

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Look Your Best	1
Job Related Stress	1
President's Corner	2
Oxford Day	3
Governor Signs Bills	5
Chip's Logbook	5
Frederick Co. Awards	6
Chaplain's Corner	7
Ernie the Elephonat	7
Mock MVA in Queen Anne's Co.	11
Water Witch Auxiliary	14
Police Unity Tour at Galena	15

Look Your Best to Your Community

By Ron Watkins,
MSFA Public Relations committee

Warm weather is finally here. Many activities that have been on hold all winter are now up and coming.

These activities offer a chance to show our communities the equipment that we have and the facilities from where we operate. Parades to community fairs and events, the people that live in our areas and contribute to our fundraisers are able to observe our equipment and looking at the new engine, rescue rig, or ambulance.

It also allows our constituents a chance to tour the renovations we have been making to our stations. We need to present a good im-

pression to these people that support us year-round.

First, look at your station. What do our constituents see? Do they see a well-kept facility, or do they see a place with the grass and weeds high all around. Are pieces of equipment laying around haphazardly, or are the stations neat and tidy?

Do the stations have a shabby appearance, with dirty windows and fading or peeling paint, or are the stations clean and well maintained? Are the members "goofing off" in front of the station? All of these things can give your constituents a bad opinion of how the department runs. Our constituents don't see or understand the actions we take

at fires and rescue scenes – they just know what they see on the surface.

Our apparatus are our biggest asset in our efforts to protect our community, but what kind of impression does the equipment give to those who see it? Many of our stations throughout the State are not "super houses", running several calls a day; in fact some go for several days without an alarm.

Is the equipment sitting there with a deep layer of dust on all the surfaces? When a visitor comes in for information or to attend a function, does it look like you just drove through a dust storm? This gives

Continued on page 9

Job Related Stress

By Bruce Secrist

It is becoming more and more frequent that we have to deal with multiple fatal incidents. All of us have to deal with fatalities that comes with the job; however, for the most part we only have to deal with one fatality at a time.

Dealing with single fatalities is tough enough, but dealing with multiple fatalities takes a toll on everyone.

Here are a few examples of multiple deaths throughout Maryland within the last nine months. Anne Arundel County had a large house fire in which

six lives were lost. Queen Anne's, Talbot, and Worcester Counties had Multiple Vehicle Collisions (MVC) in which five,

three, and three lives were lost, respectively. Somerset County had a carbon monoxide poisoning in which eight lives

Continued on page 9



Talbot and Queen Anne's County units working a major rescue incident on Route 404

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Continued page 4

The President's Corner

by David Keller, III

As I sit to write my final convention reports for the convention book and the opening ceremony to our great convention, I had the chance to look back at the things I was blessed to be a part of as President.

The MSFA Officers and I had an opportunity to work closely with the State Fire Marshal's office in Annapolis this year on legislation issues such as the Senator Amoss 508 Fund. Fire Marshal Geraci placed Allison Nicodemus in charge of the monthly fire reports this year and she has done a great job keeping them up to date. In addition, I had the privilege of taking my son, Davey, to the Fireworks demonstration held by the State Fire Marshal and I was honored to attend the State Fire Marshal 50th Anniversary celebration.

The last year has allowed us to have four successful MSFA Executive Meetings. These were held at Williamsport Volunteer Fire and EMS Company, Pocomoke City Volunteer Fire Company, Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company and Urbana Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad.

As part of the meetings this year, we did a Bessie Marshall fundraiser on Sundays. My goal was to raise \$900 which would fully support a claim made to the fund. I'm proud to say we raised \$1,000 thanks to everyone who participated.

We also tried to devote time at the meetings to have topics presented from partners in the local area that related to the fire service. Thanks to Children's Village, Liz Marks and Kim O'Malley for taking time from their busy schedules to provide us with their insight and to help us increase our knowledge as providers.

I want to thank everyone who dedicated their time to making these meetings

productive and a great success.

The MSFA once again shined as an Association when the Federation of Fire Chaplains held their conference in Annapolis Maryland this year. Thanks to John Long and the team for making this a success. Also I



want to congratulate John again as he was awarded Chaplain of the Year by the Federation of Fire Chaplains.

