

2ND ALARM FIRE DESTROYS KIRKWOOD HOUSE

Story & Photos by N. Griswold

At 13:30 hours on the afternoon of May 21, 2019, Broome County Communications dispatched Kirkwood (38), Five Mile Point (59), and Conklin (46) Fire Departments to 43 Zimmer Rd for a reported house fire with possible occupants still inside. Chief 38 went responding and advised he could see black smoke from Route 11 and requested a 2nd alarm. NYSP cars arrived quickly and also confirmed a working fire. Once on scene Chief 38 was able to determine all occupants had been able to escape the house.

Pumper-Tanker 38, Engine 59-1, and Tower 59 all responded quickly with total crews of 12, of which 9 personnel were interior green tags. First arriving apparatus were faced with a heavy volume of fire and strong winds to feed it. Several lines were stretched and a water supply was established but due to the heavy volume of fire and lightweight construction the roof was collapsing and all attack had to be exterior. The heat and wind were so intense initially that mulch along the neighbors house caught fire and had to be extinguished.

EMS was requested to evaluate the residents who all were uninjured. Also on scene with crews was Pumper-Tanker 46 and Susquehanna County PA Great Bend Hose Co. Pumper Tanker. On standby during the fire was Hallstead PA, Town of Binghamton (58) and West Colesville (51). Also assisting on scene were Broome Ambulance, Superior Ambulance, New York State Police, NYSEG, and Broome County Fire Coordinators. The fire is being investigated by Broome County Fire Investigation Staff. There were no injuries reported.



N. Griswold photo- Heavy fire showing as crews arrive. The roof collapsed shortly after.



N. Griswold photo - Tower 59 operates trying to reach pockets of fire .