

# 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 "Chuck" Kisby



Secretary  
Robert A. Mellon  
Treasurer  
Jaime C. Mellon  
Asst. Sect./Treasurer  
Cindy L. Badger

April 21, 2010

## Call to Order

The regular meeting of the of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on April 21, 2010 at the Atlantic County Fire Training Center by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by an Invocation by the Chaplain of the Association, Reverend Thomas Sweeny. 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 nineteenth annual Valor Awards presentation and the first annual recognition of firefighters with fifty or more years of active service.

## Opening Remarks and Introduction of Host Chief

The meeting is being hosted by the Atlantic City Fire Department. Chief Dennis Brooks 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.

## 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. 17, 2010 meeting, as sent to the member companies.

## Dispensing of Business

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

## Bills

The bills, totaling \$9,141.48, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- 367-Royal Chemical-cleaner-\$226.83 / 368-This & That Uniforms-shirt-\$36.00 / 369-Coaching Systems-CEVO material-\$70.63 / 370-Careme's-ACFFA dinner-\$505.71(reimbursed by attendees) / 371-Mike Corbo-FDIC-\$1,490.80 / 372-Mike Corbo-soapstone,welders-\$44.88 / 373-Lauren Crooks-FFI material-\$18.36 / 374-Robert Mellon-ID printer ribbons-\$214.20 / 377-Lowes-tools-\$48.66 / 378-Thomas Sweeny-30 life member cards-\$300.00 / 379-Butterhof's Farm-straw-\$712.50 / 380-IFSTA-books-\$437.16 / 381-ICC-NJ fire code & binders-\$1,331.20 / 382-Lowes-equipment-\$59.35 / 383-Intl. Society of Fire Svc. Instructors-membership-\$75.00 / 384-Home Depot-lumber-\$993.59 / 385-NJ Dept. of Community Affairs-code books-\$1,000.00 / 388-This & That Uniforms-shirts, uniform bars-\$313.00 / 389-Chris Kislow-kerosene can-\$17.99 / 390-Walt's Primo Pizza-class food-\$569.52 / 387-IRS-\$294.79 / 391-IRS-\$381.31 (Accountant will request IRS abate fees)

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## Introduction of Awards

President Portale welcomed all to the awards presentation and explained the idea of "50" year service awards that was created and made possible due to the hard work of Fire Marshal Whitey Swartz. President Portale introduced the guests; including US Congressman Frank Lofronzo's representative: William Carson, Atlantic County Freeholder Chairman: James Curcio, Atlantic County Freeholders: Alisa Cooper, Frank Giordano, and Frank Sutton, Atlantic County Public Safety Director: Vince Jones, Atlantic County Surrogate: James Carney, and Atlantic County Undersheriff: Ted Kammer. 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. President Portale then introduced ACFFA Executive Committee Chairman, Howard Berchtold Jr., Howard thanked all of the ACFFA officers, executive committee members, and instructors that make this association work. Howard thanked all of Atlantic County Government for working closely with the ACFFA in order to properly train all Atlantic County firefighters. Howard remarked on the number of active firefighters with 50+ years of active service, thirty of them being honored tonight.

## "50" Year Service Awards

The presentation of the "50" Year Service Awards was made by Executive Committee Chairman, Howard Berchtold Jr. and President Amor "Skip" Portale. All honorees received a uniform bar, gold life member card, and framed certificate from the association. All honorees also received a certificate of special congressional recognition from Congressman Frank LoBiondo, a joint assembly commendation from NJ Assemblymen John Amodeo and Vincent Polistina, a certificate of achievement from the Atlantic County Board of Chosen Freeholders, a plaque from Atlantic County Executive Dennis Levinson, and a certificate of 50 years distinct service.

"50" Year Service Award Recipients:

### ABSECON

Oscar Dutch  
Fred Green, Sr.  
R. Thomas Hunter, Jr.

### BARGAINTOWN

Franz Bohle  
Ken Smith

### BAYVIEW

Joseph Akeret  
Howard Conover  
William T. Hand  
Joseph Victor

### CARDIFF

John "Jack" Flanagan  
Thomas E. Sweeny

### COLOGNE

Bill Will

### GERMANIA

Carl Hanselmann  
Louis Hanselmann  
Walter Roesch

### LANDISVILLE

Joseph Rosemont

### LINWOOD

Ellsworth Ott

### MAYS LANDING

George Spera

### MINOTOLA

Leo Haugen

### NORTHFIELD

Eustace "Jake" Eggie

### OCEANVILLE

Glenn Blackman

### POMONA

Willard Grunow  
Charles Guenther  
Carl Tortello

### RICHLAND

Bart Deluca

Leo Petrini

### SOUTH EGG HARBOR

Edward Lampe  
Daniel Nardoza

### WEYMOUTH

Dan Lash, Sr.

### ATLANTIC COUNTY FIRE

### MARSHAL

H.J. "Whitey" Swartz

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President Portale congratulated all 50 year service award recipients and thanked all of the families that supported them for all of those years. Executive Committee Chairman Berchtold congratulated all recipients and requested that they proudly wear the service bar on their uniforms and looks forward to seeing all of them at future meetings.

