



FIRE RESCUE SUPPORT

Monthly Newsletter December 2011

What happened?

Here is a breakdown of the hours I spent with Marion County Fire Rescue and Fire Rescue Support last month...

November	
<i>Accidents</i>	8.0
<i>Ceremonies</i>	8.0
<i>CISD</i>	0.0
<i>Fires</i>	1.0
<i>Funerals</i>	0.0
<i>Hospital visit</i>	1.0
<i>Incidents</i>	3.0
<i>Meetings</i>	10.0
<i>Station Visits</i>	7.0
<i>Training</i>	17.0
<i>Wedding related</i>	0.0
<i>Monthly total</i>	55.0

What's happening now?

Although I have yet to find a grant to support the work of Fire Rescue Support, I attended a Grant Writer's Workshop on November 2nd to learn about the process so I can be prepared when the time comes. I also attended a monthly Grant Writer's Network meeting here in Marion County.

I was invited to be part of the Florida Forest Service Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service on November 3rd. It was a privilege to be there to offer the invocation and benediction at a ceremony to honor those that have given their lives serving others. While I was there I had the opportunity to make three significant contacts. I met with John Fish, Fire Chief with the Florida Fire Service; Teri Cleeland, Deputy Forest Supervisor with the US Forest Service; and Jim Wile, Executive Director of the Florida Fire Chief's Association. All of them were very interested in the work of Fire Rescue Support.

Although I've been an EMT in the past, that was years ago. So on November 14th, I attended a First Aid/CPR training session put on by Marion County. I am now a card carrying first responder. This was important to me since I drive a County vehicle. Now if I'm ever first on scene, I have at least some basic training to assist until paramedics arrive.

What's coming up?

I will complete my first round of station visits this month. It's taken me nearly three months to visit every shift at every station. But this is the core of what I'm doing. It's during these visits, and during times I respond to calls, that I have the opportunity to develop relationships with the men and women serving with Marion County Fire Rescue.

Jim Wile with the Florida Fire Chief's Association is really excited about the work we are doing with Fire Rescue Support. He has invited me to make a presentation at the annual Fire Rescue East meeting in January. Fire Rescue East is the trade show/business meeting of the Florida Fire Chief's Association.

Thank you!

You are making it possible for me to chase after this calling and dream. Your love, prayers and financial support are making a difference in the lives of those serving with fire rescue in Marion County and beyond.