

June 2008 Minutes R.F.A.

President Oliff called the June 2nd meeting of the R.F.A. to order at 2000 hours with 43 members present.

A plaque was presented to Pat Shanks for her years of service as our Pay Lady and her 43 years of government service. See www.WashingtonEmeralds.org/RFALite.htm for pictures.

Howard Rankin addressed our membership about our new CIGNA Dental Plan (which has 3 Tiers) for Retired DC Firefighters. Only members of both the RFA and Local 36 are eligible to join. The 3 tiers are: Dental PPO (Tier 1), HMO (Tier 2) or **CignaPlus** Savings Plan (Tier 3). The coverage and prices were discussed and Mr. Rankin took questions about the 3 plans. See www.CIGNA.com for a list of participating dentists and info for the PPO or HMO plans. Tier 1 or the Dental PPO plan is for both in or out of network providers. Tier 2 or Dental HMO (fee for service) plan is for in network only. See www.CignaPlusSavings.com for more info on the 3rd tier or **CignaPlus** Savings Plan. The 3rd tier plan is not insurance, but a dental discount program through participating providers. Since the enrollment period begins July 1st, more info on this website will be available soon. www.WashingtonEmeralds.org/Cigna_ppo.htm

Deceased members - Ed Flynn: Eddie reported Raymond Roberts Jr., Wilbur Ratcliffe and Leonard V. Smith. A moment of silence was held for them and our troops in the Armed Forces.

The minutes of the May 5th meeting – George Kenney: Read and approved.

Applications for membership – George Kenney: None.

Sick Committee - Ed Flynn: Ed has added Bill Radisch and Mike Greene to our sick list of Wendy Baden, Ed Beller, Jim Bojalad, Charlie Burger, Dan Collins, Tim Connors, William Coughlin, Ralph Creel, Fred Davis, Ed Dougherty, Charlie Drumming, Bill Kelly, Ralph Kennedy, Jim McIlvaine, Tom O'Conner, George Orme, Irvin Poole, Skip Ramsey, Ed Sims, Walter "Steamboat" Smith, Gerald Tassa and Frank Wise Sr.

The Secretary/Treasurer report - George Kenney: Read and approved.

Entertainment Committee – Bill Wolf: The Emerald Society's Pipe and Drums will be playing at E-17 on Sat June 7th for the Jack Gerhart Dedication. See www.DCFDPipesandDrums.org/events.htm for their other upcoming events. The Emerald Society's golf tournament is June 12th at the Marlborough Golf Club. Check www.WashingtonEmeralds.org/ or www.DCFD.com. Dennis Murphy and his brother Ed are again having their *Kid's Care Classic Golf Tournament* on June 26th at Patuxent Greens Country Club. See www.DCFD.com/Forms/GolfClassic.pdf. Next is Rescue Squad 3's 50th anniversary picnic on 6/28/08. See <http://engine15rescue3.com/>. Eng 8 is having their 119½ year celebration at the Columbia MD Green Turtle on Sat July 12th. Details at <http://dcfd.com/Forms/Engine8Reunion.pdf>. Lastly, mark your calendars for Sat. Sept 27th for our 15th Annual RFA Fall Reunion Picnic at the Circle D Farm. Details at the end of these minutes.

Vocal Alarm - Joe Healy: Any items or pictures of interest please send to him at RFANews@comcast.net

Safety Committee - Tom Barnard: No report.

Honor Guard - Joe O'Neil: Joe said there will be a viewing for Leonard Smith Wednesday June 18 at Pierce Funeral Home, 9609 Center St. Manassas, VA from 6 until 8 PM. Interment Thursday June 19 at Arlington Cemetery at 10 AM.

Members attending their first meeting - None.

Local 36 - Ben Self: Ben has decals. Appropriate retired members are next to receive the long over due President Ford and Reagan funeral checks. Ben also talked about the last L-36 general membership meeting. Local 36's contract status: mediation. The Local has been very busy with a lot of problems. The Locals' website is www.IAFFLocal36.com.

Retirement Board - Tom Tippett: Not present.

