Fully Involved

A Newsletter of the Henrico County Division of Fire

Promotions Effective 10/19

Battalion Chief
Doug Reynolds
Alec Oughton
Gary Samuels

Captain
Billy Tucker
Joe Green
Kenny Ray Stone

Fire Lt.
Robert Owens
James Heller
Greg McKee
Rob Rowley

The **HFD Promotions Ceremony** was held on October 15, at Hermitage High School.

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November 2013

Volume 1, Issue 4

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4th Grade Moves into 21st Century

The Community Risk Reduction section spent the summer working with Henrico County Public Schools to develop the new 4th grade website. The website is now up and running and being used by our 4th grade fire education instructors. For over 20 years the department has been teaching 4th grade out of a book. We are now incorporating the classroom technology into our program. We have created programs that will allow instructors to use the Promethean Boards as well as allow the students to participate at home. This program was also designed to allow us to collect important data on the home safety survey and gives a format to design home escape plans. Check it out at:

https://sites.google.com/site/henricocountyfiresafety/home

Email from Stratford University:

I want to thank you so very much for your participation in our Food & Culture Festival. Your representatives did an EXCELLENT job and we had a lot of happy kids! And that's exactly what we wanted to see! The event went well and was only made better because the Henrico County Fire department was there.

Thank you again! Please extend our thanks to the entire crew!

HFD participated in hundreds of Community Events during Fire Prevention Month. Good Job Everyone!

Service Awards

September		
Todd Engel	15 Years	Station 11
Glenn Campbell	15 Years	Station 16
Michael Campbell	15 Years	Station 22
Douglas Jessup	15 Years	Station 15
Ronald Thomas	15 Years	Station 12
Richard Pomfrey	15 Years	Station 18
Curt Egan	15 Years	Station 16
Jeffrey Farmer	15 Years	Station 21
Scott Archibeque	15 Years	Station 21
George Lane	25 Years	Batt. 2
William Bonner	25 Years	Station 18

October		
John Hudnall, Jr.	15 Years	Station 1
William Engstrom, Jr.	15 Years	Station 2

Chief McDowell presents Battalion Chief George Lane with his 25 year service award.

CDP Advancements

CDP FF II			
Reginal Bennett	Station 12	Edward Johnston	Station 9
Bradley Bishop	Station 2	David Lewis	Station 2
Travis Bowling	Station 5	Brian Martin	Station 10
Eli Boylan	Station 1	Rena Martin	Station 9
Westley Connor	Station 13	Stephen Moran	Station 3
Adam Corwin	Station 1	Daniel Myers	Station 9
Steven Doney	Station 11	Joseph Oakley	Station 6
Brandon Foster	Station 5	Michael Pratt	Station 10
Harrison Goff	Station 6	John Skinner	Station 22
Michael Gouldin	Station 7	Robert Taylor	Station 12
Matthew Johnson	Station 6	Matthew Wells	Station 1

Battalion Chief Bob Woods (BC 1-C) and firefighters William Roberts, Dennis Brockwell, and Vinnie Robenson from Station 18-C bask in the sunshine after successfully completing the WPE!!

Make-up Day is scheduled for 11/5, 0800 to 1100 hrs.

WPE

Governor Bob McDonnell visits Henrico Fire Station #2 on September 11th

International Society of Fire Service Instructors

Lt. J. E Courtney (station 6), has been chosen to participate on the ISFSI Transitional Attack Group Task Force. He traveled to South Carolina's department of Fire Programs and Conference in October. The mission of the task force is to look at data from the FDNY / NIST / UL study as well as the South Carolina Department of Fire Programs.

The ISFSI leads fire and EMS instructors in their efforts to reduce firefighter fatalities and injuries, increase firefighter safety, and improve the profession through education and training. ISFSI supports instructors through educational opportunities, networking, mentoring programs, leadership opportunities, instructional resources, and legislative representation.

News From Friends & Family

FF Chris Ray (12), lost his son Danny in late August.

FF Michele Greep (13), lost her father Raymond Greek in late September.

