

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 18, 2017

Annual Memorial Service

The annual memorial service of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association commenced at 20:00 on January 18, 2017 at the Egg Harbor City Volunteer Fire Department and was conducted by President Amor "Skip" Portale with Chaplain Reverend Thomas Sweeny giving the invocation and homily, the memorial candles being lit by First Vice President Ellsworth Ott and Second Vice President Charles "Chick" Kisby, and the bell being tolled by James Garth Sr. 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:

ATLANTIC CITY FIRE DEPT.

Richard Allen
Kevin Capone
Scott DeVinney
Rodney Hill
Thomas Hulme
James Powel
Lincoln Green, Sr.

COLOGNE VOL. FIRE CO.

Robert J. Hare
Jodi S. Lynd

ELWOOD VOL. FIRE CO.

Richard (Jethro) Perez

GERMANIA VOL. FIRE CO.

Martin Garbutt

LINWOOD VOL. FIRE CO.

John Kenneth VanSant

MARGATE FIRE DEPT.

William J. Wolf

MAYS LANDING VOL. FIRE CO.

William R. Russell, Jr.
George T. Spera

PLEASANTVILLE FIRE DEPT.

Roger W. Arlan

POMONA VOL. FIRE CO.

Richard L. Calimer

VENTNOR CITY FIRE DEPT.

William Horwarth
William Scull

The "Striking of the Four Fives" was tolled on the bell by James Garth Sr., "The Lord's Prayer" was sung by the Donna Marie and Howard Berchtold, followed by the playing of "Taps" by Joe Ward. The memorial service closing prayer was conducted by Chaplain Rev. Thomas Sweeny.

Call to Order

The annual reorganizational meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:20 on January 18, 2017 at the Egg Harbor City Volunteer Fire Department by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with the flag salute. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Opening Remarks

President Amor "Skip" Portale welcomed all to the annual reorganizational meeting and introduced Chief Walter "Butch" Kienzle III of the Egg Harbor City Fire Department. Chief Kienzle welcomed the membership and guests to Egg Harbor City and conveyed the pride felt by this department as it hosts the association for the 94th consecutive meeting and also the 93rd 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 – 56 of 176 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 24 of 44

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2016 meeting, as sent to the member companies.

Dispensing of Regular Business

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

Paying of Bills

The bills, totaling \$2,535.26, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Wallace Bakely Jr. - \$13.00 (refund - hats not ordered) / MES - \$416.00 (SCBA equip. maint.) / Thomas Sweeny - \$35.00 (years of service plaque – Rick Coraluzzo) / Continental - \$2,057.00 (training mannequins) / South Jersey Welding - \$14.26 (rental fees)

Introduction of Invited Guests

President Portale welcomed and introduced guests; Michael Francis on behalf of Congressman Frank LoBiondo; Atlantic County Freeholders: Vice-Chairman John W. Risley and Alexander C. Marino; Atlantic County Surrogate: James Curcio; Egg Harbor City Mayor: Lisa Jiampetti; Galloway Township Councilman: Tony DiPietro; Atl. Co. Fire Marshal: David Buzby; and Atl. Co. Director of Fire Training: Michael Corbo.

Michael Francis reported that Congressman Lobiondo was unable to attend due to the congressional schedule. Mr. Francis reported it was an honor to attend the memorial service to honor those that have passed in the last year. Mr. Francis reported that Congressman Lobiondo is fully supportive of the fire service and that approximately 9 million dollars in Assistance to Firefighters Grants has been awarded to fire departments within the congressional district and that he will continue to fight for the grants that have assisted so many of the fire departments. Mr. Francis reported that he is available to speak with any fire department about any questions or issues and can be reached via the Congressman's Mays Landing office.

Atlantic County Surrogate James Curcio thanked everyone for the invitation to attend the memorial service and noted that it was an honor to do so and witness the tradition of honoring those that have passed. Surrogate Curcio thanked all firefighters for their service on behalf of Atlantic County Government.

