

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District



Annual Report 2007

Table of Contents

Letter from Chief Kinsey	3
Personnel/Stations/Vehicles	5

Operations Division

Emergency/Non-Emergency/Advanced Life Support/Apparatus	9
Incident Response/Maintenance	10
Pre-Employment Testing/Pre-Fire Plans	11
Protective Clothing/Safe Place	12
Urban Search and Rescue	13
Annual/Monthly Response Profile	14
Daily Response Profile/Station/Shift Response Profile	15
Incident Type Profile	16

Public Education Division

Fire and Life Safety Education	20
Smoke Alarm Program/Media Relations	21
Fire Prevention Month	22
Recognition of Employees	23
Community Safety Programs	24

Training Division

Suppression Training	27
Medical Training	28

Fire Prevention Division

Introduction/Organizational Chart	31
New Construction Values and Permits/Permit Breakdown	32
Existing Occupancies and Units	33
Inspections and Re-inspections/Revenue	34
Residential Units	35
Water Supply	36



BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL & RESCUE DISTRICT

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FAX: (239) 949-6207

FIRE PREVENTION
TEL: (239) 949-6211
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FRANK LILES
CHAIRMAN

EVANS CONFORTI
VICE-CHAIRMAN

BOB PATERSON
SECRETARY
TREASURER

PAT BUTTINO
COMMISSIONER

EDWARD FITZGERALD
COMMISSIONER

P.H. KINSEY, JR.
FIRECHIEF

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Frank Liles, Chairman of the Board;
Commissioners of the Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District;
Citizens of Bonita Springs

It is my honor to present to you the Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District's Annual Report for 2007. During the past year the District has faced unprecedented challenges and changes, from tax reform to a new administration, while still trying to match the growth of the community. This report explains the function of each division and highlights personnel accomplishments.

- Thirteen firefighters and staff retired during 2007, bring our total number of employees to 110.
- Numerous personnel changes and promotions, which are highlighted on Page 5 and 6 of this report.
- Employees were honored for nine different awards and years of service at the Annual Employee Appreciation Dinner on April 28.
- The Fire Prevention Division saw an increase of 456 residential units.
- For the FY 07/08 Budget, the millage was reduced from 1.9800 to 1.7685, with a total budget of \$30,117,168 and an operating budget of \$18,813,974.
- The Fire Prevention Division performed a total of 13,499 inspections: 4,244 existing occupancies and 9,255 under new construction.
- Phoenix Awards were presented to four personnel for saving a life: LT Mark Stirns, FF Dave Glen, FF Adam Nolin and FF Paul Palanzi.
- The Public Education Division trained 448 students in CPR and fire extinguisher operation.

Since accepting the position of Fire Chief on March 24, 2007, I have embraced the position and the challenges with which we are now being faced. I could not be successful without the full support of my dedicated and talented administrative and suppression staff. I thank them for their support and the Board of Commissioners for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

P.H. Kinsey, Jr.
Fire Chief

Personnel, Stations, and Vehicles of the District

Board of Fire Commissioners

Frank Liles Jr.	Chairman
Evans Conforti	Vice-Chairman
Bob Paterson	Secretary/Treasurer
Pat Buttino	Fire Commissioner
Edward FitzGerald	Fire Commissioner

*Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District
Mission Statement*

The Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District is dedicated to providing the highest quality of fire protection, fire prevention and rescue services to the citizens and their property, in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

During 2007, BSFD experienced numerous personnel changes, including retirement and promotions. The names with an asterick indicate personnel who retired.

Administration Division Personnel

*Dan Gourley	Chief
*Roger Shelly	Assistant Chief
Kenneth Craft	Deputy Chief of Special Operations <i>(Promoted to Assistant Chief)</i>
Phillip Kinsey	Deputy Chief of EMS <i>(Promoted to Fire Chief)</i>
*Al Lewis	Deputy Chief of Fire Suppression
Iris Roman	Director of Administration
T. J. Kaklis	Human Resource Manager <i>(Departed the District)</i>
Tony Gambino	Finance Director
Lisa Gendron	Finance Coordinator
Mary Huss	Secretary
Hollie Powell	Secretary
Sandra Roberts	Secretary
Cassandra Vokoun	Receptionist <i>(Promoted to Human Resource Coordinator)</i>
Brandy Dockery	Receptionist
Michael Burkard	Maintenance

Fire Prevention Division Personnel

Administration

*Mark Goodman	Fire Marshal
Tim Fernandez	Assistant Fire Marshal <i>(Promoted to Fire Marshal)</i>
Vaughn Spangler	Plans Examiner <i>(Promoted to Assistant Fire Marshal)</i>
*Denise Riley	Secretary
Cheryl Murray	Inspections Assistant
Linda Swafford	Inspections Assistant

Fire Inspectors

John Dahlgren	Jacqueline Levesque	Jonathan Whitlock
Alan Hogrefe	Chris McDaniel	
Jeff Krupp	Scott Morris	
Cornel Lee	Eric Scholz	

Public Education Division Personnel

Debbi Redfield	Public Education and Information Officer
Nicole Giuliano	Public Education Specialist Assistant

Training Division Personnel

Donn Cleland	Training Captain
Bill Clemens	Training Lieutenant
Greg Pacter	Training Lieutenant <i>(Departed the District)</i>
Paul Phillips	Training Lieutenant

