



# Alarm Alert

Tom Gallagher: State Fire Marshal, Treasurer and Insurance Commissioner

Fall 2001

## *Fire Service Calendar*

### **Fire Rescue East**

January 31—February 3,  
2002, Prime Osborn Center,  
Jacksonville. Contact: FFCA  
386.676.8744

### **Firefighters Standards and Training Council Meeting**

February 1, 2002, Prime  
Osborn Center, Jacksonville.  
Contact: FSFC 352.389.2818

### **Firefighters Safety and Health Task Force Meeting,**

February 1, 2002, Prime  
Osborn Center, Jacksonville.  
Contact: FSFC 352.369.2818

**FEPA/DEM Annual Confer-  
ence, February 4—8, 2002,  
Cape Canaveral. Contact:  
850.906.9221**

*Programs scheduled at the  
Florida State Fire College  
Ocala, FL  
Contact: 352.369.2800*

**Volunteer Week**  
April 3—7, 2002

**TRANSCAER**  
April 11—12, 2002

## **Firefighter employee safety rule implemented**

*Randall Napoli  
Bureau Chief*

*Bureau of Fire Standards  
and Training*

As previously reported, following the Firefighter Safety Rule final hearing on February 19, 2001, the State Fire Marshal met with the various constituencies to address concerns. As a result of these meetings, an agreement was reached and Florida Administrative Code Rule 4A-

62, Firefighter Employment Standards, was implemented on November 21, 2001. To assist with the implementation, and as agreed in the meetings mentioned above, the Firefighters Safety and Health Task Force has been formed. The task force is comprised of members of the statutory Firefighters Standards and Training Council, augmented by members appointed by various constituent groups. The task force organizational meeting was held December 13, 2001. We will report on their actions in

*(Continued on page 8)*

## **WMD and the fire service: see page 8 Realities of today—preparedness for tomorrow**



*The conference held on Dec. 4—5, 2001 brought together approximately 150 Chief Fire Officers from throughout the state. At left Dr. Ellery Gray from the Florida Department of Health addresses attendees.*



## Crime Scenes

*News from the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations*

# Bureau Investigator: FACAP's Investigator of the Year

*Mary Fields*

*Crime Intelligence Analyst II*

*Bureau of Fire and  
Arson Investigations*

Each year the Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention (FACAP) honors a member of fire service or law enforcement who had an impact, through his/her fire investigations, arrests, community services, on combatting the crime of arson.

Kevin Shireman was chosen as FACAP's Investigator of the Year. He was presented with a plaque during the 25th Annual FACAP Conference, held on November 14, 2001, at the Florida State Fire College.

Kevin is a certified Firefighter, Emergency Medical Technician, Fire Inspector, and certified as a Fire Service Instructor. Kevin has been employed with the Department of Insurance, Division of State Fire Marshal, Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations for the past two years. Prior to his employment with the bureau, he was employed for fifteen years with Dade City Fire Rescue and attained the position of Shift Lieutenant. On his days off from the fire department,



Shireman gained nine years of experience as a Police Officer with the Dade City Police Department.

In his present position of Law Enforcement Investigator II, Shireman is responsible for investigating the origin and cause of fires and conducts criminal investigations on those fires, which have been determined to be arson. During his two years of service, Shireman has prepared search warrants, and on numerous occasions testified as an expert in the field of fire causation. Shireman recently served as a field training officer for a new investigator.

On June 30, 2000, Shireman was awarded "Investigator of the Quarter" by his regional supervisors for his outstanding performance and arrest rate. For the past two years, Shireman has led the South Central

Region in arrests, specifically the arrests that relate to arson. This year to date, Shireman has made twenty-three arrests. Within the last eight months, Shireman was instrumental in editing and completing a four-hour power point program for fire service personnel regarding their role in fire investigations. Shireman put the program to use in the field with the help of other investigators. Approximately 300 fire personnel have completed the program, which has brought positive reviews and a request to increase the amount of instructional hours.

Kevin is very disciplined and manages his time wisely. Kevin is a "performance driven" individual and has a "can do" attitude towards his work and helping other investigators when needed. Kevin has a methodical approach to investigations and serves as an example of what a fire investigator should be, and the ingredients he possesses makes him what he is, a "successful investigator".

Kevin is assigned to the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations in the Bartow Field Office, South Central Region.

