

**Cambria County Regional Firefighters' Association  
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes  
Southmont Vol Fire Company  
September 28, 2023**

- **Call Meeting to Order** – President John Gromley called the meeting to order at 19:01 hours.
- **Pledge of Allegiance** – All members present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Gromley. Paul Sklodowski then gave the blessing.
- **Meeting recessed for the Meal** – 19:03
- **Call Meeting Back to Order** – 19:35
- **Guest Speaker** – Art Martynuska gave a radio system update which also serves as the 9-1-1/EMA update.
  - Both systems will remain in use until all radio installations are completed.
  - Installations start October 12<sup>th</sup> with the City of Johnstown.
  - Each region has an installation site distributed and attached for reference.
  - Each region also has a list of Train-the-Trainer instructors for the new radio operations.
  - Base installations will not be scheduled until the mobiles are installed. Note – base installs will utilize all new equipment including coax's, antennas, etc to ensure there are no issues. Antenna locations may be different from your existing antenna locations.
  - Warranty period is 5 years from date of full implementation, batteries are included.
  - If Co's want to purchase different model/manufacturers' radios, they must be fully compatible with the County system specs or they will not be programmed.
  - Police are encrypted, so we will NOT be able to hear them. PD's can switch to FD Ops frequencies to communicate, but we cannot switch to PD frequencies.
  - Pagers will remain active as is.
  - Bluetooth feature is active for those with compatible SCBA.

- Art and EMA/9-1-1 staff looking for input on “Man-down” protocols.
    - Handed out the existing MayDay procedures with suggested changes based on FD input.
    - Also, handed out Cambria County’s Recommended RIT SOGs that have not been updated since 2010.
    - Suggests a committee be appointed “that does not have 18 members.”
  - Testing is substantially completed with 99.5% coverage throughout the County’s accessible grids. They are continuing to test the deep woods and inaccessible areas to ensure coverage. Several tested problem spots in buildings such as Conemaugh Hospital are being addressed with the building managers and local FD involvement.
- **Reading of Last Meeting's Minutes** – Minutes of the Convention meeting of August 4, 2023 at Hope were read.
    - Additions or corrections none noted except 2 - 2022 vs 2023 dates as reported by Secretary Lehmann. With notations, motion by Tom Bracken – Nanty Glo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mark Coelman – Beaverdale to accept the minutes. Motion passed.
  - **Communications** – None
  - **Reading of Bills** – Treasurer Paul Kundrod read the bills for the month in the amount of \$9,305.92
    - **Motion:** Charles Woodley – Hope
    - **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Micky Lutch – Spangler
    - **Question:** None
    - **Vote:** Passed
  - **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Paul Kundrod reported:
 

Total Funds in Certificates:	\$132,117.83
Total Funds in Checking Accounts:	\$99,657.41
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b> as of: 9/28/2023	<b>\$231,775.24</b>

    - **Motion:** Nick Wuckovich – Conemaugh
    - **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Bob Nies – Cover Hill

- **Question:** None
- **Vote:** Passed
- **Committee Reports:**
  - **Law & Legislative** – No Report
  - **Fire School** – Jim McCann – Johnstown
    - 6 Essentials programs are scheduled: Clymer, Cresson, Logan Twp United, Patton, Dauntless, West Hills.
    - Association is paying \$6,000.00 working with Bucks for the 6 packages including:
      - Association Departments – those programs are FREE, except for CPR (pay for card) and a small fee for the Medical standby and cascade at the burn sessions.
      - Certifications included at no charge, HMA, HMO, FF1 ProBoard
    - Training Committee met Sept 10, 2023 to start arranging Spring Fire School.
    - Anheuser Busch Foundation donated \$20,000.00 to Cambria County Association for training. Thanks to Mike Petrisko for writing the letter to get the grant.
      - A special thanks to RJ Wilson – Reade Township to recommend to Anheuser Busch that the above donation which they were going to get for their Department would be better suited to go to the Association to benefit training a larger area. Also, RJ has been instrumental in getting additional monies and promotions/air time on WTAJ to benefit the fire service and the Association.
  - **Fire School Site** – Bob Nies – Cover Hill – Vice Chair for Tony Sestrich – Chairman:
    - Richland Twp FD donating 4 steel cascade bottles.
    - Bob Nies – motion to pay up to \$1,000.00 for a 5x8 trailer for the bottles. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jeff Weir – Franklin
      - Question called for.
      - Motion passed.
    - Had a meeting on September 6, 2023. Tower needs to be completely reskinned. If it's metal, that's a \$25,000 - \$30,000 project. Looking for donations. They are

checking with some builders to evaluate the actual poles to see if they can still be used.

