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**BRYAN  
FIRE  
DEPARTMENT**

**ANNUAL REPORT**



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## FIRE CHIEF'S MESSAGE



It is my honor to present the 2012 Bryan Fire Department Annual Report. The goal of the Bryan Fire Department is to provide the highest level of emergency services to the citizens of Bryan and Brazos County. These services include Advanced Life Support (ALS) emergency medical services, fire suppression, technical rescue services, hazardous materials mitigation, homeland security support, and emergency management. In addition, other services such as fire code enforcement, public safety education, fire and arson investigations, and other public safety functions are performed. This past year, the Bryan Fire Department participated in many community-oriented events as well.

In calendar year 2012, The Bryan Fire Department responded to a record number of emergency calls which totaled 9,420, which is nearly 300 more than last year. Of those emergency responses, 7,430 were for medical services with 5,707 patients transported to local hospitals. One of the most significant events of 2012 included partnering with Bryan Emergency Physicians to oversee and direct our emergency medical services. Dr. Aaron Buzzard became our medical director and has had an immediate impact on our ability to deliver emergency medical care.

The men and women of the Bryan Fire Department take great pride in their service and work hard to reach out to all groups within our community. It is my distinct honor to be the Fire Chief for the City of Bryan and to lead such an incredible group of people. Together, we hope that you find the information in this year's report informative and insightful.

Randy McGregor

Fire Chief



# OPERATIONS



The Operations Division is managed by Assistant Chief Terry Barnett.

The Operations Division is responsible for all emergency responses and comprises the largest division in the Bryan Fire Department. Three rotating shifts of 34 personnel each work a 24 hour on / 48 hour off work schedule. 2012 was the busiest year for emergency responses as the previous year's record was surpassed. In all, Bryan Fire Department emergency crews responded to 9,420 incidents with 7,430 being medical related.

The Bryan Fire Department is committed to working regionally with other public safety organizations. BFD actively participates in the Brazos County Firefighters Association

(BCFA), the Brazos Valley Child Abduction Response Team (BVCART), and the Brazos Valley Search and Rescue (BVSAR) group. The BVSAR group continues to grow and includes representatives from approximately 30 agencies across the Brazos Valley. Last year



saw the creation of the BVSAR water working group, which consists of all area agencies with water rescue resources, to develop procedures for working on swift water rescues together. There were four combined water exercises including the Lake Bryan SAR exercise with 200 participants in October, which was a simulated midair plane collision over Lake Bryan.

The Operations Division oversees all fleet concerns including coordinating all repairs with Fleet Services, equipment acquisition, and working with outside vendors and apparatus dealers. Fleet updates last year included a 2012 Chevrolet crew cab pick-up to replace the 1999 GMC van for the Fire Marshal's office, and a 2012 Chevy 2500 van for the Quartermaster.



