



Established 1986

**PALM BEACH COUNTY FIRE RESCUE
HONOR GUARD**

**PALM BEACH COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS
PIPES & DRUMS**



Established 2001

PALM BEACH
COUNTY

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



Honor Guard report and supporting documents
by Captain Steen Eriksson (Ret)
PBCFR Honor Guard Commander

Pipes & Drums report and supporting documents
by Captain Tom Reyes - Pipe Sergeant

RENDERING HONORS WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT

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This 2023 Annual Report is dedicated to all firefighters, present and past, who have given so much of themselves to make our community a better place.

The Honor Guard would like to extend a sincere thank you to PBCFR Administration and L2928 for your continued support in our efforts to represent Palm Beach County and the Fire Service in a variety of events throughout the State of Florida and nationally.

Rendering honors to our fallen is our fundamental mission, and your support is what affords us the opportunity to fulfill that mission with dignity and respect.

This report consists of a narrative that describes noteworthy Honor Guard activities, photos of events, a TRACKING CHART that chronicles events and members' attendance, and an EVENT HISTORY CHART documenting the number of events and members' attendance since record keeping began in 2001.

Honor Guard Activity Report for 2023

Number of Events: 66
Members: 19

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Honor Guard formed in 1986 at the request of Chief Herman W. Brice. We had a pending funeral for a former Chief Officer, and there was not a system in place to render proper honors. From that point forward, our fundamental mission has been to render honors to fallen firefighters, and to ensure that their contributions to PBCFR and the Fire Service will be remembered.

Funerals and Memorial Services: 18

PBCFR: 7

Type V: <u>Tom Wenham</u> – Fire Advisory Board/Wellington Mayor	1-5-23
Type IV: <u>Captain Dick Gardner</u> (ret)	1-23-23
Type IV: <u>Adam Taft</u>	3-2-23
Type: V: Inspector <u>Richard Reuter</u> (ret)	5-25-23
Type V: Communicator <u>Stephen Sabo</u> (ret)	9-7-23
Type I: IAFF Memorial (4 PBCFR names added to wall)	9-16-23
Type I: Florida Fallen FF Memorial (7 PBCFR names added)	11-17-23

Other Agencies: 11

Type IV: FDNY <u>Celia Thompson</u> (ret)	1-22-23	On behalf of FDNY
Type I: Missing in America Project (26 veterans)	2-16-23	Escort hearse w/urns
Type III: Riviera Beach Fire Recue <u>Mark Reuter</u>	4-20-23	Assist RBFR with honors
Type I: Missing in America Project (18 veterans)	5-11-23	Escort hearse w/urns
Type I: Wellington Memorial Day ceremony	5-29-23	Parade/Ceremony
Type I: South Florida Nat'l Cemetery ceremony	5-29-23	Ceremony details
Type I: Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue <u>Terryson Jackson</u>	9-8-23	Unit command/support
Type I: September 11 th Remembrance	9-11-23	Ceremony details
Type I: Missing in America Project (16 veterans)	10-19-23	Escort hearse w/urns
Type II: Delray Beach Fire Rescue <u>Lt. Ray Keith</u>	10-26-23	Unit command/details
Type IV: North Brunswick, NJ. <u>Chester Lipner</u> FF (ret)	12-10-23	Type IV honors

Type I – Line of Duty (LODD) Direct result of operational incident
Type II – Duty Related
Type III – Active Duty Firefighter (off-duty death, not duty related)
Type IV – Retired Sworn Firefighter
Type V – Affiliate of Fire Rescue, non-sworn employee
Type VI – Miscellaneous, does not meet criteria of Type I through Type V



Rendering honors to Mr. Tom Wenham, PBCFR Facilities Manager (ret), Advisory Board member, and former Mayor of Wellington.

On behalf of FDNY, and at their request, the Honor Guard rendered honors to Celia Thompson (ret), who was the first Black woman to be assigned to a FDNY Special Unit, Squad 270.



PBCFR Captain Dick Gardner (ret) was the father of District Chief Tim Gardner (ret).



The Honor Guard and Pipes & Drums were part of a multi-agency show of support at the funeral of Riviera Beach Fire Rescue Firefighter Mark Reuter.



At the funeral for Delray Beach Fire Rescue Lt. Ray Keith, the Honor Guard had roles in Flag Team, Tool Team and Unit Commanders of Delray Beach and visiting agency uniformed personnel.



The families of PBCFR firefighters and Local 2928 members **Thomas J. Cook, Jeffrey B. Smith, Timothy M. Kilcoyne, Graeme Gilmour** and PBGR **Richard B. Wolnewitz** at the IAFF Fallen Firefighter Memorial.

The **Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial** is located at the Florida State Fire College in Ocala. The names of seven PBCFR firefighters were added to the Memorial during the ceremony on November 17.



Family members of all seven PBCFR firefighters that were memorialized, attended the ceremony. A total of sixteen firefighters from Florida had their names added to the Memorial for 2023.



Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial, Ocala, November 17, 2023

The families of **Raymond J. Hennessey, Henry Cusell, Michael J. Thompson, Jim W. Vinsand, Sr., Thomas J. Cook, Graeme Gilmour and Jeffrey Smith.**

The Fallen Firefighter Memorials in Colorado Springs and Ocala, honor firefighters whose deaths have been determined to be a Line-of-Duty-Death (LODD), whether from an operational emergency incident or a presumptive illness, as defined by the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), or individual States' legislatures.



