

An informational source for the  
Emergency Responders of Chester County

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# The Responder

September 2007

## Chester County Fire Training Graduation



Chester County Fire Training held its Firefighter I graduation ceremony Tuesday, June 26, 2007 at Wagontown Fire Company. The evening began with the Flag Salute with the assistance of the First West Chester Fire Company Honor Guard and the Chester County Emerald Society Pipe Band.

Department of Emergency Services Director, Ed Atkins, gave the welcome address and introduced the Keynote Speaker, Deputy Chief Ed Grugan of the Philadelphia Fire Department. Chief Grugan spoke about two critical qualities firefighters demonstrate every day, professionalism and compassion. He shared that consistency and the ability to provide the highest quality of service during

every emergency to every citizen in their time of need is a trademark of a true professional. Chief Grugan reminded the students that as firefighters, customer service is our business and encouraged them to enhance their service delivery by showing a continuous display of compassion. Chief Grugan welcomed the graduates into the brotherhood of the fire department and encouraged each of them to take pride in knowing they are now, and forever will be, part of that nationwide brotherhood of firefighters.

Jennifer Miller, Stowe Fire Company, Montgomery County, and Raymond Zwick, Sadsburyville Fire Company, were chosen as class speakers. Both shared class memories, both humorous and serious.



Beau Crowding, Deputy Director of Emergency Services for Fire Services, presented the Class Cadet Awards to Jennifer Miller of Stowe Fire Company, Montgomery County and to Michael Bogus of Thorndale Fire Company.

A special recognition was given to Fred McCormick, past chief of First West Chester Fire Company for his many years of dedicated service.

Special recognition was given to twelve (12) departments in Chester County for their participation in the State Fire Commissioner's Certification Participating Department Program. To receive recognition, a minimum of 10% of the department's active crew must be Nationally Certified. Receiving recognition for their participation at 10% were First West Chester Fire Company and Phoenix Hose, Hook & Ladder Company. Departments with 50% participation were West Grove Fire Company and Fame Fire Company. At 75% participation were Berwyn Fire Company, East Brandywine Fire Company, Thorndale Fire Company, and Westwood Fire Company. Receiving recognition with 100% participation were Chester County Emergency Services Fire Training Division, Chester County Emergency Services Fire Marshal's Office, Coatesville VA Medical Center Fire Department, and ISG Plate/Mittal Steel Emergency Services.

Jeff Kramer and John Weer presented the Volunteer Rescue Service Recognition (VRSR)/Department of Health Rescue Certification Award to Westwood Fire Company. The VRSR program provides statewide standards of rescue service equipment, personnel training and staffing, communications, reporting, and operations.

Special thanks to Chief Ed Grugan and his wife Susan for sharing and spending the evening with us. Special thanks also go to the Wagontown Fire Company for allowing us to hold the evening's event in their banquet hall and for all their help with the evening. Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in the evening, a wonderful time was had by everyone.



# WELCOME NEW DES EMPLOYEES!



Welcome  
Al Kalbach  
as The new  
EMS  
Training  
coordinator

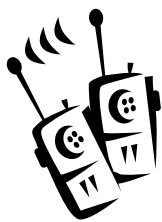
Welcome  
Mike Spirito  
as the new  
Deputy  
Director  
for  
Technical  
Support



It is with great pleasure to announce that Jeff Kramer, one of our Fire Instructors, has been appointed Lieutenant with the Arlington, Virginia, Fire Department. Lt. Kramer has been assigned to the Fire Marshal's Office and will be doing investigative work.



**Congratulations Lt. Kramer!**



## Notes From Communications

We have seen a large increase in citizens calling police dispatchers on lines reserved for police officers. It appears that these numbers are being given to citizens to contact the police to complete paperwork or to follow-up on an incident. This takes the dispatcher away from their primary duties of dispatching and monitoring incidents. By having the citizen call a ten digit line to a call taker, the call is processed quicker, is routed to the appropriate dispatcher and dispatched to the correct officer without interfering with other calls for assistance.

We have also seen an increase in fire department personnel calling dispatchers to report incidents. While you may think this speeds up the process; it actually can lead to your call being slowed down and it takes the dispatcher away from monitoring ongoing incidents. So, if you need to report an incident, call 9-1-1.



# Emergency Medical Technician – Basic

CCDES/EMS Training Institute is pleased to announce the opening of registration for the Fall, 2007 EMT-Basic course.

The course will meet Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7 Pm – 10 Pm and some Saturdays.

Tuition for this course is set at \$375.00, which includes text, workbook, necessary handouts, two EMSTI shirts, BP cuff, stethoscope, trauma sheers, penlight & CPR mask.

A mandatory administrative session for ALL attendees will be held on September 5th , 2007 (Wednesday) at 7:00 PM at the GSC. The course concludes Dec 3rd with State Testing set for Saturday, Dec 8th (practical) and Monday, Dec 11th (written).

**Registration closes on September 1st, 2007**

EMS Applications are available through CCDES or online at the Department's website:

[www.chesco.org/des](http://www.chesco.org/des)

Contact Field Services, with questions or to reserve your seat(s) for this course. 610.344.5000

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## **Instructor Methodology**

This program will focus on the theory and practice of adult education in an effort to prepare participants to effectively instruct emergency services classes. Participants will be required to prepare and deliver assigned lessons as part of this program.

Class will run September 28 - October 3.

Tuition \$160

**Registration Closes September 16.**

There is limited seating available.

Applications are available through CCDES or online at the Department's website:

[www.chesco.org/des](http://www.chesco.org/des)

Contact Field Services, with questions or to reserve your seat(s) for this course. 610.344.5000

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## Con-Ed

*please see [www.chesco.org/des](http://www.chesco.org/des) for more details*

Environmental Emergencies, EMT-B	August 20
Obstetrics & Gynecology, EMT-B	August 22
CISM Individ.Crisis Interv & Peer Support	August 25
EMT Transition	September 7
Grand Rounds: Case Review	September 11
Injuries to Head and Spine, EMT-B	September 19
ACLS	October 2
NCS 48-hour Paramedic Refresher	October 13
Infants and Children, EMT-B	October 24
ACLS –R	November 7
Geriatric Patients, EMT-PR	November 28
Bleeding and Shock, EMT-B	December 19

<p><b>CERT Training</b></p>
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<p><i>Contact Emergency Management</i> November 8 &amp; 11, 2007</p>
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## Fire

Firefighter II	September 8
Fire Officer I	November 3
Junior Firefighting	November 10
Hazardous Materials Operations	November 13