

# The Bethany Flame

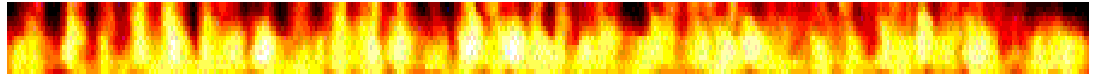
June 2006

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## What's Burning

### In this issue!

- [Our Goal... Our Way... Our Commitment](#)
- [Bethany on the World Wide Web](#)
- [Firefighter Stand Down](#)
- ["Farewell"](#)
- [Training and Events](#)
- [Community in Action](#)
- [News from the Board](#)
- [Fire Department News](#)
- [Happy Birthday](#)
- [Firefighter Profile](#)
- [Chaplain's Corner](#)
- [Downtown Bethany](#)
- [Call and Training Summaries](#)
- [Firefighter's Challenge](#)
- [Pics of the Month](#)
- [Members Commended](#)



## Our Goal...Our Way...Our Commitment

Throughout the past few years, the fire service has developed and progressed by leaps and bounds. We have new strategies and tactics that have been developed through training and in some cases just plain hard lessons learned. New equipment and technology has enabled us to provide better and safer fire protection. Moreover, our mindset has evolved. The old theory of putting the fire out and leaving is just that...old. The community of Bethany has been well known and recognized as a close knit group that strives each day to be a better community. Just as the community strives, the Bethany Fire Department strives each day to provide the best and up most fire protection possible. In doing so, we have chosen to look at the members of our community not only as citizens, but as customers who receive a very important and integral service.

Throughout the past 3 decades of service to our community, the Bethany Fire Department has undertaken the endeavor of providing this service to the best of abilities. We have been very successful in doing so and are proud of our accomplishments. This success has only come from the support of the Bethany community and the members that have served and continue to serve.

As we look down the road and envision the direction our department will take and the progression that our organization will need to under go, we continue to ask for your support. We ask for each citizen to support our department, our goals, and our commitment and to share in the success. As well, we ask for the support of each member to be committed to the service of our department, citizens and fellow firefighters. We as a department will continue to support our firefighters and their families. We recognize your dedication and sacrifices and are humbled by your service. Service has and will continue to be our goal, our way and our commitment. We ask that you continue to be as dedicated to the Bethany Fire Department as you have in the past and together we will continue to make a difference in the lives of the people we serve. Be proud of who you are and what you represent .

Chris

## Bethany Fire Department Hits the World Wide Web

The Bethany Fire Department is excited to announce that we have joined the rest of the world and hit the web! Captain Alan Farrar has undertaken this project and is pioneering the endeavor to develop a website that will feature our department and continue to provide communications between our organization and the community. We have contracted with Fire Web Designs out of Charlotte to establish and build our custom site and construction should be complete in July.

The following is just a glimpse of what the site includes.

- ⇒ Home Page- Recent calls, stats and general information.
- ⇒ Apparatus and Personnel Profiles
- ⇒ "About Us"- History of the department
- ⇒ Training and Fire Prevention events and pictures
- ⇒ Photo Gallery- Pictures of calls, training and special events
- ⇒ "The Bethany Flame"- Monthly newsletters
- ⇒ E-mail, Links and "Contact Us"

Continue to look for updates and check us out at [www.bethanyfire.org](http://www.bethanyfire.org).

## Second International Firefighter Safety Stand Down to Begin June 21

Building on the success of the first Fire Fighter Safety Stand Down in 2005, the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) and the Volunteer and Combination Officers' Section of the IAFC have called for a second stand down to be held starting Wednesday, June 21, 2006, and continued until all personnel and duty nights have been covered. Fire departments are urged to plan to participate in the event.

Last year, an estimated 10,000 fire departments participated in the Fire Fighter Safety Stand Down. Activities were posted on the IAFC and its partner's Web sites. The IAFC Safety, Health and Survival Section and the IAFF Department of Occupational Health, Safety and Medicine will be updating the recommended activities, and when those details are developed, they will be distributed.

"Sadly, 106 fire fighters died in the line of duty last year. Since many of the accidents occurred in department vehicles, we have decided to focus this year's stand down on emergency vehicle safety, where we can have the most impact. We must take dramatic steps to reduce the alarmingly high fire fighter death and injury rates," said IAFC President Chief Bill Killen. "While firefighter safety must be part of everyday life in the fire service, the Safety Stand Down raises awareness of the issue and calls national attention to the unacceptable number of firefighter line-of-duty deaths."

