



2011 Officers Swearing In & Awards Ceremony

December 18, 2010
Ocean County College

Thank you for attending our annual **Toms River Fire Department** Officers swearing in and awards ceremony held at Ocean County College on December 18, 2010.

Six fire companies make up the largest Fire Department in Ocean County and are staffed by 350 volunteers providing fire protection to the residents of Toms River 24 hours a day. Each fire company is an all-volunteer organization and the members are committed to providing the highest level of fire and rescue services to the residents of Toms River Township.

The Toms River Fire Department under the governing body of the Toms River Board of Fire Commissioners maintains six fire companies for fire protection as well as the Bureau of Fire Prevention, Fire Communications Center, Wireless Communications Division, Fire Academy, Technical Rescue Team, Ice Rescue Team and a Dive Team.

The water front community of Toms River is located in Ocean County on the New Jersey Shore. The Township is 42 square miles with 100,000 residents that almost doubles during the summer months. The town is bisected by 5 state highways and is 1 of 33 municipalities within Ocean County who serve over 433,000 residents that reside in the 636 square miles. Tidal waters within the town include the Atlantic Ocean, Barnegat Bay, Silver Bay, Toms River, Winding River, Goose Creek, Kettle Creek, and multiple inland waterways and lakes

Toms River Fire District # 1

Chairman – George Convery
Vice Chairman – Douglas Foley
Clerk – Robert Romano
Treasurer – Craig Ambrosio
Purchasing Agent – Mark Autenreith
Administrator – William Golkiewicz
District Chief – Sam Seaman
Monica Bisceglie
Joann Stiles
Dawn Halliwell
Kelly Bellu

Toms River Fire District # 2

Chairman – Kevin Britton
Treasurer – Gary Licknack
Clerk – Robert Blank
Assistant Clerk – Ken Taylor
Commissioner – Joseph Brown
Administrator - Darlene Gargano
Linda Jones

PROGRAM

Master of Ceremonies - **Ex-Chief, John H. Lightbody**, CFEI, President
District 1, Fire Officers Association

6:30 pm - 7:00pm Assemble and slide show

1. **Opening of meeting**, by Fire Commissioners.
2. **Firefighters enter Auditorium**, accompanied by the Shamrock & Thistle Band.
(All uniforms at attention upon entering hall & remain standing)
3. **Flag Salute**. (Captain Matt Armstrong, OCSD, cadence caller)
4. **National Anthem** sung by Elizabeth Ritacco, Toms River HS East
(All uniforms hand salute)
5. **Welcome and Introduction of Fire Commissioners**
(Please be seated)

District #1:

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

District #2:

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

6. **Our Dignitaries & Invited Guests:**

TR Twp. Fire Official & Chief Fire Prevention Inspector

John F. Lightbody

TR Twp. Fire Academy

Co-Directors Andy Jensen, & John Novak

Toms River Twp. District #1, District Fire Chief

Sam Seaman

President, TR Twp. Dist. #1, Fire Officers Assoc.

Ex- Chief John H. Lightbody

President, TR Twp. Dist. #2, Fire Officers Assoc.

Chief Brian Doyle

Toms River Twp. Mayor

Tom Kelaher

Toms River Twp. Council Members

Brian Kubiak, George Whitman

Toms River Twp. Police Department

Chief Mike Mastronardy

Photographer

Stacey Spotts

(members and guest stand up)

7. **Invocation** – Chaplin, Assistant Chief Eddie Storino
(Firefighters Remain Standing)

8. **Memorialize deceased members from past year**

Moment of silence

Reading of names

Station 26

Earl Mackenzie

Donald Brown

August "Gus" Forte

Station 27

Paul Vonsuskil Jr.

Alphonse Cicalese

Joseph Meegan

Ronald Czajkowski

Station 29

John Lenaghan Jr.

Bell ringing 5-5-5 (Fire Fighter Tom Mauro- Station 26)

Amazing Grace, (All Uniforms presenting arms at second verse).

Band marches out. (Once band out, please be seated)

9. **Speakers.**

President, TR Twp. Dist. #1, Fire Officers Assoc.

Ex- Chief John H. Lightbody

Toms River Twp. Mayor

Tom Kelaher or designee

TR Twp. Law & Public Safety Liaison

Councilman Brian Kubiel, Former TR #1 Chief & Dist. Fire Chief

Keynote Speaker

Deputy Chief Michael T. Cranwell, North Hudson Regional Fire Department



Deputy Chief Michael T. Cranwell is a 37 year veteran of the Fire service. He was appointed to the Union City NJ Fire Dept. in 1973, promoted to Captain in 1985, promoted to Battalion Chief in 2002, and promoted to Deputy Chief in June 2010. In 1999 the Union City FD was incorporated into the North Hudson Regional Fire & Rescue. D/C Cranwell is currently assigned as the Chief of Staff to the Fire Chief, and is also the Chief in command of HAZMAT services.

Chief Cranwell holds a Bachelor of Science (in Fire Science) degree from New Jersey City University. He is the Region 2 Vice President of the New Jersey Deputy Fire Chief's Association and is a member of FMBA local 26. Chief Cranwell is the president and lead instructor of Officer Candidate School, a promotional and learning consortium for aspiring fire officers. Chief Cranwell was the first due Battalion Chief (on the NJ side) at the "Miracle on the Hudson" incident. (He authored an article about the incident in the July 2009 Issue of Fire Engineering.) Chief Cranwell was first introduced to the fire service in 1972 when he served as a member of the Union City Volunteer Ambulance Corps. Chief Cranwell resides in Howell NJ with his wife Imma and 2 Daughters Caitlin & Laura.

