



THE HUDSON VALLEY FIREFIGHTER

Volume No. 2020 Issue 06 & No. 2021 Issue 01

June & August 2021

Due to a printing error with the June Newsletter, we are combining the June and August editions.

The June President's letter is below, and the August President's letter is on page 2.

We apologize for the inconvenience but wanted to share all the information submitted.

From the Office of the President

I am excited to have all of you coming to my hometown of Saugerties for the convention this year! Our hard-working convention committee looking at the available data, outlook and other factors decided cancelling the parade and block party was the best course of action. Obviously, the committee was disappointed, but the good news Saugerties will host again in 2024! and hopefully COVID will be just a bad memory.

It's hard to believe this will be my last message to you as President of the Hudson Valley. I've heard other Presidents say the year goes fast. Well, it does! It's been a busy year with many high points and some very low points. I feel our Association has accomplished quite a bit despite the Covid 19 pandemic. We've made great progress in getting members emails, formulating an Information Technology plan, increasing our membership and looking at our sales tax-exempt status. I'd like to thank those committee members who put in hard work with these particular items of focus. Our legislative committee, with input and participation from our membership, has done an excellent job of keeping the Hudson Valley in the forefront of our grassroots legislative process. Many key items on the FASNY scorecard have their genesis from us! Thank you!

I'd like to thank all the officers and committee members for their support and hard work over the year. Building on the foundation of our previous officers we continue to move the Association forward.

I was very pleased that we were able to have the past president's dinner this past April. Once again congratulations to Past President Jack Delaney for leading us through the onset of the Pandemic. I appreciated your leadership.

The passing of our 2nd Vice President Walter "Bill" Eck, Jr left us all deeply sadden. Bill left some very big shoes to fill. He was a vital part of association. We all miss our brother.

In closing, I want to thank you all for your support over the past years whether it was a letter endorsement, gesture of confidence or an encouraging word or two. It was and is appreciated. Incoming President Outhouse has been kind enough to put me on some committees and I look forward to working with him and the other committee members to keep the association vital. Bob, I wish you the best of luck in your term as President!

Thank you and see you in Saugerties!

Michael Karashay
President, HVVFA

Greetings Hudson Valley members. I hope you all are getting out and enjoying your summer. I would like to thank all the members who came to the convention in Saugerties, NY. It was a great convention even though the parades were canceled. I'm looking forward to the upcoming year. Already, the events around the Valley are starting to get back to normal with Association meetings, Conventions and our Day at the Home. I look forward to attending as many events as possible and to drop by and say hello. For the members who weren't able to attend the convention meetings and to see the transfer of the Presidential Trumpet and hear my address to the members, I have included it below. Stay safe, stay healthy and we see you at our Legislative Conference and HVVFA Day at the Home on September 26, 2021 at 10:00am.

President Robert Outhouse Address to the Members:

Good morning reverend clergy, officers, members, invited guests, I would like to start off by thanking Junior Past President Mike Karashay for his hard work during some difficult times. Mike's leadership role as our President during this pandemic was extraordinary during these unprecedented times. Thank you for all you have done this past year in keeping the valley together.

On a sad note, Walter Bill Eck would have been elevated to 1st Vice President this morning and was ready to be my right-hand man. About a week before Billy's untimely passing, I had conversation with him looking forward to our upcoming presidencies and our roles in the Valley. Billy was more than eager to listen to my plan to work on the northern counties and get good people involved in the valley. We spoke about the ad letters for this year's convention journal and he said that he wasn't feeling well in the February, but he felt better now, and they were going out that week. I asked Billy if he needed help, and he said no that he had Fred and others to help get them out and he was feeling much better. I told him if needed anything, to reach out to me and we would see through what ever needed to be done. 5 days later I would learn of Billy's passing. I'm sure today Billy is looking down at us saying, go and do the work you were sworn to do and remember "Deeds not Words."

1st Vice President Orr, 2nd Vice President Coyle, table officers, Board of Directors and association members, thank you for once again having faith in my abilities to be your President. My over 40 years in the fire service as given me the confidence both as an executive and operational officer to lead this great Association and work with some of the best individuals across the valley. I look forward to working with all of you for the betterment of the Association.

I will continue to work as your President to begin the post Covid era, and re-establishing our training seminars, and our parades and conventions. I look forward to working with the board and all committees to achieve this goal.

I would be remiss, if I didn't thank the Buchanan Engine Company #1, Inc, Westchester County VFA, all the companies and County Associations who sent endorsement letters on my behalf. Thank You. I would personally like to thank some people who gave me the courage and the strength on this journey. Past Presidents Jim Burns, Jim Farrell, Don Farrell, Paul Obrien, Bob Boddie and Mike Devittorio. Again, Thank You for all guidance.

I would like to thank my family for their continued support while I continue to serve this Great Association.

Lastly, I would like to give a special thank you to someone whom I simply call my Everything for being my proofreader, typist, chief cook and bottle washer and the best wife that anyone could ask for, my wife Angela.

Thank You and God Bless our Great Association

Published six times a year with news and updates to benefit the HVVFA volunteer!

If you'd like to submit an event, article, photo, etc., for publication, please feel free to send your information in! Our next deadline:

September 15, 2021 for the October edition!

You can send your information by e-mail to editorHVVFA@gmail.com

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Diana Balling

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Memorial/Sponsor Page donations \$100

Our next deadline is:

September 15, 2021

2022 Award Nominations

HVVFA Presidential Memorial Awards

Firefighter of the Year/EMS of the Year/Unit Citation

Chairperson: LuAnn Edele

Send all applications for the awards to:

LuAnn Edele, Chairperson

55 Meridian Drive

Brewster, NY 10509

(845) 234-3127

Email: luannedele@gmail.com

HVVFA FIRE POLICEMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Chairmen: Douglas C Mann, Thomas With

Send all applications for the **FIRE POLICEMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD** to either/both:

Douglas C Mann

103 N. Liberty Drive

Stony Point, NY 10980

(845) 742-0009

Mr103liberty@aol.com

Thomas With

34 Woodside Avenue

Colonie, NY 12205

(518) 438-7486

tomwith@hotmail.com

JOSEPH F. KELLY MEMORIAL

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Chairman: Rick Dillon

After reviewing the specific guidelines for this prestigious award, please send all applications for the **JOSEPH F. KELLY MEMORIAL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD** to:

Rick Dillon

108 Irish Cape Road

Napanoch, NY 12458

catfirerick@aol.com

PLEASE NOTE:

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 1, 2022 FOR THE PRIOR YEAR'S RECOGNITION

Greene County Report

Submitted by: Robert Schrader, GCVF

Greene County Vol. Firemen's Association annual day at the Hudson Firemen's Home is planned to be held on June 6th. Starting at 1:00 pm. We are waiting for approval from the Home at this time. Greene County Vol. Firemen's Association next quarterly meeting Thursday, August 5 7:30 p.m. Athens Volunteer Fire Department.

