



HUNTINGTON

FIRE DISTRICT NEWS

Serving the Huntington Community Since 1843

Volume 2, Number 1, Spring 2011

COMMISSIONERS' CORNER

In the last issue of HFD News, we addressed Section 176 of the New York State Town Law that identified the responsibility of Fire Commissioners. In that Section it states that at the Fire District's Annual Organizational Meeting the Board of Fire Commissioners will appoint a District Treasurer. This is a very important appointment since this person is the Fire District's Fiscal Officer. Section 177 specifies his/her duties and responsibilities to:

- Receive and have custody of all Fire District funds.
- Disburse funds only when so ordered by a Resolution of the Board of Fire Commissioners.
- Disburse funds by check made payable only to a specific person or entity.
- Deposit money only in depositories authorized by the Board of Fire Commissioners.
- Account for all monies received and disbursed and produce all records supporting each disbursement and receipt of the prior year at the Annual Organizational Meeting or when directed by the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Although proof of all financial transactions of the Fire District is required to be presented annually, it has become common practice to do this at each monthly Board Meeting. Additionally, two of the five Commissioners are responsible to review and sign a voucher for each disbursement and another Commissioner reconciles the District's bank accounts monthly.

Reviews of all financial transactions and depository balances are performed by an independent accounting firm. An annual audit by a CPA is also performed and sent to the New York State Comptroller.

All this is done to protect the taxpayers' money and to ensure it is spent as specified in the District's Annual Budget.

- The Commissioners



WHAT'S NEW

Updating Equipment for Greater Safety



New Pumper

The Fire Apparatus Committee and the District mechanics recently did a progress check on the District's newly ordered pumper Class A Engine. The 1,500 gallons per minute capacity truck replaces our 1989 Pierce Engine that has served the District well up until recently.



Emergency High Water Vehicle

On several occasions, especially during extreme tides and severe weather, the Department has rescued stranded motorists and responded to Lloyd Neck calls when the water cuts the peninsula off from the mainland. The Committee is pursuing a military surplus high water access vehicle to enable firefighters to respond to such emergencies through the water without damaging the vehicle or endangering personnel. Once purchased, the Huntington Fire Department will refit the vehicle to make it emergency response ready.



Fire House For Huntington Food Pantry

Thanks to everyone who stepped up and donated during the HFD's Food Pantry Drive. You helped make the holiday season happier for many of the area's needy families. In 2010 needy families and individuals received more than 600 pounds of food through our efforts. Many thanks to all.



Holiday Parade

Hope you enjoyed the first annual Holiday Parade. It was a great evening, enjoyed by all. Looking forward to seeing you there this year.

Is That A Hydrant Under There?

The recent snowstorms which buried hydrants everywhere prompted the District to purchase a high-quality metal detector. This tool enables firefighters to locate snow covered hydrants as well as gas and water main shut offs.



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Community Forum

We're pleased to publish your comments. Here are some recent ones we have received.

"Love the photos of old Huntington. Keep them coming." -BK

"We never knew how many different things the District sponsored or supported. Thanks for all." -GC

"Having seen three of them, I find the newsletters very informative." -SS

Safety Tips

This time of year can bring some hidden dangers.

Chief Riggs would like to share some winter safety tips:

Car Warming: Never leave your car running in the garage to warm it up. Vehicle engines produce carbon monoxide (CO) that can quickly fill your home.

Detectors: Make sure your smoke detectors and CO detectors are working properly.

Doorways/Walkways: Keep your doorways and walkways clear of snow and ice.

Frozen Pipes: If you encounter frozen pipes, call a professional for help. Never use a torch or open flame device to thaw the pipe.

Hydrants: If you have a fire hydrant near your home, please keep it clear of snow. If you are unable to do this yourself, contact the firehouse so we can take care of it.

Space Heaters: Only use space heaters that are U.L. listed and approved and make sure to keep them away from flammable/combustible materials.

2010 ELECTION RESULTS

In the **December 14th** election, Tom Brown was re-elected to the Huntington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners. A resident of Lloyd Harbor and retired Lloyd Harbor police officer, Tom began the new five-year term, effective **January 1, 2011.**



From The Chief

A belated Happy New Year to all, and I hope everyone has managed the winter weather safely. During every storm we kept a crew on standby in fire headquarters. This enabled us to respond to your calls for help faster and more safely during the inclement weather. There were 12 to 15 firefighters in-house at these times, even overnight.

Being Ready: Mill Dam Ice Rescue

The cold and the heavy snows have been tough on all of us. At the firehouse we need to be ready for anything, and we recently practiced our ice and water rescue skills at the Mill Dam Road boat ramps. We went through several evolutions in full gear with all our equipment, simulating the rescue of a victim who had fallen through the ice. All of our participating members, including those who had never done the procedure before, performed flawlessly.