10.

Swearing in of Company Officers, by station.

Station 25: Sworn in by Commissioner Mark Autenreith:



Chief – John Mount
Assistant Chief – John Gonzalez
Captain – Kieran Flynn
1st Lieutenant – Michael Muttie
2nd Lieutenant – Sal Caruso

Station 26: Sworn in by Commissioner Craig Ambrosio:



Chief – Jeff Cirz
Assistant Chief Eddie Storino
Captain – Pat Beebe
1st Lieutenant – Bruce Miller
2nd Lieutenant – CJ Weinberger

Station 27: Sworn in by Commissioner Robert Romano:



Chief Michael Barile
Assistant Chief – Bill Giordano
Captain – David Zeh
1st Lieutenant – Rich Dziadosz

Station 28: Sworn in by Commissioner Doug Foley:



Chief – Robert Abrams
Assistant Chief – Richard Tutella
Captain – James Golden
1st Lieutenant – Tim Zeiser
2nd Lieutenant – Travis Seaman

Station 29: Sworn in by Commissioner Robert Blank:



Chief – Robert Sinnott
Assistant Chief – Gustavo Baxes
Captain – Gary Tattersall
1st Lieutenant – Mike Cocco
2nd Lieutenant – Roger Joe Brown

Station 30: Sworn in by Commissioner Robert Blank:



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

11. **Swearing in of Fire Police**
 District #1: Fire Commissioner George Convery
 District #2: Fire Commissioner Robert Blank
12. **Recognition of probationary Fire Fighters.** All to stand at seats
13. **Length of service awards** – Members receive recognition for length of service to their respective companies:

Five Year Awards:

Station 25:

Cathleen Keller
 James Kudrick
 Raymond Latshaw

Station 26:

Bradford Kadubic

Station 27:

Drew Calvo

Station 28:

Michael Scruggs

Station 29:

Tony Naturile
 Chris Hansson
 Michael Stanzione
 Daniel Dickman

Station 30:

Ryan Bianchi
 Bob Kowalski
 Chris Inglis

Ten Year Awards:

Station 25:

Christopher Vicidomini

Station 27:

Steven Dyl
 Darin Elliot
 Walter Janke

Station 29:

Brian Tillotson
 Todd Boden
 Gary Tattersall

Fifteen Years Award:

Station 25

Michael Muttie
 Joseph Russo

Station 26:

Thomas Mauro

Station 27:

David Zeh

Station 28:

Mike Dolcemascolo
 Arthur Zeiser

Station 29:

Kurt Jensen
 William Ihrig
 Patrick Dellane

Station 30

Charles Russell
 Michael Anderson

Twenty Years Award

Station 25:

John Genovese

Station 26:

Natale Faronea
Kevin Nolan

Station 27:

Joseph Buczkowski
Gerald Schaal

Station 28:

Robert Abrams

Twenty Five Years Award:

Station 25:

Albert McDaniel

Station 28:

James Mercready

Station 30:

Paul McGinley
John "Cubby" Hafner, Jr.

Thirty Years Award:

Station 25:

John J. Mount, Jr.

Station 28:

John H. Lightbody

Station 29:

George Rosko
William Rawlins

Station 30:

Tom McCann

Thirty Five Years Award:

Station 25:

William Golkiewicz

Station 28:

Sam Seaman

Station 29:

Andrew Jensen

Forty Years:

