



THE HUDSON VALLEY FIREFIGHTER

Volume No. 2018 Issue 01

August 2018

From the desk of President Pettingell

Thank you all for your support of the Hudson Valley V.F.A. by passing the Bylaws. That allows us to be on the way to better financial shape.

To everyone who showed up and marched on that rainy Saturday of convention thank you. It was still a great parade.

Congratulation to all the award winners. Remember that all the awards need people to be nominated for next year's awards. Applications should be on the Web site soon.

Congratulations to Past President Tom Totten, you did a great job last year.

This year's Hudson Valley Day at the Home will be Sunday, September 23, 2108. The Legislative program will start at 10:00 and the program for the day will begin at 1:00.

The first quarterly meeting will be held at the S.W. Pitts Hose Company. The address is [226 Old Loudon Road Latham N.Y. 12110](#).

Anyone wishing to have any 50 year members or higher honored with a 50 year certificate or department or company anniversary contact myself at fpettingell@aol.com or any other vice president and we will arrange to have it presented.

Fred Pettingell
President

Nanuet Fire Eng Co Wet Down 6/9/18 Ladder 8-75

2017 E-One ladder truck



NFD also celebrated their new fire house located at 29 Old Middletown Road, Nanuet. Check out their website to view the many photos that have been posted for the event.

LOTTO RAFFLE COMMITTEE

The Lotto raffle for the month of July was successful. The total number of Lotto raffle tickets sold was 574 and was sold by 31 members. The committee hopes to sell 550 raffle tickets for the month of January. The Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association needs members to either purchase or to sell the Lotto raffle tickets. The committee members decided to continue the Lotto Raffle thru the year 2020. Currently, there are 16 members requesting 43 special numbers. These 16 members have from 1 Lotto Raffle number to 10 Lotto Raffle numbers. If you would like to request special numbers or if you would like to sell the Lotto raffle tickets, please contact the Chairman

Michael A. Cesare, Chairman	Home 518 235-5251
32 Mazurki Court	Cell 518 441-8734
Cohoes, New York	CidMazur32@Aol.Com

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, 2018 for the October edition!

You can send your information by e-mail to editorHVVFA@gmail.com or you can mail to **Fran Galu, 26 Laurel Lane, Highland Falls, NY 10928** (Questions? Call 914-475-3911)

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PRESIDENT FRED PETTINGELL

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Recording Secretary

June Gunza

Financial Secretary

Joseph Mellan

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Tom Totten

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Business Card - \$25

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**5% discount for a year's advertising*

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Our next deadline is:

September 15, 2018

EDITOR'S UPDATE –FRAN GALU

Dear Members,

Happy August! The Summer is slipping by us quickly, I hope everyone has had some time to relax and enjoy the nice weather we've had.

As it is August, it's time to start thinking about Fire Prevention Week, which is October 7th – 13th. The theme for 2018 is "Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere." This is a theme that we all need to get behind, and share our expertise with our community.

As you will notice this newsletter is shorter than the prior editions. This is due to the information that is submitted. If you have information from your department, email it to me. Did you have a Wet Down? Did you have a pancake breakfast? Did you do some new training?

Until we see each other, I hope you have a great ending to the summer and I personally can't wait for Fall!

Respectfully,

Fran Galu
Editor



Past President William S. Buckmaster, Jr

August	9 – 12	FASNY # 146 th Annual Convention Syracuse – Onondaga County
	29	Washington County Fire Police Monthly Meeting Queensbury Central Volunteer Fire Co – 7:30 PM
Sept	13	Westchester County VFA #112 th Annual Convention Ardsley/Dobbs Ferry – Starts 6:00 PM
	19	Washington County Fire Police Meeting Argyle Fire Department – Starts 7:30 PM Albany County VFA Annual Banquet Altamont Fire Department – Starts 6:30 PM
	22	Royal Order of the Blue Vests Annual Installation Banquet Firemen's Home – Hudson – Starts 6:00 PM
	23	HVVFA Legislative Caucus Firemen's Home in Hudson – Starts 10:00AM HVVFA Home Day Firemen's Home in Hudson – Starts 1:00 PM
	24	Putnam County VFA Meeting Putnam County VAC – Starts 8:00 PM
October	14	Hudson Valley VFA Quarterly Meeting S. W. Pitts Hose Company – Latham Albany County – Starts 1:00 PM
	28	VFPASNY Region 3 Fire Police Fall Meeting North Queensbury Volunteer Fire Company Washington County – Starts 9:00 AM

