



Pennsylvania Fire Police Association

"Safety Unit of the Volunteer Firemen"

4050 Mulberry Lane, Dover, Pa 17315

FOUNDED 1948 (717) 292-3154

CHARTERED 1949

Pennsylvania Fire Police 64th Annual Convention

May 14, 2011

Hepburn Vol. Fire Co.----Lycoming County

The 64th Annual Convention of the Pennsylvania Fire Police Association was hosted by the Hepburn Vol. Fire Co. in Lycoming Co. There were 51 people present. First Vice President John Johnston opened the Saturday night Convention activities at 6:30 pm. First Vice President John Johnston called on Elmer Polk to handle the Convention at this time. Elmer Polk is the President of Lycoming Co. Fire Police Assoc. Mr. Polk introduced the Chaplain of Lycoming Co., Martin Remick, who gave the Invocation. Chaplain Remick also spoke on the increase in population, and accidents possible due to the gas companies that have come to our areas. He said that fire police needed to be prepared for these changes. He said the gas companies are essential to our areas, but a lot of our fire police have gone to work for the gas companies, and are not available to respond for calls. Mr. Remick asked that we all stick together for the good of all.

At this time we had a wonderful dinner, which included delicious stuffed chicken breasts.

Mr. Elmer Polk introduced his officers, and then the guest speaker, Ed Mann, who is the Pennsylvania Fire Commissioner. Commissioner Ed Mann grew up in Belfont. Mr. Mann related an incident to us involving him being tazed. It was informative, and entertaining. He said if you ever have a choice, do not pick tazing. Ed Mann then spoke on the Line of Duty Death Benefit. He asked that all fire police please either write, or call your Representative, and Congressmen to pass HR 1348. Ask them to add fire police as Public Safety Officers at the Federal level. Fire police could be covered for the Line of Duty Death Benefit as long as they are listed as doing fire fighter duties in fire suppression. Also, the wording could be a fire fighter that is assigned to traffic duty. Ed Mann stressed training, the sixteen hour courses available, and even including classes for fire training, and fire extinguishers. Ed Mann spoke of Donald Mellot, who was a fire police killed in the line of duty, and the decision to see if he gets the Line of Duty Death Benefit is still open. If you would like to keep abreast of this decision go to the Pennsylvania Fire Police website at www.pafirepolice.org, or google Donald Mellott NIOSH report. The decision for Donald Mellot could effect all fire police.

Following Ed Mann was the entertainment of D J Tom Starks with beautiful music to dance to, and sing along with, or listen to. Door prizes followed.