

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

President
Amor "Skip" Portale
Vice President
Ellsworth Ott
2nd Vice President
Charles "Chuck" Kisby



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

April 15, 2009

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on April 15, 2009 at the Atlantic County Fire Training Center by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by a reading of the "Firefighter's Prayer" lead by Howard Berchtold. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced. President Portale welcomed all to the meeting which serves as the eighteenth annual Valor Awards presentation and the fourth annual Poster Contest Awards presentation.

Opening Remarks and Introduction of Host Chief

The meeting is being hosted by the Atlantic City Fire Department. Acting Chief Dan Tamburilla welcomed everyone to the annual valor awards and expressed the gratitude that the Atlantic City Fire Department has for the county fire departments and those departments that provide mutual aid to Atlantic City. President Portale introduced Atlantic County Executive: Dennis Levinson. Mr. Levinson offered thanks to the county fire service on behalf of the freeholders and himself. Mr. Levinson introduced the remainder of the guests; including US Congressman Frank Lobiondo's representative: William Carson, Atlantic County Freeholder: Frank Sutton, Atlantic County Freeholder: Frank Giordano, Mayor of Margate: Michael Becker, and Atlantic County Public Safety Director: Vince Jones. Mr. Levinson read the annual report of fire call totals for 2008 in Atlantic County. All invited guests expressed their honor for being in attendance and appreciation for the fire service as well as the honored guests who will receive awards.

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 Mar. 18, 2009 meeting, as sent to the member companies.

Bills

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Dispensing of Business

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to dispense with the remainder of the regular business for the evening.

Poster Contest Awards and Valor Awards

President Portale again welcomed all to the awards presentation. The presentation of the 2008-2009 Poster Contest Awards was made by Executive Committee Chairman, Howard Berchtold Jr. and Atlantic County Fire Marshal, Harold "Whitey" Swartz.

Poster Contest Winners:

- Grand Prize - Stephanie Castillo, Ventnor City Schools
- Division #1 - Madison McCourt, Spragg School, Egg Harbor City
- Division #2 - Bianca Pettigrosso, Ventnor City Schools
- Division #6 - David Palmieri, Spragg School, Egg Harbor City

Valor Awards Committee Chairman Harold "Whitey" Swartz and Executive Committee Chairman, Howard Berchtold Jr. presented each of the Valor Award recipients with their awards from the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association. This is the eighteenth year of the Valor Awards presentation.

Valor Awards Recipients:

Meritorious Citation - Lt. Chris Hornig, Margate City Fire Dept.

Unit Citations:

ACFD Engine 2 Platoon 1 – Capt Elwood Faunce III, FF Darryl Fonville, FF Albert Mallen, FF Andrew Hunt

ACFD Ladder 2 Platoon 2 – Capt. Steven Marshall, FF John Callahan, FF John Slattery, FF James McDevitt

ACFD Special Ops Unit – Capt. Thomas Smith

ACFD Engine 2 – Act. Capt. Jeffery Schlundt, FF Brian Wiener, FF Kenton Brookings, FF Martin Basso

ACFD Rescue 1 – Capt. Thomas Culleney, FF Timothy Kuras, FF John Varallo, FF Michael Giercyk

ACFD Ladder 1 – Capt. Robert Soifer, FF Jeffery Lidle, FF Edward Woods Jr., FF Ryan Cooke

A narration of the actions performed by the recipients, involving three different incidents, was given by officers from the Margate City and Atlantic City Fire Departments. The award recipients were also presented with Congressional, State of New Jersey, and Atlantic County Certificates of Appreciation.

Good of the Order

Executive Committee Chairman, Howard Berchtold Jr. thanked all elected and appointed officials for attending the ceremonies.

President Portale introduced Master Sergeant Alexander and Master Sergeant Cadavid of the United States Air Force. Master Sergeant Alexander reported that the Atlantic City Fire Department assisted the 177th NJANG Fire Dept. with a recent compliance inspection involving confined space operations. The 177th received an outstanding rating after the inspection was complete. Master Sergeant Alexander presented certificates of appreciation to the Atlantic City Fire Dept. Special Operations and Training Divisions thanking them for the assistance.

Atlantic County Fire Marshal, Harold “Whitey” Swartz offered posters of the grand prize poster to all for posting throughout the county.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting and awards presentation was adjourned at 21:00. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on May 20, 2008 in Pomona, Galloway township.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Date Clearing

Sat. May 2, 2009	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sat. May 9, 2009	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner
Sat. May 9, 2009	16:00	Laureldale VFC	Spaghetti Dinner
Sat. May 9, 2009	09:00	Bayview VFC	Flea Market
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
Sun. Jun. 14, 2009	13:00	Bayview VFC	Tower 26-49 Housing
Sat. Jun. 20, 2009	11:00	Scullville VFC	75th Anniversary Parade & Housing
Fri. Jun. 26, 2009	09:00	Farmington VFC	Annual Egg Harbor Twp. Blood Drive 09:00-18:00
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. Sept. 20, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sat. Sept. 27, 2009	12:00	Dover Intl. Speedway	Fundraiser – National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
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