

Hot Calls

Volume 2, Issue 3

May/June 2015



Calendar:

Hector Pancake Breakfast	2nd Sunday of every month
Tyrone Spring Fling Raffle Tickets, \$20ea	On-going thru June 6
Montour Falls Mega Raffle \$25 for 1 or \$100 for 5	On-going. Drawing on June 13
Montour Falls Fair	June 11, 12, 13
Hector Fair	July 23, 24, 25
Mecklenburg Sportsman Raffle Tickets. \$10ea	On-going thru October 18

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From the Coordinator's Office

The radio project is moving forward. The move of the current low band radio dispatch from Terry Hill to Sugar Hill is

scheduled to take place the week of May 26. Once that move is complete the tower on Terry Hill will be decommissioned and

taken down, with construction of a new tower starting immediately.



Secretary/Treasurer Remembered

The March meeting of the county firefighters association was held in Odessa. Beverly Riley was given a plaque recognizing her late husband's work for the county firefighter's association. Her

daughter Donna looked on as Chief Mike Tomassi presented her with the plaque.



Member Recognition

Rick Churches was surprised with a plaque for his 50 years of membership with the County Association! He joined as a member of the Montour

Falls Fire Department and, except for 3 years away in the U.S. Army, he continued membership with Odessa Fire.



Firefighter Profile: John Mason

John Mason has lived most of his life in the Hector area. His parents, Leona and Glen, moved to Watkins Glen for a short while, then back to Hector on Route 414. He has three brothers and one sister. John joined the VLH Fire Company in September 1959. His father and two brothers, Paul and Glen, all got in the fire service after he joined. He worked his way up through the ranks to become Chief in the 1960's (not sure of the years), served for two years, then went back in as Assistant Chief for a total of sixteen years. During that time the then fire coordinator, Harlow Bailey, asked if he would consider being an Deputy Coordinator for the county. John accepted and it led to many years of serving in the job. When Harlow retired John became Fire Coordinator for two years. He also served as a state fire instructor under Harlow and Ernie Thurston. The test came up for State fire field representative. He passed the test and was appointed to a job in the northern part of the state. He had to move to Central Square for the job and came home on weekends. Soon there was a position open in the Southern Tier and he transferred to this area where he continued to work

out of the new NYS Fire Academy. For years he worked out of his own home before he was moved to the academy. He has served as President of the County Fire Fighters Association. I asked what he thought has changed in the fire service-he said fire load has made the job a lot more dangerous. Things burn hotter and faster. The other is the improvement in turnout gear. The training also is better and much improved. He thinks the biggest event he had to deal with was Summer Jam at the race track. John as in the first "Met Class" in the county. This was the for runner of the current EMT classes. Before that the basic first aid class was the most training anyone could get. The classes were taught in Watkins Glen Fire Department who, by the way, had an ambulance then along with Odessa, Tyrone and Hector. John was also President of the County Firefighters Association.



The changes in VLH has to be the fire station. They went from the two bay station to the station on 414. Now there are plans to build a larger station on the same site. He is looking forward to seeing that. John was off to a lunch meeting with other retired firefighters from VLH. They meet once a week for lunch and have a good time talking about old fires and current events. When you see John thank him for his service to our county. John has been an active member of VLH until a few years ago when he felt it was time to retire.

Beaver Dams Banquet

Beaver Dams' annual banquet was March 28. This brought a new fire chief to lead the company. Brian Hudson has taken over the top spot with Tim Hudson moving down to 1st Asst. Chief.

Chief	Brian Hudson
1 st Asst.	Tim Hudson
2 nd Asst.	Kirk Smith
3 rd Asst.	Kent Thurston
Captain	Vern McLean Jr.
1 st Lieut.	Jeff Hudson
2 nd Lieut.	Charlie Stoddard



Brian is pictured with his wife as he is sworn in at their annual banquet.

Tim Hudson received an encased ax with his years of service.



Watkins Glen Banquet

Watkins Glen held their annual banquet and installation of officers on April 18th at their station. Judd Smith was installed as Chief for the second year. The other officers are:

1st Asst. Chief	Charlie Scaptura
2nd Asst. Chief	Charlie Smith, III
Deputy Chief	Derek Bacon
Deputy Chief	Robert DeDominick
Captain	Robert Gruver
Safety Captain	Dominick Smith
Lt.	Jason Hudson
EMS Captain	Anthony Nieves
EMS Lt.	Kristina Olevnik
Foreman	Jason Fuller



Montour Falls Banquet

The Montour Falls annual banquet was held on March 14. Billy Thomas is now the Fire Chief of Montour Falls. Jeff Confer was recognized for his years of service as Chief (twice). The new line officers are:

1st. Asst. Jake Burns
2nd Asst. Jeremy Edmister
Captain Joel Husted
1st. Lt. Andrew Yessman



Odessa Banquet

The April 11 night was filled with many events including a life saving incident to one of its members who suddenly collapsed during the banquet. The chief's vehicle, which carries back-up EMS equipment, was outside the Moose Club. Quick work from available EMS brought a good result to a serious event. No changes in the ranks for Odessa as Mike Tomassi is once again chief. Tim Lindsley was awarded the first ever "Ridge Runner Award" and Adam Mahnke Proposed to Charlene Herrmann (and she accepted!).



Tim Lindsley

Hector Banquet

This year's Hector banquet, held on February 28, brought back past Chief Mike Hicks. The banquet was held at Logan Ridge. Mike's wife Elaine looks on as he gives the annual report. Donnie Dalrymple was recognized for his work for fire prevention. An actual case of a family saved by the work done through fire prevention. Other line officers are:

1st. Asst.	Steve Williams
2 nd Asst.	Ben Huey
3 rd Asst.	Travis McKeon
Deputy Chief	Donnie Dalrymple



Monterey Banquet

Monterey held their installation banquet on March 7. Ed Lewis was re-elected chief. A nice meal was had and Matthew Pinkard was recognized for his accomplishments during the year.