Our Congratulations  
to Kevin.

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e-mail [caina@doi.state.fl.us](mailto:caina@doi.state.fl.us)



## Lab Notebook

*News from the Bureau of Fire and Arson Laboratory*

### Lab improves digital services

*Carl Chasteen  
Crime Laboratory Supervisor*

*Bureau of Fire and Arson  
Investigations Laboratory*

In 1998, the Fire and Arson Laboratory added the processing and archival of digital images to the services it provides for investigators in the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations. Since then, Brock Dietz, Forensic Technologist, has overseen the operation of the Digital Darkroom. To learn his craft he attended various seminars including the FBI course on digital photography. Over the years, technology has made significant strides forward and the Division of State Fire Marshal has attempted to keep up with these changes.

Camera technology has changed significantly with improved resolution. This has translated into a need for processing pictures (files) of ever increasing size. Another important aspect of evidence related to digital images comes from the use of images from video. Video cameras are everywhere. You are filmed when you go to the ATM, pump gas, enter government buildings, and in some cities, as you walk down the street. While most of the time these images have no forensic value, there are other times when they may capture the image

of a suspect purchasing gasoline, the crime being committed, or the perpetrator on the run. The problem has always been that most of these images are of low quality and poor resolution.

The laboratory has purchased and will soon install upgrades to its digital darkroom that will improve its ability to process still digital images. Included with this upgrade is technology that will also allow the forensic processing of video images. The Fire and Arson Laboratory will be one of only two public agencies with this type of equipment installed. Brock Dietz has recently returned from Virginia where he received training from both the vendor of the equipment and the Virginia State Police.

With still images, there will be significant improvements in processing time as well as the ability to archive larger files. The film scanner, flatbed scanner, and dye sublimation printer will be

state-of-the-art. With video, shaky images can be stabilized, enlarged, and enhanced. An example of the type of processing that can be done would be the video capture of a vehicle leaving a suspicious fire scene from an ATM camera. Using the equipment and training, Brock may be able to get a clear image of the vehicle's license plate. With that information, the investigator may be able to track down a suspect. The equipment will be able to store these images and write them to DVD format for archiving.

The improved technology also allows the laboratory to offer several other services as well. The video editing software is sufficiently sophisticated that it can clean static from the sound track of videotape. Training tapes can be edited and written to DVD for archiving or distribution. These and other possibilities have us excited about the future of this service.

### Public safety officer benefits increased

On October 12, President George Bush signed into law legislation that increases the Public Safety Officers Benefit (PSOB) to \$250,000, an increase of nearly \$100,000. The PSOB program provides a one-time financial benefit to the eligible survivors of public safety officers whose deaths are the direct and proximate result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty. The PSOB program is administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance within the Department of Justice.

For information about the PSOB program, call 888/744-6513 or visit [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA)



# Inspection Report

*News from the Bureau of Fire Prevention*

## FFMIA announces Inspector of the Year

*Fred Chaplin  
Fire Protection Specialist  
Supervisor*

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### *Bureau of Fire Prevention*

The Department of Insurance, Division of State Fire Marshal, is pleased to announce that Mike Long was selected as this year's "Fire Inspector of the Year". The award is sponsored by the Florida Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association, and is given to the person considered to be outstanding in the field of fire safety inspections. The designation is awarded, annually, and was presented to Mike on November 7, 2001, during the Association's Annual Fire Prevention Conference in Fort Myers Florida.

Mike is a Fire Protection Specialist in the Bureau of Fire Prevention, and is assigned to the Southeast Regional Headquarters in West Palm Beach. Specialist Long is a ten year veteran of the Division, and is the first employee of the State Fire Marshal to receive this award in its twenty-five year history. He is a multi-talented individual whose reputation precedes him. His knowledge of fire alarm systems is second to none, and his willingness to solve problems at the state and local level, any time, anywhere, is known statewide. Often, Specialist Long is sought to share his technical knowledge by conducting classes on fire alarms, conducting lectures at fire related association functions, and serving on related committees

throughout the state.

Mike is also an effective leader. Due to a severe injury to his supervisor, he performed as an Acting Supervisor in his region for approximately six months. During this period, Mike coordinated personnel in two locations. In conjunction with this new role, he provided his staff with guidance and direct assistance while maintaining his normal duties and responsibilities as a Fire Protection Specialist and Alarm Technician, conducting classes and lectures, and serving on associated committees during the period.

