

FACING TOMORROW TOGETHER

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
A Newsletter for Fire Service Survivors



2010 SURVIVORS CONFERENCE



The 5th annual Fire Service Survivors Conference took place May 9-14, in Schaumburg, Illinois. More than 80 survivors attended this year's conference, which was the best attended to date. The conference was held in conjunction with the Foundation's Local Assistance

State Team (LAST) training, so survivors and LAST members had a chance to get to know one another.

Workshops ranged from the very practical—such as home repair, technology 101, and self-defense—to more serious topics, including grieving the death of an adult child and resilience after loss. Professional massage therapists soothed tired muscles, and conference attendees had the

continued inside

NFFF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HONORED



Chief Ronald Jon Siarnicki, the Foundation's Executive Director, was awarded the Tom Brennan Lifetime Achievement Award during the annual Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) in Indianapolis.

A third-generation firefighter, Chief Siarnicki first served as a volunteer firefighter with the Monessen Volunteer Fire Department in Pennsylvania. He began his career as a firefighter with the Prince George's County (Maryland) Fire/EMS Department in

1978 and, over 24 years, progressed through the ranks to Chief of the Department.

In July 2001, he retired from the Prince George's County Fire/EMS

Department to take the position of Executive Director of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.

Our heartfelt congratulations to Chief Siarnicki for this well

deserved recognition and for his tireless efforts on behalf of fire service survivors and active duty firefighters.



"As I reflect back over the years, I think that there has been one guiding principle that has been the cornerstone of my personal core values: Do the right thing for the right reasons."

- Chief Ron Siarnicki
*Accepting the Tom Brennan
Lifetime Achievement Award*

NEW RESOURCES FROM



Sesame Street's newest outreach initiative, *When Families Grieve*, provides tools and significant resources to families with young children who have experienced the death of a parent.

When Families Grieve launched on April 14th with a powerful and heartwarming television special hosted by Katie Couric. It features the courageous stories of families who have experienced the death of



SESAME STREET

a parent, including the family of fallen firefighter Russell Schwantes (2006-GA).

When Families Grieve kits include a DVD featuring the Sesame Street Muppets, a storybook for children, and a magazine for parents and caregivers. Free kits and additional resources are available at www.sesamestreet.org/grief or, for a kit only, contact Pat Stonaker at pstonaker@firehero.org.

2010 SURVIVORS CONFERENCE *continued*

opportunity to spoil themselves with a makeover and a manicure. The conference ended with a bus tour to Navy Pier in nearby Chicago.

Most importantly, survivors were able to relax in the company

of others who have been where they've been and who know what it is like when a loved one dies in the line of duty.

The 6th annual Survivors Conference will be held in spring 2011.

Many thanks to the individuals and organizations who helped make this important conference possible!

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AND TYCO, INTERNATIONAL
*For providing funding for the conference
We could not have done this without you!*

MOTOROLA, INC.
*For generously welcoming us to their facility,
feeding us in their cafeteria, and providing meeting space
and logistical support for the conference*

ILLINOIS FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION
*For providing local transportation for conference attendees,
as well as logistical support*

ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE
For the great items donated for "goody bags" for our attendees

TRIBALANCE BODY MIND & SPIRIT
For lending yoga mats for a workshop at the very last minute

TINA HAUKE, IL
For coordinating the "goody bag" project

EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL
CHICAGO-SCHAUMBURG/WOODFIELD
*For providing a home away from home
and treating us so well while we were in town*

SCHAUMBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT
*For transporting a survivor to the hospital
and for delivering pizza for dinner*

ALGONQUIN-LAKE IN THE HILLS
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
*For providing t-shirts to conference attendees
and helping with logistical support*



"I just wanted to let you know how wonderful the conference was. With this being my first survivor's conference, I had some anxiety going alone and meeting everyone, and I really didn't know what to expect. It was amazing. The seminars were wonderful. I cannot tell you how much it meant to me to be there! It was finally good to put

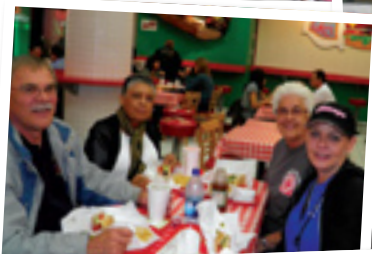
some faces to the names I have been in contact with for the last 17 months. Thanks to everyone at the Foundation for a wonderful week."

- Wife, 2008



"I really enjoyed the conference last week. It was a great help to me, and I met so many new friends. I really look forward to helping with the Foundation in any way I possibly can."

