

MARCH 2010 QUARTERLY MEETING - MINUTES

MARCH 7TH, 2010 • GENERAL MEETING - CALLANDER • CALLED TO ORDER AT 12:00 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, Dawn Craven, Linda Weber, Rod McEachern, Darren Storey, Barry Tibbitts, Shelley Parks-Storey, Rob Simpson, Brian Willems, Dan Merlin

Miss Firefighter - Stephanie Neubrand
Dennis Thain - Sergeant at Arms
Stephen Salonin - Office of the Fire Marshal
Larry Cross - Canadian Publishers Inc.

O'Canada - Led by Firefighter Glenn McBeath

Invocation and Silence - Firefighter Glenn McBeath

- Alex Weatherhead - Caledon East Fire Department
- Ralph Vincent Stallwood - Fonthill Volunteer Fire Department
- Davy Lawrence Montgomery - Creemore Fire Department
- Gary James Kendall - Point Edward Fire Department
- Allen MacDonald - Paris Fire Department

Address of Welcome from dignitaries:

- Fire Chief of Callander - Rob Serson - Thank you for coming, welcome to Callander.
- City Councillor - Heather Busch - Welcome to Callander, we are proud of our Fire Department - Callander supports Presumptive Legislation and made a resolution asking the Ontario Government to include all fire fighters, and we are pleased with the province's response. Congratulations to the FFAO on 110 years - good luck with your agenda today and have a safe drive home.
- Mayor of Callander - Hector Levigne - On behalf of council and all the citizens of Callander welcome - thank you for coming - wish you could stay longer to find out more about Callander and all we have to offer - have a great meeting - we support your work and things you are presently working on.
- Stephen Salonin - Office of the Fire Marshal - welcome - commend the FFAO for moving around and coming to Callander.
- Fire Chief of Callander - Rob Serson - Education today will be from Bill Hammond from the OFM on Ice Rescue Safety.

Stephanie Neubrand - Miss Firefighter - Good afternoon, I'm Miss Firefighter 2009-2010 presently taking Agriculture at University of Guelph - thank the FFAO Executive for including me in this Quarterly Meeting - This has been a great year - We need girls to run for the position of Miss Firefighter 2010 - 2011 so please sponsor eligible people in your area to get involved with the FFAO. Thank you.

Bill Burns - President's Report - November 5, 2009 - Carl Pearson and I had a meeting with Fred LeBlanc, President of the OPFFA in Burlington on November 5, 2009. I attended along with other fire service members, for the announcement from the Honourable Peter Fonseca regarding Presumptive Legislation. What a good day on November 23, 2009, I attended a meeting with Fire Marshal Pat Burke, Assistant Deputy Fire Marshal Ted Wieclawek and other members of the FFAO Executive. November 25, 2009, I attended Long Service Medal presentations in Collingwood. November 29, 2010, I was present at the Police and Firefighters' Awards for Bravery in Toronto. December 3, 2009, along with others from the Executive I attended the second reading of Bill 214 - retrofitting of Sprinklers to specific care facilities at Queen's Park. December 17, 2009 my duties included the Long Service Medal presentation's in Ajax. Along with other members of the Executive we attended two funeral services, one in Tilbury and one in Point Edward. March 3, 2010 was a meeting with Chief Richard

Boyes of the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs. Other FFAO Executive Members present were Carl Pearson, Dave Carruthers, Dave Thomson, and Wayne Nie. Discussion topic - How to support each other for the betterment of the fire service.

Carl Pearson - 1st Vice President's Report - Great News! We are covered for 8 cancer causing diseases, provided latency criteria is met, and heart attacks within 24 hours of a fire service call. From an Association perspective, we owe our Presumptive Legislation Chair - Darren Storey and his FFAO team a tremendous debt of gratitude. At this time I want to congratulate and thank Darren Storey.

