

ANSWERING THE CALL



Barrow County Emergency Services Newsletter

November 2016



Photo Credit— Nelson Sanders Photography

While the list could go on and on about the things I am truly thankful for, this little group takes the top. These two knuckleheads keep the wife and I constantly on the move without a dull moment! Together, we have shared laughter, madness, pain, and most recently a one room loft apartment at the in-laws; however, I wouldn't have it any different!! I thank the good Lord every day for the blessing of a great family and I pray that he will continue to bless this family for many years to come!



I am also thankful for this great department and the countless hours I have shared with each of you over the years! It is an honor to be a part of another great family where we together have experience tough times as well as great times. Take care of each other and don't forget your love ones at home who has also made sacrifices each and every day while we are away doing what we love to do during this holiday season!

I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving holiday and most importantly a safe one!

Stay safe, and keep up the great work.

John





Words of Wisdom from the Deputy Chief

The Holiday season is fast approaching, preparing for getting together with family and friends. Busy with shopping and of course eating!!! And as you all know, it's also one of the hardest times of the year for emergency services folks, from running additional calls, dealing with missing family events, and just the overall stress of the holidays.

I am very thankful for having a family that's been involved with emergency services for two generations, which does make it a little easier and they all understand that family has to work around shift schedules and they are understanding when we can't make the family gathering for Thanksgiving or Christmas but love us all the more....Yes it takes a special person to give up family and friend to take care of others. Guess that's why we do what we do...With that said stay safe and enjoy the upcoming Holiday Season...

As always I am honored to serve

Atlan



Employee Spotlights



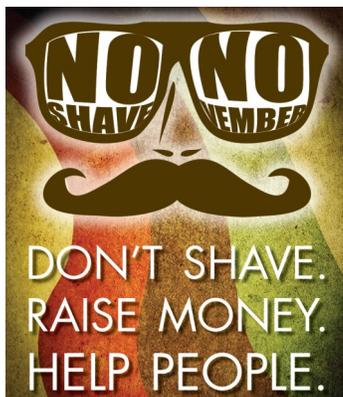
Lt Keith Jarrett joined Barrow County in July, 2002 as a Firefighter/Paramedic. He worked on B-Shift and filled in as Acting Officer several times until he was promoted to Lieutenant and moved to A-Shift. Over the last few months, Lt Jarrett has helped in organizing several training opportunities for all of A-Shift. This includes teaching a three hour Haz-Mat class for everyone. He worked with Lieutenant Skinner to put all of A-Shift crews through a night drill. The two of them worked hard to make the scenarios different for each crew and give opportunities for everyone to have to think about what they would do in different situations.



Firefighter/EMT Michael Libbin began his career with BCES in March 2005. He became a certified FF in Monmouth County NJ march 1988 and received his EMT Certification in November 1989. Michael has taken on the tasks of repairing and upgrading handlights, is frequently involved in numerous repairs of equipment and is an excellent driver/engineer. His Lieutenant noted his positive attitude around the station. Michael is married to his wife-Gina and has 3 children (Son-Russell Daughters-Megan and Casey) and 2 Grandchildren (Bryson and Gabriel). His favorite hobby is running (he's lost 70 pounds by running).



Lt. Tommy Crowe began his career with BCES in July 2006. During this time he has worked his way up from a firefighter /EMT to a Lieutenant. Lt. Crowe has always been willing to assist with recruit classes and to take on extra tasks to better serve the department and county. He is the type of Lt. to look out for his crew and others. Lt. Crowe has many years in the Fire and EMS field both here at Barrow County and Athens Clarke. Lt. Crowe is very dependable and is an asset to the department and Barrow County.



No-Shave November is a nationwide awareness campaign in regards to men's health, cancer research and prevention. This year we have one of our own battling cancer, retired FF/Emt – Station Chief Gary Little. Many of you know Gary very well, but for the ones of you who don't, Gary was a long-time firefighter for Barrow County and was the station chief for the Bethlehem Fire Station. Gary played a tremendous part in the foundation of our department and service; therefore, BCES will dedicate No-Shave November in honor of Retired FF/Emt/Station Chief Gary Little.

BCES will waive department policy to all who wish to grow a beard for November as long as you pledge to donate \$25.00 dollars toward Gary's battle. With that in mind, I would ask that you keep your own safety in mind. Historically, the fire service has held the belief that facial hair interferes with the seal of your breathing apparatus. I would suggest that each of you be cautious and check the sealing of your mask every shift. **Your safety is a priority.** Additionally, you must still keep your beard well groomed to ensure we maintain professionalism within our service.

