
BUCKS COUNTY FIRE NEWS

April 2016 [BucksCountyFireSafeHomes.com](http://www.buckscountyfiresafehomes.com)

A PUBLICATION OF THE BUCKS COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS' & FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

<http://www.buckscandff.com> WWW.BUCKSFIRE.ORG

The next meeting of the Chiefs' & Firefighters' Association will be held at Telford Fire Co. (Montco Station 75 – 400 W Broad St.) on April 18th.
7 PM Food
7:45 PM Meeting Start

The May meeting will be held at Station 46, New Hope on May 16th.

Highlights of the March meeting:

August remains as the only open meeting date. Anyone wishing to host a meeting should contact President Hager. hfhager@comcast.net
The Association has filed an application for this year's Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response (SAFER) Grants program.

Station 26, Perkasio has announced they will hold a Muster on July, 9th, 2016.

History – The apparatus with the largest pumping capacity prior to 1940 were built by American LaFrance and delivered to the Los Angeles Fire Dept. in 1937 and 1938. They had twin pumps each

powered by a V-12. The 1937's were 1250 pumps and the 1938's were 1500 GPM each!

Station 31, Fairless Hill has a 2003 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor For Sale. \$3,700 Everything Included

Mileage 80,536. Car was used as a Chiefs vehicle and still runs great. Recently the Upper Intake, Coil Packs, Battery, and 2 Front Tires were replaced. Inspection is good thru September 2016. For more information contact Keith @ 215-740-7492

Bucks County near miss – #1 Wrightstown - we had a call in an older home that only had battery operated smoke detectors on every level. There was a newer babysitter at the home watching 6 kids. Some kids were from different families. One child went to bed in an upstairs bedroom but left the door open because she wasn't used to the house and wanted to hear the parents come home. The babysitter thought she smelled smoke at some point after the child went to bed, check a few places and

thought everything was ok. A short time later the smoke detector goes off in the upstairs hallway. There was an active electrical fire behind the canopy bed where the girl was sleeping. The babysitter woke the girl up and got everybody out of the house safely.

If the hallway door was closed along with no smoke detector in the bedroom, I believe this fire would have had a completely different outcome. Ted Middleton, Fire Marshal

#2 Bristol Twp. - a fire in a 1 story, 3 bedrooms SFD had **NO smoke detectors present!** This was an unregistered rental property, fire began behind the oil-fired boiler due to an improperly installed flue pipe. Fortunately the one resident was home during the day and saw the smoke and flames. Kevin Dippolito, Fire Marshal

Sprinkler Saves Warrington – A fire in mulch on the exterior burned through the siding immediately above the

foundation of a townhouse and into the basement where two sprinkler heads activated. Firefighters extinguished a small fire on the exterior. Had it not been for the sprinklers, the glued wooden I-beam (TJI) would have burned immediately inside the front door and presented a collapse scenario for firefighters.

Doylestown Borough – A fire occurred at CB West High school in a welding booth. Fire was extinguished by sprinkler system.

A “Responding to Ethanol Incidents” course will be held at Penn College of Technology (130 Allenwood Camp Lane, Montgomery, PA 17752). On June 11th. For more information contact Jerry Bimle at gbimle@pa.gov or [717-247-3752](tel:717-247-3752). Registration deadline is 5/20/16

A “Passenger Train Emergency Response” course will be held at Levittown-Fairless Hills Rescue Squad May 9th. Registration ends on 4/29/16. For more information or to register contact Chris Woods at Christopher.woods@lfhrs.com.

Bucks County standard Helmet marking triangles are available in Fire, HazMat,

EMS and Rescue along with the adopted standard. 45 labels of each type is \$25. Invoices available made out to relief associations. Contact epfeiffer44@gmail.com

Scottsdale, AZ, a new video shows the benefits of a 30-year fire sprinkler ordinance. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w5MZAIAccls&order_src=C240

The Maryland legislature defeated an attempt to repeal their statewide law requiring residential sprinklers.

