



Vol. Fire Police

All the news that impacts your community and your world.

SUMMER 2025

News



Officers for the VFPPASNY 2026



*Association of Fire Districts
of the State of New York, Inc.*



**NEW YORK STATE
ASSOCIATION
OF FIRE CHIEFS**



**The Volunteer Fire Police Association
of the State of New York, Inc.**



**COUNTY FIRE COORDINATORS' ASSOCIATION
OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK**



**New York State
Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association**

From the Desk of the Editor:

Well we have completed the 2025 Convention in Kingston, New York and have new Officers to lead us through thick and thin. They have already begun to work with other organizations to improve our status within the Fire Service and offer to assist them to meet what is now required of all. Training is, as always, a very important aspect of what we do and in this issue you will see what Bruno has again put together – another excellent Virtual Zoom session for August 27th. Truly what could be better than a short session with other Fire Police members getting the best of the best. President Wicks is working hard on finalizing the October meeting in Troy, NY for the fall VFPASNY meeting. Yep, there'll be a big change as monies are going to be needed to cover new expenses, but then with what is offered it is worth every penny. (Well, maybe nickels as we are losing the pennies.)

The big one, folks, is next year the Tom With Fire Police Seminar will be in the Town of Colonie Fire Station. He is working on some great presenters and arrangements in the close area for housing. Yes, we are still working on the NYS Fire Academy in Montour Falls, but there is, again, an issue with construction schedules. Information and forms will be coming out in the fall/winter issue, webpage, and of course through your Regional Directors. Tom has indicated that we will be pleased in his Fire Station as we help them celebrate

150 years of Service. Again, we hope to have numerous display people there to inform all of the new and non abused products. As always, come join the fun!

The year-long raffle is still up and running. President Jon is working to get them back out into the field. We had a winner from the Island, but you could be next. With this we still need your input so we can share with others what all are doing and covering with information. Your efforts often lead to other groups being able to improve what we do. Even letting us know the lack of schools, training, support, etc. – we can help and get to others to help. New issues need to get out there to our Membership. Let's get our Officers busy and involved. As you all continue into the summer months and attend the various parades, events, and gatherings, I extend my prayers that all get to go home safe! Enjoy the time we can have, take that moment and stop, look around, smell the roses, and be so thankful for what the good Lord has given us. May He always give you safe passage home after that call, so we can be with family and loved ones. May He always keep a warm, gentle breeze upon your back!

GOD BLESS!

Dick Duerr
Editor

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

August 27th Virtual Zoom Training – Information is included within this issue. Speaker and information on registering for this event will follow to all via emails and meetings.

October 23rd & 24th VFPASNY Fall Meeting to be held at the Hilton Garden, Troy, NY. Forms for the meal and contact number for the hotel are in this issue. Please check the Officers' articles as they will inform you of what is scheduled.

March 21st, 2026 The Thomas With Fire Police Seminar and training will be held at the Town of Colonie Fire Department. This is their 150 year celebration, Reservation forms will be in the fall issue of the newsletter, webpage, and, of course, from any of your local Directors. Tom has four speakers lined up and all other information will be coming soon.

Spring VFPASNY meeting is Open. What to offer now is the time. Please let your 2026 Officers know and they are also listed in this issue.

May 14th-17th 2026 VFPASNY Convention will be at the Niagara Falls Resort. Actual registration form is included in this issue. List of activities is being sent to the Directors and on the webpage.

Message from your Past President Norm Davis:

A thank you to all the members and officers of the Volunteer Fire Police Association.

Due to many other commitments and hats I wear, like my business, CERT, Endicott Police Auxiliary and my fire department, I had to make the decision to not run for president.

I am leaving you in good hands with President Jon Wicks. Please try to help him move the association forward.

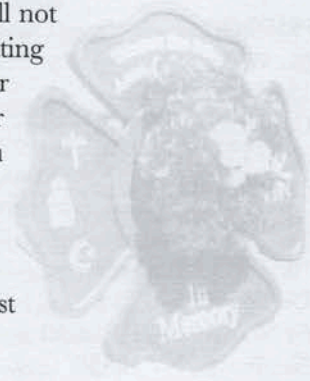
In the past year our association has added 3 new regional directors; Region 3 has become more active, added a member only Facebook and restarted the VFPASNY website after being down for almost a year.

The biggest problem we still have is communications.

Some of your directors are still not doing a good job of communicating with you. Members, remember your regional director works for you and is voted in by you. You can find your directors' contact information in the front of this newspaper.

In my new role as Jr Past President, I will still be around.

Thank you,
Norman Davis
VFPASNY Past President



Newsletter Ad *Rates*

FULL PAGE 7.5 X 10" **\$150.00**

HALF PAGE 7.5 X 4.6" **\$75.00**

QUARTER PAGE 3.6 X 4.6" **\$50.00**

BUSINESS CARD 2.3 X 3.6" **\$25.00**

All ads are per issue pricing. Please send all ads to duerr.richard@yahoo.com. Please indicate Vol Fire Police News on the subject line, or mail photo ready artwork to Richard Duerr, 21 Second St., Camden, NY 13316-1307.

Make all checks payable to VFPASNY

From the convention 2025



Don Dittmar, Patriots Award, Dick Duerr, Past President VFPASNY and Bob Bennett, Region 2 Director.

Fall Newsletter

Next issue: Fall 2025 - all articles are to be submitted to the Editor by **November 12th, 2025**

All articles are to be sent to duerr.richard@yahoo.com or mailed to **21 Second Street, Camden, NY 13316-1307**

**No ads or articles are to go to the printer.
They will NOT accept them.**



VFPASNY Officers 2025/2026

PRESIDENT

Jon Wicks
13 Ninth Street
Carle Place, NY 11514
(516) 754-2058/Cell
(516) 997-8818/Home
Jwwicks13@aol.com

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Dorothy Brown
67 New Road
Newburgh, NY 12550
(845) 800-5252
Womenwolf46@yahoo.com

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Dinkelacker
17 North Vernon Street
Athens, NY 12015
(518) 577-7204
markdink@gmail.com

DIRECTOR REGION 1

Dan Franchise
37 Wishing Lane.
Hicksville, NY 11801
(516) 455-1465
turtle1dan@aol.com

DIRECTOR REGION 2

Robert Bennett
PO Box 82
Middletown, NY 10940
(845) 500-6584
36026fp@gmail.com

DIRECTOR REGION 3

(OPEN)
Delegate Timothy Scrom
tescrom@gmail.com
Delegate At Large
Edwin Robbins
catherinerobbins53@gmail.com

DIRECTOR REGION 4

John L Henninger
28 Inslee Street
Waterloo, NY 13165
(315) 745-9004
vfpasnydirregion4@gmail.com

DIRECTOR REGION 5

David Fairley
37 Village Trail
Spencerport, NY 14559
(585) 352-0010/home
(585) 752-4529/cell
dfairley@spencerportfire.org

DIRECTOR REGION 6

Robert Lighthall
7281 State Route 104
Oswego, NY, 13126
(315) 592-1194/Cell
(315) 342-5772/Home
robert.lighthall34@gmail.com

DIRECTOR REGION 7

Christopher Mele
15 Sherbrooke Drive
Smithtown, NY 11787
(516) 458-4595
cmele56@gmail.com

DIRECTOR REGION 8

(OPEN)
Mark Dinkelacker (assisting
Region)
17 North Vernon Street
Athens, NY 12015
(518) 577-7204
markdink@gmail.com

DIRECTOR REGION 9

James McConnell
PO Box 193
809 Fuller Road
Peru, NY 12972
(518) 569-69451
sheshefirepa@aol.com

JR PAST PRESIDENT

President
Norman H. Davis Jr.
617 West Main Street
Endicott, NY, 13760
(607) 343-1050
vfpasnyresident@gmail.com

ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICERS 2025-2026

TREASURER

Phyllis Dinkelacker
17 North Vernon Street
Athens, NY 12015
(518) 322-6995
vfpasnytres@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Juan Guzman
2 Hawk Nest Lane
Wallkill, NY 12589
(845) 566-5016
VFPNYSmem@gmail.com

