



# Fair Haven Fire Company No 1

## Summer 2014 Newsletter

Volume 16 Issue 1 August 2014

WWW.FHFD.ORG

FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT  
Robert Townshend

FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF  
Dan Kane

FIRST AID CAPTAIN  
Pat Corbett

FIRE POLICE CAPTAIN  
Marty Coy

WATER RESCUE ADMINISTRATOR  
John P. Felsmann

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT  
Dale Connor

### IT'S FAIR TIME!

Friday, August 22—Saturday, August 30

(Closed Sunday)



### WEDNESDAY IS FAMILY NIGHT!

1 less ticket for rides!

### GOURMET SEAFOOD!

Doors open at 6:00!

### SUPER 50/50!


Last year's winner took home over  
\$17,000!

### WIN \$\$\$\$\$\$!

The First Aid Squad is raffling off  
TWO Visa Gift Cards!  
**First Drawing: \$1000**  
**Second Drawing: \$500**



### FHFD Knocks Down Fire

 In May, firefighters were called to action for a structure fire at a local residence, where they were dispatched for a kitchen fire. Upon arrival, Engine 1373 stood by, ready with a dropped "dry line" since it was initially determined that police officers were able to extinguish the kitchen fire using dry chemicals. However, as firefighters very quickly checked the home, a fire in the second floor bedroom was discovered. The dry line was put into action and water from a River Road hydrant was used to put out the fire, using additional manpower arriving on Engine 1375.

Chief Kane commented that it was the quick actions of the first responding police officers plus the teamwork of the firefighters that prevented any injuries or further damage to the home. "I am very proud of the professionalism of our firefighters. This was the first major fire we have had in eight years, and the hundreds of hours of drills, training and preparation showed in their diligence, their adherence to safety and the way they knocked that fire down," said Chief Kane.

### Alert! Phone Charger Catches Fire!



**R**ecently, two teenagers were home alone when a cell phone lightning charger that was in a beach bag exploded and caught on fire. Luckily, the fire was put out before anyone was hurt or major damage occurred.

Please check online to see if your chargers are safe or if there have been recalls. And never, ever touch a burning object or move it. Call 911! Most important lesson:

**Teach everyone in your family to use a fire extinguisher.**

# FAIR HAVEN FIRE COMPANY

## A Message from Chief Kane



It is an honor to serve the citizens of Fair Haven and the members of the Fair Haven Volunteer Fire Company as Chief of the Fair Haven Fire Department for 2014. I was fortunate to grow up in the area and am a graduate of Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School. After college, I moved out of NJ and lived in Washington, DC, Virginia, and Connecticut. I had always planned on coming back to raise my family

here, and, finally, after 16 years, we returned. Less than a month after I moved back I had the pleasure of taking my children to the Fireman's Fair and watching them enjoy the rides and games with all of their cousins. Some of the rides were ones I had gone on as a child. I wanted to give back to the community and teach my children what it means to be a volunteer. Although I wanted to join the Fire Department, I wasn't sure I would be able to give it the requisite time, due to my daily work commute. My wife introduced me to Mike Reddy, the Chief at the time. After speaking with him, I reasoned that if Mike Reddy could commute and still dedicate enough time to rise to the position of Chief, then I could join the department to try and help out.

It is now several years later and I am proud to have been elected to serve as your Chief. My job is made that much easier by the dedicated volunteers who spend countless hours serving their friends and neighbors in the community. The volunteers serve in different capacities, including the Fire Department, the First Aid Squad, the Fire Police, the Water Rescue Unit, and the Auxiliary. All of these members dedicate their time to serve their community. We all realize that when someone dials 911, it is one of our neighbors who is in need of help.

Residents often ask me, "What can we do to be safe and help?" Here are several ways that citizens of Fair Haven can help us serve you better:

## FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEFS

Chief Dan Kane

Deputy Chief Scott Eskwitt • Assistant Chief Tim Morrissey

- ◆ Please yield to cars with the blue lights on when they are heading to the scene or firehouse. We know it may be frustrating to have to wait, but remember, they are headed to help someone or to keep FHFD members and residents safe.
- ◆ Get a fire extinguisher or aerosol extinguishing system and learn how to properly use them.
- ◆ Make sure that your house number is big enough for us to see and well illuminated.
- ◆ Trim back bushes and trees from fire hydrants and gas meters.
- ◆ Make sure that your home has carbon monoxide detectors and smoke detectors.
- ◆ Change the batteries in your detectors twice a year.
- ◆ Keep your hydrant clear of snow during the winter.
- ◆ Get your chimney cleaned.
- ◆ Clear a path in your basement to the electrical panel, furnace, and hot water heater.
- ◆ Never leave food cooking unattended.
- ◆ Use flashlights instead of candles during power outages.

**A message for parents:** There is one more thing you can do to help us. Every October the Fire Department provides a Fire Safety lesson to Fair Haven students from pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We teach them what to do in the event of an emergency. Every year we ask the students if they conduct fire drills at home. Only a few children raise their hands. My goal: This October, I would like to see ALL of the students raise their hands when we ask them if their families conduct drills at home. Thank you for your continued support. Please email me at [chief@fhfd.org](mailto:chief@fhfd.org) if you have any questions or concerns.



**Five decades of Ex Chiefs pose for a photo at our recent 110th celebration**

**Back Row:** John W. Felsmann (2000), Mike Reddy (2005), Bob Townshend (2007), Bill Heath (2012), Jim Cerruti (2010), Wade Davis (2011), Bob Frank (2004), Mike Foley (1990), Jim Butler III (1998), Paul Lenskold (2006)

**Front Row:** John V. Feeny (1980), John P. Felsmann (1973), John Riley (1977), A. Fred Maffeo\*(1956), Jack Mulvihill (1989), Dave Binaco (1983), Andrew Schrank (1997), Michael Connor (1984)

\*Deceased, August 1, 2014





### FIRST AID SQUAD

Captain Pat Corbett , 1st Lieutenant Joe Truex (not pictured), 2nd Lieutenant Kim Ambrose



### FIRE POLICE

2nd Lieutenant Frank Scalzo, Captain Marty Coy, 1st Lieutenant Lou Davison



### AUXILIARY

President Dale Connor

### Fire Department Responses January—July 2014

	Medical	Fire & Rescue	Drills & Misc	Total
Jan	13	16	5	34
Feb	19	7	4	30
Mar	15	13	4	32
Apr	12	8	2	22
May	34	10	5	49
Jun	29	13	8	50
Jul	13	8	2	23



### IT'S ALL IN THE FAMILY

**Here's some FHFD math for you: 3 Families + Tradition + Dedication = 504 years of service to our Fair Haven!**

A few of our Fire Department families—fathers, mothers, children, in-laws—took a moment to pose for some group photos during the 110th celebration. They represent just a few of the multi-generational families—whether descendants of the original 1894 bucket brigade [Volunteers provided their own pails, until the brigades stopped around the turn of the century] or newer families to town—helping to make Fair Haven a true “safe” haven for all of us. Thank you for your service.



#### *The Butler Family:*

**108 total years of service!**

Bill Heath, Jim Butler Jr, Jim Butler III

#### *The Felsmann Family:* **190 total years of service!**

John W. Felsmann, Trudy Felsmann, Monica Felsmann, John P. Felsmann, Paula Felsmann Mulvihill, Jack Mulvihill (In fact, Jack's Great Uncle, Frank Mulvihill, was FHFD's first Chief in 1904. Below are his fellow firefighters, standing in front of the original firehouse on Fair Haven Road.)



#### *The Binaco Family:*

**206 total years of service!**

Dave Binaco, Andy Binaco, Phil Binaco, Ruth Binaco





## Scenes from around Town

### July 23, 2014. County Fair!

Fair Haven Firefighters competed at the Monmouth County Fair in the hose and ladder event. Events like this are fun, but more importantly, the hours of practice and time spent at competitions build skills and



comradery, and forge friendships with surrounding fire companies. This photo shows the teamwork it takes to make sure a firefighter is safely balanced on a ladder before he aims a hose at the source of flames.



### July 28, 2014. Future Firefighters Practice Too!

Cadet Nick Joyce practices crawling through wall joists during a simulated house fire drill held at the firehouse.

### July 17, 2014. Shrewsbury Yacht Club Drill

First Aiders practice treating a patient on the beach by Shrewsbury Yacht Club. The focus of this drill was not only to practice first aid care, but also practice bringing a patient safely up the long, steep driveway to the ambulance.



### February 25, 2014. Ice and Snow Don't Stop Fires

FHFD conducts drills all year round. In this drill, firefighters practiced winter fire fighting skills on a home that was donated by the owners prior to them demolishing it before building a new house. Using equipment under very cold and icy conditions can be treacherous. One way our



residents help out is by digging out hydrants after a snow storm. This allows FHFD to immediately lay hose, charge the lines with water, and fight the fire.

We thank Burke Builders for offering up a few houses this year for our drills.

