



THE BOTTOM LINE



KEEPING YOU INFORMED.

Meet GNFD's Associate Medical Director

"IT IS AN HONOR TO SERVE WITH YOU"

Jim began his career in EMS when he was in medical school in Dayton. He became a firefighter and EMT in 1982, and his service there led him to choose a career as an emergency physician. Jim and his wife Linda served together with a suburban fire department, and became part of the fire service family. Jim served as the President of the regional EMS Council, then was elected to serve as the first Chair of the Ohio EMS Board. He moved to Atlanta in 2001, and served as Medical Director for Atlanta Fire Rescue, including the Hartsfield Jackson Atlanta International Airport Fire Rescue division. He later served as Assistant Fire Chief and Medical Director for the District of Columbia Fire EMS Department.

The call of south Florida was answered in 2010, and in 2011 Jim and Linda bought their house in Lely near Station 23. Frequent interactions with the friendly crews from E23 led to an opportunity to join the Department this year.

Dr. Augustine is an emergency physician, and a Clinical Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio.

Like most of the physicians in that field, the past 18 months has been dedicated to the challenges of a worldwide pandemic. Augustine has been involved in helping emergency physicians, fire and EMS agencies across the nation plan, prepare, and execute processes related to COVID, starting before the first case in the United States was confirmed. When the first cases began to spread from Wuhan, China, the "Eagles," a de-facto coalition of the Metropolitan Municipalities EMS Medical Directors Alliance, began to plan for the US implications of the virus.

The Eagles group is comprised of most of the jurisdictional EMS Medical Directors for the 60 to 70 largest cities' 911 systems in the United States, as well as numerous global counterparts – from Paris to Auckland and from Berlin to Manila. This cohesive cadre of EMS specialists are responsible for stewarding the medical protocols and respective training for all aspects of emergency situations, including the worldwide pandemic. Best practices are shared from all corners of the globe, and Dr. Augustine serves in a central role in disseminating those practices across all of the Eagles.

Dr. Augustine also serves with the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), who represent the

leadership of firefighters and emergency responders worldwide. As the IAFC began planning for the virus, Augustine was asked to join their COVID Task Force. Through weekly meetings and international webinars, a variety of response plans were crafted to serve communities, and allow fire EMS providers to work safely in situations where they would be directly serving patients with the viral disease.

Fast forward to the work of Dr. Augustine and other emergency providers in the fall of 2021. Jim serves with a CDC Task Force that is developing methods to reduce the COVID impact.



In North America, the surge in COVID deaths caused by the highly contagious Delta variant is hitting working-aged persons (which is the common age of fire and EMS personnel), and greatly increasing the risks for people who remain unvaccinated. All the data sources show that hospitalizations and deaths have been concentrated among the unvaccinated. The CDC studies show that unvaccinated Americans were 4.6 times more likely to be infected, 10 times more likely to be hospitalized, and 11 times more likely to die. The Delta variant has acted like a heat-seeking missile in finding populations that are not vaccinated.

The leadership group of Greater Naples Fire and Dr. Augustine are working with the hospitals and public health agencies in southwest Florida to reduce the impact of COVID infections, as we head into the season where more visitors arrive and circulate in the community. This will require both Fire Department members and the public to take actions to reduce respiratory infections again. There are five excellent disease prevention methods:

- get the COVID vaccine
- wash hands frequently
- when in public, wear a mask
- maintain a social distance of 6 feet when inside and around those you don't know
- monitor for signs and symptoms of illness, and stay home when sick

Vaccines are a critical element. Three types of COVID vaccinations are widely available, and still at no cost. They have proven to be tremendously safe, and effective over now hundreds of millions of doses.

There will be more vaccine programs announced in the coming weeks, allowing more persons to get vaccinated, or receive booster doses. Work has been going on since this spring, to study COVID vaccines in progressively younger groups of children. In October, it is likely that the FDA will authorize the use of vaccines in those children aged 5 to 11 years. Work will continue to look at the safety in younger children. This development process is "just like" polio eradication from 70 years ago. By the winter, it may be possible to vaccinate many school-aged children. For those who want to provide immediate protection for their children, they can make sure that those in the household and any close contacts are vaccinated, and that the children know how to wear a mask.

So stay healthy, play safe, and enjoy life as we work to end the pandemic.

TRAINING DAY FOR FIRE DISTRICTS

Live Fire Training Sanctioned by GNFD

TEAMWORK IN TRAINING



The final burn at acquired structure off Vanderbilt Beach Road.

The Collier County Expansion Program to expand Vanderbilt Beach Road provided the District with an opportunity to conduct 3 days of Live Fire Training at an acquired structure provided by the County. The District invited other agencies to participate and educate in conducting 27 burns over the 3-day span. Assistant Chief Andy Krajewski of Training and his team were able to provide training on fire behavior with the use of water cans as well as putting out fire with new piercing nozzles. They also took advantage of having multiple staged fires in each room allowing each firefighter to get continued training in the event of a Structure or Contained Fire.

