

Toms River Fire Dept

2010 Officers Swearing In & Awards Ceremony

December 10, 2009

Welcome

Thank you for attending our annual **Toms River Fire Department** Officers swearing in and awards ceremony held at the Pleasant Plains Fire Department.

Master of Ceremonies

Ex-Chief, John H. Lightbody, CFEI, President District 1, Fire Officers Association

TR Township Fire Commissioners

District #1:

Chairman – George Convery
Vice Chairman – Douglas Foley
Clerk – Robert Romano
Treasurer – Craig Ambrosio
Purchasing Agent – Mark Autenreith

District #1, Business Administrator – William Golkiewicz

District #2:

Chairman – Kevin Britton
Treasurer – Gary Licknack
Clerk – Robert Blank
Assistant Clerk – Ken Taylor
Commissioner @ Large – Roger Joseph Brown
District #2, Business Administrator - Darlene Gargano

2010 FIRE OFFICERS

Station 25: Toms River Fire Company One

Chief – Gary Dye
Assistant Chief – John Gonzalez
Captain – Brian Timmerman
1st Lieutenant – John Genovese
2nd Lieutenant – Anthony Mansuedo

Station 26: Toms River Fire Company Two

Chief – Jason Spiecker
Assistant Chief – Jeff Cirz
Captain – Ed Storino
1st Lieutenant – Pat Beebe
2nd Lieutenant – Bruce Miller

Station 27: Ocean Beach Fire Company Three

Chief – Tim Cook
Assistant Chief – Michael Barile
Captain – Bill Giordano
1st Lieutenant – Rich Dziadosz
2nd Lieutenant – David Zeh

Station 28: East Dover Fire Company Four

Chief – Everett Seaman
Assistant Chief – Robert Abrams, Jr.
Captain – Richard Tutella
1st Lieutenant – James Golden
2nd Lieutenant – Tim Zeiser

Station 29: Silverton Fire Company

Chief – Robert Sinnott, Jr.
Assistant Chief – Gustavo Baxes
Captain – Gary Tattersall
1st Lieutenant – Roger Joseph Brown
2nd Lieutenant – Michael Cocco

Station 30: Pleasant Plains Fire Department

Chief – Brian Doyle
Assistant Chief – Dave George
Captain – Ryan Parente
1st Lieutenant – Jim Magovern
2nd Lieutenant – Dan Roman



7:00 pm - 7:30 pm Assemble and slide show
7:30 pm – Welcoming and opening.

Firefighters enter hall accompanied by the Shamrock & Thistle Pipe Band.
(All uniforms stay standing and at attention upon entering hall at your seat)

Flag Salute (All uniforms presenting arms).

National Anthem sung by Anna DeBlasio, Toms River High School South
(All standing / uniforms presenting arms)
(All to be seated after national anthem)

Introduction of Commissioners and

Fire Prevention Bureau Chief

John F. Lightbody

Fire Academy

Directors, Andy Jensen, & John Novak

District #1, Fire Chief

John Novak

President, Dist #2, Fire Officers Assoc

Chief Brian Doyle

President, Dist #1, Fire Officers Assoc

John H. Lightbody

United States Congressmen John Adler

Field Representative Ben Giovine

Toms River Township Mayor

Tom Kelaher

Toms River Township Committee

Councilmen Brian Kubiel

Councilmen Mo Hill

Toms River Chief of Police

Michael Mastronardy

Invocation – Ex-Chief Sam Seaman
(All to stand after invocation)

Memorialize deceased Fire Fighters.

Moment of silence, then reading of names

Bell ringing by Ex-Chief Tom McCann

(All uniforms to stand at attention)

Amazing Grace-Shamrock & Thistle Pipes

(All Uniforms presenting arms at second verse of Amazing Grace)

(Band marches out, all be seated after)

Speakers

Toms River Twp. Mayor –Tom Kelaher

United States Congressman – Field Representative Ben Giovine

Keynote Speaker -Dr. Harry Carter, MIFireE, CFO, is a veteran **chief** fire officer, an internationally-known municipal fire protection consultant, author, writer, and lecturer. He currently serves as a fire commissioner and is Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners for Fire District #2 in Howell Township, New Jersey.

