

## **MEDICAL CONTINUING EDUCATION**

During FY 2009, members of the Career Division spent 3,406 hours completing continuing education required to maintain their certifications. These hours were the result of members renewing their Pediatric Advanced Life Support certification and adding two additional certifications: Advanced Medical Life Support and Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support.

Additionally, members received training in environmental and behavioral emergencies, mass casualty response, rapid sequence intubation, and a review of critical skills. These hours do not account for the time new part-time hires spent receiving medical training (an additional 300 hours of training). Instructor hours associated with medical continuing education totaled 194 hours. The Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute provided approximately 128 hours of instruction to the Department.



## **FIRE AND RESCUE TRAINING**

Fire and Rescue training amounted for 4,143.5 hours in FY 2009 as follows:

Volunteer Division – 1,419 hours

Career Division - 2,724.5 hours

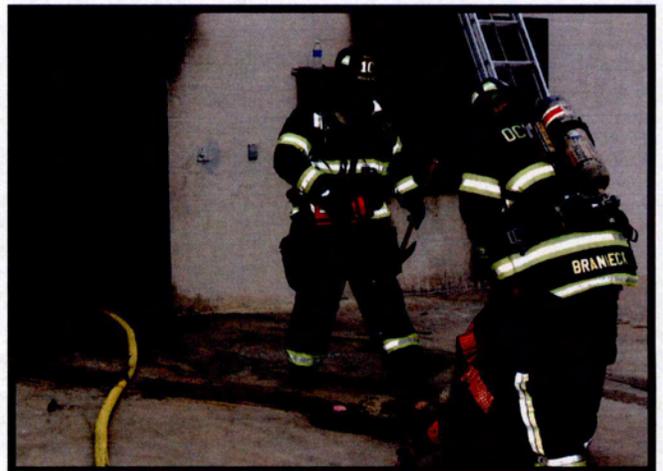
These hours do not include the time spent training new part-time personnel (an additional 472 hours of training). Topics covered included large area search, live fire training, annual training requirements for self contained breathing apparatus, emergency vehicle operations, and firefighter safety and survival. Instructor hours with fire and rescue training totaled 858 which may be broken down as follows:

Volunteer Division – 246 hours

Career Division - 612 hours

Overall, the Department spent 8,321.5 hours total in training during FY 2009. Ocean City Fire Department instructors provided 1,052 hours of instruction during FY 2009. Additionally, members of the Career Division completed 2,933 assignments on Target Safety (the Department's online learning platform). The time that members spent completing these assignments is not tracked 100% of the time, as time spent on an assignment is only tracked for courses developed by Target Safety, not on "Custom Activities" (policy review, new equipment orientation) which are generated by the Department.

Therefore, while it would be impossible to pinpoint the exact number of hours spent with online training, it would be a conservative estimate to say that members spent at least another 1,000 hours completing online assignments.





Assistant Chief Shaffer



Captain Bishop



Captain Bunting



Captain Foxwell



Captain Peterson



Captain Rickards



Lieutenant Savage

## 2009 Fire Department Promotions

Assistant Chief Chris Shaffer has been employed with the Town of Ocean City since June, 1987. During his tenure, he has served as a Firefighter/Paramedic, operational shift Lieutenant, and administrative Lieutenant. Assistant Chief Shaffer holds an Associates Degree in Emergency Medical Services.

Captain Bryan Bishop has been employed with the Town of Ocean City since April, 1989. During his tenure, he has served as a Firefighter / Paramedic and a supervisor with the rank of 2nd Lieutenant. Captain Bishop holds two Associates Degrees: Emergency Medical Services, and Mortuary Science.

Captain Joshua Bunting has been a member of the Volunteer Division since April, 1994, has previously served as Lieutenant. He is an employee of the Fire Marshal's Division, and is a certified Police Officer, Bomb Technician, Certified Public Safety Diver, and Hazardous Materials Technician. Captain Bunting currently holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and Fire Science.

Captain Rex Foxwell has been employed with the Town of Ocean City since May, 1984, and began his career as a seasonal Firefighter/Cardiac Rescue Technician. He has worked in the field as a Firefighter/Paramedic and has also served as a Field Training Officer and Instructor for the Department. Captain Foxwell graduated from the Peninsula General Hospital School of Radiological Technology.

Captain Eric Peterson has been employed with the Town of Ocean City since June, 1999, and has served as a 2nd Lieutenant in the field and as a training officer. Captain Peterson holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology, and a Master's Degree in Physical Therapy.

Captain Guy Rickards has been employed with the Town of Ocean City since May, 1989. He started as a 911 dispatcher and, in 1991, transferred to the position of Firefighter/Paramedic in 1991. Captain Rickards holds several national Fire Service Professional Board Certifications including Fire Officer II.

