



THE HUDSON VALLEY FIREFIGHTER

Volume No. 2022 Issue 01

August 2022

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

I'd like to start with a thank you from the bottom of my heart for electing me to President. It is an honor to represent you, and this Association for the coming year. There are so many great people in the Fire Service, that have helped, mentored, and guided me along the path to where I am now. I want to congratulate Robert Outhouse for a job well done, and I am thankful for all you have done, and continue to do for me and the association.

There is work to be done to continue to move the Association forward, by focusing on projects in process. Communication, we are well on our way with a platform set up to handle our electronic storage and communication. We need the help of every member to get us your email address and the email addresses of all those in your Fire Company or Association. We WILL NOT waste your time with needless emails. Our goal is to only send information that is critical to the association such as the newsletter, training seminars and meeting reminders. We value your time and want to make this a positive experience.

Quarterly meetings, do we do hybrid meetings for those that can't make it? I'd love to hear your thoughts; In-person meetings are the preferred way, although we now have an easy-to-use platform through google. Most of us have become accustomed to the use of "zoom" type meetings, and there are some benefits to continuing to meet this way. We have seen positive results with the Legislative Outreach meetings utilizing this process.

Membership is another topic on everyone's mind. Whether it's in our firehouse or church group, we are all struggling with declining memberships. As we move forward with improving communication, we are encouraged that this will also help with gaining more members and improving the engagement of our current membership.

The committees have been working to continue to provide us all with training, fire prevention, convention sites and so much more. Committees are the backbone of the association and I thank you all for the work you do. One committee that has been very active is the group working on Santo "Chan" Rivera's campaign for 2nd Vice President of FASNY. Please, if you can get to Tarrytown on August 12th, support Chan with an affirmative vote for him. Also, with FASNY, our own Past President John Farrell will become Past President of FASNY. Be sure to congratulate him, he has done an incredible job in such turbulent times over the past two years.

Some dates coming up, September 25 is our annual legislative meeting and HVVFA Day at the Firemen's Home. October 16 will be the Quarterly meeting, held in Wallkill starting at 1pm. Until then, have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Eric Orr
President



HVVFA 2022-23 Officers



HVVFA Officers and Ladies Aux at the Parade

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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, 2022 for the October edition!

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

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Our next deadline is:

August 15, 2022

2023 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 Ave

Colonie, NY 12205

(518) 438-7486

tomwith@hotmail.com

JOSEPH F. KELLY MEMORIAL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Chairman: Donald Farrell

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

Donald Farrell

16 Butler Place

Ossining, NY 10562

(914) 406-6510

Ofd2334@aol.com

PLEASE NOTE:

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE
RECEIVED BY MARCH 1, 2023 FOR
THE PRIOR YEAR'S RECOGNITION**

DUTCHESS COUNTY REPORT**SUBMITTED BY: KYLE POTTENBURGH, DCVP**

Hello, please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Kyle Pottenburgh and I have been newly elected to the position of Dutchess County Vice President. I look forward in serving my county and collaborating with the officers of HVVFA. But first some of my background. I am a 50 year member of the New Hackensack Fire Co. in Wappinger Falls, NY. I have worked my way up thru the officers ranks in my company. I presently hold the rank of district Safety officer and District Fire Commissioner. I also worked as an industrial grade fire fighter for the IBM Corporation at their East Fishkill Facility for 31 years. While in Emergency Control at IBM we managed Haz-mat, EMS, Environmental, and Fire emergencies. I completed my career as the site Fire Marshal. I also served on the county level as a Deputy Fire Coordinator and then as the interim Coordinator for 3 years.

So much about me, let us get down to business. First, I would like to comment on the job well done by my predecessor, Mr. John Pomarico. Thank you, John for all your excellent work in this position and on the committees, you work on. I look forward to collaborating with you on projects in the future.

The Dutchess County Volunteer Firefighters Association Convention and Parade for 2022 was conducted in the hamlet of Salt Point NY and at the Salt Point Firehouse. The Convention Chairman and Parade Chairman Matt & Jeff Cady did an excellent job along with their team of diligent workers.

The parade was held on Saturday, June 11, 2022. It was a beautiful day for a parade. There was a good showing of units from Dutchess County and our surrounding counties. The trophy winner for Best Overall went to the Rombout Fire Co. from Fishkill NY. While the William "Bud" Pottenburgh trophy for least demerits went to the Union Vale Fire Co. This trophy has its own set of unique rules which makes it exceedingly difficult to win. If you win this trophy three times in any order, you keep the trophy, and a new trophy starts.

The convention meeting was held on Tuesday evening July 19, 2022, at the Salt Point Firehouse. During the meeting, the following organizations, and individuals, were honored by the Dutchess County Volunteer Firemen's Association for their service to their communities.

*Chief Brian Welsch of Pine Plain FD and Captain Thomas Gomm of Milan FD. were awarded Firefighters of the year, for their acts of heroism at a propane explosion in Pine Plains.

*Pawling Fire Department received a unit citation, for their efforts rescuing an injured hiker off the Appalachian trail in Pawling.

