

# ON SCENE



May 2012

## An Easier Way to the Airway



Capt. Billy Cockman has introduced an intubation technique involving two rescuers, and it's catching on statewide and beyond.

Photo by Lt. Mike Peery

**Inside: Guns 'n' Hoses Recap • Pipes & Drums • Tele-Communicators Week**



## DEAR FELLOW FIREFIGHTERS

Everybody on this job has the right to factual information about our department, and I want to ensure that you get the facts.

One of the best ways to communicate the truth is directly and in person. Sitting down and talking is also a great opportunity to clarify and discuss what matters to each of you, and to listen to your thoughts and ideas. This is why I started scheduling "Ask the Fire Chief" Q&A sessions.

These sessions complement my fire station visits, which I plan to continue, but because the Q&A sessions are scheduled according to rank, the supervisor-subordinate dynamic is removed, and that places some folks at ease when it comes to asking certain questions.

The first Q&A session in mid-April for Firefighters and Engineers lasted more than 5 hours; the second session, a week later, for Lieutenants and Captains lasted 2½ hours. Approximately a dozen people attended each of these sessions, and from my perspective, it was time well spent. I especially appreciate that employees were willing to attend while off duty. Both sessions included pertinent questions, meaningful dialogue, and most importantly, the delivery of factual information in context.

Participants asked about progressive discipline, promotions, patient transports, the department's budget, and why I've bunkered out and gone into some structure fires. But those are just a few of the questions, and I believe there are more to be asked and discussed, so I will continue to schedule more Q&A sessions.

I understand that not everybody agrees with some of the decisions or plans I have made as Director/Fire Chief, but the Q&A session participants who listen to me will hear the facts about these decisions and the rationale behind them – the same is true of fire station visits. My hope is that the facts I share will spread throughout the field quicker than rumors.

### **On the Cover:**

*During a two-person intubation procedure, the second rescuer has the ability to view the vocal cords from an entirely different and more advantageous perspective, making the procedure easier to complete on the first attempt. Story, page 4.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marty Senterfitt".

Marty Senterfitt  
Director/Fire Chief



# Touting Our Tele-Communicators



Both photos (L-R) **Fire Communications Assistant Supervisor Monique Jackson, Division Chief of Operations Chip Drysdale, Communications Officers Charles Bradford, Karen Johnson, Director/Fire Chief Marty Senterfitt, FRCC Supervisor Kim Moreland, and Communications Officers Rick Landess and Eboni Wallace.**



Both photos (L-R) **Chief Senterfitt, FRCC Supervisor Tammy Parker and Communications Officer Catherine Cyrus, Chief Drysdale, FRCC Manager Liz Henderson and Supervisor Ed Auld.**

During National Tele-Communicators Week in mid-April, Fire Communications hosted an open house and also recognized several team members for a variety of outstanding efforts and service. Fire Communications Supervisors **Ed Auld** and **Kim Moreland** were recognized for perfect attendance in 2011. Moreland and Fire Communications Officer **Catherine Cyrus** received individual awards for training employees on the new Motorola CAD system. Auld was individually recognized developing and implementing CAD training as well as authoring the Motorola User

Guide. Fire Communications Officer **Rick Landess** received an individual award for scoring the highest average in 2011 for following protocols in 9-1-1 call receiving. Moreland, Assistant Supervisor **Monique Jackson** along with Communications Officers **Charles Bradford, Karen Johnson, Landess** and **Eboni Wallace** received a team award for their performance during the following events in March: two mass casualty incidents, a second alarm structure fire, and handling the logistics associated with the total depletion of available rescue units on two occasions.





(L-R) Rescue 7's Lt. Chris Woods and the Training Academy's Capt. Billy Cockman demonstrate the two-person intubation technique. Cockman developed the technique with former JFRD instructor/paramedic Mike Lerian to make the procedure easier and quicker.

# Two-Person Intubation

**See the Vocal Cords Like Never Before.**

Intubation is becoming simpler, faster and safer thanks to a group of JFRD instructors who are offering an alternative technique that involves a second rescuer. The method is catching on in the field as well as other fire and rescue departments statewide. Meanwhile, the University of Miami, an internationally renowned source of EMS research and education, is also taking interest.

Known as “two-person intubation” or TPI, the procedure helps overcome two of intubation’s biggest challenges – the difficulty in seeing the vocal cords and the fatigue associated with holding the laryngoscope blade in the proper position. Having a second rescuer work the patient from an opposite angle (an above-the-forehead perspective instead of the jaw) provides a more direct viewpoint of the airway and typically makes endotracheal tube insertion easier on the initial attempt. Also, the first rescuer has the advantage of leverage

with the blade because he or she is lifting up or outward instead of pulling down on the jaw. That generally requires less effort and is easier to maintain during the procedure.

