

# ALBANY COUNTY REPORT

## DECEMBER 2021

### **SLINGERLANDS FIRE DEPT TO HOST DECEMBER QUARTERLY MEETING**

The Slingerlands Fire Dept will host the next meeting of the Association on December 8<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:30 PM. President Burt Frederick urges all members to try to attend and take an active part in the Association. The meeting will be held at the Slingerlands Fire Station located on New Scotland Road (Route 85) in Slingerlands. Please Note that MASKS MUST BE WORN WHILE INSIDE THE FIRE STATION.

### **BILL ECK HONORED AT ANNUAL DINNER WITH FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Walter W "Bill" Eck Jr. was honored at the Annual Dinner with this year's Firefighter of the Year Award. Chief Craig Sleurs read the letter of Nomination that was submitted and Bill's Brother Dave Eck accepted the award on behalf of Bill's Family and thanked everyone for honoring Bill. During the meeting the membership approved the renaming of the firefighter of the year award to the WALTER W "BILL" ECK JR. FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD.

### **SLINGERLANDS FIRE DEPT WINS BEST OVERALL AT THIS YEAR'S MUSTER**

The Slingerlands Fire Dept won the Walter W. Eck Sr Memorial Traveling Trophy at this year's ACVFA Muster hosted by the Fort Hunter Fire Dept on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Slingerlands also won trophies for best appearing Men's Color Guard, Best appearing Pumper and Best appearing Antique. Guilderland Center won the award for best appearing Ladder and Fort Hunter won trophies for best appearing rescue and best appearing Utility Vehicle. Also taking part were New Salem Fire Dept and Elsmere Fire Co. The Association wishes to Thank all that took part and Fort Hunter for hosting the Muster.

### **NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL**

We now have 196 that receive the newsletter by E mail. To receive the newsletter by E mail send an E Mail to the editor requesting the newsletter be sent that way. Send the E mail to [jlwsec@gmail.com](mailto:jlwsec@gmail.com) Every E mailed newsletter saves the Association \$1.10 Also the E mail editions will have pictures if any That

will be in color. Mailed copies will be in Black and white.

### **SEASONS GREETINGS**

THE OFFICERS OF THE ALBANY COUNTY VFA AND LADIES AUXILIARY WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OF OUR MEMBERS, ALL FIREFIGHTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON

### **BY LAW CHANGE APPROVED**

At the Annual Dinner meeting the membership approve two by law changes. The changes were to Article 3 Section 5 which increased the dues to Ten Dollars for individual members and Article 3 section 6 which increased Company/Department dues to \$15. These changes will be reflected in next year's Dues statements. This is the First Time since the Association was formed in 1976 that the dues have been increased.

### **NEW MEMBERS**

The Association welcomes new members Anthony Papa and Kevin James Brunizk both from the Voorheesville Fire Dept. Welcome

### **LADIES AUXILIARY PAST PRESIDENT SHEILA MEARS**

Sheila Mears, Past President of the ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary passed away on Wednesday, Nov 24. Sheila's Husband George is a Past President of the ACVFA. Sheila was very active with both the ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary as well as the North Bethlehem Ladies Auxiliary. Services were held on Sunday, November 28 at the New Comer Funeral Home in Colonie