Suppression Division Personnel

Captains

A-Shift

*Joseph Lawhon

B-Shift

*Thomas Beitz

C-Shift

*Timothy Broughton

Lieutenants

Don Brazelton

Bradley Brown

Barry Brown

Steven Bunn

Paul Canning

Joseph Daigle

Greg DeWitt

Jason Fair

Frank Giuliano

Greg Harrel

*Dean Jones

Dave Lees

Charles Long

Tony Moschella

Vaughn Palmateer

Dan Ryan

Cesar Sanchez

Rich Scott

Shane Sibert

Mark Stirns

Todd Taylor

Keith VanGelder

*Michael Wesley

Don Wilkinson

Firefighters

Nicholas Araica

Timothy Bogacz

Terry Bonnell

Albert Bradford

David Brewer

Jason Brod

Mike Bucher

Juvert Calero

Armand Calzadilla

Jared Carey

Andy Chicas

Cary Coburn

Jesse Cottrell

Wayne Day

*Luciano DelCiello

Paul Devan

Steve Edelsberg

Jeff Farrell

Shane Frost

Dave Glen

Mark Harris

Thomas Harrison

Jonathan Hernandez

Manuel Hernandez

*Dana Hoenie

Adam Hughes

Daniel Jones

Michael Koshlap

John Kutz

James Lamb

Richard Lanza

Zachary Lindgren

Scott Lyons

Eric Madden

Michael Mendez

Jeffrey Millican

Adam Nolin

Marcus Orlins *(Departed the District)*

Keith Ott

Paul Palanzi

Ramon Perez

Fred Plocinski

Fredrick O'Donnell

*Derrick Reeby

Alexis Revel

William Richardson

Andrew Riggerbach

Jeffrey Rowley

Andrew Schmidt

Robert Schmidt

Alan Seruchar

Bruce Sheffield

Mark Simon

Wink Telford

Anthony Valentino

Marc Weiss

Grant Wells

Randy Werstein

Leo Willette

Ernest Williams

Alex Wright

Giovanni Zamora

Jimmy Zamora

The following were promoted to Deputy Chief: LT Daigle, LT Ryan, LT Sibert

The following were promoted to Battallion Chief: LT Giuliano, LT Palmateer, LT Taylor

The following were promoted to Lieutenant: FF Bradford, FF Brewer, FF Brod, FF Calzadilla, FF Lanza, FF Madden, FF Millican, FF Telford

Fire Stations

Station One – 27490 Old 41 Road
Station Two – 28055 Mango Drive
Station Three – 25001 South Tamiami Trail

Station Four – 27701 Bonita Grande Drive
Station Five – 26890 South Bay Drive

Vehicles

Administration Division

Bonita 1 – 2006 Ford Expedition 4x4
Bonita 2 – 2003 Ford Expedition 4x4
Bonita 3 – 2001 Ford Expedition 4x4
Bonita 4 – 2004 Ford Expedition 4x4
Bonita 5 – 2004 Ford Expedition 4x4
Reserve – 1993 Ford Crown Victoria (*traded in*)

Fire Prevention Division

Bonita 08 – 2006 Ford Explorer
Bonita 09 – 2004 Jeep Cherokee
Bonita 31 – 2003 Jeep Liberty
Bonita 32 – 2002 Ford Escape
Bonita 33 – 2000 Ford Explorer
Bonita 34 – 2007 Ford Escape

Suppression Division

Bonita 10 – 2004 Ford Expedition 4x4
Bonita 150 – 2003 Ford F550 4x4 Mini-Pumper
Bonita 223 – 2001 Pierce 1250GPM Engine
Bonita 224 – 1988 Pierce 1000GPM Engine (*Reserve*)-*donated to Upper Captiva F.D.*
Bonita 225 – 1993 Pierce 1250GPM Engine
Bonita 226 – 1995 Pierce 1250GPM Engine
Bonita 227 – 2000 Pierce 1250GPM Engine
Bonita 228 – 2004 Pierce 1250GPM Engine
Bonita 333 – 1989 Pierce 1250GPM Tele-Squirt 65'
Bonita 451 – 1992 International Brush/Rescue 4x4
Bonita 452 – 1993 International Brush/Rescue 4x4
Bonita 500 – 2004 Pierce Heavy Rescue/Special Operations
Bonita 550 – 1998 Chevrolet Step Van (*Reserve Haz-Mat*)
Bonita 557 – 1995 Ford Bronco 4x4 (*Water Rescue*)
Bonita 600 – 2000 Apex 19' Rigid Hull Inflatable Rescue Boat
Bonita 20 – 1999 Ford F-250 4x4
Bonita – 2007 Pierce Custom Contender 1250GPM Engine
Bonita M-22 - 22' Boston Whaler Guardian

Miscellaneous Vehicles

1997 Dodge 350 Utility – Used for Maintenance
1999 Ford Expedition 4x4 – Reserve for Administration/Suppression (*Rescue*)
1994 Ford Aerostar – Reserve for Fire Prevention/Public Education/Suppression-*sold*
1995 Ford Aerostar – Reserve for Fire Prevention/Public Education/Suppression
1995 Ford Aerostar – Reserve for Fire Prevention/Public Education/Suppression
1997 Ford Aerostar – Reserve for Fire Prevention/Public Education/Suppression

Training Division

Bonita 20 – 2007 Ford F-150
Bonita 21 – 2007 Ford F-150
Bonita 22 – 2007 Ford F-150

Public Information/Education

Bonita 50 – 2007 Ford Explorer
Bonita 51 – 2007 Ford Windstar

Bonita 35 – 2006 Ford Escape
Bonita 36 – 2006 Ford Escape
Bonita 37 – 2003 Jeep Liberty
Bonita 38 – 2002 Ford Escape
Bonita 39 – 2007 Ford Escape

Operations Division



Operations Division

Activities

· **Emergency**

We respond to a wide range of emergency incidents that require our immediate attention. Included are: fires; medical emergencies; vehicle crashes; water rescue incidents; hazardous materials incidents; and special operations incidents.