Swearing in of Company Officers

Commissioners swear in each station, Station 30 going first as the host station.

Swearing in of Fire Police

District 1 Commissioner George Convery

District 2 Commissioner Robert Blank

Recognition of probationary members

Probies –please stand and be recognized

Length of service awards

Called by each year and Fire Fighter

All to remain in front for a group photo.

Presentation of Awards:

- Firefighter of the year by station
- Citizen Heroism Award
- Award of Merit (4), Station 27
- Heroism Award (2), Station 27
- Recognition of Lieutenant Mike Cardinale, United States Navy, Bronze Star Medal Recipient, Station 28
- *All Military Members to Rise and be Recognized*

Benediction – Ex-Chief Sam Seaman

Closing remarks – President Lightbody

LIST OF AWARDS RECIPIENTS

Five Year of Service

Station 25

Joseph Brander
David Burns

Station 27

Paul Stayskal

Station 29

Charles Garrison

Station 26

Bruce Miller
David Rice

Station 28

Brian Mount
David Singleton

Station 30

Susan Hafner

Ten Years of Service

Station 27

Michael Barile
John Delesandro III
Glen Thompsen

Station 29

Lou Bader
Brian Geoghegan

Station 28

James Gillespie

Station 30

Melanie Henry

Fifteen Years of Service

Station 26

Stacey Spots

Station 28

Paul Baumgarten
Thomas Goodwin
Richard Tutela

Station 30

Kevin B Britton
Robert Raia

Twenty Years of Service

Station 25

Ray Sackmann
Kenneth Stevens

Station 29

William Dorman
Tom Leonard

Station 28

William Riccardi

Station 30

James Hafner

Twenty Five Years of Service

Station 27

Alfred Kurtz

Station 29

Arthur Mason
John Zimmerman

Thirty Years of Service

Station 26

Patrick Reynolds

Station 28

Ken McLaughlin

Station 27

James McIntyre

Station 30

Robert Blank
Richard Heroy

Thirty Five Years of Service

Station 25

Mark Autenrieth

Kieran Flynn

Forty Years of Service

Station 30

Kevin W Britton

Forty Five Years of Service

Station 25

Thomas O'Neill

Fifty Five Years of Service

Station 25

Charles Newman

Firefighter of the year

Station 25: - Louis Uffer

Station 26: - Ken Hamilton

Station 27: - Gerald Schaal

Station 28: - Joseph Catapano

Station 29: - David Guziejewski

Station 30: - Robert Kowalski

Citizen Heroism Award

Patrick Massaroni

4 Awards of Merit to Station 27

Firefighter Bill Durru

Firefighter Steve Dyl

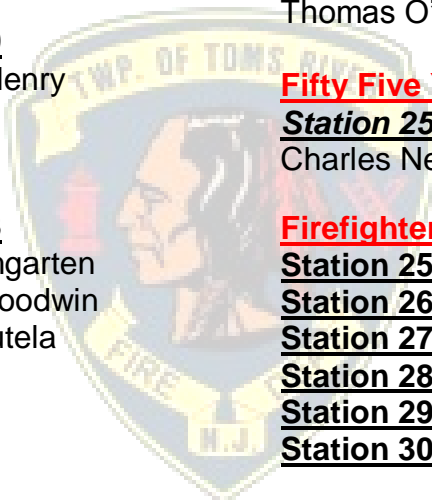
Firefighter, Chauffer, Daren Elliot

Firefighter Frances Stanislaski

2 Heroism Award to Station 27

Lieutenant, David Zeh

Firefighter Gerald Schaal



FIRE FIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Awarded to a firefighter who has performed above and beyond the duties expected of firefighters. This award is to recognize the firefighter who continually provides the utmost in service to the Citizens of Toms River. Each fire company may select one of its members to receive this award.

Station 25: - Louis Uffer

The Fire Officers of Toms River Fire Company #1, proudly Nominate Firefighter Louis Uffer for the Toms River Fire Officers Association, Firefighter of the year award.

