

IN MEMORY OF

*MICHAEL
KRUMMENACKER*

FASNY DIRECTOR

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
March 24, 2026 – Ronkonkoma Fire Department***

Prior to the meeting, we had a guest speaker, Paula Maro from ServePro.

Meeting Called to order by President Giovanni Chiarelli

Salute to the flag led by Sgt. At Arms Keith Vella

Moment of Silence for departed members followed by a prayer by Past President Ammirati.

Second Vice President Don Braccioldieta thanked the Host department Chiefs and kitchen committee for hosting us this evening.

President Chiarelli Welcomed and thanked everyone for coming tonight.

President Chiarelli stated at each meeting he will read names of the Associations Past Presidents, so that we never forget. The Past President read off tonight were

- Stephen Titus Babylon 1886
- Oliver A Terry Riverhead 1887
- J. William Beebe Sag Harbor 1888
- John L. Terry Greenport 1889
- Charles G Sands Babylon 1890
- Andrew J Weeks Babylone 1891
- Everett A Carpenter Sag Harbor 1892
- Benjamin B Wood Babylon 1893
- Thomas Britton Riverhead 1894
- Charles Hirsch Lindenhurst 1895
- Geroge L Chichester Patchogue 1896-97
- W. Kinlzing Post Bayport 1898-1921
- Harry Van Weelden Babylon 1921
- Adam L Field Huntington 1921-23

Moton to accept the minutes from the September meeting by Gary Stecker, seconded by Frank Guarino motion carried.

Introduction of Guests & Past Association Presidents by Third Vice President William Mullane

Scott Davonski, Chief Fire Marshal Suffolk County FRES

Paul Marra, EMS Coordinator, Suffolk FRES

Chris Mele, Director Region 7, NYS Fire Police Association

Scott A. Thebold, President Suffolk Districts

Stan Roberts, 2nd Vice President Islip Town VOLLIES

Joel Hellbrunn, President Town of Babylon Fire Officials

Don Corkery Past President NYS Fire Districts

Mary Catherine Dolan, Secretary for Junior Suffolk VFA.

Past Presidents in attendance were

William Murray
Robert McConville
Jerry Owenburg
Frank Guarino
Robert Sutton
Vinny Ammirati

Treasurer's report. Jerry Owenburg read the treasurer's report. Motion by Bob McConville to accept the Treasurer's report as read seconded by Marilyn Davis, motion carried.

Bills - There were no bills

Communications:

- Suffolk County Chiefs Scholarship Seminar is Friday 3/27/26 featuring Chief John Chip Bancroft.
- Don Corkery is looking for support of his candidacy, he is running for FASNY President
- Mike Caron is looking for support, he is running for 2nd Vice President
- Michael Kislack is looking for support to be re-elected as Trustee of the Firefighters Home
- Andrew Pilecki is looking for support, he is running for 2nd Vice President
- North Fork Volunteer Firefighter Association annual installation and awards dinner is May 16, 2026, and the cost is \$100 per person at the Birchwood Restaurant. Their next meeting is in Jamesport on April 22nd.
- Firefighter Cancer Awareness and Mentoring of NYS is having a Golf Outing on 5/4/26 and are looking for Sponsors. \$50.
- Yaphank Fire Dept is having 100th Anniversary Golf Outing on June 1st. Cost is \$175 per person for 18 holes of golf with cart. Registration is at 12pm with a 1:30 shotgun start. They are looking for sponsors.
- Yaphank FD Journal for their 100th anniversary.
- Yaphank FD is having a spaghetti dinner with Chinese auction to support Olivia's fight against leukemia. It is April 18th from 2pm – 8pm. Adults are \$20, Children 6-12 are \$10 and under 5 free.
- Mother Cabrini 1st Annual Classic Car & Truck show Sat May 30th 9am – 3pm St Frances Cabrini RC Church in Coram.
- Southern New York VFA looking for Journal ad for their dinner. Full page is \$100; Half page is \$75 and quarter page is \$50.

