



Monthly Newsletter November 2014

**Fire Rescue Support exists to support fire rescue personnel
before, during and after the call**

Before the Call

Wednesdays at Dunkin' Donuts



“Ironmen for Firemen” was our first attempt to gather together those who share two very important parts of life – faith and

firefighting. Now, we will continue to meet informally each Wednesday morning at 8:30am at the Dunkin' Donuts at Baseline and Maricamp. No agenda, no book, no plan. Just an opportunity to enjoy a cup of coffee and some time with those we are connected with through both purpose and passion.

DDBRCF Grant



Fire Rescue Support is excited to announce that we have received a \$3,000 grant from the Dunkin' Donuts & Baskin-Robbins Community Foundation.

The Foundation has as one of its goals to “ensure the safety of our neighborhoods and communities through partnerships with organizations that support our firefighters, public safety officers, and troops at home and abroad.” This is a perfect fit with the mission of Fire Rescue Support.

The grant received will help us continue to develop and deliver educational programs to prepare first responders to deal with issues such as stress, grief and compassion.

#GivingTuesday



The day after Thanksgiving kicks off the busiest shopping season of the year. Known as Black Friday, this day is full of bargains designed to jump start the spending frenzy that lasts until Christmas. In recent years, this day has been followed by Cyber Monday; the day for those who prefer to get deals online in the peace and quiet of their home.

But isn't the season of giving about more than this?

That's where #GivingTuesday comes in.

Designed as a day for unselfish giving, the first Tuesday in December (this year it's December 2nd), #GivingTuesday gives people an opportunity to refocus their giving after Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

Fire Rescue Support is excited to be part of #GivingTuesday 2014. Between now and then, you'll learn more about our work with fire rescue personnel via our Facebook page (be sure to “Like” us). Then, on December 2nd, you'll be given the opportunity to financially give to support this work.

Black Friday. Cyber Monday. #GivingTuesday.

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The Human Side of the Fire Service



Everything done in the fire service is done in the context of others. For this reason, Fire Rescue Support presented a new course called “The Human Side of the Fire Service.”

This course helped learners be better equipped to deal with the people they interact with day-to-day including victims, peers, their families and themselves.

Nearly 30 were in attendance representing Dixie County Emergency Services, Fruitland Park Fire Rescue, Marion County Fire Rescue, Levy County Department of Public Safety, and Palm Harbor Fire Rescue.

Contact us if you are interested in offering this 4-hour course to your agency.

Trunk or Treat



While Elsa and Anna had a strong showing, there were some unusual looking characters at the “Trunk or Treat” festivities at Church @ The Springs on Halloween.

Dressing the part of MCFR’s finest, crews from Station 17 were there to interact with the children in attendance. Thanks to Lt. Jodoin and his crew for their presence and support.





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Thank You

My father died in 1992 at the too young age of 65. He had retired to Florida four years prior and really enjoyed his brief time here. For my dad, retirement meant golf and he played as often as he could. Upon his death, his body was cremated and my mom chose to keep his remains near her in a decorated urn.

Years later, my mom decided to have my dad's remains laid to rest at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell. My dad was a veteran having served in the Army Air Corps during World War II. As we prepared for the day we would go to Bushnell, I began to do some research into my dad's military past.

I don't remember him speaking much about his time in the service. It was 1945 and as an 18 year old he was facing the draft. Rather than deal with that uncertainty, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps. He arrived at the Fort Sheridan (IL) Recruit Reception Center on May 10. From there he went to radio school at what is now known as Scott Air Force Base in southwest Illinois.

Although the war ended in August of 1945, my dad didn't end his time in the service until November of 1946, having spent most of that year in Panama as an aircraft radio operator. My dad's story is just one of hundreds and thousands of stories of those that have faithfully served our country in the armed forces.

Perhaps you know someone in their eighties who served in WW II or a 25 year old that has just completed their commitment to the military. Maybe your partner on the engine today is someone who served our country in the armed forces and continues to serve as a firefighter.

The Bible says, "Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor." Romans 13:7

Honoring and thanking our veterans is not a political statement. It is not a commentary on your feelings about war in general. It is an important, necessary and proper response to those willing to sacrifice themselves on our behalf.

**VETERANS
DAY**



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During the Call

On Wednesday, October 29, I was returning to Belleview after assisting on scene of a traffic crash in MCFR Station 16's zone. At approximately 2:30pm, I heard a call dispatched for an accidental shooting about a mile away from where I was. What caught my attention was that the victim was 13 years old. I staged in the area with Ladder 30 and Rescue 32 until deputies declared the scene safe.

Upon being cleared to enter, we encountered a very emotional, chaotic scene. As our crews focused on the gunshot victim, I was able to move the family away from the immediate area and attempted to offer some degree of comfort and care. Unfortunately, there were really no words to say as everyone was in shock because of what had happened. Within just a few moments, the young victim was in the back of the ambulance heading to the hospital. I stayed on scene for several more minutes until others from the family's support system had arrived.

Tragically, a 14-year old boy died as a result of this shooting.

Thank you!

Thanks for your interest in and partnership with Fire Rescue Support. Because of you, we have the opportunity to support fire rescue personnel before, during and after the call. Visit www.firerescuesupport.com for more information or to donate. You can also find us on Facebook. And please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance personally or professionally. You can reach me at 352-425-1643 or joe@firerescuesupport.com.



We just passed 1,000 "Likes" on Facebook.
Make sure you join us so you'll get the latest information in between newsletters.