

North Greece Alarm



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The Official Newsletter Of The North Greece Fire Department

September/ October 2009

CHIEF'S REPORT

BY: Chief Paul McManus



Hard to believe it's time to write the fall article when it was such a short summer.

First let me start by thanking those who volunteered to be deployed as part of the August 10th New York State Fire Mobilization and Mutual Aid Plan activation to assist Erie and Chautauqua counties. A request did come into NGFD from the County Coordinators office to deploy a Storm Emergency Response Unit as part of the second wave of deployments. Our team, comprised of 3 career and volunteer staff, departed at 6:00 am the day of deployment and were able to return later that night.

As previously announced, the Squad has been moved to station #3 for a trial period to compliment the Quint response on fire related calls, and to respond to EMS calls. The response guidelines have been revised to add the squad on most fire related calls with the Quint. The officers will review the pros and cons of this move in the near future.

Calls year to date indicate that EMS calls for service continue to make up a majority of our calls, (approximately 60 % during August); therefore a committee has been formed to evaluate the current operations of our EMS program, as well as develop a future plan forward. Lt. John Short will oversee the committee and indicates they will be reviewing our current EMS response, level of care NGFD provides (ILS, EMT, CFR, and CPR), use of Squad 2797 and EMS training. If you have any input you would like to add, please contact a member of the committee. (The volunteer liaison is Captain Patrick Meyers).

On July 27, 2009 the North Greece Fire Department had eight (8) volunteers graduate from the Monroe County Fire Academy Firefighter 1 Class. We congratulate and welcome the following new recruits: Alan Dreschler, Tom Boulis, Chris Barna, Stacey Ryan, Erica Kerr, Jonathon Ford, Michelle Hernandez and James Redden.

At the August department meeting we reviewed that we have extended our southerly boundary for volunteer membership to Ridgeway Ave. (between Mt. Read and Manitou Road) in hopes of soliciting applicants who can serve a minimum of two – 4 - hour shifts per month with the Volunteer Ride-along Program. The requirement for 2-4 hour shift per month is in addition to the required training/drills and monthly meeting.

Recently a meeting was held with the chiefs of NGFD, Barnard and Lakeshore to explore ideas to improve shared services to our respective communities. We are currently reviewing opportunities for shared services in training,

Inside

<i>DISTRICT AFFAIRS</i>	2
<i>BASEBALL TEAM REPORT</i>	2
<i>BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT</i>	3
<i>GREECE FD MEMORIAL SERVICE</i>	3
<i>FIRE POLICE REPORT</i>	4
<i>LADIES AUXILIARY REPORT</i>	4

Chief's Report Cont...

mutual aid and assistance as well as fill-ins to the City of Rochester.

We are also in the process of implementing across the three departments, common NIMS terminology, and hope to provide Incident Command training and exercises to the officers of the three departments in the near future. We also expect that we will be able to conduct some combined training evolutions of our volunteer staff by the 4th quarter of this year.

The North Greece Fire District is currently training staff to specialize in Ice, Water and Rope rescue. Lt. Chris Helfer has been given the responsibility of SOP & training development as well as determining if any interested and qualified volunteers want to become members. If you are interested please contact Lt. Helfer directly or contact one of the other officers for further information.

In closing, we now have a draft Pandemic Flu Plan that could be operationalized should such an event occur. Part of our PanFlu planning includes issuance of identification cards to the career and volunteer staff. We hope to begin the process of issuing these ID cards during the month of September. More information on this will be announced and/or posted in the very near future.



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

Due to the time of year, the District article for this issue of the Alarm is dedicated to the remembrance of the attack on the Pentagon, the attack on United Airlines Flight 93, and the attack and destruction of the World Trade Center Towers on September 11, 2001. This column is dedicated to those who lost their lives – some victims of chance and location, others in a selfless act of courage as they made the ultimate sacrifice to save others.

The initial numbers are indelible: 8:46 a.m. and 9:02 a.m. - the times that the towers were struck.

Time the burning towers stood: 56 minutes and 102 minutes.

Time they took to fall: 12 seconds.

Total number killed in attacks (official figure as of 9/5/02): **2,819.**

Number of firefighters and paramedics killed: **343.**

Number of NYPD officers: **23.**

Number of Port Authority police officers: **37.**

I am sure that each one of us can remember where we were and what we were doing on that day and at that time on September 11, 2001. **We need to continue to remember every Patriot's Day – we can never forget.**



Baseball team completes another season

The North Greece baseball team has completed another interesting season in the Monroe County Volunteer Firemen's Slo-Pitch League. The team finished the regular season with a record of 4 wins and 9 losses. We lost to Scottsville in the first round of the playoffs. We had a great time playing in a very competitive league and enjoyed the camaraderie of the team and that of the rest of the teams in the league. We would like to thank all of the fans that came out and cheered us on throughout the sea-

son. We had a good turnout at most of our games. Thanks also to Glenn Falkner for keeping our refrigerator full of pop, Greg Redmond for going to the league meetings and Tom Piazza and Dave Fadden for maintaining the field. Members who played on this year's team include: Nick Allen; Marino Cutarella; Al Drechsler; Jason France; Steve Frisbee; Tom Grace; Jonah Larabee; Todd Marino; Tom Piazza; Paul Puckett; Gregg Redmond; Nick Ruffle; Jon Terry; Tim Voight; Ricky Wasmuth and Bob Wegner.



Board of Directors' Report

By: Chris Angelucci, Director

As we enter fall and move toward colder weather, we hope that everyone had a relaxing summer and that you had a chance to spend some good times with your families and friends. At least in my house, summer is extremely short, at least the part where we can really get away. Kids' sports are a killer! Now we get back into the school routine.