Report of Presidents:

Report of Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli -

Meetings/Events

- Suffolk County Vol Junior FF Association
- Suffolk County Vol Ladies Auxiliary
- East Hampton Chiefs
- Huntington Chiefs
- Smithtown Chiefs
- Brookhaven Chiefs
- Suffolk Chiefs

- Suffolk Districts
- Suffolk County Burn Center
- Legislature
- NYS Fire Police
- Nassau County
- Awarded several 50-year certificates
- SCVFA VP Meetings
- Funeral Details

Administrative:

- Review changes to all SCVFA paperwork
- Guideline Handbook
- Committee Assignments
- Guest sing-in sheets
- Exec Contact Info
- Application
- Brochure Pamphlet
- Scholarship

President Cheech spoke about SCVFA and how we need everyone to encourage firefighters to join. We give out scholarships to our members and the dues to join is \$15.00.

Report of 1st Vice President Dan Brooks –

- January 16 – Brookhaven town Fire Chiefs Council
- January 17 – Cutchogue Fire Dept Installation Dinner
- January 24 – Southern NY Legislative Outreach
- February 3 – Cold Spring Harbor 50-year Certificate
- February 8 – Suffolk County Jr Firefighters Meeting
- February 24 – SCVFA Board meeting
- February 26 – FASNY Legislative Committee Meeting
- March 7 – Brookhaven Fire Dept 50-year Certificate
- March 11 – Suffolk County Ladies Aux Meeting

Reminder

- Please visit our Facebook and Instagram pages for constant updates and sharing of information.
- We present 50-year certificates, contact Jean Christensen if you have a member reaching that milestone, or longer.

2nd Vice President Donald Bracciodieta

January 3, 2026, West Babylon Southern New York General meeting
 January 11, 2026, Selden Suffolk County cadet graduation
 January 19, 2026, Suffolk County BURN CENTER meeting
 January 20, 2026, Islip Town chief meeting
 January 21, 2026, Islip town volunteer meeting
 January 24, 2026, southern New York legislature workshop
 February 17, 2026, Islip town chief meeting
 February 20, 2026, Brookhaven Chiefs meeting
 February 24, 2026, SCVFA executive board meeting
 February 25, 2026, Southern New York executive board meeting
 March 8, 2026, Suffolk County Fire district brunch

March 13, 2026, Suffolk County Chiefs meeting
March 16, 2026, BURN CENTER meeting
March 23, 2026, Suffolk County educators general meeting

50-50 flyers for the association were mailed to each department and anybody else looking for tickets. Please let me know or if anybody needs any more for their department, please let me know. If you need anything else from me, please let me know.

3rd Vice President William Mullane

Nov 12 – Deer Park presentation of award
Nov 14 – Suffolk County Chiefs North Babylon
Nov 19 – Golden Trumpet Award – Central Islip
Nov 21 – Brookhaven Town Chiefs Mt. Sinai
Dec 2 – Fire Academy attendance for Christmas tree safety
Dec 17 – President’s meeting
Jan 3 – Southern New York - West Babylon
Jan 9 – Suffolk County Chiefs – North Patchogue
Jan 16th Brookhaven Town Chiefs at Ridge
Jan 19th – Brookhaven Fire Police at Holtsville
Nov 16th – Southampton Town Chiefs at North Sea
Nov 22nd – North Fork Volunteer at Orient
Jan 21st – Riverhead Town Chief at Riverhead
Feb 11 – Suffolk Ladies at West Sayville
Feb 19 – Southampton Town Chiefs at Westhampton
Feb 20 – BHTC Patchogue
March 4 – NYSC @ West Babylon
March 11 – Ladies at Brookhaven
March 19 – Southampton Town Chiefs Quogue

Committee Reports

Financial Secretary Report – In absence of Tom Prendergast Jean Christensen read the following report

Dues collected –

November 2025	\$2765.00
December 2025	\$ 840.00
January 2026	\$1030.00
February 2026	\$ 360.00
March 2026	\$ 90.00

Total collected is \$5085.00

Second dues notice to be mailed May 1, 2026.

Annual Dinner – Robert Sutton reported

Please save the date of Saturday October 17, 2026, 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 & tickets are here tonight and both the dinner and journal applications 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 - Absent

Candidate Campaign – Eugene Perry – Absent

FASNY – President Eugene Perry was absent

Home Trustees –Bob Sutton reported the following:

The annual Chili Cook-Off was held this past Sunday. There was an excellent turnout. Many residents from the Home were in attendance and had a great time. The proceeds from the door went to the Firefighter's Home and the Westchester County Burn Center. The winners were as follows:

Cohoes Fire Department

West Albany Fire Department

Speigletown Volunteer Fire Co. (also took Best Booth)

People's Choice: Troy Fire Department

Currently there is one active case of COVID (Staff Worker) No members of the Home were exposed.

