

May 2009 Minutes R.F.A.

President Butch Oliff called the May 4th meeting of the R.F.A. to order at 1945 hours with 33 members present.

Deceased members - Ed Flynn: Eddie reported that there were 7 deceased members since April's meeting; Joe Fiore, Richard Sweeney, Skip Ramsey, Harold Mikules, Richard Bassani, Fred Carver and Stephen Graves . A moment of silence was held for them.

The minutes of the April 4th meeting – George Kenney: Read and approved.

Applications for membership – John Fox and Geoff Grambo. Voted and approved.

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

Sick Committee - Ed Flynn: Ed added Sandy Gourlay and Phil Taylor to our sick list of Dominick Adriani, Wendy Baden, Hugh Barnes, Ed Beller, Jim Bojalad, Charlie Burger, Butch Carpenter, Dan Collins, Tim Connors, William Coughlin, Ralph Creel, Fred Davis, Doug Dillard, Ed Dougherty, Tom Francella, Charles Graham, Keith Grimes, Hunter Hetzel, Ralph Kennedy, Joe McDermott, Jim McIlvaine, Dan Norman, Wayne Preddy, Leo Raulerson, Pete Schlosser, Al Size, Walter “Steamboat” Smith and Kenneth R Stevens.

Vocal Alarm - Joe Healy: Joe wishes everyone wouldn't send him so many recipes to be included in the Vocal Alarm.

Entertainment Committee – Don't forget the Emerald Society's Fishing Tournament which will be held May 7th at Chesapeake Beach. Also their Golf Tournament is June 3rd at Potomac Ridge Golf Course.

Honor Guard - Joe O'Neil: Our members and Honor Guard attended Skip Ramsey and Harold Mikules' services. There will be a Memorial and Celebration of Life for Joe Fiore on June 20th. See www.WashingtonEmeralds.org for further details.

Members attending their first meeting – None, but Wilbur was late.

Local 36 - Ben Self: Ben discussed the last L-36 general membership meeting. The Locals' website is www.IAFFLocal36.com for up to date details. The arbitrator ruled in favor of L-36 on the 1 ½ over time grievance. The ruling went back to October 2001. However DC is appealing that arbitrator's ruling which will probably delay that process for another year. The City Council is having a meeting May 7th re: The PERB Board. They are trying to vote on 4 new members. A new list of arbitrators has been submitted to the Local and the city to choose from for the contract negotiations. The Local is still pushing the city for an actuarial study on disability retirements. The Step Compression checks for active members are being issued this Friday May 8th. The drug/alcohol random testing procedure is still not in effect. Ben has RFA and Local window decals as well as 2009 work schedules.

Old business – Butch discussed L-36's contract problems. Longevity problem is still stalled, but Butch is still working on it. Check web sites www.DCFD.com for updates. Discussion on Associate membership was brought up (again). Pat Johnson and Sam Malachi will research it before next meeting.

New Business – It was brought up that L-36's office building on Bladensburg Rd will be sold in the future. Jim Embrey mentioned how *The Friendship Fire Association* (FFA at Engine 3) is coming out around Christmas 2009 with a *Washington, D.C. Fire Department, Pictorial History Book*. At 9" x 12" hopefully the print will be large enough for us to read! To save P/H and shipping, one can pick it up at the museum or hopefully at our monthly meeting! You can still pre-order it for \$39.95 or Super Deluxe Leather Edition for \$74.95. See end of

this for the flyer. In addition, Elliott Goodman will be putting out his book of approximately 400 “1st due” action photos from 1972 to present. Most of E’s pics were taken when he was riding DCFD’s apparatus. With 90% in color, this ~200 page hard cover coffee table book is also coming out around Christmas. These 2 books should solve our Christmas gift idea problems. While a lot of Retirement Systems in the U.S. are not in the best shape due to our economy, ours is in the top 3 in the whole country! (Hope the .01% raise doesn’t crush them). The Retirement Board is still taking 3 to 4 days to return phone calls.

Good & welfare – 2009 dues of \$40 are overdue. It was brought up that the monthly luncheon will be held on the first Wednesday of each month, May 6th, 2009 at 12 o’clock at Station 7 Restaurant, Pittsville, MD. All are invited to attend. Let Bob Gilbert know that you’re coming RPGilbert1@mchsi.com. Check the menu and directions <http://www.Station7Restaurant.com/>. The other monthly luncheon is held at the Frederick Elks, 289 Willowdale Dr, Frederick, MD at 12 noon on the second Tuesday of the month. It’s just minutes from I70 and Rt. 15. See you there on May 12th. Bubba D will probably be his usual no show though! Call Sandy Gourlay or Paul Stottlemyer for further details.