*Hyde Park Fire Department	177 Years
*S.W. Johnson Engine Co. #2	150 Years
*Salt Point Fire Company #2	75 Years
*Milan Fire Company	75 Years
*Rich Howard, Amenia FD	50 Years
*Peter Schinella, SW Johnson Eng Co.#2	50 Years
*Gary VanVoorhis, Protection Eng. Fishkill	50 Years
*Steve "Rip" VanBuren, Lewis Thompkins Hose Co.	53 Years

On a county level, Emergency Response Commissioner Dana Smith has announced the purchase of two new county Vehicles. The Emergency Response Department has purchased two new trucks to replace their present Fire Investigation and Hazmat vehicles. The county expects delivery of each vehicle during the fourth quarter of 2022.

Up and coming events in Dutchess County:

*Pawling Fire Company Annual Carnival and Parade: August 3rd thru the 6th, with their parade on Friday night Aug 5th.

*Visit the Firefighters Museum at the Dutchess County Fair. They are in the Antique Village section of the fair.

*Sept 11th Ceremonies at numerous locations in the county.

"WE WILL NEVER FORGET"

*The Dutchess County Volunteer Firemen's Association's Annual Memorial ceremony at the 911 Center, 392 Creek Road Poughkeepsie, NY. The ceremony is Sunday October 2nd, 2022, starting at 11:00am. ALL INVITED TO ATTEND.

Finally, a Safety Tip:

During these sizzling summer days, you may be called upon to serve your community at any time. Keep yourselves hydrated. Drink copious amounts of water each day. While on an incident scene follow rehab protocols. Take a rest break when needed, drink water or athletic drink, have your B/P checked, and even place a cool towel around your neck.

ULSTER COUNTY REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: LANCE BOOTH, UCVP

Hello again everyone!

I hope y'all are doing well. It's a busy month coming up for Ulster County.

July 29th and 30th is the Ulster County Volunteer Fireman's Association convention and parade being held in Marlboro. On Friday, July 29th, the convention meeting will be held at Marlboro High School, dinner at 7pm followed by a meeting at 8pm. On Saturday, July 30th will be the parade, also held in Marlboro.

Also exciting news, I will be the next President of Ulster County Volunteer Firemen's Association. So as much fun that was had at the Hudson Valley Convention and parade in Wallkill be ready to have the same next year 2023, as we will hold the Ulster County Convention and Parade.

As always, be sure to support all your local departments. Attend their pancake breakfasts, fundraisers, and any other events they put on. If you can't attend these functions make sure to spread the word by simply sharing the flier or telling people about it.

As weather starts changing to the warm side make sure you guys stay hydrated and cool. Make sure to drink water and stay out of the heat as much as you can.

I hope y'all stay cool and I hope to see you guys at the Ulster County convention and parade. Till next time!

ORANGE COUNTY REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: DOROTHY BROWN, OCVF

Hope everyone summer has been great.

In Orange County there has been several events such as parades, wet downs, pancake breakfast and fireworks for July 4.

Orange County Volunteer Firemen's Association is getting ready for their Convention and Parade in September. The parade and convention hosted by Good Will Fire Department, Newburgh, NY. So, save dates for Memorial service September 18th which will be at Goodwill Fire Department at 8:00 am, convention meeting will be September 22nd at Goodwill at 7:00 pm and parade will be September 24th.

Also on August 7, 2022, will be Orange County Day at the Home. The event will start at 11:00 am.

The Orange County Volunteer Firemen's Association meeting schedule is as follows

July 26 Cronomer Valley- dinner at 7 and meeting will start at 7:30 pm

September 22 Goodwill – convention meeting will start at 7:00 pm with dinner

SARATOGA COUNTY REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: BILL MEHAN, SCVP

Stillwater Fire Department member, Alex Gvozdkov, has family and friends in Ukraine whom Alex said are firefighters who have been fighting fires with no fire protective equipment. Upon hearing this, the Officers and Members of Alex's company will be sending outdated fire equipment still in good condition along with some low band portable radios that is no longer being used by the Stillwater Fire Department to help aid these fellow brother firefighters. The equipment will be sent via Meest America Express, who delivers humanitarian donations in Ukraine. The fire equipment will be donated to the Kharkiv Fire Department in Ukraine.

On Saturday July 19, 2022, the Salt Point Fire Company hosted the Dutchess County Volunteer Firemen's Association Parade. This parade was the Anniversary of the Salt Point Company 75th Anniversary as well as the DCVFA. Salt Point shared their anniversary with the DCVFA which was great. The DCVFA thanks the Salt Point Fire Company for a great Job and the Fire companies who came out to march in the Parade, some of the Highlights Rombout Fire Department Best Overall Trophy and the Unionvale Fire department with the 3-legged trophy. Special thanks go out to all those Fire Companies that helped the Salt Point Fire Company put the event on. The Amenia Fire Company, Milan Fire Company, Millbrook Fire Department, Pleasant Valley Fire Department, Roosevelt Fire Department, and the Unionvale Fire Department.



