

Aurora Fire Department's 150th Anniversary



Badge Ceremony and Firefighter Memorial Service

1:00pm, Sunday June 25, 2006 • Aurora Fire Department Headquarters • Aurora, IL

“Firemen are going to get killed. When they join the department they face that fact. When a man becomes a fireman his greatest act of bravery has been accomplished. What he does after that is all in the line of work.”

— Chief Edward F. Croker, FDNY, speaking upon
the death of a deputy chief and four
firefighters in February of 1908



On May 9th, 1929 the Aurora Fire Department suffered its first “line of duty” firefighter fatality. Captain Barney Weiler of Fire Company 4 was tragically killed while fighting a fire at the Orpheum Building located then on the block of 79-93 Main Street which is now known as Galena Blvd. A plaque dedicated to honor Captain Weiler has been placed at the location to let us not forget his last alarm.



On January 11th, 1934 the Aurora Fire Department sustained a devastating loss of three firefighters at the Woolworth 5 and 10 Cent store located at 19 & 21 Broadway Street. Captain Herbert Reiss of No. 4 Company, Captain John Petersohn and Firefighter Charles Hoffman both from No. 5 Company fell in the line of duty when an exterior wall collapsed down upon them taking their lives. A plaque dedicated to honor these fine men has been placed at the location to let us not forget their last alarm.

Opening Remarks

Speaker: Mayor of Aurora Tom Weisner
Speaker: Fire Chief of Aurora Tim Oelker

Retiree Badge Presentation

To help celebrate the fire departments 150th anniversary, a commemorative badge has been designed and issued to all current firefighters. The badge is a replica of the one worn by Aurora firefighters during the first half of the 20th century, and bear a number signifying each paid members seniority. In 1875 Adam Schoeberlein joined the Aurora Fire Department. By the turn of the 20th century he became one of the first of Aurora's paid firefighters giving him the honor of having badge number one. Since then, a total of 548 paid firefighters have protected and served the citizens of Aurora. To honor the 102 surviving retirees, on this day we would like to present them with a badge that will become a part of their family for generations to come.

Speaker: Assistant Chief John Lehman

Aurora Fire Department Honor Guard reciting the retirees firefighters names

Prayer Service

Presiding: Pastor Rygh

Tolling of the Bell Ceremony

The "Tolling of the Bell Ceremony" is a tradition at a fallen firefighter's funeral. During the tour of a firefighters shift a bell which has now gave way to a more modernized alerting system sends the signal that a call for help is needed. Day in and day out firefighters all over the world place themselves in harms way to protect the lives and property of their fellow man. At the conclusion of the alarm, it was the bell that would signify that the call is complete and the units would be returning to quarters. This returning to quarter's signal, the tolling of the bell is now the means of sending a fallen firefighter home to their final resting place. They are returning to quarters for the last time. Their tour has been completed.

Reading of the Bell Ceremony: Randy Kramp, AFD Honor Guard Member

Dedication of Future Site of the Aurora Firefighters Memorial Park

Speaker: Assistant Chief John Lehman

Plaque Dedication Ceremony for the Aurora Firefighters Killed in the Line of Duty

Compiling this list of paid members of the Aurora Fire Department was a tremendous undertaking. Previous sonority lists, newspaper articles and fire department annual reports were used, yet often these sources contained conflicting information. We apologies for any inaccuracies and will strive to correct them in future versions of this historical record.

We present below, in order based upon seniority, the 548 men and woman who have served as paid members of the Aurora, Illinois Fire Department.

