

---

---

# BUCKS COUNTY FIRE NEWS

---

January 2018

---

A PUBLICATION OF THE BUCKS COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS' & FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

<http://www.buckscandff.com> [WWW.BUCKSFIRE.ORG](http://WWW.BUCKSFIRE.ORG)

---

The next meeting of the Chiefs' & Firefighters' Association will be held at Training Center on January 16th. at the Doylestown Training Center.

Dinner: 6:30

Speaker: 7:15 Hero to Zero program.

7:45 PM Meeting Start

The February meeting will be held at Station 33, Tullytown.

## December Meeting

### Highlights:

Former longtime secretary of the Chiefs and the Firemen's Associations, Larry Newell passed away. A page was set aside in the minutes in honor of Larry.

Dave Hathaway announced that the fallen firefighters will be remembered by their date of death as opposed to their station number.

Ed Copper has retired from the Bucks County Community College. Bob Hirshman has taken his place at the Lower Bucks Training Center. Good luck to both Ed and Bob!

Communications: The following companies have not submitted their aliases for their radios. 1, 8, 11, 13, 14,

16, 37, 44 & 53. The serial number of the radio and the alias are needed to program the radios. The maximum number of characters is limited by the CAD system. Frank Costner will be the contact person to schedule speakers at the meetings. [frank@pidcockagency.com](mailto:frank@pidcockagency.com)

Training Center – There was considerable discussion regarding the requirements to have a company drill at the BCESTC as opposed to the training facility in MONTCO. Bob Grunmeier spoke about the NFPA 1403 standard for training facilities. Discussion including liability for the training center and for those companies who don't follow 1403. Companies are encouraged to maintain a book with all of the baseline vitals and gear inspection reports. Current entry rules come from the state as a result of the death of state instructor Bob Gallardy. The full report can be viewed at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200531.html>

Scott Forster is working on standard costs for apparatus that respond to hazmat incidents.

Audrey Kenny has accepted a job with the state and has submitted her resignation. She has done an outstanding job, culminating in the installation of the new radio system. A motion was made to send her flowers and a thank you letter for her service.

It will take approximately 2 years from the time the new CAD system is ordered until it is in service.

The radio room will conduct 3 training classes in 2018 in stead of the normal 2. This is response to the large number of retirements in 2017 as well as a large group anticipated in 2018.

Pennsylvania paid the death benefit for Station 66 Fire Policemen, Lou Patti. The federal benefit is still being discussed (\$317K).

Only eleven states recognize Fire Police as emergency responders. New federal legislation has been introduced to recognize FP.

If a line-of-duty death is not from a heart attack or stroke, only the state pays a benefit.

Workmen's compensation benefits for Fire Police were not covered in Middletown Township. They were

immediately stopped from responding until coverage is provided. All municipalities are encouraged to check their coverage to be certain FP are covered.

### New Fire Chiefs:

Sta. 1, Feasterville, Frank Walters  
 Sta. 6, Lower Southampton, Stephen Brookes  
 Sta.12, Newportville, Walt Prickett III  
 Sta. 19, Doylestown, Mike Wood  
 Sta. 30, Falls Twp., James Jones  
 Sta. 33, Tullytown, Aaron Cohen

### Bucks County 9-1-1 Center Dispatch Stats:

	2015	2016	2017
EMS	52,816	53,133	55,107
Fire	19,436	19,427	19,337
Pol	514,425	601,532	534,817

Total phone calls to the 9-1-1 Center:  
 2016 2017  
 892,800 934,185  
 9-1-1 Calls: 228,275

**Kidde** has recalled combination Smoke/CO alarms. 800-880-6788 or [www.kidde.com](http://www.kidde.com)

**Carroll County, MD** - Approved by a majority -- 12 to 2 -- of Carroll's 14 volunteer fire companies and by the Carroll Board of County Commissioners, 4 to

1, the enabling legislation would provide the county government the option of exercising authority over the fire service for the first time. This could help provide staffing and resource efficiencies between fire companies and pave the way for a combination fire service, one that mixes paid career firefighters with volunteers, proponents explained, to help support a service that is running low on new volunteers.

**PA State Fire Commissioner** Tim Solebay has resigned.

**Tim Sendlebach**, Editor-in-Chief of Firehouse Mag wrote about the death of Chief Alan Brunacini, "The path that has been paved was not pursued with an eye of self-gratification but rather one of selfless service.

**Chief Brunacini** introduced the fire service to three phrases that every firefighter should be able to echo: Risk a lot to save a lot, Risk a little to save a little, and Risk nothing for what is already lost.

**The foundation** of a prepared firefighter is a fit firefighter and that's who the public expects to step off the truck on any given fire or rescue scene.

**In today's** technology filled world, those involved in public service are constantly being filmed.

Professionalism, empathy and kindness are always utilized in the fire service. In today's social media age, it should be assumed that we are being filmed, and we should always perform our duties with the highest degree of integrity and professional behavior possible.

