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Legislative Session 2014 Ends

By Jackie Olson

During the 90 days of the 2014 Legislative session, the Maryland Senate introduced 1117 bills and the House of Delegates introduced 1555 bills. The MSFA 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 as they leave the Legislation after many years of service.

I would also like to thank Delegate Eric Luedtke for all his assistance with the Income Tax Subtraction Modification bill and the Maryland Association of Counties for their assistance and support for the Senator Amoss fund bill. All in all, there are 46 delegates and 7 Senators that are leaving or pursuing another position within their county or State.

The Legislative Session ended on midnight Monday, April 7th and the MSFA enjoyed a very successful session with the following bills being passed and they have been signed by Governor O'Malley.



Washington Co. VFA Pres. Dale Hill, MSFA Legislative Chairman Richard Smith, Legislative committee member Laura Woods, MSFA Pres. Jackie Olson, MSFA First VP Dave Keller, Maryland Military Legislative & Government Affairs Director Catherine Kelly, Talbot Co. Director of Emergency Service Clay Stamp and MSP Supt. Col. Brown

HB308/SB338 – Public Safety – Statewide Interoperability Radio Controlled Board – Established. This establishes the Statewide Interoperability Radio Control maintenance of

the Statewide Public Safety Interoperability Radio System (Maryland FIRST). Effective June 1, 2014.

HB365/SB254 – Public Safety – Fire, Rescue and Ambulance Funds – Distribution. This alters the distribution of and permissible uses of, funds from the Amoss funds. You can acquire land for a specified purpose, authorize funds to be used to install specified systems and to

acquire telecommunication devices, computers, equipment and machinery under specified circumstances; providing that funds be distributed to volunteer companies based on needs; requiring a county to distribute money to volunteer companies located in qualified municipalities; defining terms, etc. ; providing that a county shall be deemed in compliance with a certain requirement if it has participated in the Maryland Fire Incident Reporting System and the State Fire marshal and the Executive Director of the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System make certain notifications to the Director of the Maryland Emergency Management Agency by a certain date; and adopt policies and procedures for determining whether a county has participated in certain reporting systems; and authorizing MEMA to withhold certain money from a county if certain requirements are not met; defining maintenance of effort and encumbering funds for long term purchases.

Effective July 1, 2014

HB378/SB440 – Somerset County – Service Award Program for Emergency Medical Services and Fire and Rescue

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The President's Corner

by Jacqueline Olson

As I sit here, writing for the final edition of the Volunteer *Trumpet*, I realize that my tenure as President of this great organization is coming to an end. Only one more month as I reflect 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.

First and foremost, I want to thank you all, the Firefighters, EMS Personnel, Administrative Officers and Members, Cadets and Ladies Auxiliary members, for what you do on a daily basis for your community, county and State. I also 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.

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 putting together a successful event each year.

I encourage you to take the time to look over the schedule of activities for the 122nd Annual Convention and Conference that is attached to this edition of the *Trumpet*. For more information, visit our website at www.msfa.org and click on Convention 2014 events.

I would like to extend my Congratulations to MSFA Ladies Auxiliary President Carol Hayden on a successful Spring Conference and your hospitality over this past year. I wish you and your Officers the best as they make their way to the goal of Ladies Auxiliary President. It has been a pleasure and

thanks for the friendship and adventures. I wish you the Best of luck as you also wind down your year and Congratulations again.

Thanks to Past President John Denver for manning our booth at EMS Care in Ocean City and the upcoming event at the end of May, the Maryland Emergency Management Conference also in Ocean city. This year the Maryland Municipal League will hold their convention the week before ours and the President, Vice President's will be attending. I also meet with the Life Safety Task Force developed by the Metropolitan Chiefs and we will be hosting a seminar for them down the ocean at our convention, and the MSFA Safety Committee will be playing a role in that seminar.

Congratulations to Colonel Brown, Maryland State Police and Major Lioi, Maryland State Police Aviation Command on Trooper 7 being put into service on May 14, 2014 in the Southern Maryland Region. We are so privilege to have a "World Premiere EMS System to include MIEMSS, Shock Trauma, MSP and MSFA. It is truly a blessing to have these partners who go above and beyond to provide the best service to the citizens of this great State.

I want to thank the Jr. Miss Fire Prevention committee and offer "Congratulations to the young ladies who took home the title of a regional Jr. Miss Fire Prevention."

