

P. O. Box 1463

Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

Organized 1886



Minutes – Meeting of the Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association May 24, 2022 – Bay Shore

Meeting Called to order by President Robert Sutton at 8pm Salute to the flag led by Sgt. At Arms Don Bracciodieta Prayer by Chaplain Joseph McCarthy

Second Assistant chief Thomas Komoroski of the Bay Shore Fire Depart Welcomed the SCVFA To Bay Shore. 2nd Vice President Vinny Ammirati presented certificate of appreciation to Chief Komoroski and thanked him for hosting our meeting tonight.

Prior to the meeting we had a speaker, Diana Manteria from National Grid.

Motion to accept the March Minutes was made by Jeff Bailes seconded by Rich Lynster, all in favor.

Introduction of Guess & Past Association Presidents by 3rd Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli

Guests in Attendance:

Scott A Theobald – 2nd Vice President Suffolk Districts

Diana Manteria - National Grid

Bill Theis - Terryville FD - Long Island Firefighters Legislative Committee

Jeff Bailes - President - Safety Officers

Lori Zatorski - President - Suffolk County Ladies Aux.

Marybeth Asbell - Past President - Suffolk County Ladies Aux

Steve Flotteron

Jack Blum - FRES

Peter Colli - Past President - Town of Babylon VFA

Patty Manfredonia - Deputy Chief EMS - Suffolk County EMS

John Kennedy - Suffolk County Comptroller

Leslie Kennedy – Legislator 12th

Tom Kriklava – President – Suffolk County Chiefs

John Cochrane - Islip Town Councilman

Jason Richberg - Suffolk County Legislator

Gary Schaum - FRES

Carleton Raab - President North Fork Volleys

Past Presidents of the Association in attendance:

Robert McConville

William Murray

Jerry Oweburg

Frank Guarino



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<u>Treasurer's Report -</u> Robert McConville read his report and it will be attached to the Secretary's copy of the minutes. Motion to accept the minutes by Frank Guarino seconded by Keith Vellia – all in favor.

Correspondence & Bills:

There were no bills

Received:

- Suffolk Chiefs Golf Outing September 26, 2022 \$140.00 per golfer and hole sponsors are \$50.00.
- Yaphank Golf Outing \$160 per golfer, \$60 for dinner.
- Thank you from Marybeth Burns, Past President Suffolk County Ladies
- Thank you from Jean Christensen Past President Suffolk County Ladies
- Suffolk County VFA Ladies Auxiliary is holding another Lottery Scratch off \$10 per chance.

Report of Presidents:

President Robert Sutton:

- Thank you to the Bay Shore Fire Department for hosting tonight's membership meeting, it is greatly appreciated.
 - Annual Memorial Service

The annual Memorial Service was held on May 1, and was well attended, I would like to once again thank Jean Christensen on a job well done, as well as the Holtsville Fire Department for hosting it this year, they did a great job. Next year's Memorial Service is scheduled for Sunday May 7, 2023, and a host will be needed. If any Department would like to host this, please let us know as soon as possible

Educational Seminar

Our first seminar was held Saturday May 14, 2022, at the Selden Fire Department. We had just over 50 people in attendance, which is surely something bud on for next year's seminar. I would like to thank Third Vice President Chiarelli and John Masem for coordinating this event. I would also like to thank Chief Doug Goerke for presenting at the seminar and to the Selden Fire Department for hosting the event and provided the liquid refreshments and condiments. A big thank you goes out to Coastal Fire Systems that donated the breakfast for the seminar. If anyone has any ideas on a subject for next year's seminar, as well as a potential host, please let Giovanni and John Masem know. We are shooting for a March 2023 seminar date.

Long Island Day at the FASNY Firemen's Home

Long Island Day at the FASNY Firemen's Home is schedule for Sunday September 18, 2022, with the start time still to be determined. We are looking for any Fire Department bands that would like to come up and march with Suffolk County, as well as play some sets for the Firemen's Home residents after the parade. There is a barbeque after the parade as well. Buses are scheduled to be leaving from various Departments, more information to follow concerning this.

- The Firefighter of the Year Committee met earlier tonight, John Manzi will have a report for the membership.
 - Annual Dinner and Firefighter of the Year Presentation



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The annual dinner and Firefighter of the Year presentation will be held on Saturday October 22, 2022, and will be held at the Centereach Fire Department located at 9 South Washington Avenue, Centereach, NY 11720. We are also doing our annual Scholarship journal

John Masem Scholarship Awards

The annual Scholarship deadline is set for June 1, 2022, we will be awarding Four (4) \$500.00 scholarships. The scholarship applications are available here tonight and can also be obtained on our website at www.scvfaonline.org. June 1 is the deadline for this, so please get them in as soon as possible to Chairperson, Keith Vella.

