



93 Years of Service to Volunteer Firemen

# The Signal

www.njnynyfa.org



Volume 45 No. 4 Official Publication of NJ & NY Volunteer Firemen's Association

November 2006

## NJ & NY VFA Clothing Bins

Being an organization made up of volunteers, we know the meaning of helping others. But who helps us? And who helps us to help others? The Trustees and officers have begun a relationship with H & M Leasing, a fabric recycling company who has been placing clothing bins with our Association name throughout our membership area. Unused clothing is processed and sold, with a portion of the proceeds given to our Association. These proceeds help us provide the funding for our death



H & M clothing bin installation



H & M Leasing Helene Field and her brother Mark present Bob Aitken a check to our Association for \$5,000.

benefit, scholarship and valor awards.

Just as important, we can help provide emergency replacement clothing to victims of fire. If a family loses their possessions, a single call to H & M Leasing will provide these victims with clean wearable clothing in the gender and sizes needed. This is an invaluable service to help families that escape with nothing more than "the shirt on their back".

Recently some legislators have considered additional taxing of the revenue collected by these material companies. If an additional tax were imposed, our organization would

lose the funding we currently receive. As a result our benefit programs would be reduced or eliminated. These programs have generated much enthusiasm within our Association and losing them would be a setback for us and the people we serve.

Contact your legislator. Explain to them the importance of our programs and how they are funded. Tell them you are opposed to the additional taxing of this revenue. If you'd like, include a copy of this article to help explain these programs.

If you need additional information contact any Association officer. If your department needs emergency replacement clothing for a victim in your town, your Chief Fire Officer can call H&M at (516) 766-8599 or call Bob Aitken at (201) 641-5667.



*God Bless America  
and  
Remember Our Troops!*

## Have a Happy and Fire Safe Holiday Season

## From the Editor

Hello everyone and happy fall! Included in this issue are Fireman of the Year, Service Award and Scholarship applications. These applications are also available for download on our Web site at [www.njnyvfa.org](http://www.njnyvfa.org). There are also informative articles regarding our clothing bin program and 100th Anniversary. Have a Happy Thanksgiving and a joyous Holiday season. Be Safe and remember our troops!  
Frank

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

### **MISSING MEMBERS**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Last known address</u>
Frank J. Cleenput	49 Stratton Ave. Westwood, NJ
Gerard F. Cannie	59 Garden St. Bergenfield, NJ
John Tymon Sr.	12066 Thornridge St. Brooksville, Fla. 34613

If anyone has knowledge of these members' new addresses, please call John Schwedhelm (201) 641-9265 with information.

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

Support your Association...Come to a meeting!

December—No Meeting—Happy Holidays  
January 26 —Piermont, NY  
April 27—Dumont Independent Fire Co (Veterans Plaza)  
R.C.V.F.A Meetings  
December 8—Nanuet Fire Engine Co., Nanuet  
January 12—Nyack Fire Patrol, Nyack  
February 9—Hugh Gassner Fire Co., Chestnut Ridge  
March 9—Pearl River H&L, Pearl River  
April 13—Alert Hook, Ladder & Engine Co1, Congers



## 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:

Henry Wascha—Little Ferry, NJ.  
Sam Kovara—New Milford, 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.*

## The Story Behind Our Fireman of the Year Award

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 SEVERELY 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 OF \$500.00 GIVEN WITH THIS AWARD. AN APPLICATION IS INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE.



# New Jersey & New York Volunteer Firemen's Association Joseph Costello Fireman of the Year Application

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

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

DEPT. NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENT:**

- 1.) DETAILED SYNOPSIS OF INCIDENT DESCRIBING INITIAL DISPATCH CALL, DATE, TIME, ARRIVAL CONDITIONS, WEATHER, FIRST ARRIVING APPARATUS. WAS NOMINEE THE FIRST ARRIVING (I.E. ALONE WITHOUT APPARATUS).

INCLUDE DETAILED DISCRIPTION OF EXCEPTIONAL EFFORTS PERFORMED BY NOMINEE. DISCRIPTION 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 ATTACHMENT(S):**

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

NOMINATION MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN MAY 1.

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.

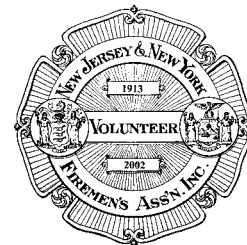
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

# New Jersey & New York Volunteer Firemen's Association Rudy Appeld Service Award Application

(formerly 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.

**The deadline for the award to be POSTMARKED NOT LATER THAN MAY 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**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 & New York Volunteer Firemen's Association Scholarship Application**

**THE NEW JERSEY AND NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION IS PLEASED TO OFFER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WHO ARE PURSUING A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY EDUCATION. THE ASSOCIATION OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS RANGING FROM \$100.00 TO \$1000.00 PER INDIVIDUAL. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED IS DEPENDANT ON THE FUNDS AVAILABLE IN THE SCHOLARSHIP EACH YEAR.**

**SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE TO ANY ACTIVE OR LIFE MEMBER, THEIR SPOUSE, OR DEPENDANT CHILDREN INCLUDING ADOPTED AND FOSTER CHILDREN FOR WHOM THE MEMBER IS THE LEGAL GUARDIAN. THE MEMBER MUST BE IN GOOD STANDING AT THE TIME OF THE APPLICATION.**

