

TURN OUT

Spring 2018



Photo from Racine Fire Bells Facebook page

TURN OUT

The Official Newsletter of the IFBA

Published Twice Yearly
Spring and Fall

turnout@ifba.org

“The purpose of the IFBA is to serve as a common ground for Fire Buffs, active in promoting the general welfare of Fire Departments, allied emergency services, their officers and members.”



EDITORIAL STAFF

Jerry Traub, Editor

Ed McMichael, Shelly Farhat, Production Editors

Rodger Birchfield, Tod Parker, and Peter Boule, Photographers

Jim Williamson, Circulation Coordinator

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

TURN OUT Turn Out is available free of charge via internet website at www.ifba.org. You may download and print each edition free; however, you may not sell or otherwise profit from selling printed copies.

Those individuals or clubs wishing a printed copy of Turn Out in lieu of obtaining through the website should contact Jim Williamson for additional information and pricing.

MAILING ADDRESS:

Turn Out

2205 E. 58th Street

Indianapolis IN 46220

SUBMISSION POLICY

TURN OUT has an “open submission” policy. We encourage immediate submission of stories on fires and events “when they happen.” More than one submission per issue is welcomed and encouraged.

Authors are strongly encouraged to submit articles electronically to the e-mail address noted below. As an alternative, articles may be submitted on CD or disk, or as a last alternative, in written form. Electronic files should be prepared using a major word processing program, such as Word or WordPerfect. You may always submit an article in “text” format also.

Pictures should be digitized at 300 dpi resolution to allow for sizing. All photographs must be captioned and acknowledge the photographer. Of course, photos should be sharp and clear. Full color photos are encouraged.

Once submitted, all articles and pictures become the property of **TURN OUT**.

turnout@ifba.org

Publishing date June 15, 2019 - Submission deadline June 1, 2019

Publishing date November 15, 2018 - Submission deadline November 1, 2018

SPRING 2018



TABLE OF CONTENTS

IBFA Boards and Committees.....	4-5
Official Convention Letter	6-7
2018 Convention Information	8-9
IFBA Club Website Recognition Award	10
IFBA Conference Call - June.....	11-15
REGION 1	16-22
CFPA Article	
Leather Helmet Society	
REGION 3	23-24
Friendship Fire Association	
REGION 4	25-28
Box 15 Club	
REGION 6	29-43
5-11 Club	
Indianapolis Fire Buffs	
Milwaukee Fire Bell Club	
REGION 9	44-55
The Gong Club	



IFBA BOARDS AND COMMITTEES 2017-2018

Chairman of the Board

Paul Schaetzle
(201) 377-8426
chairman@ifba.org

Secretary

Gerard Mahoney
(617)-775-9336
secretary@ifba.org

Second Vice President

Steve Hansen
(262)-770-0959
2ndvp@ifba.org

VP Region 1

Bob Sherwood
(207)-939-6343
region1vp@ifba.org

VP Region 5

Wally Banks
(972)-768-0740
region5vp@ifba.org

VP Region 9

Ira Cohen
(201)-207-9588
region9vp@ifba.org

Resource(Canteen) Committee & Website Award Committee Co-Chairman

Ira Cohen
(201)-207-9588
mrihcohen@aol.com

President

Vickie Mokros
(414)-313-2885
president@ifba.org

Treasurer & Insurance Advisory Committee

Paul Schaetzle
(201) 377-8426
treasurer@ifba.org

Director of Publicity

Stuart M. Nathan
(410)-262-5706
directorofpublicity@ifba.org

VP Region 3

Joe Sullivan
(703)-501-6602
region3vp@ifba.org

VP Region 6

Dennis Ahrens
(815)-347-9292
region6vp@ifba.org

VP Region 10

Steve Garnett
(514)-978-1330
region10@ifba.org

Fire Buff of the Year Award

Stuart M.Nathan
(410)-494-4452
hmss4@aol.com

Executive VP, Webmaster

Historical Committee Chm.
William M. Mokros
Executiveoffice@ifba.org

First Vice President

Dennis Ahrens
(815)-347-9292
1stvp@ifba.org

Editor/Publisher TURN OUT

Jerry Traub
(317)-260-1716
turnout@ifba.org

VP Region 4

Dave Vaughn
(614)-564-7038
region4vp@ifba.org

VP Region 7

Stephen Fickenscher
(206)-601-1835
region7vp@ifba.org

VP Region 11

Dave Williams
(770)-396-3311
region11vp@ifba.org

VP-At Large

Ian Duke
atlargevp@ifba.org



IFBA BOARDS AND COMMITTEES 2017-2018

Membership Committee Chairman

Chris Oliphant
(202)-438-9755
Chris.oliphant@
friendshipfireassoc.org

Fire Buff of the Year Award, Chairman Emeritus

Owen P. Reid, Jr.

Social Media Committee & Webmaster

William M. Mokros
Executiveoffice@ifba.org

Finance Committee

Chuck Liedtke
(414) 483-7993
liedtkec@yahoo.com

Convention Facilitator & Website Award Committee Co-Chair

Richard W. Cutts
(781)-593-8086
lynnfao@juno.com

Past President

Jerry Traub
(317)-260-1716
pastpresident@ifba.org

Fire and Life Safety Committee

Gerard Mahoney
(761)-395-4843
fire_gerry@me.com

Past Presidents Advisory Committee

Tom McDonald
(713)-661-6502
tmcfire@aol.com

Education Committee

Dennis Ahrens
(815)-347-9292
ahrensfire@comcast.net



City of Racine 810 8th Street

Engine 1
Truck 1 - Aerial Platform
Reserve BLS MED 21 (cross staffed by Truck 1)
Special Teams 1 (Haz Mat / Heavy Rescue
cross staffed by Truck 1)
Paramedic MED 1
Reserve Engine 31 (not staffed)
Fire Prevention, Fire Administration
Battalion Chief, Fire & EMS Training

OFFICIAL CONVENTION LETTER



Executive Office, International Fire Buff Associates, Inc., 11017 N. Redwood Tree Court, Mequon, WI 53092-4338

February 24, 2018

To: All IFBA Officers, Member Groups and Associate Members

From: Executive Vice President

TO ALL CONCERNED: The IFBA Executive Office operates on a fiscal year (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018).
Please note and adhere to the dates noted in this letter.

This is to officially announce that the IFBA Annual Business Meeting will be held at 9am on Wednesday August 22, 2018 at the Delta Hotel by Marriott, located at 7111 Washington Ave, Racine, WI, US, 53406.

At this meeting the officers will make their reports for the past year, conduct all business that will be placed on the meeting agenda by prior notice to this Executive Office, and will hold the election of new officers for the coming year.

THIS LETTER IS ALSO A REMINDER FOR THE FOLLOWING. PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY:

DUES PAYMENTS-Active member groups are reminded that unless all past and current years' dues are paid prior to the start of the Annual Meeting, their delegates shall be denied voting privileges.

LETTER OF APPOINTMENT- **Prior** to the annual meeting, each active member group planning to attend, is requested to furnish a letter, on its official stationary, containing the names of its official delegate and alternate to the Annual Business Meeting. **THIS LETTER SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THIS EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT THE BELOW NOTED USPS or EMAIL ADDRESS BY NO LATER THAN July 1st 2018.** DO NOT SEND THIS INFORMATION TO THE IFBA SECRETARY OR THE RACINE CONVENTION GROUP.

MEMORIAL SERVICE-Since the 17th Annual Convention, it has been the custom to honor the memory of deceased members of member groups and associate members. Please be sure to submit the name(s) of your members that have answered their last alarm. Those submissions must be sent to the Executive office no later than August 1st, to be included in the opening ceremony presentation.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS- All names of candidates for all offices should be submitted to this Executive Office, by **no later than July 1st**, for transmittal to the Nominating Committee for action. All concerned are reminded that nominations for Regional Vice Presidents are to be made by the member groups at their regional meetings and submitted to this Executive Office for presentation to the Nominating Committee. Nomination of other candidates for any office, other than Regional Vice President, may be made from the floor of the Annual Meeting provided that: 1) The candidate thus nominated has agreed, in writing to serve if elected, and that 2) The nomination is made, in writing, by a delegate and seconded, in writing, by two other delegates,

In the event that no nomination for candidate for the office of Regional Vice President is forwarded to the Executive Vice President and properly presented at the annual meeting, the incoming IFBA Executive Board shall have the power and the responsibility of appointing a member of one of the active member groups within the region to serve in the office of Regional Vice President for the coming year.

OFFICIAL CONVENTION LETTER



-2-

NEW BUSINESS PROPOSALS-Any region or member group intending to submit new business proposals, other than amendments to the Constitution, for consideration or action at the Annual Business meeting, must submit an outline of the proposal, in writing, to this office by **no later than July 1st**, so that the item(s) may be placed on the meeting agenda. The Executive Board has ruled that no new business may be presented from the floor at Annual Business Meetings unless prior notice has been given, in writing, to the executive office.