Once again, the IAFC will be reaching out to other fire service organizations to join forces and involve the entire fire service in the event. Last year, 19 organizations partnered with the IAFC for the first stand down.



## Bethany says 'Farewell' to a Landmark

On Saturday, June 3rd, the Playground Committee for the new Bethany School will hold a special farewell social to honor the old Bethany School which has proudly served our community for decades. This event will serve to let all

students, present and past, have an opportunity to visit the school campus for one last time as they make the transition to the new and improved Bethany Elementary School for the 2006-2007 school year. A supper will be

provided to raise funds for the new playground construction.

Make plans to attend this special function from 11:00 to 3:00 on this Saturday as we say goodbye to our old school and are welcomed into our new one.



### June Training Schedule

6/6	Drill/Regular Meeting	1900	6/13	Drill/Regular Meeting	1900
6/20	Drill/Regular Meeting	1900	6/27	Drill/Regular Meeting	1900



### Fire Department Events Calendar

6/7	Command Staff Meeting	19-00
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### Auxiliary Matters and Calendar

6/12	Auxiliary Meeting	7:15
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*The Bethany Fire Department Auxiliary, in conjunction with the American Red Cross, sponsored its annual Spring Blood Drive on Thursday, May 25th at the Bethany Civic Center. With the help and support of the Bethany Community, the goal of 40 units was accomplished. With the status of blood being critical, it has become very important to hold such drives to insure that blood supplies are in place and ready should the need arise. Thanks to all the donors who came out to support this special cause. The goal of 40 units was received. In addition, a special thanks goes to Tommy Ashley and Linda Wilson for spear heading this project. We look forward to seeing you at the Holiday Blood Drive in December.*

### Community in Action

Mt. Bethel Church will feature "Fishing", each Friday night in June. Live music and ice cream will be served each night starting at 7:00. Mark you calendars and make arrangements to attend this free event. Also, a chicken supper will be held on Friday, June 9th to support functions at the church. Tickets are on sell. Contact the church if interested!

If you have a special event that you would like featured in the "Community in Action" section of the newsletter, please make contact with me!

## News from the Board's Chambers



On May 30, 2006, the Board of Directors approved the purchase of 2 acres of land and the building of a fire substation @ U.S. 158 and Lake Walk Drive. Negotiations will be moving forward at an accelerated pace. A building committee has been appointed by the Chief to develop a building plan for the new station.

The initial strategic growth plan that indicated a need for a substation in the area of U.S. 158 and Witty Road was developed in 1997. With the continued residential growth in our District and continued increases in our Tax revenue, the Department feels that the time has come to proceed forward with the construction of our second station, which will enable us to better protect our customers in the southern portion of our District.



## News from the Bethany Fire Department

The Bethany Fire Department has completed the North Carolina Department of Insurance ISO evaluation! During the last week of April, the department underwent an intense process that evaluated our departments equipment, water supply measures, training, departmental documentation and operational procedures just to name a few. We have received our standard 9S certification and are awaiting the results of potentially lowering our rating and should receive our confirmation within 90-120 days of the evaluation. I will keep you posted on the results as we receive them. Thanks to the ISO committee and supporting members who helped to make this process a successful one!

The Bethany Fire Department is proud to announce our donation of \$1,000.00 to the Bethany Elementary School Playground Fund. We were alerted that the budget for the construction of the new school did not include monies to construct a playground. Thus, the members voted to give a donation from the Special Account which is funded through our annual stews and fundraisers.

In addition, the members voted to donate \$500.00 to the American Red Cross in support of there "Hometown Heroes" campaign. These monies will serve those citizens of Rockingham County who need support after a fire or other devastating disaster. Throughout our endeavors to provide great fire protection, we see the need for this such support and are honored to assist our community with such support.

The Bethany Fire Department is committed to our citizens and community. Should you find that you or another citizens is in need of help after a fire, please feel free to contact us or the American Red Cross for assistance.



