

Hot Calls

Volume 10, Issue 3

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Summer 2023



Firefighters knock down front porch flames Smoke Alarm alerts family!!!!

Smoke alarms are good for fires but normally don't pick up outside fires such as the two we are showing. That's another reason to have two ways out as the Odessa fire showed.

Firefighters from Odessa, Montour Falls and Watkins Glen raced to a residence at 112 Brooklyn Terrace in Odessa Thursday afternoon after receiving a report of flames on the building's front porch. The report was called in at 4:39 p.m. by a tenant who escaped the building unharmed, as did two cats who disappeared into the nearby woods. Three other cats were rescued by firefighters and returned to their owner. The fire -- the cause of which was still under investigation Thursday evening -- scorched the porch and worked through the front door and into the front foyer, but was stopped there. Other damage was from smoke and water. Also present at the scene were Schuyler Ambulance, fire coordinators and the county Fire Investigation Team. Mecklenburg firefighters were on standby at the Odessa station, and answered an EMS call while there.



Flames shoot upward at the Brooklyn Terrace structure. *(Photo by Maureen Letteer) Article by the Odessa file.*

Firefighters knock down front porch flames Smoke Alarm alerts family!!!! Cont.



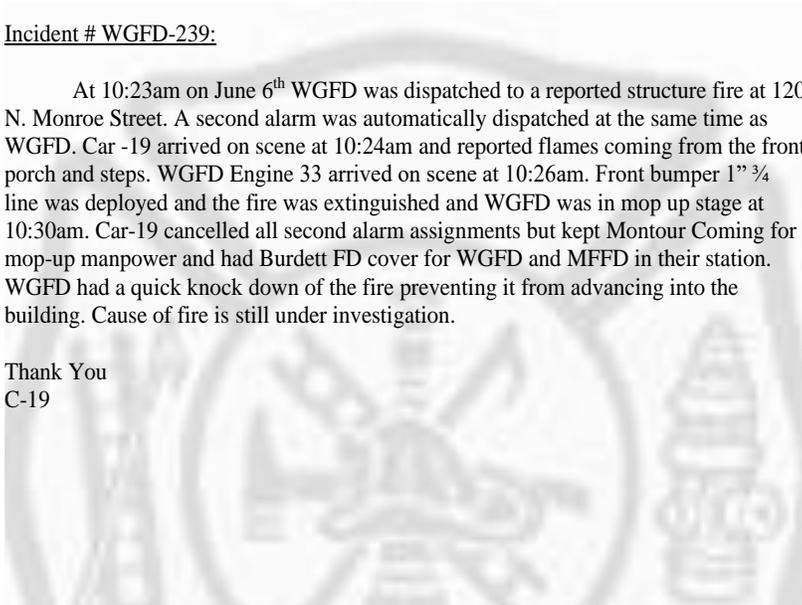
WATKINS GLEN FIRE DEPARTMENT
201 N. PERRY STREET
WATKINS GLEN NY, 14891
607-535-7700
CHIEF: JASON HUDSON
Firechief@watkinsglen.us

Two porch fires both occurring in the day time during days of the week could have been major fires if not for quick action of both Watkins Glen and Odessa Fire Departments. Their mutual aid partners are also included in the quick stops. The fires occurred from a source near or under the front porches of occupied structures. They are still under investigation at this time. In the case of the Odessa fire it had worked itself into the structure and activated the smoke alarm. The residents had to exit their alternate exit out the back to safety. A very hot afternoon faced both fires. Good job by all. Emergency Management, Schuyler EMS, and Sheriff Department and Watkins PD all assisted at the scenes

Incident # WGFD-239:

At 10:23am on June 6th WGFD was dispatched to a reported structure fire at 120 N. Monroe Street. A second alarm was automatically dispatched at the same time as WGFD. Car -19 arrived on scene at 10:24am and reported flames coming from the front porch and steps. WGFD Engine 33 arrived on scene at 10:26am. Front bumper 1³/₄ line was deployed and the fire was extinguished and WGFD was in mop up stage at 10:30am. Car-19 cancelled all second alarm assignments but kept Montour Coming for mop-up manpower and had Burdett FD cover for WGFD and MFFD in their station. WGFD had a quick knock down of the fire preventing it from advancing into the building. Cause of fire is still under investigation.

