

ALBANY COUNTY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2023

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ANNUAL DINNER AT ALTAMONT WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 20

The Annual Dinner of the Association and September Quarterly meeting will be held on Wednesday Sept. 20 at the ALTAMONT Fire Station located at 115 Main Street in Altamont. Dinner will be served at 7 PM with appetizers at 6 PM. Dinner will consist of 1/4 Chicken and Ribs Baked potatoes, Cole Slaw, Dessert and all Beverages. Cost of the Dinner is \$35.00. Deadline for Tickets is Sept 12. The Association's Quarterly meeting will begin at 8 PM and will include the Annual Memorial Service and the Firefighter of the year award presentation. Information on the Dinner has been sent out to all Companies and Departments. If you haven't received one contact either Chief Paul Miller or Robert White, Association President. **DON'T FORGET THE DEADLINE IS SEPT. 12TH**

MUSTER/INSPECTION DAY AT SLINGERLANDS SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16TH

The Annual Muster/Inspection Day is scheduled for Saturday, Sept 16th and will be hosted by the Slingerlands Fire Dept at their Fire Station located on New Scotland Road (Route 85) in Slingerlands. Lineup is at 11 AM and Judging will begin at Noon. Information has been sent out to each company and Department. 9 Trophies will be awarded and the Walter Eck Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the unit judged best overall. The Association and the Slingerlands Fire Dept. hope for a good turnout of Companies and Departments for this event that was organized a few years ago by Bill ECK to take the place of the parades that use to take place each year. For more info contact Association Secretary John Webb at 518-256-7359

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

We now have 201 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 Every E Mailed newsletter saves the Association \$1.20 Also the E mail editions will have pictures if any That will be in color. Mailed copies will be in Black and white.

THANK YOU ALBANY COUNTY

The Albany County Volunteer Firefighters Association would like to thank the County Executive and members of the Albany County Legislature for passing the Local Law that grants the Volunteer Firefighters a Tax Exemption on their county Tax on their property taxes. We also thank the Legislature for approving funds to help rebuild the training centers in Guilderland, Colonie and East Berne that are used by many of the Volunteer Fire Companies and Departments in Albany County. This was accomplished through the efforts of Albany County Fire Coordinator Gerry Paris.

AUXILIARY MEETS SEPT 25 AT S.W. PITTS

The ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary will meet on Monday, Sept 25th at the S.W. Pitts Hose Company (Latham Fire Dept.) located on Old Loudon Road in Latham. Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM and the meeting will start at 7 PM. More Auxiliary news on Page 3

ROBERT WHITE ELECTED PRESIDENT AT ANNUAL MEETING

Robert White of the Altamont Fire Department was elected President of the ACVFA at the Annual Association meeting held on May 11 at West Albany Tom Cascone of Voorheesville was elected First Vice President and Matt Wilcenski of Delmar was elected Second Vice President. A full report of the Annual meeting is on page 2 of the newsletter and an updated list of Officers and their numbers are on page 5.

FOURTH BATTALION VACANCY

The Association is looking for someone to fill the 4th Battalion Director's position. Anyone from Boght Community, Maplewood, Menands, Schuyler Heights, S.W. Pitts or Verdooy Fire Companies are eligible for this position. If you are interested please contact president Robert White at 518-772-9807, Board Chairman Burt Frederick at 518-861-6635 or Secretary John Webb at 518-756-3281.

