



# Village of Medina Fire Department

600 Main Street \* Medina, New York 14103

Todd J. Zinkievich  
Fire Chief  
Michael G. Maak  
Fire Captain  
Raymond J. Morgan  
Fire Captain

Business Phone 585-798-1661  
Emergency Call 911  
Fax Number 585-798-1610  
email: fire@villagemedina.org

August 21, 2008

Dear fellow firefighters,

Every October the Medina Fire Department participates in Fire Prevention Week. This national tradition all started on October 9, 1911, when Fire Prevention Day was inaugurated. The date of October 9 was chosen because it marks the anniversary of the "Great Chicago Fire of 1871" -- the disaster that killed 250 people and destroyed 17,430 buildings at a cost of \$168 million, and the fire that started people thinking in terms of fire prevention rather than only firefighting.

Fire Prevention Day was begun by the Fire Marshals Association of North America, now part of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). The day was first proclaimed by President Woodrow Wilson on the 40th anniversary of the Chicago blaze.

In 1992, on recommendation of a member of NFPA and unanimous vote of the membership at the association's annual meeting that year, the fire safety observance was extended to cover the entire week that includes the October 9 anniversary date. President Warren Harding was the first to officially proclaim National Fire Prevention Week.

Not only does the Medina Fire Department participate in Fire Prevention Week, but we use this time to join together with other local fire departments, community officials, friends, and family to honor the dedication of our members and celebrate the fire department's presence in the community.

The annual Medina Fireman's Ball was started many years ago, but then had a lapse of several years. That is until Firefighter Brian Kwiatkowski took the initiative to revitalize its presence. Firefighter Kwiatkowski was the chairman of the annual event for several years, until his passing this past March. This year the Medina Fireman's Ball will be dedicated in honor of Honorary Captain Brian T. Kwiatkowski.

We invite you to join us in this evening of celebration and remembrance. Should you wish to purchase tickets, please send a request with your name, address, and a check (\$25/person) and we will mail them out to you.

Medina Firefighters' Benevolent Association  
Firemans' Ball Committee  
600 Main Street  
Medina, NY 14103

The Medina Fire Department appreciates your continued support and looks forward to you joining us on October 18<sup>th</sup> to honor Brian T. Kwiatkowski and celebrate the success of the Medina Fire Department and its members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey R. Elsenheimer Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

FF Jeffrey R. Elsenheimer Jr.  
Public Information Officer