- Tony will send an email to committee members for next month's meeting.
- **Certification – No Report**
- **Application Review – President Gromley for Joe Adams:**
  - Mahaffey application review and found satisfactory. Motion by Rich Brown, Jr. – Nanty Glo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mark Coleman – Beaverdale to accept.
    - Question called
    - Motion passed.
- **By-Laws – No Report**
- **Fire Prevention – John Hawksworth – Dauntless:**
  - FP week in October. Suggests each Department take pictures, put in a binder, and submit. Prize is \$100 and points at the Convention.
  - Nick Wuckovich reported 6 Departments submitted and the award is outsider judged. Also, all 6 were taken to Central District and judged there, with 5 of the Departments getting cash awards: highest was \$125.00, lowest was \$50.00.
- **Historical – No Report**
- **Recruitment & Retention – Pink tickets for meeting attendance has started. Prizes not known yet but will be something. Attend and submit tickets.**
- **Tuition Assistance – Paul Kundrod reported info and applications on the website.**
  - With \$3,000 + balance in account, Paul Kundrod recommended taking \$1,000.00 and place in Washington Mutual Fund
    - Motion – Nick Wuckovich to move \$1,000.00 to Mutual Fund
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Tom Bracken
    - Question

- Motion passed.
- **Website** – Lianna Weir – East Taylor
  - Looking at new vendors/hosts due to site going down often.
- **9-1-1 EMA** – Presentation by Art at beginning of meeting.
- **Fire Advisory** – Rich Brown, Jr. – Nanty Glo:
  - As reported by Art Martynuska in his report.
- **County Convention** – No Report
- **Other Association** – Paul Sklodowski – Keystone Regional
  - Report to be given to Secretary for inclusion in minutes.
- **Fundraising** – Lianna Weir – East Taylor
  - Meeting was held Sept 10, 2023. Ladies Bingo set for May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024. 100% profit to FS site.
  - Looking at a boot drive – virtual online or placing boots in locations, not standing in street.
  - T-Shirts and garments still on sale. Looking at sponsors for FS
  - Tap 814 raising monies by giving \$1 for each beer to Box 11.
- **Awards** – Tom Bracken – Nanty Glo
  - All awards recorded in the new award book that Nick Wuckovich created. Will continue to be updated so there is a good record.
- **Credentials** – No Report
- **Insurance** – No Report
- **Rules & Convention Contests & Parades** – Ricky Price has set the meeting date for October 4, 2023 at Nanty Glo.
- **Tower Planning** – No Report
- **Resolutions** – Paul Sklowdowski – Keystone Regional

- Read the resolution and names of Ed Hudak – Beaverdale, and Theodore Gerlesky – Carrolltown.
  - All members stood in silence for 1 minute in memory of their departed brothers.
- **Roll Call of Officers** – all present except for Jeff Gromley, Assistant Secretary due to work.
- **Roll Call of Companies** – 28 companies.
  - Beaverdale, City of Johnstown, Clymer, Conemaugh, Cover Hill, Creekside, Dale, Dauntless, East Taylor, Franklin, Ferndale, Hope, Jackson Twp., Keystone Regional, Middle Taylor, Nanty Glo, Oakland, Patton, Portage, Richland Twp., Scalp Level Paint, South Fork, Southmont, Spangler, St. Michael, Summerhill Borough, Upper Yoder Twp., West Taylor Twp.
- **Old and Unfinished Business** – Lianna Weir
  - We are planning a Ladies in the Fire Service Social Night that will take place in February. Exact date TBA. It will be held at the East Taylor Fire Hall. Anyone from ladies auxiliary to new recruits can attend. This will be social in nature and a way for all the ladies to get to know each other and to help those who recently joined the Fire Service.
  - Karingtin Sklodowski, Macey Davidson, and Lianna Weir will be researching and planning a Ladies Training Weekend at the Fire School Site. Jim McCann will assist. Karingtin has reached out to Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire for advice on holding such an event. PBF offers a similar training camp every summer.
- **New Business** –
  - Mike Petrisko reported as a result of the Executive meeting in Nanty Glo on September 10, the committee is recommending the President appoint a Membership Secretary for a term of 3 years. Nick Wuckovich has agreed to accept the position.
    - President Gromley so appointed, with a stipend to be the same as the Secretary.

