

Greater Naples Fire Rescue District

IN THE LINE OF DUTY

April – June, 2015 Volume 1 – Issue 3

Serving the Citizens of the Greater Naples Community

Volume 1- Issue 3



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This newsletter is written and compiled by the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District's News Letter Committee



Professionalism ~ Integrity ~ Compassion

Greater Naples Fire Rescue District

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– Dedicated to our Community, Our Profession and Each Other –

Office of the Fire Chief

By: Kingman Schuldt, Fire Chief

The past several months continues to be a productive and awarding time for the Fire District. Visible changes resulting from last year's merger are becoming more evident. New apparatus, logos, patches, uniforms and branding efforts are taking shape and being well received by the community. The District's effort to establish a new organization with new histories and traditions has been paramount during this process.

The establishment of the new Fire & Life Safety Headquarters on Horseshoe Drive will provide the District with much needed office space and enhanced working environment. With the support of the Board of Fire Commissioners, the Fire & Life Safety Division has grown the bureau of 13 professionals providing fire marshal, code and inspection services to not only Greater Naples Fire Rescue District, but Isles of Capri and Collier Fire District, Ochopee Fire District County District One, resulting in one of the largest fire prevention and inspection operations in SW Florida.



With the recent addition of a new aerial and water tender, an air & light vehicle under assembly and an additional engine and aerial recently purchased, the 10-year vehicle replacement plan is well underway. This program for example, demonstrates the new Greater Naples management team's determination to build a sustainable organization while utilizing taxpayer's dollars responsibly.

I want to take a moment to express my gratitude to the members of the management team, Local 2396 and administrative staff members for their efforts to work cooperatively on many significant issues concerning the future of the Fire District; healthcare, labor management and negotiations and establishment of Florida Retirement System for the new district are just a few examples. I remain confident the key to a successful organization is the willingness of the members to work on common goals while preserving its most valuable resource, the people.

With the Governor recently signing into law the annexation of remaining areas of Fiddler's Creek and portions of Collier Country District One, along with the anticipated merger of the Isles of Capri Fire District this October, I cannot think of a better position for the Fire District to be in. The community, local governmental agencies and Florida's fire service has their eyes on our growth and development. We should all stand proud of the accomplishments over recent months and remain focused on providing the best fire rescue services to the residents, businesses and visitors of the Greater Naples community and Collier County at-large.

The decision made by the community to merge the East Naples and Golden Gate Fire Districts into the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District last November offered a tremendous opportunity for the Fire District to create a comprehensive operational and financial approach to the way that it provides the community with fire and medical emergency response services and education. The leadership of the new Fire District recognized the need for a strategic plan that would incorporate the best vision and forward-thinking of the men and women whose services are essential to the District's operations and future growth. The District worked with an experienced strategic planning consultant from January through April 2015, this group articulated the Mission, Vision, Values, and Strategies that will make the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District strong.

Office of the Fire Chief

By: Kingman Schuldt, Fire Chief

Mission, Vision and Values

The **Greater Naples Fire Rescue District Strategic Plan** was affirmed by the members of the Board of Fire Commission at its meeting on May 12, 2015. I thank everyone involved in this development of this Strategic Plan and congratulate the membership on contributing to the future of the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District.

MISSION

The mission of the **Greater Naples Fire Rescue District** is to protect life and property by providing emergency response services and education for the residents, businesses and visitors of our community.

VISION

Increase response effectiveness
Enhance professionalism and operational efficiencies
Use taxpayer dollars responsibly

VALUES

Professionalism ~ Integrity ~ Compassion



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Operations Division

By: Nolan Sapp, Assistant Chief



The past few months have been busy with our agency and others deployed several times for fires in neighboring communities and reaching as far as Charlotte County. The District assisted in the defense of the International Airport during a wildland event and later responded to Lehigh to assist in response to calls while Lehigh resources were overextended. Our region (Region 6 of the State of Florida) is the most utilized resource in the State of Florida.

Meanwhile we tested the boundaries of our own apparatus including new BR22. Although we didn't have a repeat of past busier brush seasons, we were tapped out of resources with multiple brush fires at one time. We were faced with a fire which went beyond 700 acres and threatened the homes in the Belle Meade area off Miller Rd. We protected numerous homes and other properties without losing any of them.

Apparatus changes have occurred with the production of LA21 which will bring a needed asset to the District. LA21, a Pierce Quantum 75ft straight ladder on single axle, will provide maneuverability with an aerial capability. Several members of the District provided input into the design and outcome of that apparatus. Everyone should be proud of how it turned out as the first Greater Naples aerial. We added Water Tender 20 and have ordered the new Air Truck which is expected in about 8 months.

