Kent County Companies Put New Engines in Service

Two Kent County departments recently put new engines in operation to serve the Eastern Shore county, and Volunteer Trumpet Photographer and Correspondent Nevin Steffy has reported on the welcomed arrivals.

By Nevin Steffy

Kennedyville Volunteer Fire Company has taken delivery of a new Custom E-ONE Typhoon Extreme Duty Aluminum Pumper. This pumper features a Custom Typhoon Extreme Duty Long cab, 204” wheel base, severe duty interior, seating for six firefighters, Cummings ISL 450hp engine, Allison EVS 3000 Transmission, Aluminum Cab and Body, Driver’s side full height - Full depth compartments, Officer’s side full height compartments with ladder tunnel in rear(24 foot extension, 14 foot roof and 10 foot attic ladder), (2) pike poles, Red hosebed cover, Hale QMax 1500gpm pump, 1030 gallon water poly tank, VMux multiplex electrical system, Onan 10kw generator, 200’ cord reel, 12v Whelen Pioneer Plus LED brow and side lighting, Whelen LED Light Bars and Whelen LED lower level emergency lighting package. Unit is designated as Engine 4. — Information from Patriot Fire USA

The Galena Volunteer Fire Company has placed into service at 2014 Pierce Dash CF PUC Engine. It is powered by a 450 HP Cummins motor coupled to an Allison Automatic Transmission. The Engine features a 1500 gpm pump with a Husky 12 Class A/B Foam System, a 950 gallon water tank and a 50 gallon Class A/B foam Tank. The crew compartment features SCBA seating for six, Basic Life Support equipment, combustible gas and mutli-gas detectors, an assortment of hand tools and a Scott Thermal Imager. The unit has a Whelen LED light package and all LED scene lighting. There is also a 10kw hydraulic generator which powers two pre-connected cord reels and a whirl-burt light tower. A complete Hurst rescue tool system is used including spreaders, o-cutters, ram, and Maverick combotool as well as composite cribbing. There are six pre-connected attack lines, a remote operated Akron Deck Gun, and 1075 feet of 5” supply hose. This Engine replaced a 1995 E-One engine and was purchased from Atlantic Emergency Solutions. Custom tool mounting was also completed by Atlantic Emergency Solutions.

Engine 3 conforms to all Kent County Standards for an engine and a squad. — Information from Galen VFC.

Engine 4, Kennedyville. Photo Credit: Nevin Steffy

Engine 3, Galena. Photo Credit: Nevin Steffy
The President’s Corner

by Jacqueline Olson

Wow, where is the time going, it’s April and in two months we will be at our 122nd Annual Conference and Convention in Ocean City.

I have been reflecting on how humbled I am and proud to have had the opportunity to serve you, the volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services personnel of Maryland. I want to thank you for your support, guidance and hospitality that you have shown me over these past couple years. I am truly appreciative for all you have done to help me better serve you and I will treasure all the friendships I have made during this time of accomplishing a dream.

Since our last issue the Maryland fire service family has had to say goodbye too many of our brothers and sisters and my condolences goes out to all the families, their home companies and county associations. They will be truly missed and we will continue to keep the families of David Bradley; Past President’s Denver’s mom; Mitchell Dobbins, Chaplain Marvin Jackson’s son in law; Jean Glaubitz (Gerald Glaubitz, PP’s wife); Robert “Leon” Meekins; Alvin Mugmon; Brittany Byington; and Steve Lewis in our thoughts and prayers.

I would like to send get well wishes to Past President’s Richard Yinger, Bob Cumberland, Leonard King, Danny Davis and Joseph Robinson, E/C Chairman Dennis Skinner, E/C member John Guntow and Jim Seavey, Marcia Roth, and Donna Struntz.

Congratulations to our members and companies who have reached milestones with the volunteer Fire, Rescue and EMS service. Congratulations to Aberdeen VFD on their 125th Anniversary and Water Witch Fire Company on 50 years of EMS service.

I want to say thank you for the hospitality that was shown to me as I attended banquets across the state.

Congratulations to Dr. Burt Clark on his retirement from the National Fire Academy after 42 years of government service. I also want to do a “shout out” to the Washington County High School Fire and Rescue Academy on being named the recipient of the Junior Firefighter Program of the year award presented by the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC).

