

Hot Calls

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Concern for Learn Not to Burn

After forty plus years the Learn Not to Burn program could be in trouble! With the future of in session learning at our schools we are looking at where we will be this coming year. The schools have no idea what is in front of them and we still feel the need to have our fire prevention program in the education system someplace. Bill Kennedy and Donnie Dalrymple are moving forward to see where we stand. This could be a good change for us as manpower is an issue and if we could do some kind of distance learning that could be done from EMO and when the teachers could work 10 to 15 minutes a month this might be the solution to our eventual manpower shortage. Stay tuned!

Trivia Question

“What is the advantage of using a Carbon Dioxide fire extinguisher?”

Our last trivia question winners:

Question: What is the ignition temperature of wood?

Question: *George Lewis, Tyrone FD: 482 to 572 degrees Fahrenheit wood will smolder then catch fire. Correct!*

Jason Fuller, Watkins Glen FD: 769 to 800 degrees wood will immediately catch fire. Correct!

Good job to both.

Calendar:

Fire and EMS Profile: Patti Miller

Patti Miller has been in the EMS and Fire field for 34 years. She met her husband Tracey at a fire call. They have now been married for 30 years and have three children. Brande was in EMS; Alec is currently Assistant Chief in Dundee and works at Schuyler Ambulance; and Christopher, who also works for Schuyler Ambulance and volunteers with Dundee.

Patti first joined Dundee FD in 1988 as an EMT then also moved over to the fire side. Apparently, in Dundee if you are a “Miller,” you are required to be in the fire department or ambulance. It’s a very dedicated family affair.

Patti became a “CLI “(certified lab instructor) and then a CIC (certified instructor) for EMS and teaches at the NYS Fire Academy EMS courses. She began as a volunteer at Schuyler Ambulance in 2011, then at their request, became the Administrative Assistant in 2013. In August 2015 she was appointed Supervisor and now is Director of Operations for the ambulance service.

Patti’s biggest accomplishment at SCVAA is combining her ability to network, run a business, be an EMS provider and instructor, mother, and wife while growing SCVAA into a thriving EMS Agency in these difficult financial and healthcare times. This includes facilitating the purchase of two new ambulances, both equipped with auto loading units. This compliments previous purchases of power stretchers and stair chairs to make moving patients much easier and safer. Currently they are refurbishing the 1970’s vintage station, including a new area for crews, a receiving and meeting area for the public and board, and making her office more accessible for walk-in traffic. There are plans for a memorial area out front and new floor in the south bay. The ambulance agency continues to make a commitment to the community to provide affordable service and to assist the other organizations. With the lack of volunteers to man the station it is a struggle to provide low cost service and as a business with paid employees. Patti still makes an effort to recruit EMTs and ALS providers, which are in short supply across the state. I can tell you from experience it is not an easy job to manage an ambulance. Schuyler Ambulance is busy as all ambulance services are, and she manages to keep things running with 2500-3000 calls a year. So, stop by at 909 Decatur St. in Watkins Glen and tell Patti thanks for her service. Oh yes-and fill out an application to join as volunteers and staff are still welcomed and needed at Schuyler Ambulance.



SCVAA Renovations



New location and larger space for duty crews. Kitchen has also been relocated



The older area for crews and the kitchen is now going to be a meeting area kitchen and the supervisor's office in in the background.



An outdoor space and a new floor for the north ambulance bay are done. All this work is long overdue. New bunkrooms have also been added of the ready room. Stop in they will show you around.

Joint Training in Odessa

On a very hot Monday night, training was held in Odessa with Watkins Glen, Montour Falls, And Odessa for practical training on the Village S.O.P. It is always good to stay in contact with mutual aid departments to stay current on operations that involve each other.





Sometimes it pays to pay a visit to local farms to see some of the modern methods of farming and the issues we could have for extrication and rescue.

3 Injured in Motorcycle-Car Collision in Dix

The Schuyler County Sheriff's Office is investigating a personal injury motor vehicle accident involving a car and a motorcycle that occurred Friday at 2:57 p.m. on Beaver Dams Moreland Road near Pearl Street in the Town of Dix. Andy Mattison, 44, of Beaver Dams, was westbound on Beaver Dams Moreland Road when the motorcycle he was operating collided with a vehicle that was exiting a private driveway. That vehicle was operated by Michelle Hanson, 61, of Buffalo. Hanson and a passenger, Oscar Hodge, 67, of Buffalo, were taken to Robert Packer Hospital for minor injuries. Mattison was airlifted by Guthrie Air to the same facility for serious injuries. The Sheriff's Office was assisted at the scene by the Beaver Dams Fire Department and Schuyler Ambulance.