FIRE BUFF OF THE YEAR AWARD and FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD- Due to the nature of the selection process and award preparations, The Henry N. Wilwers, Fire Buff of the Year award and Ira Rubin Fire Fighter of the year award nominations are due in the Executive Office no later than **July 1st, 2018**. There can be **no exceptions** to this date.

E-MAIL ADDRESS- Please provide the Executive office with an active E-Mail address for your organization. By active, I mean an e-Mail address that is checked on a regular basis. If you have not already done so, a current list of your club officers is also requested at this time.

Your prompt attention and response **by the appropriate dates**, to these requests, will be appreciated. Please forward all information to the below noted address. We look forward to seeing you in Racine.

Sincerely,

William M. Mokros, Executive Vice President
11017 N Redwood Tree Ct.
Mequon, WI 53092
(262) 512-0234,
E-mail: executiveoffice@ifba.org

Cc: All Members of the IFBA Executive Board,
Committee Chairpersons, and Past Presidents

2018 CONVENTION INFORMATION



66th Annual IFBA Convention
in Racine Wisconsin
August 19th to the 22nd, 2018

Registration Form

<http://www.racinefirebells.org>
ifba2018racine@gmail.com

Full Name _____

Name for ID Badge _____

Address _____

City / State / Postal Code _____

Cell Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

IFBA Organizational Affiliation _____

Status: DELEGATE Alternate Delegate Guest IFBA OFFICER

_____ **Full Registration by August 10, 2018 (Delegate, Alternate, Guest)**

Includes the Kenosha Tour, Pierce Tour & Banquet\$200

_____ Full Registration **AFTER** August 10, 2018\$400

_____ Partial Registration - Oshkosh, Pierce, Lambeau Field Tour August 21st\$100

_____ **Banquet Only** Wednesday, August 22, 2018.....\$50

Convention Headquarters

Delta Hotels by Marriott - Racine

7111 Washington Avenue
Racine, WI 53406
(262) 886-6100

Room Rate is \$90/night plus Tax

Free Parking

Easy Travel and Access

With Reservations the Fire Bells will pick you up
in Milwaukee. Chicago Arrivals will need to find
alternate transportation to Racine.

Call In Reservations refer to **IFBA 2018 Event**

When **Booking On Line** use the

"Book your Group Rate" on the Fire Bells Web Page

Use code **IFBIFBA** for king bed

Use code **IFBIFBB** for double bed



FIREHOUSE 3 MUSEUM
The Hottest Museum in Racine!
Community Service Since 1948
FIRE SERVICE & PUBLIC SAFETY
REHAB Operations in Southeast Wisconsin



PO Box 081042 Racine, Wisconsin 53408-1042 USA



66th Annual IFBA Convention in Racine Wisconsin August 19th to the 22nd, 2018

Schedule of Events
<http://www.racinefirebells.org>
ifba2018racine@gmail.com

Celebrating 70 Years of Service to the Greater Racine Area !

Sunday, August 19th

- 1300 – Rotating Fire Apparatus Display featuring Racine, South Shore and Caledonia.
- 1400 – IFBA Executive Board Meeting
- 1630 – Dinner on your Own / Hospitality Room Finger Food
- 1830 – Opening Ceremonies
- 1930 – Dispatch Center tours & Hospitality Room

Monday, August 20th

- 0600 – Buffet Breakfast at the hotel
- 0900 – Tour of the Kenosha County Fire Departments
- 1800 – Dispatch Center tours & Hospitality Room

Tuesday, August 21st

- 0600 – Buffet Breakfast at the hotel
- 0730 – Depart for Oshkosh, Appleton & Green Bay
 - Oshkosh Military firefighting vehicle plant tour
 - Pierce Fire Apparatus plant tour
 - Photo shoot with the Green Bay Fire Department at Lambeau Field
 - Tailgate Party at Lambeau Field with a stadium tour to follow

Wednesday, August 22nd

- 0600 – Buffet Breakfast at the hotel
- 0900 – Alternate Spouse Program
- 0900 – General Business Meeting and Strategic Planning
- 1045 – Keynote Speaker – Battalion Chief Matt Haerter -fire fighter safety & Rehab.
- 1215 – Delegate & Alternate luncheon (all registered attendees invited to participate)
- 1330 – Building Websites, Facebook and Twitter
- 1430 – Emergency Scene Photography – Changing times.
 - On scene photography, drones, and new fire department policies.
- 1530 – Radio Interoperability FAQ's, Rehab Roundtable, and
 - Computer Software available to Fire Buffs
- 1830 – Annual Banquet (All registered attendees welcome)



IFBA Club Website Recognition Award

General Criteria

In an effort to encourage new IFBA Club Websites, and recognize those already in operation, the following guidelines are suggested to be used as the basis of an award.

1. Home Page
 - a. Goals and Mission statement of the Club
 - b. Current Club Officers
 - c. Appropriate Club and Affiliated Organizations logos
2. Club history
3. Membership
 - a. General requirements/obligations
 - b. Printable/electronic membership application
 - c. Number of members
4. Home Fire Department(s)
 - a. History
 - b. Apparatus and Station locations
 - c. Current runs/statistics
5. Key Radio Frequencies in use in the area
6. Club Statistics
 - a. If operate a canteen, current run numbers
 - b. If sponsor a museum, number of visitors, hours of operation, type of exhibits, etc.
 - c. If give awards, what kind, criteria used, recent winners
7. Calendar of upcoming local, club and IFBA events
8. Abundant photos of Club, Fire Dep't., IFBA activities, etc. throughout the site
9. Links to other Fire Buff/IFBA sites
10. Ease of navigating the website
11. Evidence that the website is kept current

Any Club interested in being considered must self-nominate for this recognition. Others can also suggest club websites, and they will be considered as well. Note that the IFBA will not actively review Club websites; it is the Club's responsibilities to make the initial nomination.

All nominations should be directed to either:

Ira Cohen, Mrihcohen@aol.com

Rick Cutts, Lynnfa0@Juno.com

no later than June 15, so that there is adequate time to evaluate the website prior to the next IFBA Convention. Modification to this deadline may be made at the discretion of the Website Award Committee.

If a Club would like to be considered for this award, but for certain club specific reasons they do not include any of the above listed criteria, they should indicate this in their nomination request. We do not want to penalize any club for not including information, if there is a valid reason.

This award will be "virtual." The winner will be noted on the IFBA Website, and the winner will be encouraged to include proper notation on their website, club stationary, etc.



International Fire Buff Associates, Inc.

Conference Call Meeting of Saturday, June 2, 2018

Call Convened at 12:03 PM EDT.

Participants:

- CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, [PAUL SCHAETZLE](#)
- EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, [WILLIAM M. MOKROS](#)
- TREASURER, [PAUL SCHAETZLE](#)
- VICE PRESIDENT REGION 1, BOB SHERWOOD
- VICE PRESIDENT REGION 3, [JOE SULLIVAN](#)
- VICE PRESIDENT REGION 4, DAVE VAUGHN
- VICE PRESIDENT REGION 7, [STEPHEN FICKENSCHER](#)
- VICE PRESIDENT REGION 9, IRA COHEN
- VICE PRESIDENT REGION 10, STEVE GARNETT
- VICE PRESIDENT REGION 11, DAVE WILLIAMS
- VICE PRESIDENT AT LARGE, [IAN DUKE](#)
- CONVENTION FACILITATOR, RICK CUTTS
- MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE. CHRIS OLIPHANT
- MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE, KEN BELIVEAU
- NEWSLETTER / WEB PAGE AWARD COMMITTEE, RICK CUTTS
- NOMINATING COMMITTEE, [BILL CELENTANO](#)
- RESOURCE COMMITTEE, [IRA COHEN](#)

President Vickie Mokros was excused but filed the following report:

Thank you again to all of you that were able to attend the Spring Board meeting in April either in person or via electronic reporting. I personally feel that much was accomplished but we still have more to continue working on, especially the updating of the bylaws. Bill and I were able to attend the Region 1 meeting in Exeter, New Hampshire



last month, and while out East we also attended a Boston Sparks meeting. Thank you, Bob Sherwood and the Leather Helmet Society, for a successful Region meeting. Ken Beliveau will be the next VP for Region 1. And thank you to all in attendance at the Boston Sparks meeting. We enjoyed connecting with friends, meeting new ones at both meetings, and learning new things. We also attended Region 6 meeting, held at the Milwaukee Fire Bell Clubs new quarters. Dennis Ahrens did a great job running the meeting and Rick Short from Nashville will be the next VP. I'm looking forward to the Racine Convention in a little over two months.

Chairman of the Board Schaetzle noted work done on the By-laws in April at the Racine meeting and the need to continue the process. Also noted the open convention dates in 2021 and 2022 and the need to address that issue. Much work has been done by the Recruitment and Retention Committee which should result in new member groups submitting applications.