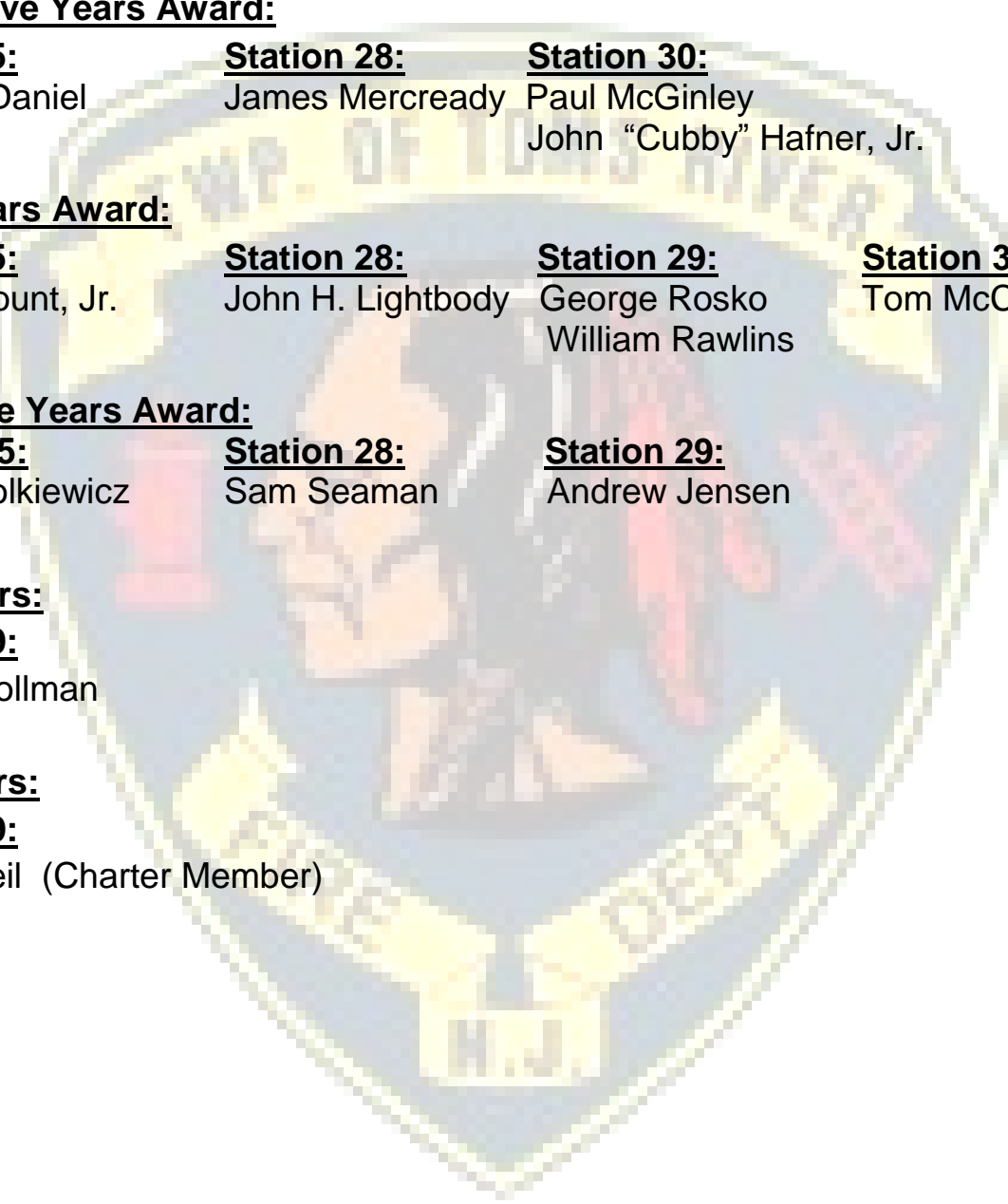
Station 29:

Richard Dollman

Sixty Years:

Station 29:

Robert Weil (Charter Member)



14. **Presentation of Awards:**

Memorial Recognition: presented by the Joint Boards of Fire Commissioners and the Staff of the Toms River Twp. Chief August Forte, Fire Academy.

Chief August “Gus” Forte



Born April 24, 1922 in Philadelphia, PA.

Married for 62 Years to his wife Gloria, father of 2 daughters and grandfather of 3.

Enlisted in the United States Navy 1942 – 1948

Served in Navy Reserve 1948 – 1949

Enlisted in New Jersey National Guard 1968 – 1982 where he served in the 50th Armor Division in Toms River, NJ.

Earned the following medals during his military career:

American Theatre Campaign, Asiatic Pacific Campaign, European African Middle Eastern Campaign, Presidential Unit Citation, Victory Medal Combat Air Crewman Wings, Navy Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Service Medal, New Jersey Medal of Merit, First Class Gunners Badge for Tank Weapons, Sharp Shooters badge.

Career Firefighter of 30 years with the Federal Fire Service NAECFD Lakehurst serving as a firefighter, retiring as the Chief of the Department. Member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs since 1967.

Charter Member of the Dover Township Fire Academy serving on the committee that helped establish the Academy.

Chief Fire Instructor at the Dover township Fire academy since 1962.

Service of over 50 Years to the Toms River Fire Company #2, serving as a Firefighter, working his way to Fire Chief and District Chief of Fire District #1.

It is with great honor on behalf of the Toms River Twp. Joint Board of Fire Commissioners, the Toms River Fire Academy and the Joint Fire Officers Association to unveil, a shadow box memorial that will be permanently displayed on the walls of the Toms River Twp. August "Gus" Forte Fire Academy.



Special Recognition: presented by the Joint Boards of Fire Commissioners

Retirement: After 36 years & 11 months

Fire Dispatcher **John Hopkins # 740**



Dispatcher Hopkins was hired as one of the first Fire Dispatchers for Dover Twp and submitted the following in his retirement letter:

Dispatcher Hopkins started when the only aerial piece in town was TR Fire Co #1's 75' Ladder. While today all of the companies, except for station 26, have aerial pieces, NO one has a Ladder.

Dispatcher Hopkins was here when the new call box system was ushered in a "New Era" of the public reporting of emergencies. He was here a few years later as it was unceremoniously dismantled.

Dispatcher Hopkins was here when a couple of fire companies tried the "new" yellow-green coloring for fire apparatus. Only to see the trucks repainted red long before a new paint job was really needed.

Dispatcher Hopkins also saw many changes on the EMS side of things. Volunteers used to answer all the townships first aid calls in shiny Cadillac's, raised money by walking door-to-door soliciting donations, and were appalled at the idea of begging the Fire Commissioners for money. Today, the police department provides paid EMS personnel to answer the majority of the township's first aid calls while the volunteer's trucks often remain safely hidden behind locked doors.

The biggest changes Dispatcher Hopkins has seen have been in the place where he does his job, Police Headquarters.