- # 1 1875 Chief Adam Schoeberlein
- # 2 1876 Capt. Frank Woolson
- # 3 1878 Chief George Rang
- # 4 1881 Chief Herman J Lohmann
- # 5 1882 Fred G. Muschler
- # 6 1882 Capt. William J. Muschler
- # 7 1885 Capt. Oscar P. Woodward
- # 8 1887 Capt. Lorenzo Tabor
- # 9 1892 Theodore Barney
- # 10 1892 George Biltgen
- # 11 1893 Phillip Ready
- # 12 1894 Capt. Lewis Rees
- # 13 1894 Asst. Chief Thomas Lamb
- # 14 1894 Asst. Chief Henry Hamsmith
- # 15 1895 Richard Nixon
- # 16 1895 M. B. Olinger
- # 17 1895 Mike O'Neil
- # 18 1895 J. S. Schmidt
- # 19 1898 Capt. William T. Jacobs
- # 20 1898 Capt. Bernard Weiler
- # 21 1898 Henry Steinmetz
- # 22 1900 Capt. Sam DeFrates
- # 23 1901 Lawrence J. Maloney
- # 24 1905 Capt. Jessie Bird
- # 25 1905 Henry A. O'Hara
- # 26 1905 William Greenaway
- # 27 1905 Charles Chase
- # 28 1905 Gerald Wolsfelt
- # 29 1906 Capt. George W. Lowe
- # 30 1906 Nick Krenwimkie
- # 31 1906 August Mehnert
- # 32 1906 Albert Retterer
- # 33 1906 Casper J. "Gus" Meisch
- # 34 1906 John Paulus
- # 35 1906 Capt. Valentine Schilitz
- # 36 1906 Henry Gabielson
- # 37 1907 Thomas Haggerty
- # 38 1907 John Bird
- # 39 1907 Lawrence Kartheiser
- # 40 1907 Capt. Charles Schroeder
- # 41 1907 Phil Reedy
- # 42 1907 James Coleman
- # 43 1907 Charles Garbe
- # 44 1907 Leonard Linter
- # 45 1907 Antony Brugger
- # 46 1907 George Mallory
- # 47 1908 J. G. Slater
- # 48 1908 Chief Edward J. Ryan



- # 49 1908 Lt. Joseph P. Eye
- # 50 1908 Chief Lloyd Gramley
- # 51 1909 Andrew Gering
- # 52 1909 Hugo Pruter
- # 53 1909 Fred Ziech
- # 54 1909 J. W. Quick
- # 55 1909 William F. Becker
- # 56 1909 Frank Sperry
- # 57 1910 Elmer Shaw
- # 58 1910 Godfrey Dumont
- # 59 1910 John Freke
- # 60 1910 Asst. Chief Nicholas Schmit
- # 61 1910 Frank Kramer
- # 62 1911 Capt. John Petersohn
- # 63 1911 William Rottsolk
- # 64 1911 Otto Ziech
- # 65 1911 Capt. Edward W. Bettcher
- # 66 1911 William Froelich
- # 67 1911 George Baltazor
- # 68 1912 George F. Bettcher
- # 69 1912 Asst. Chief Carl Patterson
- # 70 1912 John Kramp
- # 71 1912 Anthony G. Burgholzer
- # 72 1913 Nick Petesch
- # 73 1913 Walter Wilson
- # 74 1913 Ed Tasted
- # 75 1913 Alfred S Miller
- # 76 1914 Harry Cramer
- # 77 1914 William A. Falk
- # 78 1914 Harry J. Waltz

- # 79 1914 Capt. William Mende
- # 80 1915 Harold Christian
- # 81 1916 Lt. Herman Rottsolk
- # 82 1916 Capt. Bert Schoo
- # 83 1916 Firefighter Emil Schoo
- # 84 1916 Tom Richardsn
- # 85 1916 Albert Burgholzer
- # 86 1916 Capt. Herbert Reiss
- # 87 1916 Capt. Robert C. Bauman
- # 88 1916 Charles F. Hoffman
- # 89 1917 Harry Carpentier
- # 90 1917 Herbert P. Meyer
- # 91 1917 Firefighter Paul Reiss
- # 92 1917 John Erber
- # 93 1918 Asst. Chief John Kinney
- # 94 1918 Frank J. Cooper
- # 95 1918 Matt Hanks
- # 96 1918 Joseph Cline
- # 97 1918 Michael Zelensek
- # 98 1918 Edward Bonifas
- # 99 1923 Asst. Chief Louis Bauman
- # 100 1923 Frank Woodward
- # 101 1923 Charles M. Hoffman
- # 102 1923 Firefighter Ernest W. Benter
- # 103 1923 Lt. Edwin Johnston
- # 104 1924 Capt. John Wells
- # 105 1924 Bernard Meisch
- # 106 1925 John Meyer
- # 107 1925 Capt. William J. Wilkening
- # 108 1925 Fire Inspector Harry Bouk
- # 109 1925 Lt. Lyle Brown
- # 110 1926 Capt. Rudolph J. Malaker
- # 111 1926 Asst. Chief William Ernest
- # 112 1926 Henry Bock
- # 113 1927 Martin J. Carpentier
- # 114 1927 Capt. Adolph Meisch
- # 115 1928 Lt. William J. Buckley
- # 116 1929 Clarence Krietz
- # 117 1929 John Sr. Riley
- # 118 1929 Arthur Moos
- # 119 1930 Capt. Edward E. Baum
- # 120 1930 Adrian L. Ayersman
- # 121 1930 Lt. David Hickey
- # 122 1931 John Kellen
- # 123 1931 Chief "Walter "Pat" Hannon
- # 124 1934 Chief Carl H. Numrich
- # 125 1934 Asst. Chief Herbert Hoffman
- # 126 1935 Asst. Chief Charles Cassidy