Great news for volunteer firefighters in New York: the Firemen's Association of the State of NY, offers up to 100% tuition reimbursement at a NY community college by maintaining good grades and fulfilling service requirements in a volunteer fire company for up to 80 college credits – ultimately, an Associate's Degree.

Visit <https://fasny.com/resources/fasny-help-tuition-reimbursement-program/>

Share this information with family and friends!!

Chairman: Robert Fritsche

Send all applications for the **FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD** to:

Robert Fritsche

40 Park Avenue

Ossining, NY 10562

914-519-8549

koachice@aol.com

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

Thomas With

34 Woodside Avenue
Colonie, NY 12205
(518) 438-7486

tomwith@hotmail.com

Chairman:

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

HVVFA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

PLEASE NOTE:
**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE
RECEIVED BY MARCH 1, 2019 FOR
THE PRIOR YEAR'S RECOGNITION**

President Nick Madore

1st Vice President Yale Frank2nd Vice President Brad Gallotta

This page is proudly sponsored by:

The Royal Order of the Red Vests

Financial Secretary John Bootz

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PUTNAM COUNTY REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: LUANN EDELE, PCVP

Greetings from Putnam County! I hope this letter finds everyone enjoying an amazing summer season!

What a great Hudson Valley Convention we just had! Congratulations to HVVFA's newly installed officers, **Pres. Fred Pettingell**, **1st VP Jack Delaney** and **2nd VP Mike Karashay**. Best wishes to our new Treasurer, **Past Pres. Harry Barrett** and, of course, well wishes go to two special people who hold up the fort, Secretaries **June Gunza** and **Joe Mellan**. I wish you all combined success in this new term!

Speaking Convention, Putnam County came home with quite a few trophies this year! First, the Mardi Gras Parade proved that Putnam knows how to "party", with the 1st and 2nd place Best Theme trophies going to **Mahopac FD** (1st) and three-year trophy winner, **Carmel FD** (2nd)! Oh yes, then came Saturday's Dress Parade!! A huge shout out goes out to **Brewster FD**, **Mahopac FD** (with 2!), **Mahopac Falls**, **Putnam Valley** and **Carmel FD Auxiliary** (with 2!) for bringing home trophies in their respective categories. Even the rain on Saturday couldn't stop Putnam this year! What an exciting time for us all!

Switching topics but definitely worth doing, Putnam County is *immensely* proud to be the host of the

INAUGURAL NYS MEDAL OF HONOR PARADE on July 21st. This .8-mile parade that will take place in Carmel celebrates our nation's heroes who have served our Country.

Three amazing men will be honored for their bravery, inspiration and leadership during battles in Vietnam: **Sgt. Gary B. Beikirch, US Army, Corp. Robert E. O'Malley, USMC, Capt. Paul Bucha, US Army**. How special that Putnam, the smallest county in the state, is the very first host of this major event. For details on this event, visit <http://www.pcjvc.org>

Speaking of parades, the season is hot & heavy (*and Mother Nature is assuring the 'hot' part for sure!*) with many of our Departments enjoying a favorite summer pastime while vying for bragging rights. Our 4th annual **PCVFA HV Renegades outing** is still scheduled for August 18th, and can be found on our website calendar at www.putnamcountyvfa.org, and our next meeting will be held at Putnam Valley VAC on Monday, Sept. 24th.

