

FIRST DUE



FRANKLIN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2019

Member Spotlight



Captain Georgia Ann Gravely
Squad 8



Captain Gravely works in the dental profession full time. She is a founding and active Lifetime member with Fork Mountain Rescue Squad and a Lifetime member with Bassett Rescue Squad. She has 35 years of service with Fork Mountain Rescue and has been Captain for 4 years. Captain Gravely is an Advanced EMT and instructor with the American Heart Association. She is married to A.L. Gravely, who is also a Lifetime member of Fork Mountain Rescue. They have 2 sons, Doug (wife Cindy) and Michael (wife Monica). They have 3 grandchildren, Ashely, Kaylee and Kaden. She enjoys ATV riding, traveling to historical areas and to Braves baseball games, reading, snow skiing, and spending time with her grandchildren, family and friends.

Captain Gravely says, "I enjoy serving our community and helping those in need. My faith and volunteering have given me a positive outlook and made me aware that life is not all about my family and myself, but others as well. Being a volunteer has been challenging and rewarding. Answering calls is a team effort and involves working with other members. I volunteer because there is a need for dedicated people to give their time to provide medical assistance to those who are sick or injured. Being a volunteer gives a mission in life and at the end of the day, satisfaction that you made a difference for someone. As Captain at Squad 8, I am truly blessed to have a great group of volunteers and career personnel taking care of our community and others in their time of need. It is a pleasure to work with Fork Mountain Fire Department as well as other Fire Companies and Squads in our county and surrounding areas. Law enforcement has been courteous and deserves a special "THANK YOU" for keeping everyone safe. Also, my sincere "THANK YOU" to the dispatchers who are behind the scenes and do a terrific job that is not easy."

Fifth Edition

VISION STATEMENT

FRANKLIN COUNTY'S PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT IS DEDICATED TO PROVIDING EMERGENCY SERVICES, TO INCLUDE, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, FIRE, EMS, ANIMAL CONTROL AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, THAT ARE DELIVERED IN A TIMELY AND EFFICIENT MANNER BY WELL-TRAINED AND DEDICATED CAREER AND VOLUNTEER PROFESSIONALS.

Captain Gravely would like to thank all the staff at Public Safety for their help and commitment. The shift captains and career personnel serving Station 8, and the career personnel that have answered calls in a timely and professional manner. She would also like to thank everyone who has assisted her with her training and the Department of Public Safety for encouraging her through the years.





Congratulations

Congratulations to Chief of Operations, Belinda Hodges on the completion of the National Emergency Management Basic Academy from the Emergency Management Institute. *Thank you for your hard work and dedication.*



Congratulations to Rena Jennings for being named **Career Firefighter of the Year** by Boones Mill Fire Department. Great Job and thank you for all you do!



Josh Williams and Jessica Beer, 4-A shift, received awards for **Most Helpful Career Staff** at Glade Hill Volunteer Rescue Squad. Congratulations!

Welcome



Jay Mason

Deputy Chief of Support Services, Fire Marshal

Public Safety would like to welcome Jay Mason as our Deputy Chief of Support Services, Fire Marshal. He is a Franklin County native and has 29 years of service as a volunteer firefighter and EMT with Fork Mountain Fire and Rescue. He was also a volunteer EMT with the Franklin County Rescue Squad for 5 years. Jay has 24 years of experience in law enforcement and has worked at the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Henry County Sheriff's Office and Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority.

Most of Mason's duties will include fire safety, education and compliance, along with fire investigations. He will also oversee the Animal Control division and the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Training divisions.



Chief and Captains Dinner

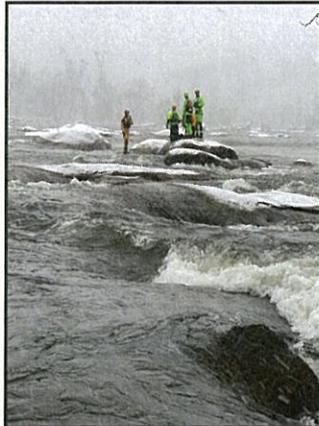
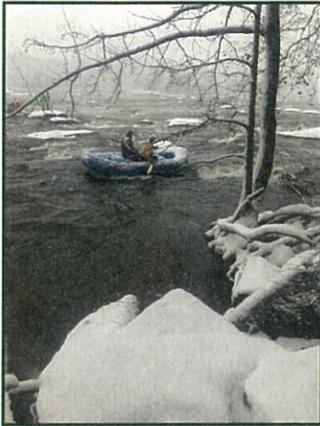
The annual Chief and Captains Christmas Dinner was held Wednesday, December 5, 2018 at the Essig Center. Dinner was provided by The Hub Restaurant. A special thank you to Pastor Mark Law and Franklin Heights Baptist Church for providing each agency with a gift basket.





Special Operations Team

Special Operations Team members, Adam Brown and Danny Murphy, participated in River Rescue Training in December. Adam trained in Blacksburg along the New River and Danny trained in Richmond along the James River. Cold weather, ice and snow didn't slow them down.



Come Home to a Franklin County Christmas

Several Agencies and Public Safety staff participated in Come Home to a Franklin County Christmas on December 7, 2018. A special thank you to everyone who was on standby for the event.





Fire Training Division



With the changing of the weather and the colder days upon us, the Fire Training Division has switched gears to more of a classroom setting.

This will continue for the next couple of months. We are currently working on the Fire/Rescue training schedule for 2019 and it is near completion. Once completed, it will be distributed throughout the system for all of our Fire/Rescue volunteer and career staff.

As we spoke about in last months newsletter, we have began hosting monthly lectures on topics we don't normally get through basic classes. At the beginning of December, we hosted a lecture named Water Rescue Overview. It was a great lecture that was given by one of our Special Operations Team Section Leaders, Chris Decker. He spoke about the do's and don'ts of water rescue, specifically during times of flooding. He also talked about equipment that can be placed on Fire/EMS apparatus to assist in the basic rescue attempts during flooding events. This was a very informational class and it was attended by 14 of our volunteer and career staff.

Next months lecture will be Tuesday, January 8, 2019. The topic will be Electric/Hybrid Vehicle Emergencies as it relates to Fire/EMS. This should be a great lecture as we are seeing more of these types of vehicles in incidents. We encourage everyone to attend. Please visit www.fcpublicsafety.com to read more about this training event and others that are being scheduled.

I hope everyone has a great Holiday Season, Stay Safe .

Captain Patrick B. Meeks

Fire Training Coordinator
Special Operations Team Lead

Fire Academy Class #003



We are well over half way into the academy and all 15 Cadets are rolling right along. They just completed Ventilation, Forcible Entry, and Water Supply. We had to cancel Ladder Practical's due to the weather, but we will be making that topic up in the near future. Fire Attack and Foam were completed the week before Christmas. During that practical session, the Cadets saw their first "Live Fire". The Cadets will get 2 weeks off for the Holidays and start back on January 2, 2019 when they will begin Firefighter Survival.

This group is progressing nicely and we are on track to finish out this portion of the academy in the latter part of February. We continue to encourage you to support these Cadets and show them how we work together as a team.

Captain Patrick B. Meeks



In Remembrance

Jerry Lee Sink

April 13, 1945 - December 17, 2018

Lifetime Member of Franklin County Rescue Squad



JANUARY 2019

Upcoming Classes

- January 5, 9:00 am-4:15 pm: CE Day with FCDPS Staff, Carilion and Carilion Lifeguard.
- January 8, 3:00-5:30 pm: Heartsaver CPR/AED
- January 8, 6:00-9:00 pm: Heartsaver First Aid
- January 8, 6:00-8:00 pm: Electric Hybrid Vehicle Emergencies Course
- January 15, 6:00-9:00 pm: Healthcare Provider CPR Course
- January 19 and 20, 8:00 am-4:15 pm: AHA ACLS Initial Program (16 hour/2 day program)

Electric/Hybrid Vehicles Training

Tuesday, January 8, 2019

6:00pm - 8:00pm

The Franklin Center

This course will be designed to give an overview of electric/hybrid vehicles. Different types of these cars and trucks and what special concerns first responders should be aware of during emergencies involving these vehicles will be covered. Fires involving these vehicles, along with special considerations as it relates to vehicle extrication will be discussed. The training will begin with a lecture style format and move into open discussion. **This course is open to all Fire and EMS personnel.**

You can register at:

www.fcpublicsafety.com or just show up