## Happy "June" Birthdays

1- Justin Hudson

2- Zack Holt

3- Tony Tuttle

4- Phillip Chism

10- Chris Wilson

22- Matt Patterson

## June's Firefighter Profile



**Name:** Chris Wilson

**Rank:** Assistant Chief

**Yrs. Of Service:** 10.75

**Birthday:** June 10th

**Spouse:** Allyson

**Children:** None...yet!

**Career :** Paramedic  
Guilford County EMS

**Life long resident of the  
Bethany Community**

**Accomplishments:**

**AAS—Criminal Justice  
EMT Paramedic, EVD,  
Haz-Mat Operations,  
Firefighter of the Year**

**Goals: Receive a BA in  
Management and Ethics**

**Hobbies: Traveling,  
Spending time at the lake**

### Safety First!

## POOL SAFETY

- Learn CPR.
- Teach your children to swim.
- Never leave young children unattended, even for a minute, in a bathtub, swimming pool, lake, ocean, or stream.
- Fence all home pools and keep the gate closed and locked.
- Remove all toys, tricycles from the vicinity of the pool.
- Always wear life preservers when boating.
- Avoid drinking alcohol when swimming.
- Never swim alone.
- Teach your children good pool or spa safety habits.
- Never dive into water unless you know beforehand how deep it is.
- Know your limits. Do not over-exert yourself.
- Avoid standing on wet surfaces or being in water during a lightening storm.
- Keep lifesaving equipment, such as a pole, life preserver and rope - in the pool area.
- Encourage your neighbors to follow pool safety guidelines.
- Teach your children the most effective way to get out of the pool or spa quickly.
- Do not allow glass in the pool or spa area.



## Chaplain's Corner

### "Jaws of Life"

I recently heard someone who is not a firefighter talking about the rescue tools that fire departments and emergency medical organizations carry. They were trying to explain what they saw when they happened upon an automobile accident. They described the horrific scene of twisted metal and broken bodies (almost too happily) and then made the statement that the firemen on the scene began using the "Jaws of Death." Jaws of death! That may sound more dramatic, but its not correct or true. Bethany Fire Department has a piece of equipment on our rescue unit that is called the "Jaws of Life" and rightly so. It is used to rescue people from the mess they are entangled. It frees them so more treatment can be administered and healing can begin. We all, personally, possess jaws of life or death. It is our mouth. We can speak concern or gossip. We can heal or squeal. We can help or condemn based on the words we speak. God gives us the jaws of life, but too many times we misuse it. "Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing. Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment" (Proverbs 12:18 & 19 NIV). "With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be" (James 3:9 NIV). We should respond with the jaws of life to assist in freeing those entangled in the mess of life, so treatment and healing can begin.

Don't forget to say your prayers and God bless,

Chaplain Kevin  
1410



## Downtown Bethany

Scott Moore would like to advertise his business...

**A full service care wash and detail service just for you. Too hot outside, don't have the time, vehicle too dirty or just plain lazy,**

**Scott has the answer for you.**



### Scott' Auto Cleaning

**Cars. Small trucks \$30.00**

**Large SUV's, Large Trucks, Mini-Vans \$40.00**

**Includes wash, was, vacuuming, armor all and window cleaning!**

**Contact Scott to schedule an appointment today!**

**Home 951-1777 or Cell 613-0555**

## 3/16-5/15 2006 Call Summary



Medical Response	32	Service Call/Other	4
Brush Fire	1	Structure/Fire Related	4
Mutual Aid Assist	12	MVA	3
Fire Alarm Activation	3	<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>

## Call Response and Training Summary

The following are summaries of response to incidents and training attended by Bethany Fire Department personnel.

**March 16, 2006—May 15, 2006**

Bethany Fire Department  
6052 NC 65  
Reidsville, NC 27320  
951-2155

**Editor in Chief  
Chris Wilson**

336-382-7388 (Cell)  
336-205-1983 ( Pager)  
captcwilson@hotmail.com



### Calls

Mike Lee	25 Calls
Matt Patterson	22
Jason Collins	20
Chris Wilson	18
Adam Moore	17
Alan Barham, Alan Farrar	14
Timmy Gray, Perry Hall	12

### Training

Adam Moore	95.50 Hours
Lee Isley	88.25
Matt Patterson	86.00
Chris Wilson	71.50
Alan Farrar	66.50
Jason Collins	64.15
Perry Hall	52.00

## Bethany Represented at the Folk Festival

The annual Folk Festival was held at Rockingham Community College on Saturday, May 6th. As usual, one of the highlights of the festival was the 10th Annual Firefighter's Challenge sponsored by the Rockingham County Fire and Rescue Association. This is a very intense obstacle course that involves several different tasks that firefighters face. These include turning a hydrant, connecting a nozzle to the hose, high rise pack carry, dragging a 165lb. Dummy, and performing on the Keiser machine.

The Bethany Fire Department went to uphold their title as "Team" winners as well as individual titles from the 2005 challenge. Following are the results from members of the Bethany Fire Department.

