



# The Firefighters Association of Ontario

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July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010

General Meeting – North Huron (Blyth)

Called to order at 09:10 Hrs

Roll of Executive: Bill Burns, J. Dave Thomson, Carl Pearson, Willie Gregg, Clare Weber,  
Jim Huggins, Ted Droog, Wayne Nie, Jim Richards, Dave Carruthers,  
Linda Weber, Rod McEachern, Darren Storey, Barry Tibbitts,  
Shelley Parks-Storey, Rob Simpson, Brian Willems, Dan Merlin,

Rev. Stephen Berryman – FFAO Padre  
Stephanie Neubrand – Miss Firefighter  
Dennis Thain – Sergeant at Arms

## 6.2. ANNUAL MEETING

6.2.1. National Anthem – Kirby Cook

6.2.2. Invocation and Silence – Rev. Stephen Berryman

6.2.3. Two minutes silence for departed Firefighters

William J. Barber  
Brian Bragg  
Doug Hewitt  
Joyce Margaret Harper  
Joan Lewis  
Alex Weatherhead  
Gary James Kendall  
David Johnston  
Ralph Vincent Stallwood  
Davy Lawrence Montgomery  
Allen MacDonald  
Keith Strathcona MacDonald  
Walter Matheson  
Harry Soehner  
John Richard Colgrave  
George Hanmore  
John Frederick ``Jack`` Wade  
William Arthur ``Bill`` Evans  
David John Peirson  
Donny Everitt Massender  
Robert W. Thibert  
Larry Clinton Cross

6.2.4. Addresses of welcome by representatives of Municipality etc.

Fire Chief of Blyth - Chief John Black  
North Huron Reeve – Neil Vincent  
Dennis Gannon – Office of the Fire Marshal

**6.2.5.** President's response.

Bill Burns – Robert Kirkpatrick, President of the Canadian Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial will be in attendance near the end of meeting. I would like to thank our Piper – Archie Purdon for his services today. Thank you to the honoured Representatives in attendance today, we realize each of you may have other functions to attend and understand if you need to continue with your day. Firefighters can dress down if you wish to.

**6.2.6.** Introduction of Head Table from my far left is our Sergeant at Arms Dennis Thain, Second Vice President Willie Gregg, Myself Bill Burns, and on my right is First Vice President/Secretary Carl Pearson

**6.2.10.** Minutes of last meeting adopted as circulated.

John Scheeringa – Motion- to accept minutes as circulated                      second by Gilles Boisvert

-Carried-

Diana Totten – Muscular Dystrophy – 10 minute presentation

**6.2.13.** Treasurer's Report. – Clare Weber – On file with the Secretary

**6.2.14.** Audit Report. – Wayne Nie – The audit was done on June 25<sup>th</sup> as per the constitution, 30 days prior to the annual meeting. The audit was performed by Jim Richards and me. We looked at all expenses and income for the association and all entries balanced with the receipts as well as with the bank statement. We believe these books to be in order.

**6.2.15.** All committee annual reports as printed and circulated in notice of annual meeting.

Bill Burns – **President's Report** – As my year as president draws to a close, I feel privileged to have been able to serve the FFAO and all volunteer firefighters. It has been an interesting challenge and fulfilling year.

I thank the executive for all their support, with special thanks to Carl Pearson, serving rolls of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice and Secretary.

I have attended numerous functions on your behalf, including Memorials for Firefighters in Ottawa and Toronto, Long Service Investitures, Firefighter/Police Bravery Awards, meetings with the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office, the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs, the OPFFA on numerous occasions and visits to Queens Park supporting bills pertaining to safety issues. I also attended funerals of fallen firefighters in the United States and here in Ontario. As you likely know Larry Cross – of Canadian Publishers passed away just recently. A good representation of the FFAO attended the memorial Service for Larry. He will be greatly missed.

The most significant accomplishment during the year happened on November 5, 2009. Peter Fonseca, Minister of Labour announced that volunteer firefighters would be protected from job related illnesses. Presumptive Legislation can finally be put to rest. It is only fitting that Darren Storey be thanked again for his hard work and perserverance. Thank you Darren from past, present and future volunteer firefighters.

We, as an association, must be open-minded when we meet with the other stake holders in fire fighting. By doing this we can attain continuity and benefits for all.

I would like to thank Brant County Fire Chief Paul Boissonneault and his secretary Jan Forbes for their on going support and help last year.

Lastly, thank you to my wife, Peggy who has been at my side every step of the way.

In closing, I wish the new executive well, knowing that the next year will be successful.

Enjoy the Convention and stay safe.

This is my report.