Dispatchers started out in Hovnanian's little row of condemned buildings where Lowe's is now on Hooper Avenue. While it was cold and drafty, and inhabited by far more rodents than police officers, at least we had a nice little lunge with a beer machine to help us unwind after a long and trying shift!

Alas, when an unmarked police car with a trunk load of beer obtained at NAS Lakehurst was rear-ended on Route 37, the public found out about the beer machine (we even made national news!) and the IRs found out we were buying and selling beer tax-free.

No more Beer Machine!

At about the same time as the Beer Machine issue, the dispatchers moved to a new building, dubbed *Forte Clement*, ushered in a new, albeit *dryer*, era.

In this building dispatchers were moved to three different rooms, and numerous remodeling, the next one slated for early next year.

We also suffered through numerous new and wonderful computer programs and configurations.

We had TV for a while, then they took it away. It's gone back and forth a number of times, but with the last computer "upgrade", it was taken away again. Unconfirmed rumors have it returning sometime next year.

Personally I miss the punch cards, the TV and the Beer Machine, BUT NOT Necessarily in that order.

Dispatcher Hopkins has decided that thirty-six years and eleven months as a fire dispatcher (a new record!) is long enough.

Dispatcher Hopkins stated "It's time to retire".

Therefore, he has tendered his resignation, effective 2359 hrs, 31 December 2010, and will start his retirement 1 January, 2011.

On behalf of the joint boards of fire commissioners, joint fire officers association, Bureau of Fire Prevention, Fire Academy, all fire company members, TR Twp. EMS and your dispatch co-workers, we wish you God Speed and many years of Happy Retirement.

Special Recognition: presented by the Joint Boards of Fire Commissioners

Letter of Commendation: Structure fire

Fire Dispatcher John “cubby” Hafner 743

Fire Dispatcher John Hafner # 743 was working the fire communications center along with two police dispatchers on Friday April 2, 2010 when he dispatched Silverton Fire Company Station 29 to a vehicle fire at 176 Tilton Street at 1943 hours. Silverton Fire Chief Bob Sinnott and Captain Gary Tattersall arrived to find a fire in an engine compartment of a pickup truck parked in front of a two car garage work shop. The fire quickly escalated to involve the work shop, two surrounding houses and several cars. The workshop was set up to be an auto body repair shop and the house to the west had a large attached two car garage with a marine repair shop. The auto body and marine repair shops added to the fire load and along with the race boat and fuel tank in the garage and two other houses were damaged from this fire.

During the incident, Dispatcher Hafner communicated to command over 5 fire channels, two EMS channels, along with fire units, EMS units, notifications to utilities and support personnel. Eight (8) fire companies were on scene along with additional stations for coverage assignments, four (4) first aid squads were on scene, three (3) fire hydrants were used to supply water along with assistance from the County Fire Coordinators. Dispatcher Hafner while working this incident, directed incoming units, provided fire hydrant locations and dispatched EMS to a civilian to be checked out.

Dispatcher Hafner was on duty for the 3-11 shift and worked this incident while handling other emergency calls in the township and should be commended for his actions and duties.

Case: 10-507 176 Tilton St, 180 Tilton St, 137 Brand Rd

Start time: 1943

End time: 2330

Firefighter 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.

Firefighter of the year: Station 26: - **Charles J. (CJ) Weinberger, III**

On behalf of myself and the Officers of the Toms River Fire Company #2, I would like to take the opportunity to nominate Firefighter Charles J. (CJ) Weinberger to receive the Toms River Twp. Fire Officers Association, "Firefighter of the Year Award".

Firefighter Weinberger has voluntarily performed duties over and above those expected of our firefighters. Along with his firematic duties, for the last two years, firefighter Weinberger has been completing all of the state-mandated New Jersey Fire Incident Reporting Systems, NFIRS reports for both stations 25 and 26, which requires an extensive amount of time on the computer due to the volume of fire calls for our stations. Since he's computer savvy, he is always revamping and continues to maintain our fire company website, uploading photos and information after significant incidents.

CJ also serves as the fire companies quartermaster, and has regained order and honor to our companies uniforms. Firefighter Weinberger also performs equipment demonstrations and fire prevention duties for local preschools throughout the year, which makes a lasting impression on many small children. Despite all of these extra duties, firefighter Weinberger still finds time to maintain a high response percentage, frequently attends fire and EMS training classes to better himself as a firefighter and EMT. Firefighter Weinberger will be entering the Firematic officer ranks as a lieutenant for the year 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Spiecker
Fire Chief, TR Vol. Fire Co. #2

Firefighter of the year: Station 29: - **Brian Tillotson**

The Officers of Silverton Fire Company #1, Station 29 proudly present Firefighter Brian Tillotson as the 2010 Firefighter of the year for the Toms River Fire Officers Association.

Brian's unselfish dedication to the company and his sworn oath as a firefighter is both admirable and commendable as he reaches 10 years of service. Firefighter Tillotson's commitment to our company is unlike many others as he started when he was 14 years old as a fire explorer. With 14 years of following in the footsteps of our life members and learning many life experiences, Brian has become a part of the Silverton Fire Company family as 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 employment and family responsibilities. Brian responds, because he truly cares and since joining as a firefighter, Brian has proven his commitment to excellence through his dedication in all aspects of our company.