The annual Memorial Service will be held on Friday May 9, 2026.

The annual Open House is tentatively Saturday September 26, with more information to follow.

Father Halpin Memorial Service – Bob Sutton reported

Our annual Memorial Service held on Sunday May 3, 2026, starting at 4:00 PM and will be hosted by the Bay Shore Fire Department. Please have any names of your Deceased Department members and/or Ladies Auxiliary members to us by April 15, 2026. In addition, please make sure you invite all family members to the Memorial Service. There will also be food/refreshments served afterwards, so please try to stay afterwards.

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

It is September 20th in Hudson NY –We have a memorial service at noon. Parade to start at 1pm. Lunch is served after the parade. We are looking for a band, if your department has a band please see if they would help us out and come play for the residents of the home.

Firefighter Cancer Awareness Mentoring of New York State – Jerry Owenburg/Bob Sutton

Golf outing is May 4th at Smithtown Landing. Check in is at 8am. Hole sponsors are \$50.00. Please let the families know that they are available for the caregiver as well. Just reach out they have a lot of info to help you through.

Firefighter of the Year – John Manzi reported they have received 6 applications.

They will give out Firefighter of the year and a unit citation. He will send the information to the committee.

Headquarters –William Mullane - No Report

Youth in the Fire Service – Keith Vella

- Suffolk Jr's voted in their new officers on 2/8 in Huntington Manor. New Officers are
President – Bohdan Budash – Smithtown
1st Vice President – Saada Jean-Francois – North Patchogue
2nd Vice President - Ryan Cooper – North Babylon
Secretary – Daniella Bausano – Huntington Manor
Treasurer – Jake Saidens – Smithtown
Sgt. At Arms – Avalynn Furman – Mastic
Chaplain – Gabriella Bardales – Mastic
- 4/26 next Suffolk Jr's Meeting in Smithtown. Lecturer to be announced.

- 4/26 Nassau will be holding their next Women in the Fire Service event. If any space is left sign up on the NCJFA App.

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John A. Masem Sr. Scholarship – Keith Vella reported the deadline is June 1st.

To date he has received two applications. This is not just for a senior in high school. You can go back to school and this also covers vocational school.

Suffolk Legislative – Jerry Owenburg –
March 3rd – FRES gave year ending report
April 14th is the next meeting.

Resolutions – Eugene Perry – None- Eugene was absent.

Suffolk FRES Commission – Anthony Sullo/Bob McConville
They meeting tomorrow night. They have not met since January.

Sickness – John Masem had spinal surgery.

Steering – Past President Gene Perry – No Report

SCVFA Parade & Drill – Joel Hellbrunn gave report

The season starts with Lindenhurst on the first Saturday in June. Bay Shore Fire Dept has the Country Drill/Parade. State is in Hempstead. They are only giving out Commercial Band Trophy's.
There is no interest in a Town of Babylon or Islip Parade at this time.

Training & Education – No report

William Reilly Journal – Giovanni Chiarelli

Forms were mailed out looking for ads. Please submit via PDF file when submitting.

Publicity & Public Relations/Website – Dan Brooks / Roger Putnam –
We are up and running. You can request to put fundraisers on Facebook.
We also have our Website, and our information is on there.

Ways and Means – William Mullane – No report

Lithium Ion Battery – Bob Sutton/Bob McConville

They have not met. Bob Sutton stated they are available for presentations if anyone is interested.

Fire Prevention – Mary Dolan reported that the next meeting is in June, will post details on Facebook.

Audit – Bob Sutton

February 24th, they audited the books and all in order.

Thank you to Bob McConville for all his years of service. Bob, you did an outstanding job!

Good luck to Jerry Owenburg.

Suffolk County Fire Chiefs Council – Mike Barry – Absent no report

Suffolk County Association of Fire Districts – Scott Thebold reported
May 21st is the next meeting in Manorville.

He said that he is being asked if he was in favor of the nominal stipends. He wants more information on it – can you opt in or out. If you have any concerns reach out to Scott or the State Districts. At the Long Island Leg meeting in April this will be the topic of conversation.