In summary, Specialist Long was selected for his

dedication and tireless commitment to ensure life safety through fire prevention, his willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty, and his technical expertise. Most of all, Mike was selected for his keen ability to understand the application of codes which separates the novice from the skilled professional. Mike Long exemplifies the dedication and professionalism of the Bureau of Fire Prevention. His selection casts a positive light on the Division, the Department and State, and sends a message of assurance to citizens he serves.

Thank You Mike, and  
Congratulations!!!



*Pictured from left to right are: John Calpini, Section Manager; Fred Chaplin, Supervisor; Jim Goodloe, Bureau Chief; Mike Long, FPS; Donald Goff, President, Florida Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association.*

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# Florida fire prevention code addresses historical buildings

*Jim Lepick  
Fire Protection Specialist  
Supervisor*

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*Bureau of Fire Prevention*



During the development of the Florida Fire Prevention Code, much discussion ensued over the application of fire safety standards to historical buildings. The statute permits the use of alternative requirements on a case-by-case basis to meet special situations arising from historic properties. Any building considered for alternative requirements must be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. All such alternatives shall result in a level of protection equal to or greater than the applicable minimum fire safety

standard.

The achievement of a level of protection equivalent to that of the prescriptive code is not an easy task to accomplish by alternative means. This may account for much of the reluctance by fire officials to surrender the existing code language to alternatives fashioned on fire scenarios with varying degrees of uncertainty. An added impediment to the historical fire safety equation is the perception by many owners that the alternative should simply be an exemption. The statute does not provide

authority for the fire official to waive any requirements.

The Division will begin to work with the Department of Community Affairs to develop a historical fire safety standard. The use of some version of a fire safety evaluation system will certainly be explored. Any system based on a quantified evaluation of various fire safety features must however be occupancy specific. No one size fits all will suffice in this application. The local fire officials are trained on the existing codes and standards. Therefore to enhance its acceptance, the resultant fire safety standard for historical properties must provide a verifiable method of comparing the performance of proposed alternatives to the performance of the existing prescriptive codes.

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# Disaster prevention motivates inspectors

*Jim Lepick  
Fire Protection Specialist  
Supervisor*

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*Bureau of Fire Prevention*

There are many reasons why fire inspectors need to be motivated and do a good job. Hopefully we are highlighting the importance of the integrity of exits, fire barrier separation, fire alarms and other features of fire protection, not sensationalizing this event.

Every fire inspector worth his salt has been beaten down from time to time. Fire inspectors are to public fire protection what offensive centers are to football teams.

Fire inspectors do not come running out of burning

buildings with the saved child and offensive centers do not make touch down catches. An offensive center must make a successful handoff to the quarter back and block defensive players. Offensive centers do not appear on TV interviews and are rarely even seen on televised games. Yet the successful execution of this position is vital to every play. The best quarterback linked to a poor center is disastrous for the success of the team.

Fire inspectors confront daily issues such as: exiting, enclosing stairwells, corridor and room partition integrity, interior wall finish, fire protection and alarm system maintenance. Not very exciting stuff, and everyone wants to

know why these things are important and debate the need for each item as costs mount.

After the O'Leary cow knocked over the oil lamp in Chicago on October 8, 1871, and the ensuing fire burned 17,450 buildings and killed 250 people, the City of Chicago has had a world class fire department. Since that fire, the Chicago firefighters were always among the best trained and equipped.

On December 1, 1958, a great and indescribable horror occurred at "Our Lady of Angels School", in Chicago. This Catholic elementary school had a small fire located in a trash can in the basement. How it started has been debated for

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years; was it children playing with matches, a carelessly discarded cigarette, equipment overheating or an electrical malfunction?

What we do know is, the fire was undetected for at least 20 minutes and allowed to grow. The fire moved up unprotected stairwells bypassing the first floor separated by heavy closed doors and into the second floor. An open shaft also allowed fire to move to the attic. The superheated gasses and smoke filled the corridors, making them impassible. Glass transoms above the classroom door leading to the corridor did not hold back the smoke and flames. Elementary students and nuns were trapped in the burning building. When the fire was discovered the fire department was misdirected to the wrong address. As fire and flames entered the classrooms, the windows offered the only egress. Before any fire equipment or ladders were available, children began leaping from the windows.

