

# 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  
Jaime C. Mellon  
Asst. Sect./Treasurer  
Cindy L. Badger

April 20, 2016

## **Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:10 on April 20, 2016 at the Atlantic County Anthony "Tony" Canale 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 twenty-fifth annual Valor Awards presentation and the seventh annual recognition of firefighters with fifty or more years of active service.

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

President Portale thanked the Margate City Fire Department for hosting and introduced Deputy Chief Daniel Adams who reported that Chief Anthony Tabasso was unable to attend due a prior commitment. Deputy Chief Adams welcomed everyone to the annual valor awards and expressed how proud the Margate City Fire Department is to be the official host while also thanking the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association for arranging tonight's program. Deputy Chief Adams offered congratulations to all that will be honored tonight and noted that he is in awe of those that have served fifty years in the fire service.

## **In Attendance**

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance - 37      Total Member Departments/Companies Represented - 18

## **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2016 meeting, as sent to the member companies.

## **Dispensing of Business**

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

## **Bills**

The bills, totaling \$528.14, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- AtlantiCare - \$90.00 (CPR cards) / Firehouse Magazine - \$24.95 (1 yr. subscription) / Suburban Propane - \$325.43 (propane) / SJ Welding - \$14.26 (rental) / Tom Sweeny - \$73.50 (life member cards)

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## **Introduction of Awards**

President Portale welcomed all to the awards presentation and "50" year service recognitions. President Portale thanked all valor award recipients for having the courage to do what needed to be done and also thanked the "50" years of service recipients for having the dedication and commitment for all those years. President Portale also thanked the valor awards committee for the tough job of reviewing the nominations. President Portale introduced the invited guests; Atlantic County Freeholders: John L. Carman, John W. Risley, and Alexander C. Marino, Atlantic County Sheriff: Frank Balles, Retired Atlantic County Fire Marshal: Harold "Whitey" Swartz, and Egg Harbor City Mayor: Lisa Jiampetti. All invited guests offered words of gratitude for the local fire service and the honored award recipients. Executive Committee Chairman Howard Berchtold thanked all of the invited guests for attending, the association officers and executive committee for all of the work that they do, all county firefighters, and their families that support them, tonight's valor award recipients for being in the right place at the right time, and all of the "50" years of service recipients for their dedication to the fire service.

## **"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, an assembly commendation from NJ Assemblyman Chris Brown, a certificate of recognition from the Atlantic County Board of Chosen Freeholders, a certificate of recognition from Atlantic County Executive Dennis Levinson, and a certificate of recognition from Atlantic County Sheriff Frank Balles.

"50" Year Service Award Recipients:

William Dayton, Sr., Dorothy Volunteer Fire Company

Robert H. Ade, Egg Harbor City Fire Department

Walter R. Kienzle, Egg Harbor City Fire Department

Wayne Dilks, Linwood Fire Department

Donald L. Stauffer, Scullville Volunteer Fire Company

Harry R. Craig, Jr., Sweetwater Volunteer Fire Company (was not in attendance and certificates will be forwarded)

President Portale congratulated all 50 year service award recipients and thanked all of the families that supported them for all of those years.

## **Valor Awards**

President Amor "Skip" Portale 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 twenty-fifth year of the Valor Awards presentation and two hundred forty-two recipients have been honored since the program was initiated. Recipients have included firefighters, police officers, medical personnel, and civilians. All honorees also received a certificate of special congressional recognition from Congressman Frank LoBiondo, an assembly commendation from NJ Assemblyman Chris Brown, a certificate of recognition from the Atlantic County Board of Chosen Freeholders, a certificate of recognition from Atlantic County Executive Dennis Levinson, and a certificate of recognition from Atlantic County Sheriff Frank Balles.

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Assistant Chief Scott Winneberger, Bayview Volunteer Fire Company, highlighted the details surrounding the September 1, 2015 incident that earned recognition for Captain Scott Tilton.

Awarded to Captain Scott Tilton of the Bayview Volunteer Fire Company who responded to an extrication assignment on the Garden State Parkway. After entering the overturned vehicle, he found the driver with a severed arm. Capt. Tilton applied a tourniquet to the arm and administered a blood clotting medication. The victim was extricated and transported to the hospital.

### Meritorious Valor Award:

Captain Scott Tilton, Bayview Volunteer Fire Company

Chief Walter R. "Butch" Kienzle, III, Egg Harbor City Fire Department, highlighted the details surrounding the October 15, 2014 incident that earned recognition for three members of the Egg Harbor City Fire Department.