The District is grateful to be afforded these opportunities to conduct Live Fire Training to equip personnel with the skills they need in a real life fire event. All live fire training exercises are carefully planned and closely controlled by certified Life Fire Instructor Trainers.

We would like to give a big thanks to Collier County Expansion Program, Home Depot, Southerland Feed and Tractor Supply for donating supplies and materials for education and training.



COMMUNITY CORNER

*Special
Olympics*



SUGDEN PARK

On July 8th the District received a call from Megan at the Sports Training & Competition Section of the Special Olympics Florida concerned they might not be able to hold their Special Olympics this summer. Megan hired a private EMS group to be on standby and unfortunately they had to cancel. Two days before the event she called GNFD to request assistance with the event. District Chief Forrest Campbell immediately scheduled a crew to participate so their event would not be cancelled. Not only did the firefighters enjoy the event, they were honored to hand out the awards at the conclusion of the event. The participants were so excited that the firefighters were there to watch them and present their awards. It was an honor to be a part of the 2021 Special Olympics!



Station
22
Giving
Out
Awards



CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

A Plan on How to Stay ‘Alive’ as Long as You Will Live

CHAPLAIN JACK STROM



IT starts by... being careful to guard yourself to not entertain doubt as a guest in your life. If you give doubt a welcome into your life, it will quickly move around into every room of your life. It will make itself at "home" in your thoughts, your attitude and your actions.

Doubt will move about going to and fro and yet it seems to never find a place to settle down. It seems impossible to contain doubt. You think you have it contained and then all of a sudden it slips by your effort and is no longer in front of you but is busy messing up something behind you that you thought was safe. Ideas and notions, even truth itself seems to evaporate because doubt somehow has discarded them. Soon all thought of certainty vanishes becoming a victim of doubt.

So today. Say no to doubt. Doubt will bring destruction to all you endeavor to accomplish. It’s like sifting sand. If you are having trouble coping, try “hoping” in God.

Next... When you cannot see what is around the bend on the road of life, that is when you need HOPE. The greatest health issue of today is not Covid #19. It is rather despair (doubt).

HOPE is a powerful healer and sustainer that can overcome even the effects of terminal illness. In fact, HOPE can be more powerful than anything that confronts us. We sometimes do not need to possess HOPE as much as we need HOPE to possess us. The person with HOPE lives abundantly in spite of, not because of their situation.

HOPE is a great virtue that has the energy of life with everyday holding the possibility of the needed resolve. Dare to dream big dreams, but remember some of the best dreams take place with your eyes wide open with HOPE.

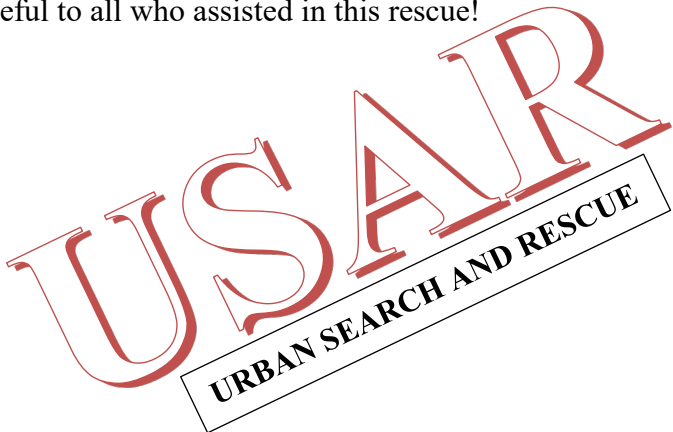
Take HOPE out of a marriage and you will find yourself in front of a divorce judge. A Business with no HOPE will soon be filing bankruptcy. It is HOPE that gives us the reason... The answer of *why* for my existence. If I understand the *why*, I can take care of all the *hows*.

Continue... Develop the ability to laugh at yourself, at your appearance, funny mistakes you’ve made and just plain foolishness is the ultimate humor. In fact, blessed is the person who can laugh at themselves. They will never cease to be amused. Such humor becomes the shock absorbers of life. Laughter is like a mini-vacation. So take a vacation from worry and concern with some laughter. You will enjoy the time away from your problems and be a better person. You can start today with a smile. It is the whisper of laughter.

WORKER TRAPPED, THEN RESCUED BY USAR

Man Trapped in a 10-Foot Hole Brings USAR on Scene

On a Wednesday afternoon around 3:00 p.m. The Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Team was dispatched to a scene to find a man waist deep in mud and shoulder deep in water in a 10-foot hole. Firefighters had to think fast to help rescue this man standing in water and mud that was continuing to rise. According to District Chief Forrest Campbell, the walls had collapsed which initially caused the water levels to rise. Firefighters used buckets to try and relieve some of the water until Collier County Utilities was able to bring in a Vacuum Truck to help suction out more water and mud before the water would reached past his shoulders. Once the water was at a lower level, crews were able to rescue the man out of the hole. This incident shows the value of having these Special Teams such as USAR that have specialized training. We are grateful to all who assisted in this rescue!



