



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2008
EMS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR AND
THE FIREFIGHTERS OF THE YEAR !



2008
EMS PROVIDER
OF THE YEAR:

FF/EMT
MARK GILSON

FIREFIGHTERS
OF THE YEAR:

LIEUTENANTS
EDWARD KUNZ
AND JOHN IPPOLITO

EMS Provider of the Year

— FF/EMT MARK W. GILSON



On August 4th, 2007, the Olcott Fire Company was dispatched to a possible drowning in Lake Ontario. Mark Gilson responded directly to the scene with one additional firefighter in his own personal vehicle. Upon arrival, he could see the victim floating face down in the water approximately 100 yards off shore. Mark donned his PFD and gave his throw bag to another firefighter who arrived on the scene. At that point, Mark instructed the one firefighter to stand on shore in line with the victim, keeping a visual on her, while preventing anyone else from entering the water without a PFD due to the rough waves and distance from shore. Mark then started swimming out toward the victim.

When he reached her, he immediately brought her back to shore.

By this time, additional personnel had arrived on the scene. The throw bag was tossed to Mark and they were both brought the rest of the way onto shore. Mark carried her up on the beach and immediately assessed her, determining that she was in full arrest. He began rescue breathing while Randy Szlusta of Miller Hose Fire Company began chest compressions. They continued CPR while other members of the fire company readied the advanced life support equipment. As soon as the equipment was set, Mark intubated her and they began ventilating her via the ET tube. They then placed her on the monitor and started warm IVs. Upon loading her into the ambulance, the patient resisted some of the ventilation efforts and the monitor started to show a rhythm. As they continued to the hospital, her heartbeat became more strong and regular, and she also continued to fight ventilation efforts sporadically.

Upon arrival at the hospital, they transferred care over to the ER staff. As they continued treatment, her heartbeat became even more strong and regular and her ventilation efforts continued with resistance. She was eventually transferred to another hospital for further treatment and monitoring.

Today, she is healthy and has made a complete recovery. Mark Gilson recently had the opportunity to meet her and talk with her family. She has gone back to school for nursing and is very grateful to all of those who played a role in her rescue that day. This was a great team effort by all who assisted in this rescue and is one of those unforgettable moments in life. It is indeed my pleasure to submit the name of Past Chief and AEMT Mark W. Gilson for the FASNY 2008 EMS Provider of the Year Award.

Letter of recommendation respectfully submitted by Chief Michael Miller of the Olcott Fire Company.

1979	Randall R. Rhoades	East Syracuse Fire Department
1980	George "Jerry" Dean	Gates-Chili Volunteer Fire Department
1981	David A. Sedlock	Massena Volunteer Fire Department
1982	David L. Curley	Delhi Fire Department
1983	Richard W. Gehrt	Smithtown Fire Department
1984	Frederic Furminger	Depew Fire Department
1985	Thomas A. Phillips	S.W. Johnson Steam Fire Engine Co.
1986	Michael F. Reid	Friendship Engine & Hose Company
1987	John L. Hyzer	Bainbridge Fire Department
1988	Paul Edward Vinciguerra	Chemical & Salvage Co. #2
1989	Robert Frank	Central Islip Fire Department
1990	Robert Hitchcock*	Blenheim Hose Co.
1991	R. Charles Zigrosser	Bayport Fire Department
1992	George P. Motchkavitz	Alert Engine, Hook & Ladder and Hose Co. No. 1
1993	Robert Pettigrew	North Babylon Volunteer Fire Company
1994	Paul A. MacMurray	Hudson Falls Volunteer Fire Department
1995	William H. Pyne, III	Sayville Hook & Ladder Company
	Kenneth T. Jones	Sayville Hook & Ladder Company
1996	Chief David A. DiDio	Bellport Fire Department
1997	Matthew F. Merecka	Freeport Fire Department
1998	Larry J. Stumpo	North Patchogue Fire Department
1999	James S. Fredericks	Ossining Steamer Company No. 1
2000	Samuel Mark Sposato	Brewerton Fire Department
2001	William Brown, III	Ossining Fire Department
	Donald Farrell	Ossining Fire Department
	John Simkins	Ossining Fire Department
	Raymond Valles	Ossining Fire Department
2002	Dedicated to those who died "In the Line of Duty" September 11, 2001	
2003	Brian Stevens	Manlius Volunteer Fire Department
2004	Richard Prudente	Huntington Manor Fire Department
	Fred Steenson, Jr.	Huntington Manor Fire Department
	John C. Glidden, III	Huntington Manor Fire Department
2005	James J. Bucci, Jr.	Rush Fire Department
	Peter Henry	Rush Fire Department
	Michael Terzo	Rush Fire Department
	Joseph Cirincione	Rush Fire Department
2006	Richard Gimbl	Holbrook Fire Department
2007	Al Cinotti	West Islip Fire Department

Deceased *Died in the Line of Duty **Awarded Posthumously

Firefighters of the Year

LIEUTENANTS EDWARD KUNZ AND JOHN IPPOLITO



On Saturday, September 15th, 2007 at 4:20 p.m., the Bay Shore Fire Department was activated for a structure fire at 1446 Brooklyn Boulevard. Upon arriving, Chief of Department Bryan Butler immediately transmitted a signal 13-35 "working fire" with heavy fire throughout the first floor of this one-story wood-framed ranch. Suffolk County Police also advised Chief

Butler on the scene that a person was trapped inside, and attempts to enter the residence were unsuccessful due to the intense heat and flames. Chief Butler transmitted the information about the trapped occupant to responding units.

First due responding Engine 3-1-1 was instructed to stretch a line to the fire building. While the crews were coordinating this effort, Lieutenants Edward Kunz and John Ippolito, knowing time was drawing near for the demise of the occupant, entered the front door through a wall of flames. They pushed through the hallway in an attempt to reach the bedroom, only to be met by a more intense wall of flames and thick toxic smoke.

Realizing the bedroom would be the only possible remaining location for any surviving occupant, Lieutenants Kunz and Ippolito breached the adjoining wall of the bedroom. They entered the bedroom utilizing low profile techniques, and without the benefit of a thermal imaging camera, Kunz and Ippolito quickly located a male victim, unconscious and badly burned, positioned face down and against the bedroom door. Without hesitation, Kunz and Ippolito swiftly removed the victim through the breached wall they had entered and forced their way back through the fully involved living room. Carrying the victim, Kunz and Ippolito pushed past firefighters that were entering the building to conduct fire suppression. Upon exiting the building, Kunz and Ippolito safely carried the victim to the lawn. Realizing the victim was in respiratory arrest, Lieutenant Ippolito began mouth-to-mouth rescue breathing while Lieutenant Kunz prepared to assist with chest compressions if needed, feverishly attempting to revive this severely injured and lifeless person.

Upon the arrival of EMS, the victim, now with a slight pulse, was stabilized and transported to Southside Hospital where he was listed in critical condi-

tion. The victim was later transported to Stony Brook University Hospital Burn Unit, where, due to the selfless and quick actions of Lieutenants Kunz and Ippolito, he is still alive today and expected to make a full recovery.

Without regard for their own safety and well being, Lieutenants Kunz and Ippolito displayed self-sacrificing courage and bravery, above and beyond the call of duty. Their actions this day exemplified the true meaning of "volunteer firefighter." Their attitude of "others above self" assured that the victim, while so dangerously close to heaven's door, was spared by these two guardian angels and given a second chance at life.

It is with highest regard that I respectfully submit the names of 1st Lieutenant John Ippolito and 2nd Lieutenant Edward Kunz for the FASNY 2008 Firefighter of the Year Award.

Letter of recommendation respectfully submitted by Chief Bryan M. Butler of the Bay Shore Fire Department.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT WINNERS FOR THE 2008 FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Fire Department:</u>	<u>Rescue Date:</u>
Individual Applications:		
FF Steven Holzworth	East Farmingdale F.D.	December 18, 2007
Asst. Chief Robert Betanzos	Plattekill F.D.	March 9, 2007
FF Joshua Wells	Mt. Marion F.D.	November 21, 2007
1st Asst. Chief Greg Moran	Greenlawn F.D.	August 14, 2007
Past Chief Robert McGrath	Copiatugue F.D.	February 3, 2007
FF Stephen Cleary	Mattituck F.D.	February 5, 2007
Lt. Ken Coletta	Union Vale Fire District	For Dedicated Service 2007
Team Applications:		
Past Chief John Drews III	Sound Beach F.D.	April 24, 2007
Past Captain Keith Williams		
FF Jim Maire		
FF Marc Francois		
FF Thomas Hellberg		
FF John Marino, Jr.		
Chief Anthony LoCicero	Franklin Sq. and Munson F.D.	November 8, 2007
EMS Capt. Randi LoCicero		
Chief Salvatore Formica	Commack F.D.	September 3, 2007
Past Chief Robert Jinks		
Past Captain Richard Cotty	Selden F.D.	January 29, 2007
FF Chuck Mueller	Islip F.D.	
Captain Allan Koenig	Milton Engine Co. No.1	October 20, 2007
FF Stephen Riviuccio		
FF Gary Lazaroff		
2nd Asst. Chief Mike Lange	Port Ewen F.D.	September 20, 2007
3rd Asst. Chief Peter Koelli		
FF George Banks, Sr.		
FF Eric Sammons		

Capt. Dean McNamara Lt. Jason Poremba FF Ted Duffy	Southampton F.D.	January 25, 2007
Asst. Chief James Kimball FF Jeff Spellman FF Bernie Szare	Westmoreland F.D.	June 29, 2007
Asst. Chief Jeff Burkhart	Oriskany F.D.	
1st Asst. Chief James Mare, Jr. Lt. Chris Marino	Deer Park F.D. Wyandanch F.D.	December 18, 2007
1st Asst. Chief Joseph J. Barbara 2nd Lt. Brian T. O'Neill	Bohemia F.D.	March 18, 2007
FF William DiMartini, Jr FF Daniel Cervenick	Warwick F.D.	May 13, 2007
FF Dan Owens FF Bill Kozak, Jr. FF Shane Blakeslee FF Bill Lambert	Farmersville F.D.	January 24, 2007

PAST FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS*

1955	J. Robert Kramer*	Lewis Tompkins Hose Company No. 1
1956	Lt. Edward Dixon	Great Neck Vigilant Engine & Hook & Ladder Co.
1957	William M. Belinson	Eggertsville Hose Company
1958	John Patrick Cronin III	Tallman Volunteer Fire Department
1959	Dominic C. Zappia	Massena Volunteer Fire Department
1960	Donald Brown	West Carthage Fire Department
1961	James Gilliam	Lewiston Fire Company No. 2
1962	Russell Fleischman	Washington Engine Company No. 2
1963	James H. Jackson	Andover Fire Department
1964	Donald H. Price	Nyack Fire Department
1965	Stephen R. Bucki	Harris Hill Fire Co.
1966	Gary Elbert	Flower Hill Hose Company No. 1
1967	Gordon O. Schmidt	St. Paul Boulevard Fire Association
1968	Calvin "Jake" Parris	Patchogue Fire Department
1969	Thomas Nameth	Slater Chemical Fire Company
1970	Charles L. Ossont	Westmoreland Volunteer Fire Department
1971	Barry Simmons	Rhinebeck Fire Department
1972	Hobart A. Abbey**	Forest View-Gang Mills Fire Department
1973	Harry Charkow	Mattituck Fire Department
1974	John A. Keough	Mattituck Fire Department
1975	John Richard Green	Merrick Fire Department
1976	Williard John Hoyt	South Schodack Volunteer Fire Company
1977	Alton L. Lewis	North Syracuse Fire Department
1978	George Cannella	Islip Terrace Fire Department

Deceased *Died in the Line of Duty **Awarded Posthumously

Members of Olcott Fire Company that participated in the rescue include:

Rhonda Gerling	Tony Caraco	Brad Cass	Cheryl Cass
Herb Confer	Boyd Cooper	Erick Gunio	Robert Horanburg
Brenda Balcom	Chris Miller	Jon Miller	Michelle Miller
Mike Miller	Steve Miller	Dan Szratzer	

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT WINNERS FOR THE 2008 EMS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Name:	Fire Department:	Rescue Date:
Individual Applications:		
Past Chief EMT-P Lester G. Fieldsa	Freeport F.D.	June 4, 2007
Team Applications		
1. 2nd Deputy Chief Fred Ulmschneider Lt. Benjamin Nelson Past Capt. Howard Goldmark EMT/FF Mikel Strauch EMT/FF David Simon	Woodmere F.D.	March 29, 2007
2. FF/EMT-P Matthew Sanfilippo FF/EMT-D James McHugh FF/EMT-P Shoshana Weiner FF/EMT Moshe Bellehsen	Lawrence-Cedarhurst F.D.	August 14, 2007
3. 1st Deputy Chief Brian Carmen Captain Leonard J. Cherson Captain Alan Sauer Past Captain Paul Brower	Woodmere F.D.	April 12, 2007
4. FF Shane Blakeslee FF/EMT Dan Owens FF Bill Kozak, Jr. FF/EMT William Lambert	Farmersville F.D. Franklinville F.D.	January 24, 2007

Unit Citation Winners for 2008:

Fire Department:	Date:
1. Members of the Woodmere F.D.	April 12, 2007
2. Members of the Woodmere F.D.	March 29, 2007
3. Members of the East Norwich F.D.	April 30, 2007
4. Members of the Gainesville F.D. Gainesville Rescue Squad Monroe Medic 80 Wyoming County Hospital Silver Springs F.D. Mercy Flight of Western New York	February 6, 2007

PAST EMS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS

2006 Keeseville F.D.

Chief Leonard Martin	Firefighter George Bassler
Firefighter Ronald Ouimette	AEMT-CC Patrick Barriere

2007 South Schodack F.D. and Castleton Ambulance

FF James Rosse,II