- Father, 2007



"It was so nice to see and be with people who I can relate and talk to (and even cry) about my husband all I wanted to without someone giving me a dirty look. It was really great. Also

it was so nice to forget about everything that is going on, at least for a week, and just sit back and relax, relax, and relax even more. I can't wait 'til October; I may not remember the names of everyone I met, but I sure will remember the faces and the kindness associated with these people."

-Wife, 1982



GOLF WITH US IN 2010



The NFFF Golf program is an important fundraising vehicle for the Foundation. Equally important, each tournament serves as a venue to bring the mission and the message of the NFFF directly into the community. The NFFF strives to connect all of its local partners—fire service survivors, advocates for Everyone Goes Home®, state coordinators for LAST, corporate sponsors, and others—and to involve them at every level.

Interested individuals may choose to coordinate a tournament in their area, serve on an organizing committee, or volunteer on the day of the event. Others play golf, purchase sponsorships, or attend the dinner held at the

This year 37 Regional Tournaments are confirmed to take place across the United States between May and November!

conclusion of the day's activities. The spouse, child, parent, or sibling of a fallen firefighter might also choose to serve as a keynote speaker. By revealing the story of their personal journey after the loss of a loved one, these survivors provide an important personal and local connection to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Their involvement in the NFFF Golf outreach, as well as that of our local partners, is a testimonial to the Foundation's work of honoring our nation's fallen firefighters, providing support and resources to their survivors, and preventing future firefighter casualties and fatalities.

For a full schedule of events and more information, please visit <http://golf.firehero.org> or contact Tricia Hurlbutt at golf@firehero.org or 410-353-0216.

UPCOMING GOLF TOURNAMENTS 2010

Alamo, TN - July 7

Erie, PA - July 9

Glendale Heights, IL - July 16

West Grove, PA - July 16

Mountain Home, ID - July 17

Angel Fire, NM - August 27

Anchorage, AK - Sept. 10

Geneva, IL - Sept. 10

North Texas - Sept. 10

Rockford, IL - Sept. 10

St. John's, SC - Sept. 10

Prescott Valley, AZ - Sept. 11

Moore County, NC - Sept. 11

Butler, PA - Sept. 20

Cherokee Co., GA - Sept. 30

STOP, DROP, ROCK 'N' ROLL



Stop, Drop, Rock 'n' Roll was held during FDIC on Thursday, April 22, 2010 at the historic Indiana Roof Ballroom, to benefit the Foundation. The evening included live music, dancing, dinner, and the highlight of the event — the auction, with Chiefs Billy Goldfeder and

Ron Kanterman auctioning off the goodies.

*A special thank you goes out to our survivors
and fire service volunteers who helped staff the event!*

"Stop, Drop, Rock-n-Roll has become an amazing fundraising event in such a short amount of time. It is great to see fire service personnel and corporate sponsors coming together to support the Foundation and the families we are here to assist. It is a privilege for our department to be able to supply personnel to help assist at this amazing event"

- Chief Rick Kane
Manheim Township Fire Rescue, PA

NASCAR EVENTS TO BENEFIT NFFF



The NFFF is excited to announce a \$69 race package for the Nationwide race at Gateway International Raceway® in St. Louis, MO, on July 17, 2010. In addition, the 3rd Annual Firefighter Appreciation Event with a \$99 race package will be held at Dover International

Speedway, DE, on September 26, 2010.

Packages include race ticket, track access, hospitality with buffet and beverages and special appearances.

Visit GatewayRaceway.com/NFFF10 or DoverSpeedway.com/NFFF10 and use code NFFF10 to order tickets.



DO YOU FACEBOOK?



The Foundation has over 105,000 fans on Facebook! Search "National Fallen Firefighters Foundation" on Facebook to reach the Foundation's

official page and connect with survivors, members of the fire service, and supporters of the Foundation. Post photos and comments, and maybe you'll be one of the winners of the weekly Honor Bear giveaway!

REMEMBERING FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS

MEMORIAL PIN

By Darlene Mansfield, mother of Mark Mansfield (2002-KS)

The Overland Park Fire Department (OPFD) has started a Benevolent Association and has created a memorial pin in honor of my son, Mark. They are now sending it to the families of the fallen



firefighters with their letter of condolence.

There is also a scholarship fund in Mark's name which the Explorers with the OPFD can apply for. There have been several young men that have already received this.

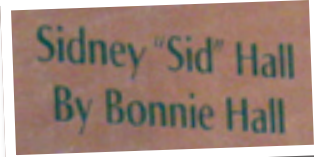
You can imagine how proud we are that Mark is remembered in these ways.