Freeholder Vice-Chairman John W. Risley reported that he is honored to have been invited to attend the memorial service and Freeholder Alexander C. Marino echoed that sentiment while adding that the Board of Chosen Freeholders send their gratitude for all of the firefighters along with the spouses and children that support them.

Egg Harbor City Mayor Lisa Jiampetti noted that it is a privilege to attend the annual memorial service, which has been held in Egg Harbor City for many years, and thanked all firefighters for serving their respective communities.

Galloway Township Councilman Tony DiPietro thanked all firefighters for the service they provide and thanked all fire departments that provide mutual aid into Galloway Township when needed.

Fire Marshal David Buzby thanked everyone for their dedicated service provided to Atlantic County and supporting the Office of the Fire Marshal.

Special Presentation and Installation of Officers for 2017

President Amor "Skip" Portale read the following statement.

"Good evening and welcome to the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association's 93rd annual re-organization meeting hosted once again by the Egg Harbor City Fire Department as it has been since 1924. Beginning in 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 the Firefighters from throughout New Jersey and the tristate area. This would not be possible without the assistance of Atlantic County Executive Dennis Levinson and his staff as well as The Board of Chosen Freeholders, Fire Marshal Dave Buzby, Director of Emergency Preparedness Vince Jones, and The Director of Fire Training Mike Corbo along with his dedicated staff of 34 Instructors. 2016 was another very productive year for the Association. Some of the accomplishments that were achieved in 2016 are as follows: We continue to partner with West Virginia University in the delivery of a First Responder Training Program on Alternative Fuel Vehicles. Our academy continues to offer Pro Board & IFSAC accredited courses that are supported by the N J Division of Fire Safety. We continued our joint venture with Gloucester County Fire Academy to instruct the Heavy Vehicle Rescue course held in the spring at our academy and in the fall at theirs. We partnered with Kean University to offer the two Fire Instructor courses required by the Division of Fire Safety. With the hard work of Secretary Mellon, the Executive Committee, and attorney Lynn Catterson we were finally able to obtain the 501(c)3 tax exemption that we applied for in 2014. We also upgraded our sales tax exemption certificate to ST5 status. We Trained 839 Firefighters from 37 different Atlantic County companies and trained 63 new Firefighters from Atlantic County. This year's classes included Firefighters from the Counties of Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Salem, Ocean, Camden and Gloucester. In 2016 the Firefighters' Association held over 47 different classes with 602 Firefighters being trained through Academy offered courses and 1,441 students being trained over all. Of that number; 237 students were from out of county. The Total number of instructor hours incurred by our 34 Instructors for 2016 was 2,591. Once again, as in years past, we operated within our budget. We paid homage to 21 Firefighters from Atlantic County who answered their final alarm. We recognized 6 Firefighters from 5 Atlantic County departments with 50 or more years of service. We sponsored the 25th annual Valor Awards Ceremony with 4 Firefighters from 2 Atlantic County departments being honored for their valor. We sponsored the Firefighters Competition held in conjunction with the Atlantic County 4H Fair. This year's winning team was from the Scullville Fire Department of Egg Harbor Township. We acquired 3 new sets of Turn-Out Gear, and additional equipment, at no cost to county government, or the taxpayers of Atlantic County, to meet our ever increasing training demands. As we begin 2017, I look forward to working with Atlantic County Executive Dennis Levinson, The Board of Chosen Freeholders, Fire Marshal Dave Buzby, Director of Emergency Preparedness Vince Jones as well as the members of the Executive Committee and the Director of Fire Training Mike Corbo to keep the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association one of the best in the state.."

Executive Committee Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. thanked President Portale for continuing on as President even though he is now officially retired from the non-fire service workforce. Howard thanked all of Atlantic County Government, the association Executive Committee, Director of Fire Training Mike Corbo, and the 34 Fire Instructors for the hard work and continued effort to better the association, and all county firefighters, throughout 2016. Howard reported that he looks forward to working with everyone in 2017 and noted that the Executive Committee will be working on getting greater delegate representation at association meetings as well as a program to increase awareness of firefighter health and wellness.

