



THE BOOSTER LINE



A NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO GREENE COUNTY FIRE VOLUNTEERS

Winter 2025 (February)

PAST PRESIDENTS DINNER

On November 16, the annual Greene County Past Presidents dinner was held at the Rip Van Winkle Country Club. Honored this year was outgoing GCVFA President Antonio Fuentes (Athens VFD) and Frank Roberts, Greene County Fire Police (Athens VFD). A delightful time was had by all.

Photos courtesy of John Miller.



GCVFA Past Presidents





*GCVFA Ladies Auxiliary Past Presidents
with current President Heidi McGarry*



*Greene County Fire Police Past Presidents
with this year's honoree, Frank Roberts*



*GCVFA 1st VP Jason Haines honoring Frank Roberts,
Past President Fire Police*



*Greene County Chiefs Association
Past Presidents*

GREENE COUNTY CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Greene County Christmas party at the New York State Firefighters Home in Hudson, was hosted this year by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Greene County Volunteer Firemen's Association on Sunday December 1, 2024. This included the annual Christmas Parade of Lights. During the day, the ladies passed out homemade cookies to the residents of the Home during the day, with a special visit to each one from none other than Santa Claus.

The Auxiliary thanks Santa for his time visiting the rooms, as well as his appearance in the parade. Thank you to all who donated for the event and/or took part in the parade. The entire day brought a smile to the residents faces as all became a child at heart.

Note: Sadly, several Greene County residents passed away shortly after the party. We post their photos here in honor and memory of each one.



*RIP – Floyd Falke
Palenville FD*

*RIP – Helen Stauder
Cairo Hose Ladies Aux.*

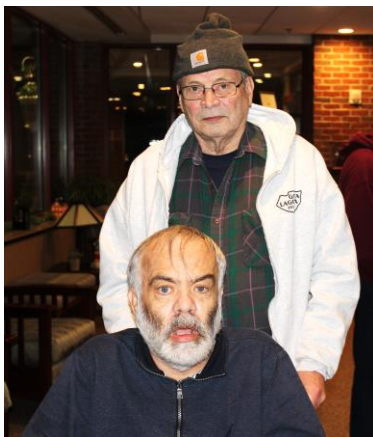




RIP – Helen Tomlin



RIP – Shirley DeLuca, Citizens Hose, Catskill







Fire Assistance Fund

sponsored by

Greene County Volunteer Firemen's Association & Ladies Auxiliary

HAS THERE BEEN A FIRE IN YOUR DISTRICT?

*We are here to help the residents of Greene County,
in the time of a fire emergency.*

**Have your Chief contact us to
get help for your community
member(s) in need:**

Frank Roberts 518.610.3556

Marilyn Farrell 518.943.5377



Greene County Volunteer Firemen's Association & Ladies Auxiliary



**Fire Assistance Fund
Assistance Request Form**

**This form must be submitted by the Chief of the Fire District,
where there has been a fire, to qualify the victim for assistance.**

Return this form in a timely manner to either:
Frank Roberts at froberts126@gmail.com or 518.610.3556
Marilyn Farrell at pcktvch7@icloud.com or 518.943.5377

Date of loss: _____

Name of Person who suffered a loss: _____

Contact information: _____ Phone #: _____

Location of fire: _____

Fire District: _____

Cause of fire: _____

Type of loss: ☐ Total loss ☐ Room & content fire ☐ Smoke & water damage
☐ Injuries _____

Describe loss: _____

In the case of a fatality, who should be contacted: _____

Contact information of above stated individual: _____

Fire Chief's name: (please print) _____

Fire Chief's contact information: _____

Fire Chief's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Treasurer Use Only:

Assistance Amount: _____ Check #: _____

Assistance Type: _____

Date of Assistance: _____

From Around Greene County

Athens Fire Department



It's a family affair . . .
Congratulations to Michael "Mickey" Brady Sr., Michael "Mikey" Brady Jr., and Sophie Brady, who graduated Firefighter I on November 13, 2024, at the Rensselaer Fire and EMS training facility.



