

# ALBANY COUNTY REPORT

DECEMBER 2024

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## **DELMAR FIRE DEPT TO HOST DECEMBER QUARTERLY MEETING**

The Delmar Fire Dept will host the next meeting of the Association on December 11 starting at 7:30 PM. President Robert White urges all members to try to attend and take an active part in the Association. The meeting will be held at the Delmar Fire Station located at 145 Adams St. in Delmar

## **CHIEF JASON TICE HONORED WITH FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Chief JASON TICE of the Slingerlands Fire Dept was the recipient of this year's Walter W. Eck Jr. Firefighter of the year award at the Annual Albany County Volunteer Firefighters Association Dinner held in Voorheesville. Picture on Page 4

## **SLINGERLANDS FIRE DEPT WINS BEST OVERALL AT THIS YEAR'S MUSTER**

The Slingerlands Fire Dept won the Walter W. Eck Sr Memorial Traveling Trophy at this year's ACVFA Muster hosted by the Slingerlands Fire Dept on September 20th. Slingerlands also won trophies for best appearing Men's Color Guard and Best appearing Antique and Best appearing Pumper Guilderland Center won the award for best appearing Ladder, New Salem won for the best appearing Utility Vehicle. Also taking part was the Elsmere with their Ladder Truck. The winners received their trophies after refreshments were served by the Slingerlands Fire dept and Auxiliary. The Association wishes to Thank all that took part and Slingerlands for hosting the Muster.

## **BURN FUND DONATIONS**

Thank you to the following for giving a Memorial Donation to the Burn Fund in memory of Coeymans Hollow Fire Corp past Chief and President and ACVFA Past president Charles Powell:  
Coeymans Hollow Volunteer Fire Corporation, Loretta Miller, Susan Pietropaoli, Amelia & Ken Scaretta, John Webb and Trudy Sorell. Your Donation is greatly Appreciated.

## **SEASONS GREETINGS**

THE OFFICERS OF THE ALBANY COUNTY VFA AND LADIE'S AUXILIARY WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OF OUR MEMBERS, ALL FIREFIGHTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON.

## **LADIES AUXILIARY TO MEET MARCH 24**

The ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary next scheduled meeting will be held on March 24, 2025 at the Menands Fire House located at 250 Broadway in Menands

## **2025 ACVFA ANNUAL DINNER AT ELSMERE**

The Albany County Volunteer Firefighters Association Annual Dinner and September Quarterly meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at the Elsmere Fire Company's North Station located at 15 West Poplar Drive, Delmar NY. Doors will open at 5:30 pm for an "Emergency Services Symposium" followed by Dinner at 7 PM. The Quarterly Association meeting will follow the Dinner. Complete details on the Symposium and Dinner will be sent out to all Companies and Departments by June 1, 2025. If you have any questions please contact the Elsmere Fire Company "A" Inc at the following email address; ops@elsmerefire.org

## **FIRE POLICE CLASS AT EAST BERNE**

The East Berne Fire Company will be hosting a Fire Police class on Dec 16,23 & 30, Jan 6, 20 & 27 and Feb 3. All Classes start at 18:30 Hours. Sign up on LMS

## **4<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION VACANCY**

The Association is looking for someone to fill the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Director's position. Anyone from Boght Community, Maplewood, Menands, Schuyler Heights, S.W. Pitts or Verdoy Fire Companies are eligible for this position. If interested please contact any of the Association Officers listed on Page 5 or Secretary John Webb.

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## NOTES FROM THE DINNER MEETING

