



ARFF FLASH

Second Quarter 2020

Pro-Tec in Mobile, AL

April 1, 2020—Not an April Fools....Pro-Tec has officially assumed ARFF services for Mobile Airport Authority at Mobile Regional Airport, Mobile Downtown Airport and Mobile Brookley. “In a way it was so smooth that it really looked like a normal day to me, except for not having any furniture at the BFM house.” said Mobile Airport Authority VP of Operations Izzy Bonilla.



Capt. Edwin Hall at LYH conducted the classroom portion of training for the new hires then assisted in the live fire training. A tour was given of Signature FBO that included



several GA aircraft, the fuel farm and mobile fuelers operating on the airfield. The U.S. Coast Guard Flight Training Center was gracious enough to give a tour of their facilities and aircraft familiarization on several air frames that are hangered at the airfield.

The live fire was held at CRTC fire training site at Gulfport Airport in Gulfport, Mississippi. After training, the employees returned to the fire station and assisted in washing and wiping



dry all apparatus used during fire training.

Airfield driver training was conducted by Regional Chief Dan Diehl and Ryan Laird, both from Will Rogers World Airport in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Several obstacles developed along the way, but with Regional Chief Dave Holmes’ tenacity, all issues were resolved and the company had another successful start-up.



Farewell to Tim Cantwell at MidAmerica Airport

Submitted by Quin Cayson

Fire Chief Quin Cayson and Capt. Melvin Fennell presented a plaque to MidAmerica Airport Director Tim Cantwell prior to his retirement. Tim’s last day at the airport will be Friday, May 3rd.

Tim was very grateful for the plaque and said Pro-Tec is a great company, we have a unique operation and we are the backbone of the Airport.

Bryan Johnson will assume the position of Airport Director for MidAmerica Airport. Pro-Tec ARFF sent Mr Cantwell and his wife off in traditional ARFF style. (water salute)



Capt. Fennell, Tim Cantwell, Chief Cayson



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Mask Making at WRWA

To help stop the spread of Covid-19, C-shift at Will Rogers World Airport decided to get a little crafty and took to mask making.



Out on a walk or drive? Feel free to share pictures of the hearts you see. Some can't get out so these little hearts are very comforting. Post your photos to Facebook #hearthunters.

Green Bay Austin Straubel Public Safety decorated their windows at the station for Heart Hunters. At the time, the Brown County Dispatch was working out of their station and they also wanted to share and be part of the Heart Hunters group on Facebook.



Heart Hunters at GRB

Photos courtesy of Ashley Hull

In this time of social distancing, we are all trying to spread a little love and compassion. Heart Hunters Facebook page was started by a mom in Galesburg, IL who saw a post about placing hearts in windows for kids to see while out walking. She thought it sounded wonderful and Heart Hunters was born. She wanted to promote social distancing while doing an activity with her children during a time when we must be so careful. It has grown into much, much more.



Display hearts in your windows, on your doors, or anywhere outside of your home where passersby can easily see them. Hearts can be made from anything (paper, wrapping paper, cereal boxes), just be creative. Not an artist? That's ok. Many of us aren't. Want to go all out? Do it!

Easter Bunny visits Ardmore

Submitted by Ryan Thomas



As the Red shift at Ardmore Airpark was getting ready to perform some air consumption drills, the Easter bunny stopped by to say hello and drop off some treats!



After visiting with the Easter bunny and eating their treats, they continued onto their air consumption drills by playing basketball.





ARFF FLASH

Share the Love

Submitted by Ashley Hull

We had Thrive Nutrition and Fitness bring in healthy shakes and energy tea for our public safety department, as well as the Brown County Dispatchers that are currently stationed out here. This is part of their "share the love" campaign where people donate to the business to send shakes and tea out to the men and women that are out working hard during this pandemic. C shift Captain Holle, Lt Walters, PSO Strassburger, PSO Hull and Brown County Dispatchers Billie Jo and Ashley.



