

The Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 1463

Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

Organized 1886



*Minutes – Meeting of the Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Association
September 26, 2023 – Central Islip*

Prior to the start of the meeting, Christina Moon spoke on being an organ donor. One suggestion she made was to set up a table at Fire Prevention. You can contact "Live on New York" or the BillyMoonFoundation@gmail for guidance on doing this. Christina told her story and asked that you check the box and be an organ donor.

Meeting Called to order by President Robert Sutton at 8:05pm
Salute to the flag led by Sgt. At Arms Don Bracciodieta
Prayer by Chaplain John Fleischman

Chief Michael Zaleski of the Central Islip Fire Dept. welcomed us to Central Islip.
Third Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli thanked Chief Zaleski and all the members of Central Islip for hosting the meeting and serving dinner this evening. A certificate of appreciation was given to Chief Zaleski.

Motion by Bill Mulane seconded by Jerry Owenburg to accept the minutes of the July meeting, Motion Carried.

Introduction of Guests & Past Association Presidents: by Third Vice President Chiarelli"

President Nick Luparella – Suffolk County Chiefs

President Bob McConville – Suffolk Districts

Vice President Scott Theobald – Suffolk Districts

President Gary Schaum -VEEB

President Juan Batta – Southern New York

President Don Holupua – Long Island Exempts

President Kevin McElynn – Nassau County Firefighter's Association

President Lori Zatorski – Suffolk County VFA Ladies Auxiliary

President Jeff Bailes – Safety Officers.

1st vice President Isip Town Volliers – Stan Roberts

Peter Colli – Past President Town of Babylon

Ken DeFiertas Vice President Town of Babylon

Donald Gleason 2nd Vice President Suffolk Burn Center

Joel Heilbrunn President Town of Babylon
Dina Wayrich Deputy Chief SCEMS
Suffolk County Comptroller John Kennedy Jr.
Suffolk County Legislator District 12 – Leslie Kennedy
Islip Town Councilman, District 1 - Jorge Guardron
Suffolk County Legislator District 17 – tom Donnelly
Suffolk County legislator District 11 – Steve Flotteron

Past Presidents:

Robert McConville – William Murray – Jerry Owenburg – Gene Perry

Treasurer Robert McConville gave the treasurer's report. Motion to accept by Jeff Bailes seconded by Paul Calllari, motion carried.

Bills/Correspondence –There were no bills.

- Letter from Sayville Fire Dept. requesting to host the 2030 Suffolk County Parade
- Suffolk County Chiefs Brunch/Installation November 12th 11:30-2:30 cost is \$150 per couple.
- Women in the Fire Service at Suffolk County Fire Academy October 21st 7:30am to 2:00 pm
- West Islip Psychic Sisters – October 27th
- Suffolk Firefighters Hockey Club charity Hockey game November 18th at the Clark Gilles Arena in Dix Hills. They are looking for sponsors. Deadline is November 1st for sponsorship. Tickets go on sale soon.

Report of Presidents:

President Robert Sutton

Thank you to the Central Islip Fire Department for hosting tonight's membership meeting, it is greatly appreciated.

2023 FASNY Convention

The annual FASNY convention was held from August 10 to August 12, 2023 in Niagara Falls, NY. The convention was a huge success and a good time was had by all. Congratulations to Gene Perry on starting his second year as First Vice President of FASNY. Congratulations also to Jerry Owenburg & Pete Cincotta on the completion of their terms as Trustees to the Firefighter's Home.

Annual Dinner - Firefighter of the Year Presentation & Scholarship Journal

The annual dinner and Firefighter of the Year presentation will be held on Saturday October 21, 2023, and will be held at the Coram Fire Department. The Dinner application as well as the journal information has been posted to our website, and is also available tonight on the front table. Please make every effort to promote & support dinner and journal. More information will follow concerning this event. In conjunction with our annual installation dinner and Firefighter of the year award ceremony, we will also be publishing our annual journal, with the proceeds going towards our annual scholarship awards. Applications are on the tables for your use and please bring them back to your home Departments.

Lithium-Ion Battery Joint Task Force On August 29, 2023 the joint task force gave a presentation in front of the Suffolk County Legislature's Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services & Preparedness Committee. At this meeting we spoke on the priority

and importance of this ever-growing problem and the need for the residents of Suffolk County to be made aware of this through public education. I am pleased to report that the Suffolk County Legislature's Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services & Preparedness Committee has approved funding to assist the Suffolk County Fire Departments in starting a public awareness print campaign concerning the dangers of Lithium-Ion batteries.

Annual Memorial Service

Our annual Memorial Service will be held on Sunday May 5, 2024, at the North Babylon Fire Company.

In closing, this is my last meeting as President of the Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Association. I would like to thank all of the Officers and Executive Board Members of our Association for their efforts and support of our organization. To those that served as committee chairpersons, and members, you have my gratitude and appreciation of all the hard work that you have done these past 2 years.

A special thank you to our Secretary Jean Christensen, who made my term as President much easier through her hard work, dedication, and as someone that I constantly sought out for guidance & advice.

To the incoming slate of Officers, I wish them success and productive years, please give them your full support for all of their endeavors.

I would like to acknowledge our Past Presidents Bob McConville, Bill Murray, Roger Putnam, Gene Perry, Jerry Owenburg, Pete Cincotta, Chris DeVecchio & Frank Guarino. I am proud to have followed in your footsteps and whose council I have sought out on so many occasions, you have my respect gratitude.

In closing I want to thank all of the members of our Association for the support that you have given myself and the rest of our Executive Board. No organization can exist without their membership being behind them and supporting them. I felt that support very strongly during my term as your President, and I am proud and honored to have been allowed to represent you throughout Suffolk County and beyond.

Thank you!

Since the last membership meeting I have attended the following meetings/events

- July 28, 2023 – Attended the Long Island Benevolent meeting held at the Bay Shore Fire Department.
- July 31, 2023 – Attended the Lithium-Ion Battery Joint Task Force meeting held at the Central Islip Fire Department.
- August 3, 2023 - Attended the Smithtown Town Fire Chief's Council meeting held at the Commack Fire Department.
- August 8 to August 13, 2023 – Attended the 151 st annual FASNY Convention, held in Niagara Falls, NY.
- August 21, 2023 - Attended the Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Burn Center Fund meeting at Stony Brook Hospital..
- August 22, 2023 - attended the Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Executive Board meeting at the Patchogue Fire Department.
- August 26, 2023 – Attended the FASNY Youth Day at the Hagerman Fire Department.
- August 29, 2023 – attended and presented in front of the Suffolk County Legislature's Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services & Preparedness Committee concerning the Joint Fire Service Council's request for funding to launch a public service campaign.
- August 30, 2023 – Attended the Suffolk County Fire Safety Educators Meeting at the Nesconset Fire Department.

- ☐ **August 31, 2023 – Attended the Suffolk County Fire District Officer’s Association meeting at the North Patchogue Fire Department.**
- ☐ **September 7, 2023 – Attended the Smithtown Fire Chief’s Council meeting held at the St. James Fire Department.**
- ☐ **September 8, 2023 - Attended the Hendrickson Annual Open House, in the Village of Islandia.**
- ☐ **September 8, 2023 - Attended the Fire Chief’s Council of Suffolk County meeting held at the St. James Fire Department.**
- ☐ **September 10, 2023 – attended and presented a 50-year certificate to Honorary Captain John Ippolito, Sr., at the Bay Shore Fire Department.**
- ☐ **September 13, 2023 – Attended the Suffolk County Ladies Auxiliary meeting at the Holbrook Fire Department.**
- ☐ **September 15, 2023 – Attended the Brookhaven Town Fire Chief’s Council held at the Terryville Fire Department.**
- ☐ **September 17, 2023 – attended the a6th annual Long Island Day at the Home, in Hudson, NY**
- ☐ **September 18, 2023 – Represented the Association on the interview board for the VEEB Board position left vacant by the passing of Dennis Whittam.**
- ☐ **September 19, 2023 – Attended the Islip Town Fire Chief’s Council’ meeting held at the Brentwood Fire Department.**
- ☐ **September 20, 2023 - Represented the Association on the interview board for the VEEB Board position left vacant by the passing of Dennis Whittam.**
- ☐ **September 20, 2023 - Attended the Babylon Town Fire Chief’s Council’ meeting held at the Lindenhurst Fire Department.**

Report of 1st Vice President Peter Cincotta – None

Report of 2nd Vice President Vinny Ammirati:

Attended the following meetings:

July 25, 2023 Suffolk Vollies meeting at Smithtown FD River Property

July 28,2023 Long Island association of benevolent association meeting Bay Shore FD

August 1, 2023 First Night Centereach pool with Suffolk PD

August 4, 2023 Suffolk Burn Center, Fundraiser, Pindar, winery, and Vineyard Southold

August 9, 2023 FASNY past president dinner Frontier FD Niagara Falls, New York

August 10-13 FASNY convention Niagara Falls NY

August 19, 2023 East Moriches FD Summer Bash and BBQ

August 25, 2023 FASNY Youths in the fire service classroom training Suffolk County Fire Academy, Yaphank

August 26, 2023 FASNY Youths in the Fire Service hands on field training at the Hagerman FD training center

September 17, 2023 Long Island Day at the FASNY Home

Report of 3rd Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli – Thank you to all involved in Youth Day. If anyone is interested in a Shirt please see him. Jacket badges are in.

Annual Dinner – will be held in Coram on October 21st. 80 tickets sold to date.

Audit – Jerry stated it will be in January 2024.

By-Laws – Progress

Candidate Campaign – Robert McConville
Nothing at this time.

Credentials – Dan Brooks – Please be sure to sign in up front.

FASNY – 1st Vice President Eugene Perry – sorry I was late; I was at wake for a Hagerman Firefighter. Congratulations and thank you to Jerry Owenburg and Peter Cincotta on a great job as Trustees.

- For those of you who attended the FASNY Convention, if you didn't enjoy yourselves, it was your own fault. The Convention Committee did an outstanding job. I wish to congratulate the newly elected FASNY Director Tom Arsenault from Tupper Lake and our newly elected FASNY Home Trustees Robert Outhouse from Westchester County and our own Robert Sutton and Vinny Ammirati. Plans are already being made for next year's Convention, August 8-10, 2024, at the Sheraton Hotel and the Niagara Falls Convention Center in Niagara Falls, NY.
- The New York State Fallen Firefighters Memorial Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at the Empire State Plaza in Albany. Unfortunately, there will be 29 names added to the granite wall including Islip Fire Department and FDNY members Jesse Gerhard and William Moon II. I will have the honor of placing the Memorial wreath with the President of the Professional Firefighters Association. For those who can't attend the ceremony in person you can watch the ceremony online. Just search NYS Fallen Firefighters Memorial to find the link.
- The Annual FASNY Legislative Conference will be held November 3-5 at the Hilton Garden Inn, 235 Hoosick Street, Troy, NY. Pre-registration and housing information is available on the FASNY website under the Events Tab.
- All Applications for FASNY Awards are available on the FASNY website under the Awards Tab. The deadline for applications is March 15, 2024, for incidents in the calendar year 2023. Also, the Gerard J. Buckenmeyer FASNY Volunteer Scholarship application is also available on the FASNY website. 25 \$1,500 Scholarships are awarded to High School Seniors entering college who are also exemplary members in the Youth Fire Service who also contribute to their communities.
- There will be a FASNY webinar "Handing Hybrid and Electrical Incidents" on Wednesday, October 11th at 7pm. The webinar is designed to help First Responders Identify the presence of Hybrid/Electric Vehicle Systems, including LI-Ion Battery found on the road today, and understand the General Hazards while operating at vehicle accidents, fires, submerged vehicles, or battery breaches. This webinar is free. To register go to the FASNY website under the training tab.
- There was an email sent out from FASNY regarding a new member benefit, Amazon Business Prime. I've received some questions regarding this benefit. I want to apologize for how this benefit was rolled out. The benefit allows FASNY members to sign up for Amazon Prime through FASNY's Business Account without having to pay for the Prime membership. However, using this account will not allow you to access any of Amazon Prime's other platforms such as Amazon Prime TV, Movies etc. This benefit is for purchases only. If you have any questions, please see me later.

- FASNY Dues renewal notices will begin going out for 2024 in November. When renewing your membership, it's very important to include your email address so that we can reach out to our membership on
- important legislation and other issues concerning the Volunteer Fire Service. FASNY will NEVER give out any members personal information or sell our membership list to any 3rd party vendor.

Home Trustees – Trustee Vinny Ammirati gave the following report:

- We are taking care of 88 members. For the first time in a while, we actually have a waiting list for admission into the home.
- Corn Hole tournament to benefit the members of the Home on Saturday October 7, 2023, \$50 a team of 2 rain or shine event.
- Legislative weekend, Troy, New York November 3rd to November 5th
- Christmas tree lighting and Christmas party with the members weekend of December 3 at the home

Father Halpin Memorial Service is May 4, 2024

Firefighter Cancer Support Network – Chief Barz thanked everyone for attending the seminar. Next month money for Turkeys.

Firefighter of the Year – Dinner is October 21st in Coram. Please get your tickets and take an ad in our journal.

Fire Prevention – Don Bracciodieta

- Next meeting is November 9th.
- Be safe and good luck with Fire Prevention.

Headquarters – 2nd Vice President Vinny Ammirati - No report

John A. Masem Sr. Scholarship – Keith Vellia

Progress – new application is on the website.

Legislative – Jerry Owenburg –

- Met about Lithium-Ion Batteries
- Authorized License Agreement for us of county premises by the American Red Cross.
- Appropriating funds in connection with improvements to the Suffolk County Fire Academy.
- Appropriating funds in connection with improvements to the Suffolk County Fire Rescue Main Building.
- Amendatory bond resolution amending bond resolution authorizing the issuance of \$5,000,000 bonds to finance upgrades and improvements to Fire Rescue CAD System.

Long Island Day at the Home

- Honored trees – monuments – benches. All got ice cream. There were a lot of members out. Peter came down, was a great day. Next year is the third Sunday in September.

Membership – Dan Brooks –

Departments	72 paid	16 owe
Members	106 paid	38 owe
Organizations	41 paid	16 owe

Thank you very much to those who have paid their dues.

Publicity – Dan reported we post as much as w can. Going to be creating an Instagram account soon.

REMSCO – by Tom Prendergast

- No TOA's
- NYS Assembly 0280 State bills 1466 – Authorizes payments to non-participating or non-preferred providers of ambulances services licensed under Article 30 of the Public Health Law.
- EMTCC Phase out by 2030.
- CC – has fewer routine standing orders and requires more content with medical control.
- NY Assembly Bill 7613 Pass the assembly and senate.
- Thomas Lateulere Conference 9/23/23 – Topics covered – child abuse, CVA, Drowning, Trauma
- Emergency Broadcast October 4, 2023 at approximately 2:20 pm.

Credentialing

CFR 33 (+3)

EMT 4980 (+540)

CC 149 (-105)

Paramedic 897 (+55)

12 Lead BLS -68 (+10)

CPAP – 56 (+17)

RSI – 31 (+4) (Rapid Sequence Intubation)

BLS 5,013

ALS 1,046

Dina Wayrich Deputy Chief also spoke.

- NYS New manual
- Updating email addresses for forms.
- CME big topic – packet late – audit is a big deal.
- Submit up to 9 months early EMS Courses increased reimbursement rate \$500 for refresher – our volunteers \$125. Five original courses and one refresher. She gave info on upcoming courses.

Resolutions by Gene Perry

- Resolution #1 – BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extend its sincere thanks to the Central Islip FD for Hosting tonight's meeting. Motion to accept by Stanley Roberts, seconded by Jeff Bailes, motion carried.

- Resolution #2 – BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extend its sincere thanks to Patchogue FD for Hosting our August Executive Board meeting. Motion by Bill Mulane, seconded by Peter DePinto, motion carried.
- Resolution #3 – BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association appoint Jean Christensen as Secretary to the Association for the coming year. Motion by Vinny Ammirati, seconded by Dan Brookes, motion carried.
- Resolution #5 – BE IT RESOVLED THAT the Association congratulate the Islip FD “Wolves” Drill Team for winning the New York State Drill Team Championship. Motion to accept by Vinny Ammirati, seconded by Bill Mulane, motion carried.

Welcome to John Kennedy – Leslie Kennedy – Tom Donnelly. They congratulated Jerry Owenburg and apologized for not having a proclamation for him. Lelie Kennedy presented a proclamation to Robert Sutton and thanked him. John Kennedy stated he is thankful for volunteer firefighters and he personally cannot thank you all enough.

Sickness – no report

Steering – Past President Robert McConville
No Report. Slate to be announced under elections.

SCVFA Parade & Drill – Gary Schaum

- To request to date for 2024.
- Sayville Fire Department requested 2030 for the parade. Motion by Gary Stecker to approve the 2030 Suffolk County Parade to be hosted by the Sayville Fire Dept seconded by John Fleischman, motion carried. Secretary to send letter.

Training & Education -

Looking for a subject on lecture for next year. If you have an idea, please let Giovanni know.

Youth in the Fire Service – Keith Vellia

- August 24 & 25 held two-day lecture and hands on course. Did well. The lecture had 74 kids and on Saturday there were 102 kids. Thank you to Hagerman, Instructors and the Fire Academy and instructors.
- President Sutton Thanked Keith on a great job.

Suffolk County Fire Chief’s Council – Nick Lucarella – President

- Applications are on the website for each award as is 50 year and above recognition.
- Applications on web site for the chief of the year and the Rick Van De Keift Awardd. Deadline is October 15, 2023.
- The annual Brunch this year is November 12, 2023, 11:30 at Captain Bills.
- The November meeting is at Wading River Fire Dept. November 10th Dinner at 7pm and meeting at 8pm.

President Sutton Thanked Tom Kriklava, he enjoyed working together.

Tom Kriklava said it was his pleasure, great working with you. President Sutton always had the organizations back.

Suffolk County Association of Fire Districts –Vice President Scott Theobald

- Next meeting is November 16th.
- Thank you, President Sutton, – it has been a pleasure. Great presentation on the Battery.

Suffolk County F.R.E.S. Anthony Sullo reported on the meeting.

Radio test on October 4th.

Suffolk County VEEB Board Gary Schaum

- Fire Police Field Day was September 23rd – we had over 125 in attendance.
- Lithium-Ion Training Lecture – October 26th in Setauket and November 8th in Holbrook, 7pm. Please register on the website.
- Women in the Fire Service – SCFA/FRES training 10/21 starting at 8am. 37 have registered, please promote looking to obtain 50.
- FF1 – National Exam 10/28 please register we currently have 38 registered.
- Psychologically Health Fire Dept Training – Oct. 5th and 6th at SCFA 7pm please visit the website limited seating.
- Currently working on Field and classroom schedule for 2024.
- Jan. Firefighter 1 classes are posted on the website. Please view as you know enrollment is 60 days prior. We are also holding a virtual FF1 class for 2024. This will meet the needs of college students, Barrier Beach Communities and East End Departments and Students.
- IAFC mentoring program March 9th and 10th of 2024 please visit website for more information. 20 students maximum.
- Medal of Valor Ceremony is weds Sept 27th at Riverhead FD 7pm
- Rudy and Gary thanked President Bob Sutton for all he has done.

Suffolk County Ladies Auxiliary – President Lori Zatorski

- Running Fundraisers
 - a 100 club Fundraiser – the cost is \$26 and it runs for 26 weeks.
 - Lottery Scratch off - \$10 per ticket drawing in December.
 - Jeffrey Wands Fundraiser January 27th in Holbrook
- Thank you for inviting her to participate in Long Island Day
- Good Luck to Vinny and Bob in their new Trustee positions.
- Thank you to Bob for his support for the last two years.

Suffolk County Fire Police Gary Stecker reported field day on Saturday was well attended. NYS Meeting is October 14th in Hagerman.

Suffolk County Firefighters Burn Center – 2nd Vice President Don Gleason

- Meeting in Ridge October 16th.

- January 3rd meeting, they are looking for a host.
- Would like to do recognition day in a fire house in May.
- They need representatives to come to meetings. He has letters as well as Memorial cards.
- Meeting at the hospital in the conference room of the main lobby.

Safety Officer's Jeff Bailes

- Thank you to all who supported our fundraiser
- Thank you to President Sutton and his executive board for their support over the years.

Southern NY VFA – President Juan Batta

- October 7th is the next meeting in Stony Point.
- Congratulations to Bob and Vinny. Great job Jerry
- Thank you to all who came to Long Island Day
- Please keep the Farmingdale Juniors involved in the bus accident in your prayers.

Nassau County – Kevin McClewyn President

Hosting muster for Nassau County Museum. To let firefighters know that the museum exists. Also, to try and raise money for museum treasury. Looking for antique apparatus and ideas.

Long Island Exempts Firemen's Association President Donald Hulupka reported.

- October 27th is the next meeting in Selden. Dinner 7pm, meeting at 8pm.
- Start working on your street listings. There was a department this year that was missing 36 streets.

Babylon Town VFA – Joel reported that the next meeting is in November but has not been confirmed yet.

Islip Town VFA – Thank you for excellent two years working together.

South Shore VOLLIES – Russel Curley

- pamphlets on tables.
- The last meeting was in Oceanside.
- They have a Facebook Page.
- Always looking for members
- November 17th is the next meeting in South Farmingdale Dinner 7pm – Meeting 8pm.

Legislator Steven Flotteron spoke on Long Island Housing Partnership Announce Home-Buying Grant Program for Fire and Ambulance Volunteers – Flyer is attached to minutes.

Old Business – None

New Business

- Scott Theobald reported Brookhaven town District meeting October 7th 8:30 to noon. Workshop important to support. Thank you to Bob Sutton and the Executive Board. Good luck to Vinny. Looking forward to start working together. Action starts at the Fire house – take care of each other.
- Fire Chief Council Brunch – Motion by Scott Theobald to send the Executive board seconded by Bill Murray, motion carried.
- Motion to donate \$100 for the turkeys for Cancer Support Network by Peter DePinto seconded by Peter Collie, motion carried.

Elections: Bob McConville Steering Committee met. Jean Christensen has been appointed Secretary for another year.

Steering Committee recommendation for slate of officers for SCVFA 23-24

President – Vinny Ammirati

1st Vice President – Giovanni Chiarelli

2nd Vice President – Dan Brooks

3rd Vice President – Don Bracciodieta

Sgt at Arms – William Mulane

Treasurer – Robert McConville

Financial Secretary – Tom Prendergast

There being no further nominations Motion by Gene Perry for the secretary to cast one ballot for all unopposed offices seconded by Robert Sutton, motion carried.

Legislative Donnelly swore in President Vinny Ammirati and Town of Islip Councilman Jorge Guadron, District 1 swore in the rest of the board.

At FASNY Convention Vinny was a write in vote. There was a total of 311 that voted and Vinny received 260.

Good & Welfare

- Scott Theobald congratulated Brookhaven Fire Dept on their 100 years – was a great day.
- FASNY was in Cooperstown on Saturday 2nd Vice President had a medical emergency. His aorta was 95% blocked – was in ICU Sunday. Still in hospital and will be out of service for a little while. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Juan Batta stated that he is a recipient of a heart transplant. As Christina Moon stated, please check the box.
- Motion by Bill Murray to give the Billy Moon Foundation a donation of \$100 seconded by Peter Collie, motion carried.

Dark Horse was drawn – total of \$235 collected. Ben Galletto of Islip won \$117.

- October 5th – 8th at Tanner Park will be the Vietnam mobile wall.
- Candles from FASNY memorial Service are here – please pick them up for your Department or neighboring Dept.

Next membership meeting is Weds, November 29th in West Islip.

Thank you for coming tonight.

Closing Prayer said by Chaplain Joe McCarthy
Motion to adjourn by Keith Vellia, seconded by Bill Murray.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jean Christensen".

Jean Christensen
Secretary