As in previous years the MSFA officers had the opportunity to participate in some annual events. The first was the National Fallen Fighters Foundation Memorial Weekend, where we handed out lithograph's of the memorial and talked to the families who lost a love one. The second was the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association Convention where we get to network and work with other member states. I always enjoy the conventions as I get to see old friends. I would like to acknowledge and say hello to the group in West Virginia; Mark, Dennis, Dave, Traci and the rest.

The Delaware Fire School held a 50th Anniversary Celebration where I learned some history of how Maryland has held a long standing friendship with the School through partnerships with MFRI and John Hogle. Congratulations needs to go out to MSP Aviation for having all of the new helicopters in service early and thank you for allowing the MSFA to be a part of the helicopter dedication ceremonies.

Continued on page 4

Oxford Day

By Kelly Renshaw

Oxford Day is a time to celebrate our great town and all the wonderful people we call our neighbors and friends.

Our fire company had the honor of grilling up delicious food for the town's hungry folks. The fire company worked through the day with smiles and enjoyed interacting with the community they serve.

While the chief and the company worked up a sweat at the grill, the fire company was also happy to pass out candy for the little ones, "anything to make the town smile" said ambulance captain, Steve Mroczek.

Oxford Day started in 1994 and our fire company has been a proud participant since the beginning.



Oxford Day, a time to celebrate a great Eastern Shore Town.

Always on the job.

For generations, we've been there — protecting the future of more emergency responders than any other provider of emergency service insurance in North America. With 24/7 claims support, industry-leading training tools and a 97.6 percent loyalty scale, VFIS is the preferred insurance provider among agents and their customers.

Just like you, we're always on the job.



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President's Corner

Continued from page 2

I'm proud to say that the MSFA committees worked hard to ensure the best outcomes for our state. Thanks to the VCAF Committee and Executive Committee for making this year another success in helping local fire departments secure funding for operational need. I was privileged to attend the Dedication of the Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company's new station.

As I conclude I'd like to congratulate the following companies that celebrate milestone years of service: Winfield 50 years, Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company 75 years, Lineboro Volunteer Fire Company and Princess Anne Volunteer Fire Company 100 years and the First Hagerstown Hose Company 200 years. Good luck to the Juniors Fire Company

#2 on 175 years as they wrap up a yearlong celebration with placing their company time capsule back into the exterior wall of their building. Looking forward, I would like to say good luck to First Hose Company of Boonsboro on starting their 185th year of service.

I must close with saying THANK YOU to my family Vicky and Davey for their unending support and to each of you for your friendship and hospitality over the past few years. It has meant a great deal to me. I am honored to have served you as the President of The Maryland State Firemen's Association this year. Thank You and God Bless.

David Keller, III

President, MSFA

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Governor Hogan Signs Fire Service Bills



On Bill Signing Day, Thursday, May 12, Governor Hogan signs Bills affecting the fire service at the State House in Annapolis. MSFA members in attendance were President Keller, 1st VP Roth, 2nd Davis, Legislative Committee Chairman Steve Cox, and Richard Smith, PP Underwood, PP Bernie Smith, Harve Woods, Laura Woods. Photo by Ron Watkins.

Chip's Firehouse Logbook: Past, Present and Future

"Truck House" President

by Clarence "Chip" Jewell, III

As the term of office for President David Keller, III comes to an end, it is interesting to reflect on the past presidents that preceded him from his home company, Citizens Truck Co. No. 4 of Frederick. To understand his rise to the presidency is to embrace a unique concept of the stand alone truck company.

President Keller follows a tradition of MSFA service from a fire company that has never owned a fire engine, doesn't respond to brush fires, and has always needed two drivers to respond. Individually organized ladder companies were a common occurrence in major cities. New York City, Baltimore and Washington, DC are examples of this concept. But, the individual ladder company is not as common in the smaller cities. Outside of Baltimore, only Frederick and Hagerstown have separate ladder companies in service today.

