

Past Chief's of the Westbury F.D.



H.A. Berger Chief 1913 - 1916

Organized the Westbury Hook & Ladder Company No. 1. Was present at the first meeting on March 22, 1897, and was elected Foreman at that meeting. Served on Membership and Apparatus Committees. Elected Foreman 1898-1899, Elected to Board of Trustees and served at that position from 1901 to 1913. Elected Vice-President 1900, '02, '03, '09, '10, '11. Elected President 1912 & 1913. Elected as Chief of Department June 6, 1913



William McKenna Chief 1916 - 1922

Elected as a member of Hook & Ladder Company No. 1 on May 11, 1899. Elected Assistant Foreman in April of 1914, and Foreman in April of 1915. Elected as Clerk in April of 1919, and Chief of Department in April of 1922. Was an active member until his death on January 4, 1929.



Henry Buck Chief 1922 - 1926

Elected as a member of Hook & Ladder Company No. 1 on February 9, 1905. Served as a company Treasurer 1911 to 1913. Elected Deputy Chief of Department on June 6, 1913 and served in that capacity through 1915. Elected Foreman of Hose Company No. 1 in April of 1916 and Chief of Department in April of 1922. Appointed Water Commissioner to fill out the unexpired term of Mr. C.C. Boyd in June of 1935. Past President of Nassau County Volunteer Firemen's Association.



Thomas Walsh Chief 1926 - 1935

Elected as a member of Hook & Ladder Company No. 1 on August 2, 1898. In 1912, was appointed as a member of the House Committee. This committee organized Hose Company No. 1. In April of 1917, was elected Assistant Foreman of the hose company, and, elected as Foreman of the company in 1926, and served in that capacity until 1934. On July 8, 1943, was appointed as Water Commissioner, to fill out the unexpired term of R.S. Renison.



Edwin Powell Chief 1935 - 1938

Elected as a member of Hook & Ladder Company No. 1 on July 20, 1920. Elected as Clerk of the company in April of 1921 and served in that capacity through 1922. Elected as First Deputy Chief of Department in April of 1930, and served in that position until 1933. Elected Chief of Department in 1935 and served in that position until 1937



John J. Dowling Sr. Chief 1939 - 1946

Elected as a member of Hose Company No. 1 on May 19, 1923. Elected as Captain of the company in April of 1927, and served in that position until 1929. Elected Second Deputy of Department in April of 1930 and 1931. Elected Second Captain of the company again in April of 1934. Elected to First Deputy Chief in April 1936 and 1937. Elected Chief of Department in April 1938, and served in that capacity until 1946.



Joseph Summa Chief 1947 - 1948

Elected as a member of Hose Company No. 1 on December 13, 1923. Captain of Hose 2 1926 to 1927. Elected Second Deputy Chief 1932 and 1933, First Deputy 1934 and 1935. Elected Company Clerk 1937 and 1938, Captain of Hose 2 in 1945 and 1946. Elected Chief of Department in April of 1947. Commissioner 1948 to 1970.



Clarence Small Chief 1949 - 1951

Elected as a member of Hook & Ladder Company No. 1 in May of 1929. Served as Second Lieutenant from 1935-1936. First Lieutenant 1937-1938, and, Captain from 1939 to 1941. Elected as First Deputy Chief of Department in 1949, serving in the capacity until 1951



Amil Piscitelli Chief 1951 - 1953

Elected as a member of Hose Company No. 2 in June of 1937. Served as 2nd Lieutenant of the company from 1939 to 1943, and, in 1943, was elected Captain, serving in that position until 1945. Elected 2nd Deputy Chief of Department in 1949; 1st Deputy Chief in 1950, and, Chief of Department in 1951, where he served until 1953.



Harry Buck Chief 1953 - 1956

Elected as a member of Hose Company No. 1 on June of 1923- 1946. Served as 2nd Lieutenant in 1949; 1st Lieutenant in 1950, and, Captain in 1950. Elected as 2nd Deputy Chief of Department in 1951, and, 1st Deputy Chief in 1952. Served as Chief of Department from 1953 - 1956.



Joseph Wylie Chief 1956 - 1957

Elected as a member of Hook & Ladder Company No. 1 in January of 1923. Served as Captain of Hook & Ladder in 1926. Elected 2nd Deputy Chief of Department 1953 and 1954; elected First Deputy Chief 1955 and 1956, and, elected Chief of Department in 1956 and 1957.