Lou's unselfish dedication to the company and his sworn oath as a firefighter is both admirable and commendable. Firefighter Uffer's commitment to our company is unlike many others. He responds immediately to every single call for which he is in the area and available, especially during the late evening and overnight hours, despite his numerous employment and family responsibilities. Lou's response can be counted upon regardless of the type of call, no matter how many times we may have responded to the same call in the recent past. Lou is always there, ready to serve.

Lou responds, because he truly cares. He has explained in the past of his desire to be a firefighter from childhood. While his career path did not afford him this opportunity in a career department, he was presented with the opportunity to serve the residents of Toms River Twp. by becoming a Volunteer Firefighter in Toms River Fire Company #1, approximately 5 years ago. He seized this opportunity and makes every effort to serve proudly and set a good example for others. Lou has stated that his motivation is to help others. He described his motivation by posing a rhetorical question. What if that repeat or nuisance alarm in the middle of the night is an actual emergency and someone's life depended on the fire department's immediate response, and there is not a prompt an adequate response? How could we look at ourselves in the mirror after waking from our "good nights" sleep?

It is our Honor and Privilege to nominate Firefighter Louis Uffer for the Toms River Fire Company #1, Firefighter of the year award.

Respectfully submitted

Gary Dye
Fire Chief, Toms River Fire Co. # 1

Station 26: - Ken Hamilton

On behalf of me, and the Officers of the Toms River Volunteer Fire Company #2, we are proud to present Ken Hamilton, with the Toms River Twp. Fire Officers Association 2009 Firefighter of the year award.

Ken, exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism, as he has earned Life Membership in both the Toms River Fire Co. #2, and the Toms River First Aid Squad. Ken's service to this fire company began in 1988 as a firefighter; Since then, he has held many Executive positions, including President. Ken was also a certified Dive Master, and served as our dive Captain for many years.

As a funny side note, he also helped us get a new truck..... well half of one at least, after crashing 2631 in 1994 when responding to a fire; this resulted in the entire drivers side of the truck being replaced (as well as the crews undergarments).

Prior to his service to this fire company, Ken joined the New Jersey Army National Guard in 1983, serving in artillery, moving to supply, and then he became a Flight Medic. In 2002, Ken served in a humanitarian mission in Panama, and then was deployed to Iraq in 2004. There, he was a helicopter door gunner, providing support to military convoys traveling through Baghdad to ensure their safety. Unfortunately, during his tenure in the Middle East, Ken suffered from a debilitating medical condition, ultimately resulting in a medical discharge in 2008, at the rank of E-8 Master Sergeant.

Upon returning to his home in Toms River, Ken also returned to his second home in the Fire Company. However, his war injuries prevented him from serving as a Firefighter. Not letting this stop his desire to serve, Ken became a member of the Fire Police. Since becoming a Fire Police member Ken has maintained a very high response percentage, and is a welcome sight to responding personnel, as he usually has the scene secured before the trucks arrive.

For Ken's selfless dedication to not only this town, but also to this country, it is my honor to nominate him for this award. He is a true Volunteer and a True American.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Spiecker
Fire Chief, Toms River Fire Co. #2

Station 27: - Gerald Schaal

On behalf of myself, and the Officers of the Ocean Beach Volunteer Fire Company, we are proud to present Firefighter Gerald Schaal, with the Toms River Twp. Fire Officers Association 2009 Firefighter of the year award.

Firefighter Schaal was appointed to the position of Dive Captain during the year 2009 and has far exceeded my expectations for the position. He has displayed leadership and diligence in the performance of his duties.

Firefighter Schaal has initiated several training programs for the dive team, which is elevated the effectiveness of our team.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Cook
Fire Chief, Ocean Beach Volunteer Fire Co. #3

Station 28: - Joseph Catapano

On behalf of myself, and the Officers of the East Dover Volunteer Fire Company, we are proud to present Firefighter Joseph Catapano, with the Toms River Twp. Fire Officers Association 2009 Firefighter of the year award.

