



WINTER 2017 ISSUE
December

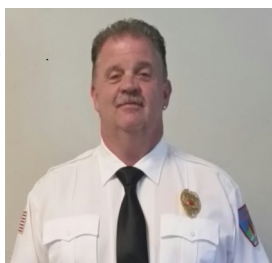
The Fire Bell

* March • June • September • December *

A Quarterly Publication of the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department

A Message from

GREENSBURG FIRE CHIEF
Thomas M. Bell



As of last month (November), it was one year since I took over as Fire Chief for the City of Greensburg's Volunteer Fire Department. We as a Department, have went through a lot of changes in a very short amount of time. My number ONE goal when I took over, was to make sure that no matter what we did, we would do it in the safest way possible. There is absolutely nothing more important to me than the safety of everyone in this Department. I feel through the training and awareness that we have done this first year, we are a better department as a whole when it comes to safety. The list could go on and on of everything that we have done in this first year. I'm very proud to say I am the Chief of a Department that has so much to offer and I am proud of its members that always step up to the plate no matter what the task is. You all have demonstrated how you respect other first responders who have paid the ultimate sacrifice and your willingness to be there for other departments in their time of need. Every person in the Department from the Jr. Firefighters to the Retired Firefighters, I thank you for your dedication and service to this wonderful City I call home. In 2018, I have set new goals and I have no doubt with all of you, we can accomplish them. In closing, in this job as Firefighters, there are days you may say why do we do this? My answer to each one of you is: "You make a difference in someone's life in their time of need." - DON'T EVER FORGET THAT! Merry Christmas to all of you and your families!

City Building Tours & Pre-Planning

The Pre-Planning Committee continues to work in the development of tours. Reported previously, we are still updating the Seton Hill Slide Presentation which will be released to all members of the department. The documentation will be released in conjunction with a grounds tour. Again, our concentration will be on building orientation and alarm panel location in this two part release of information. Tours will be resuming in January with interior tours, Remember that Building Tours will be scheduled for the third Monday of the Month. Please let Tony Manley know if there is any building that we should be looking at specifically that we haven't already covered.

REMINDER Safety - Over Dose Calls

Remember that even though a Safety Officer is designated, each and everyone of us need to look out for each other. We are all responsible for Safety. Not only is the fire ground a concern for us today, the drug overdose assist calls requires us to be more vigilant than ever. All overdose calls must be responded to in the required dress: Bunker Suit or Long Sleeves, Long Pants (NO SHORTS), Facemask (N-95) and NITRILE Gloves (BLUE). If you are not appropriately suited, do not enter the area. An information hand-out on Fentanyl has been issued to each company and everyone on the Dept. Mtg. E-Mail list.

Training

Assistant Chief Rick Hoyle -Training Officer/Quartermaster is conducting our on-going Department Training once a month. Rick along with his appointed training committee continue to refine the training on an on-going basis. Training is generally scheduled for the last Monday of the Month at a designated location. The training continues to be topics that are germane to our mission serving as new to some and as a refresher for others, along with affording an opportunity for the entire department to train together as a department. The Training Committee has developed the 2018 Schedule listed in this issue.

The following in a recap for 2017:

Date	Training	Attendance
1/30/17	Saw - City Garage	45 Members
2/8/17	Tour - Palace Theater	30 Members
2/27/17	DOT- Emergency Response Guide	40 Members
3/8/17	Tour - Tuscano Building	32 Members
3/20/17	CPR Training	46 Members
3/27/17	Forcible Entry	44 Members
4/5/17	Vacant House on Wood Street	28 Member
4/9/17	Haz-Mat Refresher	
4/12/17	Tour Gbg Salem Middle School	20 Members
4/24/17	Ladders - Drill Tower	40 Members

Continued on Page Two



Date	Training	Attendance
<i>Continued from Page 1</i>		
5/10/17	Tour - GS High School	21 Members
5/22/17	SCBA/PPE - Drill Tower	36 Members
6/5/17	Tour - Redstone Highlands	27 Members
6/12/17	Drill - Redstone Highland	
6/26/17	Drill - Hose & Appliances @ DT	39 Members
7/31/17	Drill - Ropes & Knots	35 Members
8/7/17	Tour - St. Anne's Home	33 Members
8/14/17	Drill—St. Anne's Home	
8/28/17	Nozzles - City Garage	38 Members
9/12/17	Tour - Westmoreland Hospital	28 Members
9/25/17	Lecture Training—Elevators Sta 2	45 Members
9/30/17	Safety & Survival—Saturday	19 Members
10/1/17	Safety & Survival—Sunday	19 Members
10/11/17	Propane School Buses—GSHS	28 Members
10/16/17	GVFD Policy Review—Sta 1	104 Members
10/21/17	GVFD Policy Review Make Up	11 Members
10/23/17	Tour - Pershing Square	38 Members
10/30/17	PPV - Drill Tower	42 Members
11/27/17	Gas Meters—Drill Tower	33 Members
12/18/17	Power Line Awareness	TBD

REMEMBER....You cannot work together efficiently, if you don't train together. This past year's effort in Department Training has been OUTSTANDING. The Citizens of our City should be proud of the dedication you have all exhibited!