In the meantime, perhaps I'll see many of you at the FASNY Convention and, if so, you know what to do: just tap me on the shoulder and say **Hi!**

Stay safe and stay cool till we meet again!

2018 trophies - continued

3rd Best Fire Dress Over 25	Coeymans
2nd Best Fire Dress Over 25	Putnam Valley
Best Fire Dress Over 25	East Greenbush
Best Jr/Apprentice/ Explorer Unit	Kathie by Town Chiefs
Aux Traveling the Furthest Distance	Carmel
Fire Traveling the Furthest Distance	Hastings
Most in line Auxiliary Unit	S W Pitts
Most in line Fire Unit	Ossining
Most Outstanding Men's and Ladies	Coeymans
Best Overall Ladies Auxiliary	West Albany
Best Overall Fire Department	Ossining

EAST GREENBUSH REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: PETER LEHMANN

East Greenbush Fire Company Wins Three Hudson Valley Fireman's Trophies

The East Greenbush Fire Company was awarded three trophies for their participation in the 129th Annual Convention of the Hudson Valley Volunteer Fireman's Association held in West Glens Falls on June 21, 22 and 23, 2018. As part of the Thursday's Convention activities, Karen McDonald was elected President of the Hudson Valley Ladies Auxiliary. Her President badge was ceremoniously pinned to her jacket by Chief Robert Lehmann, Past Chief Peter Lehmann and Retired Commissioner Christopher Linck. Later in the day, 28 Red Vests boarded the Fire Company's bus and headed to Usher's Park for the annual Royal Order outing. This year's outing, the last for Usher's Park for a few years, was a great time had by all on the longest day of the year. On Friday, a delegation of members were present to witness our own Captain Mark Becker and Firefighter Chris Lavin be recognized for their heroic rescue of a fire victim during a March 11 fatal fire in the City of Rensselaer. It is significant to note that Firefighter Lavin has over 50 years of service to the East Greenbush Fire Company. Later that evening, a thong of similarly dressed marchers, ranging in age from 80 years old to 2 months old, participated in the Mardi Gras parade, aptly fitting the theme of honoring firefighters past, present and future. We were proud to receive the 1st place trophy for the Best Firematic Theme. On a rainy parade day Saturday, the Fire Company, with 50 members in line under the leadership of Chief Robert Lehmann and lead by the Fiesta Band, was awarded the 3rd Place Best Appearing Firematic Color Guard and 1st Place Best Appearing Dress Uniform over 38 members in the line of march. The East Greenbush Fire Company is very proud of their efforts and thanks the Town of Queensbury Fire Companies for a successful and memorable 2018 Hudson Valley Convention.



Captain Mark Becker and Firefighter Chris Lavin



Mardi Gras contingent



GREENE COUNTY REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: YALE FRANK, GCVP

2018 Greene County Drill Day

Overall Winner—Oak-Hill Durham 42
 2nd-West Athens-33
 3rd-Leeds-30
 4th-Kiskatom-29
 5th-Greenville-19
 6th-Palenville-17
 7th-Athens

2018 Greene County Day At The Home

Corn Hole Winners
 1st Place:-West Athens-Lime Street
 2nd Place-Athens
 3rd Place-Athens

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

ALBANY COUNTY REPORT
SUBMITTED BY: WALTER ECK, ACVP

The Albany County Volunteer Firefighters Association did not hold their annual Bowling Tournament again this year. Hopefully the event will be back next year.

The Guilderland Center Fire Department held the 4th Annual Douglas Lawton Memorial Golf Outing at Orchard Creek Golf Club. A portion of the proceeds was donated to the New York Oncology Hematology Community Cancer Foundation.

The 7th Annual ACVFA Golf Tournament will be held on July, 27, 2018 at the Briar Creek Golf Course.

The New Salem Fire Department will be hosting the 76th Annual Punkintown Fair on July 26th, 27th, and 28th, 2018/ Free admission and parking for all. The fair opens each night at 1800 hours.

The Selkirk Fire Department will be hosting their Annual Flea Market on July 28th, 2018 at Station No.2 in Glenmont.

