



Club Valiants Newsletter

"Good Conduct and Courage Lead to Honor"

Volume 8/2004

July - 2004

Attention Valiants Members Important Notice Founder's Day

The flyers that you recently received in the mail concerning Founder's Day had an error on the flyer.

The day and date of the event read...
Saturday, July 18, 2004, 12:00 Noon - 08:00 PM

The actual day and time is ...
Sunday, July 18, 2004, 12:00 Noon – 08:00 PM
Valiants Hall
7543 Williams Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

This year Founder's Day will be an event much like we have had in the past. One major difference is this will be a catered event with many of the same foods we have come to enjoy over the years. We have ordered food and drinks for 300 people. Unlike in the past you will be served by the caterers.

Continued on page 3

CORRECTION

ATTENTION!!!

Club Valiants, Inc.
Founder's Day Celebration

Correction...Sunday, July 18, 2004 (ABF)

12:00 Noon - 08:00PM

7543 Williams Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Picnic Atmosphere
Food, Refreshments and Fun for All

Recognition of Retired Members in the Past Year
and
Special Recognition of Founding Members

Club Valiants, Inc. **General Meeting (Monthly)**

Valiants Hall
07:30 PM

Monday, September 13, 2004 (ABE)
Thursday, September 16, 2004 (DCE)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Correction....Founder's Day
- 2 Fishing Trip
- 3 Presidents Message
- 4 Obituaries
- 4 Family Day

Club Valiants, Inc.

Executive Officers

President

Claude Smith

1st Vice-President

Eric Fleming

2nd Vice-President

David Reaves

Secretary (Correspondence)

VACANT

Treasurer

William Smalls

Business Manager

Larry Edwards (Acting)

Building Manager

Michele French

Chaplain

Diane Mercer

Sergeant-At-Arms

Lloyd Edwards

Board of Directors

Ernest Hargett

Dorsey Jackson

Derrick Sawyer

Edmond Wells (Retired)

Robert Wilkins

Daniel Williams

Willie Williams

**Valiants Annual Fishing Trip
(Best Species Running)**



Date: Thursday, August 26, 2004 (BDF)

Time: 07:00 AM

Boat: Suzie Girl

Captain Jim Hull

(Boat Departure - 07:15 AM)

Belmar Marina, Belmar, NJ

\$45.00 Per Person

Contact: Bernard Gilliam (215) 686-1382

Freddie Murray (215) 477-1990

Or

Valiants Hall (215) 276-8222

(Free Rods, Reel, Bait, and Lessons Included)

TICKETS WILL GO FAST

Valiants Member's looking for ...

**Security, Set-Up and Clean-Up
Positions at Valiants Hall**

Call Michele French 215.620.1553

Continued from page 1

We suggest that you make plans to come in a timely manner so that you and your families can eat if you choose to.

Most importantly please come out to join in the festivities that honor our founding members and those members that have retired in the past year.

A Message from the President



Greetings,

As of this writing the Philadelphia Fire Department (PFD) is in turmoil regarding the closing of four Engine Companies, four Ladder Companies, the relocation of several other companies and the addition of eight Medic Units. This change in the fire department operations will have a significant impact on many of our members and the African-American community. Some of those changes that will impact on our membership and our community are the massive transfers that will take place.

Honestly, any cut in the fire department services has the potential to be devastating. I am going on the record as President by saying that the Valiants have done many things in recent weeks to circumvent the changes that may take place. We also have to understand that as an organization we really have no say so in how city government is run. The only thing that we can do is to try and influence those people whose responsibility it is to ensure that our families, friends and all Philadelphia citizens and visitors are safe in areas that the fire department has involvement in.

Although there are statistics that report fires, fire deaths and injuries are down... we know that the statistics also show that our communities suffer the most from the fires that do occur. You must realize that Local 22 has the same statistics and not one of the demonstrations took place in the African-American neighborhoods where company closings or company relocations would have an impact on that neighborhood. There will be more closing situations discussed at the September meeting. Bring your concerns and questions to be discussed in that format.

One last thing on this topic of company closings.

