



# The Chief's Trumpet



Issue #27

July 2006

Official Publication of the New Hampshire Association of Fire Chiefs

[www.nhafc.org](http://www.nhafc.org)

## Letter From the President

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#### NEDIAFC NH State Vice President

Chief Stephen Allen  
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#### NEAFC Director

Chief Thomas Lambert  
North Hampton Fire Department

Greeting to all!

Well, we're off and running! The Board of Directors appears to be working together quite well, and members are ready and willing to build upon the progress made by our association under the direction of President Steve Carrier. We still have much to discuss and accomplish, and we're up to the task. Thanks to the board of directors for their cooperation and dedication.

Congratulations to Chief Perry Plummer and Doug Patch for their success with the Fire Safe Cigarette bill that the governor signed into law late last month. Also, congratulations to Chief Shawn Murray, the new Chair of the Legislative Committee, for his work in ensuring the passage of Amelia's Law. At the signing ceremony in the Governor's office for both bills, the turnout of fire service people was impressive. Even the Governor commented on the sea of Class A uniforms present that day. Great job to all involved!

The Board of Directors and the Executive Board have begun the process of reviewing and updating the association's by-laws, and we are investigation the feasibility of an Executive Director to handle the day-to-day operation of the NHAFC.

We continue to work with our partners at PFFNH to track events that affect the NH fire service, such as the pending Homeland Security Director position. Even the federal government recognized that the best person to head FEMA is a Fire Chief! Why should New Hampshire be different? Best of luck to Chief Chris Pope of Concord, who would make an excellent Homeland Security Director!

Please feel free to contact me (603-235-6803) if you have questions or concerns about our Association.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Upcoming Meetings/Events...

- July 13..... North Hampton
- August 10..... Tilton/Northfield
- September 7..... Plymouth/Campton\*
- October 12..... Hampton Beach
- November 10 – 12..... Steele Hill Resort – Sanbornton
- December 14..... Crotched Mountain Christmas Party

*Note: This is a tentative list and subject to change*

# Meeting Information...

## North Hampton to Host July 13th Dinner Meeting

Fire Chief Thomas Lambert will be the host for the July 14th dinner and meeting of the NHAFC. The dinner will be at the North Hampton Fire Station, Atlantic Avenue, North Hampton, with social hour beginning at 1730 hours and dinner at 1830 hours. Dinner consists of two lobsters and steamers or a large barbecued steak. All dinners will be served with corn-on-the-cob, salad, rolls and dessert. Lobster is \$30.00 per person and steak is \$25.00 per person.

Please return the remittance coupon indicating your dinner choice and payment by July 7th. Reservations and payment must be received in advance in order to purchase the food. No one will be admitted without reservation and advance payment.

Directions to North Hampton Fire Station: From Route 101, take Route 111 East, the station is about 1/4 mile on the left after crossing Route 1.

✂ Clip and mail

**JULY DINNER/MEETING**

Attendee(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Lobster/Steamer Dinner (\$30.00)

Steak (\$25.00)

**Make check payable to:** North Hampton Firemen's Association and mail payment to PO Box 606, N. Hampton, NH 03862.

**Please respond by July 7th.**

## Tilton-Northfield to host August

Chief Stephen Carrier is the host for the day's activities of our August 10, 2006 meeting. The day will begin at 10AM with golf at the Den Brae CC in Sanbornton the cost is \$29/pp which includes a cart. Please call Steve at 286-4781 to reserve a tee time. Directions are Exit 22 off of I-93, Route 127 S towards Franklin and take your second right to the course. Retired Chief Harold Harbour will be hosting a swim and snacks at his house in Northfield after the golf outing.

The evening's activities will be at the American Legion Hall on Park Street (right next to the Main St. traffic light) in Northfield and will begin at 5PM with a social hour and will be followed by a pork dinner being served at 6PM. The cost of the meal is \$25/pp.

The payment for golf can be made at the golf course when you arrive that morning, but please call to reserve a spot.