Photo courtesy of The Eagle



# OPERATIONS



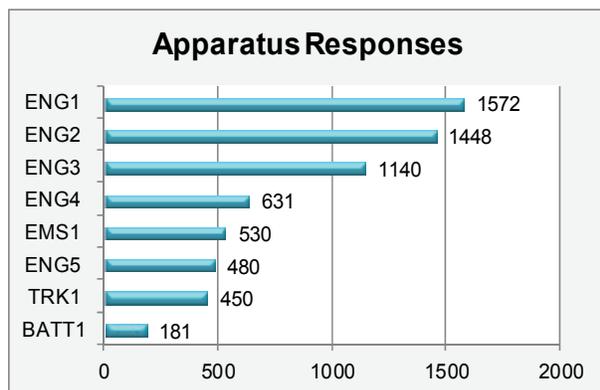
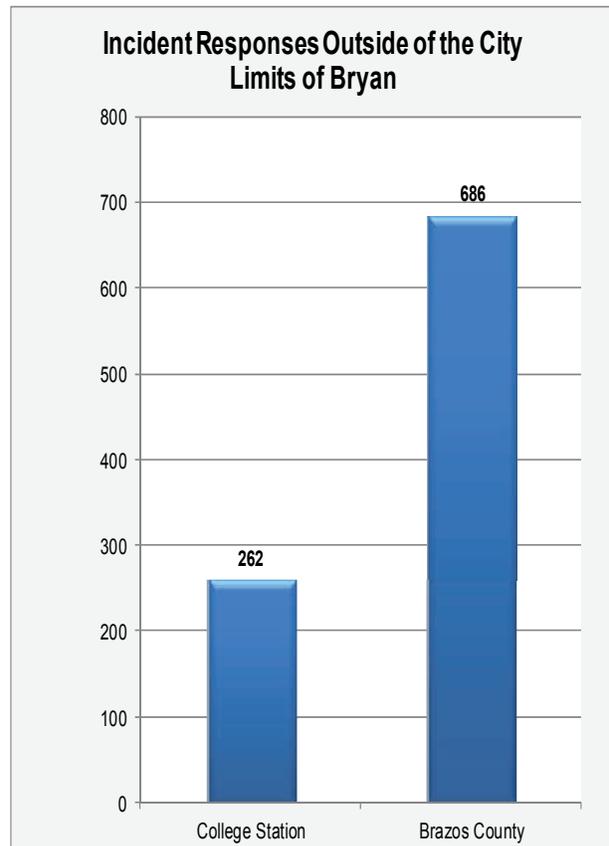
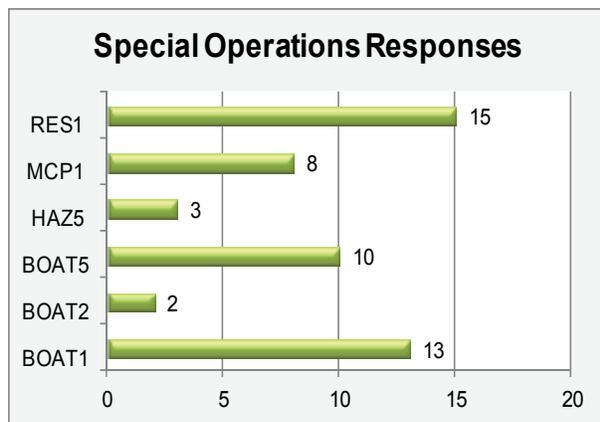
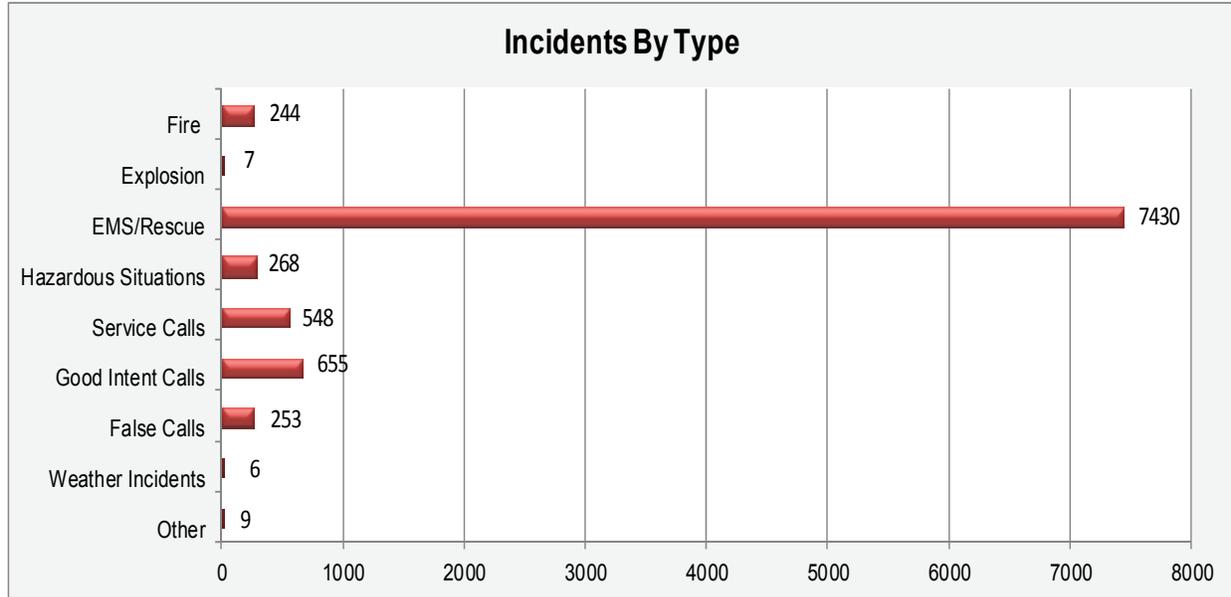
In July, the Brazos County Sheriffs Office contacted BFD requesting search and rescue resources to assist in locating a missing Alzheimer's patient in south Brazos County. The BFD rescue team and Mobile Command Post (MCP-1) were sent to a gathering point at William D. Fitch Parkway and Highway 6 South. The search effort went on continuously for 24 hours until the patient walked into a store on S. Hwy 6 the next day. The search included search dogs, horses, aircraft and many other agencies.

