

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"



January 17, 2024

Annual Memorial Service

The annual memorial service of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association commenced at 19:30 on January 17, 2024 at the Egg Harbor City Volunteer Fire Department and was conducted by President Charles J. Mackintosh and Executive Committee Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. with Chaplain Deacon Richard Maxwell giving the invocation and homily, the memorial candles being lit by 1st Vice President Dennis C. Sharpe and 2nd Vice President William L. Merola Jr., and the bell being tolled by Robert Winkler 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 DEPARTMENT

Robert B. Nixon
Robert W. Fields
Francis L. DeFeo, Sr. "Frank"
Albert J. Russo
Robert P. Barlow "Bob"
Thomas Channell

BRIGANTINE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Donald Gary Swain "Cappy"
Thomas Cleon Matthews

COLOGNE FIRE COMPANY

Alwyn C. Liepe "Buddy"

EAST VINELAND FIRE COMPANY

Robert J. Pagliughi Jr. "Bobby"

EGG HARBOR CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Danny Charles Wielandt

FARMINGTON FIRE COMPANY

John Jiacopello Sr.
William Joseph Ritchie "Skip"
Tyrell Edwards
James T. Denney "Jim"

GERMANIA FIRE COMPANY

Irwin L. Hoenes "Pete"

HAMMONTON FIRE COMPANY #2

Anthony J. Benedetto, Jr. "Whitey"
Louis Robson Marshall

HAMMONTON FIRE COMPANY #2 / NESCO FIRE COMPANY

Barton D. Gelles "Bart"

LONGPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT

Edward J. Devlin, Sr.
Wilbur M. Wiederwax "Mike"

MARGATE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Gerald M. Skelton
Vincent Joseph Jones, Jr.

MAYS LANDING FIRE COMPANY

James M. Lafferty
Robert B. Ripley "Bobby"

NORTHFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT

Robert Clarence Leeds "Bob"
Eustace J. Eggie, Jr. "Jake"

PORT REPUBLIC FIRE COMPANY

Carl W. Wilson, Jr.

RICHLAND FIRE COMPANY

Anthony H. Monfredo "Tony"

SOMERS POINT FIRE COMPANY #2

David G. Phillips

SOUTH EGG HARBOR FIRE COMPANY

Daniel Nardoza "Pop"

SWEETWATER FIRE COMPANY

Donald R. Kehrl "Don"

WEST ATLANTIC CITY FIRE COMPANY

Hugh Harkins

The "Striking of the Four Fives" was tolled on the bell by Robert Winkler, "The Lord's Prayer" was sung by Donna Marie and Howard Berchtold, followed by the playing of "Taps" by Buglers Heather Berchtold and Joe Ward. The memorial service closing prayer was conducted by Chaplain Deacon Richard Maxwell.

Call to Order

The annual reorganizational meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 19:50 on January 17, 2024 at the Egg Harbor City Volunteer Fire Department by President Charles J. Mackintosh. The meeting was opened with the flag salute. President Mackintosh then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Opening Remarks

President Charles J. Mackintosh welcomed all to the 99th annual reorganizational meeting annual reorganizational meeting. President Mackintosh asked that everyone remember and honor those that have passed. President Mackintosh introduced Chief Walter "Butch" Kienzle III of the Egg Harbor City Fire Department. Chief Kienzle welcomed the membership and guests to Egg Harbor City. Chief Kienzle then introduced the line officers of the fire department and Egg Harbor City Mayor Lisa Jiampetti. Mayor Jiampetti welcomed everyone to Egg Harbor City and expressed how proud she is having the annual memorial service in the city and extended condolences to the families that have lost a loved one. Mayor Jiampetti expressed her appreciation for the Egg Harbor City Volunteer Fire Department and all the fire departments serving Atlantic County and remarked that everyone is still riding high from the wonderful 100th Anniversary Celebration held in October.

In Attendance

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 53 of 172 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 24 of 43

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2023 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 were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Introduction of Invited Guests

President Mackintosh welcomed and introduced guests; Atlantic County Board of County Commissioners Vice-Chairman James A. Bertino, Atlantic County Board of County Commissioners John W. Risley Jr., Atlantic County Clerk Joseph J. Giraldo, Atlantic County Surrogate James Curcio, Atlantic County Fire Marshal Dave Buzby, Atlantic County Fire Coordinator Chip Stockton, and two past Presidents of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association: R. Thomas Hunter Jr. and Charles E. "Chick" Kisby. Invited guests offered words of sympathy for those we have lost.

