

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

**330 Emig Road
York, PA 17406**



**Monthly Meeting
3rd Monday**

April 21, 2008

Vice President Joseph Yahnke called the quarterly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order and led the pledge to the flag. Forty three people were in attendance. Chief Shank thanked Eric Bistline for welcoming us to the new 911 Center.

Eric Bistline thanked everyone for coming to the 911 Center. He also thanked Sonik Systems for providing the dinner. He introduced Ron Webner from Sonik Systems who spoke about the Alpha Pneumatic paging system and paging devices.

Roll call was taken. Twenty-five out of sixty-five stations were represented and reported.

Vice President Yahnke asked for a motion to accept the minutes as published. 1st: Bob Bowman 2nd: Chris Krichten. The minutes were approved.

Vice President Yahnke asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. 1st: Chief Richard Shank 2nd: Chris Krichten. Motion Carried

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: The Board met April 15th, and tonight as well. The Board discussed a dedication ceremony of the new Burn Building as well as a celebration of 30 years of Operations of the Fire School. If anyone has any ideas, please share them with the Board. They also discussed administrative duties and possible realignment of duties. Chief Senft stated it is important to have an audit done. The Board will meet again on May 1st.

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS: No report. A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 24th.

911: Cindy Dietz stated the week of May 12th; they will be updating the CAD system. It should take care of the issues with locations, and which box alarm the call actually is. Everyone should see a difference by the middle of June.

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

Activity:

- ☞ For the month of March the Fire School hosted 66 events which accounted for 276 hours of activity, with 251 of those hours being scheduled classes. Two Hundred Sixty Eight students attended classes for a total of 4,295.5 student hours at the School last month. This was an increase of 1,978.5 student hours from last month. In March, we only had to cancel 2 Classes scheduled due to insufficient enrollment:
 - Hazardous Material Operations Refresher - 4
 - Rural Water Movement - 11

The Fire School's video library of over 300 VHS Tapes and DVDs:

- ☞ Recent additions include
 - The Art of Reading Smoke by Dave Dodson - DVD

- The 5 DVD series on Collapse by Vincent Dunn
- Pride and Ownership – By Rich Lasky - DVD

High Speed Internet:

- ☛ We received a phone call on Friday, April 18th from Double Dog Communications; they have come up with a solution to our access problem and we will be presenting it to the Board of Governors tonight. If all is approved, we could be communicating via high speed internet as soon as April 28th. We will make every effort to keep you advised when and if this makes for any changes in the way you contact us.

The ENTRY LEVEL Program:

- ☛ We do have ELFG courses scheduled for our summer day time series and our summer / fall evening series for those who still need this second step in the process.
- ☛ Our upcoming Entry Level Interior Firefighter class is scheduled. It is scheduled to begin on June 14th and run on Saturdays and some Sundays and is scheduled to conclude on July 27th. Fire Instructor Hoover has been selected as the lead instructor for this program. All indications are this will include a live burn exercise in our new burn building.
- ☛ We are offering a **Day-time Entry level program** over the summer months (ELIS and ELFG[see first item above]). This series of Classes is scheduled to begin June 18, 2008 with the ELIS (Introduction to the Fire Service) Class and to be followed up with the ELFG (Fire Ground Support) Class beginning July 7, 2008

Attendance:

- ☛ **I cannot stress enough how important it is for students to attend the classes that they have been pre-registered for! This along with the Importance of being on time for Class! READY to take the CLASS!** Due to Class Minimums and Maximums and other factors, failure to attend when you have signed up for MAY result in the class being canceled or other hardships that impact fellow students and the courses

Camp Survivor, 4 H Summer Safety Camp"

- ☛ On June 18th, 2008, The Fire School will be host to ONE Day of the 4H Center's week long Safety Camp. This will be in cooperation with the Manchester Twp. Fire Department and members of the Firefighter Combat Challenge Team. We still need some volunteers to assist with our safety demos and skills on that day. Please contact your Fire School if you are able to lend a hand for the day.

Firefighter I Testing

- ☛ We do not have any tests scheduled at this time. Local testing will rely on an active Fire School committee working in conjunction with the Program Coordinator and school staff to organize, orchestrate and oversee such activities. The program coordinator looks forward to the establishment of an active Fire School Committee so that this may be pursued.

New Classes Scheduled:

- ☛ **We are working with PAg (Penn State) Rescue training to bring you the following courses: (presented on April 19th) Intro to Farm Emergencies (This is a prerequisite for other courses in the series). PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU MISSED THIS PREREQUISITE CLASS, CHECK WITH STATION 23 WHO WILL BE HOSTING THIS CLASS IN September. THESE CLASSES ARE INFORMATIVE AND WELL PRESENTED AND ALSO OFFER CON-ED CREDITS FOR THOSE NEEDING THEM (presented on April 20th)** Managing Tractor Emergencies, Managing Farm Machinery Entanglements, Farm Chemical Emergencies, Farm Confined Space Awareness, and Farm Confined Space Operations.
 - These classes ARE NOT funded like most Firefighter training is here in Pennsylvania. **Linda Spahr of Cooperative Extension has helped immensely with this.**
- ☛ **We are looking into bringing the "Our Town – Incident Command" Table top simulation to the Fire School. This too will require funding, if we cannot secure a grant for this there will be a charge (Estimated \$25.00) This class / simulation will help you maintain your NIMS Requirements**
- ☛ We have included some other new offerings for this year they are as follows
 - **Automatic Detection & Suppression Systems**
 - **Basic Rigging for Rope Rescue**
 - **Calling the Mayday; Hands-on Training for Firefighters**
 - **Fire Attack in Sprinklered Properties**

