



## PELHAM BATESVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT 2012 NEWSLETTER—1ST QUARTER

### NOTE FROM THE CHIEF PHILL JOLLEY

I have always believed that to stay ahead in the fire service, we have to keep *the main thing the main thing*. In order to do that all of us must know what the *main thing* is. Do you? I hope so. Then once you've done that (*made the main thing the main thing*,) you have to figure out what to do with, how to deal with, all the other important things that we do as a service organization.



A new year always brings thoughts and opportunities to improve our department and the service we provide but the real question is “How do we go about that?” The answer is simple—*planning*. An activity that, because of all the other things we do, we have somewhat neglected for sometime now. This year as a department we are going to get back on board with planning. This process will take some time and effort to develop, write down and get moving, but once we have met the basic goals the process should be easier as we go. And the process will be continuous. Starting sometime in February the officers and staff along with the support of Retired Chief Tommy McDowell, City of Greenville, will begin work on the process and the planning documents. And even though this group will lead the process, every employee and volunteer, as well as the Board of Commissioners, will take part and play a role in the process. In my 20+ years we have made some pretty great progress, but the need for vision into our future never ends.

Proverbs 29:18 says, “Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.” In this context I think the word “happy” could be switched as well to: prosperous, prepared, vigilant, fortunate, successful...many other terms as well.

I believe that we have built a great foundation to build the future upon. What a strategic plan should do is lay the ground work for how we approach the next 5, 10, 20, etc. years as we carry our critical work forward. My desire is that by the end of the process, (that by the way never actually ends), every person has had input into the plan, feels personal ownership of it and is prepared to give their personal and professional support to our future. I relate this to laying the stepping stones for our path; I challenge each of you to have your name on one of those stones.



Many thanks to our local businesses for donations given in behalf of the Captain Tommy Blackwell Fundraiser. Through all the wonderful support, you made it possible to raise over \$3,500.

### Congratulations to Chaplain Gary Rogers!!!

South Carolina State Firefighters' Association announced that Dr. Gary Rogers accepted the position of Chaplain. You can read more at <http://scfirefighters.org/2012/01/new-chaplain-selected>.

## Health Tip: Live Longer, Look Sharper and Feel Better

Prevent Colon Cancer—Swap those Honey BBQ Fritos (or other high calorie, high fat snack) for a snack that may save your life—Brazil Nuts. They're the top food source of selenium, a mineral that shows promise of reducing colon cancer by as much as 60 percent. Michael Wagovich, PHD, director of basic research at the SC Cancer Center says: "It looks extremely promising as a way to help prevent colon cancer."

The best news: A couple of brazil nuts a day will help you hit the target amount of 200 micrograms of selenium.

Preventative methods include annual screenings that can be done by your physician. These screenings are not a part of the tests that are done here at the Fire Department. Ask your personal physician if you are not having them done. Early detection is the key to proper treatment.

Sources: Men's Health.com and the National Cancer Institute

## CHAPLAIN GARY'S CORNER



Every year as an old year goes out and a new one comes in, all of the major magazines will put out a special issue that re-captures the major stories of the previous year. We see it in sports magazines, entertainment magazines, news magazines, even fire service periodicals reflect on the biggest issues facing us as we move forward. One of those periodicals in the late 1960's made the prediction that in the 21st century, technology would be so advanced that our biggest problem would be deciding what to do with all our leisure time! Well, we have seen technology make unbelievable advances in recent years, and yet we're busier than ever before. There's always more to learn. There's always more training to do. Am I the only one who noticed that time seems to go by faster and faster? Probably not.

The Bible tells us that our life goes by quickly, so in Ephesians 5:16 it says we should be *redeeming the time*. That simply means we should make the most of every moment! 2012 is filled with opportunities, and we should look forward with anticipation and make the most of every opportunity.

How do we do that? Ephesians 5:17 says we should understand *what the will of the Lord is*. Does that mean there won't be struggles, challenges, problems, or heartaches if we submit our time to the will of the Lord? Of course it doesn't mean that! It simply means that we can face everything this year brings our way with hope, because even though we don't know what 2012 holds, we know the ONE WHO holds 2012!!

My prayer for PBFD this year is that we will *redeem the time* and *understand what the will of the Lord is* so we may grow in our bond with one another, serve the people of our district most effectively and make the most of every opportunity that is before us.

## Get Well, Tommy!

### Hang In There

**Hello, my friend; You're on my mind,  
Because you're somehow ailing,  
But your response to any challenge  
Has always been unfailing.**

**So I'm confident you'll win again;  
Hang in there, and you'll see;  
You'll be back on top in no time,  
Tackling life courageously.**

*By Joanna Fuchs*



|                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| Gary Rogers      | Jan 6  |
| Phill Jolley     | Jan 12 |
| Robbie Blikle    | Jan 27 |
| Billy Stewart    | Jan 31 |
| Grant Thomas     | Feb 2  |
| Tim Campbell     | Feb 9  |
| Brandon McNeill  | Feb 20 |
| Jason Coley      | Mar 1  |
| Vivian Lindsey   | Mar 11 |
| Gary Laughter    | Mar 15 |
| Jeremiah Pilgrim | Mar 24 |
| Sammy Stevenson  | Mar 30 |
| Tim Gowan        | May 2  |
| Tyler Blackwood  | May 2  |
| Jason Anderson   | May 13 |
| Kevin Babb       | May 22 |
| David Kennedy    | May 23 |

**Congratulations to Darby Rollins!!** He achieved his NR-EMT-B.

**Congratulations To The Top Five during the Fourth Quarter 2011 Fitness Challenge:** Josh Howard, Josh Clark, Jason Coley, Andrew Welch, and Robbie Blikle.

**Congratulations to Jason Coley on receiving the 2011 Fitness Challenge—Most Improved.** Check out his Electric Blue Running Shoes! You definitely can't miss them!

### Other Baby & Adoption News

**Congratulations to Parents-to-be:** Kevin and Heather Babb are also expecting their first child in March. It is a boy and his name is Wyatt.

**Congratulations to GrandParents-to-be:** Chief Phill and Terri Jolley are expecting their FIRST GRANDCHILD in June!!

**Congratulations to Brandon McNeill!** Adoption papers are in the works—He will soon officially be Adam's daddy.



#### Our Condolences To

**Bob & Maureen Moore**

**in the loss of his mother**

Those we love can never be  
More than a thought apart,  
For as long as there is memory,  
They'll live on in the heart!

**Congratulations to  
Robbie and Brandi Blikle  
on their baby son,  
Rion Davis  
December 23rd  
6 lbs 10 ozs**

