

THE TRUMPET



ROCKLAND COUNTY
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION, Inc

“COMPLIMENTARY COPY”

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RCVFA BIO TOWN VP-HAVERSTRAW



Lisa Castaldo is currently the Town of Haverstraw Vice President and a member of the RCVFA since 2000. Lisa joined the association shortly after becoming a firefighter at SW Johnson SFE #1 in 1999. Prior to that, from 1994 - 1999, Lisa Was a member and officer in the SWJ Ladies Auxiliary? Lisa made the switch to firefighter at a time when female members were an exception in the fire service and is glad that this is now an accepted norm. Lisa is proud that the Rockland County all volunteer firefighting service has remained strong through its singular ability to recognize and utilize the strengths of all its diverse members. Lisa rose through the officer ranks at SWJ and is a Safety Officer, Past President and former Lieutenant of that fire company. She is currently a Fire Warden for the West Haverstraw Fire Department, which is a village department consisting of SWJ and Vol. Hose Co.2.

Lisa has been an active member and officer in many of Rockland County's firefighting associations over the past 24 years. She currently serves as Chairman of the Rockland County Fire Advisory Board, President of the Rockland County Safety Officers Association, and Chairman of the Rockland County Fire Services Museum Board. Prior offices include President of the Rockland County Fire Police and Historian for the Rockland County Chiefs Association.

Lisa is the mother of 6 children and volunteered in Just for Fun baseball, Haverstraw Little League, NRCSD PTA, Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas, and other activities as they were growing up. Her youngest son currently attends the University at Buffalo with the goal of becoming a school psychologist. Her other children have begun families of their own, and Lisa has nine grandbabies currently; they all live in different areas around the east coast. Professionally, Lisa has been an educator for 28 years where her focus has been meeting the needs of students with disabilities, and is currently an Assistant Superintendent in the Suffern Central School District. She holds several degrees, including a doctorate from St. John's University. In preparation for semi-retirement, Lisa is an adjunct professor at St. Thomas Aquinas College, where she enjoys instructing the future generation of educators. Lisa makes her home in Garnerville, in a house that sits in the SWJ response area, but is within response distance to the Hillcrest Fire Company/Moleston Fire District, where her hubby Pete Gessner, is chief of the department.

BY-LAW CHANGE

The By-law committee has reviewed the By-Laws and the following amendment was submitted for consideration. The first reading of the proposals was at the 7/14 meeting in Hillcrest. The second reading and discussion of the changes and then a vote on the amendment was at the meeting on August 11th at Columbian Engine in Spring Valley.

Article IV Meetings and Conventions

Section 1:

(c) At all meetings of the Board of Directors consisting of twenty-five elected members: (Officers (8), Town Vice Presidents (5) and Town Directors (11)), a majority of at least 11 members present shall constitute a quorum to conduct business.

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**111TH ANNUAL
ROCKLAND COUNTY
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS
CONVENTION AND PARADE**

**SATURDAY
SEPT. 9TH
2PM**

Parade Route:
Line up will be along Main St. in
Garnerville
North to W. Railroad Ave.
Right on W. Railroad Ave.
crossing Route 9W continuing
on E. Railroad Ave right onto
Sainsfordale Ave
Left on Bowline Rd. to finish

and friend to many of us in the fire service and the - community. - Tom Bierds

FEW FIRE FACTS FROM FRIENDS



Congratulations to Stony Point for winning the Rocklands Bravest Bowling League 2023

The 2023 Suffern Fire Department softball team. team finished in second place in the Rockland County Fireman's Softball League this season.

TURN BACK THE CLOCK



Valley Cottage, 1968

CARTOONS BY PETE CARNEY



Chief, thanks for putting me on the Fast Team. I knew my high school track shoes would come in handy some day.

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AAR= TACTICAL AGILITY

It is a leader's responsibility to conduct an After-Action Review (AAR) following every time we go to work at alarms. FD Leaders may not have been trained to run an AAR. The National Wildfire Coordinating Group has come up with an ingenious and simple way to conduct an After-Action Review (AAR). See their website for more details. They use three questions: **What?...what did we do? So what?...** what were the results of the strategy and tactics we used? **Now what?....**Is that what we wanted to happen?...do we keep or change the tactic? Here are the steps to help you run your next AAR.

