125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOME

ALSO INSIDE:

- When the Unthinkable Happens: Moving Forward After a Line of Duty Death
- The Importance of Disability Awareness Training in the Fire Service
- Starting or Growing Your Junior Firefighter Program
NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF
THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Pursuant to the order of the Board of Directors of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York (FASNY or Corporation), the NPCL and the By-laws of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York, the Annual Meeting of members of the Corporation will be held on August 10, 11 and 12, 2017, at The Holiday Inn Syracuse / Liverpool, 441 Electronics Parkway, Liverpool, New York, 13088. The Annual Meeting will commence at 8:00 A.M. on Thursday, August 10, 2017, and continue, as directed by the Chair, if necessary, on Friday, August 11, 2017, starting at 8:00 A.M., and continue on Saturday, August 12, 2017, starting at 9:00 A.M., until the meeting is closed, to consider and take action on the matters of the election of one (1) FASNY Director (Class of 2022), one FASNY Director to fill a vacancy (Class of 2019) and three (3) Trustees of the FASNY Firemen's Home; the approval or rejection of the Annual Budget of the FASNY Firemen's Home, Resolution to amend the FASNY By-laws, and the transaction of such business as may be properly brought before the meeting or any adjournments thereof. Regular members in good standing with full dues paid prior to August 1, 2017, are able to vote.

BY ORDER OF THE FASNY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JOHN S. D’ALESSANDRO, Secretary
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**JULY/AUGUST 2017**

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I am just returning home from the 125th Anniversary Celebration of the Firemen's Home. What an enjoyable weekend it was! I must salute the Rev. Wayne F. Jagow because he prayed for excellent weather and it was delivered.

The program started on Friday evening with the unveiling of the “Caring Window” in the Chapel (see p. 34). Board of Trustees President David F. Schmidt stated the stained glass window displayed a scene where four firefighters were rescuing and caring for two children while one more firefighter extinguished the flames. The gates depicted in the background of the image serve as a reminder that FASNY provides a caring place for firefighters and, “The red in the background has a double meaning – it can be seen as the fire, but also as a beautiful sunset. It is meant to symbolize character, courage and self-discipline.”

The Chapel was filled to capacity Friday night as the Home Resident Council conducted their annual Memorial Service to remember those 17 home members who had passed away during this past year. Steven E. Klein, FASNY’s First Vice President, acknowledged the people who work at the home during his remarks. “FASNY has been dedicated to making this place what it is since day one and it would never work if it wasn’t for the people who work here,” Klein said. “One thing we should remember is those people who have dedicated their lives to making this place a home away from home.”

On Saturday morning, the celebration continued with a parade. The City of Hudson Fire Department conducted their annual Inspection Day Parade. They had invited FASNY to participate in it as well to celebrate the 125th Anniversary. The parade lineup started with 71 antique fire trucks that were also participating in the Museum of Firefighting’s Muster.

The Grand Marshal for the parade was William “Billy” Goldfeder. The Home Grand Marshals were Robert Hicks (resident living the longest in the home) and William Hills (oldest resident who recently passed away). Following the Grand Marshals were three divisions of fire companies from all over the State of New York and several from other states, including New Jersey, Connecticut and Massachusetts. Trophies were given out at the end of the day (see p. 20).

A special “thank you” goes to the officers and members of the City of Hudson FD for their hard work in organizing their Inspection Day Parade and including FASNY in honor of the 125th Anniversary of the Firemen’s Home.

Residents and visitors really enjoyed the Museum of Firefighting Muster. This tradition of gathering of fire apparatus is open to hand-drawn, horse-drawn, motorized not-in-service and motorized in-service apparatus with prizes awarded for each category. During this time, guests also enjoyed the fire demonstrations and games.

A rededication ceremony was held where the Association had a Maltese cross added to the obelisk stone memorial on the grounds to signify the date of the 125th Anniversary.

The 125th Anniversary Celebration ended that evening with a banquet at Anthony’s Restaurant in Leeds, where FASNY received congratulations from other state organizations for reaching this milestone in their history. The residents of the Home enjoyed an identical banquet, from the menu to the place settings.

Just recently, the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs sponsored Government Affairs Day at the Legislative Office Building in Albany. An excellent program was put together by CEO Jerry DeLuca and there was an outstanding turnout from all state fire service organizations.

The New York State Volunteer Firefighter Gap Coverage Cancer Disability Benefits Act recently passed both the State Assembly and Senate. This was the result of the combined efforts of FASNY and all the State fire service organizations. Now it’s up to all of us to contact the Governor to make sure this critical legislation gets signed into law (see p. 8).

FASNY’s 145th Convention will be held August 9-12 in Syracuse at the Holiday Inn in Liverpool. Our motto for this year is “Building a Healthier, Stronger and Safer Volunteer Fire Service.” Please refer to page 24 to review the Convention schedule.

As a committee member of the New York State Emergency Services Revolving Loan Program I would like to remind all that cities, villages, fire districts or incorporated not for profit fire/ambulance organizations are eligible to apply for a loan.

This comes with a fixed interest rate of 2.5 percent. Under the loan program, funds can be used for firefighting apparatus, ambulances or rescue vehicles, personal equipment, communications equipment or construction of new facilities. Please go to the New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services/Office of Fire Prevention and Control website for more details.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you at your sectional Conventions in the coming months. In the meantime, please stay safe!
As we hopefully make our way into summer, we will be wrapping up our series of educational programs across the state, “Riding the Right Front Seat … It Could Be You!” provided by Instructor Tim Boel of VFIS and “Modern Firefighting … What Works for You?” presented by John Salka and Ed Buchanan.

First, I would like to thank John S. D’Alessandro for being the Moderator at the Modern Firefighting programs. Second, thanks to the attendees who took the time to complete the evaluations while attending these programs.

We do listen to you when we receive your thoughts, ideas and evaluations of our programs. The majority of the evaluations have given both programs a favorable rating for content and presentation. Where we seem to struggle is getting attendees willing to pre-register and help increase the overall attendance numbers.

FASNY is committed to providing education and training to its members and the volunteer fire service, but we are asking your help to see what we can do to keep providing this important mission to the volunteer fire service.

The Training and Education Committee will be researching this issue and looking for guidance from you, the members of this organization, to help us. So please, send me any thoughts or suggestions via email and I will forward them to the Committee.

In another area, we are re-evaluating the host responsibilities, number of pre-registered attendees required and choosing hosts that will commit to FASNY the required number of pre-registered attendees for their respective locations.

We will also evaluate what FASNY provides the host for holding a program. Once again, if you have thoughts regarding this, email me.

What is new and upcoming for training and education? Well, one of the concepts we heard from you, the educational program attendees, is providing more fireground tactical educational programs. So, we are currently evaluating potential presenters to provide a tactics presentation for this fall.

We will be offering this at four to six locations around the State. If we meet our projected attendance numbers at these locations, we will decide whether to hold more of these presentations in the spring of 2018.

Also coming this fall, the FASNY Board of Directors gave approval to the Training and Education Committee to provide a traveling, hands-on training trial program. We are calling it “Hands-On Training Boot Camp” (see p. 30).

This program will provide basic hands-on training on-site, where firefighters can attend locally without having to take time off from work or time away from the family to attend. FASNY has contracted with a company that is providing a training simulator and instructors. This program will show a firefighter a skill and then they can practice it on the simulator using the tools and techniques provided.

The skills offered are roof ventilation, forcible entry, firefighter bailout, and vent, enter, and search (VES). The firefighter bailout session will give firefighters the option to use their own fire department systems with safety belay in place or try samples of systems for departments that are still researching what type of system fits their needs. We will be offering this program in six locations for a three-hour evening session and one location for an eight-hour daytime session.

Attendee feedback will be gathered at all locations for thoughts on adding, changing and/or continuing this program at more locations around the state. As I have mentioned, this is a new training concept. Once the registration forms are available, please pre-register at a location near you as soon as possible. Be safe!
“Volunteers are love in motion!” – Anonymous

The volunteer spirit, intrinsic to the fire service, continues to move FASNY’s mission forward. An underscoring example is the outpouring of support received for the Caring Window as well as the tremendous turnout for the Dedication Ceremony and Memorial Service on May 20 (see p. 12). The camaraderie among the countless volunteers made the 125th Anniversary Celebration of the FASNY Firemen’s Home extra special. While it took many hands to pull off the celebration, the work felt light thanks to the generosity of countless volunteers and donors who helped make it possible.

As we look forward to August, we are again seeking support for three fundraisers which will be held during FASNY’s 145th Annual Convention. The Third Annual Michael D. Whelan Walk in the Park will take place at Onondaga Lake Park on August 10 in support of the Firefighter Cancer Support Network.

On August 11, FASNY will host its Fourth Annual Fallen Firefighters Golf Tournament to benefit the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and the New York State Fallen Firefighters Memorial. Beginning at 6:00 p.m. on August 11, Convention attendees are invited to the Holiday Inn in Liverpool for desserts and entertainment during the silent auction for the Gerard J. Buckenmeyer FASNY Volunteer Scholarship.

We are grateful to our event sponsors and are counting on our FASNY members’ participation to help us support these worthy causes. For more information, visit www.fasny.com

In the next couple of months, you will also begin hearing about the next major project for the FASNY Firemen’s Home, a multi-purpose building, which will be used for outdoor activities, County Days and other functions to benefit the Home members and the New York State fire service.

There will be several naming options available. For more information, please email FASNY’s Development Office at development@fasny.com or call (800) 232-7692 ext. 722.
The 2017 New York State Legislative Session officially ended on June 21, although discussions continue between the Senate and Assembly to come back to Albany to resolve some unfinished legislative issues. As we look at the year in review, we are proud of some of the legislative accomplishments achieved this year by FASNY. The most important was the passage of the New York State Volunteer Firefighter Gap Coverage Cancer Disability Benefits Act.

The cancer legislation was a hard-fought battle that has been a priority for FASNY for many years. Each year we have come closer and closer to passage only to see the financial concerns expressed by the local municipalities derail the legislation.

This year, using legislation that was recently passed in Georgia as a template, we crafted a bill that would provide volunteer interior firefighters with tax-free lump sum payments if they are diagnosed with cancer. This bill would not require any additional proof by the firefighter other than certification by their physician that they have cancer and proof that they served as an interior firefighter. As study after study has shown that there is a direct correlation between interior firefighting and cancer, this bill will provide some relief to those who risk their lives and are also fighting cancer.

The cancer bill was a primary focus of the FASNY Board, but the year also saw some additional successes with legislation we hope to pass in the future. One huge success was funding that FASNY secured in the 2017-18 New York State Budget, with the help of Senator Kathy Marchione, that will be earmarked for recruitment and retention.

Sometimes success can be measured in Albany by what does not get passed. FASNY held back legislation which would have diverted money from the funding that is currently authorized by statute for the FASNY Firemen’s Home. This bill would have had a disastrous impact on FASNY’s ability to fund the Home, so stopping this legislation was a big accomplishment.

As mentioned, we also saw some positive movement with several of our other priority bills this year and we hope that this will help us move toward passage next year. One such bill was our legislation that would authorize our volunteer departments to bill for EMS services. This legislation has bogged down over the years with little movement or conversation. But, this year, in coordination with the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs and Districts, we made substantial strides with this legislation. Although the bill is a long way from being finished, we had productive discussions with legislators as well as the private ambulance industry.

This year a lot of eyes were opened in regard to this legislation and, with the support of our Senate sponsor Betty Little, we moved the ball forward and out of the Senate Local Governments Committee. In the Assembly, we had both Assemblyman Brian Jones and Addie Jenne take an active and aggressive lead for us in trying to find a positive legislative outcome. We are hopeful that these steps lead to a bill that passes both houses in the future. We also hope for the same with legislation that was sponsored by Assemblyman Kenneth Zebrowski and Senator David Carlucci. The legislation would put stronger school fire inspection guidelines in place. This bill passed the Assembly for the first time this year and we are hopeful that this momentum can help us move the bill forward in the future.

So, as the 2017 Legislative Session closes, FASNY will continue to work diligently on our entire Legislative Agenda, which you can find online at www.fasny.com. We are proud of the work we have done on cancer coverage and we are hopeful that the momentum gained on some of our legislation will allow for similar success in the future.

Help FASNY Get Cancer Coverage Signed into Law

Through the combined efforts of FASNY and lawmakers, the New York State Volunteer Firefighter Gap Coverage Cancer Disability Benefits Act has passed both houses. We now need to continue to urge Governor Andrew Cuomo to sign this legislation into law. We are asking all members of the volunteer fire service to call or email the Governor, and ask him to sign Senate Bill 1411B/Assembly Bill 711B.

If we have your email, also be watching for notifications from our Engage alert system in the coming weeks as we continue to let the Governor know how important this legislation is to all volunteer firefighters.

We need to beat the drum loudly, strongly and consistently. Your help is absolutely needed. So, please take time and call (518) 474-8390 to tell Governor Cuomo to sign Senate Bill 1411B/Assembly Bill 711B.

FASNY Director Brian F. McQueen and his wife, Sarah, (center) were joined by State Assemblyman Anthony Brindisi (at left) and State Senator Joseph A. Griffo on June 20 following passage of New York State Volunteer Firefighter Gap Coverage Cancer Disability Benefits Act. The Assembly provided a standing ovation following the vote. The bill now awaits approval from the Governor.
“And God spoke these words: Man should not be alone!” Deciding that perhaps a companion to fill my home with brightness and song during these reclining years was in order, I bought a canary.

Lovely, bright and yellow, I called him “Sonny.” After a melodious start to our relationship, several days later I found Sonny “sunny side up” in the bottom of his cage, his curled talons clutching at that great golden perch somewhere in the sky. If I had purchased and read the operations manual The Care and Feeding of a Canary, page 7 clearly states: “Do not feed your canary horseradish!” “Who was to know?” I lamented. “Who was to know!”

There is no manual on The Care and Feeding of a Chaplain. It is an instructional manual not yet written.

When I proposed this article to FASNY’s “Man of Good Council,” Chaplain Rev. Wayne F. Jagow, he immediately said, “Who is it directed at? Who is the target audience?”

“The Chief. It has to be the Chief!” I replied. Any endeavor without the Chief’s support can survive. However, it is most difficult for it to thrive.

Chaplains and the services they can bring to a department can vary greatly, depending on personalities and expectations. The New York State Association of Fire Chaplains is a very diverse group of individuals, with varying degrees of skills and abilities. Some folks have doctorates and some have been well-educated in the realities of living life. But, the commonality is their desire to help.

We will assume you have a Chaplain. If not, seriously consider adding one to your unit.

I like to think a good Chaplain is a blend of spiritual advisor, social worker and a mother of sorts. All of the skills associated with each profession are not needed in every particular event or incident, but there are days when we need all three! We do not send a tower ladder to a waste basket fire. Each asset at a Chief’s disposal has a place and a purpose, and so it is with the chaplaincy.

When I say “mother” as a part of the skill of a Chaplain, I am very serious. A mother’s love is usually unconditional. Whatever she does is in your best interest. Some days a hug – spiritual or physical – is all that is required. Other times, new fabric in the seat of someone’s turnout gear may be needed at the conclusion of a counseling session. Knowing which is needed is the tricky part. Mothers know!

A dedicated Chaplain deserves support from the administration of a department. As I was preparing this article, I did a quick survey with some of my busier Chaplain friends, asking a brief question: “What could your department do to assist you as the Chaplain to better serve them in that capacity?”

I had already written the following sentence before I asked the question: “The necessity of being kept informed is at the top of my list.” The overwhelming response was: “Let me know what’s happening. Communication is very important!”

I do not want to hear gossip, but I truly want to know if someone is losing their employment. I want to know about medical issues. I want to know if marital problems are a concern. I may not be of any help whatsoever, but I can be compassionate; I can empathize; I can remember them in my private prayers; I can remember them communally at the celebration of the Holy Eucharist on Sunday.

The notification that an active member from years past, sometimes many years past, has died coming from a funeral director is not very helpful. It is now too late to visit the nursing home for a private conversation. It is too late to meet the family in the lounge of the facility to assure them of our love and concern both for our former member and for them as survivors. Even more sadly, I may have visited the facility on many previous occasions totally unaware one of “our people” was a resident. We are so blessed to have the Firemen’s Home, where no one is forgotten.