The first hook and ladder in Frederick was an 1877 Holloway Hook and Ladder purchased by the Junior Fire Co. No. 2 of Frederick. In 1926, the Citizens Truck Company was organized by the three engine companies in Frederick with the assistance of the local utility companies. Even today,

most members of the Citizens Truck Company are also members of another local engine company. The first ladder truck of the Citizens Truck Company was a 1927-28 Ahrens-Fox tiller rig.

Many cities numbered engine companies and used an alphabetic designation for ladder companies. This was also the early practice in Frederick as the Citizens Truck Co. was initially "Company A". The uniform hat of the late Citizens Driver Charles M. Hahn displays "A" in the middle of the Maltese cross. The delivery photo of the 1952 American LaFrance Ladder Truck also proudly displayed "A" in the Maltese cross on the tractor doors.

The first member of the Citizens Truck Company to serve as president of MSFA was F. Lester Smith, a very active member and captain of the Citizens. He was also believed to be a member of the United Steam Fire Engine Co. No. 3. F. Lester Smith was elected as President of the Maryland State Firemen's Association in 1942. Unfortunately, President Smith died in 1943 before he could fulfill his term of office.

W. Bartgis Storm was the next MSFA president that was a member of the Citizens Truck Company elected in 1946. President Storm was an officer of both the United Steam Fire Engine Co. No. 3 as well as the

Citizens Truck Company. In 1967, the jubilee convention of the MSFA was held in Frederick and William A. Moore of



Frederick served as MSFA president. Though listed as representing the United Steam Fire Engine Co. No. 3, he was a member and held office with both the United Steam Fire Engine Co. No. 3 as well as the Citizens Truck Co. No. 4.

It was 27 years before another MSFA president hailed from Frederick City. In 1994, Richard Yinger, a member of the Citizens Truck Company, rose to the prestigious position of MSFA president. Richard Yinger was retired career "truckie" at the Citizens Truck Company and lifelong volunteer at Citizens and the Independent Hose Co. No. 1. Richard stepped up to chair the centennial convention of the MSFA in Frederick in 1992 and developed a close relationship with the leadership of MSFA. As he grew in his involvement with MSFA, he moved up the chairs and was elected president in 1994. 10 years later, another dedicated member of the Citizens Truck Company assumed the reins of the MSFA as Robert Jacobs was installed as MSFA president in 2004. Bob has dedicated his life to the Citizens, both as a volunteer and a

continued on page 8

"President Keller follows a tradition of MSFA service from a fire company that has never owned a fire engine, doesn't respond to brush fires, and has always needed two drivers to respond."

Frederick Co. VFRA Holds Annual Awards Program

by Linda Canale, Frederick County VFRA

On Monday, April 20, 2015, the Frederick County Volunteer Fire-Rescue Association (VFRA) held its 22nd Annual Awards Recognition Ceremony at the Walkersville Vol. Fire Company.

This program provides an opportunity to recognize the many contributions that volunteer personnel make in providing fire and rescue service to the citizens of Frederick County. The program features the presentation of awards in sixteen categories and the induction of ten individuals into the Frederick County VFRA Hall of Fame. The following is a summary of the presentations.

The Clint Hughes Departmental Fire Prevention Award was presented to the Urbana Volunteer FD and RS, Inc., for their year-round efforts in promoting fire prevention.

The James H. Stavely III Fire Prevention Award went to Brian Purdum of the Urbana VFD and RS., for his efforts in planning fire prevention activities at his home department, as well as his work with the fire prevention programs of the FCFVRA.

The Everett W. Gaver Service Award was presented to Paulette Mathias of the Rocky Ridge VFC for her active service to the fire company, her church, and her community.

The winner of the Robert L. Renner Departmental Service Award was James L. Graham of the Walkersville VFC, in recognition for his non-response activities that benefit his department.

Linda Northrup, of the Rocky Ridge VFC, received the Mumma Outstanding Service Award for her outstanding leadership, positive attitude, and accomplishments that directly benefited her department and the County. The Cletta Abrecht Member of the Year Award, which recognizes the

contributions of a member of an auxiliary to their department, auxiliary, and community; was presented to Debra Smith of the Middletown VFC Auxiliary.

