

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

**330 Emig Road
York, PA 17406**



**Monthly Meeting
3rd Monday**

October 19th, 2009

President Richard Shank called the monthly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order and led the pledge to the flag and a moment of silence. Forty-one people were in attendance.

President John Marsteller welcomed everyone to the North Hopewell – Winterstown Fire Co. The past several months, the fire company has had numerous renovations completed. Take time after the meeting to take a tour, and get a chance to see the fire company's newest apparatus – a Polaris Ranger.

Barry Myers wanted to thank the fire company for hosting the Fire Chiefs' Association. We had a great meal. The hall looks great. What an improvement from what the fire company was, to what it is now.

Prior to the meeting, Melody Schaeffer from Member's First Credit Union, gave a presentation on what benefits the credit union offers, and who could qualify as a member.

President Richard Shank asked for a motion to approve the minutes as published. 1st: Tony Myers 2nd: John Fornadel Motion Passed

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

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Chief Senft: We are taking care of grounds issues, improvements to the website, and the pass through agreement.

COMMUNICATIONS: Steve Buffington: Things are getting better. There are a couple items we need to address. The first issue is what talk group we go responding on. The dispatchers are getting confused on which talk group they should be on. We need to clean up some of the chatter on the radio.

A motion was by Tony Myers that you call responding on the ops channel that issued to you during the page. 2nd: Jan Cromer Motion Passed The change will take effect starting on 11/01/2009.

Weather reports – There have been complaints that there are too many pages or not enough. It was stated that maybe updates should be sent out only when things change for the worse, and not for "more rain is to be expected".

A motion was made that weather reports would be paged for the 1st warning and for major updates. 1st: Tony Myers 2nd: Bill Carlisle Motion Passed

Road Closures & Hydrants are being added to service calls. Notices will be sent out to the officers, and gives the officers the opportunity to use the Web paging system. This topic was tabled till Thursday.

A motion was made for road closures and hydrants out of service to paged to everyone during the hours of 7am – 10pm. 1st: Tony Myers 2nd: Jan Cromer.

The RIT teams don't need to hit the hydrants.

Information: The Radio committee approved battalion chief for YAUFR.

There are multiple chiefs responding into the County. Try to remind officers of the York County policy. Chiefs from mutual aid companies do not need to call 911 that they are responding.

A Motion was made to have only the first alarm officers, one from each department, respond on the radio. 1.

Barry Myers 2: Ryan Brennehan Motion Passed

The alert tones are gone. They are history. The Radio Committee approved it at a meeting. The Evacuation tone will be discussed on Thursday.

Paging update pages: The following messages have been approved: cancel the call, dangerous scene - stay away, holding the box, mayday, working fire, confirmed entrapment, emergency conditions, phase 2. You should start seeing more update pages. They are being done right now, but we are working on making it faster.

They followed the request of taking out the duty officer updates on responses.

Tony Myers asked about adding the word Cardiac in front of the arrest pages.

For pages stating "Dangerous scene - stay away", each department needs to develop company policies on where to stage, or you going to the station. These updates are also voiced.

It was asked if changes can be made on the scanning and portables radios through another vender, instead of Maycom? It was decided that as of right now, Maycom is the only vender that can work on the radios.

If you need repairs done to your equipment, you have to go through Harris. If you have a problem getting your radios back in a timely manner, let Eric Bistline know, and he will get you your radio back.

Eric Bistline: 45 fire departments have equipment installed. Hanover hospital & Memorial hospital have control stations. Hanover's amplifier has been installed. All but 150 portables have been programmed, except for 58. Web paging is ready. The forms that need to be filled out are available. For the mobile installations, we lost 2 crews. We got one of the back, and maybe another.

YORK COUNTY ATR: John Sanford: There were no calls for the month of September. There was a Confined Space drill @ 35. There are several members participating in the upcoming Machinery class. There is also a Medic class in mid December.

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

Activity:

☛ During the month of September, the Fire School hosted **55** events, which accounted for **270** hours of activity. This resulted in an outstanding **2656** student hours. So far this year, your Fire School has provided over **2,547** hour of use for classes, meetings, drills and practice. We have also been the site responsible for More than **37,000** student hours of training since January, currently averaging over 3,700 student hours a month.

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*

New CLASS - Help Support Your Fire School!

