

The ^{21st Anniversary} Windom News

DECEMBER 2017

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

VOLUME 21 NO 10

2018 SLATE

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President - Bob Baun

Vice Pres. - Dave Roessler

Recording Sec. Marylyn Weichmann

Corresponding Sec. Tom Held

Treasurer - Donna Breitwieser

Sgt. At Arm - Kyle Holsher

Parade Marshall - Marylyn Weichmann

Southwestern Del. - Guy Carey

- Tonya Holscher

Erie County Del. -

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FASNY Del. - Frank Bermel

- Bill Hanrahan

Trustee - Karl Held

LINE OFFICERS

Chief - Jay Knavel

1st Asst. - Aaron Jarka

2nd Asst - Nick Lobur

Fire Captain - Dave Eiskant

- Scott Oberther

Rescue Captain - Amy Jarka

Lt #1 - Scott Courteau

Lt. #2 - Mike Carey

Lt. #7 - Jacob Leckel

Lt. #822 & #882 - Chet Covers

District Chief - Guy Carey



Remember-
Our fallen heroes.
They are the
reason that we
are free.



Our new tree ... Great job committee.

Commissioner Election is December 12 from 6 pm - 9 pm. Get out and vote. Support Marylyn.

Company Annual Meeting is December 14th at 6 pm - 9 pm. Please come to the opening of the meeting - we need a quorum of at least 10 people to open the meeting/election.

Some notes from the Chief.

First I would like to thank everyone for their help and support this year. I think we had a very good year with attendance on calls and drills.

We will be having one fire drill this month. It will be December 11th and there will not be a district drill this month. If you are in need of a drill or two see a Chief and maybe we can help with one during a standby.

It is time to get some people that are interested in FDIC. It is 4/22-4/28. If interested in a weeklong training trip please see AJ or myself. The district pay for 2-3 from each company. I also posted two classes from NYSFC. One is on thermal imaging and the other is a command class (I took last year and it is very good) Both are next year. If interested see a Chief. If anyone has any ideas for drills or classes they would like to see please pass it onto a Chief. We will be planning 2018 very soon.

We have football standbys 12-10 and 12-17, both beginning at 1100 hrs. We will also have a standby on 12-29 beginning at noon. We have been averaging 10-20 calls each so no one should be short on calls.

The weather is changing. Please keep in mind how you are dressing for calls. You never know how long you may be outside. Also lately there have been quite a few "two-fors".

Finally with the weather changing we need to give the vehicles more loving. Make sure we are washing with soap and water. Don't forget the interiors too. This includes the ambulances.

Here are a couple dates to keep in mind. Hillcrest Christmas Party 12-8 and Orchard Park is 12-18. On 12-12 is the commissioners elections from 1800-2100. Hope everyone comes out to support Marylyn. On 12-14 is the company elections and district chief. Let's vote to support Guy and we have an election for 9-3.

Thank you for a great 2017 and I would like to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Jay W9

NOTICE ... The January meeting will be held on January 2, 2018.

Please clean the fire trucks and rescue vehicles including the ambulances.



If the vehicles are dirty after calls, inside or outside, please clean them for the next call. Some of the vehicles have been found dirty. If any vehicle needs fuel, please take them and fill the tank. Leaving them under $\frac{3}{4}$'s of a tank could create problems if there is a lengthy call.



November Birthdays:

Scott Courteau 05
Chris Guenther 08
Jacob Leckel 14
Bryan McCarthy 18

December Birthdays:

Aaron Jarka 20

January Birthdays:

Will Sundeen III 03
Harvey Grace 10
Mariely Ortiz 27
Jerry Knavel 29

Movie night will be starting after football season.

Look for dates and movie titles behind the bar.



Sick Committee

Please keep Jerry, Don, Bud, and Harvey in your thoughts and prayers.

Howard H.



The Adult Christmas Party is December 15, starting around 7:30 pm.

Children Christmas Party is on December 16, starting around 11:00.

Santa comes at 12:00

Look for more info.

www.PageBorders.net



Delivering the Unexpected

A special event for EMS providers
 Join OB-GYN Dr. Susan Littler for a special night of OB education, including a HANDS ON BIRTH SIMULATION TRAINING session. Learn what you can do when conditions such as placenta, prelvia, prolapsed cord, breech birth, and eclampsia complicate labor and delivery.