127 1935 Milton Bauman
 # 128 1935 John Coughlin
 # 129 1935 Alfred C. Wilson
 # 130 1936 Paul Caltry
 # 131 1936 Anthony W. Tuma
 # 132 1942 Asst. Chief Elmer L. Heim
 # 133 1942 Chief Erwin J Bauman
 # 134 1942 Robert J. Beallis
 # 135 1942 Capt. Carl J. Zilly
 # 136 1942 Lt. Henry A. Kresser
 # 137 1942 Gus Nadelhoffer
 # 138 1943 Capt. Harold E. Schoeberlein
 # 139 1943 Lt. George F. Tannenbaum
 # 140 1943 Lt. Harry J. Tannenbaum
 # 141 1944 Richard Modaff
 # 142 1944 Lt. Robert E. Patterson
 # 143 1944 Francis McMahon
 # 144 1944 Capt. George Popp
 # 145 1944 Capt. Peter Schafer
 # 146 1945 Nick Sytar
 # 147 1945 Lt. George C. Vaghy
 # 148 1947 Capt. Robert E. Fatten
 # 149 1947 Chief Ralph T. Kramp
 # 150 1948 Robert Baum
 # 151 1948 Asst. Chief Norman C. Buhmann
 # 152 1949 Lester A. Hilger
 # 153 1950 Firefighter Theodore Lungren
 # 154 1950 Capt. Richard H. Wagner
 # 155 1950 Chief John R Mangers
 # 156 1950 Firefighter John E. Riley
 # 157 1950 Fire Marshall Glenn Zelensek
 # 158 1950 Lt. Walter Dabney
 # 159 1950 John F. Aister
 # 160 1950 Firefighter Royal F. Smith
 # 161 1951 Lt. John F. Perkins
 # 162 1951 Robert Stiegleiter
 # 163 1952 Asst. Chief Dale E. Plott
 # 164 1952 Asst. Chief Donald Kramp
 # 165 1952 Robert W. Beidlel
 # 166 1952 Capt. Arthur Sr Stiegleiter
 # 167 1952 Firefighter David A. Tabor
 # 168 1952 Firefighter Robert V. Marks
 # 169 1952 Firefighter William D. Shafer
 # 170 1953 Melvin H. Weiss
 # 171 1953 Firefighter Charles Assell
 # 172 1953 Lt. Dean F. Poirel
 # 173 1953 Lt. Ronald Woodward
 # 174 1953 Lt. Joseph Becker
 # 175 1954 Lt. Albert Q. Pozzi
 # 176 1954 Firefighter Richard Scholtz
 # 177 1954 Lt. Ronald Edwards
 # 178 1954 Capt. Kurt F. Weber
 # 179 1955 Donald J. Dodson
 # 180 1955 Asst. Chief Harold Lieser
 # 181 1955 Asst. Chief James Pini
 # 182 1955 Capt. Lloyd Lage
 # 183 1955 Theofil (Theo.) Lazar

184 1956 Robert Miller
 # 185 1956 William Meszaros
 # 186 1956 James J Hannon
 # 187 1956 Charles Hausmann
 # 188 1956 Curtis J. Holst
 # 189 1956 Arthur Smith
 # 190 1956 Ronald C. Benter
 # 191 1956 Firefighter John A. Oros
 # 192 1956 William N. Jacobs
 # 193 1956 Lt. William D. Glass
 # 194 1956 Lt. Victor Oros
 # 195 1956 Capt. Earnest Donka
 # 196 1956 Firefighter Donald Futymoski
 # 197 1956 Joel F. Masur
 # 198 1956 Firefighter Thomas Wagner
 # 199 1956 Daniel D. Dolan
 # 200 1956 Asst. Chief Dale Baum
 # 201 1956 Asst. Chief Steve V. OrosSr.
 # 202 1956 Inspector Nicholas Nagy
 # 203 1957 Ralph W. Butler
 # 204 1957 Albert Barilla