He comes to calls and drills with more energy and excitement than others and volunteers for the "thank less jobs" and adjusts his schedule for last minute emails or texts for something to be done around the firehouse. It seems as though Firefighter Tillotson never leaves our firehouse and can be found assisting our officers with the set up of drills, with fire apparatus maintenance, and he is always ready to lend a hand.

Firefighter Tillotson has demonstrated his passion for firefighting through his daily commitment and has taken an active interest in training our future firefighters as an advisor of our explorer post in addition to being on several committees, some of which are the back bone of our company.

It is our Honor and Privilege to nominate Firefighter Brian Tillotson for the Silverton Fire Company #1, 2010 Firefighter of the year award.

Respectfully Submitted and on behalf of my officers and members,

Bob Sinnott
Fire Chief

*Firefighter of the year: Station 30:- **Matt Janora***

On behalf of myself, and the Officers of the Pleasant Plains Volunteer Fire Department, we are proud to present Firefighter Matt Janora, with the Toms River Twp. Fire Officers Association 2010 Firefighter of the year award.

This is the second time Firefighter Janora is receiving this honor in his seven year tenure with the fire department. Firefighter Janora continues to demonstrate his deep passion for firefighting by his daily commitment and active interest in training and continuing education. Firefighter Janora also continues to show a willingness to get involved, in not only fire responses, but all other aspects of the fire department.

Firefighter Janora was appointed to the position of Engineer for 2010 due to his dedication, loyalty and hard work. Firefighter Janora took this position seriously and far exceeded our expectations in maintaining our equipment and apparatus.

Firefighter Janora is also a member of the Toms River Twp. Technical Rescue Team where he continues to further his training and education. He was recently appointed to the Regional Urban Search Team (RUST) along with several other members of the Technical Rescue team.

Utilizing his training, education and experience Firefighter Janora has taken an active interest in training our future firefighters as an Instructor at the Toms River Fire Academy. He not only instructs at the fire academy but is eager to lend a hand in projects to better enhance the fire academy grounds. Firefighter Janora also assisted the officers with the planning and execution of department training and drills.

It is our Honor and Privilege to nominate Firefighter Janora for Firefighter of the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Doyle
Fire Chief

Medal of Gallantry - Is awarded to the firefighter who was involved in an act of bravery, such as deliberate thoughtful action involving extraordinary heroism and/or personal risk in the effort to save the life of another person.

District Fire Chief **John Novak** Toms River Police Ptl. **Ted Malony**
Fire Chief Station 25 **Gary Dye** Toms River Police Ptl. **TJ Polhemus**

On Saturday, February 27, 2010 Toms River Fire Companies, stations 25 and 26 were dispatched to 32 Pine Hill Road, for a reported structure fire, with multiple persons trapped inside the home. District Fire Chief John Novak and Toms River Fire Company #1 Chief Gary Dye arrived, along with patrolman Ted Malony and Patrolman TJ Polhemus. Upon their arrival heavy smoke was observed emanating from around the front main entrance as well as the eaves of the home, with several neighbors outside yelling that there were two adults and a child trapped in the home.

Officer Malony attempted to force the front main entrance open. However, the door would only open approximately 6 to 8 inches due to an obstruction. Officer Malony was able to get down below the smoke from the outside, and see the hand of one of the victims behind the door. Chief Novak along with Chief Dye donning full protective equipment entered the structure into an extremely hostile smoke and fire condition, without hose-line protection, and located a victim, later identified as an adult male, the father of the family. Together, Chief Novak, Chief Dye, Patrolman Malony, and Ptl. Polhemus removed the victim from the home, who was turned over to emergency medical personnel. It was determined shortly after removal that the victim was deceased.

Chief Dye and Chief Novak then re-entered the structure through the same front door, continuing without the protection of a hose-line or other tools in an attempt to locate the mother, and their 7 year old daughter. While searching, Chiefs Dye and Novak soon found that the interior stairway had burned completely away, and that the surrounding floor areas were partially collapsed, preventing them from accessing the upstairs bedrooms.

Upon arrival of the first engine, personnel placed a ground ladder to a 2nd floor window. Chiefs Dye and Novak, ascended this ladder and entered the structure to continue their search, unable to immediately locate any more victims. They were soon followed by additional search and fire suppression crews, and the fire was quickly extinguished, however unfortunately all three residents were killed as a result of this fire.

Based upon the aforementioned actions. I respectfully nominate District Fire Chief John Novak, Fire Chief Gary Dye, Ptl. Ted Malony, and Ptl. TJ Polhemus to receive the Medal of Gallantry award on behalf of the Toms River Twp. Fire Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Fire Chief Jason Spiecker
TR Fire Co. #2

Unit Citation: Awarded to a group of firefighters, who when working together as a team, performs an act of bravery and heroism associated with the saving the life of another.

Firefighters and Officers of **Stations 25 & 26**

On Tuesday, May 18th, 2010, at 2:53am Stations 25 & 26 were dispatched for a vehicle extrication at the intersection of Hooper and Oak Avenues. The Toms River Police Dept. was already on scene, reporting that a passenger vehicle had crashed into the rear of a stopped tractor-trailer, and requested the fire companies to expedite their response.

Upon the arrival of our first personnel, it was found that the vehicle was crushed almost completely under the rear of the tractor trailer, and the driver was barely visible, but obviously severely injured inside the extreme wreckage. Units 2561, 2624, 2631, and other fire officers responded to the scene and immediately went to work to extricate the trapped driver. Crews needed to lift the rear of the trailer off the vehicle, and then remove the severely entangled vehicle parts.

