



Photo by STEPHANIE STORM

Among the honored at the Feb. 28 Wylie Fire Rescue banquet are Station 2, B Shift members Josh Monroe, (from left), Wylie Way Award; John Hunt, Firefighter of the Year; Brad Campbell; Brandon Storm, representing the Life and Fire Safety Education Team, winners of Crew of the Year; and Jarred List, EMS Provider of the Year.

Wylie Fire Rescue honors members, achievements

SUBMITTED STORY

Wylie Fire Rescue paid tribute to those public servants who had made exceptional contributions during 2014 at their annual awards dinner, held Feb. 28 at First Baptist Church Wylie Event Center.

"It was wonderful to be able to gather together at this annual event and honor those firefighters who have gone above and beyond this past year in their service to our community," said Mayor Eric Hogue. "They continue a tradition of serving our citizens that began over 105 years ago. I had an opportunity to witness this firsthand when I was recently involved in an accident and required medical attention. I saw their care, concern and attention to my medical needs."

Fire Chief Brent Parker presented the awards.

Firefighter of the Year went to John Hunt for his great attitude and his willingness to tackle more than his share of educational requirements, becoming a swiftwater technician and completing the rapid driver trainer course. He is a member of the Haz-Mat team.

Officer of the Year was Casey Nash, who was described as being approachable and committed to his employees. He makes his expectations known and accepts nothing less, allows his firefighters to excel and is a great example of servant leadership.

Andrew Johnson was named Paramedic of the Year. He was one of the medics on a CPR save this year, and he consistently demonstrates thorough understanding of his protocols. He also talked to Wylie East

fighting/EMS. He was enthusiastic, professional and well-prepared.

The Wylie Way Award, given to someone who shows above-average care and compassion for members of the community, went to Josh Monroe. Monroe was called out to assist with a resident needing help in his home. Monroe and his crew not only assisted the man but built ramps so he would have safe access throughout his home. After leaving the scene, Monroe realized the ramps might pose a slip hazard; after purchasing grip tape, he returned to make the ramps even safer.

Crew of the Year went to Ray Jackson, Richard Hollien, Brandon Storm, Jeff Pynes, Brian Moriarty and Andrew Johnson of the Life and Fire Safety Education Team for the Wylie Wild Bunch fire safety program they have presented for 12 years at area elementary schools. The program makes a huge difference in the community by teaching prevention.

Dispatcher of the Year went to Tristain Whittle, who always stays calm and pays attention to detail, is always positive on the radio and over the phone, and tries to be one step ahead, helping coworkers by mentoring.

Other awards included Rookie Dispatcher of the Year Sara Zerger; Administrative Employee of the Year Walter Clifton; ETMC EMS Provider of the Year Jarred List; Rookie Firefighter of the Year James Guido; Part-time Firefighter of the Year Catherine Akkerman; and Explorer of the Year Brad Moody.

Information provided by Judy Truesdell on behalf of the city of Wylie