205 1957 Jack Schaefer
 # 206 1957 Capt. James C. Tews
 # 207 1957 Lt. Louis Oros
 # 208 1957 Capt. Charles O Goodwin
 # 209 1957 Lt. Charles Butts
 # 210 1957 Burdette H. Enger
 # 211 1957 Firefighter Joseph Casey
 # 212 1957 Firefighter Irwin Allen
 # 213 1957 Capt. Wayne Plant
 # 214 1957 firefighter Frank Meszaros
 # 215 1957 Lt. Thomas P. Neary
 # 216 1957 Lt. Robert L. Kirner.
 # 217 1957 Firefighter Harold Thielman
 # 218 1957 Firefighter Walter Seifrid
 # 219 1957 Firefighter Arthur L. Mauer
 # 220 1957 Lt. Robert D. Molnar
 # 221 1957 Capt. William F. Baumann
 # 222 1957 Firefighter Warren Humiston

223 1957 Capt. Ralph Wagner
 # 224 1958 Firefighter Martin J. Sorensen
 # 225 1959 Capt. Louis Morse
 # 226 1959 Firefighter Thomas A. Schuster
 # 227 1959 Lt. Robert Drennen
 # 228 1959 Richard E. Biertz
 # 229 1961 Ronald R Miller
 # 230 1961 Firefighter Robert Watkins
 # 231 1962 Asst. Chief Paul Medgyesi
 # 232 1962 Firefighter Arthur Stiegleiter Jr.
 # 233 1962 Asst. Chief Richard Mikus
 # 234 1962 Capt. Richard K. Johnson
 # 235 1963 Lt. Richard D. Arend
 # 236 1964 Firefighter Kenneth Claesson
 # 237 1964 Capt. Thomas Glass
 # 238 1965 Lt. William C. Hewitt
 # 239 1965 Warren G. Holmes
 # 240 1965 Asst. Chief Florian "John" Groesch
 # 241 1966 Firefighter Dale Lipke
 # 242 1966 Chief Gerald "Jerry" Stevens
 # 243 1966 Asst. Chief John A. West
 # 244 1966 Firefighter Donald Horner
 # 245 1966 Firefighter Herbert R. Hewitt
 # 246 1967 Ronald F. Clark
 # 247 1967 Firefighter Delbert Dittman
 # 248 1968 Richard Shipley
 # 249 1968 Lt. Joseph Winston
 # 250 1969 Lt. Howard Hall
 # 251 1969 Firefighter James Wilkie
 # 252 1969 Chief John Angell
 # 253 1971 Lt. William Borders
 # 254 1971 Fire Marshall John W. Kearns
 # 255 1972 Lt. John Hatcher
 # 256 1973 Capt. Joseph E. Parlow
 # 257 1973 Asst. Chief Gary Strong
 # 258 1973 Asst. Chief Thomas Brady
 # 259 1973 Lt. Dennis Boyd
 # 260 1973 Firefighter Gary P. Allen
 # 261 1973 Fire Marshall Jack Smith
 # 262 1973 Lt. William Benoit
 # 263 1973 Firefighter Leandrew Tolliver
 # 264 1973 Firefighter Omar H. Avalos
 # 265 1973 Capt. Dave Valentine
 # 266 1973 Lt. Daniel Dodson
 # 267 1973 Battalion Chief Daniel Wallis
 # 268 1973 Fire Marshall Kent Becker
 # 269 1973 Asst. Chief Douglas Rishel
 # 270 1973 Lt. Lawrence Dixon
 # 271 1973 Lt. Kenneth Michels
 # 272 1973 Lt. Richard Jr. Whipple.
 # 273 1974 Asst. Chief E. Scott Hanks
 # 274 1974 Chief Roger Probst
 # 275 1974 Firefighter Raymond Beach
 # 276 1974 Lt. Steven Glass
 # 277 1974 Lt. Robert Wehrs
 # 278 1974 Battalion Chief Fredrick Dusell
 # 279 1974 Firefighter Albert May