The September meeting of the Association was held on September 18 at the Voorheesville Fire Station. Chief Tom Cascone of the Host Company welcome everyone to Voorheesville, pointed out the Fire Exits and the location of the rest rooms and hoped that all enjoy the Dinner. Chaplain Hough gave the opening prayer and a BBQ Chicken and Ribs Dinner was served to the 150 members and guests present. After Dinner The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Robert White. The Pledge of Allegiance. The Memorial Service was conducted by Chaplain Jonathan Hough, assisted by Tom With. The Firefighter of the year award was presented to Chief Jason Tice of the Slingerlands Fire Dept (See page 1). President Robert White introduced the guests in Attendance. Darlene Wilson, President of the Albany County Ladies Auxiliary, who presented a donation of \$250 towards the cost of the Newsletter. Barbara Fischer, newly elected trustee of the Board of Trustees of the FASNY Firefighter's Home, Robert Schrader, President of Hudson Valley VFA, Yale Frank and Jeri Mehan, Directors of Hudson Valley, Barbara Fischer President of Hudson Mohawk, , Greene County VFA President Ryan Schrader and 1st VP Jason Haines, Tom With Board Chairman and Fred Pettingell, Director of the Albany County Fire Police Association, Bill Bruno, Dominic Bruno and Paul Miller, Deputy Albany County Fire Coordinators, Richard Berger, President Albany County Rural Chiefs Association. All gave short talks on their Associations and introduced other Officers. Motion was made and carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the August Directors Meeting. Communications were read and five bills were approved for payment. Tom With of the Burn Fund gave an update on the Burn Fund and Fred Pettingell gave a report as Treasurer of the Burn Fund. Other committees presenting reports were Newsletter, Dinner, muster, and Ways and means. Two new members were approved for membership. Members voted to donate \$100.00 towards Hudson Valley Day at the Firefighters Home. Donations go towards obtaining needed items for the Firefighters Home. Barbara Fischer gave a detailed report on the Firefighters Home and thanked everyone for all that they do for the Firefighters Home. Winners of the Drawings were Ben Crupe and Mike Cesare. Attending the meeting were 10 Officers, 22 Companies were represented, 135 Association members and 12 guests.

## CHAPLAINS MEMORIAL CORNER

**Winter is fast approaching and The Holiday Season is upon us. I hope everyone has a Good Thanksgiving and Great Christmas and a Happy New Year. We have had a Few Members that have passed away. We need you to keep them in your prayers. If you know of any member of a Fire Company or Department that has passed away please call me on my cell at 518-894-0374 or my home phone at 518-756-7074. The names of our Deceased Members:**

<b>August A Baglione</b>	<b>Mckownville</b>
<b>Diane Champion</b>	<b>Knox</b>
<b>Joseph DeFlumer Jr.</b>	<b>Ravena</b>
<b>William Haight Sr.</b>	<b>Ravena</b>
<b>John Kudlack</b>	<b>Renssalaerville</b>
<b>Clifford J Scoons</b>	<b>Delmar</b>
<b>Edward M Wroblewski</b>	<b>Delmar</b>

## TAB COLLECTIONS

If you have been keeping those pull tabs please bring them to the next meeting when we meet again and if I am not there the Secretary will make sure I get them. Thanks to all who brought their Tabs to the dinner meeting. The Shriners and I thank you for all of your support.

## HOLIDAY CARDS FOR HOME MEMBERS

**Now that the Holiday Season is upon us why not send a Holiday Card to our Volunteers at the FASNY Firefighter's Home and let them know that we are thinking of them. I'm sure They will appreciate it. There are three members from Albany County who are Home members; Norma June, Gerrilyn Bennett and Jason Wheatly. The Address is**

**Name of Resident  
C/O FASNY Firefighter's Home  
125 Harry Howard Ave.  
Hudson NY 12534**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

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## AUXILIARY NEWS

Winter is fast approaching, please be careful and stay safe and warm.

Condolences are sent to the family of Member Diane Champion who answered her last roll call in November.

Ladies please let us know if anyone in your Auxiliary is in need of thinking of you card or your Auxiliary has lost a member. We have not heard about anyone being sick, in a nursing home or has passed. This info may be sent to [dwilson4981@gmail.com](mailto:dwilson4981@gmail.com)

The Ladies Auxiliary are still selling their Fund Raising tickets based on the Daily NYS Lottery. Money raised from the sale of tickets enables the Auxiliary to give out a \$1,000 scholarship each year to a deserving student and also supports many of our community activities and the Firefighters Home in Hudson. The winner each day is determined by the number drawn each evening in the NYS Lottery. Tickets are \$5.00 and are good for one month. To obtain a ticket or tickets please contact Karen McDonald at 518-339-9605 or any member of the Auxiliary.

Scholarship applications will be coming out shortly. This year the scholarship is for \$1,000 due to low participation in the Fund Raising tickets. Info may be obtained from [dwilson4981@gmail.com](mailto:dwilson4981@gmail.com)

This year's scholarship winner, Abby Robbins, was interviewed by Channel 13 News as being a Coeymans Hollow Firefighter who volunteered to help with the Orange County Fire. She is only 18 years old, a class A Firefighter and currently enrolled in an EMT class and at Columbia Memorial to become a Nurse. Congratulations Abby!

Our next Auxiliary meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2025 at Menands Firehouse. Meeting starts at 7 PM with lite refreshments before the meeting.