Due to the complexity of the scene, as well as the severe rainy weather, this operation continued for some time. Personnel coordinated their efforts by utilizing air bags and wood cribbing to lift the trailer, and systematically used hydraulic cutters and spreaders to pry away the mangled steel just to access the driver. Although this became an extended operation, crews still could not gain enough room to access the driver. A local tow truck was utilized to winch the vehicle out from underneath the lifted trailer. Crews then successfully accessed the driver, and assisted in his removal and transfer to awaiting EMS. We were later told that the driver had survived, due solely to the ability of our personnel to plan and successfully execute this heavy rescue operation. It is for this reason that I feel all the members involved in this operation (too many to list individually) deserve a "Unit Citation".

Respectfully submitted,

Fire Chief Jason Spiecker
TR Fire Co. #2.

Medal of Courage Award is awarded to a member of the Emergency Services for performance above and beyond the call of duty at great personal risk having been instrumental in rescuing and saving another's life from possible death.

Toms River Police Corporal **Robert Fielding**
Toms River Police Ptl **Rick Karkovice**

On Saturday, February 13, 2010 at 0928 hrs. stations 25 and 26, along with the Toms River Township Police Department were dispatched to a structure fire At 1101 Winteringham Village. Patrolman Robert Fielding, and Patrolman Rick Karkovice were the first emergency services personnel to arrive on scene. The common Fielding observed, black smoke emanating from building number 11. Upon approaching the structure citizens on the exterior of the building advised the officers that there was a female trapped inside.

Officers Fielding, and Karkovice entered the rear sliding glass door, where they could hear a female calling for help. Due to the smoke condition. The officers were unable to see the female inside the apartment. Upon crawling into the apartment. The officers led by Fielding could see flames further into the room toward the left. Officer Fielding then observed the hand move on the floor and yelled for the victim to grab his hand. In a panic the victim moved further away from the officers. Ptl. Fielding moved closer and was able to grab her by her wrist and began dragging her toward the sliding glass door. Patrolman Karkovice then pulled Ptl. Fielding towards the door as he held onto the victims wrist. The victim was moved outside the apartment and subsequently the officers were assisted by other persons on scene and carried her further away from the apartment. Shortly after removing the victim from the apartment, the apartment became well involved in fire with flames emanating from the same sliding glass door where the rescue was made from.

The victim later identified as Danielle Skinner, was found to be breathing, and conscious however, she was not alert. She suffered burns to her hands, face and upper torso as well as smoke inhalation. The victim was flown to St. Barnabas burn unit in Livingston New Jersey, where she has since made full recovery.

Based on the aforementioned actions. I respectfully submit Ptl. Robert Fielding and Ptl. Rick Karkovice to receive the metal of courage on behalf of the Toms River Twp. Fire Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Fire Chief, Jason Spiecker
TR Fire Co. #2.

Award of Merit Is awarded to Fire 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.

Pleasant Plains Fire Dept **Firefighter John Cuff**

On Friday, October 30, 2010 at approx. 1740 hours Firefighter John Cuff was driving on Holmdel Road in Holmdel, NJ when he witnessed a vehicle strike a utility pole and overturn coming to rest in the middle of Holmdel Road. Firefighter Cuff was the first on scene and as he approached the vehicle he observed a single occupant, the driver, unconscious with labored breathing. Firefighter Cuff attempted to gain access through the driver's door but was unable to do so due to the extensive damage to the vehicle. Firefighter Cuff had his girlfriend, Nikki, call 911 to advise them of the crash and the resources needed. Firefighter Cuff then went around to the passenger side of the vehicle where he was able to gain access into the vehicle through the passenger door. Firefighter Cuff crawled inside the vehicle and cut the airbag and seat belt off the driver. Firefighter Cuff then provided emergency care to the driver until fire and EMS personnel arrived and extricated him. The driver was airlifted to Robert Wood Johnson University Medical Center in New Brunswick for treatment to injuries he sustained from the crash.

Based upon the aforementioned actions. I respectfully nominate firefighter John Cuff to receive the Award of Merit, on behalf of the Toms River Twp. Fire Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Fire Chief Brian Doyle
Pleasant Plains Fire Company

Award of Merit Is awarded to Fire 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.

Silverton Vol. Fire Co. **Firefighter Rex Hayes**

On Friday, October 1, 2010, while station 29 was returning from a call, Captain Gary Tattersall was alerted to a family in the truck bay. Mr. Robert Hand, along with his parents had come to Station 29 to look for firefighter Rex Hayes to show their appreciation and thank him personally for his actions at a motor vehicle collision.

On Saturday, April 24, 2010 Mr. Robert Hand Was Riding His Motorcycle on Brick Blvd. that collided with a sport utility vehicle that pulled out of a commercial parking lot. Mr. hand was seriously injured from this crash and fall from his motorcycle.

Firefighter Rex Hayes in his personal vehicle was the first person on scene. Using his skills and training as a firefighter and with no rescue equipment, fire fighter Hayes was able to stabilize and assist Mr. Hand prior to police and EMS arrival. While assisting Robert with his injuries, fire fighter Hayes Called Robert Hands mother and spoke with her about the crash, and her sons near life-threatening injuries during the incident. Robert Hand was transported to the Jersey Shore Trauma Center, and continues to recover from his injuries.