The two-person concept became apparent more than a year ago during an advanced airway course when Capt. **Billy Cockman**

and former JFRD instructor/paramedic **Mike Lerian** were contemplating the challenges that one of their students was having intubating a manikin. The student's issue was the force required to pull on the jaw and access the path to the vocal cords, especially using the skyhook method.

"She said, 'I feel like I can't do this on my own,'" said Lerian, now a firefighter/paramedic with St. Johns County Fire Rescue. "Capt. Cockman and I looked at each other and the same light bulb went off in our heads."

During a break, Cockman and Lerian gathered around the manikin and soon after, they had a new procedure in the works.

"We quickly realized several advantages," Cockman said. "Not only is it easier for the second person to see the vocal cords, but the lifting motion used by the first rescuer is more natural and it reduces the procedure's invasiveness because it eases the force of the blade on the patient's jaw and teeth. Another advantage is how the second rescuer can apply suction during aspiration while still handling the tube so the procedure isn't delayed."

Cockman and Lerian soon taught TPI to fellow instructor/paramedic Lt. **Chris Woods** (Rescue 7). After years of practicing and teaching single-person intubation, Woods admitted he had to open his mind to the concept. Since then, Cockman and Woods have been teaching TPI as part of airway management classes at the Training Academy. TPI has also been incorporated into SOG 430, and Woods along with other field personnel have had repeat success with the procedure.

"Two-person intubation is much simpler and really, really fast. It's 5 seconds versus 15 to 20 the old way," said Rescue

Battalion Chief **T.C. Brown**, who estimates he's performed thousands of intubations by himself in his 37-year EMS career.

Brown recently responded to a cardiac red with Rescue 28's

Capt. **Chester Clements** and used TPI successfully. Clements has used it three other times and says the technique is also safer for first responders because it

offers more of a barrier from exposure to infectious diseases.

"You don't have to get right up into the patient's face," Clements said. "That's one of the biggest advantages."

Despite his long tenure, Brown had never heard of two-person intubation until this year. He compared the concept of TPI to the skyhook method that paramedics learn. Skyhook is ideal for patients trapped in vehicles, but it's usually per-

**"Two-person intubation is much simpler and really, really fast."**

**– Rescue 103's Battalion Chief T.C. Brown**



Former JFRD instructor Mike Lerian is now a firefighter with St. Johns County Fire Rescue and is assisting his department's Training Section with teaching two-person intubation to SJCFR's members.

formed by one person. TPI also works in tight spaces with patients in the upright position. Engine 10's Capt. **Tony Doshier** and Eng. **Jason Carpenter** successfully used TPI on a patient in a laundry room earlier this year. "We were in a cramped space, but it worked great," Doshier said.

Rescue 25's Capt. **Terry Eaton** agrees the new technique is gaining acceptance in the field. He acknowledges some of the more experienced paramedics are more comfortable with single-person intubation, but Eaton is glad another option has evolved.

"It really goes well with how we have to adapt and what we have to overcome," Eaton said. "It's always good to have another tool in the toolbox."

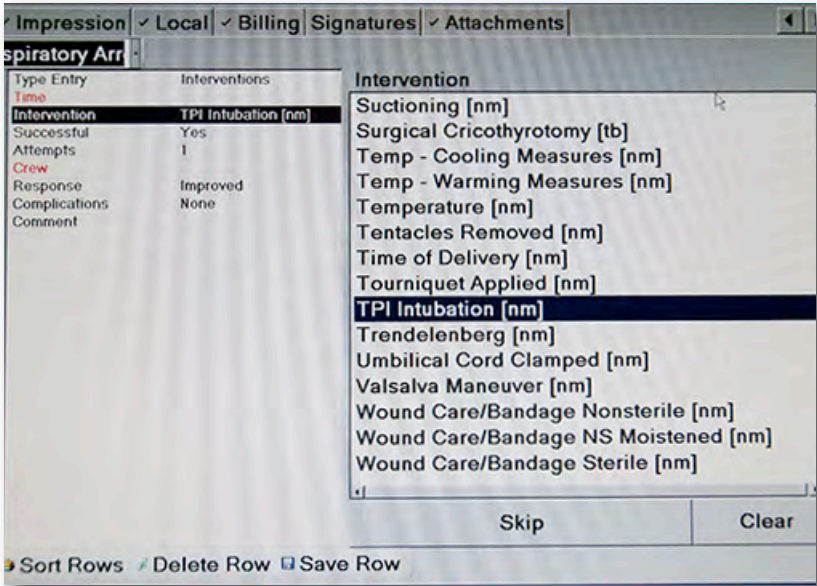
Since last November, Cockman said that TPI has spread into other departments, including St. John's County, Panama City and Monroe County Fire Rescue. Lerian is assisting SJCFR's