RECORDING SECRETARY

Barbara Fischer
PO Box 154
Kinderhook, NY 12106
(518) 461-1703
nysvfpsec@gmail.com

CHIEF CHAPLAIN

Eugene Preston
1036 Long Pond Road
Rochester, NY 14626
(585) 690-8005
geneff79@gmail.com

SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS

David Schmidt
PO Box 523
Sanborn, NY 14132
(716) 228-1351
dfschmidt2001@yahoo.com

WEB-SITE WEBMASTER

Nancy Lynch
happyhare4@aol.com

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President:

Donna Bauer-Hicks
donnabauerhicks@gmail.com

Vice President:

Rosalie Plato
rsplato51@aol.com

Secretary:

Patricia Feeney
feeney134@aol.com

Treasurer:

Joan Rusin
rusins@verizon.net

Chaplain:

Chris Lighthall

Sergeant @ Arms:

Donna Bauer-Hicks
donnabauerhicks@gmail.com

Trustee:

Sharon Davis
pugbuggy48@yahoo.com

Trustee:

Gladys Askew
gladyslaskew@gmail.com

Trustee:

Patsy Anderson
jfealpha@y/48@yahoo.com

Regional Chaplains

Chief Chaplain

Gene Preston
geneff79@gmail.com
(585) 690-8005

Region 1 Chaplain

Jon Wicks
jwwicks13@aol.com
(516) 754-2058

Region 2 Chaplain

Dorothy Brown
womenwolf46@yahoo.com

Region 3

(Fulton, Wash, Warren)

Edwin Robbins
catherinerobbins53@gmail.com
(518) 798-4819

Region 3 (Saratoga)

Kevin Barkley

Region 4 Chaplain

Charles Rubin
dtrain463@gmail.com
(845) 629-6820

Region 5 Chaplain

Spence Kennedy
spence.kennedy@brightonfd.org
(585) 766-5233

Region 6 Chaplain

Richard Duerr
Duerr.richard@yahoo.com
(315) 264-8449

Region 7 Chaplain

Fred Friedman, Joe Nolan

Region 8 Chaplain

Tom With
tomwith@hotmail.com
(518) 378-707

Region 9 Chaplain

Victoria Brunelle
(518) 593-9501

Past Chief Chaplain

Richard Bolster
(518) 483-0316

VFPASNY COMMITTEES 2025-2026

ADVISORY PAST PRESIDENTS

Norm Davis (Chair)

fpcapt29@gmail.com

Alan Way

Frank Guarino

Ken Askew

Robert Beamish

Ross Croser

Thomas With

James McConnell

Richard Duerr

AWARDS

Nancy Lynch (Chair)

happyhare4@aol.com

Juan Guzman

Richard Duerr

Dan Franchese

CONVENTION OVERSIGHT

Frank Guarino (Chair)

exchief461@aol.com

Ken Askew

James McConnell

LAW (INTERNAL)

Thomas With (Chair)

tomwith@hotmail.com

Richard Duerr

James McConnell

Doug Wood

LEGISLATIVE

Thomas With (Chair)

tomwith@hotmail.com

Richard Duerr

James McConnell

Doug Wood

Jon Wicks

Alan Way

NEWSLETTER

Richard Duerr (Chair)

duerr.richard@yahoo.com

Norm Davis

John Henninger

SICK & BENEVOLENT

Eugene Preston (Chair)

geneff79@gmail.com

All 9 Region Chaplains

MEMORIAL SERVICE - CHAPLAINS

Eugene Preston (Chair)

geneff79@gmail.com

Thomas With (Co-Chair)

Tomwith@hotmail.com

Rose Plato

Richard Duerr

AUDIT

Robert Lighthall (Chair)

robert.lighthall34@gmail.com

Doug Wood

James McConnell

Stewart Kramer

Barbara Fischer

Bob Bennett

Mike Rice

Jon Wicks (Advisor)

BY-LAWS

Bruno Semon (Chair)

Frank Guarino (Co-Chair)

Dorothy Brown (Advisor)

Womenwolf46@yahoo.com

Dan Franchese

NYS FIRE SERVICE COUNCIL

Thomas With (Chair)

tomwith@hotmail.com

Jon Wicks

Dorothy Brown

Mark Dinkelacker

And All past Presidents

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Thomas With

tomwith@hotmail.com

SOGS

Jim McConnell (Chair)

sheshefirepa@aol.com

Jon Wicks

Norm Davis

Thomas With

TOM WITH SEMINAR

Richard Duerr (Chair)

duerr.richard@yahoo.com

Thomas With (Co-Chair)

tomwith@hotmail.com

Phyllis Dinkelacker

(Treasurer)

Juan Guzman (Mem. Sec)

Gary Hunt

Dorothy Brown

WAYS & MEANS

James McConnell (Chair)

Jon Wicks (Co-Chair)

sheshefirepa@aol.com

David Fairley

Dan Franchese

John Henninger

NOMINATING

Alan Way (Chair)

acway@rockester.rr.com

Robert Lighthall

Dan Franchese

WEBSITE

Nancy Lynch (Chair)

happyhare4@aol.com

Debra Keller (Co-Chair)

Timothy Scrom

David Cortes

FASNY DELEGATES

Jon Wicks

Dorothy Brown

Mark Dinkelacker

and All past presidents

jwwicks13@aol.com

CREDENTIALS

Juan Guzman (Chair)

vfpnysmem@gmail.com

Phyllis Dinkelacker

Dorothy Brown (advisor)

LIAISON TO VFPASNY AUXILIARY

Norm Davis

fpcapt29@gmail.com

Jon Wicks

Dorothy Brown

Mark Dinkelacker

Richard Duerr

50TH YEAR CERTIFICATE

Richard A. Duerr, Sr. (Chair)

Norm Davis

duerr.richard@yahoo.com

TRAINING

Dorothy Brown (Chair)

womenwolf46@yahoo.com

Bruno Semon (Co-Chair)

orientfdbs@gmail.com

Timothy Scrom

Bob Lighthall

Mark Dinkelacker

Richard Duerr

Phyllis Dinkelacker

(Treasurer)

Juan Guzman (Mem. Sec)

Gary Hunt

Thomas With

Jon Wicks

Norm Davis

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Juan Guzman (Chair)

vfpnysmem@gmail.com

Timothy Scrom

President, 1st & 2nd Vice-

Presidents

ZOOM COMMITTEE

Bruno Semon (Chair)

orientfdbs@gmail.com

Dorothy Brown

Norm Davis

Joan Rusin

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Jon Wicks (Chair)

jwwicks13@aol.com

Juan Guzman

Barbara Fischer

Phyllis Dinkelacker





Volunteer Fire Police Association of the State of New York Bylaws Committee

Bruno Semon, Chairperson
Frank Guarino, Co-Chairperson
Daniel Franchese, Member
Dorothy Brown, 1st VP Advisor

Proposed Bylaws Changes

The Bylaws Committee was requested to process the following changes with the First (1st) Reading that occurred at the Convention meeting on 05/10/25 and approved as follows:

- Article VII Committees, under subpart K, Add New part P "Fire Police Association Training Committee", Add New part Q "Virtual Technology Committee", Add New part R "Budget Committee" and relabel section A-R for Committees. Organize Bylaws by pulling all Committees out of Bylaws and add as an appendix.
- Under Article XVII Officers Emeritus amend names and add names.

The Bylaws approved 05-12-2023 are currently on the website for your review.

The Bylaws Committee is working on written changes and will post on the website when completed.

Please see the address noted: **VFPASNY Website** at <https://www.vfpasny.com/forms>

The second (2nd) reading is proposed for the VFPASNY Fall Meeting October 25th, 2025, in Troy, NY.

Any questions or concerns, please contact the Bylaws Committee via email off the website at: <https://www.vfpasny.com/committees>

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL AT THE FALL MEETING.



From the President:

I would like to thank our members for your support over the last year serving you as First VP of our Association and for electing me as your President during our annual convention in Kingston. I also thank outgoing President Norm Davis for his dedication and service as President and the progress our association has made over the past year. I hope everyone and your families are doing well and are looking forward to the summer months that are now upon us.

