



One West Street  
Farmingdale, NY 11735  
United States of America

Phone: (516) 249-0332  
Fax: (516) 249-0338

*“Helping Victims of Fire & Disaster With Your Support Since 1991”*

# Dinner Gala

Firefighters Charitable Foundation

**Annual Dinner Gala**

Thursday, November 15, 2018

Chateau Briand

440 Old Country Road, Carle Place, NY



Help Support our Mission with a Dinner Journal Ad.

Ads starting at \$50 for a business card. Cover and premium pages are available

For more information call us at 516-249-0332 or visit our website at [www.ffcf.org](http://www.ffcf.org)  
Sponsorship opportunities available!



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### Test Yours Every Month!



# FIREFIGHTERS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Summer 2018

## Annual Golf Outing Helps Support Our Mission

The Firefighters Charitable Foundation (FFCF) knows firsthand the pain and suffering that can be caused in an instant by fires or natural disasters. Since 1991, our not-for-profit 501 (c)3 organization, provides direct aid to victims of fire or disaster, other non-profit agencies, and volunteer fire departments. Our primary focus is to provide much needed financial assistance to individuals who have been affected by a fire or disaster, to support other disaster or prevention related charities and institutions, and volunteer fire departments.



*Pictured: Maxine Agee (L) and Ed Kranepool (R)*

Our Annual Golf Outing is a vital fundraiser that provides us with much needed funds for our programs. Our Fourth Annual Outing was once



again held at the beautiful Town of Oyster Bay Golf Course in Woodbury, Long Island, New York. We once again want to acknowledge and thank our Golf Committee for all their hard work and efforts. Our golfers had a beautiful day to hit the ball and spend time with our guest athletes.

We want to thank all our golfers that attended and extend a very special thank you for this year's sponsors:

New York Islanders

Wine U Design

Cooperstown Hall of Fame

Babe Ruth Museum

Massapequa Fire District

Farmingdale Baseball League

Manning & Napier

Stuff a Bagel Farmingdale

New York Mets

New York Yankees

Minnesota Twins

Boston Red Sox

Babe Ruth Museum

Alure Designs

Briarcliff Sprinklers

Local 342

Franklin Square Fire Department

LI Ducks

NFL Players Association

Crest Hollow Country Club

Bjs Wholesale Club

Slomins

Pendergast Foundation

North Massapequa Fire Dept.

Ted Williams Foundation

TLC Auto & Truck Center

Coscto Wholesale Club

Oheka Castle

Greco Planning Group, Inc.

Cashin Spinelli & Ferretti

Scotto Brothers

Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce

First National Bank of LI

Association of Fire Districts of Nassau County

Georgi Vodka

We know it is physically impossible for most of our supporters (who are not in the Metropolitan/ Long Island Area) to attend the outing. But there are others way you can assist us. We have many sponsorship levels that can fit your budget. Tee signs, flags and various sponsorships help get your business name out there and show that you proudly support FFCF.



*Pictured: Tee Signs are an excellent way to support FFCF*

We also rely on donations of: gift baskets and certificates, prizes, tickets and sports memorabilia. We look forward to your support and adding your company or name to our growing list of sponsors.

## Our Mission

Assist the victims of fire and disaster

Aid children in need

Provide grants to charitable organizations

Support programs for Fire Safety and First Aid Education

Support Volunteer Fire Departments

## Board of Directors

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Joann Vazquez

Save The Date

7th Annual  
Dinner Gala  
11/15/18

## President's Message

In our biyearly newsletters we try to highlight our special fundraising events, provide useful donation information, provide safety tips and provide you with articles and letters from those that we have assisted throughout the year. Your donations and support of our events such as the golf outing, our dinner gala and our journal provide us with the funds to aid those in need. My favorite section and the one that makes me very proud is our "We Get Letters." Included in this issue is a handwritten letter from a woman in Oklahoma, who lost her home in a fire. Her heartfelt letter is the epitome of what your donations and sponsorships allow us to do. The letters we publish are not made up or staged. These are heartfelt letters from recipients of our grants. Fire victims, fire departments, burn centers, community groups to name just a few. They come in typed on official letterhead, handwritten in crayon and every way possible. Some have carefully worded sentences that detail: where, what and how the money was used, others just a few words that cut right to the point. No matter what the media, they all have the same message. A sincere thank you. The letters are a sharp reminder of why we are here and why we so desperately need your support. We hope that you will continue your support. If you can't play golf or make our dinner, please consider a donation, sponsorship or journal ad. With your help we will assure that the letters will keep coming!