Treasurer Schaetzle reported checking account balance. He listed a small number of clubs who have yet to pay their 2017-8 dues. 3rd & Final notices to be sent this week.

2nd Vice President Steve Hansen is traveling but filed the following report on 2018 Convention, August 19 – 23 2018, Delta Hotel, Racine, WI.

Everything is in place for the convention. Shoulder rates are available. Contact hotel directly. Please continue to 'talk up' the convention especially the full day trip to Oshkosh Manufacturing, Pierce, and to the home of the Green Bay Packers.

Executive Vice President Bill Mokros reported that nominations are needed for the Fire Buff of the Year Award and the Fire Fighter of the Year Award. TURN OUT should have an article from every club and he encourages all clubs to submit at least one page reporting on their activities.



REGION REPORTS

- Region 1: Bob Sherwood reports a successful regional meeting held on May 5, 2018. The President and the Executive Vice President attended.
- Region 3: Joe Sullivan met with each club in Region 3. Expects to have Richmond Metro Flying Squad join this year. He is also investigating another new prospect in Petersburg, VA. He is planning a regional meeting for Chesterfield, VA, June 30, 2018.
- Region 4: Dave Vaughn; had good meeting with new liaison for Western Reserve Fire Museum, Cleveland.
- Region 7: Steve Fickensher reports all quiet
- Region 9: Ira Cohen called in while operating the Bell & Siren Club, HQ 17, at the 3rd Alarm, 196 S. Grove St., East Orange, NJ. Region 9 meeting planned for the 9-11 Memorial Museum had to be postponed due to PATH subway schedule changes. Looking to reschedule.
- Region 10: Steve Garnett reported all good. He is recruiting 2 prospective clubs in Ontario and in Quebec. Plans for 2019 convention are going well. Dates are June 25 – 29, 2019.
- Region 11: Dave Williams has had no contact from any groups in Florida.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Constitution and By-laws: no report, but work will continue. Chairman Schaetzle asked that members be prepared to continue work on revisions at the Executive Board meeting in Racine.

Education:

Convention Facilitator Rick Cutts has had no inquiries on hosting future conventions

Finance: Certificate of Deposit renewed in April 2018. No major expenditures expected through end of fiscal year. Committee will conduct review of financial records at Racine Convention.

Member Services:

Social Media: Ian Duke asked that any regions promoting events should contact him and he will arrange to have it posted.



TURN OUT: Exec. Vice Pres. Mokros reports combined Fall 2017 and Convention Issue was posted on 4/11/18. He will send out notice to all clubs that it is available. Next deadline is June 15, 2018.

Web Page: Exec. Vice Pres, Mokros reports that the “Store” is up and running. If clubs are interested in marketing their merchandise, the same firm can do that. Contact Exec. Vice Pres. Mokros to arrange.

Recruitment and Retention: Joe Sullivan reports a solicitation letter has been prepared and is being sent to prospective members. He asked regional vice presidents to identify prospects and he will send the letter. The committee is also working on a recruitment brochure. He also asked if a dedicated e-mail address could be established and if the application could be placed on line. Exec Vice Pres. Mokros said he prefers having the application not be on line as it would have to be mailed with supporting documents and payment.

Membership: Chris Oliphant says Richmond Metro Flying Squad application is complete except for fee. Also working on Box 690, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. Discussion on fee accompanying application. It is proper for the fee to be submitted before voting on the application.

Newsletter & Website Award: Rick Cutts reports an upsurge in applications compared to prior years.

OLD BUSINESS

President Mokros submitted a note that she still feels we should support the South Florida Rehab and Emergency Support Team due to last year’s hurricane excessive costs to the club.

The chair called for a motion. Joe Sullivan made the motion but there was no second.

NEW BUSINESS

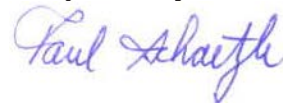
Rick Cutts noted the proposed By-laws revisions were noted at the Region 1 meeting but the member clubs had no comments. He asked that the other regions discuss the potential revisions at their meetings.

Strategic Planning: Ira Cohen will schedule conference call to discuss issues including regional alignment discussed in this call.

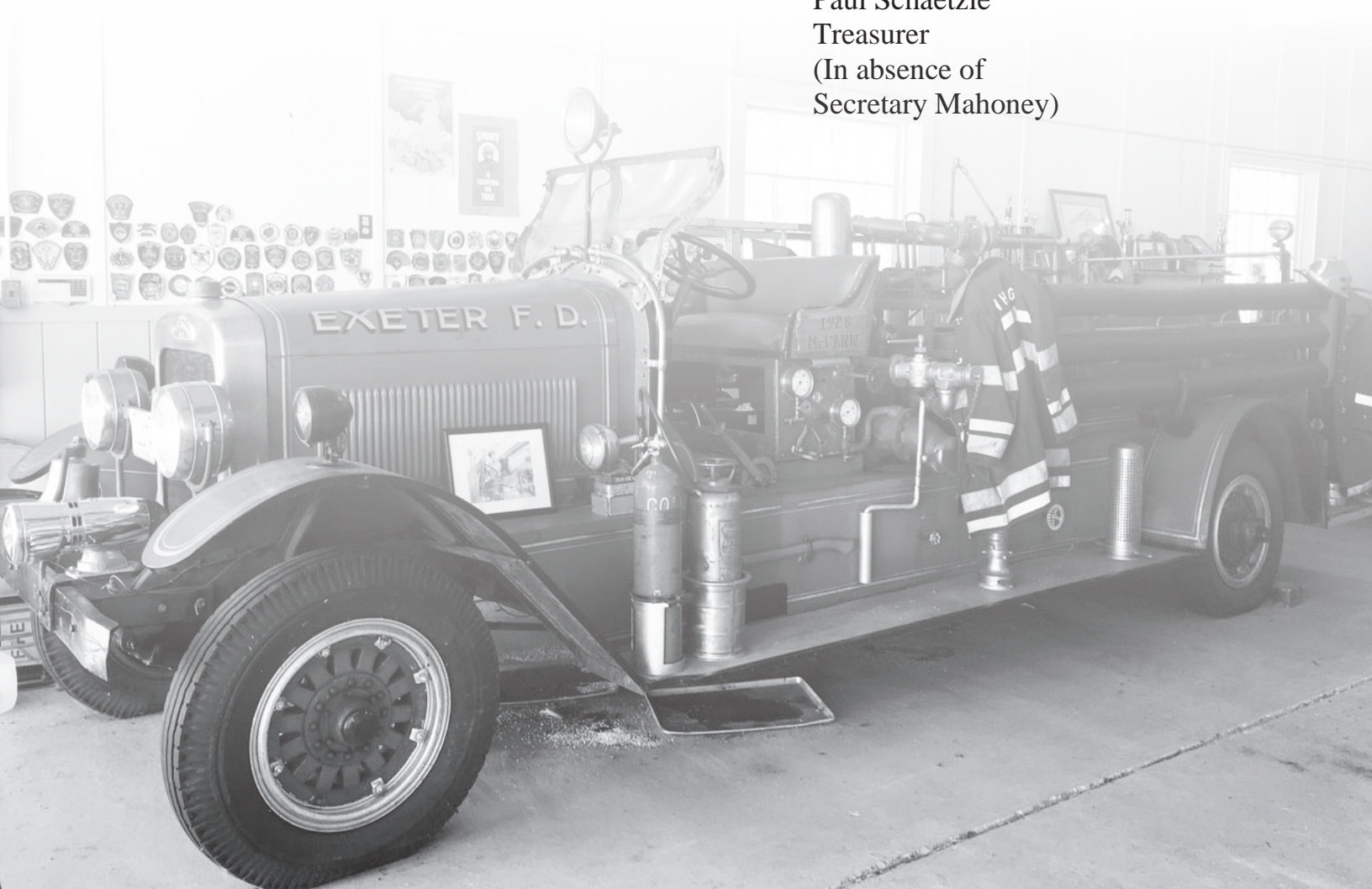
Chris Oliphant noted the passing of a member of Old Dominion Historical Fire Society. Exec. Vice Pres. Mokros will add the name to the annual Necrology.

Adjourned: By Board Chair Schaetzle at 12:48 PM EDST

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Schaetzle".

Paul Schaetzle
Treasurer
(In absence of
Secretary Mahoney)





REGION 1





Connecticut Fire Photographers Association

Connecticut Fire Photographer Association, Region 1 of the International Fire Buff association.

Hello from Connecticut and our members home states. It was a busy winter for some of our members we covered several hundred incidents and summer is starting to pick up. Our membership has grown again to 82, if you're interested in joining, please contact us. At CTFirePhoto@gmail.com

Below are a few events, we sponsor.

Summer Events

Connecticut Fire Museum (Manchester Ct.)

