



The HHFD Response Times

The official newsletter of the Howlett Hill Fire Department

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November 11, 2002



This month at HHFD

Our Fund Drive to receive enough contributions to purchase at least six (6) AED's (Automated External Defibrillators), is well underway. To date we have received over \$6,227.00 in donations. To get very good pricing for the AED's, the department partnered with the Onondaga County Sheriff's department. Just recently HHFD was told the order had to be placed by OCSD. We ordered three AED's at that time. This was a conservative estimate and one that was felt we would be able to cover with anticipated donations—which we have! We will evaluate future AED donations and purchase additional re-

quired AED's as we can afford them.

A mailing list of suppliers with whom HHFD does business is now available and we will be sending Fund Drive mailers to these businesses.

Special needs: In our Fund Drive mailer we asked residents to self-identify any special needs (medical or non-medical) of anyone in their household. To date we have received 15 forms from families with special needs. We will be determining the best process for having this information available to maximize having this data. If you have any ideas on how to improve the process, please pass them on to an officer.

Nominations for elections are due on Monday, November 11 at the Monthly Business Meeting.

Review the list of nominees for the voting at the December Business Meeting on Monday, December 9, 2002.

In keeping with their long standing tradition, the HHFD Auxiliary conducted their Bake Sale and Cook Book Sale on Election Day.

The Editor will be meeting with the Auxiliary to discuss placing relevant Auxiliary news in future editions of the newsletter.

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The Chief's Office

Once again Winter is upon us, please monitor weather situations and dress accordingly. Please use caution when reporting to the fire station as the wet road may be black ice. During a snow storm, while positioning fire apparatus on alarms, please position to protect your crew and the community that we serve. We would rather have an out of control vehicle sliding into a parked piece of fire apparatus versus a group of personnel doing their job. If we upset the commuters, "oh well".

Chimney fire season is definitely here. All of the chimney fire equipment has been put on Engine 3 and on the Heavy Rescue. Please take a second and look at each situation to make sure that we move or cover any furniture and install runners on hardwood floors and cover carpeting. Try to keep the property free from any elements that the fire fighter's bring in on their feet. Remember the homeowner.

The Chief's Office continues on Page 2.

"The HHFD Response Times"

An informal newsletter for the Howlett Hill Fire Department members and their families and for the residents of the community we serve. The Times are published on a monthly basis. Copies are available at the Howlett Hill Fire Station, or via email by request to: fvalls@hhfd.org

Frank Valls, Editor

“The Chief’s Office”, continued from Page 1

The new, used Engine 1: We should be seeing it somewhere around the end of November, or the beginning of December.

NOTICE: The 3rd Monday of this month is the Monthly Line Officer’s Meeting. Looking for all Line Officers to attend.

- Topics:**
- * The new, used Engine 1
 - * Training with the City of Auburn
 - * Chief of Marathon FD will be conducting a propane training session

In closing, I would like to take a minute to thank everyone for their outstanding performance.
Jim Harris

Future Medics ?

Twice, sometimes three times a week, starting in August running to this December, Chuck Lanning and Bob Slivinski trek to Minoa Fire Station #2 for EMT/D (Basic EMT) classes. Sighting a limited number of EMT’s in the ranks of active members, the two stepped up to the plate increase the numbers. Slivinski states: “We go on so many EMS runs a year, this just makes sense”.

Lanning adds, “Being able to help the community, plus my own family and neighbors makes the commitment worthwhile”.

Some highlights to date include: Having Dick Weslowski as our Instructor! Dick is a life member of HHFD, and a past president and former Medic. Additionally, getting to

work with many of the Medics in the county is a plus. Between the two, they’ve gone on calls with: Fayetteville, Marcellus, Minoa, NAVAC, SAVES and WAVES. This has given them a cross-section of experiences to draw upon. Bob and Chuck have had opportunities to “take charge” on 6 of their 13 calls. Rumor has it they’ve both received excellent comments by the field Paramedics riding with them.

Conversely, the low points of their experience has been the large amount of time dedicated to studying. There is a considerable time commitment: 15 hours a week riding the ambulance, plus 6+ hours in class, and an additional 10 hours spent studying.

It’s like a part-time job.

The guys want to Thank Chief Jim Harris for his support and encouragement. They also want to Thank EMS Director Paul Doner for sharing his vast experiences with them. Finally they want to acknowledge their families and friends for putting up with their long hours away from home.

Now that the two have been on a number of calls, they’d like to see more EMS-related training at HHFD. They state “ we have so many EMS calls, that knowing the basics and knowing where the EMS tools are and how to use them is a plus.”

Next Month: Completed NIMO Fire School

For a weekend in August, FF Barry Peryea and FF Joe Gratien attended the Niagara Mohawk Fire School. Next month the HHFD Responder will interview both of them for their insights to this school. We’ll learn about the highlights and get their thoughts and recommendations.

Editor’s Note: I will include more pictures in the newsletter once we figure out a good method of capturing the images electronically.

Next month I plan to have pictures of Chuck and Bob hitting their EMT books. We’ll also try to snap a shot of Barry and Joe for the article on the NIMO Fire School.

The Training Officer's Class Notes

Published by the membership of the Howlett Hill Fire Dept.

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You'll notice the Officers and the Training Officer have us up to the Tower as often as possible.

We have completed a DRAFT of the Thermal Imaging Camera classroom presentation we received from SAFE IR. Right now the Chief and the Training Officer each have a copy of the presentation. Included in the class are two lab exercises—one to be conducted indoors at the fire house, and the other at be conducted at the Tower.

Training Schedule November-December 2002

HHFD Training Schedule

Course Name	Date	Instructor	Location	Comments
Tower	4-Nov	Officers	HHFD Station	Prepare station for Election Day
Business Meeting	11-Nov	G. Peryea & members	HHFD	Old business, New business Elections nominations. Veteran's Day !!
Packaging patients from the results of MVA's	18-Nov	S. Bealer & P. Doner	HHFD	Enhance skills
Tower	25-Nov	Officers	Town Tower	Keep skills sharp
Propane safety and firefighting tactics	2-Dec	Chief John Dittman, Marathon Fire Dept	TBD	Some District residents heat with propane and many use barbeque cookers in the summer, it is a good time for use to learn or brush-up on our firefighting tactics.
Business Meeting	9-Dec	G. Peryea & members	HHFD	Elections of Officers and Board
TBD	16-Dec	TBD	TBD	TBD

Parting shots

Class photo of those who attended the lab exercises of the T.I.C. class. From HHFD (l to r) Capt. Brian Gale, FF Mike Gosson, Capt. Scott Bealer, FF Frank Valls. Chief Jim Harris took the picture.

Middle of picture, wearing shorts is Capt. Tom Doyle, Atlanta FD and instructor of SAFE IR.

The remaining class members were from Taunton FD.

Thermal Imaging Camera Live Fire Practical Training at Town of Onondaga Training Tower
Sponsored by: Howlett Hill Fire Department and Taunton Fire Department September 15, 2002

