



2023

Convention

NIAGARA FALLS

THURSDAY-SATURDAY, AUGUST 10-12,
NIAGARA FALLS CONVENTION CENTER



PRESIDENT'S LETTER



EDWARD TASE, JR.

On behalf of FASNY, welcome to our 151st Convention in beautiful Niagara Falls. Western New York is a truly special place. It's not only my hometown, but also home to sprawling wineries, sandy beaches, plentiful entertainment and the majestic and thunderous Niagara Falls.

Over the past 12 months our Convention and Exhibits Committee has been working diligently to make our Annual Meeting memorable for FASNY members. In addition to intensive training sessions, prominent fire service speakers and business meetings, we've lined up an array of special activities, including a golf tournament, block party, scholarship fundraiser and our first annual Testimonial Dinner. The Niagara Falls Convention Center is an excellent host for Convention, as it can accommodate both the needs of our Annual Meeting and the varied social events we have planned.

Over the next few days, I look forward to talking with each of you personally. Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to a member of staff.

Fraternally Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward Tase Jr." in a cursive script.

Edward Tase, Jr.
PRESIDENT



Remembrance

JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 9:00 A.M.



Posting of ColorsNiagara County Sheriff's Office

ProcessionalSergeant-at-Arms Juan Batta
Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Eric Orr
Patrick Perry, Bagpipes

Placing of the Bible & Rose.....Jean Christensen, LAFASNY
Kathryn Welton, LAFASNY

InvocationRev. Richard H.A. Washburn

National Anthem Peter Robinson

Readings from Scriptures:

Hebrew (Psalm 116: 1-15)Chaplain William Mayo

Book of Wisdom 3: 1-9Rev. Richard H.A. Washburn

Gospel (Matthew 5: 13-16)Chaplain Victoria Dichian

Epistle (2nd Corinthians 4: 6-15)Rev. Wayne F. Jagow

Firemen's Memorial Hymn

To the tune of 'Abide With Me' Peter Robinson

1) In fond remembrance, gathered here today,
Tribute to pay to comrades passed away.
Garlands of flowers placed about our dead,
Spring's brightest blossoms deck their quiet bed.

2) When duty called, our comrades they would go,
Never daunted, met the fiery foe.
May guardian angels o'er them vigil keep,
While they lie resting in eternal peace.

3) Father in mercy, guide us on our way,
Through storm and sunshine to eternal day.
And when our duty here on earth shall cease,
May we with them abide, in joy and peace.

LAFASNY NecrologyBeth Smith

Tolling the Bell.....Mary Catherine Dolan

Placing of Flowers.....Kathryn Welton
Jean Christensen

Poem "The Empty Chair"Chaplain Victoria Dichian

FASNY NecrologyJohn D'Alessandro
Dennis Eickhoff

Memorial Candles & Tolling of the BellGerard Owenburg
Michael J. De Vittorio

Silence, Salute and Taps..... Brian Henry

Litany for Firefighters.....Gary Hunt

Leader:

When I'm called to duty Lord, wherever flames may rage,
Give me the strength to save a life whatever be its age.

People:

Help me embrace a little child, before it is too late,
Or save an older person from the horror of that fate.

Leader:

Enable me to be alert and hear the weakest shout,
To quickly and efficiently put the fire out.

People:

I want to fill my calling, Lord, to give the best in me,
To guard my every neighbor and protect their property.

Leader:

And if according to God's will, I must answer death's call,
Please bless with your protecting hand, my family one and all.

All: Amen and Amen

Address "Change of Focus" Rev. Barrie-Lyn Foster

God Bless America Peter Robinson

God Bless America, land that I love.
Stand beside her, and guide her,
Through the night with the light from above.
From the mountains, to the prairies,
to the oceans white with foam.
God Bless America, my home sweet home.