Firefighter Rex Hayes also assisted this year with a very serious motor vehicle accident on the interstate in Maryland and is recognized for this and should be commended for his actions as this is a highly credible accomplishment bringing public acclaim to our company and the fire service in general.

Based upon the aforementioned actions, I respectfully nominate firefighter Rex Hayes to receive the Award of Merit, on behalf of the Toms River Twp. Fire Department.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Sinnott
Fire Chief

Citizens Heroism Award Awarded for 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.

Mr. Tom DeMichael

On Sunday, March 14, 2010, Nancy DeMichael, of 251 Aldo Drive, in the Silverton section of Toms River was outside tending to her dog, when she heard people screaming, and witnessed the neighbors house located at 241 Aldo Drive on fire. Nancy notified her husband Tom DeMichael who ran down the street to their neighbors home, while she called 911. When Tom DeMichael arrived at the house he observed a heavy smoke condition with fire visibly burning inside to the right of the front door and stairway. William McInerney, and Robert McInerney were on the front lawn yelling that their mother Veronica McInerney was trapped in the home.

Looking from the front door through the smoke, Tom DeMichael observed Veronica unconscious on the stairs. Tom DeMichael entered the front door without protective equipment working his way through the smoke filled room to pull Veronica McInerney from the first floor stair way to the front lawn.

Upon arrival of the first arriving police officer and emergency medical services, it was noted that Veronica McInerney sustained burns to her arms, legs, buttocks and back as well as soot staining on her face. Mrs. McInerney was transported to the Jersey Shore Trauma Center for treatment, where she recovered from her injuries.

Based upon the aforementioned actions, I respectfully nominate Mr. Tom DeMichael to receive the Citizens Heroism award on behalf of the Toms River Twp. Fire Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sinnott
Fire Chief
Silverton Fire Co.

Citizens Heroism Award Awarded for 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.

Mr. Wayne Ratti

On Tuesday, September 7, 2010 at approximately, 2302 hrs, a local resident who was walking his dog, noticed a house fire at 2301, Forest Grove Ave. noticing that the house appeared to be occupied, the resident first knocked on the door of the involve house; then ran to the adjacent house, occupied by Mr. Wayne Ratti to notify the fire department.

Upon hearing of the fire, Mr. Ratti immediately responded on foot across the Forest Grove Avenue to lend assistance. At that time, he made contact with the female occupant of the fire building identified as Rebecca Kendrick who had self evacuated with her fiancé and several children. At that time, she advised Mr. Ratti that one of her daughters was still inside the now well involved home. Mr. Ratti, quickly made entry via the front door, despite the growing volume of fire both inside and outside the doorway. Once inside, Mr. Ratti observed flames rolling across the Interior ceiling and began his search for the missing juvenile. He quickly located a young female in the northeast corner of the first floor, who he then attempted to evacuate. At that time the fire rapidly intensified, which cut off the primary egress route through the front door. This forced him to evacuate the child through the side door, narrowly escaping the growing inferno.

The actions displayed by Mr. Ratti reflected great credit upon himself, and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the good Samaritan in American society. He deserves both our recognition, and thanks for ensuring a positive outcome to this incident; which without his timely intervention could have easily resulted in tragedy.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Abrams
Assistant Chief Station 28

Citizens Heroism Award Awarded for 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.

Ed Mulligan, maintenance staff, 91 Highland Plaza

On Wednesday, September 15, 2010 at 1537 hrs stations 25 and 26 were dispatched for a fire alarm at the senior citizens housing project located at 91 Highland Parkway. Fire Chief Gary Dye Station 25 was the first fire officer to arrive and was met shortly thereafter by Fire Inspector Steve Hayes of the Toms River Twp. Bureau of Fire Prevention. Chief Dye advised Inspector Hayes that the fire alarm was a result of burned food in apartment 4A4. He further advised Inspector Hayes that the resident of the apartment, Lucy Imbimbo is currently located in the fourth floor lobby in need of medical attention. While Chief Dye administered oxygen to the victim Inspector Hayes located the affected apartment, he observed a significant amount of smoke in the hallway and the apartment. During his investigation Inspector Hayes learned that Mr. Ed Mulligan, a maintenance staff employee of Highland Plaza, upon learning of which apartment was on fire entered the smoke-filled apartment locating Lucy Imbimbo sitting in a chair, he removed her from the apartment to the lobby. Ms. Imbimbo suffered from a smoke inhalation and was treated on scene.

As a result of Mr. Mulligan's training received through his employment at Highland Plaza relating to fire, Mr. Mulligan quickly responded and removed the victim from her apartment. If not for his actions this incident could have easily resulted in tragedy.

Specially submitted,

Fire Inspector Steve Hayes
TR Twp. Bureau of Fire Prevention

Outstanding Service Award Presented to any corporation or service organization who through their support and dedication to the members of Toms River Fire Department have shown extraordinary support of the fire service.

Yezzi Associates

Approximately 9 months ago The Toms River Twp. Fire Academy began a long-awaited project, to build a large storage building in place of a 20-year-old shed and to clear approximately one half acre of trees. As the project started to move forward Academy personnel had realized that they were in need of a professional in the engineering field. When approached about this project, Matthew Yezzi of Yezzi Associates was more than willing to assist with everything we had needed.

