

Hot Calls

Written by: Rick Churches Send news to: rickshirlc27@gmail.com



No changes in Burdett this year

The Burdett Fire Department responded to 194 calls with a total of 886.5 man hours on duty for alarms. Man hours for the department for the year are 1271. The department puts on numerous benefits for the community. Training for the year was 97.5 man hours . Top responder was Pam Kelly.

Chief Jason Kelly, 1st asst. Keith Caslin, 2nd Cory Glover, 3rd Allen Burke

Capt. Ethan Dean, Lt. Chris Crout, Deputy fire Chiefs Ryan Barr, and Curt Connelly

New Officers Sworn in By Coordinator Kirk Smith (1)

Structure Fire Montour Falls

January 28th about 10:30 structure fire at 236 Owego St. went to a second alarm immediately. Smoke showing from a two-story structure. Heavy smoke on the eaves meant everyone was going to work. Aggressive interior attack was started. Ladder 5 was put in a defensive position. Mutual aid was from Odessa, Burdett, Watkins Glen, Schuyler EMS, Schuyler EMO, with Beaver Dams who was the RIT team. Flames could be seen from the second floor windows. Ventilation was done and progress was made to the fire on the second floor and attic. The fire was knocked down and overhaul started. Tough fight by all. While this was going on an automatic alarm was sounded for county Rt. 8. Hector along with County C3 responded to find burnt food. Good job by all. No one was home and all firefighters were safe. Schuyler Sheriff assisted also.





2



3



4





Pictures

1. 5" line laid on the way in
2. Car 6 and 5 gather information for car 15
3. Ladder 5 in defensive position
4. Sheriff deputy and ambulance 1 arrive
5. Interior attack on the "c" side
6. Operations on 'C' side

New Chief in Beaver Dams



1

New Beaver Dams Officers sworn in by Emergency Mgt. Coordinator Kirk Smith

Beaver Dams Fire Company had their annual banquet February 17th. A new slate of officers was installed. They answered 202 calls, 1096 training hours for the year. Vern McClean Jr. was top in training hours. Top responder was Charlie Stoddard with 110 calls.



Corbin's wife pins his badge on as his kids look on

Monterey Changes for 2024

Fire Chief Mel Horton, Travis Askins 1 Asst David Odell, 2nd Asst, Andrew Vogel 3rd. Asst. EMS
Captain Daryl Bryerton





1.



2.



3.

1. Updated EMS vehicle now in service.
2. Emergency command console
3. Turnout gear for all members

Long time member Gary Dann Receives plaque for 65 years of service.



Hector Holds Annual Banquet



Chief Mike Hicks and 1st. Asst. Chief Steve Williams was sworn in at their banquet.

Hector answered 170 total alarms for 2023. Their EMS activity dropped a lot with the upstart of Schuyler EMS, replacing the service of Schuyler County Volunteer Ambulance. The auxiliary continues to support the company with their monthly breakfast. The training grounds on their property out back of their station. The area is for off road operations side by side training and off-road rescues. They also provided mutual aid to Erie County for assistance during a blizzard. Steve Williams was top responder for the year with 120 calls.



Administrative Officers for the year 2024

Trivia Answer

“What does Atmospheric Pressure have to do with firefighting”
Everything when it comes to drafting water from a static source!!!
Atmospheric pressure is 14.696 PSI at sea level.

Drafting water for firefighting is a crucial technique used by both rural and urban fire departments.
Let's delve into the basics:

1. What Is Drafting?

- **Drafting** involves using suction to move water from a vessel or body of water below the intake of a suction pump.
- [Rural fire departments or farmers might draft water from a pond as the initial step in relocating water elsewhere¹.](#)

2. How Does It Work?

- When drafting water, the air within the hose line is removed, creating a vacuum (negative pressure) in the pump chamber.
- [The atmospheric pressure on the water's surface forces the water up through the suction hose to the pump².](#)

3. Maximum Attainable Lift:

- A fire engine in good condition can lift water up to two-thirds of the theoretical lift, which translates to approximately **22.5 feet**.
- [As elevation above sea level increases, atmospheric pressure decreases, affecting the effective vertical distance for drafting².](#)

4. Urban vs. Rural Context:

- In most urban fire departments, drafting has become less common due to pressurized water-distribution systems and hydrants.
- [However, for communities without such systems, tanker/tender shuttles and static water supplies via drafting remain essential for firefighting operations³.](#)
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Remember, whether it's a hydrant system or a natural water source, understanding the physics of drafting is crucial for effective firefighting. Stay informed and prepared! 🚒



This month's question.