1. What?

Begin by asking members to describe the alarm and desired outcomes.

- **What** was the company/department main effort or assigned mission?
- **What** is the purpose of reviewing this event?
- **What** expectations do you have for this AAR?

AL MAGNATTA AWARD



On Aug. 14th the Congers Fire Department and the VFW Post 9215, presented 2022 Firefighter of the Year Award to Al Magnatta. Al, with his 77 years of service in Congers and his 58 years as Deputy Fire Coordinator, has been and still is a mentor, coach

2. So What?

Ask for member’s observations on what actions were effective and what actions were not effective or created tactical problems.

- **So what** are your general reactions after this event?
- **So what** specific things were difficult or created friction during the alarm?
- **So what** positive actions occurred during the event?

3. Now What?

Finish by identifying any proposed follow-up actions.

- **Now what** tactical learning points can we take away, sop sustains or changes?
- **Now what** follow up action should happen and by whom?
- **Now what** aspects should be worked on first?
- **Now what** would the consequence be if there is no follow-up action?

Keep this simple list on a card on the officer’s seat dash board, pull it down and run your next AAR on the back step. It will help you lead your FD to building tactical agility. Jerry Knapp

RCFCA SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Declan Facinelli

Declan is a graduate of Albertus Magnus high school and is the son of Hillcrest firefighter and FDNY Battalion Chief Jeff Facinelli. He graduated in the top 10% of his class and plans to attend Marist College Declan participated in many community service activities including Meals on. Wheels, Midnight Runs, Singing for Veterans, and the Nyack Street Fair. Additionally he was a member of the Ventas Honor Choir, editor of the Albert Literary Magazine and starred in school productions of Shrek the Musical, Legally Blonde, the Sound of Music and How to Succeed m Business Without Really Trying In his essay. Declan stated that he would not be who is today without the support of the firemen of his father s fire department. Declan would like to give back in his career, changing the lives of those who are in need. He would like to ensure that everyone feels accepted and that there is always someone there to help them and he will be there by pursuing a career that allows him to give back to the community and help others.

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Daniel Albanese

Daniel is a graduate of Tappan Zee high school and the nephew of Joe Robinson, ex-Chief of Wayne Hose FD. He is a volunteer firefighter with the Blauvelt FD and enjoys training every Monday night. Daniel recently earned his Eagle Scout ranking by building a memorial patio at the Sons of Italy facility in Blauvelt and has volunteered with them at their Italian Feast Bocce tournament and Christmas parties for children. He is a recreation basketball coach at St. Catharine's parish CYO as well. Daniel is a member of the National Honor Society and the Spanish Honors Society and participated in VAASA the Tn M Music Honors Society, JV Football and the Principal's Building Leadership Team in high school. Additionally, Daniel was President of his class for all 4 years of high school and works as general manager of the Tallman Beach and Pool Club. He plans to attend the University of Delaware, where he hopes to join the local fire department or first responder group. He would like to become involved in his new community and help when needed as he feels this is important. Daniel stated that "volunteering is a lifelong endeavor and the feeling of helping others is priceless."



Jake Kear

Jake is a graduate of Clarkstown South high school and is the son of Hillcrest FD firefighter and County Fire Coordinator Chris Kear. Jake is a member of the National Honor Society who excelled in athletics as well. He was the Captain of his Varsity Football and Baseball teams and is grateful that these roles gave him the opportunity to help and lead underclassmen athletes. Jake has enjoyed participating in sports throughout his school career and states that he has always felt safe when playing sports. He would like upcoming generations to feel the same way and intends to major in physical education when attending SUNY Cortland in the fall. He would like to enable others to enjoy time outdoors and push themselves to be the best they can when teaching students after graduating college. Jake is very excited to be starting this "next chapter in his life that will help him learn and develop as a young man."