- o **NIMS 100 (Orientation) and Certification**

🔊 Do not forget the New Courses we added last year and are running again this year:

- o **Introduction to Volunteer Emergency Services Management**
- o **Legal aspects for the Fire Service**

Current and Future Schedule:

- 🔊 The 2008 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.
- 🔊 The 2008 Schedule has been published, **We are constantly updating it**, Watch your department / **company Mailings for Updates and New Classes**. We will also **update our Website with new additions as they come along**.

Burn Building and Scheduling:

- 🔊 Progress continues on the NEW Building (Live Fire Training Prop). The roof and 5 story tower have all been poured and work is progressing on the installation of Thermal Resistant Lining It is anticipated that metal work will begin shortly ANTICIPATED completion is projected to be Late August or Early September. **There is a Possibility that it MAY BE COMPLETED 1 to 2 or more MONTHS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE**
- 🔊 Please note that the Board has approved the Change orders for an additional Escape route from the Third floor and an additional stand pipe so that the fire stokers can maintain a safety line while initiating the fires.
- 🔊 The Board of Governors intends for us to stay open and continue to offer classes throughout construction.

This may require some flexibility to meet everyone's needs

On March 16th: the South Central Emergency Services Training Academy Working Group, which consisted of the following counties: Franklin, Adams, Cumberland, York, & Lancaster, met to discuss the Firefighter 1 program instead of the Delmar program.

YORK COUNTY ATR: John Sanford stated there was 1 call for the month. Trench Rescue training was held. There were 145 students and instructors from 6 different states. Future training to be held includes: Swift Water Phase 1 on May 30th, 31st, and June 1st, and a Ropes and Rigging class on June 7th & 8th, at Station 36 (Yoe).

OEM: There were 27 calls for the quarter. March 10th, the Haz-Mat team was recertified for the next 4 years. At the last LEPC meeting: it was discussed about the incident with the Fire Police having a badge that has "Essential Response Member" on it, to identify who should and shouldn't be on certain calls, including Haz-Mat calls.

FIRE POLICE: James Robertson stated at the last meeting, a member from York County Animal Response Team spoke. She said horses are the main animal to be rescued. 50 counties in the state have a response team similar to ours. The next meeting will be at sta. 19 (Spry/York Twp.).

RESCUE SPECS COMMITTEE: Josh Young reported that a committee has been assembled with 5 members. Thursday night-first will be the first meeting: The committee includes: Josh Young, Tony Myers, Dale Richardson, John Sanford, and Joe Stevens.

RIT COMMITTEES: Chris Krichten said a proposed policy will be sent to Heather before next month's meeting. She will to send out to everyone to review.

FIRE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: A committee was formed. The members include: Joe Yahnke (Chairman), Tony Myers (Asst. Chairman), Ryan Brenneman, Gary Carpenter, Mike Caum, Chris Krichten, and Rick Witten. Joe met with the committee, and got answers tonight from Tony Myers. He stated there is a lot of work to do in such a small amount of time.

Mark Albright brought up an issue of students signing up for class, and failing to show up for classes. He said that we should look into billing departments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Motion to pay the bills: 1st: Chief Shank 2nd: Chris Krichten. Motion Carried

Dave Nichols stated that after researching, there have been problems with the Digital Radios. The issue involves the Digital Audio Communications. He said it is not just with the fire, but also law enforcement.

Motion was made by Chris Krichten to form an Audit committee. 2nd: Ryan Brenneman. Motion Carried. The Audit Committee consists of: Ryan Brenneman, Commissioner Roth, Chief Shank. Ryan Brenneman will head up the committee. Dave Nichols asked about having the County look at the records.

NEW BUSINESS: Chief Senft says that we should look at having the audit done annually, not just once every couple of years.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

Dick Sterner from the American Red Cross would like to thank everyone for the assistance at Wrightsville's fire this past week-end. They are dispatched through 911, not by phone calls. Shelter, food and clothing are provided to fire victims. It takes 45-90 minutes for the Red Cross to respond to calls. They are looking to improve the menu on the canteen. They send out suggestion cards. If you can think of improvements that could be made, suggest them.

Robert Deitzel from the York County Firefighter's Association stated his organization sent out the application forms for the Jr. Firefighter of the Year Award. There is a new form (2008 edition). They are to be post marked by July 5th. This year's Convention hosted by Sta. 23 will be held August 15th & 16th. The Association is looking for stations to host quarterly meetings. The next meeting will be on May 15th, at 7:30, at station 25, North York Borough.

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, May 19th, 2008, at the York County Fire School.

Motion was made by Robert Bowman to adjourn the meeting. 2nd: Neil Gunnet

Sincerely,

Heather Marsteller

Heather Marsteller
Recording Secretary