



# Scuttlebutt

Volume 21, Issue 3

March 2005

**Dates To Remember:**

- ◆ 3/14 Monthly Meeting
- ◆ 3/15 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting
- ◆ 3/22 Exempt Meeting
- ◆ 3/30 Board of Directors Meeting
- ◆ All Scuttlebutt articles need to be in by 3/26

**Inside this issue:**

2C36 News	2
Commission News	2
Event Calendar	3
Birthdays	3
EMS News	4
Safety News	5
Ladies Auxiliary News	6
Carnival News	6
Friday Night at the Movies	6
Scholarship Opportunity	7
Easter Trivia	8

## Letter From Our Chief

Greetings from the other side of the world! For those who did not know I have been in China since 2/16. By the time you read this article .....I should be well on my way home.

I would like to thank Deputy Chief Eric Guest for stepping up and leading the department during my absence. I think everyone would agree we are in full swing as far as to the day to day operations of the department go. Jeff and his group are doing a fantastic job with training while Eric and his group prepares for the spring fire prevention program. Both Aaron Horowitz and I had the opportunity to meet with Hilton East last month to discuss the amount of calls we respond to their facility for. Although we do not have a clear solution, the management is more than willing to work with us. It is my hope that we can reduce the number of calls we go on to this facility.

The commission approved the purchase a new chief's car at the February business meeting. We have ordered a 2005 Ford Expedition which we should receive some time in April. With that being said, the commission has decided to either trade the current chiefs car in for \$17,250.00 or to offer the vehicle up for sealed bid at a starting price of \$17,350.00. This will be advertised publicly with more details to follow.

If you would like more information please see Ray Ward, Carm Carmestro or myself for details.

If you have not received your FOB yet please get in touch with either Jeff Gates or myself. We will be switching over to the new access system soon.

Please remember that not all automatic alarms are false. We had a situation at the high school that came in as an automatic alarm and turned out to be a fire, albeit small, in one of the labs. Try to use the same enthusiasm for automatic alarms as we do for other calls.

One last thing, I have posted the schedule for the mass physical day March 12th. The list of members who need a physical is also posted. Please make sure you try to sign up for a physical since this is now mandatory. There will be a second mass physical day some time later this year (date to be determined).

I hope the two weeks that I was gone was quiet and I look forward to seeing everyone when I return.

Thanks,

Mark

## 2C36 News

Submitted by Jeff Mullen

You all should be commended on a **Great Job** the past couple months. We have averaged about 80 people in attendance for the mandatory training so far this year. Also those of you who missed the drills have been doing great at getting the tape for the make-up! It really shows your support of what we are trying to accomplish this year with the training- and WE really appreciate it. We couldn't do it without ALL of you!

Several of you have taken advantage of the numerous outside training opportunities that have been offered thus far this year-Great job, and since there are so many-I will not attempt to list the names for fear of missing one. What I will continue to do from last year is to hand out certificates at the monthly meeting to acknowledge your accomplishment to the body.

The Haz-Mat replacement drill has been officially scheduled with the outside FAA instructors. It is described on a memo on the radio room window and the training board. It sounds very interesting, and we have invited Walker and Spencerport Fire department's to attend also. I encourage you to try to attend, it should be different than our past drills, and hopefully very informative!

I have heard several people talking of getting their driver's recertification's done, Great job on working it into our daily operation's- our goal of 100% recertified is only reachable with YOUR support and determination- and WE appreciate your efforts in this area as well!

March drills are as follows:

- 7<sup>th</sup> - Responding to Small Aircraft Emergencies for Firefighters/EMS
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Cold Water Rescue
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Hydrant Operations

Have a GREAT month and be safe--Jeff

## Commission News

Submitted by Ray Ward

We discussed the current and new chief's vehicle. It was decided to trade-in or sell the current vehicle. We will put a letter in the Suburban News to sell it, closed bids, with a minimum bid of \$17,350. The vehicle will not be available until the new chief's vehicle is in operation.

