

MARCH 2025

ALBANY COUNTY VFA MEETING TO BE HELD ON MARCH 12 AT ALTAMONT

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ACVFA WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 12, 2025 AT THE ALTAMONT FIRE STATION. THE MEETING WILL START AT 7:30. THE OFFICERS URGE ALL MEMBERS TO TRY TO ATTEND THIS MEETING. THE ALTAMONT FIRE STATION IS LOCATED ON MAIN STREET (RT 146) IN ALTAMONT

NOMINATIONS DUE AT MARCH MEETING SECOND VICE PRESIDENT NEEDED

The March meeting will include nomination of Officers that will be voted on at the May Annual meeting. President White's term ends this year with First Vice President Tom Cascone and Second Vice President Matt Wilcenski moving up. We will be looking for someone to step up and take the position of Second Vice President. Up for reelection are the Fifth and Sixth Battalion Directors positions. These are three year terms and currently held by Henry Smith and Marc Platt. The Fourth Battalion is vacant and can be filled at this meeting. The Other positions of Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Recording Secretary, Chaplain and Sgt-at Arms are also up for reelection. These are one year terms. If you are interested in being a candidate for any position in the Association please contact Chairman Mike Taylor at 518-858-5342, Association President Robert White at 518-772-9807 or Secretary John Webb at 518-256-7359.

ANNUAL MEETING AT WESTMERE

THE ACVFA Annual Meeting will be held on May 14, 2025 at the Westmere Fire Station. With refreshments served at 7 PM and the meeting starting at 7:30 PM.

BURN FUND THANK YOU

THE ACVFA BURN FUND WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE VOORHEESVILLE FIRE DEPT LADIES AUXILIARY FOR THEIR CONSIDERABLE DONATION TO THE BURN FUND.

MENANDS AUXILIARY TO HOST MARCH 24 ACVFA LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING

THE LADIES AUXILIARY OF THE ALBANY COUNTY VFA WILL BE MEETING AT THE MENANDS FIRE STATION ON MONDAY MARCH 24. REFRESHMENTS AT 6:30 PM MEETING AT 7:00 PM. THE STATION IS LOCATED AT 250 BROADWAY IN MENANDS. PRESIDENT DARLENE WILSON URGES ALL MEMBERS TO TRY TO ATTEND THIS MEETING.

2025 ANNUAL DINNER AT ELSMERE

The ELSMERE FIRE COMPANY will Host the Annual Dinner and September Quarterly meeting to be held on September 17, 2025. Both the dinner and meeting will be held at the Elsmere Fire Company's North station located at 15 West Poplar Drive, Delmar NY. Doors will open at 5:30 pm for an "Emergency Services Symposium" followed by Dinner at 7 PM. The Quarterly Association meeting will follow the Dinner. Complete details on the Symposium and Dinner will be sent out to all Companies and Departments by June 1, 2025. If you have any questions please contact the Elsmere Fire Company "A" Inc at the following email address ops@elsmerefir.org

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 person for the Associations Walter W. Eck Jr. 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 or President sign it and send it to the Association Secretary, John Webb, 30 Van Buren Ave, Ravana NY 12143. The deadline is August 1 but don't wait do it today.

MARCH 2025

NOTES FROM THE DECEMBER MEETING

The December meeting of the Association was held on December 11 at the Delmar Fire Station. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Robert White. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and Chaplain Jonathan Hough gave the opening Prayer. Communications were read and three bills were approved for payment. Committee reports were received from Newsletter, Muster, Burn Fund, 2025 Annual Dinner and 2027 Voorheesville Convention. Treasurer Fred Pettingell read his report for tonight. **One new member was voted in, Robert Schrader of Athens who is also President of Hudson Valley was approved for membership.** In New Business treasurer Fred Pettingell ask that the Association reimburse Secretary John Webb for the Certificates and Frames that the Association has been giving out. Secretary Webb said that \$75.00 would be sufficient to pay for those already given out and to obtain enough to have on hand. Motion was made to do this and approved. President White read Clayton Ash's Financial Secretary's report. In Good of the Organization, Yale Frank, a member of the FASNY membership committee spoke about the benefits of joining FASNY that are available to members. Yale as a Director of Hudson Valley spoke about this years Convention to be held in Lake George on June 12th to 14th. He also spoke about the Haz Mat Training seminar in March and the Fire Police seminar in April (please see info about these on Page 5). Christmas cards have been sent to the three members from Albany County that are at the Firefighters home in Hudson. There were 15 Officers and members present and 11 companies represented at the meeting.

