

# Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

*"In Union For The Safety Of All"*

President  
Amor "Skip" Portale  
Vice President  
Ellsworth Ott  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Charles "Chick" Kisby



Secretary  
Robert A. Mellon  
Treasurer  
Stacey Wellington  
Asst. Sect./Treasurer  
Jaime C. Mellon

March 18, 2009

## **Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on Mar. 18, 2009 at the Folsom Fire Dept. by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by a moment of silence. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

## **Opening Remarks and Introduction of Host Chief**

Chief Smith of the Folsom Fire Company was introduced. Chief Smith welcomed all to Folsom.

## **In Attendance**

Roll call was taken by Secretary Robert A. Mellon who reported a quorum was present.

## **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the Feb. 18, 2009 meeting, as sent to the member companies.

## **Report of Treasurer**

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report of the Treasurer as read by Treasurer Stacey Wellington.

## **Special Presentation**

A presentation was made by Glenn Liepe, Div. C Warden NJ Forest Fire Service, on the current operational plans for this fire season. Glenn also reported on the available grants.

## **Committee Reports**

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. summarized the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on Mar. 6, 2009 in Somers Point.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold Jr. summarized the minutes of the Mar. 9, 2009 meeting of the board. Much discussion was held with Freeholder Sutton concerning the need for an engine at the training center. Research will be conducted into obtaining grants. The board is requesting that all departments be on the look out for a decent used engine. The need for additional lighting on the training center grounds is also being researched.

Fire Coordinator – Ed Vincent emphasized the need to contact the sheriff department whenever a fire becomes a 3<sup>rd</sup> alarm situation so that the fire coordinators can be properly notified. Ideally the sheriff department should be contacted during a 2<sup>nd</sup> alarm event so that the fire coordinators can receive an informational bulletin. Ed wants all departments to remember that you must be fully NIMS compliant in order to receive grants. This includes all municipalities adopting a mutual-aid agreement by resolution. Ed reported that the Tanker Task Force Bravo Division will have a meeting on March 23 and a drill on March 29. Ed reported on a recall involving MSA air packs.

Public Relations – Fire Marshal Harold “Whitey” Swartz reported on the valor award nominations. The valor award committee will meet on March 19. Whitey reported on the poster contest. Whitey reported that he sent out update requests for the informational book and received some back. Whitey will send out the updates to all departments. There will be a memorial service at the Fallen Heroes’ Monument on Sunday Oct. 4, 2009 at 13:00. The Fire Expo will be on Saturday Oct. 10, 2009 at 12:00. Whitey reported that the Cape Atlantic 200 Club brunch had 1,100 in attendance and Rudolph Giuliani was an excellent speaker. Next year will be the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 200 Club’s Service and Brunch. Whitey reported on the county fire reports and name plaques to be ordered for the training center office doors. Whitey reported that the painting of the Firemen’s Home is now hanging at the training center. Thank you to Oscar Dutch for obtaining the donation of the painting.

Training –Director of Training, Mike Corbo reported FFI is running with 51 students and FFII is running with 15 students. ICS I-200 is offered during FFII; anyone who needs this class may sit in on it (There is a \$20 charge if EMT CEUs are needed). Mike reported on new courses being offered including Emergency Response to Hybrid Vehicles, Modern Vehicle Extrication Hazards, and Emergency Vehicle Operations. Mike reported on the condition of the burn building and the upcoming QTO/QSO/ODI training. Mike reported on the Fire Service Women of New Jersey retreat scheduled for April 24 and 25 at the training center. Mike reported that a Level I Fire Officer course will be offered in the late spring. Mike reported that any departments using the training center at night must be done evolutions by 22:00 and off the grounds by 23:00. Mike reported on the currently scheduled classes. Mike reported on the autism training that is now mandated by the state. Mike reported that the instructors should get new gear after the county budget is approved.