In order to provide safe, efficient service upon our arrival to an incident, we have adopted the Incident Management System. This system provides for the effective management of personnel and resources and is designated by the Department of Homeland Security for the management of natural disasters and terrorism incidents.

· **Non-Emergency**

Non-emergency activities fill the remainder of our firefighters' work day. These activities include: the inspection and maintenance of our apparatus and equipment; training; public education assignments; pre-fire planning of buildings; street mapping; routine house cleaning and maintenance of our fire stations; and physical fitness training.

Advanced Life Support Non-Transport Service

We have completed our seventh year of providing non-transport advanced life support (ALS) emergency medical care to the residents and visitors of the District. There are currently eight ALS units serving Bonita Springs. The District ordered two light rescue vehicles which will be utilized as first out medical response units in the future. These units will be housed at Station One and Four. BSFD serves the public with a complement of highly trained and skilled paramedics, emergency medical technicians, and first responders. Personnel perform various basic and advanced life support procedures such as cardiac monitoring, defibrillation, I.V. therapy and drug administration to the sick or injured patient. Many times these procedures are performed prior to the arrival of the ambulance from Lee County Emergency Medical Services. Upon the arrival of Lee County EMS, patient care is transferred to them so that the patient can be transported to the hospital. This system provides the patient with quick, continuous, and uninterrupted medical care between the fire department, the transporting agency, and the receiving hospital.

Dr. Michelle Nathan, the District's medical director, provides quality control review of patient care and monthly training sessions on a variety of emergency medical subjects.

Apparatus

In 2007 an Aerial Apparatus Committee was organized to begin researching the District's future needs. The Committee has visited E-One in Ocala and Sutphen in Columbus, OH. Members have also met with representatives of KME, Rosenbauer, and American Le France, along with looking at neighboring apparatus in San Carlos, Estero, North Naples and Ft. Myers Beach. The Committee anticipates having a recommendation for the Chief in mid-2008.

Incident Response

During 2007, our firefighters responded to 5,012 incidents. This is a -2.5% decrease over the 5,142 incidents which occurred during 2006.

Life and Property

District firefighters are responsible for the emergency medical treatment and fire protection services to one of the fastest growing areas in Southwest Florida. The 2006 population of our 72-square-mile fire district is approximately 45,148 year around residents with another 22,000 seasonal residents. The taxable value of all real estate property located within the District as reported by the Lee County Property Appraiser for 2007 is \$10,913,803,050.

Maintenance

District personnel are dedicated to the maintenance of apparatus and equipment. A great sense of pride and responsibility is felt by all District employees to keep the equipment in excellent working condition. Some examples of this dedication and pride include:

- Deputy Chief Dan Ryan and Lieutenant Keith VanGelder coordinate the maintenance program for the District apparatus and small engine power equipment.
- Fire Marshal Tim Fernandez and his staff handle the maintenance and repair of all staff vehicles.
- Firefighter Mike Bucher coordinates hose testing and repair.
- Firefighter Marc Weiss coordinates nozzle/valve maintenance and repair.
- Firefighter Fred Plocinski coordinates chain-saw repair and training. In addition he maintains the portable lighting equipment, and fire communication head-sets.
- Lieutenant Dave Brewer handles apparatus light replacement and repair.
- Firefighter Keith Ott, Lieutenants Rich Scott and Ed Bradford are in charge of air-pack maintenance and repair.
- Firefighter Jeff Rowley, Lieutenants Paul Canning and Ed Bradford have been handling equipment mounting and design considerations of new apparatus, including the two new rescue trucks.
- Lieutenant Paul Canning will assume annual pump testing.

Personnel

During 2007, the Suppression Division consisted of three battalion chiefs, 24 lieutenants, and 51 firefighters for a total of 78 personnel. In addition to each being state certified firefighters, 34 are also state certified paramedics and 44 are state certified emergency medical technicians.

Physical Fitness

The job of a firefighter is both physically demanding and mentally stressful. Firefighters routinely go from a relaxed condition to a state of maximum output at the sound of an alert tone. This requires that firefighters maintain good physical condition. The District provides a variety of physical fitness equipment at our fire stations for the use of our employees. In addition, the District provides complete annual physical examinations to monitor the health and well-being of our personnel.

Pre-Employment Testing

Openings for firefighters within the District are filled by using a three-step process.

Step One: Personnel from our District, under the auspices of the Lee County Fire Chiefs' Association, participate in a working committee known as the Employment Testing Cooperative of Southwest Florida. The purpose of this committee is to recruit and test candidates who are interested in employment as firefighters. Testing consists of a certified general aptitude written exam and a certified physical ability exam. The physical ability exam is called the Candidate Physical Ability Test, or CPAT, and has been certified by both the International Association of Firefighters and the International Association of Fire Chiefs as being a true representation of the physical abilities required to perform the job functions of a firefighter. Applicants who complete and pass both tests are then placed on an eligibility pool list for consideration to be hired by member departments. During 2006, more than 300 candidates were tested by the committee.

Step Two: When an opening for the position of firefighter occurs within our District an internal hiring committee made up of our Suppression personnel is formed. Our Human Resource Manager selects a number of candidates from the eligibility pool list that meet our minimum job requirements. The selected candidates are interviewed by the hiring committee. The list of finalists is then given back to the Human Resource Manager to complete background investigations before making recommendations to the Chief's office as to who should be hired.

Step Three: The approved finalists are then given conditional job offers pending the outcome of a medical exam. After the successful completion of this final round, the finalists are given a formal job offer. Upon acceptance of the formal offer, the new employees give their notices to their previous employers and begin an orientation training program to prepare them for their new job as a probationary firefighter with our District.

* Anyone interested in becoming a firefighter should call 239-949-6200 and ask for Human Resources for additional information.