The Museum is housed in a 1901 wooden firehouse, originally built by the Manchester Volunteer Firemen with funds donated by the Cheney Family, world renowned manufacturers of fine silk fabrics. The collection is on display on all three floors of our historic building, this year The CFPA are involved with our 3rd exhibit.

3d Biennial Exhibit "Documenting the Flames in Frames" The Connecticut Fire Photographers Association is happy to announce our members are once again being featured in the Connecticut Room Gallery for the season. This year, we are pleased to present 157 photographs - the work of 20 very talented photographers. Get up close and view firefighters as the public doesn't get a chance to see them - on the job. Most of the photographs were shot in Connecticut, but many scenes are in Detroit, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, and other states. The exhibit will be open till the fall. Please visit the museum and check it out! Find more info on the museum at TheFireMuseum.org



Silver City Fire Fest.

Saturday July 21st, 9:00am to 3:00pm

The Comfort Inn & Suites, 900 East Main St. Meriden, Ct

The show is a mixture of local front line and antique, Fire and police vehicles on display our side and a firemanic display of miniatures and photography. A special visit of the Squad 51 replica will be on hand. For more information see Silver City Fire Fest on Facebook, or contact CTFirePhoto@gmail.com



Photos by Mike Brinius

Recent event photo's, from our members. The states we have members in are Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, South Carolina and Texas.



Nunda, NY. Livingston County. Parade, An L Button & Co, handtub: The Phoenix.

Photo by, Jeff Arnold. [flickr.com/firephoto25](https://www.flickr.com/photos/firephoto25/)



San Antonio TX, Dwelling fire on the city's west side on Saltillo St. San Antonio Fire Department.

Photo by Zack Newton



West Haven, CT at 128 Peabody St, - A second alarm fire ripped through a commercial building in the city's Allingtown section.

Photo by President Glenn Duda Allhandsworking.com



Rocky Point, NY - Brush 5A-7-6 - 1968 Kaiser Jeep M35A2 6x6/2006 Chivvis - 18HP/750.

Photo by Vice President, Mike Quinn.



Hudson, Ma. tower 1, operates at an interesting angle, to open the overhang roof at a multi alarm fire.

Photo by Scott LaPrade www.SmokeShowingPhotography.com



Stamford, Ct Water Shuttle Drill.

Photo by Jon Tenca <http://www.puckstopperphotography.com/>



THE LEATHER HELMET SOCIETY of MANCHESTER, N.H.

May 5, 2018:

A great time on a beautiful spring day enjoyed by all at the IFBA Region 1 Meeting held at the Exeter, N.H. Firehouse in this historic community in New Hampshire.

Twenty-two individuals attended from seven different member fire buff clubs within IFBA Region 1, hosted by The Leather Helmet Society and presided by Region 1 Vice President Bob Sherwood. Thanks to Sec./Tres. Vinny Toland for all of his hard work in setting up this meeting.

Special guests who joined us were IFBA President Vickie Mokros and her husband Bill Mokros, the IFBA Executive Vice President. Rick Cutts – Convention Facilitator & Advisory Committee Chair and Ken Beliveau – Membership Committee Chair. Nice to have them here and share with us updates from the national level of the IFBA. Ken Beliveau was nominated and voted in today as the next Vice President for Region 1, effective at the IFBA Convention in Racine, WI.

Excellent discussion took place on many matters as well as updates from each club as to how they are doing and what each one is doing in regards to trips, canteen service, outreach, etc.

We were also able to tour the nearby Exeter Fire Museum and see the collection of memorabilia highlighting New England fire service history. Thank you for opening this facility for our group.

An apparatus photo shoot was set up at nearby Phillips Exeter Academy that included rigs from Exeter as well as other nearby coastal New Hampshire communities.

A wonderful luncheon was prepared and donated by LHS member Wayne Perkins and Danita Marshall of W.D. Perkins Fire Pump Specialists of Merrimack, N.H. Thanks for the great food!

Another BIG thank you and tip of the leather helmet to Fire Chief Brian Comeau and Lieutenant/AEMT Mark Bradford and the firefighters of C Shift for opening up your station, allowing us to use your conference room and assisting in us in setting up for this meeting. A First-Class Department!

Meeting, food, fellowship, apparatus photo shoot = fire buffs having fun together!

Included are some photos I took from the day's events along with my apparatus model display.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie Tentas – LHS Board of Director/Member







REGION 3

FRIENDSHIP FIRE ASSOCIATION WASHINGTON, DC BY WALTER GOLD

The D.C. Fire & EMS Museum in downtown Washington, D.C. has a new antique-looking sign on the front of D.C Engine Co. 3 that is attracting visitors on Capitol Hill. Located at 439 New Jersey Avenue N.W., the Museum, now open daily from 10 AM to 2 PM, is expected to bring in more than 1,500 visitors by the end of the year. For more information, please contact Executive Director Walter Gold at 202-439-1936.





REGION 4





Box 15 Club, Inc. 501(c)(3)

Affiliate of International Fire Buff Associates
Affiliate of the Ohio Association for Rehab Support

Greetings from Central Ohio.

The year started off the same way 2017 ended – COLD. The first six days saw cold weather protocol (expected wind chills below 0°F), with a crew on standby to respond to any working incident. Those first six days also saw nine fire responses. Totals for the month included ten cold weather standbys, 13 fire responses, two of which were 2-alarms, and one training event.



Ann Street working fire



17th Avenue working fire



South 22nd Street 2-alarm fire



Ventura Boulevard 2-alarm fire

February activity drastically dropped with only two fire responses and one civic event. Sadly, though, the month also saw the deaths of Westerville Police Officers Anthony Morelli and Eric Joering. Box 15 provided support services both at the crime scene and during the day of the funerals. The outpouring of support for the Westerville Police Department, the fallen officers, and law enforcement in general was more than anyone could imagine, with blue lights still seen in porchlighs around central Ohio even today.



Officers Morelli and Joering funeral



Officers Morelli and Joering funeral

March also proved to be a slow month with crews providing support services at two recruit training events.

Activity picked up again in April. Crews responded to a fatal fire and a 2-alarm apartment fire. Box 15 also provided rehab support for two recruit training activates and a live fire training event.



Blacklick Eastern Road working fire



Vista Drive 2-alarm fire

May ended up being another slow month, consisting of three recruit training events, a working fire that gutted a Bob Evans restaurant, and roaming rehab support for a smoke detector outreach event.

Annual Awards

Box 15 was proud to present the 2018 Larry Parlett Distinguished County Firefighter of the Year award to Lieutenant J.D. Postage from Violet Township Fire Department and the 2018 Max Haverman Distinguished Columbus Firefighter of the Year award to Firefighter Eric Reed. Box 15 members receiving the Pete Fowler Distinguished Service Award included J.J. Corcella, Duane Davidson, Bob Hess, Jerry Keaton, and Joe O'Brien. Members receiving the Harry Knodel Outstanding Service Award included Brett Barber and Joseph Penty. We were pleased to honor all award



Firefighter Eric Reed, Jerry Keaton, Joseph Penty, Joe O'Brien, Lt. J.D. Postage, Bob Hess. (Not pictured: Brett Barber, J.J. Corecella, Duane Davidson)

Sports Drink Donation

Box 15 would like to send another big thank you to MSC Industrial Supply for their huge donation of Gatorade and Sqwincher products in April. The donation added up to roughly 3000 gallons of sports drinks and was shared by Box 15, Union County EMA, Box 49 in Madison County, Box 65 in Pickaway County, Box 5 in Athens and Hocking Counties, Support 401 in Licking County, and Knox Fire Rehab. Generous donations like this help all of these organizations to keep supporting first responders in over a dozen counties.



MSC Industrial Supply donation

If you ever find yourself visiting or even traveling through Central Ohio, give us a call at (614) 585-9120 and let's see if we can do some buffing – or at least show you around. Until the next issue of Turnout – be safe out there!



REGION 6





By Chuck Bleck and Mike Penchar

The 5-11 Club celebrates the 65th anniversary of its incorporation this year. In honor of this event the 5-11 Club has issued a challenge coin and a commemorative 65th Anniversary patch. The coins will be sold for \$15.00 each and the patches will cost \$7.00 each. Please see our website to obtain information on obtaining these items.



The Club has lost several members and friends over the last few months. In December of 2017, Ken Little, retired senior fire dispatcher and well-known CFD historian passed away. Ken was known to many fire fans. He co-authored, with Fr. John McNalis, the four-volume set of the History of the Chicago Fire Houses. Ken was also instrumental in starting the Fire Museum of Greater Chicago, which opened the Ken Little Library this past October. The Club also lost Life Member Ed Harant, a 48-year member of the 5-11 Club, who passed away in February 2018. Ed held several officer positions in the Club over the years. Ed was also a member of the Chicago Civil Defense Corp. which was started in 1958. Ed served as the Corp's chief photographer. Finally, in June of 2018, Ken Falk, Past President of the 5-11 Club and a founding member of the Metropolitan Emergency Support Service, passed away. After leaving the 5-11 Club, Ken Falk was the motivating force in creating the M.E.S.S. organization in 1993.