Awarded to members of the Egg Harbor City Fire Department for their response to a mutual aid call. Upon arrival they conducted a primary search of the residence. They discovered a semi-conscious victim who they were able to remove from the residence. They did not know at the time that there was a natural gas leak in the house.

### Meritorious Valor Award:

Captain Michael McKenna, Egg Harbor City Fire Department (was not in attendance and certificates will be forwarded)  
Captain Zach Perna, Egg Harbor City Fire Department (was not in attendance and certificates will be forwarded)  
Firefighter Zach Becker, Egg Harbor City Fire Department

### Good of the Order

President Portale thanked everyone for coming out for the presentations and thanked the Margate City Fire Department for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments. Howard Berchtold asked for a round of applause to recognize that Reverend Thomas Sweeny has now served twenty-five years as Chaplain of the Association.

### Adjournment

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Rev. Thomas Sweeny.

There being no further business at hand, the meeting and awards presentation was adjourned at 21:20. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on May 18, 2016 in Bayview, Galloway Township.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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**Date Clearing**      [http://www.atlanticcountyfireassoc.org/ACFFA\\_Date\\_Clearing.htm](http://www.atlanticcountyfireassoc.org/ACFFA_Date_Clearing.htm)

**Fire Department/Company/Association Events**

Sat. Apr. 23, 2016	15:00	Asbury United Methodist Church	Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner Benefiting Scullville VFC (15:00 – 19:00)
Sun. Apr. 24, 2016	07:00	Landisville VFC	Breakfast (07:00 – 11:00)
Sun. Apr. 24, 2016	11:00	Richland VFC	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Chicken BBQ (11:00 – 17:00)
Sat. May 7, 2016	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner (16:00 – 19:30)
Tues. May 10, 2016	08:30	Neschanic Valley Golf Club	New Jersey Firemen's Home 2016 Golf Outing
Sat. May 14, 2016	07:30	Atlantic City Int'l Airport	Triennial Emergency Preparedness Drill
Sat. May 21, 2016	15:00	Laureldale Pub & Grill	Beef & Beer to Benefit Laureldale VFC (15:00 – 19:00)
Sat. May 21, 2016	16:00	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner (16:00 - 19:00)
Sat. Jun. 4, 2016	12:00	Cologne VFC	Annual Chicken BBQ (12:00 – 18:00)
Sat. Jun. 4, 2016	15:00	Hammonton VFC Sta. 1	Annual Pig Roast (15:00 – 19:00)
Sun. Jun. 5, 2016	12:00	Dorothy VFC	59th Annual Chicken BBQ (12:00 - 18:00)
Sun. Jul. 17, 2016	14:00	Pitney Pub, Galloway	Beef & Beer to Benefit Bayview VFC (14:00 - 17:00)
Sat. Jul. 23, 2016	09:00	Mizpah VFC	3rd Annual Car Show & Family Day (09:00 - 15:00)
Sat. Oct. 8, 2016	08:00	Elwood VFC @ Mays Landing Country	15th Annual William Kennedy Memorial Golf Tournament
Sat. Nov. 12, 2016	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
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## ACFFA Meetings

### Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Wed. May 18, 2016	20:00	Bayview VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jun. 15, 2016	20:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jul. 20, 2016	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Aug. 17, 2016	20:00	Weymouth VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 21, 2016	20:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 19, 2016	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 16, 2016	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 21, 2016	20:00	Scullville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
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Wed. Jan. 18, 2017	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 15, 2017	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

### Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. May 6, 2016	19:30	Firefighters Museum of Southern New Jersey	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jul. 1, 2016	19:30	Landisville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Sep. 2, 2016	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Nov. 4, 2016	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
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Fri. Jan. 6, 2017	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. May 2, 2016	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Jul. 11, 2016	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Sep. 12, 2016	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Nov. 14, 2016	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Mon. Jan. 9, 2017	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

### Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Wed. May 11, 2016	20:00	Northfield VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Jun. 8, 2016	20:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Jul. 13, 2016	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Aug. 10, 2016	20:00	Laureldale VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Sep. 14, 2016	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Oct. 12, 2016	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Nov. 9, 2016	19:30	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Dec. 14, 2016	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
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Jan. 11, 2017	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Feb. 8, 2017	20:00	Scullville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association

### Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jul. 28, 2016	19:30	Oceanville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
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Thurs. Jan. 26, 2017	19:30	Bargaintown VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 27, 2017	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association