The Albany County Volunteer Firefighter's Association Dinner / Quarterly Meeting will be held on September 19, 2018, at the Altamont Fire Department. Contact ACVFA Secretary John Webb for information at 518-756-3281.

The Albany County Volunteer Firefighter's Association Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting their Annual Convention Meeting on September, 24, 2018 at S.W. Pitts Fire Department in Latham.

The Fort Hunter Fire Company will be hosting the Annual Albany County Volunteer Firefighter's Association Inspection Muster on Saturday, October 06, 2018. Line up at 1100 hours. PLEASE note day and time change from previous events.

Congratulations to Fred Pettingell of the S.W. Pitts (Latham) Fire Department. Fred was elected as President of the Hudson Valley Volunteer Fireman's Association at the HVVFA Annual Convention that was held at West Glens Falls.

Albany County units did well in the 2018 HVVFA Convention parades in West Glens Falls; taking home the following trophies:

MARDI GRAS PARADE

1st Most Humorous - Colonie Fire Company
2nd Best Firematic Theme - S.W. Pitts Fire Department
2nd Best Fire Prevention Theme - Fuller Road Fire Department
Best Float - Shaker Road – Loudonville Fire Department

DRESS PARADE

Best Drum Line - Coeymans Fire Company
3rd Best Drum Line - Albany Academy for Boys
Best Appearing Rescue Truck - West Albany Fire Department
Best Appearing Auxiliary Unit 5 to 10 in Line-West Albany Fire Department Auxiliary
2nd Best Appearing Auxiliary Unit 5 to 10 in Line - Coeymans Fire Company Auxiliary
Most in Line of March Auxiliary Unit - S.W. Pitts Fire Department Auxiliary
Best Overall Ladies Auxiliary Unit in Line of March - West Albany Fire Department Auxiliary
2nd Best Appearing Fire Unit Dress Uniform 19 to 25 in Line - Colonie Fire Company
3rd Best Appearing Fire Unit Dress Uniform 8 to 13 in Line - Voorheesville Fire Department
3rd Best Appearing Fire Unit Dress Uniform Over 25 in Line - Coeymans Fire Company
Most Outstanding Men's and Ladies Unit - Coeymans Fire Company

Best Appearing Junior / Apprentice / Explorer Unit - Not Awarded

Trophy Donated By: Kathie and Tom Campion In Memory of Connie Wood
Presented To: Kathie Wood Campion by Town Chiefs

We are truly proud of our Albany County Fire Departments and Ladies Auxiliaries. They work hard, strive for perfection, and march with pride. Congratulations to all.

There are always a number of golf outings, BBQs, breakfasts, dinners and other fundraising events that will be taking place throughout the Albany County area. Please call me at 518-439-7973 if you have any interest and/or need information on event types, times, locations, etc.

I hope to see you in my travels. Until I do, Smile and Be Safe!

COLUMBIA COUNTY REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: WILSON MCKAY, CCVP

As your new Columbia County Vice President, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the new officers of Hudson Valley and commend everyone for an outstanding job at the convention in the Town of Queensbury. I would also like to congratulate Wilson McKay of the Chatham Fire Department for being selected as the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association 2018 Fire Police Officer of the Year! This is a wonderful award and I was glad to take part in the presentation. Thanks to committee members Thomas With and Douglas Mann. The Germantown Hose Co. #1 hosted the 3rd Annual Convention of the Columbia County Volunteer Firefighters Association on July 27-28, 2018. This was a successful convention and the newly elected officers will be announced in the next publication of The Hudson Valley Firefighter, Please enjoy and stay safe for the remaining summer days!



