

ANSWERING THE CALL



Barrow County Emergency Services Newsletter

September 2016

Chief's Message



Photo Credit— Nelson Sanders Photography

Mentoring has a long tradition in the fire service and is essential to our growth as individuals and as a department!

With the recent promotional process being completed, one of the topics that Chief Shuman and I spoke with each candidate about was not only being a leader but a **mentor** to others. John Maxwell stated, *“One of the greatest values of **mentors** is the ability to see ahead what others cannot see and to help them navigate a course to their destination”.*

This is what **mentoring** is all about, but it doesn't necessarily mean that you have to be an officer to be a **mentor!** There are no better teachers than the seasoned veterans within our service today! You all know who I am referring to, so I challenge each of you to take some time to share and train on the way “the Job” was, is, and should be as we move into the future!

Stay safe, and keep up the great work.

John



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Words of Wisdom from the Deputy Chief

Just a quick update from HQ:

Graduation - Congrats to our 5 new firefighters on receiving NPQ II certification and graduating from BCES recruit school 07-16 all were assigned to shifts starting Aug 28th.

Training - East Metro Firefighters training/conference will be held all over east metro including Barrow County October 14 & 15, Captain Bullock and others have put out several links to the training. This will be some very intense training for two half days.

Football season - stand-by youth football this is a public relations event that was requested by the Director of Leisure Services. I understand it's an all-day event, but the safety of the children and parents participating is important.

Filling open positions— currently have 6 open positions if you know of anyone interested in becoming a BCES employee let them know applications are available at Headquarters. New recruit class tentatively scheduled for mid October.

ABC golf tournament - Sept 19th. This is an excellent opportunity to participate in a fund raising tournament to benefit BCES Fire Foundation, CERT and AMVETS. (Copy of the golf flyer and registration form is included with the newsletter)

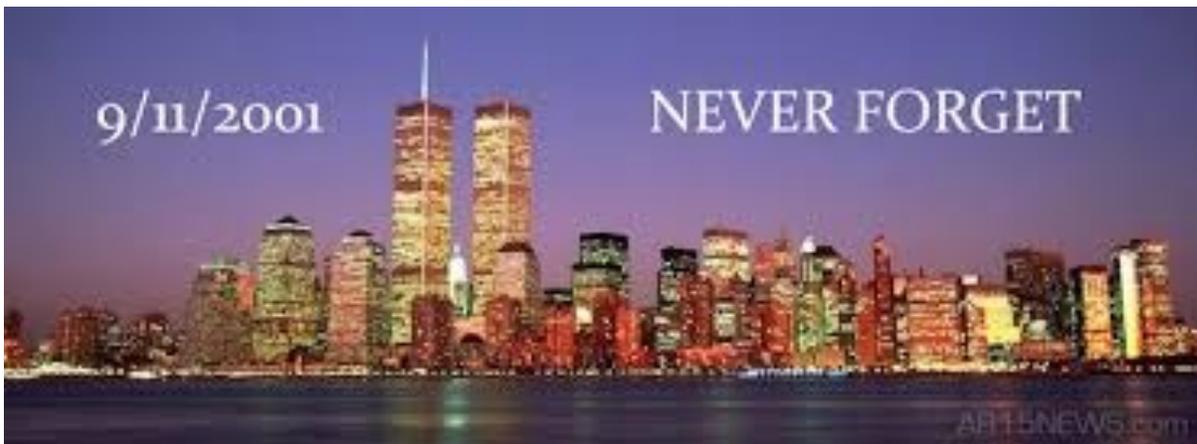
We all know the importance of inspecting units and equipment every day. If we can't go we can't help! Which leads me to say, "Chief, I was surprised as you to find that the unit is 2000 miles over needed maintenance". We are working with Chief Franklin, to develop a process to ensure our FOS will be able to actually track the needed and required preventive maintenance for each unit. Although, it should be on the windshield in the upper left of the unit. We should all make note of the mileage that the unit should be serviced.