Congratulations to LAMSFA President Carol Hayden on her Spring Conference hosted by United Communities VFD in Stevensville. President Olson, 2nd Vice President Roth, Chaplain Long and Chaplain Hetz and Past President Phil Hurlock.

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MIEMSS News Briefs

James W. Brown
Director, Educational Support Services
Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS)

National EMS Week 2014, May 18-24

National Emergency Medical Services Week 2014 will be observed May 18-24, bringing together communities and emergency medical personnel to publicize safety and honor those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of medicine's "front line." This year's theme is "EMS: Dedicated. For Life." Wednesday, May 21, is Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Day. Again this year, MIEMSS will honor our EMS Stars of Life and Right Care When It Counts awardees during EMS Week 2014. MSFA President Jackie Olson served as a member of the review process.

2014 MD Medical Protocols for EMS Provider Educational Update

The Protocol Updates for the 2014 Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers are available on MIEMSS Online Training Center (www.emsonlinetraining.com), and available on DVD for company drills from all MIEMSS Regional Offices. Electronic versions of the full protocols, as well as just the replacement pages and spreadsheet are available on www.miemss.org under the EMS PROVIDERS tab. The printed Spiral-bound and pocket versions are now available. Each Maryland EMS provider will receive a copy of the pocket version. Please remember, all EMS Providers must complete the “Meet the Protocols” version that matches their level of certification or licensure before July 1, 2014. If you have any questions about the online training center, please email onlinetraining@miemss.org or call the Office of Licensure and Certification at 800-762-7157 or 410-706-3666.

New eMEDS Support Phone Number

MIEMSS has set up a dedicated phone line for eMEDS support. The phone number for all questions regarding eMEDS® I is 410-706-3669. This will simplify provider access for help with the eMEDS® system when needed. Email messages may also be sent to eMEDS-Support@miemss.org.
From the days of the earliest organized fire companies, colors have played an important part of our fire service traditions. Many companies actually designated a company color in their original charter. In some cases, company colors were adopted to identify equipment and hose. There is still double jacket hose in Frederick with red, green or blue painted around the hose near the coupling. This method was particularly useful on a major fire when the “spaghetti” was untangled.

Hand tub apparatus and steam pumphers would have ornate decorations, sayings or even murals to illustrate company pride. Even today, apparatus decorations adorn engines, ambulances and a variety of fire/rescue apparatus. The ambulances of the Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department and Grasonville Fire Company have colorful Chesapeake Bay murals. The heavy rescue squad of the Vigilant Hose Co. of Emmitsburg features the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial.

Ambulances have varied in colors, from all black “combination coaches” used by funeral directors to the mandatory orange and white ambulances of the 1980’s painted to meet DOT funding requirements. Most frequently, the predominant white color for EMS units is augmented with red, maroon or orange. But even aqua, purple or blue can be seen on EMS units throughout the state.

Fire apparatus colors can add local flavor to the behemoths of today’s fire response. Though any combination of red and white seems to be the color scheme of choice, the entire painter’s palette can be seen throughout the state. In the 1970’s and 1980’s painting apparatus “safety colors” that included orange, yellow or lime became popular. The Baltimore City Fire Department not only painted the apparatus and ambulances orange and white, but, to the horror of fire memorabilia collectors, even coated ancient fire boxes located throughout the city solid orange. Today, a more traditional white over red color scheme is adorns the BCFD rigs.

For the last 80 years, The Independent Hose Co. No. 1 of Frederick has used their company color of green to adorn apparatus. Ultimately, a green and white color scheme was adopted by the Carroll Manor Volunteer Fire Company when they purchased the 1937 Seagrave pumper from the Independents to organize a community fire company in 1954. Engine 3, the Independent-Junior Fire Company of Hagerstown, used an emerald green and white trim color on their Mack apparatus. The rich green of the Long Green Fire Company of Baltimore County is complimented with white, but the original Long Green 1926 American LaFrance on display at the American LaFrance Museum in North Charleston, SC is fully LaFrance red.

Though red is still by far the most prevalent color, the mixture of red with other colors seems to outweigh overall red apparatus. Since the showing of “Backdraft” in local theatres, the Chicago black-over-red has color mix has become very popular.
Harford Cecil Firemen’s Association Memorial

by Eileen Edelin

The Harford Cecil Firemen’s Association (HCFA) Memorial was hosted by Singerly Fire Company, Elkton, on Saturday March 29, 2014.