2018 HVVFA Convention Parade Trophy Awards – Congratulations!

3 rd Best Drum Line	Albany Academy For Boys	2nd Best Auxiliary 5 to 10	Coeymans		
2 nd Best Drum Line	Cornell Hook and Ladder	Best Auxiliary 5 to 10	West Albany		
Best Drum Line	Coeymans	Best Auxiliary 11 and Over	Modena		
2nd Best Musical Drum Corp	Westchester Brassmen	3rd Best Fire Bloused 8 - 19	Thorwood		
Best Musical Drum Corps	Tarrytown Vets	2nd Best Fire Bloused 8 - 19	Cronomer Valley		
2nd Best Musical Fife & Drum	Civil War Troopers	Best Fire Bloused 8 to 19	Buchanan		
Best Musical Fife & Drum	The Regulators	3rd Best Fire Bloused 20 to 26	Town of Athens		
Best Pipe Band	Albany Pipes & Drums	2nd Best Fire Bloused 20 to 26	Marlboro		
2 nd Best Musical Band	Fairport FD Band	Best Fire Bloused 20 to 26	Brewster		
Best Musical Band	St. Peters	3rd Best Fire Bloused 27 to 38	Mahopac Falls		
Best Antique Apparatus	Marlboro	2nd Best Fire Bloused 27 to 38	Hughsonville		
Best Utility Apparatus	New Windsor	Best Fire Bloused 27 to 38	Beacon		
Best Rescue Truck	West Albany	3rd Best Fire Bloused Over 38	Tarrytown		
Best Tanker Truck	Hillcrest	2nd Best Fire Bloused Over 38	Orangetown		
Best Ladder/Tower Ladder	South Glens Falls	Best Fire Bloused Over 38	Mahopac		
Best Pumper	Winona	3rd Best Fire Dress 8 to 13	Voorheesville		
2nd Best Color Guard – Non Fire Svc	Tarrytown Vets	2nd Best Fire Dress 8 to 13	Newland - Wood		
Best Color Guard – Non Fire Svc	St Peters	Best Fire Dress 8 to 13	Irvington		
3rd Best Color Guard – Fire Svc	East Greenbush	3rd Best Fire Dress 14 to 18	Ellenville		
2nd Best Color Guard – Fire Svc	Ossining	2nd Best Fire Dress 14 to 18	John Paulding		
Best Color Guard – Fire Svc	Mahopac	Best Fire Dress 14 to 18	Kerhonkson		
3RD Best Auxiliary 5 to 10	Carmel	2nd Best Fire Dress 19 to 25	Colonie		
		Best Fire Dress 19 to 25	Cornell H&L		

ROCKLAND COUNTY REPORT SUBMITTED BY: JOHN COYLE, RCVF

WE SADLY REPORT THE PASSING OF

Fred Black, who was a 59-year member of the Hillcrest Fire Company and a 58-year member of the RCVFA, joining in 1960.

William Monahan, Apr 27, 2017. Bill was a life member (60 year) of Nanuet and a Life Member of the RCVFA joining in 1961.

Dave Lockyer, died Mar 17, 2018 age 75. He was a RCVFA Life Member, joined in 1974, Tallman Fire Dept for 57 years, ex-chief (1979-81), life member and former commissioner (18 yrs), he was also a member of the Rockland County Fire Chief's Assn, and a Life Member NYS Association of Fire Chiefs joining January 1, 1976. He started Lockyer Builders in 1979, same year that he became Chief.

HUBERT NOW RCFA HONORARY DIRECTOR

Peter W. Hubert Sr. was named an Honorary Director of the RCVFA by the Board of Directors voted to acknowledge his many years as an RCVFA Official Director. Peter was with Wayne Hose Co. Peter's loyal service to RCVFA as a coordinator of many blood drives was applauded. Peter relocated to Purta Gordly, FL with just under 40 years of service, including about 29 as Co. Financial Sec. and as a District driver in Stony Point. He joined RCVFA in 1981 and his son Peter Jr. is also in the RCVFA since 2006.

