Report of President Johnie Roth, Jr. to the MSFA Executive Committee
February 6, 2016
Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department

First Vice President Davis, Second Vice President Bilger, Chairman Seavey, Executive Committee Members, Officers, Committee Chairmen, Officers of the LAMSFA, Past Presidents of the MSFA, and Guests. I would like to welcome you to St. Mary’s County and the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department and thank you for spending your weekend with us as we conduct the business of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. I would also like to thank the Southern Maryland Hospitality Group for their hospitality and for hosting the Maryland State Firemen’s Association meetings this weekend.

Since the last Executive Committee meeting I have logged 6,702 miles. My activities have included; 10 County Association Meetings, 10 MSFA Committee Meetings, 6 Partner Meetings, 3 Miscellaneous meetings, 1 Memorial Service and Funeral, 2 Fundraisers, 6 Banquets and Installations, MSFA, Cecil County, and Maryland State Police Legislative Receptions, MSFA/LAMSFA Christmas Party, 2 Polar Bear Plunges, 10 days in Annapolis for Maryland Legislature business, I testified on HB #50, 3 Company Meetings, 2 MSFA Related Conference Calls, 2 NREMT Committee to the EMS Board Meetings (a detailed itinerary is attached at the end of this report).

Since our last Executive Committee meeting we had lost several more long time and dedicated members to the Fire and Rescue Services and Auxiliaries to the state and I ask you to keep them and their families in your daily prayers. I would also like to express our condolences to LAMSFA Corresponding Secretary Donna Struntz for the passing of her mom Dora I. Wilson. Gone but always in our memories, thoughts and prayers and never forgotten.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every fire company and rescue squad that have invited Marcia and I to your annual banquets and installations and apologize that we have had so many invitations that we just couldn’t make every one, but wanted to congratulate those fire and rescue departments and auxiliaries that have and are celebrating anniversaries and milestones within their organizations.

Progress continues to be made in baby steps regarding both the National Registry Emergency Medical Technician issue as well as the proposed legislation of counties to “opt out” of the Maryland Law requiring Residential Sprinklers in NEW SINGLE FAMILY HOMES.
Dr. Seaman and Director Edwards will report later today on both the SIPS Students and comments on Future EMS topics. Chief Richard Brooks, MSFA Past President Fred Cross and I have and continue to meet with Chairman DeVries, Dr. Seaman of MIEMSS, Director Edwards of MFRI and other members of the Maryland EMS Board NREMT Sub-Committee to rectify this unfortunate situation and have made some progress for future NREMT candidates. It has and still remains the position of the MSFA that the students in the “SIPS” category (students in process or formally called students in limbo) by virtue of completing the prescribed course of material taught by MFRI that those students should be awarded their Maryland EMT status. The MSFA as well as MFRI both agree that there must be a test available to satisfy the concerns of MIEMSS. As this report is written no test has been acquired by MIEMSS but efforts are still in process and Dr. Seaman will report on them. In late December the Maryland EMS Board voted to approve the SIPS students with Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) cards in lieu of EMT Certification recognizing that these student’s training had exceeded what was required for EMR Certification. I was agreed by leadership of MIEMSS and MFRI that there is obviously a need for a bridge class from EMR to EMT Certification and that will be put together in the very near future. Over the Christmas holiday Executive Board Members Chuck Walker, Skip Mahan, and I attended a Cecil County NREMT Prep Class and were quite impressed by the enthusiasm of the students and the dedicated staff in Cecil County and feel confident that this training will help the candidates in preparing for the NREMT test. The students are constantly monitored on their progress, and the instructor can see who has put the time and efforts into the class homework and see their strengths and weaknesses. It’s quite obvious that the students success or failure will depend upon the efforts of the students themselves with encouraging mentorship from their member companies. The MSFA leadership must take a leadership roll to coordinate efforts for the future EMS Programs in Maryland.

The MSFA Legislative Committee and Residential Sprinkler Committees have been working very hard speaking to State Delegates and Senators in reference to HB #19 regarding counties being allowed to opt out of the Residential Sprinkler Bill. Eight (8) Side by Side burn demonstrations have been given all over the state to demonstrate the importance of having residential sprinklers in homes for the protection of our Marylanders but also for our responding Firefighters. House Bill #19 (Residential Sprinkler Bill) has been re-scheduled for February 16, 2016 at 1:00p in Annapolis, Maryland in House Room 251. As many fire and rescue personnel in Class A Uniform are requested to attend to show our support for the opposition to this bill.

The Maryland State Firemen’s Association held our annual Legislative Reception on January 19, 2016 and it was very well attended. Members of the Maryland Legislature were given a Sprinkler Head as a symbol of the MSFA’s opposition to the proposed legislation of “opting out” of the current law requiring sprinklers in New Constructed Single Family Homes effective July 1, 2015. I would like to thank the MSFA Legislative and Residential Sprinkler Committees, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, Prince George’s County Fire Department, Maryland State Fire Marshalls Office, Reliable Sprinkler Company, General Air Products, Tyco Fire Protection Products, Viking Supply Net, Capital Region Sprinkler Association, Porter Electric Company, our Maryland State Agency Partners, and members of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association for making this year’s event so successful.

The MSFA is in support of MFRI moving up the Western Maryland Regional Training Center project to improve safety and welfare of our students in their training endeavors.
Many MSFA Committees are working very hard this year such as the Legislative, Residential Sprinkler, Cancer Support Network, Recruitment and Retention, Safety, and Training just to name a few and will have major announcements to share with you when they give their reports.

Members and leaders from both the MSFA and LAMSFA took the “Plunge” last weekend into the frigid Chesapeake Bay for a great cause, Maryland Special Olympics. The team of members raised several thousand dollars thanks to family and friend sponsorships. It is my hope that the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and Ladies Auxiliary to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association can build upon this event and increase the participation in the near future.

Finally, Mr. Chairman at the last Executive Committee Meeting I acknowledged that I had mandated in June of 2015 that, all MSFA Committees should have met at least once since June and have presented a report of “progress, goals, and objectives” to this Executive Committee and if NOT need to show why their committee should continue to exist. Recognizing that “Standing Committees are exempt “under the MSFA Constitution “Article V-1 Standing Committees of the MSFA” I would recommend that at the completion of this Executive Board meeting removal action be taken after the MSFA Secretary’s Office provides a list of those committees that have NOT met or reported to this Executive Committee and that no longer be recognized via their inactivity.

Respectfully submitted,

Johnie Roth, Jr.
President
Maryland State Firemen’s Association
President Roth’s Travel Itinerary

NOVEMBER 2015

11-30-2015 Southern Maryland Firefighters Association Meeting Solomons

DECEMBER 2015

12-2-2015 Meeting with Maryland Military & VCAF Odenton
12-3-2015 EMS Board NREMT Committee Meeting Baltimore
12-3-2015 Tag Registrations Olney
12-3-2015 PGVRA Auxiliary Meeting Laurel
12-4-2015 MSFA Finance Team Meeting Berlin
12-5-2015 MSFA Executive Committee Meeting Berlin
12-6-2015 MSFA Budget Committee Meeting Berlin
12-6-2015 MSFA Executive Committee Meeting Berlin
12-6-2015 MSFA Steering Convention Committee Meeting Ocean City
12-7-2015 MSFA Steering Convention Committee Meeting Ocean City
12-8-2015 EMS Board Meeting & Executive Session Baltimore
12-9-2015 PGVRA Meeting Brentwood
12-10-2015 PG Chief Bashoor Open House Largo
12-10-2015 Maryland Fire Chiefs Executive Board Meeting Kent Island
12-11-2015 Kent-Queene Annes Volunteer FF Association Meet. Centreville
12-12-2015 Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad Banquet Ridge
12-13-2015 Laytonsvillie District VFD Fundraiser Laytonsville
12-13-2015 MSFA-LAMSFA Christmas Party Laurel
12-16-2015 EMS Board NREMT Committee Meeting Baltimore
12-16-2015 Sandy Spring VFD Membership Meeting Sandy Spring
12-17-2015 Montgomery County Volunteer F&R Assoc. Meeting Bealsville
12-19-2015 Sandy Spring VFD Santa Runs Olney
12-20-2015 Sandy Spring VFD Santa Runs Sandy Spring
12-22-2015 Meeting with R. Adams Shock Trauma Leadership Baltimore
12-22-2015 Sandy Spring VFD Santa Runs Olney
12-23-2015 Observe Cecil County NREMT Prep Class Elkton

JANUARY 2016

1-2-2016 Leonardtown VFD Banquet and Installation Leonardtown
1-3-2016 Viewing Dora I. Wilson mother of Donna Struntz Cumberland
1-4-2016 BCC Rescue Squad Elections Bethesda
1-7-2016 PGVFRA Auxiliary Meeting Upper Marlboro
1-8-2016 MSFA Legislative Team Meeting Annapolis
1-9-2016 MSFA EMS Committee Meeting Frederick
1-10-2016 MSFA Leadership Summit Planning Meeting Monrovia
1-10-2016 Allegany-Garrett Volunteer FF Association Meeting Ellerslie
1-11-2016 MSFA Preperations for Maryland General Assembly Annapolis
1-11-2016 Fundraiser for Senator Jim Mathais Salisbury
1-12-2016 EMS Board-SEMCAC Joint Meeting Baltimore
1-12-2016 Meetings with Senators & Delegates in Annapolis Annapolis
1-13-2016 Meetings with Senators & Delegates in Annapolis Annapolis
1-13-2016 Installation of Officers at Hillandale VFD Hillandale
1-14-2016 Meetings in Annapolis
1-14-2016 Cecil County Legislative Reception Annapolis
1-15-2016 Montgomery County Legislative Caucus Annapolis
1-15-2016 Meetings in Annapolis Annapolis
1-15-2016 MCVFRA Auxiliary Meeting Damascus
1-16-2016 MSFA Cancer Support Meeting Laurel
1-16-2016 Mechanicsville VFD Banquet and Installation Mechanicsville
1-17-2016 MSFA Safety Committee Meeting Easton
1-18-2016 Cecil County Volunteer FF Association Meeting Elkton
1-19-2016 Meeting with Delegate Beitzel, McKay, Morhaim Annapolis
1-19-2016 Testifying for MSFA on HB #50 Annapolis
1-19-2016 MSFA Legislative Reception Annapolis
1-19-2016 MSFA 125th Anniversary Committee Meeting Annapolis
1-20-2016 Howard County Volunteer FF Association Meeting Elkridge
1-21-2016 Frederick County Vo. Firefighters Assoc. Meeting Rocky Ridge
1-27-2016 Maryland General Assembly Annapolis
1-27-2016 Maryland State Polic Legislative Reception    Annapolis
1-27-2016 MSFA/MFCA Oversight Committee Meeting    Savage
1-29-2016 MSFA Legislative Group Meeting    Annapolis
1-29-2016 MD Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge – F& R    Sandy Point
1-29-2016 Junior Volunteer FD Banquet & Installation    Frederick
1-30-2016 MD Special Olympic Polar Bear Plunge    Sandy Point
1-30-2016 Midland Volunteer Fire Company Banquet    Midland
1-31-2016 Harford-Cecil Fire Prevention Ambassador Judge    Abington