

North Greece Alarm



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The Official Newsletter Of The North Greece Fire Department

May/ June 2009

CHIEF'S REPORT

BY: Chief Paul McManus



Thank you to the banquet committee and everyone else involved in making this years banquet a success.

Kudos to Captain Steve Howcraft for a fine job as master of ceremony and all of the award recipients; thank you for your time, dedication and professionalism.

Below is a listing of the parades we currently plan on attending this year. We will need drivers for each of the parades. If you are interested please contact Lt. Scott Willis.

2009 Parade Schedule.

Town of Greece Memorial Day parade, Monday, May 25th at 1:00 p.m.

Spencerport Fireman's parade, Thursday, June 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Town of Parma 200th anniversary, Saturday, June 20th at 1:00 p.m.

Barnard Fire Department parade, Thursday, June 25th at 7:00 p.m.

Hiltons Fireman's parade, Thursday, July 23rd at 7:00 p.m.

Hamlin Fireman's parade, Friday, July 31st at 7:00 at p.m.

The Town of Greece has notified us that sections of Mill Road will be closed on Monday (April 26) for approximately 2 weeks. Lt. Phelps surveyed the situation and reports that this closing will affect NGFD Boxes 346 and 347. A memo detailing emergency response to the affected Mill Road addresses has been posted at all of the stations.

Reminder to all personnel that video or photographs are not to be taken at any scene without the approval of the Scene Incident Commander. There have been incidences in other departments where gruesome photographs or video taken at a scene

was published on the internet. One recent case that made national news occurred in Oklahoma City where the department is investigating how photos of an amputation ended up on the Web.

In closing, please try to remember to use you key FOB for call attendance. While compliance has increased quite a bit since we first implemented the use of the readers at the stations, we still have a ways to go. In the near future we hope to integrate our existing attendance protocols with future call response and attendance systems to enhance our reporting capabilities.

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A Peek Into the Past

Gene Preston, Historian

My good friend Bill Sauers, president of the Greece Historical Society recently sent me this 1926 newspaper story. He is forever digging for Greece history and whenever he comes across something about North Greece FD, he shares it with me. This particular story impressed me so that I thought I'd reprint it for present day NGFD firefighters to enjoy. I have not modified any words or spelling. This is the way reporters wrote 83 years ago.

Gene Preston, Historian

Democrat and Chronicle and Rochester Herald

Rochester, NY July 18, 1926

Days of Red Shirt Volunteer Firemen in

Rural Places Passing; Modern Structure,

Equipment Equal of City's

Fire Districts Near Rochester Illustrate Rapid Progress; Stations Elaborate.

The days of the old volunteer fire companies, when men in red flannel shirts and stiff helmets ran to fires with hand drawn hose carts are gone beyond recall. The days of the dingy rural fire houses,

many of which were merely compartments in the village hall; with a card and checker table in the truck stall and half a dozen worn and marred Windsor chairs around the wall have passed also.

Today the rural firehouse, particularly in districts not remote from the city is almost palatial in its architecture and furnishings. Its equipment is equal to that of the city fire houses. Today rural firehouses are combination club rooms and firehouse and serve both social and civic purposes admirably.

A reporter and photographer for the Democrat and Chronicle and Rochester Herold made a tour of four fire districts adjacent to the city and called at each firehouse in this territory. Those visited were the Brighton Fire Department, in Landing road; the North Greece Fire Department, Inc., at Latta and North Greece roads; the Point Pleasant Firemen's Association, in the Point Pleasant road; and the St. Paul Boulevard Fire Department, in Cooper road.

Personnel is well trained and the members of each company appear to take a personal pride in the efficiency of his organization. They devote considerable time to their services and in some instances, contribute from their own pockets to maintenance and equipment.

NOTE: Space does not allow me to cover the writings of the Brighton, Point Pleasant and St. Paul Boulevard fire department. Here is what was written about North Greece FD.

The North Greece Fire Department, Inc., which has been operating for four years, houses its equipment in a two-story frame building, rebuilt four years ago with infinite labor upon the part of many members of the department, and which represents a cost of \$3600. *The frame building mentioned was formerly the Combs Wagon and Buggy Shop later to become the George Rendsland village blacksmith shop.*

This building is elaborately equipped. It is the boast of the members of the North Greece department that they not only have one of the finest firehouses in the state, but one of the best trained organizations.

