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www.njnyvfa.org



Volume 54 No. 1 Official Publication of the NJ & NY Volunteer Firemen's Association February 2016

From the President's Pen...

- Welcome to our 13 new members who were accepted at our January meeting. That makes 22 new members since our October meeting. I would rate our recruitment drive a success. But let's keep going. Take it up within your company/department. Explain the benefits; get them to join. Although all are invited to join, we continue to need "new blood." Our younger members are the future of our Association.
- It's time to start thinking about our annual awards/scholarship program. No doubt, there are firefighters who qualify for one of the awards and many deserving students seeking scholarships. The 1st step begins with YOU. You can nominate someone by filling out an application form. These can be obtained from one of the officers, from our website, or from The Signal. Cut-off date for scholarships is April 15th. For the Ladies Auxillary Award, the Joe Costello Fireman of the Year Award, the Rudy Appeld Service Award and the newly created Junior Firefighter Award, the cut-off date is May 1st.
- Another important date to remember: April 1st. is the deadline to submit the name of any firefighter who has passed within the last 12 months, so that he/she can be honored at our annual Memorial Service on May 15th.

Stay safe. Stay healthy. See you on the 26th.....Bill

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Membership Meetings-Last Friday of the Month

**Unless otherwise noted*

2016

February 26 Old Tappan Fire Dept.
231 Old Tappan, Old Tappan, NJ
March 18* Pearl River Excelsior Fire Engine Co. 1
1 Mike Kernan Dr., Pearl River, NY
April 29 Little Ferry H & L
124 Main, Little Ferry, NJ
May 15 MEMORIAL SERVICE (2 pm)
Bergen County Fire Academy
281-291 Campgaw Rd., Mahwah, NJ

NO Membership meeting in May

**June 5
8PM**

**Convention-Haworth Fire Dept.
Sacred Heart School
100 Park St., Haworth, NJ**

September 30 Elmwood Park FD, Defender Eng. Co 2
70 Parkview Ave., Elmwood Park, NJ

October 28 Blauvelt Fire Co. 1
548 Western Hwy., Blauvelt, NY

November 18** New Milford Co. No. 2
680 Trenton St., New Milford, NJ

**December NO MEETING - MERRY CHRISTMAS
HAPPY HANUKKAH**

**1 week early due to Good Friday
**1 week early due to Thanksgiving*

ALL MEETINGS START AT 8:00 PM

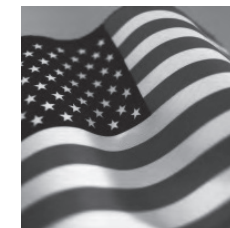
CORRECTION

The correct email address for John Schwedhelm, Financial Secretary is lffd11@aol.com

Remember Our Troops

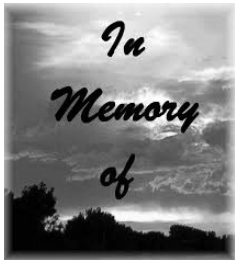
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www.njnyvfa.org

Also on



NJ & NY Volunteer Firemen's Association

Please go to the NJ & NY Volunteer Firemen's Association website njnyvfa.org for many excellent Firefighting Training Articles and Videos. Just look under the heading **TRAINING-STAY SMART, STAY SAFE.**



The officers and members of the NJ & NY Volunteer Firemen’s Association extend their deepest sympathy to the families of our departed members:

EDWARD A. NEUBAUER, E. RUTHERFORD, NJ FD
ROBERT SAUL, WESTWOOD, NJ FD
EX-CHIEF FRANK DINNEEN, RIVER EDGE, NJ FD
RICHARD W FLEURY, TENAFLY, NJ FD
EX-CHIEF WILLIAM J. PEIRANO, PARK RIDGE, NJ FD
EX-CHIEF JOHN MONACO, LYNDHURST, NJ FD

Listings 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.

NJ/NY Volunteer Fireman’s Association **Outline of Educational Programs for 2016**

February 26, 2016 **Old Tappan Fire Department, NJ**
Guest: American Red Cross

April 29, 2016 **Little Ferry Hook & Ladder Co., NJ**
Guest: Burn Center at Barbabas Health
Speaker: Ms. Sally Malech

Speakers will be about 20-25 minutes at the beginning of the meeting.

**CHECK OUT THE NJ-NY WEBSITE’S WWW.NJNYVFA.ORG. TRAINING SECTION
ON THE RIGHT HAND SIDE OF THE HOME PAGE FOR GREAT FIREFIGHTING ARTICLES
AND VIDEOS!!!
YOU MIGHT FIND YOUR NEXT DRILL TOPIC RIGHT THERE!!**

JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

The NJ-NY Volunteer Firemen’s Association’s Junior Firefighter Meritorious Service Award guidelines and are now available at the NJ-NY Website: www.NJNYVFA.org, in the forms section. This is a new award being presented by the Association to recognize the contribution our junior firefighters make to our efforts to protect lives and property for fire, and to give our junior firefighters a positive experience with the NJ-NJ so that they will be more willing to join when they come of age. Please review the guidelines and if your department has a juior firefighter whose actions at a fire and/or emergency meet them fill out an application on his behalf. The award period for this first firefighter award is September 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016. Applications must be post-marked by May 1, 2016.