The 5-11 Club is in the process of replacing two of their front line canteens. Unit 403, a converted ambulance purchased from the Burlington Fire Protection District, has been put into service replacing a well-worn 1981 GMC Step-Van, Unit 402. A second unit is in the process of conversion. The rig is another ambulance obtained from the Schiller Park Fire Department. This unit, Unit 405, will eventually replace Unit 401. A third unit, obtained from the CFD, was formerly a triage unit from Midway Airport. The rig is a 1997 GMC Step-Van which will be converted into a support and resupply van for extended operations. Also, the finishing touches are being applied to a new trailer that has two Porta Potties mounted on it. The trailer will be towed to the scene of any long term incidents by one of the Club rigs.



5-11 Club Canteen 403 (Photo by Mike Penchar)

With the relatively mild 2017/2018 winter, fire action has been less than average. Since January 1st, our canteen crews have responded to 28 multiple alarm fires, 22 calls for CPD SWAT/HBT incidents, 11 special duty responses and 3 MABAS alarms. For 2017, the total multiple alarms numbered only 25 (21 2-11s and four 3-11s); the lowest in decades.

We regret to inform you of the line of duty death of Firefighter Juan Bucio on Memorial Day weekend. FF Bucio was a 15-year veteran of the CFD dive team. Responding to a "person in the water" call on the south branch of the Chicago River, FF Bucio, along with a second diver, jumped from a CFD helicopter to begin a search and rescue operation. Tragically, FF Bucio did not survive the operation. An investigation is underway at this time to determine what went wrong. FF Bucio leaves behind two young sons. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and the CFD.

The CFD fleet has seen several recent deliveries, including seven new E-One pumpers that have 1500 GPM pumps, 500 gal. booster tanks and a 30 gal. Class A foam package. Two new 95 foot tower ladders are being completed and are scheduled for delivery shortly. They will replace 20 year old units. The EMS fleet has seen a large number of new units placed into service in the last year. Nineteen new Wheeled Coach units are on order with five of them on Ford chassis and 14 on Dodge chassis. A total of 13 Ford Interceptor chief cars have been received with nine being assigned to EMS Field Officers and four replacing battalion chief cars. Two new LDV Ford command vans have arrived and will be assigned over the next few weeks. Plans to replace the Air-Sea Rescue unit (6-8-7) have been approved. The current rig, a 2003 ALF Medic-Master unit has more mileage on it than any other vehicle in the fleet. Sadly, the last snorkel unit, purchased in 1982 as a stand-alone snorkel company, was taken out of service earlier this year. The rig, a 1982 Seagrave Pierce 85' snorkel, was operating as Reserve Snorkel 1.

The City Council recently approved the purchase of 30.4 acres of land to be used for the construction of a new \$95 million joint police and fire academy. The site, located at 4301 West Chicago Avenue in Chicago's West Garfield neighborhood, has been vacant for 40 years. The new campus, which will include several buildings, is scheduled to be ready for occupancy in 2020. The fleet maintenance facility on Concord Place was sold to a developer, thus all CFD repair functions are now being performed at a 103rd Street facility. A new fleet maintenance facility is being planned for the now vacant Kennedy-King City College site on 69th Street.

Incidentally, a new book being presented by the Fire Museum of Greater Chicago on the history of Chicago snorkels is now available for \$35.00, plus \$3.00 for shipping; a must have for all fire buffs. Contact Jack Connors at 773-294-1301 or you may email him at connorsba@sbcglobal.net.

Please visit our website, www.5-11clubchicago.org, for the latest news about the 5-11 Club activities and a growing photo gallery. Call or email the Club if you plan to visit Chicago. Tours can be arranged with several days' notice.



RS 1 at a 3-11 in 2017; probably one of the last fires for RS 1

(Photo by Mike Penchar)



2018 E-One pumper

(Photos by Mike Penchar)



TURN OUT MAGAZINE

SPRING ISSUE, 2018

INDIANAPOLIS FIRE BUFFS

Members have been challenged by our century-old Reserve Station 12, trying to keep the temperature comfortable for members and our resident IEMS Medic 27. Plastic window film was installed in the downstairs this Winter. Lighting fixtures were repaired and upgraded. We also experienced an electrical event this Spring when a passing thunderstorm decided our roof peak would be a nice place to visit. Our Medics were on station and called in the alarm. Responding IFD companies limited the scorched timbers and smoke damage to a small area in the second floor and attic. However, eventual inspection determined that several electrical connections, phone and computer systems were jolted. City of Indianapolis (landlord) took care of their part, Spectrum did theirs, and phone company did theirs.

Our four RSU units continue to serve Central Indiana public safety. Unit 1 is now stationed at IFD 23. All operators were reminded of the need to clean and restock after using a truck for a response. Lastly, if something breaks or quits, fix it or report it!

Fifteen members attended the annual Indianapolis Fire Department awards dinner in January. It is really inspiring to see and hear the great things our men and women had done so unselfishly in the prior year.

St. Patrick's Day parade on the downtown parade route included our 1967 Maxim pumper. We transported several members and guests from Local 416 union families.

Several new members have been admitted this year. Thankfully, they have been willing and able to assist with our RSU responses, especially during the week.

Insurance policies for commercial liability, auto coverages and Umbrella have been renewed for another year. Accident and Disability policy has been paid for its last annual renewal. It will be rerated in 2019.

Members were reminded to notify on-duty station personnel when entering and leaving our vehicle storage locations. These are their premises, and we must respect their quiet and personal areas. Personal appearance guidelines were revisited, reminding members that the public arena subjects us to the same standards as all emergency personnel in matters of clothing and personal cleanliness.

Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC by Fire Engineering) was held April 22-28. We provided rehab support for multiple HOTS training sites and the apparatus/vendors staging site at Lucas Oil Stadium downtown. We earned a donation from a long-term parking vendor for promoting their location on our website and Facebook announcements.

One of our vehicle drivers experienced a minor PD accident with one of our RSU vehicles. It was handled in the correct manner and damages are being repaired. Our VFIS insurance responded quickly and fairly to all claimants.

A review of our driving records and personal insurance coverages by the City Legal Department during our contract renewal has reminded us to update personal licenses, insurance cards and EVOC lessons.

We are nearing a contract signing with the city after many months of vigorous fact-finding. We suggest that you are satisfied that people really understand what we do and how safely we perform our services for our public safety persons. We anticipate a payment of annual stipends soon.

Number of 2018 RSU responses are nearly the same as last year. Firm numbers will be tallied for mid-year as soon as May and June reports are received from our operators.

Several IFB members are making plans for the IFBA Racine 2018 convention. It will be the most folks attending in several decades. Access to several apparatus manufacturing plants and the hallowed halls of Lambeau Field in Green Bay are good reasons to make the trip. See you in Racine!



The IFD Aerial 27 Lieutenant checks the hood enclosure for signs of fire following a lightning strike at Reserve Station 12 (home to the Indianapolis Fire Buffs). The lightning strike cause a minor fire and damage to wiring within the station. (Photo by Rodger Birchfield)



An early morning fire at 956 W. Udell St. completely destroyed one home and damaged the house next door. IFD firefighters required extra companies beyond the standard residential response and battled the blaze for about 50 minutes before bringing it under control. (IFD photo)



Guests at the new Engine 3 dedication also were able to view the construction progress of the new Station 3 a few doors away from the present station. It is scheduled to open later this year.
(Photo by Rodger Birchfield)



Honoring an IFD tradition, the new Pierce pumper assigned to Station 3 is pushed into its bay by on- and off-duty firefighters during its dedication on May 23, 2018.
(Photo by Rodger Birchfield)



Later on May 23, 2018, a new Pierce 100' Aerial ladder was dedicated at Station 19, and received the same help into its new home. Please note a new trial apparatus color scheme.
(Photos by Rodger Birchfield)





Firefighters work to contain an apartment fire at 7430 Camby Crossings on June 5, 2018. IFD units assisted Decatur Township at the scene. This photo was shot from a drone and gives a different perspective of a working fire.
(Photo by Mike Pruitt)



March 12, 2018: access to a warehouse building fire at a salvage yard, 325 S. Tibbs Avenue, was hindered by scrapped vehicles and the setback from the road.
(Photo by Rodger Birchfield)

Milwaukee Fire Bell Club

The Milwaukee Fire Bell Club became the proud residents of one of the six fire stations that were closed at the end of 2017 in Milwaukee. With help from many able-bodied fire department personal and our own club members we were able to quickly move from our quarters at Station 33 to Station 25. We held an open house the beginning of January and were pleased to show off our new house. Both rigs fit comfortably in the bay and our supplies are close at hand. One advantage to Station 25 is that it is all on one level-no more going up and down stairs to our board room. We also have a full kitchen, so meals are easily prepared for events that we may have.