We had a great convention May 8th through May 10th hosted by Region 2 in Kingston and I would like to thank the co-chairs Dot Brown and Bob Bennett, and the entire committee for their hard work to make the event a success! There were many items discussed and decisions made that you will hear about later in my message and throughout this newsletter. Thank you to all who attended, shared ideas and worked diligently to improve our organization, made new friends or got to build on existing relationships and have some fun.

In an effort to engage and have more members attend our other three major events (Spring and Fall meetings, and Tom With Seminar [TWS]) we have listened to the recommendations of our membership and are attempting to hold these events close to the middle of the state. We held our Spring Meeting at the FASNY Firefighters Home in Hudson, our Fall Meeting on October 25th will be at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy and the TWS will be at the Fuller Road FD in Albany on March 21, 2026. We are also attempting to have housing for these events in an affordable hotel with reduced rates so we can be together at one location to build special relationships, network and get to know each other better. We did see an increase in attendance at the Spring meeting and are building on that for Troy. The hotel has worked with us and the rooms will be \$124 per night which includes sit down breakfast for up to two people per room (\$12.50 per person value) and lunch will bring us together in a separate room with a cost of \$20 per person for members, auxiliary and spouses/significant others and \$35 for non-members (VFPASNY will subsidize all other fees and gratuities which was approved at convention). The training topics and instructors will be announced in the near future and posted on our website and Facebook page – there will be registration forms for the meeting for the event that will be returned to our treasurer with a check and you will make arrangements with the hotel on your own for the room and breakfast coupons. There will be a registration deadline with the hotel, please don't miss it to ensure these rates. For those not needing hotel accommodations just register and send check for the appropriate amount to our Treasurer. Be sure to save the dates of these events on your calendars and make an effort to attend.

It was also approved at convention to continue our virtual training webinars for 2025-2026 with the first one being in late August. The training Committee is working on the subject

matter and the trainers. It will be free to anyone who registers and attends the class, however, only members of VFPASNY in good standing will receive a certificate of attendance for their records. Any non-members wishing to join will have ample time to fill out an application and pay their \$15 dues before the training.

We will be able to keep dues the same for the coming year as a result of the success of the annual 50/50 fundraiser which contributed well to our treasury and also had a very happy winner. This continues to be the main fundraiser for our association and supplements your dues and enables us to provide no cost virtual training, keep our members informed of changes and offer best practices for your safety. This program was voted to continue at the convention and with anticipated participation of our entire membership, obtaining even greater results. The program will be the same as last year; if you personally pay your dues there will be tickets with your dues invoice please sell and return with dues. If your Department/Company pays your dues, please obtain the tickets from your Regional Director or myself at the contact information published in this newsletter.

In closing, we as a board desire to enhance communications, training and safety and control rising costs for day-to-day operations. We need YOU, our members, to fill open positions for Directors, Delegates, committee person assistance, etc. to strengthen the VFPASNY. If anyone has any questions or would be interested in assisting with your time and talents, please notify your Director or an Officer.

I wish everyone and their families a great summer!

Be safe,

Jon Wicks

President, VFPASNY



From the Membership Secretary

VFPASNY Membership Secretary

Juan Guzman

2 Hawk Nest Lane

Wallkill, NY 12589

Telephone: 845-566-5016

If your department/company pay your dues, they were mailed in October to be received by November 1st. For the members that pay their own dues, they were mailed throughout November to be received no later than December 1st.

As of April 30, 2025 there are 171 members that have not paid their 2024 dues and 191 members that have not paid their 2025 dues. In this last quarter of 2024, invoices were sent to everyone for 2025 dues and they were to be paid no later than January 31, 2025. After you pay your annual dues each year, you will be sent a sticker to apply to the back of your card showing that you are a member in good standing in lieu of the business card type membership card you presently receive. If you know of a member that did not receive this newsletter, please let them know to contact me. The annual membership dues are our primary source of income and our events (Tom

With Seminar & Annual Convention) are offered at our cost without any additional fees. **Please pay your dues as soon as possible.**

The executive board has utilized alternative methods (Zoom, e-mail, newsletters and website) to communicate, conduct meetings and offer training. Please make sure that we have your most current contact information on file. If you have moved, changed e-mail address or phone numbers please let me know via e-mail at vfpnysmem@gmail.com, MemSecVFPASNY@outlook.com or mail at 2 Hawk Nest Lane, Wallkill, NY 12589. There are periodic e-mails that go out electronically throughout the year as well as the written communications sent to your most current information on file.

Presently, the plastic ID cards are no longer issued.

I wish everyone and their families a great summer!

Be Safe,

Juan Guzman

Membership Secretary

Dorothy Brown, 1st Vice President

Summer has arrived. Everything is busy, including our State Association.

Our 2025 Convention, which was hosted by Region 2 from May 8 through May 11, 2025 at the Best Western in Kingston, NY, was a great success. The convention committee worked hard, and the trainers were fantastic. I would like to thank the Region 2 committee for all the hard work on the convention and the trainers that share their knowledge with us.

My past year as 2nd Vice President was busy working with the convention committee, my fellow officers, and directors and has been rewarding. Now as move on with new officers for 2025/2026, I would like to welcome Jon Wicks as new elected President, myself as 1st Vice President and Mark Dinkelacker

as 2nd Vice President. We are establishing virtual training sessions, moving quarterly meetings in a central location of the state.

I would like to thank Past President Norm Davis for all his hard work for the association.

It is with heavy hearts and sadness that we lost Region 8 Director Wilson McKay. Wilson was so involved with so many firematic associations. He will be missed.

Wish everyone Happy Fourth July. Be safe out.

Dorothy Brown

1st Vice President

Region 1 Newsletter

We started the New Year with the Nassau County Fire Police Association Installation Dinner on January 26th and the installation of new officers. There were (90) people in attendance.

In March we attended the Tom With seminar in Caledonia, NY. There were approximately (60) people in attendance.

In May, Nassau County held its quarterly meeting at Westbury F.D. and we had a guest speaker Chief Thomas DiBartolo from the Nassau County Fire Service Academy. The topic was Safety and the Fire Police. We had (40) members

in attendance. After the training, we held our meeting and introduced the new President of New York State Fire Police Association, Jon Wicks.

Information was given to the membership about upcoming events, including the Fall quarterly meeting which will be held on October 25th in Troy, New York at the Hilton Garden Inn, and the 2026 State Convention which will be held in Niagara Falls. Additional information to follow.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY ELECTED STATE BOARD. HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Region 2 Newsletter

Greetings from Region 2. I would first like to start off by saying thank you to everyone who came out and supported our Region as will held the 71st annual convention in Kingston. It was a great weekend with wonderful speakers and trainers and great camaraderie. I would like to thank my committee members Rich Cauchard, Geraldine Palmer and Dot Brown. Also a huge congratulations to our Region 2 Delegate at Large Don Dittmer Sr for receiving the Hero Award. We are looking

to hold a few four-hour Fire Police refreshers this year and will post those dates on the website. In closing, hope everyone has a great summer and be safe, always keep your eyes open and have a way out.