Barry Tibbitts – **Games & Competition** – 1/ we have our own “A” Frames now for Water-ball 2/ we will be accepting registry for the games between 12:00 and 12:30 at the playing field.

Stephanie Neubrand – **Miss Firefighter** – Greetings and thank you, this last year has been a great experience...

Dave Thomson – **Past President’s Report** – My last duty as Past President was Nominations, as this responsibility is completed I have no report. At this time I would like to thank everyone for the support over the last few years.

Carl Pearson – **1<sup>ST</sup> Vice President’s Report** – 1/ The Propane Advisory Team had meetings on May 31<sup>st</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>, since this time meetings have been put on hold due to the G8/G20 Summit. 2/ Bill Burns and I will attend a meeting at OFM Headquarters on August 18<sup>th</sup> this is in regard to Mid-rise Wood Frame Construction the meeting will be hosted by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) 3/ An Executive Meeting will be held on August 21<sup>st</sup>, location will be decided following elections in order to choose a central location.

Willie Gregg – **2<sup>ND</sup> Vice President’s Report** – No Report

Jim Huggins – **Board of Directors Report** – We had a meeting July 10<sup>th</sup> in Paris to discuss Honorariums for the Secretary, Treasurer, and Credentials.

Dave Thomson – Motion to accept the Board of Directors recommendation for honorariums  
Second by Brian Willems

-Carried-

Appointment for Ways & Means – Please forward potential names for this position to the Secretary

Carl Pearson – **Secretary’s Report** – 1/ First I would like to thank the Fire Department of North Huron for hosting convention 2010 – as always a great job. 2/ Deadline for the October 2010 Quarterly Magazine is August 25 please send all submissions to the incoming Secretary Dave Carruthers. 3/ I would like to congratulate Dave Carruthers as incoming Secretary, after 3 years in this position it is time for fresh insight and I have every confidence that Dave will do an exceptional job for the membership. 4/ Firefighter Appreciation Day June 20<sup>th</sup> at Santa’s Village, we look forward to next year’s event, mark it on your calendar – Fathers Day next year. 5/ On July 16<sup>th</sup> friends gathered to say good-bye to a dear friend, Larry Cross. Larry was the President of Canadian Publishers Inc. – producer of the FFAO Quarterly Magazine. Larry attended all FFAO meetings over the last 5 years without fail. In general Larry was a great ally to the Ontario Fire Service, respected by all. Larry’s contributions over the years are impossible to tabulate due to his generosity to all stakeholders and charities.

Larry You Will Be Missed

Representing Canadian Publishers at this meeting is another friend to the FFAO,  
Please welcome Bill McFarlane

Jim Richards for Dawn Craven – **Membership Report** – I would like to welcome 2 new Fire Department Members to the FFAO – Smith-Ennismore-Lakefield, Hall No. 1 Bridgenorth, and Elmwood Fire Department #140

On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, we had a great evening attending the Walkerton Fire Department Trade Show in conjunction with the Bruce County Mutual Aid.

The next Trade Show that we will attend is the Wellington & Dufferin Mutual Aid Annual Manufacturers night on Tuesday September 14<sup>th</sup> in Erin.

If there is someone out there who is looking for some travel and enjoys meeting people, I am looking for new committee members and in particular someone who would be interested in taking over this position next year.

Linda Weber – **Credentials Report** – On file with the Secretary

At this time I would like to thank my committee Shirley, Marion, and Audrey for all your help during my term. Winner of the clock donated by Fishers Regalia – Tammy Kessler from Wainfleet.

Shelley Parks-Storey – **Fire Prevention & Education Report** – Great to see so many people at our meeting, should be like this at every quarter. We have had a great two weeks of training, thank you to the North Huron Fire Department, more specifically David Sparling, John Uptegrove, Dale Hutchison and all others for helping out during the training weeks.

Dave Carruthers – **Laws & Legislation Report** – All proposed changes have been published in the magazine and also listed on the FFAO web-site. Board of Directors – can I have a recorded count of all votes.

#### **SECTION 1**

Executive Committee

ADD: Professional Standards Setting Body Representative.

(L & L recommendation – acceptance)

-Motion Carried-

#### **SECTION 2**

**2.3.1.** currently reads: An Associate Member may be an organization, manufacturer, or supplier, with interest in the fire service.

change to read: An Associate Member may be an organization, manufacturer or supplier with interest in the fire service *who has applied, paid a fee, and been accepted by the executive committee.*

(L & L recommendation – acceptance)

-Motion Carried-

#### **SECTION 4**

**4.1.6.** (NEW)

*A Life Member who has reached the age of 65 years and who has been a member in good standing of this Association for a minimum of 25 years shall be exempt from annual dues.*

(L & L recommendation – acceptance)

59 in Favour 12 Opposed

-Motion Carried-

#### **SECTION 5**

**5.2.2.**

Currently reads: No member shall hold, simultaneously, more than one office in the F. F. A. O. in the same fiscal year of said Association.

