



FROM “THE HILL”



As we enter 2013, we close a chapter in our book on a year of extreme significance. A year in which many tragedies made us question our capabilities, redefine who we are, and ultimately brought us closer together to solve problems in our future. Our volunteer and career members worked hand-in-hand to resolve the most difficult challenges that our organization faced. Several briefings were held along with

committees and groups working tirelessly to problem solve these challenges. The key to the problem solving, the key to moving this organization forward, and the key to providing the best level of service to the citizens, visitors, and workers of Prince George is the teamwork that all of our members employed.

In order for us to be successful in 2013, we must keep the momentum going and we must continue to use the

teamwork approach to face all of our challenges. We must turn these challenges into opportunities to make ourselves and our organization better than we have ever been. If we are to be successful, we must tap into the knowledge, skills, and abilities of each and every member. Everyone is here for a reason. If we unlock that reason, combine it with their talents, and provide opportunities to enhance their knowledge, skills, and abilities, we have developed a recipe for ultimate success.

So I challenge each of you to discover your talents, take every chance you can to be better, and be significant.

Brad Owens
Director
PGFEMS

Inside this issue:

The Spotlight	2
Training Events	2
New Personnel	2
Scene Size-up	3
START Triage	3
Revenue Recovery	4
What to look for	5

THE BRASS AXE

Mission

To provide quality services through the dedication of our people.

“Neighbors helping neighbors”

VALUES

Honor – we believe in honesty, fairness, and integrity.

Respect – we will embrace the diversity of others and be courteous.

Accountability – we will hold ourselves and all members of the organization, responsible for our actions.

Integrity – we will conduct ourselves in a manner that will not bring discredit to the organization.

Trust – we will earn the trust of each other and to all we serve by fulfilling our obligations.

Compassion – we will be understanding to others feelings, needs, and concerns, and strive to alleviate others distress.

Quality Customer Service – we will do everything in our ability to meet the needs of and accommodate the citizens, patrons, and visitors of Prince George County.

THE SPOTLIGHT- Darrell G. Allen



THE BRASS AXE

Darrell G. Allen, long-time volunteer with both Prince George and Burrowsville volunteer departments, passed away on January 18, 2013. Mr. Allen was born in West Virginia, served in the U. S. Army and moved with his family to Prince George County in the early 1960's. He was a retired pipefitter with Allied Chemical, Hopewell Plant. His volunteer firefighting service started in 1965 with Company 1 and then when he relocated to the Burrowsville area, he joined Company 4 in April, 1975. Mr. Allen remained an active

member until 2003 when he began Life Membership within the department. He continued to actively support the department with fundraisers, especially the Brunswick Stews, and was also the department Chaplain for many years as well as holding numerous offices within the Association. Mr. Allen always welcomed his Company 4 fellow members from his "special" seat at the meeting room door whether it be business or training events. He was able to make a positive impact on the members of the department during his years of ser-

vice. We will miss his dedication to the department, the Burrowsville community and Prince George County during a 42-year volunteer career. He is survived by his wife, Velma, sons Robert and John Allen and a daughter, Mary Kay Schroeter.

John Nicol Firefighter, Co.4 Burrowsville VFD

New Additions

Ashley Frazier, PGFEMS

Jason Koren, PGFEMS

Mike Lilly, PGFEMS

Peter Keophila (PGEC)

Upcoming Training

Basic Fire Academy	Jan 22
EVOC	Spring 2013
ACLS	March 16-17
Vehicle Extrication	Apr 10
T-t-T	
PHTLS	May 18-19
PALS	July 20-21
Basic EMS Academy	Fall 2013

[Training Calendar](#)

Pub Ed Events

January 17th

Harrison Elem School Career Day

February 21st

JEJ Moore-Tour of Company 1

March 20th

JEJ Moore Middle School Career Day

“Neighbors helping neighbors”



SCENE SIZE UP Vehicle Accidents



THE BRASS AXE

Many people say that the first arriving unit on scene who establishes command of an incident will set the tone for how the incident will go. The entire goal of the size up is to paint a picture for responding units. This statement seems to be true from your working house fires to your basic EMS calls. This is why it is so important to ensure that when you arrive first on scene you are able to give a clear and calm scene size up to ensure that the emergency on hand is dealt with properly. In Prince George County vehicle

accidents are the most common incidents that require emergency services to respond. They also have the most potential to be hazardous calls and the size up differs from a standard fire call.

It is also very important to remember that once your initial size up has been made and the incident progresses to update the responding units. If the ambulance isn't on scene yet let them know the conditions of the patients and the need for additional resources. It is also

important to determine the need for Med-Evac transport early. If you feel the patient's condition warrants being flown don't be afraid to call. It's better to cancel a request then delay proper care. Remember, your painting a picture for those who aren't there yet.