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED NOT LATER THAN MAY 1<sup>st</sup>. APPLICATIONS POSTMARKED AFTREER THAT DATE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MAY BE MAILED TO:**

**ROBERT KIRSCH  
107 ROOSEVELT AVENUE  
BERGENFIELD, N. J. 07621**

**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.**

**IN EVALUATING THE APPLICATION, PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO THOSE DEMONSTRATING NEED, DESIRE AND INITIAVE. PARTICULAR ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ASSURING THAT THE APPLICATION IS COMPLETE AND THAT THE 500 WORD MAXIMUM ESSAY CLEARLY CONVEYS HOW THE APPLICANT INTENDS TO USE THEIR EDUCATION IN THE FUTURE.**

**ALL SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE AWARDED AT THE ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL CONVENTION.**

# Scholarship Application

NAME OF APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDED \_\_\_\_\_

YEAR GRADUATED \_\_\_\_\_ GPA \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIAL SECURITY NO. \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY  
APPLIED TO OR ATTENDING

MAJOR COURSE OF  
STUDY \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF SPONSORING  
NJ/NY VFA MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR OR ARE YOU RECEIVING ANY EDUCATIONAL FUNDING FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ IF YES, ATTACH BRIEF STATEMENT OF EXPLANATION.

## REQUIRED ATTACHEMNTS:

- 1.) CERTIFIED TRANSCRIPTS, SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADES AND COURSES STUDIED. IF NOW ATTENDING COLLEGE, CERTIFIED TRANSCRIPTS OF ALL COLLEGE WORK.
- 2.) AN ORIGINAL ESSAY OF 500 WORDS OR LESS PROVIDING BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND FUTURE PLANS INCLUDING HOW YOU WILL USE THE EDUCATION YOU ARE PERSUING.
- 3.) COPY OF LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE FROM THE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY FOR THOSE CURRENTLY IN HIGH SCHOOL, OR A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT COURSE SCHEDULE FOR THOSE CURENTLY ENROLLED IN A COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
- 4.) BREAKDOWN OF TUITION AND FEES.

IN APPLYING FOR CONSIDERATION, I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS SCHOLARSHIP IS FOR THE NEXT SEMESTER AT AN ACCREDITED TWO (2) OR FOUR (4) YEAR COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, OR INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION. THE SCHOLARSHIP MAY BE APPLIED TOWARDS THE PAYMENT OF TUITION, BOOKS, OR OTHER EXPENSES DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE PURSUIT OF MY STUDIES. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL REQUIRE IMMEDIATE RETURN OF THE SCHOLARSHIP.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SPONSORING MEMBER'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## Planning our 100th Anniversary by Milt Cole

In 2013 our New Jersey & New York Volunteer Firemen's Association will be 100 years old. The first annual convention was held on July 25, 1914 in Spring Valley, N. Y. and was hosted by the Spring Valley Hook & Ladder Company.

Although our 100th Anniversary is a short six years away it's not too early to plan for a celebration of this memorable event for our Association.

The Association meeting in Old Tappan started the ball rolling. Let's all get on the bandwagon and make this a big celebration. As the "Pro Tem Chairman" of the Anniversary Committee I am asking anyone who would like to help plan our anniversary, to contact me with your ideas. We need input from our members as to how we can raise money for a good celebration.

Think about it during the next few months, then we can start a planning committee meeting in early January 2007. We will need a convention site, along with a parade and a Dinner Dance celebration (remember our 75th. anniversary at the Fiesta, what a blast!).

The convention and parade is one affair while the dinner dance will be another affair.

For more information please call me at 201-666-7903 or see me at the Association meetings.



## Helping Kids



St. Baldrick's is an organization that helps raise funds to support childhood cancer research. The organization was founded one St. Patrick's Day by a group of businessmen that "Buzz Cut" their hair to support children undergoing cancer treatment. As you're probably aware, cancer patients temporarily lose their hair during chemotherapy treatments.

Every year thousands of brave men, women and children give up their locks to raise money for childhood cancer. This local group is extending a challenge to all emergency volunteers to see who can raise the most money for the St. Baldrick's Foundation.

On **June 9, 2007** the **Cresskill Fire Department** has graciously agreed to host this "hair cutting" event. Shavees who each raise \$50.00 or more will receive a free tee shirt and prizes will be awarded to the person and team that raises the most money. Create "teams" from your department and join in the fun! You or your team will be brought up on stage where you'll have your hair shaved by a local barber or hairstylists; all of whom are donating their time and professional talents.

Childhood cancer affects over 12 thousand children every year. This is a great opportunity to help support cancer research and have fun with your fellow volunteers.

Check-in for pre-registered or new shavees begins at 12:30 with head shaving starting shortly thereafter.

For information or to register visit [www.stbaldricks.org](http://www.stbaldricks.org) or call 888-899-BALD. You can also email event organizer Chris Ulshoefer at [fimatine78@aol.com](mailto:fimatine78@aol.com).



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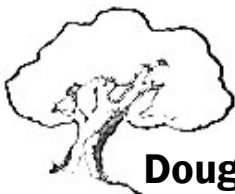
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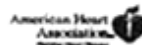
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COUNCILMAN



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Phones: 973-677-9295  
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Fax: 973-677-7643  
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