RCVFA CONVENTION SEPT. 7, 2018

The convention is being hosted this year by Piermont FD and will be held at the View on Hudson at 7:30 PM. The Parade will be on Sat., Sept. 8 with step off at 2 PM. It starts at the Piermont-Grandview line-Piermont Avenue, continues south on Piermont Avenue past reviewing stand opposite the Piermont Village Hall/Piermont Police Department, then left onto Paradise Avenue and right onto Ferry Road, ending at the Goswick Pavilion. The MC will be past Chief Allen Lynch, former RCVFA president (1988).

"44-1" RETIREMENT DINNER

On June 30, 2018 Hillcrest Fire Co. hosted a retirement dinner for Gordon W. Wren Jr. "44-1" It was attended by over 300 guests. The MC for the evening was Harold Straut. The Invocation was done by Stuart Gates,

Benediction by Don Schreck. Many people gave short thanks to Gordon for his many years of service including Paul Brennan, Sheriff Lou Falco, Frank Jewett, George Drescher, Tom Sullivan, Michael Miller (Cupon), Bruce Leonard, Lisa Castaldo, George Cich, Ken Zebrowski (Assemblyman), Ellen Jaffe (Assemblywoman), Harriet Cornell (RC Leg.), Scott Vanderhoeff, Mike Healy Sr, his brothers Gary and Tim Wren, and nephew Chris Wren. Frank Youngman, Pres. of Hillcrest, present Gordon with a gift and flowers to Robin, Alexandra and Tracy for putting up with Gordon over the years. Alexandra created a lovely video of Gordon's years of service. Gordon gave a thank you speech at the end of the evening. A great evening was had by all.

MILLER NEW FAB REC. SECRETARY

Bob Miller of Alert Hook, Ladder & Engine Co. (Dept.3) has graciously volunteered to take the Rockland County Fire Advisory Board minutes each month. The FAB rules allow for a non-FAB member to be the recording secretary and Bob has stepped up. He has been active in both the RC Fire Police and Safety Officers Assns. as well. Welcome aboard and thanks for volunteering.

HAROLD STRAUT NEWEST FAB MEMBER

Harold Straut of the Nanuet Fire Engine Co. (Dept.8) is the latest addition to the RC Fire Advisory Board. Straut will be a representative of the RC Fire Chief's Assn. He replaces Doug Babcock (Dept.6) who resigned and moved to Florida. Straut joins RCVFA's newest FAB member Mike Rivera (Dept.3) who replaced the late Charlie Sharon. Straut, incidentally, is a second-generation member of the FAB, following in his father's footsteps.

HVVFA CONVENTION:

The Hudson Valley VFA Convention was held on June 21 & 22, 2018. It took place at the West Glens Falls firehouse. Recognized for 50-year membership to Hudson Valley was Robert Smith of Wayne Hose Company, Stony Point and Past President of the RCVFA.

Memorial Service remembered the following Rockland County Firefighters: Charlie Sharon (Life Member) and Line of Duty Deaths: David Jahnes and Joseph Stach Jr., both of Nyack.

LADIES AUX OF HVVFA SUBMITTED BY: DIANA BALLING

The Ladies Auxiliary of Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association (LAHVVFVA) held their 43rd Annual Convention from June 20 – 23. Regular business along with the election of 2018-2019 officers was conducted.

Election Chairperson Dianne Werner of Rockland County ran the elections. Newly elected officers are:

- President Karen McDonald – Rensselaer Cty
- 1st Vice President Beth Brundage – Warren Cty
- 2nd V Pres Alison Rivenburgh – Greene Cty
- Recording Secretary – Sheri King – Putnam Cty
- Financial Secretary Diana Balling – Ulster Cty
- Treasurer Marie Delawder – Putnam County
- 5 Year Dir Gina Marie Ianucilli – Putnam Cty

Other directors on the Executive Board and moving up in position are:

- 1 Year Dir Josephine Burns – Westchester Cty
- 2 Year Director Judy Parsells – Orange County
- 3 Year Dir Catherine Johnson – Greene County
- 4 Year Dir Diane Conklin – Rockland County

After a delicious lunch by caterer Ginny Rae, HVVFA President Tom Totten installed the newly elected officers. He offered congratulations to everyone and wished the auxiliary a productive year ahead.

