



Volume 1, Issue 1

August, 1999

FAIR HAVEN FIRE COMPANY No. 1 *Newsletter*

FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT
James M. Kirman

FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF
Christopher Conk

FIRST AID CAPTAIN
Brenda Jacobsen

FIRE POLICE CAPTAIN
Bud DuPree

SCUBA TEAM CAPTAIN
William Heath

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT
Diane Kilzen

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Dear Residents,

As President of the Fair Haven Fire Company, I feel it is important to keep you informed of the great job our many volunteers are doing on a day-to-day basis. Therefore, we are initiating a quarterly newsletter that will be distributed to each residence in Fair Haven.

The Fair Haven Fire Company is, above all other things, your first responder if you have a fire, rescue or medical emergency. However, it is much more than that. I know that most of you know about the impressive job the Fire Company does each August with the Annual Firemen's Fair and in December with the Christmas Open House, but there are many other aspects of the Fire Company that I feel will be of interest to you. The *Newsletter* will include information on the Fire Department, First Aid Squad, Fire Police and Auxiliary. These units operate in a coordinated way,

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Firemen's Fair 1999!!

The annual Firemen's Fair will be August 27 - September 4

As usual, this event will have something for the entire family, including great food, rides, games, 50-50 and the raffle of a 1999 Montana Pontiac Minivan

Volunteers are needed to work at the Fair. Please contact Joe Perrotto at 741-0798 to sign up for this fun activity.

CHIEF'S REPORT...

Even though my year is half over, I just want to say that I am very proud to serve as your Fire Chief for 1999. It gives me great pleasure to serve the residents and business people of Fair Haven; I can also speak for all the members of the Fire Company and say they share that pride. Last year the Fire Department responded to 108 calls, none of which resulted in serious property loss. This year started out much busier for us, with two major structure fires within two weeks of each other, but thanks to the aggressive attacks for our well-trained members, both structures were saved. The recent power outages that affected Fair Haven and surrounding communities also kept us very busy — we responded to a very large number of emergency calls during that period of July.

The other Fire Department officers for 1999 are:

Deputy Chief - John Felsman
1st Assistant Chief - John Riley, Jr.
2nd Assistant Chief - John Feeny
Head Engineer - Jack Mulvihill
Assistant Engineer - Ray Bennet

We need your help in preventing fires and in minimizing our delay in fighting fires that do

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whether during emergencies or during the community events just mentioned. Together, they constitute the Fair Haven Fire Company.

The Fire Company is a terrific organization and a vital part of our community. I'm proud to have been a member for 18 years. Even though we have a substantial number of members, we are always looking for new volunteers. If you or anyone you know who is 18 years old or older is interested in joining, stop in at the Firehouse on River Road for an application on the first Monday of each month at 7pm.

With half the year already over and summer in full gear, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a safe and healthy summer.

Sincerely,

James M. Kirman

Bud DuPree
Captain

THE (FIRE) POLICE BLOTTER ...

Who are the Fire Police??? We are all volunteers and we are the people standing in the middle of the road with the bright Day-Glo vests holding the red flashlights — trying hard to divert traffic around an emergency. By performing this function, we relieve the Fair Haven Police Department from performing such duties during a fire or motor vehicle accident — keeping them available for other emergencies that may arise.

Like the other units in the Fire Company, we are well equipped with emergency equipment, and we train frequently. We are also frequently called into surrounding communities during times of emergency, such as the recent major natural gas leak in Red Bank. However, unlike the other Fire Company organizations, our services often cause frustration and apparent inconvenience to Fair Residents. Somehow, it seems like we are keeping you from getting where you want to go. We understand your feelings and are sorry for the inconvenience. Please understand though, that we are working to provide safety for the fire fighters and first aiders who are involved in life-saving or property-saving activities. We need your understanding and support in this regard. We will always try to help you with directions; we simply ask that you pull out of the way of traffic and walk to a safe area so that we can talk with you in a non-disruptive fashion.

In addition to working emergency situations, we are called upon to assist with parades and other community activities that require traffic control. During some of these events we may need to block streets with cones or barricades to keep vehicles out — for your safety as well as the safety of Fire Company personnel. Again, we must emphasize that you should not go through or around one of these traffic control points.

One last thing: if you would like to become a part of this great organization, please contact any of our members about volunteering.

The (~~LADIES~~) auxiliary

In 1921, the Chief of the Fire Company submitted to the Mayor and Council of Fair Haven a list of names that, upon their approval, became the charter members of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fair Haven Fire Co. We became known as the Auxiliary of the company. The first meeting was held on March 7, 1921. The Constitution and By-laws were adopted shortly thereafter.