For anyone called to the fire service ministry, recognizing the limit of their abilities is important. Important for the Chief and important for the Chaplain! There are some denominational sacraments that simply cannot be administered by a lay-Chaplain or someone of another faith community. Having this understanding between the Chief and the Chaplain before an incident occurs is vitally important. If as a Chief you do not know your Chaplain well, invite him into your office for a cup of coffee and perform that act you do so well on other occasions – do a “size-up.” Also, be prepared to do what we as volunteers have always done: Call for mutual aid when needed!

Pay a little attention to your Chaplain, as they spend a lot of time with your people. One of my previous Chiefs was not terribly demonstrative, but as I passed in the hallway he would give me the, “Hey, Chap!” and hand me a new pair of gloves knowing full-well I had probably given the previous pair to some kid at a scene with wet hands. Or it might be a flashlight – not a biggie, but it made me feel appreciated and wanted.

Continued on next page.
He was verbalizing, by his actions, words that were tough for him to speak: “Thank you.” Say thank you in whatever manner works for you.

Make it a point to see that your Chaplains are provided with gear – turnout or extrication – suitable to their duties. In most departments ordained, professional clergy are usually afforded Chief rank. Get them a white helmet, white parade cover and three stripes on the sleeve if it fits the protocol of your company.

Put your Chaplains, lay or ordained, in the proper place in the line-of-march when parading. In my area, my working partners, the Rev. Leon VanWie and Father Chris Cararra, and myself are designated deputy county fire coordinators for chaplain services. We are issued a county radio, a designated spot on the dispatch dial and the authorization to self-dispatch or respond by directive as the situation may require: Red lights and siren wailing!

Deserving a small chapter in my book on The Care and Feeding of a Chaplain is the need to be treated with a certain amount of respect when you arrive at a social event. You know, the annual dinner.

Designate someone to meet and greet your event Chaplain, if they are a guest. Show him or her where they will be seated. Point out the restrooms. I’m old – it’s important!

Have a bulletin ready for your guest. Introduce us to your officers. Some departments assign an “escort” to the Chaplain to get them “squared away,” as naval folks might say. It is a great job for an up-and-coming junior firefighter. Both parties will feel honored.

Being told, “Oh, sit anywhere” is pretty disconcerting. I always feel I’m breaking into someone’s predetermined seating arrangement. We do not need to sit at the head table, but being close enough to arrive at the lectern without a long walk is helpful and it keeps things moving.

If someone is using the department Chaplain outside of his fire service scope of operations, such as a wedding, they should remember that he or she is a professional – treat them as such. If you have an appointment, be on time and be reasonably sober!

They may have given up a day of golf or much-needed time with their spouse and children to accommodate your need. If travel is involved, a gas card is not out of the question. A stipend or honorarium should always be considered. It is not a matter of the money, it is a matter of respect.

Remember the old Ernest Tubb country classic, “Be good to your baby, and you’ll have a better baby”? Works for Chaplains too!

In Memoriam:
William A. Hills (1917 – 2017)

It is with deep regret that we must report the passing of Home member William Hills. Mr. Hills recently celebrated his 100th birthday and served as a Co-Grand Marshal of the parade that was held in conjunction with the 125th Anniversary Celebration of the FASNY Firemen’s Home. He exemplified the best of the volunteer fire service, having been a member of it for almost 80 years. The Officers and Members of the Firemen’s Association of the State of New York mourn his passing and hope that his lifetime of dedication serves as an inspiration to all those who protect their community.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FASNY GERARD J. BUCKENMEYER SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS 2016-17

Zachary J. Allen
Binghamton High School
Meghan Burns
Auburn High School
Andrew Cucci
Cornwall Central High School
Simon Dietrich
The Grow School
Matthew Fitzgerald
General Brown Central School District
Jessica Jones
Owego Free Academy
Colin Kloc
Portville Central School
Ryan Motchkavitz
Great Neck South High School
Vincent Pastore
Walt Whitman High School
Benjamin Petrie
Waterville Central School
Madelaine Rangel
Jericho High School
Megan Rivenburgh
Catskill High School
Noah Roberts
Maple Hill High School
Amelia Rockwell
Clarence High School
Hannah Roman
Southern Cayuga Jr./Sr. High School
Mary Elisabeth Rustowicz
Grand Island Senior High School
Andrew Taylor
Bethlehem Central School
Vincent Tully
Westlake High School
Jonathan (Jack) Webster
Greenport High School
Nicolas Westerhoff
Southampton High School

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FASNY GERARD J. BUCKENMEYER SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS 2016-17

Testimonial Dinner Honoring FASNY Director
Brian F. McQueen

Saturday, October 7, 2017
Hart’s Hill Inn, 135 Clinton Street, Whitesboro, NY
6:00-10:00 p.m.
Cocktails with one-hour open bar begin at 6:00 p.m.
Dinner at 7:00 p.m. Cash bar 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Dress code is business casual.
$50 per person
Make checks payable to:
Whitesboro Fire Department
171 Oriskany Blvd., Whitesboro, NY 13492
Please include the number of tickets, your name(s), address and fire organization as well as a note whether a presentation will be made.
Donations to the Believe 271 Foundation are also welcome!
For more information, please contact Kevin Lansing at (315) 200-5842 or kevin_lansing@yahoo.com
In 1892, volunteer fire organizations came from across New York State to witness and celebrate the laying of the cornerstone for the new Firemen's Home in Hudson.

Since the 1888 New York State Firemen’s Convention in Cortland, steps had taken place to erect a building for indigent, sick or disabled firemen who had no home of their own.

Under the leadership of George W. Anderson, these plans finally came to fruition and the construction of the first Home began. It would become the first institution of its kind in the United States to serve volunteer firemen.

Fast-forward 125 years later and that spirit and commitment of the Firemen’s Association of the State of New York has not changed. Even though George W. Anderson might not have envisioned the current modern skilled facility, he surely would be quite pleased with how FASNY has continued its tradition of caring.

The Firemen’s Home is a true testament speaking to FASNY’s belief that the family of firefighting does not end at the firehouse door, but extends even after the volunteer can no longer be active.

FASNY has always cared for its members as if they were family. As they did 125 years before, volunteer fire organizations from across New York State came together to celebrate and honor that special place called the Firemen’s Home on May 19 and 20, 2017.
The weekend-long Home 125th Anniversary Celebration began with the unveiling of the Caring Window and the Resident Council’s Memorial Service. The Chapel was filled to capacity as FASNY President Kenneth Pienkowski and Home Board of Trustees President David F. Schmidt drew back a curtain to reveal the stunning stained glass window designed by Willet Hauser Architectural Glass.

The window depicts a scene in which four firefighters are rescuing and caring for two children while another firefighter extinguishes the flames. In the background of the rescue scene are the gates of the Firemen’s Home, which serves as a reminder that FASNY will always provide a refuge for volunteer firefighters.

Following the unveiling of the window, Resident Council President Edward Schindler and Vice President Robert Fonk remembered with gratitude 17 Home members who passed away during the past year. Recollections were given on each of the deceased members and Resident Council Sergeant-at-Arms Brian Navom lit a candle to honor their memory. It was a beautiful service and FASNY could not have chosen a more fitting place or event for the beginning of the Home’s 125th Anniversary Celebration.

Home members were up bright and early the next day to get ready for Saturday’s parade and Muster. Robert H. Hicks of the Manhasset-Lakeville No. 3 Fire Co. and the late William Hills of the North Amityville Fire Co. served as the Home Grand Marshals.

Continued on next page.
Mr. Hicks was admitted to the Firemen’s Home in February 1999 and is the Home’s longest-staying member. Mr. Hills was the Home’s oldest member at age 100. Both were dressed in their fire company uniforms and were thrilled to represent the Home in the parade. Members were able to view the parade and all the weekend events by either attending or watching it live-streamed to their televisions.

After enjoying the parade and the activities associated with the Muster, there was a Brick Memorial Dedication Ceremony. FASNY Immediate Past President Robert N. McConville, Second Vice President John P. Farrell, Jr. and Home Board of Trustees Vice President Wayne Butts uncovered the obelisk stone during the ceremony.

Added to the stone were the gates of the Home, the Caring Window emblem and the date commemorating the 125th Anniversary. The program also included plaques presented by the FASNY Board of Directors, Home Board of Trustees and LAFASNY leadership. Several proclamations were given by state and local dignitaries in honor of the Home’s anniversary.

As the festivities of the day were ending, members got dressed in their very best to attend their banquet. The ladies from LAFASNY decorated the dining room to match the same atmosphere as Anthony’s Banquet Hall, including the wine glasses, centerpieces, commemorative coins and commemorative Caring Window pins.

Members also had the same food selections of bacon-wrapped scallops, chicken franaise, prime rib and stuffed fillet of sole that were offered to those attending the banquet in Catskill. Live music entertainment was provided for members to enjoy as they celebrated the occasion.

It was truly an amazing weekend made possible by FASNY leadership, Home staff and the many volunteers and supporters of the Home. Residents thoroughly enjoyed the Celebration and Home staff members said it gave them a sense of pride to be involved with such a great organization.

The Home has seen many changes over 125 years, but the commitment to providing only the very best for its members has never waivered. FASNY has always cared for their own as family and the Home looks to continue that same tradition for the next 125 years!
Continued on next page.
The FASNY Museum of Firefighting recently revived the Muster event to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the FASNY Firemen’s Home. If you are not familiar with the term “muster,” in the firematic world it means that a large number of antique fire trucks will gather together to be viewed and judged.

The FASNY Museum of Firefighting’s staff and Muster Committee planned the event to coincide with the 125th Anniversary Celebration of the FASNY Firemen’s Home and the Hudson Fire Department Inspection Day Parade. On May 20, this event brought approximately 3,000 people to the campus!

Muster participants showcased their vintage fire trucks, which certainly kept with the spirit of firefighting heritage and tradition, and, of course, the 125th Anniversary of the Home. The 70-plus fire engines at the Muster competed for various trophies, as a panel of judges evaluated their many attributes during the Muster. Thank you to the Inter-County Judging Association. They certainly had a difficult task. And congratulations to all the Muster trophy winners:

**Best Overall**
Peter Holmes, Rome, NY
1931 Chevy Chemical Pumper

**Best Non-Motorized**
Stephen Lilick, Albrightsville, PA
1860 Wirt-Knox Hose Cart

**Best Motorized**
Robert & Paula Oakliff, Portland, CT
1946 Mack Type 25 Pumper

**Most Unique**
Freeport Exempt Firemen’s Association, Freeport, NY
1906 Nott Steamer

**Best Embellished**
Westhampton Beach Fire Department, Westhampton, NY
1925 Buffalo/Brockway E3 Chemical Pumper

**Museum Choice**
B.F. Hoxie Engine Co. No. 1, Mystic, CT
1883 Button First Size Hand Engine

3,000 of the FASNY Firemen’s Home’s closest friends joined us for the muster, parade and ceremony to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Home.

MacBoston 18 proudly flies our nation’s colors over the FASNY Firemen’s Home on the special day.

This row of lovelies includes a 1952 Mack L85 pumper owned by David Fell, 1960 American LaFrance 900 Pumper (Goshen) and a 1965 American LaFrance 900 pumper both owned by T. Barry from the Tunaville Fire Department.
I would be remiss if I did not thank Garrison Fire and Rescue Corp. for providing the service truck for the day. We did not have any major emergencies with trucks, but in the event they needed assistance, it was comforting to know that Garrison Fire was there for us and our Muster truck owners … thank you! I would like to thank the Columbia County and New York State Fire Police organizations for all their traffic control and Muster parking assistance as well.

The muster event also included many demonstrations and activities. The Owego Hose Team did an amazing hose racing demonstration. The Owego Hose Teams Inc. has been competing in firematic hose racing since 1951, with this year marking their 65th anniversary season. The teams have won a total of 23 Central New York firematic hose racing titles and are known throughout New York State for their racing prowess.

The races are timed events that test the firefighters’ skills. Teams of five members must, for example, connect nozzles to hoses, hoses to hoses, and hoses to the fire hydrant, and knock down targets as quickly as possible. Hose races improve basic firefighting skills, and these competitions also build camaraderie among participants.

Frank Smith did a fantastic gold leaf demonstration. Frank is a self-taught artist with over 30 years of experience. He is a master gold leaf artist, and his work can be seen in many venues, including the New York State Senate.

Frank follows in the tradition of many of the great gold leaf artists of the past, being proficient in not only gold leaf artistry, but also in sign-making of all types. His finished work beautifully showcased the art of gold leafing to Muster visitors. His finished work was also a gift from the Museum to the Hudson FD for coordinating the parade. The gold leaf sign Mr. Smith completed features Hudson FD’s well-known motto: “Pride is our pay.” Crafts for the youngsters included a gold leaf activity, which complemented the demonstration.

Continued on next page.
A heartfelt thank you goes to B.F. Hoxie Engine Co. No. 1 of Mystic, Connecticut, who stepped in with their 1883 Button pumper to do a pumping demonstration. You really gave Muster visitors a thrilling view of the operation of the hand pumps of yesteryear.

I would also like to thank the Greenport Fire Department for providing the portable pond for the pumping demonstration. Firestar, the Museum's costumed mascot, also visited during the day while local Girl Scout Troops 1772 and 1403 provided face painting for visitors. Complimentary games tested the Muster visitors’ knowledge concerning firefighting and fire engines and several vendors were on hand selling firematic items.

There was plenty of great food for sale all through the day and the wonderful chefs from the FASNY Firemen's Home were kept very busy during the lunch rush. Mark Eli was also kind enough to volunteer his time to prepare the pulled pork sandwiches, which were a big hit.

The Museum also conducted a 50/50 raffle with lots of great door prizes awarded during the day. The total was $1,060, so the winner took home $530. The Electric Blue DJ Service kept the crowd bopping with great tunes all day long!

The Muster team collaborated with the City of Hudson's Fire Department, which handled the logistics for the Hudson FD Inspection Day/Anniversary/Muster that kicked off the event.

Our sincere thanks go out to our Grand Marshals Chief Billy Goldfeder, Robert H. Hicks and the late William A. Hills. Mr. Hicks and Mr. Hills were chauffeured along the parade route in a hot orange classic car owned by Frank Vitale. Our thanks go out to Mr. Vitale as well for the generous use of his car for the parade and also his time.

I would also like to thank George Washburn for his portrayal of Harry Howard, as this is a tradition and always a parade favorite!

Frank Vitale’s hot orange convertible was a ride fit for a king … or the parade’s Grand Marshals. Seated in the front of this “dream machine” are Home Grand Marshal William A. Hills and owner/driver Mr. Vitale. Seated in the back are Mr. Hills’ daughter and Home Grand Marshal Robert H. Hicks. Grand Marshal Chief Billy Goldfeder is pictured marching behind the vehicle.

**Congratulations to All of the 2017 Parade Trophy Winners**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Best Overall:</th>
<th>Ossining</th>
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<tr>
<td>5-10 in line:</td>
<td>1st – Churchtown</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2nd – Germantown</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3rd – Taghkanic</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-19 in line:</td>
<td>1st – Catskill</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2nd – East Greenbush</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3rd – AB Shaw</td>
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<td>Over 20 in line:</td>
<td>1st – Athens</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2nd – Oceanside</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3rd – Greenport</td>
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<td>Best Apparatus:</td>
<td>1st – Catskill</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2nd – Ossining</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3rd – Mill Plain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Musical Unit:</td>
<td>1st – St. Peters Band</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2nd – 20th Century LTD Drum Corp</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3rd – Village Volunteers Fife &amp; Drum</td>
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<td>Firematic Colorguard:</td>
<td>1st – Athens</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2nd – Catskill</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3rd – East Greenbush</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Firematic Colorguard:</td>
<td>1st – Hudson Police Dept.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drumline:</td>
<td>1st – Hudson High School</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2nd – Greenport Fire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auxiliary:</td>
<td>1st – Greenport</td>
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<td>2nd – Greenville</td>
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Our deepest thanks go out to the firefighters of the Hudson FD for all of their efforts in coordinating this parade. I would like to extend special thanks to Parade Chairman Buddy Schemerhorn for lending his time and expertise, which helped make this parade such a success.

I would also like to thank the parade announcers Christine Abitabile and Rich Lindmark. Your commentary really made the parade special for onlookers. As always at a FASNY event, safety was first, and we would like to thank the Greenport Rescue Squad and Hudson Police Department for their assistance in event logistics, and also their presence at the event.

The parade and Muster was the firematic event of the year and I would like to thank the Museum staff for all of their hard work and support. Starting a new event is always a challenge and each staff member stepped up and did what they needed to do to make it happen. I never worried if the gift shop or gift shop outpost were going to be ready to go. I knew Visitor Services Manager Terry Simmons would have it well in hand and she did … with spectacular results! I did not worry that the Museum would be well cared for during this busy day, as Collections Manager Christina Lillpopp and Education Specialist Jerry Hallenbeck were there to keep it all together in the Museum.