The outside view of the front of our new quarters.



Open house reception



Rehab 1 and Rehab 2 in quarters



Picture of Station 25's kitchen

A tradition of our club is to host an installation of officers' luncheon. The all-you-can-eat event was held at Meyer's Restaurant the end of January. It is always enjoyable to reconnect with retired and current Fire Department personal, Local 215 and their Auxiliary members, and guests. The event ends with door prizes for all attendees.



MFD Chief Rohlfling administers the oath of office to the new Board of the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club.

Between the end of 2017 and the beginning of May, our mission of providing rehab was accomplished as we were present at two 3-alarm fires in Milwaukee and two MABAS Box requests from surrounding communities. An active shooter training was held in St. Francis, a community to our South, where we were also present.



MFD working to protect the community.



MFBC keeping everyone hydrated and warm.



We are appreciated!



A quick energy boost to continue on.

A four alarm fire on May 15th left Historic Trinity Lutheran Church (1850) in ruins. The church is on the Local, State, and National Historic Register as is the 1879 Schuelke pipe organ. It was amazing how quickly the roof fire spread due to high winds, and how efficient the Milwaukee Fire Department was in working to get the fire out. Damage was estimated at \$17 million. (As of the writing of this article, engineers have determined that the walls are structurally sound and the church can be rebuilt. The rebuilding plans are moving forward.)



Our rehab supplies received a boost from fourth grade students at Meadowview Elementary Grade School in Oak Creek, a community where we provide rehab. They were learning about ways to show gratitude and chose us to be the recipients. They collected more than 1200 items including bottled water, coffee, snacks, paper towels, cleaning supplies, and socks. They were invited, with their parents, to visit our quarters where they were given tours and enjoyed punch and treats. We are very thankful for children who are being taught how to show service to others in the community.

The MFBC was the host for the annual Region 6 Business Meeting held on May 19th. Many of the thirty-five registrants arrived the night before and enjoyed an appetizer welcome and tour of Station 25. Dennis Ahrens, Region 6 Vice President, presided over the meeting Saturday morning. We were fortunate to have members from Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Tennessee, and Wisconsin representing their local clubs. Rick Short, BOX 55 Nashville, was elected to be the next Region Vice President.

A lunch, photo op of rigs from the area communities, tours of the Milwaukee Fire Historical Museum, buffing and a pizza dinner concluded the day. Some Nashville members were even able to ride along early Sunday morning to a two-alarm and special call fire on the North side of Milwaukee.



Dennis Ahrens, Region 6 VP



A few of the attendees enjoying lunch.

MILWAUKEE FIRE BELL CLUB



Some of the members at the Region 6 meeting.



Dennis Ahrens presenting a 'thank you' plaque to MFBC President Annie Hermesen.



Tom Bilbrey and Rick Short from Nashville, TN, at 3:00 a.m. May 20, 2018

This article ends on a solemn note as this past Saturday (June 16th) we provided rehab for hundreds of Police Officers, Sheriffs, State Patrol, and Fire Department personal at the funeral for Milwaukee Police Officer Chuck Irving. The temperatures were close to 90 degrees that day, so you can imagine the amounts of water, coffee, gatorade, snacks, and baked goods we went through. We also set up two tent canopies with our misting fans ready to go if needed.

Our mission to provide rehab continues in all types of circumstances.



Police escort arriving for the funeral of Officer Irvine



Some of the Officers we supported June 16, 2018.



REGION 9





GONG CLUB, INC.

JERSEY CITY, NJ

by Paul Schaetzle and Ron Jeffers

GENERATOR WORKS JUST GRAND ON GRANT!

The workhorse aboard the Gong Club canteen, Car 26, is a 7-kilowatt Onan generator. This unit supplies all the AC power for canteen operations and lighting. In 2015, the club decided to eliminate the propane powered appliances as part of an extensive remodeling of the then 14-year-old rig. The existing generator was deemed up to the task, but developed a serious oil leak while operating at 3rd Alarm in Hoboken on January 14, 2018. Our generator service technicians at Davis Carburetor & Electric Service examined the unit and said it had reached its life expectancy. Either rebuild the engine or replace the generator with a new unit. Club officers decided the replacement option would be the best choice, given the age of the existing generator.

So, on the morning of January 31st, it was off to East Rutherford for the installation. The Davis techs said the work would require

the rig to stay overnight, so the neighboring clubs in the Region 9 mutual aid agreement were placed on standby. Much to our surprise, the shop called about 1400 hours and said the work was done; come get it! Two members headed out to East Rutherford to return Car 26 to quarters. The new Cummins Onan 7 kw generator was put through its paces; running with a load for an hour. By 1800 hours Car 26 was back in service. Little did anyone know how fortuitous was the speedy work of the Davis techs!

The evening apparatus radio test was winding to a close when Box 747 was transmitted for smoke in the basement of 31 Grant Ave. at 1908 hours. That street was no stranger to fire fighters. Many a major battle had been waged on that block over the years. Eng. Co. 8 arrived from their Orient Ave. quarters 2 blocks to the north to begin another chapter in the block's fire scarred history!



1/31/18 4-4 747 21 Grant Ave., Jersey City
(Elmer Leiner Photo)

Capt. Gary Byrne reported smoke showing from a large multiple dwelling; the correct address was 21 Grant Ave., a 3-story frame and brick, 6 family dwelling. The building sits directly across the street from an empty lot that was the scene of a tragic, fatal fire that roared through several homes at 20 – 30 Grant Ave. That fire was in the early morning of March 6, 2014, claimed 4 lives and was further compounded by companies initially dispatched to 20 Grand St., about 3 miles distant.

Batt. 2, Batt. Chief William Raleigh, arrived shortly after Eng. Co. 8 and assumed command. Fire Dispatch notified Batt. 2 that they were receiving calls of people in the basement. Chief Raleigh acknowledged the message and then reported the removal of a baby, requesting EMS to respond. 7

minutes since the initial alarm, B. C. Raleigh orders a 2nd Alarm; “We have a heavy fire load in the basement”. Deputy Chief Paul Drennan arrived shortly thereafter and assumed command with Batt. 2 assigned to the interior. Chief Raleigh’s next report was that “companies are having a difficult time entering the basement due to the heavy fire load. Res. Co. 1 is in the rear conducting a primary search”. Next report from Batt. 2 was “One occupant being removed from the basement; need EMS on a priority”. Res. Co. 1 Capt. Victor Petrucelli reported that Res. 1 and Squad 4 were making a push from the rear. That effort met with some success. Batt. 4, Batt. Chief Stephan Drennan (yes; they’re related!), reported “Sqd. 4 has water on the fire; making headway in the basement”. However, conditions did not look any better in the

front, so D. C. Drennan transmitted a 3rd Alarm at 1924, ordering those companies to stage on Ocean Ave.

Despite some success in the basement, the fire was running the walls in the century old structure. Companies on the roof reported all natural openings opened and 2 holes cut; heavy smoke but no fire. Alas, the construction of such buildings does not give fire fighters much of a chance. With the fire extending to all floors, D. C. Drennan decided to evacuate the building. A tower ladder, 2 Blitzfire appliances and several

handlines now worked from the exterior. A 4th Alarm was transmitted at 1942.

Companies waged an exterior attack for hours, protecting the 2 exposures, which fortunately were separated by 5' alleys. Fire was placed under control shortly after 2200 hours. Chief of Dept. Steven McGill, working his first multiple alarm fire since his official promotion on January 12, 2018, gave a press conference to a host of reporters on the sidewalk opposite the fire building.



FDJC Chief of Dept. Steven McGill updates the Press on 4-4 747, 1/31/18

This was the first 4th Alarm of the year and the first since Sept. 1, 2017, Box 489 at 3716 Kennedy Blvd., also commanded by Deputy Chief Drennan. Once the fire was under control, fire fighters descended upon Car 26 with ravenous appetites! A crew of 3 served up 3 gallons of coffee, 8 gallons of

hot chocolate, 3 gallons of minestrone soup, 80 bottles of water and dozens of cookies and snack bars. The new generator performed flawlessly; running a near full load for almost 6 hours!



Response:

1908 Box 747 Eng. Co. 8-22-17-Sqd. 4 Lad. Co. 4-11 Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt. 2
1911 WF 747 Eng. Co. 19 Lad. Co. 8 MSU Batt. 4 Car 30
1915 2-2 747 Eng. Co. 10-13-9 Lad. Co. 12 Batt. 1 Car 3-26
1924 3-3 747 Eng. Co. 11-18-15 Lad. Co. 3 Batt. 3
1942 4-4 747 Eng. Co. 5-7 Lad. Co. 9

TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT!