The following week Beaver Dams had two MVC's at the same time in different ends of their district. They handled both.

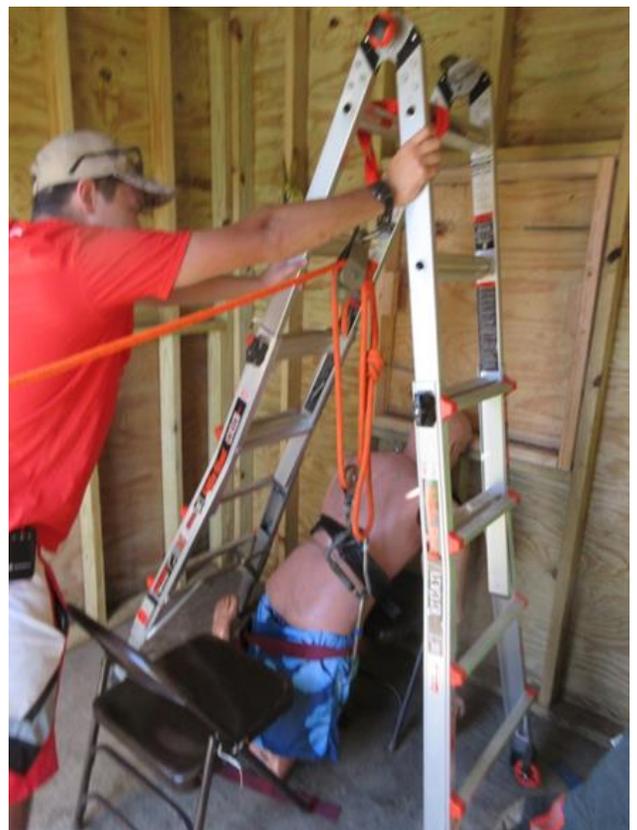


Story and
Pictures by
Odessa File

Difficult Rescue

Lift assists are a common call but not always easy. Odessa duty crew was called for what sounded like a routine call only to find a bariatric victim in a difficult position in a small trailer. Assistance was called for and eventually mutual aid was requested for the very difficult rescue. After four hours of work we finally got the patient up but they needed to be transported to the hospital because they were down for so long. This has made us take a look at some proper equipment to be able to lift these types of patients.

The first picture shows that the victim was on his knees facing a recliner in the living room of his trailer.. His knees were bent underneath him. He could not be leaned back! A roof ladder was first tried to set up a pulley system with an mechanical



Difficult Rescue ...cont...

advantage but could not get enough height to raise him. Then an adjustable ladder was put in place so we could get a better lift of him and then get the chair under him. Again this patient was near or over 500 LBS. It was necessary to stabilize the ladder (image to the right) as the outward pull would tip it towards the door. The chair and the victim were in line with the door leading to the porch. Rescue jacks had to be used to stabilize the porch as it was not attached to the trailer.



Eight firefighters were used to pull the rope to raise the victim. (image below). Once we got him up and in a chair then had to extricate him from the trailer to the ambulance. The ambulance was backed up close to the porch. We did get him on the ambulance stair chair and then down the stairs to the ambulance. Thanks to the new auto loader system SCVAA has, we were then able to get him in the ambulance. They took him to a local hospital where it took 10 people to get him into a bed. The whole rescue took over four hours with mutual aid from Mecklenburg which we were extremely grateful.



Storm KO's Power to 1,155 NYSEG

The storm system moving through our area shortly before 5 p.m. Thursday had an immediate impact, downing wires and cutting power in various locales, and knocking a tree partially onto a vehicle on Route 224 outside Odessa (no one was injured). New York State Electric and Gas reported a total of 1,155 customers temporarily without power in the towns of Catharine, Hector, Montour and Veteran, and in the Villages of Montour Falls and Odessa.

History

How did the N.Y.S. Fire Academy get here?

The facility which is now the Fire Academy was once Cook Academy which was the high school for Montour Falls. It then became the St. Johns Seminary for Catholic Priests. When they would no longer use the building for that it came up for sale. At about the same time New York State was looking for a site for what they called a "Fire College".

The first recorded document was from the minutes of the county firefighters meeting in Mecklenburg on November 9th 1967. They had been contacted to support Seneca's bid to have the college at the old Sampson Air Base. Then Harlow Bailey, the county coordinator read the request. Nothing was done at that time. In Tyrone October 10th 1968, Larry Decker brought up a proposal to have the Fire College at the St. Johns building in Montour Falls that was still for sale. January 9th 1969 The county association received a letter from George Proper then Director of the Division of Fire Safety that the Fire college proposal for St. Johns was being considered but nothing had been decided yet. The campaign to sell the idea of a fire college at St. Johns School was picking up speed. Tours were given along with hospitality room for V.I.P.'s. Anyone who could influence the decision was given tours and involved in the recommending the facility.