I did not worry about the setup, especially for the Muster trucks, because Facilities Manager Tom Mulligan was all over it. And, of course, I had the best Muster Coordinator, Ashley Stever, who was my Muster “right hand” and one-woman cheering squad. In her immortal words, “If we can do this Muster, we can do anything!”

In fact, every staff member stepped up to do whatever was asked of them. Thank you all so very much!

I would also like to thank David A. Quinn and Jay Wilson from FASNY, who really pulled the logistics end of the Muster together. Thank you to FASNY and the Firemen’s Home for lending the Museum some of their key staff members for the day, who helped immensely with the Muster: Ann Montag, Jennifer McMann, Laci Lee, Fran Connell, Chris Roberson, Casey Simmons and Corey Simmons.

Of course, this event would be impossible to attempt without our dedicated Museum volunteers. A special thank you to all of the Museum’s wonderful volunteers: Ben Webster, Bob Fonck, Joe Quinn, Helen Quinn, Rob Ryan, Ida Ryan, Kathy Jung, Paula Hall, Jim Rosse, Ann Rosse, Aden Hughes, Shari Fey, Don Simmons, Rob Lillpopp, Leann Young, Ben Webster, Sr., Margaret Ali, Tom Mariano, Hunter Dorward, Chris Watrous and Melinda from ShopRite.

The Museum’s wonderful Board members and their families and friends also were there to volunteer and support the event: Blake and Shannon Garrison, John and Sally Sroka, Terry Hannigan, Laura Hannigan and Heather Shortt.

I would like to thank the Muster Committee, especially Mike Nugai, who helped us get our bearings and plan the Muster. A sincere thank you to Jim Brady, who served double duty as a Muster Committee member and as the Museum’s Muster Safety Officer. Your knowledge and confidence really helped us make this Muster a success.

We would also like to acknowledge the huge contribution of Keith Mortefolio and John Mokszycyki from the Town of Greenport for the use of their property for staging for the event. We literally could not have accommodated everyone at the Muster without their assistance, and it was very kind of them to support us in such a big way!

Continued on next page.
The FASNY Museum of Firefighting would like to acknowledge the generosity of the following major sponsors of the Muster: Cool Insurance, Williams Lumber, Garrison Fire & Rescue, Ginsberg’s, the Hudson River Bank & Trust Co. Foundation, the Hannigan Law Firm and ShopRite. Thank you so much for your support!

We would also like to thank the trophy sponsors for the Muster: Baba Louies, Ben Funk, B.F. Hoxie Engine Co. No 1, The Cascades, East Farmingdale Fire Department, Elsmere Fire Department, Todd Farrell’s Car Care, Southampton Fire Department, Tunaville Fire Department, Uniondale Fire Department, Vischer Ferry Fire Department, Westhampton Beach Fire Department, Wunderbar and 2HotTeez.

I know this article is full of “thank yous” but, that is only because it really did “take a village” to make this special day happen. If I have missed anyone, I sincerely apologize. It is probably because you made your assigned task look so easy.

The Museum is currently circulating a survey to all of the participants of the Muster to determine if they would like to return next year for another event. I will keep you appraised of the results of this survey, as it will help us decide if we will move forward with another Muster. If you attended this event as a spectator and have feelings or comments you would like to share with us, please contact us at fhcontact@fasnyfiremuseum.com
I became a firefighter for __________.

We all have our reasons. Personal reasons. Important reasons. No one does it because it’s easy. As first responders, we need to stay as tough as the challenges we face.

Taking care of the public and our crew starts with taking care of ourselves, so we’re ready and able to respond when called.

NVFC keeps you safe. You keep the community safe.

NVFC.org/ServeStrong
## 145th Annual Convention

**Building a Healthier, Stronger and Safer Volunteer Fire Service**

August 9-12, 2017 • Syracuse, New York

### FASNY Convention Schedule Highlights

#### Wednesday, August 9

- **Noon – 4:00 p.m.**
  - Registration, Secretary's Office and FASNY Store Open
  - Networking  
  - Cotillion

- **6:00 – 9:00 p.m.**
  - FASNY Past Presidents Barbecue
  - Courtyard (Weather Permitting)

#### Thursday, August 10

- **7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**
  - Registration, Secretary's Office and FASNY Store Open
  - Networking
  - Cotillion (Closed During the Memorial Service)

- **8:00 a.m.**
  - Annual Memorial Service Followed by Opening Ceremonies of the 145th Annual FASNY Convention
  - Convention Center

- **1:00 p.m.**
  - 2% Tax Forum
  - Convention Center

- **4:00 p.m.**
  - Third Annual Michael D. Whelan Walk in the Park
  - Onondaga Lake Park

- **5:00 – 6:30 p.m.**
  - After-Walk Party
  - Onondaga Lake Park

#### Friday, August 11

- **7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**
  - Registration, Secretary's Office and FASNY Store Open
  - Networking

- **7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**
  - Networking

- **7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**
  - Ninth Annual Youth Day
  - Syracuse Fire Department Training Center

### Saturday, August 12

- **8:00 a.m. – Noon**
  - Registration, Secretary's Office and FASNY Store Open

- **9:00 a.m.**
  - President Kenneth Pienkowski Convenes the Final Session of the 145th Annual Convention

- **11:00 a.m. – Noon**
  - FASNY Heroes Award Ceremony

- **Noon**
  - Scheduled Adjournment of the 145th Annual Convention
  - (In the event of a contested election, the meeting will adjourn after the polls are closed.)

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**FASNY Convention Schedule Highlights**

- **7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
  - Hands-On Training
  - Belgium Cold Springs Fire Training Center

- **8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**
  - Eighth Annual Training Series
  - Convention Center

- **8:00 a.m.**
  - FASNY Federal Credit Union Membership Meeting
  - Ballroom Center

- **11:00 a.m. (Lunch), Noon (Shotgun Start), 6:00 p.m. (Awards Dinner)**
  - Fourth Annual FASNY Fallen Firefighters Golf Tournament
  - Drumlins Country Club

- **6:00 p.m.**
  - Gerard J. Buckenmeyer FASNY Volunteer Scholarship Auction and Fun Night
  - Convention Center

- **7:00 p.m.**
  - LAFASNY Installation
  - Comfort Inn & Suites
Operational Excellence on Today’s Evolving Fireground

Christopher J. Naum, SFPE, is a 39-year fire service veteran and a highly regarded national instructor, author, lecturer and fire officer. In addition, he is a distinguished authority on building construction issues affecting the fire and emergency services. He is the Chief of Training for the Command Institute, a former Vice President of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors and past member of the Board of Directors of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Safety, Health & Survival Section. A former architect and fire protection engineer, he was the 1987 ISFSI George D. Post National Fire Instructor of the Year and is a consultant and technical reviewer to the NIOSH Firefighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program and Firefighter LODD Reports.

Chief Naum is a tactical theorist actively involved in researching and developing strategic and tactical operational methodologies, concepts and practices based on emerging fire research to improved fireground operations and firefighter safety. Naum manages numerous interactive eMedia programs within the www.buildingsonfire.com series and is the Executive Producer and Editor of www.firegroundleadership.com and www.thefireofficer.com on PennWell’s www.fireemsblogs.com network.

Volunteer Fire 2025

Michael Dallessandro is Past President and Life Member of the Grand Island Volunteer Fire Co. He is also a retired consultant to volunteer and combination fire departments, where he assisted with custom training programs, leadership training, officer development and vehicle accident prevention.

His resume includes positions with the North Greece Fire District, Rural Metro Medical Services (Buffalo) and several school districts where he served as transportation administrator.

Modern Firefighting … What Works for You?

John Salka served with the FDNY for over 33 years, the last 15 as a Battalion Chief in the 18th Battalion in the Bronx. Prior to being promoted to Battalion Chief, Salka was assigned as the Captain of 48 Engine, also in the Bronx.

He is a New York State Certified Instructor who lectures nationally. Chief Salka is a sought after lecturer and has presented at the Firehouse Expo in Baltimore, the FDIC in Indianapolis, the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs show and many other venues. He writes for Firehouse, Fire Engineering and Size-Up magazines.

Salka is the author of the best-selling books First In Last Out Leadership Lessons from the New York Fire Department and The Engine Company. He received the 2001 FDIC Training Achievement Award for his “Get Out Alive” firefighter survival training program and travels extensively training firefighters throughout the 50 states and Canada in tactics, strategy, leadership, and safety and survival. He has also served as a volunteer firefighter for over 30 years.

Eddie Buchanan is a leadership professional currently serving in the emergency management and preparedness field. He is a nationally known speaker on topics of leadership, training and operations.

He is author of The Volunteer Training Officer’s Handbook and other fire service publications. His “Leading Service with Attitude Consulting Services” provides leadership coaching, strategic planning and training to fire departments around the country and in Canada.

Chief Buchanan currently serves as a Division Chief with Hanover Fire & EMS in Richmond, Virginia. He is active with numerous groups that oversee national policy for the emergency services, including the Congressional Fire Service Institute National Advisory Committee, the University of North Carolina Fire & Rescue Management Institute Advisory Board and the Fire Corps National Advisory Committee.
HANDS-ON TRAINING AT CONVENTION
FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 2017

Modern House Fires: Critical Skills for the Engine Company
By Jerry Knapp of the Rockland County Fire Training Center, Captain Chris Flatley of the FDNY, Past Chief Tim Pillsworth of the Winona Lake Engine Co. No. 2, and Dave Walsh, Chair of the Fire Science Program at Dutchess Community College
This hands-on course teaches critical skills for effective fire attack in residential areas, including:

Target Flow – How to flow test a fire attack system (intake of engine to discharge of nozzle), factors that impact flow, establishing target flow, the impact of quality and size of hose on flow, the effect of kinks on fire attack system flow, how to flow test all types of nozzles including automatic nozzles and demonstration of low flow nozzle streams;

New Nozzle Techniques – New nozzle techniques based on UL research for exterior and interior fires;

Fire Attack Team – Hands-on review of critical skills for the positions of engine officer, nozzleman, backup and door man;

Nozzle Options – Solid bore, combination, automatic (low pressure and dial-able pressure), combination solid/comination and low-pressure combinations (50 and 75 psi) nozzle type advantages and disadvantages, demonstration of each and duties of the backup man and nozzle man will be reviewed and practiced to perfection;

Full PPE, turnout gear and Chief’s training authorization form are required. There is no available PPE on site. Training consists of four stations with about two hours spent at each. Each station will have simulated fire attacks as time allows.

$65 FASNY members, $75 non-members. Fee includes eight-hour course, official T-shirt and lunch. Registration deadline: August 1.

NINTH ANNUAL YOUTH DAY AT THE 2017 FASNY CONVENTION
FOR EXPLORERS, JUNIORS AND RAMS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 2017
Syracuse Fire Department Training Center

Join fellow youth for a day of fire service activities and evolutions. Registration forms are available at www.fasny.com/youth
FASNY Convention
Wednesday, August 9, 2017
Holiday Inn Syracuse/Liverpool
To be held in the Outdoor Courtyard
Deadline is August 1, 2017. Pre-registration is REQUIRED.
Space is limited.
6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Clam Bake-Style Barbecue,
$45 per person

*Please note: Pre-registration for this event is required. No on-site registration is available. Tickets will be in your Convention registration packet.

Michael D. Whelan
WALK IN THE PARK
against Cancer
4:00 p.m. Thursday, August 10, 2017 at Onondaga Lake Park

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Powers LED Light Systems •
No Inverter Needed •
Most Affordable LED Power Solution •
Never Overload Truck Electrical System •

FIRE-POWER™
7.5 - 20 KW HYDRAULIC GENERATORS
Maintenance Free •
Lightweight & Compact •
Modular or Self Contained Units •
Self Adjusting, Voltage & Frequency •

FAMILY OWNED
BUSINESS FOR OVER 50 YEARS
Booth # 114
I recently attended two funerals for firefighters who died in the line of duty.

As with every tragedy when we lose a brother or sister, my heart went out to the family, department and community that now must deal with the loss and figure out how to carry on under this blanket of grief.

As a member of the Rhode Island Local Assistance State Team, I am well aware of the long and difficult process a department faces after experiencing a Line of Duty Death. While we know logically that firefighting is a dangerous job, we typically don’t expect tragedy to happen in our department, to our fellow firefighters, to our friends or to our family.

When it does, the impact is devastating and far-reaching. One of the most important things to remember following a tragedy is that we have to be there for each other. People will grieve in different ways, and not everyone will ask for help when they need it.

Watch out for signs that someone is struggling, know what resources your department or your community has to help with grief, and be there to support each other through this difficult time.

If you need help dealing with your grief, reach out to a trusted friend, the department chaplain, a counselor, or call the Fire/EMS Helpline at (888) 731-FIRE (3473). Remember that recovering after a tragic loss will take time, and it is OK to seek support to help with this process.

While asking for help can be difficult, remember that this important step is not a sign of weakness. It is a sign of strength and personal fortitude.

We also need to look at ways we can prevent future tragedies. I can’t emphasize this enough: safety is of paramount importance. Many line-of-duty tragic losses are preventable. Take the opportunity to look at your department and determine what can be done to increase the safety of your personnel. I ask our fire service leaders to remind our emergency responders to always wear their seatbelts, use spotters when backing apparatus and always act according to standard operating policies or guidelines.

Health and wellness are key components as well. Heart attacks are the number one cause of Line of Duty Deaths, and cancer is one of the biggest threats facing firefighters.

Support and encourage firefighters to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Make sure your personnel are getting annual physicals and using PPE properly from initial attack through overhaul. Create a culture where health, wellness and safety are priorities that can be discussed freely.

Don’t forget about behavioral health. We lose dozens of firefighters and EMTs to suicide each year. Many first responders struggle with behavioral health issues such as addiction, PTSD and depression. A Line of Duty Death can trigger many emotions and not all coping mechanisms are healthy. Make sure your personnel know what resources are available to seek help and that it is our collective duty to support our brothers and sisters in need.

We will always remember those we have lost, but we will also learn, support each other and find strength in the knowledge that our calling has not diminished. We will honor the memory of those we have lost by serving with dignity, pride, courage and integrity. We will practice safety and focus on how to prevent tragedy so that no one else has to feel the pain we have felt. We will be there for the families that have lost a father, mother, brother, sister, son or daughter.

We will celebrate the lives of the fallen by being the best we can be as a firefighter, a friend and a person. And we shall never forget.

Kevin D. Quinn serves as Chairman of the National Volunteer Fire Council. A member of the fire service since 1976, he has served as Deputy Chief of the Union Fire District in Rhode Island, is a past President of the Rhode Island State Firefighters’ League, is the Rhode Island State Advocate of the Everyone Goes Home-Courage to Be Safe Program, member of the Rhode Island Local Assistance State Team, member of the Hope Valley HazMat team, and member of numerous federal, state and local exercise design management teams. He holds a master’s degree in counseling and educational psychology and a master’s of science in education.

Reprinted with permission from the NVFC’s Helpletter, www.nvfc.org
I want to first start off by saying that there are times when no matter what we say or do, our words may fall on deaf ears. There is only one way to help someone, and that is if they seek/accept the help and continue with the needed treatment. In our Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance workshops, I call this doing an “Internal Size-Up.” One must listen to others and then look within themselves to see what issues and challenges they are facing, some they might not even realize but that others can see so well.

It can be very difficult to discuss behavioral health issues with friends and loved ones, especially if you don’t know what to say or do. We must face the facts that most of us in the fire service haven’t had communication training on behavioral health for each other. Below is just a small list of tips to assist you when you see someone struggling with issues such as relationships, depression, stress, anxiety or other behavioral health issues.

1) **Be Proactive, Be Direct**: We do this when responding to emergencies. We need to take the same approach when our brothers or sisters appear to be struggling.

2) **Direct Questions**: Remember these two questions if a member comes to you with suicidal ideations. A) Do you feel like killing yourself now? B) Do you have a plan? A “yes” to either one of these questions means you need to enact your department procedures or protocols if in the firehouse. If outside of the department, then they need help immediately. Never leave them alone!

3) **Compassion**: The themes to our workshops are “Be Direct and Be Compassionate.” Stay in the moment when talking to them. These are the most difficult type of conversations, but always speak from the heart.