280 1975 Lt. Paul Mackinney
 # 281 1975 Battalion Chief Brad Westrom
 # 282 1975 Firefighter Edward Nations
 # 283 1975 Lt. John P. Moisa
 # 284 1975 Capt. James R. Pyle
 # 285 1975 Capt. Ronald A. Urbealis
 # 286 1975 Firefighter Terry Cole
 # 287 1975 Firefighter Eddie Warren
 # 288 1975 Firefighter Vernon Johnson
 # 289 1976 Battalion Chief Dale Hoorelbek
 # 290 1976 Firefighter Glenn A. Rice
 # 291 1976 Capt. Charles Bruce Shire
 # 292 1976 Capt. Jeffrey Mackey
 # 293 1976 Battalion Chief Robert Lukach
 # 294 1976 Fire Marshall Martin Kunkel
 # 295 1976 Firefighter John Morales
 # 296 1976 Firefighter Richard Bargholz
 # 297 1976 Capt. Raymond Pfeiffer
 # 298 1976 Lt. Robert Gilcrest
 # 299 1977 Asst. Chief William Rechenmacher
 # 300 1977 Battalion Chief James Bergeron
 # 301 1977 Firefighter Fred Winters
 # 302 1977 Battalion Chief Michael Buckley
 # 303 1977 Firefighter James O'Malley
 # 304 1977 Lt. David Strobert
 # 305 1977 Gerald Hudson
 # 306 1978 Firefighter Thomas Velasquez
 # 307 1978 Capt. Allen Judd
 # 308 1978 Firefighter David "Mark" Wozniak
 # 309 1978 Battalion Chief Kenneth Kriegbaum
 # 310 1978 Franklin Kryszewski
 # 311 1979 Chief Timothy Oelker
 # 312 1979 Firefighter Gary Pozzi
 # 313 1979 Firefighter Kevin Wolsfelt
 # 314 1979 Firefighter Steve Fuller
 # 315 1979 Andrew Frasz
 # 316 1979 Lt. Luther McDougale
 # 317 1979 Firefighter Peter Hoffman
 # 318 1980 Battalion Chief John Renninger
 # 319 1980 Reginald Daniels
 # 320 1980 Gregory Benson
 # 321 1980 Firefighter Wayne Sorensen
 # 322 1981 David Watson
 # 323 1981 Capt. Daniel McCue
 # 324 1981 Russell Glass
 # 325 1981 Richard Baxter
 # 326 1981 Louis Popp
 # 327 1981 Robert Bruns
 # 328 1982 Thomas Polarek
 # 329 1982 Charles Martin
 # 330 1982 Firefighter Scott Vance
 # 331 1982 Firefighter Robert M. Coyle
 # 332 1982 Lawrence Hankes
 # 333 1982 Timothy Bradley
 # 334 1982 Hal Carlson
 # 335 1982 Donald Jackson
 # 336 1982 Gerald Gallagher

337 1982 Firefighter Robert Moran
 # 338 1983 Thomas Fetzter
 # 339 1983 Michael Frieders
 # 340 1983 Randolph Brokaw
 # 341 1983 Firefighter Albert Cinto
 # 342 1983 Richard Sander
 # 343 1983 Mike Smith
 # 344 1983 Thomas Jr. Wagner
 # 345 1983 Norbert Weber
 # 346 1983 Lt. Gerald Womack
 # 347 1983 Richard Lockman
 # 348 1983 John Becker
 # 349 1983 Steven Malatia
 # 350 1983 Donald Neubauer
 # 351 1983 Firefighter Bruce Stedry
 # 352 1984 Gary Avram
 # 353 1984 Charles White
 # 354 1984 Edward Oros
 # 355 1984 Martin O'Brien
 # 356 1984 Firefighter Dave Prudden



357 1984 Michael Chomiak.
 # 358 1984 Firefighter Phillip Gruca
 # 359 1984 John Schick
 # 360 1985 Kenneth Shannon
 # 361 1985 Charles Harris
 # 362 1985 Clarence Gilchrist
 # 363 1985 Gregory Peters
 # 364 1985 Anthony Schoen
 # 365 1985 Lt. Paul Segaila
 # 366 1986 Donald Jackley
 # 367 1986 Gerald Groesch
 # 368 1986 Joseph Bartholomew
 # 369 1986 John Fahey
 # 370 1986 David Rygh
 # 371 1987 Mark Robinson
 # 372 1987 Ronald Thomalla
 # 373 1987 Michael McCue
 # 374 1987 Fire Marshall Gary Pozzi
 # 375 1987 Matthew Perez
 # 376 1987 John Lehman
 # 377 1987 Brian Thanepohn
 # 378 1987 Gregory Mewmaw