“What is a firefighter doing when placing a foot on the bottom rung and hands on both beams of a ladder?”

Grass fire chars acre off State Route 224



A firefighter hoses the ground and nearby trees at the fire site.

Fire apparently sparked by a cook stove charred about an acre of woodland grass Thursday afternoon behind a home at 5962 State Route 224 near Alpine. Firefighters from Odessa and Montour Falls responded to the scene, while the Mecklenburg fire department oversaw a landing zone nearby for a helicopter that carried the male homeowner -- whose name was not immediately available -- to a Syracuse hospital for treatment of leg burns. The fire, in a thinly wooded area, crept close to the man's home, but did not reach it. A fire official said there was nothing unusual about the man's cookout, and that a wayward spark was the evident culprit. Article and Picture from Odessa File

Montour Falls installs Officers.

No changes for Montour Falls as they had their annual banquet March 23.



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

602 alarms for 2023

Top Responders-

1st. Connor Ryan

2nd. Steve Lawton 3rd. Becky Ayers

4th Sam Pierce 5th Brennen Matthews

Years of Service- Steve Silliman 40 years George Norton 30 Years

History

Two fires, one in 1971 or two a fire occurred in the home of George Barton on Genesee St. and South Street at about 0300 am. It was located in the northwest corner of the very large two story home. According to the news article Montour handled the fire alone with one engine (E-17) A quad ladder truck (1937) and a rescue (Squad Truck). Forty firefighters were on scene. They laid one 2 ½ from a hydrant on the corner. They also had to raise a 50' bangor ladder to reach the second floor and roof. Odessa was brought down for stand by. The ironic thing is that when Jeff Confer was Chief the second time on November 23 2016 Montour had a structure fire in the same building in the same location in the house as the first. This time there were 7 fire companies Montour, Odessa, Watkins Glen, Burdett, Horseheads, Elmira Heights, Beaver Dams stood by. Working of the same hydrant with a 5" line. All the departments provide the same 40 firefighters!



Montour firemen battle the early morning blaze which damaged the 13-room home of Mr. and Mrs. George T. Barton of 203 S. Genesee St., Montour Falls.

Fire Damages Montour Home

MONTOUR FALLS — The home of Mr. and Mrs. George T. Barton at 203 S. Genesee St. was damaged by a fire which broke out at about 3:30 a.m. today. Mrs. Barton said she was awakened by the fire alarm and smelled smoke and saw flames. Her husband, Barton, called the fire alarm before the 13-room brick house was gutted.

The fire gutted a second floor storage and workshop area at the rear of the home. Hubbell said the cause is unknown but the investigation was to continue later this morning.

Firemen used a two-inch hydrant line to extinguish the fire which was confined to the rear upper portion of the structure. The rest of the house suffered extensive smoke and water damage. Barton said the rear

Engineering Co. here, praised the firemen for their quick response. "I appreciate their prompt report for duty," told Hubbell. "I certainly am grateful." The loss was covered by insurance, Barton said. Firemen were on the scene until after daybreak cleared the damaged structure.

The Odessa Fire Department sent a pumper to the Montour firehouse to stand by for mutual aid.

Close call in Tyrone



March 10th was a busy day for Tyrone as they responded to Wayne for a structure fire. This fire caused a major power outage in the area. Later that evening when power was restored Tyrone was called to a power line and grass fire on County Rt 23 in the hamlet of Tyrone. On arriving Chief Bill Kennedy found that there was indeed a grass fire but also an electrical fire spreading on an electrical box at the old Ray Dann store.

He believed was possibly caused when the power was turned back on from the previous fire. Quick work prevented it from spreading any further. That would have been the fire of the year.

New power tools added to Montour extrication arsenal



1. Two new battery powered power tools from TNT company have been added to Montour's extrication inventory. Being a little heavier than the gas powered units. They are capable of cutting the newer steel that cars and trucks are made of. This will make three power tools in the tool chest.
2. Additional power equipment is kept on engine 16.

Last Alarm

Judy Ames

2023 Monterey, Schuyler Volunteer Ambulance

Judy was the first female chief officer in the county

Daryl DeCamp

March 2024 Monterey