



Volume 26, Issue 1

January 2010

Dates To Remember:

- ◆ 1/11 Monthly Meeting—Elections
- ◆ 1/19 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting
- ◆ 1/27 Board of Directors Meeting
- ◆ 1/26 Exempts Meeting
- ◆ All Scuttlebutt articles need to be in by 1/27

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Scuttlebutt

Letter From Our Chief

It's hard to believe that 2010 is here and I am entering my last year as Chief. Hopefully this year we can settle back into our normal routine which was absent in 2009 due to so much going on with our new building. January also brings our "goals drill". We have called this our "goal drill" for many years however I like to refer to it as the state of the department address. I feel it better reflects, at least to some degree, my part of the presentation.

Here are some of the topics that I will address, aside from the usual job duties and other things: From the start of my tenure of being Chief in 2007, I have often talked about "cohesion" which by definition is the act or state of sticking together. I believe this is paramount to our organization. We also need to continually evaluate our operation and how we are doing. To just rest on our laurels and not evaluate our ourselves and our organization from time to time is called mediocrity. Mediocrity by definition is "ordinariness as a consequence or being average and not outstanding". I don't want you to get the impression that we are not doing a great job, because we are. This organization is above average and we **are** outstanding and yet we still need to continually evaluate and challenge ourselves.

We also have to continually try to

bring in new members whether they be fire, EMS, ladies auxiliary or explorers because each of these groups provide a vital function to our organization.

Lastly and most importantly is continuing to provide service to our residents %100 of the time whether it is an MVA, house fire, water problem or a cut finger. No matter how insignificant it may seem to us...if our resident dials 911 then at that particular moment there is nothing more important to them, and we have to be cognizant of that.

Well, I just gave you some insight on what my "state of the department" address will include. I hope to see you all there.

On a final note, please keep life member Jim Buongiorno in your thoughts and prayers as he is dealing with some health issues. Thanks, Eric

Service Award News

Submitted by Ray Ward

The following is a list of this years recipients of an HFD service award.

5 Year

Rachael Hare
Jason Heinrich
Dick Popowych
Debbie Waterman

10 Year

Wayne Collins
Ron Bourret

15 Year

Jeff gates

20 Year

Craig Burritt
Kevin Corcoran
Joe Lissow
Tim Yockel
Dave Zajonczkoski

30 Year

Bill Smith
Tim Wirth

35 Year

Bob Floyd
Jim Hare
John Lemcke
Dale Nesbitt
William 'Red' Voigt

35 Year

John VerWulst

45 Year

Charlie Lissow
Jim Rice

50 Year

Claude Barclay
Ray Hendershot

The following will receive a commemorative pin for their number of years in the department:

15 Year

Jim Kibby

30 Year

Roger Benson
Jim Bimmler
Ken Watt

I have only heard back from a couple of people as to what their choice is for the service award. Please see me as soon as possible to let me know what you would like. If you don't run into me, please feel free to send your selection via email,
rayward@gmail.com.

EMS Study Conducted By The Commission

Submitted by Ray Ward

I would like to take this opportunity to try to allay some potential fears surrounding this study. We have had a committee formed for quite a few years that was tasked with the responsibility of looking into our future as it pertains to EMS. Unfortunately, this committee has been very busy with handling the day-to-day issues. They have done an outstanding job as can be ascertained from our very high percentage of covered calls.

The group hired by the commission is tasked with looking into our future to see where we might be in 10 years. Obviously, no one can see into the future, so they will need to gather as much information as possible on where we are today and where we have come from. The hope is they will give us directions on what we need to do to remain an all volunteer organization for the foreseeable future. We would also like to maintain the quality of care we have today as well and insure that quality is the best we can provide.

If it does turn out that we will not be able to maintain an all volunteer organization, they will provide us with a guide as to how to phase this in and also to fund this. I want to stress that this is NOT what we want to do but we should be prepared for what ever the future may bring. If we are prepared we can make better decisions for our members and the community.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Sun	2 Mon
3 Wed	4 Firematic Drill— CPR	5 Firematic Drill— Cpr	6 Explorers – Meeting	7	8 Tue	9 Wed
10 Yellow	11 Monthly Meeting	12	13 Explorers – TBD	14	15 Thur	16 Yellow
17 Sun	18 Firematic Drill— Goals—Mandatory	19 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting Firematic Drill— Goals—Mandatory	20 Explorers – TBD	21	22 Mon	23 Sun
24 Tue	25 Firematic Drill— SCBA Efficiency	26 Exempt Meeting Firematic Drill— SCBA Efficiency	27 BOD Meeting Explorers – TBD	28	29 Wed	30 Tue
31 Thur						

Submit Scuttlebutt Articles via Email to Scuttlebutt@hiltonfd.org Articles Due 1/27

2010

This Month's Birthdays – Happy Birthday To All



Jan 2: Troy Green	Jan 12: Blake Trowbridge	Jan 20: Debbie Jones
Jan 3: Brian Attridge	Jan 13: Jake Bott	Jan 23: Brian Lissow
Jan 3: Kevin Manhardt	Jan 14: Bill Chatterson	Jan 25: Joe Lissow
Jan 6: Jim Buongiorne	Jan 14: Bob Forth	Jan 26: Jason Schwan
Jan 6: John Sweeney	Jan 15: Tim Hutchings	Jan 29: Erin Stiles
Jan 6: Debbie Kwiatkowski	Jan 16: Mike Piper	Jan 29: Linda Kaiser
Jan 12: Mary Hebblewaite	Jan 18: Gerry Morrison	Jan 31: Bruce Castle

