

THE FIRE MARK



BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS

volunteers
with special
training,
for the
greater
good of
Bonita
Springs.
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STEVE LOHAN / CHAIRMAN

My short term goals as Chairman of Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District are:

- > Improve our image in our fine community
- > Educate the public on their well trained and prepared department
- > Invite critics and supporters alike to research the facts on how and why decisions are made by making leadership available and accessible instead of relying on rumors and half-truths
- > Continue to work diligently toward achieving our own medical transport

My long term goals are:

- > Maintain your top notch department while constantly looking for cost effectiveness
- > Investigate fully whether consolidation will be beneficial for Bonita Springs
- > Restructure labor concerns for new hires to assure sustainability for the future generations of your city
- > Work closely with elected State officials to alleviate unfunded mandates

This city has a Fire Department that ranks in the top 3% and is financially sound. We are constantly reviewing cost cutting measures without sacrificing service and have successfully trimmed millions from the budget. We will come out of this economic downturn a more streamlined and efficient department that you can still be proud of. Stop in at your local station and ask for a tour. You will be welcomed and pleasantly surprised at the professionalism of your firemen and administration. Remember, it is your fire department.

Commissioner Steve Lohan
Bonita Springs Fire Board Chairman

**P. H. KINSEY, JR. / FIRE CHIEF**

The District has taken a number of significant actions to streamline operations and contain costs while maintaining an adequate level of protection for the citizens we protect. Under the Boards direction the District has accomplished the following initiatives:

- > An early retirement incentive was offered in 2008 reducing the number of employees from 125 in 2007, to 112 in 2008.
- > Another early retirement incentive was offered in 2011, further reducing employees to a total of 89.
- > The amount of district vehicles was reduced from 28 in 2006 to 20 in 2011, a reduction of 29%.
- > All salary and benefits have been frozen for 5 years starting in 2008.
- > The District in concert with the rank and file increased employee contributions to the pension from 5% to 7%.
- > A Voluntary Employee Benefit Association (VEBA) was created to replace post-employment health insurance removing a significant financial liability to the District; employees pay an additional 2% contribution from their salaries.
- > the District and Firefighter Association negotiated pension modifications reducing benefits below what the State of Florida provides, for all employees hired after 10 October 2010.
- > The District began conducting in-house preventative maintenance in 2008 significantly reducing the cost of service. Other agencies also participate in this program creating an economy of scale and reducing the cost of parts, fuel and oil for the District.
- > The District provides plan review and permitting for the City of Bonita Springs and plans review for four additional agencies in Lee County; at \$75 per review \$80,942 of alternative revenue is projected.
- > The District and the Firefighters Association negotiated a second tier contract for employees hired after 01 October 2012, reducing starting pay and longevity eliminating most incentive pay and increasing step increases from five to eight years.

The Board of Fire Commissioners has provided strong leadership and oversight for the District and has provided a means to contend with diminishing tax revenues without compromising service to the community.

P.H. Kinsey, Jr.
Fire Chief
BSFCRD



JEFF CHITWOOD / CHAPLAIN

I have had the privilege of serving as the Volunteer Chaplain for the Bonita Springs Fire Department for almost a year and a half. It has been a very positive and fulfilling experience. My primary objective is to be there for the Firefighters and Administrative staff, but I have also been able to assist in serving the community. I have been involved in several community ceremonies such as 9/11 Memorial, 4th of July Celebration, and more. Over the past year, I have visited the firefighters when they were in the hospital as well as connect with others who were either ill, injured, or experiencing personal loss.

I have had the opportunity to ride along with the firefighters as much as my schedule allows. Riding along with them has given me a greater appreciation and understanding of what serving as a firefighter is all about. The thing that has impressed me most is the level of professionalism and the caring attitude they have towards those they are helping.

One of the things I have appreciated is the opportunity to become personally involved in helping some of the members of the Bonita Springs community when making calls with the firefighters. On one occasion a man had to be taken to the hospital, and his wife was not able to go to the hospital with him. I was able to stay with her until a friend arrived and talked to her daughter (who lived out of state) on the phone to assure her that everything was okay. On another occasion a woman needed assistance from a fall. During the conversation with her it was discovered that she needed a wheelchair but had not been able to obtain one. I was able to find her a wheel chair and deliver it back to her home.

I look forward to continuing to serve in this and be a part of a great team.



Jeff Chitwood

Chaplin of the Bonita Springs Fire Department
Minister of Anchor Christian Church

FIRE DISTRICT OFFICIALS ACQUIRE ARTIFACT FROM THE WORLD TRADE CENTER

A bit of the Twin Towers from 9/11 will be on display in Bonita Springs. The Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District is donating a piece of granite from the Twin Towers to the city of Bonita Springs. The granite slab is 5 feet long, 24 inches wide and 18 inches tall. It weighs 1,000 pounds. "9/11 is associated strongly with fire service, but it's basically our generation's Pearl Harbor," said Bonita Springs Fire Chief Phil Kinsey, who has been a firefighter for 25 years.

