



95 Years of Service to Volunteer Firemen

The Signal

www.njnyvfa.org



Volume 47 No. 3 Official Publication of NJ & NY Volunteer Firemen's Association

September 2008

We are volunteer fire companies from Bergen County, NJ and Rockland County, NY who banded together 95 years ago to assist each other in fire suppression and sharing knowledge of fire related emergencies. We meet each month, except for July, August and December, at various firehouses. Our annual Convention is usually the first Friday in June, and the following day there may be a Firemen's Parade or any other type of firematic event the host Company wants to hold.

Officers of the Association are elected at each convention and usually serve a 2-year period, after being re-elected at the next year's convention. Trustees serve a 5-year term, and may stand for re-election.

At the Convention we present our annual awards for the "Joseph Costello" Fireman of the Year, (for heroism), the Unit Citation (for saving lives or property), the Presidential Citation (for advancing the Fire Service), and the Rudy Appeld Service Award (for a firefighter who also serves his/her community in other types of service). We present Life Member certificates and pins to those who have achieved life member status during the previous year. Scholarships are also awarded to qualified applicants at the Annual Convention

The NJ/NYVFA Firefighter Memorial Service, for all firefighters who have answered their last alarm, is held each year on the third Sunday in May at the Law & Public Safety Institute in Mahwah, N.J. Any firefighter who perishes in the Line of Duty will have their name inscribed on our Fallen Firefighter Memorial Monument and shall be memorialized at this service.

The death benefit for active members and life members, who have signed up, currently stands at \$1,000.00.

Our financial support comes from dues paying active members and member Fire Companies. We have been receiving further support from our sponsorship of clothing bins, which accept used clothing and which are placed in many towns in both States. The proceeds of the sale of these used clothes have helped our Treasury immensely. Some towns have multiple bins, and we look forward to having many other towns provide a place for one. If there is an occasion, where a family suffers a fire where they have had their wardrobe destroyed, we will work with the Clothing Bin Company and replace a basic wardrobe of cleaned clothes completely without cost.

The New Jersey & New York Volunteer Firemen's Association keeps up with the laws concerning the Fire Service, on a local, State and Federal level, attending sessions in Trenton, Albany and Washington D.C. They include Fire Prevention, Life Safety, Fire Sprinkler and Training. We also keep up with the updating of Construction Codes pertaining to Fire Safety.

Our Senior brethren are eligible to retire to the Firemen's Home, either in Boonton, N.J. or Hudson N.Y. and we support them in any way we can.

The bi-monthly newsletter, 'The Signal', is mailed to all active members, delegates and life members, and our web site is www.njnyvfa.org.

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



2008 Annual Convention

We'd like to offer a sincere Thank You to Chief Terence Beutel, the officers, members and Auxiliaries of the Hillsdale Fire Dept. for hosting our annual convention meeting on June 6. From the Presentation of the Colors to the closing of the meeting your members went out of their way to make us feel at home in your firehouse. We thank you for your active participation in our Association.

Congratulations to the winners of our Service Awards and Scholarships. Your bravery and commitment to the fire service and academic achievements have earned you the recognition you deserve. More photos and details inside.



Pres. Robert Kirsch present plaque to Chief Terence Beutel

2008 Convention Highlights



All members uncover for the invocation.



Gerry Naylis sings our National Anthem



President Kirsch gives opening comments to membership.



Hillsdale Chief Beutel welcomes guests to convention.



Hillsdale Fire Commissioner greets membership.



Financial Secretary John Schwedhelm recaps membership status.



Treasurer George Saigh presents financial report to membership.



A smiling Auxiliary member greets guests and offers t-shirts and mugs for sale.



New Past President Robert Kirsch congratulates President Stu Gates.



Stu Gates presents Past Robert Kirsch a plaque for his dedication and service as President.

In our May issue we've published two articles about how our clothing bins and H&M Leasing help residents in our area. In our next issue you'll find more articles on how these bins not only help our neighbors but your Association as well. These bins help fund our Scholarship awards and Death Benefit.

By providing us with more clothing bin locations, this will increase our income as well as add your town to the participating list, should you need clothing for a burnout victim.

It's a win-win-win situation; your residents, your association and you!

Contact Bob Aitken (201) 641-5667

2008 Convention Scholarship Awards



Timothy Curran
University of Maryland



George E. Wargo III
St. Thomas Aquinas College



Marc Longo
John Jay College



Robert Aitken Jr.
Montclair State University



Kimberly Raimondi
Ramapo College



Steven Naylis
Bergen Community College



Michael Naylis
Bergen Community College



Ashley Ann Paladino
Kean College



Anthony L. Chirido
Ramapo College



Laura Tiedemann
Brown University

**Congratulations to all of our Scholarship Award winners.
We are proud of your accomplishments and the goals you
have set for yourself.**

Remember!

Scholarships are made possible through your support with our
clothing bins. Help place a bin in your town!

2008 Convention Service Awards



Unit Citation Award winners

UNIT CITATION AWARD—BRIAN KRONWITTER, TYLER KADEMIAN, ANDREW KEAN, JOHN DOMVILLE, JAYMEE HODGES, SHAWN STEWART

This years Unit Citation is being awarded, not because of any feat of bravery, but because it recognizes the spirit of service and brotherhood felt by all firemen.

In August 2007 six members of the Westwood Fire Department traveled to Lakeview, Louisiana to help rebuild their firehouse. Engine Co 18's headquarters was devastated after Hurricane Katrina.

Then Chief Domville was contacted by a local resident about the deplorable conditions they were living in.