The Louise Lenhart Auxiliary Encouragement Award was given to Jacob Lovelace, of the Middletown VFC Auxiliary. When knee replace-

The Winona "Winnie" Crum Rookie of the Year Award went to Michael Donaldson of the Middletown VFC. Since joining the department in January, 2014, he has completed several of the fire-fighting courses offered by the County, including PEA, HazMat Ops., Firefighter I, and CPR. He has over 1000 hours of



New FCFVRA Hall of Fame inductees for 2015 are (First row, l to r) Mary Filler, wife of Harold Lenhart, Helen Eyler for Jacqueline Matthews, Chris Clabaugh (for Joe Clabaugh), and George Laken. (Back row, l to r) Kenneth Simmers Sr., Chuck Jenkins, Ronald Kefauver Jr., Dale Kline, Rodney Linton. Photos by Ron Watkins, MSFA PR Committee

ment surgery prevented him from running calls, he joined the Auxiliary and has become a valuable asset for them and their functions. He has been influential in encouraging other men to join the auxiliary.

Josie Kaas, of the Rocky Ridge VFC, was awarded the Charles "Mutt" Deater Apprentice of the Year Award. This award is given to an outstanding member 18 years old or younger, for their accomplishments and outstanding service.

stand-by time, and helps readily with station and apparatus maintenance.

The Fire-rescue Departmental Training Award is given to the top three companies with the highest number of training hours per active member. This year, they were as follows:

1. Emmitsburg Ambulance Company, with 90.34 hours per active member
2. United Steam Fire Engine Company, with 80.17 hours per active member
3. New Market District Volunteer Fire

Continued on page 8

The Chaplain's Corner

Friendship

By MSFA Chief Chaplain
John F. Long, Jr.

For this issue of the Trumpet I thought I would talk about friendships since this is the time of year that we all gather in Ocean City to meet old friends and develop new ones.

Did you know that the Bible actually talks a lot about friendships? Here are a few verses.

Proverbs 12:26 "One who is righteous is a guide to his neighbor, but the way of the wicked leads them astray."

Proverbs 13:20 "Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm."

Proverbs 14:6-7 "A scoffer seeks wisdom in vain, but knowledge is easy for a man of understanding. Leave the presence of a fool, for there you do not meet words of knowledge."

Proverbs 22:25-25 "Make no friendship with a man given to anger, nor go with a wrathful man, lest you learn his ways and entangle yourself in a snare."
1 Corinthians 15:33 Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals."

As you can see from these verses they are full of warnings on how to choose your friends wisely. Most of the folks in the fire service like to refer to everyone as the "Brotherhood", but how many truly understand the meaning of "Brotherhood".

Let me try to explain it to you using God's own words as found in the bible.

Luke 6:31 "And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them."

Romans 12:10 "Love one another with brotherly affection. Out do one another in showing honor."

Ephesians 4:29-32 "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to

those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of re-



demption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

Colossians 3:12-14 "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."

"Practice the true meaning of 'brotherhood' here at the ocean and when you return home. God bless"

Many of us really need to learn how to choose our friends and then after we have chosen them how to treat them correctly. If we would only learn from these few verses how to live with our friends our lives would be so much

better. It is great that we come once a year from all over the state of Maryland to fellowship with one another. I pray that each and everyone enjoys their time in Ocean City, stay safe and best of all watch out for each other. Practice the true meaning of "Brotherhood" here at the ocean and when you return home. God bless.

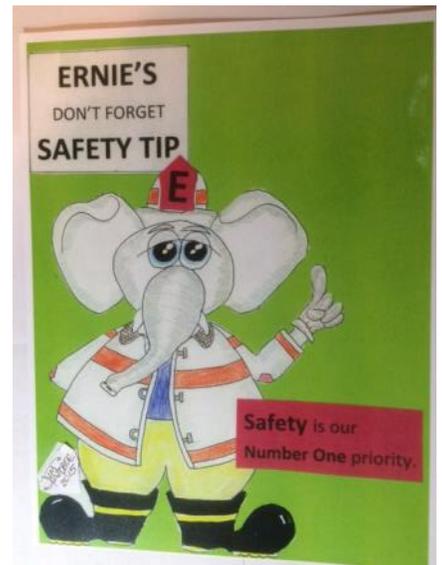
"Friendship is unnecessary, like philosophy, like art... It has no survival value; rather it is one of those things that give value to survival." C. S. Lewis

