

Fire Chiefs' & Fire Fighters' Association Of York County, Inc.

**330 Emig Road
York, PA 17406**



**Monthly Meeting
3rd Monday**

January 18th, 2010

President Rick Shank called the annual meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association a moment of silence. Sixty - seven people were in attendance. Everyone gave a round of applause for the women at the Hellam Fire Company who prepared the meal. Ken Farhinger, President from Hellam Fire Company gave the welcoming address. Commissioner Roth thanked him and the Fire Company for a great meal, and welcoming us back again. Hellam's Fire Company has invited us to hold our meeting at their station in January 2011, if we would like to.

President Shank welcomed Keith Gillespie, Doug Hoke & Chris Reilly to our meeting. He also thanked them for their support throughout the past year.

Christina Smith gave a presentation on the upcoming Can Am police & Fire Games for 2014.

Perry Pierich, from HACC talked about the scholarship opportunity that is welcomed to anyone in the Fire Service, which is taking Fire related courses, credit and non-credit classes, who lives in York, Dauphin, Cumberland, & Perry Counties.

Dr. Dennis O'Neil, the Superintendent of the National Fire Academy gave a speech on the opportunities that are available at the National Fire Academy.

President Rick Shank asked for a motion to approve the minutes as published. 1st: Kerry Herman 2nd: Chris Krichten Motion Passed

Treasurer Bob Bowman presented the balances of the treasurer's report.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The names already on the ballot:

President: Richard Shank

Vice President: Steve Buffington

Secretary:

Treasurer: Bob Bowman

Board of Governor's (2): Jan Cromer, Chris Krichten, Joe Madzellan, & Joe Yahnke.

The following positions were opened for nominations from the floor.

President: Motion to close 1st: Chief Buffington 2nd: Albert Shaffer Motion closed

Vice President: Motion to close 1st: Jan Cromer 2nd: Bob Bowman Motion closed

Secretary: John Sanford Motion to close 1st: John McDonald 2nd: Barry Myers Motion closed

Treasurer: Motion to close 1st: Commissioner Roth 2nd: Tony Myers Motion closed

Board of Governors: Motion to close 1st: Chief Buffington 2nd: John McDonald Motion closed

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Chief John Senft: The Board met twice this month, and one was an executive meeting to discuss staff and personnel issues. This is the 32nd year the fire school has received reimbursement from the County. Thank you in part to the County Commissioners.

COMMUNICATIONS: Buffington: We had a lengthy meeting this past month. Effective March 1st, the new Dispatch Policy will go into effect.

911: Eric Bistline: Just to update everyone with the progress that has been made, we have 57 of 63 mobile installations completed. By February 15th, the remaining stations should be completed. On January 5th, Harris came back. There were issues with dropped calls, beeps and gargled messages. There were issues in the software that were loaded in the west zone. There have been no issues since a fix has occurred. We installed a new software code in several radios. There have been no failures since then with the PTT. Once the issues have been solved, we will have to reload all the radios to install the software code.

It was asked, "Who do we get to install and service the radios?" The answer, "You can use whomever you want to install your radios (after the initial install), your warranty will not be void. If it is not installed properly, and the issue is determined to be because of improper installation, the costs will fall back on your department." We have had good comments from Bob Moyer. We are installing 2 additional sites. One will be on the rooftop of Hanover Hospital. This site will be a full radio & paging site. We are installing a second site in West Manheim Twp. This will be a full paging site only. They are building the equipment.

FIRE SCHOOL: Carl Avery, Program Coordinator, submitted the following report.

Activity:

☛ During the month of December, the Fire School hosted **34** events, which accounted for **168** hours of activity. This resulted in **1798** student hours. For the year of **2009**, your Fire School has provided over **2,964** hour of use for classes, meetings, drills and practice (*This means on average, your Fire School was in use 8.12 Hours a day every day of the year in 2009*). We have also been the site responsible for More than **43,054** student hours of training from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009, we've averaged **3,588** student hours a month.