50 Year Recognition Certificates

50-year member recognition certificates are available for any member(s) of your Department that has reached this momentous occasion. Department anniversary recognition certificates are also available. Please contact the Association secretary at suffolksecretary@gmail.com to request them.

FASNY 5K Run in Suffolk County

FASNY will be holding their 2nd Annual 5K "Running Toward the Flame" event in Suffolk County & is scheduled for Saturday, October 8 at the Town of Brookhaven Firemen's Park. The start time is 9:00 AM, rain or shine. Applications are available at www.fasny.com.

Committee Members Needed

Committee members are needed for our existing committees, as well as newly formed ones. If you are interested, please provide us with your information on the committee sheet at the meeting sign-in table, or see me after tonight's meeting.

Phone and E-Mail Notifications

Are you being notified of the Associations meetings and upcoming events? If you are not, please fill out you're your phone and E-Mail information on the information sheet at the meeting sign-in table.

Website

Please visit our website at www.scvfaonline.org for all forms as well as current information concerning events, activities, and postings.

2022 Membership Meetings

The next membership meeting will be held on

- Tuesday July 26, 2022, hosted by the Smithtown Fire Department, at their River Property.
- The Association meeting dates are as follows
- Meeting Date Membership Meeting

July 26, 2022, Smithtown Fire Department – River Property September 27, 2022, East Marion Fire Department November 29, 2022, TO BE DETERMINED

- For our future meetings, please reach out to your fellow Fire Department members and encourage them to join our Association, attend or meetings and be an active participant in it. All meeting dates and locations will be posted on or website and Facebook sites.
- We are always interested in having any informative, interesting, and brief topics or presentations that can be held prior to our membership meetings. If any member has a topic/subject that they would like to have presented, or if you or someone that you know is interested in presented, please let us know.



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May 21, 2022 - The Southern New York Volunteer Firemen's Association meeting at the East
Farmingdale Fire Company.
☐ May 22, 2022 – The Brookhaven Town Annual Memorial Service held at the Brookhaven Town
Museum.
☐ May 23, 2022 – The Huntington Town Chief's Meeting held at the Huntington Manor Fire
Department.
☐ May 24, 2022 – The SCVFA membership meeting held at the Bay Shore Fire Department.

1st Vice President - Peter Cincotta - Excused

2nd Vice President Vinny Ammirati:

- Suffolk County membership meeting Wading River FD March 22
- Southern New York meeting Merrick FD March 26, 2022
- Holtsville / Farmingville 50-year brunch for 4 50-year members of service at Villa Lombardi March 10, 2022
- Southern New York executive Board Meeting Port Chester NY April 13, 2022
- FASNY Zoom Legislative meeting April 20, 2022
- Suffolk County Volunteer Executive Board Meeting North Amityville FD April 26, 2022
- North Fork Volunteer Fireman's Association
- Meeting Mattituck FD April 27, 2022
- Long Island Association Fireman's Benevolent Associations meeting Baldwin FD April 28, 2022
- Wyandanch FD Installation of officers and dinner North Ritz Syosset April 30, 2022
- Suffolk County Ladies Auxiliary installation of officers and dinner Holbrook Fire Department May 11, 2022
- Pulse Point seminar @ the Selden Fire Department May 14, 2022
- Town of Babylon Volunteer Fireman's Association meeting at the Wyandanch Whitley Heights ambulance Company on Monday May 16, 2022
- Southern NY convention and meeting East Farmingdale Fire Company May 21, 2022

3rd Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli:

April 2022 26 -SCVFA Executive Board meeting 27 -Babylon Chiefs meeting

May 2022
1 -SCVFA Annual Memorial Service
11 -SCVFALA Installation
13 Chiefs Council meeting
14 -SCVFA Seminar
20 -Patchogue FD Installation



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Thank you to all who attended the seminar "Navigating Complex Incidents". Special thanks to Chief Goerke for an excellent presentation, the Selden Fire Department for their hospitality and the SCVFA Executive Board for their support to both John Masem and myself to help make this seminar possible!

Annual Dinner report by Bob McConville

Will be held October 22, 2022, at Centereach Fire House. Please encourage all your departments to purchase an ad for the Journal.