Thank You
 C-19



Man injured in farm accident near Rt. 224



Article
by
Odessa
File

SCHUYLER COUNTY, Oct. 14, 2023 -- The Schuyler County Sheriff's Office is investigating a Friday morning farm accident that sent a man identified as Shane Jacobs, 40, of Hector, to the hospital with a traumatic injury.

"At around 9:20 a.m.," the Sheriff's Office reported, deputies were sent to a location "near State Route 224 and Pertl Road in the Town of Catharine. Odessa Fire and EMS and Schuyler EMS responded to the location for a male who was struck by farm equipment resulting in a traumatic injury.

"The preliminary investigation," officials added, "shows that the victim was unrelated to the farm and entered a corn field that was being actively harvested. With little visibility in the middle of the field, the farmer unexpectedly encountered the victim with the farm equipment, causing the lower portion of the victim's right leg to become entangled in the machinery.

"The victim was transported by air to Robert Packer for his injuries. The incident remains under investigation." The rescue operation involved Odessa, Schuyler EMS, Montour Falls, Guthrie Air and Schuyler EMO.

Article by Odessa File and Schuyler EMO

Diesel Cleanup Follows Truck Rollover on Rt. 13



A crane truck rolled over trying to avoid collision with a van Monday afternoon on Route 13 about a mile north of Alpine Junction, resulting in a diesel fuel and hydraulic fluid spill. Firefighters from the Odessa and Montour Falls Fire Departments responded for the cleanup, with the roadway closed from the accident site to Alpine Junction for about four hours. Nobody was injured in the accident, and fire officials said there was no fresh-water contamination. The crane truck was towed from the scene. Traffic had to be re-routed through Cayuta. Community Fire and Newfield Fire assisted with that detail.



Schuyler County Emergency Procedures for Firefighters Needing Assistance-MAYDAY

Schuyler County Emergency Procedures for firefighter needing assistance:

Purpose: The purpose of this recommendation is to increase consistency of responding to firefighter emergencies across mutual aid agencies within the county by supplementing any existing SOGs

When firefighters(s) become lost, trapped, injured, or in trouble, the following guidelines shall be followed: Establishment of designated RIT/FAST personnel and equipment as early as possible in the evolution is crucial

1. Call for Help Immediately – Immediately repeat on the portable radio – “Mayday – Mayday – Mayday”. Announce your situation while continuing to find your way out. Firefighters should not delay notification of distress.
2. Notification should occur as soon as the firefighter or crew leader THINKS they are in trouble. The longer you wait to announce that you are in trouble, the more you jeopardize yourself and the rescuers.
3. Lost/trapped/in trouble firefighters should give command information using the LUNAR acronym:
 - L = Location (as accurately as possible). 2nd floor "d" side.
 - U = Unit ID (i.e. Watkins Engine 30).
 - N = Name (names in crew lost/trapped/in trouble).
 - A = Assignment (assignment you had been working on previous to encountering trouble).
 - R = Resources you need
4. Conserve energy and control breathing.
5. If Mayday is heard, all other radio traffic shall cease on the “Mayday” channel, until the Mayday operation is complete. Command shall assign another channel for other operations.
 - A. If mayday is not answered on first attempt, then call Mayday to 911 center on Channel 1.
6. Activate PASS Device –Activate the PASS device as soon as you recognize that you are in need of assistance. The PASS Device should only be silenced if needed for the duration of communications. Position the body to maximize device effectiveness
7. Crews Stay Together – Members that separate from each other make it difficult for rescuers to find all firefighters. Crewmembers that stay intact as a crew enhance their chances for ALL being rescued and allow easier, more efficient extrication.
8. Firefighting positions must not be abandoned during the rescue effort; officers MUST control freelancing. Command will initiate a rescue effort. Consideration should be given to an RIT/FAST Officer assignment to take over Mayday operations after initial call to handle all of the rescue operations and allow the IC/Operations Officers to continue to mitigate the incident
9. During a Mayday situation the Incident Commander will ask for 911 to repeat the Mayday on all channels with alert tones.
10. Any personnel in the immediate vicinity of the Mayday shall inform Command and Operations Officers of their proximity and if they can hear the PASS Device. Command will make a decision if this crew can be reallocated to RIT and replaced by the exterior RIT crew for their original duties
11. When the missing or injured firefighter(s) have been removed from the Hazard Zone, the Incident Commander shall “clear” the Mayday, by notifying all fire ground personnel and 911. Command will also notify all officers that normal radio traffic and fire ground operations can resume.

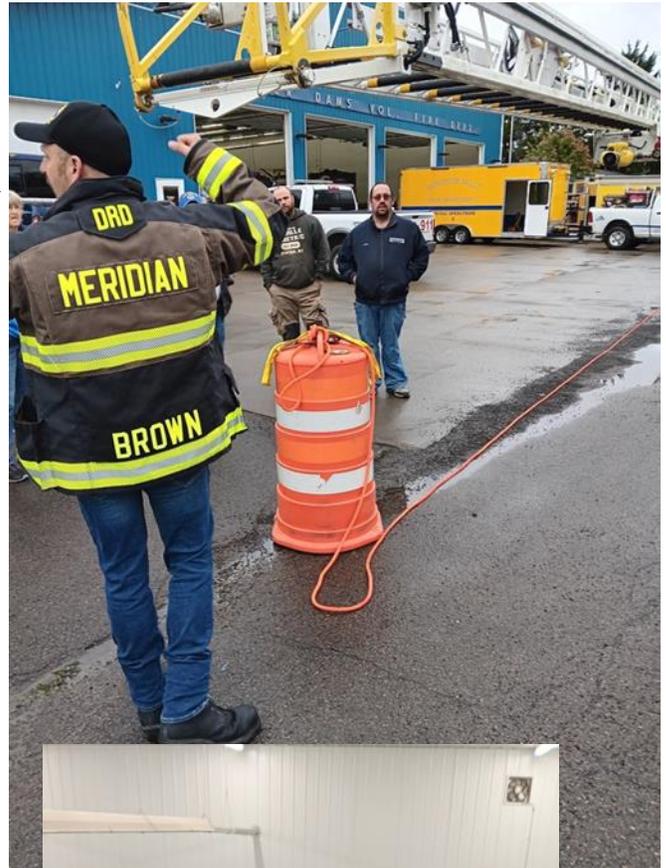
Grain Bin Rescue Training

On Saturday Oct 7th, the Beaver Dams FD hosted an all-day Grain Bin Rescue training put on by Meridian Fire Training Solutions LLC. Crews from the Montour Falls and Mecklenburg FD's along with the Schuyler County Fire Coordinators were on hand to learn the skills and equipment needed to handle a Grain Bin emergency.

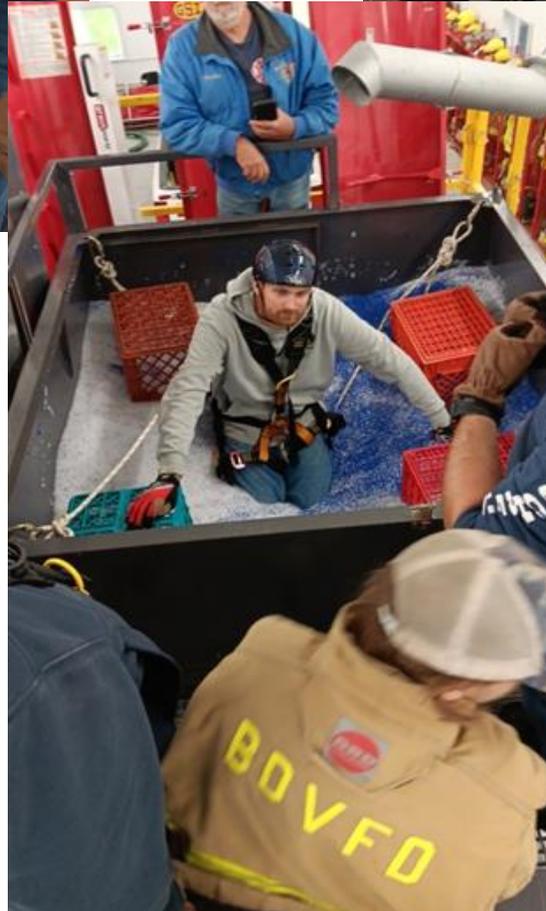
Rescuers learned of the hazards associated with Grain Bin operations as well as hands on skills in Patient Packaging, Rescue Tube Assembly, Rope Rigging and Operating Safely in Grain Bins.

About 40 First Responders were on hand for the session and all had great feedback from the class. If your department would like to host this or other trainings, contact Meridian Fire Training at 607-227-5001.

Tom Basher
Meridian Fire Training Solutions LLC



Grain Bin Rescue Training cont.



First Responder Spotlight



Ben O'Brien
Supervisor for Schuyler EMS

Ben came to Schuyler County as a paramedic. This was very good for the county. Ben started his career in emergency services with the South Corning Volunteer Fire Department. Ben took both fire and EMS training but excelled in the EMS curriculum. After becoming a CFR and then an EMT with the South Corning Volunteer Fire Department, Ben went on to accept a job with Rural Metro working as a Chauffer/EMT with the Big Flats Volunteer Fire Department. Ben also worked with Rural Metro as an EMT with the Bath Volunteer Ambulance Corps. Ben received his Paramedic training with Finger Lakes Community College and AMR. Ben continued to work with the Big Flats Fire Department and Bath Ambulance when able. Ben then took an assignment as a Fly Car paramedic working in the Bath area where he continued to work with the local volunteer agencies, working with volunteers came natural to him. Ben has been involved in emergency services since 2013.

Ben has been married for 5 years to his wife, Lyndsey. Lyndsey works in healthcare with the Veterans Administration. Ben and Lyndsey have a 2-year-old daughter, Elliot, who loves the Buffalo Bills just as much as her dad. I asked him what the biggest challenges were that he has faced working in EMS and he said “maintaining a work-life balance”.

The changes he has seen since he started are protocol changes that are research based and safety changes in the job making the working environment better for both responders and patients.

The toughest calls he has seen are when kids are involved, not only as patients but also the environment some of them are in they must stay in. One of the most rewarding calls that Ben can remember was the treatment of a patient who had overdosed. The patient found a way to contact Ben about a year later to tell him that part of the conversation they had became paramount in helping her recover and regain custody of her children. So sometimes it's a little compassion for a patient that maybe it is not their fault and can change things.

Since Ben has come to Schuyler, the Ambulance service in the county has changed. They are now a county run, full time, career service. Ben is a Paramedic Supervisor with Schuyler EMS, you may hear him on the radio as, “SEMS Medic-1”. His goal is to make the providers of the agency some of the best in the region. “Schuyler EMS may not be the biggest or the busiest agency, but we can provide some of the best patient care in the area”. I can attest to the fact that they are doing a great job.

I knew from the first call we worked together that he was going to be good for the county. His attitude rubs off on all involved. He has good supervisors with him and they all along with the EMT's have gotten EMS on the right course. When you see Ben, thank him for work he is doing.



What is this nozzle? Where is it used? When was it first produced?

Email answers to Rick at rickshirlsc27@gmail.com

Our last trivia question:

Question: "What is a Cellar Nozzle"?

Answer: "The Cellar Nozzle has a ball-bearing revolving action for attacking fires in hard to reach places.
Winners from last month: Ted Dudgeon and Jason Hudson"

**SCHUYLER COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

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Last Alarms



Bill Ward- July 11th, 2023 Mecklenburg

**Bill Randolph- October 6th, 2023
Watkins Glen, SCVAA, Schuyler County
Emergency Management**

Upcoming Classes

We will be offering the following classes:

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

**Send Us Your
Photos, News,
and
Suggestions!**

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