SPECIAL NOTICE

**Please be aware that ALL NJ/NY APPLICATIONS can be obtained from our website:
WWW.NJNYVFA.ORG
Please go there for your applications and watch the DUE DATES.**

TO: **All Fire Departments**
FROM: **William Kramer, Jr. Acting Director/State Fire Marshal**
DATE: **November 16, 2015**
SUBJECT: **Fire Officer Requirements**

As in year's past, the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety is notifying all fire departments of the minimum, mandatory incident management requirements for fire officers.

N.J.A.C. 5:73-1.6 states, that no person shall be promoted, assume or assigned (including elected) any fire service position, the duties of which include the management of emergency operations. Unless, that person has obtained, at a minimum, Incident Management Level 1 Certification issued by the Division of Fire Safety.

In order to qualify for Incident Management Level 1 Certification, a person must meet the following requirements:

Obtained Firefighter 1 Certification issued by the Division of Fire Safety; Have three years of documented experience in the fire service. (This means three years as a firefighter and does not include time spent in an Explorer or Junior Firefighter Program);

- Attended a 12 hour classroom based Basic Incident Management Course (1-200) offered or approved by the Division of Fire Safety.

A certification application must be submitted to receive the Incident Management Certification. This means that every fire officer, career and volunteer MUST have, at a minimum, Incident Management Level 1 Certification issued by the Division of Fire Safety. We have heard a number of times that some volunteer fire departments believe that these requirements do not apply to them. This is incorrect. Failure to comply may result in violations being issued to the fire company, municipality and the individual holding the office.

In order to ensure compliance with NIMS, which may be required to receive Federal and/or State Homeland Security Grants, the Division of Fire Safety recommends the following: Fire Officer Requirements

- Entry Level First Responders, including but not limited to, firefighters, engineers, driver operators, fire police and support personnel; 1-100 and IS-700.
- First Line Supervisors, including but not limited to, Lieutenants and Captains, Acting Lieutenants and Captains, Lead Dispatchers; 1-200 and IS-700.
- Middle Managers, including but not limited to, Battalion Chiefs, Acting Battalion Chiefs; 1-300 and IS-700. It is also recommended that IS-800, Introduction to the National Response Plan be completed. Completion of these courses and holding the prerequisite of Incident Management Level 1 Certification will qualify the individual for Incident Management Level 2 Certification issued by the Division of Fire Safety.
- Command and General Staff, including but not limited to, the Chief of Department or Acting Chief of Department, the second in command such as Deputy Chiefs, Acting Deputy Chief’s or Assistant Chiefs and Acting Assistant Chiefs; 1-400. It is also recommended that both the IS- 800 and IS-701, Introduction to Multi-Agency Coordination Systems be completed. Completion of these courses and holding the prerequisite of Incident Management Level 2 Certification will qualify the individual for Incident Management Level 3 Certification issued by the Division of Fire Safety.

Combination and volunteer departments need to determine how to comply with ICS when their certified officers are not available. This can be accomplished by determining what other members of your department may be asked to assume a command position, and ensure that they have the proper level of training. Another way is to adopt SOG's or mutual aid agreements that address utilizing certified officers from other departments or county/regional Incident Management Teams.

However, simply attending the above listed courses does not qualify someone for all ICS positions. There are many position specific training programs that are available through the Division of Fire Safety or the Emergency Management Institute including, "Staging Area Manager", "Strike Team Leader", "Resource Unit Leader" and "Division/Group Supervisor" that provide detailed training in these areas leading to a better understanding of how ICS is designed to work.

In addition, the New Jersey Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH) program has a number of safety and health standards that employers, (municipalities and fire districts) must comply with regardless of whether they are volunteers or career. These are contained in the Safety and Health Standards for Public Employers in N.J.A.C 12:100 and include the Standards for Firefighters at N.J.A.C 12:100 Subchapter 10. All PEOSH Standards including the PEOSH Act can be found at: http://Iwd.dol.state.nj.usllaborllsellaws/peosha_law.html.

Examples include the adoption of a respiratory protection program that stipulates how the employer will ensure compliance with an individual's ability to be medically cleared to wear a respirator; an annual respirator face piece fit test and a policy regarding facial hair when wearing a respirator. Another example includes the requirement that anyone who will be supervising an incident involving a hazardous substance above the awareness level needs to meet the requirements of On-Scene Incident Commander; and annual refresher training for blood borne pathogens, confined space and hazardous materials; as well as bi-annual Right- to-Know (RTK) training.

It is imperative that fire chiefs and municipal officials realize the responsibility they have to ensure compliance. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact your regional fire coordinator directly or through the office at 609-292-4109. He will be happy to assist you in understanding how to ensure compliance. You may also contact Justin Baker, Assistant Chief of the PEOSH On-Site Consultation Unit at 609-292-2832 or at [Justin.baker@dol.state.nj.us](mailto:baker@dol.state.nj.us).

Lastly, the Division of Fire Safety offers various levels of Fire Officer Certification that not only meet current NFPA standards but have also been accredited by IFSAC and Proboard. Fire Departments, Fire Districts and Municipalities should consider requiring these comprehensive certifications based on the specific officer levels within their department.

If you need assistance or have questions, please contact the Office of Fire Department Preparedness at 609-292-4109. Department of Labor and Workforce Development] Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health Act Iwd.dol.state.nj.us