

Secretary's Musings

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2010 Training Conference

The 44th Annual Training Conference will place in Auburn NY. In this mailing you will find the registration and agenda information. The theme for the conference will be "The Chief and The Chaplain - an Effective Team."

Don't forget to invite your chief along for this training. You will both find it helpful in your work with the men and women of your departments.

DUES

All dues for 2010 are due. Invoices are included with this mailing. Please pay your dues promptly.

EMAIL

As the association continues to grow, we have begun to use email more and more for communications. Recently I emailed every member who had email and 10% of the emails were returned as undeliverable. I then delete all those from my database as addresses no longer valid. If on your dues invoice you do not see your email listed, please add it to the invoice or better yet, shoot an email to me at nysafc@optonline.net.

SUPPLIES

The 2010 Supply List is enclosed. We have been able to keep prices at the same level as last year and there are many good things for you to purchase. Remember the new manual is available along with the New Training DVDs. Remember to get your orders in early!

CHANGING TIMES

They say one thing that is remains constant, is change. Add to that, the certainty of death and taxes and you have life in a nutshell. Fortunately we all know there is more to it than that!

Our Chaplains association had unexpected changes this past year when we lost our Chief Chaplain Rich Holtz. I certainly wasn't expecting to be "on duty" in September! Soon after, Past Chief Chaplain Father Dan Bitsko had sudden health changes (please keep him in your prayers for continued improvement). Fire and Emergency Services personnel everywhere continually face new challenges with elections, promotions, policy changes and member deaths. The list goes on.

Change may very well be the common denominator in what we do. Lives we care for are in transition - often suddenly - when we are called in. Just being there can make all the difference in the world.

Change can bring uncertainty, but change can also bring hope and confidence. Elections and appointments will be coming up again at the Annual Conference in April (more changes). Please take the time to fill out the "Interest Information Sheet" and send to me, even if you are not interested in any position. I'd like to know "who" has experience in "what". You guessed it ... I am up to something! (Hint: It has to do with annual conference this year in Auburn NY).

One thing I would like to see? For our changes to be the kind that bring confidence - and excellence - to our organization. If we do our best, and bring our best abilities forward, we will continue to be one of the most effective chaplains organizations around.

A good reputation is invaluable!

Here to serve,

Barrie-Lyn Foster
Chief Chaplain NYS AFC
741 Clark Street Road
Cayuga, NY 13034-2113
BarrieLynz@aol.com