



# Kachemak Emergency Services

## The Smoke Signal

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September, 2017

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### Happy Birthday!

Happy Birthday wishes to our September Birthday Members: Michael Tupper, Travis Ogden, Terry Sumption, Jason Miller, and Aaron Glidden. Enjoy your "Special Day".

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### Equipment

All equipment at Station 1 and Station 2 are operating and ready for response. The following equipment is out of service and stored until further notice: Engine-11, Squad-2, Rescue-1, and Medic-3.

**Tanker-3:** continues to suffer from corrosion pits in the tank and is beginning to seep water through the side of the tank in a few places. Do not touch, poke at, or investigate places where water is starting to drip. Messing with it will only make it worse. A solution is being explored, including a possible replacement apparatus.

**Brush-3:** The electrical problem with the battery going dead when the hose reel was drawing power has been fixed. The problem was fixed with a new replacement voltage regulator, and a new battery.

**Medic-2:** The badly scratched windshield on Medic-2 has been replaced. Hooray!

**Turn-out Gear:** New replacement fire turn-out gear arrived and was distributed to the members with the oldest and most worn out gear. Chief Ciccirella has contacted the members that are next in line for gear replacement, and sized their equipment in August. As soon as we get a price quote from LN Curtis, a Purchase Order will be cut, and the gear will be ordered. Be sure and contact Captain Miller if you have any gear that requires repair or replacement.

**Ladder-1:** The chip in the windshield has been repaired. The Ladder-1 remote-control package has been purchased and will be installed by a Rosenbauer factory representative in mid-September.

**Radios:** Many of the radio problems we have been having can now be solved with new code plugs for the radios. If you have not yet had the new code plug installed in your radio, please contact Chief Ciciarella or Lieutenant Rob Porter to make an appointment, so they can upgrade your radio. Upgrades will only be done by appointment, so don't just stop by and expect them to drop everything to help you. Allow about 15 minutes for the upgrade appointment. The upgrade will add DOF ALMR, Nihilchik ALMR, and provide easier use of the function keys. So far, only one member has contacted the Chief for an upgrade of their radio.

**SCBA Blue Tooth:** The department has purchased six new SCBA mask microphones that are connected to the hand-held radio via "Blue-Tooth". They are currently being field tested by Jason, Rob, Joe, and Greg. Early test results are promising, with improved clarity. See if you can tell the difference next time one of these members is speaking on their radio while using an SCBA.

**Rope Rescue Gear:** The new smaller harnesses have arrived. More rope and harnesses for radios have also arrived. All these items have been placed in service and are available for training and use.

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## Training

Keep your eye on the calendar schedule board located in the entry into the training room. It is constantly being updated with new opportunities. Attend training and use the opportunity to learn.

**Fire Training:** Regular Fire training in September is scheduled for Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at Station 1. Training will include Roll-up drills and Water supply. Fire Training is only one night a month. Please make the extra effort to attend and stay sharp on your skills.

**EMS Training:** The next regular EMS training is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at Station 1. The training will begin at 6pm. It will include a review of use of Nasal Narcan and proper glucose monitoring. Come and stay current in your skills. A life may depend on it.

**Rope Rescue:** The next Rope Rescue meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Stay tuned for the location of this training. Check in with Deputy Chief Sallee for updates.

**Officer's Meeting:** The next regularly scheduled Officer's Meeting is slated for Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at Station-1. It was postponed one week in light of the Labor Day Holiday.

**Advanced ALS Training:** The next meeting of Advanced ALS providers is scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup>. This training is only open to EMT III and Paramedic individuals. Check with Samantha Cunningham for the location of this meeting.

**Trauma Review at SPH:** The September SPH Trauma Review session will be held at the SPH Conference room at 6pm on September 6, 2017. These reviews are always interesting, and open to anyone in the Emergency Services.



**Fire Officer-I Class:** A Fire Officer-I class will be held at either the Homer or Anchor Point Fire Station. Prerequisites include Fire-Fighter II and Fire Instructor I. This is a 40 hour class. The class will be held September 8-9-10 and October 27-28-29. If you are interested in the class, please contact Deputy Chief Sallee.

**Next ETT Class:** The next ETT class has been rescheduled to start October 5, 2017. It will conclude with testing on November 4, 2017. See the training calendar at the training room entrance for class dates and times. If you or others that you may know have an interest, let Chief Ciccirella or Deputy Chief Sallee know. It would be great to get a few new ETTs in the class and running with the KESA team. A Bridge class to bring them up to EMT-I will come later.

**Next FF-I Class:** The next Fire Fighter-1 class is scheduled for spring, 2018 – possibly February or March.

**Ideas / Suggestions:** If you have any ideas or suggestions for training, please let Deputy Chief Sallee know. He is eager to put together training that is interesting and helpful for the members. Let him know your thoughts. He will appreciate the feed-back.

**Airport Disaster Drill:** Thank you to all those members that participated in the Airport Disaster Drill on Saturday August 19<sup>th</sup>. The Officers will be reviewing the drill to look for ways to improve our skills.