At the end of the day 92 elementary students and 3 nuns lost their lives.

As we begin a new year and ponder why fire prevention programs are vitally important, let us remember the Chicago fire, the nuns and children of Our Lady of Angels School. Perhaps we cannot actually prevent all fires, but small fires should not be allowed to grow to engulf buildings and trap people regardless of the cause and origin of the fire.

For more information contact the Chicago Public Library [http://www.chipublib.org/004chicago/disasters/ourlady\\_fire.html](http://www.chipublib.org/004chicago/disasters/ourlady_fire.html)



*The Fire Safety House is an effective fire prevention training tool. It can be requested through Beth Hardee at the Fire College, 352/369-2824. Non-fire service organizations are asked to coordinate the use of this unit through their local fire department. A training session on the operation of the unit will be provided for assigned personnel.*

## Inspector observes emergency; procedures a success

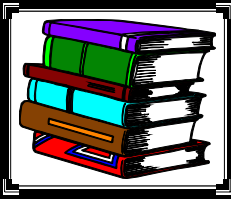
*Emilio Salabarría  
Fire Protection Specialist  
Supervisor*

*Bureau of Fire Prevention*

On August 3, 2001 an accidental fire occurred in the clothes dryer at a state facility. Fire Protection Specialist Jim Daugherty was at the facility conducting an annual fire safety inspection at the time of the incident. Mr. Daugherty was able to observe first hand how the staff members conducted the emergency procedure in regards to the incident. Mr. Daugherty is responsible to pursue the emergency report transcript which

the Department of Juvenile Justice Prepares on a yearly basis in order to obtain their accreditation. Mr. Daugherty was very impressed by the way the staff members conducted themselves during the incident.

I'm very pleased with the manner in which everything went during this incident. The fact of the matter is that we in Fire Prevention are professionals that are dedicated to life safety in buildings throughout the State. This event proves to me that the system is working. My congratulations go out to the Department of Juvenile Justice and Mr. James Daugherty for a job well done.



## Dateline: Ocala

*News from the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training*

# Florida honors brother and sister firefighters; National disaster also remembered

As dawn breaks, the bronze statue overlooking the Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial solemnly peers through the early morning mist across the black and purple bunting, and the rows of chairs. With the backdrop of the unfathomable national loss just one month earlier, and still saddened by our own tragedies that led to this solemn event, the "Firefighter at Rest" is at the center of activity today. Sounds of bagpipes, trumpets and marching cadence soon break the silence as our firefighters, our comrades, our fallen brothers and sisters are remembered and honored.

Each October, Florida remembers its fallen firefighters in a ceremony held during Fire Prevention Week. Rich in tradition, this ceremony celebrates the service of these brave men and women, and what they meant to their families and communities.

The Florida Division of State Fire Marshal and the Florida Joint Council of Fire and Emergency Service Organizations again hosted the annual Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service on the campus of the Florida State Fire College on October 13, 2001, remembering those who gave their lives in the line of duty.

Over 275 fire service members and friends from across Florida attended the event this year, joined by over 150 Honor Guard members from departments across the state who make up the Florida Memorial Honor Guard in a united show of respect for their fallen comrades, and

their families.

This year's ceremony began with a Prayer Breakfast, followed by a Memorial Service for Maurice Bartholemew of the Pensacola Fire

Department, George "Bo" Burton of the Florida Division of Forestry, and Michael Yahraus of the Sarasota County Fire Department who each died in 2000 in the performance of their duty. Also recognized was William Johnson of the Indian River County Fire Department (then known as the Vero Beach Fire Department) who made the ultimate sacrifice in 1933 and recently came to our attention. Also remembered were those 111 previously recognized firefighters from 1885 through 1999 whose names are engraved on the Florida Fallen Firefighter monument.

State Fire Marshal Tom Gallagher delivered a moving eulogy, with special remarks directed to the families of those who were being recognized. The families were later presented with a state flag that was flown over the memorial, and a medallion

engraved with the statue located at the center of the Monument.

Each speaker recognized the loss of over 300 New York City firefighters at the World Trade Center disaster during the ceremony, and the Florida Memorial Honor Guard, commanded by Jim Byrd of Miami-Dade County Fire Rescue, included three additional American flags in their procession to remember the recent tragedies in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania.



# Fire executives prepare for WMD

Allen Lovvorn  
Assistant Superintendent

## *Bureau of Fire Standards and Training*

The Florida State Fire College hosted a Fire Executive Conference on Weapons of Mass Destruction on December 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. The conference was titled, "Realities of Today- Preparedness for Tomorrow". The conference brought together approximately 150 chief fire officers from throughout the state to be briefed on a number of subjects related to terrorism preparedness. The overall emphasis was to assure knowledge and understanding of the multi-faceted approach that has been undertaken by the state in order to assure Florida is prepared for incidents of domestic terrorism. Participants enjoyed presentations and briefings from representatives of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Health, Division of Emergency Management, Florida Fire Chiefs' Association and the Florida National Guard. In addition, first hand reports were provided by key players in the anthrax incidents

in Florida as well as representatives who have responded to the World Trade Center disaster. Reports and explanations were provided from the Governor's State Working Group on Domestic Preparedness, the Governor's Task Force on Domestic Security and the Florida Domestic Security Advisory Panel. These reports and discussions provided invaluable information as to the status of Florida's efforts to provide the necessary preparation for terrorist events. They also served to clarify many of the issues and expectations of local government's roles in the response and preparation for response to these events. The over-whelming message echoed throughout the conference by all entities was the need for cooperation and teamwork as we face these new challenges. Greater sharing of information has already begun and will continue to be key in our success. As important training and preparation issues are being decided within the limits of available funding, it is of paramount importance that Florida's Fire Service continue to stay abreast of these rapidly evolving developments.

# BFST program and curriculum rules finalized

Allen Lovvorn  
Assistant Superintendent

## *Bureau of Fire Standards and Training*

The changes to Florida Administrative Code 4A-37 and 4A-39 became effective on December 10, 2001 in their entirety. These reflect significant changes in

Instructor Certification as well as many program changes and additions at the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training.

We highly encourage interested parties to review the changes and additions to the FAC. The complete rule can be found on the web at, <http://fac.dos.state.fl.us/fac/>. Click on the Chapter 4 link and scroll down to Rule 4A-37 and 39. We appreciate your patience and support in formulating these important changes.

## TERRORISM

In response to September 11, the Florida State Fire College is receiving a high number of requests for Emergency Response to Terrorism (ERT) classes as well as Hazardous Materials classes. We are making every effort to accommodate these requests as well as increase the Train-the-Trainer sessions so that more instructors are available. Please contact Dennis Andrews at FSFC (352) 369-2800 / 2816 for further assistance in these areas. Also check with your local LEPC as they have been hosting many of these classes in their areas.

## FF Safety Rules

(Continued from page 1)

future editions.

4A-62 includes by reference OSHA standards 1910.120, Hazardous Materials Response; 1910.146, Confined Space Entry; 1910.156, Fire Brigade; and 1910.134 Respiratory Protection (note: 1910.134(g)(3) and (4) have been modified from the federal standard). Also included in 4A-62 is NFPA 1500 paragraph 5-8, the Personal Alert Safety System standard, and the former Division of Safety rule, "Presence of Toxic Substances; Notice to Fire Departments". This rule requires notification to the local fire service agency by any employer within the response area who has work areas where toxic substances are present. The complete rule can be found on the web at <http://fac.dos.state.fl.us/fac/>. Click on the Chapter 4 link, and scroll down to 4A-62.

HB 135, the "Florida Firefighters Occupational Safety and Health Act" has been filed for the 2002 Legislative Session and is supported by all the stakeholders.

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# Great Florida Fire School draws 250 students

*Dennis Andrews  
Training and Research  
Consultant*

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*Bureau of Fire Standards  
and Training*

By the time you read this, the "Great Florida Fire School – 2001" will be over and in the history books. If you missed it, you missed a chance to attend some of the finest training available. This year GFFS was held in Marion County, and was hosted by Central Florida Community College, City of Ocala Fire Department, Marion County Fire Department, Dunnellon Fire Department, Florida State Fire College, ICERTA – International

Center of Emergency Response Training Academy, along with support from numerous other organizations such as LEPC District 5, Marion County Chamber of Commerce and the Marion County Sheriff's Office. Many sponsors also contributed monetarily as well as other in-kind support to make this a very successful event in the shadow of September 11 and the many budgetary cutbacks that have been occurring throughout our state.

