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# BUCKS COUNTY FIRE NEWS

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July 2016 [BucksCountyFireSafeHomes.com](http://www.buckscountyfiresafehomes.com)

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

<http://www.buckscandff.com> WWW.BUCKSFIRE.ORG

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The next meeting of the Chiefs' & Firefighters' Association will be held at Station 9, Parkland on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

7 PM Food

7:45 PM Meeting Start

The August meeting will be held at Bucks County Community College on August 15<sup>th</sup>. This is a free presentation on **“Substance Use and Abuse Along With First Responder Suicide and Prevention”**.

**H**ighlights of the June meeting:

A motion passed to return the John Zylak Fire Helmet Collection at the Doylestown Training Center to the Yardley Makefield Fire Co. There are currently 21 members of the Bucks County Honor Guard. No additional applications are being accepted; however, they may seek applicants after the new year.

The Scholarship Award Program is accepting applications for five \$1000. Scholarships to members of their association or their family.

There will be a training class this fall for new dispatchers. There are 30 students in the summer FF1 class.

Ed Copper gave a review of the hands-on approach to officer training. Two of the first 8 who took the class didn't feel ready to accept the responsibility. All experienced command response skills by directing local, tactical and full box assignments with real crews.

A report on the financial break even of the History of the Bucks County Fire Service books was given. We will “break even” when an additional 30 books are sold of the 286 available.

**C**ancer is a serious threat to firefighters, and the number of firefighters affected by this disease continues to climb. In 2015, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation convened the Fire Service Occupational Cancer Alliance to collaborate to address the issue. The Alliance, which includes the NVFC, identified action items for prevention education, research, and advocacy. A report of the Alliance's meetings and

recommendations to-date has now been released.

[www.nvfc.org](http://www.nvfc.org)

**J**ohn Townsend is the new Safety Officer – Fire Marshal for SEPTA – System Safety 1234 Market Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Philadelphia, PA 19107 Office-[215-580-6078](tel:215-580-6078) Bus. Cell: [215-964-4809](tel:215-964-4809) [JTownsend@septa.org](mailto:JTownsend@septa.org) or Jim Bahn's contact is: [Jbahn@septa.org](mailto:Jbahn@septa.org)

SEPTA currently has 3 training courses available specifically crafted for the emergency response community.

The first is for Hybrid Bus. This class is designed to run a solid 2 hours, and fits in the typical volunteer service training night and is for Fire/EMS/Police. This class provides responders the knowledge on how to recognize SEPTA's hybrid buses, an overview of hybrid system on SEPTA's buses and an overview of emergency response considerations. Con-Ed is available for EMS providers for this class.

The second class we offer is a Rail Safety Awareness class. This class is designed to run a solid 2-1/2 hours, and fits in the typical volunteer service training night. This class provides responders the knowledge on the basics of railroad safety, identifying incident locations along SEPTA and other rail operators' tracks, overview of: SEPTA's rail lines electrical systems, SEPTA's rail vehicles, and how SEPTA fits into the Unified Command System and other emergency response considerations.

The third class we offer is Rail Safety for Emergency Responders (RSER). This is a 4-hour class developed by CSX for Operation Lifesaver to instruct on the dangers encountered at the scene of a freight train incident.

**R**esidential sprinklers have a different discharge pattern *than standard spray* sprinklers. They are required to throw water to wet walls within 28 inches of the ceiling. Their coverage rating ends when the wetting drops below 28 inches. However, some water will extend beyond the rated coverage area at a distance greater than 28 inches from the ceiling.

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**D**r. Harry Carter explains in an article in the PA Fireman the importance of "Building a Strong Foundation". "It is my belief that training is the foundation for the success in all that we do. It is the be all and end all of every good thing we wish to accomplish in our fire service endeavors and in life in general. Untrained people are the pox upon the face of God's Green Earth." Read more starting on page 56, June 2016 issue.

**N**ASA launched a space craft in June with the first of three experiments to better understand how rapidly large fires grow in space, which materials catch fire and how those materials burn.

**T**he 2017 NEC (National Electric Code) allows savings in cost due to smaller services, feeders, transformers, and less panel board capacity. More fuel efficient appliances and energy efficient lighting by the US energy conservation codes are driving down the demand for power.

**G**ood thought "Train until you get it right and continue to train until you can't get it wrong".

**A** free presentation on "Substance Use and Abuse

**Along With First Responder Suicide and Prevention**" will be given at the Bucks County Community College on Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, at the BCCC Newtown Campus Main Auditorium.

**T**he IAFC (International Association of Fire Chiefs) are encouraging every fire department to have an effective wellness plan, to ensure that every firefighter is fit for duty. It must all start with a baseline medical evaluation. They made the bold decision to reshape their three-year strategic plan to focus on one overriding goal—to take a national leadership role in moving the agenda of ensuring an occupationally relevant annual medical evaluation for EVERY firefighter.