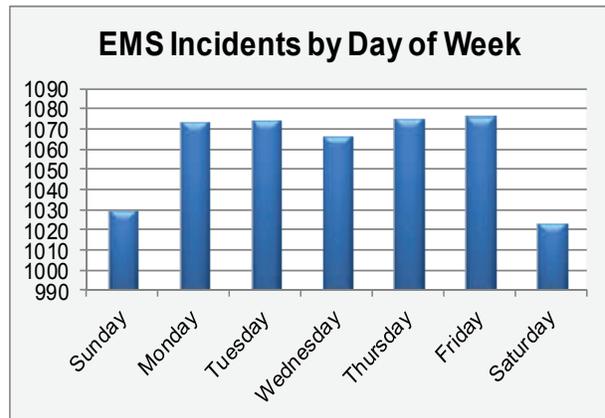
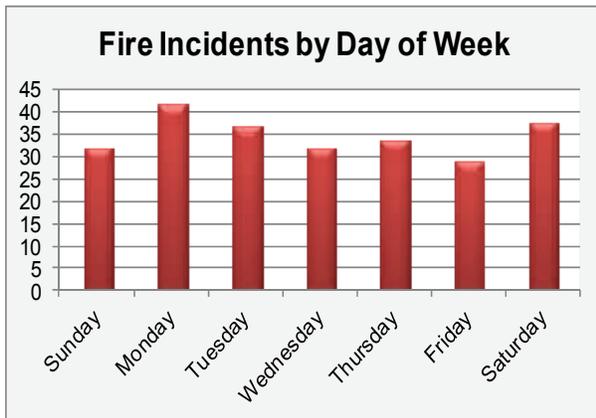
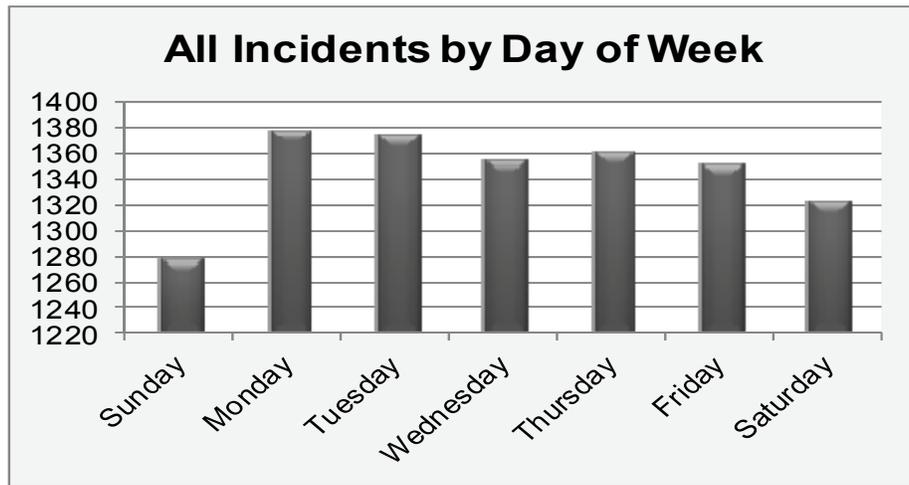
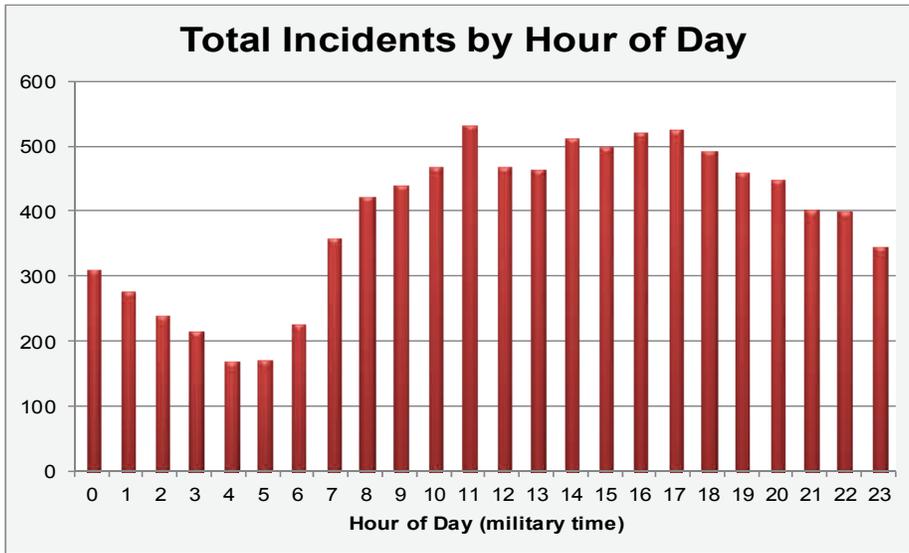


In November, BFD responded to a mobile home fire located on Kermitt St. due to a propane gas leak. While the fire was small, the damage was significant.