I want to wish all the recipients of the Frederick County VFRA Awards Ceremony held in April and wish the Best of Luck to the new Officers of the Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen's Association, Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association and the Allegany – Garrett Volunteer Fire and Rescue

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Shock Trauma Gala



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Members of the MSFA and MSFALA attended the Annual R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center’s Gala on April 26, 2014. The theme of this year’s event was “The Architecture of A Hero”. The event paid tribute to 57 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel and medical heroes who represented Maryland’s highly coordinated trauma and EMS system.

Helicopter Dedication—Southern MD



"We have to be grateful to the Town of Ocean City and the State of Maryland for having the foresight in the mid 1960's to realize the need for a large facility to accommodate conventions and conferences to attract more people to the Maryland Atlantic resort."

"Thousands will listen to excellent presentations, take practical training, view the latest technology, and share the annual camaraderie. Welcome to the 122nd Maryland State Firemen's Association Convention and Conference."

Chip's Firehouse Logbook: Past, Present and Future

Under Construction

by Clarence "Chip" Jewell, III

The 122nd annual convention of the Maryland State Firemen's Association will face some unique challenges in 2014. Though some construction has taken place during the last two conventions, this year we will most likely face many interior building changes, entire rooms relocated, walls moved and restricted space. Though, in the long run, the Roland H. Powell Convention and Conference Center will enhance the visitor experience in Ocean City, those attending the Maryland State Firemen's Association Convention in Conference in 2014 must be flexible, adaptable, and patient.

We have to be grateful to the Town of Ocean City and the State of Maryland for having the foresight in the mid 1960's to realize the need for a large facility to accommodate conventions and conferences to attract more people to the Maryland Atlantic resort. It was probably not a coincidence funding for the construction occurred while former MSFA president J. Mil-

lard Tawes served as governor of Maryland. Direct lobbying of Eastern Shore political allies Governor Tawes and Ocean City Mayor Hugh Cropper and support of the MSFA during the legislative session provided the demonstrated need for such a versatile facility. The excellent relationship of the town and MSFA were critical factors that made the dream of a convention center a reality.

Prior to 1969, the MSFA conventions in Ocean City were held at City Hall in downtown Ocean City. The building was tight quarters for the entire convention delegation and

"Prior to 1969, the MSFA conventions in Ocean City were held at City Hall in downtown Ocean City"

lacked air conditioning during hot June days. The Memorial Service was held in the church beside the city hall and officer banquet at the American Legion. Today, the membership of the MSFA is over 370 companies. Thou-

sands of fire service personnel attend training, displays and demonstrations. The facilities of the 1969 convention would not begin to provide space for today's modern convention and conference.

I attended the first convention held at the Convention Center in 1970. Entering the Convention Center was a living dream for many members of MSFA. The massive assembly room, stage and numerous

additional rooms were a far cry from the cramped downtown conventions of the past.



The new convention center was a glimmering structure with a brilliant newness throughout. A large room to accommodate thousands with a permanent stage was a massive change to the downtown meeting hall. An exhibit area and a covered area on bayside for the annual crab feed were welcome additions and added to the fun and frivolity of the convention.

But, as the convention continued to grow, and Ocean City attracted more and more conferences, entertainment and large gatherings, another addition was planned to provide an even greater venue. The 1997 expansion of the Roland E. Powell Convention Center provided an excellent location for indoor apparatus displays, "skyboxes" for sponsors, and increased eating areas. The long ramp that bisected the parking lot was gone, and a circular entrance and additional parking replaced the concrete causeway. Instead of a long and massive structure, a new asphalt lot provided greater space for outdoor exhibits of apparatus and equipment. A magnificent new entrance and bay view

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Legislative Session 2014

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Personnel. It authorizes the Board of County Commissioners for Somerset County to establish and fund a volunteer service award program for qualified members of volunteer fire departments, ambulance companies, and rescue squads. Effective July 1, 2015



HB1228/SB1070 – Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Emergency



Medical Services Members. It increases the amount of subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for specified qualifying volunteer fire, rescue, and emergency medical services members for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2013. \$250 dollar increases to cap out at \$5,000 in the year 2019.

HB1366/SB503 – Public Schools – Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Automated External Defibrillator Instruction (Breanna’s Law). It requires each local board of education to provide, beginning with the 2015-2016 school year, instructions in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in every public school that enrolls students in any of grades 7 through 12. Effective July 1, 2014.

