

IN THE LINE OF DUTY

July - September, 2018 Volume 4 – Issue 16



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Photo Credit: FF Kristin King



Professionalism ~ Integrity ~ Compassion

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Office of the Fire Chief

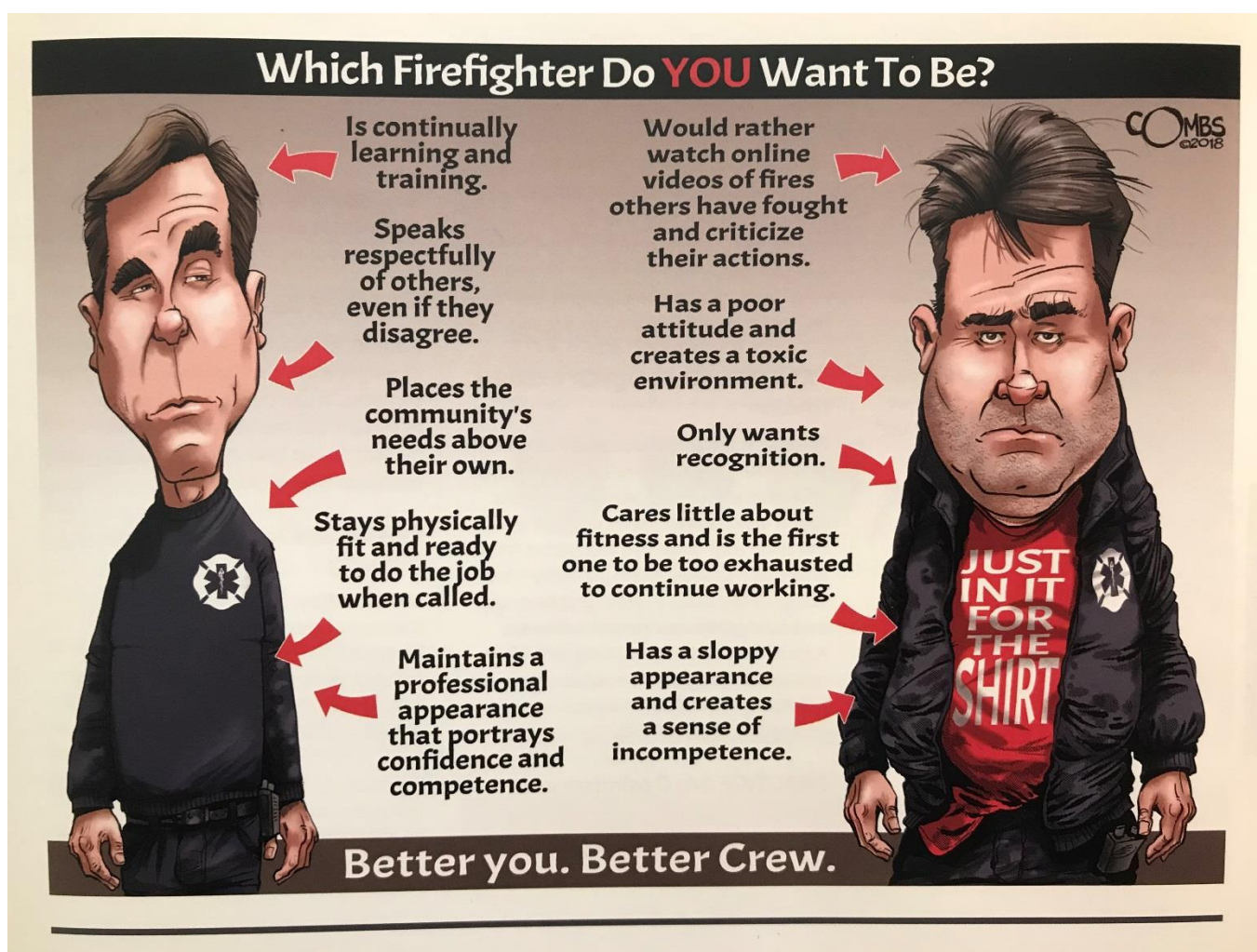
By: Kingman Schuldt, Fire Chief



What is our image; to one another, to other first responders, to the citizens we serve? Image is an important part of who we are and how we are perceived by our stakeholders. Our image plays a major role in our pursuit to gain community and industry support for our mission as fire service professionals. Each time we are on the news rescuing a victim, rendering aid to the less fortunate, visiting local schools, or walking through the grocery store, there is too much at stake to not consider the impact of our image and perception it leaves with taxpayers.

