

MAY 2025

ALBANY COUNTY VFA ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MAY 14 AT WESTMERE

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ACVFA WILL BE HELD AT THE WESTMERE FIRE STATION. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MAY 14, 2025 AND WILL START AT 7:30 WITH REFRESHMENTS SERVED BEFORE THE MEETING AT 7 PM. THE OFFICERS URGE ALL MEMBERS TO TRY TO ATTEND THIS MEETING. ANNUAL REPORTS WILL BE GIVEN AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS WILL TAKE PLACE. THE WESTMERE FIRE HOUSE IS LOCATED AT 1741 WESTERN AVE IN THE TOWN OF GUILDERLAND.

AUTHOR TONY OPALKA TO SPEAK AT ANNUAL MEETING

Anthony Opalka, Author of the Book "FIRE HOUSES OF ALBANY" will give a short talk about his book and what inspired him to write it at the May Meeting at Westmere. He will also have copies of his book available for sale if anyone is interested in purchasing one. The cost is \$40.00 plus \$3.20 sales tax.

ANNUAL DINNER SEPT 17 AT ELSMERE

The ELSMERE FIRE COMPANY will host the Annual Dinner and September Quarterly meeting 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 question's please contact the Elsmere Fire Company "A" Inc at the following email address ops@elsmerefire.org

ACVFA LADIES AUXILIARY ANNUAL MEETING AT S.W. PITTS IN LATHAM

The ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary will meet at the S.W. Pitts Fire House for their June 23, 2025 Annual Meeting. Refreshments start at 6:30 and the meeting starts at 7. The Fire House is located at 226 Old Loudon Road in Latham. More info on page 3

WALTER W. ECK JR. 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's name for the 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 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.

4th BATTALION VACANCY

The Association is looking for someone to fill the 4th Battalion Director's position. Anyone from the following Companies is eligible for this position; Boght Community, Maplewood, Menands, Schuyler Heights, S.W. Pitts or Verdo Fire Dept. If interested please contact any Association Officer listed on Page 5, Secretary John Webb by Email at jlwsec@gmail.com or attend the Annual meeting on May 14 at Westmere

E MAIL ADDRESSES STILL NEEDED

The newsletter is now being sent out by email to the members. We now have almost 275 email addresses but still need more. Please send your email address to the editor John Webb at jlwsec@gmail.com The association thanks you for your Cooperation.

MAY 2025

NOTES FROM THE MARCH MEETING

The March meeting of the Association was held on March 12 at the Altamont Fire House. 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. President White welcomed everyone to Altamont and pointed out the Fire exits. Communications were read and one bill was approved for payment. Committee reports were received from Newsletter, Muster, Firefighter of the year, Burn Fund, nominating and Annual Dinner. Frank Papa of Voorheesville gave an update on their plans for a convention in 2027. They asked for permission to use the county logo on some of the items to be sold. This was approved In Old Business Fred Pettingell will serve as delegate to both Hudson Valley and Fasny and Butch Recchia will serve as alternate. In New Business The membership voted to take a Half Page ad in the Hudson Valley Convention Journal in June and also voted and approved being a Hole Sponser at the Hudson Valley Golf Tournament. Second Vice President Matt Wilcenski brought up about getting shirts made up for the Association. All felt this was a good idea. We will need to have some type of Logo made up for the shirts. Secretary Webb will see if he can find the Logo that was used to make up window decals when the Association first started. Fred Pettingell presented the Treasurers report and Clayton Ash presented the Financial Secretary's report. Chuck Feldmann. President of the Albany County Fire Police Association announced that their next meeting will be on March 27 at Fort Hunter and the Biennal Fire Police Seminar is Oct 4 at Fuller Road. Hudson Valley President Bob Schrader spoke about the upcoming Convention and Yale Frank announced that the Annual Hudson Valley Day at the Firefighters home in Hudson will be on Sept 28. Past president Burt Frederick is now at Shaker Run Senior Adult Care Center and is hoping to get into the Firefighters Home in Hudson. There were 15 Officers, members and guests present and 10 companies represented at the meeting.