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Promotions



There are three things that the District really prides itself on when it looks to promoting individuals; Professionalism, Integrity and Compassion. These Firefighters and Inspectors have gone through vigorous testing through agility and/or written to be promoted in the District. The saying goes “Hard work pays off.” These promotions show that their hard work and dedication to the Community and the District itself have played off in more ways than one. We are excited to see what the future holds for these Firefighters and Inspectors as they make their way up the ladder. Pun intended. We are proud to announce the following promotions featured in this Issues Bottom Line.



Fire Chief Sapp and Assistant Chief Hanson congratulating Capt. Inspector John Bigica & Lt. Inspector Brian Madding on their recent promotions



Inspector Jared Taylor being pinned by his wife Michaela



Inspector Suanne Woeste being pinned by her daughter Savannah



Inspector E.J. Floyd being pinned by his wife Kerri



Recently promoted Lieutenants all pictured above. Lieutenant Brad Buckzo, Lieutenant Erin Gill, Lieutenant David Borowski, Lieutenant Albert Anzualda, Lieutenant John Richard, Lieutenant Jay Crouse, Lieutenant Acey Edgemon, Lieutenant Adam Orsolini, Lieutenant Trenton Mading



Recently promoted Driver Engineers (some not pictured). Engineer Manuel Correa, Engineer Aaron Borowski, Engineer Justin Diaz, Engineer Mike Graham, Engineer Ryan Mathwich, Engineer Brad Packard, Engineer Nicholas Taylor, Engineer Daniel Garretto, Engineer Anthony Marrero, Engineer Robert Oxar, Engineer John Fickey, Engineer Brad Frazier



Brotherhood Ride

BROTHERHOOD RIDE THAT INCLUDED ONE OF OUR OWN, CAPTAIN SCOTT WILSON

The Brotherhood Ride is a tradition that has been going on for 13 years. This ride sparked from the nine fallen firefighters in Charleston, South Carolina that sacrificed their lives to never return to Station 45 as they rode to their last call that day. Jeff Morse, the Founder and President of Brotherhood Ride, decided that 13 years ago they would ride their bicycles nearly 600 miles from Naples to Charleston as a way to emotionally and financially support the nine families that were impacted by this loss. As the years have passed and more cyclists have joined in, Jeff has expanded the ride to cover the 597 Emergency First Responders that have fallen but are not forgotten. This past August the ride was dedicated to Florida’s Fallen Heroes who died in the line of duty protecting their communities during 2020 as well as the 20th Anniversary of 9/11 to honor the first responders who died.

- Naples, Florida to New York City, New York
- 22 Days
- Over 1,700 miles, averaging 70-100 miles a day



COMMEMORATING FALLEN HEROES

Remembering the Fallen



GOLDEN GATE COMMUNITY CENTER GATHERS FOR 9/11 CEREMONY



It is always an honor and privilege to take part in the Golden Gate Civic Association's September 11 Remembrance Ceremony. Firefighters proudly displayed the American flag from Ladder 72 and Fire Chief Sapp, along with Firefighter Henderson, presented the bell ceremony. The ceremony concluded with a heartfelt testimony from the daughter of one of the heroes who lost their lives that day 20 years ago. Always keep these families in your thoughts and prayers. Never Forget!



3 ALARM FIRE

Lely Golf Fire

Commercial fires are conditions where a fire is reported in a business type occupancy, multifamily dwelling, or high rise structures. A case in point was a reported fire in a maintenance facility at the Players Club Country Club on September 3, 2021. First reports of arriving units described heavy smoke conditions and access issues and no hydrant immediately available to the crews. As crews used circular saws to gain access it was noted interior conditions were heavy flames throughout the interior with temperatures of over a 1000°F making it difficult to get deep into the structure.

Crews were forced to use the tank water as a supply line was dropped from over 1,400 feet away a method we refer to as “quick water”. Once water supply was established the crews were making substantial progress. The fire occurred at peak heat conditions of

the day and this lead to crew rotations occurring more frequently and the reason it rose to a third alarm fire. Other conditions hampered crews such as chemicals, fuels in small equipment tanks, tires and other unidentifiable hazards. Mutual aid companies assisted in the multi-alarm incident from North Collier Fire Rescue, and City of Naples Fire Rescue. Medical stand-by was with Collier County EMS.

Once Command deemed the fire out a few crews were left to mop up the hot spots. The State Fire Marshal and GNFD Inspectors arrived they both deemed the building unsafe with the amount of damage that had occurred. Fires like these require a clear mind and level head from Command to have their crews to work simultaneously as a seamless operation.

