



Stratfield Sentinel

Stratfield Volunteer
Fire Department

Volume I, Issue I
July, 2008

Stratfield Association Donates \$7,000

This winter the Stratfield association held its annual fundraiser. The Stratfield Volunteer Fire Department was chosen as the beneficiary and received a check for \$8,000, which was a portion of the proceeds from the event. The fundraiser was a great financial success for the department and presented the opportunity for our membership to make social connections in the community.

The fundraising efforts included an auction of fire department services, including a ride to school in the fire truck and dinner for a family prepared and served at the station. Both of these items drew strong bids and resulted in a significant portion of the total contributions. The department was also able to raise funds by selling mugs and cookbooks with the department logo.

The evening kicked off with a traditional bag pipe performance and was followed by

the DJ. Those of us present witnessed one couple's impromptu swing dancing exhibition. Their moves effectively lit the dance floor on fire, and served as a good reminder that it is always a good idea to have fireman at the ready no matter what the situation in case things

get too hot.

Thanks to Elaine and Brian for their work on the posters and picture collages, and thank you to all of those who helped make this event possible.



Memorial Day Parade & Picnic

The annual Memorial Day parade and picnic were once again a great success. The weather was fantastic, the streets were filled with families, and the department had a strong showing of members marching.

The truck, fresh from the service depot, was washed and waxed and looked great. The members, decked out in parade dress, also put on a good show.

Following the parade, what seemed like the entire department hitched a ride back

to the Beach Cafe while hanging onto the bumper and running boards of the rescue. The few minutes spent riding in the elements was a throw back to the early days of firefighting and put a grin on everyone's face. If only a real Dalmatian puppy had been riding in the front seat, the department would have been the perfect portrait for a Normal Rockwell scene.

Following the parade, most members were spotted at the picnic. Joe O was keeping the tunes pumping, while the

rest of the crowd queued up for BBQ and all the fixings.

Once again, the Memorial Day events were a great success. If it were not for the hard work and long hours spent planning and organizing the picnic, the event would not be nearly as successful. To those who contribute so much, thank you.

Inside this issue:

<i>Half Marathon</i>	2
<i>Halloween Open House</i>	2
<i>Inside Story</i>	2
<i>Can & Bottle Drive</i>	3
<i>Training Tips</i>	4

Highlights:

- Help recruit new members by telling people about being a volunteer
- If you are interested in a fall FFII class, contact Jim O'Leary.
- If you are interested in additional training outside of the department, speak with Angus or Jeff.
- Always let your officer know if you can not make a scheduled shift!



The Truck in Parade Shape



Fairfield Half Marathon

On June 22, Fairfield held the annual half-marathon and the department was on hand to provide medical assistance to the runners.

From start to finish, Rescue 15 volunteers escorted the athletes along the course and members were positioned to respond at different stages of the race. The medical tent at the finishline was fully staffed and Stratfield

worked along side volunteers from AMR and the Quinnipiac PA program.

The volunteers stayed busy, tending to a range of medical concerns, from sore bones and muscles, cramps, dizziness, exhaustion, asthma attacks, and general fatigue. Several athletes were transferred to the hospital for further evaluation.

The winning time for the main event was just under 1hr 4 min, with competitors steadily crossing the finish line throughout the afternoon.

Next year, Chief Burlant and Firefighter Mulligan have agreed to compete. It ought to be a close race and we expect one of our own to be crowned the new champion!

“Next year, Chief Burlant and Firefighter Mulligan have agreed to compete”

Halloween Open House

It is not too early to start planning for the Halloween open house.

Last year, the department was able to host the event as a result

of a last minute effort. While the attendees seemed to be no less spooked by last years event than in prior years, the department would like to get a head start on planning this time around.

As in years past, October’s open house attracted several hundred families and children from the surrounding community. All were greeted with hot drinks, warm hospitality, and bags of





Halloween Continued

candy.

Donations from Dunkin Donuts, Stop & Shop, BJ's, Home Depot, and Party City helped to make the open house possible and will be relied upon again this year. The event was fully funded by these generous donors and the department had only to provide members to serve the refreshments.

The department has earned a great reputation in the community for hosting the Halloween open house and it is important that we continue to build on our success.



Annual Dinner

The annual dinner was held at Cinzano's this year. It was a chance for the volunteers to let loose and relax after a long year and a cold winter. Officers for the coming year were installed at the meeting and are as follows:
Chief - Chris Burlant
Deputy Chief- Angus Maciver
Asst. Chief - Vincent Odice

Asst. Chief - Jason Prevelige
Captain - Jeff Desiro
Lieutenant - Dan Ackley
Lieutenant - Mike Zaleta
Members graduating/enrolled in FFI include:
Mike Mucherion
Alex Munoz
Liz Risi
Don Scarpetti

Frank Zwierlein
Enrolled in EMT:
Gary Feathler
Hired to a department:
Rob Bonetti (from Rescue15)

"Training heats up.....look at her go boy's"

"Putting some BIG Water on the tower with officers looking on"

Can & Bottle Drive / Dues / Other News

The can & bottle drive continues to provide valuable revenue to the department and is held on the second Saturday of each month.

Each shift is responsible for manning the operation on a regular rotation.

July—Thursday Night

Over the last few weeks the department has been collecting dues. So far we have collected \$300 from 15 Members. Only a handful of members still owe dues. If you have not paid, please contact the Membership Coordinator, Jim O'Leary.



Stratfield Volunteer Fire Department

Stratfield Volunteer Fire Department
400 Jackman Ave
Fairfield, CT 06825

Phone: 203-254-4748
info@rescue15.com
www.rescue15.com



The Stratfield Volunteer Fire Department is a not-for-profit organization that is committed to serving the needs of Fairfield, CT and the surrounding community. The membership is composed strictly of volunteers and no compensation for time or service given. The organization is funded through the collection of annual dues, grants, and charitable donations from members of the community. The department is one of the two remaining volunteer departments in the town of Fairfield and was founded in 1935. The success of the department is due to the support of the town and citizens of Fairfield and the strength and dedication of the membership.



Training Tips from *firehouse.com*

No. 10: What Does The Smoke Tell Us?

Velocity

Velocity is caused by pressure building up within the involved structure. Another way to look at velocity is to think of it as the rate at which the smoke is moving. During a fire, pressure begins to build from the heat being produced and the volume of smoke filling the area. In addition the lack of, or limited ventilation effects the smoke's production due to the incomplete combustion which is occurring. This build up of pressure has a direct bearing on the smoke and begins to push it out of the structure via openings in the exterior walls, including windows, doors or other openings in the structure. So which is it, the heat or the smoke causing the velocity issue? Smoke has a great deal of velocity behind it when it leaves the structure. Combined with the smoke rapidly rising, it would indicate that velocity is being produced by the heat being given off by the fire. On the other hand,

smoke leaving the structure that seems to hang in the air and doesn't really rise would be an indication that this velocity is a direct result of the volume of smoke within the structure. Should the smoke's velocity have the appearance that it is boiling out the openings, keep a close watch on it. This is a tell-tale sign that flashover is imminent. Begin ventilation before moving in with a charged hose-line and move slowly and cautiously. Velocity can also provide an indication of the fire's location. Smoke exiting from the structure, having a strong velocity appearance is an indication that the heat source is nearby. Smoke exiting from the structure, having a strong velocity appearance is an indication that the heat source is nearby.