



# FIREFIGHTERS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

2016

## 4th Annual Gala Dinner Well Attended

The Firefighters Charitable Foundation (FFCF) held its 4th Annual Dinner Gala on November 19, 2015 at The Chateau Briand in Carle Place, Long Island, NY attracting close to 300 guests. The Annual Gala honors America's firefighters, first responders, veterans and those individuals who go above and beyond in furthering the Foundation's mission (assisting victims of fire and disaster, aiding children in need, fire safety/first aid education outreach programs and supporting volunteer fire departments and other charitable organizations).



Pictured L-R: Firefighter Charitable Foundation President Frank Tepedino, Martin Silver, Star Industries, Tom Verducci, Sports Illustrated, John Flaherty, Former NY Yankee Catcher and YES announcer.

FFCF's Humanitarian Award was presented to Martin Silver, CEO of Star Industries for his support and dedication to first responders, local fire departments and the Toys For Tots program.

Former Major League Baseball player and current YES Network Sportscaster, John Flaherty received the FFCF's Presidents Award, which is given to an individual that personifies and demonstrates the mission of the FFCF; civic mindedness, family values and charitable efforts.

The FFCF's Hero Award which is selected by the FFCF Board of Directors, was presented to

Sports Illustrated Sportswriter, MLB/FOX Sports sportscaster/analyst Tom Verducci. The Foundation continued its tradition of supporting the US Marine Toys For Tots Program, asking Gala guests to bring toys to the event. Once again, thanks to the generosity of the Gala attendees, the FFCF was able to present dozens of toys for needy children to Retired USMC Major Chuck Kilbride, Regional Director of the Toys for Tots program.

FFCF also awarded a grant to the Farmingdale Fire Department (NY). Pictured FFCF President Frank Tepedino presents a check to Farmingdale Fire Department Commissioner and Ex Chief, Skip Schumeyer.



## ***Our Mission***

Assist the victims  
of fire and disaster

Aid children in need

Provide grants to  
charitable  
organizations

Support programs  
for Fire Safety  
and First Aid  
Education

Support Volunteer  
Fire Departments

## ***Board of Directors***

Frank R. Tepedino  
President

Tom Sherlock  
Vice President

Frank Nocerino  
Vice President

Lori Tepedino  
Secretary/Treasurer

## ***Directors***

James Cahill  
Fred Cambria  
Meryl Guerrero  
Richard Helgason  
Anthony Lorini  
Les Noto

## ***Administration***

Joann Vazquez

## ***President's Message***

I would like to thank the generous individuals, organizations and businesses that have supported us over this past year. Because of your generosity we have been able to support our mission of helping others. Fire and disaster can strike at any time.

The Firefighters Charitable Foundation (FFCF) Board and I are extremely proud and thankful that we can provide support to people in need and organizations that help people in need. What we are most proud of is our support for volunteer fire departments and first responder agencies. Supporting these entities throughout the year helps guarantee that they will be able to respond in times of need, and

will have the equipment to be most helpful. I ask that you please consider helping us continue our work. There are many ways you can do so: by making a donation; by assisting in increasing the awareness of our organization and mission; or by making us aware of a fire department or family in need. As you can see elsewhere in this issue, there are some interesting ways you can make a donation to the FFCF. If you like to golf you can join us on May 9th for a full day of fun.

It is a great way to help us, to learn more about us and to help others.

If you can't join us maybe you can consider helping by taking a tee sign or other sponsorship. You can call our office or visit our website for more information.

Also be sure to read the Planned Giving 102 article. You may be able to make a direct donation, while benefiting your income tax consequences. Please be sure to also check out our helpful fire safety and prevention tips included in this issue and remember to check your smoke and CO2 detectors and replace the batteries if

necessary. Stay safe.