Lieutenant Will Savage has been a member of the Volunteer Division since 1994. He is a Maryland Certified Emergency Medical Technician, a member of the Hazardous Materials Team, and a Certified Public Safety Diver. Lieutenant Savage has an Associate Degree in Applied Science (Hotel Management), Associate of Arts Degree (Business Management), and a Bachelor of Science (Finance). He is also a Fire Officer II and a United States Coast Guard Certified 50-ton Master Captain.

These exceptional individuals have & will continue to contribute by enriching the Department and our community through their commendable service.

## *Twin Engines Placed in Service*

The Ocean City Fire Department has placed in service two KME Predator Engines. The Engines are identified as 'Engine 4' and 'Engine 16.'

There is a 550 gallon water tank and a 50 gallon foam tank with a 2,000gpm Waterous Fire Pump. The engine is equipped with rear and side view safety cameras for backing and parking.

The interior crew cab has two specialized cabinets that house medical supplies.

Other features:

Booster Line Reel

Engine: Cummins ISM 500 HP

Light tower

Red and Yellow safety markings on the front bumper and rear of the truck

The engine displays the new Fire Department logo and seal.

Special thanks to all officers and members of the committee who put time into designing these new engines.



# *Public Education & Outreach*

Keeping our community safe is the top priority of the Ocean City Fire Department. The Office of the Fire Marshal and Training Division are dedicated to ensuring that residents and visitors are safe at home, work, and school.

Throughout the year, our members spend many hours in local schools, daycare centers, business offices, and homes providing effective fire safety education and encouraging positive community involvement.



## *Life Safety*

## *Stop-Drop-Roll*

## *CPR*

## *Home Fire Safety*

### 2009 Fire Marshal Statistics:

This report refers to total calls for service generated for Life Safety Inspections and overall activity.

Incident Type	# of Calls:	Note:
Police Department Complaint Referrals	15	
Special Permits	38	Bonfires, Tents, Fireworks
Bomb Squad Responses	54	
Citizen Complaints	84	
Fire Service Complaint Referrals	99	
Fire & Explosive Investigations	101	
Processed City Special Event Permits	111	
Liquor License Inspections	154	
Quality Assurance Program Deficiency Follow-ups	205	
Plan Reviews	270	New Construction, Renovations, Fire Protection Systems, LP Tank
Field Inspections For Permits	1,275	Follow-ups, System Test
Quality Assurance Program Reviews	1,732	

## 2009 Fire Alarm Calls for Service:

This report refers to total calls for service generated to assist the public with a fire or rescue related emergency.

### Top 15 Fire Calls for Service:

Incident Type	# of Calls:	Note:
Automatic Fire Alarm	714	Various upgrade to building fires
Transportation Accident	301	
Public Service	65	Locked on balconies, etc.
Aircraft Standby	50	Engine Standby for Maryland State Police or Delaware State Police Helicopter, Medical Transports
Reported Building Fire	49	
Investigate Smoke	46	
Gas Leak	45	
Carbon Monoxide Alarm	41	
Elevator Rescue	34	
Fire Dept. Related Rescue	28	
Water Emergency / Rescue	27	
Vehicle Fire	18	
Haz-mat/Liquid Spill	12	
House Fire	10	
Boat Accident/Fire	4	

Total Fire Calls: **1,171**



## 2009 Medical Calls for Service:

This report refers to total calls for service generated to assist the public with a medical emergency.

### Top 14 EMS Calls for Service:

Incident Type	# of Calls:	Note:
Traumatic Injury	515	
Falls	500	Persons injured from a fall
Sick Person	496	
Cardiac Emergency	322	
Breathing Problem	287	
Fainting	262	
Hemorrhage	234	
Assault	210	
Public Service	207	Non-emergency incident, citizen needed assistance with oxygen, wheel-chair, etc.
Seizure	121	
Diabetic	105	
Man Down	99	Initial Dispatch Unknown Problem; Upon patient contact some were found to be high priority calls
Abdominal Pain	89	
Back Pain/Injury	51	

**Total EMS Calls: 4,351**





# Ocean City Fire Department

*Volunteer & Career  
United to Serve*

Protecting Maryland's Summer Time Playground

Volume 1, Issue 1

October 30, 2009

## Department Wide Newsletter

This new department wide newsletter is a communications tool that is used to disseminate information to department members. This will keep everyone up to date with the latest happenings and events.

This document shall serve as an official way to inform, announce, remind, advise, instruct, advertise, and communicate. The short publication will be accurate, factual, brief, and impartial.

The Command Staff of the department would like input from everyone on a weekly basis. You can submit training tips, birthdays, get well wishes, duty crew / shift bios, etc.

This newsletter will be published by the Office of Public Information. To submit information or if you have questions about something that you read, please e-mail: [rwhittington@ococean.com](mailto:rwhittington@ococean.com)

## New Uniforms Effective: 10/19/2009

The primary uniform is a dark blue 5.11 polo shirt with first initial and last name on the right chest. For Lieutenants & above there will be rank under the name. The department logo will be on the left chest.

**IMPORTANT:** All winter jackets and job shirts need to be turned in to have the new department patch put on. No more uniforms will be worn with Fire/EMS logos.

