



## CFFCA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, December 8th, 2011

CFFCA President Jim White opened the regular CFFCA meeting at 12:04pm. Chaplain Josh Sauers [Winter Garden FR] gave a special Holiday Invocation and the remembrance of Pearl Harbor [70<sup>th</sup> anniversary] after asking for any prayer requests from those present. The invocation was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Special thanks were extended to John Pedalino for his dedicated door-duty assistance to the CFFCA Secretary/Treasurer in collecting the monthly lunch and 50/50 payments from those attending.

All in attendance were welcomed. The CFFCA Board of Directors and Officers were introduced and recognized for their services to the association.

**Member Agencies/Corp Partners Attending (15 Agencies + 14 Corp Partners):** Altamonte Springs, FDNY, State Fire Marshal Office, Tavares, Winter Garden, Central FL Fire Academy, Sanford, Lake Mary, Orange County, Leesburg, Winter Park, Lake County, Osceola County, Clermont, and Orlando. **Corporate:** The Hilton, Elkhart Brass, Bennett Fire, 1-800-Boardup, Wheeled Coach, Hall-Mark, Sutphen, Ten 8, Municipal Equipment, Physio Control, ETR, MSA, Blauer Manufacturing, and NAFECO. **Guest Agencies:** Lake Tech Fire Academy and Lake EMS.

**Members Present (30 Members + 12 Guests):** Steve Gaston, John Pedalino, Charlie Chapman, Joe Peters, Mac McGarry, Richard Keith, Kendall Gogarty, Bill McCorkle, Joshua Sauers, Richard Stilp, Jerry Ransom, Craig Haun, David Stonitsch, Thomas Rullo, Nate Gilman, Kevin Bowman, Jim White, Dan Miller, Susan Cote', Rick Fudge, Eric Klotz, Rich Collins, Bob Sorenson, David Kilbury, Peter Orlando, David Muar, John McCormick, John Miller, TJ Lyon, and Robert Boggus. **Guests:** Ron Williams [Lake Tech], Tina Winkler and Kim Stephens [Lake EMS], LaDonna Oney [1-800-Boardup], Miriam Erickson [1-800-Boardup], Bob Hutchinson [1-800-Boardup], Dee Daniels [Hall-Mark], Howard Chestnut [Sutphen], Monte Sims [Ten 8], Joe Bursi [MECO], Paul Hill [Bennett Fire], and Brian Canberry [ETR].

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**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FOR GOOD OF THE ORGANIZATION:** By special request and approval of the Board, Central Florida Fire Academy Director Rick Stilp and Lake Tech Fire Academy Director Ron Williams addressed the membership with regards to a current rule making issue impacting funding vs. approved instructional hours at local academies. The Board of Directors on behalf of the membership will be presenting a LETTER OF SUPPORT to the Firefighters Employment Standards and Training Council for recruit training hours to remain at 450 hours which is inclusive of physical training testing and course review work. Language should be clear and consistent both in the Rule and the certification form to remove any conflicts in the interpretation of hours approved for payment by Department of Education. Currently, the DOE interprets the rule as only 398 hours – NOT the 450 hours.

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At the Call of the CFFCA President, the normal CFFCA business-meeting format was SUSPENDED to accommodate the holiday social setting and allow additional time for our Corporate Partner Appreciation Award presentations. The normal business-meeting format will resume at the next CFFCA business meeting on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

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**Buffet Lunch Served**

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### **CFFCA Program:**

President White thanked our CFFCA Corporate Partners for their attendance and support of CFFCA and its mission over the 2011 year.

Each attending corporate partner (or their designated representative) was presented with an appreciation award from President White [Vice President Chief Jerry Ransom assisting] on behalf of the CFFCA Board of Directors and the general membership. Awards were based on membership level of membership [1<sup>st</sup> Alarm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm, or 3<sup>rd</sup> Alarm Partners]. Pictures were taken of each presentation. The pictures will be posted on the CFFCA web page on the GALLERY Page. Those corporate partners unable to attend will have their appreciation awards shipped to their designated mailing addresses, unless otherwise directed.

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The 50/50 Drawing was held (\$120 pot) with \$60 to the winning ticket holder [name not recorded in minutes]. The remaining \$60 will be deposited in the CFFCA treasury.

As a longstanding CFFCA tradition, President White called for a “special holiday tip” to be left on the tables in appreciation of the Hilton food and beverage hospitality staff – in addition, to the normal gratuity. The CFFCA members in attendance were again very gracious in this regard. The hospitality servers were very complimentary and appreciative of this kind and thoughtful gesture. President White also presented the Hilton hospitality staff [Nevenka, Elvira, and Diane] with \$50 gift cards.

Program concluded at 1:15pm. President White extended a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all...