In December, there was a fire on N. Randolph St. Upon arrival, crews found fire showing at the front of the residence. The home sustained major damage but the fire was contained to the initial structure.







# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



The EMS Division is managed by Assistant Chief Cory Matthews

For nearly 18 years, the Bryan Fire Department contracted with Metro-Crest

Medical Services, located in Dallas, to provide medical control and EMS continuing education. While the system worked well in helping provide quality medical care, the aspect of working with a local physician and having constant interaction with the medical director was missing. In October of 2012, The Bryan Fire Department partnered with Bryan Emergency Physicians for these same services and Dr. Aaron Buzzard became the new Medical Director.

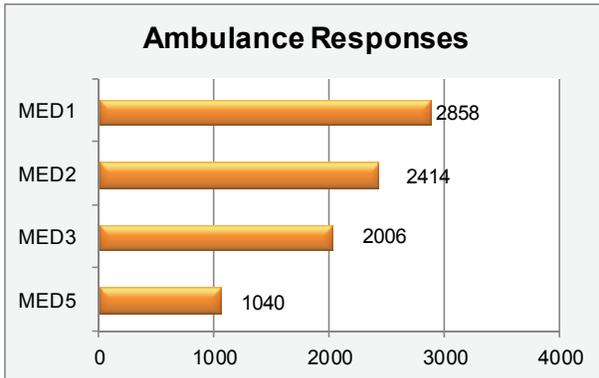
The change to a local medical director has provided BFD paramedics direct access to Dr. Buzzard and all of the physicians that provide on-line medical control. With having a local medical director and interaction with the

emergency room doctors at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, paramedics are able to follow up and interact with the actual doctors who will be treating the patients our crews deliver. For training and continuing



Photo courtesy of The Eagle

education, Dr. Buzzard teaches at least one class per month which is usually videotaped and made available to all other personnel. This increases our interaction with him and the level of learning that is achieved during our monthly CE classes. The change in medical directors also allowed our protocols to be more in line with treatment plans that would be followed in the hospital. This allows the patient treatments to flow seamlessly from the pre-hospital setting to the hospital emergency room to patient rehabilitation, if needed. By updating our protocols, some new medications were required. The King Vision intubation device (purchased with Regional Advisory Council funds) was also added which has vastly improved our successful intubation rate.

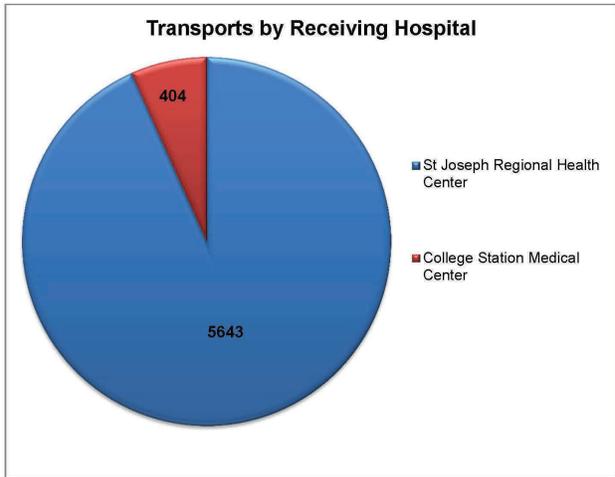




# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The Bryan Fire Department Field Training Officer (FTO) program has been improved through the ability for FTOs to do rounds with Dr. Buzzard and the experience is shared with all of our personnel. Continuing in 2012 were the EMS committee meetings which provide the department a voice to discuss issues with protocols, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), or equipment directly with BFD Administration, creating a feeling of empowerment in the shift personnel. The Bryan Fire Department continues to participate in the Regional Advisory Council (RAC), which allows BFD to share in supplies and equipment that are purchased through the RAC. The RAC also develops region wide protocols like the S-T Elevated Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) and stroke alert protocols as well as the trauma alert criteria. The RAC also provides opportunities to attend free classes in specialized medical topics which are taught by RAC members.

Before the Bryan Fire Department arrives at an emergency medical call, the process of helping the patient begins with the Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) system utilized by the Brazos County Emergency Communica-



tions District (Dispatch Office). When someone has a medical emergency and calls 911, the dispatcher gathers the pertinent information concerning the call and dispatches the appropriate emergency crew(s) and in most

cases, will stay on the line and provide pre-arrival instructions and/or post-dispatch instructions.

