



## Kachemak Emergency Services

# The Smoke Signal

## November Newsletter

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy Birthday wishes to our November Birthday Members: Don Moran and Kevin Jones. Enjoy your "Special Day".

### 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. KESA has received a bid from Rosenbauer for a new replacement tanker. The bid is being reviewed for consideration by the Borough Budgeting and Planning folks. Stay tuned!

**Brush-1 and Brush-3:** have been winterized and stored until spring.

**Turn-out Gear:** Be sure and contact Captain Miller if you have any gear that requires repair or replacement.

**Radios:** Your radios should be working fine. If you are looking for an upgrade that will allow you to add DOF ALMR, and Ninilchik ALMR, you will have to wait. An issue has cropped up that creates problems for the upgrade enhancement procedure. Upgrades are on hold until the Enhancement Programming issues can be resolved.

### 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.

In 2018, Training will move from Wednesdays to Tuesdays. Changing to Tuesdays will make it easier to coordinate training with other neighboring departments. The change will be effective starting in January of the new year.

**Fire Training** – Fire training in November is set for Wednesday, November 29th at 6pm at Station 1. The training night has been delayed one week so that we can all enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday. This mandatory training will include Roll-up drills and Water supply. We need everyone there so we have enough people to do outdoor practical drills. Fire Training is only one night a month. Please make the extra effort to attend and stay sharp on your skills.

**EMS Training** – The November EMS training is Wednesday, November 8th at Station 1. The training will begin at 6pm. Come and stay current in your skills.

**Rope Rescue:** – The next Rope Rescue meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 15th 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, December 4th at 6pm at Station-1. (The first Monday of each month)

**Advanced ALS Training:** – The next meeting of Advanced ALS providers is scheduled for either November 27th, or 28th. This training is only open to EMT III and Paramedic individuals. Check with Samantha Cunningham for a confirmation on the date, time and place.

**Trauma Review at SPH:** – The next SPH Trauma Review session will be held at the SPH Conference rooms 1 & 2 at 6pm on December 6, 2017. These reviews are always interesting, and open to anyone in the Emergency Services.

**ETT Class is underway:** – The ETT class has started – with classes on Saturdays. The Final testing will be on November 25th. It will be great to get a few new ETTs running with the KESA team. A Bridge class to bring them up to EMT-I will come later.

If you need to Recertify your EMS Certification: – Attending the ETT classes will allow you an opportunity to check off your required skills for recertification. Don't let your certification expire! You worked too hard to just let it slip away!

The following people are up for recertification:

**ETT:** Ben Veasey, Jessi Dullinger, and Katy Jones

**EMT-I:** Jodi Andrews, Travis Kauffman, and Tisha Lovett

**EMT-II:** Travis Ogden, Michael Tupper, and Kerbey Lyon

**EMT-III:** Rob Porter

Contact Deputy Chief Sallee for assistance on how to meet your recertification requirements.

**Next FF-I Class:** – The next Fire Fighter-1 class is tentatively scheduled for spring, 2018 – possibly February or March (depending on the level of interest and the number of enrollees).

**EMS Symposium:** – EMS Symposium is set for November 8-11 in Anchorage. Rob, Samantha, Colton, Joe, Kerbey, and Phillip are all planning on attending the Symposium. If you are interested in attending, contact Deputy Chief Sallee right away. If you are not going, please listen to the radio and respond as able – since we will be short-handed during that period.

**Active Threat Integrated Response Course –PER-340:**

This class is a 24-hour course designed to improve integration between law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services in active shooter events. It is being offered in Homer at the Kenai Peninsula College – Kachemak Bay Branch January 10-12, 2018. The class is brought to us through The National Center for Biomedical Research and Training at Louisiana State University. This is a Department of Homeland Security certified course. See Deputy Chief Sallee or Chief Cicciarella if you are interested in attending. HVFD is coordinating this class, and has opened it up to neighboring departments and agencies.

**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.

**\$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! Get yourself some cool stuff! This is a limited time offer!

**KESA HOLIDAY PARTY**

Yes. There will be a KESA Holiday Party! Phillip and Jeanette are spear-heading this event. If you are interested in helping, please see one of the spear-headers. They will appreciate the help! Dates and details are yet to come. Stay tuned.

**CHRIS GORDON APPOINTED**

The KESA Service Area Board has recommended to the Borough Mayor that Chris Gordon be appointed to the Service Area Board. Mayor Navarre appointed Chris, and the appointment was confirmed by the Borough Assembly. Congratulations Chris. Welcome!

## **THANKS FOR YOUR HELP AT THE ROTARY HEALTH FAIR**

Over 1,000 people attended the Rotary Health Fair, and KESA got some great exposure. Thank you to those that helped with the Fire Prevention display and Ladder-1 display at the event. Thanks to Cooper, Scott, Jason, Colton, Thane, Philip, Joe, and Jeanette. It was a great chance to discuss fire safety with the public. The community appreciates your efforts.

## **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 making additional improvements and renovations to Station-2. Some delays have been experienced due to the availability of the foam installers. 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. The door lock key-code will be changed soon. The new code will be issued to members via an e-mail. Watch your e-mail for that new code.

## **FLU SEASON**

The winter Flu Season is upon us. Prevention is the best advice. Wash your hands often. Use gloves in environments that may contain flu germs (patient homes, the hospital, public use areas). Use masks as may be needed. If you are sick, STAY HOME. Do not bring your germs into the station or worse yet, into the ambulance, or someone else's home. JUST STAY HOME! Do your fellow members the favor! DON'T INFECT US!

## **THE SMALL CORE GROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP**

The KESA volunteer group has dwindled to a small core group of members that are doing most of the work and going on the bulk of the calls. Please help out your fellow members and step up to help as you can, even if it is only to drive an apparatus or lend a hand at an emergency scene. Let's try and give those few in the core group a break and some help. Every hand is appreciated.

## **WINTER DRIVING CONDITIONS**

Freezing temperatures are here. Slow down and be extra careful on the new East End Road pavement. It will be slick when a little frost or ice gets on it. If conditions

warrant, tire chains will be laid out for apparatus at the station – or even installed as needed. Refresh yourself on how to get them on or off. Remember to slow way down when you are driving an apparatus that has chains on it. Ending up in the ditch really doesn't help our response to help others. Slow down and make sure your windshield is free of snow and ice before heading out onto the road from home.

## **MARKING UP**

When responding to a call, please make sure that you mark-up on the radio, as well as check in on the I-AM-Responding system. It helps our officers (and other responders) know what resources are en-route, and how to best manage the situation.

## **HOLLOWEEN HARVEST**

October 31st was the evening of goblins and ghosts, and KESA Ladder-1 was at the Christian Community Church on Bartlett Street in Homer again this year. Thanks to Travis, Joe, Don, and Julian for your help with the "Halloween Harvest". It was another great community service event.

## **STATION #1 GETTING A NEW LOOK**

The Community Hall portion of Station #1 is getting rearranged and cleaned up. Furniture is getting moved, the floor repaired and cleaned, and a more effective use of the space. Thank you for your patience as the work is getting completed.

## **PERSONNEL**

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

### **Staff:**

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

### **Officers:**

**Fire Chief:** Bob Cicciarella

**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.

Stay safe.

