

95 Years of Service to Volunteer Firemen

# The Signal

www.njnyvfa.org



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December 2009

## From the Editor

This issue of The Signal contains the applications for our Fireman of the Year, Rudy Appeld Service and Scholarship awards. If your department has a member that has performed outstanding heroic service at an incident, consider nominating that member for the Joe Costello Fireman of the Year award. How about a member that is also active in their community in addition to being a firefighter? Consider that member for the Rudy Appeld Service Award. Lets not forget about members of our family that are planning to attend higher education. Submit their name for consideration in our Scholarship Awards.

H&M Leasing, our clothing bin partners, have long been a valued supporter of our Association. Mark Field and his sister Helene were always there to not only aid our Association, but also provide much needed assistance to the residents of our communities that have suffered loss due to fire. I'm saddened to report that Helene Field passed away recently. We extend our deepest sympathy to Mark and the families on your loss. Please remember there is comfort in friendship, hope in prayer, and peace in love.

On behalf of the Association officers and Trustees, we wish you all the very best for a Happy, Healthy and Safe Holiday Season.

Be Safe and remember our troops!

Frank

E-mail submissions and photos to [ffuchs9595@aol.com](mailto:ffuchs9595@aol.com).

Or send to:

Frank Fuchs—The Signal

25 Union Ave. Little Ferry, NJ 07643

## Holiday Greetings to All

On behalf of President Stu Gates and all the Association Officers and Trustees, we wish you all the very best for a Happy, Healthy and Safe Holiday Season.

Merry Christmas and Happy Chanukah to all!

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

Support your Association...Come to a meeting! Meeting locations and directions via Mapquest are listed on our Web site at [www.njnyvfa.org](http://www.njnyvfa.org)

December 2009—No Meeting

January 29, 2010—Piermont, NY

February 26 —Old Tappan, NJ. 2310 Old Tappan Rd.

March 26 —Open

April 30 —Tappan NY 135 Washington Ave.

May 16—Annual Memorial Service Bergen County Law and Public Safety Complex—2PM

June 4—Annual Convention

Host a meeting at your firehouse.

Contact any Association officer to arrange a date.



## In Memory of our departed members

The officers and members of the NJ & NY Volunteer Firemen's Association extend their deepest sympathy to the families of our departed members:

John P. Stewart—Paramus, NJ

William Kostrom—Little Ferry, NJ

Stephen Sochulak—Mahwah, NJ

*Listing of deceased members is published based on their last address on record and may not be the same as the town in which they served.*

**During this Holiday Season, remember our brave troops at home and abroad.**





**NEW JERSEY & NEW YORK  
VOLUNTEER FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION**

**Joseph Costello  
"Firemen of the Year"  
APPLICATION**

NAME OF  
NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME TEL. NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ E MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINATING DEPARTMENT  
CHIEF \_\_\_\_\_

DEPT. NAME, ADDRESS, TEL. NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF INCIDENT \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF INCIDENT \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS**

- 1) DETAILED SYNOPSIS OF INCIDENT, DESCRIBING INITIAL DISPATCH CALL, DATE, TIME, ARRIVAL CONDITIONS, WEATHER, AND FIRST ARRIVING APPARATUS. WAS NOMINEE THE FIRST ARRIVING (ALONE WITHOUT APPARATUS). INCLUDE DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EXCEPTIONAL EFFORTS PERFORMED BY NOMINEE, DESCRIPTION OF WORK PERFORMED, PREVENTION OF ADDITIONAL DAMAGE AND LIVES SAVED. INCLUDE "ASSISTED BY" INFORMATION IF APPROPRIATE AND APPLICABLE.  
NOTE: THIS ATTACHMENT MUST BE SIGNED BY THE DEPARTMENT CHIEF.

**OPTIONAL ATTACHMENTS**

- 1) PHOTOCOPIES OF NEWS ARTICLES DESCRIBING INCIDENT AS REPORTED BY NEW MEDIA.
- 2) PHOTOGRAPHS OF INCIDENT (NON-RETURNABLE).

**ALL NOMINATIONS TO BE POSTMARKED NOT LATER THAN MAY 1<sup>st</sup>**

MAIL ALL NOMINATIONS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO:

ROBERT AITKEN  
127 LAKEVIEW AVE.  
LITTLE FERRY, NJ 07643

IN NOMINATING THE ABOVE NAMED PERSON FOR CONSIDERATION FOR THE "JOSEPH COSTELLO FIREMEN OF THE YEAR" AWARD, I CERTIFY THE ABOVE INFORMATION AND ACCOMPANYING INCIDENT SYNOPSIS IS TRUTHFUL AND ACCURATE.