Ernie the Elephant & Freddie Bee Safe

By Jim Jarboe, member Trumpet Committee & Takoma Park VFD

I would like to share with you my passion that has helped me with my fire prevention programs. That is drawing, or should I say "doodling". Doodling assists with bringing the attention to an important message or event.

Ernie and Freddie are the latest two images to join the many cartoon characters that I have created over the years. They help promote



safety, as well as fire and injury prevention. They appear in the station, taking turns on the bulletin board with safety messages. They are also used at community events, and on flyers and posters.

I don't want to appear to brag that I can draw. I can't; it's really doodling. Some people think I am an artist.. no way! I am a doodler. Everybody can draw. Many of you have one time or another drawn a face, dog, cat, tree, etc. That's how I got started. If you think a drawing might help you in getting your

Continued on page 10

Chip's Firehouse Logbook

continued from page 5

“part-time” driver. He has also been very involved in the Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association and the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Foundation. His membership in the Junior Fire Co. No. 2 continues the tradition of the “Citizens” presidents also serving in a Frederick engine company.

We now close the page of the most recent MSFA presidency from the ranks of the Citizens Truck Company No. 4. At the 123rd Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen's Association, David Keller, III completes his term of service to our great association. Most certainly President Dave has benefited from the mentoring of two excellent MSFA presidential role models in Richard Yinger and Robert Jacobs.

The hundreds of hours and thousands of miles logged by President Keller speak volumes of his dedication and commitment in his year of presidency. The many accomplishments during his term of office will benefit our members for years to come. The Citizens Truck Company No. 4 moniker “The Pride of Frederick” is a fitting tribute to President David Keller, III. The members of the fire and rescue service of Frederick County are very proud of Dave and his years of service to the 35,000 volunteer fire and rescue personnel throughout Maryland.

Congratulations, Dave, on a job well done!

And to those reading this issue in the sun of Ocean City, WELCOME to the 123rd Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen's Association.

Have fun, but BE SAFE !!
CHIP

Frederick County

Continued from page 6

Co., with 72.48 hours per active member

The Millard “Mick Mastrino Instructor/Safety Award was awarded to Dennis Derry of the New Midway VFC. Dennis formalized and held numerous training sessions for the New Midway personnel, and created a matrix for tracking all training taken by their members.

Christine Hurley, from the Rocky Ridge VFC, was the recipient of the Dr. James Marrone EMS Member of the Year Award. Christina has taken on the responsibility of making sure the Special Unit has all the medical supplies current and not expired, handling all of the restocking and ordering of new supplies as needed. Last year, she responded on 90% of the Special Unit calls.

For his outstanding performance in all phases of the fire service, Richard Keyser Sr., of the Middletown VFC was presented the Firefighter of the Year Award.

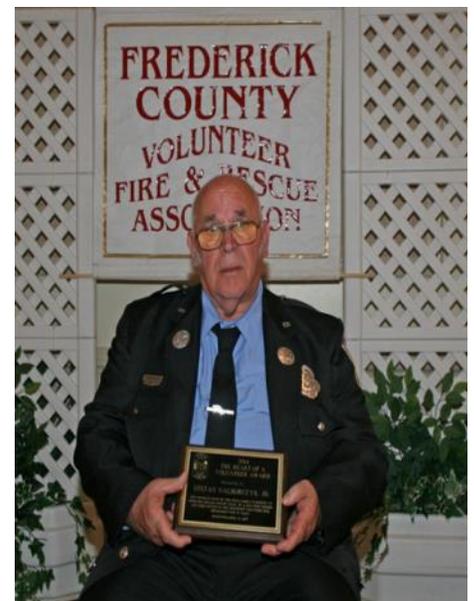
The Michael Wilcom Officer of the year Award was presented to Chief Vickie Martin of the Lewistown District VFD. Her level of performance is all aspects of her fire company's operations has been exemplary. The Outstanding Unit Award was earned by the Jefferson VFC and supporting units in recognition of their professionalism and skill in managing a three vehicle high-speed impact collision, with two ejections, a traumatic amputation, two entrapped ALS patients and two pediatric patients, which occurred on March 8, 2014.