## Department Standard Operating Guidelines

After several months of organization & review- SOG's 100, 200, & 400 are complete and have been approved by the Fire Chief.

A hard copy has been placed in each fire station. There will also be a link on the city web-site.

If you would like a personal copy of these SOG's— please contact your Deputy Fire Chief.

## *New Dept. Uniform*



## Highlights

- HOSE TESTING
- DEPARTMENT SOG'S
- NEW UNIFORMS
- PURPOSE OF NEWSLETTER
- HTN1
- FIRE BOAT
- WATER RESUCE TEAM

## *Hose Testing Safety Tips*

1— Wear structural fire helmets when doing the testing, hose can break...

2— Wear safety glasses

3— During testing— keep back 20 feet while hose is under pressure.

**Hose testing has begun...  
Contact the Duty Chief or  
on Duty Captain for times.**



# SCBA Re-Cert

Final two dates are:  
November 1st  
November 7th

Please contact Captain Peterson with questions.

## Ocean City Fire Department

### H1N1 Influenza and Vaccination: By Deputy Chief Barton

The Fire Department will provide to all members vaccination for the H1N1 flu virus. The H1N1 virus (also called Swine Flu) is a new strain of influenza virus. Like other flu viruses, the H1N1 virus is spread from person to person by sneezing, coughing, and sometimes touching objects contaminated with the virus.

Signs and symptoms of the 2009 H1N1 flu can include fatigue, fever, sore throat, muscle aches, chills, coughing, and sneezing. Some people with the illness have diarrhea and vomiting. Most people who are infected with the virus get well in about one week. However, some people get pneumonia or other serious complications. Some people are hospitalized and some die.

Emergency responders and healthcare workers are at increased risk for H1N1 infection because of potential work-related to exposure to those with the illness. H1N1 vaccination involves receiving a single injection in the arm. It is recommended that all members receive the vaccination.

We plan to offer vaccination during the week of November 16<sup>th</sup>. More information about is forthcoming.

### **Boat / Marine Committee Update: Captain Bunting**

Over the last several months, the boat/marine workgroup has been actively evaluating the current apparatus situation for marine response vehicles, in support of the recently obtained grant funding. Numerous meetings were held to review incident types that could require marine resources, several roundtable discussions with committee members and representatives from US Coast Guard and MD Natural Resources Police, as well as a review of a detailed requirements study of marine fire and rescue response capability completed in 2008 for Ocean City by CDI Engineering.

After this background work was completed, the workgroup recommended the provision of marine response in two distinct focus areas: at least one vessel for shallow water access predominantly for rescue, and a larger vessel for firefighting, rescue, and dive team support.

The workgroup reviewed the current Boat 1, and subsequently recommended it's retention as a shallow water response vessel, contingent upon the modification of it's current equipment load to minimize draft and improve maneuverability. Next, the workgroup completed general specifications to aid them in identifying potential vessels that may meet our general criteria for the larger vessel. After significant review of manufacturers and current marine firefighting vessels in the region, the workgroup has begun work to create the detailed specifications necessary to begin the bid process, which will hopefully begin this winter, in cooperation with the MD Department of Natural Resources, the grant sponsor.



SCBA Re-Cert Pictures

## **Water Rescue Team Update: By Lt. Graig Temple**

The Ocean City Water Rescue Team is comprised of three distinct groups that respond to and mitigate water related emergencies. Public Safety Divers handle all underwater search, rescue and recoveries of drowning victims. Rescue Swimmers are members of the team that have been trained for rapid surface deployment and rescue of the active or passive drowning victim and finally the newest addition to the team is the Boat Captain and Boat Crew member classifications. After being awarded a grant from the State of Maryland the Ocean City Fire Department is in the process of designing and requesting bids on specially designed watercraft, which will be used by the team to enhance its abilities and operations on the water.

Since last year the Dive Rescue Team has had the opportunity to bring all of its divers up to the Public Safety Diver level which transitions training into specific search, rescue and recovery skills that are essential in the rapid rescue of victims. Several divers received their Dry Suit certification with the remaining few to complete their training in November. Advanced training such as this increases the diver's skill sets and safety. It teaches them to analyze scene information prior to making entry, which in turn allows for quicker and more efficient search patterns and victim recoveries. A special thank you goes out to the Ocean City Paramedic Foundation and the Angelo Russo Memorial Dive Fund for sponsoring and funding training this past year. Without their support these advancements may not have been possible.

The team's future appears bright and with the support of the Mayor, City Council and City Manager the team will grow, continue with specialized training and provide an extremely high and professional service to the Town of Ocean City.

## ***Carbon Monoxide Campaign Underway...***

Members of the Ocean City Fire Department have begun the Carbon Monoxide Public Outreach Awareness Program. The purpose of this program is to inform the residents of the danger of carbon monoxide (CO) and the importance of CO detectors. The primary target for the campaign is single-family dwellings.