BURN FUND PRESENTATION

The Albany County Firefighters Burn Fund on Jan 21 presented a donation to a Family in the Coeymans Hollow Fire District who suffered Fire and smoke damage to their home last Fall. They also received a donation from the 5 Chiefs Association of the Towns of Coeymans and New Baltimore.

CHAPLAINS MEMORIAL CORNER

I hope that everyone had a great holiday season. Winter is almost over. We have a Few Members that have passed away since our last get together. Please Keep them and their Families in your Prayers. They will be missed.

Peter J. Applebee	Delmar
Albert J. Deering	Coeymans Hollow
John E. Flager Jr.	Slingerlands
James B. Hogan Jr.	Elsmere
Evan Kvinlaug	Fuller Road
David M. Montesano	Fuller Road
Tom Person	Altamont
John A. Telfer	Selkirk # 3

Please Remember the sick and wish them well.

TAB COLLECTIONS

We still need those pull tabs. If your Company or department has some please bring them to the next meeting 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.

50 YEAR PRESENTATIONS

ACVFA presented 50 Year service awards to members of three different Departments during January and February. Awards were given to Ray Roland for 70 years of Service to the Midway Fire Dept. Receiving 50 year Service awards were William Schmitt Jr, Peter Plourde and Phil D'Angelo all from Midway.

Brian Reepmeyer of Boght Community was presented a 50 year Service award.

Jim Devoe of Colonie Village received a 50 year service award on Feb 22. Congratulations to all and Thank You for your Service to your Community.

ACVFA ON FACEBOOK

The Association has a Facebook page. To view it go to Facebook and type in ALBANY COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREMENS ASSOCIATION.

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MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT WILSON SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

I personally want to say thanks to my friends for the numerous calls and cards I received while I was down due to a medical issue. They surely were appreciated and brightened my day.

Spring is right around the corner, so they say. Our next meeting will be held at the menands Fire Station starting at 7 PM on March 24th. Light refreshments will be available prior to the meeting at 6:30 PM. Don't forget the County Auxiliary has a \$1,000 scholarship available to individuals who are affiliated with a County Department/Company/Auxiliary member. Please email me at dwilson4981@gmail.com for your copy. Reminder this scholarship is for matriculation for Sept. 2025. Nominations for Officers will be accepted at the March meeting; all positions are open except for one and two year directors. Auxiliary Presidents, please check your mail for dues notices. We have a couple of Auxiliaries that are pending being dropped for non-payment. Would your Auxiliary be willing to host a meeting, we have openings for the last Monday of June and September. Let us know at the March Meeting. Congratulations to all elected Auxiliary Officers for the coming year, we look forward to working with each of you. Join us at a meeting and bring a friend with you

SELKIRK # 1 LADIES FISH FRY DINNERS

Selkirk Company # 1 Ladies Auxiliary will have Fish Fry Dinners starting on Friday March 7th and March 21st and continuing on Friday April 4th and 18th. The Dinners will be available either to take out or sit down and enjoy at the Fire Station and will be available from 4:30 to 7 PM at the Selkirk # 1 Fire Station at 126 Maple Ave in Selkirk. Dinners include a choice of either Fish or Chicken Nuggets, French Fries, Cole slaw and a Dessert. Fish Fry Dinners are \$13.00 and Chicken Nugget Dinners are \$10.00. Side Orders of New England Clam Chowder or Mac and Cheese are available for \$5.00. The Auxiliary will also have Raffle tickets available for purchase. For more info EMAIL: selkirk ladies1@yahoo.com

ACVFA LADIES MEETING AT MENANDS

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Menands Fire Company will host the ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary meeting on Monday, March 24, 2025 at the Menands Fire House located at 250 Broadway in Menands. Light Refreshments will be served at 6:30 PM with the Meeting beginning at 7:00 PM. Let's have another great showing at this meeting. We are still looking for a host for our June and September meetings.