The 2014 Memorial Program book was dedicated in memory of Captain David R. Barr, Jr., Line of Duty Death, November 7, 2013.

Thirty seven deceased members of the Harford Cecil Firemen’s Association were honored.

Three hundred members representing the Fire-EMS Auxiliary from throughout Harford and Cecil counties were in attendance to pay tribute to our lost loved ones along with the families of the deceased. The theme of the program was the "Maltese Cross".

Truck companies (Fallston and Rising Sun) displayed the American flag in respect of all the volunteers that passed away in the year 2013.

Perryville Fire Co. and Water Witch Fire Co. had an engine at the entrance of SFC in remembrance of Davey Barr.

Three hundred members representing the Fire-EMS Auxiliary throughout Harford and Cecil attended the memorial program.

This year’s memorial, paying tribute to 37 deceased members was held at the Singerly Fire Company in Elkton.

Eileen Edelin, the Chairperson
President’s Corner - continued

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These past two months since our last executive committee meeting have been busy but as I have said before it has been time well spent educating our Legislators about the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Personnel of this great state.

The Vice President’s and I have been attending meetings and hearings in Annapolis. As everyone knows, this is a very busy part of the year for the association, each Friday morning the Maryland Fire Service Caucus meets in Annapolis and on Monday afternoons the Fire Caucus meets with Delegate James Malone. I would like to thank Delegate Malone, Delegate Conway, Delegate Wood, Senator Glassman and Senator DeGrange for their continued support of the fire service and wish Delegate Malone, Delegate Wood and Senator Glassman best wishes and they leave the Legislation after many years of service. All in all there are 46 delegates and 7 Senators that are leaving or pursuing another position within their county or State.

I want to thank Chairman Richard Smith, Carene Housenfluck, Marion Nicholson, Teresa Ann Crisman, Elaine Huttenloch and Jane Huffman for their dedication and support during the legislative session, they have put in over 2,000 hours of service to keep the doors open on 17 State circle. I would also like to thank the committee and the members who always answered the call when we needed support for a bill as well as Justin Towles and Mike Souder for their behind the scenes work. We had many successes this year in regards to the Senator Amoss fund and the Income Tax Subtraction Deduction and more details to come in the June 2014 issue.

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Active Military Photos Sought

The Maryland State Firemen’s Association is looking to complete a tribute to members of our organization serving in the military at the convention in June. They are looking for photos of members that are currently serving our country so that they can be included. Being accepted are photos of members in their military uniforms and if they have sent any, photos from their duty stations as well.

For more information or to email photos, contact Teresa Crisman at tacrisman@co.pg.md.us or tacrisman@hotmail.com

Buckle up MD

Click It or Ticket Campaign for 2014 – “Buckle Up Maryland – Day or Night, It’s the Law”

Attention: All Volunteer Fire, Rescue and EMS companies, please display your Buckle Up banners from Monday, May 12 through Sunday, June 1st and forward any pictures or outdoor signs to MIEMSS Media at jbrown@miemss.org. Have a safe and happy spring and summer.
President’s Corner—continued

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On March 4, the Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association broke ground for their new $5 million Training Center, it will replace the 30 year old training facility and on March 5, 2014 a ribbon cutting ceremony was held to commemorate the commencement of full service mission operation of the new AW 139 helicopter for the Salisbury section (Trooper 4), it will be located at the Salisbury-Ocean City Wicomico Regional Airport. Congratulations to the Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Assn and MSP/MSP Aviation Command!

The Conference and Convention committee is busy working on the upcoming convention and I want to thank Ron and his team for all their countless hours and dedication in outing together a successful event each year.

With your assistance, my term has been a memorable experience that I will treasure always along with the many friendships I have made along the way. First Vice President Keller is building his committees for the coming year and if you are interested in the many committees of the MSFA, the committee form is on our website.

See you down the Ocean,
Jackie

The MSFA and LAMSFA Officers with Convention Chair Ron Siarnicki and company enjoying some down time at Harbor Watch.
Water Witch Banquet

By Eileen Edelin

The Water Witch Fire Company celebrated its 50th Birthday of Emergency Medical Services at the organization’s banquet on March 22, 2014.