Pre-Fire Plans

Deputy Chief Dan Ryan now coordinates the pre-fire planning program after the retirement of Battalion Chief Tom Beitz and the promotion of Assistant Chief Ken Craft. Fire Inspector Eric Scholz was re-assigned as a full time pre-planning specialist. He is transferring data into Fire Zone 8.0 software that works directly with the new MDCs. In the near future the District will be able to access pre-plans on the same computer that is dispatching the apparatus. This should greatly enhance the capability of the company officer to quickly access needed information with a minimum number of steps while responding to an emergency.

Pre-fire planning is used by the company officers to plan initial tactics and to become familiar with specific buildings in the District. Contact phone numbers, drawings, and photographs can be included, as well as hazardous materials lists and unique situations on site.

Inspector Scholz is making high-rises and target hazards his primary focus before pre-planning the remainder of the District. This program is in its early stages but is progressing nicely.

Protective Clothing

The design of protective clothing for firefighters is constantly being improved upon to provide the best protection for firefighters. Early turnout gear was designed to protect firefighters from the elements, such as rain and snow, but offered no thermal protection. As thermal protection and flame resistance became a primary concern, the design and manufacturing processes changed dramatically. Inner liners were developed to provide thermal protection and vapor barriers were developed to protect the firefighter from steam burns. Turnout gear evolved from single layer to a three layer clothing ensemble. The cost of a complete set of turnout gear, which consists of a helmet, fire hood, bunker coat, bunker pants, bunker boots, and suspenders is approximately \$1,500.

Safe Place

The District continues its participation in the Safe Place Youth Shelter Program sponsored by Lutheran Services. Any fire station, store, restaurant or other building displaying the yellow and black "Safe Place" logo sign is an official safe haven. Youths are instructed, through training programs in the schools, to go to a "Safe Place" location if they are in crisis. Our firefighters are trained to comfort the youth and then contact Safe Place. A Safe Place volunteer, who is trained in crisis intervention techniques, responds to the fire station. The troubled youth is counseled by the volunteer and returned home, or if necessary, transported by the volunteer to the Oasis Youth Shelter in Fort Myers.



Special Operations

During the first quarter of 2006 the members of the Special Operations Team finished installing equipment on Bonita 500. Three additional months were spent training personnel on the use of the equipment, truck operations, and driver training.

The Special Operations Coordinators received their required annual training. Additionally, we continued the awareness training with all the members of the department in water rescue, trench rescue, confined space rescue, and vehicle extrication. We also conducted a 16-hour rescue skin diver course for new members of our water rescue team.

Personnel completed numerous in-house hazardous materials training programs. In addition, the District brought in an outside hazardous materials training company to conduct several specialized training sessions which were of great benefit to our personnel.

Urban Search and Rescue Team

The District has continued its commitment to the Southwest Florida Urban Search and Rescue Team – Florida Task Force 6. Assistant Chief Ken Craft serves as both the CEO and the Task Force Leader. In addition, the following 12 personnel also served as team members during 2007: Firefighter Tim Bogacz, Lieutenant Barry Brown, Lieutenant Brad Brown, Lieutenant Greg DeWitt, Lieutenant Jason Fair, Battalion Chief Frank Giuliano, Lieutenant Dave Lees, Battalion Chief Vaughn Palmateer, Deputy Chief Shane Sibert, Lieutenant Mark Stirns, and Lieutenant Wink Telford.

Annual Response Profile

	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>
Total Responses	4897	5183	5142	5012
% of Increase	8.51%	5.84%	-0.79%	-2.5%

Monthly Response Profile

<i>Month</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>
January	396	498	494	464
February	475	516	532	485
March	499	516	564	485
April	439	452	479	470
May	358	383	410	401
June	344	370	328	385
July	397	370	379	398
August	467	374	362	376
September	325	357	390	342
October	379	460	367	404
November	396	439	415	395
December	422	448	422	407
Total	4897	5183	5142	5012

Daily Response Profile

<i>Day of Week</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>
Sunday	689	671	663	714
Monday	676	751	792	722
Tuesday	666	707	724	709
Wednesday	640	754	698	753
Thursday	653	739	702	668
Friday	823	792	788	727
Saturday	750	769	775	719
Total	4897	5183	5142	5012

Station Response Profile

<i>Station</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>
One	2638	1937	1737	1636
Two	877	833	913	898
Three	837	673	660	610
Four	--	905	1035	1062
Five	505	761	711	670
Out of District	46	40	74	133
Other	--	--	--	3
Total	4897	5183	5142	5012

Shift Response Profile

<i>Shift</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>
"A" Shift	1653	1703	1772	1624
"B" Shift	1600	1787	1749	1679
"C" Shift	1644	1693	1621	1709
Total	4513	4897	5183	5012