Training Section with teaching the procedure to all members of that department. TPI has even gone abroad. Just recently, James McDaniel, a former JFRD member who resigned to work overseas for a major oil company in an EMS/paramedic role, used the technique on three different occasions with an emergency room doctor, Cockman said.

TPI is also getting noticed by a research and EMS teaching powerhouse. In November, Cockman and Woods visited the University of Miami's Gordon Center for Research in Medical Education to review the latest developments in airway class curriculum. JFRD has enjoyed a professional relationship with the university for several years, so Cockman and Woods also had an opportunity to demonstrate TPI to three researchers, including a medical doctor.

Then, in late March, a team of UM/Gordon Center instructors visited Jacksonville to train JFRD's instructors on Advanced Stroke Life Support as well as advanced airway techniques. Cockman and Lerian also demonstrated TPI to all of the visiting instructors. Lerian said the UM instructors were pleasantly surprised at the ease of the technique. That group of visitors included Al Brotons, an associate director at the Gordon Center and an active member of Monroe County Fire Rescue.

Brotons encouraged Cockman and Woods to track the success rate of TPI in the field and to draw comparisons to single-person intubation as part of the technique's validation process. The most valid data to collect would be the incidence of successful two-person intubation on the first attempt. Capt. **Stephen Grant**, JFRD's EMS Quality Improvement, Data & Privacy Officer, has already enhanced EMS Pro's



**EMS Pro has a new feature which allows officers to record the use of two-person intubation. By using this option, paramedics can help build a database to measure TPI's effectiveness.**

reporting features to include the option to record the use of TPI on calls. That can build a reliable database which leads to valid research and more importantly, Brotons said, published research.

"In the academic world, great ideas must be proven through well designed research studies," said Brotons, who offered his future assistance to help Cockman and Lerian publish articles in mainstream medical journals about TPI. That could lead to the technique's integration into UM's curriculum which could dramatically extend the reach of TPI into the network of emergency medical services, nationally and internationally.

"They're creating a new procedure; that could change intubation on a broader scale," Brotons said.



# Two 'Rooms' Two Results

Engine 30's Lt. **Arin Pace**, Eng. **Chris Philips** (*not pictured*) and Firefighter **Arley Baker** recently knocked down a fire as part of a side-by-side burn demonstration. Two 8x8-foot "rooms" were identical in terms of furnishings; however, the one on the left had a sprinkler system. A small fire was set in both rooms simultaneously. To simulate response time, Pace and Baker waited about 5 minutes after the fire began before suppressing the fire in the non-sprinkled room. That room was a total loss, but the sprinkler in the other room quickly activated after the fire started and completely extinguished the flames in less than a minute, saving the majority of the structure. Fire Prevention's Capt. **Bob Ratliff** coordinated the demonstration with a local fire safety company.







IAFF celebrates its second consecutive Guns 'n' Hoses victory and eighth overall.

# TROPHY TIME

**Engine 22's Eng. Ike Davis leads the IAFF team to its eighth Guns 'n' Hoses victory.**

IAFF's team claimed its eighth Guns 'n' Hoses title last month, building on its all-time record over FOP's four victories since the event launched in 1999. Twice, the event has ended in a draw. This year's contest included 14 bouts, and as fight night was winding down, another draw looked probable.

Six members of JFRD entered the ring, and four left with a champion's belt: Firefighters **Kyle Callahan** (Engine 7),

**Lamar Roberts** (Engine 36), **Jonathan Ortiz** (Engine 27) and **Anthony Principe** (Engine 152). It was the second victory for Roberts and Principe; Callahan and Ortiz won in their debuts. After the 13th bout, the score was 7-6 IAFF. Two rounds into the final bout, the outcome was still uncertain. But IAFF's Tommy Cassaro had a burst of energy that propelled him and IAFF to victory.



Engine 152's Anthony Principe put up quite a fight for his second champion's belt.



Engine 27's Jonathan Ortiz (photo left) and Engine 7's Kyle Callahan (above) won in their debuts.





