

The Western Gazette

February 2026

Volume 36 Number 2

A Publication of the Western Pennsylvania Firemen's Association Secretary's Office
P. O. Box 504, New Kensington, PA 15068-0504
E-Mail: officewpfa@gmail.com Homepage: <http://www.wpfa.org>
Voice: (724) 339-1017

Bruce Crivaro
President

Thomas Shank
Executive Director -Secretary

Meeting Notice

The next Western Meeting will be:

February 21, 2026
7:00 p.m.

Lower Burrell VFD #1

915 New York Avenue
Lower Burrell, PA 15068

Dues Notices Being Mailed April 30, 2026

The annual dues notices will be mailed to companies in a separate mailing on April 30, 2026. We are hoping this method of sending dues notices, marked to the attention of the Treasurer, will make it easier for your organization to have this important piece of mail directed to the appropriate person. In the past, dues notices were included with this newsletter and many were lost, causing companies to miss the dues notice or request duplicate copies.

Companies who participate as one hundred percent companies are also receiving a roster of members currently on our rolls. **Please check the membership rosters carefully.** Each year we spend many hours attempting to correct oversights made by companies when verifying their roster. **You must return the roster generated from our computer. We cannot accept membership lists generated from your computer.** Membership applications without a birth date will not be eligible for the death benefit.

Also included will be a company information sheet. **Please complete the company information sheet.** This information is not only very useful if we have questions related to your returned roster, but also comes in handy throughout the year should we, or another member, need to contact someone from your company. The individual officer information is not shared with anyone. Your general company address and phone number is all that would be provided to another member wishing to contact your organization.

Remember that your company and members' dues must be paid by July 31 to remain a member in good standing. You must be a member in good standing to be eligible to receive any association services, including the death benefit. If your officers have any questions or need assistance in completing the roster and dues payment information, please contact the office by the methods listed at the top of this newsletter. Our office staff will be most happy to assist. Clearing up misunderstandings at the beginning is always easier than clearing them up later.

Special Events This Month

Annual Association Workshop February 21, 2026, at 6 p.m. (one hour before regular meeting) at Lower Burrell VFD #1. The topic this year will be ***Small games of chance rules and regulations.***

Included in this months notification is an information sheet about a safer grant that is available to Pennsylvania Fire Departments. We were asked if we could distribute this information.. The fact the we are sending this information does not mean that we endorse this. We however would like the decision to be up to our membership if they would like to try and participate. No company or personal information was given to the company by us.

Western Pennsylvania Firemen's Association
P. O. Box 504
New Kensington PA 15068-0504

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
New Kensington PA
15068
Permit No. 652

Essay Contest Winners To Be Awarded Prizes at Banquet March 21, 2026 (R.S.V.P. Required)

The winners of the association's annual Fire Prevention Essay Contest will be presented their prizes at a special banquet/meeting held 6:00 pm March 21, 2026, at the Washington Twp. VFD 4078 Route 66 Apollo, Pa 15215
The event is held in a "Banquet" format in which the meal is served first and the prizes are awarded after the meal. This format allows the winners to interact with the officers and members of our organization, the representatives of the various fire departments, family, friends, and teachers who are attending the banquet. The entire focus of the evening is honoring the winners.

The winners of the contest will be notified by letter in the near future. Also, the fire chief of each sponsoring department will be notified by letter so that he or she, or a delegate, can attend to help congratulate the child. It is important to note that neither the winners, nor the chiefs, are notified of exactly what prize has been won. Our office will also not release this information. We hope this will encourage everyone to attend. Remember that your company does not have to have a winner to have a representative attend the banquet. The more firefighters we can have on hand to help congratulate the winners, the more enjoyable the evening will be.

We are asking persons planning to attend the banquet to **R.S.V.P.** to the association offices **by March 7, 2026**. Please call the office at **724-339-1017** and leave your name, fire company name, and the number attending with you so that we can give our hosts an accurate count of the number of meals necessary. We will be unable to take additional reservations for meals after this date. You can also e-mail your R.S.V.P. to officewpfa@gmail.com

DATES TO REMEMBER:

March 7th and 8th 2026
Monroeville Fire and Ems Show
Monroeville Convention Center

March 21, 2026 6:00 PM
Essay contest winners banquet
Washington Twp VFD
4078 Route 66 Apollo, PA
omplex

May 9, 2026
Monthly WPFA meeting
Kiski Twp VFD
1037 Route 56 Apollo, PA

May 15th & 16th 2026
Lancaster County Fire Expo
Pa Farm Show C