Incident Type	Count	Percent
Fire		
Fire, Other	22	0.43
Building Fire	15	0.29
Fires in Structures other than a Building	1	0.02
Cooking Fire, Confined to Container	13	0.25
Trash or Rubbish Fire, Contained	2	0.03
Fire in s Mobile Home Used as a Fixed Residence	3	0.05
Mobile Property (vehicle) Fire, Other	5	0.09
Passenger Vehicle Fire	30	0.59
Road Freight or Transport Vehicle Fire	3	0.05
Water Vehicle Fire	1	0.02
Camper or Recreational Vehicle (RV) fire	2	0.03
Natural Vegetation Fire, Other	13	0.25
Forest, Woods or Wildland Fire	44	0.87
Brush, or Brush and Grass Mixture Fire	33	0.65
Grass Fire	14	0.27
Outside Rubbish Fire, Other	13	0.25
Outside Rubbish, Trash or Waste Fire	9	0.17
Construction or Demolition Landfill Fire	1	0.02
Dumpster or Other Outside Trash Recptacle	3	0.05
Special Outside Fire, Other	1	0.02
Sub-Total	228	4.54
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheated-No Fire		
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheated	2	0.03
Explosion (no fire), Other	1	0.02
Excessive Heat, Scorch Burns with no Ignition	2	0.03
Sub-Total	5	0.09
Rescue & EMS Incidents		
Rescue, EMS Incident, Other	1459	29.11
Medical Assist, Assist EMS Crew	370	7.38
EMS Call, Excluding Vehicle Accident with Injuries	1070	21.34
Motor Vehicle Accident with Injuries	135	2.69
Motor Vehicle/Pedestrian Accident	23	0.45
Motor Vehicle Accident with no Injuries	281	5.60
Lock-In	6	0.11
Search for Person in Water	1	0.02
Extrication, Rescue, Other	2	0.03
Extrication of Victim(s) from Vehicle	4	0.07
Removal of Victim(s) from Stalled Elevator	6	0.11
Water Related Rescue, Other	1	0.02
Watercraft Rescue	5	0.09
Rescue or EMS Standby	2	0.03
Sub-Total	3365	67.13

Hazardous Conditions (No Fire)

Hazardous Condition, Other	9	0.17
Gasoline or Other Flammable Liquid Spill	14	0.27
Gas Leak (Natural or LPG)	9	0.17
Oil or Other Combustible Liquid Spill	6	0.11
Toxic Condition, Other	1	0.02
Electrical Wiring/Equipment Problem, Other	7	0.13
Heat From Short Circuit (wiring)	1	0.02
Overheated Motor	1	0.02
Power Line Down	14	0.27
Arcing, Shorted Electrical Equipment	23	0.45
Biological Hazard, Confirmed or Suspected	2	0.03
Accident, Potential Accident, Other	2	0.03
Building or Structure Weakened or Collapsed	1	0.02
Vehicle Accident, General Cleanup	7	0.13
Attempted burning, Illegal Action	1	0.02
Sub-Total	96	1.91

Service Call

Service Call, Other	16	0.31
Person in Distress, Other	12	0.23
Lockout	3	0.05
Ring or Jewelry Removal	1	0.02
Water Problem, Other	1	0.02
Water Evacuation	1	0.02
Smoke or Odor Removal	1	0.02
Smoke or Odor Investigation	42	0.83
Animal Problem, Other	1	0.02
Animal Rescue	1	0.02
Public Service Assistance, Other	66	1.31
Assist Police or Other Governmental Agency	7	0.13
Police Matter	2	0.03
Public Service	19	0.37
Assist Invalid	24	0.47
Unauthorized Burning	22	0.43
Cover Assignment, Standby, Moveup	2	0.03
Sub-Total	221	4.40

Good Intent Call

Good Intent Call, Other	62	1.23
Dispatched and Cancelled En Route	206	4.11
Dispatched and Cancelled On Scene	221	4.40
Wrong Location	7	0.13
No Incident Found on Arrival at Dispatch Location	53	1.05
Prescribed Fire	3	0.05
Authorized Controlled Burning	8	0.15

Vicinity Alarm (incident in Other Location)	1	0.02
Smoke Scare, Odor of Smoke	7	0.13
Steam, Vapor, Fog or Dust Thought to be Smoke, Other	5	0.09
EMS Call, Party Transported by Non-Fire	1	0.02
Hazmat Release Investigation with no Hazmat	4	0.07
Biological Hazard Investigation	1	0.02
Sub-Total	579	11.55

False Alarm & False Call

False Alarm or False Call, Other	138	2.75
False Alarm/no Response (Fire Alarm Activation)	33	0.65
Malicious, Mischievous False Call, Other	9	0.17
Municipal Alarm System, Malicious False Call	1	0.02
Central Station, Malicious False Alarm	1	0.02
Local Alarm System, Malicious False Alarm	1	0.02
System Malfunction, Other	92	1.83
Sprinkler Activation due to Malfunction	5	0.09
Smoke Detector Activation Due To Malfunction	31	0.61
Heat Detector Activation due to Malfunction	1	0.02
Alarm System Sounded due to Malfunction	49	0.97
Unintentional Transmission of Alarm, Other	19	0.21
Sprinkler Activation, no Fire - Unintentional	11	0.15
Smoke Detector Activation, no Fire - Unintentional	36	0.71
Detector Activation, no Fire - Unintentional	8	0.15
Alarm System Activation, no Fire	77	1.53
Sub-Total	512	10.21

Severe Weather & Natural Disaster

Lightning Strike, no Fire	1	0.02
Sub-Total	1	0.02

Special Incident Type

Special Type of Incident, Other	2	0.03
Citizen Complaint	3	0.05
Sub-Total	5	0.09

Total	5012	100
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Public Education Division



Public Education Division

The mission of the Public Education Division is to provide public information, public education and victim assistance to the more than 45,000 full-time residents of Bonita Springs.

Fire and Life Safety Education

By the end of 2007, the department had trained 448 students through the Public Education and Information Program. The goal of the program is to offer a variety of fire and life safety programs to all age groups in the community.

Class attendance in 2007:

CPR Classes:	166 students
AED Classes:	161 students
Fire Extinguisher Classes:	121 students

Total: 448 students

Community Relations

Over the past 12 years, the department has strived to increase public awareness of the services provided by BSFD, making public relations one of the most important tasks of the Public Education Division. The philosophy is that if our customers, the community's taxpayers, are aware of and pleased with the services provided, then they will be supportive of the path being carved for the district in the future.

During 2007, the department participated in numerous community events, including children's educational events, reading fairs, and parades, just to name a few. At the community's largest events, such as the Celebrate Bonita Festival, Spring Creek Elementary School's Fun Fest, Annual Night Out Against Crime, and the Lover's Key Outdoor Adventure Days, firefighters talk with the public and display equipment to promote life and fire safety awareness. These events draw thousands of people and provide a unique opportunity to enhance the department's image and foster positive community relations.

