



THE BOOSTER LINE

A NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO GREENE COUNTY FIRE VOLUNTEERS



Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Company

Celebrating 125 years of service
to our community



**133rd Annual Greene County Volunteer
Firemen's Association Convention
September 7 – September 11**

September 7 – 11, 2021

The 133rd Greene County Volunteer Firemen's Association & Ladies Auxiliary Convention officially kicked off on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Company with a combination of the Ladies dinner and their annual meeting, due to COVID restrictions. Even with a combined night, all had a good time & were so happy to have the convention back. The evening proceeded with the usual introduction of guests, 25 and 50 years of service presentations, committee reports, leading up to the election of officers. The nominating committee, led by Past President Marilyn Schrader, announced the following slate President Cathy Spring (Palenville), 1st VP Heidi McGarry (Coxsackie Hose #3), 2nd VP – Vacant, Recording Secretary Marie Bitter (Leeds), Treasurer – Vacant and Financial Secretary Bonnie Pflegl (West Athens). FASNY President John P Farrell had the honor of installing the oath of office to the officers. A round of applause and appreciation was given for outgoing President Lynn Wallace and Recording Secretary Carol Jankowski. As there were no takers for Treasurer, current Treasurer Allison Englert (Catskill) will stay in the office until a replacement can be found.



CONGRATULATIONS & THANK YOU
FOR YOUR YEARS of SERVICE





Congratulations and Good Luck to the Newly Installed Officers



**Thank you President Lynn Wallace for holding us together during COVID.
Thank you outgoing Secretary Carol Jankowski for all your work.**

The Convention Committee took Wednesday off – not from working but from the crowds – to sanitize the firehouse per NYS recommendations in preparation for the next night. On Thursday, September 9, the GCVFA kicked off their part of the convention with the annual Men's Dinner. This was followed by the annual Memorial Service at which time remembrance is paid to those firefighters who passed away during the year. As the committee had to cover two years' worth of deceased members, the roll call was done but Past President Tom Gonzalez placed a flower for each member who answered their final call.

2020

Athens - Albert Salvino, James Steenburgh, MaryEllen Yannone
Cairo - Thomas Rogers, James Vuolo
Coxsackie Hose #3 - William Cerle
Greenville – Robert Carl
Hunter – Donna Poulin, Wayne Pierce
Lexington - Donald Falke
Palenville – Richard Britten, Steven Vincent
RoundTop – Carl Zoccola
Tannersville - David Kinney, Ronald Truesdell

2021

Athens – Terrence Brennan, Thomas Lynch, John Pieruzzi Jr, Garth Walker
Cairo – David Cassimore, Robert Donahue, Harold Jurgens, Thomas Rogers
Catskill – Ernest Darling
Cornell – Santo Costanza, Mason Springstead
Coxsackie Hose #3 – Robert Frank
DM Hamilton – Mary Camley
Haines Falls – Carl Poteschner
Hensonville – Debra Sherman
Hunter - Richard Harty, Jerry Pierce
Hunter/Jewett – Charles D. Nicholls
Jewett – John LoPriesti, Barbara Mead
Medway-Grapeville – Terry Powell
Palenville – James Minkalis, Frank Stabile,
RoundTop – Eric Koopman
Tannersville – Robert Hoagland, Patrick Mahon





After the Memorial concluded, a brief recess was held prior to the start of the Convention meeting. Standard reports were presented, including the annual Community Service Awards. Robert Schrader announced that the following winners:

Cairo - Durham Central High School: Dylan Milazzo
Catskill Central High School: Matthew Rivenburgh
Coxsackie - Athens Central High School: Josiah Decker
Gilboa - Conesville High School: Dave Lane
Greenville Central High School: Gianna Pastina
Hunter - Tannersville Central High School: Julianne LaVeglia
Ravena - Coeymans Central School: Ryan Leonard
Windham - Ashland - Jewett Central School: Morgan Fancher

Several GCVFA members were honored for their many years of service. GCVFA thanks them for their dedication to their communities.



2020

Ashland - Bruce Know
Catskill- Robert Overbaugh
Coxsackie Hose #3 - Yale Frank Sr.
Hensonville - Ernest Gooss
Raymond Osborn Jr.
Oak Hill-Durham - George Wood
Tannersville - Edward Legg



2021

Athens - Steven Benjamin
D M Hamilton - Horace Boice
Haines Falls - Daryl Hommel,
Kevin O'Brien
Tannersville - Eric Johnson



Another key presentation of the evening was the annual Firefighter of the Year Award. Michael Overbaugh, Chief of the Kiskatom Fire Department presented the following: *"On January 2021, at about 5:00 p.m., the Kiskatom Fire Department responded to 28 Walter Smith Road for a working structure fire. The Palenville Fire Department also responded mutual aid. Arriving units discovered a mobile home with the rear bedroom area fully involved. As members of the Kiskatom Fire Department were making an interior attack, Firefighters Katherine Christman of Kiskatom Fire Department and Philip Kenny of the Palenville Fire Department assisted with a search of the building. During their search, they discovered an adult male subject semi-conscious on a couch in the living room. Firefighters Christman and Kenny rescued the male subject and his dog from the burning building. The subject was turned over to Catskill EMS and was treated at the scene for smoke inhalation. The quick actions of Firefighters and Kenny certainly saved the life of the male subject. It is for the brave actions of firefighters Katherine Christman and Philip Jenny that I submit their names to the Greene County Volunteer Firemen's Association for Firefighter of the Year."* Thank you Chief Overbaugh and congratulations to Firefighters Christman and Kenny.



The presentation of the Pete Bennett Memorial Award went to Oak Hill-Durham Fire Company.



The final highlight of the evening was the election and installation of officers for the 2021-2022 year. Congratulations to President Donald Winegard (Athens); 1st VP Steven Salluce Jr. (Coxsackie); 2nd VP Antonio Fuentes (Athens); Secretary Justin Haines (Haines Falls); Financial Secretary George Stacey (Athens) and Treasurer Karen Schrader (Athens). Committees and members will be appointed at the November meeting. If you are interested in serving on any committee, please contact President Winegard.



Thank you President Ty Sherman
for holding us together during COVID
and everything else our organization
faced over the past two years.



With the business of reports and elections over, the convention took a playful turn when on Friday, September 10, the Mardi Gras parade took place. Marchers took to the streets to “bless” the crowd, as well as serve up some good ole’ tyme fun. At the conclusion of the parade, trophies were awarded.





Saturday morning, September 11 began on a somber note as all Americans reflected on the events of 9-11, 20 years ago. We will never forget. 8:46 a.m. 9:03 a.m. 9:37 a.m. 10:07 a.m.

That afternoon, Greene County firefighters and Auxiliary, joined together in the dress parade with honor and pride.







The Booster Line apologizes to those Greene County companies that we did not obtain their photograph. Hard for the photographer to march in parade as member and take photographs. Unfortunately photos from other photographers were not available as of printing time. To see the parade, go to: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-KMvkKOtEE&ab_channel=homer218 (Many thanks to the photographer who posted it)

The marching was over and another convention parade was history. It was now time for the participants to relax and have some fun while the judges began tallying their votes. However, there was still more meaningful moments to share before day's end with the awarding of trophies.

Special recognition was given to Karl Kilts who is retiring as a NYS Fire Instructor. This was given by Greene County Emergency Management Director John P Farrell. Members of Carl's family were present to proudly witness.



Being the anniversary of the 9-11 attacks on America, a special 9-11 memorial ceremony was held prior to trophies. All present took some time to reflect on the day's events, twenty years ago. A very moving speech was delivered by Assemblyman Chris Tague and several patriotic musical melodies were performed by 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing from Cherry Point, NC. As part of the ceremony, the roll call of Greene County first responders that died in the line of duty over the years was read.





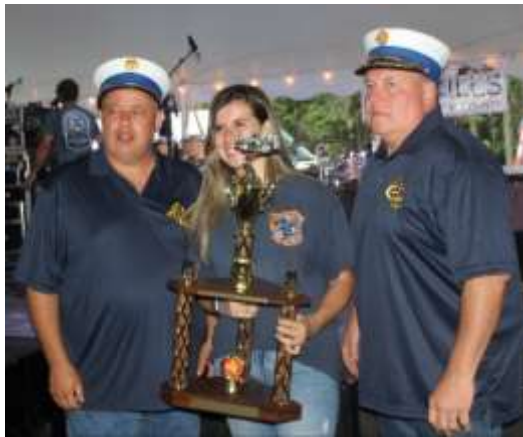


TROPHIES!!



And the winners are:

	<u>1st Place</u>	<u>2nd Place</u>	<u>3rd Place</u>
Best Appearing, 5 – 8 in line:	Hensonville		
Best Appearing, 9 – 15:	Haines Falls	Greenville	Medway
Best Appearing, 16 – 24:	Palenville	Earlton	Cairo
Best Appearing, over 25:	Athens	Kiskatom	
Best Appearing (5 or more) without music:	Haines Falls		
Best Appearing Apparatus, 1 – 5 years:	Coeymans	Coxsackie	
Best Appearing Apparatus, 6 -12 years:	Kiskatom	Haines Falls	
Best Appearing Apparatus, 13 – 20 years:	Palenville	Ravena	
Best Appearing Apparatus, 21+ years:	Kiskatom	Tannersville	
Best Appearing Motor Driven Antique Apparatus:	Westerlo	Athens	
Best Appearing Out of County:	East Greenbush	Coeymans	
Best Appearing Auxiliary Out of County:	Coeymans		
Best Appearing Firemanic Color Guard:	East Greenbush	Palenville	Coeymans
Best Appearing Non-Firemanic Color Guard:	Greene County Sherriff	NYS Corrections	
Best Overall Music Unit:	US Marine Corps Band	Ghent Band	
Best Overall Drum Line:	J W Hoystadt	Town of Athens	
Best Appearing Overall Auxiliary:	Palenville		
Best Appearing Auxiliary, 5 – 7 in line	Haines Falls	Greenville	
Best Appearing Auxiliary, 8 - 10 in line	Kiskatom	Coxsackie	
Best Appearing Auxiliary, 11 or more in line	Palenville		
Best Appearing Auxiliary without music:	Haines Falls		
Millennial Trophy	Palenville		







CONGRATULATIONS TO PALENVILLE FIRE COMPANY



WINNERS OF THE MILLENNIUM TROPHY



The meetings were over, new officers will be taking charge while out going ones get some much-deserved rest, the laughs from the Mardi Gras will go on and the trophies from the Dress Parade will be on display in the winners' firehouses. Cornell Hook & Ladder will see all their months of work come to a close and breathe a sigh of relief. GCVFA/GCVFALA thanks Cornell for making the convention a success. Any takers for next year? A few last memories . . .





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**COMPLIMENTS OF
GREENE COUNTY LEGISLATOR
EDWARD BLOOMER
ATHENS, NY**



**In memory of Former
Greene County Legislator
Chairman Frank Stabile,
Palenville Fire Company**

**From
Greene County Legislator Ed Bloomer**

**Ladies Auxiliary of the
Firemen's Association of the State of New York**



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