Friday, February 16, 2018 was a typical enough winter day in Jersey City. The warmer temperatures of Thursday had given way to the more usual climate. As Friday evening wound to a close, temperatures hovered at near freezing. Despite a forecast for a wintry mix on Saturday evening, people were looking forward to a long holiday weekend. The day was typical for Jersey City fire fighters, handling the usual mix of alarm activations, medical runs and a few small building fires.

Eng. Co. 13 had just returned from a medical on New Heckman Dr. when Box 807 was struck at 23:41 for 265 Neptune Ave., a residential block just north of the city's southern boundary with Bayonne. First due, Eng. Co. 13 was out the door quickly. Gong Club Secretary Bobby Scollan resides at 288 Neptune Ave. and sprang up for his home box as well! Bobby hadn't left his bedroom yet but could see a glow from his window. Bounding downstairs in a flash, Bobby was confronted with a frightening sight! The fire was much closer; a 2 ½ story frame dwelling across the street at 281 Neptune was alight. Neighbors had feared that something like this might happen; the house was a veritable Collier's

Mansion, loaded to the gills with furnishings of every shape and size.

Flames were rolling out of the house across the sidewalk. The trees were starting to burn; power lines were arcing and the fire was threatening both exposures. Dazed, bruised and singed, Bobby's neighbor, the owner of the house, came stumbling down the sidewalk. Bobby herded him onto his porch and then raced across the street. His wife's 88-year old aunt lived in the exposure! As Bobby roused her out of the house, the cavalry arrived; Bobby said it seemed like the companies arrived in a matter of seconds!

Capt. Robert McCann, Eng. Co. 19, radioed "Working Fire" as they prepared to back down Neptune Ave. from Kennedy Blvd. to lay a feed line. Eng. Co. 13 rounded the corner from Romar Ave. and led off with a 2 ½" hand line. Capt. John Cuttingham of Eng. Co. 13, known for his colorful radio transmissions, gave the shortest report of his career, "Transmit a 2nd Alarm!" As the company started their attack, Capt. Cuttingham added "Fire going good on the 1st floor; extending to both exposures".

Battalion 2, Batt. Chief William Raleigh, assumed command and reported heavy fire conditions; extreme hoarding conditions. Batt. Chief Raleigh added "All occupants removed from the exposures. 2 lines in the fire building; one line in the exposure. Awaiting primary search". Ladder Tower 4 reported they had gained access from the rear but had extreme hoarding conditions.

Deputy Chief Paul Drennan arrived at 23:55 as Eng. Co. 19 reported they were making slow headway; main body of fire knocked



down but may have extension to the upper floors. Chief Drennan assumed command and assigned Batt. 4 to the interior and Res. Co. 1 to the roof division. Eng. Co. 17 and Sqd. Co. 4 were assigned to the 2nd floor. In his best Jersey City accent, Chief Drennan next said “Gimme a 3rd Alarm; companies to report to the command post. I need PSE&G (utility company) for a downed wire”. The new day arrived as the 3rd Alarm was transmitted.

Chief Drennan reported “We have 3 lines in the fire building; one in the exposure. Fire darkened down; ventilation and primary search underway; extreme hoarding conditions. We need animal control for multiple deceased animals”. A further report at 00:21 noted that the “Primary searches were complete and negative. Need animal control for several live and deceased animals. Secondary search delayed due to extreme hoarding conditions”. Fire fighters were gaining the upper hand and after conferring with the 3 battalion chiefs on scene, Deputy Chief Drennan placed the fire under control at 00:38.

With his wife’s aunt safely ensconced in his home, Member Scollan briefed Chiefs Raleigh and Drennan on the condition of the fire building and then went about his Gong Club duties. He radioed Car 26 to respond east on Neptune Ave. from Sayles St. and then assisted with canteen operations for 2 hours. Although an accomplished fire photographer, Bobby had no time for pictures that night; lives were in the balance!

All occupants escaped, although 2 were injured. Thanks to the quick response of the F. D. J. C., the exposures had some exterior damage but residents of both adjacent

dwellings could return to their homes. Sadly, though, 6 dogs and 2 birds perished in the fire building.

Since assuming command of Group B midway through 2017, Deputy Chief Drennan had but one multiple alarm fire, albeit a 4th Alarm. However, since January 31, 2018, Chief Drennan and Group B have fought one 4th Alarm and two 3rd Alarms; all in the 2nd Battalion!

Response:

2/16/18
2341 Box 807 Eng. Co. 13-19-22-8 Lad. Co. 8-4
Res. Co. 1 Batt. 2 Div. 1
2344 WF 807 Sqd. Co. 4 Lad. Co. 11 MSU Batt. 4
Car 30
2344 2-2 807 Eng. Co. 17-9-15 Lad. Co. 9 Car 26
2/17/18
0001 3-3 807 Eng. Co. 10-2-11 Lad. Co. 2 Batt. 1

NOR'EASTER WINDS FUEL NORTH BERGEN 5th ALARM

Strong winds didn't help North Hudson firefighters, and mutual aid units, as flames fanned by a nor'easter roared through a three-story occupied multiple dwelling at 1200-26th St., North Bergen on March 2, 2018.

Shortly before noon, with a mix of snow and sleet falling and whipped by powerful winds, companies were dispatched to this address for a reported fire. This location is no easy response on a good day, never mind in the midst of a near blinding storm! The apartment complex is on the side of a hill on a narrow residential street running west from Kennedy Blvd. Access from the west is

virtually impossible, save for one pint-sized path running uphill from Paterson Plank Rd.

Captain Robert D'Antonio, Jr. of Engine Co. 4, radioed in that there was smoke showing from Kennedy Boulevard, as the company

approached the scene. The fire was on the 2nd floor and extended quickly to the 3rd floor. All occupants of the building were reportedly evacuated to safety. A 2nd Alarm was quickly transmitted, followed almost immediately by a 3rd Alarm.



**3/2/18 5th Alarm 1200 26th St., North Bergen
NHRFR, FDJC & Hoboken Companies on the attack.
(Ron Jeffers Photo)**

Firefighters made an interior attack and knocked down fire on the 2nd floor, but flames were already above them on the 3rd floor. Soon, the roof was involved as well. Firefighters were ordered out of the building for a defensive attack. Later, fire consumed the roof, which collapsed into the top floor.

4th and 5th Alarms were sounded bringing in units from Jersey City, Hoboken and Kearny to the fight. Low-banking smoke covered the area, and alarms of fire were being called in east of the fire scene where the

smoke was traveling. Smoke also blanketed the Kennedy Boulevard side of Union City, one block east, prompting an evacuation of nearby Union City High School.

The heavy smoke, visible for miles, was then followed by huge flames as strong wind gusts help fan the fire. “Winds fueled the fire,” said North Hudson Chief of Department Frank Montagne. “This was an inferno,” he told the media.



Firefighters used numerous hand-lines to quell flames, and most of the fire was reported knocked down by 13:22 hours. Captain William Shelton of Engine Co. 3 found a small dog running in circles inside the building and took the petrified pooch out to its anxious family.

One firefighter was taken to Palisades Medical Center for a “minor burn” injury. In addition, the Red Cross and NB CARES personnel were present to assist the dozens of displaced families.

Due to the geography most of the multiple alarm companies were piled up on Kennedy Blvd. Rather have the battered troops trek uphill a few blocks for a break, Car 26, the Gong Club canteen, was able to thread though that needle sized street, Jane St., from Paterson Plank Rd. Climbing uphill from the west, Car 26 took up a strategic location in a driveway nearly opposite the fire building! A crew of 4 served soaked, weary firefighters 5 gallons of coffee, 5 gallons of hot chocolate, 3 gallons of hot soup and 49 bottles of water.

As the storm continued, firefighters conducted overhaul operations. Chief Montagne also added to the media, referring to the soot covered firefighters, “They really put their heart and soul to put out this fire.”

ANOTHER NOR'EASTER; ANOTHER NORTH BERGEN FIRE!

As the New York City-Northern New Jersey metropolitan area was buckling down for nor'easter #4 to hit the area on March 21, 2018, North Hudson Regional Fire & Rescue companies battled a second major fire during a storm that month.

Shortly before 0900 hours, a full assignment was dispatched for numerous calls of a fire in the area of 7117 River Road, North Bergen. Snow and fog were already blanketing the area. Captain Leo Calvo of Squad Co. 7 reported heavy smoke in the area-a working fire-but unable to give a size up due to the low banking smoke and weather conditions. The apparatus carefully maneuvered around traffic, a heavily-traveled thoroughfare along the Hudson River. Capt. Calvo found that the fire was at the North Bergen Municipal Utility Authority's Woodcliff Waste-Water Treatment Facility.

Visibility was zero as second-due Squad 10 radioed to Squad 7 if they needed a feed line and added “We cannot see you”! Heavy fire was burning within a structure in the facility that was under renovation. A sign in front of the building read, “Plant Upgrades”, tipping units that this was no ordinary day at the plant. A township official said workers were using several torches to cut up metal tanks, which were lined with plastic and got out-of-control.

