

Hot Calls

Volume 10, Issue 2

Written by: Rick Churches Send news to: rickshirc27@gmail.com

March/April 2023



Hector Banquet

Hector's annual banquet as held at Logan Ridge. Line Officers for 2023 for Hector Chief Mike Hicks, 1st Asst. Steve Williams, 2nd Tavis McKeon (not present) , 3rd Brandon Swartz. They were sworn in by Emergency Services Director Kirk Smith.



Brandon Swartz was recognized for his work on the county fire prevention program. He took over the program this year as coordinator.

Hector responded to 289 alarms of which 265 were ambulance calls. 145 were for Schuyler Ambulance. Now that the new

Coordinators Attend Conference



Coordinators Attend Conference Cont.

Emergency management coordinators attended the State Fire Coordinators conference in Watkins Glen at the Harbor Hotel March 29th Through March 31st . Topics covered were

- Updates from Homeland Security Director
- OFPC updates
- Electric school buses hazards and over view
- Social Media do's and Don'ts
- Fire Coordinator legal considerations

Montour Falls Banquet



Chief Brian Swartwood, 1st. Andrew Yessman , 2nd Jake Burns , Capt. Joel Husted , 1st. Lt. John Horyczun , 2nd. Lt, Keith Pierce, Deputy Chiefs Jeff Confer and Bill Thomas

They responded to 474 calls of which 299 were EMS. Connor Ryan was top responder.

Officers are sworn in By Emergency Services Coordinator Kirk Smith

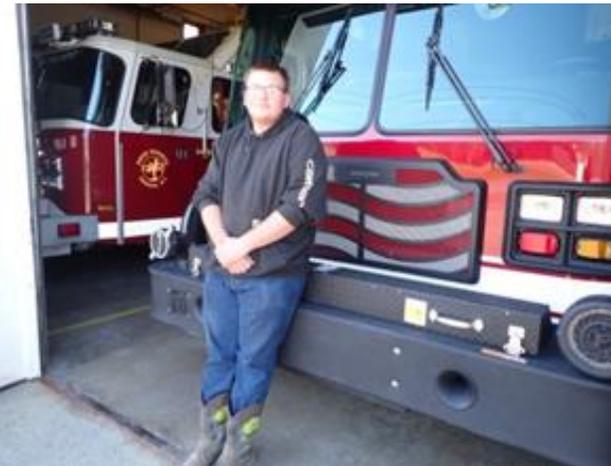
Odessa Banquet

Odessa Mayor swears in the Officers for the coming year



Odessa fire Department held their annual Banquet at their fire Station. They answered 379 calls which was a record number of calls for them. There was 5823 man hours spent on calls, 1027 man hours on training.

Officers for the year: Chief Adam Mahnke, 1st. Asst. Steve Siptrott, 2nd. Asst. Rich Brown, 3rd. Asst. Mike Croft, Deputy Chiefs Rick Churches, Mike Thomassi, JJ Jelliff, Rescue Lt. Charlene Mahnke, Capt. Jeremy Hoffman, Lt. Kyle Bailey, Fire Police Capt. Ted Dudgeon



Odessa Top Responder Casey Dudgeon



Shirly Churches receiving Ridge Runner Award

Watkins Glen Banquet



Rob DeDominick was recognized for 50 years of service

The banquet was held at Logan Ridge. The department responded to 642 calls for the year. They sent firefighters to Buffalo during the snow storm and answered 72 calls in their shift time. The top responder was Nick Dalrymple with a 169 calls.



Line officers sworn in are 1st. Charlie Saptura, 2nd.asst. Aron Emery and 3rd. Asst. Tyler Moore

Chief Jason Hudson is sworn in by
the village trustee



History-Fire Alarms Received and Volunteers Alerted

When most fire departments were organized in the county there was no centralized dispatch center. Most had to rely on phone lines to receive alarms from the public. Also all had some type of siren or horns on the station and throughout the district to let volunteers know there was an emergency. Early phone systems had on duty operators who would answer the alarms and activate the siren. Montour Falls had the hospital operator answer calls and activate the siren. They would call the fire station phone and the first volunteer would answer the call and take the information from them. Watkins Glen had the P.D. who would answer the call then activate the siren. They were located in the same building so they would alert volunteers as they came in. Odessa started with an operator then went to a fire phone (10) system to answer the call. One person would stay on and give information to station. All phones could activate the siren. Then they would write location on a blackboard at the station. The board is still there.

Mecklenburg had a phone system and a button downtown to activate the siren. The station was close by. Francis Furcha would go across the road and activate the siren. This article will be continued as I gather information on Burdett, Beaver Dams, Tyrone, Hector and Monterey

Montour Falls House Fire



This photo of the early Easter morning fire in Montour Falls was provided by Schuyler EMS, which snapped it

Fire destroys unoccupied home in Montour

The Montour Falls Fire Department was dispatched at about 2:55 a.m. on Easter morning after a Schuyler County Sheriff's Deputy discovered a fully involved structure fire at 307 S. Genesee Street in the village. A second alarm was requested, which brought in the Watkins Glen, Odessa, Burdett and Beaver Dams fire departments, along with Schuyler County EMS. The home, which was unoccupied

Article by The Odessa File

Second alarm was transmitted and on arrival five inch hose was laid from the hydrant by Truck 5. Fire was soon knocked down with the ladder pipe. The building had collapsed prior to Montour's arrival. It was discovered by Schuyler Sheriff's Deputy on patrol.

Montour Falls: Raymond St. Apartments



Montour Falls Again



A late afternoon call for a structure fire at Raymond Street Apartments brought a second alarm assignment to Montour Falls. An active fire in one of several attached apartments was found on arrival. A smoke alarm activated warning the resident of the fire apartment and a residential sprinkler activated and had the fire contained as units arrived. The occupant fell in exiting the apartment and was treated and transported by Schuyler EMS. Red Cross was contacted as other apartments were effected by smoke. Odessa, Watkins, Burdett with Beaver Dams covering assisted Montour Falls.

Montour Falls– Structure Fire



Early on a Saturday morning Montour was toned for a confirmed structure fire. They did not have far to go as this was across the street from their fire station, with a hydrant in front of the house. Heavy black smoke could be seen from Watkins Glen. Truck 5 pulled out of the station to find a shed to the rear of the house was on fire. Quick knock down stopped the fire spread and all second alarm units were canceled.

Watkins Glen– Structure Fire

A trailer fire with additions caught fire on a very unusual hot April afternoon. A well involved trailer fire was found on c-19s arrival. Second alarm was sounded bringing Burdett, Montour Falls, Dundee, Tyrone. Additional assistance called from Beaver Dams, Odessa, Himrod. Hector was brought in to cover Montour, Watkins, Burdett, Odessa, Beaver Dams. Schuyler EMS was moved to the scene. Emergency Mgt. and Red Cross, Schuyler Sheriff. Major damage to the structure and some family pets were lost. Water supply was established by Montour in the village.





Mecklenburg-Tractor Fire

A tractor fire in a field near Cr. 6 and Culver Rd. brought out Mecklenburg, Odessa, and Burdett, EMO, And T-burg ambulance. This was a very expensive fire estimated in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Nothing could be saved as its location and time of calling it in. Over 300 gallons of fuel on board. After cooling the fire down the fuel line was plugged.



Fire Prevention Finishes Year

Learn Not to Burn program pays visit to WGES

The Learn Not to Burn program at the Watkins Glen Elementary School reached its annual May climax Tuesday with a visit by Watkins Glen and Hector firefighters with fire engines. Kids from pre-K through 4th grade got a close-up look at the engines, explained to them by visiting firefighters. The program, which started in the 1970s, sees monthly visits by firefighters to area elementary schools, culminating in the visit with trucks. Fourth graders received a Learn Not to Burn drawstring backpack (pictured), while the younger kids received plastic fire helmets. The kids also presented colored drawings of firefighters to the visiting instructors. Article by Odessa File



Big thanks goes to Brandon Swarts for taking on as the head of the Fire Prevention program. This is not an easy task and takes a lot of time to fill boxes, make schedules, keep track of students progress. The teachers in all schools all need a pat on the back as they support the program a 100% and that means a lot. Burdett Fire Department also has taken on the Montour elementary school. Thanks to all. You have no idea how many lives you have saved and fires being prevented.

Trivia Question

What is a “Cellar” Nozzle?
Email answers to Rick at rickshirlsc27@gmail.com

Our last trivia question:

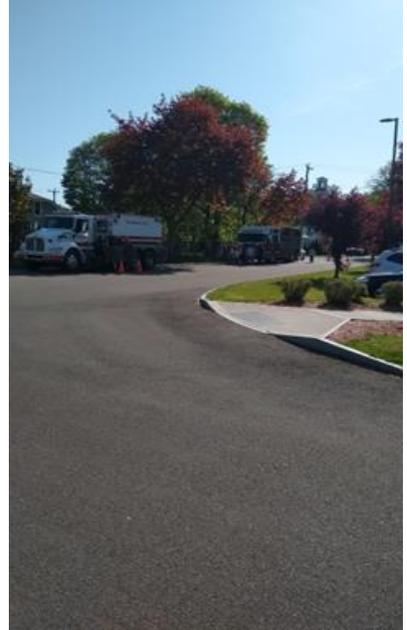
Question: Describe a “Bayonet” Nozzle

Answer: A small volume spray applicator with a piercing head.

Winners from last month. Dick Robinson

More Fire Prevention

Odessa Hanlon School



BC Cate Montour



**SCHUYLER COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

106 Tenth Street, Unit 36
Watkins Glen, NY 14891

Phone: 607-535-8200
E-mail: scemo@co.schuyler.ny.us

Web: www.schuylercounty.us
Facebook: www.facebook.com/SchuylerEMO
Twitter: twitter.com/SchuylerEMO



Last Alarms



**Floyd Hull Feb. 28th, 2023 WGFD,
SCVAA**

**Mike Maloney Mar. 15th, 2023 Tyrone,
Schuyler County Sheriff**

**Elaine Stanton-Hicks May 8th, 2023
Hector**

Upcoming Classes

We will be offering the following classes:

- Tentative: EMT Original starting September 6,

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