ROCKLAND COUNTY LODD COMMITTEE



Rockland County LODD Committee working to build Rockland County Firefighters Memorial. The committee consisting of members who care deeply about the volunteer firefighters in Rockland, led by Evan Humphrey and Jason DiSalvo, with fellow members, Director of Fire and Emergency Services Chris Kear, Howard Gerber, Frank Bifulco, Mike Kramer, John Erzen, Brian Duddy, Brian Ready, Deb Stewart and Frank Jewitt have been meeting for over a year now. We have made significant progress with the support of County Executive Day, and the unanimous vote of the Rockland County Legislature. We are pictured here with County Executive Day signing the resolution approving funding for design and construction assistance.

THE MEMORIAL MONUMENT WILL HONOR THE BRAVERY AND DEDICATION OF OUR FALLEN HEROES. It will be located on the lawn in front of the Rockland County Courthouse. We will have a place to honor and respect our fallen firefighters who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

There is still a lot of work to be done, and there will be additional fundraising efforts by our fire services throughout the County to bring this project to completion.

WE SADLY REPORT THAT:



Bryan Hennig died Aug. 26, 2023, age 62. He was the NJ-NY Volunteer Firemen's Association President, Lyndhurst Fire Department EX-Chief and Bergen County Fire Marshal.

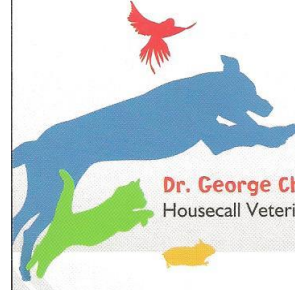


Joseph J. McKenna, died Aug 28, 2023, age 87. He was an original member of the Piermont Underwater Rescue Team, and the Volunteer Fire Association of Tappan for over 60 years where he was a past president.

George M. Mulligan, CPA

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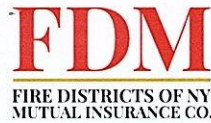
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CALENDAR**LISTINGS ARE FREE****845-364-8800****Deadline for Next Issue Last Wed. 9/27/2023**

- Fri, Sep 8 ● RCVFA 111th Annual convention, Hosted by SW Johnson at Kruckers, Parade Sat, Sep 9, @ 2 PM in West Haverstraw.
- Thur, Sep 14 ● Museum Board, 7:30 PM, @FTC, with Chairperson Lisa Castaldo.
- Wed, Sep 13 ● RC Fire Police Assoc, 7:30 PM, at Pearl River H&L with Pres. Stewart Rhymer
- Sun, Sep 17 ● Pearl River Hook & Ladder Auto Show, 9-3 PM, Vehicle registration fee \$20.00. Food provided by Pearl River Hook & Ladder. Live music by Beauty & the Grease. Trophies, 50/50s.
● Stony Point Fire Dept, Dueling Pianos, 199 Central Hwy, Stony Point, 1-4 PM, \$50 p/p or \$450 Table of 10, Contact Melanie 315-730-8128, Dylan 845-269-2116, or Dan 845-300- 3784, Light food, Beer/Wine/Soda included
- Mon-Wed, Sep 18-20 ● Andy Fredericks Training Days, Alexandria
- Wed. Sep 20 ● RC Vol Safety Officers Assoc, BOD 6:30 PM. Mtg 7:30 PM, at Hillcrest, with Pres. Lisa Castaldo
● RCVFA Ladies Auxiliary, 7:30 PM, at Sparkill, with Pres Carol Cich
- Thur, Sep 21 ● RC Fire Chiefs Assoc, 7:30 PM, at PR Hook & Ladder, with Pres. Kevin Huslinger, Past-Presidents Night
● OCVFA Regular Meeting, Refreshments/Dinner 7 PM, Meeting 7:30 PM, at Washington Heights FD - convention meeting
- Thur, Sep 21-23 ● Westchester County VFA, 117th Convention, Portchester
- Fri, Sep 22 ● Nanuet Fire Dept Ladies Auxiliary, Vendor Fair, 6-9 PM. 29 Old Middletown Rd, Nanuet
- Sat, Sep 23 ● OCVFA Parade hosted by Washington Heights Fire Company. Line Up is 1:00 and Step Off is 2:00
- Tue, Sep 26 ● Association of Fire Districts, 7:30PM, at Nanuet, with Pres. Vincent Pacella
- Wed, Sep 27 ● RCVFA Brd of Dir, 7:30 PM, at SW Johnson, with Chairman Chuck Larkin, Re-Organization
● Deadline for articles for Trumpet
- Thur, Sep 28 ● Fire Advisory Board, 7:30 PM, @FTC, with Chairperson Lisa Castaldo
- Fri, Sep 29 ● NJ&NY VFA, 8:00 PM, at Leonia FD, 1 Borough Pl, Leonia, NJ 07605, with Pres Roy DeYoung
- Sat, Sep 30 ● Vol. Hose Co.2 & SWJ Dual Wetdown at Pecks Pond, West Haverstraw
- Sun, Oct 1 ● New City FD, Fire Prevention Open House, 1-4 PM, FREE, Open to Public
- Thur, Oct 5, ● NYS FF Appreciation Day declared by Governor Hochul
- Sat, Oct 7 ● South Spring Valley Wetdown for 25-1500 & 25-99, 5-11 PM, Live Music, Hamburgers, Soda
- Sun, Oct 8 ● Fire-EMS Safety Officers Assoc of NY, Free Conference, at Hillcrest FD, 374 N Main St, Spring Valley, in-person or via zoom, 8 AM-2 PM, 4 Speakers: Dave Fischler, Jeff Cool, Rev Fleischmann & Ellen Komosinske, and TBA, continental breakfast and lunch will be provided, also certificates, non-core CMEs, emsfdsafety@gmail.com
- Wed, Oct 11 ● RC Fire Police Assoc. 7:30 PM, with Pres Stewart Rhymer, memorial service
- Fri, Oct 13 ● RC Firefighters Emerald Society, 1930, at Rockland Lake, with Pres Matt DeGennaro
● RCVFA Next Meeting, 7:30 PM, at Vol Hose Co.2 West Haverstraw, with Pres. Kurt Mulligan

Future Events

- Wed, Oct 18 ● RC Vol Safety Officers Assoc. BOD 6:30 PM. Mtg 7:30 PM, at Nanuet Fire Dept, with Pres Lisa Castaldo
● RCVFA Ladies Auxiliary, 7:30 PM, at Pearl River H&L, with Pres Carol Cich
- Thur, Oct 19 ● RC Fire Chiefs Assoc, 7:30 PM, at Hillcrest, with Pres. Kevin Huslinger
- Wed, Oct 25 ● RCVFA Brd of Dir, 7:30 PM, at 6-100 Hillcrest Fire House, with Chairman Chuck Larkin
- Thur. Oct 26 ● Fire Advisory Board, 7:30 PM, @FTC, with Chairperson Lisa Castaldo
- Fri, Oct 27 ● Orangetown Fir Co #1, Monster Mash, 6-10 PM, 92 Depot Place, Nyack, 16 & Over, Costume Contest, \$40, orangetownfireconol@gmail.com
● NJ&NY VFA, 8:00 PM, at Bergenfield Prospect Fire Co#1, 238 W Clinton Ave, Bergenfield, NJ 07646, with Pres Roy DeYoung
- Sat, Oct 28 ● National First Responders Day
- Tue, Oct 31 ● Orangeburg Fire Dept, Halloween Parade

To view this newsletter on line, please go to the following web site:<http://www.rcvfa.com/trumpet.html>

Thanks to Sheryl Rose, Stuart Gates, and John Kryger

Please email Sheryl Rose with any Fire Department news, dates of events, fundraisers, etc. SherylERose58@gmail.com

Garnerville, NY 10923
PO Box 16
RCVFA TRUMPET



**FROM THE
FIRE COORDINATOR'S OFFICE**



UPDATE ON FIRE OPS BUILDING 9/6/2023