This worthy campaign will end on Wednesday November 30, 2016. Department policy will be back in effect Thursday December 1, 2016!

Fire Prevention Month Activities

Fire Prevention and Safety is important throughout the year, but every October, we recognize Fire Prevention Month. Visits are made to each of the elementary schools in Barrow County as well as to many daycares and private schools.

During this time, we focused on several objectives which were tailored for the kids in the group. These topics included: kitchen safety, know when to call 911 and what is an emergency?, fire hazards, escape plans (know 2 ways out), what are fire hazards. Additionally the kids were shown the fire apparatus and equipment and the friendly firefighter.



Training Highlights

In September/October, A-Shift completed night drills. All crews had the opportunity to assess their skills under live fire conditions. Lt. Skinner and Lt. Jarrett developed the scenarios used in the training. All in all, everyone did a good job. Crews were also able to identify areas they need to work on.

Capt. Williams, Lt. Harris, Lt. Skinner and Lt. Aldred attended EMS Expo in New Orleans. They brought back some good ideas that will help our department.

On October 14 and 15, BCES hosted two classes as part of the East Metro Firefighter Conference. This was the first year this conference was held. The purpose of the conference is to bring more training to the eastern part of Georgia. The classes taught here were Hose Advancement Techniques taught by Capt. Aaron Fuller, Capt. Richie Carignan, Lt. Dustin Greene and FF/PMDC Joseph Rinke. Forcible Entry Techniques was taught by Capt. Bryan Bullock and Lt. Allen Williams. Several BCES personnel also attended other classes held in Newton and Walton Counties. We would like to thank Fireline Inc., Harrison Poultry and Gabriel Engines (Winterville) for donating equipment that was used during this training.





Captain's Corner

What a busy month it has been for all of us! Between starting the new budget, us all taking different classes, and a training conference all being held in the county many of you stepped up and helped in different ways. Add in to that, all the time that was devoted to providing public safety education, running calls, and the rest of what we do and it is no wonder we all stayed busy. We received many great reports about the classes you provided and we each wanted to say thank you for the work that you all put in to the classes, the information, and show and tell you provided to thousands of students. It is our hope that because of your time and efforts, we will prevent fires and potential injuries from occurring in our county.

On another note, we want to take a moment to commend each of you for the training hours many of you have completed! There has been a significant rise in the hours you have put in to training and we could not be more proud of the work that was completed. Things will continue to stay busy between training, implementing our new budget and beginning the preparation for the next budget that will begin in July so we ask for your continued patience and that you continue all that you have been doing. Working together we will continue to move this department forward and so much of that is thanks to what you all do day in and day out. Keep up the great work and as always, stay safe, and keep training!

Captain Dakin

Captain Fuller

Captain Carignan



Fire Prevention Division

Current Events:

- ◆ Second round of school inspections have been completed
- ◆ Fire Safety Education, coordinated by Captain Scott Dakin, was conducted throughout October and into November.
- ◆ Fire Investigations unit has investigated multiple fires in the past month

New Construction:

- ◆ Chateau Elan climate control storage complex
- ◆ P & M Manufacturing (Steel Products)
- ◆ Bethlehem Church Worship Center expansion
- ◆ Auburn Cultural Arts Center {Federal Historic Grant Project}
- ◆ New Auburn City Hall Building

Projects that have broken ground and currently underway:

- ◆ Holiday Inn at Hwy 124 and Hwy 211
- ◆ Carvanna Car Lot at Ed Hogan Road and Atlanta Hwy
- ◆ New Commercial Cabinet Shop on McElhannon Road in Bethlehem.



CERT - CFA

Members of the Barrow County CERT Team have been participating in a Citizens Fire Academy (CFA) over the past 9-10 months. On October 22, these team members got to participate in hands on activities during a mock drill which included a cardiac arrest, a vehicle extrication and fire suppression.

Thanks to all of the participants in this class.



Promotions

Barrow County Emergency Services recently promoted 4 personnel to Lieutenant. Congratulations to : Lieutenant Jeremy Thayer, Lieutenant Nic Bouchier, Lieutenant Shannon Faulkner and Lieutenant Rob Aldred on their recent promotions.



We are Thankful For.....



I'm thankful for my family. I'm blessed to have a husband who is also working in this field. He understands the joys and frustrations of shift life. I don't have to try to explain a "bad day" to him and he understands the joys of a "good day" too. I've been blessed with 2 awesome boys who make life a circus but you know I wouldn't trade it for anything. I'm thankful for the health of my immediate and extended family.