The remaining RFA meeting dates for 2009 are:

Jun 1	Oct 5	Nov 2	Dec 7
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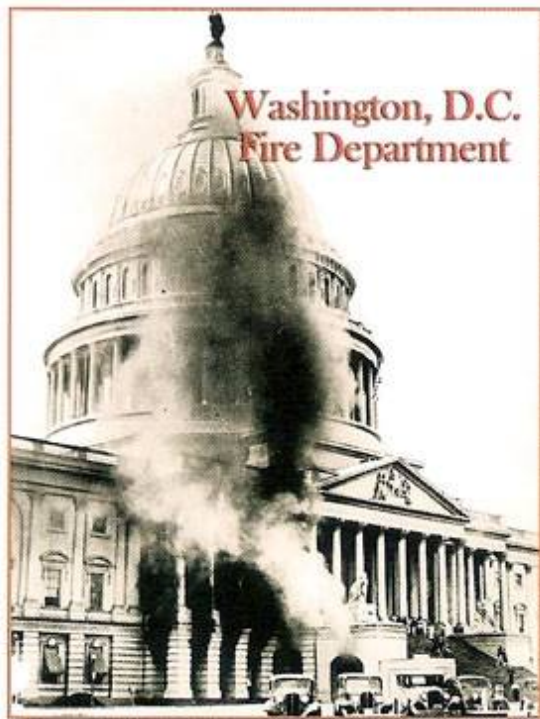
There being no further old or new business, President Butch adjourned the meeting at 20:20 hours.

In honor of Skip Ramsey and his long time doing what I’m now doing, “This is my story and I’m sticking to it”.

Doug

Questions or Comments: DougWheeler@juno.com

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To: All DCF & EMS Members & Supporters:

Just recently, the Friendship Fire Association (FFA) and M.T. Publishing Company, Inc. joined forces to publish a new pictorial-style history book of the Washington, D.C. Fire Department scheduled to be released at the end of 2009, featuring current and historical photos from the DC Fire & EMS Museum's archives.

The book is available on a pre-sale basis at a special price for Department members, retirees and museum supporters. The large 9" x 12" coffee table style edition will have a deluxe hardbound cover and color dust jacket, 200 pages with 48 color pages. High-gloss, double-coated paper will be used for superior photo reproduction. The cost of this historic limited edition is only \$39.95 for the deluxe standard edition, or \$74.95 for the genuine bonded leather edition. The initial press run will be commemorative edition copies that are numbered as they are sold, increasing the future value of this publication. You may also choose to have your pre-ordered copy personalized with a name stamp on the cover for a nominal \$6.00 charge.

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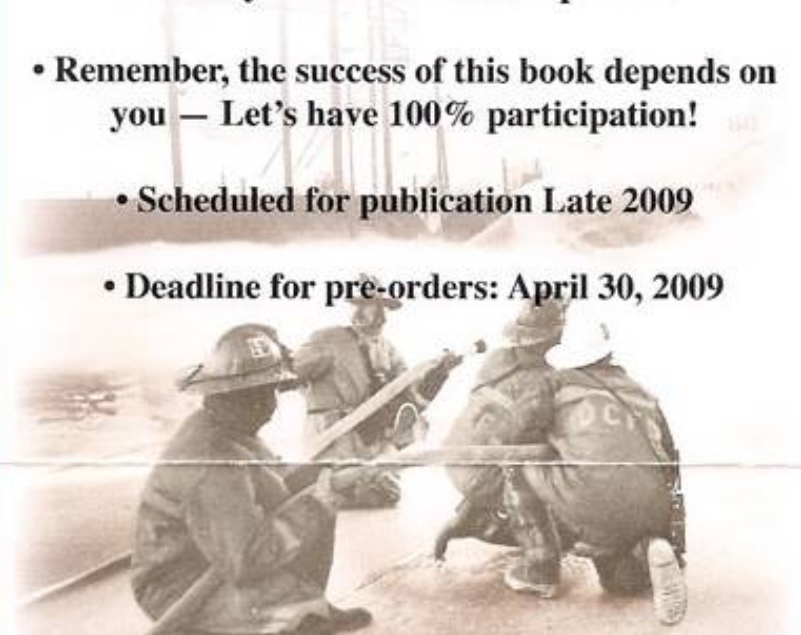
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President
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President Bush steps outside and get his picture taken with Fire and EMS Chief Dennis Rubin (standing just to the left of the President), and the rest of the senior staff of the department who were at the Executive Office Building (EOB) blaze next door to the White House. Photo by DCF&EMS Photographer Alan Etter.

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