Greene County Volunteer Firemen's Association and Ladies Auxiliary annually provide \$200 awards to a graduating senior from county schools. Schools include all county schools, plus many private schools out of the county where students residing in Greene County attend. Award winners have to be involved with community service or a member in EMS, fire company, or fire auxiliary organization. This year eight awards will be presented. Five of the eight are firefighters or Auxiliary members. The other three are very active in service to their community. This program was in its 21st year. This year we lost a longtime member of the scholarship committee, Deb Sherman. She was the mother of our County association president Tyrel Sherman. Her input to the committee was missed this year.

The members of the Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Company (New Baltimore) will be hosting the 2021 Greene County Volunteer Fireman's Convention starting Tuesday, September 7 and running through Saturday, September 11, 2021. They are working hard on the planning and scheduling for this week and hope you can all join them in the festivities. They know that everything is up in the air due to COVID-19, but they are moving ahead with the planning to make it an enjoyable week for all. If plans change in the future affecting this week of events, they will notify the County Association. You can check their web page at newbaltimorefire.com. If you have questions, you can email them at 2021convention@newbaltimorefire.com.

Greene County Youth Fair runs Thursday July 22 – Sunday July 25. GCVFA has a tent/station under the name of Fire Prevention and Life Safety. Various pamphlets, picture displays, and fire prevention

displays fill the tent. Plus, individual county fire companies provide trucks for display along with demonstrations. This is all coordinated by Co-chair Charles Fremgen and Chairman Lillian Beechert. They know that everything is up in the air due to COVID-19, but they are moving ahead with the planning.

Coxsackie Fire Department will be having their 8th annual Golf Outing June 27, 2021 with registration starting at 11:00 am. It will take place at Thunderhart Golf Course \$100 per person \$400 per team.

I would like to extend heartfelt sympathy to the families of the following firemanic members who have recently passed away. I apologize if a name was missed and offer sincere condolences to their families. Raymond Berg – Cairo Hose Company; Robert Donahue – Cairo Hose Company; Grace Dorpfeld – Cairo Hose Auxiliary; Jane Freese – Kiskatom Ladies Auxiliary; Harold Jurgen – Cairo Hose Company; Deb Sherman – Hensonville Fire Dept.; Frank Stabile – Palenville Hose Company; John Valenti – Ashland Fire Department.

Orange County Report

Submitted by: Dot Brown, OCVP

Spring is here and Summer is around the corner. Our county is slowly opening up things around our area. The fire departments are starting to hold meetings again and looking to future events. In April several fire departments held events for Recruit NY. That was great! Orange County Volunteer Firemen's Association Convention week is still on. The week of September 19 through 25th, 2021 both Maybrook Engine Company # 1 and Montgomery Fire Department will host the 2021 Annual Convention and Parade together. The events for the week are on September 19 the Flag Raising and Memorial Service, convention meeting is September 23 and parade will be September 25. Our first meeting for 2021 was held May 25, at Goodwill Fire Department. Our next meeting will be July 27 at Cronomer Valley Fire Department in Newburgh, NY. The association is still planning to have a Day at Home in August.

We hope to see soon at our next meeting July 27, 2021.

HVVFA Ladies Auxiliary**Submitted by: Diana Balling**

As I write this article, the winter seems to finally be behind us! Tulips and daffodils are blooming and the trees are showing their spring colors! What a beautiful sight!

Hudson Valley VFA and Ladies Auxiliary were finally able to celebrate the accomplishments of Past President Jack Delaney! What a year he had along with his 1st Vice President and 2nd Vice President. Most definitely one for the history books!!

Hudson Valley VFA Ladies Auxiliary President Beth Brundage along with Jr. Past President Karen McDonald presented Jack with a Certificate of Honorary Membership along with his Gold Card. Additionally, the auxiliary made a monetary donation in his name to the Model Train Club at the Firemens Home. Thank you, Jack, for your dedication to the Hudson Valley.

Sadly, Walter "Bill" Eck Jr – 2nd Vice President of Hudson Valley VFA - passed away. Bill wasn't just the 2nd VP but an ambassador for the fire service in general! He had such respect for everyone he met and was a true gentleman! The fire service lost a Gentle Giant! RIP Bill! You will be missed more than you could imagine.

LA-HVVFA will be doing a July 2021 Daily Drawing Fundraiser. For a small cost of \$5.00 per ticket you will have a chance to win two times per day. There are two numbers on each ticket (ex: 021 & 521) with a limit of 500 tickets sold.

The winning number is determined by the evening NYS daily drawing.

- \$50.00 will be awarded each Friday
- \$25.00 the other 6 days of the week.
- On the last day of the month the lucky winner will receive \$100.00.
- We also pay one number above and one number below the winning number in the amount of \$7.50.

To get your tickets contact Karen McDonald at:

- Email-- kmcdonald@earthlink.net
- Phone: 518-477-4351,
- Text or Call Cell: 518-339-9605.
- Or catch her at convention meetings

Please include your name and contact information on all requests

Still looking for a gift idea for that special person: check out the following! This is an ongoing project and worth repeating! If anyone is interested in purchasing merchandise with the Ladies Auxiliary Logo on it, Susan Mehan has made it really easy to place an order. Please go to the following link to view merchandise and place your order: <http://tinyurl.com/lahvvfamerch>. Money must be sent to Sue prior to the order going in. Sue can be reached for any questions you might have at: sussysue312@gmail.com or phone her at 518-281-3459.