MEMORIAL PRAYER CHAPEL

By Bonnie Hall, wife of Sid Hall (2007-IN)

Sid and I were students at Taylor University in Upland, Indiana, where he was also a volunteer firefighter when he passed away. When Sid graduated, he stayed at Taylor and worked for 20 more years.

A few years ago there was an awful wreck between a semi and a Taylor University van. Five people in the van lost their lives. Sid was a firefighter at the wreck,



trying to work with the recovery efforts. Taylor built a Memorial Prayer Chapel in memory of the five who lost their lives that night, and, they have walls there where others can have their names added. As a result of selling the house so I could move, I had enough to have Sid's name added to the wall in the Memorial Prayer Chapel.

It is a very beautiful setting. I would like to return to just sit and pray. Just as I feel a part of Sid is at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial, I feel a part of him is there at the Memorial Prayer Chapel also.

MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

By Marie Sanborn, wife of Timothy Sanborn (2007-MI)

On Saturday, May 8, 2010, we held the 3rd Timothy "Grandpa" Sanborn Memorial Golf Outing. It was a huge success again despite the weather!! Tim loved to golf and did a lot of hose testing so we always expect water! I am sure he was smiling.

I give scholarships to graduating seniors in Clinton County who have a parent who is a current firefighter. Last year, I had three recipients, and this year I had one recipient. Additional monies are donated to Tim's

department, Clinton Area Fire & Rescue, for needed equipment/gear/training. This year I also expressed my desire to donate to the NFFF, Michigan Firemen Memorial, Michigan Fallen Heroes Memorial, Hundred Club, and Michigan LAST. I cannot think of a better way to honor Tim, help others, and continue to heal. Support from family, friends, and other survivors contributed to the success of this event. My Michigan survivors



showed their support by being there, sponsoring holes, or both. Priceless!!

NFFF MEMORIAL PIPES & DRUMS



he NFFF Memorial Pipes and Drums recently

performed together for the first time at an event other than the Memorial Weekend. The occasion: the Savannah, Georgia, St. Patrick's Day Parade, the second largest St. Patrick's



Day Parade in the US! The band's 80 pipers and drummers came from all over, including Virginia, Idaho, Maryland, and New Jersey. This was a historic get-together for the band members, one they hope will become an annual tradition. If the pictures tell the tale, a good time was had by all!

PIERCE & HARLEY-DAVIDSON: FULL THROTTLE SUPPORT



The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF), with the support of Pierce Manufacturing Inc., an Oshkosh Corporation company, and Harley-Davidson

Motor Company announced that their NFFF Full

Throttle Support campaign to assist the Foundation has generated donations approaching \$250,000. Pierce and Harley-Davidson joined the Foundation in naming the winner of the NFFF Full Throttle Support II sweepstakes. Representatives from both companies presented the keys of a custom, one-of-a-kind Harley-Davidson® Fat Boy® Firefighter Special Edition motorcycle to Captain James Anema of the North Whidbey Fire and Rescue Department located on North Whidbey Island, Washington. The presentation took place at the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) in Indianapolis.

The sweepstakes winner is a six-year volunteer with the North Whidbey Fire and Rescue Department.



"Our son, Shane M. Daughetee, was honored in 2008. The candlelight service and the memorial service were beyond what we could ever imagine. The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation has helped us in so many ways that only survivors could ever know. Our heart and thanks go to Pierce Manufacturing and Harley Davidson for their generous and continuing support to the Foundation. They are helping to ensure that the Foundation can continue to honor our fallen heroes and provide endless support to their survivors."

- James Daughetee, father

"I supported the NFFF Full Throttle Support campaign both last year and this year, and I can't imagine a finer cause for firefighters," said Captain Anema. "Because many in the NFFF have been through a tragic loss, they understand better than the rest of us what is needed

to help the survivors. Being selected is a responsibility that I will not take lightly. I am already networking with firefighters on regional events where this beautiful motorcycle can be used to help tell the NFFF story."

SCHOLARSHIP THANKS

It's been almost six years since Randy left us, but the NFFF never has. You were there with us at the memorial, and helped us with what seemed like never ending paperwork. When our daughter Stacy left high school and started to college, you reminded me of the scholarship she was now eligible for.

She watched the mail for weeks looking for some word that she had been chosen. I wish you could have seen her when the letter came; she ran, jumped and screamed. The whole community must have heard her. She is very proud that you have chosen her for scholarships, and so am I. She is the only one in our family to get a degree from college.