WHEN: Monday March 12, 2018 @ 6:30 pm

WHERE: Orchard Park Fire Department
 30 School Street Orchard Park NY 14127

Dinner will be provided

To register, please contact Emily Rowles at erowles@chsbuffalo.org or by calling (716) 462-9245

DONNA'S CRANBERRY CAKE

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 Cups Sugar,
- 3 Eggs,
- ¾ Cups Butter - softened,
- 1 Teaspoon Vanilla,
- 2 Cups Flour,
- ½ Teaspoon Salt,
- 12 oz Bag Cranberries

Beat eggs and sugar w/ mixer approx 3 minutes.
 Add softened butter and vanilla and beat another 2 minutes.

Mix flour into mix till combined completely.
 Add berries and spread in a greased 9 x 13 pan.

Bake @350 degrees, 40 - 50 minutes till light brown.

Enjoy

*Did I say how good this is ...
 Yum Yum.*

*Sweet and
 Tart at the
 same time.*

Check your stats. If you have any questions see Howard right away.

If you have any question about the calls / drills meeting stats it is time to check it out. If correction are needed, Howard needs to know right away. Remember it is your responsibility to make sure the stats are correct.

If you go to any school and receive a certificate make sure that Howard gets a copy so you get credit for the school. Remember it is your responsibility.

New Years at Windom

There is usually a gathering of members at our hall on New Years Eve for a party. People bring a dish to pass and everyone has a good time . Come and join the party. Bring your party hat.



Installation of Officers and Dinner Dance

February 3, 2018 at Ilio Dipaolo Banquet Hall.

Invitations will be mailed out early in January. It is very important to mail your reply by January 26, 2017. Any later will cause food ordering problems. The committee needs an accurate count the first of February.



Thanksgiving Dinner at stand-by.

At the November 12, Bills game stand-by members were treated to the annual Thanksgiving dinner during stand-by. All the fixens were there including 2 different home made cranberries that Frank's wife made for the company. Everything there was great. Of course there were pies with whip cream for the topping. It took a lot of work from some of the members to pull this dinner off. A huge round of thanks to all the workers. As seen in the pictures, just some of the workers and chores that it took.



Bill S.

**Bring your neighbor, friends or family to Windom to vote.
Must be a registered voter in Orchard Park.**

V ★ O ★ T ★ E

Marylyn Weichmann

for

**Fire Commissioner
Orchard Park Fire District**



Tuesday December 12, 2017

Polls open from 6:00 till 9:00 P.M.

at your area fire halls

Orchard Park, Windom and Hillcrest



"As an active life member of the Windom Volunteer Fire Company and retired Erie County Deputy Sheriff, I am seeking the position of Fire Commissioner for the Orchard Park Fire District."

– Marylyn Weichmann

Windom Volunteer Fire Experience:

- Lieutenant #7
- Lieutenant #8
- Rescue Lieutenant
- Rescue Captain
- Parade Marshall
- Rec'd. Secretary
- E.M.T.
- Fire Police

Community Volunteer Work:

Operation Good Neighbors Food Pantry
Meals on Wheels

GO WINDOM ... CHRISTMAS FIRE TRUCK PARADE 2017 LANCASTER N. Y. LOOKING GOOD.

Photos by: Vicky and Lindsay



Although Windom did not win any prizes, the participating member had a good time preparing and participating in the parade.

Start thinking on how to improve and come up with a decorating theme long before the event date next year.

More participants are welcome and needed so it you can help out please make an effort to contact the chief and to see what you can do.

Your help will be appreciated.




MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Life Member Summer Dinner will be on June 13, 2018 at 6:00pm. More info will follow.



Clean up after yourself.

IF YOU ARE UPSTAIRS PLAYING POOL OR WATCHING TV AND ENJOYING BEER, DO NOT LEAVE THE BOTTLES BEHIND THE BAR UPSTAIRS TAKE THEM BACK DOWN STAIRS AND PUT THEM IN THE APPROPRIATE BEER CASES.



Great job committee. Thanks for taking the time and effort to show the company your continued support.

At the parade there was 190 fire trucks from around NY, some from Pennsylvania and Canada. The farthest fire company came over 200 miles away in Pennsylvania. The parade is growing in popularity each year.