*All Training will begin at 18:30 Hrs. Unless noted otherwise
Check ECM Calendar for Updates*

The Greensburg Fire Department Has a Zero-Tolerance Policy

When It Comes To

Human Relations & Hostile Work Environments

Chief's Staff & Appointments

Name Area of Responsibility

Assistant Chiefs

Rick Hoyle C-2	Training
Tony Manley C-3	Structures
Lou Battistella C-4	Administration/Teams
Chet Bell C-5	Driver Training/Fire Investigation
Kim Houser C-6	Advanced Training
Bill Wright 52	Records
Les Harvey 58	Emergency Management

Deputy Assistant Chiefs

David Klingler 41	Truck Company Operations
Richard Johnson 42	Hazardous Materials
Bob Baker 43	Rescue Operations
Calvin Kier 45	Firefighter Health

Command Staff Special Officers

Ken Bacha 46	Safety Officer
Chris Tantlinger 240	Public Information Officer

Committee Chairman

Rick Hoyle	Training Committee
Rob Giles	Recruitment & Jr. Program
Bob Baker	Grant Committee
Les Harvey	Communications
Chet Bell	Driver's Training
Ken Bacha	Safety
Justin Calisti	ECM ² & Website

Safety

All Bunker Gear involved in actual fire incidents shall undergo **ON-SCENE GROSS DECONTAMINATION**. All stations, if not already, shall have washing machines available for their members. Wash your gear regularly in accordance with the instructions that have been provided to the Captains and Companies. All personnel are responsible for their own gear. Everyone should have two (2) Accountability Tags. There will be a collection ring on each Engine on the driver's door. If the collection ring has yet to be installed, put the tag on the driver's seat.

"HOT ZONE" PROTOCOL

All Personnel on the Fire Ground are to be wearing Gear to include: COAT, HELMET, LONG PANTS, BUNKER PANTS, PROTECTED FOOTWEAR. If it is deemed that you are unsafe, you will be asked to leave the HOT ZONE, as well as all civilians and media



Why.....The Fire Bell ?

Communication is paramount for any Organization that wants to be successful. Minutes are provided after all department meetings, and *The Fire Bell* simply recaps three months as a reminder and serves as a Department Record of Accomplishment

GREENSBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT

2018 Department Training Schedule

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*Classes are held the Last Monday of each month, except *, and will begin at 18:30 Hrs. unless noted otherwise*

Date	Subject	Instructor(s)
12-18-17	Power Line Awareness—Sta 1	R. Mattes
1-9-18	Tourniquet Training - Sta 2	J. Guidy
1-27-18	Vehicle Extrication Updates	Captain's Only
2-26-18	Accident Scene Safety	Giles - Steele
3-26-18	EMS Assists	Mutual Aid
4-30-18	Vehicle Rescue Review	Captains
5-21-18*	SCBA & TIC Review	T. Bell
6-25-18	Water Supply/GFD Tactics	R. Hoyle
7-30-18	Fire Ground Ladder Placement	P.DeFelice
8-27-18	Rapid Intervention Team	K. Houser
9-24-18	Salvage Operations	Johnson/Henry
10-29-18	Gas Meter Review	B. Krulac
11-26-18	Fire Scene Preservation	C. Bell
Dec	No Training Scheduled	

Other Topics in the "Pipeline"

CPR Certification | EVOC Review | High-Rise Firefighting

2017 TOTAL DEPARTMENT TRAINING

Participation Ranking by Companies

RANK	COMPANY	MEMBER ATTENDANCE
1	2	228 Members
2	8	212 Members
3	7	171 Members
4	1	107 Members
5	6	101 Members
6	3	44 Members

"Strive to Be the Best - by Being Informed"

ADVANCED TRAINING

CONGRATULATIONS

Chief Tom Bell | FF Rob Cameron | FF Scot Fick
in receiving your Firefighter I Certification Pro-Boards

Also to

FF Justin Calisti | Captain Duane Spencer
in receiving your Fire Officer I Certification Pro-Boards

The Extra Effort in Training has now provided the GFD with an In-House Suppression Instructor (Justin Calisti) for the first time in 7 years!

CONGRATULATIONS

• *For Other Advance Disciplines* •

EVOC CERTIFICATION 2018

Firefighter Rudy Kolbosky

•

CHURCH FIRES & FIRE GROUND SIZE UP HAZMAT RESPONSE FOR EMS PERSONNEL

Assistant Chief Kim R. Houser

•

REGION 13 SPONSORED SWIFT WATER RESCUE

South Bend, Indiana

Captain Duane Spencer

FF Jeff Guidy

•

DIVE TEAM

OPEN WATER CERTIFICATION

FF Rob Baker

ADVANCE DIVER CERTIFICATION

Captain Duane Spencer

FF Jeff Guidy

A Job Well Done!

We are HOPING for 2018 that we will have more members push for Firefighter I & II Certifications

**Remember to be Professional on the Radio
Speaks Volumes for OUR Department's
INTEGRITY**



DRIVERS - PLEASE BE RESPONSIBLE!

