

STEVE COBB RETIRES FROM SUNY FREDONIA EMT PROGRAM

Steve Cobb was recently honored at the EMS Council banquet. He has retired as the Certified Instructor Coordinator (CIC) from the EMT Program at SUNY Fredonia after holding the position since 1984. Steve joined the EMT Program at SUNY Fredonia in 1975 as an Instructor under CIC John McCraith who was the program founder.

Steve came to the EMT Program at Fredonia with a great deal of knowledge and experience. He served in the United States Army in Vietnam as Combat Medic. After returning from the military, Steve began his career at Brooks Memorial Hospital as a Registered Nurse, serving as Charge Nurse in the Emergency Department for a number of years. Steve later transferred to the Intensive Care Unit as the Nurse Manager. Steve also attained the level of Paramedic during his career. He taught ALS in cooperation with SUNY Fredonia and Brooks Memorial Hospital. Steve decided to change professions and went back to college to receive his degree as a History Teacher retiring from Fredonia Central School.



Steve has trained over a thousand EMT's through the EMS Program at Fredonia. It is impossible to gage how many patients lives were saved or treated by the EMT's that he was responsible for training.

Steve has been very active in the Fredonia Fire Department where he held the position of EMS Captain for a number of years. He continues to be very active on the county and regional EMS level. Steve was the Chautauqua County Emergency Medical Services Council Chairman for

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STEVE COBB RETIRES FROM SUNY FREDONIA EMT PROGRAM CONTINUED

a number of years and recently completed a term as Chairman of the Southwestern Regional EMS Council. He has also served as a Regional Faculty member and assisted in developing new EMT Instructors.

Steve is currently the Deputy Fire Coordinator-EMS for Chautauqua County. Steve and his wife Sue have three grown children Justin, Evan and Colin. Please congratulate and thank Steve for over forty years of training EMT's to help save lives of those that live in Chautauqua County.



Laurie Faso



Tony Faso



Norma Cummings



Mike Przybycien

ALSO, HONORED AT THE EMS COUNCIL BANQUET, WERE THOSE THAT ASSISTED STEVE IN THE INSTRUCTION OF THE EMT COURSE.



Julius Leone

Melodee Leone



Larry Barter

THE 2016 "BIG DIP" AT THE DUNKIRK PIER

The City of Dunkirk Fire Department is hosting the annual BIG DIP this year!

The Big Dip will be held on Saturday March 5, 2016 at the Dunkirk Pier.

At 8:00am, the safety meeting will be held for ALL participants at the Murphy Training Center located at 665 Brigham Road in Dunkirk. Immediately following will be the exercises at the pier (approximately 9:00am).

All Fire Departments are welcomed to attend and can bring any equipment they wish to train with.

Participants should be in acceptable physical condition and **CHIEF'S AUTHORIZATION LETTERS** are required!

Personal Floatation Devices(PFDs) are mandatory for any person within 10 feet of the water/ice's edge.



LOOKING FORWARD

by Vince Horrigan, Jan 2016

As I round the midpoint of my first term as County Executive, I have an even deeper appreciation for the incredible work of our first responders here in Chautauqua County. In particular, I think back to the July floods in the North County. In spite of torrential rainstorms in the middle of the night, which caused road wash outs, hundreds of flooded basements, and a swift water life and death rescue, our fire departments rapidly came together under effective incident command to save property and lives. What a great team we have here in Chautauqua County.

While we are all very proud of the outstanding dedication and professionalism of our first responders, we must also acknowledge that we face real challenges going forward. Our volunteer force is under pressure in terms of retention and recruitment. In many cases we meet our response times thanks to several individual responders who go well above and beyond. Our bench strength is becoming more and more fragile as the demands of training, family, and job requirements are taking their toll on the future availability of our volunteer responders.

Of course, our mutual aid system has been and will continue to be an important answer for those in need, especially those in need of Emergency Medical Services (EMS). However, it has become clear that some changes in how we respond need to be carefully studied, evaluated and implemented when appropriate. Our county continues to face the reality that regional solutions to our challenges, while difficult to initially accept, will be inevitable. For this reason, we are looking to answers from our county-wide EMS study as the first step in strengthening our future first responder system.

As part of my State of the County address in February, I will be calling on the citizens of Chautauqua County to begin local conversations to identify regional solutions in the areas of infrastructure, public safety, and government services. These conversations will be aimed at building on our successes in identifying more effective ways to structure our organizations and share our resources. I will be looking to facilitate 20/20 focus groups which look out over the next several years with the goal of identifying and implementing new initiatives to effectively address the challenges which we see on the near horizon. I invite the fire service to open up and carry on these conversations as we move through 2016.

NOTES FROM THE JUMP KIT



“THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGING”

As with all things in life there are many changes taking place with EMS in Chautauqua County and I would like to bring everyone up to speed. 2016 is going to be an interesting year for EMS in the county.

Last year the county applied to become an basic EMT course sponsor. Through the hard work of many involved, in late December the NYS EMS Bureau Central Office issued the Office of Emergency Services a course number.

This means that now the county can offer both basic EMT courses and Certified First Responder courses. This is in addition to the the courses offered by JCC and SUNY Fredonia. The future plan is to move courses around throughout the county and these being offered at different times to try to increase the number of EMTs. Also the plan is to again offer Certified First Responder courses to have trained personnel respond till EMTs or higher arrive at the scene.