**Thank you,
As always I am honored to serve**

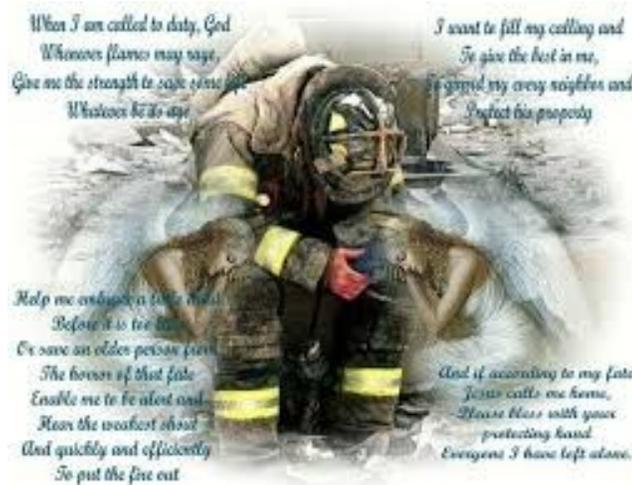
Alan

FF/EMT Gary Little retired from BCES in January 2008 after 20+ years fulltime and many years as a volunteer prior to that. As many of you know, Gary is facing some major health issues at this time, and we just ask that you continually keep Gary and his family in your thoughts and prayers.





Tonight, I ask for your prayers for all those who grieve, for the children whose worlds have been shattered, for all whose sense of safety and security has been threatened. And I pray they will be comforted by a power greater than any of us, spoken through the ages in Psalm 23: 'Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me.'
 – President George W. Bush on Sept. 11, 2001.



Remember the hours after September 11th when we came together as one to answer the attack against our homeland. We drew strength when our firefighters ran upstairs and risked their lives so that others might live; when rescuers rushed into smoke and fire at the Pentagon; when the men and women of Flight 93 sacrificed themselves to save our nation's Capitol; when flags were hanging from front porches all across America, and strangers became friends. It was the worst day we have ever seen, but it brought out the best in all of us.
 – Senator John Kerry



Hat's Off To.....



Captain Cain recently received a thank you note from a citizen whom he had stopped to help when she broke down in the roadway. Captain Cain “Came Back” to check on the female motorist even going above and beyond to deliver water and soda to the motorist, who was very thankful for his compassion and his extra efforts to ensure that she was okay.

Congratulations to FF/EMT Matt Harmon on receiving his certification as an EMT-A.



In April, Brenda was involved in a serious accident on Hwy 316 in which she was entrapped in her vehicle and sustained serious injuries. Paramedics found her unresponsive with some obvious injuries. One person was assigned to monitor the two patients, while other crew members started extrication and cared for patients in the other vehicle. Firefighters from Stations 3, 4 and 7 responded to this incident. Working together they removed the roof of the SUV in order to gain access to the two patients. Once the roof was removed crews were able to better assess Brenda and remove her from the vehicle .

Paramedics worked quickly to prepare Brenda for transport and treat her injuries. She was rushed to Gwinnett Medical Center in Lawrenceville where she was turned over to the emergency room staff. Among Brenda’s injuries was bleeding from her brain, a collapsed lung, broken ribs and spine and multiple pelvic fractures. Brenda would spend 5 days in the Nero ICU unresponsive. On the Thursday she started waking up to the world around her again. Brenda was transferred to Glancy Rehabilitation Center, where she had to learn to walk, eat and talk all over again. She would stay at the center until May 10th, steadily improving while doing therapy three hours a day. She is now back to work with a new outlook on life and thankful for the many people that worked together to save her life.



On Tuesday, Brenda stopped by Barrow County Emergency Services Station 7 to thank the firefighters that all worked to save her. “I thank God for putting everyone in place to make everything work in my favor,” commented Brenda. “Everyone worked together to make a difference in my life. From the firefighters, to the staff at Gwinnett Medical and Glancy Rehab. I am forever grateful to God and all of them for the fact that I am alive and well and staying on this earth for now.”

Everyone, from the communication officers who dispatched the call, to the firefighters on scene worked quickly and efficiently in order to extricate Brenda and transport her to the hospital. “Having Brenda come by the station today meant a lot to us,” stated Captain Dakin. “We don’t often know the results of our efforts with patients. Knowing her condition and chances when we pulled her from the car, to how well she is now is incredible.”

“This type of call is what we all train hard for as crews,” commented Chief John Skinner. “We work together, train on the newest techniques, and stay up with the best possible patient care. Brenda’s life is a result of this training and care and I could not be prouder of the work these crews did. They all are a great example of the high quality personnel in our department that serve the citizens of Barrow County”

Lieutenant Weant has been teaching numerous safety classes over the past several weeks. Recently he conducted fire extinguisher training for employees at Harrison Poultry. Chief Skinner received and email commending Lieutenant Weant for a great job conducting these classes. A couple of comments from the email are “Thank you so much for the classes yesterday. I heard nothing but good comments about the class and trust me that does not happen very often” and “It was one of the most informative and well presented classes I’ve ever attended”.