As a stakeholder, coverage is a reality due to a unified voice and persistence from the FFAO, OAFCA, OFM and support from the OPFFA. A strong voice, many people standing up, communities supporting us with resolutions, with close to 200 resolutions in total. As reported by President Bill Burns, a delegation from the FFAO - Bill Burns, Dave Thomson, Jim Huggins, Dave Carruthers, and I met with Fire Marshal Burke and Assistant Deputy Fire Marshal Ted Wieclawek on November 23rd, and on March 3rd Bill Burns, Dave Thomson, Wayne Nie, Dave Carruthers, and I met with President Richard Boyes and a delegation from the OAFCA. On November 26th, I attended my local Mutual Aid and informed members of the Niagara District Fire Fighters Association about Presumptive Legislation. This was at the Christmas dinner with 250 firefighters present. I was surprised that at the next meeting of Niagara District on January 26, 2010, that President Bob Timpson asked me to speak further on Presumptive. This is a relationship I have nurtured for the past few years and I believe a relationship between the NDFFA and FFAO is forming. In addition, a presentation was made January 27th to the Nipissing East Parry Sound Mutual Aid Association by Dave Carruthers and myself. On February 3rd, I was also asked to attend and presented to the Brant County Mutual Aid.

From this report you can see a common theme of co-operation and strength in numbers. The FFAO is team building. We are only as strong as our weakest link and it is important to forge relationships with Mutual Aids, our national association the CVFSA and other stakeholders in the Ontario Fire Service. Each group, Municipal, Provincial, National, has an important role. In keeping with this plan, Dave Thomson will report an ad-hoc Committee was formed to work on an updated FFAO Presentation. To date this committee has met on January 24 and February 27. On February 2, I represented the FFAO as a speaker on behalf of President Bill Burns at the Retirement of Ivan Fair. This took place at the Wellington County Mutual Aid Meeting with a large delegation from the FFAO present. 50 Years of service - Wow - Congratulations Ivan! On February 5, I carpooled with Bill Burns, Dennis Thain and Bob Jolliffe to Point Edward for the celebration of Firefighter Gary Kendall's life. This is a very proud and strong group of firefighters. I was honoured to be in the same room.

J. Dave Thomson - Past President's Report - Nominations - I would like to remind all members that nominations for the elected offices for 2010 - 2011 in our Association must be returned completed and received by (post-marked) May 15, 2010. Elected offices include President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Board of Directors (5 to be elected), Membership, Credentials, Laws & Legislation, Fire Prevention & Education, Games & Competitions, Ways & Means, and Occupational Health and Safety (1 to be elected for a 2 year term. Nomination forms are available from our web site or the March and May magazines at the back of the room.

Clare Weber - Treasurer's Report - On file with the Secretary

Jim Huggins - Chairman of the Board of Directors Report - Not too much has been done since the last quarterly. FFAO Shoulder Flashers are on sale for \$12.00 each.

Dawn Craven - Membership Report - A Big Welcome to our new Fire Department Members: Cochrane Fire Department, Kearney Fire Department, and our new Associate Member VFIS (Accident & Sickness) Insurance. On Saturday, January 23, 2010, Shelley Parks-Storey, Jim Richards and myself attended the Lambton County Fire Show in Sarnia. This is one of the only trade shows to reach those in the more southwestern area of our province. This is a busy show usually with most asking about where the next convention would be and courses being offered. We supplied a number of application packages.

Kawartha Lakes Trade show was held on Tuesday, February 24th and kept those in the booth busy. Rob and Sue manned the promotion side and had brisk sales. We had signed up for the North Eastern Fire Education Conference in Callander/North Bay on March 24 - 27th, and also a commitment of a booth at the Annual OAFS Show in Toronto on May 3rd & 4th , 2010.

Bill Burns - Announcement - Premier of Ontario Dalton McGuinty - Has appointed Dave Thomson as a member of the "Medal for Firefighters Bravery Advisory Council" for a period of 2 years. Congratulations Dave.

Linda Weber - Credentials Report - On file with the Secretary

Shelley Parks-Storey - Fire Prevention & Education - Update on Education for Convention 2010 in Blyth. Looking forward to working with Blyth Fire once again.