- Motion by Rich Brown, Jr. to purchase and computer and printer for the Membership Secretary. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mark Coleman – Beaverdale.
    - Question
    - Motion passed.
  - Mike Petrisko then read proposed amendments to the By-Laws – attached and posted as reference.
    - Amend Article II, Section 1; Article IV, Section 10 and renumbering Section 10, 11, 12. This amendment creates the Membership Secretary as an officer, with appointment for term by President and provision for a stipend.
    - Renumbers certain sections due to addition.
  - Jeff Weir – Report on Box 11:
    - Since Feb 23 – 19 calls
      - August \$2,178 income, \$240.64 expenses, balance \$1,937.36
      - September \$1,937.36, \$756.92 income, balance \$2,694.28
- **Good of the Association –**
  - Paul Kundrod, Association Treasurer reported that about \$40,000 is in the Fire School account that we don't need until Spring/Summer 2024. Recommends taking \$20,000 and investing in a 9 month CD, 4.5%.
  - Also, in Association Savings Account, take \$15,000 and invest in 6 month CD, 4.5%.
    - Motion by Len Whiteford – Patton, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Weir – Franklin.
    - Question
    - Motion passed.
  - Bob Nies presented \$800 from raffle to Association for the Death Fund.
  - President Gromley stated next 3 months as experiment no meals as a cost and labor savings for the host Companies.
- **Standing Rise for Host Company** – called for by John Hawksworth for Southmont hosting and providing the meal.
- **Next Meeting** – October 26, 2023 – Nanty Glo.

- **50/50 Drawing** – \$83 to winner
- **Adjournment** –
  - **Motion:** Rich Brown, Jr. – Nanty Glo
  - **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Karingtin Sklodowski – Keystone Regional
  - **Vote:** Passed
  - **Time:** 20:58

Respectfully submitted,

William K Lehmann, Secretary

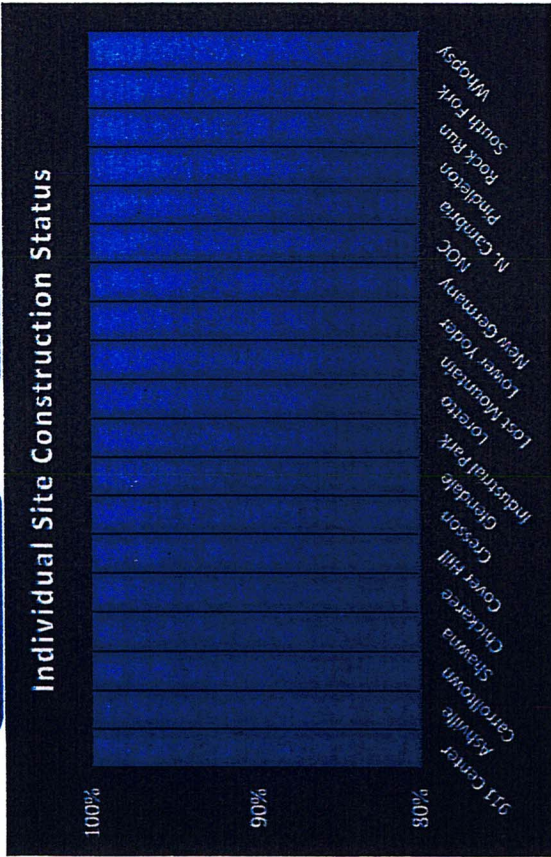


NW	NE	SW	SW	SW	SW	SE	LEPC
Tier 1	Tier 1	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 1	LEPC
Spangler	Ashville	Nanty Glo	Johnstown	Upper Yoder	Richland	Portage	LEPC
Hope Fire	Ashville Fire	Ebensburg Fire	Dale Fire	Westmont EMS	Richland Fire	Beaverdale Fire	911
Carrolltown Fire	Patton Fire	Colver Fire	Franklin Fire	Lower Yoder Fire	Oakland Fire	Portage Fire	Car 700
Hastings Fire	Reade Fire	Jackson Fire	Cover Hill Fire	Southmont Fire	East Hills EMS	Portage EMS	Car 740
Spangler Fire	Loretto Fire	Nanty Glo Fire	Conemaugh Fire	Upper Yoder Fire	Riverside EMS	Summer Hill Fire	Car 750
Nicktown Fire	Car 410 Carrolltown	Revoc Fire	East Taylor Fire	Westmont Fire	Riverside Fire	Car 340 Portage Boro	EMA
Carrolltown EMS	Car 450 Northern Cambria	Vintondale Fire	Middle Taylor Fire	Car 810 West Hills	Car 845 Geistown		Prison
Veterans EMS	Car 455 Hastings Boro	Blacklick EMS	West Taylor Fire	Car 850 Ferndale	Car 860 Stonycreek Twp		
Hastings EMS	Car 961	Ebensburg EMS	West End EMS	Car 875 Upper Yoder Twp	Car 880 Richland Twp	Tier 2	
Car 410 Carrolltown Boro	Tier 2	Car 319 Cambria Twp	Johnstown Fire		Car 941 UPJ	St Michael	
Car 450 Northern Cambria	Cresson	Car 328 Ebensburg Boro	Seventh Ward EMS		Cambria Co. Airport	Forest Hills EMS	
Car 455 Hastings Boro	Gallitzin Fire	Car 337 Blacklick Twp	Conemaugh Valley EMS			Dunlo Fire	
Car 961 Cambria Heights SD	Cresson EMS	Car 360 Jackson Twp	M-38-1			St Michael Fire	
	Keystone Fire	Car 375 Vintondale Boro	Car 650 City of Johnstown			South Fork Fire	
	Car 314 Gallitzin Boro	Car 380 Nanty Glo	Car 830 Conemaugh Twp			Car 302 Croyle	
	Car 324 Loretto Boro	Car 951 Central Cambria SD	Car 840 East Conemaugh Boro			Car 304 Adams	
	Car 330 Cresson Boro	Car 955 Admiral Peary	Car 855 East Taylor Twp			Car 309 South Fork	
	Car 335 Sankertown Boro	Car 981 Blacklick SD				Car 312 Summerhill Twp	
	Car 355 Gallitzin Twp						
	Car 370 Cresson Twp						
	Car 745 National Park Service		Location				
	Car 921 Mt Aloysius						
	Car 931 St Francis Univ						
	Car 965 Penn Cambria SD						
T t T							
Richard Foor	Tom Dowdell	Bob Statler	Ralph Lee	James Gormish	Dan Conway		
John Hawksworth	Rick Sobecky	Tim Rhodes	Eric Miller	Dylan Beatty	Ray Penatzer		
Dave Hunter	Chris Guizio	Bill Hine	Bill Gutskey	Nick Jastrab	Paul Bonfanti		
Tom Davis	Jim McCann	Steve Kass	Art Martynuska	Bill Cornell	Don Robertson		
Nate Bishop	Greg LaMantia	Mike Blanchetti	Pete Long	Dan Blackburn	Mark Yakeric		
Kurt Wolford	Scott Sherry	Terry Sloan	Mark Dumm	Cody Williams	Dan Blackburn		
JD Burns	Richard Sobecky	Don Ochenrider	Chris Fedora	Derek McLaurin	Joan Villa		



SITE  
CONSTRUCTION

100



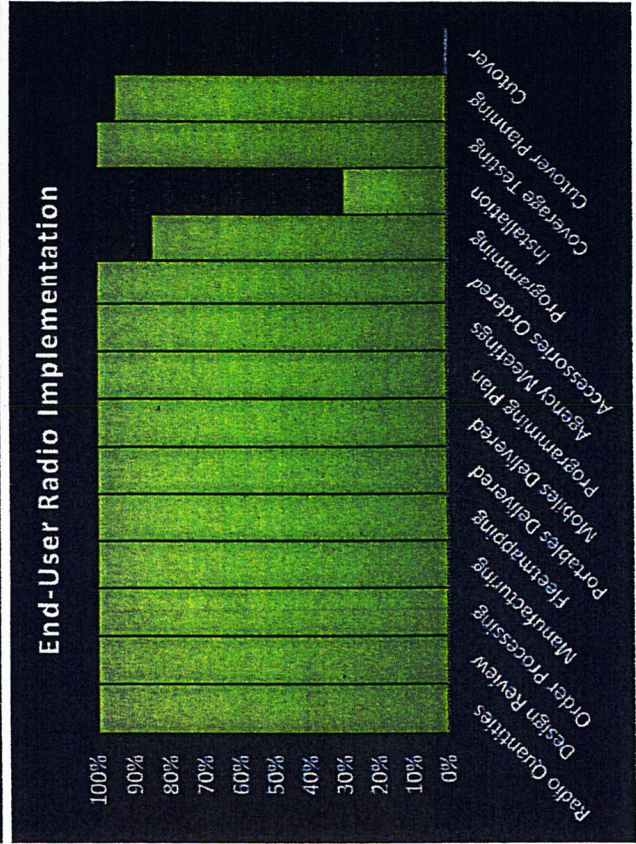
RADIO  
COMPLETION

85%



NETWORK  
STATUS

93%



SUBSCRIBERS  
(USER RADIOS)

87%



# Central District Volunteer Firemen's Association

131st Annual Convention, Nanty Glo, Pennsylvania

## 2022-2023 OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

[www.centraldistrictvfa.com](http://www.centraldistrictvfa.com)

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ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN – Cheryl A. Lutch ('22), Spangler, PA • P.O. Box 257 Northern Cambria, PA 15714-0257.....(814) 948-7626  
\*SECRETARY – Gerald T. Corbin, ('78) Hollidaysburg, PA 16648-0136 • P. O. Box 136 .....(814) 695-7165  
\*TREASURER – James W. Reilly, ('68) Hollidaysburg, PA 16648 • 214 Dewey Street, Altoona, PA 16602-4021.....(814) 942-7986  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY – Melissa L. Morgan, Altoona, PA 16601-1802 • 2624 W. Chestnut Avenue .....(814) 650-7710  
\*ASSISTANT TREASURER – \*Robert S. Muldoon, ('98) Hollidaysburg, PA 16648-1102 • 110 Cedar Blvd.....(814) 696-1043

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Thomas A. Bracken, Nanty Glo ('13)  
Don R. Fields, Saxton ('15)  
Dwayne E. Garman ('16)  
Robert V. Hanner, II ('17)  
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\*Glen E. Houpt, Mifflinburg ('18)  
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Eldon R. Mickel, Schellsburg ('21)  
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Francis M. Lutch, Spangler ('22)

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Richard L. Brown, Bellefonte  
Leroy C. Focht, Jr., Lakemont, Altoona  
John P. Bismark, Lakemont, Altoona  
James S. Lovette, Lock Haven  
Robert B. Garner, Bellefonte  
Dale P. Kline, Hastings  
Albert J. White, Patton  
Harry L. Claycomb, Roaring Spring  
Richard D. Smeltzer, Pleasant Gap  
Harry E. Grove, Jr., Conemaugh  
Jay F. Speicher, Bedford

Ronald J. Springer, Ebensburg  
George S. Zedack, Hastings  
Kurt A. Holt, Howard  
Bruce A. Moriconi, Northern Cambria  
James D. Tibbott, Northern Cambria  
Joseph B. Short, Patton  
Richard S. Muckey, Osceola Mills  
Danny J. Muth, Big Run  
William J. Claar, Lilly  
John L. Warsing, Philipsburg  
John S. Hawksworth, Jr. ('81)  
Timothy E. Pavlic, Lewistown ('92)  
Thomas J. Davis, Patton ('93)  
Rocky L. Fetter, Bedford ('93)  
Keith M. Pote, Roaring Spring ('93)  
Kenneth R. Pote, Jr., Roaring Spring ('94)  
Gerald A. Bush, Osceola Mills ('94)  
Robert H. Lynn, Tyrone ('96)  
Brian M. McEvoy, Nanty-Glo ('98)  
Lawrence R. Kline, Hastings ('98)  
James E. Dungey, DuBois ('99)  
Donald E. Snauffer, Montoursville ('00)  
Gary F. Talerico, Spangler ('95)  
Eric J. Crooks, Six Mile Run ('02)  
Patrick J. Illig, II, Patton ('95)  
Troy A. Smith, Bellefonte ('98)  
Dennis M. Gresh, Spangler ('00)  
Daryl E. Haluska, Patton ('01)  
Joseph A. LaMantia, Sr., Nanty-Glo ('98)

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William T. Tobin, Nanty Glo ('20)

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\*Stephen L. Stevenson, Lock Haven, Clinton Co.  
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R. Michael Keith, Clymer, Indiana Co. ('16)



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 \*JoLane P. Whiteford, Bellwood ('00)  
 Timothy W. James, East Freedom ('12)  
 Aaron S. Woodside, Hughesville ('15)  
 \*Barbara L. Whiteford, Bellwood ('02)  
 Elizabeth D. Hoffman, Claysburg ('18)  
 Amanda J. Lynch, Lakemont ('20)  
 Jamie C. Lynch, Lakemont ('22)

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 Barrel  
 Thomas A. Whiteford, Bellwood, Co-Chairperson - Pumping  
 ('16)  
 Eric J. Bowersox, Lewistown, Host Company Co-Chairper-  
 son ('18)  
 Brody K. Lawrence, Nanty Glo  
 \*Joseph W. Whiteford, Bellwood ('98)  
 Robert L. Hanner, Hughesville ('14)  
 Brandon S. Woodside, Hughesville ('14)  
 \*Michael A. Whiteford, Bellwood ('02)  
 \*Thomas A. Olewnick, Penfield ('03)  
 \*Pamela J. Kinney, Hughesville ('07)  
 Thomas I. Morgan, Jr. Greenwood, Altoona ('10)

Robert S. Hitesman, Hughesville ('18)  
 Heath G. Ohnmeiss, Muncy ('18)  
 Kaitland N. Lynch, Lakemont ('20)  
 Denise I. Daniels, Kratzerville ('20)  
 Tiffany L. Hanner, Hughesville ('20)  
 Elizabeth D. Hoffman, Claysburg ('18)  
 Melissa L. Morgan, Greenwood ('20)  
 Eugene D. Hoffman, Sr., Claysburg ('22)  
 Joseph R. Whiteford, Bellwood ('23)  
 Johanna B. Whiteford, Bellwood ('22)  
 Joshua Flaugh, East Freedom ('23)

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 son  
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 Tammy L. Spencer, Irvona ('09)  
 \*David C. Silvis, Kane ('97)  
 \*Nick M. Grasso, Jr., Sykesville ('93)  
 Lisa A. Wolfe, Bellwood ('09)  
 Richie A. Brown, Snow Shoe ('14)  
 Karington R. Sklodowski, Lilly ('18)  
 \*Anthony J. Warynovich, III, Nanty Glo ('02)

All County Vice Presidents as Liaison to Counties

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 John E. Bem, Hastings  
 Thomas A. Bracken, Nanty Glo  
 \*David A. Kell, United, Altoona  
 \*Connie A. Holt, Bellefonte ('97)  
 \*Francis M. Lutch, Spangler ('89)  
 Joseph W. Whiteford, II, Bellwood  
 Matthew R. Bressler, Kane ('18)  
 Jamie C. Lynch, Lakemont ('22)  
 Timothy W. James, East Freedom ('18)  
 \*Paul C. Sklodowski, Lilly ('04)

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 William T. Morrison, Jr., Lewistown, Host Company  
 Co-Chairman ('19)  
 Bryant Greene, Nanty Glo ('19)  
 \*Thomas E. Whiteford, Bellwood ('95)  
 John E. Bem, Hastings  
 \*Paul C. Sklodowski, Lilly ('04)  
 \*Steve A. Pierre, Spangler ('06)  
 Christopher W. Whiteford, Patton ('11)  
 Eldon R. Mickel, Schellsburg ('14)  
 Matthew R. Bressler, Kane ('18)  
 Nathan J. Caldwell, East Freedom, ('22)  
 John C. Gromley, Clymer ('19)  
 Johanna B. Whiteford, Bellwood ('22)

#### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

\*James W. Reilly, Hollidaysburg, Chairperson  
 John E. Bem, Hastings  
 \*Robert S. Muldoon, Hollidaysburg ('98)  
 Sherri K. Whiteford, Bellwood ('19)  
 Gladys M. Greene, Bellwood ('23)

#### **CONVENTION STEERING COMMITTEE**

Joseph W. Whiteford, II, Bellwood, Chairperson ('02)  
 Lawrence B. Carter, Jr., Lewistown  
 Eldon R. Mickel, Shellsburg  
 Shawn L. McMullen, Nanty Glo  
 Ronald L. Henry, Jr., East Freedom  
 \*Thomas E. Brinkley, Kane (Exofficio Advisor)

#### **\*ALSO SENIOR DELEGATES**