

FDNY 343 Remembered At Stair Climb in Binghamton

On the morning of Sunday September 8th, 2013, firefighters and others gathered at the State Office Building in downtown Binghamton to remember the 343 firefighters who lost their lives on 9-11, twelve years ago. The event was sponsored by the Binghamton Firefighters Benevolent Association and is the 3rd Annual stair climb held in Binghamton. The event was open to anyone interested in honoring the firefighters lost.



Climbers read the names of all 343 firefighters before starting the climb

Each person climbing the 110 flights wore a lanyard with several names and pictures of firefighters who died that day. Before leaving the lobby for the stairs each and every name was read out loud and a memorial bell rung in remembrance. To make this year's event even more special, retired FDNY Firefighter Dan Potter attended and told his story from that day as well as stories about many of the firefighters he knew that the climbers wore around their necks.

Some people climbed in t-shirts and shorts while others climbed in full turnout gear with air packs and equipment and even in military attire. Binghamton firefighters as well as Superior Ambulance were on scene to tend to any climbers that experienced difficulty. Many people climbing were local to the area but several attendees came from as far away as the Pocono area of Pennsylvania, Kingston NY and even Buffalo NY.



At the end of the day the event went well and there were no injuries to report. This event truly is about keeping the memory of each of the 343 alive and finishing the climb that they were unable to complete. Each year this event has gained more and more attendance and continues to grow. Hopefully next year you can join us and remember!

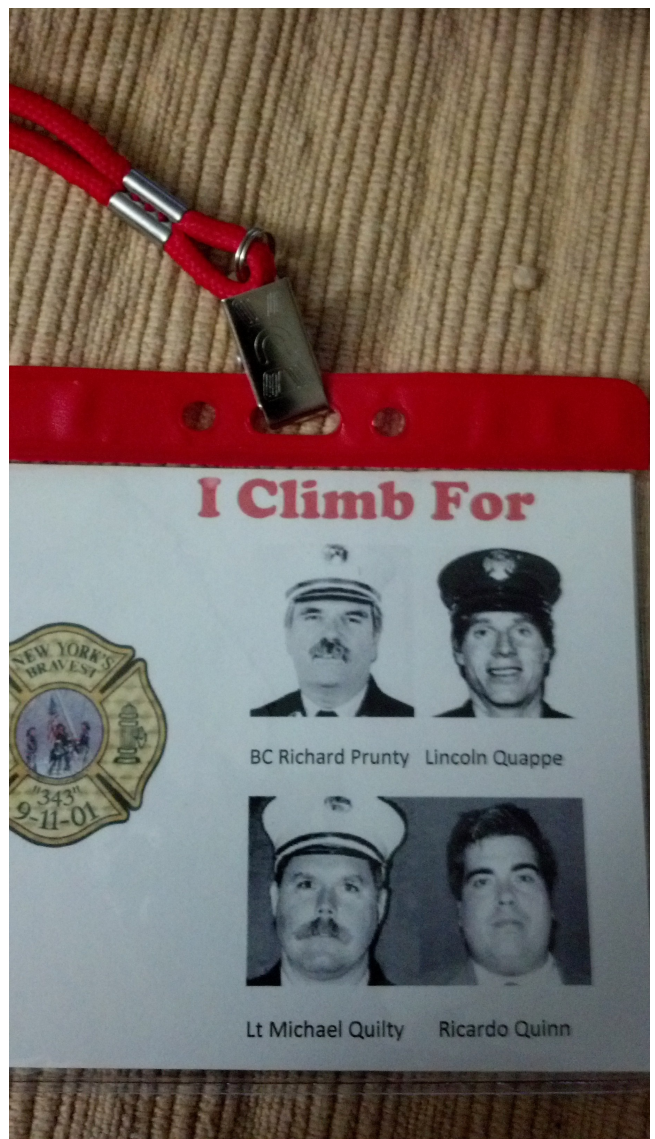
Participants used this bell to ring after reading names of the firefighter



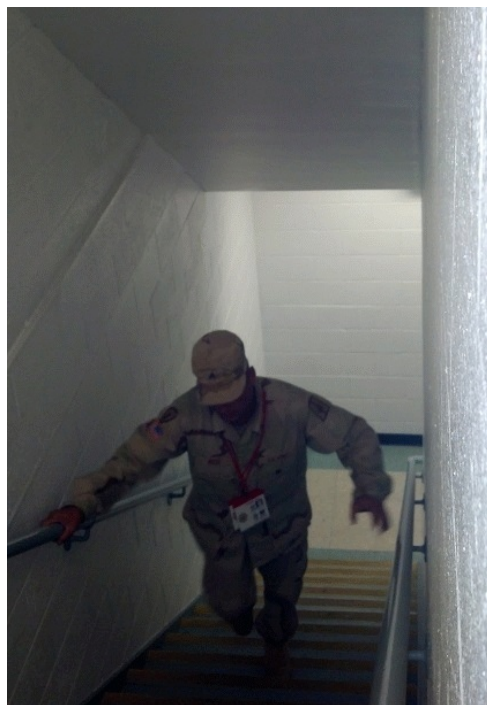
Firefighters learn more about some of the names on their lanyards from Retired FDNY Firefighter Dan Potter.

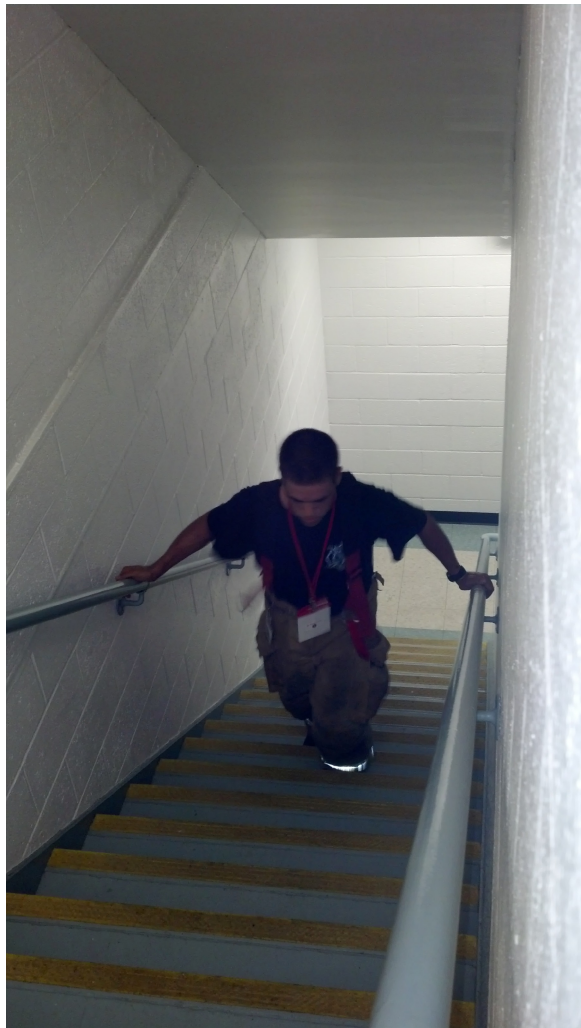


Participants climb the stairs at the state office building in memory of the fallen firefighters.



The lanyards carried by climbers in remembrance





A wonderful view of the City of Binghamton from the 18th floor of the State office Building could be enjoyed after completing the climb