During 2012, there were 9,373 EMD calls received by dispatchers. Pre-arrival instructions were given



Photo courtesy of The Eagle

on 86.4 percent of the calls taken which indicates that dispatchers are not disconnecting from the caller prematurely and all key ques-

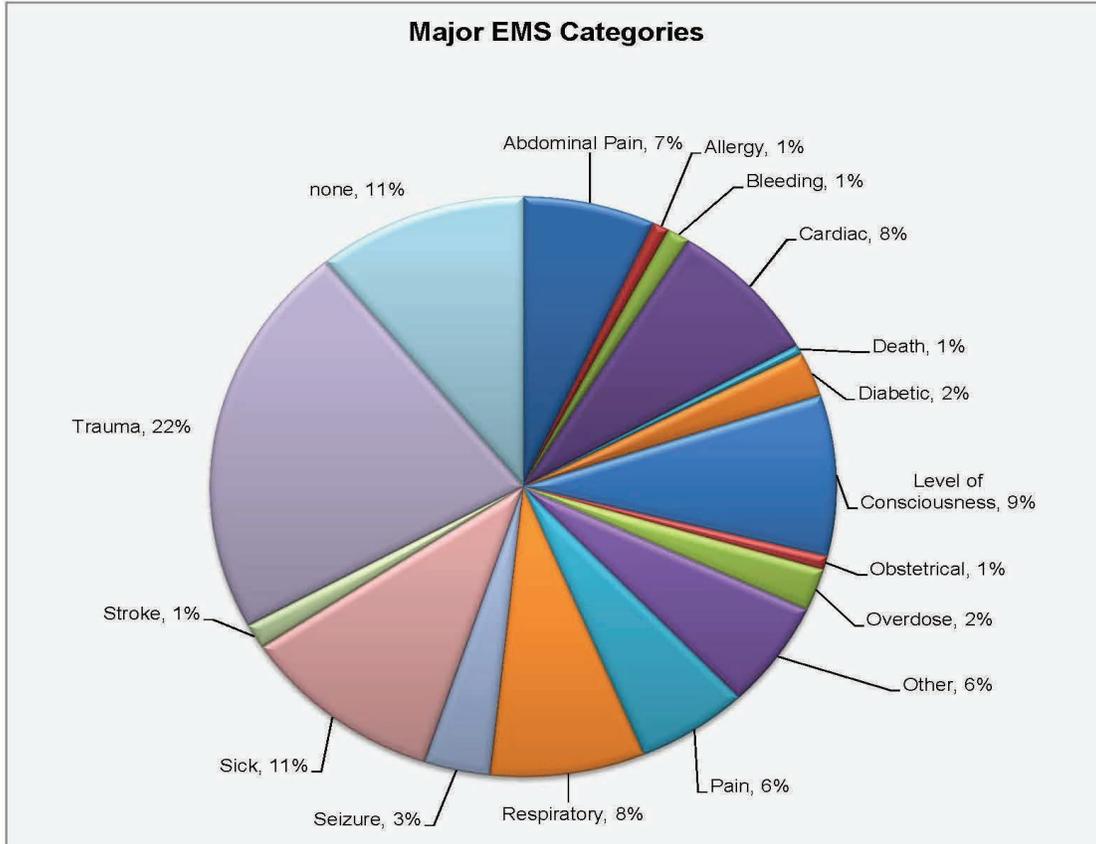


# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

tions are asked and instructions are given to assist in the emergency. Post-dispatch instructions were given on 91.4 percent of the calls taken which indicates that some sort of process or procedure was indicated during the call which includes CPR instructions, blocked airway/choking instructions, or child birth instructions.

The Brazos County Emergency Communications District currently has 38 certified Emergency Medical Dispatchers including the Director of Dispatch Operations and the Training Coordinator/Quality Assurance Manag-

er. There are 5 Certified QA Dispatchers EMD-Q including the Director of Dispatch Operations and the Training Coordinator/Quality Assurance Manager. While in 2012 the responsibility for the review of calls was the responsibility of the Shift Supervisors, those duties changed toward the end of the year to that of the Quality Assurance Manager, and will remain that way going forward. The recommended compliance percentage is 90% but the average compliance percentage for the District is at 95% and has been as high as 97%.