<u>Candidate Campaign</u> - Robert McConville

Gene Perry is running for First Vice President of FASNY Jerry Owenburg will be finishing up his two-year term as President and has one more year remaining as Trustee.

Credentials - Dan Brooks -

Please be sure to sign in.

FASNY - Director Frank Guarino gave the following report

- May 23, 2022, was the dedication at 107 of the refurbished FASNY office.
- FASNY 150th Convention is coming up. August 9-13 in Tarrytown. Parade is August 13th
- FASNY is having 5K in Ridge on October 8th at Firemen's Park in Ridge.
- SNYVFA Meeting was in Portchester
- FASNY had zoom meeting on May 23, 2022
- Frank attended the SCVFA Ladies Dinner on May 11, 2022
- Attended the Memorial Service for SCVFA on May 1, 2022

Gene Perry asked to be excused as he is still in Albany.

<u>Home Trustee</u> – Jerry Owenburg gave report

- The home is 130 years old this year
- We are taking care of 75 brothers and sisters.
- Fran Federsen from Islip moved into the Home today.
- No one is in hospital or has covid.
- If you need to get someone in, get the application in and they will have zoom meeting to go over application.
- Adopt a Member there are forms online that you can fill out to adopt a member of the home.
- Chili Cookoff waiting on new date.
- New Temperature Machine at entrance you must wear masks still. You can take a member out but you both must wear masks and no hugging/kissing.
- Donations be sure to write in the memo where you want the money to go. If you are not sure call Jerry.
 Always in need are Trains, Activities, Arts & Crafts, Operation Small Change.



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- The Home can hold 92 members.
- They can use blank cards/envelopes as they do write home to their loved ones.

Firefighter Cancer Network - Jerry Owenburg

- Thank you to all that supported the golf out.
- Get your tests done
- They are there if you need someone to talk to.

Firefighter of the Year Committee - John Manzi/John Masem

They met tonight before our regular meeting to go over applications.

Fire Prevention - Don Bracciodieta

- Our next membership meeting will be August location and date to be announced
- May is a very busy month for fire & life safety education!
- As of this date, 964 people have died in fire-related incidents across the Unites States in 2022, of which 77 died in New York State. While the causes of these fires have varied, the following are potential causes to focus on throughout the month.
- Lithium-ion Batteries: Multiple recent fires were reported to have been caused by issues involving lithium-ion batteries. Check out the informational pamphlet from NFPA to prevent these issues.
- Electrical Safety: Check out these electrical safety tips from NSPA to use on various social media platforms: https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Top-fire-causes/Electrical/Electrical-social-media-posts.
- Grilling Safety: https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Educations/Fire-causes-and-risks/Seasonal-fire-causes/Grilling
- Hurricane/Storm Safety: With hurricane season right around the corner (June-November) now is the time to prepare for severe weather. Hurricane Preparedness Week is May 1st 7th. This week is perfect for disaster planning, including discussing evacuation plans with loved ones, as well as gathering supplies for "go bags" or times when you may be without power.
- EMS Week is May 15th 21st
- Police Week is May 15th 21st
- Public Works week is May 15th 21st
- Please lice us on Facebook and you will get daily updates on fire Prevention reports daily.
- In Closing, "Lets all remember there is no honor in fighting a fire that could've been prevented through education."



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Headquarters report by 2nd Vice President Vinny Ammirati:

Donations receive for the support for the Hospitality Room as of 4/26/2022

East Northport Fire Department
Lindenhurst Fire Department
Selden Fire Department
Dixon engine company 3
Sayville Fire Department
Selden Fire Department
Mastic Chemical company 1
Town of Babylon Volunteer Firemen 's Association
New York Safety Officers
Selden Fire Department Rescue 4
Central Islip Fire Department
West Babylon Fire Department
Fire Island Pines Fire Department
Suffolk County Fire District Officers

John A. Masem Sr. Scholarship - Keith Vella

- June 1st is the deadline
- To date we have received four applications and two are not qualified
- There are applications on the table

<u>Legislative</u> – Jerry Owenburg No Report

Long Island Day at the Home - Jerry Oweburg

- September 18, 2022
- We can use bands. Parade starts at 1pm and is followed by a BBQ
- 50 residents attended the BBQ held on Ulster County Day.