Honor Guard Salutes our Nation's Veterans

The Honor Guard participates in events honoring veterans who have given so much to protect all of us.

The **Missing-in-America Project** is an effort to locate previously unclaimed cremated remains of veterans, and provide them with a full Military Honors funeral at the South Florida National Cemetery. We participate in these events 3-4 times each year with typically 16-20 veterans receiving a proper burial. It is common for there to be a veteran who has been unclaimed in a funeral home closet or storage for 50-60 years.



February 15



October 19



Honor Flight takes veterans to Washington D.C. to visit the various War Memorials, which most of the veterans have never seen. Their day begins around 0400 and their arrival back to PBIA is around 2030 hrs. On their return, our role is to lead them through a welcoming, cheering, flag-waving crowd

numbering in the hundreds in the main terminal. For the majority of the veterans (from WWII, Korea and Vietnam), this is the only official “Welcome Home” they ever received.

Honor Flights take place four (4) times each year.



Honor Flight April 15 PBIA



Veterans Resource Fair at South County Civic Center
sponsored by BOCC Vice Mayor Maria Sachs.
February 3.



Veterans Appreciation Luncheon
Organized by Ibis Country Club
April 17



Village of Wellington Veteran's Day Parade and Ceremony
November 11



Staying Engaged with the Community

Honor Guard performed the opening ceremony for the **Palm Beach County Business Development Board** at the Kravis Center
February 15



Walking with PBCFR Chiefs in the **Delray Beach St. Patrick's Parade**.
March 11.



Jupiter Irish Fest
Abacoa
March 13



Opening ceremony for **North County Neighborhood Coalition (NCNC)**
Ibis Country Club.
April 19



Appreciation luncheon for **PBCFR retirees.**
April 21

Opening Presentation of Colors for **Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches Firefighter Appreciation Breakfast.** Palm Beach County Convention Center.
October 18



Honor Guard participated in the **Palm Beach Central High School's Salute to Heroes** football game, escorting Chief Kennedy to center field for the coin toss.
November 30



Honor Guard performed the opening ceremony for the **Governor's Hurricane Conference** at the Palm Beach County Convention Center. The conference had a local, national and international audience.
May 10

Presentation of Colors for the **Fire Chiefs Association Charity Golf Tournament** at PGA National.
October 27



Assisting Okeechobee County Fire Rescue

OCFR requested the services of our Honor Guard for their Change of Command ceremony for their incoming Chief. OCFR does not have an Honor Guard. Chief Wooten is the son of PBCFR Capt. Earl Wooten (ret) (deceased), so it had a special meaning to be a part of Chief Wooten's special ceremony.

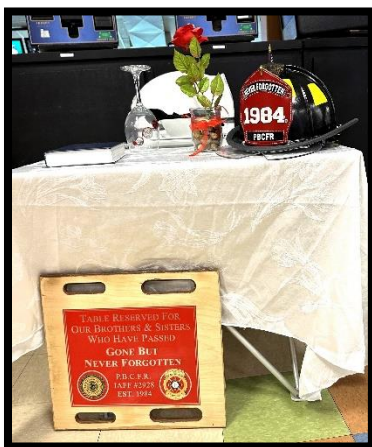
April 28

The Honor Guard Giving Back

The Honor Guard made a donation to **FAU CARD** (Center for Autism and Related Disabilities) using proceeds from sales of a specially designed autism awareness challenge coin. April 24



The Honor Guard donated to the **Florida Joint Council of Fire and Emergency Services** to help fund the **Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial**. Proceeds from challenge coins, cups and T-shirts were used to pay it forward to help render honors to our fallen firefighters. August 28



The Fallen Firefighter Memorial Poker Classic Tournament was a fund-raiser for the Fallen Firefighter Memorial and statue project. The Palm Beach Kennel Club. October 22



Acknowledging the Accomplishments of Our Firefighters

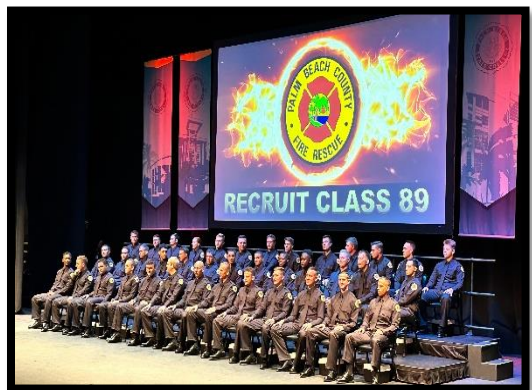
The Honor Guard performs the opening presentation of the Colors for **Palm Beach County Fire Rescue graduations and promotional ceremonies** in a show of support and appreciation of the accomplishments of our personnel. We also have a traditional tolling-of-the-bell detail at the conclusion, which ceremoniously acknowledges their graduation or promotion.