Old business - Butch is still working with our attorney Andy Quinn on the longevity problem. Check both web sites, www.DCFD.com and www.WashingtonEmeralds.org for updates. Don't forget that you can purchase the Official DCFD 2009 Presidential Badge or Lapel Pin set only if you are an active or retired member! Details at <http://dcfd.com/Forms/BadgeOrder.pdf>.

New Business - The Florida Reunion will be held this year at the Great Western Waterfront Hotel Punta Gorda FL on Nov. 7th thru the 9th. Wally Adkinson is working on the details. For updates, please check www.DCFD.com/Forms/FloridaReunion2008.pdf.

The 15th RFA Fall Reunion Picnic will be held Sat the September 27th at Circle D Farm, Woodbine MD. Over 400 notices have been sent out. Contact the Honorable John Harney if you can help at the door.

Butch brought up Local 36's plan to bring out a hard cover book that will add to the *100 Years of Glory*. (FYI: 1871 to 1971). This book will record the history of the last 37 years of the DC Fire Dept. and will be in conjunction with the FFA. Plans are that the proof will be ready by 2009 in time for the Fire Buffs Convention which is being held next to Eng 3.

Good & welfare - The appropriate retired members should soon receive their Regan / Ford funeral checks. Bill Mould brought up a reminder for the E-17 House Dedication honoring Jack Gerhart on June 7th at 1 PM. See www.DCFD17engine.com. Eng 17 requests a RSVP for people attending.

There being no further old or new business, President Butch adjourned the meeting at 20:55 hours. Have a good summer and see you Oct 6th, Doug Wheeler

Please scroll down to see Fall RFA Reunion Picnic letter and map.

May 21, 2008

Dear DCFD Retiree:

As many of you are already aware, the committee that has hosted the Shenandoah Reunion for the past fourteen years has decided that they are no longer able to continue, for a variety of reasons. First of all, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you for all of us who have enjoyed the fruits of their labors for the duration of their involvement.

We strongly believe that this reunion, which has grown from about 80 people to more than 350, needs to be continued. In order to do that, a committee was formed to look into alternate sites for a picnic/reunion that could be held on the last Saturday in September. Since we are operating on a compressed time schedule, there were only a few sites considered.

Continuing at Front Royal was deemed unsuitable for several reasons. Costs had escalated dramatically, and our group had really outgrown the 4H facility. Only the blessing of good weather had kept us from becoming REAL close friends the last few years, as the number of attendees swelled.

We selected the Circle D Farm in Woodbine, MD right off of I-70 east of Frederick (DCFD orange signs will be posted). This facility is owned by the Dowd family, whose son Tim is a DC Firefighter. The facility has hosted fundraisers for the Emerald Society Pipes and Drums, as well as the E-11/T-6 reunion. The big advantage of the Circle D is that they provide all the food for a fixed per-person price.

The reunion will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2008 from 12:00 until 6:00. The menu will include hamburgers, hot dogs, BBQ chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, potato salad, macaroni salad, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, condiments, and dessert. Sodas and beer are also included. Food will be served from about 12:30 until 4:30. There is no need to bring food, but for those ladies (and men) who really enjoy baking, there will be tables that can be used for DESSERTS ONLY (please).

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY: Since there will be a per-person charge, all people who plan to attend **must pay in advance**. The cost will be \$25 per person, **payable to RFA** and mailed to:

Sonny Mullikin
408 Roland Rd
Woodstock VA 22664-1200

Checks MUST be received no later than September 6, 2008. Please mail early.

Thank you. We look forward to seeing you on September 27th and continuing this great tradition. If you have any questions, Sonny has graciously offered to field them. His number is (540) 459-5213.

Sincerely,

The New (and probably not improved) Reunion Committee

DIRECTIONS:

Circle D Farm is located at 15535 Carrs Mill Rd Woodbine MD 21797-8005.

From I-70, take Exit 76 (Rt. 97) south for 1.7 miles. Turn right on Carrs Mill Rd for another 1.7 miles. Circle D Farm will be on the left. (Look for the orange 'DCFD' signs).

Circle D Farm is convenient to Washington and Baltimore. Located only 20 minutes from most of Columbia, Ellicott City, Olney, Gaithersburg, Frederick or Westminster.