God Bless America, land that I love.
Stand beside her, and guide her,
Through the night with the light from above.
From the mountains to the prairies,
to the oceans white with foam.
God Bless America, my home sweet home.
God Bless America, my home sweet home.

BenedictionChaplain William Mayo

Bagpipe RecessionalPatrick Perry

2023 CONVENTION AGENDA



WEDNESDAY AUGUST 9

- 8:00 A.M.** FASNY Office and Office of the Secretary Opens Business Center
10:00 A.M. Registration Opens (Closes at 5:30 p.m.)..... Registration Station

THURSDAY AUGUST 10

PRESIDENT EDWARD TASE JR., PRESIDING

Please silence your cell phones and pagers during all Convention sessions and forums. Only coffee and water allowed.

- 7:00 A.M.** Registration Opens (Closed during Memorial Service and for the day at 5 p.m.)..... Registration Station
8:00 A.M. FASNY Office and Office of the Secretary Opens (Closes at 5 p.m.)..... Business Center
9:00 A.M. Joint FASNY/LAFASNY Memorial Service.....Grand Ballroom
The Annual Memorial Service Remembering Our Deceased Members
10:00 A.M. Heroes' Awards Ceremony, Sponsored by VFIS..... Grand Ballroom
Honoring FASNY's Firefighter of The Year
11:00 A.M. Opening Business Session and Introductions Begins.....Grand Ballroom
Pledge of Allegiance, Sergeant-at-Arms Juan Batta
Invocation, Chaplain Barrie-Lyn Foster
Quorum Report, Sergeant-at-Arms Juan Batta
Introduction of FASNY Officers, Directors & Trustees of the Firefighters Home
Introduction of Convention Guests and New York State, Niagara County and Local Dignitaries
12:00 P.M. Lunch Break
12:00 P.M. President's VIP Lunch Sheraton's Jade Ballroom
2:00 P.M. Reconvene Meeting
Introduction of Keynote Speaker Chief David Rhodes, Editor, Fire Engineering magazine

BUSINESS SESSION

- Adoption of the Convention Agenda, As Printed
Adoption of the Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting
Unfinished Business from the 2022 Meeting, Secretary John D'Alessandro
New Association Business
Annual Address, President Edward Tase Jr.
Report of the Secretary, John D'Alessandro
Report of the Treasurer, Sean Kerwin
Annual 519 Report, Treasurer Sean Kerwin
Announcements and Recess of the Opening Session
Please Note: There will be no announcements during the sessions.

- 3:00 P.M.** Network/Exhibits Area (Closes at 5 p.m.) Convention Event Center
6:00 P.M. FASNY Block Party Falls Street

FRIDAY AUGUST 11**PRESIDENT EDWARD TASE JR., PRESIDING**

Please silence your cell phones and pagers during all Convention sessions and forums. Coffee and water only allowed.

- 8:00 A.M.** FASNY Office and Office of the Secretary Opens (Closes at 5 p.m.)..... Business Center
- 8:00 A.M.** Registration Opens (Closes at 4 p.m.)..... Registration Center
- 8:00 A.M.** FASNY FCU Member Meeting.....Grand Ballroom
- 9:00 A.M.** Network/Exhibits Area Opens (Closes at 1:30 p.m.)..... Convention Event Center
- 9:00 A.M.** Second Business Session.....Grand Ballroom
- Pledge of Allegiance, Sergeant-at-Arms Juan Batta
- Invocation, Chaplain Barrie-Lyn Foster
- Introduction of National Volunteer Fire Council Chairman Steve Hirsch
- Introduction of LAFASNY Officers and Guests, LAFASNY President Kathleen Heighton
- Introduction of Candidates for Elected Office. (There will be no nominations from the floor.)
- Unfinished agenda items
- Announcements and Recess of the Second Business Session
- 12:00 P.M.** Lunch Break
- 1:00 P.M.** Classroom and Hands-On TrainingPorter/DeVeaux Room & Niagara Falls FD Training Facility
- Transportation Provided**
- 1:30 P.M.** 2% Tax ForumGrand Ballroom
- 7:00 P.M.** 12th Annual Gerard J. Buckenmeyer Memorial FASNY Volunteer Scholarship Fund Raffle.....Grand Ballroom

SATURDAY AUGUST 12**PRESIDENT EDWARD TASE JR., PRESIDING**

Please silence your cell phones and pagers during all Convention sessions and forums. Only coffee and water allowed.