✂ Clip and mail

**AUGUST MEETING**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to NHAFC for the meal and mail to Chief Stephen Carrier, 149 Park Street, Northfield, NH 03276 by August 3, 2006.

### Letter From the President, *continued*

I hope to see all of you in North Hampton for the annual clambake. Get your reservations in early, as it is always a big draw. Enjoy your Summer!

Christopher J. LeClaire  
President, NHAFC



**NH ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS  
Professional Enhancement Weekend  
NOVEMBER 10, 11 & 12, 2006  
Steele Hill, Sanbornton, NH**

**Full Weekend Package Includes:** 2 Nights' Accommodations, 2 Breakfast Buffets(1 Full American, 1 Expanded Continental) Saturday Lunch & Banquet Dinner, Wine & Cheese Reception, Room & Meal Taxes, Meal Gratuities, **Per Person: \$140.00 Double-\$228.50 Single**

**One Night Package Includes:** 1 Nights' Accommodations, 1 Breakfast Buffet, Saturday Lunch & Banquet Dinner, Room & Meal Taxes, Meal Gratuities **Per Person: \$97.50 Double-\$142.00 Single**

**Meeting Package:** Saturday Buffet Lunch @ 12 Noon Followed by 1:00 PM Meeting **\$16.50 Per Person**  
Additional **Saturday Banquet** Guests: **\$28.00** inclusive

**SCHEDULE:**

Friday, 11/10/06: Hotel Check In (from 3:00 PM); 5:00 PM Welcome Wine & Cheese Reception, Tova's Tavern; Dinner on own; Inn's Hilltop Restaurant offers full range of menu and evening specials; Throughout the weekend, enjoy the Resort's heated indoor pool, whirlpool, saunas, Tennis Courts, **Complimentary 9 hole golf course (depending on late Fall weather)**

Saturday, 11/11: 7:00 AM Full Breakfast Buffet opens in Hilltop Dining Room  
9:00 AM Professional Development Seminar for members, guests, spouses - Hilltop  
12:00 Noon Buffet Lunch - Hilltop  
1:00 PM-3:00 PM NHAFC Monthly Meeting - Hilltop  
5:30 PM Pre Dinner Cocktail Hour - Hilltop  
6:30 PM Dinner Banquet - Hilltop

Sunday, 11/12: 7:30 AM - 09:00 AM Expanded Continental Breakfast served - Hilltop Dining Room  
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Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# Condensed Minutes

## Minutes of a Meeting of the NH Association of Fire Chiefs

April 13, 2006 – New Hampshire Fire Academy, Concord, NH.

The meeting was called to order by President Carrier at 1855 hours.

Following a salute to the flag and a moment of silence, a quorum call was taken.

Welcoming everyone was Director Richard Mason, who thanked everyone for coming and introduced his staff. He also introduced Fire Marshal William Degnan as his co-host and spoke of the successful vendor exhibition in the dorm meeting room earlier today. Marshal Degnan went on to give his report that included,

- Report of fire activities
- Transition to data filing of reports (NFIRS 5.0) by summer.
- *Clancy* the arson dog is retiring and *Molly* will be his replacement after certification training is complete.
- Described efforts to clarify safety standards in group homes

Several Advocate Members were introduced and thanked with a standing ovation for their participation in today's exposition.

Chief Carrier noted that the minutes of the previous meetings were printed and distributed. A MOTION (Mason/Farley) to accept the minutes as printed carried unanimously.

Deputy Chief Martin Carrier reported that the financial report would be presented at the May meeting.

Chief Lemire read one application in first reading and two in second reading. A MOTION (DeSilva/Murray) to accept those in second reading carried unanimously. The association welcomes Battalion Chief Michael Gagnon of Derry and Deputy Chief Adam Pouliot of Webster as its newest members!

