



97 Years of Service to Volunteer Firemen

The Signal

www.njnyvfa.org



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From the Editor

On behalf of Pres. Stu Gates and all the Association officers we'd like to thank the Ridgefield Park Fire Department, Chief John Malool, Ex-Chief Mayor George Fosdick and the membership for hosting the 2010 Convention. Your hospitality and active participation in our Association is greatly appreciated.

As always I try to cover each convention, taking photos and including them in the Signal. This year, Murphy's Law struck and both of my cameras decided to stop working. The photo coverage of this years convention is provided courtesy of Bretts Fire Photos. In a panic at the convention I wrote him a note explaining my dilemma and he smiled and shook his head yes. I thank you for helping us out. So be sure to visit www.brettsfirephotos.com. He does a great job of documenting events and publicizing emergency services.

I'll offer congratulations to all of our brave award winners who were recognized at the June convention. Additionally best wishes to all of our 2010 Scholarship recipients. Study hard, enjoy school and don't forget to call home once in a while!

Be Safe and remember our troops!
Frank

E-mail submissions and photos to ffuchs9595@aol.com.
Or send to: Frank Fuchs—The Signal
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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

September 24 Meeting—Westwood FD Jefferson Ave.

October 16—"Firefighter's Challenge"—Bergen County
Law & Public Safety Institute

October 18—Westwood FD 10th Annual Charity
Golf Outing Blue Hill Golf Club
Orangetown, NY

October 29 Meeting—Carlstadt, NJ

November 1—Paramus FD 1st Annual Fall Classic Golf
Outing Paramus Golf Course

November 19 Meeting—New Milford Co 2

Annual Convention—Ridgefield Park



Pres. Stu Gates, 1st Vice President James Cole and 2nd Vice President Robert Kirsch present plaque to Ridgefield Park Chief John Malool and Mayor Ex-Chief George Fosdick for hosting the 2010 Convention. More photos and convention news inside.



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:

Leonard Shmegelski—Garfield, NJ
Patrick J Davidson—Rochelle Pk, 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.

Remember Our Troops



2010 Convention Highlights & Photos



Cynthia Naylis sings our National Anthem while Assn officers and Color Guard salute



Ridgefield Park Chief John Malool welcomes members to the convention



Ex Chief Mayor George Fosdick welcomes the membership



Past President Milton Cole gives update on 100th Anniversary plans



2nd Vice President Nicholas Gatti delivers his report to the members



Dan Loftus reports on the Bergen County Firemen's Home



George Heflich reports on NJ State Assn



Past President Larry Rausch offers report



2nd Vice President RE Kirsch



Past President Stu Gates offers congratulations to incoming President James Cole

The 2010 Convention brought to us a new and meaningful change to our scholarship award by announcing the

Helene D Field Memorial Scholarship Award

Helene with her brother Marc was part owner of H&M Leasing, the clothing recycling company that has become a major supporter of our association. Sadly Helene passed away in 2009. In memory of her hard work and her brother's commitment to "The Gift of Giving", our Association has named this scholarship in her memory.

This year, the winner of this scholarship will receive \$1,000 to help continue their education. Our thanks to the Field family for your dedication and support to our Association.



We're now on **facebook**

The New Jersey and New York Volunteer Firemen's Association is now on Facebook. You can now upload pictures from your cell phone or list any upcoming events your department may be hosting. *Remember, please be respectful and legal.* Sign on to Facebook and search for **NJNY Volunteer Firemens Assn**

Interesting Shots

Many departments adopt phrases to put on their trucks and rescue vehicles. This photo was taken while attending a wet down in South Jersey. With all the hours of training we are required to attend, this sums it up!



Golf Events

There are a couple of golf outings taking place within the next few months.

October 18

Westwood Fire Department 10th Annual Golf Outing

Held at the Blue Hill Golf Course in Pearl River. Dinner to follow at Season's in Washington Twp. Various sponsorship levels are available. For more information or to register call: Francis Costello (201) 747-3654, Chris Kelley (201) 403-6818 or Jim Cole (201) 478-1007



November 1

Paramus Fire Department is sponsoring their 1st Annual Fall Classic. Held at the Paramus Golf Course, this promises to be a fun event for all. For more information or to request an entry form, call: 201-712-0286

Firefighters Challenge

On October 16, the Bergen County Law and Public safety Institute will host the 1st Annual Firefighters Challenge. There will be three events with five firefighters per team. Trophies will be awarded for each event with a County Cup awarded to the overall winner. Refreshments available—Fun for the Whole Family. Contact Larry Rauch 201-785-6008 for more information. Rain date is October 23.