The fire hall is now operating with the FOBs, the Access Control System is fully operational. Thanks to Jeff Gates for all of his time put into this effort.

The commission lifted the "State of Emergency" for the fire hall. This was left in place to allow us to replace/repair flood damaged items.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Tue		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Explorers – Monthly Meeting	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Wed	<b>5</b> Tue
<b>6</b> Thurs	<b>7</b> Firematic Drill— Small Aircraft Emer- gencies (Fire/EMS)	<b>8</b> Carnival Meeting at Carm's, 7:00	<b>9</b> Finance Meeting Explorers – TBD	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Yellow	<b>12</b> Thurs
<b>13</b> Mon	<b>14</b> Monthly Meeting	<b>15</b> Ladies Auxiliary Monthly Meeting	<b>16</b> Explorers – TBD	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Sun Family Movie Night @ 7:00, training room	<b>19</b> Mon <b>Annual Banquet</b>
<b>20</b> Wed	<b>21</b> Firematic Drill— Cold Water Rescue	<b>22</b> Exempt Dinner Meeting @ 7:00	<b>23</b> Explorers – TBD	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Tue	<b>26</b> Wed
<b>27</b> Yellow <b>Happy Easter</b>	<b>28</b> Firematic Drill— Hydrant Operations	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> BOD Meeting Explorers – TBD	<b>31</b>		

## 2005

Submit Scuttlebutt Articles via Email to [Scuttlebutt@hiltonfd.org](mailto:Scuttlebutt@hiltonfd.org) Articles Due 3/26

## This Month's Birthdays – Happy Birthday To All



Mar. 2: Mike Hoffman	Mar. 21: Brian Gilman
Mar. 3: Patricia Ayers	Mar. 22: Nick Traino
Mar. 4: Kevin Corcoran	Mar. 23: Wayne Collins
Mar. 10: Scott Castle	Mar. 24: Rodney Manhardt
Mar. 15: Dave Gebhardt	Mar. 27: Al Alton
Mar. 16: Jim MacKenzie	Mar. 30: Brian Speer

## EMS News

Submitted by Aaron Horowitz

I can't believe it's March already!!! This year seems to be flying by. In the month of January we had a total of 84 ambulance calls and were able to cover 75 of them. This is slightly below what we normally average but not too shabby. As always if you are available to cover any daytime or nighttime shifts please do so.

All five of our existing AED's have been upgraded to have the capability to shock a pediatric patient. We will be providing training to all members before we put the pediatric capability into use. This training is surprisingly easy and fast. I will attempt to accomplish this training at either a Monday night drill or possibly on the same night as the regular business meeting (afterwards).

We have purchased yellow extender straps for the gurneys to accommodate large patients. These will be kept behind the head of the gurneys in one of the vinyl pouches. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with these straps. You will find that they are simple to use.

The ambulance radios have all been permanently mounted. They have been tested multiple times and proven to work correctly each and every time. If you would like additional training on the radios please contact me as soon as possible. If you are having difficulty with a particular radio, please leave a note in my mailbox or page me.

I have posted information (on the EMS communications board) on this years STEP conference, which will be held on April 1<sup>st</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you are interested in attending please submit a request to me in writing. We should have no problems in sending all those that are interested.

We have received a standby request from the Hilton High School to provide EMS coverage during a large band performance. The standby will run from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM, on March 19<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in providing this coverage please sign up on the EMS communications board.

Congratulations to **Nancy Alton** for successfully recertifying her EMT card through the rapid recertification program. Also congratulations to **Tom Bertrand** and **Nancy Kress** in becoming cleared as first medics. They have all put a lot of hard work and dedication into these accomplishments.

As always, please remember to wash, clean, and restock the ambulances after each and every call. As always, please remember the EMS office has an open door policy.

Thanks you for all that you do!!



# Safety News

## Cell Phone Safety Alert

Submitted by Fred Videan

Badly made or counterfeit cell phone batteries caused an unprecedented number of injuries in 2004. A lot of people were seriously hurt by overheated batteries that exploded or launched shrapnel that burned at 800 degrees F. Burns to the face, neck, leg and hip are among the dozens of injury reports.

Here are three of many:

- A thirteen year old stood stunned, ears ringing, hand gushing blood and body covered in ash. Fragments from an exploding cell phone had hit him between the eyes and lodged in the ceiling.
- Fist-sized flames from a cell phone seriously burned a 16 yr. old girl's legs.
- While sleeping, a daughter's cell phone exploded, spraying red hot battery fragments onto a nearby doll setting it on fire. The fire was contained to that area of the room.

Here are a few precautions to lesson the chances of a mishap, from the Consumer Products Safety Commission:

- Never use a cell phone that's very hot to touch or bulging. Overheating batteries vent hot gasses that can cause serious injuries, so keep your distance.
- Unplug a charging phone immediately if there are signs of overheating.
- **Avoid using chargers and batteries made by different companies.** Cell phone safety experts say it's generally best to use batteries recommended by the handset maker. Look for a "UL" logo on any battery you use. This certifies that the device has passed industry-standard lithium battery safety tests.

The Consumer Products Safety Commission said counterfeit batteries are cheap, but they may be missing safety devices that are designed to prevent overheating.



# Ladies Auxiliary News

Submitted by Marge Fisher

Hi Girls,

We made it through a cold January, our February thaw and now whatever for weather. Thank you to all the girls who were able to come and help with the quarterly dinner. It is so much easier with many hands to set-up, serve and clean-up.

We are now on the NEW access control system at the fire hall. If you couldn't make the February meeting please contact me for your FOB and Chuckie Bimmler for the kitchen closet key. At our last meeting we were asked to fill out a survey, I hope you all took the time to do it and turn it in. Our input is important!

The Spring Fling will be Tuesday, April 5th. This will take the place of our April meeting. Please mark you calendars with the change. We will hold it at the Exempt Club again this year and are inviting Spencerport and Walker Ladies to join us again.

The Firemen's Banquet is Saturday, March 19th. Please try to make it. We have several girls receiving recognition that night. See you at our next meeting, March 15th .

Marge Fisher

## Friday Night At The Movies

Submitted by Bob Floyd

Once again, we will be having "movie night" at the firehouse. Bring a friend, a pillow and a blanket and enjoy the movie *Racing Stripes* on March 18<sup>th</sup>. The show will begin at 7:00 PM, popcorn and drinks will be provided. The event is open to all- children, friends, and grandchildren.

Last month, our first big-screen movie was a huge success. Approximately 40 kids and parents attended and a good time was had by all. Don't forget to mark your calendar and enjoy the show!



## Carnival News

Submitted by Tim Yockel

Please see Tim Yockel if you are interested in taking the New York State food handlers course. Each food stand is required to have a minimum of one person, on duty, with this certification. Dates for this course are pending.

Submitted by John Lemcke



*Association of Fire Districts  
of the State of New York, Inc.*

KENNETH E. HOFFARTH  
President  
73 Cleveland Street  
Valhalla, N.Y. 10595  
Phone: (914) 946-2599  
Fax: (914) 682-5208  
Office: (212) 371-1000 x3166  
Office Fax: (212) 319-0405  
kenneth.hoffarth@archny.org

RANDALL J. RIDER  
1st Vice President  
290 DuPont Avenue  
Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150  
Home: (716) 875-0183  
Work: (716) 876-1212  
Fax: (716) 876-8566  
adrilleye@aol.com

LAWRENCE A. PIERCE  
2nd Vice President  
45 Charlemagne Drive  
Mendon, N.Y. 14506  
(718) 624-4673  
Fax: (585) 624-4047  
lawrence.pierce@kodak.com

FRANK A. NOCERINO  
Secretary-Treasurer  
P.O. Box 1419  
North Massapequa, N.Y. 11758  
(516) 799-8575  
Fax: (516) 799-2516  
1-800-520-8594  
Cell: (516) 903-4346  
fnoc@aol.com

WILLIAM YOUNG  
Counsel  
2400 Western Avenue  
P.O. Box 309  
Guilderland, N.Y. 12084  
(518) 456-6767  
Fax: (518) 869-5142  
1-800-349-2904  
byoung@wyflaw.com

January 1, 2005

***The Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York is pleased to announce the fourth year of our Ned Carter Scholarship availability of three (3) \$1,500.00 scholarships to New York State High School Seniors who will be graduating in June of 2005. The student must be related to or be a Firefighter in an affiliated member organization of the Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York and must reside within New York State.***

***These scholarships are named in memory of Past President Edward "Ned" Carter and all deceased past presidents of the State Association. In keeping with Ned's life of community service and dedication to helping others, these awards will be presented to those young people who will be pursuing a post secondary career in the Community Service related areas of endeavor at either a two or four year college next year.***

***Applications will be available online on the Association's website [www.firedistnys.com](http://www.firedistnys.com) and by calling Scholarship Committee Chairman Joseph Gadzinski at 631-727-1935 or Fax 631-727-1935 or William N. Young, Jr. at 518-456-6767 or Fax 518-869-5142 after January 2005.***

***To be considered for this honor, applications must be submitted to the AFDSNY Scholarship Committee, c/o Joseph Gadzinski, 435 Claus Avenue, Riverhead, New York 11901 or William N. Young, Jr., P.O. Box 309, Guilderland, New York 12084 by March 30, 2005. The Scholarships will be awarded at the May Annual Meeting, where the winners and parents will be invited to attend a small ceremony honoring their achievement.***

***The Association Scholarship Committee***

"Serving Fire District Officers Through Education"  
OFFICE: 1-800-520-9594 • FAX: 516-799-2516  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE @ [WWW.FIREDISTNYS.COM](http://WWW.FIREDISTNYS.COM)

See any commissioner for more details.

## Hilton Fire Department, Inc.

Hilton Fire Department  
135 South Ave.  
Hilton, NY 14468

Phone: 585-392-8601  
Fax: 585-392-6279  
Email: [scuttlebutt@hiltonfd.org](mailto:scuttlebutt@hiltonfd.org)  
Web: [www.hiltonfd.org](http://www.hiltonfd.org)  
[www.fire-ems.net/firedept/view/HiltonNY](http://www.fire-ems.net/firedept/view/HiltonNY)  
[www.mcfw.com](http://www.mcfw.com)



## Easter Trivia Found On Internet

In medieval times a festival of egg throwing was held in church, during which the priest would throw a hard-boiled egg to one of the choirboys. It was then tossed from one choirboy to the next and whoever held the egg when the clock struck 12 was the winner and retained the egg.

**The first Easter baskets were made to look like bird's nests.**

Easter Bonnets are a throw back to the days when the people denied themselves the pleasure of wearing finery for the duration of Lent.

**The traditional act of painting eggs is called Pysanka.**

To Egyptians, the egg was a sacred token of the renovation of mankind after the Flood.

**The egg has always been a symbol of the Resurrection to Christians.**

The date of Passover is variable as it is dependent on the phases of the moon, and thus Easter is also a movable feast.

**The custom of giving eggs at Easter time has been traced back to Egyptians, Persians, Gauls, Greeks and Romans, to whom the egg was a symbol of life.**

Every year at Easter Pope John Paul sends his "Urbi et Orbi" to the world.

**Easter is now celebrated (in the words of the Book of Common Prayer) on the first Sunday after the full moon which happens on or after March 21, the Spring Equinox.**

Some Churches still keep up the old tradition of using evergreens - symbolic of eternal life - embroidered in red on white, or woven in straw, but most now prefer displays of flowers in the spring colours of green, yellow and white.

**In the United States Easter is celebrated with a large Easter Egg Hunt by children on the White House Lawn.**

To the Jews, the egg marked the time of their departure from the land of Egypt.

**By tradition, it was obligatory (or at least lucky) for churchgoers to wear some bright new piece of clothing - at least an Easter bonnet, if not a complete new outfit.**