CRAFT FAIR AT EAST BERNE

The East Berne Fire Company and Ladies Auxiliary will be having a vendor and craft Fair on Saturday, April 12, 2025 from 9 AM to 3 PM. Along with vendors and Crafts available for sale the Auxiliary will be selling food during the Fair. The Fair will take place at the East Berne Fire House located at 792 Helderberg Trail in East Berne

BROOKS BBQ AT VOORHEESVILLE

The Voorheesville Fire Dept. will be hosting a Brooks BBQ Chicken Dinner at their Station on Thursday March 27 from 3:30 to 6:30 PM or until sold out. Cost of a Dinner is \$15.00. This will be a drive thru event only. The Voorheesville Fire Station is located on Altamont Road in Voorheesville.

SELKIRK FIRE CO #2 FISH FRY DINNER

Selkirk Fire Co # 2 located at 301 Glenmont Road in Glenmont will also be doing Fish Fry Dinners on the Fridays that Selkirk # 1 Ladies are not. The dates are Feb 28th, March 14th and 28th and April 11. They will Have Fish Dinners which include Fresh Fish, Fries and Cole Slaw, Clam Roll Dinner with fries and cole slaw, Chicken Nuggets Dinner with French Fries. Clam Chowder, Cheese Pizza, Fried Dough and Soda or water are also available for purchase. Dinners can be ordered by calling 518-436-8203 or 518-436-1601 from 4 pm until sold out. Dinners can be picked up at the Fair Kitchen windows at the rear of the Fire House in Glenmont

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ALBANY COUNTY FIRE POLICE NEWS

The Albany County Volunteer Fire Police Association will be having their next membership meeting on Thursday, March 27, 2025 at the Fort Hunter Fire House, 3525 Carmen Road. Schenectady, NY 12303. Food and Beverages will be available at 6:30 PM .

Also the May meeting will be the Annual Installation and Steak Roast and will be held on May 28 at the Shaker Road-Loudonville FD Station #2 Pavilion, 146 Old Niskayuna Rd, Loudonville NY 12211

WALTER ECK SEMINAR INFO

The Biennial Walter Eck Fire Police Seminar will be held this year on October 4, 2025 from 8 AM to Noon. The Seminar will take place at the Fuller Road Fire House located at 1342 Central Ave in Colonie.

HUDSON VALLEY FIRE POLICE SEMINAR

The Hudson Valley VFA will be holding the Annual Ken Merriman Fire Police Seminar on Saturday, April 26 at the Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Station located at 77 Gill Road in New Baltimore, Greene County. Registration begins at 8 AM. First speaker starts at 9 AM. Registration Fee is \$15 per person which includes an onsite Lunch. Pre-registration is required. Please send name of FD and Attendees name by email to either Tom With at tomwith@hotmail.com or Douglas Mann at mr103liberty@aol.com

ONESQUETHAW BREAKFAST

The Onesquethaw Volunteer Fire Company will be having an all you can eat breakfast on Saturday, March 22 from 7:30 to 10:30 AM at the Clarksville Fire House located on Tarrytown Road in Clarksville. Menu includes pancakes, French Toast, bacon sausage, ham, home fries, eggs and beverages. Cost is \$12 for 11 years old and up, \$6 for ages 5-10 and under 5 are free.

WESTERLO FUNDRAISER BREAKFASTS

The Westerlo Fire Company will be having a Eggs & Pancake Breakfasts on Saturday, March 22 and April 26. Breakfast includes Pancakes, Scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage patties, Gravy & biscuits, toast, coffee, milk and juice. \$10 for Adults, \$5 for children and under 5 are free. The breakfast will be held from 8 to 11 AM at the Woodman's Hall located at 980 County Route 401 in Westerlo.