A defensive operation began and Deputy Chief David Donnarumma transmitted 2nd, 3rd and 4th Alarms in rapid succession. Ladder 4's crew gently maneuvered their tiller apparatus into a driveway on the north side of the building between the fire and a car wash. Working through low-banking smoke, the company set up a ladder pipe operation. Tower Ladder 3 backed in behind Ladder 4 to put their bucket into operation. Fire eventually broke through the roof.

An odd stench was in the air, prompting an order for all incoming units to approach from the north, away from the clouds of smoke. In addition, haz-mat crews from Jersey City and Bayonne were special called

to the scene to evaluate the hazards within the plant. The 4th Alarm assignment also brought Jersey City Engine Companies 7, 11, Ladder Co. 7 and Battalion 3 to the fray.

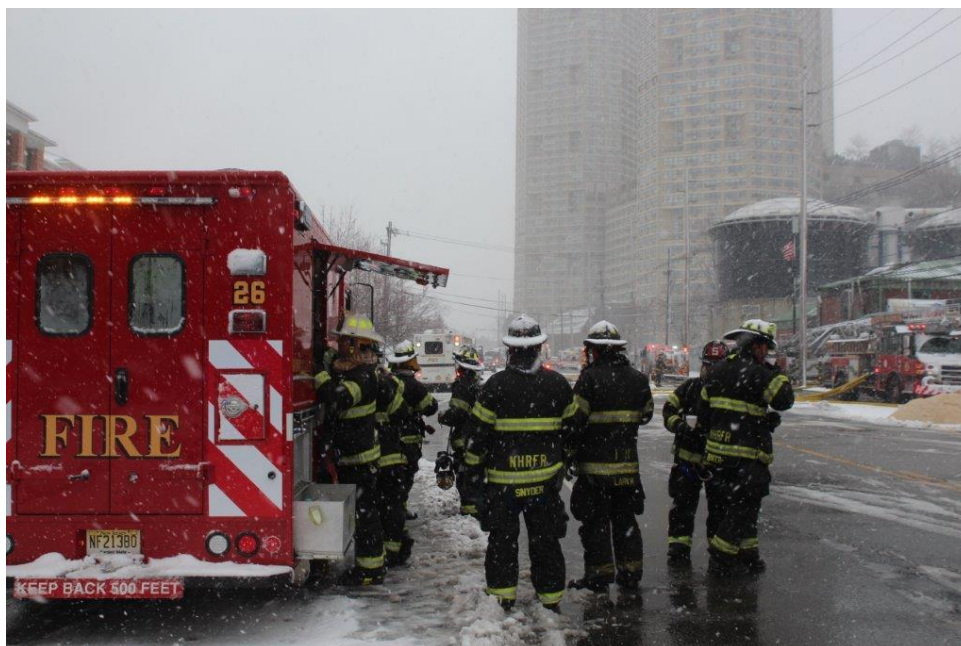


**Christmas? No; 3/21/18! 4th Alarm 7117 River Rd., North Bergen
(Ron Jeffers Photo)**

There are numerous high-rise buildings in the area and Palisades Medical Center is situated a short distance to the north. The haz-mat members conducted air quality tests which proved to be negative of any harmful materials.

Meanwhile, numerous hand lines and master streams pounded the building until conditions improved. The fire was declared “Probably will hold,” at 1121 hours. Some firefighters were treated at the scene for smoke inhalation, but at least one member was taken to Palisades Medical Center for observation.

North Bergen DPW crews plowed snow and dropped salt to improve operating conditions on River Road. Car 26 responded from the north as ordered, navigating gingerly down Bull’s Ferry Rd., a narrow, winding road leading down a steep hill from Kennedy Blvd. East to River Rd. A rehab station was established out of the smoke. Staffed by the same crew that worked the previous Nor’easter, The Club distributed 12 pairs of hand warmers in addition to 4 gallons of coffee and 6 gallons of hot chocolate. With major storms and major fires on March 2 and March 21, the month in North Bergen certainly came and went like a lion!



A familiar but welcome sight this winter; Car 26 in the cold and snow!
4th Alarm 7117 River Rd., North Bergen
(Ron Jeffers Photo)

BACK TO BACK BLAZES ON BERGEN!

Jersey City firefighters had their hands full on successive nights off Bergen Ave. in late April. At the stroke of midnight on Sunday night, April 23, 2018, numerous calls were received reporting a fire on Bramhall and Bergen Avenues. Rescue Co. 1 was first in to Box 646, with Capt. Guido Salandra reporting “The fire’s on Bergen Ave.; 3 story frame, transmit a 2nd Alarm!”. Batt. 2, Batt. Chief William McClintock, ordered a 3rd Alarm 5 minutes later.

Fire involved one, then two large “Boston style” 3 deckers; with a third similar structure to the south also threatened. Fire rapidly engulfed what was thought to be the building of origin at 444 Bergen Ave. Units arriving on the 2nd and 3rd Alarms scrambled

to get a handle on the fire, but the corner building at 446 Bergen Ave., with a ground floor grocery store, also had fire on all floors.

Jersey City’s usual menagerie of overhead wires precluded any aerial ladder access except for the Bramhall Ave. corner where Ladder Co. 3 threw their stick. With conditions rapidly deteriorating, Incident Commander, Deputy Chief Gregory Lallo, ordered the evacuation of the fire building and a roll call conducted. Companies called for more lines into both exposures, fearing the fire would next consume the last 3 decker on the block to the south. With a lot of ground to cover and all hands heavily engaged, Deputy Chief Lallo transmitted a 4th Alarm nearly an hour into the battle.

Squad 4's deck gun and numerous handlines saved the exposure to the south. When the dust cleared, and the Fire Investigation Unit examined the site, it was determined that the fire actually started in the corner grocery at 446 Bergen Ave.! Fire roared out a side alley window, and with the narrow alley acting like a chimney, engulfed all floors of

444 Bergen Ave. Thus, it had appeared the fire had originated in that building. Not so, said our sleuths! The exposure building was demolished with the corner building still standing, although heavily damaged.



4/23/18 4-4 646 442-6 Bergen Ave., Jersey City
(Ben Stevens Photo)

Vacant lots to the rear on Bramhall Ave. were the scene of a spectacular 4th Alarm on November 12, 2012, involving similar large 3 story dwellings; an aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. Car 26 took up the same position as it did 5 and ½ years ago!

Less than 24 hours later, units again converged on Bergen Ave., this time about ½ mile to the south. Responding to reports of smoke in the vicinity on Myrtle Ave., companies answering Box 749 found that

the fire was in 2 vacant, 4 story brick structures at 145-7 Grant Ave. These buildings would earn “frequent flyer” points if the FDJC had such a program; the scene of several past fires. Batt. 2, Batt. Chief Peter Griese, ordered an exterior operation.

All hands had been working hard for over an hour when Deputy Chief Richard Casella ordered a 2nd Alarm at 23:22. Engine Co. 17 used their deck gun to darken down the fire from the street. As the fight wore on,

Deputy Chief Casella special called an additional 2 engines and 1 ladder to help with the workload. Companies operated for nearly 2 ½ hours before the fire was declared under control.

Tale of the tape:

April 23, 2018

0001 Box 646 Sqd. Co. 4 Eng. Co. 8-9-17 Lad. Co. 11-4 Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt. 4
0003 WF 646 Eng. Co. 19-10 Lad. Co. 9 MSU Batt. 2 Car 30
0003 2-2 646 Eng. Co. 15-5-7 Lad. Co. 3 Car 3-26

0008 S/C 646 Batt. 3

0010 3-3 646 Eng. Co. 2-13-11-22 Lad. Co. 8 Car 10-14

0035 S/C 646 Lad. Co. 2 with Mass Casualty Unit

0056 4-4 646 Eng. Co. 18-6 Lad. Co. 12

2213 Box 749 Eng. Co. 8-22-17-13 Lad. Co. 8-4 Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt. 2

2219 WF 749 Sqd. Co. 4 Lad. Co. 11 MSU Car 30

2322 2-2 749 Eng. Co. 9-15-5 Lad. Co. 9 Car 3-26

April 24, 2013

0007 S/C 749 Eng. Co. 18-19 Lad. Co. 2 Batt. 1

0235 Watch Line Eng. Co. 2-7 Lad. Co. 6 Batt. 3

NEVER FORGET!



FDJC Chaplain Rev. James Pagnotta conducting a Memorial Service on the 25th Anniversary of the Line of Duty Death of Fire Fighter / Gong Club Life Member Carlos Negron at the fire site, 411 Palisade Ave., Jersey City (3/20/93 3-3 420). Son, EMT Carlos Negron II, also a Gong Club Member, second from the right.
(Ron Jeffers Photo)

TURN OUT SPRING 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please Contact:
Jerry Traub

turnout@ifba.org

