

Debert Fire Brigade Annual Banquet & Awards



Debert Fire Brigade members, past and present, including Charter Members present the Annual Banquet.

By Linda Harrington

The annual Debert Fire Brigade Banquet was held on March 5th, with Eric Barnhill acting as emcee for the event. Members of the Debert United Church provided a wonderful meal, with Pastor Bill Martin asking the blessing.

Mayor Bob Taylor, on behalf of Colchester County Council, thanked the Chief and the Brigade for their service to the community. He noted the new CEO for Council will be Rob Simmons, a fire chief from Hamilton, ON.

Two Charter Members, Frank McMichael and Gordon McCully

and two past Chiefs, Ed Hingley and Aubrey Gamble, were present.

Chief Wade Jennings presented the Annual Report for 2015, thanking all members, officers and executive for all their hard work and time spent around the hall this past year.

Two members, Dakota Lockhart and Adam Boertjes, took the Level 1 Fire Fighter Course in 2015.

"IamResponding" was set up through the CFFA and is working very well. IamResponding.com's patented system lets the Brigade know immediately who is responding to calls and dispatch-

es, where they are responding, and when they will be responding.

The Brigade purchased reversible jackets for members. These have a reflective lining that is very visible for emergency situations.

An application was made for a Service Providers Grant to purchase new eDraulic Jaws, Cutters and Ram. This new line of battery-powered rescue tools requires no hoses and no power unit and are much more portable.

A new rescue chain saw, with carbide chain and depth gauge on the bar was purchased by the

Brigade.

Chief Jennings represented the Debert Fire Brigade at the CFFA meeting and sat on the Executive as a Representative for the Fire School. He attended director's meetings at the Fire School and the semi-annual and annual meetings of Fire Service of Nova Scotia.

Two new members, Kenneth Hepburn and Daymen Penny, joined the Brigade in 2015.

Brigade members put in a total of 3057 man hours, with 780 training hours, 135 calls totalling 1080 man hours, 640 hours for work nights at the hall, 432 man hours of monthly meetings and 125 man hours for other meetings.

A 15 Year Service Award was presented to Derek Lockhart. The Wendell Barnhill Award for Most Improved Fire Fighter was presented to Adam Boertjes. Mike Hepburn was awarded the Firefighter of the Year with Fire Officer of the Year presented to Brandon Slack.

Bob Davis was presented with an Honorary Membership to the Debert Fire Brigade. He was too young to join at the time, but he was present at the first meetings of the Brigade, and has been a huge supporter ever since.

Congratulations to all!



Chief Jennings presented Mike Hepburn with the Fire Fighter of the Year Award.



Chief Wade Jennings and Randy Barnhill presented Adam Boertjes with the Wendell Barnhill Most Improved Fire Fighter Award.



Brandon Slack was awarded Fire Officer of the Year.



Debert Fire Brigade Chief Wade Jennings presenting the 2015 Annual Report.



Mayor Bob Taylor brought greetings from County Council.



Eric Barnhill once again did an excellent job as emcee for the Debert Fire Brigade Banquet on March 5th.



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