Thank You From Kevin

Submitted by Kevin Corcoran

I would like to take this opportunity to say Thank You to everyone in this department for giving me the privilege and honor of holding the Offices of EMS Captain and Lieutenant for so many years. I am truly grateful for the support, assistance and cooperation of everyone to get things done and get the rigs on the road better than anyone else in the county. We are truly blessed with a great group of human beings who are kind and compassionate in the time of others' needs, whether it be the family of a member, family of a patient or the compassion we show to each other when times are tough. This year as everyone knows was a very tough time for my family and me. Words cannot say how proud I am of each and everyone of you, and how proud I am to be involved with such an incredible organization. There are bumps in the road in every organization, but I think we shine most of the time, and as said many times before, we stand above every other agency around us due to the number of members always wanting to join Hilton, the great retention and the solid leadership we have to continue this journey of life and property safety for our families and community.

Once again, I say THANK YOU for everything you have done for me and my family over the last twenty years I have been a member here at Hilton Fire Department. The support you have shown to my family and me has been overwhelming. Thanks again!

Kevin Corcoran

Ladies Auxiliary News

Submitted by Beth Mueller

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. With a new year come new officers:

President:	Beth Mueller
Vice President:	Donna Lemcke
Treasurer:	Sandy Popowych
Secretary:	Laurie Gavigan
Trustees:	Tracy Jarvis
	Mert Davenport
	Dawn Buscemi

Thank you to outgoing officers: Denise Mohr, Cathy Carmestro and Mary Hebblethwaite. I am looking forward to another year as president and working with our new board of officers.

Our next meeting is January 19th @ 7:15 – all are welcome.

Don't forget your secret pal.

Commission Recap

Subset of Suburban News Article From John Lemcke

As we come to the end of another year, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the year as it was for the Hilton-Parma Fire District and the Hilton Fire Department. After 5 years of planning, designing and construction we moved into our new fire station on Old Hojack Lane in April. It was a memorable event that many of the members will remember for years to come. Symbolically, we signed off the air with the Fire Dispatcher at 911 from the South Avenue station, and announced operation would now be in the new station. Many residents of the community lined the streets to watch as the trucks were moved into the new station.

There are still some projects that are on-going at the new station, including the completion of the Memorial area in the front of the building, and the interior of the Antique Apparatus Bay. As these projects are completed, additional announcements will be made.

For the first time in nearly 60 years, the carnival was cancelled on Saturday evening due to very intense weather including lightning, rain, and a reported tornado. We have had several years that the weather did not fully cooperate with our plans, but we still managed to keep the carnival open for the public. This year was different, although it was a difficult decision to make; it was made in the best interest of the public to avoid any injuries that could have happened. Although financially it has presented some challenges to the department, the priorities will remain to provide the same Fire and Ambulance services to the community as they have come to expect.

After serving the community for the last 50 years, the old fire station on South Avenue was torn down, and the grounds returned to open space. With assistance from the Village of Hilton the FEMA grant for acquisition and demolition was secured, and work began in June on demolition. In the event that the creek floods again, the Fire Department can now concentrate entirely on helping the community, and not have to worry about whether the fire station will be able to house the apparatus at the end of the day.

There are many people to thank for helping us throughout this year. Mostly, we would like to thank the members of the Fire Department for the time and effort they give the community every day. We are truly fortunate to have such dedicated people.

I want to add a quick note, don't forget, the wash bay is only open for washing personal vehicles when the outside temperature is above 20°. Thanks for your consideration.

Hilton Fire Department, Inc.

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The History Of New Year's Resolutions

Internet

The tradition of the New Year's Resolutions goes all the way back to 153 B.C. Janus, a mythical king of early Rome was placed at the head of the calendar.

With two faces, Janus could look back on past events and forward to the future. Janus became the ancient symbol for resolutions and many Romans looked for forgiveness from their enemies and also exchanged gifts before the beginning of each year.

The New Year has not always begun on January 1, and it doesn't begin on that date everywhere today. It begins on that date only for cultures that use a 365-day solar calendar. January 1 became the beginning of the New Year in 46 B.C., when Julius Caesar developed a calendar that would more accurately reflect the seasons than previous calendars had.

The Romans named the first month of the year after Janus, the god of beginnings and the guardian of doors and entrances. He was always depicted with two faces, one on the front of his head and one on the back. Thus he could look backward and forward at the same time. At midnight on December 31, the Romans imagined Janus looking back at the old year and forward to the new. The Romans began a tradition of exchanging gifts on New Year's Eve by giving one another branches from sacred trees for good fortune. Later, nuts or coins imprinted with the god Janus became more common New Year's gifts.

In the Middle Ages, Christians changed New Year's Day to December 25, the birth of Jesus. Then they changed it to March 25, a holiday called the Annunciation. In the sixteenth century, Pope Gregory XIII revised the Julian calendar, and the celebration of the New Year was returned to January 1.

The Julian and Gregorian calendars are solar calendars. Some cultures have lunar calendars, however. A year in a lunar calendar is less than 365 days because the months are based on the phases of the moon. The Chinese use a lunar calendar. Their new year begins at the time of the first full moon (over the Far East) after the sun enters Aquarius- sometime between January 19 and February 21.

Although the date for New Year's Day is not the same in every culture, it is always a time for celebration and for customs to ensure good luck in the coming year.