

# ALBANY COUNTY REPORT

MAY 2021

## MAY MEETING TO BE HELD ON MAY 12 AT VOORHEESVILLE FIRE STATION

The next meeting of the Association is scheduled for MAY 12, 2021. The meeting will be held at the VOORHEESVILLE FIRE STATION located on Altamont Road in Voorheesville. The meeting will start at 7:30 PM. For those attending Masks are required and Social Distancing will be observed. Seating is limited. This meeting is the Annual Meeting of the Association and also Election of Officers. At this time the Association has candidates for all elected positions in the Association. Please try to attend this meeting and bring a new member with you. Thanks

### ACVFA LADIES AUXILIARY TO MEET JUNE 28th

The Onesquethaw Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting the Annual Meeting of the ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary on June 28<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:30. The meeting will be held at the Clarksville Station located on Tarrytown Road in Clarksville. More Info on Page 3

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

AS my term as President winds down, I would like to thank all of you for your support in these trying times. When First Vice President Burt Frederick becomes President at the Annual meeting please support him and the elected Officers. Please keep the ACVFA going strong and keep getting new members. Please volunteer to serve on a committee and help the Association go forward. If any body wants to help out getting new members you can call me on my house phone at 518-650-6115. Thank you for letting me serve as President. Matthew Wilcenski

### NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

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 \$1.05 Also the E mail editions will have pictures if any That will be in color. Mailed copies will be in Black and white.

## WALTER W. "Bill" ECK JR

The Albany County VFA and the Volunteer Fire Service in Albany County, Hudson Valley and The State of New York suffered a great loss with the passing of Walter W. "Bill" Eck Jr. on March 19, 2021. Bill was a Past president of the Association and served on many committees including chairman of the FireFighter of the year Award, the Muster/Inspection Day, Legislative Breakfast and Haz Mat. He also served on the Burn Fund (Secretary), Legislative and wrote many articles for the Newsletter which as Editor I was grateful for. Bill was always ready to help the Association with anything when asked. Bill also was chairman of the Albany County Fire Advisory Board, A member of the Board of Trustees of the FASNY FIREMENS Home, Second Vice President of the Hudson Valley VFA and a past President of Hudson Mohawk VFA, Royal Order of Blue Vests and Hudson Mohawk Night Hawks. His passing was most felt by his fellow members of the Slingerlands Fire Department where he was a devoted member for 44 years. Bill served as the current President of the Slingerlands Fire Dept as well as a past Chief and the current Chairman of the Slingerlands Fire District. Bill will be missed by all who knew him.

### FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Many of our member Companies and Departments each year honor one of their members as their Firefighter of the year. Why not submit that persons name for the Associations Firefighter of the Year Award. To do so, write up a description of the event or reason for the nomination on a company letterhead. Have the Chief Officer sign it and send it to the Association Secretary John Webb, 30 Van Buren Ave Ravena NY 12143. The deadline is August 1 but don't wait do it today.

### FACEBOOK PAGE

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

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## MARCH MEETING NOTES

The March Quarterly meeting was held on March 10 at the Town of Guilderland Training Center in Guilderland Center. Meeting was called to order by President Matt Wilcenski at 7:30. The Pledge to the Flag was said and Chaplain Hough gave the opening Prayer. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, communications were read and two bills were approved for payment. Treasurer Fred Pettingell read his report and it was approved. Committee reports were received from Newsletter, Muster, Legislative, Nominating, Dinner and Burn Fund. In Old Business an Appeal Letter has been completed and will be sent to each of the Companies asking for Financial Support. In New Business the Association endorsed Robert Outhouse for president and Bill Eck for First Vice President of Hudson Valley VFA. The Association voted to Contribute to the Hudson Valley Firefighters Club to help with the costs of Fred Pettingell's Past President's Dinner last year. Fred Pettingell will be the Associations delegate to the Hudson Valley Convention in June. Financial Secretary presented his report and it was approved. In Good of Organization Home Trustee Bill Eck reported on the activities at the Firemens Home and also on Hudson Valley's upcoming Seminars and Convention. Roll Call showed 15 companies and associations represented and 18 members and Officers present. Chaplain Hough gave the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

## THANK YOU

The Association wishes to Thank Ted Raymond of the Guilderland Fire Chiefs Association and Robert White of Altamont for making the Arrangements for this meeting. We also Thank Robert and Stacy White and The Altamont Fire Dept. for providing the refreshments after the meeting.

## CHAPLAINS MEMORIAL CORNER

Spring is here and Hopefully we will be getting back to normal soon. Hope all are doing well. We have some names to be added to our list of Firefighters that have passed away. Please keep them and their Families in your prayers. If you hear or know of a member that has passed away or is ill please give me a call on my cell phone at 518-894-0374

Walter "Bill" Eck Jr	Slingerlands Past President ACVFA
Richard Hoefer	Shaker Road
Peyton Morse	Shaker Road
Fred Field	Shaker Road
James E Cordell	Colonie Village
Edwin Rosa	Guilderland Center
Leonard B Berschivinger	Guilderland Center

## TAB COLLECTIONS

I am still collecting them and I know your Fire House is getting full. Summer is just around the corner.