## Valor Awards

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 nineteenth year of the Valor Awards presentation.

Valor Award Recipients:

Atlantic City Fire Dept.: B.C. Michael Mooney – Meritorious Award

Atlantic City Fire Dept.: FF Sven Peltonen – Meritorious Award  
Police Ofc. Phillip Davidson – Class Two Award

Atlantic City Fire Dept.: Capt. Doug Qwen – Meritorious Award

Atlantic City Fire Dept.: Capt. Shannon Stinsman – Class Two Award  
FF Jeffrey Bird – Class Two Award  
FF Gregory Rando – Class Two Award

Atlantic City Fire Dept.: Capt. John Brenner – Class Two Award  
FF Vincent Carleo – Class Two Award  
FF Larry Frambes – Class Two Award  
FF Thomas Murray – Class Two Award

Mays Landing Fire Dept.: Capt. Mark Jenigen – Unit Citation  
Capt. Shawn Slocum – Unit Citation  
FF Mike Perri – Unit Citation  
FF David Paloff – Unit Citation  
FF Richard Arroyo – Unit Citation

Ventnor Fire Dept.: John G. Gigliotti, Civilian

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

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## **Good of the Order**

Executive Committee Chairman, Howard Berchtold Jr. and President Amor "Skip" Portale congratulated all recipients of the evening and thanked all elected and appointed officials for attending the ceremonies.

President Portale reported on news received from NJ State Firemen's Association Exec. Committeeman Henry Schoenstein. The field audit scheduled for Atlantic County on May 13, 2010 has been postponed until sometime in September of 2010.

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

## **Adjournment**

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Rev. Thomas Sweeny.

There being no further business at hand, the meeting and awards presentation was adjourned at 21:50. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on May 19, 2010 in Germana, Galloway Township.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary



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## Date Clearing

Sat. May 1, 2010	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sun. May 9, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sat. May 15, 2010	08:00	Atlantic City Int'l Airport	Large Scale Disaster Exercise w/ Local Emer. Response Agencies
Sat. May 15, 2010	09:00	Hammonton VFC #2	3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual "Second 2 None" Motorcycle Run
Sat. May 15, 2010	10:00	Smithville	Oceanville VFC @ Mayfest w/ Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, French Fries
Sat. May 15, 2010	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner
Sun. May 16, 2010	10:00	Smithville	Oceanville VFC @ Mayfest w/ Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, French Fries
Wed. May 26, 2010	18:30	Margate Performing Arts Center	Margate FD & Longport VFD Hosting NFFF Everyone Goes Home Program
Thurs. May 27, 2010	20:00	Northfield VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Sat. Jun. 5, 2010	12:00	Cologne VFC	Annual Chicken BBQ
Sun. Jun. 6, 2010	12:00	Dorothy VFC	53 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Chicken BBQ
Sat. Jun. 12, 2010	18:00	Weymouth VFC	Beef & Beer @ The Watering Hole, 18:00 – 23:00
Sun. Jun. 13, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sun. Jun. 13, 2010	08:00	Blue Heron Golf	Egg Harbor City VFC 13 <sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament
Sat. Jun. 19, 2010	14:00	Mays Landing Golf	Bargaintown VFC 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Phoenix Fund Golf Outing and/or Dinner
Sat. Jun. 26, 2010	12:30	Charlie's Bar, Somers Point	Somers Point VFC No. 2 Beef-N-Beer, 50/50, Silent Auction
Sun. Jul. 4, 2010	12:00	Dorothy VFC	75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Parade, and Celebration
Sun. Jul. 11, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Thurs. Jul. 22, 2010	20:00	Dorothy VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firemen's Death Benefit Fund
Tues. Jul. 27, 2010	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Sun. Aug. 15, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Tues. Aug. 17, 2010	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFC	Atl. Co. NJ Firemen's Assoc. Caucus
Sun. Sep. 12, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Fri. Sep. 17, 2010	13:00	Wildwood Conv. Ctr.	NJ Firemen's Assoc. Convention
Sat. Sep. 18, 2010	09:00	Wildwood Conv. Ctr.	NJ Firemen's Assoc. Convention
Sat. Sep. 25, 2010	12:00	Cologne VFC	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
Thurs. Sep. 30, 2010	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Sat. Oct. 2, 2010	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sat. Oct. 2, 2010	10:00	Smithville	Oceanville VFC @ Oktoberfest w/ Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, French Fries
Sun. Oct. 3, 2010	10:00	Smithville	Oceanville VFC @ Oktoberfest w/ Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, French Fries
Sun. Oct. 10, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sat. Nov. 13, 2010	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Sun. Nov. 14, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Tues. Nov. 30, 2010	20:00	Linwood VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Sun. Dec. 12, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Tues. Jan. 25, 2011	20:00	Absecon VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Thurs. Jan. 27, 2011	20:00	Oceanville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firemen's Death Benefit Fund

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