President Carrier presented his report, which included statements describing:

- The Congressional Fire Service Caucus dinner with the excellent attendance from NH.
- Legislative activities – and that the committee will need a new chair.
- Fireworks Committee will need a new member as Chief Williams is stepping down.
- Thanks to everyone for a good year.

Chief Murray, for the Legislative Committee, reported on the several issues addressed this session and thanked all for the positive efforts and successes, especially efforts towards Amelia's Law and the Fire-Safe Cigarette bill.

Chief Stephen Carrier, for the Professional Development Committee reported:

- The May 11 meeting in Litchfield will feature a presentation by Dr. Montero, the state's Epidemiologist.
- The June meeting in Bristol will feature a seminar by a representative of the Dam Bureau.
- November meeting will be at Steele Hill Resort in Sanbornton this year.
- Upcoming list of meetings.

Assistant Safety Commissioner Sweeney thanked everyone for their work on the Fire Safe Cigarette bill. He also expressed concern that with the number of bills affecting the Fire Marshal's Office, there is not enough personnel or resources to react to them.

Chief Prentiss, for the EMS Bureau, thanked everyone for the support received over the year. She also described the computer based testing for National Registry certification which will occur next year, and also that the TEMSIS project has 73% of the state reporting.

Director Mason, for Fire Standards and Training, reported on:

- Fire Investigator certification will be ready by the end of the year.
- Chiefs Williams and Roediger terms will be up in November and they will be re-nominated by the Executive Committee unless someone else is interested.
- The addition of a tool & equipment depot on to the fire station.
- The Firefighters' Memorial being built near the fire station. Donations are being sought and there will be a construction day on August 26 that volunteers will be asked to participate in. Dedication is slated for September 10.

Brad Simpkins, newly appointed Forest Protection Chief, reported on:

- Above average fire season experienced already
- All towers and planes up.
- Wildland Firefighter Train the Trainer program in progress.
- New permit rules in place.

## Condensed Minutes (Continued)

- Two vacant ranger positions. Will be re-districting the state.
- Governor has proclaimed next week as Forest Fire Awareness Week.
- Out of state activity is way up also.

Chief Kevin Pratte, for the Governor's Home Energy Board, stated that they had met yesterday and described the public hearing on the oil installing and propane certification bills.

Chief Allen reported that the SERC was to meet in May.

Chief Comeau spoke of the NEAFC conference in Springfield June 22, 23 and 24 at the Big E.

Chief Thibeault, for the NEDIAFC, reiterated info about Springfield, and showed a Powerpoint presentation about the Division's activities. He described upcoming programs and stated that the IAFC had received two grants today.

Under New Business, Director Mason made a MOTION, seconded by Chief Klauber, to draft a letter to our US Senators endorsing the appointment of David Paulison as head of FEMA, with a copy to Homeland Security Chief Chertoff. Motion carried.

Father Angelo Pappas of Portsmouth spoke on the need to organize the Chaplains in NH and asked for a list of those known.

The 2006 budget was presented and a MOTION (Clarenbach/Hoisington) to approve it carried unanimously.

The report of the Nominating Committee was presented as follows:

President: Chief Chris LeClaire  
1st Vice: Director Richard Mason  
2nd Vice: Deputy Chief Chris Christopoulos  
Sgt./Arms: Chief Scott Wiggin  
Secretary: Chief Brent Lemire, ret.  
Treasurer: Deputy Chief Martin Carrier  
Directors: Chiefs Perry Plummer; Jeff Burr; Phil Morrell; Shawn Murray and Patrick Preece.

A MOTION (Landry/Bradley) to close nominations; to accept the report of the committee and to authorize the Secretary to cast one ballot for the slate of officers carried unanimously.

Chief LeClaire presented Chief Carrier with a plaque in appreciation of his years of service gave a living eulogy, and

turned the meeting back over to him.

Chief LeClaire was welcomed as President and spoke of his vision for the year and described his goals.