The District is researching an additional front line Engine for Station 75 and are working to take that to a three person response station. If all goes as planned we hope to accomplish that within the next six months. We will also be working to bring Station 90 "Isle of Capri" into the family and working closely with the members of that agency to become part of who we are. That change will be occurring during the next quarter.

Progress will continue and thanks to the Officers and Firefighters of Greater Naples Fire Rescue, we will continue to meet the challenge that comes before us. Hopefully as we leave brush season and enter hurricane season we will share a calm season together.



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Operations Division

ON SCENE PHOTOS

GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE
FIRE STATIONS

Station 20

4798 Davis Blvd.
Naples, FL 34104
239.774.4511

Station 21

11121 E. Tamiami Trail
Naples, FL 34113
239.774.1700

Station 22

4375 Bayshore Dr.
Naples, FL 34112
239.774.9342

Station 23

6055 Collier Blvd.
Naples, FL 34114
239.793.3332

Station 24

2795 N. Airport Pulling Rd.
Naples, FL 34105
239.263.2266

Station 70

4741 Golden Gate Pkwy
Naples, FL 34116
239.348.7547

Station 71

100 13th St. SW
Naples, FL 34117
239.348.7550

Station 72

3820 Beck Blvd.
Naples, FL 34112
239.774.9342

Station 73

14575 Collier Blvd.
Naples, FL 34119
239.348.7508

Station 75

4590 Santa Barbara Blvd.
Naples, FL 34104
239.207.1630



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Fire & Life Safety Division

By Shawn Hanson, Division Chief



The FLS Division attended two very interesting classes this quarter: Firestop Plan Review & Enforcement and Reading Body Language & Effective Communications. Thanks to the efforts of Captain Shar Hingson, the firestop class was instructed by the International Firestop Council. This class is a portion of the education and training required to become a third party certified firestop inspector. The firestop inspector certification is newly required in the Fifth Edition of the Florida Fire Prevention Code 3rd for occupancy meeting specific criteria.

Captain Hingson and I had the honor of invitation and attendance at the American Fire Sprinkler and Florida Fire Sprinkler Associations' annual meeting reception. We were fortunate to meet many great individuals who share in our mission of life safety.



Captain Hingson instructing Firestop Class

Inspector Aaron Stewart has been moved from part-time to full-time and continues to make great process with his training in existing construction. The move for Inspector Stewart created a vacancy for a part-time inspector; interviews to fill the positions recently concluded.

Thank you to the Fire & Life Safety staff for all your hard work and professionalism.

Earlier in the quarter, Lieutenant Inspector Michael Cruz investigated a suspicious vehicle fire.

Fire Plan Review staff continues to churn out plans at a rapid pace; an average of about 500 reviews are being completed every month. Each review is responsible for creating numerous field fire inspections per permit, resulting in a very busy Fire & Life Safety Division.