We are still looking for a host for our June 23 and September 22 meetings. Please let an Officer know if your Auxiliary can host any of these meetings. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

## NEXT ACVFA LADIES AUX MEETING MARCH 24

The next scheduled meeting of the ACVFA Ladies Auxiliary is scheduled for Monday March 24th and will be held at the Menands Fire House located at 250 Broadway in Menands. Meeting starts at 7 PM with light refreshments before the meeting.

## COEYMANS FIRE COMPANY LADIES AUXILIARY HOLIDAY FAIR DECEMBER 7

The Coeymans Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary will be having their Annual Holiday Fair on Saturday, December 7th at the Coeymans Fire Station located at 67 Church Street in Coeymans. The Fair will run from 9 AM to 2 PM with many crafters and suppliers available who will be selling all your holiday needs. Breakfast and Lunch will be available and there will be raffles taking place. Come to the Fair and get that special Holiday Gift. If you would like more information please contact Adeline Deyo at 518-653-3282 or email; [coeymansauxfair@yahoo.com](mailto:coeymansauxfair@yahoo.com)

## SELKIRK # 1 LADIES FISH FRY DINNERS

Selkirk FDs Company # 1 Ladies Auxiliary will again be serving **Eat In or Take Out** Fish Fry Dinners during Lent. Dinners will be served starting on Friday March 7 and March 21<sup>st</sup>, April 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. The Dinners will be available from 4:30 PM to 7 PM at the Selkirk # 1 Fire Station at 126 Maple Ave in Selkirk. Dinners include a Fish Fry, French Fries, Cole Slaw and a dessert for \$13. A Chicken Nugget Dinner is also available for \$10. Also Available is Clam Chowder or Mac N Cheese for \$5. The Auxiliary will also have Raffle Tickets available for purchase For more Info EMAIL: [selkirkladies1@yahoo.com](mailto:selkirkladies1@yahoo.com)

### MARK DEAN 50 YEAR CELEBRATION

Mark Dean was honored on October 13th by the Guilderland Center Fire Dept. for his 50 years of Service with a celebration at the Guilderland Center Fire Station. Mark was presented with several proclamations from several Fire Service Organizations. Pictured below is ACVFA President Robert White presenting Mark with his 50 Year certificate from ACVFA.



### S.W. PITTS HONORS 50 YEAR MEMBER

The S.W. Pitts Hose Company held their annual Old Timers night on Oct 19 During the evening they honored Paul Fink for his 50 years of service to the S.W. Pitts Hose Company. Pictured below is ACVFA President Robert White presenting Richard Barlette with his 50 years of Service Award from the ACVFA

### WEST ALBANY 50 YEAR MEMBERS

ACVFA President Robert White presented 2 members of the West Albany Fire Dept with 50 Years of Service awards from the Association. Honored were Michael Ruede and Steve Frost

### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AT VOORHEESVILLE

The Voorheesville Fire Dept will hold their Annual Breakfast with Santa on Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> from 7 AM to Noon. All you can eat Breakfast includes Eggs cooked to order, toast, pancakes, French Toast, Bacon, Sausage, beverage and Santa for the Kids. Breakfast is \$10 for 12 and older. \$5 for ages 6 to 11 and free for those 5 and under. Will be held at the Voorheesville Fire Station at 12 Altamont Road in Voorheesville.

### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AT EAST BERNE

Stop by and visit with Santa and have your picture taken on Saturday, December 21 at the East Berne Fire House, 792 Helderberg Trail in East Berne. Enjoy a hot pancake breakfast including pancakes, scrambled eggs, hash browns, sausage, bacon, coffee, tea and juice. Cost is \$10.00 per person 4 years and older, under 3 are free. Takes place from 8 AM to Noon.

### FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD PHOTO

Pictured below is Firefighter of the Year Jason Tice receiving the award from Slingerlands Chief Craig Sleurs and ACVFA President Robert White



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## 50 YEAR PRESENTATION AT MAPLEWOOD

On Saturday November 30 ACVFA President Robert White presented 50 Year of Service Awards to Mark Belokopitsky and Ronald Wilkinson of the Maplewood Fire Dept, Town of Colonie

## MEETING DATES FOR 2025

Locations are needed for the Association meetings for 2025. The dates are March 12, May 14(Annual Meeting), August 13 (Directors Meeting) and Dec 10, 2025. Elsmere will be hosting the Sept. Dinner Meeting. For more info on hosting a meeting contact John Webb by E Mail at [jlwsec@gmail.com](mailto:jlwsec@gmail.com) or by cell at 518-256-7359

## MESSAGE FROM THE 2<sup>nd</sup> VP MATT WILCENSKI

Please keep up the good work in getting new members. Would the Officers be interested in getting shirts made up with the ACVFA Logo on them to wear at functions and meetings. If interested please let me know. Thank you

## NEW MEMBERS

The ACVFA welcomes Tim Gyuroyits and Michael Dyer of the Voorheesville Fire Department as our newest members.