Anthony Martiello Chief 1957 - 1958

Entered the Department in 1928 as a member of Hook & Ladder Company No.2 and served as Captain of the Company in 1931. After the two companies - Ladder 2 and Hose 2 merged into one company - Hose 2, Chief Martiello served as 2nd Lieutenant of Hose 2 from 1945 to 1946; 1st Lieutenant from 1947 to 1948, and, Captain 1949. Member of the Turtles Drill Team, serving as Captain of the team in 1949. Elected as 2nd Deputy Chief of Department 1955 and 1956; 1st Deputy 1956 and 1957, and Chief of Department 1957 and 1958. In 1964 and 1965, Chief Martiello once again served his company - Hose 2 as a line officer when he was elected 2nd Lieutenant in 1964 and 1965. Chief Martiello was awarded a plaque for heroism for his actions at a Hicks Street fire in 1948.



Anthony Pepe Chief 1958 - 1961

Joined the Department in December of 1947 as a member of Hose Company No. 1. Served as 1st Lieutenant of the Company in 1951. Elected as 2nd Deputy Chief of Department in 1956; First Deputy Chief in 1957, and, Chief of Department in 1958, holding that position until 1961



Joseph Reardon Chief 1961 - 1964

Joined the Department on December 16, 1948 as a member of Hook & Ladder Company No. 1. Elected 2nd Lieutenant of the Company 1951 and 1952, and, Captain 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955. Served as Financial Secretary of the Department 1956 and 1957. Elected Second Deputy Chief of Department 1957 and 1958; First Deputy 1958, 1959, 1960, and 1961. Elected Chief of Department in 1961, serving as Chief until 1964. Transferred to Hose Company No. 2 in 1981. Chief Reardon raced for many years with the Turtles Drill Team, and is still active member of the Drill Team.

Chief Reardon is also a driving force behind the department's fund drive and a member of the history book committee.



Frank DiGaetano Chief 1964 - 1967

Entered the Department in August of 1942 as a member of Hose Company No. 2. Elected as 2nd Lieutenant of the Company in 1950; 1st Lieutenant in 1951, and, Captain in 1954, serving in that post until 1958, 1st Deputy in 1961, and, Chief of Department from 1964 to 1967. Member of the Volunteer and Benevolent Association of the Westbury Fire Department, serving as President of the Association from 1952 to 1953. Member and Ex-Captain of the Turtles Drill Team. Chief DiGaetano was also a member of the department's Rescue Squad and certified N.Y.S. Emergency Medical Technician. Other firematic organizations Chief DiGaetano was active in

during his tenure in the department: 9th Battalion Firemen's Association, 9th Battalion Chiefs Council, Nassau County Firemen's Association, Nassau County Fire Chiefs Council, Member & President of the Nassau County Drill Team Captains Association, NY State Volunteer Firemen's Association, NY State Association of Fire Chiefs, NY State Drill Team Captains Association, State Statistician of the latter, Southern, NY Volunteer Firemen's Association, and, the North Shore Firemen's Holy Name Society. When Chief DiGaetano retired in 1979 and moved to Silver Springs Shores in Ocala, Florida, he activity in the volunteer fire service did not end, for he joined the Silver Springs Shores Volunteer Fire Department and later became Chief on the Department.



John Dowling, Jr. Chief 1967 - 1968

Joined the Department in July 1953 as a member of Hose Company No. 1. Served as 2nd Lieutenant of the Company in 1959, and, Captain in 1961. Elected as 2nd Deputy Chief of Department in 1964, 1st Deputy in 1966, and, Chief of Department from 1967 to 1968.



Clarence Graikoski Chief 1968 - 1970

Joined the Department in July 1953, as a member of Hook & Ladder Company No. 1. Served as 2nd Lieutenant from 1948 to 1949; 1st Lieutenant from 1950 to 1954, and, Captain from 1957 to 1959. Elected as 2nd Deputy Chief of Department in 1964, 1st Deputy in 1966, and, Chief of Department from 1967 to 1967.



Joseph Riccardo Chief 1970 -1971

Joined the Department on September 15, 1959 as a member of Hose Company No. 2. Elected as 2nd Lieutenant of the Company in 1962, 1st Lieutenant in 1964, and, Captain of Hose 2 in 1965. Elected as 2nd Deputy Chief of the Department in April of 1967, 1st Deputy in 1969, and, Chief of Department in 1970 to 1971. Chief Riccardo is a member of the drill team, and has shared in the joys and tribulations of the drill team.



James Kennedy, Sr. Chief 1971 - 1973

Entered the Department in May of 1947 as a member of Hose Company No. 1. Served as the Clerk of the Department from 1959 to 1958, and, again from 1966 to 1967. Elected 2nd Lieutenant of Hose 1 from 1962 to 1963, and, Captain from 1963 to 1966. Elected as 2nd Deputy Chief of Department from 1969 to 1970, 1st Deputy Chief of Department from 1970 to 1971, and Chief of the Department from 1971 to 1973. Served as a Commissioner of the Nassau County Fire Commission from 1986 to 1987. He also was the Chairman of the 9th Battalion Fire District from 1986 to 1987.



Robert Kramerer Chief 1973 - 1976

Joined the Department in September of 1963, as a member of Hose Company No. 2. Elected as 2nd Lieutenant in 1967, and, Captain in 1968. Elected as 2nd Deputy Chief of Department in 1970, 1st Deputy from 1971 to 1972, and, Chief of Department from 1973 to 1975.



Gregory M. Doyle Chief 1976 - 1987

Entered the Department on April 15, 1947, as a member of Hook and Ladder Company No. 1. Elected to 2nd Lieutenant in April of 1965, Captain in April of 1963, and, again from 1973 to 1974. Elected 1st Assistant Chief of Department in April of 1975, and, Chief of Department from 1976 to 1977. Resigned from the Chief's office to become a Commissioner of the Water and Fire District on January 1, 1978.



Italo Vacchio Chief 1978 - 1981

Entered the Department as a member of Hose Company No. 2 in March 1964. Served as Company Clerk from 1965 to 1966. From 1968 to 1976 was Chief Instructor of the Department. In 1970, elected as 2nd Lieutenant, 1st Lieutenant in 1971, and, in 1974 as Captain to 1976. In 1973 Chief Vacchio received the Schaefer Fireman of the Year award. Elected as 2nd Assistant Chief of Department 1976, 1st Assistant in 1977, and, Chief of Department from 1978 to 1981. In 1980, Chief Vacchio once again received the Schaefer Fireman of the Year Award. In that same year, Chief Vacchio also

received the Nassau County Fire Commission Medal of Valor, for actions above and beyond the call of duty. From 1981 till 1997, he was the senior Company Instructor of Hose 2. Chief Vacchio served as the General Committee Chairman for the department's 100th Anniversary Celebration in 1977, which included the New York State Drill and Parade in August of 1977. Both events went off without a hitch, a credit to Chief Vacchio the committees, and the members of the department, both past and present, who worked diligently during the two day affair.



John W. Olson Chief 1981 - 1984

Entered the Department in July of 1965 as a member of Hose Company No. 1. Elected as 2nd Lieutenant from 1970 to 1973, and, Captain from 1975 to 1977. Elected as 2nd Assistant Chief of Department from 1977 to 1978, First Assistant from 1978 to 1981, and, Chief of Department from 1981 to 1983. Has served as the Chief Fire Instructor of the Department from 1989 to 1997.



William Palmese - Chief 1984 - 1987

Enter the Department on September 1, 1970, as a member of Hose Company No.2. Served as the Rescue Squad Clerk in 1973. Elected as Lieutenant of the Squad in 1975, and was elected as Captain from 1976 to 1979. In 1979, elected 2nd Lieutenant of Hose 2, 1st Lieutenant in 1981, and, Captain of Hose 2 in 1982. Elected as 2nd Assistant Chief of Department in 1983, and Chief of Department from 1984 to 1987.



Walter Stewart Chief 1987 - 1990

Entered the Department on August 2, 1971, as a member of Hose Company No. 1. Soon thereafter, he joined the Rescue Squad and became one of the first Advance Emergency Medical Technicians of the Squad in the mid 1970's. Elected as Company Clerk in 1974 and participated as a Company Instructor. Served as an Assistant Fire Inspector, reporting to Chief Krammerer and Chief Doyle. Elected as 2nd Lieutenant of the Company in 1975, 1st Lieutenant in 1977, and, Captain in 1979. Received the Fireman of the Year Award in 1978. Elected as 2nd Assistant Chief of Department in 1981, 1st Assistant 1984, and, Chief of the Department in 1987. In 1997 served as the department Safety Officer and a Company Instructor, positions he has held since 1990. Walter is a Fire Protection Specialist for Travelers / Aetna Property Insurance Company. An Assistant Chief Fire Instructor at the Nassau County Fire Service Academy. Chief Stewart is a member of the National Fire Protection Association; International Society of Fire Service Instructors; Fire Department Safety Officers Association; International Association of Fire Chiefs; N.Y. State Association of Chiefs; Firemen's Association of the State of New York; Nassau County Firemen's Association; Nassau County Chief's Council, and, the 9th Battalion Chief's Council.



William Olson Chief 1990 - 1992

Entered the Department in 1969 as a member of Hose Company No. 1. Elected as 2nd Lieutenant in 1973, 1st Lieutenant in 1974. A member of the Turtles Drill Team, and served as Captain the the Drill Team from 1976 to 1978. He transferred to Hook & Ladder Company No. 1. and was elected as 1st Lieutenant from 1978 to 1979, and, Captain from 1980 to 1982. Elected as 2nd Assistant Chief of Department from 1984 to 1986, 1st Assistant from 1987 to 1989, and Chief of Department from 1990 to 1992.



Robert Borra Chief 1992-1995

Entered the Department in 1974 as a member of Hose Company No. 2. Elected as 2nd Lieutenant in 1980, 1st Lieutenant from 1981 to 1982, and, Captain from 1983 to 1987. Elected as 2nd Assistant Chief of Department from 1984 to 1986. 1st Assistant from 1991 to 1992, and, Chief of Department from 1992 to 1995.



Robert Price Chief 1995 - 1998

Entered the Department as a member of Hose Company No. 1 on March 31, 1974. Certified as an Emergency Medical Technician in 1975 and as an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician in 1976. Served with the Rescue Squad for many years as a member and as a Rescue Lieutenant. In 1976 elected Company Clerk in Hose Company No. 1. Became a Department Assistant Fire Inspector in 1975 and appointed Senior Fire Inspector 1976, serving until 1981. Elected as 2nd Lieutenant of Hose Company No. 1 in 1981, 1st Lieutenant in 1984, and Captain in 1988. Proudly served as Captain of Hose Company No. 1 during its 75th Anniversary celebration in 1988. Elected to the position of 2nd Assistant Chief in 1990 and 1st Assistant Chief in 1992. In 1995 elected as Chief of the Department, proudly serving until 1998. Was Chief of the Department during the Westbury Fire Department's 100th Anniversary celebration in 1997, culminating with the NYS Drill & Parade in August 1977. Received the Nassau County Fire Commission Silver Medal of Commendation in 1996 for actions taken during a life-saving rescue at a house fire. Has also served as a Company Instructor for Hose Company No. 1 from 1976 – 1981 and again from 1999 to the present. He was elected Assistant Chief Instructor for the Department in 2001 and continues in that position. Bob also has been employed as a 2nd Deputy Chief Instructor with the Nassau County Fire Service Academy since 1982.



Larry Tamney – Chief 1998 - 2001

In April of 1992, Chief Tamney was elected to the position of 2nd Assistant Chief of the Westbury Fire Department, and, in April of 1995, was elected to his current position as First Assistant Chief of the Department. Chief Tamney is a member of H&L joining the company on March 30th, 1975. The chief worked his way through the company's line officer positions, serving as 2nd Lt., 1st Lt. and finally as the Captain of H&L from 1987 through 1990. Chief Tamney is also a member of the department's Rescue Squad and was an active EMT. During his 22 years of service, Chief Tamney has been a Company Instructor, Chairman of the House Committee, and, Co-Chairman of the department's annual Fund Drive. The Chief is also a member of the 9th Battalion Chief's Council, Nassau County Chief's Council, Firemen's Association of the State of New York, and, the National Fire Protection Association. In 1977, Chief Tamney enlisted in the US Marine Corps, and, while in Corps, he met his wife Susan and have three children.



Richard Dellacona – Chief 2001 - 2004

On April 6 1995 Richard Dellacona was sworn in as a Second Assistant Chief of the Westbury Fire Department. Chief Dellacona has been a member of the department for more than seventeen years, joining Hose Company No. 1 on September 2, 1979. As a member of Hose Company No. 1, Chief Dellacona rose through the company ranks, serving as Company Clerk, Second and First Lieutenant, and, was elected as the Company Captain in May of 1990, a position he held until April of 1995. Chief

Dellacona is a member of the 9th Battalion Chief's Council, the Nassau County Chief's Council, the Nassau County Firemen's Association, Firemen's Association of the State on New York, New York State Association of Fire Chiefs, and, the International Association of Fire Chiefs. Richard has been a teacher with the New York City Board of Education for the past nineteen years, and is currently the Dean of Students at Martin VanBuren High School in Queens Village. Chief Dellacona has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the Cooper Union School of Engineering, and a Master degree in Mathematics from the City College of the City University of New York.



Joseph Pascarella – Chief 2004 - 2007



George Perrin – Chief 2007 - 2010



Patrick Cody – Chief 2010 - Present