- 8:00 A.M.** Registration and Office of the Secretary Opens (Closes at 1 p.m.)..... Registration Station
- 8:00 A.M.** Voting for Elected Position Opens (Polls Close at 1 p.m.)..... Porter/DeVeaux Room
- 9:00 A.M.** Third Business Session Begins (Recess at 11 a.m.).....Grand Ballroom
- Pledge of Allegiance, Sergeant-at-Arms Juan Batta
- Invocation, Chaplain Barrie-Lyn Foster
- Report of the Resolutions Committee, Chairman John D'Alessandro
- Report of the Sergeant-at-Arms, Juan Batta
- Introduction of Special Guests and Presentations
- Donations to the Gerard J. Buckenmeyer Memorial FASNY Volunteer Scholarship Fund
- Report of 2024/2025 Conventions, Chairman Donald J. Farrell
- 10:30 A.M.** Training Session | "Today's Fires, Yesterday's Tactics" with Chief Robert Fling..... Red Jacket Room
- 11:00 A.M.** Youth in the Fire Service | Roundtable Discussion.....Grand Ballroom
- 12:00 P.M.** Lunch Break
- 3:00 P.M.** Reconvene Meeting to Announce Election Results
- Installation of FASNY Officers and Acceptance Speeches**
- 3:30 P.M.** Adjournment of the 151st Annual Convention

2023 *Award* - RECIPIENTS -

Every year, FASNY asks volunteer fire departments across the state to nominate brave and selfless individuals for a series of Association awards. At each Annual Convention FASNY pays tribute to these courageous men and women, their willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty and their dedication to protect our communities. Our 2023 honorees exemplify what the volunteer fire and EMS service is all about and we are excited to recognize them.



**JOIN US THURSDAY, AUGUST 10TH,
AT 11:00AM AS WE RECOGNIZE AND
PAY TRIBUTE TO THE HEROIC ACTS
OF BRAVERY OF THIS YEAR'S**

Firefighter
- OF THE YEAR -
honoree!



Firefighter - OF THE YEAR -

Lt. Justin
BERRY

Riverhead Volunteer Fire Department

FASNY's Firefighter of the Year award recognizes extraordinary acts of heroism by New York state's first responders.

Bravery was on full display the afternoon of Friday, Dec. 30, 2022, when members of the Riverhead Volunteer Fire Company in Suffolk County responded to a rapidly spreading fire at 16 Doris Avenue in Riverhead, N.Y.

After being dispatched to the blaze at 4:54 p.m., 1st Assistant Chief William Renten, Jr. and 2nd Assistant Chief Peter Kurzyna discovered that the police department was already at the residence and flames were showing. Officers had already assisted the first occupant, an elderly female, out of the front door with the aid of her walker. She told them a second occupant was still in the rear of the building.

The 1st Assistant Chief and 2nd Assistant Chief arrived on scene at 4:57 p.m. They immediately confirmed a working structure fire

with entrapment. Chief Kurzyna took command and organized the attack on the fire, calling mutual aid, a rapid intervention team, fire marshals, and PSEG, the local utility, to the scene.

The first due engine arrived at 4:59 p.m. with Lt. Justin Berry, a seven-year RFD veteran, in the front seat. Lt. Berry, a Riverhead native who has worked for the Town of Riverhead Sewer District for the past five years, was instructed to assist Chief Renten in the rear of the structure where the victim was last reported to be.

