



Serving the Huntington Community Since 1843

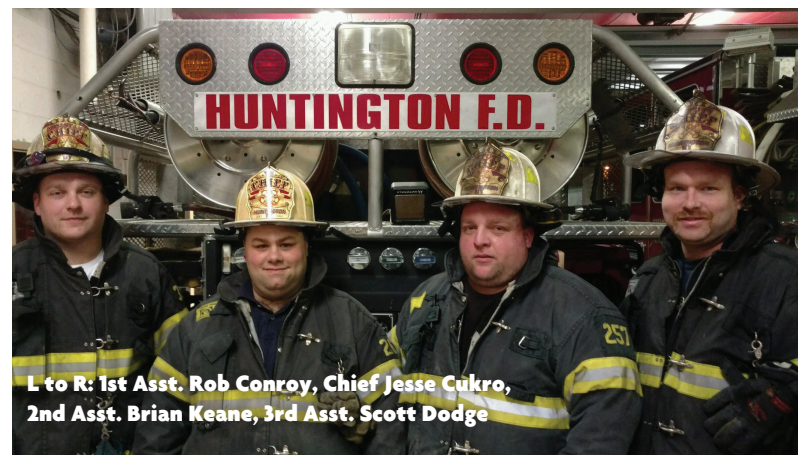
Volume 7, Number 1, Summer 2016

GENERATION AFTER GENERATIONS

On January 1st I took over as Chief of the Huntington Fire Department, fulfilling a childhood dream. I am a fourth generation member and the third generation of my family to hold the office of Chief. I remember as a child playing firefighter wearing my grandfather's Chief's helmet, pretending to go to fire calls in my uncle's Chief's car or listening to my grandfather and uncles telling stories about fires or happenings around the firehouse. I was hooked. I couldn't wait until I was 18 to join, which I did after completing the junior firefighter program. Oh boy, it was time! I still remember my first call, what truck I rode on and that my

grandfather was driving. Thinking back, I can recall going to my first house fire. I was anxious.

After years as a firefighter, I ran for 2nd Lieutenant of the Hook & Ladder Company, served as 1st Lieutenant and Captain of the company and moved up the Assistant Chief ranks. So now it's time to be THE CHIEF. I immediately learned that this office holds many responsibilities and requires a lot of time. I'm lucky to have a great team: Assistant Chief Robert Conroy, Deputy Chiefs



L to R: 1st Asst. Rob Conroy, Chief Jesse Cukro, 2nd Asst. Brian Keane, 3rd Asst. Scott Dodge

Brian Keane and Scott Dodge and a great group of company Captains and Lieutenants. But, the best team of all is my firefighters, truly dedicated professionals spending countless hours training to protect life and property. Today, it takes far more time to be a volunteer than ever.

The number of calls has tripled from 30 years ago. As Chief, I couldn't be prouder of my members. I thank Ex-Chief Robert Berry for his service these past two years and for his six years as an Assistant Chief. He taught me a lot as his Assistant Chief, and I know he will be available to lend me

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CONGRATULATIONS ON 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

Ed Erickson joined the Huntington Fire Department as a member of the Engine Company in June 1966. He was motivated to serve the community but also wanted to maintain the family tradition of his wife, Elizabeth (Betty) Archer. Betty's brothers, Bill and Bob, were and still are active HFD members.

Ed has served as Treasurer for both the Engine Company and the Department for many years. He recently became a member of the Fire Police Unit where his 42 years' experience with the Suffolk County Police Department will greatly aid traffic control at incident sites. The Department and the Huntington community thank Ed Erickson for a half-century of dedicated, selfless service.

COMMISSIONERS' CORNER



In Volume 6, Number 1, this column discussed the Insurance Service Office, Inc. (ISO) as a statistical recordkeeper and developer of performance standards for the insurance industry. These mandates play a significant role in determining insurance rates. ISO standards affect facilities, trucks,

equipment, training, communication systems, etc. Not meeting them would cause fire departments to receive low ratings, which would equate to higher customer insurance premiums. Ratings are calculated based on the ISO's review of the fire department and the community they serve including:

- Jurisdiction: A statistical review of the number and type of incidents handled by the FD and the location of the department's apparatus within the district.
- Fire Flow: Inventory of fire hydrants in the fire department's jurisdiction and a review of the hydrant flow tests and maintenance and repair records.
- Emergency Communication Centers: Inventory of communication equipment and a review of the communication operations and operational procedures

for all types of emergencies.