Bonita Springs fire district officials asked the city, the Bonita Springs Chamber of Commerce, and Lee County Sheriff's Office to partner with them in accepting the piece and locating it in a downtown park for public display. The Bonita Springs City Council recently accepted the 9/11 artifact donation and agreed to the partnership. "We are proud to be able to share it with the community," said Bonita Springs Fire

Deputy Chief Frank Giuliano, who has been a firefighter for 23 years. "I think it's a good community project."

City staff and fire officials have recommended placing the artifact outdoors on the north side of the historic Liles Hotel by the fountain in the grassy area of Riverside Park. The city's Art in Public Places board plans to discuss the exact location. A foundation and plaque for the artifact will be designed and constructed.

Bonita Springs fire officials received the artifact in December 2011.

The community partnership also includes the Bonita Springs Chamber, which plans to put a call out for design talent, construction expertise and donations of materials.

No date has been set for when the memorial will be on display, Kinsey said.



IRIS ROMAN / ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

Past Accomplishments

- > Iris relocated to Cape Coral in 1990
- > Employed with Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners for fourteen years as their Finance Deputy.
- > Employed with North Fort Myers Fire District for seven years.
- > Bachelors degree from Barry University
- > Her employment with Bonita Springs Fire District began as bookkeeper in 1995, and evolved through numerous administrative positions.

Current

- > Her current position is Administrative Director.
- > Iris serves as a Board Member of Florida Association of Special Districts.
- > Certified District Manager.
- > Certified as a Florida Public Sector Labor Relations Professional.
- > The Bonita Springs District's Civilian Employee of the Year Award was presented to Iris in 2003 & 2010.

Other Activities

- > Iris enjoys spending time with her two grandsons
- > She has participated in mission trips to Spain, Cuba, and Guatemala.



MR. JIM MURPHY / PELICAN LANDING CERT CAPTAIN

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program provides education about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact Bonita Springs and trains citizens in basic disaster response skills. Using the training acquired in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can be called upon to assist others following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members take an active role in emergency preparedness projects in their communities. We would like to introduce you to an individual who is committed to making a difference in Bonita Springs.



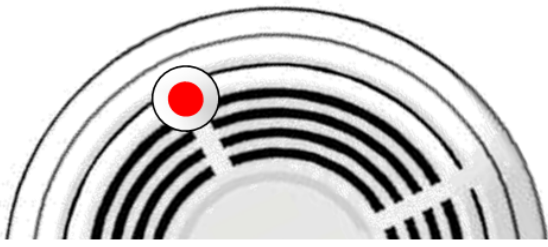
Past Accomplishments

- > Graduated from Colorado State University in Vocational Education
- > Distributive Education Teacher/Coordinator
- > Tae Kwon Do Black Belt Instructor
- > Vice President of Universal Energy Corporation
- > President of The Chicago Coal Shippers' Association
- > President of the Chicago Coal, Rail & Barge Association
- > President of Royal Fuel Corporation
- > President of Royal Fuel Liquid Energies Corporation
- > Founder and CEO of Illinois Coal Sales, Inc.

Current

- > Born in Chicago/second oldest of Thirteen children
- > Married to Geraldine M. Murphy
- > Florida resident since 1998 in Pelican Landing
- > Lakemont Cove Community Association Board of Directors Vice President
- > Pelican Landing Unit Owners Committee Representative
- > Pelican Landing Unit Owners Committee Co-Chair
- > Pelican Landing Roads Task Force Member
- > Pelican Landing Privacy Committee Liaison to Unit Owners Committee
- > Pelican Landing Tennis Task Force Chairman
- > Pelican Landing Community Association Board of Directors Vice President
- > Liaison for PLCA to the Community Development Districts in Pelican Landing
- > Pelican Landing Community Association CERT Captain
- > Certified in CPR and AED usage
- > Sector 23 CERT Leader
- > *Supporter* of The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, Habitat of Humanity of Lee County and United Way.

FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAMS: Smoke Detector Information



CHANGE YOUR CLOCK CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES



Make a Home Escape Plan: This is a plan to get out of your home quickly.

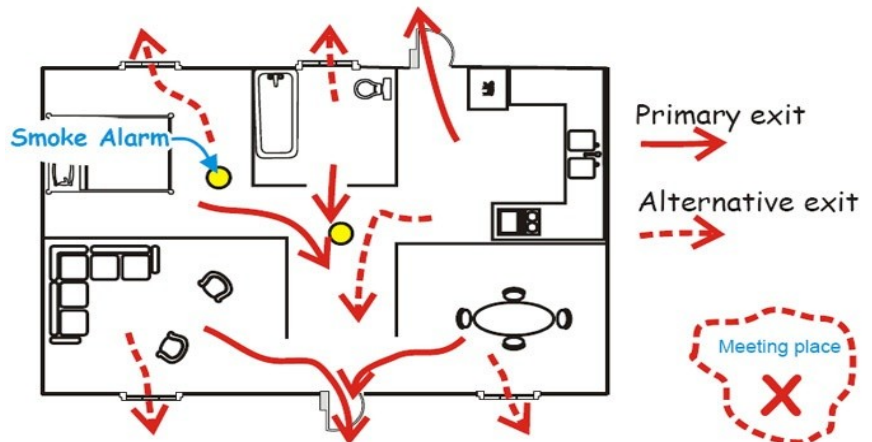
- Map all doors and windows that lead outside.
- Make sure every door and window opens easily. Each family member should know how to open windows and doors with security bars or grills.
- Know at least two ways out of every room. For example, the door and the window.
- Stairways, hallways, and exits should be clear of furniture or clutter.
- Choose one meeting place a safe distance from the home where everyone should meet once they have escaped.
- Have a plan for anyone in your home who may need assistance to escape, such as young children, older adults or people with disabilities.
- Make sure everyone knows how to dial 9-1-1.
- Push the smoke alarm button to start your drill.
- Practice crawling outside quickly.
- Go to your outside safe meeting place.
- Practice your escape plan at night and during the day.
- Practice using different ways out.