Voted Best LI Firehouse...Again!

We are very proud of the work we do, answering the community's calls for help, day or night, regardless of weather conditions...all of it on a volunteer basis. When we receive feedback from the public acknowledging appreciation for how well we do our duty, it makes it all the more rewarding. I'm pleased that for the second consecutive year, the Huntington Fire Department has been voted "Long Island's Best Firehouse" by the readers of the Long Island Press. This type of recognition makes us want to work even harder for you, the people we serve. Thank you for your praise, confidence and for voting for us.



Enjoy the spring and please stay safe.

Brian Riggs
Chief of Department



Looking Back

We have gotten a very positive response to this column. If you would like to, please send us old photos.



United Drug Store Fire
February 12, 1917



Trying out their
Fathers' Gear

Circa 1926



National Volunteer Week: Join The HFD.

As part of National Volunteer Week, the Huntington Fire Department will host a Recruitment Open House on April 9th and 10th. Members will walk you through the firehouse, educate the community about the volunteer fire service and answer any questions.

If you have ever been curious about being a volunteer firefighter, this is your chance to learn and experience it for yourself. Come and see what it's like to serve your community and enter a brotherhood and sisterhood unlike any other.

Visit the Huntington Fire Department at 1 Leverich Place or call **631-427-3030** for more information.



Robert Berry
2nd Assistant Chief
Recruitment and Retention Coordinator

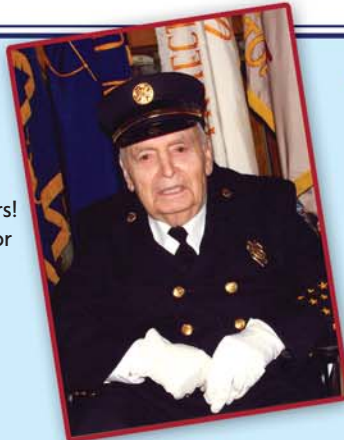
Heroes: Celebrating Service

Between them, Charlie Lukralle and John LoScalzo have served the Huntington Fire Department for over 110 years! We salute you both. Congratulations and many thanks for all you have done for our community.



Charlie has been with the HFD for 60+ years, and if it weren't for a stretch between 1952 and 1957, it would be closing in on 70! Charlie signed up while a junior at Huntington High School during World War II, when a shortage of manpower necessitated the recruitment of many high school students.

He joined the Engine Company in May of 1943 and served until May of 1952. Charlie rejoined the Engine Company in October 1957 and has served diligently until the present. Through the years he has worked on numerous Engine Company and Fire Department committees and lent his athletic skills to the softball, bowling and drill teams.



60 Years



Above: Charlie Lukralle, present
Below: Ray Tilden & Charlie
Lukralle, circa 1960s



John LoScalzo has served the HFD for 50+ years, having joined on October 2, 1960. A former Chief of Department (1976-1978), John's service has included consecutive positions as Engine Company Secretary (1964), 2nd Lieutenant (1966-1969), 1st Lieutenant (1969-1970), 3rd Deputy Chief (1970-1972), 2nd Deputy Chief (1972-1974) and 1st Assistant Chief (1974-1976). John also served as Fire Commissioner from 1981-1997.



50 Years



Above: John LoScalzo, present
Right: Frank Ambrosio, Chiefs LoScalzo
& Dole at Firemen's Night, Shea Stadium

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1 Leverich Place
 Huntington, NY 11743-7803
 Emergency Tel: (631) 427-3131
 Tel: (631) 427-3030
 Fax: (631) 673-0684

Board of Fire Commissioners
 Chairman: Thomas Collins
 Vice Chairman: Edmund Erickson
 Thomas Brown
 Andrew Kitzen
 Clifford Schwier

Secretary-Treasurer: Fred J. Buckholtz
 Secretary-Deputy Treasurer: Joyce Logan
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TOYS FOR TOTS

A Record Success

The Huntington Fire Department supported the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program for the seventh consecutive year. The primary goal of Toys for Tots is to deliver a message of hope to needy youngsters through a new toy at Christmas and to motivate them to grow into responsible, productive, patriotic citizens and community leaders. In 2010 we broke our record by collecting some 1,900 toys for needy children at the Leverich Place Firehouse. The unwrapped gifts were distributed to children and families in both Nassau and Suffolk. Thanks to all who donated and to those who participated, Marines and civilians alike.



Toys...Toys...Toys!!



Toys for Tots Program Coordinator Bill Muskopf (center) and volunteer firefighters receive achievement certificate from U.S. Marines.



Toys on their way to the North Pole!

