

Hot Calls

Volume 1, Issue 3

July/August 2014



Calendar:

Hector Pancake Breakfast 2nd Sunday of every month

Monterey Fair July 19

Hector Fair July 24 - July 26

Firematics Day September 13

Inside this issue:

Firefighter Profile 2-3

Banquets & Elections 4-6

Saving Money, OMCS Truck Day 7

Calls, Mutual Aid 8-10

Training Corner 11

Last Call, Upcoming Classes Back

Notice From Rick



Information to all Schuyler County Fire Departments and SCVAA: It is

important to know that pictures and articles of this newsletter are for all about all. Because I am located with Odessa it makes it convenient to take pictures of what we are doing. I have visited other departments and will continue to do so. If

you have cell pictures, digital images or just want to shoot me an e-mail about a call or event, please do so. We are interested in what all are doing and want to include all in this newsletter. If I hear something I will call but I don't always know what goes on.

Code Officer Notification

Reminder to all officers that the code officer for the town your incident is in must be notified. This needs to be done if there is structural damage, a fuel burning appliance, chimney, or gas vent

from fire or from an explosion. The obligation is the notification. You need not do anything more than that. It would be in the best interest of the code officer to respond when you are there, but you do not

have to wait for them. Some towns have backups, others do not. If there are no arrangements between towns then other code officers cannot respond.

Save The Date: Firematics Day 9/13

Firematics Day will be on September 13 in Odessa. This will be a seminar on fire tactics given by Scott Eaton, Lt. with the Ithaca Fire Department. Registration and coffee will be from

0800am to 0900am. Class starts at 0900am and goes to 1200. Lunch will be served and show and tell at lunch time of new and different equipment from around the county. Out of county

departments are welcome. More information will be given out as the date gets closer. There as a brief on the class given in last month's newsletter. Go to Schuyler County web site for the letter.

Firefighter Profile: Bill “Beaver” Bulkley

50 years on the job

Bill Bulkley got his start with the Odessa Fire Department in 1963 after a tour in the Navy from 1959 to 1963. He was a Firefighter aboard a Navy carrier. He worked for Cotton & Hanlon, Westinghouse, and Borg Warner. He received his degree in Fire Science from TC3. Bill, like most of us when we were young, liked running “hose team” in the early days.

He married Sue Banks in 1972. They have always lived in the village of Odessa. They both have traveled a lot in their years of marriage...cruises, trip to Vegas (and he LOVES gambling!), etc.

I asked what has impressed him the most in 50 years of firefighting. His answer is the safety equipment. He remembers that we had rubber coats, hip boots, no gloves and metal helmets. The biggest change for the good was that when he (and I) started there were oxygen breathing apparatus! They only had



two and it had to be a really bad fire before they were used. There were only 15 sets of gear - first come first serve.

Bill worked his way up through the ranks and became chief in 1983. He served for two years. His most unusual fire was a silo fire at the Wood farm on County Road 14. We used Watkins 100' aerial to reach the fire.

Bill is still an active member for Odessa and is one of the top responders for the department. He currently is Vice President

and Captain of the Fire Police Squad. He enjoyed bowling on the Fire Association Bowling league for many years. He is the fourth firefighter in Odessa to reach the fifty year mark. If you see Bill, thank him for his service because he has earned it.



Firefighter Profile: Dave Beckhorn

50 years on the job

Dave Beckhorn came home from college in 1964 and was asked if he would be interested in joining the Valois-Logan-Hector (VLH) Fire Company. Hank Bond was Fire Chief and Dave Wickham was President. He got in just before the Hector Fair and his first job was parking cars.

He rose up through the ranks quickly as he became 2nd Assistant Chief in 1966, or there about. Charlie Starkweather was Chief, John Mason was 1st Assistant, and Butch Gallow was 3rd. The first big fire was across from the current fire station location (which was not built yet). It was a working barn fire. The middle barn of three barns together was on fire. Dave thought "What have I got myself into?!". They saved both barns on either side.

The old fire station was a two bay garage behind the Wickham's store on Tichenor Road. What he can remember the most about the old station is that you had to hold the antenna down on the trucks as they rolled out so you would not break the glass in the doors.

Dave married Bobbi Bulkley in 1979. He told that when he was President of the County Fireman's Association

Firematics days were always the first Sunday in June. His son was born on that day. He made sure he was with his wife, not Firematics Day! They also have one daughter.

When he was chief in 1972 they were involved in evacuating Corning Hospital to new, but not yet opened, Schuyler Hospital because of the flood of 72. They also pumped many cellars till they could no longer haul the heavy portable pump around.

Dave served as fire chief for four years. His big event was the flood and summer jam in Watkins. They helped Schuyler Ambulance answer calls all weekend. This also occurred during the annual Hector Fair. A new water system was put in and now they had hydrants to work with in the district.

He took the first EMT course given by the state. They were called "METS" then.

The one big change was the addition a new station in 1969. This gave them lots of room to operate.



Dave relied on "Harlow Bailey" and Art "Foggy" Churches for advice. He says there are more car accidents now than fires and also the department does a lot of in-house training. Before, they would rely on State classes for their training.

Dave is still active driving the ambulance when needed and he was the 2nd top responder this year. When ALS interface was put in place, Dave was the first to call for the service. This started the first organized ambulance mutual aid. When you see Dave, thank him for his years of service. He has earned it.



Beaver Dams Banquet

Kent Thurston and Lloyd Lanning were recognized for saving the life of a woman who fell into flood waters during flooding in the district last year. Lori Oliver was recognized for 25 years of service.

- Car 11 Tim Hudson
- Car 11-1 Brian Hudson
- Car 11-2 Kent Thurston
- Car 11-3 Lloyd Lanning
- Car 11-4 Kirk Smith
- Car 11-5 Tony Simpson



Above: Kent Thurston and Lloyd Lanning



Odessa Banquet

Odessa banquet had no changes in officers.

Bill Bulkley was honored for 50 years of service. He gave full credit to his wife Sue for sharing

him with the fire department.

- Car-16 Mike Tomassi
- Car 16-1 John Jelliff
- Car 16-2 Adam Mahnke

- Car 16-3 Steve Siptrott
- Car 16-4 Rick Churches
- Car 16-5 Jamie Gurtuis
- Car 16-7 Tom Carson
- Car 16-9 Bill Bulkley



Line Officers



Bill Bulkley

Watkins Glen Banquet

Watkins Glen changed chiefs. He passed the hat to his brother Jud. This was a very moving moment as the two brothers showed their closeness and love for the fire service.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Car 19 | Judson Smith |
| Car 19-1 | Derek Bacon |
| Car 19-2 | Charlie Scaptura |
| Car 19-3 | Charlie Smith, III |
| Car 19-4 | Mark Specchio Jr. |
| Car 19-5 | Aaron Emery |
| Car 19-6 | Dominick Smith |
| Forman | AJ Matwiejow |
| Asst. Forman | Jason Fuller |



Dominick Smith gives his last chiefs report.



Graduation Banquet for County Firefighters

Graduation Banquet For County firefighters taking State fire and EMS classes.



Coordinator with the county's five state fire instructors

Memorial Service for Tyrone

The Tyrone Fire Company every year goes to the cemetery in Tyrone to mark the graves of their departed members. Last year one member wore his uniform for the event. Others thought it was a good idea so this year the whole company wore dress

uniforms and had a service with bag piper. According to Chief Maloney it was a very moving service. They plan to continue this a tradition for years to come.



Saving Money

PUMPER TANKERS

Two trucks in one can save communities money, by having a single truck that can perform two functions.



VLH



VLH

Fire Trucks Day at OMCS

Thanks to all who helped during the year or on “Fire Trucks and Graduation Days” at the local schools.

The success of the program lies with Donnie Dalrymple doing the organizing and, in the case

of Watkins School, the teaching. He has help from Hector also. Bradford school is done by Tyrone; Odessa and Montour are done by Donnie with help from Odessa in both schools. We look forward to next year and welcome anyone who

would like to give a couple of hours to assist in the program.

Learn Not To Burn is over for another year.



OFD: Multiple Serious MVA's

Patients were flown on all MVA's. Mutual aid from Montour Falls on both calls. Mecklenburg helped with the call on Rt.228 . Good job done. All are still alive.



Route 13 and Route 224.



Route 224 and Havana Glen Road .

**Photo Credit:
OdessaFile.com**



The two vehicles involved in the crash where Steam Mill Road intersects Route 228.



Odessa crews remove the driver after taking the driver side door off for access. Montour Falls answered an EMS call for Odessa while also handling the landing zone. Thanks guys!



The helicopter arrives, setting down in a field near the Schuyler County Veterans Memorial Park. Patients were flown on all MVA's. Mutual aid from Montour Falls on both calls. Mecklenburg helped with the call on Route 228. Good job done. All are still alive.

WGFD: Apartment Fire

On a nice spring afternoon Watkins Glen was toned out for a structure fire on Second Street. With heavy smoke showing from a two story apartment building and a second alarm dispatched, Watkins made an aggressive interior attack and made a good stop.

Mutual aid from Burdett, Montour Falls and the "RIT" team from Dundee. Good job by all. Seven people were displaced by the fire.



Mutual aid companies arrive.



Chief Jud Smith confers with his officer.

Radio Project Update by Bill Kennedy

I have been talking about the new radio system for a long time, the project is moving forward. Here is the latest update to the project. Tower Equipment began to arrive in May and is being staged at the Highway Department. Factory testing of the Radio system was completed the week of June 9 with the completion of the factory test the equipment

was packed and shipped to Midstate Communications for staging. Final prep-work is being completed at the Sugar Hill and Dean Road tower sites. The construction is scheduled to start June 30 at the Sugar Hill site. This is a very busy and exciting time as we move to the construction phase of the project.



Tyrone FD: MVA

Tyrone had a tractor trailer accident at the intersection of County Road 23 and State Route 226 the same week as Odessa's two MVA's.



Beaver Dams FD: Fatal ATV Accident

Beaver Dams and SCVAA responded to a fatal ATV accident on May 23rd. Watkins Glen assisted with support of their 6x6.

Mecklenburg FD: MVA

Mecklenburg had a two car MVA in Perry City on a Saturday night. There were five patients, two of which were serious and flown to a trauma hospital. Two others were transported by ground and one by POV.



Training Corner

All companies in the county do in-house training. Here are a few examples of what goes on.

BEAVER DAMS at positive -pressure ventilation using an old trailer across from their station and a smoke machine. This allows firefighters to observe the results in a safe environment inside and outside!

ODESSA does training on “Low Angle Rope Work”. Being able to access patients and remove victims from “low angle” situations.

WATKINS GLEN Technical Rescue training. Continuing practice on very difficult skills for “high angle” rescue.



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Last Alarm



Don Riley
Odessa Fire Department, Past
Chief, and County Firefighters
Association

Roger Stocum
Tyrone Fire Department and
Past Chief

Upcoming Classes

- *EMT Original*
- *EMT Refresher*
- *FAST*
- *Firefighter I*
- *Firefighter II*
- *Firefighter Survival*
- *Fire Police*
- *HazMat Ops Refresher*
- *Intelligence Liaison Officer*
- *Rescue Technician Basic*
- *Scene Support*
- *Strategy and Tactics for the Initial Company Operations*
- *Water Rescue Awareness*
- *Water Supply*

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

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