**If you want** to move the needle in the direction of getting things done, it is best to provide clear expectations, but when issues arise, take a positive approach and correction. First, praise the good, then clarify issues, highlighting the steps necessary to improve. Finally, follow up with praise. The best leaders get results, and meaningful results come about by showing, rather than just telling, others what it means to be successful.

**The SPAAMFAA** (Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Fire Apparatus in America) 2018 Summer Convention will be held in Cherry Hill / Pennsauken, NJ August 1 – 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Recalled Fireworks:** Hazard: The recalled fireworks are

### 3

overloaded with pyrotechnics intended to produce an audible effect, violating the federal regulatory standard for this product. Overloaded fireworks can result in a greater than expected explosion, posing burn and explosion hazards to consumers. The product is labeled as a fountain but functions similar to an M-80 or other large firecracker, which are illegal.

**K**idde now offers a series of smoke and combination smoke & carbon monoxide alarms that can be interconnected wirelessly. Now any home can be interconnected without the need for extensive and expensive re-wiring. Alarms connect to each other wirelessly. If one alarm goes into alert it will send a signal to all of your interconnected alarms to go into alert. If a fire starts upstairs, you will know immediately downstairs. This innovative line of alarms contain 10-year sealed-in lithium batteries and come in both battery operated and 120V hardwired (with 10-year battery backup) versions.

There are three 10-year battery models available. -- --  
- Smoke Alarm with Wire-Free Interconnect  
- Smoke Alarm with Wire-Free Interconnect

and Emergency Safety Light  
- Combination Smoke and CO Alarm  
with Wire-Free Interconnect

Three models of similar HARDWIRED Alarms with 10-Year Sealed Battery Backup are also available.

Voice Alerts: Announce the type of hazard detected. Smoke alarms announce "Fire!" when a smoke or fire hazard is detected.

Combination Smoke/CO alarms additionally announce "Warning Carbon Monoxide" when a CO hazard is detected.

End of Life Warning:  
Indicates the alarm is in need of replacement.  
Listings: Smoke Alarms – UL 217 Listed  
Combination alarms – UL 217 and UL 2034 Listed  
California State Fire Marshal Listed

Compatible with RemoteLync Bridge by Kidde  
Turn every alarm into a first responder. Connect Intelligent Wire-Free Alarms to your smart device with the optional RemoteLync Bridge,

**T**he following is an outline of a firefighter incentive program that was presented in Harrisburg and was

## BUCKS CO. FIRE NEWS

reported-on briefly at the December meeting.

Any child, grandchild, niece or nephew of an "active" fire fighter (as defined by the any Fire Co. point system for firefighters) can receive a benefit of 3000 points per year for every year they are "active". A point is worth a dollar at the time the tuition bill is due (no taxes).

*The child who will receive the 3000-point credit must be registered for the program before August 24th of the year before they enter their Junior year of high school.*

A matching bonus point is also part of the plan. The organization offering the plan will match dollar for dollar any fundraising done as a company. Fund drive mailing programs qualify. Example - 30,000 dollars fund drive means an additional 30000 points will be divided by the number of "active" firefighters and added to the individual accounts of all "active" firefighters in a given year. In most cases, this will add an addition 1000 points per "active" FF per year (approximately).

A list of active members will be sent to the provider and a record of them will be maintained by the provider indefinitely. If you miss a

## 4

year, your previous points remain. If you transfer to another fire company, they remain. And if that company has a program, you can continue to build points.

Drawbacks - The child must attend one of the schools on their list. I have attached it for your information. These are all private (non-state) schools, one of which is Delaware Valley College in Doylestown.

This INCENTIVE program is FREE. No cost to the company. It is a vital way for private colleges to obtain a list of potential students.

For a presentation or more information contact William Heydt at Colonial Life Insurance Co.  
[bill.heydt@coloniallife.com](mailto:bill.heydt@coloniallife.com)

**L**ost - Bristol Fire Company  
- Station 51 lost a 30-minute, 4500 psi air cylinder Scott air cylinder on September 23, 2017 while on the multi-alarm fire at 709 William Leigh Dr., Tullytown, PA. Box 3334.

The cylinder's Scotch-lite band is marked "51" and "Bristol" inside the Maltese Cross. Cylinder appears to have been mistakenly picked-up while at Rescue 32 to be refilled on Side A.

## BUCKS CO. FIRE NEWS

Anyone who can locate the cylinder, please contact Chief 51 at 215-962-5121 or email [fyrchef51@aol.com](mailto:fyrchef51@aol.com)

**Smoke detectors  
don't matter, until  
they do.**

**This is your newsletter and  
it needs your input to be  
successful. Please send your  
news to  
[EdPfeiffer44@gmail.com](mailto:EdPfeiffer44@gmail.com)  
anytime during the month.**