On Wednesday June 15 the HVVFA had their board meeting before the convention; reports were given by board and committee members, followed by the golf outing at the Osiris golf course, with about ninety golfers participating. It was a great sunny, cool day for golf, and all had fun. Wednesday night was the Past President's Dinner, held at the Nu-Cavu Restaurant in Wallkill. In attendance were seventeen Past Presidents. It was great to see all at this gathering.

Thursday the 133rd HVVFA Convention opened at the brand-new Wallkill Fire House with a welcome by the host company officers, followed by elected officials. After the introductions, HVVFA held their annual memorial service remembering all those members who answered their final alarm in the past year. Next was nominations of members who were running for office. Since two members were running for 2nd VP, we would have one election on Friday.

After the morning session it was time for lunch. Those Past Presidents who are honorary members in the Ladies Auxiliary attended their lunch. Upon resuming HVVFA President Robert Outhouse swore in the officers of the Auxiliary. A training session was given by IamResponding, about new features added to aid the fire service. Dinner this year was The Royal Orders of the Red & Blue Vests joint outing at Popp Memorial Park; the Wallkill Lion's Club did all the cooking. We started off with steamed clams and we worked up to chicken and steak on the grill. The meal was really great and we give thanks to the Lion's Club on a job well done.

Friday opened with the elections of County Vice Presidents, and then the HVVFA awards ceremony for Firefighter of the Year, Unit Citations and Honorable Mentions. The committee recognized Jared Lloyd as Firefighter of the Year for his heroic ultimate sacrifice on March 23, 2021 at the Evergreen Court Home Fire. These fire companies received Unit Citations: Ardsley Fire Department, Monticello Fire Department, Spring Valley Fire Department, and Valley Cottage Fire District.

Honorable Mentions went out to Hastings-On-Hudson Fire Department, Milan Fire Department, Pawling Fire Department, Piermont Fire Department, and Pine Plains Fire Department. It was great to see all those who were recognized for their courage in performing their duty. The election for 2nd Vice President had Robert Schrader edging out Ed Butler for the position. President Eric Orr was sworn in by HVVFA Past President and current FASNY President John P Farrell Jr., with Past President and current FASNY Director Donnie Farrell swearing in the balance of the new officers: 1st Vice President Michael Karashay, 2nd Vice President Robert Schrader, Financial Secretary Joe Mellan, Secretary Fred Pettingell, Treasurer Harry Barrett, Michael Carter, Director, and Jim Hartwick,

Director.

Congratulations to all officers and may they have a great and safe year. Friday night was the Mardi Gras parade. About a dozen departments participated and the theme was the Luck of the Irish.

Saturday was the dress parade, with about sixty departments participating. It was really good to see a HVVFA parade since we haven't had one in two years.

Submitted by Vinny Galvin

RENSSELAER COUNTY REPORT SUBMITTED BY: VICTORIA DICHIAN, RCVP

The Hoosick Falls Fire Department and the North Hoosick Fire Department held a joint anniversary celebration on July 3, 2022. Hoosick Falls was celebrating 175 years while North Hoosick was celebrating 75 years of service to their communities. Events included a firefighters parade, a corn hole tournament, a flea market and car show, a chicken bar-b-que, live bands and capping the day with a fireworks display, the first time in 50 years on the 4th of July weekend. Congratulations to both departments.

The West Sand Lake Fire Department will be holding the 3rd Annual 9/11 Memorial Walk on September 11, 2022, with all profits to benefit the FDNY Foundation.

Fire companies from throughout the Town of Sand Lake and across [Rensselaer County](#) responded to a major, multi-alarm structure fire in Averill Park on July 8th. There were no casualties reported and crews remained on the scene for several hours. Numerous fire companies responded to the scene and several other companies (including some from out of county) were on stand-by. An investigation into the cause of the fire is continuing. This incident was a great example of how the firefighters in this county work together.

Maccoy McMahon, a firefighter with the Wynantskill Fire Department is working towards achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. His goal is to honor those individuals who have dedicated and made the ultimate sacrifice protecting the citizens they serve. His project is to create a First Responder Memorial at the new Rensselaer County Emergency Services Training Complex in North Greenbush. It will consist of 3 flag poles, a piece of steel from the world Trade Center, a Memorial, and a bench for those that wish to sit and reflect. To complete his goal, the amount of \$7500 is needed. Anyone interested in helping this firefighter obtain his goal can contact me or the Wynantskill Fire Department c/o Maccoy McMahon's Eagle Scout Project PO Box 174 Wynantskill NY 12198.

HVVFA LADIES AUXILIARY SUBMITTED BY: DIANA BALLING

The 2022 Hudson Valley convention is over but not forgotten! So much work went into making sure it was a huge success! Special thanks to the entire Battalion 4! Additionally, thanks go out to Wallkill Fire Department for inviting everyone into their new home! It was certainly nice to have a full convention rather than an annual meeting.