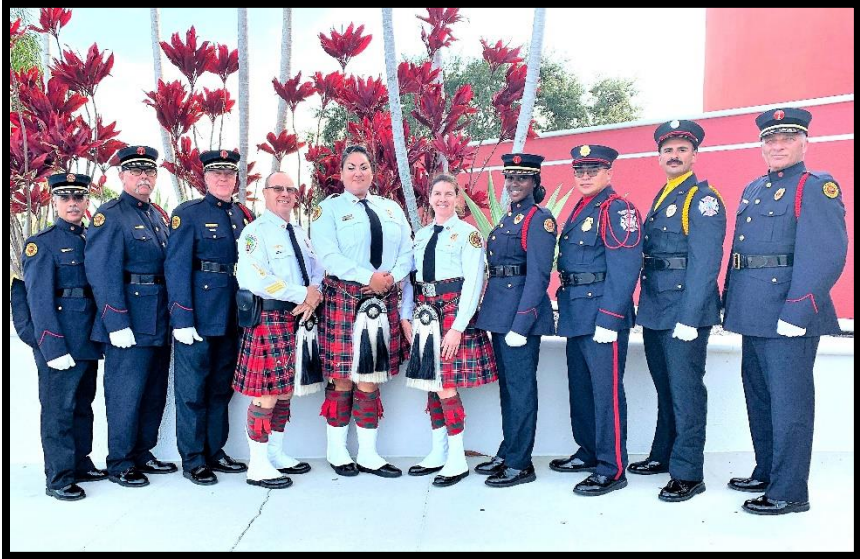
Recruit Class 88
July 7



Recruit Class 89
November 14



We are often asked to provide Honor Guard services for **Palm Beach State College Fire Academy** graduations. These are typically a multi-agency Honor Guard, since they are not PBCFR-specific.



PBSC Academy 128
April 27

PBSC Academy 130
August 10



On August 3rd, firefighters from **Palm Beach County Fire Rescue** and **Palm Beach Gardens Fire Rescue** graduated from the **Palm Beach State College Reserve Police Academy**. Firefighters wishing to be SWAT medics must be dual certified as police officers and firefighters.



Honor Guard Team Competition

The Honor Guard competed in the inaugural **Honor Guard Competition at the First There First Care Conference** in Hollywood, Florida on September 12, finishing in 3rd place. This was the first time the Honor Guard had participated in a competition in more than 20 years

Competition Team members dedicated themselves to more than three months of repetitive practice scenarios to perfect their skills in flag fold, casket watch, posting of Colors, casket carry and general overall military bearing and movements, including the inspection of uniforms.





Competition Team members –(C) Steen Eriksson (Commander), (L-R) Sean Pamplona, Miguel Johnson, Shawn Niedbalski, Brad Doerzbacher, Scott Calvis and Erika Petit. Honor Guard member Robert Eastberg was the team’s technical advisor. Chief Kennedy and Deputy Chief McGlynn supported the team.



The Honor Guard Commander, Captain Steen Eriksson (ret), received the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association **Florida Fire Service Honor Guard Outstanding Service Award for 2023**. While Commander Eriksson was the recipient, it is a reflection of the team concept the Honor Guard embraces to represent Palm Beach County Fire Rescue and the Board of County Commissioners locally, State-wide and nationally at events ranging from funerals to opening presentations for civic and business events to recruit class graduations. The award was presented at the Florida Fire Conference in Orlando, on January 10, 2024.



Notes of Interest

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Honor Guard makes the effort to stay engaged with our partner and neighboring Honor Guards by including their members in events alongside us. This relationship creates a bond among the Honor Guard members as we share those experiences. It also give us the opportunity to learn and share techniques and protocols. Additionally, we have become familiar with our respective skill levels, and the partner Commanders feel confident requesting assistance with large events to handle command of uniformed personnel, Colors Team, visiting Honor Guards, etc. In 2023, there were 19 multi-agency Honor Guard events.

Lt. Shawn Niedbalski (ret) completed his 15th year as an Honor Guard member, making him our 10th Life Member. Life Members are those who have dedicated 15 consecutive years to the Honor Guard.

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, along with the Honor Guard, has been developing a funeral and memorial services guide to set a standard for the way and extent that we render honors to our fallen firefighters, based on the circumstances of their death. Specific protocols and entitlements presented at the funeral are determined by Line of Duty Death (LODD), retirees, off-duty firefighters etc.

These funeral protocols have been adopted, in part or in full, by several of our partner fire rescue departments in Palm Beach County. This helps make operations at a large-scale event run more

efficiently. We were asked to share these protocols with departments outside Palm Beach County such as City of Miami, Key Biscayne, Miami Beach and others.

There are currently 19 active members of the Honor Guard, with a combined experience totaling **285 years**.

Reflecting on the Honor Guard members' years of service, tenure and continuing service as retirees, it is a testament to the dedication, character, honor and commitment of the members to have the desire to serve in the high profile capacity of representing Palm Beach County and the Fire Service. It also is an acknowledgement of the continued support of PBCFR administration and L2928 giving us the resources to continue on our mission of showing honor and respect.

The years of service and activity of all members can be reviewed in the Honor Guard Event Tracking and Event History sections of this report.

Record Keeping

The **Event Tracking Chart** documents the year's events and member attendance.

RED indicates Honor Guards from other departments when we do a multi-agency event.

PURPLE indicates a funeral or memorial service.

An **(R)** after the member's name indicates the member is an active retiree. The **(RR)** indicates a member is a retired reserve, meaning the member is retired, but not held to the same standard of attendance and participation as the other members. The (RR) classification was created to take the pressure off the retirees who want to stay active but cannot commit to as many events. (RR)s are, however, still expected to participate as much as possible. This differentiation also prevents a negative image of the Honor Guard caused by the reporting of low attendance of some members on the roster.

