

Hudson Valley Volunteer Firefighters' Association



Officers, Committees & Directory
2025 -2026

Updated 02/20/2026

President

Robert A Schrader

1st Vice-President

Robert Fritsche

2nd Vice President

John O'Brien

Treasurer

George Hill

Treasurer Emeritus

Harry Barrett

Recording Secretary

Barbara Fischer

Financial Secretary

Jack DeLaney

Financial Secretary Emeritus

Joseph Mellan

Recording Secretary Emeritus

June Gunza

HVVFA Editor Emeritus

Fran Galu

Immediate Past President

Michael Karashay

Chaplains

Association Chaplain

Rev. James Van Houten

Associate Chaplains

Victoria Dichian

Thomas With

Aaron R. Wizwer

Directors

James Hartwick

2nd Term (2026)

Brenda Gausby
Filling Out Expiring
Term (2026)

Thomas Totten

2nd Term (2027)

Dorothy Brown

1st Term (2028)

Yale Frank

2nd Term (2027)

Lu Ann Edele
1st Term (2029)

Jeri Mehan

2nd Term(2029)

Tara Scarduzio

1st Term (2028)

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- Sergeant at Arms
Angela Outhouse

- Assistant Sergeant at Arms

Karen E Schrader

Mickey Fritsche

- Assistant Sergeant at Arms Emeritus

Santo (Chan) Rivera

- County Vice Presidents

Albany

Butch Reccia

Saratoga

Open

Columbia

John F. Meehan

Schenectady

Open

Dutchess

Kyle Pottenburgh

Sullivan

Shane Lavecchia

Essex

Thomas A. Keck

Ulster

Justus Rice

Greene

Karen Schrader

Warren

Jessica Benjamin (Co-chair)

Orange

Dorothy Brown (until
replacement found)

Washington

Open

Putnam

David Carrdo

Westchester

Mickey Fritsche

Rensselaer

Brenda Gausby (Chair)

Rockland

Lisa Castaldo

•Standing and Special Committees

Liaison to FASNY

Donald Farrell

•County Vice Presidents

Liaison Dorothy Brown

•Chair County Vice Presidents

Brenda Gausby

•Co-Chair County Vice Presidents

Jessica Benjamin

•Liaison to the HV Ladies Auxiliary

Victoria Dichian

Auditing

Liaison: Dorothy Brown

Chair: Harry Barrett

Vice Chair: Joseph Mellan

Members:

Frank Boertlein

Josephine Burns

John Pomarico

Budget and Finance

Liaison: Dorothy Brown

Chair: Joe Mellan

Vice Chair: Jack Delaney

Members:

Harry Barrett

George Hill

•**By-Laws**

Liaison: James Hartwick

Chair: Thomas McKinney

Vice Chair: Joe Mellan

Members:

Angela Outhouse

Barbara Fischer

Michael Karashay

•**Certificates**

Liaison Jeri Mehan

Chair: Barbara Fischer

Vice Chair: Robert Fritsche

Members:

John O'Brien

Michael Karashay

Chaplains

Liaison: Jeri Mehan

Chair: Victoria Dichian

Albany, Essex, Saratoga,

Warren, Washington,

Columbia, Greene,

Rensselaer, Firefighter's

Home Members

Vice Chair: Tom With

Albany, Essex, Saratoga,

Warren, Washington,

Columbia, Greene,

Rensselaer, Firemen's

Home Members:

Aaron R. Wizwer

Dutchess, Putnam,

Rockland, Westchester

Rev James Van Houten

Orange, Ulster, Sullivan

Convention Steering

Liaison: Presidents
Chair: Thomas McKinney
Vice Chair: Matthew Oswald
Members:
Chris Kilmartin
Leisha McKinney
Donald Farrell
Jessica Benjamin
Beth Brundage

•Fire and Accident Prevention

Liaison: Jeri Mehan
Chair: Victoria Dichian
Vice Chair: Patrick Romanik
Members:
Robert G. Lehmann

•Fire Police

Liaison: Dorothy Brown
Co-Chair: Douglas C. Mann
Co-Chair: Thomas With
Members:
Tony Piccone

•Firefighter's Club

Liaison: Tom Totten
Chair: James Farrell
Vice Chair: Harry Barrett
Members:
Victoria Dichian
Christopher Kilmartin
Paul O'Brien
Edward Butler

Fundraising

Liaison: James Hartwick

Golf

Chair: Robert Outhouse
Co-Chair: Don Farrell

Lottery

Chair: Paul O'Brien
Vice Chair: Angela Outhouse
Vice Chair: Jeanne O'Brien

Good and Welfare

Liaison: Tom Totten
Chair: Jim Lamb
Vice Chair: Debbie Lamb

Home Day

Liaison: Lu Ann Edele
Chair: Yale Frank
Vice Chair: Barbara Fisher
Members:
Gregory Walker
Thomas Walker
Vincent Galvin
Joseph Loeffler – Emeritus

