

Great Village and District Fire Brigade's Annual Awards Banquet

By Linda Harrington

When the alarm sounds fire fighters go...even in the middle of their annual awards banquet. The banquet was held at the Londonderry Community Centre on March 24th and just as the awards were about to be presented a fire call was received. Instantly chairs were pushed back and feet were scurrying to the door, without a moment's hesitation.

The banquet continued,

award recipients were announced and family members stood in to accept awards on behalf of the fire fighters who were out serving their community. Once the fire fighters returned, even though the banquet had ended, the awards were presented once again to the recipients, who deserved to be recognized and congratulated for dedication to their Brigade and to their community.

Firefighter of the Year was awarded to Jeremy Smith. This award is voted on by the general membership and is given to the person who most shows the qualities of a good fire fighter.

Officer of the Year was awarded to Joe Slack. This award is also chosen by the membership and awarded to the officer who best fits the characteristics of an officer.

Claude O'Brien Award was presented to Douglas Congdon. Claude O'Brien was a gentle-

man who truly believed in helping his fellow human beings. He would see a need in his community, and without looking for any credit, would quietly slip in and see that the job got done, friend or stranger, it did not matter to him. The recipient of this award is voted on by the membership.

Most Improved Firefighter was awarded to Jeremy Smith. This award is chosen by the officers and foes to the member who, over the past year worked on their skills and has shown the most progress as a firefighter.

Junior Firefighter was awarded to Drew Lundie. The most improved junior is chosen to receive this award by the officers of the Brigade.

Steve Francis Award was awarded to Wilson's Gas and accepted by Jennifer Fancy. Steve was an active member of both the fire brigade and the community. He was visible at all community events and loved to help out. The Steve Francis Award goes to a business to show appreciation for their community spirit throughout the year.

Long Term Service Awards: Five Year to Dave Best, Jenny Best and Jeremy Smith; 45 Year to Larry Kinsman and 55 Year to Chief Dave Lundie.

Thirty Year Fire Service Auxiliary Award was presented to Audrey Fields.

Great Village and District Fire Auxiliary Treasurer Betty MacNeil presented the Great Village Fire Commission with a cheque for \$2000 to assist with payment on the new fire truck.

Chief Dave Lundie gave the Brigade's Annual Report for 2011 indicating a total of 1394 man hours were accumulated answering 67 medical calls, 25 motor vehicle accidents and about 30 other various calls including flu fires and grass fires. 2012 has been busy for the Brigade with a total of 33 calls answered already this year (including one this night).



Deputy Chief Roger Roode presents Chief Dave Lundie (left) with a 55 Year Long Term Service Award.



Chief Dave Lundie and Deputy Chief Roger Roode present Jeremy Smith (centre) with the Firefighter of the Year Award, the Most Improved Firefighter Award and a 5 Year Long Term Service Award.



Chief Dave Lundie and Deputy Chief Roger Roode present Larry Kinsman (centre) with a 45 Year Long Term Service Award.



Chief Dave Lundie and Deputy Chief Roger Roode present Joe Slack (centre) with the Officer of the Year Award.



Chief Dave Lundie, Deputy Chief Roger Roode and JJ Francis present the Steve Francis Award to Jennifer Fancy of Wilson's Fuel.



Great Village and District Fire Auxiliary Treasurer Betty MacNeil presents Audrey Fields with a plaque in appreciation for "30 Years of personal sacrifice and dedication to the Fire Service of Nova Scotia".



Great Village and District Fire Auxiliary Treasurer Betty MacNeil presents Steve Carroll (Great Village Fire Commission) with a cheque for \$2000 to assist with payment on the new fire truck.

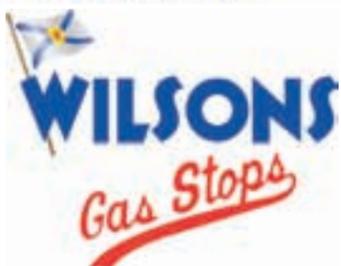


Chief Dave Lundie, Patrick O'Brien, McKayla O'Brien and Deputy Chief Roger Roode present Douglas Congdon (right) with the Claude O'Brien Award.

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