Monterey Officers are installed at their annual banquet. Deputy Coordinators Dale Jaynes and Rick Churches did the installation.

Watkins Glen FD: Truck Roll Over

A tractor-trailer carrying containers of orange juice turned on its side while entering downtown Watkins Glen from the north on Route 14 one Saturday night. Police said initial indications were that the truck clipped a snowbank, sending the vehicle off-balance and onto its side. The driver was not injured, nor charged. There was no spillage of orange

juice, police said, and firefighters "contained a minimal discharge of diesel fuel." The truck was up righted and towed from the scene.



Truck on its side on the north end of Watkins Glen. (Photo by Kathy Robinson)

Montour Falls FD: MCI at BC Cate School

A call for one patient with CO poisoning turned into an MCI as over 30 kids were sent to Schuyler hospital with

possible exposure to carbon monoxide from a running tractor outside the building. Montour Falls and Schuyler Ambulance were first due

with mutual aid from Odessa and Watkins Glen Rescue.

Odessa FD: Trailer Fire

There was a trailer fire in Odessa right after companies cleared the CO call in Montour. A working trailer fire on Route 224 brought second alarm companies from Montour, Watkins, Mecklenburg, Town and Country with Odessa first due. It was

fully involved when companies arrived and took half an hour to bring under full control.

**Pictures by
Odessa File**



Montour Falls FD: House Fires

A call came in for a Roloson Hollow Road structure fire. The structure was as you see it here and there was very little that could be done. The same second alarm was tripped and companies assisted Montour in the fight.

**Pictures by
Odessa File**

Montour Falls Fire was toned for a working structure fire on the Price Road. Second alarm was dispatched bringing Millport, Beaver Dams, Watkins Glen, Odessa with Burdett covering. The fire had exited the structure and was working its way up to the roof on the "bravo" side. A quick attack by Montour E-16 crew put a quick stop on the fire. Watkins was brought in; all others were held. It was a nice stop.



*Above: Roloson
Hollow house fire.
Left: Price Road
house fire.*

Schuyler County Training Banquet

The annual training banquet was held in Tyrone. Bill Kennedy presented awards to the county fire departments. Watkins Glen was the top department with 401 total hours of state training. Jason Kelly from Burdett was the top student - just shows that retired fire chiefs don't fade away!



Ovid Fire Chief, Bill Palmer

The March meeting of the Schuyler County Firefighters Association included guest speaker Chief Bill Palmer from Ovid, N.Y.. Bill spoke on the events of the block fire last March that claimed a good portion of the heart of the village. He described the complex problems of a large fire in old buildings and the fact the village water supply could not handle the volume needed. Seneca County has a pre-determined “Tanker Taskforce” for just such events. More than thirty eight tankers were called to fill the void of the lack of

water. Over 200 firefighters were on hand for the fight. Six buildings were consumed or damaged from the fire. All but two Schuyler County departments were also involved. It was a very interesting program.



FASNY

Tyrone hosted a FASNY training on April 29 titled “You...Safety and Wellness=Survival” with around 60 firefighters in attendance.



Fire Service Takes Stand

The Schuyler County Fire and EMS service showed up in force to support the County's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. This was an informational meeting for the public, but due to the bashing of the Service and Coordinator in recent months it was time for us to show we *are* "Prepared, Equipped and Trained". We have been handling emergencies in Schuyler County for over 100 years. We do take issue with people who try to say otherwise. We are the ones who have to go out and risk our lives to bring resolve to an incident and would be the first to complain if it was not adequate.



New Equipment

WATKINS GLEN:

PORT-A-TANK

Watkins Glen has purchased a 2,000 gallon soft self-expanding port-a-tank. Once water is dumped from a tanker the tank raises to the capacity that has been dumped.

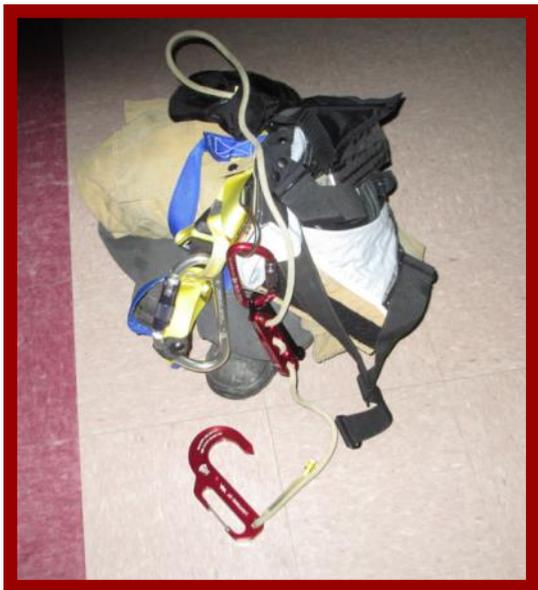
MONTOUR FALLS:

BALE OUT SYSTEMS

Montour Falls has recently upgrade their "Bale Out Systems" to comply with "1983 2006" regulations. They were purchased through a grant from the Lt. Joseph DeBernardo Fund. The cost was \$13,822. Watkins Glen, Montour and Tyrone have the same systems.

LADDER TRUCK

Montour is expecting delivery of their new "Quint" ladder truck sometime in August. Quint is derived from the unit capable of ladders, hose, water, pump, aerial. The truck will be equipped with 110' of ground ladders, 1000' of 5" hose, a 6-firefighter cab, 10kw generator, and a 2,000gpm pump. This truck will be first due in the village.



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Last Alarms



None

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