



THE SECOND ALARM

A Department Without Limits

MAY 2019
THE SECOND ALARM

CHIEF'S TOPIC OF THE MONTH

I remember watching ESPN 30 for 30 about Coach Jimmy V. and the 1983 NC State Championship team. The show not only highlighted their win but also provided a glimpse of the man Jimmy V. As he battled cancer, he mentioned having "a complete day." In his words, a complete day is one in which you have taken time to laugh, think and cry.

My wife often laughs and comments about how my eyes light up and dance as I reminisce about the days spent at the station and time-fighting fires. She often mentions that I could go on and on about being a firefighter.

As I think about the show and the life of Coach to Jimmy V., I am reminded of the time spent laughing at the station and the camaraderie. The time spent alone or after a call thinking about how I can be a better man and a servant to others. The time spent crying about not only what I experienced/witnessed on the job but also about the family sacrifices I've made due to my chosen profession.

It would appear that expressing all of these emotions every day would be tiring, but in actuality, it's actually what Jimmy V. was talking about, "It's a complete day." As we go about each day this year, let's take time to laugh, think and cry. Let's be valiant about improving comradery. Let's take time to spread positivity and denounce negativity. Finally, take time to cry. It's ok to cry; we are not superheroes; we are humans who do super things. Cry tears of joy and laugh until you cry. Perhaps

if we do these three things as Jimmy V. mentioned and when we close our eyes at the end of the day, "we can smile, say well done and



Freddie D. Boone



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Elks Lodge Public Safety Officer of the Year Nomination

Tuesday, May 21, 2019, nominations from VFD, VPD, LCSO and GSP are invited to attend the annual Valdosta Elks Lodge Public Safety Officer of the Year dinner. One of the nominate will receive the honor of being Valdosta Elks Lodge Pubic Safety Officer of the Year. Congratulation to Lieutenant Shelly Miller on his nomination to represent VFD.

On Tuesday, August 14, 2018, the Valdosta Fire Department responded to a house fire at 401 N. Forrest Street. The call came in at 10:34 p.m. and the first fire unit arrived at 10:36 p.m. They reported heavy flames visible from the carport area. Further investigation revealed there were two vehicles under the carport on fire. The flames were starting to extend to the adjoining house. The first arriving fire units initiated an aggressive fire attack to extinguish the vehicles and the roof area of the adjacent home.

Lieutenant Shelley Miller led his crew in an effort to attempt to alert the residents and gain access into the house. There was a moderate amount of smoke inside the residents. Fire personnel located the sleeping occupants who were not aware of the fire. There were smoke alarms present inside the home, but they were not working. VFD personnel quickly assisted the occupants to a safe location outside of the house.

Only mild smoke inhalation was sustained by the residents due to the quick actions of alerting and evacuating the occupants. SGMC EMS transported them for precautionary concerns. The occupants were later released from SGMC.



Sgt. Shelly Miller

Employee of the Month Nomination

While operating at an emergency scene, the Chevrolet Tahoe owned by the fire department was struck on the left front fender. The damage was not severe enough to place the vehicle out of service, but was extensive enough to require considerable body repair. Chief McMillan operates a small body shop on his off days and is renowned for his exceptional body repair skills.

Chief McMillan contributed his own time amounting to approximately 25 hours, an assortment of his own supplies, and the use of his shop to repair the damage. Chief McMillan used his connections with parts suppliers to find a replacement fender and paint at a substantial savings to the city. The repair would have cost the fire department thousands of dollars and taken a considerable amount of time had this been farmed out to a body shop. Because of Chief McMillan's efforts, the repair was completed in only one weekend and at a fraction of the cost. Chief McMillan ensured the job was performed to the highest standard and insured quality parts and supplies were used. The vehicle is back in service.



Chief McMillan

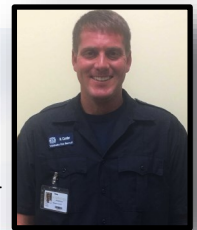
Employee Recognitions:

Sgt. Shelley Miller donated a motorcycle helmet for use in the Department EMS program. This saved the Department from having to source and purchase a piece of needed equipment for authorization for our NREMT Site approval evaluation.



Sgt. Shelly Miller

FF Daniel Carder donated a football helmet for use in the Department EMS program. This saved the Department from having to source and purchase a piece of needed equipment for authorization for our NREMT Site approval evaluation.



FF Daniel Carder





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2018 Boot Drive Tally

29TH ANNUAL GIVE BURNS THE BOOT® CAMPAIGN



(final audited tally)

1. Hall County	\$59,565.52	30. Haralson County.....	\$4,345.00
2. Henry County	\$57,958.00	31. Tift County	\$3,815.52
3. Cobb County	\$50,768.06	32. Decatur	\$3,710.00
4. Floyd County	\$37,500.00	33. Sylvania	\$3,405.00
5. DeKalb County.....	\$28,397.02	34. Waycross	\$3,345.50
6. Oconee County.....	\$24,377.13	35. Hapeville	\$3,125.00
7. Winder.....	\$21,966.12	36. Jackson	\$3,044.57
8. Cartersville.....	\$20,231.58	37. Tifton	\$3,000.00
9. Forsyth County.....	\$19,712.69	38. Lee County	\$2,135.33
10. Paulding County.....	\$17,737.01	39. Union County	\$1,885.10
11. Johns Creek.....	\$17,549.23	40. Douglas.....	\$1,888.00
12. Atlanta	\$16,610.25	41. Toccoa	\$1,632.19
13. Dawson County.....	\$14,305.08	42. Quitman	\$1,606.34
14. Fairburn	\$13,675.32	43. Lincoln County FF Assoc.	\$1,050.00
15. Butts County.....	\$11,720.27	44. Manchester	\$1,030.23
16. Bartow County	\$11,451.29	45. Hazlehurst-Jeff Davis County	\$1,000.00
17. Baldwin County	\$11,162.47	46. Fairfield Plantation.....	\$950.00
18. Gainesville.....	\$10,962.02	47. Woodstock.....	\$852.00
19. Valdosta.....	\$10,550.00	48. Bremen	\$600.00
20. McDonough.....	\$10,299.52	49. Reynolds.....	\$500.00
21. Carroll County.....	\$9,490.98		
22. Griffin.....	\$8,751.21	Reported 2018 Deposits.....	\$565,632.36
23. South Fulton	\$5,989.00	Unclaimed 2018 Deposits (thru 12/31/18)...	\$1,621.00
24. Morrow.....	\$5,937.48	GRAND TOTAL	\$567,253.36
25. Forest Park	\$5,797.91		(as of 12/31/18)
26. Albany	\$5,345.15		
27. Cherokee County.....	\$5,336.68		
28. Troup County	\$4,922.00		
29. Heard County	\$4,643.59		



May is Bladder Cancer Awareness Month

- Did you know that bladder cancer is the 6th most common cancer in the US?
- Did you know that firefighters are twice as likely to have bladder cancer than the general population?
- Did you know about the link between a firefighter's exposure to hazardous materials and bladder cancer?

Today over 600,000 Americans are living with bladder cancer. In 2019 alone, the American Cancer Society estimates that more than 80,000 Americans will learn they have this disease and nearly 18,000 will die from it. The Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network (BCAN) believes these numbers are unacceptable and, as the premier bladder cancer-focused nonprofit addressing the needs of patients, we work every day in pursuit of our three-part mission to:

- Provide educational and support services for the bladder cancer community;
- Advocate for greater public awareness of and increased funding for bladder cancer; and
- Advance bladder cancer research towards diagnosis, treatment and a cure for the disease.

What can you do?

1. **Help Increase Awareness** - Place the enclosed poster up in your firehouse.
2. **Join a Walk to End Bladder Cancer** - Visit www.bcanwalk.org for a listing of walks taking place this spring.
3. **Visit the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network at www.bcan.org** for free resources and more information.

Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network | www.BCAN.org | 1-888-901-BCAN | info@bcan.org
4915 St. Elmo Avenue, Suite 202 | Bethesda, MD 20814

POINTS OF INTEREST

- Submission to the newsletter should occur before the 20th of each month
- Feel Free to submit photos with your submissions
- Have a strong opinion about a topic of concern to our fire department? Feel free to submit a piece for review and possible publication in the newsletter.





THE SECOND ALARM

Open Letters to the Chief



*The family of
William "Bill" E. Johnson, Jr.
acknowledges with deep
appreciation your kind expression
of sympathy.*

Chief Broome + All other Dept. staff :

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, and remembering us during our difficult time. Thank you all for taking the time out of your busy day to be a part of Captain Johnsons' beautiful service. It meant so much to us and we will never forget it. We will miss him dearly. God bless you all !

Brenda + Ashley Johnson + Family

CFAA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VOL. 1, Issue 5 May 2019

CFAA Reminders / Upcoming Events:

- ♦ CFAA General Meeting
Tuesday, May 21 @ Fire Station 1
Conference Room (6:00 p.m.)

NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN JUNE OR JULY
- ♦ Adopt A Road Clean-Up
Saturday, May 25 is the next clean-up at
N. Forrest Street, Time TBA
- ♦ Community Wide Back to School Block Party
August 3, 9-12 @ Drexel Park (more info coming)
- ♦ Valdosta Veteran's Ministry Dinner
August 3, Time TBA
(More information coming / CFA may sponsor a table.)
- ♦ CFAA General Meeting
Tuesday, August 20 @ Fire Station 1
Conference Room (6:00 p.m.)

Events must be presented at general meetings and approved to be added to the calendar or by special request through the Chief and the VFD.

Need the 411?

If you are not receiving updates and emails or if your contact information has change, make sure to send an email to: cfaavalдоста@gmail.com
Include your name, your contact information and CFA Class #.
You can also sign up for Remind 101 and receive text reminders by:

Texting this message
@vfdc
To this number:
81010

Also, if you have not connected on Facebook, visit here: <https://www.facebook.com/VFDCFA/>

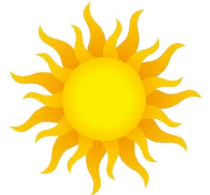
*If you missed the last CFAA newsletter, check the Group Facebook Page or send an email to:
cfaavalдоста@gmail.com*

Our Mission

"Our mission is to contribute to the functions of the Valdosta Fire Department while supporting service projects and fostering positive relationships among the community."

Summer Break

At the April meeting it was discussed and agreed to take the summer off from our General Meetings. You will continue to receive updates on any and all important news and information, but we know summer is the best time to spend with family and friends. Many will be traveling so be safe when on vacation. Stay connected—we will see you in August! Enjoy your break!!!



Recruitment Rally

Citizens Fire Academy, after all, it is why we are all here. What better way to support our Valdosta Fire Department than by encouraging more citizens to participate in this amazing program.
At the same time, who doesn't like a little healthy competition...

Now through the month of August...Recruit, Recruit, Recruit!!!

Invite friends, neighbors, family and co-workers to apply and participate in the next CFA. The CFA Class 6 is scheduled to begin August 27. The CFAA member with the highest number of recruits will earn bragging rights for the next year and the title of CFAA-Recruitment Champion.

Also mark your calendar. We provide dinner to the new Class on August 27th. Sign Up Coming Soon!



The Citizens Fire Academy Alumni (CFAA) are citizens whom have completed the Citizens Fire Academy (CFA) through the Valdosta Fire Department. If you are interested in signing up for the next CFA course, please email Tangela Rowe with the Valdosta Fire Department at: TROWE@VALDOSTACITY.COM

If you have completed a CFA course and would like to receive more information on the alumni, email: CFAAVALDOSTA@GMAIL.COM

CFAA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VOL. 1, Issue 5 May 2019

Highlights on Community Outreach Initiatives



Sound the Alarm Blitz



Thank you to all who helped with "Sounding the Alarm". From hanging door knockers to installing the smoke

SHARE THE INFORMATION

Did you know smoking materials, including cigarettes, pipes, and cigars, started an estimated 17,200 home structure fires reported to U.S. fire departments in 2014. Watch this short video on Smoking Hazard Fire Tips.

[Safety Tip Video—Smoking Hazards](#)