NEW SALEM FD FISH FRY FRIDAYS

The New Salem Fire Dept will be selling Fish Fry Dinners on the following Friday's; March 21st and 28th, April 4th and 11th. This will be held at the New Salem Fire Station located at 694 New Salem Road in New Salem and will be available for EAT IN OR FOR TAKE OUT. Dinners will be available from 4:30 to 7 PM or until sold out.

COEYMAN'S FIRE CO ROAST BEEF DINNER

The Coeymans Fire Company will be having a drive thru roast beef dinner on April 17th from 3:30 to 6:30 or until sold out. Location is the Coeymans Fire House located at 66 Church ST. in Coeymans.

MESSAGE FROM 2 VP MATT WILCENSKI

As 2nd Vice President of the ACVFA I'm glad to see we gained another new member Please keep up the good work and hopefully we can get more new members.

BLOOD DRIVE AT SLINGERLANDS

The Slingerlands Fire Dept will be hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, April 26 from 8 AM to 1 PM. It will take place at their Fire House at 1520 New Scotland Road in Slingerlands. For more info contact Barry Moss by email at Sfdtreasurer1520@gmail.com

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RECRUIT NY 2025

The Annual RECRUIT NY weekend will be held during the weekend of April 26th & 27th. Sponsored by FASNY, Companies and Departments can use this time to help recruit new members. You can plan on having an Open House, put on public demonstrations or let the community know what your Company does for them. You can register and download numerous resources to help promote your open house at recruitny.org

**FASNY AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP
DEADLINE IS MARCH 15**

March 15 is the deadline to submit nominations for the many awards that FASNY gives out each year. It is also the deadline for submitting for one of the 25 Gerald J. Buckenmeyer scholarships that are given out each year. This is a \$1500.00 scholarship awarded to High School seniors entering College. Apply online at fasny.com/scholarship.

For other awards visit fasny.com/awards for applications and information

HUDSON VALLEY HAZ-MAT SEMINAR

The HVVFA Haz-Mat, Homeland Security and Training Committee along with the Fire and Accident Prevention Committee will present the Annual BILL ECK and JOHN J. MULLIGAN Haz-Mat March 15 at the Hughsonville Volunteer Fire Dept. Station located at 88 Old Hopewell Rd, Town of Wappinger Falls, Dutchess County. Registration begins at 8:30 AM with the Seminar starting at 9 AM. Certificates will be issued following the Seminar. Registration fee is \$10.00 per attendee and covers the seminar, Breakfast and Lunch on site. Pre-registration is strongly urged as seating is limited. Pre-register by E Mail to Kurt Mulligan at Kmulligan@stonypointfire.com and put HVVFA seminar on the subject line.

ACVFA CURRENT OFFICERS

President	Robert White	772-9807
1st Vice President	Tom Cascone	441-5162
2nd Vice President	Matt Wilcenski	650-6115
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

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CALENDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

MAR 7 – SELKIRK #1 LADIES FISH FRY DINNERS START. ALSO 3/21, 4/4 & 4/18. INFO ON PAGE 3

MAR 12- ACVFA MEETING AT ALTAMONT 7:30 PM

Mar 14 & 28 & APR 11 Selkirk CO #2 Fish Fry Dinners Glenmont Station. Info on Page 3

MAR 15 – HVVFA HAZ-MAT SEMINAR AT Hughsonville Fire dept. Dutchess County. Info Pg 5

Mar 21 - New Salem FD Fish Fry Dinners. Also on 3/28 and April 4 & 11. info on page 4

MAR 22 & Apr 26 – Westerlo Fire Company Breakfast. Woodman's Hall info on page 4

MAR 22 – Onesquethaw Fire Breakfast at Clarksville Station. 7:30 to 10:30 am. Info page 4

MAR 24 – LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING AT MENANDS 7 PM Info page 3

MAR 27 – Voorheesville BBQ Info on page 3

MAR 27 – Albany County Fire Police Meeting at Fort Hunter Info on Page 4

APR 12 – East Berne FD Craft & Vendor Fair Info on page 3

APR 17 – Coeymans Fire Co Drive Thru Roast Beef Dinner. 3:30 PM to 6:30 PM or sold out.

APR 26- HVVFA FIRE POLICE SEMINAR AT NEW BALTIMORE. INFO ON PAGE 4

APR 26 & 27- RECRUIT NY WEEKEND. INFO PAGE 5

APR 26 – Blood Drive at Slingerlands Info page 4

MAY 14- ANNUAL MEETING ACVFA AT WESTMERE

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

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS. THE ASSOCIATION GREATLY APPRECIATES THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT. THEIR SUPPORT HELPS MAKE THIS NEWSLETTER POSSIBLE.



Diana Balling
LAFASNY Jr. Past President

1041 Blue Mountain Road
Saugerties NY 12477

dlb@megacity.org / 845-389-7115



River Valley Radio
Tom Diederich
President

749 County Route 408
Westerlo, NY 12193
tdiederich@rivervalleyradioinc.com

518-797-5156
800-279-6250

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JOSEPHINE "JOSIE" BRUNO
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205 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, NY 12054
518-439-4943 office
518-439-0728 fax
518-461-7224 cell
Jbruno@bhhsblake.com
Jbruno.bhhsblake.com

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DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS APRIL 15. SEND INFO TO JOHN WEBB AT jlwsec@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

To receive the newsletter by E mail send the editor an e mail requesting the newsletter be sent that way. Send the E mail to jlwsec@gmail.com

Every E mailed newsletter saves the Association \$1.90

MARCH 2025

**GREEN EGGS & HAM BREAKFAST
AT RAVENA**

The RAVENA Fire Dept will be hosting a Green Eggs & Ham Breakfast on Sunday March 23 from 8 AM to Noon at the Fire House located at 116 Main Street in RAVENA. Menu includes Pancakes, Eggs (scrambled and Fried), Potatoes, Ham and Sausage (green food coloring is added in the ham's glaze and the pan for eggs if green eggs are wanted). This is a FREE-WILL OFFERING event.

FISH FRY FRIDAYS AT MENANDS

The Menands Fire Co # 1 will be doing their Annual Fish Fry's again this year. The dates for the Fish Fry's are March 7nd, 21st, 28th, April 4th and 11th and will be available from 4 PM to 7 PM at the Menands Fire Station located at 250 Broadway in Menands. Meal options are a Fish Fry Dinner for \$14.00 which includes a crispy fish fry (with roll), choice of sauce, French fries, coleslaw & dessert or Cheese Pizza. \$12 for a whole pie or \$4 for 2 slices. Takeout Available

HAPPY EASTER BREAKFAST AT WEST ALBANY

The West Albany Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting a Breakfast from 8 AM to Noon on Sunday March 30 at The West Albany Fire House located at 112 Sand Creek Road in the Town of Colonie. Menu includes Pancakes, Bacon, Sausage, Home Fries and made to order Scrambled Eggs and Omelets.

BURN FUND PRESENTATION



Pictured above is Burn Fund Chairman Tom With who presented a check to the Craig TeReile Family on Jan 14, 2025. The presentation took place at the Coeymans Hollow Fire Station.

136th HUDSON VALLEY CONVENTION NEWS

The 136th Hudson Valley Convention will be held in this year in the Village of Lake George on June 11. to the 14th. Convention meetings will be held on both Thursday and Friday. On Thursday night There will be a 3 Hour Cruise on Lake George beginning at 6 PM. Tickets are \$35 for Adults and \$20 for Children 15 and under. Finger Foods will be available and there will be a cash Bar. This is also part of the 50th Anniversary of the Hudson Valley Ladies Auxiliary. There are only 250 tickets available so make you reservation early. Reservation form is on the Hudson Valley Website [For more info contact Karen Schrader by email](mailto:schraderleeds@aol.com) schraderleeds@aol.com.

Parade Applications have been mailed out and are due back by May 13. The Mardi Gras Parade starts at 7 pm on the 13th with Line up starting at 5 PM. The Dress Parade starts at 1 PM on the 14th with lineup starting at 11 am.

For Hotel info contact the Lake George Chamber of Commerce at www.visitlakegeorge.com

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