Chaplain Vickie Dichian conducted a beautiful memorial service. Deceased members that were remembered were:

- Past President Davey Jean Beska- Putnam Cty
- Audrey DeFelice – Albany County
- Gladys Muller – Rensselaer County
- Rose Marie Ciolfi – Rockland County
- Elinor Gates – Rockland County
- Carmela Grau – Rockland County
- Marie McKinney – Warren County
- Honorary Member Robert Creifelds – PP of HVVFA – Saratoga County

Some noteworthy information taken from the meeting were:

- Once again, the November monthly drawing will be held. Tickets are on sale now if anyone is interested. See any auxiliary member for a ticket or send a check payable to LAHVVFVA in the amount of \$5.00 (along with your name, address and phone number) to Nancy Ferretti – 71 Birchwood Drive – Palenville NY 12463. Nancy will gladly choose a number and send it to you.

- Shirts will continue to be sold with the LAHVVFVA logo on them. If interested, see Susan Mehan.

- Upcoming Meeting dates: Complete information and directions will be in the Chatterbox but mark your calendars! Bring a friend and join us!

- Sunday, September 16 at Winona Lake Fire House – Orange County

- Sunday, November 4 at West Albany Fire House – Albany County.

The Auxiliary would like to congratulate Diane Lorenz (Westchester County) on her past two years as President. Job Well Done! Now she can sit back and relax a bit.

Director Diane Conklin would like to announce that Blauvelt Vol. Fire Co. is hosting a blood drive on Friday, August 17 from 3 pm to 8:30 pm. Dinner will be served for all donors. Contact Mike Conklin at 845-709-3837 for more info or to schedule an appointment.

Hope to see everyone at Winona Lake in September. Enjoy your summer and be safe!

ROYAL ORDER OF THE BLUE VESTS SUBMITTED BY: MIKE CESARE

The Royal Order of the Blue Vests Annual Outing was held on June 21, 2018, at the Crandall Park Recreation Area in Glens Falls, Warren County. There was a scheduling conflict with the Gurney Lane Recreation Area and the Crandall Park was available. One of the great things about being a firefighter is that we always expect the unexpected and make the needed adjustments. The invited guests included a large group of Residents that traveled from the Firemen's Home in Hudson.

The refreshments included raw clams, steamed clams, chips, dips (salsa & onion), beer, water, and soda. The dinner menu was chicken, BBQ Ribs, baked potato, and corn on the cob. The desserts were one of the things that did not make to the Annual Outing this year. The refreshments, dinner, and the location of Crandall Park were terrific. There were several requests for dessert and hopefully they will be available next year.

Everyone had a good time. If you missed this Annual Outing, don't worry, Mr. George H. Hill is already starting to form plans for the Year 2019. The Annual Outing is scheduled for June 20, 2019. Thank you to President Butler for not accepting the 50/50 winnings. The second winning number drawn was to Mr. Edward Barnett. Mr. Barnett accepted the 50/50 winnings. A special Thank You to Mr. George H. Hill for coordinating the Annual Outing, to the Crandall Park Recreation Area for allowing the Blue Vests to have their Annual Outing, to Mr. Thomas J. McKinney and his staff for the delicious meal and for the excellent service they provided.

HV LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE SUBMITTED BY: JAMES HARTWICK

The following report includes the key legislative bills that passed in the Assembly and the Senate and will be forwarded to the Governor for his approval or veto.

Emergency Apparatus Lemon Law

The purpose of the legislation is to amend the general municipal law and the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to warranties of fire vehicles and ambulances

When a fire truck or ambulance is out of service, necessary life-saving equipment is unavailable for use, which can increase response times responding to an emergency. Under current law, municipalities and fire districts arrange for repairs through the dealer and have no recourse against the manufacturer directly. This can result in vehicles being out of service for extended periods of time while the dealer seeks to arrange repairs through the manufacturer. This is a cumbersome process that wastes precious time and money.

