

ANSWERING THE CALL



Barrow County Emergency Services Newsletter

April 2016

Chief's Message

It has been several months since we put out our last newsletter. However, it is my goal to have a newsletter sent out to you on a regular basis beginning with this issue. The goal of the newsletter will be to highlight events that have occurred since the last newsletter and also upcoming events and projects.



Photo Credit— Nelson Sanders Photography

The Title of the newsletter has been updated to **"Answering The Call"**. This name was chosen as it embodies all sections within BCES ; whatever the need may be, we answer the call.

I want this newsletter to be valuable to each of our employees, in order for this to happen, we need your input. If you have information you would like included in the monthly newsletter, please email Penny Clack. Things of interest may be specialized training, public relations events or employees that have done something either while on duty or off duty that they deserve recognition for.

As always, I want to say thank you to each of you for the dedication that you have towards BCES and serving the community. While BCES is comprised of several sections (fire/rescue, ems, ema and 911) we are all still one team. As Henry Ford said regarding the success of teamwork "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress and working together is success." Let us all continue to be a successful team.

John

"Leaders become great, not because of their power, but because of their ability to empower others"

- John Maxwell



In This Issue

- Captains Promotions
- New Med Units
- Recruit School
- Employee Spotlight

Highlights from Headquarters

- ◆ **Pay Study** - In January, Carl Vinson Institute of Government began work on the pay study and job classifications. Many hours of work has been invested by Administrative Staff to prepare for this study. Report from CVIOG is expected to be presented to the BOC in May.
- ◆ **New Engine-** In February the BOC Awarded a bid for a Rescue Pumper to Fireline, Inc. in the amount of \$455,919. Expected delivery date is end of May 2016
- ◆ **Battalion Vehicle and Administrative Vehicles**— Bids were awarded to Akins Ford in January 2016 for 2 Expeditions and 1 Explorer (911). Delivery is expected in April.
- ◆ **Burn Building** - work is currently underway on Phase II of the burn building. This project includes paving , landscaping and additional storage.
- ◆ **SCBA** - Bid packages for the SCBA were received in March and this item was presented to the BOC on March 22nd. The SCBA bid was awarded to Fireline in the amount of \$335,020. Delivery is expected at 120 days from date of order.
- ◆ **Annual Report**— Annual report committee is in the process of finalizing the BCES annual report for 2015.



Fire Inspections Division

Plan review projects underway.

Petco Distribution Center 187,314 Sq. Feet

The lodge at Chateau Elan Hotel. Three stories at 61,580 Sq. Feet

Sims Academy Amphitheater 20 Acres and 2,000 seating capacity

Home Church 6,000 Sq. Feet

Educational Achievements for Captain Cain

Plan Review and Life Safety, 48 Hours, February-27-2016

Life Safety Code Class, 40 Hours, March-11-2016



On April 16, 2016 several members of BCES will be participating in the Fight for Air Climb to benefit the American Lung Association. So what is the Fight for Air Climb? It is a vertical race up 51 floors (1272 steps).

If you would like more information regarding this event, please contact team captain- Stephen Ricci



Recruit Class

The first recruit class of 2016 began on February 16, 2016. These four recruits will graduate on April 7th and will be joining the ranks on shift beginning on April 9th.

Mark Watson



Mark is a native of Kentucky and currently lives in Cumming, GA. He is an A-EMT and is currently enlisted in GA Army National Guard. Mark is a former personal trainer and also works with a college group at Passion city Church.

Steven Rose



Steve is an A-EMT and a volunteer with Oconee County Fire Rescue. His hobbies involve hunting, fishing, backpacking and kayaking or anything that gets him outside.

Austin Shakelford



Austin is an A-EMT and previously worked for Jasper County EMS. He currently lives in Statham with his wife Elizabeth. As a part-time job Austin makes and installs granite countertops

Crosby Harbin



Crosby is a 2013 graduate of Jackson County High School where he played football and ran track. He began firefighting as a volunteer with West Jackson Fire Department. His hobbies are hunting and fishing.

Employee Spotlight

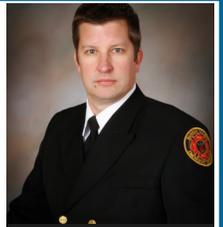


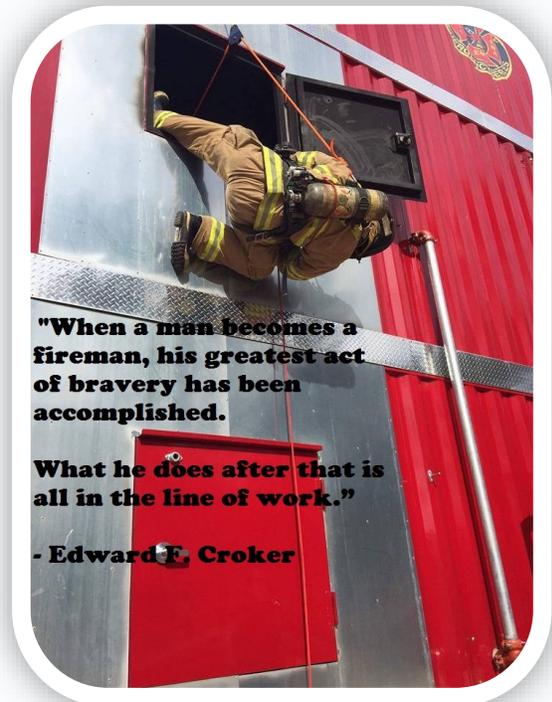
Photo credit—Nelson Sanders Photography

FF/PMDC Matt Austin

Matt Austin was chosen for this month's highlight because of positive comments received from Deputy Marvin Tarver. Matt and his crew recently took time to show Deputy Tarver's kids the equipment and what they do. According to Deputy Tarver "Matt took the time to show them boys a really good time", "Hayden could not take the grin off his face the entire time".