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## FACEBOOK PAGE

**For update's please check our Facebook page. Albany County Volunteer Firemen's Association.**

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

### NOTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September meeting of the Association was held on September 15 at the Coeymans Hollow Fire Station. Before the meeting Jerry DeLuca, President of Coeymans Hollow welcome everyone to Coeymans Hollow, pointed out the Fire Exits and the location of the rest rooms and hoped that all enjoy the Dinner. Chaplain Hough gave the opening prayer and a Chicken and Ribs Dinner was served to the 120 members and guests present. After Dinner The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM by President Burt Frederick. Sgt-at-arms Don Champion led the pledge of Alligence. President Frederick introduced the guests in Attendance. John Farrell, President of FASNY, Marilyn Schrader, Trustee of the FASNY Firemen's Home, Francis Butch Recchia President of Hudson Mohawk, Yale Frank and Jeri Mehan, Directors of Hudson Valley Hudson Valley Past Presidents Fred Pettingell and Chan Rivera. Past Hudson Valley Directors Mike Cesare and Bill Mehan. Albany County Ladies Auxiliary President Darlene Wilson, Greene County VFA President Don Winegard and Albany County Fire Coordinator Gerry Paris. All gave short talks on their Associations and introduced other Officers. Auxiliary President Darlene Wilson presented the Association a check for \$250.00 towards the expenses of the Newsletter. The Memorial Service was conducted by Chaplain Jonathan Hough, assisted by 1<sup>st</sup> VP Robert White. The Firefighter of the year award was presented to Walter "Bill" Eck Jr. of Slingerlands. (See page 1) Motion was made and Carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the August Directors Meeting. Communications were read and three bills were approved for payment. Treasurer Fred Pettingell gave his report. Tom With of the Burn Fund gave an update on the Burn Fund and Fred Pettingell gave a report as Treasurer of the Burn Fund. Motion was made to donate \$50.00 to Hudson Valley VFA for their Home Day. Jerry DeLuca made a motion to rename the Firefighter of the year award in honor of Bill Eck. Two changes to the bylaws were approved increasing the dues and 2 new members were voted in. Financial Secretary Clayton Ash gave his report Attending the meeting were 11 Officers, 20 Companies

represented, 104 Association members and 10 guests. The Association wishes to thank the Voorheesville Rod and Club for the use of the Club and for the refreshments made available before the meeting.

## CHAPLAINS MEMORIAL CORNER

**Winter is fast approaching and The Holiday Season is upon us. I hope everyone has a Good Thanksgiving and Great Christmas and a Happy New Year. We have had a Few Members that have gone to be with the Father in the Heavens. We need you to pray for the Families and Keep them in your prayers. If you know of any member of a Fire Company or Department that has passed away please call me on my cell at 518-894-0374 or my home phone at 518-756-7074. The names of our Deceased Members**

<b>Ernest P. Dietzel</b>	<b>Stanford Heights</b>
<b>Fred A. Hammond</b>	<b>Selkirk # 2</b>
<b>Theodore R. LaMountain</b>	<b>Westmere</b>
<b>Robert P. Lewis</b>	<b>Greenville Fire Co and Rensselaerville</b>
<b>Martin c. Lombardo</b>	<b>Coeymans</b>
<b>Claude "Bud" Rankey 111</b>	<b>Fuller Road</b>

## TAB COLLECTIONS

If you have been keeping those tabs please bring them to the next meeting when we meet again and if I am not there the Secretary will make sure I get them. Thanks to all who brought their Tabs to the dinner meeting and to Jim Margiasso for the large amount of tabs he dropped off. The Shriners and I thank you for all of your support.

## COEYMANS FIRE COMPANY LADIES AUXILIARY HOLIDAY FAIR DECEMBER 4

**The Coeymans Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary will be having their Annual Holiday Fair on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Coeymans Fire Station located at 67 Church Street in Coeymans. The Fair will run from 9 AM to 3 PM with more 40 crafters and suppliers available. Breakfast and Lunch will**

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**be available and there will be raffles taking place. Come to the Fair and get that special Holiday Gift.**

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**ACVFALA would like to wish everyone Happy Holidays from Thanksgiving to the New Year. Stay safe and warm and please check on your neighbor either by a phone call or a visit, they are part of us too.**

## LADIES AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

**The Ladies Auxiliary of the Albany County Volunteer Fireman's Association is pleased to announce they will once again present their one-time only scholarship of \$2500 for the year 2022. The applicant must live in Albany County and the applicant or a member of the applicant's immediate family must be associated with a Fire Department/company or Auxiliary that is a member in good standing with the Albany County Volunteer Fireman's Association or Ladies Auxiliary of the same. The Applicant must be applying to further their education at a 2 year or 4 year college. Deadline for applications is April 1, 2022. If you are interested in receiving an application please contact Diane Burega at either 518-858-9084 or by E mail [Dburega13@gmail.com](mailto:Dburega13@gmail.com)**

## AUXILIARY FUND RAISER

Looking for a Christmas present, why not purchase a daily lottery raffle ticket from the Auxiliary. These raffle tickets are great to insert in a Christmas card to your family and friends. They are only \$5 for a month of chances to win. The proceeds help us to give a worthy student in Albany County a \$2500 scholarship. Please contact Karen McDonald at 518-477-4351 or any member of the Auxiliary for tickets.