NJ Firemen’s Assn. –Henry Schoenstein reported that the Firemen’s Home budget has been approved. Henry reported that the delegate and life member expenses for the convention have been completely overhauled. The expenses are to be determined by three separate expenses (Lodging, Meals, and Transportation Mileage). Mileage is to be determined by distance to Wildwood from each county seat. Atlantic County is 48 miles @ \$0.30 per mile or \$29.00 for round trip mileage. Meals are calculated at \$70.00 per day for a total of two days at \$140.00. Lodging is calculated at \$125 per night for three nights or \$375.00. A receipt must be kept on file at each local association for the lodging payout and will be audited during the five year audit for compliance. Mileage and Meals may be paid without receipts. This creates a maximum of \$544.00 (\$29 + \$140 + \$375(receipt on file)) for each Atlantic County Delegate. Delegates will subject to a \$100.00 penalty for not attending their county caucus. Life Members would be entitled to one-half (1/2) of the delegates allowance. Henry reported that two Sgt-At-Arms will be posted at each entrance to the convention and will be checking for IDs. One county will be randomly selected to do an end of session attendance if it is deemed necessary.

ACFFA Dinner (Ladies’ Night) – Wayne Dilks reported that the dinner is scheduled for 18:30 Friday April 17, 2009 at Careme’s, Atl. Cape Comm. College. Please RSVP as soon as possible, preferably before April 1st.

### **Communications**

There were no communications to report.

### **Deferred Business**

There was no deferred business to act upon.

### **New Business**

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association purchase door plaques for the training center utilizing the remaining monies in the monument fund.

### **Bills**

The bills were read by Treasurer Stacey Wellington. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

### **Applications for Membership**

There were no applications for membership to act on.

### **Good of the Order**

Ed Vincent reported that Oscar Dutch's knee surgery went well. Oscar sends thanks for all the well wishes he has received.

Everyone wished Ted Reinhard a Happy (belated) 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Ted thanked everyone for the card he received and the good friendship he has always enjoyed.

Dennis Sharpe reported that Jim Garth is recovering from surgery and the next Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Meeting will be on Mar. 31, 2009 in Minotola.

Thank you to the Folsom Fire Department for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 22:00. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on Apr. 15, 2009 at the Training Center. This will be the annual Valor Awards and Poster Contest winners. Full dress uniform is requested as the public will be in attendance.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

## Date Clearing

Sun. Mar. 29, 2009	13:00	Somers Point VFC #1	Save A Life Fundraiser
Sat. Apr. 4, 2009	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Fri. Apr. 17, 2009	18:30	Careme's @ Atl. Cape Comm. College	Annual ACFFA Dinner
Sun. Apr. 19, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sun. Apr. 19, 2009	07:00	Landisville VFC	Breakfast
Sat. May 2, 2009	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sun. May 10, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sun. Jun. 7, 2009	12:00	Dorothy VFC	52nd Annual Chicken Bar-B-Que
Sun. Jun. 14, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sun. Jun. 14, 2009	12:00	Mays Landing Golf & Country Club	Bargaintown VFC #2 Phoenix Fund Golf Outing
Sat. Jun. 20, 2009	11:00	Scullville VFC	75th Anniversary Parade & Housing
Sun. Jul. 12, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Thurs. Jul. 23, 2009	20:00	Port Republic VFC	Meeting of Atl. Co. Firemen's Death Benefit Fund
Thurs. Aug. 6, 2009	16:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds	ACFFA @ Atlantic County 4H Fair
Fri. Aug. 7, 2009	16:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds	ACFFA @ Atlantic County 4H Fair & Firefighter Competition
Sat. Aug. 8, 2009	09:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds	ACFFA @ Atlantic County 4H Fair
Sun. Aug. 9, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Tues. Aug. 18, 2009	19:30	Egg Harbor City	Atl. Co. - NJ State Firemen's Caucus
Fri. Sept. 18, 2009	13:00	Wildwood	NJ State Firemen's Convention
Sat. Sept. 19, 2009	10:00	Wildwood	NJ State Firemen's Convention
Sun. Sep. 20, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sun. Oct. 4, 2009	13:00	Atl. Co. Fire Training Center	Memorial Service @ Fallen Heroes Monument
Sat. Oct. 10, 2009	12:00	Atl. Co. Fire Training Center	2009 Fire Expo - Please Encourage Public to Attend
Sat. Oct. 10, 2009	12:00	Greentree Golf Course	Elwood VFC Golf Tournament
Sun. Oct. 11, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sat. Nov. 14, 2009	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Sun. Nov. 15, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sun. Dec. 13, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat

(Please email your event info to [robert.mellon@atlanticcountvfireassoc.org](mailto:robert.mellon@atlanticcountvfireassoc.org))