



92 Years of Service to Volunteer Firemen

the signal



Volume 45 No. 1 Official Publication of the NJ & NY Volunteer Firemen's Association

February 2006

From the Editor

Hello everyone and Happy 2006. I'll start off by announcing this years convention meeting will be hosted by the Bergenfield Fire Dept. (the home town of our 1st Vice President). Some information about this event is in this edition.

As many of you are aware, the existence of our Association relies on the involvement of its membership and the active participation of new members. In the past I've published articles informing members of "Who We Are" (written by 1st VP Kirsch) and explanations of our Scholarship and Death Benefit programs (written by Treasurer George Saigh). At the request of our Executive Officers and Trustees I've included an article written by them, that they feel is important for **all** of our members to read. PLEASE...take the time to read this article and do what you can to make our Association a strong, well-represented voice of the volunteer firefighters in Bergen and Rockland County.

One of the new ideas our officers have is to create a Web site for our Association. This will most likely become a reality and will bring news and information about our organization directly to your desktop. With the proliferation of digital cameras and e-mail services, we hope to have an area where you can submit photos of recent and not so recent calls (you know, the spectacular stuff).

If you would like to help and be a Co-Webmaster, please contact me.

Be Safe!
Frank

E-mail your submissions and photos to ffuchs9595@aol.com. Please put "Signal" in the subject line. Or you can send to: Frank Fuchs—The Signal 25 Union Ave. Little Ferry, NJ 07643.



Remember Our Troops

Upcoming Events

Support your Association...Come to a meeting!

February 24 — Carlstadt

March—Westwood (at new firehouse)

April—Old Tappan, NY.

Joseph Costello Firefighter of the Year award application due 4/1.

Scholarship Applications due 4/15

May—Annual Memorial Service

Unit Citation and Rudy Appeld Service Award applications due 5/1

No Meeting

June 9—Annual Convention—Bergenfield (details inside)

July/August—No Meetings

Sept., Oct., Nov.—Open

If your company or dept. would like to host a meeting please contact any association officer.

December—No Meeting

Unit Citation and Rudy Appeld Service Award applications are included in this issue.

**** REMINDER ****

May— Annual Fire Department Memorial service. This year we will remember our brothers who answered their last alarm during the past year, as well as a Rockland County Line of Duty Death. We will also remember six of our brothers who perished in the World Trade Center terrorist attack on 9-11-01.

(2 from Bergen & 4 from Rockland).

More details to follow.



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:

Denis Seiz—Califon, NJ

Please keep in mind listing of deceased members is published based on their last address on record. This address may not be the same as the town in which they served.

Important Message from the Executive Officers and Trustees

MEMBERS NEEDED

Yes, that's right. We need new members and some of our old members to come to meetings. Over the last few years we have lost member companies and we are not getting any new members to join. A lot of member companies have just stopped paying their dues. WHY? Just a few years ago, we were mailing out over 1200 copies of The Signal and dues notices. Today our list is under 900! At that rate this organization will cease to exist. What was once the largest fire organization in the state of New Jersey is slowly becoming the smallest. Over the past few years we have tried to enhance the membership with a Death Benefit (now at \$800.00) and a Scholarship program. We even tried to have educational meetings. But, with all of this it has not produced enough interest for young firefighters to join. The average attendance at meetings is about 45 members with the majority (about 40) coming from New Jersey. What's wrong New York? Together we built this organization. **DON'T LET THIS FINE ORGANIZATION WITHER AWAY AND DIE. COME OUT AND SUPPORT THE NEW JERSEY & NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION. ATTEND MEETINGS AND PAY YOUR DUES. PROVIDE INPUT!!!!**



Bergen County Firemen's Home Association



Throughout 2005, the Bergen County Firemen's Home Association had a great year providing visits, entertainment, comfort and gifts to the guests at the New Jersey Firemen's Home in Boonton, NJ.

In December, we hosted a Christmas Party at the home, with the help of the Wyckoff Ladies' Auxilliary. It was a great success! During the summer, work was completed on a beautiful gazebo which is located on the grounds near the front entrance to the home.

All of our efforts and special projects are made possible through the generous financial support of the fire service organizations around

Bergen County. Once again we are seeking your contributions to continue our work. Below is a schedule of our upcoming entertainment dates. Please consider joining us and the Guests for an afternoon of camaraderie and music. Perhaps you may know a Guest and we are sure they would appreciate a visit from you. We thank you for your support. Your contributions will be used wisely.