☛ Your Fire School, working together with Paradise Fire Equipment, will be brining "Captain" Dave P. Fornell, author of the "*Fire Stream management handbook*" as well as numerous articles in magazines such as "*FIREHOUSE*", "*FIRE CHIEF*", "*FIRE ENGINEERING*", "*FIREFIGHTER'S NEWS*" and "*FIRE & RESCUE*" to York County on November 14th. His Seminar is entitled - *Commanding the Initial Attack* This engaging program will feature:

- Size-up, Planning and Attack Strategies
- How to manage the initial attack with limited staffing
- Lightweight construction and its impact on the Attack
- Tactics for fire combat in Lightweight construction

- ☛ Registration fee is **\$20.00 and it includes Lunch.** *Proceeds will go to help support your fire school*

Fall Technical Rescue Classes added

- ☛ Structural Collapse 1 – October 28
- ☛ Confined Space Rescue - Awareness – November 6
- ☛ **Confined Space Rescue - Operations – November 21 & 22** <- This is a Date Change
- ☛ **BE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS**

The ENTRY LEVEL Program:

- ☛ Fire Instructor William Staub began an ELIF class that started August 15, 2009, Due to an unanticipated DROP in attendance, Instructors Straub's and Instructor Hoover's ELIF Classes are going to combine for their Final Exercise.
- ☛ The SUMMER / FALL Entry Level Class series began in June with Lead Instructor Bill Hoover. This series of classes met primarily on Tuesday and Thursday with some weekend skill sessions.
 - ELIF Concludes next Saturday, October 24, 2009 with a live Fire Exercise for both classes

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>Low</u>	<u>Minimum(+)</u>	<u>FULL</u>
HMOR (Haz Mat Ops Refresher)	10/21	30 (+ Stand-by)			X
Structural Collapse 1	10/28	22		X	
Engine Company Ops	11/2	11	X		
Confined Space Rescue Awareness	11/6	15		X	
Basic Vehicle Rescue -Technician	11/7	28		X	
Commanding the Initial Attack Seminar	11/14	14	X		
Flammable Liquids	11/18	16		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**
- ☛ 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.

COOPERATION IS KEY

- ☛ **The FIRE SCHOOL's schedule is packed tight this year, several weekends we have multiple classes going on. The Fire Instructors have really stepped up in their cooperative efforts to maximize training on our existing training area. Students need to recognize this also, if multiple classes are being conducted on the drill grounds, students should follow these simple guidelines**
 - **STAY WITH YOUR GROUP**
 - **STAY in you designated training area**
 - **FOLLOW STRICT ACCOUNTABILITY PROCEDURES**
 - **BE DISCIPLINED** follow your instructors direction and **ALWAYS** work through them
 - **ALWAYS THINK - SAFETY FIRST**

As Chief Officers and Fire Service Leaders in Your Company, the Fire School asks that you reinforce this with your firefighters BEFORE you send them to the Fire School.

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.

See Windsor Twp Emergency Services Flyer or call Chief Gingrich @ 717-3246771 for details of Chief Billy Goldfeder's December 15th, 2009 Presentation: "Not...Everyone Goes Home."

OEM: Tom Graybill: Nothing to Report.

HAZ-MAT TEAM: Tom Graybill: We had 3 calls. Chuck Stevens is now Lt. 91-A. Right now he is learning on how we run officer calls. Just a word of advice, we had a call for heating oil inside a basement. If you get a call for a spill inside a residence, call the EMA office for a clean-up contractor. The Haz-Mat team is not able to dispose of the material. Also, most home owner's insurances will not cover the bill from the Haz-Mat team. If there is a leak outside, then please do call the Haz-Mat team.

FIRE POLICE: James Robertson: We are working on Bylaw changes. The next meeting is this coming Monday. York City needs help with Halloween parade. Last meeting Fire Police was looking for the Chiefs to put together a task force onto the box alarms, instead of paging the "all calls".

FIRE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Tony Myers: There is a meeting this Thursday. We are still working on reviewing the State Fire Academy policy. We are waiting to hear back from the academy. We are looking at building a maze building. It would be a 36x36. If you have any requests on what you would like to see in the maze building, send them to Tony Myers.

FIRE PREVENTION: We met. The next meeting will be next month at station 11.

FUNDRAISING: George Boyer, Ryan Brenneman, John McDonald, or Bob Bowman: Emailed George Boyer.

RESCUE INSPECTION COMMITTEE: Inspections are set to start next June.

RIT COMMITTEE: Joe Yahnke: Research was done to see which departments want to have a RIT team. If any department Chief wants their department to run as RIT, and has not left Joe know, please inform him. We need to know who has RIT teams that come into York County, so their departments can be held to our standards.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No Business to Report.

NEW BUSINESS: No Business to Report.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

The EMS personnel need to state that they are what they are. Not a truck or a bus. If they are an ambulance, medic unit, etc, they need to state they are an ambulance or medic.

John Senft stated the city is hosting workshops of International Fire Codes.

Next week, the ICC code will have up for vote the Sprinklers in residential properties issue. They are trying to strip the code from the IRC. If you are able, and can vote, get down there to vote.

Just a reminder to everyone that Billy G. is coming to Windsor Twp. Joe has tickets available now. You can also purchase them at the Fire School.

If your station wants to renew their Low band license, send a notice to Steve. This issue has been tabled till next month.

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, November 16th, 2009 at the York County Fire School.

Motion was made by Bob Bowman to adjourn the meeting. 2nd: Steve Buffington. Motion Passed

Sincerely,

Heather Marsteller

Heather Marsteller
Recording Secretary