Several members distinguished in public life are members of the department and the heads of the organization point with pride to the photograph of Governor Alfred E. Smith, with the Governor's uncanceled check for membership, which adorn the wall of the comfortably furnished second floor sitting room. William H. Craig, superintendent of the Monroe County Penitentiary and Republican County Chairman James L. Hotchkins both are members of

A Peek Continued....

the department.

“We built this firehouse ourselves and we intend to keep it right,” said Chief William Schmitt. “We take pride in the establishment itself and in the record of the men.”

Although a paid attendant is employed to keep the house ship shape, each member is responsible for the care of the department. Cleanliness is almost a mania with Chief Schmitt and rarely, if ever is a speck of dust permitted to linger anywhere in the station house. Every day in the week a driver is assigned to start the motor of the truck to prove that it is ready and in tune for instant service.

Goes Anywhere.

To a question regarding the district the Greece company is supposed to guard, Chief Schmitt made the ironic reply: “We go anywhere. We shall answer alarms to those who have supported this fire company, and shall cooperate with other fire companies.” To prove this rather inclusive statement, Chief Schmitt called attention to the fact that the fire hose line turned upon the house of Libanus M. Todd at Rock Beach, Irondequoit, when fire destroyed that structure last winter was directed by North Greece firemen. Rock Beach is several miles east of North Greece. Records also show responses to Eastman Kodak Company, and Lyell Road, Gates.

Exempt's Report By: President Gregg Redmond



We had a great time at the Amerks night last month where it was also Breast Cancer Awareness night. The pink jerseys and pink ice rink were quite a sight. The Amerks lost 4-2, but our group still had a good time. Thanks again to Tom Grace, Kevin Battaglia and Frank Lombardo Jr. for putting together this event.

Mark your calendars for our next event on Thursday July 30 at 6:30 pm for the Colonial Belle. Launch time is 6:30 pm for a three hour boat ride on the Erie Canal, including traveling through Lock 32. We will have some drinks and snacks provided and then a cash bar. Members go free and guests are \$30 per person. Contact Bob Wegner for

reservations at 225-7987.

We have a speaker planned for the April 27 meeting. In May, we do not meet due to Memorial Day. Frank Lombardo Sr. and Glenn Falkner are planning and arranging the June picnic meeting. Mark your calendar for June 22 for our picnic at the Pavilion and July 27 for the Town-wide Exempts meeting at Braddock Bay Park at 5:30 pm.

We are investigating a wine tour or dinner theater show for the Fall. Any suggestions or volunteers would be appreciated. Softball season begins May 5, so come out and cheer on the team. Have a happy and safe Summer.

Although extremely proud of the furnishings and equipment of their house, the heads of the North Greece company are more proud of the fact that the entire work of organization, incorporation and rebuilding of the structure that formerly stood on the site, was contributed free by company members. No taxes were levied on the district served to obtain funds. Materials were purchased out of a fund that was raised from voluntary subscriptions of company members and persons living in the town.

A tiled bathroom, kitchen, sleeping quarters for four, sitting room furnishings with easy chairs, smoking sets and reading lamps, and a club room equipped with a billiard table, radio outfit, and small library are some of the features included in this “member-built” volunteer fire station.

NGFD Call Stats:

**1087 Calls for the year
thru April 27, 2009**

Board of Directors' Report

By: Chris Angelucci, Director

Over the last year, the five year planning committee has been working to generate programs and processes to move the fire department forward as an active, successful organization serving our residents. The ride-a-long program was one output from this committee. Recently the group has been looking at ways to make our current members more active in calls, training, and socially as a way to build camaraderie both among the volunteers and between the volunteers and career staff. We have put together some ideas ourselves but are at a point where we'd like to ask you, our members for some ideas. The goal of any program would be one of the following: bring volunteers into the stations; make families more involved; getting volunteers together outside of calls, drills, and meetings; and finally, raising the public's awareness of the department's commitment to the residents.