Best Regards,

Bob Bennett
Region 2 Director

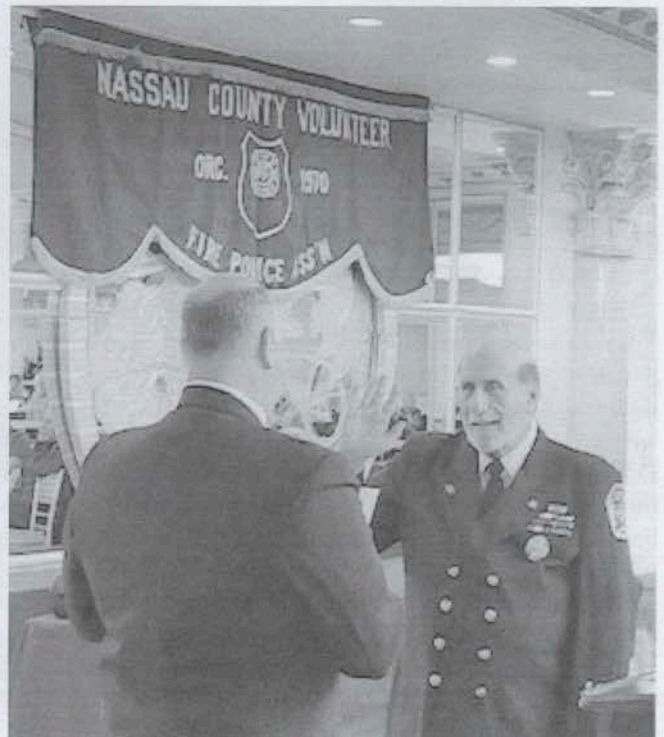
Region 4 Report

Region 4 had its very first meeting since I took over in March this year. We had our elections, and the list of officers is as follows: John Henninger (myself) retained Director, Martin Kopcho is Treasurer, Christina Dravis is Secretary. Irving Soden gave training on how to be seen and how to handle driver confrontation. David Dennison gave an update on the new OSHA Regulations that are being considered. Norm Davis and the three of us recently met with the bank where the region bank account is and have the officers put into the account. The officers and advisors of Region 4 are working on setting up for another meeting

that should be in the next couple of months. At the 71st VFPASNY Conference, Region 4 was awarded third place for new membership. The Director Region 4 (myself) received the association President's award from Norm Davis for communication and activities with the State and Region. Things are looking up for the region. Special thanks go out to Norm Davis and Richard Duerr for their support. Also, a thank you for Christina Dravis and Martin Kopcho for stepping up as Region 4 officers.

John Henninger,
Region 4 Director

Nassau County Fire Police Installation Dinner 2025



VFPASNY 71st ANNUAL CONVENTION & MEMORIAL SERVICE REPORT

By Gene Preston, Chief Chaplain/Region 5 Reporter

Our **VFPASNY 71st Annual Convention and Memorial Service** was held May 8-11, 2025 in Kingston, NY. Patty and I attended and concur that we learned much and made many new friends. A more detailed report was recently presented by Alan Way, Dave Fairley and I at the MCVFPA Battalion 2 meeting at Hilton, NY so this is a brief summary of the event with a few of the many pictures taken over the 4-day period. On a personal note, I was pleased to see my memorial tribute to my late brother, NGFD Fire Police Captain Ken Preston in the convention ad book, something I missed doing last year.

Thursday after a scenic 285-mile drive, we checked-in at the **Best Western Plus Kingston Hotel and Conference Center**, registered, visited some vendors, and then enjoyed pleasant conversation with association friends from around the state. We had fun dining with Ken and Gladys Askew and Norm and Sharon Davis before we gathered in the Stockade Salon for the Board of Directors meeting at 7 PM. Meeting minutes will reflect business accomplishments therein. Most significant word was President Norm Davis confirming his desire not to run again for a second term. In other business, Zoom Committee Chair Bruno Semon, sporting his hometown Myrtle Beach tan, promised continued popular online training for 2025.

Friday morning opening ceremonies took place with local dignitaries and politicians welcoming us. Kingston is a progressive city, once the capital of NYS before Albany became our permanent capital way back in 1797. Training scheduled here and there throughout the convention were excellent with expert experienced speakers. *Fire Police and Explosives, Highway Safety, Fire Police A to Z, Mental Health & Wellness*, and more totaled up to five hours of training credit and a nice certificate that my FD training officer back home graciously accepted toward my LOSAP credit. Our General Meeting continued in the Uptown Ballroom. Thanks to the BOD and our Energizer Bunny Dick Duerr for ordering and restocking the chief chaplain's supply of Memorial Resolutions, Sympathy and Get Well cards. (I have used 4 of the resolutions just since our convention adjourned - and to mail one costs \$1.77 each or 3 stamps.)

Late Friday afternoon we did our usual set-up and rehearsal for the always impressive Memorial Service Saturday morning, something nobody should miss attending if you go to one of these conventions. Tom With and this writer do our best at making it better each year. Next came Dinner in Washington Square, and that was followed by more great training by two law enforcement gurus until 9:00 PM. After that a bunch of us gathered in the bar area to hash over what the day produced and appreciating how well things played out. A flooded creek behind the hotel was interesting to watch.

Saturday was single-day registrations, more vendors, and a wonderful breakfast. At 9:00 AM the activities of a busy world paused as we chaplains took command and the

Uptown Ballroom was transformed into one of calm and respect and dignity as the entrance procession of ceremonial officials all decked out in Class A uniforms appeared to perform their magic remembering and honoring 40 fire police officers from around the Empire State that passed since our last memorial service. Colors were posted, bagpipes sounded, speeches and prayers were said, *How Great Thou Art* boomed out filling the ballroom and halls. It made the hairs on your neck stand. The Necrology Service and participation by the Chief Chaplain and Nine Regional Directors and Regional Chaplains filled a large Memorial Maltese Cross with red, white, blue, pink, and purple flowers - each with special meaning. Taps played, bells rang out, and skillful sound man Dick Duerr kept the musical selections coming as the poem, *Gone but Not Forgotten* was read by our distinguished Past President Alan Way. An awesome Memorial Address by Dr. Jeffery Hooker NYSAFC will never be forgotten (keep your fork). Then came the *Lord's Prayer* and *God Bless America* with everyone joining in. Closing announcements and Ceremonial Benediction by Service Coordinator Tom With closed the program. Wow, what a morning!

Following a break, more training and the polls opened for voting. During the convention the Auxiliary also conducted their meetings and election of officers. They have a new President, Donna Bauer-Hicks from Monroe County. Lunch was followed by meeting and election results and raffle, basket winners, and a hefty 50-50 drawing. Incoming President Jon Wicks was congratulated along with 1st VP Dorothy Brown and 2nd VP Mark Dinkelacker. Other elected officials remain the same. A big round of applause broke out for now Immediate Past President Norm Davis who served us well and accomplished his main goal of improving communications throughout the association. Thank you Norm and thanks for my new supply of calling cards.

A cocktail hour at 6:00 PM with the Grand Awards Banquet filled the rest of the evening. Among the awards presented was *Fire Police Officer of the Year* to Cheryl Wiest, Captain of the Brockport FD Fire Police Squad, our Region 5 Director Dave Fairley who was awarded numerous awards for his busy year of activity, and I was blessed to be awarded *The President's Award* for Loyal and Dedicated Service as Chief Chaplain, Team Player and Endless Communications with the Membership. I am grateful.

Sunday morning all met at breakfast agreeing on a great convention, saying our good-byes, pledging to meet again October 25 for our Fall Meeting in Troy, NY, and looking forward to meeting in Niagara Falls in 2026 at convention to do this all over again - if that is the Lord's plan for us. Best wishes to all elected in our Association and in the Auxiliary.

May a good and gracious God bless us all.



The Chaplain's Corner...

By Chief Chaplain Gene Preston

Remembering our Brothers and Sisters Who Have Passed



For this writer, the highlight of our VFPASNY Annual Convention is the Saturday morning Memorial Service. This 71st Annual Memorial Service in Kingston, NY was my third as your chief chaplain. I must confess, each time gets more meaningful for me as I work with our Membership Secretary Juan Guzman, our Service Coordinator-Chaplain Tom With, and our presidents to gather the precious names of our deceased members and non-members so that no one is left behind as we pay tribute to those brothers and sisters who have passed since our last service. Just this past May 10, 2025 we honored 40 of these beloved fire police officers.

But there is much more. Having members step up to do scripture readings, updating regional directors and regional chaplains taking part in the necrology and handling and placing of the various color flowers. Deciding on appropriate musical selections, memorial address, and prayers are all important parts of a meaningful memorial service. Followed

by Mother's Day, President Norm Davis presented a long stem red carnation to all moms present.

A loving Christ taught us: care for each other. This also includes remembering those who have died. We have a duty to our colleagues, individuals we have stood alongside in all kinds of weather, sometimes dodging automobiles driven by drivers that are angry or distracted. We are often witness to terrible tragedy resulting in horrible scenes. When the time comes and the Lord calls members of our fire police squad home, we must take part in the service, saying good-bye until we meet again one day. It is part of our job, an expectation and obligations, my friend.

