



the *NHEDA Broadcaster*

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Committee of Merit Awards

On September 25, 2017 hundreds of members of the NH Fire service and their families packed the house at the Concord City Auditorium for the 26th annual New Hampshire Fire Service, and Emergency Medical Services Committee of Merit, and Academy Awards ceremony. This ceremony occurs each year to honor the men and woman of the NH Fire and EMS Communities for their actions in the preceding year. Recipients are recognized for "Years of Service" awards, Unit Citations, and Medal of Valor awards. I am honored to serve of the Committee of Merit, and represent NH Dispatchers in the fire service. I would encourage anyone who has an opportunity to include the Dispatchers in any awards ceremony to do so if possible. It is a great opportunity to recognize the Dispatchers for the involvement they have any call that results in an award.

The following NHEDA Members received awards at the ceremony this year.



Paul W. Sypek Medal of Valor (Posthumously)

Captain Steven Bomba
Lincoln Fire Department
Grafton County Sheriff's Office

40-49 Years of Service

Chief Philip Tirrell
Lempster Fire, SWNHDFMA
Chief James Hayes (ret.)
Gilford Fire, LRMFA

Lt. Kevin Kennedy

Fitzwilliam Fire, SWNHDFMA
Deputy Coordinator Richard Heinis (ret.)
LRMFA

50-59 Years of Service

Lt. Ed Mattson
Fitzwilliam Fire, SWNHDFMA

Lt. David Parker/Dispatcher Bonnie Canfield

Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid
Unit Citation



Along with Alton, Gilford, and Tuftonboro Fire Departments for their actions during a Multiple victim ice rescue in early 2017,

Lt. Paul D. Steele Jr./Dispatcher Erin Hannafin/Dispatcher Jake Poulin

Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid
NH Fire Service Committee of Merit, Telecommunications Medal
For their actions during a motor vehicle accident resulting extended extrication of multiple patients,
Three helicopter transports, and a Level 1 MCI Declaration

NHEDA should be extremely proud of the caliber of our members. Our members provide dedicated, selfless service to the residents and visitor of the State of NH every day with little to no recognition. Congratulations to all of the 2017 honorees.

Grafton County Lends A Helping Hand



For the second year, the Grafton County Sheriff's Office assisted the Berlin Police Department with providing their Command Trailer and additional personnel for mobile communications for two large-scale ATV events. On August 4 & 5 for the Jericho ATV Festival and September 22 & 23 for the Polaris Camp RZR ATV Event, personnel from the Grafton County Sheriff's Office, HSEM Field Rep Heidi Lawton and Berlin Police Department Communications Manager Jennifer Cloutier provided communications operations for all Public Safety involved in these events.



Upcoming Meetings & Trainings

Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at 10:00am – Monthly meeting and training to be held at Southwest District NH Fire Mutual Aid, 32 Vernon St, Keene. Training Topic is Fire Mobilization Plan.

Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at 10:00am – Monthly meeting and training at the IPOC, Smokey Bear Blvd, Concord. Training will be WebEOC. Stay tuned for registration details.

December— NHEDA and TERT Governing Body Annual Joint Meeting. Date & Location to Be Determined



Welcome to NHEDA's Newest Member

Kaitlin Varin—Grafton County Sheriff's Office



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The NHEDA Newsletter is produced monthly and available free of charge electronically. Go to www.nheda.org today for details on free membership and other benefits of belonging to NHEDA.

Any NHEDA member can contribute to the newsletter. Submit articles, photos, training announcements and your ideas for articles. Send material to newsletter@nheda.org

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Treasurer's Message



Welcome to the back page! This month I wanted to talk about our committees. NHEDA operates solely as a 100% volunteer organization. It's a lot of work done by a few dedicated people who want to see our profession grow as time marches on. I currently am a member of our Membership Committee, in which we handle, along with the secretary (who is our committee chair), membership applications, membership roster, this very newsletter, our social media profiles as well as any promotional materials that NHEDA puts out. We have a group of 4 of us, plus one additional newsletter editor. We have also started trying to use facebook live as a way to reach out to our membership that maybe can't make a monthly meeting/training. Be on the lookout for more facebook live events!

Our two other standing committees are *Training & Curriculum* and *Standards & Certification*. These two committees do a great amount of work that stand to make the greatest impact to our profession within the state in the future. Our training & curriculum committee sets forth the training schedule for the year, lines up host sites and coordinates which modules will be taught. They also develop and adjust the curriculum as needed and submits to the board for approval. As well as other projects and tasks as assigned.

Our Standards & Certification committee takes our approved standard and works on implementing it. We approved our standard a few years ago and in conjunction with our Training & Curriculum committee have worked on getting the modules approved and presented to our membership. They are currently working on an approval / sign off process for those who have completed all the trainings and developing a voluntary certification process. We held a meeting with many individuals at a state level to present our idea / standard and get feedback. We are taking their feedback and looking forward to implementing some of their ideas and suggestions.

Our long term goals for our organization included having some sort of certification for dispatchers in the state. We knew it would be a long road, but in the end it would be worth it. This is a new arena for us, not only as an organization, but as dispatchers. We need help though. Several key people have retired or plan on retiring in the next few years, and we need people now to help us achieve our organization's goals. Please consider helping out. We can't do this without you. Most of our committees meet via email. It's simple to do and very easy.

Help us make a positive change for the dispatching profession in the state of New Hampshire.

Cassie Leavitt