Employee Spotlights



Firefighter/EMT Mark Siegel began his full-time career with Barrow County November 1998. Prior to joining the department in a full-time career, Mark served the community as a volunteer firefighter. In addition to his duties as a Firefighter/EMT, Mark serves as one of the fire investigators for Barrow County Emergency Services. Mark just completed Expert Witness Courtroom Testimony Course offered by IAAI (International Association of Arson Investigators) This training will help Mark and Barrow County by giving him a more in depth view of how to better conduct investigations, improve documentation of findings and give testimony as an expert witness.



Firefighter/EMT Matt Harmon began his career with Barrow County December 2014. Matt is a second generation Barrow County Firefighter. He has accomplished a lot in the past 20 months. Matt started his career in 2014 as a NPQ1 firefighter. Since joining the department, Matt has obtained his certification in hazmat operations, NPQ2, and his Barrow County Apparatus Operator. Most recently he received certification as National Registry EMT and a Georgia EMT-A. He is showing great promise in the emergency medical field and will soon be enrolling in a paramedic program. Matt is doing great job and will continue to grow within Barrow County Emergency Services department.



Firefighter/EMT Jeremy Little began his full-time career with Barrow County December 2002. Jeremy is a second generation Barrow County Firefighter. Prior to joining the department full-time Jeremy served the community as a volunteer firefighter. Jeremy has progressed into a great mentor for new recruits, showing them the tricks of the trade. Jeremy has always been willing to share his years of training and knowledge with the newer people to better them and the department. Jeremy has stepped up in the past as a AOIC and had excelled in the position. He is always willing to take on any project or assist in anything you ask him. With the years of training he has been an asset to have working on this shift. Jeremy has always been someone you can count on when the going gets tough.



Mayor David Brock (right) receiving the donated AED's from North Georgia Medical Transport (NGMT)

Congratulations to the Town of Carl on their recent designation as a "Heart Safe Community" by Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA). Carl was the first municipality to receive this recognition in the State of Georgia.

Barrow County Emergency Services will be working with CHOA and the Town of Carl to expand this program to all of Barrow County. BCES has began steps to implement this program by placing Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) in the Historic Courthouse, Leisure Services and also in one of the Sheriff Patrol Vehicles. BCES has been teaching numerous CPR classes throughout the County and plans to continue expanding these classes.



CHOA representative presenting the Heart Safe Community Designation

Representative from Carl, BCES, NGMT and CHOA gather for presentation of Heart Safe Community Designation.





Captain's Corner

Over the last few months we have discussed topics such as leadership, changing the culture, and just being better at what each of us do overall. We hope what has been included in the Captain's Corner has been thought provoking, informative, and that each of you has considered some of the talking points made. Everyone wants to be a part of something better, something great, and that only happens because we make it happen and that all brings us to the new point in our discussion.

We recently watched another class graduate from recruit school and four new firefighters have joined our ranks, including a fifth that came out of school early due to the certifications he already possessed. We want to encourage each and every one to work with these "new guys" and give them guidance. Mentor them and show them the things that they need to be taught. Understand that while they spent eight weeks in class, they did not have the opportunity to get their hands on everything, they have not been able to see and do all that prepares them for what lies ahead and the only thing that stands between them and the next emergency call is us. Work with these five new guys, work with the many that have come out of class before them. Show them the things they need to be doing in the station, during their day, or while out on emergency calls. Don't expect they know all there is to know and certainly don't moan and gripe when they don't, but instead, show them. Encourage them, guide them, and teach them how you do things. These recruits and recently graduated rookies have all been told that they are a part of the future of this department and it is up to each of us to secure a future that will be a positive and effective future for us and our department.

We appreciate all of the hard work many of you are displaying in training, in working around the station, and while out in the public on calls and in doing PR. Keep up the great work, keep training, and as always, stay safe!

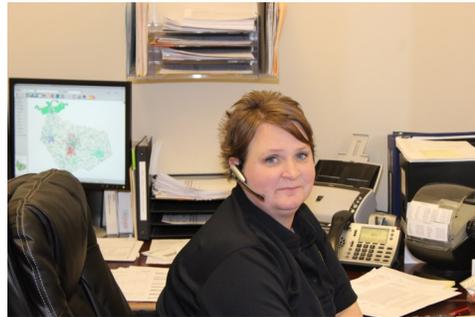
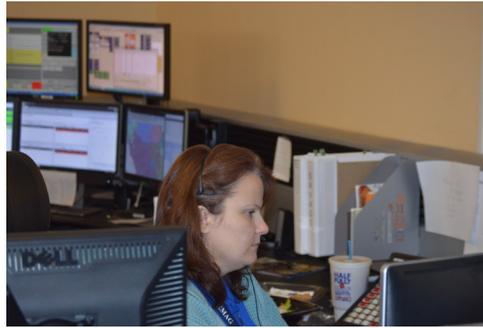
Captain Dakin

Captain Fuller

Captain Carignan



BCES at Work



Emergency Communications

Three new employees have joined the Emergency Communications staff over the past several months.