Sincerely, Frank R. Tepedino, President

## ***Planned Giving "102"***

by Thomas M. Sabellico, Esq., New York Counsel to FFCF

In December 2015 the Individual Retirement Account ("IRA") Charitable Rollover provision became permanent, enabling certain donors to realize significant savings on their taxes. Individuals who have attained age 70½ can donate to charitable organizations directly from their IRA account(s) without incurring taxable income. The practical benefits of making a direct IRA Charitable Rollover include:

- Account holder can satisfy the IRA Required Minimum Distribution requirement for individuals 70 ½ years of age or older;
- The amount is tax-exempt up to \$100,000;
- The Rollover does not increase the taxable portion of the individual's Social Security benefits;
- The Rollover is not subject to the 50%-of-income limitation that applies to charitable deductions.

If you would like more information on making a contribution directly to The Firefighters Charitable Foundation from your IRA Account, please contact the Foundation at 516-249-0332 and ask to speak with Thomas M. Sabellico, Esq., New York Counsel.

Save The  
Date

5th Annual  
Dinner Gala  
11/17/16

# Fire Safety And Prevention

## Two Ways Out

Everyone in your home should know two ways to exit out of your house. Make sure all doors are closed, then call for help. Designate a place to meet outside your home. This is to make sure you know everyone is out, including children and any handicapped individuals.



## Fire Extinguishers

Everyone in your home, including children, should know how to use a fire extinguisher. Keep several of them around your home where everyone can reach them.



## Firefighters

They are regular people from your town. They are your neighbors, friends and co-workers. They're men and women that are just looking to help out others.



## Flashing Blue Light

When you see a flashing blue light, it means volunteer firefighters are responding to an alarm. Please give them the courtesy of the road.



## Fire Hydrants

Make sure that the hydrant nearest to your house is clear and free of any obstructions. In the winter make sure it is clear of drifting snow.



## Sirens

Whenever you hear an emergency siren, it means volunteer firefighters are responding to someone in need of help. Please pull over to the right and let the emergency vehicle pass.



## Propane

Under no circumstances should a propane cylinder be stored in or near any kind of structure, including garages, sheds or your home.



## We Get Letters

*"On behalf of the entire Lee County Fire Marshals & Inspectors Association we THANK YOU for the grant which we recieved. This grant will be used for our "Juvenile Fire Starters Education Program." With this program we are able to educate all age children to make them aware of the dangers fire can cause."*

David Notte, Treasurer  
Lee County Fire Marshals & Inspectors Association  
"Saving Lives through Education, Engineering and Enforcement"  
Fort Meyers, Florida

*"What a beautiful surprise. We are touched by your generous donation to the Miller-Dwan Burn Center for Burn Camp. Thank you so much. I want you to know that when you chose to give to our Center, you chose to give to some of the most amazingly dedicated and compassionate caregivers we've ever known. We are so pleased and proud to be part of their team".*

Traci Marciniak, President  
Miller-Dwan Foundation  
Duluth, Minnesota

*"Thank you so much for the aid donation. It has been a difficult thing to go through, but we have truly been blessed in lessons of generosity, humility and above all love. We plan on demolishing the old home and are looking into modular houses. Thank you again for your support and donation. With love,"*

Matt, Jenny, Noah  
Milford, New York

*"On behalf of the Brunswick R-II School District I would like to thank you for your generous donation toward an automated external defibrillator (AED). Your gracious gift made it possible for us to purchase an AED and have it placed in our new locker room/fitness center. This will enhance the safety of the students, patrons and visitors in our school district which is our top priority here at BHS."*

*"We are extremely fortunate to have organizations such as the Firefighters Charitable Foundation to help financially assist with the well being of communities. Your kindness and generosity is truly appreciated."*

Mrs. Cara Engelbrecht, Principal  
Brunswick High School  
Brunswick, Missouri

# IT'S TIME FOR GOLF!



Firefighter Charitable Foundation  
**Celebrity Golf Tournament**  
Monday, May 9, 2016  
The Town of Oyster Bay Golf Course  
South Woods Rd. Woodbury, NY



For more information call us at 516-249-0332 or visit our website at [www.ffcf.org](http://www.ffcf.org)  
Sponsorship opportunities available!



**Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives**

**Test Yours Every Month!**



One West Street  
Farmingdale, NY 11735  
United States of America

Phone: (516) 249-0332  
Fax: (516) 249-0338

*"Helping Victims of Fire & Disaster With Your Support Since 1991"*