According to Section 209-C of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York, we are organized and authorized to perform our duties as peace officers. Well, according to God's Law we are asked to care for each other, the poor and the sick, and reach out to the families of our fellow fire police officers to provide comfort and peace in their time of sorrow. More than ever, like when we are on the job, we are expected to swing into action and do what's right for our fallen brothers and sisters.

We owe it to them. May God bless us all.

Gene

VFPASNY Region 6 Report

Region 6 has been very busy over the winter with numerous county and region meetings, despite heavy lake effect snow pounding us! Hundreds of building roofs collapsed due to the weight of snow, including the collapse of an entire fire station. Several members also suffered roof collapses in their homes. Many volunteer fire departments responded to numerous collapse calls, some with trapped people or animals. The county special operations teams assisted in life-safety incidents related to collapses with the support of New York Task Force 2 (NY-TF2).

Region 6 held our January meeting at 3-G Fire Company in Glenfield. Members travel through a wintery mix and Chaplain Duerr's prayers were certainly appreciated!

Region 6 Central Northern VFPA held their March meeting and annual elections on Saturday, March 15th. The 2025 slate of officers includes: President-Keth Anderson; Vice President-Chris Clanton; Secretary-Patsy Anderson; Treasurer-Richard Duerr; Chaplain-Richard Duerr; Sgt at Arms-Stewart Kramer and Milo Pennock; VFPASNY Director-Bob Lighthall; State Delegate Jefferson County-Bill Bates; State Delegate Lewis County-Dan Hirschey; and State Delegate Oneida County-Stewart Kramer.

The county associations have been including training with their regularly scheduled meetings. Fire police officers are required to complete annual refresher training. This can be accomplished locally, or through training offered throughout the region or state. VFPASNY offers great opportunities at the Thomas F. With Fire Police Seminar,

as well as at quarterly meetings and the annual convention. VFPASNY also offers virtual training available to all firefighters, but you must be an association member before receiving a certificate of attendance.

VFPASNY Past President Norm Davis worked tirelessly to improve communication throughout the state. Region 6 leadership has encouraged updated email addresses from all members. Current news and updates are emailed to fire police throughout the region using 'blind copy,' so members' email addresses are kept private, and responses don't overload mailboxes.

Communication includes caring for our brothers and sisters in the fire police service. VFPASNY offers award recognition in several categories listed on the VFPASNY.com website. It is also important that we honor fire police officers who have passed. The VFPASNY website includes a Deceased Notification form, available to anyone aware of the death of a fire police officer.

Members from 5 counties in Region 6 attended the VFPASNY annual Convention in Kingston. Thank you to Region 2 for hosting the convention and providing pertinent training.

Wishing everyone a safe summer and hope to see you at upcoming meetings and training sessions.

Respectfully, **Bob Lighthall**

Region 6 Director • Robert.Lighthall34@gmail.com

VFPASNY Region 7 Report

VFPASNY, in conjunction with SCFA, hosted a Fire Police Refresher Class via Zoom on Wednesday, January 29, 2025. The training was a huge success with 979 pre-registered attendees across NYS.

At peak times 672 signed individually into the virtual training, so all others were participating in group form at various locations throughout NYS. We had over 130 Fire Departments in NYS in attendance. Region 7 (Suffolk County) had 691 pre-registered attendees. Huge thanks to the SCFA for putting the program together and we look forward to continuing to work with the Academy on future endeavors.

On March 15 the Huntington-Smithtown Fire Police Association held their Installation Dinner at the Northport Yacht Club where the following officers were sworn in:

- President - Chris Mele, Smithtown FD
- Vice President - Mike Dantone, Dix Hills FD
- Secretary - Karen Blackburn, Huntington Manor FD
- Treasurer - Steve Lauschus, East Northport FD
- Sgt-at-Arms - Pete Colletta, Smithtown FD
- Chaplain - Fred Friedman, Smithtown FD

A high point of the evening was recognizing Past Chief Ed Swenson of the Nesconset Fire Department for **50 Years of Service**:



On March 21 the Islip Town Fire Police Association held their Annual Election Meeting at the Holbrook Fire Department where the following Officers were elected for the coming year:

- President - Joseph Nolan, West Islip FD
- 1st Vice President - Philip Pignataro, Holbrook FD
- 2nd Vice President - Kevin Parkan, East Islip FD
- Secretary - Susan Orlando, Bohemia FD
- Treasurer - Edward Curry, Holbrook FD
- Sgt-at-Arms - James Smith, Bay Shore FD
- Chaplain - Susan Orlando, Bohemia FD

The new officers were sworn in by our newly elected President Jon Wicks at their May Meeting at the Islip Fire Department:



Left to Right: James Smith, Edward Curry, Susan Orlando, Philip Pignataro, Joe Nolan. Not Pictured: Kevin Parkan



Left to Right: Jeff Bressler, Tony Campana, Chris Mele, Mike Dantone, Karen Blackburn, Pete Colletta, Fred Friedman

In addition, awards were given to outgoing President Karen Blackburn, outgoing Vice President Jeff Bressler, and outgoing Sgt-at-Arms Tony Campana.



On Saturday, March 22, 2025 I had the extreme pleasure of presenting a **75 Year Certificate** to Ex-Captain Martin "Marty" Montag of the Riverhead Fire Department Fire Police Patrol Company Number 1.



The Region 7 Spring Meeting was held on Friday, March 28 at the Westhampton Beach Fire Department where the following slate of Officers was elected for 2025-2026:

- Director - Chris Mele, Smithtown FD
- Secretary - Debra Keller, Westhampton Beach FD
- Treasurer - Bill Mullane, Center Moriches FD
- Chaplain - Fred Friedman, Smithtown FD
- Deputy Chaplain - Joe Nolan, West Islip FD
- Sgt-at-Arms - Gary Ruggiero, Smithtown FD



Region 7 Officers being sworn in by VFPASNY Past President Frank Guarino. Left to Right: Bill Mullane, Joe Nolan, Chris Mele, Fred Friedman, Debra Keller. Not Pictured: Gary Ruggiero

On April 6, the Babylon Town Fire Police Association held their Installation Brunch at Captain Bill's in Bay Shore. The slate of Officers for 2025 - 2026 are:

- President - Ken DeFreitas, West Babylon FD
- Vice President - Mark A. Stone, Deer Park FD
- Treasurer - Gary Stecher, West Islip FD
- Sgt-at-Arms - Shirley Cote, Farmingdale FD
- Trustee - Jack Welliver, East Farmingdale FD
- Trustee - Nancy Delasalle, Deer Park FD
- Trustee - Steve Cianchetta, East Farmingdale FD

It was a very nice event and here is a picture of the Officers being sworn in by Assistant Chief Ken Rios of the Deer Park Fire Department:



Left to Right: Ken DeFreitas, Jack Welliver, Mark A. Stone, Gary Stecher, Shirley Cote, Nancy Delasalle, Steve Cianchetta

On April 15, the South Fork Fire Police Association held their Annual Election meeting at the Westhampton Beach Fire Department and the following Officers were elected for the coming year:

- President - Donna Bennett, Southampton FD
- Vice President - Nancy Lynch, Wethampton Beach FD
- Secretary - Debra Keller, Westhampton Beach FD
- Treasurer - Barry Vicik, Eastport FD
- Sgt-at-Arms - Kevin Sickler, Hampton Bays FD



Left to Right: Kevin Sickler, Debra Keller, Donna Bennett, Nancy Lynch, Barry Vicik



On April 17, the North Fork Fire Police Association held their Annual Election meeting at the East Marion Fire Department where the following Officers were elected for the coming year:

- President: Kevin Mitchell, Southold FD
- Vice President: Jim Rocco, Cutchogue FD
- Secretary/Treasurer: Tony Cassone, Southold FD



Left to Right: Tony Cassone, Kevin Mitchell, Jim Rocco

At the VFPASNY Annual Convention held in Kingston May 8-10 Region 7 received the following Regional Attendance Awards:

- Most Members in Attendance at the 2024 1st Annual Zoom Training with 289 out of 555.
- Most Members in Attendance at the 2024 2nd Annual Zoom Training with 253 out of 481.
- Most Members in Attendance at the 2024 Fall Meeting with 31 out of 110.
- Most Members in Attendance at the 2025 Fire Police Refresher Zoom Training with 691 out of 925.
- Most Members in Attendance at the 2025 Spring Meeting with 22 out of 65.
- Most Members in Attendance for the year 2024-2025 with 1,307 out of 2,389.