Lisa Park joined BCES as a Communications Officer on May 31, 2016. Lisa is a POST Certified Communications Officer with 7 years experience in Emergency Communications. Lisa is also a Certified GCIC Terminal Agency Coordinator and Operator.



Nicole Swenson joined the BCES team in July as a Communications Officer Trainee. She has previous experience as a pre-school administrator and teacher as well as a customer service representative in the retail industry. Nicole will soon be attending Communication Officer Training at GPSTC



Jason Masters joined the BCES Team in July as a Communications Officer Trainee. Jason previously worked for Amerimed as a dispatcher. He is also a licensed Amateur (HAM) Radio Operator. Jason will soon be attending the Communications Officer Training at GPSTC.

911 Manager William Wright represented EMAG at the Capital on August 23rd for the Governor's signing of the Proclamation declaring September as National Preparedness Month.

William serves as Treasurer for the Emergency Manager's Association of Georgia (EMAG).



Training Division

In August, the training division was very busy.

On July 29, the recruits along with Captain Bullock, Captain Carignan and Chief Stoops attended the Flow Path/Flashover Training at the Atlanta FD Fire Academy.

On August 25, Recruit Class 07-16 graduated and joined the BCES family. The class began with 6 recruits and 5 graduated. Firefighter/Paramedic Jason Stanley who came to us with 16 years of experience from Gwinnett County went on shift on July 30. Jason completed the first four weeks of recruit school and was recommended by Capt. Bullock to go on shift. The remaining recruits graduated and are trained to the level of NPQ Firefighter 2 and Hazmat Operations. The four new rookies are: FF Garrett Holt, FF/PMDC Kirk Kempe, FF/PMDC Zac Carter and FF/EMT Josh Graham. Congratulations to these guys and welcome to the BCES family. I would like to thank everyone who helped make this recruit class a success.



Assistant Chief (ret) Daryl Smith, (pictured with the recruit class and Captain Bullock) was the keynote speaker for the graduation ceremony.



On September 27, 28 and 29, BCES will host an Advanced Auto Extrication Train the Trainer course. This course is sponsored by the Georgia Trauma Commission through the Georgia Association of EMS. This course is taught by Brock Archer. Brock is the owner of AdvancedExtrication.com. Brock teaches the latest techniques. Several BCES personnel have attended this class at other locations and have all said it was the best extrication class they have ever attended.

Leadership Barrow



Deputy EMA Director Penny Clack was chosen along with 19 other leaders in Barrow County to attend the 2017 Leadership Barrow Class which began in August. Others in the class include 2 individuals sponsored by Barrow County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) - Lt. Chris Hodge from Auburn Police Department and Laura Gutschmann representing Red Cross. County Manager Michael Renshaw is also a participant in this years class.

Attendees from previous years include; Chief John Skinner, Captain Scott Dakin, Chaplain Spencer Breedlove, Chaplain Mike Vernatt, Commissioner Joe Goodman and Sheriff Jud Smith.

So what is Leadership Barrow? The Leadership Barrow Program enables Barrow County citizens to reach their full leadership potential and assists them in recognizing their responsibility as community and organizational leaders. It prepares leaders to identify, address and meet current and future challenges. The purpose of the program is to create a network of emerging leaders through an educational experience that increases the participants' understanding of local institutions and community groups and the attributes required to sustain them. The program extends over a ten month period (August through May) with graduation to be held in June.



August 10th, Leadership Barrow Retreat was held at Camp Twin Lakes. The morning session was conducted on the ropes courses (of course it was raining throughout the entire time), but lots of fun and teambuilding was still achieved.

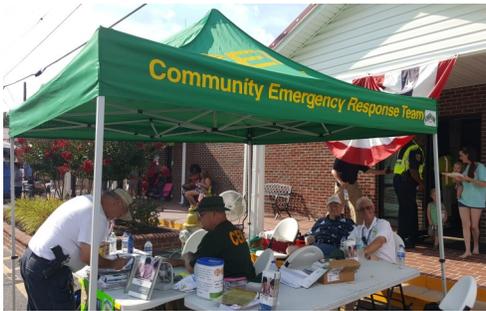
The afternoon session was held indoors and focused on leadership styles and each individual identifying their own traits.



