



**LADIES AUXILIARY**  
to the  
**HUDSON VALLEY VOLUNTEER  
FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION**  
*FOUNDER AND CHARTER PRESIDENT*  
**LUCY E. CONTENTO**



---

# CHATTER BOX

---

**October 2026**  
**SECTIONAL MEETING SUNAY NOVEMBER 1, 2026**

**Director in Charge – Holly Eichler**

**Buchanan Engine Company**  
**3159 Albany Post Road, Buchanan, NY 10511**  
**Telephone number: 914-737-5010**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – 10:30 A.M.**  
**EXECUTIVE MEETING – 11:00 A.M.**  
**LUNCHEON – 12:00 NOON**  
**MEMBERSHIP MEETING – 1:00 P.M.**

**Directions:**

**From the North**

Take the Northway to the Thruway to exit 17. Take 84 East to exit 13, Route 9 South to Annsville Circle. Go around circle, take a right, and go straight to Welcher Avenue Route 9A Buchanan. Firehouse is about a mile on the left.

**OR**

Take Route 9 south out of Albany, to route 9A as noted above.

**From the Taconic:**

Take the Taconic parkway to exit for Route 84 West, then 84 west to exit 13. Follow direction given above to Firehouse.

**From Rockland County**

Take the Tappan Zee Bridge to Tarrytown. Take Route 9 North to Montrose exit, turn left onto 9A and go about 3 miles. The firehouse will be on the right.

**Words from President Gina-Marie Pacicca:**

Hello everyone! Fall is here and the leaves are starting to turn colors, such a beautiful time of year.

We had a successful meeting in September at Blauvelt Fire Department and thank you so much to Diane Conklin and her husband Mike along with everyone else who helped make that day great! Our goal is to try and get to most of the counties and spread where the meetings are. I would like to thank the auxiliaries that have stepped up and offered their FD's to hold our meetings. As you all know it is getting harder to find locations. Looking forward to the next meeting with it being our Christmas boutique! Please remember if you have any reports for the meeting to please email them to Sheri to help her have them in advance

### **Words from 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Megan Rivenburgh:**

Happy Fall Everyone! It was wonderful to see everyone in Blauvet! We are still desperately in need of new members. I am challenging each of you to bring a friend to our November meeting. Let them see what we are about and encourage them to join. If you know someone who is interested and unable to attend please have them fill out an application and bring it with you to the meeting, I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting in November.

### **Words from 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President SuSu Scognamiglio**

Wow time is sure flying by, next is November! Our "Holiday Boutique" is almost here with **Lots** of great Holiday items, for Thanksgiving and Christmas gifts and decorating. So Please bring happy Holiday items and support us as you did for the September meeting. I loved the suggestions and donations and as always any items or baskets that anyone would like to donate will be truly appreciated- You can always reach me at 516-779-2695, my job is only as successful as you all help me to do it.

PLEASE don't forget your Dark Secrets and Specials - Always stay safe and Well until we see each other in November

### **Words from Financial Secretary Tammy Nosek:**

I trust you are all looking forward to the autumn season. While you enjoy this time of year, please ensure your 2027 dues are submitted at your earliest convenience. Over the coming weeks, I will be distributing notifications regarding outstanding balances via email, text, or correspondence. Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at 518-860-7063.

### **Words from Chairperson Convention Journal Sue Mehan:**

Work on our 2027 Journal is already underway! Letters will be going out to everyone who took an ad in last year's Journal after the first of the year There will be Memorials and Boosters at our upcoming November meeting.

**Full page - \$80.00; ½ page - \$45.00; ¼ page - \$35.00; and 1/8 page - \$30.00. Boosters are \$1.00 per line. Memorials are \$5.00 and include name of memorialized person and your name. Please note the sizes of the ads...these are not full 8 ½" by 11" ads. Please, if you are emailing me an ad, be sure it is the proper size; I cannot open pdf or jpeg emails to change the size.**

I have set up a form to send Ads, Boosters, & Memorials using Google Drive where they will go directly into a sheet I have set up on my computer to keep track of. You will get a notification in your email of what was sent. You can either go to **[tinyurl.com/lahvvfajournal](https://tinyurl.com/lahvvfajournal)** or use the **QR code** that is now available. Give it a try. If you want to **test** the form out, please put the words 'TEST' next to your name in the **(Submitter)** section so I know it is only a test and so I can delete it.



