

# Warwick Firefighters Retirees Association



## CHRISTMAS DINNER MEETING DECEMBER 6TH

Monday 7 PM  
February 7th

Saint Patrick's Day  
Dinner March 7th.

Monday 7 PM  
April 4 th

Monday 7PM  
May 2nd

Monday 7PM  
June 6th

**CHECK OUR WEB  
SITE @ WARCIK-  
FIREMENSASSOCI  
ATION.COM for up  
to date events.**

## Superintendent Of Fire Alarm John (Jack) Ciesynski

It is with deep regret and sadness to report the passing of brother firefighter John Ciesynski. Jack died on December 22, 2010, after losing a long battle with cancer.

Jack lived in Fort Myers, Florida, with his wife, Gaye Ciesynski. His good friend, brother firefighter, Jack Lopez, would from time to time keep us informed regarding Jack's illness. He was appointed to the Department on July 22, 1968, and he retired from the Warwick Fire Department on July 26, 1992, as the Superintendent of Fire Alarm.

For those who worked with or knew Jack, you will always remember him as a mild, good humored friend and firefighter. Jack was an involved with the Warwick Fire Department softball team for many years. Jack Lopez reports that a memorial service for Jack was held on January 6, 2011, at the American Legion Hall in Fort Myers. Over 100 friends and family were in attendance. We send our condolences to his wife, Gaye, and sons, Michael, of Warwick Fire Department, Daniel, and daughter Linda. Jack was 71 at the time of his death. A donation was made to Hope Hospice, 9470 Health Park Circle, Fort Myers, Fl. 33908. Burial was held at RI Veterans Cemetery, Exeter, RI.

## Christmas Party Continues to Grow

Our fourth annual Christmas Party was the largest to date. As always, we tip our hat to Ray Gervelis, Ted Johnston, and Jim Hewitt for making this event a success. A total of over **\$700.00** was raised at the raffle to support our funeral and floral account. As one member report...each time he makes this party, it is like coming home.

## **Pondering**

January 1 is like any other date other than under our Gregorian Calendar it marks the beginning of a new period of time based upon the movement of the Earth around the sun. Historically, it has become a time to reflect on the year past and to program ourselves to do better in whatever we do in the coming year.

Regarding our retiree's association, time should be spent reviewing our strengths and weaknesses based on the past year. In so doing, we may be able to improve our services and remain true to our mission statement. Here is a list of areas that can be graded by each individual member.

- **Membership:** Our membership continues to grow, but our monthly meeting attendance has leveled off to just over 30 members per meeting. How can we make our meetings better to attract more members?
- **Finances:** Our expenses remained in check while our bank account has grown throughout the past years. Our financial strength will become important in ways not yet determined. What are some areas that our funds should be used for the advancement of our association?
- **Services:** Our services to the membership have remained steady since our inception. We reach out to our membership with a web site, a bi-monthly newsletter, benefits manual, monthly meetings and parties, and support to the families of brother fire fighters during times of death or illness. In order to improve on these programs additional support from our membership will be needed.
- **Social Activities:** We continue to add special event meetings to bring our members together as often as possible. Last, year, we added a steak fry for our September meeting which was very successful. Baseball outings and fishing trips have had limited success. New ideas must come from the membership if we are to continue our most important mission of bringing our members together.
- **Union support & legal protection of our benefits:** This area certainly needs some work. With our financial strength becoming stronger we will be more able to pursue our own agenda. Patience is now the order of the day.

At our next monthly meeting, we are asking all those that are interested to forward your ideas and concerns to that advancements can be made by this time next year to make our association more welcoming and meaningful.

Fred Slaiger

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Left to Right Top Row: Henry Bassett, Russell Anderson, Albert Scott, Michael McGarry  
 Bottom Row: John Rathbun, Paul Laliberte, Robert Pollitt, Richard Baker  
**Class of 1968 Cpt. Arthur Ellis Training Officer**

### History Corner

We are coming across a wealth of photographs going back to the early days of the Warwick Fire Department. In addition to these photographs, many members have pictures that have never been made public. If we do not act quickly, some of these pictures and their related stories will be lost forever. The question is how do we keep our history alive?

We are looking for individuals, both active and retired, willing to formulate a plan of action to prevent our history from being lost. It would be a shame to lose the record of those men and women who played an important part in making of today's Warwick Fire Department.

The definition of **Apathy** is lack of feeling or emotion: **IMPASSIVENESS**. The cancer of organizations and democracies



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WARWICKFIREMENSASSOCIATION.COM

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## New Retirees

It is that time of the year again when we post the newest members joining our ranks as retirees. Congratulations on your successful career on the Warwick Fire Dept. We extend a warm welcome on joining our ranks. Hope to see you at our meetings.

B/C Arthur Silva, B Plt. Batt II 3/9/81 -1/02/11

EMS Coordinator David Kurowski 8/10/82-1/2/11

B/C David Goslin A Plt. Batt 2 8/16/82 -1/02/11

Lt. James Warrener E-5 D Plt. 1/16/86 - 1/09/11

## **Important Phone Numbers**

Warwick City Hall	(401)738-2000
Mayor's Office	ext. 6200
Tax Assessor	ext. 6271
Tax Collector	ext. 6255
Human Services	468-4101
Warwick Fire Dept.	468-4000
Warwick Firemen's Assoc.	467-7888

## **WARWICK FIREFIGHTERS RETIRESS BOARD OF OFFICERS**

Fred Slaiger, President  
Joe Evangelista, V. President  
Ed Duckworth, Secretary  
Fred Taute, Treasurer