Besides the regular business that was taken care of, elections were held for the 2022-2023 year. The following were elected to office:

- *President Alison Englert – Greene County
- *1st Vice President Judy Parsalls – Orange County
- *2nd Vice Pres Gina-Marie Pacicca – Putnam Cty
- *Recording Secretary Sheri King – Putnam County
- *Financial Secretary Tammy Nosek – Orange County
- *Treasurer Marie Delawder – Putnam County
- *5 Year Director Dana Navan – Rockland County

The rest of the directors are:

- *1 Year Director - Newly appointed – Susan Rock – Saratoga County
 - *2 Year Director – Kathie Wood – Albany County
 - *3 Year Director – Lisa Novella – Orange County
 - *4 Year Director – Megan Rivenburgh – Greene Cty
- HVVFA President Robert Outhouse did the honor of installing the newly elected officers.

Congratulations goes to Jr. Past President Beth Brundage of Warren County for her past two years as President of HVVFA LA. Despite the many obstacles the COVID put in her way, she maintained her cool and guided us thru the obstacles. Many of you remember the November meeting in Putnam County where we sat outside under a pavilion that had plastic sides. Despite the side, the very cold wind continued to blow in. Members sat with gloves, hat and even blankets wrapped around them. Members of LAHVFA are a very dedicated bunch of people as well as many of the HVVFA officers who attended. Beth was determined to have a meeting plus keep us COVID free and that she did! That meeting will go down in history as memorable.

Chaplain Victoria Dichian presented a beautiful Memorial Service at convention where five of our members were remembered along with eleven auxiliary members from up and down the Valley. Those HVVFA LA members that were remembered were: Past President Patricia Whitney (Albany County), Sandra Kenny (Sullivan County), Shirley Russom (Saratoga County), Juliet Tracy (Rockland County), and Cynthia Reineke (Rensselaer County). May these ladies as well as the other eleven that were remembered rest in peace. Thank you, Vickie, for a beautiful service!

On Friday morning, the members gathered once again to honor the outgoing President Beth Brundage. Another delicious meal was served and there were many gifts presented and memories shared. Congratulation Beth on your term as President of HVVFA LA.

Friday night brought everyone together to enjoy the various interpretations of being Irish as they watched the Mardi Gras. There were two memorable ones for this writer: St Patrick walking down the street and the Lucky Charm Box (right

down to the Rainbow going in and out of the box) to the giving out of Lucky Charm snack bars. What a great night with beautiful weather as well.

Saturday came with sunny skies and everyone dressed up in their Class A Uniforms showing their pride of being a first responder and/or auxiliary member. The parade was short by Valley standards but we must remember we are just coming out of COVID. Instead of almost three-hour parade, it was about one and a half hours of dedicated marchers! Among the by-standers, a special group of people were there: a small contingent of residents from the Firemen's Home! It sure was good to see them watching the parade after a very long two years of not being able to travel up and down the Valley. Thank you to those who came out to march and to those sitting along the parade route showing their appreciation of the various group of dedicated men and women. Congratulations to those that took home trophies!

Around the Valley news:

Several auxiliaries had elections:

Orange County VFA LA: President Dyan Falanga, 1st VP Daleann Cruver, 2nd VP Jayne Hesse, Recording Secretary Roseann Smith, Financial Secretary Judy Parsalls and Treasurer Kathy Gasperetti. Directors: Katelyn Gasperetti (advertising), Colleen Corizzo (Sunshine), and Rose Bell Donahue (Attendance)

Ulster County VFA LA: President Tammy Haight, Vice President Michelle DePew, Secretary Susan Peck and Treasurer Diana Balling. Directors: Rose Marie DePuy, Dinah Mutz, and Penny DePew.

Albany County VFA LA: President Darlene Wilson, Vice President Jamie Nazario, Recording Secretary/Financial Secretary Diana Balling and Treasurer Bette Skop. Directors: 1 Year Arlene LaDuke, 2 Year Deborah Graves and 3 Year Alice Corbett

September 18: The next meeting of the HVVFA LA will be held on Sunday, September 18 at the West Athens-Limestreet Firehouse – 933 Leeds Athens Road – Athens. Come early to browse the Ways and Means table! Lunch will be served at noon followed by meeting at 1 pm. Mark your calendar!

September 25 – Hudson Valley Day at the Firemen's Home! Mark your calendar! Get your company and auxiliary to plan a trip to the Home. There is usual a meeting in the morning to address potential legislation that the Valley will support for the upcoming year which is then followed by a parade for the Residents. It's a great day of fellowship and fun for everyone!

A couple trophy notifications were passed along to me: Brewster Ladies Auxiliary won 2nd Best Auxiliary in the Mamaroneck parade and Putnam Lake Ladies Auxiliary won 1st place in the Mahopac Fire Department Parade. Congratulations to both auxiliaries.

As COVID hasn't left us completely, please continue to be safe. Enjoy the rest of the summer as this writer stares out her window at a pile of firewood! Sign that fall and winter aren't really too far off!

ROCKLAND COUNTY REPORT
SUBMITTED BY: KEN GORDON, RCVP

MEDAL OF VALOR AWARDED



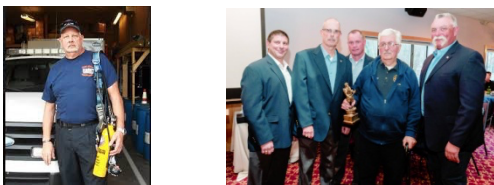
On Mon, May 16, 2022, Sabrail Davenport and her grandsons received the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor from President Joe Biden on behalf of her son and their father, Spring Valley firefighter Jared Lloyd.