We supported Mayor John Street's efforts to be reelected based on who he is, what he's done and our belief that he was the best qualified candidate to run for the office of Mayor. I am hoping that his decisions concerning the Philadelphia Fire Department will one day in the near future, include restoration of the companies that may be lost when he deals with future budgets of the City of Philadelphia. Keep in mind that terrorism is still alive and active and we would be foolish to think that Philadelphia is not a potential target.

In 27 years that I have been a member of the Valiants and the PFD I have seen many cuts from the quota for an Engine and Ladder being cut by one member, to the implementation of Task Forces, layoffs and the closing of stations. As a 27 year Valiants member I have accepted a lot of this reluctantly, but I continue to do my job to the best of my ability because I know that Valiants make a difference in our communities in saving lives and preventing fires. As a Valiants member you need to feel the same way. My personal experience in the fire department has been for all of these years working in busy fire companies with one fire fighter being removed from the quotas, Task Forces, station closings and working as a paramedic with a fire fighter/EMT. I have lived what some of you are going through and what some of you are about to go through. Each time I went through it and so many other Valiants members went through it we realized we had to go the extra mile because OUR PEOPLE'S lives and property were at stake. Hopefully you will feel the same way.

The organization expects that the hall will be reopened for rentals by the fall of this year. In the very next newsletter which you will have before the September meeting will explain the new policies concerning building usage by the membership as well as other policies concerning the building manager, promotions, sick and death policy, etc.

Love and Peace
Claude Smith

**Scholarship Fundraiser In Memory of
Raymond Palmer
and
Formal Affair
Presented by
The Posse and Butterball of WDAS-FM**

Saturday, August 07, 2004 (DCE), 08:00 – 01:00 AM
Dinner 09:30 – 10:30 PM
Columbus Manor and Masso's Catering
Williamstown, NJ
Open Bar – Soda – Wine and Beer
Tickets \$30.00 per person - \$50.00 a couple

For Tickets: Theresa (President) 856.262.3803
Rufus (Vice President) 215.760.2158

Announcements



Condolences

Robert L. Wood, Age 75

Funeral services were held for Fire Paramedic Robert L. Wood (Retired), Friday, March 19, 2004, at Tindley Temple United Methodist Church, Philadelphia, PA. He was assigned to Engine 65, 05 and 09. He served the Fire Department for 29 years; 27 as a fire fighter and 02 years as a Paramedic.

Wendy Lake-Wilson

Condolences are being sent to FF Ron Wilson, Engine 40/C upon the passing of his wife. Funeral services were held for Wendy Lake-Wilson, Saturday, April 03, 2004.



Club Valiants, Inc.



ADDRESS

www.clubvaliants.org

**Club Valiants, Inc.
2nd Annual Family Day
Neshaminy Shore Picnic Park**

**Saturday, July 31, 2004 (DCF)
11:00 AM – 06:00 PM**

\$10.00 Per Person

Children 3 and under Free

**ALL YOU CAN EAT AND DRINK
WITH PLENTY OF
ACTIVITIES...Paddle Boats,
Fishing, 3 Basketball Courts, 4
Swimming Pools and more**

215.276.8222



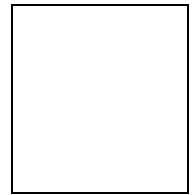
**Published by:
Club Valiants, Inc.**

Edited by: J. Davis

Comments and articles welcome.

**This newsletter does not necessarily reflect the
official views of Club Valiants, Inc., and does
not imply endorsement thereof.**

Club Valiants, Inc.
7543 Williams Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19150-2211



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

IN THE EVENT OF A DEATH IN A MEMBERS FAMILY CONTACT ANY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER



Moved Lately? Changed Your Telephone Number?

Any change in your status (retired/active) or your location/telephone number, let us know.

Tear off this portion and send to...

Club Valiants, Inc., Attn: J. Davis, 7543 Williams Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19150-2211

Name _____ Telephone _____

Street Address _____ Apartment _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code + 4 _____

Company/Unit # _____ Rank # _____

e-Mail Address _____

Valiants Hotline – Valiants Hotline – Valiants Hotline

215-276-8222/215-548-0333 (F)

Don't forget the Valiants Hotline is in service. If you wish to leave a message for a Board Member, Executive Officer, or member, call anytime day or night!