4) **Discretionary Time**: If a member comes to you to talk about a difficult issue they are struggling with and you have never dealt with this type of issue, then let them know, but also use discretionary time. Do not make statements just to fill a void. An example might be: “I never realized you were struggling with this issue and I don’t have a lot of knowledge of this problem, but let me find out a little something about this and we will talk later.” (If this is a crisis moment, then do not leave the member alone.)

5) **Walk the Walk**: I cannot tell you the number of firefighters, officers and EMTs/paramedics who help their brothers or sisters out by either taking them to AA classes, counselors or even marriage counseling. They sit outside and wait until the appointment is over. Taking care of our own goes well beyond the station or fireground.

I know it is difficult to have these conversations, but showing compassion, being direct and speaking truthfully from the heart is a great start to helping those struggling. If you don’t understand what they are saying, then ask them to clarify. Summarizing is an excellent way to let others know you are staying in the moment. Don’t ever underestimate their situation because what you might think is a solvable situation, they might believe is a wall they can’t climb.

Above all, if this is a crisis moment, then do not leave the member alone.

The greatest gift we can do for others who are struggling is to let them know you are there for them just by listening and not judging them.

Jeff Dill is a member of the National Volunteer Fire Council’s Health and Safety Work Group, a retired fire Captain and founder of Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance. He holds a master’s degree in counseling.
Introducing FASNY Hands-On Boot Camp

Due to the success of the annual Hands-On Training at Convention, FASNY is taking the concept on the road this fall at seven locations around the state.

FASNY will be offering six evening courses as well as a one-day program that cover essential aspects of modern firefighting, including forcible entry, bailout and venting techniques.

FASNY is currently looking for host departments. Contact jwilson@fasny.com if your organization would be interested in this excellent opportunity!

3-Hour Program

- Three-hour, night program format at six locations (to be selected);
- Student prerequisites: New York State Firefighter 1 or equivalent;
- PPE requirements: full turnout gear – coat, pants, helmet, gloves, hood and SCBA, although no air usage is required;
- 30 students maximum;
- FASNY member – $75, non-member – $90

Stations Include:

- Inward Opening Forcible Entry
- Firefighter Bailout
- Roof Vent

8-Hour Program

- Eight-hour, day program format at one location (to be selected);
- Student prerequisites: New York State Firefighter 1 or equivalent;
- PPE requirements: full turnout gear – coat, pants, helmet, gloves, hood and SCBA with spare cylinder;
- 32 students maximum;
- FASNY Member – $175, non-member – $200

This eight-hour class encompasses the primary skills of a truck company. We begin with an approximately two-hour PowerPoint presentation to go over what a truck company is, how it functions, and the different skills and jobs that it
performs. The rest of the day is hands-on instruction, rotating through four different skill stations.
Visit www.fasny.com for more details and registration information.

**Online OSHA Course Now Available**

Free to FASNY members, this course is designed to assist you in meeting the requirements for annual safety-related training in New York State.

The instructions for the course should be printed by every member who wants to take this course through VFIS University.

The OSHA course is free to FASNY members only. Get the form and information at www.fasny.com

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**Interested in Hosting a FASNY Course?**

The form is located on our website, www.fasny.com, under the “Training” tab. Please complete the form in its entirety and send it to training@fasny.com for review.

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**Visit www.fasny.com to read about and register for the latest training opportunities.**
They’re coming. Yep, the dog days of summer are coming. When those days with 90-degree temperatures with "real feel" temps of over 100 degrees are the norm.

Personally, I can’t tell the difference between 97 and 110, but one thing is for sure: our bodies sure do take a beating, especially while fighting a fire. Even gearing up for false alarms leaves us soaking wet when we return to the station. How much water did your body loose during that seemingly simple run?

The number one thing we can do in the sweltering summer months to keep our bodies ready when the alarm sounds is to stay properly hydrated. Get in the habit of consuming plenty of water during these brutal days.

Stay hydrated throughout the day with a continuous routine of drinking water, especially during those “firehouse days.” You know, the ones where you will be around all day looking forward to responding to alarms. While waiting for the big one to hit, make it part of your firehouse day routine to stay hydrated. Remember sports drinks are OK but coffee and soda are not as effective as plain, old water to keep the body hydrated. Sounds easy enough, right?

The U.S. Army and the American College of Sports Medicine recommend one liter of water for every hour of hard work. Firefighters can expect to lose 50-70 ounces of sweat during a 30- to 45-minute fire fight. With this in mind, you must be properly hydrated before the alarm sounds.

A rule of thumb that’s out there is to consume half your body weight in ounces of water each day. A 200-pound firefighter should consume roughly 100 ounces of water in a day.

Company officers: stock a cooler on the rig with water and Gatorade during those 90-plus degree days. Keep one on the apparatus floor by the check-in/watch desk. I’m sure there is someone who can stop by the firehouse early in the day to set this up. Assign a few of the “probies” who may not be working during the summer to be on an extreme weather day committee in charge of stocking coolers on 90 degree-plus days.

Chiefs: know your rehab responsibilities (NFPA 1584). Do you have a written SOG for rehab? Do you have ladies auxiliary members who can respond on alarms to provide refreshments? Is there a nearby department that has a dedicated rehab unit available for working fires? Can you utilize your EMS in a dual role?

How about fire police in this dual role? Consider using your junior firefighters or Explorers to help with rehab assignments. Keep in mind these youngsters are off during the dog days of July and August and are always looking for something to do on the fireground to help.

Be quick to allow the members to “dress down” when the situation calls for it. Create a summer-month signal or code for this if you have to but be very aware of your crew’s limits during these days, even during the small runs.

Especially keep an eye on your senior members. Heat exhaustion and heat stroke can occur at any time. As I have said before: when you’re the Chief, it all falls on your shoulders to figure this stuff out.

What are the signs of dehydration to look for?

- Headaches
- Dry mouth
- Excessive fatigue
- Dizziness and lightheadedness
- Nausea
- Production of less urine and darker colored urine

Stay safe, be cool and stay hydrated my friends.

Michael P. Capoziello is a 30-year member and former chief of the Elmont Fire Department. He is a training officer, public information officer and department historian. A supervising dispatcher at Nassau County Fire Communications FIBECOM and a training officer on the fieldcom unit, Capoziello is also a 14-year member of the Nassau County fire service Critical Incident Stress Management Team.
Seven years ago, the New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC) put out a request for proposals to develop training for first responders on how to accurately and appropriately respond to individuals with disabilities. Some 27 organizations applied and Niagara University (NU), partnering with Disability Awareness Training (DAT), received the grant award.

The intent was to develop comprehensive training customized for firefighters, EMS, law enforcement and 911 telecommunicators. The training would sensitize and educate responders on what they need to know to ensure the best interests of the individual while abiding by laws to include the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Fast forward to June 2017 to find that New York has the nation’s only comprehensive disability awareness training. And a lot has happened since.

Since Niagara University First Responders Disability Awareness Training’s inception, NU has conducted 23 firefighter and EMS “Train the Trainer” programs, equating to 228 trainers within the fire departments and ambulance companies in New York. An impressive 100 percent of the attendees recommend the program.

Yet, while the numbers and evaluations are impressive, we find many have not conducted it. Our review has concluded that either Chiefs do not recognize the importance of this program or there are concerns over length, or a combination of the two. To address the latter, NU FR-DAT has developed a modified three-hour drill night version. Past trainers will receive, per request and intent to train, a flash drive that consists of the new version.

To address the question of need and priority, individuals with physical disabilities account for 700 residential fires, 160 deaths and 200 injuries per year while individuals with mental disabilities account for 1,700 residential building fires, 85 deaths and 250 injuries. As identified by the National Fire Protection Agency, the most vulnerable populations are the elderly, individuals with physical disabilities and those who have low vision or blindness.

Many in the fire service field are aware of the fatal fire in Wells on March 22, 2009, whereby four individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities perished. The NU program has some roots in this incident, as it also led to the New York State Office of Persons with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) forming a division that includes emergency management for firefighters who have responsibilities as employees of the state office to specifically address residential and day program planning.

The NU FR-DAT curriculum is customized per first responder discipline, providing specific information for disability, which includes fire safety planning, community outreach, and techniques and tools to best address appropriate response. The program is about to launch an EMS online training. It has been awarded a grant in the state of Missouri and is debuting the firefighter and EMS DAT at the Kansas City Fire Department.

Disability Awareness Training is a sensitivity training that provides education on aspects of disabilities. This includes autism, intellectual disability, traumatic brain injury, deaf/hard of hearing, blind/low vision, dementia/Alzheimer’s disease, Tourette syndrome, physical disabilities and mental/behavioral health. Topics include abuse/victimization, etiquette/interaction skills, Person-First Language, speech challenges/communication, durable medical equipment/assistive technology and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The program is provided, as noted, in a “Train the Trainer” format or as direct training for fire departments. Contact the NU FR-DAT office at frdat@niagara.edu or (716) 286-7355 for more information.
On May 19 and 20, 2017, New York State came together to celebrate and honor that special place called the Firemen's Home in Hudson, New York.

The weekend-long Home 125th Anniversary Celebration began with the unveiling of the Caring Window and the Resident Council’s Memorial Service.

The focal point of the window is the gate for the Home. The gate’s majestic beauty serves as a reminder to all that we take care of the caretakers.

The left panel in the foreground shows a firefighter guiding a stream of water. That water is not simply to put out the flame, but to create an image that represents life and purity.

The right side panel has three people in it: two volunteers (one male and one female) with a victim on the ground. It recalls our men and women coming to the aid of the injured. It also shows the diversity of the fire service and its ability to serve wherever the need.

The central image is that of the ladder and it is a reminder of our relationship between heaven and earth where angels of God (firefighters) ascend and descend. The panel captures the heroic rescue of a child, with a vivid demonstration of one firefighter coming to the aid of his fellow firefighter as he guides them both down the ladder.

The colors in the background are red and orange. The dual meaning of the colors could be flames or a beautiful sunset as individuals reach the twilight of their life. The bright ray shines through the gray clouds of a smoking sky.

The scenes within the window show strong character, incredible courage and self-discipline. The window not only shines into the Chapel, but out into the world to let all know that the fire service is truly a caring community.
The Volunteer Firefighter

FASNY FIREMEN’S HOME RESIDENTS’ BIRTHDAYS

The following residents of the Firemen’s Home celebrate their birthdays in the months of July and August. Please feel free to send cards or happy birthday wishes. These brighten their day and always put a smile on their faces.

July

1 Robert F. Lyons, Columbia, Taghkanic Volunteer Fire Company No. 1 Inc.
    Beatrice D. Tkacy, Columbia, Spouse
4 Lynn E. Greenwood, Putnam, Carmel Fire Department Inc.
6 Edwin A. Rivers, Columbia, A. B. Shaw Fire Company, Claverack
9 Elizabeth A. Grefe, Nassau, Sea Cliff Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary
    Mildred B. Oram, Columbia, Clermont Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary
26 Helen R. Tomlin, Columbia, Spouse
    Linda M. Merhige, Rensselaer, Clinton Heights Fire Department, Rensselaer
29 Wayne M. Price, Sullivan, Forestburgh Fire Co. No. 1

August

7 Michael J. Moran, Westchester, Ossining Volunteer Fire Department
9 Robert S. Darling, Greene, Catskill Fire Department
17 George W. Doyle, Columbia, East Chatham Fire Co. Inc.
18 Fred M. Colby, Westchester, Briarcliff Manor Fire Department
21 Theodore J. Pinkowski, Columbia, North Chatham Fire Department
    Jason D. Wheatley, Albany, Verdoy Volunteer Fire Department
28 John R. Kowal, Columbia, Greenport Pumper Co. No. 1
29 Joseph J. Abiuso, Jr., Nassau, Woodmere Fire Department
31 Michael G. Hongach, Westchester, North Tarrytown Fire Patrol Co. No. 1

We have had three members admitted since the last issue of The Volunteer Firefighter. Anthony R. Nardone, Sr., 87, of the Beekman Fire Department was admitted on June 19. Harold J. Bohlig, 92, of the Ossining Hose Co. No. 1 was admitted on June 28. Vincenza R. LaPorta, 98, of the Copake Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary was admitted on June 29.

It’s been said that your home will always be the place for which you feel the deepest affection, no matter where you are. This is true for Dudley Philhower who, for more than 50 years, cared for his home on Long Island and his community as a volunteer with the Stonybrook Fire Department.

In fact, Dudley and his late wife Carolyn’s home gardens were featured in Better Homes and Gardens in May 1999. With the help of their son Bob, who was a landscaper and mason, the Philhowers created a beautiful landscape that was broken into six “outdoor rooms” that appeared in the magazine. Shortly after the article was published, the Philhowers moved to Clermont, where they continued gardening. Dudley describes the work as a labor of love.

It was during this time of his life that he was first introduced to the FASNY Firemen’s Home. He and Carolyn visited their friend and brother firefighter Vincent.

A resident of the FASNY Firemen’s Home since 2013, Dudley now cares for his new home with the same affection. He attends Resident Council meetings and encourages the other members to stay active.

When he first arrived in Hudson, he was still recovering from the adverse effects of chemotherapy. He was encouraged by the staff to take up a hobby as part of his occupational therapy. He started working with a copper kit and created framed renderings of “The Last Supper,” which he gave as gifts. The FASNY Home Board of Trustees liked the artwork so much that they had one placed in the Chapel with a plaque on the frame.

It wasn’t long before Dudley introduced his friend and fellow Home member Matthew Grefe to the craft. Eventually Matt took on the copper work while Dudley moved on to making leather bracelets for staff, friends and the Queststar interns.

“I enjoy people and giving things away,” said Dudley. At 94 years, it is Dudley’s giving spirit that keeps him active and feeling young.
Promotion from firefighter to Lieutenant is perhaps the biggest jump you can make in your career. Having experienced all the ranks, I can say that I found my promotion to Lieutenant after five years on the job to be the most traumatic. I was going from a position of being responsible for myself to one of responsibility for the performances of others. Before I had to simply follow orders, pay attention to training and gird myself for battle in what the U.S. Department of Labor classified as the nation’s most hazardous occupation. Now my job would be to lead brave men and women in combat against a common enemy in defense of human life and property.

I was secretly proud of my starched white shirt, double-breasted dress uniform and shiny silver trumpet bars. I must also admit to the thrill of being addressed as “Lieutenant,” or by the unimpressed veterans as “Loo,” a typically informal version that is somewhat less respectful than “Sir” but unquestionably a cut above “Hey You.” The thrill lasted for quite a while before I got used to it and started thinking how much nicer it would be if I were a Captain – or maybe even (gulp) a chief officer someday.

When you first make Lieutenant, you find that the guys – even some you consider friends – try to test you. This was one of the reasons that virtually all promotions in our department entail a shift transfer. Still, your new men often want to see just how far they can go with you and just how far you will let them.

I was surprised to find that I was not one of the guys anymore. Some remembered me as a friend, a regular grunt who took orders like them. Now I was the one giving the orders and bossing them around. To some of them, the silver trumpet had gone to my head.

It was not as if I were lording my position or acting like a power-mad dictator with my new shift. On the contrary, I was doing my best to be fair and understanding and to refrain from making violent changes in their routines (even some I believed needed changing). Why were they giving me a hard time? At times, this would cause me to lose my temper. I knew I was a new loo, but – dammit! – they were going to follow my orders.

I always respected the no-nonsense officers I had, guys like Lieutenant Ed Kiley and Captain Ed Ingraham. They looked out for their men, trained them and shared their experience with them while insisting on obedience.

The old-timers were a particular problem. I had always gotten along with veterans like Ed Gorski, Whitey Peters and George Fabiani. I’d even learned from some of them when we’d worked together at all-hands fires or overtime tours on each other’s shifts. The thing about old-timers is that they remember you as a probie who made a lot of dumb mistakes. Suddenly they had to take orders from a young book-smart punk whom they’d once had to take by the hand.

It is a common fault. Even being aware of this phenomenon first hand as a new loo, would in years to come have difficulty taking seriously new loos whom I recalled screwing up as probies. You don’t imagine they had learned that much along the way.

At one kitchen fire in a single-family home, I was on the line with Ed Gorski, crawling down a long, dark hallway. He was on the nozzle. The heat was hellishly fierce. At one point, our arms touched, and I could feel his trembling beneath his turnout coat.

“Okay, Ski,” I said through my Scott air mask while reaching over and taking the nozzle from him. “Just a little further.”

“We need ventilation,” he said. “We’ll never make it to the kitchen.”

“Let’s just get to the open doorway. We should be able to make it that far.”

