

AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION

Bergen County
Fire Prevention &
Protection
Association

Newsletter of the BCFPPA - Jan/Feb 2007

February Meeting Date

The next meeting of our organization will be on February 21st at 8 pm.

Lyndhurst FD will be hosting the meeting, firehouse location is 299 Delafield Ave. Please contact Bryan Hennig for directions if needed, 201-832-9723

Note: The next meeting of the Association has been rescheduled from Feb 14, 2007 to Feb 21, 2007 at request of members due to the 14th being Valentine's Day



UPDATE - SMOKE DETECTORS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED

Please be advised that smoke detectors are no longer available as this program has ended.

Please visit our website for more info:

http://www.bcfppa.org/association_news.htm

Topics for Meeting

Along with many other suggestions and issues, some of the topics that will be discussed at the next meeting are:

- An update on the tax-exempt status
- The first reading of our updated by-laws
- A new invoicing program and updating our roster
- Our new membership application
- All applications will be available (scholarship, man of the year, etc.)
- More information on talking smoke detectors

2007 Meeting Dates & Locations

April 11	Oradell FD
June 13	Closter FD
August 8	Carlstadt FD
October ???	Date TBD. Awards Dinner
November 14	TBD - Special - Elections Mtg
December 12	Westwood FD

Note - The November location will need to be decided, special meeting required for elections

Tips and Updates

DCA ADOPTS NEW NURSING HOME SPRINKLER RULE

All New Jersey Nursing Homes To Have Automatic Sprinkler Systems

TRENTON , N.J. – New Jersey Department of Community Affairs' (DCA) Commissioner Susan Bass Levin today announced that all nursing homes in New Jersey will now be required to have automatic sprinkler systems. The rule went into effect on January 2, 2007.

The newly adopted rule amends the retrofit requirements of the State's Uniform Fire Code (N.J.A.C 5:70-4.7), which previously had allowed nursing homes constructed of noncombustible materials to be exempt from the sprinkler system requirement. These types of structures, however, still pose the risk of fatal fire due to combustible building contents. Nursing home owners will have three years from January 2, 2007, to bring their facilities into compliance.

For more information, visit DCA website link below:

<http://www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs/nursinghomesadoption.pdf>

Fire Safety Educators Needed

The Bergen County Juvenile Fire Prevention Program will be offering a training seminar in early 2007 for anyone interested in volunteering their time with our program as a Fire Safety Educator. The BCJFPP relies on the dedication and commitment of those involved in fire service to teach juveniles referred to our program about fire safety at no cost to the family. All those who are interested please contact the BCJFPP Fire Safety Specialist Steve LaFrance with your name and Fire Department Affiliation at 201-797-2660 Extension 146.

Association Officers

President

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Vice President

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Secretary

Thomas Simpson
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Treasurer

Richard Silvia
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Next Meeting Information

Date:

Wednesday, February 21st, 8:00 P.M.

Location:

Lyndhurst FD / 299 Delafield Ave

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER –

Mrs. Fran Sardoni – Presenting her "Exit Signs in Schools" program

Contact Information

Bergen County Fire Prevention & Protection Association

281 Campgaw Road
Mahwah, NJ 07430

Also visit us on the World Wide Web at:
<http://www.bcfppa.org>

President's Message

Dear Member,

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year. Along with the New Year comes a new list of objectives and goals for our Association. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my officers and members for their support and assistance that was given to me throughout the year of 2006. During my first year as your President, many of our established goals were either accomplished or are in the process of being realized.

Accomplished goals include:

- The newsletter "An Ounce of Fire Prevention" returning
- A permanent location at the Bergen County Law & Public Safety Institute
- Association is incorporated
- Meetings include more guest speakers, fire code related questions, and frequent updates on the Division of Fire Safety
- The new logo
- Association is a member of the Bergen County 200 Club
- A County Fire Marshal's Report
- Increased corporate membership
- An updated website

The officers and I met to discuss goals and objectives for this year that will lead us toward accomplishing our primary goal- to promote fire safety throughout Bergen County through communication, education, and code enforcement. If you have any ideas or areas of interest that you would like to see us look into, please bring them with you to the next meeting or contact me directly.

Some of the set goals are still a work in progress. Presently, the tasks that are still being worked on are establishing a tax-exempt status for the Association and updating our bylaws. At the present time we are half-way through the process of becoming tax exempt and at the next meeting the first reading of our updated bylaws will take place.

Upon reviewing our membership roster, our records indicate that we have many members who have not paid their membership dues, therefore an invoicing program will begin for all members. With our monthly mailings being our biggest expense, this adds up month after month. To alleviate this problem of unpaid memberships, we will begin to invoice all of the non-paid members and for those who have paid up-to-date, an invoice will be received when your membership is up for renewal. If a reply payment is not received by April, we will be removing the member from our mailing list roster and discontinue sending the newsletters. If you are unsure if your department or individual membership is paid up, please contact Treasurer Rich Silvia. Our membership application is also being revised to add additional areas so that this problem does not occur again. Additionally, if you are paying for a group of members (such as a department), it is imperative that you provide us with a list of members that you are paying for.

Thank you for your continuing support of our organization. As always, any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Ron Svrcek
President