President Portale unveiled a plaque to be presented to Rick Coraluzzo, Sr., on behalf of the Association Officers and Executive Committee, for having served 14 years on the Executive Committee. Rick was unable to attend and Executive Committee Chairmen Howard Berchtold accepted the plaque on his behalf and will present it to him at a future meeting. Howard noted that Rick is great firefighter and friend who has served this association with commitment for many years.

Presented To
Rick Coraluzzo, Sr.
In Recognition Of Your 14 Years Of Dedicated
Service To The Executive Committee Of The
Atlantic County Firefighters' Association
Given This 18th Day Of January 2017

Atlantic County Freeholder Vice-Chairman John W. Risley installed the following into office for the year 2017:

President	Amor "Skip" Portale
1 st Vice President	Ellsworth Ott
2 nd Vice President	Charles E. "Chick" Kisby, III
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., Levon "Lefty" Clayton, Oscar Dutch Jr., James Garth Sr., R. Thomas Hunter Jr., Walter R. "Butch" Kienzle III, Charles H. "Chuck" Mackintosh, Eugene M. Sharpe, C. Robert Winkler III

President Portale noted that Howard Berthold has now started his 33rd consecutive year serving on the Executive Committee.

Good of the Order

The next Firefighter I class starts on Thursday, February 9th at 7:00 PM.

President Portale congratulated Chaplain Rev. Thomas Sweeny for having now served 57 years in the fire service and 50 of those years with Cardiff Volunteer Fire Company.

Thank you to the Egg Harbor City Volunteer 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 was adjourned at 21:00. The next meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on February 15, 2017 in Longport.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Mon. Jan. 30, 2017	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Firefighter I Graduation Ceremony
Sat. Feb. 25, 2017	18:00	Fred & Ethel's Lantern Light Tavern, Smithville	Beef & Beer to Benefit Oceanville VFC
Fri. Apr. 7, 2017	17:00	Hammonton VFC Sta. 2	6th Annual Firehouse Fish Fry Dinner
Sat. Apr. 8, 2017	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Sat. May 6, 2017	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner (16:00 – 19:30)
Sat. Oct. 7, 2017	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner (16:00 – 19:30)
Sat. Nov. 11, 2017	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
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ACFFA Meetings**Atlantic County Firefighters' Association**

Wed. Feb. 15, 2017	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Mar. 15, 2017	20:00	Weekstown VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Apr. 19, 2017	20:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center (Host -Margate FD)	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting and Annual Valor Awards Presentation
Wed. May 17, 2017	20:00	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jun. 21, 2017	20:00	Richland VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jul. 19, 2017	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Aug. 16, 2017	20:00	Cologne VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 20, 2017	20:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 18, 2017	20:00	Dorothy VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 15, 2017	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 20, 2017	20:00	Farmington VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
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Wed. Jan. 17, 2018	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 21, 2018	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Mar. 3, 2017	19:30	Cardiff VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. May 5, 2017	19:30	Firefighters Museum of Southern New Jersey	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jul. 7, 2017	19:30	Landisville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Sep. 1, 2017	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Nov. 3, 2017	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
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Fri. Jan. 5, 2018	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Mar. 6, 2017	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. May 8, 2017	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Jul. 10, 2017	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Sep. 18, 2017	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Nov. 13, 2017	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Mon. Jan. 8, 2018	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Wed. Feb. 8, 2017	20:00	Scullville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Mar. 8, 2017	20:00	Minotola VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Apr. 12, 2017	20:00	Farmington VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. May 10, 2017	20:00	Northfield VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Jun. 14, 2017	20:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Jul. 12, 2017	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Aug. 9, 2017	20:00	Laureldale VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Sep. 13, 2017	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Oct. 11, 2017	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Nov. 8, 2017	19:30	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Dec. 13, 2017	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
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Tues. Jan. 23, 2018	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
February 2018-----	-----	-----	NO MEETING-----

Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

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
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