Vehicle Fire – GG Community Park

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Fire Chief's Career Corner

By: Kingman Schuldt, Fire Chief

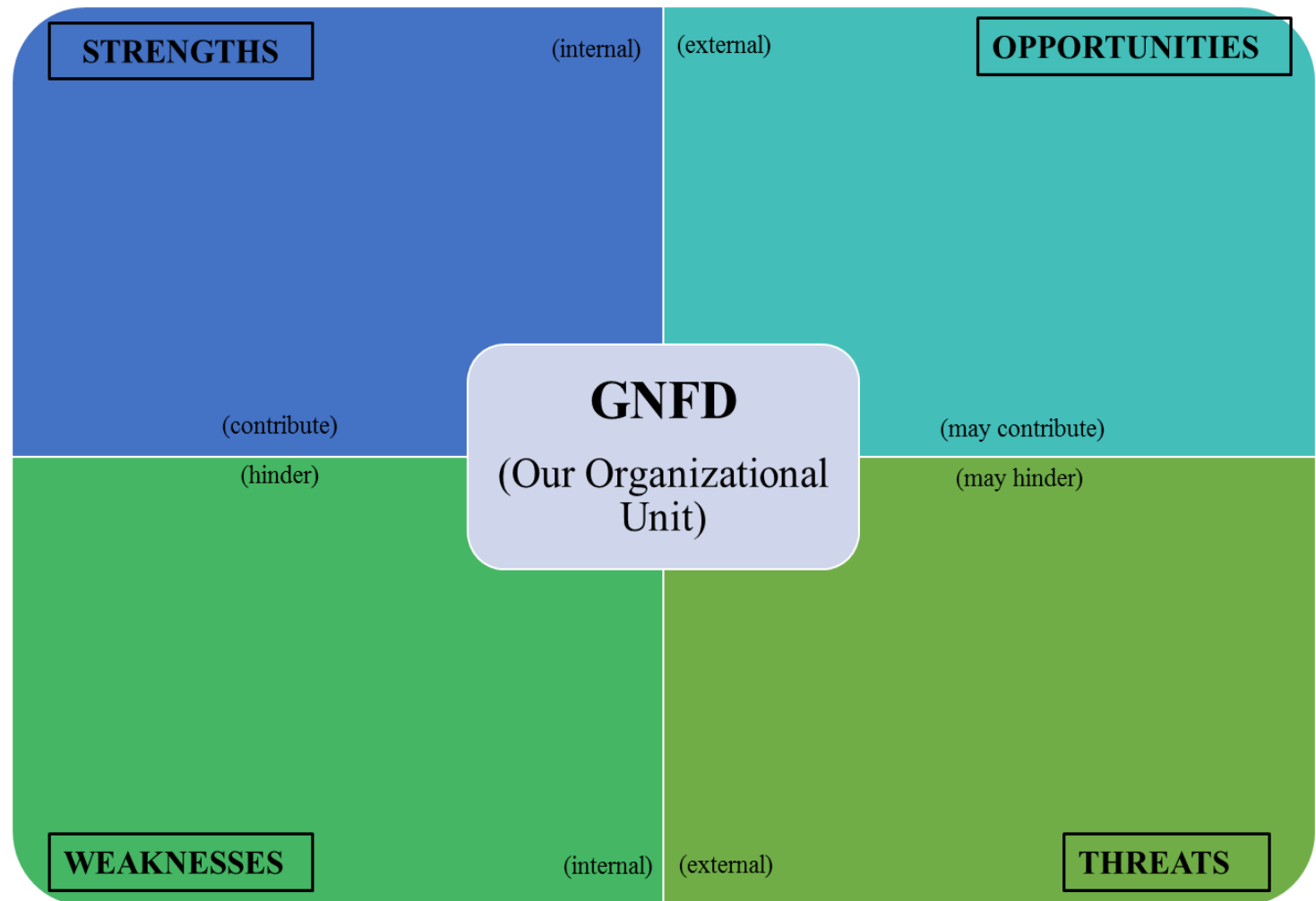
Understanding Strategic Planning

By: Lieutenant Matt Trent, MPA, FO, GIFireE

ON May 12th, 2015, Greater Naples Fire Rescue District (GNFD) adopted its first Strategic Plan; shaped by fire service personnel, key stakeholders, and community leaders. With the new plan in its adolescents, it is imperative that the organization supports the Strategies outlined in the plan by embracing the District's Mission, Vision, and Values. I use the term *organization*; not to define Greater Naples Fire District itself, but as a collaborative group of like-minded individuals striving to develop strategic direction in times of environmental uncertainty- this is the foundation of Strategic Planning. You may have asked yourself "What is my role in strategic planning" or thought that your ideas or contributions will not make a difference- this is *not* the case. *All* of us bring opportunity to each Strategy and its development. Whether it is your historical knowledge of the area, experience with man-made or natural disasters, or previous experience working in the private sector (e.g., construction, marketing, finance); as an *organization*, we will



solidify success through strategic planning. As each Strategy is developed, your contribution and participation will assist GNFD during SWOT analysis. A SWOT analysis helps the District measure its *Strengths*, *Weaknesses*, *Opportunities*, and *Threats*. By better understanding our strengths and weaknesses, creating opportunities, and recognizing our threats, GNFD will construct the necessary framework (Strategy); employing a



customer-service delivery model never before sought out in all of Southwest Florida, all while improving preparedness levels to deter disaster. To answer the question of "What is my role in Strategic Planning?" The answer is simple- *Your Contribution*. By collaborating with each other and community members alike, each individual will generate momentum; setting precedence that **GNFD is the driving force of fire-service and customer service delivery model standardization.**