Interesting Speaker



During this years convention, there was one speaker who gave a particularly informative speech during his welcome address: Ex-Chief and Current Mayor of Ridgefield Park, George Fosdick. Mayor Fosdick gave us all in informative overview; not only on the history of the Ridgefield Park Fire Dept., but also on the years of active participation in our Association. George displayed past copies of a convention journal, as he described "when it was a lot thicker". He also held up a convention

pennant, a vivid reminder of conventions past. Most importantly, George talked about defending ourselves as volunteers and he became passionate talking about the valuable service we, as volunteers, provide to our communities. As Editor, I will mention I first met George when he was my teacher back in high school. If the fire alarm sounded during class, I remember him reaching for the intercom to call for someone to cover his class. He would look at us and utter "now behave yourselves", and run out to the alarm. From teacher, to fellow firefighter to a good friend..always an "Interesting Speaker".



2010 Convention Service Award Winners



Rudy Appeld Service Award George Saigh-New Milford Fire Dept

George Saigh is a good example of one who never lets up in his service to the Fire Service and his community. George transferred to the New Milford Fire Department 50 years ago when he moved from Englewood Cliffs, following service in the Army during the Korea conflict. In 1975 he received Fireman of the Year award for the heroic rescue of a child at a serious house fire. He has served as President and Vice President of Fire Company 2, four times. He is currently Treasurer of the New Jersey and New York Volunteer Firemen's Association, Secretary of the New Milford Relief Association and Recording secretary of the New Milford Fire Department Advisory Board. He served as Chairman of the Borough Street Lighting Committee and Public Events Chairman and is a member of the VFW and American Legion. He still responds to both day and night alarms and is a fine example of service, not only to the Fire Service but also to his community. The New Jersey and New York Volunteer Firemen's Association is proud to present the 2010 Rudy Appels Service Award to George Saigh for his non-stop efforts.

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Presidential Lifesaving Award Lt. Don Hardy

On Christmas morning Friday December 25, 2009 at approximately 0130 hours, one of Sparkill's firefighters, home on military leave from the US Marines, was involved in a serious one-car accident on Route 340 in Sparkill. The vehicle hit a tree, overturned and was on fire with the Sparkill firefighter trapped. Piermont Fire Lt Don hardy promptly responded to the scene, which unfolded less then one-hundred feet from his residence. Lt Hardy acted quickly extinguishing the fire that had ignited in the vehicle, which, if delayed could have drastically changed the outcome of the incident that morning. The rapid response

of Lt Hardy helped save the life of the brother firefighter trapped in the vehicle. Lt Don Hardy's intervention was heroic in such a dangerous situation and we would like to recognize him for his selfless act of heroism. The New Jersey and New York Volunteer firemen's Association is proud to present the 2010 Presidential Lifesaving Award to Lt Don hardy.



2010 Joseph Costello "Firefighter of the Year Award" - Sponsored by the Costello Family - Assistant Chief Kevin Felten East Rutherford Fire Dept

Just before 9AM on February 12, Asst Chief Kevin Felten of the East Rutherford FD in his role as a Police Officer, was called to an alarm of fire. The patrol units found a working fire in a building that had dwelling units above a bar on the ground floor. On seeing a man hanging out of a window from the 3rd floor, with smoke rolling out the window, without protective gear Kevin ran to the side door and went

up the stairs to the room. He saw the mans feet on the floor by the window. With fire glowing to his side, he grabbed the man's legs and got him down the stairs to the street. The victim was covered with soot and burns to his face and hands. The other two occupants were guided out and reported they tried to extinguish the fire with water before calling the fire department. Kevin Felten lived up to the highest traditions of the fire service and the police when he effected a rescue and saved a life. The New Jersey and New York Volunteer Firemen's Association is proud to present the 2010 Joseph Costello "Firefighter of the Year Award to Assistant Chief Kevin Felten of the East Rutherford Fire Department. Award presented by Joseph Costello's daughter, Maureen Schwabik.

2010 Scholarship Award Recipients

Congratulations to our 2010 Scholarship Award recipients.

Alfred Gerber—Little Ferry, NJ—Administrative Science/FD Instructor—Helene Field Scholarship;
 Timothy Curran—River Edge NJ—Fire Science/Paramedic; Savana Sturgill— Piermont, NY—Phlebotomy
 Tech.; Ryan J Maynes—Twp of Washington NJ—Criminal Justice; Robert Aitken Jr—Little Ferry NJ—
 English/Journalism; Courtney Scheideler—Ridgefield Pk NJ—Elementary Ed & Criminology—Melissa Nay-
 lis—Bergenfield NJ—Fire Protection Engineering; Ryan Zadronzna—Bergenfield NJ—Music Education;
 Frank Voce—Congers, NY—Criminal Justice



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