Her daddy loved music; he was the church song leader. Stacy is now the church music director, and she proudly stands behind the same pulpit on Sundays that her daddy did. Stacy works hard and studies hard on her school work, and she has kept her GPA high. She says there is nothing else she can do, because you have put your faith in her. So she can do no less.

That's why the NFFF will always hold a special place in our hearts. God bless you always.

- Patsy & Stacy Henderson

MILITARY FIREFIGHTERS TO BE HONORED



military firefighters who die while performing firefighting duties will now be honored at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial on the campus of the

National Emergency Training Center.

NFFF Board Chairman Denny Compton stated, "It was an oversight that the military firefighters were not included from the very beginning, and the Foundation's Board

of Directors feels strongly that it is time to correct this situation. Those military personnel whose primary positions are firefighters should be honored if they die in the line of duty while fighting a fire."

The Department of Defense has provided records of military firefighter deaths going back to 1981 when the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial was established. Those firefighters will be honored during the 2010 National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend.

2010 MEMORIAL WEEKEND



The annual Memorial Weekend will be held October 1-3, 2010, in Emmitsburg, Maryland, honoring firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2009 and previous years.

Families of firefighters being honored this year should already have received an invitation package.

We also invite families of firefighters honored in previous years to attend the Weekend and to volunteer their time to help with the events. If you are interested in attending, please send an e-mail with your name and contact information, as well as the name of your firefighter, to Linda Hurley at lhurley@firehero.org. If you do not use e-mail, you can call Linda at (301) 447-7693.



In an effort to reduce paper waste and to keep expenses down, we would prefer to send Memorial Weekend information electronically when possible. Please make sure we have your most current e-mail address on file.

WREATH LAYING AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY



On Thursday, October 1, 2009, a wreath laying ceremony was held at the Tomb of the

Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. Honor Guard members from across the country participated in this tribute leading up to the 2009 National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend.

Pat Stonaker, a member of the Fire Service Survivors Network, helped to present the wreath during the



ceremony. Pat's father, Richard Liddy, a firefighter with the Basking Ridge Fire Co. #1 in New Jersey, suffered a fatal heart attack in the line of duty in 1994. Pat's son, Ben, has served as a medic with the U.S. Army for the last five years. Ben spent 15 months in Iraq and is currently stationed in Belgium.

This annual wreath laying ceremony will be held again on Thursday, September 30, 2010. Survivors whose loved ones have been honored at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in previous years are encouraged to attend. Please contact Linda Hurley at lhurley@firehero.org or (301) 447-7693 for more information.

PSOB GOES TO FIREFIGHTER TRAINING



On April 1, 2010, Hope Janke, Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Office Director, and Todd Brighton, PSOB Senior Benefits Specialist, participated in a training exercise at the Washington, DC, Fire Department

Training Center.

This exercise involved hose evolution drills, including stretching the hose lines up three flights of stairs, charging the line with full pressure, flowing water from the nozzle, and then shutting down, picking up the line, returning to the pumper, and repacking the hose line. The evolutions were done several times to ensure that each participant had an opportunity to experience the position of nozzle person, backup, and hose tender.

Why the training? Striving for a better understanding of the many and complex challenges of fire suppression-related activities involving PSOB claims, Hope and Todd wanted to perform the evolutions themselves. So, with full protective clothing and breathing apparatus on, they

performed not only these evolutions, but ladder placement operation, and were exposed to a variety of tools and equipment to understand the weight and amount of physical effort necessary when performing the evolutions.

Everyone in attendance was impressed with their hard work and great attitude in performing these evolutions, but even more so because they did this to make certain that PSOB continues to do everything it can to understand and approve every claim possible according to the PSOB law and regulations...for America's fallen heroes and their loved ones.



BASKIN-ROBBINS 31 CENT SCOOP NIGHT



The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and Baskin-Robbins® would like to thank

everyone who participated in the Annual 31 Cent Scoop Night held on April 28, 2010, to benefit the NFFF and local fire service organizations nationwide.

This year's event was a tremendous success. Millions of ice cream scoops were served in support of our firefighting heroes across the U.S.

According to Andrew Mastrangelo, Manager, Public

Relations of Baskin-Robbins, Baskin-Robbins 31 Cent Scoop Night was the #1 Hot Search on Google on April 28, and Baskin-Robbins was one of the top ten trending topics on Twitter in the United States on April 28th and April 29th.