If **you do not have a Google** account to upload your Ads, Boosters and Memorials, please email your files directly to **[lahvvfajournal@gmail.com](mailto:lahvvfajournal@gmail.com)** Make sure to send a hard copy and payment payable to LA HVVFA to: Sue Mehan, PO Box 651, Stillwater, NY 12170

See page 3 for Ad sizes And Prices and Page 6 for booster and Memorials

## **Words from Daily Drawing Chairperson Karen McDonald:**

### **If we don't sell, we don't make money!!!**

Please consider taking some to your Auxiliary Meetings. If we could manage to sell a few at each member's Auxiliary just think what that would do to help.

Tickets for our December 2026 daily drawing were handed out at our September meeting and several have already been sold and returned. I will have the tickets with me at our November meeting for all that are interested.

Please contact me call/text 518-339-9605 or by email at kmcdonald@earthlink.net if you can't make our meeting and would some tickets to sell.

A HUGH Thank-YOU goes out to those who do sell or purchase tickets regularly for each drawing

## **Words from Apparel Chairperson Sue Mehan:**

I not only shortened the website for shirts. I also have a QR code to make it easier for you if you want to place an order. You have three ways of ordering:

1. [https://store.masteryourimage.com/hv\\_ladies\\_aux/shop/home](https://store.masteryourimage.com/hv_ladies_aux/shop/home)
2. <https://tinyurl.com/lahvvfashop>
3. use the QR code (quicker)



### **Please note:**

Prices, available items and all payment information are shown on all three Links and shipping is direct to purchaser.

Any Questions contact Sue Mehan: text/call 518-281-3459 or email at [sussysue312@gmail.com](mailto:sussysue312@gmail.com)

## **Correction to the Call List**

**Schenectady County Vice President** Joanne Jantz's telephone number should be:

Home – 518-280-2237      cell – 518-944-555

Please make this correction to the Call List in the September 2026 Chatterbox.

## **Stay in the touch and in the KNOW!!**

### **Check them out**

Facebook page - – Ladies Auxiliary of Hudson Valley VFA

HVVFA website –[hvvfa.com](http://hvvfa.com) The home page has information about upcoming events and meeting. Click on the menu tab in the upper left corner of the main page for more information and see our Ladies Auxiliary page or join the members the members area by fill out the information requested and noting that you are an Auxiliary member.

## Convention Journal

: Full Page Ad is 8" x 6.5" Half Page Ad is 8" x 3.25"  
Quarter Page Ad is 4" x 3.25" Page Ad is 2" x 3.25"

**Please make sure the ad you submit is the correct size**

|                                                |                                                |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b><math>\frac{1}{4}</math> Page - \$35.00</b> | <b><math>\frac{1}{8}</math> Page - \$30.00</b> |
|                                                |                                                |
| <b><math>\frac{1}{2}</math> Page - \$45.00</b> |                                                |
| <b>Full Page - \$80.00</b>                     |                                                |

## OUR OWN AUXILIARY HAS BEEN BUSY!!

A gift from the Auxiliary to the HVVFA to the HVVFA!!

At our September meeting Past President Victoria Dichian presented Robert Fritsche HVVFA President with a portable PA system and carrying case for use at their meetings and events..



The bad weather did stop several of our Members from attending Hudson Valley Day at the FASNY Firefighter's Home on Sunday September 26<sup>th</sup>. The event was moved inside with the Legislative Conference in the morning, a delicious luncheon with the Home Residents in the Dining area and then a short get together in the multipurpose room. Several presentations were to the Home for various uses.



President Gina-Marie Pacicca presenting our gift to Tara Degan. This gift includes the continued sponsorship our Home Fund Account chaired by Marilyn Farrell and providing funds for one of their Friday Cocktail Hours.

Some of our members enjoying lunch in the dining room with the Home Members,



**LAHVFA YEARBOOK ADS AND BOOSTERS  
DEADLINE - April 30, 2027**

Make checks payable to: **LAHVFA**  
Mail to: **Sue Mehan, PO Box 651, Stillwater, NY 12170**

**Boosters:** \$1.00 per name (note: Mr. & Mrs. **OR** John and Mary Doe are two names)  
**Business Boosters:** \$5.00 for businesses who may want to support our journal but do not wish to take a block ad in our journal.

List your booster and business boosters below; unless otherwise specified, all names on this form will be listed with county of member submitting the form.

| Booster name(s) | County |
|-----------------|--------|
|                 |        |
|                 |        |
|                 |        |
|                 |        |
|                 |        |
|                 |        |
|                 |        |
|                 |        |
|                 |        |
|                 |        |

The following is for "in memory of". Each name with donor is \$5.00. All memorial ads will be on special memorial pages.

|                    |            |
|--------------------|------------|
| In Memory of _____ | from _____ |
| In Memory of _____ | from _____ |
| In Memory of _____ | from _____ |
| In Memory of _____ | from _____ |
| In memory of _____ | from _____ |

Name of member submitting form: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## HAPPENINGS

### Orange County:

**Cronomer Valley F. D. LA** will be holding their annual Election Day Dinner on Tuesday, November 3, 2026 from 4PM-7:30PM. This is a delicious Eat In or Take Out event that has been a staple in the Town of Newburgh for many years. Additional information can be found on their Facebook page or calling 845-564-2020 ext. 165.

**Cronomer Valley F.D. LA** also had a big year in celebrating their 90<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary serving the fire department and community. In an age where so many volunteer organizations have had to cease, it is truly a wonderful achievement. Our membership has been growing each year. Celebrations commemorating our anniversary included a fun game show with food and lots of laughs. Representatives from our other Town of Newburgh auxiliaries were invited to join in our celebration. We also had a members tea, at which both current and past members enjoyed tea sandwiches and desserts. It also gave everyone the opportunity to tell how long they have been or were in the auxiliary, and what inspired them to originally join.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Convention 50/50 Raffles – Copy If you need additional

|                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Convention 50/50</b><br/><b>\$1.00 each - 6 for \$5.00</b></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Telephone Number: _____</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Convention 50/50</b><br/><b>\$1.00 each - 6 for \$5.00</b></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Telephone Number: _____</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Convention 50/50</b><br/><b>\$1.00 each - 6 for \$5.00</b></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Telephone Number: _____</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Convention 50/50</b><br/><b>\$1.00 each - 6 for \$5.00</b></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Telephone Number: _____</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Convention 50/50</b><br/><b>\$1.00 each - 6 for \$5.00</b></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Telephone Number: _____</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Convention 50/50</b><br/><b>\$1.00 each - 6 for \$5.00</b></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Telephone Number: _____</p> |

Tickets and check or money order payable to LAHVFA should be sent to:  
SuSu Scognamiglio, 96 Poplar Street, West Hempstead, NY 11552

## **POSTAGE FUND DONATION THANK YOU TO:**

Tammy Nosek, Dianne Werner, Karen McDonald, Diana Balling, Selena Cable, Sue Peck, Deb Tierney, Carol Madden, SuSu Scognamiglio, Gina-Maria Pacicca, Holly Eichler, Alison Englert, Megan Riverburgh, Paul Englert, Heidi Wheelock, Diane Lorenz, Mary Delaney, Beth Brundage, Dana Naven, Diane Conklin, Victoria Dichian, Dorina Maragliano, Eleanor Merrill, Mickey Fritsche, Barbara Stewart, Roseann Bottem, Doreen Zarcone, Carol Kraus, Alicia Canfield, Susan Jamison, Laura Carney, Robert Fritsche

**Thank you one and all for your generosity!!! We collected \$55.00.**

Donations can be mailed to the editor, Karen McDonald, 3 Andrews Road Apt. 11, Troy, NY 12180-8438 if you are unable to attend the meeting. Checks should be made payable to LAHVFA.

If you would like to receive your Chatterbox **via e-mail**, please e-mail me at [kmcdonald@earthlink.net](mailto:kmcdonald@earthlink.net). Include your name, address, telephone number and the e-mail address that you would like it sent to.

The Chatterbox  
c/o Karen McDonald  
3 Andrews Road Apt. 11  
Troy, NY 12180-8438

**Post Master please notify me of any  
address corrections.**

**ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT ISSUE ARE DUE**

**February 1, 2027**

