



# MONROE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT SAFETY OFFICERS

37 VILLAGE TRAIL, SPENCERPORT, NY 14559  
MCAFD SO @YAHOO.COM ~ (585) 352-0010

MCAFD SO Newsletter  
Volume 1, Issue 3

July 2007

**Next Meeting: New Bus Safety Concerns at RTA Operations Center, July 25th, 1930  
1372 East Main Street**

## May Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to Order at Spencerport Station #3 at 1930 A Pledge to the Flag & Moment of Silence. Minutes from the previous Meeting where approved.

Meeting called to order 17:30 by the President.

Pledge to the flag/moment of silence.

Introduced Assistant Chief Todd Ritzen-thaler also Safety Officers Tim Stevely & Doug Case.

Minutes of last meeting were approved.

Guest speaker Joel Lee from RTS -Joel had an RTS bus for us to look at. He went over all the safety aspects built into it (location of battery disconnects, emergency shut off of engine, how to get into and out through the windows as well as various controls for doors, etc.) Also, said not to hesitate to contact RTS if we needed shelter in winter from cold or summer from heat for our firefighters. They'll send out buses for us.

President Austin mentioned the importance of e-mail for minutes of business meetings – can save us quite a bit on mailing expenses.

Assistant Chief Todd gave us an update on Dave's condition. A group went over to Dave's house and helped in the yard mowing the lawn and taking care of the garden and flower beds.

A suggestion was made that we send some flowers and a \$50 gift card to help from the Association.

Zero activity on the web site, the cost and people to get it done are in place.

Stan went over the seminar for October in the AM CSX 4-hour Rail Safety and Brad Pinsky in the PM on legal issues of live fire burns registration 8:30 AM start 9 AM with light lunch.

**Minutes continued on page 3...**

## Charleston Newspaper Letter

After 31 years in every level of the fire service, I too bleed fire truck red and probably have fire hose for veins, but enough has been said about the need for the firefighter of today needing to be a "leather-lunged smoke eater." In the past, firefighters wore tin helmets and rubber coats. We arrived on the fire scene, oblivious to the hazards, raced into the building, charged blindly up three flights of stairs (sometimes without a hose line), coughing and "vomiting" from the smoke and heat, no radios (only trumpets or bullhorns for communications), only to find the department Fire Chief "right in there with us." Today, we have available to us top of the line protective clothing that provides a protective ensemble for our safety, self-contained breathing apparatus that equals anything NASA would provide to Space Shuttle personnel, state of the art equipment such as thermal imaging technology, personal alert devices that can locate a downed firefighter if he doesn't move for a predetermined period of time, instant point to point communications equipment, and nationally certified training programs developed by recognized professional in our field. Fire ground tactics and incident command have come a long way since the days of Lloyd Layman..training manual. With all due respect for the holdovers from the old days of firefighting, I keep expecting to hear Tevye, the peasant milkman played by Topal in Fiddler on the Roof, shouting "Tradition" as if it were sacred. (But, even he realized that some traditions aren't worth keeping.) My heart still says, "We rush in, while others are rushing out." But training by nationally recognized fire officers, experience gained through study of modern incident command tactics, and evaluation of lessons learned through others mistakes brings to mind another similar, but often tragic quote ... "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread." May we all learn from the tragic experience ... in Charleston, and honor the "Charleston 9" by working to try and not let history repeat itself in the Historic City.

## Inside this issue:

<i>Meeting Minutes</i>	1 / 3
<i>FF LODD Study</i>	2
<i>Presidents Corner</i>	3
<i>Dues / Order</i>	4
<i>Lighter Side</i>	5
<i>Rail Safety Flyer</i>	6
<i>Seminar Flyer</i>	7

## Meeting Dates:

### MCAFD SO

- **07/25**—RTA Ops Center (Bus Safety)
- **9/26**—Churchville FD (Traffic Safety)
- **10/06**—ANNUAL SEMINAR Public Safety Training Center
- **12/05** - Meeting and Christmas Gathering—West Brighton

### WCSOA

- **07/18**—Lincoln FD
- **09/19**—Fairville FD
- **11/21**—West Walworth FD

### Safety Links

[www.fds oa.com](http://www.fds oa.com)  
[www.firefighterclosecalls.com](http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com)  
[www.vententersearch.com](http://www.vententersearch.com)  
[www.respondersafety.com](http://www.respondersafety.com)



## NFPA Releases Firefighter Death Study

### Sobering News

SUSAN NICOL KYLE, Firehouse.com News

BOSTON - While the number of on-duty sudden cardiac deaths has declined by more than a third over the past 30 years, they still remain the leading cause of firefighter fatalities.

Crashes still account for the second highest cause, and training-related deaths are on the rise.