Along with now being a course sponsor a new full time position has been created at the EOC. It is currently called EMS Project Coordinator. This individual will have to be a CIC within the first two years of being hired as he or she would be responsible to coordinate any course sponsored by the county. Other duties would include assisting departments with recertification and inspections. Help departments with the yearly PPAs and credentialing process. Assisting departments that either want to upgrade or downgrade in level of care. The coordinator would do all these tasks and others which are currently done by several members of the office staff.

The current position of Deputy Fire Coordinator - EMS will remain as is at this time. The Sheriff is moving forward with having patrol deputies becoming EMTs. Several are already EMTs and several more deputies have just finished or are taking training. Protocols and policies are now being worked out for this program. It should be up and running in 2016. More to follow on this.

Finally, as most already know our Medical Directors are very active and are working closely with everyone in the county. They have responded to incidents already and are more than willing to do this in the future. Policies and procedures are almost complete to cover their being in the field if needed. They are there to assist us whether it is a major fire, large MCI, active shooter, farm machinery accident, or whatever may take place. For me it is very reassuring that both Dr. Walters and Dr. Faulk want to join us in the field.

I want to thank everyone who devoted their time to assist the citizens of Chautauqua County this past year. Most do not realize how much time is given by department members in protecting their communities. Thank you for a job well done.

Have a safe new year!


EMS Coordinator

MEET BRIAN PUROL

Chairman of the Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board



The Chairman of the Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board for 2016 & 2017 is Brian Purol. Brian is an active member of the East Dunkirk Volunteer Fire Company Inc. Or as better known in Chautauqua County “East Town”.

Fire service is a trait that Brian has in his family. His Grandfather was a charter member of the East Dunkirk Volunteer Fire Company department, as Brian said “he helped to dig the foundation for the hall”. His Father Dick Purol has served as Chief of the department and is currently the Town of Dunkirk Supervisor. Brian’s sister is the President of the Auxiliary for the department currently. Brian’s mother held that position for the past 20 years. As you can see a family with commitment to the East Dunkirk Volunteer Fire Department Inc.

Brian’s history in the department started in 1994 and he has held all the department line offices starting with Foreman and serving as Fire Chief. Brian is currently the First Assistant Chief for the department.

Starting in 2006 Brian Purol began serving the First Battalion on the Fire Advisory Board. He currently serves as Chairman of the Loan Committee, something that he wants to remind all departments is available for funding of purchases at a very competitive interest rate.

As an active member of the Ranger Team Brian has assisted in the renovation project at the Turk Murphy Training Center in Dunkirk along with other projects in Chautauqua County.

In the upcoming years Brian Purol’s goals for the Fire Advisory Board is to complete the new radio system and get it on line in the County. He is also very interested in the upcoming release of the MMA EMS study and then working with the Fire Advisory Board to move forward with the study’s findings.

One committee that Chairman Purol is looking forward to working with is the Future of the Fire Service committee that will be once again under the chairmanship of Jon Stahley. Combined with the MMA study this committee will be front and center in discussions of the fire service going into the future.

Most of all Brian looks forward to working with all the members that represent the Battalions and serve on the Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board as it moves forward into 2016.

FOAM TRAILER



New York State Office of Fire Prevention & Control is in the process of deploying 19 trailers equipped with AR-AFFF foam to local fire departments and county hazardous materials teams throughout the state for use when combating fires and spills involving crude oil or other ignitable liquids.

OFCP delivered the Chautauqua County trailer January 21st and in February members of the Hazardous Materials Response Team will be trained to become part of the New York State Foam Task Force. This trailer is housed in Mayville with the Hazmat Team. The next two closest trailers are in Olean and Buffalo.

County firefighters and members of the County Hazardous Material Team have had several training sessions in the past two years dealing with flammable liquids. The sessions consisted classroom, foam application and live fire. "We are well trained and properly equipped to make a difference in the event of an emergency involving flammable liquids".

Chautauqua County Hazmat has an inventory of over 1,000 gallons of foam concentrate, several foam eductors/applicators, two foam carts and 4 – 125lbs ABC extinguishers.

The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services has strategically placed the 19 foam trailers along major rail lines and waterways throughout the state. It assigned the first six trailers to jurisdictions with the most limited resources - Essex County and the Amsterdam, Buffalo, Kingston, Newburgh and Utica fire departments. The remaining trailers are being deployed to other areas which have some existing resources, including the Albany, Binghamton, Elmira, Olean, Oneonta, Plattsburgh, Rochester, Saratoga, Syracuse, and Watertown fire departments, as well as Chautauqua and Rockland County Hazardous Materials Teams and the New York State Stockpile in Guilderland.

Continued on next page

FOAM TRAILER CONTINUED

Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Commissioner John Melville said, "...the states ongoing efforts to increase its capacity to respond to any crude oil incident. Foam trailer firefighting equipment gives first responders the best technology to fight crude oil fires and prevent the flames from spreading to a larger area helping local fire departments and hazardous materials teams acquire the needed equipment to help keep our communities safe.

Each trailer includes a 660 gallon supply of foam concentrate along with the equipment necessary to produce and apply foam to an ignitable liquid fire or spill, requiring only an ample water supply for foam production. These trailers support and supplement existing local level foam capacity and provide the Class B foam capability necessary to address incidents involving crude oil and other ignitable liquids.

In addition to providing and maintaining the trailers, the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services will train fire department and hazardous materials teams on how to deploy and operate this equipment, conduct in-service training programs, coordinate regularly scheduled exercises and maintain additional response capabilities designed to augment the local responders.

The trailer can be deployed within Chautauqua County and can be called upon to assist in an emergency anywhere within New York State. Any department that would like to have a demonstration of this trailer or incorporate it into a drill or exercise should contact Dan Imfeld.

TESTING OF THE NEW COUNTY WIDE RADIO SYSTEM

by Julius Leone

Testing of the new County-wide Radio System was concluded in December and is producing very positive results. Two teams tested approximately 3,700 1/2 mile by 1/2 mile grid tiles. Some of the areas being tested are very treacherous as seen here.



Pictured above is Team 1, 4th Battalion Coordinator, John Griffith and his engineer, being pulled out of the muck from a logging road in Sherman. Thanks to friendly neighbor with a Big John Deere!

Interstate 90 Multi Vehicle Accident

On Tuesday January 12 Westfield Fire responded to a large incident on the NYS Thruway (I-90). This involved 7 tractor trailers and 13 cars/trucks.



Only one injury was sustained but this tractor trailer driver was pinned in his truck for nearly two hours on a cold blustery day. As you can see in the pictures the victim's cab was severely damaged with the back of the trailer he hit literally in his lap. The EMS crew was concerned that with the extent of entrapment that the driver might suffer compartment syndrome and carefully monitored the extrication progress and consulting by phone with Dr. Walters

Once extricated the driver was transported to Westfield hospital to be treated for hypothermia and a leg injury.



No other injuries were sustained by either the accident victim or any responders. Over one hundred vehicles were stuck behind this accident for hours though and firefighters/EMT's checked on every car to make sure the occupants were okay. Several of the passengers from damaged vehicles were starting to get cold so Emergency Services requested a Westfield School bus and CARTS bus be brought to the scene for sheltering.

The Thruway was closed for several hours. This was one of three closures over two days. Westfield, Portland and Ripley fire departments responded to the scene. The Hazmat Team, was called to bring a heater to the scene, the Tech Rescue Team was placed on standby and Mayville

stood-by at Westfield. The EOC in Mayville was activated to support the various requests from the scene.

During long extrications this time of year be watchful for hypothermia in any victims and don't wait until it's too late to get one of the counties heaters started your way.

What could have been a very bad day on the Thruway was very successfully mitigated by everyone's hard work and working together.

GOOD JOB



Sherrif Joseph Gerace

It is my honor to be able to share my thoughts with my brothers and sisters who are involved in public safety. For those of you who are reading this and are a member of a fire department, police agency or are an EMT, I want to thank you for your unselfish service to our community.

We are quickly approaching very exciting times for public safety in Chautauqua County. After years of planning and a tremendous amount of work, the launch of the new public safety radio system is very near. The Motorola digital “trunked” system will allow us county-wide coverage and, once everyone migrates to the system, we will finally have true interoperability between EMS/Fire and Police. The coverage testing performed by members of the sheriff’s office and emergency services exceeded our expectations. The county was broken down into almost 4000 one-half mile squares. Portable coverage was 99% on the streets. This is far better than expected and much

better than the 75% or less coverage we have become accustomed to. Our old radio system was not only obsolete technologically, we were facing an FCC mandate to narrow-band.

Change isn’t always easy. It is my hope that we can work together to transition as smoothly as possible. The new radios are as much a computer as they are a communication device. There will be a learning curve with operation of the units and the system itself.

We will continue to seek more grant funding to help bring all users onto the new system as soon as possible. I understand the financial commitment it takes to make it a reality. I am convinced it will be worth every penny.

Another important advancement that will occur this year is our move from E911 to Next Generation (NG911). Our 911 system core is beyond end of life. It has been in place since 1993 and the backbone is no longer supported by the manufacturer. The NG system is being provided by Emergency Call Works which is now a Motorola Company. NG911 will bring many new features including “text to 911” and eventually the ability to stream live video to the 911 center. NG911 is a Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) and, as the other counties in the state migrate to NG911, it is my hope that we can convince the State of New York to help connect all the 911 centers in the State which will allow much better accuracy in distributing the calls to the appropriate center. NG911 will allow this to be done by the physical location of the calling cell phone instead of a fixed tower site. It is my goal to be live with NG911 in Chautauqua County by the end of summer.

Very few people understand the challenge and frustration of dealing with cell calls at the 911 center. Unlike “landline” calls, we receive no information about who the caller is. We get a voice, the calling number and the tower site they are calling from and sometimes the XY coordinates (longitude-latitude) which allows dispatchers to locate callers.

Chautauqua County was the first county in the State of New York to implement SMART911. This amazing technology ties directly to our 911 system. I need your help to make this effective. In order to utilize the functions of SMART911, people must create a profile for themselves, their family or business. The profile is created on the website www.smart911.com; it is very simple to do. When a person calls 911 with a cell phone or landline phone, the profile is immediately displayed to the dispatcher. The profile can be simple or elaborate. It can display special needs, medication, floor plans, photographs, pets and much more. Please visit the website to learn more about it. Sign up and encourage your family and friends to do so too. It could save your life or the lives of others. It is definitely a tremendous tool to help us help others.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. I greatly appreciate your dedication to the residents and visitors of our wonderful county. Stay safe!

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Division Name: Chautauqua County Fire Investigation Team

Submitted By: Lt Richard Telford

Division Description: The Chautauqua County Fire Investigation Team is a joint effort that includes members from the Sheriff's Office and the Fire Service. The Fire Investigation Team is utilized to investigate any fires that result in death, injury or appears to be of suspicious nature. The Fire Investigation Team is available to assist any county fire department in determining the origin and cause of any fire.

2015 STATISTICS

45 – Fire Investigations Conducted

Rulings

35	Accidental
1	Natural
7	Undetermined
2	Incendiary
2 open investigation (1-CCSO, 1 DPD)	

Types of Investigations

30	Houses/Trailers/Apartments (2 fatalities)
7	Business
6	Garage/Barn/Shed/Camper
2	Vehicle (1 fatality)

Investigation Hours

438.5 man hours

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The fire investigation responded to 45 fire investigations in 2015, for a total of 438.5 man hours. There were a total of 3 fatalities as a result of fires in 2015, both fires were ruled accidental. Two fires were ruled Incendiary and remain open and under investigation. This year also saw the arrest of an arson suspect, resulting from an Incendiary Fire that occurred late in 2013.

2016 GOALS & OBJECTIVES:

The fire investigation team looks to continue its working relationship with the fire departments in Chautauqua County. The team also looks forward to continuing its efforts to fight intentionally set fires, continue investigating current open cases, and participate in additional training opportunities.



CHAUTAUGUA COUNTY FIRE POLICE TEAM *Serving Chautauqua County since 1989*

In 1989 Fire Police from all parts of Chautauqua County came together to form the Chautauqua County Fire Police Team. This original group of about 20 members was formed to provide Fire Police services to all the departments in Chautauqua County. Of the original members, five are still active today.

The first vehicle for the Fire Police Team was the old yellow bread truck; with the number TC-71 the team had a truck and a place in the radio system. At that time any fire police member from any Chautauqua County fire department could join and be a member of the team.

In 1995 a second vehicle was obtained and now there was TC-71 in the South end of the county and TC-72 was located in the North end. The team was also divided into the North and South teams for dispatch to calls in those locations.

The start of the new century brought several changes to the Chautauqua County Fire Police Team. Training changed to the New York State standards which include the 21 hour Fire Police course. This course is now being instructed by Noel Guttman, New York State Fire Instructor. This standardized training has upgraded the team and allowed it to grow into the professional organization that it is today.

In 2015 the Chautauqua County Fire Police Team responded to 31 emergency call outs and worked at 18 events. These events included fairs, rodeo's, the Big Fish Triathlon and other large public events that required traffic control. For many of these events the Chautauqua County Fire Police Team provided the manpower and expertise to make these successful and safe events.

The total on duty hours for the team in emergency response were 119.75 and this translated into 862 man hours. These hours do not reflect the service hours or the man hours at the various events in the county.

The Officers of the Chautauqua County Fire Police Team for 2016 are as follows:

Julius Leone, Director of Emergency Services
Bob Frank, Deputy Fire Coordinator
Dave Burlingame, Fire Police Team Captain
Greg Osterstruck, Secretary
Ron Johnson, TC-1 Lieutenant
Gary Sutter Jr, TC-2 Lieutenant

Currently there are 60 members of the Chautauqua County Fire Police Team. The team is always looking for new members. Their meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month with 1 hour dedicated to training. To join just contact any member or the staff at the Emergency Operations Center in Mayville.



TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM RAPPEL TRAINING

by Noel Guttman, Special Ops Coordinator

Within the last couple months the County Technical Rescue team conducted two joint trainings on basic rope work and rappelling. In October we conducted a joint training with the Chautauqua County Swat Team, a multi-jurisdictional law enforcement effort, working on rappelling skills. Both teams spent two days reviewing knots and rigging essential for safe rappelling. This training was done at the Lakewood Fire Department Training grounds.

For two days both team worked rappelling and ascending skills in a vertical environment, and was able to use some new equipment the technical rescue Team recently purchased. A newly purchased Arizona Vortex System allows us to create a “high point anchor” almost any place, and greatly improves the safety and efficiency of any rope set-up.

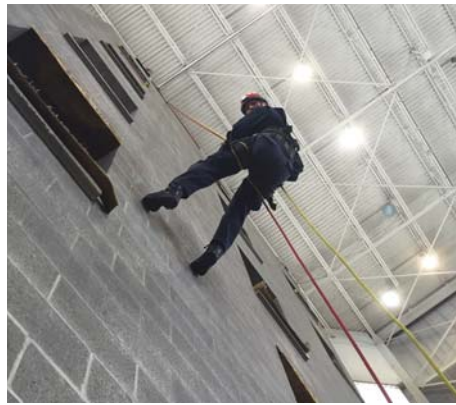
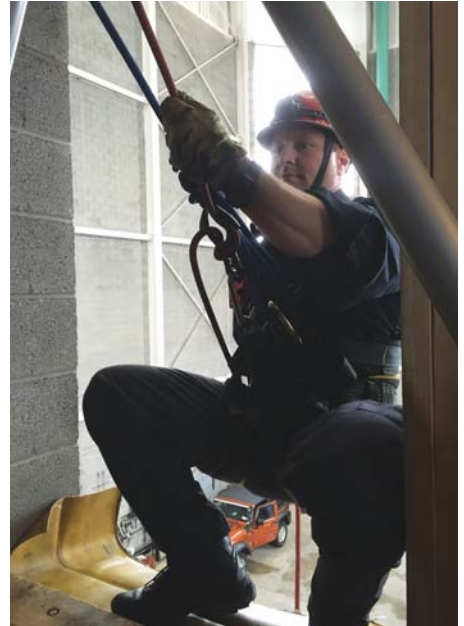
For the past several years, our County Technical Rescue Team has met with the Niagara County Technical Rescue Team, at the Erie County Training Facility in Cheektowaga, and this past January we met once again. We use this training session to work on rope skills that included basic rigging set-up, Arizona Vortex High Point Set up, Belaying and main line rappelling and ascending.



TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM RAPPEL TRAINING *CONTINUED*

We have set forth training with the Niagara County Technical rescue Team, as they are set up and function very much like our county team. We have trained with Niagara County several times now and have found that the collaborative training effort has proven very effective. This year we had a total of 15 people attend this training, which included one of our County Medical Directors.

The Chautauqua County Technical Rescue Team exists to assist any fire department with specialized equipment, manpower and training, to help resolve many different types of calls to include Rope Rescue, Trench Collapse, Building Collapse and Damage, Confined Space and FAST.



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF JAMESTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT

200 SPRING STREET, JAMESTOWN, NY 14701

DONALD W. WOODFIELD, JR.



The Jamestown Fire Department has announced a retirement and promotions of three of its long-time members.

After a 31 year career, Battalion Chief Donald W. Woodfield, Jr. retired from his position on January 15. He joined the department in 1985 and was promoted to Battalion Chief in May 2004, assigned to the Third Platoon. Woodfield also served as the department's Municipal Training Officer.

ANDREW R. FINSON



Lieutenant Andrew R. Finson has been promoted to Battalion Chief effective January 30. An 18-year member of the department, he is a station lieutenant and also serves as one of two department mechanics. Finson is a U.S. Army veteran and was promoted to Lieutenant in July 2005.

SHAWN J. SHILLING



Firefighter Shawn J. Shilling has been promoted to Lieutenant effective January 30. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran serving in both Iraq and Afghanistan before joining the Department in 2008.



Chautauqua County FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Uniting the Leaders Since 1950

January 25, 2016

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Dear Chautauqua County Fire Chiefs:

The Chautauqua County Fire Chiefs Association invites you to participate in our "Citizen of the Year" award. The rules governing this award are listed below. Please send your letter of nomination, **no later than March 31, 2016** to the Office of Emergency Services, at the address below. The letter should contain: the **name of the nominee, fire department**, and a **detailed report of the deed of valor**. The Department Chief or Assistant Chief, and the President of the Department must sign the letter. Any department needing assistance should contact their Battalion Coordinator.

Awards will be presented during the annual County Chiefs' Association Banquet in May.

Rules:

1. Date Range: March 31, 2015 through March 31, 2016.
2. The following are examples of outstanding activities that would qualify a citizen for the honor of being named "Chautauqua County Citizen of the Year"
 - Saving a life.
 - Aiding a person during a natural disaster.
 - Any action performed making a citizen worthy of this award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy Edwards".

Randy Edwards, President
Chautauqua County Fire Chiefs Association
2 Academy Street, Suite A, Room 106
Mayville, NY 14757



Chautauqua County FIRE ADVISOR BOARD

January 25, 2016

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Dear Chautauqua County Fire Chiefs:

The Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board invites you to participate in our “Firefighter of the Year” award. The rules governing this award are listed below. Please send your letter of nomination, **no later than March 31, 2016** to the Office of Emergency Services, at the address below. The letter should contain: the **name of the nominee, fire department, and a detailed report of the deed of valor.** The Department Chief or Assistant Chief, and the President of the Department must sign the letter. Any department needing assistance should contact their Battalion Coordinator or a member of the Fire Advisory Board.

Awards will be presented during the annual County Chiefs’ Association Banquet in May.

Rules:

1. Date Range: March 31, 2015 through March 31, 2016.
2. The following are example of outstanding activities that would qualify either a volunteer or paid firefighter for the honor of being named “Chautauqua County Firefighter of the Year”
 - Saving a life while answering a fire call.
 - Saving a life at any time, not necessarily in conjunction with a fire or rescue call.
 - Aiding a fellow firefighter when they are fighting a fire or rescue operation (floods, disasters, etc.).
 - Actions performed making a volunteer or paid firefighter worthy of some outstanding heroic activity.

Sincerely,

Brian Purol, Chairman
Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board
2 Academy Street, Suite A, Room 106
Mayville, NY 14757



Office of **Chautauqua County**
EMERGENCY MEDICAL

2 Academy Street, Suite A, Room 106
Mayville, NY 14757
Phone: (716) 753-4341 • Fax: (716) 753-4363

Vincent W. Horrigan
County Executive

Julius J. Leone, Jr.
Director

William Johnston
Chairperson

January 25, 2016

EMS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

Dear Chautauqua County Fire Chiefs:

The Chautauqua County Emergency Medical Service Council invites you to participate in our “EMS Provider of the Year” award. The rules governing this award are listed below. Please send your letter of nomination, **no later than April 30, 2016** to the Office of Emergency Services, at the address below. The letter should contain: the **name of the nominee, agency affiliation, and a detailed report of the activity**. The Department Chief or Assistant Chief, and the President of the Department must sign the letter. Any department needing assistance should contact their Battalion Coordinator.

Awards will be presented during the annual County Chiefs’ Association Banquet in May.