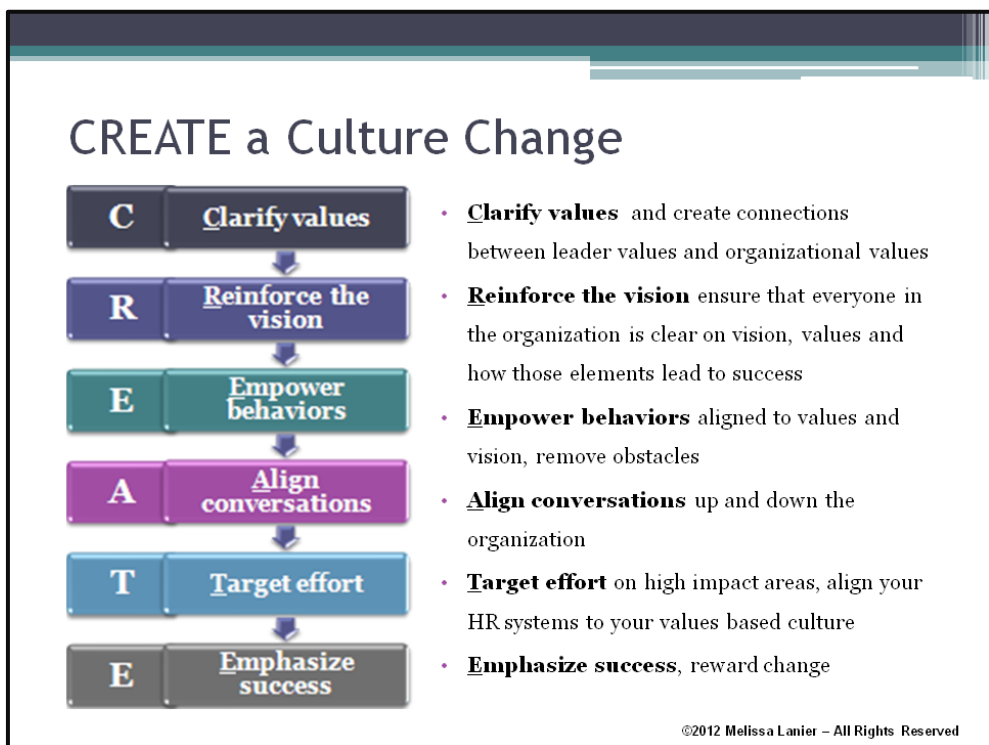
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Officer Development *Culture Change: A National Initiative*

By: Matt Trent, Lieutenant, MPA, FO, GIFireE



The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) developed the National Culture Change Initiative through partnership with the U.S. Fire Administration. Emphasis was focused on behavioral motivation on reduction of risk-taking behaviors in the fire and emergency service. Problems were associated with cultural change and the need to reshape perceptions of acceptable and unacceptable risks ("Study of Behavioral Motivation on Reduction of Risk-Taking Behaviors in the Fire and Emergency Service," 2015). Culture change can be dated back to the 1980s and 1990s, "focusing on improving protective clothing and equipment; as well as, the development of more effective tools and procedures that allowed for fire suppression operations to be conducted with calculated risks" ("Study of Behavioral Motivation on Reduction of Risk-Taking Behaviors in the Fire and Emergency Service," 2015). Additionally, firefighter behavior showed linkage between "selfless heroism", a perception of image or idealism; willing to "risk it all" to save a life. This connotation of firefighters and culture has developed acts of over engagement and miscalculation of acceptable risk. Subsequently, miscalculation has led to injury or even death. We all have heard- or used the terms "risk a lot to save a lot" and "risk little to save little". But what determines one's cognitive ability to make this determination? In this study, culture of a group is defined as "basic, shared, assumptions, learned by a group as it solves problems ("Study of Behavioral Motivation on Reduction of Risk-Taking Behaviors in the Fire and Emergency Service," 2015).



The evolution of culture is learned through the situational occurrences of "training, emergency responses, downtime around the fire station, and informal activities" ("Study of Behavioral Motivation on Reduction of Risk-Taking Behaviors in the Fire and Emergency Service," 2015). All of these learning experiences create tradition, whereby *learning*- if miscalculated or process driven contributes to false perception of reality; self-generating a product of disaster. The fire service can facilitate culture change by identifying the influences driving acceptable risk. Once the problem is identified, the organization can improve

risk acceptability practices by implementing and demonstrating situational awareness to all personnel. Additional improvements include increased individual accountability and responsibility, training, initial firefighter training, officer training and development, emergency vehicle operation, seat belt use, recruiting, and better understanding of environmental factors. The origin of American fire and emergency service culture is founded on the principles of "superior protection for life and property" ("Study of Behavioral Motivation on Reduction of Risk-Taking Behaviors in the Fire and Emergency Service," 2015). We can contribute to the National Culture Change Initiative by starting at a local level. Culture and climate can transition towards a more balanced safety-oriented approach, measuring risk and reward using best-behavior practice techniques.