COURSES	DATE	LOCATION
• Advanced Auto Extrication (Code 4)	July 26 - July 27	Blyth
• Forcible Entry (Brotherhood Instructors LLC)	July 29 or July 30	Blyth
• Company Officer 101	July 30	Blyth
• Pumper Operations	July 26 - July 30	Blyth
• Pumper Operations Train the Trainer	3 days (TBA)	Blyth
• Trainer Facilitator Presentation Skills	July 27 - July 29	Blyth
• VFF Module A	July 19 - July 23	OFC

I would like to thank the Ontario Fire College and Office of the Fire Marshal for their continued support. June 1st, is the cut-off date for applicants.

Dave Carruthers - Laws & Legislations Report - As published in the magazine there are two By-law changes to be brought forward.

- By-Law 2.3.4. (Duties of Second Vice President)
Currently reads: Shall be in charge of the Flags and Regalia belonging to this Association.
Change: Eliminate as this is now covered by 1.16.1.1. - Regalia

The Committee is recommending that the Membership accept this change. - **Motion Carried**

- By-Law 1.17.
New: Transportation and Accommodations
1.17.1. One Appointed by the Board of Directors
1.17.1.1. He or she shall be in control of booking all transportation and accommodations for Quarterly meetings, Annual meetings, and Special events when deemed necessary by the Executive.

Motion Defeated

Darren Storey - Health & Safety Section 21 Report - Very busy at Section 21. Been a few things we are trying to clean up; 1/ The asbestos regulation, we are not actually meeting/exceeding the act, the Ministry of Labour is telling inspectors to back off on it that bunker gear is good enough PPE for internal fire fighting If you are in a situation, do decontamination after as asbestos is a serious thing. 2/ The Firefighter regulation, as you know it, has been around for a long time. It hasn't changed, but there are some points we are not meeting in the Fire Service. Another thing we are toying with is CGSB is the standard for bunker gear, it has not been changed or updated in 10-20 years. They are looking at do we scrap it or go with NFPA standard. This is very hard since CGSB is a Canadian standard. They have not let us know one way or the other. Most bunker gear in Ontario is NFPA compliant anyway. We are going to recommend going with NFPA. A new guidance note will be coming out on face piece seals. Firefighters helmets will have a revision to the guidance note, only things approved

by the manufacturer can be put on the helmet including - stickers, lights, etc... 3/ Coming out - Traffic direction NFPA Fire Apparatus 1901 - mandate vests on every seat for every person, and a defibrillator on the truck 4/ Car fires, because you can't have your vest and SCBA on, must be inside a safety zone - issue - fight fires and keep traffic moving. 5/ Another guidance note coming out - fires and rescues at silos. 6/ Unfortunately since Christmas - Point Edward LODD and also Vaughan where a civilian was killed by a fire apparatus. The investigation in Point Edward is still ongoing with the Ministry of Labour and the Fire Marshal's Office. Our Association's position at this time is to follow the Guidance Note on Ice Water Rescue. There is a standard and the OFM has a course. The Ministry will be looking at this standard and yes there will be changes, and 7/ Training - make sure that when you are training address all potential hazards, and if there are hazards that you cannot eliminate, do not do the training. Guidance Note 7-1 Ensure a written plan for every exercise with parameters and a safety officer. External agencies have been chosen based on experience, qualifications, and their record. You have to determine if that agency is capable of providing the training within the Provincial Standards. What is the standard in the Ontario Fire Service? One other thing, you have to assume, things may go wrong. Don't deal with the issue after it happens. Ensure there is a plan for every exercise; this has to be a written plan that everyone has to understand what the goals are and outcome. The Chief or designate should review plans used by outside agencies. The outside agency is not responsible for your firefighters. The Chiefs and/or Officers are responsible for their workers, and the Ministry of Labour will address the fire department. Make sure to use graduated training for new members and that they understand the Health & Safety Policies of the department and follow them. 8/ Guidance Note 6.3.1 - Ice Water Rescue. It will change and I recommend that you follow it to a "T", almost out of the season now, but unfortunately life is going to change for us. 9/ In Vaughan a fire apparatus struck another vehicle, and a civilian was killed. The driver of the fire truck has been charged with careless driving. This is not the end of it, the officer, who was sitting in the passenger seat, may be reprimanded and possible other actions maybe taken against him. The officer is responsible for that apparatus.