The banquet was dedicated in memory of David R. "Davey" Barr, Jr. Line of Duty Death.

Three members of the Water Witch Ladies Auxiliary were inducted into the HCFA Ladies Auxiliary Hall of Fame - Anne Gibson, Carrie McCall and Stephanie Gibson.

Additional Water Witch banquet photo on page 11

The banquet was dedicated to the memory of Captain David R. "Davey" Barr, Jr.

Inductee Anne Gibson receiving a proclamation from Cecil County Government. Council President Robert Hodge is presenting the proclamation.

Inductee Carrie McCall
The Ancient and Honorable Mechanical Company 250 Years Old

By Chip Jewell

In 1763, Baltimore was not more than a village, and over 30 years from becoming an incorporated town. But in 1763, The Ancient and Honorable Mechanical Company of Baltimore was formed to “discharge nearly all the duties of government of the town, it’s policing, magisterial functions, etc., and in addition, acted as firemen.” In 2013, the Ancient and Honorable Mechanical Company celebrates 250 continuous meetings, technically making it the oldest fire company in Maryland.

The Independent Hose Co. No. 1, organized in 1818, lays claim to the oldest continuously operating fire company in Maryland, with roots to the first fire engine in Frederick in 1764. However, the organization of the “Mechanical Company” has met every year since 1763. The “Mechanical Company” also served as a military unit, both in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. In 1776, company members organized the “Son’s of Liberty”. “Mechanical” Captain Jas. Cox was killed on September 11, 1777, and believed to be the first Marylander killed in the Revolution. The “Mechanical Volunteers” were organized during the War of 1812 and were instrumental in the Battle of North Point. A monument to the “First Mechanical Volunteers” was erected in their honor on North Point Rd.

Though the company initially opposed Baltimore incorporating, James Calhoun, the first mayor of Baltimore, was a prominent member of the “Mechanical Company”. Many of the streets of downtown Baltimore are named after company members. The first fire engine purchased by the “Mechanical Company” was actually a pump from a sailing ship used to wet sails. The ship was “Dido of Amsterdam”, thus, the pumper became known as “Little Dutchman” and served the company for ninety years. Company members “subscribed” to provide funds for the engine and fire company requisite equipment. Each member also purchased two leather buckets to be “hung in a public place near the entrance door.” In 1821, the “Mechanical Company” purchased the “Old Lady”, a pump engine built in Philadelphia by Perkins & Bacon. Approximately 1847, the engine was rebuilt by the Rodgers Company of Baltimore. After the purchase of the steam fire engine “Maryland” in 1859, the Baltimore City Fire Department was born and all “Mechanical” equipment and buildings were turned over to the new department. The “Old Lady” was eventually sold to the United Fire Company of Frederick and remained in service there until replaced in 1878 by the “Lily of the Swamp” a Clapp & Jones steamer. The “Old Lady” was eventually placed in service at the United Volunteer Fire Company of Libertytown until sold. The last response of the “Mechanical Company” came on May 5, 1859 at the corner of Broadway and Thames. However, even though the company was absorbed into the Baltimore City Fire Department, the membership voted to continue meeting and keep the company intact.

The “Old Lady” hand tub engine returned to Frederick about 5 years ago and is on display at the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum in Emmitsburg, restored to pumping condition. There is still a bit of mystery surrounding the “Old Lady” as all primary documentation indicates she is the actual engine owned by the “Mechanical Company” but the description in the “Mechanical” history does not match the present unit. Did the United Fire Co. replace the original “Old Lady” but keep her name? Did the “Mechanical Company” sell another engine to the Uniteds as the “Old Lady”? Is the description in the history inaccurate? Many questions still surround this piece of history, but until officially disproved, she is considered the “Old Lady” of the “Mechanical Company.”

Today, Engine 4 of the Baltimore City Fire Department is the predecessor to the Mechanical Fire Company and displays pictures of much of the early equipment. The Ancient and Honorable Mechanical Company is made up of active, retired and volunteer firefighters from around the Metropolitan Baltimore (except a few foreigners from Frederick County, including yours truly), as well as a large number of prominent businessmen and professionals from around the Baltimore area. The organization meets the first Thursday of December of each year, and still has a report from the “Pirates and Indians” committee. Laying claim as the oldest civic organization in the nation, the organization is technically the oldest company.