Over the last six months, Matt Yezzi, and Associates have provided the fire Academy with countless technical drawings, plan copies, assisted in the filing of permit applications, as well as representing the academy at planning Board meetings consuming many hours of their time trying to sort out all the issues that come along with projects such as these. All of the efforts performed at no charge to either fire district. After many months of phone calls, plan changes and re-changes, site visits and many permit applications, the fire Academy was approved to move forward with their project.

If not for the assistance of Matt Yezzi, His father and everyone at Yezzi Associates our project might not have been able to move forward. Yezzi Associates has shown a level of dedication to the Toms River. Fire Department, and all of its members and will benefit us for many years into the future.

Based on the above actions I am nominating Matthew Yezzi, and Yezzi Associates to receive the outstanding service award for their support to the Toms River Fire Department above and beyond what was ever asked of them.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Janora,
Pleasant Plains Fire Department
TR Fire Academy Project Team Member

15. **Benediction** Captain Eddie Storino
16. **Closing remarks** President Lightbody.
17. **All Firefighters to rise**, brought to attention by Captain Armstrong.
18. **Dismissal of Firefighters**, by Captain Armstrong.

The logo is a shield-shaped emblem for the Toms River Fire Department. At the top, a yellow banner contains the text "TWP. OF TOMS RIVER" in blue. Below this, the words "2011 COMMITTEE" are written in bold black text. The center of the shield features a fire hydrant and a fire truck. At the bottom, a yellow banner contains the text "TOMS RIVER FIRE DEPARTMENT" in blue.

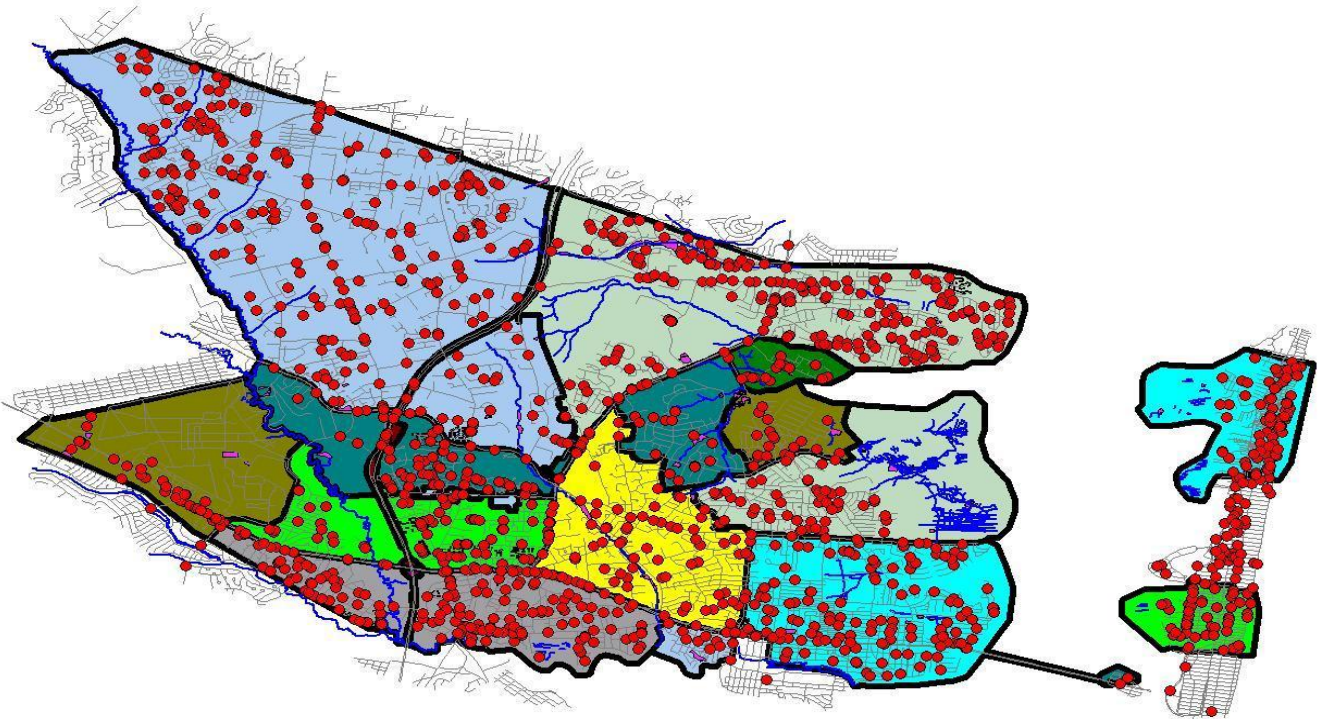
2011 COMMITTEE

A special thank you to all of the fire department officers, members and their families, our supporters, Captain Matt Armstrong -OCSD, Elizabeth Ritacco -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!

*John H Lightbody
Gary Dye
Jason Speicker
Darlene Gargano
Brian Timmerman
Bob Sinnott
Mike Barile*

*Brian Doyle
Rick Tutela
Gary Tattersall
Bill Golkiewicz
Monica Bisceglie
CJ Weinberger
Dave George*

Calls for service in 2010 are represented on the township map with a red circle on where they occurred. Each year the 6 companies of Toms River Fire Department respond to approximately 2000 calls for service.



0.75 mi

2010 Fire Calls by Day