Toward this goal, I am asking each of you to forward me ideas that you believe would help attain the goals above. In the way of examples to stimulate your thoughts, we have the following items: bowling team, pool tournament, family fun night, pancake breakfast. PLEASE EMAIL ME YOUR IDEAS at cange-lucci@northgreecefd.com We will be forming a special committee to hash through the ideas and bring forward a plan and schedule of events. It is our sincere desire to see this department be success-

ful and stimulating participation will bring us a long way toward that goal.

In other matters, the Board and pavilion manager continue to work on ways to make our pavilion more successful and efficient. Several programs are underway in this regard. Furthermore, Director Gunter has begun working on a review of our By-laws to modernize them. This will likely be a yearlong process.

The Board wishes everyone a happy and safe summer. As I've stated before, if you ever have any questions about the administrative side of the department feel free to contact one of the Directors, the President or Vice President.

Drill Team Report

By: Richard Douglas

The NORTH GREECE LIL' SQUIRTS drill team will be back on the track this racing season and we need your help! If you don't mind getting a little wet, pushing your physical abilities, being part of a team and making a hydrant in 3.4 seconds, maybe the drill team is for you.

We had a successful season last year and hope to improve on that this year.

We will be doing fund raising

Important Dates To Remember

May 03, 2009:
Pavilion Work Detail.

June 22, 2009:
Exempt's Meeting.

July 26, 2009:
NGFD Family Picnic.

September 28, 2009:
Exempt's Clambake.

October 03, 2009:
NGFD Clambake.

October 23, 2009:
Adult Halloween Party.

October 24, 2009:
Kid's Halloween Party.

October 26, 2009:
Exempt's Meeting.

November 23, 2009:
Exempt's Meeting.

December 19, 2009:
Kid's Breakfast W/ Santa.

events such as a golf tournament on May 31st and a Paintball Event (date to follow), along with sponsorships.

We plan on practicing Monday and Thursday nights, so hopefully we can attract some ball players.

For more information about firefighter racing check out FD RACING.COM, and www.geocities.com/lil_squirts/. Please contact Doug Bartell 529-2238 or Rick Douglas 503-1727 if you would like to help. We need your support. Thanks

DISTRICT AFFAIRS

By: Al Camp



- Al Camp.....Chairman
- Frank Lombardo..... Vice-Chairman
- Walter Bedford.....Commissioner
- Sherman Manchester....Commissioner
- Kenneth Preston.....Commissioner
- Kari Dutton.....Secretary
- Christina Gretzinger.. Personnel Asst.
- William Miller.....Deputy Secretary
- William Sommers.....Treasurer
- Raymond Di Raddo.....Attorney

Well there's no doubt about it – Spring is here once again. It's good to see the green grass at the stations and the ability to open up the buildings due to the warmer temperatures. Spring is a time of new growth and that's no different for the North Greece District. Our communications area renovation project is now completed and we now have a facility that will serve our residents and the Agencies we service for many years. The training facility has some new apparatus and I am sure that Lt. MacKenzie has a good plan in place to fully utilize the center this year.

Speaking about a time of new growth, we are fortunate at North Greece to have the ability to offer a wide range of personal growth

opportunities. This may be a good time to form a plan for personal growth, be it physical training in our exercise room, or professional development through courses and training, both firematic as well as EMS, offered both internally and across the area. As volunteer or career, we all contribute in our own way, and we should also take something away from our service. Personal and professional growth is something that will serve us throughout our careers, and opens the door to other opportunities.

To the newer members of our organization – both career and volunteer – this new start for you is a good time to develop a plan for your personal growth in our Organization. Where do you

see yourself in 5 years? Where do you see the Fire Service in this time frame? How can you plan to best position yourself to be able contributor as the Fire Service evolves? Skill development, leadership courses, academic courses, areas of specialization, all are important and will provide you with tools and abilities that will serve you on the job for years to come and provide you with life skills that will enable your personal life as well.

So, take a tip from Spring and talk to your Officers about developing training opportunities for your new personal growth, I am sure that both you and our Organization will benefit. Stay safe.



Ladies Auxiliary Report

By: Michelle Camp

Hi Everyone and Happy Spring!