Clowning Around

Assistant Public Education Specialist Nicole Giuliano initiated a new program for the department in 2007 - fire safety clowning. The idea of clowning in fire safety public education program has been popular for years and is taught through the State Fire College in Ocala. Our own Fire Safety Clown, aka Sizzle, made her debut at the Station Four open house event in October and made numerous appearances at community events during the past year.



Publications

For the past 11 years, the department has continued its mission of enhancing employee communications through the publication the *BSFD BLAZE*. The monthly newsletter for employees provides information on training, emergency calls, board meetings, employee accomplishments and other worthwhile topics.

In its ninth year of publication, *Fire Facts*, continues to deliver information about the department to nearly 30,000 households and businesses in Bonita Springs. This quarterly newsletter is designed for the public and contains information on new equipment, training, safety topics and a message from the fire chief to update residents on happenings within the fire department.

www.bonitafire.org

For the past eight years, the District has been able to share information with the public through our web site at www.bonitafire.org. Public Information Officer Debbi Redfield provides all text and photographs to Fire Marshal Tim Fernandez, who designs the web site. Instead of working through an outside organization, the two continue to work together to update and maintain the web site.

SAFE Home Project

2007 marked the 12th year of the Smoke Alarms For Every (SAFE) Home Project. By raising funds throughout the year, the Public Education Division distributed free smoke alarms to nearly 600 kindergarten students. The program costs about \$4,500 per year.



Media Relations

The department's Public Information Program continued to enjoy an exceptional relationship with the media.

The media continued to serve as a viable vehicle for bolstering the community's image of the fire department, promoting safety topics and classes, and informing residents of new equipment and specialized training.

As the fire department's public information officer (PIO), Debbi Redfield responds when needed to structure fires, brush fires, car crashes involving roll overs, entrapment or fatalities, hazardous materials calls and other large-scale incidents to provide information to the media and residents.

In an effort to promote the department on a larger scale, the PIO sends news articles and submits photographs to statewide, national and international publications.

Florida Public Information Officer Deployment Team

Debbi Redfield has been a member of the FL Public Information Officer Deployment Team since 1996. Because of her years of experience, coupled with her experience in coordinating local and national media for large-scale incidents, she has served as the coordinator of the FL PIO Deployment Team and a member of the State Emergency Response Team since 2003.

Under the umbrella of the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association and the State Emergency Response Committee, the PIO Deployment Team is comprised of 42 people from around the state who have at least two years of experience working as an emergency service public information officer. Team members are registered with the State Emergency Operations Center and are available for deployment to large-scale disasters throughout Florida, such as brush fires, tornadoes or hurricanes. If the community involved in the emergency either does not have a trained PIO, or if the local PIO requests assistance, the team coordinator will be contacted through appropriate state channels to fill the request. A deployment assignment can range from two days to no more than two weeks.



Fire Prevention Month

In support of Annual Fire Prevention Month, the Public Education Division promoted fire safety and prevention practices. Throughout October, the public education specialist and firefighters made fire safety presentations to each classroom in Bonita Springs, from kindergarten to sixth grade. This one-on-one opportunity allows members of the department to spend quality time with more than 3,000 children to relay safety messages and to answer their questions. The department continues to enjoy an excellent rapport with school administrators, teachers and students. Children also learned about fire safety through fire station tours.



Injury Prevention

The department has continued to work with other agencies to promote injury prevention throughout the county. Being a member of groups such as the Lee County Safe Kids Coalition and the Lee County Injury Prevention Coalition provided numerous opportunities to network with others who are dedicated to the same cause.

The Victim Assistance Program

Nine years ago, the Public Education Division realized a need that wasn't being fully met on emergency scenes – emotional first aid. This program delivers additional support to victims beyond the emergency response, such as coordinating with the American Red Cross for assistance with lodging, clothing, food, emotional first aid or other such needs.

Employees Honored with Awards

Bonita Springs Fire-Rescue's employees were recognized for their outstanding efforts and years of service at the district's fourth annual Employee Appreciation Dinner on April 28, 2007, at Bonita Bay.

Firefighter of the Year	FF Leo Willette
Officer of the Year	LT Richie Scott
Fire Prevention Employee of the Year	Inspector John Dahlgren
EMT of the Year	FF Jason Brod
Paramedic of the Year	FF Armand Calzadilla
Civilian Employee of the Year	Mike Burkard
District Employee of the Year	Chief Dan Gourley
EMS Crew of the Year	Capt. Tom Beitz, FF Dave Brewer, FF Mark Harris, LT Dan Ryan, FF Jason Brod, FF Tom Harrison, FF Andy Riggerbach, FF Ed Bradford, FF Cary Coburn, FF Paul Palanzi

Employees received pins for the following years of service: 1 year, 5 years, 10 years, 15 years, 20 years and 25 years.

Saving Lives

Four members of BSFD were honored in 2007 with Phoenix Awards for their life-saving efforts: LT Mark Stirns, FF Dave Glen, FF Adam Nolin and FF Paul Palanzi.

BSFD Begins CERT Program

Bonita Springs Fire-Rescue began offering the Community Emergency Response Team class (CERT) Program in December. Students are instructed in disaster preparedness, fire safety, extinguisher training, disaster medical operations, search and rescue, disaster psychology, and terrorism. Public Education Assistant Nicole Giuliano coordinates this program.



The two-hour classes are offered over eight weeks. There is no fee for the course. At the conclusion of the program, members participate in a disaster simulation and receive a CERT disaster pack and certificate.