Take Care and Drive Always with Caution
PLEASE USE COMMON SENSE

•
IF 9-1-1 ANNOUNCES an AFA as Burned Food
Turn Your Lights off and PROCEED

•
The Call is **NEVER OVER** until someone from the Greensburg Fire Department physically checks out the Alarm

•
**NEVER TAKE THE WORD OF THE
RESIDENT OR OCCUPANT
!!! •INVESTIGATE• !!!**

Alarm Investigation

On all alarms...our protocol is simply - **"GO"**
Especially at night, do not wait for the Duty Chief, we need to find out for ourselves as nobody else is going to do it for us

RUN THE TRUCKS
LETS FIND OUT

UNIFORM DRESS SHIRTS

The ordering of the Uniform Dress Shirts has been done, and now the shirts have been given to the seamstress for the attachment of the patches. It is hoped that the shirts will be in our procession by the first of the year.

BADGES

In October, C4 sent to all Company Captains instructions and order form with a picture of the official GVFD Badge to be worn on the GFD White Dress Shirts. The Badge is optional for those wanting to purchase one for \$102.00. Captain's were asked to post and have interested parties sign up and collect monies to be handed over to the Commander for the Badge Order. We need to have the money in hand before we order. It was requested that the form be turned in at the November Department Meeting. As of the November Meeting, nothing has transpired on the Company Level, the forms will be sent again via email to the Companies and the department is wishing to have the forms and money by the **January 2018 Department Meeting** — *Please See Attachment to this Issue*

FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

No Matter how small the accident is, you have the duty to report the accident to the City Police Department and the Fire Chief.

LIFE SAVING AWARDS

Southwest Greensburg Firefighters Justin Schell & Michael Meyers was presented with a Proclamation by Mayor Robb Bell on behalf of the City of Greensburg Fire Department for the Live Saving Efforts of Justin and Michael at the September 13th, 2017 House Fire at 540 Euclid Avenue. Their heroic and professional efforts are attributed in the saving of the life of the Resident. Fire Chief Tom Bell also presented both Justin and Michael with Life Saving Award Certificates.

OUTSTANDING DEPARTMENT EFFORTS

In true form, The Greensburg Fire Department pulled together and performed seamlessly in providing traffic control for the City during the transportation of New Kensington's Police Officer Brian Shaw's remains, both from New Kensington to the Westmoreland Hospital and then from the hospital to the forensic lab in Hempfield Township and then, during Officer Shaw's Funeral both Engine 8 and Truck 2 crewed to standby in station in New Kensington allowing members of the New Kensington Fire Department attend the services. A true demonstration of giving service above self when there are others in need.

COLLECTING HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Rick Steele has been appealing for help in the collection of Department Historical narrative. There is a great deal of information laying in the Museum., but there is so much more in the memories of some of our many senior members and the story needs to be memorialized. Not only for museum historical use, but historical information is extremely important to include in the securing of grants. Please contribute and urge those that you know, who know the valuable story to contribute and if need be, help them to contribute.

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

On May 19th, 2018, The GVFD Relief Association is sponsoring a lecture on Flawed Situational Awareness-The stealth killer of Fire Responders. The lecture will be at the Boyle Science Building at Seton Hill and will be hosted by the GVFD. The Presenter will be Richard Gasaway, a retired 30 year career firefighter who served as Chief for 22 years. Chief Gasaway will also be the Guest Speaker at the GVFD Banquet **that will be that evening.**

Safety is #1 GOAL

MAKE SURE EVERYONE GETS THERE

Make Sure
EVERYONE GOES HOME!



Department Badge Order

Sent Via Email | October 10, 2017

Captains: INSTRUCTIONS • Please post in your station and announce the opportunity to order a **NEW DEPARTMENT BADGE** to go along with the New Formal Uniform Shirt that was just recently ordered. Badge Expense is the responsibility of the member. Cost of the Badge is **\$102.00** Ea.

Badge is a Smith and Warren Model Style #S55A | Nickel Electroplate Font Type BLOCK | Enamel Type Soft (Regular) | Enamel Color Black | Attachment Pin & Safety Catch | Seal No. C191RE

All Badges will be the same. Top Panel: Firefighter | Second Panel: LAST NAME | Third Panel: Greensburg, PA | Bottom Panel 79-### (**Your** 3 digit Company No.)

PLEASE SEE YOUR CAPTAIN FOR YOUR COMPANY'S SIGN UP SHEET

Please contact your members, and if they are interested in ordering a badge to complement their shirt, please have them complete the sign up list and pay in advance **\$102.00**. As Captain, you will be responsible for the order form and money and be ready to turn in **both (The Order Form and the Money)** at the November Department Meeting.

SMITH & WARREN.
Built With Care. Worn With Pride.

Badge dimensions: 2.250" W X 3.250" H

ESTIMATED RETAIL PRICE \$101.50

Item	Unit Price	Qty	Total
BADGE PRICE	\$98.00	1	\$98.00
CENTER SEAL	\$3.50	1	\$3.50

This would make a Great Christmas Gift Suggestion.....

Merry Christmas !