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NOTES FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual meeting of the Association was held on May 10, 2023 at the West Albany Fire Station. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Burt Frederick. Butch Recchia and Larry Morrell welcomed everyone to West Albany and pointed out the Fire Exits. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and Chaplain Hough gave the opening Prayer. The minutes of the March meeting were read and approved. Communications were read and one bill was approved for payment. Committee reports were received from the Newsletter, Legislative, Nominating, Muster, Ways & Means, Firefighter of the Year, By Laws, Burn Fund, and Annual Dinner. There was considerable discussion on the Burn Fund concerning the Auxiliary and their representation on the committee. The Auxiliary nominated someone to be on the committee but no action was taken on this. It was decided to have the secretary look back through the minutes since the burn fund started and its operation. Treasurer Fred Pettingell gave his report as well as Financial Secretary Clayton Ash. In Old Business delegates were selected for the Hudson Valley VFA and for the FASNY Conventions. The Burn Fund is switching banks in order to save on fees. Election of Officers took place. See page one for the results. In new business a motion was made to take a full page ad in Cossackie Hose 3 ad book. Motion was made to buy three tickets to the Greene County VFA Dinner at Cossackie. Chuck Feldmann President of the Albany County Volunteer Fire Police also spoke (See page 4). Yale Frank of Cossackie Hose Three gave information concerning the Greene County Convention they are hosting in Sept. He also spoke about the upcoming Hudson Valley Convention. Guests in attendance were Darlene Wilson President of the Albany County Ladies Auxiliary, Francis "Butch" Recchia Albany County Vice President for Hudson Valley, Yale Frank, Director on Hudson Valley VFA, and Fred Pettingell, Past President of Hudson Valley VFA. Roll Call showed 18 Officers and members in Attendance at the meeting.

TAB COLLECTIONS

I would like to thank Charles and Sharon Feldmann and his friend as well as Past President Charles Powell for all the tabs. We went to the Shriners and deposited them into the Barrel. If you have any I am still collecting them. We always need them. Thank you for your support.

CHAPLAINS MEMORIAL CORNER

Summer is on its way out. I hope all had a good summer and stayed safe. Please keep the Firefighters that have passed away and their families in our prayers. Please remember to let me know when you have a member passed away or in the hospital. My number is 518-894-0374. Here are the names of our Deceased Members

Arthur F. Button	Altamont
Harry P. Coton Jr.	Fort Hunter
Anthony J. Francisconi	Ravena
Donald L. Groat	West Albany
William J. Haggart Jr.	Colonie
Eugene C. Lawlor	Fort Hunter
Louis G. Lourinia	Colonie
Richard G. Nash	Verdoy
Donald S. Palmatier	Onesquethaw
Glen R. Roberts Sr.	Maplewood
Kelly W. Thompson	New Salem
Thomas J. Wutz	Midway

CONGRATS TO JOSEPH CEA OF DELMAR

Congratulations to Joseph Cea from the Bethlehem Central High School and from Delmar for being a recipient of one of the Gerard J Buckenmeyer FASNY Volunteer Scholarship that is awarded by FASNY each Year.

HUDSON VALLEY CONVENTION PARADE WINNERS

Four Albany County Companies and Auxiliaries were awarded trophies at this year's Hudson Valley VFA Convention Parade held at West Glens Falls. Coeymans Fire Company were the big winners receiving the following trophies; most outstanding Men's and Ladies unit in line of March, Best appearing Fire Unit Dress Uniform 19 to 25 in Line, Best Overall Auxiliary and Best Appearing Auxiliary 5-10 in Line. S.W.Pitts receive Trophies for 2nd best appearing Auxiliary 5 to 10 in Line and most in Line Auxiliary, Fuller Road won for 3rd Best Appearing Bloused Uniform 8 to 19 in Line and Colonie won for 3rd Best appearing fire unit Dress uniform 14 to 18 in Line. Congrats to all who took part

AUXILIARY NEWS

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the County Auxiliary. President-Darlene Wilson, Vice President-Jamie Nazario, Recording/Financial Secretary- Diana Balling, Treasurer, Bette Skop and 3 year Director Arlene LaDuke. Congrats to all Sincere condolences to the Families of Mimi Houck of Onesquethaw and Auxiliary Past President Francis Granger of West Albany who left us during the past month for their heavenly home. From our last meeting, Jamie Nazario was appointed to the Burn Fund Committee to serve with our other member Tom Campion who was appointed at the March meeting. We want to wish our adopted Home Member Mike Hongach a Happy Birthday on August 31. Let us know if your Auxiliary can host either the March or June meetings in 2024.

LADIES AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Albany County Volunteer Fireman's Association is pleased to announce that Anthony Papa of Voorheesville and a firefighter with the Voorheesville Fire Dept. was the 2023 Scholarship winner. President Wilson at the June meeting of the Auxiliary presented Anthony with a check for \$2500 to help with his education expenses at Finger Lakes Community College as a student in the Associate in Science in Game Programming and Design. Congratulations Anthony, who also won the Robbie Prior Scholarship given by the Coeymans Fire Company

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 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 November 15, 2023. This issue can include information on events happening anytime after December 1.