We crawled a bit further, with Gorski kind of falling behind.

“That’s it, Ski. Now just a little further ... ”

Suddenly we heard pounding on the roof above us. It was a ladder company guy, Whitey Peters I guessed, who preferred the old ax method for making a vent hole instead of the power saw. In less than a minute, you could feel the heat escaping. The hallway was becoming tenable.
“The thing about old-timers is that they remember you as a probie who made a lot of dumb mistakes. Suddenly they had to take orders from a young book-smart punk whom they’d once had to take by the hand.”

“There you go,” I said. “That’s Whitey up there. We’ve got this sucker now. Piece of cake.”

Sure enough, we managed to move forward fairly easily. At one point, I could stand up in a crouch as we approached the kitchen. Then we were inside blasting the fire until it was knocked down. Ski was pulling hose behind me. I used the stream to smash open a window and then put it on a fog pattern to vent the remaining heat and smoke.

I was somewhat disappointed in Gorski, with whom I had never before worked with at an interior fire. For all his tough talk, he hadn’t shown me much.

Days later, I was talking to my good buddy and fellow academy trainee Frank Leahey. Frank was on the Lieutenant’s list but hadn’t yet been promoted. He would sometimes tell me what the guys were saying about me.

“That Angione will get somebody killed,” Frank reported what Gorski had been saying. “He’s trying to prove something.”

Another time I had trouble with Ed Gorski and George Fabiano over the assignment of our fire safety patrols, which we had in those days. The concept was a counterproductive, politically motivated public relations move. Basically, two guys assigned to firefighting companies (thus leaving those companies shorthanded, a fact which played hell with our standard firefighting evolutions) would ride around in vans wasting gasoline and trying to convince the folks on the street that we were not cops.

Some of us would take the opportunity to look over some target occupancies and do a bit of preplanning. When we used the patrols to get some work done such as carrying out inspections or follow-up re-inspections our civilian bosses at city hall astonished us by objecting. They just wanted us to be a “presence on the streets,” a kind of eyes and ears of the police in a crime-ridden city.

The patrols did serve an opportunity to help new guys learn their district. But mainly, they became a good way to pick up food for the guys back at the station.

One day I assigned Gorski with Fabiano from headquarters. I noticed right away that both of them seemed pissed. Some guys didn't like patrols, so I didn't think anything of it. Well it turned out – although neither man told me – that they were not talking and didn't want to spend hours together in the van. I was new on this shift and wasn't aware of their problem. One of the other guys informed me of this later but I figured if the two didn't request a change I wouldn't change the assignment. Hell, according to our patrol roster it was their turn.

My buddy Frank once again filled me in:

“That damn Angione acts like he’s a Deputy Chief or something,” Fabiano reportedly said. “He won't change an order for anything. Thinks he knows everything. Him and his damn books. He gonna throw his books at the fire?”

Whitey Peters also gave me trouble at times. Once I assigned him to a detail he didn't like on the third-floor rec room. I was getting fed up with his crap.

“Look, Peters,” I told him, “Either report to the rec room or to my office, where I will write you the hell up.”

He grumbled, but climbed the stairs to the third floor.

Eventually, the guys and I reached an understanding: I was the boss and they were the workers. But, workers have to agree to follow you. If you really wanted true loyalty, you had best give them what they truly wanted: respect, fair treatment and (if they do their jobs particularly well) to be given an accommodation – a favor, if you will – whenever possible. They would do what I wanted without any lip and I would do my best to take good care of them. This took a while, but it generally worked out OK.

Charles Angione, former Operations Chief for the City of Plainfield (New Jersey) Fire Department, is the author of Days and Nights of Fire. The decorated 25-year line veteran is a National Fire Academy alumnus and a longtime incident commander of note. Send your comments or requests for his book to charlesangione@frontier.com (The book is also available for purchase online at www.ebay.com) or write the author at P.O. Box 37, Pen Argyl, PA 18072.
Recently, the Nassau County Firefighters Operation Wounded Warrior purchased and presented a new Ford 12-passenger van to the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) organization so that wounded and disabled veterans can be taken to their medical visits.

The presentation took place on March 25 in front of the Nassau County Firefighters Museum and Education Center in Garden City. It occurred underneath a huge American flag hung between ladders from the Floral Park and New Hyde Park Fire Departments. About 50 firefighters in turnout gear attended as did the print media and News12, which filmed the presentation for their nightly news programs.

The money to purchase the new van, and support for other wounded warrior needs, came from fundraisers held by Nassau County fire departments and donations received from clubs, organizations and fraternal groups. The new van, painted in yellow and gray colors, has the NCFF-OWW logo embossed on each side.

During the presentation, Joseph O’Grady, Floral Park firefighter and NCFF-OWW Chairman, spoke about the history of NCFF-OWW and the continued efforts the firefighters are making to help our wounded warriors.

A ribbon cutting was then held with Bill Grogan of the Stewart Manor Fire Department, who is one of the co-founders of the not for profit, along with a wounded and blind soldier, Roosevelt Morring of Garden City. Morring is one of many wounded veterans who will use the new DAV van to get to and from the hospital.

“On behalf of all the officers and members of the Nassau County Firefighters Operation Wounded Warrior, we proudly present the keys to this new van to DAV to help them transport our wounded Long Island veterans to their hospital visits and treatment,” said Chairman O’Grady.

DAV, a national nonprofit, is headquartered in Kentucky. They have a fleet of 25 aging vehicles deployed on Long Island to move...
140,000 injured service members to and from appointments at the Northport Veterans Affairs Medical Center. All of the DAV drivers, which number nearly 100 on Long Island, are volunteers.

Joe Sledge, Senior Leadership Assistant at the VA Northport Medical Center said, “We at Northport VA Medical Center are grateful for the years of generosity and support Nassau firefighters have shown to veterans and their families. We know this van – like all of the firefighters’ gifts – will make a positive and lasting difference in the lives of those who served and sacrificed.”

NCFF-OWW, a 501(c)(3) charity, is celebrating its 13th year. It is not affiliated with the national Wounded Warrior Project. Members say, “We’re just volunteer firefighters volunteering to help our wounded warriors.”

Those wishing to do their part in helping our wounded service men and women can send a donation to NCFF-OWW, PO Box 295, Garden City, NY 11530.

– Photos courtesy of A. Carpenter-Over the Edge Photography and Kevin Madigan-K2M Photography

Volunteer firefighters make a difference in their departments and communities every day. Do you know a person or project making an impact on the volunteer fire service or in your district?

FASNY is looking for story ideas and articles that will inspire our readership of nearly 50,000 across New York State. Just a few examples:

- Grants for critical services or unique programming;
- Successful recruitment and retention initiatives;
- First responder health and wellness projects or success stories;
- National awards or recognition;
- Local media coverage;
- “Why Am I a Volunteer” testimonials (see p. 43).

Simply send your ideas and contact information to stories@fasny.com with as many details as possible and our editorial staff will take care of the rest. High-resolution photos are strongly encouraged.

Not every idea will make the pages of the magazine but may be included in other FASNY communications, including the website, monthly e-newsletter and social media. So, share your ideas, stories and photos, so we can inspire others to strengthen the New York State volunteer fire service!
With the new school year starting soon, it's time to think about your junior firefighter program or maybe even starting one. From my own personal experience, it's much easier to get into the schools at the beginning of their year to inquire about opportunities to attract the youth into the fire service.

Depending on the program you have or what you are interested in starting, the classes that would attend need to be age-appropriate to that specific program. Explorer or Venture posts through the Boy Scouts of America can start as young as age 14. If you have or want to start a junior firefighter program, the starting age is usually 16, but may vary around the state.

FASNY has a High School Recruitment Tool Kit that can help you get going in the recruitment stage. Most of the things in the toolbox are set up for use with a computer.

Check with the school to obtain what you need to present your program if equipment is needed. If you look around your department, I'm pretty sure you have people that can help with setting up a presentation that is specific to your organization. Personalize your presentation just by adding pictures of your fire hall, trucks and members. The FASNY tool kit has a list of tips for a successful presentation, along with PowerPoint guidelines and talking points to go by.

OK … it's time to get started! As the students come into the room, have something up on a screen to attract their attention. For example, you can use a movie clip that plays continuously while welcoming them into the space you will be using. This is available in the High School Recruitment Tool Kit section of www.recruitny.org

Once everyone is in and seated, run a video that is full of action and loud music to get the students excited about what you are going to talk about. This can also be found in the tool kit. Once you have their attention, go to the PowerPoint portion of the program.

If you have young firefighters in your department, have them talk to the students about fire, EMS, rescue and whatever other services your department has to offer. The younger members can relate to fellow students better. That's not to say that you can't have an older member who is full of enthusiasm do a great job but the audience will relate more with ones closer to their own age.

Some schools require students to put in a certain number of hours doing community service – belonging to your program would also benefit the students for this purpose, which is a win-win situation!
Can you recall a time that you were touched because you were a part of the volunteer fire service? If you or someone you know has a positive story to share, such as the one written here, we want to hear from you. Please submit your story of how being in the volunteer fire service has impacted your life in a positive way and you might see your article published in The Volunteer Firefighter. Please submit your article to fire@abcideabased.com. Don't forget to tell us who you are and what volunteer fire department you belong to. Please keep your story to approximately 650 words.

I have to admit that my original reason for becoming a volunteer was selfish. My youngest child had just left for college and I was alone with no one around who needed me. I had to find some way to spend this newly found free time.

I joined our volunteer ambulance corps and knew immediately that being a volunteer in the emergency services was my calling. I could now give back to the town where my children grew up and a town that I had grown to love.

Within a few months of joining, I received my EMT certificate and worked my way up the ladder to the position of Captain. Then I met the man of my dreams who was a volunteer firefighter in the same town.

We married and in order to spend more time together, I joined the volunteer fire department. Once again, a selfish act.

But, once again, I was surprised to see how at ease I felt being a firefighter. Because I was 57 when I joined, I decided being an interior firefighter was not for me. So, I took classes and became an exterior firefighter.

While my fellow firefighters are attacking a fire from the inside, I am free to help as much as I can on the outside. If that means attacking a fire from the exterior, replacing empty air bottles, retrieving a tool or rolling hose, I can make a difference.

I am now 61 and still very active in the volunteer services. Not only does it keep me in shape, but I have also made new friends and continue to learn and grow in my newly found pastime. It is never too late to give back and volunteer your time.

– Sheryl Luongo,
Putnam Valley Volunteer Fire Department
By Chris Daly

When most people think about “stopping distance,” they usually picture a vehicle skidding to a stop in a haze of blue smoke. In reality, bringing a vehicle to a stop is a more complicated process than you think.

The first step in this process occurs when a driver perceives a hazard in the roadway. In other words, we must sense that there is a problem up ahead such as a vehicle pulling out in front of us or a small child running across a lawn. Not only must we see this hazard but our minds must recognize that the approaching situation is a potential problem.

A driver who sees a tractor-trailer crossing the roadway may immediately realize that this is a potential hazard and begin the braking process. However, if a driver sees a small child running across a lawn, he may not immediately recognize that this child may suddenly change course and run into the street. In this situation, the driver may continue at his current speed and not begin the braking process until it is too late. It is for this reason that emergency vehicle drivers must constantly scan the road ahead of them and always be alert for potential problems.

Factors such as fog, rain, snow or smoke can obscure a driver’s view of the road ahead and contribute to delayed perception times. There are numerous examples of fire apparatus crashes that occurred while the vehicle was driving through a smoke-filled street. When approaching fire scenes where the roadway is obscured by smoke, drivers must be extra cautious of possible hazards that they cannot see. Drivers also must moderate their driving habits in the event of bad weather.

The amount of ambient light may also affect a driver’s ability to perceive a hazard in the roadway. The common belief is that it is harder to see while driving down the road at night, or at dusk. In reality, this is not always the case. The issue is not necessarily how much light is available to a driver’s eyes but rather more complicated factors such as the contrast of what lies in the road ahead. For example, a road sign may be perceived faster at night than during the daytime due to its reflective properties when struck by approaching headlights. On the other hand, a pedestrian who blends into the surrounding environment may not be perceived until it is too late to stop. The lesson to be learned is that drivers must slow down at night!

After a driver perceives a hazard ahead, he must decide how to react. The driver must determine what action is most appropriate for the situation. A driver could slow down, brake, speed up or attempt to steer around a hazard in the roadway.

No matter what action the driver takes, it will involve sending signals from his brain to his hands or feet. Once his hands and feet receive these signals, muscles will need time to react. The time it takes for the body to send signals to the appropriate muscles and begin the evasive action is what is known as “reaction time.”

While every person is different, the average “perception and reaction time” is around 1.5 seconds for a sober driver in daylight conditions. The amount of time needed can increase during poor weather conditions, at night or when a driver is impaired by drugs or alcohol. The more time it takes to react, the longer the total stopping distance will be. On an average day, 1.5 seconds will have gone by before you’ve even touched the brake pedal.

Once a driver perceives a hazard in the roadway and then decides how to react to this hazard, additional time is needed for the vehicle to react. Let’s say the driver decides to press down on the brake pedal and attempt to bring the vehicle to a stop. In a vehicle equipped with hydraulic brakes or air brakes, it takes time for the brakes to engage. Whether it’s hydraulic fluid flowing from the master cylinder or air flowing to the brake chambers, additional time is needed for the braking process to begin. All the while, the vehicle is hurtling toward the hazard.

It should be noted that air brakes typically take more time than hydraulic brakes to fully engage. In a commercial vehicle or fire truck, stopping distances will be longer due to the additional time it takes for air to travel through the air lines, enter the brake chambers and begin the braking process.

Once the brakes have engaged, the vehicle will initiate the braking process. Depending on whether or not your vehicle is equipped with an anti-lock brake system (ABS), the wheels may or may not lock up and begin to skid. The distance needed for a vehicle to come to a stop depends on several factors, including the vehicle’s original speed, the road conditions and the efficiency of the braking system.

As you can see, the concept of “total stopping distance” is more complex than just a set of skidding tires. Total stopping distance includes the time needed to perceive and react to a hazard, the time it takes for a vehicle’s mechanical parts to engage and finally the distance needed for the vehicle to skid or come to a stop.

It is for these reasons that apparatus drivers must strive to avoid distractions and maintain a heightened sense of alertness for potential hazards in the road ahead. By maintaining a safe speed, drivers will allow themselves the time needed to see and react to an approaching hazard. In my next article, I will explore these concepts in more detail.

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Chris Daly is a 23-year veteran of the fire service and a full-time police officer who specializes in the reconstruction of serious vehicle crashes and emergency vehicle crashes. He developed the “Drive to Survive” training program (www.drivetosurvive.org) and lectures nationally on the prevention of emergency vehicle crashes. Daly has been a contributing author to Fire Engineering magazine, the Pennsylvania Fireman and firstrescue.com. He has a master’s degree in safety from Johns Hopkins University. Chris can be contacted with any questions regarding his “Drive to Survive” seminar or assisting with crash reconstructions at station56@aol.com
Public Educators Conference Inspires New Ideas
By Daryl Buornat, Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee

There is much to be said about attending fire service-related conferences … and it isn’t about having a great time with your peers! Each year, for the past 44 years, there has been a public educators’ conference that is so much more than just reconnecting with old friends.

During the first weekend of May, FASNY Fire Prevention and Life Safety Chairwoman Marsha S. Holland and I were given the honor of representing FASNY at the 44th Annual New York State Association of Fire Chiefs (NYSAFC) Fire and Life Safety Educators’ Conference at the New York State Fire Academy in Montour Falls. The conference, which is sponsored by both the Office of Fire Prevention and Control and the NYSAFC, opened Friday afternoon with students from local high schools and colleges explaining how the fire prevention programs they were taught in grade school helped direct them later in life. They also presented ideas on how we can reach out to teens even though they feel they are invincible.

The first session on Saturday morning opened the conference with keynote speaker Tim Vandenbrink of Spruce Grove Fire Service, Alberta, Canada. Tim gave a humorous, yet informational, lecture that prepared all attendees for the next two days of classes.

The conference participants were divided into four different color groups and each group attended a series of six breakout sessions. Some of the subjects covered were community risk reduction, sprinkler initiatives, building an adult fire prevention program and grant writing.

One of the most beneficial aspects of the conference was the ability to network with other fire prevention instructors from throughout the state and parts of Canada. On Friday evening there was an ice breaker get together in the dining hall. Throughout the night, it was easy to find yourself speaking with someone from Erie County about funding a fire prevention program and then speaking with someone from Long Island about a new activity they are using.