Firefighter Catapano has shown the utmost in his ability to educate and train, our future firefighter explorers from Station 28, and other Explorer posts within the township, utilizing his training education and experience as a career Assistant Fire Chief with the Department of Defense, Navy Lakehurst Fire Department.

Firefighter Catapano has taken every step to assist all of our younger members, he is one who will never leave a question unanswered, nor does he fail to present new ideas, to enhance the effectiveness of our company. It seems as though Firefighter Catapano never leaves our firehouse. He can be found assisting our officers with the planning and execution of drills, our engineers with fire apparatus maintenance, as he is always ready to lend a hand and offer advice.

With our department, Firefighter Catapano has far exceeded our expectations, he exemplifies the Volunteer Firefighter. The Officers of my department are fortunate to have the benefit of Firefighter Catapano's training education and experience, which continually complements my staff and the members of the East Dover Fire Company.

Respectfully submitted,

Everett Seaman
Fire Chief, East Dover Fire Co. # 4

Station 29: - David Guziejewski

On behalf of myself and the Officers of the Silverton Volunteer Fire Company, I would like to take the opportunity to nominate Firefighter David Guziejewski to receive the Toms River Twp. Fire Officers Association, "firefighter of the year award".

The officers of the Silverton volunteer fire Company feel that David, although a new member to our organization, has demonstrated a willingness to get involved, in not only fire responses, but all other areas that it takes to run an organization.

David is always eager to learn as much as he can about the vehicles, equipment, tactics, and the fire service in general.

David's positive attitude and life experiences are strong assets not found often, and one that you hope other members will follow. He is always the first to volunteer for a task or assignment and his only reward is seeing that it is done or carried out correctly and to its full extent. As Dave progresses in the fire Co. he would be a great mentor to have to newer members that join the fire company.

In closing, I am not only proud to know David Guziejewski but equally to nominate him for this prestigious award.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Geoghegan
Fire Chief, Silverton Vol. Fire Co.

Station 30: - Robert Kowalski

On behalf of myself, and the Officers of the Pleasant Plains Volunteer Fire Department, we are proud to present Firefighter Robert Kowalski, with the Toms River Twp. Fire Officers Association 2009 Firefighter of the year award.

Firefighter Kowalski is a four-year veteran of the fire department. Since joining Firefighter Kowalski has proven his commitment to excellence through his dedication in all aspects of the Fire Department. Firefighter Kowalski has demonstrated his passion for firefighting through his

positive attitude and daily commitment to the Fire Department. Nobody in this Company comes to a call or drill with more energy and excitement than Firefighter Kowalski.

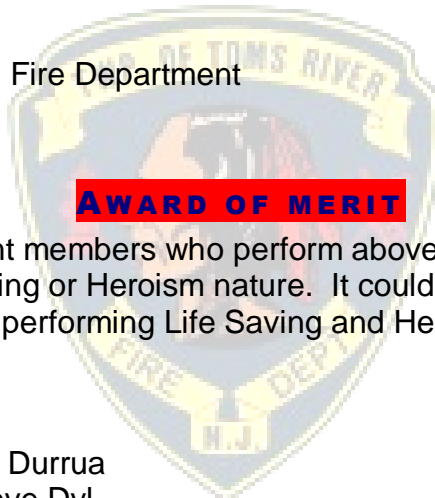
Firefighter Kowalski has taken an active interest in training our future firefighters as an advisor of our explorer post.

Firefighter Kowalski is always eager to learn as much as he can and we all know that we can count on Firefighter Kowalski to never leave a question unasked. Firefighter Kowalski has taken it upon himself to continuously train for and compete in several Firefighter Challenges in various states. This training not only prepares him for the competitions but to better serve those he swore to protect.

Recently Firefighter Kowalski was elected to serve as corresponding secretary for 2010 due to his dedication, loyalty and hard work. Firefighter Kowalski is a professional who takes duties in our company seriously while maintaining an ability to have fun and make someone smile.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Doyle
Asst. Chief, Pleasant Plains Vol. Fire Department



May be awarded to department members who perform above and beyond the call of duty. Action might be of the Life Saving or Heroism nature. It could also be issued to the members who gave support to members performing Life Saving and Heroic Acts.