AUXILIARY MEETINGS SCHEDULED

As noted on page One the Auxiliary Meeting on September 25 will be held at the S.W. Pitts Hose Company (Latham Fire Dept). This is the Annual Auxiliary Dinner Meeting. Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM and the meeting is at 7 PM. The Station is located at 225 Od Loudon Road in Latham.

The October meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary will be held on October 23rd at the West Albany Fire Station located at 112 Sand Creek Road in West Albany. Meeting begins at 7 PM.

BOGHT COMMUNITY LADIES CHICKEN BBQ

The Boght Community Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary will be having their Annual Chicken BBQ cooked by our Firefighter's on September 17th from 4 to 5 PM. Dinners are take out only. Tickets are \$15 and are prepaid only. They can be purchased by calling Penny Oreshan at 518-421-6935. The Boght Fire Station is located at 8 Preston Circle just off Route 9 in Boght Corners.

KATHIE WOOD ELECTED HVVFALA DIRECTOR

Congratulations to Kathie Wood-Champion of the Shaker Road-Loudonville Ladies Auxiliary on being elected as 1 year Director of the Hudson Valley VFA Ladies Auxiliary

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.

FIRE POLICE NEWS

Charles Feldmann, President of the Albany County Volunteer Fire Police Association spoke at the Annual Association meeting and announce that the Bi-Annual Walter Eck Fire Police seminar has been cancelled for this year. He also asked that anyone interested in helping the Fire Police Association to contact him as they are looking for someone to serve as Secretary and as Treasurer.

BUTCH RECCHIA REELECTED ALBANY COUNTY VICE PRESIDENT FOR HUDSON VALLEY VFA AND PRESIDENT OF HUDSON MOHAWK VFA

Butch Recchia of West Albany was reelected County Vice President from Albany County for the Hudson Valley VFA. at this year's Convention meeting.

HUDSON VALLEY VFA FIREMEN'S HOME DAY & LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

The Hudson Valley VFA Home Day at the Firemen's Home in Hudson will be held on Sunday, September 24 at the Firemen's Home in Hudson. Activities start at 10 AM with the Legislative Conference where the Legislative agenda and recommendations for 2024 will be worked on. Musical Entertainment by the Ghent Band from 12:45 to 1:30. Parade Line up is at 1:30 PM and Festivities begin at 2 pm. There will be refreshments and entertainment and the Firemen's Museum will be open to all.

ROAST BEEF DINNER AT BERNE

The Berne Fire Company will be having their Annual Fall Roast Beef Dinner on Sunday Oct 15, 2023. The Dinner will held at the Berne Fire Station located at 30 Canaday Hill Road (County RT 9) in Berne. The Dinner starts at 12 noon until 4 PM or sold out. Menu includes Roast Beef, mashed potatoes, Gravy, Cabbage Salad, Vegetables, Homemade Applesauce and Pie. More info on the dinner will be available on their FaceBook page soon.

BURN FUND PRESENTATION AT SLINGERLANDS

On June 18th the Albany County Volunteer Firefighters Burn Fund committee presented donations from the Burn Fund to 4 of the Families who suffered losses during an Apartment Fire in Slingerlands. There were also 4 other families who also suffered losses but could not make this presentation. They received their donations at a later time along with donations from the Slingerlands Fire Dept.



Pictured above are 4 of the 8 families along with Burn Fund chairperson Tom With, burn fund member Matt Wilcenski and representatives from the Slingerlands Fire Dept and Auxiliary who put on a Fund Raising Breakfast for the Families. Presentations were also made during the summer to a family in Coeymans and West Albany Thank you to Barbara Fischer for the photos.