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Chip’s Logbook

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apparatus displays a serene light yellow hue. County purchased apparatus has replaced the variety of colors initially used by volunteer corporations. The all white Orens of the Gaithersburg-Washington Grove Volunteer Fire Department and solid red “R” Macks of the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department have given way to the standard white over red Montgomery County colors.

The new color scheme of the county owned apparatus in Howard County has been accused of being “Redskin” colors, referencing the Washington football team. Painting apparatus “team” colors may have roots in the town of Walkersville. The “Big Sky Blue” or, as Pierce has dubbed, “Walkersville Blue” apparatus of the Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company may be attributed to the school colors. Local lore tells of an agreement of a local resident to donate land for the first firehouse if the fire company would paint the apparatus the Walkersville Lions High School colors. As many have witnessed, the radiant blue of the Walkersville engines, quint and brush trucks have become a favorite of fire buffs and apparatus aficionados.

Pink fire engines show support for breast cancer awareness, and patriotic red, white and blue on some apparatus memorialize the hero’s of 9/11. Nationally, nearly every color imaginable has been seen on fire trucks, ambulances and other fire service vehicles. But, when you order your apparatus, make sure you not only use a paint number, but specify the actual color in your contract. My home company in Libertytown purchased an engine years ago and used a paint number that was different between apparatus builders. A neighboring fire company visiting the manufacturing plant gave us a picture of our engine on final assembly. Instead of a white over pumper, we almost received an engine that was white over battleship gray. Navy Fire Chief Steve Cox, PP would have been thrilled. The Libertytown Volunteer Fire Department chorus could have sung “Anchors Away”!

Fire Company may be attributed to the school colors. Local lore tells of an agreement of a local resident to donate land for the first firehouse if the fire company would paint the apparatus the Walkersville Lions High School colors. As many have witnessed, the radiant blue of the Walkersville engines, quint and brush trucks have become a favorite of fire buffs and apparatus aficionados.

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MSFA Dave Keller with Miss Fire Prevention Runner-Up 2014 in Easton in November to mark operation of the AgustaWestland AW-139 helicopter deployed on the Eastern Shore.
The Ancient and Honorable Mechanical

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continuously meeting fire company in Maryland, though not responding to actual fires since 1859. The Maryland State Firemen’s Association offers congratulations to the officers and members of the Ancient and Honorable Mechanical Company on the 250th anniversary and their commitment helping preserve our fire service history and traditions.

Author’s Note: Most of the information contained in this article was retrieved from The Ancient and Honorable Mechanical Company a Historical Sketch by George McCreary, former Baltimore City Librarian. “Old Lady” Photo courtesy of authors collection.

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Editor’s Note

Welcome to the April 2014 edition of the Volunteer Trumpet, the newsletter of the MSFA.

In this issue, we welcome a new contributor from Kent County, Nevin Steffy. A Galena Fire Company member, he does fire service photography for Upper Shore companies, and he has provided the Volunteer Trumpet with excellent coverage of new apparatus in Kent County. Thanks Nevin.

Water Witch Banquet Life Member Recognized

As our correspondents and photographers get ready to start working on the June/Convention issue please let us know if you have any ideas or suggestions for coverage, or content we should share.

We are pleased to hear from you as our goal is to print interesting and informative content for volunteer fire, rescue and EMS personnel of Maryland.

And we are always looking for additional contributors to provide coverage around Maryland. So be sure to send your company & MSFA material, including photos, to the editor at Mike Dixon, Editor trumpet@msfa.org

Life member Maggie Jackson with Eileen Edelin. See main article on page 8.

The “Old Lady” and tub trailer as she appears today. Both units are on display at the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum, 300 South Seton Ave. in Emmitsburg, MD just north of the National Fire Academy.
The Volunteer Trumpet
A publication of the Maryland State
Firemen's Association
www.msfa.org
55 Sunnybrook Drive
Elkton, MD 21921

Representing the volunteer fire, rescue and EMS personnel of Maryland

The Pittsville Volunteer Fire Company in March 2013, Photo Credit: Mike Dixon, Editor