Membership – Dan Brooks
Members - 112 paid and 65 still owe
Departments – 102 paid and 34 still owe
Organizations – 4 paid and 7 still owe



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REMSCO – Tom Prendergast

- Fair Play Ambulance Recovery Bill passed and Fire departments now eligible to bill for ambulance services effective July 8, 2022, and must do so within four years.
- Covid 19 newest variant BA2 spiked in April and May. 76% of Suffolk residents are fully vaccinated; 87% over 18 years of age. Suffolk county had 442,000 cases of that 24,000 were hospitalized and 4389 have passed away since March 2020.
- Vital signs Conference is October 27-30 in Albany
- EMS Providers: CFR 30; EMT-4388; CC-266; Paramedic 798 for a total of 5482.
- The Tom Lateulere EMS Conference was held April 30th in Selden and they had 55 students this year.
 Topics were Child Abuse, Cardiac Surgery, Pre-hospital trauma activation, Patient Assessment skills for trauma and medical patients and understanding your current state and local EMS policies.

<u>Patty Manfredonia</u> Deputy EMS Chief said that REMSCO has critical incident team, and they also have a dog. CME's are free on line – BLS currently running. EMT Students now must physically make 10 patient contact. Starting to cohort eight (8) more paramedics. Core and non-core are online.

Steering - Robert McConville

FASNY has until June 10th so will do in July.

<u>SCVFA Parade & Drill</u> – Joel Heilbrunn reported Will be held in Copiague July 9th – please get leg trophy's back Parade Officials are in need of members.

William Reilly Journal - Giovanni Chiarelli & John Masem

Form for the journal is online. If possible, please send pdf. If you need to mail it, please fold as little as possible.

Ways and Means - Don Bracciodieta

Took in 178 and the winner will get \$86.00

Youth in the Fire Service - Keith Vellia

The winner of FASNY Mentor was Mary Catherine Dolan FASNY Youth Group winner was Bay Shore – Brightwaters

August 20th will be West Potsdam and September will be Old Forge for training.

Suffolk County Fire Chiefs Council - Tom Kriklava

- EMS Cost Recovery Bill, FASNY held a seminar about EMS billing, you can view the webinar on FASNY.com, click on watch EMS cost recovery seminar. 2nd Webinar available by Attorney Bard Pinsky, there may be a cost for this webinar.
- Looking for Chief Council members to join our ceremonial unit, especially from east end.
- NYS Chiefs convention 6/15-6/18, Suffolk/Nassau chiefs will be running a hospitality room for our memberships. Please vote for LaFerrera for 2nd Vice President.



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- Suffolk Chiefs 28th annual golf outing 9/26/22 check in 0700 Tee off 0800, Smithtown landing Country Club, \$140 per golfer. Hole sponsor is \$50 per sign.
- Thanks to all departments that supported our scholarship seminar.
- 20 scholarships will be given out this year.
- New chiefs' seminar 6/12 0730 hrs at the fire academy.
- Has come to our attention a resolution #1415.2022 to repeal the sparkler bill in Suffolk County was
 presented to the Suffolk Legislature. After some discussion over the weekend the resolution is being
 pulled. We urge all councils to keep an eye on this.
- Next meeting is Smithtown July 8th

Suffolk Legislative members present at the meeting said that resolution to repeal is gone.

Suffolk County Association of Fire Districts: Scott Theobald

- President is Joe Badala and Scott is 2nd Vice President
- They are joining with Nassau to have a webinar on EMS billing.
- Working on a lot of different things.
- Next meeting is the 3rd Thursday in August in Cutchogue

Suffolk County F.R.E.S. - Anthony Sullo

Met in April and went over the grounds.

Suffolk County V.E.E.B. Board- Gary Schaum

- Lithium-Ion Battery Training 6 classes over five hundred students trained.
- Marine Firefighting and Brush Truck Training each hosted this week held over one hundred firefighters in attendance.
- SCFA stated running the railroad emergencies training on the field.
- Saving Your Own Culture RIT Training Weds, May 25th Central Islip 7pm and May 26th Southampton at 7pm. Please sign up under open enrollment.
- We stated a training safety message once a month on website.
- Firefighter 1 National Certification test day date July 9th at 8AM (First 50)
- Working on National Certification testing for both Instructor 1 and 2 and Fire Officer 1.
- Our new SCFA Course Catalog posted on website and emailed to all chiefs.

<u>Suffolk County VFA Ladies Auxiliary</u> – President Lori Zatorski

- Thank you to all who attended our Installation Dinner It is truly her honor to represent the Ladies.
- Lori is looking forward to working with the men.
- Lottery Scratch off is being drawn at our next meeting June 8th in West Sayville she has tickets with her.