- **16-20 year old class**

- 1st Place- Alan Mitchell
- 2nd Place- Kirk Daniels
- 3rd Place- Timmy Gray

- **21-30 year old class**

- 2nd Place- Adam Moore
- 3rd Place- Matt Patterson
- 5th Place- Jason Collins

- **30-40 year old class**

- 3rd Place- Alan Farrar

- **Team**

- 2nd Place- Lee Isley, Alan Farrar  
Adam Moore, Matt Patterson



Deputy Chief Mike Lee performs on the course as an entry in the "Seniors" Division.

Don't let the hair, or lack there of, fool you...I still got it!

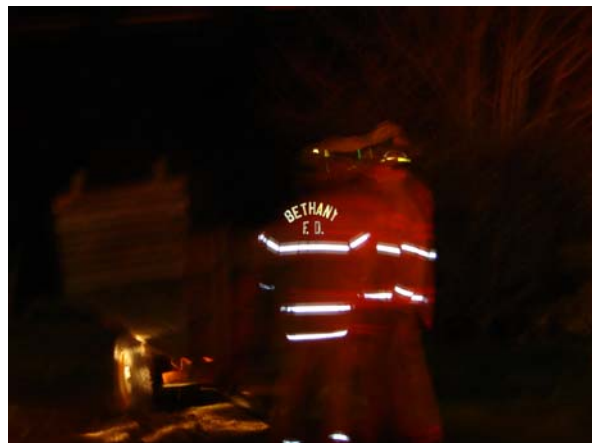
Congratulations to all those that participated in this event and for everyone who came out to show their support. Good job guys and girls!

- **Team #2**

- 3rd Place- Mike Lee, Dusty Darnell, Timmy Gray, Kirk Daniels

**Special Recognition** Crystal Clapp—First Female Firefighter to ever complete the challenge!

## Pics of the Month



## Deputy Chief Mike Lee Commends the Members

I want to take this opportunity to express my thanks to each one of the members of the Bethany Fire Department who volunteer their time away from family, friends and even sometimes their job. I consider Bethany to be a strong leader of the Fire Service in Rockingham County and without each one of our volunteers we would not be the department that we are today.

As I am sure every one knows, we have just completed an in depth inspection of our Department by the N.C. Department of Insurance-Office of State Fire Marshal. During the (ISO) inspection we were assessed on our training, response to structure fires and fire alarms, water supply system (wet and dry hydrants), Fire and Insurance District maps and written descriptions, personnel rosters, fire apparatus and fire suppression equipment just to mention a portion of the areas assessed. The ISO Committee, which was chaired by Chris Wilson, did a great job preparing the documents, reports and equipment for presentation to the Inspector. The ISO Committee worked long and hard and is commended for the effort that they put into this mammoth project. It is just as important that we recognize the commitment of **every member** who attends training, meetings, and responds to calls. If it were not for the membership as a whole, the Department would not be able to even consider attempting to lower our Insurance Rating, much less remain open with the reputation that we have. Regardless whether you are an Officer, Board member, part-time employee, Administrative Assistant, Firefighter or Junior Member, it takes everyone's commitment and involvement to enable the Bethany Fire Department to be what it is today. The ISO Committee is satisfied with the Inspection process and feels as if we will be able to lower our Rating, but we will not receive a final ISO report for at least 4 months.

You may wonder why we decided to exert such effort and incur the cost to attempt to lower our Insurance Rating. It is my estimation that if we are able to lower our Rating by 1 point, our customers (taxpayers) will see enough of a reduction in their insurance premium to cover the cost of their Fire tax (\$80.00 per \$100,000 value). This would equate to our customers receiving fire protection for free.

The only area in which we came close to being deficient was our response to fire alarms. It is required that we have a minimum of 4 personnel respond to a fire alarm or structure fire or it is considered as a non-response. If we have more than 1 non-response in a 12 month period, we may be subject to losing our Insurance Rating. Therefore, it is imperative that we **all** respond to both structure fire and fire alarm calls when we are able. If you have gotten to the point that you are no longer compelled to attend at least 3 hours per month of training/meetings or respond when the alarm sounds, you may want to consider resigning as a volunteer. If the new Monroeton School is any indication as to the number of false alarms that the new Bethany School will have, get ready for a busy couple of months. Again, it takes everyone to make this Department what it is or could be.

Thanks for making this Department one of the best and let's all continue making a difference in our Community.

Mike Lee, CFO  
Deputy Chief