I'd like to thank Al Camp for his great efforts at arranging, setting up, working, and coordinating the Sam's Club fundraisers. Without Al's efforts, these events would simply not happen. I'd also like to thank those members who gave their time to work the events. Through these people's efforts, we raised approximately \$1,000 to donate to Journey Home Hospice on Long Pond Rd. I only wish more people would step up and give at least a few hours toward these things. Remember – belonging to this organization is not just about calls, meetings, and training. It's about making the Department successful in many ways, including having us be seen in the community.

My thanks go out to Rick Douglas for stepping up to run the new retention committee. I am hopeful that we will soon see some new programs for getting people involved including our families.

This issue of the Alarm comes right as we enter into our annual election time. As I have in the past, I'd like to strongly encourage all eligible members to consider a run for one of the offices that will be elected in December. Nominations will happen in November. If you are interested in a leadership role but are unsure of the requirements, I encourage you to get in touch with our vice-president Carolyn Arnold. We welcome new faces and ideas into these roles.

Finally, we will be putting together a recruiting committee. The intent of this group will be the proactive, aggressive recruitment of new volunteers. The five year planning committee created some membership goals that we need to strive to obtain in order to remain an active force. This committee will be separate from the committee currently run by Lt. France whose primary goal is getting new members inducted via the interview, application, and approval processes. The new team will develop a new recruiting strategy which could include advertising, interaction with community organizations, and other tactics. I hope to see this team become active this year, with a full 100% effort in 2010. We will be looking for a leader for this group. If this interests you, please see me.

Greece Firemen's Memorial Service

By: Bud Morgan

Each year, with the observance of Fire Prevention Week, a period of time is set aside to honor those of the fire service who have preceded us. It was largely through the efforts of these brothers and sisters that the fire service was able to become what it is today.

This year our Memorial Service will be hosted by the Lake-Shore Fire Dept. It will be held on Sunday, Oct. 4th, at their Long Pond and Edgemere Dr. station, beginning at 1:00 PM.

Please put this meaningful and important event on your calendars and plan on attending along with any guests you may wish to invite. Let's all stand together as we present a final salute to those who served so faithfully.

Class A uniforms are in order or Class C if you do not have one.

NGFD Call Stats:

**2364 Calls for the year
thru September 2, 2009**

Fire Police Report

By: Capt Keith Meyer



North Greece Auxiliary Report

By: Michelle Camp,
Co-President, NG
Auxiliary

Well the Fire Police has been busy with some lengthy calls, assisting other Depts. with traffic control during parades and helping with Dept fund raisers.

We also had a guest speaker at our last FP meeting from U of R Medical Center. The speaker was there to give us advise, allow us to vent and open up discussion with some of the problems we have been having lately with some citizens at traffic points. We had invited all career and Volunteer officers to attend. We would like to thank Commissioner Bedford and Dispatcher Boehl for attending. The speaker gave us tips and ideas on how to attempt to defuse some of the titrates that we are on the receiving end of at many of the calls when traffic is diverted. Probably the best thing that the meeting accomplished is when one of the District employee's that attended stated to me that they had no idea just how much abuse we have to take out their at times. Gave them a new light on us I think.

Now I know I have discussed this issue before but you all know how dear to my heart this is. And that is BROTHERHOOD. Were has it gone in the fire service. Why is it disappearing so bad in the fire service. This is NOT a **paid vs volunteer** issue. It is apparent or should I say not apparent in all aspects of many Fire Depts. now days.

Brotherhood is not dead, at least not in my heart and soul. The only change is the new generation of Firefighters. 30 years ago, when myself and the other brothers that were hired with me were the "new generation" brotherhood to the then "old guys". Now that I'm and old guy (yes I finally admit it) it's my responsibility to pass on what we have learned in our careers and what was taught to us by the past 'old guys'. The passing of the brotherhood torch to the new men and woman of our Fire Family begins with me/us. I remember in the "day" when a Brother was hurt, he didn't worry about his lawn. When he lost a family member, he didn't stand alone at the funeral service or wake. When he was having a hard time, he always had someone to talk to and help him thru it.

The Brotherhood may be fading. But is not gone completely, and I truly believe it can be salvaged. It is simple as saying hello to a newbie. A wave and thanks to a fire policeman stuck in the rain for another hour as you go back to the station. Going to a softball game and cheering for the team with your Department name on its jersey. Attend a drill and mingle with EACH OTHER. This is not directed to any one group, but too all that wear the badge and do the best dang job in the world. **Being a FIREFIGHTER.** Whether for free or pay.....

This fall the auxiliary will be hosting a pancake breakfast fundraiser. The tentative date is Saturday, November 14. Please watch for more information about tickets and entertainment for this event.



Important Dates To Remember

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.





North Greece F.D.

Halloween Party

Halloween Costume Party.

October 23, 2009 6 P.M.

(Adults 21 years and older only)

Includes Pizza & Wings

Snacks & Beverages.

\$20.00/couple—\$10.00 single

SEE g. Dimora, J. Amo, J. Williams, F. Lombardo Jr., or H. Boehl for tickets

NGFD Children's Halloween Party

Date: SATURDAY October 24, 2009

Location: NGFD Pavilion, 3666 Latta Road

Start Time: 12:00 PM.

Hot Dog lunch to be served at 1:00 PM.

Cost: FREE!!!

Open to All FD Personnel and their Children, grand children, and step children, up to age 16.

There will be fun games and prizes for every child.

This is a costume party so please dress for fun and excitement.