# SUPPORT SERVICES

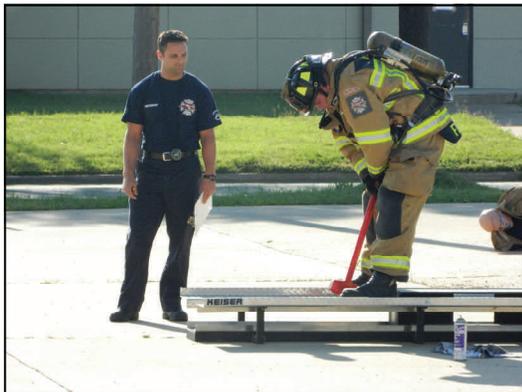


The Support Services Division is managed by Assistant Chief Ricky Van.

The Support Services Division of the Bryan Fire Department provides services that maintain or "support" all other divisions, which includes training, records management systems, Worker's Compensation, new employee processing, safety, apparatus specifications, and master scheduling.

A new fire engine was approved for purchase in October and specifications were started by the apparatus committee. Delivery of the truck should be in the first quarter of 2014.

In 2012, nearly 13,500 contact hours were documented for training in EMS, fire suppression, street drills, hazardous materials, and technical rescue. These hours include continuing education (CE) hours as well as additional and specialized training hours.



Listed below is a breakdown of these training hours:

- Fire Training (including street drills) - 6,098 hours
- EMS Training - 4,296 hours
- Hazardous Materials Training - 837 hours
- Rescue - 2,257 hours
- Fire Marshal's Office -131 hours



In 2011, the Texas Commission on Fire Protection issued a mandate that all regulated fire protection personnel must complete the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation's "Courage to be Safe So Everyone Goes Home" program prior to December 1, 2015. During 2012, all BFD personnel successfully completed the program. During the same time period, new National Incident Management System (NIMS) training became mandatory as well. All personnel were required to complete NIMS 703 and 704 with Chief Officers also having to complete NIMS 701. Last year 11 new employees were hired which included coordinating an entrance examination, background checks, interviews, and a two week recruit academy.



## SUPPORT SERVICES



One class started in November and the other class started in April. When all personnel complete the training, BFD will have 62 personnel trained in this discipline.

Adequate training is essential for all personnel to safely and effectively perform their duties. Training supports our mission of “Everyone Goes Home”.

Other significant training accomplishments include:

- All 22 rescue team members were Pro Board certified in wilderness rescue
- Five rescue team members were confined space and trench rescue Pro Board certified, completing training for all members on team being Pro Board certified in this discipline
- Two rescue team members were swift water rescue technician trained, completing training for all team members being trained in this discipline
- Bryan was host to a large search and rescue event (200 emergency personnel) held at Lake Bryan involving multiple agencies from the surrounding area
- Seven new BFD employees were enrolled in the Blinn Paramedic Program that started in August and will be completed in August, 2013.

BFD received a 2012-2013 Texas A&M Forest Service grant for two separate classes to train and certify personnel in wilderness firefighting.





## SUPPORT SERVICES



In March, the Bryan Fire Department welcomed 11 new recruits. They attended two weeks of Recruit Academy before starting on day-to-day operations so they could learn more about BFD's standard operating procedures.



The Bryan Fire Department Water Working Group took part in the first joint BVSAR (Brazos Valley Search and Rescue) training day at Lake Bryan. The Water Working Group includes members and boats from Bryan, College Station, Navasota and Somerville Fire Departments as well as Washington County EMS. This was their first opportunity to get together to see each agency's equipment and resources.



In February, the Bryan Fire Department Rescue Team took part in TEEX's first-ever Wilderness Rescue Training. The course took place over two days and included a nighttime search, trench rescue, and daytime search.



## SUPPORT SERVICES



In April, a few members from the Bryan Fire Department Swift Water Rescue group teamed up with members from College Station, Somerville, and Navasota Fire Departments as well as Washington County EMS for some training on the Brazos River.



In August, the Hazardous Materials Team participated in a continuing education course at TEEX. The course covered refresher training in usage of the Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG), decontamination procedures, and controlling leaks and spills. The day ended with a scenario involving all team members.



In October, the Brazos Valley Search and Rescue Team held an exercise at Lake Bryan to simulate a search for people after a mid-air plane crash.



# FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE



The Fire Marshal's Office is managed by Fire Marshal Marc McFeron

The Fire Marshal's Office (FMO) oversees many critical functions of the fire department including fire and arson

investigations, fire inspections, site inspections, new construction and renovations to buildings, plan review, complaints, and public fire and life safety education. The FMO also works with other city departments relating to dangerous structures, economic development, and code enforcement. In 2012, the FMO scheduled 91 public education events that included nearly 9,000 local citizens in attendance. Highlights of public safety education events include Kid's Safe program in conjunction with Bryan I.S.D., job fairs, Citizen Fire Academy, business safety talks, National Night Out, and smoke detector installations. A weekly radio address on radio station WTAW provides an opportunity to reach many other citizens and inform listeners of current events in the fire department and on-going safety concerns.



