



Spring 2011

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad NEWSLETTER

“Volunteers Serving Our Community”

Meet Author Fred Burton at the Squad.....

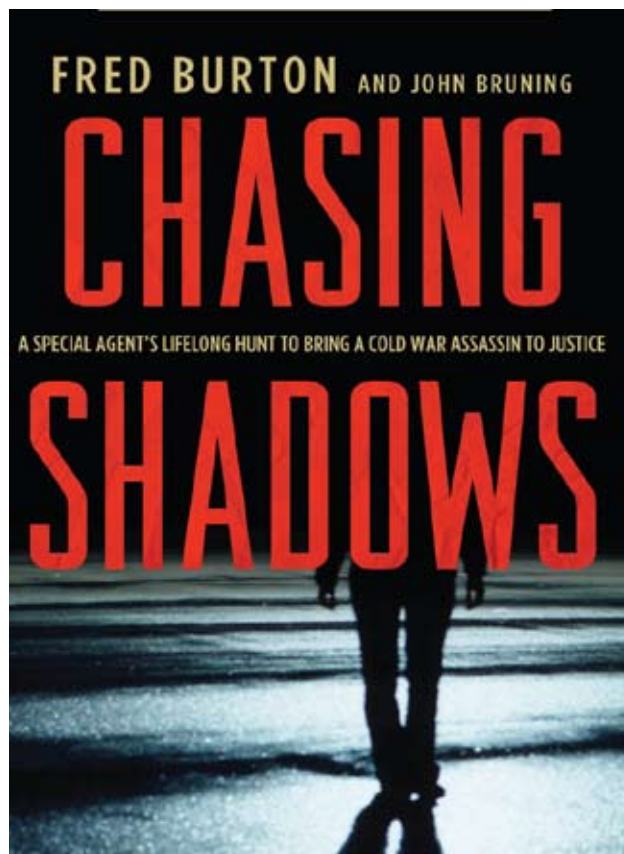
Wednesday Evening, April 13th, 2011

Fred Burton is one of the world's foremost experts on security, terrorists, and terrorists' organizations. A life member of the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad, Fred is a noted author who published his first book, *Ghost: Confessions of a Counterterrorism Agent*, about three years ago. The latest book, *Chasing Shadow - A Special Agent's Lifelong Hunt To Bring A Cold War Assassin To Justice*, is a gripping story of the Cold War's last great unsolved murder and his 35-year quest to solve it. We cordially invite you and a guest to join us for this book lecture, questions & answer period, and book signing at 7:30 pm at the Squad's Civic Hall.

In July 1973, a gunman stepped out from behind a tree and fired five shots, point blank, into Josef Alon, a kind, unassuming Israeli Air Force pilot. Sixteen-year-old Fred Burton was deeply shocked by this crime that rocked his sleepy suburban neighborhood in Bethesda, Maryland. Alon wasn't just a pilot and family man - he was a high-ranking Israeli military official with intelligence ties. His assassin was never to be found. In

2007, Fred Burton - now a former State Department counterterrorism special agent - reopened the case. From swirling dogfights over Egypt and Hanoi to gun battles on the streets of Beirut, this

spins a gripping tale of secret agents, double agents, terrorists, and heroes as Burton chases leads around the globe in an effort to solve this decades-old murder.



Fred Burton was deputy chief of the Counterterrorism Division of the State Department's Diplomatic Security Service and is currently vice president at Stratfor, known as the "Shadow CIA". As noted above, Fred is the author of *Ghost: Confessions of a Counterterrorism Agent* and appears regularly on *The Daily Show*, *Glenn Beck* and *Anderson Cooper 360*, and on Fox, ABC and CBS radio. He currently resides in Austin, Texas.

Our "Meet the Author" event will begin in our Civic Hall at our building at 5020 Battery Lane - Bethesda, promptly at 7:30 pm on Wednesday evening, April 13th, 2011. Fred Burton will begin by discussing his book, followed by an intense question and answer period, and then a book signing (books will

action-packed history shows how power is used, misused, and sold to the most convenient bidder. *Chasing Shadows*

be available at the Squad for purchase). We look forward to seeing you for this exciting event.

