

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

**330 Emig Road
York, PA 17406**



**Monthly Meeting
3rd Monday**

July 21st, 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.

George Boyer thanked everyone for attending the meeting at Shiloh's Fire Company. He also mentioned he had raffle tickets for sale to help offset the costs of the new expansion of their fire station.

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

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

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Chief Senft: The Board did meet prior to this evenings meeting. We discussed issues with the fire School. We also discussed the \$300,000 line of credit.

Skip Ruppert has resigned as President of the York County Fire Chiefs' and Firefighters' Association, due to changes in his schedule.

911: Eric Bistline: Dry testing has been going on throughout the county for signal strength. Once the coverage tests pass, portables should begin to be installed.

Radios: The portable radios should be handed out by December 15th. The mobile radios may not be installed until the 1st quarter or next year. When the radios are being installed, someone must be at the station from start to finish. They will have to sign off on the installation. Once installation is completed, it is asked that your department fills out the survey and sends it back.

Paging: Eric stated that dry testing will continue tomorrow throughout the county. The pagers are in. Most of them are already programmed. Everyone should be receiving their pagers by the end of August.

Billing: Stations will be billed twice. The first bill will be when the pagers are received. The next bill will be for the installation of the radios at your stations.

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS: Chris Krichten: The committee approved Engine 55-3, MASH 89, and Service 6. They discussed Water Rescue. A discussion came up about the designation of sides and levels. We need to come to common terminology, and not confuse everyone. Dave Nichols stated that they should look into the accountability standards that were adopted a few years ago.

ATR: Andrew Crouse: We had one call for the month. We also had Water Rescue Training.

Haz-Mat : Tom Graybill: We had 15 calls for the quarter. He also stated that Kay has a meeting scheduled with the solicitor of the ECRIN system.

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

Activity:

- ☞ For the month of June the Fire School hosted 68 events which accounted for 365 hours of activity. This resulted in 4770 Student hours. For the year 2008 to July 20th, the fire school has accumulated 1585 hours of use and 22,979.5 student hours. We are averaging 3282.8 Student hours per month.

The ENTRY LEVEL Program:

- ☞ Our Entry Level Interior Firefighter class began on June 14th and will run on Saturdays and some Sundays and is scheduled to conclude on August 3rd (revised date). Fire Instructor Hoover is the lead instructor for this program. The live burn exercise in our new burn building that was anticipated for this class has been canceled (See: "**Burn Building and Scheduling:**" at the end of this report for more details). **This Class has 16 Students**
- ☞ The **Evening – summer / fall (Tuesday ; Thursday) Entry Level program** continues with the Fire Ground Support class that began earlier this month. **This Class has 17 Students.** **(IMPORTANT NOTE FOR THIS CLASS: Evening Sessions begin at 18:00)**
- ☞ The Exterior Firefighter class has **19 Students Pre-registered**, It is next in the series still has room for more STUDENTS
- ☞ **REMEMBER the ENTRY LEVEL PROGRAM is a series of 4 classes the ELIS (Introduction to the Fire Service) class is a prerequisite for Fire Ground Support which is a pre-requisite for Exterior fire fighter which is prerequisite for Interior Fire Fighter**

Calling the Mayday: Hands-on-Training for Firefighters:

- ☞ I am pleased to report that this class was very successful. Students completing all of the course requirements will receive training Certificates from both Bucks County Community College and the National Fire Academy. Lead instructor, Dan Hoff, along with his assistants Will Shaver, Tony Myers and Todd Heilman all did an outstanding job with the introduction of this class to our offering here at the school. This class is scheduled for June 22nd, 2008 and is part of the Fire Schools observation of Firefighter Survival Week. With the success of this Class we have schedules **another Calling the Mayday is scheduled on September 30th and October 2nd. This will be an evening class.**

Camp Survivor, 4 H Summer Safety Camp"

- ☞ On June 18th, 2008, The Fire School hosted ONE Day of the 4H Center's week long Safety and Survival Camp. This was done in cooperation with the Manchester Twp. Fire Department and York Area United Fire and Rescue Services. 50 plus campers reported have a great time at the fire school as they learned about fire safety and survival.

