

# Dickie & Grue families provide 8 members to Bass River Fire Brigade

By Linda Harrington

The Dickie and Grue families of Bass River are certainly showing strong family support for their local volunteer Fire Brigade. Four family members, including three generations, of each family belong to the Bass River Fire Brigade.

Arthur Dickie is one of the Brigade's founding members, serving as Chief from 1964 to 1966, and currently as a Captain. He has

over 50 years of service in the Brigade

His son Blaine joined the Brigade in 2006 and he is the current Deputy Chief and Training Officer. Blaine's wife Ronda joined in 2007 and she holds the position of Brigade Secretary. Their seventeen year old daughter Emma joined as a Junior Firefighter two months ago.

Emma Dickie has been volunteering at various Brigade events for a number

of years and she decided it was finally time to become a member. "I had been volunteering at dinners, field day and other events and so I decided it was to time to make it official. Watching my family's involvement made it an easy decision to join the Brigade," she says. It will take a year or two for her to complete the training and become a full member but for now she is happy to be involved.

Blaine and Ronda Dickie moved back here with their family in 2006 and they immediately became involved with the Bass River Fire Brigade. "We wanted to be a part of our community and help out where we can," Blaine says.

The Grue family is equally committed to helping out their community. Tom Grue has been a member of Bass River Fire Brigade for forty years. His son Alfred has been a member since he was 14, dedicating 30 years of service to the Brigade, and acting as Chief since

2000.

Alfred's wife Tammy has been a member for over a year and she has completed her training as a Medical First Responder. Their son Bryan Grue joined as a Junior Fire Fighter this past May.

Fireman Pete thinks Bass River is fortunate to have such community minded families as the Dickie's and Grue's living in the area. "As it was in the beginning and hopefully now and ever shall be, world not without fire brigades, amen," says Peter Christensen. "I read

this in a book once (or close to it) and thought it was a great line. With the 3rd generation coming into the brigade I think our now and ever shall be is going to be fine. It is really great to see Bryan Grue and Emma Dickie coming aboard, they have a great heritage leading the charge and a family tree of knowledge about fire brigade stuff to learn from."

Arthur Dickie and Tom Grue have sure set a good example for their grandchildren, with over 90 years of combined service.

## Parrsboro Fire Department Notes



Parrsboro has recently added to their fleet of trucks. (submitted)



One of the newer fire trucks in Parrsboro is Truck No. 2, a 2008 Freightliner Crew Cab Pumper with a 1000 gallon tank. (submitted)

By Linda Harrington

Parrsboro Fire Dept. has 16 active members, 9 are trained as First Responders and 2 are Auxiliary Members.

Truck fleet consists of a

2008 Freightliner Crew Cab with a 1000 gallon tank, a 1987 Ford with a 1000 gallon tank, a 1978 Tanker Pumper with a 1200 gallon tank set up for forestry use and the most

recent addition of a 2003 FL80 Freightliner Rescue Truck with a 400 gallon tank and pump.

The 2003 Rescue Truck was purchased second hand. The body from an older truck was reused and fitted to the new cab and chassis by Palmer Automotive and Truck on PEI. This new truck carries all the rescue supplies and equipment including the jaws of life.

Other equipment includes a zodiac boat and trailer, used for ice and cold water rescues. This is equipped with a 25hp motor, 4 cold water rescue suits and 2 survival suits.

Parrsboro Fire Dept. answers on average about 50 calls per year. These range from flu fires, automobile fires, structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, medical calls, Life Flight for EHS, forest fires to just about any other type of emergency.

An Open House was held at the Fire Hall on Sept. 23rd. Training nights are held every Thursday evening. The fourth Thursday of the month is a business meeting. Anyone interested in joining the Brigade can stop by on one of the training nights.

## Five Islands Fire Brigade Update

By Linda Harrington

Five Islands Brigade might be small, with an average membership of only 16/17, but they have been kept busy over the last year with water rescues as well as first responder and fire emergency calls.


Fire Chief Glen Davis says his members will be volunteering extra time in the next few months with fund raising dances and keeping up on their MFR Training.

The Brigade is excited with their recent purchase of a used 1987 cube van from South Hampton Fire Dept., which replaces their 1997 ¾ ton Dodge van.