Update on 2021 Convention:

- Registration will be at the Saugerties Fire House – 43 Partition Street – Saugerties. Time is from 7pm to 9 pm. Dues will be accepted at this time; badges can be picked up and you can get your copy of the Convention Journal.
- Auxiliary meeting will be held at the Elks Lodge – Route 32N / 3 miles north of the Southbound Exit of the NYS Thruway – on the right-hand side. Registration starts at 8 am until 9:30 am. No dues collected. Meeting begins at 10 am.
- Past President's Breakfast honoring Jr. Past President Karen McDonald will be held at the Elks Lodge. Time will be 10 am. This is a long overdue celebration!

Please remember to get your raffle tickets! Pay for your luncheon! Pay for the Breakfast! Complete details will be in the Chatterbox which is mailed to the membership.

Any questions, please contact me at dlb@megacity.org or 845-389-7115. I will direct you to the appropriate



Website: www.firevideos.net

Email: hotshotsfirevideos@gmail.com

Albany County Report

Submitted by: BUTCH RECCHIA, ACVP

Walter "Bill" Eck, Jr

The Albany County VFA and the volunteer fire service in Albany County, the Hudson Valley and the State of New York suffered a great loss with the passing of Walter W. "Bill" Eck, Jr on March 19, 2021. Bill was a past president of the association and served on many committees, including Chairman of the FireFighter of the Year Award, the Muster/Inspection Day, Legislative Breakfast and HazMat. He also served on the Burn Fund (Secretary), Legislative Committee and wrote many articles for the newsletter. Bill was always ready to help the association with anything when asked. Bill also was chairman of the Albany County Fire Advisory Board, a member of the Board of Trustees of the FASNY Firemen's Home, Second Vice President of the HVVFA and past President of Hudson Mohawk VFA, Royal Order of the Blue Vests and Hudson Mohawk Night Hawks. His passing was most felt by his fellow members of the Slingerlands FD where he was a devoted member for 44 years. Bill served as the current President as well as past chief. He was the current Chairman of the Slingerlands Fire District. Bill will be missed by all who knew him.

Guilderland Center News

The Guilderland Center FD is mourning the loss of our Honorary Member and brother Bill Eck (as I'm sure everyone is). He did great things for us and all the fire service! He was an exemplary example and role model and will be missed greatly. Our condolences are with his family and the Slingerlands Fire District.

Brooks BBQ – fundraiser will be August 25th at the Guilderland Center Fire station from 3 to 6 pm.

Golf Outing – Annual Doug Lawton Memorial Golf Tournament will be on July 28th. Information will be sent out to all county companies. Contact either Burt Frederick or Tom Lawton for more information.

**Dutchess County Report**

Submitted by: JOHN POMARICO, DCVP

I am going to give you a short version of my report that was submitted at the May quarterly meeting that was held in Kingston. Hope all members & their families are starting to get outside to enjoy the fresh air, after being cooped up with the pandemic. I have been busy going to different meetings all over the counties in New York. My own company has been starting to move forward trying to get events moving for their 100th anniversary been involved serving in different committees.

I have been asked to step up & serve on HVVFA offices naming a few :Auditing - Fire Police Seminars - Presidential Memorial Awards - Blue Vests - I can keep going by like my wife Jane tells me all the time I can't say the magic word NO, I love being involved like my Deceased Uncle who was HVVFA President Andrew T Pomarico .The past couple weeks with The Convention Parade that was supposed to happen, which was Cancelled , I had the honor to be on the Past President 's Dinner committee for outgoing Jack Delaney , since then I was drafted by him since I went out as President of Dutchess County Volunteer Firemen's Association to serve as a director of the Royal Order of the Blue Vests . This coming June I will stay in as County Vice-President among other behind the scene offices.

As I close my letter, I would like to wish My Understanding Wife, Jane, a Happy Anniversary & to all the Ladies an enjoyable Mother's Day

To all the veterans alive or deceased a Happy Memorial Day, anyone needing assistance please reach out to me I am available anytime.

CARTOONS BY PETE CARNEY

Hey Rookie, Where is your turnout gear?
Chief, I took it to the dry cleaner and lost the ticket.

#21

HV Legislative Committee Submitted by: James Hartwick

New York Firefighters and environmental advocates joined Sen. Todd Kaminsky to push for the passage of a bill that would ban carcinogenic flame retardant chemicals in household items.

Kaminsky is the lead sponsor of legislation that would prohibit toxic flame retardants in electronics, furniture and mattresses.

“This bill will save lives,” Kaminsky said. “This bill would ban the most dangerous flame retardants in household products. It’s time to stop listening to the corporate lobbyists and listen to our first responders.” Supporters rallied outside an FDNY firehouse in St. Albans, Queens to encourage lawmakers to take up the measure, which mirrors protections already in place in 13 states as well as in Europe.

Flame retardants are in everyday items such as TVs, phones, mattresses and upholstered furniture and are meant to slow or prevent the start or growth of a fire.

However, many of the chemicals have been linked to serious health effects, from cancer and reproductive issues to developmental disabilities.

Industry and business groups have pushed back on the bill, arguing that it could increase fire deaths, injuries and property damage.

Groups such as the American Chemistry Council, Association Home Appliance Manufacturers and The Business Council of New York State also say the legislation will “adversely impact product safety for New Yorkers and would put manufacturers, retailers and small businesses in our state at a competitive disadvantage.”

FASNY and the Uniformed Firefighters Association, and others believe opponents are resorting to scare tactics in order to prevent the measure’s passage and protect their bottom line. “You buy a couch and you hear it’s flame retardant, it’s supposed to be safer. It’s not safer to us; it’s not safer to you.”

Dr. Leonardo Trasande of NYU Langone Health said the health risks are real for pregnant women and children as well as firefighters who are exposed to the chemicals.

“We know that these flame retardants that we are talking about are associated with cancers, especially in highly exposed populations such as firefighters,” he said. “The bottom line is these categories of chemicals are literally hacking our human health and costing our economy.”

