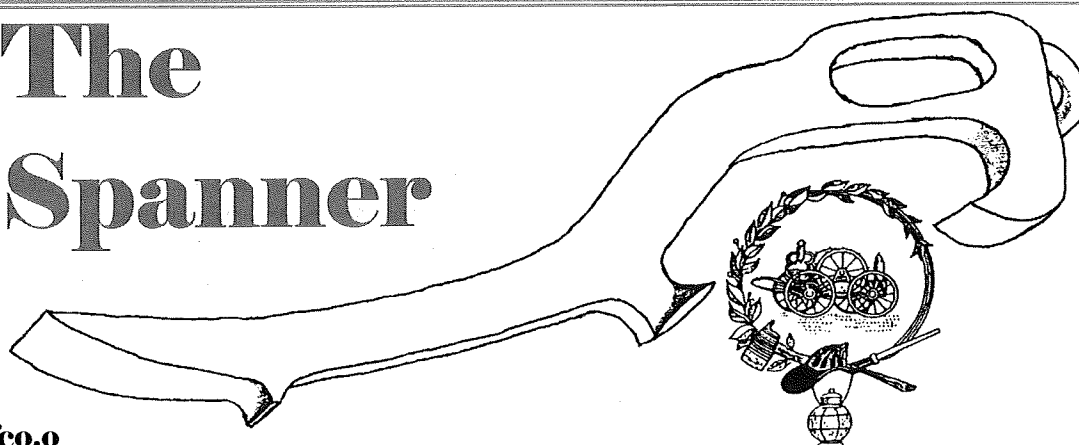


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# The Spanner



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Lingohocken Fire Company · Post Office Box 102 · Wycombe, PA 18980 · Telephone 215-598-3500

Contributors: Greg Jakubowski · Chester Pogonowski · George Rowe · John Hamill

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## TRIBUTE TO FRANCIS GORSKI

On the anniversary of a day that America lost many heroes, Lingohocken lost a hero of our own. Francis M. Gorski, our Deputy Chief, was killed in a tragic accident at his family business. He joined the Lingohocken Fire Company on May 4, 1959 as a Junior Firefighter, following his father Joe, and his Uncle Jack into the fire service. Over the past 51 years, Fran served the Fire Company and community in a variety of elected and appointed offices. He served as Treasurer, Chief Engineer, Assistant Fire Chief, Deputy Chief, and Fire Chief, serving each position with fidelity and integrity. For the past two and a half decades, he served as the Deputy Fire Chief, a position in which he was well respected by fellow firefighters throughout the region. He was an expert with apparatus and machinery, with extensive experience in this area from his own business.

Among his many accomplishments were recent ones - he personally rescued a canoeist from floodwaters in the Neshaminy Creek on August 2, 2009, and he was a part of a team that accomplished the July 16, 2009 rescue at Hanson Aggregates on Swamp Road in Wrightstown Twp. Just a few weeks prior to his death, Fran served as the Manpower Officer on August 16, 2010 at the Stony Hill Road house fire assist to Midway Fire Co. Less than 24 hours before his death, Fran worked to extricate a driver involved in a fatal car accident in Upper Makefield Township, and later that night responded to a carbon monoxide detector activation at a residence in Buckingham Township. That is just the kind of guy Fran was.

So many people were touched by Fran's generosity, and his service to the community. Most of all, he was a good friend. He will be missed dearly.

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## CPR, AUTOMATED DEFIBRILLATION, AND ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT SAVE CARDIAC ARREST VICTIM IN BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP

In August, Lingohocken firefighters were dispatched with Central Bucks paramedics to a cardiac arrest call at the Fox Heath Farm on Swamp Road in Buckingham Township. A visitor to the farm had suffered a cardiac arrest, and 3 bystanders initiated CPR.

Lingohocken Chief Greg Jakubowski arrived 7 minutes after the initial 911 call and utilized one of the fire company's automated defibrillators (AED) to deliver a shock to the patient. Central Bucks Paramedics arrived shortly thereafter to administer more definitive care, while additional Lingohocken firefighters arrived to provide additional manpower assistance to the medics. The patient was

transported to Doylestown Hospital where he was making a full recovery.