Please mail your contributions to: Bergen County Firemen's Home Association C/O Jeffery Parma 277 Harriot Ave., Harrington Park, NJ 07640

2006 Schedule of Events at the Firemen's Home
Sunday April 23—Entertainment
Sunday June 25—Entertainment
Sunday September 24—Entertainment
Sunday December 3—Christmas Party and Entertainment

The Bergen County Firemen's Home Association is dedicated to giving comfort to the guests at the New Jersey Firemen's Home in Boonton, NJ



**New Jersey and New York
Volunteer Firemen's Association
Rudy Appeld Service Award Application**
(formally the Hillsdale Award)

Nominees Name _____

Nominees Address _____

Nominees Fire Company or Department _____

Submitted by _____ Rank _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Date submitted _____

Please attach a summary of the Nominees qualifications covering the criteria below. Summaries should be at least one page (double spaced) and no more than 2 pages in length. Additional information, such as newspaper clippings, citations, and excerpts from minutes may accompany the summary.

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

Consideration for the award will be based on the following:

- 1 - Service to his Fire Company or Department in fire fighting, long 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 his community in activities such as scouting, YM-YWCA, Little league, veterans activities. Municipal boards and other community activities that benefit children and adults.

Return to: Bob Aitken
127 Lakeview Avenue
Little Ferry, N.J. 07643



New Jersey and New York Volunteer Firemen's Association Unit Citation Award Application

Name of Company or Dept. being submitted

Name/Rank of Person submitting Nomination

Address

Telephone _____ Date submitted _____

On a separate page include a detailed description of the incident, the actions taken as a group and final outcome of the groups efforts. Be sure to include: Dispatch description, date and time of incident, Incident Commanders' name, weather conditions, description of scene upon arrival, initial size-up, unusual circumstances encountered and summary of the actions taken by the responding unit(s).

Additional information, such as newspaper clippings may accompany the summary.

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

Return to: Bob Aitken
127 Lakeview Avenue
Little Ferry, N.J. 07643

NJ&NY Annual Convention—June 9, 2006

This year's annual convention of the New Jersey & New York Volunteer Firemen's Association will be hosted by the Bergenfield Fire Department. Bergenfield Ex-Chief (and NJ/NY Trustee) Gerard Naylis is the Convention Chairman. This year the convention meeting will be held on June 9, 2006 (the 2nd Friday of June) at the Bergenfield High School. Refreshments will be served immediately after the convention at the Prospect Firehouse across the street from the school.

Although Bergenfield is only hosting the meeting, a truck judging is planned. A convention journal is also being considered, along with convention Tee Shirts, Hats and Mugs.

The Bergenfield Convention Committee will be contacting your company or department with additional information as plans develop. Additional convention meeting information will also be included in future editions of The Signal. Our thanks and congratulations to the Bergenfield Fire Department for stepping up to the plate and offering to host our convention.

2006 Award Applications

In the December '05 issue we included the Fireman of the Year and Scholarship applications. In this issue we're including the Rudy Appeld Service Award and Unit Citation applications.

Rudy Appeld Service Award

If you know fellow firefighter that is: A) Always involved in the operations of your company or department, B) Taking on the responsibility of getting things done and, C) Is involved in other community service organizations and helping others, then consider nominating this person for the Rudy Appeld Service Award. Complete the enclosed application and postmark by the May 1 deadline.

Unit Citation

Nominations are being accepted for the 2006 Unit Citation Award. To be considered for this award a group (company or department as a group) must have demonstrated exceptional efforts to reduce or eliminate loss of life and or property. Detailed descriptions must be included as indicated on the application. Deadline for postmark is May 1.



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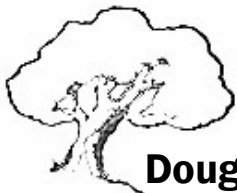
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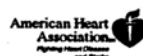
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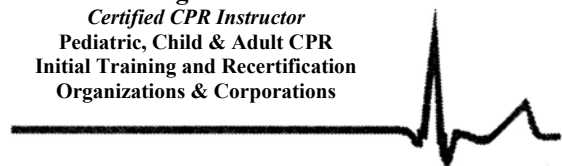
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