Replacing and Building Heavy Rescue Squad Truck 741

As many of you may already know, the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad is in the process of replacing our aging Heavy Rescue Squad Truck designated as Rescue Squad 741 Bravo. This is a project that will require \$950,000 for which we still need to raise \$350,000. We need your financial support now to finish our fund raising efforts for this state-of-the-art life saving vehicle.

Exactly what is a heavy rescue squad truck? Simply put, a "Squad truck" is a vehicle that is a "rolling toolbox" that provides specialized technical rescue equipment and services with specially trained fire fighters. Having a new rescue squad truck along with new equipment will allow the B-CCRS fire fighters and emergency medical technicians who respond to vehicle collisions to access trapped patients two to three times faster - time that can potentially save a life in a critical trauma call. The other types of rescues that our squad truck responds to are: house fires, structure fires, vehicle

collisions with trapped or pinned patients, stuck elevators, calls for odor of smoke or gasses, search and rescue operations during a fire for the general public as well as other fire fighters just to name a few of the rescues performed by our heavy rescue squad truck crews.



This new vehicle will be built by Rescue One in New Jersey, and will have a Spartan chassis. It will also include the new Ultimate System that operates our hydraulic tools which include the spreaders better known as "the jaws of life", cutters and rams that are

all used in vehicle collisions. The Ultimate System is a state-of-the-art hydraulic system that will operate our specialized tools noted above and provide our first-responders with equipment that can deal with the new metals being manufactured into most new vehicles. The system will allow us to operate faster and on more vehicles at one time. Our own Truck Committee members have designed this vehicle along with the engineers at Rescue One to meet our specific needs within our community.

Again, we need the support of our community to finish the funding for this vehicle. Please make your tax deductible donation for this new truck by sending your check or visiting our website (www.bccrs.org).....please be sure to note that your donation is for the replacement of Heavy Rescue Squad 741. The Board of Directors, Officers and Members of the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad thank you in advance for your donation in support of this life-saving vehicle.

THE ULTIMATE SYSTEM

With the current extrication system, state-of-the-art ten years ago, the firefighter could only use two tools simultaneously. Using the evolutionary Ultimate Extrication System made by Amkus, BC-CRS firefighters would be able to use multiple "jaws of life" hydraulic spreaders and cutters to extricate an entire family at once. This system allows these dedicated volunteers to forgo difficult choices and extricate multiple patients utilizing up to six of these



powerful life saving tools at once. This new Ultimate system allows our professional first responders to not only use six tools at once, but to operate them four times faster than what is currently operational. This truly could mean the difference between life and death.

In the 15 years since the Rescue Squad truck was designed, car manufacturers have introduced vehicles that incorporate exotic materials making it much more difficult for us to access victims trapped inside. During the past few years, the BC-

CRS obtained stronger cutting tools as the first step to overcome these new challenges. However, the critical change needed was to increase the speed of the tools. The Amkus Ultimate System allows the hydraulic rescue tools to operate faster. It is not only the power of the tools, but also the operating speed that permits us to cut through these new materials. The Ultimate System will allow us to use longer hydraulic lines enabling us to operate further from our vehicle and we will be able to use six rather than four tools at once. However, the critical item is the greater speed giving us improved operating efficiency.

The BCCRS volunteers eagerly await this top of the line technology. Being able to run up to six tools simultaneously allows the squad crew the opportunity to complete multiple tasks on one or more vehicles simultaneously. This will drastically reduce the length of extrication and allow the EMS units to begin patient assessment and treatment sooner than before. If there were multiple patients in the vehicle, it is no longer necessary to prioritize which patient is extricated first. With six tools operational at one time, both patients can be extricated by different members of the crew.

(Dave Peary, Jim Master, Tom Ryan and Keith Stakes all graciously contributed to this article.)