- Fire Operations and Administration Data: By far the largest category, this includes field tests of apparatus, an inventory of all FD equipment and supplies, all FD management and operational plans and identifying areas where plans are needed.
- Training: Reviews all the training programs given to officers and firefighters including fire suppression, handling hazardous materials, emergency vehicle operations, etc.
- Water Supply: Determines water capacity of trucks, analyzes hydrant distribution in the fire district and tests hydrants.

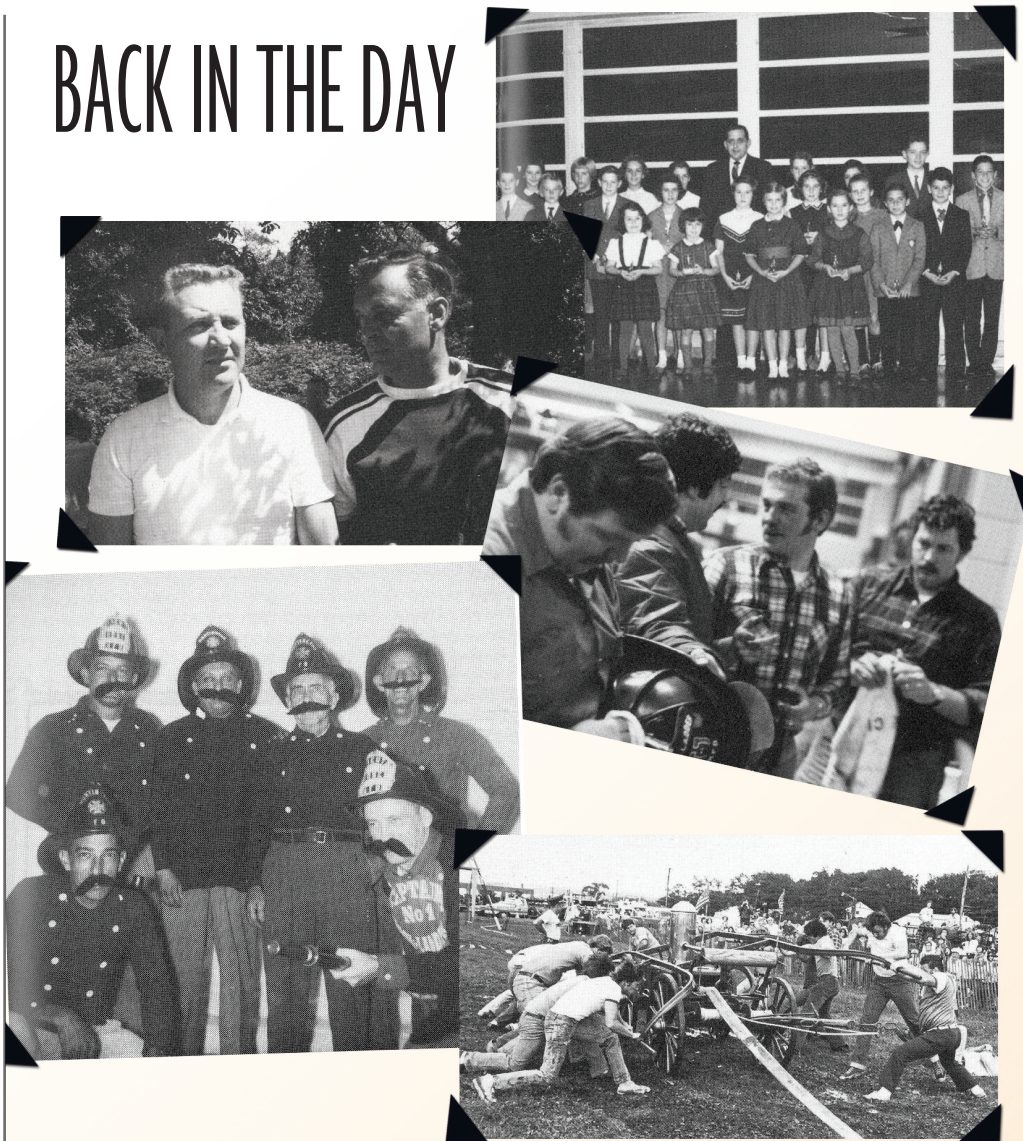
Each category and subcategory is given a numerical value, the total of which determines the rating given to the FD as a whole or to sections of the FD.



Come see what it's like to be a volunteer firefighter. As part of National Volunteer Week (April 10-16), the Huntington Fire Department will host a Recruitment Open House on April 9th and 10th. Members will be on hand to educate the community about volunteerism, give a tour of the firehouse and answer any questions. It's an opportunity to enter a brotherhood and sisterhood that serves the Huntington community unlike any other.