Matt began his career with BCES on May 5, 2003. In addition to his duties as a FF/Paramedic, Matt is also one of the SWAT Medics for BCSO.

Matt lives in Watkinsville with his wife Teresa and his family.



"When a man becomes a fireman, his greatest act of bravery has been accomplished.

What he does after that is all in the line of work."

- Edward F. Croker

Captain's Promotions

After months of preparations, studying and testing, Captain Promotional Process was completed on February 23, 2016. Six Lieutenants completed the process and the top 3 were promoted to Captain effective March 26, 2016.

Congratulations to Captain Richard Carignan, Captain Scott Dakin and Captain Aaron Fuller on your new promotions.



Richard Carignan



Aaron Fuller



Scott Dakin

Photos credit—Nelson Sanders Photography

Congratulations to Captain Glen Cain on achieving his A-EMT Certification and Mike Garner for achieving his Paramedic Certification



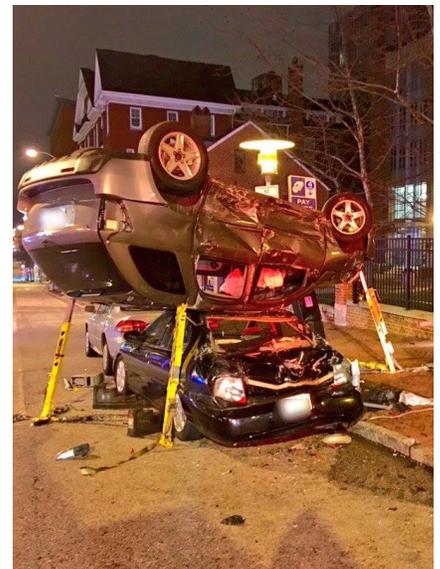
Rescue 42 Struts

In December 2015, BCES received **Rescue 42 Struts** for each of the first line engines. These struts were purchased through the GAEMS Trauma Grant.

Training was conducted for all crews on this new equipment prior to being placed in service. The struts have already been used on at least one accident in Barrow County to stabilize the vehicle and improve patient and responder safety.



{The top photo is an actual scene from BCES – the bottom photo is to show other situations in which these tools may be utilized}



Emergency Communications News

Communications Employee Spotlight



Photo Credit— Nelson Sanders Photography

Senior Communications Officer Cathy Loggins began her career as a Communications Officer with Barrow County in August 2013.

In September 2015, Cathy was promoted to Senior Communications Officer.

Cathy had previous customer service in the banking industry, prior to becoming employed by BCES. She enjoys spending time with family and friends.

Emergency Communications welcomed two new Communications Officers in February; Jennifer Skinner and Samone King.



Jennifer Skinner began with BCES in February. Prior to her employment here she worked at Jackson County 911 and with Gwinnett County Detention Center as a medical assistant. We would like to welcome Jennifer to the BCES family.



Samone King began with BCES in February. She has past experience in customer service with a clothing manufacture and as a substitute teacher with Barrow County School System. Welcome to the BCES family Samone.

National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

Each year, the second full week of April is designated as **National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week**. This week, sponsored by the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International and celebrated annually, honors the thousands of men and women who respond to emergency calls, dispatch emergency professionals and equipment, and render life-saving assistance to the world's citizens.

This year, this observance will be held April 10-16. Please take a moment during this time to say "Thank You" to all of our Communications Officers.



No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another.

_ Author Unknown.



CERT Team News

March 15th the current CERT team members began Citizens Fire Academy training. This training will be delivered by BCES employees over the next 9 months.

CERT members will be the test group for this program, which BCES hopes to begin offering to citizens in 2017.



Purchases for equipment and supplies are currently in process. This equipment is being procured utilizing funds received by BCES from a GEMA Grant

CERT (Community Emergency Response Training)

Barrow County Emergency Services and Barrow County CERT team began its 18 class to train citizen emergency preparedness on March 7th. The class had 16 attendees for the first session. This is a 9 week course in which our citizens learn about fire safety, light search and rescue, first aid, disaster psychology and other topics.

The course concludes with a mini-exercise in which the participants are given a simulated disaster situation, and they must utilize the skills they have learned during the class to assist the victim.

After completing this course, the participants are given the opportunity to join the CERT Team and continue their training and volunteer as support personnel for emergency responders.

CERT Team members who have completed the Train-the Trainer course are instructing the majority of the training for the current class with oversight from BCES.

*"Volunteers are not paid
-- not because they are
worthless, but because
they are priceless."*

The Lighter Side of BCES





Blair Darst	April 1
Joseph Rinke	April 7
Jeffrey Johnston	April 10
Nick Bouchier	April 17
William Wright	April 17
John VanGotum	April 19
Brenda Adams	April 21
Chris Jones	April 21
Kevin Locke	April 28



Anniversaries

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Kathy Wallace	April 20	24
Mark Mann	April 30	21
Richard Carignan	April 6	11
Andy Dunn	April 8	9
Jeffrey Johnston	April 23	2