Study of Behavioral Motivation on Reduction of Risk-Taking Behaviors in the Fire and Emergency Service. (2015). National Safety Culture Change Initiative, (FA-342), 1-27.

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Employee Highlights

Employee Awards & Recognition



Chief Hanson- Fire Marshal Appreciation Day



Lt. Mike Lowe- 20 year service award



Chief Schuldt- 5 year service award



Chief Hanson- Fire Marshal of the Year



Florida Firefighter Games – Bronze Medal
Eng. Jones, Lt. Fly, FF Sasaki



Chief Hanson- Collier County Proclamation and State Fire Service Award

Phoenix Award Recipients



Thomas Pecora – Tyler McCarthy – Jeff Roll – Brian Heath – Kenny Moyer – Tim Sims – John Richard – Eric Dilyard – Daniel Sawyer – Dean Anderson – Greg Baker – David Borowski – Brandon Bunting – Chris Rossi – Tim Sims – Matt Trent

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Employee Highlights



Name: Philip Lewis

Rank: Firefighter – Station 75

Hire Date: October 1, 2012

Interests:

Music, medicine, falconry, and wildlife conservation

Hobbies:

I enjoy flying; many would be surprised to know I own a dozen or so remote controlled airplanes. Fishing, hunting and diving are a few other hobbies of mine that I enjoy.

Can't Live Without:

My family/ fire family

Name: Charlotte Johnson

Job Title: Accountant – Administrative Headquarters

Hire Date: June 19, 2006



Interests:

Visiting botanical gardens, nature sanctuaries, zoos

Hobbies:

Gardening, crocheting, reading

Can't Live Without:

other than God – dogs because they represent unconditional love.

Our Newest Team Members at Greater Naples Fire Rescue District



Pictured Left: DE Ben Krick, FF Jordan Vitale,
FF Marta Soto, FF Arael Contreras

Pictured Right: Vehicle Tech Thomas King and
Vehicle Tech Jay Strickler pictured with Chiefs
Biondo and Sapp at the BOFC meeting



Healthcare Highlight

By: Tara Bishop, Deputy Director

Sunglasses: A Must for Children and Adults

Over-exposure to UV rays is bad for eyes of any age but can be especially harmful for the very young. Learn how to protect your eye health.

Sunglasses aren't just a fashion accessory or reserved only for adults. Wearing sunglasses, from birth through old age, can help save your eyesight.

The lens inside a child's eye is clear from birth through about age 10. It can't filter out as much sunlight as an adult lens. That means sun exposure can cause more damage before age 10 than after.

Early exposure, long-term damage

Long-term exposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays is a big factor in vision loss. Studies indicate that too much sunlight may lead to:

- * Cataracts and age-related macular degeneration, which rob adults of eyesight
- * Skin cancer around the eyelids
- * Benign growths on the eye's surface that can block vision

There are two types of harmful UV radiation:

- * UVA rays can damage the macula, the part of the retina that controls central vision.
- * UVB rays affect the front part of the eye—the cornea and lens.
- * Over-exposure to UVB rays for short periods can lead to corneal sunburn. This can cause pain, a feeling of grit in the eyes, and even short-term vision loss. You can get this kind of exposure at the beach or on a ski slope without proper eye protection. For children, this can cause long-term vision problems.

Bright sun and glare can also cause immediate problems. Bright sunlight interferes with your vision and ability to see clearly. It causes you to squint and makes your eyes water.

When to wear sunglasses

Sunglasses are not just for sunny summer days, when UV rays are at least three times higher than in winter. Reflections from snow, water, sand, or pavement can intensify UV rays to extremely high levels.

Don't be fooled by a cloudy day. The sun's rays pass right through the haze and thin clouds. When outside, wear sunglasses. Be sure to wear them in the early afternoon when UV radiation is strongest.

The American Academy of Ophthalmology says you should wear sunglasses when you take part in winter sports. You should also wear them at high altitudes, where UV light is more intense. Keep your sunglasses on outside when you take medications that can increase your sensitivity to sunlight.



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Employee News

Condolences

Our prayers are with the following families:

Brian Beauvais Family
Brian Hennessy Family

Just Arrived!

Welcome our newest family members:

Bryant Cole born to James & Amanda Youngsman on
6/14/15



The Salvation Army honoring first responders on National Donut Day



If you would like to serve your fire district, join the Newsletter Team Now! Must be at least 18 years of age, good health and willing to sacrifice your mind to the betterment of your fellow men and women. All interested should contact the local recruiting off at Nchesser@gnfire.org

**It's not just a job, it's
career!**