Station 27:

1. Firefighter Bill Durruea
2. Firefighter Steve Dyl
3. Firefighter, Chauffer, Daren Elliott
4. Firefighter Frances Stanislaski

HEROSIM AWARD

May be awarded to department members for act or deed well above and beyond the call of duty. This act or deed may not put the firefighter into danger, but unless this action was taken, severe results could occur.

Station 27:

1. Lieutenant, David Zeh
2. Firefighter Gerald Schaal

On the morning of July 19, 2009 at approximately 0530 hrs, Station 27 was dispatched to a working structure fire on Kathryn Avenue, with a report of the child trapped on the second floor.

Firefighter/Chauffeur - Darren Elliot, Lt. David Zeh, along with crewmembers, Firefighter Bill Durra, Firefighter Steve Dyl, Firefighter Frances Stanislaski, and Firefighter Gerald Schaal, responded in engine 2721. Lt. Zeh, upon hearing of the reported child trapped, directed Chauffer Elliot to respond directly into the scene, so that a search and rescue attempt can be conducted immediately.

Upon arriving engine 2721 encountered a well involved, two-story wood frame structure in the advanced stages of burning. The right side of the structure, later identified as a sunroom and the area of fire origin, was fully involved. Fire was communicating into the structure on the first floor via the connected sunroom, as well as to the second floor from the rear of the structure via the vinyl siding. Fire was also attacking the underside of the soffit system and during the attic from the exterior.

Working only on tank water firefighters Durra and Dyl with the assistance of the chauffer advanced a 1 3/4" hose line into the front main entrance, in effort to protect the stairs in the home to provide a means of egress for firefighters who subsequently entered the second floor to perform the search and rescue effort.

While this was occurring firefighters Gerald Schaal and Frankie Stanislaski managed to throw a ground ladder to the second-floor window to the right side front of the building near the room of fire origin, despite several vehicles being parked in front of a home.

Lt. Zeh, and Firefighter Schaal, donned self-contained breathing apparatus, ascended the ladder and entered the second-floor of the home through a window, into a bedroom, and conducted a primary search for the child reported to be trapped. It should be noted that the point of entry by Lt. Zeh, and Firefighter Schaal, was located directly above and adjacent to the room of fire origin, which at that time was producing the most hostile fire conditions. Upon searching the bedroom Lt. Zeh, and Schaal got to the bedroom door, upon opening the door they met with heavy deteriorating fire conditions and were forced to retreat through the second floor window in which they entered. Upon exiting the structure it was learned that all the persons that were originally within the home or out of the structure and accounted for.

Under normal circumstances and due to the advanced stages of fire upon the fire departments arrival firefighters would not normally have entered the structure and risked their lives, under these conditions. However, due to the report of the child being trapped, Lt. Zeh, and Firefighter Schaal's training, education, experience and human nature caused them to react and enter an extremely hostile condition with great risk to their own lives in an effort to save a child.

All of the firefighters identified throughout this incident showed great teamwork and professionalism under extremely challenging conditions.

CITIZEN HEROISM AWARD

Awarded for a conspicuous act of valor and heroism by a citizen under hazardous conditions in which the person is placed in a life threatening position to save the life of another prior to the arrival of the fire department.

Citizen Heroism Award Recipient: – Patrick Massaroni

On July 19, 2009 Station 27 the Ocean Beach fire company was dispatched to 256 Catherine St for a working structure fire, with reported person(s) trapped inside. At the time of the fire, there were approximately 18 people staying within the two-story wood frame single-family residence, including Mr. Massaroni. Prior to the fire department's arrival, Mr. Patrick Massaroni became aware of the fire, and while self-evacuating, he along with others, had awakened and alerted many of the occupants who were sleeping within the home, enabling them to escape the burning home.