*Front Row (L-R): Capt. Mike Perryman, Drum Sergeant Tony Elkins, Jordan Wiggins, Honor Guard Commander Capt. Ken Middleton, Honor Guard Administrator Chaplain Percy Golden, Lanny Wilson, Robin Wiggins, Laura Farmer, Eng. Tony Ragans. Back Row (L-R): Eng. Ricky Hicks, Ron McDonald, Pipe Major Bill Wiggins, District Chief Ed Cobb, Mike Webb, Bruce Klama and Pipe Sergeant Tim Elkins.*



# Pipes & Drums

**Eng. David Adler and Laura Farmer.**



## Honor Guard Grows, Turns up the Volume

**Honor Guard Administrator Chaplain Percy Golden and Commander Capt. Ken Middleton recruit new members.**

If you arrived at this year's Guns 'n' Hoses early enough, then you witnessed, and certainly heard, how JFRD's Pipes and Drums Band packed a punch of its own. The reverence and tradition of the Honor Guard presenting colors was spot on, but its serenity quickly contrasted with the punctuation of Pipes and Drums, the latest addition to the Honor Guard. Rescue District Chief **Ed Cobb** no longer marches alone with his bagpipes. Add the drummers, and the band creates more than enough sound to fill the 15,000-seat space of Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena.



Guns 'n' Hoses was their debut, but the performance was the realization of an idea that had been in the works for some time. After traveling with JFRD's Honor Guard to numerous other memorial services to honor fallen firefighters, Cobb and other Honor Guard members would often notice other departments' pipes and drums bands, so the motivation to launch one locally began to grow. Cobb bought his own bagpipes, taught himself, and eventually began playing the pipes in public. Firefighter **Jonathan McMullen** also played pipes for a brief time. But repeated efforts to officially form an active pipes and drums band didn't really gel until last fall, when Cobb connected with the North Florida Emerald Society through a friend who works for Clay County Fire Rescue. Suddenly, JFRD Honor Guard members merged their musical desire with the Emerald Society's musical expertise, and together, with Director/Fire Chief **Marty Senterfitt's** support, they formed JFRD's Pipes and Drums Band.

"With the five experienced pipers we have in the group, we probably have 100 years of experience between us," said Pipe Major Bill Wiggins, an Emerald Society founder and a bagpiper since the mid-1990s. That experience is being shared with about five JFRD members who are interested in learning the instrument and ultimately performing in public. Meanwhile, the experienced drummers are also refining the skills of JFRD's drummers. Each musician from the Emerald Society is a registered member with the City of Jacksonville's JaxCares volunteer program. That status allows them to volunteer in the band and partner with JFRD members in representing the centuries-old tradition of pipes and drums.

"The band made a tremendous impression at Guns 'n' Hoses, but that's just the start," said Honor Guard Administrator Chaplain **Percy Golden**. "We have dedicated people who are committed to excellence, we have requests to appear, and we have more people taking interest in the Honor Guard."



JFRD's Pipes and Drums band debuts at Guns 'n' Hoses.