In addition to these bills, the MSFA continues to watch the budget actions which are now done by a special legislative session. The funding allocated for the operations of MSFA has been put in the supplemental budget (it was overlooked in the Governor’s budget) and an added bonus was an increase to the Widows and Or-

phans funds of \$25,000 which is greatly appreciated and needed for our member families who have lost a love one who provided service to his or her community. The VCAF Fund will continue to receive funding from moving violations and the Senator Amoss (508) fund and received a \$1.7 million increase this year.

The MSFA Legislative Committee worked very hard during the 90 day session on behalf of the volunteer fire, rescue and emergency medical services personnel. I want to thank Legislative 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 Past President’s Bernie Smith, Danny Davis and Richard Yinger and the members who always answered the call when we needed support for a bill as well as Justin Towles and Mike Salter for their behind the scenes work.



Annapolis State House on Sine Die – last day/ night of the 2014 Legislative Session with Eric Bernard, Johnnie Roth, Delegate Eric Luedtke, Dave Salter, Justin Towles, Rick Blair, Richard Smith, Jackie Olson and Dale Hill.

Editor’s Note

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

In this issue, we welcome a new column by DSFM Bruce Bouch. Bruce will keep an eye out for important events of interest to our readers and provide us with a calendar of dates. Thank you Bruce.

As we get ready for the August issue please let us know if you have any ideas or suggestions for coverage. 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.

*Mike Dixon, Editor
trumpet@msfa.org*

“As I sit here, writing for the final edition of the Volunteer Trumpet, I realize that my tenure as President of this great organization is coming to an end. Only one more month as I reflect 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.”
President Olson

Chip's Logbook

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dining greeted conventioners.

In 2014, the delegates and guests to the 122nd convention will again be faced with building expansion. The Roland E. Powell Convention Center has truly become a center for the arts. The frequent use as an arts and entertainment center has required yet another expansion and internal renovation to better utilize the facility. Construction activities are still evident. Convention sessions, meetings and memorial service will see a dramatic change of internal scenery.

Again, we will have to improvise and adjust. But, the end result will be another advancement to the facility that will truly be state of the

art. The expansion project will provide an entertainment and arts facility to compliment to convention and conferences. Though our organization was a moving force in 1969, we must realize this facility, and the Ocean City community, continue to evolve as a year round destination.

Regardless of the inconvenience, this year Ocean City will host a premier fire/rescue service event. Thousands will listen to excellent presentations, take practical training, view the latest technology, and share the annual camaraderie. Welcome to the 122nd Maryland State Firemen's Association Convention and Conference.

Thanks to President Jackie Olson for her exemplary service to our association. And welcome to the incoming President Dave Keller. I have personally known Dave for many, many years and very proud to have him join the legions of other presidents that have represented Frederick County in the leadership of MSFA. And thanks to you, the men and women of Maryland's volunteer fire and rescue service for your commitment and dedication to your community and the citizens of our state. Welcome to Ocean City!!

President's Corner - continued

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Association. Happy Anniversary to Gamber and Community Volunteer Fire Department for celebrating 50 years of service to their community this month. In closing, I would just like to say thank you again and I look forward to seeing you all down the ocean, Hon. Be safe and God Bless.

*Jacqueline Olson,
 President*



I want to thank Past President Gene Worthington for serving for over 8 years on the Maryland Emergency Medical Services Board and Welcome Past President Fred Cross to the Board as MSFA representative, Good Luck to Fred and again many thanks to Gene.



Thank you to Delegate James "Jim" Malone we are going to miss you!

Working Together to Make Maryland Fire Safe

Brian S. Geraci
State Fire Marshal

Many of you have heard me speak about partnerships and relationships which I continue to reinforce with my staff weekly if not every day. The relationship we have with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association is one that we value each and every day. You see, we need your help and support to continue to make fire prevention our most important service we provide to our communities each and every day.

The recent community risk reduction weekend is a great example of this; by us working together we are making a difference in all of your communities across this great state. Not only are you helping save the lives of your citizens, but also your brother and sister firefighters. This has always been with me as I traveled down the fire prevention path many years ago when I started my fire service career with the Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department that not only are we protecting the public but ourselves.

The way to protect us is by preventing fires and continuing to educate the public about the dangers associated with fire. Several months ago, the tenth anniversary of the Firefighter’s Life Safety Initiatives was held in Tampa, Florida. Most, if not all of the breakout groups, came back to report that fire prevention was the number one way of preventing firefighter injuries and/or deaths.

I would ask that you embrace all of the 16 Life Safety Initiatives that were developed ten years ago. I will also ask you place more emphasis on initiative 14 - Public Education and 15 - Code Enforcement and Sprinklers. We need to continue to get the message out more into our communities. Take the time when you go back home from the

convention and develop a plan to continually get the fire prevention message out into your community. Take all advantages to interact



with the public, not just during Fire Prevention Week in October. When you do have a fire incident, make it a point to get back to that area as soon as possible to talk to the people that were impacted by this event. Promote the 10 year sealed battery smoke alarms, escape plans and to get out and stay out. If requested, install smoke alarms within the homes in your community and conduct safety reviews.

Focus on our senior and youth populations. Go to schools, day care facilities, senior centers and other locations where these folks will be located. Do not wait for them to call you, reach out and ask to come and visit and share the information and knowledge you have on preventing fires. It takes very little time, but the information that you will share goes a long way in the end.

In closing, I want to thank everyone who has welcomed me back into the Maryland fire service family. It is a great honor and privilege for me to serve as the fourth Maryland State Fire Marshal. I look forward to maintaining our long standing relationship with the MSFA and working with leadership to make Maryland safer from fire and explosions.

Save the Date

With this issue, we welcome a new column by DSFM Bruce Bouch. Dave will keep an eye on the upcoming calendar, and highlight upcoming major events of interest to readers of the Volunteer Trumpet.

By Bruce Bouch, DSFM

MSFA Convention
June 16-18, 2014

Mid Atlantic Life Safety Conference
September 23, 2014

50th Anniversary of the Office of the State Fire Marshal dinner banquet
October 18, 2014

Maryland Fire Service Risk Reduction Weekend
October 18-19, 2014

Public & Life Safety Educator’s Spring Seminar
March 28, 2015

MSFA Convention
June 20-25, 2015



Former O.C. Volunteer Fire Chief Inducted into MD State Firemen’s Hall of Fame

Editor’s Note — Chief Guntow passed away on May 15, 2014, shortly after he was inducted into the Hall of Fame. The obituary from Hastings Funeral Home follows at the end of the article.

By Jessica Waters
Ocean City FD PIO

Ocean City Volunteer Fire Co. (OCVFC) member John Guntow Jr. was recently inducted into the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Hall of Fame. A member of the OCVFC since 1975, Guntow led the division as the Assistant Chief and Fire Chief for nearly ten years of his career.

Guntow is currently an active Gold Badge member, which requires 25 or more years of active service, and he most recently served as the OCVFC treasure in 2013. “He dedicated his life to serving the Ocean City, Worcester, Wicomico, Somerset and Maryland citizens and fire, rescue and EMS providers for their safety,” said OCVFC Chief David Cropper. “Despite experiencing recent health issues over the past few years, he has continued to serve with pride for the betterment of our members and communities.”

In addition to his service to the OCVFC, Guntow served the Maryland State Firemen’s Association since 1982 after being appointed by President Smith N. Stathem, Jr. to the Exhibits Committee. Further, in 2006, he was appointed to the Executive Committee where he formally served Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset counties.

“Being inducted into the Maryland State Firemen’s Association is an honor to be bestowed upon any fireman,” said MSFA Vice

President David Keller. “Mr. Guntow has given several decades of his life to make the Ocean City community and surrounding communities a better and safer place. He is a leader, a mentor and a true hero and we are proud to present him with this award.”



Representatives from the MSFA, the Ocean City Fire Department and the Guntow family presented Guntow with the award and pin on Wednesday, May 14, at his home in West Ocean City. Despite his battle with cancer, Guntow was alert and smiling as his colleagues, family and friends honored his career and work ethic. “John is an example what being a member of the Fire Department means,” Chief Cropper continued. “He is a loyal friend, a devoted member and a faithful servant of our community and our state.”

Obituary

John F. Guntow Jr.
(April 5, 1940—May 15, 2014)

John F. Guntow, Jr., age 74, of Ocean City and formerly of College Park, MD died Thursday, May 15, 2014 at his home. He was born in Richmond, VA and was the son of the late John F. and Margaret Mary (Gallogly) Guntow Sr.

John worked for C&P Telephone for 40 years and was a former member and Past Deputy Chief of the Branchville Volunteer Fire Co in College Park. He was a Gold Badge member

and Past Chief of the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Co. and was an honored member of the Maryland State Fireman’s Association Hall of Fame.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Judith A. Guntow of Ocean City; a daughter, Diana Sullivan and her husband Wedge of Prince Frederick, MD; a brother, James A. Guntow of Crofton, MD; two sisters, Margaret “Peggy” Malloy of Hurlock and Elizabeth Burch of Colorado Springs, CO and 3 grandchildren, Annie, Maggie and Addison.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sons, John F. Guntow III in 2008 and Jeffrey M. Guntow in 2011 as well as his brother, William P. Guntow.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, May 20 at 11:00 am at St. Luke Catholic Church in Ocean City with Father Richard Smith officiating. Friends may call an hour before the Mass at the church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Ocean City Volunteer Fire Co., P.O. Box 27, Ocean City, MD 21842.

Obituary from Hastings Funeral Home, Selbyville, DE.

ELECT ROBYN SHELDON HAHN

2ND VICE PRESIDENT—MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Goals: fire prevention & education, safety & promoting youth organizations within the fire service



Hacks Point Fire Company 1977 to present

- ◆ Chairman & Secretary, Board of Directors
- ◆ Cadet Advisor & Asst. Engineer

Harford Cecil Firemen's Association

- ◆ President
- ◆ VP & Secretary
- ◆ Delegate or Alternate 30 years
- ◆ Inducted into LA Hall of Fame—2011
- ◆ Inducted into Hall of Fame—2010

Cecil Co. — County Wide LA

Community Fire Co., of Millington LA —1998-2005

- ◆ Secretary

Volunteer Fire Co., # 1 of Chesapeake City, 2004—Present

- ◆ Secretary, Board of Directors & Chaplain
- ◆ Chaired & worked on many committees
- ◆ 100th Anniversary Celebration
- ◆ Inducted into Hall of Fame—2013

Cecil County Firemen's Association

- ◆ Delegate or alternate—30 years

Maryland State Firemen's Association

- ◆ Liaison Safety Committee
- ◆ Recruitment & Retention Committee, sp'l activities
- ◆ Co-Chair Miss Fire Prevention Comm.
- ◆ Delegate or Alternate—30 Years

Ladies Auxiliary of the MSFA - Del. or Alternate 40 yrs.

- ◆ President, 2004-2005

Fredrick Co. VFRA Holds Annual Volunteer Fire & Rescue Awards Night

By Linda Canale FCFVRA

On Monday, April 21, 2014, the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association (FCVFRA) held their Annual Volunteer Fire and Rescue Recognition Program. The Program, which took place at the Walkersville VFC, provided an opportunity to recognize a few of the many contributions volunteer personnel make in providing fire and rescue service to the citizens of Frederick County. The Program featured the presentation of fifteen awards and the induction of ten individuals into the Hall of Fame. The following is summary of the award presentations:

The *Clint Hughes Award* was presented to Citizens Truck Company No. 4 for their year-round efforts in promoting fire prevention to all segments of the population in Frederick City and surrounding communities. They provided fire prevention materials to citizens during "First Saturday" events and other activities held in downtown Frederick.

The *James H. Stavely III Fire Prevention Award* was presented to Chris Ayers of the Middletown Volunteer Fire Company for his efforts in planning fire prevention activities. During special events held in downtown Middletown, Chris set up a booth at the fire station to inform the public about fire prevention and opportunities to learn more about safety. He worked with Boy and Girl Scout troops to help them reach their scouting goals.

The *Everett W. Gaver Service Award* was presented to Alan Caho of the Middletown VFC for his active service to the fire company, his church and his community.

Alan was a scout master and supporter of the Middletown Marching Band. His training in law enforcement blended well with the duties and responsibilities of the fire company. Alan serves as the senior Deacon of the Faith Baptist Church.

The *Robert L. Renner Departmental Service Award* was presented to Bonny Hurley of Rocky Ridge VFC and its' Auxiliary. Bonny acts as an Administrative Assistant compiling and completing most of the official paperwork required of a fire company, including the vital Length Of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) records. She works at most fundraising activities and events, and shows up for work details. She chairs many committees such as Open House, Santa Detail, etc. Bonny is a valuable member of Rocky Ridge VFC.

The *Mumma Outstanding Service Award* was presented to Todd Johnson of Junior Fire Company #2. He has and continues to serve as leader or member of many rescue and EMS related committees for Junior Fire Company, the Frederick County FCFVRA, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) Region II Advisory Council, the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA), as well as several civic organizations. The list of Todd's achievements goes on and on and on. He has received numerous awards recognizing his outstanding service to the fire and rescue service and citizens of Frederick County.

The *Cletta Abrecht Member of the Year Award*, which recognizes the contributions of an individual to their de-



Charles "Punky" Easterday received the FCFVRA Firefighter of the Year Award at the ceremony on April 21. Photo: Ron Watkins, MSFA PR Committee

partment, auxiliary and community, was presented to Beverly Grove of the Middletown Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary. Beverly is being recognized for over 50 years of service. Besides holding many offices in the Auxiliary, she chairs many committees and attends county and state events. Beverly is definitely a role model for any Auxiliary member to emulate.

The *Louise Lenhart Auxiliary Encouragement Award* was presented to Nancy Baker of Rocky Ridge VFC Auxiliary. This award recognizes the accomplishments of an auxiliary member who has less than eight years of membership and has displayed extraordinary leadership. Nancy started by just "helping" her sister at events sponsored by the Auxiliary. After retiring, Nancy joined the Auxiliary and has not stopped since. She has volunteered many hours to the fundraising activities that benefit the Rocky Ridge VFC and the auxiliary.

The *Charles "Mutt" Deater, Jr. Apprentice of the Year* is presented in recognition of the accomplishments and outstanding service of an apprentice member (under 18 years old). This year's award was presented to Tyler McDonald of Urbana VFD. Tyler is an honor student at Urbana High School, participates in extracurricular activities at school, is president of the 4H Gun Club and still finds time to volunteer at Urbana VFD. He completed Firefighter I and II as well as Hazmat. He runs calls and participates in training that is offered at the station. Without a doubt, Tyler is a hard-working, motivated, young man who is very deserving of this award.

The *Winona "Winnie" Crum Rookie of the Year Award* was presented to two highly qualified gentlemen. The first

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Frederick Co. VFRA Awards

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recipient was Sherman Hardesty II of Walkersville VFC for his enthusiastic attitude. Sherman was always studying the apparatus and each piece of equipment on it. The members often joked that Sherman was the best fire prevention around because whenever he was at the station there would be no emergency calls. Sherman's hard work around the station set an example for other members. The second award recipient was Ed Knott of Rocky Ridge VFC. Ed joined the company in January and immediately started Firefighter I class. He would spend hours studying and helping others in his class. He plans to continue taking classes, tackling Hazmat and Emergency Medical Responder next. Ed works hard at fundraising events and work details. Ed does all this while working two jobs and raising a daughter. His dedication to the fire service is very much appreciated.

The *Departmental Training Award*, which recognizes the professional development of the members of a department through training and education, was presented to the United Steam Fire Engine Company which had 132 hours of formal training per active member. Certificates were presented to Graceham FC which had 96 hours per active member and Independent Hose Company which had 61 hours per active member.

The *Dr. James Marrone EMS Member of the Year Award* was presented to Jennifer Toms of Lewistown District VFD. Jenn was top EMS responder in 2011 and 2012. She serves as Field Training Coach for both EMT and EMR trainees. Her leadership as chairperson of the station's EMS committee has

rejuvenated the program. Jenn's performance on calls and her leadership at the station exceeds all expectations.

The *Firefighter of the Year Award* is presented in recognition of an individual's outstanding citizenship and exemplary job achievement as an active firefighter. Charles "Punky" Easterday of Walkersville VFC was awarded this prestigious honor for 2013. When responding, Punky serves as an extra set of eyes to ensure safety or to suggest a better way to remediate the situation. He acts as a mentor to the Cadets and teaches local groups the importance of safety and fire prevention. Punky is often the person behind the scenes that makes everything go smoothly and safely.

