

The Woodbridge Township Firefighters Association I.A.F.F local 290 would like to extend its appreciation and thanks to everyone who participated and volunteered for our St.Baldricks charity event held in Memory of F.F. Matt Lokos on Mar.30th 2008. Brother Lokos held this charity close to his heart and participated yearly so we saw it fit to hold our first event in his honor.

St.Baldricks is a charitable organization started by 3 friends in NY in 1999 who were looking for a way to raise money for childhood cancer research. They came up with the idea of raising donations from friends, family, and businesses and they in return would completely shave their heads. This head shaving was their way to show solidarity with children who often lose their hair from cancer treatments. They held there first event on Mar.17th 2000 with 17 shavees and a goal of raising \$17,000. That first event wound up raising over \$104,000, and an annual fund raising charity was born. Over the past 8 years since it's inception St.Baldricks has grown to have events held across the United States and in 18 countries. It has raised over 49.5 million dollars towards childhood cancer research.

Thanks to all of our supporters, this years first event at the Woodbridge Fire Dept. has brought in over \$85,000 to date. This success was due in large to the many generous donors and the help of all the vounteers who helped to run this event. FF James Boelhower and FF Mark Minkler spearheaded this event and did an excellent job organizing everything. This event would not have been possible at all without them. We hope to make this an annual event and continue to raise funds for this great organization.

We would like to extend our thanks to the following departments from our area who donated, volunteered, or whose members were shavees at our event. Thank you for making this such a successful and heartwarming event in Brother Lokos' memory!

William Kogut
Public Relations Officer IAFF local 290

Edison Fire Officers local 2283
Edison Firefighters local 1197
Perth Amboy Fire Officers local 4070
Perth Amboy Firefighters local 286
North Plainfield Firefighters local 29582
North Plainfield Fire Officers local 2983
Monroe Township Firefighters Local 3170
The Professional Latino Firefighters Association of NJ