



Kachemak Emergency Services

The Smoke Signal

Volume 18-10

October Newsletter

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy Birthday wishes to our October Birthday Members: Wendy Bales and Colton Frankhauser. Enjoy your "Special Day".



FAREWELL TO A BROTHER

Thank you to all the members that came out to say "Farewell" to our fellow Public Safety Officer and beloved community member, Ed Stading. Our condolences to the Stading family.

EQUIPMENT

New Thermal Imager: A new FLIR K-65 Thermal Imaging Camera has been installed on Engine-2. It is located in the first Officer's Side Compartment, just aft of the pump house. It is the same make/model as the ones on Ladder-1. This new TIC replaces the two old ones that were on the Engine.

Apparatus: All equipment at Station 1 and Station 2 are operating and ready for response.

The following equipment are out of service and stored at Station 1 until further notice:

Engine-11, Squad-2, Rescue-1, and Medic-3.

Brush Trucks: Brush-1 and Brush-3 will be de-mobilized and winterized soon for the winter months. Brush-2 remains in service at Station 2.

Squad-1: Squad-1 is temporarily at Station 1 for maintenance. It will be returned to Station 3 shortly.

Tanker-3: Tanker-3 remains in service, but has some seeping water issues. The tank continues to leak water from some spots in the tank, so don't poke at the seeping pits in the side of the tank.

Replacement of Tanker-3: KESA is working with the Borough on a new replacement tanker/pumper on a custom chassis. Chief Cicciarella met with the Pierce factory rep while at the Fire Conference in Kenai to work out some of the specification and pricing details. Delivery of the new truck is expected in late summer of 2019.

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. Grab the chance to learn!

Fire Training: October Fire Training will be held on Wednesday, October 24th at Station 1 at 18:00 hrs. It will focus on the basics – hose lays, ladders, and fire attack. It is important to stay refreshed on the basic skills. Come join in for some fun. EMS personnel are welcome to come and refresh their roles on the fire-ground.

Alaska State Firefighters Conference: This year's Conference had a lot of great information and provided a wonderful opportunity to meet other firefighters from around the state. Philip, Jason, Rob, and Aaron all came back with some great information, and are ready to share it with the rest of the department. We will keep you posted as dates and plans for the 2019 Conference become available.

EMS Training: The date for the EMS Training in November will be on the usual second Wednesday of the month, November 14th, at 18:00 hrs at Station 1. Stay current in your skills. Fire and Support personnel are also welcome to attend.

Rope Rescue: The November Rope Rescue training is scheduled for November 14th at 18:00 hrs at Station-1.

Officer's Meeting: The November Officer's Meeting is slated for Monday, November 5th at 18:00 hrs.

Advanced ALS Training: Advanced ALS Providers will meet on Thursday, October 25th, from 18:00hrs to 20:00hrs. The topic is "Bodies in Ditches". The training will be held at Samantha Cunningham's house. Jessie has donated a roast for a pot-luck dinner. Bring salads, drinks, deserts, and anything else you may want to munch on. Samantha says she is mixing up a big batch of blood, so be dressed for a little fun outside in a wet muddy ditch somewhere!

2018 EMS Symposium: The 43rd Alaska Emergency Medical Services Symposium will be held in Anchorage November 7 – 10, 2018. Check out the details at www.SREMS.org. Friday, October 26th is the deadline to register through KESA. Please check in with Jeanette or one of the Chiefs if you are interested in attending. There will be lots of learning opportunities.



Trauma Review at SPH: The next SPH Multidiscipline Trauma Review session will be held at the SPH Conference rooms 1 & 2 at 18:00hrs on December 5th. These reviews are always interesting, tracking cases from field treatment through the emergency room and into the care provided post-ER. The Trauma Reviews are open to anyone in the Emergency Services.

Next FF-I Class: The next Fire Fighter-1 class is being planned for Early January. If you or a friend are interested, see Chief Ciccirella or Deputy Chief Sallee.

ICS 300-400 CLASS: An ICS 300-400 class is being offered through South Peninsula Hospital November 5th – 9th. If you are interested in attending, contact Chief Ciccirella or Deputy Chief Sallee.

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.

KUDOS FROM THE COMMUNITY

Several members of the public have approached the Chiefs to relate their appreciation of the professionalism of KES responders. They offer their thanks for a job well done. Remember, the job we do responding to the public builds the reputation of the department and stands as the building blocks of community service. Thank you to each and every KESA Volunteer.

PAT JOHNSON HEADS SOUTH



Pat Johnson has served with the Emergency Services of the Homer area since the 1980s. Before that, Pat served as the Fire Chief of Whittier, Alaska. Pat was a strong supporter in the formation of the Kachemak Emergency Service Area, and has served as a volunteer with the department since its formation. Pat and his wife, Vicky have been solid supporters of the KESA mission. They are headed to Idaho to be closer to their family members.



We wish them the very best in their years ahead. Happy Trails!

\$100 CERTIFICATE FOR A TOOL OF YOUR CHOICE

A \$100 purchase certificate will be awarded to any member that signs up a new recruit for an 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 on the number of new recruits a member can sponsor! 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. Congratulations to Greg and Philip for qualifying for their tool of choice.



FIELD TESTING NEW PAGER SYSTEMS

KESA has just completed field testing of some new pager systems to replace the current I-M-Responding system. KESA has been trying out the “e-Dispatch” system over the past several weeks. Everyone should have the codes for down-loading the e-Dispatch app into your phone. If you don’t have the codes or the app on your phone, please contact Chief Ciccirella, so you can get them loaded. Please give your feed-back to Chief Ciccirella. So far, the comments regarding “e-Dispatch” have been encouraging. Chief Ciccirella will keep everyone posted on the findings. If you have questions or input, contact Chief Ciccirella.

ATCO TRAILER AT STATION-2

The ATCO Trailer that was sitting out in front of Station-2 has been relocated to the back of the building. It makes the front of the station look much neater. Efforts are still underway to convert the ATCO Trailer to office and storage space.

LADDER & PUMP & HOSE TESTING

Ladder testing and Pump testing are complete. Hose testing is ongoing. Stop by and help when you can. Your help is always appreciated. Thanks to those that have pitched in.

REQUIRED BI-ANNUAL PHYSICALS

The Chiefs are reviewing the requirements for physical exams of all volunteers. Contact Jeanette to schedule if you have not yet had a baseline physical done. Members without a baseline physical will get a phone call from Deputy Chief Sallee to get one scheduled.



YOUR NEWSLETTER

This Newsletter is for and by KESA Members. The Editor is looking for recipes, stories, jokes, cartoons, quotes, photos, volunteer profiles, and other interesting things. If you have an interest in being a part of the Newsletter team, let me know. Thanks. Gary.

ROTARY HEALTH FAIR & FREE BLOOD TESTS

KESA will be participating in the 2018 Rotary Health Fair on November 3rd at the Homer High School. KESA will have an ambulance on display, and also have a booth inside the fair. Assistance will be needed for this event. KESA is providing free vouchers for blood test panels for all KESA Members, plus a PSA test for members over the age of 50. You can schedule your blood test/draw on-line at www.SPHosp.org. See Jeanette for your free voucher.

NEW POSITION

6 application finalists for the new KESA Firefighter Technician Position moved to the 2nd round of interviews and ability agility testing during the first week of October. The Borough HR Department is working with the Chiefs to make a final decision. Hopefully we will get someone on board by the end of the month!

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

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.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Life isn’t about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself.”

- George Bernard Shaw

