom Wood.



**Life Time Achievement Award**

**Clem Storch**

# Smoke Detectors Save Lives



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