Lt. Jackson Baynard (Planning & Tech.), announced the birth of a son, Jackson Baynard, Jr., on October 6.

Please be in prayer for a speedy recovery of **FF R. Lean Blankenship (4).** Lean is recovering at home after a short stay at CJW Johnston-Willis Hospital.

Sharron Joines-Burnette has joined the Division of Fire as the new Account Clerk III. Sharron worked most recently for Virginia Commonwealth University as a Fiscal Coordinator/ Account Specialist.

Lt. Ed Dunnavant retired from HCFD after 36 years of service. The Lt. played a key role in the development of our Technical Rescue Team. His persistence enabled us to become accepted into the FEMA Urban Search & Rescue Team (VA Task Force II).

Chief Baxter presents Capt. Billy Tucker a plaque to thank him for his many years of dedicated service to the Human Resources/Professional Development, Training Team

After 49 years of dedicated service, Fire Station 7, located at 2701 East Laburnum Avenue.

The walls came down on September 27, 2013

Hose & Nozzle Shop Wins NACo Award

Henrico County received a 2013 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for an initiative by the Division of Fire's *Hose & Nozzle Shop* for the "Sale of Recyclable Metal."

The Division of Fire's in-house Hose and Nozzle Shop is responsible for maintaining, servicing, and repairing all fire hose, nozzles, and related water appliances for all of the Division's companies. In total, the Hose and Nozzle Shop is responsible for keeping more than 20 miles of hose and nearly 250 nozzles and related water appliances in operating condition.

Many components in fire hose, nozzle, and water appliances are subject to wear and damage and may not be serviceable. In the course of completing maintenance and repair activities, the Hose and Nozzle Shop generates several hundred pounds of scrap metal each year. In previous years, this accumulated scrap metal has been declared surplus property and possession of it transferred to the County's Department of General Services to be auctioned as a "lot," regardless of its aggregate weight or what type of metal it is. In 2012, for the first time, the Hose and Nozzle Shop separated this scrap metal by material (i.e., aluminum, steel, brass, etc.), monitored the prices being paid for each, and sold it by weight to a recycler during a peak-price time. Though this didn't generate a large sum of money to be returned to the County's general fund, it was a much more price-effective, fiscally-responsible, and scientific manner of disposing of this scrap metal.

The sale of this recyclable metal by the Hose and Nozzle Shop is a new way of doing business and has recouped more revenue for the County's general fund than the previous practice of selling the scrap metal as a "lot," regardless of the material (and subsequently its value) and the aggregate weight. This is especially beneficial during "lean" budget times, such as during the current, but incomplete, economic recovery; but even during times of less restrictive budgets and fiscal constraints, this is a much more prudent and fiscally-responsible practice in terms of stewardship of the public's resources.

The only cost of the Hose and Nozzle Shop scrap metal recycling program is in the labor to sort, package, and deliver the materials to the recycler. The activities are conducted by firefighters that are on duty.

This program results in a better price for the recycled materials that is not dependent on the auction process which will return more funding to the County's general fund budget.

This program is an example of the type of fiscal stewardship required in these challenging economic times, and has proven to be well worth the effort. Where the previous program of selling the surplus materials at auction was easier and required less work from the Hose and Nozzle shop, it was recognized that we could recoup funding that could be used for other programs.

Pioneer Profile - The Men Behind The Junior Fire Safety Program

Imagine trying to hold the attention of approximately fifty youngsters, ranging in age from 6 to 10. You have to engage their interest in order to impart an important, and perhaps life-saving, message. And you have to perform this somewhat daunting task for approximately 60 minutes. Quite a challenge.

This is precisely the challenge facing the team that delivers the Junior Fire Safety program to the children of Henrico County. For the past 21 years, volunteer members of the Henrico County Fire Department have teamed with the Pioneers to educate the youngest students (grades 1 through 3) in the important lessons of fire safety and fire prevention. Each school year, the team of four firefighters visits about one-third of the Henrico County elementary schools. Depending on each school's size, they present the one-hour program once, twice or three times during their visit to each school.