Sincerely,  
Frank R. Tepedino, President.

## Why Volunteer Fire Departments Need Your Help

by Thomas M. Sabellico, Esq. , New York Counsel to FFCF

The following facts about volunteer firefighters and fire departments, bear out the reality of the growing dependence on volunteer firefighters and the decline in the number of volunteers, which stresses the important need for your support of these hometown heroes:

- Of the fire departments registered with the National Fire Service Department Census, 87% of them are all volunteer or have some volunteers.
- Communities served by volunteer firefighters depend on them to be their first line of defense for many types of emergencies -- more than just fight fires.

o Approximately two-thirds of fire department responses are medical aid calls. (National Fire Protection Association)

- Most volunteer firefighters (95%) are in departments that protect fewer than 25,000 people and more than half are located in small, rural departments that protect fewer than 2,500 people. (NFPA)
- The time donated by volunteer firefighters saves localities across the country an estimated \$139.8 billion per year. (National Volunteer Fire Council)
- The number of volunteer firefighters in the United States has declined by about 12% since 1984. (NVFC)

o Major factors contributing to the decline include increased time demands, more rigorous training requirements, and the proliferation of two-income families whose members do not have time to volunteer. The two greatest sources of increased time demands are increased volume of emergency calls and increased training hours to comply with training standards.

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- While the number of volunteer firefighters is declining, the age of volunteer firefighters is increasing. (NVFC)
- Fire department call volumes continue to increase.
  - o Most fire departments across the country have experienced a steady increase in calls over the past two decades. This is a major source of the increased time demands on volunteer firefighters. The increase in calls, coupled with the decline in the number of volunteer firefighters, means that fire departments have to do more with less. Most of the increase is attributed to a sharp increase in the number of emergency medical calls and false alarms. (NVFC)
- Small and mid-sized communities rely heavily on volunteer firefighters.
  - o Small communities (populations under 10,000) across the U.S. are typically protected by all volunteer departments. Mid-sized communities (populations above 10,000) are typically served by combination volunteer and paid departments. Large communities (populations over 100,000) are most often protected by combination volunteer and paid departments that consist of primarily paid staff. (NVFC)

Source: Firehouse.com



Report Suspicious Activity to Local Authorities  
or Call 9-1-1 in Case of Emergency  
[shs.gov/see-something-say-something](https://shs.gov/see-something-say-something)

## We Get Letters

*The Oakland Volunteer Fire Company and its members would like to take this opportunity to thank your organization for the recent donations. This donation was used to purchase Knock Down Class (A) foam. This will be used for structural fire fighting. Our department has the only Compressed Air Foam fire fighting engine in the Southern part of Cambria County and Northern part of Somerset County. Again we want to thank your organization.*

Ronald Helsel  
Battalion Fire Chief  
Oakland Volunteer Fire Company  
Johnstown, PA

Kathy  
Geronimo-OK  
135423 APR 2

Thank you so much for your generous contribution after my home was destroyed by fire on Feb 12<sup>th</sup> of this year. After careful consideration I was able to purchase a very nice used bed room set to replace the one I lost in the fire. It is very nice to have a comfortable bed to sleep in again. There are no words to describe my gratitude. your generous gift encouraged my desire to move forward after this disaster.

Thank you so much  
Kathy

*Thank you for your donation. Being a volunteer fire department of approximately 36 members, we truly appreciate this. Not only do we respond to city calls but to calls within the county for mutual aid. Every little bit helps our department and is put to good use. Again, let me say thank you. We appreciate how you are helping departments with limit budgets.*

Greg Felty  
Fire Chief  
Grayson Fire Department  
Grayson, KY

*On behalf of Regions Hospital Foundation's Board of Directors, I thank you for your generous gift in support of Minnesota Family Burn Camp. This is the only family burn camp in the state and the only week-long family burn camp in the nation. A burn injury can be terribly traumatizing, both to child victims and their family members. Participating in the Minnesota Family Burn Camp can be crucial to the healing process, giving families of child burn survivors a chance to relax, have fun and be together while exchanging information and experiences with other families that face similar challenges. Your donation will directly influence the lives of families touched by burn injuries.*

*We give our thanks.*

Keevan J. Kosidowski  
Vice President  
Regions Hospital  
St. Paul, MN

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