CHAPLAINS MEMORIAL CORNER

Now that Spring has finally arrived, I hope all are ready for the nice weather ahead. We hope that everyone a very Happy Easter. We have a Few Members that have passed away since our last meeting. Keep them and their Families in our Prayers. They will be missed.

William J Griffiths Jr Slingerlands & Elsmere
Eileen M Haggerty Mcknownville
Nelson A Parker Guilderland
Joseph Peregram Sr Maplewood
Phillip J Schweppenhauser North Bethlehem
To contact Chaplain Hough call 518-894-0374
Remember the sick and wish them well.

TAB COLLECTIONS

We still need those pull tabs. I am still collecting them for now so 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.

MIDWAY FD TO HOLD MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Midway Fire Department will be holding a special Memorial Day Service to remember and celebrate the brave men and women who served with the Midway Fire Dept., Maywood Fire Dept, Midway Rescue Squad and Midway Auxiliary. This Service will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2025 at 6 PM and will take place by the chapel at the Memory Gardens, 983 Watervliet Shaker Rd, Albany NY 12205 providing a peaceful and reflective setting to pay our respects.

MAY 2025

ACVFA LADIES MEETING AT S.W.PITTS

The ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary Annual meeting on June 23, 2025 will be held at the S.W. Pitts Hose Co Fire House located at 226 Old Loudon Road in Latham. Refreshments are at 6:30 PM and the meeting starts at 7 PM. All Auxiliary members are encouraged to attend. The Auxiliary is also looking for hosts for our September and October meetings. Thank you

BOGHT LADIES AUXILIARY ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

The Boght Community Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary will be having their Annual Garage Sale on Saturday, May 10, 2025 from 8 AM to 2 PM. Event will be held Indoors, Rain or Shine. Table Rentals are \$25 each and should be reserved by May 1. Contact Jan at 518-496-3165. The Garage Sale will be held at the Boght Fire House located at 8 Preston Drive, Cohoes NY 12047.

FULLER ROAD LADIES AUXILIARY EVENT

The Fuller Road Firehouse Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting a Paint & Sip Fundraiser on Sunday, August 10, 2025 from 11 AM to 1 PM. The fundraiser includes Painting instructions, a completed painting to take home and 2 Drink Tickets plus Door Prizes Cost is \$45 per person. Please RSVP with a Headcount to Taylor at 518-860-4495 by August 3rd

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

Ladies thank you for the news for this issue. The deadline for the next issue is August 15. If you have anything you would like to have in the next issue please send it to the editor by E mail at jlwsec@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS AT EAST BERNE

The East Berne Fire Co. and Ladies Auxiliary have scheduled events for this spring. Events will be held at the East Berne Fire Station located at 792 Helderberg in East Berne. Events scheduled are:

PAINT N' SIP

On Saturday May 3rd they will present their 1st Paint n' sip from 3 PM to 6 PM. Doors will open at 2:30 PM. Cost is \$30.00 per person and will include all of the painting supplies to create the beautiful spring highland cow, light snacks and non-alcoholic beverages. Tickets may be purchased via our venmo account or by mailing a check, made payable to the East Berne Fire Company, 792 Helderberg Trail, East Berne NY 12059. There are only 30 seats available. First come first served!!

DRIVE THRU BROOKS BBQ

on Tuesday June 3rd They will have a DRIVE THRU Only Brooks BBQ at the East Berne Fire House located at 792 Helderberg Trail. The BBQ starts at 3 PM and goes until sold out. Chicken dinners are \$15.00 and consists of ½ Chicken, Baked Potato, Cole slaw and Roll. First come, first serve. No pre-sale will be offered.

COMEDY SHOW ON JUNE 13TH

On Friday June 13th they will have a Comedy Fundraiser show starting at 8 PM. Doors will open at 6:30 PM. The show will include performances by Jeffery Paul (The Irishman and Headliner Chris Covert (Adult Musical Act). Tickets are \$35.00 (21 years and older please) and will include 1 Food Ticket with a choice combo of: Hot Dogs & Fries, Poppers & Fries, Mozzarella sticks & Fries or Chicken tenders and Fries. You will also receive 3 Alcohol drink tickets. Complimentary coffee, soda and water all night long. Tickets may be purchased by mailing a check, made payable to East Berne Fire Company, to 792 Helderberg Trail, East Berne NY 12058
Please check Facebook under East Berne Auxiliary or East Berne Volunteer Fire Company Seeks New Members for more info on all these events.

MAY 2025

ALBANY COUNTY FIRE POLICE NEWS ANNUAL DINNER AND MEETING

The Albany County Fire Police Association will have their Annual Installation Dinner and Meeting on Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at the PAVILION of the Shaker Road Loudonville Station #2 located at 147 Old Niskayuna Road. The evening begins at 6 PM with the meeting at 6:30 PM, The Memorial Service at 6:45 PM and Dinner at 7 PM. Featured will be steak, chicken, salad, dessert, soda and water from OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE. The highlight of the evening will be the Installation of the Officers. Dress is informal and please bring a guest. Tickets are \$15.00 for members and \$17.00 for guests. PLEASE NOTE NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR. YOU MUST HAVE PAID RESERVATIONS!

SEND RESERVATIONS to: TFPAAC

PO BOX 5361 COLONIE NY 12205 Make checks payable to The Fire Police Association of Albany County. DEADLINE for reservations is MAY 13 by 6 PM. For more info contact President Charles Feldmann at 518-859-6883

WALTER ECK FIRE POLICE SEMINAR INFO

The Biennial Walter Eck Fire Police Seminar will be held on Saturday 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. Registration starts at 8 AM with introductions at 8:45 and the First Speaker at 9 AM.

PRE MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST MAY 4 AT COEYMANS HOLLOW

The Coeymans Hollow Fire Co. will be hosting a pre Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast Buffet on Sunday, May 4 at the Fire House located at 1290 Rt 143 in Coeymans Hollow from 8 AM to Noon. Menu includes Pancakes, Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Homefries, Biscuits, Sausage gravy, Toast and Assorted Beverages. Adults are \$12, Seniors \$10, Children ages 5 to 12 are \$5 and under 5 are free.

COEYMANS HOLLOW ELECTION RESULTS

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

Chief Daniel Haight, 1st Asst Chief John Williams, 2nd Asst Chief Bill Kapusta, 1st Captain Dan Houghtaling, 2nd Captain Sean Mooney, 1st Lt. Rob Radley, 2nd Lt. Roger Church, EMS Captain Davin Krzykowski, EMS Lt. Abby Robbins Fire Police Capt. Jack Dennis and Fire Police Lt. Jordan Flach

Administrative Officers are President Darlene Wilson, Vice President Pam Rafferty, Treasurer Maryann Dennis, Recording Secretary Kayla Schillinger, Financial Secretary Sue Stratta, Membership Secretary Pam Rafferty, 2 Year Director Jack Dennis and Sgt-at-Arms Jordan Flach.

ROAST BEEF DINNER AT BERNE

The Berne Volunteer Fire Company and Ladies Auxiliary will be sponsoring a **TAKE OUT ONLY** Roast Beef Dinner on Sunday, May 4, 2025 at the Berne Fire Station at 30 Canaday Hill Road in Berne. Diners will be available from 12 Noon to 4 PM or sold out. The menu includes Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy. Cabbage Salad, Vegetables, Homemade Applesauce and Homemade Apple Pie. Cost is \$18.00 per dinner.

CAR SHOWS SCHEDULED AT STANFORD HEIGHTS AND NEW SALEM

The Stanford Heights Fire Department and the TriCity Muscle Car Club will be having a Family Fun Day, Car Show and Swap meet on July 19th from 10 AM to 3 PM at their Fire House located at 250 Morris Road. This is a FunRaiser to help restore their 1954 Antique Fire Truck.

Also the New Salem Fire Dept. will be hosting their annual car show on August 2, 2025 at the New Salem Fire House, 694 New Salem Road, Voorheesville NY. Registration is from 9 AM to 11 AM and Judging starts at 11 AM. Rain Date is August 3.

MAY 2025

HUDSON VALLEY CONVENTION

This year the 136th Annual Hudson Valley Convention will be held in Lake George NY from June 11th to the 14th. This year the Hudson Valley Association is hosting the Convention. The meetings on Thursday and Friday will be held at the Georgian Hotel. The Annual Golf outing is on the 11th at Cronin's Golf Resort in Warrensburg. Deadline for entering is June 1st. Convention Meetings and the Annual Memorial Service take place on Thursday. Thursday evening will feature a 3 Hour Cruise on Lake George beginning at 6 PM. Tickets are \$35.00 and includes passed around Food and a cash Bar will be available. Tickets can be obtained by sending a check to Karen Schrader, 3580 Schorarie Turnpike, Leeds NY 12451. Send any Questions to schraderleeds@aol.com On Friday the Annual Awards Ceremony and Election of Officers will be held. The Madri Gras Parade line up begins at 5 PM on Friday and the Dress Parade on Saturday with Line up at 11 AM. Both Parades will be held in the Village of Lake George.

FASNY CONVENTION

The 152nd Annual Convention of the Firefighters Association of the State of New York will be held from August 7 to the 9 at the Hyatt Hotel in Hauppauge, Long Island NY. The Annual Golf Tournament will be held on August 6 at the Wind Watch Country Club. For more information go to www.fasny.com.

FASNY TRAINING SYMPOSIUM AT LAKE GEORGE

The First Annual FASNY Training Symposium will be held in Lake George NY on May 16 to the 18th at the Fort William Henry Hotel. There will be speakers on Leadership, wellness, fireground tactics and more. There will also be a two day NVFC Haz-mat Course available. For more info or to register please go to events@fasny.com or call 518-434-0987. There will also be onsite registration available.

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

MAY 2025

CALENDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 4 – ROAST BEEF DINNER AT BERNE. INFO ON PAGE 4

MAY 4 – BREAKFAST AT COEYMANS HOLLOW. INFO ON PAGE 4

MAY 14 – ACVFA ANNUAL MEETING AT WESTMERE 7:30 PM START. REFRESHMENTS AT 7 PM

MAY 17 – MEDUSA FIRE DEPT CHICKEN BBQ

MAY 28 -ALBANY COUNTY FIRE POLICE ANNUAL DINNER AND MEETING. INFO ON PAGE 4

MAY 31 – CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION FASNY MUSEUM AT THE FIREFIGHTERS HOME, HUDSON

JUNE 3 – BROOKS BBQ AT EAST BERNE. INFO PG 3

JUNE 11-14 - HUDSON VALLEY VFA CONVENTION AT LAKE GEORGE. INFO PAGE 5

JUNE 23 – LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING at S.W. PITTS IN LATHAM INFO PAGE 3

JULY 19 – CAR SHOW AT STANFORD HEIGHTS STATION 2, 250 MORRIS RD

AUG 2 – CAR SHOW AT NEW SALEM FIRE HOUSE

AUG 7 – 9 - 153RD ANNUAL FASNY CONVENTION AT HAUPPAUGE, LONG ISLAND

AUG 13- ACVFA DIRECTORS MEETING AT KNOX

SEPT 17 ANNUAL DINNER AND QUARTERLY MEETING AT ELSMERE

SEPT 20- ANNUAL MUSTER/INSPECTION DAY AT SLINGERLANDS

SEPT 28 – HUDSON VALLEY DAY AT THE FIREFIGHTERS HOME IN HUDSON

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 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 15, 2025 This issue can include information on events happening anytime after Sept 1.

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



Tom Diederich
President

749 County Route 408
Westerlo, NY 12193

518-797-5156
800-279-6250

tdiederich@rivervalleyradioinc.com

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 34 YEARS

LOOK FOR US ON FACEBOOK: ALBANY COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREMENS ASSOCIATION

ACVFA REPORT

PAGE 7

MAY 2025