

May 22, 2007

ASSEMBLY SETS JUNE 3, 2008 AS VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER AND EMS DAY

The New York State Assembly will continue a long-standing tradition of recognizing Volunteer Firefighters and EMS responders by declaring Tuesday, June 3, 2008 Volunteer Firefighter and EMS Day in the Assembly.

Through the offices of Assemblyman Harvey Weisenberg, the Assembly has reserved Hearing Room C in the Legislative Office Building for volunteer responders to gather at noon to be addressed by key members of that house. Shortly thereafter attendees will be directed to the Assembly Floor.

Those attending will then be linked with their respective Member of the Assembly, on the Floor of the Assembly Chamber, to participate in the ceremonies recognizing those present by formal resolution. According to the resolution, those volunteers from all over the state will be cited as well. The resolution states, "all volunteers, who give of themselves for the sake of their neighbors, are subjected to the rigors of extensive trainingand provide protection for life and property....are to be recognized on this day".

Assemblyman Weisenberg, the organizer for the event, noted that, "It is both fitting and appropriate to honor those in attendance but it is also imperative to mention those who cannot be here because they must be at their other occupation. Volunteers have two jobs and my hat is off to those who can attend and my thoughts are with those who cannot".

This tradition, dating back for quite some time, is an effort by the New York State Assembly, according to the resolution, "to give special recognition to those who work so assiduously for the betterment of their communities, and acknowledge publicly the heroic good works performed by the volunteers of this great Empire State".

Copies of the resolution read that day, suitably engrossed, will be given to the volunteer organizations participating that day. Mike Wutz, President of The Firemen's Association of the State of New York, encouraged FASNY members to attend and said, "This day has been a special event that FASNY has been especially supportive of because it recognizes the geographical significance of the volunteer Fire and EMS responders". Wutz continued, "We represent more than eighty percent of the states geography with volunteer emergency response".

Emergency responders wishing more information are encouraged to call FASNY at (800) 232 7692.