Suffolk County FRES/EMS-REMSCO

Soctt Davonski gave the following report for FRES

- Active Chiefs meeting to be held on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at the North Patchogue Fire Dept. Please email Brianne Minden to register.
- Background Checks – reminder all background checks are to be submitted through Suffolk County Sheriff's Office.
- Procedure Pages – all procedure pages were mailed out to all respective Chiefs; please respond to Adam Kaelin in Communications, even if there are no changes.
- A Recruitment and Retention survey for 2026 will be coming out, please respond back accordingly.
- Annual Deputy Fire Coordinator Training meetings will be held in April and May.
- Census – the 2025 Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Census went out to all departments. Please complete the online survey by March 24, 2026. Should you have any questions of need assistance, please contact Jennie Nedell at FRES by emailing jennie.nedell@suffolkcountyny.gov.
- Cares up Act Survey has been sent to all Fire and EMS agencies. Please ask respective members to complete.

Jerry Owenburg had question for Scott on Lithium Battery Facilities. Are they covered by fire code? Technology cannot keep up with the codes. Scott will have a presenter contact us.

Report by Paul Marra, EMS Coordinator

- FRES will be hosting an MCI Triage training at West Babylon April 2, 2026, 7pm, this is open to all, please register for the class on the Suffolk REMSCO webpage.
- We have added a quick link for Suffolk County EMS CME at the top of each landing page of core CME being offered. This will bring you to all the Suffolk County CME bookings page where you can sign up for those you need.
- The annual Thomas Lateulere conference will be held on April 18, 2026, at the Courtyard Marriot, Ronkonkoma, NY from 8am to 4pm. Information and registration can be found on the Suffolk REMSCO webpage under the Lateulere Conference tab.
- Agencies looking to submit for the CPR/Trauma save awards, submissions must be completed by April 1, 2026, to be eligible for the May 9, 2026, award ceremony. The ceremony will be held at Coram Fire Department.
- As a reminder, Part 800.24 Equipment requirements for certified ambulances takes effect 4/22/26. Most of the changes are to the language with a few exceptions including - Devices that can secure a patient from 10-400lbs during transport; mega mover or pole less litter; length-based resuscitation tape; required BLS and ALS meds and adjuncts; amount required for consumable bleeding control has been reduced.
- Indemnity - please complete and return
- EMS Response times memo under Suffolk county codes – questions regarding this can contact Chief Miniutti.

Suffolk County VEEB Board Gary Schaum could not attend but dropped his report off to Secretary Jean Christensen to read

- Firefighter 1
 - Please remind your probationary members to read the entire email, and all attachments before calling the front office.
 - All their communications should go to Chief McDermott before their class starts and then with their lead instructor once their class begins.

- Monitor their spam folder when they sign up, as initial emails from the fire academy email address may go to their spam folder.
- The students should sign up for their class, not the line officer.
- All Academic Programs
 - Please pay attention to course prerequisites. Only students who meet the prerequisites can be registered for the program.
 - Please remind your members to read the entire email, and all attachments before calling the front office.
 - Monitor their spam folder when they sign up, as initial emails from a fire academy email address may go to their spam folder.
 - Confirmation emails and/or links are sent approximately one (1) week prior to the start of class.
- Fire Officer 1
 - Please look at the website open enrollment.
- Fire Officer 2 – Registration is through NYS OFPC on the DHSES Learning Management Site
 - Weekday Program
 - 3/9 to 3/14
 - 11/16 to 11/20
- Hazardous Material Technician, Modules 1,2,3 tentatively scheduled for the week of August 31st. Confirmation and registration to follow.
- Dates to Remember
 - SCFA Youth Day
 - 8/21 Lecture & 8/22 HOT
 - SCFA Technical Rescue Training Day
 - 5/17
 - Fire Police – Field Training Day
 - 9/19
 - Women in the Fire Service
 - 10/24
 - Joe D – Field Training Weekend
 - 11/16 – 11/18
- Field Opens April
 - Chief Archer will be on the March Facebook Live to discuss the field opening

Suffolk Conty Recruitment & Retention – Giovanni Chiarell/Dan Brooks – No Report

Suffolk County Ladies Auxiliary – The ladies apologize that they could not be here tonight. Jean Christensen gave the report

- Lottery Scratch off \$10 per chance – drawing at the June Meeting.
- \$50 Money Tree to help with cost of our dinner – chances are \$1.00 each or 6/\$5
- Next meeting is April 8th at the Selden Fire Dept – Dinner 7pm – meeting immediately following.
- Installation Dinner is Weds May 13th at the Holbrook Fire House – 7pm, cost is \$30 per person.