At this point the fire had multiple vents and was spreading rapidly. With entrance through the front not an option due to heavy flames and thick smoke, Lt. Berry, wearing full protective gear with SCBA, climbed through the window without hesitation into the dark room that by now was as hot as a furnace.

Crawling around in blacked out conditions, he located the victim, a 77-year-old man, on the floor near

a window. He picked him up and passed him through the window into the waiting arms of firefighters and police officers. The victim, who was unconscious due to smoke inhalation, was received by ambulance personnel at 7:03 p.m.

1st Assistant Chief Renten said he's proud of Lt. Berry and all the volunteer firefighters who answered the call that day. Their fast action saved two lives and extinguished a fire that was destroying the modest ranch-style home.

"It is without any doubt that the actions of the first responders changed that fate of this victim, and the heroic actions of Lt. Justin Berry, who fearlessly put himself in harm's way, saved that man's life," added Joseph Hartmann, chief of department, Riverhead Volunteer Fire Department. "Lt. Berry's a really good firefighter. Very active and dedicated."

2023 GERARD J. BUCKENMEYER MEMORIAL FASNY SCHOLARSHIP

Award Recipients



Christian Alexander	Paul D Schreiber High School	Port Washington
Sophia Augier	Smithtown High School East	Saint James
Gannon Brunet	Sackets Harbor Central School	Sackets Harbor
Joseph Cea	Bethlehem Central High School	Delmar
Thomas DeCristofaro	Oceanside High School	Oceanside
Nathan DiStefano	Frankfort-Schuyler High School	Frankfort
Mary Feck	Fayetteville-Manlius High School	Manlius
Maxwell Gazes	John Glenn High School	Elwood
Ellysia Germain	Cicero-North Syracuse High School	Cicero
Eric Heath	Greenville Central High School	Greenville
Sarah Herko	Penfield High School	Penfield
Noah Hirschhorn	Briarcliff High School	Briarcliff Manor
Tristen Hitchcock	Warrensburg Jr/Sr High School	Warrensburg
Molly Hubbard	Vestal Senior High School	Vestal
Christopher Lucchese	Lynbrook High School	Lynbrook
Hannah Mazzoni	West Genesee High School	Camillus
Ethan Milkiewicz	Columbia High School	East Greenbush
James Pendl	Minisink Valley High School	Slate Hill
Katharina Probst	Immaculate Heart Central High School	Watertown
Natalie Rieben	Oriskany High School	Oriskany
Grace Strother	Clarence High School	Clarence
Jack Vakiener	Notre Dame High School	Elmira
Bailey Vooris	Averill Park High School	Averill Park
Lauren Winegard	Coxsackie-Athens High School	Coxsackie
Joshua Zampella	Home School	Henrietta



Teacher
OF THE YEAR
Christopher Stein

Principal, Cairo-Durham Elementary School

Youth Mentor
OF THE YEAR
Roshan Mathai

Syosset Fire Department/Syosset Junior Fire Department



Fire Service
COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Gerard W. Brown

Ex-Captain, Baldwin Fire Department

Fire Safety Educator
OF THE YEAR
Lt. Julie McKinnon

Hastings-on-Hudson Volunteer Fire Department



Recruitment
AND RETENTION AWARD
Snyder Fire Dept.

Youth Group
OF THE YEAR
East Norwich

Junior Firefighter Program



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

DAVID RHODES

David Rhodes is Editor-In-Chief for *Fire Engineering Magazine* and Educational Director for FDIC International. Rhodes is a 37-year fire service veteran who retired after spending his last 17 years as a Battalion Chief with the Atlanta (GA) Fire Department. He is a Chief Elder for the Georgia Smoke Diver Program and has been a member of the FDIC Educational Advisory Board, a hands-on-training coordinator for the FDIC conference, author of the "Hump Day SOS" column in *Fire Rescue*, an Adjunct Instructor for the Georgia Fire Academy, an Advisory Board Member for Underwriters Laboratories Firefighter Safety Research Institute and a Board Member of the Firefighter Air Coalition. He served as an Incident Commander for the Georgia Emergency Management Agency – Type III All Hazards Incident Management Team and was a Task Force Leader for the Georgia Search and Rescue Team.



EVENTS

PRESIDENTS' DINNER

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 6:00 - 9:00 P.M.

For more than 71 years, Convention attendees have had the opportunity to network with our past presidents. On Wednesday, Aug. 9 from 6-9 p.m. at Frontier Volunteer Fire Company (2176 Liberty Drive, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304), this tradition will continue at our popular annual Past Presidents' Meet and Greet. You can register for the event through FASNY registration. Tickets are \$45 per person and include dinner, beer/wine and soda. A cash bar is available for all other drinks. Dress is casual. Transportation will be provided to and from the hotel.

BLOCK PARTY

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 6:00 P.M. - 12:00 A.M.

We're excited to host a Block Party honoring "you," our members and volunteers, with a night of live entertainment, food and drinks! We have lots of surprises in-store. You will not want to miss out on this complimentary night of fun!

1ST ANNUAL FASNY TESTIMONIAL DINNER

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 5:00 P.M.

On Saturday, Aug. 12 at 5 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel Ballroom, join us as we honor and celebrate the accomplishments of three outstanding FASNY board and trustee members: Director Laurie Hance, Trustee Michael DeVittorio, Trustee Peter Cincotta and Trustee Gerard Owenburg. The evening will begin with a cocktail hour starting at 5 p.m. Welcome and dinner service starts at 5:30 p.m. followed by dessert and speeches. Please register for the event through FASNY registration. The event costs \$25 per person, and includes dinner, beer/wine, and soda. Dress code is coat and tie.

ELECTRIC VEHICLES AND HOW TO RESPOND

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1:00 P.M.



As the number and types of electric vehicles on the roadways and in commercial applications increase, it is important for first responders to understand how a response involving these types of vehicles is different from those with an internal combustion engine. This five-hour awareness course, made possible thanks to the National Volunteer Fire Council, equips first responders with the core knowledge and tools to respond more safely when an electric vehicle is involved in an incident.

TOM MILLER, MA, LPC, ALPS BIO

- Certified Fire Instructor III — Hazardous Materials Technician/Incident Commander
- WV Director to the National Volunteer Fire Council
- NVFC Hazardous Materials Response Committee Chair/Pandemic Task Group Chair
- TRANSCAER Coordinator State of West Virginia
- Principal, NFPA 470 Technical Committee

TWO PERCENT TAX FORUM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1:30 P.M.

The 2% Tax Forum provides members of fire departments and chartered benevolent associations the opportunity to listen to speakers from various New York state government agencies who will present an overview of 2% Tax usage and distribution pertaining to their areas of expertise. Speakers will answer questions submitted by forum attendees. A certificate of attendance will be provided to all attendees.

TODAY'S FIRE, YESTERDAYS TACTICS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 10:30 A.M.



In this two-part presentation, Chief Robert Fling walks you through the difference between the fires we experience today and the fires he confronted years ago. There is a difference! They burn hotter, faster and produce a toxic environment for firefighters like we have never encountered before. Learn tips and tricks on size up, ventilation, line selection, thermal imaging and more as they all play a major factor in success on today's fireground. Part two explains how every fire can be considered a HAZMAT incident, as what you are exposed to can have catastrophic effects on your health.

CHIEF ROBERT FLING BIO

Robert Fling has more than 25 years of experience in the fire service and currently is an Ex-Chief with the Dix Hills Fire Department on Long Island. He has written articles for many fire service publications and is a nationally recognized speaker. He is also a board member with Project Kill The Flashover and is the western Suffolk County advocate for the National Fallen Firefighter's "Everyone Goes Home" program. He holds several fire service accreditations, is a New York state-certified Emergency Medical Technician, NFPA-1403 Live Fire Instructor, AHA CPR Instructor, and CEVO Instructor. Additionally, he is a member of the NFPA, Suffolk County Fire Chiefs Council, Town of Huntington Fire Chiefs Council, International Association of Fire Chiefs, and FASNY. Chief Fling was the recipient of the 2015 *Firehouse Magazine* Outstanding Leadership Award.

