

PHOTO FEATURE

Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade prepare exercises to practise "hot spot" techniques and rest times along with a series of preventative measures to ensure fire fighters are safe and conditioned for the tasks before them.

(Rees Photos)



A member of the Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade works the radio system to call for more tankers to bring water. The background shows the staging area where front line volunteer fighters assemble prior to and after taking their turn on the hoses or in a "hot spot". (Rees Photo)



Every precaution is taken to ensure volunteer fire fighters do not suffer any ill effects from the hard dangerous work while serving their community. After coming out of a "hot spot", blood pressure is checked. If it's fine, the volunteer must rest for at least 20 minutes before returning to active duties. If readings are not right, the fire fighter is removed from the active roster and not permitted to "go in again" (Rees Photo)



Records are kept of all fire fighters before going to a "hot spot" and upon their return as part of program developed in Colchester County to improve the care of volunteers. (Rees Photo)

The Annual Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade Awards Banquet Dec. 3RD at the Onslow Belmont Fire Hall.

(Photos by Linda Harrington)



The Onslow Belmont 2018 Executive Officers were sworn in at the AGM on Dec. 11th. Left to right: Captain- Clint Verheul, Deputy- Darrell Currie, Chief- Greg Muise, Deputy- Leo Morrow and Captain- Derek Richard. (Harrington Photo)



The Keith Hamilton Fire Fighter of the Year Award was presented to John McKay (left) by Ellen Hamilton and Chief Greg Muise as John's wife Hazel looks on.

By Linda Harrington

Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade held their annual Christmas Party and Awards Banquet on Dec. 2nd at the Fire Hall in Lower Onslow. A delicious meal was served by members of Trinity United Church and entertainment was provided by magician Zak Rafih.

Words of appreciation were passed along to the Brigade by several invited guests including Councillor Ron Cavanaugh, Colchester Mayor Christine Blair and Deputy Premier Karen Casey.

The Clifford MacDougall Fellowship Award was presented by Clarie Sinclair to John McKay. The Keith Hamilton Fire Fighter of the Year Award was presented to John McKay, by Ellen Hamilton. The Stan Groves Junior Fire Fighter of the Year Award was presented to Daniel Faber by

Chief Greg Muise. The John Petrash Most Improved Fire Fighter was presented by Pearl Petrash to Blayne Turner. The Clem MacKinnon Sportsmanship Award was presented to Walter McElhinney by Gary MacKinnon. The Carl King Officer of the Year Award was presented by Emily Crosby to John McKay.

Long Term Service Awards were presented to the following: Ian Crowe- 45 Years; Walter McElhinney- 45 Years; John McKay- 45 Years; Leo Morrow- 35 Years; Greg Muise- 35 Years; Steve Willis- 25 Years; Carl Gallant- 10 Years; Doug Jardine- 10 Years, Tom Shreve- 10 Years and Aaron Crossman- 5 Years.

Chief Greg Muise gave his annual report. There was a total of 198 calls for the year, a record year for the Brigade, with a total of \$1,212,000 in damages. This was comprised



Long Term Service Awards were presented by Membership Committee Chair, Chantal Hamilton (right) to the following (left to right): Carl Gallant- 10 Years, Aaron Crossman- 5 Years, Steve Willis- 25 Years. Missing from photo are Ian Crowe- 45 Years, Leo Morrow- 35 Years, Doug Jardine- 10 Years and Tom Shreve- 10 Years.



The Carl King Officer of the Year Award was presented to John McKay by Emily Crosby (right) as Deputy Chief Leo Morrow (left), as John's wife Hazel looks on.



The Clifford MacDougall Fellowship Award was presented by Clarie Sinclair (left) to John McKay. Also pictured are John's wife Hazel and Deputy Chief Darrell Currie (left).

of 2 flu fires, 7 grass/brush fires, 103 medical calls, 20 miscellaneous, 17 mutual aid, 37 MVA, 6 structure fires and 6 vehicle fires. The Brigade had a total of 15,764 man hours for training and incidents. The average response time was 7:54

minutes, average time on scene was 49:20 minutes and the longest call was 6:51 hours.

This past October, three members completed Level 1 Certification, five members completed the Drager

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