Proposed change: No *Executive Committee* member shall hold, simultaneously, more than one *position on the Executive Committee* of the F. F. A. O. in the same fiscal year, *but may be appointed to a committee chair or serve as a committee member.*

(L & L recommendation – acceptance)

-Motion Carried-

#### **SECTION 7**

**7.1.4.** Currently reads: Member Fire Departments.....no later than May 15<sup>th</sup> prior to the May Quarterly Meeting.

Proposed change: Member Fire Departments.....*no later than the May quarterly Meeting.*

(L & L recommendation – acceptance)

Dave Carruthers – However, it must be noted that this may cause a delay in the nomination process in order to allow time for all those nominated to have Credentials confirm.

Dave Thompson – Friendly Amendment – *no later than the “end of the” May...*

Second by John Uptegrove

-Motion Carried-

#### 7.1.4.2. “New”

*Nominations shall close at the end of the May Quarterly meeting.*

-Motion Defeated-

### SECTION 8

#### 8.2.3.1. “New”

*All questions regarding the Constitution and By-Laws shall be submitted, in writing, to the Chair of the Laws and Legislation Committee.*

Fred Hiller – Friendly Amendment – “*all changes to the Constitution...*”

Second by Rod McEachern

No Name Provided – Question on time requirements for changes to the Constitution & Bylaws – Friendly Amendment – “60 days prior to the quarterly meeting”

Second by John Scheeringa

Dave Carruthers – That being the case, until I speak with John JR Gregg and see if he will accept the two changes, I will ask the President to defer the vote on this until later in the meeting.

Jim Richards – **Memorial Report** – Notification of Death forms are located at the back of the room if anyone has a name to be added for the service on Sunday. Please forward names as soon as possible. In the area of the form asking for rank, please add if the person is active or retired.

Brian Willems – **Convention Chair Report** – Thank you to the Firefighters of North Huron and their families for hosting convention this year. Please forward intentions in writing if your department would like to host convention.

John Payne – **Fire Services Society Report** – The society sells the Firefighter licence plate and all money goes to Camp Bucko.

13 Minute Break

Dave Carruthers – **Laws & Legislation Report** – (continued) Spoke with John JR Gregg regarding his motion, and he is perfectly willing to accept amendments as suggested by the membership.

### SECTION 8

#### 8.2.3.1.

New Motion – Section 8 – *All changes regarding the Constitution and By-Laws shall be submitted, in writing, to the Chair of the Laws and Legislation Committee at least 60 days prior to the quarterly meeting.*

-Motion Carried-

Dave Carruthers – One more thing, I spoke with Barry Tibbitts during break. The rules for the Games & Competition for this weekend will be as published in 2009 August Edition – Section of the Bylaws... Please be aware of this fact.

**6.2.16.** Unfinished business – any discussion and/or voting of items from committee annual reports.

1/ Sean Willems – New Techumseth Fire Department Station No. 1 – Donation of a trophy to the FFAO for a new – Pumper Pull Competition – Trophy named after Captain Ted Hayden.

2/ Nominees for **Board of Directors** and **Laws & Legislation** afforded three minutes to speak

Board of Directors:

- Ted Droog - Mount Forest
- Arnie Goodwin - Haldimand
- Bob Jolliffe - Thorold
- Tom O’Grady - Brock Twp.
- John Payne - Celadon
- Murray Parks - Blue Mountains
- Jim Richards - Clearview Twp.
- John Scheeringa - Woolwich
- George Upham - Thorold

Laws & Legislation:

- David Hodgkinson - Arthur
- Wayne Nie - Haldimand

3/ Willie Gregg – Delegate Roll Call

Bill Burns – There will be a Roll Call for Delegates following the Memorial Service tomorrow.

**6.2.17. New Business.**

**6.2.18. Election of Officers –** Ballot box will open at 12:00 HRS and close at 15:00 HRS

1/ Life Member Certificate presentation

-  David Dyer
-  David Finnigan
-  David Grant
-  David “Kenny” Hodgkinson
-  Tim Kelly
-  Tracy Kelly
-  Richard Shaw
-  George Upham
-  Shawna Wyant

**6.2.19. Sunday morning Memorial Parade.**

Bill Burns – The Parade Marshal for Sunday’s Memorial Service will be Dave Carruthers

Dave Carruthers – The parade will form up tomorrow morning at 9:00 am sharp, full dress uniform. Participants are to meet on the south side of the Community Centre beside the road way under the trees. Before the parade moves, since we are formed up, we will perform the swearing in of your new executive at this time. The parade will march out to the memorial on the main roadway for the service, following the service we will march back to the arena for dismissal. Following the parade will be a roll call of delegates, remember this includes those that received

Life Member Certificates today – you are still a delegate till the roll call following the Memorial Service – Be on parade.