The nation's highest civilian Medal of Honor, "is awarded to public safety officers who have exhibited exceptional courage, regardless of personal safety, in the attempt to save or protect others from harm," according to the White House.

Lloyd was among 15 first responders honored at the White House, and one of two who died in the line of duty.

Lloyd, 35, a second lieutenant, died helping to rescue 112 residents of the Evergreen Court Home for Adults during an inferno on March 22, 2021. A building section collapsed on Lloyd as he made a final search for residents of the Lafayette Avenue facility.

RC FIRE CHIEFS OLD TIMERS DINNER



On April 9 the annual Old Timer's Dinner, held at the Haverstraw Elks. The following awards were given to Rockland County firefighters for their actions and dedication:

Chief's Award: Chief Kenny Conjura, SVFD
 Charles M. "Smokey" Fales Award
 Donald Arterburn, PRFD (presented at PR annual dinner same night)
 Raymond Guarnuccio, SVFD
 Jerome Trachtenberg Service Award
 Jason Goldsmith, NCFD, outgoing Assoc President.
 Andrew A. Fredricks Memorial Instructor of the Year Award
 Charlie Prevot, Haverstraw FD
 Nico Seminelli, Sparkill FD

William Harris, Jr. President's Award
 Kyle Garrabrant, Valley Cottage FD

A special recognition award was also given to the three 44-Control radio operators for their professionalism and endurance as they worked the night of the Evergreen Court fire in Spring Valley on March 23, 2021.

Troy Spong - Shift Supervisor, RC Sherriff's Communication Division
 Christopher Dillon, Radio Operator 1, RC Sherriff's Communication Division
 Kevin Huslinger II, Radio Operator 1, RC Sherriff's Communication Division

CONGRATULATIONS "44-2"



The Officers and Members of the Suffern Volunteer Hose Co. #1 would like to congratulate Dan Moran on 50 years of dedicated service to the Suffern Hook & Ladder Co. #1. Dan served as Chief of the Suffern Fire Department from 1985 to 1988. Dan currently serves as Deputy Fire Coordinator for Rockland County, 44-2, and is the most senior Fire Coordinator. Dan regularly attends department drills and training, and is a wealth of knowledge and experience, which he continues to pass down to younger generations of Suffern Firefighters. Congratulations Dan!

2022 RCVFA CONVENTION

The 110th Annual RCVFA Convention meeting will be held on Friday, September 9, 2022 - 7:30pm at Kruckers Catering & Picnic Grove, 81 Call Hollow Rd. Pomona, NY 10970. Refreshments and musical entertainment follows in the picnic grove. There is no RCVFA parade for 2022.

The winners of the recent HVVFA Firefighters Club Raffle are:

1st Prize - Anthony Cutrera - Palm Coast, FL
 2nd Prize - Cronomer Valley FD
 3rd Prize - Peter Wortendyke - Nyack

Cronomer Valley FD generously donated their winnings back and the Firefighters Club thanks them.

This page is proudly sponsored by:
The Officers and Members of
The Royal Order of the Blue Vests

9/23

The Firemen's Home in Hudson hosted the Royal Order of the Blue Vests picnic and meeting on May 28, 2022. The registration started at 10:30 AM with some members arriving earlier. It is common knowledge that firefighters and the Blue Vests can react quickly to the ever-changing conditions. The Residents in the Firemen's Home have their lunch at noontime. President Edele quickly determined that the solution to the eating requirements for the Residents was to start the business meeting much earlier than at noontime.

President Edele opened the Business meeting at 11:00 AM. President Edele requested that the reports be brief so that the Residents will have their lunch close to noontime. The pledge to the flag was led by Blue Vests Past President and current Firemen's Home Resident, Mr. Paul D. McCagg. The Invocation was given by Past President Mr. Michael A. Cesare. President Edele introduced FASNY President of the Board of Trustee, Mr. Jerry Owenburg. President Owenburg introduced Firemen's Home Administrator Mr Keith Henchey. President Edele presented Mr. Henchey with the Blue Vests certificate of appreciation for hosting the Blue Vests meeting. President Owenburg welcomed the Blue Vests and mentioned that the Blue Vests were the second group using the meeting room with many of the Residents in attendance. Secretary Ms. Marie Delawder read the roll call of the Officers in attendance. A motion was made and passed to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the March business meeting. Mr. George H. Hill read the Financial Secretary and the Treasurers reports. A motion was made and passed to accept these reports.

President Edele announced that the next order of business will be the Committee reports. Second Vice President Mr. Jack Delaney said that everything is ready, and the picnic will be starting shortly after the Business meeting has ended. First Vice President Mr. Santo 'Chan' Rivera mentioned that the Christmas Party is scheduled for December 17, 2022, and that the Installation Dinner will be held on September 24, 2022, at the Firemen's Home. Second Vice President Mr. Jack Delaney: The Blue Vests Day at the Firemen's Home is scheduled for June 25, 2022, and the festivities will be starting at 11:00 AM. President Edele: The Steak Roast will be on June 16, 2022. The Steak Roast will be combined with the Royal Order of the Red Vests and will be starting at 3:30 PM with the dinner starting at 5:00 PM. Fund Raising: President Edele announced financial information from the Year 2021 and provided the month of March information. A motion was made and passed to accept the Committee Reports.