The Heart of a Volunteer Award, one of the top awards presented, was

given to Stefan T. Nalborczyk of the Middletown VFC, for his continuing outstanding service over the past 50 plus years to his community.

The ten new inductees of the Frederick County VFRA Hall of Fame are: Dale Kline, Rocky Ridge VFC; Charles “Chuck” Jenkins, Lewistown District VFD; Harold Lenhart Sr. New Midway (deceased); Mary Filler, Woodsboro VFC Auxiliary; Jacqueline Matthews, Carroll Manor FC Aux; Kenneth Simmers, Sr, Graceham VFC; George Laken, Jefferson VFC; Rodney Linton, Jefferson VFC; Joseph Clabaugh, Rocky Ridge VFC (deceased); and Ronald Kefauver, Middletown VFC.

The FCFVRA would like to congratulate all of the Award recipients and the new Hall of fame inductees; and thank all of the companies that participated for their submissions.



Heart of a Volunteer Award winner Stefan T. Nalborczyk, Middletown VFC. Photo by Ron Watkins

Look Your Best for Your Community

Continued from page 1

an impression that we don't take care of the apparatus, and leaves the idea that maybe our operations are sloppy or poorly managed.

Keeping the station and equipment clean and well maintained pays off in many ways, other than just the public opinion. By keeping the station clean and the area around the station mowed and orderly, you can locate any problems with the structure or property easier, preventing injury and take care of small problems before they become large expensive ones. Good maintenance of the apparatus ensures that when a call for help comes in, the equipment will be in good working order, nothing will be "missing", and that our tools will function properly. Apparatus are very expensive, and proper care can make it last longer and be a valuable tool for many years. Having a proper maintenance schedule will help insure the apparatus will be functional for years to come. Regular "clean-up" days can also be helpful in many ways – not only for the sake of the equipment, but also as a way for new

members to become more aware of the location of equipment and how to use it. New drivers can get a chance to become more proficient and everyone can share a sense of pride in the way they look when they are on public display.

One more thing that can help make even the smallest department look good is the use of a company shirt, for use when they are going to be at the station for work details, parades, and stand-bys. A T-shirt or sweatshirt with the company logo or patch on it invokes a sense of pride and also helps identify members when at an emergency scene. This can be used as an incentive award at the company banquet or awards night for active members or top responders. They can be a point of pride for those who have them and wear them to company functions.

Recruitment and retention are areas that every department in Maryland has to deal with constantly. Anything we can do to make ourselves look better to the public and instill pride in our members should be a goal to try to achieve. A clean and well-maintained station with equipment that has been well cared for is an incentive that will help attract new members and keep the older ones

Job Related Stress

continued from page 1

were lost. Some of the above incidents involved children. I understand that Fire/EMS Personnel are supposed to be the toughest of the tough, but even we get emotional about such calls.

It is important to discuss any feeling or concerns that you may have. There are several resources that any responder can go for help, your company Chaplain, a county resource or even a psychiatrist.

These serious incidents make having these discussions a necessary part of the aftermath and believe me; no one with think any less of you for seeking such help. Keeping it bottled up inside you will only destroy yourself and others around you.

As an officer of your department, you should set up a debriefing immediately following the incident for everyone involved. You should also have the contact information for the county and state resources that are available to your personnel posted at the station.

This is becoming a more frequent reality and you need to be prepared to take action to prevent high stress, depression and early burn out situations within your department.

Our communities needs us to continue to serve and protect, this is an important factor in maintaining your current staff and level of service.

~Stay Safe~



A Medivac lands at a multi-fatality incident in Talbot County on Route 404 as first responders aid victims on the ground. Photo by Bruce Secrist

Freddie Bee Safe

JOHNIE ROTH, JR. CANDIDATE



FOR PRESIDENT
MARYLAND STATE
FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION



Continued from page 7
message out, try it. I am sure there is someone at your station that can share an idea through art. It will be attention-getting. Give it a try.