We would like to thank all of the fire service organizations that came out to support the event. Almost 700 partnerships were created between local Baskin-Robbins® shops and fire service organizations. Your involvement made 31 Cent Scoop Night a special event for all of our guests. If you would like to share photos or a story from your local event

please email them to webteam@firehero.org.



As always, we thank you for everything you do to protect our communities.

MEMORIAL, TRIBUTE, REMEMBRANCE CONFERENCES



When the United States Congress created the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, it charged our organization with leading a nationwide effort to honor and

remember our nation's fallen firefighters. This includes working with other fire service organizations to ensure that our country never forgets the sacrifices these heroes have made.

In an effort to carry out this congressional mandate and to assist others in their efforts to honor and remember their lost brothers and sisters, the NFFF organized the first-ever educational and networking conference on memorializing fallen firefighters. Held in June 2009 in Emmitsburg, Maryland,

the conference was supported by donations from the Foundation's corporate partners, Motorola and VFIS. A second conference was held in Tampa, Florida, in April 2010. Representatives from 26 states have now attended this conference.

The conferences featured workshops useful to both those with existing memorials in their state and those working to build memorials. Workshop topics included Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB), Better Business Practices, Fundraising, Investing, Accounting Basics, Corporate Partnerships, Grant Proposals, and Memorial Criteria and Support. Participants had time to exchange ideas and information, and to discuss how the NFFF can assist groups working to ensure that fallen firefighters receive proper honor and recognition.

If you are working on establishing a memorial in your state and would like to network with others, please contact Barbara King at bking@firehero.org or (410) 721-1548.

MEET THE STAFF



Victor Stagnaro just came onboard in 2010 as Director of Fire Service Programs, but has been involved with the Foundation since 1998. He served as the incident commander for the

Memorial Weekend for several years and assisted with the New York Response Team after the World Trade Center attacks on 9/11. In his new role with the Foundation, he will work with Taking Care of Our Own®, Everyone Goes Home®, and the Local Assistance State Teams (LAST) programs. Victor lives in Annapolis, Maryland, with his wife and is the proud father of seven children.

"I am honored to have been selected to serve with the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. The entire staff has made me feel welcome. I am always amazed at the level of commitment and dedication each member of the staff demonstrates on a daily basis, as well as the devotion shown by the advocates and volunteers that serve the Foundation in so many different capacities. I look forward to pursuing opportunities to highlight the Everyone Goes Home® programs and to promote the 16 Life Safety Initiatives throughout the fire service."



HOUSE SMARTS WITH MR. FIX-IT

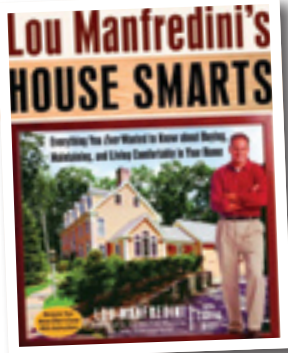


At this year's Survivor Conference we were fortunate to have Lou Manfredini, AKA "Mr. Fix-It," lead a workshop on home maintenance and repair. You may recognize his name. Since 1995, Lou has hosted a popular Saturday morning call-in program broadcast on more than 100 radio stations across the United States. He is Ace Hardware's "Helpful Hardware Man," appears regularly on the Today Show, and is a contractor in the Chicago area. Lou answered questions on basic carpentry, plumbing, and household repairs. He explained things in easy-to-understand terms and suggested simple, inexpensive fixes to many common household problems. With a healthy dose of humor, Lou

helped demystify the inner workings of a house and encouraged attendees to try do-it-yourself solutions and to have confidence in their own abilities.

And we understand he mentioned the conference during his live show and said he was honored to be with us. Wow!

To ask Mr. Fix-It a home improvement question or find out where you can listen to his show, visit housesmartsradio.com or www.housesmartstv.com. You can borrow Lou's book, House Smarts, from the Foundation's Lending Library, or you may want to invest in a copy of your own.



SAVE THE DATE IN 2010!

- July 17** - Nationwide Series Race at Gateway International Raceway, St. Louis, MO
- Sept. 26** - Firefighter Appreciation Day/Sprint Cup Race at Dover International Speedway, Dover, DE
- Sept. 30** - Wreath Laying Ceremony, Arlington National Cemetery, VA
Returning Survivors Reception, Frederick, MD
- Oct. 1-3** - National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, Emmitsburg, MD

This project was supported by Grant #2009-PS-DX-K016, awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author(s) and do not represent the official position or policies of the United States Department of Justice.

HELP US stay in touch.
Please remember to notify us at firehero@firehero.org when you have a change of mailing or e-mail address!

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