



94 Years of Service to Volunteer Firemen

The Signal

www.njnyvfa.org



Volume 46 No. 4 Official Publication of NJ & NY Volunteer Firemen's Association

December 2007

From the Editor

This morning as I sit at my computer putting the final touches on this issue of The Signal I listen to the television in the background. Today is Veterans Day. Repeatedly the news coverage highlight commemorative events that are happening throughout our nation. People in towns across this land are honoring the Veterans who served and those who continue to serve this proud land of ours.

I watch the parades go by and the camera always seem to zoom in to the "senior" vets riding on floats..most sitting, some standing, but all of them with a proud smile on their face waving to the crowds. The camera now shows some younger vets, marching, waving and smiling. They should be happy. It is because of their dedication and service to our country that we enjoy the freedom we have.

Remember to thank not only our veterans of past wars but the military service personnel that are serving today. As the holiday season approaches on behalf of President Robert Kirsch, the officers and trustees of our Association I'd like to wish you and your families a safe and Happy Holiday Season.

E-mail submissions and photos to ffuchs9595@aol.com. Please put "Signal" in the subject line.

Or send to: Frank Fuchs—The Signal 25 Union Ave. Little Ferry, NJ 07643

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

December, No Meeting Have a safe and Happy Holiday!

January 25, 2008 – Piermont, N. Y., Empire Hose Co.

February 29, 2008 – Little Ferry Hook & Ladder

March 28, 2008 – Tallman N. Y.

April 25, 2008 – Montvale F. D.

Directions to upcoming meetings

Little Ferry Hook & Ladder—124 Main St. Take GSP south to Rt. 17 south to Rt. 46. East to Little Ferry circle. Turn right at the Dean gas station. Make the first right onto Main St. The firehouse will be ¼ mile on your right. Tallman N. Y. 289 Rt. 59, Suffern, N. Y. Take GSP north to Rt. 287. (I-87) Get off at exit 14B, Go right on ramp and left onto N. Airmont Rd. and then left on Rt. 59 to firehouse.

Montvale F.D. 35 W. Grand Ave. Take GSP north to Exit 172 (Grand Ave). Follow sign for Montvale/Park Ridge. Keep right at the fork to go on Grand Ave. Follow road to Fire Dept on left.



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:

Douglas VanValen - New Milford FD & Oradell FD

Thomas Phillips - River Edge FD & Oradell FD

Richard Ryen - Oradell FD

Floyd Henderson Jr. - Saddle Brook FD

George Dros—St. Charles, MI

Kenneth Summer—Tunkhavnock, PA

Peter P. Lisciotto—Paramus, NJ

Otto F. Knapp—Bogota, 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.



*God Bless America
and
Remember Our Troops!*

Wear Your Seat Belt



ALWAYS!

2008 NJ&NYVFA Award Applications

by George Saigh

It's that time of year when we have to start thinking about the association's upcoming awards presented at our annual convention in June. Has anybody from your department done a Heroic Act in the last year? If so, submit that person's name for the "Joseph Costello Firemen of the Year" award. Has anybody from your department been very active within your borough as well as the fire department? If so, submit that person's name for the "Rudy Appeld" award. In addition, do not forget our Scholarship awards. The Association has adopted some new guidelines (outlined below) for scholarship awards. There will be a maximum of 10 scholarship awards being given out. So get the applications in early. All the applications can be downloaded from our web site, www.njnyvfa.org. We will also have applications available at our meetings and will attempt to publish the applications in upcoming issues of the Signal. A copy of the Fireman of the Year application is included in this issue.

NJ&NYVFA Scholarship Application Requirements

by President Robert E. Kirsch

Choosing of applicants seems to be getting harder since so many applications are being submitted. In keeping with the ideals of "OUR" 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 "OUR" Association (NJ&NYVFA) ...not just a delegate.

Application First Preference: >To an Active dues paying member of our Association. A member of NJ&NYVFA.
>A Child or Grandchild of any member.

(Not to sound selfish but we need to take care of our own people within our dues paying membership first).

- >Applications may be Graduating High School Seniors or in College.
- >Applications should be active in their respective municipalities Emergency 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 are students that 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 applicants, their respective applications and take each application on its own merit. The Scholarship Committee will have a report ready for the Executive Board prior to the June convention. If the Committee cannot reach a decision the President will have final say on any application.