The Westwood Fire Department first responded by sending a monetary donation, after hearing about the Leary Foundation, it was then decided to send a group of volunteers to assist with the rebuilding.

The response of these men and their department exemplifies the spirit of camaraderie and fellowship that exists between all firemen the world over.

The officers and member of the New Jersey and New York Volunteer Firemen's Assn is proud to present the Unit Citation to these brave members.



Syleman Bresa receives plaque

2008 PRESIDENTIAL LIFESAVING CITATION—MICHAEL CALAMARI, SYLEMAN BRESA, JOHN McGRATH

On Friday July 13 2007 DPW employees John Stormer, Syleman Bresa, Stephen Demauro and Steven Casey were clearing brush from property around the New Milford Fire Training Center. John had pick up a chain saw as he had done many times before. Suddenly the saw hit an old fence and jumped back, inflicting severe injuries to his left arm, across his chest and stomach. His torso had a major laceration, his arm almost severed and he was bleeding profusely. Fellow employees Bresa, Demauro and Casey escorted John to the garage where Calamari applied a tourniquet. The New Milford First Aid, along with responding police officers Kevin Morris and John McGrath transported Stormer to Hackensack University Medical Center where surgeons reattached his arm and repaired his wounds with over 600 stitches. While many worked together to save one, John and the NJ—NY Volunteer Firemen's Assn. credit the efforts of three men as making a difference.

While many worked together to save one, John and the NJ—NY Volunteer Firemen's Assn. credit the efforts of three men as making a difference.



Albert W. Koeniges receives award

2008 RUDY APPELD SERVICE AWARD—ALBERT W. KOENIGES

Albert W. Keoniges is a good example of one who gives to his community. After moving to Haworth as a youngster in 1943, he graduated from Haworth School and Dumont High School after which he joined the Haworth Fire Dept. After joining the Navy in 1951 he returned to Haworth and the Fire Department where he served as Chief in 1971 & 1972. He is a member of the New Jersey State Fire Chiefs Assn, Life Member of the New Jersey State Firemen's Assn. and the NJ & NY Volunteer Firemen's Assn. He served as a member of the Bergen County Fire Academy Advisory Board, President of the Interboro Mutual Aid and Northern Valley Fire Chiefs. In the borough he served as member of both the

Planning and Zoning Boards, President of the Recreation Committee and President and Coach of Little League. He served as Chief of OEM and is presently on the staff. He was Department President from 1973 to 1989 and presently serves again in this position, while also serving as President of the Exempt Assn and VP of the Relief Assn. Albert W. Koeniges is a sterling example of service not only to the Fire Service but also to his community. We are proud to present him with the Rudy Appeld Service Award.

Joseph Costello Firefighter of the Year Award Fred Zalewski—Wallington FD.



On Sunday December 30 at 7PM the Wallington FD was dispatched to a reported house fire in the area of 156 Maple Ave. During the time of the alarm Ex-Chief

Fred Zalewski was making a delivery in the immediate area. Fred heard the commotion and ran to the house that was on fire and was informed there might be people trapped on the second floor. Not knowing at the time that the fire dept was dispatched, Fred entered the smoke filled building without any protective clothing. As he entered the building East Rutherford firefighter William Swiston arrived and was told by Fred to check for a rear door. Zalewski made his way to the second floor, pounded on the door and was met by an elderly woman who was attempting to extinguish the fire with a pot of water. As he entered the home the front porch and attic started to intensify with flames. The woman and her husband exited the house from a rear door as Zalewski entered the apartment. He then returned to the stairs and directed hose teams to the location of the fire. Fred Zalewski's quick actions most likely saved one or both tenants from any serious injury. It is with pride that we present Wallington Ex-Chief Fred Zalewski the Joseph Costello Firemen of the Year Award.

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

Sept 26 2008—Stony Point Wayne Hose Co 1 Rt 9W
Oct 24 2008— Carlstadt, NJ Carlstadt FD Firehouse
1 week early due to Halloween
Nov 21 2008— New Milford Fire Co #2 680 Trenton St.
1 week early due to Thanksgiving
December 2008—No Meeting
January 30, 2009—Piermont, NY

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 Koney—Wallington, NJ
George E. Falkenstern—Norwood, NJ
Anthony DePola—Little Ferry, NJ
Fred H. Molan—Rutherford, NJ
Frank J. Schlichting—Dumont, NJ
Raymond Busico—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.

**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

Drive a Fire Truck, Have Fun and Get Paid!

Hire A Fire Truck, one of the hottest entertainment companies in the area is hiring part time firefighters to host children's parties and other events.

Requirements:

Firefighter 1
At least 23 years of age
Apparatus Driving experience
Good with children
Outgoing
Neat appearance
Pleasant Personality
Able to follow directions
Pump operation a plus

We cover North Jersey, the 5 Boroughs, parts of Rockland, Orange, Nassau & Suffolk counties. Parties are mostly on weekends and last about 1 1/2 hours, other events vary. We offer flexible schedules, training, uniform and fun. If you are interested or have any questions feel free to contact me or check out our web site:



www.hireafiretrucknj.com
chris@hireafiretruck.com - (201)315-0999

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
 1700 Galloping Hill Road
 Kenilworth, N. J. 07033-1303

GEORGE H. HEFLICH, SR.
 PRESIDENT
 CELL: 201-983-3517
 E-Mail: BGH291@aol.com

Phones: 800-852-0137
 908-620-1871
 Fax: 908-620-1874
 E-Mail: georgeh@njsfa.com