

# ALBANY COUNTY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2024

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## ANNUAL DINNER AT VOORHEESVILLE WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18

The Annual Dinner of the Association and September Quarterly meeting will be held on Wednesday Sept. 18 at the VOORHEESVILLE Fire Station located at 12 Altamont Road in Voorheesville. Doors will open at 5:30 PM, we will have appetizers and beverages available until serving of Dinner at 7 PM. This year's meal will be provided by Rolling Smoke Restaurant. Dinner will consist of Chicken and Ribs, Corn on the Cob, potatoes, Cole Slaw, and Rolland all Beverages. Cost of the Dinner is \$30.00. Deadline for Tickets is Sept 9. The Association's Quarterly meeting will begin after Dinner 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 Tom Cascone or Past Chief Frank Papa at 518-441-2015 President. **DON'T FORGET THE DEADLINE IS SEPT. 9th**

## MUSTER/INSPECTION DAY AT SLINGERLANDS SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21st

The Annual Muster/Inspection Day is scheduled for Saturday, Sept 21st 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 John Webb at [jlwsec@gmail.com](mailto:jlwsec@gmail.com)

## FOURTH BATTALION VACANCY

The Association is looking for someone to fill the 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

## AUXILIARY MEETS SEPT 23 AT S.W. PITTS

The ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary will meet on Monday, Sept 23rd at S.W.Pitts in Latham The meeting will start at 7 PM. More Auxiliary news on Page 3

## ROBERT WHITE REELECTED 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 8 at East Berne. 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.

## BURN FUND PRESENTATION AT COEYMANS HOLLOW

On July 30<sup>h</sup> the Albany County Volunteer Firefighters Burn Fund committee presented a donation from the Burn Fund to the Kunuria-Marcello Family who suffered the loss of their House in a Fire in Coeymans Hollow. They also received donation from the Organized Planning Fire Companies of the Town of Coeymans and New Baltimore



Pictured above are members of the Coeymans Hollow Fire Corp and the ACVFA Burn Fund presenting the Kunuria and Marcello Family with donations from the Albany County VFA Burn Fund and the Organized Planning Fire Companies.

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## NOTES FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual meeting of the Association was held on May 8, 2024 at the East Berne Fire Station. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Robert White. Butch Recchia and Larry Morrell welcomed everyone to East Berne 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, Nominating, Muster, Ways & Means, Firefighter of the Year, Burn Fund, and Annual Dinner. 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. Election of Officers took place. All Officers remained in their positions as there was no opposition. In Good of the Organization Yale Frank of Coxsackie Hose Three gave information concerning the Greene County Convention in Sept. He also spoke about the upcoming Hudson Valley Convention in Saugerties and The Fasnys Convention in Niagara Falls. There is also a Fund Raiser going on to raise money for an Ice Cream Machine for the Firefighters Home. Guests in attendance were 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 14 Officers and members in Attendance at the meeting.

## NOTES FROM THE DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board of Directors met on August 14 at Voorheesville with 13 Board members in Attendance. The Board voted on the winner of the Firefighter of the year award and approved the purchase of 6 Trophies for the muster. They also approved the invitations to seven guests for the Dinner. Voorheesville updated everyone on this years dinner. They are all set and are hoping for good weather. The ways and means committee reported that 15 companies have purchased raffle Tickets so far. Other reports were received from the newsletter and Burn Fund. Board members announced dates for various events taking place at their home Companies.

## 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:

Michael L. Barber	Mcknownville
Maver O. Becker	Berne
Melody Burns	Selkirk # 2
Matthew G. Fennell	North Bethlehem
John A. Lutz	Elsmere
Ellen Miller	North Bethlehem
Truman L. Onderdonk	Westmere
Charles C. Powell Sr.	Coeymans Hollow ACVFA Past President
Bruce E. Roberts	Ravena
Charles B. Rosenthal	Shaker Road

### CHARLES C. POWELL SR.

Past President Charles C. Powell Sr. recently passed away at his home in Florida. Charlie was President of the ACVFA from 2001 to 2006 and served as Financial Secretary from 1981 to 1987. Charlie was a long time member of the Coeymans Hollow Vol. Fire Corp. where he served in many Offices including Chief and as President.

## TAB COLLECTIONS

The pull tab collection is still going on. We always need them. If you have any please bring them to our meeting and I will keep bringing them to the shriners. Thank you for your support.