**Stop in and visit us at
1 Leverich Place during
National Volunteer Week, or
call (631) 427-3030
for more information.**

BACK IN THE DAY



PROFILE: Scott Dodge, 3rd Assistant Chief

Scott Dodge joined the department in 1999 and has proudly served as a Hose Company member,

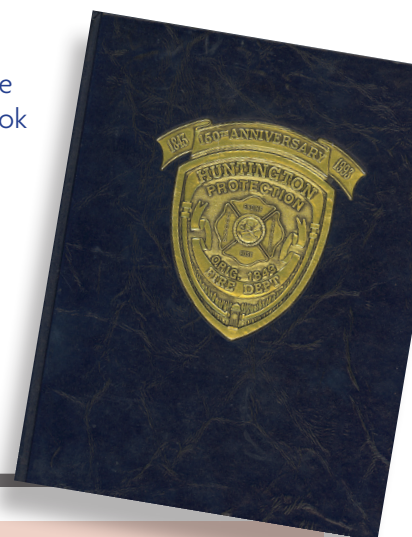


moving up through the ranks from 2nd Lieutenant to Captain. Scott inherited the spirit of volunteering from friends and family, including his father and great grandfather, both Greenlawn firefighters. His family's connection to Huntington dates

to the early 1700's. Scott grew up and lives in Huntington with his wife, Adria, and their daughter, Lucille. Scott has worked for the Town of Huntington Maritime Services Division for 17 years.

MILESTONES: A LONG TIME COMING

The proud heritage of the Huntington Fire Department is approaching a new milestone: celebrating 175 years of continuous community service. The highlight will be an Anniversary Parade and a community celebration in July 2018. An updated history volume, similar to the very successful one published in 1993, will be available in late 2017 or early 2018. According to Ex-Chief Neil Getter, the 175th Anniversary Committee Chairman, "The commemorative yearbook will be bigger and better with more classic shots and an entire color section chronicling the last 25 years. Future newsletters will advise of sponsorship and advertising opportunities and Anniversary Parade progress, which is a team effort by all of the members of the Department."



Watch Out For Carbon Monoxide

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a silent, odorless, tasteless and invisible killer. Hundreds of Americans die annually from accidental non-fire-related CO poisoning, more than any other poison. The US Product Safety Commission reports that fire departments respond to tens of thousands of carbon monoxide incidents each year. Generators, incorrectly vented fuel burning fireplaces, furnaces, stoves, car engines, clothes dryers and water heaters are the usual suspects.



Early symptoms of CO poisoning, which are similar to flu symptoms, are often ignored and can include headaches, dizziness, nausea and mental confusion. They are often misdiagnosed as migraine headache, stroke or food poisoning.

Most of the deaths and incidents are preventable.

- All appliances should be professionally installed and maintained.
- All homes should have at least one CO detector installed where people spend a good deal of time and where the alarm can be heard.
- Check batteries regularly!

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Thanks to all who stepped up and donated during the HFD's Food Pantry Drive. You helped make the holiday season happier for many needy families and individuals with more than 600 pounds of food. And thank you for your support of the Toys For Tots Program, which resulted in happy holidays for a lot of children in Nassau and Suffolk counties.



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a hand whenever I need it.

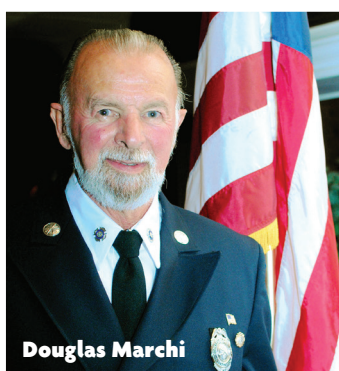
In windup, I can assure you we are ready, willing and able to respond at a moment's notice whenever a call comes in, for whatever you need help with. There are no small emergencies. We treat everything with the highest priority. Just pick up the phone and call no matter what time, day or night.

Sincerely yours,
Chief Jesse Cukro

WORKLOAD STATS:

In 2015 the Huntington Fire Department handled **743 calls** as compared to 747 in 2014. In each year our volunteers responded to on **average of two (2) calls each day.**

IN MEMORIAM:



Douglas Marchi

Douglas Marchi joined the Hose Protection Company of the Huntington Fire Department on October 16, 1961. A 54-year member of the department, Douglas was a distinguished U.S. Army veteran with the 118th Assault Helicopter Company, serving from 1967 – 1969.