Al-Lee-Gator

Submitted by Bill Nowlin

Although Fire Chief Nowlin has been with us for less than a year, he did encounter a first with us. In his 35 years in the fire service, he has come across a lot of different animals that have wandered into the fire station that they had to chase out. But back in April they had to capture an alligator that decided to hide under Rescue 1. After they safely captured the alligator, they turned it over to the local officials to be humanely released back into the wild. Pictured with the baby alligator are Firefighters Scott Montague (Crocodile Scottee') and Al Lee (Al-Lee-Gator). All were glad the mom wasn't anywhere near.



New Equipment

Submitted by Don Minks

Des Moines International Airport Fire Department recently received a new Physio-Control LifePak 15 Cardiac Monitor.



ARFF Antonov 124

Submitted by Chris Millard

4/20/2020: Chicago Rockford International Airport (RFD) had a unique visitor this past week, an Antonov 124 delivering medical supplies for the state of Illinois. In conjunction with FEMA, the 124 delivered the supplies for Asia. The Antonov 124 is one of the largest cargo aircrafts in the world! It took eight semi loads to transport the supplies from just one flight.



USAF AWACS at MidAmerica

Submitted by Raymond Flaiz

A Boeing E3 Sentry AWACS visited MidAmerica airport on 4/20/2020 conducting touch and go approaches. A unique aircraft not often seen. This one is designated OK out of Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City, OK.





ARFF FLASH

Where do the planes go?

Amidst all the Covid-19 changes happening in our communities, states and nation, did you ever wonder what happens to all the jets when they are mass grounded and aren't able to fly? Where do they go? Who takes care of them?

"Here is What You Do With Two-Thirds of the World's Jets When They Can't Fly. Just Finding space to park can be a problem, and idle planes require a surprising amount of work, from maintaining hydraulics to stopping birds from nesting." [Read more here](#)

Mask Donated

Submitted by Paul Vosburg

Due to low to no face mask supply during April, Chief Paul Vosburg's (Kalamazoo) wife, Joanne Vosburg and daughter-in-law, Sarah Rybowski, made some face masks and donated them to the ARFF department at Kalamazoo-Battle Creek International Airport, along with anyone else at the airport that wanted any.



Sarah Rybowski

ARFF Training Center

Appleton International Airport (ATW) in partnership with Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC) opened a new ARFF Training Center at ATW this spring. This is the only site in the United States where personnel will be able to practice on a full-size Boeing 777. [Read more](#)



Dinner is served

Submitted by Raymond Flaiz

At MidAmerica Airport, cooking is done by scratch on A shift. Shift chef (and firefighter) Kevin Peters, assisted by Sous Chef Riley Weaver prepare from scratch chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, country gravy, and cheddar biscuits.



Water Salute

Submitted by Chris Millard



5/13/20 Rockford ARFF Red Shift Capt. Caruana and FF Read participated in a water salute to honor our Amazon ground crew who are now employees of Amazon. Since the start of operations, Amazon has used a third party contractor Pinnacle. Amazon employs over 1000 people and will be operating up to 12 flights daily, 24/7/365.

FD Parade of Appreciation

Submitted by Raymond Flaiz

Several Firefighters at KBLV MidAmerica Airport are also volunteer firefighters in our local communities (Ray Flaiz, Jason Bruns, Jeff Talley, Riley Weaver). On May 14th, those local fire departments honored local health care workers with a huge FD parade of appreciation. [Watch the video here.](#) (via Facebook)



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Employee of 1st Quarter

Submitted by John Davis

Captain Tyler Jones at Will Rogers World Airport in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma was nominated by Fire Chief John Davis. Captain Jones took the initiative to create training templates in Target Solutions to support both our FAA and



Capt. Tyler Jones & Chief John Davis

DMCA airport training needs. We have many sites that contact Captain Jones for support and education on Target Solutions and he has assisted Chiefs and officers throughout our organization as they transitioned to Target Solutions. Tyler has even fielded questions and provided support on his days off. He has been extremely resourceful in this task and he has made a substantial contribution to the continued operation and growth of our organization.