A summary of FMO activities for 2012 include:

### Inspections

- Site inspections 634
- Dangerous buildings 86
- Utility connects / disconnects 230
- Permits 122
- Dangerous building inspections 520
- Final Inspections 260

### Investigations

- Arson cases 24
- Arrests 4
- Cases closed 21
- Percent of cases closed 87.5
- Dispatch follow-ups 556

### Other activities

- Plans review 217
- Citations 86
- Citation fines \$29,424
- Permit fees \$8,997
- Knox Box installations 81
- Radio talks 26
- Special event reviews 21





# FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

## Top 5 Fire Losses for 2012

DATE	TYPE	ADDRESS	LOSS	CAUSE
02/03/2012	Commercial	4501 S. Texas Ave.	\$296,281	Lightning
03/18/2012	Residential	209 Sulphur Springs	\$186,000	Undetermined
05/20/2012	Residential	3724 Ravenwood	\$173,000	Garage Fire / Juveniles
09/29/2012	Residential	3021 Hummingbird	\$125,000	Mechanical System
02/16/2012	Commercial	209 N Main	\$68,000	Cooking Fire

\*The Top 5 Fire Losses for 2012 accounted for 59% of the total loss associated with fire.



Las Lomas Fire - 4501 S. Texas Ave.



209 Sulphur Springs



3724 Ravenwood



3021 Hummingbird

(Picture of 209 N Main on cover)



## FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE



In July, "Be A Hero" Camp took place at the Brazos Valley Children's Museum and the "Fire Gator Camp" was held in the afternoons everyday. Children learned EMS as well as fire operations, got to sit in ambulances, and tour the fire trucks.



Local elementary schools participated in the National Fire Prevention Month Poster Contest that was held in October. The winners were recognized at the November 19th City Council Meeting and the best overall poster winner received ice cream and cookies for her Kindergarten class at Johnson Elementary.



Citizen Fire Academy takes place every Thursday from September - November. This year our group consisted of 18 citizens. The firefighters make them a meal every night before class which adds to the uniqueness of this academy. For the first time we were able to have the PHI medical helicopter land for a session.



# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



The Emergency Management Division is managed by Emergency Management Coordinator Jerry Henry

While there were not any hurricane evacuations or major incidents in our city during 2012, the City of Bryan Emergency

Management office has been very busy. Assistance was provided to Texas A&M with several Community Emergency Operations Center (CEOC) activations. These activations included the sighting of an individual on campus with a gun in his pocket who was never located, a bomb threat, which resulted in an evacuation of the main campus, and also a robbery suspect who allegedly boarded one of the A&M transportation buses.

Emergency Management updates for the Brazos County Interjurisdictional Plan were updated as required. City of Bryan personnel assisted with the information needed and signed off on the appropriate annexes for the updates. A priority will be to continue to review the plans and also provide appropriate NIMS training to be compliant with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The Hazard Mitigation Plan was completed for Brazos County and plans are in place to review and update the information annually, which will seamlessly transition into the next renewal period in 2017. As the plan is reviewed, new projects will be submitted as the city staff determines necessary.

Emilee Hill and Rick Dysart assisted with providing Emergency Preparedness Classes to the citizens of our city. The goal is to develop interest in citizens wanting to participate in the Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. The training provides information and hands on exercises to prepare individuals to take care of themselves for 72 hours during an emergency incident. The program also provides training for "Neighbors Helping Neighbors". This project will continue in 2013, working with Ronnie Jackson to encourage the neighborhood associations to participate and spread the word.



EMC Jerry Henry worked with other jurisdictions in Brazos County to provide NIMS 300 and 400 training just as it has been done the last several years. This training is provided to jurisdictions, volunteer organizations, and businesses as required by FEMA. All the FEMA grant funding requires jurisdictions and organizations to train their employees to a level of certification if they are to receive grant money.



# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

This included providing NIMS 300 and 400 training to Leon County and assisting the Texas A&M Forest Service with a class in Grimes County. This will continue for the year 2013, also adding Robertson County to the list of participants to teach NIMS classes.

The 2012 Texas Department of Emergency Management Conference was held in San Antonio this year. EMC Jerry Henry attended and participated in the daily training classes over the five day conference. This is a very good annual conference providing networking, valuable information, and interesting product vendors to see.