I've reached the age where my train of thought often leaves the station without me. *Paul*



Did you hear about the new restaurant on the moon? The food was excellent. But there was no atmosphere. *Paul*




WATCH YOUR DRIVING.

THE WINTER WEATHER IS HERE NOW.

Tips for Wintertime Firefighting Operations

BY JEFFREY PINDELSKI

Firefighters should only work in these extreme conditions for short periods of time due to added physical stress and shorter work cycles should be adhered to.

As water is applied to a burning structure, ice will cause additional weight and add stress on structural members increasing collapse potential.

Injuries caused by slips and trips increase during the winter months. Using Sodium Chloride or road salt can add traction to icy conditions around the fireground.

With winter conditions soon approaching, the fire service is left to contend with additional demands due to heavy snowfall and extreme temperature conditions. The hazards and complications of winter firefighting can be overcome by firefighters developing a basic understanding of those hazards and conditions and properly preparing for them beforehand.

Response Safety

Year after year, responding to and from emergency calls is one of the leading activities being performed in studies of firefighter fatalities. Cold weather, contributing to extreme road conditions, will only increase the amount of risk that we are exposed to.

Preparing for winter response starts with making certain that our apparatus is ready and in top operating condition (as it should be at all times). In particular, driver/operators should make certain that they are familiar with the operations of window defrosters, heat vents and brake retarders on their particular apparatus as well as their department's guidelines for operating a "dry" versus "wet" pump during winter months.

Coating the threads of any fittings or port caps with straight antifreeze will help prevent them from freezing without damaging any gaskets and should be performed as needed in daily vehicle checks. A spray bottle can be filled with antifreeze and kept on the rig for this purpose.

Increased stopping distances, decreased visibility and unpredictable actions of civilian motorists can all be expected in extreme weather and will have a negative impact on response. Routes of travel to alarms will need to take snow/ice removal and accessibility to the incident into consideration.

Is there a plan in place to have the public works department assist the fire department with snow removal resources in the event of an extreme winter storm? Discussing this and having a plan in place prior to needing it will definitely be advantageous.

Taking the proper precautions necessary in extreme weather is going to cause extended response times. How will this influence the actions of the first due companies? The important point to remember - the fire department is of no value unless it is able to arrive on scene safely.

Fireground Concerns

Once having arrived on scene, the company officer will have to make critical decisions on the commitment of apparatus. Questions that need to be considered: are tactical positions attainable or are they blocked by snow banks? Are additional lengths of hose needed to be added to pre-connected lines to make it to the building? Can personnel access all sides of the building and are there any hazards or obstacles present that are not visible due to snow or ice such as stairs, drop offs or in ground swimming pools?

Are fire hydrants visible and accessible - both prior to and after streets are plowed? Firefighters should ensure hydrants are accessible after severe storms before they freeze by routinely checking on them and clearing snow from them. Attaching flags or a marking device that sticks up a ways in the air can also make it easier to spot a hydrant covered by snow.

Another solution that has been successful is a program called "Pluggie's Pals" where school children and their parents work with the fire department to make certain that a fire hydrant near their property is distinguished with a marker pole prior to a winter storm and are also given the responsibility of clearing their assigned fire hydrant of snow after a storm - in return, a picnic is often held for the children and attended by firefighters in the spring to say thank you to the kids.

Once finding the hydrant, is it usable or frozen? Small hand held propane torches can be of great use to free frozen hydrant caps or hose couplings during cold weather and should be placed on the rig for winter months.

Once committed and flowing water, engine companies will need to keep water moving in some manner to keep hoselines, ladder pipes, valves and pumps from freezing solid. Static water will freeze readily as we already know at 32 degrees Fahrenheit but if enough movement is provided, water will not freeze spontaneously until the ambient temperature reaches -40 degrees Fahrenheit.

Water as we are aware exists in the states of a solid (ice), liquid, and a gas (steam). The major factor that differentiates these three states is the motion of the molecules that comprise water. When heat (as in the form of friction caused by movement) is added, its molecules will move faster and freely interact. As water freezes, the movement of molecules slow down and begin to align in a crystal like structure resulting in ice. As water freezes, its density (or mass per unit volume)

will also increase until it reaches a solid crystallized state. If water is constricted as in a hoseline or piping when this expansion of mass takes place, the pressure exerted can cause costly damage. For this reason, keep nozzles, deck guns, ladder pipes etc. partially open with water flowing until ready to shut down and pack up. Hoselines and ladderpipes should be drained and picked up immediately when they stop flowing water and are no longer needed.

Injuries & Rehab

Slips and falls are another prevalent hazard during cold weather operations. The soles of many firefighting boots worn will become harder in colder temperatures preventing them from "gripping" the ground. Removable cleats or spikes that slip over boot soles can be advantageous in this situation.

Water on the ground from cold weather operations will also create an increased potential for slips and falls. Sodium Chloride or road salt is commonly carried on fire apparatus due to its ability to impede ice formation. Road salt is often applied to the ice once it is already formed. Unfortunately, the salt must first be dissolved before it can work effectively. Salt works by breaking chemical bonds and preventing water molecules from aligning in the crystal state that we talked about. If salt is applied before water freezes, it will be readily dissolved and will effectively lower the freezing point of the water. Sand can also be thrown onto the ground to improve traction.

Rehabilitation resources and additional alarms should be requested as soon as possible. The rehab location should get firefighters out of the elements, be located away from vehicle exhaust and concentrate on providing hydration through warm fluids.

One of the most overlooked ways of protecting ourselves from cold stress is through proper hydration. This needs to take place prior to responding to an incident to make certain that our body's systems are working at their best. Vital functions of our body will shut down when not properly hydrated. During work cycles it is recommended that a firefighter drink at least a quart of water per hour.

Firefighters will only be able to battle the elements for short periods of time in extreme weather due to stress and shorter work cycles should be adhered to. Turnout gear does not allow for effective heat dissipation and sweating from performing fireground activity can lead to shivering and lowering of the body core temperature. Body core temperatures falling below accepted levels can cause severe injury to firefighters without them even realizing what is happening to them. Stress from the cold decreases cognitive reasoning as well as focus.

Frost bite is caused by parts of the body being exposed to extreme cold. It can result from a very short time of exposure if cold enough. Fluids contained within exposed body part freeze causing blood vessel damage and necrosis or death of tissue in the affected area. Several factors contribute to the severity of frostbite the temperature to which the exposed part is exposed the length of time which the body part is exposed the condition of clothing covering the exposed area (is it wet or dry?)

Most often the hands, feet, ears and face of a firefighter are most prone to frostbite. Frostbite will appear as changes in skin appearance as discoloration (white or gray) and will be accompanied by numbness and stiffness to the affected area. Often times a patient experiencing frostbite will not even realize it due to accompanying numbness. The best way to prevent frostbite is to protect skin from direct exposure to cold air. Firefighters should dress in layers of loose fitting clothes beneath their turnout gear. Materials of these clothes should allow evaporation of perspiration and not be restrictive as to compromise the body's circulation in helping to keep the body warm. Two pairs of socks and properly fitted footwear are also recommended.

Hypothermia results when the body core temperature falls below normal. Firefighters suffering from hypothermia will exhibit shivering, confusion, extreme fatigue and drowsiness.

The best way to prevent hypothermia is also to dress in layers beneath turnout gear and to keep moving when working on the fireground to maintain a good level of circulation. Firefighters should make certain to keep their heads covered with a hat or hood when working in cold weather. As much as 50 percent of the body's heat can be lost through the head and wearing a hat will help to minimize that loss.

Firefighters should also replace any wet clothing immediately as wet clothes will cool down the body's core temperature much quicker than air alone. Keeping a bag with a dry change of clothes, extra gloves, socks and hats on the apparatus is a good idea during winter months.

Structural Concerns & Equipment

In addition to the obvious fall hazards, ice will present other hazards and problems on the fireground.

As water is applied to a burning structure it will freeze and not run off. As more and more water is applied, ice will cause additional weight and stress on structural members increasing collapse potential.

Locks and halyards on ladders can become frozen making them inoperable or difficult to move. Aerial ladders can become caked with ice increasing weight loads on them resulting in failure or twisting of the ladder.

Cold weather can definitely take a toll on firefighters and the equipment that they use. With proper pre incident planning, training and awareness, the hazards of extreme winter weather firefighting can be reduced to allow safe operations on the fireground.

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