The first cartoon character that I created was "Barney the Fireman" years ago. He was dressed in a fire coat, boots and helmet. He was around for a long time. He did the job!

Speaking of cartoon characters, how about Sparky the Dog and Smokey Bear? Whoever came up with them, hit the jack pot. We learned much from them.

So, keep doodling. You may create something that you would like to use to get attention for that very important message that you are sharing. Good luck and have fun doodling!

Elect Mark A. Bilger

MSFA, 2nd Vice-President

- ◆ Active Member Hampstead Volunteer Fire Engine & Hose Co. No. 1
- ◆ Past President Carroll County VESA
- ◆ MSFA Executive Committee for Carroll & Howard County
- ◆ MSFA Committee Chair Fire Laws Books of Maryland



Member of the following MSFA Committees

- ◆ Training
- ◆ Statistics
- ◆ Legislative

Mock MVC in Queen Anne's County



Article and photos by Bruce Secrist

Queen Anne's County High School – Centreville, Md. These photos were taken at a "MOCK MVC" for the Juniors and Seniors of the Queen Anne's County High School. It was part of the "Prom Promise" program to help educate students about the consequences of drinking and driving. Some of the photos may look graphic and show patient's faces, just remember this was a "MOCK MVC". When you can look at the kids in the crowd and some of them have tears in their eyes, I think the message was delivered properly...



President Keller's Term in Photos



At the installation of new officers, the leadership team has a little fun.



President Keller and his wife, Vicky.



President Keller and his Davey at the memorial in Annapolis

VOTE

MICHAEL A. DAVIS

FOR



1st VICE PRESIDENT

Thank You for all of the support you've given me this past year! I will continue to work for you, providing leadership while representing your best interests of the Volunteer Fire & EMS Service of the great State of Maryland! Together, we can continue to make a difference in Public Safety through the MSFA.

Have a Safe and Enjoyable Convention. Use Crosswalks.
Don't Text & Drive. Drink Responsibly.

Water Witch Ladies Auxiliary Hall of Fame Induction

By Eileen Edelin

The Cecil County Ladies Auxiliary Hall of Fame inducted posthumously Water Witch auxiliary member, Malinda Brannan.

Presenting the award was CCLA Hall of Fame member, Ruth Gonce and Anne Gibson.

Receiving the award for Mrs. Brannan was Shirley Brannon Sentman. Melinda gave over 50 years of her time and service to the Water Witch FC & LA. She was a valued member of the auxiliary since 1940, and was the founding president and organizer of the auxiliary who recruited women from the community to support the fire company.

She lead with authority, purpose and drive and was instrumental in keeping the auxiliary active and prosperous. From 1949-1964, she served in many offices and held numerous



fundraisers. This special lady was active in her church and community, too. It was with great pleasure that Ms. Malinda C. Brannan was inducted posthumously into the Cecil County Ladies Auxiliary Hall of Fame.

Congratulations Ann Price-Davis on an Extraordinary Year!



You're the BEST MOMMY EVER!

We Love You!

You've been an incredible leader this past year! Not only did you have a successful year as the LAMSFA President, making progress everyday, you were able to be the "Super Mom" that you are!. You are blessed to have had another wonderful boy, and yet, you somehow managed to keep going without missing a beat. Daddy and the boys are proud of you and we will always support you! May you and all of the officers of the LAMSFA be blessed and enjoy this great convention.

"Everyone Goes Home", Always!

Galena VFC Hosts Police Unity Bicycle Tour

By Nevin Steffy

The Galena Fire Company played host to members of the Police Unity Bicycle Tour on Monday, May 11th.

For approximately the last 15 years, Galena has played host to the group as a rest and lunch stop. This year, about 800 bicyclists from all over the country, accompanied by 40 police motorcycle units from around the northeast, and numerous support vehicles arrived at Galena about 1115 hours.