Did You Know:

- When you're asleep you can't smell smoke.
- Most people die in the first 5 minutes of a fire.
- A fire burning in a house for 1 minute grows to 3 times its original size. In 4 minutes it grows to 11 times its original size, and in 6 minutes it reaches 50 times its original size.
- It is estimated that as many as half of the batteries in smoke detectors in homes across the country are dead or missing.

Change Your Smoke Detector Batteries Twice a Year During Daylight Savings Time!

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside each bedroom, and outside each sleeping area. Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they will all sound.
- Make sure everyone knows what your smoke alarms sound like and can hear the sound of the smoke alarms.
- Test your smoke alarms at least once a month using the test button.
- Change your batteries twice a year during Daylight Savings Time.



SMOKE DETECTORS

Can only save your life if they contain a working battery!

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District offers over 30 educational programs to the public. This is an example of just one of our popular topics. To view a complete list go to www.bonitafire.org. For more information on our programs or to participate in a fire and life safety class, please contact your Public Educator at 239-949-6228.

FIRE PREVENTION LIFE SAFETY PARTNERSHIP AWARDS / 2011

The listed businesses and individuals have received the Fire Prevention Life Safety Partnership Award:

- > AFC Electric
- > Affordable Frame and Design
- > Amazon Sheds
- > AM Vets
- > American Heart Association
- > American Legion
- > Angelina's Restaurant
- > Art Trinko/ Manor Morton Grove
- > Ashely/ Colony at Morton Grove
- > Azar Rugs Gallery
- > BB&T
- > Beall's Outlet Store #135
- > Best Mini Storage
- > Better Hearing Centers of Bonita Springs
- > Bob McMullen Insurance Agency
- > Bonita Bay Community Association
- > Bonita Dental Care
- > Bonita Grande Aggregates
- > Bonita Hair Designs
- > Bonita Springs Acupuncture
- > Bonita Springs Insurance Agency
- > Carole Peck Financial
- > Circle K on Old 41
- > Citrus Park Concession Stand
- > City Electric
- > City Mattress Offices/ Warehouse
- > City Mattress Store/ South Tamiami Trail
- > Classic Title
- > Coastal Landscaping of Bonita
- > Cohen & Grigsby

This award is given by the Fire Prevention Division to businesses that have shown an attempt to promote safety in the workplace. Congratulations to these hardworking businesses and thank you for making Bonita Springs a safer place to live, visit, and work. 150 recipients received our Fire Prevention Award for 2011. More recipients will be listed throughout the year.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS: Volunteers for the Greater Good

The Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District recognizes the need to be able to incorporate and utilize volunteer help during certain emergency or disaster situations. Bonita Springs Fire-Rescue has taken a pro-active stance in this area by training citizens to be part of a CERT.

The CERT Program provides education about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact Bonita Springs and trains citizens in basic disaster response skills. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can be called upon to assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members are capable of supporting emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

CERT graduates will be better prepared to respond and cope with the aftermath of natural or manmade disasters. Neighborhood groups receiving CERT training will become a team that can develop plans to help themselves and other residents when a disaster strikes. Topics such as Introduction to Disasters, Disaster Medical Care, Fire Suppression, Search and Rescue and Disaster Planning will be taught to all who attend.



Members can provide crucial support and direction to their development or neighborhood. CERT members are encouraged, but not obligated to use their training, skills, and equipment in disaster situations or to assist their friends and family while awaiting the arrival of trained professional emergency responders.

The Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District CERT program is designed to support and integrate into disaster plans. The CERT program is intended to be a partnership between the district and local neighborhoods or Bonita Springs' communities that will ultimately reduce the death, injury, and property loss caused by major disasters.

Classes will be held from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and are taught at Bonita Springs Fire-Rescue Station Four at 27701 Bonita Grande Drive. After all 16 hours have been completed you are eligible to be called-out to an emergency

scene. There is no cost and there are no physical or age limitations. If you are interested, please fill out an application and return it to Bonita Springs Fire Station Four at 27701 Bonita Grande Drive, Bonita Springs, FL 34135.

For more information, please contact Nicole Hornberger at 239-949-6228.