If you are a builder or home owner who would be willing to have their home be part of a drill, contact Chief Kane at [chief@fhfd.org](mailto:chief@fhfd.org).



### October 2013 Smart Start Pre School

You know it's October when you see the fire trucks parked outside of our local schools. A crew of firefighters teach children the basics of fire safety, including, of course the "Get Out and Stay Out" mantra. Here, children learn how important it is to crawl to safety, since heat and smoke rises. It looks like firefighter Henne is modeling excellent crawling!





# First Aiders Needed!

Your help is vital. On average, every year, one in five Fair Haven households call us for help. But getting an ambulance crew together quickly, especially during weekdays, has gotten tough.

We are in good shape when it comes to night and weekend calls. But, as happens in many communities, the majority of Fair Haven's first aiders and firefighters work out of town, and only a few members have been available to respond during weekday daytime hours. Lately some of those daytime regulars have moved away or started new jobs, and suddenly, it has become much harder to put together the three-person crew we require for each call.

If you have the time and the energy, we would like you to volunteer for our Squad. Physical strength is useful—patients sometimes have to be carried up or down stairs—but not essential. We now have motorized cots and other devices that help with some of the lifting. Afraid you'll faint at the sight of blood? Calls involving trauma are very rare. The vast majority of calls are for people who feel sick, short of breath, in pain, have fallen down, etc. If you are uncomfortable on a call, there are many ways to help out on the scene or back at the firehouse.

Joining the Squad is not a trivial commitment. It requires 60 hours of training spread out over 2 months to get started as a first aider. You are expected to attend monthly meetings and training exercises, go on about a quarter of all calls annually, help out on fire department calls, and be available for special events like a parade, race and of course, at our eight day Fair. You will also be part of the Fair Haven Fire Company, our parent organization, which has a long and proud history of serving the town.

Despite the effort required, belonging to the Fair Haven First Aid Squad is enormously satisfying. You are helping your neighbors when they need you most. You are acquiring lifesaving skills that can help you and your family at any time. You will join a community of caring, generous, enthusiastic people, who will become a lot like



“family” over time. Do not worry if you are a newcomer to town. Members include those whose families hobnobbed with George Washington (well almost), to those who are still unpacking boxes.

## OKAY, I'M IN. NOW WHAT?

Contact Captain Corbett at [fhfascaptain@fhfd.org](mailto:fhfascaptain@fhfd.org) or [fhfasmembership@fhfd.org](mailto:fhfasmembership@fhfd.org) if you have any questions or apply today by going to [www.fhfd.org](http://www.fhfd.org). We train members when we have several new volunteers available at one time. It may take a few weeks or months before classes start. They generally take place in the evening, two nights a week, for about a month. A criminal background check will be completed.

Once you're a member of the Squad be prepared to jump out of your chair or climb out of bed, even when you don't feel like it. You will have a pager, a link on your smartphone, and horns will blast (three times) from the firehouse to tell you that you are needed.

**Do it. You will be glad you did. We are.**





## A Message from Fire Company President Bob Townshend

It is my honor to serve as President of the Fire Company in a town that I grew up in, work as a police officer, and a town where my family enjoys the Fair, the parades and the same traditions I enjoyed years ago. The Fire Company is 200 strong, made up of Firefighters, First Aiders, Fire Police, Social Members, Auxiliary and a Water Rescue Team. When I hear the horns go off I know that someone is in need of assistance and I am so proud of the professionalism and care all our members display when they are going to a fire call, a medical emergency, or to assist with scene safety. I also know that behind each of the members who work tirelessly for the Department are families putting dinner on hold, neighbors keeping an eye on a pet while we are working at a fire, friends who help out while we are at drills, and residents who are willing to give us a hand at the Fair and countless other events all year. Thank you to all of you.

This year we lost two extraordinary men. Lou Hartman passed away in April. Not only was he our First Aid Captain in 1981, but he was also instrumental in leading the Water Rescue Team. When you see us practicing ice rescues on a cold night in February on McCarter's Pond, we are most likely using skills Lou taught us. And on August 1, our oldest living Chief, A. Fred Maffeo passed away. He was Chief back in 1956, perhaps before many of you reading this newsletter were born. It is the dedication of members like Fred and Lou that make this Fire Company what it is. I am proud to lead it. I wish you all a safe year and hope to see you at the Fair!



Lou Hartman



A. Fred Maffeo

## On June 7th, FHFDD Celebrated 110 Years of Service

Thank you to local photographer Scott Longfield, who, with the help of some Red Bank Fire Department members and RBFD's Tower Truck 90, took many of the 110th anniversary group photographs seen throughout this newsletter.

