



## **NJ 2021 CHAPTER REPORT**

### **Membership**

40 Members

22 are plus members

1 is a comp

### **Financial**

As of 12-31-21 \$533.38

The NJ state Forest Fire Service still maintains and operates 21 fire towers within the state 7 in the north, 8 in the central and 6 in the southern part of the state. The towers that do not have a full time operator are being staffed by part timers as need at this time. The forest fire service has been talking about hiring a few full time operators but not sure if that will happen due to the state budget right now. The fire season started a bit early for 2021 as by the end of January the towers were being staffed on class 2 days and higher thru June and in Sept thru mid December as needed. The towers were staffed around 70 days in the north and in the central and southern part of the state towers staffed a bit more closer to 100 days due to the sandy soil dries out faster then in the north part is more dirt and clay and holds more moisture longer after a rain storm. This year 4 northern towers participated in the tower lighting project that NY towers do on Saturday during Labor day weekend from 2100-2130 to let the public know those central and operators are there watching over them for forest fires. This year Catfish tower which is on the AT and in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is maintained and operated by the NJ Forest Fire Service will mark 100yrs young in 2022. Bob Wolff who staffs this tower advised that there are plans to celebrate the occasion with a few events during the year.

Submitted by

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