# CALL VOLUMES April 2012

<b>RESCUE</b>	R54 .....192	E17 .....244	E48 .....50	BR32 .....18
R5 .....353	R55 .....188	E27 .....242	E56 .....49	BR31 .....13
R31 .....340	R23 .....186	E150 .....233	E46 .....44	BR50 .....13
R4 .....337	R59 .....185	E5 .....230	AIR5 .....39	<b>MARINE UNITS</b>
R1 .....336	R70 (peak time) ...160	E42 .....227	HAZ21 .....39	M1 .....31
R2 .....327	R49 .....137	E2 .....217	E40 .....31	M3 .....17
R22 .....321	R85 (peak time) ...125	E34 .....214	HR4 .....31	<b>FIRE PREVENTION</b>
R17 .....315	R80 (peak time) ...117	E7 .....200	E45 .....12	Plans Reviewed ...313
R30 .....315	R82 (peak time) ...106	E59 .....196	<b>LADDERS</b>	Fire Investigations 25
R21 .....311	R84 (peak time) ...105	E4 .....188	L28 .....202	<b>FIELD CHIEFS</b>
R19 .....306	R81 (peak time) ...84	E135 .....178	L30 .....185	F3 .....144
R28 .....292	<b>ENGINES</b>	E13 .....173	L31 .....174	F6 .....92
R7 .....292	E22 .....367	E154 .....172	TL21 .....162	F4 .....91
R20 .....287	E31 .....361	E55 .....169	L10 .....152	F7 .....79
R24 .....282	E28 .....340	E58 .....166	L44 .....139	R104 .....77
R36 .....281	E19 .....320	E26 .....164	L1 .....115	F9 .....73
R51 .....265	E1 .....314	E37 .....162	L4 .....111	R103 .....72
R15 .....258	E51 .....314	E12 .....143	L34 .....109	F5 .....69
R32 .....257	E10 .....310	E57 .....139	TL9 .....107	R105 .....67
R34 .....252	E30 .....305	E29 .....134	L18 .....100	F2 .....60
R25 .....249	E152 .....301	E14 .....131	L26 .....97	F1 .....58
R52 .....248	E36 .....297	E41 .....114	<b>TANKERS (Top 5)</b>	F8 .....51
R13 .....239	E32 .....273	E33 .....110	T28 .....93	
R50 .....220	E25 .....263	E23 .....108	T52 .....82	<b>APRIL TOTALS</b>
R27 .....216	E9 .....262	E11 .....99	T31 .....57	EMS .....8,148
R35 .....215	E44 .....256	E49 .....97	T33 .....39	FIRE .....1,424
R42 .....211	E20 .....255	E16 .....80	T42 .....38	NON EMR ...294
R71 .....208	E21 .....255	E53 .....64	<b>BRUSH TRUCKS (Top 5)</b>	<b>Total: ....9,866</b>
R58 .....206	E24 .....255	E143 .....59	BR42 .....74	
R57 .....194	E18 .....246	HAZ7 .....55	BR43 .....53	

# CALL VOLUMES March 2012

<b>RESCUE</b>	R57 .....215	E24 .....260	AIR5 .....58	BR32 .....35
R22 .....364	R55 .....210	E34 .....240	HAZ21 .....58	BR31 .....30
R30 .....363	R58 .....202	E2 .....236	E46 .....54	BR35 .....14
R31 .....355	R70 (peak time) ...187	E27 .....229	E48 .....53	<b>MARINE UNITS</b>
R1 .....350	R59 .....174	E5 .....227	E56 .....52	M1 .....18
R17 .....349	R80 (peak time) ...152	E17 .....222	HR4 .....28	M3 .....14
R5 .....345	R49 .....138	E7 .....221	E40 .....26	<b>FIRE PREVENTION</b>
R4 .....337	R82 (peak time) ...95	E4 .....215	E45 .....13	Plans Reviewed .340
R19 .....336	R81 (peak time) ...85	E26 .....208	<b>LADDERS</b>	Fire Investigations 31
R2 .....333	R84 (peak time) ...53	E13 .....202	L28 .....201	<b>FIELD CHIEFS</b>
R21 .....320	R85 (peak time) ...53	E135 .....199	TL21 .....166	F3 .....119
R28 .....316	<b>ENGINES</b>	E154 .....193	L30 .....163	F6 .....98
R20 .....315	E28 .....401	E150 .....187	L31 .....163	F4 .....93
R7 .....315	E31 .....364	E59 .....182	L44 .....160	F9 .....90
R51 .....301	E22 .....358	E58 .....170	L10 .....141	R103 .....78
R36 .....299	E19 .....356	E14 .....158	L4 .....115	R104 .....77
R24 .....281	E30 .....337	E12 .....155	L18 .....111	F7 .....76
R32 .....275	E51 .....337	E55 .....153	L1 .....108	R105 .....73
R34 .....272	E1 .....318	E57 .....152	TL9 .....98	F1 .....70
R15 .....269	E10 .....309	E33 .....148	L34 .....97	F5 .....67
R13 .....268	E18 .....300	E37 .....146	L26 .....71	F2 .....63
R25 .....262	E152 .....296	E41 .....127	<b>TANKERS (Top 5)</b>	F8 .....46
R52 .....256	E44 .....296	E29 .....117	T52 .....80	<b>MARCH TOTALS</b>
R50 .....249	E32 .....295	E11 .....113	T28 .....71	EMS .....8,650
R27 .....248	E25 .....290	E23 .....109	T42 .....64	FIRE .....1,449
R42 .....239	E20 .....284	E49 .....94	T31 .....57	NON EMR ...287
R35 .....232	E21 .....283	E143 .....90	T54 .....46	<b>Total: ....10,386</b>
R54 .....232	E36 .....281	E16 .....75	<b>BRUSH TRUCKS (Top 5)</b>	
R71 .....228	E9 .....268	E53 .....71	BR42 .....88	
R23 .....223	E42 .....262	HAZ7 .....69	BR43 .....69	