During their lunch they used the facility as shade, a bathroom break, and a time to re-energize on bag lunches provided by the Tour. Many simply rested on the cool concrete floor in the engine bay. Galena FC also had a t-shirt table set up and most members bought shirts as memorabilia. They departed the station about 1315 hours.

The group started their ride on Saturday, May 9, in Newark, NJ. They were making their way to Washington, DC, to participate in the National Police Week activities. They had plotted police memorials in the areas they were traveling through and stopped to pay their respect to those who had fallen. One of the stops was the Queen Annes Fallen Heroes Memorial along Rt 18 just outside of Centerville. They laid a wreath on the site.

The group was very thankful to Galena Fire Company for the continued hospitality and gave the Company a plaque to show their thanks, as well as a cash donation.



Kent County Station 3 hosts members of Police Unit Bicycle Tour. Galena VFC has been a stop on the tour for about 15 years. Photo: Nevin Steffy

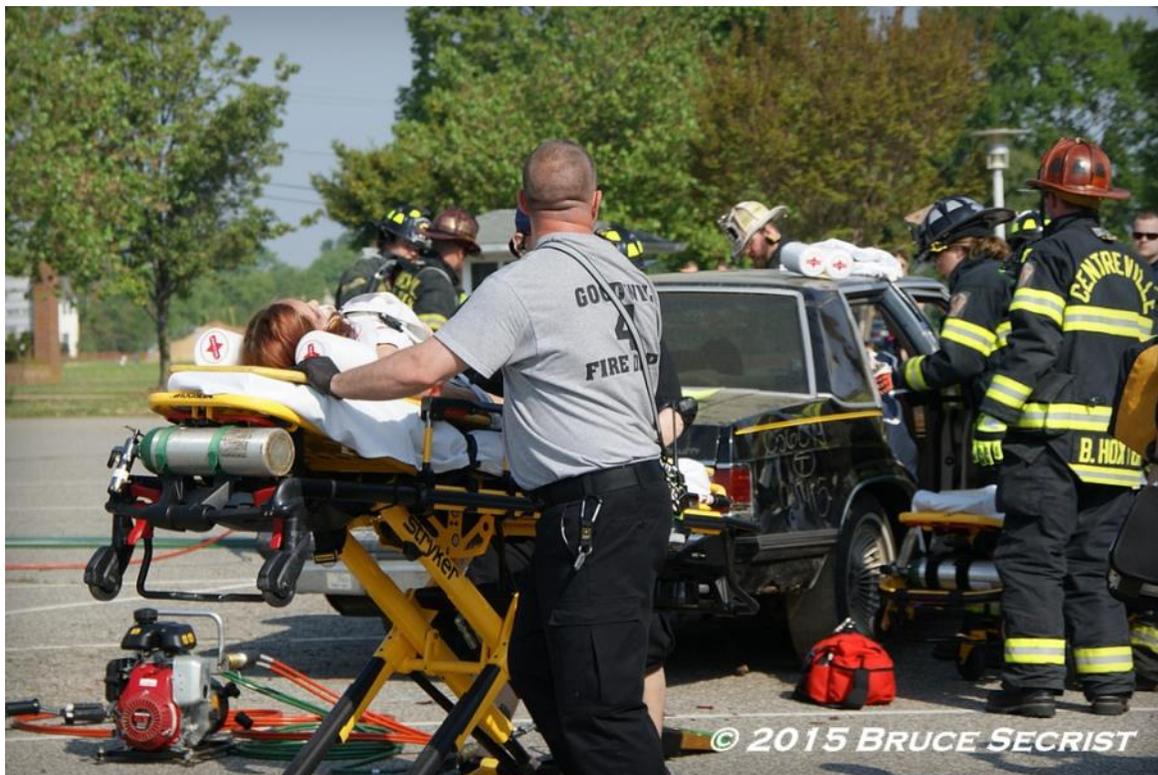


Eight hundred bicyclists from all over the country paused to refresh themselves on the trip to Washington, D.C. Photo: Nevin Steffy



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**Representing the volunteer fire,
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A mock MVC in Queen Anne's County. See article on page 11 Photo. Bruce Secrist