The Brookhaven Town Fire Police Association held their Swearing in of Officers at their May meeting at the Farmingville Fire Department. The slate of Officers for 2025-2026:

- President - Jamie Dickinson, Rocky Point FD
- 1st Vice President - Michael Nied, Middle Island FD
- 2nd Vice President - Thomas Prendergast, Selden FD
- 3rd Vice President - George Staudt, Blue Point FD
- Treasurer - Cher Stinton - Yaphank FD
- Corresponding Secretary - Yvonne Simpson, Gordon Heights FD
- Recording Secretary - Ellen Nied, Middle Island FD
- Sgt-at-Arms - George Burlingame, Hagerman FD
- Sgt-at-Arms - Carlos Constantino, Selden FD
- Area Trustee, North - Mickey Nassauer, Mount Sinai FD
- Area Trustee, Central - Richard Schor, Middle Island FD
- Area Trustee, South - Mike Hamilton, Selden FD



Suffolk County Sheriff Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr had the honor of swearing in the new Fire Police Association board and was deeply humbled to receive the prestigious Frank Stringer Presidential Award, presented by Fire Police Association President Jamie Dickinson. This award recognizes outstanding leadership, unwavering dedication, and impactful service to the community.



Left to Right: Jamie Dickinson, Michael Nied, Thomas Prendergast, George Staudt, Rich Schor, Yvonne Simpson, Ellen Nied, Cher Stinton, Carlos Constantino, Mike Hamilton, Mickey Nassauer, and George Burlingame

Respectfully submitted by **Chris Mele**, Region 7 Director



VOLUNTEER FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION of the STATE OF NEW YORK

Fall Training & Meeting

Saturday, October 25, 2025

Hilton Garden Inn Troy

235 Hoosick St.

Troy, NY 12180

877-504-9807

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Member VFASNY: Yes _____ No _____. If Yes Member # _____

Training Registration Fee & Lunch Members & Auxiliary: \$20.00 _____
Non-Member: \$35.00 _____

Make checks payable to VFASNY:

Mail registration form & payment to:
Phyllis Dinkelacker, Treasurer
17 N. Vernon St.
Athens, NY 12015

Any questions about registration Call/Text 518-322-6995 or email VFASNYtreas@gmail.com

All registration forms MUST be received by October 10, 2025

There will be NO late registration accepted - NO WALK-INS - There will be no refunds for no shows.

8:00-9:00am	Registration
9:00-10:30am	Morning meeting
10:30-10:45am	Break
10:45-12:00	Training
12:00-1:00pm	Lunch
1:00-2:30pm	Afternoon meeting

To stay at the Hilton Garden Inn Troy, you must contact them directly at (877) 782-9444, the hotel website at www.troy.hgi.com or the group booking link. Overnight stay for Friday and/or Saturday night is \$124 per night which includes breakfast for up to 2 people per room. There is a block of rooms that will be held until September 24, 2025 at this price for us and will be released on September 25th.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK AUXILIARY

Name _____ DOB (optional) _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Name and Relationship V.F.P.A.S.N.Y Member _____

Fire Department Affiliated with _____

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Send This Application and \$3.00 to: Joan Rusin, 1728 Route 20, Skaneateles, NY 13152

Phone (315) 685-9063 • rusins@verizon.net

The V.F.P.A.S.N.Y Auxillary would like to invite you to become a member of our organization. The auxiliary was created to support the Volunteer Fire Police for the betterment of the fire service and to cooperate with V.F.P.A.S.N.Y. We also sponsor two adoptees from the Firemen's Home on the Hudson and sponsor some activities at the home. Any relative of a member in good standing of the V.F.P.A.S.N.Y., but not limited to a spouse, significant other, mother, father, brother, sister, daughter, and son can join our organization. We look forward to having new members and would welcome you with open arms. An application form is above.

Dues are \$3.00 a year.

On this road called life,
you have to take the good with
the bad, smile with the sad,
love what you got, and
remember what you had.
Always forgive, but never forget,
learn from your mistakes, but
never forget. People change.
Things go wrong. But just
remember, the ride goes on.

2025-2026 OFFICERS

President:

Jon Wicks

1st Vice President:

Dorothy Brown

2nd Vice President:

Mark Dinkelacker

Directors:

Dan Franchese

Robert Bennett

John Henninger

David Fairley

Robert Lighthall

Christopher Mele

James McConnell



Lake Huntington Fire Company
DAILY LOTTERY CASH RAFFLE
 DONATION: \$20.00
 FOR THE MONTH OF
NOVEMBER 2025

Based on 7PM Daily Number "Pick 3" - PA Lottery Number
 Straight - Daily Double Excluded, Pick 4 drawn wins.
 YOU MUST KEEP THIS PORTION TO CLAIM PRIZE!

Nov. 1	\$500
Nov. 2	\$200
Nov. 3	\$200
Nov. 4	\$600
Nov. 5	\$400
Nov. 6	\$300
Nov. 7	\$400
Nov. 8	\$200
Nov. 9	\$200
Nov. 10	\$300
Nov. 11	\$200
Nov. 12	\$500
Nov. 13	\$200
Nov. 14	\$300
Nov. 15	\$400
Nov. 16	\$200
Nov. 17	\$200
Nov. 18	\$300
Nov. 19	\$200
Nov. 20	\$200
Nov. 21	\$1000
Nov. 22	\$300
Nov. 23	\$300
Nov. 24	\$400
Nov. 25	\$200
Nov. 26	\$200
Nov. 27	\$200
Nov. 28	\$200
Nov. 29	\$200
Nov. 30	\$200

Prize Drawing: Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____
 Prizes: Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____

Checks mailed to winners!

Cash Raffles

The Lake Huntington Fire Co., in Sullivan County, Region Two, Dept. of Sullivan County Delegate & Fire Police Officer Don Dittmer are selling CASH RAFFLES for THE ENTIRE MONTH of November. They are \$20.00 each.

If interested contact Don at RESCUE90@YAHOO.COM and we can work it out.

Thank you for your support!

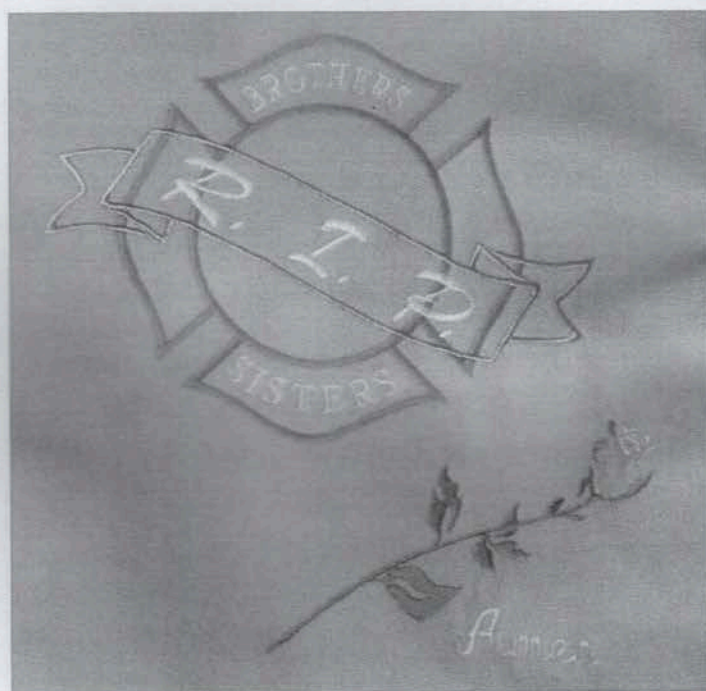
Respect to our Fallen Brothers and Sisters

I had this design made up for my jackets a few months ago to pay Respect to our Fallen Brothers and Sisters. I also have the long stem flower that is placed on the casket along with an Amen.

A large size on the back, a smaller size on my left chest and the flower with Amen on the right chest.

I use no names, no rank and no department name since we are all the same at this time.

If you are interested in this design it is already threaded and available at a shop in Sullivan County. I offer my design to anyone that would like it and I don't charge for it. Contact me at Rescue90@yahoo.com and I'll tell you who/where to contact for it. I wore a shirt with this on it at the convention. God Bless.



THE VOLUNTEER FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

REVISED 05/10/25

To join our Association, fill out the form below and enclose your check for **\$15.00*** made out to **VFPASNY**

RETURN TO: Juan Guzman, VFPASNY Membership Secretary

2 Hawk Nest Lane

Wallkill, NY 12589

Telephone: 845-566-5016

Email: MemSecVFPASNY@outlook.com or VFPNYSmem@gmail.com

County & Region _____

Name: (Please Print) _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Fire Dept. / Company: _____ NYS Code: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Fire Chief's Name: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Are you an active member of your Dept./Co.? Yes: _____ No: _____ Title: _____

Is the Dept. or Company paying for your dues? Yes: _____ No: _____

VFPASNY by-laws require you must be a Fire Police Member or an Associate Member of your Dept./Co./Dis. to join.

Declaring that this information is correct, I hereby apply for membership.

Your Signature: _____

An Officer of the above Firematic unit must certify this application.

CERTIFICATION: I certify that the above applicant is an active member in good standing with our Fire Dept./Co./Dis.

Signature of Dept/Co. Officer: _____ Title: _____

A Director or Member of this Association in good standing needs to sponsor you.

Sponsor: _____ ID # _____

It is the member's responsibility to make sure his / her dues are paid by January each year. When the dues are paid a membership card or sticker will be mailed to you or your Department/Company. Publications & communications are mailed to each member address on file. **Your mailing address and phone number must be kept up to date at all times to ensure you receive communications.** Thank You for applying to our Association.

For office use only: Membership Secretary verification for completeness & accuracy: _____

Application fee enclosed \$ _____ cash / MO / (P)(D) check# _____

Membership Assigned # _____ Date: _____ Notes: _____

VFPASNY AUXILIARY

It was a beautiful ride to and from Kingston, New York where our 71st Annual Convention was held. Eight members of our auxiliary joined us for our meeting. We remembered Gail D'Avignon, who passed away this year, at our Annual Memorial Service. Those who knew her shared how involved she was in the auxiliary in her earlier days. We send our sympathies to her family. Thank you to everyone who sent us scratch offs for our Raffle. Both the 50/50 and the Raffle Trees were successful. Our main task for this meeting was to nominate and vote on officers for

2025-2026. We elected Donna Bauer-Hicks as President; Rosalie Plato, Vice President; Joan Rusin, Treasurer; Pat Feeney, Secretary; Christine Lighthall, Chaplain and Mollie Bleistein, Sergeant-at-Arms. They were sworn in at the banquet where we enjoyed a delicious meal and renewed friendships. Our next meeting will be the Fall Meeting in Troy, NY on October 25, 2025. Put it on your calendar now. I look forward to seeing you there.

Pat Feeney
VFPA-SNY Secretary

Disaster Prep Essentials

Preparation can pave the way to professional success, and that utility extends beyond one's career. Preparation also is a vital component of personal safety, particularly in relation to natural disasters. Knowledge of storms and weather-related events such as hurricanes, tornadoes and floods can be lifesaving, and various government agencies encourage adults and children alike to learn what they can do to stay safe should a storm strike. But it's equally vital to personal safety to assemble a disaster supplies kit. Ready.gov, the official website of the United States Department of Homeland Security, recommends individuals gather and maintain the following items as part of a basic emergency supply kit.

- Water (one gallon per person per day for several days). Keep in mind that the water is not only for drinking, but also for sanitation.
- Food: Each person in your household should have a several-day supply of non-perishable food.
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio with tone alert. Various retailers carry NOAA radios, which typically cost \$50 or less.
- Flashlight: A flashlight for each person in the household is ideal.
- First aid kit.
- Extra batteries: Enough extra batteries to keep flashlights and radios operational during a potentially days-long power outage is recommended.
- Whistle: A power whistle that's loud and carries for a significant distance can be used to signal for help, if necessary.
- Dust mask: Air can become contaminated during a natural disaster, so a dust mask for each person in the household can ensure everyone can safely breathe.
- Plastic sheeting, scissors and duct tape: These materials can be employed to stay safe and warm or cool when ordered to shelter in place.

- **Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties:** Personal sanitation items such as these can help people stay healthy and keep an area sanitary when services such as garbage pickup and water utilities are not operating normally.
- **Wrench or pliers:** Tools such as a wrench and pliers can be used to turn off utilities when it's necessary to do so, such as during a flood.
- **Manual can opener:** A manual can opener can open canned goods during power outages.
- **Local maps:** Local maps of areas around your home, place of business and children's schools can help you get around if roads are closed. Even people who feel they know the areas where they live, work and attend school like the back of their hand are urged to keep maps of such regions readily available.
- **Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery:** Backup chargers and batteries can make it possible to maintain access to potentially lifesaving information and facilitate staying connected with loved ones and neighbors.





Volunteer Fire Police Association of the State of New York Free Training

MARK YOUR CALENDAR August 27th 2025

VFPASNY Virtual Training via Zoom from 7-10pm

The last Virtual Training we held was on January 29, 2025 and had 979 Participants.
Please help us make the August Virtual Training better and join us this day!

The virtual Fire Police training will include two 1 hour programs as follows:

- 1st Training will start at 7pm sharp and running to 8pm with a question and answer portion 8-8:30pm
- 2nd Training will start at 8:30pm sharp and running to 9:30pm with a question and answer portion after 9:30pm

Currently we have the tentative trainings subject to change:

1. The NYS Sheriffs' Association will be presenting their Blue Envelope Program for Autism and their Yellow Dot Program for teen drivers. Both programs include glove box information regarding the driver or passenger of a vehicle that fire police might encounter while directing traffic.
2. Lead meteorologist covering the warning signs and preparation for storms coming our way when we work as Fire Police.

Online pre-registration will be required to attend this training. The pre-registration link will be posted on the VFPASNY.COM Website and loaded up on Facebook in July. An email will be sent to all VFPASNY Members that have an email on file. Anyone that attended the January 2025 FP Refresher will get an email.

Please be advised this Virtual Training will be free for all that want to attend but you must pre-register. However, to give our members benefit of being part of the VFPASNY, Certificates will only be issued to current members of the Association. If you plan to attend and are not a current VFPASNY Member, please consider joining our Association. Go to the State Website noted below and download the Membership Form.

VFPASNY Website at <https://www.vfpasny.com/forms>

Any questions or concerns, please contact the Virtual Training Committee by email
VFPASNYZoom@gmail.com

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL IN THE TRAINING.

Volunteer Fire Police Association State of New York 2026 Convention Schedule

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026

4:00 PM-6:00 PM	Audit of State Books Registration of Members
5:00 PM-7:00 PM	Dinner on Your Own
7:00 PM	TBA

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2026

7:00 AM-9:00 AM	Breakfast
8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Registration
8:00 AM-9:00 AM	Executive Board Meeting Vendors
9:00 AM	Opening Ceremony
9:30 AM-10:30 AM	General Meeting
10:30 AM-12:00 PM	Mercy Flight Ground School
12:00 PM-1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Ladies Meeting (Downstairs)
1:00 PM-2:00 PM	TBA
2:00 PM-4:00 PM	2nd Half General Meeting

REHEARSAL FOR MEMORIAL SERVICE

4:00 PM	Hospitality by the pool opens
6:00 PM-7:00 PM	Dinner
7:00 PM	On Your Own Hospitality Room

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026

7:00 AM-9:00 AM	Breakfast
8:00 AM-8:30 AM	Registration
8:45 AM	Lineup for Memorial Service
9:00 AM-10:00 AM	Memorial Service
10:00 AM-4:00 PM	Ladies Meeting
10:00 AM-6:00 PM	Vendors
10:00 AM-11:00 AM	General Meeting
11:00 AM-12:00 PM	TBA
12:00 PM-1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM-2:00 PM	Election
2:00 PM	Certificates handed out
6:00 PM	Cocktail Bar
7:00 PM-10:00 PM	Installation Banquet & Awards

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026

7:00 AM-9:00 AM	Breakfast
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VOLUNTEER FIRE/POLICE ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE of NY
Crowne Plaza, 7001 Buffalo Ave, Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Lodging / Meal Reservation Form

LODGING / MEAL PACKAGES

Package	Sgl Inc Tax / Sgl tax ex	Dbl Incl Tax / Dbl Tax Ex
3 Night	\$558.94 / \$522.00	\$787.88 / \$714.00
2 Night	\$392.28 / \$363.00	\$564.56 / \$506.00
1 Night	\$186.26 / \$172.00	\$262.52 / \$234.00

Package rates are quoted per room, per stay

Package rates include all taxes, fees & gratuities

To claim Tax Exemption, this form must be accompanied by your organization's check or credit card and the corresponding NYS Tax Exemption Certificate ST119

The 3 Night Package includes: 3 nights lodging in a standard room on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, buffet breakfast, buffet lunch and buffet dinner on Friday, buffet breakfast, buffet lunch and Banquet dinner on Saturday, buffet breakfast on Sunday and applicable taxes, fees and gratuities.