This year we had approximately 250 students attending over 40 classes. These classes varied in nature from our standard 40-hour Fire Service Course Delivery, to a new class on elevator rescue, and for the first

time a class on aircraft crashes in the suburban setting. Engine and Aerial Operations, Confined Space Rescue, Basic Public Information Officer, Incident Safety Officer, and Helicopter Operations were just a few of the other classes attended by this year's participants.

We are already gearing up for GFFS 2002 which will be in the Lee / Collier Counties area. Edison Community College will be the hosting educational institution for GFFS 2002. Exact dates are not available as of this writing, but will be published as soon as they are finalized. Watch the FSFC web site at: [www.fsfc.ufl.edu](http://www.fsfc.ufl.edu) for updates.

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# Workshops increase opportunities for students

*Barbara Klingensmith  
Academic Instructor*

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*Bureau of Fire Standards  
and Training*

During the 70 year history of the Florida State Fire College (FSFC) it has delivered thousands of training and educational programs for Florida's fire and emergency services response personnel in various locations and formats. Now these emergency responders will have even more educational opportunities afforded to them.

FSFC conducted 3 workshops for community colleges throughout the state. The first on October 25<sup>th</sup> at FSFC in Ocala, the second hosted by Palm Beach Community College on November 7<sup>th</sup>, and the third on November 15<sup>th</sup> hosted by Gulf Coast Community

College. The purpose of these workshops was to enhance the relationships between FSFC and the community colleges, and to increase the opportunities for student success in the educational environment.

All community college Fire Science, Emergency Medical Services, and Emergency Management Program Directors, as well as Deans and University Center Directors were invited to participate. Nineteen community colleges participated in the workshops where they learned more about what FSFC does and who the students are. They participated in discussions about enhancing the working relationship, articulation agreements, how to better meet student needs, as well as curriculum and certification issues. The University of Florida Program Director offered information about the new BS and MS in Fire and

Emergency Services as well as the AS to BS articulation information.

The response from the community college participants is very positive. All participants are now part of a list-serve which will allow for the sharing of information, concerns, new ideas, and opportunities for all. We at FSFC are very encouraged by the results of the workshops and are looking forward to developing new opportunities for our students.





# Firefighters Standards and Training Council

*Established by Chapter 633 of the Florida Statutes to recommend uniform standards in the employment and training of firefighters, and to recommend minimum curriculum requirements for institutions operated by or for any employing agency for the specific purpose of training firefighters.*

(Editorial note: Article written by Shayne Stewart, Firefighter Member of the Council)

## New Rules for the New Year

Brother and Sister Firefighters, this brief follows a very tough couple of months following the terrorist attacks and a personal loss. I will reserve my personal comments until after I update you on the happenings of the Standards and Training Council.

The Council met at the Fire College on October 12, 2001. We have a new civilian member, Stockton Reeves from the Orange County/Orlando area. He will be a fine asset to the Council for the coming challenges we face. Another new civilian member from the last meeting is Stuart Kaufman. I had missed the last meeting because of the funeral of Marvin Clayton, the Florida Professional Firefighter's Governmental Liaison. He was a great wealth of knowledge in the area of pensions and worked diligently for the fire service in Tallahassee. He will be sorely missed by all that had the privilege of knowing him.

Chairman Randolph opened with a moment of silence for our fallen brothers and sisters, and for all who lost their lives in the attacks of September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Director Clark was then recognized to report on the Firefighters Rules. As many of you already know, the Safety Rules were reinstated by emergency order after the sunset of the Division of Safety. The parties involved have continued to negotiate the past few months. An agreement has been reached and the rule became effective November 21, 2001. The Firefighters Health and Safety Task Force met December 13, 2001 at the Fire College. Director Clark reported

that HB 135 will be considered in the 2002 legislative session which will amend 633.31, F.S., to include the identical membership in the Firefighters Employment, Standards, and Training Council as in the above referenced Task Force.

Chief Napoli reported on the Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service. What a great turnout of Honor Guard for this emotional service. There were twice as many groups present this year. They were holding practice in the courtyard around the memorial during our meeting. I encourage you to attend next year. We must continue to honor our fallen brothers and sisters.