These are among the findings in a NFPA study of trends in on-duty firefighter deaths over the past 30 years.

As the document was being released at the annual NFPA World Safety Conference on Monday, funeral services were being held for a Boston firefighter who collapsed and died of an apparent heart attack last week.

There were 34 sudden cardiac deaths last year, the lowest in 30 years, said Rita Fahy, NFPA research analyst.

The review also showed that after cardiac-related issues (1,461 deaths) and crashes (383), other leading causes were caught or trapped by fire or explosions (207); structural collapses (204); falls or jumps (175) and struck by vehicles (135).

The NFPA defines on-duty as any incident that occurs while the person is at work. Researchers say that includes fund-raising, public education, and other non-fire related duties.

The USFA and the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation utilize different criteria for line-of-duty deaths, on-duty and those who may be considered hometown heroes.

"...We have to agree to disagree," Fahy said.

The study also showed 32 percent of those who died of heart attacks on the fire ground had histories of previous health issues. Fahy said she was surprised that in many cases firefighters who suffered illnesses including cardiac problems returned to full duty.

The document also showed 76 percent of responders killed in crashes were not buckled up. "Seat belt, seat belt, seat belt," said Joseph L. Molis, another NFPA analyst.

Excessive speed for road conditions, operator error and poor maintenance were cited as the leading causes of apparatus crashes over the past 30 years.

Molis said while engineers are designing safer vehicles, the death rate will not change until firefighters wear seat belts. "We can't stress seat belt use enough."

Other trends include:

- There have been 249 deaths during training, including 102 in the past decade.
- Seven of those training deaths in the past 10 years were recruits.

- Proportion of training deaths has been rising annually.
- About half of the training-related deaths were cardiac-related.
- While the number of structure fires has dropped, the rate of firefighter deaths at those blazes has not dropped as much.
- Major causes of non-cardiac deaths in structures were smoke inhalation, burns and trauma.
- There were 338 deaths of wildland firefighters.

Fahy said records also show there were 89 on-duty fatalities last year compared to 87 in 2005. Of those, 46 were volunteers; 23 career; 13 federal or state land management; five contractors; one inmate and one industrial fire brigade firefighter.

Other 2006 statistics show:

- 43 percent involved deaths on the fireground
- 22 percent involved other on-duty
- 20 percent died responding or returning to alarms
- 8 percent were involved in training
- 7 percent, non-fire emergency.

We have our work cut out for us. Hopefully through education and a change in mindset, we will continue to see improvement in these statistics.

## YOUR HOOD

A busy Western fire department have an increased amount of thyroid cancer. One theory is concern over firefighters not washing their protective hoods after fire calls. The built up soot on a hood is being absorbed in that area (neck and head) where we have thin skin.

The University of Cincinnati researchers determined that firefighters are significantly more likely to develop four different types of cancer than workers in other fields. A part of that study looked at PPE, what we have now, how we use it and how we maintain and clean it.

The researchers found that firefighters are twice as likely to develop testicular cancer and have significantly higher rates of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and prostate cancer than non-firefighters. The researchers also confirmed previous findings that firefighters are at greater risk for multiple myeloma.

**Remember: firefighting hoods have to be cleaned after every run...**and whatever else the NFPA and manufacturer recommends.

*All the crap that is off-gassed from burning while we operate at any kind of fire call-and then applied directly to our skin...can't be good.*



## MCAFDSO President's Corner:

*2007 – July MCAFDSO – President's Corner*

### *How much water are YOU carrying this year??*

Rochester is experiencing one of the hottest and driest summers in years.

As our firefighters encounter the challenges of these conditions, does your department carry an ample supply of water or other liquids to replenish our firefighters depleted electrolytes?

A few months ago I presented a general question to the attendees of our association meeting regarding who was responsible for their "Rehabilitation Sector" during a Major Incident? In most cases, the response was the EMS side of their department or they outsourced to their local volunteer ambulance agencies.

Due to the weather conditions we have experienced so far this Spring and what is expected for the remainder of the Summer, carrying chilled bottled water on our equipment will help those who have responded to the "Minor" incidents in an already semi-dehydrated condition. It's a small effort that yields an enormous return.

### *Change in Training Topics and Venues:*

For our July meeting, we were originally scheduled for a "Live Line" Safety Training Demo at the RG&E facility on Scottsville Road. This topic has been rescheduled for September 26. For our July meeting we will be receiving the second half of the RTS Bus Training, concentrating on the New Hybrid busses that have recently been put in to operation. We will meet at the RTS bus facility at 1372 East Main Street.

In addition, we have rescheduled the "Traffic Safety" Training (Originally Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>) for our December 05 meeting at West Brighton.