Educational Programs for the Community

The department continued its educational programs for the business community in 2006 by offering life and fire safety presentations on topics such as CPR, home and office fire safety, fire extinguisher operation, and building safety features. Some of the businesses that participated in this training included Bonita Bay, Bonita Springs Utilities, Pelican Landing, Spanish Wells, FPL, The Vista's, the Bonita Springs Library and others.

Fire and Life Safety Education Programs

The following program has been designed by the Public Education Division of the Bonita Springs Fire-Rescue.

Fire Safety Education

The topic of fire safety education has been divided into three sections. In order for the residents to receive the maximum amount of information on this topic, it is recommended that the program be presented in the order listed below. However, any of these topics can be presented individually.

Fire Prevention

Ask anyone who has ever experienced a fire in their home and they will tell you they never thought it would happen to them. Since many people tend to become complacent about fire safety, the presentation consists of a general overview of fire prevention and safety precautions, including tips on how to prevent common household fires, smoke alarms and immediate actions to take if a fire does occur. The topic of fire prevention in the home, or during brush fire season, is delivered through an hour-long presentation in a video/lecture format, with a question and answer period. The presentation is supplemented with literature to reinforce prevention lessons.

Fire Evacuation

If the fire alarm sounds, how do we know if there is an actual fire? How do we know when to evacuate? These are common questions of residents in multi-family structures. The fire evacuation lesson, an hour-long presentation in a video/lecture format, answers these questions and many others. The presentation consists of information on how and when to evacuate, safety features of buildings (i.e. sprinkler systems, stairwells, etc.), establishing a fire evacuation plan for individuals and for entire buildings, and learning about exit drills in the home. A question and answer period will follow the video. The presentation can be supplemented with literature to reinforce fire evacuation lessons.

Fire Extinguisher Operation

Most people can tell you what a fire extinguisher looks like and what purpose it serves, but few have ever had hands-on experience. Because fire extinguishers can be very successful in extinguishing household fires, this hour-long presentation combines video, lecture and hands-on instruction. The presentation consists of a discussion on the different types of fire extinguishers, with the video showing examples of the proper ways extinguishers should be used. The hands-on demonstration allows citizens to gain invaluable experience by actually using a fire extinguisher on a flammable liquid fire. Firefighters are on hand during the live fire demonstration for safety purposes. The presentation can be supplemented with literature to reinforce fire evacuation lessons.

Life Safety Education

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation/Automatic External Defibrillators

Saving a life may be as easy as "A-B-C-D" by using the correct procedures of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. In these American Heart Association CPR courses, citizens will learn how and when mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, chest compressions, and an automatic external defibrillator should be used until professional medical assistance arrives. They will also learn how to help a choking victim with the Heimlich maneuver. Students who complete the course will receive an American Heart Association CPR card that is valid for two years. Courses are taught by Bonita Springs' firefighters who are also certified CPR instructors. The cost of the course is \$35 per person.

Safe Babysitting Course

This course is geared toward youngsters ages ten to 15, and focuses on household safety, first aid, the 9-1-1 system, fire extinguisher operation, and child and infant CPR. The cost of the course is \$20 per person.

In-Home Safety/Fall Prevention Program

The In-Home Safety/Fall Prevention Program is a free service offered through the HRS Lee County Public Health Unit. Presentations consist of educational seminars on how to prevent falls, in-home safety surveys, fall prevention screenings and other such topics. Program presentations can be arranged through the Public Education Division of BSFD.

Hurricane Preparedness

From June until November, SW FL residents have to be prepared for the threat of hurricanes and other dangerous tropical weather systems. The Hurricane Preparedness presentation offers tips on storm warnings, disaster supply checklists, home preparedness, family disaster plans and supplies, emergency medical supplies, local shelters and evacuation plans and routes. The presentations also alert residents to the action plans of the Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District, and how emergencies will be handled during and after a major storm.

The Hurricane Preparedness presentation is a one-hour session in a video, lecture and question and answer format. A wide variety of literature is available free of charge to supplement this presentation.

Training Division



Training Division

Overview

The Training Division was again very busy in 2007. The Division worked hard to ensure that personnel received advanced training in medical, fire suppression, and all aspects of special operations. At the same time, a focus was placed on the basics of firefighting and emergency medical care. The Division, thanks to Barnett Towing and Christopher Oncken Hauling, was able to get many different vehicles delivered to Station Four throughout the year for vehicle extrication training.

New Personnel

This year saw a welcome addition with the rehiring of Paul Phillips to become the second Assistant Training Officer. LT Phillips initially joined the department in 2005 and again will be a great asset to this department.

Suppression Training

•Live Fire Training

Live fire training during 2007 was curbed by government regulations and the enforcement of Lee County Building Codes. However, three houses were donated for hands-on training. One on McLaughlin Blvd. was used for forcible entry, firefighter escape, self rescue and wall breaching. The other two were on Felts Ave, and were used only for roof ventilation.

•Standard Training

Standard training consists of college courses, in and out of house training, and all other training related to firefighters' duties. The department massed over 14,377.31 hours of fire related training in 2007.

Classes delivered at BSFD this year included Vehicle Extrication, Bomb Awareness, Leadership I, 2, 3, ICS 200, 300, 400, Bee Awareness, LPG Gas Distribution Vehicle Awareness, and Rescue Skin Diver.

•Driver Training

The Training Division administered a Driver Training Program in 2007. This is a complex program that included maintenance, apparatus knowledge, equipment familiarization, non-emergency driving, and pump operator skills evaluations. Many suppression personnel participated in the program. The program had two important goals.

1. To determine the readiness of newer driver/operators to get behind the wheel.
2. To get new department personnel on the same page when it comes to pump and apparatus operations.