Kalamazoo-Battle Creek

Submitted by Paul Vosburg

A few photos from foam testing training wearing home made masks at Kalamazoo-Battle Creek International Airport (AZO).



Chief Fire Officer

On June 10, 2020, Regional Fire Chief Dan Diehl was redesignated a "Chief Fire Officer" by the Commission on Professional Credentialing. Designation as a Chief Fire Officer is an honor not easily earned and maintained.

"Your dedication, professionalism and commitment to your career, your organization and the fire service is to be greatly admired. Without the continued participation of officers like yourself in this program, none of us would be able to achieve the high standards we set for ourselves and the fire service as a whole." -Derek Bergsten, Chief Rockford Fire Department

Your experience, leadership and dedication is exemplary and we are lucky to have you here at Pro-Tec. Congratulations Dan!





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Training Day at ATW

On 5/28/20 Austin Straubel Green Bay International Airport ARFF made the 40 minute commute to Appleton International Airport for their live fire training at the newly opened ARFF Training Facility. In fact, Green Bay ARFF is the first group to be trained at the new facility.

“I have to say that this is one of the most impressive facilities I have had the



pleasure of not only seeing, but have had the benefit of training at. In my opinion this is the best in our state and I would put it up against any in the country.” said GB Fire Chief Chet Bruette.

Unfortunately, due to time constraints and the weather not cooperating, they were not able to get the full tour of the simulator, but the staff did show them some pictures and spoke about all the different scenarios they could have given the opportunity.

“The staff was extremely courteous and professional” said Bruette. “I would like to let you know that Chief



Gary Wunsch and all those involved have done a phenom-

enal job. The assistance he gave, to get us into that class, was extremely helpful. Not only that but the assistance he offered while we were at ATW was very much appreciated. We are extremely fortunate to have Chief Wunsch where he is, and my department had nothing but positive comments about him, the staff and the facility.”

There are many different training options that will benefit the GB department while training at this facility and they’re looking forward to finding as many opportunities as they can to drive those 40 miles.



Live Fire at DSM

On 6/4/2020 Des Moines International Airport welcomed Wade Boyat with ARFF Specialists for a day of training. Some of the trainings the members of the DSM ARFF Department did were handline opera-



tions, search and rescue along with hydraulic ventilation and truck operations.





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Semper Fi

Submitted by Raymond Flaiz

The Marines have landed! MidAmerica Airport was host to two transient Marine Corps Vipers who stayed overnight with us. Despite a rain storm quickly approaching, their crews gave a quick walkaround to ARFF A Shift Firefighters on aircraft systems and emergency equipment. HooRah!! *(Photos courtesy of FF Kevin Peters)*



Veteran Suicide Awareness

Submitted by Raymond Flaiz

B shift Capt. Fennel is doing a 30 day push up challenge to help raise awareness for combat veteran suicides. Capt. Fennel is a retired U.S. Air Force ARFF Firefighter and a long time member of MidAmerica Crash Rescue.

Awesome job Mel...keep at it!



[Click photo to watch video](#)



POTUS in GRB

Submitted by Chief Chet Bruette

The President's visit in Green Bay went really well. No issues, everyone knew their responsibilities and did the job that needed to be done. Few times we had to be fluid in the movement/repositioning of our PSO's and vehicles, but they did it with efficiency.



We had Ashley with a Secret Service agent at the Town Hall meeting. Brice was with the DOD to assist in RWY sweeps and security. I (Chet) was at the Command Post at CBP. The rest were

moved where needed when needed.

President Trump got off AF1 and moved in the convoy to Jet Air, where he did his Town Hall. He then convoyed back to Marine 1 and took off. He had Marine 2 and 3 and 3



Ospreys with his flight convoy. It was pretty cool to see that depart and return. When he returned, he got off Marine 1 and proceeded to AF1, and then he left.



07:00-16:30 for me and the staff. Busy day but a really good day. Secret Service stated that GRB is one of the most accommodating airports when it comes to helping/assisting

in their wants/needs so we take pride in doing what needed to be done and helping with that.