The ENTRY LEVEL Program:

☛ Our Entry Level Programs for 2010 began earlier this month with an ELIS on January 9th. This will be followed by an ELFG on January 23rd, next will be ELEF March 13th, and the First series of classes will conclude with an ELIF beginning on May 8th. This Series of classes will conclude in time for the student to be eligible to sit for The Firefighter I test we have scheduled in August. The next Entry Level Series will begin in March with an ELIS class starting March 30th, followed by an ELFG Starting April 11th, Followed by and ELEF starting June 6th, and concluding with an ELIF starting July 20th. Lead instructor for this second series of classes will be Kraig Herman. We do not have dates at this time but **we will be scheduling another series to begin late summer and run through the Fall**

FAX REMINDER:

☛ Faxes sometimes fail to reach the Fire School for any of a number of reasons. I just recently had a conversation with one of our County's Chief Officers in regards to a student who failed to get pre-registered for a class. I do not know what the exact cause of this was; it could be any of numerous possibilities. Ms. Marsteller, our administrative assistant, is most diligent about getting confirmations back to pre-registrants. **IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE CONFIRMATION – DO NOT HESITATE to contact the Fire School to follow up on your Faxes.**

Firefighter I Certification test:

☛ **PLEASE BEGIN TO PLAN FOR THIS NOW.** The test will be scheduled for August 7th & 8th. A fee of \$200.00 per candidate is anticipated. The test will be conducted here at YCFS and will be administered by HACC. Please anticipate that we may be contacting area Fire Companies to assist us in the logistical support of this opportunity.

☛ To be a candidate for the Firefighter I test personnel must complete the application, have completed a Haz-Mat Operations Class or Haz-Mat Ops refresher within a year of the Test Date, and take part in a Live Fire training (This would include SBS or the ELIF (only if the training certificate indicates that the student participated in a Live Fire training as part of the course)). * **PLEASE NOTE – This is a very brief description of the Firefighter I Certification process. Candidates for Certification and their Chief and/or Training Officers are strongly urged to start planning NOW for this test in August. For more information you can contact your fire school or check out this website: www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=11302&PageID=574048&mode=2&contentid=html://pubcontent.state.pa.us/publishedcontent/publish/cop_public_safety/state_fire_commissioner/certification/certification_levels_presently_offered/firefighter_i/firefighter_i.html**

Education Methodology – Leading to Fire Service Instructor Certifications I & II:

☛ Beginning in April and concluding in early June your Fire School will host an ED METH Class with instructor Dan Hoff, This class will enable student to sit for their Certification Test as FSI I and FSI II, Please remember that FSI I is a prerequisite for **FIRE OFFICER I.**

Fire Officer I Class and Certification:

- Beginning in September and concluding in early October your Fire School will host a Fire Officer I Class with instructor Dan Hoff, This class will enable student to sit for their Certification Test for **Fire Officer I**. Please remember that YOU MUST be certified at a Minimum of **Fire Service Instructor I to take this class**.

Hero to Zero, Firefighter Arsonist Awareness Program:

- The Hero to Zero program deals with Firefighter arson. This is now a more recognized crime than in yesteryear. The **Pennsylvania Association of Arson Investigators** acknowledges this as an unpleasant experience for fire departments forced to deal with the ramifications of an arsonist's actions. The intent of this course is to decrease the frequency, as well as, offering awareness. **Hero to Zero - Firefighter Arsonist**, program by the **PAAI**, is one that affords firefighters training on an array of topics that address not only the act of arson, but how to curtail it. This three hour program offers narrative on an array of subjects such as: **motive, cause/effect, profiling, legal statutes and prevention**. This program is scheduled for **March 28th, 2010, 09:00 to 12:00**

December 19th, 2009 "Make Up" Burn Scheduled

- The last scheduled SBS class had to have its Live Burn postponed due to that day's snow storm. The NEW DATE is **SUNDAY MARCH 14th, 2010**. Please note that the Class will also meet on Thursday March 11th, 2010 for PPE re-inspections and Base Line Vital Signs

Current and Future Schedule:

- Our Course Catalogue is updated on an ongoing basis, please be sure to check out our web site. Be sure to check it often.
- The 2009 schedule is available online at our web site www.YorkCountyFireSchool.org , just click on the [Click Here to See Available Classes](#) link on the home page

Courses coming up over the next month:

<u>Course</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Pre-registration</u>	<u>BELOW</u>	<u>Minimum (+)</u>	<u>FULL</u>
Legal Aspects for the Fire Service	2/8	3	X		
Automatic Detection and Suppression Sys.	2/14	5	X		
Incident Safety Officer	2/16	7	X		
Pump I	3/1	6	X		