I'm thankful for God giving me one more day, and hope to make the very best of it every time I see a new sunrise.

I'm also thankful for my fire family. We spend over 1/3 of our lives living, laughing, and working with each other. I am thankful everyday for being blessed with the crews that I have the pleasure to work with, both on my shift and others. There are no better brothers and sisters out there than the ones that I have.

And now I sound like a big boob but that's ok. I ❤️ you all. Happy Thanksgiving!!

- Kim Baggett—

Here are just some of the things I am thankful for...

God, my family, and the brotherhood. I am also thankful that I have a job in which I can get up every day and know that we are able to make a difference in other people's lives.

Jason Stanley



I am Thankful for my family, my life, my career and my forever friends- old and new. I'm Thankful that God has blessed me tremendously with a husband, children and grandchildren that I deeply love.

Sharon Jones

Family

- Jonathan Franklin

We are Thankful For.....

I am thankful for the blessings of life, God, my family, friends , a good job, my health. I give thanks to God for his son Jesus our Christ for his love and forgiveness daily in my life I wish each who read this Bountiful Blessings and Joy unspeakable .

-William Wright

I am thankful for my family (Kelly my wife, Colin and Dylan my two boys) first and foremost, grateful for the friends we have in our lives, I thank God for all the many gifts he has given me.

Virgil Sizemore

I am thankful for my wonderful family. My wife is a wonderful and hard working mother to our two children, Jaiden and Kinsley. Jaiden is excelling in school and baseball and I could not be more proud of him. Kinsley is our sweet little 10 month old girl. She is a handful, but she is the most precious little baby. Without the help and support of each of them, I don't think I could have achieved the things I have over the past year! They are true blessings!

Nic Bouchier

I am thankful for my healthy family as well as my Saviour Jesus Christ.

Shannon Faulkner



Everyday I am thankful for something new. First and foremost, is am thankful for my God and Savior. Secondly, I am thankful for my beloved family, friends, and co-workers. I'm thankful for sunrises and sunsets spent with the previously mentioned and all of the moments in-between. I'm thankful we live in a country that allows the freedom to enjoy all of this as well. I'm also thankful for those who sacrifice their own freedom so that we may be free! Semper Fi!!!

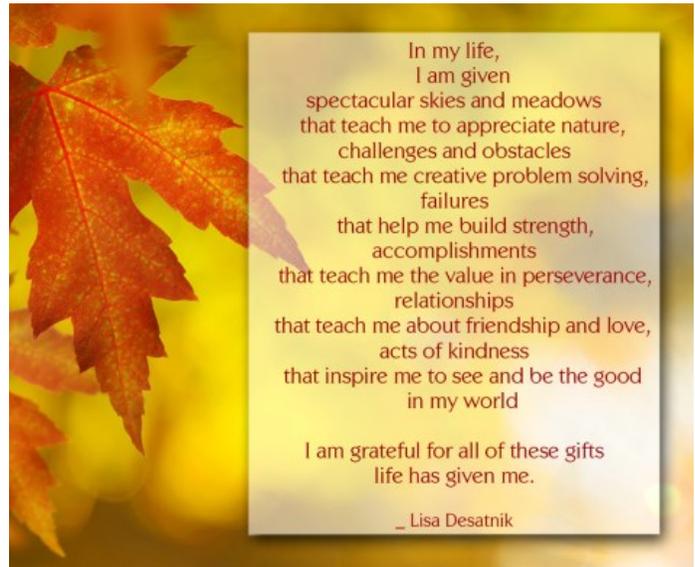
Jeremy Thayer

I am thankful that God sent His son Jesus to pay my debt. A debt that He didn't owe. I am thankful for the godly wife and children that God has blessed me with. I am thankful that I get to wake up every day and come to a job that I love. This career has been good to me.

Capt. Bryan Bullock



Scott Edling	November 9
Brad Vangotum	November 9
Stephen Ricci	November 11
Nelson Foell	November 11
Mark Mann	November 15
Mike Barnes	November 19
Keith Jarrett	November 23
Charles Weaber	November 24
Zac Perry	November 29



<u>Employee</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>	<u>Years</u>
Kevin Locke	11	22
Klint Harris	11	22
Mark Siegel	30	18
Aaron Fuller	12	13
Brenda Adams	7	9
Joseph Rinke	26	4
Stephen Ricci	27	4
Jeremy Towe	28	4
Hollie Whitlock	10	1
Talissa Callihan	9	1