The curriculum and standards rules are going through the governmental process and have been for some time. It is expected to take until mid-July for the Rules to take effect. Chief Napoli reported to us on the aftermath of the terrorist attacks and what Florida is doing to combat and make itself ready for more attacks should they arise. The Governor's Office has enacted the Florida Office of Domestic Security. The state has been broken down into 7 regions for incident response. Fire and Law Enforcement agencies are expected to work together and assess its response to an attack. There was a \$9 million grant in the works for areas of the State where equipment and training is needed, but the events of 9/11/01 have slowed that process. A report from the Governor's Office titled *Strengthening Domestic Security in Florida* was passed to the members of the council. It included proposed budget amendments and Executive Order #01-300. Contact the Fire Marshal's Office if you wish to have a copy of this report.

One area that was addressed between law enforcement and fire was the use of the incident command

system. As you already know, the fire service has used it for many years, but unfortunately law enforcement has not. Training law enforcement in incident command will be a priority.

It was also reported that the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) is asking the Fire College to develop HAZ-MAT training programs that can be taken on a voluntary basis. Work will begin soon on those programs.

The last item Chief Napoli noted was certification exams. In the past an exam was based on a particular test or program. Now with many good texts on each subject being used to teach a specific class, it has been reported that the exams will be written to a certain "standard". That is, the test will be written to test the knowledge of the material in general, not just a specific text or procedure.

The Council tabled the Old Business due to absences. Chairman Randolph introduced Dwayne Mundy (Gainesville Fire Rescue) who is a Local Emergency Planning Council member. He reported to the Council what is being done in area of HAZ-MAT response in the state. It is hoped that regionalized training and the formation of regional HAZ-MAT teams will improve response capabilities. The SERC is trying to assess all HAZ-MAT response capabilities. Funding is another reason for regionalization. Making a regional team a political sub-division of government can allow for cost recovery ordinances. There is also a push to obtain \$300,000 for teams. If you have any questions or wish to contact Dwayne, go to the following web site, [www.gfr.org](http://www.gfr.org) and click on the HAZ-MAT link, or [www.ncflepc.org](http://www.ncflepc.org).

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The Fire College HAZ-MAT Training Facility is waiting for the railroad to install a switch and spur so additional rail cars can be brought in. Members were invited to look over the training site after the meeting.

The next Standards and Training Council meeting will be held at Fire-Rescue East in Jacksonville on January 31, 2002.

If you will now allow a personal moment. As I stated at the beginning of this brief, we all suffered a great sense of loss after the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Pennsylvania. 344 Firefighters, 50 plus Police Officers, EMT's and Paramedics, thousands of civilians. All murdered by cowards. Watching the events unfold that morning on live television, sitting at the fire station with my brothers, and

wondering if it were all real. I am sure many of you have ridden the same emotional roller coaster that I have been on since the attack. I believe that day, the world realized just what firefighters do, what we lie on the line every day. I only hope that this new found respect in what we do, and also the renewed patriotism for our great country continues for many, many years to come.

However, this was not the only loss suffered. Neil Woodward, a volunteer firefighter in a small community in the north part of my county, died from a heart attack after fighting a fire in his own home. His wife is a paramedic and was deployed with Florida 1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team at Ground Zero. They were on the phone with each other when the fire broke out. Their 5

year-old daughter was at home and Neil was able to get her to safety. What is difficult about this death not only was Neil a personal friend for over 18 years; he was also the father of my two stepchildren. Telling the children that their father had died was one of the hardest things my wife Michelle and I have ever had to do. With prayer and love, and support of friends and family, things will get easier for all.

These events have made me realize how important love and faith is in our lives. I hug my kids, my wife, my parents, my friends and my brother and sister firefighters with renewed commitment. I encourage you to do the same, let someone you love know it. Say a little prayer. Do it now, because "you just never know."

## *Fire College updates, upgrades and changes*

### **SCHEDULE**

We are not publishing an entire catalog for at least the January to June portion of 2002. Please keep your 2001 Fall catalog for referencing course descriptions and other information. Our web site: [www.fsfc.ufl.edu](http://www.fsfc.ufl.edu) will maintain an up-to-date schedule of classes and we will make every effort to show when classes are full, canceled, or re-scheduled. As always, please contact our registration staff if you need to verify or have questions about a course schedule. Please take advantage of downloading the necessary forms from the web site for class registration, dormitory registration and book orders. We are also updating the Standards section of the page for certification and testing information. Please check often for new or revised items.

