



95 Years of Service to Volunteer Firemen

The Signal

www.njnyvfa.org



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January 2009

From the Editor

On behalf of Pres Gates and all the Officers we wish you and your families a very happy and healthy New Year. With the new year upon us we're looking forward to our annual convention which this year will be held in my home town of Little Ferry. This issue contains an application for the Joseph Costello Fireman of the Year Award. Our next issue will have the Rudy Appeld Service Award and Scholarship applications. Please be sure to nominate a worthy fellow firefighter or student attending college. Additional applications are available as a download from our Web site at www.njnyvfa.org. This issue also contains an update on our clothing bins. This worthwhile effort helps support us, our benefits and the residents that need our help. Consider placing a bin in your community. Be Safe and remember our troops!

Frank

E-mail submissions and photos to ffuchs9595@aol.com.

Or send to:

Frank Fuchs—The Signal

25 Union Ave. Little Ferry, NJ 07643

Clothing Bin Update



Recently Pres Stu Gates, VP Bob Kirsch, Treasurer George Saigh and Past Pres Bob Aitken visited with Marc Field from H&M leasing.

They had the opportunity to see how the newer more secure bins are manufactured and see the operation at H&M Leasing.

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

January 2009—Piermont, NY

February 2009—Old Tappan, NJ

March, April, May, - Open Dates

June—Annual Convention—Little Ferry, NJ

Sept. - Open Date

October 2009—Carlstadt, NJ

Nov. 2009—New Milford, NJ

December 2009—No Meeting

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:

Ramon F. Owen—Monroe, NY (deceased 2001)

Arthur Boreisha—Little Ferry, 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.



Not only did they get the "cooks tour" of the facility, Marc presented them with gift cards to be given to a family that recently suffered a major loss due to a fire. See more photos and stories inside this issue.

Remember Our Troops



Clothing Bin Update (continued)

2009 brought about some legislative changes in the way New Jersey regulates the many clothing bins placed throughout the State (see article in The Bergen Record 1.1.09).

Our bins not only support our Association and the benefits we provide, but portions of the revenue generated goes directly back to the communities we serve. Some photos below are from the recent visit to H&M Leasing and also demonstrate how we give back to the communities that give to us. We not only help to extinguish the flames of the fire, we also provide the spark to help fire victims get back on their feet.



On Aug. 15th lightning struck a tree which in turn pulled wires onto a house and started a working fire in River Edge. We now contacted H&M, who made a donation of 4 - \$100 Wal-Mart gift cards to assist this family. Pictured Past President Neal Carroll presenting gift cards to River Edge Fire Chief Chris Weismann who in turn gave them to a very grateful family.



On August 15, 2008 there was a fire in the home of New Milford Deputy Fire Chief Terry Lawler. In this case the victim was on of our own. Pictured left to right Alan Silverman, John Stormer, Terry Lawler, Assoc. Vice Pres. Robert E. Kirsch, New Milford Fire Chief Pat Boselli. Terry Lawler receives Gift Cards from VP R.E. Kirsch.



During a recent fire in Little Ferry a family of six suffered major losses when their apartment caught fire. H&M Leasing provided six, \$100 Wal-Mart gift cards to help the family get back on their feet. Pictured here are members of the Little Ferry Hook and Ladder on a recent visit to the family. Past President Bob Aitken presents the cards to a safe and happy family.



Current Bin Locations

- Fairview—3
- Englewood—2
- Tenafly—1
- Alpine—2
- Dumont—1
- Bergenfield—2
- Old Tappan—1
- New Milford—3
- South Hackensack—1
- River Edge—1
- Saddle Brook—3
- Westwood—1
- Little Ferry—5
- Secaucus—3

Help support this effort by having a bin placed in your community. If your town is "resistant" to having bins, show them a copy of this newsletter. For additional information contact Bob Aitken at 201-641-5667.



**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 _____

New Officers for 2009

Two Bergen County towns recently announced the installation of their new officers for 2009.

Northvale Fire Department

Chief—Howard Ostrow
Asst. Chief—Joseph De Sena
Captain—Dward Rejmaniak
Lieutenant—Charles J. Amorosso
Lieutenant—Wayne Degen
Lieutenant—Robert Scott
Lieutenant—Michael Tomasi
Engineer—Frank Ferraro

Northvale Fire Association Officers

President—Daniel Gianotti
Vice President—Michael Pizzi
Recording Secretary—Edward Rejmaniak
Financial Secretary—Charles J. Amorosso
Treasurer—Ronald Quackenbush
Board of Fire Officers—Thomas Gannon

Little Ferry Fire Department

Chief—Paul Schwedhelm
Deputy Chief—William Holley
Battalion Chief—Robert Cordasco
Captain, Hook & Ladder—John C. Schwedhelm
Captain, Hose Co—William Riedel
Lieutenant, Hook & Ladder—Brian Castelli
Lieutenant, Hose Co—William Salvatori

Congratulations and best of luck to these new officers. We wish you a safe year.

2009 Convention Update and Awards Information

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 persons 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.

Last year the Association has adopted some new guidelines for scholarship awards. There will be a maximum of 10 scholarship awards being given out so get the applications in early. All the applications and guidelines can be downloaded from our web site at www.njnyvfa.org. We will also have applications available at our meetings and will publish the Service Award and Scholarship applications in the next issue of the Signal. A copy of the Fireman of the Year application is included in this issue.

This years annual convention meeting will be held in Little Ferry. This small town has proudly hosted numerous regular meetings and conventions in the past and is home to Past Presidents Bob Aitken and (the late) Arthur Safranek, Financial Secretary John Schwedhelm, Trustee Douglas Tobin and Signal Editor Frank Fuchs.

We thank them for volunteering to host the convention and look forward to visiting them in June.

*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.*

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