A few protestors showed up but the State/County/Local PD took care of everything outside the fence.

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POTUS CONTINUED: They did a great job because we did not hear much over on the airfield side of things. Few people along the fence who wanted to look, but they were not protesting so we allowed some at certain locations to do that.

The department did a fantastic job!

Farewell Wabush

Submitted by Chief John Smith

Pro-Tec Fire Services began its operation at the Wabush Airport on January 20, 2014 with four staff members comprising of Ryan Connolly, Jamie Kennedy, Daniel Eisenhauer and myself. Chief Bryan House, from Saskatoon, along with Mark Christensen, [formerly from the Corporate Office] arrived here in Wabush to begin the set up of the station. Chief House spent countless hours with the team to prepare us on the theory and practical skills which we would require to provide a safe and productive service for our customer. Had it not been for Chief House's expertise and leadership, along with Mark's guidance and positive attitude, this process would not have transitioned so smoothly. We will forever be grateful for all their efforts.



Over the course of our six and a half years, we made many found memories and created friendships that will last a lifetime. Whether it was our Live Fire Training Trips, training with our Mutual Aid Departments, Training Exercises or just the simpler things such as BBQ's with Transport Canada members, coffee at the kitchen table, our team members having children and getting married, it was always a pleasure to come to

work here at the station.

In our short time we unfortunately had some personnel changes, with initial co-workers to lifetime friends leaving our department. Though Jamie and Daniel moved on to different paths, they will always be part of our Pro-Tec team here in Wabush. Although saddened that these individuals had left, we were

equally happy with the arrival of our new team members. Kyle Van de Kamp was next to arrive and has stayed with us for five years. Next to arrive was Evan Power, who was with us for a year but unfortunately moved on due to the uncertainty of our contract with Transport Canada. Mr. Robert Brett joined our team in July of 2019 which brings us to our current staff.



Throughout our tenure here in Wabush, we have been able to get our initial staff certified to the NFPA 1003 standard. Through the hard work and dedication of Chief House we were able to lay the foundation to challenge the certification the following year. Since then the staff here in Wabush were able train the future team members to the same standard which allowed Kyle Van de Kamp to obtain his certification one year after joining the team. Unfortunately, due the time constraints, Evan and Robert were unable to obtain their certifications.

In this short time here in Wabush we have been audited seven times between Transport Canada and the Civil Aviation Auditors and I am proud to say that our team achieved flawless results on every-one. This was the result from the hard work from each team member. Likewise, we have had the opportunity to plan three tabletop exercises, each one receiving incredible feedback from all organizations in attendance. We also participated in a mock disaster in which every emergency organization were involved, and the training, skill and professionalism of our team members shined through.



The team members here throughout the years, spent many hours in training our Mutual Aid departments, not only in the theory and practical skills of ARFF but also in Firefighting Level 1 skills and theory which allowed the community fire departments to have their members certified to NFPA 1001 standard. We also invited the community fire departments to attend a NFPA 1041, Fire Service Instructor course and were able to have eight community firefighters certified to

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this standard. Some other courses that we have hosted here at the station are Emergency Medical Responder, Hazardous Materials, Awareness and Operations levels, and a Fire Company Officer course.



staff of Carl, Bill, Karen, Beth, and Heidi the answers and help are only an email or call away. [The same as it was with Bill, Mark, and Liz.] We appreciate everything that you have done for us throughout the years. Your support has been unwavering and valued.



In my time here I have also had the opportunity and pleasure of travelling to Calgary with Chief House to assist Chief Sylvain Theriault in the training and set up of the newly acquired contract. This experience will forever be a great memory for me. I had the opportunity to meet all the new excellent staff that Calgary has,

and I am proud that I was able to assist in preparing them for the journey ahead of them. The excellence and professionalism from Chief Theriault and his staff will allow them to excel into the future. Their kindness and welcoming will not be forgotten.