FASNY Board of Trustees Mr. Jerry Owenburg discussed the plans for the 150-year celebration for FASNY. Complete information for the celebration will be found in the FASNY Magazine. Hudson Valley VFA President. Mr. Robert Outhouse mentioned the HVVFA convention in Wallkill

starting on June 16 and announced that HVVFA changed their name from Firemen's to Firefighters. President Edele announced that the next order of business will be the election of the new Blue Vest Chair Officers. A motion was made and passed for the Secretary to cast one affirmative ballot for each Chair Officer running unopposed. The newly elected Chair officers of the Royal Order of the Blue Vests are as follows:

President	Ms. LuAnn Edele	Putnam County
First Vice Pres	Mr. Santo 'Chan' Rivera	Ulster County
Second Vice Pres	Mr. Jack Delaney	Dutchess County
Fin. Sect./Treas.	Mr. George H. Hill	Dutchess County
Rec Secretary	Ms. Marie Delawder	Putnam County
Sgt-at-Arms	Mr. George F. Stacey	Greene County
Chaplain	Mrs. Victoria Dichian	Rensselaer Cty
Mr. Edgar J. Brennen III		Firemen's Home

New Business: A motion was made and passed to purchase the ten (10) HVVFA raffle tickets. A motion was made and passed to endorse Mr. Fred Pettingell for the Office of Secretary in HVVFA. Past President Mr. Michael Cesare mentioned that the Blue Vests have a very special member who wishes to remain anonymous and has purchased the December raffle tickets for the Residents in the Firemen's Home for the past five (5) years. A motion was made and passed to purchase a gift card in the amount of \$100.00 for this very special Blue Vests member. President Edele mentioned the request for Blue Vests for the Residents. The Residents will receive a Blue Vest if they request a Blue Vest. Past President Mr. Paul D. Schlegel mentioned the refreshments for the Mardi Gras Parade. Beer, soda, and water will be available for the Mardi Gras Parade. President Edele stated that there is no date scheduled for the Fall meeting of the Blue Vests. The date will be determined after the announcement of the date of the October meeting for the HVVFA.

Good & Welfare: A motion was made and passed to leave a blank page in our minutes for deceased member Mr. Charles N. Faillace.

The Benediction was given by Mr. Michael Cesare. The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Refreshments were available after the meeting. Everyone was welcome and the refreshments were delicious. The refreshments included salad (tossed, potato, & macaroni), coleslaw, clams (raw & seamed), shrimp (one and a half bite) crackers, cheese, pepperoni, chips, hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage and peppers, onions, lettuce sliced tomatoes, water, tea, coffee, soda, and cookies for dessert. A special Thank You goes to the Firemen's Home for hosting the May picnic and meeting, for their wonderful hospitality, and the use of their meeting room.

This page is proudly sponsored by:
The Royal Order of the Red Vests, Inc.

12/23

PUTNAM COUNTY REPORT
SUBMITTED BY: LUANN EDELE, PCVP

Greetings everyone! Though we are on alert for brush fires here given Mother Nature's forgetting to turn on the shower once in a while, it is summer, and I am happy! Happy, too, that we do have some info to share with you for this next issue!

After two years of waiting, the **Mahopac VFD** once again held its annual Carnival along with its parade – a tradition it held for many years! Though the parade took place last year, it was so nice to see the Carnival come back! It's a great fundraiser for them and, yes, it was welcomed with open arms by the long-awaiting public! **Patterson FD** will have its parade this year on August 20th and **Brewster FD** changed its parade date and will now be holding it on September 10th. They'll be trying a new parade route (*starting very close to my house, actually! If I wasn't marching, I could watch from my backyard, lol!*)

Speaking of Patterson FD, our **County Association** held its first Convention Meeting in decades at their firehouse on July 25th, where we held our annual Memorial Service, awarded four young adults with scholarships, and also recognized those members who signed on the dotted line 50 or more years ago! The Association will now begin to make up for lost COVID time and resume recognitions of members who have reached milestones in their own departments. This event, however, was county-related.

Our **Putnam Lake Ladies** just completed a successful Tupperware fundraiser but we are sure they're planning something new. You can check out any of our department and auxiliary events, including the annual **Don Pearlman/Jimmy Roberts Memorial Golf Outing** hosted by **Carmel FD** on Monday, Aug. 22, by logging on to www.pcvfa.org.

And, of course, the Putnam County VFA continues to support our Honorary Member **Chan Rivera** for 2nd Vice-President of FASNY.

