

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

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



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

January 15, 2014

Call to Order

The annual reorganizational meeting and memorial service of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on January 15, 2014 at the Egg Harbor City Vol. Fire Dept. by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with the 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

Chief Walter "Butch" Kienzle III, of the Egg Harbor City Fire Department, welcomed the membership and guests to Egg Harbor City and conveyed the pride felt by this department as it hosts the association for the 91st consecutive meeting and also the 90th reorganizational meeting. Chief Kienzle then introduced the line officers of the fire department.

In Attendance

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance - 59 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented - 25

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2013 meeting, as sent to the member companies.

Paying of Bills

The bills, totaling \$2,742.71, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Lowes - \$65.98 (flashover materials) / Suburban Propane - \$1,388.67 (propane) / Mike Corbo - \$344.20 (equipment maintenance) / National Pen - \$132.90 (training office supplies) / This & That Uniform - \$540.00 (thirty-six navy caps) / AtlantiCare - \$115.00 (CPR cards) / South Jersey Welding - \$26.48 (training supplies) / Thomas Sweeny - \$45.00 (engraved plaque) / Amor "Skip" Portale - \$20.32 (50/50 tickets) / Howard Berchtold Jr. - \$64.16 (frames)

Dispensing of Regular Business

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

Annual Memorial Service

President Amor "Skip" Portale welcomed all to the annual Memorial Service. President Portale welcomed and introduced guests; Robert Geist on behalf of Congressman Frank LoBiondo, NJ Assemblyman: Vincent Mazzeo, Atlantic County Freeholders: James Bertino, Alexander Marino, Ernest Corsey, John Risley, and Frank Sutton, Egg Harbor City Mayor: Lisa Jiampetti, Atl. Co. Fire Marshall: Harold "Whitey" Swartz, and Atlantic County Fire Academy Director of Fire Training: Michael Corbo.

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The annual memorial services were conducted by the Memorial Committee with Chaplain Reverend Thomas Sweeny giving the invocation and homily, everyone reciting the "A Fireman's Prayer" in unison, the memorial candles being lit by First Vice President Ellsworth Ott and Second Vice President Charles "Chick" Kisby, and the bell being tolled by Charles J. Guenther as Secretary Robert A. Mellon read the roll of the Firefighters of Atlantic County who answered their last alarm during the past year.

Firefighters of the Final Roll were:

ABSECON VOL. FIRE DEPT

James Frederick Green, Sr.
Joseph W. Lingelbach
Robert Carl Soper

ATLANTIC CITY FIRE DEPT.

Franklin W. Kemp
John Thomas Martin
Joseph A. McCabe, Jr.
Ralph McDaniel
Robert L. Reed

BARGAIN TOWN VOL. FIRE CO.

Harry Hiltner

BAYVIEW VOL. FIRE CO.

William T. Hand
Rudolph Jacobs

BRIGANTINE FIRE DEPT.

James Andrew Holl, Sr.

COLLINGS LAKES VOL. FIRE CO.

George W. Storck

EGG HARBOR CITY FIRE DEPT.

Theodore Reinhard, Sr.
Frank Fetterolf

ESTELL MANOR VOL. FIRE CO.

Seaton Thorne

ELWOOD FIRE DEPT.

Charles J. Errera, Sr.

HAMMONTON FIRE DEPT.

Lawrence A. DeMarco
Jack P. Donio, Jr.
Matthew R. Gazzara
Bernard J. Massara
Clarence A. Perna

LINWOOD VOL. FIRE DEPT.

Walter Camp
Herbert Mars
Charles Ambrose O'Donnell, Jr.
Arthur E. Risley

MARGATE CITY FIRE DEPT.

William E. Gray

NORTHFIELD VOL. FIRE DEPT.

Michael Mazza

POMONA VOL. FIRE CO.

Carl Tortello

PORT REPUBLIC VOL. FIRE CO.

Pete May

SOMERS POINT FIRE CO.

Jeffrey S. Ang, Jr.

Charles Headley

SOUTH EGG HARBOR VOL. FIRE CO.

Lawrence E. Naylor

VENTNOR CITY FIRE DEPT.

Bill Donnelly

WEYMOUTH VOL. FIRE CO.

Alfred Petrosch
John R. Gorman

The "Striking of the Four Fives" was tolled on the bell by Ronald Garbutt Jr., "The Lord's Prayer" was sung by Berchtold family, "Taps" was played by Buglers Heather Berchtold and Joe Ward, followed by the playing of "Amazing Grace" by the Sandpipers. The memorial service closing prayer was conducted by Chaplain Rev. Thomas Sweeny.

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Special Presentations and Installation of Officers for 2014

President Amor "Skip" Portale read the following statement.

"Good evening and welcome to the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association's annual reorganization meeting. Since 1923 the primary duties of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association has been to provide training to all firefighters from Atlantic County. While at the same time offering training to firefighters from throughout the state. This would not be possible without the assistance of Atlantic County Executive Dennis Levinson and his staff, The Board of Chosen Freeholders, Fire marshal and Academy Director Whitey Swartz, Director of Emergency Preparedness Vince Jones, and the Director of Training Mike Corbo and his dedicated staff of instructors. 2013 was another very productive year for the association. Some of the accomplishments achieved in 2013. We trained eighty-three new firefighters from twenty-seven different departments in Atlantic County and thirty-two new firefighters from out of county departments. This year's classes included firefighters from the counties of Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Salem, Ocean, Camden, and Gloucester. In 2013 the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association held over sixty-eight different classes with nine hundred eighty-four firefighters being trained through academy offered courses and one thousand four hundred twelve students being trained overall. Of those numbers, two hundred sixty-two students were from out of county. The total number of instructor hours incurred by our thirty-two instructors in 2013 was three thousand forty-two hours. As in years past, we were able to operate within our budget. We conducted the annual memorial service to honor our fallen firefighters. We once again recognized firefighters from Atlantic County with fifty or more years of service. We sponsored the annual valor awards ceremony and the firefighter's competition at the Atlantic County 4H Fair. This fall we graduated our first New Jersey State Accredited Pro Board firefighter one class. We also partnered with the West Virginia University to deliver a training program on alternate fuels and advanced technology vehicles. Through a grant the university received from the United States Department of Energy we were able to provide training to firefighters from Atlantic, Camden, and Cumberland counties at no cost. We were able to acquire additional turn out gear at no cost to county government or the taxpayers of Atlantic County to meet our ever increasing training needs. As we begin 2014, I look forward to working with County Executive Levinson and the county government as well as the members of the executive committee and the Director of Fire training Mike Corbo to help keep the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association one of the best in the state."

President Amor "Skip" Portale read the following statement.

"On the third Wednesday in January of 1923, a meeting was held at the Egg Harbor City firehouse. Chief Henry W. Breder of the Egg Harbor City Fire Department chaired the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to form the Atlantic County Firemen's (now Firefighters') Association. There were six companies in attendance who will forever be known as the charter members. They were Absecon, Egg Harbor City, Hammonton, Mays Landing, Pleasantville, and Somers Point. Every third Wednesday in January, since that night in 1923, we have returned to Egg Harbor City Fire Department to hold our annual reorganization meeting. In addition to hosting our meetings, Egg Harbor City Fire Department has also hosted our 25th and 75th anniversary celebrations. Tonight's meeting is the 91st consecutive meeting hosted by the Egg Harbor City Fire Department and the 90th annual reorganization meeting."

President Amor "Skip" Portale presented a plaque to Egg Harbor City Fire Chief Walter "Butch" Kienzle III and Egg Harbor City Mayor Lisa Jiampetti to commemorate the occasion.

Presented to
Egg Harbor City Volunteer Fire Department
On the occasion of our association's
90th Annual Reorganization Meeting
-Each hosted impeccably by your department-

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Your constant support and endless contribution since the founding of the Association at your fire station in Egg Harbor City on January 17, 1923 have been a major factor in our accomplishments and successes. With Thanks and Admiration
The Atlantic County Firefighters' Association
January 15, 2014

Executive Committee Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. welcomed all those in attendance on behalf of the Executive Committee. Howard thanked all of the association officers and committee chairmen for the hard work that they do. Howard thanked all of the county government, including the Freeholders and the Dept. Heads, which have provided much assistance with keeping the association going strong. Howard offered thanks to all Atlantic County firefighters for their continued dedication and those that are regularly attending the meetings of this association as either members or delegates allowing the business of the association to be accomplished. Howard noted that he is proud to have again been elected to his 19th year as Chairman of the Executive Committee and that Oscar Dutch Jr. has been reelected Vice Chairman for 2014. Howard reported that the plan to have 501(c)(3) status by the end of 2014 is moving forward. Howard spoke on the history of the Egg Harbor City Fire Department and the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association. Howard reported that the relationship included many dedicated individuals that supported both organizations through the years including Ted Reinhard, whom just passed in August of 2013. Howard reported on the dedication Ted had for both organizations and the many things he accomplished over the years. Howard call upon Hope Reinhard, all of the Reinhard family present and Chief Kienzle. The Reinhard family and the Egg Harbor City Fire Department were each presented a framed plaque from the association to forever honor Ted for his dedication and accomplishments. A third plaque will be placed at the training center.

In Memory and Honor
Ted Reinhard, Sr.

February 1, 1929 – August 23, 2013

Ted Reinhard, Sr. served his community in extraordinary fashion in various capacities as a member of the Egg Harbor City Fire Department, including Chief. Ted's commitment to the fire service extended far beyond his local community, devoting years of service to the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association.

While serving as a longtime executive committeeman and as President of the Association for fifteen years, Ted may be best known as an instructor for the Fire Academy, sharing his knowledge, wisdom and humor with thousands of new firefighters.

