



THE SMOKE SIGNAL

Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services

December, 2010

COBB FIRE PERSONNEL RECOGNIZED

Each year, the Governor of Georgia recognizes Public Safety personnel from around the State who have performed acts of heroism and made significant contributions to the profession. On November 12, four CCFES employees were recipients of these prestigious awards. Cobb Fire congratulates recipients of the Heroism Award: **Captain Mike Flowers, Firefighter Anthony Helms, and Engineer Jeremy DeJames. Lieutenant Dennis Thayer** was the winner of the Contribution to the Profession Award.

Captain Flowers was recognized for his actions in the September 2009 flooding where his quick thinking and actions helped save a mother and her two children stranded in a vehicle trapped by floodwaters. Assisted by Battalion Chief George Lehner and Firefighter III Barry Lewis, Capt. Flowers was able to enter the water and extricate the occupants of the vehicle to safety.

During the same floods, Jeremy DeJames and Anthony Helms also risked their lives by entering the treacherous floodwaters to rescue a woman who had been clinging to a tree for several hours.



Pictured above is Mike Flowers, Jeremy DeJames, and Anthony Helms with Governor Sonny Perdue.

Lieutenant Dennis Thayer (pictured above with Chief Sam Heaton and Deputy Chief Randy Crider) was recognized for his continuing work on behalf of families of firefighters killed in the line of duty, and the Georgia Mutual Aid Group (GMAG).

Dennis has assisted with responses and projects such as the Atlanta parking deck collapse, statewide

hurricane drill, south Georgia wildland fires, and the Fire Rescue International Conferences. Due largely to Dennis' efforts, the Joey Turner Memorial Fund was created. This fund assists the families of firefighters killed in the line of duty until benefits are paid, and offers assistance and guidance in the indemnification process.

Congratulations to all recipients- you are truly an asset to Cobb County, the State of Georgia, and the profession!

PERSONNEL NEWS

Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services
1595 County Services Parkway
Marietta, Georgia 30008
Phone: 770-528-8000
Fax: 770-528-8323

Electronic copies are e-mailed to all CCFES employees and retirees, placed in the Fire Administration Common Files and on the CCFES Resource Site under "Smoke Signal".

This issue will also be uploaded to our public website: www.cobbfire.org

Editors:

Ellen Black
Chief Sam Heaton
Kim York



Cobb County...Expect the Best!

**COBB FIRE IS A DEPARTMENT OF
COBB COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

Tim Lee, Chairman

Helen Goreham, District 1 Commissioner

Bob Ott, District 2 Commissioner

Thea Powell, District 3 Commissioner

G. Woody Thompson, Jr., District 4 Commissioner

David Hankerson, County Manager



Fire Engineer **Len Cooksey** (Station 2-A) recently completed his Associates Degree in Fire Science at Chattahoochee Tech. Congratulations, Len!

Cobb Fire recently welcomed two new employees featured below. When you have a chance, please stop by Headquarters and welcome them to the family!

JANICE MOSHER

Janice is the new Administrative Specialist assigned to the Reception Desk at Fire Headquarters. Janice comes to us from the Cobb Police Records Room, where she was assigned for the past 3 years. Prior to her tenure with Cobb County, she was a longtime employee for the Cobb School District, Special Student Services Division. Janice has been married to her husband, Larry, for 40 years, and has 2 grown daughters and 4 grandchildren.



CHUCK OTTOSEN

Chuck Ottosen came on board with CCFES on December 13 as the Firehouse RMS coordinator.



Chuck's background in software design and programming will be a great asset to our data collection and analysis! He is married to Michelle, a Cobb E-911 dispatcher, and has a 9 year old son and 7 year old daughter. Now living in Pickens County, Chuck is a Lassiter High School and Augusta State University graduate.

STATION 30 CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction on new Station 30 is progressing, with the opening anticipated around this Spring. The 8,500-plus square foot facility is a double drive-through bay, with the capacity to house 8 personnel. The Airlab will be moved to the left side of the building upon completion.

At the present time, it will be a single engine company. Other apparatus and crew deployments to the Station are presently being considered.



MARINE CORPS MARATHON

On Halloween Day, four of Cobb Fire's own participated in the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C. **Captain Chris Sobieski, Engineers Trevor Levy and Greg Gober,** and **Firefighter Adam Linn** began to train nearly a year ago, and all four successfully completed the race. Congratulations to all, and thanks to Battalion Chief Ron Fagan for the info!



NEWS FROM THE CCFES EVENT COMMITTEE

By Lt. James O'Shields

The Event Committee is actively involved in three activities for 2011; The second annual Fire Anniversary Ball in January Family Fun Day in May, and the September 11 Memorial Muster.

This year, the Fire Anniversary Ball will be a semi-formal event commemorating the 40th anniversary of Cobb Fire & Emergency Services. It is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 15 at the Georgia Rib Company (formerly "Trilogy" and "The American Tavern") at 4930 Davdison Road in Marietta. Tickets will be on sale through January 4 for the price of \$35 singles and \$70 couples. Additional fees will apply for tickets sold after January 4. A comprehensive dinner, music, and cash bar will be provided. For information and tickets, please contact any of the following committee members:

- | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| James O'Shields | Denell Boyd | Roger Priest | Jon Redwine | Jake Cordle |
| Chris Starnes | John Graham | Josh Taylor | Doug Watkins | Adam Storey |
| Brittney Ingram | Kelly Bailey | Randy Crider | | |

COSMETIC CHANGES BY STATION 21 "C" SHIFT

(Submitted by Captain Cathy Brandt)

The crew at Station 21 C-Shift took it upon themselves to use their time and talents to begin sprucing up the station. Firefighter Brad Blakeney noticed the doors needing some paint, and with the assistance of fellow Firefighters **Ashbae Day, Shane Belden, Sue Addyman,** and others on the crew, they began a project which became a labor of love.

The painting of the bay doors leading into the station expanded into a station logo, and eventually into wooden cutout of a firefighter for children visiting the facility. Former CCFES firefighter Trish Henry had long ago given artwork used to fabricate the cutout, and the efforts of the entire crew made the project a reality. Now, children visiting the station for tours can get their picture taken with the wooden cutout and helmet. Pictured are Blakeney, Day, and their sons. Thanks to 21-C for taking on the project!

- Captain Cathy Brandt
- Lieutenant Will Callier
- Engineer Jeff Quilter
- Engineer Sue Addyman
- Firefighter Dwayne Leadbeter
- Firefighter Steve Wagner
- Firefighter Ashbae Day
- Firefighter Shane Belden
- Firefighter Brad Blakeney



FIREMAN'S FUND GRANT

CCFES has been awarded funding for a second time since 2004 from Fireman's Fund Insurance. A grant fund check in the amount of \$13,912 in grant funds was presented to CCFES for the public smoke alarm program.

Through the generosity of Fireman's Fund and its local insurance brokers, Cobb Fire has been able to distribute hundreds of lithium battery powered smoke alarms to Cobb County residents free of charge. Their grant programs have donated over \$26 million to local programs, such as ours, in the past six years.

We are so grateful for the continued support from Fireman's Fund and their local Cobb County-based office, the Insurance Company of America. Pictured at right is Deputy Chief Randy Crider accepting the check from Luis Cruz and Michael Caffrey with PIO Denell Boyd and Capt. Scott Dodson on December 14 at the Cobb County Safety Village.