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE  
CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT

New Jersey and New York  
Volunteer Firemen's Association  
**Rudy Appeld Service Award**  
*formally The Hillsdale Award*

Nominees Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Nominees Fire Company or Dept. \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Name and Address

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Date Submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Attach a summary of nominees qualifications covering the criteria listed below. Summaries should be at least one page but no more than two, double-spaced. Include any additional information such as newspaper articles, citations and excerpts from meeting minutes.

Consideration for the award will be based on the following:

- 1) Service to his/her Fire Company/Dept. in firefighting, length of service, special services, committee activities, etc.
- 2) Service to the Fire Service in general such as mutual aid or other organizations promoting the fire service.
- 3) Service to the community such as Scouting, YM-YWCA, Little League, Veterans services, Municipal Boards and other community activities that benefit children and adults.

Deadline: All applications must be postmarked by **May 1**.

Mail application to:

Bob Aitken  
127 Lakeview Ave.  
Little Ferry, NJ 07643

New Jersey and New York  
Volunteer Firemen's Association  
**Scholarship Award Application**

Applicants Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
please print

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone#: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_

High School attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Year graduated: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of school / college / university  
planning to attend or are attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Major course of study: \_\_\_\_\_

Required: Attach a written essay about your background and future goals.

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicants Signature / Date

Name of NJNY-VFA Member sponsoring your application

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name / Signature

All must be postmarked no later than **May 1st**.

Return to:

Robert E. Kirsch  
107 Roosevelt Ave.  
Bergenfield, NJ 07621  
201-385-0644  
robtekirsch@yahoo.com

**Each and every application is taken on it's own merit**

# **NJ&NYVFA**

## **Scholarship Guidelines**

In keeping with the ideals of the New Jersey & New York Volunteer Firemen's Association, the following requirements shall be considered when choosing applicants.

All Applicants will have a SPONSOR. No one will nominate himself or herself. The SPONSOR shall be a member in good standing (dues fully paid). This SPONSOR must be a Personal or Life member of the New Jersey & New York Volunteer Firemen's Association ...not just a delegate.

First Preference:

- To an Active dues paying member or Life member of the NJ&NYVFA.
- A Child or Grandchild of any Active dues paying member or Life member.
- Applications may be Graduating High School Seniors or in College.
- Applications should be active in their respective municipalities Emergence Service Organizations. This can include Junior FD Responders, Probationary Firefighters, Rescue Squad/EMT (EMS) or Active Firefighters in their municipalities.

Second Preference:

- High School Seniors that are graduating and going to college, or may already be College students. (These students are children/grandchildren of NJ&NYVFA members and are NOT in any FD related organizations).

Third Preference:

- Applicants who are graduating High School or are already in college and suffer extreme financial hardships outside their control. The applicant who plans to pursue a degree that will make the fire service better shall be considered.

Each applicant shall be considered on its own merit and hardship. There shall be no precedent set. It is highly suggested that Applicants shall be pursuing degrees in Fire Science, Nursing/Medicine, Crime Scene Forensics (CSI) Criminal Justice or Law. (the thought is to make the fire service & fire service family better)

The Scholarship Committee will meet and discuss all applications and take each application on its own merit. The Scholarship Committee will report to the Executive Board prior to the June convention. If the Committee cannot reach a decision, the President will have final say on any application.

An applicant must be enrolled in or planning to enroll in the next scheduled semester of a two (2) or four (4) year accredited college or university. Applications must be postmarked by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **Annual Memorial Service**

*By R. Kirsch, Memorial Chairman*

The annual NJ & NY Volunteer Firemen's Assn Memorial Service will be held Sunday May 16 at 2PM in the Hall of Heroes at the Bergen County Fire Academy in Mahwah. A memorial wreath will be placed in Firemen's Plaza. Light refreshments will be served.

So that officers and departments throughout Bergen and Rockland County have a better way to communicate, a special e-mail address has been established to the Memorial Chairman. You can reach him at [NJNYFDMEMORIAL@AOL.COM](mailto:NJNYFDMEMORIAL@AOL.COM)



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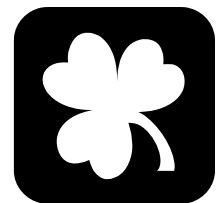
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