Rod McEachern - Health & Safety Section 21 Report - Starting July 1st, of this year, there's a new bill that has already been passed - it will be in the Health & Safety Book, Bill 168 "Harassment and Violence in the Work Place", this is a very encompassing bill. It's going to mean a lot of responsibility for Fire Chiefs, Officers, and Firefighters. Section 32 of the Act will change, it will require the employer to develop a program to deal with Violence in the Work Place. It will be required to be implemented, provide training for every employee, and each employee must understand their rights and responsibilities. The employer will have to assess the level of violence that could occur in the work place and if the Joint Health & Safety Committee can come up with a policy to cut that out earlier. You must be aware if there is any domestic violence in your work place, must clarify the responsibilities of the employer, supervisor, and worker of this act, and must provide information and training. Work refusal, including the fire service will be changed. I am not sure what direction they will go.

Darren Storey - Presumptive Legislation - It passed, it was a long time coming, I want to thank our Presidents; John Scheeringa, John Uptegrove, Dave Thomson, Bill Burns, the Executive, and you our Membership. It was an educational process for everyone. Thank you for your help and patience. The down side is that the employer has the right to challenge the claim. I do not think this will happen. If you have one of the cancers and do not meet the latency criteria but think it was a result of fire fighting, put the claim in. WSIB will look at the claim and claims are being approved. It is up to you now, wear your SCBA. The MOL will be inspecting and charge you the firefighter and your municipality. The SCBA goes on before you step off the truck; it is taken off when you get back on the truck.

Gilles Boisvert - Question - How far back can claims go?

Darren Storey - Claims can go back to 1960. Cancer has to be found after 1960? This is a question I get all the time. Lung Cancer? Lung Cancer is found less in firefighters than the general population. WSIB will not touch this until the number of claims from firefighters is larger. In the next couple of years with less people smoking in today's age will modify numbers down the road. More cancers will be added down the road. If you submit a claim please send me an e-mail to let me know.

Rod McEachern - At Section 21 we were basically told by the Ministry of Labour that they will no longer accept Volunteer Firefighters who put in claims and have excessive facial hair, also lack of equipment not an excuse. WSIB will put you under a microscope.

Darren Storey - For the Chiefs out there, a full time LODD claim is approximately \$1,000,000.00 - This should provide a little bit of leverage for the city to purchase proper PPE.

Barry Tibbitts - Games & Competition - Must have forms filled out and submitted to the Host Department before July 15, and participants must be covered under WSIB.

Jim Richards - Memorial Report - 1/ Convention Memorial, for names to be read please fill out the form located in our magazine and web-site. 2/ The Ontario Memorial Foundation - Queen's Park Memorial. You own this memorial, and it is managed by stakeholders - OPFFA, OAFC, FFAO and the names recorded on this memorial extend back to 1848. If you have a LODD name to submit please send it in and we will look into it. The service is always the first Sunday in October.

Dave Carruthers for Ted Droog - Exemplary Service Medals Report - To date, there have been 1,178 medals given out.

Brian Willems - Convention Report - Blyth is our Host for the 2010 Convention, and thank you for taking on this task. We are currently looking for a 2011 Host Department.

Kevin Falconer - Convention Host Blyth 2010 - I want to thank Callander for hosting today's meeting, beautiful weather. North Bay is truly a Winter Wonderland, I like the idea of the FFAO branching out as we are an Ontario Association. That being said, I want to invite you to come to Ontario's west coast. We have a Summer Wonderland down there. Progress on this Convention is going well and everything is in place. On January 1st, of this year, Blyth Fire was amalgamated. We are now the North Huron Fire Department. Its the same great people in Blyth. This is the fourth time we have hosted the Convention. We enjoy doing it but a new host is needed to step up in the future. Convention is all about the FFAO. It embodies what the FFAO has to offer; Elections, Education, Miss Firefighter, etc... without this we could not get together in order to have one voice.