FAQS

1 I need to contact someone about making adjustments to my hotel reservations.

For all hotel-related concerns, you may contact the Sheraton Hotel directly at 716-285-3361. If your hotel reservations are with the Seneca Niagara Resort & Casino, they can be contacted at 1-877-873-6322. The Wyndham can be reached at 716-284-8801.

2 Where can I park?

If you have reservations at the Sheraton Hotel, parking in their lot is complimentary. Visit their front desk to have your ticket validated. For attendees without reservations, you may park at the Convention Center for a discounted price of \$5. Be sure to get your ticket validated at FASNY's registration table.

3 Will you be providing shuttle services?

Yes, we will be providing shuttle services to-and-from our hands-on training class and our Past Presidents' Dinner (pickup at the Sheraton Hotel). For all other transportation needs, attendees will be responsible for their own travel. Please note that the shuttle is not handicap accessible.

4 Are there any on-site restaurants available?

Yes, both the Rainforest Cafe and Starbucks are located inside the Sheraton Hotel.

5 Where will breakfast and lunch be served?

Meals will be served at the Convention Center Exhibit Hall.

6 What hours will registration be open?

Daily registration hours will be posted each day at the registration table, as they are subject to change.



Niagara Falls Convention Center

F A C I L I T I E S M A P



SHERATON HOTEL

300 3rd Street, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14303
1-716-285-3361

MAP

EXPLORE

EXPLORE MORE WHEN VISITING *Niagara Falls*

If you've never been to Niagara Falls USA before, you're in for a real treat! In addition to visiting the world-renowned Falls, there are so many other fascinating things to see during Convention. Here's a snapshot of some of the area's most popular attractions:



Aquarium of Niagara

Located just a short walk from the Maid of the Mist, the Aquarium of Niagara boasts more than 120 species, including playful penguins, rescued seals and sea lions, mesmerizing jellyfish and more! In addition to hands-on animal interactions with sharks and stingrays, watch daily feedings and educational presentations, sea lion shows, and expert talks.

DETAILS aquariumofniagara.org

Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum

Almost half of the hand-carved wooden carousels still working in the U.S. and Canada trace their origins to the Herschell Carrousel Factory. Learn all about the beginnings of amusement parks and the history behind it at the Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum in North Tonawanda. The museum features vintage carousels and 1950s-era rides with cars, fire trucks and helicopters.

DETAILS carrouselmuseum.org



Old Fort Niagara

Tour the grounds of the original Fort Niagara, where Native American, French, British and American soldiers lived and worked from the 18th to the 20th centuries. Old Fort Niagara offers living-history programs and special events, and features original 18th-century stone fortifications, including the "French Castle," the oldest building on the Great Lakes.

DETAILS oldfortniagara.org

The Niagara Power Vista

With the latest hands-on interactive technologies, multi-sensory 4D theatre, large touch screens, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) exhibits, redesigned floor layouts and new elevator to enhance accessibility, the Niagara Power Vista is action packed.

DETAILS nypa.gov/communities/visitors-centers/niagara-power-vista



Rainbow Air

Enjoy the majestic power and beauty of Niagara and the Horseshoe Falls from incredible vantage points aboard a quiet turbine engine helicopter! Create memories and capture photos of a lifetime aboard your "limousine in the sky!" Helicopter rides last eight to 10 minutes and climb up to 3,000 feet.

DETAILS rainbowairinc.com

2022 CONVENTION



2024

Convention

NIAGARA FALLS
AUGUST 8-10

**SAVE THE
DATE**