Just who are these men who are the face, heart and soul of the Fire Safety program? And how do they accomplish the challenging task of educating those young minds? The "how" sounds easy enough - make the presentation interesting and engage the audience in the performance. It may sound easy; but just try that with a rambunctious group of youngsters. To manage that task approximately 40 times each school year takes a high level of interest, dedication and love of the job. And the four Henrico County firefighters who perform that task are veterans of Henrico's fire department - and the Fire Safety program.

The Junior Fire Safety Team (left to right): **John Burns**, **Robert Long**, **Keen Trinh** and **Scott McMillen**.

Lieutenant **Scott McMillen**, a 27-year veteran of the Henrico Fire Department, has been a part of the Fire Safety program for 18 years. Scott opens the program and engages the students with questions about basic fire safety. (There are rewards for the participating students!) He leads into a short video presentation about fire safety, featuring that fire safety expert - Smokey Bear.

Firefighter **Keen Trinh**, the junior member of the team with 7 years with the fire department and 4 years with the program, mans the video projector. Keen also plays a part in the stage production - donning the firefighter's personal protection gear and outfitting a student volunteer in a pint-sized version of the garb. The object of that exercise is to dispel any fear that the youngsters may have of firefighters in action.

Lieutenant **Robert Long** has worked in the Fire Department for 32 years and has spent 10 of those years with the Fire Safety program. At the conclusion of the video, Robert leads the students through a stage production to portray and reinforce those lessons. Some of the topics covered include the operation of smoke detectors, the importance of a fire-escape plan and how to respond if and when a fire occurs. While Robert provides the narration and poses questions to the students, he is aided by Keen Trinh (in firefighter's garb) and.....Firefighter **John Burns** - shown at left in the role of Squirt. John has been with the Henrico County Fire Department for 28+ years and he has participated in the Junior Fire Safety program for 21 years - dating back to the program's beginning. John's character of Squirt, who seems to have trouble deciding how to react in fire situations but always manages to get things right in the end, is an overwhelmingly big hit with the student audience.

To each of these men, the Pioneers, and the citizens of Henrico County, owe a vote of thanks. Without their knowledge and commitment, the Junior Fire Safety Program would not be possible.

Newsletter article from the New Outlook Pioneers—Virginia Council

Lt. Scott McMillen (12)

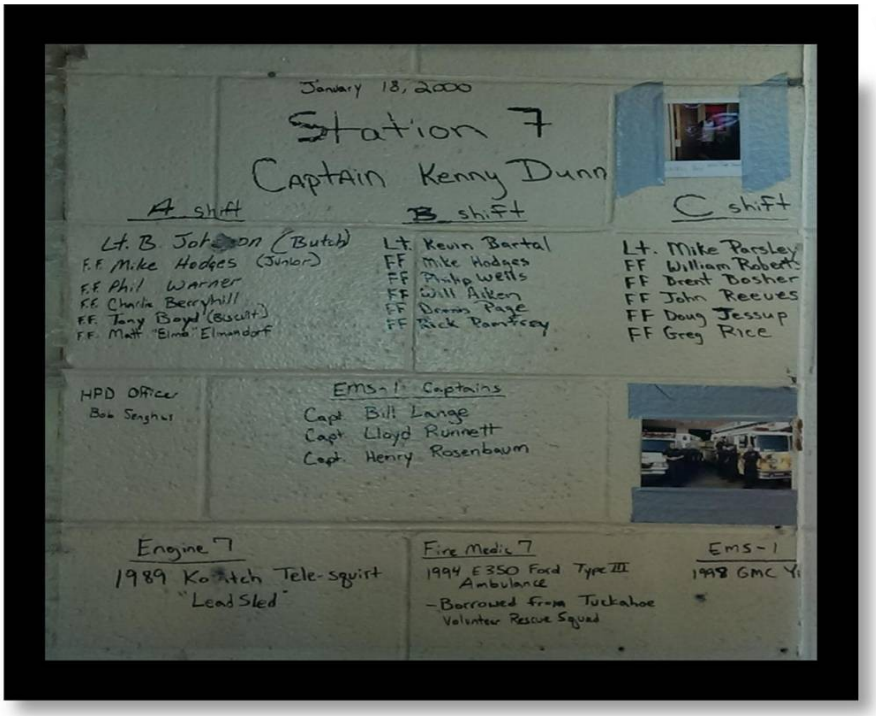
FF Keen Trinh (2)

Lt. Robert Long (18)

FF John Burns (4)

Time Capsule at Station 7

In January of 2000, the folks assigned to Fire Station 7 left a time capsule of sorts behind the cabinet above the coffee maker. They knew it was there, and this is what they found. Hope you all enjoy the shared memory!



Recruit Academy 63 Family Night

On October 3, 2013 Fire Chief McDowell invited the families of Recruit Academy 63 to a night of informational discussion about the life and career of a firefighter with the Henrico County Division of Fire. Over 60 guests attended from the families of the Recruit Academy. Battalion Chief Buehren opened up the event by welcoming the families, followed by presentations from Fire Chief McDowell and members of the Executive Staff.

Guest speakers from Henrico County Mental Health spoke about how our newest members and their families can benefit from their services. They discussed the signs to watch out for with their loved ones who may be taking on stress from the job or encounter a difficult call. During these presentations, the Training Staff and Community Services provided activities for the children of the Recruit families.

The Training Section would like to extend a special thanks to the crews from E1 and Truck 10 A-shifts for showcasing their units and equipment to the families of Recruit Academy 63, and to Jon Reinmuth for his assistance with the "Fire Training Daycare".

63rd Recruit Academy

The new recruits for the 63rd Academy are:

Sean Anderson

Gavin Bowie

Michael Britt

Justin Brittle

Stuart Burton

Afrodicio Caterdral

Brandon Coates

Timothy Custalow

Thomas Davis

Eric Donley

Richard Fitzsimmons

Rudolph Fletcher

Luke Gill

Joseph Green

Erik Gurnham

Alexander Hall

Sheldon Powell

Todd Kaufman

Eric Lehmann

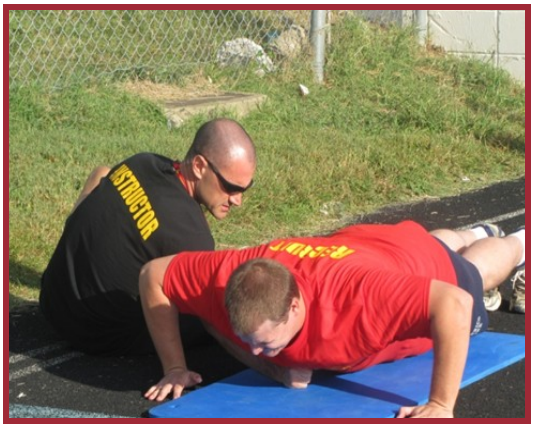
James Maass

Benjamin Swinson

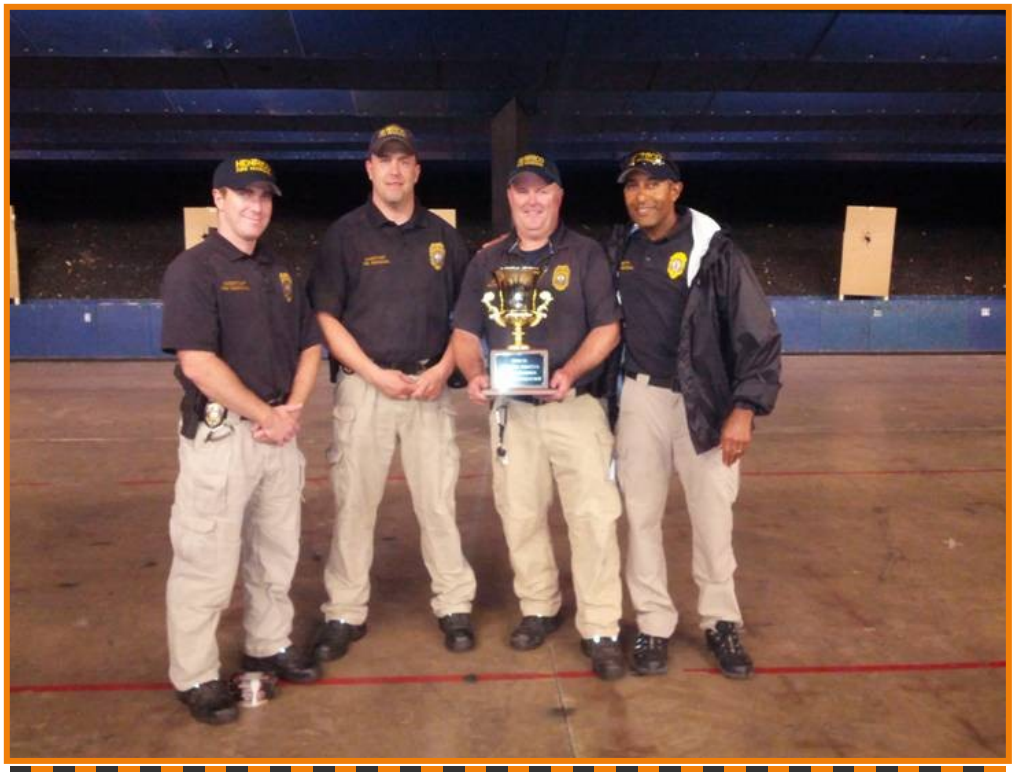
Carl Twisdale

Joshua Windom

Robert Zacher



FMO COMBAT CHALLENGE



The 2013 FMO Combat Challenge Cup was brought to PSB by Henrico Team 1.

TEAM HENRICO: *Jim Mullin, Bryan Smith, Brent Bosher and Scotty Roberts*

On Wednesday October 9th the Richmond FMO and Central Virginia Fire and Arson Association hosted an entire day of training at Colonial Shooting Academy. The instructor cadre were all experts in their field from Richmond's SWAT team. Topics included handgun marksmanship, shotgun and rifle familiarization, building searches, barricaded suspects, and active shooter. The training was both challenging and beneficial. At the end of the days training, attendees were afforded the opportunity to test their tactical skills after going through a brief physical challenge. Henrico was able to field two teams. Both teams represented Henrico very well, and the teams from Richmond, Hanover, and Chesterfield and others had a very strong showing as well. But when the running stopped, we put down the weights, and all the rounds had been delivered down range, only one team was able to claim the title. **Henrico Team I!**

Promotions Ceremony Photos

Continued from page 1

All personnel,

I am very pleased to announce that two more of our personnel have been accepted into the National Fire Academy's *"Executive Fire Officer" (EFO) program*. Those two individuals are **District Chief David Nuckols** and **Deputy Coordinator of Emergency Management Anna McRay.**

The EFO program is a 4-year commitment that includes both classroom and applied research components. Admission to the program is very competitive, as the EFO designation is highly respected professional credential throughout the fire service nationally and internationally. Assistant Chief Andrew Baxter, Captain Gary Samuels, and Captain Jeff Powell are all currently enrolled in the program.

Please join me in congratulating these individuals on their acceptance to the program.

Chief McDowell

Executive Fire Officer Program

9-11 MEMORIAL STAIR CLIMB

On Sunday, September 8, 2013, over forty Henrico firefighters participated in the third annual Richmond 9-11 Memorial Stair Climb. Each firefighter climbed 110 stories in full turnout gear in memory of the 343 firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice on September 11, 2001. This year's climbers raised over $9,000 to benefit the families of the fallen through the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.

Way to go Henrico Fire!!

Henrico County Division of Fire

7721 East Parham Road
P. O. Box 90775
Henrico, VA 23273-0775
Phone: (804) 501-4900
Fax: (804) 501-4642

We're on the Web!

www.henricofire.org