The meeting was adjourned at 2022 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Brent T. Lemire, ret.  
Secretary, NHAFC

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# Condensed Minutes

## Minutes of a Meeting of the NH Association of Fire Chiefs

May 11, 2006 – Passaconaway Country Club, Litchfield, NH.

The meeting was called to order by President Chris LeClaire at 1841 hours.

Following a salute to the flag and a moment of silence, a quorum call was taken.

Welcoming everyone was Chief Thomas Schofield, who thanked everyone for coming and thanked those attending the seminar.

Advocate Members Peter Sparber and Skip Sullivan were introduced.

Representative Lynne Ober was introduced and spoke on her intention to file legislation to offer the Fire Chiefs the same employment protection as Police Chiefs.

A MOTION (Mason/Christopoulos) to dispense with the reading of the minutes carried unanimously.

Deputy Chief Martin Carrier presented three financial reports and indicated that we had enjoyed the largest surplus ever.

Chief Lemire read the applications for membership. There was one in First reading and a MOTION (Mason/Farley) to approve the one in Second reading carried unanimously. The NHAFC welcomes Capt. Bradley Ober of the Tilton/Northfield Fire Department as its newest member!

Chief Murray, as the interim Legislative Committee Chair reported the following:

- Amelia's Law passed the Senate and the House was expected to follow suit.
- Fire-safe Cigarette Bill passed the House today.
- Looking for a cadre of Chiefs to be available to trips to Concord when needed.
- Chief LeClaire sent the thanks of the organization to the congressional delegation in Washington.

Fire Standards & Training Director Richard Mason reported the following:

- Chief Murray and Bureau Chief Denis Rosolen recognized for passing Executive Fire Officer program.
- He spoke to the PFFNH convention on NHFA programs.
- Spoke on reciprocity of programs nationwide (17 courses).
- Have trained 5457 students since 7/1/05.

- Groundwork completed on the Firefighters' Memorial.

State Fire Marshal William Degnan reported the following:

- He introduced Peter Sparber of the National Association of State Fire Marshals.
- The testing of TV sets for flammability and spoke of the results.
- Ten fire investigations during the past month, with 3 arrests being made in Merrimack.
- The inspection activities of the office and that he is at full staff with 8 investigators.
- The sponsoring of a residential sprinkler program in October at Waterville Valley. He urged members to build a community team to attend as there is no cost.
- He thanked all members who contributed to the legislative successes this year.

Forest Protection Chief Brad Simpkins reported that:

- There had been 358 fires burning 480 acres affecting six structures had occurred this season so far.
- Interviews had been conducted for two vacant ranger positions.
- The towers were up and working.

Report of the National Volunteer Fire Council. Deputy Martin Carrier reported that:

- The final bill to re-codify the tax code for LOSAP considerations, had been drafted and will be introduced next week in the House (Federal). He will keep us informed of the progress.
- He would like to see changes in the state's provisions after the federal proposal is passed.

Chief Tom Lambert for the Building Code Review Board, reported that:

- SB 234 had passed, which is the Universal Building Code.
- The committee will be moving toward updating the codes.

For the NEAFC, he reported on the New England Chiefs' Conference in Springfield, June 22 – 25.

Chief Thibeault, for the NEDIAFC, noticed a decrease in firefighter fatalities after the Firefighter Stand-down day last year. He also briefed members on the Springfield conference and other IAFC matters.

## Condensed Minutes (Continued)

Under New Business, Chief Lambert indicated that his term on the Code Review Board was up in July. Chief LeClaire indicated that the Executive Committee would be addressing that at its next meeting.

The next meeting will be June 8 in Bristol.

The meeting was adjourned at 1930 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Brent T. Lemire, ret.  
Secretary, NHAFC

### New Hampshire Association of Fire Chiefs Welcomes its New Members!

Deputy Chief Adam Pouliot of Webster  
Battalion Chief Michael Gagnon of Derry  
Captain Bradley Ober of Tilton/Northfield

**CONGRATULATIONS  
AND WELCOME!**

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