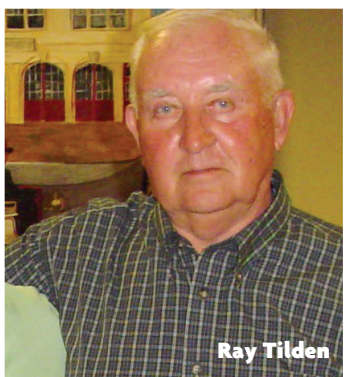
Richie Mullen

A 44-year member of the Hose Company, Richie held the position of Lieutenant. Richie worked as a Dispatcher at the Huntington Fire District for 35 years before retiring in December 2010.



Bill McGaul

Bill was a 55-year member in the Huntington Fire Department Hose Company and later served as Captain of the Fire Police. Bill served with honor in the U.S. Army.



Ray Tilden

A 60-year member of the Huntington Fire Department, Ray proudly served in the U.S. Army with the 11th Airborne Division.

IN MEMORIAM:

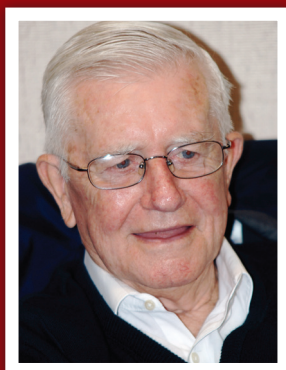
Every Fire Department is a living, breathing organization composed of men and women with an acute sense of community and a hands on commitment to service. The Huntington Fire Department is no exception, and so when someone passes, it deeply affects the entire organization. While words can never fully recognize the contributions of these members, The Huntington Fire District is grateful for their many years of dedicated service. Their voices and their presence will be missed, but never forgotten.

A LIFETIME OF SERVICE



Born and raised in Huntington, Cliff Schwier joined the Huntington Fire Department Hook & Ladder Company in October 1951. A recipient of the Jacob Ruppert Award for heroism, Cliff served as Second Lieutenant, became Captain in 1963 and in 1965 was elected Third Deputy Chief. He continued his ascent serving as Deputy and Assistant Chief and was elected Chief of Department in 1972.

After leaving the Chief's office, Cliff continued to serve the Department as chauffeur, interior fireman, a member of the Fire Police, as well as on various committees. In 1985 Cliff was elected Huntington Fire District Fire Commissioner, a position he held for 23 years.



HUNTINGTON

FIRE DISTRICT NEWS

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Questions or Comments? Email us at hfd230@gmail.com



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2015 IN REVIEW

We started January with the feeling that it was going to be a mild winter. However, that came to an abrupt halt on January 24th with our first big storm. We didn't see our lawns again until the middle of March.

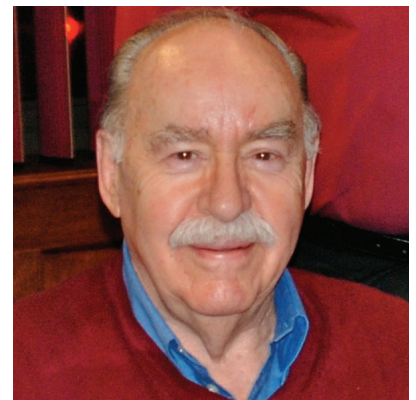
Our year at the firehouse went the same way. Unlike 2014 where we had the first reported structure fire in Suffolk County at 12:37 on January 1st, it was relatively quiet to start with just routine calls. But like the winter, the pace picked up, and it became a relatively busy year. The HFD answered more than 750 calls for help in our jurisdiction and several others for help outside the first response area. We handled a broad spectrum of emergencies on land and water, from civilian assists to gas leaks to commercial structure fires, the most notable being the laundromat on New Street in Huntington Village. On a lighter note, the members were busy



assisting with charitable events throughout the year. The antique restoration committee continued to work hard to make improvements to the museum. Our softball team made it to the playoffs and the springtime hoedown picnic and Halloween costume parties both went off without a hitch.

As first responders to emergencies, we must prepare for the worst, but we can also hope for the best. The best to all our volunteers and the residents of the Huntington Fire District for the upcoming year. Enjoy the spring and summer and be safe.

- Bruce Smith



ELECTION RESULTS

In the December 8th election, Tom Brown was re-elected to the Huntington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners. A resident of Lloyd Harbor and former Lloyd Harbor police officer, Mr. Brown began his new five-year term on January 1st, 2016.