**Bucks Fire Has Big Recruitment Plans for Middletown Grange Fair - Your Help Is Needed! Please Sign Up ASAP to Volunteer**

**F**or Bucks County's volunteer fire companies, there's more to love about the Grange Fair than cool agricultural exhibits, carnival rides, and an excuse to eat something fried. This is your company's big chance to

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reach a large number of potential new volunteers!

Folks will be even more likely to stop by this year, because there's going to be a fire truck! Ed Pfeiffer is bringing his beautiful 1923 Hale Pumper, which can pump 350-gallons per minute - quite respectable back in the day.

Our request of you and your members is easy, but incredibly important. We need volunteer firefighters to staff the booth and talk to people about why you love to volunteer, and why they would, too.

Those interested provide their names and contact information, which get forwarded to the volunteer fire company that serves their community for follow-up. Last year, nearly 50 people asked for information on volunteering! Follow this link to sign up: [Sign up!](#)

Fire Marshal & Code Official Symposium, Wednesday September 28, 2016 7:30am-4:30pm, Horsham Township Community Center (behind Township Building) 1025 Horsham Road Horsham, PA 19044

- Trends in local threats and preventative trends represented in new codes and enforcement
- Code changes

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to the 2012 & 2015 ICC & NFPA Model Codes • Fire Risk Mitigation in mission critical facilities • Latest in CO2 detection, low frequency audible & overall multi criteria detection • Kitchen Fire Suppression Systems • Access to Keynote Speaker John Guest from the US Department of Homeland Security • Continental Breakfast AND Catered Lunch Provided • Certificates of attendance will be available to all registrants • Access to the Reliable Sprinkler Trailer Early Bird Registration by September 1, 2016 - \$49 Regular Registration after September 1, 2016 - \$79  
Lisa Lawlor  
[\[mailto:lisa.lawlor@keystonefire.com\]](mailto:lisa.lawlor@keystonefire.com)

### **From the Financial Secretary: 2016 Dues**

All of 2016 dues notices has been sent to the membership. Thank You to everyone who picked up their dues notice at a monthly meeting, this helped on reducing postage costs.

Please note, the notices were sent out with a mistake in the return mailing address. The address of the association is 1760 S. Easton Rd, Doylestown. The notices had a mailing address of

760. The post office has done a great job assisting us with the mistake and has been directing the mail to the correct address. If you have not sent in your dues and if you remember, please ensure that the mailing address is 1760 S. Easton Rd. Dues can also be sent to: 5115 Landisville Rd, Doylestown PA, 18902.

I have also included 2 reports on the status of dues. There is a member report and an organization report. The report reflects where each member and organization stands with dues. The goal is to publish this report once a month for the membership.

If you have any questions about your dues or status of your dues, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached through email or phone call.

Thank You  
Stephen Cronin  
[fscronin@outlook.com](mailto:fscronin@outlook.com)  
Cell – 267-544-9771

In cooperation with the Millersville University Center for Disaster Research and Education, Lancaster County Firemen's Association and the Fire Association for the State of Pennsylvania, we are

conducting recruiting and retention data for the volunteer fire service. Below you will see links to two surveys, one for Volunteer Fire Chiefs, and the other for Volunteer Firefighters.

While we all know that volunteerism is down, and many of us have tried lots of methods to recruit and retain our dedicated volunteers, the hope of this study is to determine what methods actually work, and then spread the message on our findings. This survey can be distributed to anyone you know in the fire service, and will be distributed throughout the country, as this is obviously not just a Pennsylvania issue. The surveys take approximately ten-fifteen (10-15) minutes to complete.

The survey will be open until August 31, 2016 at midnight

Three randomly selected respondents will receive \$250 gift certificates to The FireStore.  
([www.thefirestore.com](http://www.thefirestore.com))

The Fire Department with the largest percentage of members responding, will receive a \$500 gift certificate to The Firestore.

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**Please forward this survey to as many people as you know.** Our data needs as many surveys completed as possible, to gain the most information and produce the best results.

Fire Chief's survey:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VolunteerFireChiefs\\_Z55MDR3](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VolunteerFireChiefs_Z55MDR3)

Firefighter survey:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VolunteerFF\\_K7ZKDLJ](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VolunteerFF_K7ZKDLJ)

**H**istory Books – Total books sold or given to County Companies has reached 718. Anyone who is planning a company purchase (save the tax) should e-mail me at [edpfeiffer44@gmail.com](mailto:edpfeiffer44@gmail.com). Invoices to companies can be provided from the association. Books used as gifts by the company and paid by check from an invoice are tax exempt. Help celebrate our history and meet our expenses by buying books. Books may also be purchased and shipped for a \$4.50 shipping and handling charge at [Http://www.buckscountyfireservice.org](http://www.buckscountyfireservice.org). Books are available at all Monthly meetings.

**If your detectors are not connected, your home is not protected!**

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.**