•Haz-Mat and Training

Liaison: Tara Scarduzio
Chair: Kurt Mulligan
Vice Chair: Tim Boel
Members:
William Rosenhagen
Victoria Dichian
Fred Pettingell
Edward Butler
Jack Delaney

Insurance Committee

Liaison: Tara Scarduzio
Chair: Gidget Orr
Vice Chair: Dorothy Brown
Member
Eric Orr

Hudson Valley Historian

Liaison: Yale Frank
Chair: Michael De Vittorio
Vice Chair: Barbara Fisher
Members:
James Burns-Emeritus
Kyle Pottenburgh
Vincent Galvin
June and John Gunza

Information Technology

Liaison: Tom Totten
Chair: Eric Orr
Vice Chair: Michael Karashay
Members:
Barbara Fischer
Angela Outhouse
Robert Outhouse
Brenda Gausby

Law Committee

Liaison: Tom Totten
Chair: Brian Edwards ?
Vice Chair:
Member:
(Tim Hannigan ?? (to ask))

Legislative

Liaison: Brenda Gausby
Chair: James Hartwick
Vice Chair: Mike Karashay
Members:
Paul O'Brien
Kurt Mulligan
Jack Delaney

Lifetime Achievement

Liaison: Jeri Mehan
Chair: Michael Karashay
Vice Chair: Evan Humphreys
Members:
Timothy Boel

•Membership

Liaison: Lu Ann Edele
Chair: Mickey Fritsche
Vice Chair: Angela Outhouse
Members:
Karen Schrader
Joe Mellan
Jack Delaney

Parade Rules

Liaison: Robert Fritsche
Chair: Donald Farrell
Vice Chair: Ed Butler
Members:
Jack DeLaney
Ken Gordon
Patrick Romanik
Yale Frank– Trophies

President's Memorial Award

Liaison: Robert Fritsche
Chair: Michael Scarduzio (Stanley)
Vice Chair: Robert Outhouse
Members:
Brenda Gausby
Paul Schlagel
Kathy Tolf
Robert Boddie

•Procedures and Traditions

Liaison: James Hartwick
Chair: Thomas McKinney
Vice Chair: Jack Delaney
Member:
Eric Orr
Tom With

Publications

Liaison: Tara Scarduzio
Chair: Chuck Larkin
Vice Chair: Dorothy Brown
Members:
Eric Orr
Vincent Galvin
All County Vps
Directors
Fran Galu - Emeritus

•Resolutions

Liaison: Yale Frank
Chair: Barbara Fischer
Vice Chair: Robert Fritsche

Sunshine

Liaison: Tara Scarduzio
Chair: James Lamb
Co-Chair: Debbie Lamb

•Steering

Liaison: Presidents

Chair: John Farrell

Vice Chair: Donald Farrell

Members

Delbe Spath - Emeritus

Santo (Chan) Rivera

James Burns – Emeritus

James Farrell - Emeritus

Paul O'Brien

Jack Delaney

Eric Orr

Michael Karashay

•Tax Exempt (Ad Hoc)

Liaison: Tara Scarduzio

Chair: Kathy Tolf

Vice Chair: James Hartwick

Members:

Robert Outhouse

Dorothy Brown

Michael Karashay

Ways and Means

Liaison: LuAnn Edele

Chair Eric Orr

Vice Chair Michael Karashay

Members:

Vincent Galvin

Web Page and Social Media

Liaison: Tara Scarduzio

Chair: Tom Totten

Vice Chair: Eric Orr

Members:

Robert Outhouse

Angela Outhouse

Barbara Fischer

Yearbook and Solicitation

Chair: Robert Schrader

Committee Reports

Robert Fritsche

Ads and Letters

John O'Brien

Meetings

October 26, 2025
Board of Directors
Quarterly meeting
1:00 PM
(Location to be Determined)

January 24, 2026
Saturday
Board of Directors
Quarterly meeting
1:00 PM
Cronomer Valley Fire Department
296 North Plank Road, Newburgh, NY

April 26, 2026
Board of Directors
Quarterly meeting
1:00 PM
(Lake George Fire Department)

June 10, 2026
Board of Directors
Quarterly meeting
9 AM (Lake George - Georgian)

June 11- 13, 2026
Convention (Lake George - Georgian)

Past President Dinner Committees
2027- Location to Be Determined
Karen Schrader Yale Frank
Victoria Dichian Ryan Schrader