- Legislation creates an emergency vehicle "Lemon Law" for fire trucks and ambulances that allows for the timely and direct recourse against the manufacturer
- Requires the manufacturer to fix the vehicle within a given time frame and if the manufacturer fails to comply with that time frame, requires that a replacement vehicle be issued.
- In addition, municipalities may avail themselves of an alternate arbitration mechanism established pursuant to regulations promulgated by the Attorney General's office. In doing so, municipalities will be in a better position to more quickly return vital, life-saving equipment back to service.

Training for Fire Chiefs

This legislation amends the civil service law, in relation to the minimum qualifications to serve as a fire chief in any fire department, fire district or fire protection district that employs five or more paid firefighters.

- Legislation creates critical, yet basic, education, health and physical fitness training benchmarks for fire chiefs in any fire department, fire district, or fire protection district that employs one or more paid fire fighters in areas outside of New York City.
- Requires a minimum of five years as a lieutenant or higher prior to being promoted to Chief. This ensures a transition where fire chiefs are learning necessary leadership skills at different levels within the organization

- Currently, in New York State there are no training requirements to become a fire chief of a combination department (mix of volunteers and professional firefighters). This potential lack of training or understanding of fire situations can seriously jeopardize the lives of the firefighters on the scene of a fire under the direction of the chief.

Gender Neutral Legislation

This bill will replace all instances of the words or variations of the word fireman or policeman with the word firefighter or police officer. The use of gendered language in reference to police officers and firefighters are antiquated and inaccurate.

We have many women who have joined the volunteer fire service and are trained to perform the same duties and assignments of the men. They are first responders that provide significant value to our volunteer ranks. The goal of diversification is not simply boosting the number of female firefighters, but to broaden the inclusion of women in every aspect of our volunteer mission.

This is an excellent bill that is pending the signature of the Governor. If signed, our HVVFA by-laws will need to be amended to change any reference to Fireman to Firefighter. Fortunately, our HVVFA acronym stays the same.

Save the Date

The Annual Meeting of the Legislative Committee will be held at the Firefighter's Home on Sunday, September 23rd at 10:00 am. This meeting is part of HVVFA Day at the Home. Please bring new ideas for legislation or amendments to existing laws pertaining to our volunteer fire service. Your ideas should be submitted in writing as a brief suggestion. We will also review the FASNY Scorecard and Issues of United Concern and forward our recommendations to FASNY for their annual legislative meeting on November 3rd and 4th.

The Legislative Committee thus far for 2018-2019 is James Hartwick, Chan Rivera, Mike Karashay and Robert Schrader.

Application for Membership
Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc

Last Name _____ First Name _____ M.I. _____

Fire Dept/Co _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____ Phone No. _____

Email Address _____

Hereby makes an application for membership in the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association. Organization dues are \$10 and individual dues are \$8.00 per year

Date _____

Proposed by _____

(Signature of Presiding Officer or Secretary of Organization OR signature of an individual Member or HVVFA Member)

Make checks payable to Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc.

Eligibility for Membership

Any volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department, association of volunteer or exempt volunteer firemen or any active or exempt volunteer fireman who is serving or has served in any such organization in the territory in which the HVVFA is authorized to conduct business. Each member organization annually chooses one delegate to represent it at the convention of the Association. Delegates so chosen may continue as individual members by payment of annual dues of \$8.00.

Send application with payment to the Financial Secretary of the Association at:

Financial Secretary
Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Assn.

Website – www.hvvfa.com

**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 2018**

Brewster Fire Department, 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, Napanoch Fire Company, Queensbury Central Fire Company, R.A. Snyder Hose Co. No. 1, South Glens Falls Fire Company, Wallkill Hook, Ladder & Hose Company, West Glens Falls Fire Co. No. 1

**HUDSON VALLEY FIREFIGHTER
EDITOR Fran Galu
26 Laurel Lane, Highland Falls, NY 10928**

TO: