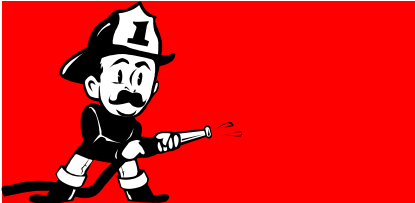


# Basalt Fire-Rescue Newsletter

## March 2011

---

### A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



I would like to give thanks to our Thomasville members and families for organizing and providing for yet another great Chili Dinner and Poker Run. This is of great benefit to the Thomasville community and a fun event to get together during the long winter. The weather was perfect and besides Brandon's broken, borrowed sled everyone had fun. Special thanks go out to those that drove from the lower valley to help our brothers and sisters in Thomasville.

Congratulations also go out to EMT-B-IV Craig Williams, the recipient of this year's Vince Thomas Memorial Scholarship, of which a portion of the Poker Run benefits.

In housing news, Garrett Wickre is in the process of moving to Denver and vacating our resident program. For those of you that have not heard, Garrett is expecting to be a father very soon and is moving to Denver to fulfill the obligations and responsibilities of being a dad. We all wish Garrett a happy, healthy baby! Tanner Vasten recently moved into a resident position at Station 42. Tanner has completed his taskbook on the ambulance and has already shown to be of great help. Please help Tanner as he moves

forward with his training and experience.

Recently there have been changes and updates with the I AM RESPONDING system. We are now set-up to manage text paging to cell phones from your profile. The current text pages will be removed by Pitkin County in the near future. Please update your profile to add Dispatch information, if you have problems please let me know and I will be glad to help you. I have been experimenting with this system and the only real advice is that you really don't need priority messaging. You can even get our calls to your email- have fun with it!

The District has received a letter of resignation from Steve Stefferud. Steve has been responsible for medical training and medical certification of our members. Steve has chosen to leave full-time employment as of June 1, 2011 but will continue on a PRN basis after that.

With Steve's departure we have an opportunity to enhance and fill a much needed void. Prior to 2004, the District employed a full time Medical Director which oversaw the entire medical division. This position was eliminated when the Medical Director resigned. The District was in the process of adding full-time paid paramedics and simply was unable to fund the Medical Director position as well as the full-time positions necessary for 24-hour coverage. The District chose to divide the Medical Director's responsibilities amongst the three paid paramedics and up until now, we have gotten by

without someone in this position. Our Physician Advisor, Dr. Papenfus, has raised concerns that this position is critical and should be provided for. It is prudent to say that with this position the proper oversight and training will be enhanced. How we get there is still evolving but I just wanted all of you to be informed.

**DON'T FORGET**  
**Daylight Savings Time**  
**begins on March 13<sup>th</sup>...**  
**turn your clocks *ahead***  
**one hour!**

### UPDATE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



#### Regular Meeting of the Pension Board- Feb. 24, 2011

- The minutes from August 5, 2010 were approved.
- Letter of pension reconsideration were reviewed by the Board.
- The amended 2010 Pension list was approved.
- On-call hours for 2011 on the weekends to be counted as time and a half was proposed; approved, pending record keeping issues can be resolved in the system.
- Jennifer reviewed the financial status of the pension fund.

- The board will receive a new actuarial study in June of 2011.

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors- Feb. 24, 2011**

- The minutes from January 27, 2011 were approved.
- Resolution No. 2 for a supplemental budget for 2010 was approved.
- Scott is still working with Chief Leach to find a consultant to work with the Board on the feasibility of a possible consolidation with Carbondale.
- The Board approved the hiring of an EMS Director per Scott and Dr. Papenfus' recommendation.

**Planned Agenda for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors March 24, 2011 @ 1700**

- Minutes
- Reports
  - Chief's Report
  - Financial Report
  - Attorney's Report
  - Committees'
- Board Member Comments
- Staff Comment
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Training Opportunities
- Adjourn

**SAFETY MESSAGE**



The weather experts tells us this is the snowiest month, so don't forget your winter driving rules...slow down and make sure you have your seatbelt on, in your POV and all apparatus!

We have new SCBA's and have been training on them, but we

need to keep doing the training until using them becomes second nature. We lucked out on our structures fires this year; they were either small or totally involved so we did not need to send many people inside. If you have kept up with the news, you've heard that there have been several incidents that resulted in loss of life of firefighters and some children. This should really bring home the need to get familiar with the equipment that could save your life.

A reminder... **you** are the individual most responsible for **your** safety!



**EMS NEWS**



We can hope that spring is coming and the weather is changing, but they say that March is the heaviest month for snowfall in Colorado. I don't think it is all over yet, although the warm days have been so nice. This year may be a heavy runoff with the snowpack above average in the high country.

We have started this year with a busy couple of months and if this pace continues we will have a record breaking volume. We already have had an above normal year for

structure fires. Wildland season is next!

Training this month will be a review of IV therapy and administration. Anyone who is certified will have the opportunity to practice. For those members who are not certified to perform the procedure, we will teach how to set up the equipment and be helpful to those who are.

**FEBRUARY STATS**

Total calls: 49  
 Medical: 08  
 Trauma: 08  
 Refusals: 10  
 Transport to AVH: 09  
 Transport to VVH: 07

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**



**Tad Anderson  
 Steve Howard  
 Mark Van Wieren  
 Brian Benton  
 Bob Guion**

**St. Patrick's Day is March 17th**



**Wear something green!**