Catskill Fire Department



The following were elected to serve as officers for 2025

Chief- Ed Dolan

First Assistant Chief- Bill Smith

Second Assistant Chief- Brian Rinaldi

Captain- Addison Allen

Lieutenants - Angie Colon & Dakota Hough

Captain Fire police- Ron Smith

President- Paul Overbaugh

Vice President- Grant Hack

Second vice president- Dave Cramer

Directors- Hank Coons and Bill Rinaldi

Treasurer- Joe Kozloski

Secretary- Paul Ormerod

Financial secretary- Pam Wright

Sargent of arms- Blaze Legg

Deepest gratitude to outgoing Chief John Holt who has served over 10 consecutive years as an officer, with the last five as Chief of Department.

Cornell Hook & Ladder



Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Company will be hosting their annual Community Day and Craft/Vendor Fair on May 3, 2025 from 10 am to 2 pm. This is a free event with activities for children. Stop by and shop the many local vendors that will be present.



Happy New Year! On January 1, the Officer's at NBFD made breakfast for the members and their families to show how much they are appreciated!!



Merry Christmas.

Cornell Hook & Ladder took time out from the festivities of the annual Greene County Christmas Party to visit two of their members who are residents in the home.

Kids of all ages enjoyed the 4th Annual Drive Thru to Santa Event!



Thank you to all the generous people who left “boot donations” at Cornell H & L for the Toys For Tots drive. Seen in the photo are the many toys that were purchased and helped Santa bring a smile to the face of a child



East Durham Fire Company



Big thank you to Jay Fink and WRIP Radio (97.9) for always supporting East Durham's annual breakfast fundraisers and helping spread the word! Your generosity means so much!



Thank you to The Shamrock House for hosting East Durham's Annual Installation and Christmas Party!



Congratulations to the following for receiving special recognition that evening.:

Garry Deatsch - Firefighter of the Year



Connor Jackson – Junior Firefighter of the Year



Years of Service:
Rusty Sala - 45 Years



Danny Byrne - 30 Years

Johnny Bondrew - Officer of the Year

John P. Bondrew - 15 Years
Johnny Bondrew - 15 Years



Russell Jennings - 10 Years

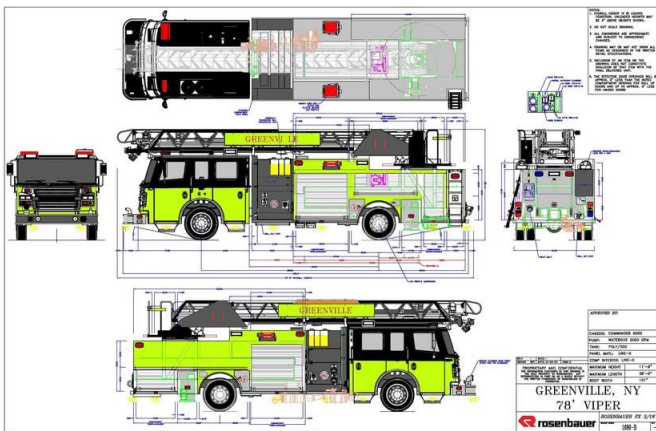


Freehold Fire Company



The Freehold Volunteer Fire Company continues to grow with 4 new members in the last two months.

Greenville Fire Company



The Greenville Fire District #1 has ordered this Rosenbauer Viper Aerial Quint. Mounted on a Commander Chassis, it features a 3-section steel 78' Viper Ladder with Smart Controls, 2000 GPM Waterous Pump, 300 Gallon UPF water tank, Harrison 15kw generator and all electric Akron Navigator valve controls. This is the second Rosenbauer for Greenville.

Kiskatom Fire Department

On December 9th, Kiskatom Fire Department held their annual Christmas Awards Dinner at Rip Van Winkle Country Club. This year honored were the following members:

Mike Overbaugh 40 years

Bruce Shanley Bill Xedis - 35 years

Kendall Stanley, Joe Afronti - 25 years

Katie Christman & Ian Sutherland - 5 years





Firefighter of the Year Steve Hansen

Most Dedicated Firefighter: Rob Miller
(made 91 % of the calls, meetings and drills)



Assemblyman Chris Tague presented Mike Overbaugh and Steve Hansen citations from the Assembly.

Leeds Hose Company



At the recent annual meeting of the Leeds Hose Co. the following were elected for 2025:

Chief: Cliff Vankleeck

1st Assistant: Dan Cooke

2nd Assistant: Doug Lamnek

3rd Assistant: Craig Rowell

4th Assistant: Tommy McCullough III

President: Brian Pforte

Vice President: Amanda Blake

Secretary-Treasurer Kristin Brazie

**Directors: Dave Brockway, Tommy McCullough III, Paul Vandermark,
Richard Schmidt & Logan Mudge**



Leeds Hose Company #1 received a \$1-Million NYS Grant from Governor Kathy Hochul recently. This funding is part of the state's V-FIRE program championed by NYS Senator Michelle Hinchey that is distributing \$25 Million to rural Volunteer Fire Companies this year. Leeds Hose Company will be using this funding to support the replacement of its Radio/Siren tower, training, recruitment, and ADA compliance upgrades to the station.

Oak Hill-Durham Fire Department

Oak Hill-Durham Fire Co and Ladies Auxiliary held their annual installation of officer's dinner & service awards on Saturday January 11th. Congratulations to the officers for 2025:



President: Randy Sattler
Vice President: Kristy Borwegen
Secretary: Kevin Sattler
Treasurer: Abby Langdon
Sgt at Arms: Sydney Kohrs
Chaplain: Raey Mahler
Board of Trustees: Bruce Stock,
George Stock, Lacey Sala, Randy Sattler,
and Connie Whitbeck

Chief: Connie Whitbeck
1st Asst Chief: Kevin Sattler
2nd Asst Chief: Sydney Kohrs
3rd Asst Chief: Tom Allan

Ladies Auxiliary:
President Lillian Beechert
Vice President: Sarian Gleeson
Secretary: Becky Wood-Hulbert
Treasurer: Connie Whitbeck



Robert Haller-Firefighter of the Year.

Bruce Stock – 10 yrs



Mitzi Su Fremgen – 25 yrs/Life Member



Connie Whitbeck &
Theresa Borwegen –
30 yrs



Ralph Borwegen – 50 yrs



Palenville Fire Department

One of the many stops Santa Claus made in Greene County at Christmas was the Palenville Firehouse. He was a big hit with young & old alike, as well as all creatures.



Prattsville Hose Company

Congratulations to the winners of the annual gun raffle! Thank you everyone for the support.

1st Prize- Steve DeWitt 2nd Prize- Dave Rikard 3rd Prize- Tom Cuccia



Recently several Prattsville members took their oath of office to serve as Fire Police officers!

West Athens – Lime Street Fire Company



Ground has been broken and things are moving along with the construction of the new WALs firehouse.

When Santa made his rounds in the annual Santa Run sponsored by WALs, a four-legged friend had to get in the sleigh to say hi to Santa & his elf.



A Tip of the Helmet



Over the past few months, we have seen our Greene County Firefighters respond to all types of calls. Several area companies sent personnel to Ulster and Orange County to assist in fighting wildfires. There have been structure fires with total losses. There have been accidents with fire and loss of life. Fortunately, we have not experienced any line of duty deaths.

The one constant in all of these situations is that those who respond are volunteers. They unselfishly give of their time and respond in all types of weather; on holidays; in the middle of the night. As volunteers they receive no pay and often are overlooked.

But these firefighters are truly angels amongst us and to that we say to them and their families (who give up family time) Thank You!

In Memory *Frederick Van Loan*



On January 13, 2025, the GCVFA and Auxiliary lost more than a member; they lost a friend, when Fred VanLoan peacefully went to be with the Lord.

Frederick Arthur "Fred" Van Loan, a lifelong resident of Athens, was born on September 15, 1936, in Catskill, NY to Frederick and Myrtle Van Loan, Fred was a devoted father, cherished partner to Lillian Moore (Athens VFD Auxiliary), faithful servant to God and beloved member of his community. Fred took immense pride in his family and treasured every moment shared with them.

Fred's life was marked by service and dedication to his country and neighbors. A proud patriot, Fred served in the U.S. Air Force in 1961. He also served as Chaplain for the Athens Fire Department and Greene County Volunteer Firemen's Association for over 50 years, and was Commander of the Athens Legion Post from 1992 to 1996. He was a Lay Minister for the Federated Church of Athens, where he was a lifetime member, as well as involved in numerous organizations throughout Greene County. Fred's leadership extended to organizing Memorial Day parades and services that brought joy to the town he loved.

Known for his warm presence, kind nature and camaraderie, Fred enjoyed meeting friends at McDonald's or the diner, loved listening to classic country songs with a cold beer in his hand, and never turned down a trip to the casino.

Fred will be deeply missed by all who knew him. He is survived by partner, Lillian Moore; his three children, Lisa, Julie and David; eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister Janice Harty (D. M. Hamilton Auxiliary) and two nephews.

Calling hours were held on Friday, January 17th, with full firemanic honors and service. On Saturday, Athens VFD truck 2-4 carried Fred's casket to his resting place while a contingency of firefighters and military personnel paid their respects.

Fred will be deeply missed by all who knew & loved him but he will forever live in our hearts.





On behalf of the GCVFA and GCVFA-LA, The Booster Line would like to extend heartfelt sympathy to the families of the following firemanic members who have recently passed away. We apologize to anyone that we missed and offer our sincere condolences to their families.

Thomas G. Benjamin – East Jewett Fire Company
Shirley DeLuca – Citizens Hose Co #5 Auxiliary
John DelVecchio – Catskill Fire Department
Floyd Falke – Palenville Fire Company
Sean Michael McCulloch – Catskill Fire Department
Thomas F. McCullough Jr.- Leeds Hose Co.
Helen Stauder – Cairo Hose Ladies Auxiliary

GREENE COUNTY DEPT. OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FIRE TRAINING SCHEDULE

Training authorization letter must be completed by chief

Live Fire Training (NFPA 1403, 2012 Edition)

February 8 6:30

Medway- Grapeville Firehouse

Instructor: Marlow

Apparatus Operator - Emergency Vehicles

March 18, 20, 25, 27 6:30

April 5 8 a.m.

Greene County Fire Training Center

Valid driver's license required

Instructor: June

SCBA/INTERIOR FIREFIGHTING OPERATIONS -

2016 Edition (IFO)

May 1, 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 27, 28 6:30

June 2, 4, 9, 10, 11 6:30

June 7 8 a.m.

Greene County Fire Training Center

BEFO 2016 w/HMFRO required

Instructor: Brockway

GREENE COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOC. 2024 – 2025 MEETING DATES

- GCVFA Quarterly Meeting – February 6, 2025 – Kiskatom
- GCVFALA Quarterly Meeting – February 24, 2025, 7:30pm – D M Hamilton
- GCVFA Executive Board Meeting – March 20, 2025 – Greene County Emergency Services Building, Cairo
- GCVFA Quarterly Meeting – May 1, 2025 – Athens
- GCVFALA Quarterly Meeting – May 19, 2025, 7:30pm – West Athens
- GCVFA Executive Board Meeting – June 26, 2025 – Greene County Emergency Services Building, Cairo
- GCVFA Quarterly Meeting – August 7, 2025 – Ashland
- GCVFALA Quarterly Meeting – August 18, 2025, 7:30pm – Kiskatom

137th GCVFA CONVENTION

Host: GREENVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY
SEPTEMBER 2nd THRU SEPTEMBER 6th, 2025

Does your Fire Company have Junior Members or an Explorer Group?
Possibly one of these young men or women are deserving of being nominated.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT for
2025 YOUTH AWARDS

The Greene County Youth Advisory Board is again sponsoring the annual Greene County Youth Awards (Youth of the Year, Chairman's Choice, and Director's Choice). The purpose of the awards are to recognize the outstanding contributions and achievements of Greene County youth who serve their community through leadership, knowledge, skill and/or service. The dedication of these young people help make Greene County a better place for us all.

