



Smoke Rings



February 2006

From the Chief's Office

Welcome to the first issue of our newsletter. I hope to have a quarterly issue to keep everyone informed of our work. We have several exciting things in the past couple months and look forward to continuing our progress. Why the name "Smoke Rings"? My first fire chief, F. C. Richter, penned a column that regularly appeared in a local paper back in the 60's. I have "borrowed" the name in tribute to his memory.

Four new probationary firefighters started with the District on January 5th. We welcome these individuals and wish them a long and fulfilling career with the department.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone on their department for your assistance with the orientation process for our newest firefighters. I also want to thank everyone for your efforts in getting the tanker ready, hose tested, and your work on our other projects.

Chief Greg Bradley

TRAINING UPDATES

The following department members attended schools and/or conferences recently:

- **THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA class** held November 30-December 2 in Cape Coral: P. DeArmond, T. Brashear, T. Burik.
- **PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER class** held December 26-30 at Tice Station: M. Vaughn, P. DeArmond, T. Barrett
- **HIGH RISE STANDPIPES class** held January 16-18 in Downtown Fort Myers: M. Williams, P. DeArmond, T. Ross, J. Kreitzer, R. Crook, Toby Brashear, T. Burik, T. Glover, C. Rennie.
- **FIRE-RESCUE EAST seminar** held January 26-29 in Jacksonville, FL.: T. Brashear, P. DeArmond, P. Phillips.
- **FIRE COURSE DESIGN class** held February 6-10 at Tice Station: T. Burik, T. Brashear, T. Ross, M. Runk, P. DeArmond, T. Fullon.

WELCOME NEW FIREFIGHTERS



Our four new firefighters receiving their first checks on in on Wednesday, January 18, 2006. Pictured above (left to right) are: Mike Wooley, John Wisdom, Jordan Mathews, and Jake Kingery.

CONGRATULATIONS

Firefighter Daniel Woolley



To Firefighter Dan Woolley (kneeling) for receiving the **2005 Firefighter of the Year Award** at the station's Christmas party on December 17, 2005. Dan has been a real inspiration to all of us in the District and continues to show us a remarkable attitude as he travels on his road to recovery.

Pictured above is Dan with his shift, left to right, are: Glover, Crump, Capt. Shaddock, Burik, Rennie, and Lippincott. Congratulations Dan!

CONDOLENCES

The District offers it's condolences to Commissioner Brennan and his family on the passing of his wife, Eileen.

FEBRUARY-MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Mika Vaughn February 10th
Todd Burik February 12th
John Wisdom February 13th
TW Thomas February 22nd
Jason Pigott March 2nd
CW Shadduck March 5th
Rob Morgan March 25th

FEBRUARY-MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

CW Shadduck	February 12 th	25 years
Alan Crump	February 13 th	24 years
Chad Gnagey	March 8 th	5 years
Matt Williams	March 25 th	6 years
TW Thomas	March 30 th	5 years- this time

NEW ASSISTANT CHIEF



Chairman Pickering is shown welcoming Chief DeArmond at the November 2005 Board meeting. Chief DeArmond is "returning" to the District after an approximate 18 year hiatus with the Fort Myers Fire Department.

RETIREMENTS

ASSISTANT CHIEF REYNOLDS



Chief Reynolds retired on August 3, 2005 after more than 25 years on the department. Rick was promoted to Engineer in 1983, to Lieutenant in 1986, to Fire Marshal in 1995, and appointed Tice's Assistant Chief in May of 2001.

Employees were on hand at the Tice Fire Station on his last day to congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement. A retirement party was held at the American Legion Post on December 2nd.
Enjoy your Retirement—Rick!