## BURN FUND DONATIONS

The following have made donations to the Burn Fund in Memory of Charles C. Powell Sr.  
Loretta Miller, Susan Pietropaoli, Trudy Sorell and John Webb.

### AUXILIARY NEWS

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the County Auxiliary. President-Darlene Wilson, Vice President-Jamie Nazario, Recording/Financial Secretary- Diana Balling, and Treasurer Bette Skop. Congrats to all.

### LADIES AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Albany County Volunteer Fireman's Association is pleased to announce that Abby Robbins of Coeymans Hollow was selected as the 2024 Scholarship winner. The Auxiliary presented Abby with a check for \$2500 to help with her education expenses in the Nursing program at Columbia-Greene Community College.

### 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.

### 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 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 23 will be held at S.W. Pitts in Latham. The October 28<sup>th</sup> meeting will be at West Albany and the March 31, 2025 will be at Menands. Meeting usually start at 7 PM with refreshments before the meeting

### BOGHT COMMUNITY LADIES CHICKEN BBQ

The Boght Community Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary host their Annual Chicken BBQ on Sunday September 22<sup>nd</sup>. These Chickens are cooked on site by our Firefighters. Tickets are \$15 and dinners are prepaid, take out only. Pick up time is from 4 to 5 PM. Dinner includes ½ Chicken, baked Potato, fresh corn on the Cob and homemade cake for dessert. Tickets sellout fast so order yours today by calling Penny at 518-783-7471. The Boght Fire Station is located at 8 Preston Circle just off Route 9 in Boght Corners.

### UPCOMING EAST BERNE EVENTS

The East Berne Fire Company has scheduled three events for this Fall. All events will be held at the East Berne Fire House located at 792 Helderberg Trail in East Berne.

The Annual Vendor/Craft Fair and Farmers Market will be held on Saturday, Sept 14 from 9 AM to 3 PM.

Next event is a Purse Bingo Night to benefit 921 Racing. This will be held on Saturday, October 19 from 5 PM to 10 PM.

The Third Event is the annual Halloween TRUNK or TREAT night on Saturday, October 26 beginning at 5 PM until 9 PM.

### GREENE COUNTY CONVENTION SCHEDULE

This year's Greene County VFA Convention is being hosted by the Round Top Fire Dept. The Parades are on Friday night, Sept 6 and the Dress Parade on Saturday, Sept 7 Both Parades will be held in Cairo

**FIRE POLICE NEWS****TOM WITH RECEIVES FIRE POLICE AWARD**

At the April 25-27, 2024 Volunteer Fire Police Association of the State of New York Annual Convention held in Watertown, Albany County's own Tom With received the "George E. Woodman Award" for distinguished meritorious and prolonged commitment to the Volunteer Fire Police Community. Tom has served as the Director, treasurer and President of the Fire Police Assn. of Albany Co., current co-chair of the Hudson Valley VFA Fire Police Committee and Co-chair of the NYSDOT Traffic Incident Management Statewide Steering Committee, representing VFASNY and FASNY. Tom was awarded the Firefighter of the Year by his home Dept. Fuller Road in 1994 and "Fire Police Officer of the Year" by the Hudson Valley in 2000. He is the recipient of the 2018 VFASNY "Officer of the Year" and the President's Award in 2019. The Annual Statewide Fire Police Training Seminar was also named after Tom. Congratulations Pictured Below is Tom receiving the award

**FPAAC MEETING SCHEDULED**

The next meeting of the Fire Police Association of Albany County will be on Wednesday, Sept 25 at the East Berne Fire House located at 792 Helderberg Trail in East Berne. Dinner will be served at 6:45 PM with the meeting at 7:30 PM

**ROAST BEEF DINNER AT BERNE**

The Berne Fire Company will be having their Annual Fall Roast Beef Dinner on Sunday Oct 20, 2024. The Dinner will be 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.

**HUDSON VALLEY VFA FIREFIGHTER'S HOME DAY AND LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE**

The Hudson Valley VFA Home Day at the Firefighter's Home in Hudson will be held on Sunday, September 29 at the Firemen's Home in Hudson. Activities start at 9 AM with the Legislative Committee/membership meeting where the Legislative agenda and recommendations for 2025 will be worked on. Musical Entertainment by the Ghent Band from 12:30 to 1:30. Parade Line up is at 1:15 PM and step off at 1:30. Festivities begin at 2 pm. There will be refreshments and entertainment and the Firemen's Museum will be open to all.

**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 1, 2 & 3. 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 2025 Legislative Session. For More information please go to FASNY'S website. [www.fasny.com](http://www.fasny.com)

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## ONESQUETHAW ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025

The Onesquethaw Volunteer Fire Company recently held its Annual election of Officers for the 2024-2025 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 Captain	Zack Spaulding
Batt Chief St Three	James Mudge
St 3 Captains	Jeff Mudge and Todd Winne
Fire Police Captain	Steve Dooley Sr.
Fire Police Lt.	Wayne Hoffman, Sgts. Todd Winne 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	Dan LaDuke and Fred Spaulding
St 3	Steve Dooley Sr. and John Friehofer

### Auxiliary Committee

Chair	Mandy Caswell
Co-Chair	Aubrey Salisbury
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 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Tom Cascone	441-5162
2 <sup>nd</sup> 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	441-2015
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 3-7 Greene County VFA Convention hosted by Round Top Fire Company

Sept 14 Selkirk Fire Dept Fund Raiser with The Ultimates at Glenmont # 2 Station. 5 PM until

Sept 18 – Annual Association Dinner and Quarterly meeting at Voorheesville. Info on Front Page

Sept 19 Coeymans Fire Company Drive thru Roast Beef Dinner at Coeymans Fire House 3:30 to 6:30

Sept 20 – Chicken BBQ at Selkirk #3 in South Bethlehem 4 PM until Sold out.

Sept 21 – Annual Muster and Inspection Day at Slingerlands 11 AM Info on Page 1

Sept 21 – Westmere Fire dept Garage Sale Fundraiser. Info at Sign Up @ WestmereFD.org

Sept 22 – Boght Ladies Auxiliary Chicken BBQ at Boght Station. Info on Page 3

Sept 23 – ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary meeting at S.W. Pitts in Latham

Sept 25 – Albany County Fire Police meeting at East Berne. Info On page 4

Sept 29 – Hudson Valley VFA Home Day & legislative Conference at the Firefighter's Home in Hudson info Page 4

Oct 5 Fall Fest at Voorheesville Fire House

Oct 6 – 12 Fire Prevention week

Oct 20 – Roast Beef Dinner at Berne. Info Page 4

Oct 28 – ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary meeting at West Albany

Nov 2 & 3 FASNY Legislative Conference info Pg 4

Nov 16- Stanford Heights Annual Turkey Raffle. Doors open at 5:30 pm raffles start at 6 pm. Being held at 250 Morris Road

Nov 23 – Turkey Game Night at Guilderland Center

Dec 8 – Breakfast with Santa at Voorheesville.

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

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS NOVEMBER 15, 2024  
PLEASE SEND ALL NEWS TO JOHN WEBB, EDITOR  
BY E MAIL AT [jlwsec@gmail.com](mailto:jlwsec@gmail.com) Thank you


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## CONGRATS TO LOGAN KRAUSE OF SELKIRK

Congratulations to Logan Krause from the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High School and a member of the Selkirk Fire Dept for being a recipient of one of the Gerard J Buckenmeyer FASNY Volunteer Scholarship that is awarded by FASNY each Year.

### **BUTCH RECCHIA REELECTED ALBANY COUNTY VICE PRESIDENT FOR HUDSON VALLEY 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.

Shown below is Hudson Valley VFA President Mike Karashay presenting ACVFA Secretary John Webb with his 50 year membership award at the 2024 Hudson Valley Convention held at the Glasco Fire House and hosted by the Saugerties Fire Dept.



Picture credit to Tom With

### **NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL**

We now have 268 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 \$1.90 Also the E mail editions will have pictures if any that will be in color. Mailed copies will be in Black and white.

### **MORE BURN FUND PRESENTATION PICTURES FROM COEYMANS HOLLOW**

Pictured below is Burn Fund Chairman Tom With presenting a check to the Kunuria and Marcellos family on July 30



Pictured below is Chief Daniel Haight of the Coeymans Hollow Vol. Fire Corp presenting two checks from the Organized Planning Fire Companies to the Families.



Picture credit for the above and the picture on page 1 to John Webb.