## FASNY WINTER GAMES

The FASNY Winter Games will be held on Jan 31, Feb 1 & 2 at the Greek Peak Resort in Cortland NY and at Suny Cortland. For more info or to register go to [fasny.com/events/winter\\_games](http://fasny.com/events/winter_games).

## NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

We now have 240 that receive the newsletter by E mail. To receive the newsletter by E mail send an E Mail to the editor requesting the newsletter be sent that way. Send the E mail to [jlwsec@gmail.com](mailto:jlwsec@gmail.com)

## ACVFA CURRENT OFFICERS

President	Robert White	772-9807
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Tom Cascone	441-5162
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Matt Wilcenski	221-3437
Recording Secretary	John Webb	256-7359
Treasurer	Fred Pettingell	466-6357
Financial Secretary	Clayton Ash	861-7445
Chaplain	Jonathan Hough	894-0374
Sargent-at-Arms	Don Champion	872-1676
Board Chairman	Burt Frederick	861-6635

## BATTALION DIRECTORS

First Battalion	Mike Taylor	858-5342
Second Battalion	Frank Papa	765-3764
Third Battalion	Charles Feldmann	859-6883
Fourth Battalion	VACANT	
Fifth Battalion	Henry Smith	859-5088
Sixth Battalion	Marc Platt	461-5141

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

### ALBANY COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Member Company/Department	\$ 15.00
Individual Member	\$ 10.00
Associate Company/Department	\$ 15.00
Associate Individual Member	\$ 10.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Town \_\_\_\_\_  
State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Fire Dept/Company \_\_\_\_\_  
Home/Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E MAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Elected as Member \_\_\_\_\_

Please return Application and the correct fee to  
Clayton Ash, ACVFA Financial Secretary, 1138  
Meadowdale Road, Altamont NY 12009  
Thank you for Joining



## CALENDER OF EVENTS

Dec 7 – Coeymans Fire Co Auxiliary Annual Holiday Fair. Info on page 3

Dec 8– Voorheesville Fire Dept Breakfast with Santa. Info on page 4

Dec 11 – ACVFA Quarterly Meeting at Delmar. Starts at 7:30 PM.

Dec 21 -East Berne Fire Co Breakfast with Santa. Info on page 4

Jan 11 – Hudson Valley Past Presidents Dinner at Best Western Hotel, Kingston NY

Jan 27 – FASNY EMS Seminar. Selden NY

Jan 31, Feb 1 & 2 – FASNY Winter Games in Cortland NY. Info page 5

March 1 & 2 FASNY EMS Seminar. Geneva NY.

March 12 - ACVFA Quarterly meeting scheduled. Need a host

March 24 – Ladies Auxiliary meeting at Menands  
Please remember that any event listed is subject to change. Check with the sponsoring organization to make sure the event is still scheduled.

## DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

If you would like to publicize your upcoming event or news about your Company or Auxiliary that you would like to share please send the information to the Editor John Webb. Best way is by E mail at [jlwsec@gmail.com](mailto:jlwsec@gmail.com) By phone at 518-756-3281 or by mail: John Webb, 30 Van Buren Ave, Ravena NY 12143. The deadline for the next Issue is February 15, 2024 This issue can include information on events happening anytime after March 1.

## PHOTO CREDITS

Thank You to the Guilderland Center Fire Dept for the photo on Page 4 of the presentation for the 50 Year Award to Mark Dean.

Thank you to Brian Sleurs for the photo of the Fiefighter of the year award.

Please support our Advertisers. The Association greatly appreciates their continued support. Their support helps make this newsletter possible.



**Diana Balling**  
**LAFASNY Jr. Past President**

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FIREFIGHTER AND EMT FOR OVER 34 YEARS**



### PICTURES FROM THE MUSTER

New Salem Fire Dept Color Guard



Slingerlands 1942 Seagrave Pumper



Albany County Emergency Services recruitment car



Pictured left to right Elsmere Ladder Truck, Guilderland Center Ladder Truck and Slingerlands Pumper



Slingerlands new Engine Tanker 31-30. Placed in Service the day of the Muster



Thank you to Rich Conger for the photos on this page

