

August 5, 2008



Dear Pastor _____,

The **Red Hook Fire Company and Rescue Squad** is staffed with a dedicated and highly trained volunteer team of fire fighters, EMS personnel and fire police officers. Living up to their motto, "*Ever Alert,*" members of the Red Hook Fire Company responded to more than 1,000 calls in 2007.

The range of services from fighting structure and automobile fires, assistance at accident scenes, providing emergency medical assistance and transportation to area hospitals to pumping out basements and assisting with other disaster relief efforts, often puts a strain on our numbers of available volunteers at any given time. Yet time after time, when the call goes out your volunteer team members put their lives on the line without complaining and without expecting recognition.

The company is constantly looking for new volunteer members willing to commit to serving our community, neighbors and families. Beginning with a firm foundation of New York State required training, the recruit becomes part of an all-volunteer team that devotes a good portion of their lives to community service and self-sacrifice.

In 2008 we have launched a renewed effort to fill our ranks with enthusiastic new volunteers. To that end, as Chief of the Red Hook Fire Company, I am asking for your help in getting out our message. Can you please place a notice of our recruitment drive in your church bulletin, on your web site and possibly make announcements from your pulpit encouraging members of your congregation to find out more about volunteering?

We are running a series of full page ads in our local newspapers through the summer and into the fall paid for by community business donations informing the 10,000+ residents of the Town of Red Hook about our service and our need. But I feel a word from you as a community faith leader will carry considerable weight with your church members.

We plan to be visible at Hardscrabble Day and we are always open to having potential members visit our regular and training meetings. Anyone is welcome to come and inspect our facilities and our emergency apparatus of which we are exceedingly proud. People will be able to come and visit with our members and discuss how we can succeed as the community grows requiring more and more emergency services in the years to come.

Up to date information can also be found on our web site at <http://www.redhookfire.org>.

Please, as a community leader who understands the value of the Fire Company, help us get out the word.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Burnett". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael Burnett
Chief, Red Hook Fire Company, Inc.

P.S. If you have any questions about this recruitment campaign, please contact Richard Wambach at 845-758-3117. His firm, River Valley Marketing, is handling the publicity for this program.