

Hot Calls

Volume 9, Issue 2

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March/April 2022



Last Day On the Job

On March 29 Bill Kennedy took a well deserved walk through a gathering of his family and peers as he left the Emergency Management office for the last time heading into retirement. He was escorted out of the village and to Tyrone by all nine Schuyler County Fire Departments apparatus, Village and local Sheriffs patrols. There was a reception for all at the Tyrone Fire Station.



Drone images and footage courtesy of Phil Barnes.

Learn Not to Burn Is Back!

An abbreviated schedule for “Learn Not To Burn” is back in the local Schuyler County schools. We will only be giving two classes before the end of the school year. Stop, Drop, and Roll and EDITH (Exit Drills in The Home) will be held with the hope of having fire trucks day in May. We are thankful for getting back after the pandemic has sidelined the program for over two years. The schools have been great and we are currently teaching in Watkins and Odessa-Montour with Bradford to follow soon. We are always looking for interested persons to help with the classes once a month. Contact Schuyler County Emergency Management for further information if interested. You will not know how many lives you will save!!!



Beaver Dams Banquet

Beaver Dams banquet was held February 19th. The new officers were installed by Bill Kennedy. The deceased members were honored by placing a vacant table, holding turnout gear and a flag, in their honor. Beaver Dams answered 177 calls in 2021. A total of 5342 hours were amassed with training, alarms and work bees. A grant for new breathing apparatus was secured this year.

New line officers sworn in:

Kent Thurston	-	Chief
Ray Towner III	-	1st Asst.
Trevor Thurston	-	2nd Asst.
Corbin Smith	-	3rd Asst.
Kirk Smith	-	Deputy Chief
Tony Simpson	-	Captain
Ross Hill	-	Lieutenant
Colby Thurston	-	Lieutenant
Phil Davis	-	Safety Officer
Brittney Burgess	-	EMS Coordinator

Elijah Wakeman was the top responder and had the most training hours also.



Hector Banquet

Hector had 197 calls in 2021. 188 were EMS calls.

Chuck Fitch was recognized for 65 years of service. They also took in three new members.

- Chief - Mike Hicks
- 1st Asst. - Steve Williams
- 2nd Asst. - Travis McKeon
- 3rd Asst. - Brandon Swartz (*Absent*)



Monterey Banquet

New officers were installed for the coming year.

- Chief - Mel Horton
- 1st Asst. - position was not filled
- 2nd Asst. - Eric Barber
- 3rd Asst. - Russ Breon
- President - Kelly Groves
- Secretary - Melissa Miller



The Company answered 100 calls for service: 10 fire calls, 5 mutual aid, 66 EMS calls, and the remainder were public service calls. Melissa Miller had the most overall hours. Andrew Vogel was firefighter of the year. Kali Horton was top responder. Gary Dann was honored for 53 years of service. The “Game” was played after the banquet continuing a long standing tradition.

Montour Falls Banquet

Mayor Jim Ryan installs the officers for the coming year.

Right to left in the image:

Chief	-	Brian Swartwood
1st Asst.	-	Andrew Yessman
2nd Asst.	-	Bill Thomas
Capt.	-	Joel Husted
Lt.	-	John Horyczun
Lt.	-	Mike Hines

Deputy Chiefs:

Jake Burns

Jeff Confer



Montour responded to 420 calls for service.

The top project for the year as the new rescue-pumper just recently ordered and should be delivered 2023.

Top responder for the year was Steve Lawton with 254 calls.

Hard Charger award was given to Cayden Confer, Sam Pierce, and Connor Ryan.

Brian Swartood, Andrew Yessman, Craig May were recognized for saving the life of two individuals in Deckertown Creek. Jeff Confer for 45 years of service.

Fire Coordinators Conference

The two-day conference covered new regulations for fire investigators, reports of status from western counties, State Chiefs updates, mobile training trailers from Erie County, mental health of the first responders, new computer policies from OFPC training, dangers from lithium ion batteries.

Bill Kennedy (*right*) was recognized as the outgoing president of the organization. Plus we got breakfast in the mornings!



Trivia Question

**In a hose line which pressure is greater:
Static pressure, flow pressure, or residual pressure?**

Email answers to Rick at rickshirlc27@gmail.com. We are still giving away free firefighting book for every correct answer.

Our last trivia question:

Question: "What are three types of forest fires?"

Answer: Crown, Surface, Ground

Winners were : Rick Roper - Odessa and Severn Swartout - Beaver Dams

What Is Emergency Medical Dispatch?

Emergency medical dispatch (EMD) is a systematic program of handling medical calls for assistance. Trained telecommunicators use locally approved EMD guide cards to quickly and properly determine the nature and priority of the call, dispatch the appropriate response and give the caller instructions to help treat the patient until the responding EMS unit arrives.



The modern Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD) must be able to quickly identify the seriousness of the problem, dispatch the appropriate response (from a single ambulance with no lights-and-siren to the “cavalry”: police, fire truck, paramedics, and ambulance with sirens blaring), and provide life-sustaining medical instructions to the caller when necessary.

Classifying calls from the lowest priority to the highest.

Omega calls which are the lowest, “A” calls BLS cold response, “B” BLS hot call , ALS cold. The “B call” is most generally an unknown situation and is not a low priority call! Could be anything that can’t be determined and require immediate response. Such as someone falling down a flight of stairs!! C calls require ALS and BLS hot. D calls, and E calls would be life questionable situation (full arrest, etc.)

As we move forward with the future of EMS we have found throughout NYS all counties are struggling to provide coverage with both ambulance and first response units. Sometimes there may be considerable delay in ambulance response and 1st response needs to step up and help. Not all calls require an EMT. First aid and CPR may be able to handle the initial response for calls until ambulance arrives. It’s time to think outside the box and utilize the EMD system to its full potential. Its never a waste of time when someone has an emergency. That’s why we joined our agencies and if we work together we can alleviate the problem. Local rescue squads are opting out not running to A and B calls. There are companies who are serving assisted and low income housing which generate a lot of activity. We answer false alarms, trees down, power lines down but think a low grade medical call is not important. There are answers out there and it may involve some sort of paid response.

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Last Alarms



None

Upcoming Classes

We will be offering the following classes:

- HazMat 1st Responder Ops Refresher - 4/18 @ Beaver Dams
- HazMat 1st Responder Ops - 4/24 @ Burdett
- BEFO - 4/26 @ Beaver Dams
- EMT Original - 9/6 @ Watkins
- EMT Refresher - 9/6 @ Watkins

Want to be notified of our upcoming courses? Join our mailing list! Send requests to jgeck@co.schuyler.ny.us

For more information, visit:

www.schuylercounty.us
www.dhSES.ny.gov/ofpc
www.emstar.org

Send Us Your Photos, News, and Suggestions!

To send information, or if you want us to visit your station, contact the Emergency Management Office at 607-535-8200 or Rick and Shirley Churches at 607-594-2189 or rickshirlc27@gmail.com