## AUXILIARY NEWS

Congratulations to Carolyn Day from Delmar Aux. on her 50 years as a member of LAFASNY and Darlene Wilson from Elsmere Aux on her 40 years as a member of LAFASNY. The presentations were made by LAFASNY Past President Sue Scognamiglio and President Diana Balling at the Firemen's Home in Hudson. See photos next column

Ladies we are still looking for hosts for our meetings. Refreshments are not necessary to host a meeting. We can even use your outside pavilion in warmer weather. Please let us know how your auxiliary can assist the County Auxiliary.

Condolences to the families of Barbara VanZetten from New Salem Aux. and Connie Rukwid from Elsmere Aux on their recent passing. Please keep Mimi Houck, Sheila Mears and Carolyn DeCerce in your thoughts and prayers as they are now residing in nursing homes in the Albany area.

ACVFALA would like to congratulate Diana Balling, secretary of ACVFALA on her achievement as Past President of Hudson Mohawk VFALA at a recent event held in her honor.

**Members and Auxiliaries please check your dues status. We do not want to drop or suspend anyone. You may send your \$5 dues check to Treasurer-ACVFALA, 27 Van Buren Avenue, Albany NY 12205**

**Below is Carolyn Day receiving her 50 year award.**



**Below on the left is Darlene Wilson receiving her 40 year award**

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**50 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS**

Pictured below are Colonie Village Fire Company members Lou Lourinia on the left and Michael Powers on the right as they receive their 50 year Service awards on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Both received Awards from FASNY presented by Tom With, Hudson Mohawk VFA presented by Butch Recchia and Hudson Valley VFA presented by Fred Pettingell.



Not present was John Moser, who will receive his 50 year awards at a later date

## LATHAM FD HONORS MEMBERS

The Latham Fire Dept recently honored Three of their Members with 50 year service awards and one member for 60 years. Those honored were John Tweedie for 60 years of Service; Michael Audino, John Hebert and Arthur Wagoner for 50

years of Service. They all received certificates from FASNY presented by Tom With, Hudson Valley presented by Fred Pettingell, Hudson Mohawk presented by Butch Recchia and Albany County VFA presented by John Webb.

Pictured in the next column from top to bottom is ACVFA Secretary John Webb presenting certificates to John Tweedie, Arthur Wagner, John Hebert and Michael Audino.





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FASNY Firemen's Home and let them know that we are thinking of them. I'm sure They will appreciate it. There are Four members from Albany County who are Home members; Randy Drober, George Fink, Jason Wheatly and Robert Darling. The Address is

Name of Resident  
C/O FASNY Firemen's Home  
125 Harry Howard Ave.  
Hudson NY 12534

## GUILDERLAND CENTER TO HOST BROOKS BBQ

The Guilderland Center Fire Dept. will be hosting a Brooks BBQ at their Station on Wednesday December 1 from 3PM until sold out. Take out/take home event only. The Station is located on School Road in Guilderland Center.

## BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AT VOORHEESVILLE

The Voorheesville Fire Dept will hold their Annual Breakfast with Santa on Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup> from 7 AM to Noon. Eggs cooked to order, toast, pancakes, French Toast, Bacon, Sausage, coffee, tea and juice. Breakfast is \$9 for 12 and older. \$5 for ages 6 to 11 and free for those 5 and under. Will be held at the Voorheesville Fire Station at 12 Altamont Road in Voorheesville.