Columbia County Report Submitted by: Barbara Fischer, CCVP

The Columbia County Volunteer Firefighters Association Convention and Parade will be held the weekend of July 30th and 31st, 2021 in Stuyvesant Falls. Doors will open Friday evening at 6:00 pm and a brief business meeting will be held at 7:30 pm. (The majority of formal business will be addressed at the Saturday morning meeting). The second part of Friday’s meeting will be a Memorial Service and an Awards Ceremony. Entertainment will follow with the local band Jarrod performing. The Saturday session of the convention will begin with breakfast for Directors, Officers, and Delegates which will then be followed by a business meeting at 9:30 am. The parade will line up at 1:00 pm near the intersection of Route 9H and County Route 25. The parade will step off at 2:00 pm. Trophies and awards to follow after the parade. Check out www.columbiapage.com for any allowable events going on throughout Columbia County and please stay well!



12/21

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Royal Order of the Blue Vests**Submitted by: Mike Cesare**

The Best Western Hotel in the City of Kingston, Ulster County hosted the Royal Order of the Blue Vests meeting on April 25, 2021.. The registration started at 10:30 AM with a few members arriving earlier.

President Dinkelacker started the business meeting at 11:00 AM. The Invocation was given by Chaplain, Mrs. Victoria Dichian. Mrs. Dichian requested a moment of Silence for Past President Mr. Walter William "Bill" Eck Jr. and any other members who are ill. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President Dinkelacker. President Dinkelacker noted the fire exits and stated that in case of an emergency, to please follow him out. Secretary Ms. Marie Delawder read the minutes from the October meeting. The Committee reports were very brief. All Royal Order of the Blue Vests meetings and social events scheduled at the Firemen's Home may be canceled due to the virus. The events scheduled for the year 2021 are as follows: Annual Picnic & Meeting (May 29), the Annual Steak Roast outing (June 17), the Blue Vests day at the Firemen's Home in Hudson (June 26), and the Blue Vests Christmas Party at the Firemen's Home (December 18). President Dinkelacker discussed the Royal Order of the Blue Vests 50 year activities. The date for the 50 year activities selected will be the Blue Vests day at the Firemen's home in June 25, 2022. Raffle Committee Chairperson, Ms. LuAnn Edele thanked everyone who either purchased or sold the raffle tickets. The raffle ticket sales were way down due to the virus and the cancellation of the meetings and events. Chairperson Edele stated that a very special thanks goes to the anonymous Blue Vests member who purchased December raffle tickets for the Residents in the Firemen's Home. This is the third year that the anonymous Blue Vests member has purchased raffle tickets for all the Residents in the Firemen's Home. Financial Secretary/Treasurer George Hill reminded everyone that he is collecting the 2021 Annual Dues and any other monies for the Association. Please pay your dues promptly.

Past FASNY Director Mr. Santo 'Chan' Rivera thanked the Royal Order of the Blue Vests for their continued support. Mr. Rivera discussed the Hudson Valley VFA annual conventions for the years 2022 (Wallkill), Queensbury (2023), and Saugerties (2024). Hudson Valley VFA Past President Mr. Jack Delaney thanked everyone who attended his Past Presidents dinner and for the continued support from the Royal Order of the Blue Vests.

FASNY Trustee Ms. Marilyn L. Schrader discussed the events regarding the closing of the Firemen's Home, mentioned the procedures in place to prevent the virus from entering the Firemen's Home, and the many small steps taken within the Firemen's Home. The discussion was lengthy and well presented. The new Firemen's Home Administer is Mr. Keith Henchey.

Unfinished Business: All events and activities were canceled due to the virus. There was no Unfinished Business.

President Dinkelacker announced that the nominations for the Chair Officers of the Royal Order of the Blue Vests are next. The nominations are as follows:

President	Mark Dinkelacker	Greene County
	LuAnn Edele	Putnam County
First Vice Pres	LuAnn Edele	Putnam County
	Santo "Chan" Rivera	Ulster County
Second Vice Pres	Santo "Chan" Rivera	Ulster County
	Jack Delaney	Dutchess County
Fin. Sect. /Treas.	George H. Hill	Dutchess County
Recording Sec	Marie Delawder	Putnam County
Sgtat-Arms	George F. Stacey	Greene County
Chaplains	Victoria Dichian	Rensselaer County
	Thomas F. With	Albany County
Emeritus	Frederick A. Van Loan	

New Business: A motion was made and passed to leave a blank page in memory of Past President Mr. Walter William "Bill" Eck Jr. A motion was made and passed to purchase a full page ad in the Hudson Valley VFA annual convention journal.

Two application were read for membership. The two new members are:

Eric Orr	Wallkill Hook, Ladder, & Hose Co
Lance Booth	Wallkill Hook, Ladder, & Hose Co

Good & Welfare: Mr. Robert Schrader mentioned that Mr. Frank Roberts Sr. has a back operation and that his wife is not doing very well in the nursing home. Get well cards will be appreciated.

President Dinkelacker called for the drawing of the winning 50/50 ticket. The winning (and very lucky) member this meeting was Mr. Santo "Chan" Rivera. The Benediction was given by Chaplain Mrs. Victoria Dichian. President Dinkelacker thanked everyone in attendance and wished a safe travel home.



RE-ELECT

DEPUTY CHIEF

ED BUTLER, JR.

DIRECTOR

For a second term

2021 SAUGERTIES

Putnam County Report

Submitted by: LuAnn Edele, PCVP

Looks like the Putnam County fire service is starting to slowly open up to the normalcy it had taken for granted. Parade schedules are starting to be talked about once more, though due to timing **Mahopac VFD**, who has a parade and carnival each year, announced its decision to cancel this year's event due to current COVID restrictions. We are, however, seeing that parades scheduled for August and beyond, such as **Brewster** and **Putnam Valley FD's** anniversary parades, are still being planned, so fingers crossed these parades can take place!

Speaking of anniversaries, **Patterson Fire Department** just celebrated its 100th anniversary on April 7th. A centennial journal is being prepared and once details are available I will be happy to share the information!

On May 15th, the **Brewster FD** honored the recent passing of **Deputy Chief Edward Schneider**, 71-yr still-involved member and its Department's Historian for his duty and dedication to the Brewster Fire Department with a well-attended outdoor memorial service. To his credit, Chief Schneider not only established the Brewster FD museum with its artifacts and detailed records, but also built upon the minimal chronology of

BFD's deceased members, dedicating hundreds of hours of painstaking research dating back to the beginning: 1870. Add to that, before Memorial Day each year, Chief Schneider would place a department flag on each deceased member's gravesite. What began as a solo effort visiting 2-3 cemeteries each year grew to an astounding 22 cemeteries! This respectful recognition continued on with the help of a small group of dedicated BFD Deputy Chiefs and colleagues with Chief Ed Schneider at the helm with his self-prepared detailed maps. Despite his winter passing, this year the flags were once again placed, done by his beloved peers who helped him along the way. In honor of his commitment, the Brewster FD Museum was dedicated in his name and a plaque will be placed for all to see who visit. His knowledge, his belief in Brewster's "Tradition – Duty – Honor", will be missed by all.

Other tidbits: Our **EMS** and **Firefighter 1/BEFO** graduation ceremonies for 2020's classes were held at the Bureau of Emergency Services Building last month (another breath of normalcy!), welcoming the newest EMTs and Firefighters to our county's rolls. **Carmel Fire Department** is scheduled to break ground and build upon its existing firehouse. We wish them much luck on this new venture. Our **County Association's** officers will be installed on Friday, June 4th at Centennial Grille Room in Southeast.

WCVFA FIREMEN'S CONVENTION 2021



TRAINING



WCVFA AND THE OSSINING FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESENT:

Chief Bobby Halton

Topic: Fire Ground Decision Making



Thursday, September 16th

6:45pm

Ossining Community Center

95 Broadway

Ossining NY

Retired Fire Chief Bobby Halton is currently the Education Director of the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) and the Editor in Chief of Fire Engineering Magazine. He began his career as a firefighter with the Albuquerque Fire Department, holding various positions and eventually becoming the Chief of Operations and Chief of Training. When he left Albuquerque, he took on the role of Chief of the Coppell Fire Department in TX. After which, he became involved in Fire Engineering Magazine.

Chief Halton has served on many of the National Fire Protection Association Committees. He is a member of the International Association of Fire Fighters as well as the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

Chief Halton is involved with the Congressional Fire Services Institute, the National Fallen Firefighters, and the Firefighters Cancer Support Network. He is a renowned Fire Service Speaker both here in the United States and abroad.

westchester County Report

Submitted by: Tara Scarduzio, wCVP

Ossining Fire Department will be hosting the 115th WCVFA Convention this September 16th - 18th!

There will be:

- Training led by Chief Bobby Halton of FDIC and Fire Engineering Magazine
- Annual WCVFA meeting and swearing in of Officers
- Friendship Night on Friday evening
- Dress Parade on Saturday

For any questions or more information, you can contact Don Farrell at ofd2334@aol.com

Sudoku #821 (Easy)

3	1		9		6		4	
	4		7			1		
7		9	5				6	
			6					
				4		7	1	
6	3							
8			4			2		
				8	2	5	7	3
	7				5			

Rockland County Report

Submitted by: john coyle, rCVP

The officers and members of the Columbian Engine Company No. 1, of the Spring Valley Fire Department, sadly announce the line of duty death of Firefighter Jared Calvin Lloyd. Firefighter Lloyd was one the first to arrive on the scene of a structure fire at the Evergreen Court Home for Adults; an effort that would eventually involve over 150 firefighters from 4 counties. Firefighter Lloyd was in the process of searching for and rescuing trapped residents and is credited with saving multiple victims. At a certain point, Jared became trapped himself. Firefighter Lloyd radioed in a mayday call and his brother firefighters immediately attempted to locate and extricate him but were unsuccessful before the building suffered a catastrophic collapse. After searching for over 18 hours straight, state and local emergency service personnel located Firefighter Lloyd's body at 2350 hours on March 23rd. Jared Lloyd gave his life in service to others, but more importantly, he lived his life in service to others. He was a member of the company for 16 years. He served as an engineer, as a second lieutenant and first lieutenant among many leadership positions in the company. He was a RCVFA member since 2010. He attended Spring Valley High School and played as a linebacker on the varsity football team. He was a loving father to his two sons, an avid golfer and bowler and a diehard Mets fan; never losing the faith. He was a friend, a leader, a brother, a Columbian. His funeral was April 3 at Boulders Stadium attended by thousands from Rockland and across the nation.

WE MOURN THEIR PASSING

Walter Wheatley Retired FDNY and former Orangetown fire inspector, died March 22. 25 years FDNY and 21 years as Orangetown Car 1. He was not a RCVFA member.

Barbara Wicks died March 25, 2021, age 71. She was the wife of RCVFA Past Pres. Mike Wicks, mother of Stony Point Ex-Chief Curt Wicks and Stony Point Ex-Pres. Kristen Wicks.

Ken Schmidt Sr. died March 25, 2021. He was a member of the Tappan FD, Life Member, Ex-Chief, Past Trustee, and Past Commissioner. Ken is also the father of Tappan Life Members Ken Schmidt Jr. and Mark Schmidt. RCVFA Life Member joining in 1983. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayer

Robert "Moskie" Ralston, died Apr 12, 2021, age 72. Hillcrest Fire Company life member and past commissioner, RCVFA member joining 1969. Moskie was living in Tennessee but would visit here often.

**Putnam County Report**

Submitted by: LuAnn Edele, PCVP

As the 2021 Convention in Saugerties is now in the rearview mirror, I would like to wish the newly elected Officers and Directors the best in their upcoming terms and to thank **Jr. Past President Mike Karashay** for his amazing efforts in ensuring that our Association did not falter during the Pandemic. This was not an easy task so cudos to you for tackling that beast and coming out on top! I'd also like to thank the team of County Vice-Presidents for re-electing me as its Chairperson, as well as **Vice-Chair Bob Schrader**. PLUS I'd like to welcome both **Bill Mehan (Saratoga)** and **Ken Askew (Schenectady/President VFPSNY)** as they join our CVP team, filling two long-term vacancies. Most CVPs were in attendance at this year's convention; those who couldn't come were missed.

Well, I'm happy to report that Putnam County not only is finally awake but it also woke up **Santa!** On July 24th the **Mahopac Falls FD** held a "Christmas in July Candy Cane Run"! Multiple apparatus took to the local streets and had a blast in this off-season, much welcomed pre-(post?) holiday tradition. And I'm happy to report that groundbreaking has begun and the redesign and enhancement of **Carmel FD's** firehouse is underway!

Patterson FD, a Department whose graciousness allowed many associations, including HVVFA, to use its outdoor Pavilion when no one else would let guests in, celebrated its 100th Anniversary this year capped off with an anniversary parade held on July 31st. **Brewster FD**, a tad older, celebrates its 150th (in its 151st) year with some fanfare, including its August 21 parade and members-only Dinner Cruise on September 25th and **Putnam Valley's** 75th birthday is this year, too. They're celebrating with a Golf Tournament on August 23rd. And, we surely can't forget about a graduation: the **Cold Spring Junior Fire Academy** was back in training this year and, after a split-shift week-long set of classes, these grade-school future first responders graduated on July 30th.

Not to forget, the **Putnam County VFA** is co-sponsoring a **"20 Years of Remembering"** Mass and Brunch for all area First Responders on Sunday, September 12th, (see flyer in this issue) in memory of all those lost that fateful day of 9-11-01. **Mahopac VFD** will open its doors for participants to gather while a *Group Color Guard* assembles for a Celtic band-led parade to St John's Church a few blocks away. A special Mass will be held, after which brunch will be served back at Mahopac VFD. Thanks to the PCVFA, the Putnam County Chiefs, the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, Mahopac VFD, Mahopac Falls FD, and others, for helping this Remembrance service, run by PCVFA's Ex-Chief Kevin Neary and 2nd VP Tracy Noroian come to fruition.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and I look forward to seeing all of you soon!

May Blue Vests Annual Picnic & Meeting

The Pawling Fire Department in Dutchess County hosted the Royal Order of the Blue Vests annual picnic & meeting on May 29, 2021. The registration started at 10:30 AM with some members arriving earlier. President Dinkelacker announced that the meeting will be held inside this morning. Mother Nature was in her usual good humor today. The weather was cold, wet, and damp. The temperature was a not so warm 44 degrees.

President Dinkelacker opened the Business meeting at 11:30 AM. The Invocation was given by Mr. Thomas With. The pledge to the flag was led by Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. George Stacey. Past Chief Mr. Michael Carter of the Pawling Fire Department welcomed the Blue Vests in attendance and noted the fire exits. A motion was made and passed to waive reading the minutes from the April meeting. The Committee reports included the Royal Order of the Blue & Red Vests Annual Steak Roast outing (June 17), the Blue Vests day at the Firemen's Home (June 26), the Blue Vests Annual Installation dinner (September 25), the Blue Vests Annual Christmas Party at the Firemen's Home (December 18), and the Fifty (50) Year membership celebration (June 25, 2022). It was mentioned again that all events scheduled at the Firemen's Home are subject to change depending upon the virus. Chairman Ms. LuAnn Edele reported on the March raffle tickets. The May and August raffle ticket reports will be at the next meeting of the Blue Vests. FASNY Trustee Ms. Marilyn Schrader thanked the Blue Vests for all that we do for the Residents. There are currently 72 Residents and more applications are being processed. FASNY Trustee Mr. Michael De Vittorio also thanked the Blue Vests for all we do for the Residents. Hudson Valley President Mr. Michael Karashay introduced all the Hudson Valley current and past officers, thanked the Blue Vests for all that we do for the Residents at the Firemen's Home, gave a brief report from his Past Presidents dinner, and gave a complete report on the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association 132nd Annual Convention that will be held in the Village of Saugerties. Ms. Marilyn Schrader requested the status of Past President Mr. James Coons.. A motion was made and passed to make Mr. James Coons a Director Emeritus from Greene County. President Dinkelacker thanked the Committees for their reports.

New Business: President Dinkelacker announced that the nominations and elections for the Chair Officers of the Royal Order of the Blue Vests are next. The elected Chair Officers are as follows:

President	Ms. LuAnn Edele	Putnam County
First Vice President	Mr. Santo 'Chan' Rivera	Ulster County
Second Vice President	Mr. Jack Delaney	Dutchess County
Fin. Sect./Treas.	Mr. George H. Hill	Dutchess County
Recording Secretary	Ms. Marie Delawder	Putnam County
Sergeant-at-Arms	Mr. George F. Stacey	Greene County
Chaplain	Mrs. Victoria Dichian	Rensselaer County
	Mr. Thomas F. With	Albany County

President Elect Ms. LuAnn Edele raised a question regarding the payment of the Annual Dues and the Lapsation By-Laws. A By-Law change will be written and presented at the next meeting of the Association. Mrs. Victoria Dichian requested the membership status. An informational report will be written and published in the Hudson Valley newspaper. A motion was made and passed to leave a blank page in our minutes in memory of Past President Mr. Joseph O. Garcia. A motion was made and passed to make a donation (\$100.00) in memory of Mr. Joseph O. Garcia to the Firemen's Home Activities account. The selling and the drawing of the winning 50/50 ticket will be at the conclusion of the picnic. The Benediction was given by Mrs. Victoria Dichian. The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM.

Refreshments were available before and after the meeting. Everyone was welcome and the refreshments were delicious. The refreshments included crackers, pepperoni, three bite shrimp, pretzels, chips, clams (raw & steamed), soda, coffee, water, beer, sausage, peppers & onions, hamburgers, hot dogs, salad (tossed, potato, & macaroni), cole slaw, and pastries & cupcakes for dessert. The winning member of the 50/50 today was Mr. Tom Camp. A special Thank You goes to the members of the Pawling Fire Department for hosting the annual picnic & meeting, for their wonderful hospitality, and the use of their warm meeting room. A very special Thank You goes to Mr. Chan Rivera who slaved over the grill cooking the sausage, hot dogs, and the hamburgers for the enjoyment of all. There was brief speculation that Mr. Rivera was using the grill to keep himself warm.

Greene County Report**Submitted by: Robert Schrader, GCVP**

Greene County Vol. Firemen's Association annual day at the Hudson Firemen's Home was a drive by of fire trucks with the county paying the home to provide the members with a BBQ and ice cream social. The Association also provided all the members with T-shirts. Greene County home members also received a sweatshirt along with the T-shirt. Our hope is next year we will be able to go back to corn hole tournament and more socializing with the members.

Greene County Vol. Firemen's Association next quarterly meeting Thursday, August 5 7:30 pm. Athens Volunteer Fire Department.

The members of the Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Company (New Baltimore) will be hosting the 2021 Greene County Volunteer Fireman's Convention starting Tuesday, September 7 and running through Saturday, September 11, 2021. The following is the schedule of events:

Tuesday Sept. 7th Auxiliary Dinner and meeting at 5:30 pm at Firehouse on Gill Road

Thursday Sept. 9th Men's Dinner and meeting starting at 5:30 pm at Firehouse – Gill Road

Friday Sept. 10th Mardi Gras line up at 6:00 pm on County Rte 61 heading north to State Rte 144

Parade will end at town park on New Baltimore Road. Trophies to follow.

Entertainment will be Skeeter Creek

Saturday Sept. 11 At 1:00 pm Dress Parade line up on State Route 144 heading south from Albany county line toward the hamlet of New Baltimore.

2:00 pm Dress Parade Step off – Parade will end at Town Park on New Baltimore Road.

Musical Entertainment by DJ immediately following parade until trophies.

Greene County Youth Fair runs Thursday July 22 – Sunday July 25. GCVFA has a tent/station under the name of Fire Prevention and Life Safety. Various pamphlets, picture displays, and fire prevention displays fill the tent. Plus, individual county fire companies provide trucks for display along with demonstrations. This is all coordinated by Co-chair Charles Fremgen and Chairman Lillian Beechert.

Orange County Report**Submitted by: Dot Brown, OCPV**

Welcome summer finally! Hope all members & their families are starting to get outside to enjoy the fresh air, after being cooped up with the pandemic. I have been busy going to different meetings around the county. Most companies and departments are moving forward planning events for their community.

Orange County Vol. Firemen's Association annual Day at the Home is planned to be held on August 1, 2021 at 11:00 am. We are waiting for approval from the home at this time. The Orange County Volunteer Firemen's Association Convention week and Parade will begin the week of September 19 through September 25, 2021.

Hosted by both Maybrook and Montgomery Fire Departments. The week will start off with Flag Raising and Memorial Service on September 19 in Maybrook, convention meeting on September 23 in Maybrook and then parade in Montgomery. Hope to see everyone there.

The Orange County Vol. Firemen's Association would like to recognize Donald Stillwaggon for 80 years in the Fire Service. Donald is a Past asst. Chief and member of Cronomer Valley Fire Department. Also, he just celebrates his 100th year birthday in July.

We hope to see you soon at the convention and parade. Be safe!

Saugerties County Report**Submitted by: John Pomarico, SCVP**

The annual convention meetings in Saugerties were very well attended even though the main part of the festivities did not take place. The moral is still there, everyone had smiles on their faces, to be able to see people in person instead of zoom or video. I am able to gather a lot of information to bring back to the members of Dutchess County. I can truthfully tell you, the hospitality was great venturing into Saugerties and Glasco. Back to business as the year goes on, every association is moving forward with their events. Many parades will go on, I will stop there wishing President Outhouse and his team a successful year.

HVVFA Ladies Auxiliary**Submitted by: Diana Balling**

As I write this article, I hope everyone is enjoying the “summer months” despite the monsoon type weather we have been getting. We need to seize the moment that the sun comes out for any length of time.

Another convention has been put to rest! The Annual 46th Convention of the Ladies Auxiliary of Hudson Valley VFA was held. Everyone seemed to enjoy the great job that Saugerties Fire Department did in putting the convention together – despite the state regulations not being changed in time to have parades on Friday or Saturday. It was really great to see everyone in person.

Some highlights from the HVVFA Ladies Auxiliary Convention:

Elections were held and the 2021-2022 officers are
 President Beth Brundage – Warren County
 1st Vice President Alison Rivenburgh – Greene County
 2nd Vice President Judy Parsells – Orange County
 Recording Secretary Sheri King – Putnam County
 Financial Secretary Tammy Nosek – Orange County
 Treasurer Marie Delawder – Putnam County
 Jr. Past President Karen McDonald
 New 5 Year Director Megan Rivenburgh – Greene County
 Megan joins 1 Year Director Diane Conklin – Rockland
 2 Year Director Gina Marie Pacicca – Putnam
 3 Year Director Kathie Wood – Albany
 4 Year Director Lisa Novella – Orange

Congratulations to all the newly elected officers.

Chaplain Vickie Dichian presented a beautiful memorial service where our deceased members were recognized and remembered. Those HVVFA LA member that have passed during the past year were: Catherine Murphy, Mary O'Connor, Sharon Steneck, Terry Pilz, Charter Member Jean Diller, Honorary Member Frank Knowler and Walter “Bill” Eck Jr. Several non-members were also recognized.

HVVFA 2nd Vice President Walter “Bill” Eck Jr was made an honorary member posthumously. Bill was a great supporter of LAHVFA as well as all auxiliaries!

President Brundage mentioned that Margaret “Peg” Earl was recognized for her 75 years of service to Lake George Ladies Auxiliary and 36 years of service with Ladies Auxiliary of Hudson Valley VFA.

On Friday morning after the newly elected officers attended the association meeting, the members of HVVFA LA honored out-going president, Karen McDonald. Past President Joanne Jantz thought it might be fun to have each person in attendance share a memory of their relationship with Karen. This led to a lot of stories being told and lots of laughter! Many didn't realize that Karen isn't always serious! Congratulations Karen on your two years as President. Despite the pandemic, you accomplished a lot! Job Well Done!

Some news from around the Valley

Ulster County VFA Ladies Auxiliary held their Annual Meeting in Wallkill. Newly elected officers were President Barbara Geis, Vice President Tammy Haight, Secretary Susan Peck and Treasurer Diana Balling.

Albany County VFA Ladies Auxiliary held their Annual Meeting at the Onesquethaw Fire House. Scholarship winner for 2021 was Hannah Voorhaar who received a check in the amount of \$2,500. Her parents are very active in the Onesquethaw Fire Company. Hannah's parents accepted the award on her behalf. Hannah was unable to attend as she was attending Camp Fowler as a Camp Counselor. Congrats to Hannah. It was noted that during the pandemic the 2020 Scholarship winner was Mackenzie Therrien of Selkirk.

Auxiliary of Saxton Fire Company held their Scratch Off Lottery Drawing on June 23. The lucky winner was Cindy Keator of Saugerties. Congratulations to Cindy!

Hudson Valley VFA Ladies Auxiliary apparel is always available to purchase. Please contact Sue Mehan at the following email if interested: sussysue312@hotmail.com.

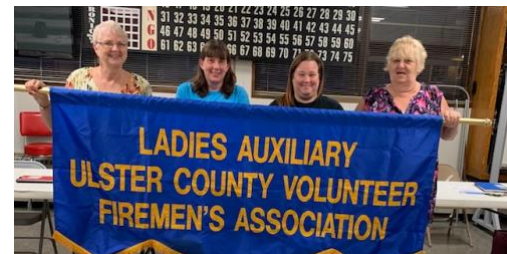
Are you interested in supporting Hudson Valley VFA Ladies auxiliary by purchasing a Daily Drawing Ticket? Please contact Karen McDonald at the following email if interested:

kmcdonald@earthlink.net

Next meeting of Hudson Valley VFA Ladies Auxiliary will be on September 19 at the Firemen's Home in Hudson. Hope to see everyone there!



L-R: Karen McDonald, Beth Brundage, Alison Rivenburgh, Judy Parsells, Sheri King, Tammy Nosek, Marie Delawder, Lisa Novella, Kathie Wood and Gina-Marie Pacicca



L-R: Diana Balling, Barbara Geis, Tammy Haight, Susan Peck

The winners of the HVVF Club Raffle Held on 6/18/21 are:

1st Prize - \$250 – Bullville Vol Fire Co – Orange County

2nd Prize \$100 - Cronomer Valley FD – Orange County

3rd Prize \$50 – Hensonville Hose Co, Greene County

The Firefighters Club thanks everyone who supported this years raffle

Columbia County Report

Submitted by: Barbara Fischer, CCVP

The Columbia County Volunteer Firefighters' Convention is now in the past and summer seems to be flying by. As more and more venues open, I hope everyone will keep in mind to stay safe and wear a mask if needed, so we can finally get rid of this virus! Columbia County will be looking toward the Columbia County Fair soon from September 1st-September 6 th, with the firefighter's parade scheduled for Saturday, September 4th. Check out the website at www.columbiafair.com for more details as they become available.

On Saturday, August 7, 2021, the Red Rock Volunteer Fire Company will once again hold their famous Pasta Night from 5:00 pm-8:00 pm! You have the option to eat in or take out your Penne Pasta with choices of sauces, meatballs, salad, rolls, drinks & dessert. Adults are \$12 and kids are \$5.00. Come support Red Rock and have a great meal.

The Austerlitz Volunteer Fire Company is sponsoring a car show on Sunday, August 22, 2021 from 9:00 am-3:00 pm on the grounds of the fire house located at 11603 State Route 22 @ West Hill Rd. in Austerlitz. The fire house is located 5 miles south of I-90. There is no admission or entrance fee to participate and food and soft drinks will be available for purchase. This event is always well attended and the different vehicles that are displayed is simply amazing. Help support this fundraiser that will help with the Fire Company expenses and Capital Projects.

On Sunday, August 29th, there will be a "Run to the Home" sponsored by the Red Knights NY Chapter 29 Motorcycle Club. The fun begins at the Niverville Fire Station #1 located at 888 Main Street in Niverville, NY. Registration will be held from 9:30 am to 10:45 am. The cost is \$20 per person and includes the ride, door prizes, food and music. Proceeds will help support the Firemen's Home. For more information, contact rkmcnyc29@gmail.com. All guidelines regarding COVID-19, will be observed for the safety and health of all participants. Come out and support the Red Knights and the FASNY Firemen's Home!

Check out www.columbiapage.com for any allowable events going on throughout Columbia County and please stay well!



Wayne Johnson 60 year member Elsmere Fire Co A

Greene County Report

Submitted by: Butch Recchia, GCVP

On July 10th, I had the pleasure of accompanying HVVFA Past President Fred Pettingell on a dinner cruise that was sponsored by Latham FD. I had a great time, as did everyone else who was invited to join in.

Although Albany County departments don't resume meetings until after the FASNY Convention, I wanted to share a recent event that took place at FASNY Headquarters in Albany. Accompanied by both David Eck (our late 2nd VP Walter "Bill" Eck's son) and HVVFA Past President Fred Pettingell, I was able to watch as David placed his father's engraved gold leaf alongside his grandfathers on the Memorial Tree mural in the main hallway of FASNY's 107 Washington Avenue building. Both Walter Eck Sr. and Walter "Bill" Eck Jr. were beloved Trustees of the Firemen's Home, an honor for both to be elected as Board members representing the Firemen's Home during their respective times.

One of Bill Eck's closest friends, Fred Pettingell, proudly stood alongside Bill's leaf and I was able to take this sentimental photo. It was a privilege to be a part of such a special tribute to a great man.



If any Company or Department is interested in 100% Membership in the HVVFA

Please contact the Financial Secretary

Joseph Mellan, HVVFA Fin.Sec.

1635 Forestburg Rd, Glen Spey, NY 12737

Home (845) 856-2631 Cell (845) 741-5505

Email BC1.mellan@gmail.com

**From the Desk of the Financial Secretary
100% MEMBERSHIP**

Brewster Fire Department, Buchanan Engine Co. #1, Centennial Hose Co. # 4 (Peekskill), Highland Falls Fire Department, Highland Lake Fire Department, Hortonville Volunteer Fire Company, Kerhonkson Fire Company, Lake George Fire Department, Lake Placid Fire Department, Loch Sheldrake Fire Co. No. 1, Mahopac Fire Department, Maybrook Engine Co No. 1, Napanoch Fire Company, Queensbury Central Fire Company, R.A. Snyder Hose Co. No. 1, South Glens Falls Fire Company, Wallkill Hook, Ladder & Hose Company, Wassaic Fire Company, West Glens Falls Fire Co. No. 1, White Sulphur Springs VFD

**HUDSON VALLEY FIREFIGHTER
EDITOR Fran Galu**

TO: