



# 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

May 2007

Next Meeting at Spencerport Fire Station #3, May 30th, 1930

2588 Union Street ~ 1 1/2 Miles South of the 531 / 259 (Union Street) Exit

## March Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to Order at 17:30pm, Pledge to the Flag & Moment of Silence. Minutes from the previous Meeting were approved.

The Guest speaker for the evening Dave Stalker from Walworth. Mr. Stalker reviewed Basic Farm Rescue, Basic Animal Behavior, as well as Off road rescue in Orchards etc.

Mr. Stalker was thanked for his presentation, and the meeting turned back over to President Austin.

Steve Grandusky, needs Email address, so we can get the Minutes out via Email.

Stan handed out, information regarding a Live fire Training Evolution, that went wrong. As well as a Handout from Fire Engineering on Material encountered in the dumpster of a Garbage Truck hauling Residential curbside pickup of Chemicals and other Haz-Mat problems.

President Austin, also presented for information a List of Fairport Residents that have backup power generators. A List of such back up generators should be obtained from the Code Enforcement Official. The Information should be useful, during an incident, when the Power is shut off.

The Association's October Seminar will feature 2 Speakers this year. 1st will be CSX Railroads presentation of "Rail Safety for the Emergency Responders", in the Morning. Brad Pinski, will give one of his well presented programs, on Live Fire Training.

Next meeting will be May 30th at The Spencerport Fire District Station 3.

No new business.

No Old Business.

Meeting Adjourned at 2128

Minutes continued on page 7...

## The STAND DOWN

The STAND DOWN is a few weeks away.

What's the STAND DOWN? Click here for those who don't know:

[www.IAFC.org/standdown](http://www.IAFC.org/standdown)

For those who do, keep reading.

Building on the momentum of the National Fire Fighter Safety Stand Down in 2005 and 2006, the IAFC, IAFF and nearly all other national fire service organizations have mutually called for another needed stand down to be held June 17-23. FD's & EMS agencies are urged to plan to participate in the event. BUT....your personal help is needed. **Really.**

This year, with the focus "READY TO RESPOND" (Fire & EMS) we need "ready" drills, links to applicable "ready" documents and "ready" training info, after actions, manuals – to be included on the stand down site.

The IAFC Safety, Health and Survival Section will be coordinating with IAFC staff and other sections and fire service organizations to provide recommended activities and resources online at [www.iafc.org/standdown](http://www.iafc.org/standdown). For further information or to provide materials for online posting, contact IAFC's Shawn Stokes at: [sstokes@iafc.org](mailto:sstokes@iafc.org).

So what does **READY TO RESPOND** mean?

Well for example, here is a SAMPLE:

"Ready to Respond" STAND DOWN DRILL OUTLINE:

STAND DOWN continued on page 3...

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## Meeting Dates:

- 1/31 - Bushnell's Basin  
(Auto Extrication Safety)
- 3/28—Ontario Fire Co.  
(Farm Safety)
- 5/30—Spencerport  
Sta. 3 (R.T.S. Bus  
Safety)
- 7/25—RG&E Operations  
(Electrical Safety)
- 9/26—Churchville FD  
(Traffic Safety)
- 10/06—ANNUAL SEMI-  
NAR Public Safety Training  
Center
- 12/05—Meeting and Xmas  
Gathering—West Brighton



## 5 YEARS LATER

**ST. LOUIS DETAILS:** These are some specific, worthy of note excerpts from a St. Louis Post Dispatch article we have posted on our home page in the News/Updates area. Below are some specific details on the various factors that may have contributed to the tragic deaths. Some of the problems appear to be "common" that we've read about at other LODD events before.

As we sent out on The Secret List last evening, 5 years ago tonight, the two St. Louis firefighters were killed separately in a commercial building fire. The Post-Dispatch obtained a copy of the fire department's final report. Here are some specifics from their article where the report found:

- Firefighters didn't adequately ventilate the building. Ladder trucks weren't correctly parked for access to the roof.
- Two separate Maydays — including one by Capt. Martin — went unnoticed on busy radio channels. One was about the same time an order was given by radio to evacuate.
- At least one caller told dispatchers the building "went boom," but firefighters were never provided additional details by dispatchers. If they knew, the report suggests, they might have recognized there was a gas leak.
- "Rampant ... freelancing" by firefighters — at least four of whom were alone at times inside — violated a well-established "buddy" rule.
- Two VISITING firefighters from an outside FD, riding along on Rescue 1, entered the building without the incident commander's permission and wearing St. Louis air tanks, contrary to rules. Morrison and his usual partner had split up, each one teamed with an observer.
- Some rescuers were unfamiliar with operating a thermal imaging camera to find downed victims in dense smoke.
- Air tanks weren't full in some companies' breathing equipment. Captain Morrison was in the building a short time before his low-air alarm sounded.
- Jobs lost in budget cuts left battalion chiefs without the extra eyes and ears of aides, as well as reduced the ranks of inspectors, meaning fewer checks for hazards.

Take Care....more we can learn from,

Billy G.

The Secret List 5-3-07 / 1030



**“This is my rifle. There are many like it but this one is mine. My rifle is my best friend. It is my life. I must master it as I must master my life.”**

Following the U.S. Marine Corps' Rifle Creed, whether you have a quint, a rescue engine, or just an engine, if you have to stretch a line, the basics don't change. Make sure your members are familiar with what comes off your engine, how it is packed, how it is used, and how to solve any problems you might have with it. I put together a power point program about the initial stretch, and used the quote “How the first line goes, so goes the fire.” If we can't get the line from point A to point B properly, then we're all going to have problems.





## May 2007, MCAFDSO President's Corner:

### *Away From Home and Family?*

As firefighters, we are very focused when it comes to responding to an incident. This mind set is required for both our own safety and for those around us. At the same time, being this focused requires long term planning for our family members and those we leave behind at home.

With early summer ahead of us, we will be encountering the annual on slot of thunderstorms and high winds that could impact the safety of our homes and family.

In an article published in the May "Firefighter", "Are You Ready for an Emergency?", the American Red Cross and FASNY recommend the creation of a "Build a Kit". This kit would be used by you and/or your family during an emergency which may have disrupted utilities and/or resulted in your family and pets leaving home.

The suggested content of the kit includes the following items:

#### **"Build A Kit"**

- *Water* - One Gallon of water per person per day.
- *Food* – non-perishable and high protein
- Flashlight – with spare batteries or crank style.
- *First Aid Kit* - with basic supplies
- *Medication* – a few days supply.
- *Sanitary items* – paper towels, toilette paper, personal hygiene items.
- *Money* – a small amount of cash (safely stored) in case of power outage (No ATMs or cash register card readers)
- *Pet Supplies* – food, leash, and medical records.
- *Maps* - of your area.

In addition to the above kit, think about the following pre-emergency action items:

- If you have a home generator, when was the last time it was checked for fuel, oil, and operation.
- Fuel supply – how old and when checked.
- If leaving your family, how do they get in contact with you and vice-versa?
- Do friends or relatives, away from the emergency, have a way of contacting you and your family?
- If you would like additional information on this topic, check out the American Red Cross web site at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) – "Get Prepared".

Take Care, Be Safe, and see you at Spencerport on the 30<sup>th</sup>.  
Stan

(Example: reported single family dwelling fire)

## Stand Down continued from page 1...

- Before The Run: (Apparatus readiness, staffing, alarm assignments, dispatcher roles, radios working right, what channels/channel coordination, mutual aid training, pre-plans, map books, PT, health/condition of members, PPE ready, how does the PPE fit, what's IN your PPE, rope, flashlight, chocks, gloves, tools, knife....)
- Respond (Driving, knowing where to go, seat belts, stop @ red lights/stop signs, riding assignments/equipment/who brings what off the rig, staffing, officer supervising)
- Arrival (ICS, personnel tracking, company assignments, staffing resources, water supply, pump operations, stretching the initial handline to the fire, backup lines, forced entry, venting, search/rescue, RIT staffing/qualification, utilities, EMS roles, traffic control, salvage)
- Incident Under Control: (Investigations, customer service, overhaul/rehab)
- Returning (Don't fall out of the apparatus or crash going back)
- In Quarters (Backing policies, cleaning the soot off us, your gear, your equipment and be...
- Ready to Respond to the next run. (What is required?)

We know the needless ways we died this past year (vs. the fact that sometimes, we do have to give our lives)...and the STAND DOWN activities are a good way to commit to not repeat the needless deaths happen at your FD or EMS.

Force a little "ready to respond" culture change this year.

Take Care,  
BillyG

The Secret List 5-22-07 2050 hours

# THINK SAFETY



**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**

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
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**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** \_\_\_\_\_

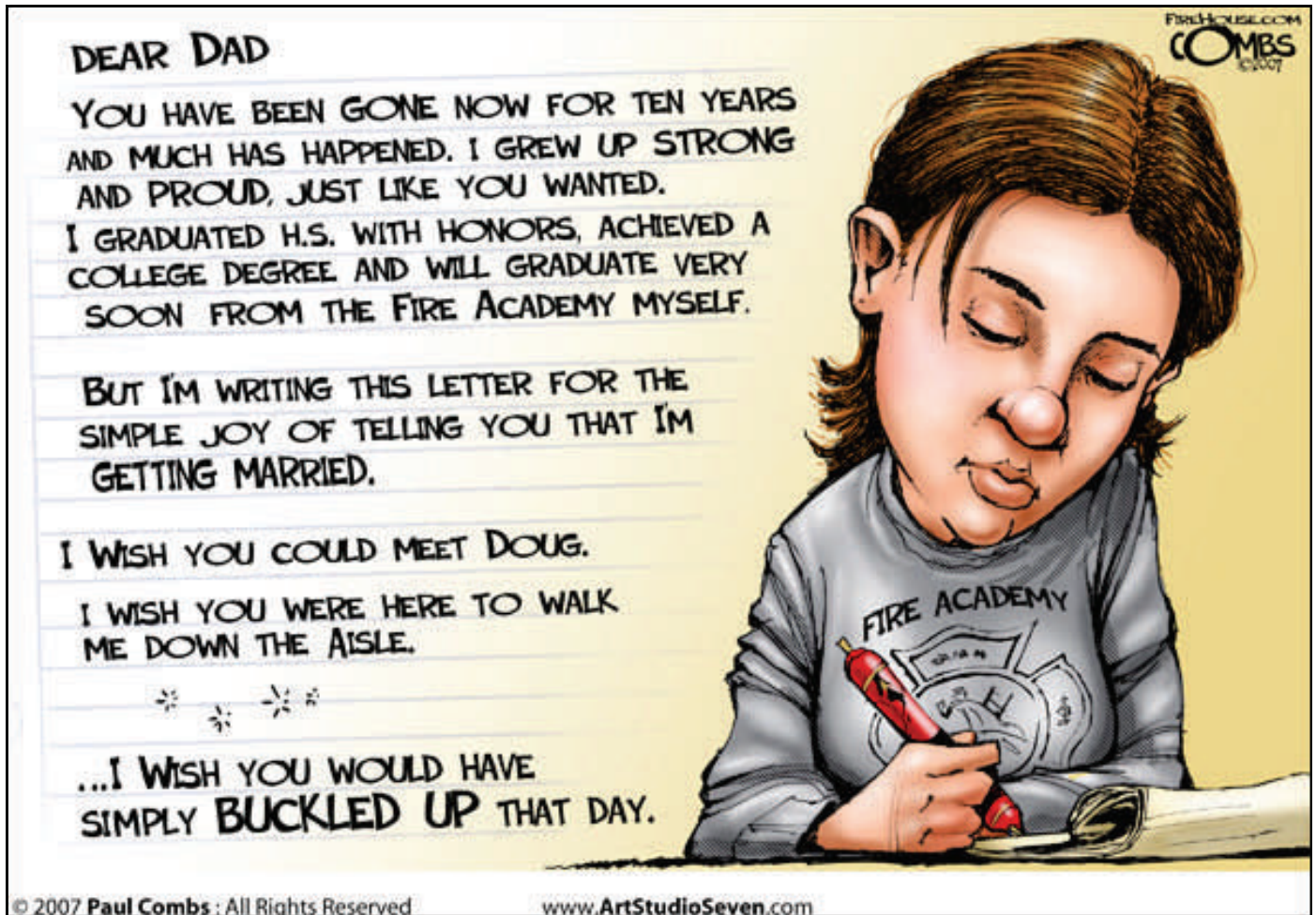
**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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



## CLOSE CALL: FLASHOVER IN OHIO

May 8--The difference between life and death for a firefighter can be a matter of just a few feet or just a few seconds inside a burning building. Akron firefighter James "Jimmy" Kocsis knows this.

Standing in his Akron driveway Monday, the 40-year-old looked at a display of several thousand dollars' worth of burned fire-resistant clothing and equipment he wore and used Friday night while fighting a fire at 975 Johnston St. His yellow helmet was blackened and melted in spots.

And the fire-resistant hood he wore over his head was left with an image -- a burn in the shape of his left ear. There were deep burns, too, on the shoulders of his jacket.

Kocsis, a 16-year-veteran in the fire department who works out of Station 8 on East Archwood Avenue, had been climbing the stairs of the flaming home to look for what firefighters believed were trapped children, when the heat from the blaze became too intense. "This was get-out hot," he said.

As he came back down the stairs, he bumped into Lt. Bob Herb. Kocsis said Herb told him they both needed to get out of the building immediately.

Kocsis was on a landing on the stairway and thought he

didn't have too far to go, but then there was a flashover -- a spontaneous ignition of burnable material in the building.

"All the contents at one time erupted," he said. The heat and flames seared his back. Kocsis dropped to his knees and began to crawl toward the front door.

Herb grabbed Kocsis at the door, and pulled him out of the burning house to the front yard.

"It felt like my shoulders were on fire," Kocsis said. But he was unable to roll in the grass to douse the flames because his burned air tank was still on his back.

So fellow firefighters doused him with a fire hose. "My jacket was still smoking pretty good," he said.

Paramedics James Weiser II and Kevin Gostkowski got his air pack, jacket and shirt off and treated him at the scene, Kocsis said.

"They did a helluva job," he said. "They were doing what we do all the time," said District Chief Dennis Stoneman. "They were risking it all to save a life."

He said Kocsis' training and equipment saved his life. "He is lucky," Stoneman said.

It turned out that there was no one trapped in the house, the fire department said.



# ***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**





## Minutes continued from page 1...

### Information Exchange:

#### Wayne County Safety Officers Assn. -

They had a guest speaker from the Red Cross, whom stated that the Fire Station that is going to be used for sheltering, Need to be inspected and Approved by the Red Cross, in order for the Dept. to be reimbursed for Expenses incurred, while the station is in use as a Shelter.

Next Meeting for the WCSOA, will be in Pultneville May 16th.

#### Monroe County Chiefs — No Report.

#### Monroe County Fire Advisory Board— No Report

**Monroe County Haz-Mat Team** - Several Level 0 Incidents. One Level 1 Incident in Churchville.

#### West Walworth— Automatic Alarms

**Bushnell's Basin**— Had an experience trying to close off a Ramp in poor visibility due to heavy fog and poor visibility. Found out that the Fire Police and such need something else instead of a small blue light, to get vehicle operators attention. Flares or other high visibility lighting.

**West Brighton** - Had a challenging fire on the 2nd floor of an Apartment Building. Things ran well, a smoke detector was found with out a battery unfortunately, there was on Fatality at the Incident.

**Penfield** - Seminar with Chief Goldfedder was well attended and very Informative.

**Brighton**— A Natural Gas leak caused some tense moments, when a women took the Gas Meter off the wall in the garage, while backing out with her car. Major Traffic problems were encountered with cars trying to get into the Apartment Complex. The gas got into other apartments as well as other Garages near the scene. Explosive levels were high. A reverse 911 call alerted near by residents of the situation.

**Spencerport**— Several MVA's. New High visibility Vests on the Districts Engines and Rescue Truck.

**Fairport**— Fire Police now have Luminated Safety Belts (electroluminescent Strip) by aero life Products. They are worn on a diagonal over the coats for better visibility on the highways

#### Kendall - Quiet

**Rush** - Black Ice problems causing several MVA's. Introduced new Safety Officer Joe Cirincione, whom was accompanied by his daughter Jenna, a member of the Explorer Post.

**Scottsville** - Gas order calls / Bathroom fire in converted Farm House, which has been converted into 5 Apartments. The fire was started by a lit candle. Operating Smoke de-

tectors Alerted the other tenants to the fire.

### **Stanley does it again:**

President Austin, related a story, that happened to him approximately 50 years ago. The incident during the use of a lawn mower. Stan related, that he was mowing the lawn, while he was wearing his brand new Ked sneakers on, when the mower got away from him. Seems the mower hit something, causing the handle to pop up and strike him under the chin. This of course caused a few stars to appear before his eyes. Well it seems he lost his balance causing his new sneakers, to find there way under the deck of the mower, which promptly removed the tops op the toes of each sneaker (Luckily no toes). To add insult to injury, the mower was equipped with one of the metal short strips, to shut the engine down, when the spark plug was grounded. When he proceeded to try and shut down the mower with his sneaker with no toe, and bare sock exposed. Where he proceeded to get the shock of his life.

Nice job Stanly. The luck and trials of youth.

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## You've Got to Love Little Boys

Two young boys walked into a pharmacy one day, picked out a box of Tampax and proceeded to the checkout counter.

The man at the counter asked the older boy, "Son, how old are you?"

"Eight, "the boy replied.

The man continued, "Do you know what these are used for?"

The boy replied, "Not exactly, but they aren't for me. They're for him. He's my brother. He's four. We saw on TV that if you use these you would be able to swim and ride a bike. He can't do either one."

## What Did He Say?

A man is recovering from surgery when a nurse asks him how he is feeling. "I'm O. K. But I didn't like the four-letter-word the doctor used in surgery," he answered.

"What did he say," asked the nurse.

"OOPS!"

## Divorce Court

Mr. Clark, I have reviewed this case very carefully," the divorce Court Judge said, "And I've decided to give your wife \$775 a week." "That's very fair, your Honor," the husband said. "And every now and then I'll try to send her a few bucks myself."



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