Unfortunately, our final day is soon near. On August 7, 2020, our time in Wabush will come to an end. Transport Canada has decided to terminate the service due to a lack of travelling passengers. Although we have debated with them throughout the years over the accuracy of the numbers, they have made a final decision, Fire Services at the Wabush Airport will be no more.



I would also like to thank all my current and previous team members. You have made this time here at the Wabush Airport one of the greatest times of my life. Your professionalism, dedication, and teamwork allowed this department to run smoothly as told to me by the Airport Management on a regular basis. Each of you took pride in providing a level of service that is incredible. I will always cherish our morning conversations at the kitchen table. You may have started here as colleagues, but you have developed into lifelong friends. You made it a pleasure to come to work.



Although we are saddened for this chapter in our lives to end, we are forever grateful to everyone in the Pro-Tec Fire Services Family who welcomed us to the team, supported us along the way, and fought to the very end to keep us employed, We Thank You.

Wabush Fire Chief John Smith



For those of you throughout the Pro-Tec Family that I have had the opportunity to interact with it was truly my pleasure. I wish I had the opportunity to meet you all.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff in our Corporate office. Without the continued support from each one of you, those of us in Wabush and throughout the organization would not be able to provide the service that Pro-Tec Fire Services is known for. With the current



Chief John Smith, Ryan Connolly, Kyle Van de Kamp, Bob Brett



ARFF FLASH

TRAINING

Hands on Training

Submitted by Capt. Flaiz

Flight loads are down at MidAmerica so A-shift is taking the opportunity for some hands on training. In the photos, veteran Firefighter Kevin Peters, instructs rookie ARFF Firefighter Riley Weaver, on laddering and climbing onto and off wings for forcible entry and evacuation.



Airport Maintenance Operations

Submitted by Capt. Flaiz



During the month of May, airport maintenance provided training to several firefighters on manual gate operation as well as stair truck training.

FF Tim Brown and Toby Midkiff, maintenance specialist Matt Flanagan

This is the first time in ARFF history at KBLV that stair truck training has been done. Pictured are FF Tim Brown and Toby Midkiff receiving training from maintenance specialist Matt Flanagan on proper operation of a stair truck.



Training at Des Moines

Submitted by Don Minks

Division 3 doing HRET night time training.



Extrication training at WWRA

Submitted by Capt. Jones



B Shift doing Airport Familiarization and victim extrication training.



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Interior Search Training

Submitted by Capt. Flaiz

A no flight day gives MidAmerica the opportunity to do some aircraft interior search training. Here Firefighters Peters and Lindauer conduct simulated entry and search of a retired military KC-135.



Physical Agility Testing

Submitted By Capt. Flaiz

MidAmerica airport A shift Crash Rescue was put the challenge with annual physical agility testing. Firefighters Peters and Lindauer are put through a moderate workload course. Capt. Flaiz also participated and took photos.



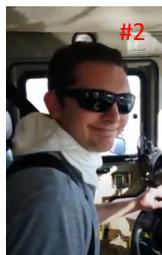
Crash Truck Training at Mid-America

Submitted by Capt. Raymond Flaiz



It was a very windy day at MidAmerica Airport, but that didn't stop A shift Capt. Flaiz and Firefighter Peters from getting out and throwing some water. Exterior and interior video of crash

truck responding to a simulated aircraft fire **(to watch video, press the ctrl key and click on the photo)**. NOTE: The second video was supposed to be a #3 and 4 engine fire but we actually threw water at #1 and 2. In addition we drilled with our infrequently used structural pump pan-on Crash 2, deployed 1 3/4" hand line, as well as laddering and tool carry.



ARFF Training at MidAmerica

Submitted by Capt. Flaiz

As the commercial flight schedule continues to be greatly reduced at MidAmerica Airport, Crash and Rescue A shift continues to train to sharpen their skills. Firefighter Kevin Peters extinguishes a simulated nose gear fire on a static KC-135 Stratotanker.



Click photo for training video



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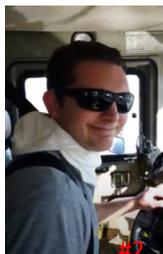
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Click photo for training video



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