People form opinions about us based on our appearance. Today's fire service professionals do not necessarily fit the stereotype. Reality is we all come in many shapes and sizes, but that doesn't mean we can't wear our uniforms proudly, in a neat, clean and impressive manner. Our customers prefer a well-groomed and socially acceptable appearance that enhance the character of our profession. Wearing a well presented uniform and appearing neat and clean builds a credible image for the fire service, especially if it is the standard for the entire organization and enforced and modeled by company and chief officers. Members who look professional when wearing their uniform send a strong message about the importance of appearance and professionalism.

Fire service members who understand the significance of making a great first impression, whose appearance communicates professionalism and whose facilities and equipment are well cared for provide a compelling image of our organization. Consider these: How do our customers perceive us? Are we still proud of what we see in ourselves and organization? When wearing our District patch do we symbolize the *Professionalism, Integrity, Compassion* embodied therein? If one is not sure they probably need to work to embrace a positive image of themselves and the organization. We must take our image seriously; it plays a significant role in our ability to gain support from our customers and for our mission at hand.



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Operations Section

By: Nolan Sapp, Assistant Chief

The change of seasons in Florida brings about a change in color of the license plates, as they say. The change occurs when hurricane season reaches its peak and then starts to wind down and seasonal residents return. Auto transports are seen in large numbers carrying cars for the tourists indicating more traffic is coming to our area. This annual reoccurrence means the daily call volume increases during the fall, winter, and early spring for traffic accidents.

There will also be an influx of medical responses as tourists hit the golf courses and adapt to the heat and humidity of our area. Many residents who come down from the north have a difficult time acclimating to many of Florida's elements. Tourists also find themselves having to adapt to road conditions where the traffic is much busier than they are accustomed to.

First Responders must adapt to the tourist season as well. There will be an increase of calls meaning busier days and nights. There will be more emergency responses on our roads and First Responders must be able to operate apparatus in traffic conditions where the roads are more difficult to maneuver due to more people on the road and the road construction where the infrastructure is being increased to meet the need.

First Responders must sharpen their skill set to be better at observing an ever-changing condition. This is when First Responders have training for safe vehicle operation as they are responding. They need to be able to maneuver in the many busy shopping centers of our community. Being vigilant is not only for emergency response, but always. First Responders have to be prepared for any situation.

First Responders must also sharpen their skill set of patience and understanding for visitors. Some are on the annual reoccurrence trip to their winter home, some are new to the area and some are just here for a quick trip. Understanding this and taking a situational awareness approach will ensure everyone's safety.

The transition from hurricane season into snowbird season and then the annual fall and holiday season is an adjustment for everyone. All need to be vigilant to these changes and First Responders are expected to be the professionals and be more vigilant in their mission. Their goal is always to be "Professional, have Integrity and be Compassionate" to our community. This starts as they come to work daily and continues as they respond to the needs of those around them. Be alert and always have situational awareness of every possible potential emergency.



Skin Cancer Prevention

[Look Here — to Help Spot Skin Cancer](#)



Well, check *you* out!

No, seriously. Take a look at your skin. Check it. All of it. See anything unusual? Any new spots? Any moles that look different than you remember?

Knowing how your skin normally looks is the first step to spotting a potential problem. And that's a good thing. Skin cancer is highly treatable when caught early, according to the American Academy of Dermatology.

Take a good, long look

The key to a good skin check is thoroughness. Inspect your skin on a regular basis. Area by area, look at your:

- Trunk — front, back and both sides
- Face, neck, ears and scalp
- Fingernails, palms, and upper and lower arms
- Legs, buttocks and genital area
- Feet, including toenails, soles and between the toes

Some areas, like the scalp, can be difficult to check by yourself. Use a handheld mirror for those hard-to-see areas — or ask a loved one to help you out.

Look for moles that are different or changing — or that itch or bleed. See your doctor if you notice anything out of the ordinary.

Who's looking?

Everyone should keep an eye out for skin changes. Fair-skinned people are at higher risk of skin cancer — but anyone can get it.

Let your doctor know if you have any of these risk factors:

- A large number of moles — or large, flat moles with irregular shapes
- Past sunburns, especially in childhood
- A personal or family history of skin cancer
- Prior artificial sunlight use, such as tanning beds

4 ways to help lower your risk

One of the best ways to help protect against skin cancer is to limit sun exposure. When venturing outdoors, you should:

Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF (sun protection factor) of at least 15. Many experts recommend an SPF of 30 or higher. Be sure to read and follow the directions on the label.