All retirees on the Honor Guard must have been a member at the time of retiring from PBCFR. The Honor Guard is not open to PBCFR retirees who were not a member when they retired.

The **Event History Chart** chronicles events and attendance throughout the members' tenure in the Honor Guard.

The Honor Guard formed in 1986, but official record keeping did not begin until 2001.

BLUE indicates the members who were active prior to 2001. The actual attendance numbers are likely higher.

Life Members of the Honor Guard are those who have 15 consecutive years of service representing PBCFR. There are currently 10 Life Members, with seven (7) of those are still active members. Five (5) of those seven (7) are retirees.

Life Members	Years	Term
Steen Eriksson (ret)	38	1986-present
Rick Gass (ret reserve)	38	1986-present
Robert Grosbeck (ret reserve)	38	1986-present
Brad Havrilla (ret reserve)	35	1989-present
Ron Macleod (ret not active)	29	1989-2018
James Gribble (ret not active)	27	1986-2013
Karl Hornburg (ret not active)	24	1993-2017
Sean Pamplona	22	2002-present
Eustacio Sanchez	16	2008-present
Shawn Niedbalski (ret)	15	2009-present

2023 Member Attendance

Steen Eriksson (R)	59
Scott Calvis	57
Sean Pamplona	47
Erika Petit	43
Shawn Niedbalski (R)	37
Miguel Johnson	36
Brad Doerzbacher	33
Robert Eastberg (R)	31
Jorge Cardoso	25
Brandon Yurick	23
Robert Grosbeck (RR)	12
Max Maravankin	11
Michelle Lorenzo	9
Austin Challenger	8
Mario Pico	7
Brad Havrilla (RR)	6
Rick Sanchez	6
Rick Gass (RR)	4
Gary Sands (RR)	0



Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Honor Guard



2023 HONOR GUARD EVENT TRACKING

DATE	EVENT	DETAIL	MEMBERS
1-4-23 1800	Type V Memorial Service for Tom Wenham, PBCFR Facilities Mgr. ret.	Casket watch, Reverent bow w/Amazing Grace Palms West FH	Eriksson(R), Pamplona, Petit, Eastberg(R)
1-5-23 1200	Funeral Service Tom Wenham Palms West	Post at doors	Eriksson(R), Eastberg(R) Petit, Calvis
1-5-23 1400	Interment Service Tom Wenham South Florida national Cemetery	Present Colors, render honors	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Petit, Calvis, Eastberg(R) US Army HG
1-22-23 1300	FDNY Ret. Celia Thompson Memorial Palms West FH	Rendered honors on behalf of and at request by FDNY	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Eastberg(R), Yurick, Petit Calvis, Pico, Maravankin, Johnson, Lorenzo
2-2-23 1300	Type IV PBCFR Capt. Dick Gardner (ret) Dorsey/Smith FH LW	Casket watch and Type IV honors	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Eastberg(R), Cardoso, Calvis Grosbeck(RR),
2-3-23 1130	Veterans Benefit Fair South County Civic Center. PBC Mayor Maria Sachs hosted	Opening Colors with Olympic Heights JROTC	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Maravankin, Petit Eastberg(R), Gass(RR) Niedbalski(R) OHHS ROTC
2-15-23 1900	Business Development Board of PBC Annual Banquet	Opening Colors Kravis center ballroom	Eriksson(R), Pamplona, Petit, Doerzbacher, Eastberg(R), Yurick, Maravankin, Niedbalski(R), Johnson

2-16-23 1000	Missing-in-America Project South Florida National Cemetery	Escort hearse with cremated remains of 26 veterans for interment	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Eastberg(R), Petit, Cardoso, Niedbalski(R)
3-1-23 0830	Honor Guard Meeting	Review of 2022 IAFF Memorial, plan for 2023 Memorial, misc. business	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Petit, Johnson, Yurick, Doerzbacher Cardoso, Lorenzo, Gass(RR), Eastberg(R) Challenger, Niedbalski(R)
3-2-23 1100	Type IV Capt. Adam Taft Christ Fellowship Church RPB	Procession/recession Type IV honors	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Petit, Yurick Niedbalski(R), Cardoso Havrilla(RR), Pico, Doerzbacher, Sanchez Challenger, Lorenzo, Eastberg(R), Johnson
3-11-23 1200	Delray Beach St. Patrick's Parade	Parade procession- Informal Class K	Eriksson(R), Niedbalski(R) Calvis, Doerzbacher, Petit Johnson, Yurick
3-12-23 1100	Jupiter Irish Fest Abacoa	Opening presentation of US and Irish Colors	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis
3-13-23 1000	Honor Guard Team Competition practice	Flag fold	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Niedbalski(R), Petit, Calvis, Johnson, Cardoso
3-28-23 1000	Honor Guard Team Competition practice	Casket carry and flag fold	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Johnson, Petit Niedbalski(R), Grosbeck(RR), Doerzbacher
4-3-23 1000	Honor Guard Team Competition practice	Casket carry and Flag fold	Eriksson(R), Pamplona, Calvis, Petit, Niedbalski(R) Grosbeck(RR), Johnson
4-5-23 1300	Pride & Protocol for RC 87	P & P presentation and ceremonial procedures practice	Eriksson(R), Johnson Doerzbacher