CERT

The CERT team performed walking first aid and maintained a First Aid station and information tent at the Auburn July 4th celebration. This year there were only a couple of issues like bee stings and some dehydration.

Some CERT members assisted with food distribution at River Hills church in Winder and at Holly Hills shopping center in Winder. Both of these events are ongoing every month and help some of the counties less fortunate.



CERT Team members continue training in the BCES Citizen's Fire Academy Pilot Program. During their August training they covered apparatus familiarization.



The next CERT class for Citizens will begin on September 26th. The CERT Team members will be coordinating and conducted the majority of the class with support and assistance from BCES.

(Pictures are from the last CERT Class Exercise.)



The lighter side.....



Boot Scootin'



I am having a great night, why do you ask?



Free food always brings a smile. :)



Can you guess who's baby picture this is???



The Chosen One, Reno 911, Rooster, Rehab & Barney



Hey Capt., you think I can get my picture in one of those calendars?



You Go, We Go !



Now what is that Uniform Policy again Chief !?!?!?



Yipeee..... I just love my job!!!



Nathan Crowe September 6
Adam Reynolds September 8
John Rivers September 15
Jeremy Towe September 15
Matt Austin September 18
Richie Carignan September 20
Johnny Savage September 21
Teddy Brown September 24
Bryan Robertson September 27



<u>Employee</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>	<u># Years</u>
Penny Clack	9-26	28
Landon Wilder	9-14	13
Nick Patrick	9-30	11
Brett Skinner	9-30	11
Rob Aldred	9-18	8
Tommy Hulsey	9-22	8
Lee Simmons	9-30	8
Brian Kump	9-17	7
Jeff Willis	9-17	7
Marty Garner	9-29	5
Alan Shuman	9-17	4
Nic Bouchier	9-11	3
Michael McKendree	9-9	2
Jeremy Mixon	9-28	1
Logan Owensby	9-28	1
Zac Perry	9-28	1
John Rivers	9-28	1
Tim Watson	9-28	1





First Annual
ABC Golf Tournament

Monday, September 19, 2016

The Providence Club, Monroe GA.



The first annual **ABC** Golf Tournament will be raising funds for three great **nonprofits** that work to help many in our community. Please join us and make this golf tournament very successful.



The **AMVETS- Post 12** mission is to enhance and safeguard the benefits for all American Veterans who have served honorably and to improve the quality of life for them, their families, and the communities where they live through leadership, advocacy and services. Through the money raised by this tournament Post 12 will be helping local wounded warriors. They will also be working with homeless veterans and some of our elderly citizens.



Barrow County Emergency Services provides the citizens of Barrow County with fire, emergency medical services, 911 services and emergency management. The department will be utilizing funds raised during the tournament to support the Barrow Fire Foundation. This Foundation works with and develops programs that improves and enriches the lives of members of the department and the citizens of Barrow County.



Barrow County CERT is a local team that is trained to assist citizens in the event of a disaster. The CERT Team supports many agencies and activities in the community. Team members assist local emergency responders, provide support during community events and provide disaster education to citizens. Funds raised during this event will assist the team in purchasing needed supplies and equipment.



First Annual ABC Charity Golf Tournament

Monday, September 19, 2016

The Providence Club, Monroe GA.

Registration begins at **8:00 AM** and Shotgun Start **9:00 AM**

Four Player Team Scramble Format, \$400 per team/\$100 per player– includes Chick-fil-A Lunch!

Lots of GREAT Raffle Prizes

Long Drive and Closest to the Pin Prizes along with the opportunity to win a Vehicle **** **Courtesy of Akin's Ford**

Gold Sponsor - \$3000 Company Logo at Registration, 1 Team Entry, 1 Hole Sponsorship, Company Logo On Banner

Silver Sponsor - \$1,500 1 Team Entry, 1 Hole Sponsorship, Company Logo On Banner

Drink Cart Sponsor - \$500 Your Logo will be placed on our Beverage Cart that will be traveling around the course

Hole Sponsor - \$ 100

Please send Entry Fee with Player list or Sponsorship by 9/1/2016 to:

Barrow County CERT –

222 Pleasant Hill Church Road NE – Winder, GA 30680

Make checks payable to: Barrow County CERT {501c3 Organization}

For more information contact: Penny Clack - 770-307-2987 or pclack@barrowga.org