Overall, the program seemed to be a real success, with seven firefighters passing the testing and six more pending testing. The Training Division solicited and received feedback on the program, which was very positive and helpful.

•Officer Training

During this year, three leadership classes were conducted at BSFD, including Leadership 1, 2, and 3 which are recognized by the National Fire Academy. The courses were open to all lieutenants, captains, and chief officers. Each class had approximately 12 students.

Medical Training

Firefighter/First Responder, Firefighter/EMT, and Firefighter/Paramedic level operations.

All first responders, EMTs, and paramedics must recertify their state certifications every two years. The training is provided in several ways. First, our Medical Director, Dr. Michelle S. Nathan, MD., conducts monthly in-service training sessions to include cardiac care, trauma emergencies, pediatrics, orthopedic injuries and care, respiratory emergencies, and pharmacology to name a few. Additionally, Deputy Chief Joe Daigle and the EMS Trainer LT Bill Clemens conduct monthly department in-service instruction and practical evaluations. This monthly in-service training covers more hours and subjects than is necessary for state recertification. Along with this, paramedics attend specialized classes in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Basic Trauma Life Support, Advanced Pediatric Life Support, and others to maintain competency in their field.



There was a new addition to the EMS training profile in 2007: the Health Stream Interactive Training System on the Internet. This innovative program costs around \$1 per week per student to receive enough EMS credits in a two-year period to complete their license requirements. All the classes offered are approved by the State of Florida.

Special Operations/ HazMat

A class for the Vehicle Extrication Special Operations Group was conducted during the summer, where numerous cars and vans were used in order to practice new techniques in extrication, stabilization of vehicles, and safety. Our specialty coordinators also trained firefighters in Water Rescue, Haz Mat, Confined Space and Trench, EMS, and Rope Rescue. The courses were in Awareness Level, Operations Level, and Technician Level.

Break Down of Training Hours

During 2007, the department accomplished hours of 16,725.81 hours of training.

Fire related training hours:	11,432.97
Medical related hours: (non-Health Stream)	2,944.34
Health Stream:	2,348.85

Hours of training per Firefighter or Officer

Per Firefighter:	206.49 hours per year/person
Medical training:	65.34 hours per year/person
Fire-related training:	141.15 hours per year/person

An average of 17.20 hours per person per month was achieved.

Conclusion

This year was very productive and the future for the Training Division is bright. The addition of the two assistant training officers and the facilities at Station Four can only improve the quality of training that the Division can provide.

Fire Prevention Division



Fire Prevention Division

The mission of the Fire Prevention Division is to provide the highest quality fire prevention and inspection services to the community as possible. An ongoing goal of the Division is to minimize potential fire hazards in order to promote a fire safe community.

Division staff members interact with developers, builders, architects, engineers and owners in the process of applying the Florida Fire Prevention Code to commercial and multi-family buildings constructed within the District. The Division performs routine fire inspections, re-inspections and occupancy permit inspections within the community's business districts and multi-family housing complexes. The Division also provides plan review and inspection services for new construction and interior remodeling projects.

Additional duties performed by Division personnel Include:

- Annual inspections of Lee County schools located in the Bonita Springs Fire District
- Access gate operation inspections for fire department response within gated communities
- Conduct fire flow tests of fire hydrants (annual and by request for permitting purposes)
- Incident response by fire prevention personnel to fire alarm/sprinkler activations, and emergency scene operations as requested by the Suppression Division
- Inspection of fire department access roads and lanes in shopping centers and residential developments to determine adequate clearances for emergency response
- Post-hurricane assessment of damaged structures in the fire district
- Post-hurricane carbon monoxide testing to assure the safe use of emergency generators by the public
- Inspection of existing fire hydrants for encroachment by vegetation or other obstructions

The staff of the Fire Prevention Division continues to pursue professional development and educational programs on an on-going basis.

The mission of the Fire prevention and inspection the Fire Prevention Division is to create a fire safe community.

Division staff members inspect building owners in the process of a multi-family buildings construction inspections, re-inspections business districts and multi-family buildings review and inspection services.

The Fire Prevention Division

Additional duties perform

- Annual inspections of
- Access gate operati
communities
- Conduct fire flow tests
- Incident response by
emergency scene ope
- Inspection of fire depa
developments to deter
- Post-hurricane assess
- Post-hurricane carbon
by the public at their r

New Construction – Value

There was an increase of 4
The Fire Prevention Division
protection system permits
construction. The Division
systems in single-family ho
permits issued in 2007, ide

Permit Type

Residential

Duplex

Mobile Home

Park Model

Plan Review

The Fire Prevention Division reviews all construction projects to ensure compliance with the Fire Code. This includes new buildings, interior alterations, and various fire suppression systems.

Year	2001	2002
Plan Review	852	1,000

Existing Occupancies and

Inspections and Re-inspe

The Fire Prevention Division
inspections. These inspecti
safety for building occupan

New construction inspectio
construction throughout the
rated walls, fire sprinkler pi

Inspections Performed
Existing Occupancies
New Construction
Totals:

Residential Units in Boi

The residential growth
Figures for residential un
based upon the, Fire P
County Development Ser

Year Single

1991 Update	5
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Water Supply

Bonita Springs Utilities provide drinking water, but also provide fire water operations to the community. Bonita Springs Fire Control and Fire Department

The table below reflects the locations in the Fire District where fire hydrants occur for a variety of reasons, including peak season usage. Fire hydrants are also used for fire valves or other water systems.

Dear firefighters, I am so thankful for all you do. You guys are so brave. You help people whenever needed non stop. None of you hesatate to go in side a place were ever you could die. Thank you for putting others first! I love you all!!

Your friend, Rachael
P.S. Love,
MS. Kofler's class.



To the Best Heroes



ever!