The *Firefighter Medal of Valor* was presented to Wesley Burrier of Rock Ridge VFD. On the night of October 12, 2013 Wesley responded to a call for a vehicle accident near his home, where a woman was stranded in rapidly moving water. He was the first firefighter to arrive on the scene. The woman was out of her vehicle, standing in rapidly moving water that was rising. She was frantically crying for help. Wesley, with disregard for his own safety, waded out into the water to help her. Upon reaching the woman, he helped her out of the water and comforted her until additional responders arrived. For his selfless act of courage, Wesley deserves this honor.

The *Michael Wilcom Officer of the Year Award* recognizes the outstanding contributions of an operational officer of the Frederick County fire and rescue service. The award was presented to Chief Tommy Lakin of Jefferson Volunteer Fire Company. Chief Lakin's

leadership has inspired the membership to excel in all phases of operations at Station 20. He has been among the top responders for many years. Fire prevention is one of his priorities. Chief Lakin leads by example in emergency situations, as well as at the station. The Jefferson community and Frederick County, as a whole, benefit from having Chief Lakin helping to make it a better, safer place to live.

The *Heart of a Volunteer Award* was presented to Harvey Young of the Lewistown District VFD. Harvey has been a valued member for over forty years, helping with fundraising events, serving on committees and much more. Recently, Harvey has been exhibiting signs of Alzheimer's Disease. It is hard to imagine anything more devastating than losing every memory you've ever had. Harvey no longer recognizes the people who he has served with for years in the fire department. The one thing he does remember though is being a member of Lewistown District Volunteer Fire Department. He continues to attend meetings, work details and participates in other tasks that he is capable of completing in order to still donate his time to his community. Despite dealing with a devastating disease, Harvey continues to display qualities that define the heart of a volunteer.

The highlight of the program was the induction of ten new members into the FCVFRA Hall of Fame. Individuals inducted must have at least 10 years of distinguished service to their respective department or the County fire and rescue service. Each of these individuals has served their respective departments in many capacities and provided countless hours in fundraising events and the operational duties of their departments. This year's inductees are: Earl Powell of Woodsboro VFC; Donald L. Wachter of New Market District VFRC; James Lenhart of Braddock Heights VFD; Carroll Crum of New Midway VFC; Brian Hildebrand of

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**Representing the volunteer fire,
rescue and EMS personnel of
Maryland**

Frederick Co. VFRA Awards Night

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Ten volunteer members of Frederick County's fire and rescue departments were inducted into the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association's Hall of Fame at the FCVFRA Awards Ceremony held on April 21. Pictured here, (l. to r., seated) James Lenhart, Braddock Heights VFD; Jean Main, Lewistown District VFD and Woodsboro VFC Auxiliary; Helen Burrier, Rocky Ridge VFC Auxiliary; Allie Wachter (for Donald Wachter, deceased), New Market District VFRC; and Brian Hildebrand, United Fire Company. Standing (l to r) – Earl Powell, Woodsboro VFC; Carroll Crum, New Midway VFC; Dave Snyder, Jefferson VFC, Keith Brown, Junior Fire Company; and Ron Eury, Independent Hose Co., Junior Fire Co., Braddock Heights VFD, and Middletown VFC. Photo: Ron Watkins MSFA PR Committee

United FC; Ron Eury of Independent Hose Company, Braddock Heights VFD, Middletown VFC and Junior FC; Keith Brown of Junior FC; Helen Burrier of Rocky Ridge VFC Auxiliary; David C. Snyder of Jefferson VFC; Jean Main of Lewistown District VFD Auxiliary and Woodsboro VFC Auxiliary

A special presentation was made to Nicole Frushour, of Myersville VFC, for saving the life of Salisbury University baseball player. The ballplayer collapsed at the end of a game. During the assessment of the player, it was discovered that he was not breathing and had no pulse. Nicole started CPR, called for the AED and advised that 911 be called. Nicole continued CPR as the AED was placed on the patient. Within several minutes, he was revived and care was transferred to paramedics who arrived on the scene. The patient now has a SICD (subcutaneous implantable cardioverter defibrillator) and has returned to playing baseball. Nicole credits her quick thinking, her ability to remain calm and focused during a highly stressful situation and her EMT skills to the training that she received as a member of Myersville VFC, MFRI, and Salisbury University.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Frederick County VFRA provided refreshments for the ceremony. The Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company made available the use of their hall; Ron Watkins provided photographic services; and Rhonda Cunningham of the Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services provided support assistance.