The President's Column — Kenneth M. Yazge



Last fall, the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad (BCCRS) joined with the other volunteer fire and rescue departments, activists and concerned citizens to fight the county executive's effort to start charging fees for ambulance services. Thanks largely to your support, the ambulance fee measure was defeated when county residents voted against it last November. We, here at the BCCRS, are proud that many of us have volunteered countless hours, years, and even decades to serve the community, and that when you call us for help you do not receive a bill.

While some media reports portrayed the issue as a volunteer firefighter vs. paid firefighter battle, our BCCRS first responders are proud to work side-by-side with both paid and volunteer members of the county and surrounding jurisdiction fire departments. We have strongly urged the county not to make budget cuts to public safety at the expense of the safety of our residents and visitors.

Soon, the Rescue Squad will be celebrating 75 years of service to the community. In order to ensure that the next 75 years are as successful as the first, we will rely on the support of our friends.

That support comes in many forms: donations to our annual Fall Fundraising Drive; contributions to assist in the purchase of new equipment, such as the heavy rescue squad described in the chief's report in this newsletter; sharing stories about times the rescue squad came to your assistance with friends, neighbors, and elected officials; and, of course, volunteering your time as a firefighter or EMT, or as an administrative volunteer. Thank you for all you've done to enable us to serve the community since 1937, and for ensuring that those services continue to be excellent over the next 75 years as well.

The Chief's Corner — Edward G. Sherburne

Last fall, I told you that Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad (BCCRS) was hoping to buy a state-of-the-art heavy rescue squad to replace Rescue Squad 741 Bravo, which is more than 15 years old and has responded to thousands of calls for help. This spring, I am pleased to report that the project continues to move forward--a team of firefighters has spent countless hours with representatives of several manufacturers to design a rescue truck to best serve the needs of the community. This truck will be safer for the firefighters who ride it and more effective for the citizens they protect. New, more efficient tools will allow BCCRS personnel to access victims trapped in cars more quickly, enabling our paramedics and EMTs to provide treatment and transport them to the

hospital in a more timely manner.

Like any new equipment, the rescue truck currently being built for BCCRS does not come without a cost--nearly \$1 million! Much of that money has already been donated by generous residents of this community and local businesses, but more help is still needed. Please consider making a contribution or increasing your regular donation if possible, so that the BCCRS can purchase this new rescue squad and can move forward with other projects, such as the future purchase of new ambulances and other life-saving equipment. As we have seen many times over the last few months, we never know when the next emergency--large or small--may impact our area, and it is vital that BCCRS have the

equipment to respond and provide the best service possible to the residents and visitors of the region.

If you're not sure what a heavy rescue truck is or why we need one, there is no better way to find out than to sign up to volunteer at BCCRS. Whether you've always wanted to be a firefighter, would love to serve as a paramedic or EMT, or just want to help out with fundraising and other administrative needs, the Rescue Squad needs your help. Our new equipment is only as good as the dedicated people who staff it, so what better way to see how your contribution is being used than to use it yourself. Sign up today by visiting bccrs.org or stopping by!

VOLUNTEER

The Experience of a Lifetime

301-657-5557



BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE RESCUE SQUAD, INC

Fire, Rescue & EMS

Serving
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Twelve Bicycle & Motor Cycle Safety Tips (How to avoid getting hit by a vehicle)

- Wear a helmet
- Follow the traffic laws
- Use a headlight
- Get a loud horn
- Don't ride on sidewalks
- Don't ride against traffic
- Don't ride or stop in a blind spot
- Use a mirror
- Don't pass on the right
- Get a rear light
- Never move without looking first
- Wear something bright and/or a reflective vest

If you need to reach us in an emergency

Montgomery County: BCCRS is part of the integrated response system for all ambulance, fire and rescue services in Montgomery County. We deliver a full range of rescue capabilities, including basic ambulance, advanced life support, and heavy rescue services.

Call 911.

Washington, DC: Our direct service to residents of the District of Columbia began more than 70 years ago and continues today in cooperation with the D.C. Fire and EMS Department. Residents of Upper Northwest should **call 301-652-1000** for emergency service. Non emergency: 301-652-0077

**Bethesda-Chevy Chase
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5020 Battery Lane
Bethesda, MD 20814
www.bccrs.org**