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 still 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 -35.00) This class / simulation will help you maintain your NIMS Requirements WE HAVE NEITHER COMMITTED TO OR ABANDONED THIS COURSE YET**
- ☞ Also recently added:
 - School Bus Rescue – August 9 & 10 – as of Sunday, July 20, 2008 has 11 Students
 - Truck Company Ops I – September 6 & 7 as of Sunday, July 20, 2008 has 4 Students
 - Truck Company Ops II – September 13 & 14 as of Sunday, July 20, 2008 has 4 Students

☞ **Minimums for these and most other classes we hold at the Fire School is 15 Students – For us to run the classes you want, WE NEED YOU TO SIGN UP and SHOW UP to make them Run**

☞ **QUICK REMINDER**, We have an Fire Instructor I class scheduled to begin on September 2nd, Dan Hoff will be the lead instructor, This is another class that needs 15 to run, as of Sunday, July 20, 2008 we have 7 signed up. This is an important class if you plan on going onto become a certified Fire Officer, A State Fire Instructor or just want to conduct Better Drills at your own fire station.

○ Please note, the dates of 10/7 & 10/9 have been added for testing for this class.

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). Metal is near completion and the Standpipes have been installed. ANTICIPATED completion is projected to be Late August or Early September. **Due to unforeseen construction problems, early completion of the live fire training prop has been delayed until the construction problems can be remediated**. The project Engineer is scheduled to do another sight survey on Monday July 21st (on the date of this report) this will be to inspect and prepare a final "punch list" before the building is turned over to the fire school. Before the Building can be used for Live Fire training "Cure Burns" must take place, it is unknown when this will take place.

FIRE POLICE: James Robertson: Several stations have till next Monday to get the dues and paperwork in for their Fire Police members to be covered under the insurance. If it is not in by the deadline, they will have to reapply as a new member.

RESCUE SPECS COMMITTEE: Josh Young: No Report

RIT COMMITTEES: Dan Hoff: No Report

FIRE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Joe Yahnke stated that Tony Myers is now taking over as chairman of the committee. He stated that Tony is aware of the change.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: In accordance with the By-Laws, the Board of Governors appoints Joe Yahnke as the President of the Fire Chiefs' and Firefighters' Association. A motion was made to accept Joe as the President of the Association. 1st: Larry Crouse 2nd: Chris Krichten Motion Passed.

- If anyone is interested in the Vice President position, in writing, a letter of concern should be addressed to Heather Marsteller, who will forward it onto the Board of Governors.

Neil Gunnet brought up a discussion of a designation of combination apparatus on the radio. One example would be Engine / Tankers. It was discussed that when dispatched, the dispatchers replace failed equipment with the next piece that is needed. Chris Krichten says the failed piece is replaced with the next piece listed on the card. It is how the Chiefs list it, not how it was first dispatched.

Dave Nichols discussed when a fire goes 2nd alarm, that the 911 Center could call in certain Fire Chiefs to come into the dispatch center and help with the filling of stations with stand-by crews. It was said to think about calling someone from outside the first due area, so we are not just moving the hole around outside the epicenter.

Neil Gunnet stated that there will be a Rural Water Supply course on July 31st & August 2nd at station 62. If anyone is interested, please contact them, so they can have a count.

Eric Bistline stated that they have tested the digital portable radios in extreme conditions. He stated that in all the tests, the voice transmission was still recognizable.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, August 18th, 2008, at the York County Fire School.

Motion was made by Bill Carlisle to adjourn the meeting. 2nd: Mike Miller Motion Passed

Sincerely,

Heather Marsteller

Heather Marsteller
Recording Secretary