January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 was the deadline for narrow banding the VHF radio systems in the State of Texas. EMC Jerry Henry is the chair of the Brazos Valley Homeland Security Communications Sub-Committee, which during 2012 met with the seven Brazos Valley Council of Governments (BVCOG) counties. The committee assisted coordinating the narrow banding process and worked to ensure all jurisdictions and agencies had what was needed to make the

change over. Not all the counties have completed the process, but it is moving along to be sure everyone will have interoperable communications in the BVCOG Region.



The Homeland Security Grant Funding has been reduced over the last two years and the City of Bryan has completed the grants through 2010. One portion of the 2011 grant was used to add satellite capabilities to the Bryan Mobile Command Post Vehicle. The installation, training, and financial reimbursement have been completed on that project. The process of completing the second portion of the 2011 grant funding has begun which will include safety equipment for the Bryan Fire Department. This portion should be completed and the grant will be closed out in four months.

Three different fire service grants totaling \$469,763.00 were submitted in 2012 but none were approved for the Bryan Fire Department.





# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



On Tuesday, September 11th members of BFD, BPD, CSFD, Brazos County VFD Precinct 3 & Brazos County VFD Precinct 4 participated in the 2nd Annual 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb at the Varisco Building in Downtown Bryan. It was a great turn out with most completing the 110 story stair climb.



In September, BFD participated in the National Night Out Kick-Off Event held in the Target parking lot with other local fire departments and law enforcement agencies. BFD brought the ladder truck to do a vehicle extrication demo, Engine 3, Medic 3, Rescue Truck, Mobile Command Post, and for the first time ever a burn demonstration that showed two different, fully furnished rooms. One room had a full fire suppression system and the other did not. The purpose of the exhibit was to show how quickly a room could become engulfed without a fire suppression system.



Every fall members of BFD take part in the Muscular Dystrophy Association's Fill the Boot campaign. It turns into a healthy competition between the shifts to see who can raise the most money.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



In late October, the Pink Heals Tour escorted by the Guardians of the Ribbon - South Texas Chapter came to town for the Pink Heals Event that was planned by the Protection Company. It was a great success and we were extremely pleased with the turn out. The BFD Protection Company was able to donate over \$2,000 to local charities to help in the fight against all cancers.



The Aggie Special Olympics of Texas Volunteers (ASOTV) hosted the Celebrity Flag Football Classic at Stephen F. Austin Middle School on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Several “celebrity” teams played alongside the athletes including BFD, BPD, CSFD, CSPD along with others. The ASOTV focuses on empowering individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities to become more productive, physically fit and respected athletes in society through training and competition.



In December, members of BFD and their families participated in the annual Bryan/College Station Christmas Parade. The float was decorated by BFD personnel.



# 2012 New Employees



**Kimberly Frederick**  
Fire Clerk



**Ronald Hendrix**  
Firefighter / EMT



**Eric Juergen**  
Firefighter / EMT-P



**Justin Mack**  
Firefighter / EMT



**Cody May**  
Firefighter / EMT



**Mason McLemore**  
Firefighter / EMT



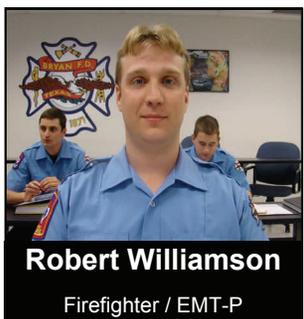
**Mitch Moran**  
Firefighter / EMT



**Heath Nash**  
Firefighter / EMT-P



**Justin Oler**  
Firefighter / EMT



**Robert Williamson**  
Firefighter / EMT-P



**Lance Wood**  
Firefighter / EMT



**Brady Young**  
Firefighter / EMT



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## 2012 Retirees



Duane Frederick  
Firefighter  
31 Years of Service



Robert Woodings  
Firefighter  
31 Years of Service

## 2012 Service Awards

### 30 Years

Marc McFeron - Fire Marshal

### 5 Years

Firefighter & FTO - Kevin Farmer  
Firefighter Justin Barnett  
Firefighter Sam Johnson  
Firefighter Ricky Mantey  
Firefighter Jason Siegmund

## 2012 Promotions

### Fire Chief

Randy McGregor

### Assistant Chief

Terry Barnett  
Cory Matthews

### Battalion Chief

Joe Ondrasek  
Jordan Gallagher

### Lieutenant

Mat Miller

### Apparatus Operator

Jesse Prihoda  
Rhett Filburn  
Kevin Seeber