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PIO ZAPPASODI CONGRESSIONAL FIRE SERVICE AWARD

This award is named after the late Pio-"Pete" Zappasodi, a long time member of the Delaware County Firemen's Association who represented the 8<sup>th</sup> District on the executive board. Congressman Curt Weldon presents this award annually, to a person who has helped the Fire Service in Delaware County. The 2015 recipient is Ira N. Kerber (Kerby Kerber) of the Broomall Fire Company and Delaware County Emergency Services Training Center.

Kerby basically grew up in the fire house. I. N. Kerber Jr was the Chief of the Broomall Fire Company he spent countless hours at the fire house helping and observing. he was finally able to officially join in February 1969. For the next 30 years he held various positions and offices. Driver, Engineer, Lieutenant, Captain, Assistant Chief and served on the Board of Directors and as President

He began developing an interest in fire training even before he joined the company. He spent countless hours observing company drills and weekly township inspections. In 1982 he was able to attend the Instructor Development program sponsored by the Delaware County Fireman's Asso. that resulted in him getting certified as a Pennsylvania State Fire Academy Instructor. Over the next 10 years he taught various State and Local Level programs throughout Delaware County.

In 1992 the opportunity to work part time for the Delaware County Board of Fire and Life Safety at the Emergency Services Training Center under development in Darby Township/Folcroft presented itself. In 1997 he was able to transition to a full time position with the County of Delaware that resulted in being promoted to Deputy Director of the Emergency Services Training Center.

During this period he served on the Certification Advisory Board at the State Fire Academy, The Entry Level Fire Fighter Training curriculum committee and a member of the Educational Training Agency working group.

He is a member of the NFPA, International Society of Fire Service Instructors and the Keystone Chapter of the Fire Service Instructors where he has been a board member Vice President and President. He has also been a member of the Delaware County Fireman's Asso., serving on the Board of Directors.

He is currently on the Board of Directors of the Delaware County Safety City, a fledgling organization who's mission is to promote safety education to all ages.

He has been on the IFSTA Material Review Committee for the Essentials of Fire Fighting 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, and is currently on the same committee for the 7<sup>th</sup> Edition

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## HARRY MAITLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Harry Maitland Lifetime Achievement Award is named for Harry Maitland, a reporter/editor for the Chester Times, now Daily Times newspaper. For many years he provided his writing skills to the association, helping us to tell our story to the community. He covered many of our activities on his own time and was of great support to the DCFA.

The Harry Maitland Lifetime Achievement Award is given to a member of the Delaware County Firemen's Association in recognition of their outstanding lifelong devotion, support and commitment to the Fire Service of Delaware County. This year's recipient is John William Weeks of Cardington-Stonehurst Fire Company.

John is a life member of the Firemen's Association State of Pennsylvania, and the Delaware County Firemen's Association, where he serves as the 8th District Director. In addition to serving on the Board of Directors he also actively supports this association on many of our ongoing projects giving of his time and talents every day.

He has been involved in the Delaware County Fire Service since 1963 and is an active Fire Police responder. He is a member of the 7th and 8th District Fire Police Association, a life member of the Darby Fire Patrol #2, and a life member of Cardington-Stonehurst Fire Company, where he also serves on their Board of Directors.

John has represented the Delaware County Firemen's Association at the PA State level as a Board member of the Firemen's Legislative Federation, a member of the State Wide Advisory Board of the Pennsylvania Fire Services Institute, and delegate to the Firemen's Association of State of PA, where he serves on the Awards and By-Laws committees.

He is a 32nd degree Mason and member of the Upper Darby Square Club, which consists of Police and Firefighters. John is a World War II veteran having served in the Pacific, has served as a PA Deputy Game Protector, and has his own pest control company.

Congratulations John, and thanks for your many years of service to your community, Delaware County, and your country.

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BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

The recipient of the award this year is VFIS a division of Glatfelter Insurance Group. In 1969 Arthur Glatfelter realized that Emergency Service Organizations in America were neglected and misunderstood by many insurance companies. VFIS was created and is designed to specialize in the needs of the Emergency Services Organizations.

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## **50 Year Members**

Ronald L. Fedder

William D. Hicks

Thomas R. MacDonald, Sr.

Arthur L. O'Connor, Jr.

Harry E. Patterson

Frank J. Perrotto

John J. Quirk, Jr.

James J. Saville

Eugene F. Schulze

## **Lifetime Members**

David R. Cook

Gerald R. Davis

Howard W. Rayne, Jr.

Kathleen C. Reardon

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SPECIAL AWARDS

Alhaji Saccoh

Collecting and delivering much needed gear to Sierra Leone. Many Delaware County Fire Companies helped and contributed to his program.

Chris Yocum

For providing all the hand made models that were used over the years for tabletop training in the County

Collingdale #1

Collingdale #2

Both Collingdale Fire Companies for the last 9 years have been collecting Toys for Tots and providing for over 100 families during the holiday season.

Gene Bidoli

Gene has been Master of Ceremonies for many banquets and we wanted to acknowledge him for the time and effort he puts in to make the banquet go smoothly on banquet night.

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