



Fully Involved

Fire Company Purchases New Engine-Rescue

The Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company Inc. bought a new 2010 Pierce Engine-Rescue. The truck was provided by Tyler

tank. The truck has TNT brand hydraulic rescue tools for motor vehicle extrication. TNT tools have a lifetime warranty and are the most powerful tools on the market. FDNY has been using TNT over the last several years.

The new truck is powered by a 425 hp Cummings motor with an Allison Automatic transmission. The apparatus replaces a 1991 Pierce engine



Fire Equipment of Elmira, New York. The Engine Rescue served at The Daytona 500 where Pierce serves as the official fire truck. The new truck is equipped with a 1250 gallon per minute pump with a 1000 gallon

that is currently for sale. The new Engine Rescue went in service in April and is expected to provide 25 years of service. The cost of the new vehicle was \$342,000 and was financed through Oshkosh Capital.

Fire Company Hosts Open House through Recruit NY

The fire company held an open house on April 10th in conjunction with the Recruit NY program sponsored by the Fireman's Association of NY (FASNY).

The day long event included tours of the fire-house, demonstration of equipment and a chance to don firefighting gear and participate in actual skills used by firefighters. Applications

were handed out to prospective members and twelve applications were received back over the next month. The recruitment drive was extremely successful. Fire company members manned the event from 10 am to 4 pm. Its not too late to join and help your community.

Stop by any Tuesday night. Or visit: www.WhitehallFire.org.



Firefighter Scott Wescott oversees future firefighters as they rescue a manikin in a mock fire scenario.

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Donations Needed

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Official Annual Portrait Present to Community



The annual portrait of the fire company taken every Memorial Day was presented to both the village and town offices. The annual event is one of the rare times firefighters are assembled replete with Class A uniforms.

Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company - Flashback 1966



Whitehall firefighters pose with new tanker a 1966 Ward LaFrance built on a Chevrolet chassis. L-R Roger LaBeau, Chief Len Nichols, Frank Hilder, Howard Ryder, Larry Redman. Truck was sold in 1986 to Dorset Volunteer Fire Department in Vermont.

Coin Drops Are Back!

Coin drops will be making a return to the streets of the village as the Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company pressed its case against the village.

Coin drops ceased after last years arrest of three members of the American Legion for disorderly conduct. Legionnaires were conducting a coin drop and village police arrest them on the com-



plaint of one local resident. Village police threatened more arrests if another coin drop were to be conducted. The fire company argued that coin drops are legal in villages and cities. New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law Section (c) states: *No person shall occupy any part of a state highway, except in a city or village,*

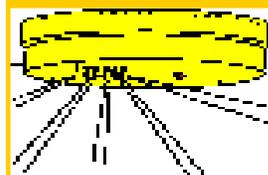
in any manner for the purpose of selling or soliciting.

This exemption allows cities and villages the option of regulation under Municipal Home Rule Law. In addition, traffic is slowed from 55 mph to 30 mph in these areas, allowing for a safer operation along the state highway.

We hope that other organizations will benefit from this win. This is a tough economy and every little bit helps local organizations.

**Check your
Smoke
Detectors!**

**Change
your
batteries at
daylight
savings**



Fire Company Officers Elected

On Tuesday, March 10th the Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company Inc. met for its annual meeting and elected the following officers:

Fire Chief Bryan Brooks Jr.; 1st Asst. Chief Darrell LaChapelle; 2nd Asst. Chief Steve Brock; Captain Tom Rock; 1st Lieutenant Tim Lang; 2nd Lieuten-

ant Scott Wescott; President Brian Brooks; Vice President Ron Golden; Secretary Dave Pomainville; Treasurer Cheri Golden;

A five year seat on the Board of Directors was awarded to Len Nichols. Darrell LaChapelle and Ray Downs, George Rivette fill out the Board of Directors.

First Responder Course Coming in Fall

A first responders course will be coming to Whitehall this fall. Over 15 Whitehall firefighters

tober. The fire company has purchased a used 2006 Chevy Suburban for the First Responder program. The four wheel drive unit will have off-road capabilities and expand the areas where the fire company can travel. Members of Skenesborough First Responders will be joining Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company.



have signed up for the course which is expected to start in Oc-

Ice Water Rescue Training with West Fort Ann Fire



Recent Firefighter I Class Graduates in Salem



**Ice water rescue training
January 2011
Temperatures at
5 degrees above zero!!!**

Photo - left to right:

Chief Bryan Brooks,
Fire Instructor Nash Alexander,
Trevor Jones, Justin Millett.
Attend "Firefighter I" graduation in Salem, New York

Justin Millett and Trevor Jones, firefighters with the Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company Inc. recently completed New York State's Firefighter I course hosted by the Salem Volunteer Fire Company. They were joined by firefighters from Salem, Easton, Fort Ann, West Fort Ann, Hebron, Middle Falls, Kingsbury, Cossayuna and Cambridge.

The "Firefighter I" course is designed to prepare the student for work as a "combat ready" interior structural firefighter. The course combines the following courses into one complete course. Essentials of

Firefighting, Initial Fire Attack, Fire Behavior, Haz-Mat Operations, Weapons of Mass Destruction Awareness, and Confined Space Safety and Awareness. The course also includes components of Firefighter Survival and Mask Confidence.

The "Firefighter Survival" course is based on Chief John Salka's "Get Out Alive" program, this program is designed for self-rescue and rescue of trapped firefighters. The course content enables firefighters to recognize the types of events encountered on the fireground that contribute to firefighter disorienta-

tion and/or entrapment; to have knowledge of what is necessary to ensure their safety and that of their partners or crew members; and to perform self-rescue techniques when disoriented, separated, or needing to exit a structure in an emergency.

This course requires students to perform a number of practical evolutions with self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

The Firefighter I course began in April of this year and was completed with a formal graduation ceremony on July 14, 2011. Millett and Jones were present certificates by

Fire Chief Bryan Brooks in the presence of their families, friends and fellow class members.

The Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company Inc. has raised its level of NY State Level 1 Certified firefighters 120% since 2008.

A Firefighter II course will advance firefighters to the next level of training and is scheduled to begin at the Whitehall Volunteer Fire station in August and be completed in October. For more information visit www.WhitehallFire.org, or stop by the firehouse any Tuesday night

Skenesborough Central Volunteer Fire Company Plans to Dissolve

The Skenesborough Central Volunteer Fire Company Inc. is planning on dissolving. Fire Company President Jim Putorti says the organization is financially strapped. The fire companies only source of income is the Village of Whitehall fire contract which pays each fire company \$12,000 per year. The fire company relied on fundraisers such as their annual tuck raffle and bingo. Bingo, for both fire companies, has been a losing proposition over the last several years as revenues had dropped to a point that it did not pay to open the doors some weeks. Village Attorney Tony Jordan outlined

steps to take to dissolve the not for profit corporation in May. The fire company is working on doing inventory of all the equipment and then will have to formulate a plan that the membership must agree to follow.

The town has been looking for a new town office and has considered the fire-house as a possibility for a new municipal center that will house all the town and village offices, police

and courts on one floor in one central location. Supervisor Richard "Geezer" Gordon and Mayor Peter Telisky have been working with both fire companies to complete the consolidation of the two fire companies under the Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company banner.



Skenesborough Central Volunteer Fire Company Charter Members pose on their first ladder truck in 1965. Truck is a 1941 Seagrave aerial truck now owned by Granville Hook and Ladder. The aerial was renovated at Great Meadow Correctional Facility in the late 1980's.

"Blue Mass" at Our Lady of Hope Planned for 9/11 Anniversary

There will be a "Blue Mass" 10th Anniversary of the attack on the towers. The public is invited to attend. The Whitehall Volunteers killed in the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. This is the event.

You do not need to go into a fire to be a firefighter!

A recent response to a motor vehicle accident found new duties for WVFC Fire Police officers.

George Rivette holds a baby while his mom is treated by Skenesborough First Responders and the Emergency Squad.

Baby was reunited with mom after the July 2010 accident.



What firefighters do on the job is commendable. What they do for us is incredible.