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. The Shriners and I thank you for all of your support.

## GUILDERLAND CENTER NEWS

The Guilderland Center Fire Dept. is mourning the loss of our Honorary member and brother Bill Eck ( as I am sure everyone is). He did great things for us and all the Fire Service! He was an exemplary example and role model and will be missed greatly. Our Condolences are with his family and the Slingerlands Fire District.

**BROOKS BBQ** – We are hosting a Brooks BBQ fundraiser on August 25 at the Guilderland Center Fire Station from 3 to 6 PM

**GOLF OUTING** – WE will be hosting the Annual Doug Lawton Memorial Golf Tournament on July

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28. Information will be sent out to all County Companies. Contact either Burt Frederick or Tom Lawton for more information.

## AUXILIARY MEETING AT CLARKSVILLE

The Annual meeting of the LAACVFA will be held on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the Clarksville Station of the Onesquethaw Fire Company. Meeting starts at 7:30 PM. (More info in next column over)

## AUXILIARY FUND RAISER

The Ladies Auxiliary are still selling their Fund Raising Tickets based on the Daily Lottery. Monies raised from the sale of tickets enables the Auxiliary to give out a \$2500 scholarship each year to a deserving student and many of our other community Activities and the Firemen's Home in Hudson. The winner each day is determined by the number drawn each evening in the New York State Lottery. Tickets are \$5.00 and are good for one month. To obtain a ticket please contact Karen McDonald at 518-477-4351 or any member of the Auxiliary .

## ONESQUETHAW AUXILIARY FUND RAISERS

The Onesquethaw Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting a Can and Bottle drive on the following dates:

Saturday, June 12, 2021

Saturday, August 21, 2021

Saturday, October 16, 2021

These events are from 8 AM to Noon and will be held at the Feura Bush Fire Station located at 6 Unionville-Feura Bush Road in Feura Bush. We Thank you for your support!

## LADIES

If you would like to publicize your upcoming event or something about your Auxiliary 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 August 20 2021 This issue can include information on events happening anytime after September 1.

## AUXILIARY NEWS

Spring has sprung and the Snow, yes Snow has finally left us. Now we can enjoy the beautiful flowers and new leaves on the trees. Yes, the sun has been shining on us most every day

SAVE THE DATE – Our June 28<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting will be held at the Onesquethaw Volunteer Fire Company Station 1 at 2178 Tarrytown Road in Clarksville (phone 518-768-2823) starting at 7:30 PM. I would like to express my sincere thanks for letting us use your facility. I invite all of our members to attend to hear who our \$2500 scholarship winner is, and most of all, see many of our members in person again. Masks and social distancing will be in place. Hopefully all of our members have had their vaccine

DUES: Have you check your last dues card, are you up to date. Remember the new year starts June 1, 2021. If you have not paid your dues please send your check for \$5 per year to our LAACVFA Treasurer at 27 Van Buren Ave. Albany NY 12205. Your membership dues must be current in order to vote at the Annual meeting.

ELECTIONS: Please let us know if you are interested in being an Officer. The positions are: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer and 3 year Board of Director. You may send your interest to [dwilson4981@gmail.com](mailto:dwilson4981@gmail.com)

LOTTERY TICKETS: We could use more sellers and buyers of our lottery tickets. The money is used for our scholarship program. Why not take one or have your Auxiliary buy a year's worth. Let's make this program a success.

SEPTEMBER MEETING: We are still looking for a host for the September meeting Maybe some Fire company/Department might have a pavilion we could use since the weather is still good. October's meeting host is still open. Please check your calendars for these dates, the last Monday of the month

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Remember our Auxiliary is only as strong as its membership. Think about bringing a non-member from your Auxiliary to our next meeting maybe they will join our wonderful Auxiliary.

## FIRE POLICE NEWS

The Albany County Fire Officers will keep the members informed of our future meetings on the Fire Police web site [www.albanycofp.com](http://www.albanycofp.com)

## SAVE THE DATES

The biennial Walter W. Eck Fire Police Seminar is still scheduled for October 2, 2021 at the Fuller Road Fire Station. More information will be available in the future.

## COEYMANS HOLLOW ELECTION RESULTS

The Coeymans Hollow VFC conducted their election of Officers recently. The following have been elected as Firematic Officers:

Chief Bill Kapusta, 1<sup>st</sup> Asst Chief Jody Burrows, 2<sup>nd</sup> Asst Chief Mike Beachler, 1<sup>st</sup> Captain Dan Haight, 2<sup>nd</sup> Captain Steve McNeily, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Dan Houghtaling, 2nd Lt. Tim Pinson, EMS Captain Pam Rafferty, EMS Lt Jenny Mazzei.

Administrative Officers are President Jerry Deluca, Vice President Michelle Kapusta, Treasurer Sherle Slingerland, Financial Secretary Sue Stratta, Secretary Stephanie Watson, Membership Secretary Pam Rafferty, 2 Year Director Tony Kapusta and Sgt-at-Arms Shawn Slingerland.

## LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Here is the 2021 Fasnys Legislative Agenda for the 2021 Legislative Session. Please contact your Legislator in the Senate and Assembly to let them know that as a Volunteer Firefighter you support this legislation.

VFBL/VAWBL – This would increase benefits for partial permanent disability benefits levels based on the cost of living after the effective date of legislation Senate Bill S.4631 (Gaughran) Assembly Bill A. 5896 Magnarelli

AMENDING LOSAP POINT SYSTEM Legislation that will address the need to adjust how LOSAP points are earned to ensure firefighters can still receive these benefits. Senate Bill S.8863 (Kaminsky)

Assembly A.10928 (Thiele)

FAIR PLAY AMBULANCE COST RECOVERY FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS. This would allow Fire Departments to bill for Ambulance services to even the playing field with all other ambulance providers across the State. Senate Bill S.3685 (Brooks) Assembly Bill

A.1778-A (Jones)

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS Relates to the regulation of chemicals in upholstered furniture, mattresses and electronic enclosures; bans the use of certain Fire retardant chemicals in furniture, juvenile products and mattresses; bans the use of certain fire retardant chemicals in electronic casings. Senate S.8214 (Kaminsky)

AMEND PENAL CODE TO ADD ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF A FIRE AND EMERGENCY PERSONNEL Make it a crime to illegally circumvent uniform code by making illegal conversions a charge of "Endangering the welfare of a Fire and Emergency personnel. The conversions may not have proper egress and could create an extremely dangerous situation for Firefighters Senate Bill S.6264 (Carlucci) Assembly Bill A.1797 (Zebrowski)

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Updates on legislation can be found on the FASNY Web site [www.fasny.com/legislation](http://www.fasny.com/legislation)

(The editor thanks FASNY for This Information)

Note: As of April 24 the Fair Play cost recovery Bill has passed in the Senate but no action yet by the Assembly.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

Would you like to help the Association and the Fire Service in Albany County? Please volunteer to serve on one of the Association's Committees. All Committees can always use an extra member or two. We especially need members for Ways & Means (Fund Raising) and Golf. With the passing of Bill Eck, who chaired or served on many Committees we need members for FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD, Haz-Mat, Membership, Muster and Legislative. Other Committees are Auditing, By-Laws and Newsletter. Please contact any of the Officers if interested in any of the Committees.

## HELP WANTED FOR GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Association is still looking for someone to run the Annual Golf Tournament. With things starting to open up, especially outdoor activities it may be possible to have a Golf Tournament this year. Other than Dues this is the major Fund raiser for the Association. If interested in helping the Association please contact President Matt Wilcenski at 518-650-6115, or Secretary John Webb at 518-256-7359

## 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)

## ACVFA CURRENT OFFICERS

President	Matthew Wilcenski	650-6115
1 <sup>s</sup> Vice President	Burton Frederick	861-6635
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Robert White	772-9807
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	Robert White	772-9807

## 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	\$10.00
Individual Member	\$ 5.00
Associate Company/Department	\$10.00
Associate Individual Member	\$ 5.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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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

## CALENDER OF EVENTS

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.

MAY 12 ACVFA Annual meeting at the  
Voorheesville Fire Station. 7:30 PM Info on Page 1  
JUNE 17 and 18th Hudson Valley Annual  
Convention to be hosted by the Saugerties Fire  
Dept. Meetings will be held but unfortunately the  
planned parades and Block party will not take  
place. Info at [www.hvvfa.com](http://www.hvvfa.com)

JUNE 28 ACVFA LADIES AUXILIARY Annual  
Meeting at the Clarksville Fire Station, Tarrytown  
Road in Clarksville 7:30 PM. Info on page 3

JULY 28 Doug Lawton Memorial Golf Tournament  
hosted by Guilderland Center FD. Info on Page 2

AUGUST 5 through the 7<sup>th</sup> - 149<sup>th</sup> Annual FASNY  
Convention to be held in West Harrison NY.  
Registration coming soon. Details will be available  
at [fasny.com/events/fasny-annual-convention](http://fasny.com/events/fasny-annual-convention)

AUGUST 11 ACVFA Board of Directors Meeting.  
Need a host

August 25 – Brooks BBQ hosted by Guilderland  
Center Fire Dept at the Fire Station on School  
Road in Guilderland Center.

SEPT 15 ACVFA Annual Dinner Coeymans Hollow.

Locations are needed for the Association meetings  
for 2021. The dates are August 11 (Directors  
Meeting) and Dec 8, 2021 (Quarterly Meeting).  
Coeymans Hollow is scheduled to host 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

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS AUGUST 20, 2021. IF  
YOUR COMPANY/DEPARTMENT IS PLANNING AN  
EVENT FOR THIS SUMMER IT CAN BE INCLUDED IN  
THIS ISSUE.

PLEASE SEND ALL NEWS TO JOHN WEBB, EDITOR  
BY E MAIL AT [jlwsec@gmail.com](mailto:jlwsec@gmail.com) Thank you to  
everyone who contributed news for this issue.

Please support our Advertisers. The Association  
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support helps make this newsletter possible.

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MEETING DATES FOR 2021



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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: [dlb@megacity.org](mailto:dlb@megacity.org)