If you know a young person, in Grade 9 -12, who deserves this recognition, you can find a nomination form available on our web site: [News & Events | Greene Government](#) or you can contact the Greene County Department of Human Services at (518) 719-3555 or via email at mmurphy@greenecountyny.gov. From the nominations received, all youths will be evaluated by the selection committee to determine this year's winners

Any inquiries for further information may also be directed to the department.

Deadline for entries is March 31, 2025.

**YOUTH
RECOGNITION
AWARDS**

FUNDRAISERS

Greenville Fire Co.
Benefit for 2025 GCVFA Convention

Wagon of Cheer

See members for tickets

Drawing Feb. 4th 2025

\$5 Each



**Special thanks to all the Donations received from
Empire Merchants And Country Square Wine & liquor**

Greenville Fire Co.

Proceeds to support 2025 GCVFA Convention

Italian Buffet

February 7, 2025 3:30pm-8pm

All You Can Eat

Adults \$30

Kids 10 and under \$15, 5 and under free

Greenville Fire House 11176 Rt 32

Reservations Recommended

Call 518-966-8911

See members for pre-sale tickets

Menu

Salad & Soup Bar, *Pasta Station, Carving Station, Meatballs,
Sausage with Peppers & Onions, Manicotti, Chicken Parmigiana, Chicken
Marsala, Baked Ziti, Sauteed Portobello Mushrooms, Garlic Green Beans,
Roasted Potatoes, Italian Bread, Dessert Station
Lemonade, Iced Tea, Ice Water, Coffee, Tea

* Made to order, choose your pasta,
choose your topping, choose your sauce



BOTTLE DRIVE

SAVE YOUR EMPTIES!

Drop off
at the
Greenville
Fire house

IN SUPPORT OF THE
GREENVILLE FIRE AUXILIARY

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 15, 8-12

Made with PosterMyWall.com

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST



Sunday, February 16, 2025
Sunday, March 16, 2025



8am to 12 Noon

West Athens Firehouse #2
Leeds-Athens Road

Donation: Freewill Offering

Sponsored by
West Athens-Lime Street Fire Co.

Athens Volunteer Fire Department



PIZZA BONELESS WINGS MOZZ STKS

October 12, 2023 - March 28, 2024

39 Third St, Athens

CALL - (518) 945-2599

Calls answered from 3 PM TO 7 PM

Free delivery within the Village Only
EAT IN ALSO AVAILABLE

Pizza: Cheese \$12; Xtra Cheese+ \$2;

\$2 each MEAT topping - Pepperoni, Bacon, Meatballs, Sausage

\$1 each VEGGIES topping - Onions, Mushrooms, Peppers

Meat Lovers (All 4) \$20; Chicken Bacon Ranch \$18

Buffalo Chicken \$18; Crew Special (All 7 toppings) \$20

Dozen (12) Boneless Wings \$11

Plain, Mild, Hot, 5 Alarm, BBQ, Garlic Parmesan, Honey Mustard

Mozzarella Sticks: 6 for \$6



GREENVILLE
FIRE COMPANY

SAVE THE DATE

Fundraiser Calendar of Events

January 3,2025 Chicken & Biscuits Dinner

February 7,2025 Italian Buffet- Featuring a Pasta Station

March 7,2025 Fish Fry

April 18,2025 Fish Fry

May 11,2025 Mother's Day Breakfast - Featuring an Omelet Station

TBD Spring 2025 SUB Sale Hot & Cold

**Thank you for supporting us as we raise funds to host the 137th Greene County
Volunteer Firemen's Convention & Parade September 3-6,2025**

Greenville Volunteer Fire Co. 11176 Route 32 Greenville,NY 518-966-8911

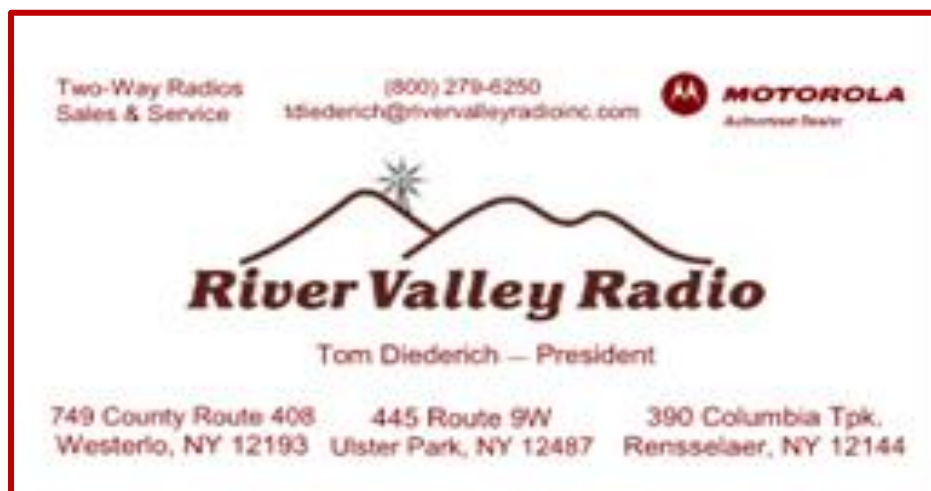
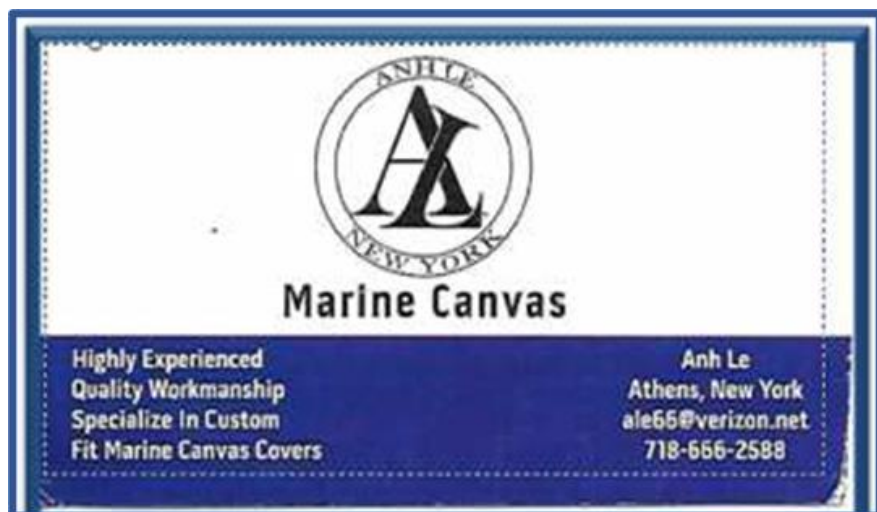
Do you receive The Booster Line via US postal mail? Printing costs and postage continue to increase which take a toll on the GCVFA and is a huge expense.

If you have an email address, please send to gcvfaboosterline@yahoo.com and we can switch your name from the mailing list to electronically.

If you do not have email, please consider sponsoring an ad or making a donation to help defray expenses.

Of course, if you wish to unsubscribe, please contact The Booster Line at the email address above or via mail at Booster Line, 25 Volunteer Drive, Cairo NY 12413.

Want to be an ad sponsor? For just \$10 a year, your ad will run in 4 seasonal issues, as well as the special Convention issue. We thank our current sponsors for their generosity.



In Loving Memory
of
Lew O'Connor
From
Terry Jo Gallagher



Herb (518) 728-5701
Ken (518) 821-4107

Gun Sales
FFL DEALER
456 Cairo Junction Road
Catskill, NY 12414

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
hkgunsales@gmail.com



Joseph V. Rothrock II
Fire & EMS Financing Specialist
MLO# 1003329

341 Main Street, PO Box 470
Catskill, NY 12414
518.943.1424 ext.2098
518.719.1353 fax

josephr@tbogc.com

www.tbogc.com



THE FASNY FIREMEN'S HOME

Marilyn L. Schrader

Past Trustee

125 Harry Howard Avenue
Hudson, NY 12534

TEL 518.945.1313

EMAIL midgeoj89@aol.com