Wear sunglasses that protect your eyes from both UVA and UVB rays.

Cover up with long sleeves and pants — and choose a hat with a wide brim.

Seek shade on sunny days, especially when the sun is most intense — usually between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

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9/11 Remembrance



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Awards & Recognition



DE Dale Chapman
20 Years of Service



BC Corey Nelson
25 Years of Service



Captain Jeff Roll
Promotion to Captain



Lt. Joey Brown
Promotion to Lieutenant



Inspector Jennifer Meredith
Completion of Probation



Lt. Jose Santana
Promotion to Lieutenant

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Chaplain's Corner

By: Jack Strom, District Chaplain



I was given a small book from my wife Barb several years ago. She said she was sure that it would be a book that I would enjoy and be helped by reading it. It was authored by Max Anderson and only took me a little over an hour to read it cover to cover.

The little book was all about serving and how to do it. I found it applicable to most every sphere of life... romance, marriage, parenting, employment (including being a firefighter) and the list goes on. Next to my Bible it ranks high on the list of my most important books in my personal library. In fact, I take and read from it often.

The book has a simple focus in that it is about water and I know that firefighters know a lot about water. The question that the book presents to me and I in turn inquire of you for an answer is, “What do you have with water that is two-hundred and eleven degrees in temperature?” I’m sure you are like me and have the answer of, you have *hot water*.

But what do you have if you raise the water temperature up by even just one degree? Well now you have boiling water... you now also have steam! If you *harness* that steam you can do many mighty things. That one degree makes all the difference. Thus the name of the book has a simple name of **212°**.

I believe that the GNFD District is one *hot* enterprise of first-responders. The question is have we been able to maintain our operation at **212°**? I have found that when most people think about creating a “Service Culture” they think about “Customer Service”. However, over-and-above serving those who need our service, it’s important how we serve each other. That one degree can take the GNFD culture from good to GREAT.

If each of us makes this our priority, we will discover GNFD as a place filled with passion, respect, kindness and fun. Brent Harris, a top executive with Nordstrom, the retail chain known for its above and beyond service said; “You can’t teach a healthy culture. You have to live it. You have to experience it. You have to share it. You have to show it.”

In order for each of us to give our best to serve the residents, business and visitors of our community it is essential that we understand our Mission and Values. When Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, spoke to a massive group of Civil Right Marchers in front of the Lincoln Memorial in 1963, he did not say, “I have a strategic plan today.”

Dr. King understood the power of a compelling vision and enthusiastically proclaimed, “I have a dream today!” which became the focus of the entire Civil Rights Movement. Capturing (or being captured) with the GNFD Mission in a way that is easily understood is a powerful call to action. In fact, it is the foundation of our GNFD service.

Too often a Mission/Vision statement is agonized over and after it is adopted, it is then placed in a binder and forgotten. To make our values come alive, we have to live them and make them a reality. I like the way Coach Phil Jackson put it; “The strength of the team is each individual player... the strength of each player is in the team.” The same is true of the GNFD team.

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Employee News

Condolences

Our prayers are with the following families:

Todd Schilling Family
Scott Jacobs Family



Employee Spotlight



Lieutenant/Paramedic Kevin Nelmes not only goes above and beyond in his routine duties as a first responder here at Greater Naples Fire Rescue, but in all areas of life, with a passion to serve his community and make the world a better place for all. From helping someone who is using a Fire District meeting room, to encouraging young people to seek a career helping others, to sharing his expertise as an instructor; Lt. Nelmes is truly a public servant- not just during his 24 hour shift as a Firefighter/Paramedic- but always.

In January of this year, while on a sensitive mission helping others in another country, without hesitation Lt. Nelmes jumped into a lake that is known to contain crocodiles to save a boy that was drowning. The father of the boy contacted Chief Schuldt to express his gratitude to Lt. Nelmes for rescuing his son. On October 10, 2018, the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce awarded the Distinguished Public Safety Award for Fire Safety to Lt. Nelmes to acknowledge how fortunate Collier County is to have such an extraordinary public servant who is dedicated to the well-being of our community. Also on November 8, 2018, The Sons of the American Revolution will be honoring Lt. Nelmes with their Medal for Heroism.

Congratulations to Lieutenant/Paramedic Kevin Nelmes for his achievements! Greater Naples Fire Rescue District is thankful to have him serving our community!

Welcome to GNFD



Fleet Administrative Assistant Amanda Eberl

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In the Community