### **NEW LOOK**

Over the summer we did finish our air conditioning update. We can now better control the temperature and humidity in the classrooms and office areas. Some of you may remember the days of needing a winter jacket to sit in a class – not any more. We even have to water the plants in the offices because the humidity is now lower than ever. We also put a fresh coat of paint on the classroom walls and hallways as well as all new carpeting throughout the classrooms and administration building. We hope that you find our new look pleasing and comfortable during your next visit.

### **TELEPHONE**

**STANDBY** – was that a new phone number? Yes, the Florida State Fire College has a new phone number. Our new number is (352) 369-2800. Why did we change you ask? We now have one of the most modern telephone systems available and the first of its kind in Florida government. You will be able to dial directly into an instructor or examiners office, directly into the bookstore, registration or the standards section. We even have voicemail for our staff. YES, voicemail. In the near future we will have lightning fast access to your training and certification records as soon as you call. Our new system is tied into our computer system and will enable us to better serve you by having your records retrieved prior to the clerk answering the phone. Did we do away with Sherry? Never! - Sherry is still at her battle station ready to handle any questions or calls that you may need assistance with or just aren't sure whom you need to speak to. We hope that this new system will allow us to better serve you - our customers. When you do call, let us know what you think of the new system and if it helped us serve you more efficiently.

# Fire College Schedule

Aerial Operations (Course #703) Jan 28-Feb 1; Apr 29-May 3  
Apparatus Operations (Course #202/FFP 1601)  
Feb 18-22; March 18-22  
Arson Investigation (Course #407) Feb 25-Mar 1  
Building Construction (Course #311/2320) Feb 4- 8  
Chlorine Emergencies (Course #515) Mar 26-28  
Clowning 1: Pub. Ed.Thru Basic Characterization (Course #308)  
Mar 4-8  
Codes and Standards (Course #312/1300) Mar 4-8  
Company Officer (Course #209/2130) Jan 7-11  
Confined Space Operations (Course #211) Mar 4-8  
Construction Documents & Plans Review (Course #316/ 2326)  
Mar 18-22  
EVT F2 (Course #601) Jan 14-17  
EVT F3(Course #602) Feb 11-14  
EVT F4 (Course#603) Mar 4-7  
Emergency Response to Terrorism: BC (Course #801) Jan 22-23  
Emergency Response to Terrorism: TC:CO (Course #812)  
Feb 19-20  
Emergency Response to Terrorism: TC:EMS (Course #819)  
Feb 21-22  
Emergency Response to Terrorism: TC:HM (Course #820)  
Jan 24-25  
Ethical & Legal Issues for the Fire Svc. (Course #305) Jun 10-14  
FAME (Course #816) Feb 4-7  
Farmedic (Course #110) Jan 26-27; Mar 23-24  
Fire and Life Safety Educator I (Course #320) Jan 7-11

Fire Chemistry (Course #400) Mar 4-8  
Fire Extinguisher Certification (Course #708) Jan 14-18;  
Feb 18-22; Mar 18-22  
Fire Prevention Practices (Course #313/1200) Jan 7-11  
Fire Service Course Delivery (Course#208/FFP 2150)  
Feb 25-Mar 1  
Fire Service Course Design (Course #210/FFP 2151) Jan 14-18  
Fire Service Hydraulics (Course #203/FFP 2640)  
Feb 11-15; Mar 11-15  
Firefighting Tactics I (Course #206/2410) Jan 28-Feb1  
Firefighting Tactics II (Course #304/2420) Feb 4-8  
FUN-SAR and SAR-TECH (Course #822) Feb 18-23  
Haz Mat Tech Level III (Course 508) Jan 28-Feb1 Week 1,  
Feb 11-15 Week 2, Feb 25-Mar 1 Week 3  
I-200: Basic Incident Management Sys(Course #507) Mar 11-12  
I-300: Intermediate Incident Management (Course #522)  
Mar 13-14  
Latent Investigation (Course #403) Jan 28-Mar 1  
Legal Issues for Investigators (Course #403/FFP 2403)  
Mar 25-29  
Private Fire Protection Sys I (Course #314/FFP1620)  
Mar 14-18  
Public Information Officer (Course #505) Mar 25-29  
Rope Rescue I & II (Course #204/FFP 2660) Feb 11-15  
S205 Forestry Urban Interface (Course #925) Jan 16-18;  
Feb 26-28

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