In recognition of this AED save, Your Safety Company (Chambersburg, PA) and HeartSine Technologies (Newtown, PA) donated an additional AED to the Fire Company to allow us to fully outfit all of our apparatus with this lifesaving equipment. The Fire Company would like to thank them for the donation of this equipment, and encourage all community members to participate in CPR training so that you can be ready to help if it is ever needed. Bystander CPR, rapid access to defibrillation equipment and advanced life support care give sudden cardiac arrest victims their best chance to survive.

## **WRIGHTSTOWN INSURANCE RATING IMPROVES AGAIN**

Effective Nov. 1, the Insurance Service Organization (ISO) improved Wrightstown township's rating again from Class 7 to Class 6. The improved rating means the township is on a par with many communities that are equipped with fire hydrants supplied by public water. Lacking public water and pressurized hydrants, Wrightstown relies on a series of water sources around the township that have dry hydrants installed – connections from which fire pumpers can draw water. These water supplies are generally ponds and basins, although in some cases underground storage tanks have been installed. In 2007, three years of work culminated in Wrightstown receiving an ISO rating of 7, which we believe was the first time in the Philadelphia metropolitan area a community with no public water had received a rating better than a nine.

Believing that the 2007 rating did not completely depict fire protection available in Wrightstown, the fire company appealed to ISO for a further review. We worked with ISO for two more years to supply additional information regarding capabilities, preplanning and other documentation. ISO required further demonstrations, which included water supply demonstrations by apparatus from the Northampton Township Volunteer Fire Company, the Newtown Fire Association and the Upper Makefield Fire Company, including deployment of 1/2 mile of large diameter hose. These companies respond on automatic aid assistance into Wrightstown for dwelling and building fires. It took four months for ISO to evaluate the findings before awarding the township the final rating.

ISO collects information on municipal fire protection efforts in communities throughout

the U.S. In each community, ISO then assigns a Public Protection Classification (PPC) from 1 to 10. Class 1 generally represents superior property fire protection (there are only several dozen Class 1 communities in the country) while Class 10 indicates that the area's fire-suppression program does not meet ISO's minimum criteria. The ISO program provides an objective, countrywide standard that helps fire departments plan and budget for facilities, equipment and training. With the previous township rating of 7, residents and insurers have reported average insurance savings of about \$150 per year, with some reporting savings as high as \$500 per year.

The Township and the fire company anticipate that the reduction in rating to a 6 may further benefit insured properties, with the greatest savings seen in larger high valued structures. A key factor in the rating determination also includes the number of firefighters responding to calls. This is one more reason township residents might consider volunteering their time and talents to the Lingohocken Fire Company. For more information on the ISO rating system, visit [www.isomitigation.com](http://www.isomitigation.com).

Wrightstown Township property owners are encouraged to contact their insurance companies to inform them of the new ISO rating and to see if they are eligible for a discount on their policy. The State Farm Fire and Casualty Company does not use the ISO rating system to determine its rates so the rating will not apply to State Farm customers.

Property owners in Lingohocken's coverage area in Buckingham and Upper Makefield Townships may review this with their insurer to see if they may offer the same discount to them as Lingohocken would respond with the same manpower and equipment to their properties.

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## **2009 QUARRY RESCUE FOLLOW-UP**

The Lingohocken Fire Company, together with the Northampton Vol. Fire Company, the Newtown Fire Association, and the Newtown Emergency Services Dept. were awarded the 2010 Pennsylvania State Firemen's Association Valor Award for the 2 hour truck rescue at the Hanson Quarry on Swamp Road on July 16, 2009.

In August of 2010, Hanson Aggregates provided a grant that partially funded Lingohocken's purchase of a heavy-duty hydraulic "O" cutter that has a larger jaw opening, and the cutting power of 100 tons - 3

1/2 times the capacity of our previous "O" cutters. This tool was specifically purchased to deal with the larger vehicles used in quarrying operations, or transporting materials out of the quarries. It also is applicable to some of the stronger, more unusual metals seen in many newer vehicles. Within 5 hours of being placed in service, this tool was utilized to extricate the victim in a fatal car crash on Buckmanville Road.