4-7-23 0900	PBCFR RC 87 Graduation HQ Training Bay	Opening Colors and Ceremony procedures	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Yurick, Calvis, Petit Challenger, Johnson Eastberg(R), Doerzbacher
4-7-23 1000	Honor Guard Team Competition Practice	Flag fold	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Johnson, Petit Eastberg(R)
4-12-23 1700	Honor Guard Team Competition practice	Flag fold	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Johnson, Petit, Calvis Niedbalski(R), Eastberg(R)
4-15-23 1930	Honor Flight Homecoming PBIA	Escort veterans returning from Washington DC	Eriksson(R), Calvis, Petit Niedbalski(R), Gass(RR) Havrilla (RR), TSA HG x 2
4-17-23 1200	Veteran appreciation Ibis CC	Opening Colors	Eriksson(R), Calvis Niedbalski(R), Doerzbacher
4-18-23 1700	Honor Guard Team Competition practice	Casket carry / flag fold	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Johnson, Petit, Calvis Niedbalski(R), Doerzbacher
4-19-23 0730	NCNC Annual Breakfast Meeting Ibis CC	Opening Colors	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Niedbalski(R), Doerzbacher Calvis, Cardoso, Yurick WPBFR- Temple, Koning, Valbuena PBGFR- Hewitt Perkins, Pye
4-20-23 1200	RBFR Type III FF Mark Reuter Christ Fellowship PBG-Groot Center	Assist RBFR w/plan and conduct rendering honors	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Pico, Petit, Yurick Doerzbacher, Cardoso Niedbalski(R) BBFR, DBFR, PBFR, WPBFR, RBFR, CSFR
4-21-23 1200	PBCFR Retiree Appreciation luncheon	Opening Colors	Eriksson(R), Maravankin Cardoso, Petit, Niedbalski(R), Doerzbacher

4-24-23 1000	Honor Guard Competition team Practice	Colors Posting scenario	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Niedbalski(R) Petit, Doerzbacher Grosbeck(RR), Eastberg(R)
4-27-23 1800	PBSC Fire Academy Graduation opening Colors	Duncan Theater	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Niedbalski(R) Petit RBFR x 2
4-28-23 1500	Change of Command Ceremony for in- coming Chief Okeechobee County Fire Rescue-Chief Wooten is son of PBCFR Capt. Earl Wooten (ret)	Coordinate and perform opening Colors and honors segment of ceremony More2Life Ministries Okeechobee. OCFR does not have an HG.	Eriksson(R), Calvis, Niedbalski(R), Yurick Cardoso
5-3-23 1000	Honor Guard Competition Team practice	Colors Posting and Casket Watch scenarios	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Niedbalski(R), Petit Doerzbacher, Calvis
5-10-23 0845	Governor's Hurricane Conference PBC Convention Center	Opening Colors	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Lorenzo, Doerzbacher, Cardoso, Calvis, Petit Yurick, Johnson, Eastberg(R) RBFR Campbell, WPBFR Temple
5-11-23 1000	Missing-in-America Project South Florida National Cemetery	Escort hearse carrying previously unclaimed cremated remains of 18 veterans	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Lorenzo, Doerzbacher, RBFR HG Campbell
5-15-23 0930	Honor Guard Competition Team Practice	Full competition scenarios practice	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Niedbalski(R), Petit, Calvis, Eastberg(R), Johnson
5-24-23 1130	PBC League of Cities Luncheon	Opening Colors	Pamplona, Calvis, Petit Johnson, Niedbalski(R) Eastberg(R), Cardoso

5-25-23 1830	PBCFR Type V Funeral. Inspector Richard Reuter (ret)	Honors w/Amazing Grace	Pamplona, Eastberg(R)
5-29-23 0815	Wellington Memorial Day parade and ceremony	Parade and ceremonial details	Pamplona, Calvis, Pico Johnson, Cardoso, Challenger, Maravankin Niedbalski(R), Grosbeck(R)
5-29-23 1000	Memorial Day Ceremony South Florida National Cemetery	Ceremonial detail	Pamplona, Calvis, Pico Maravankin, Doerzbacher Cardoso, Challenger Johnson, Grosbeck(R)
6-2-23	Honor Guard Competition Team practice	Full scenarios	Pamplona, Niedbalski(R) Calvis, Eastberg(R), Petit Johnson, Doerzbacher
6-6-23 1430	Honor Guard Competition Team practice	Full scenarios	Pamplona, Niedbalski(R) Calvis, Eastberg(R), Petit Johnson, Doerzbacher
6-11-23 1200	Meeting for Honor Guards competing in FTFC competition	Organizational meeting. Hollywood Hard Rock Hotel Casino	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Johnson, Petit Doerzbacher, Eastberg(R) Niedbalski(R)
6-12-23 0900	FTFC Honor Guard Competition Awarded 3 rd place	Inspection, Post Colors, Casket Watch Casket Carry, Flag Fold and present to judge	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Johnson, Petit Doerzbacher, Niedbalski(R) Eastberg(R support)
7-5-23 1200	Ceremonial Protocols RC 88	Presentation and practical tutorials	Eriksson(R), Johnson
7-7-23 0900	PBCFR Recruit Class 88 Graduation CFC Royal Palm Beach	Opening presentation and ceremonial details	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Cardoso, Petit Yurick, Johnson, Sanchez RBFR HG Campbell
7-13-23 1830	PBCFR Promotional Ceremony #1. South County Civic Center	Opening and ceremonial details	Eriksson(R), Calvis, Petit Johnson, Yurick, Sanchez Doerzbacher

8-3-23 1800	PBSC Reserve PD Academy Graduation LW campus	Opening Presentation (PBCFR and PBGFR for SWAT medic)	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Cardoso, Yurick Sanchez, Pico, PBGFR HG x 2
8-7-23 1830	PBCFR Promotional Ceremony #2. South County Civic Center	Opening and ceremonial details	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Johnson, Yurick Petit, Doerzbacher
8-10-23 1800	PBSC Fire Academy Graduation LW campus	Opening Colors Presentation	Eriksson(R), Calvis, Maravankin, Niedbalski(R), WPBFR HG x 1, DBFR HG x 1, PBFR HG x 2
8-28-23 1330	Check Presentation to Florida Joint Council PBCFR Training Bays	Opening Colors and check presentation from HG and P&D to benefit Florida Fallen FF Memorial	Eriksson(R), Pamplona, Calvis, Sanchez, Yurick Johnson, Cardoso, Eastberg(R), Challenger Maravankin, Niedbalski(R)
9-6-23 0830	Honor Guard Business Meeting	IAFF Memorial planning and general business	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Cardoso, Petit Niedbalski(R), Doerzbacher, Eastberg(R) Grosbeck(RR)
9-7-23 1000	PBCFR Type V Memorial Service- Communicator III Stephen Sabo	Final honors, place casket in hearse	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Cardoso, Yurick, Doerzbacher, Calvis Eastberg(R), Grosbeck(RR), Niedbalski(R)
9-8-23 1000	LODD BSOFR Capt. Terryson Jackson Faith Center Ft. Lauderdale	Memorial details and uniformed personnel commander	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Maravankin, Petit Cardoso, Lorenzo, Yurick Doerzbacher, Eastberg(R)
9-11-23 1800	September 11 Remembrance Ceremony – PBSC Duncan	Opening Colors and ceremonial details	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Lorenzo, Pico Petit, Cardoso, Doerzbacher, Grosbeck(RR), PBFRx2, PBGx1, WPBFRx1, DBFRx2

9-16-23 1000	IAFF Fallen Firefighter Memorial - Colorado Springs	Memorial Ceremony for four PBCFR FFs Cook, Gilmour, Kilcoyne, Smith	Eriksson(R), Cardoso Niedbalski(R), Petit, Eastberg(R), Johnson, Grosbeck(RR), Doerzbacher, Calvis
10-18-23 0730	Chamber of Commerce Firefighter Awards Breakfast	Opening Ceremony PBC Convention Center	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Doerzbacher Niedbalski(R), Cardoso WPBFR HG x 2
10-19-23 1000	Missing-in-America Project-South Florida National Cemetery	Escort Hearse carrying remains of 16 veterans for interment	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Challenger, Petit Cardoso, Niedbalski(R)
10-22-23 1200	Fallen Firefighter Memorial Poker Classic	Opening Ceremony Palm Beach Kennel Club	Eriksson(R), Challenger Yurick, Eastberg(R) Calvis, Niedbalski(R)
10-25-23 1700	Delray Beach FR Type II Lt. Ray Keith Casket Watch Palms West FH	Assist DBFR coordinate Casket watch w/multi-agency	Eriksson(R), Yurick Petit, Eastberg(R), Sanchez, Havrilla(RR) Grosbeck(RR), Niedbalski(R) BBFRx4, WPBFRx2, PBGFRx2, BSOFRx1, Lauderhill FRx1, PBFRx1
10-26-23 1000	Delray Beach FR Type II Lt. Ray Keith Funeral Service Christ Fellowship RPB	Ceremonial details DBFR uniform unit command, Multi-agency uniform cmd	Eriksson(R), Pamplona, Doerzbacher, Lorenzo Petit, Johnson, Calvis Multi-agencies
10-27-23 1800	Fire Chiefs Association of PBC Charity Golf Tournament dinner	Opening Ceremony PGA National PBG	Eriksson(R), Calvis Johnson, Maravankin Doerzbacher, RBFRx1 PBGFRx1
11-3-23 1830	Palm Beach Central HS Salute to Service Football Game	Escort Chief Kennedy and Sheriff Bradshaw to center field for coin-toss	Eriksson(R), Johnson Petit, Lorenzo PBSO HG
11-4-23 2030	Honor Flight Homecoming PBI	Escorts veterans returning from D.C.	Johnson, Yurick On-flight Gass(RR), Havrilla(RR) TSA HG

11-11-23 0815	Wellington Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony	Parade and ceremonial details	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Doerzbacher Johnson, Niedbalski(R) Grosbeck(RR) PBSO HG
11-14-23 1800	PBCFR Recruit Class #89 Graduation PBSC Duncan	Opening ceremony and ceremonial details	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Petit, Johnson, Yurick Doerzbacher, Calvis
11-16-23 1400	Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial practice-Ocala FSFC	Practice on site	Eriksson(R), Calvis, Yurick, Cardoso, Johnson Havrilla (RR), Eastberg(R)
11-17-23 1000	Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial FSFC Ocala	Ceremonial details, family escorts, unit commander	Eriksson(R), Calvis, Yurick, Cardoso, Johnson Havrilla (RR), Eastberg(R)
12-10-23 1215	Type IV honors Chester Lipner North Brunswick, NJ FF (ret.) Boynton Beach	Solemn Bow, medallion to Mrs. Lipner, Mr. Lipner's helmet to grandson	Eriksson(R), Calvis
12-11-23 1800	PBSC Fire Academy Graduation – Duncan Theatre	Opening Colors	Eriksson(R), Pamplona Calvis, Petit, Maravankin

PBCFR HONOR GUARD EVENT HISTORY

Totals in **BLUE** are for members who were active prior to records being kept starting in 2001, so **actual totals** for those are **likely higher**.

Records began 2001	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
EVENTS FOR YEAR	9	38	37	15	17	30	31	26	35	30
FUNERALS/MEMORIAL	2	4	10	3	4	5	6	5	9	5
Collins, Lenny		11	24	8	1	8	9	17	9	6
Eriksson, Steen	6	26	19	10	14	21	23	26	28	26
Gass, Rick	6	19	10	8	6	13	18	17	17	17
Gribble, James	4	15	10	4	5	7	8	7	6	5
Grosbeck, Robert	5	18	12	6	5	5	6	14	4	5
Havrilla, Brad	1	19	15	5	6	10	13	15	14	13
Hernandez, James	4	16	19	12	12	20	17	18	11	9
Hornburg, Karl	4	12	16	10	15	9	13	15	5	XX
Lupo, Chuck		7	1							
Macleod, Ron	5	15	7	9	4	9	14	11	18	8
Moss, Ed							6	7	9	14
Niedbalski, Shawn									2	3
Novell, Anna							3	5	2	
Pamplona, Sean		19	23	11	12	8	20	18	25	19
Sanchez, Eustacio								6	13	11
Willhite, Matt	1	20	18	4	6	0	12	5	6	5
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
EVENTS FOR YEAR	47	59	53	39	54	56	50	38	62	688
FUNERALS/MEMORIAL	8	15	12	10	12	11	16	8	13	150
Calvis, Scott	8	12	25	20	32	28	36	21	41	224
Cardoso, Jorge						4	17	14	15	50
Collins, Lenny	8	2	3	1						107
Doerzbacher, Brad						21	33	27	36	117
Eastberg, Robert					24	37	39	25	43	168
Eriksson, Steen '86	40	53	48	35	49	52	40	37	59	612
Gass, Rick '87	3	28	30	19	22	21	5	2	14	275
Gribble, James '86	9	6	9							95
Grosbeck, Robert '86	2	4	9	3	2	2	11	5	8	126
Havrilla, Brad '89	5	15	17	13	20	27	32	24	35	299
Hernandez, James	19	19	2	1						179
Hornburg, Karl '93	6	16	20	13	7	2	(R)July			163
Lorenzo, Michelle						25	21	16	30	92
Macleod, Ron '89	20	23	22	22	34	25	18	(R)Jan		254
Moss, Ed	16	1	15	0						68
Niedbalski, Shawn	16	12	16	22	26	19	18	15	22	171
Pamplona, Sean	27	19	22	14	34	32	29	10	23	365
Pico, Mario									31	31
Sanchez, Eustacio	12	12	5	7	12	20	10	6	8	122
Sands, Gary		4	14	7	13	9	11	9	11	78
Toohey, Dave		12	19	10	LOA					41
Willhite, Matt	9									86

	2020	2021	2022	2023						Total
EVENTS FOR YEAR	37	64	65	66						921
FUNERALS/MEMORIAL	9	18	25	18						220
Calvis, Scott	16	34	36	57						367
Cardoso, Jorge	9	16	19	25						119
Challenger, Austin	(C)	18	24	8						50
Doerzbacher, Brad	18	22	30	33						220
Eastberg, Robert	18	30	47	31						294
Eriksson, Steen '86	35	63	63	59						832
Gass, Rick '86	7	8	8	4						302
Gribble, James '86	1	XX	XX	XX						96
Grosbeck, Robert '86	7	12	16	12						173
Havrilla, Brad '89	9	19	10	6						343
Johnson, Miguel	(C)	35	37	36						108
Lorenzo, Michelle	10	19	15	9						145
Maravankin, Maximiliano	(C)	19	20	11						50
Niedbalski, Shawn	14	23	28	37						273
Pamplona, Sean	12	19	37	47						480
Petit, Erika	(C)	32	30	43						105
Pico, Mario	20	18	11	7						87
Sanchez, Eustacio	8	13	13	6						162
Sands, Gary	11	33	10	0						132
Yurick, Brandon	(C)	27	35	23						85

Life Members	Years	Term
Steen Eriksson	38	1986-present
Rick Gass	38	1986-present
Robert Grosbeck	38	1986-present
Brad Havrilla	35	1989-present
Ron Macleod	29	1989-2018
James Gribble	27	1986-2013
Karl Hornburg	24	1993-2017
Sean Pamplona	22	2002-present
Eustacio Sanchez	16	2008-present
Shawn Niedbalski	15	2009-present

Life Member = 15 consecutive years of service



Palm Beach County Firefighters Pipes and Drums 2023 Annual Report

2023 was an incredible year for the Palm Beach County Firefighter's Pipes and Drums, showcasing our commitment to serving the community through music. We had the privilege of being a part of 64 different events that allowed us to make a meaningful impact with our performances.

To kick off the year, we had the honor of performing at the opening ceremonies of Fire Rescue East in Daytona Beach. It was an opportunity to set the tone for the event and pay tribute to the brave firefighters in attendance. It was a good venue to start the year on a powerful and uplifting note.

We were given the solemn duty of playing at 10 funerals, where we paid our respects and honored the lives of fallen heroes. These occasions allowed us to provide support and solace to the families and fellow firefighters during their time of grief. It was our privilege to use traditions and music to bring comfort to those who needed it most.

Throughout the year, we participated in 12 award ceremonies, adding a touch of solemnity and reverence with our music. These ceremonies were a way for us to recognize the accomplishments and bravery of the firefighters within our department, our county, and across the state. We wanted to create a sense of honor and dignity through our performances.

Another highlight of the year was playing at Change Of Command and Graduation ceremonies. These events celebrated the transition of leadership and the achievements of our firefighters, from graduating fire school, recruit academies, promotions, and those transitioning into retirement. We were honored to be a part of these significant milestones and to provide a musical backdrop to these special moments.

In remembrance of the victims and heroes of September 11th, we took part in various 9/11 memorial events. Members of the band played for the West Palm Beach Fire Department's 9/11 stair climb event and also the Palm Beach County Fire Chiefs' remembrance ceremony. Our Pipe Sergeant was deployed as a result of Hurricane Idalia but was able to pipe at the Suwannee County EOC's remembrance, and later that morning, with the City of Live Oak Fire Rescue's 9/11 service as well.

Once again, we were able to join forces with the Greater Boston Firefighters in the Delray St. Patrick's Day Parade. It has turned into an annual event, and we were proud to march at the front of one of the largest fire-rescue/public safety-based parades in the nation.

The band also reconnected with the Orange County (CA) Fire Authority Pipes and Drums while participating with hundreds of other pipers and drummers in the 37th annual IAFF Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The IAFF added the names of 574 fallen firefighters from the United States and Canada to the Wall of Honor. We have had band members present at every Fallen Firefighter Memorial Event since 2005.



We participated in seven “mass band” events, where multiple pipe and drum bands came together to create a harmonious and impactful performance. These events showcased the unity and camaraderie among different bands, and we were proud to be a part of collaborations.

Expanding our reach, we traveled to nine out-of-county events, bringing our music to different communities. From Key West to Okeechobee County, Colorado Springs to Daytona Beach, and from Broward County to the Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Ocala, we shared our talent and passion with audiences across the state and country. It was a rewarding experience to connect with communities and share our music.

In recognition of a lifetime of achievement and continued dedication to the community, our Pipe Major, retired Battalion Chief John Flynn, received the 2022 PBCFR Legacy Award. His ability to evoke powerful emotions through the bagpipes was a defining feature of his career.

These events, along with many others, made 2023 a truly memorable year for the PBCFF Pipes and Drums. We were deeply honored to be a part of these occasions, using our music to pay tribute, uplift spirits, and bring joy to those we served. Our commitment to serving the community through music is something we hold dear, and it was fulfilling to witness the impact our performances had on others. We are grateful for the opportunities we had and look forward to continuing our mission of bringing harmony and inspiration, along with respect and dignity to our community.

PBCFF Pipes and Drums Band Members-

Bagpipers:

Pipe Major Retired Battalion Chief John Flynn (Founding Member).

Band Manager Driver/Operator Jon Ferguson (Founding Member)

Pipe Sargent Captain Tom Reyes

Captain Tricia Kamalu

Driver Operator Matt Poulin

Firefighter/Paramedic Paul Manriquez

Drummers:

Drum Sargent Captain Ed Peek

Driver Operator JT Kavanagh - *Delray Beach Fire Rescue*

Assistant Chief David Woodside

Captain Leilani Kamalu

Lieutenant Christy Osment

Lieutenant Iris Hernandez – *West Palm Beach Fire Department*

Lieutenant Cori Foulds

Lieutenant Matt Vreeland.



Are you a current or former firefighter? Are you passionate about music and the powerful impact it can have on the Fire-Rescue community? If so, we invite you to join The Palm Beach County Firefighters Pipes & Drums.

As a member of our band, you'll have the opportunity to be part of a dedicated and talented group of individuals who share a common love for both firefighting and music. Our band is comprised exclusively of current or former firefighters, creating a unique bond and understanding among our members.

We offer free lessons to all hopeful students and members, with the understanding that once you earn your kilt, you'll play in the band. We believe that music should be accessible to all, and we want to provide the opportunity for firefighters to discover and explore their musical talents. No past musical experience is necessary.

Being part of our band is not just about playing music; it's about making a difference in the community. Through our performances, we pay tribute to fallen heroes, uplift spirits, and bring joy to those we serve. We have participated in various events throughout the year, including opening ceremonies, hospital visits, funerals, award ceremonies, and memorial events.

Joining our band means becoming part of a community that supports and uplifts one another. It's an opportunity to showcase your musical abilities, share your firefighting experiences, and create lifelong friendships with like-minded individuals.

Contact us today to learn more and become a part of something truly special.

Pipe Major John Flynn: (561) 385 6736
 Drum Sargent Ed Peek: (561) 723-5180
 Band Manager Jon Ferguson: (561) 767-0590