Dave Thomson – Question – Can we have a microphone system for the form-up tomorrow morning?

### 6.2.21. Designation of place of next meeting.

Bill Burns – As advertised on Page 23 of the August Quarterly, the October Quarterly Host Department is Port Colborne, the meeting will be Sunday October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 (Change due to conflict with Halloween)

### 6.2.22. Announcements.

1/ Linda Carruthers – 1/ Camp Bucko – Two special individuals have come to my attention, brothers, Wyatt (9) and Nathan have given away their birthday presents in the amount of \$500 to Camp Bucko. Mark Prendergast of M&L Supply was so impressed he added \$300 making it a total of \$800 being donated – Thank you. 2/ Due to the illness of Larry Cross (Canadian Publishers Inc.) he could not attend the OAFCL Ladies Auxiliary luncheon in May. In recognition of CPI's support I would like to present this Certificate to Bill McFarlane of Canadian Publishers Inc.

2/ Tracy Kelly – President of the Grand Valley Ladies Auxiliary – Fundraiser – 16 month calendar \$15 each – proceeds used to operate the Ladies Auxiliary Canteen/Support Unit

3/ Jim Richards – Letter read out at last meeting “Help for Jessie” submitted by Joanne Rohde – I have tickets for sale \$2 each

4/ Installation of 2010-2011 President – from President Bill Burns to President Elect Carl Pearson

Bill Burns – First I would like to thank everybody so much for giving me the opportunity to represent the FFAO this past year, it was enjoyable. I met with a lot of nice people. I hope I made the FFAO proud with what I have done. Thank you to the Executive for all your support over the past year it was most enjoyable to work with you.

Carl Pearson – Acceptance Speech – First I would like to thank the membership for all the support given to our Executive over the past year; and thank you for your confidence in me as President. This Association had its beginning at a meeting of volunteer firemen, which was held in the Forester's Building in the city of Toronto, on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of August and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 1899.

The FFAO is just shy of 112 years old.

Before I continue, I believe it is important to acknowledge an important part of our FFAO Family...

All Past Presidents of the FFAO please stand – state you're Name, where you are from, and the year you were President.

✚	Ross Jewel	Brock Twp.	1999-2000		
✚	Gord Krantz	Milton	1974-1975	1975-1976	
✚	Ross Kennedy	Nobleton	1992-1993		
✚	Ivan Shepherd	Milton	1979-1980		
✚	John Uptegrove	Puslinch	2007-2008		
✚	Dave Thomson	Waterford	1998-1999	2002-2003	2008-2009
✚	Brian Willems	Waterford	2003-2004		
✚	Jim Richards	Creemore	2001-2002	2004-2005	
✚	Ted Droog	Mount Forest	1994-1995	2005-2006	
✚	Dave Carruthers	Stayner	1996-1997	1997-1998	
✚	John Scheeringa	Elmira	2006-2007		

I think it is important to see where we come from in order to look forward.

The FFAO has been a great learning experience for me, in the last few years I have worked with Past President's John Scheeringa, John Uptegrove, J. Dave Thomson, and Bill Burns – each have their own style – But in common they are all passionate about this organization and have worked hard to advance the FFAO into the future. I will do my best to continue in their positive footsteps. I have one more person to acknowledge – we have a strong silent person that has always been here for the FFAO for over 17 years – His position, according to the Constitution, is appointed by the President prior to each quarterly and Annual Meeting – dispensing with formality, I have asked Dennis Thain to hold the position of Sargeant at Arms for the 2010-2011 term.

17 Years of service, thank you Dennis

Transparency is important to the Executive and our membership, with this in mind I feel it is important to inform all members present at this meeting today, that Bill Burns, Willie Gregg, Dennis Ainsley, and I have had discussion June 26 and July 29 on the term of office of the FFAO President – it was agreed in principle that 1 year is not enough time to complete responsibilities of the President – therefore I am informing you that I will be running for re-election as president for a second term next year.

Bill Burns – Present the FFAO Meeting Gavel to Carl Pearson

Robert Kirkpatrick – President of the Canadian Fallen Firefighters Foundation Memorial  
Power-Point Presentation to the membership

### 6.2.23. Adjournment.

Ted Droog – Motion – to adjourn

2<sup>ND</sup> by Bob Jolliffe

-Carried-

Meeting Adjourned at 11:57 HRS

Carl G. Pearson  
FFAO – Secretary