## **DOES LINGOHOCKEN USE PAID FIREFIGHTERS?**

The Lingohocken Fire Co. has an all-volunteer force. Our chief officers have use of Company vehicles as part of their "job," which allows them to provide quick response to size-up incidents, and perhaps even to take life- or property-saving intervention immediately in certain situations. You may see them in these vehicles around town, but rest assured they are ready to respond at a moment's notice to a 911 call.

In addition, Wrightstown Township has 4 full-time employees - 3 of whom work for the Public Works Dept., and 1 of whom is the Fire Marshal, who are all qualified firefighters with the Fire Company. They have also hired a firefighter as a part-time summer employee.

For the last 1 1/2 years, the Township workers have been using our Forest Grove Station pumper (Engine 95) during the week, keeping it in Wrightstown at the Public Works facility for fast response during daytime hours when many volunteer firefighters are

working out of the area. The response time of the Public Works crew can sometimes rival that of fire stations manned by "career" firefighters. However, we have committed to working on returning Engine 95 to the Forest Grove station full-time, and our recruitment efforts have resulted in us being able to do so.

By the time you are reading this, we may have purchased a new-to-us but gently-used pumper for the Township crew to have use of during weekdays, with it available at the Wycombe station as a second pumper during other times. Our intent is that this apparatus will be all-wheel-drive, providing an additional benefit to access areas during severe weather conditions. Wrightstown Township is partnering with us in this effort by committing to add on to their public works facility to house this vehicle. We felt that purchasing a gently-used pumper was the most cost-effective way to utilize your tax money and vital contributions, as this purchase will save at least 30% from the cost of purchasing a new apparatus.

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## **NEW LINGOHOCKEN FIREFIGHTERS COMPLETE TRAINING**

Thanks to a 2007 SAFER grant (www.firegrantsupport.com) from the US Department of Homeland Security, the Lingohocken Fire Co. has recruited 13 new firefighters in the past year. Many of these firefighters have completed a great deal of training through the Bucks County Public Safety Training Center during this time, and are now actively serving our community.

The following junior firefighters have completed a 96 hour basic fire school for junior firefighters, CPR & AED training, and hazardous materials awareness:

- Liam Hamill of Buckingham Township
- Ben Kempke of Buckingham Township
- Evan Lunak of Buckingham Township
- Ian Spahn of Wrightstown Township

The following senior firefighters have completed over 200 hours of initial training,

including Firefighter 1 certification, CPR & AED training, hazardous materials awareness and operations, and emergency vehicle operations:

- Ray Greyling of Buckingham Township
- John Hamill of Buckingham Township
- Larry Lunak of Buckingham Township
- Steve Martin of Buckingham Township
- Karl Peterson of Wrightstown Township
- Marshall Whinney of Buckingham Twp.

Each of these members is to be applauded for their dedication to the community.

Firefighter Ray Greyling took his training during 6 grueling weeks full-time over the Summer. Firefighter John Hamill completed pump operations and PECO gas and electric school. Firefighter Larry Lunak was named the Outstanding Student in his class.

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## **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

After a hiatus of several years we have formed a new Pancake Breakfast Committee with a new vision and new leadership. We plan to have our Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, April 10th. You will find many of the familiar practices of the past, and some new ideas as well. One new one will be a choice of French toast or pancakes.

We will need the assistance of our Associate members as we have in the past, and we look forward to serving our neighbors and friends. Please, put the 10th of April on your calendars, and we'll see you there!

## LIVING THE DREAM

As 2010 draws to a close, I still can't believe what an incredible year it has been for me. It was about a year ago when I joined the Lingohocken Fire Company and then my son, Liam, joined in February as soon as he turned 14. It was a real bonding experience for us as we attended many hours of Firefighter 1 classes and graduated together in May. In addition to classroom lectures, the class was divided into different "fire companies" for the practical exercises, and coincidentally, my son and I were in the same company. We operated as a team with Liam holding the nozzle and I would be behind him or I would be on the nozzle and he would be supporting me and the hose. Putting ladders in place (safely) and

search and rescue exercises were also part of the program. Due to Liam's young age, he was not able to complete all aspects of training (he will when he gets older) but I continued on and completed the training that prepared me to become an interior-qualified firefighter. Our training continues today as each week we participate in drills with the other members of Lingohocken.

I've wanted to volunteer as a Firefighter since I was a young boy. Living this dream has been wonderful but realizing it together with my son has been priceless. But most importantly, we're out there with the other members of the Lingohocken Fire Company trying to help our neighbors.

### SANTA CLAUS RUN - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2010

On Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, Santa will rely on his helpers from the Lingohocken Fire Company to get him around to the children of the community. He will start around 2:00 and finish his rounds around 6:00. Listen for the siren and you'll know when he's in your neighborhood!

**2:00PM - 2:20 PM**  
Townhouses at Heritage Center

**2:20PM - 3:00PM**  
Devonshire Estates:  
• Oxfordshire Rd  
Phase 1 Gazebo Playground  
Phase 2 Gazebo  
Phase 3 Gazebo  
Buckinghamshire Rd

**3:15PM - 4:30PM**  
Buckingham Forest:  
• Powder Horn Dr and Trotters Lane  
• Powder Horn and Green Ridge (South)  
• Green Ridge and Hedgerow Lane  
• Green Ridge and Forest Hill

• Powder Horn and Green Ridge (North)  
• Green Ridge and Deer Meadow  
• Green Ridge and Wheatfield Lane  
• Powder Horn and Spring Hollow  
Windsor Square:  
• Springtown Road and Winterbridge Lane  
Upper Mountain Rd  
Edge Hill Rd

**4:45PM - 6:00PM**  
Buckingham Springs:  
• Spring Meadow Blvd  
• Community Center

**2:00PM - 2:45PM**  
Buckingham Valley Nursing Home

**3:00PM - 3:30PM**  
Fox Hill Drive at Martindell Drive  
Warner Meadows

**3:45PM - 4:45PM**  
Alexanders Court  
Skoures Lane  
Jericho Valley Drive:  
• Warner Way  
Fire Creek:  
• Fire Thorn  
• Hunters Woods  
• Ridge Ave  
Williams Ave:  
• Ridge Ave  
• Woodland Ave  
• Ranch

**5:00PM - 6:30PM**  
Wrenwood Way  
J. Chapman Drive E/W  
Hampton Court  
White Gate:  
• Buckman Dr. and Maher Ln  
Neshaminy Cliffs  
Hallowell Dr and Wooley Run Rd  
Brownsburg Rd:  
• Colts Neck  
• Matthews Lane  
Hayhurst, Keith Lane  
Thompson Mill Road

**2:00PM - 2:30PM**  
Estates of Balamore  
Swamp Rd at Mega Way  
Swamp Rd and Apple Hill  
Smith Rd between Forest Grove and Swamp

**2:45PM - 3:45PM**  
Creamery Rd  
Dark Hollow Rd:  
• MacClesfield Rd  
• Camelot  
Mozart Rd  
Lower Mountain Rd:  
• Franklyn Dr  
• Devonshire Dr  
• Lookaway Ct  
Creek Rd to New Hope Rd:  
• No Name Ln  
• Holicong Rd  
Holicong Rd:  
• New Hope Rd  
• New Rd  
Ridge Rd:  
• Towerview Circle

**4:00PM - 5:00PM**  
Street Rd:  
• Windy Hollow  
• Lurgan Rd  
• Eastburn Dr  
Buckmanville Rd  
Pineville Rd  
Pine Lane



**5:10PM - 6:00PM**  
Township Line Rd:  
• Brian Lane  
Cherry Lane:  
• Benjamin Lane  
Park Ave. to Durham Rd:  
• Perry Lane  
Cherry Lane  
Washington Ave  
Wycombe Post Office  
Cedar Lane  
Penn's Park and Cedar Lane  
2nd Street at Penn's Park Pub  
Penn's Park Church