"The Dodge van we had was just too small to get all the gear loaded on," says Chief Davis. "We will have the inside of this new cube van outfitted to hold much more gear. Brigade vehicles get old but they don't wear out, as most of the time they are just sitting in the hall."

Chief Davis doesn't expect any major purchases for the Brigade in the near future. "We will hold back purchases for awhile, maybe the tax rate will be better in 2011. Right now we are very pushed for time and money."

Two new members have joined the Brigade this year and 10 members are trained as First Responders.



## Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade

This year's fire prevention theme, "Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live With!" could be interpreted in many ways. There are lots of safety measures that can be taken around the home both inside and out.

During fire prevention week we will be visiting local schools.

**On Saturday October 9, from 10:00 am-1:00pm, we will once again host an open house at the fire hall. There will be demonstrations, prize draws, games, and pizza. Be sure to attend and bring a friend.**

### HERE ARE A FEW TIPS

- Locating/Installing Smoke Alarms
- Read and follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully.
- For best performance, an alarm should be mounted on the ceiling in or near the centre of the room, hall or stairway, and at the head of each stairway leading to an occupied area.
- Optimum location for wall mounts is at least 15 cm (6 inches) from the ceiling but not more than 30 cm (19 inches) from it.
- Avoid installing where the temperature is less than 50C (41°F) or exceeds 480C (119°F).
- Keep alarms away from doors and windows.
- Never locate an alarm in front of an air register, fans or vents.
- Keep alarms at least 60 cm (2 feet) from any corner.
- Don't recess an alarm.
- Smoke alarms in rooms with ceiling slopes greater than 30 cm (one foot) rise per 2.4 m (eight feet) horizontally should be located on the high side of the room.
- Avoid locating an alarm at the peak of an "A" frame type ceiling.
- Never paint a smoke alarm.
- Keep alarms 60 to 90 cm (two to three feet) away from light fixtures.
- When having an alarm connected into the electrical wiring system of a house you should:
  - Use a qualified electrical contractor.
  - Never install the alarm in the electrical circuit except at the main panel.
- Alarms must also never be installed in a circuit connected to an on/off switch.
- Check the alarm when installation is complete.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR: TESTING & CLEANING

- Test your smoke alarm monthly and clean it every 6 months. Mark it on your calendar so that you don't forget. Things to remember when testing your smoke alarm:
- Ensure that power is being transmitted to the alarm and that it will activate in the presence of smoke.
- Test your smoke alarm by pressing the test button.
- Even alarms with a pilot light that indicate power is being transmitted, should be tested regularly.
- Battery-operated smoke alarms will warn you when batteries need replacing. Despite this, make it a habit to change the batteries yearly.
- When you've been away from home for a few days, check your alarm on your return to ensure it is working properly.
- Remember, your smoke alarm can't protect you if the batteries have been removed or a plug has been disconnected.
- The lifespan of a typical smoke alarm is about 10 years, but some models last as little as 5 years.
- To clean the alarm, open the cover and gently vacuum the interior of it. Frequently, the alarm will sound while the unit is being cleaned.



## Palmer Automotive & Truck Centre

**Your Maritime Used Commercial Truck Centre**

### We Service All Makes of Cars, Trucks, RV's and Heavy Trucks

- MVI's, AC, Engine Repairs and Rebuilds
- Mechanical Repairs and Light Welding
- Licensed Technicians



Richard Palmer, representing Palmer Automotive and Truck delivers the new rescue truck to Parrsboro Mayor Lois Smith and Fire Chief, Jim Atkinson. Committee members David Howe (Chair) and Lisa Ward look on.



This 2004 F550 4x4 Rescue unit was recently completed for the Upper & Middle Ohio Fire Department in Nova Scotia.

## FOR SALE

### 1999 Spartan Fire Rescue Pumper

MINT condition  
Detroit 60 series, Allison Automatic, low miles.



We purchase and sell specialty vehicles such as Fire Trucks, Rescue, Pumpers, Water Trucks and more. We also consider all trades.  
If you are selling or purchasing, let our professional staff assist you.

**3979 Route 1a, Travelers Rest, Summerside, PEI**

For service call: **902-436-6838**  
For Truck & Equipment Sales 902-439-4098