



# Firehouse Notes

December  
2006

## State Firemen's Association Names Life Members

Last month's listing of life members was incomplete. Rather than just do a correction, we thought it best to re-run the corrected article.

In a recent letter from LSFA Secretary Gerald Dellucky, Chief of Operations Boyd Westbrook and Training Officer Timmy Walters were named LSFA Life Members. This status is bestowed upon LSFA members who have been active members in good standing for twenty-five consecutive years.

Other life members affiliated with the St. George Fire Department are Commissioner Frank Collura, Firefighter Mike Lambert, Fire Communications Officer Randy Polk, and Fire Chief Jerry Tarleton.

We offer our congratulations to each of those honored in recognition of, literally, a lifetime of service in the fire community.

## 2006 Santa Parades Were A Tremendous Success

The 2006 St. George Santa Parades were a great success. We paraded with the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank and the Christmas for Challenged Children organization through the over 170 neighborhoods of the District. This kept three of our engine companies pretty well occupied, on a rotating schedule, on the weekends of December 2/3 and December 9/10.

Our thanks go out to all who participated. We would also like to acknowledge the Department's many friends in the Baton Rouge media who helped us get the word out that Santa Claus was coming to the neighborhoods.

The public response to our efforts was outstanding. Each year, the donations we collect for the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank and for Christmas for Challenged Children continue to grow. This year's growth was almost unbelievable. The 2005 total food collected weighed in at almost 4300 pounds of food. The 2006 tally is 7251 pounds as of 12/15.

In addition to the food collected, we are a major contributor to Christmas for Challenged Children's effort to provide a Merry Christmas to the 700 Baton Rouge area children on their list. While we don't have a number total on the toys donated through St. George, those contributions were up significantly this year as well.

*Do You Have Anything You'd Like to Share? ... Graduation, Wedding, or New Addition to The Family? ... Please Share It With Us.*

## St. George Family Member Wounded in Iraq

Marine Lance Corporal Jordan H. Buhler, the son of Don and Leslie Fleury, was wounded in Iraq on Friday November 24, 2006. Lance Corporal Buhler serves with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Jump Platoon. Jordan was at a check point in Modiq, Iraq when a car bomb went off. Eighteen people were killed including Corporal Craig Ledsome. Lance Corporal Buhler was treated on site by medical personnel and then he was flown to Ramstein, Germany for surgery to repair his injuries.

On November 28 Jordan was flown to Bethesda, Maryland for additional surgeries and treatment. Lance Corporal Buhler is doing fine and the doctors expect him to make a full recovery.

Don and Leslie have visited with their son at Bethesda Naval Hospital. They say that Jordan is in very good spirits and has a great attitude. This was Jordan's second tour in Iraq.

We are aware of at least two other members of the St. George family who are presently serving our Nation; Army Airborne Infantry Specialist Sean Black, the son of Captain James Fincher and his wife Julie is currently in Iraq. Also, Marine Lance Corporal Justin Westbrook, the son of Chief of Operations Boyd Westbrook and Stacey Westbrook is serving aboard the USS Nimitz as an FA-18 mechanic.

We ask all to please keep the Fleury, Fincher, and Westbrook families in your thoughts.