A lot of things going on, and we look forward to seeing you at these events.

Take care, Be Safe, and will see you "Down Town" on July 25<sup>th</sup>,

***Our Responsibility is***  
**FIREFIGHTER**  
**SAFETY**

## Minutes continued from page 1...

Next meeting will be at the RTS bus headquarters on Main Street, 7/25, 1372 East Main Street, Rochester, for a continuation of bus safety they will have the new alternative fuel buses by then.

### Company Reports

- Wayne County's next meeting 7/18 Lincoln
- Bushnell's Basin – They now have the duties of safety officer divided up between 4 of them at scenes. The extra help is working good. Also had a problem at a fire scene keeping account. Firefighter went in one door and out another.
- MC Chiefs – 2nd Wednesday of month Chief show will be in Henrietta at the Dome 8/8/07, \$25 per person.
- Fire Advisory – Phase II now in progress with committee looking into future at fire service in Monroe County.
- Spencerport – MVA's also have another MSA imaging camera on order. Also bids for new station to replace the one that burned out will be let out, will be let out in the near future.
- Penfield – Multiple MVA's/working on ways to block with trucks to protect firefighters at the scene from on-coming traffic.
- West Webster – Garage fire pretty well gone when they got there.
- North Greece – 4 structure fires/accounting system using passport worked well at all of them. Had 4 firefighters injuries from all calls. Respiration problems and a glove problem accounted for some of them.
- Churchville – Quiet.
- Hilton – Had a truck fire in a barn.
- Rush – EMS calls/had a difficult time locating one call, came via cell phone, found patient 10 miles from location where they said he was.
- West Brighton – Had a fire on a roof, also a bathroom fire. Both calls went well.
- Kendall – Quiet/some MVA's.
- Fairport – Had a firefighter who suffered some damage to his hand due to glass from a firefighter cleaning glass out of a 2nd story window. Glass came down and caught him just above the cuff. Remind our people to look below before throwing stuff out or cleaning the sides of a window from glass.

No other reports.

Meeting adjourned 9:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Mooney



**2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL**

**FEE — \$30.00** per year per **ORGANIZATION** payable to the **MCAFDSO** - *please PRINT*

**FIRE DEPT NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**CHIEF'S NAME & ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**SAFETY OFFICER(S) NAMES, ADDRESS(S), PHONE NUMBERS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN DUES & SHIRT ORDERS TO:**

**Dave Fairley, 37 Village Trail, Spencerport, NY 14552**

**MCAFDSO SHIRT ORDER FORM** *all SHIRT orders MUST include prepayment to MCAFDSO*

**CHOICES:**

- Tee Shirts come in BLUE with GREEN print or GRAY with BLACK Print
- Tee Shirts printed either FRONT only or FRONT & BACK **Tee Shirt Cost is \$9.00 each**
- Golf Shirts come in WHITE with embroidered front only **Golf Shirt cost is \$22.00 each**

*~ Shirt will be available at he following meeting after placing an order ~*

**Name / Fire Dept** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tee Shirt** # Shirts \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_ Color: **BLUE/GREEN** \_\_\_\_\_ **GRAY/BLACK** \_\_\_\_\_

Printing: **Front Only** \_\_\_\_\_ **Front & Back** \_\_\_\_\_

**Golf Shirt** # Shirts \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## MoPed

A doctor goes out and buys the best car on the market, a brand new Ferrari. It is also one of the most expensive cars in the world, and it costs him nearly \$500,000.

He takes it out for a spin and stops at a red light. An old man on a Moped, looking about 100 years old, pulls up next to him. The old man looks over at the sleek shiny car and asks,

"What kind of car ya got there, sonny?"

The doctor replies, "A Ferrari F430 Challenge. It cost nearly a half a million dollars!"

"That's a lot of money," says the old man, "So why does it cost so much?" he asks.

"Because this car can do up to 250 miles an hour," states the doctor proudly.

The MoPed driver asks, "Mind if I take a look inside?"

"No problem," replies the doctor.

So the old man pokes his head in the window and looks around. Then, sitting back on his MoPed, the old man says, "That's a pretty nice car, all right ... but I'll stick with my MoPed!"

Just then the light changes, so the doctor decides to show the old man just what his car can do. He floors it, and within 30 seconds, the speedometer reads 150 mph.

Suddenly, he notices a dot in his rearview and wonders what it could be and suddenly,  
WHHHOOOOOSSSSSHHH!

Something whips by him going much faster! "What on earth could be going faster than my Ferrari?" the doctor asks himself.

He floors the accelerator and takes the Ferrari up to 175 mph.

Then, up ahead of him, he sees that it's the old man on the MoPed!