- THERE STILL IS TIME TO SIGN UP FOR THE CLASSES THAT ARE **BELOW MINIMUM**, BUT DO IT SOON or they may have to be **CANCELED****

- For more information on these classes and a pre-registration form please go to our web-site: www.YorkCountyFireSchool.org

EVOC REMINDER:

- Sponsoring organizations are RESPONSIBLE to provide vehicles and if need be, authorized Drivers, for the students they send to our EVOC classes. Please remember when you sign off on a student pre-registering for the EVOC class – *IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY – NOT THE FIRE SCHOOL'S*
- We are working on the 2010 Schedule at this time, any input is welcome. Please contact your fire school with your suggestions and constructive comments. Classes we are working on from your input
 - Truck 1 and 2
 - Confined Space
 - Engine Company
 - Water Rescue
 - Watch for more information on these classes in the near future

Burn Building:

- SCHEDULING THE NEW BUILDING:** as was stated above, the Fire School is extremely busy this year. Planning for use of the SBB needs to be long range, please plan ahead accordingly and please include us in your plans at the earliest phases.
- We are working on putting the finishing touches on a course for York County Fire School *Structure Burn Building Facilitator Program* and hope to be offering it soon. This program will be presented to those who are selected to be a SBB Facilitators. More details will soon follow on this.

YORK COUNTY ATR: John Sanford: No calls for the month. The 1006 course are beginning Wednesday evening.

OEM: Tom Graybill: No report

HAZ-MAT TEAM: Tom Graybill: There were 43 calls for 2009. There were 2 for the month of January.

FIRE POLICE: James Robertson: There was no meeting last month. There will be a re-organizational meeting this Sunday to elect the officers.

RESCUE INSPECTION: Rick Shank: The following people have been appointed to the committee: (Chairman) Tim Mooney, Tony Clouser, Glenn Jansen, and Tony Myers.

RIT: Joe Yahnke: 1 sta. has turned in their information so far.

FIRE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Tony Myers: We are working with the Board of Governors and Carl to make progress.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Eric Bistline: I forgot to mention that some of you were asking about buying additional equipment from others vendors. We will allow the department to do such. The County will need the equipment & software to test, to make sure that it works with our system. No vendors are allowed to program the equipment onto our equipment. All programming must be done by the 911 Center, for security reasons. There is no charge to program the equipment. You can purchase any digital pager, as long as they are the same frequencies. We will share the Cap Codes. To have the pagers programmed, it is on your dime to program them. If you are requesting web pages, you need to give 911 the correct pager numbers, so they can update their records.

Cumber County Traffic 100 will bring down their vehicle to show everyone what is on the apparatus, and explain how it may benefit us.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made to pay the bills. 1st: Tony Myers 2nd: Chris Krichten Motion Passed

Election of Officers Results:

President: Rick Shank
Vice President: Steve Buffington
Secretary: John Sanford
Treasurer: Bob Bowman
Board of Governors: Jan Cromer & Joe Yahnke

There were several issues that were brought up regarding communication. One Chief explained that he has no notification that a road had been closed, and no one has been informed of the closing. Someone stated that they were updates that a hydrant was back in service, just to determine, there was no hydrant at the specific location.

This issue of road closings, if York County does not know about them, then they cannot inform you about the road closings. If you are aware of a road closing, and York County has not informed you about it, call in, let them know about it.

We need to educate everyone to talk less on the radios. The issue came up that we are short on dispatchers. We cannot hire additional dispatchers for financial reasons.

The Radio Committee will be meeting twice a month to try and get through the issues that need solved. We need to work together. There is a meeting scheduled with New World on the 25th. We are also working on getting the paging dispatch and the radio dispatching aligned at almost the same time.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

A thank you goes to Carl Avery for the calendars that everyone is receiving this evening from the National Fallen Firefighter Near – Miss Reporting System.

Chief Senft stated that it was nice having a large turnout at the meeting. It would be nice to see this kind of a turnout at every meeting.

Next monthly meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, February 15th, 2010, at the Fire School.

Motion was made by Bob Bowman to adjourn the meeting. 2nd: Jan Cromer Motion Passed

Sincerely,

Heather Marsteller

Heather Marsteller
Recording Secretary