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## **Additional Notes**

**EMS CHANGES:** Dr. Levy, our Medical Director, has approved the use of Versed by EMT-IIIs. The use of Adenosine by Level III EMTs has also been approved. KESA is will be implementing these new medication applications soon.

**CONTROL OF THE CALL:** The Officers are working on announcing who is in “Control of the Call”. Once someone has declared that they have “Control of the Call” please direct your radio traffic to them. Questions about directions, nature of the call, who should respond where (station or direct), etc should be directed to whoever has “Control of the Call”. Do not ask Base-2 for that information. Base-2 is busy and we should be able to take care of those details internally.

**STATION-2:** The large water tank has been buried behind the station. The water line from the tank to the building has also been installed. Further installation is waiting for a Fire Pump.

The Borough is moving forward with the additional improvements and renovations to Station-2. Improved weatherization is on the list. The trucks have been re-positioned in the building, so be ready for things to be in different spots and bays. Some gear stalls will be installed in Station-2 soon.

**LADDER TESTING:** The Ladder testing has been completed – and all ladders passed their UL tests.

**PUMP TESTING:** Pump Testing will begin soon. If you are able to help with this activity, please contact Deputy Chief Sallee or Captain Miller.

**RECRUITMENT OPEN HOUSE:** We held the KESA Recruitment Open House on August 26<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to everyone that turned out to help with the activity. A special thanks to Captain Samantha Cunningham for all her work in coordinating the event. Even though the Open House is done, continue to reach out in the community and encourage interested folks to stop by the station and see Chief Ciccirella or Deputy Chief Sallee. We would love to see some new faces around the station.

**KESA AT THE HEALTH FAIR:** KESA had a booth at the Rotary Health Fair last year, and it proved to be fun and a great way to interact with the public. The 2017 Health Fair will be held on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, and KESA will have a booth again this year. We will need volunteers to man the booth. We will have lots of fun stuff to hand out to the public, including the popular travel first aid kits. KESA will also have Ladder-1 parked in front of the high school. We will need a driver for Ladder-1. Please contact Deputy Chief Sallee or Chief Ciccirella if you can help out. Thank you.

**\$100 CERTIFICATE FOR A TOOL OF YOUR CHOICE:** With your certificate, you get to pick out any “gear, equipment, or clothing approved for emergency services” from “**The Fire Store**” – (value up to \$100.00). KESA will order it for you – and it will be yours as part of your personal KESA gear. A \$100 purchase certificate will be awarded to any member that signs up a new recruit for the ETT or FF-1 Class. The new recruit must complete the class and pass the final testing before the purchase certificate will be awarded to the sponsoring member. No limit for the number of new recruits a member can sponsor! This is a limited time offer, so don’t delay!

**INJURY OR EXPOSURE ON THE JOB:** Reminder: If you are injured or exposed to a hazardous substance while at any KESA activity (That includes at an emergency scene, training, or just around the station), you must report the injury or exposure to a KESA Officer as soon as possible. In addition to reporting it, make sure that you get confirmation back that the Officer has received your notification. This includes even minor injuries (pulled muscle, strained back, cuts and scratches). It is important that the incident get reported quickly, so there is no dispute about Worker’s Comp Coverage. Take the steps necessary to ensure that Worker’s Comp Coverage is there for you when you need it. Sometimes it may be weeks or months after the incident before symptoms appear, so make sure you advise an Officer as soon as an injury or exposure occurs.

**FIRE INVESTIGATION:** We are still looking for a few folks that have an interest in Fire Investigation. If you are interested, please let Captain Gary Thomas or Chief Ciccirella know. We would like to re-activate this important task group. Rescue-1 is available for a Fire Investigation unit.

**CHECK YOUR CERTS:** It is your responsibility to keep track of the expiration dates on your certifications. This especially goes for EMTs. Everyone should keep track of their CPR expirations. The next opportunity to take a CPR class will be with the new ETT class in October. Don’t miss out on the opportunity.



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## The Organization

### PERSONNEL

Here is the current run-down of Staff and Officers:

#### Staff:

- **Bob Ciciarella** – Fire Chief
- **Joe Sallee** – Deputy Fire Chief
- **Harlon Engebretsen** – Mechanic
- **Jeanette Johnson** – Administrative Assistant
- **Jason Miller** – Part Time Temporary

#### Officers:

- **Fire Chief:** Bob Ciciarella
- **Deputy Fire Chief:** Joe Sallee
- **Captains:** Greg Collins, Jose Diaz, Kevin Jones, Maynard Kaufman, Jason Miller, Gary Thomas, Samantha Cunningham (EMS)
- **Lieutenants:** Rob Porter (Fire & EMS), Terry Sumption (Fire),

AND all the rest of the dedicated volunteers which help to make our community a safer and better place to live. Thank you for all you do.

#### Personnel Notes:

- Nick Schmitt is on limited duty, pending knee surgery.
- Don Moran has returned back to full duty.

Stay safe.

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Gary Thomas