The ability to develop new friendships and gain colleagues, along with the willingness of everyone sharing ideas and programs, is something that makes this conference a must-attend for any fire prevention educator.

On behalf of Marsha Holland and myself, I would like to thank President Kenneth Pienkowski and the FASNY Board for allowing us to attend this year’s conference. The information we received will go a long way in helping us to guide the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee.

USDA Seeks Applications for Grants to Support the Development of Rural Community Facilities

The USDA is seeking applications for technical assistance and training grants in the Community Facilities program.

“Too often, rural community organizations lack the technical expertise they need to access federal dollars,” Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said. “These technical assistance and training grants will help rural organizations overcome hurdles that prevent them from fully utilizing the Community Facilities Program. Increased access to federal funding will help build essential community facilities, and will allow rural areas to thrive.”

The grants are being provided through the Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grant Program. Congress authorized this new program in the 2014 Farm Bill to help rural communities develop their applications for Community Facilities loans and grants.

Communities can use the grants to hire specialized personnel, pay for feasibility studies, retain consultants to prepare financial assistance applications and identify and plan for long-term community facilities’ needs.

Providing technical assistance will help more rural communities qualify for loans and grants. Many often lack access to specialized personnel to complete financial and environmental analyses for example. These analyses often must be included in applications for USDA loans and grants.

Public bodies, not for profit organizations and federally recognized tribes are eligible to apply for this funding. The maximum grant is $150,000.

Interested applicants may find more information about this program on page 23,525 of the May 23, 2017, Federal Register.

Community Facilities programs help under-served rural communities develop essential community services, which in turn helps attract investments, create and retain jobs and businesses, and retain residents.

For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov
Here it is, almost time for another Convention. Thank you to all the different ladies auxiliaries and fire departments that have so graciously hosted our sectional meetings: Solvay (September), Palenville (November), Brighton and Erie County (April) and the Firemen’s Home (May). They all did a beautiful job and were so welcoming.

At our May 13 meeting at the Home, we dedicated the LAFASNY stained glass window panel for the Chapel, which was a quite memorable and historic moment for us. Thank you to the Committee and Past Presidents Jo Ann Dunn, Elaine Montrose and Marilyn Farrell for all their efforts in organizing and designing this window project as well as those who supported the window project making it a reality. The window is a work of art and truly enhances the beauty of the Chapel. A special thank you goes to FASNY President Kenneth Pienkowski and FASNY leadership for attending the ceremony and showing their support.

Thank you to all who made our stained glass window possible. We received donations and participation in our fundraising to make this possible in less than one year.

For all of you that were able to attend the dedication, we hope you were able to see and enjoy the window.

The design was our LAFASNY seal in the center. In each corner, we placed our aims. One corner highlighted education as we aim to educate the public on our support of and the purpose of the volunteer fire service. In another, we included legislation as we support that which will assist in any way the volunteer fire service. In the third, we noted recognition as we acknowledge those in the volunteer fire service who have served above and beyond with their service to the public. In the final corner, we listed support as we not only support the active volunteer fire service, but our mission is to lend support to the members of the Firemen’s Home in any way needed. Our year of inception, 1948, is also noted.

The 2018 and 2019 conventions will also be held at the Comfort Inn in Liverpool, Onondaga County. The hotel has been generous enough to keep our rates the same for all three Conventions.

Convention Schedule of Events

**August 9**
- 9:00 a.m. Executive Board Meeting – Syracuse Room
- 1:00-5:00 p.m. Registration – Salina Room

**August 10**
- 7:30 a.m. Registration – Salina Room
- 9:00-9:30 a.m. Registration – NO Dues Accepted
- 10:00 a.m. Convention Called to Order

**August 11**
- 9:30 a.m. Memorial Service
- 7:00 p.m. Convention Meeting Reconvenes

**August 12**
- 9:00 a.m. Executive Board Meeting – Syracuse Room
- Audit Committee – Atrium Room

Please use our form when making your hotel reservations. This helps to defray our Convention expenses. With no county hosting, it is the responsibility of LAFASNY to pay for all the expenses. This comes out of our treasury. We have had some inquiries concerning what we spend our funds on and this is just one of many expenses we incur. Of course, our first responsibility is our donations to the Firemen’s Home.

A full breakfast buffet is included in your Convention reservation and it is not just a continental breakfast. The suites are limited, so get your reservations in early if you are interested in one of these. To obtain tax-free rooms, your check must be sent in with a tax-exempt form that matches the check. Deadline for reservations is July 18.

The 2018 and 2019 conventions will also be held at the Comfort Inn in Liverpool, Onondaga County. The hotel has been generous enough to keep our rates the same for all three Conventions.

• Our Convention is right around the corner and with a new venue. The Convention will be held August 9-11 at the Comfort Inn & Suites, 6701 Buckley Road, Syracuse, NY 13212. If you have not made your reservations for the hotel or for the luncheon, please do so ASAP. Make sure you use the hotel reservation form that has been provided in our mailing. Also, please send your luncheon form and check to Jo Ann P. Dunn, 8160 Capricorn Drive, Liverpool, NY 13090. The deadline is July 26. The luncheon is a choice of roast top sirloin or chicken cordon bleu for $18 and Boston baked haddock for $21. All luncheon payments should be made out to LAFASNY and sent with your food choice.

• On May 19 and 20, FASNY celebrated the dedication of its Caring Window in the Home Chapel and the 125th Anniversary of the Home. On Friday evening, the dedication of the Caring Window was held along with a memorial service for the Home members. It was a very moving service and the Caring Window was unveiled. The window represents the caring nature of the volunteer firefighter and the true volunteer spirit. On Saturday, the 125th Anniversary Celebration continued with a parade going through the Town of Hudson and ending at the Home. A muster on the Home grounds followed along with a ceremony commemorating the Home’s 125th Anniversary. The weather was nice and a great day for families to enjoy. It was very well attended, a wonderful tribute to the Firemen’s Home and its members.
All ladies are invited to a wine sampling event after the Convention. This will take place at the Comfort Inn, 6701 Buckley Road, Syracuse, in the Starlite Atrium from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Friday, August 11. The price is $6, cash only. You can pre-purchase your tickets by sending your money to the attention of Sue Bell, 213 Eaton Road, Rochester, NY 14617. Tickets will be available for purchase and pick up on Wednesday and Thursday at registration. If you have any questions, please call or email Sue Bell at (585) 455-7630 or sbell988@hotmail.com

LAFASNY has enjoyed a productive and successful year and it has been a pleasure working with the officers, Committee members, Past Presidents and members. You have all been very supportive. Everyone has worked hard and always for the betterment of LAFASNY contributing to its continued success. An organization is only as good and strong as the officers and members that support it.

- The April meeting of LAFASNY was hosted by the Erie County Ladies Auxiliary and was held at the Brighton Fire Co. Hall. We had a great turn out from Western, Southwestern, Erie County, Niagara County and all over the State.

- The Erie County Ladies Auxiliary will be having its June meeting at the Fireman’s Memorial Exhibit Center with a pound auction. Convention time is approaching soon with Western in July and Southwestern in August.

- The Lindenhurst Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary held its elections. Elected were: President Irene Dykstra, First Vice President Kristen Wilson, Secretary Eileen Pflug, Treasurer Tina Gallagher, Financial Secretary Doreene DeRuiter and Chaplain Emily Kienle. The Auxiliary celebrated its 80th anniversary in April.

- The Monroe County Ladies Auxiliary held its election of officers. The new officers are President Sue Fox-Walters, Vice President Debbie David, Secretary Donna Bauer Hicks, Treasurer Nancy Sweet, Chaplain Lou Ingersoll and Board of Directors Bonnie Sweet, Betty Young and Kim Krautwurst. Past President Karen Fox Riordan and sister of Sue Fox Walter installed the officers during longtime member Anna Butcher's installation ceremony. Also in attendance were Past President Arline Pink to reminisce about the Auxiliary. Boy, what good times they used to have – and continue to do so now. In the obligation of new members also written many years ago, it reads: “It is our dearest wish that all members of this Auxiliary treat each other during the meeting and social functions with due courtesy and respect and that all unkind remarks of a personal nature be carefully avoided.” The June meeting will take place at Penfield Fire Station followed by a picnic with both Auxiliaries and the Monroe County men. They know what good cooks the Auxiliary ladies are!

- The Penfield Ladies Auxiliary will be having their annual picnic in June with all members and their families. They take a short break from meetings after that until the September meeting. The Auxiliary is 76 years old and neglected to celebrate the 75th anniversary, so they will be having a “woopsie” celebration sometime soon.

- The Western Ladies Auxiliary will be having its Convention in St. Johnsburg at the fire hall in July. The entertainment this year is “The Bag Ladies”. What a great group that performs an awesome show. All are young at heart – 75-plus – and do a strip that will have you laugh-

ing until your sides hurt. Any ladies are welcome to the meeting. Remember lots of hard work go into Conventions, so thank you to all Convention Committees everywhere.

- The Westhampton Beach Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary celebrated its 13th year of service with a dinner at Jerry & The Mermaids April 26.

Contributors to this column were Dianne M. Werner, LAFASNY President; Jo Ann P. Dunn, Junior Past President; Toni Casey, Three-Year Director; Cathy Johnson, Five-Year Director; Emily Kienle; Cody Hoyle; Bonnie Sweet and Sue Bell

As the summer season is here, we look forward to Conventions, parades and fundraising activities by each local, county and regional fire department group.

The wet weather we are experiencing has caused flooding in creeks, streams and rivers as well as high lake levels in several counties along Western New York’s Lake Ontario, creating erosion and loss of land.

Filling sandbags and pumping water out of buildings has been going on for weeks. You know that water runs downhill and in our case it also runs north, heading for that big pond of Ontario.

The Livingston County Volunteer Firefighter’s Association Annual Spring Fire Service Awards Dinner was hosted by the York Fire Department at their Town Hall on April 21. Awards Chairman Tom Pear-
son and York Fire Chief Dustin Geiger presented the following awards:

- One to Five Years: Jacob Smith – Dansville Fire Department
- Five to 20 Years: Joseph Gould – Dansville FD
- 20 to 30 Years: Steve Gelser – Nunda Fire Department
- 30 to 50 Years: Daniel Snyder – Avon Fire Department

The Awards Committee consists of Co-Chairman Tom Pearson, West Sparta Fire Department; the late Co-Chairman Tom Linsner, Geneseo Fire Department; Walt Barber, Dansville FD; Michael Levey, West Sparta FD; Tony J. DeMarco, Caledonia Fire Department; and Thad Gilbride, Mt. Morris Fire Department. Both Tom Pearson and Tom Linsner were instrumental in rebuilding this Committee to keep the respect and honor of our members’ service continuing year after year.

We are very grateful for the help and support the Livingston County Fire Chief’s Association has provided for many years to keep this Committee and firefighter’s Association active and going strong. Association to Association, we are all one group in friendship and service.

Sixteen students took a six-week course of instruction in fire, first aid, police and “two way out” training during the Caledonia Fire Department’s 52nd Annual Babysitter Course. Many were third and fourth generations taking this program.

At the banquet held April 5 at J.W. Jones Hall, emcee Jim Dutton, District Commissioner Chairman, welcomed the students and parents. He introduced course Chairwoman Pat Lysko and instructors: Fire – Pat Lysko and Tom Torpey, First Aid – Diana White, Police – Caledonia Police Chief Dan Chapman and Resource Officer – Todd Estabrooks. The Caledonia FD Line Officers, Business Officers, Fire Commissioners, Village and Town Officials were also introduced. Certificates of appreciation were presented to the instructors.

MC Dutton introduced the following guest speakers, several being course graduates, who spoke about the qualities of being respected and responsible babysitters. Livingston County Sheriff Tom Dougherty, Caledonia-Mumford Middle School Principal Paul Estabrooks, Livingston County Court Justice Dennis Cohen, Caledonia Court Justices Kyle McKay and Mark Reggi, Fire Chief Mike Churchill, Caledonia Police Chief Dan Chapman and Officer Todd Estabrooks.

A nice buffet dinner was served. Course certificates were presented to Babysitter Course members Katherine Beachel, Jesse Churchhill, MacKenzie Guerin, Jazzy Jenkins-Vasciannie, Lydia Johnson, Fiona Maruska, Hailey Morin, Jayden Thompson, Lilly Bell, Abigail Clymo, Ellie Hathaway, Kylie Johnson, Johanna Knickerbocker, Alexandra Whiteman, Taylor Mills, Sydney Palmer and Alley Walker. Essay Contest awards were presented to Taylor Mills (first place), Alexandra Whiteman (second place) and Jazzy Jenkins-Vasciannie (third place). Two Way Out Poster Contest awards were presented to Lydia Johnson (first place), Kylie Johnson (second place) and Abigail Clymo (third place).

I would also like to note that Caledonia FD Past Instructor Don Manley has served 52 years in this program.

It is with great sadness that we report Thomas “Torp” Torpey passed away two weeks after the banquet. He had participated in the course as Fire Instructor, Police Chief and Fire Chief, giving many years of service to this program. He was a 52-year member of the Caledonia FD, serving in recent years as an Instructor of fire training and mentoring many of our younger members. He was an excellent interior firefighter.

The Frontier Fire Co. and St. Johnsbury Fire Co. invite all to attend the 118th annual Convention to be held at the Wheatfield Town Hall located at 2800 Church Road, with tent city located on the grounds behind the Town Hall. Tent City will open at noon on Thursday, July 27, and close on Sunday, July 30. Meetings will be held at the St. Johnsbury Fire Co.

### Convention Schedule of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 27</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Golf Tournament (Hyde Park Golf Course)</td>
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<td>Noon-5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tent City Opens, Secretary’s Office Open (Senior Center)</td>
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<td>Noon-4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ladies Auxiliary Registration and Vendors (Senior Center)</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Kick-Off Dinner (St. Johnsbury Fire Hall, Beer Tent)</td>
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<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Entertainment (Beer Tent)</td>
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<td>July 28</td>
<td>7:00-8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast (Fire Hall)</td>
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<td>8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Secretary’s Office Open, Vendors and Ladies Registration (Senior Center)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8:00 a.m.-Noon</td>
<td>Ladies Meeting (Front Bar)</td>
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<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Official Opening of Convention (Fire Hall)</td>
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<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Highetread International Fire of Lockport (Senior Center)</td>
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<td>Noon</td>
<td>State Officers Luncheon (Yub’s Restaurant) and Ladies Raffle (Fire Hall)</td>
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<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>National Grid Display and Demo (Senior Center Parking Lot)</td>
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<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>FASNY Firefighter Olympic Games (Tent City)</td>
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<td>4:00-5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Fire Police Seminar Registration (Fire Hall) and Training (Ward and Krueger Roads)</td>
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<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Past Presidents Dinner (TBA)</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>EMS Competition (Youth Center Gym)</td>
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<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Beer Competition (Youth Center Gym)</td>
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<td>July 29</td>
<td>7:00-9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast (Fire Hall)</td>
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<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Junior Firefighter Training (Wheatfield Training Tower)</td>
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<td>8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Secretary’s Office and Vendors (Senior Center)</td>
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<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Memorial Service and Firefighter of Year Awards (St. John Lutheran Church)</td>
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10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Election Polls Open (Senior Center)
11:00 a.m. WNYVFA Meeting (Fire Hall)
11:00 a.m.-Noon Nozzle Practice and Registration
            (St. John Athletic Field)
3:00 p.m. Can Jam and Horseshoe Tournament
            (Tent City)
6:00 p.m. Parade Line-Up (Homeyer and Ward Roads)
7:00 p.m. Grand Parade (Ward Road)
9:00 p.m. Fire Truck Pull and Band (Beer Tent)

July 30
118th Convention Officially Closed!

We send our best thoughts and regards to Ann and Jerry Bucken-
meyer of the Alexander Fire Department in Genesee County as they
spend their retired years at home with friends and family. As Past
Presidents of WNYVFA and FASNY, they spent many years traveling
New York State representing the fire service. They may be out of sight,
but not out of mind!

Remember: Memories light the corners of our minds. They are just
a thought away.

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Many of the fire departments held open houses in conjunction with
the RecruitNY Weekend in April. The Rochester Protectives took this
opportunity to precede their open house with an old-fashioned wet
down of their new 2016 Rosenbaurer, which was held in downtown
Rochester near the Public Safety Building.

The Protectives is an all-volunteer department that works with the
Rochester Fire Department to provide assistance with overhaul and
other essential tasks when a fire occurs.