Rod McEachern - Public Fire Safety Council - 1/ The Fire Marshal's Office has gone into their spring program for smoke alarms. Daylight savings time is coming up again so we want you to be proactive and remind people that it is the law. 2/ The Fire Marshal's office and Technical Standards Authority are recalling a un-approved vent free fireplace that is being sold in Ontario by Liquidation World.

OLD BUSINESS

Dennis Ainsley - I have an issue with some things that have gone on. A discussion followed.

Dave Carruthers - Dennis what I request that you do, is submit a list and we will certainly address them as rapidly as possible.

Dennis Ainsley - Okay will do.

J. Dave Thomson - Ad Hoc Committee - Presentations - The committee is formed of Dawn Craven, Dave Carruthers, Carl Pearson, and myself. We are putting together a presentation for our Association to be used at Trade Shows, Mutual Aids, etc. in order to promote our association. We have two meetings, one in Puslinch, and the other in Stayner and completed a draft copy that encompasses our Association. The finished product will be out to the Executive in the next while.

Chris Karpinchick - October Quarterly Meeting - Is Port Colborne Hosting?

Carl Pearson - Yes the October Meeting will be in Port Colborne.

NEW BUSINESS

Correspondence - Dave Creeden of Ed Learn Ford Lincoln Ltd. - Letter on file with the Secretary

Linda Carruthers - Camp Bucko. This camp is for children, between the ages of 7 to 16 years, that are victims burned in fires. I have educational CDs available on the camp for anyone wishing to take them back to your Fire Department. The children go to camp for a week. Thank you Callander Fire for the door prizes.

15 Minute Break

EDUCATION

Bill Hammond - From the OFM - Ice Water Rescue Safety

Ted Droog - Motion to adjourn - Seconded by Bob Jolliffe - **Carried**

Meeting Adjourned at 15:07 Hrs.

Carl G. Pearson
F.F.A.O. Secretary

YOU ARE INVITED TO FIRE CHIEF DAVE CARRUTHERS RETIREMENT PARTY

SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 2010 • 3pm - 6pm

**CREEMORE LEGION • 22 WELLINGTON EAST
LIGHT BUFFET • \$10.00 COVER AT THE DOOR**

Please R.S.V.P. by May 24, 2010 to: Deputy Chief Bob McKean - (705) 428-6230 ext. 253 - email: bmckean@clearview.ca



On the 26th of June 2010, we will be celebrating the retirement of Dave Carruthers, the Fire Chief of Clearview Township. After 31 1/2 years of service, we will get the opportunity to honour his dedication and commitment to his community.

Dave started in the Fire Service in the Town of Stayner in 1979, working his way from firefighter to Captain, then Prevention Officer. From there he went to Acting Fire Chief to Part time Fire Chief and now the very first Full-time Fire Chief for the Township of Clearview. Dave always believed that he was never too old to learn new things that he could bring back to his department. Training was very important to him. He always wanted his team of firefighters to have the very best of training and courses.

Under his watch with the Clearview Fire Dept. many things have been accomplished, Three new Fire Halls, New Trucks and top training for over 100 volunteer firefighters. He served twice as President of the Firefighters Association of Ontario, Member of the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs. Part of the original group The Georgian Critical Incident Stress Management Team. Worked with the Fire Marshall office on many committees with the OAFS & FFAO.

We could go on and on with Dave's wealth of experience and knowledge, and yet that never stopped him from reaching for more. When it came to protecting the men and women of the department and the citizens of his community He would go over and above his duty to keep them safe. Dave eat, sleep and lives the Fire Service. He is a true leader and a mentor to all. He will be truly missed. From a grateful Clearview Township. **We thank you!**