NYS Fire Police – Chris Mele – New region 7 Director

● The Spring Region 7 Meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 27 at the Center Moriches Fire Department. Light dinner at 7, followed by the meeting. Please let me know if you plan on attending so I can provide our hosts with an accurate headcount. This meeting will be the Annual Election of Officers with the following as the slate for consideration:

- Director - Christopher Mele - Smithtown FD
- Secretary - Debra Keller - Westhampton Beach FD
- Treasurer - William Mullane - Center Moriches FD
- Sgt-at-Arms - Gary Ruggiero - Smithtown FD
- Chaplain - Richard Kondenar - Smithtown FD
- Deputy Chaplain - Joseph Nolan - West Islip FD
- The Spring Meeting of the Volunteer Fire Police Association of the State of New York is scheduled for Saturday, April 11 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy, NY beginning at 8 AM. There will be an Executive Board meeting on Friday, April 10 at the same location beginning at 7 PM. Further information is under the What's New banner on the website: VFPASNY.COM
- The Annual Convention of the Volunteer Fire Police Association of the State of New York is scheduled for May 14 - 16 in Niagara Falls, NY. More Information is available on VFPASNY.COM under Training.

Suffolk County Firefighters Burn Center – Paul Callergi gave the following report

- Met Monday
- Insurance companies do not recognize Stony Brook.
- Burn Victim – bring them to Stony Brook – Do not go to local hospital
- Pineapple Gel is being used, doctors are very happy with it.
- He has Memorial Cards
- Next meeting is May 18th at 7:30 at Stony Brook. Dr. Sandoval will be there and can answer questions.

There was a question on the floor as to why Burn Center at Stony Brook is not being recognize. Northwell does not recognize it, they want to send burn victims to Staten Island. Mary Dolan stated it's the doctors who send the patients to Staten Island. Bob Chuchillo said that NY Langone is talking against Stony Brook as well.

Suffolk County Safety Officer's - Jeff Bailes – No reort

Southern NY VFA – President Frank Guarino reported

- March 28, 2026, meeting in Hewlett
- May 2, 2026 – Memorial at 5pm followed by Convention.
- Frank asked for full page for Mike Krummenacker

Nassau County Vollies – Absent

North Fork VFA –Artie Brewer reported

- April 16 is meeting in Jamesport.
- May 16 is their Installation

Asked if Suffolk EMS is doing anything about Burn Center issues. 1st and 2nd Degree can be treated anywhere; you have a choice. Suffolk EMS has no control of hospitals.

Babylon Town VFA – No report

Islip Town Vollies – Stan Roberts

June 17th is meeting in Islip Terrace – dinner 7pm – meeting 8pm.

They are starting to do 50-year certificates – on website

They are looking into firefighter of the year

They are trying to build up the organization

Ralph Raymond Association of Fire Districts said any questions on nominal compensation reach out to him. His cell is 416-903-4349 and his email is rreymond@afdsny.org.

Old Business – None

New Business

Joel Hellbrunn made a motion to endorse Don Corkery for President of FASNY. The Steering committee will be meeting on this and will report back in May.

Motion by Frank Guarino to take a full-page ad for Southern New York seconded by Bob McConville, motion carried.

Motion by Bob Sutton to take two (2) holes for Firefighter Cancer Awareness Mentoring of New York State golf outing seconded by Stan Roberts, motion carried.

Motion by Scott Thebold to send Executive Board to spaghetti dinner on April 18th \$20.00 per person seconded by Stan Roberts, motion carried.

Motion by Vinny Ammirati to leave the first page of this month minutes as memorial for Michael Krummenacker seconded by Jerry Owenburg, motion carried.

Good and Welfare –

Suffolk County Emerald Society fundraiser on April 18th; next meeting is April 17th in Holbrook.

Dark Horse – \$110 to the winner – winner was Anthony Sullo.

Next membership meeting is May 26th in Cutchogue

Next Executive Board meeting is April 28th in Mastic

Closing Prayer by Past President Vinny Ammirati.

Motion to adjourn by Chris Mele at 9:29 pm seconded by Peter DePinto, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jean Christensen
Secretary