**Below, clockwise from left:** Auxiliary, Fire Police, Jim Butler and Ray Taylor, Cadets, Old Timers and "Young Timers" mingle, Water Rescue Team





# 2014 FHFD Volunteerism Scholarship

## Awarded to Ryan Heard



**R**yan Heard, a RFH '14 graduate, FHFD Cadet, and this year's recipient of the FHFD Volunteerism Scholarship is headed to Notre Dame to study engineering. We asked Ryan to share his thoughts on volunteering in general and at the Fire Department.

### How do you see yourself volunteering in the college community?

At Notre Dame I look forward to joining Engineers Without Borders, which gives engineering students the opportunity to complete sustainable engineering projects both in South Bend and internationally.

### What is your favorite Firemen's Fair memory?

My favorite memory is the first time that I went to the fair when I moved here in 5th grade. I remember being blown away by all the rides, like the Zipper, all of the food, and all of the games being run by members of this close-knit town coming together. As I grew older, and now a cadet in the fire company, I really enjoyed working at the fair, especially in the Outback. The fair is truly something special and unlike anything I had ever seen.

### What did being a cadet mean to you?

Being a cadet has been so much more than just an extra-curricular activity' for me. It has taught me not only how to be a firefighter but it has also pushed me out of my comfort zone to try new things. In the discomfort of the unknown, I discovered the real comfort of finding a place where I belonged. It has given me some of my favorite high school memories—riding on the fire truck at Christmas with Santa, selling Christmas trees, and doing safety demonstrations for the kids at Sickles Elementary School. For me, the FHFD is the core of this little town, where traditions are formed, and where I've learned what a sense of "community" is really all about.



## Aloha!

**W**e checked in with last year's scholarship winner, RFH

Class of '13 grad, Liam Reddy. Liam traveled across the country and an ocean for his college experience, and is studying Communications and International Business at Hawaii Pacific



University. We asked Liam how he was continuing his volunteerism in school. His response: "This past year I volunteered at an ancient Hawaii fish pond. We moved a lot of debris that was blocking streams and we also cleaned out overgrown vegetation. I also participated in a neighborhood clean up/street scrub down project in Chinatown. The school is very proactive about helping others and I cannot wait to get back!"

The Fire Department is very proud of you, Liam. (p.s. Liam shared that his favorite Fair activities are riding on the Zipper and eating hot dogs!)



*11 year old Liam and his Dad, ex Chief Mike Reddy working together at the 2007 Fair*

### Previous Volunteerism Scholarship Winners

Liam Reddy	2013	Anat Waldman	2008
Chris Cerruti	2012	Theresa Hartman	2007
Samantha Haskell	2011	Whitney Breckenridge	2006
Elizabeth Henne	2010	Erin Puck	2005
Kelsey Ambrose	2009	Ben Smith	2004

### Drill at Viola Sickles School

Cadets working alongside veteran firefighters to pack up hose after a drill on Willow Street.





**Fair Volunteers  
Still Needed!**  
**Please Join the Fun!**  
Sign up TODAY at  
[www.fhfd.org](http://www.fhfd.org), or contact  
Personnel Chairperson Rich  
Brister at: [rbrister@fhfd.org](mailto:rbrister@fhfd.org)



**Hot off the Press!** Teamwork at an  
August 6th structure fire on  
DeNormandie Ave.



## Fair Time, 1965 Style!



## Memorial Day 2014

**Join the Fire Department ! Go here to learn more:** [www.fhfd.org/joinng.html](http://www.fhfd.org/joinng.html)  
**Firefighters:** Actively work at fire, alarm, rescue and motor vehicle incidents.  
**Fire Police:** Maintain safety perimeters, manage traffic, and protect residents and volunteers at emergency calls and community events.  
**Social Members:** Enjoy the comradery of our firehouse by helping out at firehouse events.  
**First Aiders:** Respond to medical emergencies and provide first aid support at community events. (See Page 5 for more details.)

**Full color newsletters can be found at** [www.fhfd.org](http://www.fhfd.org)  
Please email any suggestions, photos and comments to [newsletter@fhfd.org](mailto:newsletter@fhfd.org)



**COMING SOON**  
**SATURDAY**  
**OCTOBER 18**

**Fire Police**  
**and Auxiliary**  
**FALL AUTO**  
**SHOW**  
**9:00 AM—3:00 PM**

Over 150 Vintage  
Cars

**DJ!**  
**Games!**  
**Prizes!**  
**Food!**

