



# THE SMOKE SIGNAL

Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services

May, 2010

## A SEASON OF CHANGE

As everyone is well aware, Cobb County instituted an early retirement program for a limited time at the beginning of this year. This facilitated many changes in personnel, ranging from retirements to promotions and transfers.

We celebrate with all and wish all of them well as they each enter this new phase in their lives within and outside the Department. We will try to cover as many of these happenings inside this issue as we can. We apologize if we left anything or anyone out!

*Pictured right: Battalion Chief Bill Duffy receives his retirement hat and plaque from Fire Chief Sam Heaton.*



## EMS REGION III AWARDS

A significant number of personnel were honored on March 29 at the Region III EMS Annual Awards Ceremony at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel. The impressive list of personnel named for various cardiac saves and other incidents of excellence in trauma care were:

- |                     |                 |                  |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Mike Arnold         | Mark Bregante   | Kevin Brown      |
| Matthew Williams    | Jeff Biddy      | Mike Downer      |
| Michelle Fernanders | David George    | Matt Grimes      |
| Ryan Hardage        | Daniel Lezinsky | Nick Adams       |
| Sean Cook           | Sean Doran      | Keith Elrod      |
| Jonathan Plowman    | Chris Baines    | James Crawford   |
| Kyle Smith          | Richard Stone   | Robert Boassy    |
| Mark Magill         | Ian Martin      | Felecio McDowell |
| Wayne Reynolds      | Vaughn Zellers  | Chris Bowlick    |
| Tom Hudson          | Stephen Saylor  | Jake Wardlaw     |
| Scott White         | Austin Alderfer | Jesse Costa      |
| Tim Farist          | Lee Thomas      | Bill Smith       |
| Jeremy Thompson     | Sue Addyman     | Shane Belden     |
| Brett Ries          | Tim Thuma       | Steve Wagner     |
| Anthony West        | J.T. Gregory    | Jason Hatten     |
| John Ikenroth       | Jeff McCloud    | Todd Redman      |
| Drew Bell           | Ashbea Day      |                  |
| Dennis Thayer       | David MacDonald |                  |



*The Cobb Fire & Emergency Services contingent at the Region III Annual Awards demonstrates our commitment to the best in trauma care anywhere!*

# PROMOTIONS

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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](http://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**

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



It has been a busy and exciting time this Spring at CCFES, as many promotions have been made due to the recent retirements. Below is a listing of personnel who have been promoted as of press time:

**PROMOTION TO ENGINEER:**

Michael Barnett  
Ben Holley  
Zachary Morgan  
Stephen French  
Greg Gober  
David Hinton  
Donnie McCain  
Adam Purvis  
Daniel Seedorf

**APPOINTMENT TO CAPTAIN:**

Carl Schwenk  
Donnell Campbell  
Steven Bentley  
Todd Hendrickson  
Sean Boggess  
Scott White  
Todd Freeman  
Jeff Moss  
Chris Sobieski

**DESIGNATION TO FIRE INVESTIGATOR TECH:**

Leon Reese

*Pictured right:  
Josh Antinozzi receives his Lieutenant's badge from Deputy Chief Jimmy Taylor.*

**PROMOTION TO LIEUTENANT:**

Gray Ellis  
Gary Chastain  
John Ferro  
James Duncan  
Curtis Downey  
Josh Antinozzi  
Chris Britt  
William Callier  
Rob Hiller  
Richard Stone  
Jason Jones  
Theron Woody  
James O'Shields

**APPOINTMENT TO DIVISION CHIEF:**

Jay Westbrook  
William Tanks

**APPOINTMENT TO BATTALION CHIEF:**

Roger Priest      Stoney Bowles  
Ron Fagan  
James Jones  
Jodi Gabelmann



*Pictured Left:  
Roger Priest is presented his Battalion Chief's helmet and badge by Fire Chief Sam Heaton.*

## GUNS & HOSES RELAY FOR LIFE

By FF Michele Ice

Cobb County assembled a team to participate in this year's Cancer Relay For Life to honor 15 past firefighters who have died from cancer. Cobb E-911 Operator Al Hagan was also honored this year. Members of the following employees' families also participated in honor of their loved ones: Lt. Richard McLean, Firefighter Damon Gensel, and Fire Chief Nathan Wilson. Two cancer survivors were also supported this year: Retired Administrative Specialist Mary Dowda, and E-911 Operator Kent Kurland. Thanks to all who participated!



Left:  
FF Kelly Wishard  
poses with Mary Dowda.

CCFES personnel and  
their children make this a  
family event.

## SWEDISH FIREFIGHTER EXCHANGE

Eight firefighters from Halmstad, Sweden spent a week visiting Cobb County last month on an international exchange program between their agency and Cobb Fire. In turn, CCFES will have seven firefighters traveling to Halmstad in July. The purpose of the program is to learn concepts and ideas of different firefighting cultures and techniques. Personnel from Cobb scheduled to travel for this program are: Jake Cordle, Jason Vail, Chris Sobieski, Todd Holloway, Tom Hoban, John Ferro, Sonny Nemeth, and Jack Sorrells. Below are some photos of the Swedish contingent during their visit here at Cobb Fire.



## A LIST OF 2010 RETIREES

Below is a listing of CCFES personnel who have retired since January 1, 2010 as of press time and their *approximate* years of service:

<i>Jeff Albertson</i>	<i>30 years</i>	<i>Greg Austin</i>	<i>27 years</i>	<i>Mike Brewer</i>	<i>30.5 years</i>
<i>Ricky Carroll</i>	<i>24 years</i>	<i>David Chastain</i>	<i>27 years</i>	<i>Walt Clark</i>	<i>23 years</i>
<i>Steve Crider</i>	<i>32 years</i>	<i>Roger Davenport</i>	<i>27 years</i>	<i>Bill Dean</i>	<i>23 years</i>
<i>Michael Dickerson</i>	<i>23 years</i>	<i>Bill Duffy</i>	<i>27 years</i>	<i>Darrell Dunlap</i>	<i>27 years</i>
<i>Todd Ellerbee</i>	<i>27 years</i>	<i>Alan Gibson</i>	<i>28.5 years</i>	<i>Jolene Hagan</i>	<i>13.5 years</i>
<i>Ken Hankinson</i>	<i>25 years</i>	<i>Chris Hilton</i>	<i>29 years</i>	<i>Dale Hutson</i>	<i>27 years</i>
<i>Monty Leachman</i>	<i>32 years</i>	<i>Mark Mitchell</i>	<i>27 years</i>	<i>David Myers</i>	<i>25 years</i>
<i>Ralph Paige</i>	<i>27 years</i>	<i>Rich Peisel</i>	<i>28 years</i>	<i>Paul Prater</i>	<i>25.5 years</i>
<i>David Shelton</i>	<i>24.5 years</i>	<i>Tom Simler</i>	<i>24.5 years</i>	<i>Corley Stanfield</i>	<i>30 years</i>
<i>Scott Starnes</i>	<i>29 years</i>	<i>Ricky Woodruff</i>	<i>32 years</i>	<i>Robert Duncan</i>	<i>27 years</i>
<i>Greg White</i>	<i>27 years</i>	<i>Steve Tucker</i>	<i>25 years</i>	<i>Bill Dawson</i>	<i>27 years</i>



*Pictured left: Battalion Chief Bill Duffy and retired Chief David Hilton take some private time to reflect on their careers at Duffy's retirement reception.*

*Pictured below: Battalion Chief Alan Gibson poses at his retirement reception with Fire Chief Sam Heaton, and Deputy Chiefs Randy Crider and Jimmy Taylor.*

*Retired Battalion Chiefs K. Mark Johnson and Danny Wilson return to CCFES to visit with newly promoted Battalion Chief Roger Priest.*