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Suffolk County Fire Police

- October 1st Field Day at the Fire Academy. Thank you to Jack Blum and Rudy Sunderman.
- Convention is in Niagara in May.
- October 8th is the quarterly meeting in Verona.

Suffolk County Firefighters Burn Center Fund -

Still having meetings on zoom

Southern NY VFA

- Convention East Farmingdale with Memorial Service
- Had 70 plus in attendance.

NYS Fire Safety - Jeff Bailes

FDSSOA

Wellness Wednesday videos on YouTube Elections for Eastern Director will be in November Judge Phillip Goglas Annual Conference January 10-13, 2023, Florida fdsoa.org

New York State

Next meeting and training July 16, 2022, hybrid (in person-zoom) TBA Anyone interested in taking the Incident Safety Officer class and test see me Every Tuesday we have a discussion regarding Safety Officers see me for sign on We have a hybrid class Saturday and Sunday May 14-15

Suffolk Safety Officers

Just had a meeting Islip Town Museum May 23, 2022, at 7:30 Mutual Aid plan in effect see me for an application We are backing Judge Goglas SO From Central Islip

Nassau County Safety Officers

Next meeting is May 25, 2022

Thank you all for supporting our fundraiser stay safe and healthy, keep hydrated.

Bill Theis - Long Island Firefighters Legislative Committee

EMS Recovery Bill Took 16 years of hard work but we got it done. Thank you to Members on Long Island, you should be proud of yourself. Make sure your District is doing the right thing. We accomplished something they thought would never happen.

President Sutton called Bill up and thanked him for all they did. He presented a Certificate to Legislative Committee and to Bill. He accepted on behalf of all in the room and his wife.



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North Fork VFA - Carlton Raab

- Carlton was nominated for President for another year
- Next meeting is July 27th on Shelter Island
- MCI Drill next month

Jack Blum reported that they are having an Active Chief's meeting on June 12th at the Fire Academy - Breakfast at 7:30. To be discussed: Pushing FRES Drone Program, Recruitment and Retention, Red Cross, Tech Rescue Presentation, All resources from FRES. Fire Academy intro to EMS Officer and Intro to Fire Police Officer.

Old Business - none

New Business

- SCVFA Ladies Auxiliary Lottery Raffle Motion by Jerry Owenburg to purchase 10 tickets seconded by Peter DePinto.
- Motion by Scott Theobald to purchase two-hole sponsors for Suffolk Chiefs seconded by Jerry Owenburg.
- Vinny Ammirati suggested sending letter to Legislators to get new dog. Bob McConville stated there is a process to get a dog and they are in the middle of it.
- Senator Brookes will not be rerunning. He was a firefighter in Ridge, Medford, Lindenhurst, and an Ex-Chief from Seaford.

Good & Welfare

Vinny tried to visit Peter yesterday but could not get in. Frank stopped and visited today.

Dark Horse -

50/50 winner was Bill Theiss of \$86 and he donated this to our hospitality room.

- This Friday, Brett is retiring from FRES. President Sutton will be attending his dinner. It was noted that this
 will leave us without a dog.
- Joe McCarthy thanked the association for sponsoring the Pulse Seminar. He said even after many years of service this was unnerving and a great seminar. All Chiefs should encourage their members to attend the seminars. You need to be prepared and get training.
- Councilman Cochrane said that there is a lot of construction going on in Islip at fire houses and they are working with the planning departments
- Vinny Puleo is asking for our support. He is running for County Clerk Position, and he would appreciate the support.
- John Kennedy Suffolk County Comptroller gave report. He sated that he makes sure that the funding is there for the volunteer fire departments.
- Sparkler bill is no longer per Legislator Leslie Kennedy
- Steve Flotteron Please feel free to call him at any time.
- Jason Richburg Thank you for all that you do. He is here to listen, and his door is always open.



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Scott Theobald has a couple of comments for our politicians present: Sunday a family was killed by a
drunk driver; we had the Texas shooting. We need to be looking for action, it is getting close. He will be
writing letters.

Military Home in Yaphank – is vacant and if not taken care of will fall apart – it is deteriorating fast. Comptroller Kennedy will be doing a title search to see who owns it and he promises to get answers and get back to Scott.

Next meeting is July 26th in Smithtown.

Closing prayer by Chaplain Joe McCarthy.

Motion to adjourn by Anthony Sullo seconded by John Masem at 9:22pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Chus to

Jean Christensen

Secretary