The auxiliary is excited to welcome four new members this year. They are Annie Angelucci, wife of Chris, Mary Camiolo, wife of Joe, Rebecca Meyers, wife of Patrick and Johni Wegner, wife of

Bob.

A few of the things we've been involved in, or we are working on, include serving at the Men's Meetings and Ex-empts Dinners, hosting the Annual Easter Egg Breakfast, nominating and electing our 2009-2010 Officers and Board members and selecting a 2009 schol-

arship winner.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the auxiliary or would like to attend a meeting to see what we do, you are always welcome. Please contact Maureen B r y n i a r s k i a t mbrynial@rochester.rr.com.



Fire Police Report

By: Capt Keith Meyer



real responsibility rests on you. Watch your back and never assume what the driver is thinking or how they will react.

Our meetings are still every 3rd Monday at headquarters. Each meeting we pick a scenario and go over problems or concerns with some of the prior or possible incident locations. The meetings are OPEN to all members and we would be more than happy to see some officers or members there. Your input and ideas would be appreciated so we could make our jobs and scenes safer.

Two of our family have had recent surgeries. Ed Roberts and Bill Miller. Numerous members of the squad have checked on them and both are doing well.

Be safe out there. ■

Well I would like to start off with some "Kudos" to some members of the Department. First off let me say to Group 2 of the career staff GREAT JOB on the very difficult rescue at the lawn roller incident. They showed great teamwork, working skills and determination. That victim is very lucky to have had that crew on scene. I would have been very proud to have worked with any one of them on my engine when I was a Firefighter.

Yup more atta-boys. First to Jack Spry on 40 yrs as a volunteer. Thanks Jack for dedicating

so much of your time and life to our community and fire family. Next the folks I think deserve recognition are Ken Preston, Jim Dill, Ray Barnard, Bill Miller, Bud Morgan, Gaylon Louth, Frank Lombardo, Jack Spry and Ed Roberts. These Fire Police officers had the highest on the squad and some of the highest in the Department. Way to go guys.

Well spring is upon us. Be aware of the glare of the sunshine and spring showers causing distraction of the drivers out there. Just because we have the new safety vests and our Fire Police are out there doing their best to protect our scenes, the

Explorer Post 702 Report

By: Conor Teresi, Explorer Chief

In the past few months Post 702 has been active with many drills and focusing on upcoming events.

The Post would like to thank the department for the recognition of our post at the annual department banquet. Myself and our Post Treasurer, Tyler Voellinger, as well as our advisors enjoyed attending the banquet in which we enjoyed the food and company of fellow department members.

We would also like to thank the department as well as all the individual members who have as-

sisted in taking part of the post and helping further our education and involvement in the department.

In March we participated in the 'Scouting For Food' collection at Apollo Middle School.

At the beginning of April we help stuff 4,500 plastic eggs with over 13,000 Hershey's Kisses and help out at the annual Easter egg hunt.

We had a successful drill on the April 16th in which we learned about ladders and exterior operations. On the 23rd we

visited the Rochester Coast Guard station located in Charlotte where we were given a tour of the facilities and its operations. We have an upcoming drill on fire scenarios.

Now that summer is on its way the post looks forward to conducting more drills outside in which we will be able to do more hands on activities and hopefully working more with the trucks.

Our post continues to grow in numbers as we are at 18 members. We encourage all youth in the North Greece area in attending and being a part of our program. ■

North Greece Lil Squirts Drill Team Golf Tournament



When: Sunday May 31, 2009

Where: Victor Hills Golf Course

Time: Registration at 9am

Shotgun start at 10 am

Cost: \$70 per person

Format: 4-person Scramble

Longest drive and closest to the pin contest!

50-50 Raffle!

Rain or Shine!

18 Holes Golf & Cart
Coolers are allowed!

- Hotdogs, Hamburgers, and Italian sausage before teeing off and on the turn.
 - 6 - 8 oz. Choice NY Strip Steaks
 - Stuffed Baked Chicken
 - Baked Ziti
 - Salt Potatoes
 - Hot Vegetable
 - Tossed Salad
 - Fresh Fruit
 - Rolls and Butter

Deadline for entries and payment is May 17, 2009

Contact: Rick Douglas W-588-2388/C-503-1727