After Mr. Massaroni, escaped from the hose, he re-entered the fire building to ensure that all of the remaining occupants were out of the structure. Mr. Massaroni showed courage and disregard for his own personal safety in an effort to ensure the safety of others. During the re-entry into the burning structure Mr. Massaroni, suffered burns to his hands, arm, shin, and back, as well a smoke inhalation, which required an extended stay at the St. Barnabas burn and trauma hospital in Livingston, NJ. Mr. Massaroni was placed in a medically induced coma, to assist in his recovery.

Mr. Massaroni continues to recover from his injuries to this date, according to St. Barnabas Medical Personnel he will not fully recover from his injuries for at least one year.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Cook, Fire Chief, Ocean Beach Fire Co. #3

RECOGNITION OF BRONZE STAR RECIPIENT

Lt. Cardinale has been a member of the East Dover Vol. Fire Co for over 3 years.

Lt. Michael J. Cardinale, United States Navy, distinguished himself by exceptionally meritorious service to the United States as Element Commander, Multi-National Division-North Weapons Intelligence Team, Combined Joint Task Force Troy, Multi-National Corps-Iraq, Baghdad, Iraq, from 19 November 2008 through 2 May 2009, during operation Iraqi freedom.

Lt. Cardinale meticulously led 22 joint-service, multi-disciplined personnel from four teams comprised of United States Navy Explosive Ordinance Disposal Technicians, Intelligence Analysts, Master-at-Arms, and Army Combat Arms Soldiers. He provided direct oversight for intelligence in combat operations staged from 10 forward operating bases and combat outpost dispersed throughout 45,000 square miles of northern Iraq. Lt. Cardinale provided flawless support to the counter-improvised explosive device efforts for four subordinate brigade combat teams of the 25th infantry division, while providing direct support of their associated explosive ordinance disposal companies.

Lt. Cardinale immediately began to rebuild fractured relationships with the supported command, and re-established faith in the viability of forensic analysis. Under his guidance, his teams raised the bar, vastly improving the level and quality of weapons intelligence team operations in his region and played a pivotal role in identifying and disrupting bomb-makers, emplacement cells in their logistical support networks.

His efforts resulted in the overwhelming success of over 600 combat missions conducted within Northern Iraq's most lethal and diverse areas of operations. In all, his leadership enabled the removal of over 158 weapons caches, and the exploitation of more than 400 improvised explosive device events, to include four Explosively Formed Projectiles. These actions significantly impacted the number and effectiveness of insurgent attacks against coalition forces and the citizens of Iraq. Lt. Cardinale's, exemplary leadership and continuous reinforcement of sound training and combat doctrine proved to be the difference in safely guiding his personnel through several incidents where Weapons Intelligence Team members came in direct contact with the enemy, to include improvised explosive devices, rocket propelled grenades and sustained small arms fire. As a direct result, his forces sustained no major injuries or combat losses.

Lt. Cardinale was responsible for the distribution of over \$8.5 million worth of specialized intelligence collection and force protection equipment. Lt. Cardinale's leadership resulted in the cumulative collection of more than 2,500 IED components for forensic and technical exploitation, over 350 latent prints of value, garnering over 30 biometric matches to known terrorists in Iraq. He oversaw the establishment of an evidence database that enabled cradle-to-grade tracking of forensic evidence, from the moment of delivery through the Combined Explosive Exploitation Cell-North processing. Finally, Lieutenant Cardinale's teams were directly involved in the capture and detention of numerous insurgents from within the Multi-National Division-North battle space helping to secure the future of Iraq. Lt. Cardinale's actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflect distinct credit upon himself, the Multi-National Corps-Iraq, and the United States Navy.

2010 COMMITTEE

A special thank you to all of the fire department officers, members and their families, our supporters, Anna DeBlasio, Toms River High School South, Shamrock and Thistle Pipe Band and the Board of Fire Commissioners – ALL of you made this event possible and the committee looks forward to next year. Thank you!

2010 Committee

John H Lightbody
Brian Doyle
Gary Dye
Jason Speicker
John Delasandro
Rick Tutela
Gary Tattersall
Darlene Gargano
Bill Golkiewicz
Monica Bisceglie
Bob Sinnott
CJ Weinberger