Jeff Wallace Fire-Medic, PGFEMS

Size Up Tips

- Tip 1** Stay Calm! You set the tone for everyone else.
- Tip 2** Get a 360° view of the scene.
- Tip 3** Communicate as if you were painting a picture for someone
- Tip 4** Types of vehicles (i.e. car, SUV, tractor trailer)
- Tip 5** Number of possible patients
- Tip 6** Extrication or additional resources needed
- Tip 7** What hazards are present (i.e. Fluids, traffic, power lines down)

Incident Priorities

- **L**ife Safety—you, your partner, everyone else
- **I**ncident Stabilization—Get the proper resources to the scene quickly and safely
- **P**roperty Conservation—minimize the damage by applying the proper techniques. Do not cause more damage then has already been done.
- **E**nvironmental Considerations—how are you impacting your surroundings?

START Triage

Simple Triage And Rapid Treatment

GREEN MINOR DELAYED CARE CAN DELAY UP TO THREE HOURS	YELLOW DELAYED URGENT CARE CAN DELAY UP TO ONE HOUR	RED IMMEDIATE IMMEDIATE CARE LIFE THREATENING INJURIES	BLACK DECEASED VICTIM IS DEAD MORTALLY WOUNDED NO CARE REQUIRED
--	---	--	--

“Neighbors helping neighbors”



THE BRASS AXE

The Hot Mic - Understanding Emergency Communications:

We all remember our first fire or serious medical call, and more than likely it was not calm in our mind. With experience comes a calm radio demeanor. This expectation is not just for the officer--it should be for everyone who has a radio. These days audio, is recorded and broadcast all over the Internet, so the impression someone may get of your department may come from a five-second audio clip. Read more in <http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/2013/01/understanding-emergency-communications.html>

EMS - Revenue Recovery



In spring of 2012, the Board of Supervisors made the decision to change the Revenue Recovery Program to an internal process. Therefore, in July of 2012, Prince George Fire and EMS hired a Revenue Recovery Program Manager.

In efforts to improve patient care reporting, remember that a signature is required for every transport. The patient's signature is the preferred method. However if Patient Unable To Sign, you must state why and seek an alternate source. If there is no other person available to sign on behalf of the

patient then you must get an RN or MD from the facility you are transporting to. In case of an inmate any corrections officer will do.

Remember to ask the patient for their insurance card. There is a section under Billing on the PCR for you to input their insurance name and ID number. Another option would be to make a copy of the insurance card while at the hospital. Once back at your station just put the information in our PGFEMS health information envelopes and bring it to PGFEMS office.

Make sure you have the

correct spelling of the patients first and last name, mileage to facility documented and the proper receiving facility chosen.

Due to strict HIPPA laws, each AIC must enter their own patient information into the bridge. Therefore, if you are currently using MIVIT's to document patient care; it is your responsibility to enter that information on the state bridge. You cannot have someone else from your company enter that information.

Please join us on February 19, 2013 at the Crater Criminal Justice Academy at 7:00 pm for a review on PCR documentation, EMS billing and HIPPA final rule updates! This is open to all volunteers and paid staff who would like to attend.

*Becka Goodman
Revenue Recovery
Manager
PGFEMS*

ePCR Tips

- Tip 1** Nature of dispatch – what type of call were you dispatched for
- Tip 2** Type of response – Immediate
- Tip 3** How patient was found – be as descriptive as possible
- Tip 4** How patient got to the ambulance – methods used to transport patient
- Tip 5** Get a signature—Patient, relative, neighbor, RN, Doctor.

EMS SCENE TO DO'S

- E - Are there any Environmental dangers?
- N - What are the Number of patients?
- A - Is there a need for Additional resources?
- M - What is the Mechanism of injury/illness?
- E - Is Extrication needed?
- S - Are Spinal precautions necessary?

“Neighbors helping neighbors”

Want to be a Hometown



Hero?



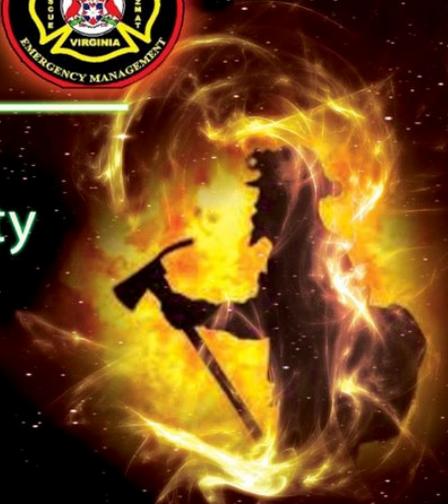
Join Today!

804-722-8614

Prince George County

Fire & EMS

Find us on
facebook.



Stop and Think About It!

Watch for rewired home electricity



A fire department responded to a fire and discovered that the electricity at the house had been "jumped" with a metal plate, energizing the entire household as the ground was not hooked up.

The local power company respond but were not able to disconnect the power at the pole due to heavy smoke at the power source.

One hour and 15 minutes into the incident the fire was suppressed enough that the electrical crew could clip the power, killing the electricity.

When the scene was released, they took the house off the grid completely.

This kind of incident is just a heads up as

to the state of our economy, in which people might resort to this type of theft that would potentially injure fire crews.

<http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/tips/745061-Watch-for-rewired-home-electricity/>

“Neighbors helping neighbors”