Sadly, our **1st VP/Past Pres. Jim Croughan** lost his lovely wife, Francine, on July 1, 2022 to pancreatic cancer. You may have seen her at Past Pres. Karashay's dinner. She was diagnosed the following week. Fran was very influential as Deputy Commissioner of the White Plains Parks & Recreation Department as their very successful event planner, so there will be a Celebration of Life "party" in her honor in White Plains on Sept. 17th. Details can be found on our website.

More news to come on all things I can discover about our County in the next issue ... and on our website, too! All the best for a safe and festive end of summer!

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, West Hurley Fire Department, White Sulphur Springs VFD

HV LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE SUBMITTED BY: JAMES HARTWICK

NAME CHANGES

In keeping with the NYS Gender Neutral law, the name of the Fireman's Association of the State of New York is now updated from Firemen's to Firefighter's Association and Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association also changed to Firefighter's Association. The abbreviations are still FASNY and HVVFA.

FASNY LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Firefighters Association of the State of New York (FASNY) has been dedicated to informing, educating and training the volunteer fire service since 1872. Since this year marks the 150th Anniversary of FASNY, it is fitting to highlight some of their legislative accomplishments over the years. A prime roll of the Association is to advocate for laws that benefit the volunteer fire service pertaining to benefits, building codes, safety for 1st responders and community safety for our children and families. The advocacy since 1872 has been very successful and is forever ongoing. A summary of important legislation that is now law:

- *Lemon Law for Fire Vehicles.
- *The Gap Coverage Cancer Benefit
- *Increased VFBL Benefits for Permanent Total Disability. 1st increase since 1998.
- *10-Year Tamper Proof Smoke Detectors
- *Lemon Law for Fire Vehicles
- *Weight Limitation Study by NYS DOT to evaluate the weight limitations of fire vehicles
- *The Gap Coverage Cancer Benefit.
- *Increased VFBL Benefits for Permanent Total Disability. 1st increase since 1998
- *"Move Over Law" for Volunteer Fire and EMS responders at an incident scene with blue or green lights.
- *10-Year Tamper-Proof Smoke Detectors.
- *Sex Offender Prohibition: allow back ground for new member applicant.
- *Volunteer Job Protection During State Emergencies.
- *Ban on Novelty Lighters.
- *Truss Construction Notification.
- *Protection of 2% Foreign Fire Insurance Tax.
- *Establishment of the Volunteer Firefighter Benefit Law (VFBL). Clarifies and expands the coverage to volunteer firefighters injured in the line of duty.
- *"Heart Bill." This law has been extended numerous times since its enactment.
- *Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP)
- *Establishment of the Emergency Services Low-Interest Revolving Loan Fund.
- *Establishment of \$50,000 VFBL Death Benefit for a Line of Duty Death.
- *Arson Conviction background checks on new member applicants

- *State Building Code: Update codes making buildings safer for firefighters
 - *Real Property Tax Abatement.
 - *Income Tax Credit of \$200 (Continually fighting to increase.)
 - *Fire Safe Cigarette Law. First in the nation to establish the Fire Safe Cigarette Law.
 - ***Fair Play Ambulance Cost Recovery for Volunteer Fire Departments**
- For more details of each accomplishment go to FASNY.com and access FASNY Legislative Accomplishments.

As the volunteer fire service moves forward it is severely challenged to recruit new members and retain our base of membership. Therefore, FASNY in conjunction with the Governor, State legislators and various State agencies has established the "Volunteer Firefighters Recruitment and Retention Task Force." This bill guides the formation of a group of experts from organizations across the State to address the ongoing challenges of recruitment and retention with a comprehensive review.

Cost Recovery for Volunteer Fire Department Ambulance Service

As part of the \$220 billion state budget signed into law by Governor Hochul, volunteer fire departments can now be reimbursed for providing ambulance services under the new EMS Cost Recovery Act.

By allowing municipalities and volunteer fire companies the option to recover costs for rendering EMS services, the legislation provides relief to volunteer fire departments that have been strained by increasing EMS call volumes, in the face of rising costs for supplies, state-mandated training, fuel, personnel, and PPE. The bill will facilitate the recovery of a projected \$100 million in EMS costs by local fire departments and represents a bipartisan effort to provide equity among New York State's EMS providers, which include private EMS companies, volunteer ambulance corps (VACs), and fire departments."

Legislative Conference

On Sunday September 25th at 10:00 a.m. the annual HVVFA Legislative Conference will be held. This is part of the HVVFA's Home Day at the FASNY Firefighters Home in Hudson, NY.

The purpose of the meeting is to review the 2022 legislative session results, discuss suggestions of bills for 2023 and issue our recommendations to FASNY for their annual legislative conference in November for the 2023 Legislative Scorecard. Recommendations for new bills or to amend existing laws should be submitted by September 20th to one of the committee members; Mike Karashay, Jack Delaney, Paul O'Brien, Chan Rivera, Bob Schrader or myself. The format should include a subject Title, statement of Purpose and a Justification.

Please plan on attending the meeting and the Home Day activities that start at noon.