379 1987 Joseph Franzen
 # 380 1988 Charles VanHorn
 # 381 1988 Steve Jr. Oros
 # 382 1988 Cary Lieser
 # 383 1988 Stephen Whitmer
 # 384 1988 Michael Zelensek
 # 385 1988 Timothy Warren
 # 386 1988 Tony Nelson
 # 387 1989 Thomas M. Greiner
 # 388 1989 John T. Jr. Nolan
 # 389 1989 Robert L. Jr Wirtz
 # 390 1989 Dennis J. Schmitz
 # 391 1989 James E. Maynard
 # 392 1989 Kevin S. Kubisak
 # 393 1989 Harvey A. Redmon
 # 394 1989 Edward J. Ward
 # 395 1989 Donald M. Davids
 # 396 1989 Daniel B. Konen
 # 397 1989 Charles P. Faivre
 # 398 1989 John P. Gilbert
 # 399 1989 Stephen J. Weatherly
 # 400 1989 Patrick A. Stiles
 # 401 1989 Mark E. Lockwood
 # 402 1989 Gregory W. Frieders
 # 403 1990 John Meckley
 # 404 1990 James E. Lobbins
 # 405 1990 Jack Westphall
 # 406 1990 Darryl Phipps
 # 407 1990 James Rufer
 # 408 1990 Andrew Silagyi
 # 409 1991 Eric Mueller
 # 410 1991 Timothy Schomer
 # 411 1991 Charles Wonderling
 # 412 1991 Steven F. Matthias
 # 413 1991 Brian Youhanaie
 # 414 1991 Robert Campbell
 # 415 1991 Peter Campbell
 # 416 1992 John Hopkins
 # 417 1992 Aaron Garcia
 # 418 1992 Cletus Rettenmeier
 # 419 1994 Toby Gill
 # 420 1994 Steven Szilage
 # 421 1994 Edward Heitz
 # 422 1994 Jesse Blackmond
 # 423 1994 Edward Clark
 # 424 1994 Darrin Richardson
 # 425 1994 Randall Kramp
 # 426 1994 Steve Chivari
 # 427 1994 Dan Aloisio
 # 428 1994 Lawrence Nelson
 # 429 1994 Kevin Noble
 # 430 1994 Angelo Minneci
 # 431 1994 Christopher Oros
 # 432 1994 Timothy Pogue
 # 433 1994 David Lumbert
 # 434 1994 John Barrett
 # 435 1994 David Trammell

436 1994 Luanne Murray
437 1995 Glen Hasenheyer
438 1995 Randy Rieckert
439 1995 Ross Leslie
440 1995 Charles Przybylski
441 1995 Mark Classen
442 1995 Charles G. McMannis
443 1995 David Hurd
444 1995 John Paul
445 1995 John Nagy
446 1995 Peter Doyle
447 1996 John A. Jackson
448 1996 Robert L. Dunn
449 1996 Jerry J. Knizek
450 1996 Clint A. Rafac
451 1996 Wilfredo Jr. Torres
452 1996 Roman Azua
453 1996 Gregory A. Jackman
454 1996 William K. Nutter
455 1996 William King
456 1996 Alberto Torres
457 1996 Randy N. Durham
458 1996 Kenneth E. Dudley
459 1996 Raymond G. Garner
460 1996 Robert E. Warren
461 1996 Craig A. Mateski
462 1996 Mark J. Matkovich
463 1996 Brian S. Radde
464 1996 Robert L. Chance
465 1996 Stephen K. Kish
466 1997 Eric L. Calkins
467 1997 Matthew W. Lichtenberger
468 1997 Rafael Alvarez
469 1997 Ricardo Torres
470 1997 Daniel A. Darce
471 1997 Stephen A. Milakis
472 1997 Jason Demas
473 1997 Kevin M. Becker
474 1997 Jeremy J. Allway
475 1997 Javan J. Cross
476 1997 David A. McCabe
477 1997 Daniel J. Osman
478 1997 Gary N. Krienitz
479 1997 Robert E. Kulovitz
480 1997 Steven N. Buono
481 1997 Jeffrey A. Herrick
482 1997 Daniel J. Kveton
483 1998 Allen R. Grobe
484 1998 Mark A. Tate
485 1998 Scott L. Keierleber
486 1998 Randall J. Leek
487 1998 Jerald M. White
488 1998 Christopher E. Kjellesvik
489 1998 James Podbregar
490 1998 Rene M. Torres
491 1998 Robert B. Strange
492 1998 Brett D. Svendsen