During February a cylinder being filled in Bucks County exploded. All pieces were contained within the fill station and no one was hurt. It was a low pressure cylinder. Several key points have been raised: 1. why didn't the “burst disk” operate? It was found intact. Did the failure occur at a lesser pressure than the burst disk (3250 PSI) or did the disk fail to operate? 2. Does everyone who is filling air and oxygen cylinders fill them in an approved containment chamber? The violence of this explosion damaged the containment chamber and would have caused serious injury or death.

BUCKS CO. FIRE NEWS

Bucks County Heroes Scholarship Fund 2016 Kids Golf Tournament will be held on August 29, 2016 at the Spring Mill Country Club. 11:00 AM registration, 1:00 Shotgun start. Save the date

History Books – Total books sold or given to County Companies has reached 684. A 50 book order was received this month. We are nearing our break-even point. Anyone who is planning a company purchase (save the tax) should e-mail me at edpfeiffer44@gmail.com. Invoices to companies can be provided from the association. Books used as gifts by the company and paid by check from an invoice are tax exempt. Help celebrate our history and meet our expenses by buying books. Books may also be purchased and shipped for a \$4.50 shipping and handling charge at [Http://www.buckscountyfireservice.org](http://www.buckscountyfireservice.org).

Station 99, DOW Chemical Co., Bristol, has placed Chemical 99 into service. It's a 1999 KME EXCEL Foam Pumper with a 2000 GPM, 750 Gallons of AR-AFFF and 300 gallons of Water. This truck has seating for 6, a remote controlled light tower, and 2000 GPM TFT remote control Deck Gun. Hose lines

3

include, 2 – 200' 1 ¾ cross-lay with a rear hose load of 800' of 5", 300' 1 ¾, 150' of 3" dead lay, and 200' of 3" into a portable deck gun. This unit replaces a 1990 National Foam Custom Foam Pumper.

Station 17, Quakertown, has donated their 1986 CF Mack to the Genesee Vol. Fire Co. in Potter County, Pa.

Station 30, Fall Township, has placed a 2016 Ford F550/E.J. Metals, 4-door, 4x4, HP/300/30, rollup doors, booster reel, light tower as Tac 30.

Station 14, Bristol Third District, has sold their 1997 Simon-Duplex D9400/LTI, 75 ft mid-mount tower ladder platform to Emlenton (Venango County, PA).

Station 45, Newtown, has a 1999 Ford Crown Victoria Chief's Car for sale. 61,103 miles. Bid opening May 25th, 2016. Contact Bob Adams Sr. 267-246-4514

The "Art of Reading Smoke" by Dave Dodson will be presented at the Upper Perkiomen High School, Pennsburg on Saturday, November 5th 8 to 4. www.egfd38.com or arb@egfd38.com

BUCKS CO. FIRE NEWS

Wyndmoor Hose Co. of Montgomery County will hold a Muster & Fireworks on June 18th from 3 to 7 PM www.wyndmoorfireco.com or whcochief82@aol.com

Annual Steam Show at the Maryland Fire Museum, Lutherville, MD, Saturday, May 7th. Operating steam engines, horses, models, hose wagon rides. Fun day for the whole family. www.firemuseummd.org

In response to the article that appeared in the NFPA Journal –
Editor
NFPA Journal
Quincy, MA 02169
An article in the most recent NFPA Journal discussed the "two-tiered approach to firefighter qualifications." The issue before the NFPA 1001 Firefighter Qualifications Committee is the potential certification of firefighters who do not meet the current standards, but could be used in an outside or support role. I have heard this argument on numerous occasions and I am continually confused by this issue. The article portends that somehow firefighters who want to serve in a support role are not allowed to do so because of the NFPA Standard. My confusion is that the NFPA 1001 standard

is a voluntary standard and is only mandatory if the authority having jurisdiction decides to make it mandatory at the local level. No firefighter regardless of qualifications is barred from the scene of an emergency unless the local fire department makes that decision. So, if a fire department chooses to use firefighters who do not meet the national standard for whatever reason, they have the right to do so and I fully agree with that.

The question is not what a local fire department may need to do to staff their operations, the question is what should the "national firefighter qualification standard" be. What is being requested is that the national standard change so under qualified personnel may then be nationally certified to the NFPA Professional Qualifications Standards. In my opinion this is a decision to be carefully considered as decades of work has created > a very successful firefighter national standard that is the envy of many other occupations. To nationally certify firefighters to a less stringent standard has no justification in my opinion and is a path down a very slippery slope that I do not think we want to descend to. An attempt to try to twist the "national standard" to meet

the needs of a few fire departments, so that they can say their personnel are nationally certified is an abrogation of the professional qualification standards, that the several hundred thousands of currently nationally certified firefighters should not stand for. I could go into the operational and regionalization issues that the two tier standard would create, but suffice it to say they are numerous.

The issue before the NFPA 1001 Committee is what should the national standard be, not what is convenient for a few local jurisdictions. Let me state one more time, the jurisdictions who want to used "outside" or "support" firefighting personnel on emergencies can do so and in fact do so everyday currently. Many frame this as a volunteer issue and I disagree as in my opinion in many areas the training necessary to be certified is non-existent or not available in the format it should be in to properly train volunteer firefighters. My state of Maryland has thousands of nationally certified volunteer firefighters and officers to prove this. Perhaps this is really a training issue and not a firefighter certification issue. Let's work together to build the firefighter

certification systems up and make them available to all, not diminish them by lowering the standards.
Steven T. Edwards
Director
Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute
University of Maryland

April 11, 2016 - REV Group, Inc. ("REV Group"), a leading manufacturer of specialty vehicles for commercial, fire & emergency and recreation markets, announced today the acquisition of Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp. ("KME" or the "Company").

BCPSTC Doylestown will be running a 24 hour T-TH FireFighter II Prep Class for Certification.
FSC# 207.500
Start Date Tuesday May 17, 2016 all week day
classes 7pm
Thursday 19
Tuesday 24
Thursday 26
Thursday June 2
Saturday June 4 8am

Tuesday June 7 Written test 7pm
Saturday June 11 FF II Skills Challenge 8am
Prerequisites: Age 18 and up, FF1 NFPA 1001, HM Ops NFPA 472

BUCKS CO. FIRE NEWS

Station 66, Warwick, is holding a Bag Bingo on Sunday, May 1st from 1 to 4 PM. Doors open at 11:30 AM. \$30. Per ticket pre-sale or \$35. At the door. Call 215-913-2777 or go to www.warwickfd.com

The Irish Pub Children's Foundation is dedicated to raising money for children in need and the families of fallen police officers and fire fighters in the Greater Philadelphia and South Jersey Area. The Foundation hosts a sixty five (65) mile bicycle ride from Center City Philadelphia to Atlantic City, NJ as an annual fundraiser. One of the beneficiaries of this fundraiser is the Bucks County Heroes Scholarship Fund. This year's Tour de Shore will happen on Sunday July 17, 2016. The homepage for the event is below.
<http://irishpub.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=cms.home>

Free Training - flammable Liquids Transported by Rail
<http://ttci.litmos.com/self-signup/register/237982> The Security and Emergency Response Training Center (SERTC) in partnership with the Center for Rural Development (CRD) has released "Introduction to Flammable Liquids

5

Training”. This is a Web Based Training program that is available at no charge to emergency responders. This Web Based Training program is designed to assist volunteer and rural emergency responders with the understanding of, preparing for, and appropriate response to incidents involving flammable liquids including crude oil, ethanol, and other flammable liquids that travel by rail through their communities. This self-paced program is designed to build a strong foundation for the emergency responder.

Crude By Rail

<http://www.aar.com/CBR.html>

For Sale by private collector – 1983 CF Mack, enclosed cab, Automatic, 237 Diesel, 5 K Generator, pre-piped Deck Gun, some hose, nozzles & Ladders. Nice overall condition Yellow. Asking \$11,500.

1958 Mack B Model (B85F), open cab, gold leafed, 6 cylinder gas, 5 speed manual trans, removed water tank and installed rear seating. Recent restoration. New paint chrome & tires. Red. Gorgeous. Asking \$25,000. Call 215-416-3658

BUCKS CO. FIRE NEWS

This is your newsletter and it needs your input to be successful. Please send your news to EdPfeiffer44@gmail.com anytime during the month.