



**Kachemak Emergency
Services**

The Smoke Signal

Volume 18-12

December Newsletter

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy Birthday wishes to our December Birthday Members: Thane Cunningham, Kerbey Lyon, Amy Woodruff, and Katy Jones. Enjoy your "Special Day".

EQUIPMENT

Apparatus: All equipment at Station 1 and Station 2 are operating and ready for response, except for Car-2, which is still out of service due to a moose collision. Deputy Chief Sallee is driving U-3 while we are waiting for repairs on Car-2. It is expected to be back in service by the end of December.

Snow-machine and Snow-bulance: The Snow-machine, Snow-bulance, and their trailer will soon be moved inside Station 1, to help ensure their readiness for response.



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. We will still be using this truck for a while, so be gentle with it.



Replacement of Tanker-3: KESA is working with the Borough on a new replacement tanker/pumper on a custom chassis. Chief Cicciarella has explored options with both Pierce and Rosenbauer. Supplier details are being worked out with the Borough. Delivery of the new truck is pending selection of a supplier and build / delivery time-lines. Don't hold your breath.

In Reserve: Engine-11, Squad-2, Rescue-1, and Medic-3 are out of service and stored for Reserve at Station 1 until further notice.

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: The December Fire Training will be held on the **third Wednesday of the month, December 19th**. This change in scheduling is to avoid any conflict with the Christmas holidays. **The training will be at Station 2** at 18:00 hrs. Training will include Rescue and Ventilation Techniques using Ladder-1. We will use the recently constructed ventilation prop. It is important to stay well trained on these important skills. Come join in for some fun. EMS personnel are welcome to come and refresh their roles on the fire-ground.



EMS Training: The EMS Training in December will be on the second Wednesday of the month, December 12th, at 18:00 hrs at Station 1. The fun topic will be IV practice and re-certification check-offs. Stay current in your skills. Fire and Support personnel are also welcome to attend.

Rope Rescue: The December Rope Rescue training will be a joint training with HVFD on December 6th at 6:30pm at HVFD. The topic will be Litter Attendance practice.

Officer's Meeting: The January Officer's Meeting is set for Monday, January 7th at 18:00 hrs at Station 1.

Advanced ALS Training: There will not be an Advanced ALS Training meeting in December. They will resume again on January 24th. Dr. B.J. Coopes will join us, and the topic will be Pediatrics.

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 2019. If you or a friend are interested, see 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.



\$100 CERTIFICATE FOR A TOOL OF YOUR CHOICE

There is a FF-1 class coming up in the next couple of months. Now is your chance to get a \$100 certificate towards 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.

POD DRILL

South Peninsula Hospital will be doing their POD (Point of Distribution) Drill. On Saturday, December 8th from 7:00 to 12:00 at the Homer High School. This is a drill to distribute vaccinations to the public (in cases like the H1N1 outbreaks). The Department of Health and SPH will be distributing free influenza vaccines to everyone from 6 months to include the “High Dose” vaccines for folks over the age of 60. If you would like to participate, please let Deputy Chief Sallee know. There will be an opportunity for EMT-2 personnel to help administer the vaccines.



FIELD TESTING NEW PAGER SYSTEMS

KESA has completed field testing of the new pager systems to replace the current I-M-Responding system. KESA has selected the “e-Dispatch” system for our new replacement system. 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 Cicciarella right away. Make sure you get the app loaded in your phone, and that it is working properly for you. The I-M-Responding system will continue to operate through the end of the year, but will then be discontinued. Get your phone app switched over as soon as possible. Questions? Contact Chief Cicciarella.



HOLIDAY PARTY ... YEA!

The KESA Holiday Party is planned for Friday, December 14th. It will be held at the Timber Bay Bed & Breakfast, 51310 Timber Bay Court. (15 Miles – East End Road). You may arrive at 5:00pm, and food will be served at 6:00pm. You only need to bring a gift (no more than \$15 value) if you plan on participating in the gift exchange. Since this is a catered event, Jeanette needs to know how many will be attending. Please call (907) 235-9811 or e-mail jjohnson@kpb.us and let her know. Hope to see you there.

BLOOD TEST RESULTS

Reminder: If you recently received your Blood Test Results from the Rotary Health Fair, make sure you take a copy of them over to Homer Medical Clinic. They will be needed as a part of your KESA Bi-Annual Physical data.

REQUIRED BI-ANNUAL PHYSICALS

The Chiefs are reviewing the requirements for physical exams of all volunteers. Check with Jeanette to make sure you have gotten the proper paperwork. If you have questions, call Deputy Chief Sallee. If you have been contacted by Jeanette or one of the Chiefs to have your Physical done, please do it as soon as possible.

PANCAKES FOR ALL!

Remember that great Pancake breakfast that we had for everyone last fall? Well, we are going to have another one. Mark your calendars for Saturday, January 19th at Station 1 – from 9am ‘till 11am. Rob Porter will be the pancake – master. Gary will man-handle the sausage and potatoes – and even whip up a few Gluten-Free pancakes! Hope to see everyone there!



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

Samantha Cunningham – Firefighter Technician

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.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*“You take your life in your hands, and what happens?
A terrible thing: no one to blame.”*

- Erica Jong