Amazed that the MoPed could pass his Ferrari, he gives it more gas and passes the little MoPed at 210 mph.  
WHOOOOOOSHSHHHH!

He's feeling pretty good until he looks in his mirror and sees the old man gaining on him AGAIN!

Astounded by the speed of his old guy, he floors the gas pedal and takes the Ferrari all the way up to 250 mph.

Not ten seconds later, he sees the Moped bearing down on him again! The Ferrari is flat out, and there's nothing he can do!

Suddenly, the MoPed plows into the back of his Ferrari, demolishing the rear end.

The doctor stops and jumps out and, unbelievably, the

old man is still alive. He runs up to the mangled old man and says, "Oh My gosh! Is there anything I can do for you?"

The old man whispers, "Unhook my suspenders from your side mirror."

## As I've Matured...

- I've learned that you cannot make someone love you. All you can do is stalk them and hope they panic and give in...
- I've learned that one good turn gets most of the blankets.
- I've learned that no matter how much I care, some people are just jackasses.
- I've learned that it takes years to build up trust, and it only takes suspicion, not proof, to destroy it.
- I've learned that whatever hits the fan will not be evenly distributed.
- I've learned that you shouldn't compare yourself to others - they are more screwed up than you think.
- I've learned that depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
- I've learned that it is not what you wear; it is how you take it off.
- I've learned that you can keep vomiting long after you think you're finished.
- I've learned to not sweat the petty things, and not pet the sweaty things.
- I've learned that ex's are like fungus, and keep coming back.
- I've learned age is a very high price to pay for maturity.
- I've learned that I don't suffer from insanity, I enjoy it.
- I've learned that we are responsible for what we do, unless we are celebrities.
- I've learned that artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.
- I've learned that 99% of the time when something isn't working in your house, one of your kids did it
- I've learned that there is a fine line between genius and insanity.
- I've learned that the people you care most about in life are taken from you too soon and all the less important ones just never go away. And the real pains in the ass are permanent.

*Which of you is going to step up and put me out to pasture?*

John Wayne



## ***Rail Safety for Emergency Responders***

***(RSER)***

***Being Presented at the first half of the  
OCTOBER SAFETY OFFICERS SEMINAR***

***REMEMBER TO***

***PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDER***

**Goal** - Give students the tools needed to respond effectively and safely to an incident involving railroad equipment, on or near railroad rights-of-way.

**Course** - Approximately four hours of classroom training.

**Cost** - There is no charge for the participants.

**Why** - Railroad incidents present a unique and often dangerous situation for responders. As a participant, you will learn crucial information that can help handle and mitigate situations with improved safety and effectiveness.

**Objectives covered in this course:**

- The importance of preparing for railroad incidents
- Railroad related factors that affect a safe response
- Response agency-railroad communications & terminology
- On-scene dangers and safety procedures
- Rail equipment ID, critical components and emergency shut-offs
- How to STOP a train
- Understanding wheel reports, train lists, & lading papers

Student manuals and a course certificate will be provided at the completion of the course. This class may apply towards required training hours or credits.

Presented by Operation Lifesaver Inc.,  
In cooperation with CSX Transportation

Visit -[www.oli.org](http://www.oli.org) for more information



Monroe County Association of



Fire Department Safety Officers

# Monroe County Association of Fire Department Safety Officers



## THIRTEENTH ANNUAL Fire Safety Seminar OCTOBER 6, 2007 Rochester, New York



*In Cooperation With*

**MONROE COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION**

**MONROE COUNTY FIRE BUREAU**

**NORTHERN CENTRAL NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

---

**LOCATION:** Public Safety Training Facility - Room 117 - 1190 Scottsville Road

**AGENDA:**

- 0830 - 0900     **Registration** - Coffee and donuts provided.
- 0900 - 0910     **Welcome!** Stan Austin - President MCAFDSO and Fairport Fire Department Safety Officer
- 0910 - 1130     **Speaker:** CSX Safety Fire Department Liaison - Safety issues for Fire Department response to all Train emergencies. Specific hazards will be covered for derailments, fires, train struck and hazardous materials incidents.
- 1130 - 1200     **Lunch** - provided.
- 1200 - 1330     **Speaker:** Brad Pinsky, Esq. - Will speak on various legal issues including Live Fire Training and current 'hot' legal issues involving the fire service.

**REGISTRATION:** Call Steve Grandusky if attending or with any questions at:

**(585) 802-1087 or (585) 340-8614 before October 5th.**

**Seminar fee payable at door before Seminar.**

**Seminar cost including breaks and lunch is \$20.00**



Monroe County Association of Fire  
Department Safety Officers  
37 Village Trail  
Spencerport, NY 14559  
Phone: 585-352-0010  
E-mail: MCFDSOA@yahoo.com