The primary purpose of the Auxiliary was to serve coffee at fire scenes and assist wherever possible. This is still our purpose today. Whether serving ice water when it's 90 degrees out or coffee at 1:00am in sub-zero weather, we assist whenever we're called.

However, as with everything else in life, times have changed! In December of 1993, Bud Warren was sworn in as our first male member. In January, 1995, firefighter Gary Allers came on board. These new members of the "opposite sex" changed the nature of our organization and provided another outlet for people to help serve our community — whether male or female. Sadly, our valuable member and friend Bud Warren passed away in June (see Memorial statement on page 3). However, we hope that his dedication will inspire others to become a part of our team.

Along with our annual fund raisers, including our flea market and fish fry (co-sponsored with the Fire Police), we held our first blood drive with the Central Jersey Blood Bank May 15. We had 32 donors. We plan on making this an annual event.

Any resident of Fair Haven, Rumson or Little Silver, age 18 or older, wishing to become a part of our organization may write to the Auxiliary, care of the Secretary, 24 McLaren Street, Red Bank, NJ 07701. We hope to hear from you!

Diane Kilzen, President

FAIR HAVEN FIRST AID SQUAD — BACKGROUND FROM THE OFFICERS

The Fair Haven First Aid Squad is one of the most active organizations of the Fire Company, averaging about 400 calls per year. We are all volunteers, and we have approximately 15 active members from our community. We provide quality emergency medical and transportation services to Fair Haven residents 24 hours per day. We also provide extensive mutual aid for surrounding communities. We'd like to outline for you our requirements for membership and our activities, as well as some of our proud history.

Prior to joining the First Aid Squad, candidates must be members of one of the Fire Company units, either as an active or social member of the Fire Department or the Auxiliary. To become an active First Aid member, the candidate needs to qualify for the New Jersey Department of Health Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or as a First Responder. Since we are all in this together, we welcome new members without these qualifications and we help them get through the required training. Each month the Squad conducts one or two training sessions, in addition to its monthly business meeting. We work at improving the quality of our patient response by keeping current on the latest emergency medical care procedures and by using the most modern technology. We carry defibrillators on both of our ambulances — allowing us to provide on-scene resuscitation that was not possible even a few years ago.

We are grateful to our community for their generous donations that help us procure and maintain much of this state-of-the-art equipment. The Squad and the Borough of Fair Haven also contribute significantly to providing this equipment. Our current apparatus includes two ambulances, a new 1999 "first responder" vehicle and a rescue boat that we use, in conjunction with the Scuba Team. We carry the "jaws of life" and are well prepared for extricating unfortunate passengers of motor vehicle accidents. The array of equipment is staggering — oxygen, trauma supplies, pediatric supplies, vacuum splints, Scott Air Packs, carbon monoxide detectors, etc. etc.

Even with this very modern inventory of equipment, our most important asset is our people and their proud history of service. This history goes back to the start of the First Aid Squad March 25, 1930. The highlights on that service include being called into action during the tragic burning of the S.S. Morro Castle in 1934 and again during the Hindenburg explosion in 1937. In 1957 we responded to the fatal wreck of the Pennsylvania Railroad train in Woodbridge. More recently, we donated one of our ambulances to the town of Percival, Iowa, after they had lost their only ambulance during the devastating floods of the Missouri River. Members of the Percival squad traveled to Fair Haven to receive their new ambulance and a bond of friendship that will be with us for a long time.

We are always seeing new members. Are you up to the challenge? If so, please call any time to find out about our wonderful organization.

Brenda Jacobsen, Captain
747-4705

Hal Trenton, First Lieutenant
747-0307

Wade Davis, Second Lieutenant
933-0865

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occur. Always remember to keep the hydrants in front of your house clear of debris or any snow as it will help us to quickly gain access to the hydrant in case of emergency.

As always, new members are needed, and anyone who is interested in this rewarding community activity should stop by the firehouse or call any of the fire officers at (732) 933-9884.

In closing, I want to thank the Fire Department members for their support during my year as Chief. Without them, we would not be able to serve this fine community.

IN MEMORY

Two of our most beloved members passed away recently - John E. "Buddy" Warren, who was Chief, President, Life Member of the Fire Company and

Al Robbins, also Chief, President and Life Member.

Both of these members made contributions to the Fire Company and the Community that were unique. We will miss them dearly.

Our hearts go out to the friends of families of these fellow firefighters and leaders of our organization.

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Please email any comments to jdavis@arcmail.com

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE NOT REQUIRED
PLEASE SEE THE ARTICLES INSIDE TO LEARN
OF OUR NEED FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS**