The "Junior" Rodgers pumper purchased in 1839.

Junior Fire Co., No. 2 of Frederick Celebrates 175 Years of Service

By Chip Jewell

In 1838, a group of "young men" gathered at Dr. Mantz’s drug store in Frederick to discuss the need for additional fire protection in the growing community. It was reported the fire company was initially called the “Young Men’s Fire Company” but officially organized as the Junior Fire Company. The name Junior may also be attributed to the fact in 1839 the fire company selected a pump engine from the Rodger’s Company of Baltimore.

The newly formed fire company had to choose between the “senior” engine or smaller, less expensive “junior” engine. Though the actual origin of the name is not clear, the fact the Junior Fire Co. No. 2 of Frederick, Maryland is celebrating 175 years of continuous service to the community is well documented.

Many aspects of the Junior Fire Company touch both state and national historical significance. The first recorded line of duty death of a firefighter on the Maryland Fire/Rescue Memorial in Annapolis is William Carlton, a founding member of the Junior Fire Company who collapsed while pulling the Junior engine through the streets of Frederick to an alarm of fire in 1840.

The “Junior Defenders”, a fire company militia unit, served under Robert E Lee among the first military units to arrive in Harper’s Ferry to help quell the insurrection attempt of John Brown. And after the Battle of Antietam, the Junior Hall was part of General Hospital No. 6 treating the battle wounded.

Continues on Page 4

What is the MSFA Foundation, Ltd. & What Do They Do

By Douglas Alexander

The MSFA Foundation Ltd. was established by the leadership of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association after the dreadful attacks on our homeland on September 11, 2001 as an avenue to provide relief funds. The foundation is now an independent organization which focuses on raising funds to be awarded to volunteer fire service personnel of the state by means of scholarships and other benevolence.

The Board of Directors of The MSFA Foundation Ltd. is composed of fire service personnel from across the state of Maryland, supplemented by personnel from the business and professional communities. As we move forward, the foundation is committed to maintaining our close ties to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and our support for activities of the association.

The foundation is also committed to continuing support of educational opportunities for our fire and rescue personnel, supporting the activities of other fire and rescue service related groups, and

Continued on Page 9
BGE Presents Nearly $320,000 in Grants

Baltimore, Jan. 23, 2013 – Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE) today announced that it is providing nearly $320,000 in grants to approximately 40 emergency response and safety organizations throughout its central Maryland service area. BGE held a press conference today at the Pikesville Volunteer Fire Company, where it officially presented the grants to representatives from the emergency response and service organizations. The organizations are using the BGE grant monies to fund equipment, programs or services that are critical to the safety of communities in which BGE serves.

“BGE naturally has a strong appreciation for the critically important role volunteer emergency response and safety organizations play throughout the state of Maryland and BGE’s service area, in particular,” said Kenneth W. DeFontes Jr., BGE president and chief executive officer. “Through this new and innovative grant program, BGE has a unique opportunity to strengthen our collective ties with our volunteer emergency responder colleagues. With career emergency responders, these organizations and their highly trained and dedicated personnel are second to none in ensuring the safety of Marylanders, and BGE is pleased to be a part of this effort.”

In late 2012, BGE launched a new grant program designed specifically for emergency response and safety organizations. Eligible 501c3 organizations that provide emergency services support – either preparedness or response and recovery – had the opportunity to apply for a single grant of up to $10,000. Multiple grant opportunities were available and grants were considered for new and existing programs that fell within the grant description guidelines, as well as requests for funding that clearly demonstrated improvement in response efforts to the urgent and immediate needs of the community.

“BGE has a long-standing commitment to enhancing the communities in which we live and work, whether it’s through philanthropic giving or employee volunteer opportunities, and this new grant program represents yet another means for extending that commitment to our customers,” said DeFontes. “Importantly, this grant provides BGE with an opportunity to give back to our emergency response partners, be it in the nonprofit sector or at the local or state level, who day-in and day-out, are poised to respond in our times of need.”

In 2012, BGE employees logged nearly 800 volunteer hours with safety and emergency response organizations, including volunteer fire companies, EMS organizations and the American Red Cross. BGE also offers complimentary electric and natural gas safety training to emergency responders through its utility training department.

Since its founding nearly 200 years ago, BGE has played an integral role in working with Maryland communities to address economic development, public safety, civic issues and other initiatives that help enhance our neighborhoods. Through the use of shareholder dollars, BGE supports programs that deliver measurable and sustainable impact in areas of energy efficiency and assistance, education, the environment, economic and community development, emergency response and safety.

BGE’s corporate citizenship aligns with that of its parent company, Exelon Corporation. As part of Exelon’s merger in March 2012, Exelon and its subsidiaries have committed to maintain charitable giving of an average of $7 million annually.

Continued on page 8
President Denver’s Message

Unfortunately as I begin my report for this issue of the Volunteer Trumpet, I must note the passing of some of our members. In late October, I was saddened to hear about the death Past President (PP) Ed Preston (1974-75) and in mid-December the loss of PP Lee Sachs (2005-06). Both men served this association well and will be sorely missed.

As we departed from the October Executive Committee Meeting, we were just beginning to experience the effects of Hurricane Sandy. This unusual weather event resulted in high winds and heavy rain throughout most of Maryland, with the worst flooding on the Eastern Shore and a blizzard in Western Maryland. The fire service around the state responded to protect the public under very difficult conditions. As I traveled around Maryland, I have watched local officials thank local emergency responders for their service during this damaging storm. I add my thanks too.

It was a rewarding experience to accompany members of nearby United Communities, and First Vice President Olson to Crisfield to deliver food and other needed items to the Silverton Volunteer Fire Department in Toms River, NJ. BGE donated approximately $320,000 to emergency respond and safety organizations in their service territory. The majority of the grant recipients were volunteer fire departments. I have traveled over 10,000 miles since the October meeting.

John Denver
President,
Maryland State Firemen’s Association

MSFA Officers Cont.

Financial Secretary
Mitch Vocke
Jarrettsville VFC—Harford
PO Box 401
Jarrettsville, MD 21084
H 410-692-86914
C 410-808-1693
wmvocke@harfordpublicsafety.org

Chief Chaplain
Ferndale VFC—Anne Arundel
343 Cool Breeze Ct.
Pasadena, MD 21122
H 410-437-6756
C 443-623-0753
pray@msfa.org

VFIS is the largest provider of insurance, education and consulting services to Emergency Service Organizations. Since 1980, we have handled more than 400,000 emergency service claims for our customers. Our success is reflected in our accomplishments.

- VFIS insures more Emergency Service Organizations in North America than any other provider
- We have retained 95.8% of our customers
- In 2012, VFIS trained more than 19,000 students in 38 states, DC and Canada

For additional information on how you can receive industry leading Insurance, Benefits and Education, Training & Consulting, contact Terry Mensinger, VFIS Sales Executive at (800) 233-1957, ext. 7922 or Jerry Poland, VFIS Sales Executive at (800) 233-1957, ext. 7929.
The first recorded line of duty death of a firefighter on the Maryland Fire/Rescue Memorial in Annapolis is William Carlton, a founding member of the Junion Fire Company, who collapsed while pulling the Junior engine through the streets of Frederick to an Alarm in 1840.

The Junior Fire Company had an affinity for the classic Ahrens-Fox pumpers and is believed to be the only fire station in the county to have all three types of Ahrens-Fox pumpers in service simultaneously. The Juniors had a 1924 Ahrens-Fox piston pumper, a 1931 Ahrens-Fox rotary gear pumper and a 1949 Ahrens-Fox centrifugal pumper all in service in 1949.

To help commemorate the 175th anniversary, several events are planned throughout the 2013.

- April 27, 2013 – Firemen’s Ball reminiscent of the firemen’s ball of yesteryear.
- April 28, 2013 – Apparatus muster held at Rose Hill Manor, 1611 North Market Street in Frederick from 1:00PM to 5:00PM. A cavalcade of antique apparatus will leave Harry Grove Stadium at 12:45PM to travel through downtown Frederick to the event.
- June 23, 2013 – Open House at the Junior Fire Co. No; 2, 535 North Market St. in Frederick. A 100 year old time capsule will be opened to mark the 100th anniversary of the fire station and a new time capsule installed in the cornerstone.
- September 28/29, 2013 – Founder’s Recognition – Three of the founding members will be honored and wreath’s will be placed on the gravesite.
- December 7, 2013 – A special fire company banquet and station re-dedication will take place at the fire hall.
Continued from Page 4

Additionally, the Juniors housed the 1927 Ahrens-Fox tiller ladder truck for the Citizens Truck Company until such time the Citizens fire station was built.

The members of the Junior Fire Co. No. 2 are very proud of the 175 years of dedication and commitment to the Frederick community. 2013 will be a year of celebration and commemoration in true fire service tradition.

EDITOR’s NOTE

While attending the Frederick Historic Sites Consortium in Feb., the editor was pleased to catch a performance and talk by the author of this piece. As part of a lecture about the heritage of the fire service in Frederick County, Chip does a living history performance, talking about the early days of firefighting. He has also published a book on the history of the service in the county (See photo on opposite page).

State Fire Marshal William Barnard recognizes the work of Intern Megan Hiltz (See Brief’s From Bruce — Page 8.)
Maryland Fire Chiefs Statewide Alert Network

The ALERT Network sends emergency alerts, notifications and updates using (SMS) to cell phones, Blackberrys, Smartphones and or e-mail accounts.

50th Anniversary of Nat'l Fire Service Staff and Command Course

By Johnathan Hart

This year’s National Fire Service Staff and Command Course will represent the offering’s 50th anniversary. The course features nationally recognized fire service experts leading engaging discussions on topics of vital importance to today’s leaders in fire/EMS service organizations.

In 1963, the Maryland Fire Service Staff and Command School (as it was known then) was a series of six sessions offered over the course of three months. Those sessions were held at four locations: the Fire Service Extension and Civil Defense Training Center in College Park, the Baltimore City Fire Training School, the Easton Fire Department, and the Frostburg Fire Department. A few of the subjects covered in the incipient year were Handling Nuclear Accidents, Organizing Staff and Command Functions, and Principles of Command Post Operation.

Since that time, Staff and Command has become a nationally recognized course offered by MFRI in cooperation with the International Association of Fire Chiefs. The program has been held in many cities, including Nashville, Dallas, and Tampa, just to name a few. In the 2012 Staff and Command Course, 70 attendees from 20 states throughout the country converged on Ocean City for the program. Chief Kelvin Cochran (Atlanta Fire Department) was the keynote speaker, and captured the audience with his presentations on Authentic Leadership and Fire Service Culture. MFRI is excited to announce that Chief Cochran will be the keynote speaker again this year.

The National Fire Service Staff and Command Course will be held at the Sheraton Baltimore North in Towson, MD from March 17 through March 23. Brochures with applications are being sent to those on MFRI’s mailing lists. If you have any questions before then regarding the program, please contact Ms. Karen Haje at 301-226-9962 or 1-800-ASK-MFRI or email – khaje@mfri.org.
Photos from 2013 MSFA Legislative Reception in Annapolis

MSFA President John Denver, 2nd Vice President David Keller and MSFALA President Sherry Soper greet legislators at the 2013 MSFA Legislative Reception held in Annapolis.

With our MSFA Executives (top to bottom, from left to right) Senator James H. Mathias, District 38; Delegate John F. Wood, District 29A; Delegate David D. Rudolph, District 34B; Senator Barry Glassman, District 35; and Delegate Norman H. Conway, District 38B.
Continued from page 2

per year in Maryland, including BGE’s service area, for the next 10 years. For more information on the BGE Emergency Response and Safety Grant program, visit bge.com. To view photos from the event, visit BGE’s Flickr site. BGE, headquartered in Baltimore, is Maryland’s largest gas and electric utility, delivering power to more than 1.2 million electric customers and more than 650,000 natural gas customers in central Maryland. The company’s approximately 3,400 employees are committed to the safe and reliable delivery of gas and electricity, as well as enhanced energy management, conservation, environmental stewardship and community assistance. BGE is a subsidiary of Exelon Corporation (NYSE: EXC), the nation’s leading competitive energy provider with approximately $33 billion in annual revenues.

**Brief’s From Bruce**

Compiled by Bruce Bouch, DSFM


* Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference: – Mark your calendars and save the date for the 2013 Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference, which will be held on Tuesday, September 24, 2013 at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory Kossiakoff Conference Center in Howard Co., MD. Additional information pertaining to the Conference will be made available soon.

* Fire and Life Safety Information Exchange Program: – Updates and resource links are being added to the website on a weekly basis. More interactive fire and life safety related games have been added. Intern Megan Hiltz completed her time as the first intern and spent many hours to get this program off of the ground. A new intern began her work with the program on February 1, 2013. Melissa Williams of Carroll Co. and the current Miss Carroll County Fire Prevention Ambassador has assumed the role as the second intern to tackle the requirements involved with the position. As a reminder, the MD Fire and Life Safety Information Exchange Program website is: www.mdlifesafety.org.

* Dover Race Weekend - September 27, 28, 29: Mark your calendars for a fire safety event to be held at the Dover International Raceway in Dover, Delaware. National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) will be on location with a hospitality tent again this year, plus a new twist has been added. The Fan Zone is being expanded to promote fire prevention and life safety efforts in a joint venture between the OSFM, MSFA, NFFF, Delaware State Fire Marshal, DE Volunteer Firemen’s Association and the DE State Fire School. A 20’ x 30’ tent will be erected on site to provide cover for an interactive youth fire prevention area and an informative residential fire sprinkler myth and facts section. The Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition will assist with a side by side burn demonstration.
The MSFA Foundation

Continued from Page 1

other expanded avenues of benevolence. We are happy to have provided over $26,000 in scholarships in 2012 to fire and rescue services personnel.

The MSFA Foundation Ltd. invites you to visit our website at www.msfafoundation.org. We hope to provide even more scholarships this year, and ask for your help with this goal. Tax deductible contributions can be made online via Pay Pal, or by mailing your check or money order to The MSFA Foundation Ltd., P.O. Box 1963, Wheaton, Md. 20915.

By Douglas Alexander

Rural Water Supply Committee Reminder: Black Flush Dry Hydrants This Spring

The Rural Water Supply Committee wishes to remind all companies to back flush your dry hydrants this spring.

This simple procedure will allow you to have the waterways clear of growth, sediment, and obstructions prior to needing them for an emergency this spring and summer.

Also, be sure to check that threads have not been damaged on the connection, the interior strainer is in place, and the protective cap secured. It may also be helpful to clear excessive growth of weeds and grass from the connection.

Finally, be sure your markers are in place and check for any damage that may have occurred from freezing, or by snowplows.

These tips are offered by your Rural Water Supply Committee. If we can assist you with any rural water supply problems or questions, please contact any committee member.

By Jim Brown

2013 Stars of Life and Right Care When It Counts Awards Nomination

Each year, MIEMSS awards Maryland citizens and providers by honoring those who have contributed to the EMS system and recognizing children who have identified an emergency situation and contacted 9-1-1.

The application process for the MIEMSS EMS Stars of Life Awards and EMSC Right Care When It Counts Awards has been opened. Incidents and activities that occurred between January 1, 2012 and December 31, 2012 are eligible for submission.

This year the forms can be SUBMITTED in three ways. The forms are available online at www.miemss.org under “What’s New”, then “Maryland EMS” and also on the Right Care When it Counts webpage. Award-ees are selected by a statewide committee of career, volunteer, and commercial EMS providers. Nominations will be accepted for both sets of awards until April 1, 2013.

♦ Open the PDF document and complete the application – print and then fax to the MIEMSS Educational Support Services Office.
♦ Open the PDF document while on a laptop or computer that is connected to the internet, complete the application and then click on the SUBMIT button.
♦ Open the PDF document and complete the application – save the document under a unique name and then email to awards@miemss.org

EMS Continuing Education Programs

Please go to the MIEMSS website, www.miemss.org for detailed information.

• Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar – April 5-6, 2013 – Wisp, MD
• TraumaCare 2013 – All in A Day’s Work – April 18, 2013 -Maryland Committee on Trauma - Baltimore Hilton, Baltimore, MD
• EMS Care 2013 at the Beach – May 3-5, 2013 – Ocean City, MD
Marylanders Are Reminded to be Aware of Potential Fire & Life Safety Issues When Patronizing Nightclubs & Other Entertainment Venues

By Bruce Bouch

The State Fire Marshal William E. Barnard is reminding all Marylanders to perform a safety evaluation of their surroundings when entering social gathering hotspots. “It is everyone’s responsibility to be alert and aware of basic safety measures in the event a tragedy occurs,” stated Barnard. On occasion the unexpected happens: a large fire, earthquake, extreme weather phenomenon or even an act of terrorism can quickly change the planned events of the day. What was once a routine trip to the club is now a tragic memory of how it used to be!

The recent fire at the ‘Kiss’ nightclub in Santa Maria, Brazil, was a disaster of historical proportion and serves as a grim reminder of the importance of proper fire safety measures. Over 230 people lost their lives as result of poor judgment and lack of proper egress from the building. In February, 2003, 100 people died in the ‘Station’ nightclub fire in West Warwick, Rhode Island during a musical presentation by the band, “Great White” resulting from the use of pyrotechnics. Citizens entering any public assembly building should be prepared in case an emergency occurs. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has prepared a short list of basic guidelines to be aware of when frequenting an entertainment venue.

Should you enter?

Take a good look. Does the building appear to be in a properly maintained condition that makes you feel comfortable? Is the main entrance clear of obstructions and does it open outward to allow an easy exit? Is the outside area clear of materials that could block exits?

Before you enter:

Have a communication plan. Identify a relative or friend beforehand to contact in case an emergency occurs and you are separated from family or friends.

Plan a meeting place. Pick a meeting place outside to meet family or friends with whom you are attending the activity. If there is an emergency, be sure to meet them at the specified location.

When you enter:

Locate exits immediately. When you enter a building, immediately locate all available exits. Are the exits clearly marked and well lit? Always be prepared to use the exit closest to you. (You may not be able to use the main exit.)

Check for clear exit paths. Make sure aisles are wide enough and unobstructed by chairs or furniture. Check to make sure your exit door is not blocked or chained. If there are not at least two clearly marked exits, or exit paths are blocked, report the violation to management and leave the building if it is not immediately addressed. Call the local fire marshal to register a complaint.

Do you feel safe? Does the building appear to be overcrowded? Are there fire sources such as candles burning, cigarettes or cigars burning, pyrotechnics, or other heat sources that may make you feel unsafe? Are there safety systems in place such as alternative exits, fire sprinklers, and fire alarms? Ask the management for clarification of your concerns. If you do not feel safe in the building, leave immediately.

During an emergency:

React immediately. If a fire alarm alerts; you see smoke or fire; or any other dangerous disturbances present themselves, immediately exit the building in an orderly fashion. Use your closest exit, keeping in mind that it may not necessarily be the main exit. Get out, stay out! Once you have escaped, stay out. Under no circumstances should you ever go back into the building before it is rendered safe to do so. Let trained first responders conduct incident operations. Take the time to learn about the public assembly buildings you may frequent, so that you know what to do if the unexpected happens.

Editor’s Note

Welcome to this edition of the Volunteer Trumpet, the newsletter of the MSFA. As members of the committee get ready to work on the next issue, please let us know if you have any ideas for strengthening the product, suggestions for stories or content we can publish.

We would be pleased to hear from you. Our goal is to publishing interesting and informative articles for the volunteer fire, rescue and EMS personnel of MD.

Send your material along to the editor, Mike Dixon at list@atlanticbb.net.
By Chip Jewell

Vigilant Hose housed the community’s ambulances for many years beginning in the 1950s. Initially, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6658 (the VFW) operated the ambulance to later be joined by the American Legion Post 121 (the Legion) who provided for a 2nd ambulance. Many VHC members were also very active EMS (emergency medical service) response personnel long before the term EMS was even coined. The Emmitsburg Ambulance Company evolved from this effort and Company 26 became an entity in 1989 operating from its own facility at 300 South Seton Avenue.

Prior to that, the community’s 2 ambulances housed at Company 6 were known as Ambulance 68 and Ambulance 69 (today’s A-268 and A-269). Interestingly, for a number of years, VHC used the radio Adams County assigned designation of “Company 30” when responding on fire and ambulance calls there.

Perhaps hard for some to believe today, yet many in our community still well remember when local funeral homes operated ambulances (which typically were hearses with little on-board equipment or trained attendants).

While the more urbanized areas moved away from this in the 1930s, such were still common in Frederick County as late as the 1970’s. The Bittle Funeral Home in Myersville and Gladhill Funeral Home in Middletown had emergency ambulance service into the mid 1970’s. Even two funeral homes in Frederick City, the Daily’s Funeral Home and the Etchison (now Keeney and Basford) Funeral Home, provided routine ambulance service into that decade as well.

Terminology Evolves, Too

Terms, just like equipment and training, have evolved over the years, too. Increasingly, more and more common today is the use of the term “Station” to identify an individual stationhouse (owing to its use on the popular 1970’s era TV Show, “Emergency”). Common for generations in Emmitsburg has been the use of the term, “Firehall,” when describing VHC’s Firehouse which is now also referred to by many as, Station 6.

A visit to the Vigilant Hose Company is typically a treat for fire-related visitors from elsewhere. Some visitors who come to VHC are from areas of the nation where the term “company” refers to individual units like an engine company, ladder company, rescue company, etc., but to this day in rural areas in the northeastern and mid-Atlantic regions of America – including Maryland – the term “Company” normally refers to an individual fire department which may consist of all such units.

Further, the idea of naming individual fire companies by their Town names did not become common in many areas until around 1900. Thus, prior to that period, names like Vigilant, Guardian, Alert, United, Always There Hook & Ladder, even U.S. President’s names, etc., were quite common. Other fire departments that have or once had Vigilant in their names can be found within the “History of the Vigilant Hose Company” documentation.

Following 9-11, as part of a series of reviews of infrastructure and interoperability of the entire region, the Metro Fire Chiefs Subcommittee of the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG), of which Frederick County is a part, designated prefix numbers for each jurisdiction with Frederick County being the “900 series.” Increasingly, the various jurisdictions have been re-aligning apparatus and station numbering albeit strange to most at first.

Although, several northern Virginia Counties had utilized this system years prior to 9-11 (i.e., Fairfax - 400 series), most metro area jurisdictions have adapted (Montgomery – 700 series / Prince Georges – 800), Frederick County faces a “mix and match” challenge in that it is surrounded by 8 different counties in 3 states most of whom are not on the COG system. Thus, Frederick County does not actively participate in the WCOG numbering system.

By series, the county designation is added to the beginning of the unit identifier such that Montgomery County Station 1 (Silver Spring) is now Station 701 (with Engine 701, Truck 701, Chief 701, etc., such that there is only one unit by that number in the whole DC region including its immediate suburbs). Washington, DC got to keep its numbering so the only “Engine 1” in the region is DCFD Engine 1. Of interest, the Frederick County Department of Fire and Rescue Services (DFRS) identifies its units in concert with the COG method (i.e., Battalion 901, EMS 910, etc.). And, COG standardized terminology for response unit designations has increased in usage across the region such as “Rescue Squad” replacing the former terms Squad and Squad Wagon of the past – thus, it’s RS-6 for our heavy-rescue response vehicle.
By Chip Jewell

The Maryland State Firemen’s Association sponsored workers compensation insurance program issued through the Injured Workers Insurance Fund recently paid out $66,540 to qualified member companies with excellent claims experience in 2011.

The program, developed jointly by the MSFA Risk Management Committee, MSFA Attorney Mike Farlow and the Injured Workers Insurance Fund has been extremely beneficial to those member companies will excellent loss and claim experience. The recent dividend checks averaged $1,128 per policy to 59 member companies.

The Maryland State Firemen’s Association Workers Compensation Program provides member companies that have an excellent workers compensation claim experience a competitive workers compensation rate as well as the opportunity to earn dividends for continued good loss experience. Members of the Risk Management Committee worked over a year with the underwriters at the Injured Workers Insurance Fund (IWIF) to provide a special program to member companies that exhibit an excellent claim experience and safety record. The program may be accessed through any Maryland insurance agency.

On February 23rd & 24th, the Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department in Chester, hosted the meeting of the MSFA executive committee.