In 1993, while serving as President, Ted saw one of his dreams come true, dedication of the Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center. The equipment room in the Training Center is named and dedicated to Ted for another of his many legacies, procuring the donation of hundreds of thousands of dollars of State of the Art equipment for the training of firefighters. He wanted, and made sure, that Atlantic County had the best!

The residents of Atlantic County, our Association and the entire fire service community will forever be indebted to Ted for his exemplary service and unending contributions.

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All of the invited guests addressed the membership and expressed their appreciation for all that the firefighters do for their local communities and for Atlantic County.

Atlantic County Freeholder Frank Sutton installed the following into office for the year 2014:

President	Amor "Skip" Portale
1 st Vice President	Ellsworth Ott
2 nd Vice President	Charles "Chick" Kisby
Secretary	Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer	Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Secretary-Treasurer	Cindy L. Badger
Chaplain	Rev. Thomas Sweeny
Sergeants-at-Arms	Charles Harlan, Wayne Dilks, William Donath
Executive Committee:	Howard Berchtold Jr., David G. Buzby, Levon "Lefty" Clayton, Rick Coraluzzo Sr., Oscar Dutch Jr., James Garth Sr., Charles J. Guenther, R. Thomas Hunter, Charles R. Winkler III

Good of the Order

The "Striking the Four Fives" history was shared by President Portale who noted that a handout was included with the program to help share this tradition dating back to the New York City Fire Department as long ago as 1865.

The annual Atlantic County Firefighter's Association Dinner is scheduled for Friday, April 11, 2014 at Careme's, Atlantic Cape Community College. Cost will be \$40.00 and all interested should contact Wayne Dilks at (609)927-8362.

The Firefighter I and II graduation ceremony has been scheduled for 7:00 PM Wednesday, February 5, 2014 at the Training Center.

The next Firefighter I class starts on Tuesday, February 11th and Firefighter II starts on Monday, March 10th.

Thank you to the Egg Harbor City Fire Dept. 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 was adjourned at 21:00. The next meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on February 19, 2014 in Longport.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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Date Clearing http://www.atlanticcountyfireassoc.org/ACFFA_Date_Clearing.htm

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Wed. Feb. 5, 2014	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Firefighter I & II Graduation Ceremony
Sun. Mar. 16, 2014	10:30	St. Nicholas Church (10:30) & Borgota	Cape Atlantic 200 Club Memorial Service (10:30) & Brunch (12:00)
Sat. Mar. 29, 2014	09:00	Cedar Creek High School (Laureldale VFC)	"Step Up and Lead" Fire Service Leadership Seminar
Fri. Apr. 11, 2014	18:30	Careme's @ Atlantic Cape Community	Annual ACFFA Dinner
Sat. Apr. 12, 2014	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Sat. May 3, 2014	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Tues. May 6, 2014	08:30	Neschanic Valley Golf Club	New Jersey Firemen's Home 2014 Golf Outing
Sun. Jun. 1, 2014	12:00	Dorothy VFC	57th Annual Chicken BBQ (12:00 - 20:00)
Tues. Aug. 12, 2014	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	New Jersey Firemen's Association Atlantic County Caucus
Fri. Sep. 12, 2014	13:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 13, 2014	10:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Nov. 8, 2014	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
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ACFFA Meetings

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Wed. Feb. 19, 2014	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Mar. 19, 2014	20:00	Weekstown VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Apr. 16, 2014	20:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting and Annual Valor Awards Presentation (Hosted by Margate FD)
Wed. May 21, 2014	20:00	Germania VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jun. 18, 2014	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jul. 16, 2014	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Aug. 20, 2014	20:00	Mizpah VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 17, 2014	20:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 15, 2014	20:00	Dorothy VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 19, 2014	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 17, 2014	20:00	Cardiff VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
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Wed. Jan. 21, 2015	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 18, 2015	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Mar. 7, 2014	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. May 2, 2014	19:30	Fire Museum of Southern New Jersey	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jul. 11, 2014	19:30	Landisville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Sep. 5, 2014	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Oct. 31, 2014	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
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Fri. Jan. 2, 2015	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

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Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Mar. 10, 2014	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. May 5, 2014	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Jul. 14, 2014	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Sep. 8, 2014	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Nov. 3, 2014	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Mon. Jan. 5, 2015	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association

Tues. Jan. 28, 2014	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Mar. 12, 2014	20:00	Landisville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Apr. 9, 2014	20:00	Cardiff VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. May 14, 2014	20:00	Northfield VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Jun. 11, 2014	20:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Jul. 9, 2014	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Aug. 13, 2014	20:00	Laureldale VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Sep. 10, 2014	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Oct. 8, 2014	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Nov. 12, 2014	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Dec. 10, 2014	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
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Wed. Jan. 14, 2015	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Feb. 11, 2015	20:00	Scullville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association

Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jan. 23, 2014	19:30	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 24, 2014	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
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Thurs. Jan. 22, 2015	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association