## MEETING DATES FOR 2022

Locations are needed for the Association meetings for 2022. The dates are March 9, 2022, May 11 (Annual Meeting), August 10(Directors Meeting) and Dec 14, 2022. Elsmere Fire Co will be hosting the Sept. Dinner Meeting. For more info on hosting a meeting contact John Webb by E Mail at [jlwsec@gmail.com](mailto:jlwsec@gmail.com) or by cell at 518-256-7359

## HOLIDAY CARDS FOR HOME MEMBERS

Now that the Holiday Season is upon us why not send a Holiday Card to our Volunteers at the

## ACVFA CURRENT OFFICERS

President	Burton Frederick	861-6635
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Robert White	772-9807
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Tom Cascone	441-5162
Recording Secretary	John Webb	256-7359
Treasurer	Fred Pettingell	466-6357
Financial Secretary	Clayton Ash	861-7445
Chaplain	Jonathan Hough	894-0374
Sargent-at-Arms	Don Champion	872-1676
Board Chairman	Matt Wilcenski	650-6115

## BATTALION DIRECTORS

First Battalion	Mike Taylor	858-5342
Second Battalion	Frank Papa	765-3764
Third Battalion	Charles Feldmann	859-6883
Fourth Battalion	Conor Scully	925-4239
Fifth Battalion	David Dodge	861-8525
Sixth Battalion	Marc Platt	461-5141

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

### ALBANY COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Member Company/Department \$  
15.00

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Individual Member \$  
10.00

Associate Company/Department \$  
15.00

Associate Individual Member \$  
10.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ &

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Dept/Company \_\_\_\_\_

Home/Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Elected \_\_\_\_\_ as

Member \_\_\_\_\_

Please return Application and the correct fee to  
Clayton Ash, ACVFA Financial Secretary, 1138  
Meadowdale Road, Altamont NY 12009

Thank you for Joining

### DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

If you would like to publicize your upcoming event or news about your Company or Auxiliary that you would like to share please send the information to the Editor John Webb. Best way is by E mail at [jlwsec@gmail.com](mailto:jlwsec@gmail.com) By phone at 518-756-3281 or by mail: John Webb, 30 Van Buren Ave, Ravena NY 12143. The deadline for the next Issue is February 15, 2021 This issue can include information on events happening anytime after March 1.

### CALENDER OF EVENTS

Dec 1 – Guilderland Center FD Drive thru Brooks  
BBQ Chicken Dinner. Info on page 5

Dec 4 – Coeymans Fire Co Auxiliary Annual  
Holiday Fair. Info on page 2

Dec 5 – Voorheesville Fire Dept Breakfast with  
Santa. Info on page 5

Dec 8 – ACVFA Quarterly Meeting at Slingerlands.  
Starts at 7:30 PM. Masks are required

Jan 22 – Hudson Valley Past Presidents Dinner at  
Best Western Hotel, Kingston NY

March 9 ACVFA Quarterly meeting scheduled.  
Need a host

Please remember that any event listed is subject  
to change due to the continuing changes with the  
covid – 19 rules. Please check with the sponsoring  
organization to make sure the event is still  
scheduled.

### ADVERTISING

The ACVFA is always taking Ads for the Newsletter  
to help with expenses. We wish to thank the  
following for their support this past year; river  
Valley Radio, Josephine “Josie” Bruno and Diane  
Balling, President of LAFASNY. The size of the ads  
are Business card size and cost \$25 per Issue or  
\$75 for Four Issues. No ads will be allowed that  
could cause any embarrassment to the  
Association or that promotes any type of illegal  
activity. For more information contact the editor  
John Webb at 518-756-3281 or by E mail at  
[jlwsec@gmail.com](mailto:jlwsec@gmail.com)

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**BERKSHIRE  
HATHAWAY**  
HomeServices



JOSEPHINE "JOSIE" BRUNO  
Licensed Real Estate Associate Broker

Blake, REALTORS  
205 Delaware Avenue  
Delmar, NY 12054  
518-439-4943 office  
518-439-0728 fax  
518-461-7224 cell  
Jbruno@bhhsblake.com  
Jbruno.bhhsblake.com

 Each Office Independently Owned and Operated



Serving the area as a Volunteer Firefighter  
and EMT for over 32 years.

**Ladies Auxiliary of the  
Firemen's Association of the State of New York**



President Diana Balling  
1041 Blue Mountain Road  
Saugerties NY 12477

Home: 845-246-7805  
Cell: 845-389-7115  
Email: [dlib@megacity.org](mailto:dlib@megacity.org)