The ceremony was organized by Protectives member Laurie
Kingsley-Henry. Laurie gave a brief history of the Protectives and a
tradition they had of having Genesee Cream Ale at important events.
In honor of the tradition, the truck was toasted with shot glasses of
Cream Ale or grape juice for those not wanting the ale before the new
truck was showered by Rochester Tower 10.

That same weekend, the Rush Fire Department provided attendees
with an extrication demonstration as well as tours of the apparatus and
firehouse. EMTs offered blood pressure checks. The Ladies Auxiliary
held their recruitment alongside the firefighters. Children attending
received a toy fire truck to take home. Although they are too young to
volunteer, maybe interest was sparked for the future!
The Northern Central New York Volunteer Firemen’s Association held its 122nd Annual Convention on June 2 and 3. Himrod Fire Department in Yates County hosted the day-and-a-half event, which included meetings of both the NCNYVFA and the Ladies Auxiliary.

A dinner held at the Showboat Motel was enjoyed by the members on Friday evening. Saturday morning began with a breakfast at the motel followed by the Memorial Service, which was held at the Himrod Baptist Church. Pastor Valerie Lerch led the congregation in honoring those members we lost this past year.

Also in attendance for Saturday’s events were all of FASNY’s leadership: President Kenneth Pienkowski, First Vice President Steven E. Klein, Second Vice President John P. Farrell, Jr., Secretary John S. D’Alessandro and Immediate Past President Robert N. McConville.

Following the Memorial Service, all returned to the Himrod Fire Department, where Frank Clark of the Williamson Fire Department was honored for his 50 years of Service in the Williamson Fire Department. Frank, currently serving as a Trustee Director for Wayne County as well as Chair of the By-Laws Committee, has held numerous positions in the NCNYVFA including President from 2003 to 2005. Convention activities resumed following the ceremony.

Diana G. Pfersick was elected as Trustee Director for Monroe County to fill a vacated position. FASNY President Pienkowski provided the swearing in for the position. FASNY Secretary John S. D'Alessandro provided the membership with a presentation outlining the proposed reorganization of FASNY.

As a final event, members enjoyed a dinner cruise on Saturday evening on Seneca Lake provided by Captain Bill’s Seneca Lake Cruises in Watkins Glen. The weather was cooperative and all who attended had a wonderful evening cruising Seneca Lake.

May 8 marked a very special day for well-known Fire Chaplain Bill Michatek as the North Greece Fire Department invited him to its monthly meeting. There, North Greece FD honored Chaplain Michatek following a dinner that was also attended by two members of the New York State Association of Fire Chaplains (NYS AFC): Executive Secretary William Miles and Region 2 Director Spencer Kennedy.

Bill presented Chaplain Michatek with a framed NYS AFC Certificate, and the North Greece FD presented him with a plaque recognizing his 50 years as a Catholic priest and making him an Honorary Life Member.

In 1967-68, while assigned to St. Lawrence Church in Greece, Father Bill agreed to become an active member and serve as Chaplain. Since then he has completed 50 years as a priest and is coming up on 50 years as a fire department Chaplain, serving in six fire departments and four ambulance corps.

He is Past Chief Chaplain of the New York State Association of Fire Chaplains. He has written several magazine articles, most recently one for the “The Rekindled Spirit” column in The Volunteer Firefighter.
Father Bill recently retired as pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Webster and now lives in Wolcott. He continues to be active in the Webster Fire Department as Chaplain and played a role in memorial services for two West Webster firefighters killed in 2012.

Pictured, from left, are: Gene Preston, North Greece FD Chaplain and event Co-Chair; Spence Kennedy, NYSAFC Region 2 Director; NYSAFC Executive Secretary William Miles; the Rev. William Michatek; and Bud Morgan, North Greece Chaplain.

– Submitted by Gene Preston, North Greece FD Chaplain

Central New York

Gordy Kotars
Syracuse • NY

Writing articles for The Volunteer Firefighter has been an enjoyable experience for me since 2006. Representing the Central New York Firemen's Association, I concentrated on the Sectional update, which at first had to have submissions made by the fifth of every month because the magazine was published monthly at that time. That was sometimes a difficult task for authors such as myself because we needed information forwarded to us by our Officers and Directors throughout 19 counties to make up an interesting update.

Therefore, one would think that my job would be easier once the magazine became bi-monthly. Now I only need this information every other month but my sources have become scarcer. And when the fifth of every other month rolls around and you've only received one submission, it makes it difficult to put together an update.

With that said, Wayne County Director Tom Shirtz had a very worthwhile submission that involved the presentation of a 50 years of service proclamation to a Macedon Center veteran, Past President Ray Packard. Ray joined the fire service in November 1967 and is still active as a Board member. He was his department's Firefighter of the Year in 2005. The accompanying photo that was taken on April 22 at the Finger Lakes Gaming and Racetrack shows Mr. Packard in the center, Director Tom Shirtz on the left and Macedon Center Fire Chief Andy Dohse on the right. Congratulations on 50 years of service, Ray!

Hope that all our readers had some success in the recent RecruitNY campaign. Discussions with many participants still reveal that you will get out of it what you put into it!

The Owego Hose Race Team and the Onondaga County Volunteer Firemen's Association recently held independent golf tournaments on June 3 and 4. Owego brought in 61 teams under mostly sunny skies and 80-degree-plus temperatures, while Onondaga County's Rich Webster Memorial Scholarship Tournament brought in over 21 teams and rain. Goals were reached, golf balls were hit and money was made for each group's cause.

Feel like doing a little racing? The CNYFA, along with Onondaga County (OCVFA), are inviting all firefighters to an afternoon of racing immediately following the close of the 2017 FASNY Convention being held at the Holiday Inn on 7th North Street in Liverpool.

There will be out-of-town guests participating also – the Owego Hose Team, led by the infamous Patrick Gavin and his band of speedy firefighters. Put it on your calendar, gather some firefighters and stop over on August 12 for a good 'ol time!

The timing of the next issue of The Volunteer Firefighter might be pretty close to that of the CNYFA Convention in Hamilton on July 14 and 15. At that Convention, this author will be installed as the next President of the CNYFA. I look forward to the challenges and tasks that lie ahead for me and the Association, or should I say, “for us”?

There is no doubt that the actions of many members as a group and individually make this Association as great as it is. Please, please, please, continue to lend your experience and involvement.
Lastly, I would like to thank President Rothdeiner for always being there to take care of issues and make my job as First Vice President that much easier. I know that he will be as good a Past President as he was a President. Thank you, Tom!

Northern New York
Jerry Flanders
Copenhagen • NY

As we are enjoying summer and hopefully relaxing while reading this article, we should note that there have been goals that have been achieved in Northern New York along with goals that we are still working on.

During the pre-Convention meeting on April 30 in Lake Placid, some progress was brought up along with some digression. It was announced at the pre-Convention meeting that the window that Northern New York had worked effortlessly to purchase is being installed in the Chapel at the Firemen’s Home. A date for dedication was not immediately known at the time of this writing.

Mike St. Louis of the Lake Placid Fire Department’s Convention Committee briefed the members of Northern and gave a quick breakdown of the events that have been planned and the process to get them done. Mike and the members of the Lake Placid FD have worked diligently to make sure the events are in place and that is a task in Lake Placid being as busy as it is.

Another announcement made at the pre-Convention meeting was that the FASNY Presidents would attend our annual meeting. Missing from this year’s Convention will be the youth training day. This was canceled due to a lack of participants. We were sorry to hear of the low registration and cancellation of youth day. Hopefully some of the NNYVFA youth can participate in the Youth Day at the FASNY Convention this August in Syracuse. The Committee is hoping to re-establish this program at the Convention next year.

At the same meeting, letters of intent were read for offices in Northern New York for the elections to be held in June. With Larry Hall as outgoing President, all other seats have had letters of intent with a newcomer offering to help in the Second Vice President seat. Now, this brings a great opportunity to discuss moving forward with the fire service along with our own organization.

As we continue to move forward with our missions throughout all the sectionals, we should also take some time to speak with younger members of our home departments to spark their interests in the mission to help carry the fire service into the future. We do have a lot to be proud of in terms of progress, but to keep it going we also need to get the youth involved so that when our time has come, we can say that we had not worked in haste.

It goes without saying that the last two years have been quite the experience and with the help of the current Board, Past Presidents and the membership in general, we have learned a lot and are hoping to serve the membership with the same drive and determination. One thing that we ask of the members of Northern New York to do during the summer months is speak with your new department members. Let them know the benefits of the sectionals and encourage them to get involved. We have a good thing going, and a great mark of success is seeing the goals and needs of any organization progress long after those who helped pave the way have left for the final call.

The Thousand Islands Hose Haulers antique fire apparatus group is sponsoring a national gathering of enthusiasts in the community of Sackets Harbor and City of Watertown the first week of August. Various activities will be held throughout the period. The local Association is made of over 30 enthusiasts from the Northern area. They would appreciate anyone who has a fascination with antique apparatus to participate. William Blunden Carthage is the President.

It is with regret that we inform you that Richard Madill answered his last alarm in May. He was a former Coordinator in Jefferson County and assisted in many of the FASNY Conventions when they were held in Watertown.

A big thank you for those who supported RecruitNY in April. It was well worth the time and effort. It is the hope that more departments will participate as only two did in Lewis County.

St. Lawrence County firefighters awarded Robert Kerr of Norfolk with their annual recognition award at a dinner held in his honor. This award is presented each year and Mr. Kerr follows a distinguished list of firefighters who gave much for the county and fire service.

Lewis County first responders were also feted at a dinner in their honor in Lowville in May. This is the second year this dinner has been held to honor those who give service to the county.

In May, we said goodbye to a friend from another area, Richard Ligon of Riverhead, who had made many trips to our area in his capacity as Suffolk County officer of the NYSVFP and DTCA. He
was still active as a member of his department until his death. He will be missed by all who knew him.

St. Lawrence County firefighters elected Dale Barker of Edwards to serve as their leader for the new calendar year. Dale is the backbone behind Believe NNY.

Jefferson County firefighters will now meet quarterly and with one annual meeting instead of monthly meetings and dinners. Training will hopefully continue. They also elected Jim Ryder as a Vice President. They are currently looking for representatives from each zone to form an administrative group with the officers.

We mentioned earlier that Dale Barker was elected President of the St. Lawrence County Fire Chiefs Association. Other officers are Directors Will Votra and Brad Archer, Vice Presidents Mary Ann McIntosh and Adrian Bush, Secretary Paul Hull and Treasurer Laurie Hance.

Officers of Believe NNY are President Amber Barker, Vice President Gary Hays III, Secretary Dennis Eickhoff, Treasurer Laurie Hance, and Directors or Coordinators Tony Clark (Hamilton County), Larry Girard (Jefferson County), Richard Bolster (Franklin County), Vincent Ferry (St. Lawrence County) and Tom Beyer (Lewis County). There is a vacancy for Essex County.

Congratulations to the Elsmere firematic team for winning the Convention tournament and to the parade winners from Massena, Lowville, Copenhagen and the Lowville Auxiliary.

Copenhagen has been selected as the host for the 2018 NNYVFA Convention. They are looking forward to hosting the 2018 Convention. Work has already begun in the planning for this event. The drill and parade will be held on Saturday with the drill first this time and a parade at 6:30 p.m. Meetings will be at the fire hall.

As Copenhagen has stepped up as a host for 2018, a host for the 2019 Convention is still needed. Departments need to get the proper forms from the Northern Secretary.

The parade season is now over and the departments probably will not remember this, but there is a procedure for getting parade results. This will be repeated for departments before next year’s parade season.

Congratulations to the new Vice President James Smith and thank you to Lawrence Hall, Jr. for his six-year term.

The fall meeting of the NNYVFA will be held in Colton on the second Sunday of September. Also, drill teams will meet the last Sunday of September in Louisville with officials meeting the third Saturday at Janet McCormick’s in Hannawa Falls.

To end this column, we congratulate a 60-year firefighter from Russell in St. Lawrence County. Carl Hull, 82, is the only original member of the Russell Fire Department. He was recently honored for his service. Mr. Hull is only one of a few to have that amount of service to their department.

---

Hudson-Mohawk

Kathie Wood
Albany • NY

Here we are approaching summer months. It seems like spring flew by and now we will go into the Convention mode. Counties will be having their Conventions, drill days, and numerous celebrations around the Hudson-Mohawk region and at the FASNY Firemen’s Home.

Many HMVFA members attended the wonderful 125th Anniversary Celebration of the Home. Congratulations to FASNY and the Firemen’s Home for a wonderful day.

The HMVFA Annual Convention will be hosted by the Association and, thanks to the generosity of the Shaker Road Loudonville Fire Department, the meetings will be held at Station 1. Station 1 is located at 550 Albany Shaker Road in Loudonville.

Registration will be Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m. and Friday morning at 8:30 a.m. Thursday evening, we will be having our memorial service and give out the Emergency Services Awards. Friday we will be having two speakers: one from FASNY and Jake Oreshan on the subject of suicide in the fire service. Along with the business of the Association, the Ladies Auxiliary will be meeting at Shaker Road Station 1 in the training room with registration starting at 6:30 p.m.

The outing on Friday afternoon will be at the Shaker Road Station 2 Pavilion located at 146 Old Niskayuna Road in Loudonville. Please come and attend our Annual Convention.

On August 20, the HMVFA will head to the Firemen’s Home to host our Annual Steak Roast for the residents of the Home. We start the day with breakfast and then have steaks for the members, staff and residents. We serve clams and, of course, shrimp cocktail for all to enjoy. After lunch we have entertainment in the form of a one-man band and top the day off with ice cream sundaes. It is an enjoyable day for all.

Remember to stay hydrated this summer and always be aware of your surroundings. It is important to be more alert to what is going on around us. Please be safe and I hope to see you all soon.
The FASNY Presidents joined keynote speaker and State Senator John Brooks (center) at the Southern New York Volunteer Firemen’s Association Convention in Port Chester. Senator Brooks is a former Chief of the Seaford Fire Department on Long Island in May.

FASNY First Vice President Steven E. Klein was recently interviewed on the “My Hometown Radio” broadcast by Nassau Community College’s 90.3 WHPC-FM.

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NEW MEMBERS

Albany County
Elsmere Fire Company 'A', Inc.
Charles F. Peters

Guiderland Center Fire Department
Tanner Makowski
Frank Marralle
Robert Santorelli

West Albany Volunteer Fire Company No. 1
Linda La Manna

Westmore Fire Department, Inc.
Anjuli Barcomb
Mark Cozza
John Heidrich
Edward Kersmanc
Edward Leung

Chautauqua County
Sunset Bay Fire Department
Justin Hegner

Chemung County
West Elmira Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
Joel Raatz

Dutchess County
Beekman Fire Company, Inc.
William Beyer

Rombout Fire Company, Inc.
Paul E. Frutiger

Erie County
Armour Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.
Joshua Britzalaro
Lenny Iwanenko, Jr.
Brandon Miskell
Jacob Roy
Marc Schmid

Big Tree Volunteer Firemen's Co., Inc.
Kaysie Blersch
Amanda Bozek
Lacey Daniel
Antonio Mogavero
Edgar Reigh
Jamie Lynn Smerka

Blossom Fire Company
Eugene Pettit, Jr.
Eugene W. Pettit, Sr.