The above was submitted for consideration at the October 7 Executive Board meeting and passed. Presented to General Membership for adoption October 2007.



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

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

FOR MANY YEARS THE NEW JERSEY & NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION HAS GIVEN THIS AWARD PROUDLY TO A DESERVING RECIPIENT. STARTING IN 2005 THE AWARD WAS RENAMED AS THE "JOSEPH COSTELLO FIREMEN OF THE YEAR" AWARD.

FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT REMEMBER OR DID NOT KNOW "JOE", HERE IS A LITTLE BACKGROUND ON HIM. JOE JOINED NEW MILFORD FIRE CO. # 1 IN 1961. HE SERVED AS PRESIDENT OF CO. # 1 FROM 1978 TO 1982. HE WAS A LIFE MEMBER OF NEW MILFORD FIRE CO. # 1 AND ALSO A LIFE MEMBER OF THE NJ/NY VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION. HE ALSO SERVED AS A TRUSTEE OF NEW MILFORD FIRE CO. # 1. JOE COULD ALWAYS BE COUNTED ON TO SPEAK HIS MIND AT MEETINGS AND KEEPING THIS ASSOCIATION MOVING FORWARD.

ON NOVEMBER 27, 1972 A FIRE WAS REPORTED AT RHINE COURT IN NEW MILFORD ALL UNITS RESPONDED. JOE WAS SEVERLY INJURED WHILE PERFORMING THE RESCUE OF A WOMAN FROM THE HOUSE WITH 2 POLICE OFFICERS. JOE RECEIVED INJURIES THAT WOULD HAVE DEFEATED MOST MEN. JOE DECIDED TO CONTINUE IN THE FIRE SERVICE PROMOTING FIRE SAFETY AROUND THE STATE AND AS A SPOKESPERSON FOR THE BURN FOUNDATION. SOME OF THE AWARDS THAT JOE RECEIVED OVER THE YEARS INCLUDE THE NJ/NY "FIREMAN OF THE YEAR" AWARD IN 1973, THE "RUDY APPELD" AWARD AND THE "FIRE INDUSTRY" AWARD AT THE 100TH ANNUAL FIRE CHIEF'S CONVENTION IN BALTIMORE. JOE ALSO RECEIVED A "VALOR" AWARD FROM THE BOROUGH OF NEW MILFORD.

JOE PASSED AWAY IN FEBRUARY OF 2004 AND IT IS WITH GREAT HONOR THAT WE NAME THIS AWARD AFTER HIM. THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF THE COSTELLO FAMILY THERE WILL BE A MONETARY STIPEND GIVEN WITH THIS AWARD.

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 1st

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.

SIGNATURE
CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT

DATE _____

A message from "The Rev." David Shepson

Dear Officers and Members of the NJ & NY Volunteer Firemen's Assn. It has been 12 years since I left New Jersey and retired (retired??) to Florida. Twelve years since I had the honor of meeting monthly with you, my firefighting comrades.

I deeply miss the meetings and fellowship. I miss the annual convention and all of its meaning and excitement. Those were the days! Memories of them very often run through the corridors of my mind. I recall with pride and yet am humbled with the privilege you bestowed upon me to be your Chaplain. It was overwhelming to me when you honored me with that of becoming your Chaplain Emeritus! God has blessed me abundantly with allowing me to have you folks as my friends. I thank Him.

I pray, and do so often, that God will watch over each one of you as you serve Him and your fellow man in the manner you have volunteered to do. I know it isn't easy and can be extremely dangerous at times. Remember, I too was a firefighter.

I sit here with tears of joy in my eyes as I bring to mind days gone by. Sentimental perhaps, but true. I trust that one of these days I will be able to attend one of your meetings and even a convention. What a thrill that would be to me.

My God richly bless you as an Association and individually as you look unto Him, I remain, His Servant and your Chaplain Emeritus;



Editors Note: I received this letter from Rev. Shepson which I was happy to place in this issue.