At the Odessa meeting of the association Harlow reported that Gov. Nelson Rockefeller had pulled the idea of the now called Fire Academy at Montour Falls. Not being detoured they sent letters to the Senators and Representatives, hoping this would not be the final word!

To be continued next time. Find out if they pulled it off!

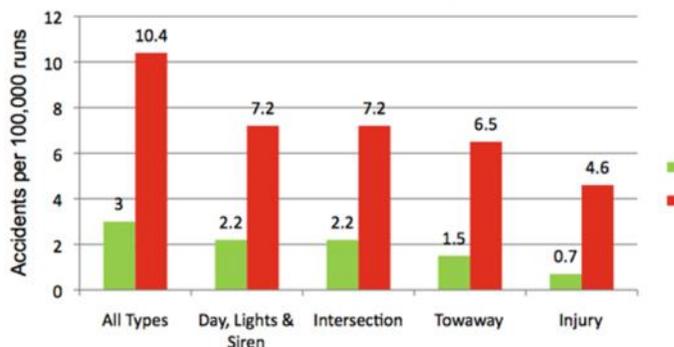
Does Vehicle Color Play a Role in Apparatus Safety?

Beginning in the early 1970's, research was introduced suggesting there was a relationship between fire apparatus color and vehicle accidents. The concept presented was those lighter, brighter more visible colors would gain attention more quickly, improve reaction time and as a result, reduce the number of visibility-related accidents.

Arguments against the color theory focused on the effectiveness of using flashing lights and sirens as warning devices, and the driving public would not quickly recognize fire vehicles if they weren't the traditional red color.



Fire Apparatus Accidents by Color Category
Journal of Safety Research -
National Safety Council
Vol. 26, No. 1



Where Are We Now?

The research presented above supports the concept that colors that are represented at the peak of the visual spectrum, contribute to a lower accident rate for fire apparatus.

The visibility colors are no strangers to the motoring public and the fire service. In addition to use on emergency vehicles, it is now seen on entire classes of D.O.T highway signage as well as on high-visibility highway safety vests. Firefighters use lime-green and lime-yellow frequently including on structural firefighting garments.

It is reported intersection accidents are among the most severe and represent the largest class of serious apparatus accidents. Enhanced visibility contributes to reducing both the number of intersection accidents and the seriousness of those events.

One of the most underrated safety devices on emergency vehicles may well be retro-reflective/fluorescent tape. It is always visible, requires no electrical power, adds negligible weight and is highly cost effective.

The retro-reflective portion works only at night and is energized by oncoming lights from other vehicles. The fluorescent portion works only during daytime (from dawn till dusk) and is activated by the ultraviolet rays from the sun.

Why is tape color, rear chevrons and overall vehicle tape outline so important? They provide the oncoming driver with additional visual information, both day and night, in fog and smoke, and weather-induced poor visibility, because it improves reaction time. This provides for a safer driving and accident-avoidance response. The importance of improved reaction time should not be underestimated as is a vital component of emergency vehicle highway safety.

The bottom line is be as safe as we can possibly make it. Whatever works for you always need to remember to protect your firefighters first!



Structure Fire Montour Falls



Fire involved a double wide home on Cronk Rd. Hot day made difficult fight, but a great stop!



Fire involved porch with some extension inside. Second alarm was sounded with Odessa, Watkins Glen, Beaver Dams, Millport on scene and Burdett covering.



Driving by you would never know there was a fire at this house. Water supply was set up at the industrial park. Car 8 (Dominick Smith) was home and lives across the road from this house. Made a quick size up. Great job by all.

Tyrone's Refurbished Engine

On September 16th the Tyrone Fire Co. welcomed home their 1939 America LaFrance fire truck after a complete restoration project. The project that was many years in the making and was spearheaded by Chief Bill Meehan. The project was funded by donations with a large amount from the estate of Marvin and Mary Cosier. Marv was a member. The restoration was completed by Ward Apparatus of Horseheads.

The 1939 America LaFrance was purchased new in 1939 by the Dansville, NY fire department. Tyrone purchased it in 1953, in their third year of operations and was the first actual fire truck. Prior to this truck the department had turned an old school bus into a fire truck with a tank and portable pump. This truck stayed in-service until the early 1980's. Since it was taken out of service there had been numerous attempts to refurbish the truck, but it was not until this a few years ago that the project was able to really move forward.



2020

Tyrone ...continued...



2018



1955

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Last Alarms



None

Upcoming Classes

We will be offering the following classes:

None at this time.

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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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