

2014 Buxton Fire-Rescue Annual Awards Recipients

Junior Firefighter of the Year



The Junior Firefighter of the Year has been a member with our department since he has been able to, and actively responds with Groveville Station. This past spring this individual graduated from Bonny Eagle High School after completing his normal studies and additional studies in the vocational field of welding. In the past year he has completed an in-house Firefighter 2 program, and has just completed an EMT-Basic Class. He has been accepted as freshman to Southern Maine

Community College in South Portland where he will study Fire Science, and has also been selected as a Student Live in, where he will continue his education, training and gain experience while living and responding from Groveville Station. As you can see, this individual is driven, and has been able to stay on top of his studies and able to build on his training as a young firefighter, and soon as an EMT.

I am pleased to present the Junior Firefighter of the Year Award to Firefighter Brandon Redlon.

Firefighter of the Year 2014



This years award goes to a very dedicated person who has shown himself to be a great asset to the department as a whole and not just to a specific station. He faithfully attends trainings, work details, and station meetings at all three stations. On scene he is always there to lend a hand whether it's a structure fire or just a simple lines down call. He comes back after calls and helps get things back in service. He has a family oriented mindset and is always seen with his sidekick in tow. This years

firefighter of the year award goes to: Bill Roberts.

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Fire Police Member of the Year



The Fire Police Member of the Year has been a dedicated member of our department, and has held leadership positions as high as Captain of the Fire Police Unit. When I became Chief, he was the Fire Police Captain, and made it clear to me that he did not need to be the Captain, and if someone else wanted the job, he would work with them to the best of his abilities to make sure that the transition went well. To quote the award nomination:

“He responds to most calls, attends fire police training as well as fire department training. When responding to a Structure Fire Route on 202, He was the first Fire Police on scene and announced he was closing the road at Watermen and 202, and let us know where he was, and what he was doing. This allowed for the next Fire Police to close the road at 22 and 202. He always dresses full PPE: pants, jacket with vest and helmet, a natural leader setting a standard for all to follow. He is also a mentor for new members, and sets a great example.”

I am pleased to present the Fire Police of the Year Award to Fire Police Officer Don Stack.

Officer of the Year



For officer of the year I would like to nominate LT. Mike Roberts. He was asked to step up and fill the role of Captain of Chicopee Station while Captain Grant was on active duty. He did so knowing that it was on an interim basis and faultlessly executed his duties rising to the occasion. He dealt with all issues in a timely manner and demonstrated a high level professionalism and leadership. He organized several details to improve and clean up the station. LT Roberts has a high level of pride for Chicopee station and the department as a whole and it showed

in his commitment to serve as intern Captain over the past year.

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Although I have been away and was unable to witness firsthand the accomplishments of Lt. Roberts performance, I would like to nominate him as Officer of the year. The reports I have received from you, the two deputy chiefs and other members of the department have been nothing but exceptional. His tireless work ethic and handling of day to day operations in my absence have been greatly noted and in my opinion makes him worthy of this award.

Unit Citation

“They are ON FIRE”



That is how this group of people has been described in the last couple of months. This group of members has spent hours training and preparing to protect themselves and our first responders as we all respond to and handle emergency calls. This group of members has the most thankless job of them all, standing in the street on a cold winter night away from the scene, directing traffic, and often times,

because they have done such a nice job shutting down traffic and protecting those at a scene, they are forgotten about.

This past year, with the units leadership, they have begun a mentoring program for new members, have prepared go bags for each member to bring to a scene, and have prepared they members by “testing” new PPE, including orange gloves Vs. yellow gloves for higher visibility. All members of this unit are willing to speak up and are willing to make their job safer and more efficient, which in turn protects our firefighters, EMT’s, and our police, and enable them to worry about the emergency at hand.

The increased professionalism, the commitment to duty, and the units leadership ability, both formal and informal, should be a lesson to all of us that, the status quo is not acceptable, and that we all need to be thinking about better ways to do our jobs, to ensure we all go home at the end of the day.

I am pleased to present the Fire Police Unit with a Unit Citation for their continued commitment, professionalism, and dedication to the safety of our first responders and to the Town of Buxton.