Ellwood Volunteer Fire Company, No. 1
John Bresnock
John Durrell
Amanda Juen
Christopher Leon
Jonathon Totaro

Lake Shore Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.
Stacy Flick
Jennifer Monge

Sheridan Park Volunteer Fire Company No. 4, Inc.
Susan Kohn
Dino Lostoacco

Snyder Fire Department, Inc.
Floyd Brent Hudson

Essex County
Aub Saule Forks Volunteer Fire Department
Seth Busey
Dillan Cumber
Kyle Dubay
Shane Fitzgerald
Cassidy Howard
Carl Kelley
James Martineau
David McKee, Jr.
Randy Reynolds
Sam Richards

Herkimer County
C. W. Carpenter Hose Company No. 2
Rob Faehey

E. W. Corey Hose Company
David Cori Ke

Joseph Berberich Hose Company
Adam Crossman
David Crossman, Jr.
Brittany Crowley
Tiffany Hibbard
Bruce Learned
Gary Moszak
Scott Rood
Emma Smith
Jeff Smith
Erika Thayer
Jason Thayer
Robert Van Gorder
James Vanderbeck
Kyle Werpechowski
Ryan Werpechowski

Livingston County
Caledonia Fire Department
Michael J. Spath

Madison County
Owahgona Hose Company
Travis Huttar
Mike McDaniel
Ed Laughlin

Monroe County
Chili Fire Department, Inc.
John K. Cochran

Point Pleasant Firemen's Association, Inc.
Charles Casadonte
Steve Casanzio
Jeffry Chapman
Dylon Comfort
Scott Comfort
Derrick Dickerson
Eric Miller
Jason Stewart

Nassau County
Albertson Hook & Ladder, Engine & Hose Company No. 1, Inc.
John-Paul Fehn

Bayville Fire Company 1
Elizabeth Dessert
Julia Giannoutsos
Timothy M. Maloney

Farmingdale Fire Department
John Russo
Fire Medic Company No. 1, Inc.
Stuvey-Ann Albarga
Victoria Faulk
Jonathan Moy
Kevin O'Reilly
Yair Ortiz
Mauricio Rincon
Augustus Sawatzki
John Wasserman

Garden City Park Fire Dept.
Truck Co. No. 1
Jonathan Chambers
Christopher Neves
Steven Ventura

Lawrence North Fire District
Gary Caparelli
John Pescatore
Louis Spinelli

New Hyde Park Rescue Company
Kyra Casey
Yardelis Diaz
Albert Ferreiro
James Hart
Shaheer Ilyas
Jeremy Johnson
Dominic Kalanthiva
Kevin Kurian
Ali Mahfuz
Abin Panackamuttam
Digan Patel
Susana Profelt
Vicente Ramos
Tom Thomas

Sysset Engine Company No. 5
Jonathan Baron
Robert Hyde
Anthony A. Nocella
Cody Powers

Sysset Fire Department EMS Company 6
Stacey Agosta
Thanushree Balakrishna
Jerika Chellamottu
Gary Helman
Kerri Kozey
Brianna Warshauer

Victory Engine Company No. 4
Gerard J. Boettcher

West Hempstead Fire Department
Nick H. Davis
Keith E. Petroro

Niagara County
St. Johnsburg Fire Company
David Evans, III
Robert Gajewski
Jamie Martin
Bryce Siegmann

Oneida County
Barneveld Volunteer Fire Company
Frederick Kalk
Rebecca Pelletier

Deerfield Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.
Patrick Husnay
Roger Risley

Floyd Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
Jordan Dygert
Charles Lundrigan
Debra Lundrigan
Doug Smith
Tina Taft

Oriskany Independent Fire and Hose Company
Juliana Behr
Charles Deming
Terrance Wright
William Wright

Onondaga County
Onondaga Hill Fire Department
Ellery Buc
Ryan Crane
Joshua Cruz
Christian Ferguson
Michael Gadzila
Alex Gere
Reilly Guz
Anthony Jetter
Bryan Kao-Johnson
Lindsey Keesler
Nicholas Netti
Thomas O'Connor
Mitchell Orzell
Anthony Puleo
Makenza Salisbury
Matthew Sardinio

Orange County
Bullville Volunteer Fire Company
Raymond Aponte, II
Kyle Bacon
William Baran
Anthony Borino
Anthony Bradt, Jr.
Dennis Branhman
James Calaca
Danny Childress
Dennis Cromwell
Paul DiMaggio, Sr.
Donald Ellison
Robert Ellmayer-Warf
James Fairbairn
James Furman
Adam Greenberg
Bruce D. Guttenplan
Kevin Guzman
Michael Hellstrom
Cody Hickey
Jason Higinson
Carlton Hilliard
Vinton Hollifield
Michael Hoppe
Michael Hoppe, Jr.
David Johnson
Marcin Kalski
John Levison
Frank McLean
Artie McMahon
Joseph Moore
Marc Morello
Michael Morello

The Volunteer Firefighter
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Andy Murphy
Brian Nigro
Jeremy O'Donoan
Anthony Saporito
Ronald Schneider, Sr.
Timothy Schneider
Tim Schof
Bruce Schwop
Charles Schowe
Robert Seifert
Edmund Slesinski
Francis Sullivan
Jeffrey Tubbs
Daniel Vaughn
Dominick Zigrossi
Nicholas Zigrossi
Thomas Zwart

Cromomer Valley Fire Department
A. J. Carubia
Iris Kurman
Shannon McDaniel
Mike Mushit

Goodwill Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1
Brian Lichtenhan

Rutgers Engine Company No. 1, Inc.
Connor Burrchell
Timmy Guancio
Jake Hartford
Andrew Lopes
George Mauers
Karen Mauers
Brian Vaughan
Andrew Witkowski

Warwick Fire Department
Glenn Padgett
Tyler Stedler

Orleans County
Albion Fire Department
Patrick McGurk
James Skaggs

Otsego County
West Laurens Fire Department
Shelby Bordinger
Brandy Gracey
Lisa Gracey
Shannon Hill
Deborah Lawyer
Wes Mills, Jr.

Putnam County
Lake Carmel Fire Department
William Forbes
Thomas Sullivan

North Highlands Engine Company No. 1
Michael Joseph Bentkowski

Rensselaer County
Eagle Mills Fire Department
Brian Beaudoin
Larry Blanchard
Paul Bornt
Jake Broderick
Shania Chase
Andrew Connor
Jack Curran
Mark Davis
New Members

Schuyler County
Beaver Dams Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.
Josh Brockway
Brionna Burgess
Michael Carl
Sheldon Kelly
Heather McFall
Mariah McFall
Joseph Swarthout
Savora Swarthout
Richard Thompson

Steuben County
Addison Volunteer Fire Department
LaTisha M. Brinson
Samuel J. Hollister, Jr.
Michael Race
Sandra K. Ribble
Sharon M. Ribble
Valerie K. Ribble

Suffolk County
Davis Park Fire Department
Shaun Ihne
Wayne Lunati
Islip Terrace Fire Department, Inc.
Mathew Arthurs, Sr.
Tom Carew
Andrew Cruz
Dominic DeTurro
John Falco
Nicholas Guinta
Brian Hoffman
Michael Johnston
James Keeley
Mark Keeley

Saratoga County
Round Lake Hose Company No. 1, Inc.
Tyler Robert Gizzi

Schuyler County
Andrew Duffey
Shawn Duffey
Colin Erickson
Connor Johnston
Bill Krill
Joseph Kunz
Dan Martin
Tom Martin
Peter Milks
Tim Murray
Joseph Painion
Doug Rogers
Craig Samoif
Sal Sceccittano
Chris Swanson
Kristin Swanson

Saint Lawrence County
Brier Hill Fire Department
Kim Crosby
Allan Rice
Lucas Smith
Steve Tillich

Saratoga County
Bryan Ward

New Members

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4X $17.95, 5X $18.95

YOUTH AND EXPLORERS

Thurman Volunteer Fire Company
Brian Passaglia

Westchester County
Briarcliff Manor Fire Department
Samuel Marlowe Driver
Larchmont Fire Department
Alexander Gerald Gerace
Port Chester Reliance Engine & Hose Company No. 1
Edson Darosa
Pietro Goes
Gustavo Paltin
Sanjay Salmon

Yates County
Branchport/Keuka Park Fire Department
Matthew Bidwell
Nicholas Fisher
Matt Kelly
Jesse Lambert
Paul Larzalese
Pamela Ward
Gene Wheeler

Suffolk County
Shaun Ihne
Wayne Lunati

Ulster County
Highland Hose Company No. 1, Inc.
Justin Alto
Joseph Brever
Matthew Brognano
Nefthaly Leon-Saravia
Chris Moyer, Jr.
Tyler Peters
Ryan Reilly
Tiffany Weaver

Woodstock Fire Company No. 1
Tim Hawkin
Evan Marc Holland
Nick E. Jones

Warren County
Lake George Fire Department
Armonda Andreine
Robert Evans
Brad Lashway

YOUTH AND EXPLORERS

Monroe County
Pittsford Fire Department
Spencer R. Kennedy

Nassau County
Farmingdale Fire Department
Ryan Hunt

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The Volunteer Firefighter

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Presented during the month of April, 2017

Chenango County
Maydole Hose Company No. 2
Harvey L. Sutton 53 years
Oxford Fire Department
James Paden 75 years
Donald Howard 60 years
Robert Rogers 55 years
Michael Cobb 50 years
Gregory Ross 50 years

Clinton County
Peru Volunteer Fire Department
Kenneth N. Brelia 50 years

Columbia County
Sanford W. Smith Hook & Ladder Company
Edward Chute 50 years
Daniel K. Herrick 50 years
Frederick Smith 50 years
Stuyvesant Falls Fire Company No. 2
John Garvey, Jr. 50 years
Valatie Fire Department
Ralph Sitcer 50 years

Dutchess County
Amenia Fire Company
Francis Foley 71 years
William Carroll 53 years
Bruce Farr 51 years
Aloysius J. Hayes 51 years
Albert Kniffen 51 years
John H. Ketcham Hose Company, Inc.
Harold Feathers 70 years
Alfonso Sartori 70 years
Arthur W. Forbes 50 years
Millbrook Engine Hook & Ladder Company No. 1
Louis Prisco 50 years
Red Hook Fire Company, Inc.
Charles T. Coon 65 years
S. W. Johnson Engine Company No. 2
Paul Ranalli 70 years
Michael Rodack 65 years

Franklin County
Burke Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
James Dumont 52 years
Charles A. LaPlant 50 years

Greene County
Athens Volunteer Fire Department
Robert J. Brunner, Sr. 60 years
William E. Boyer 50 years
Anthony F. DeVecchio, Jr. 50 years

Jefferson County
Black River Fire Department
Michael Semrau 50 years
Town of Watertown Fire Department
Bob Johnston 50 years

Lewis County
Castorland Fire Department
Nevin Beller 50 years

Livingston County
Caledonia Fire Department
Carl J. Offen 50 years

Madison County
Lincoln Volunteer Fire Department
Doug Eddy 50 years
Munnsville Volunteer Fire Department
Peter Stannard 50 years

Monroe County
Brockport Volunteer Firefighters Association, Inc.
Gordon Bemis 50 years
Norman J. Knapp 50 years
Lawrence C. Vaughan 50 years
Gerald Wheeler 50 years
Chili Fire Department, Inc.
James T. Lechner 50 years
North Greece Fire Department
Kenneth Preston 55 years

Nassau County
Albertson Hook & Ladder, Engine & Hose Company No. 1, Inc.
Jose DaRocha 50 years
East Rockaway Vigilant Engine Company
Christopher P. Shelton 50 years
Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Department, Company No. 1
Richard Cusack 50 years
Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Department, Company No. 2
James Dutton 50 years
Merrick Hook & Ladder Company No. 1
Martin W. Abrams, Sr. 50 years
Mineola Fire Department Company No. 1
Paul Casato 50 years
Pleasantville Fire Department
Karl F. Hueglin, Jr. 55 years
Seaford Fire Department
Frederick Roth 69 years
Raymond E. Ruhner 50 years
Robert Powell 50 years
Wesley Weeks 50 years

Niagara County
Adams Fire Company, Inc.
Thomas H. Sell 52 years
Robert Wiegand 52 years
George Lindaman 50 years
Vincent L. Pino 50 years

Onondaga County
Cicero Volunteer Fire Department
Leslie Eastwood 55 years
Edward Lottermoser 55 years
Elbridge Volunteer Fire Company
Roger W. Shalala 50 years

Orange County
Raymond Hose Company No. 2
Buzz Joslyn 60 years
Bill Doty 50 years
Jack McNamee 50 years

Orleans County
Albion Fire Department
Francis G. Neidert 65 years
Ronald Armstrong 60 years
David Brundish 60 years
John Daniels 60 years
Tom Zambito, Jr. 60 years
Larry DiPalma 50 years
Frank Mack 50 years
Richard H. Tibbits 50 years

Rensselaer County
Hoosic Valley Fire Department
David Ryan 58 years

Rockland County
Breuer Fire Engine Company No. 1
Harold Kuchler 63 years
Wayne Hose Company No. 1, Inc.
Joseph LoPresti 50 years
Walter Lubanty, Sr. 50 years

Saratoga County
Burnt Hills Fire Department
Alan Colyer 58 years
George Fields 55 years
Stephen Fendick 50 years
Carl Thurnau 50 years
Richard Whinnery 50 years

Suffolk County
Blue Point Fire Department
Edward M. Davis 50 years

Sullivan County
Bloomingburg Fire Company, Inc.
William J. Hultslander 50 years

Ulster County
Esopus Fire Department
Ronald Bruck 50 years
Pine Hill Fire Company No. 1
William Ennist 55 years

Wayne County
Macedon Center Fire Department
Ray Packard 50 years

Westchester County
Ardesley Engine Company No. 1
Paul Anton Seitz 70 years
FIREFIGHTER 50-YEAR CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS

North White Plains Fire Company No. 1
Albert L. Brehmer 50 years

Phenix Hose Company No. 2
George Policello 64 years
Martin Anniccherico 61 years
Domenico Ranieri 58 years
Anthony Ruggerio 57 years
Domenic Morabito 56 years
William L. Jamieson 55 years
Salvatore Zambelletti 55 years
Robert DeMasi 50 years

Yorktown Heights Engine Company 1, Inc.
Roger Thompson 70 years

Wyoming County
Attica Fire Department, Inc.
Howard Barralouge, Sr. 50 years

Castle Fire Department
Dennis Miller 50 years

Gainesville Fire Department
Ronald Eddy 60 years

Yates County
Branchport/Keuka Park Fire Department
Arnold Smart 50 years

Presented during the month of May, 2017

Columbia County
Stottville Fire Company, Inc.
Malcolm Smallley 50 years

Lewis County
Constableville Volunteer Fire Department
Jim Linck 50 years

Lyons Falls Fire Department
Theodore McIntyre 59 years

Nassau County
Defender Hose Company No. 1
Carl Boegel, Jr. 50 years
William Lapkowski 50 years

East Meadow Fire Department, Engine Company No. 2
Douglas Wood 50 years

Eureka Hook, Ladder & Bucket Co. No. 1
Steve Rakeman 50 years

Malverne Fire Department
Greg A. Evans 50 years

Rockville Centre Reliance Hose Company No. 3, Inc.
William Gross 50 years

Woodbury Fire Company No. 1
John Lusardi 75 years

Woodland Engine Company No. 4
Charles Martin, III 50 years

Orange County
Fearless Hook & Ladder Company No. 1
Vernon Spencer 50 years

Otsego County
Worcester Hose Company No. 1
Roy Althiser 50 years

Rensselaer County
Averill Park - Sand Lake Fire Department
Arthur G. Ferguson 60 years
Kenneth Hungerford 50 years

Rockland County
Mazeppa Engine Company No. 2
Gerry Walters 75 years
James B. Hartwick 50 years
Kevin O’Donoghue 50 years
S. W. Johnson Steam Fire Engine Company
George E. Wargo, Sr. 65 years
Howard A. Mackey 64 years
Richard F. Brooks 60 years

Suffolk County
Shelter Island Fire Department
John R. Capon 60 years

West Islip Fire Department
Louis Delgado 50 years

Sullivan County
Neversink Fire Department
Carl Denman 55 years
Wayne Elberth 50 years
Herb Lepke 50 years

Woodbourne Fire Company No. 1
Bruce VanVleet 50 years

Westchester County
Croton Falls Fire Department
Harold Daros 60 years
Richard L. Gallagher 60 years

FASNY awards certificates to volunteer firefighters who have achieved 50 years in the volunteer fire service and also commemorates volunteer fire departments with 100 or more years of service to their communities. The certificates are issued by the Association Secretary and can be presented by a FASNY official upon request. There is no cost of any kind to the department or to the recipient.

The Volunteer Firefighter will run photos of presentations, space and quality of photo permitting. Please submit photos to photos@fasny.com within five days of the month the award is presented as the names must remain consistent with those listed in the current 50- and 100-year column.

FIRE DEPARTMENT 100-YEAR CERTIFICATES

Presented during the month of April, 2017

Madison County
Chittenango Fire Company, Inc. 175 years

Presented during the month of May, 2017

Nassau County
Woodbury Fire Company No. 1 75 years

Onondaga County
Clay Volunteer Fire Department 100 years

Rockland County
Jackson Fire Engine Co. No. 3 150 years

Jackson Hose Company No. 3 150 years
Mazeppa Engine Company No. 2 165 years

Sullivan County
Woodbourne Fire Company No. 1 100 years

Westchester County
Croton Falls Fire Department 125 years
WE WILL answer the CALL.
DAY and NIGHT, STORM or CALM,
FROM firehouses BIG and SMALL,
WE WILL answer the CALL.