GREENE COUNTY REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: MARILYN SCHRADER, GCVP

Greene County Volunteer Firemen's Association and Ladies Auxiliary hosted the Annual Greene County Day at the FASNY Firemen's Home on June 5, 2022. President Donald Winegard and President Cathy Spring were Co-Chairs for the event. There was a Corn Hole Tournament, Lunch and a Parade for the Home Members. Greene County Volunteer Firemen's Association and Ladies Auxiliary also presented a check for the Activities Fund.

At the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association Convention held in June Past Treasurer-Past President Robert A. Schrader was elected Second Vice President for H.V.V.F.A.

The Town of Athens Fire Services participated in the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association Parade held in Wallkill hosted by Battalion 4 on June 18, 2022 and came home with two trophies.

The Annual Greene County Youth Fair will be held July 28 – 31, 2022 at the Cairo Town Park. The Greene County Volunteer Firemen's Association and Ladies Auxiliary has for many years had a Fire Prevention and Life Safety Booth at the Fair with hand-outs and demonstrations.

The Fourth Quarterly Meeting of the Greene County Volunteer Firemen's Association will be held August 4, 2022 at the Lexington Fire Department.

This year the Greene County Volunteer Firemen's Association and the Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting the 134th Annual County Convention starting Monday, September 5, 2022 through Saturday, September 10, 2022 with the Dress Parade.

Arrangements for the Annual Past Presidents' Dinner that will be held on November 13, 2022 have started.

Upcoming Fundraisers and Events in the County are the following:

The Hunter Fire Company, 17 Bridge Street, Hunter, NY will be holding a Block Party on Saturday, August 6, 2022; 3:00pm to 10:00pm. There will be Fun for the Whole Family. "The Lost Cowboys Band" will be playing 7:00pm to 10:00pm.

The Oak Hill-Durham Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary will be hosting their 25th Annual Golf Tournament at Thunderhart Golf Course on Sunday, August 7, 2022. There will be a 12:30pm Shot Gun Start. The registration donation is \$100.00. Any questions please contact Connie Whitbeck at 518-239-4425 or Joan Breslin at 518-337-3956.

The Athens Volunteer Fire Department, 39 3rd Street, Athens, NY 12015 will be holding a Chicken Barbecue on August 27, 2022; 12:00pm -4:00pm at a cost of \$15.00.

Presidential Memorial Awards – Convention 2022

On the morning of Friday, June 17th, 2022, the Presidential Memorial Awards Committee proudly presented this year's Awards to the very deserving nominees who earned this recognition. Shown below is a recap of those awards, including those who didn't receive the top awards but received Honorable Mention as has been done over the years past.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR – JARED LLOYD, Spring Valley Fire Department

For his life-saving actions on March 23, 2021, at the Evergreen Court Home for Adults.

FF Lloyd tragically lost his life that morning, but not before heroically saving the lives of numerous senior residents, as well as unknowingly saving the life of his partner, who had also become trapped in the building.

UNIT CITATIONS - Our Committee had a very difficult time choosing the Department(s) who deserved to be awarded Unit Citations and, after great deliberation, determined that four such awards should be presented.

They are, alphabetically –

ARDSLEY FIRE DEPT – Swift Water Rescue, Sept 1, 2021

MONTICELLO FIRE DEPT – Structure Fire, August 2, 2021

SPRING VALLEY FIRE DEPT – Structure Fire, Evergreen Court Home for Adults March 23, 2021.

VALLEY COTTAGE FIRE DEPT – Structure Fire/MAYDAY, November 1, 2021

The Committee then continued the HVVFA's practice of presenting **Honorable Mention** certificates to those runners-up who attended our Convention. It is our belief that this act of recognition contributes to not only future nominations from those Departments but also shows the recipients that the HVVFA appreciates their efforts, going that extra step to publicly recognize them. Shown below are the members or companies who received these acknowledgments:

Katherine Christman (Kiskatom FD) w/**Philip Kenny** (Palenville FD) – structure fire

Asst. Chief John Lindner (Hastings-on-Hudson FD) – swift-water rescue

Capt. Tomm Gomm (Milan FD) w/**Chief Brian Walsh** (Pine Plains FD) – house explosion rescue

Pawling Fire Department – injured hiker rescue

Piermont FD's Dive Team – water rescue of Tappan Zee Bridge jumper

On behalf of myself and my fellow committee members – Past Director **Robert Boddie**, **Rick Dillon**, Past HVVFA President **Don Farrell**, **Jennifer Mackenzie**, **John O'Brien** (my vice-chair) and **Paul Schlegel**, along with our appointed liaison, HVVFA Director **Ed Butler**, I would like to say THANK YOU to all HVVFA members for encouraging your departments to remember that heroic actions are in our everyday volunteer lives, for without your help we would not be able to proudly present these awards. It has been an honor to serve on this committee as its chairperson for this year's convention.



Past Presidents at Convention 2022



Red Vest and Blue Vest Outing 2022



HVVFA Past President & FASNY President John Farrell Jr swearing in President Eric Orr



Spring Valley accepting Firefighter of the Year Award for Jared Lloyd



New Windsor Fire Dept – Best Overall Trophy!

HUDSON VALLEY FIREFIGHTER
EDITOR Fran Galu
c/o 1635 Forestburg Rd
Glen Spey, NY 12737

TO: