

*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  
July 22, 2025 – Smithtown River Property*

Meeting Called to order by President Vincent Ammirati

Salute to the flag led by Sgt. At Arms William Mullane

Moment of Silence for departed members followed by a prayer.

Second Vice President Dan Brooks presented a certificate of thanks to Smithtown for hosting our meeting tonight to Phil Migliorise, Captain.

**John A Masem Sr. Scholarship – Keith Vella**

At this time, Keith Vella presented one of our Scholarship winners, Matthew Murray, with his check. Matthew is the grandson of our Past President, Bill Murray and Member of the Bay Shore Junior Fire Department. Matthew will be attending the Swanson School of Engineering.

Our other award winner could not be with us tonight, as he was out of the country, vacationing in Europe. Joseph Zuhoski IV is a former Junior member and current member of the Cutchogue Fire Dept. He will be attending the College of Rhode Island for Business.

Congratulations to Joseph Zuhoski IV of Cutchogue. Joseph's check will be mailed to him.

Congratulations to both of our winners – we wish you much success!

Motion by Frank Guarino seconded by Bill Mullane to accept the minutes of the March meeting, Motion Carried.

**Introduction of Guests & Past Association Presidents:**

**Past Presidents** in attendance were

William Murray

Robert McConville

Gene Perry

Jerry Owenburg

Frank Guarino

Robert Sutton

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Donald Bracciodieta read those guests in attendance with us this evening.

**Treasurer's report.** Bob McConville read the totals of all accounts, and the copy will be attached to the original minutes. Motion by Jack Blum to accept the Treasurer's Report seconded by Jeff Bailes, motion carried.

**Bills** - there were no bills.

### **Communications:**

- Thank you from Carolyn Alles, secretary from FRES that retired.
- Greater Patchogue Foundation sent us literature on Patchogue Italian Feast of St. Liberata. Eugene Perry Jr is being honored as the Italian American of the Year.
- Invitation from Suffolk County Fire Academy for President Ammirati to attend the Vocational Education and Extension Board of Suffolk County Day Medal of Valor Day on Weds September 24, 2025.

### **Report of Presidents:**

#### **President Vincent Ammirati**

- SCVFA meeting Southold FD May 27,2025
- Southern NY Ladies installation and meeting West Sayville FD May 28,2025
- North Fork annual Dinner and installation of officers the Birchwood Riverhead May 31,2025
- NYS Chiefs convention, Syracuse, New York, June 3rd through June 7, 2025
- Lindenhurst Parade June 7,2025
- Suffolk County In The Public Eye training Mastic FD June 9, 2025
- Suffolk County Burn Center Meeting Stoney Brook Hospital June 16,2025
- Suffolk County Junior Vollies meeting at North Babylon FD June 22,2025
- Red Knights BBQ June 22,2025 Selden FD
- SCVFA executive board meeting Hauppauge FD June 24,2025
- FASNY convention committee Teams meeting June 26,2025
- Suffolk County Fireworks press conference at Yaphank Fire Academy June 26,2025
- Selden FD invitational Drill tournament at Firemen's Park June 29,2025
- Port Jefferson 4th of July parade
- Suffolk County Ladies meeting at Setauket FD July 9,2025
- Suffolk County Chiefs at Mattituck fire department July 11,2025
- Islip Town Chiefs meeting Kismet FD July 15,2025
- FASNY Trustee meeting July 16-19,2025 Hudson NY
- Suffolk County Press Conference at Brookhaven FD July 22,2025
- Congratulations to the Flying Dutchmen. 2025 Suffolk County Drill Team Champions

President Vinny has spoken to Jo McCarthy and calls, text and visits are welcome.

**Report of 1st Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli** was absent below was read by Secretary Jean.

June 2025

- 5 Smithtown Chiefs @ Nesconset FD
- 22 SCVF Juniors Association @ North Babylon FD
- 24 SCVFA @ Hauppauge FD
- 30 Huntington Chiefs @ East Northport FD

July 2025

- 9 Smithtown Chiefs @ Commack FD
- 13 StonyBrook Burn Center
- 14 Smithtown Chiefs Golf Outing
- 16 Huntington Manor Parade
- 19 FASNY Home
- 20-27 Vacation



## **Report of 2nd Vice President Dan Brooks –**

- May 27 – SCVFA General Membership Meeting
- May 30 – Southern NY VFA Installation Dinner
- May 31 – Northfork VFA Installation Dinner
- June 5 – FASNY Scholarship Award at Cutchogue Fire Dept
- June 9 – For In The Public Eye at Mastic Fire Dept
- June 22 – Suffolk County Volunteer Junior Firefighters Association
- June 26 – SCFA Press Conference on Fireworks
- July 22 – Fire/EMS Housing Bill

## **3rd Vice President Donald Bracciodieta**

**May 28, 2025 ladies Southern New York West Sayville FD**

**May 30, 2025, Southern New York firefighter of the year ceremony installation dinner**

**June 16, 2025 BURN CENTER membership meeting Stony Brook Hospital**

**June 17, 2025 Islip Town chief meeting central Islip FD**

**June 24, 2025 Suffolk County volunteer executive board meeting**

**June 26, 2025 Suffolk County Academy, fire safety press conference**

**The executive board for Suffolk County Volunteer Association thanks all for the support who donated to the FASNY convention hospitality room - Suffolk County Chiefs, Selden FD, Suffolk County volunteer Firemans association Ladies Auxiliary, West Islip FD, West Babylon FD,, Patchogue FD**

**Thanks everybody support for the 50-50 raffle fundraiser, which is still going on drawing for Saturday, October 18, 2025 if anybody else is looking for tickets, please let the association know and update becoming soon on amounts**

**Thank you for your support.**

## **Annual Dinner** – Robert Sutton reported

Please save the date of Saturday October 18, 2025, for our annual dinner, Installation and Firefighter of the Year presentation. Our dinner will be held at the Coram Fire Department, and the tickets are \$75.00 each. The Applications are here tonight and are available on our website. Please take the applications for the dinner & Journal back to your Fire Departments/Boards and other organizations that you belong to get commitments and monies for tickets. If you have any questions at all, please contact me.

## **By-Laws** – Eugene Perry No report

**Candidate Campaign** – Eugene Perry – no one running for anything outside of Suffolk.

## **FASNY** – President Eugene Perry read his report.

Convention is 7-9<sup>th</sup> at the Hyatt in Hauppauge.

At this time Marvin Treyon from Wayne County, Northern Central spoke to the membership. He is running for FASNY Director (Daina's spot) and looking for your support.

## **Home Trustees** –Bob Sutton reported the following:

The current census for the Firefighters home is 84.

Eight applications are in various stages of completion.

New Member and Past FASNY President James Burns was admitted to the Home this past Tuesday. He is doing well and happy to be there.

A film school graduate student has been filming a short film here at the Home this week, which is required for her to get her master's degree. FASNY is coordinating this project, and the Home will be getting a short promotional video for our website to replace the current one on the site. The Home is currently COVID free.

**Father Halpin Memorial Service** – Bob Sutton reported

Our annual Memorial Service will be held on Sunday May 3, 2026. This year it will be hosted by the Bay Shore Fire Department.

**Long Island Day at the Firemen's Home** – Jerry Owenburg reported:

Is September 21<sup>st</sup> –starts at 12 noon by our trees and bench. we are looking for band.

**Firefighter Cancer Awareness Mentoring of New York State** –

President Tony Cruz spoke – he said that they have their 501.3C up and running. They are accepting donations. Will have new logo – same team that has taken care of you for the past 17 years. If you need us – please call. September 9<sup>th</sup> is their golf outing.

**Firefighter of the Year** – John Manzi/John Masem - Absent

Suffolk County Medal of Valor Award has been awarded to North Babylon Fire Co Firefighter Anthony Serpenti for his heroic rescue on 11/24/24 of a person recused from an MVA with fire. He was chosen out of 10 applications submitted.

**Headquarters** –William Mullane - No Report

**Youth in the Fire Service** – Keith Vella

Suffolk –

August 1<sup>st</sup> Suffolk Jr's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual BBQ at the Smithtown River Property 6-9pm

August 10<sup>th</sup> Day 1 of next Jr. BEFO Class begins

September 20<sup>th</sup> Extrication Training in Selden

September 28<sup>th</sup> Next meeting in West Babylon. Nomination for next board will begin this meeting.

Dues notices went out.

**FASNY**

Just returned from Youth Day in Northern at the St Lawrence County Fire Training Facility.

August 8<sup>th</sup> at FASNY Convention, round table discussion on how to build and retain a Junior/Explorer post.

August 9<sup>th</sup> at FASNY Convention, for the juniors a Stop the Bleed/Narcan Classroom.

August 22<sup>nd</sup> FASNY Youth Day at the Suffolk Fire Academy. Two lectures will be given with the youths hearing both. First Fireground size-up by Asst Chief Andrew Dinkel. Second EMS will be given by Deputy Chief Daniel Keegan.

August 23<sup>rd</sup> FASNY Youth day at the Suffolk Fire Academy. Hands on Evolutions will consist of Forcible Entry/Advanced Forcible Entry, Tech Rescue, Tower and Bleeding Control (SCEMS)

Rehab station to be run and manned by Bayshore/Brightwaters EMS and Junior Squad.

Also upstate departments (Southline) are looking for housing to attend Youth Day on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. If any departments are interested in housing contact Keith, any FASNY Youth Committee member or the FASNY Office.

Fundraiser Raffle for Suffolk Juniors will be drawn September 1<sup>st</sup>.



### **Suffolk Legislative** – Jerry Owenburg

- Approved the appointment of Michael Presta as a member of the Suffolk County Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services Commission.
- Authorizing the County Executive to execute grant related agreements from New York State Department of Health for the Emergency Medical Services Program Agency (EMSPA) administered by the Suffolk County Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services, Division of emergency Medical Services.
- Reappointing Brendan Pilkington as a member of the Suffolk County Vocational Education and Extension Board.
- Next meeting is July 29, 2025.

### **Resolutions** – Eugene Perry

Resolution #1 – BE IT RESOLVES that the Association extends it's sincere thanks to the Smithtown Fire Department for hosting tonight's meeting. Motion to accept by Bob Sutton – second by Bill Mullane, motion carried

Resolution #2 – BE IT RESOLVED that the Association extends its sincere thanks to the Hauppauge Fire Department for hosting our June Executive Board meeting. Motion to accept by Bob Sutton seconded by Bob Chuchillo motion carried.

Resolution #3 – BE IT RESOLVED that we appoint Jean Christensen, Association Secretary for the coming year. Motion to accept by Peter DePinto seconded by Frederick Freeman, motion carried.

Resolution #4 – BE IT RESOLVED that the Association Congratulate Matthew Murry and Joseph Zuhoski IV on receiving the John A. Masem Memorial Scholarship. Motion by Keith Vella seconded y Stan Roberts, motion carried.

Resolution #5 – BE IT RESOLVED that the Association Congratulate the West Sayville Fire Department "Flying Dutchmen" Drill Team on winning the Suffolk County Championship. Motion by Marilyn Davis, seconded by Peter DePinto, motion carried.

**Suffolk FRES Commission** – Anthony Sullo/Bob McConville  
Off for the Summer – next meeting is in September.

### **Sickness** –

Anthony is still in Rehab but coming home soon. They are putting in ramp at his home.

Past President William Murray is having surgery, and his wife Joan is recovering from surgery.

Scott Thebold stated his First Vice President Tim Deveney has medical condition, cards and calls are welcome.

### **Steering** – Past President Gene Perry –

Officers for Suffolk County VFA

President – Giovanni Chiarelli

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Daniel Brooks

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Donald Braccioldieta

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President – William Mullane

Financial Secretary – Thomas Prendergast

Treasurer – Jerry Owenburg

Sargeant-at-Arms – Keith Vella

Secretary will be appointed at this meeting.

Elections for FASNY

Diana Pfersick's Seat

Director – 5-year term - Eric Orr (Current FASNY Assistant Sargeant-at=Arms\_  
Stewart Bell

Marvin Tryon (Current President of Northern Central VFA)

It was agreed that the Association stay neutral on the above contest.

Complete term for Ken Holmes Sr

Director – 2-year term Paul Rieben (Appointed by FASNY Board of Directors in 2024)

David Glenn (Current Chairman of the FASNY R&R Committee)

It was agreed that the Association stay neutral on the above contest.

Elections for Board of Trustees

2<sup>nd</sup> Five-year term Walter Frame – running unopposed

2<sup>nd</sup> Five-year term Marsha Holland – running unopposed

The Association endorses both Trustees who are running for re-election.

Thank you to Bob McConville for all he has done for this Association!

### **SCVFA Parade & Drill –**

- Next Suffolk County Tournament is 7/26, Central Islip Invite starting at 11am.
- NYS State Jrs Tournament is 7/27 at Central Islip at 11am.
- NYS State Motorized Championship Drill is 8/16 at 10am at Main Transit. Parade is 8/17 at 1pm at Main Transit.
- Suffolk County Parade is scheduled for Saturday Sept 27<sup>th</sup> at Hagerman 3pm

At this time Jimmy Leggio, First Vice President of the Suffolk County Drill Team Captains Association spoke. He said that they needed to revamp the rule book, so the parade was delayed. They want to build the parade back up and hope to have many more departments attend, not just those that race. Applications will go out to all departments in Suffolk County. Next year the Suffolk County Parade will be held on July 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in Bay Shore.

### **Training & Education** – No report

**William Reilly Journal** – Giovanni Chiarelli is absent. Bob Sutton has applications with him.

**Publicity & Public Relations/Website** – Dan Brooks / Roger Putnam – No report

**Ways and Means** – William Mullane - \$95 to the winner

**Lithium Ion Battery** – Bob Sutton

A few presentations are in the scheduling phase for the fall already.

**Our task force has a very informative and valuable presentation to help educate the communities about the safe handling and use of Lithium-Ion Batteries. This presentation is available, at no cost to all.**

**We encourage local associations, libraries, fraternal organizations, civic groups, homeowner associations, Scouting of America, Girl Scouts, and all Fire Department and EMS agencies, as well as Junior/Youth/Explorer organizations to attend.**

**If any individual or organization has questions, or are interested in scheduling a free presentation, please contact us.**

**Fire Prevention** – Don Bracciodieta gave the following report

Our next membership meeting for Fire, Suffolk educators

Date: September 19, 2025

Location: Nesconset



Time: 7 PM dinner meeting to follow

Fire & Life Safety Topics

For the month

Grilling safety

Boating safety

Pool safety

Upcoming dates

If you have not heard yet

This year NFPA fire prevention announcement theme for fire prevention for this year

CHARGE into Fire Safety™

Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home

**Audit** – No report

**Credentials/Membership** – Tom Prendergast gave the following report

2<sup>nd</sup> Dues notices were mailed out during the month of May. Since the June 2025 report, an additional \$215 was collected as follows;

Michael Mooney \$15

Manorville FD \$30

Port Jefferson FD Co 1 \$90 (2023, 2024, 2025)

West Babylon FD \$30

Nicholas Luparella \$30 (2024 & 2025)

Robert Hulse \$15 (new member Bay Shore FD)

Walter Dunn \$5 (balance due)

2026 Dues notices will be mailed out during the month of November.

Total Dues Collected since November 2024 to the present day is \$7,600.00

**EMS/REMSCO** – Tom Prendergast

The meeting was held at the Ocean Beach FD on 7/8. It was a joint REMAC / REMSCO meeting. The following bills were approved by the State Senate & Assembly.

S1515 / A2177A: This bill was introduced by the South Country Ambulance Chief Greg Miglino. The bill removes EMS from the limit on real property tax levies by local governments. The bill takes effect once signed by the Governor.

S31 / A34: The bill provides NYS Thruway shall issue permits for ambulances and fire vehicles for toll exemptions when engaged in emergency operations.

S7501 / A8086A: The bill directs counties in coordination with their regional emergency services councils, to develop and maintain comprehensive county emergency medical systems plans that provide for coordinated emergency medical systems within such counties.

### **Local News in Suffolk County:**

7 EMT classes being organized after the summer.

CPR - Trauma Awards Nov 1, South Country Ambulance

An analysis of Boating Safety incidents, drowning, near drowning between Memorial Day and Labor Day holidays.  
REMAC

An analysis of cardiac arrests under a program called CARES (Cardiac Arrest Registry Enhancement Solutions)  
REMAC

Next REMSCO meeting on 9/16/25

Hospitality for FASNY Convention – looking for donations. August 8<sup>th</sup> is the Tailgate party at the FASNY Convention. Thank you to Suffolk County Chiefs for their generous donation. Suffolk Men will be doing cheese and crackers; Suffolk Ladies will be doing wine.

### **Suffolk County Fire Chiefs Council** – Kevin Fitzpatrick First Vice President

Thank you to those who went to last meeting

Next meeting is in Jamesport on September 12<sup>th</sup>

Golf Outing is September 29<sup>th</sup> in Smithtown

### **Suffolk County Association of Fire Districts** – President Scott Thebold reported

Next meeting is August 21<sup>st</sup> in Coram.

Supporting the Suffolk County Parade – joint letter is going out.

They are out doing things – if you need anything let them know.

### **Suffolk County FRES** – Joseph J. Trzepizur, Deputy Commissioner

- Hired new Suffolk County Fire Marshall – started 7/21/25.
- Suffolk County Fire Marshal K-9 Reassigned to Nassau County. Fire Marshal K-9 Handler
  - There will be no change in service. All K-9 requests go through FRES 852-4815.
  - New Suffolk Fire Marshal identified as next K-9 Handler. Application submitted to ATF, working with ATC to have Suffolk in next ATF class.

### **Suffolk County VEEB Board** Dan Sicilian gave the following report.

- Trying Pilot program – emails went out – Basic Exterior Operation
- Seven classes for Firefighter I - Last three Firefighter 1 classes are completely full
- September 13<sup>th</sup> is Fire Police Field Day

President Vinny thanked Dan for all that they do for the Juniors!

### **Suffolk County Recruitment & Retention** – Giovanni Chiarelli/Dan Brooks – no report

### **Suffolk County Ladies Auxiliary** – President Doreene DeRuiter reported

- There is no meeting in August
- Next Meeting is September 10<sup>th</sup> in Islip.
- We are selling tickets for our 100 Club they are \$26.00 each, runs for 26 weeks and is based off the Saturday Evening daily number.
- We are selling chances on our current raffle, \$10 each to win a \$500 gift card bundle.

Motion by Bob Sutton to purchase \$100 of the gift card raffle seconded by Dan Scicilian, motion carried.



**NYS Fire Police** – Chris Mealy – New region 7 Director

- Looking for host for their 9/26 meeting.
- They are having zoom training on 8/27 – only state members get certificates. It is \$15 per year to join
- They have Facebook group with good information

**Suffolk County Firefighters Burn Center** – Paul Callergi reported

- No July meeting
- 8/18 is the next meeting
- If you have a burn please go to Stony Brook to the Burn Center, not your local hospital. Police will transport by helicopter. The Burn Center is there for us!

**Suffolk County Safety Officer's - Don Braccioldieta** -No Report

Jeff Bailes reported the following

- Nassau County SO August 2025 TBA
- Suffolk County SO TBA
- NYS SO Oct 12 Annual Conference TBA
- FDSOA JAN 13, 2026, Arizona go their Web Site

**Southern NY VFA** – President Frank Guarino reported

Next meeting is October 4<sup>th</sup> Rockland County

**Nassau County VOLLIES** – Don MacIntosh, Nassau County Sgt At Arms reported

- August 23<sup>rd</sup> they are having Old Fashioned Fire Truck Muster. They have 22 registered now. It is at the Nassau Museum and will be professionally Judged. It is 10am to 5pm and the rain date is 8/24. Cost is \$20 if you want to be Judged or \$10 non-judge.

**North Fork VFA** –Artie Brewer reported

- Meeting is tomorrow night in Manorville

**Long Island Benevolent** –No Report

**Babylon Town VFA** – Joel Heilburn reported

- Brunch is October 5<sup>th</sup> at Captain Bills. They will be honoring 50-year members from 2020 to present.
- Islip Town Parade is August 9<sup>th</sup>
- Babylon Town Parade is September 20<sup>th</sup> at 5pm

**Islip Town VOLLIES** – Stan Roberts

Next meeting is September 17<sup>th</sup> in West Islip – Elections. Don Braccioldieta is running for President. Looking for Islip Town Departments to step up and attend meetings.

**South Shore Fire Association** is looking for Departments to join. Trying to get Suffolk Departments.

**Long Island Antique Fire Association** – are looking for members.

Gene Perry reported that FASNY is running a Chaplains Day on September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at the Firefighter's Home and the cost is \$50 in advance or \$60 day of. Great time to learn about being a Chaplain, should attend if you want to become one.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business**

Scott Thebold made a motion to purchase a hole Sponsor for \$50 for Firefighter Cancer Awareness Mentoring of New York State and Suffolk Chiefs \$100.00, seconded by Tom Kriklava, motion carried.

**Good and Welfare** –

Scott Thebold asked if a Chaplain Training can be done on the Island? Gene said this is the first one that is being done but he will ask Chaplain Foster.

Suffolk Chiefs are in need of Chaplains.

Jerry stated local town legislators need help – let him know – will help out. There was Editorial in Newsday.

Dan Scicilian thanked Dan Brooks for programing radios.

**Dark Horse** – Won by Nassau

**Next membership meeting is September 23, 2025, at the River Property**

**Next Executive Board meeting is August 26, 2025, in Patchogue**

Closing Prayer

Motion to adjourn by Bob Sutton seconded by Joen Heilburn motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jean Christensen  
Secretary