493 1998 Juan F. Jr. Gomez
494 1998 Charles E. Niemeier
495 1998 Dwayne A. Love
496 1999 Jason Morthland
497 1999 Nathan Costner
498 1999 Philip Bergeron
499 1999 Kristopher Tappendorf
500 1999 Carlos Coronado
501 2000 Aaron Stawikowski
502 2000 Jeffrey Smitley
503 2000 Mark Long
504 2000 Jason Larson
505 2000 Jason Smith
506 2000 Brandon Matson
507 2000 Paul Smith
508 2000 Kevin Molitor
509 2000 James Rhodes
510 2001 Kevin Nickel
511 2001 Jason Mosshamer
512 2001 Peter Bray
513 2001 John Bonior
514 2001 Matthew Anslow

536 2004 James Desomer
537 2004 Michael Eley
538 2004 Robin Krantz
539 2004 Daniel Stroup
540 2004 Marcos Coronado
541 2005 Abraham Sprinkle
542 2005 Michael Hess
543 2005 Jeff Dehler
544 2005 Michael Kaufman
545 2005 Thomas Shore
546 2005 Robert Sittler
547 2005 Daniel Bateman
548 2005 Keith O'Donnell



515 2001 Jason Equi
516 2001 Felix Coronado
517 2001 Scott Schuster
518 2002 Steve Wedll
519 2002 Joe Bledsoe
520 2002 John Ross
521 2002 John Eul
522 2002 Corey Fryer
523 2002 Dave Heinke
524 2003 Shawn Toso
525 2003 Christopher Prieboy
526 2003 Steven Jr. Szilage
527 2003 Tomas Contreras
528 2003 Christopher Temes
529 2004 Timothy Bergeron
530 2004 Shawn Hagie
531 2004 Steven Koeberl
532 2004 Shawn Clements
533 2004 Alan Backhaus
534 2004 Daniel Ahasic
535 2004 Todd McChurch

THE MARTYRED FIREMAN

By Frank J. Ottarson

Fold gently o'er his silent breast
The honored badge he wore in death,
And reverent lay to peaceful rest —
With tearful eyes and bated breath --
The hero who nor shrunk nor quailed
When bravest hearts from terror failed,
When "Backward!" from the tottering wall —
"Back for your lives !" was cried by all.
But he nor feared, nor saw, nor heard,
He would not hear the backward word;
The path of duty lay before;
The fireman's badge he proudly wore
Would blush for shame if one should say
He shrank from danger. "Clear the way!"
Up to the front the hero came
To battle face to face with flame.
One thought he gave to hearts at home,
And eyes that laughed to see him come;
But "Duty, duty !" was the cry --
'Twas duty now to do or die,
He dashed the unbidden tear away,
And foremost led the dangerous fray;
The high wall tottered all aflame:
Then, like an avalanche, it came
Down thundering to the quaking ground,
And built the martyr's funeral mound
A shriek of horror! Like a flash
To work his brave companions dash;
With blistering hands they tear the pile —

Their hushed hearts beating low the while —
And soon with streaming eyes they bear
The martyr to the cool night air
Too late! The fatal work is done!
His crown of fame is dearly won;
Crushed by the cruel wall he lies,
Stern duty's latest sacrifice.

The victim of the battle's strife
Lives in our hearts a second life;
But who the unarmed hero knows,
Who, like this fireman, graveward goes
Contented, in a peaceful sphere —
To live without reproach or fear,
To do all that becomes a man,
And fill the grand though humble plan
By Heaven ordained? Shalt we forget
The hero whose bruised body yet
Seems quick with life? Let banners wave
O'er martyrs in a warrior's grave;
Here needs no muffled drum nor crepe;
Our very hearts to-day we drape
With sorrow, and sit down to mourn
The hero who will ne'er return.
Lay him to rest; his work is o'er;
Nor sins nor sorrows vex him more;
He filled the Maker's grandest plan,
And when he died he died for man,

— printed in "The Fireman's Journal" April 2, 1881

