

KRUTHERS NAMED FANWOOD VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH/AUG. 2009



Bob Kruthers, a member of the Fanwood Rescue Squad since 1957, was named Volunteer of the Month by Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr at the monthly borough council meeting on Tuesday, August 11, 2009.

For almost 55 years, Bob has provided volunteer service to our town in ways that have touched three generations of Fanwood and Scotch Plains residents.

Bob joined the Fanwood Rescue Squad in 1957, the year mouth to mouth resuscitation was first introduced, and has held many positions with the squad. He has served in several elected posts. He has been the squad's treasurer since 1965.

As an EMT, first responder and ambulance driver, Bob has helped literally thousands of sick or injured people. As of August 1st of this year (his 52nd year on the squad), Bob responded to 5,080 Rescue Squad calls. Only two other members in the squad's history have attained the 5,000 call mark-- the late Bill Crosby and life member Susan Davis.

After having cardiac surgery earlier this year, Bob has slowed down a bit but he expects to be back responding to calls soon.

Bob's other passion for many years has been the church. As a member of St. Bartholomew's parish, Bob has rendered book keeping assistance, taught CCD classes, provided altar service and, as a Eucharistic minister, offers communion for homebound people. Bob is also active in the Knights of Columbus and spent four years as a member of the Fanwood Library Board of Trustees.

Bob has been married to his wife, Grace, for almost 61 years. She is also a Eucharistic minister and is well known to many around town.

As a token of his volunteer service, Mayor Mahr presented Bob with a framed print of Fanwood's historic train station.

Congratulations, Bob!