Howard Berchtold reported that Mike Black, the Assistant Chief of the Milmay Volunteer Fire Company, was seriously injured at his daytime job as a firefighter at the New Jersey Phillips 66 Refinery in North Jersey. Howard noted that Mike has a long road to recovery.

Atlantic County Commissioners John Risley reported on the hard work of the central fire/EMS dispatch working group had resulted in the awarding of a LEAP grant to conduct a study and that the contract for the study has been awarded after reviewing several proposals. Howard Berchtold thanked John Risley, the dispatch working group, County Shared Services Coordinator Tim Kreischer, and County leadership for moving the project forward. Howard noted that now is the time to keep this momentum going as a central dispatch makes sense from both financial and operational standpoints. Howard asked everyone to support the study by advocating for the study with their municipal leadership.

Howard Berchtold thanked the Egg Harbor City Fire Department for hosting the 100th Anniversary Celebration site. Howard reported that he is looking to get some of the younger members more involved with the Association, working on advancing the training program, reviewing the Association finances, and hosting additional programs under the firefighter health and wellness initiative.

Installation of Officers for 2024

Atlantic County Board of County Commissioners Vice-Chairman James A. Bertino installed the following into office for the year 2024:

President	Charles J. Mackintosh
1 st Vice President	Dennis C. Sharpe
2 nd Vice President	William L. Merola Jr.
Secretary	Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer	Jaime C. Mellon
Chaplain	Dcn. Rich Maxwell
Sgt.-at-Arms	Charles Harlan
Executive Comm.	Howard Berchtold Jr., Levon S. “Lefty” Clayton, Marc J. Corsiglia, Kim Feinstein, Joe Hartman, Walter R. “Butch” Kienzle III, Christopher Kislow, Eugene M. Sharpe

Not present were:

Asst. Sec./Trea.	Sandra L. Walczak
Sgt.-at-Arms	Wayne Dilks, William Donath

Good of the Order

Thank you to the Egg Harbor City Volunteer Fire Department for hosting the evening.

Adjournment

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Deacon Richard Maxwell.

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 20:10. The next meeting is scheduled to be held at 19:30 on February 21, 2024 in Longport.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Mon. Jan. 22, 2024	19:00	Egg Harbor Twp. Community Center	Firefighter I Graduation Ceremony
Sat. Feb. 24, 2024	10:00	Dorothy VFC	Cornhole Tournament
Fri. Mar. 22, 2024	17:00	Hammonton VFC Sta. 2	12 th Annual Firehouse Fish Fry Dinner
Sat. Apr. 13, 2024	15:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham or Fried Oyster Dinner
Mon. Jun. 10, 2024	-----	Elwood VFC	Father's Day Sweepstakes Drawing
Tues. Aug. 13, 2024	19:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	New Jersey Firemen's Association Atlantic County Caucus
Sat. Sep. 7, 2024	12:00	Oceanville VFC	Oceanville Vol. Fire Co. 100th Anniversary Celebration (Noon-5PM) (Rain Date - Sep. 8th)
Fri. Sep. 13, 2024		Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 14, 2024		Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Nov. 9, 2024	15:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham or Fried Oyster Dinner

ACFFA Meetings

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Wed. Feb. 21, 2024	19:30	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Mar. 20, 2024	19:30	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Apr. 17, 2024	19:30	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center (Host -Margate FD)	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting and Annual Valor Awards Presentation
Wed. May 15, 2024	19:30	Germania VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jun. 19, 2024	19:30	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jul. 17, 2024	19:30	Linwood FD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Aug. 21, 2024	19:30	Laureldale VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 18, 2024	19:30	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 16, 2024	19:30	Port Republic VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 20, 2024	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 18, 2024	19:30	Cardiff VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jan. 15, 2025	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 19, 2025	19:30	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Mar. 1, 2024	19:30	Cardiff VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. May 3, 2024	19:30	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jul. 5, 2024	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Sep. 6, 2024	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Nov. 1, 2024	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jan. 3, 2025	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Apr. 15, 2024	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Jul. 15, 2024	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Oct. 21, 2024	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Jan. 13, 2025	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Tues. Jan. 30, 2024	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
February 2024	-----	-----	NO MEETING

Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jan. 25, 2024	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 25, 2024	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association