The 2 Night Package includes: 2 nights lodging in a standard room on Friday and Saturday nights, buffet dinner on Friday, buffet breakfast, buffet lunch and Banquet dinner on Saturday, buffet breakfast on Sunday and applicable taxes, fees and gratuities.

The 1 Night Package includes: 1 night lodging in a standard room on Saturday night, the Banquet dinner on Saturday, buffet breakfast on Sunday, all applicable taxes, fees and gratuities.

Room Only Packages are not available. Package Rates for Triple/Quad Occupancy – Contact Hotel Sales Dept

PAYMENT FOR LODGING/MEAL PACKAGE:

To confirm your reservation, PAYMENT IN FULL is required with this form. Payment can be made with a check, credit card or cash.

Check # _____

Credit Card # _____

Name on Credit Card _____

Expiration Date/Security Code _____

Amount of Payment _____

**** Checks should be made payable to Crowne Plaza ****

Guest Name: _____

Fire Department Name: _____

Billing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Guestroom Occupancy (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE)

Single/1 Person _____ Double/2 ppl _____

If more than 1 guest in room, please list roommate below:

Roommate: _____

SATURDAY BANQUET MEAL CHOICES

Please indicate entrée choices/counts for Saturday Banquet

_____ Filet of Sirloin in Demi Glaze Sauce

_____ French Breast of Chicken in Rosemary Demi Glaze

_____ Grilled Bone in Pork Chop with Apple Chutney

_____ Vegetarian Option of the Chef's Choice

Lodging Not Required, Please sign: _____

COMMUTER MEALS/guests not staying overnight (per person/day)

Breakfast \$27.06/day incl Tax () Friday () Saturday () Sunday

Breakfast \$22.00/day Tax Ex () Friday () Saturday () Sunday

Lunch \$29.60/day incl tax () Friday () Saturday

Lunch \$27.00/day Tax Ex () Friday () Saturday

Dinner Friday () \$39.36 Incl Tax / () \$32.00 Tax Ex

Saturday Banquet () \$49.20 Incl Tax / () \$40.00 Tax Ex

**** Please indicate Saturday Banquet Meal selection above****

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL PAYMENT/GUEST INFO ABOVE

FULL PAYMENT IS REQUIRED WITH THIS FORM FOR COMMUTER MEALS. PLEASE SEE PAYMENT SECTION ABOVE.

GUESTROOMS, Included in the Packages

Traditional rooms have 2 Queen Beds (majority of the hotel) or 1 King bed. Room type requests are based on availability and cannot be guaranteed. King Jacuzzi Suites are subject to availability at an additional \$50 plus tax and 9% destination fee/day.

Handicap Accessible room needed? _____

Special requests _____

Check in is 4pm / Check out is 11am

FEATURES of our Hotel:

Guestroom amenities include a mini fridge, individual serve coffee maker and complimentary wireless internet. Hotel has a large indoor heated pool, lounge, restaurant/bar on site and fitness center.

PARKING is complimentary for all guests attending this event.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Reservation requests should be received by the Hotel by April 14, 2026.

Reservations requests received after this date are subject to availability.

CANCELLATIONS must be received in writing by April 28, 2026

Cancellations received after this date will not be refunded.

Telephone reservations/internet bookings will **NOT** be accepted.

Emailed reservation forms must be completed and include a major credit card. This will be processed for payment in full no later than April 30, 2026.

Reservations will be guaranteed from date of arrival to date of departure. Credit will not be given for early departure or any missed meals.

Hotel is completely **NON-SMOKING**. A \$250.00 fee will be charged to any guest smoking in their guestroom.

SHOULDER DATES: Guestroom rates for arrival prior to May 14, 2026 or for departure after May 17, 2026 will be accepted at the Rate of \$110.00 plus tax and destination fee, based on availability.

CONFIRMATIONS: Confirmation of your reservation will be emailed or mailed using the information on this form.

PLEASE SIGN TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE ABOVE:

Any questions, contact:

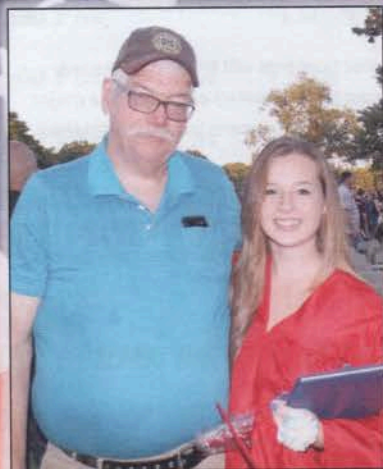
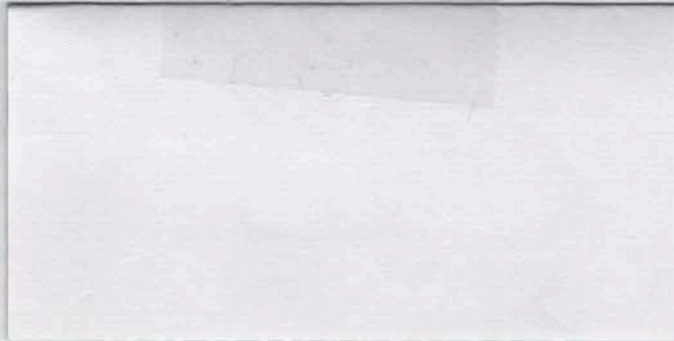
Denise Peacock, Director of Sales at (716) 299-0344 ext 2241

dpeacock@cpniagarafalls.com

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Wilson (Bill) F. McKay

June 30, 1950 - April 30, 2025

Wilson (Bill) F. McKay of Chatham, NY passed away on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at the age of 74. He was born on June 30, 1950, the son of the Late Lester McKay Sr. and Catherine (Wood) McKay. He was best known for his gentle nature and love of people and community. He worked as a bus driver for COARC assisting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. He had over 50 years in the volunteer fire service as a former member of Defreestville Fire and Mellenville Fire; he was a life member of South Schodack Volunteer Fire and Ocean (Chatham) Fire Company #1. In addition, he was actively involved in Chatham's Fire Police, Columbia County Fire Police, Treasurer of the Columbia County Volunteer Fire Police, Region 8 Director of Volunteer Fire Police State of New York receiving the George E. Woodman Award, Hudson Mohawk Volunteer Fire Association, and past president and member of Loyal Order of the Blue Vests and various other organizations related to

community services. He was past president of Ocean Fire Company #1, receiving the Axe award in 2024. He also volunteered for the Columbia County Office for the Aging at the Greenport, Chatham, and Valatie sites, St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Chatham. Over the years he has received many recognitions and awards all in relation to his community service.

Wilson is pre-deceased by his wife, Linda and brother, Peter McKay, Sr., as well as sisters-in-law, Sarah McKay and Pamela McKay.

He is survived by his daughter, Laura Lynde (Todd), granddaughters, Kylien Lynde and Jacquelyn Lynde, great-grandson, Camdyn Evans, brothers, Lester McKay, Sr. (Carol) and Dennis McKay, Sr. as well as many nieces and nephews.