



## Chief's Corner

For more than 25 years, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) has honored our country's fallen brothers and sisters and provided comfort and resources to their families. The organization's creation was literally an act of the United States Congress in 1992. Support for the fire service at that level is very encouraging, especially when it comes to demonstrating compassion.

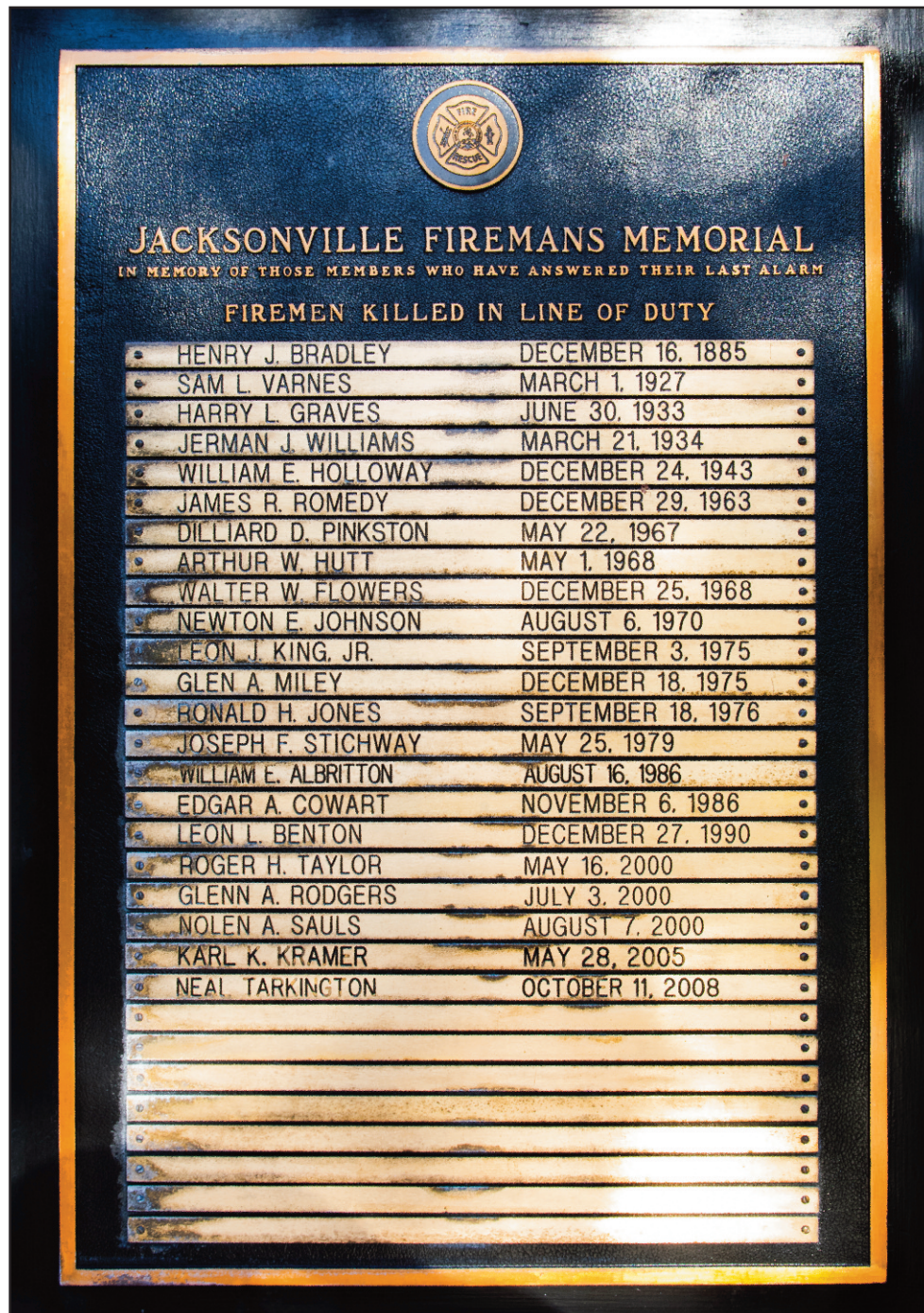
NFFF not only commits itself to remembering the fallen, it also strives to prevent firefighter fatalities and injuries. For example, NFFF has long offered safety training through its Everyone Goes Home program, and the organization recently expanded this outreach to wildland firefighting groups. NFFF also helps to facilitate the Fire Service Occupational Cancer Alliance, which advocates for research, prevention, detection, and treatment. And, of course, each October, the NFFF sponsors the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend. Thousands participate in a variety of events, including the memorial service on Sunday. This year, the Oct. 7 service honored 80 firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty in 2017.

NFFF excels in acknowledging fire service sacrifices and the families who must cope with the loss. JFRD will do the same on Nov. 15, when we conduct our fourth annual Sea of Blue Fallen Firefighter Memorial March. We will honor our 22 fallen members and their families that day with a public procession that spans 1 mile through downtown. Then we will join several family members of the fallen for the Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service at Station 1.

This month's newsletter illustrates JFRD's public commemoration and compassion over our first three Sea of Blue events, the first one occurring in 2014. I hope you will join us at the foot of South Hogan Street on Nov. 15.

**Kurt Wilson**  
Chief of Department

# Sea of Blue is for Them



JFRD commemorates its 22 line of duty deaths on the Firefighter Memorial Wall at Fire Station 1. On Nov. 15, JFRD's Sea of Blue Fallen Firefighter Memorial March will also serve as a public commemoration. The event starts at 10 a.m. on South Hogan Street and proceeds along a 1-mile route through downtown. It concludes at Station 1 with the Fallen Firefighter Memorial Ceremony.



# SEA OF BLUE 2014



*Eastbound on Ashley Street.*



*Staging on South Hogan Street.*



*Photos above and below: Memorial Service at Fire Station 1.*

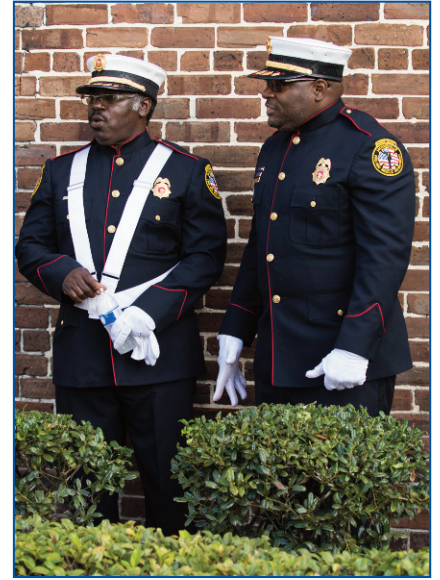


*Above: Cathedral Care on East Ashley Street. Below: Ashley and Laura streets.*





# SEA OF BLUE 2015



*Above & below: Jacksonville Fire Museum, during the Fallen Firefighter Memorial Ceremony.*

*Above and below: Eastbound on Bay Street, passing Maxwell House.*



*JFRD Pipes & Drums passes the Police Memorial Building on Bay Street.*





# SEA OF BLUE 2017

*Hurricane Matthew's passing through Northeast Florida in October 2016 forced the cancellation of Sea of Blue.*



*Above and upper right: Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service at Fire Station 1.*



*Staging on South Hogan Street.*



*First Baptist Church's Academy salutes JFRD on Laura Street.*



*JFRD's Public Information Officer Tom Francis has emceed the Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service for more than 15 years.*



*Marching north on Hogan Street.*