Rules:

1. Date Range: March 31, 2015 through March 31, 2016.
2. The following are examples of outstanding activities that would qualify an individual for the honor of being named “E. M. S. Provider of the Year”
 - Saving a life or lives
 - Aiding a person or group during a natural disaster or catastrophic event.
 - Providing a deliverable program that is beneficial to the health and safety of a community or a group in the community.
 - Any action performed making an individual or group worthy of this award.

Sincerely,

Chair EMS Council
2 Academy Street, Suite A, Room 106
Mayville, NY 14757



Office of **Chautauqua County**
EMERGENCY MEDICAL

2 Academy Street, Suite A, Room 106
Mayville, NY 14757
Phone: (716) 753-4341 • Fax: (716) 753-4363

Vincent W. Horrigan
County Executive

Julius J. Leone, Jr.
Director

William Johnston
Chairperson

January 25, 2016

EMS CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Dear Chautauqua County residents:

The Chautauqua County Emergency Medical Service Council invites you to participate in our “EMS Citizen of the Year” award. The rules governing this award are listed below. Please send your letter of nomination, **no later than April 30, 2016** to the Office of Emergency Services, at the address below. The letter should contain: the **name of the nominee**, along with a **detailed report of the activity**. Please provide as much documentation as possible on the nominee including their contact information. The nominating individual must sign the letter and include all their necessary contact information. Any individual needing assistance should contact the Office of Emergency Services at the (716) 753-4341. Awards will be presented during the annual County Chiefs’ Association Banquet in May.

Rules:

1. Date Range: March 31, 2015 through March 31, 2016.
2. The following are some examples of outstanding activities that would qualify an individual for the honor of being named “E. M. S. Citizen of the Year”.
 - Saving a life or lives
 - Aiding a person or group during a natural disaster or catastrophic event.
 - Providing a deliverable program that is beneficial to the health and safety of a community or a group in the community.
 - Any action performed making a citizen or group worthy of this award.

Sincerely,

Chair EMS Council
2 Academy Street, Suite A, Room 106
Mayville, NY 14757

WILD SEX IN THE FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

Ahhhah! I knew that would get everyone's attention. Sorry, this article has nothing to do with sex, but it is wildly important to our departments and communities.

The County Fire Advisory Board has revamped the Future of the Fire and Emergency Medical Service Committee. As an ex officio member of the Board I have been asked to chair this committee. Much work was accomplished a few years ago. We will be bringing that data back up to the surface again. This will be a comprehensive committee compiled of many people from different walks of life and just not from the emergency services. We will even have a few business people that don't have any prior knowledge of emergency services. We welcome people that have different skills sets that can contribute to the mission.

There is a saying going around that is very applicable to the Fire and Emergency Medical Service. It is something we had better take very seriously. "If we don't take the initiative to make the necessary changes in Fire and EMS, the politicians, college professors and consultants will for us". That is not what we want. It is our responsibility to efficiently manage ourselves. Every day our men and women do the hard stuff by saving lives and property. There is no reason why we can't make the informed necessary changes for the betterment of The Service.

Over the nearly half century now of my time in service I am continually in awe of the resourcefulness and capabilities of our people. When you couple that with their passion and dedication there is nothing that cannot be accomplished. Sometimes I chuckle at the new terminology like, "shared services and mutual aid". Chautauqua County Fire Service has had a formal written mutual aid agreement between all 42 fire departments since the 1950's. We have, "cooperation between agencies", as they say every day for our survival. It's something that has been done since the beginning.

So what is it that inhibits us from making the tough call in the reorganizing of our systems and how we manage ourselves? Let's be honest here and list some inhibitors shall we:

Territorialism

Jealously

Community Cultural Differences

Personal Dislikes Between People

Prejudice and Lack of Acceptance

Uniformed and Poorly Trained Managers

Pride

Incompetent and Wrong People In Keys Positions

Lack of Initiative

Personal Agendas for Self Importance

Fear of the Unknown and Losing Control

I am sure you can add to this list. These are shall we say, "The Elephants in the Room", that nobody wants to talk about. We must address these things with positive attitudes in the future. It has to be done for our own good and that of the communities we serve. Fire Chiefs and Department Managers-You need to ask yourself some soul-searching questions. Am I really doing the job I should? Do I have an open mind for change when it makes sense? A few years ago when we began to have manpower problems we would say, "What if nobody showed up", when talking to our politicians and communities to try and intimidate them for our purposes. Ya know what? Now that saying has changed and backfired on us. Now it goes something like this, "Nobody IS coming!" Admit it, in some cases people are in serious conditions, and yes dying, and sometimes nobody is coming! You know it and I know it. If we are going to take the taxpayers money and hang out our shingle for business, we had better do the job. Times are different now and we had better figure out a different and better way of management.

These are our children and grandchildren, family and friends, businesses and homeowners whose safety is entrusted to us. It is indeed a very serious and critical charge we are given. So please in the next couple of years stay tuned in and contribute in a positive manner. Make sure each and every person in your department is signed in and reads this publication. Attend the meetings to stay informed and to offer your insight. Chautauqua County, the Fire Advisory Board, Fire Coordinator Staff and Office of Emergency Management, County Fire Chief's Association, Fire Police Association and many other agencies are here for you, your department and your community. This committee is to be a resource to the local fire department in order to have a better run response toward an improved future for our Emergency Services. Please contact me if you are interested in serving on this important committee.

As far as the sex goes, you are on your own.



By Instructor Andrew Finson

Students in Andrew Finson's class by alphabetical order: Dave Burkhart Jr; Mayville, Brandon Degolier; Sinclairville, Tyler DiRusso; Fredonia, Todd Graves; Brocton, Christopher Kelly; Brocton, Andrew Miller; Sherman, Donald Minnich; Cassadaga, Edward Nickerson; Sinclairville, Justin Parment; Mayville, Cameron Purslow; Fluvanna, Ryan Songer; Brocton, Mike Swanson; Ashville, TJ Williamson; Silver Creek. Instructors Andrew Finson, Don Woodfield, Tim Glenn, Dave Norberg, Tom Summerville & Phil Hanlon

This fall I had the pleasure of being the lead instructor for a Firefighter 1 class for the first time since I was hired as a State Fire Instructor. As you may already know, we adopted a new curriculum for Fire Fighter 1 in New York in 2015. This was the second class in Chautauqua County under the new curriculum. Fortunately for us the first Fire Fighter 1 under the new curriculum was taught by our County's Senior State Fire Instructor Don Woodfield in the spring. He is a great asset to us in Chautauqua County and helped all of us instructors transition into the new standards.

The fall class had a good representation of firefighters from throughout the county. This group of firefighters blended well and worked together to become a good team. It was a pleasure to go to class and learn about them as we taught them the basic fundamentals of firefighting. The other fire instructors brought their knowledge and experience to the course to give the students the knowledge they need to begin a successful career in the fire service.

This course would not have been possible without the help from the firefighters that gave up their time to help us deliver this course. It is often difficult to find departments and members willing to donate their time and equipment needed to make these courses possible. I would like to thank all of those departments and members that helped out throughout the course. I would especially like to thank Jake Foreman and the Mayville Fire Department for bringing their aerial and engine numerous times throughout the class.

The members of the class finished the course strong. Don Minnich from Cassadaga FD had the highest GPA in the class. Todd Graves from Brocton FD was awarded the Instructors Award for his contributions to the class. Mike Swanson from was selected by his peers for the Professionalism Award. He was always helping the other students along and gave up time from his own schedule to assist his classmates with their skills. Great job guys! You made my first Fire Fighter 1 class a great experience.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY'S FIRST WOMAN FIRE CHIEF



Chief Terry Penhollow assuming command from outgoing Chief Tim Cobb

Chief Terry Penhollow of the Cassadaga Volunteer Fire Chief is the first woman to hold the position of Chief in Chautauqua County. Other women have served as Assistant Chief's but Chief Penhollow is the first to hold the top position in a fire department.

Chief Terry Penhollow grew up in Erie County New York in the community of Lakeview which is on the shores of Lake Erie midway between Silver Creek and Buffalo. Lakeview is in the Town of Hamburg. Terry graduated from Frontier High School which is located in Hamburg NY. A licensed LPN, Chief Penhollow is employed by Chautauqua Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in the Town of Dunkirk.

In 1990 Chief Terry Penhollow became a New York State Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (A-EMT) in Fredonia. She has retained that status by refreshing in Erie County when the standards changed. She is currently a New York State Certified Lab Instructor (CLI) and has assisted in teaching EMT classes in Fredonia and in 2014 at the new class at the Emergency Operations Center in Mayville.

Chief Penhollow comes from a long line of fire fighters in her family. Terry's Grandfather served as Chief of the Lakeview Fire Department. Her Father also served as Chief of Lakeview and was one of the original Lakeview Fire Department EMT's. He also served as one of the original dispatchers when Hamburg Fire Control opened.

Terry is the proud Grandmother of 11 grandchildren ranging in age from 21 to 1 year old; a group that she hopes will one day lead to several more fire fighters and EMT's.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY'S FIRST WOMAN FIRE CHIEF CONTINUED

Chief Penhollow has been active in the Cassadaga Fire Department for 20 years. In that time she has served as EMS Captain, 3rd Assistant Chief, 2nd Assistant Chief & 1st Assistant Chief. She currently represents the 1st Battalion on Chautauqua County EMS Council.

When asked about being the first woman to serve as Fire Chief in a Chautauqua County department Chief Penhollow commented that she was a little apprehensive and felt there is a little extra pressure being the first woman to serve as the Chief Officer. That comment was quickly followed with one that expressed her confidence in her position. One that is helped as she says she is working with the best group of members from the Cassadaga Fire Department. In her words, she "feels she is with family when with the members from Cassadaga."

Chief Penhollow has the following goals for 2016:

1. *Get everyone to work together*
2. *Prove that anyone can help when it comes to fire and EMS*
3. *Recruit and retain members*

Chief Terry Penhollow is a Fire Chief that understands the position she is in, not only a leader today but a leader for the future. In her own words, "This is an opportunity for others to follow". Congratulations and Best Wishes to Chief Terry Penhollow, Chautauqua County's first Woman Fire Chief.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Thank you for taking the time to read this issue of "The Responder", it has been a pleasure to put it together again. I am always looking for interesting stories to put into the next issue so if you have an event or an activity that you would like included let me know. I'd be happy to meet with you to get a story and pictures for an article. I am also interested in getting pictures of any new trucks or equipment put in service. I will come to any fire hall at your convenience and take the pictures and get the information to include in the next issue. Give me a call at 716-499-3113 or drop me an email at griffith@chautcofire.org and I'll schedule a visit. Enjoy this issue and thank you again for your participation.



4th Battalion Coordinator
Editor



EMERGENCY SERVICES

2016 Training Calendar

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

2 Academy Street, Suite A, Room 106
Mayville, NY 14757

Phone: 716-753-4341

Fax: 716-753-4363

Updated 1-22-16

Course Offered - Prerequisite	Hours	Units	Start Date	Location	Instructors
Chlorine Emergency Response Webinars <i>Prerequisites: None</i>	1.5	1	Various	Computer	TransCAER
2016 EMS Officer Training Course <i>Prerequisites: None</i>	5	1	2-6-16	Elma, NY	WREMS
Fire Police <i>Prerequisites: None</i>	21	7	2-8-16	OES	Noel Guttman
BEFO – Basic Exterior Firefighting Operations <i>Prerequisites: None</i>	42	12	2-10-16	Brocton FD	Thomas Summerville
Solar Panels Course <i>Prerequisites: None</i>	3	1	2-17-16	Gerry Conference Center	NYS OEM
NYS Firefighter 1 <i>Prerequisites: None</i>	104	29	2-21-16	Murphy Training Center	Phil Hanlon
Hazmat 1st Responder Operations <i>Prerequisites: None</i>	16	4	3-1-16	Murphy Training Center	Andrew Finson
Big Dip 2016	4	1	3-5-16	Murphy/Dunkirk Pier	Various
Emergency Vehicle Operators Course (EVOC) <i>Prerequisites: Valid Driver's License</i>	18	9	3-5-16	Silver Creek Firehouse on the Lake	Dave Norberg
NYS AFC Recruitment & Retention Skills Training <i>Prerequisites: None</i>	8	1	3-12-16	OES	NYAFC
ICS 200 Train-the-Trainer <i>Prerequisites: NIMS 700 & ICS 100 (Proof Required)</i>	8	1	3-17-16	OES	Tom Wutz
ICS 300 <i>Prerequisites: NIMS 700 & ICS 100 & 200 (Proof Required)</i>	24	3	3-18-16	OES	Tom Wutz
First Responder Safety Training for Natural Gas Vehicles and Fueling Stations	5	1	3-19-16	Pennsylvania State Fire Academy	PA Fire Academy
Accident Victim Extrication Training (AVET) <i>Prerequisites: Basic FF or equivalent or basic EMS</i>	16	4	4-6-16	Chautauqua Fire Dept.	Tom Summerville
Firefighter 2 <i>Prerequisites: FF1 or equivalent, medically cleared & capable of wearing SCBA</i>	27	9	4-9-16	Taylor Training Center	Dave Norberg
NYS 23rd Annual HAZMAT Seminar	16	3	4-22-16 thru 4-24-16	NYS Fire Academy	OFPC
Fire and Life Safety Educators' Conference	16	3	4-29-26 thru 5-1-16	NYS Fire Academy	OFPC
Rescue Technician – Basic <i>Prerequisites: None</i>	24	8	5-7-16	OES	Tom Summerville

Must have a signed OFPC Chief's Authorization Letter to attend classes.
 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER: See our Website at www.chautcofire.org
 IF UNABLE TO ATTEND AFTER REGISTERING FOR A CLASS, CALL OR E-MAIL OUR OFFICE.

They say that more things changes, the more they stay the same.
The following is from 50 years ago, it still holds true today.

G. Lawrence Hodges County Coordinator	THE B O O S T E R LINE	George V. Blackstone Chairman, Advisory Board
Number 272	Official Publication of the Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board	January 1, 1966

YOUR MISTAKES ARE VALUABLE

No one likes to admit they ever make mistakes...but firemen who can be classed as "big men" can profit from their mistakes and turn these mistakes into valuable assets.

We once heard a training instructor telling a group of firemen how he had positioned a fire truck on the downwind side of a residence that had evidence of only a small fire. An oil drum on the back porch of the house ruptured and before hose lines could be charged what was a small fire became a major conflagration. It was impossible to change lines until the fire truck was moved to a safe location.

This man was "big" enough to admit his mistake...and in telling of the mistake, he was able to point out in a forceful manner that there are no easy fires and a proper procedure should be used in attacking every fire with no exceptions.

This group of firemen could easily visualize this particular problem...and it is a safe bet they will remember this story all their lives and be better firemen for having heard a "big" man admit his mistake.

Experience is a wonderful teacher...but by the same token no fire department can sit and let its firemen become proficient through experience alone using a trial and error method. "Big" men who now lead departments can share their success and failures and make their firemen better firemen.

The men with the most practical experience are naturally the senior men in your department. This is the group that forms your retirement list...so before these men step down, let them share with your "rookies" their successes as well as their failures.

The day is gone of letting a fireman become a proficient fire fighter through experience alone...this road is much too expensive to travel and too many lives can be lost. Share successes and failures with the new members to allow them to avoid the same mistakes...this will make your entire department a better unit to better serve the community.

Your mistakes are valuable...their value rests with sharing them with others. To make a mistake and admit it is another way of saying, "I am smarter today than I was yesterday."

THE RESPONDER *Official Newspaper for the Chautauqua County, New York Fire Service*

If your are interested in contributing articles or photos you can contact

John Griffith
Editor at 499-3113 or
email at Griffith@chautcofire.org.

To register go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TheResponderRegistration> or <http://www.chautcofire.org> home page and click on 'click here to register'.

NEWS
flash

COMING SOON...

The first issues of the Responder are being prepared to post on our website - www.chautcofire.org.

You will be able to access them by going to the history section.