Rev. Shepson also placed an ad promoting his new book "Answering the Calls and More". You can write to him at:

Rev. David C. Shepson
7700 S.W. 112th Lane
Ocala, FL. 34476
E-mail: DCSREV1@aol.com

Happy Holidays

*Rev. David C. Shepson, Chaplain Emeritus
Of the NJ & NY Volunteer Firemen's Association
has written a book*

"Answering the Calls and More"

(Pastoral—Fire—Police—Motels—Chauffeuring—Ship)

*This 311 page book relates a bit about himself and the various calls he has answered as a pastor and as a chaplain of nine different civil and civilian organizations. To obtain a copy, write to him at 7700S.W. 112th Lane, Ocala, Florida, 34476—OR e-mail him at my46book@aol.com—OR phone 352-873-9213.
Price: \$10.50 INCLUDING postage. Thank You.*

**Specializing in all
Phases of cleanouts**

Free Estimates

**G & G
Total
Cleanouts**

**Complete Home Cleanouts
Interior/Exterior Demolition**

**Joe
201-641-3132**



Shamrock Printing & Copying

250 S. Summit Ave. Hackensack

201-488-6727 • Fax: 201-488-9192

WET DOWN FLYERS • MUGS • APPEAL LETTERS

10% DISCOUNT TO ALL DEPARTMENTS & MEMBERS

Bob Ryan Ex. Chief NMFD Member NJ & NY



Patronize Our Advertisers They Support Your Organization



CRYSTAL
CARPET CLEANING, LLC
 Carpet • Upholstery • Oriental Rugs
 201-641-4741
We don't cut corners, we clean 'em!
 PO Box 475
ROBERT AITKEN Little Ferry, NJ 07643

Planning a Party
 For that unforgettable party or event

- Kids will learn fire safety & have fun too!
- Firefighting activities for all ages
- A real working firetruck
- Fun for all... and educational too!

www.hireafiretruck.com/nj

201 807-0077



Birthdays • Weddings
 Parades • Marketing
 Grand Openings
 Chauffeur Service
 What ever you can Imagine!

Chris Wojcicki
 Member of NJ / NY & Little Ferry FD
chris@hireafiretruck.com

REFINISHING, STAINING, INSTALLATION & REPAIRS

P&M HARDWOOD FLOORING

PROFESSIONAL FLOORING
 AT AFFORDABLE PRICES
 Free Estimates, Fully Insured
 10% Discount to Firemen

MARC LONGO (201) 261-0100
 Member of NJ/NY

This Space Available—Advertise in The Signal

Your ad will be seen by volunteers throughout Bergen County NJ and Rockland County NY.

You'll be promoting your business AND supporting your Association at the same time.

Contact any Association officer,
George Saigh—gs7320@msn.com or
Frank Fuchs—ffuchs9595@aol.com to place your ad.

ALLNAMES
 appliance

Major Home Appliance Repair, All Brands
 Central and Window Air Conditioning

Phone 201 261-4224
 Jerry McLean, Owner
 New Milford, NJ

www.allnamesappliance.com


LOCAL, FAST, FRIENDLY, AFFORDABLE SERVICE.

ALAN SILVER MUSIC

"Music Designed With You In Mind"
 Weddings, Dinners, Dances, Parties
 For Music With A Personal Touch


SPECIAL PRICES FOR FIREFIGHTERS

Call (201) 265-1808 Fully Insured



HOME: 201-666-1794
 OFFICE: 201- 573-0997
 FAX: 201-391-0632
 CELL: 201-280-0121
APMAIL@BELLATLANTIC.NET

Robert Schroeder
 COUNCILMAN



350 HUDSON AVENUE
 TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, NEW JERSEY 07676

SHOWROOM:
 50 MOONACHIE RD.
 MOONACHIE, NJ 07074
 PHONE: 201-641-2803
 FAX: 201-641-4348
 Visit our website...
www.janpromotions.com

Jack Nagel

MAILING ADDRESS:
 P.O. BOX 166
 WOOD-RIDGE, NJ 07075

Advertising Specialties • Premiums • Sales Awards • Business Gifts
 "SPECIALIZING IN POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS"



Pat Boselli (201) 967-5999

BOSELLI HARDWOOD FLOORING
"Let us Floor You"

REFINISHING, STAINING, INSTALLATION & REPAIR
 FULLY INSURED FREE ESTIMATES
 Member New Milford Fire Department & NJ/NY
 10% Discount to Firemen



NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
 50 Evergreen Place
 East Orange, NJ 07018

George H. Heflich, Sr.
 President

Phones: 973-677-9295
 800-852-0137
 Home: 201-863-3665
 Cell: 201-921-4589

Fax: 973-677-7643
 E-mail: BGH291@aol.com