ASSOCIATION'S NAME CHANGED

The New York Dept of State has approved our request to change the name of the Association. We will now be known as the Albany County Volunteer Firefighters Association

CORRECTION

The pictures of the Legislative Breakfast that were in the March Newsletter were provided by Kevin Curren of Fuller Road. My apologies for the error

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ONESQUETHAW ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 2023-2024

The Onesquethaw Volunteer Fire Company recently held its Annual election of Officers for the 2023-2024 service year. The Line Officers are as follows:

Chief	Mike Salisbury
Assistant Chief	Bob Kirk
Batt. Chief St One	Jacob Houck
St. 1 Captains	Flo Pauley
Batt Chief St Two	Rick Voorhaar
St. 2 Captains	Zack Spaulding and Ryan Voorhaar
Batt Chief St Three	James Mudge
St 3 Captains	Jeff Mudge and Michelle McCooey
Fire Police Captain	Steve Dooley Sr.
Fire Police Lt.	Wayne Hoffman, Sgts. Bill Salisbury Mike Foley and Mario DeCastro
EMS Captain	Matt Latham
EMS Lt.	Thomas Mauro
EMS Lt	Melanie Jones

Civil Officers are as follows:

President	Kevin O'Neil Jr.
Vice President	Dave Warren
Secretary	Earl Miller
Quartermaster	Mario DeCastro
Treasurer	Mike Foley
Membership Secretary	Elaine DeCastro
Chaplain	Jeff Mudge
Board of Directors:	
St 1	Chris Pierce and Scott Pauley
St 2	Bill Salisbury and Fred Spaulding
St 3	Steve Dooley Sr. and John Friehofer

Auxiliary Committee

Chair	Aubrey Salisbury
Co-Chair	Mandy Caswell
Clerk	Michaela Kawczak
Treasurer	Mandy Kirk
Chaplain	June Alberts

Congrats to All.

FACEBOOK PAGE

For updates and news please check our Facebook page. Albany County Volunteer Firemen's Association. We have also taken steps to keep the page updated

ACVFA CURRENT OFFICERS

President	Robert White	772-9807
1 st Vice President	Tom Cascone	441-5162
2 nd Vice President	Matt Wilcenski	221-3437
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	Burt Frederick	861-6635

BATTALION DIRECTORS

First Battalion	Mike Taylor	858-5342
Second Battalion	Frank Papa	765-3764
Third Battalion	Charles Feldmann	859-6883
Fourth Battalion	VACANT	
Fifth Battalion	Henry Smith	859-5088
Sixth Battalion	Marc Platt	461-5141

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

ALBANY COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Member Company/Department	\$15.00
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

CALENDER OF EVENTS

Sept 5 – 9 Greene County VFA Convention hosted by Coxsackie Hose # 3

Sept 9th Selkirk Fire Dept Fund Raiser with Skeeter Creek at Glenmont # 2 Station

Sept 16 – Annual Muster and Inspection Day at Slingerlands 11 AM Info on Page 1

Sept 17 – Boght Ladies Auxiliary Chicken BBQ at Boght Station. Info on Page 3

Sept 20 – Annual Association Dinner and Quarterly meeting at Altamont. Info on Front Page

Sept 24 – Hudson Valley VFA Home Day & legislative Conference at the Firemens Home in Hudson info Page 4

Sept 25 – ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary meeting at S.W. Pitts Dinner at 6: 30 Meeting at 7 Info page 3

Oct 3 – 9 Fire Prevention week

Oct 15 – Roast Beef Dinner at Berne. Info Page 4

Oct 24 – ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary meeting at West Albany 7 PM Info Page 3

Nov 4 & 5 FASNY Legislative Conference info below

Please remember that any event listed is subject to change. Please check with the sponsoring organization to make sure the event is still scheduled.

FASNY LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

The Annual Legislative Conference of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York is scheduled for the weekend of Nov 3,4 & 5. It is to be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy NY. Items of legislative concern will be discussed and the Legislative agenda will be approved for the 2024 Legislative Session. For More information please go to FASNY'S website. www.fasny.com

GREENE COUNTY CONVENTION SCHEDULE

This years Greene County VFA Convention schedule is available on the Facebook page of the Host, Coxsackie Hose 3. The Parades are on Friday night, Sept 8 with Skeeter Creek Playing after and the Dress Parade on Saturday, Sept 9 with the Refrigerators playing.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS NOVEMBER 15, 2023
PLEASE SEND ALL NEWS TO JOHN WEBB, EDITOR
BY E MAIL AT jlwsec@gmail.com Thank you

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